



**Houston Archeological Society Meeting, May 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. ~ Trini Mendenhall Community Center
Featuring Brad Jones, Director of the THC Archeology Division**



Our May monthly HAS meeting will take place on Thursday, May 16, 2024, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center. This meeting will be held in person and will also be available to members via Zoom. Later, the lecture will be posted and available to the public via our YouTube channel. We are pleased to welcome Brad Jones, Director of the THC Archeology Division, who will discuss the archeological history of Webber's Prairie, Texas.

Brad will discuss how archeological survey and archival records provide complimentary lines of research to understand the changing cultural landscape of John Webber's original 1830 settlement in Travis County, Texas. For thousands of years, this landscape was a resource-rich zone for Native American communities before Webber's settling in 1830. Over the next hundred years, the isolated frontier community underwent transformations as a plantation, a freedmen's colony, and ultimately, tenant farms in the hinterlands of Austin.

Bradford Jones assumed the position of Director of the THC Archeology Division and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer in November of 2019 after serving ten years as the Archeology Division's Collections Manager, the Curatorial Facility Certification Program Coordinator, and as a Project Reviewer. He received his bachelor's degree in Anthropology in 1996 from the University of Texas at Austin and a master's degree in Anthropology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2004. During this time, he focused primarily on the archaeology and ethnohistory of the Andean highlands, where he conducted excavations in Cuenca, Ecuador, and Cuzco, Peru. Highlights of this work included developing a ceramic sequence of the Cuzco valley tied to absolute radiocarbon dates from excavated sites, as well as directing excavations of the first preceramic site in the valley. In Texas, he has a background in collections management and cultural resource investigations, working first for the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin as a project archeologist and curator. In 2004, he took a position as a laboratory director and principal investigator for a small cultural resource management firm in Austin, where he directed numerous archeological projects for both Texas Antiquities Code and National Historic Preservation Act projects. These projects ran the gamut from early hunter-gather sites to 20th century African American communities. Since joining the THC in 2009, Brad has been instrumental in the publication, exhibition, and management of the 17th century French ship *La Belle*, and the THC's ongoing analysis of the French Fort St. Louis and the later Spanish presidio La Bahia. He is currently working on projects reanalyzing obsidian from the 1554 shipwreck collections, radiocarbon dating and documenting canoes from private and museum collections, the Aury Archeological Project, and conducting public outreach through presentations and working with interns, volunteers, and students. In addition to his professional role, Brad has been a longstanding member of the Texas Archeological Society, where he is the Chair of Grant Review Committee, as well as the Society for Historical Archaeology and the Society for American Archaeology, where he has participated in an award-winning taskforce and served as local arrangements and program chair. HAS members may recall that Brad previously spoke to the Society on "Gifts for the Indians: French and Spanish Trade Goods on the Texas Coast in the 1680s" ([2016 February Profile.pdf](#) (txhas.org)).

We hope you will all join us for this fascinating presentation. This meeting is free and open to the public. Be looking for your meeting reminder, which will also contain a Zoom link so that those HAS members who cannot join us in person will be able to tune in from afar. The Trini Mendenhall Community Center is located at 1414 Wirt Road in Houston. For more information about this program or about the Houston Archeological Society, please contact Bob Sewell at president@txhas.org.

Frank Kozar, HAS Vice-President

President's Message – Bob Sewell



HAS members have been busy the last couple of months. The Goloby Site (41WL3) is now in full swing with visits occurring most Saturdays. We are finding lots of lithic debitage, a lithic point (possibly Ellis), and more Native American pottery fragments. Watch out for emails from fielddirector@txhas.org.

Our new project at a site located near Alleyton has now been approved by the HAS Board. We believe from the initial survey that there will be both historic and prehistoric components to explore. These two areas have been designated as Walnut Tree Hill and Tannery Creek. We hope to start working there in May.

Throughout this year the Society has broadened its activities. We have been partnering with other regional organizations. We worked with the Cook's Branch Conservancy at their Kirbee Kiln Site (41MQ38) in Montgomery County, the Hill Country Archeological Association (HCAA) at their Crying Woman Site (41KR754) near Kerrville, and just this past weekend, with the Coastal Bend Archeological Logistics Team (CoBALT) and the Museum of the Coastal Bend in Victoria at the McNeill Ranch Site (41VT141).



Figure 1. A discarded preform, McNeill Ranch site. Figure 2. HAS folks working the McNeill Ranch site. Figure 3. A Clear Fork gouge, McNeill Ranch Site.

Some collaborations are invitational only, when the hosts request that we only provide our more experienced folks onsite at their excavations, which is understandable. If HAS members wish to gain experience, then the best way is to work with HAS on our open excavations. We generally extend invitations to all of the HAS membership. Activities in the field go beyond just being on your knees in a unit. Screening, paperwork, and many other duties are needed. We will teach you what you need to know.

We also need volunteers for public outreach activities, such as show-and-tell displays and presentations at schools and other organizations.

So, sign up and get busy with HAS. If you are interested in becoming more involved with any of these activities, then please contact me at president@txhas.org.

Bob Sewell, HAS President



Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Minutes – April 18, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. – Bob Sewell, President, welcomed members, especially several new members and visitors.

Treasurer and Membership Report – Bob Sewell for Louis Hebert, Treasurer.

Membership – Membership currently stands at 154 members

Finances - HAS finances remain healthy; if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Louis at treasurer@txhas.org.

Newsletter – Betsy Wittenmyer, Newsletter Editor. Many thanks to all who have contributed such interesting articles. Please consider sharing photos of any interesting projects, research, trips to historic sites, and academies that you attend. We encourage all members and friends to submit articles for our monthly newsletter; please send them by the 15th of each month. We can assist you with editing. Students, we like to hear about your archaeology experiences.

Reports and Publications – Bob Sewell for Sandy Meredith, Reports and Publications Editor. The next report is progressing nicely and will consist of several articles about munitions authored by Tom Nuckols and previously published in HAS newsletters.

Projects – Bob Sewell, President. Please contact Bob Sewell at fielddirector@TXHAS.org if you are not receiving invitations to join excavations. Our current projects are:

Kirbee Kiln – March 15–22, 2024. HAS was well-represented with twenty-four folks participating over the week. NTAS members also participated.

Goloby Site (41WL3) – Located about twelve miles north of Brookshire. Work has started and will continue on a regular basis. The last visit on April 13, 2024, yielded Native American pottery and a partial Perdiz projectile point. Next visit is April 20, 2024. A report regarding the previous HAS excavations at this site approximately twenty years ago can be found on the HAS website: [HAS Report 22.pdf \(txhas.org\)](#).

Alleyton – The project proposal for this site has been approved by the HAS Board. We anticipate that work will start in May.

Outreach - Several presentations were given by Bob and Sharon over the last month. We would like more folks to become prepared to make presentations. Email president@txhas.org to sign up or for more information.

Announcements – Upcoming TAS events

Texas Archeological Society Field School
June 8 – 15, 2024
Nacogdoches, Texas

95th Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting
October 25 – 27, 2024
Victoria, Texas

On Display – Geoff Mills brought two of his historical maps to display.

Our next monthly HAS meeting takes place May 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Brad Jones, THC State Archeologist, will discuss “The Archeological History of Webber's Prairie, Texas.”

Tonight's Presentation – We are pleased to welcome Nicholas Bourgeois, who will be talking about “Disturbed Archeological Sites, A Tool for Public Education.” Bourgeois is a graduate of the University of California Merced, and after graduating he spent time studying Maya caves in Belize. After returning to Texas, he worked several years as a CRM archeologist before joining the Texas Historical Commission. He now serves as an archeologist at Varner Hogg Plantation State Historic Site, the Levi Jordan State Historic Site, and the Sabine Pass State Historic Site.

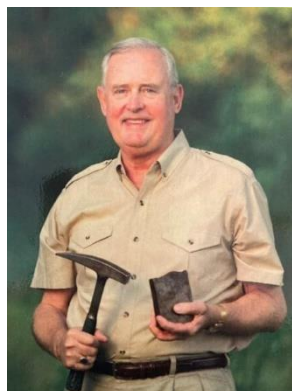
The business meeting was concluded at 6:45 p.m.

Bob Sewell for Emma Baldwin, Secretary



In Memoriam

Frederick William Kelly, Jr. ~ November 5, 1931 – April 7, 2024
Former Houston Archeological Society Member and Board Member



Fred Kelly, age 92, peacefully passed away on April 7, 2024. Fred was very proud of his family, friends, church, and his long thirty-eight-year career with Marathon Oil Company exploring for oil all over the world. He was born on November 5, 1931, in a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri, to Fred W. Kelly, Sr., and Dana Ruth (Milleson) Kelly. Fred graduated from Clayton High School in St. Louis, then earned a Bachelor of Geology Degree from the Engineering School of the University of Tulsa in 1954, where he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity. Pursuing his boyhood ambitions, he then spent twenty-two years exploring for oil overseas for Ohio Oil Company (later Marathon Oil Company). In the late 1950s and early 1960s, he did surface geology living in tents in the Sahara Desert of Libya for the Oasis oil consortium, was well-sitting on the first Oasis well in Libya when it struck oil, sat on other oil discoveries, and then was an exploration geologist for Oasis. During the 1960s, Fred carried out regional oil exploration studies in Europe and Africa from his office in London, was resident manager for a well drilled in Northern Ireland, and was a Fellow of the Geological Society of London. In 1964, while home on leave, he married Marcia Grace Mehl of Findlay, Ohio, and their happy, adventuresome marriage lasted for forty-three years until Marcia's sudden death in 2009. They had three children: Frederick III and Heather, born in London, and Christine, born in Karachi, Pakistan. Fred and his family moved to Karachi in 1972, where Fred was regional manager in charge of a large exploration venture on the Makran coast of Pakistan. Fred and his family moved from Karachi to Houston in 1979, where Fred was an international oil contract negotiator and then became Marathon's first manager for international governmental affairs until his retirement in 1992. Following his retirement, Fred was very active with several archaeological societies in Houston, especially the Friends of Archaeology and Houston Archeological Society. He was an active elder with Pines Presbyterian Church and enjoyed playing tennis. In 2006, Fred wrote and self-published an autobiography of his worldly adventures exploring for oil, *Global Oil Finder – Autobiography of a Petroleum Geologist*. He was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the Houston Geological Society. Fred was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, John Kelly. He is survived by his son, Frederick Kelly, III; grandson, Brent Kelly; daughter Heather Kelly Ross, and husband, Gil; granddaughter, Chelsea Jijawi, and husband, Stan; and daughter Christine Kelly-Weaver and husband Jason. A memorial service celebrating Fred's life will be held at Pines Presbyterian Church, 12751 Kimberley Lane, Houston, Texas, 77024, on Friday, May 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

----- From the HAS Archives ----- Honoring Fred Kelly -----



A repository of past issues of *The Profile* is available on the HAS website wherein you will find a wealth of archived articles, including this piece from May of 2006 ([2006 May Profile.pdf \(txhas.org\)](http://txhas.org)). Throughout 2024 we have been enjoying reprinting Fred Kelly's lessons about the origins of the names of months. You will be missed, Fred, and we will continue to enjoy your archived contributions to *The Profile* for years to come.

The month of May is named after the Greek and Roman goddess Maia, derived from the Latin word mag, or grow. During this month, the ancient Romans honored Maia, an earth goddess, and Flora, goddess of blossoming plants, and commemorated spirituality, fertility, blossoms, and the promise of fruitfulness. May Day festivities were, and are, frivolous and playful, designed to celebrate being alive. But the Romans also viewed May as a time when the worlds of the living and the dead came very close together, so troubles and problems might arise. Yet, the month ended with rituals of good fortune and fertility.

– Fred Kelly

Jacobus Harrewyn. Greek goddess Maia, 1698.
British Museum, <http://ow.ly/PwCh30oB61u>;
What's in a name? Months of the year | British Museum.



**Save the Date for 95th TAS Annual Meeting in Victoria
and a Call for Papers, Symposia and Posters!**

O. C. Garza, Publicity Chair, 95th TAS Annual Meeting

Save the Date: Just a reminder to save the date for the 95th Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting taking place October 25-27, 2024, in Victoria, Texas, at the Victoria College Emerging Technology Complex. Registration for the conference will open after the TAS Field School is finished. For current information about the 95th Annual Meeting, see:

<https://www.txarch.org/Annual-Meeting>.

Call for Papers: Abstracts and creative ideas are sought for papers, symposia, and posters to be presented at the meeting. For complete information about papers, symposia, and poster presentations, click here:

<https://www.txarch.org/AM-Papers>.

Registration: Hotel information will be posted soon and registration for the 95th Annual Meeting will begin after the TAS Field School is completed.



Jacob Sills, Student Member of HAS



Meet Jacob Sills, a native of Brazoria, Texas, who is embarking on a journey into the realm of archaeology. Driven by an innate curiosity about the past and a fervent eagerness to expand his knowledge, Jacob is stepping into this new adventure with determination and enthusiasm.

Recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Texas at Dallas with a BA in Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communications in 2022, Jacob's professional background primarily lies in graphic design, web design, photography, and videography. However, his heart has always been captivated by the enigmatic allure of ancient cultures.

Although lacking formal experience in archaeology, Jacob's fascination with history and ancient civilizations has been a lifelong pursuit. From childhood visits to landmarks such as the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site to hours spent wandering through museums, Jacob's passion for unraveling the mysteries of the past has only grown stronger over time.

Despite facing challenges during his pursuit of a graduate degree in archaeology, Jacob remains grateful for the opportunity to join the Houston Archaeology Society. It presents him with a chance to fully immerse himself in the field, learn all he can from seasoned professionals, and hopefully contribute in meaningful ways. As Jacob takes his initial steps into the world of archaeology, he eagerly anticipates the discoveries that lie ahead. With an open mind and a willingness to learn from those around him, he looks forward to gaining a deeper understanding of our past and making meaningful contributions to the field.

Texas German Society ~ Outreach



HAS was invited to speak at the Klein chapter of the Texas German Society during their meeting at Klein Trinity Lutheran Church on March 25, 2024. Sharon Menegaz, a descendent of settlers of the nearby German community of Rosehill, spoke on our participation in the Frost Town project with Dr. Jason Barrett, Principal Investigator and Cultural Resource Director for the Southwest Region at Moore Archeological Consulting, and Doug Boyd, Senior Archeologist at Stantec. Sharon renewed long-time friendships with several members and spoke to a lively group of twenty-five members and guests. There were musings about different family groups possibly visiting the working-class German community of Rosehill as their ancestors passed through on their journey from Galveston to north Harris County in the 1850s. Sharon also asked German Heritage Society members to notify her

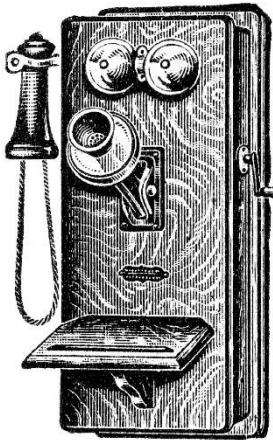
if anyone hears stories of their families having the tradition of lining their walkways, gardens, and other enclosures on their properties with glass bottles, such as the examples uncovered by HAS in Frost Town.

For more information see: [Archeologists Find Early Budweiser Bottle - UTSA Institute Of Texan Cultures](#); [Rose Hill, TX \(Harris County\) \(tshaonline.org\)](#) ; [Klein, TX \(tshaonline.org\)](#); www.texasgermansociety.com, [Genealogy Resources | GTHS \(germantexans.org\)](#).



-----O-----

Calling All HAS Members ~ Please send photos and articles for *The Profile*!



We would like **all HAS members** to consider submitting content for *The Profile* newsletter. Please send submissions to newsletter@txhas.org. Report on an interesting on-site experience, academy, field school, lecture, cultural trip, or public outreach event! Send photos of yourself on an HAS or TAS adventure! What archeological artifact or historical event have you been researching? We hope that you will add your voice to our community's conversation, because a variety of articles helps to make our newsletter more interesting. Your contributions may be brief, such as a couple of paragraphs or about 250 words. We can help with editing. Please submit information for upcoming issues no later than the fifteenth of each month.

Source: <https://thegraphicsfairy.com/fantastic-vintage-telephone-image/>.

-----O-----



*The May-pole is up,
Now give me the cup;
I'll drink to the garlands
around it ..."*

Robert Herrick (1591-1633)

Pieter Bruegel the Younger (1564 – 1637/38). Painting depicting a St. George's Day Kermis (kerk/church mass) spring celebration and a peasant dance around a maypole. Source: [Pieter Bruegel the Younger | Old Master Paintings | Sotheby's \(sothebys.com\)](#). Poem source: [The Maypole by Robert Herrick - Famous poems, famous poets. - All Poetry](#)

Kirbee Kiln, Montgomery County, March 15–22, 2024



HAS Members at the Kirbee Kiln site. Few are as tough as our HAS President, Bob Sewell (R), who continued working despite...having an arrow embedded in his thigh???? Don't worry, it's just a folding ruler in a very odd place. Photographs courtesy of Louis Hebert.

**Update from Heather Para, Ph.D.,
Exhibits and Collections Manager at the Museum of the Coastal Bend**

The Coastal Bend Archaeological Logistics Team (CoBALT) is based in Victoria and is working at the McNeill Ranch site (41VT141) in a cooperative agreement with the Museum of the Coastal Bend (MCB). While considered a significant Paleo site, 41VT141 was also regularly occupied by more recent prehistoric cultures over thousands of years.

The Museum of the Coastal Bend opened a new exhibit, Theories in Stone, on April 6, 2024. This exhibit explores the mysterious items of prehistory and the archaeological controversies over what their purposes might have been. Our opening reception included painted pebble and cave art activities and a special guided tour with Dr. Heather Para, MCB's Exhibits and Collections Manager.



Left: McNeill Ranch site (41VT141) unit with nine artifacts. Right: Decorated stone from McNeill Ranch site. Enhanced images via iDStretch.

Recent finds at the McNeill site include one unit deep in the Paleo that produced nine artifacts in one level, including preforms, scrapers, and burin spalls. This is a good number of artifacts for a level, although our record was one that held thirty-eight artifacts!

As always, our archaeology lab is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Stop by the museum's front desk and we will direct you to the lab. MCB and CoBALT will serve as the hosts for the next TAS Annual Meeting, which takes place October 25-27, 2024. Plans are progressing, but we could still use your help! If you are interested in volunteering, there are many jobs to be done (many of which can be done remotely) before and during the event. If you have the time and interest, please contact Heather Para at heather.para@victoriacollege.edu or (361) 572-6468.



The Nighthawk Bison Jump **Frank Kozar**

Since mid-February, groups of professional and advocational archeologists led by Dr. Gus Costa, a Houston Archeological Society member from Katy and paleoanthropologist, have been gathering on a windswept escarpment in Caprock Canyons State Park working on an emergency salvage mission to save as much archeological evidence as possible of the second known bison jump found on the Southern Plains. It was my privilege to participate for a week.

A bison or buffalo jump was a topographically conducive place where Native Americans could funnel a herd of bison into a stampede over a cliff in an effort to kill many more animals than possible when just using a spear or bow and arrow individually. It took a lot of planning to execute a jump successfully, and indigenous oral traditions indicate that at times several native groups would work together. Bison jumps were used for thousands of years, especially on the Northern Plains of Alberta, Montana, and Wyoming; but few jump sites are located south of Colorado, with Bonfire Shelter in Val Verde County the only other documented site in Texas.

The Caprock Canyons site, known as the Nighthawk Bison Jump (41BI564), and the nearby processing site (41BI565) were discovered in late 2021 by Texas Historical Commission archeological steward Rick Day and his wife, Susan, both educators, while on a hike in the park with their middle school science students. Several surveys and a mini field school conducted by Texas Tech anthropology students followed over the next two years, identifying two events occurring there in approximately 1630 and 570 BP. The groups realized that the site was quickly eroding due to wind, rain, and natural geological processes. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department archeologists formed a large part of our February salvage mission group, as TPWD is responsible for the site because it is located on park property.

Getting to the site involved a journey of several miles on park ATVs over rugged terrain, a mile-long hike in the canyon, a climb up a 45-foot cliff, then more hiking. The first day included lugging in screens, stands, and heavy gear—a challenge for the Medicare-eligible in the group (that would include me!).

Excavated bison bone is extremely brittle, sometimes falling apart as soon as it's exposed, due to the 15-40 mph force of the unrelenting wind on the escarpment. At the end of each workday, upon removal of our sunglasses, our crew looked like a group of raccoons. Our faces had been blasted for hours by the red dust we generated while digging.

The bone matter was typically sprayed with a polyvinyl acetate-PVA liquid to help stabilize the structure, then encased in polyurethane foam, making the artifacts easier to extract and move to the lab, where the foam was later dissolved. Weekly, Gus accumulated boxes and bags full of the prepared bones. A team effort ensued to safely transport the packages back down the cliff to the vehicles for a slow and careful drive back to the park headquarters.

The Nighthawk excavation involved hard work and long days—and I'd do it again tomorrow, as it was a unique experience I'll likely not see again. Dr. Costa gave a presentation on Nighthawk to the North Texas Archeological Society last year and the YouTube link below provides more information on the site and its history. He also wrote an article for the HAS newsletter. See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKYpmMnJsI8>; [Bison Death Plunge at Caprock Canyon|November 2023 | TPW magazine](#); [TPWD confirm rare site Native Americans drove bison off cliff \(mysanantonio.com\)](#); <https://www.txhas.org/PDF/newsletters/2024/2024%20February%20Profile.pdf>.



Source: TPWD, Texas State Bison Herd: An Epic Journey, from Near Extinction to Celebration. [TPWD: Texas State Bison Herd Restoration](#).

The Nighthawk Bison Jump

Photographs by Frank Kozar and Thomas Nuckols



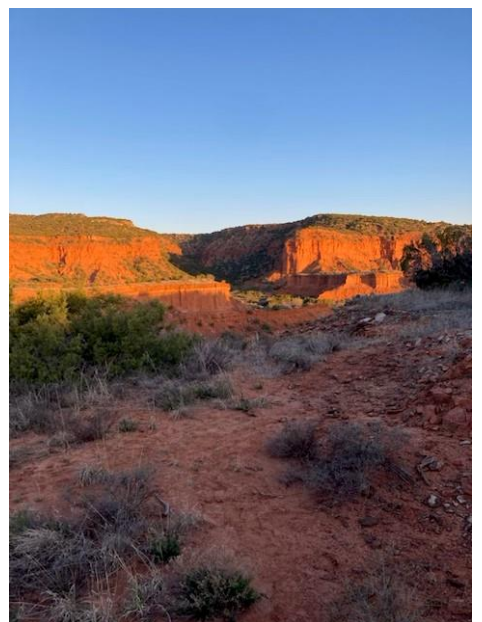
Left: 41BI564 The Nighthawk Bison Jump site. Center: HAS member Gary Fleming excavating a unit at 41BI564. Below: The Texas State Bison Herd is protected at Caprock Canyons State Park. Middle Left: Climbing the cliff to the site. Middle Right: The archeologists during the week of March 1-7. Ten of the fifteen were professionals with TPWD and other organizations. Photographs by Frank Kozar, March 2024.



Left: Shattered bison femur. Center: Bison on a ledge leading to the site. He hung around for a couple days as though protecting it. Right: Andy Burcham, Panhandle Archeological Society assists Dr. Gus Costa, the site primary investigator, plot a bison bone. Photographs by Frank Kozar, March 2024.



Upper Left: A lodging option, an upstairs room at the former Masonic Lodge in downtown Turkey, Texas. The building was built in 1920 and now serves as an extension of the Lumberyard Lodge & RV. Upper Right: Tom Nuckols (L) and Gus Costa (R) uncovering bison bone at 41BI565. Because of the high winds and dusty conditions, Tom is wearing a balaclava and goggles. Center Left: A bison ulna in situ at 41BI565. Center Right: The view from a unit at 41BI564. Bottom Left: In situ bison bone in a unit level at 41BI564. After the bone is exposed and pedestaled, a plan drawing is generated. Afterwards, it is sprayed with polyurethane foam. Once the foam dries, the bone is removed and transported to the lab. Bottom Center: The trek up the cliff. Bottom Right: Capstone Canyons State Park scenery. Photographs courtesy of Tom Nuckols, March 2024.



HAS Reference Desk

What research on archeology, anthropology, paleontology, or history have you been reading lately? The HAS Reference desk seeks your suggestions about interesting archeology and history links.

Dave Dyer sent this interesting link:

https://www.iflscience.com/300000-year-old-wooden-tools-provide-rare-insight-into-neanderthal-society_jb8

HAS members may enjoy this informative series produced by the BBC that discusses world history as inspired by artifacts in the collection of the British Museum: [A History of the World in 100 Objects on Apple Podcasts](#).

Month of May: [The Maypole That Infuriated the Puritans - New England Historical Society](#); [Stone Circles Explained: How Maypoles and Lintels Lead to Stone Houses | Ancient Origins \(ancient-origins.net\)](#).

In memory of Fred Kelly, here is a link to his autobiography: [Global Oil Finder: Autobiography of a Petroleum Geologist: Kelly, Frederick: 9781420873580: Amazon.com: Books](#).

-----o-----

Feedback Requested! We want to hear from YOU!

Send a quick email to newsletter@txhas.org and let us know about things such as your regular favorites, which articles and reports did you most enjoy, what did you really read and what did you skip, topics you'd like to see in the future, what could be longer or what should be shorter, what could be omitted, and any other suggestions about how we can improve.



Source: www.webweaver.nu/unclesam.jpg.

-----o-----



TxDOT Seeking Archeological Studies Intern Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Data Support (Summer) Environmental Affairs Division

TxDOT's Environmental Affairs Division (ENV) is seeking a summer intern to help us tell our story through our survey data. Join us this summer (5/1/2024 - 8/15/2024, negotiable) to gain valuable experience and further your database and GIS skills through practical application. Annually, over 500 college and high school students from across Texas and beyond select the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) as their employer of choice during the summer months. A paid summer internship is a great opportunity to explore what TxDOT has to offer to the citizens of Texas, and to expand your knowledge acquired from school, possibly also serving as a gateway to future job opportunities with the agency. This internship provides an opportunity to work with experts in the archeological and cultural resource field with a myriad of discipline specializations. Learn more and apply at this link:

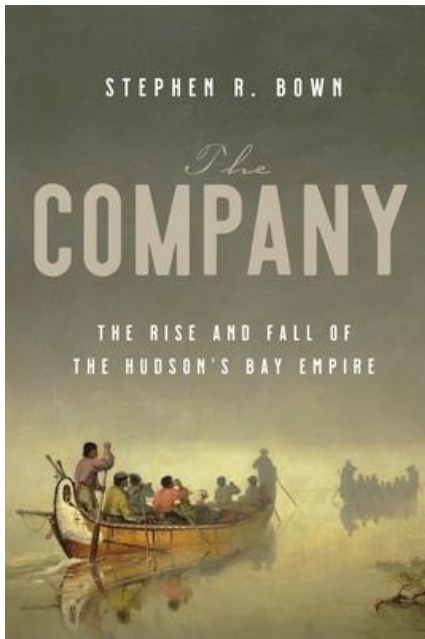
<https://fa009.taleo.net/careersection/interncs/jobdetail.ftl?job=2401551>.



Recommended Reading

The Company – The Rise and Fall of the Hudson’s Bay Empire by Stephen R. Bown

Reviewed by Geoffrey Mills



This is an extraordinary story of how a monopolistic English Royal Charter deeded half of Canada and parts of early America to a handful of aristocratic investors in London. This went on for almost two hundred years, sustained by an economy based on the hunting and collection of beaver pelts by indigenous peoples around the Hudson Bay, with all the furs destined for Europe. The underlying motive for the formation of the Company was the search for a northwest passage to the Pacific. This pursuit continued throughout the history of the Hudson’s Bay Company. Initially established in 1670, the originally small endeavor traded practical manufactured goods for furs. The furs were fashioned into water-repellant, brimmed, beaver felt hats that were all the rage at the time, both for rich Europeans and poor settlers.

The Company developed a very mixed relationship with indigenous tribes, of which there were many. This relationship was part exploitive and part partnership, depending on the current governor of the province. The worst example was George Simpson, who was very cruel and condescending to the native population. Despite this, the Cree managed to establish their own business relationship with the Hudson’s Bay Company, and for a time, the tribe monopolized the supply of furs. As in the rest of the Americas, the effect of European diseases on the native population was catastrophic. The only saving grace was the very low population density.

This book describes myriad journeys of exploration, often a collaboration with the Mohawk/Iroquois as voyagers or canoe paddlers. George Simpson conducted journeys of inspection accompanied by native paddlers, frequently traveling 160 km/100 miles a day.

Although historically very detailed, at the same time the book encompasses the greater scope of events for over two centuries, as the history of Canada evolved. I would recommend this book for anyone who is interested in the history of Canada and the northern United States. It also provides an in-depth understanding of the culture of the indigenous tribes and their relationship to European immigrants.



Above: [The Company: The Rise and Fall of the Hudson’s Bay Empire](#) by Stephen R. Bown | Goodreads.

Right: Beaver hat and case, ca. 1800s. Hudson’s Bay Company History Foundation. HBC Corporate Collection. Source: [HBC Heritage — Beaver Hats](#).

Left: Cree men trading at Fort Pitt, in present-day Saskatchewan, c. 1884. Identified as (L-R) Four Sky Thunder, Sky Bird (or King Bird), Matoose (seated), Naposis, and Mistahimaskwam (Big Bear). Image courtesy of Bruce Peel Special Collections, University of Alberta. [Cree men trading](#) : Internet Archive.



Sources: [The Company: The Rise and Fall of the Hudson’s Bay Empire](#) by Stephen R. Bown | Goodreads; <https://alfredjacobmiller.com/explore/from-pelt-to-felt/>; [Hudson’s Bay Company Heritage — Beaver Hats](#); [Cree men trading](#) : Internet Archive.

Houston Archeological Society - Monthly Meeting Program Schedule



Please note that meetings will vary between in-person, hybrid, or virtual (via Zoom). Some presentations will be uploaded to our YouTube site where they will be archived and available for public viewing. The meeting format may change; be sure to doublecheck the HAS website and your emails prior to each meeting for updates.

May 16 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring Brad Jones, Texas State Archeologist, discussing the archeological history of Webber's Prairie, Texas.

June - No meeting in June due to Field School, no newsletter.

July 11 – HAS Quarterly Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

July 18 – HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Report on Field School.

August 15 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring Mike McBride discussing the Pine Ridge Pottery Project in Belize.

September 19 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring August Costa, PhD.

October 17 – HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring David Brown, PhD.

November 21 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring Jerod Roberts, Archeologist with Shumla Archaeological Research and Education Center.

December 19 – HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Annual Holiday Party.

Houston Archeological Society monthly meetings are ordinarily free and open to the public. Many previous HAS presentations are archived on our YouTube site at www.youtube.com/channel. For more information about HAS, visit www.txhas.org, email us at president@txhas.org, or join our Facebook page at [Houston Archeological Society | Facebook](#).

-----O-----

Upcoming Events

Be sure to reconfirm details before making plans to attend.

VIRTUAL:

Archaeological Conservancy

Virtual lectures announced and archived at Virtual Lectures - The Archaeological Conservancy, [The Archaeological Conservancy - YouTube](#), and [Virtual Tour Video Series - The Archaeological Conservancy](#).

AIA Houston/Archaeology Now

For more information see [Zoom Lectures — Archaeology Now](#).

American Institute of Archaeology

Lectures run from September through April; some archives at [Videos - Archaeological Institute of America](#).

Engelhardt-Moore Lecture Series

5/2 – Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Central. Megalithic Structures in Neolithic Europe, presented by geologist Robert Moore. Information and archives at <https://engelhardtmoores.wixsite.com/lecture-series/lectures-2024>.

Eventbrite Free Online Archaeology Events

For listings and more information from various institutions see: [Free Online Archaeology Events | Eventbrite](#).

5/1 – Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. Central. Paradoxes of Cultural Landscape Preservation. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paradoxes-of-cultural-landscape-preservation-tickets-885193576817?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/2 – Thursday, 2:00 p.m. Central. Alexander the Great: The Man Who Ruled The World. <https://www.eventbrite.it/e/alexander-the-great-the-man-who-ruled-the-world-tickets-884898103047?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/5 – Sunday, 6:00 p.m. Central. Archaeology, Museums, and War: Strategies for the 21st Century. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/archaeology-museums-and-war-strategies-for-the-21st-century-online-tickets-886382382567?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/8 – Wednesday, 7:00 a.m. Central. Safeguarding Archaeological Heritage in Norfolk, England.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safeguarding-norfolks-archaeological-heritage-online-tickets-837309765047?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/10 – 1:00 p.m. Central. Babylon: Mesopotamia's Final Empire. <https://www.eventbrite.it/e/babylon-mesopotamias-final-empire-tickets-884903097987?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/14 – Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. Central. Medieval Jewelry. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-gem-talk-medieval-jewellery-tickets-846051481757?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/17 – Friday, 7:00 a.m. Central. Caistor Roman Town: Community, Heritage, and Recent Discoveries. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caistor-roman-town-community-heritage-and-recent-discoveries-online-tickets-885580694697?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

5/22 – Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. Chichen Itza, the Seventh Wonder of the Mayan World. <https://www.eventbrite.it/e/chichen-itza-the-7th-wonder-of-the-mayan-world-tickets-882641463377?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Houston Heritage Society

5/1 – Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Facebook and Instagram discussion with author Richard Cunningham speaking about West University history and his book, *West University Place*.

Houston Museum of Natural History

May 7 – Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. Sensation S.T.E.A.M. Innovative ideas for educators on implementing STEAM into the classroom. Free for members, \$10 for non-members. <https://my.hmns.org/events?kid=11>.

Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan

Upcoming and archived information: Kelsey Museum of Archaeology - YouTube and Online Exhibitions | U-M LSA Kelsey Museum of Archaeology (umich.edu).

Shumla Archaeological Research and Education Center

5/15 – Wednesday, Noon. Hearthstone Project, Proof of Composition. In the second of our four-part series on the results of the Hearthstone Project, presenter Diana Radillo Rolón, PhD., will share the compositional structure of the murals the team studied. Through the use of Harris Matrix, Diana will show how the murals, and in particular the iconic panel at the south end of Fate Bell Shelter in Seminole Canyon State Park, were woven together in a complex composition that lays the groundwork for the interpretation. <https://shumla.org/lunchandlearnmay1524/>.

Texas Historical Commission

5/23 – Thursday, **6:00 p.m.** Black Soldiers and the Lone Star State during World War II. Like many other areas of the United States during World War II, Texas saw an increased military presence as new military units were raised and posts were built to train them. Among them were many Black Americans who came to Texas to train for the war effort. While it is known that famous units such as the elements of the Tuskegee Airmen and the 761st Tank Battalion were trained here, many other Black units were also either raised in the state or conducted training here, ranging from Coastal Artillery to Engineer Regiments. Join Cale Carter, Director of Exhibitions at the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, to learn more about the history of these units and their impact on both Texas as well as the war effort. <https://fthc.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/fthc/eventRegistration.jsp?event=6066&>.

Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference (TRAC) Webinars

Information at [Current Season \(2023 – 2024\) \(trac.org.uk\)](http://Current Season (2023 – 2024) (trac.org.uk)).

ON-SITE:

AIA Houston/Archaeology Now

5/11 – Saturday, 11:00 a.m. Family Event - Ancient Encounters – Maya. Harris County Public Library, Octavia Fields Branch, 1503 S. Houston Avenue, Humble.

Barrington Plantation State Historic Site

5/11 and 5/12 – Saturday and Sunday, Plows & Petticoats- A Woman's Role. Sewing, cleaning, cooking, and childcare comprised the main elements of the domestic sphere of nineteenth century women.

Brazos County Historical Commission

Through 5/18 - Steam, Smoke & Steel: Riding the Rails through Time, highlighting the captivating history of trains. Includes a diorama featuring local Bryan/College Station train history, photographs, artifacts, and model trains; Brazos Valley Museum, <https://www.brazosvalleymuseum.org>.

George Ranch Historical Park

5/3 and 5/4 – Friday and Saturday. The George Ranch 200th Anniversary CPRA Rodeo, Richmond, Texas. Team roping, bull riding, midway, food trucks. Tickets from \$10 to VIP \$100.

Houston Heritage Society

Through 7/31 - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Exhibit, \$5 admission.

Houston Museum of Natural History

Tuesdays – Free general admission from 5 to 8 p.m. Imax films include Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs. Exhibits include King Tut's Tomb exploration, admission fees apply.



Kreische Brewery State Historic Site

5/18 – Saturday. Bluff Spasslauf - 5K Fun Run. Walk or run the route inspired by the historic Bluff Schuetzenverein march from downtown La Grange to Kreische's Bluff. This is part of the Bluff SchuetzenFest festivities.

Bluff SchuetzenFest. Celebrate the history of the Bluff Schuetzenverein and the legacy of Texas craft brewing with this historic family day and beer garden fundraiser.

Lake Jackson Historical Society

5/9 – Thursday, 5 – 7 p.m. Mix & Mingle at the Lake Jackson Historical Museum - bringing professionals and history lovers together.

5/16 – Thursday. Noon – 1 p.m. Lake Jackson Historical Museum. Lunch and Learn at the museum. Kennedy Wallace, THC, will discuss historic preservation projects at the Levi Jordan and Varner-Hogg Plantations. \$5 fee, bring your own lunch or order in advance at [Something to Chew On with Kennedy Wallace | LJHA \(ljhistory.org\)](#).

5/28 through 5/31 - [Junior Archaeology Camp 2024](#).

Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site

5/11 and 5/18, Saturdays. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. - [Scanning & Oral History](#). Oral history interviews and archival scanning will be collected with time slots available through May.

5/24 and 5/25 – Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. [Scavenger Hunt!](#) Come celebrate National Scavenger Hunt Day and learn all about the history and archeology of the Levi Jordan Plantation by completing a scavenger hunt around the site and entering a raffle.

Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria College

5/2 – Thursday. [17th Annual Spring Artisans Market](#). 11 a.m.-Noon. Exclusive VIP Hour, \$5 in advance or \$8 at door. Receive discounts and priority shopping. The market opens at noon for all with free admission and runs until 6:00 p.m.

<https://www.museumofthecoastalbend.org/visit-mcb/events/event/2024/05/02/default-calendar/vip-hour-at-the-17th-annual-spring-artisans-market>.

5/3 – Friday, 4 – 6 p.m. Hands-on History: Discover the Snoqualmie Tribe with Nychelle Schneider demonstrating cultural artwork and sharing information about the Snoqualmie Tribe.

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site

5/4 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. [A Day with the Press](#). Learn about the print shop at San Felipe de Austin and how the printing press served as an important tool for the colony and Stephen F. Austin.

5/11 – Saturday. [Dirt: An \(Archeological\) Retrospective](#). Join San Felipe de Austin staff archeologist and HAS member Sarah Chesney as she discusses the role of dirt in understanding the past and why dirt is an archeologist's best friend.

5/12 – Sunday. [Free Admission for Moms on Mother's Day](#). Take home a free flower craft.

5/18 – Saturday. [A Day in the Garden](#). See the progress of seeds that were planted in March.

5/25, 5/26, and 5/27 – Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. [San Felipe de Austin Author's Fair](#). First Annual Author's Fair. [Special Hours: Open Memorial Day Monday](#).

San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site

5/4 – Saturday, 7 – 9 a.m. [Bird Watching at the Battleground](#). The site will open two hours early so birders and photographers can enjoy early morning at the site.

5/4 – Saturday. [San Jacinto Family Day: Butter Churning](#). Try churning butter using both a dash churn and a shake jar and take home your hand-made butter.

5/8 – Wednesday. [Rifle and Musket Demonstrations](#).

5/11 – Saturday. [Spinning and Weaving Demonstrations](#).

5/16 – Thursday. [Demo Day: Candle Making](#).

5/19 – Sunday. [Picture Yourself at San Jacinto](#).

5/29 – Wednesday. [Boom: Cannon Demonstrations](#).

Shumla Archaeological Research and Education Center

Shumla Treks - fees and information at [Shumla Treks - Shumla](#).

Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site

5/4 – Saturday. [Soap Making Workshop](#), take home your hand-made soap.

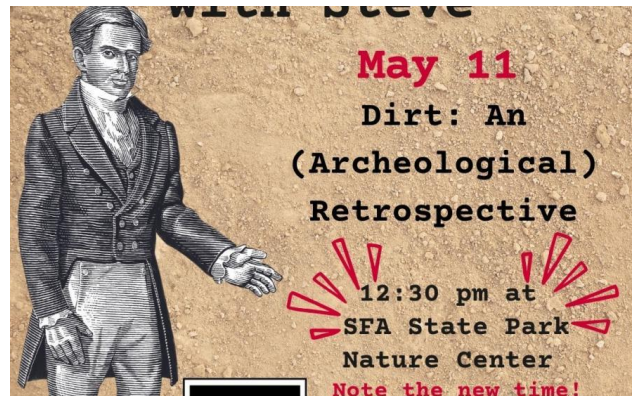
5/4 – Saturday. [On the Plantation Porch](#) book discussion.

5/24 and 5/25 – Friday and Saturday. [Scavenger Hunt](#).

5/25 – Saturday. [Sketching Stories: Cattle Ranching & Caretaking](#). A drawing class for all levels of experience, with life drawing of real artifacts while discovering the stories of the people who used them.

Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site

5/11 – Saturday. [A Matter of Honor: The Pinckard-Steele Duel](#). Join a discussion of the rules of dueling and recreate the Thornton Pinckard-James Steele duel of 1838 that took place in Washington. Duels were a method of settling disputes in the 19th Century, and often ended in a life changing injury, or death for the participants. For questions about the program, contact tynan.shadle@thc.texas.gov.



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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

Bob Sewell, President, president@txhas.org
Frank Kozar, Vice President, tupflash@aol.com
Louis Hebert, Treasurer, treasurer@txhas.org
Emma Baldwin, Secretary, secretary@txhas.org

Eleanor Stoddart, Director-at-Large, eleanorstoddart@hotmail.com
Leonie Waithman, Director-at-Large, lwaithman@live.com
Geoff Mills, Director-at-Large, geoffm1877@gmail.com
Linda Gorski, Board Advisor, lindagorski@cs.com

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sharon Menegaz, smenegaz@rcseagles.org

AREA TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ARCHEOLOGY STEWARDS

Elizabeth Aucoin, ek.aucoin@gmail.com
Liz Coon-Nguyen, elizabeth.coonnguyenmd@gmail.com
Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251
Debbie Eller, debjajul@yahoo.com
Charlie Gordy, chasgordy@yahoo.com
Bruce Grethen, bruceg999@gmail.com
Sue Gross, suegbobs@comcast.net
Joe D. Hudgins, manso@jdhudgins.com
Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com
Brenda Jackson, brendajacks1@yahoo.com
Ron Jackson, ronj845@gmail.com

Beth Kennedy, bethiekennedy902@gmail.com
Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com
Clint Lacy, clacy13@comcast.net
Sharon Menegaz, smenegaz@rcseagles.org
Tom Nuckols, tnuckols58@att.net
Sandra Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net
John Rich, JohnRich3@sbcglobal.net
Sandra (Sandy) E. Rogers, sojourne47@gmail.com
Gary Ryman, gkryman@gmail.com
Steve Salyer, salyer4@hotmail.com
Bob Sewell, robert-sewell@att.net
Paul Spana, pcspana@comcast.net

Disclaimer: For concerns or issues regarding any article published in this newsletter, please contact the author of the article. The content of any article published is solely the responsibility of the author. Copyright ©2024 by the Houston Archeological Society. All rights reserved.

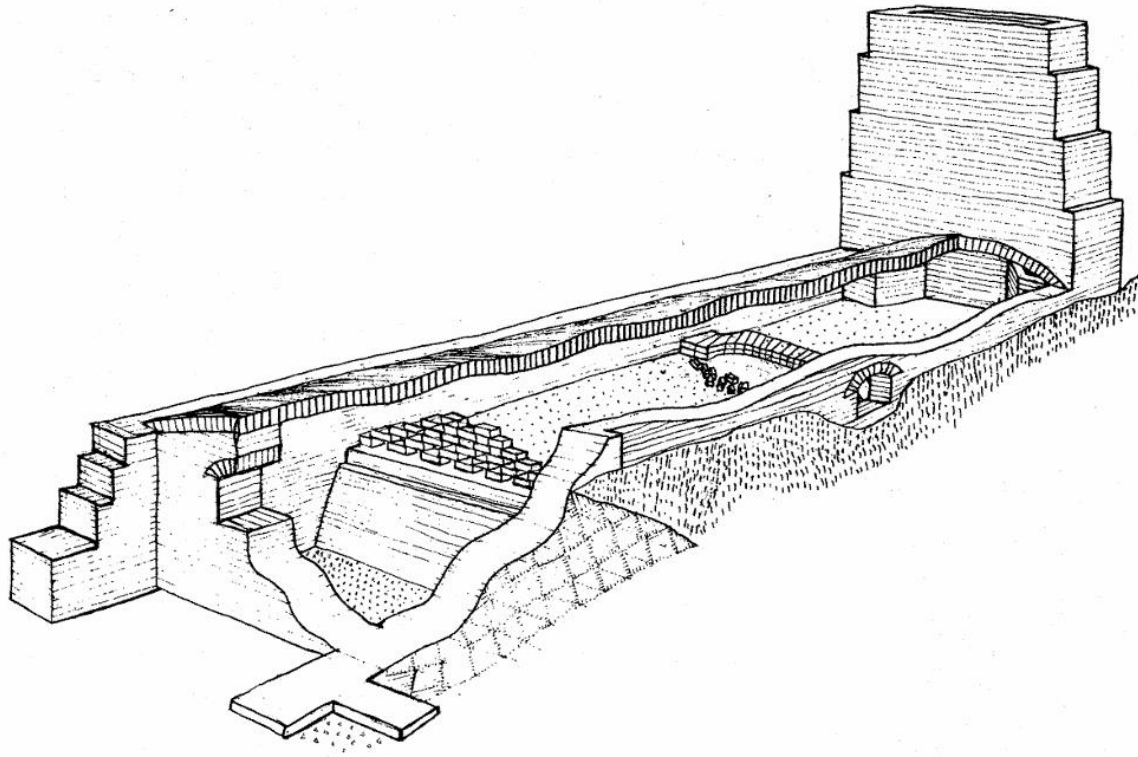


Figure 8. Conjectural view of the original structure of the Kirbee Kiln.

Greer, Georgeanna H. (1977) "Groundhog Kilns-Rectangular American Kilns of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries," *Northeast Historical Archaeology*: Vol. 6 6, Article 6. <https://doi.org/10.22191/nehavol6/iss1/6>. Available at: <http://orb.binghamton.edu/nehavol6/iss1/6>; [viewcontent.cgi \(binghamton.edu\)](http://viewcontent.cgi(binghamton.edu)), p. 52.