



**Houston Archeological Society Meeting, Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center**

Featuring August Costa, PhD, discussing “Geochemical Fingerprinting and Sourcing of Ancient Texas Copper”

Hello HAS members,

The September meeting of the Houston Archeological Society takes place on Thursday, September 19, 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. September’s gathering includes our HAS annual meeting and the results of the election of board members.

Following the business meeting, HAS member Gus Costa, PhD, will discuss **"Fingerprinting and Sourcing of Ancient Texas Copper"**. The zoom link for the meeting will be sent to currently registered members as we get closer to the meeting date.

Artifacts fashioned from native copper are scarcely encountered in the prehistoric archaeological record in Texas. No native copper sources are found within or near Texas. Consequently, the trade implications of native copper finds in Texas are significant. Trace element compositions of native coppers can be distinct enabling fingerprinting studies to locate the possible origins (provenance) of these materials and better illuminate ancient exchange networks. To date, no detailed geochemical appraisals of native copper have been done. This study examined eight copper artifacts from six prehistoric sites in Texas, using Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Mass Spectrometry. Trace element results were examined and compared to known native copper sources. A discriminate function analysis shows that all known native copper found in Texas likely derives from well-known sources in northern Michigan, implying that these materials were transported over 1,000 miles in the past.



For your reference, our future speakers to close out the year are the following. October’s speaker will be archeologist Dr. David Brown, with whom we have collaborated at Kirbee Kiln in Montgomery County. Brown also works elsewhere on excavations in Texas and Ecuador; his topic will be one of those areas. In November, Dr. Jerod Roberts from Comstock will discuss the rock art morphological figures that Shumla Archaeological Research and Education Center is documenting in the lower Pecos River area. December brings our Christmas Party and recap for the year. HAS President Bob Sewell will update the members about our Society’s work at Lone Oak, Goloby, and Walnut Tree Hill sites, and recent lab work.

We hope you will all join us for this fascinating presentation on Thursday, September 19. 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.

See you in the field! Frank Kozar, HAS Vice President

President's Message – Bob Sewell



HAS Members and Friends –

It's that time of year again! On Thursday, September 19th, 2024, at 6:45 p.m. we will hold our Houston Archeological Society Annual General Meeting and election of officers for 2024-2025.

If you were at the August meeting, you heard HAS Board Member Geoff Mills speak on behalf of the nominating committee, which also includes Beth Kennedy and Dr. Sarah Chesney. Geoff introduced the nominees for the 2024-2025 Board.

The nominees are:

Bob Sewell – President
Frank Kozar – Vice President
Noah Newland – Secretary
Louis Hebert – Treasurer
Allison Bohn – Director-at-Large (three-year term)

Please note that we have two Directors-at-Large who are completing three-year terms, Geoff Mills and Eleanor Stoddart.

I am especially pleased that the existing Board members have agreed to stand for the 2024-2025 season, and I am also proud that the Nominating Committee members have confidence in nominating us.

All members who were on the membership record for the August meeting should have received an email regarding the voting process. Many of you have responded, but if you have not then there is still time. So, make your voice heard.

But that's not all..... in the past this is the time we have presented awards to Society members who have gone above and beyond in 2024, and a couple of members will be honored this year. A good turnout at this meeting will ensure that these special folks get the attention and kudos they deserve from all of you.



And finally, our excavation projects are ongoing. Several folks have been working at the Walnut Tree Hill site near Alleyton and we may have come across a feature during the shovel testing that needs further investigation. So, during our next visits we will probably open this shovel test pit out into a full unit. Watch out for emails on this.

~ Bob Sewell, HAS President

Noah Newlin and Bob Sewell working
at the Alleyton Walnut Tree Hill site.

Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Minutes – August 15, 2024

Welcome - Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. – Bob Sewell, President. Welcome to all. This meeting was held virtually, with attendees joining via ZOOM.

Membership & Treasurer's Report – Louis Hebert, Treasurer. Finances are in good shape. Membership stands at 168 members. Anybody who is interested in joining is encouraged to fill out the membership form, which can be found on the Membership page at txhas.org.

Newsletter – Betsy Wittenmyer, Newsletter Editor. Many thanks to those who have contributed articles to the newsletter. Members are encouraged to share articles or photos for the August and September newsletters. These can be related to any relevant topics including projects, research, classes or academies, historical and educational trips, or any other interesting experiences that you'd like to share.

Announcements – Bob Sewell, President.

- **HAS Annual Meeting** – This year's HAS Annual Meeting will be held on September 19, 2024.
- **HAS Elections** – Geoff Mills (Chair), Beth Kennedy, and Dr. Sarah Chesney are serving as the nominating committee for the election of directors. Following the presentation of nominations to the membership during this (August) meeting, an email notice will be sent out to all members, with the deadline for response being the day before the September meeting. Acceptance of nominations will be by email. At the September meeting, which is also the HAS Annual Meeting, accepted nominations will be announced, and the new board will be introduced.
- **Proposed Slate of Board 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 three-year term as Director-at-Large. Geoff Mills and Eleanor Stoddart's terms as Directors-at-Large are not yet expired, with two years and one year remaining respectively.
- **95th Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting** – The details and registration for the 95th TAS Annual Meeting are available on the TAS website. The Annual Meeting takes place October 25 – 27, 2024, in Victoria, Texas.

Projects – Bob Sewell, President. Many HAS projects have been paused as we wait for the sites to dry out.

- **Goloby Site** (41WL3) – This project is still active, although storms have paused excavations for the time being. There are tall weeds that need to be mowed.
- **Alleyton** – A new project; shovel testing has commenced at this site. The site contains both prehistoric (Walnut Tree Hill) and historic (Tannery Creek) aspects. Members may keep an eye out for invitations to further activities at this site; a visit is planned for this coming weekend, Saturday August 17th. During recent shovel testing, interesting findings include fire cracked rocks, pottery, and a cluster of rocks that may resemble a hearth.
- **Lab Work** – Dr. Sarah Chesney has been kindly allowing HAS members to make use of the Josey Store building at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site to clean and sort artifacts from various projects. The work on artifacts from the Lone Oak 2023/2024 excavation has been completed and the artifacts returned to the landowner. We are almost done working through the artifacts from the Goloby site.

Outreach – Bob Sewell, President. HAS recently worked with the Coastal Prairie Master Naturalists at the Houston Museum of Natural Science - Sugar Land on August 10, 2024, and we will be returning on Saturday, August 24. A presentation to Cub Scout Den 525 at Rummel Creek Elementary School will take place on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Bob will be presenting and needs a few volunteers to help out with show-and-tell. Volunteers are needed at the Native American Festival taking place at Jesse Jones Park on Saturday, September 14, 2024. TBD - an event at Bendwood Elementary School. Any members willing to help with presentations at outreach events are encouraged to let us know. We will train you as needed.

September 2024 Meeting – Our speaker next month will be August Costa, PhD., discussing excavations at the Nighthawk Bison Jump in Caprock Canyons State Park.

Tonight's program features Mike McBride, who will be discussing his work at the Pine Ridge Project in Belize.

The business meeting was concluded at 6:53 p.m.

Noah Newland, HAS Secretary

Register Now for the Ninety-Fifth TAS Annual Meeting ~ Victoria, Texas ~ October 25-27, 2024

*Featuring Speakers Brad Jones, THC Archeology Division
Leland Bement, PhD, University of Oklahoma
Harry J. Shafer, PhD, Curator of Archaeology at the Witte Museum in San Antonio
and Professor Emeritus at Texas A&M University
and Guided Tours of McNeill Ranch (41VT141) and Mission Espíritu Santo (41VT11)*



It's time to register for the upcoming TAS Annual Meeting. You won't want to miss it!

The 95th Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting takes place October 25-27, 2024, in Victoria, Texas, at the Victoria College Emerging Technology Complex. Please note that meal options for the Friday luncheon with Harry Shafer and the Saturday evening awards banquet with Leland Bement are available via the online registration.

For current information see:

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

Registration at:

<https://www.txarch.org/event-5785828>

The deadline for submitting abstracts for papers, symposia, and posters is September 15. More information at: <https://www.txarch.org/AM-Papers>.

Silent Auction and Book Sale

Donate to the Silent Auction and Book Sale! Clear out your jewelry box, library, attic, garage, or storage unit and benefit TAS by donating items to the Silent Auction. We especially welcome jewelry, vintage items, arts and crafts, books of all types, gift baskets, field kits, bed and breakfast getaways, and anything else that you think a fellow TAS member would enjoy. We know that many of you are artistic in a variety of media, so show off your talents by donating a creation or two to the auction.

Remember that 100% of the auction proceeds support the important activities of TAS. And during the Annual Meeting events, be sure to make regular visits to the Silent Auction room to ensure that you aren't outbid by your TAS friends! And don't forget about the popular TAS Annual Meeting Book Sale! Donate your already-read books on archeology, anthropology, other sciences, or general reading topics and we will price them and sell them with all proceeds going to TAS. Silent Auction and Book Sale donors are asked to drop off items early Friday morning if arrangements are not made for an earlier delivery.

For more information on the Silent Auction and Book Sale, contact Frank Condon at fp.condron@sbcglobal.net or frank.condron@victoriacollege.edu.

Volunteers are needed for the Registration Desk, the Silent Auction (8 two-hour shifts), and as timers in classrooms during presentations (8 four-hour shifts). Come join our team! Contact Frank Condon at fp.condron@sbcglobal.net.

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



News from the Gault School of Archaeological Research



The Bob Bullock State History Museum in Austin recently added a permanent exhibit featuring incised stone artifacts from the Gault site. These stones are deliberately altered with controlled, emblematic, and symbolic cut marks. These cut marks demonstrate precision, often appearing as double parallel lines, cross-hatched patterns, and zigzags. Some of the stones have less geometric designs, leaning towards representational art.

Over several decades, incised stones have been carefully unearthed at the Gault site, discovered both on the surface and in controlled excavations. These artifacts date back to the earliest Paleoindian contexts, covering the Clovis interval (13,400 – 12,800 years ago), and reaching into deeper deposits predating Clovis by several millennia (20,000 – 16,000 years ago). Notably, these incised stones represent the oldest known art in the Americas at this point in history. Respected GSAR researchers, Dr. Ashley Lemke and Dr. Clark Wernecke, provided a comprehensive summary of these discoveries in an article published in *American Antiquity* in 2015 (Lemke & Wernecke 2015).



The Bullock collection also includes this projectile point from the Gault site, although it is not currently on display: [American Indian Projectile Point | Bullock Texas State History Museum \(thehistoryoftexas.com\)](https://www.thehistoryoftexas.com/american-indian-projectile-point-bullock-texas-state-history-museum).

Learn more at [Gault School of Archaeological Research – Ancient Art Comes Home!](https://www.gaultschool.org/post/gault-display-at-the-bullock-texas-state-history-museum):

[Projectile Point | Bullock Texas State History Museum; https://www.gaultschool.org/post/gault-display-at-the-bullock-texas-state-history-museum;](https://www.gaultschool.org/post/gault-display-at-the-bullock-texas-state-history-museum)

[Early Art in North America: Clovis and later Paleoindian incised artifacts from the Gault Site, Texas \(41BL323\) | Lemke and Wernecke - Academia.edu.](https://www.gaultschool.org/post/gault-display-at-the-bullock-texas-state-history-museum)

Adapted and reprinted with permission from the Gault School of Archaeological Research.



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.

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



Catching Up with Emma in Yorkshire, England



We sure miss our former HAS Secretary and board member, Emma Matthey, but she provided this update about her family's recent relocation to the U.K.

Emma, you are as upbeat and active as ever—we wish you and your family the very best, and we hope you will continue to contribute to The Profile and keep us posted on your historical and archeological adventures!

Flag of the County of York, the Country of England, and the United Kingdom. Source: [Flag of the County of Yorkshire: https://aaflags.co.uk/](https://aaflags.co.uk/).

I have been crazy busy with house-hunting, family commitments, and a little archeological fun in the form of the International Medieval Congress held at the University of Leeds which was held in early July. It's been such a long time since I've been in an academic environment that I'd forgotten just how exciting it is to be in the thick of it. I took part in an underside couching (an embroidery technique; [Underside couching/StitchBank](#)) master class, learning a medieval embroidery stitch, which is much harder than it looks. I crammed in as many presentations as I could, which brought thoughts of going back to school!

I've joined two archeological societies, one of which does field work, and we are preparing for a dig at Temple Newsam, a Jacobean house with gardens and a working farm. I've also made a day trip to the Gladstone Pottery Museum. This is located in Stoke-on-Trent, an area that is the possible origin of some of the Arroyo Dulce ceramics.



Above right: Detail of the head of King Solomon from the Tree of Jesse orphrey, embroidered with silver-gilt thread and colored silks in underside couching, split and tent stitch with raised, laid and couched work on linen, c. 1320-35, England. Musée des Tissus, Lyons. Source: [A stitch in time: masterpieces of English medieval embroidery](#).

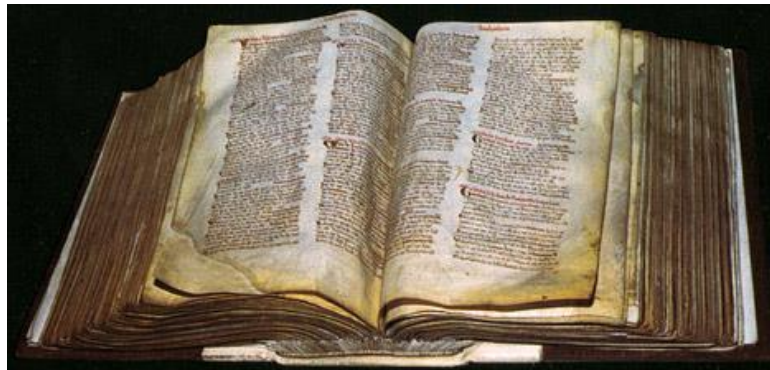
Center left: At the Gladstone Pottery Museum, a display of cups carefully packed into a sagger, which allowed many items to be fired at once and protected them from damage in the bottle oven during firing. Larger items were packed into special shaped saggars containing just one object.

Center middle: Multiple saggars were stacked in the oven for firing.

Center right: Heat was provided by constantly tended fires. Wood and coal was fed through openings situated all around the base of the oven. The outer wall provided insulation. Photographs by Emma Matthey.

Bottom left: The Gladstone pottery site kilns, Source: stokemuseums.org.uk.

The more domestic side of life has mostly involved selling our home in Houston and house-hunting here. We have found a place in Acaster Malbis near the River Ouse about five miles south of York. Rich in history, the village appears in the Domesday Book (1086-1087) ([Acaster/Domesday Book](#); [Acaster Malbis Parish](#); [South Ainsty Archaeological Society](#)). LiDAR has revealed a medieval ridge and furrows in several locations—including the garden of this property! So, fingers crossed that the searches and survey don't reveal anything to halt our purchase. Our family recently toured Bletchley Park, which was very interesting and included the unexpected bonus of a 1940s weekend with people in period dress, and we've made multiple trips to the Tower of London, a favorite. We've been renting a drafty, north-facing Victorian semi-detached villa—which feels very cold after Texas! Apparently, we have had a heat wave this week, but I've been wearing a cardigan!



The Great Domesday Book, UK National Archives. Sources: [Discover Domesday \(nationalarchives.gov.uk\)](#), [Great Domesday Book \(Illustration\) - World History Encyclopedia](#).

~ Emma Matthey

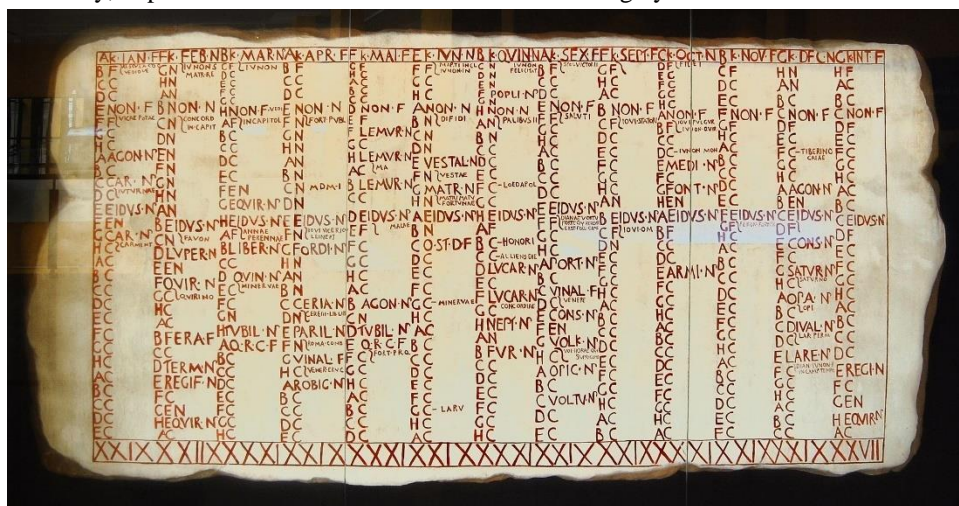


From the HAS Archives



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 September of 2006, continuing the late Fred Kelly's lessons about the names of months ([2006 September Profile.pdf](#); [txhas.org](#)).

September is the ninth month of the year according to the Gregorian calendar, which is used in almost the entire world today. Derived from the Latin *septem* (seven), September was the seventh month of the old Roman calendar when counted from March, which commenced the year previous to the addition of January and February by the ruler Numa Pompilius in 713 B.C. The Julian calendar was implemented by Julius Caesar (63 BC–14 A.D.) in 46 B.C. The emperor Caligula (12-41 A.D) renamed September “Germanicus,” but the change did not survive his death. For the ancient Romans, September was the time to harvest crops and face the expiration of the growing season, which was correlated to losses in their personal lives. In modern times, the British ended their use of the Julian calendar on September 2, 1752, switching instead to the Gregorian calendar. This required a significant rectification in that Wednesday, September 2, was followed by Thursday, September 14. The correction resulted in rioting by citizens who felt cheated and demanded the missing eleven days back.



~ Fred Kelly and Sara Guillote

Reconstruction of the Anzio Calendar (Fasti Antiates Maiores, c. 84-55 B.C.). The original, now located in the [Palazzo Massimo alle Terme](#) in Rome, predates the reform of Julius Caesar. The reconstruction is extrapolated from 300 fragments of a painted wall calendar found in 1915 at Anzio (ancient Antium). Bauglir, 2016. [wikimedia.org](#)

Sources: [Give Us Our Eleven Days | The English Calendar Riots of 1752 \(historic-uk.com\)](#); [Anzio](#). Vallo Volscio: Vallo Italico Tirrenico.

Update on Archeology at McNeill Ranch Site (41VT141)

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.

More than five inches of rain fell on the site since our last excavation—and we were rained out a week ago! So, with the sunshine and heat, the excavation site was like a steaming jungle. Many of the team worked weed eaters and other brush-clearing tools most of the day just to knock down the weeds and open up paths to the units. In the west unit Frank, Cameron, Joe, Lori, and Emilio did not find any artifacts. In the east unit, Bill, O.C., Frank, and Emilio found a core fragment and a preform fragment. Organics including mussel shell, clay balls and bone were also found in the east unit.

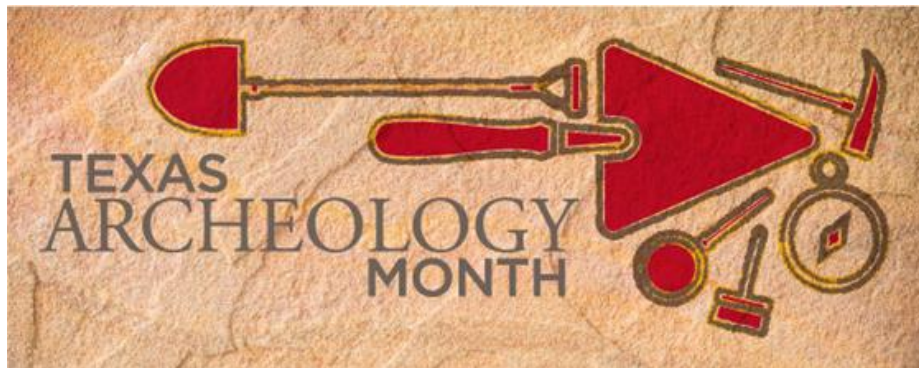
You can find CoBALT Archeology on Facebook, where you will note weekly posts about the work at the McNeill Ranch site and elsewhere. HAS members are always welcome to join us onsite or in the lab. As always, the MCB archaeology lab is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Stop by the museum's front desk to be directed 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 if you are interested in volunteering, there are many jobs to be done (many of them can be done remotely) before and during the event. If you have time and interest, please contact ocgarza@suddenlink.net or fp.condron@wbcglobal.net.

~ O. C. Garza



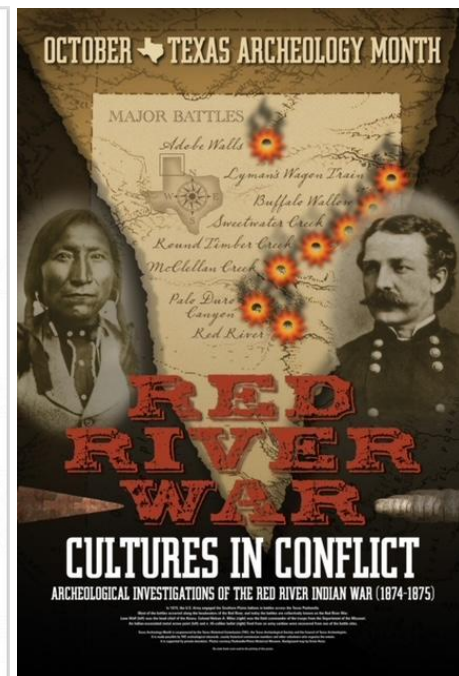
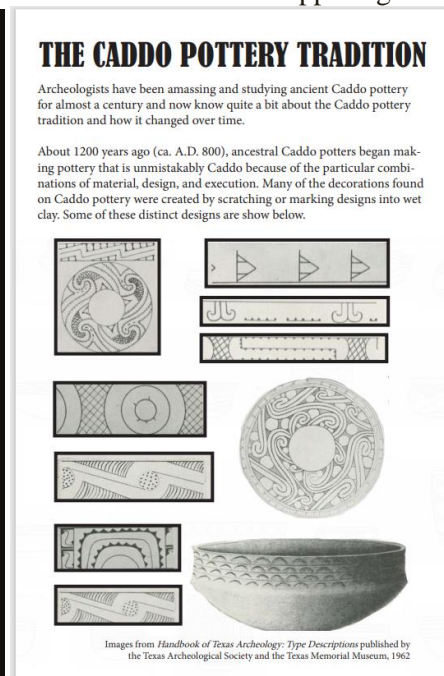
Time to Plan for Texas Archeology Month Outreach Activities!



Texas Archeology Month | Texas Historical Commission

As HAS members know, October is Archeology Month in Texas, and this exciting and busy month will soon arrive. HAS will need help in spreading the word about archeology to hundreds of folks at many locations. Be watching for updates regarding HAS commitments, and keep checking the Texas Historical Commission's websites for Archeology Month at [Texas Archeology Month Calendar](#); [Texas Archeology Month website](#); [Public Outreach Materials Order Form](#).

Texas Archeology Month activities are great opportunities for HAS member participation at museums and historic sites in our area. We set up give-away tables of posters, coloring books, and other archeology information. Teachers find our information very helpful, and we can inform them about TAS summer field school, classroom presentations, and other opportunities for educators and their students. We welcome all the help we can get! Also, spread the word about our outreach activities to family and friends. This year, the THC has 11,000 pinch pot kits available for groups to request for distribution at their events or for public outreach during October. The order form is live on the Partner Portal, so be sure to place your order today for September pickup. Additionally, the THC provides free archeology-related materials such as posters, brochures, and educational materials (examples below). The THC has developed a new archeology activity booklet called *TAMazine*, which is available for free download or as paper copies upon request through the Partner Portal. This engaging resource is perfect for event activities and public outreach. Review this website for the many resources that are FREE to individuals and groups for distribution to the public: [Archeology Public Outreach Materials | Texas Historical Commission](#). Please allow a minimum of one week for delivery. For more information call (512) 463-6096 or [email the Archeology Division](#). Make the most of the [Texas Archeology Month Partner Portal](#), the THC ultimate one-stop shop for planning Texas Archeology Month events. For access, click "Start Here" in the upper right corner and use Code *TAM* and Year 2024.



**HAS Community Outreach at the Houston Museum of Natural Science - Sugar Land
Saturday, August 10 and 24, 2024**



Photographs courtesy of Gail Larsen Peterkin

*Thank you to HAS Members
Robert Sewell, Gail Larsen Peterkin, Tom
Nuckols, Noah Newland, Kaity Ulewicz,
Adriana Cardenas, Brittany Sumner, Mike
Lamb, Jay Durel, and Sharona and Steve
Menegaz!*

September 8, 1900 – The Great Galveston Hurricane

The following photographs and text are courtesy of the Rosenberg Library History Center and Museum, through the Galveston and Texas History Center's Archives Portal.



Galveston, Texas, is located on a barrier island two miles off the upper Texas Gulf coast. Subject to extremes in weather, the city is particularly vulnerable to hurricanes in the western Gulf of Mexico. Galveston during the 1890s was a booming seaport and one of the nation's wealthiest cities. The storm of September 8, 1900, changed the city's fortunes.

The hurricane that destroyed Galveston on September 8, 1900, is the nation's deadliest natural disaster. Although its death toll will never be known precisely, the 1900 Storm claimed upwards of 8,000 lives on Galveston Island and several thousand more on the mainland. In Galveston, it destroyed 2,636 houses and left thousands more damaged. The city's property losses were estimated at \$28-30 million.

In recovering from this cataclysm, Galveston transformed itself through political and technological changes. It pioneered the commission form of local government in 1901, undertook the construction of the initial portion of the Seawall (1902-04), raised the city's grade (1904-10), and opened the new causeway (1912). These improvements meant that Galveston was much better prepared to cope with an even more severe hurricane in August 1915.

Learn more at the Rosenberg Library History Center and Museum in Galveston, either in person or at the links below.

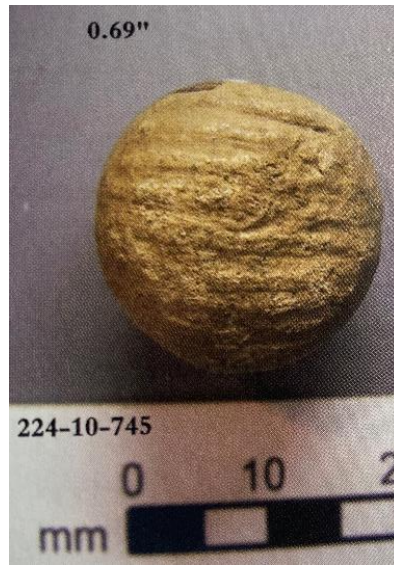


Above: Images after the 1900 Hurricane from the Rosenberg Library.
[https://www.galvestonhistorycenter.org/research/1900-storm; The Great Storm of 1900 | Rosenberg Library Museum \(rosenberg-library-museum.org\);](https://www.galvestonhistorycenter.org/research/1900-storm; The Great Storm of 1900 | Rosenberg Library Museum (rosenberg-library-museum.org);)

Left: Galveston after the hurricane of September 8, 1900.
Source: <https://ourplnt.com>.

Notes on Munitions: What Did the Musket Ball Hit?

Thomas L. Nuckols



Left: Figure 1. Artifact #MB3, a musket ball archaeologically recovered at an historic colonial site in Texas, c. 1821-1836.

Center: Figure 2. Musket ball excavated at the Monmouth Battlefield State Park, c. 1778 (Sivilich 55).

Right: Figure 3. Map of the battleground of the Battle of Monmouth, Freehold, New Jersey, by Michel Capitaine Du Chesnoy and Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, 1778. Source: Library of Congress, www.loc.gov/item/00557055/.

A fired musket ball, Artifact #MB3, archaeologically recovered at an historic colonial site in Texas (c. 1821-1836), exhibits some interesting impact impressions on a portion of its lead surface (Fig. 1). These impressions are somewhat similar to those on a musket ball recovered at the Monmouth Battlefield State Park in New Jersey.

In his book, *Musket Ball and Small Shot Identification: A Guide*, battlefield archaeologist Daniel Sivilich suggests fence rail impact in his analysis of the Monmouth musket ball, as quoted herewith:

Identifying what a musket ball hit is occasionally a matter of matching impressions in the lead surface with possible known objects that may have been the impact target. Figure 3.11 [Note: Fig. 2 in this article] is of a musket ball that appears to have hit a fence rail at the Battle of Monmouth. This musket ball was found east of the Parsonage Farm apple orchard just over the boundary with the adjoining Rhea Farm. In the last action of the battle, General Anthony Wayne and the Third Pennsylvania Regiment were pushed back into the orchard by British grenadiers and the Thirty-Third Regiment of Foot. The location where it was found suggests that this musket ball was fired at the British by a Pennsylvania soldier who was in the orchard. The impact side of the musket ball has a well-defined pattern of ridges.

The question now becomes: what did it hit? A variety of materials, such as fabric and wood, were compared to the ridges embossed in the musket ball. Coarse, aged, weathered hardwood fits the pattern well. This is consistent with the wood of a split rail fence. At present, a reproduction split rail fence is at the location where the musket ball was found. It identifies the historic boundary between the two eighteenth-century farms where this segment of the battle took place. A possible hedged fence is shown on the 1778 Capitaine map (Capitaine 1778) [Note: Figures 3 and 4 in this article]. No other structures are shown on this map where the musket ball was found. A section of this weathered locust fence rail is shown in the right photograph of the musket ball [Note: Fig. 5 in this article]. The ridges in the musket ball appear to match the grain of the wood. This

artifact tends to confirm that the partially hedged fence between the Parsonage and Rhea farms actually existed and was constructed of hardwood (probably locust) split rails (Sivilich 54, 55).

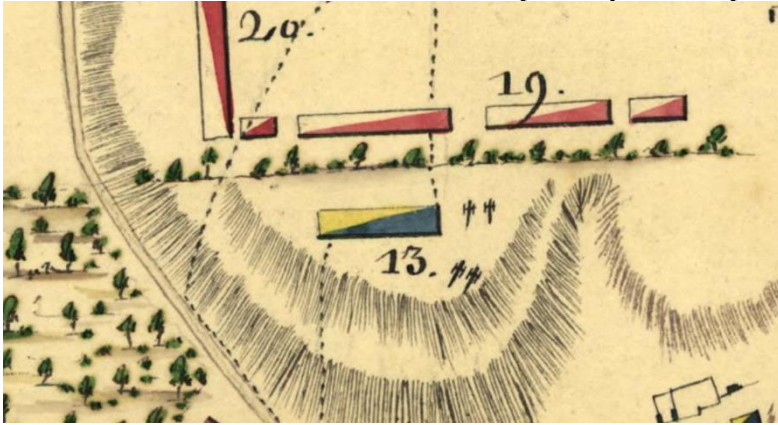
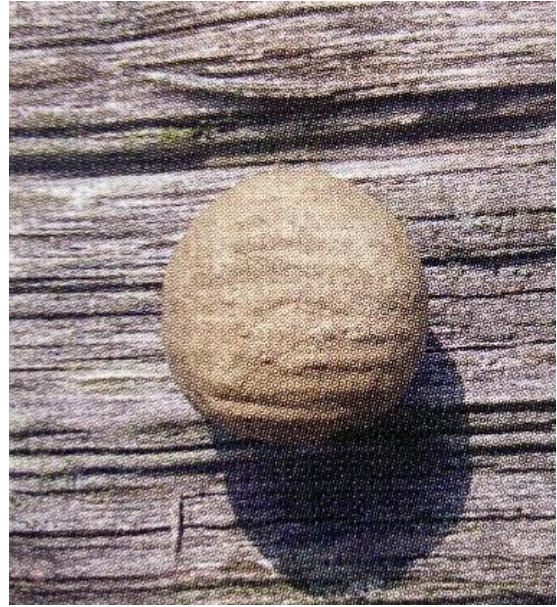


Figure 4. A detail of the Battle of Monmouth map that might depict the original hedge and fence.
 Figure 5. A section of the weathered reproduction locust fence rail in place at the Battle of Monmouth site today, with the Monmouth musket ball discussed by Daniel Sivilich. Source: Sivilich, Daniel M. *Musket Ball and Small Shot Identification: A Guide*. University of Oklahoma Press, 2016, 55.



Discussion

While there is no specific proof that the impact impressions on the surface of Artifact #MB3 from Texas are the result of striking a weathered split-rail fence, the imprints on these two musket balls make for an interesting comparison, and this theory merits consideration.

Sources:

Capitaine Du Chesnoy, Michel, and Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert Du Motier Lafayette. *Carte de l'affaire de Montmouth: ou le G'al Washington commandon l'armée américaine et le G'l Clinton l'armée anglaise le 28 juin*. [1778] Map. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <www.loc.gov/item/00557055/>.

Sivilich, Daniel M. *Musket Ball and Small Shot Identification: A Guide*. University of Oklahoma Press, 2016.

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.

Texas archeology: [Archeologists unearth wonders in cave near Marfa](https://texastimetravel.com/the-smithsonian-comes-to-texas/VirtualLearningPortal); award-winning article on Shumla, [June 2023 - Issuu](https://texastimetravel.com/the-smithsonian-comes-to-texas/VirtualLearningPortal); <https://texastimetravel.com/the-smithsonian-comes-to-texas/VirtualLearningPortal>

England: [120 archaeological sites identified through aerial lidar mapping](#); [Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered in Malmesbury](#); [New discoveries at Bodbury Ring hillfort](#); [Titanic newspaper article found in wardrobe after 112 years](#); the award winning King Richard III Museum: [About the King Richard III Visitor Centre](#)

Revolutionary War archeology: [Musket balls from "Concord Fight" found in Massachusetts](#)

WWII archeology: [Dog tag of co-pilot, Aaron Louis Brinkoeter of Texas \(d. 1944\), found at wreck site of WWII B-17](#)

Roman Civilization: [Roman settlement discovered on the Palomba-Catenanuova route](#); on-going excavations in Pompeii: [Explore the newest excavation in Pompeii](#); [Rare Roman Era Fort Found in Farmer's Field in Pembrokeshire, Wales](#)

Spain: [Archaeologists uncover preserved wooden elements from Neolithic settlement](#)

France, giant extinct dragonfly fossil: [Meganeura: The largest insect ever to exist](#)archaeology-world.com

China: [Tang dynasty mural in tomb may portray a 'Westerner' man with blond hair](#)

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.

September 19 - HAS Monthly Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Featuring August Costa, PhD., discussing Nighthawk Bison Jump in Caprock Canyons State Park.

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. 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](#).



Upcoming Events

Be sure to reconfirm details before making plans to attend.

VIRTUAL:

Archaeological Institute of America

9/25 – Wednesday, 8 p.m. Eastern/7 p.m. Central. On the Origins of Stuff presented by Chip Colwell. Archaeologist Chip Colwell, PhD, is the founding editor-in-chief of [SAPIENS](#), an online magazine about anthropological thinking, and co-host of the [SAPIENS Podcast](#). Over three million years ago, our ancient ancestors realized that rocks could be broken into sharp-edged objects for slicing meat, making the first knives. From an Italian cave with the world's first known painted art to the present, Colwell examines the human relationship with the things that both created and threaten to undo our overstuffed planet. Free, [Register Here](#).

Engelhardt-Moore Lecture Series

9/5, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Dinosaurs in the Limelight: The Impact of Prehistoric Giants on Pop Culture, presented by James E. Washington III, Scientific Educator at the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS). Explore the influence of dinosaurs on popular culture, delving into the history of paleontology, the discovery of dinosaur fossils, and how they have been interpreted and represented throughout the decades. Join the Zoom presentation at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87655268463?pwd=Ov7ZGaN8j3XP7bhntyK2jMf2sNGI86.1>.

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

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission

9/5 – Thursday, 6 p.m. life and death on the Texas Antebellum Frontier from the Red River to El Paso. Author Glen Sample Ely will speak on the story of Texas' antebellum frontier and the Butterfield Overland Mail, which carried passengers and mail west from St. Louis, across Texas, and on to San Francisco. While it operated, the transcontinental mail delivery route intersected and influenced much of Texas' frontier history. Free, register at [Friends of the Texas Historical Commission \(neoncrm.com\)](http://neoncrm.com).

Heritage Society

9/4 – Wednesday, 7 p.m. Mister McKinney of Historic Houston talks with author Lora-Marie Bernard as she shares tales of Texas. View this free online program that also highlights historical happenings at The Heritage Society on the Mister McKinney Facebook page.

Shumla Archaeological Research & Education

9/18 – Wednesday, Noon. Canyons to Classrooms, presented by Shumla's intern, Mandy Newport. Free, register at [Shumla Lunch and Learn Virtual Series: September 18, 2024 - 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/>

Archaeological Institute of America

9/14 – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mountain Time. 90th Annual Stone Age Fair, Loveland, Colorado. Lectures by Dr. Pegi Jodry and Dr. Julie Morrow, world class displays of artifacts by avocation archaeologists, flint knapping demonstrations, and much more. More information at: [https://lovelandarchaeologicalsociety.com/](http://lovelandarchaeologicalsociety.com/).

Austin Museum Day

9/22 – Sunday. Museum Day throughout the city. The Austin Museum Partnership presents the annual Austin Museum Day, a free citywide celebration of art, culture, history, music, nature, and science. More than thirty museums in the greater Austin area welcome visitors with special programming, including guided exhibition tours and hands-on activities for visitors of all ages; austinmuseums.org.

Barrington Plantation State Historic Site

9/1 – Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Corn: Field to Table

9/2 – Monday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Election 1844 at Fanthorp and Barrington. Living history activity at two Texas historical sites.

9/14 and 9/15 – 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.

9/28 and 9/29 – Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. White Gold: Cotton in Texas. Work alongside historic interpreters picking and weighing cotton from the fields.

Brazos Valley Museum, Bryan

Through October 26, 2024 – Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Steam, Smoke & Steel: Riding the Rails through Time, exhibit highlighting the captivating history of trains, including artifacts, a diorama, and model trains. Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History.

Brenham

9/14 – 21. Washington County Fair, 1305 E. Blue Bell Road. At the “Oldest County Fair in Texas,” visitors can expect shows, rodeos, music, a carnival, crafts, food, livestock, commercial exhibits, and other attractions and fun entertainment for the whole family, washingtoncofair.com.

Bryan Museum, Galveston

9/5 – Thursday, 5:30 p.m. The Sloane Historic Photograph Collection. Professional photographer Story Sloane III will share rarely seen photographs and films of Galveston and Houston. These gems documenting life from the last century are from the Sloane family private collection and are among the thousands of images that were only re-discovered in the last decade. Sloane will also share tips about how to preserve your own historical photographs. Fee, \$5 and up.

9/5 – 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.

9/7 – Saturday, 11 a.m. First Saturday of each month, special Orphanage Tour. From 1895 – 1984, the building at 1315 21st Street was home to the Galveston Orphans’ Home. Learn about the history of the home and the architecture of this historic building on a special tour that will take you through the building and grounds. Fee, \$10 and up.

9/19 – Thursday, 5:30 p.m. The museum’s history specialist, Amelia White, presents an in-depth look at topics in Texas history. Texas History 101 will kick off this fall with a three-part series on the Texas Revolution. This introductory lecture on 9/19, Part One, will explore how things in Texas got to the point of rebellion, discussing the impact of events such as the imprisonment of Stephen F. Austin, the Law of April 6, 1830, and the Anahuac Disturbances. Fees, \$5 and up. Information at Road to the Revolution.

Discovery Green

9/28 - Take Me Outdoors Houston. At Discovery Green, discover the wonders of nature starting with the animals and resources in Houston’s own backyard. Texas Parks and Wildlife invites you to get to know the great outdoors during its twelfth annual free family-oriented outdoors festival. Exhibitors provide hands-on activities, booths, and opportunities to engage audiences and inspire curiosity; discoverygreen.com.

Fanthorpe Inn State Historic Site

9/2 – Monday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Election 1844 at Fanthorp and Barrington. Living history activity at two Texas historical sites.

Fort Worth

9/26-28, Oktoberfest. Trinity Park, 2933 Farmhouse Way. This Munich-style celebration of German culture includes the best in German food, beer, carnival rides, dachshund races, bier barrel rolling, stein hoist competitions, a 5K and Fun Run, and entertainment that includes party bands on multiple stages; fortworthoktoberfest.com.

Galveston Island State Park

9/29 – Sunday, 9 a.m. Prairie Hike. Join a prairie expert to learn about the remaining 1% of coastal prairie habitat.

Giddings

9/27-28, Texas Word Wrangler Book Festival, the Giddings Public Library and Cultural Center salutes Texas authors with a two-day book festival. Visit with selected Texas authors, see their works, and purchase an autographed copy. Find a wide range of book genres; sites.google.com/site/txwordwrangler/home-texas-word-wrangler-book-festival.

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.

9/21 – 9 a.m. History of Piñatas. Now a common party activity, piñatas weren't always just fun and games. Learn the fascinating history of piñatas and their link to Spanish missions.

Houston Museum of Natural History

Various dates – King Tut’s Tomb exhibit. Mystery of the Maya interactive exhibit (Sugar Land). Wortham Giant Screen Theater – Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs; Dinosaur Discoveries. Fees, both member and non-member.

Lockhart State Park

9/21 – Saturday, 1 p.m. Ancient Spear Throwing. Learn the basics of prehistoric hunting with an atlatl. Dress for the weather and meet at the archery range.

9/25 – Wednesday, 10 a.m. Rock Identification Hike. Learn what types of rocks are common in Central Texas.

National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg

9/20-21 - Conference: The Manhattan Project: The Beginning of the Atomic Age. Prepare for engaging discussions, valuable insights, and the chance to pose intriguing questions about The Manhattan Project, a secret WWII project to develop the world's first atomic weapons before Nazi Germany; pacificwarmuseum.org/event/conference-2024.

Jefferson, Texas

9/14 – Saturday. Antique Tractor Show. Downtown Jefferson's streets are closed to traffic to accommodate antique tractors, antique trucks, Model Ts, stationary and working antique engines, antique farm machinery, and antique displays depicting blacksmithing, ice-cream making, and corn processing. There's also a swap meet; diamonddonempire.com.

Jesse H. Jones Park and Nature Center

9/14 – Saturday, 9 a.m. – Noon. Native American Heritage Day, taking place in the replica Akokisa Village. Exhibit tables will feature topics including artifacts, animal tracks and signs, medicinal and edible plants, cooking, and palmetto weaving. The Chikawa Aztec Dancers will perform at 11:30 a.m.

Kreische Brewery and Monument Hill State Historic Sites

9/14 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. Monument Hill Remembrance Day. Join us as we salute the fallen members of the Dawson and Mier Expeditions entombed and remembered at Monument Hill.

Lake Jackson Historical Society

9/7 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Jackson Plantation, open the first Saturday of every month.

9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28 – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alden B. Dow Office Museum, open Saturdays.

9/12 – Thursday, 5 - 7:00 p.m. Mix and mingle with fellow history lovers at the Lake Jackson Historical Museum.

9/19 – Thursday, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Something to Chew On, lecture and learn series on history. \$5, information and reservations at <https://www.ljhistory.org/event-details/something-to-chew-on-7>

Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site

9/14 – Saturday, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Guided Tours. Come out to the Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site for a guided tour with site staff. Tours begin promptly at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

9/26 – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Off the Shelves: Learning Lounge. Entry is free to access the onsite research and book collection, questions encouraged, and refreshments provided.

Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria

9/12 – Thursday, 5:00 p.m. Opening Reception and 6 p.m. Lecture by Steven Gonzales, Executive Director of the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association. John W. Stormont Lecture: El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail; El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Exhibit Opening.

Pedernales Falls State Park

9/27 – Friday, 10 a.m. Hiking Through History. Begin in modern history and hike down to 300-million-year-old fossils.

9/28 – Saturday, 2 p.m. Prehistoric Hunting - The Atlatl.

Rosenberg

9/14 - Ride to Rosenberg Car Show. In historic downtown Rosenberg, see 150 cars dating from the early 1900s to modern times.

Music, food trucks, and more; rosenbergartsalliance.com.

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site

9/1 – Sunday, Noon – 4 p.m. Processing Fibers Part II: Spinning. Exploring the steps of turning plant fiber into a finished product.

9/2 – Monday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Special Hours: Open Labor Day Monday (Free Admission!);

Last Day To View Temporary Exhibit: Settling Austin's Colony - An Empresario Shapes Texas; Processing Fibers Part III: Textile Art (Free Admission!)

9/21 – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Scrumptious Saturdays: Making Wine. Process the ingredients needed to begin the wine-making process.

9/29 – Sunday, 2 – 2:45 p.m. San Felipe Nature Walk in the Footsteps of Stephen F. Austin, the Gideon Lindecum Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists.

San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site

9/1 – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. World Letter Writing Day. Try writing a letter with a quill and India ink.

9/6 – Friday, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Read a Book Day. Stop by the featured Read a Book Day display at the front of the monument from some staff-picked recommendations.

9/7 – 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.

9/7 – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. San Jacinto Family Day: Flags of the Texas Revolution. Discover what our six flags represent and learn about the study of vexillology.

9/11 – Wednesday, 10 – 11:30 a.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.

9/14 - Cycling Saturdays. Grounds open early for bicyclists with no motorized vehicles. Spinning and Weaving. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Demonstrations by the Bay Area Weavers and Spinners.

9/15 – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Picture Yourself at San Jacinto. Receive complimentary instant photographs in front of the historic monument and learn about its rich history.

9/19 – Thursday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Demo Day: Battle Beats. Learn about the musical instruments and people who helped the Texians prevail at the Battle of San Jacinto.

9/21 – Saturday, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. History Under the Star Lecture Series: The Texas Navy and San Jacinto with Andy Hall. Hall is a researcher, lecturer, and author focusing on the naval, maritime, and military history of the Texas coast. The victory of the Texian Army on the plain of San Jacinto in April 1836 was built on many factors, including the leadership of Sam Houston, the grim determination of his troops, and the vagaries of weather that brought the two armies together. But there was another factor that shaped the victory, one that wasn't anywhere near San Jacinto that day: the officers and crews of the Texian Navy. Ticketed event: Students free, \$3, and \$5 tickets. Tickets.

9/25 – Wednesday, 10 – 11:30 a.m. Cannon firing demonstrations every half hour. Boom: Cannon Demonstration.

Serbin

9/22 – Sunday. Texas Wendish Fest. At St. Paul's Lutheran Church Picnic Grounds, FM 2239 and CR 212, celebrate Wendish heritage and culture. Visit the historic painted church, then enjoy food, activities, and cultural demonstrations such as noodle making, sausage making, and the authentic painting of traditional Wendish Easter eggs; texaswendish.org.

Tyrell Historical Library, Beaumont

9/17 – 2 p.m. Historian and SMU professor Ted A. Campbell, Ph.D. lectures on What Happened to the Native Americans of Southeast Texas. Free, 695 Pearl Street, Beaumont, (409)833-2759.

Varner-Hogg State Historic Site

9/14 – 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.

9/26 – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Off the Shelves: Learning Lounge. Entry is free to access the onsite research and book collection, questions encouraged, and refreshments provided.

Victoria Community Center

9/22 – Sunday. Czech Heritage Festival, featuring live Czech music and dancing, traditional arts and crafts, Czech foods, a country store, and games; victoriaczechs.org.

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

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