



Houston Archeological Society Meeting, March 14, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Trini Mendenhall Community Center

Dave Dyer presents *The Road to San Jacinto: Retracing the Route of Sam Houston's Army*

Greetings HAS members! Our March monthly HAS meeting will take place on Thursday, March 14, 2024, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center. This meeting will be held in person and will also be available to members via Zoom. Later, the lecture will be posted and available to the public via our YouTube channel.

***Please note that this meeting takes place a week earlier than usual due to our Kirbee Kiln schedule. Additionally, all attendees are invited to bring historical or archeology-related maps to a show-and-tell display.**

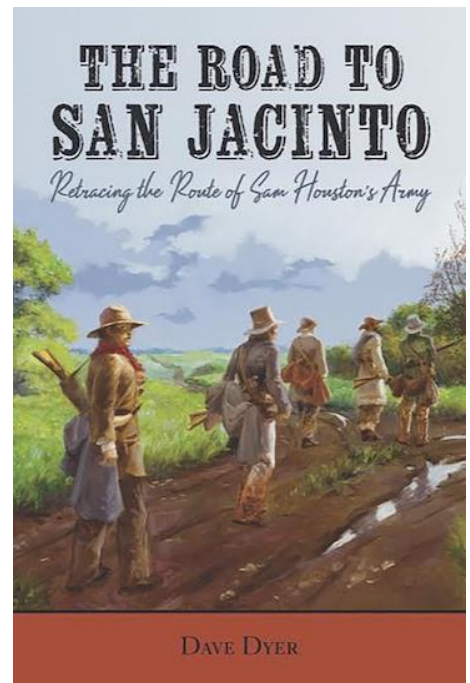


As our speaker, we welcome HAS member Dave Dyer. Currently a writer, investor, and guest host on a radio talk show on investing, Dyer's academic background is in philosophy, and he taught symbolic logic and philosophy at the University of Michigan before moving to Houston to work in the software industry. He left corporate life in 1999 to invest and write full-time. He has published scores of articles on a variety of topics including history, social issues, and investments. His longer works include two peer-reviewed history books. *Steel's, A Forgotten Stock Market Scandal From The 1920's*, presents the story of Leonard Rambler Steel, a visionary retail entrepreneur who invented the infomercial when he created a silent film to promote his company's stock, successfully marketing over \$26 million in sales to 60,000 shareholders.

Dyer's most recent publication, *The Road to San Jacinto*, retraces the journey of the Texian army from Gonzales to San Jacinto during the Texas Revolution. Using both primary and secondary sources, Dyer stitches together an historically accurate story of each site, illustrated with modern photos. The author visited every campsite or important spot to identify traces of the Texian army. Many of these sites have no historical markers and have been forgotten or ignored. Directions are provided to enable readers to locate them as well—the goal of this work is to encourage people to rediscover these intriguing local sites and gain an appreciation for Texas history. An accompanying podcast makes it easy to listen to each description while on site.

We hope you will all join us for this fascinating presentation. This meeting is free and open to the public. Be looking for your meeting reminder, which will also contain a Zoom link so that those HAS members who cannot join us in person will be able to tune in from afar. The Trini Mendenhall Community Center is located at 1414 Wirt Road in Houston. For more information about this program or about the Houston Archeological Society, please contact Bob Sewell at president@txhas.org. For further information about Dave Dyer and his publications, see: <https://www.tamupress.com/book/9781649670120/the-road-to-san-jacinto/>; [Profile - Dave Dyer - The Authors Guild](https://www.davedyer.net); <https://www.davedyer.net>.

Frank Kozar, HAS Vice-President



President's Message – Bob Sewell



As you know, the mission of the Houston Archeological Society is not just about excavating archeological sites, either prehistoric or historic. One of our important activities is the imparting of knowledge and information regarding those excavations and the promotion of the understanding of the importance of the history of our region through our public outreach programs.

These activities encompass show-and-tell displays at various events and presentations regarding archeology to various local schools and other organizations. We are always looking for members to take on a more active role in our public outreach, and anyone who is interested does not necessarily need to do any presentations since we invariably need folks to help set up and take down the displays.

The most recent public outreach occurred last weekend at the Houston Arboretum's Archeology Day. HAS presented its show-and-tell display, and members of the public got an insight into the types of projects with which we get involved, along with examples of the artifacts that can be found. It was also an opportunity for HAS to increase its membership. Over 260 folks came to visit.



Several members of HAS, including Emma Baldwin, Adriana Cardenas, Garry Hartmann, Della Henry, Geoff Mills, Noah Newland, Kaity Ulewicz, Tom Williams, and new member Mike Lamb, were on hand to help.

If you are interested in becoming more involved with our public outreach activities, then please contact me at president@txhas.org.



HAS Memberships for 2024 Are Due

We hope you will renew your membership in the Houston Archeological Society - and maybe even give a membership as a gift to someone you know who might enjoy digging up Texas history with us, one trowel-full at a time. You can either pay your dues online using a credit card at

[Membership - Houston Archeological Society \(txhas.org\)](https://www.txhas.org/Membership),

or download a hardcopy of the membership form at <http://www.txhas.org/PDF/HAS%20Membership%20Form.pdf>

and mail it to us with your payment. Our memberships are the best deal in town, available at \$25 (Individual), \$30 (Family), \$15 (Student), and \$35+ at the Contributing Membership level. Remember that benefits of your membership include the unique opportunity to dig with us at archeological sites in the area, work with us at our labs where we process artifacts from those sites, and receive free access to our current academic publications including HAS Reports, newsletters, and Journals. Please join us! Note: If you joined after September of 2023 then your membership is good through 2024.



Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. – Bob Sewell, President, welcomed members.

Treasurer and Membership Report – Louis Hebert, Treasurer. **Membership** – Membership currently stands at 118 members. Annual membership payment is due by the end of March, after which non-members will drop off the distribution list. Members who joined after September of 2023 do not need to renew until January of 2025. Remember that membership puts you on the distribution list which gives you access to field work and Zoom meetings. **Finances** - HAS finances remain healthy, if you have any questions please feel free to contact Louis at treasurer@txhas.org.

Newsletter – Betsy Wittenmyer, Newsletter Editor. Many thanks to all who have contributed such interesting articles. Please consider sharing photos of any interesting projects, research, trips to historic sites, and academics that you attend. We encourage all members and friends to submit articles for our monthly newsletter; please send them by the 15th of each month. We can assist you with editing. The March issue will focus on historic maps, so if you have an interesting antique, historic, or archeology-related map, please consider submitting an article about it.

Reports and Publications – Bob Sewell, President, for Sandy Meredith, Reports and Publications Editor. The next report is progressing nicely and will consist of several articles about munitions authored by Tom Nuckols.

Proposed Change to HAS Standing Rules – Emma Baldwin, Secretary. A request was made to the board for a review of the Constitution Standing Rules regarding the process and authorizations for closing out phases of an HAS-managed project. An email was sent in January informing HAS membership of receipt of the request and that the request had been forwarded to the Constitution Committee (Leonie Waithman/Eleanor Stoddart/Geoff Mills) for review. During the March meeting, the Constitution Committee will announce the result of their review and present any wording changes to the HAS membership. Following the March meeting, members will receive an email inviting them to vote on the changes. An announcement regarding the result is expected by the end of March.

Projects – Bob Sewell, President. Please contact Bob Sewell at fielddirector@TXHAS.org if you are not receiving invitations to join excavations. Our current projects are:

Goloby Site (41WL3) - about twelve miles north of Brookshire. Work has started and will continue on a regular basis. A report regarding the previous HAS excavations at this site approximately twenty years ago can be found on the HAS website: [HAS Report 22.pdf \(txhas.org\)](#).

Lone Oak – this site is still active, although visits will be less frequent.

Alleyton – The project proposal for this site is being developed for this new project and will be presented to the board for approval.

Kirbee Kiln – March 15–22, 2024. Run by a professional Principal Investigator, this will be the third time HAS has been invited to help find buildings associated with the kiln works. It is an interesting and welcoming dig. Members will receive an email asking you to commit to dates available.

Outreach - Houston Arboretum, February 24. All hands-on deck! Please consider joining us to help educate families at this fun event. Email president@txhas.org to sign up or for more information.

TAS Academies and Field School – Bob Sewell, President. See the TAS web site for more information, www.txarch.org. The recent **TAS Zooarcheology and Osteology Academy** at Rice University was a great success, and our thanks go to Eleanor Stoddart, the HAS coordinator, and Debbie Eller, the coordinator for TAS. Upcoming academies:

Geoarcheology Academy, Victoria, Texas on March 8 -10. Full – waitlist on TAS website.

Ceramics Academy, Fort Worth on April 27 - 28. Full – waitlist on TAS website.

Field School, Nacogdoches on June 8-15. Spots available. Sign up soon!

Our next monthly HAS meeting takes place March 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Dave Dyer, HAS member, will discuss his book, *The Road to San Jacinto*, covering Sam Houston's trip from Gonzales to San Jacinto during the Texas Revolution. Please note this meeting is a week earlier than usual due to the Kirbee Kiln project. This meeting will take place at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center at 1414 Wirt Road in Houston, with a Zoom link available for members who cannot attend in person. Be watching your emails.

Tonight's Talk – We are pleased to welcome Dr. Heather Para, who will discuss archeology on the Greek island of Santorini.

The business meeting was concluded at 6:48 p.m.

Emma Baldwin, Secretary



Source: Free Clipart

March Map Madness

In the spirit of March Madness, the HAS team hits the court with Map Madness, thinking about archeology and history as communicated through maps. As Geoff Mills discusses in his article, maps are frequently used in archeological work, such as the review of antique maps interpreting the historical context of a proposed dig site, or soil analysis, LIDAR, or contour maps.

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The Unexpected Results of Curiosity – Mapping Trammel’s Trace

Gary L. Pinkerton



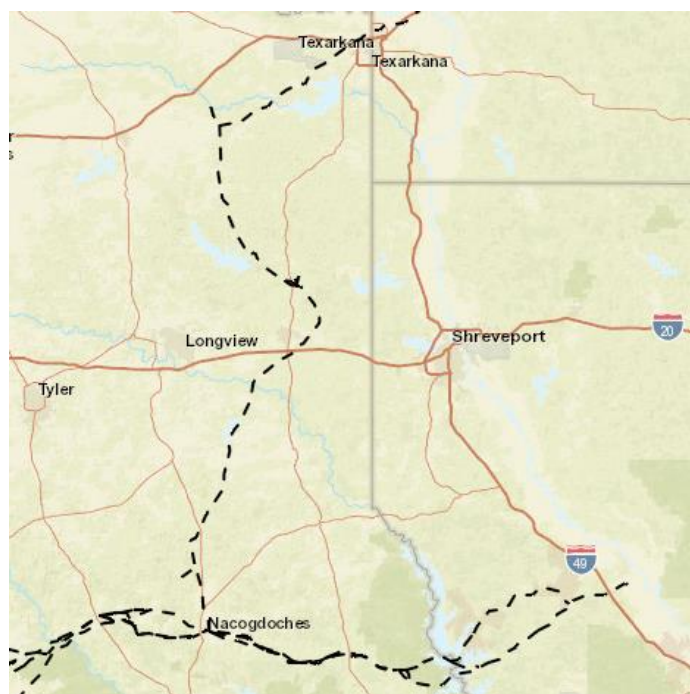
My interest in Trammel’s Trace began in 2004 as simple curiosity about the possibility of an old road crossing family land in Rusk County. Research, both in archival material and on the ground, led to my book in 2016. The ripple effect in the recognition of this early road since that time has been remarkable and unexpected.

A renewed archaeological awareness of the significance of Trammel’s Trace began in 1972 because of studies required for lignite mining in Harrison, Rusk, and Panola counties (see 41RK36, 41RK3). For my own research, I read the field notes from hundreds of original Texas Land Surveys and mapped the trail across eight counties. That effort led to my production of a Google Maps version of the trail’s route.¹ The detailed mapping resulted in Trammel’s Trace being added to the Texas Historical Commission Atlas, one of only two historic roads to be plotted there.²

A current TxDOT project for widening Hwy 315 from US 259 to the Panola County line near our family land could potentially impact some of the best remaining swales of Trammel’s Trace. That project staff is now well-informed of how highway plans could impinge on historic remains of the old road.³

What began as curiosity has now left a lasting impact on the historical record, influenced future research and development in the state, and there is a very fine Trammel’s Trace marker in Nacogdoches that is worth a visit.⁴

To see another excellent map of Trammel’s Trace and learn more about Gary’s book and other endeavors, see [Maps — Trammel’s Trace \(trammelstrace.com\)](http://trammelstrace.com) and [Trammel’s Trace \(garypinkerton.com\)](http://garypinkerton.com).



THC Atlas map of Trammel’s Trace; [Atlas Map - Atlas: Texas Historical Commission \(state.tx.us\)](http://atlas.thc.texas.gov/Map).

¹ <https://garypinkerton.com/trammels-trace-maps>.

² <https://atlas.thc.texas.gov/Map>.

³ <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/projects-studies/tyler/sh315-us259-to-panola-co.html>.

⁴ <https://maps.app.goo.gl/OaALjV6RaFiN6Gyh6>.



All Roads Lead to Rome

Heather Para

In the great Monty Python film, *The Life of Brian*, John Cleese's character asks, "Apart from the sanitation, the medicine, education, wine, public order, irrigation, roads, the fresh water system, and public health... what have the Romans ever done for *us*?" The joke being, of course, that Roman ingenuity greatly impacted the world, and continues to do so for nearly two thousand years on.



Figure 1. Roman Empire in transit map form, created by Sasha Trubetskoy. Today's subway maps owe their very existence to the Roman idea of roads connecting hub cities. Source: <https://sashamaps.net>.

The Roman road system proved instrumental in Rome's plot to take over the world. It was by these 400,000 kilometers of paved roadways that the Roman army, supplies, messengers, merchants, information, mail, news, religious ideas, money—and everything—traveled from Rome to the rest of the world, and from the rest of the world back to Rome. Sure, the speed of transport was still limited by one's horse or shoe construction, but an existing road system crisscrossing most of Europe and beyond changed the world, milepost by milepost. Goods, troops, and people made their way efficiently across the Empire (provided they were not mugged by bandits at roadside inns, another Roman contribution of happenstance associated with road-building).

Highways provided the Roman army with an advantage of speed and ease in the transportation of supplies and soldiers. As with most Roman public works, the roads were, in fact, built largely by the soldiers as they moved forward, pushing their frontiers further outward. The Romans understood that solid, paved roads ensured troops could move toward their front lines quickly—the mere knowledge of which was often enough to keep outlying areas peaceful.

Besides military accessibility and speed, other benefits from the Roman highways were rapid commerce, communication (they had a mail service!), and civilian land travel, all of which aided the spread of culture and ideas: Romanization. Even the Britons at the far reaches of civilization took up Roman ways. As a result of the roads, a taste for Roman goods developed amongst the native people, and this sometimes happened before the Romans even arrived en masse.

The roads stretched outward from their hubs, Rome being the central one, with other cities in the Empire establishing secondary or tertiary hubs. Roman engineers determined that the best way to get goods, people, and ideas flowing into and out of their centers (Rome, London, etc.) was to design a road network that did just that. Today, some of the old Roman roads remain in use, and more modern roadways are built atop Roman predecessors, as they had already determined the most direct routes from city to city (and those cities, in many cases, remain today). This concept of a hub-based system is still in evidence, not only in the modern nations where the Empire once stood, but elsewhere, such as in the U.S. First as railways, later as interstate highways, and even in airline flight patterns, the adoption of the Roman idea of traveling efficiently from hub to hub is plain to see across most of western civilization.

Two interesting maps demonstrating this organized Roman transit system are the Peutinger Map (Tabula Peutingeriana), a mediaeval facsimile of an ancient scroll (Fig. 2), and a modern interpretation of the Roman Empire as a subway map designed by Sasha Trubetskoy (Fig. 1). It's a great system, and the ubiquity of it is helpful to world travelers: wherever you are, no matter the language, when one sees a subway or metro map, it is immediately comprehensible. For this method of ordering transportation infrastructure, as in many things, we can thank the Romans.

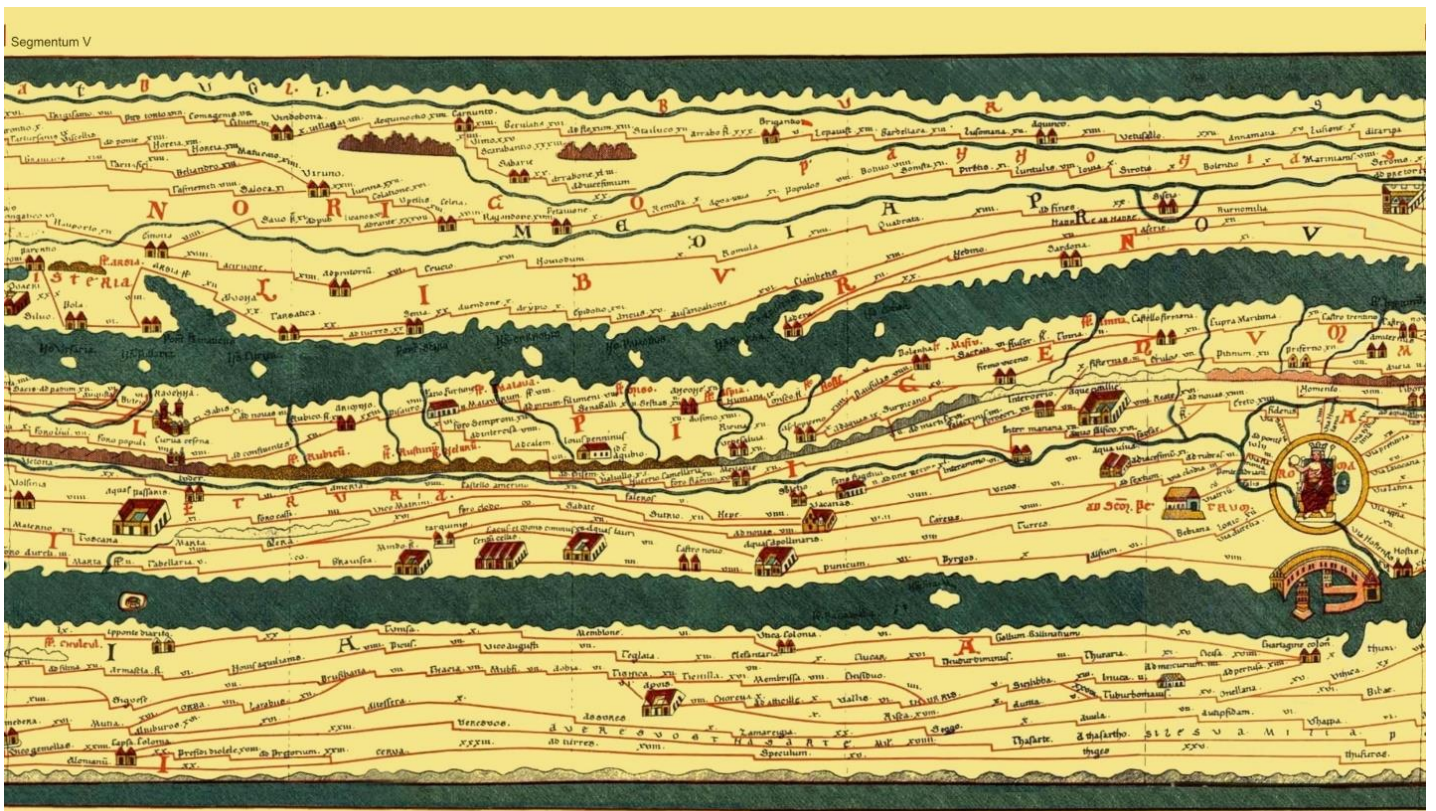


Figure 2. Portion of the Peutinger Map showing the hub city of Rome and emanating straight roadways. See <https://www.tabula-peutingeriana.de/>; <https://www.tabula-peutingeriana.de/tabula.html?segm=6#b1>; Tabula Peutingeriana | UNESCO.



Antique Maps

Geoffrey Mills

While working in the UK and on subsequent visits, I developed a keen interest in antique maps. I found them historically interesting and artistically attractive. I have about twenty maps in all, dating from 1610 to 1840. I especially concentrated on places I had lived or personally visited. Maps can be quite diverse representations of information—all the way from an archeological survey layout to the geographic town, county, or country.

For this article I will focus on three maps. The first one is of Surrey, a county in England. This map is divided into “hundreds,” which were the ancient administrative areas begun in the Anglo-Saxon period. These were based on the concept of the amount of land required to sustain 100 households and were each headed by a “hundred man.” While in Surrey, I lived in several towns, including the small village of Great Bookham (see the red dot added to the center of the map below), which was in the hundred identified as IX, Copthorne and Effingham. From Great Bookham, I commuted by train to Croydon (a town in hundred VI), where I worked for a seismic company.



Fig 1. Morden, Johannes. *SVRREY olim sedes REGNORVM*, 1610. Translation: Surry, once the seat of kingdoms. Collection of Geoffrey Mills.



Fig. 2. Creighton, R. "A Plan of London and its Environs,"
Lewis Topographical Dictionary, 1841.

Fig. 3. Enlargement of Lincoln's Inn area.
Collection of Geoffrey Mills.

Note: A scanned 1844 version of this notable map may be explored in detail at the Stanford Library David Rumsey Collection website: [A plan of London - David Rumsey Collection](http://www.davidrumsey.com/planoflondon).

The second map I have depicts London in the early 1840s. The River Thames is clearly visible. All the public spaces, parks, and major thoroughfares have been highlighted. Note the decorative cartouches of Westminster, the City of London, and Southwark. Anybody who has visited London will recognize some of the place names. Some names are spelled differently, and some have changed completely, e.g., Buckingham Palace is annotated as the King's Palace on this map.

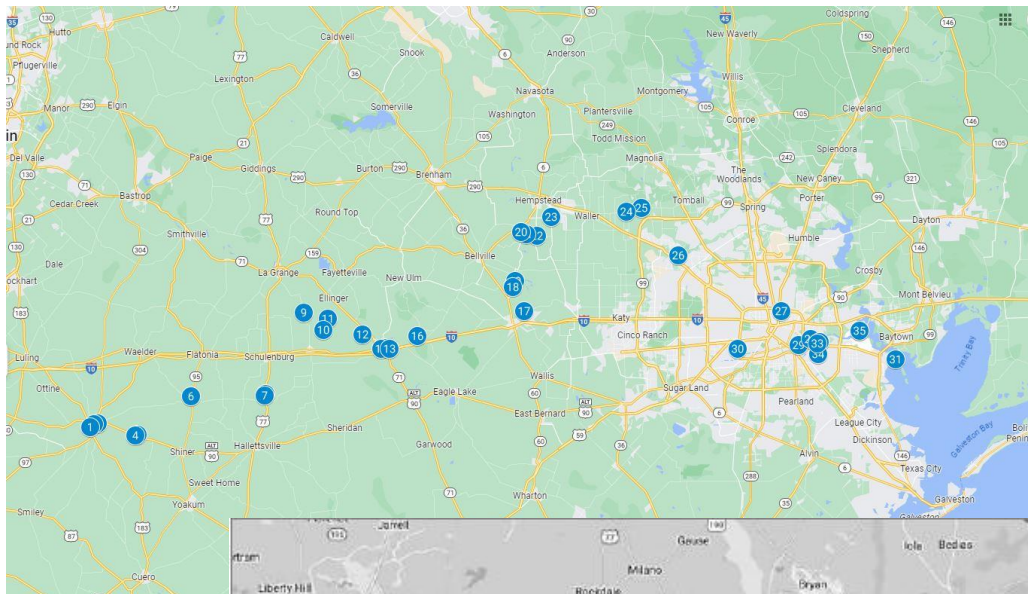
My third featured map depicts North Wales, an area of the UK where I grew up. This is the most artistic and colorful of all three maps, having the cartouches representing the counties of North Wales: Merionedd, Fflint, Denby, Montgomery, Carnarvan, and the Isle of Anglesey. The village of Rhostryfan where I grew up is located at the red dot added to the northwest of the "C" in CARNARVAN. I will leave it to the reader to explore the exact location.



Fig. 4. Blome, Ric. *A Generall Mapp of North Wales*, 1673. Collection of Geoffrey Mills.

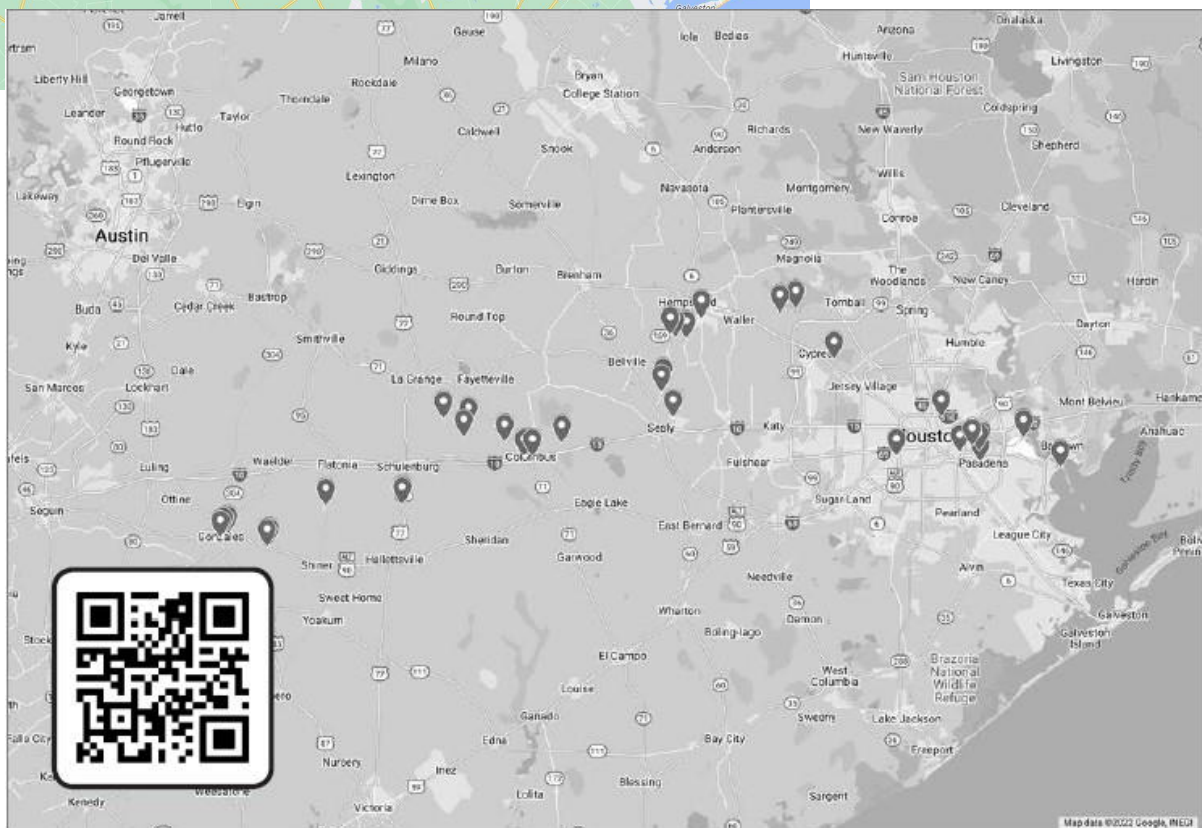
The reader might wonder what connection antique maps have to archeology. For those who have watched the UK television program *Time Team*, you would have noticed that there was always a segment of the program exploring the historical context of the proposed dig site. Sometimes these were old maps, town layouts, or church records. For any current or proposed HAS digs, we still do background research and collate contour maps, geophysical attribute maps such as GPR and soil analysis maps, or LIDAR maps as available.

I know that it is difficult to read any details of these maps. I plan to bring them to our next monthly meeting for the show-and-tell of historical maps.



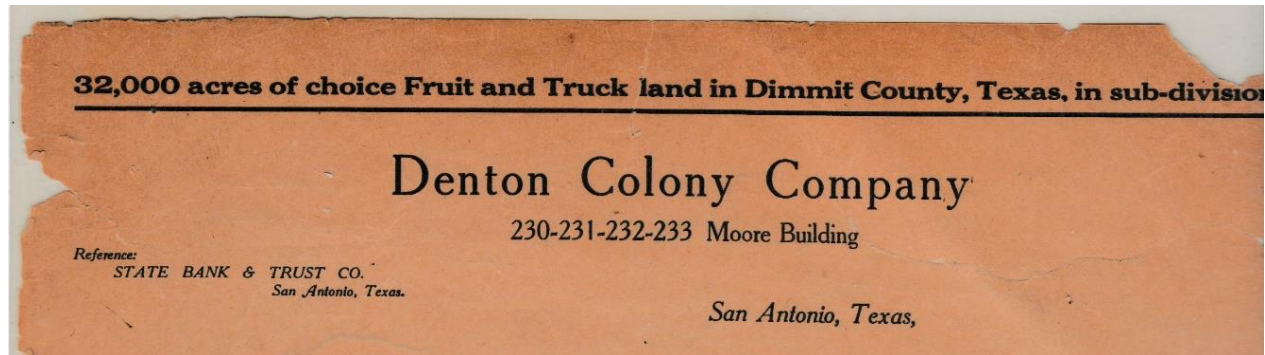
Campsites of the Texian Army

Our March speaker, Dave Dyer, presents these two maps pertinent to his upcoming discussion on *The Road to San Jacinto: Retracing the Route of Sam Houston's Army*. Enjoy finding the historic sites yourself and scan the QR code for a narrated self-guided history tour.



Dentonio, Texas

Thomas L. Nuckols



In 2004, I purchased, via eBay, a 1910 map of Dentonio, Dimmit County, Texas, a town established by the Denton Colony Company (Figs. 1, 2). A few years later, I obtained a copy of *Looking Back, A Collection of Family Memories*, by Lawrence S. Brymer. While reading *Looking Back*, I learned that John Harvey Brymer, Jr. (1899-1988), a friend of my family, had briefly visited Dentonio in 1915 (Fig. 3).

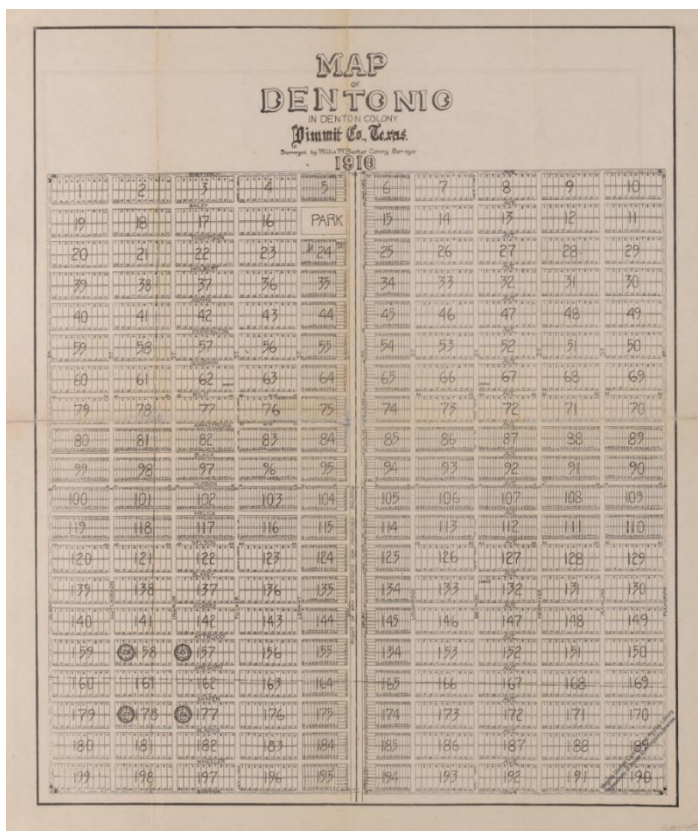


Fig. 1. Letterhead of the Denton Colony Company. Collection of Thomas L. Nuckols.
Fig. 2. The author's 1910 map of Dentonio, Texas.
Fig. 3. L to R: Tom Nuckols, Jr.; Tom Nuckols, Sr.; Lawrence Henrichson; and John Harvey Brymer, Jr. Photograph taken on the Henrichson Ranch, Valley Wells, Texas, June 1972. Collection of Thomas L. Nuckols.

Hastings, Oklahoma

In the early nineteen-teens, a man named Leonard Bumpus borrowed an undisclosed amount of money from John Harvey Brymer, Sr. (1872-1952), of Hastings, Oklahoma. As collateral, Bumpas provided Brymer deeds to approximately thirty acres of land in Dentonio, Texas. Bumpus eventually defaulted on the loan, leaving Brymer with land he had never seen. However, John Brymer suffered from asthma; so, upon a doctor's recommendation that he move to a dryer climate, John loaded his family—his wife and five children, including John Harvey, Jr., the oldest—into a covered wagon pulled by two horses, and set off for Dentonio in December of 1915.

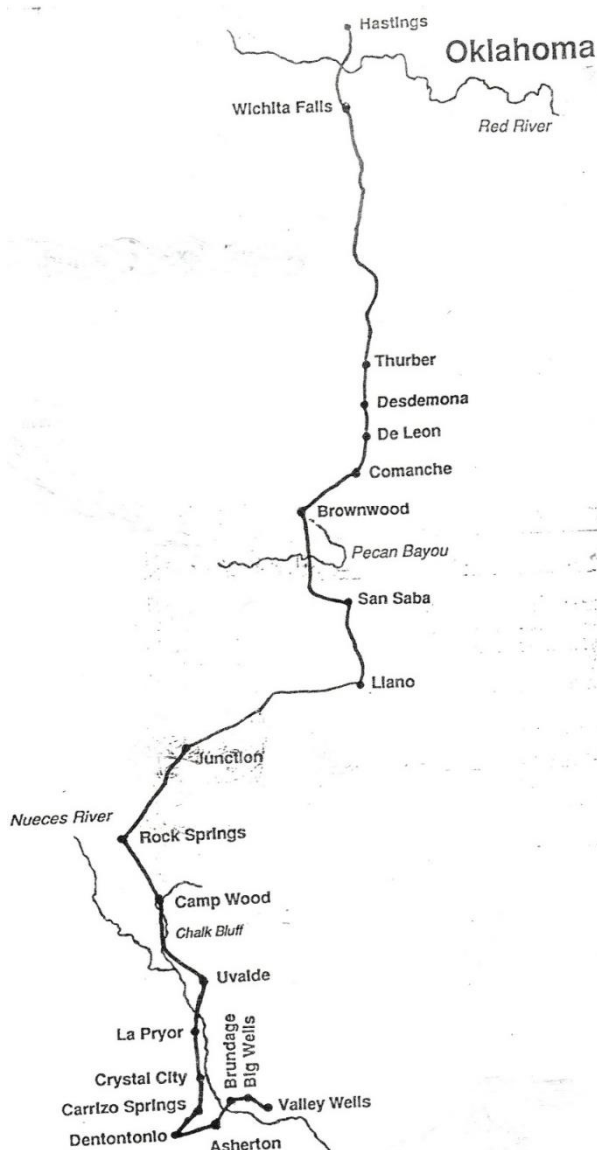


Fig. 4. The route that the Brymer family traveled by covered wagon from Hastings, Oklahoma to Denton, Texas, in 1915. Note that the name Denton is misspelled. Source: Brymer, Lawrence S., *Looking Back: A Collection of Family Memories*.

About two months after leaving Hastings, the Brymers finally arrived in Denton (Fig. 4).

We found the farm. The old house was about to fall in. Varmits were living in it, coyotes. Papa and John walked through it and when they came back to the wagon they said, "Let's get out of here." It was late, so we had to spend the night, but we certainly left the next morning and went to Asherton (Brymer).

In Asherton, the Brymer family received advice to relocate to nearby Valley Wells. It was there that they rented twenty-five acres from George Henrichson and established a farm.¹

Denton Colony Company

Born in London in 1862, Graham Denton immigrated to the United States at age twenty and worked in the mercantile business in Austin and Temple. In 1906, Denton went to San Antonio, Texas, and took an interest in southwest Texas real estate, establishing the Denton Land Company. The company acquired 32,000 acres of land in Dimmit County for a colonization project based on an agricultural economy, christened Denton Colony. The Colony's central square-mile town, Denton, lay approximately sixteen miles southwest of the county seat of Carrizo Springs. In 1910, land in the Colony was put up for sale in tracts from 80 to 160 acres in size. The rural property was priced at one or two dollars an acre, and any customer who spent at least \$210 was also given a free lot in town. By 1912, 1,600 purchases were finalized, with seventeen families living in the Colony. The twenty-one structures in the town included a school, a hotel, and homes (Leffler). However, unlike other turn of the century settlements in Dimmit County, Denton lacked two valuable attributes: railroad transportation for crops, and naturally-flowing artesian wells. Although the land developers drilled sixteen water wells for the Colony, one well provided only enough water to support a forty-acre crop. The cost for a farmer to drill additional wells and equip them with pumps was prohibitive, so the farmers could not make a profit. And although the Denton Colony Company set aside \$30,000 to establish a railroad, no rail company was secured to build a line into the area. The Denton Colony Company only existed for a few years, folding in 1921 (Tidwell 120-121). A post office operated in Denton until 1928, after which the struggling community became abandoned (Leffler).²

References

Brymer, Lawrence S. *Looking Back: A Collection of Family Memories*. Self-published, n.d.

Leffler, John. "Denton, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online*. Accessed 5 Feb. 2024.
<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/denton-tx>.

Nuckols, Thomas L. "A Tale of Two Money Boxes," *The Profile*. 20 Dec. 2023.
<https://www.txhas.org/PDF/newsletters/2023/2023%20December%20Profile.pdf>.

Tidwell, Laura Knowlton. *Dimmit County Mesquite Roots*. Wind River Press, Austin, 1984.

Wheat, Jim. "Postmasters & Post Offices of Dimmit County, Texas 1879-1930," *RootsWeb*, Ancestry.com. Accessed 6 Feb. 2024.
<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~txpost/dimmit.html>.

¹ See "A Tale of Two Money Boxes," by Tom Nuckols, <https://www.txhas.org/PDF/newsletters/2023/2023%20December%20Profile.pdf>, 6.

² See "Postmasters & Post Offices of Dimmit County, Texas 1879-1930," <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~txpost/dimmit.html>.

South Galveston Land Company

Eleanor Stoddart

Have you ever heard of the South Galveston Land Company? Existing from about 1891 into the early 1900s, this short-lived venture purchased a tract of land in part of what is now Galveston Island State Park, about midway down Galveston Island (Figure 1).

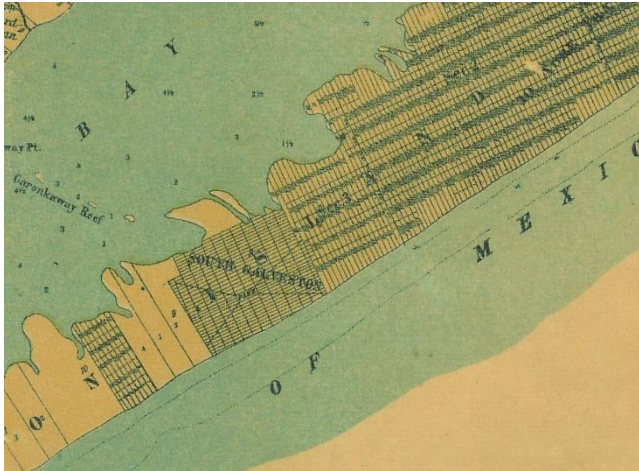


Figure 1. Map of the County and City of Galveston, 1891. Available online through the Texas State Archives Collection, <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/apps/arc/maps/maplookup/019>.

Figure 2. Coast Chart No. 205 - Galveston Bay to Oyster Bay, Texas (1907). Available for purchase or download through the General Land office; <https://historictexasmaps.com/collection/search-results/69927-coast-chart-no-205-galveston-bay-to-oyster-bay-texas-general-map-collection>.

The company planted a portion of their land into 20,000 lots and advertised in newspapers their plans to create the town of South Galveston, a “residence and manufacturing suburb” of Galveston. The whole venture was fairly aspirational; there were plans for a railroad to run between the two towns (the South Galveston and Gulf Shore Railroad Company), and announcements were made that a hotel, a race track with grandstand, baseball grounds, a bath house, dancing pavilions, and more would be built. A total of fifty miles of streets were planned, some of which were to be shelled (Figure 2). However, it seems as though only a few lots were ever sold, and the company quietly folded. If you look at aerial photos of Galveston Island State Park, you can still see traces of the roads and the racetrack in the western part of the park (Figures 3 and 4). It is unknown if the proposed grandstand next to the racetrack was ever built, or if much was actually built on the lots. Next time you’re hiking in the state park, try to see if you can tell where the roads are within the landscape; they are difficult to see at certain times of the year, but if you know where to look, you can still see them!

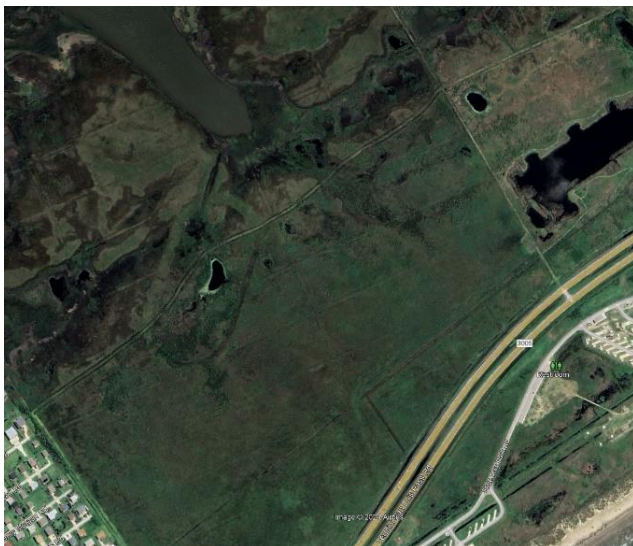


Figure 3. April 2022 Google Earth image, Galveston Island State Park.

Figure 4. April 2022 Google Earth image of Galveston Island State Park with several roads and racetrack highlighted.

Calling All HAS Members – Please send photos and articles for *The Profile*!

We would like **all HAS members** to consider submitting content for *The Profile* newsletter. Please send submissions to newsletter@txhas.org. Report on an interesting on-site experience, academy, field school, lecture, cultural trip, or public outreach event! Send photos of yourself on an HAS or TAS adventure! What archeological artifact or historical event have you been researching? Add your voice to our community's conversation. Your contributions can be brief, such as a couple of paragraphs or about 250 words. We can help with editing. Please submit information for upcoming issues no later than the fifteenth of each month.



From the HAS Archives



A repository of past issues of *The Profile* is available on the HAS website wherein you will find a wealth of archived articles, including this piece from March of 2006, continuing Fred Kelly's lessons about the names of months (2006 March Profile.pdf).

March was the month the ancient Romans held sacred to Mars, namesake of March. Mars is widely known as the god of war, but to Roman farmers he was god of fertility and vegetation, and also protector of fields and crops (origin of his warlike reputation). March is the month to plant seeds, conceive new ideas, and celebrate the resurgence of spring (think Mardi Gras!).

~ Fred Kelly

Colossal statue of Mars, Musei Capitolini, 110 - 138 century AD. Also see [What's in a name? Months of the year | British Museum](https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Mars_(mythology)); [https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Mars \(mythology\)](https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Mars_(mythology)); [Writing the Past: Mars - God of War and Defender of Agriculture \(writingthepastblog.blogspot.com\)](http://writingthepastblog.blogspot.com).



~ From our friends at Kleb Woods Nature Center and the Texas Historical Commission ~



KLEB NIGHT OUT: ASTRONOMY

Mar. 9, 7:30 - 10 p.m.
With NASA Eclipse Ambassadors!

Join us for a presentation in the nature center followed by a star party in the farm clearing. Members of Houston Astronomical Society will have telescopes available for night sky viewing, and are excited to answer any questions you may have about this fascinating hobby.

*If you have your own binoculars, spotting scope, or telescope, we encourage you to bring them.
Please note that viewing is weather dependent.*

Registration is required, and space is limited.
Register online at: hcp4.net/events

Kleb Woods Nature Center
20303 Draper Road, Tomball, TX 77377 | 281-357-5324 | klebwoods@hcp4.net

WASHINGTON ON THE BRAZOS INDEPENDENCE EVE

FRIDAY MARCH 1, 2024 • 6PM GATE

★★★
Performance by Nashville Recording Artist
Glen Templeton
Plus, Drifters and Grifters (6:45) & Nite Moves (8:00)

FREE ADMISSION • BEER, WINE & FOOD FOR SALE

More information & VIP Tickets available at
www.wheretexasbecametexas.org

See Kleb Night Out: Astronomy Night (hcp4.net) and <http://www.wheretexasbecametexas.org/>.

Feedback Requested! We want to hear from YOU!

Send a quick email to newsletter@txhas.org and let us know about things such as your regular favorites, which articles and reports did you most enjoy, what did you really read and what did you skip, topics you'd like to see in the future, what could be longer or what should be shorter, what could be omitted, and any other suggestions about how we can improve.



Source: www.webweaver.nu/unclesam.jpg.



HAS Reference Desk

What research on archeology, anthropology, paleontology, or history have you been reading lately? The HAS Reference desk seeks your suggestions about interesting archeology and history links.



Source: [Free Clipart](#)

Check out these links to many more fascinating maps:

[Map of Camp Logan, Houston, Texas - Rice University Digital Collections](#); [Map of the 1900 Storm Damage | Galveston & Texas History Center \(galvestonhistorycenter.org\)](#); [Roman-Empire-Map-117-AD.jpg \(istanbulclues.com\)](#); [\(PDF\) Eratosthenes' map \(researchgate.net\)](#); [12 maps that changed our worldview \(atlasandboots.com\)](#); [Topographic illustration of the Gault Site \(researchgate.net\)](#); [C0199459-John Snow's cholera map, 1854.jpg \(sciencephoto.com\)](#); [Imago Mundi on JSTOR](#); [Imago Mundi: Famous Babylonian World Map Is The Earliest Known In The World - Ancient Pages](#); [Mercator Projection | ScienceDirect Topics](#); [Famous Maps That Changed the World \[and Their Cartographers\] \(proxi.co\)](#); [Oldest Maps in the World - Oldest.org](#); [Stephen Austin's Maps of Texas | Bullock Texas State History Museum \(thestoryoftexas.com\)](#); [Texas Historical Maps - Perry-Castañeda Map Collection - UT Library Online \(utexas.edu\)](#); [bradford-texas-1835-01.jpg \(utexas.edu\)](#); [bradford-tx-1839-01.jpg \(utexas.edu\)](#); [folsom-mexico_in_1842-01.jpg \(4452x2876\) \(utexas.edu\)](#); [The Portal to Texas History \(unt.edu\)](#); [Map of Houston old: historical and vintage map of Houston \(houstonmap360.com\)](#); [Mission Dolores \(texasbeyondhistory.net\)](#); <https://library.tamu.edu/collections/maps/>; <https://www.tshaonline.org/images/handbook/entries/TT/texas-groups.jpg>; [Imagining Texas: An Historical Journey With Maps \(thehistorycenteronline.com\)](#); [adenahopewellmoundbuilders.jpg \(1564x2064\) \(openvirtualworlds.org\)](#); [Strange Maps - Big Think](#); [The Dutch Released a Treasure Map from WW2 That Caused a Treasure Hunt - Atlas Obscura](#); <https://medievalmurdermap.co.uk/>; <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/collection/BK-17007>. Online resources for historical maps: <https://maps.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/index.html>; [Old Maps Online](#); [David Rumsey Historical Map Collection | The Collection](#); [Digital Collections, Available Online, Map | Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](#); [Sanborn Maps | Digital Collections | Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](#); [Map images - National Library of Scotland \(nls.uk\)](#); <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/california-island-maps>; <http://blogs.casa.ucl.ac.uk/2014/05/07/london-in-time-a-londons-evolution-animation-3/>; <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/gallery/2014/aug/28/london-maps-a-unique-view-of-the-capital-through-classic-cartography>.

Good resource for all archeology enthusiasts: Follow this link from the Archaeological Institute of America for daily archeology news: archaeology.org/feed.



Houston Archeological Society - Monthly Meeting Program Schedule

Please note that meetings will vary between in-person, hybrid, or virtual (via Zoom). Some presentations will be uploaded to our YouTube site where they will be archived and available for public viewing. The meeting format may change; be sure to doublecheck the HAS website and your emails prior to each meeting for updates.

March 14 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring Dave Dyer speaking on *The Road to San Jacinto*, retracing Sam Houston and the Texian army's route from Gonzales to San Jacinto. Show-and-tell before the business meeting – attendees are invited to bring historical or archeology-related maps.

April 9 – HAS Board Meeting

April 18 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring Nicholas Bourgeois, Archeologist at Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site.

May 16 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring Brad Jones, Texas State Archeologist.

June - No meeting in June due to Field School.

Houston Archeological Society monthly meetings are ordinarily free and open to the public. Many previous HAS presentations are archived on our YouTube site at www.youtube.com/channel. For more information about HAS, visit www.txhas.org, email us at president@txhas.org, or join our Facebook page at [Houston Archeological Society | Facebook](#).



Upcoming Events

Be sure to reconfirm details before making plans to attend.

VIRTUAL:

Archaeological Conservancy

Virtual lectures archived at [Virtual Lectures - The Archaeological Conservancy](#).

American Institute of Archaeology

3/3 – Sunday, 4 p.m. Central - Drought-Induced Civil Conflict Among the Ancient Maya presented by Dr. Douglas J. Kennett of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Archaeological, historical, and paleoclimate datasets are referenced to explore the dynamic, shifting relationships among climate change, civil conflict, and political collapse at Mayapan, the largest Postclassic Maya capital of the Yucatán Peninsula in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries CE. Free, register at [Drought-Induced Conflict - AIA](#).

3/8 – Friday, 4 p.m. Central. Dr. Sam Holman of Princeton University will speak on Architectural Innovation at the Sanctuary of the Great Gods, Samothrace: The Engineering of the Stoa. The talk can be joined remotely at the following link:

<https://towson-edu.zoom.us/j/98825554469?pwd=bGpsWXFuemQvRVcrLlVQaU10WWlqZz09>.

3/21 – Thursday, 6:30 p.m. PT, 4:30 Central. Reconceiving the Nomad, presented by Tekla Schmaus PhD, University of Pittsburgh, an archaeologist working in Central Eurasia whose research focuses on human-environment interactions, prehistoric economy, and diet, and changing political structures in the Bronze and Iron Ages. Join the lecture at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84120684037?pwd=clk3Tjh1RlRlbmd6OTdJNzFsUDhRQT09>; Meeting ID: 84120684037; Code: 004215.

3/27 - Wednesday, 7 p.m. Central – AIA Archaeology Hour. Dr. Kisha Supernant of the University of Alberta presents Finding the Children: Using Archaeology to Search for Unmarked Graves at Indian Residential School Sites in Canada. Free, [Registration Link](#).

Now through 3/27 – The 2024 AIA Convention, ArcheoCon, will be held online this year. Virtually enjoy access to archaeological lectures, workshops, games, and interviews that showcase archaeology for only \$5. [Learn more here](#).

3/28 – 6 p.m. MST, 7 p.m. Central. Dr. Rhodora Vennarucci of the University of Arkansas discusses the Felt Shop of Verecundus in Pompeii and the cultural implications of shopping and commerce in Roman society. Free, virtual: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#).

Engelhardt-Moore Lecture Series

3/7 – Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Bob Moore, co-founder of E-MLS presents Megalithic Structures in Neolithic Europe, including Avebury, Stonehenge, Monkodanja, Choirekoitia, and Gobekli Tepe. Free, <https://engelhardtmoore.wixsite.com/lecture-series>. Past virtual lectures archived on the site as well.

Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan

3/6 – Wednesday, Noon. Curatorial Webinar, Puerperant Amulets at the Crossroads of Culture. Presented by Prof. Christiane Gruber, who will discuss a bronze circular amulet possibly dating to the 6th century CE that most likely depicts the Byzantine she-demon Gello, the attacker of pregnant women and newborns. Register at https://umich.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9BOcybA-SAqiUCHo-EZx6g.

3/8 – Friday, Noon. Learn about the Museum's organic artifacts and ecofacts from Karanis, a Graeco-Roman farming village in Fayium, Egypt, excavated by the University of Michigan between 1924 and 1935. Presented by Prof. Laura Motta. Must register in advance at <https://forms.gle/vMmEasN7JZrhBrp8>. Many past lectures are archived at [Kelsey Museum YouTube channel](#).

Shumla

3/20 – Wednesday, Noon. Lunch and Learn. Archaeobotanist Dr. Phil Dering discusses the timing of Pecos River art, the conditions under which it was produced, and the nature of the society that produced it. Free, via Zoom, [Click to Register](#). Also see past videos at [Shumla Archaeological Research & Education Center - YouTube](#).

Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference (TRAC) Webinar Series

3/12 – Tuesday, 5 p.m. UK time, 11 a.m. Central. Goran Đurđević (Beiwai College, Beijing Foreign Studies University) discusses global antiquities, focusing on the ancient worlds of Afroeurasia, and the concept of reflection involving the reproduction and interpretation of reverse images found in natural and artificial materials such as water, metals, stones, pottery/ceramics, and glass. Enroll at: [TRAC Webinar: Goran Đurđević - Global Antiquities: case study of public reflection at Online event tickets from TicketSource](#).

ON-SITE:

AIA Houston/Archaeology Now

3/2 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Stones, Stories, & Suds. Help preserve an historic Pearland cemetery. As you clean headstones, descendants will share the stories of their ancestors, making history come alive. Following the cleanup, you are invited to delve deeper into Pearland's history at a lively discussion at Vallenson's Brewing Company, conveniently located next to the cemetery. Learn more at [\(20+\) Facebook](#).

Barrington Plantation State Historic Site

3/16 – 3/17 – Saturday, Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. [Beasts of Burden](#), plowing the land.

Brazos County Historical Commission

Through 5/18 - Steam, Smoke & Steel: Riding the Rails through Time, highlighting the captivating history of trains. Includes a diorama featuring local Bryan/College Station train history, photographs, artifacts, and model trains; [Brazos Valley Museum](#).

3/25 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Boonville Heritage Park Wildflower Day. Art and information about local wildflowers. <https://www.brazosvalleymuseum.org/wildflower-day>.

Houston Heritage Society

Through July 31 - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Exhibit, \$5 admission. [HLSR — The Heritage Society](#).

Houston Museum of Natural History

3/6 - Lecture on the upcoming solar eclipse, \$12/\$18 fee, [LEC - Preparing for the Celestial Spectacle, March 6, 2024 6:30PM | Houston Museum of Natural Science \(hmns.org\)](#).

Ongoing - Dinosaur Discoveries, an immersive holographic video about paleontology, Wortham Theater. [Dinosaur Discoveries - HMNS](#); [Dinosaur Discoveries: A Holographic Adventure | Houston Museum of Natural Science \(hmns.org\)](#); King Tut's Tomb exhibit.

Kleb Woods Nature Center

3/9 – 7:30 – 10 p.m. Kleb Night Out: Astronomy with NASA Partner Eclipse Ambassadors and the Houston Astronomical Society. Limited spots, register at [Kleb Night Out: Astronomy Night \(hcp4.net\)](#). Calendar of all Harris County Parks events: <https://apps.hcp4.net/Med/Event/Calendar>.

Kreische Brewery State Historic Site

3/9 – 3/17 - [Spring Break on the Bluff](#). A week full of family activities including dyeing cloth, embroidery, building birdfeeders, learning about birds and plants, German cooking, bookbinding, and historical toys.

3/30 - [Easter on the Bluff](#). Easter traditions include an egg hunt and a sunset bonfire.

Lake Jackson Historical Society

Through 3/16 - Architects of Creativity. [Architects of Creativity: From Alden B. Dow to LEGO Bricks | LJHA \(ljhistory.org\)](#).

Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria College

3/2 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. [Texas Independence Day Book Festival](#). 2 p.m. Conversation with author Louise O'Connor.

3/9 – Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Ken Lawrence discusses geoarchaeology: applications, benefits, and relevance. 4:30 reception for TAS Geoarchaeology Academy attendees. <https://www.museumofthecoastalbend.org/archaeology-updates>.

3/12 – 3/16 - Spring Break Activities, family activities that examine French exploration of early Texas.

3/14 – Thursday, 2 p.m. LaSalle Odyssey Exhibit Tour. Learn the fascinating tale of the explorations and demise of the failed French colony.

3/21 – Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Dr. Karen Hagan discusses the impact of World War II airfields on society and culture in small Texas towns.

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site

3/9 – Saturday. [Learn about the Solar Eclipse of February 1831](#) and join [Sit and Stitch](#).

3/31 – Sunday. Annual Easter sunrise service. [Easter Sunrise Service with San Felipe Methodist Church](#).

San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site

3/2 – Saturday. [13th Annual San Jacinto Texas Independence Fun Run](#); participate in the 10K, 5K, or 1K and 5K walks. [San Jacinto Family Day: Survive the Runaway Scrape](#). Hear real stories of the Runaway Scrape and enjoy the Surviving the Runaway Scrape game.

3/9 – Saturday. [Spinning and Weaving](#) demonstrations by the Bay Area Weavers and Spinners.

3/10 – Sunday. [Picture Yourself at San Jacinto](#); complimentary instant photographs in front of the historic monument and learn about its rich history.

3/16 – Saturday. [Cycling Saturday](#), grounds open early for bicyclists with no motorized vehicles.

Shumla

Shumla Treks in March - fees and information at [Shumla Treks - Shumla](#).

3/16 - Saturday – Halo Shelter and Devils River Overlook – FULL (Please email treks@shumla.org if you'd like to be put on the waitlist).

3/17 – Sunday – Fate Bell Annex, Fate Bell Shelter, and Running Horse.

3/23 - Saturday – VV75 and Red Linear Type Site.

3/24 - Sunday – Virtual Trek to Panther Cave at Shumla HQ and visit to Panther Cave Overlook.

Texas Historical Commission

4/3-5 - Real Places Conference, Austin, in-person/virtual, registration fee: [Pricing - Real Places Conference 2024 \(cvent.com\)](https://www.cvent.com/event/real-places-conference-2024/).

Washington-on-the-Brazos



3/1 - Friday, 6 – 11 p.m. Independence Eve; Texas Declaration of Independence (tshaonline.org). Celebrate the 188th anniversary of Texas Independence with a performance by Nashville recording artist Glen Templeton at the outdoor amphitheater. Gates open at 6 p.m. The Drifters and Grifters perform at 6:45, Nite Moves at 8:00, and Glen Templeton at 9:30. Admission to the concert is free. Beer, wine, and food will be for sale. VIP tickets for \$75.

3/9 - Saturday. Butter Churning at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Stop by the tavern and learn about butter churning.

3/16 – Saturday. Washington in the Runaway Scrape.

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

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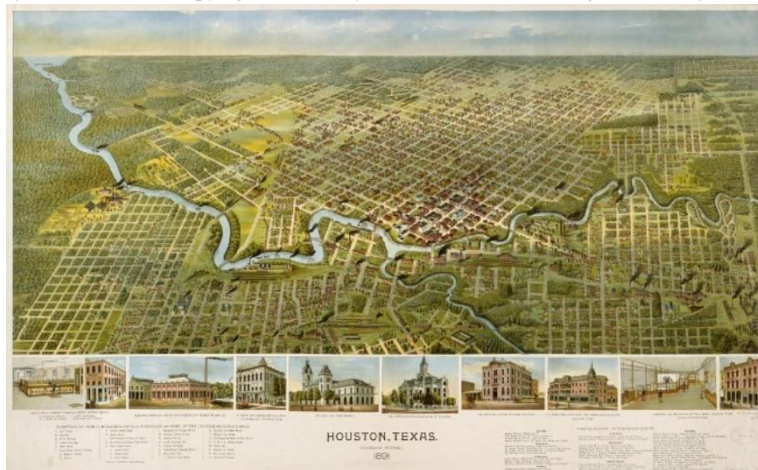
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Source: [Map of Houston old: historical and vintage map of Houston \(houstonmap360.com\)](https://www.houstonmap360.com/)