

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey

During its first year, the Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey completed forms on 84 artifacts. Forms have been completed on all or part of 17 collections. The largest collection recorded so far includes 28 artifacts. Another 250 forms are virtually complete, needing only one or two items of data. In most cases, only photographs are lacking. While the represented artifacts may seem like a fairly impressive total, it actually constitutes a very modest beginning.

The following is a breakdown of the 84 forms completed thus far:

POINT TYPE

Clovis - 35
Cumberland - 18
Beaver Lake - 12
Quad - 15
Scottsbluff - 1
Unclassifiable - 3
Total - 84

RAW MATERIAL

Ft. Payne Chert - 55
Bangor Chert - 21
Tuscumbia Chert - 3
Gray Banded Normandy Chert - 3
Unidentified - 4
Total - 84

LOCATION

Lauderdale Co. - 6
Limestone Co. - 21
Madison Co. - 12
Colbert Co. - 36
Blunt Co. - 3

Lawrence Co. - 2
Morgan Co. - 1
Franklin Co. - 1
Lamar Co. - 1
Covington Co. - 1

Total - 84

Alabama contains some of the richest and most concentrated PaleoIndian remains to be found. Brennan's (1982) compilation of eastern fluted points reported a total of 5820 fluted points. Of these, 1654 (28.4 percent) were from three adjacent counties in extreme northwestern Alabama. Over one-fifth of all of the fluted points from the eastern United States reported by Brennan came from three counties.

The lack of research on the PaleoIndian occupation of Alabama stands in stark contrast to the richness of the archaeological record here. No Alabama PaleoIndian site has been excavated. No surface PaleoIndian site here has been subjected to controlled surface collection and analysis. And no PaleoIndian assemblage from Alabama has been studied and reported since Wilmsen's (1970) study. The corpus of published information on Alabama PaleoIndian consists primarily of a series of articles published mostly in the *Journal of Alabama Archaeology* and the *Tennessee Archaeologist* by amateur archaeologists including James Cambron, David Hulse, and others.

Although the PaleoIndian record in Alabama is rich, it is fragile. The known major complexes are now inundated for most of all of the year. The numerous upland sites are shallow and soon plowed out. The sites are heavily collected, and due to their high value, the diagnostic artifacts are often quickly sold. Many of the large PaleoIndian collections amassed in the 1950's and 1960's have been dispersed on the commercial market. If we are to gain any information about the PaleoIndian Period in Alabama, the time to start is now!

The Alabama PaleoIndian Survey is being conducted under the joint sponsorship of the Alabama Archaeological Society and the Archaeology Division of the Alabama Museum of Natural History. The Alabama Archaeological Society serves as a means of outreach for the survey. Society members participate in the survey by reporting artifacts and providing contacts for information on additional artifacts. Artifact recording is often conducted at state meetings and local chapter meetings. The Museum provides a central coordinating point and maintains the survey files and database.

The form used for the survey is based on the form developed for Georgia and also used in other Southern states, resulting in a regional database. The form records basic information such as point type, the owner, any catalog number, and the location where the point was found. The location must be specified at least to county, any more specific provenience may be provided at the discretion of the owner. Photo numbers, the recorder's name, and the date recorded are also entered on the form. Photography is considered to be a key element of the recording process, and both black-and-white photographs and color slides are taken whenever possible. The recorded non-metric data includes information on artifact condition; basal grinding; evidence of reworking; and chert type, color, and patination. A standard set of measurements is also taken. A space is provided for any comments, and the artifact is drawn on the back of the form. All data is entered into a dBase III plus file maintained by the Museum, and the Museum maintains the central file for all forms, photographs, and other records.

So far, most of the data has been recorded by Charles Hubbert and Van King. Recently, additional persons around the state are getting involved. McDonald Brooms at Troy State has agreed to record data from southeast Alabama. All individuals are encouraged to complete forms to the best of their ability and submit them to the file. We recognize that this will result in some inaccuracy and incompleteness in the data but the survey plans to follow up on as many of these as possible to verify the information on the forms.

A copy of the Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey form is included with this newsletter as well as instructions on how to complete the form. Members are encouraged to make copies of the form or contact Moundville Archaeological Park or Troy State University for additional forms. If you know someone who is not a member of the A.A.S. but has Paleo points, make it a point (no pun intended) to contact them, explain the survey and the form, help them fill out the forms (with photographs if possible) and mail the completed forms to Eugene Futato at: Archaeology Division, Alabama Museum of Natural History, 13075 Moundville Archaeological Park, Moundville, Alabama 35474. Members, mail your completed forms directly to Eugene. Chapter Presidents, devote a part of your chapter meetings to record and discuss your local

member's Paleo points. Collect the forms as a chapter project and the *Stones and Bones* will publish the results. A little friendly competition between chapters won't hurt!

Eugene Futato is seeking funding assistance to aid us in the ongoing Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey. Eugene recently requested \$2,200.00 from the Alabama Historical Commission for a Historic Preservation Fund grant. If you know of other sources of funding for this important project, please contact Eugene.

While the primary purpose of the Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey is to support research on the PaleoIndian occupation of Alabama, we believe the survey will have additional benefits as well. The survey will increase opportunities for amateur archaeologists and artifact collectors to participate in archaeological research. The survey provides a new activity for local chapter meetings. And the survey provides additional opportunities for interaction between professionals and nonprofessionals. We hope this increased interaction will result in a better relationship among the diverse groups which share an interest in the PaleoIndian occupation of the state.

Alabama Historical Commission Establishes the Alabama Cultural Resources Trust Fund

In 1987, Transco Pipeline Corporation was penalized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (F.E.R.C.) for constructing a 123-mile-long gas pipeline in southwest Alabama through numerous archaeological sites. While Transco spent an enormous amount of money conducting a phase I archaeological survey of the project, they apparently proceeded with the pipeline construction without waiting to test all of the sites in question, and did not seek a determination of eligibility for nomination to the National Register from the State Historic Preservation Officer. As a result of this tremendous loss of archaeological data, the F.E.R.C. fined Transco 37.5 million dollars. A settlement was reached out of court for slightly less than the original fine and the F.E.R.C. retained approximately half of the amount for themselves, returning the remainder to the State of Alabama to be spent on cultural resources. Once in the hands of the State of Alabama, things (the money that is) got very sticky, resulting in approximately 4.5 million dollars going to the Alabama Historical Commission, a mere fraction of the intended amount. (For a detailed account of what happened to the rest of the money, consult a Shaman).

In any event, the Historical Commission wisely placed the money in a trust fund to award grants to both archaeological and historic sites projects. The Historical Commission announced in their March/April "Preservation Report" that the first grants are expected to be awarded in October 1993. The announcement went on to say that selection criteria for the grants will be published in the next (May/June) issue of the "Preservation Report." In order to receive information on the Alabama Cultural Resources Trust Fund, one can write the Alabama Historical Commission at their new address: 468 South Perry Street, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130-0900, Attention: John Powell.

As one can imagine, when grant monies from a trust fund are available, all kinds of questions pop up about how it is to be spent and how one receives a grant. The Alabama Cultural Resources Trust Fund is no exception. Should the grants be awarded to protect archaeological sites? Should historic standing structures be included in the grant selection since archaeological sites were the cultural resources destroyed? Should the grants be spent on surveys or on excavations of sites that will soon be destroyed? Should sites that are potentially significant be tested? Should the grants be offered to only southwest Alabama sites and/or structures since this is where the destruction took place or should grants be awarded for projects from all over the

state? The editors of the *Stones and Bones* want to know the A.A.S. members' opinions. Please mail your thoughts on this important matter to us today! What will we do with your responses? The results of this opinion poll will be presented in the *Stones and Bones* and will also be provided to Mr. Bart Henson, our Alabama Historical Commission representative, in order that he can express your thoughts at the next Historical Commission board meeting.

Membership Dues for 1993

Below is the list of dues for 1993 which were adopted at the winter Board meeting in Birmingham. The *Stones and Bones* would like to encourage everyone to consider seriously the option of life membership before dues go up on January 1, 1994, as it would save society members a considerable amount of money in the long run over the annual fees.

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COST</i>
Life	\$240.00
Joint Life	300.00
Sustaining	20.00
Joint Sustaining	25.00
Annual	12.00
Family	15.00
Associate	9.00
Institutional	17.00

Report of Membership

Membership in the A.A.S. has been holding steady for the past three years, but our society needs growth. We would like to encourage all chapter presidents to engage in local drives to encourage membership, while making sure that all chapter members are state members as well.

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>1992</i>
Life	49	46	52
Joint Life	9	9	9
Sustaining	24	32	31
Joint Sustaining	11	12	12
Individual	209	226	222
Family	47	44	47
Associate	2	0	0
Institutional	95	92	89
Total	446	461	462

A.A.S. Journal Editors Report

The December 1992 issue of the *Journal* is being typed. It should be ready to print shortly. Material is on hand for the combined June-Dec. 1993 issue of the *Journal*. This issue will consist of several articles concerning work on the Bottle Creek Site. At the request of the editors of the papers, this issue is undergoing formal peer review.

Eugene Futato

New Members

Michael C. Wilder
Double Springs, AL

Leone J. Ashbury
Elkmont, AL

Denis J. Alcock
Huntsville, AL

Linda J. Wood
Guntersville, AL

Alicia Baggett
Glenwood, AL

Clay Helms
Luverne, AL

Carey B. Tatum
Tallassee, AL

Adrian Crawford
Troy, AL

Richard Ray
Troy, AL

Jerome Hinson
Ashford, AL

John and Joyce Van Valkenburg
Orange Beach, AL



Correspondance with the Alabama Archaeological Society



Since the *Stones and Bones* newsletter moved to Troy State University in January 1993, the editors have received a number of inquiries regarding membership, address changes, the *Journal*, and other topics. During the last year or so, the Alabama Archaeological Society has moved towards developing a central office where all business related items can be processed. Mr. Eugene Futato has volunteered to serve as the central clearing house for the A.A.S. Only the *Stones and Bones* newsletter has moved to Troy. Please address items to be printed in the newsletter to the Troy State University address on the front of the newsletter. All other correspondance (membership dues, back issues of the *Journal*, changes of address, etc.) should be addressed to the Alabama Archaeological Society c/o Mr. Eugene Futato, Archaeology Division, Alabama Museum of Natural History, 13075 Moundville, Alabama 35474. If you need to correspond with an officer of the Society, please refer to the March 1993 issue of the *Stones and Bones* for their names and addresses.

What's Happening Around the State

Jacksonville State University . . .

. . . will hold its 1993 summer field school at the Wright Dairy Farm site in Calhoun County. The site is a Middle Woodland Village located on Cane Creek just 10 miles west of the University. The field school is scheduled for May and June between the hours of 8:00 and 12:00, Monday through Friday. All Alabama Archaeological Society members are invited to attend the field school. Special sessions may be offered on Saturdays. For more information, contact Dr. Harry Holstein at Jacksonville State University, Dept. of Geography and Anthropology, Jacksonville, AL 36265; ☎ 782-5656.

Chapter News

Muscle Shoals Chapter

Members held their April meeting on the 19th on the mezzanine floor of the Renaissance Tower in Florence. Celia Heil, a trained archaeologist and native of Mexico, journeyed from Washington D.C. to present a slide narration entitled "An Asian Trans-Pacific Link with West Mexico."

Charles E. Moore

Tuscaloosa Chapter

The Tuscaloosa Chapter held its February meeting on the 25th at the town library. Rosa Newman of the Alabama Museum of Natural History gave a lecture on the process of electrolysis. At the March meeting held on the 25th, members were honored by the presence of A.A.S. president Van King. Mr. King gave a very interesting lecture and demonstration on the art of flintknapping. We would like to extend special thanks to Mr. King for joining us. Chapter members met at the town library for the April meeting. The guest speaker was Mr. Eugene Futato, who showed slides on Middle Eastern archaeology in Israel, where he has worked for the past few summers. Tuscaloosa's chapter celebrated its tenth anniversary at this meeting.

Paul Clements

In the Alabama Archaeological Society's Past

Twenty years ago (1973), the *Stones and Bones* reported that the state of Alabama was featured in the magazine *Popular Archaeology*. The cover photo showed archaeologists excavating an old well on the University of Alabama's campus which was found when trenches were being dug for electrical work. The well was believed to have been dug around the 1830's or 1840's and filled up between 1880 and 1890. Both amateur and professional archaeologists excavated the well within six days and found such artifacts as an ink well, chalk, a coffee pot, and several toothbrushes. Archaeologist Carey Oakley, who is now the Director of the Division of

Archaeology at the Alabama Museum of Natural History, gave a report on the project at the Society's 1972 summer meeting.

The Calendar

May 29: 1836 ENCAMPMENT at Westville, Lumpkin, GA. Re-enactors in period clothing will demonstrate an encampment of soldiers who have been dispatched to protect local citizens against Indian attacks. An Indian camp will also be demonstrated. Admission charge. For further information contact Westville at ☎ 912- 838-6310.

May: NATIVE AMERICAN DAYS at F.D.R.'s Little White House, Warm Springs, Georgia. For more information, contact Charles Barnes at ☎ 706-655-3511.

Many Thanks

The Society wishes to thank Jim Lee for his recent contribution to our Archives of *Arrowpoints*, Volume 1 #6.

Amos J. Wright, Huntsville



Reminder



Please send the names of all chapter presidents as well as individuals responsible for submitting "Chapter News" to the *Stones and Bones* as soon as possible.



Changing Your Address?



Please notify Eugene Futato at: Division of Archaeology, 1 Moundville Archaeological Park, Moundville, AL 35474.

ALABAMA PALEOINDIAN POINT SURVEY
POINT REPORTING FORM:
GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETION

Introduction

The Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey is being conducted under the joint sponsorship of the Alabama Archaeological Society and the Archaeology Division of the Alabama State Museum of Natural History. The purpose of the survey is to collect basic information on the number, form, and distribution of PaleoIndian projectile points from Alabama. Alabama is the last state in the region to establish a PaleoIndian point survey.

The survey is being established to meet several needs. The first is to support research on PaleoIndians. Alabama has produced perhaps more PaleoIndian points than any other state in the country, but almost nothing is known about these artifacts. The artifact totals can provide data on the distribution of PaleoIndian occupation within the state and the intensity of occupation in Alabama as compared to the surrounding states. Counts by type, or by time period, can suggest when different areas were settled, and how the use of different areas changed through time. Information on point styles can suggest degrees of relationship with other PaleoIndian groups. Identifying the materials from which the points were made and the potential sources of these raw materials can suggest the range of group movements, and indicate the presence of some form of exchange with groups from other areas.

Another purpose for the survey is to increase opportunities for the active involvement of amateur archaeologists and artifact collectors in archaeology. The survey will provide new activities for chapter meetings or state meetings. At the same time we hope the survey will provide additional opportunities for the professionals and nonprofessionals to interact and work together. Finally, we hope that through increased cooperation and interaction, a better relationship will be developed among the diverse groups which share an interest in PaleoIndian artifacts.

The following guidelines may seem rather long, but that is because they must provide a good bit of explanation. We want and need to involve all interested people in the project. There are literally thousands of artifacts which may be recorded by this survey, spread from one end of the state to the other. This is a volunteer effort and we need the help of everyone from those just beginning their interest in archaeology to professional archaeologists.

Forms will be mailed to individuals upon request and persons can complete them to the best of their ability and return them. When possible, we would like to arrange a follow up visit to verify this information. Or you can notify us that you have artifacts to be recorded, and we will try and arrange for someone to meet with you. There will be opportunities for recording points at state society meetings, some local chapters will have meeting where points can be recorded, and there will be other opportunities as well.

Instructions

APPS #. The Alabama PaleoIndian Point Survey number will be assigned when the form is recorded, and the number will be reported to the owner.

1. Owner. Provide the name of the owner of the artifact. If the owner does not wish to be known, put "Anonymous".

2. Type. Provide the artifact type name. This survey is attempting to collect information on all types older than Dalton, including unfluted variants. There is a great deal of overlap between Dalton and some of the earlier forms, such as Quad, and we want to include all points which may be PaleoIndian. But if something is clearly Dalton, do not record it. If you are unsure of the type, or any other information you may add a "?" to your answer such as "Clovis?".

3. Location of find. We recognize that many artifact collectors are reluctant to divulge the locations of their sites. However, the primary purpose of this survey is to provide basic information for the study of PaleoIndian settlement in Alabama. As such, a location at least to county is required. Also, if the collector has a name or number for the site, it would be useful to have that, even without any more information on the location. That would allow the survey to recognize points which came from the same site.

4. Cat. #. This line is for any catalog number or other identification used by the owner or the recorder.

5. Photos. This is perhaps the most important single section of the form. It is very important to have good quality photographs, both slides and prints, of as many of these artifacts as possible. A lot of additional information may be obtained from study of the photographs, and a photograph is the best and fastest to document the point which is being recorded.

6. Recorder. The name of the person(s) completing the form.

7. Date. The date the artifact was recorded.

8. Condition. "Complete" means that the artifact is intact, or missing only small portions that do not interfere with the observations or measurements. "Distal" means that the artifact is missing the base. "Proximal" means the artifact is missing the tip. "Medial" means both the tip and base are missing but some part of both edges is present. "Lateral" means missing the tip, the base, and one edge.

9. Raw Material. Alabama possesses a great variety of lithic resources. There are perhaps 25-30 different varieties of chert from which Alabama PaleoIndian points may have been made, plus various types of quartzite, etc. Just be as specific as your knowledge permits. You can put "Blue Gray Fort Payne Chert", or just "Fort Payne Chert", or just "Chert".

10. Color. Describe the color of the artifact, "White with Black Specks", "Grey", "Blue Gray with Brown Streaks". Munsell color notations would be helpful, but are not required.

11. Patination. Describe the relative level of patination or weathering of the artifact; "None" to "Heavy".

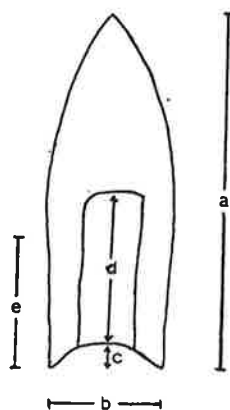
12. Basal Grinding. Note the presence and degree of any grinding on the base; "None" to "Heavy".

13. Reworking. Note if the artifact appears to have been reworked, such as into a drill or scraper, or if the artifact appears to have been resharpened.

14. Contact Again?. Indicate if the owner would like to be contacted by future researchers working in their area.

15. Metric Data. All measurements should be in millimeters. The illustration below shows how to take each measurement.

16. Comments. This is for any additional information you wish to provide. Attach additional sheets if desired.



METRIC ATTRIBUTES

- a. Maximum Length (mm)
- b. Basal Width (mm)
- c. Depth of Basal Concavity (mm)
- d. Length of Fluting or Basal Thinning (mm)
- e. Length of Edge Grinding (mm)

Record Maximum Width and Maximum Thickness at greatest point (mm).

If broken, estimate probable intact length, if possible (mm).

Figure Source:
Anderson et. al 1990

ALABAMA PALEOINDIAN POINT SURVEY
POINT REPORTING FORM

Owner _____ Type _____
Location of Find _____ Cat # _____
Photos _____ Recorder _____ Date _____

NONMETRIC DATA

Condition _____
Raw Material _____
Color _____ Patination _____
Basal Grinding _____ Reworking _____
Contact again? _____

METRIC DATA (MM)

Maximum Length: _____ Estimated Complete Length: _____
Maximum Width: _____ Maximum Thickness: _____
Basal Width: _____ Depth of Basal Concavity: _____
Length of Fluting or Thinning:
 Face 1: _____ Face 2: _____
Length of Edge Grinding:
 Edge 1: _____ Edge 2: _____

Comments, Notes, Other Description:

Provide a sketch or tracing on the reverse. Show both sides
of the artifact and include a scale.

of July 10. The summer's work will concentrate on the lower (Early Archaic/Paleoindian) deposits at Dust Cave.

Five weekly sessions for Society members are offered. Each weekly session begins on Tuesday and extends through Saturday. A fee of \$100.00 per participant covers tuition, food, and lodging costs for the week at the field camp. Several motels are located nearby for the less adventurous.

The camp, located within easy walking distance of the cave, consists of a screened kitchen/meeting area, latrine, cold water shower, and cabin-style tents equipped with cots for two people. Participants may reserve bunk space or opt to bring personal camping gear. We can also make arrangements to park tent campers and R.V.'s in an open field within easy walking distance of the camp. No hookups are available and this area is about 1.5 miles off the paved/improved roadway.

If you are unable to attend a week-long session, you may wish to volunteer for a day. Remember, the Dust Cave crew works on Saturday! For Society members, the University has waived the daily tuition fee, but please bring a lunch.

We hope to see you at Dust Cave!

AAS SUMMER DIG APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FIVE WEEKLY SESSIONS ARE OFFERED TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.
Please indicate session* desired:

June 08 - 12 _____ June 29 - July 03 _____

June 15 - 19 _____ July 06 - 10 _____

June 22 - 26 _____

My Check for \$_____ (\$100.00/participant/week) is enclosed. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO
ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

***Limited to 5 participants each session; selection based on first applicants received.**

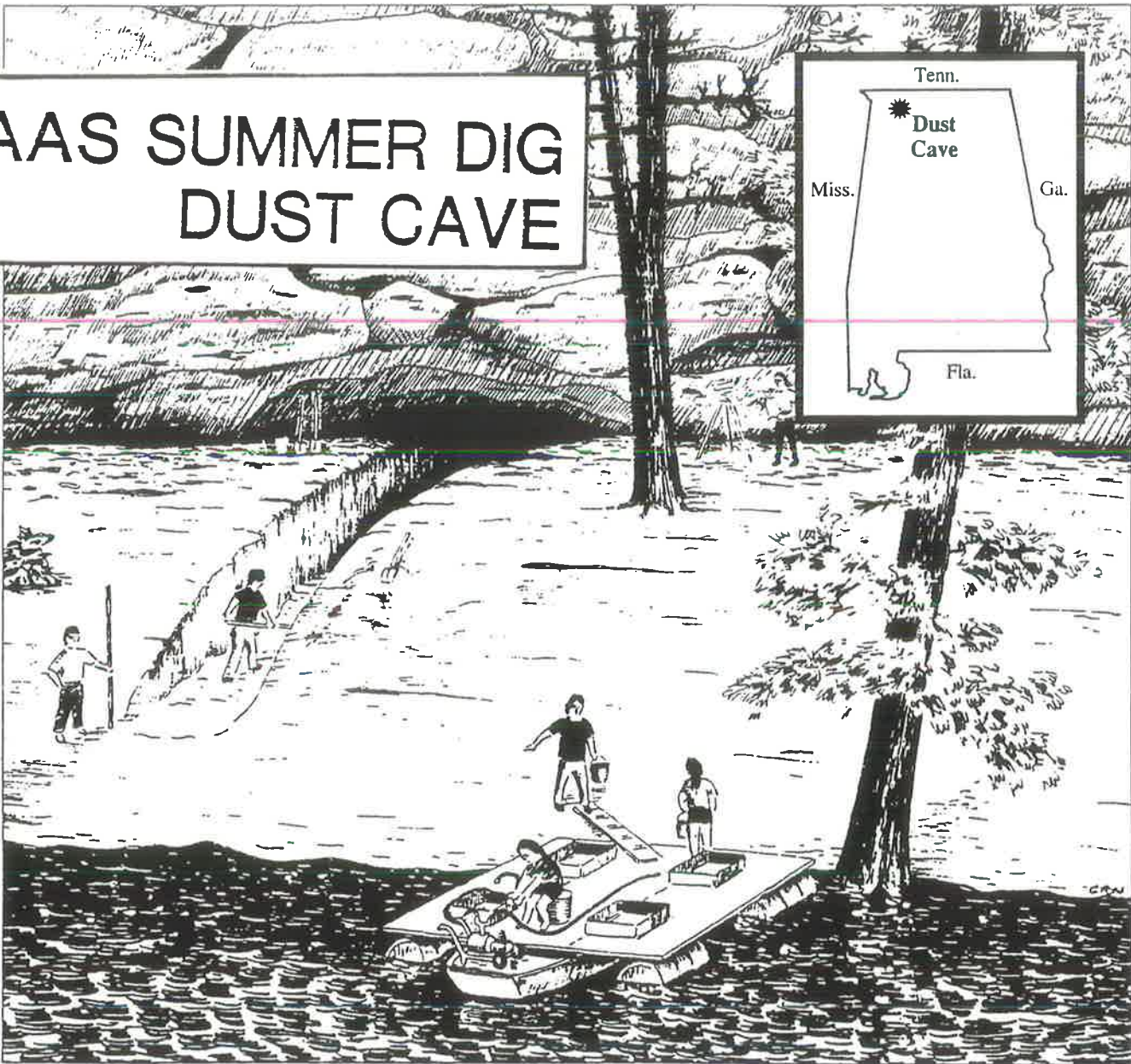
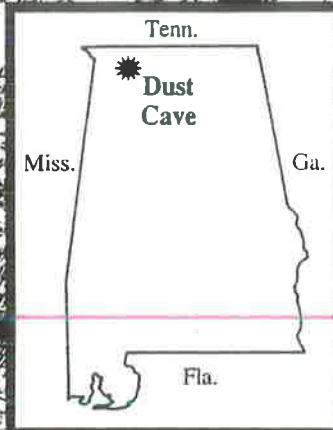
Return Application to: Eugene Futato
Alabama Archaeological Society
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
Moundville, Alabama 35474

Alabama Archaeological Society

Dear Society Member:

Society president Van King has selected Dust Cave as the site of the Alabama Archaeological Society's summer dig. As a member, you are cordially invited to attend this exciting excavation near Florence, Alabama. Dr. Boyce Driskell of the University of Alabama has been excavating at Dust Cave for four summers in conjunction with students from the University of Alabama and the University of North Alabama. This summer, the dig will begin the week of June 8 and extend through the week

AAS SUMMER DIG DUST CAVE



sent. Field research strategy emphasizes 1) recovery of a large sample of organic remains through flotation and fine screening techniques, and 2) excavation by natural levels in conjunction with ongoing stratigraphic interpretation.

The nature of stratified deposits, integrity of the site matrix, and preservation of organic remains are reasons to believe that Dust Cave is unprecedented as a resource in Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene archaeology of the Tennessee Valley and the mid-south. These qualities no doubt derive from a dry or usually dry micro-environment within the cave for most of its history of human use. That this micro-environment no longer exists is probably due to impoundment of Pickwick Lake, subsequent water rise, and inundation of Coffee Slough beginning about 50 years ago. Because of changes in its microenvironment, Dust Cave must be fully excavated to recover archaeological data before microstratigraphy and organic remains are destroyed.

Excavation strategy includes small volume provenience units (no larger than 1 m by 1 m with 5 cm cuts), piece plotting of artifacts, broad scale mapping and stripping of isolable stratigraphic units, and fine screening/water separation of a large sample (10-12 percent by volume) of excavated materials. A significant commitment to flotation, with recovery of heavy and light fractions, is demanded because of the significance of organic remains (carbonized floral specimens as well as small, fragile bones). A sample of microdebitage is also recovered in flotation heavy fractions.

The summer of 1993 will be very exciting as staff, students, and volunteers excavate the lower deposits (Early Archaic and possibly Paleoindian) in the long trench begun in 1992. We plan to finish removal of these deposits during the upcoming season.

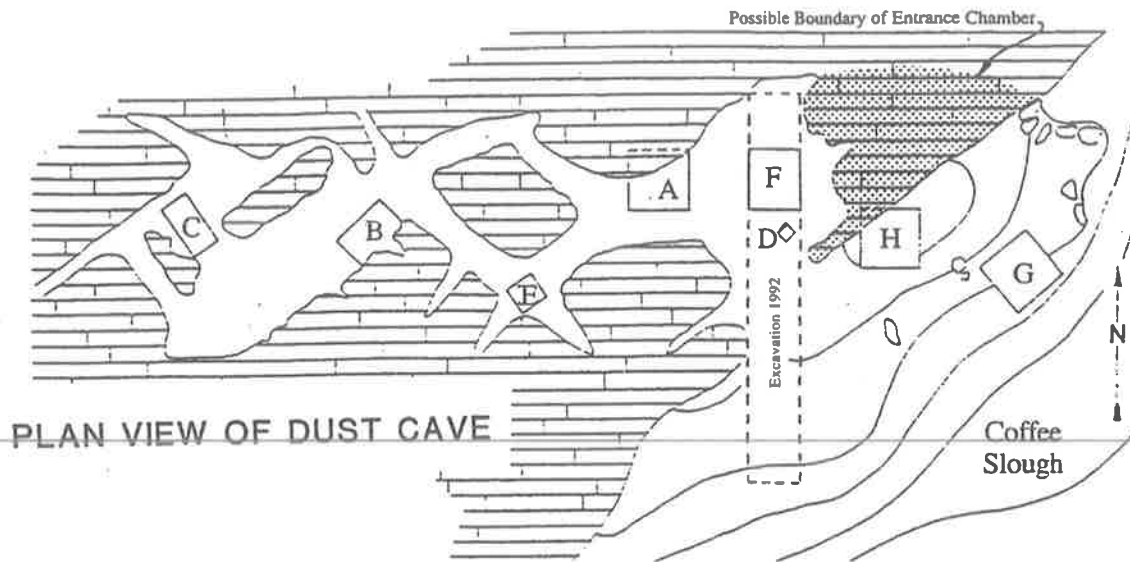
Although the staff begins work at the site a week earlier and stays on-site later into the summer, students are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, June 8, 1993. The work week is Tuesday through Saturday with Sundays and Mondays off. The last day of the student and AAS fieldschool is Saturday, July 10, 1993. The staff includes Boyce Driskell, two or three field assistants, and the camp manager/cook. Students, staff, and volunteers reside in a tent camp about 100 meters from the cave. Electricity is provided by a portable generator; water is pumped from a nearby spring. A large screened canopy houses the kitchen and dining area. A shower enclosure and latrine complete the camp ensemble.

Tents and cots are furnished. Each participant should bring bed clothes (sleeping bag, or sheets and blanket) as well as personal items. Remember a flashlight and sturdy work shoes. Also, while the environs are generally hot and humid, the cave is quite cool. Bring a jacket or coveralls, etc. Radios, tape players, or musical instruments are permitted.

Five one week sessions have been scheduled for society members. A fee of \$100.00 per person per week covers costs of instruction, food, and lodging. AAS members not able to attend a week-long session are encouraged to register as a volunteer on Saturdays. One day participation is free of charge to AAS members.

ABOUT DUST CAVE...

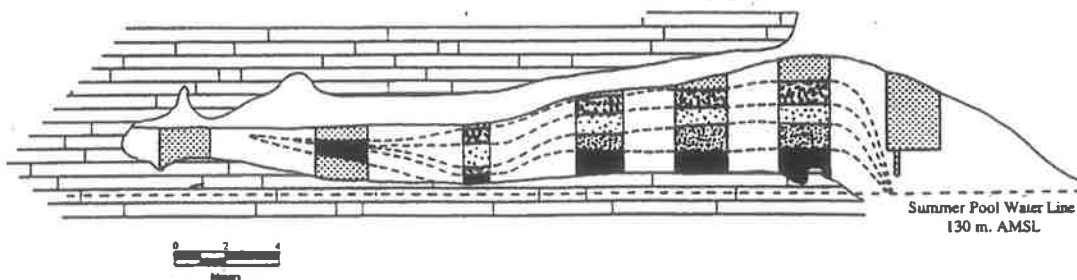
Dust Cave (1Lu496), one of many caves riddling the steep limestone blufflines of the Tennessee River in northwestern Alabama near present-day Florence, was reported by a local speleologist and initially investigated by the University's summer archaeological fieldschool in 1989. Additional test excavations followed in the summers of 1990 and 1991. In the summer of 1992, the fieldschool began excavation of a 2 m wide trench along a N-S axis extending from outside talus deposits into the entrance chamber and terminating at the back wall (see plan view; below). Approximately 50% of deposits within the trench was excavated in 1992; remaining deposits are slated for excavation in the summer of 1993.



- Non-artifact Bearing Deposits
- Component of Seven Mile Island Phase (5,600-5,000 B.P.)
- Component of Eva / Morrow Mountain Horizon (7,000-6,000 B.P.)
- Component of Kirk Stemmed Horizon (8,000-7,000 B.P.)
- Component of Big Sandy Horizon (9,500-10,500 B.P.)

COMPOSITE PROFILE

OF CAVE DEPOSITS



Test excavations at Dust Cave reveal an archaeological sequence dating from about 10,500 to 5,000 B.P. embedded within a deep, complex and finely laminated stratigraphy developed and preserved under relatively dry conditions inside the cave. Four major archaeological components representative of Big Sandy Horizon (9,500-10,500 B.P.), Kirk Stemmed Horizon (8,000-7,000 B.P.), Eva/Morrow Mountain Horizon (7,000-6,000), and Seven Mile Island Phase (5,600-5,000 B.P.) are pre-