



# INDEX OF TEXAS ARCHAEOLOGY

*Open Access Gray Literature from the Lone Star State*

---

Volume 1987

Article 21


---

1987

## Excavations at Site 41FY11: Cultural Resource Investigations Along the Proposed Bypass for SH 71, Near La Grange Fayette County, Texas

Alan J. Wormser

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/ita>

 Part of the [American Material Culture Commons](#), [Archaeological Anthropology Commons](#), [Environmental Studies Commons](#), [Other American Studies Commons](#), [Other Arts and Humanities Commons](#), [Other History of Art, Architecture, and Archaeology Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Tell us how this article helped you.](#)

---

### Cite this Record

Wormser, Alan J. (1987) "Excavations at Site 41FY11: Cultural Resource Investigations Along the Proposed Bypass for SH 71, Near La Grange Fayette County, Texas," *Index of Texas Archaeology: Open Access Gray Literature from the Lone Star State*: Vol. 1987, Article 21. <https://doi.org/10.21112/ita.1987.1.21>

ISSN: 2475-9333

Available at: <https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/ita/vol1987/iss1/21>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for Regional Heritage Research at SFA ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Index of Texas Archaeology: Open Access Gray Literature from the Lone Star State by an authorized editor of SFA ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact [cdsscholarworks@sfasu.edu](mailto:cdsscholarworks@sfasu.edu).

---

## Excavations at Site 41FY11: Cultural Resource Investigations Along the Proposed Bypass for SH 71, Near La Grange Fayette County, Texas

### Licensing Statement

This is a work produced for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) by the report producer. TxDOT and the report producer jointly own all rights, title, and interest in and to all intellectual property developed under TxDOT's contract with the report producer. The report may be cited and brief passages from this publication may be reproduced without permission provided that credit is given to both TxDOT and the report producer. Permission to reprint an entire chapter, section, figures or tables must be obtained in advance from either the Supervisor of the Archeological Studies Branch, Environmental Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation, 125 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas, 78701 or from the report producer.

EXCAVATIONS AT SITE 41FY111:  
CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS  
ALONG THE PROPOSED BYPASS FOR SH 71, NEAR LA GRANGE  
FAYETTE COUNTY, TEXAS

By  
Alan J. Wormser

Texas  
State Department of Highways and Public Transportation  
Highway Design Division  
May 1987

## ABSTRACT

Test excavations were conducted at Site 41FY111 by Alan J. Wormser of the cultural resources staff at the Texas State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (SDHPT). The excavation was completed between March 30, and April 2, 1987, as part of a bypass project along SH 71 north of La Grange, Fayette County, Texas. Although the prehistoric remains were scattered over a broad area, most of the site was concentrated on top of a knoll of cherty gravel deposits. Sixteen 1 X 1 meter test units were excavated to depths of between 10 and 50 cm below the surface. This resulted in the recovery of 3474 pieces of chipped lithic debris, 9 cores, 8 tested cobbles (cobbles with minimal flake removal), and 2872 fragments of burned rock. There were also 2 projectile points, 1 gouge, 3 other bifaces, 4 modified flakes, and 1 cut nail. Only one of the items, a Pedernales dart point, was diagnostic of any particular time period (ca. 2000 B.C. to A.D. 1). Most of the cultural material was concentrated within the upper 20 cm of deposits. No cultural features were found and the field containing the site appeared to have been terraced to control erosion. The site was used prehistorically as a source of chert. Major activities at the site included primary reduction of chert, and heating of rock for cooking. Due to the superficial nature of the deposits, lack of features, probable disturbance by artificial terracing, and the ubiquitous nature of similar quarry/workshop sites within the region, 41FY111 is not considered to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, and does not warrant designation as a State Historic Landmark.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT ..... 2

LIST OF FIGURES ..... 4

LIST OF TABLES ..... 5

INTRODUCTION ..... 6

ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND ..... 8.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

    Previous Research ..... 9

    Chronology ..... 11

SITE DESCRIPTION/INVESTIGATION

    Methods ..... 13

    Area A: The Central Knoll ..... 15

    Area B: Northeast Slope of the Knoll (Area A) ..... 23

    Area C: Lower Terrace East of the Knoll (Area A) ..... 25

    Area D: Northwest Part of the Knoll ..... 28

    Area E: Site Margins North and West of the Knoll (Area D) ..... 31

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS ..... 33

REFERENCES CITED ..... 36

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1. Location of Site 41FY111, Fayette County, Texas ..... 7

FIGURE 2. Map of Site 41FY111 showing location of test units ..... 14

FIGURE 3. Typical profile from Area A ..... 16

FIGURE 4. Artifacts from Area A ..... 17

FIGURE 5. Artifacts from Area A ..... 1 8

FIGURE 6. Typical profile from Area B ..... 24

FIGURE 7. Typical profile from Area C ..... **26**

FIGURE 8. Typical profile from Area D ..... **29**

FIGURE 9. Typical profile from Area E ..... **32**

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area A ..... 19

TABLE 2. Other artifacts from Area A ..... 19

TABLE 3. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area B ..... 23

TABLE 4. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area C ..... 27

TABLE 5. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area D ..... 30

TABLE 6. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area E ..... 31

## INTRODUCTION

In March and April of 1987, test excavations were conducted at 41FY111, a lithic procurement site in central Fayette County, Texas, near the town of La Grange (Figure 1). Testing was performed by Alan J. Wormser, of the SDHPT cultural resources staff. The SDHPT residency at La Grange supplied a 6-member excavation crew: Otto Kocian, David Stasnty, Gordon, Whittier, Roy Garrison, George Maxwell, and Darren Flouris. All testing was within the right-of-way for the proposed bypass of SH 71 north of La Grange and was conducted under the Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties (36 CFR, Part 800). Field work required a total of 23.5 man-days.

Site 41FY111 is on a knoll representing a terrace remnant between Cedar Creek, which is south and west of the site, and another small stream to the east and north of the site. It is about 2 miles northwest of the confluence of Cedar Creek with the Colorado River. The site was first recorded during an on-site survey by a member of the SDHPT cultural resources staff in 1977. Six sites were found during the initial survey. In 1981, Wayne Young revisited the sites and determined that only one of them, 41FY111, was worthy of further investigation. Test excavation of 41FY111 was delayed until 1987, when the State of Texas finally acquired title to that portion of the site which was within the right-of-way. In order to determine eligibility for inclusion within the National Register of Historic Places, problems regarding site function, and the integrity, nature, depth, and horizontal extent of the cultural deposits were addressed.



This Page Redacted Per THC Policy

## ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

Fayette County is within the Texan Biotic Province (Blair 1950:100-102). This environmental zone extends southward to the Gulf of Mexico, and northward into central Oklahoma. It is characterized by a moist, sub-humid climate, where there is an slight surplus of rainfall annually. Dominant vegetation consists of post oak, blackjack oak, and hickory, where the soils are sandy and well drained, and tall grass prairie where clay soils exist. The Texan Biotic Province shares traits with both the forests to the east and grasslands to the west. There are also isolated areas with vegetation similar to the Austroriparian Biotic Province: Loblolly pine mixed with oak. To the south, marshy areas and peat bogs are found.

Due to the diversity of environmental traits within the Texan Biotic Province, there is a diversity in animal forms as well. Blair (1950:101-102) lists 49 species of mammals, 2 species of turtles, 16 species of lizards, and 39 species of snakes. Most of these are common in the Austroriparian Biotic Province, although some are grassland forms. Common animals include white-tailed deer, mole, fox squirrel, gopher, cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, and black-tailed jack rabbit.

Major rivers in Fayette County include the Colorado and Navidad Rivers. There are numerous smaller tributaries and springs throughout the region. Chert resources are plentiful and occur as outcrops and gravel deposits.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### Previous Research

Archaeological research in Fayette County began with a survey of Fayette, Travis, and Bastrop counties (Wilson 1930). Two sites, 41FY37 and 41FY38, were excavated in neighboring Colorado County in the 1930s , (Woolsey 1932; Nunley 1963; Briggs 1971). However, no further archaeological field work was reported from Fayette County until the Early 1960s when Nunley (1963) surveyed the Columbus Bend area along the Fayette and Colorado County border. An excavation at the Frisch Aufl Site (41FY2) was conducted by Hester and Collins (1969). They found 5 human skeletons associated with grave goods, including two Scallorn arrow points, antler tine awls/flaking tools, and food offerings.

Within the past 15 years, a number of investigations have taken place in Fayette County. The Fayette Power Plant and other electrification projects supported much of the archaeological research during the 1970s (Jackson and Skelton 1975; Skelton 1977; Dibble and Freeman 1979; Laurens, Guy, and Prewitt 1979). This included survey and testing of prehistoric sites and historical archaeology as well (Carter and Ragsdale 1976). In addition, Meier and Hester (1972) reported surface material from the Meier Site (41FY59). The Meier site is an open camp which was partly destroyed by a gravel pit. Projectile points from the site indicate components from Paleo-Indian through Archaic time periods. Dibble (1977) investigated Site 41FY105, which was a small prehistoric campsite of undetermined age. Little Pin Oak Creek was examined by

Wilson(1979). Research by the SDHPT included excavations at the Black Hopper Site (Fuller 1977), and 41FY135(Young 1979, n.d.). Both of these were multi-component sites with mixed deposits.

Transmission line surveys continued in the '1980s(Kenmotsu and Freeman 1980; Brown and Kenmotsu 1980; Robinson 1982; Espey, Huston and Associates 1985). The University of Texas carried out a survey of the Cummins Creek Prospect (Nightengale and Jackson 1983; Nightengale, Jackson, and Moncure 1985). The Lower Colorado River was reexamined (Keller and Campbell 1984). Their sample included those surveyed by Nunley in the early 1960s. A total of 96 prehistoric sites were classified using a discriminant function analysis. Goode(1984) conducted tests of three small sites (41FY421, 41FY422, and 41FY424) in Fayette County for the SDHPT. Two of these, 41FY421 and 41FY424, were upland lithic procurement/campsites yielding little archaeological material. Site 41FY422 was also an upland site and Goode found 25 hearth features. Young(1986) investigated 41FY456 which is an Archaic campsite.

## Chronology

Skelton (1977:124-128) has proposed a chronology for Fayette County which closely follows that of Central Texas (Weir 1976; Prewitt 1981). Skelton identified six time periods.

Paleo-Indian	Before 7000 B.P.
Early Archaic	7000 to 4000 B.P.
Middle Archaic	4000 to 2600 B.P.
Late Archaic	2600 to 1750 B.P.
Terminal Archaic	1750 to 1250 B.P.
Late Prehistoric	1250 to 150 B.P.

These time periods are based on projectile point and pottery styles. The only diagnostic artifact found during testing of 41FY111 was a Pedernales point which dates to the Middle Archaic according to the scheme presented above. Some of the components at the Ernest Witt Site (41AU38), in neighboring Austin County, may have been contemporaneous with 41FY111 (Hall 1981). The Ernest Witt Site is of interest because it represents a burial complex with external ties to the La Harpe and Fourche Malin cultures to the east, and to the Central Texas Archaic cultures to the west. No specifically eastern traits were found at 41FY111, and although contemporaneous with 41AU38, no link between the sites was established. Nunley (1963) found that most of the sites in Fayette and Colorado Counties along the Colorado River were small scatters of burned rock and lithic debris. He also found that Archaic sites were exclusively in upland settings, while later sites occurred both in the uplands and lowlands. Normal processes of terrace formation account for such a pattern.

Subsistence patterns changed little prehistorically. Hunting and gathering remained dominant. Skelton (1977) found remains of a bison which had been butchered at Site 41FY74 during the Late Prehistoric period. Mussel, deer, and small game have been recovered from Archaic and other Late Prehistoric sites in the region.

## SITE DESCRIPTION/INVESTIGATION

### Methods

After walking over the site, and examining surface material and general site topography, it was decided that a representative sampling would require testing of five areas within the site (Figure 2): Area A was defined as the main part of the knoll on the south portion of the right-of-way. The eastward-facing slope of the knoll was designated Area B. Area C was the lower terrace east of the knoll. Area D was delineated as the portion of the site to the northwest of Area A. Area E was the northern and western periphery of the site.

Excavations at 41FY111 consisted of sixteen test units, with horizontal dimensions of 1 X 1 meter. They were dug in 10 cm levels. Three exceptions to this were TU-3, Level 1 (0-20 cm); TU-16, Level 1 (0-15 cm); and TU-16, Level 2 (15-20 cm), which corrected for levels which were inadvertently dug too deeply.

All test units were excavated with shovels. Walls and floors of the units were troweled to expose any staining or features that might be present. No features were uncovered. All excavated fill was screened through 1/4-in. hardware cloth. Since most of the excavated levels contained gravelly sand, visibility of artifacts in the screen was excellent, and recovery of cultural material larger than 1/4-in. was probably close to 100 per cent.

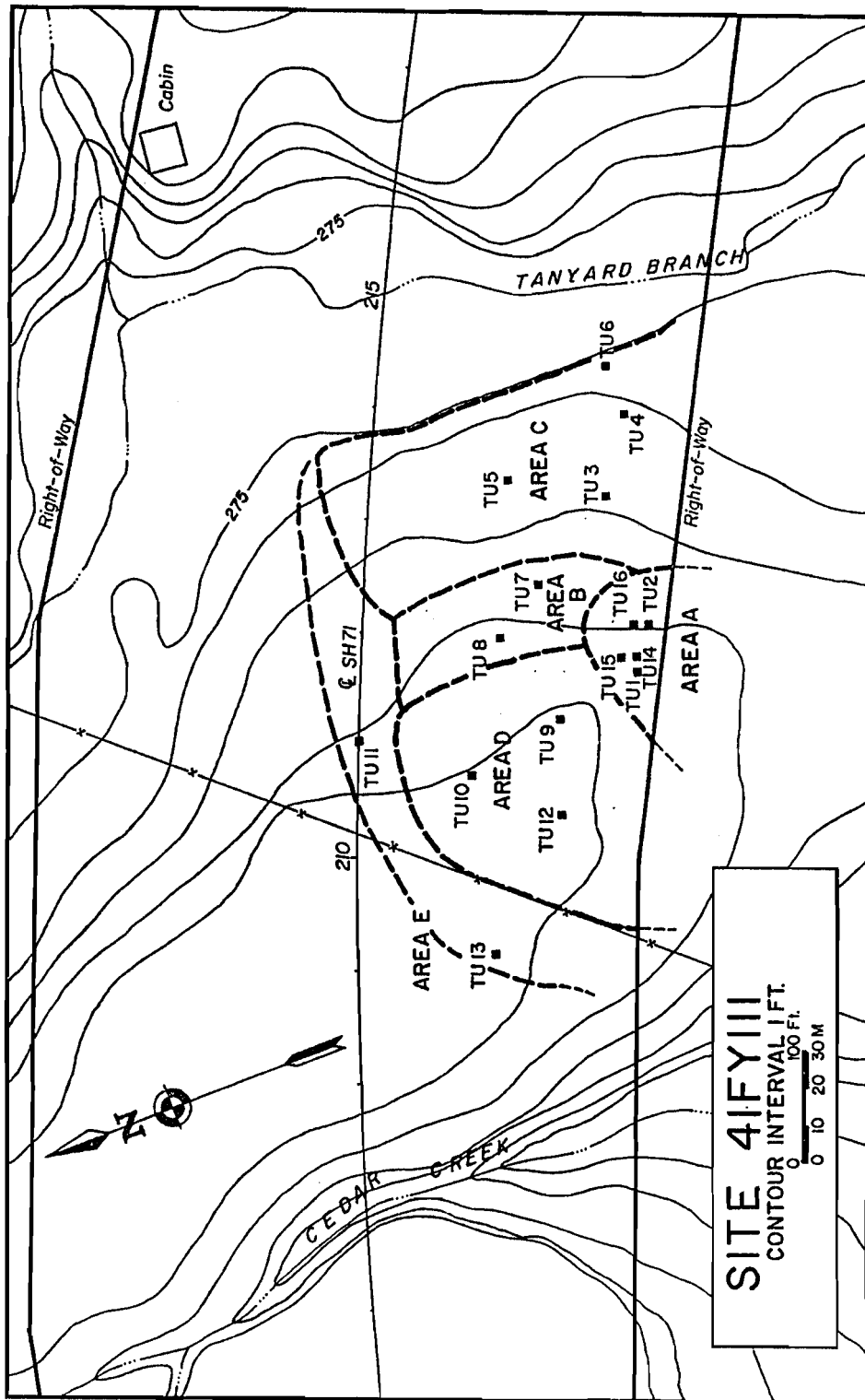


FIGURE 2. Map of Site 41FY111 showing location of test units.



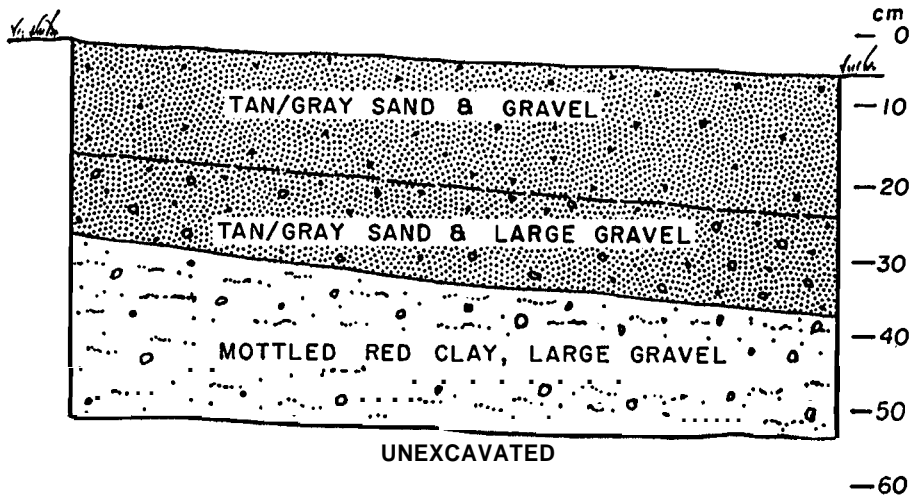
## Area A: The Central Knoll

Many raw chert cobbles were visible on top of the knoll, and to the south and west. Five test units (TU-1, TU-2, TU-14, TU-15, and TU-16) were placed on the top of the knoll near the southern right-of-way line (STA 212+00, 250' RT). All of the test units in Area A had very gravelly soil. Typically, the soil was a mixture of tan sand and gravel for the upper 30 cm, with an underlying gravelly sandy clay. The clay was reddish-brown with red mottles (Figure 3). The boundary between the sand and clay was abrupt. The gravels in Area A were well-sorted by size, with larger gravel tending to occur in the lower part of the sand and in the clay.

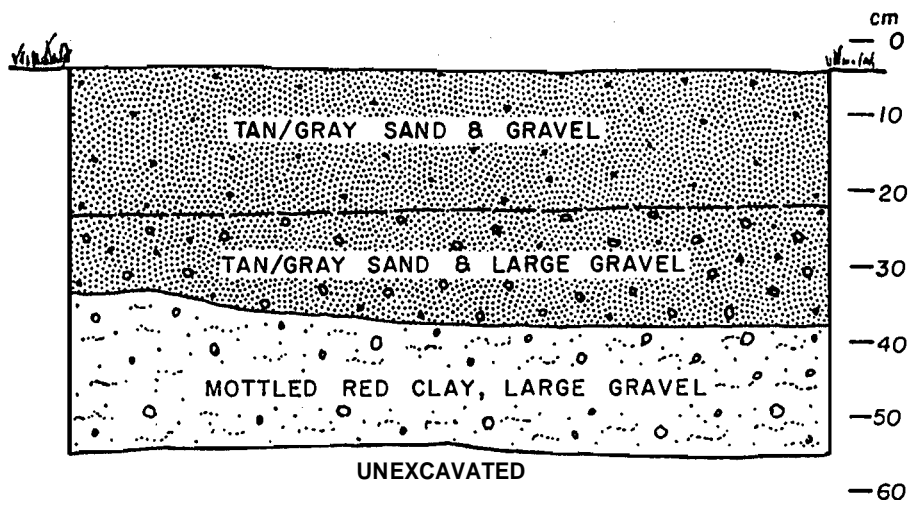
Relatively little cultural material occurred below the upper 20 cm of deposit (Table 1). In TU-2, TU-15, and TU-16, the flakes were mostly found in the upper 10 cm of the deposit. This was partly due to the relatively impermeable clay pan, but is also an indication of the superficial nature of the cultural occupation zone. Scattered burned rock was very common throughout the five test units.

Even though the test units from Area A were close together, TU-16 had an unusually low density of artifacts and TU-14 had an unusually high density compared to the other three units. This shows that there is a wide range of variation between test units in Area A. The soil matrix was comparable through all five test units, however.

# SITE 41FY111 PROFILES



TEST UNIT 2  
NORTH WALL



TEST UNIT 2  
EAST WALL

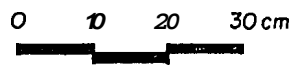


FIGURE 3. Typical profile from Area A.

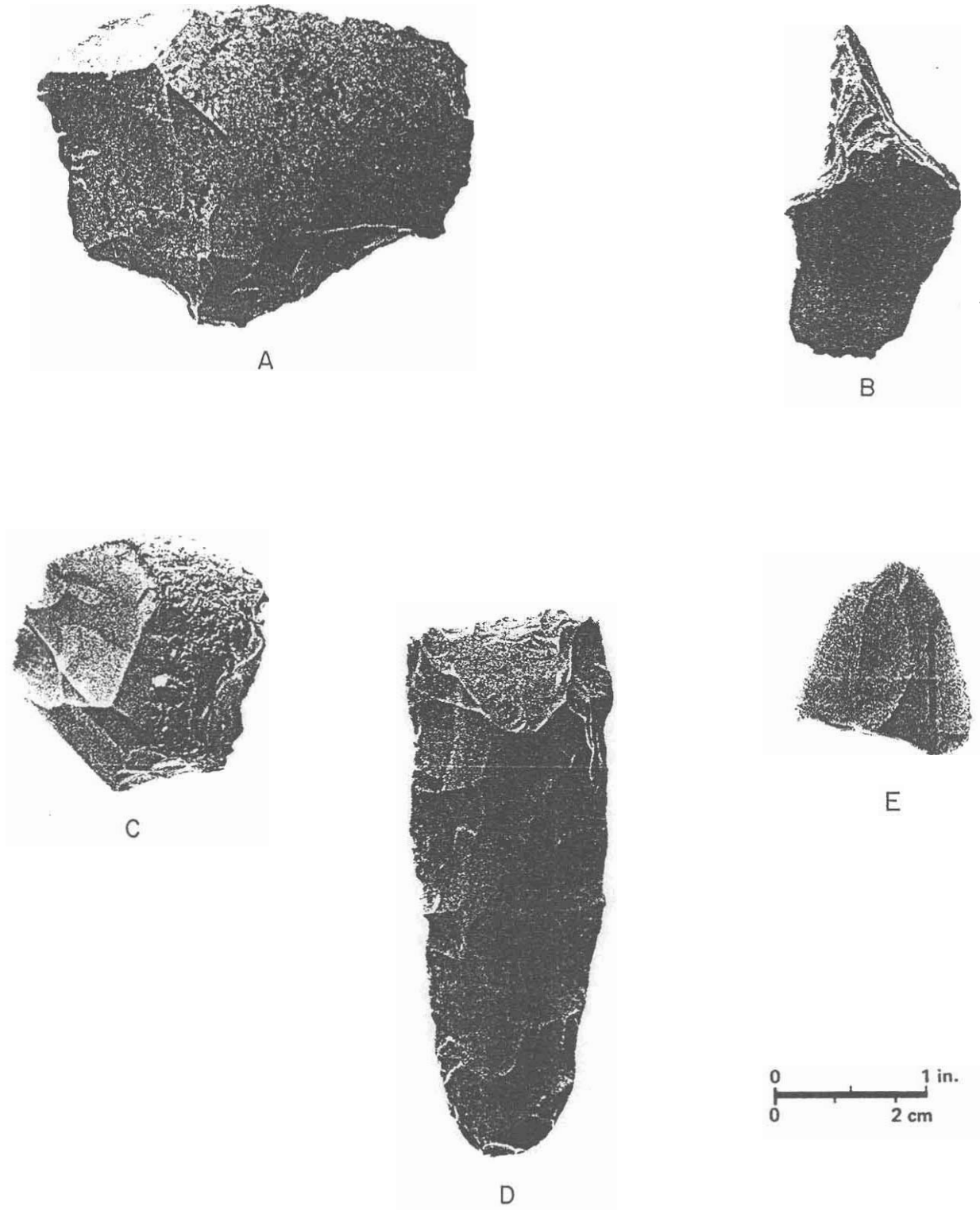


FIGURE 4. Artifacts from Area A. A-B, modified flakes from TU-2; C, modified flake from TU-14; D, gouge from TU-16; E, modified flake from TU-1.

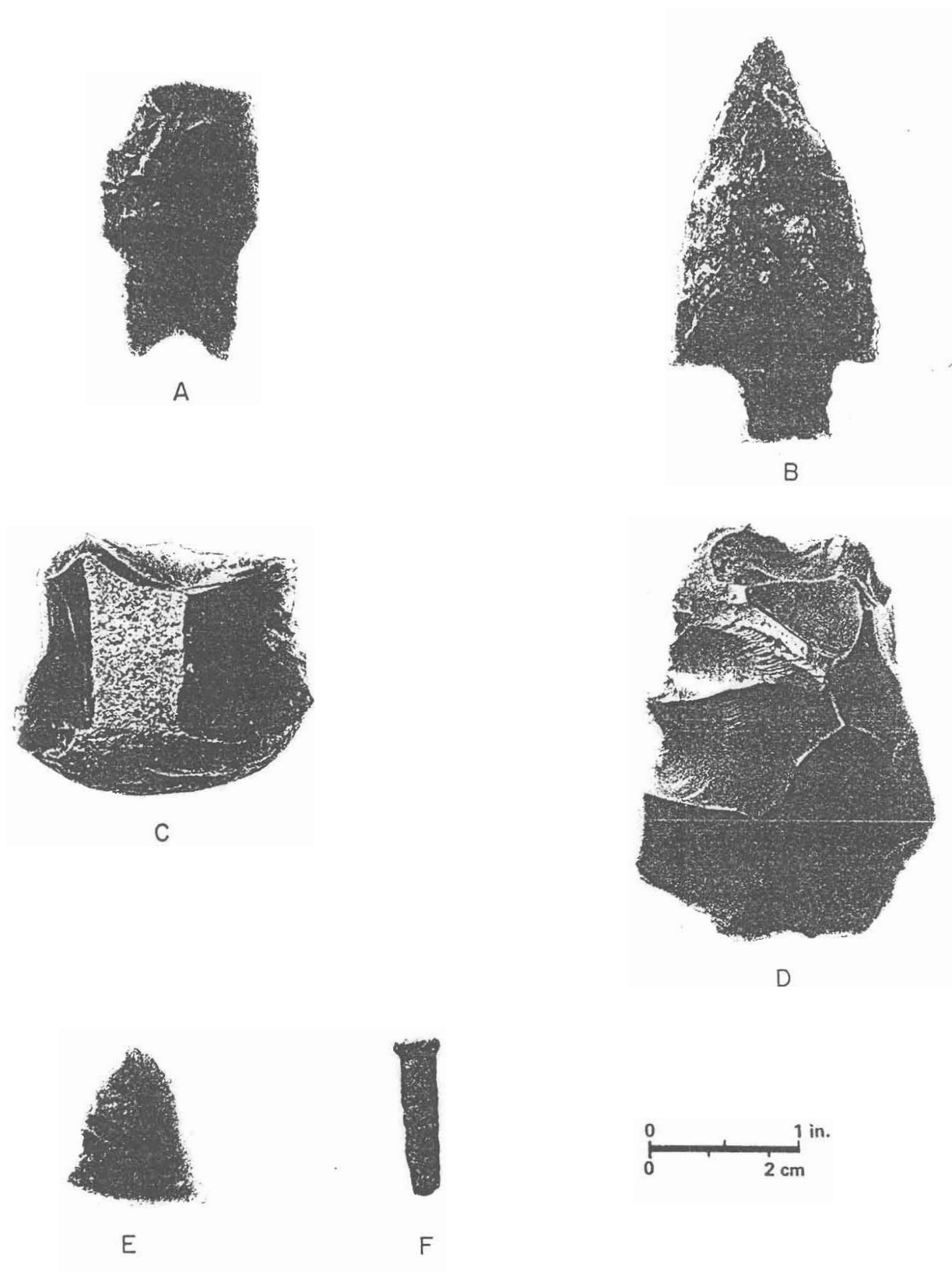


FIGURE 5. Artifacts from Area A. A-B, Pedernales and untyped dart point from TU-1; C, biface from TU-2, D; biface with graver spur from TU-16; E, biface fragment from TU-1; F, cut nail from TU-2.

TABLE 1. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area A.

TEST UNIT	LEVEL (cm)	FLAKES			LITHIC SHATTER	BURNED ROCK	
		PRIMARY	SECONDARY	INTERIOR		(#)	(gm)
SURFACE	---	--	1	--	--	--	--
TU-1	0-10	5	33	55	2	213	4268
	10-20	12	26	56	3	65	3287
	20-30	2	2	12	--	13	358
	30-40	2	--	13	--	14	633
	40-50	--	4	8	1	12	450
TU-2	0-10	17	14	118	4	178	2757
	10-20	11	10	29	4	66	1373
	20-30	2	--	3	1	8	227
	30-40	2	--	4	--	4	63
	40-50	1	2	3	--	17	398
TU-14	0-10	15	81	182	30	390	3440
	10-20	19	84	225	18	418	5416
	20-30	2	14	31	6	66	934
TU-15	0-10	2	48	89	--	199	4288
	10-20	4	11	21	2	44	3856
	20-30	1	12	27	2	30	756
TU-16	0-15	1	23	45	7	30	680
	15-20	3	5	6	2	3	204
	20-30	1	3	1	1	4	293

TABLE 2. Other Artifacts from Area A.

TEST UNIT	LEVEL (cm)	CORE	TESTED COBBLE	MODIFIED FLAKE	GOUGE	DART POINT	OTHER BIFACE	CUT NAIL
	10-20	1	--	1	--	--	--	--
	20-30	--	1	--	--	--	--	--
	30-40	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
TU-2	0-10	1	1	1	--	--	--	1
	10-20	--	1	1	--	--	1	--
TU-14	0-10	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
	10-20	1	--	1	--	--	--	--
TU-16	0-15	--	1	--	1	--	1	--

In addition to lithic debris and burned rock fragments, Area A yielded 10 cores and tested cobbles, 4 modified flakes, 1 gouge, 2 dart points, and 3 bifaces. One cut nail was also found in the first level of TU-2 (Figures 4, 5; Table 2). The nail was the only historic artifact recovered from the site.

The cores tend to be multidirectionally flaked with little platform preparation. Tested cobbles usually have had only a single flake removed. All of the cores and tested cobbles are of chert and were derived from the cobbles available on the site.

The four modified flakes are all of chert. Three of these (TU-2, Level 1; TU-2, Level 2; TU-14, Level 2) represent scraping implements which were used on a moderately hard material such as wood. One of these (TU-2, Level 2) may have also used as a perforator. The fourth specimen (TU-1, Level 2) was probably used to cut or scrape soft material such as meat or hide. The retouch on this flake was probably caused by use rather than intentional shaping, but the use-wear is alternately beveled: The flake exhibits unifacial retouch along the dorsal right lateral edge and along the ventral left lateral edge. One of the specimens is a primary flake, 2 are secondary flakes, and the other is an interior flake.

The gouge is long and narrow in overall outline. The lateral edges exhibit dulling. The bit end shows slight wear; however, the tool is still quite sharp and may have been resharpened not long before it was discarded or lost.

The dart points both came from TU-1. One of these is the proximal half of a Pedernales point, which dates from the Middle to Late Archaic time period (ca. 2000 B.C. to A.D. 1). The Pedernales point was found in Level 1. The other projectile point has a short parallel-sided stem, slightly convex blade edges, and prominent shoulders. The point has been resharpened along the blade resulting in a somewhat bevelled edge. The nature of the workmanship and the thickness of the specimen at the base would indicate this point was fashioned from the distal half of a much larger, thin biface. The point was found loose during clean-up of TU-1, Level 4. All the other artifacts, as well as almost all the other cultural debris found in Area A came from the upper 20 cm. Therefore, it is possible that it fell from the wall of the excavation unit and originally was above Level 4. Troweling was difficult in Area A due to sandy matrix of Levels 1 through 3, which was loosely consolidated with abundant gravel.

Of the 3 remaining bifaces, 2 have not been used (TU-2, Level 2; TU-16, Level 1). They may represent failed attempts to fashion a bifacial tool. In any case, they were abandoned before they were utilized. Both are thick and crudely shaped, and only one of them (TU-16, Level 1) exhibits any attempt at thinning. It has what may be a graver spur on the center of one of its lateral edges; however, the spur may simply be platform preparation, as the flaking is oriented unifacially around a single arris. The third biface (TU-1, Level 1) is the distal fragment of a knife or dart point. It is well shaped and has been thinned, although its cross-section remains fairly thick for its width. The flaking pattern on this specimen has left an axial keel on either face,

which is especially prominent on one of the faces. This gives the biface fragment a more planoconvex than biconvex cross-section.

The only historic artifact found at the site was a cut iron nail from TU-2, Level 1. The nail is incomplete, with only the head and part of the shaft still present. Since the land containing the site has been used for grazing and/or farming for the past century or more, it is not clear exactly what the presence of this single nail indicates. However, it is possible that some sort of homestead or trash area was located near the project within the last hundred years. Today, there are several modern farmhouses within 500 to 1000 feet of the site.



Area B: Northeast Slope of the Knoll (Area A)

This area was excavated in order to explore the depth and horizontal extent of the site. Two test units (TU-7 and TU-8) were placed along this slope. The soil of Area B consisted of tan sand to a depth of about 20 cm. Below the sand was a reddish-brown sandy clay with red mottles. The contact between the two soil zones was abrupt. Although a moderate amount of gravel was present, there was much less than in Area A. The soil profile from TU-7 (Figure 6) is similar to that of TU-8, which was excavated only to the contact of the sand with the clay.

The chipped stone debris and burned rock fragments are summarized in the table below. In addition to these items, a single tested cobble was found in TU-8, Level 1. Although the flake counts are about the same as in Area A, there is much less burned rock. This distribution may reflect the lack of cooking activities in Area B, or downslope washing of lighter material from Area A.

TABLE 3. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area B.

TEST UNIT	LEVEL (cm)	FLAKES			LITHIC SHATTER	BURNED ROCK	
		PRIMARY	SECONDARY	INTERIOR		(#)	(gm)
TU-7	0-10	4	9	63	6	28	176
	10-20	2	6	32	1	12	44
	20-3*	1	1	--	--	2	13
TU-8	0-10	4	48	106	9	133	941
	10-20	1	5	13	6	8	144

\* For TU-7, Level 3, only the southern 1/2 of the unit was excavated.

# SITE 41FY111 PROFILES

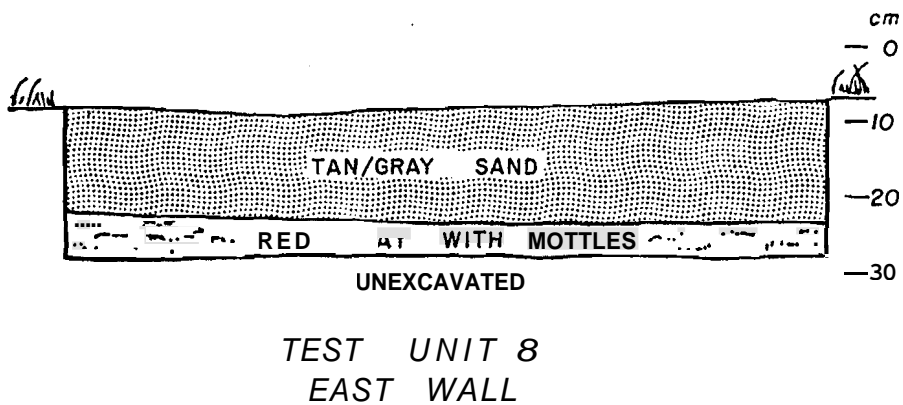
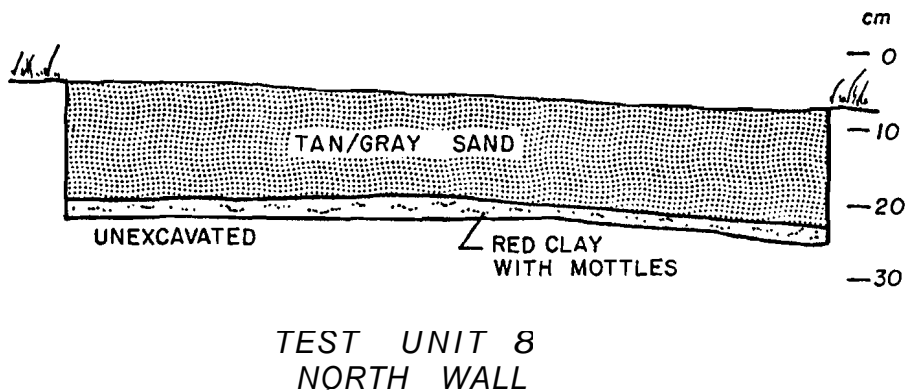


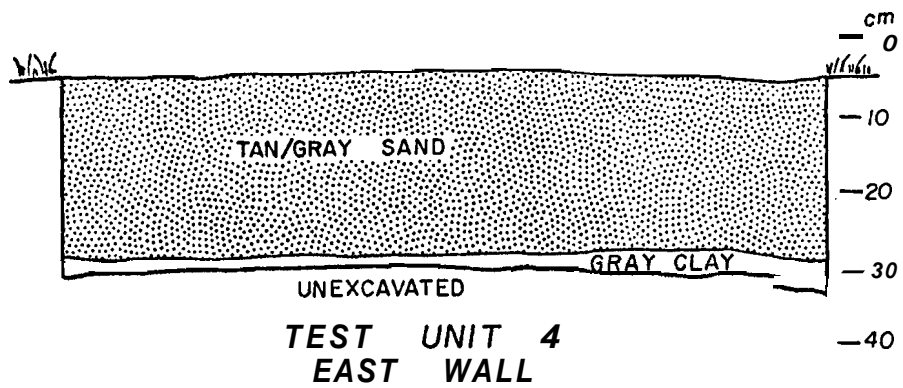
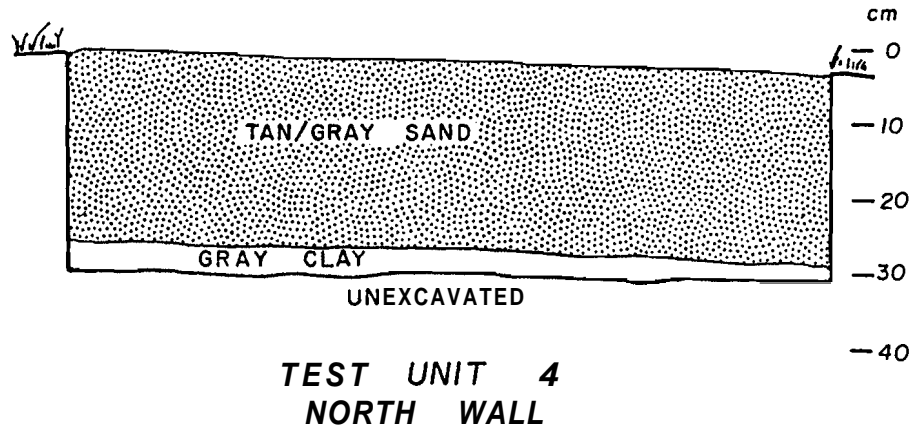
FIGURE 6. Typical profile from Area B.

Area C: Lower Terrace East of the Knoll (Area A)

Area C consisted of the lower terrace between Area A and Tanyard Branch; a small tributary of Cedar Creek. The area was examined to further determine the depths and horizontal limits of the site. Several test units (TU-3, TU-4, TU-5, and TU-6) were placed on this lower terrace. The soil of Area C consisted of tan sand to a depth of about 20 cm. Below the sand was a grayish tan sandy clay with no mottling, in contrast to the reddish mottled clay from the rest of the site to the west. The soil of Area C had very little gravel, and the gravel that did occur tended to be much smaller than that from Area A. Area C is interpreted as being a younger terrace than Area A. The presence of a broad swale extending parallel to the stream probably indicates an old channel of the stream which has been filled.

The chipped stone debris and burned rock fragments are summarized in Table 4. No other diagnostic artifacts were found in Area C. TU-3 had the largest quantity of debitage. Debitage density decreased with distance eastward from Area A. Flake counts in TU-4 and TU-5 were comparable to much of the rest of the site. Burned rock was less frequent, and was generally smaller than fragments from Area A. The especially high flake count from TU-3, which is at the base of the knoll at Area A, indicates that the distribution of material in Area C is probably the result of erosion from the knoll. This supports a similar inference for the slope of the knoll (Area B).

# SITE 41FY111 PROFILES



NOTE: Almost no gravel in either sand or clay.

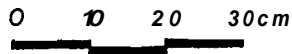


FIGURE 7. Typical profile from Area C.

TABLE 4. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area C.

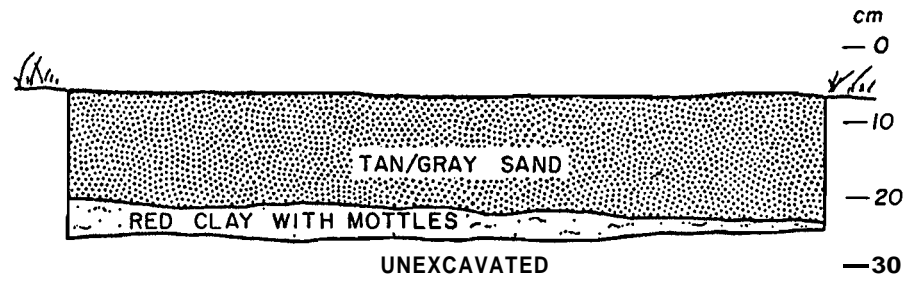
TEST UNIT	LEVEL (cm)	FLAKES			LITHIC SHATTER	BURNED ROCK	
		PRIMARY	SECONDARY	INTERIOR		(#)	(gm)
TU-3	0-2G	7	38	262	12	96	1582
	20-30	9	18	148	4	68	1730
	30-40	2	5	60	--	28	652
TU-4	0-10	3	20	56	6	42	431
	10-20	7	15	28	5	56	923
	20-30	--	2	7	--	7	89
TU-5	0-10	3	4	21	3	40	262
	10-20	2	7	14	--	46	351
	20-30	1	--	--	1	5	44
TU-6	0-10	--	1	8	1	3	13
	10-20	3	1	4	--	10	82
	20-30	--	--	1	--	1	64

#### Area D: Northwest Part of the Knoll

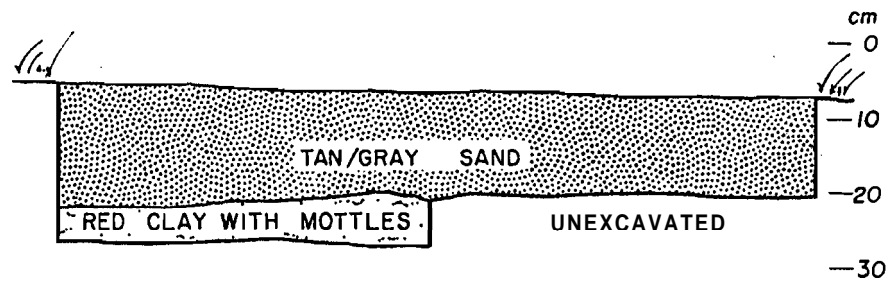
Area D included the highest point of the knoll ridge northwest of Area A. Several test units (TU-9, TU-10, TU-11, and TU-12) were dug in this area. The soil consisted of tan sand to a depth of about 15 to 20 cm. Below the sand was a brownish-red sandy clay with red mottling (Figure 8). The soil was similar to that of Area B in all respects: There was a moderate amount of gravel, but not as much as in Area A, and the gravel was not as large as that in Area A.

The chipped stone debris and burned rock fragments are summarized in Table 5. In addition to the material shown in the table, there were 2 cores and 3 tested cobbles. One core came from each of TU-9, Level 2, and TU-10, Level 2. One tested cobble came from each of TU-9, Level 3; TU-10, Level 1; and TU-12, Level 1. The density of flakes was fairly consistent with the material found in Areas A and B. The amount of burned rock was slightly less than in Area A, but much more frequent than in Areas B or C. This further supports the suggestion that the material in Areas B and C have been largely washed down from the top of the knoll. Like the rest of the site, most of the cultural remains from Area D were found in the upper 10 to 20 cm.

# SITE 41FYIII PROFILES



TEST UNIT 10  
NORTH WALL



TEST UNIT 10  
EAST WALL

0 10 20 30 cm

FIGURE 8. Typical profile from Area D.

**TABLE 5. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area D.**

TEST UNIT	LEVEL (cm)	FLAKES			LITHIC SHATTER	BURNED ROCK	
		PRIMARY	SECONDARY	INTERIOR		(#)	(gm)
TU-9	0-10	8	32	123	7	148	1495
	10-20	8	17	49	3	68	1859
	20-30	1	14	34	4	44	1472
TU-10	0-10	6	39	184	--	90	1332
	10-20*	1	5	36	2	8	36
TU-12	0-10	3	15	62	2	48	1643
	10-20	2	23	65	12	58	579

\* For TU-10, Level 3, only the northern 1/2 of the unit was excavated.



Area E: Site Margins North and West of the Knoll (Area D)

Area E include two widely separated test units (TU-11 and TU-13). Both of these test units are at the edge of Site 41FY111. The soil profile from TU-11 was very similar to those of Area C. However artifact counts (Table 6) were quite low. The soil in TU-13 was very shallow, with an abrupt contact zone between the sand and the clay at 10 cm below the surface (Figure 9). Although there was a great deal of material on the surface around TU-13, it appeared that the cultural deposits there were limited to the upper 10 cm of deposit. In addition to the flakes and burned rock, a single core was also recovered from TU-13. West of TU-13 is a sharp slope below which is a small lower terrace and Cedar Creek. Test units TU-11 and TU-13 mark the northwestern and western extent of the site.

TABLE 6. Lithic debris and burned rock from Area E.

TEST UNIT	LEVEL (cm)	FLAKES			LITHIC SHATTER	BURNED ROCK	
		PRIMARY	SECONDARY	INTERIOR		(#)	(gm)
TU-11	0-10	--	2	5	1	8	27
	10-20*	--	--	--	--	8	28
TU-13	0-10	7	17	91	2	33	431

\* For TU-11, Level 2, only the northern 1/2 of the unit was excavated.

# SITE 4IFY 111 PROFILES

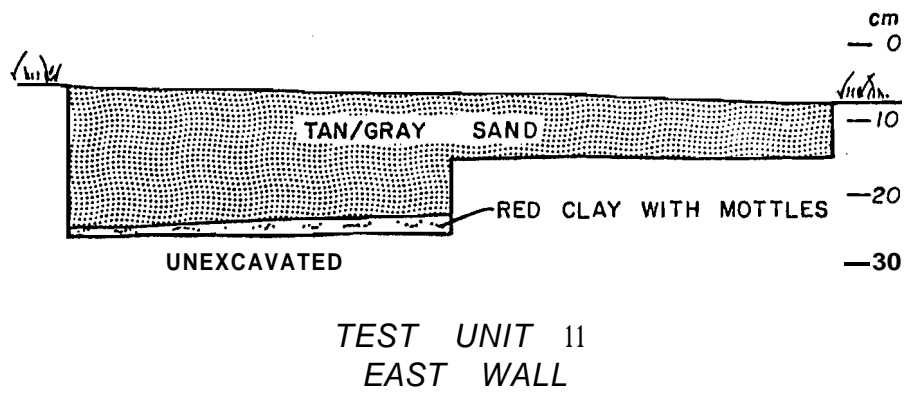
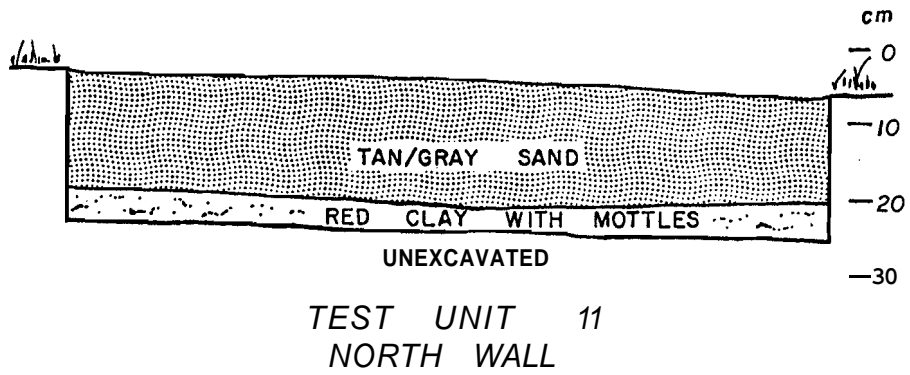


FIGURE 9. Typical profile from Area E.

## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In summary, prehistoric remains from Site 41FY111 are widely scattered over an area in excess of 20 acres. Due to the large area, the site was divided into five sampling areas (Areas A-E). These roughly correspond with variations in the geomorphology of the site. Areas A and D contain most of the intact deposits at the site. Even so, there was evidence of artificial terracing over the entire site, and Areas B and C exhibit the effects of erosion from Area A.

Soils at the site consisted of a tan gravelly sand extending to a depth of between 10 cm and 30 cm. Below this was a gravelly, reddish-brown, sandy clay with red mottles. The only exception was Area C, where the underlying clay was about the same color as the sand, had no mottling, and the soil had much less gravel. Area C represents a terrace of more recent origin than the remainder of the site.

The depth of the cultural material at the site was limited primarily to the sandy top soil. Relatively little was found within the clay. Depth of the main deposits varied between 20 cm in Areas A and D, and 10 cm in Areas B, C and E. The horizontal limits of the cultural material were fairly well defined by TU-5 and TU-6 (Area C), and by TU-11 and TU-13 (Area E).

It is apparent from the types of remains recovered in excavation that the site served as a material source for raw chert in the form of stream worn cobbles. The top of the ridge, especially in Area A, is littered

with gravel and cobbles of chert, and smaller amounts of quartzite and petrified wood. The petrified wood occurs in smaller pebbles and is heavily weathered. While burned rock includes all three types of stone, only chert makes up the tools, cores, tested cobbles, and flaking debris. This is not unexpected since the chert is by far the most common type of lithic resource at the site.

Of the flakes at the site, 5.7% were primary flakes, 21.7% were secondary flakes, and only 72.6% were interior flakes. The distribution of waste flakes from the site as a whole suggests that the main chipping activity was an early stage of lithic reduction, which further supports the view that 41FY111 was a lithic workshop/quarry. Also, there is a conspicuous lack of finished tools or preforms. Only 2 dart points, 1 gouge, 4 modified flakes, and 3 miscellaneous bifaces were found. All were found close by one another within Area A.

Considering the number of flakes found in the excavation units, cores and tested cobbles were relatively infrequent. Cobbles once broken were perhaps removed from the site and utilized elsewhere. No hammerstones were found in any of the test units, but were probably present in the form of cobbles on the surface of the site.

There was an increased amount of burned rock, in Areas A and D as compared to Areas B and C. Cooking activities and possibly the heat-treatment of chert are indicated. Many of the flakes found had been subjected to heating. However, no concentrations of burned rock were

found which could be identified as middens or hearths. The fragments of burned rock were well mixed with naturally occurring gravel.

The Pedernales dart point represents a Middle Archaic component (ca. 2000 B.C. to A.D. 1). The gouge also may be from this time period, or may be earlier. The other artifacts are not indicative of any specific time period in the Archaic. Sites similar to 41FY111 were probably utilized over a long time period since they represent a long-lasting, specialized, essential resource.

Lithic workshop/quarries are very typical of sites found in Fayette County. The prehistoric inhabitants of 41FY111 utilized the cherty gravel deposits in the region. Site 41FY111 is limited primarily to the top of the knoll which extends southward and is mostly outside the right-of-way for US 71. The 16 units excavated during the testing of 41FY111 represent an adequate sampling across the site. The cultural remains are mainly limited to the upper 20 cm of deposit, and there are indications that these deposits have been disturbed by erosion and artificial historic terracing. Further archaeological investigation at 41FY111 is not recommended.

REFERENCES CITED

- Blair, W.F.  
1950        The Biotic Provinces of Texas. Texas Journal of Science 1(2):93-116.
- Briggs, A.K.  
1971        Archaeological Resources in the Texas Coastal Lowlands and Littoral. Texas Historical Survey and Texas Water Development Board, Austin, Texas.
- Brown, D.O., and R.D. Kenmotsu  
1980        Test Excavations in the Fayette to Lytton Springs Transmission Corridor, Bastrop and Fayette Counties, Texas. Report 76. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Dibble, D.S.  
1977        An Archeological Assessment of Site 41FY105, Fayette County, Texas. Technical Bulletin 13. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Dibble, D.S., and M.D. Freeman  
1979        An Archeological and Historical Survey of Areas to be Affected by Construction of STP Modified Transmission Line Routes, Matagorda Colorado, and Fayette Counties, Texas. Technical Bulletin 25. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Espey, Huston and Associates  
1985        A Cultural Resources Survey of Existing and Proposed Distribution Line, Colorado, Fayette, and Lavaca Counties, Texas. Document #85889. Unpublished manuscript on file at the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory, Austin, Texas.
- Fuller, B.B.  
1977        The Black Hopper Site. Publication in Archaeology 10. State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas.
- Goode, Glenn T.  
1984        A Report of Testing at Archaeological Sites 41FY421, 41FY422, 41FY424 in Fayette County, Texas. Unpublished manuscript on file at the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas.
- Hall, G.D.  
1981        Allens Creek: A Study in the Cultural Prehistory of the Lower Brazos River Valley, Texas. Research Report 61. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.

- Hester, T.R., and M. Collins  
 1969 Burials from the Frisch Auf! Site 41FY2. Texas Journal of Science 20(3):261-272.
- Jackson, M.F., and D.W. Skelton  
 1975 Fayette Power Project; An Interim Report on the Assessment of Its Impact on the Cultural Resources. Technical Bulletin 8. Texas Archeological Survey, University of Texas at Austin.
- Keller, J.E., and L.J. Campbell  
 1984 Patterns in Prehistoric Settlement: Examining the Distribution of Sites in a Portion of the Colorado River Valley. New World Research, Inc., Report of Investigations #83-11.
- Kenmotsu, R.D., and M.D. Freeman  
 1980 Cultural Resource Survey and Monitoring in the Fayette to Lytton Springs Transmission Corridor, Bastrop, Caldwell, and Fayette Counties. Research Report 76. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Laurens, J.C., J.A. Guy, and E.R. Prewitt  
 1979 An Archaeological Survey and Assessment Along Portions of Fayette Electric Cooperative Power Lines, Fayette, Bastrop, and Lavaca Counties, Texas. Report of Investigations 1. Prewitt and Associates, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- Meier, C.J., and T.R. Hester  
 1972 Notes on the Meier Site, Fayette County, Texas. Bulletin 3. Lower Plains Archaeological Society.
- Nightengale, B.A., and J.M. Jackson  
 1983 Intensive Survey of Cultural Resources in the Cummins Creek Prospect, Fayette County, Texas. Research Report 86. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Nightengale, B.A., J.M. Jackson, and H.B. Moncure  
 1985 Additional Intensive Survey of Cultural Resources in the Cummins Creek Prospect, Fayette County, Texas. Research Report 89. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Nunley, J.P.  
 1963 Appraisal of Archaeological Resources of Columbus Bend Reservoir, Colorado and Fayette Counties, Texas. Unpublished report submitted to the National Park Service by the Texas Archeological Salvage Project. On file at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin.

- Prewitt, E.R.  
1981 Cultural Chronology in Central Texas. Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society 52:65-90.
- Robinson, D.G.  
1982 A Cultural Resource Survey of the Fayette to Salem Transmission Corridor, Fayette, Austin, and Washington Counties, Texas. Technical Bulletin 60. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Skelton, D.W.  
1977 Archeological Investigations at the Fayette Power Project, Fayette County, Texas. Research Report 60. Texas Archeological Survey, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Weir, F.A.  
1976 The Central Texas Archaic. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Washington State University, Pullman.
- Wilson, H.M.  
1930 Areal Survey of Travis, Bastrop, and Fayette Counties. Unpublished manuscript on file at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Wilson, J.B.  
1979 A Preliminary Report on the Little Pin Oak Creek Site (41FY53): A Campsite with Clovis, Plainview, and Subsequent Artifacts in Fayette County, Texas. Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society 50:135-140.
- Woolsey, A.M.  
1932 Excavation of a Burial Site, Hugh Wilson Farm in Colorado County, Texas. Field note on file at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Young, W.C.  
1979 Preliminary Report on the Excavations at 41FY135. Manuscript on file at the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas.
- n.d. Excavations at the Sand Burr Site 41FY135, Payette County, Texas. Unpublished manuscript on file at the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas.
- 1986 Archaeological Testing of Site 41FY456, Fayette County, Texas. Unpublished manuscript on file at the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas.