

NOTES ON WORK DONE - M. J. BREWSTER FARM

June 5, 1936

The burial place was found about 8 years ago, by Sam Cannon and some boys while hunting shrimp. A low pile of rocks caused them to think there were burials in the site, and the Anthropology Department of the University of Texas was informed of the find, by Dr. R. E. Forrester of Moran. Investigation was made on June 5, and excavation was begun. A photograph was made of the grave before the rocks were moved.

Burial AZ-1

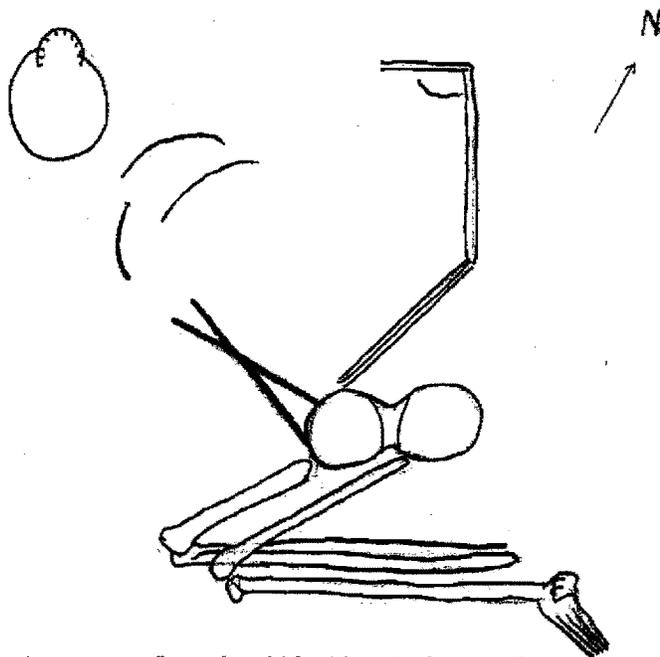
At a depth of 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, bones were encountered. The grave was 44 inches long, and 29 inches wide, and 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. The skeleton lay in a northwest-southeast direction, with the head to the northwest. It was 54 inches east of the zero stake.

The body was lain on the right side, the head being loose from the body and placed with its top down. The face was to the northwest, and the lower jaw was gone. The upper jaw was in place, as were the teeth, which were in good condition, although worn. Practically all were there, and the skull was in a fair state of preservation.

The upper left arm was parallel to the chest, and alongside the body. The lower left arm crossed the abdomen just above the pelvic bones. The left hand bones were missing.

The right humerus was gone, but the lower arm was crossing the right hip and on down the right leg.

The pelvic bones were in fair state, and were flat on the grave. The body had been placed on its right side, and the legs were flexed so that the femurs made an angle of about 90° with the trunk. The knees were to the west or southwest, and the lower leg was bent back so that the heels were under the buttocks. The right knee extended about 4 inches further west than the left one. The femurs were 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. The leg bones were in a good state of preservation, but the feet were only fairly well preserved. A piece of the skull was found 18 inches to the north, and at a depth of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This skull was in very poor condition. Below is a sketch of the skeleton.



No artifacts were found with the body. The upper right arm and lower jaw bone were not found. Judging from the size of the bones, and from the teeth, the deceased was an adult male.

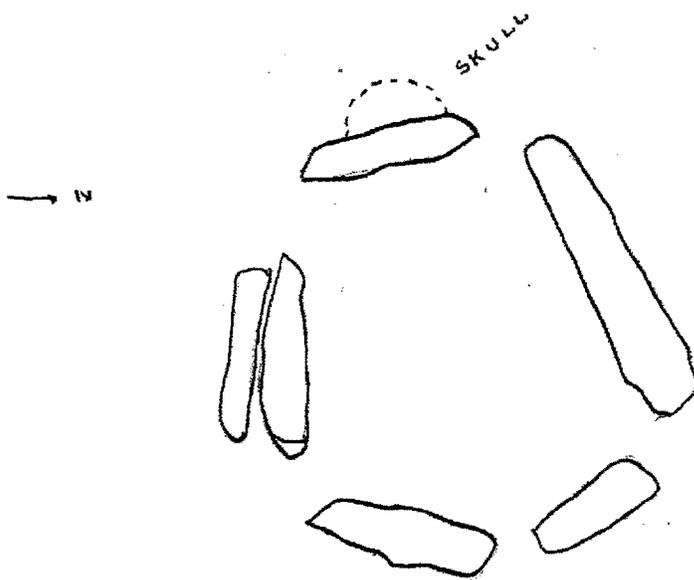
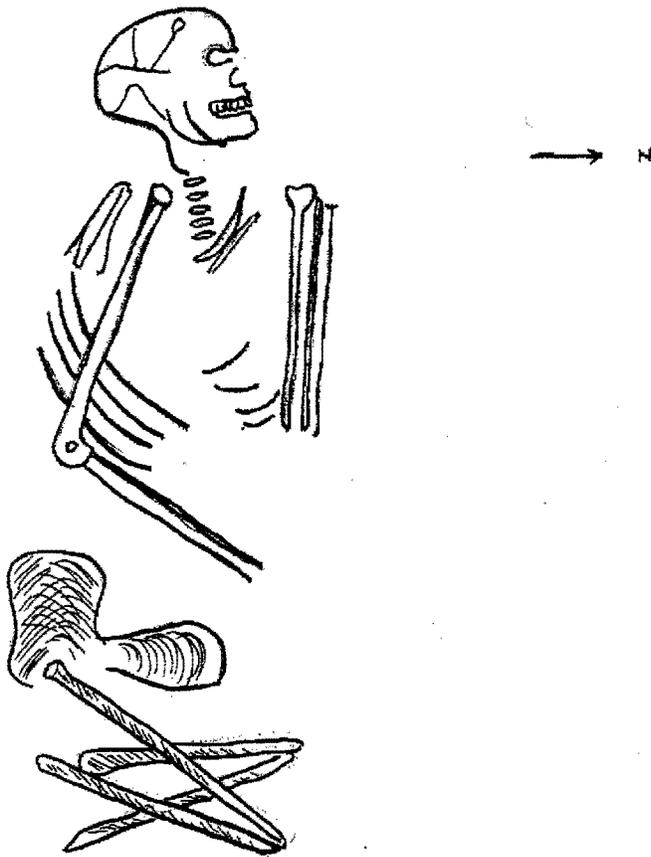
Burial AZ-2

This burial was found 46 feet, 6 inches from the stake, and was 33 inches deep. The outline of the grave could not be determined, but the skeleton occupied a space 3 feet, 5 inches long, and 2 feet, 7 inches wide.

The body was lain in an exact east-west direction, with the head to the west. It was lying on the left side, with the face to the north, the top of the head somewhat up, and the chin tilted up. The skull was in good condition except that it was crushed in from the side. The teeth were in excellent condition. The right arm lay toward the south along the trunk, and the lower right arm was bent at almost a right angle across the abdomen, the right hand being gone. The left arm lay straight down the chest, and the lower part was bent back upward, parallel to the left humerus. The left hand would have been under the chin, but was decayed.

The upper backbone was present, and in fair condition, but the remainder of it could not be found. The left collar bone was in place, and in good condition, and so was the right shoulder blade. Four long right ribs were present, and in good shape, and the pelvis was in fair condition and in place. The legs were flexed as usual, and in good condition except that the lower right shin was crushed by the weight of the rocks, and shattered as it was being taken out. The legs were bent at about an angle of 90° with the body. The lower legs were bent back under the body so that the heels were under the buttocks, and the feet were decayed. The left leg was bent up further than the right one. Above the body were some rocks, five of which formed a kind of fence. They were standing upright on their edge. In the midst of these were rocks lain flat across the body, and there were a number of them around the top of the grave. No artifacts were found with the burial, but there were 4 badly decayed mussel shells found around the outside of the rock fence. On the next page will be found a sketch of Burial AZ-2.

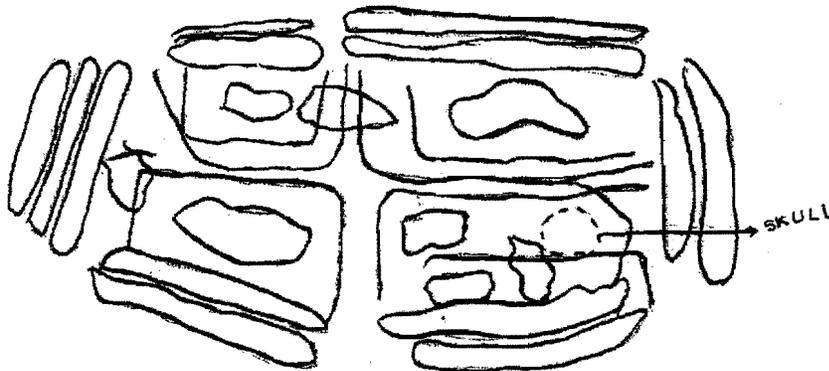
Burial 12-2



Sketch showing fence-like arrangement of rocks.

Burial 42-3

This burial was found 42 feet southwest from the zero stake. The grave was located by having a low pile of rock scattered over an area of 10 feet. These rocks were moved and digging began. A thorny bush was growing right in the place where the grave was. The dirt was removed down to a depth of 8 inches, when more rock was encountered. These were cleaned out and it was found that a sort of quadrangular fence of rocks was formed below, three of them being placed at the east end, and a layer of two all the rest of the way around. The enclosed area was $2\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Inside of this the rocks were laid so as to form a stable or triangle over the skeleton. Four flat rocks formed this roof, and there were a few loose ones on top of it. The skull was encountered 12 inches below the surface and 1 inch below the overhanging rock. Below is a sketch of the grave rocks.

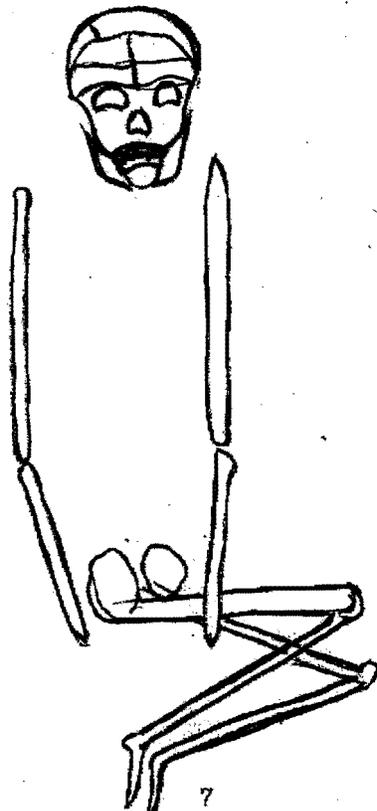


The grave was 41 inches long, 24 inches wide, and 20 inches deep. The skull was 13 inches below the surface, and all the other parts were from 3 inches to 5 inches deeper. The skeleton lay 20° south of an east-west line, with the head to the west. It was on the left side, and the top of the head was up as if it had been bent up to fit into the grave, which was too short. It might have been bent up as the dirt and rocks above settled. The face was not looking in the direction of the bearing of the body, but was looking almost north, perhaps 10° off to the east. The skull was in a fair state of preservation, but was cracked at every suture. The eye and nasal holes were in good condition, and the teeth in both jaws.

were in place, but were in poor condition. The lower jaw bone was in good condition. It was resting on the bottom of the grave. The teeth joined.

The clavicles and scapulas were gone. The left arm extended straight alongside the body, and the hands would have been under the flexed thigh. The right arm was extended almost straight with the body, but bent slightly at the elbow. The right hand was missing. The backbone and ribs had decayed, and the pelvis was present, but in poor condition. The legs were flexed as usual, with this group, with the knees to the north or left side. The femurs were almost parallel. The lower legs were bent back under the buttocks, but they made an angle of about 20° with the femurs. The feet were bent back slightly from a right angle with the shin. The leg bones were in poor condition, and the feet were spongy. The skull can probably be put together, but the other bones are in very poor condition. The grave was only slightly in the clay.

No artifacts of any kind were with the skeleton. A rock 16 inches long, 12 inches wide and 2 inches thick was over the chest, with the long part lying along the long way of the chest. Below is a drawing.



Burial 12-4

This burial was located 25 feet, 2 inches from the zero stake. The grave was located by a low pile of rocks scattered over an area of from 8 to 10 feet in diameter. A bush was growing over the grave. The rocks were moved, and excavation made. The rocks were put on end around the body, and a few small ones were over it. At a depth of 8 inches, a flat rock 23 inches x 17 inches was found. All dirt was cleared away, and this rock was lifted up. Beneath it, at a depth of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, the skull was encountered. The outline of the grave could not be determined, but the space occupied by the skeleton was.

The bearing of the body was almost exactly north-south, just a little to the west. The head was to the south, and was in a very badly crushed condition. The top of the head was up, and the face was to the north.

The shoulder blades and collar bones were gone, as were the ribs and vertebrae. Only a small piece of the arm bone was present, at a depth of 4 inches. It was lying across the chest, and was probably a piece of the right humerus.

The legs were flexed as usual, with the knees to the west. This indicates that the body had been placed on its left side. The left leg was flexed up more than the right one. The foot bones were decayed. The skeleton was that of a small adult, probably a woman. On the chest was an artifact made of slate, or black shale. This was placed on the chest, just below the chin, and was $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches x $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with a hole for suspension, in each end. Below is a drawing.

