

# Alabama Archaeological Society

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

BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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DECATUR, ALA. 35601

## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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### PROBLEMS, PROBLEMS, PROBLEMS

It appears that due to circumstances or conditions unknown, a number of society members failed to receive their August newsletter. If you are one...don't despair, you aren't alone. Missing issues include those of board members, ESAF representative, even the editor's official copy failed to arrive. A quick check with our noble and costly postal service led to the remarkable fact that they can't understand what could have happened...but continue to check. The fact remains that Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi and points west received theirs but Birmingham and Decatur did not. If you happen to have been one of the "did nots", write to Jerry Nielsen, Box 66, Moundville, Alabama 35474 and we will send you a copy of the August newsletter. There are very few copies available so this is limited to those issues on hand. The post office assures us that mail never gets lost, at the most it gets incorrectly routed or temporarily misplaced...but it eventually shows up.

### AND SPEAKING OF LOST NEWSLETTERS...

the Archives Committee is sending out an urgent plea to anyone having copies of the February and March 1958 issues of the newsletter. All the remaining issues of 20 years of newsletters have been located, with the exception of these two. Could we please borrow your copy and make a xerox copy for the permanent file? Please send to Jerry Nielsen, Box 66, Moundville, Alabama 35474. Your copy will be returned without delay. This permanent record is important and we appreciate your assistance.

### SLIDE-LECTURE PROGRAM FUNDED!!

Recently, the Office of Archaeological Research, University of Alabama, received a \$1000.00 Venture Fund Grant to develop a series of slide-lecture programs covering various topics concerning Alabama archaeology. These lectures will be distributed to the local chapters of the Alabama Archaeological Society and other interested groups upon request. A typical lecture kit will contain a carousel tray with pre-arranged slides, a cassette tape, and evaluation forms. The only cost involved will be the return postage paid by the participating group. It is anticipated that at least part of these will be ready for distribution by January 1975. Suggestions on subjects are welcomed. Recommended topics for the first nine programs are:

Alabama's Important Prehistoric Past  
An Archaeological Investigation of Pinson  
Moundville, A Prehistoric Community  
The Woodland Period of Alabama  
The Historic Indians of Alabama

Methods and Techniques for An Archaeologist  
The Archaic Period of Alabama  
The Paleo-Indian Period of Alabama  
The Mississippian Period of Alabama

(Carey Oakley, University of Alabama)

SEPTEMBER 1974

## EXCAVATIONS IN DALLAS COUNTY

Site 1Ds53, a stratified site, is located at the mouth of Whiteoak Creek, on property belonging to the Hammermill Paper Company. The area has been set out in pines, so will be protected until time to harvest the timber. In the moist area near the river, Horsetail (genus Equisetum), also called Scouring-rush, makes a dense undergrowth. The leaves of this rush-like herb, which grows to a height of about four feet; are small scales at the joints of the hollow stems and give the plant the Scouring-rush name as the small, rough stems could be used for scrubbing. Fossil forms of this plant from the Pennsylvanian/Permian Periods are found with petrified tree-sized stems.

The Hammerhill Paper Company has made an agreement with David Chase to survey their property for sites. The location of DeLuna's Nanipacana is the site they would like to locate. The initial survey did not pinpoint this site. Of the known sites, 1Ds53, which is felt to be the Alabama town of Chuala (as noted on the Swanton Map) was chosen for excavation. As far as Dave knows, this is the first of the lower Alabama (Choctaw) sites to be excavated.

Chuala is the type site for the Whiteoak Phase, a middle Woodland ceramic complex which is described by Chase in the Southeastern Archaeological Conference Bulletin 10, 1968. (I do not know the current availability of this publication. It was \$2.00---write to Dr. Alfred K. Guthe, Treasurer SEAC, McClung Museum, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tn. 37916 for information.)

Dave is finding material from a wide time range. At a depth of 4 1/2 feet (Level 9), a Dalton point was uncovered---while on the surface, a French 1721 coin was found. There is also a fiber tempered ware with a brushed decoration. So far, not enough money has been granted to be able to run C-14 dates. Dave hopes that this might be possible later and also that the Hammermill Company will realize the importance of recording this information for use today and for future generations.

Three burials have been uncovered. Burial #3, a male prestige burial was exposed the day I visited the site. Under the head lay a shell gorget, in poor condition, which appeared to have been painted red. By his side were two muskets, very early style, with the long barrels bent back in a curve to fit the grave. There was a plain brass uniform button; beads, a white and blue oval and the large honey colored faceted types and a mirror in the chest area. The beads were concentrated near the mouth. It is possible that when the skull is examined, beads will be found in the mouth. The iron gun parts are in poor condition, but the brass pieces have deteriorated very little.

Burial #2, which is that of a woman, contained many large glass beads located in the neck area.

Dave will finish this season's excavations in August. The stratified site, which has yielded a number of extremely important artifacts, especially considering the long time range, is an important site. He anticipates that more work will be done here as well as at some other productive sites in the area.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

## FALL BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

September 18 at 7:00pm at the All-Steak Restaurant in Cullman. All Directors, including chapter presidents, are encouraged to attend.



### TERRY ALLEN MIMS

The University of Alabama Department of Anthropology, Mound State Monument and the Stones and Bones recently lost a true and valued friend. At 20, Terry was just coming into his own, finding his way and settling into a profession--- archaeology. Never have we known anyone with such an intense desire to learn, to seek out, to develop...and to help others, sometimes to the point of sublimating his own needs in order to help a friend.

As an undergraduate student in the Department of Anthropology, Terry displayed the overwhelming curiosity of the young in regard to his studies. He was never able to accept a blanket fact, he wanted to know why, how did you come to that conclusion, is this data always going to result in that conclusion.

As a field worker for the departmental projects, he was extremely exacting in following instructions. The summer of 1973 was his first experience in archaeological salvage work and the same curiosity he showed in class overflowed in the field. Each artifact, pit and posthole was exciting in its own right... and deserved full attention. He wasn't yet jaded into believing only the more spectacular finds were noteworthy.

As a Mound State Monument docent, Terry never left a visitor's question unanswered. While attending school full time during the school year, he worked on the weekends in the park. He especially enjoyed the children and was known to spend a lot more time with the kids than their parents. He shared their thrill in viewing the dioramas and the Indian Village; he also shared his imagination in recreating for the children the life of the Indians who once lived in the park.

As a newsletter "volunteer" he was always willing to work in the evenings collating, folding and stapling. The collator intrigued him and he sincerely thought it had a mind of its own and would work or not work depending on its mood. But he loved the electric stapler best. His sense of humor made even the most tedious job a joy.

As a friend...what can you say. You could say that he was loving, and sincerely cared about your ups and downs. Or perhaps that he always (ALWAYS) thought of others and what affects his actions would have on them. Or perhaps that he didn't give his love carelessly but when he cared for you, you could never doubt it. But Terry wouldn't want anything too sentimental said, he knew he was no saint, and enjoyed his little faults. It made him human...and a true friend.

### LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ORGANIZED

The Louisiana Archaeological Society was organized May 25, 1974, in Jonesville (Troyville), Louisiana. Clarence H. Webb, M.D. was elected president; Jon L. Gibson, PhD, vice-president; Marcus Mapp, recording secretary; Joe Frank, corresponding secretary; and Jack C. Bonnin, treasurer.

The purpose of the society is to unite individuals who are interested in the aboriginal history and prehistory of Louisiana and adjacent areas. The society hopes to promote collection, study, preservation and display of Indian remains and to develop a greater public interest in the cultural heritage of Louisiana.

Further information can be obtained by writing Joe Frank, 1523 22nd Street, Lake Charles, La. 70601

## GAINESVILLE EXCAVATIONS

Excavation of 1Gr2, supervised by Ned Jenkins, continues on the Tombigbee River near Eutaw. This archaeological work is being sponsored under an agreement between the University of Alabama Department of Anthropology and the United States Department of the Interior-National Park Service.

1Gr2 is the most important of several sites that are endangered by construction activities on the Gainesville Lock and Dam of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. The first goal of these excavations has been to determine the chronological sequence of cultures in the Tombigbee River Valley. This was necessary since little previous archaeological work has been done on the Tombigbee. A tentative chronology, based on excavations in 1972, was developed by Jerry Nielsen and Ned Jenkins. This chronology is outlined below:

Transitional Phase	1200 BC - 400 BC
Miller I (Early Woodland)	400 BC - 1 AD
Miller II (Middle Woodland)	1 AD - 300 AD
Miller III (Late Woodland)	300 AD - 1000 AD
Mississippian	1000 AD - 1540 AD

Analysis of material collected in 1974 should do much to refine the above chart. In order to further develop our knowledge of Tombigbee archaeology, funds for a fourth season of excavation will be requested from the Department of the Interior-National Park Service.

Among the significant finds has been a bundle burial. This contained the remains, primarily skulls, of at least thirteen individuals. Another find was a Mature Mississippian burial of a child of about 5 - 6 years of age. Forty-six shell beads that originally comprised a necklace were found around the neck of the skeleton. A pit containing pottery of the Miller I Phase along with 2.5 pints of charcoal should provide an excellent Carbon 14 date for that phase.

In addition to Ned Jenkins, the excavation crew is composed of Keith Fleming, Billy Weeks, Blaine Ensor and Carlos Solis. Membership in the Alabama Archaeological Society is well represented among the crew members.  
(Keith Fleming, Mound State Monument)

## BOOK REVIEW

A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia, by Thomas Harriot has been republished in paperback by Dover Publications. The cost is a reasonable \$2.50. This reprint is an excellent reproduction of the first illustrated edition (1590) of Harriot's work. Of interest are copies of 28 Theodor de Bry's detailed engravings of the natives of the Virginia area. John White's drawings served as the source for these engravings, and in the introduction several of White's original paintings are reproduced. White illustrated village scenes, food procurement and preparation, and ceremonies of the Southeastern Algonkians in a free yet realistic art style. The publication is well done and highly recommended.

(John Cottier, Auburn)

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## RICHARD LEAKEY AND THE ORIGIN OF MAN

The June 15, 1974 issue of Newsweek magazine contained an article which reported recent archaeological and paleontological discoveries relating to early man in East Africa. This report also contained the most recent theory concerning the origin of man to be put forward by Richard Leakey, son of Louis and Mary Leakey of Olduvai fame. In keeping with family tradition, this latest attempt by one of the Leakeys at reconstructing man's biological development is a controversial one. Louis Leakey was recognized as one of the world's leading, and most persistent, field archaeologists and his discoveries, especially of Zinjanthropus in 1959, were indeed monumental. However, his attempts at placing his fossil finds into an evolutionary sequence have been regarded as something less than monumental, even eccentric in their extreme. Richard, the son, continues.

Like his father, the younger Leakey knows the Serengeti Plain and the surrounding fossil bearing territory like the back of his hand. The immense scientific contribution he has made through his discovery of numerous early Pleistocene sites in East Africa is unquestioned. He, and his cohorts, have pushed the hominid line (man and his direct ancestors) back 3 to 4 million years ago. In doing so they have uncovered literally dozens of hominid fossils. Among these recent finds is a skull, known only as Skull 1470, unearthed in 1972 at Lake Rudolf. The cranium, when reconstructed by Richard's wife, had a capacity of near 800 cubic centimeters, almost a third larger than the Australopithecine average and nearly equal to the Pithecanthropine average. The form of the skull also differed in that the brow ridges were less pronounced. So far, no controversy.

However, Richard goes a step further and controversy develops. Richard Leakey, like his father before him, would place his fossil hominid at the beginning of man's ancestral branch. In doing so he rellegates many previous early Pleistocene fossils, including his father's beloved Homo habilis to side branches which wither away to extinction. This is an old trick in new clothing.

Although there are many objections which could be raised in regard to this new theory an old maxim will suffice for the present. That is, "One skull does not a population make." The point here is that Leakey's theory does not take variation into account. Variation, in this sense means the range in size and form that is normal for any given human population. (Editor's Note: When Dr. Raymond Dart came to America to receive the Viking Award some years ago, a slide presentation given by him covered a fantastic variety and range that he had encountered.) Modern humans exhibit a wide range in stature, size of dentition, cranium form and in cranial capacity (the average is 1450cc and a 400cc range in either direction is considered normal). Populations of chimpanzees also show a comparable range of variation. The pertinent question at this point appears to be, is Leakey's Skull 1470 truly representative for an entire population of early hominids? Many anthropologists do not think the evidence currently available (a sample of one) warrants this assumption.

A range of from just below 600cc to 900cc for the Australopithecine population is not unreasonable. In following this line of thought Skull 1470 would fit comfortably into a stage of human evolution already postulated on the basis of previous early finds in South and East Africa, the Australopithecines. The Australopithecines, according to many physical anthropologists, developed over a considerable period of time into forms which have been placed into a second stage, the Pithecanthropines, which existed from approximately a million years ago down to approximately 200,000 years ago. Further modification of the cranium (expansion of the brain to modern size)



resulted in the Neanderthal variety and finally a reduction in the size of the dentition and corresponding facial skeleton led to man in his present form.

This model is adhered to by physical anthropologists who consider themselves lumpers. Richard Leakey is a splitter. His theory, however controversial, will remain valid until disproven. Until additional evidence becomes available which will allow the testing of this theory it will stand as one of several working hypotheses concerning the dawn of mankind. In the meantime, Skull 1470 is definitely food for thought.

(Dr. John A. Walthall, University of Alabama)

#### COLLIER-BOONE HOUSE PROJECT

Work is continuing on the backyard archaeological investigation of the Collier Home located on the corner of 9th Street and 21st Avenue, downtown Tuscaloosa. This historically significant house was constructed in 1826 and subsequently expanded in 1835. At one time it was the residence of Governor Henry W. Collier and is a typical example of a plantation home of the 1840's.

This office appreciates the aid and support of Janice Gilliland and Barbara McAdams, both members of the Tuscaloosa Chapter, for their participation in the excavation phase of this project. In fact, everyone is cordially invited to visit the excavation between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. Come see us!

(Carey Oakley, University of Alabama)

#### EARLY ENGLISH EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA

Adventurers to a New World: The Roanoke Colony, 1585-87, by Charles W. Porter is a recent publication available for \$1.65 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. This slim paperback book is of interest not only for its comments on the early English experience in America, but in its pages are color reproductions of 12 of John White's watercolors. The details of these plates are not that good, but the colors are excellent and well worth the cost of the book.

(John Cottier, Auburn, Alabama)

#### DUES INCREASE AS OF 1975

ANNUAL	\$7.00	SUSTAINING	\$10.00
FAMILY	8.00	JOINT SUSTAINING	12.00
ASSOCIATE	4.00	INSTITUTIONAL	7.00

#### EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

LIFE	\$120.00	JOINT LIFE	\$150.00
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#### IKWA OF THE TEMPLE MOUNDS

Now available is Margaret Searcy's new book on the Mississippian Culture. Order your copy from the University of Alabama Press, P.O. Box 2877, University, Alabama. The cost is \$5.50 and 25% of the sale price goes to the Research Association ONLY if you state : Credit the Sale of This Book to the Alabama Archaeological Society. See page 4 of the August STONES & BONES for more complete details.

## FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FUND DRIVE

There are always good reasons for "putting off until tomorrow" various things you really should be doing today, and we sincerely hope that more of our highly appreciated "regulars" will sit down and send in their contributions for the scheduled excavation of LaGrange Bluff Shelter. Those who didn't procrastinate in recent weeks are:

C. van den Berg, Birmingham, in making his THIRTEENTH consecutive and generous donation is most anxious for us to achieve our very exciting goal at LaGrange.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Stonecypher, Huntsville, bring to SEVEN the number of their contributions during recent years, and help to swell our total.

LIBERTY NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Birmingham, very generously send in their FOURTEENTH consecutive check, evidencing continuing interest in our efforts.

Mrs. J. D. McSpadden, Birmingham, who makes her THIRTEENTH consecutive generous donation to our archaeological fund drives, and anxiously awaits our 1974 excavation.

Lively-Long-Josselyn Pebble Tool Papers, proceeds from the sale of which increase the Dan Josselyn Memorial Fund, make their initial donation this year.

ANONYMOUS BUSINESS DONOR #2, Birmingham, and for the ELEVENTH consecutive year, show their continuing interest in our archaeological endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF TERRY MIMS, Northport, ardent Moundville worker and Newsletter helper, whose untimely passing at a tender age, is mourned by all who knew him.

So now we have received thus far this year 21 individual contributions for a fine total of \$801.00, plus \$18.00 for the Dan Josselyn Memorial Fund, putting us a little over a fourth of the way toward our anticipated excavation expense. To join in, make your tax deductible check payable to the Archaeological Research Association of Alabama, Inc., and mail it to Mr. W. M. Spencer, 2000 First National-Southern Natural Building, Birmingham, Alabama 35203. TODAY!!!

Due to certain problems, prospects do not include excavations beginning at La Grange this September 1 as hoped. Word is still awaited from the United States Department of the Interior-National Park Service on the approval of the matching funds to finance this work. We will let you know as soon as approval is granted.

### DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting titles and abstracts for papers to be given at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference is October 1, 1974. The SEAC will be held at the Atlanta Internationale Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on October 25 - 26, 1974. If you are interested in chairing and organizing a symposium, send the full details of topic and participants as soon as possible. This information should be sent to Dr. Lewis H. Larson, Jr., 103 Martha Muno Hall, West Georgia College, Carrollton, Georgia 30117. Tel. 404-834-6835. There is a time limit of 15 minutes for each paper. You should specify equipment needed and type of projector (slide, overhead). You should plan to bring 200 copies of any maps, charts, diagrams, etc. to be distributed. You should be a member of SEAC to take part in the program. (Editor's Note: The Southeastern Conference is always an exciting meeting, not only as far as the highly educational papers presented and the information on current research in the southeast, but also in the exciting people attending.)

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

### NEW MEMBERS DURING AUGUST

Dr. Clyde W. Brown, 2401 Chestnut Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35216 (Jt. Sustaining)  
Charles T. Swann, Route 2, Cuthbert, Georgia 31740 (Associate)  
Edward L. Speigner, 207 Walnut Drive, Enterprise, Alabama 36330  
Mark DeLeon, Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474  
Bill R. Roberts, 554 Hazeur Curve, Mobile, Alabama 36608 (Associate)  
Library, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 (Institutional)  
Cindy Sims, 2508 Gladstone Drive NE, Huntsville, Alabama 35811 (Associate)  
Jo Anne Schooley, 2519 Vista Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35803  
Vick Elrod, Route 6, Gadsden, Alabama 35901

### CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Anthropological Society will hold the next meeting on September 5 and the guest speaker will be Dr. Albert Casey, professor of pathology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Place and time will be announced in the Birmingham News.

Choccolocco Chapter met August 15 and enjoyed a program presented by Tommy Mullendore on the Morgan Mountain Dig at the Regar Museum, 7:30 pm.

Cullman County Chapter met August 19 at 7:30 pm in City Hall. The speaker was A. W. Beinlich, Jr. who gave an extremely enjoyable talk on "Bones, Antlers, and Tooth Artifacts", complete with color slides.

Huntsville Chapter met on August 20 at 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Center in the Old Twickenham Hotel. John Martz, Chapter President, presented a program entitled "Historic Weeden Site" with color slides of the dig in progress. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm in the Twickenham.

Muscle Shoals Chapter met August 19th at the Indian Mound Museum in Florence. Jim Miller presented an excellent program on the "Restoration of Broken Projectile Points." Approximately a dozen people were present and the chapter is proud to report two new members during the month of August.

Noccalula Chapter met August 1 at the home of Ralph Mackey for a lab session to record Horsepens 40 material prior to the writing up of the summary of the work. The September 5th meeting, at the home of Bill Ashley will continue this recording. A recent picnic at "Doc" Lindsey's Chigger Farm turned up no projectile points and resulted in one lost pair of glasses, but the chapter members had an enjoyable day.

Pastfinders will meet October 10 at the home of Mrs. James Faulkner for a program presented by a speaker from Goodwill Industries. The subject of the meeting will be the "Treasure Chest of Goodwill". The program will include a fashion show comprised of items collected by Goodwill.

Tuscaloosa Chapter meets on the first Tuesday of each month in Room 314 of Ferguson Center at 7:30 pm. The August 6th meeting was held at the Collier-Boone Home (See Page 6) and following the tour, Mack Broome presented a slide program on the excavations at this pre-Civil War home in Tuscaloosa. The September 3rd meeting will involve plans for the September 7th trip to the site of the wreckage of a pre-Civil War steamboat which sank near Tuscaloosa. The October 3rd meeting will be a business meeting for the election of officers and the discussion of plans for the State meeting in December. There are over 30 members of the Tuscaloosa Chapter.

### DEADLINE EXTENDED

Such fine response has been received to the offer of back issues of the newsletter that the deadline has been extended. We would like to help everyone complete their set...let us know what you need by using the July or August order forms.



## 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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To THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for

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## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

This Association, an affiliate of our State Society, is a non-profit corporation, whose aim and purpose is to finance archaeological advancement in Alabama, the FIRST State to provide such financial support through popular subscription. All contributions to this association are deductible in making your income tax return (if, of course, you itemize your deductions). Your check should be made payable to the association as shown above.

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C/O MR. & MRS. JERRY J. NIELSEN

Alabama Archaeological Society



# PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

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

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