

Prehistoric Ceramic Sherds from 41SJ172, San Jacinto County, Texas

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There are three plain body sherds in the collection from 41SJ172. One of these is a 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*. 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.

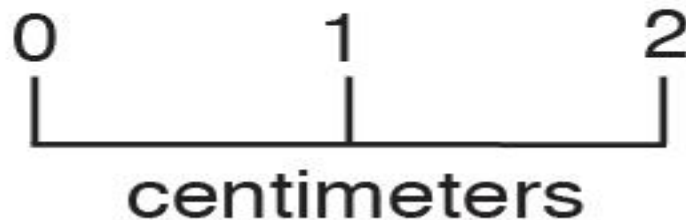


Figure 1. Plain grog-tempered body sherd from 41SJ172.

The plain sandy paste body sherd is from a vessel fired and cooled in an oxidizing environment (see Teltser 1993:Figure 2a), has been smoothed on the exterior surface, and has thin vessel walls (5.3 mm). The two grog-tempered body sherds are from a vessel fired in a reducing environment but cooled in the open air (Teltser 1993:Figure 2f). Both sherds had been smoothed on their exterior surface, and one was also smoothed on the interior vessel surface. Body wall thickness ranges from 5.6-6.2 mm, with a mean of 5.9 mm.

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