



2002 CTA SPRING MEETING

April 5, 2002

**Boardroom, Hancock Building, LCRA, General Office Complex
3700 Lake Austin Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78703**

SOCIAL - 25th Anniversary Celebration

6:00PM - CITY OF AUSTIN LIONS GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

SPRING MEETING AGENDA

Registration 9:00AM
Call to Order 9:30AM

Announcements
Approval of Minutes from Fall 2001 Meeting
(as published in the last CTA newsletter)

Officer's Reports
President
Immediate Past President
Secretary-Treasurer
Newsletter Editor

Standing Committee Reports
Governmental Affairs
Contractors List
Public Education
Multicultural Relations
CTA Web Page
Membership

Special Committee Reports
Accreditation and Review Council
Archeological Survey Standards
Anti-Looting Committee
Guidelines Revision

Old Business
Election of Secretary-Treasurer
Election of Newsletter Editor
E. Mott Davis Public Outreach Award

New Business
THC Announcements

THC Curation Management Plan and
Repository Accreditation
ARC Reorganization
Other New Business

Business Meeting Adjourns 12:30PM

AFTERNOON PROGRAM - 41VT98 Forum
2:30PM – Excavations at 41VT98 by Dr.
Robert Ricklis
3:00PM – CTA Discussion on 41VT98
Issues

SOCIAL - 25th Anniversary Celebration
6:00PM - City of Austin Lions
Golf Course Clubhouse, 2701 Enfield
(Clubhouse entrance road is off of Enfield Road about a
half-mile east of Lake Austin Boulevard.)

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LCRA General Office Complex

3700 Lake Austin Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78703
(512) 473-3200

Located on Lake Austin Blvd. near Tom Miller Dam on the shores of Lake Austin, the LCRA General Office Complex is easily accessed from MoPac Expressway (Loop 1) and is close to downtown Austin.



25th Anniversary Celebration

CITY OF AUSTIN LIONS GOLF COURSE BUILDING

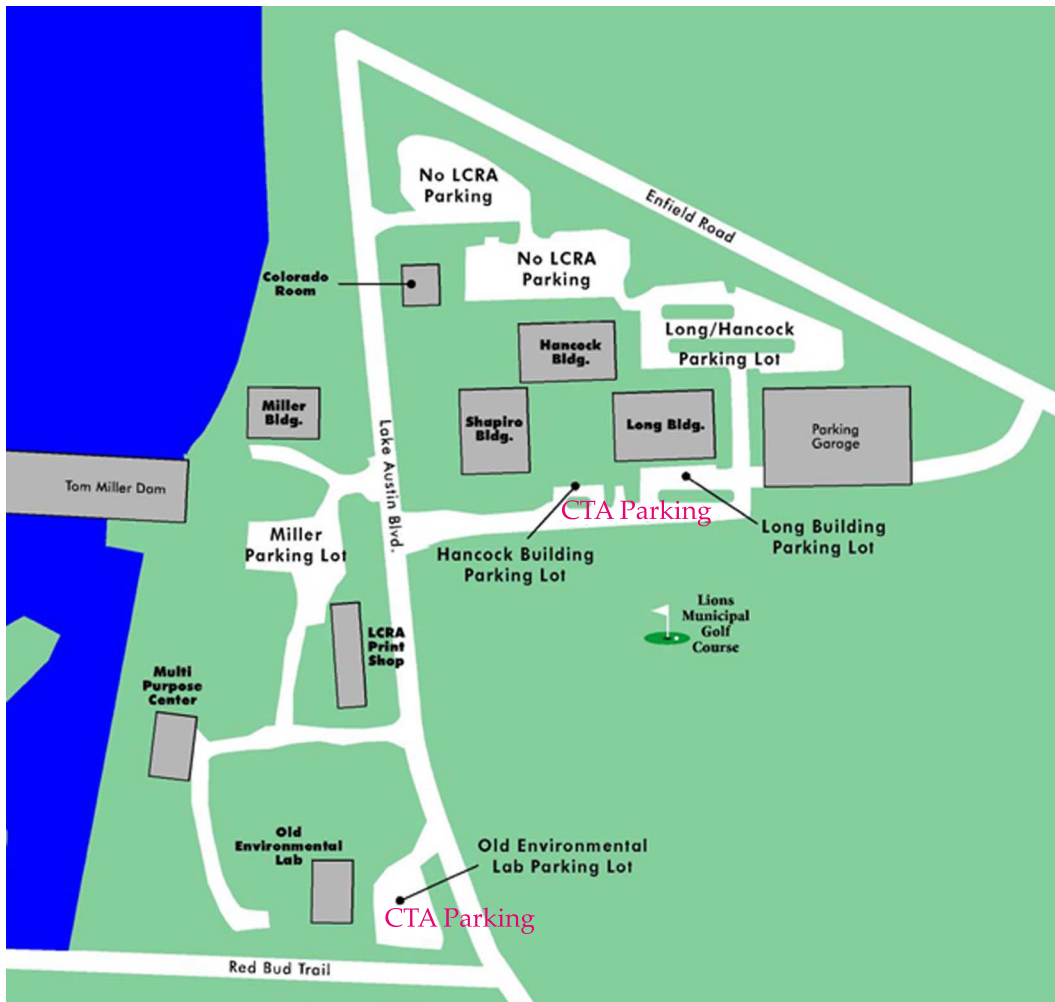
2701 Enfield Road east of LCRA Complex

JOIN US!!

for

FOOD and BEER

[original maps click here](#)



Presidents' Forum

David O. Brown

One of the most important and complex archaeological controversies to surface in some years is the fate of materials excavated from 41VT98, located on DuPont Chemical Company property along the Victoria Barge Canal in southern Victoria County. Recorded in 1982 by Carolyn Murphy of the US Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District, the site was recommended for National Register testing in 1988 in the context of general operation and maintenance of the Victoria Barge Canal. Coastal Environments, Inc., conducted this testing in 1989, recommending that 41VT98 was eligible for the National Register. At that time it was noted that a human cranium fragment had been found at the site during dredging of the canal in the 1950s. In 1989 and 1990 a Programmatic Agreement was developed for investigations along the canal, with the Advisory Council Human Remains Policy Statement incorporated by reference. The PA was signed by the Corps, the THC, and the Advisory Council. After some delay, mitigation excavations, directed by Bob Ricklis of Coastal Environments, Inc., were initiated in January of 2001. When human remains were uncovered in the mitigation phase, the Corps of Engineers considered ceasing work at the site, but the THC urged them to finish the proposed investigations. The excavations were finally completed by July of 2001.

All in all, the excavations recovered some 80 burials, most of which appear to date to the Early Archaic Period. These burials are also dug into a stratum that contains Paleoindian remains. In addition the site yielded Late Archaic burials as well as Late Prehistoric occupation debris. In terms of the number and age of the burials, it is clearly one of the most important sites of the Early Archaic on the Texas Coast. As was pointed out in a public meeting held in Victoria last month on the 26th of February, it is one of only three large burial sites from this time period in the entire US. More information on the site and its significance can be found on the Corps of Engineers Galveston District web site at <http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/>.

In January of this year, the rumor surfaced that the Corps and Dupont had proposed to rebury the materials excavated from the site without analysis. As most people know, the hue and cry over this proposal, an apparent violation of the Programmatic Agreement as well as a breach of the principles and the ethics of scientific process, reached fever pitch shortly thereafter, led in part by members of the Texas Archeological Society. In addition to the TAS, local archaeological societies, and hundreds of concerned individuals, the Society for American Archaeology and the CTA complained that reburial without analysis should not be considered. The CTA, along with the TAS and SAA requested and received consulting party status as per the 36CFR800 regulations, although other groups and individuals who requested such status were denied by the Corps.

Present plans call for a meeting of the consulting parties on the 28th of March in Corpus Christi, offering them an opportunity to view some of the excavated materials and to comment on the appropriate procedures that might be undertaken for analysis. The Corps stresses that they have made no final determinations on the analysis of the materials, and is waiting until the consulting process is final.

No archaeologist, professional or otherwise, doubts the importance of this site and almost everybody has argued for a thorough analysis of the burials and associated artifacts recovered from the site. The complexity and controversy surrounding the site enter into the equation largely because Native American groups have complained that they were not consulted until well after the discovery of the burials. Letters to the various tribes in the region were mailed out beginning in July of 2001 but formal consultation on the human remains from this site was apparently not undertaken until February 12th of this year when a meeting was held that included representatives from the Federally recognized Choctaw, Alabama-Coushatta, and Comanche tribes. Several other Native American tribes that have been documented historically within the region were invited and some of these, like the Caddo, may have submitted written comments to the Corps. An attempt by the Tap Pilam group of San

Antonio, who are not Federally recognized, to enter into consultation was initially denied by the Corps.

As it stands, this excavation does not appear to be a direct NAGPRA issue since the land involved belongs to DuPont and the Corps does not actually own the excavated remains. If it were a NAGPRA issue, and only a NAGPRA issue, it might be somewhat clearer since NAGPRA currently stipulates that potential descendent communities must be consulted. I doubt if any recognized tribe could make a good case for lineal descent from the Early Archaic burials at the site. However, the PA under which the project is operating does not require such direct descent, but simply geographic proximity. Under this definition, the tribes contacted were certainly the appropriate entities.

As I understand the situation with Native American consultation, the tribes are not unified in their opinions regarding the possibility of full analysis. Most, if not all, seem to be upset over the long-delayed consultation with the Corps. And it would appear that most, if not all, are strongly in favor of reburial of the skeletal materials and associated grave goods. Some may even favor reburial of all materials recovered from the site. While some, such as the Caddo, do suggest that analysis may be appropriate, at least several of the tribes are adamant in seeking reburial without analysis.

The need for analysis is very clear from an archaeological perspective, but Native American views may play an important part in this process. The CTA has long urged closer relations between archaeologists and Native Americans and several times has spoken in favor of legislation protecting unmarked graves. But there are many tribal groups who have been contacted by the Corps, only a few of whom have a history of working with archaeologists in Texas. On the positive side, the Caddo, with whom archaeologists have been building relationships for many years, seem to have a more moderate stance on analysis. This suggests that increased communications may help build bridges between archaeologists and Native Americans. On the other hand, since Native Americans have been slighted in the 41VT98 process, and

80 some odd burials excavated prior to formal consultation, it may be no easy feat convincing any of them that archaeologists' intentions are honest and that any errors were not intentional. Unfortunately, in the long run, the final decisions may be made by people who are neither archaeologists nor Native Americans.

Obviously, it would be in everybody's best interest if the matter could be settled with all sides feeling that their positions were respected. Certainly no archaeologist would accept reburial without analysis, and probably most Native Americans would not accept the burials occupying permanent shelf space in some lab. One potential compromise would be full analysis of materials recovered from the site with subsequent reburial of the human remains. Reburial in crypts that could someday be located might also be a possibility here.

The Corps of Engineers has agreed to give a technical presentation on the site to the CTA at its annual spring meeting in Austin. The site's excavator, Bob Ricklis, will present a slightly expanded version of the talk he gave at the public meeting in Victoria. Not surprisingly, there will be Corps-imposed limitations on what he will be able to show, but presumably we will be able to ask him technical questions about the site. After the talk, there will be a CTA forum concerning the site and possible solutions. This forum will not focus on how we got where we are, but rather on what we are doing to remedy the situation and possibly how do avoid such problems in the future. More details will be available on the CTA web site as this is finalized.

As I noted above, the CTA has requested and received consulting party status for the ongoing discussions regarding the site. See the copy of my letter to the Corp of Engineers included in this edition of the newsletter. We are planning to argue for a complete analysis of all materials from the site and hoping to have a say in the kind of analyses that are in fact undertaken.

* * * * *

This spring's meeting and the afternoon session on 41VT98 will be held at the Boardroom of the Hancock Building LCRA office complex on Lake Austin Boulevard just past Tom Miller

Dam. See the map in this issue for the location if you are unclear. The map also shows where you can park (indicated by “**CTA PARKING**” in red letter). Be sure not to park in any of the private business lots that are nearby. You might get towed. If the visitor lots do fill up, there is limited parking on the street.

After the meeting, the evening session will feature food, drink and a celebration of the organization’s 25th anniversary. The event, which will be held at the nearby Lion’s Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse, is open to all CTA members and their families as well as all former CTA members. We especially want to see all former officers of the organization attend the event. We hope to have a reunion of former CTA presidents at the social and should have ample opportunity to amuse ourselves at their expense in an informal roast. The evening’s festivities begin at 6PM. The Clubhouse is located a short drive from the LCRA complex at 2701 Enfield Drive, about a half mile east of the intersection of Enfield and Lake Austin Boulevard. See you there.



Officer’s Reports

Missi Green

SECRETARY-TREASURER

After the CTA meeting it will be past time to renew your dues for 2002. This year is the 25th Anniversary of CTA. Be a voice in the direction, continued growth, and development of the organization as well as the celebration!

If you have any changes to your information — new e-mail, new address, new employer — please let me know when you pay your dues. An updated e-mail address is essential for CTA to contact you for any information that might be vital, including the latest newsletter and any changes in the archeological working community.

The current issue of each Newsletter is a benefit of membership. Starting with the next issue (Volume 26 No 3, summer) you will need to have paid your 2002 dues to download the Newsletter (see the Web Page Committee Report, this issue, for details).



Committee Reports

Dana Anthony, Chair

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

This year we have three excellent nominees for the second annual E. Mott Davis Public Outreach Award. As most of you remember, the award was set up last year to recognize outstanding attempts to educate the general public about archaeology as a part of CRM projects. Last year’s winner was the Freedman’s Cemetery Project; recipients included TxDOT, Geo-Marine, Inc, Black Dallas Remembered, and the African American Museum in Dallas. All three of this year’s nominees feature a strong public outreach component within the context of a CRM project. TxDOT sponsored two of the nominated projects while the third was sponsored by the Fort Hood Cultural Resource Management Program. The information below is taken from the nomination forms supplemented by information from project sponsors.

Fort Hood Historical Research and Site Evaluations Project

Prewitt & Associates, Inc., Fort Hood Cultural Resource Management Program, and William Pugsley (Texas Information Network)

From 1995 to the present, Prewitt and Associates, Inc. (PAI) was contracted by the United States Army Fort Hood to conduct cultural resources studies in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A multi-year historical

research project was developed. Martha Doty Freeman and Amy Dase, who served as consultants for PAI, spent several years doing archival and oral history research to develop historical contexts dealing with nineteenth and early twentieth century “agriculture” and “rural development” on the lands that became Camp Hood. The concept of combining a detailed “historic context” report with a “popular” report as the primary products of the historical research was developed by Principal Investigator Doug Boyd (PAI) and the late Dr. Jack Jackson (then CRM Program Director at Fort Hood). The intent was to produce reports that would be of general interest to the local community. One report was intended to meet the legal requirements of Section 106 compliance, but still be readable and contain information of interest to the public community, while the other report was intended as a popular book that would be well received by the archaeological community but would be of interest to a much broader general public.

One of the reports is *Agriculture and Rural Development on Fort Hood Lands, 1849-1942: National Register Assessments of 710 Historic Archeological Properties*, by Martha Doty Freeman, Amy E. Dase, and Marie E. Blake. Although, this is more of a technical report than a popular book, it is very well written and its historical narratives are of considerable interest to the local community. It is a 247-page report, with a CD-ROM that contains a vast amount of historical property and ad valorem tax data. This report, of which 500 copies were distributed, is now out of print. The second report completed for this project is *Imprint on the Land, Life Before Camp Hood, 1820-1942*, by William S. Pugsley. Pugsley, an historical researcher and writer (dba. the Texas Information Network) was hired as a consultant by PAI to boil down the massive amount of information generated by many years of research into a single short popular book. He did an admirable job of this, and the 178-page *Imprint on the Land* is a well-written and abundantly illustrated historical narrative that tells a fascinating story for the general public. Pugsley’s book was the most important public outreach component of the project. Its style and format have proven popular with the public it was intended to reach, and it has touched the

hearts of many people who lived there before Camp Hood. One thousand copies of this report were printed and distributed; it is now out of print and Fort Hood continues to get requests for copies. This public outreach aspect of this project was very successful because Fort Hood recognized its obligation to give something back to the local community in conjunction with its federally mandated compliance efforts. As an outgrowth of this project, PAI and the Fort Hood CRM Program are continuing this public outreach and began a major oral history project in 2001.

Mission Nuestra Señora del Refugio Project

Cindy Tennis (PI), Center for Archaeological Research-UTSA, and Texas Department of Transportation

This was data recovery for impacts to the mission from the US 77 reconstruction through the town of Refugio. UTSA conducted excavations and analysis of materials from the impact areas. They recovered mission-era trash deposits, post holes from the outline of the mission compound, and underneath the highway, unexpectedly, remains of the original 1790s mission church, beneath the dirt floor of which were 32 grave features that contained the remains of 177 individuals of Native American and Spanish descent.

Several approaches to public outreach were developed for the excavations at Mission Refugio. First, Cindy Tennis, project Principal Investigator, working for the Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio under contract with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), created an outstanding portable display about the excavations at Mission Refugio, its history, and the life of mission inhabitants. The display will be donated to the Refugio County Museum, which will loan it to local schools. Second, TxDOT sponsored weekly public outreach meetings to inform the public and press what had been found up to that point. Good quality brochures about the archaeological work at the mission were developed and updated. These will be handed out at the weekly meetings. Third, TxDOT prepared a professional ca. 20-minute video with school age children as the target audience. This video included footage of the

excavations along with the history of Mission Refugio, a discussion of the missionization concept — what Spaniards were trying to accomplish with missions during that period, information on the Native Americans (Karankawa), and some post-mission period history (Texas Revolution battle at Refugio). Copies of the video were sent to the Refugio County Museum, tribes, and the church. This video was broadcast on a local PBS station. Finally, TxDOT created two huge banner sized posters about the project, which were displayed at various archaeological conferences and at a national transportation conference. Plans are currently in the works to create an article for the Texas Beyond History web site.

Cindy Tennis, UTSA, and TxDOT, all worked hard to create an educational tool for school kids that would engender a strong interest in local history and promote an understanding of archaeology. They went above and beyond the call of duty, not only by hosting weekly meetings, but in creating weekly brochures for these public briefings. By distributing the video and portable display, and getting the video broadcast, many people were reached who could enjoy learning about the history of this important site and come to understand why archaeology is a key discipline in understanding our past.

T. C. Osborn Tenant Farm Project

Jose Zapata (Project Historian), Center for Archaeological Research-UTSA, and Texas Department of Transportation

This project involved data recovery excavations for impacts from a county road bridge replacement on Gills Branch Creek in Bastrop County at an early 20th century farmstead occupied by a Mexican-American family who farmed cotton. In addition to the excavations under the guidance of Principal Investigator Steve Tomka, Jose Zapata conducted oral history.

Mary Black produced six lesson plans for seventh grade Texas history based on Jose Zapata's research for 41BP314. Haydee Rodriguez translated the lessons into Spanish.

The lessons are unique in that they are bilingual and utilize primary source materials concerning a tenant farm occupied for almost 40 years by Mexican American families in Bastrop county. The project sponsor, the Texas Department of Transportation, distributed hard copies of the curriculum materials to all middle schools in Bastrop. Mr. Zapata, Dr. Rodriguez and Dr. Black also presented these bilingual materials to the annual meeting of the Texas Association of Bilingual Educators in Dallas in October 2001. The lessons will also be presented at the Texas Council for the Social Studies annual meeting in Fall 2002. Plans also include distributing the materials through the web site, Texas Beyond History.

This bilingual curriculum is the first known to utilize primary source maps, house plans, oral histories and artifact photographs to illustrate Mexican American farm life in Texas during the first half of the 20th century. Mexican American life has often been neglected in social studies classrooms due to 1) lack of materials, and 2) lack of recognition of Mexican American contributions to Texas. Because of this curriculum, both Spanish speaking and English speaking students can now learn about Mexican American heritage. For example, a new map was created for these lessons to show major routes of Mexican immigration into Texas. This is the first such map available expressly for this purpose for Texas classrooms. An excerpt from oral history collected by Jose Zapata is also used to teach children about the hard work and deprivation involved in tenant farm life. Students then do the math to learn a stark lesson in economics. The ultimate goal of this outreach effort is better understanding of Mexican American experiences by all Texans.



Sue Linder-Linsley, Chair

CTA WEB PAGE COMMITTEE

Name Change — We suggest that the CTA Web Page Committee change its name to the **Internet and Communications Committee** this change will better reflect the wide range of tasks that

the committee is involved with. We also suggest that the Internet and Communication Committee be included in the CTA Bylaws as an official committee. There will be a discussion of this issue at the meeting.

Since our last report we have made frequent changes to the Contractor's List. Many firms are listed who have not paid the listing fee for one or more years. The list currently distinguishes between those firms who are paid for 2002 or 2001 and those who have not paid in recent years. If your firm has not paid its Contractor's Listing Fee they will be past due after the meeting. These firms could be removed from the web and the pdf file, if we don't hear from you soon. Check with Missi or look at Contractor's List on the web page to be sure you are current for 2002. **Membership Dues and Contractor's List Fees are Due January 1 each year.**

As discussed at the last CTA meeting we will start limiting access to the current *CTA Newsletter* to dues paying members. In the next few weeks all 2002 members will be receiving a CTA password by e-mail. If you have changed your e-mail address be sure to send us your new information (see below). You will need this password to download current issues of the *CTA Newsletter* beginning with the next issue due out this summer (Volume 26 No 3). Only current issues will require the password. As new issues of the *CTA Newsletter* become available the previous issue will become available to the general public.

Following the last CTA meeting we sent Steve Black a CTA web page with links to our site for inclusion on the Texas Beyond History net. We plan to add a similar page on the CTA web site linking back to the Texas Beyond History web site but have not received anything from them yet.

An organization that is the size of the CTA always has someone changing his or her address, phone number, fax number, or e-mail address. While we all try to keep up with the changes we need your help to do so. We have implemented a new way to communicate membership information, address, phone, e-mail updates, etc. We have two e-mail addresses for communicating changes and problems. The

first of these is for general CTA members. CTA members should send their changes and updates to: cta-members@c-tx-arch.org. This address automatically sends the message to Board and Committee members who need to keep their files up to date. All messages involving your CTA membership status can be sent to this address. The second address is for CRD's and Contractors. All updates, changes, questions or problems involving the Contractors List should be sent to: cta-contractor@c-tx-arch.org. It is our hope that by keeping everyone in the loop when a change is reported these changes will be implemented in a timelier manner.



Patricia A. Claybaugh, Chair

ACCREDITATION AND REVIEW COUNCIL

The Accreditation and Review Council's winter agenda included two business meetings on February 8 and 24, 2002. Both meetings were held at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, University of Texas. President-elect Clell Bond was briefed on ARC matters including our time line for completing ARC's primary mission: to develop accreditation standards and guidelines for the state's curation facilities. The resulting documents were delivered to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) Collections Management Committee on February 25 for their review and use. Final documents, including field reviewer training, will be submitted to THC by May 2002. ARC documents are available to all museums, repositories, and interested parties who choose to prepare for the THC accreditation field review. Those institutions applying for state accreditation are encouraged to go through the CTA ARC Self-Evaluation format to expedite the THC accreditation process. The two processes are essentially the same.

Now that our primary mission is almost accomplished, we are discussing future directions for ARC. Working with President Brown and President-elect Bond, we see a need



to restructure this council as a curation “advisory” or “advocacy” committee. In the interim, ARC will continue to function and work on CTA’s Curation Guidelines and submit a final draft before the fall business meeting. To that end, Carolyn Spock, long-standing ARC Secretary-Treasurer, and Laura Nightengale’s terms are up. A vote on their reappointment will be held at the April meeting.

Plans are to discuss these and other curation issues at the April meeting. Other topics may include:

- *THC Curatorial Facility Accreditation Program*
- *THC Collections Management Policy*
- *Attorney General’s opinion on whether the state owns artifacts removed from state lands prior to the adoption of the 1969 Antiquities Code.*



COE CONSULTING PARTY STATUS LETTER

15 February 2002

Colonel Leonard D. Waterworth
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Galveston District
P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, TX 77553

Dear Colonel Waterworth:

I am writing to you as president of the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA). The CTA represents the majority of professional archaeologists involved in cultural resource management in the State of Texas. Our organization promotes communication among the members of the professional archaeological community and serves as a voice for that community in issues concerning the protection and proper investigation of endangered cultural resources. Throughout our 25-year history, we have worked closely with the Texas Historical Commission to develop and promote standards for archaeological investigations and reporting in Texas.

We have followed with some interest the discussion concerning the investigations sponsored by the Corps of Engineers at 41VT98, located on DuPont Corporation property near Victoria. Based on the information available from the excavations, it would appear to be a very important prehistoric site that includes a considerable number of Early Archaic burials, rare not only on the coast of Texas, but anywhere in the US. Our organization is extremely concerned about the possibility that much or all of what has been recovered from the site might be reburied without further scientific analysis. While we understand and support Native American concerns regarding reburial of the remains, it is the CTA opinion that a decision to rebury the materials without adequate analysis could set an unfortunate and unacceptable precedent for cultural resources investigations conducted under the auspices of the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas and around the country. Because of the site's unique scientific and cultural value, as well as the attention it has gotten from the public and media alike, we feel that any decision regarding the analysis of materials should take into account that this is a significant part of the heritage of all the people of the State of Texas as well as our entire nation. The study of archaeology is not an esoteric pursuit or an arcane science, but an inquiry into the human condition that is meant to enrich and enlighten our future through the study of the past. We strongly encourage that appropriate archaeological studies be undertaken before a proper and respectful final disposition of the remains.

It is our understanding that you have not yet taken any final action regarding this matter and we would like you to consider including the CTA as a consulting party status under 36 CFR 800.2(c)(5). As the primary organization representing many Texas cultural resource professionals, we feel that we have a legitimate interest in this process since the outcome of this action could directly affect our future professional practice.

We appreciate your consideration in this request and look forward to continued dialog in the resolution of this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David O. Brown
President, Council of Texas Archeologists

THE CTA 60 YEARS AGO

by

Douglas K. Boyd

[EDITOR'S NOTE: the following article includes the second of two original CTA newsletters published in 1940. The first newsletter was previously reprinted in the January issue as part of Doug Boyd's report "The CTA 60 Years Ago" (CTA Newsletter 26(1):15-25). To introduce the second original newsletter, a brief excerpt of Doug's previous report is presented here.]

The Council of Texas Archeologists will soon be 25 years old, but an earlier CTA existed about 60 years ago. It was conceived at an American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Alpine in May of 1939, and became a reality at a hotel in Abilene on October 27, 1939. The official purpose of the original Council of Texas Archeologists was "to integrate and co-ordinate archaeological work being done in the State of Texas," Other stated goals were to increase cooperation "between the various institutions and societies doing work in Texas," create "more uniformity" in field and laboratory work and archeological terminology, and devise "a standard system of classification which would show the relationships of the Texas cultures." Its first officers were J. Gilbert McAllister, President; A. T. Jackson, Vice-President; and T. N. Campbell, Secretary. Membership in CTA was open to all "persons

connected with institutions and societies in Texas actively interested in archeology." Campbell also produced the CTA's first newsletter, called *Texas Archaeological News: An Occasional Report Issued by the Council of Texas Archeologists*, in March 1940.

The original CTA was a short-lived organization, lasting only about two years. As with so many other archeological endeavors, the CTA fell victim to World War II. It simply ceased to function after the United States entered the war in late 1941 (T. N. Campbell, personal communication 2001). It would be some 36 years later before it was resurrected. Only two issues of *Texas Archaeological News* were produced. The second issue of the newsletter (December 1940) was 26 pages long and devoted to summarizing the "Recent Field Work in Texas." That issue is reproduced in its entirety here.

TEXAS ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS

An Occasional Report Issued By
The Council of Texas Archaeologists

No. 2

Austin, Texas

December, 1940

RECENT FIELD WORK IN TEXAS

During the past two years a considerable amount of archaeological field work has been carried on in Texas. As yet few formal reports have appeared. The Council of Texas Archaeologists believes that in order to bridge this unavoidable gap between excavation and complete reporting, some type of brief, informal reporting should be done. The Texas Archaeological News has therefore been designated as an organ to publish news accounts of archaeological work being done in Texas. Representatives of various institutions and societies doing archaeological work in Texas were recently asked to send in brief reports of their field activities during the past two seasons. All reports received to date are given in the pages that follow. These reports are arranged on a geographic basis as a convenience to those who are especially interested in specific areas in Texas. At the end of the last paragraph in each section is given the name of the individual who reported.

TRANS-PECOS

Big Bend

(1) Presidio. The First La Junta Expedition, a co-operative research project of Sul Ross College, Alpine, the School of American Research, and the Works Progress Administration, Project 10249, was in the field from October, 1938, to July, 1939. The project was directed by J. Charles Kelley of Sul Ross College. Field supervision was in charge of Donald J. Lehmer until May, 1939, after which date Kelley took over the field work. Two large sites were partially excavated and tests made at two other sites.

The most extensive excavation took place at the Millington site (Shaft-er 7:1), located just east of Presidio, Texas, on the low terrace of the Rio Grande. Here twenty-two house structures, totaling twenty-nine rooms, were cleared and others located but not excavated. The site was cross-sectioned by numerous trenches, which were excavated in five-foot horizontal blocks and four-inch vertical levels. Most of the debris was screened and many artifacts were found. This site has been identified with the historic pueblo of Santiago of the Luxán account of the Espejo Expedition

of 1582, and with the pueblo Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe of the nations Palacmes and Sibulas of the Trasviña account of 1715.

At the Loama Alta site (Shafter 7:3), located on the second terrace of the Rio Grande, five miles west of Presidio and directly opposite the mouth of the Rio Conchos of Mexico, five house structures, totaling ten rooms, and one large storage bin were excavated in whole or in part. A ring midden was trenched and several stratigraphic trenches were dug. This site was identified with the historic pueblo of San Juan Evangelista of the Luxan account of 1582.

The culture represented has been termed the Bravo Valley aspect, with three foci: the La Junta focus, the Concepcion focus, and the Conchos focus. The earliest, or La Junta focus, is dated at between 1200 and 1400 A. D. on the basis of intrusive Southwestern ceramics, notable El Paso and Chihuahua polychrome wares. The succeeding Concepcion focus was described by the early Spanish explorers, the first account being given in 1583, and was terminated about 1700 by the impact of Spanish acculturation. The Conchos focus represents the Spanish mission period in the Indian pueblos and closes with the absorption of surviving native elements into the Mexican culture and population.

The Bravo Valley aspect is characterized by the use of pit-houses and houses in pits; ceramics, including intrusive Southwestern wares and native grey, red, and red-on-buff wares; a characteristic stone complex dominated by the use of finely chipped small arrow points of three types (namely, fine barbed points with long, narrow, needle-like, well-chipped tangs; small triangular side and base notched points; and triangular points with concave bases and concave edges, often showing rudimentary side notches), small snub-nose scrapers, one-hand manos and oval bowl metates (approaching true troughed metates), flake knives and scrapers, fine-pointed graters, carved stone bowls, mortars and pestles, polishing stones, and innumerable end-notched pebbles; highly developed work in bone and shell, including engraved bone beads and eccentrically shaped items of shell; and by burial of infants and adults in flexed position beneath house floors and in refuse heaps. Osteometric studies have not been made, but from field measurements the group is thought to have been dolichocephalic.

The predominating houses of the La Junta focus are rectangular structures built in shallow or deep pits, the dimensions averaging about 11 by 14 feet. They often have adobe floors and occasionally have low adobe curbs around the floors. Houses are oriented with the long axis north and south, and often have against the south wall a rectangular block of adobe, possibly an "altar". Houses are occasionally set side by side to form east-west alignments of several rooms. Superstructures are of jacale construction, and seem to have been largely flat roofed with roof eaves. Small round or oval pithouses, probably of earth lodge or tipi type, occurring in this focus are thought to be intrusive from the east.

The typical house of the Concepcion focus is a large rectangular house built in a shallow or deep pit. Houses of this type average about 24 by 28 feet in size. Floors are of hard-packed refuse, and the walls and superstructure are of jacale construction. They were flat roofed and apparently had roof entrances. As in the La Junta focus, houses are often grouped together in long east-west alignments of several houses, either in one pit or in contiguous pits, while the individual houses are oriented north-south. No adobe was used and the "altar" of the earlier structures is absent. Houses of this type continued in use into the Conchos focus, where they gave way to surface jacales and structures of adobe.

Between the rectangular houses of the La Junta focus and those of the Concepcion focus there is a stylistic gap that may represent a missing focus. At the Loama Alta site there seems to have been an actual period of no occupation between the two foci. Large circular pithouses thought to represent earth lodges, though again with possible flat roofs and roof entrances, are not well placed in the sequence, and may belong to this gap. One of these contained an adobe "altar" similar to those of the La Junta focus. It is possible that the circular structures represent an intrusive group from the east that for a time broke the development of the Bravo Valley aspect. In historical times the presence of such a group, the Jumano, is known from documentary sources and may be indicated by other archaeological traits. For example, two sherds of an engraved grey and black ware similar to Caddo-Hasinai wares of northeast Texas were found in one Concepcion focus structure, as were several sherds of red-washed buff ware, possibly of Wichita origin. Also possibly intrusive is the Chinati ware of the Concepcion focus, a grey or brown ware with a Woodland-like shape, apparently with pointed bottom, wide neck and narrow mouth. Rim fillets occasionally occur, and vertical striations on vessel necks are common.

Ceramic and lithic studies are not yet complete, but a few data are known. Few if any locally made wares occur in the La Junta focus, which was dominated by Southwestern influences. Polished red and brown wares, with a rough grey or brown utility ware associated, characterize the Concepcion focus, with the development of a red-on-brown ware at its close. The Conchos focus is characterized ceramically by coarse unpolished red and brown wares, red-on-brown, and wares showing Spanish influence. Spanish or Mexican majolica ware is of frequent occurrence in this focus, and three sherds of a ware originating in the Valley of Mexico have been found.

Metal objects of European origin are found in the Conchos focus. A Spanish coin dated in the 1750's was found in the Conchos horizon at Shaft-er 7:1.

The culture appears to have had about equal dependence upon agriculture and hunting. Many buffalo bones were found.

Assignment of houses and artifacts to the various foci is based on actual stratigraphy, house intersections, and upon objects associated with houses. (J. Charles Kelley)

(2) Caves on the Rio Grande. During the past two years George C. Martin of Torrell Wells and San Antonio has been excavating in caves along the Rio Grande from Boquillas Canyon to the mouth of Devils River. Noteworthy was the occurrence of a Folsom point deep in the deposits of a cave near Langtry. This point was associated with the ordinary artifacts of the cave culture of that area. In addition, considerable work has been done to the east of the Big Bend (McMullen, Webb, La Salle, Atascosa, and Bexar counties), with special attention being devoted to sites in the country occupied by the Coahuiltecan (Pakawan) tribes.

Analysis of materials derived from recent work, as well as of materials obtained during the past seventeen years, has been carried on during the past two years. More than a thousand photographs have been made. These will be assembled into a series of ten albums illustrating various south and southwestern Texas cultures. (George C. Martin)

El Paso Area

(1) El Paso. The Museum of the College of Mines and Metallurgy at El Paso continues to work in the El Paso phase (Sayles). Recent field activities have been concerned chiefly with burial customs and dwelling structures.

The burial customs seem to have been rather erratic; some burials are intramural, but others have no definite relation to individual dwelling structures. For instance, in some cases burials have been found under the floor, yet near the same dwelling skeletal remains were located in the open. It is hoped that further investigation will result in some definite conclusions concerning the burial customs of the El Paso phase.

A special feature of the house floor has been receiving attention. This is the adobe block on the floor along the south wall of many houses. As a rule the block is about 15 inches long, 10 or 12 inches high, and 12 inches wide. In some cases post holes occur on both sides of the block. Various interpretations have been offered. The block may have served as a step, though little if any wear can be detected. Some have suggested that it may have been an altar. It is also possible that it may have served some purpose in connection with cooking. This last suggestion is supported by the fact that there is usually a small adobe-lined fire pit in the floor quite near the block.

In connection with the pottery associated with the El Paso phase, it has been found that approximately fifty percent of the El Paso Polychrome

pottery is in the form of large storage ollas. Some of these vessels are extremely large, holding ten gallons or more. Recently several offigy vessels have been found that show striking resemblances to Chihuahua wares. (W. S. Strain)

(2) Hudspeth County. In the summer of 1940, a class in field geology from Southern Methodist University, directed by Claude C. Albritton, Jr., completed a survey of the Finlay Mountains, located in western Hudspeth County. During the course of this survey a certain amount of archaeological work was done. Data were gathered on archaeological materials buried in alluvium, and a special study of local petroglyphs was made, especially from the point of view of their relationship to the geological problem of slope stability.

Hearths Buried in Alluvial Fill. Campagrande Draw and its tributaries drain the western portion of the Finlay Mountains. Except where confined between bedrock canyon walls, the branches of this ephemeral stream trench a series of small alluvial flats. In these flats arroyo walls provide natural sections through alluvium deposited during the most recent cycle of aggradation. Hearths show in section at several localities along the draw, the older hearths being at least 7 feet below the top of the alluvial fill. Tentatively the alluvium containing the hearths may be correlated with the Kokornot formation of the Davis Mountains. An account of the problem is being prepared for publication by Robert B. McConnell and J. J. Grim.

Petroglyphs as Criteria for Stability of Slope. Petroglyphs are found in abundance at nearly every Indian campsite situated on the outcrop of the Cox sandstone, a Cretaceous formation exposed over wide areas in the Finlay Mountains. Photographs and scale drawings of petroglyphs at two large sites were made by Dadd Osburn, David Trexler, and Keith Walker.

One of these sites is of particular interest. It is a large campsite situated at the Wilkie ranch house near the western margin of the Finlay Mountains and extends for several hundred yards along the relatively steep eastern face of a cuesta fronting Campagrande Draw. The rim of the cuesta is supported by a thick stratum of hard sandstone, and joint blocks detached from this ledge litter the shaly slopes below. Retreat of the cuesta rim can occur only as blocks detached from the sandstone cap roll, slide, or creep down the cuesta slope. In migrating downslope the blocks, some of them house-size, become tilted at various angles so as to form natural shelters. That many of these shelters have been occupied is attested by middens situated along their floors. The rocky face of the cuesta rim is covered with petroglyphs, showing that no widespread detachment of joint blocks from the cuesta cap has occurred since the petroglyphs, the orientation of which indicates that these blocks have not rotated since the Indians worked on them.

Evidently the boulder-protected slope has been essentially stable during and since its occupation by people responsible for the drawings. Pottery collected from middens beneath rock shelters has been identified (El Paso Polychrome and related wares, Chupadero Black-on-white, and Three Rivers Red-on-terracotta) and dated as belonging to the interval of 1200-1300 A. D. Granting that the petroglyphs on the walls of the shelters were made by the people responsible for the pottery in the floor-middens, and there is evidence to support this, the cuesta rim at the Wilkie ranch site has not retreated by the width of one joint block during the past 500 or 600 years.

In this and similar situations petroglyphs may afford data for measuring the stability of boulder-protected slopes in terms of years, and for estimating the rapidity with which slopes retreat by mass wasting. (Claude C. Albritton, Jr.)

HIGH PLAINS

Lubbock Area

(1) Beginning in the latter part of July, 1939, the Texas Technological College-WPA Archaeological Project, under the supervision of Joe Ben Wheat, began excavation of a site some three miles northwest of Lubbock. The site is located in the alluvial fill of an oxbow bend in the Yellowhouse Canyon. It was discovered when dredging operations conducted by the City of Lubbock revealed a stratum of clay containing bones of extinct animals and several Folsom and Yuma projectile points.

Trenching in the site disclosed two cultural horizons. These horizons are in distinct geological strata. The later culture is in a layer of alluvial and aeolian sand and silt, and the older culture is in a stratum of highly indurated clays. Separating the horizons is an erosional disconformity.

The material culture of the later phase is represented by projectile points, scrapers, knives, drills, grinding implements, and hearths--all typical of a late Plains hunting-gathering people associated with bones of the modern bison. Trade pieces of Chupadero Black-on-white pottery date this horizon between 1200 and 1700 A. D.

The older culture is represented by scrapers, knives, and a graver associated with bones of extinct horse and bison. All of these artifacts appear in the Folsom complex, but since no projectile points were found in the excavation it seems best to reserve judgment as to culture placement until more excavation has been done.

(2) The second site excavated was a late Plains buried site exposed in the bank of an intermittent stream tributary to Yellowhouse Canyon, located some 16 miles southeast of Lubbock. This site yielded a number

of artifacts, including projectile points, scrapers, knives, bone awls and tubes, and a number of hearths. A large number of partially articulated bison skeletons associated with the hearths seems to reveal a buffalo "kill" just prior to abandonment of the camp. Stratigraphic data combined with dendrochronology give a date of approximately 600 years ago, which would be roughly contemporaneous with the late phase of site 1, described above.

In a small shelter overlooking this site was found a bundle burial consisting of an adult female with infant. A large abalone shell pendant was associated with this burial. Considerable disturbance by rodents was indicated. (Joe Ben Wheat).

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS

Abilene Area

(1) In January, 1940, the Texas Technological College-WPA Archaeological Project, under the supervision of Joe Ben Wheat, began excavation in sites located by Dr. Cyrus N. Ray of Abilene. The first site to be worked was the stratified Hodges site in eastern Jones County, on the Clear Fork of the Brazos River, some 20 miles north of Abilene. The Hodges site consisted of five habitational levels ranging in depth from 5-1/2 to 22-1/2 feet below present surface level. The artifact yield was small, but from the fourth level came enough material to place this horizon tentatively in a complex extending to the south. A preliminary report of this site was published in Volume 12 of the Bulletin of the Texas Archaeological and Paleontological Society.

(2) The next site excavated by the project was on the W. A. Myatt ranch, several miles downstream from the Hodges site. The Myatt site is stratified, two levels of culture being represented. An abundance of knives and scrapers and a few projectile points indicate that the upper horizon belongs to the Brazos River phase of E. B. Sayles. The lower level may belong to the same phase of culture as the fourth level at the Hodges site, referred to above.

(3) Following the excavation of the Myatt site, the project concentrated on the excavation of a number of burial sites. Data were secured from a series of seventeen burials.

Morphologically these burials are of the dolichocephalic Abilene man described by Hooten and Hrdlička. Culturally the burials apparently belong to the peoples who inhabited the sand dune area, locally termed the "shinnery." Artifacts associated with the burials include spirally-lobbed olivella shell beads, a bone awl, and a thin, well-made triangular projectile point with lateral notches and serrated edges. This type of point occurs consistently in collections from the sand dune camps.

The burials usually occur on the lower limestone hills flanking the Clear Fork of the Brazos River valley wherever there is sufficient soil to permit an excavation of three to five feet. They occur in cemetery groups of from two to ten or more burials. A pit was scooped out in the soil to a depth of three or more feet and the burial was then placed in a flexed or semi-flexed position, usually lying on the side, though occasionally in a sitting position. The pit occasionally was lined with stone slabs forming a cist. Bundle burial was practiced, and one cremation was found in the series. The taking of the lower mandible as a trophy may have been practiced, since in several of the burials it had been removed prior to inhumation. Over the burials is placed a protective rock structure or cairn. These structures are made of stones secured in the neighborhood. A paper on this burial complex is under preparation.

(4) The project is at present excavating a site on the Triplett ranch, some eight miles south of Anson, Texas, on the Clear Fork of the Brazos River. The artifact complex is of the sand dune and the associated burials in the site appear to be of the type described above. (Joe Bon Wheat)

NORTH TEXAS

Dallas Area

During the past year the Dallas Archaeological Society has been making a survey of Dallas County. This survey is under the direction of R. K. Harris, vice president of the society. The county was divided into four parts according to the county commissioners' districts, and some member of the Society has charge of each one of these districts. Forrest Kirkland has the southeast district, Tom Gwin the southwest district, L. P. McElroy the northwest district, and Harris the northeast district. Other members of the Society have been placed under the supervision of the above-named district heads. Each district head and his workers cover the assigned district, make field maps of all sites located, fill out the standard site forms as approved by the Council of Texas Archaeologists, and collect all surface material on each site. To date seventy-four sites have been located in Dallas County.

Since a complete study of the materials collected has not yet been made, it is not possible to present any definite conclusions about traits present in each site or about the grouping of sites. However, a superficial survey of these materials does indicate the following. (1) Most pottery sites are located in the eastern half of the county and most non-pottery sites are in the western half, with the Elm Fork of the Trinity River apparently the dividing line. (2) The pottery sites yield pottery and flint artifacts which indicate a close affiliation with East Texas Caddo sites. (3) One site has been found which has produced the Waco type

of "sinker". (4) Several sites in the southern half of the county have flint artifacts made from a variety of flint which is common in the Waco area to the south.

The Society plans to publish the results of this survey as soon as it can be completed. (R. K. Harris)

Possum Kingdom Basin

A WPA-University of Texas Archaeological Project, directed by George R. Fox and Wesley L. Bliss respectively, has recently completed the excavation of a number of sites on the upper Brazos River west of Fort Worth. Most of these sites are in the area to be inundated by waters impounded by the Possum Kingdom dam. One of these sites, known as the Harrell site, may be selected as representative of most of the sites excavated. It is located at the junction of the Clear Fork of the Brazos with the Brazos proper and consists of a midden that lies on a terrace just above the present high-water mark of the two streams. Although an earlier horizon, in the form of a deeply buried hearth area, is represented at this site, it yielded no artifacts and thus can receive but little consideration. This discussion refers only to the uppermost horizon.

Apparently this locality was a choice spot, for the cultural debris was nearly four feet in thickness and yielded over 150 hearths, some directly superimposed over others. Thirty-two burials were scattered over one portion of the site. All the evidence points toward successive occupation of the site by various groups. Artifacts of stone and bone are abundant, shell less so, though large quantities of mussel shells occurred throughout the deposit.

Projectile points fall into two size groups, one small, the other large, with the smaller being the more numerous. These small points include all of the small types represented in Cyrus N. Ray's Small Scraper, Sand Dune, and "Pottery Complex" cultures (see articles in the Bulletin of the Texas Archeological and Paleontological Society), as well as in the Wichita Phase of E. B. Sayles (An Archaeological Survey of Texas). The larger points include the beveled blade points of Ray's Sand Dune Culture, some of Sayles' Wichita, and also types that appear in various Central Texas Cultures (Clear Fork of Ray, Round Rock and Edwards Plateau of Sayles). These latter Central Texas points occur at the same levels as the smaller points.

Knives are chiefly leaf-shaped or triangular in outline, but some four-edged beveled knives occur. Drills are small and stemmed as a rule, though a few large drills of Central Texas type are present. Gravers are fairly common and are made from small flakes with one or more beaked points. Scrapers are predominantly of the snub-nose end-scraper type, many of them very small—the thumb-nail variety described in Ray's Small

Scraper culture of the Abilene region. Serrated flakes or "saws" are present. Two gouges are to be noted, one of which is the Clear Fork type of Ray. Pipes are chiefly of stone and of the elbow type. Two small flat stone celts may be mentioned.

Manos are fairly uniform in shape, most of them being sub-rectangular in outline, with abrasion indicated on both faces. A few are pitted. Metates are chiefly oval or sub-rectangular slabs, usually worn on only one face.

Shell is most common in the form of mussel shells, whole or fragmentary. Quite common are mussel shells with perforations, both large and small; also pieces of shell that are presumably remnants, the missing parts evidently having been removed for use. Some "spoons" are present. A few shells have dentate or serrate edges. Disk heads of shell are present but not numerous. Other heads are of olivella, bird bones, crinoid stems, and glass.

Bone artifacts are also plentiful and include awls of deer ulnae and metapodials, rib spatulas, musical rasps, and incised bone tubes. Bison scapula digging implements are indicated by fragments showing beveled edges. Antler was used for handles and knapping tools.

Pottery was in common use, as shown by sherds, though these do not appear in great quantities. Pottery seems to have been chiefly of a fairly uniform plain ware, the color ranging from dark grey to tan and brown. Tempering materials are grit, shell, or perhaps calcium phosphate; abundance of tempering material is typical. Only a few sherds show decoration; these exhibit incising, light stippling, finger-nail marking, and pinched nodes. Forms seem to be chiefly pots and bowls; a few sherds indicate everted rims. A small number of European crockery sherds are present.

Other European objects include glass beads and bits of copper objects. These are not numerous, but their distribution in the midden deposit appears to offer conclusive proof of the historic date of at least the latter part of the occupation.

The thirty-two burials show considerable uniformity of burial custom. Most burials were flexed and oriented in a westerly direction. Some were covered by stones in the manner of Ray's stone cist burials of the Abilene region (see Wheat's report). Very few artifacts were associated with these burials--a bone awl, a scraper, two projectile points, and some mussel shells. As a whole the skeletal material is in poor condition, but Dr. Marcus S. Goldstein reports that all measurable skulls are dolichocephalic.

It is disappointing that no evidences of houses were reported. Although complete analysis of the artifacts has not been made, it is evident that most of the artifacts indicate a late Plains type of culture,

protohistoric and historic in date. When a published report of this site appears, it will undoubtedly bring into focus the late cultures of the Central and North Texas regions that have been reported by Ray, Sayles, Pearce, Jackson and others. This site will also throw considerable light on the problem of Wichita archaeology in Texas. (T. N. Campbell)

CENTRAL TEXAS

Waco Area

Conclusions Based on Recent Work. In recent years the Central Texas Archeological Society of Waco has been active in an area that includes all the territory within a radius of 70 miles of the city of Waco. This area is drained by two river systems, the Brazos and the Trinity, about ninety percent of it being drained by the former system. The northeast-southwest trend of the Balcones fault system divides the area in half. To the west are the hills of the Comanchean Cretaceous Grand Prairies; to the east are the black lands of the Upper Cretaceous, with numerous gravel beds overlying much of the area.

The Brazos River, cutting through the Balcones at Waco in a southeasterly direction, bisects the region into distinct cultural areas. In early prehistoric times the Brazos was a main artery of traffic, but in later times it formed a boundary line between the outposts of a western prairie hunting culture and an eastern semi-agricultural culture emanating from the Mississippi valley.

Although the details are not yet clearly worked out, there is enough data to indicate a tentative broad cultural sequence for the area, as follows: (1) A historic and late prehistoric semi-agricultural pottery horizon, represented in its final stages by members of the Caddo and pre-Caddo groups; (2) an intermediate or pre-pottery horizon, typologically related to the lower levels of the Central Texas burnt-rock middens (Pearce) and to the rock shelter cultures; and (3) an early horizon represented by the high terrace occupations at a time when climatic conditions were different from the present.

The oldest cultures are found in the camps on the high gravel terraces, the most recent in those camps along the present banks of the streams. Many of these latter sites may be identified through historical references.

Frequency of occurrence of campsites increases as one leaves the Brazos River, both to the east and to the west, with a thinly populated area following along the river and a denser occupancy at a distance of fifteen to twenty-five miles from the river, suggesting, with reference to the late or pottery horizon campsites, more or less of a "no-man's

land" or truce belt, where permanent residence was at best somewhat insecure. This condition does not apply to the earlier occupations.

Several different types of sites are known in the Waco area. These consist of surface camps, small mounds or burnt-rock middens, caves or rock shelters, and buried camps.

The surface camps are by far the most numerous and indicate the densest occupancy to have been along the small black-land streams east of the Brazos River, and they also give evidence that this period of densest population occurred during late prehistoric times.

The small mounds or burnt-rock middens are confined almost completely to the area west of the Brazos. These sites have large inclusions of burnt rock and ashes. West of the river these inclusions are limestone slabs; east of the river, in the few sites where burnt rocks are present, they are quartz and quartzite boulders. A few mounds contain no burnt rocks and were used for burial.

The rock shelters are found along the canyon walls of the streams west of the Brazos and have been used for living as well as for burial purposes. Certain shelters indicate only one occupancy, while others were occupied at several different times. No shelters are found east of the river.

Buried camps are of two types: those buried with their inclusions of charcoal and ashes in place, as when last occupied, and located on or within a short distance of the downthrown sides of Balcones fault blocks; the others are masses of buried materials gradually undercut by erosion or shifted downstream by heavy flood waters. These latter materials are the source of much confusion in determining occupational sequences.

The artifacts of the area are of types that indicate either semi-agricultural or hunting cultures. In addition to the ordinary artifacts associated with such cultures, ceremonial and problematical objects also occur. Many of the types are common in other areas, though some are peculiar to this area. Frequently specimens clearly intrusive from adjoining areas are found.

Only a small number of excavations with adequate recording have been made. Most of this work has been done by members of the Central Texas Archeological Society, either in groups or individually. The area is rich in possibilities. Thus far only a beginning has been made. (Frank H. Watt).

Austin Area

During the past few years a WPA-University of Texas archaeological project has been excavating sites in the Colorado River valley west

and northwest of Austin. These may be considered in the order of their excavation.

Dies Burnt-Rock Midden. A large burnt-rock midden on the Jack Dies Ranch, Travis County, was excavated from October 1 to November 20, 1938. The work was in charge of Kal Oberg. At places the midden deposit was 7 1/2 feet deep. Oberg described three distinctive, well-marked strata as follows:

"Stratum I, red clay and burnt-rock. Resting immediately on limestone bedrock there was a layer of red clay mixed with burnt and unburnt limestone fragments*** The stones and a red clay formed a tightly packed mass difficult to break with a pick. The red clay and burnt rock never reached the maximum width of the mound. The greatest depth of this stratum was 24 inches.

"Stratum II, grey burnt-rock. The second stratum was made up of burnt limestone fragments and soil mixed with grey ash. This layer was more loosely packed.*** It was the thickest of the three strata, reaching in places a depth of 48 inches.

"Stratum III, black burnt-rock. This layer formed the top of the mound, being practically without a humus covering. Throughout it was composed of tightly packed burnt-rock fragments, interspersed with black, charcoal-bearing soil. This layer formed the maximum extent of the mound and varied in depth from 10 to 30 inches."

Three burials were exhumed. Two were those of adults and one was an infant. The infant and one adult were at the bottom of the upper level, apparently representing late burials. The other was in the lowest level and seems to have been buried before the materials of the middle level accumulated. All the graves were stone-covered, the adults with fairly large limestone slabs resting over the skeletons. The infant was in a circle of smaller stones and was covered with other small slabs. All skeletons were fully flexed.

Accompanying the infant, near the neck, were parts of two shell ornaments. With one adult, at the top of the skull, was a triangular flint knife. With the other, also at the top of the skull, was a projectile point with a constricted tang and rudimentary barbs. All the skeletal material was in a very poor state of preservation.

Booker Burnt-Rock Midden. A nearby midden, on the Booker place, in the edge of Williamson County, was next excavated by Oberg. It was located on a hill, and consisted of much grey ash with some burnt rock. No evidence of stratification was apparent, and the entire level was much like the middle level in the large Dies midden. Two burials were found, both in a semi-flexed position and without accompanying artifacts.

Roy Deep Site. The excavation of a deeply buried site in a terrace of the Colorado River, in Travis County, occupied a period of five months. A brief account of that work appeared in Volume 11 of the Bulletin of the Texas Archeological and Paleontological Society, 1939.

Law Burnt-Rock Midden. From May 5 to August 29, 1939, the project excavated one large and two small burnt-rock middens and an adjacent campsite on the Law Brothers place in Travis County. Wesley L. Bliss had charge of the work.

Two hearths, made up of single layers of closely-spaced fragments of burned limestone, were found in the campsite adjacent to the concentrated burnt-rock midden. The hearths were at comparatively shallow depths and showed no evidence of great age.

Two human burials and a third possible one were exhumed. All three were in, or beneath, cist-like rock enclosures or coverings. Two contained fragmentary bones, the other had no bones remaining. Of the definite burials both were adults, one fully flexed and the other semi-flexed. One was with the head up, facing southwest; the other had the head to the northeast. No artifacts accompanied the burials. One contained some ash and scattered burned bones.

With regard to a culture older than the burnt-rock middens, Bliss stated as follows:

"There is no doubt that an older culture layer existed below the burnt-rock areas. Just how much lapse of time occurred between these two separate occupations of the site would be difficult to say. The fill which occurred between the two culture zones may have taken some time to be deposited. Again, this deposition may have been rather rapid. This could easily be the case if water (from the creek) reached a sufficiently high level to cause silting. That such flood stages did occur is shown by one profile, where gravel was deposited above the burnt-rock zone. Underlying the main burnt-rock midden was a thin layer of burnt rock with clay and snail shells both above and below it. This layer is thus older than the 'mound' proper, which was exposed on the surface. In one section were two separate layers of burnt rock. These indicate two periods of occupation, with some lapse of time between periods."

At this site deer and bison seem to have been the chief source of animal food. Very few mussel shells were present in the midden. This was in striking contrast to the condition in certain sites on the Colorado River, where thousands of shells were found.

Two flakes of obsidian were found. Such discoveries are rare in the Central Texas area.

As common in such sites, many flint artifacts were found; but a large percentage of the specimens came from the campsite surrounding the burnt-rock midden.

Bliss makes the following statement regarding projectile point types:

"In the lower strata, a higher percentage of projectile points with expanded base was found than normal for the mound proper. This indicates that these are an older type; or, at least, were made to a greater extent at an earlier time than were the indented base and constricted base types."

A laboratory examination of the artifacts showed an unusually large percentage of projectile points with beveled stems and blades. The beveled specimens, representing ten percent of the projectile points, seem to have been largely concentrated in the central midden at depths of 10 to 20 inches.

Occurring at this site with unusual frequency were stone pendants and boat-shaped artifacts or so-called atlatl weights.

Sandy Creek Sites. The Central Texas field crew spent eleven months excavating large and important village sites at and near the junction of Sandy Creek with the Colorado River in Travis County. These sites are in the basin created by Marshall Ford Dam and are now inundated by impounded waters. At various times this crew was headed by George R. Fox, Wesley L. Bliss, William A. Duffen and J. Charles Kelley.

Fox excavated a shallow midden deposit on top of a mesa in the triangle between the river and creek. The excavation was taken to bedrock, which lay at a depth of less than three feet. An outstanding feature was the presence of thousands of fresh-water mussel shells, suggesting that the mussel was a very important item of food. A few potsherds were found on the surface and in the upper few inches of the deposit. The entire deposit seemed to be comparatively recent.

The most important work at the Sandy Creek sites consisted of the deep tests. One of these, on the Sandy Creek side of the terrace, was started by Bliss and completed by Duffen. The other, on the Colorado River side of the terrace, was started by Duffen and completed by Kelley.

A test trench, dug under the supervision of Bliss, revealed three buried burnt-rock middens. Bliss states:

"A fire hearth was found at the five-foot level and 2 1/2 feet below a burnt-rock mound. Later another hearth was found below the burnt-rock mound level*** Fragments of burnt rocks and charcoal were found at the 15-foot level.

There were three gravel layers between the surface and the 15-foot level. These were probably caused by flood stages of Sandy Creek*** As the site is on the flood plain of both Sandy Creek and Colorado River, there may have been some redeposition of cultural remains. This is suggested by the scattered burnt rocks that are found consolidated within the gravel.

"The age of some of the deep deposits may not be very much older than that of the burnt-rock mounds, as the rate of deposition by stream action, especially on river flood plains, may be very rapid in some cases.*** However, the burnt-rock mounds are less than two feet from the surface. These factors show that deposition has not been rapid since the site was occupied by the people who deposited these mounds."

The test was carried on by Duffen to the 20-foot level, but between 15 and 20 feet no charcoal or other evidence of man was found.

Devils Hollow Buried Site. A small buried site on Devils Hollow was dug by Fox. The burnt-rock midden was buried beneath 4 1/2 feet of gravel and humus. Beneath the burnt-rocks was a level of red sandy clay.

The upper level of brown humus was sterile. In the compact gravel were flint artifacts, flakes, several broken manos, a piece of ochre and many mussel shells.

There were nearly twice as many artifacts and flakes in the 20-inch-thick burnt-rock midden as in the 40-inch-thick gravel layer above. The finds included projectile points, knives, fist axes, manos and part of a metate. One of the manos was of the edged type. The sandy clay for 10 inches below the burnt-rock level contained artifacts, flakes and shells. Most of the projectile points in the gravel above the burnt-rock midden were of different types from those in the two lower levels.

In this connection it is interesting to note that projectile points with expanding stem and deep basal U-shaped concavity came from the upper occupational level in this site; and, likewise, from next to the upper level in a series of seven archaeological levels in a deep site excavated by Kelley. (A. T. Jackson)

GULF COAST

Morhiss Site

The Morhiss site is located six miles south of Victoria, Victoria County, on the east side of the Guadalupe River, approximately one quarter

mile from the present stream channel. This site, which has frequently been referred to as a mound, is really a large midden resting on a remnant of an old terrace of the Guadalupe. It now stands well above flood waters.

This site was completely excavated by a University of Texas-WPA project, under the supervision of William A. Duffen. Work was begun in October, 1938, and was terminated in February, 1940, some forty laborers being employed during this period.

The midden has an elevation of 20 feet, is about 475 feet long and 300 feet wide. In cross section the following strata are observable: (1) at the top, a lens-shaped black midden deposit varying in thickness from six inches to ten feet; (2) below it, and conforming to the base of the midden, a transitional layer representing the old terrace surface, which ranges from a mere trace to one foot in thickness; (3) below this, the materials making up the river terrace—caliche, sand, gravel and clay, occurring in bodies, lenses, and striae. From this lower terrace material came the fossilized remains of mammoth, horse, camel, sloth, bison, deer, turtle, and alligator. These remains were not articulated, but were in a scattered condition, generally only a few bones of the same individual being found. This seems to represent a secondary deposit. Apparently these materials were not transported any great distance, since the bones are in excellent condition.

Some 5,400 artifacts were removed during the course of excavations. These were scattered all the way from the old terrace material to the modern surface of the midden.

In one case a knife blade of unusual form and material was found 31 inches below the fossilized bone of a camel. Intrusion seems unlikely, due to the sealed in condition of both articles in question. In two instances projectile points of unusual form were found in the semi-consolidated mass of the transitional leached zone. A true chemical alteration or patination had taken place, leaving but a thin core of the original stone.

Two hundred and nineteen burials were recorded. These can be divided into two groups: (1) those in which the remains are highly mineralized, and (2) those which do not show chemical alteration. The remains of the first group were either bundle burials or tightly flexed burials. No definite orientation or disposal could be established. Marginella shell beads were found with burials of this group, and when pendants were found they were of shell and were triangular in outline. Burials of the second group were either fully or partially extended on the side, back or face. A few tightly flexed burials were present, but the bones were not mineralized; these did not appear to belong to the first group. Artifacts associated with burials of this second group consisted of shell pendants of various shapes, beads of bird bone and columella of the conch, and well worked blades. In all cases where burial

stratigraphy was present, the unmineralized remains were always above those of the other group, and in disturbed cases it was always the mineralized form that gave way.

Ethnological affiliations have not been attempted, but some horizons have been established. These are tentative in character, however, since analysis of the artifacts has not been completed. The following sequence may be outlined:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Characteristics</u>
Historic (?)	7	Surface. Pottery, small serrated points, bannerstone.
Late Prehistoric	6	Corner-tang knives. Large flint blades.
	5	Percussion and pressure flaking technique. Many forms of projectile points and shell artifacts. Non-mineralized burials.
Middle Prehistoric	4	Percussion technique. High keel-backed gouges. Mineralized burials.
	3	Percussion technique. Concave-base gouge dominant.
Early Prehistoric	2	Highly patinated points found in transitional zone.
	1	Association of artifacts with fossil remains.

(William A. Duffen)

EASTERN TEXAS

Northeast Texas

Hatchel Site. A WPA-University of Texas archaeological unit excavated in the vicinity of Texarkana from November 1, 1938, to August 25, 1939, on the A. J. Hatchel place, Bowie County. During that time

a large earthen mound and adjacent cemeteries were excavated under the direction of William C. Beatty, Jr.

The mound, 190 x 145 x 30 feet, was located on what seemed to be an old channel of Red River about a mile from the present stream. The site was part of an extensive village, perhaps related to other mound and village groups within a radius of three miles. The entire area, which contains nine or more mounds, shows evidence of long-continued occupation by fairly large numbers. The Hatchel mound had long served as a place of refuge for livestock in periods of overflow.

On top of the mound grew a large burr oak tree which had rings indicating an age of 170 years. There was no evidence of European contact.

The mound was not a burial structure, but a truncated pyramid of the house-mound type. Only four burials were found in the entire mound. Three of these were infants and one was an intrusive adult burial.

Eight floors were found in the upper 13 feet of the mound. The presence of so many floors in a small vertical area suggests that after each period of occupation, and possible burning of the house, more soil was added and another floor prepared for building purposes. Beneath the eighth floor was a primary mound of smaller proportions, at each end of which had been fills to enlarge for the next floor. The primary mound seemed to have a ramp, or slanting approach, at the south center.

The lower part of the mound consisted of two different structural stages. Most of the lower levels were almost sterile as compared with the evidences of material culture found on the upper floors. The original mound was erected on a portion of the large, comparatively level village site, and not on a natural elevation.

Each floor contained from one to three house sites, outlined by post molds. Of twenty houses, fifteen were roughly circular in shape. They ranged in size from 10 to 49 feet, with an average diameter of about thirty feet. A number of houses had protruding entranceways three to four feet wide and about five feet long, as indicated by post molds. Of fourteen definite entranceways, 57% were to the southeast, 22% to the south, 14% to the east, and 7% to the northwest. Wattle, apparently from burned clay roofs, was present in four of the houses. There was no evidence of a large central supporting post in any house.

Seven houses contained fire pits, while three others had deposits of ashes without definite pits. Most of the fire pits were near the centers of the houses. Eight houses had storage pits, some with two or three such pits containing rubbish.

The topmost floor contained a house at the east and west ends, a large storage pit in the northwest corner. Between the two houses was a "compound-like" area that may have contained drying racks or lean-to shelters, as indicated by post molds.

On the sixth floor from the top was a central house with an almost perfect entranceway to the south. It consisted of seventeen well aligned holes, some of which contained the remains of cedar posts.

At the west end of, and beneath, the mound on the old village level was a large circular house site, divided by a partition into two "rooms."

Aside from the grave goods, consisting mostly of pottery vessels and many scattered potsherds, the material culture was scantily represented in the mound. The projectile points, mostly small, were of the stemmed and unstemmed varieties; the former had expanded and contracted stems, the latter had straight and concave bases. A cache of sixteen small triangular points lay in a heap.

Many fragmentary pipes were found, as well as an occasional broken vessel. Two unusually large polished stone celts were on the floor very near each other. Among the ornaments were bear-tooth pendants and a turquoise bead.

In addition to the seemingly significant practice of burying infants in the mound, other facts suggest that this large mound may have been the abode of important individuals and their families. There also remains the possibility of the mound having been the location of a "town house" or so-called temple.

As indicated by Beatty, the mound suggests the division of its growth into five periods. The first represented the occupation of the original village that later was covered by the mound. This consisted of two additions, the lower of which may have been merely a clay base for the next higher addition. The third period, consisting of end additions to the mound and the erection of five additional floors, may be called the period of large occupational levels. The fourth is a period of smaller occupational levels, and includes the last three floors added to the mound. The final period, since abandonment by the Indians, shows the results of floods, erosion and heavy wind deposit.

A few hundred feet to the east of the large mound were exhumed sixteen burials with which were deposited sixteen crude pottery vessels and one clay pipe. The depths of the graves ranged from four to forty inches. There was no evidence of European contact, and the skeletal material was in a very poor state of preservation. These facts, coupled with the crudeness and scarcity of pottery, suggest that the burials may have been early prehistoric.

In a village site to the southeast of the mound three burials were found; and to the southwest of the mound were ten other burials. This made a total of twenty-nine graves adjacent to the mound, with only four in it. There probably are other burials in the nearby field, where no excavation was done due to farm operations.

Among the pottery fragments from the Hatchel site was one rim sherd different from all others. It has a flat rim with two incised lines in the lip of the rim. This is suggestive of a certain ware from Louisiana reported by J. A. Ford,¹

Paul Mitchell Cemetery. A burial site was discovered a number of years ago on the Paul Mitchell place on McKinney Bayou, one mile south of the Hatchel mound, Bowie County. Many skeletons are said to have been destroyed while building a levee at that place. Considerable digging subsequently was done by local amateurs. A WPA-University of Texas crew excavated the remainder of the cemetery from November 10, 1938 to January 10, 1939. A. M. Woolsey was in charge.

Fifty-seven burials were exhumed. They were in an extended position, and the majority were oriented with the head to the southeast. The graves were about 6 x 3 feet and had an average depth of 30 inches. Most of the skeletal material was in a good state of preservation.

There were more mortuary offerings in the graves, the pottery was of a better workmanship and more ornately decorated than at the nearby Hatchel cemetery. There was, however, no evidence of European contact. These facts indicate that the Mitchell burials are more recent than those at the Hatchel place, but that they are not historic.

In all of the burials at the Mitchell place many small pieces of charcoal were found in the grave fill. This probably resulted from the use of fire in the burial ceremonies.

In one grave was what appeared to be a food offering for the dead. One of the three pottery vessels, a small black jar, had inside--and outside near the mouth--the bones of a squirrel. The grave also contained a clay pipe, two bone needles, a polished stone celt, a flint scraper, and twelve small pieces of deer hoof.

Outstanding specimens recovered from this burial site included an earthenware pipe of the so-called T-shape, with a delicate bowl and a long stem that extended to the rear of the bowl; an ornately worked shell gorget; and five bone arrowpoints with definite stems. (A. T. Jackson)

¹Ford, J. A., Ceramic Decoration Sequence at an Old Indian Village Site Near Sicily Island, Louisiana, Anthropological Study No. 1, Louisiana Geological Survey, New Orleans, 1935, pp. 15, 25.

Central East Texas

Alto Mound. Approximately six miles southwest from Alto, Cherokee County, Texas, is a large level terrace on which were originally located three mounds and an extensive village which undoubtedly covered most of the level area. The terrace is enclosed by low, tree-covered hills to the north, Bowles Creek to the west, a timbered slope down to the Neches River to the south, and timbered marshland and small spring-fed creeks to the east. The mounds lie well toward the southern end of the terrace, about a mile from the river. Two of these have been destroyed: one, oval in shape, having been plowed until only a low rise can now be seen; and the other, a smaller conical mound, having been gutted by convict labor many years ago. No records were kept of specimens found in these, if any. The third, and probably the largest, mound (250' x 150' x 16') and a limited area of the village immediately surrounding it constitutes the site known as ET-221, now being excavated.

Work on such a large site was made possible by a Work Projects Administration project sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, The University of Texas. The field work is being done by fifty-odd laborers under the supervision of Perry Newell.

In the village area 5-inch levels are used with 10-foot sections, and in the mound proper 5-foot profiles in 10-foot sections are used.

The cultural level of the village area, 8 to 12 inches in thickness, is covered by several inches of blown sand. Near the mound, wash has buried it to a greater depth. Flowing has cut into the top of the village stratum, scattering artifacts over the surface and destroying the floors of most of the houses. Twenty-two house outlines have been found so far, all circular except one which had straight sides and diagonal corners. None has shown a definite entranceway. They vary from 20 to 50 feet in diameter. A few had center posts, but the majority did not. House walls were probably of woven switch-cane matting, charred fragments of which have been found. Two houses were covered deeply enough to escape the plow, and their floors were intact. One of these was a typical round house with floor of packed earth stained black with charcoal and littered with broken pottery and deer bones. It had a center post located in the fireplace. The other was a unique structure, a shallow depression lined with clay and burned to about the same hardness as an old-fashioned red brick. This house also has a center post, and in addition, has five large inner posts and approximately 150 small supporting posts set just outside the rim in a deep, narrow trench. Many specimens were found on the floor of this house. Little work has yet been done on three houses on this same level but lying under the mound.

The mound, which is somewhat "L"-shaped, is divided into two main building stages. The primary mound stood about 9 feet above the village, part of which it covered. It had a level surface at that height, and at least one house, now being excavated, was built on that surface. This house is nearly round, has a large fireplace, and there is some evidence that either it had a double wall for at least part of its circumference,

or that there were two overlapping houses. The diameter is about 27 feet. At some later time an additional 6 to 7 feet was added to the mound. Both parts of the mound were formed by innumerable small loads of brightly colored sands and clays, ranging in color from white to yellows, browns, and deep reds, and in material from pure sand to pure clay, with all possible combinations. In general, the material in the primary mound is darker in color, changing abruptly to lighter colors with fewer lenses in the secondary mound.

Specimens seem to be similar throughout the site, and there are no apparent differences between those in mound and village. They are found from surface down to the underlying barren red clay. Except for small groups of artifacts, or concentrations on house floors, there seems to be no great variation in frequency in either a vertical or a horizontal plane. Pottery forms the great majority of all specimens found, and shows wide variation. Decoration patterns on rims consist mainly of parallel incised lines; opposed series of diagonal lines leaving plain or punctate-filled triangular areas between the series; parallel incised lines with rows of fingernail gouges between; fine diagonal or vertical striations; and curvilinear designs. In cross-section rims are predominantly rounded, but a considerable number have flattened lips, some of which are incised. Body sherds are chiefly plain, but heavy fingernail gouging, vertical incised lines, and curvilinear designs occur. Stone work is confined chiefly to scrapers and projectile points, although a few fragments of ground stone have been found, as well as several manos and so-called "fire-stones". Scrapers are crude, mostly flakes which have been retouched on one edge. The projectile points range from rather fine points of small size to large, crudely chipped points with rudimentary barbs, and a few large, rather carefully chipped "fish-tail" blades. Traits less apparent than those mentioned have not yet been studied. No worked bone has been found. Evidences of food are rare, but charred corn-cobs, charred nuts, occasional mussel shells, and deer bones are present. No burials have been found in this site.

Any accurate comparison of specimens from this site with those from other sites will have to await laboratory analysis, but there are some striking similarities already apparent between pottery decorations here and some specimens found in Coles Creek culture sites in Louisiana.² The majority of decoration patterns, however, seem to be typically Caddoan. Both of these suggest an easterly affiliation, but conclusions will necessarily be indefinite until work is completed. (Perry Newell)

²Ford, J. A., op. cit., p. 36, types 5a and 5b.

GENERAL RECONNAISSANCE

During the past two years G. E. Arnold has spent practically his entire time doing reconnaissance work for The University of Texas-WPA Archaeological Project. About ten months were spent in making a surface survey of the Possum Kingdom Lake basin along the Brazos River in Young and Palo Pinto Counties in North Texas. One month was devoted to work in Leon County, just west of the Trinity River. More than a year has been spent in central and lower East Texas.

Work in the Possum Kingdom Lake basin was of importance because it represented a virgin archaeological area and because the sites will soon be inundated. Among the accomplishments of this area was the discovery of potsherds that suggest an intrusion from the north. These sherds are of a blackish-grey ware, heavily tempered with grit and fair sized gravels, and with a textured exterior that seems to have been produced by textile or mat imprints. Sherds of this type, while fairly numerous in the Texas Panhandle, are relatively scarce in this Brazos River region, and do not seem to occur further south.

In this basin were also found potsherds showing intrusions from the Northeast Texas pottery region. At one site was single sherd very suggestive of Apache ware such as is sometimes found in extreme West Texas. One of its distinctive features is a zigzag arrangement of flat-topped applied nodes.

Trade relations are indicated by the presence of some obsidian from the west and of the beautifully colored "Alibates flint" or agatized dolomite from the quarries along the Canadian River in the Texas Panhandle.

Reconnaissance in the East Texas region has been confined to those areas where no archaeological work previously has been done. Particular attention has been paid to the pottery from these areas. Historic records have been searched and an attempt made to correlate history and archaeology. One phase of this work has been an examination of sites occupied by the Alabama (Alibamu) and Koasati Indians shortly after they came to Texas from Louisiana. Some of the pottery, concerning which there has been doubt, now seems to tie up with this intrusion.

In Orange and Jefferson Counties, on the Gulf coast, Arnold is finding many extensive shell middens in the swamp areas near the mouth of the Neches River and other streams. Many features found here seem to be much like the findings of Henry B. Collins, Jr.,³ who in 1926 investigated sites along the Louisiana Gulf Coast. Some of the sites seem to be those mentioned in early historic accounts as having been occupied by the Attacapa

³Collins, Henry B., Jr., "Archaeological Work in Louisiana and Mississippi," Explorations and Fieldwork of Smithsonian Institution in 1926, pp. 200-206.

or Orcoquiza Indians. Intermixed with the shells are numerous potsherds, animal bones, some human bones, and a few artifacts. The pottery is decidedly different from that found further to the north.

An interesting and seemingly significant feature found by Arnold is the presence in a number of cases of occupational evidence extending below the present normal water level. This suggests a subsidence of the land in the region since its occupation by the people responsible for these remains. This seems to be a situation similar to that noted by Kniffen in Iberville Parish, Louisiana.⁴ (A. T. Jackson)

LABORATORIES

Laboratories of the WPA-University of Texas Archaeological Survey

The Survey's first laboratory was established in San Antonio in September, 1938, with Jack T. Laughlin as supervisor. Its purpose was, and is, to clean, catalog, and analyze the cultural materials excavated by WPA field units in various parts of the state. Due to lack of space, it is not possible to store the processed collections there, so they must be periodically moved to the Austin laboratory, where all the University collections are systematically filed.

In August, 1939, the Austin laboratory was established as a second unit for analyzing and filing archaeological materials, with Alex D. Krieger as supervisor. At the same time a Laboratory of Physical Anthropology was established within the Austin laboratory, operating in such a way that Dr. Marcus S. Goldstein of New York University, the physical anthropologist, could direct the work of several WPA workers.

The Austin laboratory was intended to clean, catalog, and analyze the materials acquired by the University during the years before the WPA program started, and also the non-WPA materials acquired since it started in 1936. In physical anthropology, Dr. Goldstein's crew is handling all skeletal material collected by both University and WPA, together with other collections loaned for the express purpose of including them in a comprehensive research volume for the whole state, which Dr. Goldstein is now preparing. As it consists of six large rooms, with ample shelf space, the Austin laboratory affords excellent facilities for such work as cleaning, routine cataloging and classifying, systematic filing, pottery restoration, special research either by the laboratory or by outsiders, and some small exhibits in the offices.

Since its inception the San Antonio laboratory has processed a very large number of artifacts from Central, East, North, and South Texas--approximately 100,000, all of which are fully documented by the WPA archaeologists in charge of the camps. An artist has made about 2,400 excellent

⁴Kniffen, Fred B., The Indian Mounds of Iberville Parish, Geological Bulletin, No. 13, Louisiana Geological Survey, New Orleans, 1938, p. 198.

ink sketches of type specimens or of especially good or unusual specimens from each collection. A pottery collection of some 24,000 sherds from Bowie County was worked over and about 50 vessels restored from it, while the sherds themselves were classified by temper and design. More than 200 vessels from other sites were repaired and restored. Since September 6, 1940, when Laughlin resigned, Robert L. Stephenson has been in charge.

The Austin laboratory, in sixteen months of operation, has accomplished the following: cleaned, sorted and filed approximately 100,000 artifacts from 1500 collections representing 96 Texas counties; worked out typologies, classified, labeled, and catalogued on cards approximately 30,000 of these artifacts; cleaned, classified, and attempted vessel restorations of approximately 35,000 potsherds from East and South Texas excavations; typed 2,000 pages of old catalog records; typed 6,000 specimen record cards; cleaned, mended, labeled, and cataloged approximately 2,000 skeletal units (in which skulls and skeletons are tabulated separately) from all parts of the state; transcribed data on more than 600 skulls measured by Dr. Goldstein to tabulation sheets for summarizing this data by sites; prepared a special report for publication on the physical anthropology of the Sanders site in Lamar County.

In addition to these activities it should be emphasized that when the Austin laboratory was established, the supervisors were confronted with a mass of materials which had to be carefully sorted and culled, checked with former records and correspondence, and put into order before the actual cataloging and analysis could be started. This laboratory is well on the way to becoming a major research plant in archaeology and physical anthropology. At present both the San Antonio and Austin supervisors are completing a comprehensive system for classifying artifacts which involves some 200 specimen types of significant distinction. The system as it stands has met the tests of some 100,000 specimens, and, when placed in order for the use of colleagues, should be of considerable importance.
(Alex D. Krieger)

T. N. Campbell, Secretary
Council of Texas Archaeologists
Department of Anthropology
University of Texas
Austin, Texas



CTA Newsletter

Steve Carpenter
 Editor
 c/o Texas General Land Office
 5204 D Mt. Bonnell Road
 Austin, Texas 78731
cta-members@c-tx-arch.org
cta-contractor@c-tx-arch.org

Sue Linder-Linsley, RPA
 Web Committee, Chair
 c/o Department of Anthropology
 Southern Methodist University
 Dallas, Texas 75275-0336

TO:

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