

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
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General Meeting, May 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Recent Archeological Investigations at Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site

Speaker: Nicholas Bourgeois

Have you missed getting together for our archeology presentations? It's been several months since we had an in-person meeting and it's time to get back together. Our goal is to have several meetings in person this year. We're currently searching for new speakers and have one lined up for May. Archeologist Nicholas Bourgeois will give us a presentation on the most recent archeological work which took place on the grounds of the Varner-Hogg State Historic Site. The meeting and his presentation will be held at the Fort Bend Museum just as we have done in the past.

Nicholas Bourgeois grew up moving around the country, but his family eventually settled down in Baytown, Texas. After studying anthropology at Louisiana State University, Nicholas moved to California where he received a master's degree in World Cultures from the University of California, Merced and spent several summers studying Maya cave archeology in Belize, C.A.

He returned home to Texas and spent several years as a CRM archeologist before joining the Texas Historical Commission as the site archeologist for the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site, Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site, and Sabine Pass State Historic Site.

Location: Fort Bend Museum, 410 S. Fifth Street in Richmond, Texas. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome - the program is free and open to the public.



Varner-Hogg Plantation

Excavation Site Photos

All the rain we received in late February and in March certainly took its toll on the excavation site. We've missed several weekends due to the weather and when we've been onsite, we have been cleaning up the pits. After the pits dried out and were cleaned up, we returned to our excavation efforts. Our attention is focused on the center area of the root cellar which we haven't explored yet. FBAS volunteers dig every Saturday morning. Want a closer look? All are welcome to visit the site. You can try your hand at digging or just come by to see what we're finding.



In the left photo above, John Rich excavates in the center area of the root cellar. Behind him you can catch a glimpse of a new fence. With so many open pits, the site required a better level of safety. We installed fence posts and a safety barrier around the pits. When John dug down to the occupation level, lots of interesting artifacts began to appear such as the green transferware sherd seen on the right. Anyone know what pattern it is?



Also found were these two rifle cartridge cases seen on the left. The poor condition of the ends made it difficult to determine the caliber and manufacturer of the pair. More research is required to see what we can learn about them. The fancy saucer piece on the right was a fun find. There is no maker mark seen on the bottom of the piece which may make it a little more difficult to identify. Hopefully, we'll find more pieces to the saucer.



Treasurer's Report

Balance as of January 11, 2024 **\$6,597.56**

Balance as of February 29, 2024 **\$6,597.56**

Submitted by

Madeleine Calcote-Garcia