



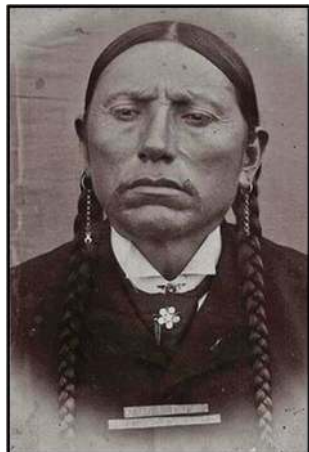
Concho Valley Archeological Society Newsletter

May 2017

Quanah Parker Traveling Exhibit

Larry Riemenschneider

On Saturday April 22, CVAS members visited the Irion County Museum and the Traveling Quanah Parker Exhibit. A Woman of Two Worlds and a Man in Two Worlds, is a traveling exhibit of over forty rarely seen photographs that document the lives of Cynthia Ann and Quanah Parker, two important names in U.S. frontier history.



Quanah Parker was a leader of the Comanche people during the difficult transition period from free-ranging life on the southern plains to the settled ways of reservation life. He became an influential negotiator with government agents, a prosperous cattle-rancher, a vocal advocate of formal education for Native children, and a devout member of the Peyote Cult. Quanah Parker was the last Chief of the Comanche's and never lost a battle to the white man. He was never captured by the army, but decided to surrender and lead his tribe into the white man's culture, only when he saw that there was no alternative. Quanah was born to Comanche Chief Peta Nocona and Cynthia Ann Parker, a white girl taken captive during the 1836 raid on Fort Parker.



CVAS Members Visiting Irion County Museum

Fort Chadbourne Hospital Sink (Latrine)

Larry Riemenschneider

During recent weeks I had seen a post on Face Book from Fort McKavett about a sink (latrine) on the grounds of the post. As usual, I read the post and went on about my business when I received an e-mail from Ann Pate (Secretary Fort Chadbourne). She said "Did you see the Face Book post from Fort McKavett about the sink? What do you think, could the square hole in the north wall of the hospital been used in the same manner?" I reviewed the post again and that's when it hit me, I think she has come up with the best answer as to why the square hole was placed within the north wall of the hospital at Fort Chadbourne (*Figure 1*). Following is the Face Book posting:

[Friends of Fort McKavett](#) shared Fort McKavett State Historic Site's post.



Today's #FHF comes to us from a civilian contract surgeon at Fort McKavett, Redford Sharpe's, report on Fort McKavett's sanitary condition via a master's student at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (C&GSC), Lieutenant Commander William Gorham (USN).

"I have served at no post since I have been on duty in Texas, since December, 1865, where more attention is paid to cleanliness of quarters, and where all sanitary and hygienic rules are more thoroughly enforced, and where more deference is paid to the suggestions of the medical officer in regard to such rules. The sinks for both officers and enlisted... are disinfected every morning, are washed three times a week, and recently, during warm weather, they are removed a mile distant, near the San Saba river, daily, washed and returned. There is no more healthy post on the Texas frontier than Fort McKavett."

Redford Sharpe arrived at Fort McKavett in April 1868, one month after the post was reopened following the Civil War. The Civil War was a very important turning point in the history of military medicine and sanitation in the United States. Roughly two-thirds of all casualties during the Civil War were a result of infection or poor camp sanitation (illness). Following the war, the Army made a concerted effort to change policies that would promote sanitation and cleanliness in barracks and hospitals alike.

The hospital sink at Fort McKavett, pictured here, is an example of post-Civil War sanitary policies coming into effect. The sink was segregated, but by rank rather than by race. Officers would use the right sink; enlisted men, the left one. Lime was kept in the sinks and was sprinkled on top of the solid waste to reduce the smell. Soldiers were not permitted to urinate in the sinks. Soldiers that were imprisoned on post were assigned the duties of emptying and cleaning the post sinks (notice the trap door and the waste tray). Every building at one point had a sink similar to this one built behind it. Be sure to come see us at Fort McKavett and learn more about army sanitation and army life on the frontier.

The photos from the Fort McKavett sink show a wooden box that slid under the seats through a trap door on the wall of the building. This wooden box was placed there to catch human waste and as needed the box was pulled out and emptied.

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Fort Chadbourne Hospital Sink (Latrine)

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Figure 1. Arrow pointing to square hole in north wall Post Hospital Fort Chadbourne



Figure 2. Arrow pointing to rock support for sliding box (inside wall Hospital)

The square hole in the north wall of the Hospital at Fort Chadbourne (*Figure 1*) is the right size and location to have accommodated a wooden tray for such purposes. A large stone (*Figure 2*) placed against the wall on the inside of the building may have been used to support the sliding box.

This idea may put to rest the long debate over why the “hole” was placed in the wall of the hospital. The report I published about the hospital excavations may need to be corrected and now say “it could have been used for a vent to the cellar” or “an opening to slide a wooden box in and out to catch human waste”. This proves there is always room for correction. Thanks Ann for your watchful eye and for pointing this out.

CVAS Field Trip to Aiken Ranch

Callan Clark

After viewing the Quanah Parker exhibit at the Irion County Museum, a few CVAS members went to the Aiken Ranch to visit and record archeological sites. The landowner showed us a stone corral and part of the old highway system that connected Barnhart to Mertzon. Five sites (both prehistoric and historic) were recorded. In short, this was a great outing and everyone enjoyed it.



CVAS members and landowner inside the stone corral

Rock alignment near stone corral.

CVAS May Speaker, May 25th 7 p.m. Steven Schooler

Mission San Lorenzo de la Santa Cruz (1762-1771)

CVAS' own professional archeologist, Steven Schooler, will be this month's speaker at our monthly meeting.

Many of our members are likely familiar with the dramatic story of the destruction in 1758 of the short-lived Mission Santa Cruz de San Sabá, which unfolded just an hour's drive from San Angelo near present-day Menard. Less well known is the related history of the Mission San Lorenzo de la Santa Cruz, another Spanish mission intended for the conversion and christianization of the Lipan Apache. It was founded in 1762 on the Nueces River about 100 miles south of Mission San Sabá, just outside of the present small town of Camp Wood. In the wake of the Mission San Sabá's utter destruction, Mission San Lorenzo was an attempt by the Spanish to cling to a foothold in Central Texas, but at a safer distance from the Norteños - the Spaniards' collective term for the allied groups of Wichita, Comanche, Caddo, and other tribes who had burned Mission San Sabá to the ground. Mission San Lorenzo represented a valiant effort to hold the Spanish frontier, with numerous buildings constructed from local materials that did succeed for a while in fending off the relentless Norteño threat. Like San Sabá, however, San Lorenzo suffered from isolation and inadequate supplies and protection. It was fully abandoned by 1771, marking the permanent withdrawal of Spain from their northern frontier in Central Texas.

Next month, from June 10-17, the Texas Archeological Society will hold their annual field school at Mission San Lorenzo. This will mark the first excavations at this site since the initial research undertaken by the Texas Memorial Museum in 1962. There is still time to get involved! Participants must be members of the TAS to join in, but registration at the regular rates (\$100 for 1-3 days, \$150 for over 3 days) is open until May 26, with late registration through June 2. Meals are also available at the field camp for a nominal charge.

More information can be found at this web address:

<https://txarch.org/civicism-event/180>

Discover the past along the Nueces River

In June archeologists from the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) and Texas Tech University will spend several weeks along the Nueces River near Camp Wood investigating several sites. Dr. Tamra Walter will direct the investigations. The primary target of the work will be Mission San Lorenzo, 1762-1771. It was established by the Franciscan missionaries for the Lipan Apache as a possible deterrent against the Comanche.

Investigations in the 1960's unearthed some building features that will be investigated further. These include sections of the walls that may contain additional structures, the central plaza, and several midden areas. Crews from the field school may also investigate a likely Lipan Apache village and the 19th Century military outpost of Camp Wood. Additional reconnaissance survey will be conducted on local ranches to identify new sites and learn more about the people who lived here years ago.

The Texas Archeological Society welcomes individuals and families who would like to learn archeological techniques and contribute to the history of the area. Membership in TAS is required (family \$70; individual \$60) and a field school fee for three days is adult \$100, youth 7-17 \$40. Work in the field is 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM every day with afternoon and evening programs. A "newcomers orientation" is offered on Sat. – Mon. mornings at 7:00 AM to introduce first-timers to archeological concepts and get them assigned to field crews. See the TAS web site www.txarch.org for further information about Society benefits – scholarly journal, annual meeting and academy sessions.

During the week, June 10 – 17 the public will be invited to programs: Archeolympics near the campground on Highway 55 (Tues. 6:30 PM); A Program to summarize the investigations (Thurs. TBD); Artifact Identification at the Senior Citizen Building (Thurs. TBD); and Open House/ Tour of sites location TBD (Fri. AM). More detailed information will be available on these opportunities.

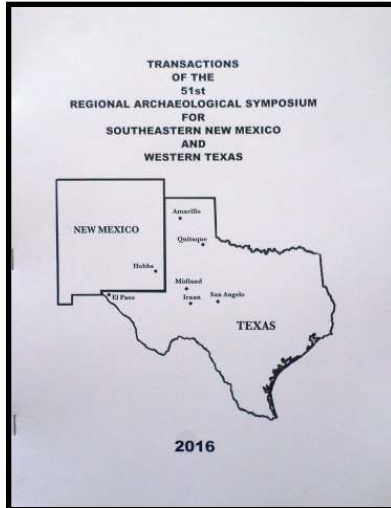
Teachers are encouraged to participate in the field school to receive CPE credit as approved by the Texas Board of Certification. You will receive credit for hours on the dig, as well as afternoon & evening programs. The background you receive in history and archeology is valuable in many disciplines. You will also be given information on the Gault Site, a major archeological site in Central Texas. For further information on this program, contact Education Committee chair, Robin Matthews, ann-robin@sbcglobal.net.

Contact: Pam Stranahan 512 247-8497 pamwheatstranaha@gmail.com



2016 SWFAS Transactions Available

We received our 15 copies of the 2016 SWFAS Transactions Journal. They were purchased in accordance with SWFAS bylaws and are available to CVAS members at cost, \$15. You can reserve a copy by emailing Tom Ashmore and pick up at the May meeting.



Southwestern Federation of Archeological Societies 52nd Symposium, 2016 Hosted by Canyonlands Archeological Society, Quitaque, Texas

Cooking with Quartzite

Rick Day, Canyonlands A.S., Quitaque

Cupules at Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument

Beryl Hughes, Panhandle A. S., Amarillo

The Pecos River Horsehead Crossing

Tom Ashmore, Concho Valley A.S., San Angelo

The Forgotten Butterfield Stations

Claude Hudspeth, Southern Trails Chapter of OCTA, and Evans Turpin, Iraan A.S.

Pure Quartz Technology in the Caprock Canyonlands

Richard Walter, Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross University, Alpine

Of Burnt Dogs and Melting Cats: A Close Look at the Death (and Resurrection) of Two Plains Village Tradition Houses (Drover and Pete) from Whistling Squaw, Northeast Texas Panhandle

L. Douglas Wilkens and Charles Frederick

An Introduction to the Study of Southwestern Pottery Found on the Southern Plains

Regge Wiseman, New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies, Santa Fe

Buffalo, Pearls & Concho Girls

Way back on an old Concho Creek
Lived some Texas Girls that loved weave
They'd make baskets and mats
And even some buckskin flats

They'd tan deer and buffalo hides
Gather shells and find pearls
They were something else
Those buffalo girls

Some think they had it made
They'd pick flowers and nurse babies in the shade
This was their savannah and they loved to trade
As long as they had buffalo, they had it made
They'd trade acorns, pecans, hides and pearls
They were something else, those buffalo girls

They'd rock their babies and by and by
And look to the Great Spirit in the sky
They were something, those buffalo girls
And they loved to wear their Concho pearls

They wore buckskin and no lace
And lived near springs on this beautiful place
The river would draw the buffalo near
They relied on them for shelter and shawls
Food, tools and that's not all

The Concho shells were their cups
And the prairies were their hearths
Many maidens were quite beautiful, rugged and smart
The stars were their evening lights
The birds were their song
And the crickets were their lullaby, all the night long

As the sun set at the end of the day
All was well for these Concho girls
As long as they had their buffalo and pearls
Guests always ask why I wear pearls
Guess you know now, I'm a Concho girl

Michelle K. Doss
CVAS Member & Owner/Steward-Bella
Oaks Rancheria

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.**

2017 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, 132 Kilt Road, San Angelo, TX 76901

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

(active military only)