



JANUARY 1996

# The Profile

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

## JANUARY MEETING

January 12, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Eric Simon  
Consulting Engineer

Topic: Bronze Age Copper  
Mining

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - January 14 and  
January 28

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25 PM  
before the monthly meeting.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy New Year, 1996. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year. We will have interesting speakers, good sites for field work and productive laboratory sessions. I hope every member will participate in any or all of these activities and make this a successful year for HAS.

---Tommy Nuckols

## \*\*\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*\*\*

Please take a moment to

**Renew Your Membership Today**

Please use form at the bottom of this page

Your membership/dues status as of December 1995  
is shown on the mailing label

## AIA MEETING

Archaeological Institute of America  
Sewall Hall, Rm 309, Rice University  
Tuesday, January 30 - 8:00 PM

Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos  
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg  
**New Excavations at Eleusis**

## Membership/Renewal Application

Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, TX 77265-6751

Please complete and mail with check for correct amount to the above address.



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Bus \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership:  New member  Renewal  Single (\$15)  Family (\$20)  Contributing (\$30+)  Student (\$5)

### ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE:

"I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state, or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques."

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIAN VILLAGE FOUND** - an entire Caddo village dating between ca. A.D. 150 and 1450 has been excavated in northeastern Texas on land targeted for coal strip-mining. Some 42 circular dwellings and a central ceremonial plaza at the Oak Village site have been identified.

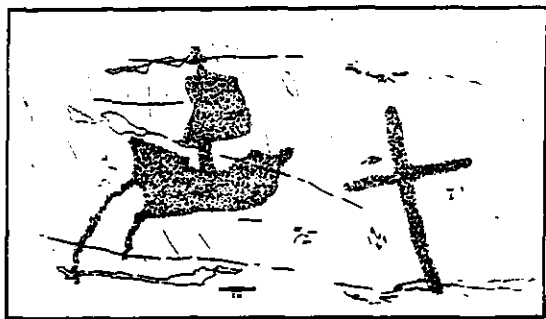
**PACIFIC COAST BASKETRY** - basketry fragments found in a cave on the Channel Islands off Santa Barbara, California, have been dated to 9000 years ago, twice as old as the oldest basketry previously discovered on the Pacific coast of North America, according to University of Oregon scholars.

---ARCHAEOLOGY

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### THE PROFILE

Please send items for **THE PROFILE** to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024



Petrograph of a sailing ship and cross in Machias, Maine. Vessel design originated from 1350 to 1450 A.D. Could it depict one of Sinclair's vessels?

### NOTES FROM ALL OVER AND WHEREVER

A holiday purchase of a bottle of Glenfiddich Scotch Whiskey provided a bit of warm spirit on a cold Vermont evening and also information about other spirits - the Clan Sinclair. According to an excerpt from "The Clans of the Scottish Highlands" by R.R. McLan, Sir Henry Sinclair set sail for the New World in 1398 with 200 men in 12 ships. They reached Newfoundland and later sailed to Nova Scotia where Henry built a settlement. After overwintering with the MicMac Indians, Henry sailed to Massachusetts where one of his knights died. An effigy of the Knight, now thought to be Sir James Gunn of Clyth was chisselled into a rock face. Henry sailed on to Rhode Island where he is thought to have built the Newport Tower.

Evidence for these events has been proposed in "New England's Ancient Mysteries" by Robert Ellis Cahill. A life-sized image of a knight in armor carrying a broken sword (symbol of death) and shield with Gunn family coat-of-arms, was discovered carved into a rock in Westford, Massachusetts in 1954 (there is an 1878 reference also). Studies of the Newport Tower indicate that it was not constructed by Native Americans or early colonists.

One of the more romantic interpretations for the tower's existence is that Henry was seeking a secure place for the treasures (including the Holy Grail) brought back by the Knights Templar from the Crusades and safeguarded by the Sinclairs at Rosslyn Castle, where many of the Knights are buried.

Meanwhile, back at Rosslyn Castle in far north-east Scotland, the seat of the Clan Sinclair, further proof of Henry's voyage is visible in Rosslyn Chapel where there are carvings of Indian Maize and North American Aloe cacti, all carved before Columbus was born.

---Editor

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### The Profile

Houston Archeological Society  
P O Box 6751  
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FEBRUARY 1996

# The Profile

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

## FEBRUARY MEETING

February 9, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Rebecca Storey  
University of Houston

Topic: A Look at the Kings  
of Copan

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - February 12 and  
February 26

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25 PM  
before the monthly meeting.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

At a recent lab session, Dick Gregg showed me his collection of back issues of the HAS newsletter dating to the early 1970's. Since I joined the Society in 1974, reading those old newsletters brought back a lot of memories. I saw lots of names of friends who are no longer active members or who have passed away and are greatly missed. The newsletters are now in the HAS Library.

REMINDER: Please use the form below to renew your membership. Mail it in or bring it to the next meeting.

---Tommy Nuckols

## THE FIFTH ANNUAL LECTURE ON GREEK ARCHAEOLOGY

Saturday, February 17, 8:00 P.M.

Jones Auditorium, 3900 Yoakum Boulevard  
St. Thomas University

Dr. Ingrid Edlund-Berry  
University of Texas

"MAGNA GRAECIA: The Greeks in Italy"

## Membership/Renewal Application

Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, TX 77265-6751

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City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Bus \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership: \_\_\_ New member \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ Single (\$15) \_\_\_ Family (\$20) \_\_\_ Contributing (\$30+) \_\_\_ Student (\$5)

### ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE:

"I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state, or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques."

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**AIA MEETING**

Archaeological Institute of America  
Sewall Hall, Rm 309, Rice University

Monday, February 26, 1996 - 8:00pm

Dr. David Whitehouse  
National AIA Lecturer  
Corning Museum

**"THE PORTLAND VASE"**

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**MEETING**

**Fort Bend Archeological Society**  
George Memorial Library  
FM 762 in Richmond

Wednesday, February 14, 1996 - 7:00pm

Dr. Betsy Bedford  
University of Houston

**Fort Bend County Area: 1860-1920**

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Long-time HAS member Elizabeth Reap died on Sunday, January 7, 1996, and was buried in Little Rock, Arkansas. When the society moved to the University from the Museum, Elizabeth and her friend Kathleen Gammill set up our library and operated it for several years.

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**THE PROFILE**

Please send items for **THE PROFILE** to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

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**The Profile**  
Houston Archeological Society  
P O Box 6751  
Houston, TX 77265-6751

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J. D. Wells  
5527 Wood Creek Way  
Houston TX 77017

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBIT**  
The Little Archaeology Gallery  
1121 West Alabama at Mt. Vernon  
12 to 6pm weekdays

**CADDO**  
**Pre-Contact Indian Pottery**

February 11 to March 15, 1996

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**NOTES FROM ALL OVER**

On a recent tour of Southwest Indian pictograph and petroglyph sites, our intrepid little group journeyed 180 miles into Mexico south of El Paso to Casas Grandes to view the Paquime Ruins. Traces of the Pueblo culture of the American Southwest as well as of the Mesoamerican cultures dwelling in the vast Central Plateau to the south, suggest a wider mix of civilizations here than was once thought. The ruins were probably founded around the middle of the 11th century and abandoned some 300 years later; the Paquime Indians inhabited the area around the time of Spanish settlement in the early 1660's. A large ballcourt, deep pit ovens and numerous artifacts have been excavated at this site. Some of structures were once several stories high with numerous rooms, for the estimated population of 3000 people.

In addition to examining the site, we were allowed to visit the new museum scheduled to open at the end of January. This is a truly magnificent building designed by architect Pedro Scheuman of Mexico City to blend with the stark landscape and adjacent ruins. The downward sloping entrance and mound design as well as central atrium and access to daylight gave the feeling of a building belonging to the site itself. We were able to view the lovely pottery and other artifacts from the site even though the electricity was not yet functional.

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MARCH 1996

# The Profile

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

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## MARCH MEETING

March 8, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall,  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Daniel R. Potter  
Texas Historical  
Commission

Topic: Experimental Methods and  
Site Structure in the  
Balcones Escarpment Zone,  
Southcentral Texas

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## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - March 11 and  
March 25

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

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## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25pm  
before the monthly meeting.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

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## THE PROFILE

Please send items for THE PROFILE to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I would like to remind you to please renew your membership this month. This can be done at the meeting. We will start removing names from the mailing list next month. So to continue receiving the Newsletter and maintain the ability to participate in HAS activities I urge you to renew now. Check your mailing label on the "Profile" and if it does NOT have 96 on it this notice is for you. All our members are valuable and we look forward to your continued support.

---Tommy Nuckols

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBIT

### SPECIAL HOURS FOR HAS MEMBERS

6:30 - 7:25pm Friday, March 8  
(before the monthly meeting)

The Little Archaeology Gallery  
1121 W. Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## CADDO

Pre-Contact Indian Pottery

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## HAS FIELD SCHOOL.

Once again HAS will sponsor its Annual Field School. It is intended for people who have little or no excavation experience, but would like to participate in HAS field projects.

The School will last one day - with indoor classroom sessions in the morning and "hands-on" experience in the afternoon.

The cost will be \$10.00 which includes supplies and lunch.

The date will be on a Saturday in April.

Stay tuned for more details.

---Sheldon Kindall (326-2160)

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## SOUTHWESTERN ARCHAEOLOGY FETES

This year marks the Santa Fe Trail's 175th anniversary, to be commemorated in New Mexico and four other states over a two-year period. Pamphlets with a list of activities may be requested from 800-733-6396 ext. C654.

---Archaeology



## AIA MEETING

Archaeological Institute of America  
Room 309, Sewall Hall, Rice U.

Tuesday, March 26 - 8:00pm

Dr. Susan Kane  
National AIA Lecturer  
Oberlin College

### KORE AND PERSEPHONE ON CYRENE

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#### USE A SHOVEL, GO TO PRISON

It was, the prosecution said, a message to those who feel it is their "special right to destroy, loot, and plunder this nation's resources": Last December, notorious grave robber Earl Shumway of Moab, Utah, was handed a six-and-a-half year prison term. Shumway, long considered the Al Capone of artifact plundering, helicoptered into remote sites with radio-packing lookouts in tow and claimed to average \$5000 a day in black-market sales. A federal trial jury found him guilty of, among other things, removing an Anasazi ceremonial blanket from the skeleton of an infant at Dop-Ki Cave in Canyonlands National Park and scattering the remarkably preserved bones.

---Outside Magazine  
Contributed by Sue Hamblin

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March is ARIZONA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH, with more than 80 site tours, exhibits, open houses, lectures and programs designed for children. Contact Ann Howard, State Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State Parks, 602-542-7138.

---Archaeology

## NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Every few years the controversy over 'what to do about Stonehenge' bubbles to the surface. A recent New York Times article reports government agencies have become locked in a dispute over how to improve the situation on Salisbury Plain, how much it would cost and who should pay for it.

The outlines of the problem are clear: the famous rings of stone are effectively trapped between a small road, the A344, which leads right up to the site, and a bigger and busier road, the A303, where traffic speeds by about 100 yards away. The two roads are congested and need to be rerouted, both to facilitate traffic and to allow development of a better visitor center.

English Heritage and the National Trust, the government agencies that oversee Stonehenge, have proposed a new road plan that they say would solve all the problems by rerouting traffic through tunnels around the edge of the site. But the Transport Ministry, which oversees and pays for road construction, has rejected that plan as too expensive and submitted its own plans for widened roads that would continue to run through the site. The debate rages on.

I remember that back in 1985 when planning a trip to England, a visit to Stonehenge was top priority on my list. A few months before I was due to leave, the problem of 'what to do about Stonehenge' erupted into the news. One of the items for discussion at that time was restricting visitor access to the stones. Many proposals were forthcoming, among them: a suggestion to build a replica of the stones in a visitor center nearby so that mere mortals would not have to trek to the actual site. I was horrified of course and felt extremely lucky to be getting to Stonehenge before they turned it into "Foamhenge"!

---The Editor

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Anasazi pottery designs (Southwest Museum, Los Angeles)

## The Profile

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### APRIL MEETING

April 12, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall,  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Johnney Pollan  
Brazosport Archeo-  
logical Society

Topic: History and Archeology at  
Old Town of Velasco

### LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - April 15 and 29  
7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

### HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25pm  
before the monthly meeting.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

### THE PROFILE

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Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I was always of the opinion that Robert Cavelier de La Salle was a "citified" European whose ineptness caused the failure of France's attempt to colonize the Texas Coastline in the 1680's. Even though the settlement failed, I have a different opinion of La Salle after reading Anka Muhlstein's book La Salle - Explorer of the North American Frontier. La Salle arrived in North America in 1667 and learned how to survive in the wilderness, adopting a Native American lifestyle and becoming a competent explorer.

I highly recommend Muhlstein's book which reads almost like a historical novel. He describes flora, fauna and Native Americans in detail, and explains how European politics affected new world policies.

There will probably be future publicity about La Salle since the remains of one of his ships (la Belle) were recently located off the Texas Coast. Paperback version about \$20 at Borders.

---Tommy Nuckols

### \*\*\*MEMBERSHIP ALERT\*\*\*

Check your address label on this newsletter. If it does not have the year 96 on it this will be the last newsletter you will receive. Please mail in the renewal form today. We appreciate your support and value your membership.

### Membership/Renewal Application

Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, TX 77265-6751



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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**AIA MEETING**

Archaeological Institute of America  
Room 309, Sewall Hall, Rice U.

Monday, April 15 - 8:00pm

Dr. F. Kent Reilly III  
Department of Anthropology  
Southwest Texas State University

**VISIONS TO ANOTHER WORLD: ART,  
SHAMANISM AND POLITICAL POWER IN THE  
OLMEC WORLD**

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**GALVESTON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

In observance of Texas Archeology Awareness Month, the Museum is hosting a family day, gallery talk and book signing on Saturday, April 27. Dr. Robert A. Ricklis will speak on Indian Cultures of the Texas Coast, highlighting the basic lifeways of the Akokisa and Karankawa. Following his talk Dr. Ricklis will sign copies of his new book, The Karankawa Indians of Texas: An Ecological Study of Cultural Tradition and Change. For more info call museum at (409) 766-2340.

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**EIGHTH ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED LECTURE  
IN ARCHAEOLOGY**

Jones Auditorium, 3900 Yoakum  
St. Thomas University

Sunday, April 28, 8:00pm

Dr. Nancy de Grummond  
Florida State University

**GLORIES OF THE ETRUSCANS**

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**HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY - SPRING WORKSHOP**  
HAS will again sponsor a Workshop on Field Archeology to instruct people in the art of excavation on Saturday, April 27, 1996. It will be a full day event consisting of a half day of classroom instruction followed by lunch and then an afternoon of hands-on experience on a prehistoric site. The cost is \$10 per person which includes lunch, handouts and refreshments while digging. Texas has an overabundance of interesting archeological topics, and excavations can be done successfully only by people who have an avid interest in accuracy. Hopefully participants will develop a lasting awareness of Texas Archeology and continue to participate. To register send name, address, telephone number and \$10 fee to:

Sheldon Kindall  
414 Pebblebrook  
Seabrook, Texas 77586

Confirmation of registration and a map will be mailed to you. For more info call Sheldon Kindall at (713) 326-2160 evenings.

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**PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Southeast Texas Archeology, 1996, by Leland W. Patterson, Houston Archeological Society, Report No. 12

A synthesis of Southeast Texas archeology is presented for all geographic areas and time periods of this 21 county region. This report contains data and details that were not possible to include in the limited space of the author's 1995 paper on this subject in TAS Bulletin 66: 239-264. The price is \$10 postpaid, or \$8 if purchased at an HAS meeting. Orders may be sent to Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, Texas 77265-6751.

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**EXHIBITION**

**The Olmec World: Ritual and Rulership**  
Museum of Fine Arts - April 14 to June 9, 1996

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**The Profile**

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MAY 1996

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## MAY MEETING

May 10, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall,  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Joan Few

Topic: Archeological Excavations  
at One of Texas' Largest Sugar and  
Cotton Plantations: The Lake  
Jackson State Archeological  
Landmark Site, Lake Jackson, Texas

This presentation will cover the  
accomplishments of the 1994 and  
1995 Field Schools.

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Monday - May 13  
(only one meeting this month)

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25pm  
before the monthly meeting.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## THE PROFILE

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Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*

No Meeting in June  
No Newsletter in June

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The HAS Field School held in April was a great success with 41 people in attendance. I sat in on the morning classroom instruction given by Sheldon Kindall and Leland Patterson. In the afternoon the group proceeded to an excavation site located on a beautiful cypress-lined oxbow lake of the San Bernard River. Findings included a few Indian pottery shards and an unexpected amount of historic ceramics.

On the way home I stopped at the Wharton County Historical Museum where HAS has a display of Post West Bernard artifacts from an excavation ca. 1984.

I want to thank everyone involved in organizing and working on the HAS Field School and making it such a resounding success.

---Tommy Nuckols

## TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY SOCIETY

### FIELD SCHOOL 1996

June 8 - 15

Clarendon, Texas

The TAS Field School will be conducted at 41DY17, a very late Prehistoric period site located in the east-central Texas Panhandle. Known as the Greenbelt Site it was designated a State Archeological Landmark in 1994. The site contains architectural features including subterranean houses with postholes. Stratified sequences of prepared clay floors have been revealed and will be a focus of excavations. A variety of stone tools and locally produced plain and cordmarked wares and trade wares have been recovered as well as bone artifacts and subsistence artifacts.

Other Field School activities include: investigating the old townsite of Clarendon; pedestrian transects around the fringe of Greenbelt Lake; assisting Dr. Don Blakeslee in excavations at Coronado's Campsite; and working in full-scale laboratory at Clarendon College.

In addition to the traditional evening programs, a series of afternoon workshops, tours and programs are planned to complement the fieldwork. Camping sites are located along the shores of a beautiful, clear lake so swimming, fishing and any other water-related activity you have equipment for may be enjoyed.

For more info call: Dick Gregg (721-4865) or Sheldon Kindall (522-6752, evenings)

**EXHIBIT**

Museum of Fine Arts  
Until June 9, 1996

**The Olmec World: Ritual and Rulership**

The Olmec culture flourished on the Gulf Coast from 1400-400 B.C. and created the first public architecture in Mesoamerica.

**QUOTE...UNQUOTE**

"They don't seem to have considered the possibility that its function is analagous to graffiti - that it could have been produced by young Homo sapiens males who were luring young females down into this cave and saying: 'Here, look at those bison I've drawn, aren't they cool?'"

---Dr. Geoffrey Miller, of the Max Planck Institute, Munich, on his theory that Palaeolithic art (and art in general) is really a way for boys to attract girls, The Independent, 13 February 1996.

**A 'DICTIONARY' OF IRISH ARCHAEOLOGY**

Geophysics. Method of survey based on spiritualism where archaeologists gather around a table placed over a suspected underground structure and contact the spirit world in an effort to determine the shape of the monuments below. Claimed to be based on Buddhist teachings.

---Archaeology Ireland

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBIT**

Last exhibit of the Winter/Spring Series  
Special Hours for HAS Members

Friday, May 10, 1996

6pm to 7:25pm

(before HAS Meeting)

Little Archaeology Gallery  
2212 West Alabama at Mt. Vernon

**West African Traditions:  
the Benin Bronzes**

Cast bronze artifacts reflecting the life and beliefs of the Benin People of Nigeria

**NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY**

Exploring ancient Native America - An Archaeological Guide, 1994. David Hurst Thomas

Anson Jones Plantation at Washinton County Texas. Shawn Bonath Carleson

Prehistoric Artifacts of the Texas Indians, 1991 (Lab). Dan R. Davis

Wharton County Pictorial History (1846-1946), 1993. Merle Reue Hudgins et al.

Lost Kingdoms of the Maya, 1993. Gene S. Stuart and George E. Stuart

Aboriginal Life and Culture on the Upper Texas Coast, 1994. Robert A. Ricklis

History of Chambers County, 1988. Margaret Henson and Kevin Ladd

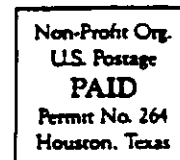
---Jim Wells, HAS Librarian

**The Profile**

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# The Profile

JULY 1996

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

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## JULY MEETING

July 12, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall,  
University of St. Thomas

Speakers: Members of HAS

Topic: Highlights of TAS  
Field School 1996

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## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - July 15 and 29

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

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## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25pm  
before the monthly meeting.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

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## THE PROFILE

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Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The meeting this month will be dedicated to the TAS Field School which was held in June. Bring your slides and stories to share with the membership. Anyone who would like to make a presentation can call me at (713) 664-8369, after 5:00pm, so I can coordinate things.

Have you ever wondered how good the HAS Library is? Let me put it this way: I could take a week of vacation in our Library and enjoy every minute of it. The HAS Library has an outstanding collection of books and field reports on Archaeology and related subjects. Come by and check it out.

I want to thank Evelyn Lewis, Editor of "La Tierra", the Quarterly Journal of the Southern Texas Archaeological Society for her support of the HAS. The January 1996 issue of "La Tierra" included an article by Leland Patterson and some nice publicity for the HAS.

---Tommy Nuckols

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## SUMMERTIME

This is a slow news time for HAS what with no meeting in June as folks head off for the TAS Field School and others are away on vacation. I will be on tour for awhile doing things archeological and otherwise and will keep up with the newsletter from a distance.

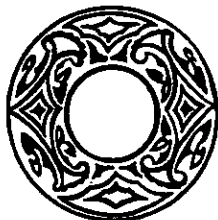
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those dedicated folks (you know who you are) who have been so cheerfully helpful in folding and labeling the newsletter each month. You have certainly made it easy and pleasant for this editor to get the job done.

Also an extra thank you to those who will be doing chores above and beyond the call of duty while I'm gallivanting around.

I look forward to seeing you all in September but in the meantime do send in any news items or tidbits that might be of interest to the membership.

---editor

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### TALK ABOUT HEAVY TOMES...

A China specialist has brought to light the largest and heaviest book in the world, nearly 14,300 stone tablets inscribed with Buddhist scriptures found in caves near the Yunju monastery in Beijing Province. Sixteen thousand monks took more than 1000 years to chisel some 35 million Chinese characters into the tablets, which include not only Buddhist scriptures but also extensive commentaries. The tablets, inscribed on both sides, range in size from 2 by 1 and 1/2 feet to 8 by 2 feet.

A monk named Jingwan began the book in A.D. 605 in an effort to preserve Buddhist scriptures in the wake of book burnings and persecutions. Sixteen successive generations of monks continued his work until 1644. The smaller tablets were kept in caves under the monastery, while the larger ones were dragged uphill and hid in nine caves that were cut into a steep cliff.

In 1942 an invading Japanese army destroyed the Yunju monastery and carried off several of the small tablets. After the war the monastery was rebuilt, and the remaining small tablets stored in a shed. The larger tablets remained unknown to the West until Josef Guter, director of the Volkshogeschool in Bremen, Germany, was allowed to visit the caves. Convinced that the book is a valuable resource showing the evolution and history of Buddhism in China, Guter is now trying to get it included on UNESCO's world heritage list and made available for public viewing.

---ARCHAEOLOGY

### ON A LIGHTER NOTE...

If you are looking for some light, fluffy reading during the summer there are a couple of mainstream series with an archeological theme that may be of interest.

The Chronicles of Brother Cadfael by Ellis Peters is a series of tales involving the good Brother as a detective trying to solve mystery, murder and assorted mayhem. Set in 12th Century Britain at the Benedictine Abbey of Saint Peter and Saint Paul at Shrewsbury, the books contain well researched bits of information about medieval life and times. I'm not sure exactly how many exist but I have just started the Eighteenth Chronicle which was written in 1991. They are paperbacks of approximately 250 pages each.

Another series, by Elizabeth Peters (as far as I know, no relation to the above), combines mystery, love affairs, Egyptian History and archeological excavations in a witty and thoroughly amusing manner. Some of the intriguing titles are: "The Last Camel Died at Noon", "The Mummy Case" and "Crocodile on the Sandbank".

A somewhat more scholarly book is "How the Irish Saved Civilization" by Thomas Cahill. Excerpts from the book jacket notes: - From the fall of Rome to the rise of Charlemagne - the "dark ages" - learning, scholarship, and culture disappeared from the European continent. The great heritage of western civilization - from the Greek and Roman classics to Jewish and Christian works - would have been utterly lost were it not for the holy men and women of unconquered Ireland. Far from the barbarian despoilation of the continent, monks and scribes laboriously, lovingly, even playfully preserved the west's written treasury. With the return of stability in Europe, these Irish scholars were instrumental in spreading learning.

---editor

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### The Profile

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# The Profile

AUGUST 1996

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

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## AUGUST MEETING

August 9, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall,  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Randolph Widmer  
University of Houston

Topic: Excavations at the Key  
Marco Site, Collier  
County, Florida

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We have currently been processing bucket loads of excavated dirt from site 41CH161 in the lab. The reason??? Glass seed beads are part of the artifact assemblage of the site. The only way to recover these tiny beads is to water screen the dirt through fine mesh screens. It is tedious work to then sort through what is recovered in the screen (tiny fish bones, snail shells, pottery and my son's favorite - hackberry tree seeds). But finding one of those beads is a rewarding experience. I have found two beads over approximately ten lab sessions. Both beads were a milky white color. The diameter of the beads is just big enough for a thread to go through. When the beads are examined under a microscope, air bubbles can be seen in the glass. There is a lot of work left to do in the lab on the materials from this site, so come join us at lab!!

---Tommy Nuckols

---

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - August 12 and 26

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

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## FIELD NOTES from ARCHAEOLOGY

### Lucy was a Guy?

A recent study by two Swiss anthropologists suggests that Lucy, the 3.2-million-year-old Australopithecus afarensis, may be male. If correct, these findings may re-ignite an acrimonious debate among scholars over whether A. afarensis is one species or two.

### Chinese Tomb Find

Three hundred eighty-four 2,000-year-old tombs containing bronze weapons and vessels and ceramic figurines have been discovered near Xianyang in China's Shaanxi Province. Excavations of the tombs, which date from the Warring States Period (476-221 B.C.) to the Qin Dynasty (ca. 221-206 B.C.), have yielded the earliest known equestrian figure found in China.

### Arrests in Iran

Twenty people were arrested for looting archaeological treasures in Iran's western Ilam province, according to the newspaper Jomhuri Islami. Authorities confiscated a second-century B.C. sword and various statues. Last year Iran introduced the death penalty for people convicted of illegal trade in antiquities.

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## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25pm  
before the monthly meeting.

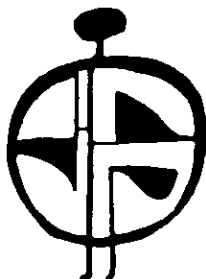
Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

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## THE PROFILE

Please send items for THE PROFILE to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

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## NOTES FROM ALL OVER -

University College Galway, Ireland

This is the last week of what has been a delightful experience. I enrolled in the Archaeology course of the Irish Studies Program and then discovered it was possible to audit all the other courses offered so have been attending lectures in Irish History, Society, Culture, Literature & Film and a bit of Language.

In addition to the academic offerings a number of weekend field trips were arranged - to the Aran Islands, to the home of W.B. Yeats at Thorballylee in Co. Clare, to Yeats' grave in Co. Sligo, and to various Cathedrals, Castles, High Crosses, Hillforts, and Monastic, Neolithic and Bronze Age sites.

Our weekend in Northern Ireland was relatively calm and peaceful. In Enniskillen we visited an archaeology museum located in a castle. We had a guided tour of the Guild Hall/Town Hall and Medieval Walls of the town of Derry and witnessed the uneasy tenor of this very visibly divided town. On the surface people seemed to be getting on with their lives. But just three days later we were dismayed to see on the TV news the troubling events occurring in Derry and elsewhere in Northern Ireland.

But here in Galway summer activities are in full swing. There is an Arts Festival in progress - theater, film, concerts, exhibits, street performers, etc. Next week the horse set invades the town with the advent of the Galway Races.

When the course ends I will go travelling around Ireland to visit as many historic and archaeological sites as possible and then spend a few weeks with the relatives here. See you all in September.

---editor

## DIGS PRESENT AND IN FUTURO

We are presently digging at the Lafitte site in Galveston, between 14th and 15th streets on Water Street. In on the dig are members of the Fort Bend Archeological Society, the Brazosport Society and the Lafitte Society, an historical society located in Galveston. The site is a foundation about 9 feet high in a place thought by the locals to be the site of Lafitte's "Maison Rouge" fortified house, abandoned in 1820. Tourists stop by and we were on TV a couple of weeks ago. It is hotter than billy hell but there is a good barbecue joint on the corner and we quit early.

Next on the agenda, to be dug this fall when its cooler, is a campsite occupied by Mexican troops after the battle of San Jacinto, probably those of General Urrea. It is down toward Wharton.

### TAS MEETING

The annual meeting of the Texas Archeological Society will be held in San Antonio on October 25-27th at the Menger Hotel. You can learn a lot and the single members may get lucky. See Sheldon Kindall, Dick Gregg or Richey Ebersole if you want to go.

## The Profile

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# The Profile

SEPTEMBER 1996

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING

September 13, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall,  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Dr. Blaine Ensor  
Geo-Marine, Inc.

Topic: Eagle Ridge Midden on  
Lake Charlotte, Chambers County

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## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays - September 16 & 30

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Rice University  
Archeology Lab, Sewell Hall  
Room 103

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## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25pm  
before the monthly meeting, or by  
special arrangement with Jim Wells  
Ph 944-4276.

Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

---

## BOOK SALE - ADVANCE NOTICE

Librarian Jim Wells will conduct the  
Annual Book Sale at the October  
meeting. Members who would like to  
donate books may bring them to the  
September meeting or give Jim a call  
at 944-4276. Here's a chance to make  
room on your overcrowded bookshelves  
and also help the HAS Library.

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## THE PROFILE

Please send items for THE PROFILE to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

In August my mother and I took a few days va-  
cation to our ranch in Big Wells, Texas. Instead  
of the usual I-10 route, we decided to take 288  
along the coast and visit some historic sites.  
At Angleton we took hwy 35 to hwy 616. Just  
outside the town of LaSalle, 616 crosses Garcitas  
Creek where we stopped at the boat ramp. The  
site of Fort St. Louis is located somewhere in  
this area along the creek bank which we explored  
for a while. Eventually 616 intersected hwy 77  
and we headed to Refugio. We visited the county  
museum and the excavations at the Mission Refugio  
site. The mission was built around 1795. On the  
surface nothing is left of the original mission  
buildings - the stones were used as building  
materials in the 1800's. We continued on toward  
Corpus Christi, then took hwy666 to San Patricio.  
I had read Rachel Hebert's book, "The Forgotten  
Colony, San Patricio de Hibernia" and wanted to  
visit this site. Irishmen John McMullen and  
James McGloin received an empresario land grant  
from Mexico and founded San Patricio in 1831.  
The town witnessed action during the Texas  
Revolution. Much needed rain accompanied us all  
the way and continued for our three day visit but  
this did not stop me from hiking around the  
Nueces River and enjoying the scenery and  
environment.

On the way home we stopped at Mission San Jose in  
San Antonio which has an excellent bookstore  
where I bought "Spanish Texas Pilgrimage" by Fr.  
Marion A. Habig OFM. The author discusses every  
Spanish mission, presidio and villa established  
in Texas and Robeline, Louisiana. This  
fascinating book contains maps, photographs and  
plan drawings of existing missions and helped me  
make sense out of the sometimes confusing events  
that occurred during the Spanish colonial period.  
We had an enjoyable three days, traveled 850  
miles round trip and discovered a lot of Texas  
history along the way.

---Tommy Nuckols

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## FIRST ANNUAL LECTURE ON ITALIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Sunday September 22, 1966, 8:00 PM  
Dr. John Dobbins, University of Virginia  
"The Forum at Pompeii"  
Jones Auditorium, 3900 Yoakum Blvd.

**PUBLICATION NOTICE**

L.W. Patterson, W.L. McClure, E. Palmer, and T. Palmer. 1996  
**Excavations at 41FB224 and 41FB225, Fort Bend County, Texas.**  
Fort Bend Archeological Society, Report No. 3

This report covers excavation results at a Late Prehistoric and Early Ceramic site, 41FB224, and an Early Ceramic site, 41FB225. Copies can be obtained from: Fort Bend Archeological Society, 600 Houston Street, Richmond, Texas 77469. Cost of this report is \$5.75 postpaid.

**LA SALLE SHIPWRECK EXCURSION**

Please join us next October 12th when we visit the excavation of La Salle's ship "La Belle" in Matagorda Bay. We will meet in Port O'Connor for lunch at Clark's Restaurant and board the "Spoonbill Express" (the vessel carries 22 persons and has bathroom facilities) at 1:00 PM for a 20-30 minute trip to the site and will be accompanied by a Texas Historical Commission member.

Cost is \$10 per person and \$5 suggested donation to the Texas Historical Commission, both of which may be paid at the boat.

For reservations call Karen Fustes at 482-1534 or Tom Nuckolls at 664-8369. If you can't make this trip you may schedule another, call "Spoonbill" at 512/983-2862 or Don's Diving at 512/972-2177 for times and costs.

**DR. MARY GOTTSHALL HODGE**  
**MARCH 30, 1946 - AUGUST 21, 1996**

The archaeological community locally, nationally and internationally, lost an important scholar and researcher with the death of Dr. Mary Hodge. A native of Michigan, she received her Bachelors degree from Kalamazoo College in 1968, her M.A. from the University of Michigan in 1978, and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1983. She joined the faculty at the University of Houston Clear Lake in 1987. Very early on in her career she focused on Latin American Archaeology and became an expert in the market systems of city states in the Basin of Mexico during the Aztec Period. Her research during the last few years was culminating in a wealth of information. Dr. Hodge had seven individual publications or contributing documents in progress at the time of her death. The knowledge of the past that goes with her will be a great loss.

Not only a great scholar and researcher she was also a wonderful friend, advisor, and nurturer of students and colleagues; always going out of her way to assist a student in finding their goal and direction. She assisted in many HAS and TAS projects, and respected the contributions made by volunteers, amateur archeologist and avocational archeologist. She appreciated every contribution to the study of man. We will miss her support, her good nature, her encouragement, and her presence; she was a wonderful person and a wonderful friend.

The family has suggested that contributions may be made to a fund in Mary's memory to support student research. Donations can be sent to the Mary Hodge Memorial Fund, c/o Development Office, Box 43, UHCL, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., Houston, Texas 77058.

---Joan Few

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# The Profile

OCTOBER, 1996

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

## OCTOBER MEETING

Friday, October 11, 1996  
7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Phil Detering  
Texas A&M University

Topic: Native American Plant Use in the  
Archaeological Record

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays, October 14 and 28  
7:00 to 9:00 PM  
Location: Rice University Archeology Lab  
Sewell Hall, Room 103

## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25 PM before the  
monthly meeting, or by appointment. Call  
Jim Wells at 944-4276.  
Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## Reminder:

**BOOK SALE AT OCTOBER MEETING**  
Bring books to sell and/or money to buy

## THE PROFILE

Please send items for THE PROFILE to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I just received a new book I ordered from the University of New Mexico Press entitled *San Antonio de Bejar, A Community on New Spain's Northern Frontier*. The central theme of the book deals with how San Antonio developed as a community. There are a lot of census figures and photographs of early dwellings utilizing architectural styles that were popular in the early stages of the City. The photographs were taken in the late 1800's. Some of these photos I have never seen in any other publication. This would be a good book to read in preparation for the upcoming Texas Archaeology Society's annual meeting in San Antonio.

I forgot to mention two things in last month's President's Column:  
1) Mission San Jose has a new visitor's center located outside the Mission complex next to the visitor parking area. Inside the center is a museum dedicated to all the missions of San Antonio; and  
2) The book store located at Mission San Jose is called the **Spanish Colonial Bookstore**, and is located within the Mission compound along the middle of the west wall in what was once an Indian apartment.

And finally, I heard a rumor that archaeologists recently found the site of the Jamestown fort, and that it exists in its entirety. I hope this is true. A few years ago I visited Jamestown, and the pamphlet from the visitor's center stated that most of the site was probably gone due to erosion caused by the James River.

---Tommy Nuckols

## EXHIBIT

Little Archaeology Gallery - 1121 West Alabama

## GREEK TEMPLES: Photo-Plates from a Grand Tour

30 turn-of-the-century photographs of notable Classical temples and sanctuaries

## Membership/Renewal Application

Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, TX 77265-6751

Please complete and mail with check for correct amount to the above address.



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Bus \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership:  New member  Renewal  Single (\$15)  Family (\$20)  Contributing (\$30+)  Student (\$5)

### ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE:

"I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state, or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques."

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## AIA MEETING

Archaeological Institute of America  
Sewall Hall, Rm 301, Rice University  
Tuesday, October 15, 1996 - 8 PM

Dr. Martha Sharp Joukowsky  
Kershaw Lecturer/National AIA  
Brown University

## Petra: The Southern Temple

.....

### ALLEYTON DIG

A recent historical survey and excavation of the now-obscure railroad right of way near Center Street in Alleyton yielded artifacts such as nail spikes, pieces of cast iron machinery, pottery and glass. The collections will be analyzed at College Station and returned to Prairie Edge Museum in Eagle Lake for preservation and exhibit.

In 1860, Alleyton became the western termination of the first railroad built in Texas - the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railroad (BBB&C). The community was important in east-west freight and passenger traffic. During the Civil War, it was a vital link in the "Cotton Road", where bales of Southern-grown cotton were delivered by rail and off-loaded onto ox carts before being hauled to the Mexican border. There, European dealers received the cotton in exchange for war materials and other supplies the Confederate Army needed. Alleyton was a busy commercial center but once the war was over the town's role diminished and its population rapidly delined.

Today there is little physical evidence of Alleyton's important role 130 years ago, in Confederate Texas. The locations of the Alleyton railroad station, the engine turn-table and Confederate Camp Webb are unknown. So Museum curators asked Dr. Shawn Carlson of Historic Sites Research in College Station to make an archaeological survey of the area. Participating in the field project with Dr. Carlson and others were HAS members Bill Csanyi, Dick Gregg, Joe Hudgins and Ray McCausland.

---Colorado County Citizen

.....

## TAS FIELD SCHOOL - 1997

The 1997 TAS Field School will be at the site of La Bahia #2.

La Bahia #1 was established adjacent to the presidio that was built directly on top of Ft. St. Louis and lasted only 3 or 4 years.

The mission was then moved inland to where El Camino Real crossed the Guadalupe River, and remained in that spot for about 23 years and is known as La Bahia #2.

In 1749, the mission was moved back down the road to where the road crossed the San Antonio River near Goliad and this La Bahia (#3) was a part of the Texas Revolution.

The site looks great. Good camping amongst shade trees beside a very good river. Lots of early history, and there is a large prehistoric site at the same location. I think the prehistoric site belongs to the archaic time period. As far as I know, all of the La Bahia missions had the same incredible Spanish name: Nuestra Senora de la Bahia del Espiritu Santo de Zuniga(!).

Dr. Thomas Hester will be the Archaeologist in charge.  
This should be fun.

In order to attend the TAS Field School, one must be a member of TAS. Anybody joining now will be a member for all of 1997. I have application forms. For those who wish to join TAS, please let me turn in your application form so I can placate the new membership committee.

---Sheldon Kindall

.....

### HAS OFFICERS - 1997

The following officers were elected at the September meeting:

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| President         | Tom Nuckols      |
| Vice-President    | Leland Patterson |
| Secretary         | Muriel Walker    |
| Treasurer         | Karen Fustes     |
| Director-at-large | Bill Csanyi      |

Continuing Directors-at-large are:

Don McReynolds  
Bernard Naman

.....

### WINTER EXPEDITION - January 4-11, 1997

Join a congenial group for a delightful coach trip through the Deep South to visit prehistoric Indian, Ante Bellum, and Civil War sites in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. For more info call Pat Underwood: 665-1002.

.....

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY**

---

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# The Profile

NOVEMBER 1996

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

## NOVEMBER MEETING

Friday, November 8, 1996 - 7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Fred Valdez  
Topic: Innovative Approaches in Maya  
Archaeology

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Mondays, November 11 and 25  
7:00 to 9:00 PM  
Location: Rice University Archeology Lab  
Sewell Hall, Room 103

## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25 PM before the  
monthly meeting, or by appointment. Call  
Jim Wells at 944-4276.  
Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## THE PROFILE

Please send items for THE PROFILE to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

### IMPORTANT DATES:

November 8 - HAS Reception in Little Gallery  
November 24 - Lecture in Greek Archaeology  
**see next page for details**

## WINTER EXPEDITION - January 4-11

For info call Pat Underwood: 665-1002

## MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL APPLICATION

Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, Tx 77265-6751

Please complete and mail with check for correct amount to the above address.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:(home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

|                     |            |                    |                  |                         |
|---------------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Type of Membership: | New Member | Please Circle one: | Single - \$15.00 | Contributing - \$30.00+ |
|                     | Renewal    |                    | Family - \$20.00 | Student - \$5.00        |

### ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE:

"I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state, or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques".

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

If after visiting the excavation site of La Salle's ship *La Belle* you developed an interest in nautical history, then consider visiting Corpus Christi, Texas and the Vicksburg National Military Park, in Mississippi. Both have historic ship displays and their close proximity to Houston would make a nice weekend excursion.

Parts of the hull and artifacts of what is thought to be the Spanish ship *San Esteban*, are on permanent display at the museum of Natural History in Corpus Christi. This ship was one of four en route from Veracruz, Mexico to Spain with a cargo of new world products. The *San Esteban* and two of the other ships, the *Santa Maria de Yciar* and the *Espiritu Santo*, sank after running aground off Padre Island during a storm in April, 1554. Of the approximately 300 people aboard the ships, only a few survived. The fourth ship eventually reached Havana and was abandoned. The *San Esteban* was excavated in the 1970's by archaeologists from the Texas Antiquities Committee. The *Santa Maria de Yciar* was destroyed when the Mansfield Channel was dredged in the 1940's and the *Espiritu Santo* was lost to a treasure hunting company in 1969.

Replicas of Columbus' ships, the *Nina*, *Pinta* and *Santa Maria* are permanently moored in Corpus Christi not too far from the Museum of Natural History. A museum dedicated to exploration of the New World is located nearby.

The Vicksburg National Military Park is home to the remains of the ironclad gunboat *USS Cairo*. Built in 1861, the *Cairo* was used as a mine sweeper during the Civil War. It sank in the Yazoo River in 1862 when an electrically detonated torpedo blew a hole in her hull. The National Park Service salvaged the *Cairo* in the 1960's, and after stylistic reconstruction, put the boat on exhibit. The museum contains artifacts recovered from the vessel, a scale model of the ship and period photographs of the officers, crew and the gunboat in action.

I also highly recommend the book *Ships and Shipwrecks of the Americas*, edited by George F. Bass, published by Thames and Hudson, Inc.

---Tommy Nuckols

## AIA MEETINGS

Archaeological Institute of America  
Sewall Hall, Rm 309, Rice University

Monday, November 11, 1996 - 8 PM

Dr. Alastair Small  
National AIA Lecturer  
University of Alberta

### Mystery Gardens in Roman Italy

Tuesday, December 3, 1996 - 8 PM

Larry Baker  
Executive Director  
Salmon Ruins Museum

### Preservation of Prehistoric Architecture: Structural Stabilization at Salmon Ruin

## HAS AWARDS

Annual awards of the Houston Archeological Society were presented at the October 1996 meeting. The Southeast Texas Archeological Research Award was given to **Sheldon Kindall** for his many contributions to research in this region. The HAS Merit Award was given to **Jeanette Siciliano** for several years of outstanding work as HAS newsletter editor.

The Southeast Texas Archeological Research Award has previously been given to William McClure, Joe Hudgins, Lawrence Aten, Alan Duke, Lee Patterson, Grant Hall and Harry Shafer. The HAS Merit Award has previously been given to Pam Wheat, Sheldon Kindall, Bob Etheridge, Richard Gregg, Bernard Naman, Karen Acker and William Haskell. Other previous HAS awards include a special award to Alan Duke as HAS Journal Editor, and election of Alan Duke, Don Lewis, Evelyn Lewis and Pam Wheat as Lifetime Members of the HAS.

### EXHIBIT

#### ARCHAEOLOGY NEAR HOME

An exhibit honoring the excavations of the  
Houston Archeological Society  
October 27 to December 6, 1996  
Weekdays 12 to 6 PM

#### HAS RECEPTION

Friday, November 8, 1996 - 6:30 to 7:30 PM  
The Little Archaeology Gallery - 1121 West Alabama

## SIXTH ANNUAL LECTURE IN GREEK ARCHAEOLOGY

Sunday, November 24, 1996 - 8:00 PM

Jones Auditorium, University of St. Thomas  
3900 Yoakum Boulevard

Dr. John R. Hale  
University of Louisville

### WARRIORS FROM THE SEA: TWO GREEK MASTER BRONZES

Heroic bronze statues from 5thC BC Athens - Magnificent  
metalwork from a Roman shipwreck

## STATE HISTORIC COMMISSION NEEDS HELP

Those of us who visited the *La Belle* excavation in Matagorda Bay were impressed both by the magnitude and the archeological sophistication of the project.

This project is being executed by the Texas Historic Commission which is a branch of our state government. The Commission is responsible for a lot of the things that we in the Houston Archeological Society feel are important. It turns out, however, that the Historic Commission is in danger of being voted into archeological insignificance by our state legislators. Some parts of the Commission such as "Historic Markers", etc. will always be around, but the branch of the Commission now known as the "Office of the State Archeologist" may not survive.

There is a way we can help. A letter from any individual to his or her local state legislator saying why state help with archeology is needed can mean much, much more than a monetary contribution to the Historic Commission. The thought here is not a form letter saying "I support the Historic Commission", but a thoughtful two or three paragraph letter which explains why we need the Office of the State Archeologist, or its equivalent, attached to some branch of state government.

One can use the *La Belle* project as fodder - the key thought being that such projects are identified and executed by the archeological community, not the academic or even historic-minded community. The thing that legislators need to be made aware of is that Texas has probably the most interesting pre-history that can be found anywhere in the United States, and more than 200 years of French and Spanish occupation that never made it into the history books. And there is a small army of people who enjoy recovering this data at an expense to nobody but themselves, but we need a state office which can coordinate all of this work and provide state support where it has public approval - such as the *La Belle* project.

---Sheldon Kindall

## The Profile

Houston Archeological Society  
P O Box 6751  
Houston, TX 77265-6751

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DECEMBER, 1996

# The Profile

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY • HOUSTON • TEXAS

## DECEMBER MEETING

Friday, December 13, 1996 - 7:30 PM  
M D Anderson Hall  
University of St. Thomas

Speaker: Michael Waters  
Texas A&M University

Topic: Early Man in Siberia:  
The Diring Strait

## LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Monday, December 16, 1996  
NO lab on December 30  
7:00 to 9:00 PM  
Location: Rice University Archeology Lab  
Sewell Hall, Room 103

## HAS LIBRARY

Open between 6:30 and 7:25 PM before the monthly meeting, or by appointment. Call Jim Wells at 944-4276.  
Location: Little Gallery  
1121 Alabama at Mt. Vernon

## THE PROFILE

Please send items for THE PROFILE to:  
Jeanette Siciliano (795-4691)  
12462 Barryknoll, Houston 77024

Please Renew Your Membership Today

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A couple of newsletters ago in the President's column, I mentioned a rumor concerning the discovery of James Fort. According to an article in the Newsbriefs section of the Nov/Dec issue of *Archaeology Magazine*, archaeologists have uncovered 90,000 artifacts from an excavation of 5 percent of the site. It is thought that 80 percent of the fort still exists. A 1613-1617 James River navigational chart found in the Dutch National Archives shows the location of the fort. This chart was compared with satellite photos and apparently erosion has not claimed as much of the site as originally thought. According to William Kelso, Director of Jamestown Rediscovery, the site will be studied for 10 years.

I attended the October annual meeting of the Texas Archaeological Society in San Antonio. While there, I took some time to explore the downtown area and discovered an interesting store called the History Shop, located at 713 East Houston. The shop contains Alamo memorabilia, old prints and maps and history books for sale. The shop owner was interesting to talk to and showed me his collection of Texana. I purchased a color enhanced print of a daguerreotype taken in 1849 of the Alamo. The daguerreotype was taken at an acute angle to the facade, and is somewhat hazy. The front doors appear to be falling apart, and there are several men standing around. Anyone interested in history would enjoy visiting this shop.

Sandra and Johnny Pollan of the Brazosport Archaeological Society spent a week in October as volunteers at the *La Belle* excavation. They were there when the human skeleton was uncovered in the hull of the ship. I saw their video showing the articulated skeleton, which appears to be in a good state of preservation. The bones have turned black, probably due to organic staining from the rope the bones were lying on. Johnny and Sandra will show slides from their trip at the Brazosport meeting in January, and I will give a talk about the current HAS investigation of the 1836 Mexican army retreat campsite near the town of East Bernard.

---Tommy Nuckols

## MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL APPLICATION

Houston Archeological Society, P.O. Box 6751, Houston, Tx 77265-6751

Please complete and mail with check for correct amount to the above address.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:(home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: New Member      Please Circle one: Single - \$15.00      Contributing - \$30.00+  
Renewal    Family - \$20.00                          Student - \$5.00

### ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE:

"I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state, or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques".

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# AIA MEETING

Archaeological Institute of America  
Sewall Hall, Rm 309, Rice University

Tuesday, January 28, 1997

Dr. James Bruseth  
Texas Historical Commission  
The LaSalle Project

## NOTES FROM ALL OVER

This past summer I participated in a memorable 23-day archaeological tour of Italy with the 'Friends of Archaeology' led by Fr. Ed Bader of St Thomas University. One of the many highlights of the trip was a visit to the Archaeological Museum in Reggio Calabria located in the very toe of the 'boot' of Italy. In this corner of the universe reside two of the most remarkable statues ever to come to light from antiquity: the Riace Bronzes. The two bronze statues of heroic warriors are beautifully exhibited in a climate-controlled room of their own with plenty of space to walk around them and marvel at the meticulous workmanship and commanding presence of these long-ago champions of their time. We lingered for as long as we could and finally left reluctantly - we were sure that if we stayed just another few minutes these statues would speak and tell us tales of another time and place. Well the statues did communicate with us in the person of Dr. John Hale who presented the Sixth Annual Lecture on Greek Archaeology at St. Thomas University. Dr. Hale

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

## SPECIAL INVITATION TO HAS MEMBERS

### HAS BOXING DAY PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1996  
5 - 8PM  
RICHEY EBERSOLE'S HOUSE  
2215 ROBINHOOD

Bev Mendedhall is providing Shrimp and other Entrees will also be available. So to complete the meal please bring along your favorite veggie dish or salad or dessert or whatever. For more info call Richey (524-4864 ) or Bev (522-6752).

## NOTES FROM ALL OVER (continued)

related a fascinating story worthy of attention from readers of great detective fiction. The statues were found in 1972 by a young chemist from Rome on holiday in Riace who was snorkeling about 400 yards off the beach in 25 feet of water. He reported his find to the nearest archaeologist and the statues were removed to Reggio. This move had to be accomplished quietly because the people of Riace were convinced they were Sts. Cosmos and Damian and wanted the statues installed locally. But the restoration proved too complicated for the Reggio facilities and off the warriors went to Florence. Eight years later they returned to Reggio and have been entertaining audiences ever since. Dr. Hale and other archaeologists/sleuths have been examining every detail and tracing references in order to identify these heroic figures. Best evidence suggests they were the first two statues one would encounter when approaching the Parthenon from the Propylaea. I am anxiously awaiting the book Dr. Hale promises to publish. Or perhaps a movie?

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