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Club News

The meeting for the month of February was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Fontaine. A fine group of members were present and we enjoyed meeting in this nice home.

The meeting for the month of March was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Harris. At this meeting Mr. R. K. Harris made a report of his trip to Waco to speak to the Central Texas Archaeological Society. While in Waco Mr. Harris made a trip to several of the Waco Sinker Sites with Mr. Frank Watt of the Central Texas Archaeological Society. After the program, a baby shower was given to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hanna.

The meeting for the month of April will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Harris. All members are urged to bring their catalog books so that specimens used in the publication for SMU may be identified.

***** NEW FUTURE ARCHAEOLOGIST ARRIVES *****

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hanna wish to announce the arrival of a boy on March 31, 1953. Weight 8½ pounds. Name- Henry David Hanna. Mother, father, grandmother, and little sisters doing fine as well as little Henry David.

A FLEXED BURIAL DELTA COUNTY, TEXAS

On Feb. 28, 1953, Mr. W. E. Hargrove of Sulphur Springs, Texas and the writer uncovered a flexed burial on the north bank of the Sulphur River about four miles southeast of Klondike. It is my understanding that this site will be under water when the Cooper Reservoir is built and that this is Site 41-1905-7 as reported by Mr. Ed Jelks.¹

This site is located in a horseshoe bend of the Sulphur River on a rise which may be considered a mound. The surface was covered with grass and not much time was spent in looking for artifacts.

Midden material is exposed in the bank of the river. It was while inspecting this material that the burial was found. The river had evidently washed away both lower limbs and feet of this particular skeleton. It was a semiflexed burial with the head almost due North, lying on its right side and the skull was face down. The burial was about 12 to 14 inches deep and was extremely hard to uncover due to roots of trees growing over and around it. The bones were pretty badly decayed and the long bones were broken. All of the pieces of the skull were not in place. Two pieces of skull were found as much as 15 inches away from the skull. These pieces could have been from another skeleton. At this time the skull from the burial has not been reconstructed.

Midden material such as burned clay, burned stones, food bones, mussel shells and a sprinkling of charcoal was found all through the excavation. The skeleton was flexed in such a position that it could have been placed in a grave about 31" by 26". No artifacts were found with the burial.

Some human bones were found about two feet east of this burial which suggested that another burial was probably carried away by the river and no doubt more of this camp site will be carried away each time the river overflows.

1. Appraisal of the Archeological Resources of the Cooper Reservoir, Delta and Hopkins Counties, Texas-- Ed. B. Jelks & Ed H. Moorman River Basin Surveys , October 1952.

Robert Hatzembuehler.

Plate I on page 17 shows burial diagram.

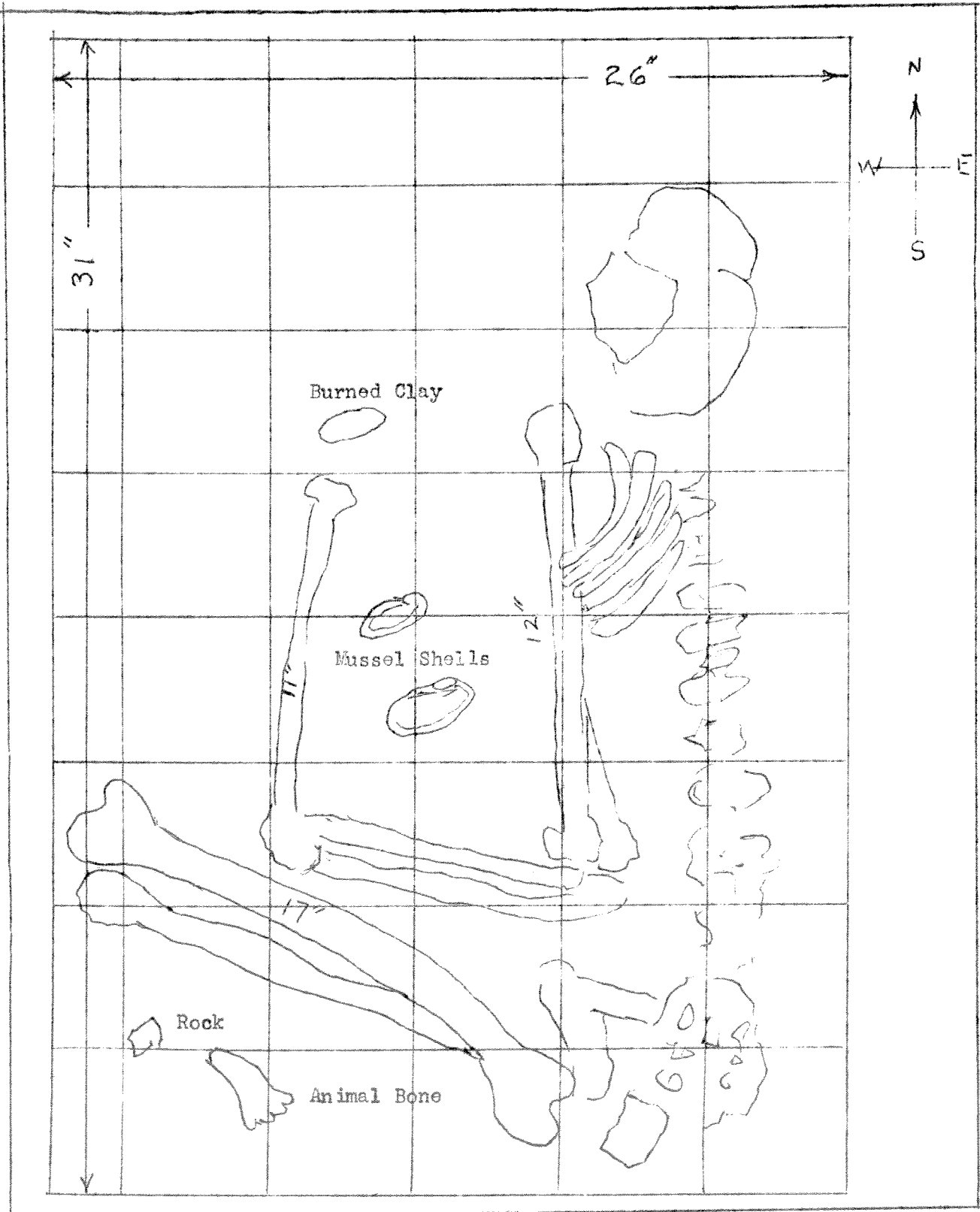


Plate I Burial Diagram Burial 1 Site 1905-7
Cooper Reservoir Delta County , Texas