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THE RECORD

Vol. 13

June 1955

No. 3

Publication of the Dallas Archaeological Society  
Dallas, Texas

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Club News

The meeting for the month of May was held jointly with the Central Texas Archaeological Society at Waco on May 14, 1955. A good crowd was on hand from both groups and the meeting was enjoyed by all. Dr. Alex Krieger and Miss Bee Anne Shum were present from Austin and we enjoyed hearing from both of them.

The meeting for the month of June will be held on June 10, 1955 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hatzenbuehler. This will be our annual business meeting and all members should plan to be present.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Crook, Jr. announce the birth of little Carol Anne Crook on May 21, 1955. All are now doing fine and we wish them the best of happiness.

Mr. John L. Perkins is confined to the hospital in room 288 Baylor Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery and he would like for some of the bunch to drop by to see him.

Notice

A new book THE MIDLAND DISCOVERY will soon come off the University of Texas Press. It is written by Fred Wendorf, Alex D. Krieger, Claude C. Albritton, and T. Dale Stewart. It is a report on the Pleistocene Human Remains at Midland, Texas. The cost is \$3.50 per copy and all of our members will want a copy.

## THE BIG SANDY SITE W-2

This site, known as Big Sandy Site W-2, is located on the west side of Big Sandy Creek between the old and new Yantis-Winnsboro roads near the small settlement of Pleasant Grove in Wood County, Texas.

I have collected from the site since January 1946 and have to date found 244 artifacts, which form the basis of this paper. I do not believe anyone had collected from the site as I found over one hundred artifacts the first day I found it. My last trip to the site was with Mr. R. K. Harris, Mr. E. J. Ruhland, and Mrs. Perkins in February 1955

### Geology

This site is located on the T2 terrace (see Figure 1 for terrace diagram). The T2 terrace is composed of the following soils: (1) top 15" is of fine sand which erodes easily by water or wind action, and (2) at the bottom of the sand a red sandy clay is found, which from the deepest erosion cuts is at least 4 ft. deep. The sandy clay is red at the top but yellows out somewhat near the bottom of the exposure. It is not known at present what type of soil is below the clay. See Figure 2 for diagram of soils of T2 terrace. The archaeological materials of the site are found starting about four inches below the surface of the sand and extend down to about the surface of the clay. The site has been out of cultivation for the past year or so and many eroded gullies are now exposing the occupation level. Some of these washes are now exposing the red clay in many places and the artifacts are found on top of the clay. In February 1955 Mr. Harris and myself tested the red clay in several places and found no evidence of occupation below the surface of the clay.

About 250 yards southeast and down on top of the T1 terrace is another archaeological site. However, it is a pottery site and has no connection with the site described in this paper. Pottery sherds from the T1 terrace site have been identified by Mr. Harris as belonging to the Titus Focus. The following paragraphs describe the 244 artifacts from the archaic site on the T2 terrace.

### Dart Points

A total of 223 artifacts found to date fall into the dart point classification. These may be typed as follows in order of frequency: Ellis, Gary, Wells Contracting, Yarber, Balverde, Pedernales, San Patrice, Nebo Hill, Triangular, and Side Notched. The last eight types occur only in a very small percentage. From the chart shown in Figure 3, it can be seen that out of 223 dart points only 16 fall in the last eight types. This leaves a total of 207 dart points classified as Ellis and Gary.

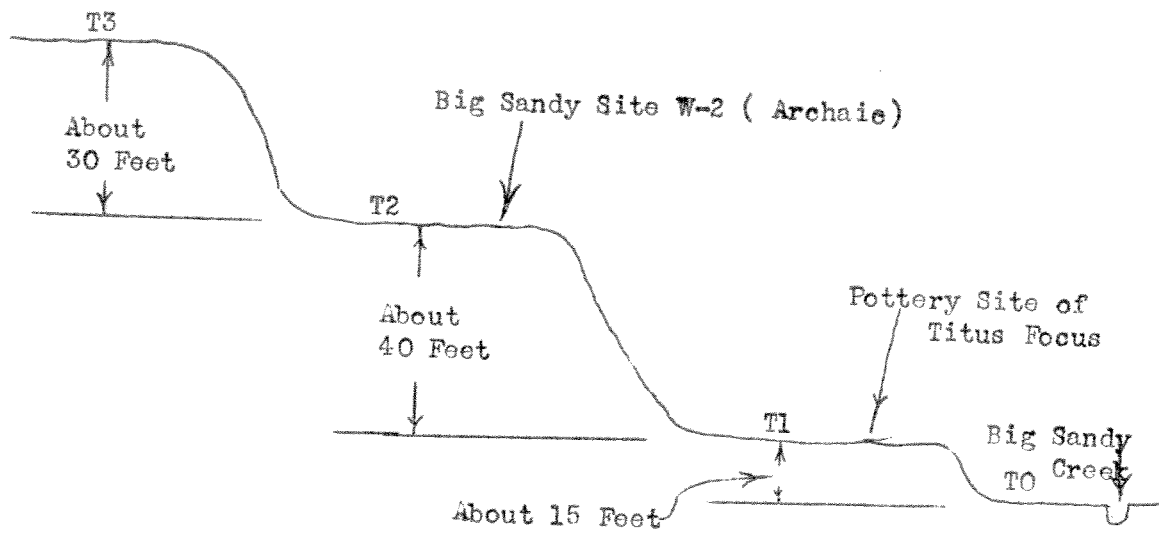


Figure 1 Terrace Diagram Big Sandy Creek

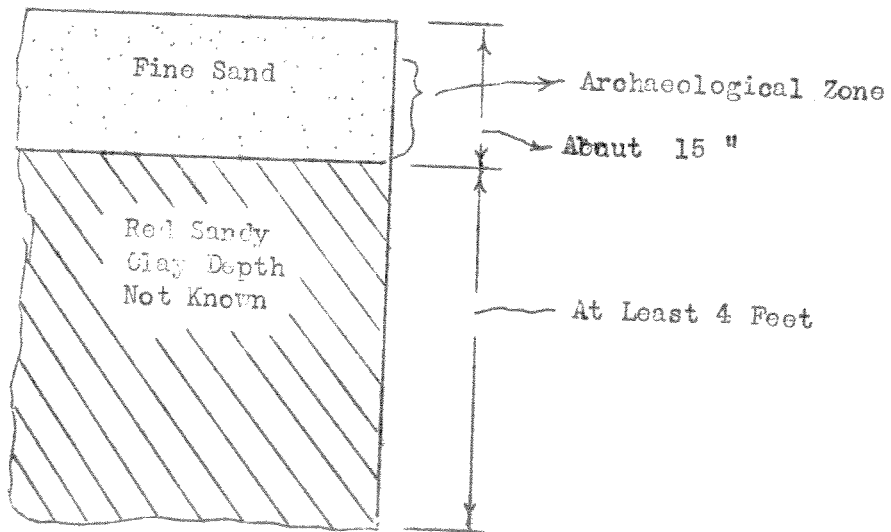


Figure 2 Diagram of Soils T2 Terrace

Of the 207 dart points, 116 are of the type Ellis. An interesting point shown by the table in Figure 3 is that of the total 116 Ellis dart points, 45 of them have the bases sanded or smoothed. Total Gary points found number 91 and of these 5 have the bases sanded. The sanding of bases of dart points in this site seems to be a carry-over from earlier archaic cultures. Dart points from this site are shown in Figure 4.

#### Scrapers

Out of the total of 244 artifacts found, 15 are scrapers of two types. Fourteen of these are gouges and one is an end scraper. The gouges are of the plano-convex type and are made of quartzite, petrified wood, and ferruginous sandstone. From the table of Figure 3, it can be seen that the material of the 14 gouges is about equally divided. The end scraper is made of flint probably of local gravel beds.

#### Knives

Five knives have been found. Four are of square base type and one is a small double pointed knife. All five knives are made of quartzite.

#### Drills or Punches

No artifacts of this type have been found to date.

#### Pecked or Polished Stone

One small mano has been found. It is made of ferruginous sandstone. One unfinished artifact of shale or shist has been found. It is not possible to determine what the artifact was to be, but it is shaped somewhat like a two hole gorget. It was broken before it was finished.

#### Artifact Materials

The following materials were used to make artifacts: quartzite, novaculite, petrified wood, local flint, jasper, flint (Central Texas), and ferruginous sandstone. The quartzite, local flint (probably from local gravel deposits), jasper, and ferruginous sandstone could have been obtained in the area. From Figure 3 it will be noted that 28 artifacts are made of novaculite. This material was probably obtained from Arkansas. Twenty artifacts are made of petrified wood probably from Louisiana. Six artifacts are made from a blue or grey flint found in Central Texas.

#### Conclusions

A few conclusions may be arrived at from the study of the artifacts from this site. They are as follows:

1. We are dealing with an archaic people, very similar to the Elam Focus<sup>1</sup> of the Dallas area, but being located to the east they have had closer contact with Eastern Archaic carriers of the Gary dart point.

	JASPER	QUARTZITE	PETRIFIED WOOD	NOVACULITE	CENTRAL TEXAS FLINT	LOCAL FLINT	FERRUGINOUS SANDSTONE	TOTALS
Gary ( Sanded Base )		5						5
Ellis (Sanded Base)		31	5	8		1		45
Gary (Small)	7	62	4	6	3			82
Gary (Large)		2	1	1				4
Ellis	1	49	4	8	2	7		71
Wells Contracting		6				1		7
Bulverde				2				2
Pedernales				1				1
Side Notched			1					1
Triangular				1				1
Yarber ( Sanded	1	1						2
San Patrice ( Sanded				1				1
Nebo Hill ( Sanded)					1			1
Dart Point Totals	9	156	15	28	6	9		223
Gouge		4	5				5	14
End Scraper						1		1
Square Base Knife		4						4
Double Point Knife		1						1
Mano							1	1
Totals	9	165	20	28	6	10	6	244

Total Gary  
91  
Total Ellis  
116

Figure 3 Types and materials of Artifacts

2. They had trade relations with Arkansas ( Novaculite ), Central Texas ( Central Texas flint, and Louisiana ( Petrified wood and San Patrice point ) )

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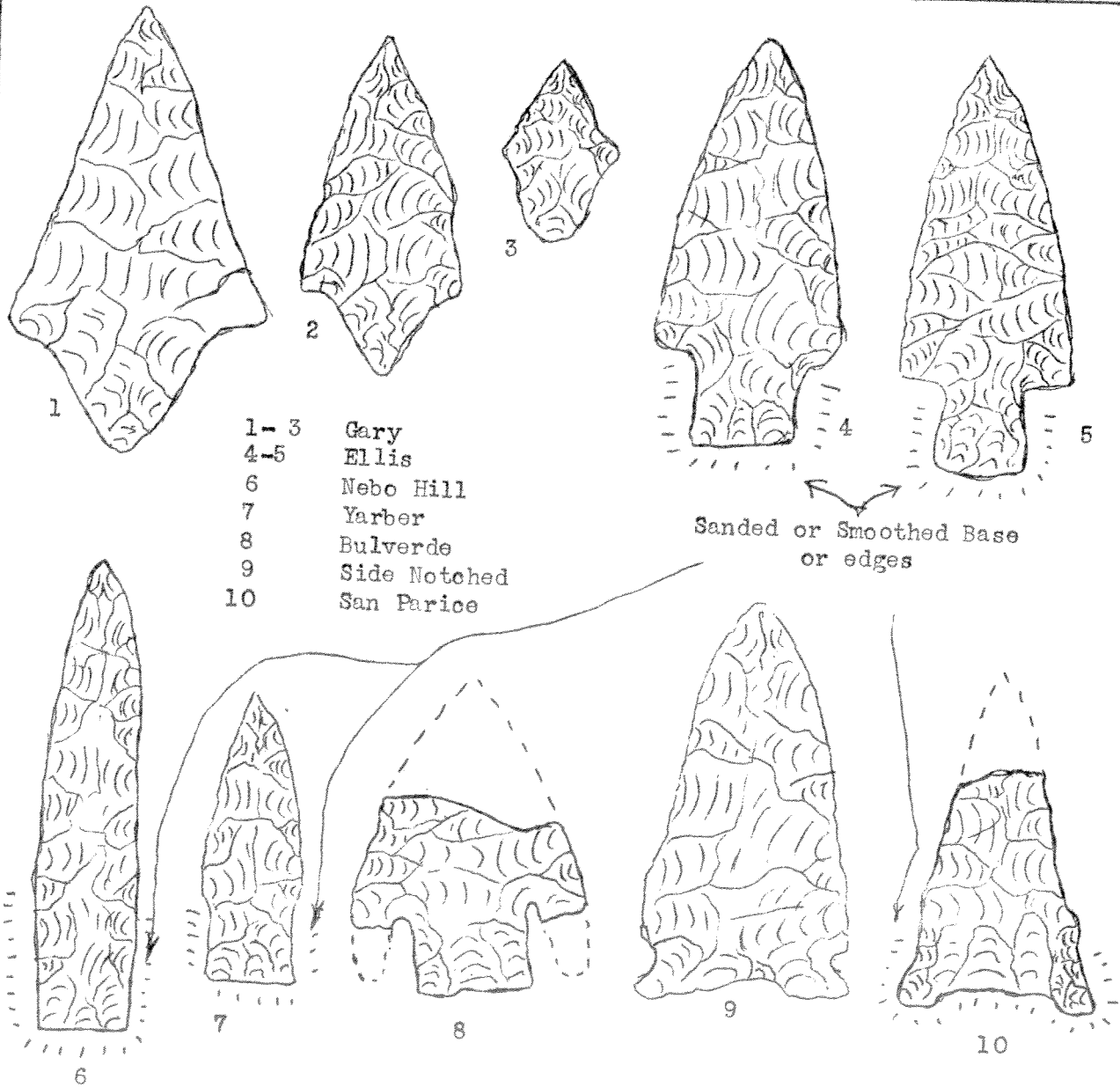


Figure 4 Dart Points Big Sandy Site - Scale full Size