

**A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove**

WHEREAS, the first inhabitants of Mississippi left behind a fascinating legacy which intrigues and delights us today and at least 12,000 years of prehistory lie beneath our feet, leaving lasting monuments to people, whose way of life has vanished forever; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Archaeological Association is an organization of professional archaeologists and lay people actively involved with archaeology and archaeological preservation, united in a common effort to understand the prehistory and history of Mississippi and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, Archaeology awareness in Mississippi is a worthwhile endeavor to educate and cultivate awareness for Mississippi's rich cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, with the support of Archaeology Mississippi, Inc, The Mississippi Humanities Council, The Mississippi Archaeological Association, The Mississippi Department of Transportation, The Mississippi Department of Archives and History, The Mississippi Association of Professional Archaeologists, The Department of Anthropology and Sociology at the University of Southern Mississippi and many other dedicated agencies, we are able to offer educational opportunities, throughout the state, in the month of October; and

WHEREAS, programs such as Mississippi History Now, Archaeo Road Show and the "Mississippi Hands-on History: A Traveling Trunk Program" have been developed to target Mississippi History students as well as the general public and are being offered to teachers and students on the Internet, through lesson plans that have been developed to follow the state Social Studies curriculum and outreach programming that provides teaching aids to be utilized in schools throughout the state:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim the month of October 2003, as

MISSISSIPPI ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

in the State of Mississippi and encourage all to participate in preserving our shared human heritage and respect for present and past human populations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, September 24, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

**RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR**