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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130



TELEPHONE NUMBER
832-6621

June 29, 1981

spj
Mr. Dick Boyd
Post Office Box 5548
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405

Dear Mr. Boyd:

It has recently been brought to my attention that the Summer Gun Show of the Alabama Gun Collectors Association will be held on July 11th and 12th at the Birmingham Civic Center. In reading the advertisement for the show, I discovered that a prize will be given to the "best dug relic display". Such a prize encourages an illegal act and should be discontinued by the AGCA. Persons displaying "dug relics" are in violation of the "Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979" if the relics came from federal lands or the "Alabama Antiquity Act" for relics recovered from all other lands in the state.

In addition, persons who sell Indian relics are in direct violation of the "Alabama Antiquity Act" since all Indian relics are the property of the State. The Attorney General's office has recently interpreted this law to mean that a \$1000 fine per artifact offered for sale can be assessed against the seller. Therefore, I encourage the AGCA to prohibit the sale of Indian relics at functions in which they are associated.

The Alabama Historical Commission and the Attorney General's Office have been working hard during the last year to protect Alabama's cultural heritage from those who willfully destroy archaeological sites for their own personal profit. Please help us discourage this illegal and unethical practice.

Thank you for your time in this matter. I would appreciate your comments regarding this matter before the July show. I, and other State representatives plan to be at the Birmingham Civic Center during the show and hopefully we can discuss this matter further with you then.

Sincerely,

McDonald Brooms

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