

Processing Artifacts from the Cotton Field Site – 12th and 23rd April, 2016

As anyone who has ever done archeology will tell you, excavating a site is only a small part of the project. Once artifacts have been recovered from a site they must be washed, dried, documented and catalogued. The Houston Archeological Society is in the process of processing the artifacts from the Cotton Field site in Columbus, Texas. On April 12, Dr. Gus Costa, HAS lab director, supervised a group of HAS members at a lab at Rice University.



A crew from HAS washes artifacts from Cotton Field at the lab at Rice University



Dr. Jason Barrett, (right) oversees volunteers washing artifacts at the Rice lab.



Marcel Frey and Adela Franco wash and sort artifacts at Rice lab.



Nathan Palmer and John Lumb washing artifacts at the Rice Lab.

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When the fieldwork scheduled for April 23 and 24, 2016 at Cotton Field was cancelled due to very wet conditions at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Dr. Jason Barrett and Dr. Gus Costa decided to put together an impromptu lab session at Linda Gorski's home in the Montrose to continue processing the Cotton Field artifacts. It was a beautiful day so a lab was set up outside.



Canopies and tables were set up in the driveway of Linda Gorski's house.



John Rich, Nathan Palmer and Beth Aucoin wash artifacts.



Landowners Rita Tait and Ed Jackson drove over from Columbus to take part in the lab.



Dr. Jason Barrett catalogues artifacts that have already been washed.



Bob Sewell, Sharon Menegaz and Tom Williams wash and sort Cotton Field artifacts.



Rita Tait Jackson brushes bone.

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Tom Williams and Gus Costa go over a large map of the Cotton Field site that Tom has designed.



Louis Aulbach and Jason google an artifact



Artifacts drying on screens



John Rich and Catherine Jalbert sorting artifacts.



Scallorn after being washed.



Louis Aulbach, John Rich and Nathan Palmer