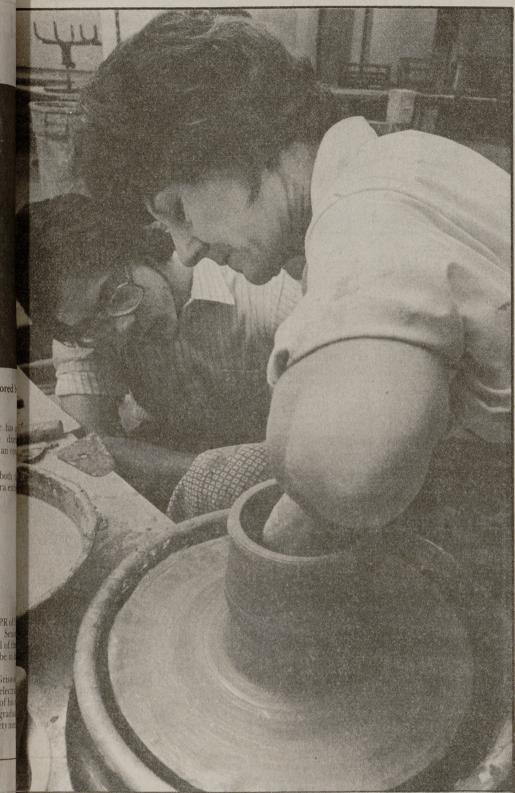
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Battalion/Page 5 January 29, 1982



Garbage search valuable

Prof digs up sunken city

by Floyd S. Wiltz

Battalion Reporter Don Hamilton spent most of last summer digging through and searches by treasure hun-other peoples' garbage. The ters have been conducted at Port "garbage" was almost 300 years old — and underword - and underwater.

Hamilton, a professor of anthropology and archaeology at Texas A&M University, and graduate students in archaeology spent eight weeks conducting underwater excavations for the Jamaican government. Hamilton's main excavation was the harbor city of Port Royal, England's largest 17thcentury settlement in the New World

The excavations were like going through the people's gar-bage and finding what the people used by what they threw away, Hamilton said. "The signifigance of this to-

Hamilton said, "is that probably the largest collection of intact 17th-century English material goods and culture is lo-cated at Port Royal.

"One's garbage tells you an amazing amount of what went

An earthquake on June 7, 1962, sent two-thirds of the city into the sea. Port Royal, which Hamilton said was once called the "wickedest city in the world," had a population of 5,000 when it sank

Since nothing has been constructed over the site of Port Royal and only a gradual amount of silting has occurred, over to the Jamaican govern-

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tons of material in the harbor." He said previous excavations

ters have been conducted at Port Royal, and poor underwater visibility and sharks have been

reported in the area. "We were a little bit leery (of undertaking the project)," he

said, "but we found out exactly what the conditions were before we committed ourselves. Hamilton and his group ini-

tially started two excavation sites, each covering an area of 10 square feet. The deepest area in which they worked was about 12 feet under water.

"The visibility was a lot better than we had been led to believe," he said. "We found that we could, with relatively simple equipment, wellconduct controlled work.

The determined diggers discovered clay pots and pipes and part of a wall that could be either part of a house or a shop, Hamilton said. In one area, a collection of turtle shells and bits of leather were found.

"With the amount of leather we found, it could possibly be a shoe shop," Hamilton said. "We found lots of pieces of leather and things that could be made from leather.

The next objective, he said, is to go back to Port Royal and finish the excavations. All of the artifacts found will be turned

Hamilton said there are still ment, which funded the entire project last summer. Hamilton said he hopes the government

will do so again, so he can dig through another civilization's garbage.

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oan Moore, an assistant professor in ndustrial education, demonstrates hrowing techniques on the potter's vheel to Travis McCulley, a sophomore ndustrial education major. Moore has

been teaching ceramics at Texas A&M University since 1970. The department has expanded to offer three levels of ceramics, two general crafts courses and two jewelry and lapidary classes.

photo by Carolyn Tiller

Ant problem fires up

Pot luck

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United Press International ticism charging that the chemic-vironment or ineffective against AUSTIN — Agriculture al is either dangerous to the en-fire ants.

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Brown told a select commite Wednesday studying the fire it problem that it was an ur-

He said the state had 26,000 punds of the pesticide Amdro urchased by the U.S. Depart-With ent of Agriculture, but he said oods, hat was not enough. His comments came amid cri-

N CLUB PARISIAN MEETING

Saturday January 30 6:30 p.m. Rudder #402 Info: Ednan Lodhi 696-3872

ALPHA TAU OMEGA "SPRING RUSH '82"

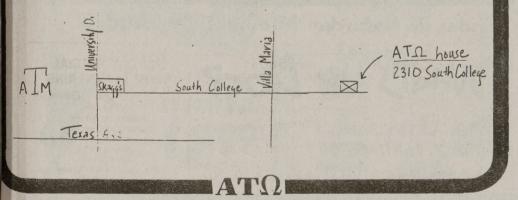
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