

Llano Uplift Archeological Society

No June Meeting—No June Field Trip

Because of the Texas Archeological Society's Annual Summer Field School, there will be no formal LUAS activities this month.

NEWSLETTER

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House Mountain Field Trip—May 17

Herman Lehmann is said to have lived for a time in a cave on House Mountain after his return from life with the Apache. LUAS visited House Mountain to try to relocate his abode.



Chuck Hixson:

While the rest slowly went up the slope of the mountain I headed along the base towards Hickory Creek where prehistoric campsites might be located. The creek runs in a northerly direction roughly half a mile west of the west slope of the mountain. South of the mountain the terrain was extremely rough and rocky with almost impenetrable brush. Occasionally I would notice a flake on the surface of the few open, level areas but these appeared to be isolated artifacts which no additional cultural material.

A fence - presumably the property line - blocked my westward progress so I was forced to head to the north, eventually reaching the creek somewhat north of the mountain. On a knoll overlooking the creek, I recorded a moderate scatter of chert chipping debris and a single (possible) burned rock. The site did not appear substantial and the soils too thin to have much buried material. Further inland a pile of chipping left by an artifact collector was encountered. This was recorded as Site 2 even though no other material was seen in the immediate area.

Since it was getting late, I decided to head back towards the southwest corner of the mountain where I thought the others were searching for Herman Lehmann's cave. Not far to the west of this area I recorded a third site, again made up a moderate scatter of flint chipping debris close to a small wash.

Not finding the rest of the party I continued eastwards towards where the vehicles were parked southeast of the mountain. Because of the dense brush growing south and east of the mountain I unknowingly headed in a northerly direction ending up north of the mountain. Fortunately my GPS, which had been having trouble finding satellites, began working again and I found the dirt road leading to our vehicles. When I reached the parking area, I found that everyone had left except for Gene and Doris, who were shouting for me - at this point it was really getting late - and David who was out looking for me where I was last seen south of the mountain.

While waiting for David to return I got a look at the points he and Pat found at a site north of the mountain. This site (Site 4?) was mainly a scatter of chipping debris and stone tools and probably does not represent a camping area where food was cooked (no burned rocks). It seems strange that prehistoric campsites were not found during the field trip considering the availability of water and food resources (lots of hickory and other nut trees).

Andy Malof:

Leaving common sense behind, (aka Gene and Doris), I began slipping and sliding my way up a very slippery slope. Occasionally I looked down and saw other LUAS members below, and wondered what had led me here, but there was no one to blame. Once I passed the point of no return, I sat down under a tree and took a short nap (actually nearly passed out from lack of oxygen). Anyway, there were a series of interesting overhangs, each a challenge to get to. One, in particular, was interest-



Points from Site 4. Identified by David and Pat as (top to bottom) Frio (200 to 600 AD); Bulverde (3000 to 2500 BC); Marshall (c. 1000 BC)

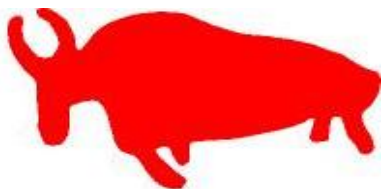
Llano Uplift
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One of shelters on House Mountain.

Pat Brandenburger at large shelter.

ing in that it had the correct alignment, a nice floor, and a big primary flake (but no hidden rifle). This definitely constitutes a site, given its location some 400 feet off the valley floor, but absence of any other visible artifacts requires that it can only be suggested that it was Herman's quarters. A wily survivalist could find many places to stay hidden below the cap of House Mountain...

p.s. Look for additional website photos soon.



Kenneth Brandenburger on top of House Mountain.

Minutes, May 14, 2008 Meeting Al Priest, Secretary

- 7:07 Pat Hatten calls the meeting to order
- 7:09 Pat introduces Dr. D. Clark Wernecke, Project Director for the Gault Project and Executive Director of the new Gault School of Archeological Research.
Dr. Wernecke gives a fascinating talk on what is happening at the Gault site and the Gault School
- 7:35 Dr. Wernecke finishes then opens the floor to Q/A
- 7:50 Q/A end
- 7:51 meeting is called because of a tornado warning from Andy in Austin and the National Weather Service , rotation in the clouds to the west.....
run for your life it's a twister!!!!!!!! hail.....rain...Martians landing

Special Notices

Calendar

**Second and fourth Saturdays
2-5pm**

Public tours at the Nightengale
Center

www.lcra.org

Volunteers always welcomed!!!

Check with Pat.

Note: to contribute to the news-
letter or website please contact
Andy Malof—
amalof@austin.rr.com

*hardcopy newsletters will be in
black and white henceforth

Steward's News

Your local archeological steward is Doris Howard. If you have any questions about the archaeology of the area, she can be your first

The Llano Uplift Archeological Society was organized by people interested in the protection, conservation and study of historic and pre-historic materials and sites in the Llano Uplift ("Central Mineral Region") area of the Texas Hill Country. Its primary goals include education of the membership, students and the public; and to support other groups, researchers and educators with similar interests. Stewardship of the Nightengale Archaeological Center is a major responsibility of LUAS.