



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Alabama Museum films, 1935-1945 and 1960

Human Studies Film Archives
Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
Suitland 20746
hsfa@si.edu
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Alabama Museum films
Date:	1935-1945 and 1960
Identifier:	HSFA.1986.08
Creator:	National Research Council (U.S.) United States. National Park Service
Extent:	4 Film reels (16mm)
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from the Alabama Museum of Natural History, University of Alabama, in 1986.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

Alabama Museum films, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

Four films documenting various excavations in the southeastern U. S.: Temples and Peace [Mound State Monument Museum Construction, c. 1939]; Shell Mounds in the Tennessee Valley [DeJarnette Excavation, c. 1960].

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Archaeology
Mound-builders

Types of Materials:

Sound films
silent films

Places:

Alabama
North America
Tennessee

Container Listing

Mound State Monument Museum Construction, circa 1939

1 Film reel (5 minutes; black-and-white silent; 100 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Footage documenting the construction of the Jones Archaeological Museum at the Moundville State Park in central Alabama. Previously known as the Mound State Monument, the museum was opened and dedicated in 1939. Workers were provided by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Film records the stages of construction of the monument and images of the surrounding park. Visible are the platform mounds built by the Mississippian culture between AD 1200 and AD 1500.

HSFA 1986.8.1

Temples and Peace, 1935-1936

1 Film reel (17 minutes; black-and-white sound; 650 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film produced by the National Park Service about the prehistoric Temple Mound Builders focuses on the site of the newly established Mound State Park in Moundville, Alabama which encompasses a total of 34 mound sites. Film includes reconstructions of the house types and pottery used by mound builders, burial excavations, and discussion of ceremonial objects and symbolism of the mound builders. Archeological methods are also illustrated.

HSFA 1986.8.2

Shell Mounds in the Tennessee Valley, 1945

1 Film reel (23 minutes; black-and-white silent; 800 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film sponsored by the National Research Council, University of Alabama, Works Progress Administration, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Film documents archaeological digging methods at the Pickwick Landing, a Tennessee shell mound site, and pre-TVA exploration of towns and sites along the Tennessee River prior to damming of the valley. Also included are burial excavations, explanations of archaeological techniques, as well as examination and reconstruction of artifacts and human skeletal remains at the Alabama Museum of Natural History.

HSFA 1986.8.3

DeJarnette Excavation, circa 1960

1 Film reel (35 minutes; color silent; 1,200 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Footage of the archaeological excavations of David DeJarnette at a proposed roadway site in the Moundville State Park in central Alabama. Film documents excavation techniques including screening for artifacts, surveying, staking and digging of units. Also included is footage of the excavation and removal of several human skeletons and the washing and labeling of recovered artifacts. Documented excavations are located in several open fields and in a cave. The sites are thought to have been occupied by the Mississippian culture from AD 1200 to AD

1500 and are characterized by 20 platform mounds located in the general vicinity of the filmed excavations.

HSFA 1986.8.4