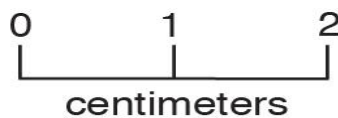


## Prehistoric Ceramic Sherds from the Bull Nettle Site, Walker County, Texas

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There are five plain rim and body sherds in the collection from the Bull Nettle site. Three of them are Goose Creek Plain, *var. Goose Creek* sandy paste sherd (see Phillips and Weinstein 2018). Story (1990) and Perttula (2018) previously referred to such sandy paste sherds as Goose Creek Plain, *var. unspecified*. One of these sherds is a rim with at least a 20-cm orifice diameter (Figure 1). Ceramic vessel sherds from this type and variety are part of the Woodland Period Mossy Grove culture in East and Southeast Texas (see Ellis 2013; Perttula 2018), and eventually continued to be made again in the Late Prehistoric period. The other two plain body sherds (Figure 1), possibly from the same vessel, are from a grog-tempered vessel. In Southeast Texas archeological contexts, grog-tempered ceramics, whether plain or decorated, typically denote a post-A.D. 900 occupation.



**Figure 1.** Goose Creek Plain, *var. Goose Creek* rim sherd from the Bull Nettle site.

The Goose Creek Plain, *var. Goose Creek* rim is from a vessel fired in a reducing environment and cooled in the open air (Teltser 1993:Figure 2f). It has been smoothed on the exterior surface, although this surface has been pitted and spalled (see Figure 1), and it is 7.1 mm in thickness. The plain sandy paste body sherds are from two different vessels; one has been fired in a reducing environment and cooled in an oxidizing environment (see Teltser 1993:Figure 2g), has been smoothed on the exterior surface, and has thin vessel walls (6.3 mm). The other is from a vessel that has been sooted or smudged (firing condition I), has been smoothed on both vessel surfaces, and is 6.2 mm thick.

The two grog-tempered body sherds are from a vessel incompletely oxidized during firing (Teltser 1993:Figure 2c). Both sherds had been smoothed on their interior surface, suggesting they may be from a jar. Body wall thickness ranges from a thin 4.1-4.8 mm mm, with a mean of 4.45 mm.

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