

# Alabama Archaeological Society

## Stones & Bones

Volume 37, Issue 9

NADB DOC # - 4,058,779

September 1995

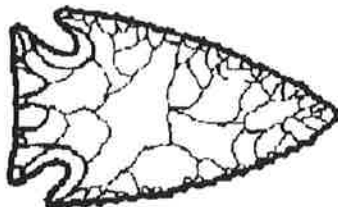
**Editor:**

McDonald Brooms

**Associate Editors:**

David Abbott

Brad Solomon



**Editorial Office:**

304 Wallace Hall

Troy State University

Troy, AL 36082

☎ 334-670-3638

Fax # 334-670-3753

### The Alabama Historical Commission Awards Grants

**Alabama Cultural Resources Preservation**

**Trust Fund Grant Awards:** The following is the list of archaeological grants awarded by The Alabama Historical Commission for the 1995/1996 grant year.

Survey And Registration

**Troy State University**

Historic Mill Survey: Choctawatchee, Pea, and Conecuh Rivers.

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Narrative: Key elements include: development of archaeological site forms and standing structure site forms; and the development of a historic context for the Statewide Preservation Plan regarding mill sites, a significant early industry in Alabama.

**University of Alabama**

Archaeological site encoding PH 2B 3B

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project narrative: The primary effort is to upgrade the State's archaeological site files on a

section basis throughout the State. This effort is significant and essential to the need to access archaeological information.

Predevelopment

**Sloss Furnaces National Historic  
Landmark**

Excavation/Location of Sloss Quarters

Amount Awarded: \$7,500

Project Narrative: Test excavations designed to determine the nature and extent of archaeological remains of Sloss worker housing.

Public Awareness and Education

**Troy State University**

Kids N Digs

Amount Awarded: \$5,000

Project Narrative: Includes the production of a slide show "What Is Archaeology?" for teachers to use in class room and another slide show entitled "Alabama Archaeology," and a newsletter - "The Education Station" for K-12. Also, a packet on starting Junior Archaeological Societies is planned.

### Teachers N Digs

Amount Awarded: \$5,000

Project Narrative: Four teacher training workshops will be developed. Included are the production of plaster cast artifact exhibits, pictorial exhibits, a list of field trip opportunities and periodic information handouts.

### Development and Mitigation

#### **University of Alabama**

Dust Cave Excavations

Amount Awarded: \$24,904

Project Narrative: Lauderdale County archaeological excavations.

#### **University of South Alabama**

Indian and French Interaction In Colonial Louisiana

Amount Awarded: \$15,120

Project Narrative: Archaeological excavations in Mobile County.

---

## What's Happening Around The State

---

**The Office of Archaeological Services of the University of Alabama Museums** has been awarded a grant in the amount \$91,570 from the National Park Service for assistance with the NAGPRA inventory of the University's archaeological collections and the associated consultation process. The grant given to Archaeological Services was the largest of the 42 grants given out by NPS this year.

NAGPRA, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, applies to Federal agencies and to museums which have possession of or control over human remains or cultural items and which receive Federal funds or is part of a larger organization which receives Federal funds, such as a university, city government, etc.. The law requires museums to: 1. Document certain

Native American human remains and cultural items within their collections; 2. Notify all Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations that are likely to be affiliated with these holdings; and, 3. Provide an opportunity for the repatriation of appropriate human remains or cultural items. These activities shall additionally take place within a framework of consultation with potentially affiliated Native American individuals and organizations. Museums and agencies are required by law to have their inventory completed by Nov. 16, 1995. Copies of the inventory must be provided to relevant tribes within six months of that date.

Since May of 1994, Archaeological Services has had the equivalent of six individuals working full time on our NAGPRA inventory. During that time we have inventoried and described almost all of the human remains in our collections and have located and photographed the artifacts found in association with those remains. We are developing our inventory as a multimedia database and entry of data on the human remains is nearing completion. Artifact data and photographs will be entered in the near future. The work accomplished to date had been funded by the University administration or by Archaeological Services.

Our NAGPRA grant is titled "NAGPRA Inventory Consultation, Production, and Distribution" and will help us complete the inventory. Funds are included to pay four persons for four months to complete data entry. We have also received funding for the computer programming necessary to generate the final inventory document from the database and to print the inventory (25 copies estimated at 4,000 pages each).

Central to the grant, however, is funding for our consultation process. Money has been provided to support travel to the University for representatives of thirteen Federally recognized Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole groups. We hope to schedule these groups in the fall, when the database is nearing completion.

The focus of the two-day consultations will be the database and the inventory document. The inventory process will be explained and the organization and content of the database will be outlined

by discussion and demonstration. Individuals choosing to do so will have an opportunity to gain hands-on familiarity with the database. After this familiarization, the consultation will consider our inventory document: how should it be organized, what information should be included, what supporting documentation should be included, what photographs should be provided, etc..

The consultation will then be opened to any topic areas of interest to the tribes. Interested individuals will be given full access to our facilities and collections and we will explain exactly what is in our collections and how we manage the collections in accordance with Federal curation standards. Other multimedia databases, such as our Moundville database will be available for demonstration and use by persons interested in multimedia applications for education and collections management.

Other grant requirements are that we develop and provide to the Park Service a policy and set of procedures covering NAGPRA consultation and repatriation at the University; and that we develop separate guidelines in consultation with tribal representatives for care, treatment, and storage of Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole cultural objects.

---

## University Of Alabama Assists the University of Lima with Maritime Archaeology Program

---

During July and August of 1994, the University of Lima in cooperation with the Instituto de Estudios Historico-Maritimos del Peru and the Division of Archaeology of the University of Alabama offered a course in the form of seminar classes in Maritime Archaeology. The course was designed by Commander Jorge Ortiz Sotelo, a naval historian with the Instituto. It was team taught by Ortiz and University of Alabama archaeologist Beverly S. Curry.

The purpose of the seminar course was to give participants an understanding of maritime archaeology and to address the excavation of a known underwater archaeological site. The students would be asked to use the knowledge gained from the lectures to develop a research design and make decisions about the excavation of the site. Archival research conducted by Ortiz suggested the site, located in shallow water off the coast of Peru, is the remains of San Martin, a nineteenth century vessel sunk in July of 1821.

Ortiz presented lectures on the evolution of the construction of ships, focusing on the fifteenth through the eighteenth centuries. Curry presented guidelines and procedures for the discovery of underwater archaeological sites, project design, survey and excavation, on-site conservation, laboratory methods, curation, and report writing.

Since the majority of the participants of the seminar classes were not professional archaeologists, the content of the lectures was designed to make people aware of the steps involved in carrying out a project in maritime archaeology. While a purpose of the class was to address the excavation of the San Martin site, Curry chose to present the subject of maritime archaeology in an academic manner and then ask the participants to draw their own conclusions about beginning the excavation. Since she would be returning to the U.S. at the end of the classes, her goal was to prepare them to make educated decisions. The class members decided to continue to meet as a group after the seminar was over. They would plan and prepare, working toward the development of the project. Mr. Luis J. Rodriguez Tynan, a P.A.D.I. instructor attending the seminar, offered to give dive certification classes to his fellow participants in the seminar for a very minimal amount that would cover boat rental and equipment expenses. University of Lima archaeologist Marcela Olivas Weston said she would continue meeting with the group and endeavor to involve other professional archaeologists. In addition, she recommended to the dean of Ciencias Humanas at the University of Lima that the university look toward developing classes in maritime archaeology.

The need for local expertise in underwater archaeology was further emphasized by an event that occurred while the seminar classes were taking place. An underwater archaeology site located off the coast near Lima became the subject of a sensational news story. A Lima television station news crew from Channel 4 reported the discovery of the historic remains of a sunken ship said to be the Covadonga. News cameras followed the loading of gear on a dive vessel and the subsequent discovery and retrieval of historic artifacts. The veracity of the report could be questioned. In regard to the site's sensational discovery, its location was well known to the local diving community. One of the divers in the seminar class said he had gone to the local newspaper some years before to "report" the location of the site. Artifacts shown being recovered from the ocean's depths had a polished gleam. One of the artifacts shown closely resembled an object visible on the equipment cart being taken to the vessel before the dive. Such sensational news stories foster destruction of archaeological sites because they encourage amateur divers to "treasure hunt." This event illustrates the importance of Peru's entrance into maritime archaeology. Peruvian archaeologists must be prepared to provide guidance in the protection of Peru's underwater cultural resources.

---

## Chapter News

---

### *Huntsville...*

The August meeting of the Huntsville Chapter was a discussion session about recent finds that members have made and to identify artifacts.

Phillip Johnson has taken over the responsibility of First Vice President (Program Chairman). Melissa King has been named the Second Vice President (Publicity Chairman).

---

## New Members

---

Our society has grown to 477 members. We would like to welcome the new members to the society:

John H. Beasley  
2680 Signal Point Road  
Guntersville, Al 35976

Lawrence N. Evans, Jr.  
910 Hampton Drive  
Anniston, Al 36207

Molly Madden  
101 Country Club Lane  
Ozark, Al 36360

Rickey Praytor  
911 Ave H  
Bessemer, Al 35020

---

## In The Alabama Archaeological Society's Past

---

Nineteen years ago in September, 1976 the Cullman Chapter listened to Mr. Houston Wright from the Huntsville Chapter discuss pottery in the Americas.

Mr. Al Beinlich spoke to the Muscle Shoals Chapter on mineralogy as applied to archaeology, and also presented slides on the 1960 and 1961 excavations of Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations.

*(Taken from the October 1976 issue of Stones & Bones.)*

---

## For Your Information

---

I have found a brand of pen that is exceptionally suited for labeling artifacts. With this pen I

have been able to write with relative ease legible numbers with a height of slightly more than one millimeter on artifacts. The pen writes very well on chert and paint. The only surface I have had a problem with is glassy quartz. On quartz I have used Liquid Paper to make a label on the artifact, then I write on the label with the pen. The name of the pen is "Micron Pigma," size .005. the pen also has printed on it "Item No. SDK Sakura Color Products Corp." I bought the pens at Alabama Art Supply in Birmingham. I suspect they should be available at other art supply stores. I would recommend calling ahead, I have not seen this pen in any other office supply stores. (By the way, I do not work for the pen manufacturer or anyone who sells them.)

*Submitted by :  
Steven Meredith  
Alabaster, Al*

---

## Calendar

---

### **Southeastern Archaeological Conference**

will hold its annual meeting at the Hilton Hotel, Knoxville, TN on November 8-11, 1995. Local arrangements co-ordinator is Dr. Jefferson Chapman. Program Chair is Dr. Gerald Schroedl. For more information contact: SEAC Conference, Department of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0720; (615) 974-4408; fax (615) 974-2686.

The winter meeting of the **Alabama Archaeological Society** will be held on December 9th, in Selma, Alabama.



**Alabama Archaeological Society**

**304 Wallace Hall  
Troy State University  
Troy, AL 36082-0001**

**Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 99  
Troy, AL 36082**