



School Tours of the Gault Site



What to Expect....

A tour of the Gault Site can be a valuable teaching tool and our staff would like to make it easy and fun. The site is located just north of Florence, 40-60 minutes north of Austin. There are no large signs advertising the site's presence but we place a sign with the GSAR logo on them at the entrance and one of our staff will be there to greet you. The site has an area for bus parking and turning just inside our gate as well as parking for cars.

Our tours run about 3 hours long though we can customize a tour to fit your needs – please be sure to tell our staff how much time you have.

A tour of the site covers 1 ½ miles of moderate walking. We begin at the parking lot in live oak savanna on the Edwards Plateau and work our way back to the present archaeological excavations. On the way we see and talk about geology, environment, and history of the project as well as the periods that the site was occupied; Historic, Contact, Late Prehistoric, Archaic, Paleoindian, Clovis and preClovis. Students are told about what archaeology is, how science is used at Gault and about the current



changes going on in the study of the earliest peoples in the Americas.

We can also arrange for demonstrations of flintknapping and the use of an atlatl.

If you can stay for a longer period, we have a picnic area with tables under a large spreading pecan tree. We can arrange for more in-depth study of aspects of archaeology, flintknapping and the surrounding environment as well.

Preparation for a Gault Tour...

We suggest that you prepare your students for their experience. By learning something beforehand about Gault, archaeology and what they will see at site they will have a much more rewarding visit. Some suggestions are:

- The Gault School offers a free DVD of a movie about the Gault Site entitled *An Adventure in Time*. It is 21 minutes long and geared for 4th grade on up. Contact the GSAR office or our educational coordinator to have one sent to you.
- We strongly suggest the use of the online resource *Texas Beyond History* which can be found at www.texasbeyondhistory.net. TBH has a section on the Gault site but also information on all periods of Texas history and prehistory, a kids section as well as resources for teachers.
- The Gault School of Archaeological Research has a rather large website with further information being posted on it continuously at www.gaultschool.org
- There are several excellent TV programs dealing with the peopling of the Americas. One is Nova's *America's Stone Age Explorer's* with information, including teachers guides at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/stoneage>. Another is Scientific American Frontier's *Coming into America* which also has teaching resources and a guide which can be found at <http://www.chedd-angier.com/frontiers/season14.html>.
- Teachers have successfully used an article by Evan Hadingham from the Smithsonian Magazine (*America's First Immigrants*) to begin a dialogue with students regarding this process. The article can be found at: <http://www.kindapush.com/summer/APUSH/SmithsonianClovis.pdf>
- If you have time on your field trip you might also schedule a visit to the Bell County Museum in Belton which has a permanent exhibit about the Gault site and our continuing research. Information can be found at: <http://www.bellcountymuseum.org>



General Information...

The weather in Central Texas is fickle, please check ahead and make sure that students are dressed appropriately for cold or damp weather. Good walking shoes (no sandals or open toes) are important and, if it has been wet in central Texas, shoes that can get a little dirty (we'll keep them out of the mud). We also suggest a camera if you have one, sunscreen, a hat if it's sunny, and water for the hike.

Our school waiver and a map to Gault are attached. For more information contact director@gaultschool.org

Child's Name

In consideration of our child or children being allowed to tour the Gault Site, we as parents hereby release the Gault School of Archaeological Research, the land owner and all tenants from any sort of liability to us or any child due to accident or injury while on the premises.

Date

Parent or Guardian

Child's Name

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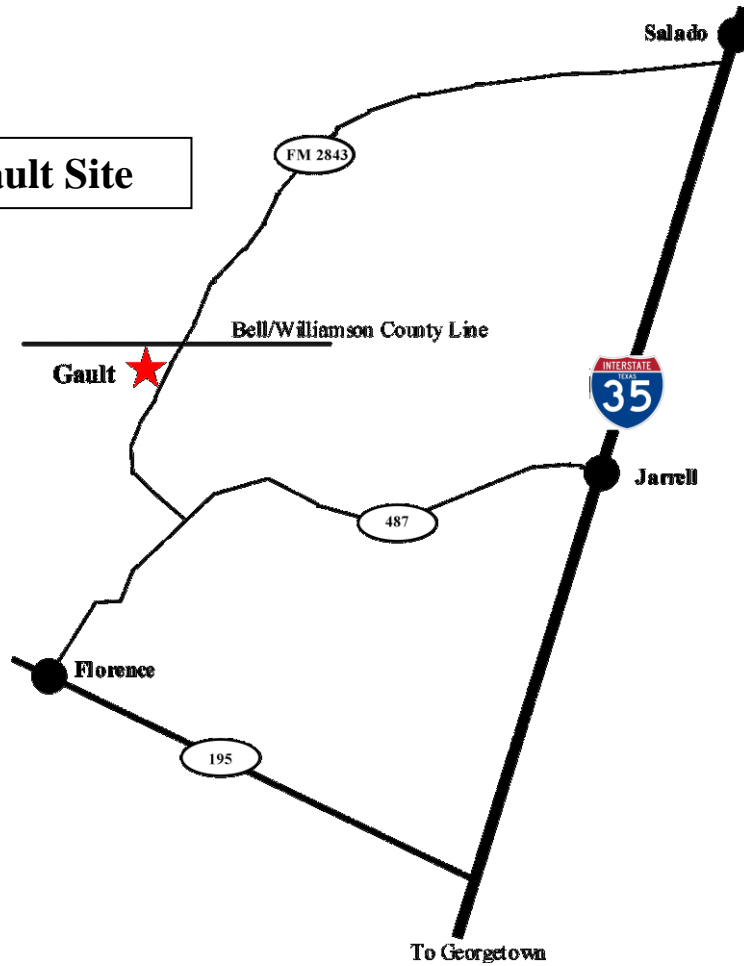
Date

Parent or Guardian

Directions to the Gault Site



Gault fieldhouse
3433 FM 2843



From the South

I-35N to exit #266
Florence/Killeen/195

Turn Left follow 195, 15 miles to
Florence

Exit 195 at FM487, turn right

Turn Left on FM 2843, go 3.5 miles

House on the left/west (3433) with red
tiles is the Gault field house, next drive on
left with black mailbox (3439) is the
Gault Site

From Killeen on 195

Turn left on 487 in Florence, then see
above

From the North

I-35S to exit #283, stay on frontage road
about 1/2 mile

Turn Right on FM 2843, follow for 11
miles

Go south past the Williamson County
line sign about 200 yards

Gault site is on your right/west with two
black mailboxes (3451) and automatic
gate, (address # series in Bell County is
different than in Williamson)