



Thursday, August 18th, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

“Archaeological Investigations of the Treviño-Urbe Rancho (41ZP97), San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas” with Ashley Jones

Archeologist Ashley Jones will present the program at the Houston Archeological Society’s Thursday, August 18th monthly meeting highlighting important archeological excavations at the Treviño-Urbe Rancho in San Ygnacio, Texas. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas and is free of charge and open to the public.

In November 2015, Raba Kistner Environmental, Inc. conducted archaeological investigations of GPR anomalies and of architectural features of the Treviño-Urbe Rancho (41SP97), in San Ygnacio, Texas. San Ygnacio, located along the northern banks of the Rio Grande, was initially settled as part of the Nuevo Santander colony. In the 1820’s, Jesús Treviño purchased land in the area and established a ranch. The initial structure - a fortified, one-room shelter constructed in 1830 - reflects the dangers faced by the early colonists of Nuevo Santander at the end of the 19th Century. By 1871, the ranching complex, including a multi-room home and walled courtyard, was completed. New colonists arriving in the area led Treviño to plan the town of San Ygnacio. The Treviño-Urbe Rancho is the one of the few remaining standing structures from this time period north of the Rio Grande. Archaeological investigations of the property identified three possible features and approximately 5,000 artifacts, including ceramics, faunal remains, personal items, and architectural materials were recovered. Jones will discuss the history of the property, and how the cultural materials and architectural features identified during the investigation of the ranch provide insight into the lives of the Treviño and Uribe families.



Jones has provided archaeological and laboratory analysis services for clients in the energy sector, independent school districts, and Texas Parks and Wildlife, among many others. Although she does enjoy investigating historic sites, her research focuses on early agricultural groups living in the American Southwest and Northwestern Mexico. She received her master’s degree in Anthropology from the University of Texas at San Antonio and a bachelor’s degree in Anthropology from the University of Virginia.

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 at Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message

HAS Members and Friends!

It's been a busy (and wicked hot) summer for HAS and its members!! Thanks to our Profile editor, Bob Sewell, this month's newsletter is chockablock with reports on our June and July activities. It's amazing how much we are accomplishing!

Several of our members continue to receive statewide recognition for their efforts. The newest Houston Archeological Society Report #27 *Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan* written by Beth Aucoin is stirring up a lot of excitement in the historic community!!! See the complete article later in this newsletter.

Those of you who regularly read our monthly newsletter, The Profile, probably look forward as I do to articles by our members including Tom Nuckols on munitions and Larry Golden on historic glassware, pottery, marbles and ceramics. Last month Larry wrote a great article on the McDade Pottery that elicited praise from our Texas Historical Commission Regional Archeologist, Jeff Durst who said *"Please tell Larry Golden how much I enjoyed his article on the McDade pottery. I don't think I have ever seen or heard of the coal stoves that are mentioned in the article. It sounds like they were pretty popular around the turn of the century and we are probably seeing remnants of them at historic sites and not understanding what we are looking at. Kudos to Larry for bringing this to our attention!!!"* Way to go Larry!



Bringing further attention from the Texas Historical Commission to Houston, two of your Board members, Louis Aulbach and myself, were filmed by a crew from the THC for a new video series and mobile tour entitled "WWI on the Texas Homefront". The segment was filmed in Memorial Park, site of WWI Camp Logan, and will be aired in 2017, the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into WWI. We'll keep you posted on the availability of this video and mobile app.

I just could not be more proud to serve alongside all you terrific HAS members!! I'm looking forward to seeing you in the field soon, as we continue to dig up Texas history – one trowel full at a time!

- Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society

Minutes

Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting

July 21st, 2016

Welcome everyone - Linda Gorski

Welcome New Members and Guests.

Treasurers Report - Tom Nuckols

Checking Account - \$6,204.32

Savings Account – \$24,065.26

Membership - Bob Sewell

HAS now has 196 members. Membership forms at back. All new members get copies of latest Journals and Reports.

Newsletter and Website - Bob Sewell

Newsletter is being well received. Bob reported that Larry Golden's article in the July newsletter was complimented on by Jeff Durst (THC Regional Archeologist). The website had no reported issues.

Nominating Committee - Linda Gorski

Linda Gorski reported that she has appointed a nominating committee including Sharon Menegaz, Mary Needham and Geoff Mills. The committee will announce the slate of nominees at the August meeting and the membership will vote on your new officers and Board of Directors at the September Annual General Meeting.

HAS Journals and Reports - Dub Crook

Report #27 – *Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan* has been published and is available for members to pick up this evening. This report is a 'spectacular piece of Texas history', listing an eyewitness account of the Battle of San Jacinto. It is rare to be able to publish a document of this quality. Many thanks to Beth Aucoin and Linda Swift for initiating the contacts needed to produce this report.

Journal #136 is in the works and will focus on papers written by Rice University students.

Lab at Rice University – Linda Gorski

Watch for information from Dr. Gus Costa on future dates for labs at Rice University. Next scheduled date is July 28th.

Projects - Linda Gorski

Cotton Field Project - This is a hugely successful project. HAS has been leading excavations there since the 2015 Field School. However, Dr. Barrett announced that the project needs to come to a close at the end of the year in order to complete the report required by TAS. Next work weekend at Cotton Field August 20 and 21. The program tonight will highlight June 11 – 18 TAS Field School at Cotton Field.

Frost Town/Elysian Viaduct Project - The project has finally kicked off! We are very excited that we will be holding our first two days at the site for HAS members July 29 and 30. Participants must wear a hard hat, high visibility vest, steel toed boots or heavy hiking boots and heavy gloves. More dates will be announced, both during the week and on weekends, after our initial work days.

Other Business

Lifetime Memberships Proposal - Linda Gorski

The HAS Board has voted to bestow lifetime memberships on two very deserving members. As currently written, the HAS Constitution and Standing Rules requires approval by the membership of the nominees. There are two people we would like to recognize for this honor. Tom Nuckols, who has served in every board capacity since he joined HAS back in the 1970's. Tom is recognized statewide as a leading munitions expert and HAS is fortunate to have his articles appear in our newsletter each month. He is also a THC Archeological Steward and currently serves as HAS treasurer. The second nominee has served as president of HAS, lab director for several years and is the author of several of our recent reports including the one you will receive tonight. She has contributed enormously to the public and educational outreach of the Houston Archeological Society and we value her expert knowledge on so many artifact categories including buttons, ceramics and Native American pottery. A motion to award Lifetime memberships to Tom and Beth was put forward by Linda Swift and seconded by Carol Roberts. The membership subsequently approved the motion.

Program for July

Dr. Jason W. Barrett presented a program highlighting activities at the 2016 TAS Field School with reports on Cotton Field, the Bluff Site and the Tait House. Tom Nuckols and Linda Gorski presented a few slides on the work that THC Archeological Stewards did at the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site during field school.

Linda also welcomed Rita Tait and Ed Jackson who drive over from Columbus to see the program.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 18th, 2016.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society

-----0-----

Texas Archeological Society 87th Annual Meeting

The 87th Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society, will be held on October 28-30, 2016, at the Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Our very own HAS member and TxDot archeologist, Dr. Jason W. Barrett will be the Public Forum speaker on Friday night at 7:00 p.m. His presentation is entitled "Rising in the East: The Changing Epicenter of Texas Archeology." He will discuss the resurgence of public archeology in the Houston Area and the roles of the Houston Archeological Society and agency archeologists. Julianna Barr, associate professor of history at Duke University will speak at the annual banquet on Saturday night ... and there will be many presentations and programs in between. Check the TAS website at www.txarch.org for registration forms and further information.

Notes on Munitions: A .41 Caliber Rimfire Short Cartridge Case from Bernardo Plantation (41WL28) By Tom Nuckols

This article is the 2nd in a series that will discuss the munitions artifacts recovered during archaeological excavations at Bernardo Plantation (41WL28) near Hempstead, Texas, in 2009 and 2010. The Houston Archaeological Society participated in the excavations.

Of the sixty munitions artifacts recovered, eight are rimfire cartridge cases. This month's article will discuss one of those cases, a .41 caliber rimfire Short cartridge case.

A rimfire cartridge is a complete unit of ammunition consisting of a case, priming compound, gun powder and bullet. After someone shoots a rimfire cartridge in his gun, the only remaining part of the cartridge is the non-reloadable case; hence, the shooter usually discards the case where he is standing.



.41 caliber rimfire Short cartridge. Author's collection.

The .41 caliber rimfire Short (.41 Short) cartridge was introduced by the National Arms Company of Brooklyn, NY, for their Model #2 single shot breech-loading derringer, manufactured c. early 1860s to 1870, with an estimated quantity produced at 12,000. Between 1865 and 1935, approximately twenty American Gun Companies' manufactured derringers, pistols and revolvers in the tens of thousands that chambered the .41 Short. The Double Derringer, a.k.a. Model 95 Double Derringer or Over Under Derringer, manufactured by the Remington Arms Company of Ilion, NY, is considered the most famous and popular gun that shot the .41 Short (Barnes 2006: 483, Flayderman 1998).

Although the .41 Short and the guns that fired it were popular, the cartridge was rather anemic. Barnes (2006: 483) has this to say: "The .41 rimfire Short is so underpowered as to be worthless for anything but rats, mice and sparrows at short range. Fired from the average derringer at a tree or hard object 15 to 25 yards away, the bullet will often bounce back and land at your feet. Nevertheless, it was a popular self-defense cartridge and at point blank range could inflict a severe wound or kill a human being. These 41 derringer pistols were more of a threat or morale builder than anything else. Original load was a 130-grain, outside-lubricated lead bullet and 13 grains of black powder. Later loads used smokeless powder."

The .41 Short became obsolete in the 1940s.

Continued

The Bernardo Plantation .41 Short Cartridge Case

Due to corrosion, the case material, either brass or copper, cannot be determined. The base of the case has two firing pin imprints. This is an indication that the cartridge misfired once. A misfire is the failure of a cartridge to fire. A rimfire cartridge can be re-chambered (rotated in the chamber by hand, so that the firing pin strikes the primer at a different location) in an attempt to get the cartridge to fire. This endeavor is usually successful. As the Bernardo case lacks a headstamp, its manufacturer cannot be identified. The following is a list of the thirteen companies that produced .41 Short cartridges without a headstamp, the years those companies were in business, their location and the material used in their cartridge cases (Barber 1987):

1. Allen & Wheelock, Worchester, MA, 1858 to 1864, copper.
2. C.D. Leet & Company, Springfield, MA, 1862 to 1864, brass or copper.
3. C.D. Leet, Springfield, MA, 1864 to 1869, brass or copper.
4. Derrick N. Goff, Brooklyn, NY, c. 1863 to 1865, copper.
5. E. Allen, 1864, Worchester, MA, copper.
6. E. Allen & Company, 1865 to 1871, Worchester, MA, copper.
7. Forehand & Wadsworth, Worchester, MA, 1871 to 1874, copper.
8. Leet, Goff & Company, Springfield, MA, 1860 to 1862, brass or copper.
9. Phoenix Metallic Cartridge Company, South Coventry, CT, 1874 to 1891, copper (cartridges were stamped with "P", beginning in 1878).
10. Smith, Hall & Farmer, Springfield, MA, 1865 to 1866, copper.
11. Smith, Hall & Buckland, Springfield, MA, 1866 to 1869, copper.
12. Union Metallic Cartridge Company, Bridgeport, CT, 1867 to 1911, copper (cartridges cases were headstamped with "U" beginning in 1877).
13. United States Cartridge Company, Lowell, MA, copper, 1869 to 1926 (cartridge cases were headstamped with "US" beginning c. 1885).

REFERENCES

Barnes, Frank C.

2006 *Cartridges of the World* (11th edition). Gun Digest Books, Inc., Iola, WI.

Barber, John L.

1987 *The Rimfire Cartridge in the United States & Canada: 1857 – 1984*. Armory Publications, Tacoma, WA.

Flayderman, Norm

1998 *Flayderman's Guide to Antique American Firearms and their Values* (7th edition). Krause Publications, Iola, WI.

Cotton Field Excavations July 9 and 10, 2016

The Houston Archeological Society returned to the Cotton Field site in Colorado County on July 9 and 10 following the hugely successful 2016 TAS Field School in June. As you know by now, the Cotton Field site offers ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 650AD - 1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150 AD – 1500 AD) in Texas. During TAS Field School many thermal features were uncovered and artifacts recovered including large bison bone, points and stone tools.

Daniel Scott Arnault, a TAS member from Dallas, followed Dr. Jason Barrett, field school PI, for a week and put together this terrific YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycSHOUStzOQ&feature=youtu.be> which is posted on the TAS Facebook page along with many photos of folks working during field school.

Daniel also joined HAS for the July 9 – 10 weekend and took another YouTube video capturing our work as we dug through some wicked hard dirt at the site. You can view that video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPCzVIApzfA&feature=youtu.be>

Check out the HAS Facebook page for some of Daniel's absolutely fantastic still photos of HAS members working at Cotton Field.

Our next scheduled work weekend at the Cotton Field site will be August 20 – 21. Watch for more announcements to follow. Please email me at lindgorski@cs.com if you have questions about our digs at the Cotton Field site.



Rachel Hawkins and Daniel Scott Arnault.
Daniel took some amazing photos!



Unusual rock features in three adjoining units



One of our newest members, Mary VonZastrow screens dirt at Cotton Field.



Dr. Jason and our terrific landowner Rita Tait Jackson discuss an artifact.



Bob Sewell excavating.



Daniel Arnould sets up his GoPro to record Tom Nuckols digging

SPONGEWARE IN TEXAS – Larry Golden

Spongeware shards found at Texas historic sites are fairly common, but spongeware shards found at Texas historic sites made by Texas potters are virtually nonexistent. As you thumb through the pages of Helberg's "A CHECKLIST OF TEXAS POTTERS ca. 1840 – ca. 1940 ", or the reports of Georgeanna Greer and Harding Black the word spongeware or the shards are not reported or pictured, until you come to the Rhonesboro Pottery Company (Byrd era) and the Tyler Pottery Company (Byrd Pottery) both known for their utilitarian wares and decorated sponge pitchers. Late comers to the Texas pottery scene both have one thing in common, the father – son team of A.S. Byrd and J.J. Byrd. A.S. Byrd worked with potters Donaldson and Cranston in the 1900's at Rhonesboro, Texas, purchasing the facility in 1916 where he was joined by his son J.J. The father-son partners worked together until 1932 when the partnership was dissolved. J.J. moved his family to Tyler and opened the Tyler Pottery Company with his wife Maude. They produced a variety of floral, utilitarian wares and were known for their spongeware decorated pieces (Bristol glazed with cobalt slip decorations. The Byrd family potted until 1960.

Most spongeware shards found at Texas historic sites originated from the midwest to the northeast states where ironbound firebrick or stone kilns were used. Manufacturers like Red Wing were able to mass produce stoneware.

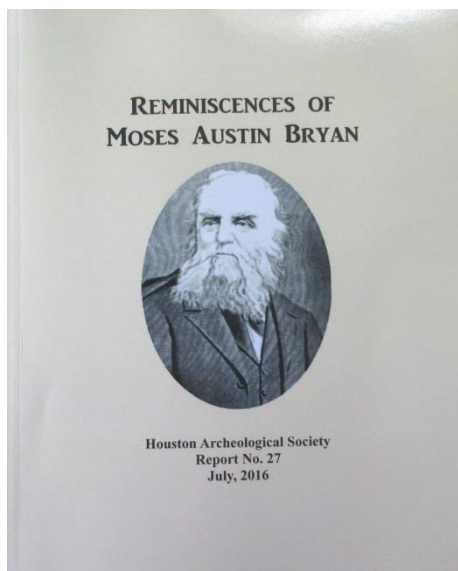
There are always exceptions to the rules especially with potters and McDade Pottery was known on rare occasions to apply a small amount of sponge decoration to pitchers.

The photographs below show examples of a Rhonesboro Pottery pitcher (right) and a Byrd Pottery pitcher (left). These pitchers are not marked therefore they must be "attributed to".



For more information on Byrd Pottery see "BYRD POTTERY TYLER, TEXAS (An Identification Guide)" by Robert Fleet.

Report #27 - Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan



Houston Archeological Society Report #27 is hot off the press and is ready to be distributed to HAS members at the next monthly meeting! This report was compiled and edited by HAS member Elizabeth K. Aucoin and is based on a previously unpublished document detailing milestones in the life of Moses Austin Bryan, a nephew of Stephen F. Austin, who accompanied Austin on many of his travels and served as his personal secretary. Most importantly, Bryan's Reminiscences include details of the Battle of San Jacinto including the Mexican Army's surrender. Later in life, Moses Austin Bryan wrote the account of his experiences during the Texas Revolution and the early days of the Republic of Texas in his Reminiscences. This account is reproduced here and edited for clarity and includes other documentation on his life as well.

After Beth came into possession of this document she conducted a significant amount of research, including interviews with descendants of Moses Austin Bryan, to verify the authenticity of the document. One of the descendants she interviewed was J. P. Bryan, founder of the Bryan Museum in Galveston. The result of her research is this historically significant report based on reminiscences of one of the earliest settlers in Texas who arrived in San Felipe de Austin on January 10, 1831. This document is a significant addition to Texas History containing many previously unpublished facts, not the least of which is an eye witness account of the final Mexican surrender at San Jacinto, parts of which have hitherto been speculated but now can be verified.



Beth Aucoin with J. P. Bryan

As an HAS member (and thanks to a generous donation to the society by Dub Crook who edits and underwrites our publications) you will receive a free copy of this historically significant report. Additional copies can be obtained through the Amazon.com website at <https://www.amazon.com/Reminiscences-Moses-Austin-Bryan-Report/dp/1533623201>

If you have any questions about this exciting HAS report, please contact Linda Gorski at lindagorski@cs.com

Houston Archeological Society

Monthly Meeting Programs for 2016

7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)

M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University

September 15, 2016 – Lauren Cook, Ph.D. candidate at Texas A & M University “**Geoarchaeological Investigations of the McFaddin Beach site, Texas**”. McFaddin Beach (41JF50), in Jefferson County, Texas is a 32 kilometer-long beach, stretching from High Island in the west to Sea Rim State Park in the east. Since the 1950s, artifacts from almost all periods of Texas pre-history have been recovered on this beach. The projectile points found on McFaddin Beach are redeposited materials from offshore, submerged locations. Results indicate that projectile point distribution is significantly correlated to longshore drift and hurricane activity in the Gulf of Mexico. Recent studies have been performed to test whether artifact distributions along the beach are correlated with sediment grain size patterns and distributions along the coast. This paper discusses the results from these studies and the role currents, longshore drift, and hurricane activity have on artifact distribution and implications they may have for identifying the offshore site locations of these artifacts. This paper will also review further research plans and studies to better understand the presence of Paleoindian peoples on the Texas continental shelf and throughout Texas. We will also set a date for a field trip to McFaddin Beach for HAS members.

October 20, 2016 – Erin Phillips, Archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. “**Moundville, Alabama**”.

November 17, 2016 – Ben Pfeiffer, Archeologist at Levi Jordan Plantation, “**Levi Jordan Plantation Before and After the Civil War**”.

December 15, 2016 – Linda Gorski, President, Houston Archeological Society, “**Overview of HAS Projects for 2016**”.

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS visit our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/>

-----O-----

Note: Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than August 25th for the September 2016 issue.

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

Linda Gorski, President, president@txhas.org
Louis Aulbach, Vice President, vpresident@txhas.org
Tom Nuckols, Treasurer, treasurer@txhas.org
Bob Sewell, Secretary, secretary@txhas.org

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

Wilson “Dub” Crook, Director-at-Large, dal_b@txhas.org
Larry Golden, Director-at-Large, dal_c@txhas.org
Mike Woods Director-at-Large, dal_a@txhas.org

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sandra E. Rogers, Region V Director, sojourne@att.net

AREA TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ARCHEOLOGY STEWARDS

Elizabeth & Pat Aucoin, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net
Louis Aulbach, lfa1@att.net
Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251
Charlie Gordy, chasgordy@yahoo.com
Linda Gorski, lindagorski@cs.com
Sue Gross, suegbobs@comcast.net
Joe D. Hudgins, manso@jdhudgins.com
Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com
Brenda and Ron Jackson, brendajacks1@yahoo.com

Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com
Sheldon Kindall, kindall1@peoplepc.com
Bev Mendenhall, bmend2@yahoo.com
Sharon Menegaz, smenegaz@rcseagles.org
Tom Nuckols, tnuckols58@att.net
Sandra & Johnny Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net
Sandra E. Rogers (Sandy), sojourne@att.net
Gary Ryman, gkryman@gmail.com
Steve Salyer, salyer4@hotmail.com

The Profile
Houston Archeological Society
PO Box 130631
Houston, TX 77219-0631
Return Service Requested