

THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

affiliates

BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MORGAN-LIMESTONE CHAPTER

MADISON-HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER

MUSCLE SHOALS CHAPTER

AFFILIATION

At the October meeting of the BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC., the members voted to affiliate (25 for, 11 against) with the ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

All chapters are autonomous, or self-governing, as stated in the Ala. Soc. CONSTITUTION (ARTICLE VIII, Section 1), the only limiting requirement being that their policies "be in accord" with those of the Ala. Soc. (which are, as stated in ARTICLE II, to promote good archaeological methods and frown upon archaeological abuses, paralleling similar statements in the CONSTITUTION OF the B'ham. Soc.)

The BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY will also preserve its name, itself an artifact of venerable antiquity.

It is agreed that this affiliation is for a trial period of one year, to test if it can be made mutually advantageous, at the end of which period it shall be evaluated and reconsidered.

The mere going-through-the-motions of calling ourselves affiliated will not of itself confer advantages. There must be more communication, coordination, twisting the slender threads into a stronger rope. It is up to those who voted for affiliation to back their brain child with a bit of muscle.

And we sincerely hope those who had honest doubts about affiliation will fall in step with good cheer in this year of trial and give it a fair trial to see if it cannot be made a happy and rewarding occasion for all, with more friends, wider interests, increased knowledge and stimulation, and above all greater archaeological accomplishments. It has all of these potentials - but it won't work by itself.

Perhaps everyone would like to pay their respects to those few who have the vitality, vision, and faith in human nature to conceive larger and more effective organization of the democratic principle for, by and of the people. Leadership is a difficult, an inspired, and so often a thankless task. Dr. Frank J. Soday has been preeminent in organizing Alabama archaeology.

We hope that all affiliated Societies will take a deeper breath and flex a few new muscles to make the larger dream a reality.

THE NEW NEWSLETTER

THE FIRST SPECIFIC STEP toward better communication and coordination will be an expanded Newsletter in which all affiliates participate.

Recall that Sequoia judged the greatest accomplishment of the white man his ability "to put things down on paper so they keep" - the preservative of all the brains and all the knowledge of billions of humans; the communicator of ideas and inspirations; the distillate of thought itself. Print is the basket in which we carry the wealth of the mind. And the success of Societies is in considerable measure dependent upon good publications.

Through a Newsletter we can have a monthly get-together of all our far-flung affiliates, share knowledge, experience, plans, inspirations, friendship, humor, chitchat. To that end it is requested that each affiliate send in a report every month.

In general, other affiliates will be interested in the essence of your last meeting, what you plan for your next, where and when you meet, your current projects in field work, public relations, archaeological education, membership drives, fund-raising activities, and the like. Don't forget individual projects, unusual artifacts displayed, humorous occasions - all the things which make our hobby interesting. The object is to bring us all together, let everyone sit in on your meetings. And don't go formal on us - be as natural as you are on a field trip with the gang.

DEADLINE - that is the dreaded word in publication. Script might need just a wee bit of editing for the sake of brevity, etc. The stencil cutter needs a day or two of leeway. The mimeographer - maybe 2,000 sheets to get out! Folding, stapling, addressing, stamping, mailing! Remember this is all volunteer labor by busy people. Do you think it fair to get your copy to the editor a day later than the twelfth of the month when Society meeting quite often fall on the first of the following month? And we want to get the Newsletter into your hands before each meeting. Why not make a habit of getting your report off your chest the day following your meetings, when the subject is fresh in your mind? DEADLINE - the way lumbermen shout TIMBER!

Each affiliate will no doubt wish to appoint a reporter, or make it a revolving proposition. Brief individual manuscripts are also solicited. Longer pieces should be submitted to the Journal.

Address Newsletter copy to Dan Josselyn, 408 Broadway, Edgewood, Birmingham 9, Ala. Let's do a real Newsletter. And our thanks.

----- ANNUAL MEETING -----
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All the affiliate Societies of the Alabama Archaeological Society will hold their annual meeting in Birmingham this year. The Art Gallery at the Birmingham Public Library has been reserved by Martin Hullender for the afternoon of Saturday, November 15, 2 to 5 PM.

This will be our first ANNUAL MEETING with FOUR affiliate Societies to

participate. Let's make it a real affair - an important event in the expanding life of an important group of affiliated Societies. We are making history in Alabama archaeology.

So bring the whole family, a few guests, and the kid down the street who is interested in arrowheads. Arrowheads? Sure, that is what guests will want to see (not to mention blase members!). Martin was unable to get the use of the display cases which we had last year, as they had already been reserved for other uses. This may require some modifications of display, but by all means work up something to make all eyes bug out on stems. If it might give you any ideas, we are working up a display on the evolution of flint chipping, beginning with Peking Man himself - with drawings of the real artifacts, homemade imitations, tools of the trade, explanation of methods, etc. And we'll get up a few other odds and ends, portable displays, etc.

We shall have the use of the movie projector and a good program is being arranged. All we need is attendance! Come all ye Faithful!

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NEWS OF RUSSELL CAVE

Dick Humbard went out of his way to visit Russell Cave and report.

Dr. Miller has been excavating again this past summer, got down to bed rock in the small section excavated - perhaps one fifth of the entire cave. He hoped to find an entrance to the sealed cave room indicated by a muffled rock fall last year, where ancient secrets may be undisturbed, but did not. Money has been exhausted but in 15 or 20 years, Dr. Miller remarked dryly, funds for further excavation might be found.

Dr. Miller could not divulge information prior to publication. But Dick used his eyes and saw human skeletal material protruding from one of the steel drums. He hoped it was from a low level - old Paleo Man himself. The charcoal in jars he also hoped was from a level low enough to give Alabama at least the oldest radio-carbon date in the East. Charcoal is now placed in clean, sterile jars and the jars wrapped in aluminum foil to prevent contamination from atmospheric radiation. Atomic testing has done much harm in this respect, notably ruining exposed material at Tule Springs, possibly the oldest site yet discovered in America.

Dr. Miller has been in touch with Ed Mahan, so Ed's amazing discoveries will get top-grade attention. Amateur archaeologists have made many of the most important finds, their greatest function being that of secret. The important thing is that finds be handled intelligently and brought to the attention of experts. Ed has achieved fame by doing things the right way.

STILL BROADER AFFILIATION

We proudly announce from the B'ham. Anthro. Soc. still another new member for the SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY, Mrs. A. F. Graham, Jr., to join the distinguished member list published in each January issue

of the S. A. A. quarterly Journal, AMERICAN ANTIQUITY. And we envy the opportunity of daughter Mimi to become acquainted with real archaeology early in life - wish we had! And thanks!

To explain to our fellow Societies, down here in B'ham. we have been campaigning to enlist new members for the SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY. Last Jan. this great and world-wide Society had only 1388-members! Shame on us - we should support our leading archaeological Journal better - not to mention taking more interest in archaeology! American Antiquity is indispensable if you want to get the most out of your hobby and keep up with American archaeology.

The B'ham. Anthro. Soc. has now added six new members - make it 1394. Our fellow Societies are cordially invited to make it a contest and do even better - if you can. For your convenience, we publish an application blank at the end of this Newsletter. Mail to Dr. David A. Baerreis, Sterling Hall, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison 6, Wisconsin. And notify Stones & Bones so we may add your name to the list.

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AND NOW YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH WORLD ARCHAEOLOGY

AMERICAN ANTIQUITY keeps you up with all American archaeology, and recently announced a way to keep up with archaeology all over the world

The Arch. Inst. of America, American Anthropological Assn., Anthro. Section of Amer. Assn. for Advancement of Science, Amer. Oriental Soc., Amer. School of Prehistoric Research, Amer. Schools of Oriental Research Soc. for Amer. Arch., Amer. Assn. of Physical Anthropologists, Amer. Numismatic Soc., and the International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences have all joined hands to form the COUNCIL FOR OLD WORLD ARCHAEOLOGY.

The entire world is covered, including that usually hidden part of the world behind the Iron Curtain. A summary, to the point and easy to read of what is being done everywhere, is published. And a bibliography (annotated) lists everything published on archaeology, everywhere, in all languages. Each two years the entire world is covered completely. then the coverage starts all over again, keeping us up to the minute & you no longer have to wait 20 or more years as used to be the case.

The first year's publications are out, in 18 parts, available now, and excellent. And amazing things are being discovered. These first publications will be on display at your ANNUAL MEETING. The printing might be in short supply, due to the half-hearted support we give to archaeology, so order early. You deserve these publications and they deserve your support. For your convenience we also append to this Newsletter an application blank for the publications of the COUNCIL FOR OLD WORLD ARCHAEOLOGY. Publication is twice yearly, 5 or 6 areas being covered every six months.

BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Meeting: first Friday of each month, Birmingham Public Library, 7:30 PM. Programs are running good (knock on a totem pole!), visitors welcomed

For our October meeting Martin Hullender procured, lured, or otherwise induced Mr. Foy Campbell of the Funk Seed Co. (working out of Montgomery to talk on corn. Maybe just saying it like that sounds corny to you, but brother you just don't know about corn - not the way Mr. Campbell's engaging personality, inclusive information, colored slides and colored sound movies put it over. You might be surprised, but he didn't even miss giving full credit to the Indians and to archaeology - with some superb photography of Mayan pyramid temples, Andean Indians raising, tilling, harvesting, transporting corn today by the ancient methods, and so on. An continuing through the immensity of the modern corn crop and the complexity of the science of hybrid corn - the whole works. And you get answers to the questions which all this will provoke. If you want good program by all means write to Mr. Campbell and ask him if he "have corn, will travel". If he can manage such an extensive trip, get him a good crown, including visitors and the city fathers. Give him, and the lic, a break in the papers - everybody who knows how good he is will com

It seems a most fitting follow-up that our Nov. program will be a talk, with colored slides, on PLANTS THAT THE INDIANS USED, by Mrs. James Mas of the famous Indian Springs School. Having encountered Mrs. Mason's infectious personality in the field, and seen her enthusiastically riding another hobby of taking color photographs of "beautiful snakes", we are looking forward to this. If you are interested in Indians (and who isn't), you won't want to miss it.

Our Field Trip Committee went into air-conditioned hiding during the heat of summer. We admit there was little protest, though we did hear someone quoting that old one: A camel is a horse put together by a committee". The cool breezes prognosticating Fall have brought out several wishes that the Committee will come out of their hibernation in reverse and give us some collective action. There is a tremendous site near Montevallo which is to be destroyed - the sand removed for highway construction. It should be stratigraphically tested, to say the least - and the sand is easy digging, too. We regret to report a very slight reluctance to undertake the patient job of stratigraphic study. But just you mention a site where artifacts can be shoveled up (instead of sand) - ! ! ! !

The most notable contribution that we can report of an individual member to archaeology this summer in the astonishing feat of Mr. Douglas F. Sir in getting 14 (yes, fourteen) new subscribers to the Tennessee Archaeologist. That is something to be proud of - archaeological progress is impossible without good publications, which in turn are impossible without subscribers. Mr. Shaw modestly gives full credit to Lewis and Kneberg and their excellent publication which "sells itself" if you let people discover it. And have you joined up? This publication concentrates on our area. Address: Prof. T.M.N. Lewis, Univ. of Tenn., Knoxville - \$3.00.

Our mutual TV program, Stones & Bones, began its fall adventures Tues. Sept. 30, 8:30 PM, to appear every two weeks. Tune in - tell your friends - tell the local paper. And scout up some new programs. Don't leave all the headaches to our good MC (and President) Britt Thompson.

Birmingham Anthropological Society mailing address is P. O. Box 2171, Birmingham 1, Alabama.

We have received news this summer of considerable archaeological destruction. Harold Kleine visited a remarkable site (over 800 indentifiable chipped artifacts were surface collected in a few hours on his first visit) only to find it well dug over - he hopes, but doubt by competent persons. We hear that excavations at the Weiss Dam are running into burials and the workmen are collecting "teeth and beads". Chick Craig was telling us about the destruction of a remarkable Copena site - the only Copena village site we have heard of. Housing developments in the Birmingham area are destroying numerous sites, including one where Harold Kleine found a fluted point, and another which was the first village site your editor ever collected. We have not heard of any attempt in Alabama to get the Federal funds available in cases of highway destruction of sites.

"Killing time isn't murder - it's suicide." So be more active in archaeology and make your time count!

TYRANTS AND TEETH

Dental Archaeology Solves Ancient Murder Mystery

There is a certain bipedal vertebrate called Homo sapiens - but only by himself. One of the more amazing items of his amazing history is the bloody fashion of royalty in murdering all relatives who might be contenders for the crown.

Mohammed III, Sultan of Turkey (1566-1603), on accession to the throne immediately murdered his 19 (nineteen) brothers. This seems the more surprising in that he was head of the Mohammedan religion, "successor of the Prophet" - the Abbasside line having sold this high office to the line of Turkish Sultans.

But the English Kings, stout claimants to Christianity, behaved as badly. Shortly prior to the death of Edward IV he appointed his own brother, Duke of Gloucester, regent until the boy Prince Edward V should reach a majority and assume the crown. The Duke murdered the immature (age 13) King Edward and Edward's still younger brother, and assorted other relatives. He graciously spared his own mother - denouncing her as an adulteress, claiming he was the only legitimate issue by his father. Thus the Duke became Richard III, King of England.

The burial place of the boy King and his brother became confused in the shenanigans of murder. Some 200 years later, in the reign of Charles I, workmen accidentally discovered two skeletons walled up under a staircase in the famous, or infamous, Tower. Assuming they might be the skeletons of the unfortunate Princes, they were reburied in an urn in Westminster Abbey - but no one really knew.

Recently the late Professor William Wright opened the urn and determined the exact ages of the boys by their teeth, at last confirming the fate of the royal scions.

Determination of age (in immaturity) is one example of the archaeological uses of dental science cited by Prof. Humphrey F. Humphrey in an article in Antiquity, the British equivalent of our American Antiquity. The

article was subsequently reprinted in Dental Radiography and Photography which Dick Humbard borrowed from his dentist.

Professor Humphrey (Dental College, Univ. of B'ham., England) goes on to mention that teeth are the most enduring parts of the skeleton, one reason why paleontologists have given so many species and orders names ending in "odont" - since they are so often known only by their teeth.

Human teeth have been especially valuable in determining which of our early ancestors are more closely allied to the human, which to the ape. A single tooth in a Chinese drug store (ground bones and teeth are used for magic medicine) led to one of the most interesting discoveries of an early half-brained man, *Sinanthropus pekinensis*. Man's changing diet, his malnutritions, the advent of farming and of cooked food, have all left their records in dentition.

To give the bloody episodes of Kings a happier ending, we may relate that the above King Edward IV, when he had his own fratricidal turn at murdering his own brother, the Duke of Clarence, so magnanimously gave the victim the choice of how he would prefer to die. The Duke with right royal taste, chose to be drowned in his favorite beverage, malmsey, a rich, sweet, aromatic wine.

YOUR OWN SKELETON

We regret, exceedingly, that one of our charter members, Mr. Floyd Taylor fell and fractured his femur - and that the accident was not due to an overload of artifacts on a field trip. We rejoice that he is home and mending, thanks to modern medicine - we can recall when such accidents were usually fatal.

It might be timely to pay as much attention to our own skeletons as we accord those we excavate.

Falls, especially in later life, rank very high among the accidental causes of injury and death. After falling a few thousand times with no ill results in earlier life, we can't seem to remember that the bones become brittle with age - so we do not take proper precautions.

And according to current medical journals, we tend to a negative calcium balance in later life unless we get rather more than usual of this food mineral. Skim milk is recommended as the best source of calcium - the whole milk somewhat frowned upon since cholesterol became controversial. And vitamin D is essential for utilization of calcium in old age. Osteoporosis (porous bones) is the result of lack of adequate calcium and/or poor utilization. Hormones also may be involved.

But we who dig up old bones should know that the best of them should be handled carefully.

Application for Membership
THE SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

I, _____, hereby apply for membership in the Society for American Archaeology and enclose \$8.00 as my annual membership dues for the fiscal year _____ beginning May 1.

Occupation _____

Archaeological interest _____

"The objects of the Society shall be to promote and to stimulate interest and research in the archaeology of the American continents; to encourage a more rational public appreciation of the aims and limitations of archaeological research; to serve as a bond among those interested in American archaeology, both professionals and non-professionals, and to aid in directing their efforts into more scientific channels; to publish and encourage the publication of their results; to foster the formation and welfare of local archaeological societies; to advance and to aid in the conservation of archaeological data; and to discourage commercialism in the archaeological field and to work for its elimination." Art. II, Sect. 1. Constitution.

I am in sympathy with and hereby subscribe to the ideals and objects of the Society.

Signature _____

Address _____

Date _____

Dues must accompany application (\$8.00 annually; Benefactor \$500.00). Make checks or money orders payable to the Society for American Archaeology and mail to the Secretary.

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Subscription Blank

Council for Old World Archaeology
11 Divinity Avenue,
Cambridge 38, Mass., U. S. A.

I wish to subscribe to the COWA Surveys and COWA Bibliographies for one year, covering eleven areas, issued in two groups, as indicated in your circular of December 27, 1957.

Enclosed is \$4.00 (cash.....Check.....Money order.....)

Name.....
(please print)

Address.....
(please print)

Date.....