

Update on Excavations at the Cotton Field Site, Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas August 22 – 23, 2015

As most of you know, thanks to our terrific landowners, Rita Tait and Ed Jackson, we are continuing work at the Cotton Field site at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas, that began during TAS Field School 2014 & 2015. The Cotton Field site offers ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 700AD-1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150AD-1500AD) in Texas.

Our latest fieldwork weekend was held August 22 and 23 and we continued to recover some amazing artifacts that are helping us better understand the site. Dr. Jason Barrett directed the field crew and Rita Tait Jackson, Sue Gross, Sharon Menegaz and Roberta Tait worked in the lab processing artifacts. Members of HAS, BAS, FBAS and TVCAS, and TAS were on hand to shovel and screen dirt!

Our next work weekend at the site will be coming up September 26 and 27. In the meantime, here are a few photos highlighting some of the artifacts recovered during our August 22 – 23 work weekend at the Ranch. Thanks to everyone who participated in the heat and humidity!



Our PI, Dr. Jason W. Barrett, can't resist digging in the dirt!



Glynn Osburn, Dr. Margie Coon and Dr. Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen measuring their unit.



Ed Jackson and Louis Aulbach screening dirt.



Ron Ralph and Kay Killem joined us from Austin for the day.

**Update on Excavations at the Cotton Field Site, Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas
August 22 – 23, 2015**



Dr. Jason digs around what is being described as an anvil stone.



Check out this unusually thin (1.3 mm) point!
Recovered on Saturday in Unit M



Anvil Stone



Jay Roussel, president of FBAS, shovel
skimming in his unit.



Dr. Gus Costa shows off a nice biface recovered
in one of the units.



A closer view of the biface Dr. Gus is holding
(left)

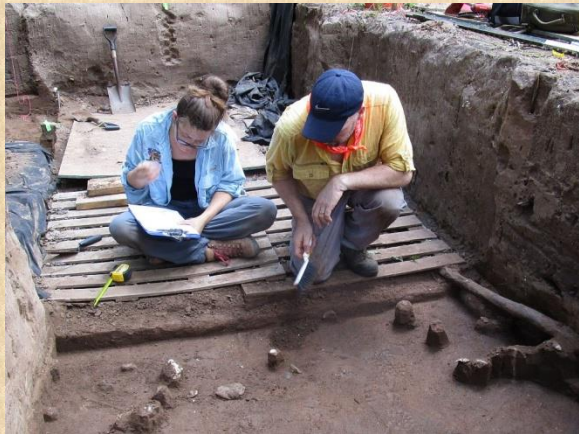
**Update on Excavations at the Cotton Field Site, Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas
August 22 – 23, 2015**



Blade also recovered in Unit M.



Tom Williams and Dr. Jason discuss Tom's unit.



Dr. Jason and Dr. Liz drawing in features that have been pedestalled in her unit.



Two big men digging in one small unit! John Rich and Dr. Jason get the work done!



We thought this was a preform but archeologist and lithics expert Elton Prewitt tells us it's a Clifton point.



John Rich – "It ain't over 'til the paperwork is done."

Linda Gorski