

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

November 2014 – Week 2

Air Date: November 2 – November 8 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: TEXAS HEAD STONES

NOVEMBER 1929 AND IT'S A STONE AGE MYSTERY.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

NOVEMBER 2, 1929. MALAKOFF. A WORKER FOR THE TEXAS CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY IS DIGGING NEAR THE TRINITY RIVER WHEN HE FINDS SOMETHING UNUSUAL: A CARVED STONE HEAD. ABOUT 16 INCHES LONG AND WEIGHING 98 POUNDS, THE PRIMITIVE SCULPTURE SHOWS EYES, EARS, NOSE AND A WICKED GRIN.

GEOLOGIST E.H. SELLARDS AT THE MEMORIAL MUSEUM IN AUSTIN SAYS THE HEAD IS A RITUAL MASK MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND YEARS OLD, DATING BACK TO THE PLEISTOCENE AGE. HE DUBS THE ANCIENT SCULPTOR "MALAKOFF MAN".

TWO MORE HEADS ARE FOUND IN 1935 AND 1939. SOME SAY IT'S A HOAX, BUT THE THEORY SURVIVES.

THE FIRST MALAKOFF HEAD WAS FOUND 85 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Thomas H. Guderjan, "MALAKOFF MAN," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/bcm01>), accessed October 23, 2014. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Bill Townsley, "The Mysterious Spider Rocks of Texas, Pt. 2," *Enchanted Rock Archives* (<http://www.texfiles.com/spiderrocks/pt2.htm>), accessed October 23, 2014.

Welch, June Rayfield. *People and Places in the Texas Past* (Dallas: Yellow Rose Press, 1974), p. 177.