(5-8pm Daily)

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amo graffiti could be from defender

Wednesday, August 23, 1989

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Preser-tion workers at the Alamo have discovered graffiti that may have been left by an Alamo defender on a door of the mission dating to the

"We found original mission plaster," Alamo curator Steve Beck said.
"There is graffiti in which the dates 1894 and 1897 are written in pencil, and the name Mills is inscribed into the surface. The name is about 4 inches long and 1.5 inches tall."

The name may have been

as part of a massive, ongoing preser-

have died March 6, 1836, defending the Alamo in the struggle for Texas independence.

"We don't have any solid proof it was William Mills, but it's a good possibility," Beck told the San Antonio Light.

Beck along with stone mason Baltazar Espinosa discovered the graffiti as the two worked on the north side of the Shrine of Texas Liberty as part of a massive, ongoing preserving and the stone in the 8-foot door was not a bottle to the east of where the Francis can brothers lived, Beck said.

All the stone in the 8-foot door was not a bottle to the east of where was cut by hand.

Discovery of the door was not a about 8 feet to the east of where

Discovery of the door was not a thes long and 1.5 inches tall."

The name may have been carved william Mills of Tennessee, who as among the 189 men known to said, there decades ago and replace it with there was no way of knowing the

It is not the first door discovered at the Alamo this summer. The other was found in July when Beck and Espinosa were working on the front of the shrine. Their work also revealed a window that had been filled in

The other mission-period door, which also was filled in, is located about 8 feet to the east of where the

latest one was found. Beck said.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas is funding the Alamo preservation work.

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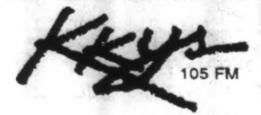
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