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MENARD—MORRIS HOUSE 1985

THE MENARD-MORRIS HOUSEA PRELIMINARY REPORTSheldon M. KindallACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Houston Archeological Society probably couldn't have avoided some sort of investigation of the ante-bellum house described herein as the Menard-Morris house. A former HAS president, Texas Anderson, works for the RSJ Development Company which owns the house and will soon develop the property on which the house sits. And, another HAS member, Jim Glass, an avid historian who specializes in local history, virtually grew up in the house.

Jim Glass' family owned the Menard-Morris house from 1948 until recently. Mr. Glass has accumulated an extraordinary amount of information on the house and the early settlers who built the house. He is currently writing a history of Houston and the Galveston Bay Area, and the history of the people associated with the construction of this house will undoubtedly be summed up in that product.

Mr. Glass has made available to the HAS, his notes which are considerably more extensive than what is reported here. Rather than reference the individual sources of information discovered by Mr. Glass, a general reference is made to Mr. Glass and his 'to be published' history.

People who assisted in the excavation of test pits were: David Atherton, Charles Boyle, Diane Campbell, Bill Campbell, Rich Ebersole, Joan Few, Arthur Few, Jim Glass, Dick Gregg, Marcy Grubbs, Joe Hudgins, Mike Johnson, Betty Kindall, Debbie Laffler, Morene Maness, Bernard Namen, Tommy Nuckles, David Pettus, Johnny Pollan, Bill Sherman, Gerald Slagle, and Anne Sullivan.

BACKGROUND

The Menard-Morris house sits on the bank of a broad point of land which protrudes from the north-east side of Clear Lake, a lake located on the southern boundary of Harris County. In fact, the county line between Harris County and Galveston County runs through the geographical center of Clear Lake.

The house site itself is one of the higher points around the edge of Clear Lake and remains as much a choice site today as it was when the house was first built. The house, which is still standing, is now much altered from the original structure, but apparently still contains some of the original structure within its walls.

There is little awareness of this house. Even today there is insufficient awareness of this house to save it. The current owner, Russell J. Simon, graciously donated the house to the Clear Lake Area Heritage Society, a society dedicated to preserving the heritage of the Clear Lake area. The society was able to raise sufficient funds to move the house from its current site to the Clear Lake Park (no small engineering feat) where the house could be preserved, but this park required that the house be 'stabilized' after moving. This would amount to basically renovating the house which, even using volunteer labor, amounts to funds far beyond what could be raised. At the time of this writing, it appears that the house will have to be destroyed.

HISTORY (Reference 1)

The land on which this house was constructed was originally granted by the Mexican Government in 1832 to Ritson Morris, a young lawyer from Virginia. Ritson, known as 'Jawbone' Morris from a song he became associated with, came to the Clear Lake area in 1830 after living one year in Nacogdoches. His wife, Minerva, was the daughter of Amos Edwards who settled Edwards Point on Galveston Bay in 1825. Edwards Point is today known as San Leon.

Ritson constructed his home on Galveston Bay near the mouth of Clear Creek. At that time, there was about one quarter of a mile of river between Clear Lake and Galveston Bay. The cove containing Ritson's house became known as 'Morris Cove'. Like most successful early settlements, Morris Cove grew and prospered; today, Morris Cove is the city of Seabrook.

When Ritson Morris came to Galveston Bay, his daughter, Virginia, was only 6 months old. Virginia grew up in Morris Cove and later attended school in Galveston. At some point in time, Virginia met Alfred Menard, younger half-brother of Michel B. Menard, the founder of Galveston. The Menards came to Texas from Canada.

Alfred Menard came to Galveston to live with his older brother Michel. When the on going Texas/Mexican conflict took the turn now known in history as the War between the United States and Mexico, Alfred, who was often described as 'dashing', did indeed dash off to join the force led by General Winnfield Scott. At the conclusion of Scott's part of that war, Alfred stayed on in Brownsville where he engaged in the mercantile business. How Alfred got back to the Clear Lake area or when he first met Virginia Morris does not appear to be documented but (Reference 2):

"In 1852, he married Virginia. After the death of Ritson Morris, Mrs. Morris gave each of her children one hundred acres of land and Virginia's part included a beautiful point that extended out into Clear Lake. It was a most delightful spot on which to build a home. There were many big trees behind it to protect it from the cold Texas Northerns in the winter, and in the summer months, the trade winds brought cool sea-breezes across the rippling waters of the lake. Here Alfred Menard, the dashing young Canadian who had fought with Scott in Mexico for his adopted country, and the same little girl who had ridden in the arms of her parents across the great coastal plains to settle this country, built their home."

Alfred and Virginia lived to ripe old ages. Both died in the house and both are buried in a graveyard which was once part of the 100 acres.

A photograph of the house which is believed to date from 1875 and is in the possession of Jim Glass shows the original structure - a two story building with four ground-to-roof columns in front. A picture of the house from 1909 shows the house to have basically the same structure except for added windows. By 1933, the house had changed its appearance. It is speculated that the change may have resulted from the 1915 hurricane which did extensive damage in the Clear Lake area. The house is aligned north to south with its front door facing south toward the lake. Today the structure shows possibly two extensions to the rear and a large, two-story wing added to the east side. Also, the front has been extended to where the columns used to be.

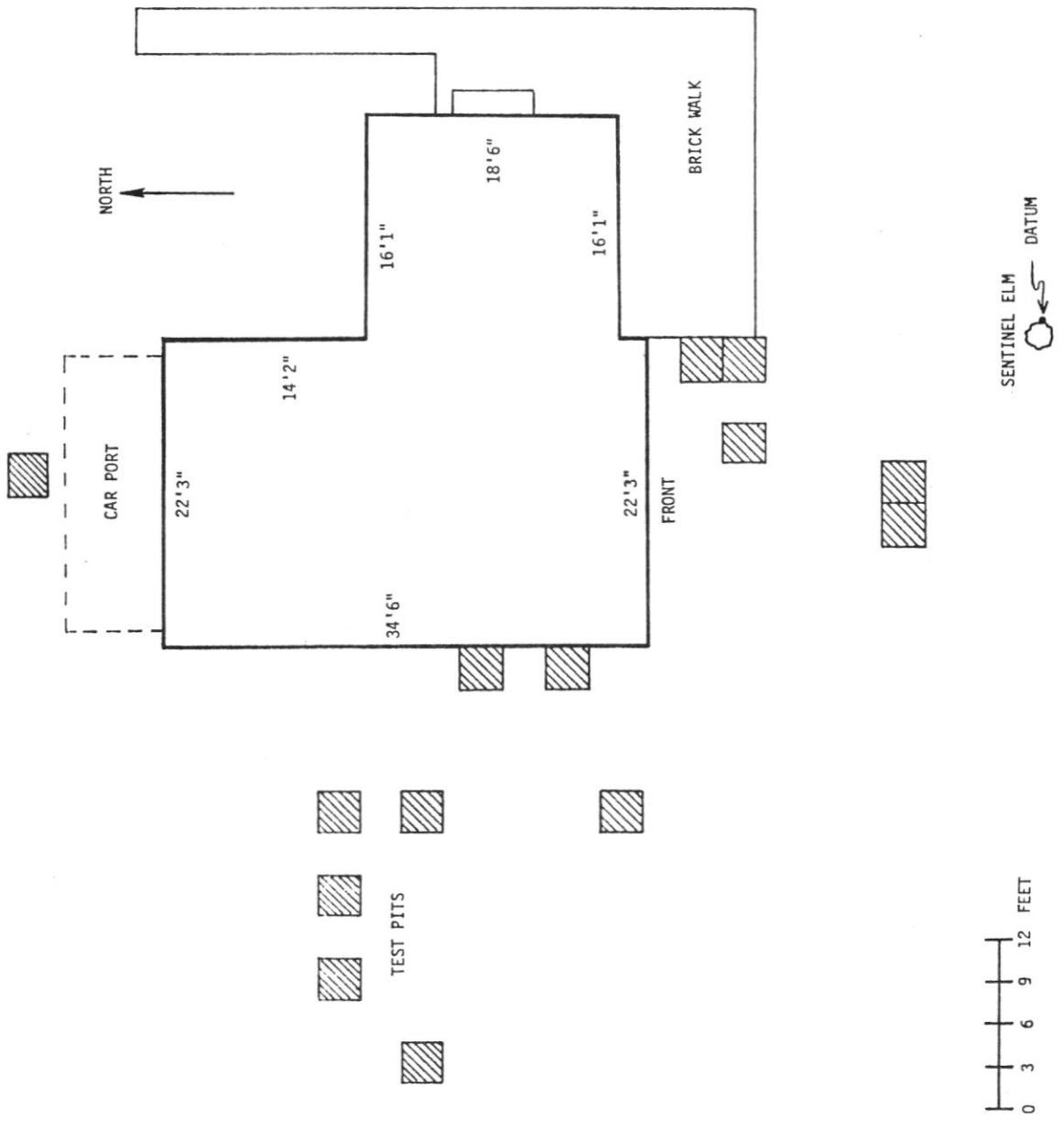


Figure 1. The Menard Morris House and Test Pits

There are two significant features in the 1875 photograph worth noting here. One is the clear indication of a large rangia clam shell midden directly in front of the house (not surprising), and the other is a structure extending to the west which might have been either slave quarters or a kitchen, or both.

ARCHEOLOGY

The house and its nearby cemetery were reported as a historical site by Pruitt and Associates. It has the designation 41HR528. One might question what could be done archeologically with a house still standing (at least for the moment) and so well researched.

In January of this year, the house was offered for archeological investigation by the RJS Development Company. It was recognized then that there might be a good possibility of finding pre-1840 Anglo ceramics or at least the possibility of finding early settler ceramics from before the days of importation through Galveston, because this house was originally furnished by a family who came to Texas as early as 1830. This still appears to be a good possibility.

On the weekend of February 16 and 17, the Houston Archeological Society excavated 14 test pits. The locations of these pits relative to the house are shown in Figure 1. All elevations were measured relative to a datum point located on a large elm tree, known locally as the 'sentinel', growing in the front yard of the house. The datum point is 30 inches above ground level on the east side of the tree. Each test pit was 3 feet by 3 feet. The elevations of all artifacts were recorded. Excavation was done with trowels and all dirt was screened through 1/4 inch mesh.

RESULTS

Most of the pits yielded prehistoric Indian pottery. This is probably due to the shell midden (apparent in the 1875 photographs but now gone) in front of the house. As was often the case in this area, the shell was spread around the house for both foundation and appearance, and the shell was rife with Indian artifacts.

A concentration of pits in the area suspected to be either slave quarters or a kitchen proved unproductive. This is only slightly surprising. This is not a house which has fallen into ruin and the west side appendage was probably removed in an orderly manner.

At first, no attempt was made to find refuse from the back door because a large, modern, hard floor carport covers the ground behind the current back door. However, a last test pit was put in as close to the back door as we could get (about 12 feet away). A significant cache of early ceramics was encountered.

At this time, the artifacts are still being cataloged. The artifacts have not yet been analyzed, and there are no final results to report.

PLANS

Analysis of the artifacts especially the ceramics, will be completed and reported.

Because of the success of the last test pit, the plan is to go back after the house is removed and put a series of test pits along the north-south axis of the old part of the house. This line of pits would go through

the last door (i.e., break through the carport floor), through the next-to-last back door, and through the original back door. This line will be extended all the way up to the center of the original house.

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HAS Historic Note Number Five

Alan R. Duke and Suzanne Patrick

1962-1963

New officers for 1962-1963 were as follows:

Chairman - Donald R. Lewis
Sec.-Treas. - Damon C. Dunn
Directors - William Caskey, Alan Duke, Edward Norbeck

- Discovery of the Jamaica Beach site (41GV5) on Galveston Island in 1963 led to a major excavation effort by the Houston Archeological Society. The HAS agreed to assist the Houston Museum of Natural Science in obtaining information on the site and the artifacts and written records were retained by the Museum.

The HAS received a great deal of publicity during the excavations and the Jamaica Beach developers erected bleachers for the thousands of spectators who drove to Galveston to see the excavation. It is estimated that 20,000 people visited the site. It was necessary to fence the area and provide guards.

As a result of the work at Jamaica Beach HAS membership increased dramatically and more than doubled in size.

Three reports were written on 41GV5. They were as follows:

Aten, L.E. - 1965. Five Crania from the Jamaica Beach Site (41GV5), Galveston, Texas. Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society 36 - 153-162.

Childers, A.E. - 1965. A Goose Creek Plain Vessel from the Jamaica Beach Site (41GV5), Galveston, Texas. Houston Archeological Society Newsletter No. 15.

Ring, E.R., Jr. - 1963. Opened by Accident (Jamaica Beach Site 41GV5), Galveston Co., Texas. Houston Archeological Society Newsletter No. 10.

- During 1962-1963, laboratory work on the Jamison Site (41LB2) continued at the archeology lab at Rice University and work was almost complete when the HAS started excavations at Jamaica Beach.

INDIANS OF THE TEXAS GULF COASTA Brief Summary of Their Adaptational HistoryJoan Few

This paper was presented at "Newcomer's Night", the May, 1985 meeting of the Houston Archeology Society. The objective was to present a perspective, a way of looking at the artifacts, the dirt, the floral and faunal remains that will be observed as beginning archaeologists start to excavate in our area of Texas; a way of looking at the leftovers of human occupation that will help with the understanding of how archaeologists put together information. How do archaeologists take excavation analysis and combine this information with ethnographic research to project a picture of human behavior?

We base our research on the theory that there is a relationship between the physical environment and man, that man will develop a culture that will enable him to adapt to the environment in which he lives. We assume that Indians living in similar environmental regions will develop similar cultures which we refer to as cultural areas. Cultural areas are important in developing theories for scientific study because cultural areas allow for comparative studies within and between cultures.

Julian Steward defines culture as an adaptation, the means by which a group of people adapt to their environment. Let us look at Texas Indians, not as Indian tribes with names, but as groups adapting and struggling for survival. We must look first at their particular regional environment, the land, climate, flora and fauna. What are the limitations of this environment and what are the possibilities? Secondly, we must look at their technology. What tools or processes were developed to extract what was needed from their particular environment? We can then analyze their social organization. How did they act and interact between themselves and other groups to support their survival technology? For example, were they stationary or migratory? What was the size of their normal living groups? Did they have chiefs? How did they arrange their camps and shelters? How did they recognize kinship? What were their family responsibilities? Finally, we will look at their ideology. What attitudes, etiquettes, ceremonies and rituals help support their survival adaptation.

The first inhabitants of Texas are called Paleo-Indians, and their environmental adaptation is called the big game hunting adaptation. Their environment was that of the Pleistocene. It was a much colder and wetter environment than we have now. Here in our coastal region, the gulf shore line was 50 to 100 miles further south than it is today. Forests were more coniferous and there existed in North America greater numbers of large herd animals such as the woolly mammoth (the bones of which have recently been found along the Brazos), the mastodon, the Bison Antiquus and the caribou. These large animals could provide the food, clothing, shelter and tools needed for the survival of man. Their technology, which developed around the killing of these large animals, was the use of spears, lances and darts to the end of which were attached well made usually fluted points of flint or obsidian. These fluted points are called Clovis and Folsom points and are found in Texas. Some have been found in our gulf coast area by members of this society. Clovis and Folsom points are found only in North America. Bone tools as well as numerous different kinds of stone tools made up the Paleo-Indian's tool kit. Hides were processed for clothing, shelter, storage and cooking containers.

Hunting was a social event, requiring cooperation and planning. Indians were migratory, following the herds. They lived in small bands but would, when necessary for hunting or rituals, gather (aggregate) into large groups. Aggregation was also necessary for the mating of marriageable singles and the solidifying of family and social bonds. The thing which may have been their greatest asset was their flexibility. They could move wherever the animals led them. It was certainly an attitude necessary for their survival. There were no chiefs, everyone was equal in rank and equally responsible for the survival of the band.

As the Pleistocene ice began to recede, the move into the Holocene brought about changes. The big game hunting adaptation continues, but we see changes in the archaeological content. Mammoth, mastodons and Bison Antiquus remains are seen less and less and a more modern bison evolves as the main game. Points change in style. There are more different types and they are not fluted. These are called Plainview points. The association of extinct herd-animal bones with human debris ends about 8,000 years ago.

The Paleo-Indian big game hunting adaptation of hunting the buffalo will continue in the Great Plains area of the central United States, including North Texas, until historic times when the Plains Indians capture the horse which changed their adaptation significantly.

A climatic change brought about the end of the Pleistocene ice age. The climate across the United States became dryer and hotter. In the forest regions, the coniferous forest gave way to the deciduous. In the wooded areas, the animal most hunted became the deer. Hunting became a single person or small group activity, not a social activity as it was during the Pleistocene. This brought about changes in the social structure. Deer are territorial animals. If man is going to hunt deer, then will man become territorial also? It appears that this is exactly what happened. The people of the Holocene became hunters and gatherers within a given territory. They lived by a seasonally selective exploitation of frequently abundant resources. This hunting and gathering adaptation to the Holocene is called the Archaic period.

The points used by the Archaic hunters also changed. They added barbs. Why? Is this strictly an adaptation to deer hunting? Did they want the point to remain in the animal? Archaic Indians lived in bands, small groups of usually related members. They were members of a much larger group which would aggregate once or twice a year. They were nomadic with frequent moves to follow food sources, but within a given territory. All ecological zones within a given region were not available to all bands. There was sexual division of labor with the men doing the hunting and the women doing the gathering.

This hunting gathering adaptation continued until historic times in our coastal area. In the Mississippi River valley and in the Southwest, agriculture was introduced by way of Mexico about the year one A.D. There is no evidence that agriculture developed in our coastal area prior to European intervention.

In about 1529, Cabeza de Vaca became the first European to set foot in Texas and write about it. He gave us an ecological, technological, social and ethnographic picture of the Indians in our coastal area. De Vaca viewed the final stage of the Archaic period which began about 300 B.C. In this final stage we can identify a significant technological

change, not an adaptive change. The Indians were still in the hunting and gathering adaptation but, they incorporated the bow and arrow as well as pottery as a part of their technology. New stone tools were also added to the tool kit. Social changes are observable in their burial practices. The Indians of East Texas begin to build mounds, some rectangular in shape and some conical, many of which contain burials.

De Vaca describes the upper Texas Coast as a region of sandy islands, estuaries and coastal marshes. Inland, the woodlands gave way to rolling plains with flowing rivers whose banks were often lined with pecan trees. None of these ecological zones were capable of year round support resulting in a seasonal migratory pattern. October through February found some bands on the coastal islands where the women dug underwater roots. In November and December, fish were taken in cane traps. During some winter periods oysters and water were the only sustenance. Blackberries were harvested in April and May. June and July was the time when coastal Indians moved inland to harvest the prickley pear tuna (fruit of the *Opuntia tuna*), a cactus found in the dry regions of central and south Texas.

Microband (possibly macro) aggregation was possible when surpluses were available such as during the blackberry season when dance ceremonies and fiestas were held. Other times of the year were in the fall during the pecan harvest and during the summer tuna season.

"There is no chief. All belonging to the same lineage keep together," said De Vaca. The extended family was probably the core of the bands. Villages were temporary and houses were huts made of mats, sometimes open, sometimes large, with multiple fires inside. Along the coast, floors of huts were covered with oyster shells and animal skins were put down for sleeping.

Their technology included pottery, bows, arrows and cane fish traps. Sexual division of labor was practiced with women doing the gathering. De Vaca also stated that, "Their women toil incessantly."

The marginal resources in these ecological zones led to the ideology that "good" was to be generous. Sharing was the rule with a host giving all to his guest. After marriage, a married daughter would take all of her husband's game to her father's house, they in return would be provided for by her father. This custom shows not only a practice of redistribution of goods but of patrilineal control. Another custom supporting redistribution, was that a bride's parents could not enter the house of their son-in-law nor he theirs nor could they speak to each other. This solved the problem (or ideologically it did) of disagreement over redistribution. (This custom was common among North American Indians.)

Shamans (medicine men) were viewed as unusual men, perhaps a social solution to outcasts and misfits. (De Vaca, at the strong encouragement of the Indians, became a medicine man, which may have made it easier for them to accept him into their band). They were consulted as healers and had different marriage and funeral practices. Limited animism is reflected in their idea that stones have power. Sorcery was a thing of great power.

Reflecting the temperate climate, men went naked and women wore Spanish moss or deerskin. Cane was used to pierce male ears, nipples and lower lips.

Mourning for the dead placed an additional stress on the band. In a

house where a son or brother died, no one of that house left it for a month being provided for by others in the band. Several deaths in a small band could bring real hardship.

Trade was carried on by de Vaca between the coast and the northern interior. Being a "neutral", de Vaca had greater access to the interior. From the coast he took sea snails, conch shells, sea beads and mesquite beans. These items were traded for skins, red ochre, hard cane for arrows, flint, sinews, tassels of deer hair and some form of adhesive.

The environment of the south Texas coast was more arid than the upper coastal regions. Vast plains, rivers, and mesquite trees yielded marginal resources. Camp was moved every two or three days in a continuous food quest. The summer prickly pear tuna season was possible the only time micro or macro aggregation could occur. Group hunting was used for hunting deer. Fires were used to drive lizards and small animals to the kill as well as keeping mosquitoes away from the camp.

The environment of south Texas was an ecological zone similar to the desert region of the Great Basin in Nevada. Indians utilized almost everything that walked, crawled, flew or grew to sustain their existence. Crabs, shell fish, blackberries, roots, occasional antelope, spiders, eggs, larva, worms, lizards, snakes, earth, deer dung, pulverized bones of animals, and an occasional buffalo were mentioned as food sources by de Vaca. Liquor was made from cactus. On this diet, de Vaca observed that they appeared to be physically fit, with men being able to run all day without stopping. During periods of extreme want however, stomachs were often swollen from eating dirt.

Their technological achievements were adequate but basically primitive. Bows and arrows were used along with fish nets. Buffalo hides were used for blankets, shoes and shields. Houses were made of matting placed on hoops that could be rolled and transported. Rather than haul stones and pestles for grinding, sticks were pounded into holes in the ground.

Population pressure brought on by the marginal resources of the region resulted in fixed territories for the different bands and warfare to protect those territories.

Extreme social customs also reflect the marginality of their existence and the need for birth control. In some bands, daughters were killed at birth and wives were purchased from outside the band. Prices were in terms of bows and arrows or nets. Male babies were sometimes killed and sons purchased. These practices were justified as being needed to keep down the enemy population as the killing of daughters reduced the number of brides available to the enemy bands. This reflects the practice of exogamy.

In contrast to the generous nature of the Indians of the upper Texas coast, de Vaca describes the South Texas Indians as thieves, liars and drunkards. He goes on to say that in spite of their hardships and hunger, they were a merry people and never missed a chance for a fiesta (tuna season).

The Indians of the Texas Hill Country lived in the rolling hills where canyons with chaparral, mesquite, shrubs and thorns supported a marginal ecological zone. Seasons were chronicled by ripening fruits, the dying of fish and the movements of the stars.

Social customs which supported their marginal existence and controlled their population were the practices of sexual abstinence between parents when children were young, the nursing of children until they were twelve, and the absence of divorce after children were born. Those who fell ill on a gathering trip were left to die unless they were a son or brother.

Throughout the Texas region, narcotics from the peyote cactus were used and imported from the south. For a purge, Indians used the black drink made from holly (Yaupon, *Ilex vomitoria*). Women were taboo during mensus and during certain festivals or ceremonies. Eunuchs dressed like women but used the bow and carried heavy loads.

From de Vaca's records, we can direct questions to artifacts and their arrangements to substantiate his observations, increase our knowledge and corroborate our concept of the behavior of our coastal Indians. It is not the behavior of one Indian we seek, but the repeated behavior of the majority.

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SURFACE SURVEYS AT SITE 41AU4AUSTIN COUNTY, TEXASBruce R. DukeINTRODUCTION

Site 41AU4 has yielded Archaic period artifacts and is found on both sides of Mill Creek in eastern Austin County, a few miles upstream from the Brazos River. Mill Creek is a tributary of the Brazos River.

Austin County is in the West Gulf Coastal Plain of Texas. The underlying formations are arrayed mainly in broad bands that parallel the gulf and dip gently toward it. The Holocene floodplain of the Brazos River is graded to the present sea level, which was attained between 3,500 and 5,000 years ago. The soil series found on Mill Creek in the vicinity of the site likewise formed in Holocene sediments.

The artifacts found at this site are similar to many of the artifacts that came from Site 41AU1 (Duke, A.R., 1981-82) on Mill Creek.

ENVIRONMENT

As is typical of streams dissecting the Texas Gulf Coast Prairie, a thick hardwood gallery forest exists along Mill Creek. Wildlife and conspicuous plants noted along the creek in the vicinity of the site can be found in the lists that accompany this report.

Before the advent of civilization, Austin County was open prairie; it is now divided into mostly pasture and range. Originally, about two-thirds of the area was open treeless prairie and produced mostly tall and mid grasses with an abundance of forbs. The other third was a savannah of tall grasses, forbs, and scattered oaks.

The range in Austin County has suffered severe overuse the past century. As a result, the flooding along Mill Creek after storms is awesome. Floodwaters collect more quickly now and streambank cutting is significant after each storm. Since 1960, the author estimates the channel of Mill Creek doubled in width in the vicinity of the site. In addition, the banks approach a vertical grade as opposed to a considerably more lenient grade 25 years ago. Landowners are losing property at a rapid rate; some structures are threatened.

The hardwood gallery forest along Mill Creek is also suffering from the increased streambank cutting. Many fine ash trees lie across the channel of the creek as a result of storms the past year. Based on observations made the past half dozen years, streambank cutting appears to be accelerating. It also appears that much of Site 41AU4 has been washed away.

ARTIFACTS

The upper six feet or so of the streambanks at Site 41AU4 consist of the Trinity black clay soil series. Under this is a narrow layer of sand, and beneath the sand, a mottled yellow clay layer. Artifacts found at the site are depicted in Figure 1. The levels from which the artifacts originated are not known. They were found on the black clay surface and on

nearby sand bars. In places, bison bones are protruding from the layer of sand between the two clay layers.

SUMMARY

Based on the collection of surface artifacts, a preliminary interpretation of the site can be made. Site 41AU4 surface artifacts show an Archaic period occupation with a strong Central Texas influence, most notably from the Lange and Pedernales dart points and the corner-tang biface. Site 41AU1 on Mill Creek also exhibits a Central Texas influence.

The array of artifacts found at the site is, for the most part, similar to those found at other coastal and inland Archaic sites in the surrounding area. Only by excavating will the complete occupational makeup of the site be determined.

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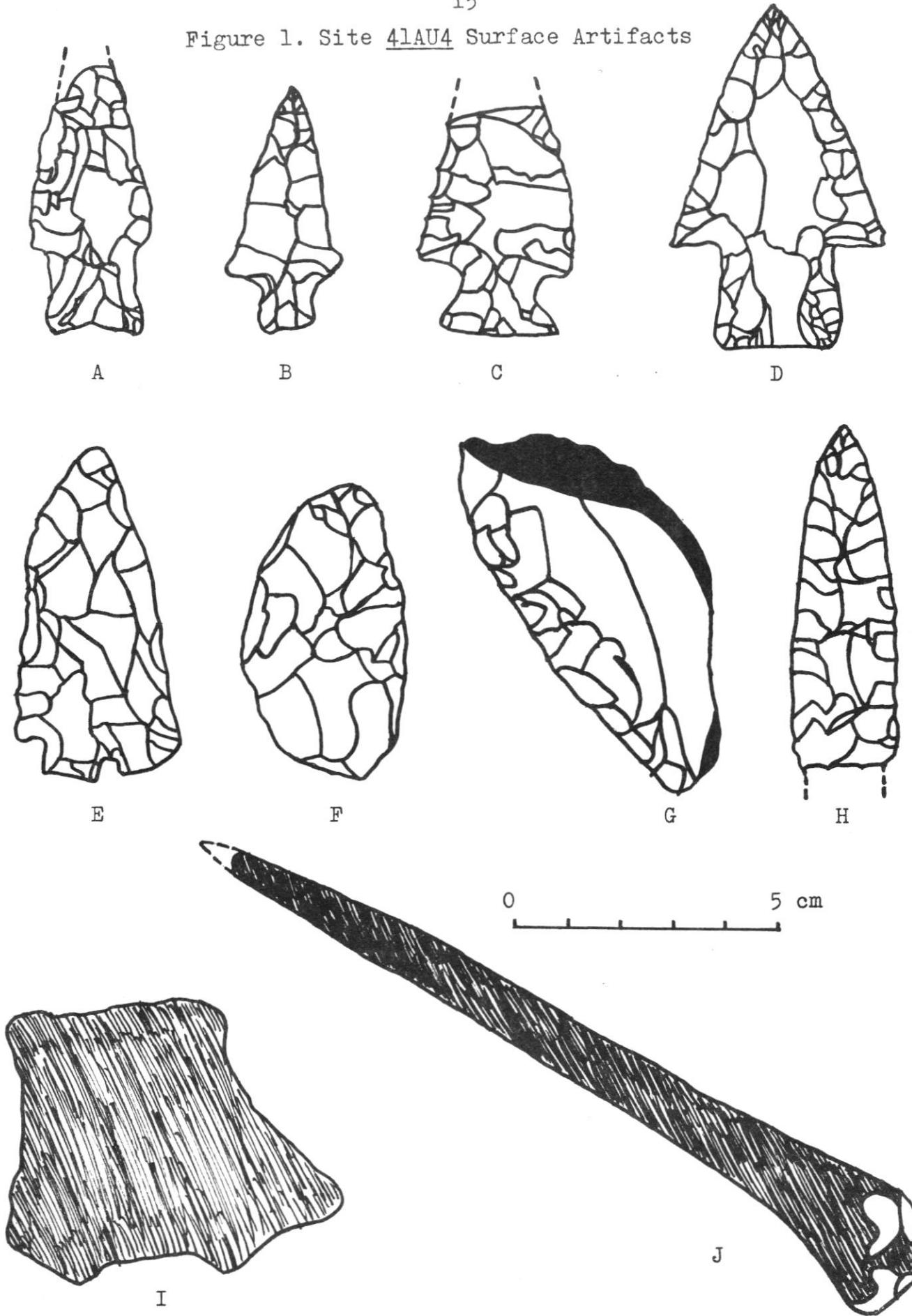
PLANTS AT SITE 41AU4

Acer negundo - Boxelder maple
Carya illinoensis - Pecan
Celtis laevigata - Sugar hackberry
Cornus florida - Flowering dogwood
Crataegus sp. - Hawthorn
Erythrina herbacea - Eastern coral bean
Fraxinus pennsylvanica - Green ash
Ligustrum sinense - Chinese privet
Lonicera japonica - Japanese honeysuckle
Melia azedarach - China-berry
Morus rubra - Red mulberry
Parthenocissus quinquefolia - Virginia creeper
Populus deltoides - Eastern cottonwood
Quercus nigra - Water oak
Quercus velutina - Black oak
Rhus copallina - Flame-leaf sumac
Rubus trivialis - Southern dewberry
Salix nigra - Gulf black willow
Smilax bona-nox - Saw greenbrier
Toxicodendron radicans - Poison ivy
Ulmus americana - American elm
Ulmus crassifolia - Cedar elm
Vitis lincecumii - Pinewoods grape

WILDLIFE AT SITE 41AU4

Actitis macularia - Spotted sandpiper
Agkistrodon contortrix contortrix - Southern copperhead
Agkistrodon piscivorus leucostoma - Western cottonmouth
Anolis carolinensis - Green anole
Ardea herodias - Great blue heron
Cardinalis cardinalis - Cardinal
Casmerodius albus - Common egret
Coragyps atratus - Black vulture
Corvus brachyrhynchos - Common crow
Dasyurus novemcinctus - Nine-banded armadillo
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota - Cliff swallow
Sciurus carolinensis - Gray squirrel
Sylvilagus floridanus - Cottontail rabbit
Trionyx sp. - Soft shell turtle

Figure 1. Site 41AU4 Surface Artifacts



A - Pedernales point; B - Kent point; C - Motley point; D - Lange point;
 E - Corner tang biface; F - unclassified biface; G - large scraper;
 H - unclassified; I - red film potsherd; J - bone awl.

URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY IN A TWILIGHT ZONE:
13 BLOCKS ON THE EDGE OF DOWNTOWN HOUSTON, TEXAS.

Paper by:

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Randolph Widmer
Marylinda Govaars
Rikki Rubenstein

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Houston, Texas 77004

In April, 1984 the citizens of Houston, Texas approved the letting of more than \$100,000,000.00 worth of municipal bonds for the construction of the George R. Brown Convention Center. This Convention Center is to be built very near the central business/governmental district of downtown Houston. Once the land for this project was transferred to city control, Texas State Antiquities Committee ordered that an archaeological/historic impact study be carried out as part of the overall project. As a result of this order, a contract was eventually awarded to Drs. Kenneth L. Brown and Randolph Widmer of the Archaeological Research Laboratory, Department of Anthropology, University of Houston-University Park, to carry out this investigation. The proposed project was to cover part or all of the 13 blocks to be impacted by Convention Center construction. It is the results of this investigation which will be reported on in the remainder of this paper.

Actual fieldwork for the project began mid-August, 1984 and continued (on a daily basis) until early January, 1985. However, we did not complete the necessary fieldwork for the project, as we had planned, within that time period. This was caused by the City's failure to let the building demolition contract until mid-March. A number of historically significant features (foundation piers and cisterns) have been located once the more recent cement slab foundations were removed. These are being excavated as they are exposed. Thus far, we have been fortunate that only sub-occupation surface features have remained under buildings. We have not yet been forced to "alter" the construction schedule. Unfortunately, it makes the results somewhat more preliminary than we had planned at this time in the project. Fortunately, however, the nature of the remaining buildings suggests that we have likely recovered and analyzed a sufficient amount so that the patterns which we will describe in this paper will likely not be altered to any great degree.

There was a four-stage fieldwork methodology employed in this study. First, an initial study of some of the historical records was undertaken. At this stage of the study, the primary documents employed were land titles, tax records, directories, and maps. The attempt was to develop a variety of predictions concerning the types of materials we should encounter, their age, and, most importantly, their distribution across the blocks. Admittedly, such knowledge/predictions would be limited to "known" (e.g., recorded) historic information. We felt that this would at least provide us with a majority of what we needed, "surprises" (historically unrecorded features) would actually be highlighted in this process.

The second stage of the research was actually dictated by the setting of the investigation and the modern land use. Surface surveys could not

be undertaken on any of the blocks within the project area. A simple walk-over survey would, at best, have yielded rather meager results (other than a wide range of modern, large "automotive artifacts" which could have made collection both a difficult and somewhat illegal enterprise). On a majority of the blocks (8 of 13) we were able to do a systematic aligned sampling procedure, utilizing 3 ft. x 6 ft. test units. This procedure was permitted because the blocks were either completely (6) or primarily (2) covered by asphalt parking lots. The remaining blocks (5 completely and 2 partially) had to wait until buildings were demolished before testing could be attempted on them. While we had maps dating back to 1866 for the area of the project, we elected to employ a systematic sampling procedure rather than to attempt a "purposeful" testing procedure. That is, we did not attempt to place our units to locate historically "known" resources. This was done for 3 reasons: 1) because the historical documents were not complete, 2) because we could not be absolutely certain where such known features might actually be on the block and 3) because we wished to have a statistically valid sample so that we could more accurately and rapidly report our findings to the State.

Through the use of this sampling procedure, we were able to rapidly determine the nature of the archaeological deposit on each of the blocks. We were not, of course, able to identify special features (e.g., cisterns, outhouses, foundations, wells, etc.) from either the surface or this sampling procedure. What we were able to determine was the likelihood that such features were still present, and, more importantly, that deposits were/were not behaviorally intact. This would also permit us to assess the historic documents in terms of what we might be able to add to our knowledge of Houston's history.

The third stage of the field research bordered on mitigation work. That is, whenever our sampling units recovered behaviorally intact material and/or significant construction features, we excavated from 1 to 10 additional units in the area of the sample unit. This procedure was considered as part of the initial testing because we could not conduct any surface surveys. This procedure was the only way in which we could assess the nature, extent, and significance of the deposit and/or features. Depending upon the outcome of this testing stage, we would make recommendations to the Texas Antiquities Committee. These would, obviously, be recommendations for clearance or mitigation. In only one case, so far, have we recommended mitigation research be undertaken. (This work was conducted.) We have, however, extensively tested on a total of 4 blocks. We will likely do so on one additional block before fieldwork is completed.

The final stage of the fieldwork is monitoring of the actual construction activities. To date, 8 blocks have been impacted to the point of having removed the historic deposits. During our monitoring of this construction, a total of 10 cisterns, 1 well and 1 basement have been uncovered and excavated. This compares with only 1 cistern, 2 basements, and 1 out-house in our testing/mitigation activities.

Finally, in terms of research, the laboratory work has proceeded throughout the course of the project. It is, however, moving extraordinarily slowly. In part this is due to the shear amount of materials collected. To date, we estimate that some 750,000 to 1,000,000 artifacts have been collected, spanning the full history of Anglo occupation of this portion of the Houston area. Thus, unfortunately, only a very limited amount of analysis can be reported on at this time. (Far less than we had hoped when the abstract for this paper was submitted in October). However, enough has

been analyzed to make a number of statements concerning the results.

The results of this project fall into a number of general categories: 1) patterns of growth, development, and urban occupation in Houston, from pre-1836 to the present, 2) data on specific families who occupied the project area, and 3) we have been able to access the methodology employed for this type of research.

Patterns of Houston's growth, development, and occupation from pre-1836 to the present: Houston was founded in 1836. Many works on the subject of Houston's earliest occupants have suggested that the early growth was both somewhat limited in numbers and heavily skewed toward males. Historic documents demonstrate that the project area was clearly on the "outskirts" of the town by the late 1860's/early 1870's. In fact, a comparison of maps based upon data originally collected in 1866 and 1873 demonstrates relatively light settlement in 1866 and a rapid rise to the 1873 level--almost a tripling of structures and/or occupants. This has led some researchers to state that this near downtown area was not settled until the early 1860's.

The archaeological evidence would suggest that, in fact, Houston grew very rapidly from 1836 until the early 1850's. We recovered 2 house compounds in this area by 1850. One of these houses may actually have been originally built prior to the founding of Houston. Comparison of historic records for the area as a whole with those on which one of these houses stood (the earliest house is still being researched), suggests that at least 5 to 7 other structures/residences were also in use within the general project area during the 1850's. This would mean that Houston had reached the extent of its late-1860's growth by the mid-1850's--more than a decade earlier. Further, this evidence would also suggest that Houston's growth for the first 20 years was very rapid. Growth, at least in this area of Houston, appears to have been through family occupation rather than single males. Houston's image of a "wild west" town may be highly exaggerated or at least of a seasonal nature.

It may be that the most interesting question here, however, is why there is more than a decade of "stagnation" in population size. This area may be too limited to answer this question (i.e., growth could have occurred elsewhere in the town). However, it may also be the result of major disease epidemics which swept through Houston throughout the 1850's and 60's.

After 1880 this area of Houston saw both very rapid growth in population and (by 1890's) a decline in the wealth of these occupants. From the earliest occupation until the 1890's, this area was occupied by middle to upper class merchants and shop/saloon owners. By the 1890's small shops and apartment buildings were in use. By the early 1900's all of the large houses were "subdivided" into apartments. At this point there were a number of commercial activities--shops, hotels, and brothels. The archaeological data closely supports this historically based reconstruction--even to the point of the conversion of the large houses into apartments and/or brothels.

Data on specific families: Obviously, there is little in the archaeological record to name any of the families who occupied any of the structures we excavated. Through the historic documents, we have been able to establish the families who occupied these structures and something of their make-up (e.g., number and type of members) and occupation of at least the adult male. Through the archaeological investigation we have extensive

information on wealth, dietary habits, ethnic group, religious affiliation, etc. of the families. For example, in the mitigation case, we recovered the actual layout of a house--the Thompson house. In this case, the house was burned down in 1859 while in use. The objects which did not burn collapsed through the floor onto the pit below the house. Very shortly after burning the whole area was buried below almost one foot of fill. Thus, the position of the objects on the floor was essentially undisturbed. Historic evidence suggests that both Thompson and his daughter died of yellow fever in October, 1859. The burning of the house may actually have been intentional and a result of their having died of the disease. It should be pointed out that this house was not predicted on the basis of the historic documents and/or reconstructions.

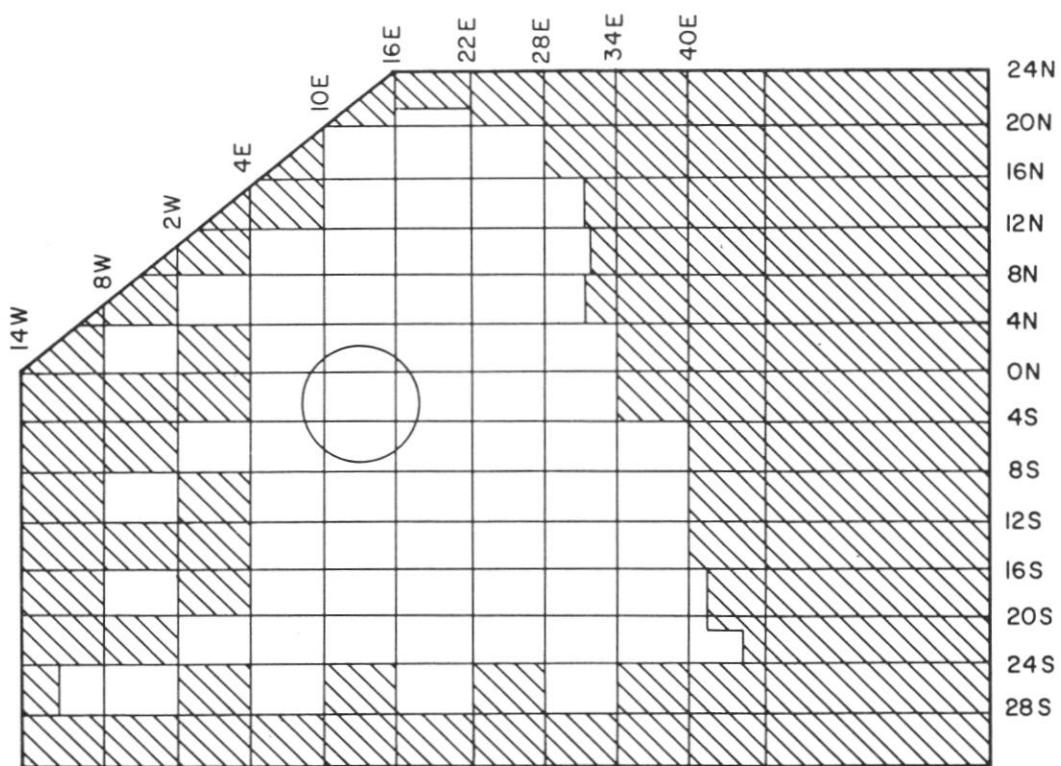
The methodology: The archaeological data derived from our testing program on these blocks--all hand dug units- has proved both rapid and accurate. When this project was originally proposed, ours was the only proposal that did not provide for use of power excavation equipment as a major part of the research strategy. We felt that power equipment, no matter how well controlled, was an unsuitable replacement for hand-dug sampling units. If rigorous sampling strategies provide a mechanism for the elucidation of patterns in data, then we felt this could be most effectively employed in this modern urban situation. By hand digging, we could better control collection of the artifacts. Thus, we would be obtaining the data necessary for defining the presence/absence of patterns. The only problems we have encountered with this approach are: 1) not locating specific low-frequency features (e.g., cisterns, wells, etc.) and 2) not excavating large areas. However, we have located all of the "sensitive" areas remaining on all of the blocks where modern structures/parking lots have been removed. That is, on the 8 blocks which have already been impacted by construction, the testing program accurately identified 3 areas of significant, pre-1865 deposits. Further, we accurately identified those blocks or portions of blocks where intact material, of any age, was located vs. those where intact material no longer remained. Finally, this strategy permitted enough time to intensively excavate 4 very sensitive areas so that we had to go to a mitigation contract on only one of them.

In summary then, the results of this project go a very long way toward improving our knowledge of Houston's past. We have recovered a large amount of material from which we can reconstruct patterns of behavior of Houston's earlier occupants. We can demonstrate the changes in these patterns and possibly something of the processes which caused these changes. As important, however, we have subjected both the methods and assumptions of archaeology (and history) to testing. The end result is that our methods work well in historical contexts and, once again, can actually help us provide a better-more well rounded-history. Perhaps this research has moved us toward a better understanding of life in what an anonymous banker in 1903 called Houston's "Twilight Zone."

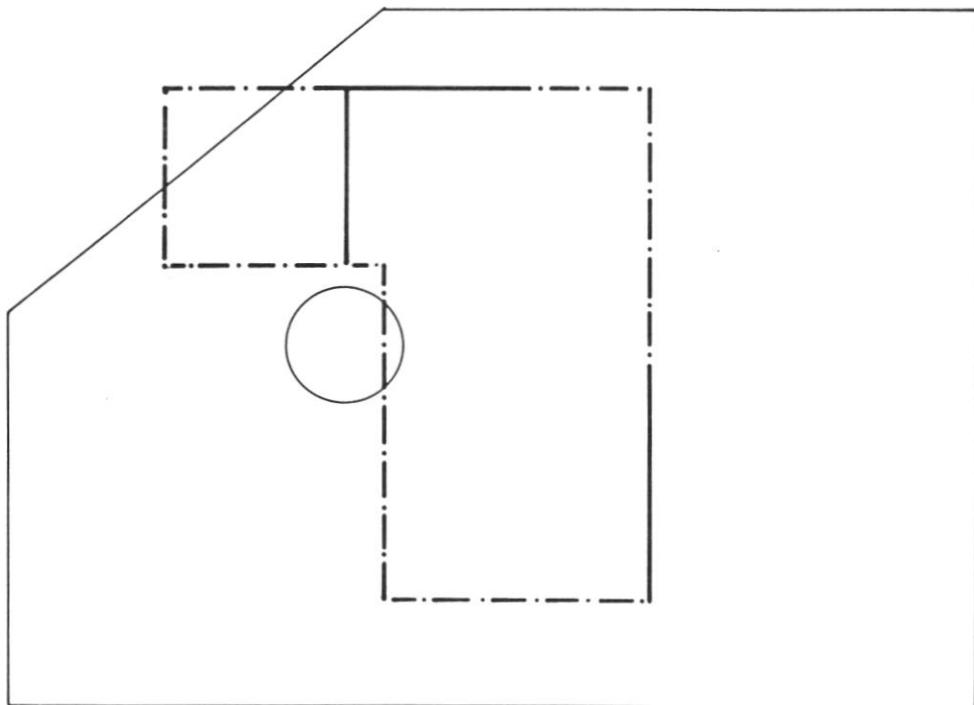
Paper presented at the 50th Annual Meeting of The Society for American Archaeology, Denver, Colorado. May, 1985 (not for citation without the consent of the senior author)



Map showing the area of Houston to be impacted by construction
of the George R. Brown Convention Center (darkened portion).



Block 126 Mitigation: Excavated Units



Block 126 Mitigation: Reconstruction of size and location of Thompson homestead.

ADDITIONAL PROJECTILE POINTS FROM SITE 41WH19
L.W. Patterson and J. D. Hudgins

INTRODUCTION

Site 41WH19 in Wharton County, Texas has been the subject of extensive research by the Houston Archeological Society. Location "A" is a large eroded area where numerous projectile points and other artifacts have been collected from the surface (Hudgins and Patterson 1983, Patterson and Hudgins 1981, 1983a, 1984). Location "B" is an area where deep excavations have been made in intact stratigraphy (Patterson and Hudgins 1983b).

This site has a long occupation sequence, from the Paleoindian time period through the Late Prehistoric. One radiocarbon date of 9920 ± 530 years B.P. (AA-298) has been obtained from the deepest stratum (4) of Location "B". Several other carbon samples are pending dating results at the University of Arizona and the Smithsonian Institution.

This article presents additional projectile points found by Joe and Bill Hudgins at Location "A" of site 41WH19. These additional points again reflect the long occupation sequence here, with specimens representing the Paleoindian and later time periods.

EARLY PROJECTILE POINTS

Figure 1 shows early projectile point specimens from this latest collection. All of these specimens have ground basal edges, which is characteristic of early point types. All specimens seem to be made from cherts that can be found in fairly local alluvial deposits, and some specimens are made from heat treated materials.

Figures 1A,E are Early Stemmed types found throughout the Paleoindian period and into the Early Archaic period at Location "B". Similar types have been reported by Shafer (1977:Fig. 4 W-Z) from Brazos County and by Patterson (1985:Fig. 1F) from Harris County. Figures 1B,C are Meserve and Plainview points from the Late Paleoindian period. The Meserve point may be a resharpened Paleo Lanceolate point.

Figure 1D is a Carrollton dart point. This seems to be the first specimen of this type recorded in Wharton County, although this point type is fairly common to the east in Harris County. In Harris County, Carrollton points represent the Early Archaic period, with a few examples found also in the Middle Archaic period (Patterson 1980).

A San Patrice point is shown as Figure 1F, which is a well-known Late Paleoindian point type. Figure 1G is a Paleo Lanceolate point, similar to specimens reported by Shafer (1977:Fig. 4 P,Q) from Brazos County and by Patterson (1985:Fig. 1D) from Harris County. This point type may have some general relationships to the Plainview point. Figure 1H is an Early Side Notched point that is characteristic of the Late Paleoindian period at Location "B" of this site.

OTHER PROJECTILE POINTS

The large unclassified point shown as Figure 2A may be a projectile point or a knife. The side notched base is similar to the base of an Ensor dart point. If this is a knife, it is probably from a fairly late period, as are some large bifacial knives from excavations at Location "B".

Figure 2B is a Bulverde point that is possibly from the Middle Archaic period. Gary, Kent, and Ellis points are shown in Figure 2C,D,E, respectively. These point types are common in the Late Archaic and post-ceramic periods on the upper Texas coast.

Dart point preforms are shown in Figures 2F,G,H. Figure 2I is a bifacial drill.

SUMMARY

Surface collecting at site 41WH19 Location "A" continues to yield a wide variety of projectile points that reflect the long occupation sequence of this site. More Paleoindian points have been found here than at any other site in southeast Texas, and later prehistoric time periods are also well represented. This site is unique to-date for this region because of its deep stratification and possibilities for radiocarbon dating of the various strata.

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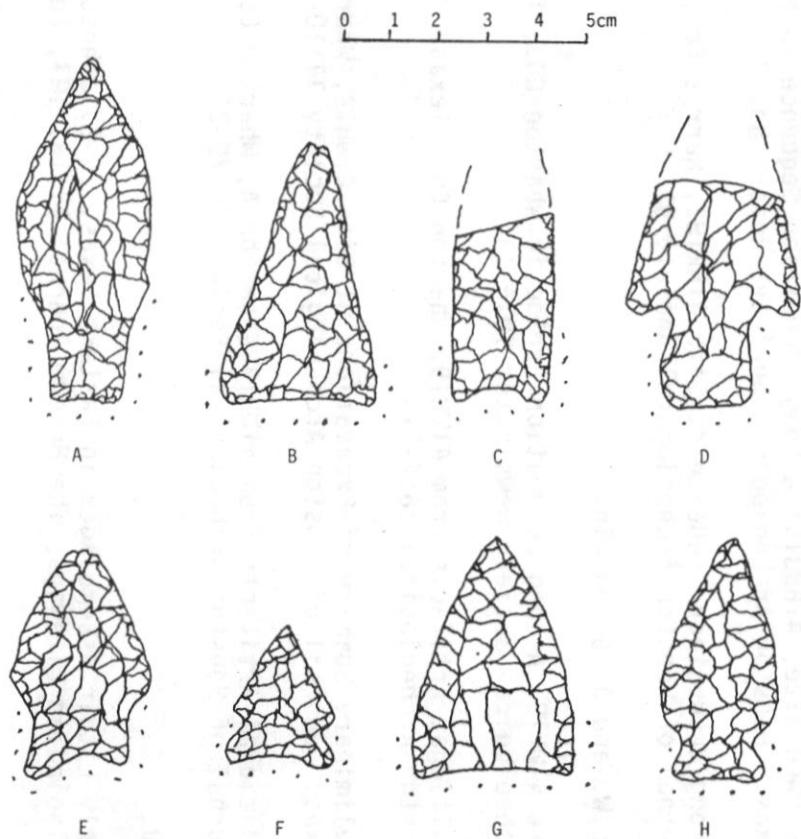
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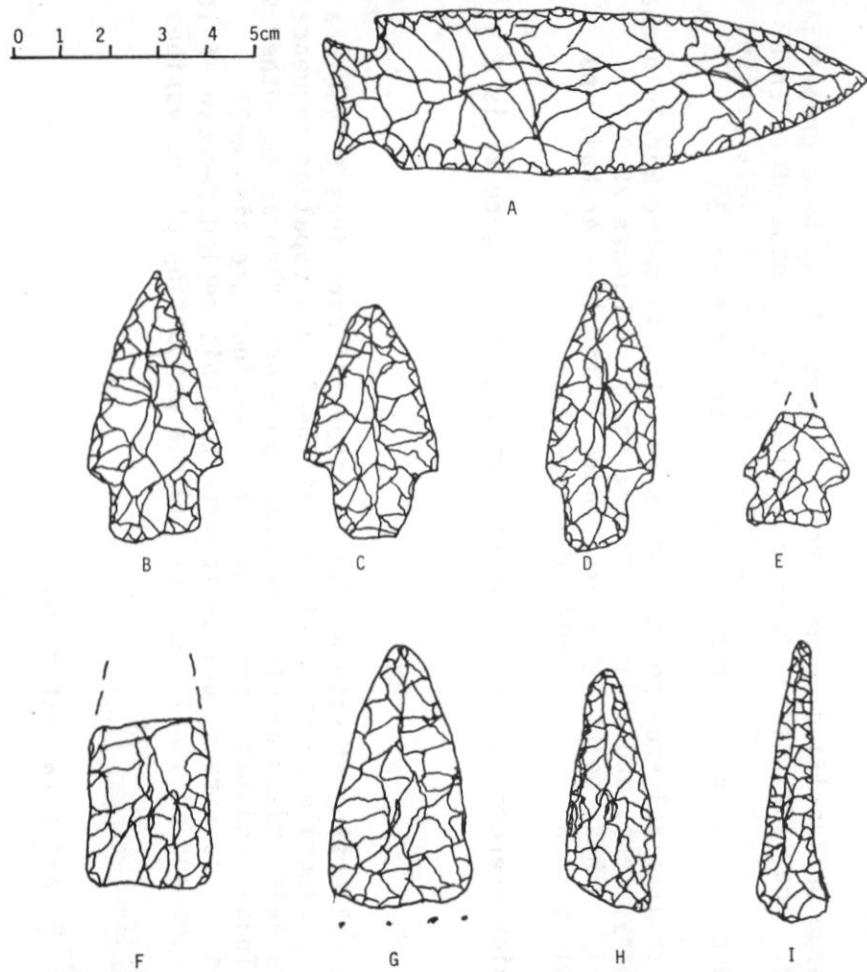
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FIGURE 1
EARLY PROJECTILE POINTS, SITE 41WH19



A,E - Early Stemmed; B-Meserve; C-Plainview; D-Carrollton;
F-San Patrice; G-Paleo Lanceolate; H-Early Side Notched;
dots show ground edges

FIGURE 2
SITE 41WH19 PROJECTILE POINTS



A-unclassified; B-Bulverde; C-Gary; D-Kent; E-Ellis;
F, G, H-preforms; I-drill

POST WEST BERNARD 1837-1839 - Part IIIJoe D. Hudgins

The first report on Post West Bernard (Hudgins 1984) emphasized the establishment of the Post as an armory for the Texas Army from 1837-1839. The second report (Hudgins 1985) dealt with the identification of lockplates from a variety of flint lock firearms found at the site. These lockplates and other gun parts were identified by Frank Brezik, Jr. and David Crowley.

This report will continue the identification of gun parts found at the Post as well as other non-military artifacts. A map (Table I) prepared by David Atherton and Sheldon Kindall shows the areas of heavy concentration of certain types of artifacts. This map is based on earlier surface collections. Other maps showing exact location of artifacts excavated by members of the Houston Archeological Society are being prepared by Dick Gregg and will appear in a later report.

Lockplates not mentioned in the second report include; one British Brown Bess India Pattern lockplate, one U.S. model 1812 lockplate, one U.S. model pistol lockplate, and six unidentified lockplates (Table II). Lockplate mechanisms removed from the lockplates and discarded at the Post include; five sears, seven broken frizzen springs, five tumblers, five broken main springs, three bridles.

A drawing of a flintlock musket and a drawing of a lockplate mechanism has been included for reference.

The following discussion of other gun parts and their condition adds to the knowledge of the variety of weapons used by the Texas Army before 1840.

Hammers

All but two of thirty-one hammers were complete. The rest were missing the cap and hammer screws. Seven hammers were from the older Long Land model of the British Brown Bess Musket. Two were from shotguns. Two hammers were from U.S. model 1812 or 1816 muskets and five were identified as to model.

Sling Swivels

Most muskets had two sling swivels. One rear swivel located in front of the trigger guard and a front swivel attached to the front of the stock between the upper and intermediate rampipes. Most of the swivels were broken and missing the swivel pins. Ten rear swivels and eleven front swivels were from the British Brown Bess musket. Also identified were sling swivels from U.S. model 1816 and U.S. model 1808 muskets.

Frizzens

The frizzens were not broken but in most cases appeared to have considerable wear on the striking surface and were probably incapable of producing the necessary spark to ignite the powder. There were five frizzens from the British Brown Bess musket, one from a U.S. model 1808 musket, three from the U.S. model 1816 musket, five from the U.S. model 1812 musket and three smaller frizzens from non-military pistols or rifles.

Butt Plates

Most of the butt plates were cut, bent or broken and all except one were made of brass. Five were from the British Brown Bess musket (Table III), one was from a U.S. model 1803 musket and one was from a U.S. model pistol. The only iron butt plate was from a U.S. model 1812 or 1816 musket.

Side Plates

Eleven brass side plates were found. Eight were convex in shape and were from the India Pattern Brown Bess Musket. Three were flat and were from the later model Brown Bess known as the New Land Service Musket. All of the side plates were bent or broken. Most are broken directly below the upper or front lockplate screw holes.

Several side plates have marks or letters stamped into the metal on the interior surface. The letter "B" appears on the interior surface of one side plate and the "Broad arrow" mark is stamped in the center of the interior surface of another. One side plate had been cut directly below the upper and front screw holes and hammered flat.

Rampipes

The brass rampipes all appear to be from the India Pattern British Brown Bess musket. There were seven upper, nine intermediate, and sixteen terminal rampipes. All were bent or broken and one was melted on one end. One of the terminal rampipes had the letter "C" stamped into the interior side of the tang.

Nose Caps

Nose caps are brass caps that cover the front end of the wooden stock of the British Brown Bess musket. Nine nose caps were bent and one was melted. Pins that attach the caps to the stock are still in place in some of the caps.

Trigger Guards and Trigger Guard Fragments

A total of sixty three trigger guards and trigger guard tangs represent the most numerous of all the brass gun parts. They were also the most altered or damaged. The majority of the trigger guards were bent or broken (Table IV). All but two had either the front or rear tangs removed. Most of the rear tangs were broken at either one or both screw holes. Some of the trigger guard bows had been cut and flattened. Several of the trigger guard tangs were exposed to heat as melting had occurred at the ends of the tangs. All but three of the trigger guards are from the British Brown Bess musket. However, one is from a U.S. Model pistol and one trigger guard tang is distinctive for the U.S. model 1803 or 1814 Harpers Ferry rifle. Two iron trigger guards are unidentified.

Barrels and Breech Plugs

Barrels from all these various types of firearms are missing. Only two fragments were found. One was the end of a .44 or .45 caliber rifle 3 1/2" in length. The other was 18" of the back end of a .75 caliber Brown Bess musket. Barrel length for British Brown Bess musket ranged from 39" to 42" depending on the model. For some reason it was cut off

and bent at about a ten degree angle. Two breech plugs from a .45 caliber rifle and two from a .75 caliber musket were also recovered.

Bullets and Bullet Making

Apparently one of the activities at the post was manufacturing bullets. An iron lead dipper, tangs, three dipper handles, melted lead, melted brass, rolled lead, rectangular lead bars and twenty four round lead balls were recovered at the site. Thirteen of the lead balls were .69 caliber and three were .75 caliber. Six shot smaller than .69 caliber cannot be measured correctly because of distortion. Three small buckshot were present also. Several lead shot of different calibers had been flattened from impact. Iron shot were somewhat larger. Three were 1" and three were 1 1/2" in diameter. Brass balls were also being made. Four brass balls were 1" and two were 1 1/4" in diameter (Table V).

Most of these bullets were probably discarded due to errors in casting since only a few were perfectly round. The mold blocks used in casting the 1" iron shot were badly out of alignment resulting in the two halves being offset. One of the 1" brass shot was also slightly offset.

Other Gun Parts

Ten dark colored English flints ranging in size from 3/4 to 1" in width were probably discarded due to excessive wear of the striking edges. One nearly complete bayonet was identified as British. Five bayonet blade fragments were not identified as to type.

Five iron rods identified as ramrod fragments were broken at one or both ends.

Non-Military Artifacts

The pliers, wrenches and files found were apparently used in gunsmith or blacksmith work. Other similar but unidentified artifacts may also be gunsmith tools. Personal items such as brass buttons (unidentified), a broken spur, brass sewing thimble, pocket knife fragments, two locks and two iron keys were confined to one area of the site (see map).

Glass and Ceramics

In the early years of the Texas Republic, the army did not issue mess kits and each man was expected to bring his own cooking utensils. Several hundred ceramic sherds and glass fragments found at this site give a good insight into the type of dinnerware available at that time. The majority of glass fragments represent bottles and are dark green and relatively thick. The ceramics were identified by Dick Gregg as being of the following types.

- Redware - lusterware
- Yellowware - undecorated annular ware
- Whiteware - undecorated annular ware
edged ware
hand-painted ware
transfer ware
- Stoneware

Anne Fox examined the ceramics and determined them to be within the time period that Post West Bernard was in existence.

Nearly all glass and ceramic fragments were confined to one area of the site (see map).

Comments

The different stages of assemblage of the various lockplates gives further proof of cannibalization of muskets. The amount of broken, cut and melted brass gun parts and the melted chunks of brass may indicate the metal gun parts were being salvaged and recycled and possibly cast for shot giving further evidence of gunsmith activities at the Post. The map showing the areas where these artifacts were found may give an indication of where certain activities were being conducted on the Post.

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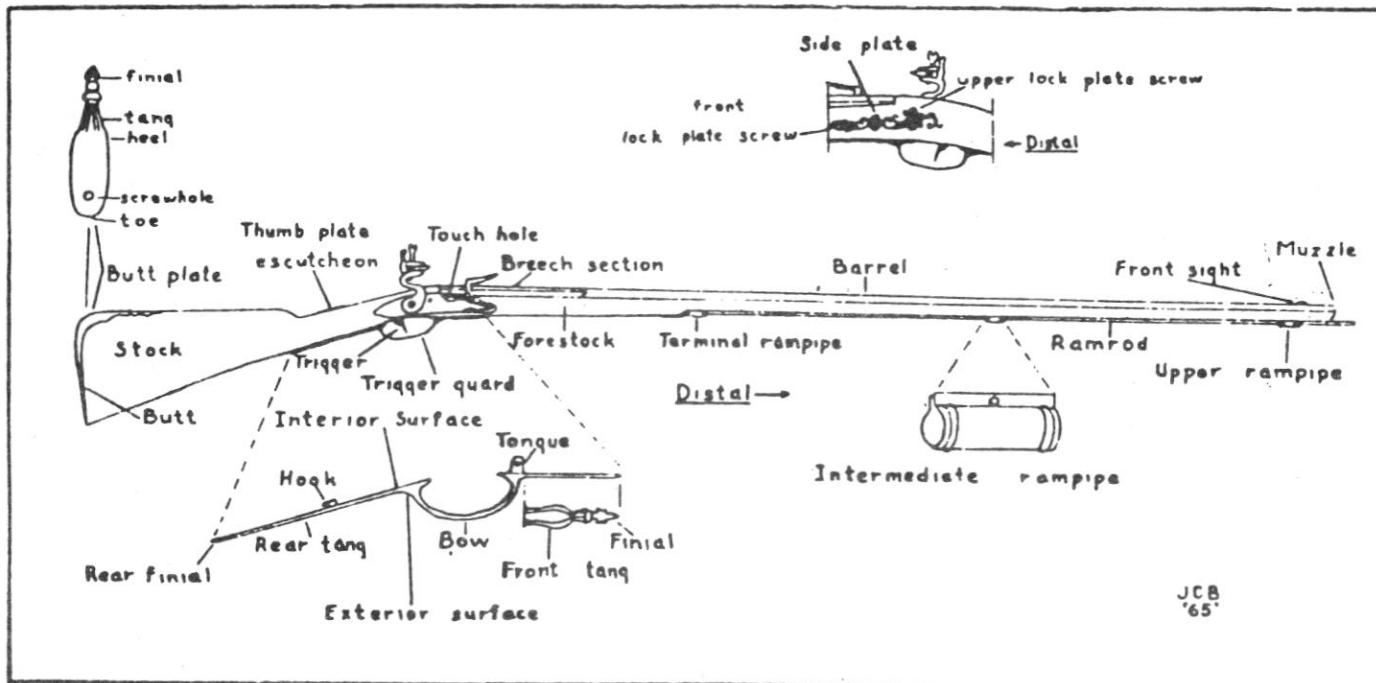
Post West Bernard 1837-1839

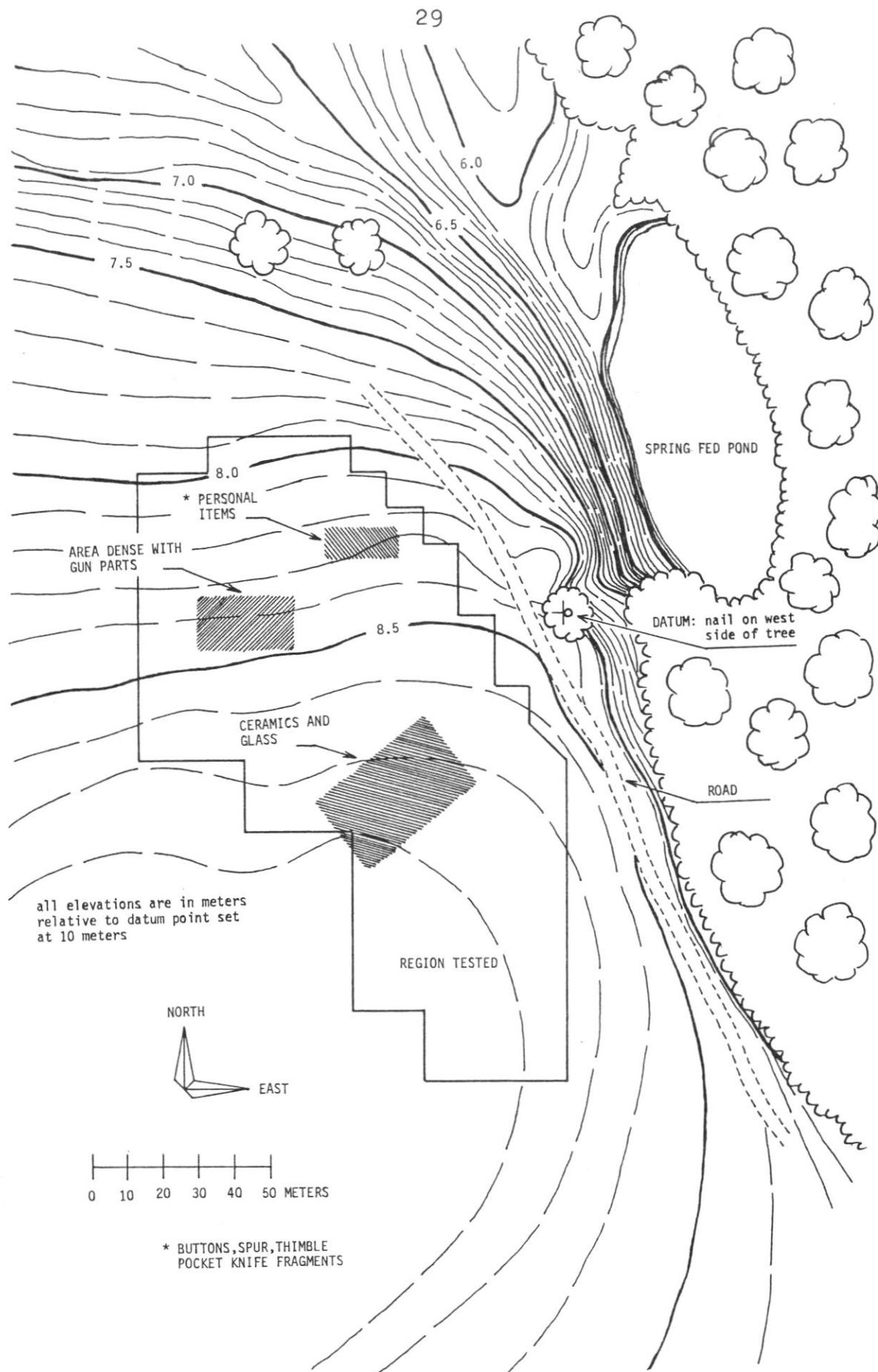
Houston Archeological Society Journal No. 80 - Dec. 1984

Hudgins, Joe D.

Post West Bernard 1837-1839 Part II

Houston Archeological Society Journal No. 81 - April 1985





POST WEST BERNARD SITE

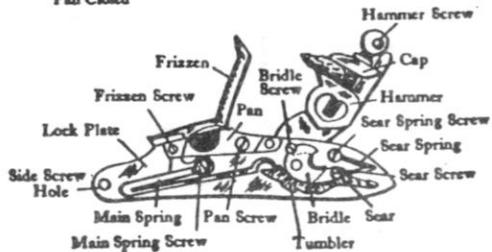
Table 1

Table II

<u>Cat. #</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Mechanism Assembly</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1430	British Brown Bess - India Pattern	All mechanisms are missing except iron pan, bridle, tumbler and tumbler screw.	Lock plate is broken at side screw hole.
1431	U.S. Model 1812	All mechanisms are missing.	Lock plate is bent and cracked at tumbler screw hole.
1432	U.S. Model 1812 pistol	Brass pan with fence is the only mechanism not removed.	Lock plate is bent directly in front of pan.
1433	Unidentified	All mechanisms are removed except rear spring screw.	Lock plate is slightly bent.
1434	Unidentified	All mechanisms are missing.	Lock plate is broken at main spring screw hole and cracked above tumbler screw hole.
1435	Unidentified	All mechanisms are missing except iron pan.	Lock plate is broken at side screw hole.
1436	Unidentified	All mechanisms are missing except frizzen, frizzen spring and frizzen spring screw.	Lock plate is broken at an angle behind iron pan.
1437	Unidentified	All mechanisms are missing.	Back end of lock plate is all that remains. Broken at tumbler screw hole.
1438	Unidentified	All mechanisms are missing except iron pan.	Iron pan seems to have been modified.

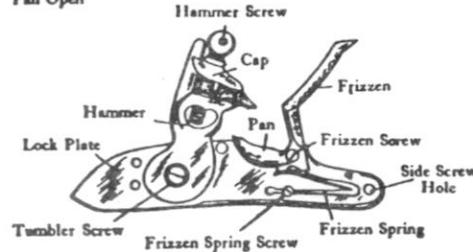
Interior View at Full Cock

Pan Closed



Front View

Pan Open



Mechanism of the Revolutionary Musket

From *United States Martial Pistols and Revolvers*, by Maj. Arcadi Gluckman,
United States Army.



Table No. 3

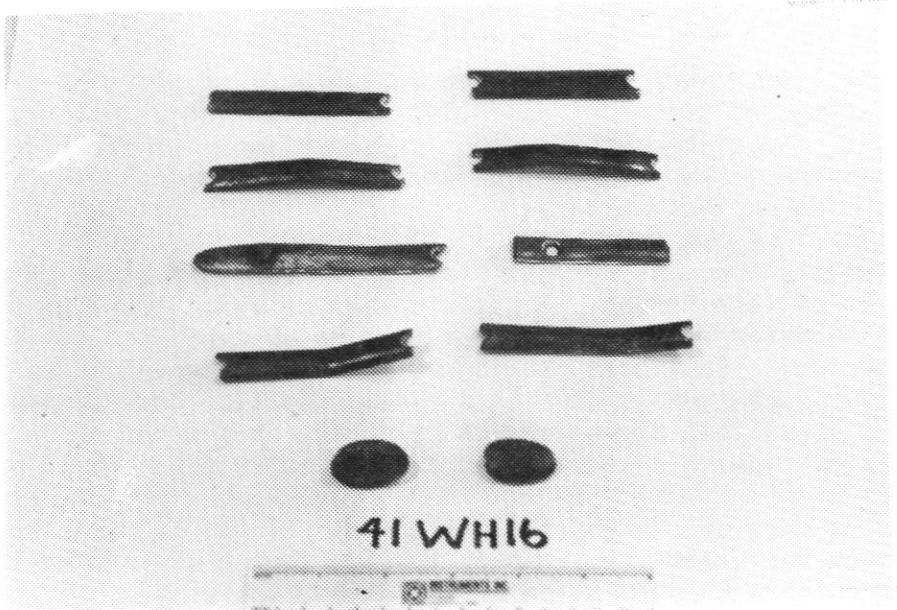


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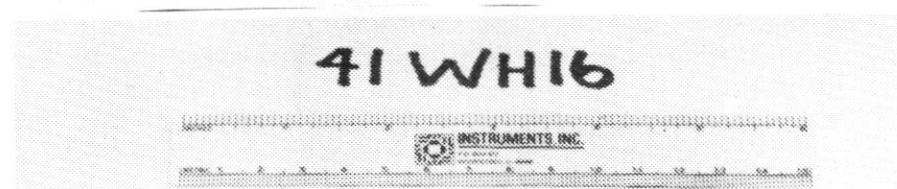


Table No. 5



TWO NEW BOOKS ON PROJECTILE POINT TYPOLOGY
L. W. Patterson

INTRODUCTION

Stone projectile points are often the most diagnostic artifacts found on archeological sites in North America. Therefore, the description and classification of projectile points has always been of major interest to investigators. Two books on projectile point classification have been published in early 1985, and these books will be reviewed here.

One book by Turner and Hester deals mainly with projectile points and some other stone tool types commonly found in Texas. The other book by Perino covers projectile point types found throughout the United States, including many types of interest to Texas archeologists. Both books are suitable as reference sources for persons at any level of interest in archeology.

A Field Guide to Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians by Ellen Sue Turner and Thomas R. Hester, 1985, Texas Monthly Press, 308 pages, cloth or paper.

This book starts with short chapters on the general typology of projectile points, manufacturing and use of stone tools, and chronologies of Texas projectile points. These chapters are good introductions for the beginner. It should be remembered, however, that projectile point chronologies seldom have precise starting and ending dates.

There are separate sections for descriptions of dart and arrow points, following a fairly uniform format. Miniature maps of Texas show the areas of maximum concentration for each point type. Each point type is classified into major time periods. Full size drawings of points are given, usually with 2 or 3 examples for each type. There is a minimal written description for each point type, with little dimensional data given. A few references are given for each point type. The quality of the drawings is generally good.

It appears that most of the point types commonly found in Texas are covered. This book represents the most up-to-date source of information on this subject. As with any publication of this type, there are some weaknesses and questionable items. For example, the Dawson, Godley and Neches River dart point types are not totally accepted, and could be classified as varieties of other point types. The Early Stemmed point type illustrated is only one of several varieties of stemmed points found in the Late Paleoindian and Early Archaic periods. With minimal written descriptions, important attributes are sometimes overlooked. For example, there is no mention of ground basal edges on Trinity points.

This book has a separate chapter on chipped stone unifacial and bifacial tools. Some distinctive forms of bifacial tools are covered, such as corner tanged knives, the Clear Fork gouge, and the Gahagan biface. It is somewhat questionable, however, that several generalized biface forms are given specific names. A short chapter on ground, pecked and polished stone artifacts is also included.

In summary, this is an excellent publication on projectile points of Texas Indians, with a more limited coverage of other types of stone artifacts. It is the most current publication available on this subject, and belongs in the library of most people interested in Texas archeology. The modest price of this book, especially the paperback edition, makes it accessible to everyone.

Selected Preforms, Points and Knives of the North American Indians, Volume 1
 by Gregory Perino, 1985, Points and Barbs Press, 1509 Cleveland, Idabel,
 Oklahoma 74745, 404 pages, cloth.

This book appears to be an update and consolidation of the well-known Oklahoma publication series on projectile points (Bell 1958, 1960; Perino 1968, 1971). The greatest coverage is given for the southcentral, southeastern, and midwestern regions; with a few point types from other regions included.

A single page is devoted to each artifact type. While most entries are for stone arrow and dart points, some coverage is given to preforms, knives, antler and bone points, and metal points. Drawings of each artifact type are presented, but generally no dimensional data is given. Usually, only one reference is given for each artifact type. Each type is associated with a geographic region and general time period. Written descriptions of each artifact type are minimal.

This publication will be of most interest to Texas archeologists who wish to have references on projectile points from a wider geographic area.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Of the two books reviewed, the one by Turner and Hester will be of most interest and use to Texas archeologists, since it has the best coverage of materials from Texas. The book by Perino can be used as a supplement, but not as a substitution for the publication by Turner and Hester. I would recommend the book by Turner and Hester to persons with even a small interest in Texas archeology, as well as to persons with more advanced interests.

Although much more current, neither of these books approach the quality and descriptive content of the classic publication by Suhm and Jelks (1962). Serious investigators would do well to continue to consult Suhm and Jelks (1962) for information on point types that have been covered. The range of variations for each projectile point type shown as full size photographs, and the large amount of written descriptions in this publication have not been equaled. I suspect that the cost of a similar publication today would be too high to make general distribution practical.

In summary, the two books reviewed here represent the latest information available on Indian projectile points for the geographic areas covered. These books should remain standard references for some time in the future.

REFERENCES

- Bell, R. E.
 1958 Guide to the Identification of Certain American Indian Projectile Points, Special Bulletin No. 1, Oklahoma Anthropological Society.
 1960 Guide to the Identification of Certain American Indian Projectile Points, Special Bulletin No. 2, Oklahoma Anthropological Society.
- Perino, G.
 1968 Guide to the Identification of Certain American Indian Projectile Points, Special Bulletin No. 3, Oklahoma Anthropological Society.
 1971 Guide to the Identification of Certain American Indian Projectile Points, Special Bulletin No. 4, Oklahoma Anthropological Society.
- Suhm, D. A. and E. B. Jelks
 1962 Handbook of Texas Archeology: Type Descriptions. Texas Archeological Society, Special Publication No. 1.

Information For Authors

Articles dealing with the archeology or ethnology of the Upper Texas Gulf Coast and adjacent areas are invited. Short articles dealing with specific sites, (prehistoric and historic) with types of artifacts, or with archeological ideas and theories are preferred. Priority for publication will be given to original papers submitted by HAS members and by amateurs and professionals working in this area of the Gulf Coast. Some reprints of other work will be used especially where the original publication is not readily available and the information provided may be helpful to local archeologists.

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Please contact the HAS Journal Editor if you have any questions about the requirements for submission of papers for the HAS Journal.

Folsom or Clovis?

In his "Recollections of a New Member" in the April 1985 issue of HAS Journal, Marshall Black reported finding, in the mid-30's, a Folsom point on Greens Bayou near Dyersdale (Harris Co.). He has carried out further investigation of this artifact and has located an old photograph of the point and has provided a sketch of the well patinated point.

Actual length of the point is 7 cm. and it is approximately 2.5 cm. at its widest point. It is made from tan chert and is heavily patinated. Flake marks are very faint. Flutes are more discernable by feel but are visible also.

It appears now that the point may be a Clovis-type rather than a Folsom. (See sketch). Both types are very rare in this area and, of course, the Clovis point is generally considered older than the Folsom.

Our thanks to Marshall Black for his follow-up and sketch.



Index - Journal No. 82 - August 1985
ISSN-8756-8071

<u>Page</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
2-6	The Menard-Morris House A Preliminary Report	Sheldon M. Kindall
6	Historic Note No. 5	Alan R. Duke and Suzanne Patrick
7-11	Indians of The Texas Gulf Coast A Brief Summary of Their Adaptational History	Joan Few
12-15	Surface Surveys at Site 41AU4	Bruce R. Duke
16-21	Urban Archaeology and History in a Twilight Zone: 13 Blocks on the Edge of Downtown Houston, Texas.	Kenneth L. Brown Randolph Widmer Marylinda Govaars Rikki Rubenstein
22-24	Additional Projectile Points from Site 41WHL9	L. W. Patterson and J. D. Hudgins
25-31	Post West Bernard 1837-1839 Part III	Joe D. Hudgins
32-33	Two New Books On Projectile Point Typology	L. W. Patterson
34	Information For Authors - Folsom or Clovis?	A. R. Duke
35	Index - Journal No. 82 Society Organization	

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