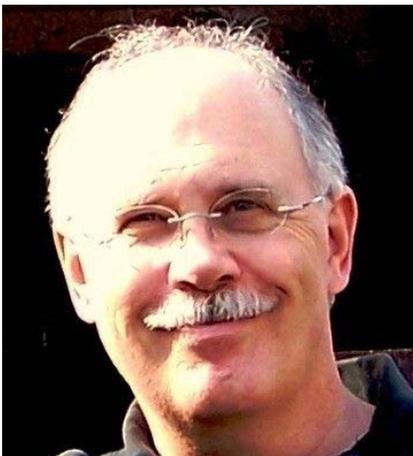




Paleo, Ancestral Puebloan, and Historic Sites in American Southwest to be Subject of January 17th HAS Program

Craig Mayer, an anthropologist/archeologist from Austin, will present the program at the Thursday, January 17th, meeting of the Houston Archeological Society at 7:00 pm in Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas.



Mayer's talk will explore Paleo, Ancestral Puebloan, and historic sites in New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado. "The archaeology of the American Southwest is complex and varied. Archaeological and ethnological

work have been done in the region for over 100 years," said Mayer. "With new evidence coming forward every year, re-interpretation and greater appreciation of the sophistication and richness of the cultures that have left their mark on the region continues."

The talk will explore sites including Blackwater Draw, Chaco Canyon, Hovenweep, Aztec, Inscription Rock, Chimney Rock, and the Butterfield Overland Mail Site. Reviewing and discussing the cultures that have inhabited and influenced the present day cultures of the region will be the focus of the presentation.

Craig Mayer currently works in building the Texas wine industry. On Tweeter he characterizes himself as a "Fine wine aficionado and passionate about the great wines of Texas."

However, he started his career teaching anthropology / archaeology at SMU in the early 1970s. He holds a BA and MA in Anthropology from SMU and a Diploma in Archaeology (MA equivalent) from Durham University (England).

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

Lab Schedule for January and February *Happy New Year!*

January lab sessions are scheduled for the **14th and the 28th**. **February** lab will meet on the **13th only** as Rice will be closed for Spring Break. All sessions meet from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in Room 103, Sewall Hall, at Rice University. Closest parking to Sewall Hall is in the Founders Court/Visitors Lot across from Sewall Hall. This lot requires either a credit or debit card to gain access. Visit www.rice.edu/maps for a map of the campus and parking.

Current project is documenting and cataloging of artifacts from a surface collection from a prehistoric shell midden site. Artifacts include paleo and Archaic points and stone tools, incised bone, and lots of pottery. **No experience needed--we'll teach you.** Hope to see you there!
--Beth Aucoin



President's Message

Did you know that the Houston Archeological Society is the oldest archeological Society in the State of Texas?! Most of what follows is taken from the *Handbook of Texas Online*, and much of it is posted on our website, but I think it is important that new (and renewing) members of the Society know a little about the history of the organization to which they belong.

HAS was formed in 1959 by a small group of amateur archeologists from the Houston area with a specific interest in the archeology of the upper Texas Gulf Coast and a general interest in all early inhabitants of Texas and adjoining states. Membership over the years has included both amateur and professional archeologists. The vocations of the nonprofessionals varied widely. Initially the Society met at the University of Houston but later moved to the Houston Museum of Natural Science and then to St. Thomas University, and then to the Clayton Library and then back to St. Thomas where we meet today. The Houston Archeological Society is associated with the statewide Texas Archeological Society and has been a member of TAS for 54 years! Several HAS members attend the annual TAS field school, both as instructors and students.

HAS has organized, directed, and participated in numerous archeological surveys associated with salvage efforts in areas where archeological sites have been destroyed through subsidence, dam construction, erosion, and land development. Areas surveyed include Wallisville, Lake Livingston, Lake Conroe, Clear Lake, and San Jacinto Bay. HAS members also have assisted in excavation of important historic and prehistoric sites in Harris, Galveston, Wharton, Austin, Fort Bend, Waller, Liberty, and other nearby counties.

Public education is an important part of the Society business. The Society provides a speakers' bureau to address local groups who request information on Texas archeology. Traveling exhibits also can be provided.

HAS seeks to foster an active interest in the discovery and conservation of archeological sites and in recording and preserving archeological remains and data in harmony with scientific procedures. Another of its purposes is to bring together persons with similar interests in the subject of archeology in an atmosphere conducive to the exchange of information and ideas. The Society sponsors projects and investigations in the study of archeology, in the collection of materials and data, and in the publication of archeological information, intended to promote a wider public understanding and appreciation of archeology and related fields of science.

The Society also has a lab at Rice University where artifacts from surveys and digs are cleaned, analyzed, catalogued and stored. HAS members are welcome to participate in lab activities and lab dates (usually scheduled on two Monday nights a month) are published in the Profile and on the HAS calendar on our website, www.txhas.org.

In short, membership in the Houston Archeological Society is a wonderful way to get to know folks who share your interests and to study and preserve the history of Texas – one trowel full at a time! As the New Year begins and new projects are on the horizon, we urge you to join us. You can download a membership form at www.txhas.org or contact me at president@txhas.org for more information. -- Linda Gorski

And Another Thing...

To All those who signed up for our big "screening project:" As you know, about 30 dump truck loads of dirt from a very important archeological site has been trucked to a pasture on some private property up in the Cypress/Telge Road area. HAS members will be screening this dirt, which is rich in artifacts that show evidence of prehistoric occupation. We will be joined by members of the Fort Bend Society and the Brazosport Society. The screening project will be supervised by Dr. Jason Barrett, TxDOT archeologist. We are ready to start this screening project as soon as the weather cooperates. We have screens and other equipment all assembled and ready to go. As soon as I have dates scheduled for screening I will send out an e-mail. If you have any questions about this screening project please e-mail me at lindagorski@cs.com or call me at 713-557-1496.

Hike in Camp Logan (Memorial Park)

One of the most interesting chapters in Houston's history was written in Memorial Park along the banks of Buffalo Bayou. For it was here that the U.S. Army's sprawling Camp Logan was built during the First World War to train soldiers for combat.

If you attended the presentation that Louis Aulbach and I gave to HAS about Camp Logan early in 2012, you might remember that construction of Camp Logan began on July 24, 1917 in the area that is now Memorial Park with a troop capacity of 44,899 men! The thing that surprises us is how little you will hear or read about Camp Logan in any of the books dedicated to Houston's history. Even the Handbook of Texas dedicates just one paragraph to it!



Map of Memorial Park with overlay of Camp Logan roads and facilities

Some of the foundation features of buildings at Camp Logan still exist in the forested areas of Memorial Park. Louis Aulbach and I led a hike to these foundation features in early December and fifteen avid historians, including several members of the HAS, participated.



Linda Gorski and Louis Aulbach with Camp Logan drainage artifact

We have been asked by several HAS members to repeat this hike and I am currently making a list of folks who would like

to participate. If you would like to take this hike through the Camp Logan foundation features with us, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com and give me the best phone number and email address to reach you.

--Linda Gorski

Shirts With HAS Logo Available Soon

Recently Charlie Gordy and several other members of HAS took part in public outreach programs at San Felipe de Austin and at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. We have also joined other avocational groups at surveys and digs at Champs d'Asile and at Camp Logan. While taking part in these events, Charlie came up with a great idea ... why don't we order some shirts with the HAS logo to identify ourselves as members of the Houston Archeological Society? Charlie ordered shirts for himself and for me as prototypes ... and as you can see by the photos they are great!



Basically, the denim ones we are wearing are cotton Wrangler long-sleeve men's shirts. Charlie has seen them in Small, Medium, Large, 2x Large, and 3x Large, but sizes are all subject to availability. For reference, I am wearing a men's medium. Charlie has just ordered a short-sleeve denim shirt so we know those are also available. Charlie is willing to contact the shirt company on-line and attempt to secure a steady supply of these shirts depending on demand.



The cost right now for the long sleeve denim shirt is \$31.00 which includes the HAS logo and sales taxes (which may have to be adjusted as additional taxes are charged in 2013). Add an additional \$5 if you want your name embroidered on the shirt at the same time as the logo is applied. Several HAS members have asked if they can have the logo embroidered on shirts they already own. The answer is yes, and the cost is approximately \$12.00 per logo plus \$5.00 to have your name added. Tax would be added to this total. If you would like to order a denim shirt with the HAS logo, by the next HAS meeting (January 17) Charlie and I will have order forms for shirts and logos.

--Linda Gorski

The Search for Champs d'Asile Continues

Several weeks ago a group of HAS members including Charlie Gordy, Louis Aulbach, Bob Sewell, Dick Gregg, Lenore Psencik, myself and Sheldon Kindall participated in an ongoing search for the remains of Champs d'Asile, a short-lived settlement established along the banks of the Trinity River near present day Liberty in January 1818 by French Bonapartist veterans of the Napoleonic Wars. The settlement was abandoned the following summer and its exact location has remained a mystery ever since.

A group of avocational archeologists and historians led by David and Jean Murph who own a ranch near Liberty, and Sheldon Kindall who has been coordinating HAS participation, have organized several surveys to locate the site of Champs d'Asile. Over the years they have collected numerous artifacts from sites along the Trinity River proving early occupation. Recently three logs were discovered buried in sandy deposits along the Trinity and sent to Jacquelyn Duke, Baylor University, for research to determine whether they could have dated from the period of the settlement.

The excavations and surveys at the site continue, and the next project is tentatively scheduled for this coming spring. If you are interested in participating in the search for Champs d'Asile, email me at lindagorski@cs.com and we will put you on the list. In the meantime, check out the following websites for more information about Champs d'Asile: <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/uec02>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champ_d%27Asile We will publish a longer article on Champs d'Asile in the Profile in coming months, as more data becomes available.

--Linda Gorski



Left: Lenore Psencik surveying near the Trinity River Bridge in Liberty; Middle: Sheldon Kindall and Bob Sewell dig on the banks of the Trinity River in an area where logs were previously discovered; Right: Group photo of intrepid explorers Linda Gorski, Louis Aulbach, Charlie Gordy, Bob Sewell, Sheldon Kindall, and Dick Gregg.

East Texas Archeological Conference is February 9

The 20th East Texas Archeological Conference will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2013, at the Ornelas Activity Center, 3402 Old Omen Rd., across Spur 248 from the University of Texas at Tyler.

The hours are 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. Registration begins at 8:30 am, and admission is \$10 at the door.

F. Kent Reilly III, PhD., Professor and Director of the Center For the Arts and Symbolism of Ancient America, in the Department of Anthropology, Texas State University (San Marcos, Texas), will be the Keynote speaker. The title of his talk is "The Braden Style and Sacred Bundles: The function of Ideological Exchange in the Early Mississippian Period."

Upcoming Events

The Pecos Experience at SHUMLA, March 18-22, 2103. In addition to visiting the world-class rock art sites of the Lower Pecos region, program participants will have opportunities to participate in Native American lifeways instruction and traditional Huichol crafts. Space in this week-long program can be reserved with a \$500 deposit by February 1st. Questions? Call 432-292-4848 or email programs@shumla.org.

TAS Academies. *Archeology 101* will meet Friday to Sunday, March 1-3, 2013, in Victoria Texas. *Archeobotany* meets Saturday and Sunday, April 6th and 7th, 2013, in Kerrville, Texas. Fees: each academy is \$95 for members and \$155 (including TAS membership dues) for individual non-members. Online registration and more information at <http://www.txarch.org>.

Dr. W.J. Neidinger Lecture Series, “The Road to Santiago de Compostela,” about the pilgrim road to St. James’s tomb in Spain and the transition from Islamic Spain to Christian Spain. Monday evenings, February 4 - 25, 2013, each at 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Location: St. Agnes Academy, 9000 Bellaire Blvd, Houston TX 77036. For additional information and to register for "Santiago," visit <http://www.tfahr.org/Santiago.html>.

AIA Houston/MFAH Lecture: “Ancient Encounters: Ancient Australia” Sunday January 20, 2:00pm – 4:00pm Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

**Please submit articles for publication to *Profile* Editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net.
Submit articles no later than January 3 for the January 2013 issue.**

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

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