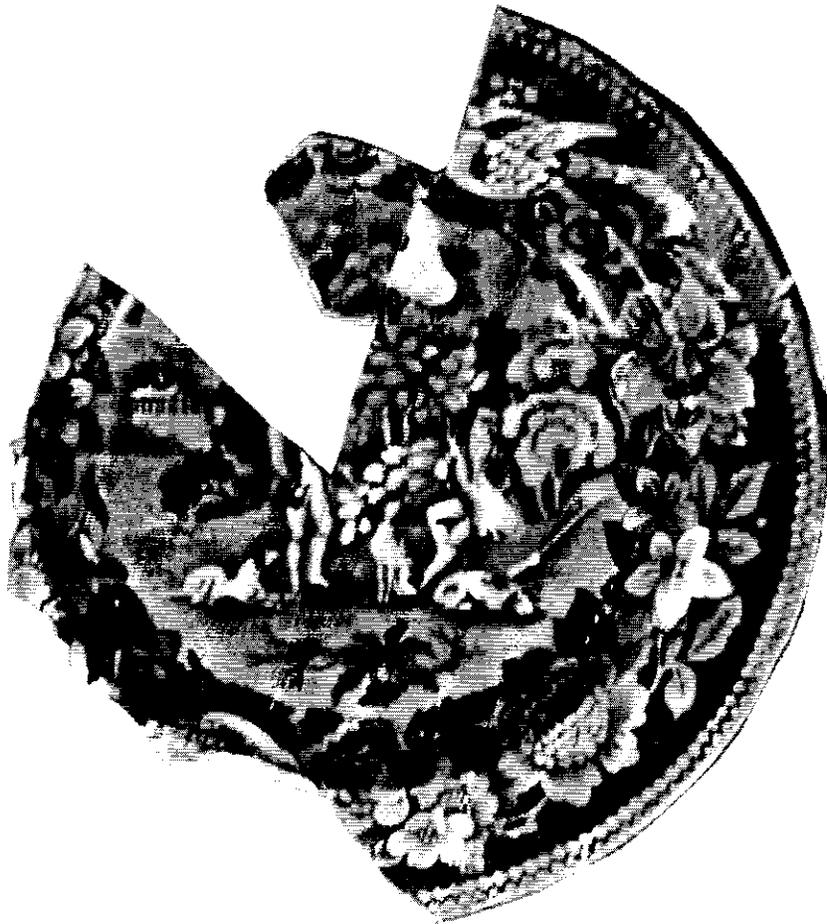




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Powell Site Ceramics: Rabbit Hunting

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Additional Excavations at 41FB28, Fort Bend Co., Texas

L. W. Patterson, J. D. Hudgins, and R. L. Gregg

Introduction

This article gives the results of additional excavations by the Houston Archeological Society at site 41FB28 in Fort Bend County in the spring of 2002. The site was discovered and recorded for state records by Joe Hudgins. Persons who participated in these additional excavations include Beth Aucoin, Pat Aucoin, Wanda Carter, Richard Carter, Dick Gregg, Joe Hudgins, Etta Palmer, Tom Palmer, Jim Palmer, Lee Patterson, Gary Ryman, Bob Shelby, and Allen Soukup. Field work was directed by Joe Hudgins, and field records were handled by Etta Palmer. The excavation layout diagram (Figure 1) was made by Tom Palmer and the burial diagram (Figure 3) by Tom Nuckols. Analysis of human and faunal remains was done by Dick Gregg.

The site has an occupation sequence from the Early Archaic through the Late Prehistoric periods, from about 5000 BC to AD 1500. This site was probably occupied on a seasonal basis by mobile hunter-gatherers. Artifact types found by the additional excavations are consistent with types found by the original excavations (Patterson et al. 2000). Use of this site was highest during the Archaic period from 5000 BC to AD 100. Lighter use of the site then occurred in the Early Ceramic (AD 100-600) and Late Prehistoric (AD 600-1500) periods. Artifact types found here indicate hunting, lithic manufacturing, and processing of plant materials in earth ovens.

Several human skeletons in poor condition were found by the additional excavations. Judged by a Bulverde dart point in an arm bone (Feature 6), at least one burial is from the Middle Archaic period (3000-1500 BC). This seems to be the first evidence of violence in this time period in Southeast Texas. However, the database is small for human remains in the Middle Archaic period of this region, mainly from Group 1 burials at the Ernest Witte site, 41AU36 (Hall 1981). A small piece of red ochre found in pit K (55-60 cm) of 41FB28 may be related to human burials. No grave goods were found with burials.

Site Setting

Site 41FB28 is located on a knoll on a high terrace of the north bank of the San Bernard River. The site is wooded with deciduous trees. The general area is a mixture of woodlands and coastal prairie. A wide range of plant and animal food resources would have been available to prehistoric Indians. Deer hunting is still done in this area.

Excavation Details

An excavation layout drawing is shown in Figure 1. A total of 11 one-meter square pits have been excavated, with pits J and K done as additional work in the spring of 2002. It is estimated that the site is somewhat larger than 20 meters in diameter.

Excavations were done in arbitrary 5 cm depth intervals, because no natural stratigraphy was apparent in the dark soil. Excavation pits were done to depths where culturally sterile soil was found. Soil was processed through 1/4-inch (6 mm) mesh screens. Relatively few cultural materials were found below 50 cm, except for human burials that were intrusive to the lowest excavation depths.

Site Chronology

The chronological sequence of occupations at this site has been previously determined by data from the original excavations in pits A to I (Patterson et al. 2000:1). A series of Oxidizable Carbon Ratio (OCR) dates and the relative sequence of artifact types were used for chronological placement of the various depth intervals. The sequence of time periods is: Early Archaic, 5000-3000 BC (40-50 cm); Middle Archaic, 3000-1500 BC (30-40 cm); Late Archaic, 1500 BC-AD 100 (20-30 cm); Early Ceramic, AD 100-600 (15-20 cm); and Late Prehistoric, AD 600-1500 (5-15 cm). There is also a possibility of some occupation in the latter part of the Late Paleoindian period (8000-5000 BC). Time periods for Southeast Texas have previously been published (Patterson 1995a:243, 1996:9).

Projectile Points

Projectile points found by all excavations at 41FB28 are summarized in Table 1. Projectile points found in the additional excavations of pits J and K are illustrated in Figure 2. Late Archaic dart point types found in the 20-30 cm depth interval are Morhiss and Kent. An Angostura Late Paleoindian point found in this depth interval was probably found by later Indians of the Late Archaic period.

The Middle Archaic period (30-40 cm) is represented by Gary, Bulverde, and Pedernales point types. The Early Archaic period (40-50 cm) is represented by Early Stemmed points, which is a major type of this time period (Patterson 1998). The stratigraphic sequence of dart point types at 41FB28 is consistent with projectile point type sequences for Southeast Texas (Patterson 1995a: Table 3, 1996: Table 4).

A unifacial arrow point (Figure 2F) was found with burial fill in pit K. This specimen may be from the Middle Archaic period, judged by placement of at least one burial from pit K in this time period. Unifacial arrow points are found as early as the Middle Archaic period in Southeast Texas (Patterson 1992).

A Bulverde point (Figure 2C) was found embedded in an arm bone of a burial in pit K (Figures 3 and 4).

Stone Tools

Not many formal stone tools have been found at this site. This is typical for sites in Southeast Texas, where the dominant tool type was the unmodified utilized flake. A perforator (Figure 2G) was found in pit J (30-35 cm). Previous excavations yielded a scraper, a perforator, and four graters (Patterson et al. 2000:2).

Lithic Manufacturing

Only a single small (40 mm diameter) chert core (pit K, 30-35 cm) has been found at this site. It appears that most lithic manufacturing was done here using imported flake blanks and preforms. Most of the lithic manufacturing at this site seems to have been done to produce bifacial dart points. A total of 1669 chert flakes were recovered, with quantities for each excavation depth interval given in Table 2. Only a small number of flakes were found below 50 cm depth. The small number of flakes for strata above 20 cm is an indication of light use of the site in the Early Ceramic and Late Prehistoric periods. The modest number of total flakes shows that lithic manufacturing

was not done on a large scale at this site. As previously noted (Patterson 2000:3), the manufacture of bifacial dart points at this site is shown by preform fragments and the characteristics of flake size distributions.

All remaining cortex on flakes is of the weathered type typical of chert cobbles from the Colorado and Brazos Rivers. Only a small percentage of chert flakes have remaining cortex, which indicates that flake blanks brought to this site had little remaining cortex. Many of the chert flakes have indications of heat treatment, in the form of reddish coloration, small potlid surface fractures, and waxy surface luster.

Ceramics

Only two potsherds were found in the additional excavations of pits J and K. A Goose Creek Plain sherd from pit J (15-20 cm) is from the Early Ceramic period. A Goose Creek Plain sherd at 45-50 cm in pit K probably fell there from a pit wall during excavation. Only 17 Goose Creek and bone tempered sherds were recovered at this site. This is another indication of light use of this site during the Early Ceramic and Late Prehistoric periods.

Fired Clayballs

A total of 5350 fired clayballs were found in excavations at 41FB28. Data for clayballs at each depth interval are given in Table 3. Additional excavations yielded 357 clayballs from pit J and 311 clayballs from pit K, with 4682 clayballs found by previous excavations of pits A to I. The relatively small number of clayballs in strata above 20 cm is also an indication of light use of this site during the Early Ceramic and Late Prehistoric periods.

Fired clayballs were used as heating elements for earth ovens, as demonstrated experimentally by Hudgins (1993). Earth ovens were used in Southeast Texas from the start of the Late Paleoindian period (8000-5000 BC) through the Proto-Historic period (AD 1500-1700). Earth ovens in Southeast Texas may have been used mainly for processing certain plant foods, such as roots, on a seasonal basis (Patterson 1995b).

Modern Materials

Modern materials found in upper excavation levels indicate some site disturbance, especially from modern armadillos. In pit J, glass pieces were found at depth intervals of 5-10 cm, 10-15 cm, and 15-20 cm. In pit K, glass pieces were found at depth intervals of 0-5 cm and 10-15 cm. In previous excavations, metal and glass pieces were found at depths of 0-15 cm in a few pits, with one glass piece at 25-30 cm in pit I.

There is also evidence of modern disturbance in pits A and B from burned tree roots. Charcoal in pit A at 25-30 cm has a radiocarbon date of 190 ± 50 BP (GX-26470) and charcoal in pit B at 30-35 cm has a radiocarbon date of 110 ± 60 BP (GX-26725).

Faunal Remains

Analysis of faunal remains from pits A to I by Bill McClure identified box turtle, mud turtle, opossum, nine-banded armadillo, white-tailed deer, and cow or bison. No additions to this list were found in pits J and K. Deer and turtle are the most common types of faunal remains at sites in Southeast Texas (Patterson 1995a: Table 2, 1996: Table 16).

Human Remains

Human remains were found in pits J and K, with depths to top of bones ranging from 40 to 60 cm. The bones were very poorly preserved, apparently due to the soil conditions. Almost no small or thin bones were recovered. A number of long bones could be recognized, but only a few femora and humeri were identified as to specific type. Generally epiphyses were all but missing and diaphyses disintegrated on drying or by touch. A few other bones such as vertebrae and ribs could be identified because of their sizes, shapes, and anatomical positions. But most would disintegrate upon excavation, so they were pedestalled, drawn, photographed, and left in situ.

Bone was found in several concentrations, denoted as features 1 through 7 (Figure 3). Three partial skulls were found, constituting features 2, 4, and 5. To obtain better information, these three features as well as parts of features 1 and 6 were removed as separate blocks for later excavation under laboratory conditions. The laboratory excavation helped by revealing several small portions of the skulls which were moderately preserved. However, much of the skulls was gone and what was left was mostly very fragmented and mixed. The femora of feature 1 were quite fragmentary, but because of their width and wall thickness they could be identified as adult.

Feature 5 includes a portion of skull, mandible, and left zygomatic, with left side down and facing south-south-east. (The diagram of feature 5 in Figure 3 shows only the outline of the block removed for laboratory examination, not placement of bones.) The deepest bones, on the left side, are the best preserved of all the bones in the two pits. But even these had to be kept in the matrix as the exposed bone surfaces underwent careful cleaning with water so that laboratory photography could be done. Figure 5 shows this best-preserved area, running left to right from the upper left canine to the upper left second molar. All are adult teeth except the deciduous upper left second molar, which is being pushed out by the adult second premolar, and the crown portion of the opposing deciduous lower left second molar. This is interesting in that Ubelaker (1978) places the deciduous second molars as still present only as late as age 10 years (± 30 months) but the adult upper canine as not fully erupted until age 12 years (± 30 months). The large error bounds prevent these data from being in conflict; we will say that the individual died at age 10-12 years. A total of 26 teeth, including the deciduous ones, plus 8 isolated tooth roots were found in this feature. The upper incisors show considerable shoveling (Figure 6).

Adjacent to feature 5 on the west is feature 6 (Figure 3). It contains three long bones identified in the field as humeri. For the two outer bones, the field-measured minimum lengths of 23 and 25 cm are somewhat less than adult lengths of, say, 30 to 35 cm. They are grassile. Traces of curving bones (not shown in Figure 3) which appeared to be upper ribs were noticed lying between these two humeri, at their eastern ends. Also, what appeared to be vertebrae lay in correct anatomical position from the skull of feature 5 into this region, lying approximately halfway between the two humeri. Thus feature 6 could in part be the remains of the upper torso of the 10-12 year old of feature 5. If the burial was prone, the lower portion would be in the unexcavated area to the west of pit K. At the northeast end of the middle bone is the Bulverde point mentioned earlier. This bone was too fragmentary to determine whether it belonged to the 10-12 year old. However, the impression from the field notes (including tentative identification as humerus) and photos is that the bone is from another burial.

Several teeth were recovered from (skull) features 2 and 4. No evidence of caries was seen on any of the teeth from pits J and K.

The closeness of the bones, especially of the skulls of features 4 and 5, and the five parallel long bones of feature 7 would indicate that several persons may have been buried at the same time. If newer burials were placed next to older ones, more disturbance of the older ones would be expected than appears to be the case here.

No evidence of a burial pit was found. The predominant direction of the long bones is 0° to 45° (W-E to SW-NE).

The choice of location seems unusual for a cemetery. Although the general area is part of a high ridge, the site is in a shallow local depression that causes the soil to become quite soggy after even modest rains and very hard to walk through, as was noted during field work. When dry, the soil becomes very hard with large cracks. It must have been difficult to dig a burial pit in this soil.

Summary

The additional excavation of pits J and K supports previous findings that the occupation sequence at 41FB28 is from the Early Archaic through the Late Prehistoric periods, a time interval of about 6500 years. Judged by the large number of clayballs and the relatively small amounts of lithic materials, this site may have been used primarily as a seasonal processing station for plant foods, with some hunting and lithic manufacturing activities also indicated. The long occupation sequence may indicate reuse of this site for seasonal scheduling of resource procurement. Data indicate heaviest use of this site during the Archaic period (5000 BC-AD 100), with less use of the site during the following Early Ceramic and Late Prehistoric periods.

Remains of at least four individuals were found. Because of poor bone preservation, the information obtained from these is quite limited. An adult and child aged 10 to 12 years were apparently buried together. A Bulverde point was embedded in an arm bone of another burial. This seems to be the first evidence in Southeast Texas for violence in the Middle Archaic period (3000-1500 BC).

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Table 1. Projectile Points

type	level, cm	pit	L	W	T
dart point fragment	15-20	B			
Morhiss	20-30	A	39.0	23.2	7.7
Morhiss stem	20-25	H			7.5
Kent	28	A	83.9	24.7	9.0
dart point fragment	25-30	C			9.6
Angostura	25-30	D		25.5	8.7
Bulverde (?)	30-40	A		36.8	8.4
dart point fragment	30-35	E			5.6
Bulverde	30-35	J		26.4	7.5
Gary	34	K	56.1	20.1	7.5
dart point tip	35-40	I			
Gary stem	35-40	F			7.3
Pedernales	35-40	C	46.0	26.1	7.5
dart point tip	40-45	B			
dart point stem	46	A			
Early Stemmed stem	48	H			6.2
Early Stemmed	48	K	60.0	21.2	6.5
dart point fragment	40-45	K			
dart point blade frag.	50-55	K			
dart point tip	Feature 4	K			
Bulverde	Feature 6	K	34.5	24.7	8.1
unifacial arrow point	burial fill	K	20.3	14.8	2.6

Table 2. Chert Flakes

depth, cm	pit			total
	J	K	A to I	
0-5	1	12	29	42
5-10	2		84	86
10-15	7		34	41
15-20	2	3	43	48
20-25	6	4	65	75
25-30	9	13	126	148
30-35	27	5	106	138
35-40	11	4	277	292
40-45	8	9	254	271
45-50	23	39	309	371
50-55	24 A	32 A	78	134
55-60		16 A	7	23
	120	137	1412	1669

A some from burial fill

Table 3. Fired Clayballs, all pits

depth, cm	no.	wt., gm	size range, mm square
0-5	58	262	15-35
5-10	61	203	15-30
10-15	90	435	15-35
15-20	193	921	15-40
20-25	478	3154	15-60
25-30	844	6737	15-70
30-35	983	6594	15-60
35-40	1029	6904	15-60
40-45	846	6055	15-70
45-50	587	4151	15-60
50-55	165	1182	15-50
55-60	16 A	177	15-40
	5350		

A - with burial fill

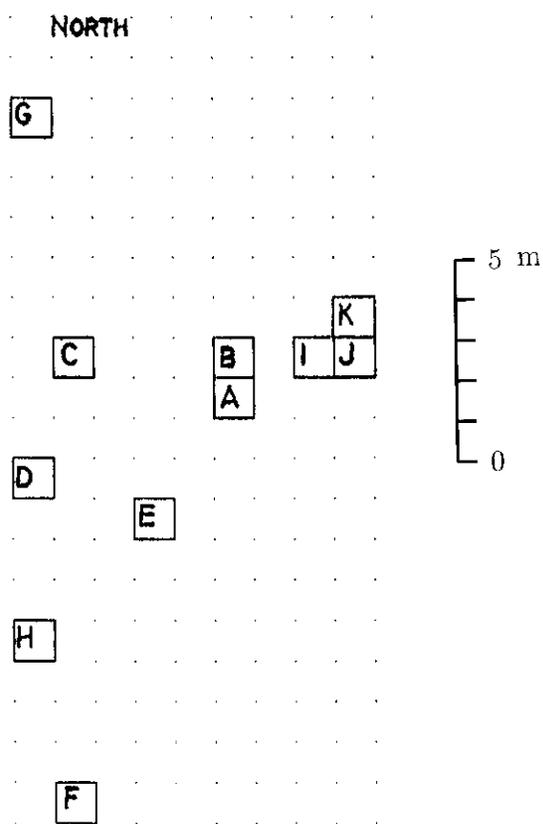
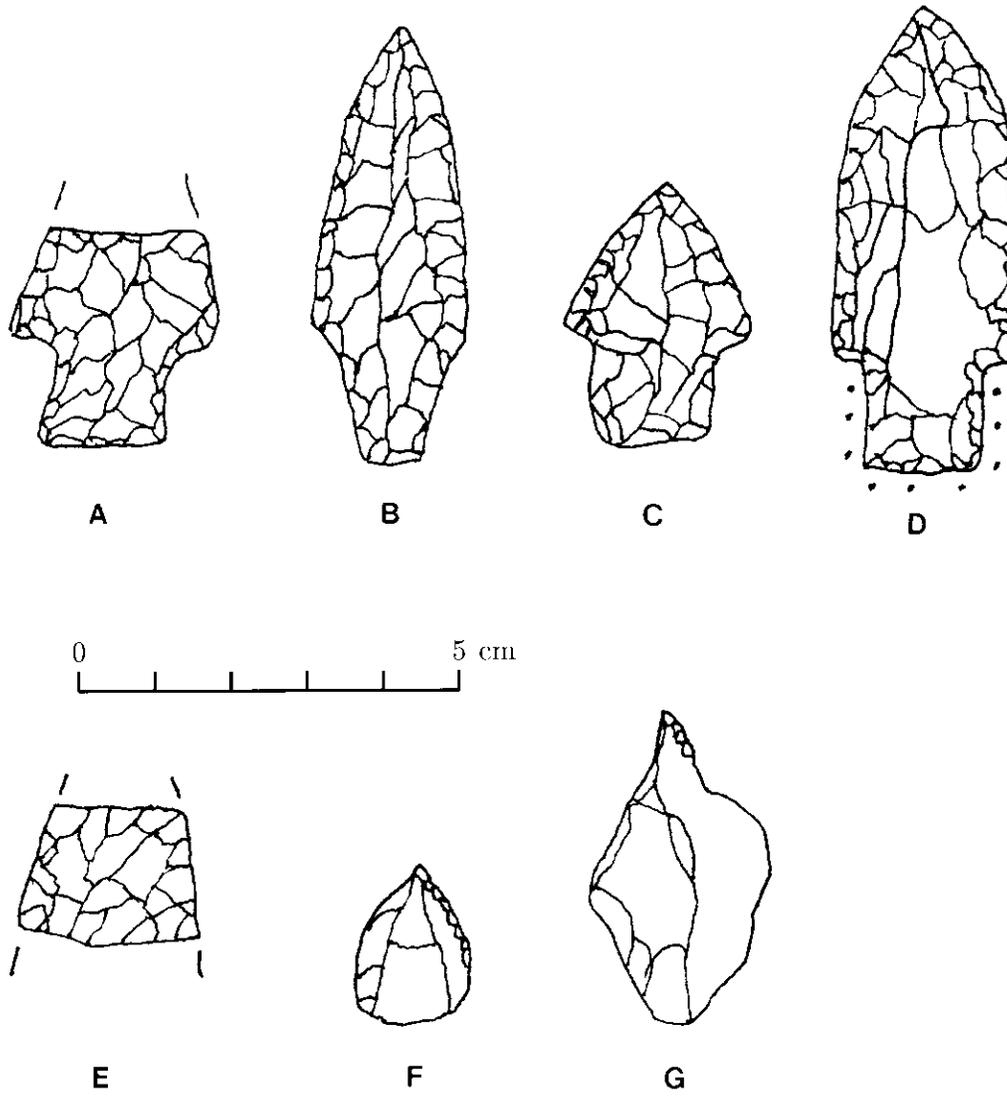


Figure 1. Excavation Layout



A - Kent point (pit J), B Gary point (pit K),
 C - Bulverde point (Feature 6),
 D Early Stemmed point (pit K),
 E dart point blade fragment (pit K),
 F unifacial arrow point, G - perforator,
 dots show ground edges

Figure 2. Additional Artifacts

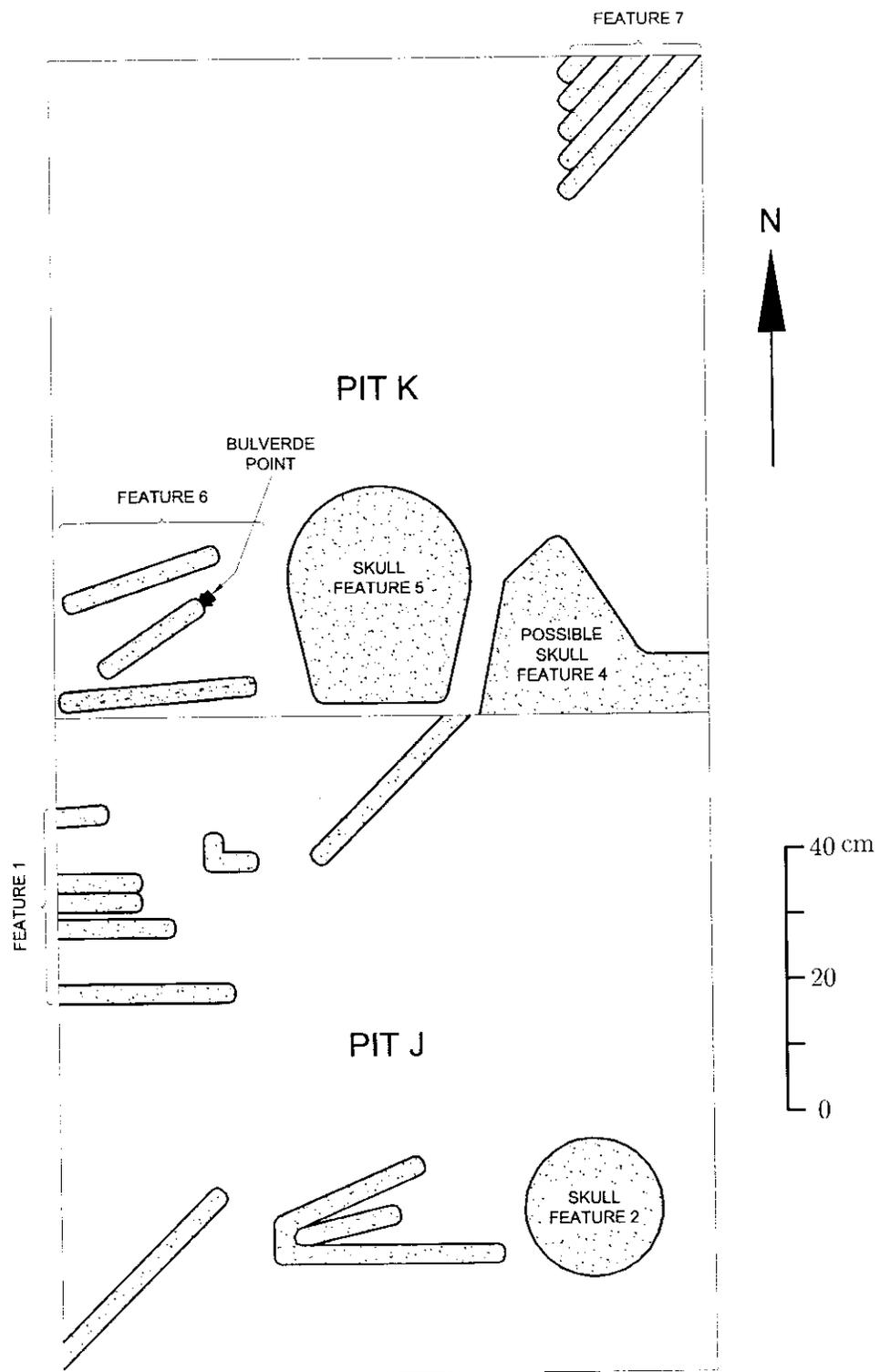


Figure 3. Burial Features of Pits J and K



Figure 4. Bulverde Point in Arm Bone



Figure 5. Left Side Dentition, Feature 5

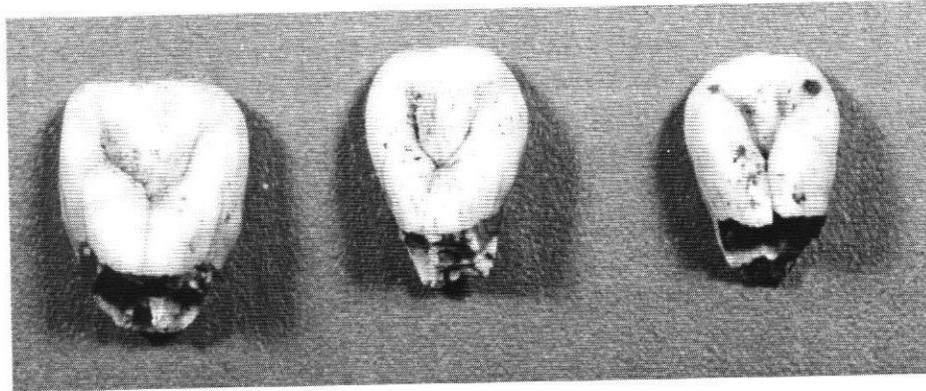


Figure 6. Maxillary Incisors, Feature 5

A Test Pit – In the Search for Champ d’Asile

Sheldon Kindall

This was an HAS excavation project – not to archeologically investigate a site, but instead, to archeologically look at an anomaly encountered while searching for Champ d’Asile. HAS members who participated in this excavation were: Dick Gregg, Tommy Nuckols, Richard Carter, Wanda Carter, Pat Aucoin, Beth Aucoin, Jean Epperson, Lenore Pencik, Ernesto Maycotte, Bobbie Taylor, Ed Masten, Charlie Gordy, Don Keys, and Pablo Castro. Non-HAS members who helped were: David Murph, Lou Duggan, and Judy Duggan. One person who did not do any excavating but for whom a great deal of thanks is owed is Charles Fisher, the owner of the land where this anomaly was, who opened his gate each Saturday to let us in and never once questioned our sanity.

Lou Duggan discovered this anomaly while participating in the on-going search for Champ d’Asile that is being spearheaded by David and Jean Murph. This search, which includes archival research and translation support, is being done by a large number of people.

What was Champ d’Asile?

Champ d’Asile was a French fortification that was built in 1818 on the east bank of the Trinity River.¹ It covered an area of about eight acres, and it consisted of six large structures and about 32 small structures. It was active for only about five months; it was within Spanish territory and the Spanish were not very happy about that.

The purpose of Champ d’Asile was to serve as a rally point² where Napoleon could be brought after he had been rescued from St. Helena. They were then to march into New Spain and take it over. The two leaders of this project were two Napoleonic Generals, Charles Lallemand and Antoine Rigaud.

Very little went right with this plan. There were about 160 soldiers at the fort but this was far short of the thousands that were anticipated. It was well supplied and resupplied from New Orleans. But Napoleon, himself, did not think this was a very good plan³ and when they learned that a Spanish army was on the way to destroy the fort, the whole idea was abandoned. The Spanish found the fort abandoned; they spent a full day pulling everything down and burning the debris.

Where was Champ d’Asile?

Both the French and the Spanish left maps of the fort, but no one saw fit to show exactly where it was. The Spaniard who led the force against the French, Captain Juan Castaneda, left a daily diary of his travel to the fort and then later drafted a final report, which he sent to the Governor of Texas, Antonio Martinez. Today’s searchers try to read between the lines of whatever Spanish documents exist to try to get an idea of where the fort was. And it can probably be said that if the location is found, someone is going to say that if one had read those documents carefully enough, it would have been obvious where to look.

The Search

The fort was burned, not just a little bit, but thoroughly. Archeologically, this is good. There should be a lot of charcoal today wherever this complex was. Also, when the French abandoned the fort, it was basically an unorganized, every-man-for-himself type of thing. A lot was left behind.

The search organized by David Murph has been looking along the east bank of the Trinity. During one of these excursions, Lou Duggan found a stratum of charcoal filled sand in the bank of the Trinity at a location that, according to some, could be the "right place." Above the stratum were several feet of clean sand. The clean sand was apparently spillage from a large nearby sand removal project. The area where the sand has been removed is now a large lake.

It was difficult to get a good look at the stratum from the steep face of the riverbank. The only thing to do was to put a pit in near the bank such as to come down on the stratum and expose enough so that it could be investigated. It should be noted that this area has been heavily impacted and there are metal artifacts everywhere. All metal artifacts found on this project are transferred to Jay Blaine in Ft. Worth for his opinion on date.

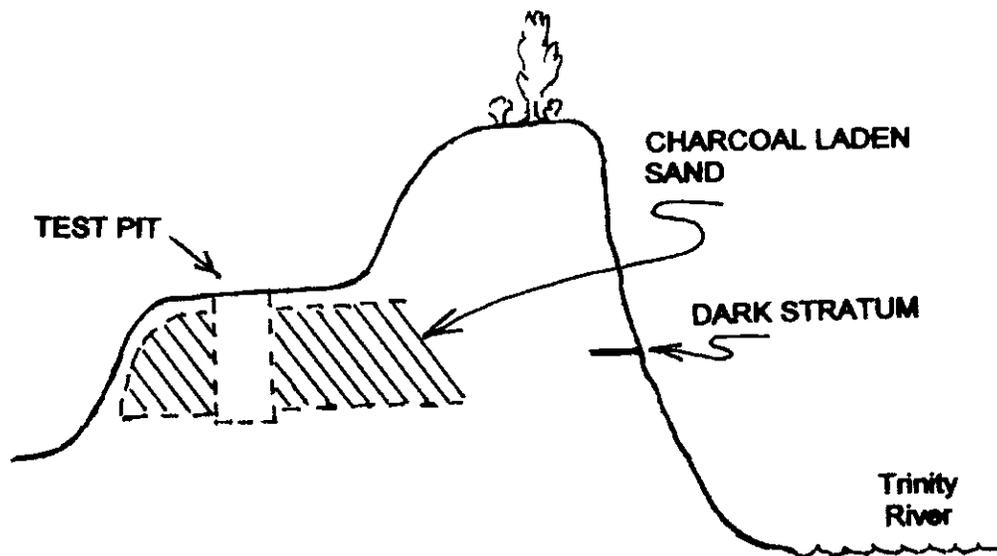


Figure 1. Cross Section of the Area around the Test Pit

The Pit

Figure 1 shows where the test pit was placed in relation to the stratum containing charcoal laden sand. A 2 m by 2 m pit was marked off with true directions. It was thought from survey work that we would have to go about 1.5 m through clean sterile sand to get to the burn stratum, but the pit would be large enough to expose 4 m² of the stratum. Nothing in this world is that simple.

At a depth of only 39 cm, we encountered the charcoal laden sand (and wished that we had put in just a 1 m by 1 m pit). The charcoal laden sand lasted to a depth of 90 cm, where we encountered hard clay that was void of any cultural material.

The stratum in the riverbank turned out to be seepage of the charcoal filled sand underneath the clean sand to the face of the riverbank. Shovel tests in the vicinity revealed that the amount of charcoal filled sand covered a large (maybe huge) area. There is more than 1,000 m³ of buried charcoal filled sand in that vicinity.

Artifacts

In the very first 5 cm into the charcoal laden sand, we encountered a significant amount of Indian material – one thinning flake, four pot sherds (Goose Creek Plain), and a pristine Perdiz Point. In each 5 cm level after that we encountered Indian artifacts, mostly pot sherds. But there was not even a hint of stratification. Also, not very old glass was found in each level in the charcoal laden sand. A summary of artifacts is given in Table 1. The brick in Table 1 was small chunks of rough brick, badly burnt. And some of what was called charcoal was actually coal slag.

Table 1. Summary of Artifacts

<u>depth in cm</u>	<u>metal, gm</u>	<u>glass, gm</u>	<u>brick, gm</u>	<u>Indian, gm</u>
40-45	31.7	70.4	7.2	8.3
45-50	37.0	3.3	10.5	1.9
50-55	116.0	4.2	56.1	1.6
55-60	36.7	0.8	59.0	4.9
60-65	13.2 ^a	5.6	8.8	23.8
65-70	7.5	7.8	22.9	60.3
70-75	31.1	9.9	14.7	9.7
75-80	52.5	35.0	39.2	64.7
80-85	57.1	12.3	12.1	38.0
85-90	7.9	2.9	15.7	27.7
90-95	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0

^a This does not include a long chisel type of tool that was 55 cm long, 2 cm in diameter, bent by 60 degrees, and weight 1,108.4 gm

Conclusion

One scenario that would fit these results (i.e., my theory) is that the surface of the large nearby area that was mined for sand was cleared by burning and bull dozing, and pushed to the side. The large amount of charcoal laden sand into which we excavated was actually what used to be the surface of where the sand pit lake is today. And, it just so happens that an Indian site was part of what was pushed away. It was a late Indian site; we found a Guerrero Point at 70 cm down.

If Champ d'Asile was where the lake is today, it is now mixed into this huge mass of charcoal filled sand.

The test pit has now been filled and the area restored. The artifacts have been washed, sorted, and cataloged. The catalog is now at Rice University and the artifacts have been returned to the landowner.

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A Problematic Lithic Occurrence in the Pleistocene Lower Shuler Formation, Milton Pit, Dallas County, Texas

Wilson W. Crook, III

Introduction

A number of occurrences suggestive of Early Man in the Trinity River alluvial terrace deposits in the general Dallas area have been reported in the literature (Lagow Sand Pit, Lewisville, Hickory Creek, Pemberton Hill, Aubrey Clovis Site). One additional possible occurrence, of the writer's late father's personal discovery and experience, needs also to be of record. This brief note recounts the discovery as told to the author and later demonstrated at the Milton Pit and elsewhere throughout the Dallas County area.

The Lower Shuler Formation at the Milton Site

The Milton Site lies in an abandoned sand and gravel pit behind the Lincoln Cemetery in southeast Dallas County, Texas. A Late Archaic site occurs in situ near the surface in the gray sands of the Pattillo Formation. This was later to become one of the two components upon which the Elam Focus of the Trinity Aspect of the Archaic Horizon was originally established (Crook and Harris 1952).

Geologically, the pit exposed a typical section of the former T-2 (Pemberton Hill/Lewisville) terrace of the Trinity River, including basal Hill Formation gravels of commercial exploitation, overlain by laminated sands of the Lower Shuler Formation, and a partial segment of the Upper Shuler yellow sandy clay, complete with fossils of extinct *Rancholabrea* megafauna. The Hill-Shuler Formations are unquestionably Pleistocene in age and have been completely described, both paleontologically and geologically, by Slaughter et al. (1962) and others. This section is overlain by a thin veneer of about 1 meter of the red sandy clay of the Albritton Formation and a further 1.0-1.5 meters of the Pattillo, together comprising the T-1 (Union Terminal/Carrollton) terrace.

It should be noted that the sequence of the Upper Trinity River alluvial terraces has been partially described first by Shuler (1935) and Pattillo (1940), and then correlated by Taggart (1953), Crook and Harris (1958), Slaughter et al. (1962), Willimon (1970), and most recently, Ferring (1986). Each of these researchers has unfortunately used a slightly different terminology in their geologic descriptions (Prikryl 1990). The author has done extensive archeological work along the main channel of the Trinity in southeast Dallas, Kaufman, and Ellis Counties. The Trinity terraces along the Elm Fork in northwest Dallas County and southern Denton County have also been studied, albeit not as extensively. While none of the proposed sequences is a perfect model for the entire Upper Trinity system, the series delineated in Slaughter et al. (1962) best fits both geologic convention and the author's personal observations, most notably in accounting for the high terraces between Pemberton Hill and the Buckner Home in southeast Dallas County. Therefore, this terminology has been adopted for use here although the descriptions below of the Hill-Shuler Formations should correlate to Ferring's proposed Hickory Creek section.

At the Milton Pit, the Lower Shuler Formation was preserved in an undisturbed full section 1.3-1.7 meters thick, especially visible in the north wall. The Lower Shuler Formation is composed of thinly layered (approximately 5 mm each), yellow limonitic stained sands. No visible break or warping of the laminae could be seen in the exposure.

Striking was the presence of a large unbroken and unflaked quartzite boulder, almost brick size and shaped (save for rounded edges), barely showing and very definitely in situ almost exactly in

the middle of this sequence of finely laminated sands. No other lithic materials of any size were present in this section of the pit. Careful examination and subsequent excavation could disclose no disturbance of the enclosing sands. It was as if the boulder had always been there and the sands had been deposited around it. There seems to be no possible agency to account for its presence in such a unique situation other than perhaps human provenience of some kind.

Certainly the river could not have deposited such a bulky and heavy object during a depositional sequence of fine sands, which are characterized by extreme low energy. Catastrophic geologic action, either by landslide or earthquake, would have been evidenced in the disturbance of the depositional sequence of the Shuler sands. It seems equally unlikely that an animal or bird could have brought it there, even by accident. The only siliceous material locally available to the aboriginal inhabitants of the Dallas region comes from the eroded remnants of the ancient T-5 terrace, 50 meters above the present stream grade. These cobble fields are as much as 80% quartzite, with some chert and a small amount of petrified wood. However, the closest exposure to the Milton Pit is in the fields around the Buckner Orphan Home, 8 km to the north.

Thus there seems to be no logical explanation for the presence of this boulder in its position within the Lower Shuler other than human selection and transport of some manner. Perhaps the stone was dropped while crossing the then sandy river bed during Lower Shuler times. Or possibly it was heaved into the water to see the splash, as most of us have done at some time in our lives. In extensive excavations in Trinity River terrace deposits for over 50 years, first during my father's work and later during my own observations, I know of no similar object in any exposure of the Lower Shuler. The occurrence is absolutely unique in many ways and considerations.

Evidence of Pleistocene Man on the Upper Trinity

Was man present on the Upper Trinity at such early geologic times? Possibly. At Pemberton Hill, 3 km upstream from the Milton Pit, the writer's father found a crude chert end-scraper in the Hill gravels at the base of that huge pit. While the artifact was not incontrovertibly in situ, as was the Milton boulder, the patina on the entire surface (including the steeply chipped bit edge) perfectly matched that of the other rocks comprising the basal gravels, as if it had been washed in along with the other hard materials from somewhere upstream.

Pemberton Hill is notable in that the top of the Hill gravels is capped with a 20 cm thick iron-cemented conglomeritic crust (probably from the limonite charge in the groundwater from the deposition of the overlying Lower Shuler laminated sands). This crust must have sealed in the underlying gravels of commercial value. Great slabs of the conglomerate had been ripped out and pushed aside, highly visible around the edges of the pit workings.

Pemberton Hill is a complete T-2 terrace example, so much so that Crook and Harris (1958) used it in their characterization of the Trinity terrace system. Notably, the Pleistocene Shuler Formation is capped by the gray-black Richards alluvium with no indication of the later veneer of the T-1 Albritton and Pattillo Formations. Thus there were never any overlying archaic materials which could have contributed artifacts to the exposed Hill gravels. The weathered scraper is therefore most likely Pleistocene in origin.

Pemberton Hill yielded two other evidences of man. One was a large chert biface, also found on the pit floor. The other was a broken center section of a chert biface or point found in place by the writer's father in an exposure of the Upper Shuler yellow sandy clay. Both are unquestionably man-made artifacts, and were described and illustrated in Crook and Harris (1958). It should be noted that neither of these have anything like the patina of the end-scraper found within the basal gravels.

Thus there is some evidence of man at Pemberton Hill, both in the Upper Shuler and possibly in the latter phases of the Hill gravels at the base of the section, below the Lower Shuler laminated sands.

The Lagow Sand Pit human bones now appear to have been a burial into the then exposed and eroded Upper Shuler Formation at Lagow Pit, before the overlying red sandy clays of the T-1 Albritton Formation were deposited at the locality (Crook 1961). Fluorine-Uranium-Nitrogen (F-U-N) tests and the degree of mineralization on the bones appear to be of an age of more than 10,000-11,000 years, but not of the greater Mid-Wisconsinan age of the fossil animal bones included in the T-2 terrace deposits. Lagow is roughly 3 km further upstream from Pemberton Hill.

Other evidence of Pleistocene man in the region comes from the Lewisville Site, suggested evidences at Hickory Creek 8 km upstream from Lewisville (three worked flakes have been found), and the Aubrey Clovis Site even farther to the north. Both Lewisville and Hickory Creek are in direct association with extinct Pleistocene fauna in the Upper Shuler Formation, although the age of each find remains problematical because of the potential use of lignite in the hearths at Lewisville (thus yielding an older than expected age date) and the lack of definitive work at Hickory Creek. The Aubrey Site, complete with Clovis age tools in association with bison, was exposed as a deeply buried site within the floodplain of the Upper Trinity, suggesting that the river valley alluvial fill is considerably deeper and older than previously thought. It is Ferring's (1986) opinion that other even earlier sites could be found in the Trinity floodplain.

Thus it can be seen that there is definite evidence of the presence of terminal Pleistocene man in the Upper Trinity watershed, geologically higher and later than the boulder in the Lower Shuler sands at the Milton Site, and possible indications of his presence geologically lower and earlier in the Hill gravels.

Summary

The entire T-2 sequence, top-to-bottom, of Richards/Upper Shuler/Lower Shuler/Hill, is unquestionably Pleistocene in age with typical included Rancholabrean extinct fauna. Moreover, the occurrence of *Colossochelys (Testudo)*, *T. canaliculata*, *Tapirus*, alligator, and others as far north as Dallas suggests a warmer, interstadial/interglacial climate than is present even now. The presence of heavy caliche in the Upper Shuler also suggests a period of warmer and drier climate than today. This matches the general observation of Haynes (1967) that alluvial river deposits occur in warmer, non-glacial periods, while the valley cuts that leave the older floodplains as terraces are associated with lower sea level glacial times.

Therefore the T-2 terrace must represent either the now well-recognized mid-Wisconsinan interglacial of 25,000-60,000 years ago, or the Sangamon Interglacial older than 70,000 years. It is significant that in all the numerous faunal publications from the Upper Trinity terrace deposits, all bison that can be definitively identified are of the giant species of *B. latifrons*, *B. chaneyi*, etc., usually considered to be of Wisconsinan age (Olympia interglacial) and dated elsewhere to be no later than 25,000-30,000 BP. As yet, not one single specimen of *B. antiquus* or *B. occidentalis*, commonly associated with Paleo-Indian sites of 10,000-11,000 years ago, has been reported from the Shuler Formation.

In addition, the presence of giant land tortoises in the Shuler Formation (a nearly complete specimen from the Lower Shuler is on exhibit in the Dallas Museum of Natural History) strongly suggests pre-terminal Pleistocene age for the formation.

If only the brick-sized quartzite boulder quietly resting in the middle of undisturbed Lower Shuler laminated sands at the Milton Pit could speak! At least its intriguing occurrence is now of record for possible future discoveries.

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Evidence from the Elizabeth Powell Site, 41FB269, that the Manufacturer of the Hunting Series of Transfer Printed Pottery was Davenport

Richard L. Gregg

Introduction

Site 41FB269 in Fort Bend County, Texas, is the supposed location of the home of Elizabeth Powell and family from about 1828 to 1840. They had come to Texas from New Orleans. There is also evidence of later occupation by others at the site.

In the Houston Archeological Society excavations at 41FB269, a number of sherds of transfer printed pottery (transferware) have been found. Transferware is made by transferring a pattern engraved on a copper plate, via ink and special tissue paper, to a partially fired item of pottery, and then applying glazing compound and completing the firing. In this manner an intricate pattern on the pottery can be obtained which is also protected by glaze. Transfer printed pottery was popular from around 1800 to 1850, and England dominated in the production of this as well as other types of whiteware pottery during this period.

Several types of marks appear on transferware, either impressed or made by transfer. Makers' marks are well known. Back stamps usually identify the pattern. In many cases, however, there is no back stamp or other means of determining a pattern name, so the pattern has been given a name reflecting the subject of the pattern. Rarer are importers' marks, which, as with other marks, were applied by the manufacturer. The importers' marks most often found in this geographical area are of the various Henderson partnerships in New Orleans (Black and Brandimarte 1987, Earls 2004). These particular importers are of interest because the only known manufacturer of the pottery on which their importer's marks appear is Davenport of Staffordshire, England. However, this does not imply that Henderson marks are only found on Davenport pottery. There are several examples of pottery with a Henderson mark which has either a pattern of unknown maker or a pattern produced by several makers, with a particular maker not being able to be identified for a given piece of pottery (Earls 2004). For these reasons, a Henderson mark can be said to indicate, but not affirm, that the pottery was produced by Davenport.

The Hunting Series

For some patterns, vessels, especially plates, have the same border decoration but varied central scenes, usually with a common theme. Such are called border series or, simply, series.

The Hunting series of transferware as discussed by Laidacker (1951:115-6) consists of four plates and five other vessel forms. For the plates, the given names of the central scenes and the diameters are Man and Two Dogs (7 3/4"), Rabbit Hunting (9"), Starting Out (9"), and Coursing (10"). Laidacker briefly described the scenes but illustrated only one, Starting Out. The Rabbit Hunting scene is described as "two hunters, one holding a rabbit - three dogs." The maker of the Hunting series was unknown, but Laidacker speculated that it and the American Cities series (now Cities series) may have had the same (unknown) maker, because of similarities in the details of the color and because some pieces of both series were known to bear the same (unspecified) importer's mark.

Recent discoveries have shown that Davenport was the manufacturer of the Cities series (Arman 1999a) and was quite likely the manufacturer of the Hunting series (Arman 1999b). Indeed, the evidence for the latter is a Hill and Henderson (1822-1834) importer's mark on a Coursing plate.

The Hunting series is of the style of transfer prints called deep blue or dark blue, which was popular from before 1815 to about 1830. In Southeast Texas, sherds with the Hunting series border decoration have been found at Velasco (Pollan et al. 1996: 47-8).

At the Elizabeth Powell site, 41FB269, a number of sherds of the Rabbit Hunting scene were found in Feature 2, a trash pit. There are sherds from at least two plates with this scene (Figure 1). In addition, there are other sherds with the Hunting border decoration. The curvatures of the rim sherds indicate they are from a plate or plates with 9-inch diameter, and so would presumably have the central scene Rabbit Hunting or Starting Out. The first Rabbit Hunting plate (Figure 1-right) has only the transfer mark of "N" (or "Z") on the bottom side. But on the bottom of the second-plate sherd (Figure 1-left, Figure 3) is a very partial, but definite, Hill and Henderson (1822-1834) importer's mark. Compare this with the example in Figure 2, furnished by Johnney and Sandra Pollan of the Brazosport Archaeological Society. Also, see Earls (2004) and Snyder (1995:45). Thus this is a second scene of the Hunting series which is now known to have the Hill and Henderson importer's mark, and so is further evidence that Davenport was the maker of the Hunting series.

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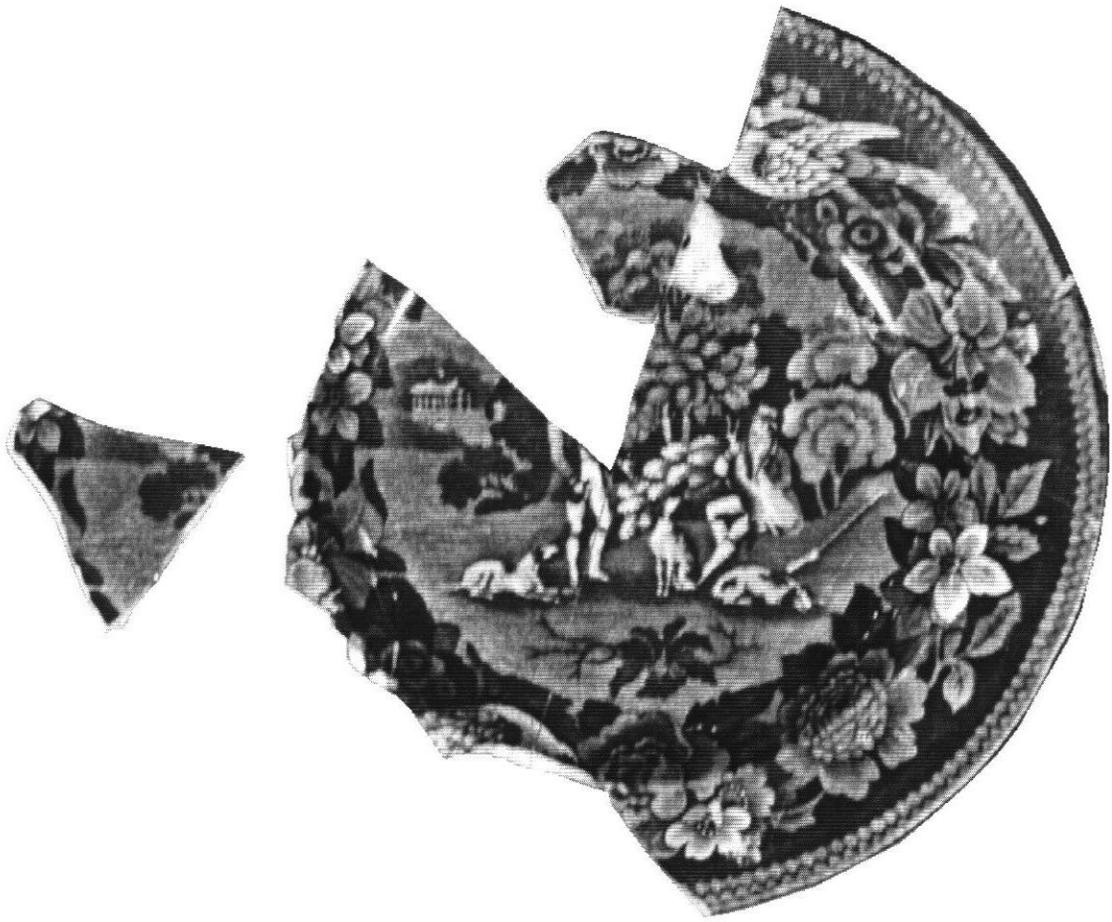


Figure 1. Rabbit Hunting Plates from Site 41FB269



Figure 2. Hill and Henderson mark

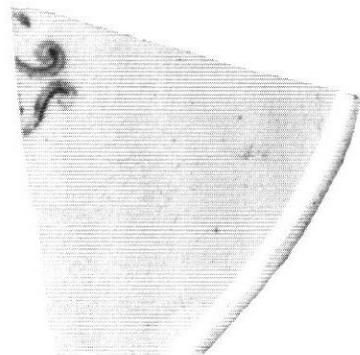


Figure 3. Mark on Second-Plate Sherd