

SAN JACINTO SCREENING PROJECT DECEMBER 6, 2014

On Saturday 6th December the HAS team continued its screening project in an area near San Jacinto. One of our members emailed me on Friday night after watching the weather reports that called for misty, cool and a chance of rain on Saturday morning, saying he assumed we would not be working. What????? Obviously this wonderful new member does not know the stalwart team that makes up the HAS!!!! Despite mud, mist, and a bit of fog, he and twelve more of us turned out for another day of screening!! The dirt we are screening was removed from a site that is of historical importance but might very well be fill dirt, brought in during a more recent construction phase. Our consulting professional archeologists have recommended that we dig a 1 x 1 meter unit in the middle of each of the twelve piles to test the soil. So that's what we're doing!!! We haven't recovered any significant artifacts yet, but we're enjoying the project!!



John Rich standing in one of the 1 x 1 meter test units at the site.



Bob Sewell, Dave Dyer and John Rich digging one of the 1 x 1 units.



Charlie Aulbach, John Mancha, Sharon Menegaz, and Bob Sewell get to work screening dirt from Pile 6.



Dave Dyer holds an unusually shaped rock recovered from the dirt piles. Any guesses?

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Tom Williams and Bob Sewell test a prototype super heavy duty screen designed by Tom. He'll have the larger version ready for the next screening session! Tom is one of our MVPs for sure!!!!



We had several special guests at our Lab at Linda's in December including professional archeologists from Moore Archeological Consulting, Dr. Roger Moore, Douglas Mangum and Eleanor Stoddart who are helping us identify artifacts.



Bob Sewell, Dave Dyer, Mike Lemen, and John Rich taking a break. The dirt we are screening is a challenge to dig – wet, dense, heavy and full of clay and debris.



Lunch at the Monument Inn after screening dirt all morning! A well deserved nosh!!! We were actually surprised that they let 8 very muddy, very dirty folks in the door!



Artifacts or notifacts?? Some of the items recovered from the dirt piles on Saturday – green, clear and brown glass, bits of metal including a coin and a button or rivet with a raised middle, and bits of pottery (probably modern). As one of my professional mentors says “Negative archeology is relevant, too”.