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Figure 1. The Nottingham Lace Factory. (Courtesy Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas)

In Search of the Lost Community of Nottingham

Archival and Archeo-Geophysical Investigations on Site 41GV71

Russ Brownlow

Traces of a late 1800s industrial venture, a lace factory that flickered in and out of existence in 1893, are being investigated by archeologists as part of a bigger project to try to unearth evidence of a small community in southwestern Galveston County. The project began in early 2008, when Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., conducted archeological investigations around the remnants of the Nottingham Lace Factory (41GV71) (Figure 1).

Figure 2. Aerial view of the factory foundation remnants.

Site 41GV71 was originally recorded in 1978 by Shirley Wetzel who, at the time, was a member of a Rice University seminar that conducted preliminary archeological and historical research on the site. Her research (Wetzel 1978, 1980a and 1980b), along with that of Texas Anderson (1980), produced a detailed history of the short-lived Nottingham Lace Factory and found archival evidence that the developers of the lace factory also platted the Community of Nottingham around the factory and presumably constructed several support facilities such as a boarding house, saloons and a railroad depot.

Unfortunately, the endeavor failed shortly after its inception as a result of a national financial crisis that occurred in the 1890s. Later, the hurricane of 1900 destroyed the factory, leaving only a few remnants standing. These remnants were subsequently toppled by the hurricane of 1915. After the demise of the factory, the surrounding environs were modified (i.e., leveled, plowed and raised) to facilitate farming and ranching activities, leaving only the foundation of the lace factory visible today within the cattle pastures that surround it (Figure 2).

With the lace factory foundation comprising the only visible evidence of the purported Community of Nottingham, one of the primary goals of Horizon's investigations was to compile archival evidence pertaining to the endeavor to determine if the community actually sprang up around the factory during its short existence, and if so, to potentially determine the locations of support facilities such as the boarding house, saloons and train depot that had been mentioned in the literature. In addition to intensive archival research, Horizon also attempted to locate any subsurface evidence of such facilities via archeo-geophysical methods. Assuming that the development of a community (or at least the support structures) would have resulted in a variety of subsurface metallic anomaly clusters such as nails, screws and other construction materials, Horizon utilized the services of Archaeo-Geophysical Associates (AGA), LLC, to assess the acreage surrounding the factory foundation with an EM61 electromagnetic induction meter (i.e., a time domain metal detector) (Figure 3). The results of the archival research and the archeo-geophysical investigations are summarized below.

Archival Research

To flesh out the history of the Community of Nottingham, Project Archeologist Reign Clark of Horizon conducted archival research at the University of Texas at Austin's Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and at the Rosenberg Library in Galveston. Other information was gathered from sources on the Internet and through an interview with Brian

Figure 3. EM61 electromagnetic induction meter used to assess Site 41GV71. (Courtesy Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.)

Davis of the Galveston Historical Foundation. While this work was productive, Clark was most fortunate to garner an audience with Wetzel, the original recorder of Site 41GV71 and an active historian on the site. Wetzel provided invaluable assistance by making her documentation of the site, field notes and collections (now housed at Rice University) available to Horizon staff.

The Community of Nottingham

The best summary of the history of the area is provided by Hall (2007) in his article entitled "A Fascinating Failure: Galveston Island's Lost City of Nottingham." This article, which features a 2004 Wetzel interview by Hall, discusses the lace factory venture and planned Nottingham community as follows:

> A lace curtain and mosquito-netting factory was built, streets were actually lined out, and a railroad watering station was constructed. A boarding house had been completed for the Nottingham factory construction workers and the framework was up for a restaurant and beer hall. Numerous wells were dug to supply the factory and the community with ample water.
>
> The streets were even named, east to west, 9th Street through 17th Street, and north to south, Columbia Avenue, Texas Avenue, Richmond Avenue, and Washington Avenue. (Hall 2007)

The article goes on to describe how passengers were ferried by the Galveston and Western Railway from the Port of Galveston to Lafitte's Grove and west island beaches. The railway line's excursion train, called "The Little Susie," "carried families on open flat cars for Sunday picnics to the Nottingham area now known as Pirate's Beach, Pirate's Cove and Lafitte's Cove (Hall 2007)."

While Hall (2007) notes that the streets of the community were laid out, it is not known if the Community of Nottingham was ever developed for residential purposes. A number of informant interviews and contradictory newspaper articles cloud the issue. According to Ronnie Hansen, interviewed by Roberta Christensen (1992) in 1987, his grandfather told him that there were more than 100 houses comprising the Community of Nottingham. Supposedly these structures were all swept away by the 1900 hurricane.

The June 6, 1937, edition of the *Galveston Daily News (GDN)* ran a story entitled "Nottingham Was Once Thriving Community; Name Given Because Lace Factory Maintained There" (GDN 1937). An editor's note at the beginning of the article states that the information contained within the article was provided by Kathleen Bradford Benson, county school superintendent, in response to an inquiry as to how Nottingham got its name. After whimsically discussing the association of Nottingham with the fabled Robin Hood and his Merry Men, Bradford indicates that the name actually came from the Nottingham lace factory. She notes that:

> . . . a Nottingham lace factory was built near the present site of the school house and a colony of lace makers (was) imported and the colony christened Nottingham. The industry thrived from its inception; the damp air from the gulf prevented drying and breaking of threads(,) and curtains by the thousands were turned out . . .
>
> Nottingham grew rapidly while the factory was in operation. There were several stores and three beer saloons, besides a goodly number of residences.
>
> The 1900 storm so badly damaged the factory that the building was torn down by Hart Settle and the machinery taken out. All other buildings were completely swept away; nothing was left of the once thriving settlement.

The Nottingham Lace Factory

As previously indicated, Anderson (1980) and Wetzel (1980a and 1980b) completed small-scale testing and analysis around the lace factory in the late 1970s. In addition, they also reviewed a large number of newspaper articles from the time period of the factory and conducted local informant interviews. The results of their research and analyses were

compiled into several reports (Anderson 1980; Wetzel 1980a, 1980b). Anderson (1980) also notes that the excavations around the foundation were void of cultural materials aside from window glass, bricks, mortar and asphalt; however, a test unit placed in a nearby depression produced domestic refuse, suggesting that the feature was a trash pit associated with the community. Based on the types of domestic refuse recovered, Anderson (1980) concluded that the location was used as a trash dump for a boarding house or restaurant contemporaneous with the building and operation of the lace factory. Unfortunately, she also indicated that the field crew found no confirmation that such a structure was once present on the property.

While Anderson (1980) reported on the ceramics from the trash pit feature, Wetzel (1980b) provided an extensive background on the economy of Galveston and the history of the lace factory. According to Wetzel (1980a), Frank Dana obtained the land for the factory in 1891. Shortly thereafter, he and Raphael Behrans began promoting the endeavor. Behrans was described as a German "lace curtain maker of life-long experience" whose role appears to be that of a promoter. Shortly before the transfer of the property to Dana, Behrans announced that the land had been obtained through his and Dana's efforts and subscriptions were being taken. He further noted that the proposed lace factory would be 250 ft long by 85 ft wide and would cost $120,000. Once the Chamber of Commerce accepted the project, excursions and land sales took place in the early months of 1892.

On January 14, 1892, 200 people rode to the site in the open cars of the "The Little Susie" to attend an elaborate cornerstone-laying ceremony. Grand Master Freemason John Watson officiated the laying of the cornerstone [*Dallas Morning News (DMN)* 1892]. After the dedication, an auction was held where 300 of the 800 offered lots were sold, raising approximately $30,000. It was reported that the participants of the festivities feasted on oysters and beer. Two weeks after the groundbreaking, the walls of the factory began to rise and a boarding house for the workers had been completed. Wetzel (1980b) notes that in February 1892, a telephone office had been installed at Nottingham and a post office application had been submitted.

On May 4, 1893, the lace factory opened for operation, and the first curtain produced was cut into small pieces so that all visitors on that day would have a memento of the occasion. Wetzel (1980b) states that a newspaper article from May 8, 1893, reported that stockholders and their guests went to see the operation. This article described the lace-making process and further reported that Behrens had dug 20 wells on the property to supply water for the factory. Power to the factory was supplied by a small, high-speed engine. The article also noted that the factory was to be fully completed in two weeks and that a thread factory was to be established in the fall of 1893. Wetzel (1980b) also cites an advertisement dated July 22, 1893, that featured opportunities for women to work in the finishing room of the factory and then a July 30, 1893, advertisement offering for sale the first lace curtains produced by the factory.

Further articles found by Wetzel (1980b) report that the factory was running busily and straining to fill orders in August 1893, and that the factory hosted a variety of excursions and viewings into late September 1893. On May 14, 1893, the *DMN* ran an article entitled "Lace Curtain Making: The Factory in Nottingham in Operation: The Various Stages of the Work." The article reports on one of the factory tours, and sheds light on the day-to-day operation.

> Yesterday afternoon three cars loaded with invited guests visited Nottingham to inspect the lace curtain factory there. The conspicuous among these were E. H. Gorso, clad in a four-button linen duster, and Charles R. Brown, who wore a snuff colored hat of the Peter Stuyvesant epoch.
>
> As the lace factory of Nottingham is wholly a Galveston institution, it is deserving of especial notice. The factory building proper is a three-story brick, 60 feet wide by 200 in length. Adjoining this is the bleaching and finishing building, two stories, also of brick. These buildings are well lighted and well constructed. (*DMN* 1893)

Figure 1 depicts an image of the lace factory as described above. After a lengthy discussion of the various threads produced at the factory, the article continues:

> The No. 80 thread goes to a machine where it is wound on brass spools, each holding about 150 yards. The spools are discs about two and one half inches in diameter and about one-tenth of an inch thick. There is a slit in the edge into which the thread winds just as it is wound into the spool for a sewing machine. One hundred or more of these spools are wound at one time.

Interestingly, what was originally thought to be some type of brass washer found during Horizon's field investigations turned out to be one of the brass spools described above (Figure 4).

Wetzel (1980a) notes that land records show that the Nottingham Company had defaulted on its bonds,

Figure 4. Brass spool found near lace factory foundation. (Courtesy Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.)

principal and interest, and it was forced to sell the factory and land for $5,000 to James Spillane, a Nottingham Company shareholder, in January 1894. Wetzel (1980b) indicates that the 1895 City Directory lists the Nottingham lace curtain factory, with Spillane as the proprietor, but little evidence exists that he ever ran the factory in full operation. The 1896 City Directory does not list the factory, suggesting that it was completely out of business.

The factory building was mostly destroyed by the hurricane of 1900, and the few surviving remnants were toppled by the hurricane of 1915. According to informants, the building was at least partially torn down and the bricks were utilized elsewhere, some for cattle pens (Wetzel 1980a). Some of the informants interviewed by Wetzel (1980b) noted a smokestack from the original factory still standing until 1915, while others did not remember a smokestack. One informant noted that two saloons were present in the vicinity of the town, but no train depot was ever constructed. Another informant indicated that the Nottingham school was located only a few hundred yards away from the factory ruins, but was moved to another location when the district merged with the Galveston school system. Interestingly, an image found in Murat Halstead's (1900) publication pertaining to the destruction that occurred in Galveston as a result of the 1900 hurricane is

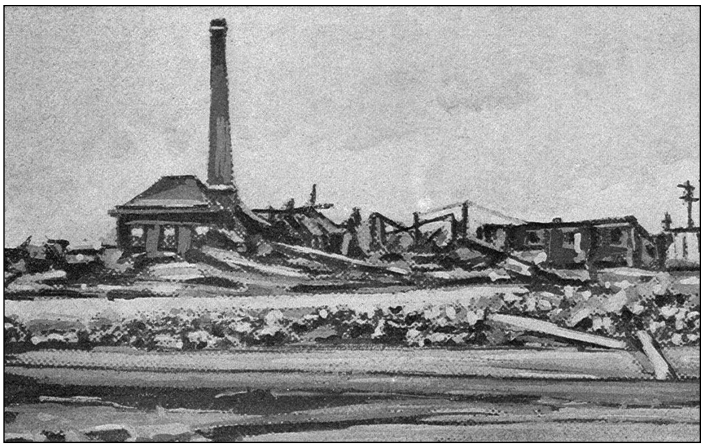

Figure 5. Watercolor showing destroyed lace factory (Halstead 1900).

entitled "Wreckage in the West End" (Figure 5). Comparing this image with the image in Figure 1 clearly shows that this watercolor image is of the demolished lace factory, as the bleaching and finishing room on the west side of the structure as well as the smokestack are still standing.

While Anderson's (1980) and Wetzel's (1980a and 1980b) research and field investigations clearly show that the lace factory and some sort of boarding school operated at the location based on the recovered cultural materials, their research provides few references that the area was actually occupied as a community. As noted earlier, informant interviews suggested that two saloons were nearby, as was a school. Anderson (1980) also referenced a January 25, 1892, article that mentions a boarding house and a restaurant and a beer hall; however, Wetzel's (1980b) in-depth review of newspaper stories from the period does not mention any other structures aside from a telephone office. This may suggest that the undertaking never grew beyond the actual lace factory and some possible support operations for the workers.

The Galveston and Western Railway and the Nottingham Train Depot

The Galveston and Western Railway operated a narrow gauge rail line across the Nottingham property, ending less than 1 mi west of a community at Lafitte's Grove, which is said to be the location where the privateer Jean Lafitte buried treasure prior to his eviction from the island in 1821. During its heyday, the railroad serviced Laffite's Grove, taking Galveston residents to the picnic grounds located there (Christensen 1992). "The Little Susie" (Figure 6), one of the three engines that ran the line, was named after the young daughter of Galveston's Mayor Charles Hurley. "The Little Susie" ran the narrow gauge line from 1884 to 1923. The company's assets were sold to the Santa Fe Railway in 1923, and the last 4 mi of its line were absorbed into the Santa Fe Railway system.

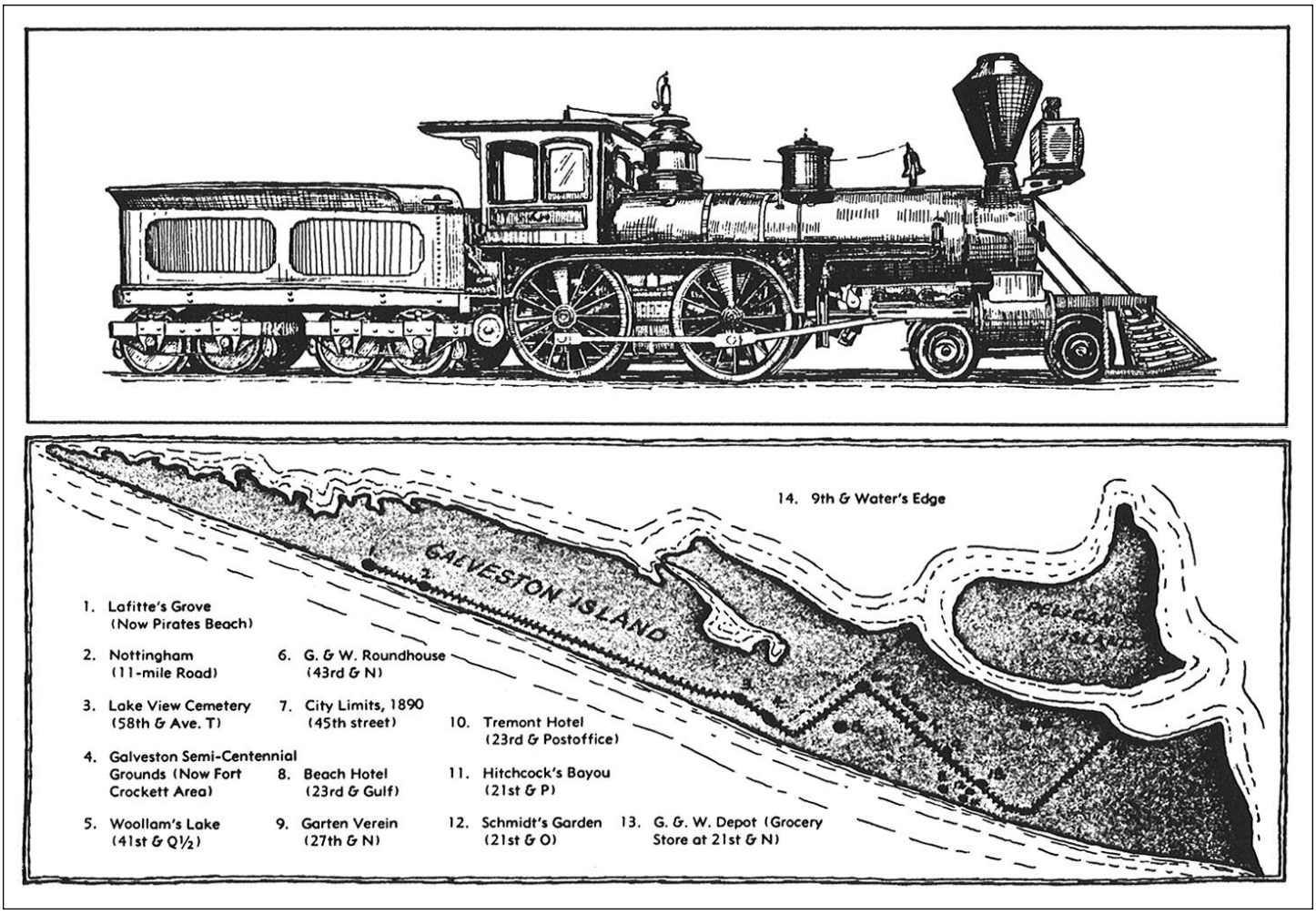

Figure 6. "The Little Susie" and its route along the Galveston and Western Railroad. (Courtesy Robert Nesbitt)

Wetzel (1978) mentions a recovery of railroad spikes from test units N110 and N127 dug during the 1978 field session on the site. These units, excavated along the east side of the factory foundation, are located 30 to 40 m away from the Galveston and Western Railway right-of-way as it appears on historic and modern topographic maps. Wetzel marked a sketch in her field book with the word "railroad?" running parallel to the east wall of the Nottingham lace factory foundation, suggesting a possible railway spur at this location.

Much of the Galveston and Western Railway line is still visible within the eastern portion of the project boundaries, east of the lace factory where a berm projects up to 3 ft above surrounding terrain. It is said that trees were planted along the rail course to take up rain water pooled in the ditches, keeping the berm from sloughing due to the effects of inundation (Christensen 1992). Christensen mentions that early 20th century agricultural land use of areas south of the lace factory have flattened and spread the berm soils, which has made the old rail line undetectable at the location of the lace factory.

Archeo-Geophysical Investigations

As discussed earlier, the existing literature indicates that several ancillary structures, including a boarding house and several saloons, had been built in the vicinity of the lace factory to provide housing and entertainment for workers who were constructing the factory and later for workers laboring in the factory. A train depot servicing the factory and the surrounding area is also noted in the literature as are reports of a school and up to 100 houses in the Community of Nottingham that was platted around the lace factory. Although a pedestrian survey conducted over the acreage surrounding the factory failed to produce evidence of any support structures or a once "thriving" community, Horizon recognized the fact that dense vegetative ground cover over the broad expanse of the platted area of the community could have easily obscured any surviving remnants. In an attempt to locate subsurface concentrations of ferrous material that were potentially indicative of surviving footprints of any structures, Horizon utilized the services of AGA to perform an EM61 electromagnetic induction meter survey over approximately 72 acres surrounding the lace factory foundation.

Figure 7. Section of narrow gauge track found on Site 41GV71. (Courtesy Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.)

While the EM61 survey produced numerous "hits" of ferrous materials scattered over the property, only three relative clusters of materials were observed within the data. Test unit excavations within two of the observed clusters produced only modern trash, suggesting that these two clusters were not associated with the late 1890 endeavor. The third area consisted of a dense linear cluster of anomalies just south of the lace factory foundation. Upon excavating a test unit over this cluster of anomalies, Horizon found it to be a segment of the narrow gauge railroad track that once carried "The Little Susie" to this area of the island (Figure 7). Once the lace factory was destroyed, the removal of the segments of track for sale at local junk yards in the vicinity appears to have been a common occurrence. In 1987, Christensen (1992) sat down with D. M. Cleary, a Galveston West End local, and was told the following account:

> The railroad tracks were very light and not even worth taking to the junk yard. I found the track located where Mrs. Nass lived at 7 Mile Road. Business had not boomed yet, and so I said, I will take what I can get from the iron because I am here, so I picked what I could get and I sold it down at Levy's (Levy's was a junk yard at 29th and the wharf). I can remember it was nothing like a railroad track and it was light like a street car track (Christensen 1992:106).

Cleary then took Christensen out to an area overlooking the Judge Wayman Estate pasture where the lace factory remnants sit and offered the following observation:

> We found this track about 1945 or 1948. I wasn't the first who found the iron. A drag line fellow who worked for the city told me they had run into some street car track. Then I found the track when I lined up with what he told me but I didn't find any wooden railroad ties. They didn't have creosote posts in those days. If they were not treated they just probably disintegrated.
>
> There was a clump of trees north of Hwy. 3004 and south of Stewart Road but closer to 3005. It must have been a little ridge there. Sonny Ostermayer was fixing a windmill in the Wayman Pasture, over a mile further up than where I found mine. At that time Wayman's Place ran all the way to the beach, and Sonny got some track but it wasn't worth the work. I asked Sonny if he got rich off that iron back there.
>
> Sonny had to dig deeper than I did. My junk was no more than eighteen inches below the ground. Where Sonny got his was in Wayman's pasture about from 8 Mile Road to the beach. We worked for over half a day and we nearly broke our backs out in that hot sun. We got a whole truck load of that stuff and got about three dollars for the whole load. Sonny only got a couple dollars for his, hardly enough to buy a sody water. He sure was griped. (Christensen 1992:106, 108).

Conclusion

Unfortunately, Horizon's investigations failed to produce any clear-cut evidence of any of the purported structures that once stood around the lace factory. While the literature indicates that various structures were once present, several accounts also indicate that all structures were swept away by the 1900 hurricane. In addition to this, other accounts indicate that the owner of the property also routinely plowed and leveled the area after the destruction of the factory, effectively diffusing any potential surviving remnants of any structures over the property.

Although the investigations were unsuccessful in locating any of the associated structures, they did answer one unexpected question. Looking at the route of the "The Little Susie" in Figure 6, the route terminates at Lafitte's Grove with no obvious spur to facilitate the turnaround of the locomotive for its return trip back to Galveston. Figure 8 presents the results of the EM61 survey over the property. As can be clearly seen in this figure, the EM61 revealed the subsurface extent of a railroad spur flanking the lace factory

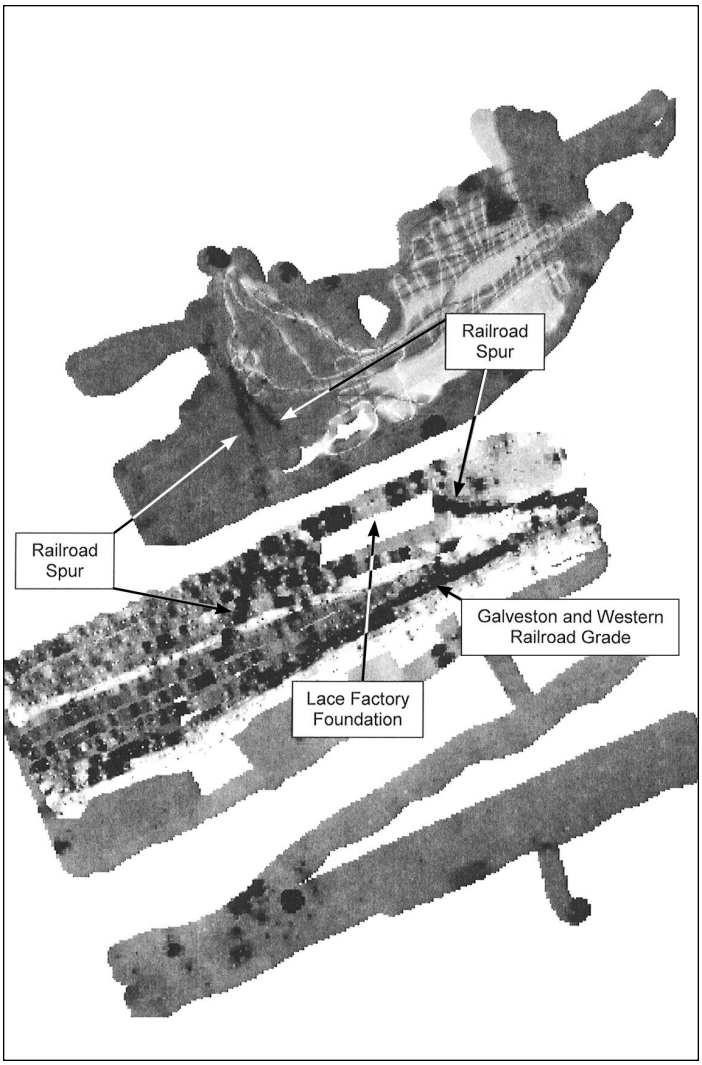

Figure 8. Map of EM61 hits showing railroad spur flanking lace factory. (Courtesy Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.)

for use as such a turnaround. Once "The Little Susie" terminated its western progress at Lafitte's Grove, it would have backed up along the western flank of the spur and then moved forward along the eastern flank of the spur until the track rejoined the main track. Such a spur would have also allowed for the offloading of raw materials and loading of finished products from docks situated on the factory. Horizon's delineation of this spur also confirms Wetzel's 1978 sketch in her notebook where she questioned the presence of the railroad based on her recovery of several railroad spikes.

Interestingly, Horizon continues with investigations on the property during a time when a hurricane has again destroyed portions of the island and the nation is once again struggling with an economic crisis. While archeological evidence of the factory and the railroad spur has been identified, firm evidence of the lost Community of Nottingham remains elusive.

Acknowledgements

Horizon cannot adequately express in words our gratitude to Shirley Wetzel for her assistance and generosity in sharing her notes, collections, and expertise.

Russ Brownlow, who served as the Nottingham Lace Factory project's principal investigator, has been the cultural resources director at Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., since 2000.

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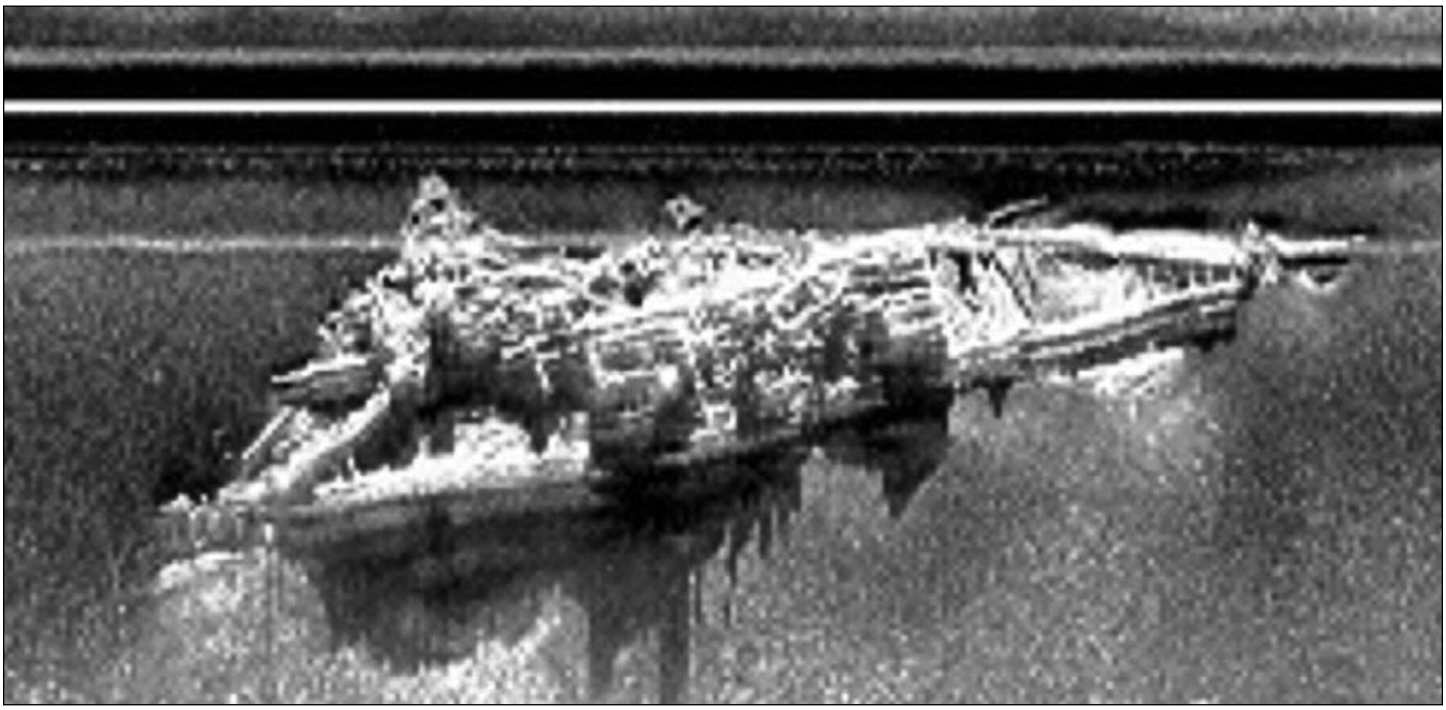
CURRENT NEWS AND EVENTS

Hurricane Ike Clean-up

AD Provides Technical Help, Assesses Damages



This sonar image shows a shipwreck that was recently recorded by the General Land Office along the Gulf shore. The line across the top is the path of the survey vessel. The wreck is more than 160 feet long.

Since Hurricane Ike hit the Texas coast last September, the Archeology Division (AD) has been part of a Texas Historical Commission (THC) team that has provided technical information and preservation assistance to property owners, local governments, the Coast Guard, the Corps of Engineers, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Texas General Land Office (GLO).

The THC established temporary satellite offices adjacent to FEMA offices in Galveston and Beaumont to assist owners of historic properties with their efforts to rebuild, and the agency sent staff members from various divisions to assess damage to historic properties and sites.

As part of this effort, State Marine Archeologist Steve Hoyt traveled to Galveston in late 2008 to meet with FEMA officials and to visit previously recorded archeological sites to evaluate the damage caused by Hurricane Ike. Because the archeological sites are widely separated, the short visit only allowed stops at a few sites.

According to Hoyt, the general impression is that, "as expected, buried sites on the bay side of the main road seem to have suffered little from Ike while those on the Gulf side were heavily impacted."

During this visit, Hoyt also met with the staff of the Texas Seaport Museum in Galveston, which is the home of the 1877 barque *Elissa*. A World War II lifeboat kept by the museum and a vending machine disappeared during Hurricane Ike, and the museum's waterfront manager is concerned that these may be in the water near the *Elissa*.

"The historic ship currently sits with its bow toward shore, but it is scheduled to be turned around with its deeper stern toward shore," said Hoyt, adding that museum personnel were concerned that both the steel lifeboat and vending machine could be in a spot where they could damage the iron hull of the *Elissa* when it is turned around.

In February, Hoyt, THC staff member Bill Pierson and marine steward Andy Hall, conducted a number of searches in the area of concern, both by diving and by dragging weighted ropes across the bottom. Unfortunately, the work only yielded partial success.

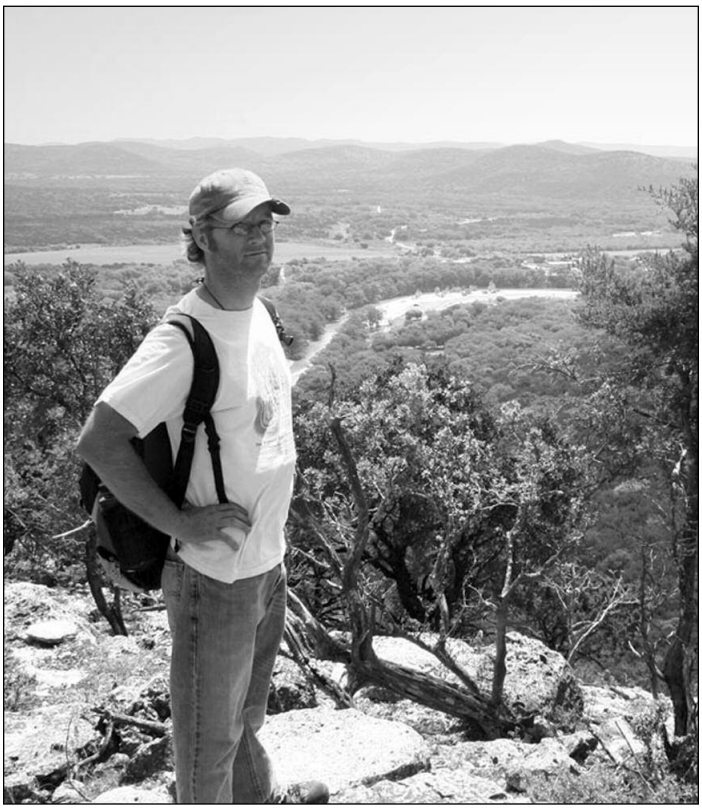
"Murky waters allowed no visibility, so all divers' searches were by touch. Several hours of searching did locate the vending machine but, unfortunately, the whereabouts of the lifeboat remains a mystery," said Hoyt. "A buoy was attached to the vending machine so it could be recovered before the *Elissa* is turned around."

Hoyt also has been working with the GLO on its offshore sonar surveys of the Gulf shore and bays most heavily hit by Hurricane Ike. The work was conducted as part of a massive project to remove submerged debris caused by the hurricane. The THC and GLO are working to ensure that removal of the debris does not disturb any historic shipwrecks. So far, the GLO's survey has located three historic shipwrecks, two of which are known to be Civil War blockade runners and are recorded archeological sites. According to Hoyt, most of the sonar data are still under analysis.

Back in Austin, AD Project Reviewer Ed Baker has been busy with hurricane-related requests since Hurricane Ike hit. Baker works in the division's state and federal review section and focuses on minimizing the impact of construction and other activities on important archeological sites. From September to March he responded to numerous, daily requests sent by individuals, businesses and other groups who needed to clean and repair sites along the coast that were laden with debris. This involved a massive effort to collect, transport, stage, bury and burn tons of discarded materials.

"The before and after satellite images of the storm indicate that dozens of archeological sites from near the Texas/Louisiana state line to near the Freeport area apparently suffered adverse effects," said Baker, adding that the initial storm surge was reported at 10 to 14 feet along the affected beaches. "Our first agency priority has been to assist in clean-up, but slowly we've begun to visit those sites thought to have been damaged by the storm."

Brad Jones Is New AD Collections Manager



Brad Jones participated in a 2008 Hicks & Company survey of Garner State Park for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The arrival of 2009 marked new beginnings for many of us, and that was certainly the case for the Archeology Division (AD).

Brad Jones began work as the new AD collections manager in January, filling the position recently vacated by Maureen Brown. His past participation in all levels of field investigations in Texas, Ecuador and Peru, along with his publications and a strong background in collections management and curation, make him a great match for this position. Previously, Jones worked as a field archeologist and curation technician for the University of Texas at Austin's Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and as a principal investigator and lab director for Hicks & Company.

Jones will prepare in-house collections for eventual placement in certified repositories and has taken on the task of bringing the AD lab and collections in compliance with the Texas Historical Commission's curatorial certification requirements. Among his lab duties is supervision and training of student interns from the anthropology department at Texas State University in San Marcos. He also will apply his experience in historical archeology to assist with the completion of ongoing projects.

Patricia A. Mercado-Allinger
State Archeologist
THC Archeology Division

Economic Downturn Affects TPTF Grants

Unexpected expenses related to Hurricane Ike and loss of investment revenue during the economic downturn resulted in the postponement of the FY 2009 Texas Preservation Trust Fund (TPTF) grant round that was supposed to have been determined last fall.

TPTF, which was created by the Texas Legislature in 1989, is an interest-earning pool of public and private monies. The earned interest and designated gifts are distributed yearly as matching grants to qualified applicants for the acquisition, survey, restoration and preservation of historic properties, archeological sites and associated collections of the State of Texas. The fund also supports related activities, such as educational events like Texas Archeology Month (TAM) fairs.

"In the aftermath of the storm, it was determined that a complete assessment of the impacts of the hurricane and the possible need for the use of TPTF funds in the damaged coastal areas was warranted," said Mark Wolfe, Texas Historical Commission (THC) chief deputy executive director.

Closely following on the heels of Hurricane Ike, came more bad news as financial markets around the world were hit by the recession. In late 2008 the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company, which manages the fund, informed the THC that due to market fluctuations the amount available for grants would be difficult to forecast and would be substantially lower than in past years.

"This development has led to a policy change in the administration of the grant program," said Wolfe. "Rather than projecting the amount of interest earned, we will wait until the end of each fiscal year—August 31—to calculate the actual interest earned. This known amount will guide future TPTF grant funding decisions."

According to a letter sent in January to all FY 2009 TPTF applicants by Wolfe, the next round of grants will not be awarded until fall 2009. There will be no TAM grants awarded this year; however, emergency TPTF grants will continue to be processed as in previous years.

"We apologize for any inconvenience that these developments have created for current and future grant applicants and appreciate everyone's patience," said Wolfe. "We believe that the ultimate result will be important improvements to the grant program."

For additional information and the latest news about the TPTF grant program, consult the THC web site (www.thc.state.tx.us/grantsincent/gratptf.shtml).

THC Recognizes Austin-based PBS&J Office

THC Executive Director F. Lawerence Oaks (left) and Archeology Division Director Jim Bruseth (right) pose with Meg Cruse, David Sherman and Clell Bond of PBS&J.

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) awarded the local office of PBS&J, a national consulting firm, an Award of Merit in Archeology on January 29. The presentation took place at the meeting of the THC Archeology Committee in Austin.

According to Mark Denton, state and federal review section coordinator for the THC's Archeology Division, David Sherman served as the principal investigator on a project performed by PBS&J at Sites 41PN131 and 41PN137 in Panola County. The work included field research, which involved remote sensing and test-level investigations associated with the documentation of the sites.

"This field work was combined with laboratory analysis that helped clearly define and assess eligibility determinations for both sites," he said.

The THC Award of Merit recognizes the efforts and contributions of an individual or a group involved in preserving Texas' cultural and historical resources.

TAM Team Faced Unusual Hurdles in 2008

In 2008, Texas Archeology Month (TAM) organizers faced a number of unexpected challenges as they prepared and conducted festivities in their communities. In early September, less than a month before the annual statewide TAM celebration began on October 1, Hurricane Ike hit the Texas coast and threw well-laid plans off by a week or more as some areas were affected by wind damage, flooding and the loss of essential services. In addition, a prolonged and heated presidential race drew the attention of Texas residents, who chose to tune into the debates on dates they might have attended a TAM event. Finally, as the price of gasoline rose to unprecedented heights, many chose to stay home in order to conserve fuel and money.

Despite these unusual challenges, which were described by event organizers in their responses to a survey sent by the Texas Historical Commission's Archeology Division (AD), more than 30,000 people across Texas attended TAM events during the monthlong celebration in October. Attendees included 6,177 elementary school children, 4,464 middle schoolers, 1,153 high school students, 312 college-age students and 4,841 adults.

The estimated attendance total does not include the hundreds of people who helped organize the events, volunteered their time, or gave presentations, lectures and demonstrations.

According to the final version of the 2008 TAM calendar, which was updated online throughout October, 94 events were scheduled in 61 cities. This included large fairs, festivals and expos; permanent and special exhibits; lectures, presentations and workshops; interpretive tours and visits to actual archeological sites; special activities such as mock digs; open house activities; and a conference.

Each year, TAM helps tell the real stories of Texas' archeological past in communities across the state. The events draw numerous groups into partnerships, important collaborations that are a key to the success of the celebration. According to this year's survey, there were nearly 100 groups who hosted, funded and sponsored a TAM event in their part of the state in 2008. These included local, county, state and federal agencies and commissions as well as private firms, historical commissions, museums and educational institutions.

Despite the many challenges they faced in 2008, the organizers not only persevered, but overwhelmingly stated that they plan to do it again in 2009. Out of 63 responses, 56 TAM event coordinators stated that they are planning a TAM celebration in 2009, and 42 said they would plan the same type or similar event as that offered in 2008. Only one group indicated they would not offer a TAM event in the future; however, according to the evaluation form, another group will assume the task in that particular city.

"This is a great event for our community," wrote one TAM organizer in her response to a question in the survey. Responding to the same question, another stated, "We feel it is very important to reach the people of (our region), especially the youth. These are our future who will someday inherit our history."

TAM 2009 Calendar Deadline Is June 22

Texas Archeology Month (TAM) event sponsors who would like to have information listed in the TAM 2009 Calendar should submit an Event Form by June 22 to the Archeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Only events open to the public can be included in the Calendar, but if you have activities (such as school tours) that are part of a larger event, those can be mentioned as long as the public has access to the same activity some time during the month. Inclusion of any limited participation TAM activities will depend on space availability.

For your convenience, we are including the TAM Event Form in this newsletter. You can also download a copy at www.thc.state.tx.us/archeology/aapdfs/TAM_evnt_frm_09.pdf.

In addition to the TAM 2009 Calendar, the THC distributes a selection of materials free of charge to TAM event hosts. These include a manual called *How to Plan and Manage an Archeology Fair*, a unit for teachers called "Texas Archeology in the Classroom," posters and brochures. To request free copies, fill out the Materials Order Form included in this newsletter and available for download at www.thc.state.tx.us/archeology/aapdfs/TAM_ordr_frm_09.pdf.

Unfortunately, no TAM 2009 grants will be awarded this year through the Texas Preservation Trust Fund program (see related story, page 11).

Contact Information

Mail your Event Form and Materials Order Form to: Texas Historical Commission, Archeology Division, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276. You also may fax your forms to 512.463.8927. The Event Form also can be sent as an email attachment to marialuzm@thc.state.tx.us. The Materials Order Form can be sent to donna.mccarver@thc.state.tx.us.

For more information, call 512.463.9505.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY MONTH (TAM) • OCTOBER 2009
EVENT FORM

EVENT TITLE _____

EVENT DESCRIPTION—Be as specific as possible and **give details**. Provide descriptions of activities and presenters, topics of lectures, demonstrations and any other interesting details that will attract public attendance. Attach separate sheet if necessary.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

EVENT DATE(S) _____ **EVENT HOURS** _____ **ADMISSION FEES** _____

EVENT OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC? (a requirement for calendar listing)_____

EVENT LOCATION—Include name of place where event will be held, such as *Blank County Museum*.

Name of Place _____

Street Address (include directions if necessary) _____

City _____ County _____

EVENT SPONSOR(S) _____

CONTACT INFORMATION—Provide name, phone number and email address (if available) of one or two people who can be reached easily and web address of organization. This information may be printed in the Calendar of Events booklet and listed on the THC web site.

(1) Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

(2) Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Web site (if any) _____

Name, organization and mail address for **main** event coordinator:

Name _____

Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

TAM MATERIALS ORDER FORM—Download and submit this form to request brochures, posters and calendars for your TAM event. The forms are available at www.thc.state.tx.us/archeology/aapdfs/TAM_ordr_frm_09.pdf.

DEADLINE—Complete one Event Form for each event and return it by June 22, 2009, or email the required information by the same date.

PHOTOS—We welcome color photos of TAM 2008 for possible publication in the TAM 2009 Calendar of Events booklet. We also can request permission to print photos from local newspapers if you provide a news clipping.

MAILING ADDRESS

TAM, Archeology Division, Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276
Fax: 512.463.8927

FOR MORE INFORMATION—Contact the TAM Coordinator, 512.463.9505, marialuzm@thc.state.tx.us; or the Archeology Division, 512.463.6096, archeology@thc.state.tx.us.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY MONTH (TAM) • OCTOBER 2009
MATERIALS ORDER FORM

All materials provided free of charge to TAM event hosts

How to Plan and Manage an Archeology Fair

Archeology fairs emphasize hands-on activities, displays and interactive exhibits. This manual contains a step-by-step checklist for planning a fair and ideas for activities, including spear toss with atlatl, demonstration dig, flintknapping, wild-plant use, pottery making, rock-art painting, basket making, storytelling, tipi life, traditional foods and weaving. Also included are handouts to be used with various activities, as well as forms for scheduling volunteers and requesting publicity. About 40 pages long, the manual is intended for three-hole punching and placement in a notebook so you can add information, forms and other activity ideas of your own.

Texas Archeology in the Classroom: A Unit for Teachers

You can use this valuable classroom resource throughout the year. The four-part unit includes the following:

- Background sections that explain how archeologists work and provide overviews of archeological sites and Native Americans in Texas from Paleoindian through historical times.
- More than 20 activities or lesson plans using archeological topics for learning across the curriculum.

TAM 2009 Calendar Booklets

This colorful booklet contains listings and descriptions of upcoming TAM events throughout the state—approximately 90 in all. Event sponsors can mail them out as publicity and distribute them before and during their events.

Posters

TAM posters are available.

Brochures

Brochures feature a variety of archeological topics. A special folder to hold and display the brochures is also available.

ORDER FORM

Please send me:

____ copies of *How to Plan and Manage an Archeology Fair* ____ **TAM posters**
____ copies of the **TAM 2009 Calendar booklet.**

Brochures: Indicate how many of each brochure you would like to receive.

____ *How to Get Involved in Texas Archeology* ____ *Documenting Archeological Collections* ____ *Historic Texas Lands Plaque*
____ *Texas Archeology Month* ____ *Texas Archeological Stewardship Network* ____ *Destruction of Archeological Sites in Texas*
____ *A Property Owner's Guide to Archeological Sites* ____ *What Does an Archeologist Do?* ____ *Laws that Protect Archeological Sites*
____ *Marine Archeology in Texas* ____ *State Archeological Landmark Designation: A User's Guide* ____ *Artifact Collecting in Texas*
____ **Special folder to hold and display the brochures**

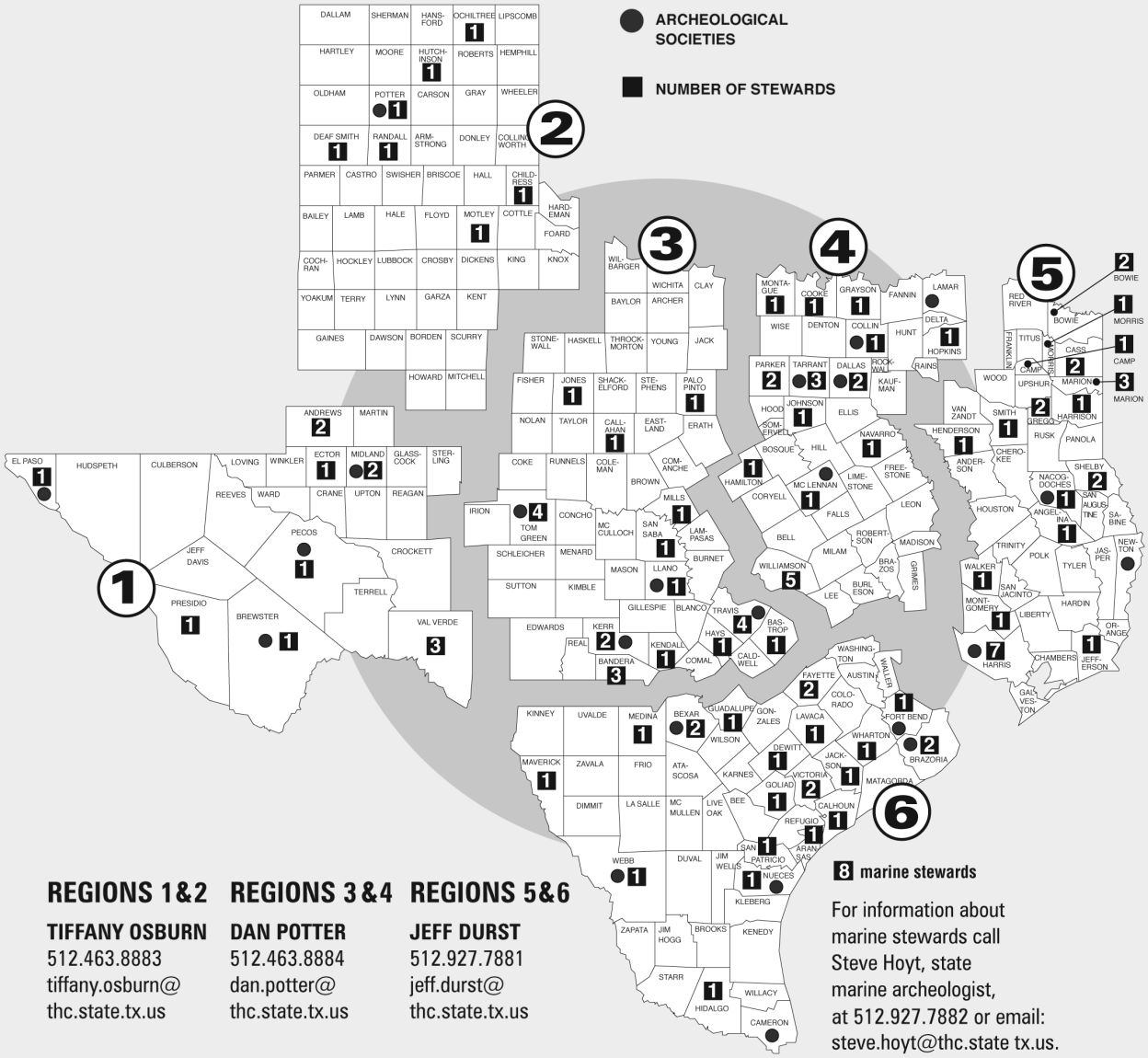
Name _____ Organization _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Send requests to TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, Archeology Division, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276; fax 512.463.8927; or email donna.mccarver@thc.state.tx.us. For more information call 512.463.6090.
Please allow a minimum of one week for delivery.

REGIONAL AND STEWARD NEWS



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thc.state.tx.us

REGIONS 3&4
DAN POTTER
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REGIONS 5&6
JEFF DURST
512.927.7881
jeff.durst@
thc.state.tx.us

8 marine stewards

For information about marine stewards call Steve Hoyt, state marine archeologist, at 512.927.7882 or email: steve.hoyt@thc.state tx.us.

Regional Archeologists' Reports

REGIONS 1 & 2 • TIFFANY OSBURN

Mountain/Pecos & Plains

Stewards in the Mountain/Pecos and Plains regions continue to work diligently on archeological surveys, research, site monitoring and public outreach. This reporting period encompassed Texas Archeology Month (TAM) in October, when many stewards were busy organizing and helping with related events. Together, this particular Texas Archeological Stewardship Network (TASN) group contributed more than 1,749 volunteer hours toward stewardship activities and drove 8,694 miles across the region. More than 295 pieces of educational literature or outreach material were distributed, and the presentations and workshops conducted by the stewards reached 271 people in the region. The stewardship network in Regions 1 and 2 succeeded in assisting 21 landowners; 22 agencies, organizations or institutions; and 60 individuals. Stewards recorded 11 new sites, monitored 28

sites and conducted or participated in 13 site investigations. The group also spent a significant amount of time documenting, analyzing and conserving five artifact collections.

Rick Day contributed 100 hours during this reporting period. He spent this time monitoring and investigating sites, which included the continued mapping and analysis of the Mott Creek site. He also assisted one landowner and two private individuals. Last October, Day attended the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) Annual Meeting in Lubbock.

Emery Lehnert from Del Rio discussed the importance of protecting petroglyphs with a local landowner and continues to provide information to interested individuals and groups about archeological sites that are open to the public.

Alvin Lynn monitored two sites and investigated three others during this period. In addition to his ongoing work on the documentation, conservation and analysis of two historic artifact collections, Lynn attended the TAS Annual Meeting, where a paper he coauthored was presented. The paper, coauthored by Regional Archeologist Tiffany Osburn and TASN member **Rolla Shaller**, focuses on the results of ongoing excavations at the Evan's 1868 Military Supply Depot. Since last August, Lynn has provided assistance to three private landowners, and in October he worked with a group of volunteers to continue test unit excavations at Evan's Supply Depot. Lynn also continues to conduct field work on Colonel Kit Carson's First Adobe Walls Battle site.

Marisue Potts Powell monitored three sites and conducted investigations of two other sites. She also was involved with two groups of home school students. One group excavated a three-toed horse exposed in a motorcycle trail near Mackenzie Lake, and the other group excavated a portion of a historic trash midden associated with the homestead of the founder of Wayland College. Powell also provided educational materials to the two groups.

John Preston conducted a workshop at the Hardeman County Museum Fall Festival, where he identified artifacts and disseminated archeological information. Preston continues to provide the Childress Museum and Courthouse with educational materials and literature. In addition, he assisted 16 Boy Scouts during this reporting period.

In addition to serving as TAS president-elect, **Joe Rogers** has been busy with other activities over the last six months. He presented a paper at the TAS Annual Meeting about field school investigations and was involved with TAM activities that included excavations at the M-Cross Ranch. Rogers also worked with KACV-TV (the local Amarillo PBS station) to produce video segments for an upcoming documentary series. He also participated in the creation of a DVD entitled *Cathedral in the Desert: The Story about the POW-Produced Art of St. Mary's in Umbarger, Texas* and *Texas Panhandle WWII Stories Curriculum Guide*. This work incorporates relevant local historical topics into public schools.

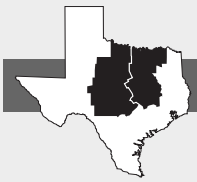
Last October, **Rolla Shaller** was honored at the TAS Annual Meeting in Lubbock, where he received the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Norman G. Flaigg Certificate of Outstanding Performance. In addition, Shaller coauthored a paper presented at the TAS Annual Meeting on the field school investigations at Evan's Supply Depot (see related discussion under **Alvin Lynn**). Also in October, Shaller worked for several days with Lynn and a group of volunteers at Evan's Depot, and, as part of TAM, he conducted four separate presentations at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum during Archeology Day. He also spent a large amount of time working at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum to prepare an exhibit highlighting the contributions of Floyd Studer and Stuart Johnston and to help with tasks related to the state held-in-trust records. Shaller attends meetings of the Randall County Historical Commission, and he helped with the group's annual fair and homecoming event. Finally, during this past period, Shaller monitored eight sites, recorded two new sites and investigated three sites.

Jack Skiles monitored four significant sites and assisted two agencies and institutions. During disastrous floods late last year, he monitored the Eagles Nest Canyon and Rattlesnake Canyon. While the shelters in Eagles Nest Canyon were only threatened by floodwaters, there was clear damage to the pictographs at Rattlesnake Canyon.

Evans Turpin has been busy recording and monitoring sites with members of the Iraan Archeological Society (IAS). He and others visited rock art sites on three different ranches in Pecos and Val Verde counties over the last six months. The IAS revisited five previously identified sites at Woodward Ranch in Pecos County, including one site that had been recorded and published in 1968 by members of IAS. The visits revealed that one of the sites has been badly deteriorated from natural processes, including spalling; the information will be submitted to TARL on site revisit forms. In Val Verde County, a site was discovered by a rancher near the Devils River, so Turpin photographed the rock art panel found at the site and submitted a site form to TARL. In March, IAS members assisted the TAS Rock Art Task Force in accurately recording and drawing the rock art panel.

Doug Wilkens monitored six previously recorded sites and participated in one site investigation. This included excavations led by Wilkens in October at West Pasture site (41RB108) on the M-Cross Ranch, where five test units were excavated in a trench oriented perpendicular to previous investigations to learn more about the architectural features of Drover's House. Wilkens also spent time analyzing and documenting one artifact collection and assisting two private landowners and two organizations. At the TAS Annual Meeting, he presented a paper on these investigations during

the Stewards Symposium. Wilkens has been busy working to establish a foundation for the ongoing research, analysis and study of West Pasture archeology. He also has been taking proactive measures to prevent oil and gas impacts to significant archeological resources on the M-Cross Ranch.



REGIONS 3 & 4 • DAN POTTER

Forts/Hill Country & Lakes/Brazos

The stewards in this part of the state have been involved in many activities that include the following: acting as consultants; making presentations; recording and monitoring archeological sites; overseeing archeological excavations, assisting landowners, researching, writing and publishing; conducting surface surveys; processing artifacts; and helping with public outreach.

Jay Blaine is always in demand for his technical expertise in metal artifact conservation and his great depth of knowledge of Texas history and prehistory. He recently consulted with archeologists, landowners and researchers from all over Texas as well as Wisconsin, Colorado, Kansas and Canada. Blaine coauthored a paper with Regional Archeologist Dan Potter for the TAS Annual Meeting in October. The paper discussed recent investigations at the possible location of the Spanish Colonial San Xavier Presidio (41MM18), which is located in Milam County.

Kay Clarke offered six presentations, primarily in educational settings, in the greater Austin area. She also assisted a number of individuals and agencies. Clarke also completed final editing of a forthcoming article in *The Steward*, which will be out later this year.

Jose Contreras recorded four new archeological sites in recent months while helping a number of landowners who made requests for assistance. Most recently, Contreras worked with a large collection from a single site in South-Central Texas that has been extensively damaged.

Doris Howard, in Llano County, continued to support the Nightengale Archaeological Center by arranging programs and participating in the many important public outreach activities that Nightengale offers. A lot of her time was spent in preparing the important Graham-Applegate artifact assemblage for curation at the University of Texas (UT) at Austin's Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL).

Bryan Jameson assisted greatly during the Hershey Ranch survey project in Gillespie County. With Jameson's help, three archeological sites were discovered and recorded during surface survey and auger testing. The ranch ownership is considering a conservation easement at this time.

Nick Morgan is continuing a public-access excavation project in Bastrop County. This allows county residents and others to participate in supervised archeological excavation.

Glynn Osburn assisted two landowners during this period.

Ona B. Reed was interviewed as part of a World War II project being conducted by Baylor University's Oral History Program. Reed noted that it felt very strange to be the subject of a historical study when it is usually her role to be doing the studying.

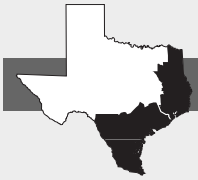
Larry Riemenschneider wrote an article called "Archeological Investigations at Fort Chadbourne (41CK129)—Butterfield Overland Stage Station, Coke County, Texas," which was published by the Fort Chadbourne Foundation in 2009. He also recorded six new sites and monitored eight others. Riemenschneider also served as Concho Valley Archeological Society chairman for the 2008 Archeology Fair. The fair, which is part of the TAM celebration, is held annually in San Angelo in October.

Once again, **Frank Sprague** hosted the Baylor University Field School on his property, where the Tarrant County Archeological Society assists in site testing. The work led to student presentations at the TAS 79th Annual Meeting. Sprague also organized a TAM session in Hamilton, which was attended by 75 people. Regional Archeologist Dan Potter, TASN member **Bryan Jameson** and Baylor University instructor Carol Macaulay gave presentations. Most recently, Sprague worked with Potter and Jameson on the Hershey Ranch survey near Stonewall.

Alice Stultz assisted two agencies, one a local municipal government, in her role as a Travis County TASN steward. Stultz also volunteered at TARL helping to process artifacts from the Gault Site.

Bill Young is coauthor of an article with Tim Perttula and Shawn Marceaux that was recently published in the *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology*. The article is titled "Caddo Ceramics from an Early 18th Century Spanish Mission in East Texas: Mission San Jose de los Nasonis (41RK200)."

Buddy Whitley in San Saba monitored several local archeological sites and assisted one landowner. Whitley also gave an archeological presentation.



REGIONS 5 & 6 • JEFF DURST

Forest & Independence/Tropical

During the past period, the stewards in Regions 5 and 6 were busy making an incredible contribution of both time

and effort toward the preservation of archeological sites across the state. Several stewards recently received special recognition from the THC for their significant work in supporting archeological preservation in their regions. Two stewards also received statewide recognition from TAS for their outstanding contributions during the past year (see story page 19).

Bill Birmingham of Victoria County was selected by TAS to receive its prestigious Texas Biface Award (see story, page 19) because of his continuous efforts to donate, conserve, record and preserve the archeological resources of his county. During the past few months, he assisted Susan Dial and Steve Black, who are compiling an entry on the archeology of Coastal Texas that will be posted on the UT Austin Texas Beyond History web site (www.texasbeyond history.net/). As a member of the advisory board of the Museum of the Coastal Bend, Birmingham continues to promote the importance of the archeological record in and around Victoria County. Recently, he secured the donation of the Elmo Hartman artifact collection from Goliad County for the Museum of the Coastal Bend.

Jimmy Bluhm from Victoria County recently helped Boy Scout Troop 104 meet requirements for the Archeology Merit Badge. Bluhm also continues his efforts at 41VT141, the McNeill-Gonzales Ranch site in Victoria County, and he used the site for part of the training necessary for the Boy Scouts to earn their merit badges.

Pat Braun of Aransas County remains extremely active in South Texas archeology. She enjoys working with graduate students and is particularly proud of recent Texas Tech University graduate Jenni Hatchett, who obtained her master's degree. Hatchett conducted her field research on an early saltworks site in Aransas County with assistance from Braun. Braun also has been acting as a liaison between Texas Tech graduate student James Barrera and landowners on the south shore of Copano Bay. The data collected will be incorporated into Barrera's master's thesis.

Frank Condron of Jackson County continues to work with numerous other stewards in South Texas conducting excavations at the McNeill-Gonzales Ranch site in Victoria County as well as monitoring sites in Goliad, Victoria and Aransas counties.

Robert Everett of Guadalupe County was involved with the investigation and recording of the McKee site (41GU117), a highly significant Paleoindian-to-Middle Archaic site on the Guadalupe River. Everett has been instrumental in initiating an in-depth study of the site, which will be undertaken by the South Texas Archeological Association.

Richard Gregg of Harris County worked during the past few months with members of the Houston Archeological Society and the Fort Bend Archeological Society to conduct lab work and catalog artifacts from the Lamar site and the Barnett site in Fort Bend County. Gregg also has continued to work on the analysis of the ceramics from the Powell site in Fort Bend County.

Patti Haskins from Gregg County is still busy working on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) inventory of the Buddy Calvin Jones Collection held by the Gregg County History Museum. She has been working closely with college interns from LeTourneau University, training them on the use of the museum software.

Sheldon Kindall of Harris County remains active with two groups—one that is conducting survey work at the San Jacinto Battleground and another that is searching for the lost French site of Champ d'Asile in Liberty County.

Sandra Rogers of Walker County is always busy, not only in Walker County, but anywhere in the state where archeology is being conducted. In Walker County, Rogers recently conducted an archeology fair at the Sam Houston Museum, where more than 100 fourth graders were in attendance. Rogers is also involved with the TAS Academy workshops and went on a recent planning trip to Brewster County.

Robert Turner of Camp County secured the placement of an archeological collection at the Northeast Rural Texas Heritage Museum in Pittsburg.

Bob Vernon of Cass County remains one of THC's busiest stewards. Most recently, he was elected chairman of the Cass County Historical Commission and was honored as a "Visionary in Preservation" by Cass County Conservancy and the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. One of Vernon's major efforts over the past few years involves his continued mapping and ground truthing of Trammel's Trace across Rusk, Panola, Harrison, Marion, Cass and Bowie counties. He has made tremendous strides in locating numerous sections of this and other important early trails across East Texas. During the winter, Vernon worked with fellow TASN steward **Julian Cranfill** and THC State Marine Archeologist Steve Hoyt in an effort to identify and explore a newly discovered potential ferry boat wreck on the Sulphur River.

Mark Walters of Smith County was recently honored by TAS with the Golden Pen Award (see story, page 19). Since then, he hosted the 16th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference in Tyler. Always on the go, Walters recently returned from an archeological expedition to Portugal, where he helped set up a summer field school for the UT anthropology department.

TAS Honors Bill Birmingham and Mark Walters

Two members of the Texas Archeological Stewardship Network (TASN) were honored by the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) at the society's 79th Annual Meeting, which was held in Lubbock on October 24–26. The two honorees are Bill Birmingham from Victoria County, who has been with TASN since 1992, and Mark Walters of Smith County, who has been a steward since 1998.

Bill Birmingham accepts one of his awards from TAS Executive Director Pam Wheat (center) and THC State Archeologist Pat Mercado-Allinger (right). Also pictured is Wanda Birmingham, the honoree's wife.

Bill Birmingham

During a reception organized in his honor at the Museum of the Coastal Bend in Victoria, Birmingham received one of TAS's most prestigious awards, the Texas Biface Award. The award was made as part of a salute to Birmingham's outstanding contributions to the preservation, conservation and protection of the cultural resources of Victoria County.

At the same meeting, Birmingham also received a certificate of acknowledgement for 45 years of membership in TAS. Texas Historical Commission (THC) State Archeologist Pat Mercado-Allinger and TAS Executive Director Pam Wheat presented the awards.

"Bill has tirelessly devoted thousands of hours over the past years to the effort of preserving the rich archeological record of Victoria County and most recently has donated his personal and well-documented collection to the Museum of the Coastal Bend," said THC Regional Archeologist Jeff Durst. "These outstanding efforts are what make Bill one of THC's most appreciated stewards and it is always nice to see one of our own receiving statewide recognition."

Mark Walters

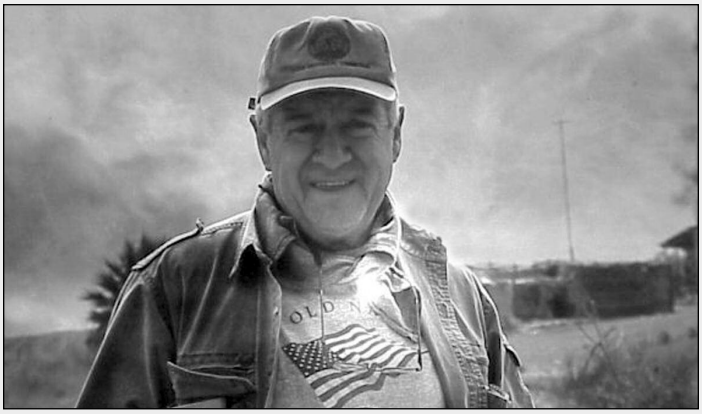
Walters, who has been recognized with TAS awards in several other categories in the past, was honored with the Golden Pen Award for his literary contributions. Two of his publications recently appeared in the *Caddo Archaeology Journal* and the *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology*.

"As a steward and avocational archeologist in East Texas, Mark is unrivaled in his dedication to the archeology of his part of the state and in his contributions to the literature of the area," said Durst.

During the past few years, Walters has authored and coauthored several publications and several more articles are currently in press. Some of his most recent published work includes "Prehistoric Ceramics from the Browning Site (41SM195A)," published in the *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology* (2008); "Life on Jackson Creek, Smith County, Texas: Archeological Investigations of a 14th Century Caddo Domicile at the Leaning Rock Site (41SM325)," *Caddo Archeology Journal* (2008); "Turquoise Pendant," *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology* (2006); "Walters Farm, Smith County, Texas," *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology* (2006); and "The Lake Clear (41SM243) Site and *Crotalus horridus atricaudatus,*" *Caddoan Archaeology Journal* (2006). Another completed report, "The Henry Chapman Site (41SM56)," is slated for publication in the upcoming issue of the *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology*.

Walters also is credited for organizing the Annual East Texas Archeological Conference, which has generally met in Tyler for the past 16 years. He is also active in organizing and hosting the TAS Academy workshop in Tyler.

"The TASN is very proud to have such a dedicated and hard-working member," said Durst. "As most of you know, the easy part of archeology is picking up a shovel or a trowel, and the hard part is picking up a pen."



Mark Walters

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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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