

## Excavations at Cotton Field, Tait Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas, July 9 and 10, 2016

The Houston Archeological Society returned to the Cotton Field site in Colorado County on July 9 and 10 following the hugely successful 2016 TAS Field School in June. As you know by now, the Cotton Field site offers ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 650AD - 1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150 AD – 1500 AD) in Texas. During TAS Field School many thermal features were uncovered and artifacts recovered including large bison bone, points and stone tools.

Daniel Scott Arnauld, a TAS member from Dallas, followed Dr. Jason Barrett, field school PI, for a week around the Cottonfield site and put together this terrific Youtube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycSHOUStzOQ&feature=youtu.be> which is posted on the TAS Facebook page along with many photos of folks working during field school.

Daniel also joined HAS for the July 9 – 10 weekend and took another Youtube video capturing our work as we dug through some wicked hard dirt at the site. You can view that video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPCzVIApzfA&feature=youtu.be>. Check out the HAS Facebook page for some of Daniel's absolutely fantastic still photos of HAS members working on one of the hottest days of the year so far.

Our next scheduled work weekend at the Cotton Field site will be August 20 – 21. Watch for more announcements to follow. Please email me at [lindgorski@cs.com](mailto:lindgorski@cs.com) if you have questions about our digs at the Cotton Field site.



Rachel Hawkins and Daniel Scott Arnauld.  
Daniel took some amazing photos!



Rock features in three adjoining units



One of our newest members, Mary VonZastrow screens dirt at Cotton Field.



Dr. Jason and our terrific landowner Rita Tait Jackson discuss an artifact.



Linda Gorski digs in the rock hard dirt.



Rachel Hawkins, Tom Williams and Joost Voeten working a unit together



Dr. Jason and John Rich plotting in artifacts



We set up screens for water screening on the sidewalk and cleaning stations on the driveway



Artifacts recovered July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were cleaned at an impromptu Lab at Linda's on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>



It's always exciting to find two pieces of an artifact, recovered in adjoining units, that cross-fit like this abrader!