

Alabama Archaeological Society

STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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DEC '76

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Handbook of Alabama Archaeology, Part I, Point Types \$7.35pp
Handbook of Alabama Archaeology, Part II, Uniface Blade and Flake Tools. \$2.25pp
Lively-Long-Josselyn, Pebble Tool Papers \$3.00pp

CHECKS FOR ABOVE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

Available Back Issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology (thru 1973). \$1.00pp
Available Back Issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology (1974-) . . \$4.00pp
Special Publication 1 - Fort Mitchell \$2.00pp

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ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CHAPTER NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, Red Mountain Museum Complex, 1st Wed., 7:30pm Tom Hutto 956-1895.
The December 1st meeting will feature the election of officers for 1977 and
movies of archaeological subject matter.
CULLMAN, City Hall, 3rd Mon., 7:30pm, Eulis King 734-4548. The November 15th
meeting featured the election of officers for 1977 and a film entitled
"Fossil Story."
EAST ALABAMA, Comer Hall Aud., Auburn, 2nd Wed., 7:30pm, Dru McGowan
821-2595.
HUNTSVILLE, Fellowship Center, Sr. Citizens Bldg., 3rd Tues., 7pm, Cindy
Sims, 536-2939.
MORGAN-LIMESTONE, Decatur City Hall, 4th Thurs., 7pm, Rodger Schaefer,
353-5828.
MUSCLE SHOALS, Indian Mound Museum, 2nd Mon., 7pm, Gerald Hester, 764-2249.
The November 8th meeting featured the election of officers for 1977 and a
talk by Al Beinlich on the thievery of artifacts and then on head and
scalp trophies.
TUSCALOOSA, Ferguson Center, 2nd Tues., 7:30pm, Eugene Futato 345-8724.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard D. Taylor, Anth/Univ. of Tenn., Knoxville, Tn. 37916
Wake Forest University, Reynolds Library, Box 7777 Reynolda Station, Winston-
Salem, NC 27109
E. P. McMillan, P.O. Box 101, Fulton, Alabama 36446
Edward K. Austin, 60 Arcadia Drive, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
Frank C. Parkins, 28 Avery Drive NE, Atlanta, Ga., 30309
TVA Technical Library, 400 Commerce Avenue, Knoxville, Tn. 37902
Arizona State University Library, Tempe, Arizona 85281

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

1976 WINTER MEETING

CULLMAN HOME MUSEUM

NOVEMBER 20, 1976

CULLMAN, ALABAMA

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

8:00am - 11:00am	Registration	Museum Tour and Refreshments
9:30am - 11:00am	Society	Society Board Meeting
11:00am - 11:05am	Welcome	Dr. Albert Trowse, State Society President and Mr. Ronald Morrow, Host Chapter President.
11:05am - 11:20am	Howard King	"The Cullman Museum"
11:20am - 11:35am	Brittain Thompson	"Walum Olum or Red Sticks"
11:35am - 11:55am	Dr. Albert Trowse	"The Importance of Agriculture to the Development of Civilizations"
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch	On Your Own
1:30pm - 2:00pm	Society	General Business Meeting
2:00pm - 2:40pm	Cailup B. Curren, Jr.	"Recent Research into the Late Pleistocene in Alabama"
2:40pm - 3:00pm	Charles Moore	"The Indian Mound Museum in Florence, Alabama"
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Break	Refreshments furnished by Host, Cullman Chapter
3:30pm - 4:10pm	Edward Luttgies	"Environment Past and Present as Affects Archaeology"
4:10pm - 5:00pm	Bettye Broyles	"The Benner Hassett Historic Island"
5:00pm - 5:05pm	Adjournment	Dr. Albert Trowse, President

SPECIAL NOTICE

Once again some address changes are being made, so please take note. As of 1977 the newsletter will no longer be sent from Daphne, Alabama, so please make sure that you send your articles and chapter reports to the new address which will appear on the January 1977 issue of the newsletter. Since so many newsletters were lost last year, presumably due to the Christmas mail rush, the January 1977 issue of the newsletter will not be mailed until just after the first of the year.

All publications (Journals, Handbooks, Pebble Tool Papers and Fort Mitchell) will be ordered directly from the editor, David L. DeJarnette, Box 307, Orange Beach, Alabama 36561. Orders sent to the Daphne address will be forwarded, but filling the order will be delayed accordingly. Therefore, keep this address change in mind and help us to serve you.

LATE PLEISTOCENE UPDATE

As reported in previous issues of the newsletter, periodic reports of the research into the late Pleistocene of Alabama will be provided. The research is an effort to synthesize data concerning Paleo Indian, Pleistocene animals, Pleistocene plants, and the geology of the newly discovered late Pleistocene fluvial deposits.

Several more unrecorded Paleo Indian sites have been found since the last newsletter report.

Palynologists/Pollen Scientists are arriving in November from Minnesota to examine the late Pleistocene deposits in an attempt to ascertain climate fluctuations associated with Paleo Indian.

Specific patterns are now beginning to present themselves as new sites are located. This data should help in our examination of settlement patterns of Paleo Indians.

The most complete specimen of the ground sloth (Megalonyx jeffersonii) ever found in Alabama was located during this project since the last newsletter article. The specimen consists of fragments of several limb bones, vertebra, and ribs. Wood remains associated with the sloth have been sent for C14 dating. No artifacts were found in association with this animal but at least now we are learning where the remains of the animals are to be found.

What remains is to continue the search while gathering this extremely unique data on the animals, plants, man, and the climate of the late Pleistocene in Alabama.

(C. B. Curren, Jr. University of Alabama)

FROM THE VALLEY NEWS DIGEST

***Copies of a 1905 Dale County map will be reproduced and sold by members of the Dale County Historical Society.

***Eufaula city officials have signed a \$176,854 contract with the Soil Conservation Service to renovate Old Creek Town Park. Provided under the initial phase will be picnic tables, tot-lot, comfort station, picnic shelter, gate house, sand beach, water points, garbage cans, grills, bouys, swimming platform, lifeguard stand, markers and ropes, electric service, concrete flumes, culverts, septic tanks and seeding and mulching. The city leased the area from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under a 20 year lease agreement several years ago.

Archaeological excavations at the park site have uncovered Indian pottery, English trade china and a few musket balls. These excavations were necessary to determine if any artifacts (and any other site information present) needed to be preserved before park improvements could be made.

***The Long Cane Historical District in Troup County has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

PUBLICATIONS

CHEROKEE ARCHAEOLOGY, Bennie C. Keel, University of Tennessee Press, \$12.95, hardbound.

The Appalachian Summit is the southernmost and highest part of the Appalachian mountain system. It is also the ancient home of the Cherokee Indians. The archaeology of the region has been poorly understood, however, primarily because the details of the archaeological remains of the prehistoric Cherokees and their antecedents have been virtually unknown. In **CHEROKEE ARCHAEOLOGY** Bennie Keel closes this longstanding gap in the study of the archaeology of North America by presenting and examining a wealth of recently excavated material evidence of the prehistoric peoples who once lived in the area.

AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST --- SPECIAL OFFER. Are you interested in the trends and interests in Anthropology through the years? Then take advantage of this special offer and add some volumes to your library. In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the American Anthropological Association, 2 volumes of selected papers from the *American Anthropologist* are to be published. Sixty essays will be in the two volumes; one for the years 1921-1945, George Stocking, editor; and the other volume containing the years 1946-1970, Robert F. Murphy, editor. A similar volume, published in 1960, Frederica de Laguna, editor, for the years 1888-1920 will be reissued. Available in clothbound and paperback. Individually prices are: 1888-1920, \$15 cloth/\$9 paper; 1921-1945, \$10 cloth/\$6 paper; 1946-1970, \$9 cloth/\$5 paper. A special for those who do not have any of these years, prepaid orders received BY December 1, 1976, the entire set of 3 volumes, \$25 cloth/\$15 paper. Send orders to AAA, 1703 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

1976-1977 GUIDE TO DEPARTMENTS OF ANTHROPOLOGY. This 15th edition of the *GUIDE* lists 318 academic departments, 60 museum departments and 4 research departments. Available from AAA Publications Department, 1703 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. The price is \$3 per copy to AAA members and \$5 to non-members and institutions.

THE STONE CIRCLES OF THE BRITISH ISLES, Aubrey Burl, Yale University Press, \$20.00, hardbound.

Scattered over the British Isles are over 900 stone circles of which Stonehenge and Avebury are simply the best-known. Stirred by the mystery of these silent circles, thousands of visitors each year are drawn to them hoping to sense their atmosphere. Yale University Press has published the first comprehensive and serious account of these fascinating prehistoric monuments. Aubrey Burl, an eminent professor of prehistory, analyzes and synthesizes all the relevant archaeological data and presents an objective view of what these megalithic rings were. The book includes a complete catalogue of the stone circles, with details of their exact location, size, excavation, possible astronomical significance, and major bibliographical references. Fifty diagrams and thirty-six photographs illustrate the variety and beauty of these magnificent monuments.

STOLEN INDIAN ARTIFACTS

On Thursday morning, October 7, 1976, approximately 1500 artifacts were stolen from the Stokes Collection, housed in Knoxville, Tennessee. This collection was the result of 26 years of work. All items were documented (photographed in 35mm color and black and white), many of them have been featured in archaeological publications. Some of the stolen artifacts are shown in the September and October 1976 (Vol. 21, Nos. 9 and 10) issues of the TAS Newsletter (Site 40Kn23), and others will be in the November and December issues of the TAS Newsletter.

A list of the stolen artifacts has been given to police agencies, museums, collectors and dealers of artifacts throughout the United States. A documented flyer with pictures of the collection will shortly be published and distributed through the United States.

The owners only desire the return of the collection at this time. If not returned within a short time, all available police agencies will continue to be used to pursue the thieves and they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. If any of these stolen artifacts are found in the possession of anyone in the future they will be reclaimed by the owners listed below and those possessing them will be prosecuted. If you have any information, questions or have doubts concerning any artifacts in your possession call or write any of the following:

Lloyd E. Stokes, 114 Underwood Road, Oak Ridge, Tn. 37830 (615)483-3202
Jack E. Stokes, Lenior City, Tennessee (615)986-2825
Vernon E. Stokes, 10413 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tn. 37922 (615)693-1434
Oak Ridge Police Dept, Oak Ridge, Tn. 37830 (615)483-4331 Detective Leopper
Knoxville County Sheriff Dept., Knoxville, Tn (615)546-1232 Detective Riggs
FBI Office, Oak Ridge, Tn. 37830 (615)483-0029 Agent St. Pierre

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory of the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, is now accepting samples for carbon dating.

COST: \$100 for shell, charcoal and wood. Bone, sediment and other organic material somewhat higher depending on the individual sample.

REQUIREMENTS: At least 5 grams of charcoal, 20 grams of wood and 30 grams of shell AFTER cleaning, and adequate descriptions of sample so the information can be included in the radiocarbon date list.

TIME: 1 to 3 samples, one month after receipt; 6 to 10 samples, 2 months.

Write or call Dr. John E. Noakes or Dr. Betty Lee Brandau, Geochronology Laboratory, 4 GCS. Bldg., University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602 (404)542-5579.

(Editor's Note: Drs. Noakes or Brandau will be glad to provide you with the answers to any questions you may have concerning radiocarbon dating, collection of samples, etc.)

THE CITY ON THE HILL OPHEL

In the August *Stones & Bones* (1976), did Margaret Perryman Smith's notice about the publication "The Biblical Archaeology Review" catch your interest? Then read on, as a book by the Editor of the Biblical Review, Hershel Shanks, should be "a must" for you. Originally published in 1973, "The City of David, a Guide to Biblical Jerusalem" was reprinted by the Biblical Archaeology Society in 1975. The price is \$4.95 from the Society, 1819 H. Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006. This is a guidebook which can be enjoyed from your armchair, but I wager you will have your Bible close by to read more background material. And then, when you have read and studied it all, you will really wish to visit these sites and religiously important places. And quite recently it is, as the author tells us, that it is just as recently as 1967 that the ancient Jerusalem, the Jerusalem of the Bible, the City of David, has been open to the public. He not only describes what you would be able to see, but attempts to answer or provide the information so that you can understand for yourself, some of the questions which have puzzled scholars over the years. Why was this location chosen for the city? Where was it in relation to present day Jerusalem? Why did they leave the Spring Gihon outside the city wall? What inscription, discovered almost 100 years ago, remains today the longest and oldest ancient Hebrew inscription found in Israel? And in what Museum is this inscription today and why? Here you may read how archaeological material has been able to provide actual explanations for some of the Biblical incidents and not just provide a background as so often is the case. The text is well illustrated with photographs, diagrams and one 19th century engraving. This is the archaeology of OUR past.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

ANCIENT INDIANS MAY FORCE JEFFERSON COUNTY TO CHANGE SEWER PLANS

It's not another Moundville, but archaeologists have turned up "an interesting Indian site" near Coalburg that may require Jefferson County to relocate proposed sewer lines. Working in two fields bordering Five Mile Creek, teams have turned up several artifacts including arrow points, ceramics and a nutstone. "There's no indication that a community was set up here, but it was probably a seasonal camp," said field director Mike McEachern of Nance Archaeological Services, run by Dr. Roger Nance of the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Before laying sewer lines from Tarrant City to the new Five Mile Creek sewage treatment plant, Jefferson County is required to have an archaeological study done in order to receive federal funds for the project, according to County Commissioner Chriss Doss. "We may have to move the lines if it is a big find," said Doss, adding that extra costs and a delay in completing the plant could be involved.

Three sites were located on the survey of the proposed sewer line. "We'll probably recommend that the county either move the sewer lines or do additional archaeological work, because the sites shouldn't be written off," said McEachern. The decision to move the pipeline or continue archaeological excavations probably would depend on the costs of one versus the other, he said. (From THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS, May 27, 1976, contributed by E. M. Harris)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE FAR NORTH

PROJECT: To find artifacts and bones of the early North Americans.
FUNDED AND SUPPORTED BY: The National Geographic Society and the National Park Service. A \$600,000.00 3 year program.
LOCATION OF RESEARCH: Eight archaeological sites in Alaska and one in Canada's Yukon.
SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS: University of Alaska, Anthropologist William R. Powers and Zoologist Russel D. Guthrie. University of Toronto, Anthropologist William Irving. Washington State University, Anthropologist Robert Ackerman.
PROGRESS TO DATE: The early North Americans are defined as hunting people who migrated over an Aleutian Land Bridge from Asia. This land bridge, between Alaska and Siberia, was not a narrow two lane causeway, but could have been as wide as 1500 miles in places. It quite probably was used by hunters following game as early as 30,000 to 50,000 years ago, according to Dr. Ackerman. The land began to be submerged about 14,000 years ago and was under water by 10,000 years ago.

The Dry Creek Site, a campsite about 75 miles south of Fairbanks was discovered in 1973 by Drs. Powers and Guthrie, and has yielded charred animal bones (horse and bison) and tools (stone and bone) which date to more than 11,000 years old.

Dr. Irving worked at a site along Old Crow River in Canada. A member of his crew, Freddy Frost found a human jawbone with one molar still in place. Dr. Irving feels that the jawbone "is likely to be more than 20,000 years old" thus could be the "oldest direct artifact" of man found in North America. Some of the tools found at the site date back more than 25,000 years.

From the last three decades of exploration, the Russians have dated man's existence in Siberia as early as 35,000 years ago. It is theorized that man could have arrived in North America as early as 60,000 years ago. The aim of this project is to get a full picture of the life of the early North American.

TAKEN FROM: The National Observer, October 9, 1976, "Uncharted Territory: Early Man on our Continent" by Patrick Young.

The Birmingham News, September 30, 1976, "Scientists Launch Search for Artifacts of American Migrants" a news item from Washington.

(Contributed by Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter, Standing Rock, Alabama)

FROM THE ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER, 1976

The University of Georgia Library has acquired some 12,000 radio and television programs, representing some of the best productions which have been entered in the annual Peabody Awards Competition during the past 35 years. After processing, they will be available to historians and researchers. Contact: Peabody Award Collection, Curator, University of Georgia Library, Athens, Georgia 30602

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)