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**Houston Archeological Society Meeting, Thursday, October 17, 2024  
6:00 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center ~ Featuring Dr. David O. Brown  
Presenting an Archaeological Perspective on the Inka Conquest of Northern Ecuador**

Hello HAS members,

The October meeting of the Houston Archeological Society takes place on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. This will be a hybrid meeting with both an in-person and a Zoom component for those members who cannot join us at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center.



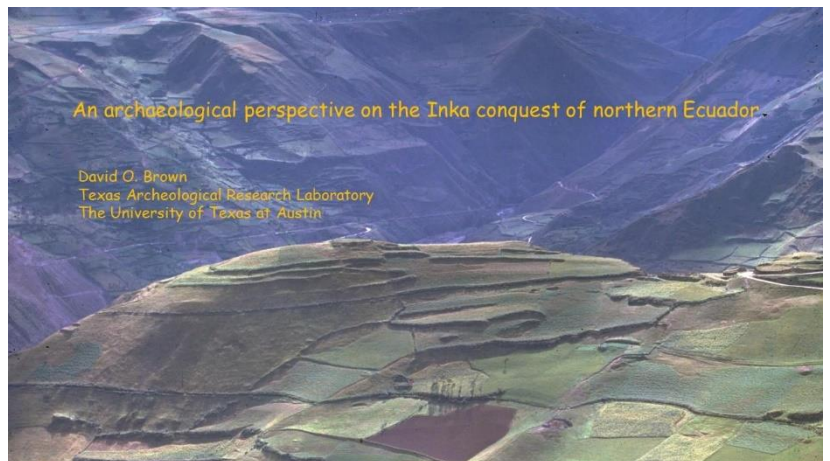
Texas archeologists and partners Meredith Dreiss and David Brown

In this presentation, the author presents key archaeological sites in Ecuador, both Inka and pre-Inka, examining their strategic roles in the conquest that shattered centuries of peace and would threaten the very existence of the Inka empire. The talk features aerial and ground-based imagery of a number of these massive imperial military installations as well as the giant earthen mounds built by the locals.

Dr. David O. Brown has spent nearly fifty years working in the archaeology of Texas, surrounding states, and areas beyond. His 1982 MA thesis at UT Austin was focused on prehistoric ceramic production in Louisiana and East Texas and his 1992 UT doctorate examined the nature of Inka provincial administration based on excavations in the central Peruvian highlands. Shifting to Ecuador in the 1990s, he became interested in the Inka conquests there and their effect on local residents. In recent years he has written extensively on the Inka military in the north and their encounters with local pre-Inka populations.

We hope you will all join us on Thursday, October 17 for this fascinating presentation set in the Ecuadorian Andes, with spectacular scenery and a great story. The meeting is free and open to the public. Be looking for your meeting reminder email, which will also contain a Zoom link so that 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 the Spring Branch area of Houston. For more information about this program or about the Houston Archeological Society, please contact Bob Sewell at [president@txhas.org](mailto:president@txhas.org). *See you in the field!*

*Frank Kozar, HAS Vice President*



More information about Meredith Dreiss and David Brown and some of their extensive work can be found at the following links: [Meredith Dreiss and David Brown on their film 'Agave is Life': Expanding the Role of Trace-Element Studies: Obsidian Use in the Late and Terminal Classic Periods at the Lowland Maya Site of Colha, Belize | Ancient Mesoamerica | Cambridge Core](#); [Preclassic Obsidian Procurement and Utilization at the Maya Site of Colha, Belize | Semantic Scholar](#); [Source Attribution and the Utilization of Obsidian in the Maya Area | Latin American Antiquity | Cambridge Core](#)

## President's Message – Bob Sewell



HAS members,

I am delighted to announce the Houston Archeological Society Officers and Board of Directors for 2024 - 2025.

These folks were elected to office following our meeting on Thursday, September 19, 2024, with an email ballot. The HAS Board consists of those same dedicated volunteers previously serving, which makes for a consistent transfer to the 2024-2025 Board. The newly-elected board members are as follows: President, Bob Sewell; Vice President, Frank Kozar; Secretary, Noah Newland; and Treasurer, Louis Hebert. Our three directors-at-large are Eleanor Stoddart, Geoff Mills, and Allison Bohn. Thanks so much for voting for us and providing us the privilege of serving you and working with you to keep HAS at the forefront of Texas archeology! You can see photos of the

Board on our website at [www.txhas.org/contact-us.html](http://www.txhas.org/contact-us.html).

Did you know that 2024 is the Society's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday?? Yes, HAS was founded in 1959 and is still going strong. To mark the occasion, we enjoyed some celebratory cupcakes at the September meeting. Many thanks to Allison Bohn for providing the cupcakes and to Frank Kozar for the coffee.

Also, the Trini Mendenhall Community Center has upgraded the Presentation and PA System so that it is integrated. The meeting room now features a huge TV-style screen, with screens on the side walls, and new speakers integrated into the ceiling. No more setting up the projector and free-standing speakers – it's now just one wire. We still need to learn all the nuances, but we will.

We have been slightly side-tracked with multiple outreach activities, and those seem to have paid off not only by the successful public education and resulting publicity for our Society, but we also have had several new members join the society.

Now we plan to get back out in the field at our two main sites at Alleyton (Walnut Tree Hill) and Brookshire (Goloby), so keep an eye on your emails for future invitations. And don't forget the upcoming International Archeology Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Houston on October 19, 2024, and the Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting to be held in Victoria, on October 26 and 27, 2024.

If you have any questions about the Houston Archeological Society, please email me at [president@txhas.org](mailto:president@txhas.org).

*~ Bob Sewell, HAS President*



The HAS was formed in 1959 by a small group of individuals with an interest in archeology and of the history of the early inhabitants and settlers of Texas, especially those occupying the Upper Texas Gulf Coast and adjoining states. Incorporated on October 10, 1966, the Society sought to bring together persons with similar interests in the science of archeology, thereby creating an atmosphere conducive to the preservation and exchange of historic and prehistoric data of the state of Texas. By supporting research and archeological projects, the Society is able to preserve the mission of the HAS and to promote a wider public understanding and appreciation of archeology and related fields of science. Since 1959, the HAS has organized, directed, and participated in multiple projects associated with salvage efforts of private landowners to minimize the loss of scientific data; mitigation (monitoring) of sites during construction to minimize site disturbance; and excavation of important prehistoric and historic sites as a result of erosion, land development and environmental degradation. Our projects are located within the Upper Texas Gulf Coast Region and include the greater Houston metropolitan area. Owing to the vast expansion of the city of Houston, the HAS assists the City in conservation and preservation efforts of historic properties (prehistoric and historic) sites, as well as historic buildings and neighborhoods within Houston. The Houston Archeological Society holds monthly membership meetings with invited lecturers who speak on various topics of archeology and history. All in-person meetings are free and open to the public. In-person meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston. Source: [Houston Archeological Society \(txhas.org\)](http://HoustonArcheologicalSociety.org).

## Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Minutes – September 19, 2024

**Welcome - Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.** – Bob Sewell, President. Welcome to both in-person and virtual attendees, including a few new and potential members. This meeting was HAS's annual meeting, and also marks the 65<sup>th</sup> birthday of HAS. Thank you to Allison Bohn for bringing cupcakes to celebrate!

**Membership & Treasurer's Report** – Louis Hebert, Treasurer (joined virtually). Membership is growing, with the current number standing at about 180 members. Finances are also looking healthy.

**Newsletter** – Betsy Wittenmyer, Newsletter Editor (joined virtually). Many thanks to those who have contributed articles to the newsletter. Members are encouraged to share articles or photos for upcoming newsletters. These can be related to any relevant topics including projects, research, classes or academies, historical or educational trips, or any other interesting experiences that you'd like to share. Bob Sewell also offered a big thank you to Betsy for her hard work on the newsletter.

**Results of voting for 2024-2025 Board of Directors** – Noah Newland, Secretary.

- **Nominating Committee** – Thank you to Geoff Mills (Chair), Sarah Chesney, and Bethie Kennedy for serving on the nominating committee.
- **Proposed Slate of Directors** – The HAS board nominations are as follows: Bob Sewell for the position of President; Frank Kozar for Vice-President; Noah Newland for Secretary; Louis Hebert for Treasurer; and Allison Bohn for a 3-year term as Director-at-Large. Geoff Mills and Eleanor Stoddart's terms as Directors-at-Large are not yet expired, with 2 years and 1 year remaining respectively.
- **Voting Result** – Voting ended this week with a total of 54 votes cast, all of which were in favor, meaning that this slate of directors has been approved. Many thanks to everyone who voted – your contribution is much appreciated.

**Announcement** – Bob Sewell, President. A sad farewell to Dr. Tom Middlebrook, who passed away on September 17, 2024. Tom was a longtime HAS and TAS member, as well as a THC Archeological Steward. He will be dearly missed.

**Projects** – Bob Sewell, President.

- **Goloby Site** (41WL3) – This project is still active, although storms and flooding have paused excavations for the time being. There are also tall weeds that need to be mowed.
- **Walnut Tree Hill** (Alleyton) – Shovel testing has commenced at this site; an interesting feature consisting of an assembly of rocks was found, and two units were opened subsequently. Members can look out for upcoming invitation emails to continue work on this site.

**Outreach** – Bob Sewell, President.

- Completed:
  - Recently worked a second event with the Coastal Prairie Master Naturalists at the Houston Museum of Natural Science – Sugar Land on August 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Presentation to Cub Scout Den 525 at Rummel Creek Elementary School on September 3<sup>rd</sup> went well.
  - Native American Festival at Jesse Jones Park on September 14<sup>th</sup> was also a success.
- We are always looking for more folks prepared to assist with presentations; please reach out if you are interested.
- Upcoming:
  - International Archeology Day event at the Houston Museum of Natural Science will take place on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - The TAS Annual Meeting will be held in Victoria from Friday, October 25, through Sunday, October 27, 2024.

**October 2024 Monthly Meeting** – Our speaker next month will be Dr. David Brown, who may be familiar to members who have worked at the Kirbee Kiln site. Tonight's presentation will be conducted by Dr. Gus Costa, who will be discussing fingerprinting and sourcing of ancient Texas copper.

**The business meeting was concluded at 6:44 p.m.**

*Noah Newland, HAS Secretary*



## *In Memoriam*

Tom Anderson Middlebrook, M.D.  
June 28, 1952 – September 17, 2024

A native son of Texas, Tom Middlebrook was born on June 28, 1952, in Nacogdoches. After his graduation from Nacogdoches High School, Tom majored in geology, graduating Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science from Stephen F. Austin State University. He furthered his education by earning a diploma of Christian Studies from Regent College in Vancouver, British Columbia, and a Master of Science Degree in Psychology from Stephen F. Austin. After completing pre-medicine coursework at SFA and receiving a Pell Grant in organic chemistry research, Tom's empathy and sincere connection to children led him to pursue his profession in child and adolescent psychiatry. He earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, was awarded the Sandoz Award and the

outstanding student award in the Department of Psychiatry, and was a member of the Christian Medical Society. After an internship at Parkland Hospital, Tom completed his psychiatry residency and child and adolescent fellowship at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Dr. Middlebrook was well-known throughout the state as an extraordinary child and adolescent Psychiatrist who was respected by his patients, their families, and the medical community. He worked for Pinelands Hospital and Crockett State School and was a consulting psychiatrist at Lufkin State Supported Living Center, as well as several other residential treatment centers, including the Nacogdoches Boys' Ranch. During this time, he maintained a private practice for a number of years, sharing an office with his wife, Sylvia Sibley Middlebrook, Ph.D. Tom was a member of the Texas Medical Association, Nacogdoches-San Augustine Medical Society, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and the Texas Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. He was board-certified in Psychiatry as well as in Child/Adolescent Psychiatry.

Tom possessed an exceptional mind, and he never tired of learning. An avid historian who was deeply interested in past cultures and their roles and places in time and history, Tom became widely known for his involvement in the Texas archeological community. His contributions included an impressive collection of East Texas artifacts, lectures and presentations at archeological conferences across the state and country, extensive research in Caddo and Spanish Colonial archeology, and authoring publications, journals, and books on a variety of archeological topics. Dr. Middlebrook was a life-time member of the Arkansas, Louisiana, Dallas, and Texas Archeological Societies, the Society of Historical Archeology, a Steward of the Texas Historical Commission for thirty-four years, a TASN Advisory committee member, and a member of the Board of Directors of Texas Historical Foundation. He was president of the East Texas Archeological Society, and cofounder of the East Texas Archeological Conference, the East Texas Caddo Research Group, and the Caddo Iconography Workshop. He was also a long-time and valued member of the Houston Archeological Society. In February of 2023, Tom updated HAS about the archeology of Mission Concepción and the plans that were underway for the TAS 2023 Field School that would be held at that site near Nacogdoches. You may view his presentation here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a\\_4WtbFLO\\_8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_4WtbFLO_8).

Texas Historical Commission Archeologist Rebecca Shelton speaks for us all with her remarks, "It is hard to put into words the profound loss that we feel with the passing of Tom Middlebrook. He was an incredible archaeologist, a great friend, and a mentor to many. We extend our deepest condolences to his family and friends." Here among Tom's friends at HAS, we are thankful to have met him, to have enjoyed his delightful personality, and to have benefitted from his vast knowledge. A more complete obituary may be found at [www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/nacogdoches-tx/tom-middlebrook-11995177](http://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/nacogdoches-tx/tom-middlebrook-11995177).

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## An Update from Heather Para



Hello from New Mexico State University! As many of you know, I took over as curator at NMSU's University Museum in July. I have the run of a huge museum building with a vast collection, I teach courses for the Anthropology Department, and I supervise our museum interns and work study students.

Things are picking up pace as the semester barrels along. It feels good to have the museum halls buzzing with students! We remain closed to the public as we work on some much-needed building renovations and updating. The Facilities guys have been working hard to repaint the exterior of the building, the HVAC folks tuned up our air conditioners, IT has upgraded our computers, and the bats in the belfry even got some upgrades (see photo 1).

I have been reorganizing and repurposing the interior spaces, getting sensitive collections (organics, textiles, etc.) relocated to climate-controlled areas, and consolidating our archaeological collections. As you might imagine, we have made some fun discoveries in the process! Last week we took our new Geiger counter into the basement and tested the collections for radioactivity (see photo 2). Following up

on a research inquiry, I learned that we have a wonderful collection of ancient coins from the Roman Empire, ancient Greece, India, Persia, and elsewhere. We also have a couple of cuneiform tablets and Chinese knife money! (See photo 3 for coins and knife money.) Our undergrad intern is working on a Homecoming exhibit to be featured in the museum lobby starting the first week of November. A larger-scale exhibit focused on the significance of corn to Indigenous Peoples by our grad student intern will open in early spring 2025 in the West Gallery.

*~ Heather Para, PhD*



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## Professional Opportunity – Hiring Field Technicians

Hello! It's that time of year again - we've got multiple projects starting up in our El Paso office, and I was wondering if you might be able to spread the word to any recent or soon-to-be graduates that we're looking to hire Field Technicians. The minimum requirements are one field school and a bachelor's degree in Anthropology (or related field). Anyone interested can contact me at this email address. Thank you!

Maria Hroncich-Conner, Principal Investigator  
Environmental Management, El Paso  
915-519-3403 (direct), 575-635-5661 (mobile), [www.versar.com](http://www.versar.com)



## Outreach Report - Native American Festival at Jesse Jones Park and Nature Center

**Bob Sewell, HAS President**

One of our outreach activities during September was to participate in the Native American Festival at the Jesse Jones Park and Nature Center in Humble, Texas. The event occurred on Saturday, September 14, 2024, and HAS prepared several tables displaying artifacts and information about the Society. HAS members who assisted included HAS Outreach Coordinator Sharon Menegaz and her husband Steve, along with Frank Kozar, Eleanor Stoddart, Gail Peterkin, Kaity Ulewicz, and Bob Sewell. The park welcomed over four hundred visitors, so our members stayed busy and HAS received good public exposure.



Photographs courtesy of Gail Peterkin and Frank Kozar.



**Feedback Requested!**  
**We want to hear from YOU!**

Send a quick email to [newsletter@txhas.org](mailto: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.

Lord Kitchener Wants You, Alfred Leete, 1914. Source: <https://www.invaluable.com/>.





## From the HAS Archives



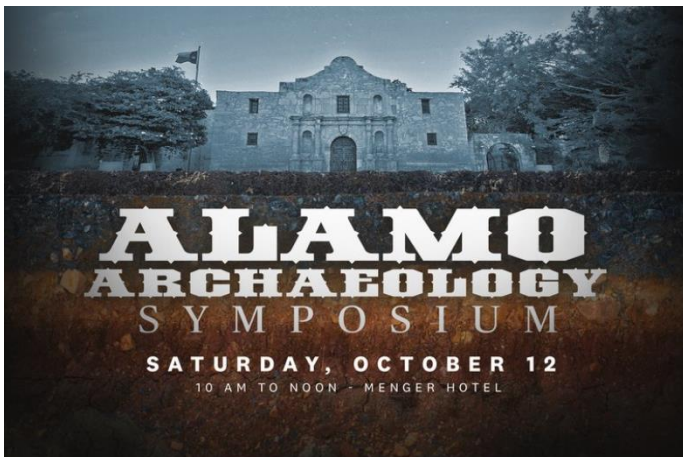
A repository of past issues of *The Profile* is available on the HAS website wherein you will find a wealth of archived articles, including this piece from October of 2006, continuing the late Fred Kelly's lessons about the names of months ([2006 October Profile.pdf](#)).

The month of October gets its name from the Latin word *octo*, meaning it was the eighth month of the Roman calendar, until the winter period was later divided into January and February, making October the tenth month. For the ancient Romans, October was the time to complete the harvesting of the grapes and olives and the making of the wine. October was also the month that ended Roman military campaigns as the soldiers returned to their homes and farms to get ready for winter. This month was also considered a magical time, when the two worlds of the living and the dead overlapped. It was a time of emptiness, when dark spirits roamed the earth. (Our modern equivalents are Halloween and the Day of the Dead.) October was the time to examine your faith and spirituality as October leads to the darkest months. However, for the ancient Romans, their divine feminine goddess, known variously as Venus, Diana, Juno, and Queen Isis, always gave them assurance that life and the crops would be reborn in the coming year.

~ Fred Kelly



**Alamo Archaeology Symposium – October 12, 2024, 10 a.m. – Noon**  
**Free Admission – Menger Hotel**



Grape harvest mosaic, Roman house in amphitheater of Merida, Spain, 3<sup>rd</sup> century. The traditional Roman festival Meditrinalia, celebrating the end of the wine harvest, was held on October 11. Source: [Meditrinalia Festival](#).

The Alamo invites the public to hear from expert archaeologists and learn more about excavations in the Alamo Church and Long Barrack at the Alamo Archaeology Symposium. At this event, expert archaeologists present the results of the excavations from the 2019-2020 Alamo Church and Long Barrack Restoration Project. During this project, archaeologists excavated nineteen units inside and outside of the historic Alamo Church and Long Barrack in advance of preservation studies. Results from the analysis of the soil, depositional layers, artifacts, and features will be presented by the lead archaeologists of the project. This symposium will take place at the Menger Hotel, located at 204 Alamo Plaza in downtown San Antonio. The Menger Hotel is steps away from the Alamo. Tickets are free and the event is open to the public. For more

information, see [Get Tickets](#); [Alamo Archaeology Symposium](#) | [The Alamo](#).



## Time to Plan for Texas Archeology Month Outreach Activities and the TAS Annual Meeting!

### Explore the Exciting Lineup for Texas Archeology Month – from the Texas Historical Commission



Join in celebrating Texas Archeology Month (TAM) this October, a statewide initiative led by the THC to honor the rich and diverse heritage of Texas through archeological exploration. Throughout the month, a variety of hands-on activities, events, and educational programs will be available for all ages, including archeology fairs, demonstrations, and guided tours at historic sites. The Texas Archeology Month calendar is packed with events

across the state! The THC has coordinated numerous activities at various historic sites, such as Kreische Brewery, Sam Bell Maxey House, Caddo Mounds, San Jacinto Battleground, Bush Family Home, and more. Among the exciting events is the **95th Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting, held October 25-27 in Victoria**. Archeologists and enthusiasts will gather to share insights and advancements in the field through paper presentations, poster sessions, local tours, and more. Brad Jones, director of the THC's Archeology Division and the state archeologist, will speak at the event. Explore the full calendar of events and find activities near you by visiting [thc.texas.gov/tam](http://thc.texas.gov/tam). Whether you're interested in archeology fairs, educational talks, or interactive workshops, there's something for everyone to enjoy this month as we honor Texas' fascinating history!

[LEARN MORE ABOUT TAM](#)

[SEE THE EVENTS](#)

The TAS Board of Directors, The Museum of the Coastal Bend (MCB) at Victoria College, and the Coastal Bend Archeological Logistics Team (CoBALT) invite you to register for the 95th Annual meeting of the Texas Archeological Society October 25-27, 2024. This year, the meeting will be held at the Victoria College Emerging Technology Complex and the Museum of the Coastal Bend in Victoria, Texas. On Friday night, October 25th, Brad Jones, director of the THC's Archeology

Division and the State Archeologist, will be the Public Forum Speaker. The keynote speaker, Dr. Leland C. Bement, currently is a senior researcher for the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Archeological Survey. Dr. Bement will present on Saturday evening, October 27th. Professional and avocational archeologists, historians, conservationists, preservationists, and the general public are invited to attend this meeting and learn more about the important archeological work being conducted locally, around the state, and nationally. Paper presentations, poster sessions, and local tours are just some of the many activities that will be offered during this exciting occasion. **PLEASE NOTE THE UPCOMING DEADLINES: The deadline to register for meals is October 6<sup>th</sup>, and registration rates will increase on October 7th.** This information and more may be found at: <https://txarch.org/AnnualMeeting>; [Online Registration](#); [TAS Annual Meeting \(txarch.org\)](#).



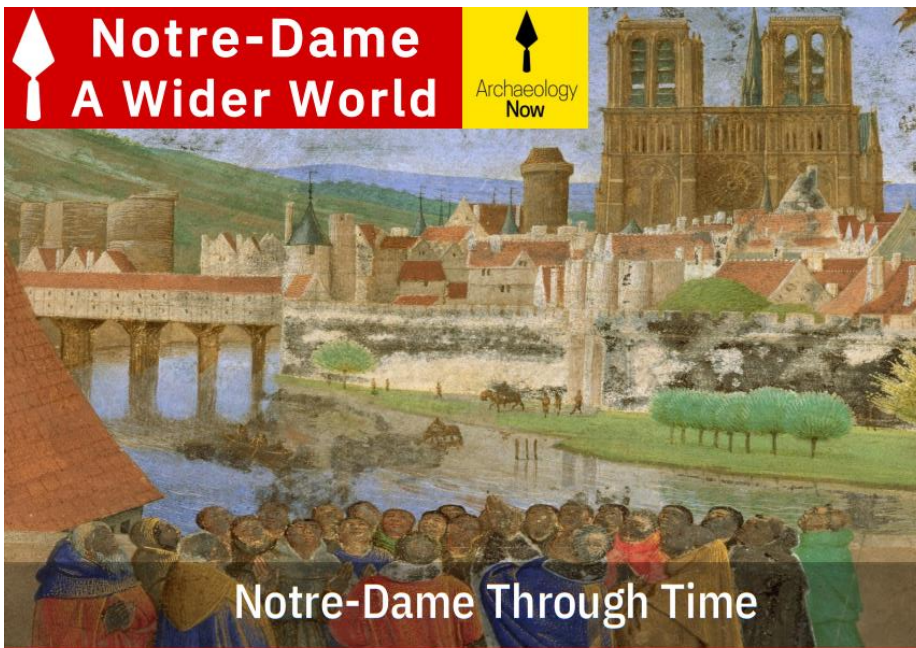
*See you in Victoria!*





**Notre-Dame Through Time – First Event on October 1, 7:00 p.m. at Rice University - Free Admission!**  
**AIA Houston Archeology Now Presents the 2024-2025 Series - Notre-Dame Through Time**

**Featuring Events Exploring the Archaeology, History, Music, Architecture, Cultural Influence,  
and Reconstruction of the Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris**



**Notre-Dame  
A Wider World**

**Archaeology  
Now**

**Notre-Dame Through Time**

**Dr. Dany Sandron, DIRECTOR OF RESTORATION, NOTRE-DAME**  
**DR. LINDSAY COOK, DEPT OF ART HISTORY, PENN STATE UNIVERSITY**

Join us for our opening event of the coming year to learn about the story of Notre-Dame, from Roman temple to a Christian sacred complex, to UNESCO monument and to the fire-damaged cathedral's rebirth. It's a space not only sacred to Catholics, but also a cultural testament to eight hundred years of history, art, and architecture that drew from a dynamic multi-cultural and religiously diverse medieval world.

Prelecture reception of medieval-style refreshments at 6:30pm  
Book sale and signing, *Notre-Dame: Nine Centuries of History* with Dr. Cook

**FREE ADMISSION**  
Rice University, Hudspeth Auditorium, Entrance #8 University at Stockton  
Tuesday, Oct 1, 2024, 7pm-8:30pm

**COSPONSORED BY MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES PROGRAM, SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES, RICE UNIVERSITY.**

At the opening event on the evening of Tuesday, October 1, Dr. Dany Sandron, Director of Restoration for Notre-Dame Cathedral, begins the story in Gallo-Roman Lutetia, when a pagan temple stood on the future site of Notre-Dame, and tells of the site's stunning transformation into a Christian sacred complex and ultimately a magnificent Gothic cathedral over the course of a millennium.

Dr. Lindsay Cook is Assistant Teaching Professor of Architectural History in the Department of Art History at Penn State University and an architectural historian, translator, and digital preservation advocate. Her current research focuses on architectural and artistic responses to the Gothic cathedral Notre-Dame of Paris. Dr. Cook will provide an overview of Notre-Dame's architectural history from the thirteenth to the twenty-first century. Dr. Cook's profile of the ever-changing sacred building will begin with the addition of some of the Gothic cathedral's most emblematic features and conclude with the catastrophic fire of 2019 that nearly destroyed them. Along the way, she will situate Notre-Dame not only within the larger medieval world, but also within our own world today.

The book *Notre Dame Cathedral: Nine Centuries of History*, written by Dany Sandron and Andrew Tallon and translated by Lindsay Cook, will be available for sale.

This lecture will be presented free of charge at Hudspeth Auditorium, Rice University, Entrance No. 8, at the intersection of University Blvd and Stockton Drive. [Self-paid parking is available in either the Moody Lot or West Lot 5 \(see map\).](#)

Learn more about the many fascinating events in this series taking place now through April at [Notre Dame, A Wider World](#); [Archaeology Now](#) and [ArchNow 2024 digital.pdf](#).



## Notes on Munitions: Colt Model 1860 Army Percussion Revolver

Thomas L. Nuckols

Archaeologists working on a historic site in Texas have uncovered the remains of a Colt Model 1860 Army percussion revolver (Figure 1).

From 1860 to 1873, the Colt's Patent Firearms Manufacturing Company of Hartford, Connecticut, manufactured 200,500 of these 6-shot revolvers in .44 caliber (Figure 2).



Figure 1. The remains of a Colt Model 1860 Army percussion revolver recovered by archaeologists at an historic site in Texas. Photo by Thomas L. Nuckols

Figure 2. A Colt Model 1860 Army percussion revolver. Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/ColtArmyModel1860.jpg>.

The Colt 1860 Army used percussion caps as an ignition source and black gun powder as a propellant. Lead balls or lead conical bullets were used as ammunition.

Percussion revolvers were also called cap and ball revolvers, and they are sometimes referred to as muzzleloaders. However, calling them muzzleloaders is erroneous, because they were loaded at the front of each one of cylinders six chambers, and not at the muzzle of the barrel.

The Colt Model 1860 Army played a prominent role in the American Civil War, and many thousands were purchased by the Federal Government.

To see how a percussion revolver was loaded and fired see pages 68-70 of HAS Report No. 25, Part 3: <https://www.txhas.org/PDF/reports/powell/The%20Elizabeth%20Powell%20Site%20Report%20Number%2025%20Part%203%20Indexed.pdf>.

### Sources

Flayderman, Norm. *Flayderman's Guide to Antique American Firearms and Their Values*. 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. Krause Publications, Iola, WI, 1998.

Serven, James Edsall. *Colt Firearms from 1836*. Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA, 1954.

Suggested reading: Rasenberger, Jim. *Revolver: Sam Colt and the Six-Shooter That Changed America*. Simon and Schuster, 2021.





## Catching Up with Leonie in Glascwm, Wales

*We sure miss our former HAS board member, Leonie Waithman, but she provided this update about her family's recent relocation to an ancient village in Wales. Leonie – thank you for this wonderful description and we certainly do hope you will continue to share more details about the history of your area, keeping us posted about your historical and archeological – and gardening - adventures!*



Aerial view of Glascwm taken from the East with Glascwm Hill on the left and Little Hill on the right.

Here I was thinking that I would have all the time in the world to visit all the fabulous historical sites Wales has to offer once I moved there. Little did I know I would spend most of my time gardening and cleaning the house this summer. So, I didn't think any of you would have wanted to hear me complain about the grime I had to scrub away or the eviction notice I gave to the hundreds of spiders who had taken up residence in our cottage. But now that the weeds keep growing no matter what I do and the house is somewhat clean, I felt it was time to give you an update about my recent move to Glascwm (Pronounced as Glas-cum), a small hamlet situated in a valley of Radnorshire, Wales. Here, we bought a cottage which, although now one house, used to be two small cottages. It has a newer extension on the side, which houses the kitchen, utility room, and snug (which I converted into a dining room/office because it gives me the best garden view). The oldest part of my house dates back to at least the eighteenth century, but the last occupant informed me that he thought it dates back to 1650 when a few other houses in Glascwm were built. In any case, it is old, and the three-foot-thick stone walls are evidence of that.

As a typical Welsh dwelling, the first cottage had one room up and one down, with an entrance and additional space at the back. The second cottage was slightly bigger, with two rooms up and possibly one large and two smaller rooms down. The upstairs of the cottage is still divided by a wall and accessible by separate narrow stairs on either side of the house. The original hearth of the bigger cottage is still visible but now has a wood burner. Luckily, there is no longer an outhouse, and the property now has two and a half bathrooms.



Left: The oldest part of our house is where you can easily see the divide between the two original cottages. The top cottage used to have an entrance, where you can still see the overhang.

Right: The much-overgrown back garden when we moved in.







The head of Norman hanging in the old stable. Nobody knows whether that was his real name or how old he is.

The old stable block now houses my daughter's two bunnies and Norman, who used to be a living and breathing reindeer but somehow found his head hanging from a hook in the stone wall. I have no idea how old Norman is since he came with the house and was already there when the previous owners moved in before me.

So why the move to Glascwm? With my husband hailing from the UK and having some family in the area, we fell in love with the tranquil location of this little village. Situated in the upper Edw Valley in Radnorshire, Glascwm was first settled in the sixth century with the establishment of a monastery. No trace remains of the original church of St. David's, but in the thirteenth century, a new stone church was erected within an older circular enclosure. St. David's church is believed to be one of the main churches of Radnorshire that existed prior to the Norman conquest. The church is listed by the Historic Building and Monuments Commission at the highest grade as a building of exceptional interest (Grade 1) and has retained many of its original medieval features.

The earliest records about this village, from c.1090, refer to the place as Glascun. In the mid-sixteenth century, Glascun became Glascumbe and was described as a place with a church and few houses that lay on an important drover's road through central Wales. This road functioned during the post-medieval era and had origins in the later medieval era.

Glascwm can still be described as a place with a church and few houses today. Twelve houses total, one derelict and uninhabited, and a small building serving as the village hall make up the heart of Glascwm. Next to my house, separated by a field that holds medieval earthworks, stands St. David's church, the Yat, and its former coach house. The Yat is the oldest house in the village and dates to the fifteenth century. Down the hill from the Yat are remnants of a mill.

The rest of the Glascwm residents live on farms dotted around the surrounding hills. One single-lane road with a cattle grid on the east end runs through the village's top end. It's a popular route for motorized and non-motorized tourists, and hikers pass through frequently to access the many trails.

Living in a village and an area rich in history has made me eager to explore and learn more. As I do so, I will endeavor to keep you updated through the HAS newsletter. Perhaps my next story will be about the old mill, whose remnants still lie



St. David's Church as it stands today, with the oldest part dating back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.



by the river down the hill from the Yat, or about St. David's church? I don't know, but today, with the sun out, I think I will have another attempt at tackling the weeds in the garden. For those of you who know me well enough...there are no snakes here. 😊

~ Leonie Waithman

Glascwm Village in 1908. Our house (the second house from the right with the old school house just above the roofline) is shown here as two cottages without the extension.

All photographs courtesy of Leonie Waithman.



## Onsite in Dublin at the National Museum of Archeology

### OC Garza

While in Ireland recently, my wife and I visited the National Museum of Archeology in Dublin. One fascinating area is the Kingship and Sacrifice permanent exhibit, which includes iron age royal regalia, bog butter, and bog bodies. My information is taken straight from the museum website and display text.



The Baronstone West Man dates back about 1,500 years. The Celts brutally murdered sacrificial slaves or prisoners and buried them in bogs. Occasionally archeologists or peat farmers find them. Although shriveled and leathery after being submersed for 1,500 years in the bog, the remains are remarkably preserved by the bog's biological processes.

Dating back about 2,200 years, the Clonycavan Man sports a red mohawk haircut that was unfortunately ruined when he was hacked to death with blows from an axe to the head, disemboweled, and then buried in a bog. The body was discovered by a peat harvesting machine that cut him in half.



Finally, Gallagher Man dates back 2,000 years. He was discovered in 1821 by some peat farmers. He was found strangled to death and naked except for a deer skin cloak wrapped around him. Despite being well preserved, the remains have decayed since the nineteenth century, as hair and a stubbly beard originally observed have largely disappeared. Learn more at [Kingship and Sacrifice | Archaeology | National Museum of Ireland](#).

All photographs by OC Garza.



### 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 news and links.

<https://silkroadvirtualmuseum.com/>

[Letter from England - Inside the Anarchy - Archaeology Magazine - July/August 2018](#)

[Upcoming documentary features the Gault site - The Archaeological Conservancy \(thearchcons.org\)](#)

[Get a Whiff of Ancient Egypt's 'Scent of Eternity'](#)

[These Ancient Egyptian Barracks Paint a Vivid Picture of Military Life During the Reign of Ramses II | Smithsonian \(smithsonianmag.com\)](#)

[3,200-year-old ancient Egyptian barracks contains sword inscribed with 'Ramesses II'](#)

[Mysterious 'horseman' from lead coffin unearthed in Notre Dame Cathedral finally identified](#)

[Mysterious white substance smeared on 3,600-year-old mummies is world's oldest cheese](#)

[Pollen allergies drove woolly mammoths to extinction | Live Science](#)

[Cave discovery may explain why Neanderthals disappeared](#)

## 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.

**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, discussing morphological figures throughout rock art sites in West Texas.

**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](http://www.youtube.com/channel). For more information about HAS, visit [www.txhas.org](http://www.txhas.org), email us at [president@txhas.org](mailto:president@txhas.org), or join our Facebook page at [Houston Archeological Society | Facebook](#).



### Upcoming Events

**Be sure to reconfirm details before making plans to attend.**

#### **VIRTUAL:**

##### **Archaeological Institute of America**

**10/1** – 6 p.m. Central. Giovanni Verri, Conservation Scientist at the Art Institute of Chicago, will present his recent investigations and newest research into color on ancient statues.

Register Here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VPhQwc0oTyGdFly6zd6SIw#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VPhQwc0oTyGdFly6zd6SIw#/registration)

**10/3** – 7:30 p.m. Eastern/6:30 p.m. Central. Community archeology in Ballintubber, County Roscommon, Ireland. Join in at this link: [Launch Meeting - Zoom](#). More information at [AIA Event Listings](#).

**10/4** – 7 p.m. Eastern/6 p.m. Central. Magellan's Pacific Crossing: New Discoveries in One of the World's Greatest Voyages. <https://ucf.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYscuigqjMpE90xOUbOBE8XIIf2tOkhOCWuR>.

**10/19** – 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. BST Time Zone. ArchTalk online symposium; <https://forms.gle/BBrCQaba9zBABvx77>.

**10/20** – 10 a.m. Lecture about the intersection of science, archaeology, and anthropology.

Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_GwcLqYTgTc-3mWwipI9yg#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GwcLqYTgTc-3mWwipI9yg#/registration).

**10/24** – 6 p.m. MST/7 p.m. Central. Archaeology of the Oyo Empire (West Africa): Chivalry, Colonies, and Household Politics in the Early Modern Period. Register at: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#).

**10/30** – 12:30 Eastern/11:30 Central. When Informants Become Knowledge Producers: Rethinking Great Zimbabwe. [Rethinking Great Zimbabwe-AIA-Washington, DC Society, Howard University \(archaeological.org\)](#).

##### **Engelhardt-Moore Lecture Series**

More information at the E-MLS website: <https://engelhardtmooresite.com/lecture-series>.

##### **Friends of the Texas Historical Commission**

**10/17** – 6 p.m. We've Been Working on the Railroad! Stories of women who worked in this field in Texas. Register at [Friends of the Texas Historical Commission \(neoncrm.com\)](#).

##### **Houston Heritage Society**

**10/2** – 7 p.m. Facebook live from the Heritage Society with Mr. McKinney discussing vintage Houston matchbooks.

##### **Shumla Archaeological Research & Education**

**10/16** – Noon. Lunch and Learn, Composition and Marking Making in Lower Pecos Art presented by Ashley Busby, MFA. Register at [Lunch and Learn - Shumla](#).

##### **Smithsonian Institution**

A current calendar of Smithsonian virtual lectures presented for modest fees may be found at: [Events | Smithsonian](#).

#### **ON-SITE:**

Searchable websites listing upcoming events in Texas: [State Park Events — Texas Parks & Wildlife Department](#); [Upcoming Events | Texas Historical Commission](#); <https://texashighways.com/events/>

##### **Archaeology Now/AIA Houston**

**10/1** – Tuesday, 6:30/7 p.m. Learn about the extraordinary story of Notre-Dame in a journey that takes you from Roman temple to the fire-damaged cathedral's rebirth. Medieval-style refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Hudspeth Auditorium, Rice University. The first in a series about the Parisian cathedral and gothic architecture and culture. Further information at [Archaeology Now Houston](#).



**Barrington Plantation State Historic Site**

**10/19 and 10/20**— Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cooking in the Kitchen & Quarter. Enjoy the sights, sounds, and smells of a hearth cooked meal being prepared.

**Brazos Valley Museum, Bryan**

**10/12** – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Texas Heritage Festival and Boonville Days Church Wagon Lunch. Join the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History for the 19th annual Boonville Days: Texas Heritage Festival. Buffalo Stampede Half Marathon & 5K Race at 7:30 a.m. followed by fun activities highlighting Texas history. More information at Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History.

**Bryan Museum, Galveston**

**10/3** – Thursday, 4 – 7 p.m. First Thursdays. During evenings on the first Thursday of each month enjoy a curated selection of wines and music by local talent in the sculpture garden patio.

**10/5** – Saturday, 11 a.m. First Saturday of each month, special Orphanage Tour. From 1895 – 1984, the building at 1315 21<sup>st</sup> Street was home to the Galveston Orphans' Home. Learn about the history of the home and the architecture of this historic building in a special tour that will take you through the building and grounds. Fee, \$10 and up.

**10/10** – Thursday, 4:30. A Toast to Texas Lithographs. 5:30 p.m. Texas Lithographs Lecture.

**10/17** – Thursday, 2 p.m. Book Club at The Bryan.

**10/17** – Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Texas History 101: The Campaigns of 1835.

**10/19** – Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Art Untamed.

**10/27** – Sunday, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Halloween Spooktacular.

**Discovery Green**

**10/14** – Monday, Noon – 1 p.m. Enjoy a lunchtime performance in celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day. The event will open with a land acknowledgement presented by Abuela M'api Rainflowa, founder of Calmecac Indigenous Organization (CIO). Performance by CIO traditional dancers and drummers; discoverygreen.com.

**Fanthorpe Inn State Historic Site**

**10/5** – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fanthorpe Inn's 37th Anniversary Celebration & Stagecoach Ride. Living history event including stagecoach rides.

**10/25** – Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Memento Mori: Fanthorpe Funeral Practices.

**Galveston Island State Park**

**10/12** – 10 a.m. Through the Ages: First Contact. Follow the stories of the people and events that shaped the island. 11:30 a.m.

Through the Ages: Maritime Navigation. Embark on an interactive journey through maritime history with our hands-on navigation workshop.

**Goliad State Park & Historic Site**

**Every Saturday and Sunday** morning at 10 a.m., enjoy a guided history tour of Mission Espiritu Santo as you learn about life in and around the mission during the Spanish Colonial Era; Mission History Tour.

**Houston Heritage Society**

**10/3** - 6 – 8 p.m. Beaumont's Black History in Moving Pictures, a screening a discussion presented by Gordon S. Williams of Lamar University.

**Through 11/9** - Agatha Babino's Story: A Narrative of the Formerly Enslaved.

**Kreische Brewery and Monument Hill State Historic Sites**

**10/12** – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Archeology Day at Kreische Brewery.

**10/12** – Saturday, 6 – 9 p.m. Memories of Monument Hill: A Lantern-Led Theatrical Experience

**Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site**

**10/12** – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Brickmaking Workshop & History Presentation. Join the Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site to celebrate Texas Archeology Month with a brickmaking workshop and history presentation

**10/12** – Saturday, 2 p.m. Guided Tour. Come out to the Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site for a guided tour with site staff. Tour begins promptly at 2 p.m.

**10/24** – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Learning Lounge: Educators' Library. Entry is free to access the onsite research and book collection, questions encouraged, and refreshments provided.

**Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria**

**10/12** – Opening of new permanent exhibit, La Misión. Participate in grand opening activities of La Misión, the first component of the permanent exhibit, Where Texas Ranching Began, which shares the history of the Coastal Bend's ranching heritage from 1721 - 1920. The exhibit will open incrementally in four parts over the next two years.

**10/18 and 10/19** - 1824: A Victoria Origin Story. Historical reenactment event in Riverside Park.

**10/19**, 11 a.m. – Noon. Hands-on History: Pinch Pots. Learn the coil method to create clay pots. Free admission; supplies are limited.

**10/24**, 5:30 p.m. - John W. Stormont Lecture: Espiritu Santo de Zuniga—A Frontier Mission in South Texas. Tamra Walter discusses archaeological investigations at early Spanish missions located in today's Victoria County, Texas, and the roots of Texas ranching.

**10/25**, 6 p.m. Lecture: Presidio Soldiers or Soldados Flecheros? New Interpretations of Daily Life at the 1721-1726 Site of Presidio La Bahía de Zuniga, Victoria County. Brad Jones discusses the complex interplay of identity, class, and practice as presidio inhabitants adapted to living on the Spanish frontier.

**Presidio la Bahía, Goliad**

**10/5** – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Meet a Texas Revolution Reenactor.

**10/19** – Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Military History Timeline of Presidio La Bahia: 1749-1861. Nine different flags have flown over the presidio in just over 100 years. Join living historians representing these nine countries and cultures with demonstrations and displays throughout the plaza.

**Rosenberg Library, Galveston**

**10/26** – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Galveston Navy Week booth.

**San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site**

**10/5** – Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Chinking & Daubing of outdoor log buildings.

**10/12** – Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Demonstrations and hands-on activities focusing on the skills traditionally tackled by women 200 years ago.

**10/12** – Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Birds, Bees, and Trees with Texas Master Naturalists Gideon Lincecum Chapter

**10/27** – Sunday, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. San Felipe Nature Walk in the Footsteps of Stephen F. Austin with the Gideon Lincecum Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists.

**10/30** – Wednesday, 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. History At Night: San Felipe Cemetery Tour; explore the rich lives that once lived here.

**San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site**

**10/5** – Saturday, 7 a.m. – 9 a.m. Bird Watching at the Battleground. From the 1,210-foot-long marsh trail and boardwalk, visitors will spot coastal birds like the red-winged blackbird, roseate spoonbill, wood stork, mottled duck, osprey, and white pelican, as well as other wetland denizens such as the river otter.

**10/5** – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. San Jacinto Family Day: Dirt Detectives. Activity with images of real artifacts found during archaeological excavations at the San Jacinto Battleground.

**10/9** – Wednesday, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Arms Demonstration. Battleground staff demonstrate how to fire a musket and rifle, weapons both the Mexican and Texian armies utilized on the fateful day that won Texan independence.

**10/12** - Cycling Saturdays. Grounds open early for bicyclists with no motorized vehicles, 7-9 a.m. Spinning and Weaving. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Demonstrations by the Bay Area Weavers and Spinners.

**10/19** – Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. San Jacinto Fall Fandango. Explore life and festivities on the Texas frontier.

**10/17** – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Archeology Touch Table.

**10/20** – Sunday Noon - 3 p.m. Picture Yourself at San Jacinto.

**10/30** – Wednesday, 1 – 2:30 a.m. Cannon firing demonstrations every half hour. Boom: Cannon Demonstration.

**Texas Archeological Society**

**10/25-10/27** – Annual Meeting in Victoria, Texas. Texas Archeological Society - 2024 Program Information (txarch.org).

**Texas Energy Science Museum, Beaumont**

**10/19** – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Dinosaur Day. Texas Energy Museum.

**Varner-Hogg State Historic Site**

**10/5** - Saturday, 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Hogtoberfest, a celebration of German heritage in Texas with food, beer, live music, games, and a vendor market. Please see the Facebook page for more information.

**10/12** – Saturday, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Guided Tours. Come out to the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site for a guided tour with site staff . Tours begin promptly at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

**10/24** – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Learning Lounge: Educators' Library. Entry is free to access the onsite research and book collection, questions encouraged, and refreshments provided.

**10/26** – Saturday, 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Ghosts Along the Brazos. Take an eerie stroll around the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site and listen to tales of the area's ghostly heritage.

**Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site**

**10/19 and 10/20** – Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Building the Town of Washington: A Trades Program, interactive trades program showing the different trades of 1830-1850.



Oktoberfest postcard, 1896. Source: [This Day In History: What Happened On October 12th \(allthatsinteresting.com\)](https://www.allthatsinteresting.com/oktoberfest)



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

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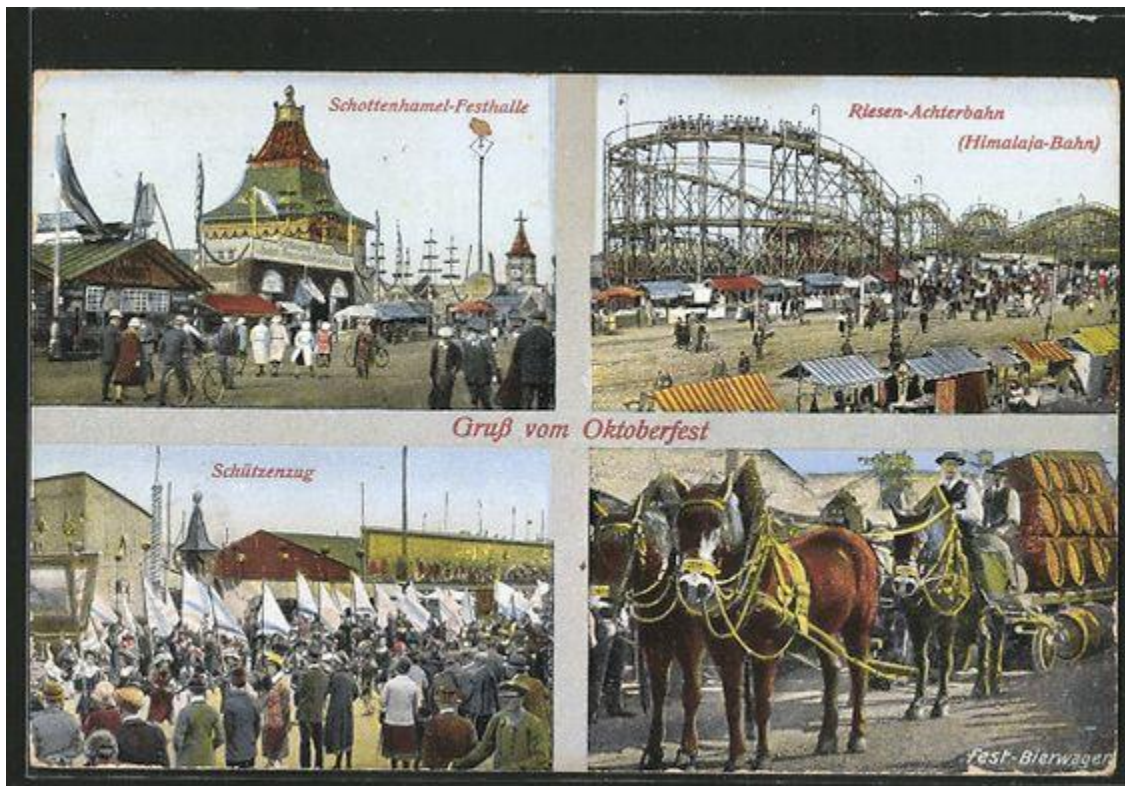
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Oktoberfest postcard, 1933. Source: [ansichtskartenversand.com](http://ansichtskartenversand.com) | 3320020 (pinterest.com).