



Concho Valley Archeological Society Newsletter

March 2013

CVAS/IAS Independence Creek Shelter Survey, 19—21 April

The Independence Creek Nature Preserve shelter survey will take place 19—21 April. We won't know exactly where we are going until we get there and review the suggested survey sites by caretaker, Lisa Wrinkle and work lead Evans Turpin.

Lisa writes, "I would very much like to begin by having a larger scale map of all the known sites on the entire property. I really think looking at the property as a whole and looking at places of intensive use will answer lots of questions as well as generate more of them. I could really use CVAS's help with this task as the property is expansive and it is just Corbin and I at the moment. The two of us just can't spend the time needed to really survey what we've got. There are still many shelters to explore, and I am confident there are many other surface sites that still need discovering."

Full on-site facilities will be provided for everyone joining this survey. They have at least three buildings surrounding a beautiful lake. Independence Creek Preserve is located 22 miles south of Sheffield on Highway 349. There is a large entrance sign and no gate, so you can come anytime. If you come on Saturday instead of Friday I suggest you get there early. We will probably be heading out around 8:30—9 a.m. I will post more maps and property information on our website homepage.



March Meeting Presentation

Tom Ashmore will give a presentation on Independence Creek Nature Preserve. The presentation will include general information about the preserve, including a short video, past trips CVAS made to the reserve, the ancient bison excavation conducted by Sul Ross University, and some discussion on our plans for the upcoming trip.

CVAS Members--- Thanks for all of your prayers and well wishes during my recent heart surgery. I am gaining strength each day and look forward to getting back to normal. Thanks for the book "The Settlement of the Americas". I enjoyed reading it while I have been resting and healing.

Larry

Rylander Ranch Outing for Iraan Archeological Society

IAS will be returning to Rylander Ranch on Mar 22-24th. This ranch is on the Devils River and is an incredible location. Forty new sites have been discovered by archeology students since our trip two years ago.

Midland Archeological Society and CVAS to share newsletters

We've been contacted by the Midland Archeological Society in a newsletter sharing request. I've included MAS into our monthly email listing and they will send me their newsletter. I will then distribute it out to CVAS members via our email listing.

SWFAS Annual Symposium: 6 April

The SWFAS annual symposium will be held on Saturday April 6th at the Sibley Nature Center at 1307 E. Wadley in Midland. The event will run from 9-5 with a lunch break. C.A. Maedgen will be our CVAS representative at the event.

The easiest way to get there is to take the 136 exit off I-20 and head north up Big Spring St (also listed as hwy 349/158) until you get to Wadley and turn left down Wadley.

Ft McKavett West Texas Heritage Days: 22, 23 Mar

Fort McKavett State Historic Site invites the public to celebrate history at the annual West Texas Heritage Days. Throughout the day, activities will include cavalry, artillery and infantry action drills, Native American living history performances, Buffalo Soldiers, Buffalo Hunters, chuck wagon delectables, the Texas Camel Corps and other frontier skills demonstrations. A band playing period music will perform during a barbecue lunch offered to the public by the Friends of Fort McKavett. Donations to help defray the cost of the food are appreciated. Friday is public school visit day, similar to Ft Chadbourne.

CVAS will be represented at the event and we need volunteers to help both days. If you would like to participate, please contact Callan. Callan_clark@yahoo.com (325-473-3262).

**Saturday schedule: 8 a.m. - gates open , 10 a.m. - flag raising ceremony
12 p.m. - barbecue lunch, 4:30 p.m. - flag lowering ceremony**

CVAS: MS Office 2010

I've been providing information over the last several issues on our new membership benefit of free Microsoft Office 2010. So far we've provided around 21 copies of the software to CVAS members. We have a total of 50 licenses. I gave Callan six more copies at the meeting to keep with him and will be burning more copies for anyone needing one. Each DVD I'm providing to our members has a quick installation instruction and registration sheet with it. We were also given 50 licenses of Office 2013 if anyone is interested in that version. It is much more complicated, working with the capabilities of Windows 8 operating system. If you would like a copy of that software, please contact me directly via email (tomashmore@wcc.net). Here are the details of the MS Office 2010 software package.

Included software packages:

- Excel 2010 spreadsheet, OneNote 2010 (a note-taking application that allows various types of content to be shared among team members), Outlook 2010 (integrates email, calendar, contacts, and tasks), PowerPoint 2010 (presentation graphics program), Publisher 2010 (desktop publishing program), Word 2010 (full-featured word-processing program)

Hardware Requirements:

- 500-MHz (or higher) processor
- 256 MB or more RAM; 512 MB recommended for graphics features and certain advanced functionality;
1 GB recommended for contextual spell-checking feature in Word
- 3 GB available hard-disk space
- 1024x768-pixel (or higher) display

Fort Concho or Camp Concho?

I received an interesting email from Ray Theiss asking if I had seen a drawing that he found in the West Texas Collection of what is supposed to be Fort Concho. He suggested that it may have been Camp Concho. I believe the same drawing may be in the Fort Concho archives because it was in our recent meeting presentation by Cory Robinson, Fort Concho archivist. The drawing is quite obviously not Fort Concho or Camp Hatch. Cory believed the artist may have made some artistic embellishments in order to put the fort in the best light possible.

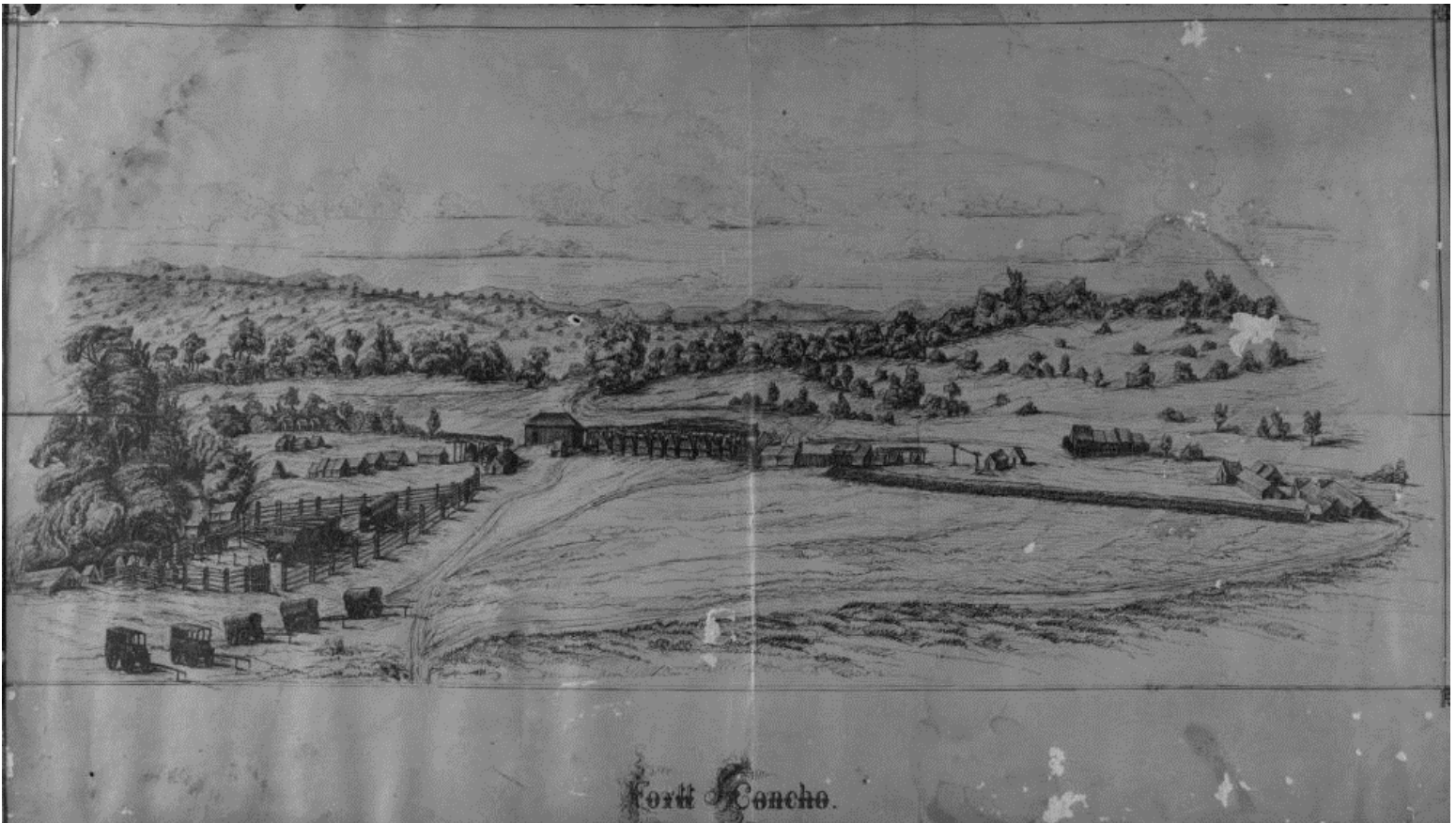
Ray's email raises another fascinating possibility. Could the drawing have been Camp Concho and the author just gave it the "fort" title. Camp Concho was listed on at least two military maps, one in 1857 and one in 1867 (before Fort Concho was built). The 1867 map was drawn by Brevet Lt Col Strang, while on a inspection tour from Fort Stockton to Fort Chadbourne. At that time Camp Concho was being used as a lumber camp, cutting down the pecan trees for the wood to build Fort Concho. The map shows it very clearly to have been on the north side of the North Concho River, where Carlsbad is today.

There is another story that Camp Concho was the remnants of what was originally Camp Johnston, predecessor to Fort Chadbourne. This would be the 1857 Camp Concho. From a lot of work with CVAS member, Orville Shelburne, we essentially were able to place Camp Johnston on the south side of the North Concho, across from Carlsbad.

So, we go back to the question. Could this drawing be Camp Concho instead of Fort Concho. I think it might be. I made a ground level view using Google Earth for comparison and asked Orville what he thought.

"Tom: Yes this could be it, essentially at location we liked earlier. Things that fit, distance from river, hill 1 mi N of Carlsbad has right shape with steep west slope and more gentle east slope, topography near camp on this left bank, being flatter up river to left and slight hill down river to right. small draw in foreground could be Sulphur draw which hits Concho just below hill and out of sight to right. Suggests site about 1/2 mi from paved Burma Road, maybe 1/4 mile further up than I thought earlier."

So, here is the drawing. It would be on the south side of the North Concho from today's Carlsbad, looking northeast. You be the judge.



Artifacts help pinpoint key Hatfield-McCoy battle

By BRUCE SCHREINER | Associated Press – Tue, Jan 1, 2013

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The Hatfield clan New Year's attack on Randolph McCoy's cabin marked a turning point in America's most famous feud — the homestead was set ablaze, and two McCoys were gunned down. Hatfield family members and supporters were soon thrown in jail.

Artifacts recently unearthed appear to pinpoint the location of the 1888 ambush in the woods of Pike County in eastern Kentucky. Excavators found bullets believed to have been fired by the McCoys in self-defense, along with fragments of windows and ceramic from the family's cabin.

"This is one of the most famous conflicts in American history, and we've got bullets fired from one of the key battles. It doesn't get any better than that," said Bill Richardson, a West Virginia University extension professor who was part of the recent discovery.

The property is owned by Bob Scott, a Hatfield descendant who has suspected for years that the hilly land was the site of the brutal attack. He grew up listening to stories from his parents and grandparents about the 19th-century feud.

"My father told me years ago that someday this well would talk," Scott said, referring to the well on the site where Randolph McCoy's daughter Alafair died while trying to flee the attackers.

Now backed by the discovery, Scott plans to capitalize on the historic 70-acre site near the West Virginia line. The options include a housing development featuring horseback and ATV trails, he said.

Scott's home is about 75 yards from where the cabin stood. The McCoys moved to nearby Pikeville after the homestead was burned.

The artifacts were found last year during filming of a National Geographic Channel show. The bullets were discovered burrowed several inches into a hillside overlooking where the McCoy cabin stood, Richardson said. Three different calibers of bullets, including shotgun pellets, were uncovered. The ammunition, found in an area about 30 feet wide, was traced to the same time period as the 1888 battle, Richardson said.

"The front of the cabin faces almost directly at the spot where these bullets were," Richardson said. "We know from the oral histories that they were shooting out the front of the cabin and from the upper windows. So they're exactly in the spot where they should be."

Also found during the initial search was a piece of charred wood with a nail traced to the McCoy cabin's time period, he said.

Later, an archaeological team led by Kim McBride, co-director of the Kentucky Archaeological Survey, confirmed the location of the McCoy cabin. They found tiny pieces of window glass and ceramics traced to the same period, along with more nails and charred wood.

She would like to return to the site for more excavation work, which could take three to five weeks. There were other clues connecting the property to the McCoys. The deed to the property was traced back to Randolph McCoy, she said.

"It was kind of a coming together of all the pieces of evidence," McBride said.

The discoveries come amid a surge of interest in the feud that spanned much of the last half of the 19th century. The fighting claimed at least a dozen lives by 1888 and catapulted both families into the American vernacular, becoming shorthand to describe bitter rivalries.

The History Channel aired a three-night miniseries about the feud that set basic cable viewing records. The drama starred Kevin Costner and Bill Paxton as the patriarchs — William Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield in West Virginia and Randolph "Ole Ran'l" McCoy in Kentucky.

The New Year's attack was one of the bloodiest episodes in the feud.

"It was a turning point," Richardson said. "The feud had lasted 23 years up until this battle. And then 20 days later it's virtually over."

Now, descendants of both families live peacefully among each other in the Appalachian region. And officials in both states see the potential to reap a financial windfall because of the public's fascination.

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
CVASSANANGELO.ORG

Meeting Location

Please remember that our meetings are now in the classroom at the Fort Concho Living History Stables, **236 Henry O. Flipper St.** We enter **through the side door.**

2013 Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Cell _____

Family members _____

Email _____

I pledge I will not intentionally violate the terms or conditions of any current or future state or local statute concerning cultural resources or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: CVAS, 4063 Green Meadow Dr., San Angelo, TX 76904

Individual	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student or military N/C		<input type="checkbox"/>

(active military only)