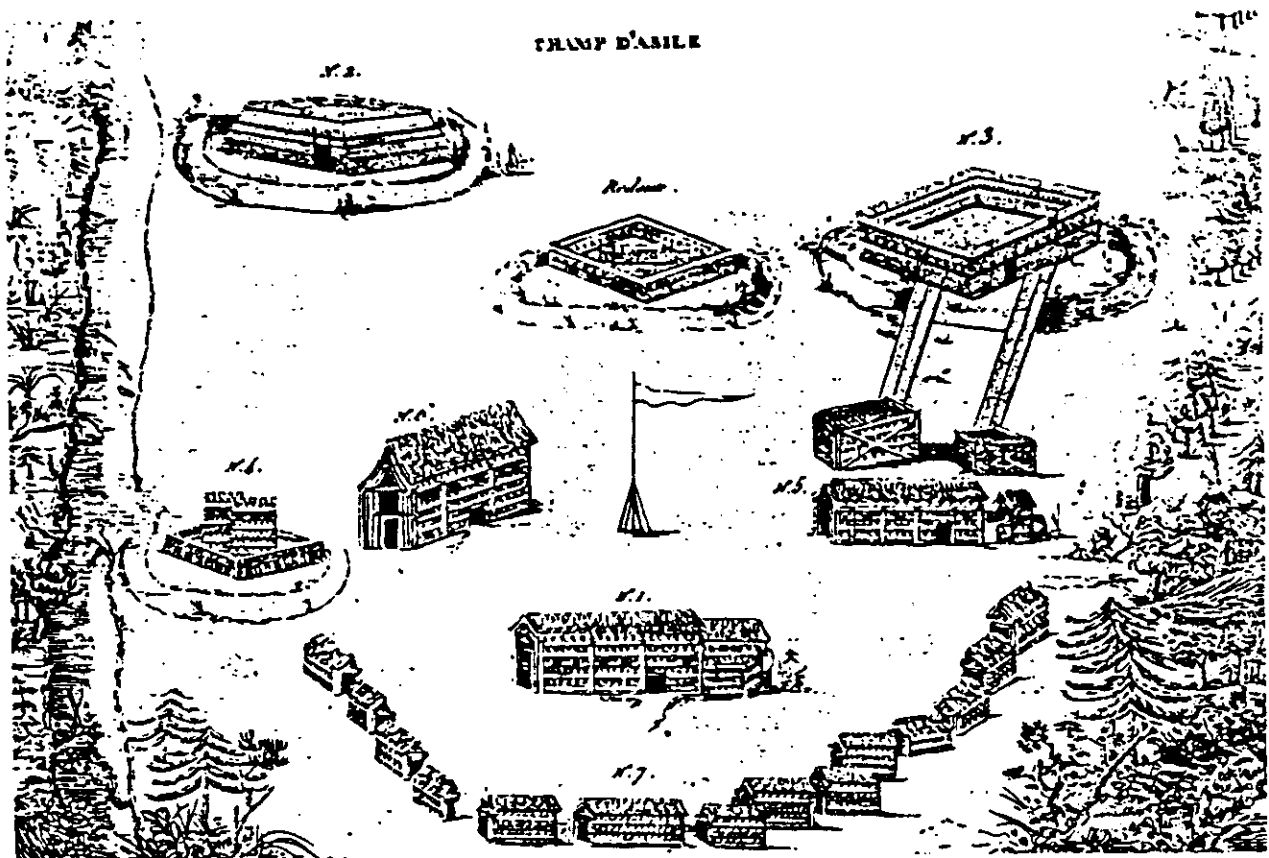




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Houston Archeological Society

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Alan Duke — A Tribute

Alan R. Duke, one of the 36 Charter Members of the Houston Archeological Society in 1959, and an active member ever since, died March 19, 1998. He is survived by his wife Ruth, sons Bruce and Gary, and two grandchildren.

Alan served the Society in many capacities, including Chairman (now called President) in 1963-4 and Editor of the HAS Newsletter/Journal from 1965 to 1986.

In earlier years as Editor, Alan transformed the Newsletter from an admixture of short articles and news items into a more scholarly archeological publication. In 1980, with Board approval for additional funding, he expanded and improved the Newsletter in size and format. In 1982, the name was changed to Journal to better reflect its purpose. Alan also authored over 40 Journal articles.

In 1986, Alan stepped down after 21 years as Editor of the HAS Journal, but remained active in the Society. He authored or coauthored 11 installments of *HAS Historic Notes* for the Journal, and wrote several articles on a favorite subject, bannerstones in Texas.

Alan was active in field work with the Society, as well as in archeological research on several subjects. Among the important sites he investigated was 41AU1, the Goebel site, in the late 1950s and early 1960s. He later reanalyzed the notes and artifacts and wrote a comprehensive series of four reports on the site. In 1980-1 he led HAS field work at the Muller site, 41HR74, a very large shell midden on San Jacinto Bay.

In 1975 Alan was named a Life Member of HAS for his service to the Society as Editor. He was honored with a special HAS award in 1986 for his long service as Journal Editor, and received the Southeast Texas Archeological Research Award in 1991 for regional archeological research on several topics, including pottery and bannerstones.

Alan served on the HAS Awards Committee from its inception in 1989. Even after his health began to decline, he made a concerted effort to attend the annual awards presentation meetings.

Perhaps Alan's contributions to archeology were best summarized by fellow Charter and Life Member Donald R. Lewis, who passed away in 1997, "Above all, Alan Duke has been dedicated to the task of the documentation and communication of information which he and other members of the Society have garnered." Alan will be very much missed.

Richard L. Gregg

Folsom and Midland Points in Southeast Texas

Leland W. Patterson

Introduction

Folsom and Midland points occur in the latter part of the Early Paleo-Indian period. These point types have distinctive attributes that facilitate identification. The Folsom point has been described by Suhm and Jelks (1962:193) and Turner and Hester (1993:120). The Midland point has been described by Turner and Hester (1993:155). Folsom points have distinctive long flute scars on both faces. Midland points resemble Folsom points in shape and size, but are not fluted. Both of these point types usually have fine parallel pressure flaking scars, and both types are thin. Midland points from site 41FB249 in Fort Bend County (Patterson 1997) have maximum thicknesses of 5.7-6.0 mm. Folsom points are generally thinner than Midland points because the removal of channel flakes for fluting reduces the maximum thickness. A group of Folsom points from New Mexico have a mean maximum thickness of 3.8 mm (Judge 1973: Table 16). A Folsom point from site 41WH19 in Wharton County has a maximum thickness of 4.0 mm (Patterson et al. 1987: Table 5). Both Folsom and Midland points have lanceolate shapes.

Folsom and Midland points have related technologies, and have been found in close association at some sites (Amick et al. 1989). The Midland point is often referred to as "unfluted Folsom."

This article discusses the chronologies of Folsom and Midland points, and gives data on the geographic distributions of these point types in Southeast Texas.

Chronologies

The Folsom point occurs in Texas in a time period of 9000-8000 BC (Largent et al. 1991), which is the last half of the Early Paleo-Indian period (10,000-8000 BC). It is presumed that Midland points have the same time range as Folsom, because of the close relationship of these two point types. There is a radiocarbon date of 9920 ± 530 (7970 BC) for a Folsom point at the same excavation level as an Early Side-Notched point at site 41WH19 in Wharton County, Southeast Texas (Patterson et al. 1987:8). No radiocarbon dates are available for the Midland point in Southeast Texas.

Geographic Distributions in Southeast Texas

There have been 5 Folsom points (Table 1) and 12 Midland points (Table 2) found in Southeast Texas. The occurrence of Folsom and Midland points is centered in the Great Plains (Justice 1987: Map 7), with Southeast Texas being on the southeastern fringe of this area. The few Folsom and Midland points found in Southeast Texas can be considered as outliers from the Plains. Southeast Texas is an interface between the Southern Plains and the Southeast Woodlands. The rarity of Folsom and Midland points in Southeast Texas may be due to the limited availability of bison in this region during this time period. The lack of bison in Southeast Texas in the late Pleistocene/early Holocene postulated by Munson (1990: Figure 3) fits well with the scarcity of Folsom points in this region noted by Story (1990:189).

The presence of Midland points in Southeast Texas is a recent discovery. Three Midland points were found at site 41HR571 in Harris County (Patterson 1986: Figure 2), but were classified as Plainview-like because no Midland points had been previously reported in this region. Midland points at other sites in Southeast Texas now leave little doubt that Midland points are present in this region as a rare type.

Folsom and Midland points found in Southeast Texas are usually made of exotic chert types from Central Texas. For example, the Folsom specimen from site 41WH19 (Patterson et al. 1987) is made of Georgetown type chert that can be found north of Austin. The use of exotic cherts for Folsom and Midland points in Southeast Texas implies a wide-ranging settlement pattern which would be consistent with bison hunting.

Summary

The chronologies and geographic distributions of Folsom and Midland points in Southeast Texas have been summarized here. Both of these point types are rare in this region, because use of these point types is centered in the Great Plains. Other points types were being used in Southeast Texas in the same time period as Folsom (9000-8000 BC), including Early Side-Notched, San Patrice, and a few Big Sandy (Patterson 1989, 1996: Table 4). Folsom and Midland points in Southeast Texas are of interest for the study of cultural interactions between this region and the Southern Plains.

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Table 1. Folsom Points in Southeast Texas

site	county	no. of points	reference
41FB249	Fort Bend	1	Patterson 1997: Table 1
41HR343	Harris	1	Patterson et al. 1992a
41HR624	Harris	1	Patterson et al. 1990
41JF50	Jefferson	1	Turner and Tanner 1994
41WH19	Wharton	1	Patterson et al. 1987
total		5	

Table 2. Midland Points in Southeast Texas

site	county	no. of points	reference
41FB249	Fort Bend	4	Patterson 1997: Table 1
41HR184	Harris	1	Patterson 1994
41HR343	Harris	3	Patterson et al. 1992a
41HR571	Harris	3	Patterson 1986: Figure 2
41HR732	Harris	1	Patterson et al. 1992b
total		12	

Late Paleo-Indian Lanceolate Points in Southeast Texas

Leland W. Patterson

Introduction

I have defined the Late Paleo-Indian time period (8000-5000 BC) in Southeast Texas as the period of unfluted lanceolate points which represent Late Paleo-Indian technological traditions of the Southern Plains (Patterson 1995:243, 1996:9). The projectile point types include Plainview, Scottsbluff, and Angostura. Detailed descriptions of these point types are given by Suhm and Jelks (1962) and Turner and Hester (1993). It should be noted, however, that other projectile point types which represent technological traditions of the Southeast Woodlands occur in Southeast Texas during this same time period. These other point types are more numerous in Southeast Texas than unfluted lanceolate points. These other point types include Early Side-Notched, San Patrice, and Early Corner-Notched types, with a smaller quantity of Early Stemmed points, and a few Dalton and Big Sandy points (Patterson 1996: Table 4). All of the above point types terminate at the end of the Late Paleo-Indian period, except Early Stemmed. In the following Early Archaic period (5000-3000 BC), stemmed types become dominant, including Early Stemmed, Wells, and Carrollton, with a few Bell, Trinity, and Morrill points also found in this time period (Patterson 1996: Table 4).

A few Meserve points also occur in Southeast Texas during the Late Paleo-Indian period (Patterson 1996: Table 7). This point type has not been considered here, since it is probably not a valid point type, but instead represents reworking of other point types such as Plainview (Turner and Hester 1993:154).

This article presents data on the chronologies and geographic distributions of Plainview, Scottsbluff, and Angostura point types. Geographic distributions of these point types are discussed in regard to Southeast Texas being an interface between the Southern Plains and the Southeast Woodlands.

The Plainview Point

There are no radiocarbon dates for the Plainview point in Southeast Texas. Turner and Hester (1993:175) give a date range of about 8150-8010 BC for Plainview points in other parts of Texas. This range seems too narrow, however. A Plainview point at site 41WH19 in Wharton County is in the early part of the stratigraphic sequence for the Late Paleo-Indian period (Patterson et al. 1987: Table 5). A Plainview point was found in the Late Paleo-Indian stratum of excavation at site 41HR315 in Harris County (Patterson 1980:6), but the stratigraphy at this site is too tight to allow placement of the Plainview point in a definite part of the Late Paleo-Indian period. All other Plainview points found in Southeast Texas are from undatable surface collections. Until adequate data become available to determine a time range for the Plainview point in Southeast Texas, I suggest that a provisional time range of 8000-7000 BC be used.

Plainview points found in Southeast Texas are summarized in Table 1. A total of 94 Plainview points from 6 counties have been published. A geographic distribution of Plainview points in this region is shown in Figure 1. Most Plainview points occur in the western and central parts of Southeast Texas, with a significant drop-off in Plainview specimens in the eastern part of this region. The geographic distribution of Plainview points in Southeast Texas reflects that the Plainview point is a technological tradition from the Plains. The decreasing frequency of this point type to the east

shows increasing influences of other technological traditions of the Southeast Woodlands, where notched point types are predominant during the Late Paleo-Indian period.

The Angostura Point

Turner and Hester (1993:73) give an approximate time range of about 6900-5400 BC for the Angostura point based on two radiocarbon dates from other parts of Texas. Prewitt (1981:Figure 3) gives a time range in the Circleville Phase of 6500-5000 BC for the Angostura point in Central Texas. These two date ranges are fairly close and are consistent with placement of the Angostura point in the latter part of the Late Paleo-Indian period.

There are no radiocarbon dates for the Angostura point in Southeast Texas, but there is one Oxidizable Carbon Ratio (OCR) date that can be associated with an Angostura point at site 41WH38 in Wharton County. The Angostura specimen was found in the 30-35 cm stratum (Patterson et al. 1994a: Table 4), with this stratum having an OCR date of 6140 BC (Patterson et al. 1996:10), in the latter part of the Late Paleo-Indian period. Stratigraphic positions of Angostura points as sites 41FB223 (Patterson et al. 1994b) and 41FB42 (Patterson et al. 1993) in Fort Bend County place Angostura points at these sites in the latter part of the Late Paleo-Indian period. The only indication of an Angostura point occurring in the early part of the Late Paleo-Indian period in Southeast Texas is from site 41GM166 in Grimes County, where Rogers (1995:31) places an Angostura point in the early part of the Late Paleo-Indian period.

Because most data indicate that the Angostura point occurs in the latter part of the Late Paleo-Indian period in Southeast Texas, I suggest that a provisional time range of 6500-5000 BC be used for this point type, until adequate data become available to establish a more definite time range.

Angostura points found in Southeast Texas are summarized in Table 2. A total of 77 Angostura points from 9 counties have been published. A geographic distribution of Angostura points in this region is shown in Figure 2. Most Angostura points occur in the western and central part of Southeast Texas, with a significant drop-off of Angostura points in the eastern part of this region. As with the Plainview point, the Angostura point is a technological tradition of the Plains. Like Plainview, the frequency of Angostura points decreases to the east because of increasing influences of other technological traditions from the Southeast Woodlands.

The Scottsbluff Point

All Scottsbluff points found in Southeast Texas are from surface collections, so that no dates are available for this point type in this region. Turner and Hester (1993:183) suggest a possible time range of 7100-6700 BC for the Scottsbluff point in Texas. Prewitt (1981:Figure 3) places the Scottsbluff point in the Circleville Phase in Central Texas with a date range of 6500-5000 BC. Story (1990:210) notes that Scottsbluff points are usually attributed to the early-to-middle seventh millennium BC (7000-6500 BC) on the High Plains, although Scottsbluff at Horn Shelter 2 in Central Texas may date earlier to the eighth millennium. It appears that the Scottsbluff point in Southeast Texas might have had a time range in some portion of the early-to-middle part of the Late Paleo-Indian period.

Scottsbluff points found in Southeast Texas are summarized in Table 3. A total of 22 Scottsbluff points from 6 counties have been published. A geographic distribution of Scottsbluff points in this region is shown in Figure 3. The Scottsbluff point can be regarded as a minor type in Southeast Texas. Although the Scottsbluff point is found scattered over much of Texas (Turner and Hester 1993:183), the greatest concentration of this point type is in Northeast Texas (Story

1990: Figure 29). Johnson (1989:36) notes that the Cody Complex of the High Plains, with Scottsbluff points, pushed farther into the Southeast Woodlands than other Plains technological traditions, such as Plainview and Angostura. Therefore, the introduction of the Scottsbluff point into Southeast Texas was probably from the north, rather than from the west as with other Plains technological traditions. This possibly explains why the Scottsbluff point does not have a decreasing west-to-east frequency as do Plainview and Angostura point types.

Chert Sources

Plainview and Angostura points found in Southeast Texas are usually made of local chert types, probably from the Colorado River basin. In contrast, Scottsbluff points in Southeast Texas are usually made of exotic chert types, such as from the Edwards Plateau. The relatively high numbers of Plainview and Angostura points in Southeast Texas, and the use of local types of chert to make these point types, may indicate that Indians using these point types were not interlopers but instead had a mobile but restricted settlement pattern in this region. The relatively low number of Scottsbluff points in Southeast Texas, and the use of exotic cherts types, may indicate that users of Scottsbluff points had a fairly mobile settlement pattern in this region.

Summary

This article has given a summary of Late Paleo-Indian lanceolate point types found in Southeast Texas that represent Plains technological traditions. Although lanceolate points are somewhat less common than notched point types during this time period, lanceolate point types are useful for the study of the influences of Plains technological traditions on Southeast Texas, with this region being an interface between the Southern Plains and the Southeast Woodlands. Time ranges for lanceolate points in Southeast Texas are also useful for defining the time range of the Late Paleo-Indian period in a manner consistent with other regions of Texas. It should be noted, however, that after the Late Paleo-Indian period, time ranges for later time periods in Southeast Texas are not consistent with other regions of Texas. For example, the Archaic period in Southeast Texas is shorter than the Archaic period in Central Texas because pottery was introduced into Southeast Texas earlier than into Central Texas. Central Texas does not have an Early Ceramic period as is defined for Southeast Texas.

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Table 1. Plainview Points in Southeast Texas

site	no. of points	reference(s)
41AU7	1	Patterson 1976a
41BO25	4	Cole and McMichael 1968
41BO27	2	Cole and McMichael 1968
41BO28	1	Cole and McMichael 1968
41FB95	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1987
41FB102	1	Duke 1985a: Figure 2
41FB158	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1988a
41FB249	12	Patterson 1997: Table 1
Fort Bend (A)	5	Patterson et al. 1995: Table 1
41HR89	1	McClure 1977:11
41HR182	1	Patterson 1985: Figure 1D
41HR194	12	McGuff and Cox 1973:21
41HR233	1	Patterson and Marshall 1989
41HR244	2	Patterson 1976a, 1979
41HR315	1	Patterson 1980
41HR343	16	Patterson et al. 1992a
41HR571	5	Patterson 1986a
41HR618	1	Patterson and Marshall 1989
41HR641	1	Patterson 1990b
41HR732	1	Patterson et al. 1992b
41JF50	7	Turner and Tanner 1993
41WH2	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1980a
41WH7	2	Patterson and Hudgins 1980a
41WH10	3	Patterson and Hudgins 1980b, 1984a
41WH19	7	Patterson et al. 1987, Patterson and Hudgins 1981,1984b,1985
41WH26	2	Patterson and Hudgins 1982
41WH78	2	Patterson and Hudgins 1988b

(A) - collections from Fort Bend County

Table 2. Angostura Points in Southeast Texas

site	no. of points	reference(s)
41AU18	1	Hall 1981:269
Austin (A)	1	Hall 1991:91
41BO27	2	Cole and McMichael 1968
41FB42	1	Patterson et al. 1993
41FB95	3	Patterson and Hudgins 1987
41FB102	1	Duke 1985b: Figure 1
41FB158	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1988a
41FB223	3	Patterson et al. 1994
41FB249	19	Patterson 1977: Table 1
Fort Bend (B)	8	Patterson et al. 1995: Table 1
41GM23	2	Ensor et al. 1989
41GM166	1	Rogers 1995
41HR89	3	McClure 1977:11
41HR182	2	Patterson 1985, 1990a
41HR184	3	Patterson 1994
41HR206	1	Patterson 1980b
41HR233	1	Patterson and Marshall 1989
41HR240	1	McClure 1980
41HR244	1	Patterson 1979: Figure 1B
41HR259	1	McClure 1976:13
41HR315	1	Patterson 1980
41HR343	6	Patterson et al. 1992a
41HR354	4	Patterson et al. 1992b
41HR730	2	Patterson et al. 1992b
41HR732	1	Patterson et al. 1992b
41JF50	1	Turner and Tanner 1993
41MQ5	1	Shafer 1968
41SJ163	1	Patterson 1986b
41WH19	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1984: Figure 1F
41WH38	2	Patterson et al. 1994a
41WH69	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1991

(A) - Austin County collection

(B) - Fort Bend County collections

Table 3. Scottsbluff Points in Southeast Texas

site	no. of points	reference(s)
41AU1	1	Duke 1982:23
41FB249	2	Patterson 1997: Table 1
41HR5	1	Wheat 1953
41HR69	1	Ring 1994
41HR343	2	Patterson et al. 1992a
41JF50	12	Turner and Tanner 1993
41TL31	1	Kindall and Patterson 1986
41WH19	1	Hudgins and Patterson 1983
41WH69	1	Patterson and Hudgins 1991

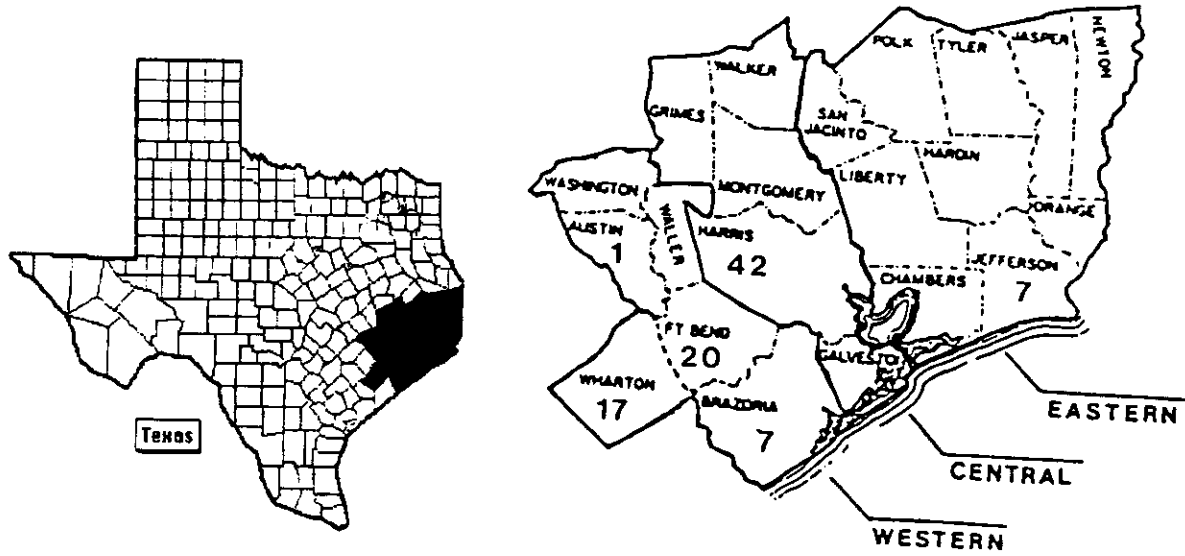


Figure 1. Distribution of Plainview points

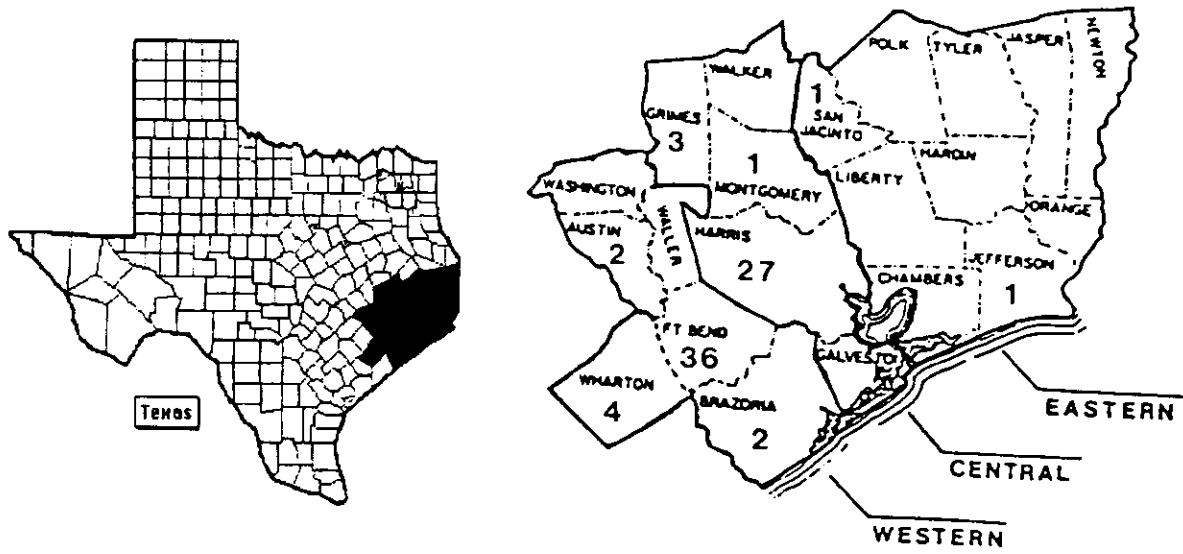


Figure 2. Distribution of Angostura points

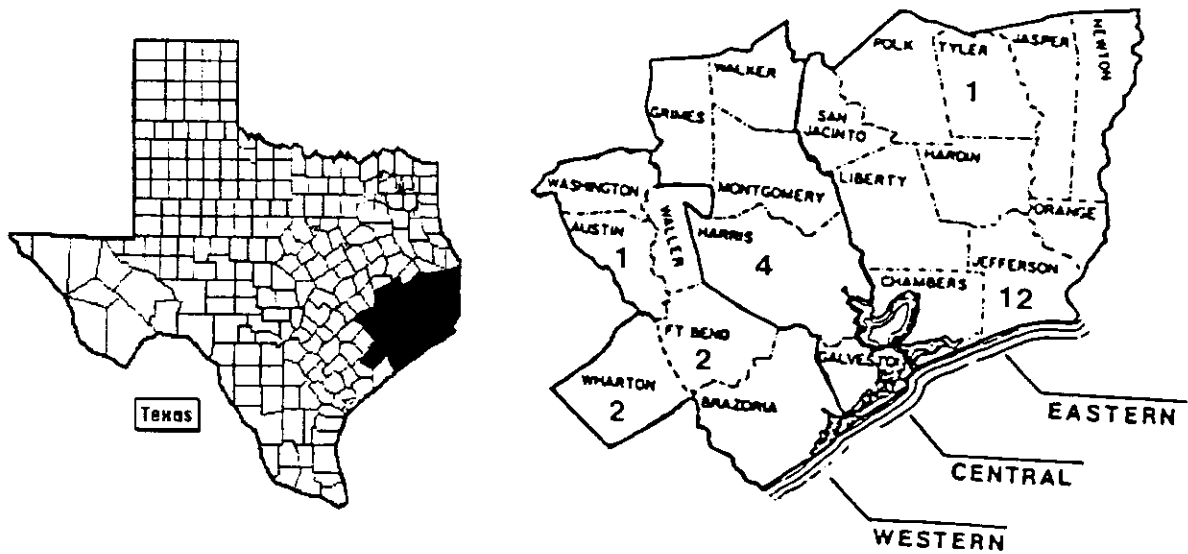


Figure 3. Distribution of Scottsbluff points

Where was Champ d'Asile ?

Jean L. Epperson

The French settlement of Champ d'Asile existed for only about five months in 1818 in east Texas on the Trinity River. The knowledge of its exact location has been lost. There have been many theories and much speculation about the geographic location of the site.

Contemporary accounts of an event are the most generally acceptable historically, except where these accounts are deliberately fictionalized and romanticized as in *L'Heroine du Texas*.¹ Hartmann and Millard's *Le Texas*, published in 1819, is by contrast an obvious attempt to relate historical fact, though perhaps somewhat embellished, by men who were there.² The travel journal of Captain Juan de Castanēda, who led the Spanish soldiers from San Antonio to apprehend the French and destroy their fortifications is the best source for identifying the location of Champ d'Asile.³ Correspondence of the time also gives an accurate picture of the people and the places.⁴

Hartmann and Millard located Champ d'Asile on the east bank of the Trinity River, referring to the river site at least six times in *Le Texas*. The map between pages 130 and 131 of their book labels the river "Trinite" (see Figure 1).⁵

Indian informants told Captain Castanēda that the location of the French settlement was six or seven leagues below Atascosito between the Trinity River and the mouth of a creek known as Cayo Gallardo. Castanēda said they crossed the Trinity River on October 12, 1818, and passed through Atascosito.

The advance scouts of the Spanish sent back word that the enemy fortifications had been abandoned, and were not at Cayo Gallardo, as previously thought, but further down on the banks of the Trinity.⁶

The site of Atascosito, well known today, is three miles northeast of the Liberty County Courthouse in the town of Liberty, on Palmer's Bayou at Woods Springs (Atascosito Springs).⁷ Cayo Gallardo corresponds to the Redmond/Shilow Creek area. El Orcoquisac, an eighteenth century site with a fort and a mission, was situated at present day Wallisville.⁸ (See Figure 2.⁹)

An analysis of the estimated distances mentioned in the contemporary literature follows. It should be remembered that travelers in 1818 had no accurate way of calculating their journeys. Hartmann and Millard said that Champ d'Asile was about 20 leagues from the Gulf of Mexico.¹⁰ It

¹G..... and F....., *L' Heroine*, (Paris: Manuel des Braves, 1819), 29. The editor proclaimed that the story was not a novel, that the facts were true, but it was in reality a romanticized fiction.

²Fanny E. Ratchford, ed., *The Story of Champ d'Asile* (Austin, Steck-Vaughn, 1969), 29; Kent Gardien, "Take Pity on Our Glory: Men of Champ d'Asile," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* (January 1984) 86:252. Gardien says that Millard may never have been at Champ d'Asile.

³Captain Juan de Castanēda to Governor Martinez, August 26, 1818, Nacogdoches Archives 18:260-266; Castanēda to Martinez, November 24, 1818, Diary of the Journey to the Lower Trinity River, Bexar Archives, Report 9, pp. 117-119

⁴Letters from the Province of Texas, New Orleans, and Philadelphia to Jean Simon Chaudron, unknown author to Monsieur Chaudron, Juin 1818, Province de Texas. Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

⁵Ratchford, 129, 139, 140, 147, 149. See also John V. Clay, *Spain, Mexico, and the Lower Trinity* (Baltimore, Gateway Press, 1987), 90.

⁶Castanēda to Martinez, August 26 and November 24, 1818, Bexar Archives.

⁷William Louis Fullen and Jean L. Epperson, *Cultural Resource Investigations of the Woods Spring Farm Property and Site 41LB 16, Liberty County, Texas* (Liberty, Liberty County Historical Commission, 1988).

⁸Curtis D. Tunnell and J. Richard Ambler, *Archeological Excavations at Presidio Augustin de Ahumada* (Austin, State Building Comm., 1967), Report 6, 5-9.

⁹Miriam Partlow, *Liberty, Liberty County, and the Atascosito District* (Liberty, Atascosito Historical Society, 1974), 42.

¹⁰Ratchford, 126.

was not stated whether this distance was by sea or by land or a combination of the two. Land and sea measures are sometimes widely different. Moss Bluff would have been 61 or 82 miles respectively from the Gulf of Mexico, using the French land league of 3.05445 miles or the nautical league of 4.3 miles.¹¹ In the nineteenth century, steamboat captains estimated the nautical distance from Galveston to Anahuac as 50 miles, Galveston to Moss Bluff as 79 miles, and Galveston to Liberty as 113 miles.¹² The mileage overland on the modern highways from Anahuac to Moss Bluff is 21.9 miles; therefore Moss Bluff would be almost 72 miles from the Gulf of Mexico by land and sea. The difference of 7 miles between land and river miles to Moss Bluff can be explained by the twisting and turning of the Trinity River channel.

It is interesting to note that the Indians told Castaneda that Champ d'Asile was 6 or 7 leagues below Atascosito. If the Spanish league of 2.6 miles is used, that would be a distance between 15.6 and 18.2 miles. Moss Bluff is actually 17.6 miles from Atascosito by the present highway.

George Graham, a United States Government envoy who visited Galveston, wrote to John Quincy Adams from Bayou Rapides (Opelousas), Louisiana, on September 9, 1818, "There is some question as to the exact location of the forts [Champ d'Asile] but they are probably located at the Orcoquisa Bluffs about 18 miles above the mouth of the Trinity."¹³

Champ d'Asile colonists Jacobo Tournelle and Vincinte Molina, natives of Spain, deserted the camp on April 9, 1818. They made their way to New Orleans where they told the Spanish authorities that they had been misled about the purpose of the colony and that they never intended to fight against the Spanish. They also said that the encampment was 12 leagues from the mouth of the Trinity. At 2.6 miles to the league, that is 31.2 miles and compares favorably with the actual mileage of 29 river miles to Moss Bluff.¹⁴

At the first bluff area upstream from the mouth of the Trinity, on the east bank, is located the small community of Moss Bluff. The next bluff, on the west bank, is Moore's Bluff, once the home of William Moore, now a pumping plant for the City of Houston for obtaining water from the river. The third bluff is 63 miles upstream on the east bank at the sizable town of Liberty.

Moss Bluff, the first high ground on the bank of the river, would have been the natural selection of weary, hungry travelers, some walking and others rowing boats from the mouth of the river. Moss Bluff was probably called Orcoquisa Bluff in 1818 because the stream just to the east of the bluff was named Arroyo de Calzones (Shilow Creek). Calzones Colorado (Red Breeches) was the chief of the Orcoquisa Indians in the 1760s during the years that the Spanish Presidio and Mission were on Lake Miller. Nathaniel Moss, a native of Louisiana for whom Moss Bluff was eventually named, did not come into the area until the early 1830s. A natural artesian spring flowing from sand at the base of the Trinity River terrace made Moss Bluff attractive for settlement. This spring still exists and flows freely today.¹⁵

Efforts were made by a historian to discredit Moss Bluff as the site of Champ d'Asile. Three reasons were given as proof.¹⁶ The first stated that Moss Bluff did not fit the distances from the mouth of the Trinity as described by the colonists Hartmann and Millard in 1819, but the foregoing information disproves this.

The second argument stated that Dave Tevis, an old-timer interviewed by Judge Price Daniel,

¹¹ Jim Glass, "Lost Measures" (Houston: unpublished manuscript, 1997); Frederick C. Mish, ed., *Webster's 9th New Collegiate Dictionary* (Springfield, Merriam-Webster Inc., 1987), 680.

¹² Partlow, 199.

¹³ Walter Prichard, ed., "George Graham's Mission to Galveston in 1818: Two Important Documents Bearing Upon Louisiana's History," *The Louisiana Historical Quarterly* (April 1937) 20:642-643.

¹⁴ Gardien, 247-250.

¹⁵ Gunnar Brune, *Springs of Texas* (Fort Worth, Branch-Smith, 1981), 1:292. Also personal observation by the author.

¹⁶ Partlow, 61.

said that R. O. W. McManus, an early resident of Moss Bluff, contended that the site of Champ d'Asile was at Liberty. McManus never lived at Moss Bluff. He lived at his plantation called Moss Point on the east bank of the Trinity close to Lake Charlotte. He immigrated to Texas in December of 1832 and died at his plantation in 1885.¹⁷ No citation for the Tevis interview is given other than "the Price Daniel file," and the written document has not been found. The interview also is said to have told the story of the "iron hole" where iron rails were buried from the railroad on the north side of the tracks at the Trinity River in Liberty. Tevis supposedly said that the Champ d'Asile site was located just south of where the railroad rails were buried. A limited archeological survey and excavation was done in 1985 at or near this site by Sheldon Kindall and other members of the Houston Archeological Society with negative results.¹⁸

The third argument stated that a noted French journalist found the site of Champ d'Asile near Liberty. The French journalist was Frederic Gaillardet who journeyed to Texas in 1838, twenty years after the demise of the French Colony. What Gaillardet was shown, by an unidentified French Canadian, was a carving on a tree, "Honneur et Patrie," which he assumed or was told marked the site of Champ d'Asile. In Gaillardet's words, the site was "not far from Liberty." How far is "not far from Liberty," one mile, five miles, fourteen miles or more? Gaillardet does not state "at Liberty."¹⁹

Various published articles over the years have placed Champ d'Asile at or near Moss Bluff. J. O. Dyer, a physician and a correspondent for the *Galveston Daily News* wrote many stories during the 1920s using information gathered locally from old settlers. Dyer, a consummate journalist who always endeavored to make a good story better, sometimes mixed his history with fantasy but was always entertaining. In a narrative about a paraplegic French soldier of Champ d'Asile, Dyer places the settlement "on the Trinity River, near the former site of the Orcoquisa village, now Moss Bluff."²⁰

Harbert Davenport, an attorney and noted historian, practiced law at Anahuac, Texas, from 1908 to 1912. In an article published in 1947 Davenport wrote that Moss Bluff was the traditional location of Lallemand's short-lived Napoleonic (sic) Colony.²¹

Where was Champ d'Asile? Most of the contemporary and much of the later evidence indicates present day Moss Bluff as the site of the French settlement.

What are the prospects in the future of finding evidence archeologically of Champ d'Asile? Some historians and others believe that the erosion of the Trinity River and the excavation of Lake Granada has probably obliterated all evidence of the settlement. A few optimistic people hope that some remnants of Champ d'Asile will be found one day.²²

¹⁷Rou Tyler, et al., eds., *The New Handbook of Texas*, 6 vols. (Austin: The Texas State Historical Assoc., 1996), 4:435.

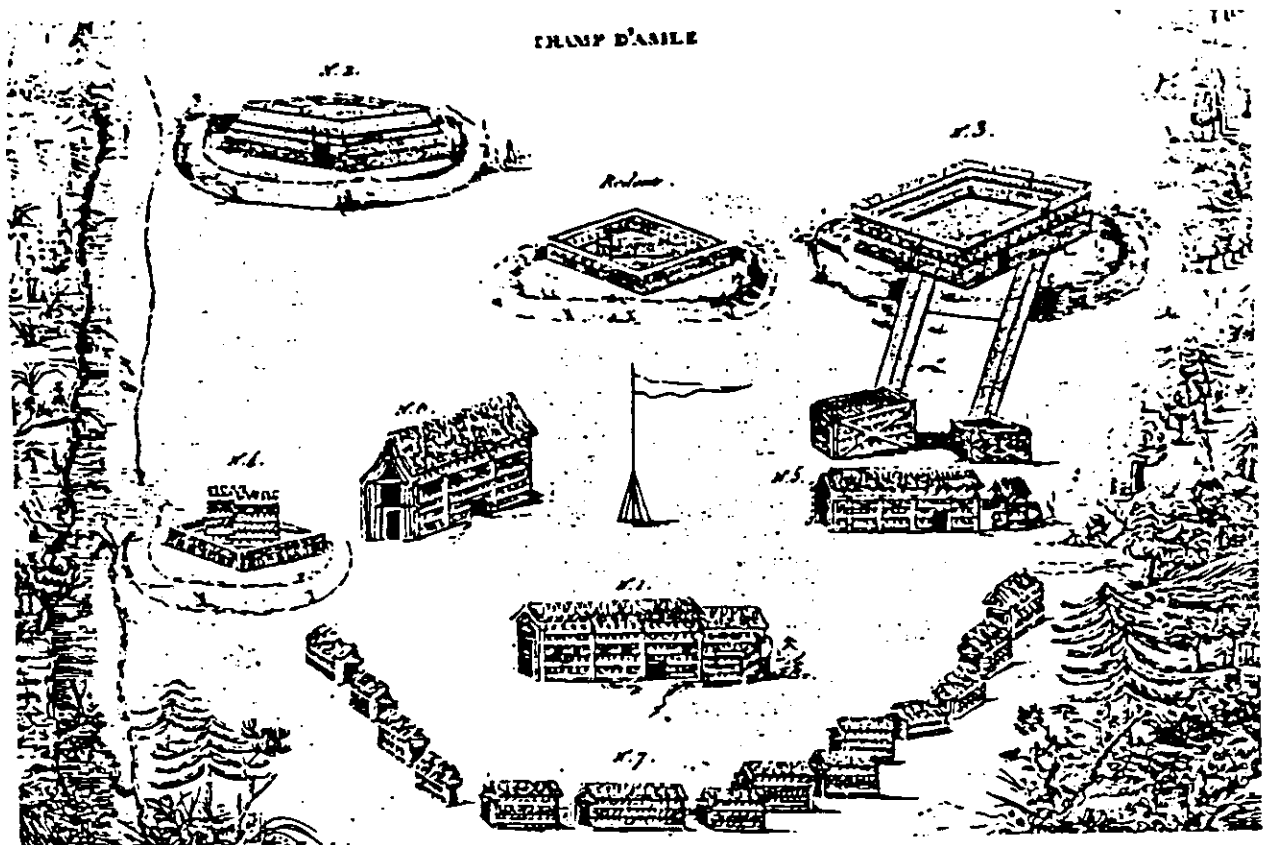
¹⁸Sheldon Kindall, letter of November 18, 1985, to Charles W. Fisher. Copy in files of the author.

¹⁹Frederic Gaillardet, *Sketches of Early Texas and Louisiana* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1966), 130-131. It has been suggested that Gaillardet's guide was Michel B. Menard, one of the founders of the City of Galveston.

²⁰J. O. Dyer, "The Story of Peg-Leg Louis," *The Galveston Daily News*, February 13, 1921.

²¹Harbert Davenport, "Geographic Notes on Spanish Texas El Orcoquisac and Los Horconsitos," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* (February 1947) 50:492.

²²Lake Granada was constructed in 1960 in the middle of the village of Moss Bluff. The Lake covers 115 acres, and is surrounded by vacation homes and camp houses today. Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Stove on August 29, 1997, and Mr. L. Q. (Bubba) Van Deventer on February 21, 1998.



French depiction of Champ d'Asile from Le Texas . . . by Hartmann and Millard (Paris, 1819).

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Habitation du général Charles Lallemand. | 5. Habitation du général Rigaud. |
| 2. Fort Charles. | 6. Magasin de vivres. |
| 3. Fort Henri. | 7. Habitation des Colons. |
| 4. Fort la Palanque. | 8. Rivière de la Trinité. |

Figure 1. Map of Champ d'Asile by Hartmann and Millard

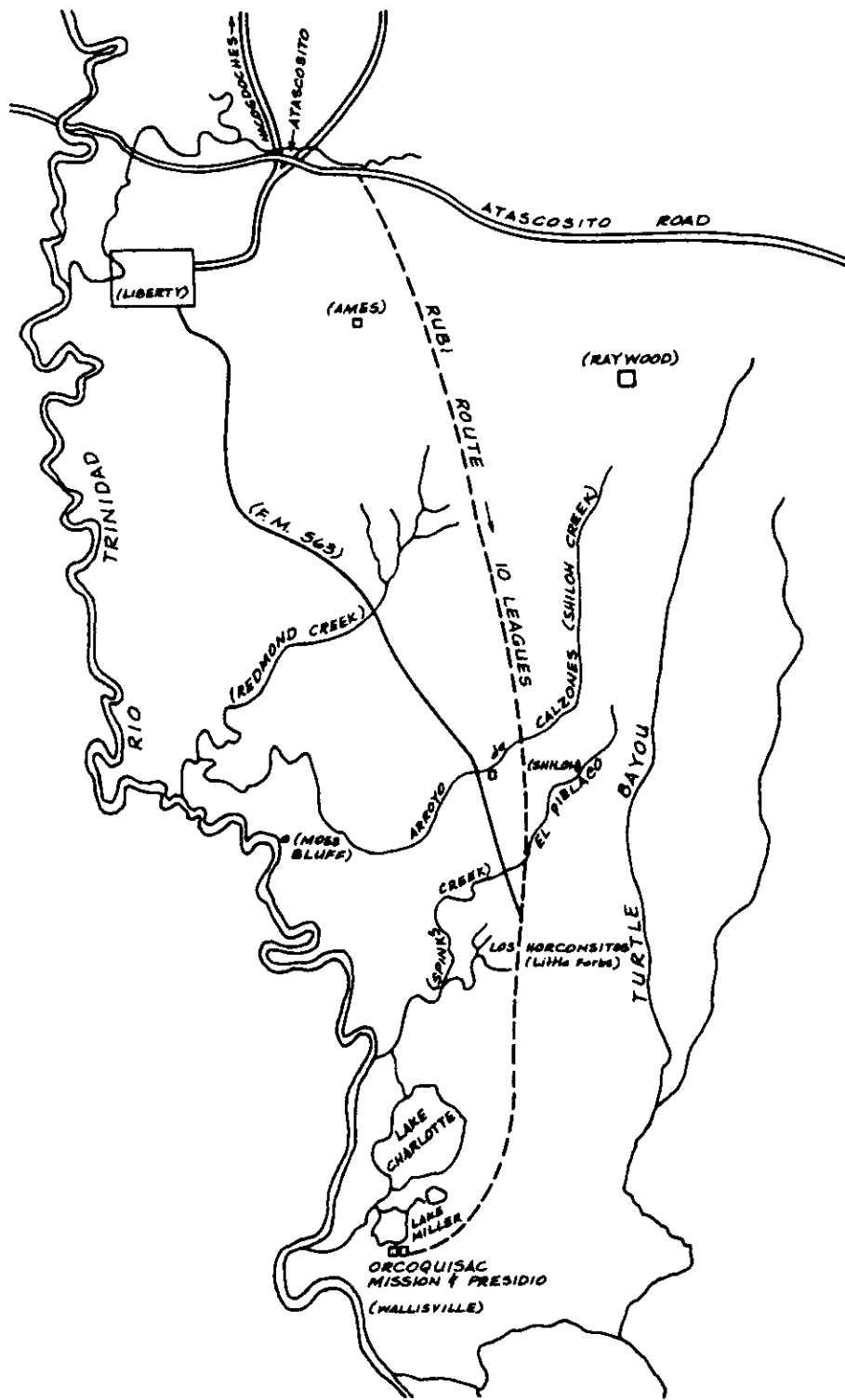


Figure 2. Map of Moss Bluff and Vicinity

Additional Lithic Artifacts from 41CH161, Chambers Co., Texas

Leland W. Patterson

Introduction

This article presents data on lithic artifacts obtained by additional excavations at site 41CH161, Chambers County, Texas. Data from the original excavations (Kindall and Patterson 1993) and from additional excavations at this site are typical for a Rangia shell midden site on the coastal margin of Southeast Texas. The lithic assemblage for site 41CH161 indicates a rather low level of lithic procurement, lithic manufacturing, and stone tool use, as would be expected in this lithic-poor area.

A high proportion of lithic artifacts from 41CH161 are from the Late Prehistoric period (AD 600-1500), although there is a preceding Early Ceramic period (AD 100-600) component of this site (Kindall and Patterson 1993), as well as a Historic Indian component from the eighteenth century. Some of the surface-collected dart points might also be related to the Late Archaic period (1500 BC-AD 100), but this cannot be shown with available data.

It is noted here that the stratigraphy is not uniform for all excavation pits, which reflects the uneven temporal nature of cultural deposits over the large area of this site.

Projectile Points

Projectile points are summarized in Table 1 and illustrated in Figure 1, including a small Kent dart point from the site surface, and arrow points from pits Y and Z. All dart points from this site were found by surface collecting at the eroded lake edge. Most dart points are probably from the Early Ceramic period (AD 100-600), although there is a possibility that some of the specimens could be from the Late Archaic period (1500 BC-AD 100). Dart points found during previous work at this site include a Williams-like point, a Kent stem, a dart point tip, and a crude Gary point (Kindall and Patterson 1993: Table 1).

Arrow points from pits Y and Z include 3 Perdiz, 2 unifacial, 1 miniature, and a straight stem from an Alba point. One unifacial arrow point (Figure 1H) looks like a small crude dart point, but with a thickness of 3 mm and a weight of 2.3 gm, this specimen can be classified as an arrow point (Patterson 1985). The miniature arrow point (Figure 1D) may represent the use of very small flakes to make arrow points in a lithic-poor area. An alternate interpretation of the miniature arrow points is children's toys (Dawe 1997). One Perdiz point (Figure 1F) has an irregular projection on a lateral edge of the blade which may not have yet been removed to complete the point. Six Perdiz points have previously been found at this site (Kindall and Patterson 1993: Table 1), so that the total of Perdiz points from this site is now nine. The use of standardized bifacial arrow point types, such as Perdiz and Alba, started in Southeast Texas about AD 600 (Aten 1983:306).

A significant proportion of projectile points at site 41CH161 are made of petrified wood or fine-grain quartzite. As shown in Table 1, 2 points are made of chert, 2 of quartzite, and 4 of petrified wood. This reflects a preference for lithic procurement from the Trinity River basin rather than procurement of chert from the more distant Brazos River area. There is also a possibility that Indians of the coastal margin of Southeast Texas scavenged lithic materials from sites slightly farther inland, because inland Indians used more lithic materials.

General Lithics

Few unifacial stone tools were found at this site. There is a perforator from pit Z at 10-15 cm (Figure 1I), and a graver from pit Z at 5-10 cm (Figure 1J). Two scrapers and two graters have been previously found here (Kindall and Patterson 1993:3). Coastal margin sites in Southeast Texas, such as 41CH161, are in a lithic-poor area. Bone and shell tools were often used instead of stone tools (Aten 1983).

A summary of lithic flakes from pits Y and Z is given in Table 2. The recovery of very small flakes, under 10 mm square, was possible through the use of fine-mesh screens. There are 97.2% of flakes under 15 mm square. This high proportion of very small flakes indicates that the main lithic manufacturing activity was pressure flaking of small flake blanks to make arrow points. For example, at Late Prehistoric site 41HR745, where arrow points were produced, over 80% of the flakes found were of sizes under 15 mm square (Patterson 1993).

Sandstone Artifacts

Two pieces of sandstone were found by surface collecting. One piece is flat, with dimensions of 80 by 60 by 23 mm. The other piece is ellipsoidal, with a length of 30 mm and a diameter of 20 mm. These two specimens have smooth surfaces, and may have been used as abrading tools, perhaps to manufacture bone tools.

Comments on Site Formation

It is apparent from the stratigraphy of the four main excavation pits at site 41CH161 that the buildup of cultural materials did not occur in a uniform manner over all areas of this site. For example, there is an Early Ceramic period radiocarbon date of AD 290 for shell from a depth of 45 cm in pit E (Kindall and Patterson 1993:4). In contrast, arrow points from the later Late Prehistoric period are found as deep as 50-55 cm in pit Z (Table 1). This probably indicates that various occupation events at this large site occurred in different areas, with only portions of the site being used at any given time. As a result, cultural deposits have an uneven temporal sequence in different parts of the site.

Summary

Lithic artifact types found in excavations at site 41CH161 are typical of artifact types found in lithic assemblages at shell midden sites on the coastal margin of Southeast Texas. Also, the low level of lithic manufacturing and stone tool use at 41CH161 is typical of sites in this subregion of Southeast Texas. Data for the lithic assemblage from excavations at 41CH161 are another contribution to the archeological data base for the coastal margin of this region.

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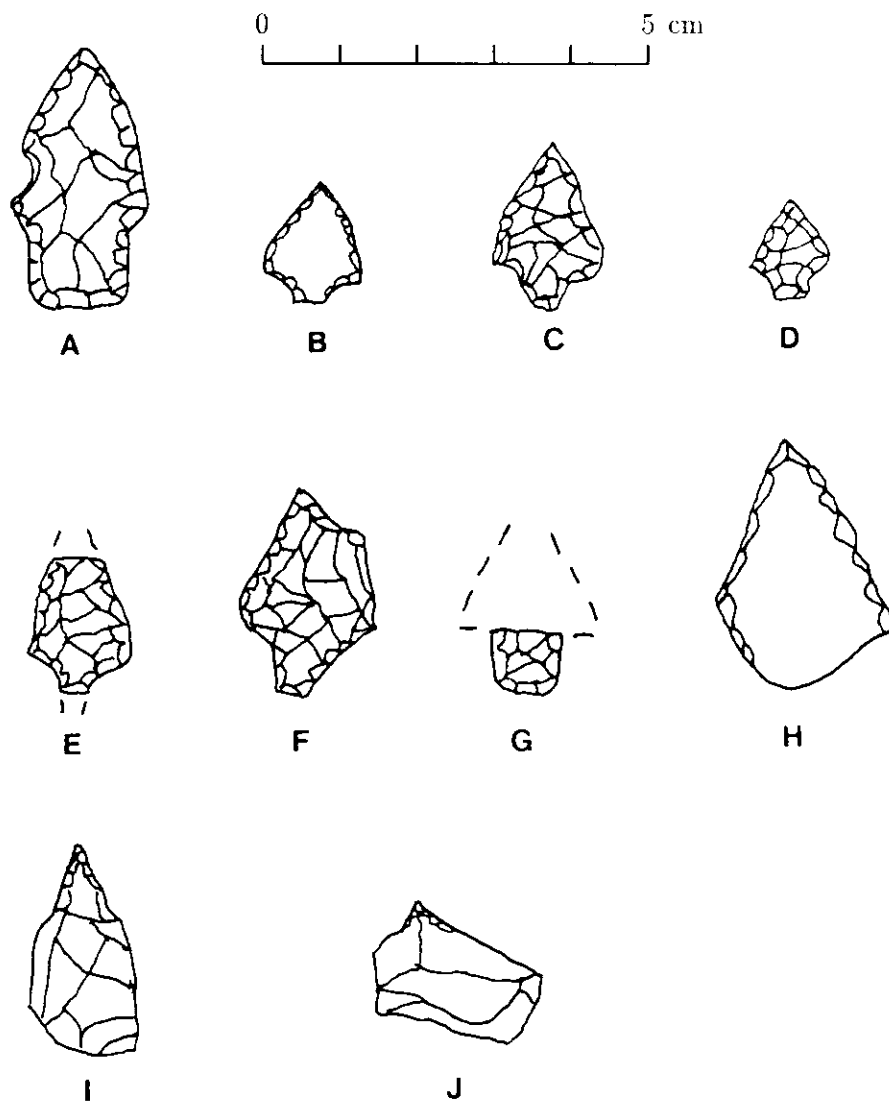
Table 1. Projectile Points

type	pit	level, cm	dimensions, mm			Fig.	material
			L	W	T		
Kent		surface	33.7	16.2	4.5	1A	C
unifacial arrow pt.	Y	20-25	15.4	11.7	2.1	1B	Q
Perdiz	Y	20-25	21.7	13.0	3.6	1C	Q
miniature	Y	25-30	13.0	9.2	1.9	1D	P
Perdiz	Z	35-40		13.4	5.0	1E	P
Perdiz	Z	45-50	25.6	17.5	3.8	1F	P
Alba stem	Z	50-55			2.6	1G	C
unifacial arrow pt.	Z	50-55	32.2	23.2	3.0	1H	P

C - chert, P - petrified wood, Q - quartzite

Table 2. Lithic Flakes from Pits Y and Z

level, cm	flake size, mm square						total
	under 6	6-8	8-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	
0-5	1	1	1				3
5-10	2			1	1		4
10-15	2	4	1	4		1	12
15-20	12	1	3		1		17
20-25	12	1	2	2	1	1	19
25-30	47	9	3	5	2		66
30-35	132	25	2	9	1		169
35-40	3	1	2	7	1	1	15
40-45							
45-50	10	4	7	8			29
50-55	33	7	1	10	2		53
55-60	23	5	4	1			33
60-65	1	1					2
	<u>278</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>422</u>



A – Kent point; B,H – unifacial arrow points; C,E,F – Perdiz points;
 D – miniature arrow point; G – Alba point stem; I – perforator; J – graver

Figure 1. Lithic Artifacts, 41CH161