

Alabama Archaeological Society

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2602 Green Mountain Rd.
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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REMINDER

The A. A. S. Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, December 8, in Montgomery, at the State Archives and History Building. More next month.

The Editors

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter

The Birmingham Chapter held its September meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the 13th at the Red Mountain Museum. A collection of projectile points that had been donated to the Museum by Dr. Charles Ochs was on display.

Mrs. Cameron Williams, who is with the Birmingham Convention and Visitors' Bureau, offered her assistance in planning for the Southeastern Archaeological Society Convention, which will be held in Birmingham in 1985.

Following Mrs. Williams' presentation, Mr. Tom Hutto demonstrated flint knapping and fire making. He also explained how some tools were probably used, such as the atlatl.

The Society met on October 11 at the Red Mountain Museum. The guest speaker was Mr. Eugene Futato, Senior Research Archaeologist with the Office of Archaeological Research, University of Alabama. The O.A.R. is located at Mound State Monument, Moundville, and has a very active program in contract archaeology.

Eugene Futato has worked full-time on the archaeology of Northern Alabama since 1973 and has authored or co-authored three major reports on contract archaeology for that area. Since 1978 he has been editor of The Journal of Alabama Archaeology.

The next meeting will be on November 8; speaker will be Dr. Bruce Wheatley of U.A.B. Dr. Wheatley's topic will be "Current Research on Orangutangs". All meetings are free to the public; annual dues are \$5 per person or family. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month

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at the Red Mountain Museum Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. (An exception will be the April 1985 meeting, which will be held at the U.A.B. Archaeology Laboratory.) For further information call Dr. Roger Nance, President, 934-4690 or 879-0619; or Ms. Annette Otts, President-Elect, 674-0920.

Eloise Clark

Coosa Valley Chapter

At the September meeting, Dennis Blanton of Cartersville, Georgia, presented a demonstration of flint knapping. Since the previous meeting in March, club members went on trips to Etowah Mounds, Georgia, and to Jacobs Mountain. Club members also participated in the Morgan Mountain Village excavations in May.

On October 25, the chapter met at Brewer Hall on the JSU campus. Mr. James Parker, Archaeologist with the Alabama Highway Department, presented a program on the Archaeology of Jamestown. On November 29, the chapter will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 329, Brewer Hall. At that time Mrs. Patsy Harvey of Gadsden will give a demonstration on the making of prehistoric ceramics. The club members are also planning to attend the A.A.S. winter meeting in Montgomery on December 8, 1984. Anyone in the Gadsden, Anniston, Jacksonville area who is interested in archaeology is most cordially invited to attend our meetings.

Mary Johnson
(205) 435-9845

Dothan Chapter

The Dothan Chapter met on Sunday, September 23 in the ballroom of the Troy State University Building, Dothan. President Leonard Roberts welcomed Mr. Creel Richardson of Ariton, Alabama, who gave a most interesting talk on the historic "Block House" site of the Choctawatchee River in Dale County. Built as a refuge from hostile Indians, this block house later housed a post office, a general store and residence for several years. The building was razed sometime in the 1840's, and no evidence of the site exists today on the surface. A field survey was planned for late October in an attempt to verify the exact location.

Several artifact collections were displayed and included three atlatl weights recently found in Dale and Barbour Counties. The chapter also accepted a display case from Sears, Roebuck and Company that will be located in Houston Hall of Troy State, Dothan.

Clayton T. Bell

East Alabama Chapter

The East Alabama Chapter does not meet during June, July, August or September.

A popular course for 42 students in the Elderhostel program at Auburn University during the summer term was the Aztecs, Mayas, Other Civilizations of Mesoamerica. This short course was taught by Dr. John Cottier over a one-week term, and covered in a broad perspective the basic civilizations of Middle America. Dr. Cottier is a Maya specialist and spent two years conducting investigations at several Mayan archaeological sites. He received his Ph. D. from the University of Missouri, and his dissertation focused on the massive site of Dzibilchaltun in northern Yucatan, Mexico. Individuals interested in the Elderhostel program at Auburn University should contact Continuing Education, 100 Mell Hall; Auburn University, Alabama 36849.

Monthly chapter meetings will be resumed in October. For more information call Baker Dean, Jr., at 745-2494.

Caroline Dean

Huntsville Chapter

The October program for the Huntsville Chapter was a workshop session. Chapter members met in an informal gathering to discuss their latest activities and future plans for the chapter. The November program will be a presentation by Susan Weber, Naturalist at the Burritt Museum on Monte Sano in Huntsville. Ms. Weber's topic is "Prehistoric Medicinal and Comestible Plants Used by Indians". This meeting will be held at the Burritt Museum on Tuesday, November 20, at 7:00. Refreshments will include "natural" foods prepared by Ms. Weber. Anyone in the Huntsville area who is interested in archaeology and ecology is encouraged to come to this meeting and to bring guests.

The Huntsville Chapter meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. We have been meeting in the Arts Council Conference Room of the Von Braun Civic Center; but because of Civic Center expansion, part of the space we have been using is going to be taken over for offices. Our room will still be available, but it will be reduced in size by about one third. The November meeting will be held at the Burritt Museum, and plans are being made to hold the December meeting elsewhere as well, but in January we will probably be back in the Arts Council Conference Room. We will continue to use this space, although it will be too small for our needs, until we can locate a larger, more suitable meeting place. Watch for more information on this topic in the Stones & Bones and in the chapter newsletter. For more information on chapter activities call Ken Helms, Program Chairman, at 539-0930, or Dottie Luke at 539-8688.

Dorothy Luke

Muscle Shoals Chapter

The Muscle Shoals Chapter of the A.A.S. met on October 8 at the Indian Mound Museum in Florence. Twenty-four members and guests attended. Charles Moore presented the program, which was entitled "Regional Indian

History". His presentation included a discussion of the four major cultural periods.

The next chapter meeting will be held on November 12 at 7:15 at the Indian Mound Museum in Florence.

Charles Moore

Tuscaloosa Chapter

The Tuscaloosa Chapter September meeting was held at Mound State Park. Members and students from the University of Alabama participated in the dig now going on in the park. After that, all joined together for a large picnic. Randy Howard demonstrated flint knapping, and an instructor from Mississippi State University demonstrated pottery making. We were delighted to have some of the members from the Birmingham Chapter attend. On September 23, at Kentuck Park in Northport, Alabama, a demonstration of flint knapping was made by Bill Adkison.

The chapter's October meeting was held at the town library. Guest speaker was Dr. Jim Knight. Dr. Knight showed slides and spoke on birds and their relation to effigy pots and bowls from the Woodland era.

Regarding the Tuscaloosa Chapter T-shirts, they cannot be mailed out, but we do give our permission to any A.A.S. member to use the same emblem if they desire.

Bill Adkison

GEORGIA TITLE TO THE NASHVILLE WRECK UPHELD

The following is a prepared statement and complete ruling concerning a shipwreck case off the Georgia coast. The court's ruling was favorable to Georgia's claim of ownership and sets a valuable precedent for historic preservation in the state. Judge Edenfield's decision and his underlying rationale should be of interest to members of the Alabama Archaeological Society.

The Nashville (later The Rattlesnake) was a side-wheeled steamer used during the Civil War to raid northern ships. The ship sank in the Ogeechee River off the Georgia coast in 1863 after being fired on by the USS Montauk.

The river bottom where The Nashville rests is property of the State of Georgia. After being denied a state permit to excavate The Nashville, Frank and Paul Chance of Richmond Hill nevertheless began diving on the wreck in 1979. Upon learning of this activity in 1983, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources ordered the Chances to cease diving and to relinquish all recovered artifacts. The Chance brothers, along with David Topper, then sought legal action to gain title to the artifacts or a salvage award under the maritime law of finds or salvage.

The Nashville case was heard on August 6 and 7, 1984, by Judge B. Avant Edenfield of the United States District Court in Savannah, and his decision upheld Georgia's claim to the wreck. The court decided that the maritime law of finds applied to the case. It was concluded, however, that as The Nashville was embedded in state lands, title to the vessel rested with the state. A salvage award also was denied because several legal conditions were not met. The court reasoned that inadequate conservation measures had been used and that the recovered artifacts were deteriorating at a faster rate than if they had remained on the river bottom.

The Nashville decision is of great importance in Georgia's attempt to exercise its responsibility to preserve and protect its underwater cultural resources. The judgment confirms Georgia's title to shipwrecks embedded under state waters. It provides a legal precedent that serves to protect Georgia's cultural heritage for public enjoyment, education and scientific investigation.

Morgan R. Crook, Jr.
Assistant to the State
Archaeologist
Department of Natural
Resources
West Georgia College
Carrollton, GA 30118

A.A.S. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT'S SUMMARY OF PROPOSED STUDY

Ms. Caryn Hollingsworth was selected on September 20, 1984, as a recipient of a scholarship from the Alabama Archaeological Society. The following is Ms. Hollingsworth's summary of proposed study.

I propose to research, analyze, and report on Site 1-FR-324, Sheep's Bluff Shelter, located in the Bear Creek Watershed of Franklin County in northwestern Alabama. The written report generated by this study would be of professional quality and also serve as my proposed Master's Thesis for the University of Alabama Cooperative Graduate Program in Anthropology.

Research and analysis will consist of historic and prehistoric cultural background material; pottery analysis and tool and lithic material typology, to establish relative dating and occupational chronology for the site; and identification and analysis of the ecological data recovered from the site. Also of particular interest, and one focus of the research, will be the context and stratigraphic distribution of "crude" or "pebble" tools of the same, or similar types as those that comprise the Lively Complex. Since relatively little is known (has been written) concerning the age and stratigraphic context of the Lively Complex types, it is hoped that this study will add to that knowledge.

Caryn Hollingsworth
University of Alabama

A.A.S. DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES
BOARD OF ADVISORS - ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

It is requested that each representative report significant activities in his or her district at subsequent meetings of the A.A.S. Board of Directors. If you are unable to attend, please handle this through the chapter president in your district or send notes to me. It is also suggested that notes of significant activities be forwarded to Mr. Amos Wright for incorporation in subsequent issues of the Stones & Bones. I would also ask that any major action items from district meetings be reported to the undersigned and to Dr. Richard Krause, our A.A.S. member on the Alabama Historical Commission.

District 1

Dr. N. Reed Stowe
Archaeological Research Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
University of South Alabama
Mobile, Alabama 36688
Phone: 431-6513

District 2

Dr. Leonard H. Roberts
Troy State University
Dothan, Alabama 36301
Phone: 794-5428

District 3

Dr. John Cottier
Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology
Auburn University
Haley Center
Auburn, Alabama 36849
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District 3 Alternate

Phillip E. Koerper
804 E. 11th Street
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265
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District 4

Mr. Ronald Morrow
Route 6, Box 34-C
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Phone: 734-2603

District 5

Miss Dorothy Luke
2643 Bonita Circle, S. W.
Huntsville, Alabama 35801
Phone: 539-8688

District 5 Alternate

Mr. Charles Moore
887 Riverview Drive
Florence, Alabama 35630
Phone: 766-1940

District 6

Dr. Roger Nance
Dept. of Anthropology
University of Alabama, Birmingham
University Station
Birmingham, Alabama 35294
Phone: 934-4690

District 7

Ms. Jean Allan
Route 1, Box 342
Moundville, Alabama 35474
Phone: 371-2463

I look forward to hearing of activities of the Board of Advisors in your district.

J. W. Lee
President, A.A.S.
1004 Appalachee Road
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

DEATH OF AN A.A.S. MEMBER

It is with deep regret that we announce the death last month, in an auto accident, of Susie Fitzgerald of Grant, Alabama. Susie was a relatively new member of the A.A.S., but an active one - she participated in the dig this past summer at the Snodgrass Site in Jackson County. She was also a member of the Huntsville Chapter and was very interested in our Society's and chapter's activities. Susie leaves a young daughter, Emily. We are all very sorry to lose Susie and will miss her enthusiasm and energy.

The Editors

A.A.S. MEMBERS AT WORK

The following photos are from the Tuscaloosa Chapter meeting at Mound State Park in September 1984. (See Tuscaloosa Chapter notes in this issue.) Photographs are courtesy of Bill Adkison of Tuscaloosa.



PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 20-29 each issue	(\$2.50 to Members)	\$5.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint, each issue . . .		\$5.00 pp
Special Publication 1 — Fort Mitchell		\$2.00 pp
Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County, Alabama</i>		\$4.50 pp
Special Publication 3 — <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>		\$6.50 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types</i>		\$10.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>		\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service		\$7.50 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile)		\$7.00 pp

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

SEND CHECKS TO: MR. EUGENE FUTATO, Office of Archaeological Research

1 Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474

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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.

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SECRETARY AND TREASURER
7608 Teal Drive, S.W.
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

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Alabama Archaeological Society

Mr. Amos J. Wright
2602 Green Mountain Road SE
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NEWSLETTER**

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