Thursday, September 15th, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.
“Archeological Investigations at San Felipe de Austin, Texas, 2014 - 2016”
Jeff Durst

The Houston Archeological Society has an exciting program coming up on Thursday, September 15 featuring Texas Historical Commission Regional Archeologist, Jeff Durst who will discuss recent archeological excavations at San Felipe de Austin, the first colonial capitol of Texas. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas and is free of charge and open to the public.

Excavations at the site of San Felipe de Austin began in June of 2014 as part of the annual Texas Archeological Society Field School and continued during the 2015 and 2016 TAS Field Schools. The excavations which took place at the Texas Historical Commission’s San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, focused on the historic “town lot” 566 where the Farmer’s Hotel was reportedly constructed between 1829 and 1830. While still under construction the building served as the town hall described by San Felipe resident Noah Smithwick in his memoirs. The structure was described as being 32 feet square with a brick cellar 6 feet deep. The first season focused on attempting to locate the four corners of the brick cellar and getting an idea of the construction method of the brick outer wall of the cellar. The second season continued the attempt to define the four corners of the cellar and also included a centrally located unit aimed at identifying the floor of the cellar. A third session was held in November of 2015 in order to take at least a few of the previously open units all the way to the floor of the basement. Returning in 2016, excavations focused on two other features known to have been located on this same lot. The four sessions produced an interesting array of artifacts and features which will be discussed during this presentation.

Jeff Durst has a bachelor's degree in English literature and a master's degree in anthropology from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Durst has been actively employed in archeology for the past 21 years, most recently as Regional Archeologist and Project Reviewer for south Texas. Prior to his current position he served as the project director of the THC's Fort St. Louis Archeological Project. He has experience in both historic and prehistoric archeology and has worked in Texas, New Mexico, and Belize, Central America. His educational research was focused on the prehistoric Maya civilization with a concentration on the archeology of the Maya Lowlands. Durst previously was employed by the Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio and acted as a Project Archeologist conducting archival research, archeological surveys, site excavations, artifact analysis, and report preparation. Durst has authored and coauthored numerous publications and papers on the archeology of Texas, New Mexico, and Belize.

For a campus map, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking at Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.
**President’s Message**

HAS Members and Friends!

This message is coming to you from high up in the mountains of Colorado! Instead of digging up Texas history - one trowel full at a time - I’m here in Colorado hiking, fly fishing and golfing for a month. Although the scenery is breathtaking and we are having a wonderful time, there’s no place like home - especially if you are from the Lone Star State - and I can’t wait to see all of you at the HAS Annual General Meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2016.

As you know, at the September meeting we will elect our new officers and Board of Directors for the coming year and present awards to some very special folks. See an article later in this newsletter with the complete slate of nominees. And as you’ve already read, Jeff Durst, our regional archeologist from the Texas Historical Commission in Austin will be our speaker so I really hope you will come and help us celebrate another successful year!

And speaking of success - HAS achieved a new membership record. Bob Sewell just told me that in my absence we’ve gotten several new members and are now up to 203. Thanks to all of you for making HAS the largest archeological society in the state!

I also understand that despite a ton of rain recently, the temperatures in Houston may finally start to moderate a bit. I hope this will encourage more of you to come out and enjoy our field activities. Most of our field projects are open ONLY to HAS members, so please take advantage of that privilege and join us! For instance, our screening project at the historic Frost Town site in downtown Houston is producing some absolutely amazing artifacts that reflect the early history of Houston dating from the mid-1800s. Watch for emails announcing future dates at this very important site.

Our Cotton Field project in Columbus, Texas, continues to be one of the most interesting prehistoric sites we’ve ever excavated. If you are new to archeology and have never put a trowel in the ground, this is the project for you. Led by Dr. Jason W. Barrett, we run an “Archeology 101” for newcomers every single weekend we are out there. It’s exciting to see all the features that are being uncovered at this remarkable site. So come join us!

Once again, thanks so much for being a member of the Houston Archeological Society. Hope to see you at our Annual General Meeting on September 15, 2016. If you have any questions about our society, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com

- Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society
Welcome everyone —
Welcome New Members and guests.

Treasurers Report - Tom Nuckols
Checking Account - $5699.47  Savings Account – $24063.02

Membership: Bob Sewell reported that HAS membership is now 201. Membership forms are at back. All new members get copies of latest Journals and Reports.

Website: Bob Sewell reported that Journal #133 and Report#25/3 (Powell site) are now available for free download.

Nominating Committee – Nominating Committee including Sharon Menegaz, Mary Needham and Geoff Mills announced the slate of nominees for the HAS Board of Directors for 2016/2017. They are:
Linda Gorski, President
Louis Aulbach, Vice President
Beth Kennedy, Secretary
Bob Sewell, Treasurer
Dub Crook, Board member (3 year term)

Mike Woods and Larry Golden have 1 and 2 years respectively of their terms to complete.

The membership will vote on the nominations for Board of Directors at the September Annual General Meeting.

HAS Journals and Reports - Report#27 – Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan. Report has generated significant interest. Beth Aucoin has book signings at the Sons of Republic of Texas and Brazoria County Museum

Lab at Rice University – Dr. Gus Costa
The August 25th lab has been cancelled since Dr. Gus Costa will be out of town. Watch for information from Dr. Gus Costa on future dates for labs at Rice University

HAS Merchandise – Larry Golden has had some sample T-shirts made up with HAS logos. Contact Linda Gorski for more information.

Projects
Cotton Field Project – Hugely successful. HAS has been leading excavations there since the 2015 Field School. Next work weekend at Cotton Field August 20/21 and September 10/11.

Frost Town/Elysian Viaduct Project – The project has finally kicked off! We have been out at the site several times now and are recovering some amazing artifacts. Must wear hard hat, high visibility vest, steel toed boots or heavy hiking boots and heavy gloves. Next work days are 8/19 and 8/26-27.

Program - Louis
Our speaker for tonight is HAS member and professional archeologist Ashley Jones. She will discuss Archaeological Investigations of the Treviño-Uribe Rancho (41ZP97), San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas.

Bob Sewell, Secretary, Houston Archeological Society
Notes on Munitions: A .45-70 Caliber Center-fire Cartridge Case from Bernardo Plantation (41WL28)  
By Tom Nuckols

This article is the 3rd in a series that will discuss the munitions artifacts recovered during archaeological excavations at Bernardo Plantation (41WL28) near Hempstead, Texas, in 2009 and 2010. HAS has participated in the excavations.

Of the sixty munitions artifacts recovered, nine are center-fire brass cartridge cases; .22 caliber Center-fire Winchester (n=3), .38 caliber Smith & Wesson (n=3), .45 caliber Colt (n=2), and the subject of this article, a .45-70 caliber Government.

A center-fire cartridge is a complete unit of ammunition consisting of a case, primer, gun powder and bullet. After someone shoots a center-fire cartridge in his gun, the only remaining part of the cartridge is the firing pin imprinted primer and the case. Center-fire cartridges are reloadable, however most shooters discard the case where they are standing after it is ejected from the gun.

The .50-70 center-fire rifle cartridge was the predecessor to the .45-70. Adopted in 1866, the .50-70 was used until 1873 in a variety of rifles, many of them Civil War era percussion rifled muskets converted to trapdoor action breechloaders. The conversion consisted of milling out the rear of the barrel for the tilting breechblock, and placing a .50 caliber "liner" barrel inside the .58 caliber barrel (Wikipedia 2016).

The .45-70 caliber center-fire cartridge was adopted by the U.S. military in 1873 along with the single shot “Trapdoor” Springfield rifle and carbine. The cartridge contained 70 grains of black powder and a .45 caliber lead bullet. A reduced-power load of 55 grains of black powder along with a paper wad to take up the empty space inside the case was manufactured for use in the carbine to lighten recoil for mounted cavalry soldiers (The Cartridges Collectors Exchange 2004).

The Springfield carbine and rifle were replaced in 1892 by the Norwegian designed U.S., .30-40 caliber Krag center-fire cartridge and the U.S. Krag-Jorgensen bolt action magazine rifle.

As is usual with military ammunitions, the .45-70 was an immediate hit among sportsmen. The gun companies’ Marlin, Winchester, Remington and others have and continue to chamber rifles for the .45-70 cartridge. Ammunition manufacturers still offer the cartridge for sale. (Barnes 2006: 59, 97, Flayderman 1998: 478).

The Bernardo Plantation .45-70 Center-fire Cartridge Case

This case has a solid, stepped ring head containing a copper primer. However, the primer is not firing pin imprinted; this cartridge is unfired, however, the bullet is missing.

The headstamp on the bottom of the case is R F 2 86. The headstamp indicates that this was a rifle cartridge (“R” for rifle as opposed to “C” for carbine) manufactured by the Frankfort Arsenal, Philadelphia, PA., in February of 1886.

REFERENCES

Barnes, Frank C.  

Flayderman, Norm  

The Cartridges Collectors Exchange  

Wikipedia contributors  
THE R. DONALD PATTON ARTIFACT COLLECTION - Wilson W. Crook, III

Marcel Frey, local Houston businessman and HAS member, has been asked by the family of Mr. R. Donald Patton of Crosbyton, Texas, to be custodian of the late Mr. Patton’s artifact collection. In order to assess what the collection contained, Marcel brought it to the attention of HAS President, Linda Gorski. Linda asked several of the members to take a look at the collection and see if we could identify its major components.

The collection was found to have 184 total artifacts including 4 Paleoindian points (one Clovis, one San Patrice and two reworked Angostura points), 80 Archaic dart points ranging from Early to Transitional Archaic in age, 67 Late Prehistoric arrow points, 17 non-projectile point artifacts – mainly bifaces and preforms of probable Archaic age, 10 ceramic sherds, and 6 artifacts that are likely modern reproductions. While a large number of point types are present, unfortunately very little information was retained about the provenance of any of the artifacts. Several of the reworked dart points had location information written on them (“Sandy Creek, Missouri”) and several of the pottery sherds were clearly Puebloan types; but outside of these examples, locational information was largely missing. However, from the typology of the dart and arrow points, most seem to come from West-Central to South Texas. Common Central Texas point types, such as Pedernales, are completely absent and common East Texas types are also absent.

In one of the boxes which the collection was originally housed was a distinctive Clovis point. A tiny scrap of paper was found below the point inside some cotton lining which simply stated “Southern Crosby County, Texas”. Given the paper’s location relative to the Clovis point, it is assumed that this is the point’s probable original location. As can be seen in Figures 1 and 2, the point is constructed of gray chert which fluoresces a strong lemon-yellow to orange color under both short and long-wave UV radiation; a reaction characteristic of Edwards chert. The point appears to have been originally much longer, was broken and re-tipped (note the marked change in direction of the lateral edges halfway up the point). This “new” point was then again damaged by a major impact fracture which resulted in the loss of the new tip as well as significant fractures across the face of the point (see Figure 2). Given the Clovis point’s assumed location (Crosby County), we hope to source the chert using X-Ray Fluorescence in the near future.

Collections such as the R. Don Patton Collection can be of tremendous value to archeological research. Of course, if there had been more locational information, the value to science would be greater. But even without such information, there can still be important value obtained as a study collection for various point and artifact typologies.
If anyone in the HAS is aware of a collection that is “looking for a home”, please contact HAS President, Linda Gorski or any member of the Board of Directors and we would be glad to help make an assessment of the collection and a recommendation on its potential future use.

---

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It’s that time of year again! On Thursday, September 15th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. we will hold our Houston Archeological Society Annual General Meeting and election of officers for 2017.

If you were at the August meeting you heard Sharon Menegaz, on behalf of the nominating committee that also included Mary Needham and Geoff Mills, introduce the nominees for the 2017 Board. They are:

- Linda Gorski – President
- Louis Aulbach – Vice President
- Beth Kennedy – Secretary
- Bob Sewell – Treasurer
- Wilson “Dub” Crook – Director-at-Large (three year term)
- We have two Directors-at-Large who are completing three year terms – Mike Woods and Larry Golden

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the meeting. We hope you will be there on September 15th, 2016 to raise your hand and your voice and take part in the election process!
THE HISTORY OF HOUSTON’S MUSICAL SOUL
THE 6th ANNUAL HOUSTON HISTORY ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

THIS PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY GRANTS FROM THE SUMMERLEE FOUNDATION
AND HUMANITIES TEXAS, THE STATE AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, “TEXAS ZYDECO”, RECEPTION, AND ZYDECO MUSIC — THE DELUXE THEATER, LYON’S AVE.,
7 - 10 P.M. (COST: $25)
Discover the connection between Houston and Zydeco in this 28-minute film, followed by a talkback with director
Ruben Duran and musicologist Roger Wood. All attendees will receive their own specially packaged DVD, courtesy
of Houston Community College, the film’s backer. Reception and Zydeco to follow.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 6th HOUSTON HISTORY CONFERENCE, MATCH THEATER 3, 3400 MAIN ST.,
9 A.M. TO 5:45 P.M. (COST: $65, DISCOUNTS FOR STUDENTS)
A full day exploring the rich history of Houston’s indigenous music scenes: Blues, Hip Hop, Jazz, Folk, Rock,
Country. . . . Keynote by Joe Nick Patoski, panelists and moderators include John Nova Lomax, Roger Wood, Rick
Mitchell, Dr. Robert Morgan and many others. Discussions include historic SugarHill Studios, special university music
archives, and many of the over 500 different labels that operated out of Houston. During lunch, visit with Houston
Blues legends who will be on hand to meet attendees and sign autographs.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, “THROUGH THE DECADES” HOUSTON POP-UP MUSEUM, MATCH THEATER 1,
9 A.M. TO 4:45 P.M. (COST: FREE)
Explore Houston, past and present, in this unique, one-day only, pop-up museum experience featuring exhibits by
many of HHA’s Community Partners. FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! Exhibits will include Houston’s wild
alternative music scene, and the archives of world-famous musician and Texas Tenor Arnett Cobb. DON’T MISS –
Houston Blues Greats on hand to meet and greet at the Houston Blues Museum exhibit during lunch.

SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 1, CONTINENTAL CLUB COMPLEX,
6 P.M. UNTIL...
“Cuit talking and start partying!” The entire Continental Complex will celebrate Houston’s music history with FREE
live performance by Trudy Lynn at the Continental Club from 7 to 9. DJ’s Rick Mitchell, Flash Gordon Parks, Alex
LaRotta, and others will spin the Houston sound at Natchee’s and The Big Top. Headliner to be announced.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, “GET US ON THE BUS!” WITH INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE FINALIST EVELYN RUBIO, HOUSTON
BLUES MUSEUM BENEFIT, CONTINENTAL CLUB,
2 – 6 P.M. (COST: $25)
HHA conference partner Houston Blues Museum closes the weekend with a benefit featuring crossover chart topper
Evelyn Rubio. Don’t miss this! All ticket proceeds benefit Houston Blues Museum’s mobile museum effort.

LEARN MORE AND PURCHASE TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS:
www.houstonhistoryalliance.org
Facebook: “Houston History Alliance”
Email usl info@houstonhistoryalliance.org

P.O. BOX 25686 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77225
WWW.HOUSTON-HISTORYALLIANNE.ORG

HHA is a 501 (c)(3) dedicated to promoting Houston-area history and serving as a resource for local historical organizations and institutions.
Cotton Field Excavations August 20th, 2016

Once again, The Houston Archeological Society returned to the Cotton Field site in Colorado County on August 20th, 2016. We planned to work on both the Saturday and Sunday, but due to the forecast for heavy rain in Columbus, the Sunday work was cancelled. However, the site on Saturday was in excellent condition despite the heavy rains previously and we continued to excavate the rock features found concentrated in several adjoining units.

Our next work days are September 10-11, 2016. If you plan to join us, please email lindagorski@cs.com so your name can be added to our Cotton Field contact list. 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”.

The crew working to expose rock features

Nathan Palmer works in Unit A

Ed Jackson, Liz Coon-Nguyen, and Adela Franco screening
The settlement of Poverty Point, occupied from about 1700 to 1100 BC and once the largest city in North America stretches across 345 acres in northeastern Louisiana. The structural remains of this ancient site—its earthen mounds, semicircular ridges, and vacant plaza—intrigue visitors as a place of inspiration as well as puzzlement. Dr. Diana Greenlee, archaeologist at Poverty Point UNESCO World Heritage Site, will share insights of the people who lived and visited this unique place, and how they built the structures with tons of stone originating 800 miles away. This program is co-sponsored by the Houston Archeological Society and the Fort Bend Archeological Society.

Greenlee is also author of the book Poverty Point: Revealing the Forgotten City which delves into this enduring piece of Louisiana’s cultural heritage through personal introspection and scientific investigation. In the book, Greenlee discusses the most recent archaeological findings, explaining what past excavations have revealed about the work involved in creating the mounds and about the lives of the people who built them.

Diana M. Greenlee, Ph.D. earned her doctorate in Anthropology from the University of Washington in Seattle in 2002 and has been the Poverty Point Station Archaeologist since August 2006. In recognition of her contributions to the effort to place Poverty Point on the World Heritage List, she was named the 2013 Archaeologist of the Year by the Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana. The historical significance of Poverty Point, which was recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 2014, resonates regionally, nationally, and internationally.
International Archeology Day October 15\textsuperscript{th}, 2016

Come join the Houston Archeological Society as we celebrate International Archeology Day on Saturday, October 15\textsuperscript{th}, 2016, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Initiated by the American Institute of Archeology in 2011, International Archeology Day celebrates archeology and the thrill of discovery as archeologists present programs and activities for people of all ages and interests. On October 15\textsuperscript{th}, professional and avocational archeologists from all over the greater Houston area will celebrate the day by highlighting exciting discoveries in local archeology. The event will include artifact identification, presentations and programs about archeological excavations in the Houston area and displays of artifacts from local sites.

The event will also feature a family-friendly archeology fair with interactive hands-on displays using real artifacts recovered from archeological sites, including stone tools, prehistoric pottery, and animal bone and shell, flintknapping demonstrations, and arts and crafts for kids focusing on the prehistoric era. HMNS docents will man the Museum touch carts from several exhibits, including Egypt, Hall of the Americas and Paleontology and Human Evolution. Attendees will receive a goody bag with handouts from participating organizations, including bookmarks, rulers, brochures and other surprises.

This event is sponsored by the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Houston Archeological Society, Rice University Archaeology, the Texas Department of Transportation and several other local groups. Exhibits in the Grand Hall of the museum, including several displays by HAS, will be free of charge. Additional exhibits in Glassell Hall will be free for HMNS members but will require an entry ticket for others. For more information contact Linda Gorski, president of the Houston Archeological Society at lindagorski@cs.com.
Aulbach and Gorski to present
Rome in Ruins – Archeological Sites along the Aurelian Wall
At Fort Bend Archeological Society meeting, October 18th, 2016

Heads up!!! HAS members who missed the talk by Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski about their latest book *Along the Aurelian Wall - Rome in Ruins - A Self-Guided Walk* at the May 19th meeting of the Houston Archeological Society - they will repeat this program at the Fort Bend Archeological Society meeting on Tuesday, October 18th, 7:00 p.m. at the Gus George Law Enforcement Center, 1521 Eugene Heimann Cir., Richmond, Texas 77469. The meeting is free of charge and open to the public.

Most travelers who visit Rome as tourists have a limited amount of time to see Roman archeological sites. They tend to do the “Caesar shuffle” - see the Colosseum and the Roman Forum - and think they have seen it all. This talk will highlight a number of the archeological sites of ancient Rome that are found adjacent to the third century AD wall built by Emperor Aurelian. These sites illustrate aspects of over 1200 years of the cultural history of Rome from the city’s founding in 753 BC to the end of the Roman Empire in 476 AD. The program will feature photos of many of these ancient sites that are off the beaten tourist track.

Louis F. Aulbach is vice president of the Houston Archeological Society. A native Houstonian, he is a graduate of St. Thomas High School and Rice University. He received his master's degree from the University of Chicago. Aulbach has been interested in Roman archeology since he was a Classics scholar at Rice.

Linda Gorski is president of the Houston Archeological Society. Her interest in archeology was sparked when she took a class in Roman British archeology at the University of Kent, Canterbury, England, in the 1970s. She has since participated in several excavations at Roman sites in England. Aulbach and Gorski recently published their first walking guide to Rome entitled *Along the Aurelian Wall - Rome in Ruins - Self Guided Walks*. They recently returned from Rome where they conducted research for their second volume in the series.

For more information about this program, email Linda Gorski at lindagorski@cs.com

Texas Archeological Society 87th Annual Meeting

A reminder that the 87th Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society, will be held on October 28-30, 2016, at the Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Our very own HAS member and TxDOT archeologist, Dr. Jason W. Barrett will be the Public Forum speaker on Friday night at 7:00 p.m. His presentation is entitled "Rising in the East: The Changing Epicenter of Texas Archeology." He will discuss the resurgence of public archeology in the Houston Area and the roles of the Houston Archeological Society and agency archeologists. Julianna Barr, associate professor of history at Duke University will speak at the annual banquet on Saturday night ... and there will be many presentations and programs in between. Check the TAS website at www.txarch.org for registration forms and further information.
Houston Archeological Society
Monthly Meeting Programs for 2016/2017
7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)
M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University

Programs for 2016


Programs for 2017


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/

--------o---------

Note: Please submit articles for publication to The Profile Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than September 26th for the October 2016 issue.