

Alabama Archaeological Society

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Volume 26

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

Number 3

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Publications listed below are available from the:

U. S. Government Printing Office
Superintendent of Documents
Washington, D. C. 20402

These documents were recently surveyed by your editors and found to contain information, at a nominal cost, which many of our readers will find interesting, particularly practicing archaeologists. All are paper bound, 8½ by 11 inches.

Remote Sensing and Non-Destructive Archeology - edited by Thomas R. Lyons and James I. Ebert. Cultural Resources Management Division, National Park Service; Washington, D. C. Seventy-one pages, 1978. \$4. Order No. 024-005-00764-4.

Human Bones and Archeology - Douglas H. Ubelaker, Smithsonian Institution; Washington, D. C. Prepared for Interagency Archeological Service; Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service; U. S. Department of the Interior; Washington, D. C. Thirty-one pages, 1980. \$2.25. Order No. 024-016-00144-3. Through such special methods described in this book, researchers can often identify the age at death, the sex, the height, any evidence of disease, and the cultural affiliation of the individuals unearthed in a project area. Although these people died long ago, they still can relay to us important information about their life, and may provide us with guidance in our adjustment to today's world.

Remote Sensing - Instrumentation for Nondestructive Exploration of Cultural Resources - Stanley A. Morain and Thomas K. Budge. Supplement No. 2 to Remote Sensing: A Handbook for Archeologists and Cultural Resource Managers. Fifty-three pages, 1978. \$4.50. Order No. 024-005-00736-9.

Remote Sensing - Aerial Anthropological Perspectives: A Bibliography of Remote Sensing in Cultural Resource Studies - Thomas R. Lyons, Robert K. Hitchcock, Wirth H. Wills. Supplement No. 3 to Remote Sensing: A Handbook for Archeologists and Cultural Resource Managers. Twenty-five pages, 1980. \$2. Order No. 024-005-00774-1.

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228,229,230

Photogrammetric Recording of Cultural Resources - Perry E. Borchers. Thirty-eight pages, 1977. \$3.50. Order No. 024-005-00684-2.

Remote Sensing: A Handbook for Archeologists and Cultural Resource Managers - Thomas R. Lyons and Thomas Eugene Avery. One-hundred nine pages, 1977. \$5.50. Order No. 024-005-00688-5.

Archaeomagnetism: A Handbook for the Archeologist - Jeffrey L. Eighmy. One-hundred four pages, \$5.50. Order No. 024-016-00145-1. This handbook should provide archaeologists with a practical guide to archaeomagnetic dating, including the collection procedures, understanding laboratory analysis, and interpreting results.

CHAPTER NEWS

East Alabama Chapter

At the January meeting, Mary Anne Culpepper and Bruce Cuertin, producers of "Lost in Time", discussed the making of the film - how they produced various scenes, some of the technical problems and how they coped with them, and additional educational material available on the film.

On February 8, Dr. Mark Eugene Meadows, Professor, English Department, Auburn University, spoke on "Traditional Southern Stoneware". He brought samples of many types to illustrate his lecture. His wife, Linda, assisted him in his presentation.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 7, in Room 2169, Haley Center, Auburn University. James D. Harper, Professor, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Auburn University, will present a slide lecture entitled "Machu Picchu: Lost City of the Incas". Dr. Harper has made several trips to Peru and has many interesting slides to show.

Huntsville Chapter

Dr. Robert Lawton gave the chapter a most interesting program on pre-Columbian ruins in Mexico and present-day Maya Indians in Guatemala. Dr. Lawton has spent much time in Mexico and Central America and showed slides he made on his travels. The Huntsville Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Arts Council Conference Room, Von Braun Civic Center.

Muscle Shoals Chapter

The chapter met on February 13 at the Indian Mound Museum. Twenty members and guests attended. Doug Puckett gave the chapter an interesting program about writing and producing his new field guide entitled "Point Types of the Tennessee River Basin". Doug discussed new point types that he has recently named, including the Leighton, Spring Creek, and Shoals Creek.

The next program will be March 12 at 7:15 p.m. at the Museum in Florence. Charles and Mary-Eliza Moore will present a program on the Western sites of Bandolier National Monument Valley and the Pueblo village of San Ildefonso.

Tuscaloosa Chapter

The Tuscaloosa Chapter's February meeting was held at the public library. Artifacts found in January were displayed. Bill Adkison and Tony Ferrel discussed the artifacts and the different type material which they were made of. The next meeting will be March 5; the speaker will be Dr. C. Earle Smith of the University of Alabama.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Alabama Archaeological Society will meet on Wednesday, March 21, at 7 p.m. at the Western Sizzlin Restaurant off Oxmoor Road at I-65 in Birmingham. Board members will receive an agenda for this meeting.

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

Archaeology of the Central Mississippi Valley - Dan F. Morse and Phyllis A. Morse. \$39.50, 363 printed pages. Available from Academic Press, Inc.; 111 Fifth Avenue; New York, New York 10003.

The scope of this book is all of the lowlands of the Mississippi Valley from just north of the Ohio River to the mouth of the Arkansas River, from Cape Girardeau to Arkansas Post. Organization is by period, from Paleo-Indian through the Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian into the Historic. The treatment is comprehensive but not redundant. Artifacts and sites were carefully selected to exemplify the increasing complexity of a wide range of cultural behavior through time.

BOOK REVIEWS

Biocultural Studies in the Gainesville Lake Area, Volume 4, Archaeological Investigations in Gainesville Lake Area. By Gloria M. Caddell, Anne Woodrick and Mary C. Hill. 334 pages, illustrations and tables.

Published by the Office of Archaeological Research, University of Alabama, as Research Report No. 14, it is divided into three parts:

1. Plant Resources, Archaeological Plant Remains and Prehistoric Plant-Use Patterns, by Caddell.
2. Analysis of the Faunal Remains, by Woodrick.
3. Analysis, Synthesis and Interpretation of the Skeletal Material Excavated, by Hill.

Corn occurrences were dated as early as A.D. 910. Twenty-seven common beans were identified. One bean recovered was dated at A.D. 1130 - making it the earliest date in the Southeast. Hickory nuts were the most common nuts used - being found at all levels. Acorns were next in popularity. Walnuts were used in Archaic times but declined to none being found in the Mississippian Period. Sugars derived from persimmon and grapes were common with minor occurrences of maypop, hawthorn and blackberry/dewberry. Interestingly, no evidence of chestnuts or beechnuts appeared.

The recovery of large amounts of faunal remains required that only a sampling from each site was possible. The earliest material was deer (95%), turtle, bird, fish and mussel. Next to deer, the important mammals are rabbit, squirrel and raccoon. Less frequent occurrences were opossum, beaver, dog, fox, bear, skunk and cougar.

Analysis of skeletal material indicates that the highest occurrences of developmental, infectious, degenerative and traumatic pathologies took place during the Late Woodland Period.

These volumes are available from The University of Alabama Press; Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

The Editors

History of the Brick Church Pike Mound - by John Dowd. Reprint from Volume 30, No. 2, Tennessee Archaeologist by Mini-Histories, 5311 Indiana Avenue; Nashville, Tennessee 37209. Available for \$1.75 postpaid. This mound was the last standing temple mound in Davidson County (Nashville). Four clay human figurines were found near the base of this mound, with clear details of features and with some Hopewell characteristics. In 1971 the mound was attacked with a bulldozer swath down the center of the mound. The cut was 17 feet deep. Some salvage work in 1971 was attempted by Dowd and others. In 1972 a church was built adjacent to the mound and caused further damage. In September 1983 the dozer again attacked the mound and levelled it forever. This report by Dowd provides the history of the mound, his salvage work and other excavation work, resulting in a very interesting report on a site losing out to "progress".

The Editors

PREHISTORIC BLOOD POINTS TO VICTIMS

A Canadian researcher has discovered well-preserved human and animal blood deposits on the surfaces of prehistoric stone tools and weapons and has developed a technique that reliably identifies the species whose blood was spilled. Thomas H. Loy, an associate curator at the British Columbia Provincial Museum in Victoria, analyzed Canadian stone artifacts ranging in age from 1,000 to 6,000 years and found blood deposits on 86 percent of them. The blood deposits consisted of hemoglobin molecules, amino acid fragments of the hemoglobin protein and intact red blood cells.

Loy analyzed suspected blood deposits with a chemically-coated paper strip, used routinely in hospital laboratories to detect serum albumin in urine, but also sensitive to hemoglobin. Confirmed blood deposits were crystallized and the crystals analyzed to find the species of origin.

He found residues from black-tailed deer, moose, snowshoe rabbits, California sea lions and Stone Mountain sheep. Caribou and grizzly bear blood were found on the artifact with the oldest verified date - 2,380 years old.

Loy found human blood on a few of the younger artifacts. This blood, he notes, probably came from the toolmaker accidentally cutting himself while adjusting an edge.

The finding of such well-preserved blood specimens contradicts a previous assumption by experts that blood residues readily decompose. But, as Loy points out, "the problem was that we never really thought to look for it". The key to preservation of these blood residues, Loy says, is the fact that they dry in the sun and then get buried in the soil, which protects them from degradation.

Now that scientists know what to look for, this technique may prove extremely useful, according to Loy. The most important application, he says, is in regions where acid soils interfere with the preservation of bone. The blood gleaned from tools can be analyzed to see what animals inhabited those sites.

(From an article by P. Taulbee in Science News, June 18, 1983).

The Editors

ROMANS IN RIO?

In 1976, diver Jose Roberto Texeira salvaged two intact amphorae from the bottom of Guanabara Bay, 15 kilometers from Rio de Janeiro. Six years later, archaeologist Robert Marx found thousands of pottery fragments in the same locality, including 200 necks from amphorae. Amphorae are tall storage vessels that were used widely throughout ancient Europe. These particular amphorae are of Roman manufacture, circa the second century B.C. Much controversy erupted around the finds because Spain and Portugal both claim to have discovered Brazil around 1500 A.D. Roman artifacts were distinctly unwelcome. More objectively, the thought of an ancient Roman crossing of the Atlantic is not so far-fetched. Roman wrecks have been discovered in the Azores; and the shortest way across the Atlantic is from Africa to Brazil - only 18 days using modern sailing vessels.

(From Science Frontiers, No. 28, July-August 1983)

The Editors

BOOK REVIEW

Origins of Mobile, Archaeological Excavations at the Courthouse Site, Mobile, Alabama. By Craig Sheldon and John Cottier. Auburn University Archaeological Monograph No. 5, 1983. One-hundred seventy pages with maps, photographs, illustrations and tables.

Although this work was accomplished under the most adverse archaeological conditions - literally under the construction hammer (or maybe destruction) and in front of the bulldozer - the report reflects the obtaining of substantial data on the early historic period of Mobile. The site was located at the proposed courthouse annex, which is located downtown and in the heart of the old French District. Thousands of artifacts of the French, Spanish, English and American periods were recovered. The report is refreshing in that, in addition to the usual statistics, historical background, etc., that we have grown to expect from archaeological reports, the summary contains a suggested scenario of the "human experiences" of the day. This gives us an insight into how the people may have lived and worked which we don't find too often in such reports. We congratulate Sheldon and Cottier especially on their summary. The report is well done, has good organization, and makes a good addition to the history of Mobile. It may be obtained through the Department of Sociology, Auburn University at Montgomery; Montgomery, Alabama 36193.

The Editors

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

UFASA Special Publication No. 1 - The Conservation of Archaeological Materials: A Laboratory Manual for Prehistoric and Historic Collections. Edited by Charles H. Fairbanks, Department of Anthropology; University of Florida.

Table of Contents:

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| Section I | Preservation in the Field - Marvin T. Smith |
| Section II | Washing, Cleaning and Recording of Artifacts - Lucy B. Wayne |
| Section III | Preservation and Conservation of Organic Materials - Teresia R. Lamb and Lee Newsom |
| Section IV | Conservation of Metals - Robert C. Wilson |
| Section V | Conservation of Glass - Gary Shapiro |
| Section VI | Procedures and Annotated Bibliography for Conservation of Ceramics - Ann S. Cordell |
| Section VII | Methods for the Preservation of Rubber Molds and Plastic Casts - Tom Eubanks and Sharon Bolt |

Eighty-three pages, \$7. Available from UFASA; Department of Anthropology; GPA 1350; University of Florida; Gainesville, Florida 32611.

The Editors

Loot! The Heritage of Plunder - by Russell Chamberlin - is an in-depth exploration and history of this world-wide phenomenon. (Published October 14, 1983; \$19.95 hardbound.)

This unique volume traces the heritage of plunder from the looting of the vanquished Greek and Egyptian civilizations to the campaigns of such great modern ravagers as Napoleon and Hitler. It also examines one of the least-discussed areas of this peculiar brand of thievery: the stripping during the modern colonial era of art and artifacts from the Third World.

The history, the culprits, the unanswered questions are all here. Loot! is a comprehensive work on all aspects of the history of plunder. It concludes with a sensitive treatment of the contemporary controversies relating to plunder. The difficult ethical questions - to whom does such art or artifacts ultimately belong? Should it be returned to its original owner? - are confronted and carefully weighed.

The rich and fascinating text of Loot! is complemented by over 120 black-and-white and color photographs.

Available from Facts On File, Inc.; 460 Park Avenue South; New York, New York 10016.

The Editors

Meadowcroft - Collected Papers on the Archaeology of Meadowcroft Rock-shelter and the Cross Creek Drainage - edited by R. C. Carlisle and J. M. Adovasio. \$11 plus \$1.50 postage. Available from Meadowcroft Collected Papers; Department of Anthropology; University of Pittsburgh; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260.

The Editors

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| Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 13-18, each issue | \$1.00 pp |
| Vol. 20-24 (\$2.50 to Members) | \$5.00 pp |
| <i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) 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> | \$10.00 pp |
| Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i> | \$3.00 pp |
| <i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service | \$7.50 pp |
| <i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile) | \$7.00 pp |

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