Alabama Archaeological Society

Associate Editors Bart Henson **Dorothy Luke**



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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY FILM TO BE PREMIERED

AT THE A. A. S. WINTER MEETING

"Lost in Time: Early Alabama Indians", a one-hour documentary on Alabama prehistory, will be premiered at the winter meeting of the Alabama Archaeological Society to be held on Saturday, November 19, 1983, at the Anniston Museum of Natural History; Anniston, Alabama. Auburn Television, in cooperation with archaeologists throughout the state, has produced this program, which traces the history of Alabama's prehistoric inhabitants from the crossing of the Bering Straits Land Bridge to the arrival of Hernando de Soto.

Consultants on this project included Dr. Joseph O. Vogel and Dr. Richard A. Krause of the University of Alabama; Dr. John W. Cottier, Auburn University; Dr. Craig T. Sheldon, Jr., Auburn University at Montgomery; Dr. C. Roger Nance, University of Alabama at Birmingham; and Dr. Noel R. Stowe, University of South Alabama.

The premiere showing of this exciting film is tentatively scheduled for 3:00 p.m. in the Museum's main auditorium. A panel of discussants including Dr. Joseph O. Vogel and Ms. Maryann Culpepper (Auburn Television) will be on hand after the showing to answer questions or receive comments concerning the film.

This project was supported by grants from the Linn-Henley Charitable Trust of Birmingham and the Committee for the Humanities in Alabama, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Dr. John A. Walthall, author of Prehistoric Indians of the Southeast-Archaeology of Alabama and the Middle South - will be one of our guest speakers. Also, the Anniston Museum of Natural History will provide a large classroom and folding tables for the display of artifacts. Members are encouraged to bring archaeological materials for display. The museum will also provide a staff member to take interested society members on a guided tour of the facility, including the "prep" areas where the life-like exhibits are created. Again, we are looking forward to seeing all of the Society members this year at the Anniston meeting.

For further information about this year's Saturday, November 19 meeting, please contact Dr. Harry O. Holstein, Program Chairman; Jacksonville

State University; Jacksonville, Alabama 36265, or Telephone Number 205/435-9820.

Harry Holstein Jacksonville

COOSA BASIN SURVEY

The Alabama Historical Commission, represented by McDonald Brooms, announces the awarding of a \$25,000 grant to the University of Alabama Office of Archaeological Research and the Museum and Arts Center of Sylacauga for a seven-county search for archaeological sites. The Sylacauga Museum will serve as a center for the project and through gifts from Corporate Foundations of Avondale Mills, Kimberly Clark Corporation, Foote and Davis Printing Company of Atlanta and Blount International of Montgomery. The Museum will provide \$7,000 in matching funds as well as use of their building and volunteer personnel. Donald Comer, Jr., Chairman of the Board of the Sylacauga Museum, will make the presentation. The University of Alabama Office of Archaeological Research will be in charge of the program. The staff is Carey Oakley, Director, James V. Knight, Jr., staff archaeologist and principal investigator; and Carlos Solis, staff archaeologist.

During the next several months a site search, survey and mapping program will take place along the streams that drain into the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers. Counties involved are Chilton, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Shelby, Talladega, Clay, Calhoun, and St. Clair. Local governments, archaeological and historical societies and local artifact collectors will be contacted.

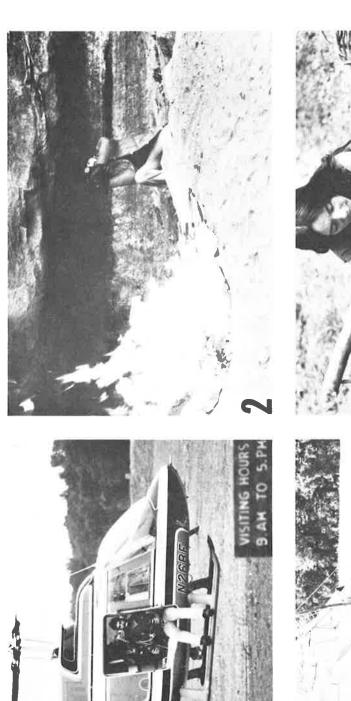
Jean Pinkerton, Museum Curator, says "We need people to contact us at the Museum. We are closed on Monday but we are open all the other afternoons; our phone number is 245-4016. Those who are interested are invited to join our Archaeological Society and enroll in our educational program. We need site information and volunteers for office, lab and field work.

"Would you like to learn how to fill out an Alabama Site Form, to map an archaeological site, to classify projectile points or pottery? We need you!

"We are working to expand the archaeological data base for a much neglected region. We wish to bring together a project to serve the interests of the public, the State of Alabama, the Creek Nation, and the scientific community in a long-term commitment to understanding and managing our immensely important and progressively threatened cultural heritage."

McDonald Brooms Montgomery

EARLY ALABAMA INDIANS" "LOST IN TIME: SCENES FROM THE MAKING OF THE FILM,







Indians of the Woodland Tradition (1000 B.C.-700 A.D.) began manufacturing pottery using native clay. 1. Producer Bruce Kuerten behind videotape camera as helicopter lifts off to shoot aerial footage of There was snow and ice on the ground as Mr. Kuerten with Dr. John Cottier videotaping an excavation at Durante's Bend on the Alabama River. shoots from the shelter of the Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter near Florence, AL. mounds at Mound State Park, Moundville, AL.

SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 1984 OFFICERS OF THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Associate Editor : Mr. Ned Jenkins - Moundville

Associate Editor : Mr. Carey Oakley = Tuscaloosa

PHOTOGRAPHER: Mr. O. D. Hartley - Marion

NEWSLETTER EDITOR : Mr. Amos J. Wright, Jr.- Huntsville

Associate Editor : Mr. B. Bart Henson - Huntsville

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Nominees for Board Members-At-Large- A Three Year Term:

ADKISON, MR. JOHN W. (BILL) - Tuscaloosa

DEAN, MRS. CAROLINE R. - Opelika

KNIGHT, Mr. James Vernon - Birmingham

Moore, Mr. Charles E. - Florence

OAKS, DR. LARRY - Montgomery

SHELDON, DR. CRAIG - Montgomery

1983 Nominating Committee

POTHUNTERS HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR A LONG TIME

David Taitt, assistant to John Stuart as the Creek agent, writes to Stuart November 22, 1772, from Little Tallasies, describing how he had sent John Adam Tapley, "with the evidence" to Pensacola to be prosecuted for felonious crimes. Taitt says Tapley was sent down for "digging up the bodies of the Coweta Indians and likewise for several felonies, but the governor has thought proper not to examine either Tapley or the evidences, for what reason I do not know. This is a bad precedent for several others who have been charged with felonious practices and even owned to them, but this step of Governor Chester has prevented me from sending any more to him."

Tapley had a bad reputation and the Creek chiefs wanted misbehaving traders such as Tapley removed from the Creek country, but with little success. Just a few years later, when Bartram traveled through the Creek country, Tapley was again in trouble for being caught in bed with one of the chief's wives and was about to have his ears cut off. He pleaded with Bartram to ask George Galphin to intercede for him. Apparently Galphin did successfully save Tapley's ears.

Tapley was likely robbing graves of recent burials where he knew first-hand of the valuables (perhaps silver ornaments) that were buried with the body. There is an analogy in two parts which relates to today - over 200 years later: 1) People were robbing the graves of Indians for their artifact content, and 2) When caught, it was almost impossible to prosecute.

The above information is from Volume 5, Documents of the American Revolution, by K. G. Davies.

The Editors

E. S. A. F. ANNUAL MEETING

The 50th annual meeting of the Eastern States Archeological Federation will be hosted by the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, November 4, 5 and 6, 1983, in Salem, Massachusetts. The banquet speaker is Dr. William Fitzhugh, Curator of North American Archaeology, Smithsonian Institution. His topic will be "Boulder Pits to Long-Houses: Socio-Cultural Development in the Labrador Maritime Archaic 7500-3500 B.P.

For more information on the meeting or to register, contact John Grimes, Department of Anthropology; Peabody Museum of Salem; Salem, Massachusetts 01970.

The Editors

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

The Cantey Plantation and Fort Mitchell, Alabama: Archaeological and Historical Investigations at the Proposed Region IV National Cemetery. Auburn University Archaeological Monograph 7, June 1983. By Robert T. Morgan; Contributions by John W. Cottier, Gregory A. Waselkov and Brian M. Wood. Paperbound, 99 pages including 11 figures and maps. \$10. Available from: Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Auburn University; Auburn, Alabama 36849.

The following paragraphs, from the report, provide a synopsis of the area, sites, and their significance.

"The Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Auburn University, recently completed a program of intensive survey, testing and evaluation of the proposed site of a Region IV National Cemetery in Russell County, Alabama.

"Their goal was to identify cultural resources located within the limits of the proposed national cemetery and to assess their potential as significant sources of archaeological or historical information. Such potential has been recognized previously by the fact that the entire project area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Known as Fort Mitchell site (1RU102), this National Register property covers approximately 130 ha (321 acres) and includes: the fort and its outbuildings; the Creek Indian Trading Factory; the Benton-Crowell Tavern; the fort hospital and cemetery; the Creek Indian Agency and the home of Colonel John Crowell, the Creek Indian Agent; and the Cantey Plantation.

"The project was sponsored by the Veterans Administration and administered by the National Park Service - Southeast Region. Survey and historical background research revealed several historic sites, including portions of Fort Mitchell, a U. S. military post constructed in 1813 by the Georgia militia during the Creek Indian War. In 1817 the Creek trading house or factory was moved to Fort Mitchell from Fort Hawkins, Georgia. From 1821 until 1836, the Creek Indian Agency was also located at Fort Mitchell with Colonel John Crowell as agent from 1821 to 1832. The fort served as an assembly point for Creeks before their forced removal to Indian territory west of the Mississippi.

"Fort Mitchell, located near the entrance of the Old Federal Road in Alabama, is one of the most significant landmarks in the middle Chattahoochee Valley. Built as one of the first semi-permanent U. S. military garrisons in the region, it, along with the Trading Factory and the Indian Agency which are located at Fort Mitchell, played an important role in the history of the U. S. and Creek Nation relationships.

"The Cantey Plantation, located about one-half-mile north of the fort, was the home of James Cantey, a wealthy planter and veteran of the Mexican War. During the Civil War he served in the Confederate Army, first as Colonel of the 15th Alabama Regiment and later promoted to Brigadier General.

"In all, five archaeological sites were identified. American Indian components included one Early Archaic site, one late Middle Woodland site and four Historic Creek habitation sites. Historic American sites included two early nineteenth century components, one which related to the fort and the other to the Indian agency and factory. Three additional sites were attributed to the later nineteenth-to-twentieth century plantation occupation."

The presentation of both the archaeological field survey results and the archival/historical research make this a particularly useful document for the region. Recommendations for further research include a number of field/site questions, preservation topics, and site management policies. Notwithstanding the \$10 cost, the editors recommend the report for its contributions to the southeastern Alabama archaeological record.

The Editors

BOOK REVIEW

Volume III, Archaeological Investigations in the Gainesville Lake area - Gainesville Lake Area Lithics: Chronology, Technology and Use. By Blaine Ensor. From the Office of Archaeological Research, University of Alabama. Three-hundred three pages; photos and illustrations.

This is a study of the lithic material (300,000 artifacts) from five excavated sites. It includes the source of the material, stoneworking technology, projectile point classification. There are four appendices - Glossary of Terms, Thermal Alteration Experiments, the Physical Evidence and Projectile Point Morphology: Steps Toward a Formal Account. The report contains many photos and illustrations and makes a fine addition to the lithic knowledge of that area. This volume - and all five volumes of this project - is available from the University of Alabama Press.

The Editors

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter

Several members of the Huntsville Chapter attended Dr. H. L. Martin's "Indian Culture Seminar" at the Wheeler Wildlife Refuge Interpretive Center on Sunday, September 18. Dr. Martin is a chief of the Cherokee Indians; he spoke to the A. A. S. at the Annual Meeting in Birmingham in 1981. Dr. Martin's lecture was followed by a fascinating film entitled "Indian Pottery of San Ildefonso", featuring Maria Martinez, the famous maker of black pottery. (A piece of Maria's work is in the Birmingham Museum of Art.) Mr. John Varden displayed part of his artifact collection before and after the lecture and film.

PUBLICATIONS	S AVAILABLE	
Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 13-18, eac Vol. 20-24 (\$2.50 to Members)		
Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations (Journal of Alabama Arcl	haeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint, \$5	.00 pp
Special Publication 1 — Fort Mitchell	\$2	.00 pp
Special Publication 2 — The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Be	end, Dallas County, Alabama	.50 pp
Special Publication 3 — Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe	<i>Bend</i> \$6	.50 pp
Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types	\$10	.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - Pebble Tool Paper		
Investigations in Russell Cave, published by the National Park Servi	ice \$7	.50 pp
Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology (Juvenile)	\$7	.00 pp
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Alabama Archaeological Society

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