

# SEAC

# newsletter

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Volume 16, No. 1

May, 1972

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

Late again!!! It is really terrible to keep having to apologize for being behind with SEAC publications (plus West Virginia Archeological Society and others), but the time just seems to fly by while the work in West Virginia increases. Most of the summer was spent in survey work and it was impossible to catch up on my typing as has been done in the past when I was staying in one place for several weeks. Hopefully, everything (Bulletins 12 and 15) can be completed before the end of the year, so please be patient.

## CURRENT RESEARCH DEADLINE:

Normally, the current research is published in a Newsletter and distributed before the fall meeting, but since the 1972 meeting will be earlier than usual it will probably not be possible to get the Newsletter typed and in the mail until after the meeting. Please fill out the enclosed forms and return them to the Editor no later than September 23 and every effort will be made to get the Newsletter completed and in the mail by September 30. Later arrivals will be published after the first of the year in Vol. 17, No. 1. Due to the shortage of time, illustrations will have to be kept to a minimum, although line drawings that can be reproduced on the xerox machine are always welcome. Please mail your current research by First Class mail so that it can be received as quickly as possible.

## ANNUAL SEAC MEETING:

The 1972 meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference will be held in Morgantown, West Virginia, on October 13 and 14, at the Holiday Inn. The Historic Sites Conference will meet on October 12 with Stanley South (University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina) as Chairman. Additional information on the SEAC meeting will be found on pages 17 and 18 of this Newsletter

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SOUTHEAST ARCHEOLOGICAL CENTER MOVES TO FLORIDA

During the month of June, 1972, the National Park Service's Southeast Archeological Center was moved from Macon, Georgia, to Tallahassee, Florida. Richard D. Faust is serving as Acting Chief of the Center. The new address is as follows:

Southeast Archeological Center  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 2764  
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Phone-- (904) 222-1167

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EDITOR'S NOTE (Continued from page 1):

## ODDS-AND-ENDS:

This Newsletter is composed of the Current Research reports received by the Editor after the deadline in 1971, as well as a few other miscellaneous items that should be of interest to members of the Conference.

Bettye J. Broyles  
Editor/Treasurer SEAC  
% West Virginia Geological Survey  
Box 879  
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505

CURRENT RESEARCH IN THE SOUTHEAST

## FLORIDA::

From June 15 to August 15, 1971, the Florida State University archaeological field school conducted excavations at the Torreya Site (8Li8) in Torreya State Park, Liberty County, Florida. Excavations were under the direction of George Percy. The field crew consisted of fourteen students, both undergraduate and graduate, from FSU and other universities (including the University of Arizona, Louisiana State University, Agnes Scott College, University of South Florida, and the University of Bern in Switzerland). The summer's excavations were a continuation of weekend work at the site begun earlier in 1971 and reported briefly by Percy in Vol. 15, No. 1 of the SEAC Newsletter. Work has been supported entirely by funds provided by the Department of Anthropology at FSU and student fees. Permission for work in the park was very kindly granted by the Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, of the State of Florida.

As mentioned in the previous note, the site is located in an upland zone on the east side of the Apalachicola River. It is along the north side of a small creek drainage, now almost dry, and is about three quarters of a mile from the edge of the high bluffs which border the east side of the Apalachicola at this point. A site map, covering an area of about 800 by 800 feet and showing the character of the land in the immediate vicinity of the site, has been completed.

Originally, the site was thought to be a small habitation or camp site. Surface collection before excavation suggested an area of approximately 200 by 300 feet. The summer's excavations have changed that picture. The boundaries of the site have been defined and the area involved is approximately 400 by 700 feet. In most places, the site is very shallow with the main concentration of artifacts, chiefly potsherds, extending no deeper than a foot below the surface.

The range of ceramic types recovered still suggests a single component site, pertaining only to Weeden Island. Most of the pottery is either check stamped (Wakulla Check Stamped) or plain. There are very small percentages of other types (Weeden Island Incised, Weeden Island Punctated, Carrabelle Incised, Carrabelle Punctated, Keith Incised, Swift Creek Complicated Stamped--Late Variety, and Old Bay Complicated Stamped) but these form a very minor part of the total ceramic assemblage. Basically, the assemblage appears to be late Weeden Island (Weeden Island II). No vertical stratigraphic differences have been noted.

Over 100 five- by five-foot squares have been excavated, and a basic picture of the composition of the site is clear. Except for one small area of black midden soil, the significance of which is not yet clear, the soil of the site is naturally formed. All of it is alluvial soil, deposited on top of an earlier surface which is heavily weathered. Profiles of the alluvial soil show developed A and B horizons. Most of the artifact material is concentrated in a well developed A<sub>1</sub> horizon (this seems to be a fortuitous association, however).

So far as artifacts, almost nothing has been found other than pottery. The total collection is upwards of 10,000 sherds. Other artifacts include a few projectile points, some waste flakes (though no cores), a possible grinding stone, a very few pieces of deer and turtle bones, and some fresh water pelecypod and gastropod shells (none of them burned). Several small pits were found; one of them contained a concentration of pelecypod and gastropod shells, some charcoal, and a number of sherds belonging to the same vessel. Several small concentrations of charred seeds (unidentified) and a charred nut fragment were found in the general soil matrix, but not in particular association with anything else. No post-holes, hearth areas, ash deposits, or other evidence of building or cooking activities were found.

Flotation samples of standard size were taken from each square. All samples have been processed and have yielded essentially nothing.

Soil samples for chemical analysis were also taken from each square, but have yet to be processed. They will be analyzed especially for pH value and level of phosphorous concentration; pH value as a check on the possibility of shell decay, and phosphorous concentration as a check on the possibility of bone decay. Also, the analytical results of the samples from different squares will be compared to check for the possibility of intra-site differences (the location of particular activity areas, for example). For each square the samples have been taken in a measured vertical series, beginning 0.2 feet beneath the surface. The results of the chemical analysis of these samples should contribute to the general body of experimental data on the vertical distribution of chemical elements of different kinds in archaeological sites.

Pollen samples have been taken, as well as general soil samples for mechanical analysis of soils to aid in the reconstruction of the recent geological history of the site.

Only one charcoal sample acceptable for C-14 dating could be collected. This has yet to be submitted.

Insofar as the horizontal distribution of artifacts, the excavations have indicated a number of areas on the site where pottery was more concentrated. These seem to have been the more important places of activity. One of these areas was explored by careful trowel excavation, recording the location of each artifact found. Many of the sherds seemed to be fitting and to belong to a limited number of vessels, but careful analysis of distributional relationships of the artifacts has not been done as yet.

Two squares excavated just outside the south boundary of the site yielded earlier materials: one square produced fiber-tempered pottery, the other produced Deptford Check Stamped and what appeared to be Santa Rosa Stamped. In both cases these earlier materials came from greater depths below the surface than the Weeden Island pottery from the other squares on the site. Most of these other squares were excavated to a depth considerably below the Weeden Island occupation, and none produced earlier materials. If earlier materials had existed, the depth of excavation was certainly great enough to have encountered them.

Basically, the Torreya Site presents a dilemma, and the significance of the site and activities carried on there are not clear. It does not appear to have been a place where animal foods were gathered, or processed, or even used to any great extent (the total amount of shell and animal bone is extremely small). Nor does it appear to have been a place where plant foods were processed or used. Nor a place where people stayed very long at any one time; possibly not even overnight (at least not very often). A more likely explanation at present seems to be that the site was a place where plant foods or other products were gathered. Tapping pine trees for gum is one possibility suggested.

Interpretation will probably have to wait for further work in the area; work involving excavations at other sites and analysis of the local distribution of various environmental resources. It seems quite clear-- both from the Torreya Site itself and from its observed relation to other nearby sites-- that the Torreya Site was the location of a fairly narrow range of specialized activities and was only one of several different kinds of sites used by members of the same community. On the opposite side of the small creek from the Torreya Site is another Weeden Island site. Test excavation in this has produced heavy amounts of shell and animal bone, as well as ceramics and other artifacts. This site is designated as the Ranger Site (8Li3) and is probably the habitation site with which the Torreya Site is to be primarily associated. There is a definite break between the two sites (determined by excavation), but they are no more than 200 feet apart.

In the test pit excavated on the Ranger Site, Deptford (late) ceramics were found beneath the Weeden Island materials, separated from the latter by sterile, unstratified sand. This raises the possibility of a Deptford (late) component underlying at least part of the Weeden Island occupation on the Ranger Site and extending as far north as the south edge of the Torreya Site, spanning the area between the Weeden Island occupations on the two sites.

Approximately 150 feet to the northwest of the Torreya Site is a small burial mound also pertaining to Weeden Island. A map was made of the mound in the summer of 1971; plans to excavate in it are being formulated.

Less than a mile to the north of these three sites is a ridge where a number of projectile points have been found. Just to the north of this is bottomland of the Apalachicola River, where there is apparently another Weeden Island village with material found over at least half a mile. The site is along a small creek which comes into the Apalachicola at this point. The initial suggestion is that all five of these sites pertain to the same community, the different sites representing different sets of activities and so placed as to take advantage of different micro-environmental zones. These several sites, along with more survey work in the general area, will be the field working target for 1972. Basically, our work is being focused in the middle Apalachicola region with the intent of developing a series of testable hypotheses about settlement and subsistence patterns as they involve whole communities. So far as the remains of particular cultures, emphasis is being placed on Weeden Island and Fort Walton.

Originally, FSU had planned two field working projects for the summer of 1971--the one at Torreya and another at St. Augustine, the latter to be under the direction of Hale G. Smith. Unfortunately, Smith was taken ill during the spring, and the St. Augustine project had to be cancelled.

Dan Morse, M.D., has been added to the Anthropology faculty at FSU as Adjunct Associate Professor. He will be teaching courses in human osteology and paleopathology, as well as conducting research on human skeletal material from archaeological sites. At present, he is working on the analysis of the human skeletal material from FSU's excavations at the Sowell Mound in Bay County, Florida. These excavations took place in the summers of 1969 and 1970 and were also reported briefly in Vol. 15, No. 1 of the SEAC Newsletter. The analysis of the skeletal material was begun earlier in 1971 by Robert Dailey of the Anthropology faculty. Dailey is currently with the FSU London teaching program.

Stan Olsen has recently completed analyzing faunal remains from two prehistoric sites in south Florida--the Onion Key Site and the Bear Lake Mound. Both were excavated as National Park Service projects under the direction of John W. Griffin. The results of Olsen's analyses will appear in Griffin's report on these sites. Also, some of the data will be included in a forthcoming article by Olsen in the Handbook of North American Indians.

George W. Percy  
Florida State University

#### MISSISSIPPI:

Two summer sessions of six weeks each were once again held in 1971. Both were at the Metzger Site in the Sun Creek bottomland 12 miles north of Starkville, Mississippi. Test excavations were oriented in obtaining large collections of data from the later components of the site. An area 20 by 30 feet was opened near the summit of the mounded site. This was a more level portion of the mound slightly south of the east-west median. A very hot and dry first term progressed rather well but the second term was greatly limited by a very wet mid-summer, only seven days of excavation were completed. Large samples of ceramics of the periods related to the Lower Mississippi River Valley Baytown, Marksville, and Tchula periods were obtained. There was little stratification and, with the exception of several hearths, a few post molds, and two burials, features were difficult to locate. All and all, it was a somewhat disappointing field session. Continued excavations are planned for the 1972 field season.

During the late spring, several surveys were conducted for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in the Shuqualak Creek Watershed, Noxubee County, and the Yellow Creek Watershed in Lowndes County. These are proposed scs watershed improvement projects. Some sites were found, but most will not be affected. Another survey was conducted at the Burnside Lake Recreation Area, Winston County, a Pearl River

Basin Development Association project just north of Philadelphia, Mississippi. Here several sites with plain, clay-tempered pottery of a Coles Creek-like tradition were found. One of these sites is being set aside for future exploration as the park area is developed.

An archaeological survey of the Archusa Creek Reservoir, Clarke County at Quitman, Mississippi, was surveyed late in the spring of 1971 at the request of the Pat Harrison Waterway District (Pascagoula River Basin) through the state Department of Archives and History. The area had been cleared of vegetation and in the 490-acre reservoir thirty archaeological sites were found. Projectile points typologically related to Early Archaic through good Mississippian types were found along with French-Dutch gunflint types. Ceramics ranged from Bayou LaBatre types through historic Choctaw types with a very large collection of ceramics from the Tchula (Tchefuncte) and Marksville periods. Later in the summer one of the sites, rather high and slightly mounded and believed a potential obstruction to boaters, was leveled. Two days working with a road patrol exposed 30 large hearth-storage-trash pit features. Many of the hearths were filled with both amorphous and shaped clay balls. Occasional flint flakes, other artifacts, bone, and shell occurred. In the trash-storage pits, flint flakes, projectile points, bone, shell, and some charred vegetable remains were found along with large quantities of ceramics. Many of these pits produced large numbers of ceramics belonging to the Alexander Ceramic Complex. Other Tchula Period ceramics were found in other pits. One pit was filled with sherds which appear to belong to the Baytown-Troyville complexes.

Two surveys in the Yellow Creek area of Tishomingo County were conducted at the request of the T.V.A. One area being tested for a possible nuclear power generating facility overlooking the Yellow Creek area of Lake Pickwick was surveyed. Several sites, indicated only by a light scattering of material, probable Archaic, were found along with one possible cairn. The Yellow Creek Port and Harbor facility area was also surveyed along with a railroad spur right-of-way and a large industrial park area. Several sites, most of which were Archaic, were located along the railroad and in the industrial park area. Several of these would be worthy of testing.

Recent developments of interest to archaeology have occurred in regard to the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. The Environmental Defense Fund successfully obtained an injunction against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prevent the beginning construction of the waterway. One of the areas in which the EDF presented data was that no adequate archaeological and historical survey of research had been conducted and that the Corps' environmental impact statement was not adequate in this regard. At a meeting in July, the Mississippi State sponsored Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District funded the Mississippi Archaeological Survey, a division of the State Department of Archives and History, in the amount of \$8,000 for an assessment survey of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Mrs. Shelia Lewis, Field Supervisor, and J.D. Caldwell, assistant, are conducting this survey. The field work began in September, 1971, and was completed in December. A full report will be available early in 1972.

Laboratory Activities: Excavated materials from the 1969 and 1970 excavations at the Claiborne Site, a Poverty Point Period complex at the mouth of the Pearl River, has been continued sporadically interspersed with the analysis of materials from the surveys mentioned above.

New Research, New Facilities, and Personnel: Marc Rucker (A.B.D., archaeology) from the University of Kansas has joined the Mississippi State University. Also, Dr. Louise Robbins, physical anthropologist, has joined the MSU staff.

During the summer of 1971, an unsolicited grant in the amount of one million dollars was awarded MSU by Cully A. and Lois D. Cobb (a 1908 alum of MSU), of Atlanta, Georgia. This grant is for the establishment of an Institute of Archaeology for "archaeological teaching, field-work, and research in the origins of western European civilization and the Indians of the South, particularly Mississippi." On September 21, 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Cobb gave an additional five hundred thousand dollars for a research and museum building. The Anthropology staff has been working closely with an architect in the design of this new facility and work is to progress as quickly as possible. Richard A. Marshall has been appointed as Acting Director, Cobb Institute of Archaeology, until a full-time director can be appointed.

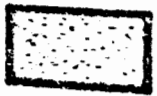
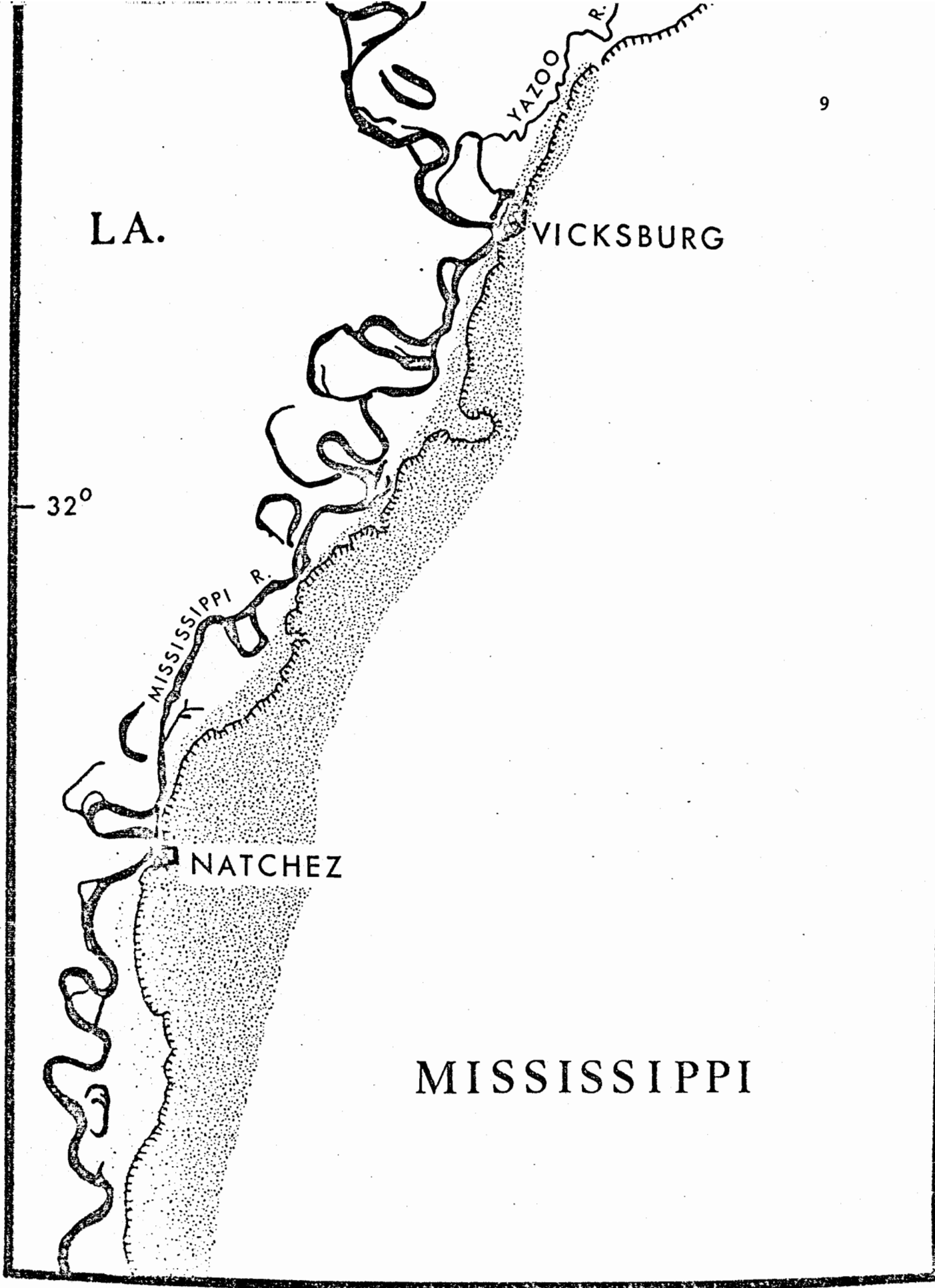
Richard A. Marshall  
Mississippi State University

The Lower Mississippi Survey, Peabody Museum, conducted a summer field session of eleven weeks (June 15-September 1, 1971) in the southwestern corner of Mississippi between Vicksburg and the Louisiana state line (Fig. 1). The expedition was headquartered in Cannonsburg, near Natchez, Mississippi, and consisted of Jeffrey P. Brain (field director), Robert S. Neitzrl (assistant field director), and four student crew members (Ian Brown and James LeMoyne from Harvard, Gilman Parsons from Williams, and Mike Reckard from LSU). Additional unskilled personnel were hired from the local labor pool as required.

The primary objective of the expedition was to conduct an archaeological survey of the left bank of the Mississippi River. Special attention was to be directed to the prominent bluffs, which define the eastern margin of the alluvial valley of the Mississippi, since they represent a major ecotone between the rich but unstable valley floor and the poorer but physically dominant upland hills. It was hypothesized that a considerable prehistoric occupation would be evidenced in these bluffs as the local population took advantage of the natural benefits of the diverse ecologies from an intermediate position. In brief, archaeological data from the narrow strip of bluff zone was expected to encapsulate the entire span of man's occupation of the valley, as well as test current theories regarding the importance of transitional ecological zones in socio-cultural development.

Accordingly, an extensive survey of the designated region was carried out by the core crew in order to discover and record as many of the remaining archaeological sites as possible. This survey was accom-





SURVEY AREA, LMS, 1971



BLUFFS

FIGURE 1

plished by vehicle (more than 20,000 miles were logged) and on foot. Promising areas were intensively covered; and additional locations were explored on the basis of information developed in the field. Some 130 actual new sites were recorded, including a most important string of mound ceremonial centers which had been constructed along the bluffs about 1,000 years ago. Numerous other pieces of information were also integrated into the overall study. All of this data has been compiled and is in the process of being analyzed; a large part of the winter semesters will be devoted to this task.

As a preliminary statement, it appears that the expectation of a relatively complete outline of the prehistoric and early historic occupation of the valley will be fulfilled. Furthermore, although this requires considerably more evaluation, it would seem that while the bluffs may well have been a preeminent occupation and ceremonial locus at certain periods, the strict ecotonal hypothesis is subject to some qualification.

The secondary objective of the summer's investigations, beyond the basic archaeological survey, was the reconstruction of particular events in the late prehistoric and early historic period of the region, and the relating of these events to the overall archaeological record. Special emphasis was directed towards the development and interrelationships of the principal historic occupants of the area, the Natchez and Tunica Indians. The latter tribe is of interest because it was a recent newcomer to the region, and because its importance had recently been documented by the discovery of a large cache of burial furniture of native and European manufacture (the so-called "Tunica Treasure"; the wealth of trade goods in this collection demonstrate the power of the Tunica, and provide an unparalleled study collection for the early historic period). However, no additional sites certainly relating to the Tunica were recorded during the summer of 1971 which clearly indicates their late and restricted impact upon the region.

By contrast, the Natchez were the true heirs of the in situ prehistoric development, and their remains were found throughout most of the region. A number of new sites definitely attributable to the Natchez and their forebearers were recorded, and, at seven of these, brief test excavations were conducted towards the end of the season in order to determine their suitability for intensive excavation during 1972. Three of these sites gave ample indication that further work would be well rewarded with information relating to the development of the Natchez. Combined with existing data on the Natchez and Tunica, this information will firmly establish the later end of the chronology for the aboriginal occupation of this region of the valley, as well as provide some insight into the development of the Natchez Indians, the single most important tribe in the Lower Mississippi Valley at the time of historic contact.

Jeffrey P. Brain  
Stephen Williams  
Peabody Museum, Harvard University

## SOUTH CAROLINA:

The Institute of Archeology and Anthropology under the direction of Robert L. Stephenson has several archeological involvements throughout the State. Stanley South will conduct the third season of excavations with a crew of 30 at the site of Ninety-Six. Assisting South will be Kathy Deagan, Lloyd Chapman, John Jamison, and Dick Polhemus. This site consists of an extremely complex system of Revolutionary War fortifications. In all there are seven forts, a colonial town, and an early 18th century trading post.

Tom Hemmings, formerly on the Institute staff, conducted a coastal survey of shell ring sites and excavated one on Fig Island. He is currently involved with writing up these excavations. Tommy Ryan completed a one-month excavation at the McCollum Mound Site in 1971 and plans to return during the 1972 season.

Two new assistant archaeologists joined the staff in the fall of 1971. George Teague from Eastern New Mexico University, and Richard Carrillo from the University of Kansas. Teague is continuing the statewide survey program. He is currently involved with survey and exploratory testing operations on the Broad River north of Columbia, South Carolina, under a grant from the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company. Under this grant, excavations of three multi-component archaic sites are planned for this year. Dick Carrillo just completed an excavation project at the site of Pinckneyville in cooperation with the Union County Historical Society. Pinckneyville served as the district seat from 1791-1800. He is now conducting, in cooperation with the State Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, the first stage of a long term archaeological program at the site of Dorchester, a late 17th century community founded by Massachusetts Puritans. This season's work consists of exploratory excavations within the walls of Fort Dorchester, a Revolutionary War fort built by the Americans and the only known American tabby fort.

John Combs has instigated a nationwide study of nonprofessional archaeologists. He is also undertaking further reconnaissance and some excavations at the proposed Trotter Shoals project on the Savannah River.

Stanley South and Rickard Polhemus conducted a cooperative project using volunteer labor in an effort to salvage some of the data from the site of 18th century Fort Moore. Located on the Savannah River, this outpost was an important trading center as well as defensive bastion for the early traders and settlers along the borders of the Indian nations of the region.

The Institute staff has acted in an advisory role for the excavations now underway at the Revolutionary War site of Camden. This work is directed by Robert Strickland and is sponsored by the Camden Heritage Foundation.

Leland Ferguson has recently joined the staff of the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology as archaeologist, bringing the total number of archaeologists on the staff to eight.

## TENNESSEE:

The University of Tennessee continued excavations in the valley of the Little Tennessee River (Tellico Reservoir). A second field program was undertaken near Spring City, Tennessee.

Tellico Reservoir-- Two sites were excavated during the 1971 field season. Field supervision was under J. Worth Greene with general supervision by A. K. Guthe. This work was funded by the National Park Service and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The Harrison Branch Site (40 Mr 21) was excavated during June and July. This was a stratified site containing early Woodland materials. Some historic material was recovered from the upper levels; Archaic materials were encountered in the lower levels.

The Bat Creek Site (40 Ld 24) was excavated August through November, 1971. This contained a low substructure and an adjacent village, Mississippi occupation. Pottery of a Hiwassee Island type was associated. The mound was constructed over a previous structure's floor following the burning off of the original surface. In the adjacent area rectangular house patterns were located. The upper portions of several pits and post molds had been destroyed by plowing.

Spring City-- Two sites were excavated in the area at which TVA proposes building a nuclear power plant. This will be located on the west side of the Tennessee River below the Watts Bar Dam. Field supervision was by J. B. Graham with general supervision by A. K. Guthe. Funds were provided by TVA. Excavations began in June and continued through November, 1971.

One site (40 Rh 6) consisted of a low substructure mound. Evidence of four structures were encountered. Three of these were located in the same area. The sequence of construction was (1) a rectangular wall-trench structure, (2) a circular structure, then (3) a rectangular structure.

The second site (40 Rh 7) was a cluster of five burial mounds (Hamilton). At least 42 burials were encountered. A number of good charcoal samples were obtained for radiocarbon dating.

New Facilities and Personnel: The Department of Anthropology has a set of offices in Stadium Hall. Departmental office is in Room 252. The archaeological collections remain in the Frank H. McClung Museum.

Gerald F. Schroedl has joined the archaeological research staff. He received his graduate training at Washington State University and will receive his Ph.D. degree in January, 1972.

Publications: "Archaeological Investigations in the Tellico Reservoir, Interim Report, 1970", Paul Gleeson, editor. Report of Investigations No. 9, Department of Anthropology, 99 pages, 25 tables, 31 plates. May

be obtained from the U. T. Press, Communications Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916. Price-- \$4.50.

Alfred K. Guthe  
University of Tennessee

#### VIRGINIA:

Field research was initiated by Catholic University in April, 1971, at the Flint Run series of Paleo-Indian sites. These sites, which are located on the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, a few miles outside of Front Royal, Virginia, consist of a number of Paleo-Indian occupations surrounding an extensive outcrop of jasper. The first season, which ended in September was devoted to a controlled surface collection and test excavation at the Thunderbird Ranch Site (44WR11). The crew, under the direction of Dr. William M. Gardner, consisted of a staff which was supported by the National Geographic Society, the Catholic University summer field school, and numerous volunteers from the Northern Shenandoah Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia. The results of this work are still in the preliminary stages of analysis, however it is evident that there is a definite patterning to artifact distribution with numerous "hot spots" or concentrations of activity. The initial excavations were undertaken in one of these hot spots. The following features were uncovered: a structure some 10 by 24 feet (more than one structure may be involved); an area down the slope from the structure which was an area of intensive flint knapping; reasonably discrete concentrations of flakage within this flint knapping area; and areas where activity is less intense. In the areas of less intense activity there appears on the basis of preliminary analysis to be a higher percentage of finished artifacts and utilized flakes than in the other area. In the area in and around the structure there is a high incidence of bifaces. There is also good evidence of stratigraphy in certain portions of the site. In the area around the structure, occupation terminates on top of an ancient cobble-lined river bed at a depth of around 18 inches. Some 100 feet to the south, the end of the occupation and the river bed is over four feet. Soil auguring even further south puts the old river bed at over nine feet. Jasper flakes were brought up from this depth with the augur. The fluted point types range from something Clovis-like to something Quad-like. Excavations will continue here and at other sites in the complex for the next several seasons.

Gardner and Charles W. McNett of American University are currently writing up the work they conducted on the Potomac River drainage during the years 1968-1970. The bulk of this work will be on the Potomac Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

The second annual meeting of the informal Middle Atlantic States Archaeological Conference was held at American University in 1971. A series of papers presented at this meeting will be available shortly. The third meeting was scheduled for March, 1972, with Ron Thomas, Delaware State Archaeologist, as host.

During the winter and spring of 1972, Catholic University students will do historic archaeology at Great Falls National Park under a National Park Service contract.

New Research: Vic Carbone, Kurt Carr, Ivor Gross, Deborah Harrison, and Joan Walker are all currently doing research related to the department's Paleo-Indian research program. Each of these students will do master's and doctoral theses on some aspect of the research. Munro Meyersburg will do his master's research and thesis on the late 18th century village of Matildaville at Great Falls National Park. W. Fred Kinsey, director of the North Museum at Franklin and Marshall College, is currently on leave of absence and finishing his doctoral work at Catholic University. His dissertation will be on his research in the Delaware Valley. Kinsey will continue archaeological investigations in 1972 in the Tocks Island Reservoir under contract from the National Park Service.

New Publications: A series of papers presented at the Second Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference and edited by Gardner and McNett will be available for \$2.00 a volume. These papers include such topics as the distribution and significance of early ceramics in the Potomac, shell middens in the Potomac, early pottery in New Jersey, settlement patterns in Virginia, and considerations of the theory of artifact typology. Copies may be ordered from Ron Thomas, Delaware State Archaeologist, Dover, Delaware.

William M. Gardner  
Catholic University of America

MUSEUM HOLDINGS

This is the second in a series of descriptions of archaeological and ethnological holdings of southeastern universities and museums begun in SEAC Newsletter Vol. 15, No. 1. This report was submitted by Pete Gregory, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

The Williamson Museum

Northwestern State University  
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Origin and Purpose:

Started at the turn of the century by the late Professor George Williamson for the preservation of Louisiana's natural heritage. Originally the archaeological collection amassed by Professor Williamson was the museum's nucleus and was housed at Northwestern State University under the sponsorship of the Alumni Association. This collection was mostly destroyed in a fire in 1965 and subsequently the new facility has been erected as a combined archaeological museum and research center. Three labs and over 150 feet of exhibit hall are housed in Northwestern's new Arts and Sciences Building. Collections and study space are available to students and scholars who wish to use the facility and it has ready access to the N.S.U. Computer Center and map collections housed on the same floor. A teaching museum, it is expected that the Williamson Museum can facilitate research and public education.

Staff:

Curator-- H. F. "Pete" Gregory, Assistant Professor of  
Anthropology  
Other-- Usually two or three students per semester

Collections:

Excavations--

The Belcher Mound, materials excavated by Dr. Clarence H. Webb  
The Gahagan Mound, materials (part of the total sample) excavated  
by Clarence H. Webb in 1940  
The Sanson Mound materials; a late Plaquemine burial collection  
of vessels, sherds, points, pipes, etc.  
The Etheridge Site, materials from a Mid-Ouachita Focus burial  
unit  
Excavated and surface collections from Presidio Los Adaes, an  
18th century Spanish-French-Caddoan contact unit  
Collections from the U. S. National Fish Hatchery, Lawton Gin,  
Southern Compress, and American Cemetery sites, all 18th  
century French-Caddoan contact situations

The Colfax Ferry Site collections excavated by C. H. Webb and Michel Smith; a Biloxi and Pascagoula western site. Ceramics and fauna from the Fredricks Site in Natchitoches Parish The Smithport Landing Site excavated by Clarence H. Webb

Other--

Several hundred surface and limited test collections are also in storage at the museum. These are composed of lithic and ceramic materials primarily, but several are also good faunal samples as well. These materials will be made available to interested researchers who wish to use them at the museum.

Exhibits:

A number of exhibits of archaeological nature are finished and others are in progress. These include: the Belcher Mound, the Gahagan Mound and Smithport Landing sites, a burial from the Ouachita Valley, Poverty Point, and Plaquemine Period occupations in the Catahoula Basin. An exhibit of colonial archaeology in the Natchitoches area (where European entradas began in 1690 and was intense by 1714) is in preparation.

As these exhibits are primarily for teaching purposes, they are maintained by and often created by undergraduate anthropology students at the university. They are changed on a four-year cycle depending on available materials and budgets.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FUTURE MEETINGS

SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE:

To be held in Morgantown, West Virginia, on October 13 and 14, at the Holiday Inn. See attached information sheet for details.

EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION:

The Eastern States Archeological Federation Annual Meeting will be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on November 10-12, 1972, at the new William Penn Memorial Museum with the Society for Pennsylvania Archeology as host. Any members wishing to present a paper at the meeting should send their title and a 50-100 word abstract to the E.S.A.F. Program Chairman, Mr. Ira Smith, William Penn Memorial Museum, Dept. of Anthropology, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108, no later than September 10. Further information on details of the meeting can be obtained from officers of the various state archaeological societies, from Mr. Smith, or from ESAF President, Don W. Dragoo, Carnegie Museum Anthropological Center, P.O. Box 28 Meridian, Butler, Pennsylvania 16001.



## 29th ANNUAL MEETING

## SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

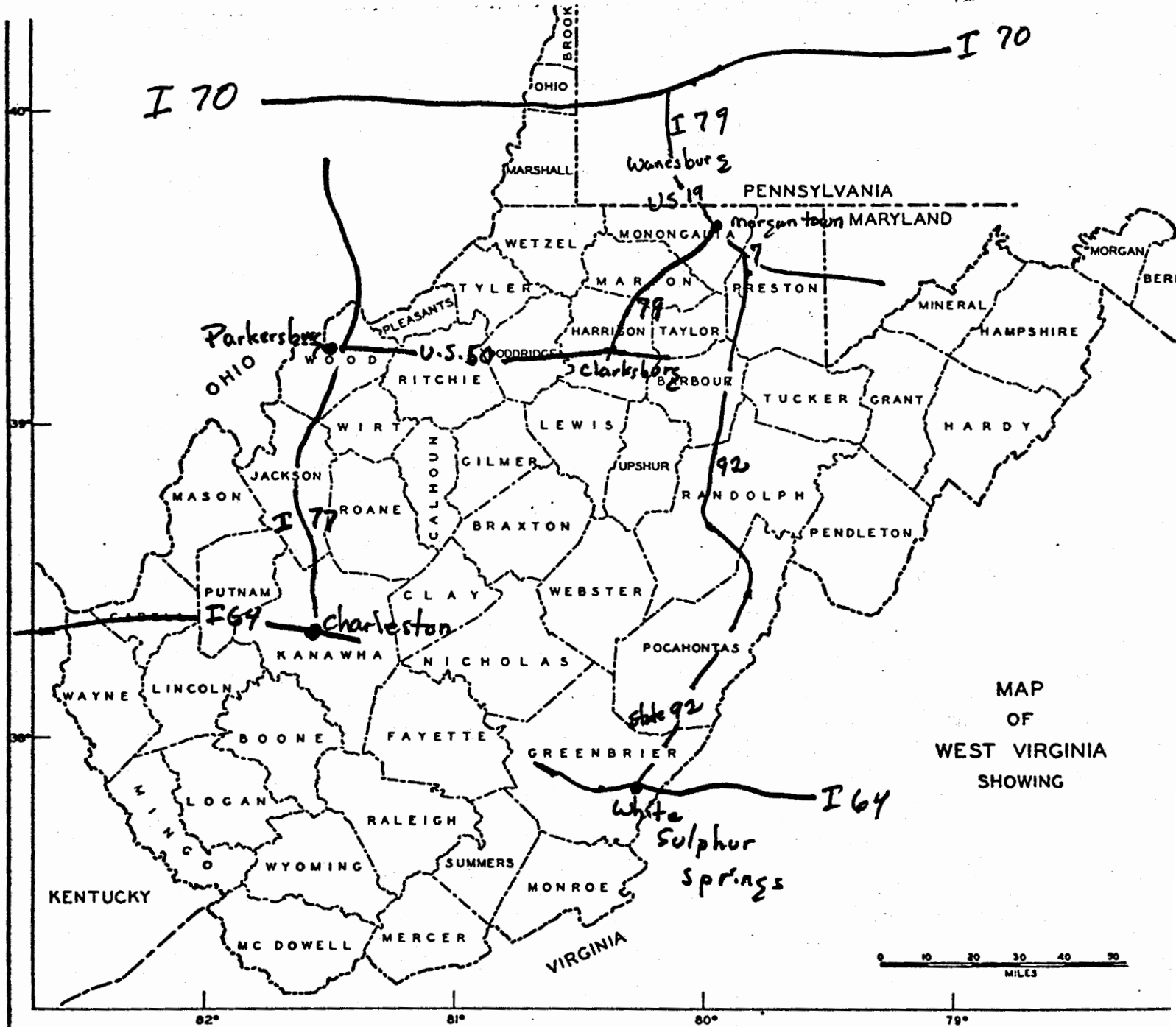
The 29th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference will be held in Morgantown, West Virginia, at the Holiday Inn, on October 13 and 14, 1972. The Historic Site Conference will meet in the same location on October 12, with Stanley South again serving as Chairman of that meeting, although the local arrangements (lodging, etc.) will be handled in Morgantown. The entire Holiday Inn has been reserved for the three days and we will be able to hold both meetings in the Motel. Meals can be obtained at the Motel or at several nearby facilities. Another motel is located across the highway from the Holiday Inn and a few rooms will be available at another motel about 6 blocks away (this motel is near the hospital and reserves most of its rooms for visitors to the hospital. They also frown on any noise, so we will avoid using it if possible). When the entire Motel is reserved, it is almost impossible to get a reservation through the Holidex system, therefore we feel that it is probably easier if all reservations are made through our local arrangements committee (to be headed by Daniel Fowler, newly employed assistant archaeologist in the Section of Archaeology, West Virginia Geological Survey). Since most of the rooms at the Holiday Inn have two double beds we ask that as many people as possible share a room with someone. The motel can handle 250 people, but not if everyone wants a single room. There are also several other motels in Morgantown as well as a Hotel in the downtown area. A list of these with prices and distance from the Holiday Inn will be supplied upon request.

At the 1971 meeting in Macon, Georgia, a committee composed of Bill Haag, Pete Faust, and Bettye Broyles, was appointed to investigate restructuring the Conference and improving the meetings. This committee has been in correspondence and has received suggestions from several members. The consensus of opinion was that the Conference should try to go back to a topic type meeting, and that it should not become more formal. A complete report of this committee will be presented at the Morgantown meeting. The topic chosen for the meeting is FORT ANCIENT AND ITS RELATION TO THE MISSISSIPPIAN CULTURE. There will be no "formal" papers on the subject, although it will be necessary to present the data in the form of short reports. Anyone wishing to participate in this meeting should contact the Program Chairman, Bettye J. Broyles, immediately so that the final program can be formalized. Participation can be in the form of a short descriptive paper or merely comments offered to clarify some portion of the topic (house structures, village plan, food habits, physical characteristics, burial customs, artifacts, etc.).

We realize that there are some members who will not wish to participate in the topic under discussion and we would not want to have a meeting that would eliminate a large segment of members. There is a smaller meeting room in the Holiday Inn which can be used for a concurrent session of contributed papers if this is desirable. If anyone wishes to present a paper during this session would they please send a title and short abstract to the Program Chairman no later than September 20th.

No banquet is being planned for the meeting, although an after-dinner "affair" will be held on Friday night, complete with appropriate refreshments (hopefully to be donated by the State of West Virginia). At the present time an open house at the Section of Archeology Museum is scheduled for Thursday evening.

Transportation into Morgantown may seem like a problem to some members, therefore the following suggestions are offered. The airport at Morgantown is served by Allegheny airlines from several cities, and limousine service is available to the Holiday Inn. The enclosed map shows the best routes into and through the State if you are traveling by car.



MAP OF WEST VIRGINIA SHOWING