Thursday, March 17th, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.
“Archeological Excavations in Historic Downtown Houston”
Eleanor Stoddart

Eleanor Stoddart, a professional archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. in Houston, will present a program on archeological investigations on one of the most historic blocks in the City of Houston at the Thursday, March 17, 7:00 p.m. meeting of the Houston Archeological Society. The meeting will be held at MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas and is free of charge and open to the public.

In early 2015, Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. conducted cultural resource subsurface survey field investigations and archeological construction monitoring of the proposed Nau Center for Texas Cultural Heritage. The focus of the investigations was on Blocks 119 and 161 (highlighted in red on map below) in downtown Houston, between the George R. Brown Convention Center and Minute Maid Park. This historic residential area was known by many old Houstonians as “Quality Hill”. Over 12 features (including cisterns, brick pavements and trash pits) and 2100 artifacts including glass, ceramics, architectural and personal items as well as faunal remains were recovered from Block 161.

Stoddart will discuss how these artifacts and features shed light on some of the moderately wealthy early inhabitants of Houston during a time when Houston was undergoing rapid economic and cultural development changes.

Stoddart received her Master’s degree in Anthropology from the Memorial University of Newfoundland (Canada). She has experience supervising projects in a variety of environments and locations including Texas, Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. She has also overseen archeological projects in British Columbia, Ontario and Newfoundland. Her background is in historical archeology, focusing on 17th-century European ceramics.

For a campus map of St. Thomas University, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking ($5) in Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.
President’s Message
HAS Members and Friends!

Wallisville Heritage Park – A Hidden Gem on I-10

How many of you have driven east on I-10 and whizzed past the Wallisville Heritage Park on your right, never pausing, never stopping – just zooming on by. That’s what I’ve done at least a hundred times. Let me tell you – by not stopping at Wallisville, we’ve all been depriving ourselves of a real treat! This place is a gem!

In 1979 a private, nonprofit organization named Wallisville Heritage Park was organized by John Middleton and other concerned residents interested in saving the original Wallisville townsite. The property on which the town was situated was purchased by the United States Army Corps of Engineers during the 1960s for the Wallisville Lake project. After a 1973 federal court injunction halted construction on the reservoir, the plans were changed to preserve the old townsite. Heritage Park purchased the town's original 1869 schoolhouse in 1979, restored the building, and relocated it on Middleton's property near Interstate Highway 10. This building served as a museum and headquarters for the organization from December 1979 until May 1983, when Heritage Park constructed a new building nearby and relocated.

The new building contains a library and research center, a wonderful museum, offices, archival storage space, and other features. Heritage Park also acquired other historical structures and moved them to Wallisville, including the 1910 Union Church from Anahuac, the 1915 Eminence Schoolhouse, the William Cooper house, and the Ina and John Wallis House.

Recently HAS was contacted by the staff at Wallisville to help them sort through some boxes of artifacts that sustained damage during Hurricane Ike. A small group went over to Wallisville in late February and spent a day going through artifacts from several sites in Chambers County, most of which were excavated by the Houston Archeological Society in the 1970s and 1980s!!!! We found the names of many of our current members on the list of folks who worked at the sites including Lou Fullen, Sheldon Kindall, Dick Gregg and others. (If you worked any of the sites in the area of Wallisville, we’d love to hear from you!) Artifacts include many points and other stone tools, pottery sherds, historic ceramics, glassware, metalware, buttons, munitions and more. We hope to help the folks at Wallisville identify some of these artifacts for future displays.

We are planning another workday at Wallisville on Thursday, March 10 from 9:30 until about 2. If you’d like to join us, we’d love to have your help. Just email me at lindagorski@cs.com and let me know if you’d like to work with us on this project. But if you are headed in that direction anytime soon, please do stop by and enjoy the wonderful collections in the Museum. The website for the Wallisville Heritage Park is http://www.wallisville.net/

- Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society
Minutes
Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting
February 18th, 2016

Welcome Everyone – Linda Gorski
Linda Gorski welcomed new members and guests. A total of 93 members and quests were signed in.

Treasurer – Tom Nuckols
Checking Account: $11211.63  Savings Account: $14979.74

Membership - Bob Sewell
We have 143 members signed up for 2016. Membership forms at back. Members need to renew by end of March to maintain their membership. All new and renewing members get a bumper sticker and a copy of the newest HAS Report and Journal.

New Business
• Audit Committee
  o The Audit committee, comprising of Charlie Aulbach, John Lumb, and Louis Frey meet next week.
• Publications
  o Journal #135 has been available since the January meeting. Members may collect their copy this evening. Thanks to Dub Crook’s generosity we anticipate 4 more Journals and/or reports will be published this year.

Projects
• Cotton Field Site: This hugely successful project will again be the site for the TAS 2016 Field School. Next work weekend will be February 20 and 21, 2016. We expect that the artifacts will be analyzed during our lab sessions at Rice University.
• Frost Town: As mentioned at last month’s meeting, the site has been contaminated with lead and other toxic materials. Therefore, HAS will not be allowed to excavate the site.
• Wallisville Heritage Center: HAS has been asked by the director and the curator of this facility to help them organize their collections. Wallisville sustained severe damage during Hurricane Ike and their collections were in disarray. Collections include artifacts from some of the 200+ archeological sites that have been excavated in that area. A small team will visit Wallisville next week to scope out the project.
• Lab at Rice University: Labs at Rice University on February 16 continued with a ‘Lab 101’ project that included sorting artifacts from the Barnhill Site. Labs will now be on Tuesday nights due to students using lab on Mondays. Watch for information from Dr. Gus Costa.
• TAS Academies: There are two Academies scheduled – one in march for Geoarcheology that will be held in Kingsland and one April 30 and May 1 in Canyon for lithics. These are very popular and will sell out fast! Flyers in the lobby.
• TAS Field School 2016. TAS Field School 2016 will again be held at the Tait Ranch in Columbus June 11-18, 2016. TAS Field School committee is still working on identifying camping facilities.

Program for February 2016 – Brad Jones, archeologist with the Texas Historical Commission’s Archeological Division, presented a program highlighting La Salle’s 1684 expedition to establish a French settlement on the Mississippi River.

Program for March 2016 – HAS member Eleanor Stoddart will discuss recent surveys at the site of the proposed Nau Center for Texas Cultural Heritage.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17th, 2016.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society
Youngest HAS Member Recovers Jug from Banks of Buffalo Bayou

Vincent Ferruzzo, a 5th grader at Hunters Creek Elementary School in Spring Branch ISD, is one of the youngest members of the Houston Archeological Society. But in a very short time he has become one the Society’s most enthusiastic members and a knowledgeable one at that!

In the summer of 2014 Vincent attended a class at the Houston Arboretum about First Texans. Linda Gorski, president of HAS and Louis Aulbach, HAS Vice President, taught the class and when Vincent heard what they had to said about digging up Texas history – one trowel full at a time – he was hooked! “Vincent came home from class that day so excited about what he’d learned. He handed me a flyer about HAS and said he needed to join. I got on the website and eventually got in touch with Linda Gorski to find out if 10 year old Vincent really could join HAS. She said yes and the rest is history! We attended the very next HAS meeting and have hardly missed one since,” said Andrea Ferruzzo, Vincent’s mother.

“In December 2014 - January 2015 Vincent and I had the opportunity to join HAS on the salvage archeology project at the Kellum-Noble House for The Heritage Society. Vincent loved it! He loved digging and screening dirt looking for artifacts. He didn’t mind getting up early or working hard. He bounced around from pile to pile eager to see what he could recover,” said his mom.

The experience volunteering with HAS on that project sparked Vincent’s interest in old things. “We began searching through antique and junk stores looking for old stuff. Somehow Vincent became interested in old bottles,” said Andrea. “We live in Memorial right down the street from Buffalo Bayou. After school Vincent can be found down at the bayou digging around and recovering bottles and other old items.” His HAS experience has taught Vincent to record the sites where he finds these artifacts so the provenience of the artifacts is not lost.

Vincent has recently recovered many parts of an old jug from the banks of Buffalo Bayou. According to HAS Board member, Larry Golden, the jug tells an interesting story. “Vincent’s fabulous find is a 2 gallon salt glazed jug with an albany slip interior and traces of cobalt slip around the stamped number. It is marked “Brown Brothers / Huntington, L.I.” and there appears to be enough pieces to re-assemble the jug,” said Golden.
The three Brown brothers George, Stephen and Thomas moved from Poughkeepsie, New York to Huntington, Long Island in 1863 purchasing the pottery firm. The factory had been previously owned numerous times and had been in continuous operation since 1805. The Brown’s produced utilitarian wares such as jugs, crocks and pitchers using salt glaze on the exterior and an albany slip on the interior. Their first maker’s mark was “Brown & Bros. / Huntington L.I.” but was quickly changed to “Brown Brothers / Huntington L.I.” to represent all three brothers. In 1868 Stephen left the pottery (Thomas’ departure is unknown) and again the mark was changed to “Brown Brother / Huntington, L.I.”.

In 1873 Stephen returned to the pottery and during the next 6 years the brothers began using stencils and cobalt slip to decorate their pieces. They produced floral and other designs, and are well known for their stenciled crocks with sayings such as ”HOME SWEET HOME”, “BUY THE BEST”, “MOTHER LOVES YOU”, etc. These pieces are highly sought after by collectors. In 1879 Stephen left the pottery for the final time, starting his own pottery nearby. Stephen used the mark “S.C. Brown / Huntington L. I.”

His endeavor was short lived as he left the trade in 1881. George being the only brother left again changed his mark back to “Brown Brothers / Huntington, L.I.”(1880-1881?). At this time George brought his son into the company and in 1898 had full ownership. The pottery business fell into hard times and was closed in 1905. The jug that Vincent recovered dates from 1880 – 1905.

- Larry Golden & Linda Gorski
Notes on Munitions – Former Town of San Jacinto Shot Gun Shells

By Tom Nuckols

Shot gun shells (n=24) are one of seven categories of munition artifacts from the former Town of San Jacinto Larry Golden collection currently being analyzed by this author.

The shot gun shells in this collection once had paper tubes with brass cups (see Note 1). The paper tubes have disintegrated and the remaining brass cups are in various stages of deterioration.

Gauges in this shot gun shell gauges are: 10 (n=5), 12 (n=18) and 16 (n=1). With five exceptions (catalog #s 030, 031, 039, 044 and 045) all of the shot gun shells in this collection were fired, i.e., the primers are firing pin imprinted.

Under ideal storage conditions, ammunition will last a lifetime; shot gun shells could have been used years after a brand was discontinued by a manufacturer and deposited on this site.

The following is a list of the shotgun shells by Catalog # (see Note 2). The Catalog # is followed by the gauge, the manufacturer, the headstamp, and the date range (circa years) The date range indicates when the manufacturer began to offer the particular brand name of shot gun shell for sale to the public, and when that brand was discontinued. Comment(s) where applicable, follow the date range. With a few exceptions, the manufacturers’ shot gun shell brand name was included in the headstamp. Example: Catalog #030; NEW CLUB is the brand name.

030 10, Remington-Union Metallic Cartridge Company, REM-UMC No 10 NEW CLUB, 1911-1914, The headstamp includes an eight pointed star around the primer pocket and a broken circle outside the headstamp lettering. Unlike other shot gun shells, both letters in the word “No” are underscored on this shot gun shells headstamp. The underscoring is connected to the broken circle outside of the headstamp and is referred to as a “backwards G”. See Remington UMC and REM-UMC HEADSTAMPS @ http://www.headstamps.x10.mx/remingtonUMC.html.

031 10, Union Metallic Cartridge Company, U.M.C. Co. № 10 CLUB, 1885-1891, The headstamp includes two concentric circles around the primer pocket.

032 10, Winchester Repeating Arms Company, 1901 № 10 NEW RIVAL, 1901-1919, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket.

033 10, Winchester Repeating Arms Company, WINCHESTER № 10 NUBLACK, 1905-1938, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket.


035 12, Union Metallic Cartridge Company, U.M.C. Co. № 12 CLUB, 1885-1891, the headstamp includes two concentric circles around the primer pocket.


037 12, Union Metallic Cartridge Company, U.M.C. Co. № 12 NEW CLUB, 1902-1910, the headstamp includes an eight pointed star around the primer pocket.

038 Same as Catalog #037.

038A Same as Catalog #037.

039 Same as Catalog #037.

040 12, Remington Arms-Union Metallic Cartridge Company (Remington merged with UMC in 1912), REM-UMC № 12 ARROW, 1915-1940s, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket and a circle outside the headstamp lettering.

041 12, Remington Arms-Union Metallic Cartridge Company, REMINGTON UMC № 12 NEW CLUB, 1911-1914, the headstamp includes an eight pointed star around the primer pocket.
042 12, United States Cartridge Company, No (The ‘No’ is not underscored in this example) 12 US ROMAX, 1911-1920, See Larry Golden Collection: Notes on Munitions by this author in the April 2015 Houston Archaeological Society Newsletter, Volume 4, Issue 4.

043 12, Winchester Repeating Arms Company, WINCHESTER № 12 NUBLACK, 1904-1938, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket.

044 12, Winchester Repeating arms Company, WINCHESTER № 12 NEW RIVAL, 1897-1929, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket.

045 12, Winchester Repeating Arms Company, WINCHESTER № 12 REPEATER, 1904-1927, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket.

045A 12, Same as Catalog #045, 1920-1922, The primer on this shot gun shell is headstamped W.R.A. Co. NEW №.4. This primer, used in shot gun shells loaded with smokeless gun powder, was introduced in 1904 and discontinued in 1933.

046 12, Same as Catalog #030, 1915-1937.

047 12, Illegible due to corrosion. The primer is missing.

048 12, Winchester Repeating Arms Company, WINCHESTER № 12 LEADER, 1894-1932, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket.

049 12, Union Metallic Cartridge Company, illegible due to corrosion. There are two concentric rings around the primer pocket.

050 12, Union Metallic Cartridge Company, U.M.C. CO. № 12, 1873-1890.

053 16, Winchester Repeating Arms Company, WINCHESTER No 12 LEADER, 1894-1933, the headstamp includes a circle around the primer pocket. The primer on this shot gun shell is headstamped W.R.A. Co. NEW №.4.

Under magnification, unique variations in firing pin imprints on a shot guns shell’s primer allow identification of shot gun shells’ fired in the same shot gun. The following are shot gun shells that were possibly fired in the same shot gun: 032, 034, and 041 (10 gauge) and 035A, 036, and 049 (12 gauge). Corrosion prohibited the possibility of identifying additional matches, if any.

Notes:

1. Shot gun shells were invented in the 2nd half of the 1860s. Most early shotgun shells had a brass case, just like rifle and pistol cartridges. Beginning circa 1870, manufacturers began offering shot gun shells with paper tubes and a brass cup. However, the early paper tubes swelled when wet and shot gun shells with paper tubes could not be reloaded as many times as brass cases. Paper tubes were later impregnated with wax, to make them water resistant. In 1960, Remington Arms Company introduced shot gun shells with plastic tubes.

2. The Catalog #s used here are abbreviated. All munitions artifacts have a prefix of 41SJT01 (41=Harris County [for lack of a site trinomial], SJT=San Jacinto Town, 01=the first type [munitions] of artifacts from this site to be analyzed. Future plans of The Houston Archaeological Society include writing a report for this site that will include the entire categories of artifacts’, hence this catalog numbering system.
Cottonfield Work Update

As most of you know, we are continuing archeological excavations at the Cotton Field site at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas that we began during Texas Archeological Society Field School in 2014 and continued in 2015. The Cotton Field site, located in Colorado County, offers ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 650AD - 1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150 AD – 1500 AD) in Texas. Thanks to our landowners, Rita Tait Jackson and Ed Jackson, we are continuing our excavations under the direction of HAS member and Field School PI, Dr. Jason W. Barrett.

The site gets more and more interesting every single time we dig! We had a huge crew at our most recent fieldwork on February 20 and 21. According to Dr. Jason, “One of the truly interesting and unique aspects of the site is in the number and nature of features we are finding, as well as the artifacts associated with them. We're finding points, but not in great numbers because the prehistoric inhabitants were likely discarding those up on Pyramid while they quarried chert cobbles and knapped them into new tools. Instead, we are finding evidence from a wide range of food processing and related activities that seems to have included butchering, hide processing, plant processing, and meal preparation. The tool assemblage we are recovering goes well beyond points, and actually reflects the true variability observed among formal and informal artifact types in use during this part of prehistory. Better yet, as we are finding them in context with well-preserved features, we can assess the nature of their use with far greater certainty than is typically ever possible.”

Dr. Jason Barrett sorting artifacts

Dr. Jason, Rita and Ed have come up with a spring schedule for work at the site - March 19 and 20, April 2-3 and 23-24, and May 21 and 22. The 2016 TAS Field School will be held at the Tait Ranch June 11 - 18.

Mark your calendars now!! If you plan to join us, please email me back at lindagorski@cs.com so I can add you to our Cotton Field contact list and send you directions to the site as well as other important information including cancellation notices in case of severe weather. Remember, you must be a member of the Houston Archeological Society or one of the other regional archeological societies or the Texas Archeological Society to participate. If you are not yet a member of the Houston Archeological Society, please go to our website at www.txhas.org and click on “Membership”.

Please check out our most recent photo album highlighting our February 20 – 21 work at Cotton Field at http://www.txhas.org/cottonfield_bulletins.html. Hope to see you in the field!

- Linda Gorski
Laboratory Activities

HAS Lab Director, Dr. Gus Costa, has announced that the next lab at Rice University will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Lab nights at Rice University give HAS members an opportunity to work with artifacts that have been recovered at sites around the Houston area including Harris, Wharton, Fort Bend, Chambers, Colorado and Brazoria Counties. Artifacts from 41WH17, the Barnhill Site in Wharton County, were sorted and catalogued during the lab on February 16th. Future labs will offer HAS member the opportunity to work on artifacts including points, stone tools, shell, and faunal material recovered from the Cotton Field site in Colorado County. For information about HAS labs at Rice University see the HAS website at http://www.txhas.org/laboratory.html.

If you are interested in assisting please contact Dr. Costa at agc4@rice.edu.
Other HAS News

HAS Audit Committee

The 2016 Audit Team consisting of Charlie Aulbach, Louis Frey and John Lumb conducted the audit of HAS books on Thursday, February 25, 2016 and found them to be in good order. The Audit team made several suggestions to improve the HAS accounting process which we will be instituting immediately.

John Lumb, Louis Frey, and Charlie Aulbach

Board of Directors

Kathleen Hughes, who has been serving her last year of a three-year term on the HAS Board of Directors has elected to stand-down due to other commitments. The HAS Board has appointed Wilson W. “Dub” Crook to complete her term on the Board which will expire in September, 2016. Most of you know Dub Crook as the editor of our HAS Journals and Reports, one of our most popular speakers and a very knowledgeable lithics expert. The Board would like to thank Kathleen for her service and welcome Dub to the Board of Directors.

Wilson W. “Dub” Crook

DON’T FORGET MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE

It’s that time of the year again!! If you have not done so already, it is time to renew your HAS Membership for 2016. For just $25 for an Individual, $15 for a Student, or $30 for a Family you can continue to be part of the most active Archeological Society in Texas. You can find a membership form on our website at

http://www.txhas.org/PDF/HAS%20Membership%20Form.pdf
April 21, 2016 - Lauren Cook, Ph.D. candidate at Texas A & M University Geoarchaeological Investigations of the McFaddin Beach site, Texas. McFaddin Beach (41JF50), in Jefferson County, Texas is a 32 kilometer-long beach, stretching from High Island in the west to Sea Rim State Park in the east. Since the 1950s, artifacts from almost all periods of Texas pre-history have been recovered on this beach. The projectile points found on McFaddin Beach are redeposited materials from offshore, submerged locations. Results indicate that projectile point distribution is significantly correlated to longshore drift and hurricane activity in the Gulf of Mexico. Recent studies have been performed to test whether artifact distributions along the beach are correlated with sediment grain size patterns and distributions along the coast. This paper discusses the results from these studies and the role currents, longshore drift, and hurricane activity have on artifact distribution and implications they may have for identifying the offshore site locations of these artifacts. This paper will also review further research plans and studies to better understand the presence of Paleoindian peoples on the Texas continental shelf and throughout Texas. We will also set a date for a field trip to McFaddin Beach for HAS members.

May 19, 2016 - Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski – “Rome in Ruins – Archeological Sites along the Aurelian Wall”. HAS President Linda Gorski and HAS Vice President Louis Aulbach will present a program highlighting portions of their newest book, Along the Aurelian Wall – Rome in Ruins – A Self-Guided Walk. Most travelers who visit Rome as tourists have a limited amount of time to see the sites. They do the “Caesar shuffle” – see the Colosseum and the Roman Forum – and think they have seen it all. This talk will highlight the archeological sites of ancient Rome, from the city’s founding in 753 BC to the end of the Roman Empire in 476 AD, over 1200 years of cultural history. The program will feature photos of many of these ancient sites which are off the beaten tourist track.

June 16, 2016 – No Meeting – We’ll see you at TAS Field School June 11 – 18 in Columbus, Texas!

July 21, 2016 – Dr. Jason Barrett Report on the 2016 TAS Field School at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas. Dr. Barrett, HAS member and Field School PI, will lead a program highlighting excavations and artifacts recovered at the Cotton Field and Bluff sites at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch and reports from the youth group excavations at the Tait House in Columbus.

All Houston Archeological Society meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS visit our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/
Note: Please submit articles for publication to The Profile Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than March 28th for the April 2016 issue.

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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS
Linda Gorski, President, president@txhas.org
Louis Aulbach, Vice President, vpresident@txhas.org
Tom Nuckols, Treasurer, treasurer@txhas.org
Bob Sewell, Secretary, secretary@txhas.org
Kathleen Hughes, Director-at-Large, dal_b@txhas.org
Larry Golden, Director-at-Large, dal_c@txhas.org
Mike Woods Director-at-Large, dal_a@txhas.org

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Don Keyes, Region V Director, keyes_don@hotmail.com

AREA TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ARCHEOLOGY STEWARDS
Elizabeth & Pat Aucoin, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net
Louis Aulbach, lfa1@att.net
Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251
Charlie Gordy, chasgordy@yahoo.com
Linda Gorski, lindagorski@cs.com
Richard L. Gregg, rlgregg7@att.net
Joe D. Hudgins, manso@jdhudgins.com
Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com
Brenda Jackson, brendajacks1@yahoo.com
Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com
Sheldon Kindall, kindall1@peoplepc.com
Bev Mendenhall, bmend2@yahoo.com
Tom Nuckols, tlnuckols58@att.net
Sandra & Johnny Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net
Sandra E. Rogers (Sandy), sojourne@att.net
Gary Ryman, gkrvman@gmail.com
Steve Salyer, salyer4@hotmail.com

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