
Page 5 of this report states that "At an archeological site near Lewisville in Denton County, radiocarbon analysis has dated the remains of these early new-world men at 37,000+ years old....(Newcomb, 1961)".

Newcomb (1961) refers to the publication of radiocarbon dating results in Crook and Harris (1958), which is a summary of the study originally published in Crook and Harris (1957). These dating results were presented cautiously by Newcomb (1961) and were not presented as conclusive evidence of human habitation in Texas over 37,000 years ago. Additional testing found that the dated samples from the Lewisville site were contaminated with a coal, and that dating on cleaned samples placed the age of the site within the range of other estimates for early (Clovis) settlements in North America (Bousman and others, 2004; Michael B. Collins, personal communication 7/28/2009). In a recent review of radiocarbon age dating of archeological sites in Texas, Bousman and others (2004) concluded that the oldest reliable dates for human occupation are for a site in north-central Texas, where the oldest samples provide evidence of human habitation at the site as much as approximately 13,500 calendar years ago (Ferring, 1994).

References


Newcomb, W.W., 1961, The Indians of Texas—From modern to prehistoric times: Austin, TX, University of Texas Press, 404 p.