

Walter B. Jones, 1895-1977

Walter B. Jones, State Geologist of Alabama from 1927 to 1961, passed away May 2, 1977, at his home in Huntsville, Alabama.

Walter was born February 25, 1895, in Madison County, Alabama. He earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama in 1918, a Master's degree from the same university in 1920, and his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1924.

Walter joined the Geological Survey of Alabama in 1924, and with the exception of his time in the military and service as Alabama's first Director of Conservation, served the Survey continuously until his retirement in 1961. During this time he contributed over one hundred reports which were published by the Geological Survey of Alabama, and numerous professional journals.

Being a man of wide-ranging interests, this great conservationist gave of his time, effort, and personal resources to the encouragement and salvation of the natural resources and aboriginal artifacts of the state he served. He was personally responsible for saving from destruction Shelta Cave in Huntsville, and the famous Indian Mounds at Moundville, Alabama.

Walter Jones was a member of the Association of American State Geologists from 1927 to 1961, during which time he served a term as president. He has since been active as an honorary member. The membership of the Association is deeply saddened at the death of its friend and associate, Walter B. Jones.

During his long and distinguished career, serving Alabama and the nation, Walter exemplified the finest and best of his profession, commanding the highest respect and esteem of his colleagues.

We, the members of the Association, have gained much from his association.

We extend to Mrs. Hazel Jones, their two sons, Douglas and Warren, and to other members of the family, our deepest sympathy.

Thomas J. Joiner