

Update on Excavations at the Cotton Field Site, Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas November 14 – 15, 2015

As most of you know, we are continuing work at the Cotton Field site at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas, that we began during TAS Field Schools in 2014 and 2015. Rumor has it that we are returning to Cotton Field for TAS Field School 2016, too! The Cotton Field site, located in Colorado County, offers the 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. Thanks to our landowners, Rita Tait Jackson and Ed Jackson, we are continuing our excavations under the direction of HAS member and Field School PI, Dr. Jason W. Barrett. Our latest field work took place November 14 and 15. Thanks to the awesome crew shown in the photos below!

Our next field work weekend at Cotton Field will be Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6. Hope to see you there! If you want to receive regular bulletins and emails about future work dates for the Cotton Field site please email me at lindagorski@cs.com and I will put you on my special Cotton Field email list. In the meantime, please enjoy these photos highlighting our work on November 14 and 15.



Work begins on a perfect weekend morning



John Rich shows new digger John Lumb how to measure a unit.



Dr. Jason Barrett and Dr. Gus Costa go over plans for the weekend's work while Beth Kennedy screens in the background.



Our wonderful landowners Rita Tait and Ed Jackson admire an artifact.

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Bob Sewell always picks the best looking crew. Here he is digging with Beth Kennedy and Dr. Liz Coon-Nguyen.



We recovered hundreds of artifacts from the four units including shell, fire cracked rock, debitage, bone, and stone tools.



Tom Williams measures his unit.



Beth Kennedy recovered a nice Scallorn in the screen.



Geoff Mills and John Rich take turns screening.



Perfect Scallorn!!

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Na na na na na na na Batman! John Lumb and John Rich holding up a piece of landscape fabric to provide shade while Dr. Jason takes a photo of a unit.



Dr. Gus Costa did an amazing job of cleaning this cooking feature so it looked like this when he finished



Unit with lots of artifacts pedestaled including a cooking feature at the top right.



Took lots of patience!



Dr. Gus, John Lumb and John Rich working a unit. These three big boys in one unit makes for a crowded work space 😊



Y'all come join us in this beautiful spot in Columbus, Texas, on December 5 and 6 for our next work days at Cotton Field. See you then!

- Linda Gorski