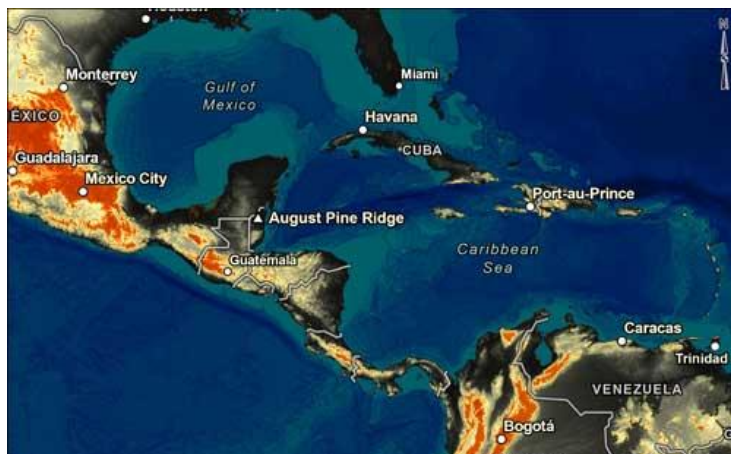




Houston Archeological Society Meeting, Thursday, August 21, 2025, 6:00 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center Update on the Pine Ridge Preceramic Project 2025 Field Season in Belize, Featuring Mike McBride



The ongoing research of the Pine Ridge Preceramic Project (PRP) continued with a three-week field season in May-June 2025. Controlled excavations and shovel testing broadened the research area with sampling data for more extensive geoarchaeological analysis. Collaborating with local workers and their private collections, dozens of new Paleoindian and Archaic Period artifacts were catalogued. Developed by Dr. Jon Lohse and Mike McBride in 2023, the project focuses on the Preceramic period at August Pine Ridge (APR) in Belize's Orange Walk District. While a couple of artifacts had been previously published, the area has been unstudied by archaeologists. The APR village is located on a sandy ridge landform that is very poorly suited for agriculture. Perhaps as a result, no permanent Maya occupations are known here. However, sand quarrying activities have unearthed an astonishing quantity and variety of artifacts representing Paleoindian and Archaic periods. Occasional stone tools and pottery fragments indicate continued

Maya visitations, likely for resource extraction. Project goals involve documenting materials that are present and understanding what these remains indicate regarding occupation histories in this region of Central America. During the 2023 and 2024 field seasons, the team recorded dozens of biface specimens representing nearly all stages of fluted point manufacture, failure, rejuvenation, and discard. Fishtail and Clovis technologies indicate cultural interactions as early as 12,000 to 13,000 years ago, ranging from South to North America. Newly documented Late Paleoindian types indicate still expansive, but shrinking, spheres of cultural influences. Also present are dozens of Early Archaic specimens representing different stages of Lowe point manufacture. Later Archaic materials possibly include large numbers of ground stone bowls, platters, mortars, and pestles, and may indicate circum-Caribbean movements. APR may be the most prolific Paleoindian site in Central America, and ongoing and future research will provide important evidence for settlement histories for Belize and Central America leading up to the appearance of settled villages around 1000 B.C.

A lifelong Texan, Mike dedicated over forty-five years to pharmacy practice and management. He is the founder of Rx Partners Pharmacy, a specialty pharmacy company with operations in San Antonio, Dallas, and Houston. He retired in 2018. Mike is a board member of the Hill Country Archeological Association in Kerrville, Texas, having served as President from 2017 to 2023. Previously, he was President and Board Chairman of the Dallas Archeological Society (2000-2005), now merged with North Texas Archeological Society. Mike is also on the Board of Directors of the Gault School for Archaeological Research. Currently, he is Principal Investigator for HCAA's Crying Woman Ranch Project in Kerr County, focusing on Paleoindian Period occupations at the site. He has previously been Principal Investigator for archaeological field projects in Dallas, Kerr, and Gillespie Counties. He is a co-developer with Dr. Jon Lohse of the Pine Ridge Preceramic Project in Northern Belize. PRPP research goals include recovery, documentation, analysis, and curation of Paleoindian and Preceramic Period artifacts, which will greatly add to evidence of the earliest human migrations in this region as well as throughout the Americas. Since 1984, McBride has been an ongoing independent researcher in Maya and Mesoamerican Studies focusing on lithic technologies, and he has published on the ethnopharmacology of psychoactive agents in ancient Mesoamerican cultures. He has collaborated in field projects in the Yucatan Peninsula, Central Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize, with research focusing on lithic technology and documentation and analysis of chert and obsidian sources in Belize, the Yucatan Peninsula, and Central Mexico. Mike lives near the beautiful Pedernales River in Fredericksburg, Texas, with his wife, Connie.



This meeting will take place in person at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, in the Spring Branch area of Houston. A Zoom link will be provided for members who wish to attend virtually. For more information about this program or about the Houston Archeological Society, please contact Bob Sewell at president@txhas.org.



President's Message – Bob Sewell



Despite the summer heat, HAS members have been busy. Members are always welcome to join us with lab work, working out in the field, and at our monthly meetings.

Laboratory Activities Started - Last month we commenced processing the artifacts that we have been accumulating from our excavation projects. We started with artifacts from the Lone Oak site. Frank Kozar kindly offered us his rear patio to set up our washing station and several of our members got to work. Apart from our most recent visit to the Lone Oak site, we have now cleaned everything from that project. The next phase is to categorize, sort, tag and bag, and record the findings in a spreadsheet. We plan on doing that at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center in one of their meeting rooms, since it is clean work. We will then start to process artifacts from the other project sites.

Center: The lab team at work; Geoff Mills, Frank Kozar, Gail Peterkin, Tracy Connell, and Annie English.
Right: Artifacts drying in the sun.



Lone Oak Site - We visited the Lone Oak site on July 19, and one of our tasks was repairing the electric fencing. Candy Scott and Jay Durel got to it straight away, successfully installing new electric wire to restore the electrical current. Concurrently, the rest of the crew continued work on the units. Sarah Prucha and Brittany Sumner came out to help us, as well as several new folks, including Cherie Telker, Rick Hendrix, and Melanie Wilson. Although during this visit we really only found debitage and a possible abrader, everyone had a great time.



Left: Rick Hendrix (seated), Cheri Telker (standing), Brittany Sumner, and Melanie Webster (kneeling).
Right: Sarah Prucha working in a unit.

Lab photographs by Bob Sewell.
Lone Oak photographs by Louis Hebert.

HAS Board of Directors Nominating Committee - September will soon be here and that means the election of the HAS Board for 2025-2026. Part of that process is the creation of a Nominating Committee. This year the committee consists of Larry Golden, Geoff Mills, and Beth Kennedy. They will be reaching out to potential candidates regarding serving on the Board. This slate will be presented at the August Monthly Meeting. Voting will take place via email/postal ballot and the result will be announced at the September Meeting. If you have any questions about the Houston Archeological Society, please email me at president@txhas.org.



Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. – Bob Sewell, President. Welcome to all attendees, including a few new members. This meeting was held both in person & virtually via Zoom.

Membership & Treasury – Louis Hebert, Treasurer. Membership stands at 156 members so far for 2025, including twelve student members. The treasury funds are looking good.

Newsletter – Betsy Wittenmyer, Newsletter Editor. Thank you to those who have contributed articles to the newsletter. We are always on the lookout for more articles or photos for upcoming newsletters. These can be related to any relevant topics including projects, excavations, research, classes or academies, historical or educational trips, or any other interesting experiences that you'd like to share – doesn't necessarily have to be Texas- or United States-related. Anyone wishing to contribute is invited to contact newsletter@txhas.org.

Nominating Committee – Bob Sewell, President. The nominating committee for the upcoming HAS board member election will consist of Larry Golden, Beth Kennedy, and Geoff Mills. The proposed slate will be announced in August, voting will be conducted via email during August and September, and the results will be announced at the HAS Annual Meeting in September.

Projects – Bob Sewell, President.

- **Lone Oak (41CD168)**
 - This site remains a great educational site for new members interested in trying their hand at excavation, as it continues to yield artifacts with every visit.
 - Our next visit to this site will be on July 19, and we plan to rewire the electric fence while we're there.
- **Goloby Site (41WL3)**
 - Our last visit to this site was June 21, and we plan to return within the next few weeks.
- **Walnut Tree Hill Site**
 - Our last visit to this site was May 17, and we plan to make another visit soon.
- Lab work has recently commenced – thank you to Vice President Frank Kozar for the use of his driveway and patio for the washing of artifacts. Further lab work – including sorting, bagging, and tagging these artifacts – will take place at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center.
- All three of our active sites have planned upcoming visits and are still consistently yielding artifacts, and we have lab activities planned as well. Members interested in participating in site visits or lab work may look out for invitations from fielddirector@txhas.org.

Recent Events – Bob Sewell, President. TAS Field School took place from June 14-21, 2025, in Milam and Robertson Counties. It consisted mostly of survey activities of Red Mountain (also known as Sugarloaf Mountain). HAS members who attended field school are encouraged to contribute something (anything from a few sentences or photos to a whole article) to our newsletter to showcase anything interesting they may find, or simply any experiences they'd like to share!

Publications Editor – We are pleased to introduce our new Publications Editor, Kevin Risley! Mr. Risley's first duty in this role will be locating individuals to write articles for a potential journal that HAS would like to publish within the next year. Members who are interested or know someone who may be interested in contributing to a journal or other publication are welcome to reach out to president@txhas.org.

Bill Moore – HAS is pleased to award a lifetime membership to Bill Moore, who is believed to be the only surviving founding member of HAS, as he was present at our very first meeting in 1959. Mr. Moore is a retired professional archeologist and was until his retirement the owner and sole proprietor of Brazos Valley Research Associates (BVRA), an archeological consulting business in Bryan, Texas. He is the author of several books, the most recent of which, entitled *Arrow Points of Texas and its Borderlands*, was published in June of this year and is now available from Texas A&M University Press.

August 2025 Monthly Meeting – Our next meeting will be held in August, both in-person and virtually, and our speaker will be Mike McBride of the Hill Country Archeological Association (HCAA).

Tonight's presentation will be conducted by Gary Pinkerton, who will be speaking about the subject matter of his latest book, *Bridles and Biscuits: Contraband Culture in Spanish East Texas* (also available from Texas A&M University Press). More information about Mr. Pinkerton's work can be found at <https://garylpinkerton.com/>.

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

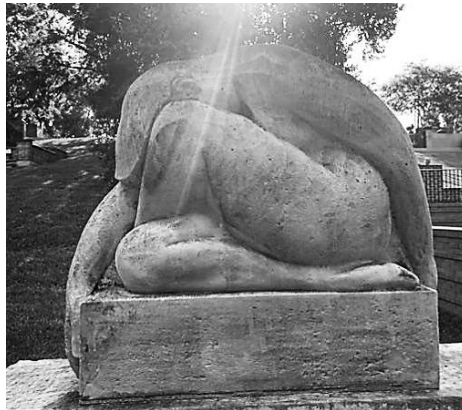
Noah Newland, HAS Secretary



Disastrous Flash Floods in Central Texas ~ Our Hearts Are Heavy



Flags are at half-staff and our hearts are heavy in the aftermath of the catastrophic flash flooding in Central Texas in July. At least 137 people have died, a great many of them children, with more victims still missing across the region. All of us have friends, colleagues, family members, and neighbors affected by this tragedy. Thousands of personnel and volunteers from across Texas, as well as from Mexico, the Czech Republic, Louisiana, and multiple states, joined the search and recovery efforts. More current information can be found at [Texas Hill Country floods | The Texas Tribune](#). At that website, readers may sign up for [The Brief](#), a daily newsletter covering the most essential Texas news, and make note of the following links: [How to help Texans affected by flooding](#); [How to get recovery assistance](#); [What to do in case of flooding](#); [How to set up emergency alerts](#); [How to get mental health support](#); [H-E-B Spirit of Giving Fund](#); [Volunteer with tcr.communityos.org](#).



Photographs by Betsy Wittenmyer.

The Houston Archeological Society sends deepest sympathy to all our members, archeology colleagues, and fellow Texans who have been impacted by this disaster. In particular, we extend heartfelt condolences to Houstonians who lost loved ones. We also express our concern and support for our friends at the Hill Country Archeological Association (HCAA) of Kerrville and the Crying Woman Ranch (41KR754), who thankfully are safe, but have suffered extensive property damage. Many of our members have worked alongside HAS friend Mike McBride and other HCAA colleagues at the Crying Woman Ranch site, which is located in western Kerr County on the North Fork of the Guadalupe River.

In memory of those who perished, this photographic montage depicts gravesite sculptures of figures in mourning and Angels of Grief in Houston's historic Glenwood Cemetery.

When Archeological Sites are in the Path of Nature's Wrath

Frank Kozar

Kerr County, in the Texas Hill Country, has been in the news recently due to the horrific flash floods on July 4, 2025, that left 137 residents and visitors dead and some still missing as of this writing. In western Kerr County, on a terrace above the normally placid North Fork of the Guadalupe River, lies the Crying Woman Ranch (CWR), home to a significant Paleoindian archaeological site, 41KR754. Since July 2018, the Hill Country Archeological Association (HCAA) has been excavating this multi-component site on private land, uncovering artifacts that span thousands of years of human history. Several members of the Houston Archeological Society have been fortunate enough to participate in excavations at CWR over the past two years at the invitation of HCAA and, hopefully, will do so again soon when the county's current crisis has passed.

A drive to CWR on picturesque FM 1340 makes you very aware of the nature of the Guadalupe River valley on the North Fork, as eight low-water crossings are traversed enroute to the site, and cell phone coverage disappears once past the town of Hunt. When a hundred-year flood strikes suddenly, people living or camping by the river have few relocation options, especially at night.



Former HCAA president Mike McBride was able to make it to the CWR site recently, via roundabout back roads, and reported minor damage to the open units from flooding; most of their equipment was salvageable, though several large pecan trees toppled onto the terrace. In addition, HCAA had to retrieve their artifact cache from the Riverside Nature Center in Kerrville, the group's meeting space and lab. The Center was flooded waist-deep, but everything HCAA owned was salvaged and HCAA members helped with clean-up at the facility.

Above left and right: Roadway to Hunt, Texas, before and after flooding, same location along FM 1340.
Below: HCAA moving salvaged artifacts into storage.



The site has yielded a diverse array of artifacts, including lithic tools, faunal remains of several animals, pottery, Idaho obsidian, and Arkansas quartz crystals. Over forty St. Mary's Hall (SMH) lithics, five Angostura points, and a Golondrina point have been recovered, with a radiocarbon-dated bison bone indicating occupation as early as 10,600 years before present, placing the site in the late Paleoindian period.

Excavations have also revealed several rock hearths, likely used for cooking plants and meat, offering evidence of Paleoindian culinary practices. These discoveries are significant, as few such features from this period have been documented in Texas archaeology. The HCAA conducts weekly fieldwork and lab recording, ensuring meticulous documentation. Their work contributes valuable data to our understanding of Central Texas' earliest inhabitants and deepens our knowledge of ancient hunter-gatherers in the region.



Above left: St. Mary's Hall point (10,500-9000 BP). Above right: Rock hearth.
Below left and right: Rock hearth before and after flooding.



Above left and right: Backhoe trench before and after the flooding.
 Below left: Clear Ford gouge.
 Below Right: Quartz lithic that is scored on both sides, possibly worn as a pendant, age unknown.
 Photographs courtesy of Mike McBride, Frank Kozar, and Geoff Mills.

References: HCAA official Facebook page and HCAA Journal, Mike McBride, [HCAA Facebook](#), [Current Fieldwork - Hill Country Archeological Association](#).

Sending heartfelt wishes to all our friends at the Hill County Archeological Association as they recover from the catastrophic floods.

Images from the June TAS Field School

The Texas Archeological Society 2025 Field School took place June 14-21 in Milam and Robertson Counties. HAS members Annie English, John Swann, Noah Newland, and Louis Hebert participated. This is always a worthwhile, remarkable experience. HAS members are encouraged to consider attending next summer!



Impressions from 2.5 days of Archeological Fun at the 2025 TAS Field School - Louis Hebert

Having recently returned from the 2025 TAS Field School, which took place at the Rancheria Grande site and the Connor Swales along the Camino Real in Milam County, I have had a chance to reflect on why it is always a memorable trip.

- meeting fellow avocational archeologists from all across Texas; be they seasoned or newbies, it is always great to chat with your fellow archeologists, reconnecting from previous field schools
- experiencing new archeological field settings as our survey team focused on the some of the swales present on the property, which are u-shaped linear depressions worn by many years of human and animal activity



- enjoying great evening lectures focused on historical and archeological themes; Steven Gonzales presented an excellent historical recap of the Camino Real de Los Tejas, while the great husband and wife duo Crankie Suite entertained us with a thirty-minute ballad recalling the history of the Camino Real, featuring electric guitar riffs and richly illustrated paper scrolls (over 150 feet in length)



Above: Henan Roessler (left) and John Kisalus (right) shovel testing an alternate swale. Left: El Camino Real de los Tejas Crankie Suite is an epic low-tech expedition across time and Texas. Brian Beattie tells the story in song while Valerie Fowler cranks the plot along in their homemade crankie box. Valerie's depictions of historic places and people in Texas meld with Brian's melodies, carrying you through history. [Camino Crankie Project](#) — Brian Beattie; [El Camino Real de los Tejas Crankie Suite sneak preview](#). Photographs by Louis Hebert.

- sights and sounds of nature as you make your way across the shovel test sites; a myriad of wildflowers surrounded us as we conducted our shovel tests, including Drummond Phlox, Indian Blanket, Whitemouth Dayflower, Spotted Horsemint, and some colorful and distinctive mushrooms

- the thrill of finding new artifacts never goes away; despite not uncovering a single artifact during our first two days of shovel testing, our survey team eventually was rewarded with the discovery of a ceramic fragment and other possible historical items



Top Left: A bin containing two historical finds discovered on the Cedar Hill Nature Preserve, Conner Property; a Spanish equestrian bridle rests underneath a lance point, which had been previously unearthed using metal detectors. Lower Right: HAS Members Annie English (center left) and John Swann (far right) are getting ready for day two of field school alongside Team Leader Alejandro Ramirez (center right) and Violet DeLuna (left). Lower left: Herman Roessler (left) and John Kisalus (right) shovel testing an alternate swale.

Photographs by Louis Hebert.

Right: A magnetometer survey is used to locate possible historical artifacts. Subsequent shovel tests at this site validated geophysical anomalies.
Below: Walking along the vestiges of the El Camino Real.



Photographs by Louis Hebert.

More Photographs from the June 2025 TAS Field School - Annie English

Here are the pictures I chose from the TAS Field School.



Photographs courtesy of Annie English.

Above left: A quick photo after my first ever shovel test pit! I was very excited and happy, even though it was a negative STP. Center: With Louis on our first day of Field School. Above right: a fork found in a metal detecting test. Below left: 1854 Seated Liberty Half Dime Coin found onsite with a metal detecting test.

Update from CoBALT Archeology, Victoria, Texas

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



Stemmed Clear Fork Tool with asphaltum, west unit

Excavation Day, June 6, 2025: Mike, Ann, Matt, and Cameron worked what is normally a very productive Archaic elevation and found a large stemmed Clear Fork tool with asphaltum residue on the haft area that was visible with the naked eye, a large crude preform that could be a Guadalupe tool preform, a broken hammerstone, and a utilized flake scraper. Organics found in the unit included deer, rat, and mussel shell. Frank, John, and Cameron continued work at the third level at our first Paleo2X unit. They found a hammerstone, as well as mussel shell and small mammal bone. In the north unit, Bill, Ann, and O.C. worked the deep Paleoindian elevation below where a possible failed Clovis flute attempt was found earlier. Mussel shell, turtle, clay balls, charcoal, several utilized flake scrapers, and a thick percussion-flaked medial were found. The medial was not part of the possible Clovis flute failure proximal from the level above this one.

Excavation Day, June 20, 2025: The rain gauge was full, and the site is turning into a jungle. There was an extensive wall fall on the north unit. A sunny, hot, and humid day greeted the excavation team. In the west unit, Mike and Roger completed Level 2 which held some very nice Archaic tools they found last week, including a stemmed Clear Fork and a Guadalupe Tool preform. They added a utilized flake scraper with a dulled edge before they completed the level. At the north unit and in a very deep Paleoindian elevation, Bill, Lori, Joe, Max, and O.C. found several interesting organic artifacts including a turtle shell thumb scraper and a tumbled bone fragment that we could not identify. They also found a utilized flake perforator with a heated and worn tip with micro flaking on both sides. In the west unit, Mike, Cameron, and Roger moved deeper to Level 3 and found two interesting organic artifacts including a turtle shell fragment plus a deer metapodials bone tool fragment with butcher marks, and a worn tip with dulled edges on each side.



Utilized Flake Perforator, north unit

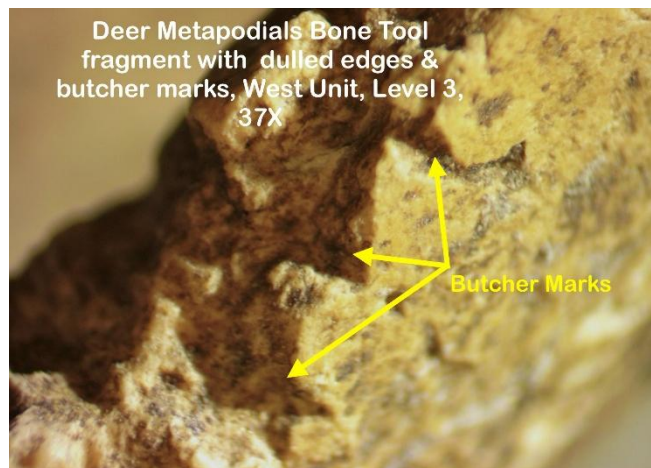


Turtle Shell Thumb Scraper, L-9, north unit

Side A



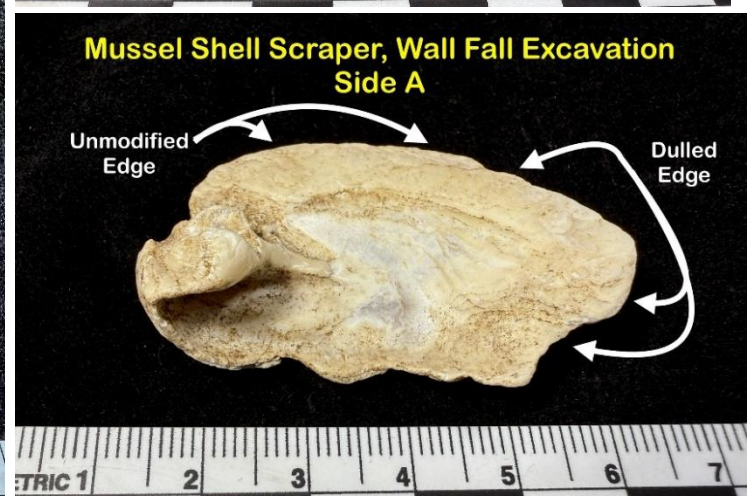
Unidentified, Tumbled Bone fragment?, L-9, north unit



Deer Metapodials Bone Tool fragment with dulled edges & butcher marks, West Unit, Level 3, 37X

Butcher Marks

Excavation Day, June 27, 2025: In the west unit, Roger, John, Emilio, and Cameron worked another productive Archaic elevation, uncovering a massive Guadalupe Tool preform, a core fragment, and a preform distal broken during manufacture. Clay balls, bone, fire cracked rock, and debitage were also discovered. In the north unit, Bill, Joe, Cameron, and O.C. worked a very deep Paleo elevation that was essentially bedrock elevation. The digging encountered more trowel-dulling rock than dirt, including a colorful variety of Texas Jasper. A few organics were found, including turtle, burnt turtle, and bone. The most interesting artifact was a small, pocket-sized abrading stone with multiple grooves found in the material screen. Bill worked some wall fall caused by the heavy rains on the east side of the site. It's a shame we lost the context on what was uncovered, because Bill found some interesting artifacts including a metate fragment, a preform failure, several utilized flake scrapers, a perforator, a mussel shell scraper, some turtle shell fragments, and a possible chert hammerstone with smoothed grip areas and a damaged tip.



Excavation Day, July 3, 2025: We performed a major clean-up of the site, and we did get a little excavating in before calling it quits. At the north unit back at Paleo1X, Bill, Roger, Cameron, Lori, and Joe started a brand-new unit and worked overburden until we shut down for the day. They found a preform only a few minutes into overburden and encountered lots of debitage, fire-cracked rock, land snails, and bone.

HAS members are always welcome to join us at the site or in the lab. The archaeology lab at the Museum of the Coastal Bend is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Stop in at the museum's front desk for directions to the lab.

~ O. C. Garza

All photographs are courtesy of O.C. Garza. Source: [CoBalt](#).



From the Texas Historical Commission

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JRI Archaeoastronomy and Celestial Geometry Conference: Understanding Ancient Astronomies

David H. Greenwald, President



The Jornada Research Institute (JRI) studies the archaeological, ethnohistoric, historic, and natural resources of the northern Chihuahuan Desert of Arizona, New Mexico, West Texas, and adjacent regions. JRI is committed to the protection and preservation of these resources, so that current and future generations may benefit from their research and educational values. JRI is represented by researchers from broad backgrounds, allowing the Institute to focus

on multi-disciplinary approaches while sharing and engaging the public through a variety of educational and training opportunities. On July 7–10, the Institute hosted the Archaeoastronomy and Celestial Geometry Conference: Understanding Ancient Astronomies. This symposium took place at the Convention Center in Ruidoso, New Mexico, yet another location that recently suffered from substantial rainfall and flooding, but the gathering was unaffected. JRI President Dave Greenwald was kind enough to provide the following report about the event as well as an upcoming project.

The conference was incredible with a great group of speakers who addressed about every avenue of astronomical associations and cultural awareness. There were several outstanding presentations, but one by Alonso Mendez (Cholan Maya from the Palenque area), whose comment about the arrival of maize in the Southwest particularly struck me. He argued that as maize was introduced to the Southwest, it domesticated the people who lived here; the people did not domesticate it. I had not thought about it that way, but he is absolutely correct. Over time, people became highly dependent upon maize, and here in Tularosa Canyon, people organized to maximize maize production through the construction of irrigation canals that were designed to drain wetlands to create extensive fields of arable soils. Eventually, they reached the absolute carrying capacity of the canyon, defined by exploiting all available water and arable lands, even building terraced agricultural fields on slopes above the floodplain and building a reservoir to supply water to the terraces. The drought of AD 820 – 900 likely caused the system to fail; we are still looking for the specific answer. After abandonment, no attempt was made to resettle or reuse the lower canyon, although the upper canyon was resettled after ca. AD 1100.

The organizational structure of the canyon's water supply resulted in the establishment of a canyon-wide administrative center represented by the largest great kiva in the canyon. It was located high on a ridge overlooking the canyon and isolated from habitation features, being large enough to seat perhaps 300 people on its encircling bench. Here, I believe they made administrative decisions relating to water allocation, scheduling water use, and assuring that each irrigation system received a fair share of water. This is supported by the evidence we have found that each irrigation system was able to deliver water to the next system through interlinked canals. Although each system had its own diversions, excess water from one system was delivered to the next one downstream. This suggests that some hierarchical form of organization existed in an otherwise egalitarian society.

The great kiva at Creekside Village served as the observatory to monitor both solar and lunar cycles, for both the ritual and agricultural cycle for the entire canyon. The eastern horizon served well as a horizon calendar to monitor specific days when planting and harvesting should occur. It also allowed the prediction of upcoming events: when to plan for rituals, prepare fields, clean canals and the reservoir, and otherwise prepare for another year of farming. Based on the ratio of maize to all other economic plants recovered from the site, Creekside Village and probably the other villages served as a major hub of agricultural production, being one of a few locations in this part of southern New Mexico/West Texas where intensive agriculture could be practiced. The canyon likely served as one of the major bread baskets of the Southwest and became a major trade area by ca. AD 700.

The next issue of American Archaeology (the magazine published by the Archaeological Conservancy) will contain an article about Creekside Village and Tularosa Canyon. I just finished editing the article today. We conduct excavation at Creekside Village from about early November through May each year and then we move to a site in Ruidoso, which will be my next focus. It's a huge pueblo, unrecorded until 2022 when we started testing it. It has at least seven room blocks of perhaps thirty to seventy rooms in each two-story structure, and dates from AD 1200 – 1400, when it was raided and destroyed by fire. The question is, who did it? Plains Indians or neighbors? We are letting our excavation areas dry out following the big rain last Tuesday before getting back to work.

David Greenwald has accumulated over fifty years of archaeological experience, including academic research, cultural resource management, and independent research. He began his career as a Southwestern archaeologist in 1971, focusing on the archaeology of northern Sonora, Mexico, and joining the Arizona State University Office of Cultural Resource Management program in 1976. He developed a strong background in Hohokam archaeology while at Arizona State University and later with the Museum of Northern Arizona. He expanded his research interests to include portions of the Colorado Plateau and the upper Little Colorado River valley of eastern Arizona. In 1979, Mr. Greenwald joined the Dolores Archaeological Program for the University of Colorado, broadening his interests in Basketmaker III and Pueblo I site structure and group organization. In 1984, he returned to the Museum of Northern Arizona, focusing again on Hohokam settlement and was instrumental in defining Late Classic and Post-Classic period settlement patterns and organizational structure. He continued his interests in Hohokam and Ancestral Puebloan studies from 1989 through 1997 with investigations of sites at the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport and on several projects in the upper Little Colorado River valley. Since 2011, Mr. Greenwald has served as President and Founder of Jornada Research Institute, focusing his research interests on the settlement history of the northern Chihuahuan Desert. He has brought together researchers with the shared goals of advancing research in this extensive region's cultural and natural resources and expanding public engagement and education opportunities. Mr. Greenwald also serves as a board member of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico and has been a recent recipient of the Bice Award for volunteer services in archaeology.



HAS members can learn more about JRI's news, events, projects, local tours, conference publications, research, and the Overseas Journeys Program at: [News and Events - Jornada Research Institute](#); [JRI-Summer-2025 Newsletter.pdf](#); [Overseas Journeys - Jornada Research Institute](#); [Publications - Jornada Research Institute](#); [David Greenwald Archaeology Research](#); [tularosa-canyon-update-4-2020.pdf](#).



Early Release Book Reviews ~ From the American Journal of Archaeology AJA E-Update

New [open access AJA book reviews](#) are now available. Early release versions of book reviews are available in PDF format, and the final versions with page numbers will be available in both PDF and HTML. You can find early release book reviews under the "Ahead of Print Book Reviews" tab at journals.uchicago.edu/toc/aja/0/0. For information about becoming a book reviewer, please contact Book Reviews Editor [Lisa R. Brody](#). Sign up for the AJA e-Update at ajaonline.org/#eupdate.

Taste and the Antique: The Lure of Classical Sculpture 1500–1900, by Francis Haskell and Nicholas Penny, revised and amplified by Adriano Aymonino and Eloisa Dodero, reviewed by Elizabeth Bartman.

Technology, Crafting and Artisanal Networks in the Greek and Roman World: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of Ceramics, edited by Diego Elia, Eleni Hasaki, and Marco Serino, reviewed by Elizabeth Langridge-Noti.

Recycling the Roman Villa: Material Salvage and the Medieval Circular Economy, by Beth Munro, reviewed by Alessandro Sebastiani.

Brill's Companion to Warfare in the Bronze Age Aegean, edited by Lynne Kvapil and Kim Shelton, reviewed by Guy D. Middleton.

Museum Exhibition Highlights - The AJA maintains a [list of current and upcoming exhibitions](#) about archaeology, the ancient world, and related themes. More information at [American Journal of Archaeology | Vol 129, No 3](#).



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. In several 2009 newsletters, John M. Keahey reported on memorable Texas Revolution-era cannons. In this adapted excerpt from the July issue, Keahey discusses a cannon on the grounds of the Alamo ([The Profile](#)).

For land-based artillery, the iron 18-pounder cannon used by the Texian defenders of the Alamo Texas Revolution was a giant, as it weighed two tons and measured nine feet long. Eighteen-pounder cannon were generally too heavy to be pulled where needed, such as over hills, through mud, and across rivers.

They were more commonly used on ships, whose flat decks and gun tackle made handling such heavy pieces more practical. The largest cannon used by President/General Santa Anna's Army in the Texas campaign were 12-pounders; therefore, unlike what John Wayne would have us believe in his movie about the Alamo, the largest cannon in the siege was actually used by the defenders, not the Mexican Army. This 18-pounder could be fired with solid cannon balls or langrage. It had been brought to Texas by the New Orleans Grays; a volunteer outfit organized at the Bank's Arcade coffee house on [Magazine Street](#) with hastily procured practical gray garments ([The Uniforms of the New Orleans Greys](#)). This dominating and intimidating cannon was positioned at the southwest corner of the fort. Lieutenant-Colonel William Barret "Buck" Travis (August 1, 1809 – March 6, 1836) answered the Mexican demand for surrender on the first day of the siege with a shot from this imposing weapon. It was used with greater effect against Mexican troops attacking the west side of the fort in the pre-dawn assault on March 6. While firing to the northwest, its position was captured by Mexican soldiers attacking from the south. It was then turned and fired at the Texians. Before the Mexicans evacuated San Antonio following the Texian victory at the Battle of San Jacinto, all artillery captured in the Battle of the Alamo was rendered useless. The trunnions and cascabel of the 18-pounder were smashed off. Recent research suggests the barrel may have been adapted from a smaller configuration in order to use an 18-pound cannonball. Investigations continue, and current Alamo renovation plans include a display related to the role of this significant cannon, a replica of which stands on the grounds. For more information see [18 Pounder Exhibit | The Alamo](#); [The Alamo 18-Pounder Cannon: Research To Replica | The Alamo](#); [18-pounder-report.pdf](#); [San Pedro Springs](#); [The Uniforms of the New Orleans Greys](#).



Mr. Fernando Raven photographed with what may be the historic Alamo 18-pounder cannon, c. 1899. Source: [San Pedro Springs](#).



We hope that you are staying cool . . . with refreshing swims in the pool.

[Ronald Reagan on Eureka College Swim Team](#)
[Diving from Diving Board in Eureka, Illinois,](#)
[1928-32, National Archives Identifier 75857021](#)

HAS Reference Desk



Image: Albrecht Dürer, Erasmus of Rotterdam at his desk, Engraving, 1526. The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

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.

[Denver museum finds dinosaur bone under its parking lot](#); [1,600-Year-Old Tomb of Maya King Wearing a Jade Death Mask Discovered in Belize](#); [Half-ton Roman statues and swords and latest ancient finds](#); [Lost pirate ship with treasure finally found](#); [Archaeologists Uncover Long Lost Tomb of Mayan King of Caracol](#); [Humans Came To America 7,000 Years Earlier Than Previously Thought](#); [Archaeologists digging in the mists of an African waterfall have found the world's oldest wooden structure](#); [Carnoustie dig uncovers huge timber building older than Stonehenge](#); [Excavations & Research | Historic Jamestowne](#); [Visitor finds 3.36-carat diamond at Crater of Diamonds State Park](#); [Iron age settlement found in Gloucestershire after detectorist unearths Roman swords](#); [Cotswold Archaeology - Reports Archive](#); [Ancient Inscriptions Shed New Light on Who Built Egypt's Great Pyramid](#); [Roman wicker well - 3D model by Oxford Archaeology](#); [Ancient Site Revealed in Ireland](#); [apple.com/us/podcast/great-pyramid-breaking-news](#); [Peru-lost-city-found](#); [boston-mint-threepence](#); [Neanderthal-fat-factory-germany](#); [Does-a-bit-of-africa-sit-in-deep-river/](#); [Beach stroll turns into archaeological breakthrough on Bolivar Peninsula](#); [Ancient-roman-shoes-of-exceptional-size-discovered-at-roman-fort-near-hadrians-wall](#); [The Case for Clotilda](#); [Archaeologists Discover Roman Army Camp in the Netherlands—15 Miles Beyond the Empire's Northern Border](#); [Remarkable discovery surfaces in North Carolina](#); [Why-Queen-Hatshepsuts-statues-were-destroyed-in-ancient-Egypt](#); [News - Marine Archaeologists Locate Deepest Shipwreck Recorded in French Waters](#); [Strange Canadian Rock Carvings Solved](#); [1930s 'Dragon Man' Finally Gives Elusive Ancient Human Species a Face](#); [Mick Aston Annual Lecture 2025: "Stonehenge: Old Rocks, New Theories"](#); [Massive blocks from the Lighthouse of Alexandria hauled up from the Mediterranean](#); [Rare 1,800-year-old Roman soldier's wrist purse unearthed in Czech Republic on the empire's frontier](#); [Syria's treasure hunting fever](#); [Ancient American language dies after last fluent speaker passes away](#); [History - Irish Star](#).



Upcoming Event Highlights

Be sure to reconfirm details before making plans to attend.

VIRTUAL:

Note that most events listed are free of charge but still require advance registration. Some websites listing virtual events and resources: [Texas State Historical Association Events](#); [NTAS](#); [Bullock Texas State History Museum](#); [Virtual Events-Friends of THC](#); <https://www.thestoryoftexas.com/education/educators/professional-development> (On Demand Programs); <https://www.archaeological.org/events>; [Virtual Resources | PAST Foundation](#); [Archaeology Events & Activities in Houston](#); [Eventbrite](#); [Virtual Lectures - Archaeological Conservancy](#).

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission

8/14 – Thursday, 6:00 p.m. Virtual lecture about mid-century Black architect John S. Chase. Free registration required. [Friends of the Texas Historical Commission](#).

Kent Archaeological Society

8/6 – Wednesday, 1 p.m. Central/8 p.m. UK. [How German stoneware travelled around the known world in the 16th and 17th centuries](#). An online talk by Jacqui Pearce, hosted by Orpington and District Archaeological Society. [Meetings List | Orpington and District Archaeological Society](#).

North Texas Archeological Society

8/14 – Thursday, 7 p.m. Christopher Ringstaff speaking on a GIS-based examination of prehistoric land-use in the upper Buttermilk creek lithic resource area. Guests are welcome to join all NTAS monthly meetings in-person or via Zoom; please email info@ntxas.org.

Shumla Archaeological Research & Education

8/20 – Wednesday, Noon. Lunch and Learn. Charles Koenig, PhD, presents Learning from Eagle Cave: Earth Ovens and Indigenous Lifeways in the Lower Pecos Canyonlands. [Click to Register](#).

ON-SITE:

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

[Archeology Now](#), [Houston Society of the Archaeological Institute of America](#)

8/1 – 8/2 – Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Great Restoration Adventure: Celebrating the Craftsmen of Notre-Dame exhibit at the Julia Ideson Library Exhibit Hall, 550 McKinney Street.

Brazos Valley Museum, Bryan

Through 10/25 - Rocks: Earth's Majestic Building Blocks exhibit. More information at [Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History](#).

Houston Heritage Society

8/14 – Thursday, 6:30 p.m. [History on Tap: History of Magnolia Brewing Co.](#)

8/16 – Saturday, 10 a.m. [Visit Houston Signature Experience for the Soul - From Plantation to Emancipation](#)

8/21 – Thursday, Noon. [Lunch-and-Learn Lecture: Mah Jong History](#)

8/23 – Saturday, 3 p.m. [Happy Birthday Houston with Mister McKinney with Mayor and Community Leaders](#)

8/26 – Tuesday. [UH Houston History Magazine Launch 1977 NWC and Women's Equality Day](#)

8/30 – Saturday, 10 a.m. [Visit Houston Signature Experience for the Soul - From Plantation to Emancipation](#)

Houston Museum of Fine Arts (MFAH)

8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30 – Saturday docent-led tours, Art of the Indigenous Americas exhibit; <https://www.mfah.org/calendar>.

Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site

8/2 – Saturday, Noon – 2 p.m. [Lunch with an Educator: Rice, a Southern Cash Crop](#). The roots of Southern cooking can be found in African tradition. Discover the fascinating culinary history of Texas with a tasting and presentation.

8/16 – Saturday, 4 p.m. [On the Plantation Porch: Art & Interpretation](#). Lecture and discussion with artists and historical educators, featuring Mathieu Jean Baptiste.

National Museum of the Pacific War



8/9 – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Hiroshima & Nagasaki Commemoration, taking place Saturday, Aug 9, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the National Museum of the Pacific War, 311 E. Austin St. in Fredericksburg. As part of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, this program will offer a time for remembrance, reflection, and peace. Centered on the legacy of the atomic bombings, the event will honor those who lost their lives and recognize the enduring human cost of war. The program will include a moment of silence and a temporary exhibition that explores the impact of the bombings and the importance of promoting peace for future generations. Additional elements will underscore the themes of reconciliation and remembrance. Free and open to the public. More information at: [Hiroshima & Nagasaki Commemoration | Texas Historical Commission](#); [Hiroshima & Nagasaki Museum of the Pacific War](#).

Preservation Houston

8/10 – Sunday, 6 p.m. [Architecture of the MFAH Architecture Walk](#), advance ticket required. Learn about the history and evolution of the landscape, buildings, and cultural space over the past century. [Preservation Houston | Architecture of the MFAH Architecture Walk](#).

Presidio la Bahia, Goliad

8/2 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. [Texas Revolution Reenactors](#).

8/16 – Saturday, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. [Presidio Architecture Talks; Our Lady of Loreto Chapel](#). Two opportunities to hear a presentation about the history and architecture of the chapel.

Rosenberg Library, Galveston

Through September 29, 2025. [Weathering the Storm | Rosenberg Library Museum](#). 2025 marks the 160th anniversary of Juneteenth and the 125th anniversary of the 1900 Storm. Both events have shaped Galveston history and made the island what it is today. Visit in person or explore online the photographs, artifacts, art, and history about some of the incredible heroes of the era.

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site

8/2 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. [Garden Seed Saving](#); how seeds were saved to plant for next garden season.

8/9 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and 12:30 p.m./2:30 p.m. [Women's Clothing](#); the importance of layers in women's clothing. [Surveying in San Felipe](#) at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. at the SFA State Park Nature Center. Learn about surveying in both the town of San Felipe de Austin and the colony as a whole, including the tools, survey methods, and the surveyors themselves.

8/16 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. [Button making in the villa](#); ways that buttons were made in the 1820s and 1830s, such as Dorset buttons, thread wrapped (or Death's head) buttons, and fabric wrapped buttons.

8/23 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. [Wayzgoose in the Print Shop](#); the traditional printers celebration historically took place on August 24 and August 28, the patron saint days of printers.

8/28 – Thursday, 6 p.m. [History at Night: Novice to Journeyman - Lessons from the Printing Trade](#).

8/31 – Sunday, 2 p.m. [San Felipe Nature Walk](#) led by the Gideon Linsecum Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists.

San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site

8/2 – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. [San Jacinto Family Day: Scenes of San Jacinto](#). Make a diorama.

8/9 – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. [Spinning and Weaving](#); demonstrations by the Bay Area Weavers and Spinners.

8/10 – Sunday, Noon – 4 p.m. [National Sons and Daughters Day](#). Join the San Jacinto Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Sons of the Republic of Texas inside the San Jacinto Museum to learn more about the DRT and SRT, their relation to the San Jacinto Battleground, and their important historical work.

8/16 – Saturday, 5 – 7 p.m. [Weapons and Wounds of the Texas Revolution with Dr. Richard Bruce Winders](#); in-depth exploration of the weaponry used during the Texas Revolution.

8/23 – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Camp Kitchen; learn about a camp kitchen, rations, and food preservation, and period cooking.

Varner-Hogg State Historic Site

8/9 – Saturday, 11 a.m. Roots of Refreshments: Coffee; historic coffee recipes.

Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site

8/2 – Saturday, 1 – 4 p.m. Volunteer Recruitment Event. Volunteers needed, information and job descriptions will be available for the following areas at the complex: Independence Hall/Washington Townsite, Star of the Republic Museum, Barrington Living History Farm, Fanthorp Inn, Maintenance, and Retail. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, please contact Tynan Shadle (tynan.shadle@thc.texas.gov) or Adam Arnold (adam.arnold@thc.texas.gov) or call 936-878-2214.



Houston Archeological Society - Monthly Meeting Program Schedule

Please note that meetings vary between in-person, hybrid, or virtual (via Zoom). The meeting format may change; be sure to doublecheck the HAS website and your emails prior to each meeting for updates.

August 21 - Featuring Mike McBride discussing the Pine Ridge Preceramic Project in Belize. In person meeting at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, with a Zoom link provided via email for members who wish to attend remotely.

September 18 – Featuring Chris Lintz discussing the Antelope Creek Middle Ceramic Period, Part II.

October 16 – Featuring Greg Dimmick.

November 20 - Featuring Tori Pagano.

December 12 – Come enjoy the HAS Christmas party, holiday treats, and a year-end recap.

Houston Archeological Society monthly meetings are customarily 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](https://www.facebook.com/HoustonArcheologicalSociety).



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

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