

# Alabama Archaeological Society

Associate Editors  
Bart Henson  
Dorothy Luke



## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

Editor  
Amos J. Wright  
2602 Green Mountain Rd.  
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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE A.A.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING - NOVEMBER 7, 1981

The Board of Directors approved the application of the Coosa Valley Archaeology Club to affiliate with the A.A.S. as a chapter.

The Board authorized a contribution of \$25 to the Alabama Department of Archives and History Fund in memory of the late Milo B. Howard.

Jim Lee (Huntsville Chapter President) initiated discussion on the subject of membership participation in archaeological excavations. He noted that many of the members have expressed the desire to engage actively in various field operations and suggested that the chapters and the A.A.S. work toward making this possible. Considerable discussion followed. Several archaeologists on the Board suggested that they could notify chapter presidents and/or the Newsletter Editor of specific projects where part-time help would be useful. This information could then be published in the Newsletter or the chapter president could notify their members directly. It was agreed that the subject be given further consideration by the Ways and Means Committee and the A.A.S. Board at its next meeting.

During the Business Meeting the officers and directors listed in the October Stones & Bones were elected; officers to serve one year and directors to serve three years.

The Editors

### 1981 ACTIVITIES AT THE OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Most of the work at OAR this year has centered on the production of an unusually large number of manuscripts as a great many projects are ending within the span of a few months. Nine completed manuscripts totaling just over 3,500 single-spaced pages are in various stages of the review and printing process. These reports are summarized below.

1. Draft Report of the Gainesville Lake Area Excavations, by Ned J. Jenkins and H. Blaine Ensor. Archaeological Investigations in the Gainesville Lake Area of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway,

December 1981

Volume 1. U. S. Corps of Engineers - Mobile District. 163 pp. This report describes the excavation of five sites in Pickens and Greene Counties, Alabama. The manuscript has been submitted to the Corps for initial review.

2. Draft Report of Archaeological Testing Investigations at 58 Sites in the River and Canal Sections of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, by Judith A. Bense. Inter-Agency Archeological Services, Atlanta. 620 pp. The report describes test investigations at sites along the entire length of the Tombigbee River from Pickens County, Alabama, to its headquarters in Mackey's Creek; Prentiss County, Mississippi. The report has been submitted to IAS for initial review.

3. The Murphy Hill Site (1Ms300): The Structural Study of a Copena Mound and Comparative Review of the Copena Mortuary Complex, by Gloria G. Cole. Tennessee Valley Authority. 384 pp. This report describes the excavation of two Copena burial mounds in Marshall County, Alabama, and reviews the Copena complex in terms of recent analytical concepts. The report has been submitted to TVA for first review.

4. Phase II Identification and Evaluation of Submerged Cultural Resources in the Tombigbee Multi-Resource District, Alabama and Mississippi, by Larry Murphy and Allen R. Saltus. IAS - Atlanta. 421 pp. This report describes the testing of steamboat wrecks and other underwater resources and includes a general review of methods of remote sensing, ship construction and typology, and other topics. The report has been reviewed by IAS and is being revised.

5. Gainesville Lake Area Lithics: Chronology, Technology, and Use, by H. Blaine Ensor. Archaeological Investigations in the Gainesville Lake Area of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, Volume III. USCOE - Mobile. 317 pp. This report describes the lithic materials from five excavated sites in Pickens and Greene Counties, Alabama. The revised report has been submitted to the Corps for review.

6. The Phipps Bend Archaeological Project, by Robert H. Lafferty, III. TVA. 607 pp. This report describes the excavation of sites along the Holston River in northeastern Tennessee. The report is complete and is being printed.

7. Gainesville Lake Area Ceramic Description and Chronology, by Ned J. Jenkins. Archaeological Investigations in the Gainesville Lake Area of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, Volume II. USCOE - Mobile. 465 pages. This volume of the Gainesville series describes the aboriginal ceramics from five sites in Pickens and Greene Counties, Alabama. The report is complete and is being printed.

8. Biocultural Studies in the Gainesville Lake Area, by Gloria May Caddell, Anne Woodrick and Mary C. Hill. Archaeological Investigations in the Gainesville Lake Area of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway,

Volume IV. USCOE - Mobile. 339 pp. This volume contains separate reports by the three authors describing the floral, faunal and human remains from five excavated sites in Pickens and Greene Counties, Alabama. The report has been printed.

9. The Bay Spring Lake Archaeological Testing Project, by Robert H. Lafferty, III and Carlos Solis. IAS - Atlanta. 360 pp. This report describes test excavations at 14 sites in Tishomingo County, Mississippi. The report has been printed.

Several additional reports are being prepared at OAR. These include: (1) A report by Lawrence Alexander of testing at 14 sites along the Natchez Trace in Tennessee; (2) a report by Tim Mistovich of surveys along the Coosa River; (3) a report by Carlos Solis of the excavations of a Mississippian site near West Point, Mississippi; (4) a report by Carlos Solis of the excavation of a multi-component site in northeastern Mississippi; (6) a report by Charles Hubbert and Richard Wright of survey and testing along the Tallapoosa and Little Tallapoosa Rivers; and (7) a report by Eugene Futato of excavations in Cedar Creek and Upper Bear Creek Reservoirs in northwestern Alabama.

The more extensive field researches performed by OAR in 1981 include survey along the Coosa River and in Lowndes County, Alabama. OAR personnel are currently engaged in excavations of Site 22Ts954, a multicomponent site in northeast Mississippi. In addition, OAR has performed approximately 35 smaller survey and testing projects in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia.

Major equipment acquisitions this year by OAR include an IBM 440 word processor to supplement the IBM System 6, a photocopy machine, and computer terminals and a printer linking the OAR lab at Moundville directly to the computer center at the University's main campus. Each of these acquisitions has long been needed and will greatly enhance OAR's capabilities.

OAR personnel are often asked how copies of our reports may be obtained. It has long been the case that most archaeological reports for government agencies were produced in very small quantities, often as few as 25 copies. This is still largely true, but the circumstances are improving. For example, TVA publishes all archaeological reports of general interest they sponsor. Several past and current OAR project reports may be purchased from TVA. Also, while the budgets of many government agencies do not permit the publication of reports, the agencies are quite cooperative if other publication outlets can be found, as evidenced by A.A.S. Special Publication 3 and frequent articles in the Journal. The OAR is attempting to obtain funds to increase the circulation of its reports. OAR plans to make the five-volume Gainesville Lake area series available for purchase upon its completion. We hope funds can be obtained to publish additional reports as well. In any case, Xerox copies of almost all OAR reports may be purchased from OAR. The exceptions are a few reports with contractual restrictions on circulation.

Office of Archaeological  
Research  
Moundville

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

### Completion Reports Received During 1981

1. Lower Tallapoosa River Cultural Resources Survey Phase I Report  
by Gregory A. Waselkov, Auburn University

This report discusses the results of Auburn University's field survey of selected areas along the Lower Tallapoosa River from Tallahassee to the Tallapoosa's confluence with the Coosa River near Fort Toulouse. As a result of this survey, almost 200 newly-discovered sites were recorded and information on several previously recorded sites was updated. Although the survey was designed to locate and record all sites in areas where sites were probable, the survey concentrated on locating and recording historic Upper Creek Indian sites.

2. Archaeological Test Investigations at 1Su7: The Fort Tombecbee Site  
by James W. Parker, Livingston University

Limited test excavations at the site of Fort Tombecbee were completed in the spring of 1981. The report dealing with these investigations combines archival and archaeological research to conclude that the earthworks present at the site today are the remains of the Spanish Fort Confederation. The foundation of a prison structure and bake oven associated with Fort Confederation were major discoveries during the course of the field work. French period artifacts were found in deposits throughout the site, but only one set of building remains from Fort Tombecbee were located.

The report also contains an analysis of the artifact return. The number of artifacts from the European occupation was not large in number, but the data was significant. Of special interest was the assemblage of Choctaw Indian ceramics.

3. Archaeological Investigations of the Protohistoric Period of Central Alabama  
by Cailup B. Curren, University of Alabama

Curren's report presents a synopsis of work conducted in Central Alabama of the Protohistoric Period between 1933 and 1980, with an emphasis on surface collections and test investigations conducted by the author on ten burial urn sites, nine Mississippian sites with associated mounds, and two historic sites of the 17th and 18th centuries. Much of the report concentrates on two burial urn sites in Tuscaloosa and Hale Counties. The report also contains important segments on the ceramic analysis, skeletal analysis, flora analysis, and an analysis of mollusk remains.

4. Fort Toulouse/Fort Jackson Phase IV Report by Gregory Waselkov,  
Brian Wood and Joseph Herbert, Auburn University

This fourth report to be written on investigations at Fort Toulouse/Fort Jackson discusses the archaeological findings of specific components of both forts. During the summer of 1980, Auburn University conducted excavations of the Fort Jackson demilune, covert way, drawbridge, dry moat, sally port, and the interior of three of the four bastions. In addition, the archaeological team exposed additional segments of the southwest bastion and east and west curtain walls of Fort

Toulouse. The report gives an account of French, American, and both pre-historic and historic Indian artifacts recovered during the excavations. The 1980-81 investigation also resulted in the addition of important archival data to our knowledge of the site. Most notable of archival discoveries were a compilation of known inhabitants of the French fort from 1717 to 1764, a census of farmers at Fort Toulouse in 1758, a map of Fort Jackson drawn by an ensign at the fort in 1814, and lists of supplies at Fort Jackson during the peak of its occupation.

5. A Cultural Resource Assessment of the Mobile-Tensaw Bottomlands: Phase II by N. R. Stowe, University of South Alabama

This important survey report contains site descriptions for 52 sites; a discussion of the clam Rangia Cuneata as a food source in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta; distribution maps for Fiber, Bayou La Batre, Porter, Weeden Island, Pensacola and Historic pottery types; a revised chronology for Southwest Alabama; and a proto-historic through historic cultural sequence for southwest Alabama.

#### 1981 Reports in Progress

1. Site Survey and Artifactual Analysis of the Tensaw Country Frontier Military Complex (1812-1821), John Powell and James W. Parker, Jefferson Davis State Junior College

The field and laboratory phases of the Tensaw Military Frontier research project have been completed, as has the majority of the manuscript preparation. Test excavations were conducted at the Fort Montgomery and Cantonement Montpelier sites, while several other sites underwent surface collections. The number of units dug was small, but the return was significant. The assemblages have undergone study in the laboratory and, in addition, statistical studies have been conducted. The data refutes some standard patterns and reinforces others. A full description of the material return and the relationships of the sites to each other and to the United States as a whole will be included in the final report.

2. Phase III Investigations at Fort Mims by N. R. Stowe, University of South Alabama

The report detailing the third phase of investigation at Fort Mims is nearing completion. Phase III was not funded as an excavation phase but primarily to conduct archival research, provide a comparative study of previously-excavated cultural material with other early 19th Century sites associated with Fort Mims, develop a preservation management plan for the fort, and compile previous archival and archaeological data into one report. Excavations conducted during the 1981 field season were strategically located in areas where the outline of the fort was in question. These excavations entailed exposing the palisade wall outline, mapping this data, and recovering the area with soil.

## Project in Progress

1. Analysis of Artifact Collections at Mound State Park, Carey B. Oakley, University of Alabama

David L. DeJarnette  
Orange Beach

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank the University of Alabama in Birmingham and the Birmingham Chapter, A.A.S., for their hospitality in connection with this year's annual meeting on November 7. We appreciate all the effort that went into the displays, the program and the side trip to the Museum of Art, as well as the activities on Sunday the 8th. We saw more of the Birmingham area than most of us would have seen on our own, and we thank you for taking the time to make that possible.

The Editors

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Birmingham Chapter

The Birmingham Chapter hosted the A.A.S. annual meeting on Saturday, November 7 and Sunday, November 8. Dr. Lindy Martin, Chief, Jackson County Cherokees, spoke to the A.A.S. during the Saturday morning session; this part of the program took the place of the November Birmingham Chapter meeting.

### Cullman Chapter

A point and artifact discussion was the November 16 program, which was held at the Cullman Middle School.

### Huntsville Chapter

The Huntsville Chapter met on Tuesday, November 17 to see "Parker's Island - A Heritage for Sale", a slide and cassette presentation of the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission in Montgomery. Ms. Diane Weston of the Commission's Huntsville Satellite Office made the presentation and stayed to answer questions raised by the program.

The Huntsville Chapter has also, following the lead of the Muscle Shoals Chapter, initiated a "Point-of-the-Month" program. This month's discussion was on the Big Sandy, with chapter members bringing points from their collections to compare with the finds of other collectors. The Huntsville Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Arts Council Conference Room, Von Braun Civic Center, at 7 p.m.

## Muscle Shoals Chapter

The Muscle Shoals Chapter met at 7:15 on Monday, November 9 at the Indian Mound Museum in Florence. Thirty-one members and guests attended the meeting. John Adams presided, and Charles Moore led in the study and discussion of the Point of the Month, which was the Pickwick. Al Beinlich introduced the speaker, who was Mr. Maxwell D. Ramsey, Program Manager of TVA's Cultural Resources Program in Knoxville. Bennett Graham, who is the TVA archaeologist, accompanied Mr. Ramsey.

Mr. Ramsey presented an interesting program about TVA's position on the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. He stated that Congress passed the law and all Federal agencies with jurisdiction over Government-owned property must comply with the law. He discussed most of the 13 sections of the Act.

Please refer to Section 6 of the Act, and note Paragraph "g". Section 6 answers many of the questions in which our members might be interested. To understand the act thoroughly, one should read it in its entirety; however, space requirements prohibit printing the entire act in this publication.

To get a copy of the complete Act, write the Office of Cultural Resources; Tennessee Valley Authority; Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

The Muscle Shoals Chapter's next meeting will be a supper meeting for members and their families on December 14.

## PLEASE NOTE

A.A.S. dues for 1982 are due by January 1, 1982. See the back of this issue of Stones & Bones for the amount due. Also note that foreign postage has increased because of the new postal rates.

The Editors

## MEETING

The 34th Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society will be held in Tampa, Florida at Stone's Travelodge, 2501 East Fowler Avenue; (813) 971-3900. The meeting will start on Saturday, April 3 and run through Sunday, April 4. For registration and program information, contact Joan Deming, Chairperson; 1839 Pine Cone Circle; Clearwater, Florida 33520, or phone (813) 531-2152.

The Editors

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 13-18	\$1.00 pp
Vol. 20-24 (\$2.50 to Members)	\$4.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> ( <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> ) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2-Reprint	\$5.00 pp
Special Publication 1 – Fort Mitchell	\$2.00 pp
Special Publication 2 – <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County, Alabama</i>	\$4.50 pp
Special Publication 3 – <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>	\$6.50 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types</i>	\$7.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service	\$5.00 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i>	\$2.00 pp

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
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 1 Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474

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