



March 19th 2015 Meeting Program

The Last WWI Concrete Airplane in Texas Dr. Alan Skinner

Calling all World War I history buffs!!!!

The discovery in a North Texas pasture of an airplane-shaped “watering trough” made of concrete led to the realization that this previously unrecognized structure was an airplane silhouette practice target used in the training of US Air Service pilots and gunners at Taliaferro Air Field during World War I. The Houston Archeological Society’s March 19th program will feature a presentation highlighting this structure by archeologist, Dr. Alan Skinner. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas and is free of charge and open to the public.

The Taliaferro target has a wingspan of almost forty feet and is almost thirty feet from nose to tail. The 1918 issues of the base newspaper, the *Taliaferro Target*, mention that twenty of these “Reinburg” targets had been constructed. Damascus twist steel rebar reinforced the concrete and along with machine gun bullets manufactured at the Frankfort Pennsylvania Arsenal in 1915 confirm the construction date. The target has been fenced off by the property owner and a Texas Historical Commission marker is to be installed. This is apparently the only confirmed World War I Reinburg target known to be preserved and recorded in the United States.



Dr. Alan Skinner has been doing archaeology in Texas and other parts of the Southwest for more than four decades and is actively involved in directing investigations throughout the states of Texas and Oklahoma. He graduated from the University of New Mexico and received his PhD from Southern Methodist University. He has worked on prehistoric and historic sites throughout Texas. He has directed five summer field schools in archeology for the Texas Archeological Society and continues to work with avocational archaeologists throughout the state. Skinner also developed the archaeology merit badge for the Boy Scouts of America. Skinner continues to publish in local, regional, and national journals.

For a campus map of St. Thomas University, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking (\$2) in Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message

HAS Members and Friends –

As many of you know, we recently completed an emergency salvage archeological project at the Kellum Noble house in downtown Houston (see report on page 5 of this newsletter). I posted a few photos on Facebook last week highlighting one of our last days on the job and a member posted the following comment that pretty much sums up the Houston Archeological Society:

'It's wonderful to see such teamwork in full motion, but even better is the lasting friendships that come out of it.'

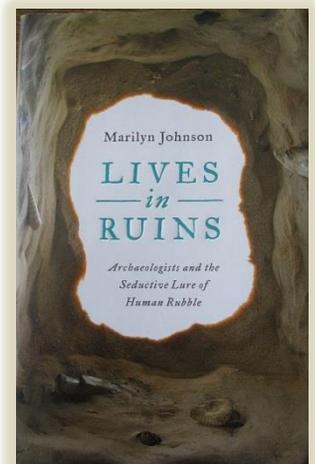
I think that every one of us who has participated in any recent HAS project – Dimond Knoll, San Jacinto, Tait Ranch, Kellum Noble – has experienced the same sense of teamwork, friendship and belonging to an organization that is redefining the history and archeology of the Houston area!!! Thanks to all of you who have made each of these HAS projects so successful.

And it's because of our shared passion for archeology that I want to recommend a book that I just read and LOVED (thanks Dr. Jason Barrett for giving it to me as a Christmas gift!). It's called *Lives in Ruins: Archaeologists and the Seductive Lure of Human Rubble*. It was written by a woman named Marilyn Johnson and it is hands down one of the best books I've read on archeology in a really really long time. Here's a review from Amazon.com

Marilyn Johnson's Lives in Ruins is an absorbing and entertaining look at the lives of contemporary archaeologists as they sweat under the sun for clues to the puzzle of our past. Johnson digs and drinks alongside archaeologists, chases them through the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, and even Machu Picchu, and excavates their lives. Her subjects share stories we rarely read in history books, about slaves and Ice Age hunters, ordinary soldiers of the American Revolution, children of the first century, Chinese woman warriors, sunken fleets, mummies.

What drives these archaeologists is not the money (meager) or the jobs (scarce) or the working conditions (dangerous), but their passion for the stories that would otherwise be buried and lost.

Doesn't this describe all of us??? Her book also highlights the friendships and teamwork she experienced in all the archeological projects she worked on while writing the book. Anyway, here's some exciting news (and you are among the first to hear it). Dr. Jason suggested that I ask Marilyn Johnson to be the speaker at the Public Forum on Friday night, October 23rd at the 86th Annual Texas Archeological Society Meeting that will be held here in Houston at the Omni Westside ... and she has agreed! I've had several conversations with Marilyn and I guarantee this is going to be one of the best talks ever! So snag a copy of this great read now so she can sign it for you in October!



Any questions about any of our upcoming projects please email me back at lindagorski@cs.com. And thanks for your support of HAS!

Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society

Minutes

Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting

February 12th, 2015

- Introduction (Linda Gorski)
 - President Linda Gorski called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests. There were a total of 72 attendees signed in.
- Treasurers Report (Tom Nuckols)
 - Checking Account: \$6,654.66 Savings Account: \$11,958.17
- Membership
 - Our membership drive for 2015 began on November 1. Applications are online or in the lobby. 95 application forms have been received covering 127 members. If you joined in the fourth quarter of 2014 you are good for 2015. All renewing members receive a bumper sticker.
- HAS Journals for 2015
 - Dub Crook announced that there are likely to be two Journals published in 2015. Copies of #133 and Powell Report in back for distribution to members. Also available on Amazon.com
- Timber Fawn Walking Survey
 - Dub Crook gave an update on the Timber Fawn Site in North East Houston. Several Clovis-era artifacts have been found where a new subdivision is being built. Dub obtained permission from the construction company to conduct a walk of the site.
- Projects (Linda Gorski)
 - **Kellum Noble House Screening Project** – HAS responded to a request from the Texas Historical Commission to conduct an emergency salvage archeology project at the Kellum Noble House in Sam Houston Park where extensive foundation repair is being undertaken. We have been working on this since December 13 – 14 and our very last weekend for screening is 20 – 22 February. Emails to follow.
 - **Camp Logan Foundation Features** Have had to cancel three last scheduled hikes due to high water, mud and weather. Will email everyone on list when reschedule. Please contact Linda for more details.
 - **Paleontology Dig** – Sign-up sheet in the back. Ken Thies will contact interested parties when they schedule their work. Should start up this spring.
 - **TAS Archeology 101 Academy** – March 27– 29, 2015, Columbus, Texas. If you have never taken classes in Archeology, this is a great way to learn. HAS volunteers will help with the fieldwork portion on Sunday, 29th March, 2015 at the Tait Ranch. More information to follow.
 - **San Jacinto Screening Project** – The next visit to the site will be on 14th February, 2015. Contact Linda Gorski for details.
 - **Elysian Viaduct/Frosttown Project** - Still in permit phase. Work has started on the north side of Buffalo Bayou. The project we will be helping with is on the south side of the Bayou.
 - **Preliminary Fieldwork for 2015 Field School** - will begin in March after hunting season and after Dr. Jason Barrett returns from a project in Guatemala.
 - **TAS Field School** - dates for 2015 have been announced – June 13 – 20, 2015 at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas.
 - **TAS Annual Meeting** – 23-25 October, 2015 in Houston. HAS will be Sue Gross at suegbobs@comcast.com
- Program for February, 2015. A World War I Concrete Airplane: The discovery in a North Texas pasture of an airplane-shaped “watering trough” made of concrete led to the realization that this previously unrecognized structure was an airplane silhouette practice target used in the training of US Air Service pilots and gunners at Taliaferro Air Field during World War I.
- HAS member Gordon Houston presented a program on archaeoastronomy. His presentation focused on Paint Rock, the largest pictograph site in Texas, which is located on the Campbell Ranch.

After the meeting members and guests gathered for a social with refreshments brought by many of our members.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19th, 2015.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society

AN UPDATE ON THE TIMBER FAWN CLOVIS SITE

Wilson W. Crook, III

Since our last monthly meeting, there have been several developments regarding our work at the Timber Fawn Clovis site in Kingwood. When we conducted our surface survey of the site on February 4, Mr. Robert Hulburt, the land development manager for KB Home, informed us that the dirt that produced the artifacts had originally been excavated from near the entrance of the new Rivergrove subdivision. As such, on February 19, Linda Gorski and I returned to the site to take more photographs, obtain GPS coordinates for the original site location, and explore the residual dirt piles at the entrance to the subdivision. This survey produced an additional five artifacts including the base of a Clovis point, a well-made end-scraper, and three fragments of Clovis blades. Moreover, we recovered the first faunal remains from the site including three small enamel fragments from either mammoth or mastodon teeth and a highly weathered piece of turtle shell. A photo of the Clovis basal fragment appears below.



The finds bring the total number of recovered artifacts from the site to 24 including the bases to two Clovis points, two large bifaces, the parts of eight prismatic blades, three snub-nosed end-scrapers - two of which are made from blades, the bit end of an adze, the broken half of an engraved gorget, one hammer stone, and six worked flakes. Nineteen (79 percent) of the artifacts are constructed from chert with the remaining five (21 percent) from local quartzite.

Preliminary measurements on the three complete Clovis blades from the site utilizing the methodology pioneered by Collins (1999) shows that they share strong affinities with blades from other Texas Clovis sites including

Gault (41BL323), Keven Davis (41NV659), Pavo Real (41BX52) and others. This includes characteristic features of Clovis blades such as small striking platforms and a high degree of curvature.

Many of the chert artifacts fluoresce a strong yellow-orange color under both short and long-wave UV radiation, which is characteristic of cherts from the Edwards Plateau. As such, future studies are being planned to conduct detailed trace element geochemistry on the artifacts utilizing portable X-Ray Fluorescence (pXRF) technology. It is hoped that these analyses will be able to determine a more specific provenance of the cherts (i.e. where within the Edwards Plateau they originated from) which may shed more light on the relationship of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Timber Fawn site to those from Clovis contexts elsewhere in Texas.

Collins, Michael B.
1999 *Clovis Blade Technology*. The University of Texas Press, Austin.

Kellum Noble House Update

Our final two days of work at the Kellum Noble House in downtown Houston, February 20 and 21, were hugely successful! Not only did many HAS members show up to work, we also had six students from Rosehill Christian School in Cypress AND Jay Roussel, President of the Fort Bend Archeological Society on hand to haul and screen dirt. We also had several new members join us for this first time! We worked hard, but had a blast!



Thanks to everyone's help, we finished screening dirt from Room 5 that had been piled along the southeast fence. It was a huge pile and it took us several days to screen! But we did it!



For those of you who are new to this newsletter, please check out the February issue at <http://www.txhas.org/PDF/newsletters/2015/2015%20February%20Profile.pdf> for background information on the Kellum Noble project and http://www.txhas.org/kellum_noble_house_bulletins.html for photo albums that have been posted to the Houston Archeological Society website about the project.

Our terrific member John Rich has also posted a fabulous photo album of artifacts recovered at the site here <https://picasaweb.google.com/JohnRich3rd/Archeology1847KellumNobleHouse?feat=directlink> showing the project from beginning to end including photos of many artifacts recovered at the site.

Thanks to every single one of you who participated in this project to make it such a huge success. All the artifacts you recovered are being cleaned, sorted, catalogued and bagged by HAS member Beth Aucoin and her team including Charlie Gordy and Tracy Connell. We plan to write a report on this very important project which will shed new light on the history of the oldest masonry house in Houston standing on its original foundation – the 1847 Kellum Noble House.



Archeology 101 Class in Columbus

Archeology 101 is a Texas Archeology Academy session that provides an introduction to archeology. It begins on Friday, March 27, 5 - 8:30 PM (light refreshments), continue on Saturday 9 AM - 4 PM (includes lunch) and goes to the field on Sunday 8:30 AM - 3 PM. No previous experience in archeology is necessary.

This Academy will introduce basic archeological procedures. Instruction will include identifying archeological sites, mapping remains, analyzing evidence, reporting finds, and protecting our heritage. The class sessions will be taught by Dr. Jon Lohse and held at St. Anthony's Catholic School. Field work on the Tait property will be supervised by Dr. Jason Barrett assisted by Houston Archeological Society and Brazosport Archeological Society. We also will learn about the archeological collection from Tait properties from Rita Tait-Jackson.

Previous participants in Archeology 101 answered a survey as follows: "what I learned - how archeology works; how artifacts tell a story; and the importance of mapping." They also explained: "what I liked - it was easy, step by step; the wealth of information, quality of manual and presentation; and nice people."

Deadline for registration is March 10.

The registration fee (\$100) plus TAS membership is for two and 1/2 days instruction with refreshments and includes a digital manual (100 pp.). A certificate of participation will be awarded to attendees. Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit is available for teachers as approved by the Texas State Board of Education Certification (SBEC). No previous archeological experience is needed to enjoy these sessions.

To register, visit www.txarch.org/Activities/academy/aa2015/

Several full scholarships for local folks including membership in TAS have been designated for the Columbus Academy. Deadline for scholarship application is Feb. 10. Contact 800 377-7240 or pamwheatstranahan@gmail.com for more information.

2015 Archeological Field School PREP Series
Presented by the Fort Bend Archeological Society

Do you want to get more out of Field School this year?

Every year the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) sponsors an archeological excavation to provide training in disciplined archeological techniques. Young and old from all over Texas come to work and learn. This year's Field School is in near-by Columbus, Tx, and FBAS is a co-sponsor.

Learn More in this informative 4 part series
For information, contact jay.roussel@1791.com

4 Part Series to prepare for Field School

March 17th 7PM: Archeology and Field School Basics
At the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy



April 4th 1PM: Stone Tool and Weapon Hands-on Workshop
At the Tyree House (*limited space. Reservation and fee required to participate*)

April 21st 7PM: Pre-Historic Features of Columbus, Tx by Dr. Jason Barrett
At the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy

May 19th 7PM: History and Archeology of San Felipe De Austin by Bryan McAuley
At the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy



2015 Battle of San Jacinto Symposium



2015 BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO SYMPOSIUM
A CLASH OF CULTURES
American Indians in Spanish, Mexican and Anglo Texas History



Who were the Native Americans who lived in the land we now call Texas? How did they react when Spaniards, Mexicans, Anglo-Americans and, yes, other Indians, made their way onto – some say “invaded” – their lands? How did these interactions affect the development of Texas under Spain, Mexico, Republic of Texas and the United States?
Six scholars at the 15th annual San Jacinto Symposium break this complex subject into manageable pieces: Indian sovereignties; the Caddo tribes; the Plains tribes; the Alabama-Coushatta, Cherokee and other immigrant tribes; and the Cynthia Ann Parker case and its mythology.



Saturday, April 18, 2015
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
The United Way Community Resource Center
50 Waugh Drive
Houston, TX 77007
\$65 covers speakers, lunch, parking, exhibits and more

Image courtesy
Texas State Library
and Archives
Commission.

For more information visit the [Friends of San Jacinto Symposium](#) 2015 website.

2015 SAN JACINTO DAY FESTIVAL AND BATTLE REENACTMENT

Celebration caps 75th Anniversary of the Opening of the San Jacinto Monument and Museum

Houston, TX — The largest battle reenactment in the state is the centerpiece of the admission-free [San Jacinto Day Festival](#), held on Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the grounds surrounding the San Jacinto Monument. The reenactment recreates the events leading up to Texas winning its independence from Mexico 179 years ago at the decisive Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

The festival is a full day of entertainment, vendors, food, family activities, cultural exhibitors, games and fun set amidst living history: music and dancing on two stages featuring country-western bands, flamenco dancers, Native American presentations, square dancers and much more; 15+ food vendors; make-and-take activities and crafts for children; children’s train; petting zoo; medicine wagon show; birds of prey; weavers, spinners, blacksmiths and other demonstrators; and dozens of unique hand-crafted items for sale.

“We are so proud to continue to present this festival with free admission, free shuttles and free parking to the public, and it would not be possible without our presenting sponsor H-E-B, as well as The Dow Chemical Company, Vopak, Pasadena Strawberry Festival and LyondellBasell,” says Larry Spasic, San Jacinto Museum of History President. “Just as important are our partners who help us coordinate this event, including TPWD, the volunteers from San Jacinto College and Deer Park ISD, Clean Harbors, KHOU, La Porte EMS and Hampton Inn Deer Park.”

The event is coordinated by the [San Jacinto Museum of History Association](#) with the assistance of [Texas Parks & Wildlife](#) and the [San Jacinto Volunteers](#) reenactors.

Camp Logan

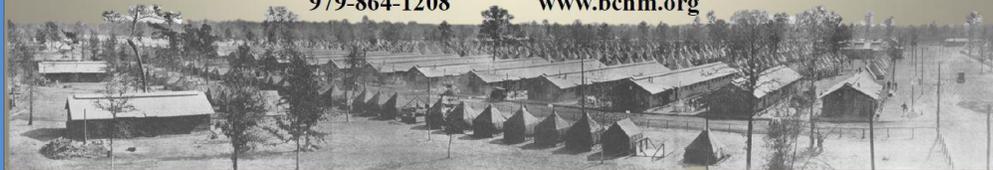
A WWI Archeological Site

Thursday, March 26th at 6:30pm

Guest Speaker

Linda Gorski & Louis Aulbach
with the Houston Archeological Society

Brazoria County Historical Museum
100 East Cedar, Angleton TX 77515
979-864-1208 www.bchm.org



Upcoming Presentations by HAS member Wilson 'Dub' Crook

HAS member Dub Crook is one of the Society's most prominent and interesting speakers. He presented a program last month at the Fort Bend Archeological Society monthly meeting on the Peopling of the Americas that attracted one of the biggest crowds FBAS has had in a long time! And on Thursday 15th May, 2015, we are about to hear the third in his trilogy of presentations on his archeological projects on the East Fork of the Trinity River.

Below is a list of presentations that Dub will be giving in the next couple of months. Except for the one on March 10th which is open only to ExxonMobil retirees, all are free and open to the public.

Tuesday, March 10, Lake Houston Chapter of ExxonMobil Retirees on "Recent Archeological Evidence from Jericho and Ai"

Friday, March 13, First Presbyterian Church, Kingwood on "The Global Travel Experiences of Dub Crook", 12:00 noon

Thursday, March 19, Allen Public Library, Allen, Texas on "Peopling of the Americas" 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 13, Lone Star Community College (159 North) on "Peopling of the Americas" 1:00 p.m. (must register on their website for class but free to attend). See page 18 of the Lone Star Catalog for Spring 2015 at http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/ce/ALL_scheduleSpring2015.pdf

Thursday, May 15, Houston Archeological Society monthly meeting on "East Fork Ground Stone Tools" (7:00 p.m., MD Anderson Hall, University of St. Thomas, free and open to the public).

For more information about these presentations contact Dub at dubcrook@kingwoodcable.com

Dub also has a fantastic new article in the Journal of Texas Archeology and History entitled Ceramic Types from Late Prehistoric Sites Along the East Fork of the Trinity River. You can find a link to the article here: http://jtah.org/?utm_content=buffer9c52f&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Houston Archeological Society

Monthly Meeting Programs for 2015

**7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)
M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University**

April 16, 2015

Jan DeVault will discuss "Archives, Archeology, and the Fair Sex: the Challenge of Reclaiming the San Jacinto Battleground." Jan's presentation will explore the role of archives and historical research in determining prospective archeological targets and how much of the early efforts of preserving the records of the battle and reclaiming the land was led by women. She authored *The Ladies and the Battlefield*, a book about the early preservation effort of women at the San Jacinto Battlefield. DeVault was appointed by Governor George W. Bush to a six-year term on the San Jacinto Historical Advisory Board and reappointed by Governor Rick Perry. She is currently a director of the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy.

May 21, 2015

Wilson W. "Dub" Crook will complete his series on archeological surveys on the East Fork of the Trinity River with a program entitled *Mano a Mano: East Fork Ground Stone Tools*. Manos and metates are consistent components of the artifact assemblage of most Late Prehistoric sites. They are typically associated with grinding grain, such as maize, to make flour. However, a great deal more information can be obtained by analyzing these oft overlooked stone tools. Using the East Fork manos and metates as an example, Dub Crook will demonstrate the type of information that can be gained from an analysis of ground stone tools.

June – NO MEETING DUE TO TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD SCHOOL

July 16, 2015 –

Dr. Jason W. Barrett will present a wrap up report on the 2015 TAS Field School at the Tait Ranch in Columbus, Texas.

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS see our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/>

Lab Dates for March 2015

There will be two labs in March on Monday the 16th and the 30th. We will continue processing artifacts salvaged from the historic Kellum-Noble House project until finished and then transition back to the Marshall Black artifacts. All HAS members are welcome to attend lab and participate.

We hope to see you Monday evening, from 7-9 p.m., Room 103 (lower level), Sewall Hall, Rice University. Founders Court/Visitor Parking is directly across from Sewall Hall and requires a credit or debit card for access. (Cost is about \$3.50/hour.) Visit www.rice.edu/maps for a map of the campus and the parking area. Any member wishing to be included on the lab e-mail list should contact Melissa May @ smay10@comcast.net.

Melissa May
Lab Director

“Institutional” Membership Proposal to be presented at March 2015 meeting

A reminder that the HAS membership will be voting on the necessary updates to the HAS Constitution and Standing Rules in order to include an ‘Institutional’ membership category. Here is a repeat of the article from the February 2015 issue of *The Profile*.

HAS recently received several inquiries regarding the possibility of HAS offering “Institutional” membership. The Board would be pleased to offer this category of membership. Institutional membership would enable the institute to receive one copy of the HAS Journal and Report(s). In addition, up to 5 named members of the Institute would be added to our informational and Newsletter distribution lists. Membership dues would be \$25.

Unfortunately, neither the Constitution (Article III, Section 3) nor the Standing Rules specify “Institutional” as a membership category. In order to include “Institutional” as a valid category into these documents will require the approval of the HAS membership. Therefore, the Board will present this proposal to the HAS members for approval at the March 2015 meeting.

Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than March 27th for the April 2015 issue.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ARCHEOLOGY IN THIS AREA, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

Linda Gorski, President, president@txhas.org

Louis Aulbach, Vice President, vpresident@txhas.org

Tom Nuckols, Treasurer, treasurer@txhas.org

Bob Sewell, Secretary, secretary@txhas.org

Kathleen Hughes, Director-at-Large, dal_b@txhas.org

Don Keyes, Director-at-Large, dal_c@txhas.org

Mike Woods Director-at-Large, dal_a@txhas.org

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Don Keyes, Region V Director, keyes_don@hotmail.com

AREA TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ARCHEOLOGY STEWARDS

Elizabeth & Pat Aucoin, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net

Louis Aulbach, lfa1@att.net

Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251

Linda Gorski, lindagorski@cs.com

Richard L. Gregg, rlgregg7@att.net

Marilyn & Walter Horton, mh3839@gmail.com

Joe D. Hudgins, manso@jdhudgins.com

Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com

Brenda Jackson, brendajacks1@yahoo.com

Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com

Sheldon Kindall, kindall1@peoplepc.com

Bev Mendenhall, bmend2@yahoo.com

Tom Nuckols, tnuckols58@att.net

Sandra & Johnny Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net

Sandra E. Rogers (Sandy), sojourne@att.net

Gary Ryman, gtkryman@gmail.com

Steve Salyer, salyer4@hotmail.com

The Profile

Houston Archeological Society
PO Box 130631
Houston, TX 77219-0631
Return Service Requested