The Houston Archeological Society celebrated San Jacinto Day in April by putting together an exhibit for the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy's annual Patron's Party and Symposium, displaying artifacts recovered by Larry Golden, his dad Mack and other members of the Golden family during the 1960s from the mudflats near the former town site of San Jacinto. The town site adjoined the San Jacinto Battlefield and many of the artifacts recovered date to the period of the Battle of San Jacinto. The town site was occupied from the 1820s through about 1900, and was also a gathering site for Texians fleeing during the Runaway Scrape in 1836 as well as the site of a Civil War armory in the 1860s.

Map drawn by Larry Golden showing the area in which the artifacts were recovered. In the 1960s there were still foundation features of sidewalks, brick rubble and an anchor clearly visible in the mud.

An overlay showing structures that existed in the town site of San Jacinto including shipyards and a sawmill.

This map is an overlay showing the town site of San Jacinto over what the site looks like today. The area from which the artifacts were recovered is completely underwater.
HAS member Larry Golden and his family recovered these artifacts during "blue norther"s in the 1960s when the winds blew the tide out and the mudflats were exposed (the area is now completely underwater). Fortunately for us, they cleaned and preserved these artifacts, some of which date back to the Battle of San Jacinto including a Mexican Army "6" button, several Texian Army buttons, coins dating as far back as 1829 and other items, plus numerous buttons, buckles, knives and munitions from the Civil War period. When he was in the 8th grade Larry used these items for his Texas History project ... and won first place!!! Larry and his family have loaned the artifacts to us for this incredible exhibit and we’re now sharing the photos from that exhibit with you in this album.

Clay pipes recovered from the San Jacinto town site mudflats include two effigy pipes identified as Ulysses S. Grant and Zachary Taylor and several other decorated pipe. Coins dating back to 1829. Several of them have holes in them indicating that they were either sewn into clothing or used as a pendant.

Bottles including "turtle" and "umbrella" ink bottles, ale bottles and medicine bottles. Buttons including a Mexican Army 6th battalion button, Republic of Texas Navy Button, Civil War Cavalry, Infantry and Artillery buttons, a Terry’s Texas Rangers badge, a WWI shipbuilding badge and more.
A Parianware Plate that Antiques Roadshow expert David Lackey has identified as English and dating between 1840 and 1860. Amazingly, this was removed intact from the mud.

Bowie Knife and buckles. Interestingly during the Civil War the sawmill that was located in the San Jacinto town site was turned into an armory and produced Bowie Knives and other armaments. Could this knife have been made at that armory?
We owe a big thanks also to HAS member Mike Lemen who facilitated a $500 donation from his employer, Chevron Corporation, to underwrite this exhibit in honor of his great-great-grandfather, William Washington Hawkins who fought at the Battle of San Jacinto.

Barbara Eaves, one of the organizers of the Patron’s Party and Symposium sent this note expressing appreciation for the Houston Archeological Society’s support of the events: “Thank you for rallying the HAS to be such a big supporter of the Symposium. The exhibits were wonderful and the big grinning guys were terrific!!! I’m tallying the evaluation forms, and HAS is mentioned more often than any group as being the source of info about the Symposium.”

An interesting article about the history of the town site of San Jacinto can be accessed here [http://www.jkwhistory.com/historysnippets.htm](http://www.jkwhistory.com/historysnippets.htm).

Thanks to everyone who manned this exhibit over the San Jacinto weekend including Larry Golden, Bob Sewell, Tom Nuckols and Louis Aulbach (the “big grinning guys” referred to above) Larry Golden and I gave a presentation to the Houston Archeological Society in April on this exhibit and we’ve been asked to repeat this program for several other local groups. We’ll also be presenting the program at the Texas Archeological Society’s annual meeting 23 – 25 October, 2015 at the OMNI Westside here in Houston. Watch for details!