

CADDOAN ARCHEOLOGY NEWSLETTER VOLUME III, NO. 4, WINTER 1992/1993

Timothy K. Perttula, Editor, Texas Historical Commission



Carte du Mexique et de la Floride, by Guillaume Delisle (Paris, 1703)

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FROM THE EDITOR

This is the final issue of the **Caddoan Archeology Newsletter** that I will be editing. Starting with Volume IV, Lois Albert of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey (OAS) will be serving as editor, and the OAS will continue with the reproduction and mailing of the Newsletter. Certainly the **Caddoan Archeology Newsletter** is in good hands, and I expect that the Newsletter will continue to be very successful in the years ahead!

I would like to thank all the subscribers and Newsletter contributors whose assistance and monetary support got this fledging Newsletter off the ground in the Winter of 1989/1990. The Newsletter's Contributing Editors--Frank Schambach, Bob Brooks, George Sabo, Ann Early, Pete Gregory, and Jim Bruseth--provided the Editor with considerable support and helped with soliciting manuscripts for the Newsletter. Over the long haul, without the moral and financial support of these people, the assembling and editing of this Newsletter would not have been worthwhile.

As the Newsletter moves into its fourth year, and contributes to be a significant outlet for archeological and ethnohistorical information on the Caddoan peoples, I once again urge all subscribers, potential subscribers, contributors, and interested persons to renew their involvement with the **Caddoan Archeology Newsletter**. There is a tremendous amount of work now being accomplished on Caddoan archeology, ethnohistory, and history, but this work will prove to have been for nought if it has not been effectively communicated to either the interested public, the Caddo themselves, or to other archeologists, ethnohistorians, and anthropologists. The **Caddoan Archeology Newsletter** provides a forum for the presentation and exchange of such information; please avail yourselves of the opportunity.

The 1993 Caddo Conference

The 1993 Caddo Conference is scheduled for March 12-14, 1993 in Norman, Oklahoma. It is being hosted by the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and the Caddo Tribe of Oklahoma. Stay tuned to the next newsletter for further information about the Conference, always the highlight of the year for Caddoologists.

Radiocarbon Dates from the Tyson Site (41SY92)

by

Tom A. Middlebrook, M.D.

Apart from the Alto focus manifestations at the George C. Davis site and several Allen phase sites along Bayou Loco in western Nacogdoches County, the chronology of Late Prehistoric cultural development in the southernmost Caddoan area of East Texas has been poorly established. This noteworthy weakness has resulted from two important gaps in the archeological research of the region. First, an effective seriation of known ceramic assemblages of Caddoan sites has not been undertaken. Reexamination of several earlier projects within the region may provide a fertile opportunity to initiate this task in the future. The material remains from the Washington Square Mound site (41NA49), likely an important ceremonial center, may be destined to be a key Early to Middle Caddoan period anchor in a local relative chronology; however, this artifactual assemblage has not yet been carefully compared and associated with that of any other sites in the area.

Excavations undertaken over thirty years ago in the McGee Bend Reservoir area (Lake Sam Rayburn) by Jelks (1965) formed the basis of his formulation of the Angelina focus. Key Angelina focus traits included the somewhat broadly defined Pineland Punctated-Incised and Broaddus Brushed ceramics. Most workers now believe that the Angelina focus represents too lengthy a span of Caddoan prehistory to be a useful cultural unit (Story 1990).

A second drawback to the development of a regional chronology has been the paucity of radiocarbon dates in the area. Excluding the 130 dates from George C. Davis, and ones from Lake Palestine sites northwest of the area under present consideration, only three sites have yielded radiocarbon dates from the mid-Neches and Angelina River Basins (Story 1990).

Charcoal from a "modern intrusive feature" within an aboriginal "fire pit" in House 2 at the Walter Bell site (41SB50) was found to be less than 100 years old (Jelks 1965). Four dates were obtained from the Chayah site (41NA44). All of these samples were obtained from charred hardwood nuts recovered from fine screening and were in close association within a small midden (Corbin, Studer, and Numi 1978). The first two dates produced discrepant time frames (1100 +/- 70 B.P. and 420 +/- 80 B.P.) while the second two dates were more similar (630 +/- 50 B.P. and 670 +/- 140 B.P.). In light of these diverse findings, Corbin et al. (1978) disparaged the use of radiocarbon dating from midden deposits in the sandy bioturbated sites of East Texas. Ten dates were produced from charred wood, hardwood nutshell, corn, and pine cone samples taken during extensive

excavations at the Washington Square site (Story 1990). In contrast to those from Chayah, these samples were much more tightly provenienced within discrete cultural features. The Washington Square dates can be grouped into two clusters: six dates between 604 +/- 86 B.P. to 864 +/- 73 B.P. (A.D. 1086-1346), and four dates between 1000 +/- 260 B.P. to 1280 +/- 100 B.P. (A.D. 670-950). Apparently only three (all from Washington Square) of the 15 dates from the three sites were corrected for natural carbon isotope fractionation, and none were dendrochronologically calibrated.

The purpose of the present paper is to report on three radiocarbon dates recently obtained from a cooking and/or refuse pit at the Tyson site (41SY92). The author first visited the site in November 1991 with Texas Archeological Society member Joe Louis Jones and the landowners, Foots and Evelyn Tyson Johnson. The Tyson site is located primarily on an erosional remnant of a second terrace overlooking the floodplain of the Attoyac Bayou, the largest tributary of the Angelina River, in westernmost Shelby County, approximately halfway between Nacogdoches and Center, Texas.

During several weekend surface collection and shovel test investigations between November 1991 and January 1992, five widely dispersed areas of the site were identified. Area 1 (where all later controlled excavations took place) is a 50 x 100 m locality on a prominent hill approximately 25 m above the surrounding floodplain. It was noteworthy for the presence of several middens and accumulations of daub as seen from the surface evidence. Area 2, on a low terrace, features a midden with ceramics and lithics, while Areas 3 and 4 on the terrace slope just above the floodplain have limited surface cultural remains. Area 5 represents a light scatter of ceramics on a high terrace well away from the other areas.

Controlled test excavations in Area 1 of the Tyson site were undertaken by members of the East Texas Archeological Society on January 25, 1992, and on May 1-2, 1992 by 50 students of the Episcopal School of Dallas during an archeological educational project sponsored by the Dallas Archeological Society. Eighteen excavation units were opened, ranging in size from 1 x 0.5 m to 2 x 3 m, and these were taken typically to depths of 30-50 cm. A total area of 27 square m was excavated with approximately 8.5 cubic m of soil screened through quarter-inch mesh.

Artifact densities varied greatly but were closely correlated with the presence of midden deposits. Material remains recovered included ceramic sherds, lithic debitage, pitted stones, bone, shell, daub, and charred wood and hardwood nutshells. Although the artifacts are currently being processed in the lab, a few initial observations about the recovered Caddoan ceramics can be made. Plain sherds are the most common but approximately 20 percent of the ceramics are brushed while punctated-incised designs (including a large Pineland

Punctated-Incised rim sherd) are nearly as prevalent. Complex engraved sherds (including ones with scroll motifs) are also common. Sand, grog, and bone are all frequent tempering inclusions in the paste. Long-stem pipes (and no elbow pipes) fragments were also recovered. In general, the assemblage resembles those from several other Angelina focus sites (see Jelks 1965).

Notwithstanding the possibly spurious (although exciting) discovery of a Dalton point in one of the units, the recovered artifacts suggest that Area 1 represents a single Middle Caddoan period occupation of the site. In the 8.5 cubic m of excavated deposits, not a single sandy paste sherd (e.g., Goose Creek Plain or Bear Creek Plain) or dartpoint was recovered, obviously limiting the possibility of there having been an Archaic or Early Ceramic period Mossy Grove component at the locality. No diagnostic ceramics of an Early Caddoan period phase (such as Holly Fine Engraved) were identified. Distinctive Allen phase engraved wares (e.g., Patton Engraved) were not found, although one sherd featured an engraved line with ticking. Further evidence against the Tyson site being multicomponent is the relative infrequency of lithic debitage, which contrasts with other Attoyac Basin sites with mixed Caddoan-Archaic assemblages.

Three probable cultural features were noted during excavations at the Tyson site. Feature 1 is an enigmatic subsurface clay feature subrectangular in outline and 2.3 x 1.6 m in dimension. The homogeneous orange-red clay rises to 20 cm below the surface (just below the plow zone) and has relatively vertical margins in profile. The sides are sharply demarcated from the usual soil profile to at least 80-90 cm in depth. Surprisingly, the clay feature does not have a distinct bottom but grades into the typical mottled orange and gray clay of the B-horizon by 1.2 m in depth. The top surface of Feature 1 is nearly flat and no burned clay, ash, or charcoal were found there. One possible posthole was seen in the southwest quadrant of the feature, and two postholes were apparent in plan view at 30 cm bs just east and southeast of the feature in the normal sandy loam A-horizon. While Feature 1 does not appear to be of natural origin, an explanation based on Caddoan cultural activity is not immediately obvious.

Feature 2 is a concentration of flat-lying rocks (primarily ferruginous sandstone) at 20 cm bs. Some of the rocks form an arc suggesting the outline of a hearth, but burning of the rocks could not be determined and no charcoal was associated with the feature. Similar rock concentrations were found at the Grimes (41WD503) and Killebrew (41WD495) sites in the Lake Fork Reservoir in the Upper Sabine drainage (Bruseth and Perttula 1981).

Feature 3 is a 1.3 m round, basin-shaped pit up to 70 cm in depth. It is located in an intense midden, probably near a Caddoan house based on the very large amount of daub in and around the pit. The pit was likely used for containment of a fire, given the amounts of

ash and charcoal in its lowest levels and the burned clay at its bottom. The matrix contained large amounts of daub, many burned and unburned bones of an extremely diverse species assemblage, bone tools, two pitted stones, mussel shell, charred wood and hardwood nutshells, a well-preserved corn kernel, numerous pottery sherds (one to three reconstructable vessels), a small amount of lithic debitage, and at least three arrowpoints (two Perdiz and one Bassett). Forty gallons of Feature 3 soil was water-screened through fine mesh, then dried, and water-separated in preparation for paleobotanical analysis. Feature 3 closely resembles Jelks' (1965) description of pits found at the Sawmill, Wylie Price, and Print Bell sites at McGee Bend Reservoir.

Three radiocarbon samples from Feature 3 were carefully obtained during the excavation. The first sample (TX-7612) was composed of one large (about six cubic cm) and several small woody charcoal fragments found near 30 cm depth in the western part of unit N120/W64, the northeast "quadrant" of Feature 3. This charcoal was recovered in very close association with a mass of daub, burned bone, mussel shell, and a turtle carapace. The second sample (TX-7625) was a delicate mussel shell about 10 cm in length that was situated in the same area of the feature referred to as the "daub mound". The third sample (TX-7626) was a larger group of woody charcoal fragments from 20-70 cm in depth in the fill of Feature 3 in units N120/W65, N119/W64, and N119/W65.

These samples were recovered from the matrix by trowel and wrapped in aluminum foil. In the lab they were air-dried, gently washed to remove sand particles, dried again, and then separated from small rootlets under the microscope. The samples were submitted to the Radiocarbon Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin.

The raw radiocarbon assays from Feature 3 presented below are based on a C14 half-life of 5568 years. The two woody charcoal samples were also age corrected for delta-13 carbon, the natural carbon isotope fractionation. Dendrochronologically calibrated ages are presented in Table 1 for all three samples and are the most valid chronometric values.

TABLE 1

Sample No.	Provenience	Material	Uncorrected Radiocarbon Age (B.P.)	δ -13 C Age	Calibrated Age	
					B.P.	A.D.
TX-7612	N120/W64 Level II 15-30 cm	Wood Charcoal	490 +/- 60	510 +/- 60	532	1418
TX-7625	N120/W64 "daub mound" 16.5-20 cm	Mussel Shell	500 +/- 50		528	1422
TX-7626	NW, SW, SE quadrants, levels from 20-70 cm	Wood Charcoal	440 +/- 60	460 +/- 60	515	1435

Table 2 presents a summary of the dendrochronologically calibrated age ranges following Stuiver and Becker (1986).

TABLE 2

SAMPLE NO.	CALIBRATED AGE, TWO SIGMA		CALIBRATED TWO SIGMA DATE RANGE
	MIN.	MAX.	
TX-7612	649 (532)	479	A.D. 1301-1471
TX-7625	627 (528)	496	A.D. 1323-1454
TX-7626	622 (515)	329	A.D. 1328-1621

Table 3 presents below the calibrated age ranges (minimum to maximum) following Stuiver and Becker's (1986) Method B by displaying only those ranges with the largest relative area under the probability distribution curve:

TABLE 3

SAMPLE NO.	SIGMA	PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION CURVE AREA	B.P. AGE		A.D. DATE	
			MIN.	MAX.	MIN.	MAX.
TX-7612	1	.73	(560-508)		(1390-1442)	
	2	.65	(573-464)		(1377-1486)	
TX-7625	1	.87	(556-509)		(1394-1441)	
	2	.76	(564-467)		(1386-1483)	
TX-7626	1	.97	(547-460)		(1403-1490)	
	2	.82	(562-425)		(1388-1525)	

The radiocarbon dates presented here can be readily asserted to be important and useful on three grounds. First, these assays are the first prehistoric absolute dates from the Attoyac River Basin. Second, the ages of the samples are in remarkable agreement. This is especially surprising given that they were obtained on both woody charcoal and mussel shell. The dendrochronologically calibrated dates would suggest that the cultural activities at Feature 3 occurred during the early decades of the fifteenth century A.D. And third, the samples were obtained from a discrete cultural feature that appears to have been constructed, utilized, and filled within a relatively short time. The large number of artifacts in Feature 3 can thus be readily associated with these robust dates, and consequently they warrant careful analysis. On this basis, then, the test excavations at the Tyson site in the spring of 1992 may well prove to be of great help in working out a regional chronology of the Caddoan occupation of East Texas.

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CONFERENCES

SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

The Society's Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology was held January 6-10, 1993 in Kansas City, Kansas. There were several interesting sessions at the meetings, including sessions on "Glass Bead Research" (organized by Karlis Karklins), "Advanced Spatial Analysis in Historical Archaeology" (organized by Scott Lewis), "The Missions of Apalachee" (organized by Rochelle A. Marrinan and Bonnie G. McEwan), "The Expansion of the Spanish Empire: Archaeological Evidence" (organized by Anita G. Cohen-Williams and Thomas H. Carlton), and "Frontiers and Fur Trade Studies" (organized by William J. Hunt, Jr.).

1993 EAST TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

Region 4 of the Texas Archeological Society and the School of Liberal Arts, The University of Texas at Tyler are sponsoring a conference on February 6, 1993 to : (a) exchange information about activities in East Texas between avocational, professionals, and the general public; (b) encourage avocational reports in an informal setting; (c) provide workshop education to Texas Archeological Society members; (d) foster an East Texas "regional spirit" between those interested in East Texas archeology; (e) provide a forum to discuss problems of East Texas archeology and to develop outlines of action plans; and (f) encourage fellowship. The conference is open to all interested persons.

The agenda for the conference includes a general session of papers on East Texas archeology, a panel discussion on "Diminishing Caddoan Resources in Northeast Texas" (panel members include Tim Perttula, Jim Corbin, Jim Bruseth, Jay Blaine, and Jerome Rose), and a lithic raw material workshop directed by Larry Banks. For more information, please contact Tom Middlebrook, 4218 Mystic Lane, Nacogdoches, TX 75961, work phone: 409-560-0818, home phone: 409-560-6733.

CONFERENCES, cont.

1992 TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

The 63rd annual meeting of the Texas Archeological Society was held October 30-November 1 in Corpus Christi, Texas. Among the sessions presented at the meeting included a "Caddo Archeology Symposium" with the following papers:

- o James Bruseth--Mysteries of the Ray Site: Results of the 1992 Field School
- o Daniel Prikryl--A Preliminary Report on the 1992 TAS Field School Excavations at the Fasken Mounds Site
- o Bill Martin--Archeology at the Roitsch Site: Wet and Wild
- o Sharon M. Derrick and Gail Colby--An Analysis of Osteological Remains Recovered from the Roitsch Site (41RR16), Summer 1991
- o Robbie L. Brewington--Stylistic Frameworks and the Function of Ceramics
- o Diane E. Wilson--The Re-excavation of a Caddo Burial

In the general sessions, several other relevant papers were presented, including "Preliminary Report on the Tyson Site (41SY92)" by Tom Middlebrook (see also this issue), Stephen L. Black's "Nailing the Coffin Shut on the Traditional Approach to Prehistoric Archaeology in Texas: An Epitaph and Inquiry into the Afterlife", "Preliminary Report of the 1992 NETAS Field School" by Bo Nelson, and "Whodunit? Approaches to Identifying Nineteenth Century Staffordshire Printed Transferware Patterns" by Sandra D. Pollan.

RECLAIMING NEW WORLDS

The University of Texas at Austin sponsored "Reclaiming New Worlds: A Multicultural Commemoration of the Quincentennial" on October 29-November 1, 1992. Of the papers presented at the commemoration were two of special interest: Howard Zinn's "Columbus, The Indians & Human Progress: 1492-1992" and "The Conquest of Paradise: Christopher Columbus and New World Ecologies" by Kirkpatrick Sale.

PLAINS ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The 50th Plains Anthropological Conference was held November 11-14, 1992 in Lincoln, Nebraska. There were several interesting symposia: "People with History: Plains Cultural and Social Dynamics during the Protohistoric Period (Timothy G. Baugh, chair), "From Prehistory to Ethnohistory: Travels with W. Raymond Wood" (Stephen Chomko and Richard Krause, chairs), and "Geoarcheological Research in the Great Plains: 50 Years of Progress" (Rolfe D. Mandel, chair), as well as papers by Jeffrey R. Hanson--"Ethnicity and the Looking Glass: The Dialectics of National Indian Identity", Robert L. Brooks--"From Basements to Attics: Private Collections and Their Archeological Significance", and Rain Vehik and Susan C. Vehik--"An Overview of Woodland Adaptations in Southeast Oklahoma".

Summer Institute in Lithic Analysis

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Tulsa is offering a three-week Summer Institute in Lithic Analysis from May 24-June 11, 1993. The Institute provides three weeks of intense, hands-on instruction from: Dr. George Odell (The University of Tulsa) on functional analysis, Dr. Errett Callahan (Pitldown productions, Lynchburg, Va.) on explicating Techno-functional problems through Replication, and Dr. Jacques Pelegrin (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Meudon, France) on European Stone Age types and techniques. Following the Institute, a four-day symposium on "Contributions of Lithic Analysis to Archaeological Theory" will be held at the University of Tulsa. For further information on the Summer Institute and the Lithic Analysis symposium, please contact Dr. George H. Odell, Department of Anthropology, The University of Tulsa, 600 S. College Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104-3189, (918) 631-3082.

Louisiana Archaeology Week 1992

Louisiana Archaeology Week 1992 was held between October 4-10, 1992. A number of programs across the state were sponsored by the Division of Archaeology, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, State of Louisiana, including:

- Marvin Jeter--Indian Mounds in the Mississippi Valley
- Tristram Kidder--From Tribe to Chief in the Lower Mississippi Valley
- Curtis Lees--Blow Guns, Bows and Arrows, and Other Traditional Native American Tools
- George Shannon--Caddo Treaty of 1835
- Frank Schambach--The Prehistoric Caddo
- David B. Kelley--Recent Excavations at Two Late Caddo Farmsteads in Bossier Parish
- Joe Saunders--Archaic Mounds in Northern Louisiana
- Jeffrey S. Girard and Pete Gregory--Historical Archaeology of the Natchitoches Area
- Jeffrey S. Girard--Archaeology of Northwestern Louisiana
- Pete Gregory--Archaeology of the Conly Site in Red River Parish
- Pete Gregory--Los Adaes Archaeology
- Joe Saunders--Archaeological Study of a 5000-Year-Old Mound in Lincoln Parish

Site 41UR136, a Titus Phase Site in the Little Cypress Creek Basin.

Bo Nelson and Timothy K. Perttula

Site 41UR136 is a small Late Caddoan period Titus phase settlement located adjacent to a spring in an upland setting of Caney Creek, a minor tributary in the upper basin of the Little Cypress Creek drainage. Sites of this type are common throughout certain portions of the Cypress basin (Thurmond 1990), but are virtually unknown in the Little Cypress area due to very limited professional investigations over the years (e.g., Story 1990; Perttula 1992a).

The site was discovered by the senior author several years ago, and a large number of artifacts have been collected from a 0.7 acre cultivated field above the flowing spring. Poultry houses to the north and east have probably disturbed portions of the site, but the archeological deposits in the cultivated field appear relatively undisturbed.

In September 1992, ten 30x30 cm shovel tests and one 1x1 m unit were excavated at the site by the authors, and Mike Turner of Lone Star, Texas to determine the horizontal extent and contextual integrity of the archeological deposits, and if feasible acquire reliable charcoal samples for radiocarbon analyses. Although no features with charcoal were encountered in the limited test excavations, our work did demonstrate that cultural remains at least 30 cm in thickness are present in the sandy A-horizon. The plowzone extends to ca. 32 cm below surface, thus disturbing the contextual integrity of these cultural deposits. Nevertheless, cultural remains are present below the plow zone; given the presumed functional nature of the site as a small settlement (Thurmond 1990) it is possible that cultural features are preserved below the plow zone.

Relatively low-density subsurface archeological deposits were documented at 41UR136, about 177 artifacts per cubic meter. Although there is not much comparative data available from other Titus phase settlements regarding artifact densities (or indeed other measures of settlement intensity), recent investigations of Caddoan sites in the Monticello B-2 lignite mine in Titus County (Kotter et al. 1992) suggests that the level of occupation on certain small drainages in the Cypress basin is rather light during Caddoan times. It is suspected that the Titus phase occupation at site 41UR136 lasted a generation or less.

Archeological Components

Although the investigations at the site have been limited, the site appears to have been occupied during several prehistoric periods, including Late Archaic and Late Caddoan period components.

Occupational debris of the Late Archaic component includes most of the 290 pieces of lithic debitage found at the site, several thick preforms (from the manufacture of large bifacial tools and dart points), and two diagnostic Gary points. The blade thickness and stem width of the Gary points is consistent with the LeFlore variety defined by Schambach (1982) from southwest Arkansas Late Archaic and Fourche Maline collections.

Other associated artifacts for this component include two fire-cracked rocks, and several cores. The predominant lithic raw material for the tools and debitage is locally derived quartzites from small cobbles:

Use of Quartzite	
Gary points	67 percent
Preforms	100 percent
Cores	100 percent
Lithic Debitage	76 percent

Other raw materials represented in the debitage include hematite (0.7 percent), petrified wood (2.8 percent), cherts and other silicates (20.0 percent), and Hatton tuff (0.3 percent). The locally available quartzite and chert cobbles appear to have been about 50x40x30 mm in length, width, and thickness.

In the chert and other silicates, there are four pieces of novaculite; this material is definitely of non-local origin. The nearest source of novaculite is in the gravels of the Red River (Banks 1990). The single piece of Hatton tuff, from celt resharpening, can also be found in the Red River gravels, with its bedrock source in the Ouachita Mountains of southeast Oklahoma.

Flake sizes for both chert and quartzite raw materials are comparable, with average flake lengths of 26.2 mm for quartzite and 23.9 mm for the cherts. The chert flakes are somewhat narrower and thinner than the quartzite flakes, but both appear to have been produced through the unpatterned reduction of cores and bifaces for tools. The range of core types --tested cobble (1 specimen), polyhedral (1), single platform (1), multiple platform (3), and one core fragment-- also suggests the expedient nature of the lithic assemblage from the site.

The artifact assemblage identified for the Late Caddoan period occupation includes six Maud arrowpoints, two triangular arrowpoint preforms, two unifacial tools, three Hatton Tuff celt fragments, one elbow pipe bowl, two pieces of daub and 886 ceramic sherds. The chipped lithic tools were manufactured on local cherts and heat-treated quartzites.

The Titus phase ceramic sherds are from well-made coiled, smoothed to burnished, and thin (5-8 mm) jars, bowls, and carinated

bowls. The predominant temper used is grog, with less than five percent of the sherds tempered with calcined and crushed bone.

The decorated and rim sherds include:

- (a) brushed (102 sherds/41.3 percent of the decorated sample);
- (b) engraved (47 sherds/19.0 percent);
- (c) incised (40 sherds/ 16.2 percent);
- (d) punctated (28 sherds/ 11.3 percent);
- (e) applied (22 sherds/8.9 percent); and
- (f) neck-banded (8 sherds/3.2 percent).

The decorative techniques can be classified into the following decorative elements: The brushed sherds consist of Bullard Brushed, Harleton Applied, and Karnack Brushed-Incised, with Bullard Brushed jars being the most common. The engraved sherds include 45 Ripley Engraved sherds from carinated bowls and two Taylor Engraved sherds.

The incised and punctated sherds derive primarily from Maydelle Incised jars, with Harleton Applied and Karnack Brushed-Incised also present in low numbers. Harleton Applied is the main ceramic type represented in the applied sherds, but applied surface treatments are also known on Maydelle Incised and Karnack Brushed-Incised types (Suhm and Jelks 1962:85, 103). The neck-banded sherds belong to the La Rue Neck-Banded type.

The Ripley Engraved sherds can be grouped into three motifs, based on Thurmond (1990:Figure 6): scroll and circle, pendant triangle, and scroll and circle (including one "careless curvilinear" engraved). The scroll and circle motif comprises the most common observable decoration on the Ripley Engraved sherds.

Cultural Affiliation and Estimated Age

The decorative analysis of the ceramic sherds, the elbow pipe bowl, and the triangular arrowpoints, indicates that 41UR136 is a settlement of the Titus phase. Furthermore, based on the frequency of brushed sherds, the types of Ripley Engraved motifs, and comparisons with other Titus phase habitation sites (Thurmond 1990; Perttula et al. 1992), the site belongs in the *Tankersley Creek* subcluster of the Late Caddoan Cypress Cluster (Thurmond 1985, 1990).

As Thurmond (1990:Figure 35) shows, most known *Tankersley Creek* components occur along Big Cypress Creek and tributaries in the area due west of Lake O' The Pines. The Tuck Carpenter site is one of the better known *Tankersley Creek* subcluster components (Turner 1978, 1992). Although the Titus phase is not well dated (Story 1990; Thurmond 1990; Perttula 1992a, b), the few temporally

diagnostic artifacts recovered from 41UR136 suggest that the *Tankersley Creek* subcluster component at the site dates from ca. A.D. 1450 to 1600.

Conclusions

The future expansion of the poultry houses at site 41UR136 is expected in the next few years. This expansion is likely to further damage the site's archeological deposits. Although limited subsurface investigations have indicated that relatively low density Late Caddoan Titus phase deposits are present at the site, the nature and integrity of the deposits indicates that the site contains important information on the nature of Titus phase settlements in the Little Cypress basin. Since previous investigations of the Titus phase in the Cypress basin have been biased towards the excavation of cemeteries (Story 1990; Thurmond 1990), the further study of sites such as 41UR136 promise to provide the types of information needed to obtain a better-balanced understanding of Late Caddoan societies in Northeast Texas.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Mike Turner for assisting us in completing the limited test excavations at the site.

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This volume contains a number of papers of interest to Caddoan archeologists, including:

- o "The Hernando de Soto Expedition and Spain's Effort to Colonize North America", by Jerald T. Milanich
- o "Finding the Middle Passage: The Spanish Journey from the Swamplands to Caddo Country", by Ann M. Early
- o "The End of the Trail: Reconstruction of the Route of Hernando de Soto's Army through Southwest Arkansas and East Texas", by Frank F. Schambach
- o "Moscoso and the Route in Texas: A Reconstruction", by Nancy Adele Kenmotsu, James E. Bruseth, and James E. Corbin
- o "Identification of Ethnic Groups Contacted by the de Soto Expedition in Arkansas", by Michael P. Hoffman
- o "Reconstructing the Route West of the Mississippi River: Summary and Contents", by Charles Hudson
- o "Indians and Spaniards in Arkansas: Symbolic Action in the Sixteenth Century", by George Sabo III
- o "Caddo Names in the de Soto Documents", by Wallace Chafe
- o "Death, Drought, and de Soto: The Bioarcheology of Depopulation", by Barbara A. Burnett and Katherine A. Murray, and
- o "The Long-Term Consequences and Effects of the Entrada on Aboriginal Caddoan Populations", by Timothy K. Perttula.

NEW JOURNALS

LITHIC TECHNOLOGY

The University of Tulsa is reviving the journal *Lithic Technology*. The first issue of the new journal will be out in the fall of 1993, with another issue to follow shortly after that. Subsequently, issues will be produced in the spring and fall of each year. The yearly subscription rate will be \$17.00, and each issue will be between 60-80 pages. Dr. George H. Odell of the University of Tulsa will be the editor of *Lithic Technology*. For further information, subscriptions, and for submission of manuscripts, please contact Dr. George H. Odell, Department of Anthropology, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK 74104-3189.



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CADDO NATION NEWS

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Excavations at the Gray's Pasture Site (41HS524)

John E. Keller

During April and May 1992, the Northeast Texas Archaeological Society (NETAS) conducted a fieldschool for its members in Harrison County, Texas. Professional supervision was provided by Southern Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (SAC) with Dr. John Keller serving as principal investigator and Mike Patton, David Nicklaw, and W.T. Leake II providing assistance as crew chiefs. Nearly all of the NETAS membership provided labor on the project.

Gray's Pasture (41HS524) was first recorded in February 1992 by SAC crews during a preliminary assessment of the area for lignite mining concerns. Cultural material at the site was found scattered across 60,000 square meters (two ha). Shovel testing indicated that apparent concentrations of material were centered on three low rises on a broad terrace overlooking the floodplain of Clark's Creek. The current landowner indicated that the area had been under cultivation since at least 1900, and that sugar cane and cotton had both been raised there.

Identifiable materials recovered during the site's recording included Pennington Punctated-Incised and Pease Brushed-Incised sherds as well as Gary and San Patrice projectile points. Examination of local collections revealed a preponderance of Archaic style projectile points and a lack of ceramics (which seem not to have concerned the collectors). Strangely enough, the most numerous point type in these collections was the San Patrice type, but virtually the whole range of Archaic and Early Ceramic period projectile points was present. There were no arrowpoints in these collections.

A total of 15 shovel tests were excavated during the survey operation. These helped to define the site boundaries and revealed that although bioturbation was severe, the possibility of features could not be excluded. The archaeological potential of this site, and the fact that it was located in a position necessitating test assessments in advance of lignite mining, suggested that it would be an excellent fieldschool location. Both the landowner and the NETAS indicated a willingness to proceed in this direction.

Testing operations were conducted on six weekends. As this was a fieldschool, a primary goal was to teach NETAS members proper recording and excavation techniques as an aid to the expansion of the organization's activities in recording and site preservation. It was also felt that a modest test excavation might provide information regarding the site's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places, and thereby supply information important in ensuring its proper management in the future. It was hoped that such investigations would also clarify the site's chronological position and provide additional information regarding Caddoan settlement in the area. In particular, it was felt that the information collected at 41HS524 might, when combined with information already collected from the area, aid in resolving certain questions about Caddoan settlement patterning, site placement, and when the most intensive period of Caddoan occupation occurred in the Middle Sabine drainage.

During the first weekends a basic grid system was set up, a transit map constructed, additional shovel testing completed, and a series of excavation units begun. Altogether a total of 13 1x2 m units and three 2x2 m units were excavated at Gray's Pasture. Ten of these were excavated across the site in the first three weeks of work to determine the site's extent, depth of deposit, and to provide stratigraphic information. These units indicated that

bioturbation was indeed extreme and that a mixing of cultural components had occurred. Nevertheless, some stratigraphic patterning was present for, as in many other sites in the vicinity, the stratigraphic situation consisted of a sandy loam or sand deposit overlying a compact sandy clay. The sandy loam deposit, measuring between 60 and 150 cm in depth, also contained the bulk of the cultural material; it had been effectively churned by generations of gophers. Stratigraphic separations above the sandy loam/clay interface were extremely subtle but could be defined on a textural basis. For example, any difference between the plowzone and underlying sediments consisted entirely of the somewhat less compact nature of the former. There was, therefore, little likelihood that features would be detected except at the sandy loam/clay interface. This is not an unusual occurrence in Northeast Texas or indeed in this portion of the Sabine drainage.

Once basic stratigraphic information had been obtained and interpreted, a unit was placed in an area of shallow deposits in hopes of locating features. As chance would have it, this unit and subsequent expansions defined two burial features. These features were observable only at the interface between the clay and the overlying deposits and, then, only because they penetrated slightly into the clay. Above this level, bioturbative activities had effectively removed all evidence of the features. Subsequent field school operations focused on the definition, recording, and excavation of these two features.

Burial #1 when exposed revealed a roughly oval-shaped shallow basin measuring approximately 180 x 75 cm. Its orientation is primarily southeast to northwest. Two vessels, a Pennington Punctated-Incised jar (vessel #1) and a smaller Canton Incised bowl (vessel #2), were recovered. These rested on the clay at the base of the feature and had been slightly covered with fill. No human remains were recovered in this feature.

Burial #2 was also a shallow basin with a more or less oval-shaped outline; it contained two associated vessels. The grave outline measures approximately 180 x 80 cm and orientation is also southeast to northwest with the skull oriented toward the southeast. The burial was extended and supine. Vessel #3 is a plain wide-mouthed jar and vessel #4 is a shallow undecorated carinated bowl. This burial penetrated the clay slightly deeper than did Burial #1 and therefore was somewhat better preserved. Even so, with the exception of the skull, skeletal material consisted primarily of small bone flecks within the clay matrix; these could not be recovered. Examination of the teeth, however, suggests that Burial #2 was a subadult of less than 15 years of age. All skeletal materials have been reburied at the site.

A complete report of the excavations is now in the process of preparation by the NETAS members. However, some preliminary conclusions may be in order regarding Caddoan settlement in the Middle Sabine drainage. A whole series of sites professionally investigated in this area, including 41HS74 (Heartfield, Price, and Greene, Inc. 1988), those investigated by North American Consultants (LaVadera 1983, 1984, 1985), and those presently being tested by Southern Archaeological Consultants (Keller 1991, 1992), appear to be chronologically similar. These sites are typically multicomponent, but Caddoan occupations are dominant in both artifact density and overall areal extent of the components. Chronological interpretations, due to bioturbation, must be based primarily on diagnostic ceramic artifacts, and these all tend to suggest occupations dating around A.D. 1100-1250 (Heartfield, Price, and Greene, Inc. 1988). Perhaps significantly, there are to our knowledge no later materials, like those associated with the Titus phase (Thurmond 1981), present in any collections from this area of the Sabine drainage. This implies that Caddoan occupations were both more localized and perhaps more transitory in this area than previously thought. However, Caddoan settlement is obviously tied to a whole range of environmental and social factors that are, as yet, incompletely understood. Excavations at sites such as 41HS524 may provide important data to begin to unravel these factors.

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- 1992 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, Vol. III (No. 1), pp. 11-12.
- 96th Annual Meeting of the Texas State Historical Association, Vol. III (No. 1), pp. 12.
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- Caddo Adais hold Indian Dances, Vol. III (No. 2), pp. 13.
- Summer Institute in Lithic Analysis, Vol. III (No. 4), pp. 10.

CONTRIBUTORS

John E. Keller, Southern Archaeological Consultants, Harlingen, Texas

**Tom Middlebrook, M.D., East Texas Archaeological Society,
Nacogdoches, Texas**

Bo Nelson, Northeast Texas Archaeological Society, Pittsburg, Texas

Timothy K. Perttula, Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas.