

Distinguished Service Award Requirements for Historic Cemeteries 1986  
Table of Contents

Connell Family Cemetery

Salyer Millard Cemetery Survey

Connell Family Cemetery at Bear Creek

Anti-Slaveholding Union Baptist Cemetery

Paleo-Indian Cemetery CR122 Oak Bluff Estates, Round Rock

Distinguished Service Award Requirements  
for  
Historic Cemeteries

Submitted by Williamson County Historical Commission

Laverne Faubion, Chairman of County Commission

Irene Varan, Historical Preservation Committee chairman

Harold Asher, Allan Edwards, Lester Fisher, Joe Hannah Forson,  
Ruth Mantor, Margery Pearson, Dorothy Peters, David Voelter,  
Elsie Waller, members of committee.

Five items are submitted showing completion for DSA Award,  
with appropriate documentation. They are:

1. Photographs of two abandoned/neglected cemeteries  
in County, properly identified.
2. One complete cemetery survey (25 or more graves) taken  
in 1986. Map of site showing location of graves; names  
of those buried, marked and unmarked graves included.  
Location and features of cemetery.
3. History of one of oldest cemeteries in County, initiated  
and researched by county commission.
4. Cemetery Location Map of each known burial site within  
County, initiated, prepared and published by county  
commission in 1986.
5. Newspaper article written by commission regarding  
cemetery preservation.

= = =

We also take the liberty of enclosing examples of recent publicity in the  
Williamson County SUN and the GEORGETOWN WEEKLY dealing with the subject  
of cemeteries. This might be of interest to you.

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DSA REQUIREMENTS:

Historic Cemeteries

To qualify for this section of the Distinguished Service Award, complete any five of the following items and submit this form and the required support documentation to the Texas Historical Commission.

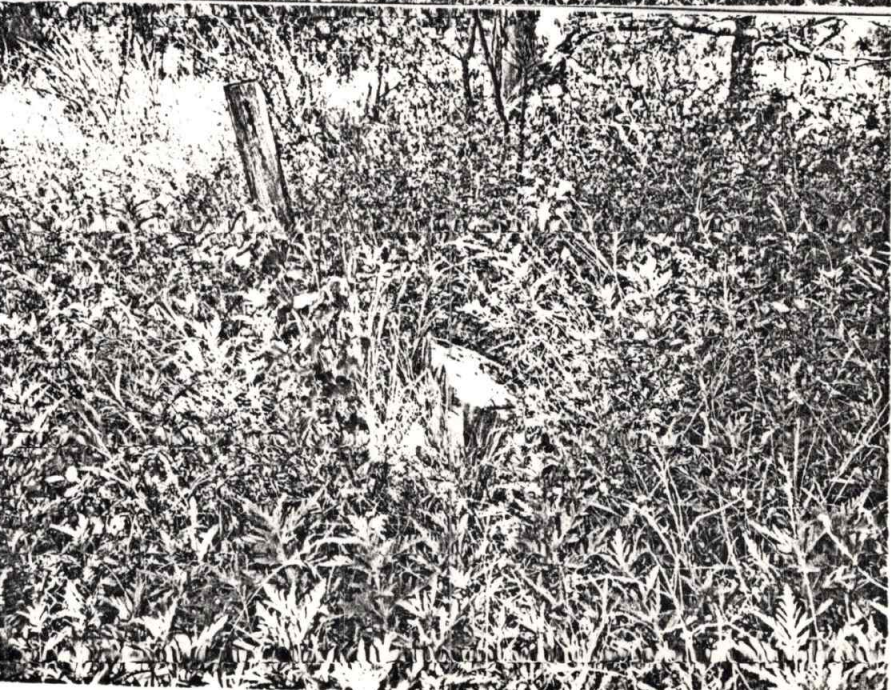
1. Photograph two abandoned/neglected cemeteries in your county. Submit representative black and white photos with this packet. Be sure the pictures are properly identified in pencil on the back.
2. Submit one complete cemetery survey (25 or more graves) taken in 1986. The survey should include a map of the site showing the location of graves. It should also include names of those buried, marked and unmarked graves, interesting features, etc. The survey must be included with this packet for credit.
3. Research, using oral history, land records, or other documentation, the history of one of your county's oldest cemeteries. Submit a short (2-3) page narrative with this packet.
4. Gather USGS topographic maps of your county and label the location of each known cemetery. Submit copies of the maps with this packet.
5. Using one cemetery as a case study, compile information (including photos) on elements that show cultural traits and customs. Submit written and photographic documentation with this packet.
6. With the cooperation of your local library or schools, set up vertical files on state cemetery and antiquities laws. Submit written evidence of your project, including the location of depositories, with this packet.
7. Direct a clean-up campaign for an unprotected cemetery site. Enlist the assistance of other groups (scouts, students, service organizations) and submit photos of the work in progress or submit copies of related publicity. These photos/documentation must be included with this packet.
8. Have a newspaper article written by your commission regarding cemetery preservation published. Submit a copy of the printed article with this packet.
9. Conduct a public meeting on laws protecting Indian burial sites and related artifacts. The meeting should be separate from a regular commission meeting. Documentation of publicity or a transcript of the speakers' program must be included with this packet.

Packet 1: PHOTOGRAPHS OF TWO ABANDONED/NEGLECTED CEMETERIES,  
properly identified

Isolated graves of members of the CONNELL FAMILY, just outside the Georgetown city limits off State Highway 29, trapped in a triangle at the juncture of County Roads 265N and 265W. Once, apparently, part of a family farm. Efforts are being made to preserve this burial site though descendants have not been found.

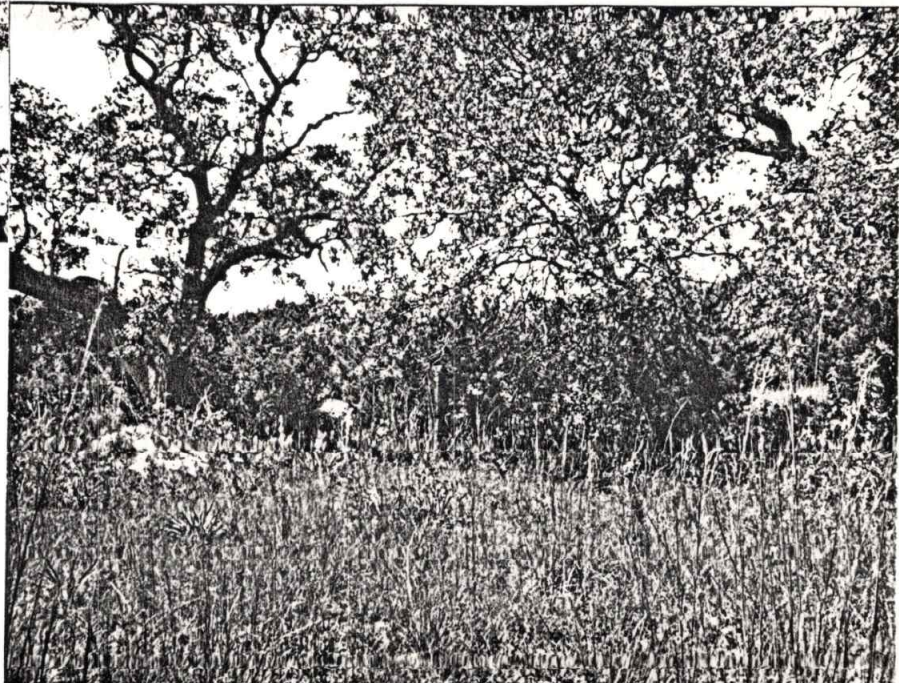
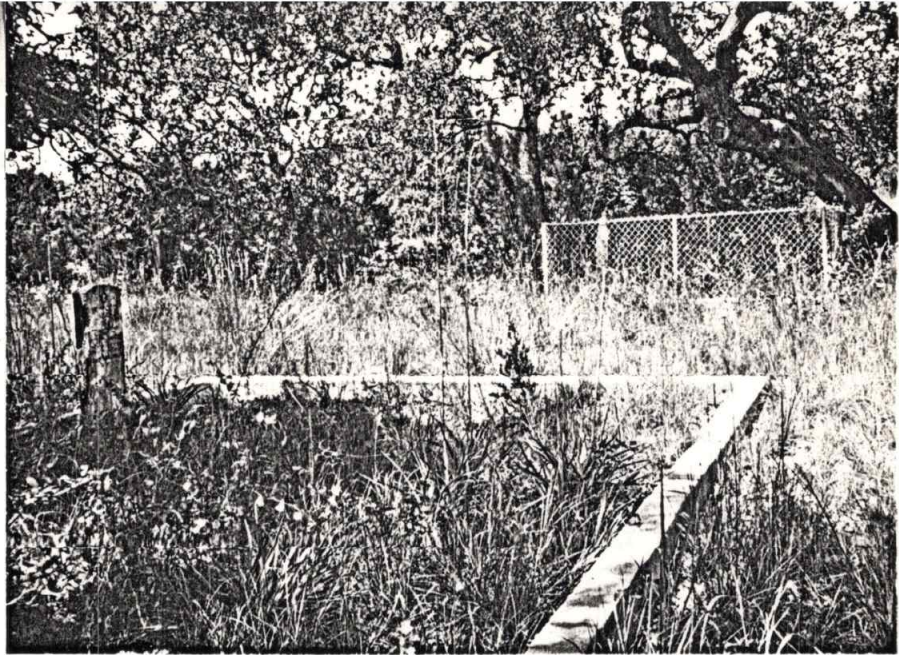
CONNELL CEMETERY, sometimes called the BEAR CREEK CEMETERY, northeast of Liberty Hill on County Road 203, this site was once cared for by descendants now deceased. Although the county commissioner for this precinct attempts to keep the area cleared of weeds and brush, results are not satisfactory and efforts are being made to encourage some local group to adopt this cemetery.





Connell Family  
CR 265N at CR 265W





Connell (aka Old Bear Creek)  
CR 203 NE of Liberty Hill



Packet 2: One complete CEMETERY SURVEY (25 or more graves) taken in 1986. Map of site showing location of graves; names of those buried, marked and unmarked graves included. Location and features of cemetery given.

SALYER - MILLARD CEMETERY

Survey Date: 26 June 1986

Surveyed By: Irene Varan, 4129 Granada Drive, Georgetown, TX

Location: From IH-35 north of Georgetown, west on Highway 195 and north on County Road 234. About a quarter of a mile south of County Road 146 there is a crossing over Berry Creek. On the north side of the crossing on the east side of the road is a gate. The cemetery is located on private property about one-half mile east from the gate.

Description: The cemetery is approximately 50 X 100 feet, completely fenced, with a gate on the northwest corner. It contains four small trees. Not too dense with undergrowth, it has the appearance of having had occasional maintenance. Graves are shown on the accompanying sketch where it is apparent that burials were made, however, it appears that some of the old gravesites have been lost.

- Markers:
1. Charlotte  
dau of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Salyer  
Sep 22 1910  
Jun 22 1911
  2. David R. Salyer (small metal marker, badly corroded)
  3. Rufus David Salyer 1867-1942  
(Also a footstone with initials RDS)
  4. D. B. Salyer  
Born Feb 16 1901 (1)  
Died ----- (2)
  5. M.C.S.
  6. Allie N. Salyer  
Texas Pvt 143 Inf 36 Div  
December 4 1917
  7. Bryan Alfred Salyer  
Texas Corp 141 Inf 36 Div  
June 4 1919
  8. Only field stones marking head and foot.
  9. Only field stones marking head and foot.
  10. Only field stones marking head and foot.



11. MILLARD  
 Fred S. Allie J.  
 Aug 23 1878 May 13 1884  
 Feb 19 1961 Sept 21 1942  
 Father
12. Only field stones marking head and foot.
13. Abner Salyer  
 Born June 1800  
 Died Dec 19 1884  
 The gift of God is eternal life  
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord
14. Only field stones marking head and foot.
15. No stone. Burial evident from sunken earth.
16. No stone. Burial evident from sunken earth.
17. Father Mother  
 Fleming A. Rhoda J. (3)  
 Born Feb 18 1823 Born May 12 1833 (4)  
 Died June 23 1912 Died Feb 4 1911  
 SALYER  
 Our father and mother are gone,  
 They lie beneath the sod  
 Dear parents though we will miss you much  
 We hope you rest with God
18. Forrest W. Millard  
 Texas PFC Co B 737 Tank Bn  
 World War II  
 July 22 1920 - Oct 5 1943
19. Forrest (Small headstone with only this, and  
 a footstone)
20. Fay (Small headstone with only this, and a  
 footstone)
21. Freddie (Small headstone with only this, and  
 a footstone)
22. Very old large flat stone. No legible writing.
23. Small headstone, very old. No legible writing.
24. Old stone head and foot.
25. Millard  
 Born Mar 26 ----  
 -----
26. Lydia S. Ferriraz  
 MILLARD  
 Aug 22 1896  
 Jan 19 1919

27. Lois, Infant dau of G. F. & R. Rader  
Born Oct 15 1910  
Died July 8 1912
28. Della D. Cha-----  
Born Dec 17 1901  
-----
29. No stone. Burial evident from sunken earth.
30. No stone. Burial evident from sunken earth.
31. Field stones piled at head of grave.
32. Carl E. Millard  
-----29  
Age --
33. Gravesite surrounded by stones. Old head stone  
with no marking visible.
34. MILLARD  
Henry Hailey                      Louana Bell  
Feb 22 1857                      July 9 1859  
Mar 23 1932                      Jan 23 1919
35. BRYCE  
R. R. Bryce      His Wife      Rhoda Millard  
Jan 12 1884                      May 4 1884  
Mar 9 1919                      July 18 1917  
RRB                                      ---
36. Very old large flat stone marker. No visible  
writing.
37. D.A.W. (Appears to be a foot marker, lying at  
the southeast corner of the cemetery  
just outside the fence)

#### FOOTNOTES

- {1} Mr. Wayne Barker, 6322 Senators Dr., Corpus Christi, TX  
78513 surveyed the Salyer markers only in June 1985.  
His information gives birth date of 9-16-1901.
- {2} Mr. Barker's survey states death date Dec 4 1905.
- {3} Mr. Barker gives name as Fielding N. instead of Fleming A.
- {4} Mr. Barker gives birth date as 2-18-29 instead of Feb 18  
1923.



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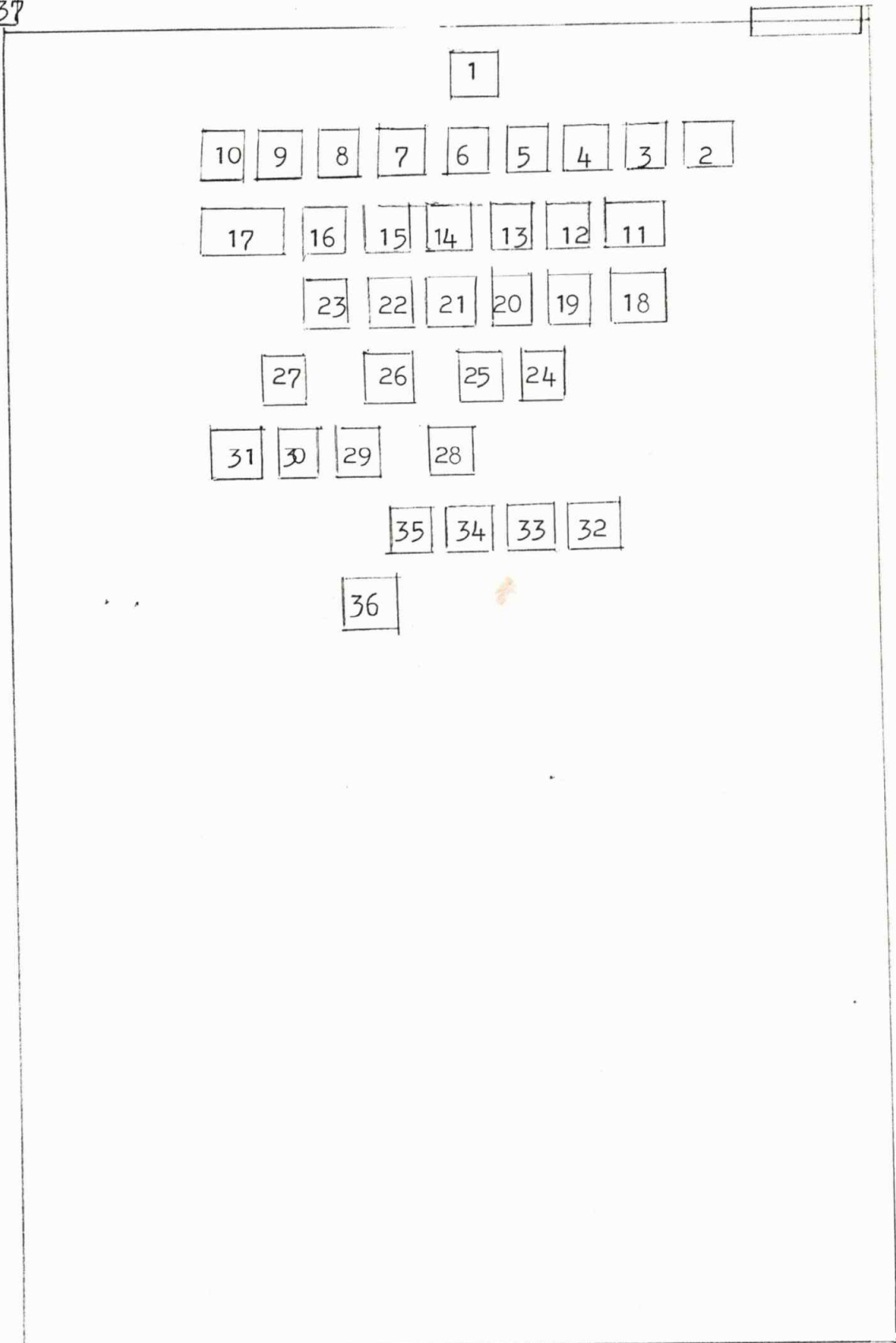
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SALYER - MILLARD CEMETERY

37





Packet 3: HISTORY OF ONE OF OLDEST CEMETERIES IN COUNTY, initiated  
and researched by county commission.

This history was condensed from complete and detailed  
history of cemetery being submitted with application for an Official  
Texas Historical Marker.

HISTORY OF THE  
ANTI-SLAVEHOLDING UNION BAPTIST CEMETERY

By

Irene Varan  
4129 Granada Drive  
Georgetown, Texas 78628

The Anti-Slaveholding Union Baptist Cemetery (commonly known as Smalley Cemetery) is one of the oldest graveyards in Williamson County. It is located northeast of Round Rock, seven-tenths of a mile north of U.S. Highway 79, on County Road 1460. Surrounded by an old wire fence, it lies on the north side of a road leading in an easterly direction to the Apache Oaks subdivision. [1] The old Double File Trail, which crossed Williamson County, and was laid out by Indians as early as 1830, ran just west of the cemetery. [2]

Members of the Rev. Freeman Smalley family are buried in this cemetery, and it is believed to have been established upon the death of Freeman Smalley, Jr. in 1849. [3] In 1960, Paul Wilson, Jr. of Galveston, Texas listed the following existing markers:

MARY COX Oct 21, 1811 Di-- August 17, 1855

MARY SMALLEY the wife of J. K. SMALLEY was born June the 17, 1825  
Died October the 10 AD 1853

J. W.

A. W. P. SMALLEY born -ugust th- 26 1828 D--- August 6, 1857 [4]



Freeman Smalley, Jr. was one of the earliest settlers in Williamson County, having arrived in the fall of 1846 with the families of his father-in-law, Levi Asher, and Dr. W.I. Anderson. These families settled on Brushy Creek about one mile below Wadkins Crossing. [5]

Many of the early marriages in this county were performed by Rev. Freeman Smalley, Sr. and his son, Rev. James Knight Smalley. The first Baptist church services in the county of which any records exist were held in 1847 in the log home of Freeman Smalley, Jr.. Reverend R. H. Taliaferro preached the sermon.[6] On January 12, 1854, James K. Smalley deeded to the trustees of Anti-Slaveholding Union Baptist Church two acres of land originally belonging to his brother, Freeman, and believed to be the land on which Freeman's home was located. The deed specified that the land was to be "for the use of said church as a burying ground". [7]

Freeman Smalley, Sr. was born on March 3, 1790 or 1791 to William Smalley and Prudence Hoel. He grew up in what is now Clinton County, Ohio. No record has been found of his ordination, however it is believed that he was ordained there as a Baptist Minister. He married Catherine Trader in Miami County, Ohio on July 31, 1808. In the War of 1812, he served in Captain Samuel Cox's Company from Clinton County during the period May to September 1812, and during his residence in Clinton County he preached at the Baptist Church in Liberty Township. [ 8 ]

Rev. Freeman Smalley first arrived in Texas around 1822. The purpose of this trip was to search for a sister who had married and moved to Texas some years before. Having had no word from

her since her departure, he set out alone to look for her. It is said that he found his sister, Mrs. William Newman, in a settlement on the Red River in what is now Lamar County, but which was thought at that time to have been a part of Arkansas instead of Texas. There, in 1824, he preached one of the earliest Baptist sermons in Texas (if not the first, as some have claimed). [ 9 ]

Leaving Texas, Rev. Smalley returned to Ohio, and in 1832 he moved to Vermilion County, Illinois. In 1846 or 1847, he returned to Texas, first stopping in Fayette County. In 1849 he joined his sons in Williamson County. [10].

The 1850 census for Williamson County shows Rev. Smalley with children Moses, Elizabeth and William in his household. Sons, Benjamin F., James K., and Jesse J., and the family of son, Freeman, Jr. (who had died the previous year), are also known to have been residing in the county at that time.

Catherine Trader Smalley died sometime between 1860 and 1870. [11] No record exists of the exact time or place. Possibly it was because of his wife's death that Rev. Smalley, Sr. left Williamson County in 1866, or perhaps his unpopular views on abolition were a factor in his move shortly after the end of the Civil War. Whatever the reason, he sold his land [12] and moved to Kansas, spending his remaining years near his two sons there. He died in Bourbon County on October 31, 1874. [13]

(Condensed from history to be submitted with application for Official Texas Historical Marker.)



FOOTNOTES

1. The cemetery is a 40 x 40 foot square, located on a tract of land in the P.A. Holder Survey (A-297), currently owned by Bednarski-Minchew Realtors, 2020 West Ben White, Suite 3, Austin, Texas 78704.
2. Clara Stearns Scarbrough, Land of Good Water (3rd Ed.), (Georgetown: Williamson County Sun Publishers, 1980), pp. 73,74.
3. Jane H. Digesualdo and Karen R. Thompson, Historical Round Rock Texas, (Austin: Eakin Publications, Inc., 1985), pp. 453-455.
4. Paul C. Wilson, Jr., A Forgotten Mission to the Indians, (Galveston: Paul C. Wilson, Jr., Box 1374, Galveston, TX 77551),

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p. 50. Wilson notes the similarity of dates and initials of A. W. P. Smalley with those of Moses P. Smalley, and believes this to be his marker. It is certain that more burials were made in this cemetery, and stones have disappeared or have been covered by soil.

5. Scarbrough, op. cit., p. 110.

6. Ibid., p. 120.

7. Williamson Co TX Deed Book 5, p. 196.

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8. Jean Shroyer and Hazel Hood (Editors), Williamson County Texas, Its History and Its People, (Austin: Eakin Publications, 1985) pp. 273, 274.

9. J. M. Carroll, A. M., D. D., A History of Texas Baptists, (Dallas: Baptist Standard Publishing Co., 1923), pp. 24-26. In his papers, Paul Wilson, Jr. (op. cit. pp. 29, 43-44), attempts to prove that Mrs. Newman was not the sister, but rather the cousin of Freeman Smalley.

10. Shroyer and Hood, op. cit., p. 274.

11. Shroyer and Hood, op. cit., p. 274.
12. Williamson Co. Deed Book 10, pp. 237-238. Freeman Smalley deed to Nelson Merrell dated Sep 1, 1866.
13. Carroll, op. cit., pp. 24, 26.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Carrol, J. M. A History of Texas Baptists. Dallas, Baptist Standard Publishing Co, 1923
- Digesualdo, Jane H. and Thompson, Karen R.. Historical Round Rock Texas. Austin, Eakin Publications, Inc., 1985.
- Scarbrough, Clara Stearns. Land of Good Water. (3rd Ed.). Georgetown, Williamson County Sun Publishers, 1985.
- Shroyer, Jean and Hood, Hazel (Editors). Williamson County, Texas: Its History and Its People. Austin, Nortex Press, 1985.
- United States Census Report, Williamson Co TX, 1850.
- Waller, Elsie Knight (Mrs. John C.). 702B Ranch Road, Georgetown, Texas 78628. Various interviews in 1985 and 1986.
- Wilson, Paul C.. A Forgotten Mission to the Indians, William Smalley's Adventures Among the Delaware Indians of Ohio in 1792. Galveston, Paul C. Wilson, Jr, Box 1374, Galveston, Texas 77551, 1965.



Packet 4: CEMETERY LOCATION MAP of each known burial site within County, initiated, prepared and published by county commission in 1986.

This project was initiated in late 1985 and completed in February 1986, using the county highway and road map to facilitate use of the map by the public. For this reason USGS topographic maps were not used. These maps were prepared to be used as an insert in Volume III of the WILLIAMSON COUNTY CEMETERY LISTINGS, with additional copies being made available to the public for a small fee.

Copies of the maps were presented to County Commissioners Court, the County Attorney, all county law enforcement officials, and to each public library within the county. Copies were purchased by the Williamson County Genealogical Society, the Chambers of Commerce, and other county organizations such as the Heritage Societies, for distribution upon inquiry.

Packet 5: Published newspaper article regarding cemetery preservation written and released by county commission.

This article was furnished each of the four 'local area' newspapers within the county. Complying with their guidelines, the soon to be released Volume III, Williamson County Cemetery Listings (after eight years of collecting) was given emphasis in order to assure news coverage. The need to protect our historic cemeteries and/or the records thereof was also emphasized.



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Williamson County SUN, Georgetown, Texas

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Wednesday, October 8, 1986

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## *Cemetery list complete*

The third and last volume of Williamson County Cemetery Lists, compiled by the County Historical Commission, will be ready for November distribution to the public libraries within the county. The volume will include a cemetery location map for most of the county

burial sites. Copies of this map are available from the commission for a small fee.

Williamson County abounds in small burial sites and isolated graves, many abandoned or untended. To preserve this part of our early history the county historical commission has been working since 1972 to record the burials within the county.

In the Taylor area, Volume III listings will include the burial site of Joseph Rubarth, who at the age of 18, fought at the Battle of Waterloo when Napoleon was defeated, came to Texas in 1822 and was present with Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto. Other burials are recorded at Wilson Springs, Lawrence Chapel, and nearby "Washington Bower."

In the western part of the county the listings will include sites at Cobb Springs, the old Collins Cemetery (now endangered), San Jose Cemetery and larger cemeteries unlisted in Volumes I and II.

County residents, property owners, builders, developers and realtors are being urged by the historical commission to take note of burial sites within their areas of operation and assist in their preservation. Texas laws prohibit the defacing or destruction of any and all Texas cemeteries and burial places, even on private property.

# Final volume detailing county cemeteries ready next month

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Williamson County abounds in small burial sites and isolated graves, many abandoned and/or untended, some forgotten after the older generations passed on and the younger generations moved away. Much early history can be lost when cemeteries disappear.

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Information about damage to cemeteries should be reported to law enforcement officers.

The Taylor Daily Press, Thursday, October 23, 1986, Page 5

## County Cemetery Lists Completed

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Information about damage to cemeteries should be reported promptly to law enforcement officers. The involvement of individuals and family groups is encouraged in order that these remnants of our heritage may be saved.

SUGGESTED NEWS RELEASE  
Williamson County Historical Commission

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Laverne Faubion, Chairman WCHC  
712 Myrtle St., Georgetown, TX 78626  
512 863-2179



# Ancient cemetery

## *Georgetown archeologist digs up county's past*

*"If you can look into the seeds  
of time,  
And say which grain will grow,  
And which will not,  
Speak."*

—Macbeth

By Brad Stutzman

"What we're in right now is a cemetery," Alton Briggs said, pausing for a moment, letting the words sink in.

Briggs, a Georgetown archeologist, was standing in the Oak Bluff Estates subdivision, off County Road No. 122, near Round Rock.

This was no ordinary cemetery. It was used by Indians — Texans before there was a Texas — some 4,000 years before the birth of Christ.

The first skeleton was discovered there in September, 1984. "It took us about 10 days to get him out," Briggs said. "It was like excavating with a toothpick."

What was found was the skeletal remains of a man, who at the time of his death was in his mid-40s.

He was big boned and more than six-feet tall, with teeth worn down from the abundance of sand in his food.

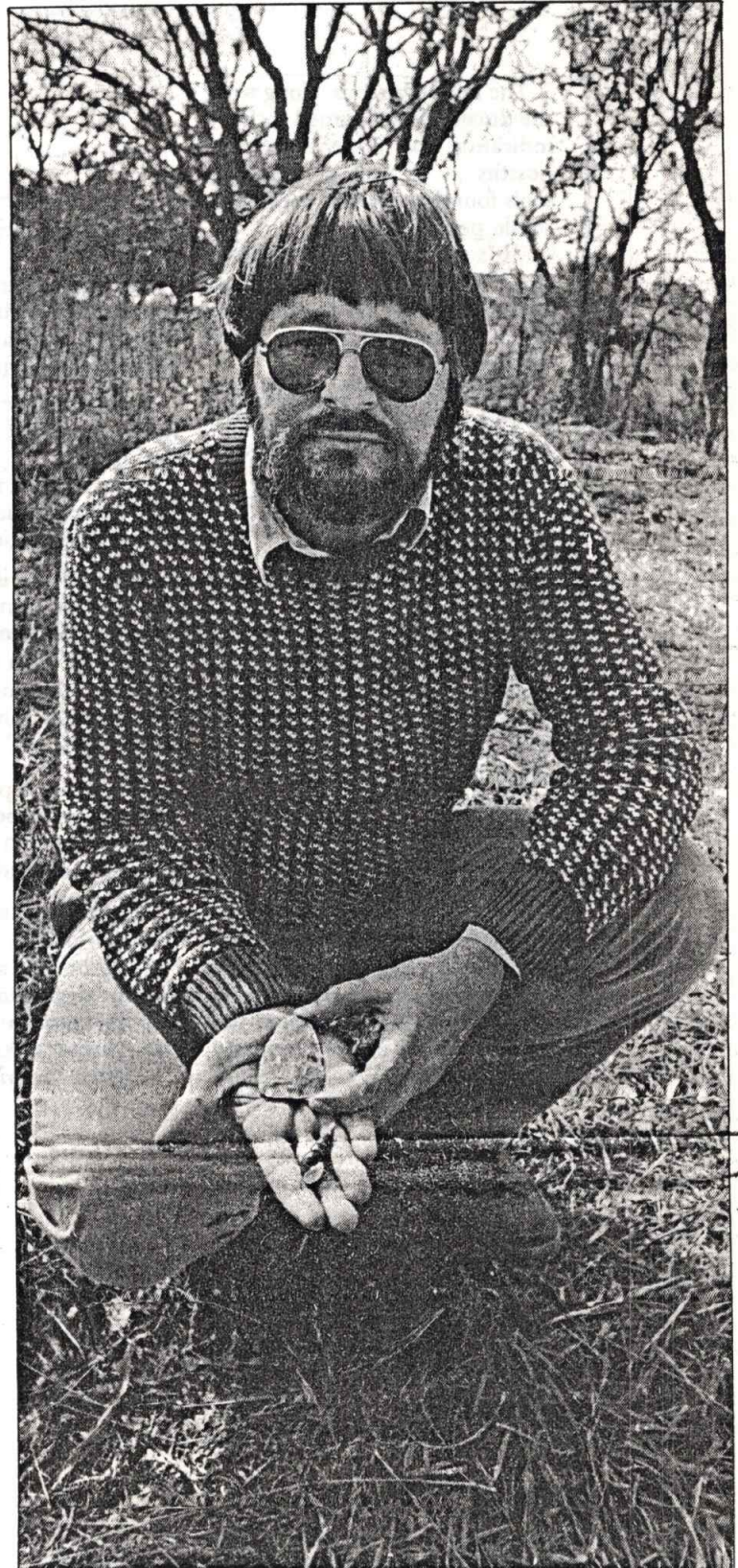
Briggs said there was some arthritic lipping in his vertebrae, but other than that, he was healthy.

"The circumstances surrounding his demise, we don't know," he said.

What is known is that people lived at the site before the beginning of recorded history. They ate acorns and snails and, based on the abundance of conches found, had contact with the Texas coastal area.

They drank from the streams, lived off the land, raised their families and observed tribal traditions.

"They were hunters and gatherers, but they were sophisticated enough to know where the stuff was," Briggs said. "They were harvesters."



Staff photo/Gary Kanadjian

Alton Briggs, a Georgetown archeologist, displays some of the artifacts his team dug up in southern Williamson County. Briggs compares his work to 'excavating with a toothpick.'

(over)



The burial grounds, along with the discoveries of burned rock — indicating the presence of fire hearths — as well as primitive tools found at the site, suggests a stable population.

"It's a thoroughly complex site," Briggs said. "It's got certain areas designated for certain uses. It's a dream site as far as a lot of different resources."

But who were these people, and to what extent did they resemble modern man? What can we learn from them?

"They were more complex than we give them credit for," Briggs said. "We have a tendency to view them simplistically, but they had it down."

"They're us," he said. "We're they're future. They were the people that originally adapted to this place. They were the first people that were comfortable enough to move in. They're Texans."

The site, if not overtly impressive to the untrained eye, is nonetheless somehow awe-inspiring.

There is no getting around the burial site. People lived and died there some 250 generations ago.

"Anytime you come to a site, you discover how they lived, but when you discover corporal remains—the body—you realize

that as human beings, we all have to die."

The man unearthed at the site, apparently, had live snails buried with him, indicating a belief in some form of afterlife.

In addition, he was found to be facing east, as if to each day see the sun rise.

"The fact that they cared about him, means we have to care about him," Briggs said.

"One of the issues at hand is that this is going to become a county road easement, so we want to get help from the state to save the site," he said. "The longer this material can stay here, the better off it is."

They're us; a persistent, haunting refrain. It speaks to a kinship spanning human history, a commonality, a bond.

Briggs suggested these Indians, these primitive harvesters who were of the land and who learned in some degree to tame the land, may have had two dozen words for the concept of "cold."

"When the wind blows down

my neck, it blows down your neck," he said.

But still, that does not answer certain fundamental, eternal questions. Why does the wind blow down our necks? Why is it cold? Why do we die?

Empirical knowledge offers explanations. But it is cold comfort, an elusive subrefuge, like dancing shadows from the hearth.

It does not warm us, as we sit by our fires and wonder what lays beyond the dark.

We grapple with the same questions as the Indians, burying their dead to face east, to see the sun.

We are, by chance or design, the curators of antiquity. We are inheritors of the harvesters. We are the next of kin.

"We're just puffs of smoke," Briggs said. "If you can get a better idea of what a human being is, maybe you can do more with your puff of smoke and it will be a better world."

They are us. And a man still wants to see the sun.

Hill Country News  
Oct. 9, 1986

## **Cemetery Lists Compiled**

GEORGETOWN — The third and last volume of Williamson County cemetery lists compiled by the Williamson County Historical Commission will be ready for November distribution to the public libraries within the county. The volume will include a cemetery location map for most of the county burial sites. Copies of the map (only) are available from the commission for a small fee.

Williamson County abounds in small burial sites and isolated graves, many abandoned and/or untended — some forgotten after the older generations passed on and the younger generations moved away. Much early history can be lost when cemeteries disappear; for this reason, the county historical commission has been working since 1972 to record the burials within the county.

In the western part of the county the listing will include burial sites at Cobb Springs, the old Collins Cemetery (now endangered), San Jose Cemetery, as well as larger cemeteries unlisted in Volumes I and II.

County residents, property owners, builders, developers and realtors are being urged to take note of burial sites within their area of operations and assist in their preservation.

Texas laws prohibit the defacing or destruction of any and all Texas cemeteries / burial places, or any part of one, even on private property. Information about damage to cemeteries should be reported promptly to law enforcement officers; and the involvement of individuals and family groups is encouraged in order that we may save these remnants of our heritage.