

## **HILL COUNTRY ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

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### **GENERAL MEETING**

*Saturday*

*January 18, 2014*

*12:30 pm at*

*Riverside Nature Center*



## **It is that time again!**

### **Membership In HCAA brings opportunities to hear great speakers and training opportunities**

The Hill Country Archeological Association is classified as a Section 501 (c) (3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code and all donations, including membership dues, are tax deductible.

#### **Dues Schedule**

- ☐ Student (full time only) \$10
- ☐ Individual, Institutions and Societies \$25
- ☐ Family \$30
- ☐ Contributing \$50
- ☐ Supporting \$100
- ☐ Life \$250
- ☐ Patron \$500

#### **Business Class Membership:**

- ☐ Business \$250
- ☐ Corporate \$500

Make Checks payable to Hill Country Archeological Association and mail to:

**HCAA, P.O. Box 290393**

**Kerrville, TX 78029-0393**

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND AT HCAA  
WEBSITE

[www.hcarcheology.org](http://www.hcarcheology.org)

If you are renewing please make note of any changes to your phone, address or email.

## Our Speaker for the January 18, 2014 is Christopher Lintz

**Chris Lintz** is currently the archaeologist for the Wildlife Division of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Austin. He conducts and oversees the cultural resource studies on 1,200 square miles in 51 Wildlife Management Areas across Texas and also conducts archaeological

studies for federally-funded wildlife habitat enhancement grants on private lands. He has conducted archaeological projects in 17 states and Puerto Rico over his 50-year career. He graduated with a B.A. from Arizona State University, and earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Oklahoma. He considers the Southern High Plains as his regional area of research interest because climatic fluctuations result in environmental changes to which various prehistoric groups had to respond. He defined the Antelope Creek phase for a Late Prehistoric culture in the Texas panhandle and his study of architectural and community variability provides a benchmark for understanding prehistoric adaptations in the Canadian River valley of Texas. The present study arises from his ongoing investigations of the unpublished WPA remains from Alibates Ruin 28, which is one of two type sites for the Antelope Creek phase culture.

He will be speaking on the Alibates National Flint Quarries near Fritch, Texas, which contain some 730 prehistoric quarry pits. Early prehistoric researchers have suggested that colorful Alibates chert tools have been found from Arkansas to Arizona to Montana. A few studies outside of Texas have focused on the nature of Alibates products received at the distant end of the exchange net-

works, but no prior studies have documented the nature of chert products shipped out from the quarry heartland in the Texas panhandle. The present study discusses the formation and distribution of chert occurrences in the Alibates formation, and studies the form of some 530 large Alibates quarry blanks recovered during the 1938-1941 Works Progress Administration excavations at Alibates Ruin 28, located one mile west of the quarries. Analysis of the weathering cortex and fissure flaws of these large blanks provides insights into the methods of quarrying the chert from bedrock deposits. Finally, the distribution and types of Alibates chert caches found across the Southern Plains, and the frequency of Alibates chert tool manufacturing debitage at Late Prehistoric (AD 1000 - 1500) sites in southern Kansas and Oklahoma provides insights into the exchange networks that dispersed this valuable tool stone during a period prior to the use of metal tools.

### Upcoming Events:

- **Archaeological Institute of America - Southwest Texas Archaeological Society:** lectures series on archeology topics around the world. See Website for lecture schedules and subjects. Website: <http://aiaswtas.org/>
- **STAA meeting on 1-25-14.** Celebrating 40 yrs. Dr. Tom Hester will be speaking. Check their website for time and location.

For articles, updates, and links  
please follow us at  
[Hill Country Archeology Association](#)  
on facebook





Ed, Steve, Kay & Woody filling in holes A & B 41KR734



41KR734 Installing cloths in holes A & B HCAA & Steve Davis



Leaves over A&B

## Hill County Archeological Association helps TPWD stabilize prehistoric sites at the Kerr WMA

On December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, six volunteers from the Hill County Archeological Association along with three from the Texas Archeological Stewards Network of the Texas Historical Commission joined forces with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff in stabilizing two prehistoric sites at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area. Both sites have been repeatedly vandalized by artifact collectors despite past efforts from the HCAA volunteers and TPWD staff to curtail looting of these unique ancient campsites reflecting America's cultural heritage.

In 2010, HCAA helped TPWD in stabilizing vandalism at the Sean site (41KR734) by "limbing-up" the cedar trees growing on site to enhance visibility and refilling holes with tree limbs and earth. The good news is that none of the recent vandal holes expanded from any of the holes refilled a few years before. The bad news is that the vandalism activities are on-going, with recent holes at this site extending to depths of more than one meter. The methods of vandalism clearly involved expanding on deep holes that had been dug through the archaeological deposits by cleaving the sheer banks. The damage from such looting activities relates not only from the loss of artifacts kept from public lands, but also from the mixing of the site's sediments and the destruction of the deposit integrity and mixing of contexts which scientific excavators use to reconstruct activity patterns and sequences of occupations.

The volunteers mapped, photographed and documented the size and depth of each "pothole", then marked the basal configuration of each pit. The Looter's back fill was then shoveled into the pits along with branches and sticks, until the hole was filled. Finally, brush was added to obscure the surface evidence of the pits. A total of 13 potholes with a surface area of almost 32 square meters (343 square feet) required the deposition of 28.5 cubic meters (1,006.6 cubic feet) of burned rocks, branches and sediments to refill the holes at the Sean site. In addition, more than 40 tools, bones, or shell specimens were collected during the refilling efforts.

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The Hatfield site (41KR439) was less damaged. Eight of 12 vandal pits on the hill slope were refilled with rocks, and sediments from the back dirt pile from the looters. These eight vandal pits had a surface area of about 8 square meters (86 square feet) and a volume of about 1.49 cubic meters (51.2 cubic feet) of displaced sediments. Approximately 45 artifacts, bones and mussel shell were found in the disturbed fill and collected from this site.

The preservation of cultural resource is one of the main missions of TPWD for the enjoyment and research for future generations. TPWD has initiated other monitoring measures at these sites in an attempt to identify the looters, but discussions of these measures are beyond the scope of this note. The results of the stabilization efforts shall be published in the Annual Report to the Texas Historical Commission as part of the agency's annual permit. TPWD staff is grateful to HCAA for their continued support, and hard work in helping the agency fulfill its mission in preserving the State's prehistory.

**Photos and article by Christopher Lintz, TPWD Cultural Resource Specialist, Wildlife Division, TPWD.**

To read more regarding this joint effort:

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/blog/volunteers-help-protect-archeological-sites-texas>



## 10 Coolest Archaeology Discoveries of 2013

 By Tia Ghose,

### 10 Coolest Archaeology Discoveries of 2013

Archaeologists dig through the faint traces of the past to learn more about human history. And 2013 was a big year for new archaeology finds. From royal tombs to the mysterious vanished inhabitants of Europe, here are some of the strangest and most exciting archaeology finds of the year.

#### 1. Richard III bones

In February, researchers announced a grave suspected of harboring the **bones of King Richard III** did indeed hold the royal's remains. The tomb was found under a parking lot in Leicester, England. Since then, a host of studies have revealed more about the once-reviled, crippled king's life and death. It turns out Richard III may have been a control freak who spoke with a lilt and was subjected to painful scoliosis treatment. And after several bruising head injuries, the king was buried in a hasty grave without any ceremony, analysis of the skeleton revealed.

#### 2. Royal squash?

Last year researchers announced that a gourd emblazoned with images from the French Revolution contained the **blood of the beheaded King Louis XVI** of France. Legend had it that a bystander at the execution sopped up his blood with a handkerchief and then stashed the bloody relic in a decorative squash. Blood from the squash seemed to match blood from a head reputed to be that of King Henry IV, Louis' relative and also a member of the Bourbon royal lineage.

But a study in 2013 cast **doubt on the royal origins**. The study revealed the male lineage in the head and the different one in the bloody squash could not have come from the Bourbon line; that the two men were not related; and that whoever bled on the handkerchief likely had brown eyes, not baby blues like Louis XVI.

#### 3. Prince ... oops!

It made big news when it first came out: Archaeologists had unearthed the tomb of an Etruscan warrior prince, carrying a lance and lying next to his wife. Only it turned out that the archaeologists made a mistake: A skeletal analysis showed the **Etruscan warrior prince was a princess**, and her lance was likely a sign of high

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(Continued from p. 4)

status, not warlike ways. The finds revealed the trouble with making assumptions based on the objects found in tombs and graves everywhere.

#### 4. Oldest rock art

In a dried-up lake in the Nevada desert, archaeologists unearthed signs of ancient rock art that dates to between 10,500 and 14,800 years ago. The [rock art is the oldest in North America](#) by several thousand years. But much remains unknown about the enigmatic lines and grooves carved into the limestone near Winnemucca Lake. Scientists aren't sure about the meaning of the rock art, though the images do seem quite similar to the second-oldest rock art in North America, which was found in Oregon.

#### 5. War's destruction

On the archeological front, some of the news was devastating. [Syria's civil war has imperiled its rich archaeological heritage](#), and reports of damage continued to trickle out this year. Satellite imagery revealed that the ancient Roman city of Apamea was so riddled with looting holes it looks like "the surface of the moon," one archaeologist told *LiveScience* in September. The ancient city of Ebla, which contains a trove of thousands of cuneiform tablets, was thoroughly looted. And fighting in Aleppo and Beirut has damaged ancient mosques in the region.

#### 6. Herod's tomb?

The tomb once thought to be Herod's may not be, according to two Israeli archaeologists. A tomb at the Herodium, a complex built by the king of the Israelites about 2,000 years ago, was too shabby and poorly constructed to hold the man who wanted to be laid out on a gold bed draped with fine fabrics and whose funerary procession was thronged by an entire army, the researchers argue. If the archaeologists' theory is true, then the [resting place of King Herod](#) is a mystery yet again.

#### 7. Stonehenge hunting grounds

Stonehenge has inspired speculation for millennia. But this year researchers revealed a new theory on why the enigmatic megaliths were raised: The area around [Stonehenge was a sacred hunting ground](#) where wild aurochs and other beasts congregated long before the mysterious monument was erected. Hundreds of animal

bones and thousands of stone tools found near the site suggest humans congregated from far and wide to feast and butcher wild beasts about 5,000 years before the first stones were raised.

#### 8. Royal tomb

A 1,200-year-old, pristine [royal tomb was uncovered in Peru](#). The grave held the bodies of three queens who ruled the Wari Empire, which flourished between A.D. 700 and 1000, long before the Incan site of [Machu Picchu](#) was erected. The tomb was still sealed and buried under 30 tons of loose stone fill when the archaeologists discovered it. The royal mausoleum held a rich assortment of gold and silver finery and the remains of possible human sacrifices.

#### 9. Vanishing Europeans

The [ancient inhabitants of Europe mysteriously vanished](#) about 4,500 years ago, a genetic analysis revealed. The analysis of 7,500-year-old skeletons unearthed in Central Europe suggests that the genetic makeup of the continent was dramatically different back then. These ancient people spread out from Turkey and the Near East with the agricultural revolution, supplanting the hunter-gatherer lifestyle that prevailed beforehand. But about 4,500 years ago a group of people with different genetics replaced these individuals. No trace of their lineage remains in modern Europeans. Exactly what happened has remained a mystery.

#### 10. Iceman's relatives

Some [Europeans may be part Iceman](#). The astonishingly well-preserved mummy of Ötzi the Iceman, who was found in the Italian Alps, may have at least 19 living relatives, a new genetic analysis revealed. The researchers discovered these living relatives by accident, while completing a genetic study of people living in the Italian Alps. Though it's possible one of these people may descend in an unbroken line from Ötzi, it's much more likely that he's only a distant relative. And the Iceman may have more relatives in the region.

### Coming Soon!

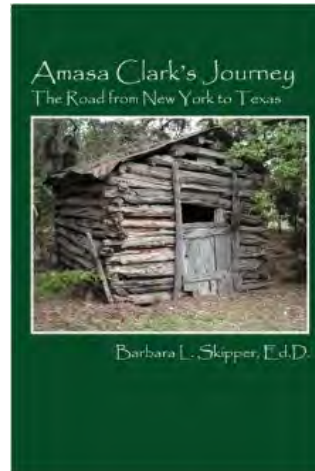
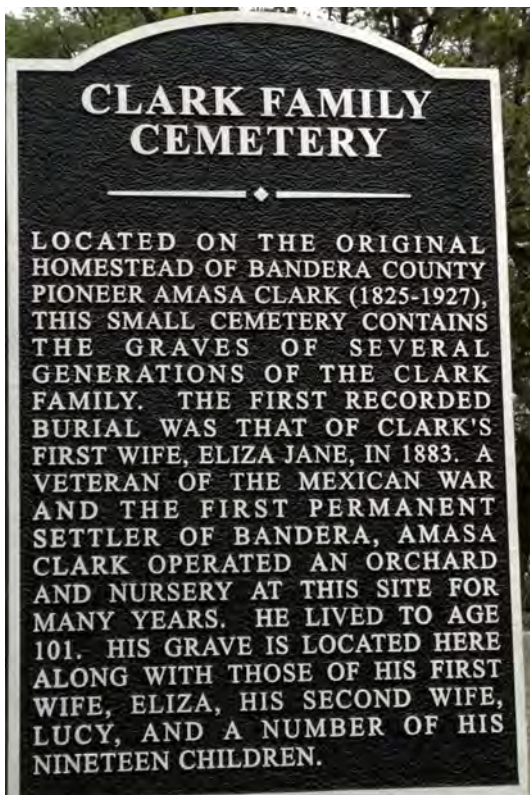
We are revamping our Website and it will be great! If you want to make any suggestions on the changes, let us know.

[www.hcarcheology.org](http://www.hcarcheology.org)

## BANDERA, TEXAS

## HISTORICAL ARCHEOLOGY IN THE MAKING.

Located just outside of the town of Bandera is the Amasa Clark homestead. The Clark family still resides on the property and have not disturbed the old buildings. They are being allowed to slowly decay. The family cemetery is also located on the property and the family still runs the orchard.



**Amasa Clark's  
Journey: The Road  
from New York to  
Texas**

by [Barbara L Skipper EdD](#)

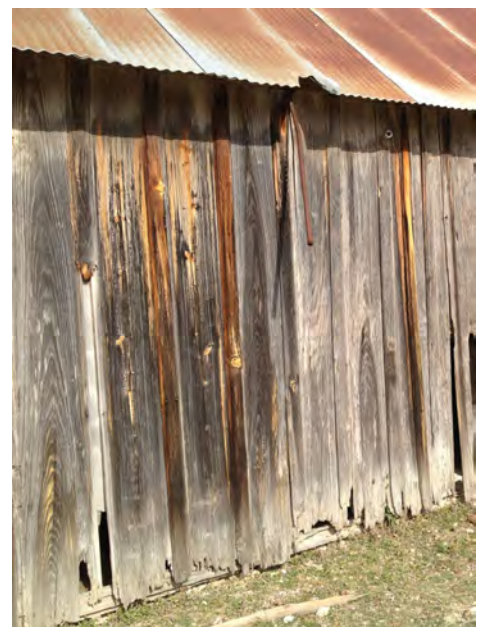
In 1847, at the age of 21, Amasa Clark answered the call to arms and joined the United States Army near Troy, New York. Little did he know that he was beginning an odyssey that would take him to fight in the Mexican War and ultimately leave him in Texas to become one of that state's most important pioneers. Amasa Clark became a freighter, a shingle-maker, and a successful farmer. He showed that fruit trees, particularly pear trees, would grow in the Central Texas climate and soil. He worked at the Alamo and hunted with the Indians before trading a yoke of oxen and a six-shooter for a farm near Bandera, Texas. This book chronicles his life in the 1800's including the War in Mexico, an attack by robbers near San Antonio, friendly and unfriendly Indians, working with the camels at Camp Verde, the difficult years of the Civil War, three marriages and nineteen children. This Texana book endeavors to give color and dimension to Amasa Clark's life by weaving his story with the history and culture of early New York and Texas.

Photos of homestead and cemetery on this page  
and following pages taken by Penny Bryant





Notice material in  
side walls  
reminiscent of  
wattle and daub  
construction in  
photo to the left.







Old split rail fence that once contained livestock slowly dissolving into the landscape.



Out Building showing notched log construction



HILL COUNTRY  
ARCHEOLOGY  
ASSOCIATION

**HCAA BOARD** WILL  
MEET SATURDAY  
MORNING,  
**JANUARY 18, 2014**  
AT 10:00 A.M. AT  
RIVERSIDE NATURE  
CENTER. MEMBERS  
ARE WELCOME TO  
ATTEND.

HCAA  
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Help yourself and the HCAA while you shop for new and used books on all aspects of archeology. When you go to our HCAA web site, <http://www.hcarcheology.org>, you will find a link to Amazon.com to help you browse for and purchase books.

The link is: [Archeology Books Available Here](#)

### A REMINDER

The HCAA is thankful that many landowners allow us to survey their property for archeological sites. We should constantly remind ourselves:

All artifacts found on their property belong to the landowner. HCAA members keep no artifacts.

If an archeological site is identified on the landowner's property, the location of the ranch should remain confidential.

We visit a property only with the owner's permission.

We do not hold a land-owner liable for injuries which occur while on their property.

We encourage and enjoy the participation of the landowner in our activities.

PLACE  
POSTAGE  
HERE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED