

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

Editor
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2602 Green Mountain Rd.
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

Volume 27

Number 12

ANNUAL MEETING

The Muscle Shoals Chapter of the Alabama Archaeological Society cordially invites Society members and guests to attend the Annual Meeting of the Society on Saturday, December 7. The meeting will be held at the Media Center of the University of North Alabama, on Pine Street in Florence. The Media Center is located a block north of the college auditorium, and there is plenty of parking behind the center. There will be coffee and doughnuts served before the meeting begins.

The theme of the meeting will be Woodland Indians. Gregory Perino, the keynote speaker, will present an address entitled "Mortuary Practices of the Eastern Woodland Indians". Other speakers will give reports on Woodland Culture subjects; there will also be papers and reports on recent excavations and surveys and matters of general interest.

You are invited to bring exhibits of artifacts for display, as well as books and publications for display and sale. We are encouraging Mr. Perino to bring several editions of his most recent book, entitled "Selected Preforms, Points and Knives of the North American Indians, Volume I". This book has over 400 illustrated pages of point types.

Plan to arrive early, register, have coffee and doughnuts, enjoy the displays, and have time to visit before the meeting begins at 9:00.

WHERE TO STAY IN FLORENCE

If you plan to spend a night in Florence for the Annual Meeting, there are a number of nice, well located motels. Perhaps the best choice would be the Best Western Executive Inn, located on 504 South Court Street (the main north-south street). Their telephone number is 766-3384. They have a nice restaurant (excellent breakfasts), and their prices are reasonable. Other suggested motels are Quad Cities Inn, 766-7220; Travelodge, 766-5350; and Tourway Inn, 766-2620.

Charles Moore
Florence

December 1985

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1985

AGENDA

- 8:00 Registration - Media Center, University of North
Alabama. Coffee, doughnuts, exhibits.
- 9:00 Welcome
- 9:15 Papers, reports
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Papers, reports
- 12:00 Lunch - on your own
Board of Directors Meeting (box lunches may be ordered
at registration) - Media Center
- 1:15 Papers, reports
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 Papers, reports
- 4:00 Gregory Perino - Curator of Museum of the Red River,
Idabel, Oklahoma - "Mortuary Practices of the Eastern
Woodland Indians"
- 5:00 Adjournment

NOTE: A detailed agenda with titles of papers was not available
at press time. A printed agenda will be available at the door
on the day of the meeting.

SLATE OF 1986 NOMINEES

Listed below is the slate of nominees for each office of the Alabama Archaeological Society prepared by the Nominating Committee:

President	James Parker	Montgomery
First Vice President	Carey Oakley, Jr.	Moundville
Second Vice President	A. Baker Dean, Jr.	Opelika
Secretary and Treasurer	Bettye T. Henson	Huntsville
Assistant Treasurer	Nancy M. Rohr	Huntsville
Journal Editor	Eugene Futato	Moundville
Associate Editor	Janice Gilliland	Northport
Associate Editor	Ned Jenkins	Montgomery
Associate Editor	Carey Oakley, Jr.	Moundville
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Newsletter Editor	Amos J. Wright, Jr.	Huntsville
Associate Editor	Dorothy P. Luke	Huntsville
Associate Editor	B. Bart Henson	Huntsville
ESAF Representative	Marjorie Gay	Standing Rock
ESAF Alternate Representative	Robert Gay	Standing Rock
Alabama Historical Commission Representative	Richard Krause	Tuscaloosa

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - THREE YEAR TERMS

David Chase	Montgomery
Roy Cochran	Huntsville
James Lee	Huntsville
Mary-Eliza Moore	Florence
Brittain Thompson	Birmingham
Joe Watkins	Birmingham

Nominations may be made from the floor during the election of officers at the annual meeting in Florence on Saturday, December 7, 1985.
(Carey Oakley, Chairman of Nominating Committee)

CALHOUN COUNTY UPHOLDS ALABAMA ANTIQUITY ACT:

POTHUNTER ARRESTED

In the spring of 1985, Assistant District Attorney Carolyn Morgan of the 7th Judicial Circuit, State of Alabama, may have set a courtroom precedent with the prosecution and subsequent conviction of an Alabama Antiquity Act, Section 41-3-1, violator. The offender is currently serving his sentence on probation and was fined for his offense. The violator was apprehended while digging at the Morgan Mountain village site (1CA42), Calhoun County, Alabama, by Game and Fish Enforcement Officer, Gene Houston. We commend Officer Houston for his dedication, foresight, and interest in the preservation and protection of archaeological resources.

Harry O. Holstein
Keith J. Little
Jacksonville State
University

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Archaeological Society

The Birmingham Archaeological Society met on Thursday, November 14, in the Red Mountain Museum Auditorium. Guest speaker was Mr. Gordon Bell, who is the Paleontologist and Curator at the Red Mountain Museum. He presented a program accompanied by slides on "The Sloths", a recent find of ice age mammal bones in North Alabama.

Gordon received his degree in Geology at U.A.B. He discovered, conducted the digs, and reconstructed both the Mosasaur and the prehistoric fish, Hadrodus, which are now on exhibit at the museum. This particular Hadrodus is the most complete ever to have been found. Both discoveries were in Greene County, Alabama.

Annette Weeks Otts

Cullman Chapter

The Cullman Chapter met on November 11 in the Cullman Courthouse.

Howard King

East Alabama Chapter

The East Alabama Chapter of the Alabama Archaeological Society met Wednesday, October 16 to make plans for the coming year. There will be several field trips plus a meeting on the second Wednesday of each month, when lectures or films will be presented.

Dr. John Cottier presented a video entitled "The Man from Deer Creek, Ishi". It was about an Indian, the last of his tribe, who wandered down out of the mountains of California, naked and destitute, in 1911. Some anthropologists heard about him and befriended him, thus learning much of the ways of ancient and primitive people.

The November meeting was held on Wednesday, November 13, at Haley Center, Auburn University. Jack Bergstresser presented a program entitled "Steam-Powered Coal Mining in Ante-Bellum Alabama". Mr. Bergstresser is an industrial archaeologist working on his doctorate at Auburn University.

For more information on East Alabama Chapter meetings, contact Baker Dean at 745-2494.

Baker Dean

Huntsville Chapter

The November chapter meeting was held on Tuesday the 19th at Bibs Restaurant. John Gustafson of Decatur gave a most interesting talk entitled "Statistics in Archaeology". John used visual aids to compare the artifacts from two different sites and explained how statistics (and a computer) can be used to tell artifacts from different sites apart, even though they appear nearly identical to the eye. It was a lively presentation, and made the use of statistics understandable even to those chapter members who have no knowledge of the subject.

Rick Walling of the Office of Archaeological Research spoke briefly on a dig being conducted in Stevenson, Alabama, in connection with an archaeology class at Northeast Alabama Junior College. Several members of the Huntsville Chapter have participated in this dig, located at the site of a Civil War fort. The primary objective of the dig is to obtain structural information on the fort (Fort Harker), including the exact location of the central blockhouse. The fort will eventually be made into a park. A contemporary sketch of the fort's layout is on display in the Depot Museum in downtown Stevenson, which is worth a visit in its own right.

Dorothy Luke

Muscle Shoals Chapter

The Muscle Shoals Chapter held its November meeting on the 11th at the Indian Mound Museum in Florence. Twenty-six members and guests attended. We made our final plans to host the Winter Meeting on December 7.

Mary-Eliza Moore gave a slide narration on her visits to Mexico and Guatemala of some years ago. She discussed a number of archaeological sites in these two countries as well as other locations of interest.

The State meeting on December 7 will replace the chapter meeting for December, and the chapter will meet again on January 13 at 7:15 p.m., when Bill McDonald will present a paper on the Chickasaw Chief George Colbert.

Charles Moore

BOOK REVIEW

THE WEST SITE: A STONE BOX CEMETERY IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE. By John T. Dowd. Fifty-eight pages, soft-back. Reprint available from Mini-Histories; 5311 Indiana Avenue; Nashville, Tennessee 37209, for \$5.50, postage included.

This book is a reprint of Misc. Paper No. 10 of the Tennessee Archaeological Society and is a good example of the thorough and dedicated work of an avocational archaeologist - John Dowd. The book contains many photos of stone box burials and of the artifacts found with them. Although the book seems small for the price, if you are interested in stone box burials, it is well worth it.

The Editors

NATIONWIDE SURVEY ON CORNER-TANG SCRAPERS

Much has been said about the scarcity of corner-tang scrapers, but little has been said about just how scarce they are and how they are distributed throughout the country. Except for a few references to them in two or three TAS Bulletins and some other publications, hardly anything has appeared in print about them.

Since I know they are found in South Central Texas, and probably in some other states to the west, I'm launching a survey by asking members of various archaeological societies to contact me if they have any information. I would like to have the following information:

1. Sketch showing shape
2. Biface or uniface?
3. Where found - state and county
4. Number in collection.

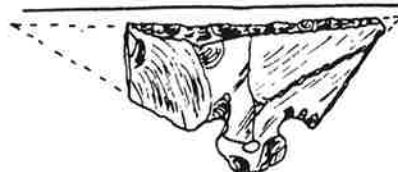
Would members of A.A.S. be so kind as to write to me (a postcard will do) with whatever information they have and any other reference they may know of? I am particularly interested in uniface scrapers. To my knowledge, nothing like this has been done before, so even a short amount will be helpful. Early results indicate that they are not plentiful east of the Mississippi. Thanks to anyone who can help me on this.

Vol. 29, No. 2, April 1985

Texas Archeology

ORPHAN ARCHAIC SCRAPERS

Elbert N. Adams, Fort Worth



Worked side



Unworked side

Why ponder o'er use of archaic tool
When we with common pocketknife blade
Apply no standard or written rule?
Couldn't *They* too do as necessity bade?

Could be that with all our computers and such
We still of knowledge have not learned much,
And we seek to find out from the past
Things of real value, things that will last.

About ten years ago while visiting in Erath County I crossed a creek to an archaic site I knew of in a grain field. The site extends along a ridge of sandy clay soil that runs for some distance parallel to the creek. This site bore only slight surface evidence of occupancy: a few flint chips, metate and mano fragments, and bits of sandstone and gravel. Sand from a higher ridge has probably been washed down to cover most of the site debris.

But on this day I found this uniface tanged scraper of black flint--a smooth flawless flint conducive to good flint work--from a place nearby where gravel is prevalent.

This end scraper with midback tang is unique in that the width is greater than the length.

Worked side: Rounded base, sharply inclined and flaked; pressure-flaked

shoulders; right blade edge ground smooth with angling bevel that slants from top of stem to near end of edge; left blade edge tapers to break, estimated about 25 mm from tip; distal end straight, pressure-flaked, beveled, and serrated.

Unworked side: Not a true uniface because left edge of blade and base are smoothed and minutely flaked.

Dimensions: Length, 27 mm; width, 45 mm; unbroken width estimated 70 mm; maximum thickness, 6 mm.

Distribution: This specimen from north-central Texas, but most prevalent in south and south-central Texas; some found in California; apparently not found in southern and eastern states.

Use: Could have been pushed forward as a hide scraper; drawn backwards as a spokeshave; used for hacking and cutting.

Elbert N. Adams
517 Karnes Street
Fort Worth, TX 76111

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 20-29 each issue	(\$2.50 to Members) \$5.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint, each issue	\$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

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**
 SEND CHECKS TO: **MR. EUGENE FUTATO, Office of Archaeological Research**
 1 Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474

MEMBERSHIP

The coupon below may be used EITHER to APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP in the Society, or for the PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES. Please be sure that your name and address are CLEARLY entered, and that appropriate boxes are checked.

TO: **THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for**

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐ PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES ☐ REPORTING OF NEW ADDRESS

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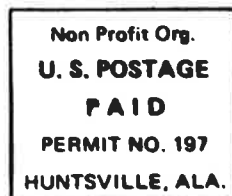
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