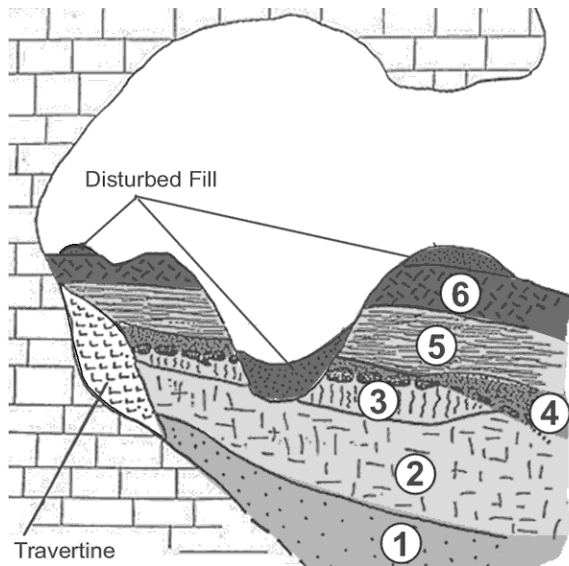


Kincaid Creatures Stratigraphy

Page 1



Zone 6: Midden deposit of loose ashy dust, charcoal, burned rock, and artifacts of Archaic, Late Prehistoric, and Historic period.

Zone 5: Silty “midden” deposit with remains of modern animals and debris left by Early, Middle, and Late Archaic peoples.

Zone 4: Major culture-bearing deposit of Pleistocene age with bones of extinct animals and evidence of stone tool-making by Clovis peoples more than 13,000 years ago. Deposit consists of pond clay, flood-borne limestone grit, and travertine from seep springs.

Rock Pavement: Stone floor

constructed by Paleoindian peoples.

Zone 3: Pond deposit of travertine and clay containing bones of many species of extinct animals. Pond fed by a seep spring flowing down back wall of the shelter, filling slight depression in surface of Zone 2

Zones 1 and 2: Fluvial (water-borne) deposits in which excavators found no evidence of human occupation.

Some 13,000 years ago, humans lived in the Kincaid Shelter in the Hill Country of Central Texas. Exploring the shelter’s stratigraphy (see definition below), archeologists found the remains of many animals, some of which are now extinct.

Generally, stratigraphy is the layering of the earth that makes up an archeological site and includes the fossils and artifacts contained in each level of a site. In general, younger layers (strata) are deposited on top of older layers and younger, or newer, artifacts are found above older artifacts.

Use the above diagram and explanations to answer the questions on the following page.

Kincaid Shelter Stratigraphy

Page 2

The diagram on the previous page illustrates the layers (zones) excavated at the Kincaid Shelter archeological site in Central Texas, where ancient humans lived and hunted different animals as long ago as 13,000 years. Using the stratigraphy diagram on page 1, answer the following questions.

1. If you were an archeologist, which of the zones would be the most interesting to research? Explain your answer in complete sentences.
2. Which zone in the diagram is the oldest?
3. List 2 pieces of information from the diagram that helped you answer question #2.
4. Information in Zone 4 mentions extinct animals. What does extinct mean?
5. List 3 reasons to explain why animals might become extinct.
6. Name one animal alive today that is in danger of becoming extinct.
7. Do you think efforts to save endangered animals are worthwhile? Explain your answer in complete sentences.
8. Of all the wild animals in your neighborhood, which would you most hate to see become extinct? Explain your answer.