

Alabama Archaeological Society

Stones & Bones

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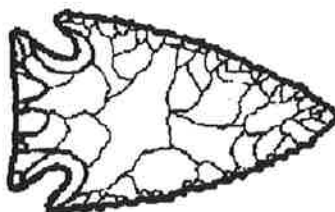
Editor:

McDonald Brooms

Associate Editors:

Catherine Crowell

Brad Solomon



Editorial Office:

40 Eldridge Hall

Troy State University

Troy, AL 36082

☎ 334-670-3638

Fax # 334-670-3706

E-mail: anthro@trojan.troyst.edu

AAS Public Education Grant Awards

Although this was the first year the AAS offered a Public Education Grant, the word got out and several good applications were received. The applications were so good that the Public Education Committee suggested that \$500.00 be split between the deserving applicants. Consequently, two grant recipients for the AAS Public Education Grant Funds were selected at the Spring Board meeting. The membership can expect to hear brief reports on both these educational programs at the Winter meeting.

\$300.00 was awarded to the Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery to help familiarize new and/or limited experienced fourth grade teachers of Alabama History with heritage sites in south central Alabama. Teachers will visit preserved archaeological sites and learn how to use the resources available at each in planning innovative lesson plans. They will learn how professional archaeological research has contributed to the historical information in their textbooks and will practice lesson plans that stress archaeological ethics.

\$200.00 was awarded to Dr. Boyce Driskell and Susan Driskell to help defray the costs associated with a three day teacher's workshop that will be held in conjunction with the Dust Cave archaeological training program. This workshop will include Project Archaeology lesson plans and a visit to ongoing excavations.

Congratulations to the recipients and their interest in the further education of our children is greatly appreciated.

Linda Derry

Public Education Committee

AAS Research Grant Award

The Alabama Archaeological Society Research Grant, which totaled \$500.00, was awarded to Steven Moon of Auburn, AL. Steven is conducting research in order to complete a Master of Arts degree in Anthropology. His research is titled, "Discovering and Defining Patterns of Paleoindian Land Use within the Eastern Coastal Plain of Southeastern Alabama" and is designed to address specific questions concerning the nature and extent of Paleoindian land use within a

portion of the eastern Gulf Coastal Plain, in southeastern Alabama.

Congratulations to Steven and we wish him luck in his research.

*Tim Mistovich
Research Committee Chair*

Steven B. Wimberly Scholarship Award

The 1998 Steven B. Wimberly Scholarship in the amount of \$250.00 has been awarded to Matthew D. Gage, a graduate student at the University of Alabama. Matt's scholarship will assist him with expenses involving his thesis project; an analysis of core drilling samples and results of remote sensing of Mound R at Moundville Archaeological Park. The core drilling and remote sensing (ground penetrating radar) of Mound R have already been completed. Matt will be preparing the core samples for analysis and will be interpreting them over the coming year. Sixty individual core samples were taken showing representative strata from locations around the entire mound. Mound R covers an area approximately 85 meters by 75 meters and stands 6 meters above the surrounding plaza. The soils taken from the core samples can be analyzed utilizing micromorphological techniques to determine periods of mound building as well as incipient soil formation resulting from mound abandonment. The outcome of this analysis will be a chronology of the different episodes of human activity as it relates to Mound R and subsequently the Moundville Site. It is also hopeful that Carbon 14 dates can be obtained from the samples as well.

The AAS wishes Matt the best of luck with this project and we look forward to hearing the results of Matt's work at the 1998 Winter Meeting.

*McDonald Brooms
Chair, Wimberly Scholarship Committee*

Alabama Museum of Natural History holds its 20th Reunion Celebration

Calling all campers! All former participants of the annual Museum Expedition are invited to the 20th anniversary reunion on April 25-26, at the Alabama Museum of Natural History on the University of Alabama campus.

The Alabama Museum's Expedition series, which began in 1979 with the excavation of a 16th century Indian site in Tuscaloosa County, has offered first hand scientific experience to nearly 1,600 high school students, teachers, and other adults. Hundreds of participants have assisted scientists in the field as they visited fossil sites and carried out archaeological digs throughout the state. Young people have discovered large portions of Dinosaur Age mosasaurs, as well as the best ground sloth remains found in the state. Other groups have uncovered artifacts from pre-historic and historic Indian societies.

Now is the time to excavated those memories and join us at a reconstructed Museum Expedition tent camp on the University of Alabama Main Quad. Festivities begin at 3:00 Saturday, April 25 with registration and campus tours. **At 5:00 the public is invited to a reception and exhibit in the Smith Hall gallery. An exhibit 20 Years of Discovery: Alabama Museum of Natural History Expeditions will display artifacts and fossils from past Expeditions.** A keepsake book highlighting two decades of camp life will be available for purchase. At 6:30 Saturday evening, registered reunion members will have supper on the Quad, then gather around the camp fire with stories of days gone by.

Why not take this opportunity to renew past acquaintances and relive experiences with old friends? If you or someone you know was a member of a past Museum Expedition, write to:

Alabama Museum of Natural History
Expedition Reunion

Box 870340
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0340

Or call Judy Hamilton at (205) 348-0534.

Chapter News

East Alabama Chapter

"Paleoindians in the Coastal Plain of Southeastern Alabama" was the title of the program presented at the March meeting of our chapter. Steve Moon is studying patterns of land use by Paleoindians in the Coastal Plain. His work is concerned with specific questions about the nature and extent of their activity in Pike, Butler, Crenshaw, Covington, Coffee, Geneva, Barbour, Dale, Henry, and Houston Counties. Members and guests were encouraged to bring with them any suspected Paleo artifacts for identification and comments. Steve Moon was interested in seeing such artifacts from any part of Alabama and welcomed the opportunity to tell us what he could about them. Twenty-one members and guests participated in this meeting.

Submitted by:
Caroline R. Dean
Secretary

Calendar

March 1-April 24

Exhibit; Out Of The Earth: Alabama Folk Pottery from a Private Collection.

The Wiregrass Museum of Art, 126 Museum Avenue, Dothan, AL. Unlike other decorative arts, folk pottery is born from the clay beneath the feet of its creator. Made primarily as functional vessels and seldom signed by the artist, each piece of folk pottery nevertheless demonstrates a unique artistry. Unusual glazes, subtle

changes in form and delicate incised lines are the marks of different potters. This private collection, making its debut exhibition at the Wiregrass Museum of Art, is one of the finest collections of 19th and 20th century pitchers, jugs, jars, and vessels in the state. Admission is free.

For further information call (334) 794-3871.

March 3-August 30

Exhibit; Exploring Wild Georgia: Photographs of the Bartram Trail by Brad Sanders.

The Columbus Museum, 1251 Wynnton Road, Columbus, GA. From majestic landscapes to historic structures, this selection of approximately 30 photographs traces the path of the early American naturalist William Bartram's important eighteenth-century travels across the region. Admission is free.

For further information contact the Columbus Museum at (706) 649-0713.

March-April-May

Native American Artists to be in residence at Moundville Archaeological Park.

Join us this spring as we offer a popular series of programs with native American artists at Moundville Archaeological Park.

March 26-28

Choctaw Crafts - Sisters Minnie Bell, Claudia Thompson, and Jessie Thompson of Ripley, Tennessee, show how to make river cane baskets, beadwork, and appliqued Choctaw dresses. They will also have beautiful handcrafted items for sale.

April 9-11

Native American Flutes - Come and listen as Bill "Whitefox" Stall plays Indian tunes on a handmade Native American flute. Also an accomplished silversmith, Whitefox and his partner, Linda Prejean, offer an array of silver items for sale, among them rare turquoise jewelry from out West.

May 15-16

Living History Camp - What was it like being a Creek Indian in 1799? Ask Native American

Butch Fuller during your visit to his living history camp at the park. Dressed in handmade period clothing, Butch will demonstrate tool making, clothing, cooking and scenes from everyday life in 18th century Alabama. He will also carve out a canoe as he talks with visitors.

Arkansas Archaeological Survey

The University of Arkansas field school will be taught at the Parkin Site in northeast Arkansas from June 30 through August 8, 1998. The Parkin site is a 17-acre fortified Mississippian and Protohistoric village within Parkin Archaeological State Park. Parkin is the town of Casqui visited by the Hernando de Soto expedition in June, 1541. Previous excavations have revealed that the site was continuously occupied for as long as 500 years.

The 1998 excavations will be in two parts of the site. We will be continuing work in an area where 16th century structures are located. Students will learn basic excavation techniques, transit use, mapping, record keeping, laboratory methods, and flotation. Method and theory and local prehistory will also be addressed.

Students will earn six semester hours (either undergraduate or graduate) in ANTH 4256: Archaeological Field Session. The normal out of state tuition surcharge is waived for non University of Arkansas students. Tuition and fees are \$504.00 (undergraduate) and \$846.00 (graduate). There is an additional \$15.00 application fee (\$25.00 for graduate students) for students not enrolled at the University of Arkansas. Students will also be required to pay \$63.38 to cover on site housing. A hired cook will be provided, but students will be responsible for food costs.

Deadline for receipt of applications is May 31, 1998. Enrollment is limited to 24 students. For further information and applications, contact:
Dr. Jeffrey M. Mitchem
Arkansas Archaeological Survey
Parkin Archaeological State Park

PO Box 241
Parkin, AR 72373
Telephone (870) 755-2119
Email: jeffmitchem@juno.com

Workshop for Non-destructive Investigative Techniques for Cultural Resource Management

This workshop is designed to provide a practical application of geophysical equipment and aerial photographic techniques available for identification, evaluation, and ultimately, the conservation and protection of cultural resources. Instruction will be given in the use of and the interpretation of data magnetometers, conductivity meters, resistivity meters, ground penetrating radar, metal detectors, and magnetic susceptibility and their applications to non-destructive subsurface investigations.

The cost is \$475.00 and takes place May 18-22 in Pecos National Historic Park, Pecos, New Mexico.

For more information, please call (770) 242-2249.

Taken from the Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society Newsletter, March 1998.

Alabama Archaeological Society Site Stewardship Program

Since December, 1996, the Alabama Archaeological Society has had in place a site Stewardship Program directed by the Archaeological Resources Committee. Stewardship programs are designed to involve members of archaeological

societies in the protection of sites considered important to the cultural heritage of the state. We believe the stewardship program in Alabama offers great opportunities to involve Society members, landowners, and the general public in the continuing protection of significant archaeological sites. The committee would like to remind the membership of the program and urge every member of the Society to become involved. Do you know of a landowner who has shown interest in protecting an important archaeological site? We need you to talk with the landowner about the stewardship program. The stewardship program is intended to recognize and commend landowners who help the Society protect significant sites in the state. It in no way affects a landowner's property rights. The text of the program is reprinted at the back of this issue of *Stones and Bones*. Take the time to read it and consider how you can become involved. The members of the Resources Committee will be happy to answer any questions you may have concerning the program or to help you become involved. It is important that the Society members work together to protect and preserve for future generations the great cultural heritage of the State of Alabama.

Tim Mistovich
Archaeological Resource
Committee Chairman

Chattahoochee River Nominated for American Heritage Rivers Designation

The Chattahoochee Heritage Alliance, an ad hoc committee organized by the citizens along the Chattahoochee River, has nominated the river for designation as an American Heritage River. The Chattahoochee River is one of dozens of rivers in the South that are among 126 nationwide being considered for this recognition under a Clinton Administration environmental initiative.

Under this program each river system selected will bring to the riverside communities that made the nomination a focus of federal resources. Included will be the appointment of a "River Navigator" to coordinate river improvement projects and programs along with the prestige and public relations value that comes with such federal recognition. Quality of life issues to be addressed by this initiative include water quality, economic development, historic preservation, ecology, education, transportation and recreation. The Chattahoochee River nomination was spearheaded in this area by Dr. Becky Champion who is director of the Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center in Columbus, Georgia. Local nomination efforts generated 120 individual letters of support and approximately 3,500 citizen signatures. For further information on this program contact Dr. Champion at (706) 687-4090 or write 151 Science Hall, Columbus State University, Columbus, GA 31907-5645.

Taken from Chattahoochee Tracings, Spring 1998.

Donations

While you are writing your checks this year for your 1998 AAS membership dues, please consider adding something for the grant programs.

Every donation is extremely important to research and is definitely appreciated.

Recent Donators:
Wimberly Fund

Ernest G. Pate
Fairfield, AL 35064

Wimberly, Mahan, and Education Funds

Julie R. Lyons
Selma, AL 36701

Thank you for your contributions!

1998 Dues

1998 dues for the Alabama Archaeological Society are past due. The AAS can not afford to continue to send the newsletter or journal to delinquent members. Please mail your membership dues today.

New Members

Will H. Blackwell
Tuscaloosa, AL 35402

Landmarks Foundation
Montgomery, AL 36104

Todd McMakin
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Julie Morrow
Jonesboro, AR 72467

Renewals

Doris Allegri
Fairhope, AL 36532

Wyatt E. Amos
Anniston, AL 36201

Mike Anders
Birmingham, AL 35206

Appalachian State University
Boone, NC 28608

William O. Autry
Elkhart, IN 46517

John Bennett
Selma, AL 36701

Philip D. Causey
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Lawrence A. Conrad
Macomb, IL 61455

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Opelika, AL 36801

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Montgomery, AL 36109

Lawrence and Viola Evans
Anniston, AL 36207

Marian and Harold Foster
Montgomery, AL 36116

Donald and Linda Frazier
Alexandria, AL 36250

Molly Gamble
Selma AL 36701

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Birmingham, AL 35203

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Warner Robins, GA 31093
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Birmingham, AL 35216

Douglas R. Hall
Hueytown, AL 35023

David Hally
Athens, GA 30602

Alabama Archaeological Society Site Stewardship Program

The purpose of the Alabama Site Stewardship Program is to secure the protection of land that contains important archaeological resources. The major function of this program within Alabama will be:

1. To provide low-level site protection.
2. To provide opportunities for regular and systematic monitoring of significant sites.
3. To provide opportunities to educate participating landowners about the importance and the preservation of their sites.

A Site Stewardship program will allow Alabama to monitor the preservation of Stewardship sites that are located primarily on privately owned lands and to educate and recognize those landowners that participate in the program.

General Guidelines

1. The Stewardship program shall be a suborganization of the Alabama Archaeological Society (AAS). This program shall be administered by the Board of Directors of the AAS, through the Archaeological Resources Committee.

2. A Steward shall be a member of the AAS in good standing. This person will apply to the Archaeological Resources Committee, hereafter referred to as Committee, an indication of their willingness to assume responsibility for a site(s). The prospective Steward may submit a site or the Committee may assign a site(s) to a prospective Steward from a list compiled by the Committee of significant sites that may benefit from the program. This list may be compiled from current records of the Alabama Historical Commission and from archaeologists statewide. Written permission from the owner of the site property stating that said owner fully understands the program must be obtained.

3. It is the Stewards responsibility to act as liaison between the participating landowner and the AAS. The landowner participants are asked to honor three requests:

1. Preserve and protect their sites to the best of their abilities.
2. Notify the Steward of any threats to the site.
3. Notify the Steward of any intent to sell or transfer ownership, in which the program would need to be renewed with the new owner.

In turn, the Steward and the AAS agrees to:

1. Educate the landowner about his/her site.
2. Provide site management information.
3. Provide, upon request, aid to the landowner in selecting the most appropriate tools for site protection.

4. A landowner participates in the program by verbally agreeing to protect the site or by signing a non-binding Stewardship Agreement. The landowner's commitment is recognized through the presentation of awards, commensurate with the level of participation. These awards may

include, but not be limited to, certificates, plaques, or complimentary AAS publications. Determination of awards shall be made by the Board of Directors based on recommendations from the Steward and the Committee.

5. A Steward shall visit their site(s) a least four times annually and submit a written status report to the Committee. A form must also be completed upon the initial visit to the site and submitted to the Committee. These reports will be maintained by the Committee and sent to the Alabama State Archaeological Site Files as supplementary data sheets. (Sample form attached).
6. Stewards will consult the Committee prior to any site cleanup or preservation efforts.
7. Stewards not fulfilling their designated role after one year will be asked to resign.
8. Stewards will comply with all federal, state, and local preservation laws and regulations. In activities not regulated by law, Stewards will be guided by the Society for American Archaeology code of ethics and by professional assistance.
9. Site location information will be held confidential by the Stewards and will be revealed only to the Committee.
10. No news releases or other public statements concerning the sites, collections, or stewardship activities will be issued without the consent of the involved landowners and authorization by the Committee.
11. Upon termination of Stewardship, each Steward will transfer to the Committee all records and collections pertaining to the Steward's program activities. The Steward agrees to cooperate with their successor.
12. The Chairman of the Archaeological Resources Committee will make an annual report of the programs activities to the Board of Directors.

Site Selection

Before a site may be considered for the Stewardship program, it must have been identified, located, recorded, and evaluated for its significance. A site's significance is commonly evaluated according to the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, which includes considerations of site integrity and research potential. Additional considerations should also include, for example, the site's cultural affiliation, physiographic setting, or the threats to its preservation (from vandalism, erosion, development).

Pre-Initial Visit Activities

These activities consist of initiating contact with landowners and developing a Landowner Information Pack. During this time, available information on the site should be

obtained. The most helpful source of information may be the archaeologist who has been most involved in research at the site. This archaeologist has the advantage of knowing the landowner, the site, and their common histories. The Landowner Information Pack, which is left with the landowner at the end of the initial visit, contains general information on the program, specific information about the site, and where warranted, information about other archaeological topics. It also contains the Stewardship Agreement which consists of a map, preferably a copy of a topographic map, of the site boundaries, a cover page that briefly describes the site, its significance, and the preservation commitment the landowner is being asked to make. The Pack functions to educate the landowner about the site and its significance.

It is suggested that the landowner be contacted twice before the initial visit. The first contact is by mail, in which a brief descriptive statement about the program is included in the letter along with any other pertinent information. Next, the landowner is contacted by telephone to set up an appointment to visit.

Initial Visit

The initial visit is the focal point of the landowner contact process. During this visit, the Stewardship program is explained in detail within the context of discussing the site and its importance. Stewardship activities the landowner may have undertaken in the past, as well as the appropriate activities the landowner should continue to follow, are discussed.

It is through this initial visit that the foundation is laid for establishing the landowner's preservation commitment and his/her long-term relationship with the Stewardship program. One of the purposes of the program is to educate the landowner about the site: how old it is; who were the inhabitants and how they lived; the identification of artifacts; and its significance. The visit also allows the Steward to collect information on the landowner, the site's history of use, and the types of threats it faced in the past.

Some landowners may decide to participate in the program and sign the agreement during the initial visit. Others may wish to think it over and discuss it with family members. The Steward makes a determination whether verbal registration has been secured. If the landowner is sincere and interested, then a verbal agreement is considered to have been made.

Post-Initial Visit Activities

Many of the activities that take place after the initial visit depend on its results. A few activities, however, take place immediately after the visit regardless of the landowner's decision regarding site Stewardship. They fall into two categories: recording information and communicating with the landowner. This information is important to future contacts with the landowner because it serves as a baseline from which to monitor the site's condition on subsequent visits.

A report of the initial visit itself is prepared which includes a description of activities during the visit, the Steward's feelings about the landowner's receptiveness to the program and

perspective on site preservation, the results of the visit, and the topics discussed. Information detailing the condition of the site, including the location and degree of any looting and vandalism or ground disturbance is noted on the Initial Visit Record.

As soon as possible after the initial visit, a follow-up letter is sent to the landowner regardless of his/her response to the program. If the landowner agreed to participate, the letter mentions the awards the landowner may receive and reiterates that agreement made, as well as site protection options if necessary. Announcement of the agreement in the local newspaper or other media depends on the landowner's permission, the site's notoriety, its state of preservation, and threats of looting and vandalism. All public announcements **must** be approved by the Committee. In addition, if the landowner has agreed to participate in the program, his/her name may be added to various mailing lists to receive complimentary publications of the AAS and other willing organizations. A copy of the Stewardship agreement, if it was signed, is also sent to the landowner. About a month later, the Chairman of the AAS Board of Directors sends a letter to the landowner in which he/she personally expresses appreciation for the landowner's decision to participate.

If the landowner did not agree to participate in the course of the initial visit, but wanted to think it over, a telephone call is made within a month of the follow-up letter. If the answer is "yes," the activities discussed above are carried out. A follow-up letter is sent after the initial visit even if the landowner is clearly not interested in participating in the program. Depending on the nature of the landowner's negative response, the immediacy of threats to the site, and the significance of the site, an attempt to contact the landowner again in six months to a year to reconsider the decision may be appropriate.

Stewardship Program Maintenance Activities

Upon a site's entrance into the Stewardship program, a long-term commitment to the site and its landowner begins. Participation in the program provides an opportunity to establish a relationship with the landowner. In the years that follow, it is hoped that the landowner's interest in the protection and preservation of the site will grow by virtue of this participation.

Stewardship follow-up activities are important to maintaining a successful protection and preservation program. These activities consist of communicating with the landowner, educating him/her about the importance of protecting the site, and monitoring the condition of the site at regular intervals. It may be advisable to bring "gifts" to the landowner during some or all of the quarterly site visits. These consist of items such as posters, articles, brochures, or copies of legislation that deal with archaeological sites. These items serve several purposes: (1) they provide an obvious reason for visiting landowners and not just his/her site; (2) they provide an opportunity to demonstrate once again appreciation for the landowner's preservation commitment; and (3) they represent a means to educate landowners about archaeology.

During the quarterly visits, questions are always asked about the site, its condition, and any problems with looting or vandalism the landowner may have had since the last visit. If at all possible, the site is visited in the company of the landowner, and site stewardship activities are

discussed. Information is collected about features of the site locale, locations of current and previous human and natural destruction, and site boundaries.

Activities conducted after the quarterly visits resemble those undertaken after the initial visit. A note is sent to the landowner, thanking them for spending time with the Steward. A note may also be sent to the Committee informing them of the visit. The information recorded during these quarterly visits should be maintained by the Steward for the purpose of writing the annual report to the Committee. At any time during the process a detailed site management plan may be prepared by the Steward and the Committee and discussed with the landowner.

• Excerpts were taken from A. Gwynn Henderson (1989), *The Kentucky Archaeological Registry*, Archaeological Assistance Program, *Technical Brief No. 6*. National Park Service.

**Alabama
Stewardship Monitoring Record
Initial Visit**

State Site No. _____ Site Name (optional): _____

Steward's Name: _____

Initial Visit Date: _____

Current Landowner: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

City: _____ County: _____ Zip Code: _____

Tenant: _____

Has the landowner agreed to participate in the Stewardship Program? yes _____ no _____

If no, give brief explanation. _____

Briefly describe the topics discussed with the landowner. _____

What practices or conditions have or are currently affecting the site and to what extent?

Field observations of the site (vegetation, cover, etc.). _____

Artifacts in landowner collection or on site surface: _____

Current recommendations or other comments: _____

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- Stanfield- Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations* (Journal of Alabama Archaeology)
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