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The Analysis of an Ancestral Caddo Ceramic Vessel from 41NA16 in Nacogdoches County in East Texas

Timothy K. Perttula

Included in the ancestral Caddo ceramic vessels in the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) whole vessel collection is one vessel from a reported site in the Attoyac Bayou basin: 41NA16 (H. G. Moore) in Nacogdoches County in East Texas (Figure 1). The Attoyac Bayou is a major southward-flowing tributary to the Angelina River. The vessel is fully documented in this article.

Natural Regions of Texas

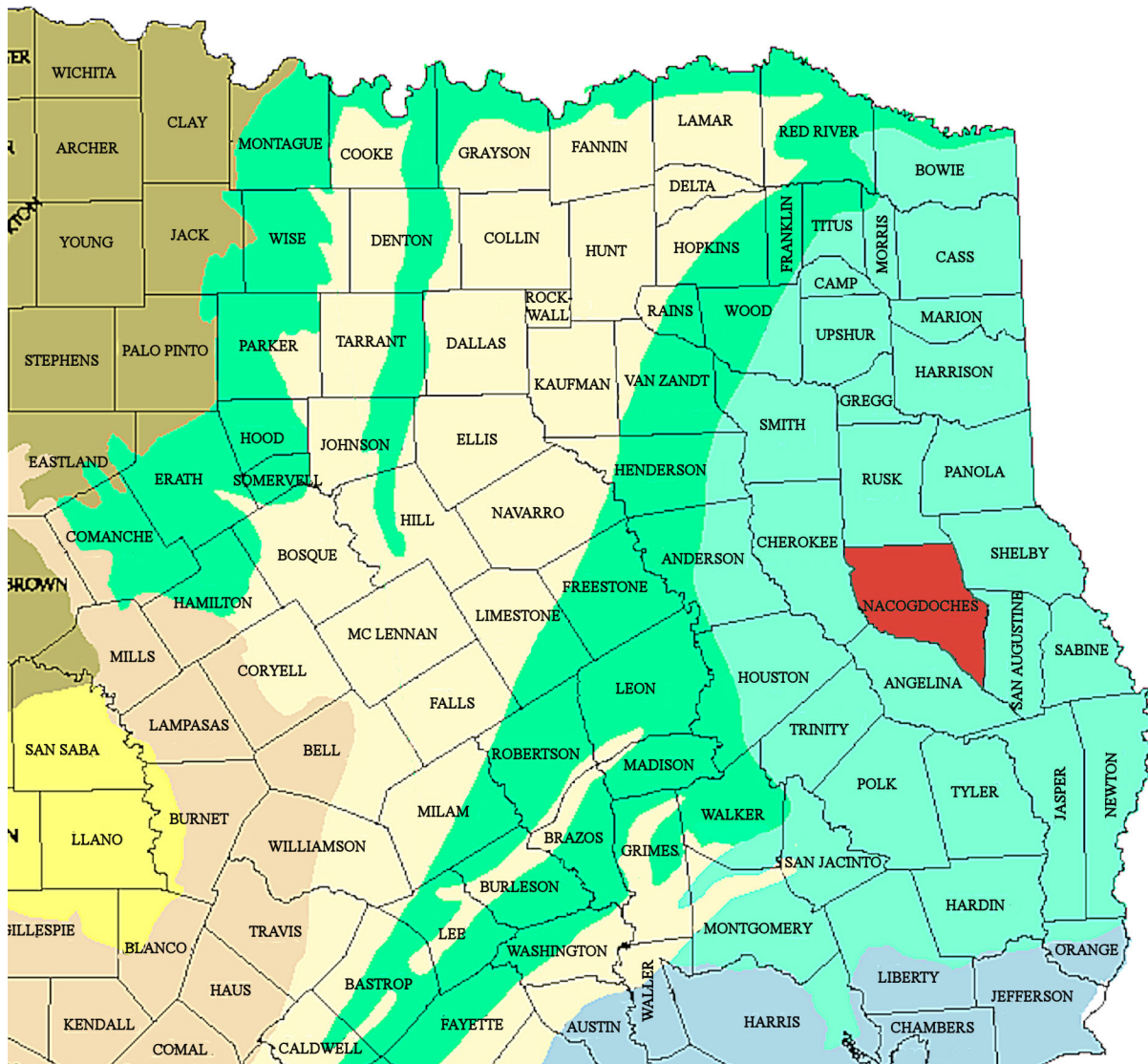


Figure 1. Nacogdoches County in East Texas.

H. G. Moore site (41NA16)

The one ceramic vessel from the H. G. Moore site is in the TARL whole vessel collection. It was found in an ancestral Caddo burial feature near Attoyac Bayou, and ca. 20 miles east of the city of Nacogdoches. Along with the ceramic vessel, the burial feature had two associated elbow pipes decorated wither with applied nodes at the base of the bowl or with two incised lines at the base of the bowl.

SITE NAME OR SITE NUMBER: H. G. Moore

VESSEL NO.: 1 (cast)

VESSEL FORM: Jar with two applied strap handles (16 x 7 mm in length and width) and a four-legged pedestal base (Figure 2). The pedestal base is 32 mm in height, and the pedestals are 9.2 mm in width. the square pedestal base is 51 mm in length, and its four sections are 11.4 mm in width.

NON-PLASTICS AND PASTE: N/A

RIM AND LIP FORM: Everted rim and rounded, exterior folded, lip

CORE COLOR: N/A

INTERIOR SURFACE COLOR: N/A

EXTERIOR SURFACE COLOR: N/A

WALL THICKNESS (IN MM): rim, 4.3 mm

INTERIOR SURFACE TREATMENT: N/A

EXTERIOR SURFACE TREATMENT: N/A

HEIGHT (IN CM): 12.1

ORIFICE DIAMETER (IN CM): 7.9

DIAMETER AT BOTTOM OF RIM OR NECK (IN CM): 7.7

BASE DIAMETER (IN CM) AND SHAPE OF BASE: 5.1 cm, square and flat

ESTIMATED VOLUME (IN LITERS): 0.6

DECORATION (INCLUDING MOTIF AND ELEMENTS WHEN APPARENT): The vessel rim panel has eight sets of vertical engraved lines with upper and lower hatched pendant triangles (Figure 2), comparable to Poynor Engraved, *var. Blackburn* vessels (Perttula 2011:Figure 6-64b). Where this vessel differs from *var. Blackburn* is in the four sets of concentric circle elements on the vessel body; inside the innermost circle in each set is a single excised dot (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Poynor Engraved, *var. unspecified* jar (No. 1) from the H. G. Moore site.

PIGMENT USE AND LOCATION ON VESSEL: none

TYPE AND VARIETY (IF KNOWN): Poynor Engraved, *var. unspecified*

Summary and Conclusions

One ancestral Caddo ceramic vessel of Late Caddo period age (ca. post-A.D. 1450) has been documented from the H. G. Moore (41NA16) site along Attoyac Bayou in the Angelina River basin in Nacogdoches County, Texas. The unique vessel from the H. G. Moore site is a Poynor Engraved, *var. unspecified* pedestalled jar with applied handles. Two decorated elbow pipes were also found in the burial feature at the H. G. Moore site.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to the staff at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory for access to their whole vessel collections. Lance Trask prepared Figure 1 in the article.

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