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Ancestral Caddo Ceramics in East Texas

Timothy K. Perttula and Robert Z. Selden, Jr.

INTRODUCTION

The most distinctive material culture item of the ancestral Caddo groups that lived in East Texas (Figure 1) from ca. A.D. 900 to the 1830s were the ceramics they manufactured primarily for cooking, storage, and serving needs. The decorative styles and vessels forms of the ceramics found at sites in the region hint at the variety, temporal span, and geographic extent of a number of ancestral Caddo groups that lived in this area. The diversity in decoration and shape of Caddo ceramics is considerable, both in the utility ware jars and bowls, as well as in the fine ware bottles, carinated bowls, and compound vessels. Ceramics are quite common in domestic contexts on habitation sites across the region, and whole vessels also occur as grave goods in mortuary contexts.

The Caddo manufactured ceramics in a wide variety of vessel shapes, and with an abundance of well-crafted and executed body and rim designs paired with smoothed, burnished, or polished surface treatments. From the archaeological contexts in which Caddo ceramics have been found, as well as through inferences about their manufacture and use, it is evident that ceramics were important to the ancestral Caddo in: the cooking and serving of foods and beverages, for the storage of foodstuffs, as personal possessions, as incense burners, as beautiful works of art and craftsmanship (i.e., some vessels were clearly made to never be used in domestic contexts), and as social identifiers. In the case of the later, certain shared and distinctive stylistic motifs and decorative patterns on ceramic vessels marked closely related communities and constituent groups.

The stylistic analysis of Caddo ceramics from sites in East Texas has focused on the definition of recognizable decorative elements, patterns, and motifs on the rim and/or body for the wide range of fine wares (i.e., the engraved and red-slipped vessels, including carinated bowls and bottles) and utility wares, usually cooking or storage jars and simple bowls. These decorative distinctions have both temporal and geographical distributions across East Texas, and in some cases, across the broader Caddo area, and identifying and recognizing those distributions has been a substantive clue to the reconstruction of settlement and regional histories of different Caddo communities as well as their socio-cultural character.

The stylistic distinctions that have been recognized in East Texas Caddo ceramics are based primarily upon the pioneering typological research carried out by Alex D. Krieger, Clarence Webb, Dee Ann Suhm (Story) and Edward B. Jelks in the 1950s and early 1960s. In 1962, Suhm and Jelks presented descriptions of 60 Caddo ceramic types that had been identified in Caddo sites in East Texas and the Caddo archaeological area up to that time. According to Suhm and Jelks (2009:3), since 1962:

the Caddoan [sic] types, at least those found in Texas, have changed surprisingly little, more tweaked than substantially altered. Elsewhere in the Caddoan [sic] area, a relatively modest number (considering the amount of pottery usually found at the sites) of new types have been defined, although many varieties of existing types have been introduced and design motifs, even design element categories, have been recognized, especially by archeologists working in Arkansas.

While the ceramic types defined by Suhm et al. and Suhm and Jelks in 1954 and 1962, respectively, remain in use as classificatory constructs for Caddo archaeological research, a number of new Caddo ceramic
Figure 1. The Southern and Northern Caddo Areas in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. Figure prepared by Sandra Hannum.
types have been recognized and identified in East Texas archaeological sites since the mid-1960s—some better defined than others. Most of them are poorly known among archaeologists that work on Caddo sites in the region. Some new varieties have also been identified among several of the well-known types defined in the 1950s, including Poynor Engraved, Hume Engraved, Ripley Engraved, and Wilder Engraved (see below); these varieties may have more discrete temporal and geographic boundaries than when first defined.

Many archaeologists working in the East Texas Caddo area continue to rely, erroneously, on the estimated ages of types offered by Suhm and Jelks (1962). However, with the advent of relatively extensive radiocarbon dating of Caddo sites in the region—and the seriation of burials in cemeteries of different ages—as well as many new archaeological research investigations, much more accurate temporal estimates for the manufacture and use of ancestral Caddo pottery types are becoming apparent. Distinctive sets of ceramic vessels and assemblages of different ages and areas occur within the region.

CADDOW CERAMIC SETS

Table 1 represents our initial efforts to partition the known ancestral Caddo ceramic sets in East Texas. The stylistic diversity in the decorated wares from East Texas Caddo sites has led to the recognition of distinctive stylistic motifs and types with unique spatial and temporal distributions (although these are still being refined) (Figures 2-5). The distribution of these ceramic sets can be linked with the identification of culturally specific Caddo groups, phases, and vessel assemblages in the East Texas archaeological record.

Table 1. East Texas and mid-Red River Caddo Ceramic Sets.

Early Caddo set, ca. A.D. 900-1300
Bowles Creek Plain
Canton Incised
Coles Creek Incised
Crenshaw Fluted
Crenshaw Lobed
Crockett Curvilinear Incised
Davis Incised
Dunkin Incised
Duren Neck Banded
Hickory Engraved, including Hickory Engraved, var. Chapman
Holly Engraved
Hollyknowe Pinched
Kiam Incised
Pennington Punctated- Incised
Spiro Engraved
Weches Fingernail Impressed
Williams Plain

Middle Caddo set, ca. A.D. 1100/1200-1300/1400, upper Red River, cf. Sanders phase, and in parts of East Texas
Antioch Engraved
Canton Incised
Leaning Rock Engraved
Maxey Noded Redware
Monkstown Fingernail Impressed
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paris Plain</th>
<th>Sanders Engraved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanders Plain</td>
<td>Spoonbill Engraved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spoonbill Plain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broaddus Brushed</td>
<td>Nacogdoches Engraved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineland Punctated-Incised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reavely Brushed-Incised</td>
<td>Tyson Engraved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Square Panoled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Middle Caddo set, lower Red River, ca. A.D. 1200-1400**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dunkin Incised</th>
<th>East Incised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friendship Engraved</td>
<td>Haley Complicated Incised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haley Engraved</td>
<td>Handy Engraved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hempstead Engraved</td>
<td>Pease Brushed-Incised</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Late Caddo Belcher phase set, ca. A.D. 1500-1680**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Avery Engraved</th>
<th>Belcher Engraved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belcher Ridged</td>
<td>Cowhide Stamped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Trailed-Incised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glassell Engraved</td>
<td>Hodges Engraved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnack Brushed-Incised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore Noded</td>
<td>Taylor Engraved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Latest Belcher phase set, 1680+ (and other post-1680 contexts)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natchitoches Engraved</th>
<th>Hodges Engraved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glassell Engraved</td>
<td>Keno Trailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebarb Incised</td>
<td>Foster Trailed-Incised</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1. East Texas and mid-Red River Caddo Ceramic Sets, cont.

**McCurtain phase set, ca. A.D. 1300/1400-1700**

- Avery Engraved
- Clark Engraved
- Emory Punctated-Incised
- Hudson Engraved
- McKinney Plain
- Nash Neck Banded (shell)
- Simms Engraved

**Texarkana phase set, ca. A.D. 1400/1450-late 17th century**

- Avery Engraved
- Barkman Engraved
- Bowie Engraved
- Foster Trailed-Incised
- Hatchel Engraved
- Karnack Brushed-Incised
- Keno Trailed (latest part of phase)
- McKinney Plain
- Moore Noded
- Nash Neck Banded (primarily grog)
- Pease Brushed-Incised
- Simms Engraved

**Frankston phase set, ca. A.D. 1400-1650**

- Bullard Brushed
- Fair Plain
- Hood Engraved (effigy bowls)
- Hume Engraved, several varieties (Perttula et al. 2011:Figure 6-66e-g) (Figure 6e-g)
- Hume Plain
- Killough Pinched
- La Rue Neck Banded
- Maydelle Incised
- Poynor Brushed
- Poynor Engraved, multiple varieties (Perttula et al. 2011:Figures 6-64 and 6-65) (Figure 7 and 8)

**Allen phase, ca. post-A.D. 1650**

- Bullard Brushed
- Constricted Neck Punctated
- Hood Engraved (effigy bowls)
- Hume Engraved
- Hume Plain
- Killough Pinched
- King Engraved
- La Rue Neck Banded
- Lindsey Grooved
- Mayhew Rectilinear
- Patton Engraved, several varieties (Perttula et al. 2011:Figure 6-66a-d) (Figure 6a-d)
- Spradley Brushed-Incised
Table 1. East Texas and mid-Red River Caddo Ceramic Sets, cont.

**Kinsloe phase, post A.D. 1680-1830**
- Darco Engraved
- Emory Punctated-Incised
- Henderson Plain
- Keno Trailed
- Natchitoches Engraved
- Patton Engraved
- Simms Engraved

**Titus phase set, ca. A.D. 1430-1680**
- Anglin Corn Cob Impressed
- Bailey Engraved
- Bullard Brushed
- Cass Appliqued
- Gardener Punctated
- Gilmer Engraved
- Harleton Appliqued
- Johns Engraved
- Karnack Brushed-Incised
- Killough Pinched
- La Rue Neck Banded
- Maydelle Incised
- Mockingbird Punctated
- Pease Brushed-Incised
- Ripley Engraved, multiple varieties (Figure 9a-k)
- Taylor Engraved
- Turner Engraved, multiple varieties (Figure 10a-d)
- Wilder Engraved, multiple varieties

**Latest set in Titus phase area, ca. A.D. 1680+ (best known at the Clements site [41CS25])**
- Clements Brushed
- Darco Engraved
- Hatinu Engraved
- Keno Trailed
- Simms Engraved
- Taylor Engraved

**Post-A.D. 1680, mid-Red River and upper Sabine River basin as well as Mission Dolores de los Ais**
- Ebarb Incised
- Emory Punctated-Incised
- Natchitoches Engraved
- Simms Engraved
- Womack Engraved
- Womack Plain
Figure 2. Important Early Caddo sites: 1, George C. Davis; 2, Fasken; 3, Roitsch; 4, Taddlock; 5, Hudnall-Pirtle; 6, Grace Creek; 7, Bison A; 8, Hale; 9, Boxed Springs; 10, Pace; 11, Boyette; 12, Joe Meyers; 13, Crenshaw; 14, Mounds Plantation; 15, Gahagan; 16, Jaggars; 17, Henry Chapman; 18, Bowman; 19, Bentsen-Clark. Figure prepared by Sandra Hannum.
Figure 3. Important Middle Caddo sites, major Red River Caddo centers occupied during the Middle Caddo period, and defined Middle Caddo period phases. 1, Harling; 2, Sanders; 3, Fasken; 4, Roitsch; 5, Holdeman; 6, Hatchel; 7, Hurricane Hill; 8, 41RR181 and Little Mustang Creek; 9, 41TT670; 10, 41CS150; 11, Coker (41CS1); 12, 41TT372; 13, 41FK70; 14, Benson’s Crossing; 15, Crabb (41TT650); 16, Harold Williams; 17, 41UR21; 18, Big Oaks; 19, Griffin Mound; 20, 41UR133; 21, 41UR8; 22, McKenzie; 23, Spoonbill; 24, 41RA65; 25, T. M. Moody; 26, 41WD518; 27, Yarbrough; 28, Charlie Crews; 29, Jamestown; 30, Carlisle; 31, Langford; 32, Bryan Hardy; 33, 41HS74; 34, Old Brown Place; 35, Oak Hill Village; 36, 41PN14; 37, Musgano (41RK19); 38, Pace McDonald; 39, 41CE42; 40, 41CE289; 41, George C. Davis; 42, 41CE290; 43, 41NA20; 44, Washington Square; 45, Tyson; 46, 41SA123; 47, 41SA89; 48, Knight’s Bluff; 49, 41FK7; 50, Hudnall-Pirtle; 51, Gray’s Pasture; 52, Redwine.
Figure 4. Late Caddo period phases in East Texas and immediately surrounding areas.
Figure 5. Clusters of Historic Caddo sites and defined phases. Figure prepared by Sandra Hannum.
Figure 6. Defined Patton Engraved and Hume Engraved varieties in the upper Neches River basin: a, Patton Engraved, var. Allen; b, Patton Engraved, var. Patton; c, Patton Engraved, var. Freeman; d, Patton Engraved, var. Fair; e, Hume Engraved, var. Hume; f, Hume Engraved, var. Allen; g, Hume Engraved, var. unspecified.
Figure 7. Defined varieties of Poynor Engraved: a-b’, var. Blackburn; c-d, var. Cook; e, var. Hood; f-g’, var. Lang; h-i, var. Freeman.
Figure 8. Local and regional varieties of Poynor Engraved in the upper Neches River basin (from Perttula et al. 2011:Figure 6-64).
Figure 9. Defined varieties of Ripley Engraved: a, var. McKinney; b, var. Gandy; c, var. Galt; d, var. Caldwell; e, var. Cash; f, var. Carpenter; g, var. Pilgrims; h, var. Williams; i, var. Reed; j, horizontal diamond, var. unspecified; k, interlocking diamond, var. unspecified.
Figure 10. Turner Engraved and defined varieties: a-b, var. Turner; c-d, var. Horton.
NEW POST-1962 TYPES

Through scouring the archaeological literature concerning archaeological investigations in the southern Caddo area, we have identified 40 ceramic types that have been described and defined—to varying extents—since the seminal publication of Suhm and Jelks (1962). Each of these types are described below, noted by their apparent temporal period of occurrence; that is, from the Early Caddo period (ca. A.D. 850-1200) to the Historic Caddo period (post-ca. A.D. 1680). It should be noted that in almost every case, more chronometric dates are needed to clarify and expound upon these preliminary temporal definitions.

Early Caddo

Bowles Creek Plain

Bowles Creek Plain is an Early Caddo period ceramic type defined by Stokes and Woodring (1981:187) from the large sherd assemblage recovered at the George C. Davis site (41CE19) on the Neches River. This type occurs as carinated bowls, bottles, and jars tempered with grog and/or bone, and that have smoothed and polished surface treatments.

Crenshaw Fluted

Defined by Durham and Davis (1975:36 and Figure 19:11, I3), sherds and vessels (barrel-shaped jars) of this type have been recovered in mound centers on the Red River (i.e., the Crenshaw site, 41MI6) and in the Sabine River basin (Boxed Springs, 41UR30). They have deep vertical grooves or flutes as the principal decorative element, although occasionally vessels include an engraved motif on the upper part of the vessel and a series of deep vertical grooves on the remainder of the vessel (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Crenshaw Fluted jar from the Crenshaw site, Miller County, Arkansas.
Crenshaw Lobed

Crenshaw Lobed was defined by Durham and Davis (1975:11) based on vessels recovered from tombs in Mound C at the Crenshaw site. Approximately 7% of the vessels from this Early Caddo component at the Crenshaw site are of the Crenshaw Lobed type (Durham and Davis 1975); additionally, one Crenshaw Lobed vessel has been recovered and identified from the Spiro site in eastern Oklahoma.

The type is a grog-tempered beaker form with a series of prominent horizontal lobes or bulges on the vessel body (Durham and Davis 1975:Figure 31:N1, N3; Figure 38:Q25, Q27; Figure 40:Q39, Q40). There are from one to three lobes, or more, on the beakers (Figure 12a). Some examples of Crenshaw Lobed have various engraved lobes (Figure 12b).

Hollyknewe Pinched

Hollyknewe Pinched is a utility ware that was defined on the basis of sherds from Early Caddo period habitation contexts at the Mounds Plantation site on the Red River in Northwestern Louisiana (Webb and McKinney 1975:84) as well as from Coles Creek period contexts in the lower Mississippi River basin (see Phillips 1970). It has also been found in similar contexts at Early Caddo mound centers in the mid-Sabine River basin (see Perttula 2011:Figure 34e and 36b, f). Hollyknewe Pinched Ridge vessels have vertical, parallel, straight, curvilinear and concentric pinched ridges on the body, and horizontal incised lines on the rim (Figure 13a-b).
Antioch Engraved is a fine ware type defined by Jelks (1961:29) from Caddo sites at Lake Wright Patman on the lower Sulphur River. The type is represented by a single form, bottles. The vessel bodies have engraved panels defined by either hatched ladders or cross-hatched zones and cross-hatched pendant triangles.
Within the panels are circle motifs, some that have a series of attached curvilinear lines that extend from the circle to one of the panel dividers.

Figure 14. Antioch Engraved bottle.

**Leaning Rock Engraved**

This Middle Caddo period type was defined on the basis of rim sherds from the Leaning Rock site (41SM325) in the Sabine River basin. Perttula (2008:30) described the type as having “horizontal engraved lines that have a series of long diagonally ticked lines” pendant from the horizontal engraved lines.

**Paris Plain**

Paris Plain was defined and described by Brown (1996:348-349 and Figures 2-19e, k, m and 2-36d) using vessels and sherds from the Spiro site (34Lf40). Brown (1996:349) also included vessels that Krieger (1946:185-186 and Plates 24-26, 28; Suhm and Jelks 1962:139 and Plate 60c, f-g) had originally included in the Sanders Plain type.

Paris Plain is a grog-tempered and burnished plain ware, with both bowls and wide-mouthed bottles. Bowls have both vertical and inverted rim profiles.

**Sanders Plain**

As redefined by Brown (1996:401-403 and Figures 2-19l, 2-34g, 2-37a-l, 2-38d, 2-39d, k, n-q, and 2-42b), Sanders Plain is a gog-tempered, slipped, and undecorated type found widely across the Caddo area. Vessel forms include bowls (Figure 15a), carinated bowls, and narrow (Figure 15b-c) and wide-mouthed bottles.
Spoonbill Engraved was defined by Perttula et al. (2009) on the basis of several engraved bowls recovered from Middle Caddo period sites in the upper Sabine River basin. These vessels have interior thickened rims with upper and lower sets of hatched (3-4 hatched lines) engraved triangles. The apex of the upper and lower rows of triangles touch (Figure 16).

Figure 15. Sanders Plain vessels: a, bowl; b-c, bottles.

_Spoonbill Engraved_

Spoonbill Engraved was defined by Perttula et al. (2009) on the basis of several engraved bowls recovered from Middle Caddo period sites in the upper Sabine River basin. These vessels have interior thickened rims with upper and lower sets of hatched (3-4 hatched lines) engraved triangles. The apex of the upper and lower rows of triangles touch (Figure 16).
Figure 16. Spoonbill Engraved bowl.

**Spoonbill Plain**

This type has interior thickened rims on bowls, as with the type Spoonbill Engraved, but the rims are plain (Perttula et al. 2009:267) (Figure 17).

**Broaddus Brushed**

Broaddus Brushed is a utility ware type defined by Jelks (1965:122-125) from vessels and sherds recovered from Caddo sites in the Neches/Angelina River basins in the Lake Sam Rayburn area of East Texas. The type is tempered with grog and/or bone that occurs as jars with everted rims. The jars have horizontally brushed rims and vertically brushed bodies (Figure 18a-b). Occasionally, there are rows of punctations on the rim, with a row below the lip, a second row encircling the middle of the rim, and a third row at the rim-body juncture.

**Nacogdoches Engraved**

This is a fine ware type defined on the basis of vessels and sherds from the Washington Square Mound site (41NA49) in the Angelina River basin (Hart 1982; Hart and Corbin 1984). Sherds of the type have also been identified in Middle Caddo ceramic assemblages in the mid-Sabine River basin.

The type incorporates scroll and circle and concentric circle decorative modes (Hart 1982:Figure 3-4) on bottles, carinated bowls, and bowls (Figure 19a-d). Between the scrolls and concentric circle elements are
Figure 17. Spoonbill Plain bowl.

Figure 18. Broaddus Brushed jars (after Jelks 1965:Figure 62a-b). Drawings by Lance Trask.
fill elements that are comprised of hatched triangles, narrow cross-hatched bands, hooked arms, and small circles with a central dot (Hart 1982:Figure 3-4). Examples of Nacogdoches Engraved bottles from sites in the Angelina, Sabine, and Big Cypress basins also are decorated with engraved rattlesnake motifs (Figure 19c-d; see Walters 2006; Gadus 2013:Figure 8).

**Reavely Brushed-Incised**

This utility ware type has been defined from jars and jar sherds recovered from the Washington Square Mound site (Hart 1982:63-65 and Figure 3-9). Rims tend to have a horizontal brushing element, sometimes with single rows of punctations at the top and bottom of the rim (var. Raguet). Vessel bodies primarily include vertical brushing divided into panels by appliqued fillets, vertical rows of punctations, or vertical incised lines. Other examples have diagonal, horizontal, or curvilinear brushed panels (Figure 21a-d).
Figure 20. Pineland Punctated-Incised vessels and decorative elements (after Jelks 1965:Figure 61). Images prepared by Lance Trask.
Middlebrook (1994:24 and Figure 3) defined Tyson Engraved based on carinated bowls from the Tyson site (41SY92) on Attoyac Bayou in western Shelby County in East Texas. Other vessels of this type have been recovered and identified from several other sites in central and northern Shelby County. Tyson Engraved vessels have “half column[s] with straight or biconcave sides covered by two widely spaced parallel semicircle lines, …a “fat” negative S-shaped scroll, and …sets of 1-4 attaching lines that connect the other two elements to each other or to a basal line” (Middlebrook 1994:24) (Figure 22).

**Tyson Engraved**

Middlebrook (1994:24 and Figure 3) defined Tyson Engraved based on carinated bowls from the Tyson site (41SY92) on Attoyac Bayou in western Shelby County in East Texas. Other vessels of this type have been recovered and identified from several other sites in central and northern Shelby County. Tyson Engraved vessels have “half column[s] with straight or biconcave sides covered by two widely spaced parallel semicircle lines, …a “fat” negative S-shaped scroll, and …sets of 1-4 attaching lines that connect the other two elements to each other or to a basal line” (Middlebrook 1994:24) (Figure 22).

**Washington Square Paneled**

Washington Square Paneled vessels and sherds have been identified at ancestral Caddo sites in the Angelina and mid-Sabine River basins, and the type was defined by Hart (1982:71-73 and Figure 3-12). The type occurs on carinated bowls with rectilinear engraved or incised panels, including interlocking horizontal scrolls with hatched or punctated brackets as well as punctated rows at the top and bottom of the panels (Figure 23a-b). One Washington Square Paneled vessel from the Washington Square Mound site has vertical punctate-filled columns divided by horizontal rows of punctations (Hart 1982:Figure 3-12a).
Anglin Corn Cob Impressed sherds were defined in the assemblage of 16th and 17th century utility wares from the Tuinier Farm (41HP237) and Anglin (41HP240) sites in the Stouts Creek basin in the upper Lake Fork Creek drainage (Perttula 2009). The Anglin Corn Cob impressed rim and body sherds are marked by roughly parallel or horizontal rows of impressions created by rolling a corn cob across the wet surface of an unfired jar (Figure 24). Corncob impressed pottery had been previously identified in the ceramic sherd assemblage at the Spoonbill site (41WD109) in the Lake Fork Creek basin (Bruseth and Perttula 1981:Table 5-8 and 82), where it was dubbed “Corn Cobb Incised.”
Clark Engraved

Perino (1994:29) defined Clark Engraved on the basis of a series of carinated bowls from the Rowland Clark site (41RR77) on the Red River in contexts that date to ca. A.D. 1300-1500. The engraved motifs have panels and horizontal or slanted scrolls arranged around circle and oval elements (Figure 25).

Figure 24. Anglin Corn Cob Impressed sherds from the Anglin site (41HP240).

Figure 25. Decorative elements on Clark Engraved vessels from the Rowland Clark site (after Perino 1994).
Emory Punctated-Incised

Although initially described from the sherd and vessel assemblage recovered at the Womack site (41LR1) on the Red River by Harris et al. (1965:299), the type now known as Emory Punctated-Incised was defined in print by Story et al. (1967:136-138) from sherds recovered at the 18th century Gilbert site. The type occurs in both prehistoric and historic Caddo contexts, based primarily on a large assemblage of McCurtain phase vessels from sites on the Red River in East Texas and Southeast Oklahoma (see Perino 1981, 1983, 1994).

According to Story et al. (1967:137), Emory Punctated-Incised occurs as jars tempered with sand, sand-shell, sand and grog, or sand and bone. “Some vessels have only punctations arranged into one to four rows around the vessel, usually just below the lip. If brushing is present, it may occur almost anywhere on the vessel, from the lip to the base. If incising is present, it usually consists of straight to slightly curved lines extending from below the rim to the base or to about the middle of the body. Punctations are often combined with either incising or brushing” (Story et al. 1967:137). Red River varieties of Emory Punctated-Incised commonly also include appliqued elements on the vessel bodies (Figure 26) as well as horizontal row of punctates on the rim.

Figure 26. Emory Punctated-Incised jar from the Sam Kaufman site (41RR16).

Fair Plain

Fair Plain is a distinctive undecorated squat-bodied bottle with a long neck (Figure 27; see also Perttula et al. 2011:Figures 6-27 and 6-62a). These are found in Frankston phase contexts in sites in the upper Neches River basin. There is also an engraved variety of this type from the Mrs. J. M. Cook site (41AN1, Perttula et al. 2011:Figure 6-38c).
Gardener Punctated

Gardener Punctated is a utility ware found in Titus phase contexts in East Texas (Perttula et al. 2014). These vessels have a distinctive exterior thickened rim strip that has a row of triangular-shaped tool punctates on the rim strip, just below the lip (Figure 28). At least one other site at Lake Bob Sandlin has Gardener Punctated sherds, but its distribution within the Big Cypress Creek basin remains poorly defined.

Gilmer Engraved

Parsons (2011:374-375) defined this Late Caddo type on the basis of vessel batches from the Rookery Ridge site (41UR133) and other contemporaneous sites in the Little Cypress Creek basin. According to Parsons, this type occurs on carinated bowls and compound bowls with narrow inverted rims or shoulders. The engraved design consists of narrow panels or bands that are divided by vertical excised, hatched, or cross-hatched elements. The bands are either left plain or include short horizontal or vertical lines at their centers (Figure 29a-c).
Hood Engraved

Hood Engraved vessels are effigy vessels with effigy heads and tab tails, as well as horizontal engraved lines encircling the rim (Figure 30). These vessels are found in both Frankston and Allen phase contexts, but only Hood Engraved, var. Allen includes tail rider elements attached to the vessel lip. Hood Engraved, var. Cook also has engraved pendant triangles as a decorative element.

Hume Plain

This type is comprised of plain cylindrical bottles with short necks (Figure 31; see also Perttula et al. 2011:Figures 6-27a-b, 6-48d, and 6-53c). The same vessel form occurs in the Hume Engraved type.

Johns Engraved

Johns Engraved is a Titus phase ceramic type found at several sites in the Big Cypress Creek basin. It is distinctive in having sets of engraved bird bodies and heads on the vessel body of bottles and bowls, each upside down with the head (with a single eye and a beak) resting on the lower part of the body panel (Figure 32a-d). Between each of the engraved heads are engraved circles (with a smaller circle within it, resembling the eyes of the birds), and curvilinear hatched areas, some with hooked engraved lines that wrap around or connect with the bird beak and body. Within each of the bird bodies, and pendant from the neck, are engraved triangles with hatched or cross-hatched corners and a small central circle or bird eye (Turner 1978:86 and Figure 31; Perttula, Walters, and Nelson 2010). Johns Engraved bowls include sets of hooked engraved elements rather than the hooked beaks of engraved birds, otherwise the principal motif on Johns
Figure 29. Gilmer Engraved rim sherds from the Rookery Ridge site (41UR33). Image from Parsons (2011:Figure 9-37c-e).

Figure 30. Hood Engraved effigy bowls from sites in the upper Neches River basin.
Engraved vessels. One bowl from the Johns site (41CP12) with a hooked element has four horizontal engraved lines within it as well others that have within them a single horizontal engraved line as well as an engraved triangle with hatched corners (see Perttula, Walters, and Nelson 2010:Figure 98).

**Moore Noded**

This type consists of bowls that are covered or virtually covered with rows of appliqued nodes (Figure 33a-d). The name Moore Noded was first used by Lynn Howard with respect to noded vessels from various Red River Arkansas Caddo sites (Webb 1959:120), and Webb (1959:120 and Figure 122a-b) described and illustrated vessels of this type from the Belcher site on the Red River in Northwestern Louisiana. Moore Noded vessels have also been documented from East Texas Caddo contexts along the Red River, and in the Big Cypress and Sabine River basins.

**Mockingbird Punctated**

Mockingbird Punctated is a grog-tempered utility ware jar form found in Titus phase ceramic assemblages in the Big Cypress Creek basin (see Perttula et al. 1998). The rims are decorated with several rows of horizontal tool punctations, and the vessel body is commonly plain (Figure 34a). Some rim punctated jars of the Mockingbird Punctated type in Titus phase assemblages have vertically brushed bodies, or appliqued nodes along the rim-body juncture (Figure 34b), or vertical appliqued fillets on the vessel body.
Poynor Brushed

Poynor Brushed is a Frankston phase ceramic type identified in the upper Neches River basin. The vessel form is comprised of globular vessels and carinated bowls—as commonly seen in Poynor Engraved vessels in this area—with brushed vessel bodies and brushed or plain rims (Figure 35; see also Perttula et al. 2011:246 and Figure 6-61b).
Figure 33. Moore Noded bowls from East Texas sites.

Figure 34. Mockingbird Punctated jars from Titus phase sites.
Turner Engraved

Turner Engraved is a new fine ware recognized in several Titus phase sites in the Big Cypress Creek basin. Turner Engraved, var. Turner includes an upper rim panel with two horizontal engraved lines. The lower rim panel has sets of alternating excised triangles. The alternating triangles in the set are regularly separated by a short diagonal line, while the sets are divided by a single short vertical engraved line (Figure 36a-c; see also Figure 10a); others simply have excised triangles on the lower panel (see Figure 10b). Turner Engraved, var. Horton vessels have an upper rim panel with two or three broadly-spaced horizontal engraved lines. The lower rim panel includes a series of large cross-hatched or hatched engraved triangles separated by engraved dashes just above the vessel carination (Figure 36d-f); others have excised triangles on the lower panel (see also Figure 10c-d). On each of the rim peaks is a negative oval outlined by excising (Perttula et al. 2012).

Historic Caddo

Constricted Neck Punctated

Gregory and Avery (2007:33, 49-54) define this type as vessels with one or more rows of punctations around the neck of a constricted neck vessel (typically a jar) that lack incised lines below the row(s) of punctates. This distinction differentiates this type from Emory Punctated-Incised, which sometimes has parallel curvilinear incised lines below the rows of punctates on the vessel body. Vessels of this type have been identified in both Northwest Louisiana and East Texas historic Caddo sites (see Gregory and Avery 2007; Jackson et al. 2012).

Darco Engraved

Darco Engraved was initially identified by Jones (1968:161-163) from historic Kinsloe phase sites in the Sabine River basin. Jones (1968:163) noted its similarity in paste and decoration to Simms Engraved vessels,
as Darco Engraved vessels were tempered with grog as well as shell, and were carinated bowls with a small rim panel (to which the decorative motif was confined) and an outflaring rim. Jones (1968:162) described the design as consisting of “from four to seven panels formed by “ticked” vertical, diagonal, and horizontal lines extending from a plain horizontal base line where the rim and shoulder meet.”
More recently, Perttula et al. (2010) have reclassified Darco Engraved as Simms Engraved, var. Darco. Vessels of this type and variety have notched lips and discontinuous engraved elements with downward-pointing tick marks (Figure 37a-b). Most have four repeating sets of curvilinear to semi-circular ticked engraved lines. Other early historic Caddo sites with var. Darco vessels include the Hatchel (41BW3) and Sam Kaufman (41RR16, Skinner et al. 1969: Figure 21c) sites on the Red River.

Figure 37. Darco Engraved, or Simms Engraved, var. Darco carinated bowls: a, Clements site (41CS25); b, Sam Kaufman (41RR16).
**Ebarb Incised**

Gregory (1973) defined Ebarb Incised from ceramic sherds found at the Presidio de los Adaes (16NA16) in the Natchitoches, Louisiana, area, and he considers it a shell or bone-tempered type manufactured by the local Adaes. At Mission Dolores de los Ais (41SA25), in the mid-Sabine River basin, Corbin (2007:15) identified an engraved variety of Ebarb Incised, and this ware is primarily bone-tempered.

Ebarb Incised vessels, bowls and carinated bowls have two principal decorative motifs (Figure 38). The first includes a panel of opposed incised triangles filled with hatched lines pitched in opposite directions (Gregory and Avery 2007:45-47), and the second has a slanting scroll with upper and lower panels filled with either vertical or diagonal incised lines (Gregory 2007:47-48); one example from Los Adaes has a central and ticked scroll line.

**Hatinu Engraved**

This is a distinctive late 17th-early 18th century Caddo fine ware type (Perttula et al. 2010). It is a spool-necked and red-slipped engraved bottle form. There are red-slipped scrolls and triangular areas in relief across the body and at the base of the vessel, and red-slipped areas around the scrolls and triangular areas have been scraped away (showing the original color of the vessel before it was slipped) to emphasize the distinctive red, raised, scrolls (Figure 39).

Other examples of Hatinu Engraved have been noted in collections at the Hatchel site (41BW3), the Friday site along the Red River in southwestern Arkansas (Moore 1912:Figures 106 and 107), the Battle site (John E. Miller, 2005 e-mail communication), in a private collection from another site in Arkansas (Townsend and Walker 2004:Figure 19), from sites in Clark County, Arkansas and the Carden Bottoms along the upper Arkansas River in southwestern Arkansas, and in a very late Titus phase site (Shelby, 41CP71) in the Big Cypress Creek basin in northeastern Texas. Bonds (2006:Figures 2, 83, 160, 432, 491, 523, 536, 541, 556, 585, 628, and 632) illustrates a number of unprovenienced Hatinu Engraved bottles that are in the hands of private collectors.
Henderson Plain

This type is a grog and/or bone-tempered plain ware from Kinsloe phase sites (Jones 1968:163-166); shell-tempered Henderson Plain vessels are also described by Jones (1968:164). The type occurs as bottles (including ollas), flared rim jars, bowls, compound bowls, and carinated bowls. Jones (1968:166) also described Henderson Plain vessels from Kinsloe phase sites that were red-slipped or had a horizontal pinched row as a decorative element just below the lip.

King Engraved

King Engraved is an Allen phase fine ware found in ceramic assemblages in the Angelina River basin. Decorative elements include cross-hatched engraved zones, either in panels, in panel dividers, or in large bands oriented in several directions on the rim (Marceaux 2011:154) (Figure 40).
Lindsey Grooved

Lindsey Grooved is an Allen phase utility ware type comprised of large bowls or jars with direct or slightly everted rims. The rims have shallow horizontal grooves (Marceaux 2011:140-141) (Figure 41). Lindsey Grooved vessels also occur in conjunction with appliqued, brushed, incised, or punctated elements, typically either at the rim-body juncture or on the vessel body.

Mayhew Rectilinear

This new type is described by Jackson et al. (2012:178 and Figures 3-58 and 4-8) from the Mayhew site (41NA21) and the Gallant Falls site (41NA344), an Allen phase component and an early 18th century Spanish mission, respectively, in the Angelina River basin. Sherds of this type have engraved or trailed rectilinear or curved lines; some sherds of the type have tick marks.

Spradley Brushed-Incised

This utility ware is found on Historic Caddo Allen phase sites in the Neches-Angelina river basins in East Texas. It consists of parallel brushing elements with overlapping straight incised lines that are opposed or perpendicular to the brushing (Marceaux 2011:140 and Figure 5.2) (Figure 42).
Figure 41. Lindsey Grooved sherds from historic Caddo sites in Angelina and Nacogdoches counties, Texas.

Figure 42. Spradley Brushed-Incised sherds from Nacogdoches County Caddo sites.
Womack Engraved

Womack Engraved was defined by Duffield and Jelks (1961:36-39 and Figures 9 and 10) on the basis of vessels and sherds from sites in the Red and Sabine River basins in East Texas that date from the late 17th century to the mid-18th century. Subsequent archaeological investigations have also identified Womack Engraved vessels and sherds from Caddo sites in the Little Cypress Creek basin.

Womack Engraved vessels tend to be carinated bowls with inverted rims. There are at least four or five known engraved rim motifs, including: opposed cross-hatched triangles; a negative meandering scroll with a ticked line running along the center of the scroll; parallel and arcing curvilinear lines; and a negative scroll with ticked lines and cross-hatched pendant triangles running down the center of the scroll (Figures 43 and 44a; see also Story et al. 1967:Figure 49). Another variety, var. Gum Creek, found in sites in the Little Cypress Creek basin, has a continuous series of engraved semi-circles on the rim panel (Figure 44b-c).

Figure 43. Womack Engraved rim motifs.
Womack Plain

Womack Plain was defined by Story et al. (1967:146-148) from the plain ware assemblage recovered at the Gilbert site (41RA13) in the upper Sabine River basin. It is estimated to date to the mid-18th century. The type is represented by carinated bowls with inverted rims, as also seen in the Womack Engraved type. The vessels are tempered with mussel shell and have a fine sandy paste.
CERAMIC TYPES AND SETS IN THE LOWER SABINE AND NECHES-ANGELINA
IN EAST TEXAS AND NORTHWEST LOUISIANA

The distinctive Caddo ceramic vessels and sherds from the lower Sabine (i.e., Toledo Bend Reservoir, see McClurkan et al. 1966; Woodall 1969) and Neches-Angelina (i.e., Lake Sam Rayburn, see Jelks 1965) River basins were not included in the listing of ceramic types and sets in Table 1, due to current cultural phase taxonomic difficulties and poorly defined ceramic assemblages. Sites in these areas were included in the Angelina focus by Jelks (1965), which was a “broadly defined unit encompassing the entire Caddoan [sic] sequence in the Lake Sam Rayburn locality; needs reevaluation in light of larger sample of sites which are known in the area” (Story 1990:Table 43). Perttula (1992:253) used the term late Angelina focus to refer to sites in these localities that date after ca. A.D. 1400.

Sites at Toledo Bend Reservoir that have both ceramic vessels and decorated sherd assemblages include Salt Lick (16SA37a) and Bison, Area B (16SA30) (McClurkan et al. 1966; Woodall 1969). On the basis of the whole vessels from these sites, affiliations may be said to exist with the Titus phase, given the popularity of Ripley Engraved, Taylor Engraved, Karnack Brushed-Incised, and Wilder Engraved vessels in the burials (Table 2); Belcher Ridged vessels from Belcher phase sites are also funerary object inclusions in burials. However, it remains to be determined if any of these vessels were locally manufactured, or were vessels traded to a local Caddo community that lived in this part of the Sabine River basin (see Kelley 2006; Kelley et al. 2010).

Table 2. Ceramic vessels and sherds from selected sites at Toledo Bend Reservoir.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ceramics</th>
<th>Salt Lick vessels</th>
<th>Salt Lick sherds</th>
<th>Bison, Area B vessels</th>
<th>Bison, Area B sherds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Briarfield Plain olla</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Plain ware</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avery Engraved</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glassell Engraved</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keno Trailed</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natchitoches Engraved</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cf. Patton Engraved</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cf. Ripley Engraved</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Engraved</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilder Engraved</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Engraved</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belcher Ridged</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullard Brushed</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Appliqued</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowhide Stamped</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harleton Appliqued</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnack Brushed-Incised</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiam Incised</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pease Brushed-Incised</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineland Punctated-Incised</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Appliqued</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>13</td>
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Table 2. Ceramic vessels and sherds from selected sites at Toledo Bend Reservoir, cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ceramics</th>
<th>Salt Lick vessels</th>
<th>Sherds</th>
<th>Bison, Area B vessels</th>
<th>Sherds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Brushed</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Incised</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Incised-Punctated</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Punctated</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>954</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>999</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td><strong>1210</strong></td>
<td><strong>81</strong></td>
<td><strong>1263</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sherds from domestic contexts at these sites, as well as at the nearby Burnitt site (16SA204; Kelley 2006; Kelley et al. 2010), are dominated by typologically unidentifiable fine ware and utility ware sherds as well as Belcher Ridged, incised, brushed, and Pineland Punctated-Incised sherds (see Table 2). The proportion of ridged utility wares at these sites is suggestive of a cultural connection with Belcher phase Caddo groups on the Red River (cf. Webb 1959). Until these assemblages of sherds and vessels can be restudied, it will be difficult to determine what a representative assemblage of ceramic fine ware and utility ware vessels and sherds from this part of the Sabine River basin looks like, and the differing affiliations of local Caddo groups (see Figures 4 and 5).

The same analytical deficiency exists with respect to the ceramic vessels and sherds in the Lake Sam Rayburn area on the Neches-Angelina in East Texas. Few of the vessels recovered from burials at Lake Sam Rayburn have been typologically identified (Table 3). The decorated sherds are dominated by Broaddus Brushed and Pineland Punctated-Incised sherds, along with considerable numbers of unidentifiable brushed, incised, and punctated utility wares and unidentified engraved fine wares.

Table 3. Ceramic vessels and sherds from selected sites at Lake Sam Rayburn.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ceramics</th>
<th>Walter Bell vessels</th>
<th>Sherds</th>
<th>Wylie Price vessels</th>
<th>Sherds</th>
<th>Print Bell vessels</th>
<th>Sherds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Plain ware</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belcher Ridged</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broaddus Brushed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2112</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis Incised</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunkin Incised</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineland Punctated-Incised</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Brushed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Incised</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1740</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Incised-Punctated</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Punctated</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glassell Engraved</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Engraved</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>4281</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>1001</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>530</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The rarity of ridged sherds in the Lake Sam Rayburn sites when compared to their frequency in Toledo Bend Reservoir sites appears to indicate that the ancestral Caddo groups that once occupied these two areas had distinctly different utility ware traditions. Furthermore, stylistically-related Titus phase and Belcher phase engraved fine wares are absent in the Lake Sam Rayburn sites, much different from the Toledo Bend Reservoir ceramic assemblages (see Tables 2 and 3), a trend which may be indicative of differing populations of Caddo peoples. The Lake Sam Rayburn ceramic assemblages warrant a thorough reanalysis—paired with radiocarbon dates from organics (and organic residues on sherds and vessels) in the collections—before it will be possible to establish their temporal, stylistic, and compositional character and diversity, and explore their relationship to other ancestral Caddo ceramic traditions in East Texas and Northwest Louisiana.

CONCLUSIONS

Refining and further bracketing the age and intra-site chronological relationships of the ceramics from ancestral Caddo sites in East Texas remains to be fully accomplished, but work is underway through intensive radiocarbon dating efforts (including the dating of organic residues preserved on ceramic vessels and sherds). It is also important that the old and new ceramic types used in the region (including ceramic types yet to be recognized) be fully defined, and differences and similarities in ceramic decoration and manufacture be established in both print and digital venues. Such analyses can be employed to then answer questions regarding the social and cultural affiliation of ancestor Caddo groups, and the placement/occurrence of particular ceramic assemblages within specific communities of Caddo people.

This article represents our initial attempt at updating the current Caddo ceramic taxonomy to include updated age ranges for the ceramic types as well as provide descriptions of the more recently-defined ceramic types from East Texas and immediately contiguous areas. However, much work remains with regard to the refinement of type-specific chronologies as well as their distributions. It is our hope that the information presented here will aid in further refining our knowledge of ancestral Caddo ceramics. We believe it worth mentioning that all taxonomies are arbitrarily created constructs that remain malleable, and should persist in a continual state of change as knowledge grows and ceramic taxonomies prove useful or not given the research problems and interests of Caddo archaeologists.

While it has taken far too long for us—East Texas Caddo archaeologists—to begin updating the now 60+ year old ceramic taxonomy for the region, we are making large strides toward the development of a publicly-available digital resource that will provide new images, chronometric dates, and spatial distributions for identified ceramic types. This article represents a foray into this realm, and we have high hopes that through the employment of those data from both vessel and sherd analyses, we can continue to improve upon the taxonomic classifications of ancestral Caddo ceramics in East Texas.

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