

Alabama Archaeological Society

Stones & Bones

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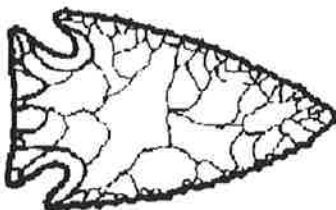
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Stones & Bones Newsletter

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Boyce Driskell

Charles Moore

Amos Wright

Greg Rhinehart

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Winter Meeting

Don't forget to make plans to attend the Alabama Archaeological Society's annual winter meeting on December 9th in Selma. This year's program will be a fun and educational experience. Highlights include presentation on recent excavation at Moundville and Bottle Creek, two major Mississippian sites; the Cane Creek Site, an important Weeden Island village in the Coastal plain; the latest excavations at Fushihatchee, the historic Creek village site that is being salvaged by AUM and Auburn near Montgomery; Old Mobile, an 18th century French settlement that predated Fort Conde; St. Stephens, the early 19th century site of the first territorial capital; Brierfield, a major mid 19th century iron works site near Bessemer; and recent excavations at historic sites in Phoenix City and Selma. In addition we will have two special speakers; Dr. Jim Knight will be our opening keynote speaker Saturday morning and Dr. Hester Davis will be our evening speaker Saturday night.

We will also have the book auction and sale again this year. This is an excellent opportunity for Society members to get both new and rare, out-of-print publications at excellent prices.

*Submitted by the Nominations Committee of
Boyce Driskell, Joe Watkins, and Jim Lee.*

There will also be a reception Friday night and dinner Saturday night. A tour of Old Cahawba will take place Sunday. Early risers can take the 9:30 AM tour. A second tour will be offered at 1:00 PM.

What's Happening Around the State

Douglas E. Jones, Executive Director of The University of Alabama Museum, has announced a donation of \$2.7 million dollars to be applied towards the completion of the Museum's Scientific Collections. The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, also gave \$1 million to the Paul W. Bryant Museum. Jones stated that completing the collection "will have an enormous impact on teaching and research in a number of campus departments." Jones also announced that about \$1 million dollars had been raised in a separate fund raising campaign and that this money would be used to accommodate the Natural History Collections and the Laboratory of Human Osteology.

Troy State University will begin Phase II testing at Ashford for the Alabama Department of Transportation soon after Thanksgiving. Five sites will be tested in the six mile stretch of Highway 84 for the DOT, which plans to four-lane the highway in January.

Frozen Inca Mummies Offer Insight Into Ancient Tribes

A volcanic eruption in the Peruvian Andes has revealed the mummies of three people sacrificed by the Incas 500 years ago, scientists said. The find, the first of its kind, has excited scientists who say it will give them a unique look at the Inca Indian tribes that ruled a large part of South America before the Spanish conquest.

Two of the bodies were partially frozen and may contain 500 year old living organisms, scientists said. "There have never been Inca mummies

found frozen before," said Johan Reinhard, an American archaeologist who was leader of the expedition. "We're hoping to make a major leap in understanding the Incas."

The bodies of two young women and a man were discovered by a joint Peruvian-American archaeology team in September and early October about 20,700 feet up Mount Ampato in southern Peru. The three were killed by Incan priests as human sacrifices to appease the gods of Mount Ampato, which was considered sacred, said Reinhard, a research associate at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

taken from: Time, November 6, 1995.

Siberian Link found to Indians

Ancient stone projectile points uncovered in Siberia provide new evidence that American Indians originated in eastern Asia and immigrated to North America during the last ice age, a New York archaeologist reported.

Kenneth Tankersley of the State University of New York at Brockport announced his findings at a meeting of the Midwest Regional Archaeological Conference.

Tankersley said that the points were nearly identical to those associated with the most ancient native cultures in North America, the so-called "Clovis" culture.

Little is known about the Clovis people, who left behind few artifacts other than the projectile points they used for hunting. Those are dated at 10,000 to 11,000 years old.

Archaeologists have suggested that during the last ice age, which ended about 10,000 years ago, low water levels may have exposed a land bridge across the Bering Strait linking what is now Russia and Alaska. That bridge may have allowed human beings to travel from Asia to North America. However, until now, few artifacts have been found that linked the two peoples.

What was striking about the points found in Siberia, Tankersley said, is that the fluted patterns of the stone, indicating how they were made, appear to be identical. Other ancient points found in locations ranging from Europe to Mongolia do not share that resemblance. That suggests, he said, that the Siberian points and Clovis points were not developed independently by separate cultures but were produced by the same culture at different times.

Robert Salzer, chairman of anthropology at Beloit College, said that what made Tankersley's findings noteworthy was that he could show such a close association between the North American and Siberian points not just in their appearance, but also in the way they were made. "That impresses me as an anthropologist," he said.

Using radiocarbon studies, Tankersley said he was able to date the points found in an area near Lake Baikal in Russia as being 23,000 years old. "That allow more than 10,000 years for people to move from northwestern Lake Baikal into the high plains area and the contiguous United States," he said. "That's easily doable."

Tankersley said that most of the Russian artifacts were unearthed years ago, but that until the collapse of the Soviet Union, western archaeologists were not aware of them. In fact, few Russians were aware of what they had because of the lack of regular professional meetings where individual findings could be shared.

Several years ago, Tankersley said, he made contact with a Russian archaeologist, Yaroslav Kuzmin, who was working on the same prehistoric period. With a grant from the International Research Exchange Board, he was able to host Kuzmin at Brockport, where they analyzed the findings.

"We're just now starting to build on this," Tankersley said. "There are years of further analysis that can be done with this data."

*taken from: The Mobile Register
October 31, 1995*

New Members

We would like to welcome the new members to our Society:

Albertville Public Library
PO Box 430
Albertville, AL 35950

Brewton Public Library
206 West Jackson Street
Brewton, AL 36426

Donna K. Cobb
4666 Sandpiper Lane
Birmingham, AL 35244

Raymond Ezell
Campus Box 528105
Memphis, TN 38152

Florence-Lauderdale Library
218 North Wood Ave
Florence, AL 35630

Gardendale Public Library
995 Mt. Olive Road
PO Box 1165
Gardendale, AL 35071

Shirley Spears
B B Comer Library
314 N Broadway Ave
Sylacauga, AL 35150

Brian A. Wallis
3333 Indian Crest Drive
Pelham, AL 35142

In The Alabama Archaeological Society's Past

Fourteen years ago in November, 1981, the Birmingham Chapter hosted the A.A.S. Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 7th and Sunday November 8th.

The Huntsville Chapter watched a slide and cassette presentation, "Parker's Island, A Heritage for Sale," by the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission in Montgomery.

The Muscle Shoals Chapter listened to Mr. Maxwell Ramsey, who discussed the TVA's position on the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979.

taken from Stones & Bones, December 1981

Chapter News

Huntsville...

The Huntsville Chapter met on October 24th, and listened to Charles Moore of Florence, Alabama discuss Regional Indian History. Charles, and his wife Mary-Eliza, have been active at the local and state levels of the Alabama Archaeological Society for many years and were instrumental in the creation on the Indian Mound Museum in Florence.

A reminder that the Huntsville Chapter of The Alabama Archaeological Society meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the First Baptist Church on Governors Drive at 7:00 p.m.

Troy State...

For the October meeting Creek Indian speaker Sakim spoke on aspects of Creek culture. At the November meeting a discussion on T-shirt designs and fieldwork at Ashford was held, along with a potluck dinner.

East Alabama...

met on November 14th and George W. Shorter of Mobile presented a program on "Archaeology

of Port Dauphin: Cradle of French Colonial Settlement in Louisiana." He discussed the fact that Port Dauphin was located on present-day Dauphin Island at the entrance to Mobile Bay where it served as the port for the French settlement of Mobile located 19 miles upriver from the bay. The primary occupation period for the site was 1711-1722, when it also served as a military stockade for soldiers and other personnel. A slide presentation included archaeological evidence bearing on the low economic status of the soldiers at Port Dauphin, their interpersonal relationships with the Indians, and the impact of official trade restrictions on their life.

Submitted by:

*Gary Mullen
President*

Cullman County...

was presented with a program this month by Jean Allen, head archaeologist for the Bankhead National Forest, on archaeological surveys and work being conducted in this area.

Calendar

The winter meeting of the **Alabama Archaeological Society** will be held December 9th in Selma, Alabama.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1995

6:30-8:30pm RECEPTION at the Selma-Dallas County Museum of History and Archives, Inc., on historic Water Avenue. Display of artifacts from the White Oak Site excavated By David Chase. Light refreshments will be served. Don't miss this event!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1995

Earl Goodwin Theater, Wallace Community College Selma, 3000 Earl Goodwin Parkway, off Highway 22, north side of Selma

9:00am	REGISTRATION- BOOK ROOM OPENS	
9:30am	WELCOME	Copeland
9:35am	INTRODUCTION	.Derry
9:40am	KEYNOTE SPEAKER:	Knight
10:00am	MOUNDVILLE:	Astin
10:20am	THE CANE CREEK SITE	Lolley
10:40pm	BREAK	
11:00am	BOTTLE CREEK	Fuller & Brown
11:20am	FUSHATCHEE	Sheldon & Cottier
11:40am	OLD MOBILE	Waselkov
NOON	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN (2 HOURS)	
	Board Meeting at Major Grumbles	
2:00pm	ST. STEPHENS	Stowe
2:20pm	BRIERFIELD	Bergstresser
2:40pm	PHOENIX CITY	Foss-Elliot
3:00pm	BREAK	
3:20pm	ST. JAMES HOTEL	Gantt
3:20pm	ARCHAEOLOGICAL EDUC.	Smith, SAA
3:40pm	INTRO. TO POSTER SESSION	Derry
4:00pm	POSTER SESSION: ARCHAEOLOGY LAND	
5:00pm	BOOK AUCTION	
7:00pm	DINNER \$8.50	World famous Selma BBQ (pork or chicken)
	SPEAKER	Dr. Hester Davis, State Archaeologist
		Arkansas Archaeological Society

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 1995

9:30am or 1pm Insider's tour of Old Cahawba Archaeological Site

SELMA

to Birmingham

Earl Goodwin Theater
Wallace Community College

Northside
Baptist
Church

EARL GOODWIN PKWY.

22

80

HIGHLAND AVENUE

14

Many restaurants are
located along Highland
Ave., Hwys. 80 & 14.

1. Jameson Inn
2. Holiday Inn
3. Major Grumbles Restaurant
4. Visitor Information Center
5. Performing Arts Center
6. St. James Hotel Site

Valley Creek

TO CAHAWBA
12 MILES

22

LIVE OAK
CEMETERY

Alabama River

SELMA
DALLAS
COUNTY
MUSEUM

80

to Montgomery



PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

- Vol. 20-31, each issue (*two issues per volume*).....\$3.50pp
Vol. 32 & up, each issue (*two issues per volume*).....\$6.00pp
Stanfield- Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations (Journal of Alabama Archaeology)
Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint.....\$7.50pp
Special Publication 2 - *The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama*.....\$6.00pp
Special Publication 3 - *Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend* .. \$8.00pp
Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types.....\$15.00pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - *Pebble Tool Paper*..... \$3.00pp
Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology (Juvenile).....\$9.00pp

MEMBERSHIP

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 appropriate boxes are checked.

TO: THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

- ☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐ PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES
☐ REPORTING OF NEW ADDRESS

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City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Residents of Foreign Countries, including Canada & Mexico \$2.00 additional for Regular, Associate or Institutional Membership, (\$20.00 additional for Individual Life and \$25.00 additional for Joint Life Membership

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☐ Annual, Family (husband, wife, and

children under age 18).....\$15.00

☐ *Steven B. Wimberly Scholarship Fund..\$ _____

☐ Associate (Students under age 18)..\$9.00

☐ *Edward C. Mahan Research Fund.....\$ _____

*Contributions are tax deductible

Checks Should Be Made Payable To: **Alabama Archaeological Society**

Send Checks for
Memberships and
Publications to:

Alabama Archaeological Society
Archaeological Services
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
Moundville, AL 35474



Alabama Archaeological Society

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