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## PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY OF MOUNDVILLE

A small series of twenty-five more or less whole crania is the first upon which measurements and observations have been made on the skeletal material excavated at Moundville, Alabama. Most of the crania are artificially deformed and in some cases the deformation is so pronounced that only the nasal and facial dimensions can be included in the series. This small sample presents two different physical types.

The preponderant group is brachycranial with spheroid head shapes. A smaller group, consisting of three males and one female, is definitely dolichocranic with ovoid to ellipsoid head shapes showing no artificial cranial deformation. Although this report can only be of the most tentative nature, the trends suggested seem to be clear-cut. Metrically and indicially, the two groups consistently approximate the means established for the Koger Island and Shell Mound physical types found in the Pickwick Basin.

Most of the sites excavated in the Pickwick Basin have upper levels bearing shell tempered pottery similar to that of Moundville and associated exclusively with the brachycranial (Koger Island) physical type.

What, then, can we say of the apparent occurrence at Moundville of a dolichocranic (Shell Mound) Type? Its presence may possibly indicate interminglings of different peoples on this great site, or perhaps these long-headed crania may represent victims of the Moundvillian people. An examination of additional skeletal material will help to answer the questions raised by the presence of two different physical types at Moundville.

Charles E. Snow