

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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Editor

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A.A.S. ANNUAL MEETING

The Huntsville Chapter will host the Alabama Archaeological Society's 1991 Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place at the Huntsville Marriott on Saturday, November 23. Watch for more information in the October and November STONES & BONES.

GEOPHYSICAL TECHNIQUES IN ARCHAEOLOGY

During the week June 10-14, 1991, the National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado, conducted a short course on GEOPHYSICAL TECHNIQUES IN ARCHAEOLOGY. Bart Henson, a Society member, attended the course and submitted the following information regarding the course and related activities.

The course was designed to provide "hands-on" experience in the practical application of high-quality electronic instruments used for the identification, evaluation and - ultimately - the conservation and presentation of cultural resources. These geophysical techniques and instruments can provide the means for the non-destructive investigation of subsurface conditions. Active geophysical instruments originate a signal which produces a response from the Earth and the cultural material near the surface.

Equipment used included a double dipole electromagnetic system, a ground-penetrating radar system, and electrical resistivity measuring system. The passive system used was a total field and differential magnetometer system.

The term "system" is used because the basic equipment as used in the field provides a meter or chart indication of its output, and an output to a recording device for a record in digital form for later computer evaluation in the laboratory. These data were usually processed and presented in graphic format.

The site was surveyed with an electronic surveying instrument, called the "electronic total station". This instrument combines the features of an electronic theodolite and an electronic distance meter into one convenient package. Use of this instrument significantly reduces the time required to survey a site while greatly improving the survey accuracy.

September 1991



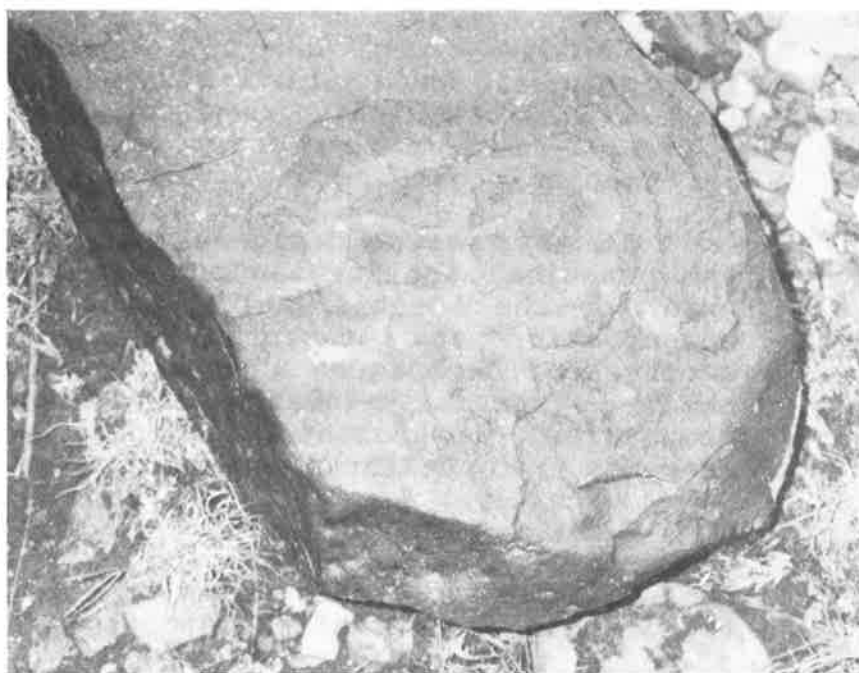
Bart Henson's Camp



Model Plane - Used in Aerial Photography



Resistivity Survey



Petroglyph Near Site

Site



An interesting application of aerial photography was also utilized on the site. This was a radio-controlled model plane carrying a standard electrically actuated type 35 mm camera, also under radio control. The model plane, of about four foot-wingspan, carried the 28-ounce camera to altitudes of 500 to 1,000 feet and remained aloft for 45 minutes. Thirty-six exposures of very detailed site views were obtained, processed back in the lab, and viewed as projected on a screen. Stereo pairs were easily acquired by the simple expedient of making two exposures within a few seconds of each other. Plane speed is maximum at 12 miles per hour with no wind. Several flights of 30 to 45 minutes each were made during a three-day period - all very useful.

The actual site was the Lockwood Stage Stop, Pinion Canyon Maneuver Site, Las Animas County, Colorado. This site is on a water source, and is a small detour from the main branch of the Old Santa Fe Trail. Investigations revealed early aboriginal occupation up through modern ranching activities.

In addition to the equipment and instruction provided by nationally recognized experts in their fields, guest lectures were provided by experts on remote sensing techniques for archaeological investigations. An extensive set of notes was provided each of the 21 attendees. In the evening between 7 and 9 p.m., guided tours of nearby petroglyph sites were taken, and several incredibly beautiful scenic sites visited, all within the confines of the 250,000-acre military Pinion Canyon Maneuver Site.

Bart Henson
Huntsville

MOUNDVILLE FALL FESTIVAL

The third annual Moundville Native American Festival will be held September 30-October 5, 1991 in the 300-acre park in Moundville, site of 20 prehistoric Indian mounds. Native American artists and craftspersons from all over the southeast will participate in the weeklong celebration of Alabama's Indian heritage, honoring the people who were the first inhabitants of what is now Alabama.

Over 20 skilled artisans and experts, many of whom are affiliated with modern American Indian tribes, will make Indian pottery, baskets, beaded belts and ornaments, musical instruments, stone tools and weapons. The Festival participants will also offer foods cooked according to traditional Indian recipes. Storytelling, singing, and dancing will be special entertainment features.

On Saturday, October 5, a number of sports events are scheduled which include Indian stickball games and its modern version, lacrosse. Choctaw dancers from Tennessee will demonstrate

the only authentic southeastern Indian dances performed in North America.

Moundville Archaeological Park is located about 15 miles south of Tuscaloosa on Highway 69. Admission fees are \$4 for adults, \$2 for children under 17. The Festival hours are Monday, September 30 to Saturday, October 5; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 371-2234 or 371-2266.

DUES

Please check your mailing label for your current membership year, printed after your name. If this number is not 91, you have not paid your dues for this year. See the back page of the STONES & BONES for membership categories and amount due.

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter

The Huntsville Chapter met August 27 to watch a slide presentation on the "Apple Orchard" site in central Washington State. This was the Clovis site which appeared in the October 1988 "National Geographic" magazine.

The Huntsville Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the public library on St. Clair Avenue. The public is welcome.

BURRITT MUSEUM INDIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Huntsville's Burritt Museum will host its third Indian Heritage Festival on Saturday, October 19. The all-day festival will explore the history, culture, traditions, and skills of Alabama's Indian people.

The grounds of the museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; there will be a small admission charge.

NEW MEMBERS

Jay Betbeze - Mobile, Alabama

Jeff Dunaway - Centre, Alabama

Darby Levenhagen - Woodbury, Tennessee

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

The Alabama Museum of Natural History is offering two trips which might be of interest to our members. The first, "Ruins of the Yucatan," will occur January 2-8, 1992; the second, "Costa Rica: Wildlife Sanctuary of the Americas," will take place March 14-23, 1992, with an optional three-day extension.

The trip leader for "Ruins of the Yucatan" is Dr. Tom Rogers, a zoologist-ecologist with extensive research experience on bird migration in Latin America. He is a Professor of Biology and member of the Latin American Studies faculty at The University of Alabama. In 1988 he received the Huntingdon College Alumni Achievement Award for his part in creating three new national parks in Guatemala.

The seven-day tour costs \$845 for members of the Alabama Natural History Society, \$895 for non-members. The tour includes roundtrip airfare from Miami, ground transportation, double-occupancy hotel accommodations (single rooms available with supplement), English-speaking tour guides/drivers, and admission fees and site guides. Meals are not included. Ruins scheduled to be visited include Dzibilichaltun, Ake, Chichen Itza, Ekbalam, Izamal, Sayil, Xlapak, Labnah, Kabah and Uxmal.

The Costa Rican adventure costs \$2,098 and includes roundtrip airfare from Miami; ground transportation in Costa Rica; scheduled excursions with experienced English-speaking guides; transfers, portage, service charges and taxes (not including airport departure tax); all hotel accommodations; some meals.

This tour will be led by Pam Hisey, Development Officer of the Alabama Museum of Natural History.

For more information on either of these trips, contact:

Pamela Hisey
Development Officer
Alabama Museum of Natural History
Box 870340
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0340

Phone 205/348-2040 or 205/348-7556
FAX 205/348-929

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

Vol. 20-31, each issue	\$3.50 pp
Vol. 32 & up, each issue	\$6.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint	\$7.50 pp
Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama</i>	\$6.00 pp
Special Publication 3 — <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>	\$8.00 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types</i>	\$15.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service	\$10.00 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile)	\$9.00 pp

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

SEND CHECKS TO:

Journal Editor, A.A.S.

Division of Archaeology

1 Mound State Monument; 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.

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