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White Oak Bayou Buffalo Kill Site (Harris Co., Texas)

A. R. Duke

The January 1984 edition of Central States Archaeological Journal contained an interesting and surprising article on another buffalo kill site on White Oak Bayou (Harris Co.) The excavation, in 1981, of a large portion of a buffalo skeleton was carried out by William A. Dickens of Houston who is the author of the report.

The skeletal material was found about seven feet above the water on White Oak Bayou and four projectile points, some flint chips from local cherts and a few potsherds were associated with the bones. The author of the report dates the "kill" at 1400 AD - 1600 AD.

The Houston Archeological Society did not participate in this excavation. In fact, we were not aware that a second single kill site had been found. Even our resident expert on White Oak Bayou archeology, Bill McClure, had not heard about the site. The excavator and author of the report apparently chose not to contact the Society and reported his find to an out-of-state publication. His comments in regard to the "local archeological club" and the scope of the archeological investigations in this area reflect a lack of knowledge of the magnitude of the work. We hope, thru some as yet undefined approach, to correct this situation. Obviously, we want to encourage cooperation with the Society on local sites.

Our thanks to Gene Ochsner of Michigan (and former HAS member) for sending us the copy of the C.S.A. Journal.

Preliminary Results from 200 Main Street TestingRoger Moore

In late September, 1983, the HAS Emergency Advisory Committee received news of the demolition of three National Register structures (the B.A. Sheppard Building, 1883; the Dumble Building, 1882-3; and the South Texas National Bank, 1908-10, 1921-22) in the 200 block of Main Street to make way for a private development. Alert to the significance of this Central Business District (CBD) block as part of Houston's earliest commercial district, the Committee began a process of contact and negotiation with the various investors and firms involved in the project, seeking permission to conduct limited testing on the site prior to construction. By October 10, our communications had reached the ultimate 'strata' of the project, Classified Parking Systems, Inc., which was to lease the site as a parking facility. The firm's Vice President, Mr. Gary Warwick, quickly proved himself to be both very cooperative and sympathetic to our goal of salvaging a piece of Houston's past before it was lost to the bulldozer. He immediately gave the HAS approval to excavate; and promised to contact us when the demolition had reached the point that we could safely work. He also gave us the good news that the current destruction of the site will be (from an archeological perspective) minimal, since for now the project area will only be paved over as a surface parking lot. An ambitious office building project (which would destroy all remaining subsurface archeological deposits) is in the works for the site, but may be months - or years - away.

We had learned that in addition to the three National Register properties, a long-vacant Main St. lot would be impacted by the project. Situated between the Lomas & Nettleton Bldg. (201 Main) and the defunct bank (213 Main), this lot was chosen for our testing for a number of reasons:

1. The lot would be only minimally impacted by nearby demolition activities.
2. An informal inspection of the site showed no evidence of recent construction of the sort that would damage subsurface deposits.
3. A preliminary check of 1885 to 1919 Sanborn maps showed the lot occupied by a narrow, 3-story, cast-iron fronted brick building with a small, open courtyard at the rear of the structure. Given that nothing was built on the lot after this building was torn down, we could hope to answer two important questions; Are there any preserved architectural remains of the brick structure (which we guesstimated to the 1870's since this was the time when brick construction became universal on Main St.)? Perhaps more crucially, since brick buildings of this size and vintage did not require the complete excavation of their sites (recall the Alamo fragments under the Radio Shack in San Antonio), can we expect to find an occupational surface and associated features pre-dating the brick storefront? If so, these materials will date from Houston's archeologically untapped early days (1836-1870). In addition, of course, we may expose evidence of prehistoric Indian occupation of the site.

The demolition work reached a point that we were permitted to begin our testing on Dec. 10, 1983. A primary elevation datum was established and a

grid was laid out over the lot. Also as an aid in visualizing the condition of the site in 1885, a string was run across the lot to designate the boundary between the rear wall of the masonry building and the open courtyard. Two 5 ft. excavation units were then staked, N95/E65 lying within the walls of the 1885 Sanborn structure, and N100/E105 within the presumed courtyard area. N95/E65 was intended to locate any remaining traces of the brick building, and any earlier surface we hoped to find sealed and protected under its former floor. Since we had no evidence that the courtyard had ever been completely built upon, we anticipated a continuous sequence from prehistoric times to the abandonment of the lot from the N100/E105 unit. The placement of these units was also influenced by a practical consideration: while nothing was demolished on this lot, it had been used to store debris from the adjacent bank. Heavy equipment, in removing this debris, had caused superficial disturbance of much of the lot. Thus, the units were placed in a margin of undisturbed soil along the northern edge of the lot.

The two units were excavated by natural levels, with fill screened through 1/4 in. hardware cloth (when it wasn't too clayey to dry-screen). Excavation was carried out by shovelling, coal-shovel skimming, or trowelling, depending on the nature of the level. Stratigraphy of the site was reasonably well-defined, interesting, and pleasing. Five natural levels were identified in N95/E65, extending to 3ft. 9in. below the surface, while N100/E105 yielded 8 levels to 5ft. lin. BS. We were particularly delighted to discover that the brick rubble layer from the demolition of the Sanborn structure was protected by a full three feet of modern fill. This fill had effectively sealed and protected the underlying significant deposits, just as the grade-raising fill had done at Ashton Villa.

The brick rubble layer was a little surprising in its artifact content. I had assumed that the Sanborn building was torn down some time in the 20th century, but the level produced virtually no clearly modern artifacts. (The single ambiguous category is what appears to be green rubber -?- flooring tile fragments.) Perhaps the building was demolished not later than early in the 20th century. Further analysis and documentary research will hopefully settle this question.

Historic artifacts were recovered in considerable quantities from the rubble level and below. The ceramics are notable for in the striking predominance of decorated sherds in the sample. A wide variety of decorative modes and wares were recovered; mocha, hand-painted, spatter or sponge decorated, black, brown, mulberry, and blue transfer prints, shell-edged, yellow ware, earthenware (including ale or gin bottle fragments), and banded ware sherds are present. In addition, glazed and unglazed ceramic pipe bowl and stem fragments were unearthed. Metal artifacts included numerous heavily rusted ferrous objects (mostly nails), a brass protractor, and a lead fire-arm ball. Glass artifacts included delicate, hand-blown apothecary bottles in graduated sizes, hand-blown wine bottle and impressed glass bottle fragments, numerous clear and colored bottle body sherds, and probable lamp chimney fragments. A large quantity of window glass, much of it notably thin (ca. 3/65 to 4/64 in. thick), was collected. One investigator (Walker 1971: 78) states that window glass of 3/64in. thickness occurs only on sites constructed prior to 1845. Faunal remains (beef, chicken, and pork) were fairly common and reasonably well preserved. Last but not least, a few prehistoric lithics were recovered. Most of the Main St. artifacts were fairly small fragments. This is not surprising, since all the material came from general occupation surfaces (where they were subject to trampling, etc.) rather than from disposal features such as garbage pits and privies.

We did locate one important feature: a preserved wall two bricks wide

in N95/E65 (below the brick rubble layer, naturally enough). This wall appears to have supported no greater a load than an interior partition, since it is so narrow and does not spread at its base. In addition, I feel confident that we reached a preserved, original occupation surface in N95/E65, and probably in N100/E105, as well. While we didn't have time to dig to sterile soil, we had begun to reach the gumbo bedrock of Beaumont clay which underlies the CBD. Artifacts recovered from this clay were undoubtedly trampled into the muddy ground that so impressed (or disgusted) early visitors to Houston. Also, this strata contained considerable charcoal, likely a reminder of the numerous fires that swept Main St. through the 1870's.

The presence of preserved architectural remains and an undisturbed 1836 Houston ground surface confirm the significance of this site and have important implications for the rest of the CBD. The site presents strong evidence that significant remains may be preserved anywhere in the CBD where basement construction or other excavations have not taken place--even if a three story building like our own stands or once stood on the site. The 200 Main Block itself is safe for the present under its veneer of asphalt. Before its developers begin construction of their planned office building, however, it is clear that an effort to convince them to permit - and support - further excavation is justified.

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Current Status of Two Sites in Harris County, Texas

W. L. McClure

During 1983, the QUEZADA SITE was visited by a committee from the Houston Archeological Society. The site appeared to be worthy of further activity by the Society. Field work was never scheduled, as the owner failed to respond to the request for permission.

During 1983, excavations were conducted at the LAURA LACKNER SITE. The work helped to ascertain the limits of the site. However, the artifacts failed to confirm the expectations that were based on previous excavations. The information gained however, will be of value whenever the analysis is complete. It is expected that a report will be ready for an issue of this Journal later this year.

Progress Report on Excavations at Sam Houston ParkHelen W. Haskell

On February 1, 1984 students of the Rice University Field Methods in Archaeology class began their third season of excavation at Sam Houston Park in downtown Houston. The park project, co-sponsored by the Harris County Heritage Society, is directed by Dr. Roderick McIntosh and graduate students Helen Haskell and Roger Moore of the Rice University Anthropology Department. Excavations are conducted during eight weeks of Wednesday afternoon and Saturday sessions, which H.A.S. members are cordially invited to attend both in 1984 and future seasons.

Field work in previous years was focused on the area of the 1847 Kellum-Noble House, where test excavations established a well-defined stratigraphic sequence dating back to the construction and initial occupation of the house. In addition, students in 1983 conducted a preliminary survey near the "Long Row" building which houses the Heritage Society's Tea Room and Gift Shop. The 1984 excavations have been transferred entirely to the Long Row area because of the possibility of a major construction project on that site by the Harris County Heritage Society.

This year's excavation units consist of five 1x1 m. sample units to the north and west of the Long Row building, as well as two 2x2 m. squares at designated points of interest in the same area. The first three Wednesday afternoon sessions have exposed two recent strata of topsoil and clay, probably brought in for landscaping purposes in the mid twentieth century. These are underlain by relatively undisturbed historic levels containing late nineteenth and early twentieth century artifacts. The northernmost unit, near the junction of Bagby and Lamar Streets, is characterized by deep deposits of loamy fill containing an abundance of late nineteenth century artifacts and building rubble. This debris may be from the demolition of residential structures known to have been located in the area.

Sam Houston Park lies in one of the oldest parts of Houston, and documentary records suggest that the Long Row area has been almost constantly occupied since the 1830s. Possible early nineteenth century buildings include a tannery and two houses, while later city maps show at least three phases of building between 1873 and 1924. Field class students have undertaken a thorough archival search in order to establish a more detailed occupational sequence.

The 1984 excavations are part of a proposed ten-year project of historical and archaeological research at Sam Houston Park. Each yearly project is designed as both a field class and a professional excavation, with students participating in all phases of research from surveying to report-writing. In addition to fieldwork, each student conducts one aspect of the laboratory analysis and writes the section of the final report dealing with his/her special area. Course grades are not assigned until all chapters meet the professional standards of both the Texas Antiquities Committee and the principal investigator. This new approach to field instruction provides students with a broad-based initial exposure to archaeology, and also avoids the common field school problems of unanalyzed and unreported data.

The research on Sam Houston Park includes an integrated program of historical investigation, sampling and excavation designed eventually to cover the entire park area. It is hoped that the annual site reports, published by the Rice Anthropology Department, will constitute a useful corpus of information on early Houston. Publications from the 1982 and 1983 field seasons are on file with the Harris County Heritage Society and the Rice Anthropology Department. The 1984 report will be available from the Anthropology Department in November.

These photographs show students of the Rice University Field Methods in Archeology class at work at Sam Houston Park in downtown Houston.



Excavation of a Site on Galveston Island, 1983Sheldon M. Kindall

On November 19 and 20, the Houston Archeological Society, by invitation from some members of the Galveston Historic Foundation, participated in an archeological exploratory probe of a vacant lot on the Strand in Galveston. This lot was the former location of a Greek Revival cottage built by Joseph Atkins in about 1870. The lot was sold in the 1970's to the Contieri brothers, Frank and Roy, the present owners. The cottage was razed only a few years ago, and another structure will undoubtedly be built on this lot in the near future.

This probe was a good example of the quick-look type of exploration that can be done by historic archeologists in rapidly changing urban areas, without disrupting any construction plans. The historic interest in this particular site is that it is within the general region associated with the fortified village occupied by Francisco Xavier Mina and Louis-Michel Aury, and later by the pirate, Jean Lafitte. The exact location and extent of this village is not known and will never be found without this type of exploration. This site is also in the general vicinity of the region thought to be the location of Galveston's earliest settlement known as "Saccarappa".

The Galveston Historic Foundation would like to set up a system whereby sites such as this can be tested for archeological content as they become available. As of this writing, they are developing the means for laboratory reduction and cataloging of historic artifacts and addressing the problem of curation of all artifacts including those not suitable for display. They have support from the Rosenberg Library and its associated museum, and they hope to acquire support and cooperation from the Galveston city government, especially where city projects are planned. They have sought help and advice from groups outside of Galveston, and they plan to work with such state agencies as the Office of the State Archeologist. The Galveston Historic Foundation has already made large strides toward salvaging the history of Galveston. Their main concern is that all artifacts remain in Galveston both during and after analyses.

This particular exploratory probe was directed by Glenn Kirk, a former Assistant Archeologist at Williamsburg and now a resident of Galveston. Preliminary archival research and general coordination was done by Virginia Eisenhour, Vice President in charge of historical research for the GHF. The Houston Archeological Society entered into this venture with the following objectives:

- to help initiate the GHF to archeological techniques
- to develop a data base from which the University of Houston might draw in order to formulate their plans for an excavation next Spring.
- to search for any trace of the early Aury/Lafitte fortification.

The tested vacant lot was located at 1306 Strand. This is one block southeast of the property marked by a historical marker as being on the location of Lafitte's Maison Rouge. It is the Maison Rouge location which will be investigated by the University of Houston.

A total of five pits, each 3 ft. by 3 ft. were excavated. Three of these pits penetrated below the 1900 land fill, the bottom of which ranged from 25 inches to 27 inches below today's surface. No evidence of the sought village was detected in the field. In fact, nothing earlier than about 1880 was detected. Some of the recovered wine bottles may be older, but they were in garbage caches dating from the late 1800's indicating that they were old

when discarded. Unless analyses of the artifacts reveal otherwise, it appears that this site is off to the side of the settlement area being sought. The sand below the 1900 land fill was found to contain a higher content of humus than usually encountered in Galveston. This may indicate that this site was close to the vegetation filled bayou which cut off the eastern tip of the Island in its early history.

One item that is beginning to be a mystery to this writer is the high concentration of all types of artifacts in the 1900 land fill - iron, glass, and bone. Occasional pockets of buried garbage explain some of this high concentration, but not all.

A point to note for future excavations in urban Galveston is that although it is desirable to excavate historic sites by natural levels, Galveston seems to be the exception. There are so many pockets, lenses, undulating strata, and boundaries which should be apparent but are washed out by the sandy texture of the soil that any attempt to excavate by natural levels results in a tangle of notes. It is recommended that the natural levels be first identified by profiles before attempting to excavate by natural levels.

Although the village being sought was not found, it is felt that the data developed by this investigation was well worth the effort.

Historic Note No. 1

This year the Houston Archeological Society celebrates its silver anniversary. First meeting place was the University of Houston and the following persons were charter members of the Society:

Mrs. H. W. Anderson	Charles Fleming	H. Mewhinney
W. L. Atwood	Mrs. Charles Fleming	Billy Moore
Gordon F. Bailey	Mike Fleming	Wayne B. Neyland
Charles G. Caldwell	Dr. Art Gallaher	Dwayne Neyland
Wm. P. Caskey	Charles B. Gallenkamp	John Payne
Mrs. Wm. P. Caskey	J. D. Harmier	Elizabeth Pillaert
J. J. Dieckman	K. P. Harmier	Roseline Pillaert
Mrs. J. J. Dieckman	John Kalb	E. Raymond Ring
Alan R. Duke	Val Larsen	Mrs. E. Raymond Ring
Bruce R. Duke	Louis Lenz	Donald G. Siever
Gary A. Duke	Dr. Donald R. Lewis	R. W. Stevenson
Damon C. Dunn	Mrs. Donald R. Lewis	Norvill Wilson
		R. B. Worthington

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Wayne B. Neyland - Chairman	R. B. Worthington - Director
Alan R. Duke - Sec.-Treas.	Damon C. Dunn - Director
H. Mewhinney - Editor	J. J. Dieckman - Director (Also Asst. Editor)

Only a few of the "originals" are still around. The years and re-locations have taken the greatest toll.

The first HAS Newsletter was published in November 1959.

Ceramic Types Found in the East Wharton County and
West Ft. Bend County Area of Texas

Joe D. Hudgins

The purpose of this paper is to report on ceramic types found on the surface of fourteen prehistoric Indian sites and one historic Indian site in a sixteen mile area of East Wharton County and West Ft. Bend County, Texas. This area is located between the Brazos and Colorado Rivers and about forty-five miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico. These sites are located along the drainage of the West Bernard and San Bernard Rivers. Wharton County sites included in this report are 41WH3, 6, 8, 12, 13, 28, 36 and 59. Ft. Bend County sites are 41FB39, 44, 46, 49, 51, 53 and 55. Representative sherds from each site were labeled and sent to Lawrence E. Aten for identification (L. E. Aten, Personal communication Oct. 5, 1983).

The majority of sherds (2/3) found on these sites were identified as an unspecified variety of sandy paste Goose Creek plain. All sites except 41WH8 and 41FB39 contained Goose Creek plain sherds. Rockport plain and Rockport black on gray were found on site 41WH8. This site is the historic Indian site mentioned above and was previously reported in the Houston Archeology Society Journal No. 74 (Hudgins, Dec. 1982). Sherds identified as bone-tempered plain were found on sites 41WH3, 12 and site 41FB39. A variety of ceramic types were found on site 41WH12. They include: bone-tempered plain, Goose Creek plain, San Jacinto incised Jamison variety with zone incision and bone-tempered incised.

Summary

The majority of sherds from the surface of these sites were identified as an unspecified variety of sandy paste Goose Creek plain. Most were body sherds, although several rim sherds were found. Most rims on this type pottery were smooth and slightly rounded. However, some were notched. The rim notching designs included, asymmetrical notching on several sherds found on 41WH3, unusual double notching on a rim sherd from 41FB39 and a rim sherd from 41WH12 that has three small slightly curved or wave-like notches bordered by larger square notches. Aten's opinion is that these Goose Creek plain sherds are very similar to those found in the Galveston Bay, Sabine Lake and inland Brazos Valley area and are well made compared to Goose Creek plain sherds found in the coastal zone.

Rockport plain and Rockport black on gray sherds have been reported on three sites in East Wharton County other than 41WH8. They are; 41WH48 (Hudgins field notes), 41WH16 (Indian component, Hudgins field notes) and 41WH19 (Patterson and Hudgins 1981). This type pottery has been found on the lower Texas coast from Baffin Bay to Matagorda Bay (Hester 1980). Another study conducted in the Matagorda Bay area shows Rockport plain and Rockport black on gray to be found in Calhoun County around the Lavaca Bay area and inland along the Lavaca River in Jackson County but not much further east along the coast than the Jackson County - Matagorda County boundary (Fritz 1975). Finding Rockport pottery in east Wharton County extends the range of this type pottery further inland and to the northeast than was previously known.

Bone-tempered plain sherds were found on three of the fifteen sites studied. This type sherd has been reported on several other recorded sites in east Wharton County; 41WH19 (Patterson and Hudgins 1981), 41WH25 (Patterson 1981) and 41WH10 (Patterson and Hudgins 1980).

The single San Jacinto incised, Jamison variety, rim sherd with zone incision design found on site 41WH12 is the only sherd of this type reported in the east Wharton-west Ft. Bend County area. The design consists of incised pendant triangles just below the smooth rim. These triangles were filled with incised horizontal lines.

A bone-tempered incised rim sherd from 41WH12 had a most unusual design. The design consists of many small vertical incised lines below a smooth rim with excised triangles below the vertical lines.

Perhaps this paper can be of some benefit in identifying ceramic types from this area of the upper Texas coast and comparing them to sherds from surrounding areas.

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Editor's Note

For additional information on the pottery types mentioned in Hudgins' article see Lawrence E. Aten's Indians of the Upper Texas Coast Chapter 12 - Ceramic Artifacts, pages 205 - 245. Aten's analysis of the ceramics of this region is probably the best available at this time.

Site 41HR525, Another Long Occupation Sequence
in Harris County, Texas

L. W. Patterson, Ron Murk, and Suzanne Murk

Introduction

Evidence for a significant number of prehistoric sites with very long occupation sequences on inland portions of the upper Texas coast continues to accumulate (Patterson 1979, n.d.). Many of these sites span a time interval from the Late Paleoindian period to the Late Prehistoric, roughly 10,000 years. This article describes a surface collection from another site in this region with a long occupation sequence, site 41HR525 in Harris County, Texas. The collection from this site was made primarily by Ron and Suzanne Murk, with a few specimens collected by Bill and Michelle Prime (Figures 3A to E).

This site is located on a slight topographic high adjacent to a stream in northwest Harris County. The area is generally wooded, with a mixture of deciduous and coniferous trees. A variety of natural plant and animal food resources would have been available to prehistoric Indians in this area. A large number of prehistoric sites have been recorded along stream banks in inland Harris County in similar ecological settings.

Dredging and channel straightening of Cypress Creek was undertaken by the Harris County Flood control board during the period 1976-80. This work destroyed an estimated one-half of the site. An unknown amount of soil and alluvium was removed from the site during clearing and grading operations conducted in association with the flood control work and the material removed was probably redeposited in the immediately adjacent topographically-lower areas.

Until a few years ago, most of the literature on prehistoric occupation of the upper Texas coast dealt with the Late Archaic and later time periods, after about 2,000 B.C. While population appears to have increased rapidly during the Late Archaic, it is now apparent that there has been a significant amount of occupation of the upper Texas coast from at least the Late Paleoindian period, starting at about 8,000 B.C.

Projectile Points and Chronology

The earliest projectile points found on this site appear to represent the Late Paleoindian period of approximately 8,000 to 6,000 B.C. and some may continue into the Early Archaic period. These include 5 San Patrice and 5 Early Side Notched points (Figures 1, 3). San Patrice points are widely distributed in southeast Texas (Patterson 1981a), Louisiana and further east. Webb, et al. (1971) have found San Patrice points with other Early Side Notched points at a site in Louisiana. Early Side Notched points occur before and with San Patrice points at site 41WH19 in Wharton County, Texas (Patterson and Hudgins 1983).

Two scraper types found at this site are typical of Paleoindian lithic technology. A snub-nosed end scraper with side spur (Figure 3F) is typical of

Paleoindian tool kits in general (Irwin and Wormington 1970), and the side notched side scraper (Figure 3C) is similar to types which occur with San Patrice and Early Side Notched points over a wide area of the southeastern U.S. (Webb, et al. 1971, Geiger and Brown 1983).

A Carrollton-like point (Figure 3D) and a Trinity point (Figure 1H) from site 41HR525 are possibly from the Early to Middle Archaic period of roughly 6,000 to 4,000 B.C., based on the chronological positions of these point types at site 41HR315 (Patterson 1980). A Williams point from site 41HR525 (Figure 1L) may represent the Middle to Late Archaic. Ensor points (Figures 1J, K) found here are possibly from the Late Archaic or Early Ceramic periods, which together cover a time span of roughly 2,000 B.C. to A.D. 600. The Castroville point (Figure 1I) is probably from the Late Archaic (Prewitt 1981: Fig. 4).

The Late Prehistoric period at this site is represented by a small Alba arrow point (Figure 2I). Small bifacial arrow points seem to occur mainly after A.D. 600 (Aten 1983:Fig. 17.1). A unifacial arrow point was also found (Figure 2J), which may represent early use of the bow and arrow (Patterson 1982a).

Gary points found at this site are thought to represent the middle Archaic through the Late Prehistoric, as at site 41HR315 (Patterson 1980). The largest Gary points (Figures 2G, H) from here are perhaps the oldest of this type. The grinding of stem edges on one large Gary point (Figure 2G) is especially indicative of considerable age. The smallest Gary points, (Figures 2A, B) each weighing 3.1 grams, may be transitional arrow points, made before the standardized smaller types of the Late Prehistoric.

Three bifacial dart point preforms, two expanding dart point stems, and two dart point tip fragments were also recovered.

Ceramics

A total of 60 Goose Creek Plain sandy paste body sherds were recovered, all over 15mm square. The average thickness is 5.9mm, with a range of 4 to 9mm, and a standard deviation of 1.4mm. These specimens are similar to those in other collections from inland Harris County. No rim sherds or incised sherds were recovered. Ceramics start at about A.D. 100 in this region (Aten, 1983:Fig. 15.1).

General Lithics

Only a few unifacial stone tools were found. Aside from the two Paleoindian scrapers already mentioned, 3 convex side scrapers, 2 concave side scrapers, 2 denticulates, and 7 graters were recovered. Six miscellaneous biface fragments and one fragment of a possible bifacial drill were also found.

A total of 9 prismatic blades with widths of 9 to 17mm were found here, along with 3 possible blade core trim flakes. It can not be determined if this small sample represents a purposeful blade industry or is simply fortuitous.

The size distribution of the flake collection is shown in Table 1. This represents an exponential curve skewed toward higher percentages of small size flakes. The lower percentage of flakes under 15mm square, compared to the percentage of flakes in the 15 to 20mm square size range, probably represents

a sampling bias, since no attempt was made to recover all flakes observed at this site. This curve shape is typical of debitage from bifacial reduction (Patterson and Sollberger 1978:111, Patterson 1982b). For the flake collection of sizes over 15mm square, there are 8.2% primary flakes (covered with cortex), 36.3% secondary flakes (some remaining cortex), and 55.5% interior flakes (no remaining cortex). Compared to distributions from experimental reduction of chert cobbles, this distribution of flakes with remaining cortex possibly represents some primary reduction of raw materials before transportation to this site (Patterson 1981b:32).

The lithic raw materials used here are mainly brown, tan, and grey cherts and petrified wood, which are typical of alluvial deposits of the Brazos and Colorado River drainage systems. Heat treating of chert was common, as shown by specimens with waxy luster, potlid fractures, or reddish coloration.

The most common tool found here is the utilized flake, as evidenced by edge wear patterns typical of both cutting and scraping (Tringham, et al. 1974, Patterson 1975).

Miscellaneous lithics in this collection include 4 whole chert cobbles, 6 worked chert cobbles, 5 petrified wood cobbles, and 37 thick chert pieces. Two limestone hammerstones and 3 quartzite hammerstones were found. Possible hammerstone fragments include 6 limestone pieces and 5 quartzite pieces. Twelve miscellaneous chert cores were also recovered.

Two pieces of red ochre were found, which may have been used as pigment.

Historical Materials

There is evidence of historic dumping on the surface of this site. A glazed ceramic neck from a jug was found, several rocks are present that have concrete on surfaces, and there are abundant pieces of concrete and paving asphalt.

No detailed investigation has been made of the abundant shell material which occurs at this site, but the bulk of this material appears to be Rangia sp., a brackish-water pelecypod ranging from pleistocene to recent. This kind of shell material is typically found in deposits resulting from historic dredging and landfill. Their occurrence this far north, as a possible food-source, would require a late post-pleistocene marine transgression. Fresh-water shell fish would be a more likely food source this far from the coast.

Summary

The surface collection from site 41HR525 represents a long prehistoric occupation sequence, from the Late Paleoindian period to the Late Prehistoric. A number of sites with this type of long occupation sequence have now been found on the inland portion of the upper Texas coast, and most likely represent repeated occupations by nomadic hunter-gatherers, probably on a seasonal basis. The Late Paleoindian San Patrice and Early Side Notched points appear to be related to a widespread eastern Paleoindian technological tradition, a relationship also noted at site 41WH19 in Wharton County (Patterson and Hudgins 1983).

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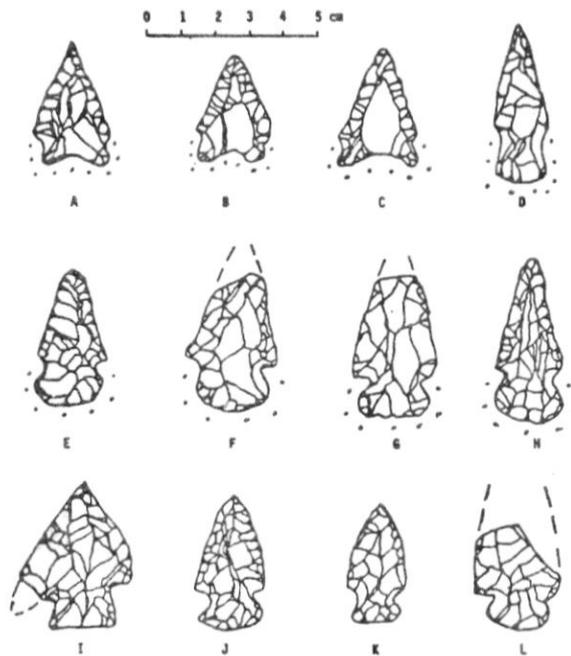
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TABLE 1
FLAKE SIZE DISTRIBUTION

Size MM Square	Remaining Cortex			Total	
	P	S	I	No.	%
Under 15	-	-	-	251	27.8
15-20	28	111	250	389	43.1
20-25	14	65	71	150	16.6
25-30	5	42	24	71	7.9
30-35	5	14	13	32	3.5
35-40	0	2	3	5	0.6
40-50	1	2	1	4	0.4
50-60	0	1	0	1	0.1
Total	53	237	362	903	100.0
%	8.2	36.3	55.5		

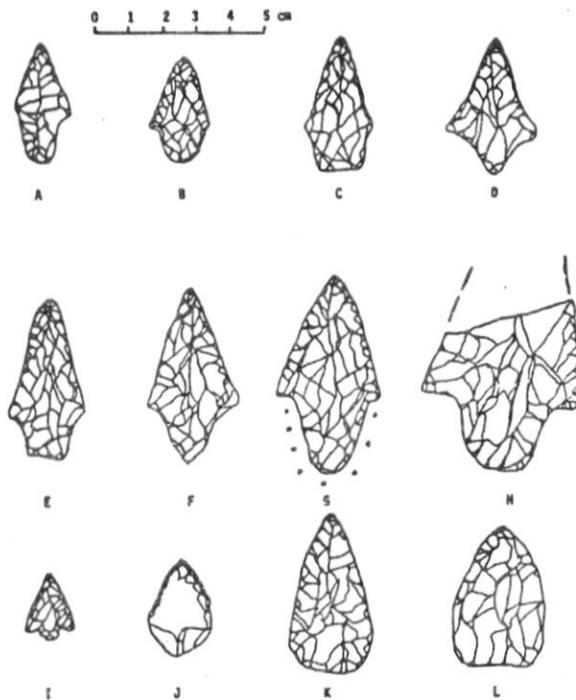
41HR525

FIGURE 1
SITE 41HR525 PROJECTILE POINTS



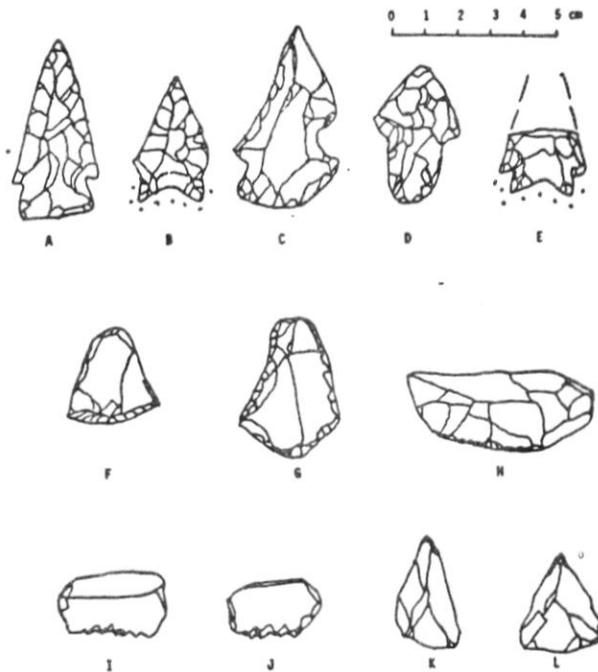
A to C: San Patrice (st. Johns var.); D to G: Early Side-Notched;
H: Trinity; I:Castroville; J, K:Ensore; L:Williams; dots show ground
edges

FIGURE 2
SITE 41HR525 PROJECTILE POINTS



A to F:Gary; G, H:large Gary; I:Alba; J:unifacial point;
K, L:preforms; dots show ground edges

FIGURE 3
SITE 41HR525 LITHIC ARTIFACTS



A:Early Side-Notched point; B, E:San Patrice points; C:side-notched side scraper;
D:Carrollton-like point; F:snub-nosed end scraper with spur; G, H:scrapers;
I, J:denticulates; K, L:gravers; dots show ground edges

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