

Alabama Archaeological Society

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA P.O. BOX 6135, UNIVERSITY, ALA. 35486

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

NADB DOC # - 4,056,672

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ARCHAEOLOGY TIME ALREADY?

How many ways are there for us to look for a yesterday? As many as there are keen interests? The increase in knowledge has been well noted in the many books and the many summaries that are ours for the search. And how did this come to be? By the devotion of the many persons like yourself and myself to the cause of what can best be called "amateur archaeology". It takes both book and dirt digging. And it had best be noted also that it takes a bit of that kind of digging that is known as pocket checking.

Yes, now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their State and help finance the SUMMER DIG. The State Society and the tax-exempt Archaeological Research Association of Alabama Inc. have been working as a unit for a nice round dozen years. And it is not a bad thought to point out that the digging has not gone up, dollar wise, that is, since we started. We are not yet certain of the 2 important things that will make this summer the one that you should save your vacation for; to wit, where and who will be the boss. It always seems that the dig creeps up on us faster than we can get ready.

When I am asked, as is not infrequent, why should I contribute, I try to give the answer that I hope will be the right one for the person asking. I do this because it is very obvious that there are many persons who are a bit reluctant to give without a reason - particularly in these days of such ready communication for other needs. I believe the answer that has seemed to give the most satisfaction is that it was only 6 years from the time of the Stanfield Worley dig before there was a use of that knowledge to help piece together a bit more of the picture of southeastern archaeology. Willey's INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY used many items from the reports of southeastern archaeologists. We can say with more than a bit of pride that we helped.

The passing years will give the gift of knowledge more height than the present mound. This gift is made from research, organization, technique, finance and humans. We can all help with this kind of reaching for the stars. (B.T.)

ARTIFACTS BELIEVED U.S. OLDEST

Kate Dunning, ever thoughtful and kind, sent us an A.P. clipping relevant to archaeological action in our near neighbor state of Louisiana:

"Louisiana State University has discovered basketry and woven cords pickled in the briny water of a salt deposit area. "Remarkable" artifacts of perishable organic materials preserved by the brine have been found, including pieces of woven cords, possibly fragments of sandals or bags; a fragment of cane matting, and a bone projec-

tile point, as mounds of earth from salt mine expansion were carefully sifted. Radio-carbon dating methods put the age of the materials at 11,000 to 12,000 years.

LSU scientists said its key importance was in establishing a direct association between objects of human workmanship and the remains of such extinct Pleistocene animals as the mastodon, saber tooth tiger and ground sloth. Indications are these primitive people predate the "Clovis Hunters" who developed a specialized big-game hunting culture over North America about 10,000 years ago, Dr. Sherwood M. Gagliano said."

(Editor's note: Current economic conditions may not be all we desire, but I suspect we might not care for the old saber tooth tiger as fellow citizen either.)

PETROGLYPHS & FRAUDS

Our friend "The Margaret", as DWJ used to say, dropped us a note regarding petroglyphs. We haven't made the time to follow up personally on one mentioned as being near West Point, Ga. (on the Alabama side of the river) but we do want our readers to share her other offerings. They follow. And so do our thanks:

With all the current publicity going on concerning interpretations of the symbols on petroglyphs, the following items may be of interest:

LOST TRIBES AND SUNKEN CONTINENTS, by Robert Wauchope, University of Chicago Press, 1962. Dr. Wauchope, now the director of Middle American Research Institute, Tulane University, is author of numerous archaeological publications, including ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NORTHERN GEORGIA, No. 21, Memoirs of the Society for American Archaeology, 1966.

FADS AND FALLACIES IN NAME OF SCIENCE, by Martin Gardner, Dover, 1957. Author enlightens on many facets which are little known about concerning some purported archaeological findings, etc.

Fourth Annual Report, Bureau of Ethnology, 1882-1883, pages 247-253, entitled ERRORS AND FRAUDS, by Garrick Mallery.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

This is by no means a new subject for the newsletter, but it's worth an occasional repeat.

To communicate effectively, one must have knowledge of the subject or idea to be put across. A basic rule in public speaking is: know your subject; in salesmanship: know your product. This idea applies to most all situations where effective communication is important. We amateur archaeologists are expected to know enough about archaeology to inform others who are interested, and to advise them on the correct approach. The necessary knowledge is available through the many excellent books on the subject.

Increased knowledge brings increased enjoyment, increased interest and increased enthusiasm - automatically! More interest and enthusiasm leads inevitably to better communication on the subject of archaeology.

Let's not forget the importance of some occasional reading to better prepare ourselves to be contributing members of our local chapters and the State Society.

(William H. Wesley, Huntsville Chapter)

THERMOLUMINESCENCE AGAIN

During the last 10 or 15 years, this new method of dating has been developed to a technique which is more reliable. According to Mazess & Zimmerman, 1966 (SCIENCE 152: 347-348): "TL is the release in the form of light of stored energy from a substance when it is heated. The phenomenon occurs in many crystalline nonconducting solids." In the case of pottery, the amount of light depends upon the time since the pottery was last fired. The more light, the older it is. This method is especially adapted to dating archaeological sites, as the sherd itself is dated and not some associated organic material as in the C-14 method. Also, it is becoming apparent that C-14 has

some discrepancies for certain periods of time, consistently dating younger than it actually is. The TL dating would overcome this inaccuracy. In the January 1970 SCI-ENCE DIGEST, under Colleges in Action, "Glow Reveals Pottery Age" forecasts that very soon the TL dating labs will equal the C-14 dating labs in number.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

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That is exactly how far we got in Carson's THE SEA AROUND US when we encountered that nonsense about the moon being flung out of the Pacific Ocean depression, which we have shouted for decades was an isostatic impossibility. Apparently the geologists have revised their thinking (?) after viewing the moon rocks, and what we considered an extravagance at this time may be worth it if it corrects that aberration of the so-called thinking function. Man is not "the most dangerous animal" - he is more dangerous than all other animals put together; and this is of course the result of the various misuses of his "thinking" ability.

It functions in various dangerous ways, both positively and negatively. As early as Marcus Terentius Varro he attributed disease to "certain minute creatures which cannot be seen by the eyes, which float in the air and enter the body". But 17 centuries and more elapsed before Antony van Leeuwenhoek proved microorganisms in 1675. In the second century B.C., Crates of Mallos, geographer, constructed a terrestrial globe - which the western world flattened until the globe was actually circumnavigated. In fact, during the recent Tennessee "monkey trial" one sect insisted that a flat earth be taught in the public schools. And as early as the second century B.C. Polemon Periegetes of Trcas discussed archaeological questions, yet it was 1859 A.D. before Boucher de Perthes convinced the "scientific" world that man was a very old animal, and his stone axes of antiquity were not "heaven axes left over from the war between God and Satan".

And on January 4, 1970, a prominent anthropologist wrote us: "As many people are aware but few people will admit, nobody KNOWS very much of anything". We, too, have an uneasy feeling that American archaeology is getting the moon out of the Pacific, or overlooking microorganisms, or flattening the earth, or still misconstruing artifacts even. But how do we correct or counter the aberrations of the human mind which thinks it can "think" facts - and hangs on to them with a Hrdlicka tenacity? It seems time for some sort of "moon shot" in archaeology (which would cost only pennies in comparison) so that we may get past "page five".

WE DON'T "THINK" FACTS - we observe them, infrequently! For human observation is abominably poor - as witness the tragic centuries in which "physicians" failed to observe that "bleeding" killed rather than cured. Moon rocks in hand, microorganisms under the microscope, the globe circumnavigated, hand axe stratigraphy in association with prehistoric animals on old terraces - thus we finally observe facts and discredit our "thinking".

(Editor's note: The above was written by our lamented Dan Josselyn for the February 1970 issue of STONES & BONES, but was not used then and is published now on the anniversary of his death on February 26, 1970. We wish there were more of them.)

BOOK REVIEW

Have you ever wondered just what information is gained from the assortment of broken bones saved from an excavation? An example is given in VERTEBRATE REMAINS FROM THE FAIRCHANCE MOUND, MARSHALL COUNTY, W. VA. by John E. Guilday and Donald P. Tanner, found in the just published WEST VIRGINIA ARCHAEOLOGIST, No. 21, 1968. (membership dues of \$3.00 may be sent to the West Virginia Society's new Secretary, Donovan H. Bond, 1280 Longdon Ave., Morgantown, W.Va. 36505). The mound site, with 49 burials found, is Hopewellian or earlier. No sign of Late Prehistoric pottery. Approximately 15,386 bone fragments, a 31% of the total sample, were able to be identified. 57 species of vertebrates were represented; of the 23 mammals, 8 had been locally exter-

minated, 1 of the 9 birds was extinct and another possibly not native. The major source of meat was the white-tailed deer, with an 84.5% of the total estimated pounds of meat. Aboriginal butcher methods were interpreted from a study of the cut marks and bone severage and a comparison made with studies from other sites. The large mammals and most of the smaller ones, are typical of the eastern deciduous forest, the environment of the site. The presence of the prairie mole, Scalopus aquaticus machrinus, is the first record of the animal in the State. The presence of rice rats, Oryzomys palustris, as far as the authors know, is the oldest for the area. These rats are common at Late Prehistoric sites, but not at earlier sites where food was not probably stored. The site was occupied for an extended time, perhaps year round. Fawns, a doe, antlered bucks and some that had shed their antlers, were present. This could indicate more than short seasonal hunting periods, as fawns and antlered bucks are not usually found during the same season. Bone artifacts were described and illustrated and an attempt made to identify animal source. This is a summary of some of the most important data the study revealed.

An excellent reference in the identification of human bones is the book MAMMAL REMAINS FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE SOUTHEASTERN AND SOUTHWESTERN U.S." by Stanley Olsen, published by Peabody Museum (Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Vol. 56, No. 2, Cambridge, Mass.) In 1968, another of his works was published, FISH, AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE REMAINS FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, PART I: SOUTHEASTERN AND SOUTHWESTERN U.S. According to the review given this book by Charles Douglas in the January 1971 AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, it should prove as valuable as the other. To quote Mr. Douglas, "This volume is the first to present, in one place, information and illustrations to aid in the identification of bones of lower vertebrates that may be found in archaeological sites...Despite its shortcomings, which are mostly editorial in nature, the publication is a valuable reference for researchers in archaeozoology."

(Both by Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of each month in Room 213, Reid Chapel, Samford University. Dr. J. B. McCabe, whose Master's thesis in dentistry was a study of the life habits of Indians as shown by their teeth, spoke to the February meeting on "Malocclusions of Indians of the Shell Mound Area of North Alabama". At the March meeting, Dr. C. Earle Smith, Professor of Anthropology and Biology at the University of Alabama, and whose specialty is Paleobotany, will speak on "Past and Present Environment in Southern Mexico."

THE PASTFINDERS, Birmingham Chapter Ladies' Auxiliary, announce additional field trips for the future, as follows: April 1st, to Jasmin Hills Garden near Montgomery; and to the Iismals in northwest Alabama on May 19th.

Shoccolego Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Regar Museum, Anniston. Continuing an educational series on all phases of archaeology, Mr. James McCain at the January meeting discussed "Reconstructing Pottery", showing some tools used in determining size, shape, thickness, etc., of pottery from only a small sherd. Mr. McCain also spoke on the same subject at the February meeting, demonstrating techniques on pottery from a local salvage dig several years ago.

Cullman County Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at Cullman City Hall. At the February meeting, Sister Maurus-Allen, who teaches Biblical Archaeology at Cullman College, will complete her discussion and show new slides of Biblical Archaeological high points of interest from her Holy Land trip last summer.

East Alabama Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month in Comer Hall,

Auburn University. New 1971 Officers elected are Dr. William E. Goslin, President & temporary Secy-Treas; Dr. Albert E. Trowse, Vice President; and Mrs. Warren Johnson, Mrs. Francis French, Mrs. Robert Gay and Dr. Leo Gosser, Directors. At the February meeting, Dr. Helen Douty, Associate Professor, Home Economics Dept., who spent her Christmas vacation in Mexico visiting and photographing sites of archaeological interest, will speak on "A Recent View of Ancient Mexico". Dr. Sam Lyle, Professor in the Forestry Department, who makes land surveys and some interesting discoveries, will speak to the March meeting on "Sites of Interest in the Auburn Area".

Huntsville Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Madison County Courthouse. At the February meeting, Mr. John Martz spoke on "Research for Constitutional Hall Site", giving a very interesting and informative talk along with slides showing architecture of the 1700 & 1800 period, providing a preview of nails, hardware, etc., that might be found in the excavation of the original site, which the Chapter is excavating on a small scale and hopes to make a full report on later.

Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month in Decatur City Court Room. At the February meeting, Fletcher Jolly III, Muscle Shoals Chapter, spoke on "A Comparison of Projectile Point Types of the Ozark Plateau with Those of the Tennessee Valley", using color slides as illustrations. The March meeting will be addressed by Mr. James McCain of the Choccolocco Chapter.

Noccalula Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of each month at Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. Mr. Scott Ashley spoke to the February meeting on "Piltdown Hoax", summarizing the finds, assessments and later admission that someone had perpetrated a forgery. Richard and Juanita Battles, Chapter members, will discuss local archaeological digs of several years ago, at the March meeting.

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in Room 100, Science Hall, Florence State University. At the January meeting, Houston Wright of the Huntsville Chapter, discussed "Flint Working Techniques", presenting a slide illustrated lecture on the development of the major flaking traditions in the Old World into the Late Mesolithic-Early Neolithic Period, at which time they were introduced into the New World as it was peopled via the Bering Strait Land Bridge at the end of the Pleistocene. New Officers for 1971: Jim Miller, President; Bill Koob, Vice President & Program Chairman; Fletcher Jolly, Secy-Treas; Bill Witt, Librarian.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS DURING FEBRUARY: (A hearty welcome to this fine list!)

Jack Berry, 508 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 80th St., Birmingham, Ala. 35206
Griffith B. Brackett, 3567 Valley Circle, Birmingham, Ala. 35243 (Family)
Frank W. Brown, 2427 Medaris Road S.W., Huntsville, Ala. 35810 (Family)
William Crumme, Route 3 Box 141-A, Falkville, Ala. 35622 (Family)
Torrence Eaton, Star Route Box 3204, Mulga, Ala. 35118 (Family)
Gene R. Griffin, 630-M Idlewild Circle, Birmingham, Ala. 35205 (Family)
Mrs. F. G. Hamner, 3373 Spring Valley Court, Birmingham, Ala. 35223
William O. Haygood, Route 6, Florence, Ala. 35630
Charles M. Robertson, 4318 Franklin Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37204
Eddie Wells, Route 1 Box 48, Spruce Pine, Ala. 35585

STATE SOCIETY DUES: If YOU are ONE of the FAR TOO MANY 1970 State Society members who have not yet communicated by check with State Society Secy-Treas Rodger Schaefer at 1414-15th Avenue S.E., Decatur, Ala. 35601, it will greatly relieve YOUR mind, as well as his, if you sit down and do something about this RIGHT NOW! Your space on our membership rolls is being held open for you, but our constitutional cut-off date is fast approaching, and you surely will want to continue keeping up with things!

Stanford E. Smith's many long time friends over the State will greatly regret learning of his critical illness at present. We are sure an encouraging note mailed to him at Route 8 Box 262, Florence, Ala. 35630, will be most appreciated.

Spencer Waters, Moulton, reports: "We found a dinosaur tooth in the Selma Chalk formation in Mississippi during Christmas. Has not been fully identified yet - is at Auburn University now - but was one of the vegetable eaters".

Fletcher Jolly III, formerly of Florence, informs us of his decision to become a professional archaeologist. He has enrolled at the University of Arkansas where he'll get his MA in Anthropology, and then hopes to return to Alabama where he plans to do his thesis research in north Alabama. Of course, we wish him every success.

Dr. Sherman P. Lawton, President of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, passed away January 22, 1971. He had been president of the Society since April 7, 1956 - or 15 years of constant service. Dr. Lawton was fond of reminding OAS members that he, too, was an amateur, and provided an excellent example for the rest of us, in that he did what most amateurs, and many professionals, fail to do. He published. The full extent of his passing will become known only gradually, and continually, to archaeology.

FLORIDA MEETING: The 23rd Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society will be held in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Saturday, March 20, 1971 at the Science Center, 7701-22nd Ave. N. The one day session will start at 9:30 AM. After a dutch treat lunch at Morrison's Cafeteria, the program will continue until 4:00 PM. A banquet is planned, with a guest speaker at 6:30 Saturday evening. Reproductions of artifacts from the Key Marco Site, Weeden Island Site and the Canton Site will be among planned displays. All interested will be welcomed.

ALABAMA ETV: Have you happened to catch the Monday evening programs at 8:00 PM, "Museum of Art Presents"? Treasures from the Birmingham Art Museum, including the Indian material, are shown and described. "Biblical Archaeology" on Fridays at 6:00 PM, presents another interesting field.

STATE SOCIETY MEMBERS WELCOME: The next meeting of The American Indian Society of Alabama will be held at 7:30 PM on Friday, March 5th, at Room 112, Lyons-Harrison Research Building, 7th Ave. S., between 19th & 20th St., Birmingham. They are fortunate to have 2 speakers at the meeting: Mrs. John W. Bradshaw & Mr. Charles Beavers. Mrs. Bradshaw went to the St. Anna's Mission in Atmore, Ala. for 6 months to teach Bible School, but was so appalled at the conditions and needs of the young Creek Indians that she stayed for 5 years. Mr. Beavers will talk on archery in general, covering the development of archery from prehistoric times to today, and will demonstrate some of his equipment and describe the few changes since medieval times.

EDUCATIONAL ARTICLE

The following brief papers are popular accounts of Indian prehistory as seen from the midwestern U.S., but having widespread connections, even to the southeast. They are written by Dr. Elaine Bluhm Herold and were published in the December 1970 issue of THE PALIMPSEST, publication of the State Historical Society of Iowa. The term "Palimpsest" is interesting in itself, in that in early times it was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been removed to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records and also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts. So it is with archaeology, to decipher records of the past and reconstruct them, layer by layer, even though parts of the record are obscure indeed.

"WHO WERE THE MOUND BUILDERS?" In the latter part of the 18th Century and the early 19th Century travelers and settlers moving westward across the eastern part of the U.S. noted the mounds and earthworks which they found along the river valleys. Because the living Indians knew nothing about these monuments of the past, a myth became well established in the 19th Century that the earthworks were built by MOUND BUILDERS - a mysterious race which was often regarded as descended from the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel or refugees from the Lost Continent of Atlantis. The Mound Builders were believed to be far superior to the Indians. It was thought that they disappeared before the Indians, first encountered by the early explorers and colonists, arrived in this hemisphere.

A number of the mounds and earthworks were destroyed in the 19th Century as cities began to grow and agricultural activities expanded across the continent. Fortunately, some of the men who found the mounds were very careful observers who mapped and recorded their findings in great detail.

In the latter half of the 19th Century the interest in the past history of North America increased. More and more of the mounds were discovered, recorded, and in many cases destroyed. The Smithsonian Institution, founded in 1846, began an active program of collecting and publishing records of these earthworks. Information was sent to Washington by people in many parts of the country. Sections of several of the early volumes of Smithsonian Annual Reports were devoted to their accounts.

The myth of the Mound Builders gradually came to be disproved as studies of the writings of early explorers revealed that Indians had been building mounds in the 16th and early 17th centuries. Excavation and studies by archaeologists and physical anthropologists showed that the Indians and their predecessors were physically similar.

But it was not until the early part of the 20th Century, when there was an intensified interest in controlled and scientific archaeology, that we really began to know something about the Indians who built the mounds. By then it was established that there were different types of mounds. Some were constructed as monuments to the dead, with skeletons placed in them; others were platforms for ceremonial structures, and still others were effigies of animals and serpents. The real break-through in the understanding came about in the 1940's and 1950's when, with the development of Carbon-14 dating, some accurate information on the age of the mounds was at last available. It then became apparent that mound building had been practiced for over 2,500 years on the continent by many groups of prehistoric Indians whose only records are the remains left behind buried in the ground. Generally speaking the burial mound builders were earlier and the temple mound builders, those who built mounds as platforms, and effigy mound builders were later in Midwestern prehistory. In time the term "Mound Builders" almost disappeared from scientific writing as it had no real meaning in terms of the prehistory of the country."

"HOPEWELL: BURIAL MOUND BUILDERS." The best known of the prehistoric burial mound building Indian cultures in the eastern U.S. is the Hopewellian culture which occurred during what archaeologists in the Midwest call the Middle Woodland period (about 200 B.C. - 400 A.D.). Archaeological sites in which Hopewellian artifacts are found occur as far east as New York State, as far west as Kansas City, and from Florida on the south to New York and Wisconsin on the north. The Hopewellian culture was named originally for the Hopewell farm in Ross County near Chillicothe, Ohio. For many years the best and most detailed information on the Hopewellian culture came from Ohio, for a number of sites were excavated there in the late 1800's and first quarter of this century. Most of the work, however, was conducted in the mounds and earthworks, a number of which have been preserved and can be seen even today in parks and National Monuments in the vicinity of Chillicothe and at Newark. Almost nothing was known of the domestic life of these people.

During this same time many smaller and less impressive mounds were excavated in Illinois and Iowa. Fortunately some were studied by careful observers and there are records of the Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences excavations now on file at the

Davenport Public Museum. Many other sites were simply destroyed by untrained curio-seekers.

In the 1920's and 1930's Dr. Fay-Cooper Cole of the Department of Anthropology of the University of Chicago began a systematic survey of the archaeological sites in Illinois and under his direction students dug a number of Hopewellian village sites. As a result of this work, and that of his associates, archaeologists came to know more about the domestic life of the Hopewellian Indians in Illinois than elsewhere in the country. It began to appear that while the most elaborate development of burial practices was achieved in Ohio, the longest development and the earliest village sites were found in Illinois. Fortunately, in the last 15 years much more research in mounds and village sites has been conducted in eastern U.S. and more information is available on all aspects of the Hopewellian complex.

The archaeological evidence of the Hopewellian culture, which was spread across the eastern U.S. during the Middle Woodland period from, perhaps, 200 B.C. to 400 A.D., indicates that it was in many ways more of a CULT than a CULTURE. The details of the local indigenous village complexes, which reflect the daily life and customs of the local Indian groups, vary from area to area, but there is a general similarity in ceremonial paraphernalia and to some extent burial practices. It might be compared to the spread of Christianity in the New World in the 16th and 17th centuries when much of the local Indian way of life did not change radically although the Indians adopted the new religion, often built churches, and acquired many of the religious symbols that went with it.

The origin of the Hopewellian cult is far from being fully understood by archaeologists. Some of the ideas incorporated in it may very well have come from south of our border in Meso-America. Others may have come from Asia and others were probably the result of the blending of the new and the older indigenous cultures in the area. It is easy to show that the cultivation of maize, the use of mounds for burials, figurines, rocker-stamped designs on ceramics and parallel-sided knife blades occur earlier in Meso-America than in the eastern U.S. But it is impossible, at this stage in archaeological research, to plot the route or routes of movement of such traits through the area. Some appear to occur earlier in Illinois while others are earlier in the Southeast. Furthermore rocker-stamping and parallel-sided blades also occur at an earlier date in Asia.

If the origin of the Hopewellian cult is imperfectly understood, what happened to it is also. We know that it died out, that the burial cult and the ceremonial paraphernalia eventually no longer were found in the eastern U.S., and subsequently other cultures took its place. James B. Griffin has suggested that a minor variation in climate, producing cooler weather and a shorter growing season, was responsible for the decline in agricultural productivity and, as a result, of the Middle Woodland culture.

Olaf Prufer believes that this may explain the more gradual decline in the northern Mississippi Valley and perhaps in Illinois, but he feels that in Ohio the end was more abrupt. He suggests that the latest sites are those located on fortified hilltops and that the Hopewellians were forced to move into the fortified locations for as yet unidentified reasons and then, following an upheaval, were dispersed.

It is also possible that, as Griffin suggested earlier, the burden of supporting the elaborate ceremonial activities became too great for the population and the cult and the communities broke up as a result of "cultural fatigue".

These 2 big questions of how Hopewell came about and what happened to it and many other questions of inter- and intra-village and area relationships will be answered only when more controlled research is done in archaeological sites throughout the eastern U.S. Until the work can be done we can only hope that the sites can be protected and preserved."

(Editor's Note: Another article from the same publication, on "Middle Woodland Indian Life", will appear in a later issue of STONES & BONES.)

THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Following are the objectives stated in our Constitution, slightly modified for emphasis: To promote informed interest in the study of Archaeology in Alabama and neighboring States; to encourage careful scientific archaeological research in such ways as surface scouting, mapping, marking, studying and especially reporting; to promote and support professionally directed excavations and discourage unsupervised "digging"; to promote the conservation of archaeological sites and to favor the passage of laws prescribing such; to oppose the sale of antiquities, and the manufacture and sale of fraudulent artifacts; to encourage and develop a better understanding of archaeology through providing Newsletters, Journals, Chapter and State meetings, helpful associates and good fellowship; to serve as a bond between individual archaeologists in the State, both non-professional and professional; and perhaps most importantly, to give everyone the opportunity to "do something about archaeology" through the accomplishment and enjoyment of these high aims.

The Society needs and welcomes as members, all persons whose ideals are in accord with the objectives set forth above. Active members receive the JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, devoted to articles on the archaeology of Alabama and nearby States, and also receive the STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER, published monthly, containing news of members and their activities, also State, national and worldwide events of archaeological importance.



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