

Alabama Archaeological Society

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

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

EDITOR

BRITTAIN THOMPSON
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NORTH ALABAMA SITE SURVEY PROGRESS REPORT

After 4 weeks of excavation, this summer's work at the LaGrange Bluff Shelter (also known to some as "Doodlebug Shelter") in Colbert County, Ala., has concluded. Although the excavation was small, it has resulted in the acquisition of considerable information about the site. It is an important site.

Some 230 artifacts were found in situ. Occupation floors were identified and recorded. The stratigraphy of the site was outlined. Two charcoal samples were collected, which should date the Dalton occupation and a lower, presumably earlier hearth area. (Our readers will recall that the "Dalton Level" was the earliest or deepest level at the Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter, also in Colbert County, and yielded a radiocarbon date as old as $9,640 \pm 540$ years - Editor.)

My initial impression of the excavatable area of the shelter was that it was very small and had been nearly destroyed by bulldozer and "potting". As the excavation progressed, it became evident that more of the site was salvageable than had been thought at first; and, consequently, it was found that a greater proportion of the midden was undisturbed than was at first thought possible.

Two features of the site I consider particularly interesting. Big Sandy projectile points and Dalton occur in the lower part of the midden. At this site, however, preliminary studies suggest there is some vertical separation between the 2 types. This would seem to indicate that the 2 types are not contemporary here. The other feature was a charcoal lens discovered approximately 14 inches below the bottom of the Dalton midden in a clean, white sand. The charcoal was nestled between sandstone boulders, some of which seemed to have been deliberately placed to outline the fire. The charcoal was accompanied by a graver and flint chips. If this feature was not intruded from the top of the sand before the formation of the midden, the C-14 test could yield a considerably older date than we have from this area. (Jack Cambron was performing volunteer work on the dig and did the trowel work into the sand resulting in discovery of the charcoal lens - Editor.)

Florence State University, through its President, Dr. Robert Guillot, continues its fine cooperation with the project, and the artifacts thus far recovered have been taken there for study. A large part of the LaGrange Bluff Shelter remains undisturbed at this point, and its potential for yielding definable Early Man evidences demands further investigation with a larger crew.

(Charles Hubbert, Florence State University)

(As we go to press with this Newsletter issue, the excavated portion of the LaGrange Bluff Shelter is being backfilled pursuant to a joint decision by Florence State University and the Archaeological Research Association of Alabama Inc. This is being done awaiting a report on radiocarbon dates of the 2 charcoal samples submitted for dating from the Dalton level and from the charcoal lens below the Dalton level.

NOTICE - this unexpected dig this summer, and the cost to get the radiocarbon datings, are drawing more heavily on our Research Association funds than anticipated.

SEPTEMBER 1972

Be a part of this interesting exploratory work by sending in a donation, if you have not already done so, or possibly add to your previous contribution - Editor.)

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY - SELMA AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Field work for our 1972 survey has been completed; we have located an even 60 new sites, varying from what may have been ephemeral overnight camps to several fairly impressive "villages". We also revisited several sites near the Alabama River which had been located by others, but for which the surface collections were either missing or undocumented.

During our last week, several of the more promising sites were briefly tested; 3 of these probably should be excavated more extensively, and a number of others await testing. One site, locally reputed to be an "Indian mound", appears to be an erosional remnant instead. However, it was a natural location for aboriginal occupation, and we obtained an interesting surface collection which includes side-notched points and a little "Mississippian" pottery, along with a couple of complicated-stamped sherds. All this indicates that the site must have been occupied during several different periods of prehistory.

The materials collected this summer are now in the University of Alabama Birmingham archaeology lab; most of them were catalogued in the field, which will enable us to begin studying them very soon after closing down the field operations. The study of these artifacts, from sites as much as 18 miles north and south of the Alabama River, will be supplemented by information from the more than 20 sites found in 1971. Also available for comparative study are materials collected by David Chase from numerous sites, mostly near the river, upstream and downstream from our area.

In closing, we would like to thank our sponsors for making these surveys possible, and the prehistoric Indians for making them necessary.

(Marvin D. Jeter, UAB)

AN INTERESTING GEORGIA EXCAVATION

A platform temple mound, 16 feet high, about 100 by 60 feet on top, and not a trace of it to be seen when the water from the West Point Dam backs up in 1975 and covers the mound with about 40 feet of water! The University of Georgia has been hard at work the last few years, trying to record and locate the many sites which will be destroyed or drowned by this reservoir. There is destruction not only from dam construction but also relocation of roads and improvement of areas around the reservoir.

This summer, Harold Huscher, with a crew of only 5 students, has been trying to learn the story of the mound. This is an important study in an area of which very little is known archaeologically. The mound is located on the Georgia side of the Chattahoochee River, on a river terrace immediately above the 600 foot contour. This is about 40 to 50 feet below the flood level when the reservoir is finally filled. The area is still in the Piedmont. A religious center for the inhabitants from miles around, this investigation is of great interest and importance to the prehistory of Alabama as well as Georgia. They will not be able to salvage all the data they feel is necessary. Not only lack of time, but also shortage of funds.

The excavation is important because once the water covers the mound, we really do not know how extensive the damage will be, but it seems sensible to assume that no more data will ever be obtained from the site. There is yet so much to learn about this Lamar Period of the Mississippian Culture, especially in our area of the southeast. At least 10 mound levels have been identified. The fill is alternating burned wattle and daub and random basket-loads from the village area around the mound. They are anxious to establish dates for its construction and the period of use. So far, only one piece of trade goods has been found - a possible clay trade pipe (only a piece of the pipe bowl). No trade beads, but then no prestige burials have been uncovered and apparently the burials were too early for trade goods. Along with the small arrow point of the late culture, they have been finding well-made

earlier points, many of the quartz which identifies the Archaic and early sites in the area, but in the mound fill where these have been carried in with the basketloads of collected dirt. Tools are not particularly numerous in Temple Mounds, except as inclusion in the basketload fill. The pottery is consistently in the Lamar Series, but there is a great deal of line-blocked type from the North Georgia Etowah series, as well as extensive evidence of zoned punctate more commonly associated with the Lower Chattahoochee and the Gulf Coast.

In spite of the rather remote location and the many "No Trespass" signs, there are numerous indications of others digging in the area. Valuable information is being destroyed by those just searching for a trophy!

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

DEVILS TEETH

The skeleton of a very tall (6'2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") aborigine has been recovered near Lake Nitchie, 550 miles west of Sidney, Australia. A round the neck to pelvis necklace was found which consisted of 180 pierced teeth from Tasmanian Devils. The non-pretty Devils (dog-like creatures) are believed to have been extinct in Australia for some 3,000 years and haven't been seen since 1934 in the island State of Tasmania, which gave them their name. Surprisingly, the necklace teeth were of varying ages, some brown and cracked, some light and a few were up to 2,000 years older than the age of the owner, who was carbon dated at 6,280 B.P.

We can't help but wonder if those ancient primitives had archaeologists (or pot hunters) who went around acquiring goodies, just like today, of course, under the name of science or religion, we hope. (B.T.)

"FIRST AMERICAN SITE"

Under the report for the Tennessee Archaeological Society meeting in November 1971 STONES & BONES, page 5, the tooth from a sabre-tooth tiger and human bones were mentioned as having been found in the excavation under a bank building being constructed in Nashville. In the April 1972 TAS Newsletter, Bob Ferguson, Southeastern Indian Antiquities Survey, reports the almost unbelievable saving of this important and unusual site. A \$20,000 change in the plans for the building will allow as much time as is needed for a thorough study of this site!

The site is a room in a cavern which the construction blasting exposed when it made a hole from above. The room is filled nearly to the ceiling with clay, "topped by a shallow humic stratum". The relationship between the human and animal bones, the significance of the clay strata are just a few of the questions to answer. There is a burial niche high in the cave with 4 human bundle burials and one flint tool made from a nodule. During their excavation so far, no human bones have been found in direct association with extinct animal remains. Restored skulls show a deformation referred to as flathead. Animals so far identified include coot, bull or pine snake, opossum, least shrew, pocket gopher, bobcat, wolf or dog, deer, long nose peccary, mastodon, horse, saber-tooth cat, possibly bison or forest muskox.

Radiocarbon and bone apatite tests are being made at several laboratories, thanks to the Bank. Locally, this is a joint study by Vanderbilt University Anthropology Office and the Southeastern Indian Antiquities Survey with cooperating institutions and consultants from all over the country.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FUND DRIVE

Following our very gratifying report last month, we had visions of as good a total for August contributions toward defraying the expenses of our ambitious archaeological program this year, but it seems that possibly vacations or other personal financial matters have taken precedence among our membership. We nevertheless want the

following to know of our appreciation for preventing a blank:

Bert O. Yerkes, Mobile, longtime faithful State Society member, permits us to acknowledge his SECOND donation over the years to our fund drives.

Lively-Long-Josselyn Pebble Tool Papers, for the 3rd time this year, add proceeds of sales to the Dan Josselyn Memorial Fund of our Research Association.

After noting the report of results obtained from our unanticipated excavations at the LaGrange Bluff Shelter in Colbert County, we are sincerely hopeful that others will make use of the coupon appearing at the bottom of the inside back page of the Newsletter, and enable us to report another successful campaign next month - maybe?

SOON TO BE AVAILABLE!

TEN YEARS OF THE TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGIST: SELECTED SUBJECTS, VOL. II, 1954 - 1963. This is a long-awaited publication, especially by those who do not have any of these earlier issues. The authors include many well known and respected individuals, both amateur and professional. There are more than 20 site reports, including such sites as the Camp Creek Site, the Fuller Mounds, Peter Cave and the first archaeological report that was published on Russell Cave. There are many articles on other subjects, projectile point typology in particular, such as the original articles by Madeline Kneberg which were the basis for our Alabama Handbook of Point Types. A price has not yet been announced for this book, but they have been printed. The demand should be great. Here are just a few of the names which will assure this: T.M.N. Lewis, Frank J. Soday, Dan Josselyn, C. H. McNutt, Charles Nash, James W. Cambron, David Hulse, John Kellberg, Madeline Kneberg, Bettye Broyles, Arthur George Smith, Richard Myers and many others. (Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

BOOK REPORT

GUEBERT SITE, AN 18TH CENTURY HISTORIC KASKASKIA INDIAN VILLAGE, RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILL., by Mary Elizabeth Good. Central States Archaeological Societies Inc. Order from George Grove, 750 E. Ferguson, Wood River, Ill. 62095. \$5.00.

This is the story of the Kaskaskia from 1673 when the Jesuits established a mission among them. It is their history as told by the Jesuit fathers, explorers, soldiers, government personages and Indian treaties - and as told in artifacts from the Guebert site which the tribe occupied from 1719 until after 1800.

Kaskaskia Indians, principal tribe of the Illinois Confederacy of the Algonquin, occupied an area in western Illinois for over a century of historic time. Moving from the north into the region in 1703, they relocated their village in 1719 to the west bank of the Kaskaskia River several miles from its confluence with the Mississippi. Strategically situated, this area and the land on the opposite bank of the Mississippi River figured in the political struggles of 4 nations - France, England, Spain and the U.S. - each concerned with controlling commerce, trade and settlement, as well as the Indian inhabitants.

Other archaeological reports are available on the 18th century Indian sites in the Lower Mississippi Valley and in the Great Lakes region. This is the first major report of a site which, in effect, is at mid-point along the great water highway of 18th century North America. Trade goods reached this village from both ends of the river, and certain variations may be noted.

The publication contains approximately 140 pages with 8 color illustrations and over 45 in black and white, plus numerous maps. Of particular interest, over 170 varieties of glass trade beads are illustrated in color and descriptions include comparative analyses with other time-related and trade-related sites.

Other articles, whole and fragmentary, which are described and illustrated include gun parts, lead balls, gunflints, Micmac pipes of stone, clay and pewter,

L-shaped and other pipes of clay and stone, pendants, buttons, Catlinite molds, buckles, a French coin of 1722 and numerous other items once used by the Kaskaskia, then lost or broken and discarded. (Amos J. Wright Jr., Huntsville Chapter)

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Note that this year SEAC will be meeting in October at Morgantown, W.Va. The Conference on Historic Site Archaeology is on Thursday, October 12, and the Southeastern Archaeological Conference on Friday and Saturday, October 13 & 14. Being a month earlier than usual, you may need to rearrange your schedule. I know Bettye Broyles has been making plans for these meetings to be some of the best yet. You don't have to be a member to attend but the excellent publications of both conferences are well worth the dues. For SEAC, \$5.00 per year to Bettye Broyles, West Virginia Geological Survey, P O Box 879, Morgantown 26505. For CHSA, \$5.00 per year to Stanly South, The Institute of Archaeology & Anthropology, University of S.C., Columbia 29208. Be sure to reserve the above dates, October 12, 13 & 14!

October 7 is the date of the annual meeting of the Tennessee Archaeological Society which will be held at the U.T. Space Institute, near Manchester, Tenn. The Coffee-Franklin County Chapter is the host for the meeting - Greg Klein, President, 911 First Ave., Tullahoma, Tenn. 37388. If you are interested in hearing "first-hand" information about mounds (and who isn't?), then you won't want to miss this meeting. Banquet speaker, Dr. Melvin Fowler, of the University of Wisconsin will speak on Cahokia. Dr. John B. Nuckolls, Jackson, Tenn., will report on his work at Pinson Mounds which have just this year become a Tennessee State Park. The largest mound at this Woodland site is 73 feet tall. Plan to attend this meeting and see how much you have been missing and how much can be added to your understanding of the prehistory of our whole area. (Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

MORE MEETING REPORT

Alabama was represented very ably by just one participant at the May 1972 SAA Meeting in Florida. John A. Walthall presented a paper on the COPENA in the General Session on Southeastern U.S. He is a member of our State Society, presently at Mound State Monument and an instructor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa. He is undertaking a study of some of the material excavated in the Wheeler Basin during W.P.A. days by Clarence Webb and David L. DeJarnette and since then stored at Moundville. One report by Webb & DeJarnette (1942) has been published on this large salvage project: "An Archaeological Survey of the Pickwick Basin in the Adjacent Portions of the States of Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee", Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 129. There is more to be learned about this Middle Woodland Burial Mound Culture which used COPPER and galena, and it is not known what finally happened to them. Through laboratory analysis and the use of some of the newer techniques, Mr. Walthall hopes to find some answers.

The preliminary report given at the meeting was concerned with subsistence and settlement. All sites seem to have been occupied over long periods of time. Some sites indicated seasonal activities. There appeared to have been a great deal of trade. The early burials were flexed. Pottery was sand temper and limestone temper. Storage pits were lined with matting. A Copena point was found in one pit, lined with clay and filled with ashes. He hopes to obtain a C-14 date as there is a good supply of charcoal, and though it was treated with a preservative, the pieces are large enough to contain an uncontaminated sample. We are looking forward to the results of this project. (Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

FLORIDA NOTE

For several years before his death, William C. Lazarus was interested in substanti-

ating the site of a fort supposed to have been near the mouth of Alaqua Creek, on the north side of Choctawhatchee Bay in Walton County, Florida. In the March 1972 issue of the FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGIST, Willie Wesley describes an object found in that area in 1961 and given to Mr. Lazarus, who was the founder of the Temple Mound Museum at Fort Walton Beach. Through the Smithsonian Institution, it was identified as a sword handle of the Jacksonian period. It is believed the fort was built shortly after 1818, when Jackson was sent to Florida to terminate the trouble with the Indians along the Alabama-Florida border. This handle is 6 inches long and 1 inch wide. Part of the bone still remains on each side of the handle and is incised with horizontal lines and crossing diagonal lines. The butt of the handle curves downward, appears broken. A thumb guard could have been attached on the front as well as a hand guard. The handle is now in the Fort Walton Beach Temple Mound Museum. What is considered a musket ball has also been found in the same area. In the HISTORY OF WALTON COUNTY, by John McKinnon, he refers to flintlock rifles and in one case a sword in connection with trouble with the Indians. (FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGIST is available by membership in the Florida State Society, \$4.00 per year. Requests for membership should be sent to the Secretary, Cliff E. Mattox, P O Box 531, Cocoa Beach, Fla. 32931.) (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 first fall meeting on September 7th, the speaker will be Mr. George F. Brockman, Instructor in the Earth Sciences Department at UAB, on "Fossils and Other Geologic Topics". Hosting the State Society's Annual Winter Meeting this coming December will also be discussed.

Choccolocco Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Regar Museum, Anniston. Chapter Member Mr. Frank Butler presented slides of the Pyramids of Mexico taken on his recent trip, at the July meeting. Mr. A. B. Hooper III, Marshall County Chapter, will speak on "Pebble Tools" at the August meeting.

Cullman County Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at Cullman City Hall. A film on "Family Life of the Navajo Indians" will be shown as the program for the August meeting.

East Alabama Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month in Comer Hall Auditorium, Auburn University. On August 12th, Chapter members "helped" with the excavation being conducted by Mr. Harold Huscher, University of Georgia, near LaGrange, Ga. Chapter Member Dr. Al Trowse, soil scientist with USDA and Director of the State Society, who recently visited India, will give a slide presentation on "Our Eastern Indians" at the September meeting.

Huntsville Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in Room 410, Madison County Court House. At the August meeting, held in the Huntsville Public Library, Elder Don Terry will show 2 film strips: "Early Empires of America" and "Hear My Voice".

Montgomery Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the Archaeology Lab, Huntingdon College. At a special meeting held August 9th, Chapter President Mr. David Chase lectured on "Alabama's Vanishing Past", illustrating his talk with slides. The meeting was to be open to the public.

Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month in Decatur City Court Room. A Chapter business meeting was held in August. At the September meeting, Chapter Member Mr. Jack Cambron will discuss "Woodland and Mississippian Cultures and Artifacts".

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Indian Mound Museum, Florence. At the September meeting, Mr. Warner Floyd, Executive Secretary of the Alabama Historical Commission, will speak on the many accomplishments of the Commission during its comparatively short existence. In addition to the regular program at the August meeting, Chapter Member Mr. Charles Hubbert gave a short briefing on his excavation then under way.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS DURING AUGUST:

W. Warner Floyd, 3741 Lewis Ave., Montgomery, Ala. 36109
Daniel T. Gray III, 4019 Springhill Road, Louisville, Ky. 40207
Marlin Hawkins, Route 5 Box 275, Cullman, Ala. 35055 (Family)
Kevin Howell, 1208 Lynn Acre Drive, Birmingham, Ala. 35215
(Editor's Note regarding New Membership listing: The 4 new members listed above were actually reported during the latter part of last month, after the Newsletter had been mailed. Our most capable Secretary-Treasurer, Rodger L. Schaefer, is on one of those greatly to be envied 6 to 8 week vacations, and "joiners" during August will be listed next month along with September New Members.)

Bennett Graham, (participant in our State Society digs while a student at the University of Alabama) according to the April 1972 Missouri Newsletter, will help conduct an archaeological survey in the proposed Long Branch Reservoir during the summer of 1972 as part of his activities at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

John Cottier, (another of our State Society dig participants, along with his wife, Randy) according to the May 1972 Missouri Newsletter, took part in the salvage excavation of the largest Indian Ceremonial Building found to date in Missouri, on top of a mound located at the Lilburn Site, the building measuring 33 by 44 feet. John is now Research Assistant, University of Missouri, and Randy is now Research Assistant, Missouri State Park Board Historic Survey Office.

Maurice Robbins, who should be known to all our readers through his excellent book THE AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGIST'S HANDBOOK (\$6.95 from Thomas Crowell Co., 201 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10003) is now State Archaeologist for Massachusetts. That State Society has also commenced a program of survey and salvage work on sites threatened by Highway construction similar to our Alabama project.

QUESTIONNAIRES: If you are one of those State Society members who have overlooked completing and mailing the Membership Survey Questionnaire sent you with the July Newsletter, dig it out, fill it in and mail it as you were implored to do by the Educational Page of that Newsletter. Your information could prove really valuable!

Alabama Members of the Tennessee Archaeological Society unquestionably enjoyed, as much as Tennessee members, the fine account of what took place at our Summer Annual Meeting which appeared in the August TAs Newsletter. Incidentally, we wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Tennessee Society on the very readable excellence of their "new" Newsletter, both in appearance and content.

ESAF BULLETIN NO. 31, dated July 1972 but covering proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation at Gainesville, Fla., November 4-7, 1971, is being enclosed with this issue of our Newsletter going to all State Society members. We hope you ^{enjoy} reading it over carefully.

Carey Oakley, University of Alabama, well known to all our membership who have visited our dig sites over the years, spoke on "Pinson Cave" at the June meeting of the Coffee-Franklin County Chapter of the Tennessee Society.

EDUCATIONAL PAGE

GUARDING THE PAST

The majority of ardent collectors are aware of the responsibility of all people who surface collect to properly mark and catalog their materials. They are aware of an obligation to properly store and have these materials available for study and report, both by themselves and others interested in the science of man, for each report is another potential page in the prehistory of the species. Finally, the sincere amateur should pass on the collection, as a unit, to another dedicated person or institution for continued use.

The preceding paragraph lists a few of the more important considerations to be given in properly caring for data-bearing artifacts, but perhaps we neglect, to some extent, such hazards as fire, theft, water damage, neglecting to write a will, and perhaps more. The author of this article was requested by friends to write a paper on this subject as a result of a rather sizeable fire loss of artifactual material. This loss was a result of negligence. Approximately 1,500 one-half gallon milk cartons of material weighing roughly 7,500 pounds perished in the blaze. Excavated material from the Cave Springs and Savage Cave sites was stored in paper sacks and, of course, was destroyed. Five 15 gallon metal garbage cans of material was in the basement and survived the fire relatively undamaged.

Flint and chert, when exposed to a hot fire, chips and splinters into a discolored mass of irregular fragments as a rule, with perhaps 10% of the material bearing enough of its original form to be worth retention. Pottery discolors but just becomes harder with a second firing; its recovery, however, is of questionable value with the absence of marking on the majority of the sherds.

An amateur in our State Society once told me a sad story of the fellow who stored his material in paper sacks in a basement. The basement flooded and the material was submerged for some time before discovery. As a result, only a pile of mixed material with no site identification was salvaged.

Well, to tell sad tales really has no value unless a lesson is imparted to the audience that will enhance their best interests in the present or future; namely, no fires, thefts or floods. First, what were our mistakes?

That the 2 story, wood frame lodge that housed these materials was a fire hazard was known by all who visited it. Yet, material from 2 excavations was stored in it along with the study material of a 40 year collection. The majority of the artifacts was stored in combustible containers; metal containers may have preserved many items. Not all of the material in the cartons had been marked - it was collected faster than the marking could keep up and only the carton marked in this instance. The material loss by the person in the basement flood may have been avoided if the material had been stored on a high shelf instead of on the floor.

To avoid such losses, what should be done? Not everyone can afford a fireproof building, but most can avoid storing in one that is more likely than not to burn down before it falls in. A metal container for each site will help in case of fire or water, provided the water is not too deep. In marking, India ink is hard to beat. The material stored in metal drums had marking all but undamaged, and some artifacts in combustible cartons survived the most intense heat with markings intact. The collection catalog, site maps, photographs, slides and all pertinent documentation should be kept in as safe a place as possible. If a collection is properly documented by catalog and site location, the loss of artifactual material is far from total.

Finally, and probably the most important point of the discussion, don't put it off! The author, on many occasions, told friends the lodge (we called it the den) was a firetrap; that a fireproof building must be erected for the collection. The fireproof building will come a day late and a collection short.

A proper collection is as important to the past as we are to the present and future. Its perpetuation and study may well enhance lives in future societies. So let's not burn it up!

(Tom Moebes, Morgan-Limestone 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.



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 checkmarks appear in applicable blanks!

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