Council of Texas Archeologists

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28
NUMBER 2
MARCH 2004

2004 CTA Spring Meeting
April 16, 2004 – Business Meeting, Camp Mabry: Building 8
Social 6:00 PM – Camp Mabry Picnic Grounds

Spring Meeting Agenda

Registration 9:00 AM
Call to Order 9:30 AM
Announcements
Approval of Minutes from Fall 2003 Meeting (as published in the last CTA Newsletter)
Officers' Reports
- President
- President-Elect
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Newsletter Editor

Standing Committee Reports
- Governmental Affairs
- Contractors List
- Public Education
- Multicultural Relations
- CTA Webpage
- Membership

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

Old Business
- Rock Art Database Project
- 41VT98

New Business
- Elections and committee appointments
- E. Mott Davis Award

Business Meeting Adjourns 12:30 PM
Afternoon Program – Archeology Forum 1:30 PM
Meeting Adjourns 4:30 PM: Social – Camp Mabry Picnic Grounds 5:30 PM

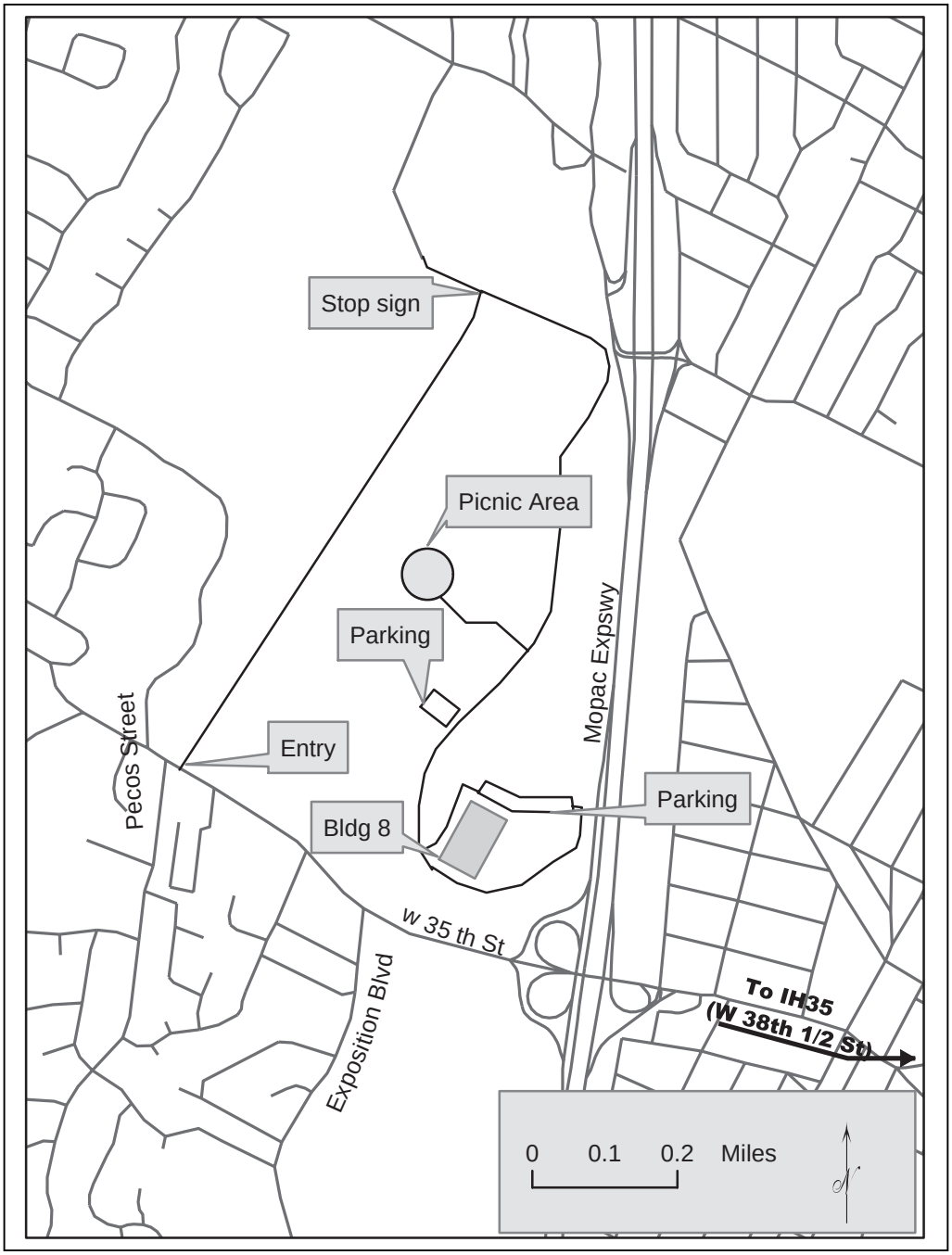
In this issue…

PRESIDENT'S FORUM

Clell Bond

"What we have here is a failure to communicate." Just as communications technologies have changed our personal lives they have also impacted the communications routines of our professional organization. While a few of us were brought kicking and screaming into the computer and cell phone age, the new technologies have generally left us better connected. Our organization has largely gone electronic. Our newsletter is posted on our web

2004 Spring Meeting
Camp Mabry: Bldg. 8



Everyone who comes to the meeting needs to bring a photo ID and tell the guards that they are going to the CTA meeting in Building 8 or the Picnic Grounds for the CTA social. Please do not park in the small parking lot at the west entrance of Bldg 8 - it's reserved for officers. **Anyone who is not a current member and plans to attend the meeting OR the social needs to email Shellie.Sullo@tx.ngb.army.mil.** Lunch can be purchased on-site at Marlene's Kitchen in Building 8. There are also numerous restaurants and fast food joints near by.

page, meeting announcements and calls for papers are sent by e-mail and our Contractors List, which is provided to potential clients by the Texas Historical Commission (THC), is maintained on the web site. Unfortunately, we in the CTA have had a slight disconnect.

In the recent months we have experienced considerable difficulty in keeping our Contractors List accurate and up to date. In a couple of cases listings were not made on a timely basis, and in other cases requests for changes in contact information or changes in the description of offered services were not made as quickly as the contractor would have liked. Part of the problem has been our organizational structure and informal communication protocol for making list changes. Another major part of the problem is our limited ability to access and alter web page content at will. We are working on these issues to prevent untimely delays in adding and changing contractor listings in the future.

In exploring the issues around the Contractors List I became aware of some additional communication problems and was reminded of some old issues and ideas that other members had previously brought to my attention. There is some concern that there is no way to disseminate time-sensitive data, like job opening announcements, except for the general e-mail list. There is no medium like a "listserv" type forum for member communication. The hosting of the CTA web site by the THC can be viewed as a conflict of interest. Additionally, the web page format and appearance is out of date and needs to be improved.

And yet another committee, the Special Web Committee, was formed to solve these problems and bring us enlightenment. This new committee is composed of Kevin Miller, Steve Black, David Brown, Andy Malof, Dan Julien and myself. The committee's mission is to find a new web site host and move the CTA web off of the THC server, identify those items that are crucial to the CTA web page, hire a web page designer to construct a new web site incorporating those critical features, and find and establish an additional communication format for those members who would like to participate. As the committee further refines the selections and costs of these items they will be included in the proposed budget.

To those CTA Contractor List members who were dissatisfied with their listing or listing changes I offer my sincere apologies. There are no paid positions within the CTA and individual and committee volunteers conduct all of our work. I can assure everyone that the volunteers worked diligently to find solutions to the Contractors List problems. To those who were extremely critical I would suggest they might volunteer to help.

Before I turn the president's gavel over to incoming President Kevin Miller at the end of the spring meeting I would like to thank everyone, especially all of the committees and volunteers for their assistance and support. Working as President of the CTA the past two years has been a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President-Elect Report
Kevin Miller

The upcoming Spring meeting of the CTA at Camp Mabry promises to be both fun and informative, and I am looking forward to the papers and meeting discussions as I transition into my role as President. As I contemplated my upcoming tenure as president and my agenda, I realized there are many CTA members that I do not know or have only briefly talked to at the occasional meeting or archaeological function. Conversely, I then realized that there are probably many of you who know little to nothing about who I am. With that in mind, I thought I would provide a brief synopsis of my archaeological career before I discuss some key action items for the upcoming year.

Raised in Fort Worth, Texas, my first experience with excavations occurred when, at age 10, I found and excavated (actually, I dug them up with a hammer and screwdriver) a large bed of ammonite fossils at a construction site not far from my home. The thrill of this discovery

set me on my path towards archaeology. I attended The University of Texas at Austin (UT) and received my Bachelor's degree in Anthropology in 1989. After working on CRM projects for a year, I returned to UT and received my Master's degree in Archaeology in 1993. At UT, I had the great fortune of working with the likes of E. Mott Davis, Dr. Tom Hester, Dr. Mike Collins, and many others. My Master's research focused on biface caches and associated topics such as lithic raw material distributions and prehistoric trade and exchange networks in Texas. While attending UT, I also worked as a Research Assistant at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and for various CRM firms, conducting fieldwork and lithic and faunal analyses. Once I received my degree, I decided that I had had enough of being a poor, starving student and went to work full-time in the world of CRM. I joined SWCA Environmental Consultants in Austin where I have served as Director for their cultural resource program for 10 years. Over the course of my 18 years of archaeological experience, I have worked in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Idaho, and Belize.

Now that you know a little more about my experience, I would like to touch upon some of the critical issues that need to be addressed by the CTA in the coming years. As Clell discusses in the President's forum, functional and qualitative changes to our website are sorely needed, and a big part of my time in 2004 will be dedicated to making this happen. Not only will we be going for a new look and design, we will be modifying how it operates, including the Contractors List and other items currently under discussion. An issue that goes hand-in-hand with the website changes is improved communication throughout the CTA, whether between officers, committees, or all members. Communication is a primary function of the CTA, with our website prominently displaying one of our goals as "developing communication within the archaeological community". I believe it will be critical to our success as an organization to improve and formalize communications – and the establishment of a new email list-serve will be the first step in this direction.

As we make these changes, I also want to open a dialogue between us all regarding the basic goals and nature of the CTA, which I believe is experiencing some lethargy, in order to reaffirm our mission and re-energize our organization. Too often I hear how the CTA is boring, does not really do much for its members, or seems to lack members from a broader cross-section of the archaeological community. I want to change these perceptions and make some constructive progress in our goals that focus on public outreach and education, research, communication, and preservation. The only way to do this is to once again ask ourselves some basic questions such as who do we want as members, what do we want to accomplish as an organization, and how do we get there. I am greatly encouraged by the progressive discussions and ideas our excellent Membership Committee has recently addressed, and I believe we need to do the same on other fronts. I am excited about my upcoming tenure and look forward to furthering the success of the CTA.

Secretary-Treasurer Report
Missi Green

Memberships for 2004 are still coming in – slowly. To date, 67 members have renewed or joined CTA. At the end of 2003, CTA had 149 members. Let's get that number higher for 2004! Twenty-three contractors have also renewed for 2004 – that's about half of last year. So the call has gone out for dues again! Payments can be sent electronically through PayPal. Just go to www.paypal.com and send money directly to treasurer@c-tx-arch.org. Or send them to Missi Green at 550 E. 15th Street, Plano, Texas 75074. Please pay your dues and continue to be a voice in the policies, developments, and excitement of conducting archeology in Texas. I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting in Austin. Bring a friend!

Newsletter Editor Report
Andy Malof

I want to start by thanking the CTA for providing me this opportunity. It has given me a chance to become more involved in Texas

archaeology in both a professional and a personal sense. I have been able to gain a greater understanding of the issues that confront Texas archeologists. As mentioned elsewhere, the CTA is a volunteer organization. Readers may have noticed a change in format in this, the latest and lastest of newsletters under my editorship. Which brings up an opportunity to sing the praises of those most important members of the CTA – the volunteers.

Although I have been gathering and ordering pieces for the past couple of years, it has been Sue Linder-Linsley who has remained responsible for taking a running document, transforming it into something visually appealing and, with the help of Dan Julien, making it logistically accessible. Sue recently moved on, and has taken her skills and tools with her. This has introduced an entirely new learning curve. It's funny how Word seems to have a mind of its own: what works on one page completely destroys the next. This has allowed me to become reacquainted with a vocabulary I haven't had much cause to use since trying to format my thesis. The point here, of course, is that it's the volunteers that allow this organization to operate. Without them, there would be no CTA. I therefore encourage all members to consider their individual roles in the organization and entertain the idea of expanding individual involvement. The present emphasis on developing the communication tools within CTA can only help.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee
Karl Kibler, chair

The CTA Membership Committee has been focusing our attention on attracting field technicians (or field techs) and student members. Cultivating an interest in joining the CTA among the first group of people (field techs) has been, to say the least, quite challenging. Some members of the committee have over the past several months talked to a number of field techs about joining CTA. The general responses are that they are not interested, primarily because they have never heard of or know very little about CTA, or they view CTA as an organization solely for those in supervisory and regulatory positions in CRM. The latter view makes them wonder what CTA has to offer to someone at their professional level?

Given what I see as a general lack communication and interest among most of our current members, these responses seem more than appropriate. I say this because I wonder how many CRDs and others at supervisory level positions have talked to their employees, particularly field techs, about CTA and have encouraged them to join? Given this it seems fitting that we need to start with some basics and move forward in tiny steps if we really want field techs to be interested in joining the organization. Since one of the more common responses regarding CTA membership for field techs is an overall nebulous understanding of what the organization is and does, I believe the most appropriate first step is to encourage and invite field techs to the spring meeting, April 16th in Austin. This I'm going to leave up to the CRDs, principal investigators, and others in supervisory positions among our membership. I encourage you to personally invite your field techs to attend the meeting. I would suggest that you even pay them for their time spent at the meeting, after all, you are being paid for your time to attend. By doing this the sense of professional segregation and elitism, which appears to be one of the major barriers to greater field tech membership and involvement in the organization can be terminated and a degree of professionalism promoted.

This first step in our attempt to attract field techs still does not address the question of what does CTA have to offer members at the field tech level? Aside from the intangibles of feeling like they are part of the professional archeological community with a voice and interest in how CRM is conducted and carried out in the state, the networking and job opportunity aspects have been touted as one of the more concrete benefits for field techs. This however, in the opinion of the Membership

Committee, can be vastly improved. We have proposed in the past to use the CTA web site for posting job announcements. The committee has been diligently working on this proposal and the mechanisms governing this, but we also believe this benefit for field techs can be enhanced if they also can post their resumes and vitae on the web site. The technical aspects of this are currently being discussed, but the benefit here is that not only does it get their name out there to potential employers, it also gives those who are just starting in the field ideas on how to write a resume or vita.

The second group of potential members on our target list is students. A few years ago the Membership Committee proposed to develop a speaker's bureau, CTA members who were willing to talk to archeology students about careers in CRM. Needless to say, this idea was not greeted with much, if any, interest. The committee has decided to take this proposal on ourselves. We will on an annual basis be talking to students at select universities across the state about careers in CRM, how one might best prepare him/herself for such a career, as well as the benefits of such organizations as CTA. We believe that along with the CTA Student Research Grant program that this will be a worthwhile effort. I think our committee members are up for this small challenge and we look forward to reporting on our experiences.

In regards to the CTA Student Research Grant program, the committee has received two excellent applications from students this year. Deciding on a recipient will be difficult, but we will be announcing this year's winner at the spring meeting. Last year's recipient, Scott Brosowske of the University of Oklahoma, is continuing his research on the structure and organization of Late Prehistoric Plains Village-Southwest exchange networks. He presents some of his latest research and findings later in the newsletter.

Public Education Committee
David O. Brown, Chair

This year we have two fine nominees for the fourth annual E. Mott Davis Public Outreach Award. Last year's winner was Hicks & Company for their work on the City of Austin Guytown project. This year's nominees are briefly summarized below from the nomination forms supplemented by information from project sponsors.

Data Recovery Excavations at the McGuire's Garden Site, Jewett Mine
Nellie Frisbee and Joel Trouart, Northwestern Resources, Sandy Hannum, Prewitt & Associates, Inc., and Mary Black, UT Austin

Following up on the excavations at the McGuire's Garden Site (41FT425) at Jewett Mine, Prewitt & Associates, sponsored by Northwestern Resources, developed a five-lesson curriculum plan for social studies and science for 4th and 7th grades entitled "Living in the Oak Woodlands: Early People of the Jewett Mine Area". The plan was prepared by Mary Black and Sandy Hannum with help from Ross Fields. In addition to enthusiastically supporting preparation of the curriculum plan as a public outreach product resulting from the McGuire's Garden site excavations and having it posted on the Texas Beyond History web site, Northwestern Resources Co. took the initiative in distributing the plan to six school districts in the Jewett Mine area. In addition, they promoted the plan to the Texas Mining and Reclamation Association for use in TMRA's seminars and workshops for science and social studies teachers. This is the latest in a series of public outreach efforts that Northwestern Resources Co. has sponsored since 1994.

Gibbons Creek Lignite Mine Archaeological and Historical Exhibit
Dr. Jan Horbaczewski, Texas Municipal Power Agency, and Meg Cruse, PBS&J

As part of the final synthesis of several seasons of mitigation excavations at the Gibbons Creek Mine in Grimes County, TMPA sponsored a public outreach effort summarizing some of these efforts, including PBS&J's excavations at sites 41GM224, 41GM166, 41GM281 and 41GM282. The outreach project, produced by Meg Cruse, consisted of an exhibit at TMPA corporate offices displaying some of the recovered artifacts, an educational video

showcasing artifacts from the various projects and featuring interviews with archaeological professionals, and the development of series of traveling exhibits designed to visit local museums and schools accompanied by a trained docent. Through this effort, the team hopes to disperse knowledge to school children, civic groups, and others about the county's past and how both nomadic and sedentary prehistoric peoples utilized the areas' resources.

ABSTRACTS FOR AFTERNOON FORUM

***Prehistoric Texas: New Content for* Texas Beyond History**

Steve Black
TARL

Prehistoric Texas is an ambitious five-year project to chronicle the state's remarkable 13,000-year prehistoric cultural legacy in a series of illustrated online educational exhibits that will appear on www.texasbeyondhistory.net. The little-known record of ancient Texans and their diverse ways of life will be presented region by region, from the grassy High Plains to the sandy Gulf shore. Using archeology as an investigative lens and drawing on fascinating evidence from a host of other related disciplines, this set of interactive presentations will provide compelling learning opportunities for general audiences as well as schoolchildren and university students. Viewers will be able to explore prehistoric Texas by clicking on one of eight major biogeographical regions to chart their own path into the past. While learning about the ingenious ways in which prehistoric peoples adapted to challenges in different contexts, viewers will also gain understanding of the varied natural resources in each region and how environments changed through time. Illustrated with vivid photographs, reconstructed scenes from the past, and interactive maps, the exhibits will encompass dozens of linked web pages with stories, time lines, and authoritative information on geography, geology, plants and animals, culture history, lifeways, technology, art, and early historic accounts of native peoples. For each region there also will be special learning activities for kids, lesson plans for teachers, and at least three new site exhibits with detailed accounts of some of the most important archeological localities in Texas.

Site 41WM1010: Terminal Archaic to Late Prehistoric Adaptation Along Brushy Creek in Williamson County, Texas

Boyd Dixon and Robert Rogers
PBS&J

Between November and December 2002, PBS&J archaeologists conducted data recovery investigations for the Texas Turnpike Authority Division and the Texas Department of Transportation at prehistoric site 41WM1010, in Williamson County, Texas. The site is located within Segment A of the proposed State Highway 130 roadway, on the north side of Brushy Creek and on both sides of its smaller tributary Channel Creek. A total of 76 archaeological features were investigated during National Register of Historic Places eligibility testing and data recovery; the majority of those that were dated yielded assays between approximately A.D. 600 and 1200. These dates, combined with diagnostic Darl dart points and Scallorn arrow points, indicate the primary occupations at the site occurred during the Terminal Archaic Period (Driftwood Phase) and the Late Prehistoric Period (Austin Phase). Inhabitants of the site exploited locally available plant resources, such as pecans, hickory nuts, and bulbs, and harvested a wide range of woodland and prairie fauna including deer, antelope and bison. Variability in the density, distribution, and morphology of hearth features, lithics, and subsistence remains suggest differences in the spatial organization and scale of campsite activities. These differences are hypothesized to reflect possible changes in hunter-gatherer group size after A.D. 900, perhaps reflecting a local adaptation to carry capacity limitations over a period of several generations.

Paleoenvironmental Investigations at Site 41WM989, Williamson County, Texas: Preliminary Results

S. Christopher Caran - Quaternary Analysis Laboratories, Bruce M. Albert, and James W. Karbula – Hicks and Company

Archeological site 41WM989 is a long-term (minimum 6500 to 500 BP, possibly 8000 to 500 BP), multi-component, midden and non-midden cultural complex within the construction corridor of Texas Highway 45 (SH45). The site is located in southern Williamson County, Texas, just north of the city of Austin, along Davis Spring Branch, a spring-fed stream in the Brazos River drainage network. This area lies within the Edwards Plateau physiographic region and forms part of the drainage divide separating the watersheds of the Brazos and Colorado rivers, one of the oldest, most stable, relict geomorphic surfaces in the central Texas landscape. The site encompasses two small burned-rock middens, an area of stratified, high-density, non-midden cultural deposits in valley-wall and flood-plain/-terrace contexts, and a small marsh sustained by discharge from moderately large, perennial and seasonal springs. The middens and non-midden deposits are primarily Late Archaic (3500-500 BP), but intact, relatively discrete, Early and Middle Archaic (6500-3500 BP) cultural deposits are also present. Site chronology is controlled by 13 radiocarbon (bulk humate) ages and 88 time-diagnostic projectile points, which collectively span the period from Late Paleoindian/Early Archaic through Transitional Archaic/Late Prehistoric (8000-500 BP).

The spring-fed marsh immediately adjacent to the site proper presented an ideal setting for paleoenvironmental studies. Marsh environments are often favorable for preservation of organic matter, including ancient pollen. Although each pollen grain is microscopic, its size, shape, surface morphology, and other properties permit identification of the plant type that produced it. Changes in flora are a key indicator of environmental change through time. Unfortunately, pollen has been recovered at few sites in this region, and only one well-defined pollen sequence has been reported from the Edwards Plateau previously. In contrast, environmental conditions at site 41WM989 appeared particularly suitable for pollen preservation. Several springs discharge from the limestone hillslope above the stream and flow down the gentle slope into Davis Spring Branch. These persistently wet conditions have maintained wetland vegetation within the existing marsh for the past 1700 years, producing more than 1 m of highly organic, water-saturated, palustrine (marsh-related) sedimentary deposits. Because the positions of the springs shifted during the Holocene Epoch, however, older palustrine deposits are also preserved, in other parts of the site. The nearly continuous composite sedimentary record spans the past 5000 years.

Sediment samples were collected from the palustrine (and other) deposits and analyzed for pollen. Pollen concentrations were moderate and the pollen grains were well preserved. Although interpretation of the pollen data is in progress, preliminary findings have already demonstrated the importance of this record. To date, 20 plant genera and an additional 12 families have been identified. The middle to late Holocene flora of site 41WM989 has two components: plants of upland habitats distributed throughout the region (but whose pollen was transported into the marsh and preserved in palustrine sediment); and plants restricted to localized palustrine or riparian habitats. Of the regional taxa, most are indeed represented at the site today. Those plants found only in wetlands include several genera not currently present at the site, but all are known to still inhabit Williamson or adjacent counties. Preliminary paleoenvironmental interpretation of pollen and other site data demonstrates that both the local environment and regional conditions have remained relatively stable throughout the past 5000 years. This conclusion is consistent with geological indications of continual ground-water discharge and maintenance of palustrine and other habitats. The constancy of the regional pattern of plant distribution is perhaps anathema to some previous investigators, but supports the findings of others. Additional studies at site 41WM989 may further refine

paleoenvironmental reconstruction of the Holocene Epoch in central Texas.

Building a Fort at Anahuac

Rachel Feit
Hicks and Company

Fort Anahuac, located in Chambers County Texas and built between 1830 and 1832, was one of a series of forts commissioned by the Mexican Government in order to control trade, immigration, and local politics in the remote northern territories of Mexico. The site of the fort is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is significant for its role in the events leading up to the Texas Revolution. It was the object of two notorious armed uprisings-one in 1832 and one in 1835 - in which armed Texans revolted against the Mexican military force stationed there, and ultimately the Mexican government itself. Though today no visible remains exist, extensive buried remains of fort foundations and other features were documented through a magnetometer survey conducted in 2001 by the Texas Historical Commission. Hicks & Company has spent two seasons investigating these remains through excavation, revealing a remarkable complex of wall foundations, outbuildings, drain features, and artifact concentrations. This talk will summarize the results of these investigations, and discuss the architecture and material culture documented at the fort. It will also explore how these remains fit into a more general pattern of fort building – undertaken first by the Spanish in Texas, then continued by the Mexican government – as a means of political control and expansion.

The Location, Exhumation, and Analysis of an Unmarked Historic Grave at Site 41TV150

Ardi Kalter
PBS&J

The existence of an unmarked, largely unknown cemetery north of existing Moore Road in southeastern Travis County and within the proposed State Highway 130 right-of-way and area of effect was communicated to the PBS&J staff historian during October 2002 by a concerned citizen. The cemetery, which appears to consist of a single interment, is located within the boundary of a previously recorded site, 41TV150. In 2003, under the approval of the Texas Department of Transportation, after determining the presence of a grave shaft containing a single burial, PBS&J conducted supplemental archival and historic research on 41TV150 and the Moore Road Cemetery in an effort to identify the individual. A published notice in the Austin Genealogical Society newsletter led to information that yielded a possible identity for the individual. After receiving the necessary approvals, disinterment of the individual was completed in January of 2004. This paper details the findings of the ensuing funerary artifact analysis, osteological analysis, photographic overlay, and mtDNA analysis that were completed in an effort to establish an identity for this individual.

Nightengale Archaeological Center Education Intuitive

Andrew F. Malof
LCRA

The Nightengale Archaeological Center is a 10-acre prehistoric Native American archaeological site with interpretive trail and visitor's center that has been providing educational activities for school groups and members of the public for close to 15 years. Annual teacher workshops are now approved for State Board of Education Certification (SBEC), Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT), and Texas Environmental Education Advisory Council (TEAAC) professional development credits. A matching grant recently awarded by the Texas Preservation Trust Fund program of the Texas Historical Commission and supported by the Texas Archeological Society has allowed the Lower Colorado River Authority, which owns and operates the facility, to initiate a program that expands educational opportunities to at-risk and undeserved youth in central Texas.

Update on Archeological Testing at San Felipe de Austin, 41AU2

Marianne Marek, M.A., Principal Investigator

San Felipe de Austin was the headquarters and capital of the first Anglo colony in Texas. It was established in 1824 by Stephen F. Austin and flourished until 1836 when the Texans burned the town to the ground in order to prevent the advancing Mexican army from claiming it.

Phase I shovel testing identified areas of Colonial occupation. Phase II Archeological testing at the site has discovered the locations of three trash pits associated with the Cooper and Cheeves "Billiard Room", "the only frame structure in San Felipe de Austin". Copious amounts of broken dishes, bottles, faunal remains, and other materials were recovered, including charred botanical remains and fossilized mammoth bones. Other test units at the site excavated one of the two fireplaces for Peytons Tavern. Additional test units located the basement for this structure.

Phase II testing at San Felipe de Austin has demonstrated a tremendous research potential for the site. As before, this project was funded by a grant from the Texas Preservation Trust Fund, and excavations were conducted primarily by volunteers, including archeological stewards, members of various archeological societies, students, and individuals with an interest in Texas History.

Along the Chihuahua Trail: The Escondido Waterhole Site.

Mark Willis, James T. Jones, Dana Anthony & David O. Brown (Blanton & Associates)

The Escondido Waterhole site is a multi-component archaeological site in central Crockett County. In addition to the burned rock middens and prehistoric remains that line the small canyons of this tributary of Howard Draw, the site was a watering hold and a rest stop along the old Chihuahua trail. Just a few miles southwest of Fort Lancaster, several rock panels in the canyons are carved with the names of soldiers who served at the fort before the Civil War as well as later visitors to the site. Several graves at the site mark the remains of those who died along the trail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Proposed Amendment to CTA Bylaws

It is proposed that the CTA Newsletter be published twice a year, rather than three times a year as presently mandated.

News from the THC

Mark Denton

Well, it's [another] year and I need to remind you that reports need to contain certain types of information or you risk having the final report rejected regardless of whether we mention it after reviewing the draft report.

1) State in the abstract whether you collected any artifacts, whether they were curated, and where they were curated.

2) State in the abstract the total acreage of the survey.

3) If your investigations did not follow the State Survey Standards, state in your conclusions, "... the state survey standards were not followed, because ..." [Note: This most appropriately involves a geomorphic explanation.]

4) Field site numbers should be replaced with official TARL site trinomials before submission of the draft report, but must be replaced in the final reports.

5) Quad map quality plotting of site locations need to be submitted as part of the draft report, but they must be removed or removable (i.e., separate attachment, etc.) in 19 of the 20 copies of the final report you send us.

Society for American Archaeology Members to Discuss Ruling on the Kennewick Skeleton

Forwarded by Pat Mercado-Allinger

On February 4, 2004, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the "Ancient One", also known as Kennewick Man, was NOT Native American as defined in NAGPRA. Thus the human remains are available for scientific study under ARPA.

The Interest Group for Indigenous Populations invites SAA members to their group meeting on Thursday April 1, 2004 at 6pm in Cartier A at the Delta Centre-Ville to discuss this decision and its ramifications for the practice of archaeology as it relates to ancient remains.

The Latest News from the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA)

James W. Karbula.

This brief summary and others like it may periodically serve as an important update on matters, legislative or otherwise, under consideration for action by the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA). These updates will be oriented to the topics, among many that ACRA considers, that are potentially the most important for CTA members. This brief update deals with recent legislative events pertaining to SAFETEA, the new national transportation bill, which includes important developments on possible streamlining of Section 4(f) of the Federal Highway Act. Many CTA members regularly work on TxDOT projects and deal with potential 4(f) transportation issues on a daily basis.

SAFETEA stands for the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Act of 2003. The current ISTEA law is effective through February 2004 and must be reauthorized by then to ensure uninterrupted federal highway funding. Generally speaking, there has been a growing dissatisfaction with Section 4(f) among some elements of the cultural resources community, like ACRA. Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 U.S.C. 303) is designed to add an extra layer of legal protection for historic properties on highway projects. This law prohibits the use of any portion of these resources unless there is no prudent and feasible alternative, and all possible planning has been done to minimize potential adverse impacts. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that, prior to the start of construction of a project that is federally-funded or licensed, historic properties that may be affected by the project be identified, and that any adverse effects to those properties be addressed. Both Section 4(f) and Section 106 apply to federal transportation projects. As many participants in transportation projects may attest, Section 4(f) procedures can be very time consuming, costly and have the potential to seriously delay projects. Given the presence of Section 106 protections, some feel that Section 4(f) is redundant and causes unnecessary delays in the development of highway infrastructure. Still others are strongly in favor of the protections afforded to historic properties under 4(f) especially for National Historic Landmarks.

Discussions have ensued between the principal players as elements of the new transportation bill were being worked out on Capitol Hill. The bill had to be voted on March 1st, otherwise transportation funds would be cut off. By the time this article is printed the decisions will have been made. Rumors were that big changes were afoot for 4(f) with many seeking to weaken its protections, possible redundancies and delays. The National Trust is strongly opposed to any changes in the regulations citing the status and benefits reaped by 4(f) on several National Historic Landmarks. One of ACRA's first official reactions was to support using only Section 106 to satisfy project review responsibility when all parties agree or and/sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). ACRA suggested that 4(f) be used only when

there is disagreement or in the case of all National Historic Landmarks. This would streamline the process and eliminate the need for 4(f) in many cases and reduce possible delays in highway construction. ACRA suggested that this was the position supported by the Advisory Council (ACHP) and the Society for Historical Archeology (SHA) in a recent newsletter.

Then, Senator George Voinovich (R, OH) of the Transportation Subcommittee in discussions with the National Trust proposed an amendment to the Transportation Bill that will require implementation of Section 4(f) only when the Section 106 Process has determined an adverse effect on a historic property. This is a significant proposed change which might streamline the process by avoiding Section 4(f) in cases where no historic properties are present, or none will be adversely affected. Since the introduction of this measure the Society for American Archeology (SAA) sponsored a letter in support of the proposed amendment and asked ACRA to sign on. The letter supports the proposed amendment as a reasonable compromise for streamlining the planning process for transportation projects. ACRA has apparently signed on to the letter and therefore also supports the proposed amendment.

While difficult to judge what the final outcome may be, change will be welcomed by many who deal with Section 4(f) on a daily basis. The proposed amendment will certainly have an affect on the most complex and perplexing aspects of Section 4(f). Among these are the current need for 4(f) statements when there is any kind of a "direct taking" of an historic property – even the smallest of peripheral areas. There is also the whole notion of the need for 4(f) when there is a "constructive-use" of an historic property by a highway project. The constructive-use concept deals mainly with indirect effects. In my opinion, defining "direct takings" and "constructive–use" are part of the problems with 4(f), though 4(f) clearly provides additional protection and engenders respect on the part of sponsors for historic properties. Under the proposed amendment, these impacts will have to be adverse to warrant 4(f) considerations.

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS

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ARCHEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL

JUNE 12-19, 2004

Texas Archeological Society (TAS) will hold **special sessions for teachers** at the summer archeological field school, June 12 -19, 2004 near Menard, Texas. Excavations will be conducted on the site of the Presidio San Saba. We offer training for youth (ages 7 & above, accompanied by adult) and adults (beginner to advanced). You may attend as many days as you choose. See www.txarch.org for more information on field school.

Archeological investigations will focus on Presidio de San Saba near Menard, Texas. Drs. Grant Hall and Tamra Walter from Texas Tech University will be principal investigators. Host society for camp arrangements will be the Concho Valley Archeological Society. TAS will be working at the invitation and in conjunction with Presidio de San Saba Restoration Corporation. Information on the companion mission near Menard may be viewed on the TAS sponsored web site *Texas Beyond History* www.texasbeyondhistory.net.

The **camp will be set up along the San Saba River** (bring your tent, camper or find a nearby motel). A camp kitchen offers meals and showers are provided. The workday is from 7 AM to 1 PM then afternoon programs highlight replication and subsistence skills. Evening speakers recap the day's excavations and local history.

Teachers will participate in morning field work and special afternoon sessions to discuss introducing archeology in the classroom. You will receive background information and curriculum materials.

TAS is a provider of professional development accredited by the SBEC. Hours of credit will be determined by the number of days you participate – minimum three days Sat. - Mon. June 12-14. Fees according to length of stay – three days is $60 and four - seven days is $85. Membership in the Society is required of all attendees (indiv. $30; family $40).

See the web site www.txarch.org or call 800 377-7240 for more information.

TAM IS ON ITS WAY!

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY MONTH ◆ OCTOBER 2004

Act now to get your share of free publicity . . .

It's not too soon to begin planning your Archeology Month event for October 2004. You have time to:

- Co-sponsor an archeology fair or other major event
- Set up an archeology booth at a heritage fair or other cultural festival
- Organize an activity where Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts can earn an Archeology Badge
- Arrange for a speaker at your regularly scheduled archeological society meeting
- Schedule a lecture — or a series of lectures
- Arrange for a slide presentation on archeology (how about a brown bag lunch?)
- Spruce up a permanent exhibit and feature your archeological or Native American collections (including Native American arts and crafts)
- Set up a tour of an archeological site or a museum with major archeological exhibits
- Arrange a bus tour to one of the major events in places like El Paso, Houston, Lubbock or San Antonio
- Sponsor a workshop
- Use your imagination and do something different, challenging and rewarding

Your free listing in the TAM 2004 Calendar of Events depends on three things: sponsoring an event, filling out the enclosed events form and returning it to the address below by **July 8, 2004**. Remember that **events not open to the public cannot be included in the Calendar**. Complete the form fully to ensure that your entry is accurate and informative. The Calendar will be produced on the basis of *your* information. If you have a pamphlet that describes your museum or organization, attach a copy. Distribution of the printed calendars will be statewide, and the list of events will also be on the THC web site, so don't miss this opportunity to publicize your organization.

Looking for a bright idea . . .

The Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory compiled a manual entitled *How To Plan and Manage an Archeological Fair*. It includes ideas for activities and demonstrations that will work for all kinds of TAM events, from the smallest to the grandest. To order a copy, call Donna McCarver at 512/463-6090; fax 512/463-8927; email donna.mccarver@thc.state.tx.us; or write the address below.

Need help or more information . . .

Write TAM, Archeology Division, Texas Historical Commission (address below); call 512/463-9505; fax 512/463-8927; or email molly.gardner@thc.state.tx.us.

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Texas Archeological Society and the
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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
The State Agency for Historic Preservation
www.thc.state.tx.us

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN 78711-2276

TAM events form

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY MONTH ◆ OCTOBER 2004

Event title: _____

Event description: be as specific as possible and give **details.** (If you know them now, give names of activities and presenters, topics of lectures and demonstrations, any interesting details that will intrigue people and make them want to attend; attach separate sheet if necessary.)

_____

_____

_____

_____

Event date(s): _____ Event hours: _____Admission fees: _____

Is event open to general public? (a requirement for Calendar listing)

_____

Event sponsor(s):_____

Event location (include name of place where event will be held, such as Blank County Museum):

Name of place: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

Your web site (if any): _____

Contact name, phone number and email address (if available) of one or two people who can be reached easily. This information will be printed in the Calendar and listed on the web site:

(1) _____

(2) _____

Person, organization and address where main event sponsor can be reached by mail:

Name _____

Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Complete one form for each event and return by mail, fax or email by **July 8, 2004**, to: TAM, Archeology Division, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276. Fax: 512/463-8927. Email: molly.gardner@thc.state.tx.us. Call 512/463-9505 for additional information.

If you haven't already, please send any color photos or news clippings from last year's event.

REPORTS: CTA STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT

OBSIDIAN PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION DURING THE MIDDLE CERAMIC PERIOD OF THE SOUTHERN HIGH PLAINS: EVIDENCE FOR THE EMERGENCE OF REGIONAL TRADE CENTERS

Scott D. Brosowske
Department of Anthropology
The University of Oklahoma

Introduction

The onset of the Middle Ceramic period (A.D. 1250-1500) on the Southern High Plains is marked by the dramatic appearance of societies attributed to the Plains Village tradition (Lehmer 1971). Although considerable cultural variability is documented for this period (see Boyd 2004; Boyd and Wilkens 2001; Brosowske 2002; Brosowske and Bevitt n.d.; Lintz 1986), the appearance of these Plains Villagers represents a significant shift in regional lifestyles. These changes include a decline in settlement mobility, increased dependence on food production and long-term food storage, substantial growth in regional populations, and in some cases, the formation of large aggregated villages. Coinciding with these developments is the emergence of widespread exchange networks.

The best evidence for intersocietal contact and exchange at this time is provided by the recovery of durable goods of nonlocal origin. Although many of these items document extensive exchange among Plains societies (e.g., Alibates silicified dolomite), this research focuses on artifacts obtained through contact with communities outside the region, namely those of the Rio Grande valley of New Mexico. Previous research has identified numerous commodities that were derived through exchange with the eastern Pueblos, including decorated ceramics, marine shell, turquoise, smoking pipes, obsidian, and others (Brosowske, unpublished data; Brosowske and Bement 1997; Crabb 1968; Harrison n.d.; Lintz 1986, 1991). Of these commodities, obsidian is by far the most the most common Southwestern trade item recovered at settlements of the region. Surprisingly, this resource and its occurrence in Middle Ceramic contexts have attracted little research attention in the past.

The primary goal of this paper is to examine the organization of Southern Plains intersocietal exchange during the Middle Ceramic period. This is accomplished through a study of obsidian artifacts recovered from sites of the region. The initial objective of this study is to determine the source area for obsidian recovered at two large Antelope Creek phase settlements (i.e., Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51) using x-ray fluorescence (XRF) trace element analysis. These results are compared to obsidian sourcing results completed for other sites of the region in order to provide a better understanding of the social mechanisms underlying the spatial distribution of obsidian observed at Southern High Plains Middle Ceramic sites.

Adopting an economic perspective, this study adheres to the idea that exchange activities are embedded within the broader social realm of traditional societies (see Earle 1982; Mauss 1927; Polanyi 1957). From this perspective exchange is seen as a means for examining economic, social, and political organization. In this study, the

distribution of obsidian artifacts from various source areas is used to reconstruct the organization of exchange among Middle Ceramic populations of the region. In particular, I assess the probability that obsidian and, by extension other nonlocal trade items of Southwestern origin were obtained by the occupants of various settlements through direct exchange or down-the-line trade.

The Contextual Setting of Middle Ceramic Period Exchange

The Middle Ceramic record of the Southern High Plains includes societies attributed to the Antelope Creek and Odessa phases (Figure 1). Antelope Creek settlements are documented in two primary areas: 1.) central and western portions of the Canadian River valley in the Texas panhandle, and 2.) along the Beaver River and its tributaries in the Oklahoma panhandle. Settlements of the phase have received substantial archaeological research in the past (see Lintz 1986 for a review), but since nearly all of this work was conducted over thirty years ago many crucial details regarding the phase remain poorly understood. For example, even though it appears that these groups practiced a foraging economy supplemented by corn horticulture, the overall importance of the latter among sites has yet to be determined.

Recently, the spatial distribution and size of Antelope Creek settlements in the region has been examined (Brosowske, unpublished data). This work has determined that there are approximately 110 permanent habitation sites with stone architecture currently recorded in Texas and Oklahoma that can be attributed to the phase (Oklahoma Archeological Survey Site Files 2003; Texas Archaeological Site Atlas 2003). Although this study concludes that considerable variation in the size of sites exists (see Lintz 1986), it is apparent that most of these settlements were probably home to only one or two family groups (N=85 or 77%). Large sites that were likely home to five or more families are relatively rare and only represent about 9% of the sample (N=10). Both Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51 represent two of the largest settlements documented for the Antelope Creek phase.

An examination of the spatial distribution of Southwestern exotics at Antelope Creek settlements indicates that nearly all of these items are concentrated at the largest settlements of the phase (Brosowske, unpublished data; Lintz 1991). Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51 are of considerable interest because more southwest trade items have been recovered from these two settlements than all of the other Antelope Creek sites combined. In particular, several thousand obsidian artifacts were recovered from each of these sites (Lintz 1991; Spielmann 1982; Studer n.d.). These quantities are *much* higher than any other known site of the phase.

Settlements of Odessa phase (A.D. 1250-1500) are found along the northeastern margins of the region, from the northeastern corner of the Texas panhandle to southern Kansas (Figure 1). These sedentary to semi-sedentary populations occupied large extended villages (i.e., more than 20 family groups) and smaller homesteads and hamlets (i.e., less than five family groups). Settlement patterns, tool assemblages, abundant storage facilities, and botanical remains all indicate that these groups were heavily dependent on corn horticulture (Brosowske, unpublished data; Brosowske and Bevitt n.d.; Brosowske et al. 2000). In general, the same types of Southwestern trade items documented above for the Antelope Creek phase are also recovered at these sites (Brosowske, unpublished data; Brosowske and Bement 1997). Once again,.

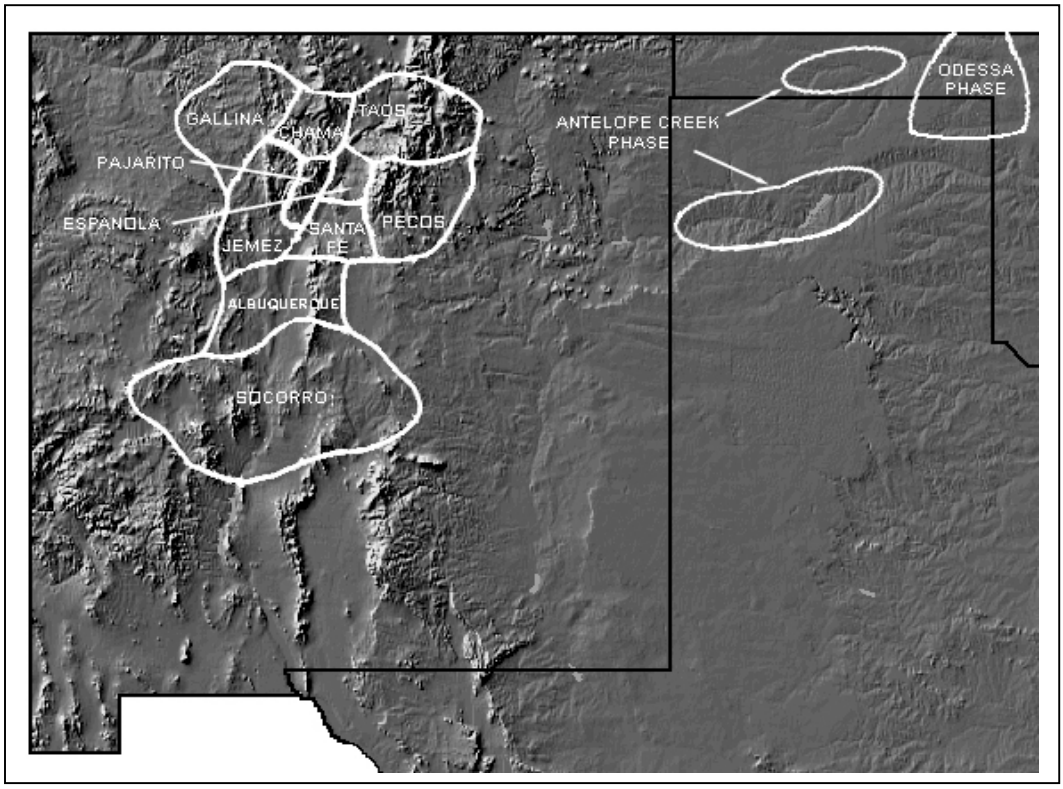

Figure 1. Cultural Complexes of the Southern High Plains and New Mexico Archaeological Districts

obsidian from the Eastern Pueblos is the most frequently recovered trade item at these sites

The fact that there are no known settlements in the area between Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51 and the eastern Pueblos that contain equal or greater quantities of nonlocal trade items suggest that Southwestern items were not obtained through down-the-line exchange with intermediaries (see Renfrew 1977 for a discussion of the archaeological signature of down-the-line exchange). This spatial distribution suggests that these two settlements may have served as regional redistribution or trade centers for these and other Southwestern trade items. If indeed these communities served this purpose, then it is expected that obsidian recovered at other settlements in the region should also be derived from the same source areas documented at Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51.

XRF Analysis Results

X-ray fluorescence analysis and the correlation of obsidian artifacts with source areas are both topics that have been thoroughly described elsewhere, and thus, are not reviewed here (see Anderson et al. 1986; Nelson 1984, 1985). Therefore, the primary emphasis of these discussions is to provide a summary of the XRF analysis results. First, however, the samples utilized in this study are briefly examined.

Trace element analysis was conducted by the Archaeological XRF Laboratory at Berkley, California. A total of 45 obsidian artifacts from Alibates Ruin 28 (N=39) and Chimney Rock Ruin 51 (N=6) were analyzed for this study (Figure 2).

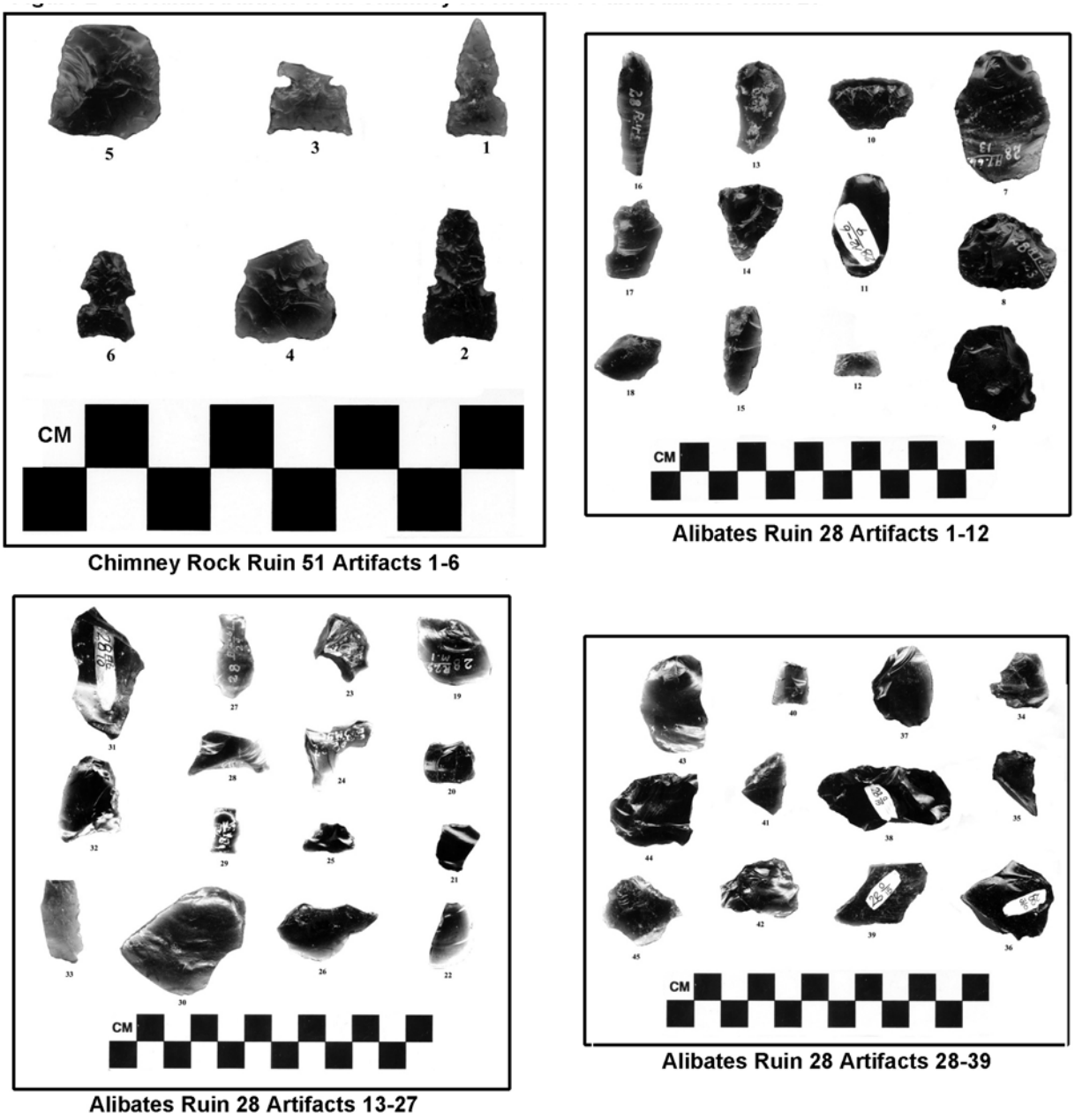

Figure 2 Obsidian Artifacts from Chimney Rock Ruin 51 and Alibates Ruin 28.

Artifacts sampled included projectile points (N=5), flake debris or shatter (N=35), bifaces (N=2), and amorphous core debris (N=3). Visually, the artifacts selected for analysis represent the full range of obsidian present in these assemblages and included translucent, opaque, banded, and other varieties. The source provenance for all these artifacts is the Cerro Toledo Rhyolite obsidian, except for one flake from Alibates Ruin 28 that was derived from El Rechuelos. Both of these sources are in the Jemez Mountains of northern New Mexico (Figure 3).

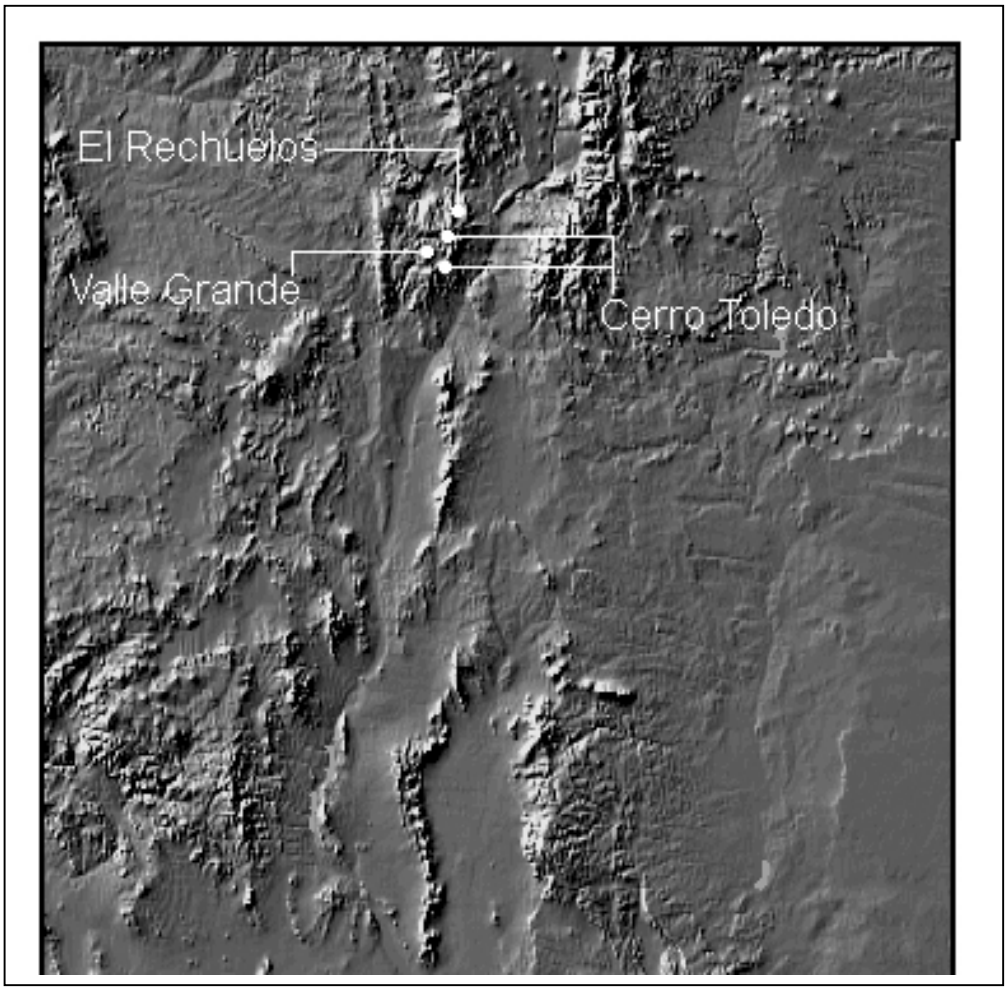

Figure 3. Select New Mexico Obsidian Source Areas.

Table 1 presents obsidian source provenance information for the 45 artifacts analyzed here plus information on 21 additional artifacts from six other Antelope Creek settlements in the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles (Brosowske, unpublished data; Lintz 1990; Mitchell et al. 1980). Figure 4 shows the location of these and other sites mentioned in this study. Previously, obsidian recovered from Tarbox Ruin and McGarraugh Ranch was tentatively identified as Valle Grande obsidian from the Valles Caldera in the Jemez Mountains (Mitchell et al. 1980:304). A recent reexamination of elemental abundances reported for these artifacts, however, indicates that they are definitely not Valle Grande obsidian (S. Shackley,

Table 1. Source Areas for Obsidian Recovered at Antelope Creek Settlements.

Site	Cerro Toledo Rhyolite, N.M.	El Rechuelos, N.M.	Valle Grande, N.M.	Obsidian Cliff, Wy.	Owyhee, Id.
Texas					
Alibates Ruin 28	41	1	-	-	-
Chimney Rock 51	6	-	-	-	-
Tarbox Ruin	1	-	-	-	-
Landergin Mesa	6	-	-	-	-
McGarraugh Ranch	2	-	-	-	-
Archie King Ruins	1	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma					
Roy Smith	4	-	1	1	-
Stamper	1	-	-	-	1
Totals (N=66)	**62 (93.9%)**	**1 (1.5%)**	**1 (1.5%)**	**1 (1.5%)**	**1 (1.5%)**

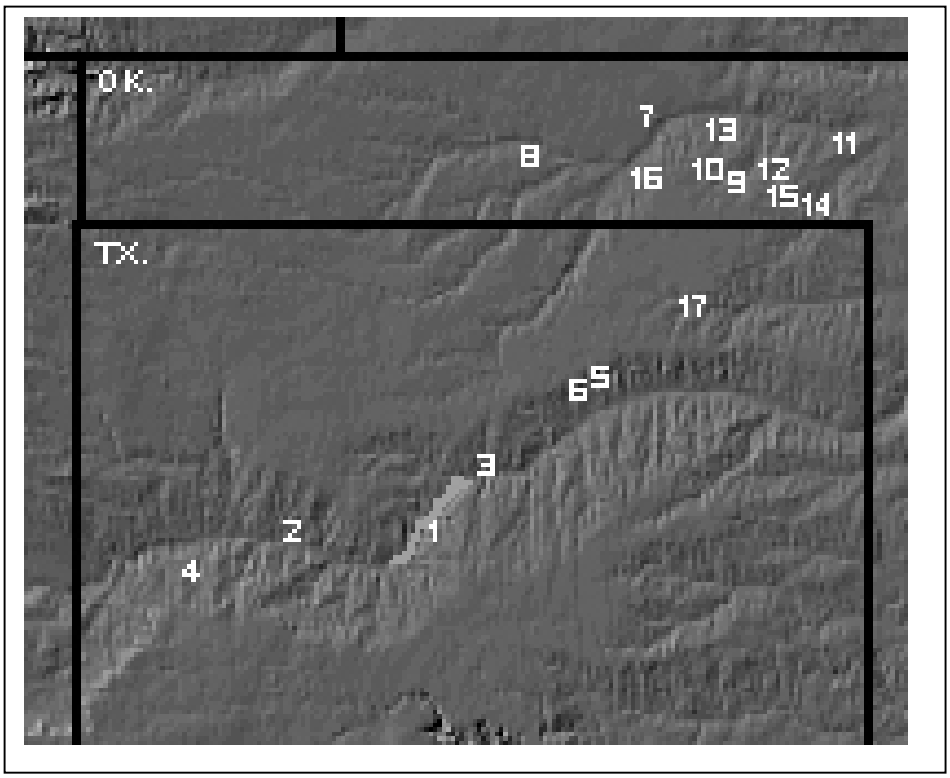

Figure 4. Location of Sites Mentioned in Text. 1 Alibates Ruin 28; 2 Chimney Rock Ruin 51; 3 Tarbox Ruin; 4 Landergin Mesa; 5 McGarraugh Ranch; 6 Archie King Ruins; 7 Roy Smith; 8 Stamper; 9 Odessa Yates; 10 Campbell; 11 Skull Springs; 12 Sprague; 13 Spangler; 14 Monty Cates; 15 Audry's Place; 16 Pierce; 17 Courson D

personal communication 2003). Shackley suggests that, although their measurement of Yttrium (Y) is slightly high and may indicate a potential calibration problem with their equipment, all of the other elemental frequencies indicate that each of these artifacts was derived from the Cerro Toledo Caldera.

All of the obsidian (N=10) from the four additional Antelope Creek sites in the Texas panhandle (i.e., Tarbox Ruin, McGarraugh Ranch, Landergin Mesa, and the Archie King Ruins) was obtained from Cerro Toledo. The complete dominance of this source area, however, is not observed at Antelope Creek sites in Oklahoma panhandle (i.e., Roy Smith and Stamper). Although Cerro Toledo obsidian accounts for 63% (5 of 8) of the artifacts from these sites, three additional source areas not documented at Alibates Ruin 28 or Chimney Rock Ruin 51 are also present in this small sample. These sources are Valle Grande, N.M., Obsidian Cliff, Wy., and Owyhee, Id.. In addition, obsidian from the El Rechuelos source (i.e., observed at Alibates Ruin 28) was not documented at any of the other Antelope Creek sites in the sample.

A total of 65 obsidian artifacts from ten different Odessa phase settlements have also been analyzed using XRF (Brosowske, unpublished data) and document obsidian from four different source areas (Table 2). Two additional samples (3.1%) are visually identical to obsidian, but appear to be some knappable quality variety of smoky quartz. The specific source area for this material is not known at this time. Jemez Mountain sources dominate the Odessa phase sample and include Cerro Toledo (N=52 or 80%) and Valle Grande (N=7 or 10.8%). Northwestern Plains sources occur in small frequencies (N=4 or 6.2%) and include Malad, Idaho, Fish Creek, Wyoming, and an unknown source. The latter items exhibit a chemical composition with high strontium values that indicate they were derived from the Yellowstone region (S. Shackley, personal communication 2003).

The number of source areas represented at Odessa phase settlements is higher than what was observed for Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51. Valle Grande, a source that is absent at the Texas panhandle sites, represents a fairly sizeable percentage (11%) of the obsidian from Odessa phase settlements. Likewise, the Northwestern Plains sources represented were not observed at either Alibates Ruin 28 or Chimney Rock Ruin 51. By the same token, the El Rechuelos obsidian source documented at Alibates Ruin 28 was not observed at any of the Odessa phase settlements.

Discussion

As noted earlier, the quantities of obsidian recovered from Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51 are much higher than any of the other Antelope Creek sites. Except for Odessa Yates, a locale where several thousand obsidian artifacts have been recovered (Brosowske and Bement 1997), these frequencies are also higher than those observed among the Odessa phase settlements. It is proposed that this pattern may indicate that these settlements functioned as regional redistribution centers for Southwestern exotics. Using the data presented here it is possible to examine in greater detail the issue of whether obsidian recovered from Middle Ceramic age sites of the region were obtained through down-the-line exchange with trade centers at Alibates Ruin 28 or Chimney Rock Ruin 51 or through direct contact with the Eastern Pueblos.

Although sample sizes certainly limit our ability to assess the proposed hypotheses, obsidian recovered from Antelope Creek settlements in the Texas

Table 2. Source Areas for Obsidian Recovered at Odessa Phase Settlements.

Site	Cerro Toledo, N.M.	Valle Grande, N.M.	Malad, Id.	Fish Creek, Wy.	Unknown	Smoky Quartz
Skull Springs	1	-	-	-	-	-
Campbell	1	2	-	-	-	-
Sprague	4	-	-	-	-	-
Odessa Yates	38	2	-	1	2	2
Spangler	-	-	1	-	-	-
Monty Cates	1	-	-	-	-	-
Audry's Place	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pierce	1	2	-	-	-	-
34BV99/100	3	1	-	-	-	-
Courson D	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total (N=65)	**52 (80%)**	**7 (10.8%)**	**1 (1.5%)**	**1 (1.5%)**	**2 (3.1%)**	**2 (3.1%)**

panhandle are derived from the same sources as those documented at Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51. Therefore, given the vast quantities of obsidian at these two settlements, it certainly seems likely that the small amounts of obsidian recovered at other sites in the Canadian River Valley were obtained through down-the-line exchange with the occupants of these large villages. As a whole, obsidian artifacts are quite rare at Antelope Creek settlements in the Oklahoma panhandle, however, four different source areas are represented in the small sample of artifacts from two sites (N=8). Because of the absence of Northwestern Plains obsidian at Alibates Ruin 28 and Chimney Rock Ruin 51, it seems unlikely that these materials were obtained through exchange with these settlements.

The number of obsidian source areas observed at Odessa phase settlements is higher than that documented for either Alibates Ruin 28 or Chimney Rock Ruin 51. Cerro Toledo obsidian is the sole source represented at five of the ten Odessa settlements, and this could indicate that these items were obtained through down-the-line exchange with Alibates Ruin 28 or Chimney Rock Ruin 51. Yet, given the close proximity of these Odessa phase settlements to the Odessa Yates site, a village with large quantities of obsidian from several different source areas, it is more likely that these items were obtained from this sizeable settlement rather than the more distant Antelope Creek communities along the Canadian River. This scenario may also apply to the obsidian from Antelope Creek settlements in the Oklahoma panhandle (i.e., they obtained exotics through trade with Odessa Yates). This would account for the presence of Northwestern Plains obsidian at the two Oklahoma panhandle Antelope Creek sites.

The XRF analysis and the relatively large quantities of obsidian and other exotics at Alibates Ruin 28, Chimney Rock Ruin 51, and Odessa Yates suggest that the occupants of these settlements conducted long-distance trading expeditions to the Eastern Pueblos. Although most of the exotic trade goods obtained via these expeditions remained at these three settlements, it is proposed that a few items were traded or redistributed to other outlying settlements in the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles.

Eastern Pueblo Trade Centers

Unfortunately, the obsidian sourcing results presented here cannot by themselves be used to identify specific Puebloan communities in the Rio Grande valley with whom exchange relationships were established. As such, known production districts for decorated Southwestern ceramic types recovered at Middle Ceramic age settlements of the Southern High Plains are relied upon to provide more specific source locations (Brosowske, unpublished data; see Crabb 1968; Lintz 1991). This analysis assumes that the ceramics recovered at High Plains sites were obtained from the Puebloan communities where they were originally produced and that these same communities were trading obsidian. The frequency of decorated ceramic types and their distribution among Middle Ceramic settlements of the Southern High Plains indicates that communities in the Santa Fe, Pajarito, and Albuquerque districts were most often visited (see Brosowske, unpublished data; Crabb 1968; Lintz 1991; Vint 1999:Table 7.1, 7.6). Ceramics produced in the Española, Chama, Socorro, Sierra Blanca, and Pecos districts are also represented, but in lower frequencies. Interestingly, decorated ceramics produced in the Taos, Jemez, and Gallina districts are not documented. A lack of evidence for contact with the latter two areas is not unexpected, however, since both of these districts appear to have been largely unoccupied during the Middle Ceramic period (Crown et al. 1996).

Contact with the districts identified above is further supported by closer examination of the obsidian source areas. Cerro Toledo Rhyolite (a.k.a. Obsidian Ridge) is available from primary sources at the Toledo Caldera (Figure 1) and in the alluvium of the Rio Grande River (Church 2000; Shackley 2000). Cortical debris present on obsidian artifacts examined here indicates procurement from both primary and secondary sources. This information combined with the ceramic data presented above suggests that Cerro Toledo obsidian recovered at the study sites was most likely procured by Puebloan communities near the Toledo Caldera and downstream along the Rio Grande River (i.e., Santa Fe, Pajarito, Albuquerque, and Española districts). Valle Grande obsidian (a.k.a. Cerro del Medio) is only available from primary contexts in the Valles Caldera (Shackley 2000). This source area is closest to communities in the Española district.

The types of obsidian artifacts recovered from settlements of the Southern High Plains can also provide some indication as to the form in which these materials were obtained through trade. The abundance of cortical debris demonstrates that cobbles of obsidian, not finished items, were transported back to settlements. Presently, it is not entirely clear whether the manufacture of obsidian artifacts was limited to large settlements, such as Alibates Ruin 28, Chimney Rock Ruin 51, and Odessa Yates, although production debris does seem to be concentrated at these localities.

The precise temporal span of Plains-Southwest exchange is difficult to determine at this time. Previous researchers have suggested that exchange increased dramatically either after A.D. 1350 (Lintz 1991) or after A.D. 1450 (Baugh 1982; Spielmann 1982). This study has little to offer regarding this issue; however, considering the absolute dates available for settlements in the region, the ages of the decorated ceramic types recovered, and the evidence for long-term occupation at many of the large settlements discussed here, it is apparent that exchange relationships with the Eastern Pueblos could have easily been

established as early as the onset of the Middle Ceramic period (i.e., A.D. 1250).

Conclusions

Previous research on Plains-Southwest exchange during the Middle Ceramic period has focused largely on documenting the presence of Southwest trade items at High Plains settlements and little effort has been expended to identify specific source areas and the distribution of trade items among various sites. However, as Earle (1982) has noted, the process of describing exchange involves three interrelated steps: a) the description of the spatial patterning of these items, b) to identify source areas for nonlocal trade items, and c) the reconstruction of the organization of exchange. This investigation represents an initial step toward the goal of describing Plains-Southwest exchange.

This investigation has concentrated on the spatial distribution and source provenance of obsidian artifacts recovered at Middle Ceramic settlements in the Southern High Plains region. The data presented here document the emergence of communities in the region that were capable of coordinating and conducting long-distance trading expeditions to the Eastern Pueblos. Considering the logistics involved with these expeditions (i.e., the distance traveled, the number of people that likely comprised trading parties, the food required to feed the trading party en route to and from distant communities, and the ability for the home settlement to remain economically viable while the expedition is gone), it is not surprising that these activities appear to have been conducted primarily by those settlements in the region that were socially, politically, and economically the most complex. Participation in these activities by these groups is supported by the high concentration of exotic items at these large settlements (Brosowske, unpublished data).

In contrast, comparable quantities of obsidian are not represented at other large communities of the region, such as Antelope Creek 22 and 24, Cottonwood Creek Ruins, and the Buried City locality. This suggests that the abundance of trade items is not simply a direct function of site size. The low frequencies of exotics at these and smaller settlements suggest that even though these groups may not have been able to directly participate in long-distance forays to the Eastern Pueblos, their ability to establish and sustain social ties with large settlements, such as Alibates Ruin 28, Chimney Rock Ruin 51, and Odessa Yates, enabled these communities to maintain some access to prestige items of nonlocal origin.

The author welcomes any comments on the above paper. He can be reached at scottbro@ou.edu. *Constructive comments will be considered for the next newsletter.*
(ed)

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