

Alabama Archaeological Society

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AUG 31 1964

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT ON 1964 OPERATIONS

Work was continued by the 2nd semester crew at the Landers Site (Ms 269) on Little Shoal Creek near Asbury Community in Marshall County. In one of the few remaining squares a burial was encountered - the only burial found during the 1964 season. It was in a tightly flexed position near the back wall of the shelter and very near the surface. Preliminary examination indicated that the individual was probably a 12 or 13 year old male. In direct association with the burial was a good Hamilton point, also a large clay bead with 3 small shell beads inside the clay bead. The site itself contained a fair amount of pottery in the upper levels - limestone, clay-grit and shell tempered. The earliest flint material encountered in the lower levels of the site included Morrow Mountain Round Base, Big Sandy, Dalton & Lerma.

The crew was then moved to Weaver Rock (Dk 50) located in DeKalb County. This site had shown great promise when it was tested in the spring of 1964. The site was small but very deep - in some places trenches went down 8½ feet. The stratigraphy was very clear with 5 easily visible zones. Cultural material was almost exclusively Archaic. Flint artifacts (already classified by J. W. Cambron) included uniface tools, Crawford Creek, Kirk Corner Notched, Morrow Mountain and Plevna. Although large rocks were not encountered here, heavy rains made it impossible to use the mechanical screen, and screening had to be done by hand in the creek, slowing operations considerably.

In the meantime, Girl Scouts of the Deep South Council, Mobile, had commenced excavating 2 shelters near the Asbury Community in Marshall County, under the supervision of their Directors & Dave DeJarnette. The job was very capably done, and cultural material similar to that found at other sites in the vicinity was recovered.

Work was next commenced at the Concord Sites on Scarham Creek in Marshall County, Ms 266 & Ms 267. Although the midden at Ms 266 was very shallow due to rock falls, it was particularly interesting because it contained a historic component. Several gun flints and numerous pieces of European china were recovered.

Ms267 unfortunately had been badly vandalized. The large pothole was squared up and the dirt from this operation screened, producing a large amount of material that had to be classified as "debris". This material included everything from Kirk, Dalton & Eva to Madison. Despite the condition of the site, it was possible to dig several trenches, establish the stratigraphy and get a clear vertical picture. Besides worked flint, the site produced a large amount of pottery and worked bone. There was a cave in the back wall of the shelter leading into a large room. This was investigated but was found to be void of cultural remains. On August 18 the Concord Sites were completed and all equipment & material were moved to the laboratory at Moundville for extensive study.

During this 1964 season, 10 small shelter sites were completely excavated. This work has gone a long way to help fill in some big gaps in our knowledge of the prehistory of the Tennessee Valley. These small bluff shelters which are so numerous along the

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creeks on Sand Mountain have never really been systematically investigated before this season. They have been found to be consistent and highly predictable; which, from an archaeological point of view, is a major accomplishment. Further, it has been shown that, in these small shelters, what is absent is just as revealing as what is present. Summarizing, it is believed that the 1964 season has been a very productive one from any point of view, and sites on Sand Mountain would be well worth another season's investigation.

!!!! ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRESS !!!!!

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING? That is THE question on which hinges the worth of all our digging & donating. On a visit to the dig we found Dave a bit dirty, a bit disheveled - and a bit delirious with the good prospects of learning a lot from the numerous small shelters excavated this summer - each to tell a story, a piece of the jigsaw puzzle to put together toward reconstructing the entire picture.

Dave's PROGRESS REPORT last month, for example, reported a shelter with "an unusual number of Big Sandy I points" and not 50 yards away another shelter "had no Big Sandy points, but did produce several Dalton points". You will recall that the finding of Big Sandy I and Dalton points in the "Dalton midden" at the Stanfield-Worley occasioned some surprise, and much conjecture. We now have another observation to assist conjecture. Were these 2 types made by the same people, or by unrelated bands of hunters? We can't THINK facts - we must observe them. When we get enough of such observed facts, we can fit the bits & pieces into a mosaic which makes sense. Every little piece really amounts to a major triumph.

If "further laboratory study" confirms the field observation last month of what "appeared to be the basal end of a lanceolate form which may have been broken in a fluting attempt...4 levels under the Big Sandy points", we have one of the most needed observations in the eastern U.S. Four levels, 16 inches, below Big Sandy, with an unusually firm dating of over 9,000 years at the Stanfield-Worley, would suggest a considerably older date for our fluted points. We continually see doubts expressed concerning this unanswered question. It is not too much to say that the archaeological world is waiting for conclusive evidence.

We have an immense advantage in our unique approach of year-around exploration, making DISCOVERY the MOST IMPORTANT facet of archaeology - instead of leaving the great discoveries to happy accident. And we have not heard of another area in America with a greater archaeological potential. Determination, donating, digging - that is all we need to assure many years of continuing ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRESS.

FORT MIMS - SITE OF A SOUTH ALABAMA MASSACRE

Mr. Lawrence Marks, Chief of the Parks Division, State of Alabama Conservation Dept., is arousing renewed interest in Fort Mims, an early 19th century fort in South Alabama where, it is said, more than 500 Americans were massacred on August 30, 1813, by the Creek Indians under the leadership of Red Eagle (William Weatherford). The site of the fort is believed to be on property in Baldwin County which has been deeded to the State with the proviso that the State preserve and develop the area. Mr. Marks has approached our Society through Mr. Milo B. Howard Jr., Archivist, Dept. of Archives & History, Montgomery, & Vice President of the Alabama Historical Assn., to invite the Society to cooperate in the program of investigation and development of the fort site. If the property deeded to the State contains the actual fort site, Alabama should put forth every effort to preserve the site for historical study and, when funds are available, for development into a park and museum area.

The period during which the fort was utilized precedes by some 20 to 25 years the exodus of most of the Indians from Alabama and, archaeologically, should provide objects of "white" and Indian manufacture which can be utilized in bridging the historic period and the proto-historic.

Mr. Marks has been informed through letter to Mr. Howard that the Society is indeed in-

terested in the Fort Mims project and our Society has offered the recommendation that the services of a professional archaeologist be obtained to guide investigation of the area; also, that the Society will cooperate in conducting a systematic surface survey of the area thought to contain the site of the fort, as the initial step in making an archaeological investigation.

The Society is grateful that Mr. Marks has invited its participation in the Fort Mims project, for it presents us with another opportunity to utilize our interest and energy to further Alabama archaeology.

GREATEST CENTENNIAL OVERLOOKED?

It suddenly occurs that in 1963 we saw no mention, and made no mention, of what might be man's greatest centennial. In 1863 Sir Charles Lyell, "father of geology", published "The Antiquity of Man". It was so daring, even following Darwin's "Origin of Species" in 1859, that in a letter, Jan. 10, 1860, Darwin had cautioned him; and on Jan. 14 wrote J. D. Hooker: "Lyell is going at man with an audacity that frightens me". Boucher de Perthes had been struggling for a lifetime to prove the antiquity of man by the association of artifacts with bones of extinct animals in deep gravels of ancient river terraces. Even Darwin, in a letter to Lyell March 17, 1863, admitted that he "looked at his (de Perthes) book many years ago, and am ashamed to think that I concluded the whole was rubbish!" Those were the days, recall, when mammoth bones were exhibited as "the bones of Adam" - whose height was thereby computed to be 123 feet 9 inches! It was in April 1861 that Lyell visited gravel pits, and as he subsequently wrote in his "Antiquity of Man": "I...for the first time, saw evidence which satisfied me of the chronological relations of those 3 phenomena - the antique tools, the extinct mammalia and the glacial formation". Darwin came around immediately and wrote Lyell April 12, 1861: "It is grand. What a fine long pedigree you have given the human race!" It was indeed grand - man had at long last been discovered by himself. Now he could begin to study himself, and manage himself for his still greater glory. Can you think of a more important centennial?

The next time someone asks you "Why archaeology?", you might tell how it led to the discovery of man, and how it rescued man from fantastic myths. And there remains much for us yet to discover, and a deal of nonsense from which man must yet be rescued - if he is to extend and improve his "fine long pedigree".

??? \$7,000 \$\$\$\$\$\$ OUR 1964 FUND DRIVE \$\$\$\$\$\$ \$7,000 ???
Full Contract Made With University!

MR. & MRS. ARCHAEOLOGY in Alabama - of course meaning Mr. & Mrs. David L. DeJarnette - again donate to our dig - which is somewhat like "carrying coals to Newcastle". For they have "carried a torch" for Alabama archaeology for many years - through thick and thin - often thin and frustrating years. They were immediately as enthusiastic as any of us about our "far-fetched dream", as Dr. E. Mott Davis called it in the Texas Newsletter, of raising funds by subscription for highly selected Early Man excavations. Dave has done a tremendous job in proving that archaeology can use the amateur movement in a really big way - the success of our Alabama Archaeological Society has been even "further fetched" than we had dreamed. Dave's automobile accident last month made us very acutely aware of how fortunate we, and Alabama archaeology, are to have able, patient, cooperative, enthusiastic professional assistance.

Matthew Lively's donation reminds us of a delightful story, date 1961, our first year of a full summer dig. The fund drive for only a 2-weeks dig in 1960 had not been promising. We still had to prove it could be done, despite all predictions to the contrary, and much hung in the balance. Matt threw himself into the task with tremendous enthusiasm, writing letters far and wide in addition to soliciting locally - bringing in over SIXTY donations, despite having no large group contacts. Equally important, he provided our Newsletter much inspirational comment and undoubtedly played a large part in putting our fund that year over the mark by \$1,844.78 (which saved our necks in 1962!).

One of Matt's soliciting procedures was to frequent THE LITTLE ARISTOCRAT CAFE and graciously accept a beer from an intended victim. Over their beers they got pretty buddy-buddy about archaeology, and Matt generally came off the victor. But after several of these lubricated sessions Matt said he found himself saying such things as: "It is a business to do pleasure with you".....It has been our pleasure to know Matt these many years, and we are pleased to announce that his long dedication will shortly result in an important, and surprising, contribution to Alabama, and American, archaeology - it may surprise some folks as much as did the revolutionary discovery of the Folsom point in 1926!

William K. Keel, Keel & Co., Atlanta, along with his donation sends the first letter of its kind we have received: "I'm a new member and am not acquainted with your operation. Please let me know how it is organized, what its budget is and what its purpose is. I may be interested in 'raising my ante' a little." That struck us as an unusually reasonable and intelligent approach - what have you got and what is it worth? And archaeology needs UNDERSTANDING most of all - EDUCATED giving seems likely to be our only answer. We can "stand on our record", as the politicians say, and our potential appears to be even greater. We have no "professional solicitors" in our organization and were "driven to this extremity" only by great needs and great possibilities - which we hope to share with enough people to FINANCE THROUGH UNDERSTANDING.

THE MAUVILLA CHAPTER sends a donation, via Secy. Bert O. Yerkes - a fine year indeed for Chapter donations. We were thinking that Mobile must feel rather remote from digs in north Alabama, and in thanking Mr. Yerkes, Pres. Earle D. Getchell & members, we mentioned the Paleo problem in south Alabama. On "negative evidence" some have concluded Paleo Man did not get down that way. We have long known that both man and mammoth retreated to the southwest before the glacial climate, and more recently evidence has been found in Florida springs. South Alabama of 10,000 years ago is now under many feet of alluvial deposit, and rivers have changed their courses. By using air photographs, gravel companies discover old river channels, and fluted points have come from at least one gravel pit. An archaeological excavation of such a site would be a notable contribution to counteract a lot of "negative thinking".

J. Andrew Douglas - kilts, bagpipes, "The Lady of the Lake". In fact, we are reminded of the history of Scotland itself by this family, in which runs the blood of several royal families. The history books bear out the fact that they lived up to the family motto on the Douglas arms - Jamais arriere - never behind. And our own Andrew the Douglas has been "never behind" in generous support ever since archaeological interest began to stir in Mobile 4 years ago.

J. G. Stelzenmuller and J. Birney Work - we owe apologies. They sent donations to Rodger Schaefer along with annual dues. To simplify bookkeeping, the State Society clears accounts at the end of the year. Not having these donations on our bank deposit slips, we somehow overlooked them. Thanks to alert Bea Harris for catching our errors, and again apologies. The donations are truly appreciated.

Arthur B. Dunning's donation of identified Alabama rocks to sell for the fund has aroused wide interest. As an indication of the quality of these sets we may mention that Mr. E. S. Ginnane purchased a set on sight, and he has "been around", and for a considerable time - nearly 90 years! It is good to see his interest as keen and comments as incisive as ever. Then came an order from E. S. Greer Jr., Jasper, and David Kerns, from far St. Paul, Minnesota! A few of these excellent sets are still available, 25 specimens to the box (\$1.25), 2 boxes (\$2.50) supply 50 different specimens. Many unusual - zinc ore, chromium ore, copper ore, lead ore, aluminum ore, manganese ore, 6 kinds of iron ore, gem agate, etc. Did you know all these are found in Alabama?

Gordon E. Sibley - that man! We don't know the population of Albertville, a lovely town with plenty of "living space", but population-wise Mr. Sibley surely must be establishing a soliciting record. To the 16 generous Albertville donors listed in our July issue, he adds these:

FOOD BASKET, S. Ray Daniel
APPLETON FURNITURE CO., Shelton Appleton
BEE-LINE EXPRESS, INC., Woody W. Hall

Last year we sent out a considerable trial mailing to Birmingham industries and professional people - and got 2 replies! Gordon is no doubt a better salesman than we are, but Albertville folks must also be blessed with a high average of civic interest. Thanks indeed - and remember to "trade with our advertisers"!

G. W. Jones & Sons, Consulting Engineers, Huntsville - and "steady customers" ever since they discovered us 3 years ago. Some come and some go - and some stay. Our sturdy backlog of "regulars" form the backbone of our hopes for continuance. Like Rome, the archaeological history of Alabama will not be built in a day, and we greatly appreciate those who have dug in for a long haul.

Mr. & Mrs. U. G. Roberts Jr., send the above along with their own THIRD check - thus being "double donors". And wouldn't that be a fine aim for all of us? We can't all set the town on fire like Gordon Sibley, but most of us must know at least one person who would like to know our story and join us. We especially suggest interesting your employer, as Mr. Roberts has done - they wouldn't be employers if they were not smart people, able to appreciate a sound proposition.

MUSCLE SHOALS CHAPTER - golly, our Chapters are really setting a record this year. And we realize that Chapter dues are not large, and Chapter treasuries consequently not fat. Thanks indeed to Treas. Harry J. Baker, Pres. John Carroll & members. Pleasant memories of you folks still linger from the Annual Meeting you hosted, and the valiant work you put into the Stanfield-Worley.

A. B. Hooper III, Insurance, Albertville, sends along with his check information that his boys, Bob & James, also participated by way of the Nocalula fund-raising scheme - making this quite a family affair. And Dave tells us Mr. Hooper has been very helpful. But we admit Mr. Hooper has us a bit worried. We had the pleasure of meeting him in Albertville recently - again, he told us! We couldn't find him in our memory, and wondered how we mislaid such a pleasant personality! It couldn't be age, of course! We prefer to blame it on the fact that we have met so many nice people of late years - as one does in archaeology - and thanks to all.

Tom Cornell, for example. He writes: "Have been tied up with the Boy Scout Jamboree all summer". You'd have to go a long way to find anyone nicer or more able to work with Boy Scouts - and that is one excuse we can accept for neglect of archaeology. If it could be called that - we expect those Scouts are getting some sound archaeological training which will "last a lifetime".

McKendree H. Floyd Jr. had a very good excuse to forget this year, and an even better excuse to be "financially embarrassed" - and having been a very generous donor from the beginning he also had "a way out". There was also another voice in the matter - just as we thought Mr. Floyd might join up with us "happy bachelors" he got married. But he really is too nice a fellow to remain a grumpy misogynist (not that we are, we hasten to add - we think girls are real nice). We note Mrs. Floyd lets her man go out with his cronies, E. S. Ginnane & Matt Lively, and hope she too will get the happy habit of furrow following - and maybe take on that little chore of washing & marking the family artifacts - the perfect wife! We wish them much happiness, and thanks for not forgetting despite everything.

Mr. & Mrs. Rodger L. Schaefer - Rodg & Credith - just back from a vacation in the great golden West, send their usual generous donation. But they were stingy about their trip - not a word. Perhaps they are still breathless with the grandeur of the West, one of the most unspoiled areas left on earth - no thanks to man and his increasingly disastrous overpopulation, but to the immense arid regions and great mountain chains, which we hope will continue to defy man's ghetto ambitions. We hope that it was a wonderful vacation, imbibing some of the peace and beauty of nature. Rodger, of course, is one

of the dedicated and valiant few Alabama archaeology couldn't have got along without, our overworked State Secretary - who really deserves a super-vacation.

Alvin V. Walls - and memories. The Birmingham Anthropological Society was alone in those days, and our Secy. rarely had to take off his shoes at a meeting - he could usually count attendance on his fingers. And he could count on Alvin, our Librarian, being there. But Alvin retired years ago to Bremen, where there is contact with Nature, and peace, and a lot of archaeology. But he hasn't forgotten - he donated the first, the second, the third, the fourth and now the FIFTH year. And he recommends that we read "Digging for America's Past", Holiday Magazine, Sept., saying: "I think you would find it interesting". Arriving just as we are about to go to press, Alvin's note reminds us that despite the considerable work involved, our fund drive enables us to hear from our friends once a year - and the friends of archaeology.

GOOD FINANCIAL REPORT - - - - -	\$6,409.85
Our "missing link" cut to - - - - -	590.15
FULL CONTRACT signed with University of Alabama - - - - -	?,???.??

OUR PROBLEM: We record only 160 donors, 43 of these non-members, as compared with our 1964 ESAF Directory membership rating of 530. Do we, the great ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY which the nation has been bragging about, want it that way? After 5 years of wide publicity, and notable archaeological results, do we want to make the tragic admission that so few are really interested in archaeology? Our DONORS are really the great new archaeological discovery we have made.....they make possible the most important continuing archaeological program in America today.....the only annual fund drive in archaeology.....name and fame and progress, and great archaeological discoveries. May we add YOUR name, YOUR vote for archaeology, to this proud list?

CHAPTER NEWS

The Birmingham Chapter meets on the 1st Friday of each month at the Birmingham Public Library. No report received.

The East Alabama Chapter at Auburn will hold its next meeting in October.

The Huntsville Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Epworth Methodist Church. At the July meeting, Mr. David L. DeJarnette gave a fine report on the summer dig at Asbury, with excellent color slides. At the August meeting, Mr. Joe Watkins, Pres. of the Birmingham Chapter, will entertain with slides & discourse on "Maya Culture of Yucatan", Part II.

The Marshall County Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Reid's Restaurant in Guntersville. At the August meeting, Mr. D. L. DeJarnette gave a resume' of summer digs in Marshall County, with slides, covering all sites from the Asbury Rock Shelter through the Concord sites, stating he was very much impressed with the work done and his anxiety to study all material recovered. Chapter members are actively continuing their surface collecting and making interesting finds.

The Mauvilla Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Mobile Public Library. The next meeting will be Sept. 21st. Mr. Earle D. Getchell assumed the Presidency due to the unavoidable resignation of former President Jack Friend.

The Montgomery Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. No report received,

The Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets on the 1st Monday of each month at the First Federal Penthouse, Decatur. No report received.

The Muscle Shoals Chapter meets on the 4th Monday of each month at Wesleyan Hall, Room 8, Florence State College. At the July meeting, the Don Smith family, just returned from an extended tour of West & Southwest U.S., gave a very interesting talk with color slides on archaeology in those parts, as well as scenes in Mesa Verde Park. His conver-

sations with local "collectors" brought many new details to light. Mr. H. J. Holland also contributed to a fine program by displaying a huge collection of artifacts cover-cultures from Paleo through Early Archaic.

The Nocalula Chapter meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Gadsden Public Library. At the August meeting, Bennett Graham & Cary B. Oakley, who are conducting official salvage digs along the Coosa, gave further reports on "finds" & their lack, at Cooper, Murphree & Green farms. They will shortly return to Woods Island for further work in the basin, and solicited additional assistance from Chapter members.

The Selma Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Meadowview Christian Church. At the August meeting, the Museum Committee reported on progress toward readying the displays to be placed in the Sturdevant Museum. Mr. John Cottier reported on work being done at the Liddel Site in Wilcox County, and Mr. Joe Benthall reported on the site survey he is directing in Dallas County. Mr. & Mrs. John S. Faulk Jr. gave an illustrated account of the several days they spent at the State Society's summer digs.

The Tuscaloosa Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Room 24, Martin ten Hoor Hall, University of Alabama. No report received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS FOR AUGUST: (Welcome to each of the 14 of you!)

David Allman, Route 4, Oneonta, Ala.
Michael Anderson, 337 Textile Ave., Albertville, Ala.
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Brooks, Springville, Ala.
Mr. & Mrs. K. B. Burttram, Route 1, Springville, Ala.
Clay Charlton, Route 13 Box 908, Birmingham, Ala. 35216
Lawson Corley, 8952 Glendale Drive, Birmingham 6, Ala.
F. Manning Durham, P. O. Box 2775, Monroe, La.
L. B. Eason, Route 3, Albertville, Ala.
J. C. Kirkpatrick, P. O. Box 557, Sylacauga, Ala.
Frank Matchan, P. O. Box 810, Sylacauga, Ala.
F. M. Sullivan, P. O. Box 276, Springville, Ala.
Henry I. Terry, Route 2 Box 20, Springville, Ala.
Thomas P. White, 525 Palisade Drive, Florence, Ala.
Glenn A. Winkler, P. O. Box 392, Owensboro, Ky.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Robert W. Pierce, Sigma Chi Fraternity, University, Ala. (as of September)
Lt.Col. Richard A. Plumley, 328 Combat Support Gr., Richards-Gebour AFB, Mo.

CHANGE OF NAME:

Decatur, Ala.

From Decatur Public Library to Wheeler Basin Regional Library, 207 Church St., N.E.,

A SPRINGVILLE CHAPTER? Noting 4 new members from the Springville area, your State Society sincerely hopes this renewed activity in that section is an indication that you folks will shortly be ready to become our 12th Alabama Chapter!

Frank Manley, new member from Atlanta, writes, commenting favorably on his first (Aug.) copy of STONES & BONES; inquires about typology: "Where can I find out about Pine Trees, Daltons, Kirk Corner Notched, and the rest?" We referred him to our Stanfield-Worley Report until our Point Book is published. He also expresses envy "of your account of Alabama activity." Mr. M, you're "us" now! "Our" account & "our" activity!

Lawson Corley, new member, whose business card announces he's "Representing Liberty National Life Ins. Co. (our generous 4-year business donor!) in Birmingham", upon joining this month, writes: "I want to be a member of the Birmingham Chapter...have a collection from 3 states; 3 countries in South America". Welcome, Mr. Corley, we'll ex-

pect you at the Birmingham Chapter meeting the first Friday in September - but won't expect a program from you before October.

Robert W. Pierce (student-member-crew worker '64) writes, in one page, more nice things about more nice people than we could get into one paragraph - Mr. Spencer, Mr. DeJarnette, the Thompsons, the Harrises, Margaret Clayton and "others I met". Bob's major as of now is geology, but he sounds a fair prospect to "go ape" for anthropology.

Dan'l Josselyn, State Society and Research Fund worker extraordinaire, proudly announces that he laid aside an insurmountable backlog of work to visit our summer dig. For one who fain would admit he "calls 'em as he sees 'em", Dan dug up some mighty handsome adjectives to describe Dave's geniality as host, his enthusiasm for the work and the progress of the dig in general.

F. Manning Durham, Monroe, La., writes Secy. Schaefer he is "highly impressed with the objectives and friendliness of your (now "our", Mr. D) state organization. Well, we're right much impressed with this new member, we are. Two years ago, he helped to organize the Northeast Louisiana Archaeological Society - the "only senior...organization in in the State...60 members...monthly meetings...excellent programs...a monthly bulletin...field trips to Poverty Point and...surrounding area." He serves this organization as Vice President; also is "sponsor of...The Archaeology Club of Ouachita Parish High School"! Whoops! Sounds like the kind of man the old saw tells us to call on in time of trouble.

RUSSELL CAVE DEVELOPMENT: A newspaper clipping dated in Washington, D.C., August 11th, states that the National Park Service plans to award a \$21,488 contract on that date for cave development and trails at Russell Cave National Monument, Bridgeport, Ala.

Dr. H. M. Wormington writes us: "Thank you so much for sending me the new dates for the Stanfield-Worley. It is nice to have these for I am presenting a paper on 'New Developments in North American Prehistory' at the Americanist meetings in Spain in late August." And isn't it nice that WE can make our own little contributions to the knowledge of man?

Dr. Jeremiah F. Epstein, University of Texas, writes us: "I must admit, before I ran into your gang, I didn't think Alabama had much to offer, but I sure have changed my mind." And he adds: "Unquestionably other states should follow your lead in getting popular support and University cooperation." It is good of Dr. Epstein to send us such competent assurance of both our archaeological potential & our method of exploring it.

Ruth V. Evans, University of North Carolina, published a thought-provoking critical examination of archaeology in a recent issue of Southern Indian Studies. Among the several mentions which particularly interested us was: "no description and analysis which might approach comprehensiveness".

Arthur B. Dunning is preparing an important paper on lithic material for our Journal. Dr. A. G. Long Jr. has provided Arthur with a macro-photograph, some 5 times natural size, to show surface texture for purposes of lithic identification. We hope it starts a trend. (Ruth Evans please note).

Anne Faulk's minutes of the 6th meeting of the Selma Chapter mention plans for a pottery board (by David Chase) for identification purposes, maps, and Chapter numbers for sites to avoid confusion. They are coming along fast - how many older Chapters can match this? "Mrs. Walker volunteered to furnish refreshments" - they also do things in style!

Dave DeJarnette, Ed Mahan, Doc Long and Jack Cambron are referred to in the April issue of "American Antiquity" and Jack Cambron, and Jack Cambron & Spencer Waters in the July issue. Our pride swells a bit more every time we see evidence that our members are doing good work, adding to the store of source material which will be required in vast quantity to "decipher" our archaeology.

THE FLINT CHIPPER, Marshall County Chapter Newsletter, A. B. Hooper III, Editor, continues illustrations & descriptions of projectile point types, interestingly differentiating a "Dependence" type from resembling Pine Tree, Decatur & Lost Lake (Cypress Creek) types. When we can differentiate between all similar types exactly, then work out their genetic relationships - that will be PROGRESS. (If you wish to join the Chapter and receive these typological discussions, address Mr. Hooper at P. O. Box 216, Albertville, Ala.)

THE OLD SARGE, the irreplaceable Arthur George Smith, writes: "It seems that I can't pick up a newsletter lately without finding something nice written about myself. It makes me think I am reading postmortem eulogies antemortem. But it is NICE." Well, Sarge, we can't find even a "reasonable facsimile" to replace you. So we figured you'd want to stick around and read about what a legend you've become. How about writing your autobiography, straight from the shoulder as you write to your friends? Having fortunately received some of those letters, we know you even surpass your legends.

Margaret Perryman (Mrs. Francis C. Smith), passed along to us the above whimsical letter from the Sarge. She had written him following the notice of his illness (but donating anyhow!) in our July issue. Margaret is one of the very few who knows the value of writing letters. What she has accomplished, directly & indirectly, with her letters during the 5 years she has donated to our fund drive, would fill this Newsletter. Her letter accompanying the above says she & Francis had "a swell time" at the summer field Annual, "the students are wonderful...they made such a fine impression on us". More Georgia petroglyphs are showing up (see her series in the Tenn. Archaeologist) and "A professor in Germany is quite interested in my petroglyphs, so is an Irish fellow and a writer in Mexico" - international Margaret! We also note Margaret again in "Archaeology" on "Salvage at Carters Quarters". It's getting to be a task to keep up with her.

Harold W. Krueger, Technical Director, Geochron Laboratories, Inc., informs us of improved double methods of dating bone (carbonate & collagen \$250) and shell (carbonate & conchiolin \$280) which should be all to the good. (Address 24 Blackstone St., Cambridge 39, Massachusetts.)

William S. Fowler, Curator, Bronson Museum, Attleboro, Mass., writes in reference to our mention in the last issue of the Byers' date on the Bull Brook site from bits of charcoal which had been blown around: "I am reliably informed by William E. Eldridge ...that charcoal taken by him...came from an open hearth..." We were aware that Eldridge & Vaccaros discovered the site, and collected 2 samples of charcoal, but we do not recall having seen reference to a hearth and have not seen the Eldridge & Vaccaros report in the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, Volume 13.

DON'T SELL RUSSIA SHORT on archaeology, at least. According to the current COWA Survey, "in 1959 over 50 expeditions" were sent to the Caucasus & Transcaucasia alone, in addition to the work of "numerous local archaeologists". Among the many interesting discoveries were a human skeleton showing possible mixture of sapiens & Neanderthal traits, the most northern Mousterian site to date, and the first Paleolithic paintings to be discovered in the Soviet Union - tentatively, early Magdalenian.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN ARCHAEOLOGY, according to COWA, has not prospered lately because of the political & military situations. Burma, in any event, takes little interest in anything but "historic...Buddhist sites and structures". And "the Ford Foundation has assisted in the development of the Museum of the International Institute for Advanced Buddhist Studies". Has American archaeology no good "lobbyists"?

North Vietnam reports on a very interesting site with Abbeyvillian & Chellian hand-axes, and Clactonian & Levalloisian flakes.

Thailand reports an extremely interesting shelter excavation, with midden 4.5 meters deep, from Paleolithic up through pottery, with excellent stratigraphy and "sequence of materials". The particularly interesting feature is that the shelter contained many of the crude "pebble tools" and they "seem to have undergone only slight

refinement from the bottom of the site to the top"! (These COWA Surveys & Bibliographies are issued twice a year, and every 2 years complete the cycle of world archaeology, with the exception of the Americas. \$9.00 per year. Address COWA, 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge 38, Mass.)

"COLLECTORS WERE DIGGING HERE when we arrived", Dave told us when we visited one of our summer shelter excavations. This is a pretty horrible & tragic situation. What to do? There is little chance of our reaching, much less educating, all these people who turn valuable information into worthless old rocks. What would you think of a letter, by Dave, for our members to distribute among property owners, explaining the situation, and asking them not to allow anyone to dig on their land without written permission from Dave? That, with a friendly approach, might in time do considerable to educate property owners and promote archaeological conservation.

Leon J. Salter - well, just back from a European tour - Paris, beautiful Copenhagen & Stockholm, Amsterdam, London. "I found it rather boresome...Much mesolithic/neolithic material in Copenhagen's natural history museum but little or nothing in the London Museum...In Europe the noise, traffic and mobs drove me nuts...Lugging baggage around...my right arm is 3 inches longer than my left!...Give me a car and our great broad west anytime...a joy to get back." Good old America! The home news: "I was highly pleased with the info in Stones & Bones of August. Tell Dave it's DRUNKS who come out unscathed in such auto accidents! - relaxed, they just bounce around." (Disliking unconfirmed gossip, we hasten to confirm that. Judging by our visit to the dig, Dave has been fairly intoxicated, with archaeology, all summer. J. Henry McCary, on the drive home, remarked how Dave's enthusiasm holds up - one of the most essential ingredients of fine work. And thank heaven this type of intoxication also seems to work as Leon suspects.)

Dave DeJarnette - well here is news! "We are packing up on the 18th...Elizabeth and I will leave Tuscaloosa on the 20th for Hawaii for a short visit with Sally." Won't that be a most "thrilling", and deserved, vacation for Dave & Elizabeth - and reunion? We shall certainly do a bit of arm-twisting to try to get a Newsletter report on the fabulous gem of Hawaii set in a cerulean sea. Also enclosed is a marfax of a letter from Bill E. Ash, Oglethorpe, Ga., to Dave: "Enclosed...story which ran in the Times (Chattanooga) last month about your rock shelter excavations...Mr. & Mrs. Griggs and I want to thank you & your group for the very nice visit and extremely nice company...friendliness & willingness to share information with strangers. But, we certainly feel strangers no more." Bill, a member of the Chattanooga Chapter, Tennessee Archaeological Society, gave us a fine story, with photos, in the July 18 Times.

Margaret (Mrs. Francis C. Smith) - We were bragging about her letters a few days & pages ago - & here comes another. Despite vanishing space, we can't deprive you of all of it. "Last Saturday we hunted another supposedly fine petroglyph...had a swell time, altho we never did find it...made some swell friends...the storekeeper we visit once a year, a couple of local folks, & the best was...when I gave an old fellow the beautiful photo of his papa that I made some 20 years ago, when papa was 80 & had given me information on a petroglyph that he had known as a boy & still owned the land...also found 2 swell church-injun sites in this area." (Margaret is fascinated by the coincidence of modern churches on old archaeological sites - hallowed ground?) "You would have laughed to have seen us roaming in the old churchyard looking for worked flint & along comes the warden of the church to see what we were doing...It ended up with us spending 2 hours inside a beautiful 100 year old Baptist Church, conversing on every subject from religion, injuns, crops, politics, etc...Wish we could get out to Arkansas to attend their dig & camp out (9-day annual dig)...they surely did undertake quite a job...but I bet Rusty Davis will do a swell job" - agreed - she was one of our first out-of-state donors & advertisers. Doesn't Margaret make archaeological ramblings sound like fascinating fun? If anybody can run down, study, report & preserve Georgia's neglected, unknown, lost, disfigured petroglyphs, it is surely Margaret & Francis. We owe them a real debt of gratitude for their perseverance - and for making it fun!

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Objectives of the Society: "To promote the study of archaeology of Alabama and of neighboring States; to encourage careful scientific archaeological research and excavation; to discourage careless digging without records; to promote the conservation of important archaeological sites and to favor the passage of laws prescribing such; to oppose the manufacture and sale of fraudulent antiquities; to encourage the establishment of local archaeological knowledge by means of publications and meetings; to develop a better understanding of the archaeology of the State by making systematic surface surveys and collections, and to serve as a bond between individual archaeologists in the State, both non-professional and professional."

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