

# TIME CAPSULE

Newsletter of the **FORT BEND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
An affiliate of the Fort Bend History Association  
600 Houston Street / Richmond, TX 77469, 281-342-6478 ext. 1301  
June 2023, Volume 31, Number 6



## Discover Texas History in June

### Villa de Austin Photoquest

Weekends in June 2023 - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Visit the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site on a weekend in June for their very popular Villa de Austin Photoquest!

Our Villa de Austin Photoquest is a scavenger hunt activity with clues leading visitors to each of our outdoor buildings representing real buildings that existed in the town 200 years ago. With each clue comes a photo prompt to complete it! This activity is perfect for families, friends, or even amateur photographers looking for photo inspiration!

The activity occurs every Saturday and Sunday in June 2023 and runs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Photoquest activity sheets can be picked up at the front admission desk.

The story starts at San Felipe de Austin! The historic site is located at 220 2nd Street, San Felipe, Texas.



### Boom: Cannon Demonstration

June 10, 2023 - 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

BOOM! Have you ever wondered how to load a cannon or seen one fired? On June 10, visitors to the San Jacinto Monument can learn how to load a cannon and watch regular cannon demonstrations. It will be a blast, literally!

The demonstrations take place on Saturday, June 10; 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Cannon fire will be on the hour and the half hour outside the San Jacinto Monument. The event is free and open to all ages. Expect loud booms! Bring hearing protection if you wish too.



Note: Program will be canceled in case of rain or inclement weather.

For more information, email [san-jacinto-battleground@thc.texas.gov](mailto:san-jacinto-battleground@thc.texas.gov) or call 281-479-2431.

## FBAS Field Notes

**Excavation Site** - FBAS volunteers continue to investigate a historic homesite near Richmond.



Whenever we need to do survey work, we rely on Bob Crosser's skills at surveying. Today, he said it was time more members learned how to use the transit. We rely on the transit to lay out new pits and to take elevation readings. The Keuffel & Esser Co. transit we use is probably over one hundred years old. If it works, don't fix it, right? Bob walked us through each step to set it up. This included leveling the tripod, leveling the transit instrument itself and how the compass works. The rest of us took detailed notes so more of us can operate the transit in the future.



In addition to training on the use of the transit, we also finished a couple of levels on the east wall of the root cellar. We also continued backfilling several old pits we have had open for a while now. One of the pits we filled in was in the middle of a walking path. After we finish our current pit, we'll be out of the way of the walkers. Louis Courville, on the right, finished the two levels today. He found a few artifacts which include glass, brick, and a nail. In the next couple of levels we should be down to the historic level we're interested in and hopefully will find more interesting objects. The two photos above were taken by John Rich.

## Meeting Minutes

### May 16, 2023

The Fort Bend Archeological Society met at the Fort Bend Museum, Richmond, Texas.

In attendance were 14 members and 2 guests.

President Paul Spana, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The balance as of May 7, 2023 is \$6,209.85. Rich Murphy moved to accept the treasurer's report and David Rose seconded the motion. All members voted to accept the treasurer's report.

There were no minutes from the online April meeting to approve.



### Old Business:

- Excavation work continues at the Lamar site. FBAS members continue to investigate a possible root cellar at the Lamar home site.

### New Business:

- The fourth corner of the root cellar has been found. Members are now investigating the east wall of the root cellar. The previous pits which have remained open will now be filled in.

### Announcements:

- There will be no meeting in June. The July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held online.
- The August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in person.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Paul Spana

## Treasurer's Report

<b>Balance as of May 7, 2023</b>			<b>\$6,209.85</b>
1990	5/23/2023	Friends of San Felipe de Austin SHS - honorarium	- 100.00
1991	5/23/2023	Paul Spana reimbursement for Facebook ad	- 14.00
<b>Balance as of June 1, 2023</b>			<b>\$6,095.85</b>

Submitted by  
Claire Rogers, Treasurer



Fort Bend Archeological Society  
600 Houston Street  
Richmond, TX 77469