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## Caddo Ceramic Vessels from the W. J. Barnett Site (41SM2), Smith County, Texas

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# Caddo Ceramic Vessels from the W. J. Barnett Site (41SM2), Smith County, Texas

*Timothy K. Perttula*

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## INTRODUCTION

Ancestral Caddo ceramic vessels were found along the bank of an eroded ditch in the early 1930s at the W. J. Barnett site (41SM2). They were purchased by The University of Texas about 1935. The site is in the uplands about 6 km south of the Sabine River floodplain and ca. 2 km east of the Jamestown (41SM54) mound center.

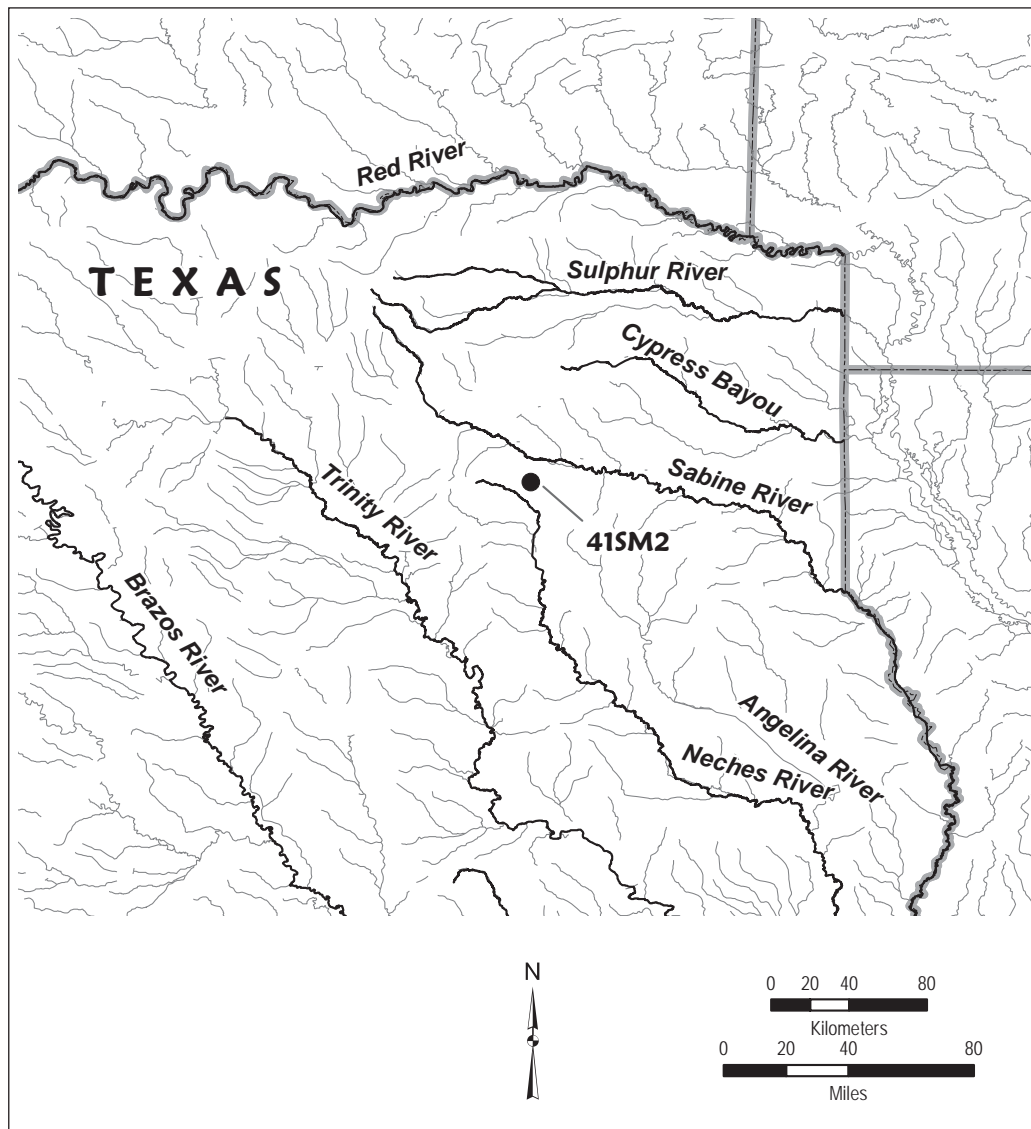


Figure 1. The location of the W. J. Barnett site (41SM2) in East Texas.

### Vessel Documentation

There are two ancestral Caddo ceramic vessels in the collections from the W. J. Barnett site at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin (TARL). One is a plain grog-tempered bowl with an interior thickened rim and the other is a Poynor Engraved bottle.

SITE NAME OR SITE NUMBER: W. J. Barnett

VESSEL NO.: 1

VESSEL FORM: Bowl with an interior thickened rim

NON-PLASTICS AND PASTE: grog

RIM AND LIP FORM: Direct rim and rounded lip

CORE COLOR: G (fired in a reducing environment and cooled in the open air)

INTERIOR SURFACE COLOR: grayish-brown

EXTERIOR SURFACE COLOR: yellowish-brown; fire clouds on the rim, body, and base

WALL THICKNESS (IN MM): rim, 5.3 mm

INTERIOR SURFACE TREATMENT: none

EXTERIOR SURFACE TREATMENT: smoothed

HEIGHT (IN CM): 9.1

ORIFICE DIAMETER (IN CM): 15.7

DIAMETER AT BOTTOM OF RIM OR NECK (IN CM): N/A

BASE DIAMETER (IN CM) AND SHAPE OF BASE: 7.5; circular and flat

ESTIMATED VOLUME (IN LITERS): 0.3

DECORATION (INCLUDING MOTIF AND ELEMENTS WHEN APPARENT): Plain

PIGMENT USE AND LOCATION ON VESSEL: none

TYPE AND VARIETY (IF KNOWN): Unidentified plain ware

SITE NAME OR SITE NUMBER: W. J. Barnett

VESSEL NO.: 2

VESSEL FORM: Bottle with a carinated body

NON-PLASTICS AND PASTE: grog

RIM AND LIP FORM: Direct rim and rounded lip

CORE COLOR: G (fired in a reducing environment and cooled in the open air)

INTERIOR SURFACE COLOR: dark grayish-brown

EXTERIOR SURFACE COLOR: reddish-brown

WALL THICKNESS (IN MM): rim, 6.2 mm

INTERIOR SURFACE

TREATMENT: none

EXTERIOR SURFACE

TREATMENT: none

HEIGHT (IN CM): 22.1

ORIFICE DIAMETER  
(IN CM): 4.0

DIAMETER AT BOTTOM  
OF RIM OR NECK  
(IN CM): 5.1; maximum  
body diameter is 16.0 cm

BASE DIAMETER  
(IN CM) AND SHAPE  
OF BASE: 6.0;  
circular and flat

ESTIMATED VOLUME (IN LITERS): 0.5

DECORATION (INCLUDING MOTIF AND ELEMENTS WHEN APPARENT): The vessel body has an unknown number of large oval-shaped elements with hatched triangular corners, comparable to Poynor Engraved, *var. Cook* (Figure 2). One of the larger oval elements has a smaller set of circles within it, suggestive of a typological association with Poynor Engraved, *var. Lang*.

PIGMENT USE AND LOCATION ON VESSEL: none

TYPE AND VARIETY (IF KNOWN): Poynor Engraved, *var. Cook* or *var. Lang* (see Suhm and Jelks 1962:Plate 63j; Perttula 2011:Figure 6-64)

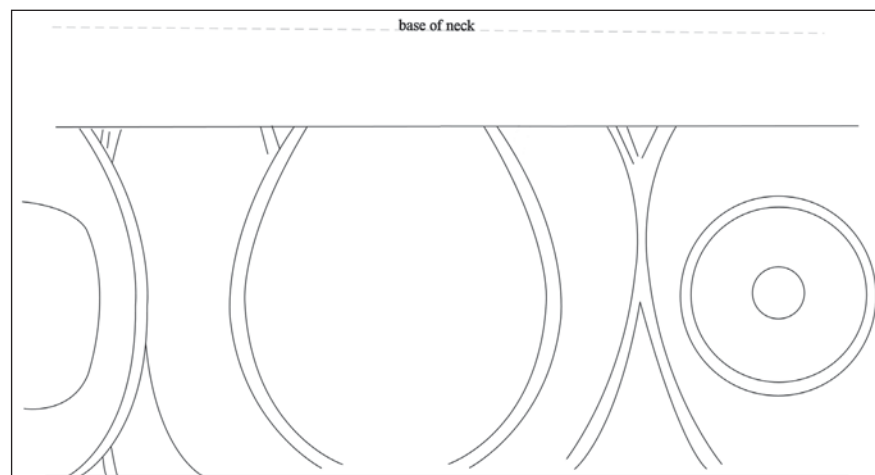


Figure 2. Poynor Engraved, *var. Cook* or *var. Lang* carinated bowl from the W. J. Barnett site (41SM2).

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

There are two Caddo ceramic vessels from the W. J. Barrett site (41SM2) in the TARL collections. The one decorated vessel is a Poynor Engraved, *var. Cook* or *var. Lang* bottle. This bottle suggests that the W. J. Barrett site has Caddo burials that date from ca. A.D. 1400-1560 (see Perttula 2011:Table 6-37), and may be affiliated with Frankston phase Caddo communities in East Texas.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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