
Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey, 4th Update: Additional Results Processed After Submission of Main Draft

Alan M. Slade

Abstract

After the deadline for submission of the 4th edition of the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey (TCFPS), there were still nearly 200 Clovis records that still required recording. The primary author of the 2023 survey felt it was more appropriate to include the additional count in this publication, rather than author a separate, essentially, a 5th edition, in the 2024 journal. The Clovis point count has now reached 1002, with a further 10 previously unaccounted for counties. With the most recent results being processed, there were a few more anomalies that are corrected in this article. To the best of my knowledge this is the most accurate regional representation of Clovis fluted points in Texas to date.

Introduction

When the deadline for the submission of the 4th edition of the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey arrived (Slade and Meltzer, this volume), there were 198 Clovis point records that needed processing, bringing the grand total to 1002 Clovis points from Texas (Table 1). As expected, the greater majority of these points came from private collections (e.g., Slade n.d.a.). Through the encouragement and advice of well-respected professional archeologists such as Prof. Thomas R. Hester, and Dr. Timothy K. Perttula, contact was made with avocational archeologists and private collectors who were willing to share their collections with the survey. These connections can ultimately go towards building better relationships with collectors. They often have a great wealth of knowledge and have collections of previously unrecorded material that highlights the importance of making contact with these individuals (see Perttula 1989; LaBelle 2003; Shott 2018). A large number of points recorded from making these relationships since the 2007 survey was achieved by going to several arrowhead shows and making the collector community aware of the survey project. Out of the 198 Clovis points added here, about 20 percent were from excavated sites, one was from a series of sites

in the Panhandle / Plains region by W. E. ‘Uncle Bill’ Baker in the 1930s, and another in the East region by an avocational archeologist, George H. Russell. And there were over 50 points from two private collectors, Winston Elliston from Boerne, Texas, and more from Dana Harper in Houston, Texas, both providing new data from several regions. With these new records the grand total of Clovis fluted points in Texas, is 1003. That is an impressive increase since the first survey back in 1986 when David J. Meltzer initiated the original survey (Meltzer 1986), which yielded 204 records, and almost double the number from the last survey in 2007 that had a total of 539 (Bever and Meltzer 2007; Slade and Meltzer, this volume).

Updated Records

There are now a further 10 new counties that have reported Clovis points (Table 2), leaving just 66 that have no points (Table 3). The regional distribution for Clovis points shows similar patterns to the previous surveys, with the Central and Panhandle / Plains regions with the highest counts, of 88 and 53 respectively (Figure 1; and Table 4). In the Central region there are several interesting new findings. The newly rediscovered Hotmann (41HY6) site along Deadman Creek in Hays County, has so far yielded

Table. 1 Adjusted count of Texas Clovis points by county.

County	Abrv	Region	Previous Count	Adjusted Count
Anderson	AN	East	2	
Andrews	AD	Panhandle / Plains	6	1 (7)
Angelina	AG	East	20	2 (22)
Aransas	AS	Coastal	1	
Armstrong	AM	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Atascosa	AT	Southwest	19	1 (20)
Austin	AU	Central	1	3 (4)
Bailey	BA	Panhandle / Plains	4	1 (5)
Bandera	BN	Central	1	
Bastrop	BP	Central	51	4 (55)
Baylor	BY	North Central	1	
Bee	BE	Coastal	1	
Bell	BL	Central	54	5 (59)
Bexar	BX	Central	5	1 (6)
Blanco	BC	Central	3	1 (4)
Borden	BD	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Bosque	BQ	Central	3	
Bowie	BW	East	1	
Brazoria	BO	Coastal	1	
Brazos	BZ	Central	1	
Brewster	BS	Trans-Pecos	7	3 (10)
Briscoe	BI	Panhandle / Plains	8	
Brown	BR	Central	7	1 (8)
Burleson	BU	Central	1	
Burnet	BT	Central	2	1 (3)
Calhoun	CL	Coastal	3	
Callahan	CA	Central	1	
Cameron	CF	Coastal	1	
Camp	CP	East	4	
Carson	CZ	Panhandle / Plains	0	1
Cass	CS	East	2	4 (6)
Chambers	CH	Coastal	0	1
Cherokee	CE	East	1	
Childress	CI	Panhandle / Plains	1	1 (2)
Cochran	CQ	Panhandle / Plains	1	4 (5)
Coke	CK	Central	4	
Collin	COL	North Central	3	
Collingsworth	CG	Panhandle / Plains	1	

Table. 1 Adjusted count of Texas Clovis points by county, cont.

County	Abrv	Region	Previous Count	Adjusted Count
Comal	CM	Central	2	2 (4)
Comanche	CJ	Central	13	5 (18)
Concho	CC	Central	1	
Cooke	CO	North Central	1	
Coryell	CV	Central	6	1 (7)
Crane	CR	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Crosby	CB	Panhandle / Plains	14	
Culberson	CU	Trans-Pecos	1	
Dallam	DA	Panhandle / Plains	4	23 (27)
Dallas	DL	North Central	11	
Dawson	DS	Panhandle / Plains	8	
Deaf Smith	DF	Panhandle / Plains	1	1 (2)
Denton	DN	North Central	4	2 (6)
DeWitt	DW	Central	1	1 (2)
Dimmit	DM	Southwest	6	
Donley	DY	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Duval	DV	Southwest	1	
Eastland	EA	Central	0	3
Ellis	EL	Central	3	
El Paso	EP	Trans-Pecos	2	1 (3)
Erath	ER	Central	5	
Falls	FA	Central	2	
Fannin	FN	North Central	1	3 (4)
Fayette	FY	Central	4	
Floyd	FL	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Foard	FD	North Central	2	
Fort Bend	FB	Coastal	2	
Frio	FR	Southwest	1	
Gaines	GA	Panhandle / Plains	27	1 (28)
Galveston	GV	Coastal	1	
Garza	GR	Panhandle / Plains	3	
Gillespie	GL	Central	1	
Goliad	GD	Coastal	2	
Gonzales	GZ	Central	1	1 (2)
Gray	GY	Panhandle / Plains	2	
Grayson	GS	North Central	1	
Hall	HL	Panhandle / Plains	2	
Hamilton	HM	Central	4	2 (6)

Table. 1 Adjusted count of Texas Clovis points by county, cont.

County	Abrv	Region	Previous Count	Adjusted Count
Hardeman	HX	North Central	3	
Hardin	HN	Coastal	1	
Harris	HR	Coastal	19	
Harrison	HS	East	8	
Hartley	HT	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Hays	HY	Central	4	9 (13)
Henderson	HE	East	4	1 (5)
Hill	HI	Central	13	3 (16)
Hockley	HQ	Panhandle / Plains	3	-1 (2)*
Hood	HD	Central	1	1 (2)
Houston	HO	East	1	
Howard	HW	Panhandle / Plains	5	
Hudspeth	HZ	Trans-Pecos	1	
Hunt	HU	Central	4	3 (7)
Hutchinson	HC	Panhandle / Plains	1	1 (2)
Jasper	JP	East	12	
Jeff Davis	JD	Trans-Pecos	1	
Jefferson	JF	Coastal	104	1 (105)
Johnson	JN	Central	2	
Jones	JS	Central	1	2 (3)
Karnes	KA	Central	2	
Kauffman	KF	North Central	1	
Kendall	KE	Central	3	1 (4)
Kenedy	KN	Coastal	0	1
Kerr	KR	Central	2	
Kimble	KM	Central	1	
King	KG	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Kleberg	KL	Coastal	0	1
Lamar	LR	East	4	
Lamb	LA	Panhandle / Plains	5	
Lampasas	LM	Central	18	2 (20)
Lee	LE	Central	5	2 (7)
Leon	LN	Central	1	
Liberty	LB	Coastal	5	
Limestone	LT	Central	3	9 (12)
Live Oak	LK	Southwest	1	1 (2)
Llano	LL	Central	1	
Lubbock	LU	Panhandle / Plains	3	

Table. 1 Adjusted count of Texas Clovis points by county, cont.

County	Abrv	Region	Previous Count	Adjusted Count
Lynn	LY	Panhandle / Plains	0	1
McLennan	ML	Central	6	
McMullen	MC	Southwest	3	1 (4)
Marion	MR	East	4	
Martin	MT	Panhandle / Plains	3	
Mason	MS	Central	1	
Matagorda	MG	Coastal	1	
Medina	ME	Central	3	
Midland	MD	Panhandle / Plains	6	2 (8)
Milam	MM	Central	2	
Mills	MI	Central	1	
Mitchell	MH	Panhandle / Plains	0	1
Montague	MU	North Central	1	
Montgomery	MQ	Coastal	9	
Moore	MO	Panhandle / Plains	6	
Nacogdoches	NA	East	1	
Navarro	NV	Central	3	9 (12)
Newton	NW	East	3	
Nolan	NL	Panhandle / Plains	2	1 (3)
Oldham	OL	Panhandle / Plains	2	
Panola	PN	East	1	2 (3)
Parker	PR	North Central	1	
Pecos	PC	Trans-Pecos	1	
Polk	PK	East	6	2 (8)
Potter	PT	Panhandle / Plains	3	1 (4)
Presidio	PS	Trans-Pecos	2	
Rains	RA	East	0	1*
Randall	RD	Panhandle / Plains	0	1
Real	RE	Central	1	
Red River	RR	East	2	
Refugio	RF	Coastal	2	
Roberts	RB	Panhandle / Plains	3	
Robertson	RT	Central	1	
Runnels	RN	Central	3	1 (4)
Sabine	SB	East	2	
San Augustine	SA	East	7	
San Jacinto	SJ	East	0	9
San Patricio	SP	Coastal	3	

Table. 1 Adjusted count of Texas Clovis points by county, cont.

County	Abrv	Region	Previous Count	Adjusted Count
San Saba	SS	Central	1	
Schleicher	SL	Central	2	
Scurry	SC	Panhandle / Plains	1	
Shackelford	SF	North Central	1	
Shelby	SY	East	1	
Smith	SM	East	3	
Starr	SR	Southwest	2	4 (6)
Sutton	SU	Central	1	
Swisher	SW	Panhandle / Plains	2	
Taylor	TA	Central	8	
Terry	TY	Panhandle / Plains	4	
Titus	TT	East	3	
Tom Green	TG	Central	3	1 (4)
Travis	TV	Central	6	3 (9)
Trinity	TN	East	2	
Tyler	TL	East	4	
Upshur	UP	East	1	
Uvalde	UV	Central	6	1 (7)
Val Verde	VV	Trans-Pecos	4	2 (6)
Van Zandt	VN	East	2	
Victoria	VT	Coastal	3	1 (4)
Walker	WA	East	1	
Waller	WL	Central	1	
Ward	WR	Panhandle / Plains	4	1 (5)
Washington	WT	Central	1	
Webb	WB	Southwest	1	
Wilbarger	WG	North Central	4	
Williamson	WM	Central	5	
Wilson	WN	Central	1	6 (7)
Winkler	WK	Panhandle / Plains	2	
Wise	WS	North Central	1	
Wood	WD	East	3	
Yoakum	YK	Panhandle / Plains	2	1 (3)
Zapata	ZP	Southwest	1	
Zavala	ZV	Southwest	2	
Unknown		Central	2	4 (6)
Unknown		East	1	
Unknown		North Central	0	2

Table. 1 Adjusted count of Texas Clovis points by county, cont.

County	Abrv	Region	Previous Count	Adjusted Count
Unknown		Panhandle / Plains	3	10 (13)
Unknown		Unknown	1	12 (13)
				198
Total			804	1002

* Corrected from the Slade and Meltzer (2023) survey, the point was mistakenly recorded from being from Clay County, and Hockley County should only have two points

three Clovis point bases in what could be the first evidence of an in situ Clovis component in Hays County. Four more Clovis points have been recovered from the quarry at Elgin (41BP995) in Bastrop County, the location of the Hogeye Clovis cache. The current landowner Mr. Gene Talbot informs the TCFPS whenever a Clovis point is recovered from his site. One of the Clovis points recovered in 2022 is remarkably similar to those in the Hogeye cache assemblage and could be part of the cache (Waters and Jennings 2015). In the Central region there was just one new county added (Table 2).

In the Panhandle / Plains region, the data supplied by LaBelle was from the collection of William E. Baker, collected between 1930 and 1955, and is currently housed in the No Man’s Land Museum at Goodwell, Oklahoma, along with a large collection of Folsom points from New Mexico (Baker and Campbell (1960). The Clovis points are from Dallam County and were collected from a series of sites that Baker recorded as Site 1T, 3T, 6T and 13T, which at

Table. 2 Additional counties that have recorded Clovis occurrences, organized by region.

Region	County
Panhandle / Plains	Carson
	Lynn
	Mitchell
	Randall
East	Rains
	San Jacinto
Coastal	Chambers
	Kenedy
	Kleberg
Central	Eastland

Table. 3 Adjusted distributions of Clovis points by county.

	Number of Points										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	>10
Number of Counties	66	65	30	23	18	9	10	7	7	3	16

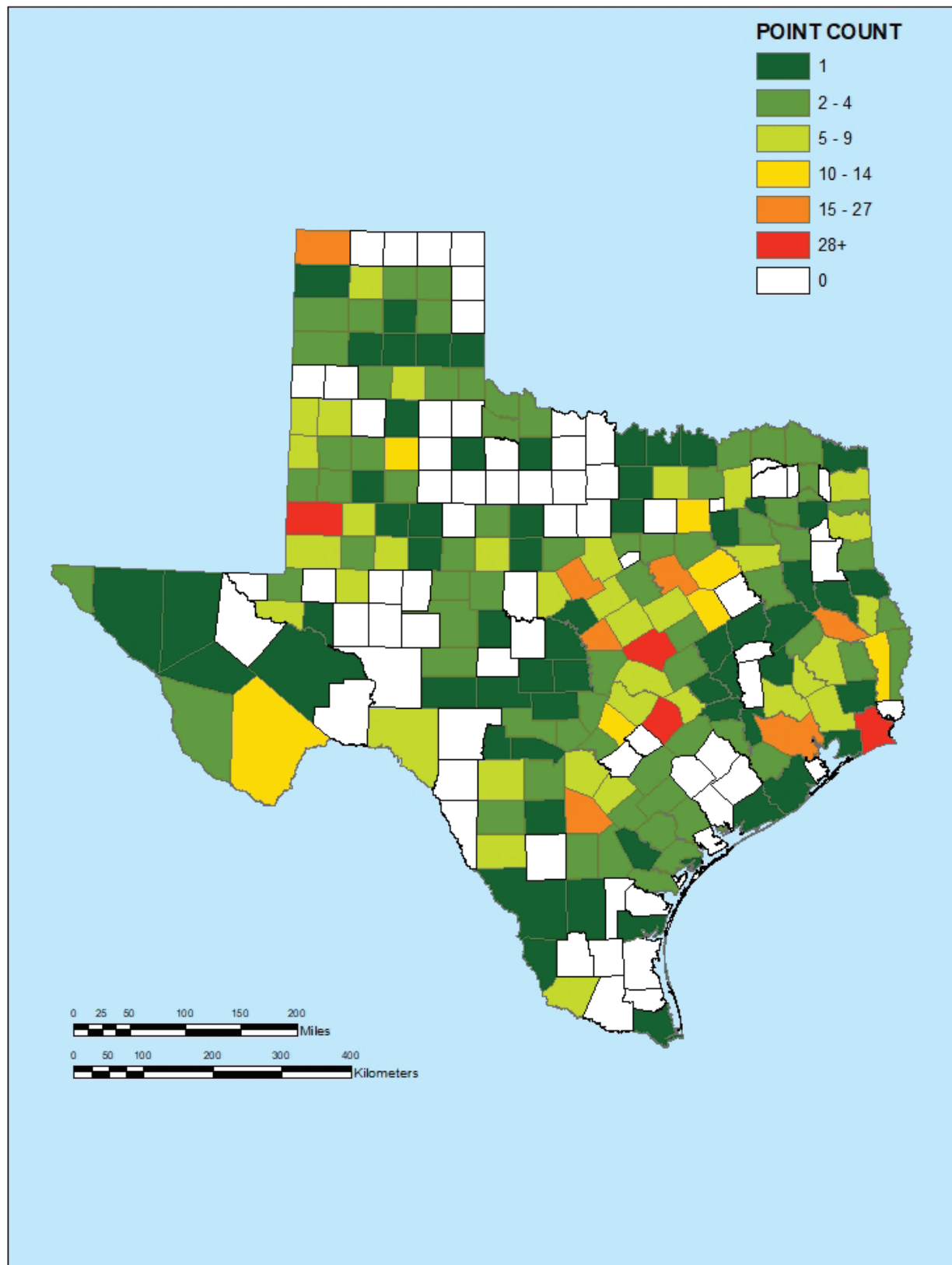


Figure 1. Updated map of Texas showing the latest distribution of Clovis points per county.

Table 4. Clovis point tally per region with the adjusted records and current recalculated count.

Region	Previous	Adjusted	Current
Panhandle / Plains	149	52	201
North Central	37	7	44
East	106	21	127
Coastal	159	5	164
Southwest	37	7	44
Trans-Pecos	19	6	25
Central	296	88	384
Unknown	1	12	13

the time were part of the massive XIT Ranch which covered 3 million acres comprising 10 counties (see Duke and Frantz 1961). There were four new counties that reported new records in this region (Table 2).

Of note in the other regions, starting in the East Region, there is the private Zeltner archaeological site in the Lake Livingston area near Huntsville, Jan Jacinto County. The site is being excavated by the landowner and avocational archeologist Mr. George H. Russell, and so far his site has yielded six Clovis points, as well as many hundreds of other later points, including some Folsom. Russell also has a Clovis point found at Emerald Point on Lake Livingston, which he has in his Ethician Foundation Museum of Art and Culture in Huntsville, Texas. San Jacinto was one of two new counties that reported new Clovis point records (see Table 2) and the total of the region in this update (n=21) was the third highest. In the Trans-Pecos region there were six new Clovis points reported. Three were from Brewster County, two of which came from the Big Bend National Park, one from along Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive (41BS211), and was found in the TARL collections by the author. The other is from the Chisos 5.66 open-air site in the Chisos Mountains (Campbell 1970). The third Brewster County point was from the 02 Ranch in Paradise Valley near Terlingua. Two Clovis points were reported from the Pecos River in Pandale, Val Verde County (Norris et al. 2019). These points were revisited at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Ohio, after they

were originally donated by Robert J. Patten. The remaining point from the region came from a private collector in El Paso County, but no further details are available. There are only five points recorded from the Coastal region and three are from counties with no previous records: Chambers, Kenedy, and Kleberg (see Table 2). The most significant of them is a point from an articulated mammoth discovered on the Paloma Ranch (41KN78), Kenedy County, in 1975 (Suhm 1978). The Clovis point was originally termed a late Paleoindian shouldered point (Suhm 1980), but clearly resembles a Clovis waisted or fishtail variant. The other two points come from a surface-find from Baffin Bay in Kleberg County, as well as a fine specimen from Chambers County with an unknown provenience (Slade n.d.a.).

The raw material present in the new dataset is strongly represented by Edwards chert (20 percent), but with over 100 points being classed as an unidentified chert, many of that number would likely be an Edwards variety. There was also a small number (n=11) that are classed as an unknown material. One of the few disadvantages of having the records compiled by the owner is that they do not know or recognize the toolstone used to produce those points. An interesting statistic in this update is the number of Alibates represented (n=22, or 11 percent), 21 coming from the Panhandle / Plains region, and just a single point from the Central region.

Collector Collaboration

As noted above, the largest percent of the 198 new records came from private collectors and collaboration with collectors. The Perryton Stone Age Fair in Perryton, Ochiltree County, hosted by Courson Archaeological Research, proved to be a very good source of information. Not only was contact made with several collectors, but it was close to several small local museums that had many specimens of Clovis and Folsom points, the latter being the focus for the initial Texas Folsom Fluted Point Survey (Slade n.d.b). Access was provided by museum staff enabling the analysis of many Clovis and Folsom points, particularly from the collections of the late Wayne Parker and Choise Smith housed at the Crosby County Pioneer Memorial Museum in Crosbyton, Crosby County. A large number (n=20) of previously unrecorded Clovis points from Texas

were recorded and sent to the survey from the No Man's Land Museum in Goodwell, Texas County, Oklahoma. Another Clovis point was recorded from the collections of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Randall County.

The annual 2-day Texas Artifact Show in Temple, Bell County, provided a large percentage of the records in this update. A few large collections of Clovis were recorded there at the show, and several visits to the homes of the collectors were initiated through contact made at the show. Frequent visits to the Hill Country Artifact Show in Fredericksburg, Gillespie County, which is held quarterly, also provided some new Clovis point records, as well as Folsom points for the future Folsom point survey (Slade n.d.b). It was at the Temple artifact show where I met Mr. Winston Elliston from Boerne, Texas. He told me he had amassed an extensive collection of both Clovis and Folsom points from several different regions.

Future Aims and Direction

As mentioned previously (Slade and Meltzer, this volume), one area for future research is the initiation of a Texas Folsom Fluted Point Survey (TFFPS). Phase 1 of the project is already underway, which is to identify Folsom point occurrences in Texas through a comprehensive literature review of the published material in relevant journals, site reports, and survey reports. Phase 2 should be in place by the time of this publication, which will be mainly processing the initial Folsom data and to start digitizing the record sheets. The TFFPS is very pleased to announce that the first two phases of the project will be funded by the Summerlee Foundation and by a anonymous donor. The project will be administered and managed by the *Journal of Texas Archeology and History* (JTAH).

Acknowledgements

Thanks must go to Michael B. Collins and Karen Collins for their continued support and encouragement during the past five years. Thanks to staff and colleagues at the TARL facility for providing support and services since the Fall of 2022. And to my colleagues and volunteers at the Prehistory and Research Project at TARL for their support and assistance in

processing the records presented here. In particular, Katharine Febres assisted me in recording points at arrowhead shows, and processing records at TARL. Thanks to Wayne Rodriguez for recording and processing points at TARL; and James Lentz for splitting, labeling, and sorting the digital PDF files from all previous surveys. Thanks must go to the number of private collectors who willingly and enthusiastically allowed access to their collections, in particular Winston Elliston and Dana Harper, but also to many more who have contributed over the last few years. There are too many to mention by name, but you know who you are, and I thank you enormously. Thanks also go out to fellow professional archeologist Jason LaBelle who provided his analysis on a collection of Clovis points from his research on the Clovis and Folsom collections in the Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. My thanks and appreciation is also given to the BTAS editorial team for their work on the manuscript. Lastly, but not least, thanks to Becky Villarreal-Campbell for her help formatting the Clovis and Folsom survey images, with datasets, proofing, and just being there. Thank you.

References

- Baker, W. E. and T. N. Campbell.
1960 Artifacts from pre-ceramic sites in northeastern and southern New Mexico. *El Palacio* 67 (3): 78-86.
- Bever, M. R. and D. J. Meltzer.
2007 Exploring Variation in Paleoindian Life Ways: The Third Revised edition of the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 78: 65-99.
- Campbell, T. N.
1970 *Archeological Survey of the Big Bend National Park, 1966-67. Part I and II*. University of Texas, Austin, Texas.
- Duke, C. S. and J.B. Frantz.
1961 *6000 Miles of Fence: Life on the XIT Ranch of Texas*. University of Texas Press, Austin, Texas.

- LaBelle, J. M.
2003 Coffee cans and Folsom Points: Why we Cannot Continue to Ignore the Artifact Collectors. In *Ethical Issues in Archaeology*, edited by L.J. Zimmerman and J. Hollowell-Zimmer, pp. 115-127. AltaMira, Walnut Creek, California.
- Meltzer, D. J.
1986 The Clovis Paleoindian Occupation of Texas: Results of the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 57:27-68.
- Norris, J. D., A. Perrone, G. L. Miller, B., Buchanan, R.J. Patten, M.R. Bebbler, and M.J. Eren.
2019 Description, Morphometrics, and Microwear of Two Clovis Points from Pandale, Val Verde County, Texas. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 90:151-158.
- Perttula, T. K.
1989 The Paleoindian Archaeological Record in Northeast Texas: Evidence from Avocational Collecting Activities. *Current Research in the Pleistocene* 6: 19-21.
- Shott, M. J.
2018 The Ethics of Professional-Collector Collaboration. In *Collaborative Engagement: Working with Private Collections and Responsive Collectors*, edited by M. J. Shott, M. Seaman and K. C. Nolan, pp. 1-6. Midwest Archaeological Conference, Inc.
- Slade, A. M.
n.d.a The Dana Harper Clovis Collection: A Remarkable Private Collection of Clovis Points from Texas and Bordering Parishes in Louisiana. Manuscript in preparation.
n.d.b Folsom Presence in Texas and its Immediate Neighboring Regions: Results of the Initial Texas Folsom Fluted Point Survey. Manuscript in preparation.
- Suhm, R. W.
1978 Preliminary Investigations of the La Paloma Mammoth Site (Late Pleistocene), Kenedy County, Texas. *TAIUS, Journal of Texas A&T University* 11 (1):13-36.
1980 The La Paloma Mammoth Site, Kenedy County, Texas, With Notes on the Archaeology by Thomas R. Hester. In *Papers on the Archaeology of the Texas Coast*, edited by L. Highley, and T. R. Hester. Special Report No. 11. pp. 79-104. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.
- Waters, M. R. and T. Jennings
2015 *The Hogeye Cache*. Texas A&M University Press, College Station, Texas.