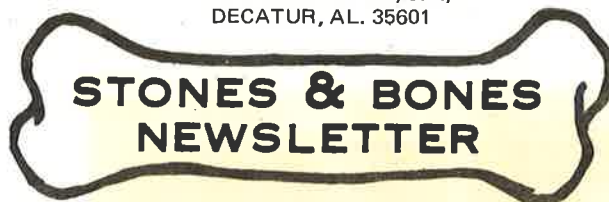


Alabama Archaeological Society

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

BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CCOLOCCO CHAPTER
CHOCTAWHATCHEE CHAPTER
CULLMAN COUNTY CHAPTER
EAST ALABAMA CHAPTER
HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER
MARSHALL COUNTY CHAPTER
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NADB DOC # - 4,056,695

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

President Bart Henson opened the meeting held on January 17 at Cullman, Ala., with 38 persons present.

Dr. Albert Trowse reported that the East Alabama Chapter would like to invite the State Society to hold its summer meeting at Auburn; and the Muscle Shoals Chapter stated their invitation still stands. A motion was made, seconded and passed to hold the meeting at Auburn, with Muscle Shoals to be held available for next year.

President Henson discussed a proposal to assemble the first 10 years of our JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY in a special publication. Upon a seconded motion, the proposal to proceed with publishing provided the cost is not prohibitive for a thousand copies, was passed.

President Henson announced the appointment of the following regular committee members for the year 1973:

1. Program Committee: To provide facilities and programs for State Society Summer and Winter Meetings.

Chairman: 2nd Vice President Mrs. Marjorie Gay, Standing Rock.

Members: Howard King, Cullman; Dr. Albert C. Trowse, Auburn.

2. Committee on Site Preservation: One or more members from each Chapter, with 1/3 appointed annually.

One year Chairman: Robert McKinnon, Anniston.

One year Members: Tom Cornell, Huntsville; Eugene Grace, Anniston; Nicholas H. Holmes Jr., Mobile; Charles Hubbert, Florence; Dr. C. Roger Nance, Birmingham; Luther M. Nix, Tusculmbia; Carey Oakley, Tuscaloosa; Eugene Stewart Jr., Belle Mina.

Two year Members: Frank Brown, Huntsville; David W. Chase, Montgomery, Mrs. R. N. Hahn, Birmingham; William Pendleton, Muscle Shoals; Spencer A. Waters, Moulton; Michael C. Wells, Cullman.

Three year Members: Michael E. Blake, Montrose; Dr. E. M. Lindsey, Gadsden; E. C. Mahan, Grant; Thomas F. Moebes Sr., Decatur; Brittain Thompson, Birmingham; Robert D. Wheat, Dothan.

3. Publications Committee: Permanent Member is JOURNAL editor David L. DeJarnette

One year Chairman: William Wesley, Huntsville.

Three year Member: E. M. Harris, Birmingham.

4. Archives Committee:

One year Chairman: Amos J. Wright Jr., Huntsville.

Two year Member: Steve B. Wimberly, Birmingham.

Three year Member: Jack Cambron, Decatur.

5. Publicity Committee: Chairman, 1st Vice President Robert McKinnon, Anniston.

One year Members: N. Read Stowe, Mobile, Dr. William E. Goslin, Auburn; Mrs. Margaret Searcy, Tuscaloosa.

President Henson suggested that the Program Committee consider the possibility of holding the present Winter Annual Meeting at some other date than in December,

due to our frequent weather conflicts recently. Although a short discussion ensued, no conclusion was reached.

President Henson then brought up the subject of proposed legislation for establishing the position of State Archaeologist. Past President Amos J. Wright Jr. outlined background information and presented the following resolution, moving that it be adopted: "Be it resolved that The Alabama Archaeological Society supports, in concept and principle, the establishment of a position of State Archaeologist at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa and the development and expansion of archaeological programs at all institutions throughout Alabama." The motion was seconded and the floor opened for discussion. After considerable discussion on both the pros and the cons of the resolution and the reading of 3 letters from Board Members who were unable to attend, the resolution was adopted. (Editor's Note: We all hope this is the beginning of the realization of our dreams of many years.)

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRAM FOR ALABAMA

Now that more interest is being shown in establishing a good, sound program for our State, I thought a brief summary of some of the basic requirements would be of interest to our readers. PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY, by Charles R. McGimsey III, contains a chapter on designing a state program, and these ideas were taken from it. Each state will vary as to which agency is most appropriate to administer the program and there will be differences in organization and development. Dr. McGimsey has studied the programs in the several states which have completed theirs or are in the process and using the experience, the success and the failure, he makes his suggestions.

First, perhaps, why should it be a state supported program? "...archaeological sites are one of a state's nonrenewable resources..." The state has an obligation to the citizens to see that the information from scientific research and the cultural heritage are not lost. It is proper therefore that public funds be used. A functioning and active plan will receive the most in Federal support and stimulate private participation. There must be at least one person and, more preferably, several who are congenial, cooperative and dedicated to the development of the program. While there may be differences of opinion, Dr. McGimsey feels most logically such a person should be an archaeologist already employed within the state. "He must enjoy or at least be capable of dealing with people, he must be a capable politician (in the best sense of that much-abused term), an adequate administrator, an imaginative developer, a good communicator, and almost immune to discouragement." To support such leadership, an organization such as our State Society is most effective. There are several factors which may mean success or failure. First, an adequate budget needs to be established as a separate entity and separately accountable. Second, this is a full time job, with a high standard of qualifications, for at least one archaeologist, depending upon the size and resources of the state. This brings up the question of who sets the standards of qualification; the equal importance of study, training and experience. Third, the program should provide for cooperation among all the archaeological agencies already existing and coordinate all the work. Fourth, facilities should be provided for a state repository (or repositories) of all data, permanent storage and continuous availability of recovered material, an adequate library, research and laboratory area for the staff as well as visiting researchers, necessary equipment and personnel and accessibility of scholars in related fields. The program should include plans to provide information to the public in the form of exhibits, courses of instruction, publications and opportunity for guided amateur participation. The funding should be continuing and sufficient to employ the necessary staff to carry out a well-rounded program of research with long term goals for the whole state.

All the above factors require study and careful planning. Perhaps most important might be: do not become discouraged; plan the best possible program for our State and its special requirements; do not be backward in its priority; then with

complete faith in the program, convinced of its value; you can sell it to others.
(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

NEWS FROM DR. FRANK SODAY

In a letter to State Secretary Rodger Schaefer, Dr. Soday reports as follows from Tulsa: "...I retire on April 1...I may decide to devote all of my time to archaeological work. We are currently engaged in digging an Archaic site near Bixby. As you may know, our first project in Southeast Asia was completed last year - a social anthropological study of the Khmer Svai in Thailand and the Gaddi and Mahasu tribals in the foothills of the Himalayas. Van Childress is now back in Thailand for the Foundation and is well under way on a combined archaeological and social anthropological study which will take 2 years to complete. The archaeological work consists of the excavation and reconstruction of a ruined temple (Ca. 1,050 A.D.) at Bau Pluang in Thailand. We are the first to have received permission from the Thai government to carry out independent archaeological work in the country. The social anthropological work consists of a study of the Burmese Shaus in Thailand and the Pangi tribals in India."

AAAS, WASHINGTON, D.C., DECEMBER 26-31, 1972

"A Change, A Challenge: SAA and AAAS". This is the title of the editorial in the April 1972 issue of AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, by Richard I. Ford, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, who is the representative of the Society for American Archaeology to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He outlines the changes to the AAAS Constitution and what steps he feels archaeologists should take to protect their interests. A danger exists that AAAS Section H (Anthropology) could be swallowed up by the larger sections of psychology, sociology and economics. An idea among some archaeologists who feel they should move into other sections would make Section H even smaller. Dr. Ford feels that only one section is "capable of intelligently presenting our ideas and the result of our deliberations" (archaeological) and this is Section H. Whether the true discipline of archaeology is heard from in the future at the AAAS Annual Meeting, which is the largest general scientific meeting held in the U.S., will depend upon the interest, concern and participation of those who are interested in the future of archaeological research. The many pages which the AAAS publication SCIENCE devotes to archaeology; the excellent news coverage the activities of this association always receives; the success of this association in presenting the needs of science to governmental agencies and its concern for the relationship between science and society, are but several reasons for concerned archaeologists to join AAAS, affiliate with Section H and attend meetings.

So, on December 26, 1972, I found Washington, D.C., after dark, to be very much alive and alight with the still beautiful Christmas decorations. A grim reminder of unrest a few days before, were the temporarily mended windows of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Building. A determination to keep the AAAS sessions from being disrupted by a self-selected few was voiced by Mina Rees, Retiring President and Chairman of the Board, AAAS, and was carried out by the numerous and very obvious police stationed around all the meeting rooms at all 3 hotels. Several of the purposes of this Annual Meeting are to present sessions which require interrelations between different branches of the sciences and knowledge of several disciplines; to increase public understanding of science and to advance the role of science and technology for human progress. The wide range of the program fulfilled these requirements. Mina Rees, who is President Emeritus, Graduate School and University Center, City University of New York, while determined to keep the meeting orderly, also stated that all differing points of view should be afforded an opportunity for scholarly presentation. Very active was an organization with "no officers or constraints on membership" known as "Scientists and Engineers for Social and Political Action/Science for the People", which was urging the participants at this Annual Meeting to

reject the main purposes of AAAS. The plentiful literature very clearly stated the purposes of their participation: opposition to sessions which concerned funding of research; the role of some of the governmental agencies; behavior and social control and crime prevention. Organization "to stimulate the changes needed to bring about a new social order that will be responsive to the needs of the people". These "scientific workers" attempted to make themselves known at all the various activities; handed out literature and held demonstrations against war. The police kept their activities from erupting into violence and to me their presence only intensified the realization that if they succeed in their goals, it will be principally because of the disinterest of so many who do not yet realize what a threat and growing menace such organizations are to the principles which we accept as right and indestructible.

Among the subjects of special interest for participants of Section H were several days of sessions concerned with the Comparative Study of Civilizations. An all day symposium on "Chronologies in New World Archaeology" was designed for the informal presentation of several chapters from a new volume of the same name now in preparation. This will summarize the chronological structure of the major archaeological regions of North and South America. The list of authors is impressive. I feel our southeast area is due more attention! "Eastern United States", by James B. Griffin, University of Michigan, is included as one chapter, while 9 headings cover the rest of North America and there are 10 for South and Central America. Why is this large and diverse area always lumped together?

The 1973 Annual Meeting will be an international, 2 week event, jointly organized by the AAAS and the Council of Science and Technology of Mexico (CONACYT). "Science and Man in the Americas" is to be held from June 20 to July 4, 1973, in Mexico City. A glance through the proposed program promises that serious attendance will be very rewarding. For membership in AAAS, send dues of \$16.00 per year to AAAS, 1515 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. Give your name and address, and, of course, your interest to affiliate with Section H!

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FUND DRIVE

Without any formal announcement of any such endeavor on the part of the State Society or the Archaeological Research Association, some of our fine folks have jumped the gun and sort of "forced" us into another campaign. We are, of course, not registering any objections whatsoever; and are delighted to have these assurances that we can count on our membership to back us financially even before a determination is made as to our "Project for 1973". The "self-starters" during January are:

Lively-Long-Josselyn Pebble Tool Papers send in their first addition to the Dan Josselyn Memorial Fund, representing proceeds of sale of copies of these papers.

Harold S. Biggs, Huntsville, another "early bird", brings to FIVE the total number of contributions he has made over the years to our archaeological endeavors.

Crawford Badham, Birmingham, a CHARTER DONOR, increases his number of donations to NINE, and we are delighted to acknowledge his faithfulness and generosity.

Last month when the Newsletter was published, we were under the impression that all our folks who wanted to join our Thirteenth Fund Drive, had registered their contributions, but before the last day of 1972, we received one more, giving us a total of 47 donations for a grand total of \$2,175.88. He was:

Aljerald Powers, Sylacauga, making his TENTH voluntary subscription and joining the too few others who have stuck with us financially over that number of years.

Now that we're off and running, we will be most happy to acknowledge in future issues of the Newsletter, the names, home towns and other information about each of you who feel impelled to be numbered among those other generous members desiring to make a financial part in whatever we decide to do. It may be possible to state exactly what that will be in the reasonably near future. But don't wait!

MORE ON A HOT SUBJECT

There have been some very interesting comments in past issues of our Newsletter, by Marjorie Gay and Bart Henson (March & May 1972, and October 1971) suggesting that heat treating may have been used on the lithic material selected for manufacturing projectile points. For those interested in this line of thought, here's more scoop.

The report on the Debert site in Nova Scotia refers to considerable evidence found at this Paleo site, which supports the heat treat theory. A direct quote from the report is: "The conclusion then, that feature 7 is a tempering hearth appears to be justified. As such, it is an important record of a technological practice which had previously been detected only on stray specimens." The paragraph then goes on to explain: "Our assessment of the Paleo-Indian's appreciation of physical properties of materials and the practical ways in which they could be altered to better suit their needs must necessarily be altered. It is then not unlikely that techniques for improving the workability of other raw materials, such as softening bone by baking in moist skins, may have been practiced."

Although some of the recent discussion on the subject has not supported heat treating as early as Paleo times, the accumulation of such evidence as that from Debert, continues to indicate that Paleo-Indians were people of considerable intelligence and ingenuity.

(William H. Wesley, Huntsville Chapter)

FORT TOULOUSE INVESTIGATIONS STIMULATE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION!

On Sunday, December 31, 1972, Jean Salusse, Director of the French National Office of Historical Monuments, visited the site of this important fort which is located just south of Wetumpka, Ala. Accompanying the French dignitary were Mr. & Mrs. Bernard de Turenne, members of the Montgomery Alliance Francaise, David W. Chase, associate archaeologist in charge of Fort Toulouse excavations, Jeanette Barrett, Ellen Mertens and Laurie Sullivan of the Alabama Historical Commission and Marcia Kunstel, reporter for the MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER. Originally built by the French in 1717, Fort Toulouse was located where the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers join to form the Alabama River, an ideal location to protect France's eastern border interests, and also serve as a monitoring station for the trade and military activities of the English! The French Government is interested in helping the Alabama Historical Commission restore and develop this fort which was once such an important French Military outpost. Through a search of the French archives, it is hoped that more information may be learned as to exactly what activities were important at the fort during the French occupation, which ended in 1763. After this the British used it as a trading post, but as British power waned, the buildings were allowed to fall in ruin. After the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, the fort was reoccupied by the Americans who renamed it Fort Jackson. In 1814, the Treaty of Fort Jackson was signed and the end was at hand for the Creek Nation. By 1820, the fort had been completely abandoned.

After a very successful summer excavation, the artifacts are under study in the Lab at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. More excavations are planned for the spring of 1973. Watch for the announcement, and plan a visit to this historic site.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

CAVE ARCHAEOLOGY

On December 8, 1972, John A. Walthall and Jerry J. Nielsen of the University of Alabama journeyed to Decatur, Ala., and the residence of Tom Moebes. Walthall and Moebes had previously planned the trip to investigate a deep limestone sinkhole where, a few weeks earlier, Philip Malone and other spelunkers from the Decatur Chapter of the National Speleological Society had recovered a human skull. Moebes initially discovered the cave, but due to its extreme depth - 95 feet straight down - had not entered the shaft. Walthall, on an earlier trip to north Alabama, had been given the skull for study, and he had identified it as aboriginal (as reported in

the DECATUR DAILY, November 22, 1972).

On the morning of December 9, 2 members of the Decatur Speleological Society, Larry Bumpus and Glenn Watkins, arrived at the home of Moebes to instruct Walthall and Nielsen in the fine art of repelling and rope climbing. For this purpose, a short trip was made to nearby Cave Springs and an hour or so was spent in descending and climbing the face of the cave. After being proclaimed proficient in the art of rope work, a short rest stop for coffee was made while awaiting the arrival of Terry Tarkington from Decatur. Tarkington is well known for his trips to numerous foreign countries and his escapades in caves there. During this period, hair-raising accounts of various trips into sinkholes elsewhere were told, while Walthall and Nielsen listened intently.

A short ride in Moebes' pickup on a muddy road up the side of a mountain soon brought the crew to the sinkhole's entrance. All previous impressions of the sinkhole vanished. Rather than a large, picturesque and accessible opening there was an approximately 2 foot diameter cramped entrance from which one had about 3 or 4 feet of muddy ledge before plummeting 95 feet to the bottom. The shaft was some 30 feet in diameter and quite dark inside. Under watchful eyes, the rope was secured to a large tree just outside the entrance and then lowered into the shaft. After repeated questioning as to whether this was indeed the sinkhole in which the skull had been found, Bumpus and Tarkington entered the shaft, followed by an intrepid Walthall. Once Walthall had gained the bottom of the shaft, he reaffirmed the necessity of Nielsen also coming down into the chasm.

One who has never dangled 95 feet up on a rope in a dark hole cannot imagine how far down the bottom can be. Once everyone was at the base of the shaft, a search revealed numerous animal bones from rather fatal accidents, as well as the rancid carcass of a groundhog which had only in the past 2 or 3 weeks entered the hole. After some time a single lower human mandible and a fragmented skull cap were found under approximately 6 inches of mud. The mud was the result of recent rains which, although having ceased outside, continued to pour down from the dome of the shaft. This resulted in damp working conditions, to say nothing of the wet & slippery rope.

Finally the time came to ascend the rope and gain freedom from the bowels of the earth. Tarkington had gone up earlier and he, with the accompaniment of Moebes, shouted encouraging words to Walthall and Nielsen. Nielsen was the first of the inexperienced to climb out. After only 45 minutes of fumbling efforts, a fatigued and sore man emerged from the entrance. He was immediately greeted by a relieved Moebes and a roaring fire, both of which were welcome sights. Soon after, Walthall, spurred on by words of encouragement and possibly a desire to gain a hasty exit, shortened Nielsen's time on the rope by about 5 minutes.

The human skeletal remains recovered from this subterranean site, consisting of one complete skull, a lower mandible, a second skull vault and a charred postcranial fragment (not positively identified as human) are currently being studied at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. A preliminary analysis of these osteological specimens has been completed. The 2 skulls exhibit frontal and occipital deformation. This type of deformation is a common characteristic of Copena Complex burials. This, coupled with the fact that 2 other burial caves containing definite Copena interments, a Copena burial mound and several Middle Woodland village sites located in the area, suggest that this sinkhole can be tentatively assigned to that complex, which dates from approximately A.D. 150 to 500. It cannot be determined at the present time whether these 2 individuals were purposely placed in the sinkhole after death or if their accidental fall down the shaft led to their death.

(John A. Walthall, Department of Anthropology, University, Ala.)

(Jerry J. Nielsen, Mound State Monument, Moundville, Ala.)

WHAT ABOUT ALABAMA?

"Who Were The Mound Builders?", by George E. Stuart (NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, December, 1972) is an article giving some of the latest information and conclusions about the

Mound Builders of the various cultures in North America. But Alabama, with her rich prehistory is barely mentioned. Moundville, Alabama - "where many ancient structures still survive" and the artwork "testify Southern Cult artistry - to me hardly describes the information we should add to this study. The author should be familiar with our section as he says that the first excavation he ever took part in, as a young boy, was at Etowah, Georgia, under Dr. Lewis H. Larson Jr.

Possibly the author is not at fault, as how much information will he find about our State in the literature? A glance through "A Selected Bibliography of Alabama Archaeology" by David L. DeJarnette and Valerie Scarritt (JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, June 1970) lists many references - but look again at the dates - there are not so many in recent years. Almost all for the last 10 years were in our JOURNAL or the JOURNAL OF THE ALABAMA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE which contains only an abstract.

I believe our State Society realizes this need as efforts have been under way for some time to get reports published in a special publication, and possibly the efforts toward a State Archaeologist who is knowledgeable of our whole area will help place Alabama in its rightful place in the literature. In spite of this "lack" the article is well worth reading with excellent photographs of sites and artifacts, mention of many excavations including the recent Koster Site in Illinois which the author visited, and explanations of present theories about these Mound Builders of the various cultures. One photo I felt would not have been missed was an arrangement of skulls on the lawn of the Royal Ontario Museum, Canada, which had come from Rainy River Mound Site, Canada! (Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

STONE MYSTERIES

Petroglyphs and pictographs are quite intriguing as archaeological mysteries, and at each location where a series of figures occurs, an observer wonders what message or record may have been intended. Recently, well known space scientists have had some interesting comments on prehistoric rock art. On a television program called "Ancient Astronauts", the possibility of visitors from other planets in prehistoric times was the topic of discussion. Playing a large part in the case for extraterrestrial visitation were views of many rock carvings in various parts of the world - carvings that appear to represent what we have recently come to know as astronauts. The resemblances are mainly round, bubble-like head gear - some with antenna-like attachments - and back or chest equipment that is easily seen as breathing systems. One remarkable and intricate carving even included a possible back rest and control levers associated with the hands and feet, as though the figure were seated at the controls of a space vehicle. During the program, Dr. Wernher von Braun and other prominent space authorities commented on the possibility of advanced extraterrestrial life forms and added credibility to the idea that primitive people on this planet would have attempted to record visits from space travelers by carving a likeness on rock.

An article appearing in the HUNTSVILLE TIMES, January 13, gives added food for thought. Dr. John C. Brandt, Chief of the NASA solar physics laboratory, has said that drawings on cave walls and ceilings in Arizona, New Mexico and California - 6 sites in all - could very well be representations of a star explosion that is known to have occurred 900 years ago - one that would have been especially spectacular, viewed from the western U.S. If such unusual events were recorded with carvings - and it doesn't seem too unlikely - then are the strange men with bubble heads ancient astronauts? An affirmative answer would be pretty far out, but rock art becomes more interesting. (William H. Wesley, Huntsville Chapter)

MOSS-BENNETT BILL - (H.R. 6257, S. 1245)

It's that time of year again! Congress is meeting in the 93rd Session. We hope it is the last time we will have to urge everyone to write their Senators and Representatives, asking them to support the Archaeological Salvage Bill. "This is the

most important archaeological salvage legislation ever proposed in Congress!", says Carl H. Chapman in the Missouri Archaeological Society Newsletter #265, November 1972. This bill will cover all sites to be disturbed by any Federal project which alters the terrain. Not only are the dam site, backwater area and highways covered, but also railroad relocations, access roads, workmen's camps and soil borrow pits. Basically, the responsibility for initiating the salvage action lies with the archaeologist or those interested in archaeological or historical preservation. Not only is survey of sites and recovery of artifacts and excavation funded, but also the preservation, analysis and publication necessary for a thorough scientific excavation. I'm sure most of you can, in a very few minutes, travel to some Federally Funded Project, close to home, where some site, large or small, is being destroyed.

Write immediately, as the goal for the archaeological bill to be in operation is July 1, 1973, so our Congressmen must act early in this session of Congress. As Bob Ferguson, Southeastern Indian Antiquities, Nashville, Tenn. (also a new member of our State Society) writes in an editorial in AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, January 1973, the amateur can take an active part in working for better state and federal laws. He calls the amateur "the local watchdog". It is his responsibility and pleasure to safeguard the archaeological resource. He calls a site sacred ground to the amateur, - "and he cannot rest when it is threatened". (Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

INTERESTING QUOTES

THE INTERAMERICAN, Newsletter of the Instituto Interamericano, Dr. Carl B. Compton, Director, provides the following items, from Vol. 19, No. 6, Nov-Dec. 1972:

"AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS a report on the excavation of a site in Chatham County, Georgia inhabited by unidentified Indians from c.1 A.D. to c.1,400 A.D. Dr. Joseph Caldwell, Prof. of Anthropology at the Univ. of Georgia, Athens, was supervisor of the dig, a WPA project during the Depression. 140 unskilled and untrained black women were hired to dig and 12 black men were hired to push wheelbarrows. Many of the diggers quickly became skilled technicians. The project was a "make-work" one but the zeal and ability of the black women made it a genuine archaeological project lasting 2 years. Now, we understand, the dig will be published."

"OLDEST MAN? It is probably quite well known by now that Richard Leakey, archaeologist son of the Late Dr. L.S.B. Leakey of Homo habilis fame, has found a skull dating to $2\frac{1}{2}$ million years ago. We have, thus far, been unable to get complete information on this. We assume that the dating was by potassium/argon. We do have a newspaper reproduction of the skull together with that of Australopithecus boyseii (originally called Zinjanthropus) which dates at 1 million 750 thousand years. The new skull, from the photo, looks far more "modern" than boyseii, in fact, so much so that it looks to be within the limits of variation of modern European man. Of course, this is only a newspaper (Western Australian, Nov. 11, 1972) halftone but a very clear one. This should further shake up the Early Man field which is even now in semi-shock resulting from the finds of the latter few years."

"YAXHA, GUATAMALA: Learn archaeological field techniques at Maya ruins of Yaxha. An experimental educational program now in its 4th year. Yaxha is an ancient Maya city of 500 structures overlooking the shores of a 15 mile long string of picturesque jungle lakes. The 4th Annual field session will run from June to September, 1973. You don't have to speak a word of Spanish nor have previous course work in archaeology or the natural sciences nor any previous field experience. Free room & board is provided to experienced surveyors, architectural draftsmen, scientific illustrators, accountants, typists, bi-lingual secretary and graduate students in botany, zoology or geology. BUT, before you dash off, due to the remote location, lack of medical help, primitive housing, poor food, inadequate research facilities and a generally rugged environment, prospective applicants should think over whether they really wish to apply for this somewhat different educational experience in Guatamala. But, if you are intelligent, rugged and really bent on such an experience, send \$2 for additional information and illustrated reports on the ruin airmail to EEP, Apar-

tado Postal 1838, Guatamala City, Guatamala, C.A. EEP stands for Experimental Educational Program in the Natural Sciences."

LAST REMINDER MEETING NOTICE!

The joint meeting of the Southern Anthropological Society and the American Ethnological Society will be held at the Blockade Runner Motel in Wrightsville Beach, N.C., March 8-11, 1973. (Air connections via Atlanta or Charlotte on Piedmont Airlines to Wilmington, N.C.) The proposed program includes a key symposium on "Social and Cultural Identity: Problems of Persistence and Change", and volunteered papers on various "Approaches in Anthropology". Program Chairman is Tom Fitzgerald, Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, N.C. 27412. (Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of each month in Room 213, Chapman Hall, Samford University. At the February meeting, Dr. Donald Heldman, UAB, will speak on "The Excavations at Fort Toulouse", with slides. Chapter Officers elected for 1973 are: Harry Douglass, President; Brittain Thompson, Vice President; Mrs. Elizabeth McNair, 2nd V.P.; Mrs. Phyllis Brown, Secy.; E. M. Harris, Treas.

The Pastfinders, Birmingham Chapter Ladies' Auxiliary, meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month in members' homes. The speaker at the January meeting was Mr. Henry Gobeil, on "Old Coins". The February meeting will be held at 7:30 PM in the home of Mrs. Claude Boykin, with Dr. Hugh Bailey, Samford University, speaking on "The Story of Coal & Iron, by Ethyl Armes".

Choccolocco Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Regar Museum, Anniston. The Chapter's agenda for 1973 will be discussed at January meeting.

Cullman County Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at Cullman City Hall. The program for January will be Mr. Joseph Watkins, Birmingham Chapter, who will speak on "Land of the Inca" with slides of Inca Ruins and artifacts. Also, there will be preliminary discussion of the Chapter's hosting the Winter Annual Meeting of the State Society to be held at St. Bernard College later this year.

Huntsville Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. At the January meeting held in the Twickenham Hotel Building, Mr. William Pendleton, Muscle Shoals Chapter, was to discuss "Projectile Points".

Montgomery Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the Forum Room, Delchamps Student Center, Huntingdon College. Dr. Philip K. Burwell, a surgeon, will give a slide illustrated lecture on "Mayan Civilization of Yucatan Peninsula" at the February meeting, he having spent his youth in Yucatan.

Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month in Decatur City Court Room. 1973 Officers elected at the December meeting are: Eugene Stewart, President; Bob Doherty, Vice President; William Loiry, Secy-Treas; Joe Webb, Program Chairman. At the January meeting held January 16, Chapter member David Hulse will discuss "How Arrowheads Are Made".

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Indian Mound Museum, Florence. The guest speaker at the January meeting was to be Harry G. Brown, M.D., of Florence, who visited pyramid excavations in Mexico last summer and brought back slides on those digs, including lab technology. The February speaker will be Mr. Carey B. Oakley, University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, whose subject is to be selected.

Noccalula Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of each month at member's homes. At the January meeting held in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Leon Young, Mr. Ralph Mackey & Mr. Leon Young reported on the Winter Annual Meeting. The February meeting to be held in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ashloy, anthropology graduate Mr. George McCluskey of Gadsden will discuss "Gainesville Project on Warrior River".

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS DURING JANUARY: (What a fine list to start the year!)

Dr. J. M. Beaven, 175 W. Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, N.J. 07450
Louis A. Brennan, 39 Hamilton Ave., Ossining, N.Y. 10562
Mrs. Bobby Doris Chernes, P O Box 1017, University, Ala. 35486
Jerry Reed Davis, 10014 Hogan Drive, S.E., Huntsville, Ala. 35803 (Family)
Edward C. Graven, 1129 Shadesview Terr. S., Homewood, Ala. 35209
Jack L. Hoffman, 1335 S. Asp, Norman, Okla. 73069
Robert W. Jaeger, 2769 Cherokee Road, Birmingham, Ala. 35216
Tony R. Joiner, Route 2, Guntersville, Ala. 35976
Harold W. McLemore, 114 Memorial Drive N.W., Decatur, Ala. 35601 (Family)
Alexander J. Mutchy, 415 Pettus St., Selma, Ala. 36701
Jerry C. Nelson, Route 4, Alexander City, Ala. 35010
William J. Plott, 5 Fairmont Drive, Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401 (Sustaining Family)
J. Paul Schumann, 2706 Briarwood Drive, Huntsville, Ala. 35801 (Family)
Thelma Loren Stanley, Route 2 Box 507, Theodore, Ala. 36582
Jack H. Wilson Jr., 2853 White Oak Drive, Decatur, Ga. 30032
Life & Lettres, c/o William Jack Hranicky, P O Box 4211, Arlington, Va. 22204
Library, Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Ga. 31601

SUMMER MEETING PLANS: Place: Auburn University. Date: Not yet fixed. Program: One day of papers presented by State Society members, and one day field trip.

These are the very preliminary plans which your Program Committee feels everyone should know. We hope members will respond and plan to give papers. The exact guidelines and other information will be in the March STONES & BONES. An abstract will be required, probably less than 200 words. From these abstracts, the Program Committee will choose those they feel will make a session which will be enjoyed by all. Start work on your paper NOW, as we will have to set a deadline for the abstracts. Watch for further details next month!

(Marjorie Gay, Program Committee Chairman, Standing Rock, Ala. 36878)

Ben I. Waller, one of our interesting speakers at the December Winter Annual Meeting writes us from Ocala: "Our work on the baby mammoths continues, with an overabundance of people, cold air and bones. The bank (river) has been cut away now and we are able to see, completely exposed, 2 young mammoths up to this time; however, the only tools that we have located have been in the 6,000-7,000 year range and have been made of bone. ABC Television is doing a documentary on the excavation which will be shown in the very near future."

ANOTHER WINTER MEETING NOTE: Did you examine the collection which Lawson Corley had on display? He feels his collection contains a very complete sampling of Alabama artifacts. He uses this hobby in an attempt to teach young people from grade school through college, more about the prehistoric people of Alabama and the importance of investigating these sites scientifically. I have never heard his program, but some letters from 4th graders at the Palmydale Baptist School are evidence that their interest was aroused. Mr. Corley told me that he is trying to illustrate the skills of our prehistoric people, the meaning of their heritage and how important it is that our civilization today does not destroy this information without recording and interpreting all the data. We hope these programs will not only instruct young people in the archaeological principles but also interest prospective members for our State Society in future years!

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

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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