

TIME CAPSULE



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FORT BEND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

An affiliate of the Fort Bend History Association

500 Houston Street / Richmond, TX 77469

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February 2019

General Meeting: February 19, 2019. 7PM

Speakers: David Furlow

Topic: Did Women's Work (Dairying) Save Plymouth Colony? The Archaeology of the Allerton/Cushman Farm, 1627-1697

David Furlow gives a fresh look at how women impacted the success of Plymouth Colony in this illustrated lecture. Furlow is an expert on Mayflower passenger Isaac Allerton and will present an update to a lecture he and his wife, Lisa Pennington, provided at the Plymouth Hall Museum scholars conference in Massachusetts in 2018. Using historical investigation and archeology, Furlow will answer how Pilgrim women impacted Plymouth Colony and the legacy they leave behind when compared to societal roles of women today.

David Furlow is an attorney in Houston who fell in love with archeology at age 8 when he visited Native American sites at Moundville, Alabama. He is a native of Houston and received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Texas. While studying law in 1983, he participated in archeological excavations with the Museum of London and became avidly interested in Roman British archeology. He has participated in excavations in various colonial American sites. David recently purchased the 1745 "Isaac Doten House," which was originally built by Mayflower Pilgrim descendant Captain Doten. Archeological excavations are planned on the site which may explore some of the earliest Pilgrim occupation levels.



Pictured is David Furlow with his wife Lisa Pennington in Pilgrim era clothing.

Location: **Gus George Law Enforcement Academy** - 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond, Texas. February's meeting will be held in Classroom 3 on the second floor.

Everyone is welcome - the program is free and open to the public.

Professional Archeologist's Corner: Archeologist's Code of Ethics

By Ashley E. Jones, M.A., R.P.A.

Article reprinted with permission from *The Houston Archeological Society newsletter, The Profile*

The word “archeology” immediately conjures imagery of people working in large block excavations, carefully brushing and revealing artifacts until they can be safely whisked away to a lab – or museum – somewhere. These types of excavations are labor intensive, but highly satisfying and educational. Why don't we do excavations like these all of the time? And why are some sites excavated, while others are left buried? The very act of archeology is destructive. We take shovels, remove items from their context (the depth at which they are buried, the soils they are in, and the objects that they are next to), and take the items to a different location. Once an excavation is underway, none of the material culture recovered, the soils, roots, etc. can be placed back into its original position. Since our excavations will destroy this portion of our past, archaeologists ask *why* a site should be excavated. And to answer that question, professional archeologists look to our code of conduct – our professional ethics.

There are many state and national organizations that provide a code of conduct for archeologists. If you have noticed “RPA” in some professional archaeologists' signature lines, the acronym indicates that they are members of the Register of Professional Archaeologists, and have agreed to practice under strong professional standards (www.rpanet.com or www.archaeologicaethics.org/code-of-ethics). The Society of American Archaeology asks its membership to follow the Principals of Archaeological Ethics (www.saa.org) and the Society for Historical Archaeology has their own ethical standards (<https://sha.org>). Texas Archeological Society, the Houston Archeological Society, and the Texas Archeological Stewards all have their own code of conduct. These codes assist us in making sure that we act responsibly as stewards of the sites we excavate, the artifacts we collect and curate, and the information we disseminate about the site.

This column will provide information on the laws, regulations, methodologies, and other standards that informs archaeological best practices. The topics that will be covered include:

- The why and how of obtaining a permit to conduct archeological investigations in Texas
- Federal regulations that guide archeological practice
- The phases of archeological field investigations
- When to excavate– and when to avoid – an archeological site
- The purpose of research questions
- Curation and reporting
- Stewardship

If there are any other topics you would like to hear about, please let us know.

FIELD NOTES

Lamar Homesite

Excavations have begun on 3 test pits where anomalies were identified. Already the results are promising. An update will be given, but at the time of this writing, we are currently excavating in 2 inch levels mostly on Saturdays. Derry Webb is the PI (Principal Investigator).

Further updates will be provided at our monthly meeting as well as future meetings.



FBAS Minutes

Minutes from January 15, 2019

The Fort Bend Archeological Society met at the Tyree House in Richmond, TX. In attendance were 19 members and 9 guests. The meeting was called to order by Jay Roussel, President, at 7:03pm.

Minutes:

Minutes from the December 18, 2018 were circulated in the monthly newsletter sent by email and mail to all members. There were no additions or corrections; the minutes stand as approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of January 5, 2019: \$4258.21. The treasurer's report was circulated in the newsletter. There were no additions or corrections; the treasurer's report stands as accepted.

New Business:

- Committee Report: Bob Crosser reported on the Lamar Homestead site - 12 inches have been excavated (using English measurements) at one of the pits where an anomaly has been detected - we are close to hitting on something.
- Paul Spana reported that the artifacts from 1998-2005/06 of the West Cistern site, which were previously excavated, cleaned, sorted and cataloged, were returned/delivered (80 boxes) to the landowner, Mr. Chris Richardson (who also made a donation to FBAS).
- Jay Roussel announced that HAS granted us permission to re-print their "Professional Archeologists" column from their newsletter each month.
- 30 students from YIP (Youth in Philanthropy) volunteered and performed major cleaning and reorganizing of the lab and painted the classroom of the Tyree House.

Our speakers were Bob & Nancy Engelhardt-Moore who gave a great presentation on the history of Lady Fu Hao, princess/priestess/general who was lost to the ages then rediscovered in the 1930's.

Next Meeting scheduled for February 19, 2019, 7pm at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy classroom #3.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00pm
Minutes submitted by: Dottie Allen.....

FBAS Treasurer's Report February 2019

Balance as of January 15, 2019				\$4,258.21
1925	1/15/2019	Jay Roussel	shirts & embroidery reimbursement	- 100.92
1926	1/15/2019	Paul Spana	keys	- 11.17
Deposit	1/18/2019	Velia Stroud	membership dues	+ 20.00
Deposit	1/18/2019	Chris Richardson	donation re: boxes of artifacts returned	+100.00
1927	1/21/2019	Brody Gussert	carved trowel for speaker	- 40.00
Balance as of February 4, 2019				\$4,100.96
Submitted by Claire Rogers, Treasurer				

Events

Fort Bend Archeological Society (FBAS) & Houston Archeological Society (HAS) Meetings:

February 19 - FBAS General Meeting: David Furlow - Did Dairy Work Save Plymouth Colony? The Archaeology of the Allerton/Cushman Pilgrim Farm 1627-1697

February 21 - HAS General Meeting: Dr. Tom Williams - Update on pre-Clovis artifacts recovered at the Gault Site. Link to the February HAS newsletter:
<http://www.txhas.org/PDF/newsletters/2019/2019%20February%20Profile.pdf>

March 19 - FBAS General Meeting: Dirk Van Tuerenhout - Mayan discoveries in Belize and Guatemala

March 21 - HAS General Meeting: Elton Prewitt, Painted Pebbles of the Lower Pecos Canyonlands

April 16 - FBAS General Meeting: Dr. Gregg Dimmick - Matching the Archeology and History of the Almonte Surrender Site

April 18 - HAS General Meeting: Jeffrey Girard, Discovery and Recovery of a 14th Century Dugout Canoe on Red River

HAS meets at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road.

FBAS meets at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy, 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond, Texas



Fort Bend Archeological Society
c/o Fort Bend Museum
500 Houston Street
Richmond, TX 77469