

Alabama Archaeological Society

Stones & Bones

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Editor:

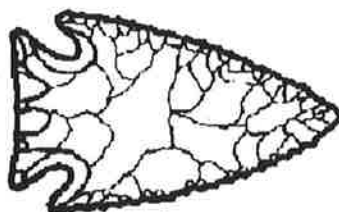
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New Fax

The editors of the *Stones and Bones* would like to inform all AAS members that our new fax number is 670-3706. Please do not hesitate to utilize this number when sending anything for the *Stones and Bones*. This number runs directly to our computer which will help us tremendously in our preparation of the newsletter.

1995 Nominations For AAS Officers and Board Members

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April Smith (Troy)

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Bart Henson (Huntsville)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

(3 YEAR TERM):

Jim Lee (Huntsville)

Van King (Horton)

Lee Luis (Montgomery)

Clay Bell (Dothan)

Steven Merideth (Alabaster)

John Van Valkenburg (Orange Beach)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

(2 YEAR TERM)

Joe Watkins (Orange Beach) to serve the remaining 2 years of Dan Shinn's term. Dan has left Alabama to work on his PhD.

A.A.S. Annual Winter Meeting

As discussed in the October issue of *Stones and Bones* Troy State University will host the Alabama Archaeological Society Winter Meeting on December 10, 1994. The Theme for this year's meeting will be current research in the Southeastern United States. Fill out the form at the back of this issue of the *Stones and Bones* and mail to McDonald Brooms, 304 Wallace Hall, Troy State University, Department of Sociology, Troy, AL 36082 by December 1st. Please look at the last page of the *Stones and Bones* for a map to the campus and the meeting which is being held at the Adams Center.

We Still Need Papers! - Please submit papers to be presented at the meeting by November 15th, 1994, to McDonald Brooms, 304 Wallace Hall, Department of Sociology, Troy State University, Troy, AL 36082. The December issue of the *Stones and Bones* will feature a list of papers being presented.

We will be holding the silent book auction again this year. Individuals are welcome to bring books to sell. If you would like to sell a book or books please contact Jim Lee at 205-881-0527 to let him know of your intentions. A 10% commission fee will be charged.

We will have tables for artifact displays. If you are interested in setting up an artifact display please call April Smith at 205-670-3637 or 205-670-3638 to reserve a space.

There will also be a table where your Paleo Points can be recorded. If you have a Paleo Point that has not yet been recorded for the Paleo Point Survey please bring it along with a topo map if you have one. See the September issue for more information on the Paleo Point Survey. Fill out the form and bring it with you.

If you have any questions about the meeting please contact Gwen Barron or McDonald Brooms at 205-670-3638 or 205-670-3637.

Coloring Contest Winners

Below is a partial list of winners of the Troy State Chapter's rattlesnake disk coloring contest which was held during archaeology week. The coloring contest was a tremendous success with over 1400 entries. Because there are so many winners, we are publishing half of the names in this issue. Look for the remaining winners in the December issue of *Stones and Bones*.

Brantley Elementary - Amy Walker

Crenshaw Christian Academy - Lauren Beck, Hayes Peace, Johnathon Schofield, Lauren Williams

Highland Home Elementary - Trent Perry, Jessica Thornton, Kyle Horne, Chris Perry, Justin Alexander, Joshua Fincher, Jimmy Shepherd, Steven Williams, Jesse Dempsey, Samantha, Pamela Davis, Tina Alsup, Connie Thomason, Richard Hall, Jennifer Carrol

Luverne Elementary - Jason Norsworthy, Mallory McDougold, LaCedric Johnson, Jessica Barber, Alexis Greenwood, Darrious Hillard Miranda Simpler, Tex Burgans, Ryan Chapmen, Trista Clayton

Mixon Elementary - Olivia Mizell, Nicole White, Christine Krivik, Jordan Edwards, Lauren Taylor

Thank you teachers and students for your enthusiasm and participation in the Coloring Contest sponsored by Troy State University's Archaeological Society. Because of you, the 1994 Archaeology Week was a HUGE success!!!

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!!!

Highlights from the Board of Directors Meeting

Second Vice President McDonald Brooms conducted the October 13, 1994 AAS Board of Director's Meeting which was held at Shoney's near Verbena. The focus of the meeting was on a proposal made by McDonald Brooms which would involve the membership, scholarship, and education committees. The proposal suggested starting a junior organization for grades K-12. Also included in the proposal were ideas for educational videos and / or slide shows entitled "Alabama Archaeology" and "What is Archaeology?" for distribution to school groups, civic organizations and local AAS chapters.

A motion was made to spend \$2,000 on this proposal. After discussion it was determined that the budget could not support the proposal. Members of the Board decided to accept concept of the proposal and appoint a committee to explore ways to provide funding for them.

Additional new business discussed included the Winter Meeting which will be held in Troy on December 10th. Members were informed that an auction and book sale will be held during the meeting with 10% of the proceeds going to the AAS. Board members were also encouraged to submit topics for papers for the meeting.

Winners of the A.A.S. Essay Contest

As mentioned in previous issues of the *Stones & Bones*, the Alabama Archaeological Society recently sponsored an essay contest for high school students throughout the state interested in archaeology. This month's essay was written by Joseph R. Sherrod from John S. Shaw High School in

Mobile, Alabama, and is entitled "What does Alabama Archaeology Mean to Me?"

What Does Alabama Archaeology Mean to Me?

Archaeology is defined by Webster's New World Dictionary as the scientific study of the life and culture of ancient peoples, as by excavation of ancient cities, relics, artifacts, and such. Alabama's archaeology to me means the study of ancient peoples who used to live in this area; these people being Indians, or natives.

The geographical area encompassed by the boundaries of present-day Alabama is a rich fountain of information concerning prehistoric cultures. To me, Alabama archaeology is burial mounds and spears, maize and squash, Woodland pottery and earthen pyramids, bows and arrows and flint arrowheads.

I can picture myself walking in a dark, dank, cave and as my eyes grow accustomed to the dim light I am able to make out faint paintings and scratches on the cave walls. The ground in the cave is uneven and rough, and the corner is roped off where a hole has been dug. Peering over the edge I see workers painstakingly removing, cleaning, and labeling bits of pottery, bone, chips of arrowheads and many other small artifacts that help provide a clue into the past.

Although this period in Alabama's history gets only a brief skimming over in school, I find it intriguing. While Europeans have only been in Alabama under five hundred years, natives have lived in this area more than ten thousand years.

The closest I have come to archaeology in Alabama is a visit to Moundville with my family once. Alabama archaeology means to me a chance to study the ancient peoples which once lived in this area.

Student Articles

In an effort to get school students involved with archaeology we are soliciting articles from

elementary, high school, undergraduate, and graduate students for the *Stones and Bones* and the *Alabama Archaeology Journal* dealing with archaeology in Alabama. Awards will be given to students whose articles are accepted for publication. Teachers, please keep this in mind for a class project. Please send articles for the *Stones and Bones* to McDonald Brooms, 304 Wallace Hall, Troy State University, Troy, AL 36082 or fax to Gwen Barron at (205)670-3706. Send articles for the journal to Eugene Futato, 13075 Moundville Archaeological Park, Moundville, AL 35474. For more information please contact Gwen Barron or April Smith at (205)670-3638.

In the Alabama Archaeological Society's Past

Glass Blades: A Cut Above the Rest. Blades made from volcanic glass not only cut cost, but also out cut conventional blades used in surgery, says anthropologist Payson Sheets of the University of Colorado in Boulder. While excavating obsidian glass blades 12 years ago in El Salvador, Sheets decided to investigate the blade's cutting properties. First he learned to manufacture the blades using the fracturing process used by the Mayas 2,500 years ago. Then, using an electron microscope, he compared the cutting edge of the obsidian to those of modern disposable steel scalpels and razor blades, to diamond scalpels, the sharpest surgical tools available. He found that the glass blades were sharper than either stainless steel blade, and incidentally, that the razor-blade edges were finer than the steel scalpel edges. The obsidian blades turned out to be two to three times sharper than diamond scalpel blades, but the real advantage is the cost, Sheets says. Obsidian blades would cost about \$10 apiece, compared to \$1,000 to \$3,000 per diamond scalpel. Commercial production is years away, but tests are in the works: Boulder eye surgeon Firmon Hardenbergh has used the glass blades in removing cataracts, and finds them more precise than either

conventional or diamond scalpels. (Taken from the November 1983 issue of the *Stones & Bones*.)

New Publications

Accidental Archaeologist: Memoirs of Jesse D Jennings. *Jesse D Jennings.* Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1994. 308 pp. \$29.95 (cloth).

The Book of Elders: The Life Stories and Wisdom of Great American Indians. *Sandy Johnson, ed.* San Francisco: HarperSan-Francisco, 1994. 238 pp. \$20.00 (paper).

The Spiritual Quest: Transcendence in Myth, Religion, and Science. *Robert M Torrence.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 1994. 384 pp. \$35.00 (cloth).

Status and Sacredness: A General Theory of Status Relations and an Analysis of Indian Culture. *Murray Milner, Jr.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1994. 336 pp.

The Calendar

Nov 9-12 Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

Nov. 30-Dec 4 American Anthropological Association, 93rd Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Theme: "Human Rights." Contact AAA Meetings Dept., 4350 N Fairfax Dr, Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203; 703/528-3546. See January 1994 *AN* for forms, rules and regulations.

Dec 10 Alabama Archaeological Society Winter Meeting, Troy State University, Troy, Alabama.

Jan 4-5 Society For Historical Archaeology's Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology. Washington, DC.

Contact Henry M. Miller, Historic St. Mary's City, MD 20686; 301/862-0974, fax 301/862-0968.

Apr. 19-21 Southern Anthropological Society, Annual Meeting. Raleigh, NC. Theme; "Applying Anthropology in the South." Deadline for abstracts: February 15, 1995. Contact Kate Young, Anth/Soc Dept., North Carolina State U, PO Box 8107, Raleigh, NC 27695-8107; 919/929-6306, e-mail.

May 3-7 Society For American Archaeology. Minneapolis, MN. Contact SAA, 900 2nd St., NE #12, Washington, DC; 202/789-8200, fax 202/789-0284.

What's Happening Around the State

Panamerican Consultants, Inc...

Panamerican Consultants, Inc. recently completed the last of six cultural resources surveys contracted by the Alabama Department of Transportation for Corridor X. The evaluated sections of the proposed four-lane extension of U.S.78 entailed 27.7 miles and 90 acres of both immediate right-of-way as well as adjacent acreage to be impacted by highway and interchange construction in Jefferson, Walker, and Marion counties. The objectives of these investigations were to ascertain the presence or absence of previously recorded cultural resources and to access the potential for the occurrence of unrecorded cultural resources based upon known prehistoric and historic settlement patterns within the study areas. A total of eight sections of Corridor X were surveyed from April to August 1994, with an archaeological yield of six historic standing

structures, one historic cemetery, as well as nine aboriginal and eight historic-industrial sites requiring further investigation. The April investigations were led by Jack R. Bergstresser, the May-June by Jeffrey P. Blick, and the July-August by Inez Reed-Hoffman, Paul D. Jackson, and Daniel R. Pratt.

From May-June 1993 to August 1994, five cultural resources surveys have been conducted by Panamerican Consultants, Inc. at the Ft. Benning Military Reservation, under a continuing service contract through the National Park Service. The investigations were led by Erwin Rowemer; the purpose of these investigations being to identify all cultural resources within the study area, make recommendations as to their National Register eligibility, and to determine the necessity of avoidance, protection, and/or mitigation. These investigations have examined the C-2, C-3, Q-2, W-4, and A-9 Compartments; and the Victory Focus Area within the reservation, and have identified 14, five, nine, eight, ten, and 18 sites respectively as requiring further investigations. These sites are both historic and prehistoric in age, and range from modern standing structures to Early Archaic scatters and isolated finds.

Chapter News

Huntsville Chapter...

The Huntsville Chapter held it's October meeting on Tuesday, October 25. The guest speaker was Sally Williams, Assistant Librarian at Weatherly Heights Elementary School. Ms. Williams was a student of Greek history in college; her program focused on sites in Greece and Turkey. On November 12-13 the Chapter will attend the Burritt Museum's Civil War Living History Weekend. The Chapter's November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 22 at 7pm in the auditorium of the Public Library on St. Clair Avenue. The public is welcome.

Birmingham Chapter...

The Birmingham Chapter held its October meeting on the 14th at 7:00. Scott Meeks gave an informative lecture with slides on the progress of research at the Dust Cave site near Florence. The November meeting will be held on the 10th at 7:00 at Alabama Outdoors on 3054 Hwy. 31 South. Dr. Paula Wapnish will speak on the bone tool tradition of Ashelon, Israel. For information on the Birmingham Chapter or upcoming meetings call Steven Meredith at (205) 664-2739.

Troy State Chapter...

The October meeting of TSU's Archaeological Society was held on the 27th at 5:00 P.M. Lee Louis, from the Alabama Historical Commission who headed up the study on faunal remains at the Windover Site, presented a slide show about the Windover site (8BR246) near Cape Canaveral. The site contained Archaic burials that were discovered in 1982 by a backhoe. The graves contained well preserved bone and antler tools, fabric, and human brains. Members of the Troy State Chapter are taking a trip to Fort Toulouse on Nov. 8th. Nine members of TSU's chapter are attending the SEAC in Lexington, Kentucky. Four members of TSU's chapter will be giving presentations at the winter meeting held at TSU Dec. 10th, 1994. We expect a large turnout and look forward to seeing you. There will not be a December meeting but a field trip to "Fort Crawford" will be arranged for mid December. Call 205-670-3638 for further information.

Reminder: 1995 Membership Dues

Your 1994 membership dues are due by January 1st. Please send in your renewal to Eugene Futato at 13075 Moundville Archaeological Park, Moundville, Alabama, 35474 as soon as possible in order that you can continue to receive the Newsletter and Journal. 1995 Membership dues are as follows:

Associate - \$9.00 US. and \$14.00 Foreign
Individual - \$12.00 US. and \$17.00 Foreign
Family - \$15.00 US. and \$19.00 Foreign
Institutional - \$17.00 US. and \$22.00 Foreign
Individual Sustaining - \$20.00 US. and \$25.00 Foreign
Joint Sustaining - \$25.00 US. and \$30.00 Foreign
Life Membership - \$240.00 US. and \$340.00 Foreign
Joint Life Membership - \$300.00 US. and \$400.00 Foreign

Registration Form

Alabama Archaeological Society Annual Winter Meeting December 10, 1994

To preregister, return this form along with your registration fee of \$10.00 (includes lunch) by December 1, 1994 to McDonald Brooms, 304 Wallace Hall, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Troy State University, Troy, AL 36082.

Name(s) _____

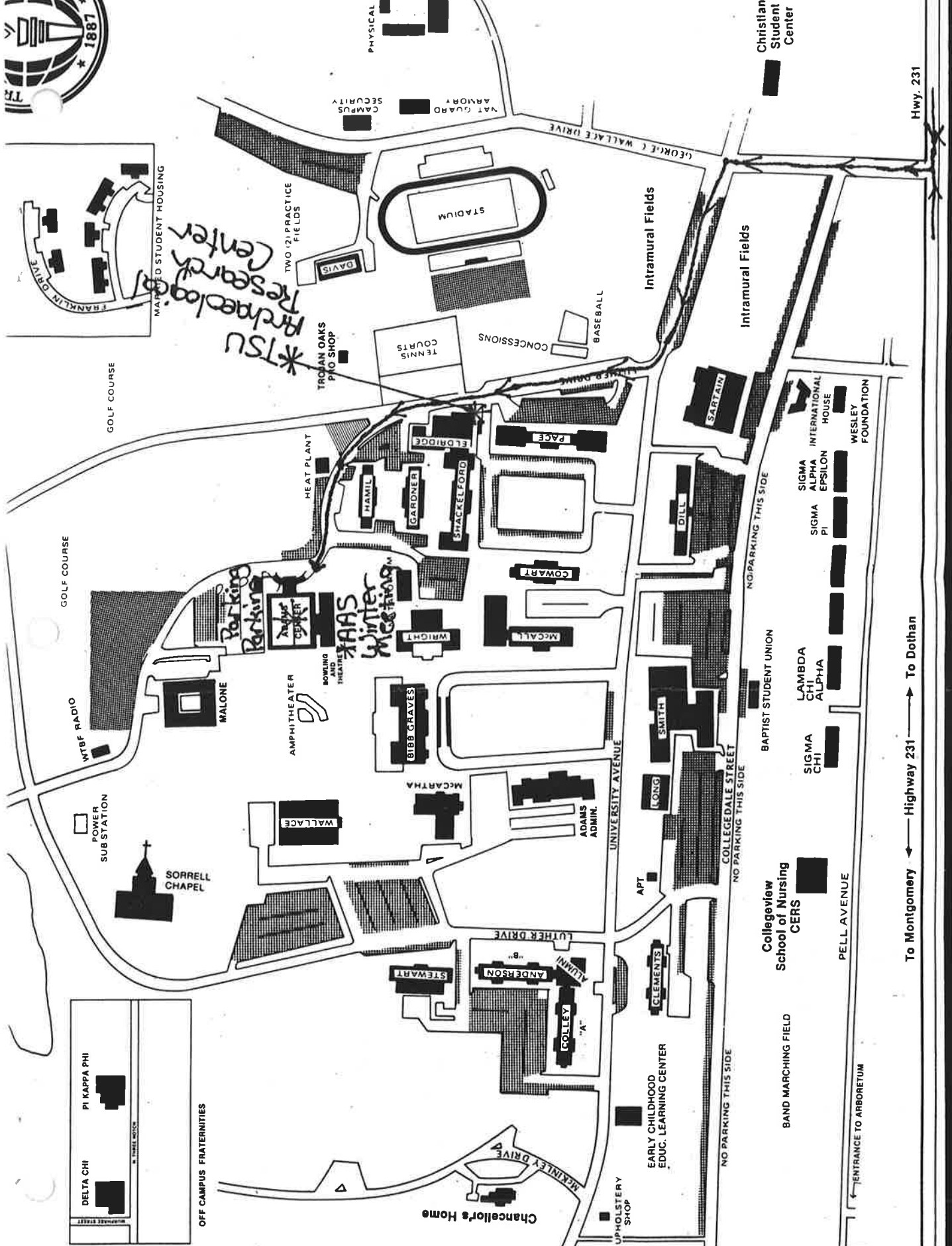
Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Number of years you have been a member of the A.A.S. _____

Number of people in your party _____

Amount Inclosed _____



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Vol. 32 & up, each issue.....	\$6.00pp
<i>Stanfield- Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology)	
Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint.....	\$7.50pp
Special Publication 2 - <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama</i>	
	\$6.00pp
Special Publication 3 - <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend ..</i>	
	\$8.00pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types</i>	
	\$15.00pp
<i>Lively, Long, Josselyn - Pebble Tool Paper</i>	
	\$3.00pp
<i>Investigations at Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service.....	
	\$10.00pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile).....	
	\$9.00pp

Checks Should Be Made Payable To: **Alabama Archaeological Society**

Send Checks To: Journal Editor, A.A. S
 Division of Archaeology
 13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
 Moundville, AL 35474

MEMBERSHIP

The coupon below may be used EITHER to APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP in the Society, or for the PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES. Please be sure that your name and address are CLEARLY entered, and that appropriate boxes are checked.

TO: THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for

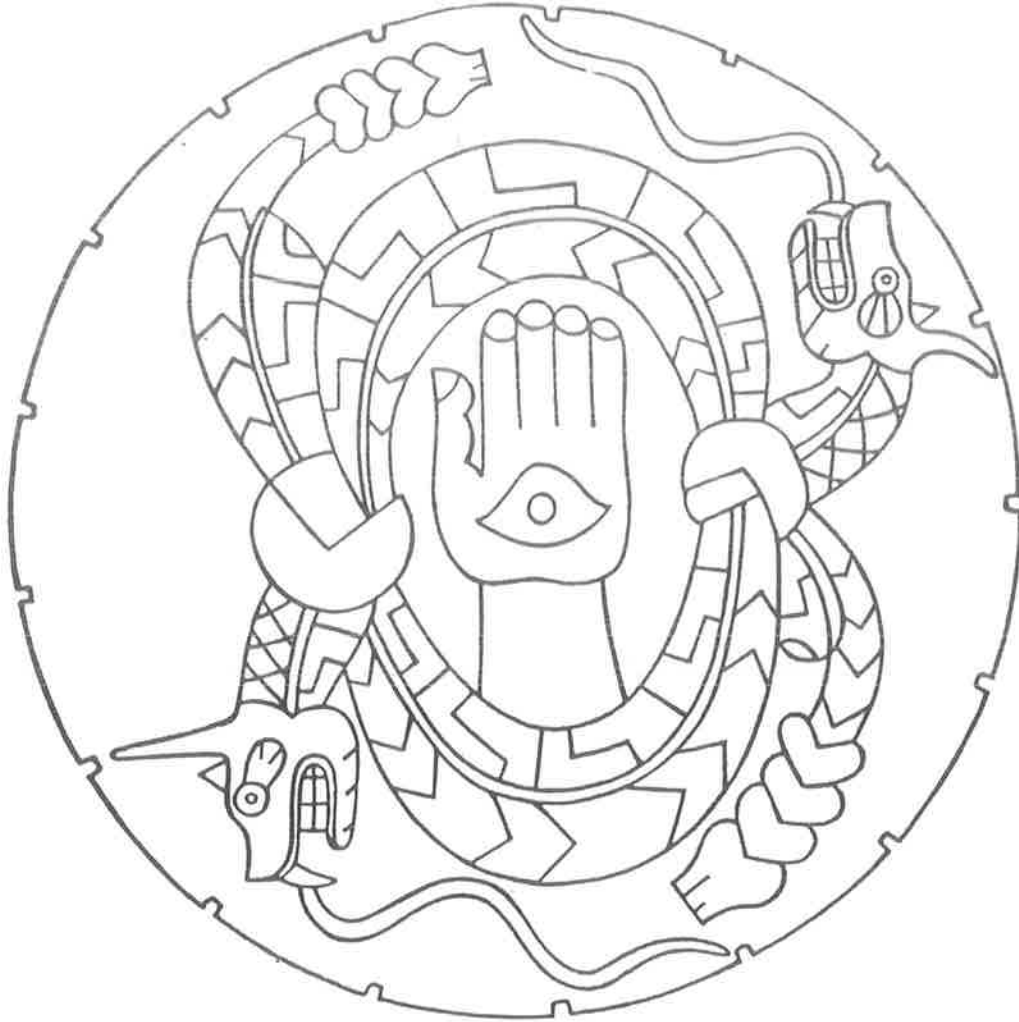
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Alabama Archaeological Society

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