

**INTENSIVE CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED  
UMBELL OAKS 260-ACRE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY  
BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS**

Prepared for

**GALLERIA VENTURES, LTD.**  
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SWCA Project Number 14259-053-AUS  
SWCA Cultural Resources Report No. 2008-159

April 17, 2008

## ABSTRACT

On behalf of Galleria Ventures, Ltd., SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an intensive cultural resources survey of the 260-acre Umbell Oaks project area in Bexar County, Texas. In addition, the survey reassessed previously recorded site 41BX1624, portions of which are located within the project area. Work was done to satisfy requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO) per the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-360 to 35-634). The project area is in northern San Antonio, south of N. Loop 1604 and east of Interstate Highway (IH) 10 in the southeastern quadrant of the N. Loop 1604 and IH 10 intersection.

The investigations included a background literature and records review and an intensive pedestrian survey with subsurface investigations. A metal detector survey was also conducted in the vicinity of 41BX1624. Overall, the project area is a primarily rocky upland setting with shallow soils and common limestone bedrock outcroppings. Disturbances associated with vegetation clearing have reduced the potential for intact archaeological deposits across much of the 260 acres. The survey included 23 shovel tests placed in areas that had the highest potential for containing buried cultural materials with good integrity. These investigations determined that previously recorded site 41BX1624 is within the project area, but has been extensively disturbed by vegetation clearing. Two additional sites, 41BX1771 and 41BX1772, were recorded during the survey. Site 41BX1771 is a prehistoric lithic scatter and site 41BX1772 is the remnants of a historic farm or ranch. Cultural materials were identified in one of the shovel test excavations, within the boundaries of site 41BX1771. One possible historic-aged trash scatter was investigated and documented, but not recorded as an archaeological site. Overall, the archaeological sites within the project area lack integrity due to various disturbances. Furthermore, the sites contain little potential to yield unique information, due to the low artifact recovery and non-diagnostic nature of the artifacts present. Sites 41BX1771 and 41BX1772, as well as the portion of site 41BX1624 located within the project area, are not considered significant under any state or national criteria. Therefore, SWCA recommends no further archaeological investigations within the project area.

No artifacts were collected during the survey; therefore nothing was curated.

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

**PROJECT TITLE:** Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Umbell Oaks 260-acre Commercial Property, Bexar County, Texas.

**SWCA PROJECT NUMBER:** 14259-053-AUS.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** On behalf of Galleria Ventures, Ltd., SWCA conducted an intensive cultural resources survey of the 260-acre Umbell Oaks project area with particular attention to locating and reassessing previously recorded site 41BX1624. The 260-acre project area is slated for residential and commercial development.

**LOCATION:** The project area is in northern San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, south of Loop 1604 and east of Interstate Highway 10. The property is oriented north-south at its longest axis and has an irregular shape. At its northernmost point, the northern boundary is along the east-bound frontage road of N. Loop 1604, while much of the remaining northern boundary is Presidio Parkway. Most of the southern boundary is UTSA Boulevard. IH 10 forms much of the project area's western boundary and a Union Pacific railroad right of way forms the eastern boundary.

**NUMBER OF ACRES SURVEYED:** 260 acres.

**DATES OF WORK:** April 3, 4 and 9, 2008.

**PURPOSE OF WORK:** The project sponsor is conducting a cultural resources survey in compliance with requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO) per the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-360 to 35-634).

**NUMBER OF SITES:** Three: 41BX1624, 41BX1771, 41BX1772.

**CURATION:** No artifacts were collected, therefore nothing was curated.

**COMMENTS:** The project area is primarily in an upland setting with shallow rocky clay loam soils. The survey recorded two non-significant archaeological sites on the property and revisited recorded site 41BX1624. Both sites 41BX1624 and 41BX1771 contained sparse numbers of non-diagnostic prehistoric and historic artifacts in disturbed settings, although intact portions of site 41BX1624 may be preserved to the north and west of the project area. Site 41BX1772 consists of common mid-20<sup>th</sup> century agricultural architectural features with a very diffuse, non-diagnostic artifact scatter. None of these cultural resources located within the 260-acre project area are considered significant. Given the study results and extensive levels of impacts to the property, the potential for further undiscovered cultural resources is absent. No further archaeological investigations are recommended for any of the three sites or the overall project area.

## INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Galleria Ventures, Ltd., SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an intensive cultural resources survey of the 260-acre Umbell Oaks project area in northern Bexar County, Texas. The survey also attempted to reassess previously recorded site 41BX1624, portions of which are located within the project area. Work was done to satisfy requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO) per the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-360 to 35-634).

Work included a thorough background review, intensive pedestrian survey of the 260-acre project area, shovel testing, and metal detecting in the vicinity of site 41BX1624. SWCA archaeologists Mary Jo Galindo, John D. Lowe, Michael Chavez, Christina Nielsen and Daniel Culotta conducted the fieldwork on April 3, 4, and 9, 2008.

## DEFINITION OF STUDY AREA

The proposed project area is located east of Interstate Highway (IH) 10 and south miles of North Loop 1604. The 260-acre project area is located southeast of the intersection of North Loop 1604 and IH 10, with Loop 1604 as part of its northern boundary and IH 10 as its western boundary (Figure 1). A Southern Pacific railroad track aligns the eastern boundary while UTSA Boulevard forms most of the southern boundary. The property is roughly rectangular, oriented east-west in the main portion, with extensions in the northeast and south-central portions.

The project area is situated in an upland setting overlooking the Leon Creek drainage basin to the west and the Olmos Creek drainage to the east. Two prominent limestone ridges are present in the property as well. The major-

ity of the project area occupies rocky limestone upland terrain with soils of little vertical depth and broad areas of exposed bedrock (Figure 2). Although the depths of impacts for the project construction have not been indicated, current construction within the property has removed the topsoil and scraped to the underlying bedrock, at varying depths (Figure 3). Roughly 90 percent of the property has been extensively cleared of all cedar leaving only scattered oaks, elms and short grasses (Figure 4). The remaining 10 percent of the project area, located on a limestone ridge, contains thick vegetation with an overstory of various oaks and cedar, and an understory of juniper and various shrubs (Figure 5). At the time of the survey, ground visibility within the project area ranged from a low of 20 percent to a high of 100 percent, but the visibility was typically about 65 percent.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project area is located near the eastern boundaries of the Edwards Plateau region. This region is described as consisting of rough, rocky areas with a tall to mid-grass understory and a mixed overstory of oaks, juniper, and mesquite that blends into other vegetative regions along its boundaries (Correll and Johnston 1979). The floral community of the Edwards Plateau vegetation region corresponds to the Balconian biotic provinces of Texas defined by Blair (1950).

The geology of the project area is predominantly mapped as Cretaceous-period Buda Limestone. This consists of fine-grained, poorly bedded to nodular limestone, 60–100 feet thick. A small area in the northern portion is mapped as Cretaceous-period Eagle Ford Group, consisting of limestone, shale and siltstone with the upper part mainly light yellowish brown limestone and shale. The southernmost part of the project area is mapped as Cretaceous-period Del Rio Clay. This calcareous

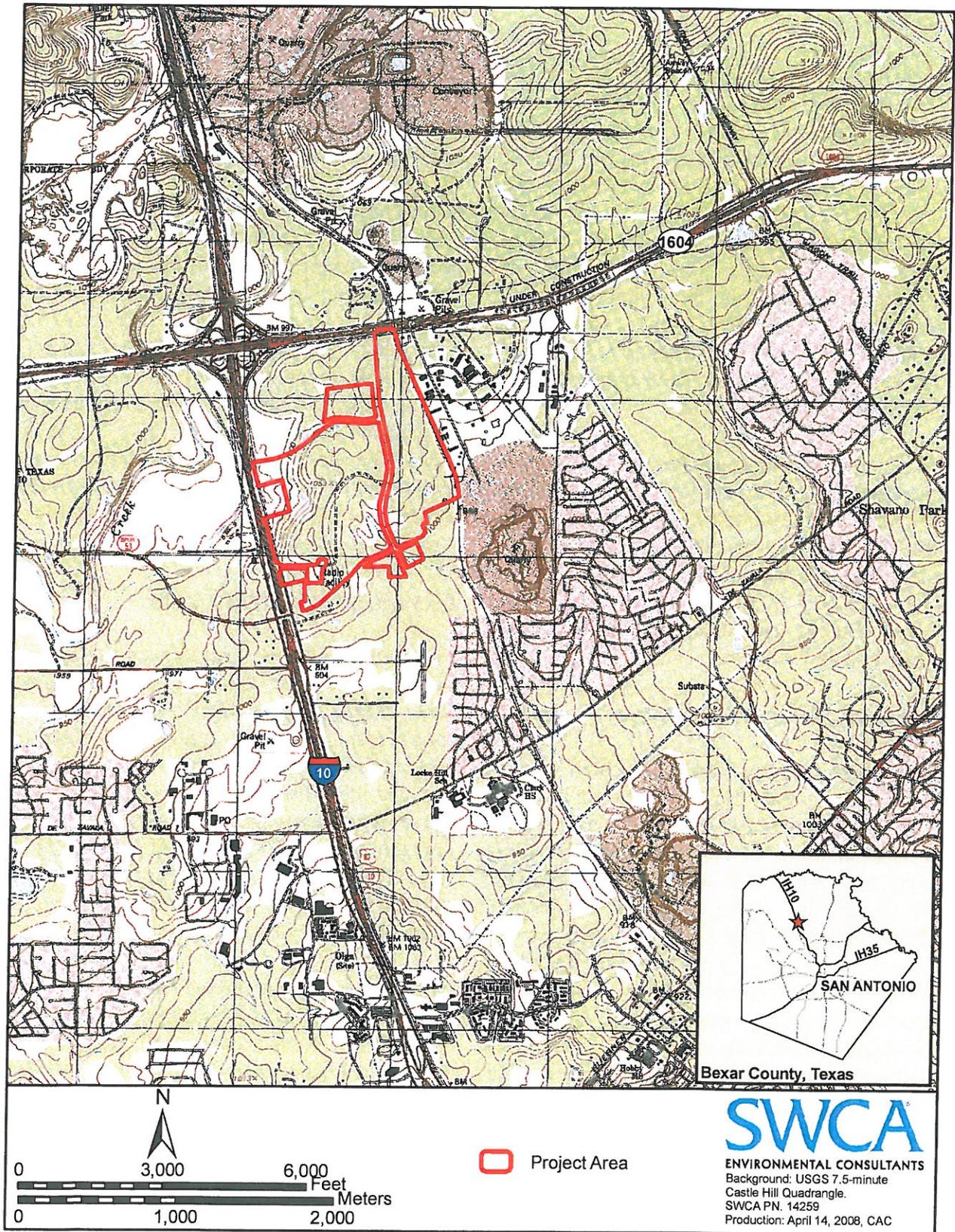


Figure 1. Project location map.



Figure 2: Overview of upland terrain with exposed bedrock, facing west.



Figure 3: Example of area scraped to bedrock in project area, facing east.



Figure 4: Representative overview of cleared area., facing east.



Figure 5: Intact area with dense juniper understory, facing southeast.

and gypsiferous blocky clay contains some thin calcareous siltstone beds and marine megafossils, and ranges from 60-100 feet in thickness (Barnes 1983).

The soils of the project area belong to the Crawford-Bexar association, described as moderately deep, stony soils over limestone. The largest portion, across most of the northern and western parts of the project area, is mapped as Tarrant association, undulating. Tarrant association has 1-5 percent slopes and is described as occupying level to gently undulating within in a prairie and plateau topography with very shallow calcareous clayey soils over hard limestone. Most of the southern part of the project area is mapped as Lewisville silty clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes. This soil is characterized as occupying long, narrow sloping areas that separate nearly level terraces from uplands soils, with dark grayish brown silty clay about 20 inches thick over limy, brown clay. A strip that runs through the central portion of the project area is mapped as Krum Complex. These soils occupy foot slopes below Tarrant and Brackett soils, with a surface layer that is dark grayish brown calcareous clay to a depth of 30 inches. Finally, a small area in the northeast part of the project is mapped as Crawford and Bexar stony soils. These soils, with 0-5 percent slopes, are characterized as very stony clay in texture and are shallow to moderately deep over hard limestone. Ten to forty percent of the surface layer consists of chert and limestone fragments, ranging in size from ¼ inch to 24 inches in diameter (Taylor et al. 1991).

## **CULTURAL SETTING**

The proposed project area falls within the Central Texas archeological region (Pertulla 2004). Although the archaeological regions are not absolute, they do generally reflect recognized biotic communities and physiographic areas in Texas (Pertulla 2004:6). The Central

Texas region, as its name implies, is in the center of Texas and covers the Edwards Plateau and portions of the Blackland prairie east of the Edwards Plateau. The following synopses provide basic culture histories of the Central Texas region.

Archaeological sites in the Bexar County area that have contributed important information to our understanding of this region include the Richard Beene site at Applewhite Reservoir (McGraw and Hinds 1987; Thoms et al. 1996; Thoms and Mandel 1992), the Cibolo Crossing site at Camp Bullis (Kibler and Scott 2000), the Panther Springs Creek site (Black and McGraw 1985), 41BX1 (Lukowski 1988), and 41BX300 (Katz 1987). For more-complete bibliographies concerning archaeological work done in the region, see Black (1989), Collins (1995), and Johnson and Goode (1994).

### **Paleoindian Period**

Surficial and deeply buried sites, rockshelter sites, and isolated artifacts represent Paleoindian (11,500-8,800 B.P.) occupations of the Central Texas region (Collins 2004:116). The period is often described as having been characterized by small but highly mobile bands of foragers who were specialized hunters of Pleistocene megafauna. But Paleoindians probably used a much wider array of resources (Meltzer and Bever 1995:59), including small fauna and plant foods. Faunal remains from Kincaid Rockshelter and the Wilson-Leonard site (41WM235) support this view (Bousman 1998; Collins 1998; Collins et al. 1989). Longstanding ideas about Paleoindian technologies also are being challenged.

Collins (2004) divides the Paleoindian period into early and late subperiods. Two projectile point styles, Clovis and Folsom, are included in the early subperiod. Clovis chipped stone artifact assemblages, including the diagnostic

fluted lanceolate Clovis point, were produced by bifacial, flake, and prismatic-blade techniques on high-quality and oftentimes exotic lithic materials (Collins 1990). Along with chipped stone artifacts, Clovis assemblages include engraved stones, bone and ivory points, stone bolas, and ochre (Collins 2004:116; Collins et al. 1992).

Clovis points are found evenly distributed along the eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau, where the presence of springs and outcrops of chert-bearing limestone are common (Meltzer and Bever 1995:58). However, only four Clovis points have been recorded for Bexar County (Bever and Meltzer (2007:67). The primary site in Bexar County yielding Clovis points and Clovis-age materials is Pavo Real (Collins et al 2003). A probable Clovis polyhedral blade core and blade fragment was found at the Greenbelt site in San Antonio (Houk et al. 1997). Analyses of Clovis artifacts and site types suggest that Clovis peoples were well-adapted, generalized hunter-gatherers with the technology to hunt larger game but not solely rely on it.

In contrast, Folsom tool kits—consisting of fluted Folsom points, thin unfluted (Midland) points, large thin bifaces, and end scrapers—are more indicative of specialized hunting, particularly of bison (Collins 2004:117). Folsom points have been recovered from Pavo Real (Collins et al 2003). Folsom point distributions, both the frequency and spatial patterning, differ from the Clovis patterns, suggesting a shift in adaptation patterns (Bever and Meltzer 2007; Meltzer and Bever 1995:60 and 74). Folsom points appear more frequently in the coastal plain as well as the South Texas plain, located to the south and southeast of Bexar County. As Folsom points are almost exclusively found in plains settings (they are conspicuously lacking in the Edwards Plateau), the technology perhaps marks

a more specialized adaptation, likely to a more intensive reliance on ancient bison.

### **Archaic Period**

The Archaic period for Central Texas dates from ca. 8,800 to 1,300–1,200 B.P. (Collins 2004:119–121) and generally is believed to represent a shift toward hunting and gathering of a wider array of animal and plant resources and a decrease in group mobility (Willey and Phillips 1958:107–108). However, this notion of the Archaic is somewhat problematic. An increasing amount of evidence suggests that Archaic-like adaptations were in place before the Archaic (see Collins 2004:118, 1998; Collins et al. 1989) and that these practices continued into the succeeding Late Prehistoric period (Collins 1995:385; Prewitt 1981:74). In a real sense, the Archaic period of Central Texas region is not a developmental stage, but an arbitrary chronological construct and projectile point style sequence.

Establishment of this sequence is based on several decades of archaeological investigations at stratified Archaic sites along the eastern and southern margins of the Edwards Plateau. Collins (1995, 2004) and Johnson and Goode (1994) have divided this sequence into three parts—early, middle, and late—based on perceived (though not fully agreed upon by all scholars) technological, environmental, and adaptive changes.

Early Archaic (8,800–6,000 B.P.) sites are small, and their tool assemblages are diverse (Weir 1976:115–122), suggesting that populations were highly mobile and densities low (Prewitt 1985:217). It has been noted that Early Archaic sites are concentrated along the eastern and southern margins of the Edwards Plateau (Johnson and Goode 1994; McKinney 1981). This distribution may indicate climatic conditions at the time, given that these environments have more reliable water sources

and a more diverse resource base than other parts of the region. Early Archaic projectile point styles include Hoxie, Gower, Wells, Martindale, and Uvalde. Clear Fork and Guadalupe bifaces and a variety of other bifacial and unifacial tools are common to Early Archaic assemblages.

Construction and use of rock hearths and ovens, which had been limited during late Paleoindian times, became commonplace. The use of rock features suggests that retaining heat and releasing it slowly over an extended period were important in food processing and cooking and reflects a specialized subsistence strategy. Such a practice probably was related to cooking plant foods, particularly roots and bulbs, many of which must be subjected to prolonged periods of cooking to render them consumable and digestible (Black et al. 1997:257; Wandsnider 1997; Wilson 1930). Significant Early Archaic sites in Bexar County include the Richard Beene site (Thoms and Mandel 1992).

During the Middle Archaic period (6,000–4,000 B.P.), the number and distribution of sites, as well as their size, probably increased as population densities grew (Prewitt 1981:73; Weir 1976:124, 135). Macrobands may have formed at least seasonally, or more small groups may have used the same sites for longer periods (Weir 1976:130–131). Development of burned rock middens toward the end of the Middle Archaic suggest a greater reliance on plant foods, although tool kits still imply a considerable dependence on hunting (Prewitt 1985:222–226). Middle Archaic projectile point styles include Bell, Andice, Taylor, Baird, Nolan, and Travis. Bell and Andice points reflect a shift in lithic technology from the preceding Early Archaic Martindale and Uvalde point styles (Collins 2004:119). Johnson and Goode (1994:25) suggest that the Bell and Andice darts are parts of a specialized bison-hunting tool kit. They also believe that an

influx of bison and bison-hunting groups from the Eastern Woodland margins during a slightly more mesic period marked the beginning of the Middle Archaic.

Though no bison remains were recovered or present, Bell and Andice points and associated radiocarbon ages were recovered from the Cibolo Crossing (Kibler and Scott 2000), Panther Springs Creek, and Granberg II (Black and McGraw 1985) sites in Bexar County. Bison populations declined as more-xeric conditions returned during the late part of the Middle Archaic. Johnson and Goode (1994:26) believe that the dry conditions promoted the spread of yuccas and sotols, and that it was these plants that Middle Archaic peoples collected and cooked in large rock ovens.

During the succeeding Late Archaic period (4,000 to 1,300–1,200 B.P.), populations continued to increase (Prewitt 1985:217). Within stratified Archaic sites such as Cibolo Crossing and Panther Springs Creek, the Late Archaic components contain the densest concentrations of cultural materials. Establishment of large cemeteries along drainages suggests certain groups had strong territorial ties (Story 1985:40). A variety of projectile point styles appeared throughout the Late Archaic period.

Middle Archaic subsistence technology, including the use of rock and earth ovens, continued into the Late Archaic period. Collins (2004:121) states that, at the beginning of the Late Archaic period, the use of rock ovens and the resultant formation of burned rock middens reached its zenith and that the use of rock and earth ovens declined during the latter half of the Late Archaic. There is, however, mounting chronological data that midden formation culminated much later and that this high level of rock and earth oven use continued into the early Late Prehistoric period (Black et al. 1997:270–284; Kleinbach et al. 1995:795

At times during the Late Archaic, this generalized foraging strategy appears to have been marked by shifts to a specialized economy focused on bison hunting (Kibler and Scott 2000:125–137). Castroville, Montell, and Marcos dart points are elements of tool kits often associated with bison hunting (Collins 1968). Archaeological evidence of this association is seen at Panther Springs Creek (Black and McGraw 1985).

### **Late Prehistoric Period**

Introduction of the bow and arrow and, later, ceramics into Central Texas marked the Late Prehistoric period. Population densities dropped considerably from their Late Archaic peak (Prewitt 1985:217). Subsistence strategies did not differ greatly from the preceding period, although bison again became an important economic resource during the late part of the Late Prehistoric period (Prewitt 1981:74). Use of rock and earth ovens for plant food processing and the subsequent development of burned rock middens continued throughout the Late Prehistoric period (Black et al. 1997; Kleinbach et al. 1995:795). Horticulture came into play very late in the region but was of minor importance to overall subsistence strategies (Collins 2004:122).

In Central Texas, the Late Prehistoric period generally is associated with the Austin and Toyah phases (Jelks 1962; Prewitt 1981:82–84). Austin and Toyah phase horizon markers, Scallorn-Edwards and Perdiz arrow points, respectively, are distributed across most of the state. Violence and conflict often marked introduction of Scallorn and Edwards arrow points into Central Texas—many excavated burials contain these point tips in contexts indicating they were the cause of death (Prewitt 1981:83). Subsistence strategies and technologies (other than arrow points) did not change much from the preceding Late Archaic period. Prewitt's (1981) use of the term "Neochaic"

recognizes this continuity. In fact, Johnson and Goode (1994:39–40) and Collins (2004:122) state that the break between the Austin and Toyah phases could easily and appropriately represent the break between the Late Archaic and the Late Prehistoric.

Around 1,000–750 B.P., slightly more xeric or drought-prone climatic conditions returned to the region, and bison came back in large numbers (Huebner 1991; Toomey et al. 1993). Using this vast resource, Toyah peoples were equipped with Perdiz point-tipped arrows, end scrapers, four-beveled-edge knives, and plain bone-tempered ceramics. Toyah technology and subsistence strategies represent a completely different tradition from the preceding Austin phase.

Collins (1995:388) states that formation of burned rock middens ceased as bison hunting and group mobility obtained a level of importance not witnessed since Folsom times. Although the importance of bison hunting and high group mobility hardly can be disputed, the argument that burned rock midden development ceased during the Toyah phase is tenuous. A recent examination of Toyah-age radiocarbon assays and assemblages by Black et al. (1997) suggests that their association with burned rock middens represents more than a "thin veneer" capping Archaic-age features. Black et al. (1997) claim that burned rock midden formation, although not as prevalent as in earlier periods, was part of the adaptive strategies of Toyah peoples.

### **Historic Period**

Hester (1989) and Newcomb (1961) provide historical accounts of Native Americans and their interactions with the Spanish, the Republic of Mexico, the Texas Republic, and the United States throughout the region. The beginning of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries was an era of more-

permanent contact between Europeans and Native Americans as the Spanish moved northward out of Mexico to establish settlements and missions on their northern frontier (see Castañeda [1936–1958] and Bolton [1970] for extended discussions of the mission system and Indian relations in Texas and the San Antonio area). In the San Antonio area and areas to the south, the aboriginal groups have been referred to collectively as Coahuiltecan because of an assumed similarity in way of life, but many individual groups may have existed (Campbell 1988).

Establishment of the mission system in the first half of the eighteenth century to its ultimate demise around 1800 brought the peaceful movement of some indigenous groups into mission life, but others were forced in or moved in to escape the increasing hostilities of southward-moving Apaches and Comanches. By the end of the mission period, European expansion and disease and intrusions by other Native American peoples had decimated many Native American groups. Intrusive groups such as the Tonkawa, Apache, and Comanche moved into the region to fill the void.

Outside of the missions, few sites attributable to these groups have been investigated. To complicate matters, many aboriginal ways of life endured even after contact with the Spanish. For example, manufacture of stone tools continued even for many groups settling in the missions (Fox 1979). The nineteenth century brought the final decimation of many Native American groups, the United States' defeat of the Apaches and Comanches, and the forced removal of Native Americans to reservations.

### **SPANISH TEXAS: 1718 TO 1821**

San Antonio de Béxar Presidio, located on the east bank of the San Antonio River, was founded in 1718. In the same year, Mission San Antonio de Valero, later known as the

Alamo, was transferred from the Rio Grande by Father Olivares. This mission was named after St. Anthony of Padua and the Marquis de Valero, the Viceroy of New Spain. La Villita, an Indian village about 1,500 feet south of the Alamo, was built around 1722. The Indians from the Mission San Antonio de Valero lived in La Villita in crude huts called "jacales" (Johnston 1947:31). Later, La Villita served as a home to the families of soldiers who protected the mission. (Johnston 1947; Magruder 2008).

The villa of San Fernando de Béxar was founded in 1731 by the Canary Islanders. The Canary Islanders were a small group, totaling 56 people, sent by Spain to colonize the province of Texas. Under the leadership of Juan Leal Goraz, the village of San Fernando de Béxar was founded near the Presidio de Béxar and the first civil government in Texas was formed (Butterfield 1968; Ramsdell 1968).

In 1773, San Antonio de Béxar became the capital of Spanish Texas. By 1790, most of the Indians living in San Antonio had either already abandoned the missions or died from diseases like smallpox and the measles brought in by Europeans. Mission San Antonio de Valero was secularized in 1794 and mission land, excluding the church and convent, was divided amongst the few Indians that remained in the area (Johnston 1947).

Spain and Mexican revolutionists fought over San Antonio throughout the early 1800s, including during the Casas revolt of 1811. The residents of San Antonio supported Mexican independence in 1813 but the town was recaptured by Royalist forces in the battles of Alazán Creek and Medina. During this period of unrest, conditions in Texas worsened. Inadequate provisions and neglected agricultural fields along with the fear of political and military upheavals forced many Texans to aban-

don their homes and move elsewhere (Fehrenbach 2008; Heusinger 1951).

### **MEXICAN AND REPUBLIC OF TEXAS PERIODS: 1821 TO 1845**

The upheavals were not to end with Mexican Independence in 1821. Once Mexican President and General Antonio López de Santa Anna Pérez de Lebrón abolished the Constitution of 1824 and instituted a new anti-federalist constitution in its place, Texians in northern New Spain were outraged. The Texas Revolution began in 1835, and during the war, San Antonio was the site of several battles, including the Siege of Bexar and the Battle of the Alamo (Fehrenbach 2008).

On February 23, 1836, nearly 150 American volunteers took refuge from the approaching Mexican Army in the Alamo Mission in San Antonio under orders from Colonel William B. Travis (Hatch 1999). A standoff between the Texian Revolutionary Army and the Mexican Army, lasting 13 days, ended in complete annihilation of the Alamo defenders and a victory for the Mexican General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna (Huffines 1999). The number of Mexican dead is a matter of debate, with numbers ranging from 70 to 1,600; uncounted more were wounded. Santa Anna won the battle at the Alamo but victory and independence was won by the Texians two weeks later in the Battle of San Jacinto (Hatch 1999; Huffines 1999).

After Mexican forces were removed from San Antonio in December of 1836, the Republic of Texas began organizing Bexar County. The next month, San Antonio was chartered as the county seat. Despite these progressions, many conflicts continued to occur in San Antonio including the Council House Fight of 1840 and two Mexican invasions in 1842 (Fehrenbach 2008).

### **UNITED STATES PERIOD: 1845 TO 1900**

After Texas entered the Union in 1845, San Antonio's already diverse population grew dramatically. The Irish came to Texas between the late 1830s and early 1840s and established a community called "Irish Flat." Germans also settled in San Antonio in the 1850's introducing the "Bier Halle" (Butterfield 1968:21) to the area. French immigrants added artists and artisans to the culture of the city. Later immigrants to the area included the Polish, Italian, Greek, Syrian and in 1910, the Chinese, all of which formed small communities within the city of San Antonio. Culture and architecture from each immigrant community have seeped into San Antonio and merged together, forming a rich cultural community. This diverse culture is evident in downtown San Antonio with historic missions and Victorian mansions built next to modern offices and homes (Butterfield 1968; Fehrenbach 2008)

## **METHODS**

### ***BACKGROUND REVIEW***

SWCA conducted a thorough background cultural resources and environmental literature search of the project area. An SWCA archaeologist reviewed the Castle Hills, Texas, USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and searched the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas) online database for any previously recorded surveys and historic or prehistoric archaeological sites located in or near the project area. In addition to identifying recorded archaeological sites, the review included information on the following types of cultural resources: National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, State Archeological Landmarks (SALs), Official Texas Historical Markers, Registered Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHLs), cemeteries, and

local neighborhood surveys. The archaeologist also examined the *Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas* (Taylor et al. 1991) and the *Geologic Atlas of Texas, San Antonio Sheet* (Barnes 1983). Aerial photographs were reviewed to assist in identifying any disturbances.

### ***FIELD METHODS***

SWCA conducted an intensive cultural resources survey of entire 260-acre Umbell Oaks project area. These investigations consisted of an intensive pedestrian survey with subsurface investigations and an attempted reassessment of previously recorded site 41BX1624 that was reportedly located within the project area.

Archaeologists examined the ground surface and erosional profiles for cultural resources. Subsurface investigations involved shovel testing in settings with the potential to contain buried cultural materials. The shovel tests were approximately 30 cm in diameter and excavated to culturally sterile deposits or impassible limestone, whichever came first. The matrix from each shovel test was screened through ¼-inch mesh, and the location of each excavation was plotted using a hand-held GPS receiver. Each shovel test was recorded on a standardized form to document the excavations.

The field survey also focused on site 41BX1624, reportedly located on top of a rise north of Presidio Parkway and west of Vance Jackson Boulevard. This reassessment included a metal detector survey of the site location and the immediate surrounding area. Hits were excavated and the matrix passed through ¼-inch mesh, with results recorded on a form. Only potential historic-aged artifacts were plotted using a hand-held GPS receiver and collected for additional identification and documentation.

## **RESULTS**

### ***BACKGROUND REVIEW***

In addition to the aforementioned previously recorded site within the project area (41BX1624) there are 19 recorded sites within a mile of the project area. The previously recorded sites are summarized in Table 1, and more detailed information on three of these sites closest to the project area is presented below. In addition, one previously conducted survey crosses a portion of the project area, and six other surveys have been conducted within a mile of the project area.

Site 41BX1624 is located in the northwestern segment of the project area. The site is situated on a topographic rise to the west of Vance Jackson Boulevard and north of Presidio Parkway. The site was recorded by an avocational archaeologist on the basis of a private collection. No map of the site boundaries was made, but the site form notes that the site lies at the 1050' line topographically, and is on a high spot (TARL, 41BX1624 site form). This collection included Archaic dart points and a Spanish Colonial lance head. The site area was surveyed and a light lithic scatter observed, while additional metal detecting by the collector yielded only a roll of barbed wire. No temporally diagnostic artifacts were located by the site investigator during the survey. During this survey, the site area had been subjected to brush clearing. The site was recommended for intense metal detecting survey (TARL, 41BX1624 site form).

Site 41BX39 is located roughly 50 m east of the northeast corner of the project area, across the railroad tracks along Loop 1604. The site is situated on level uplands, near an intermittent tributary that has been destroyed by construction activities. The site was recorded in 1970, and had already been heavily impacted by Loop 1604, Bacon Road, the railroad, and

Table 1. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

Site Trinomial	Distance from project area (m)	Site Type	Time Period(s)	Eligibility Status	Recommendations	Comments
41BX1624	within project area	artifact scatter	Spanish Colonial, Late Archaic	unknown	Intensive metal detector survey	Recorded on basis of private collection, survey noted only lithic scatter
41BX39	50m E of NE corner	Open campsite with burned rock midden	Early, Late and Transitional Archaic	unknown	Test excavations conducted in 1970	Destroyed by construction of Loop 1604 and industrial buildings
41BX11	175m E and S	open campsite with shallow midden	Late Archaic	Not eligible	No further work due to heavy disturbance	Heavily disturbed, midden is 5 inches thick. Sparse artifact assemblage
41BX44	375m ENE of NE corner	open campsite with midden	Middle Archaic, mid 19th century	Not noted, but potentially eligible?	Some test excavation conducted in 1970, more excavations recommended to find occupation center	In plowed field, actively used since 1870s. Hearth noted at 18-24 inches below surface. Majority of artifacts in upper 2 feet, mostly plowzone. Aerial photo suggests site is destroyed
41BX42	400m NE of NE corner	Lithic quarry and reduction	Unknown prehistoric	unknown	Test excavations conducted in 1970. "Scatter pattern experiment"	Somewhat eroded and disturbed, most tools and chert found at 3-6 inch depth, abundant recovery of lithic materials. Aerial photo suggests site is destroyed.
41BX38	525m ENE of NE corner	Historic ranch complex and prehistoric midden	Early Texas Statehood; unknown prehistoric	Not noted, but potentially eligible?	Excavations conducted in 1969 and 1970, more recommended.	Max Gerfer Ranch dates to early 1850s, built on large prehistoric site. Aerial photo suggests site may be destroyed
41BX43	575m NE of NE corner	Small open campsite and quarry	Late Prehistoric Austin phase	unknown	Surface collection of all chert artifacts	Appears to be a shallow, dense lithic reduction area on small knoll. Aerial photo suggests site is destroyed.
41BX597	650m W	burned rock scatter	unknown	Not eligible	No further work	Believed to be dispersed hearth, no other artifacts observed
41BX52	800m NW	Open campsite and quarry	Multiple Paleoindian and Archaic components	unknown	Testing recommended	The Pavo Real site, mentioned in the report text; extensively excavated 1979-1980. Destroyed by construction of Loop 1604. Report of excavations published in 2003.
41BX51	950m W	Small open campsite	Unknown prehistoric	Not eligible	No further work	2007 survey notes this site has been destroyed
41BX1064	1050m NW	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	No information is available on the Atlas
41BX233	1100m W	Open campsite with burned rock midden	Unknown Archaic	unknown	unknown	Possible burned rock midden and hearth observed in cutbank along Leon Creek in 1974. Dart point collected.
41BX367	1200m SE	Lime kiln	Unknown historic	unknown	Excavation inside kiln and along entrance approach	none
41BX1232	1200m W	Lithic scatter	Late Paleoindian	Not eligible	No further work due to shallow deposits and previous surface collection	Recorded and surface collected in 1997. Reassessed by SWCA in 2002, who made recommendations
41BX127	1225m W	Open campsite	Unknown Archaic	unknown	Test excavations to look for intact deposits	In plowed field, actively used since 1870s. Surface collection by landowner included unidentified dart points.
41BX631	1250m W	Open campsite with burned rock midden; historic military campsite	Early Archaic through Historic Native American; unknown historic	unknown	More work on historic component	Seemingly a palimpsest, multiple clearing episodes. Majority of artifacts found by collector in 1980s. Revisit in 2004 by professional archaeologists, who made recommendations.
41BX53	1350m W	Open campsite	Unknown prehistoric	unknown	Test excavations	Cultural materials noted in two-track road beds, some bulldozing had taken place.
41BX72	1390m W	Burned rock midden	Multiple Archaic and Late Prehistoric	unknown	Extensive test excavations	Some bulldozing. Looters pits on top of midden. Artifacts collected from ant piles.
41BX232	1400m W	Burned rock midden	Late Prehistoric Austin phase; unknown Archaic	Potentially eligible	Testing recommended if site threatened by development	Burned rock midden recorded in 1974. SWCA revisit in 2002 found only sparse chert lithic scatter in their survey area, noted that UTSA Boulevard had truncated site, made recommendations.
41BX1479	1425m W	Lithic scatter	Unknown prehistoric	Not eligible	No further work	Sparse scatter on thin, upland soils.
Lockhill School	1200m S	Historic Marker	n/a	n/a	n/a	Historic marker #3109; commemorates Lockhill School, one of Texas' oldest public schools in operation since 1868.

construction of an industrial complex. The dimensions of the site were recorded as roughly 400 feet by 600 feet, with a large burned rock midden. The site is recorded as an Archaic campsite with close to 200 chopping and scraping tools and 20 projectile points (TARL, 41BX39 site forms). The majority of the points are the Pedernales type, which dates to the Middle Archaic era. Other diagnostic points include the Early Archaic-aged Uvalde and the Transitional Archaic Enson types. Three test units were excavated in the northern part of the site, through two feet of site deposits, but no specific results are noted in the site form (TARL, 41BX39 site forms). The site area was revisited in 2007 by professional archaeologists with Geo-Marine Inc., who determined that the site had been completely destroyed by the construction of Loop 1604 (TARL, 41BX39 site forms).

Site 41BX11 is a Late Archaic open campsite located 175m east of the southern extent of the project area. The site was recorded in 1969 within the Southern Pacific Railroad right of way, along an intermittent branch of Olmos Creek. A shallow midden with sparse lithic debitage, a Frio projectile point and four other chipped stone tools were noted in shallow, rocky soils that had been mixed by railroad construction. No further work was recommended for the site (TARL, 41BX11 site form).

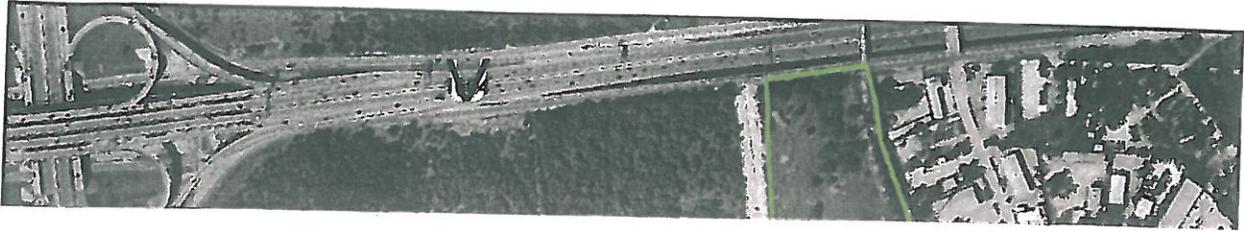
One previous survey was conducted across approximately 2.275 linear kilometers of the southern portion of the project area. The width of the survey corridor width is unspecified. This survey was conducted for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1977. No sites were recorded during this survey. No additional information is available for this project.

## ***FIELD SURVEY***

On April 3, 4 and 9, 2008, two to three SWCA archaeologists conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the 260-acre Umbell Oaks project area, with particular focus on relocating site 41BX1624. Overall, the project area is a mixture of rocky and clayey uplands with extensive recent disturbance from vegetation clearing and mulching. Additional disturbances include preparation of areas for construction, existing roadways, two-track roads and subsurface utilities. The project area is predominantly composed of extensively cleared areas with only scattered oaks and short grasses, with a small area of intact juniper and oak forest (see Figures 4 and 5).

The subsurface investigations of the project area consisted of 23 shovel tests (Figure 6). The depths of these shovel tests ranged from 0–45 centimeters below surface (cmbs); however, most of them encountered limestone bedrock at 30 cmbs. Overall, the shovel tests averaged 25.4 centimeters in depth and generally encountered a brown to dark brown clay loam with abundant limestone gravels and small cobbles overlying degrading limestone bedrock (Table 2).

Additional shovel tests were deemed unnecessary due to the prevalent disturbances from the clearing and mulching of ashe juniper trees and other brush as well as the lack of soils in the upland setting. The mulch piles and berms are visible as circular and linear areas on the aerial photo in Figure 6. This clearing resulted in a high level of surface visibility (Figure 7) and large areas of crushed limestone bedrock on the ground surface (Figure 8). The few intact areas, with low visibility, were located on upland limestone ridges with extremely shallow soils. Two shovel tests in this area (ST 20 and 21, see Table 2) confirmed the lack of deposition.



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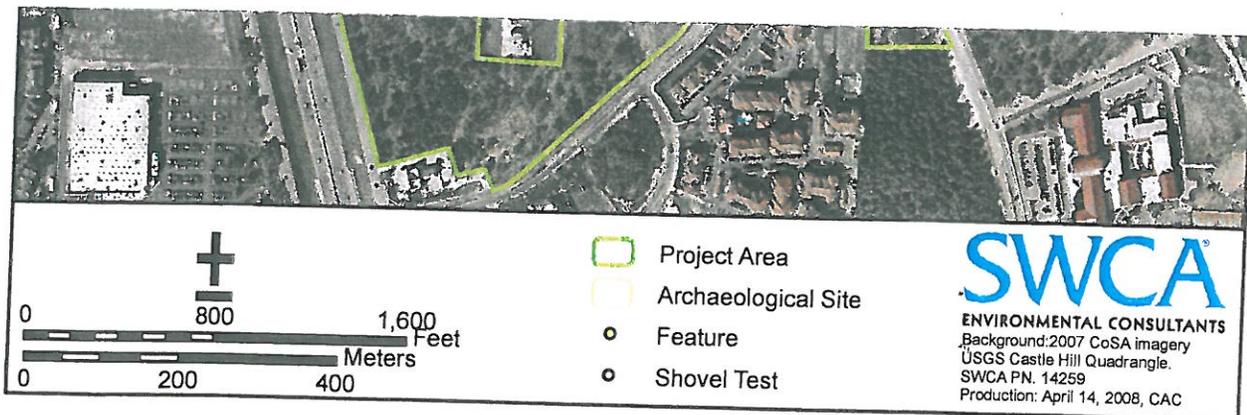


Figure 6. Project area map.

Table 2. Shovel Test Data

ST	Site	Depth (cmbs)	Soil Color (Munsell)	Sediment Texture	Artifacts Recovered	Comments
1	-	0-10	10YR4/2	Loam	None	North of scraped area. Yellowish limestone rocks, small-medium in size.
		10-45	10YR5/4	Clay loam	None	Appears disturbed, gravel at depth
2	-	0-15	10YR4/4	Clay loam	None	Semi-intact spot by trees in heavily disturbed area. Lithics on scraped bedrock nearby. Matrix contained abundant crushed bedrock and mulch. Bedrock at depth
3	-	0-5	10YR3/2	Loam	None	In oak grove. Roots throughout
		5-35	10YR5/3	Clay loam	None	Medium-sized limestone rocks, increasing with depth. Bedrock at depth.
4	-	0-25	10YR3/3	Clay loam	None	3 large rounded limestone cobbles just below surface, one smaller at 25 cm. No other rocks
		25-30	10YR4/4	Clay	None	Dense, impenetrable clay, no gravels
5	-	0-30	10YR3/3	Loam	None	Between 2 elm trees. Large limestone rocks at depth.
6	-	0-30	10YR4/4	Clay loam	None	Scraper on surface nearby. Clumpy dry clay with abundant crushed limestone bedrock chunks. Bedrock at depth
7		0-30	10YR2/1	Loam	None	Grassy area between mulch piles and railroad. Medium-sized limestone rocks on surface
		30-35	10YR4/3	Loam	None	Bedrock at depth
8		0-10	10YR4/4	Clay loam	None	Crushed bedrock pieces on surface and throughout. Degrading bedrock at depth.
9		0-10	10YR2/1	Loam	None	In tree line bordering mulch piles. Large limestone rocks on surface
		10-30	10YR4/3	Loam	None	Around 10% medium sized limestone rocks. Two large tree roots at depth, probably overlying bedrock
10	-	0-5	10YR4/3	Clay loam	None	Exposed bedrock, heavily disturbed. Isolated burned flake on surface.
11	-	0-30	10YR2/1	Clay	None	Near mulch berm. Large limestone rocks on surface. Bedrock at depth
12	Site 1	0-30	10YR3/2	Clay loam	None	Cleared, disturbed area at site center, by large biface on surface. 1 small burned chert pebble @ 15cm below surface, believed to be natural burn. Dense clay at depth
13	Site 1	0-30	10YR3/2	Clay loam	1 biface thinning flake	In oak mott along west edge of site, low surface visibility. One patinated thinning flake encountered on screen, between 0-10 cm below surface. Bedrock at depth.
14	Site 1	0-30	10YR3/2	Clay loam	None	Northern edge of site. Recent burned limestone rock on surface, to 5 cm below surface. Bedrock at depth
15	Site 1	0-30	10YR3/2	Clay loam	None	In oak mott, west of ST 13. No large cobbles, no cultural material. Bedrock at depth.
16	41BX1624	0-25	10YR4/4	Clay loam	None	In oak stand, low area south of hill and site center. Rounded limestone cobbles on surface, throughout matrix. Bedrock at depth.
17		0-15	10YR5/3	Loam	None	Toe slope of uplands. Bedrock at depth.
18		0-30	10YR4/4	Clay loam	None	Level area east of ridge. Previously cleared. By large oak tree. Clay increases with depth until impenetrable.
19		0-30	10YR4/4	Clay loam	None	Low area near railroad. Previously cleared. Thick, hard clumps in upper 20 cm, maybe old plow zone? Impenetrable clay at depth.
20		0-5	10YR5/3	Clay loam	None	At top of upland ridge. Thin soil over limestone bedrock. Some surface bedrock exposure
21		0-5	10YR5/3	Clay loam	None	Thin soil over limestone bedrock. Some surface bedrock exposure
22		0-10	10YR3/2	Clay loam	None	Level area east of ridge. Previously cleared.
		10-30	10YR4/3	Clay loam	None	Compact clay loam, increasing clay with depth until impenetrable.
23		0-10	10YR3/2	Clay loam	None	Level area east of ridge. Previously cleared.
		10-30	10YR4/3	Clay loam	None	Compact clay loam, increasing clay with depth until impenetrable.



Figure 7: Representative view of surface visibility due to clearing, facing north.



Figure 8: Representative view of crushed bedrock at surface in cleared area, facing northwest.

Isolated pieces of chert debitage and stone tools were observed diffusely scattered across the property. Several shovel tests were placed in the vicinity of isolated finds in an attempt to locate additional subsurface artifacts, but all proved negative for cultural materials. It was decided not to delineate these dispersed artifacts as a site, due to the level of surface and subsurface disturbances observed. Since many of these artifacts are dispersed along the toe slopes east of Vance Jackson Boulevard, they were likely displaced from site 41BX1624 through water runoff, erosion, and vehicular activity.

#### **41BX1624**

Investigations in the vicinity of previously recorded site 41BX1624 showed that the site area had been heavily disturbed by vegetation clearing (Figure 9) and the construction of Vance Jackson Boulevard, which bisects the eastern part of the limestone ridge (see Figure 6). Scattered debitage was observed on scraped bedrock along the eastern edge of the roadway, along with the aforementioned diffuse debitage at the eastern base of the hill. Chert flakes were also observed in the low areas to the west and south of the hill, including a collector's pile of flakes on a limestone boulder (Figure 10). The new boundaries on the site map reflect the presumed and observed extent of the lithic scatter (Figure 11). Intensive metal detector survey of the site area resulted in 10 hits across a broad area. Three of these hits were on the limestone hill, all of which yielded modern trash mixed with crushed bedrock. Seven hits were examined in the lower area. Four of these contained modern trash at depths of up to 20 cmbs; two were considered false positives as no metal objects were found. A single historic artifact, noted on the map as MD1, was located with the metal detector in the lower area to the south of the hill. This is a machine made square cut nail, missing the head and tip (Figure 12). This type of nail is associated with the Anglo settlement

of Texas, beginning in the 1830s, and was replaced by round wire nails in the late 1890s. Therefore, this nail postdates the Spanish Colonial period associated with the lance previously discovered at the site.

The portions of site 41BX1624 within the project area have been extensively disturbed. Additional pedestrian and metal detector survey in the site vicinity did not encounter additional Spanish Colonial artifacts. The surficial lithic scatter is sparse non-diagnostic. The 19<sup>th</sup> century nail appears to be an isolated find, and the fact that it was found roughly 10 cm below surface suggests that the site deposits are mixed. For these reasons, the portions of site 41BX1624 within the project area are considered non-significant with little to no integrity. No further work is recommended at the site within the project area. It is possible that intact portions of the site lie to the north of the current project boundaries, along the remainder of the limestone ridge. This area would need to be investigated in order to make a final determination of overall site integrity and significance outside of the 260-acre Umbell Oaks.

#### **41BX1771**

An area with a noted concentration of chert debitage and tools was recorded as Site 1, and assigned the trinomial 41BX1771 (Figure 13). This site measures roughly 40 meters N-S by 20 meters E-W and is located near the eastern edge of the project area in the northern segment. Four shovel tests (see Table 2) were excavated at the site (see Figure 6) in order to delineate the site limits and test for subsurface deposits (see Figure 13). Only one of the shovel tests, ST 13, was positive for subsurface cultural materials. A single patinated chert biface-thinning flake was recovered from the upper 10 centimeters. One cluster of burned limestone was observed on the surface. ST 14 was excavated next to this cluster, and determined that it the rock was most likely the



Figure 9: Overview of location of site 41BX1624 and disturbances, facing southwest.



Figure 10: Collector's pile of flakes on limestone boulder, site 41BX1624, facing west.

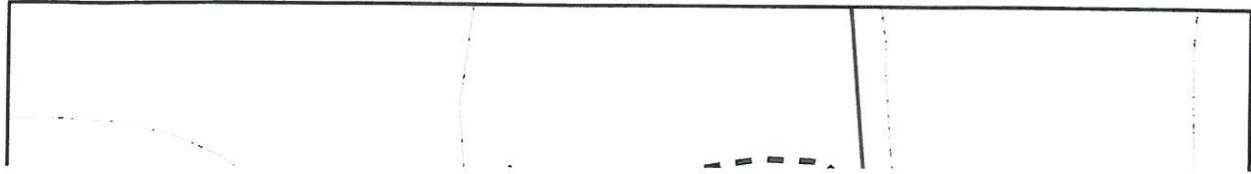


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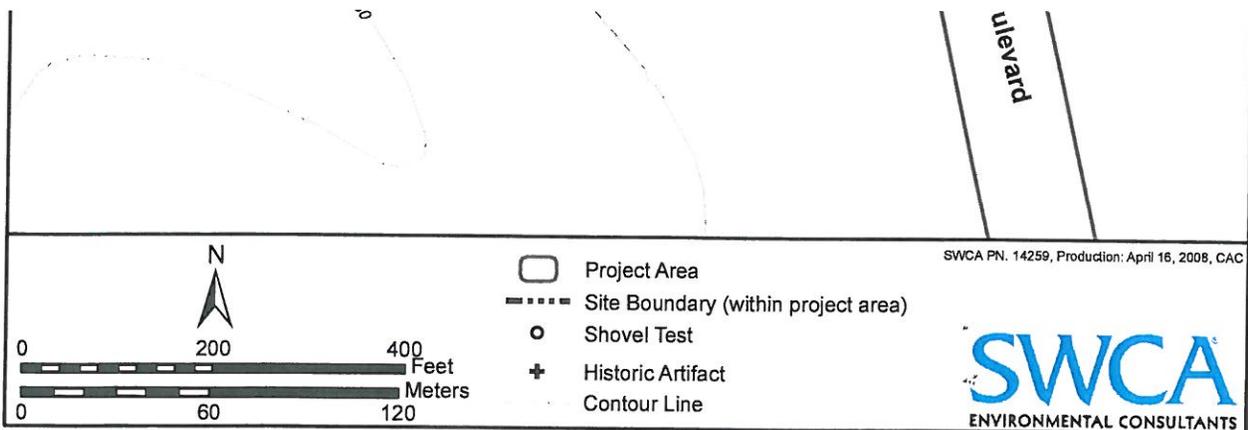


Figure 11. 41BX1624 site map.



Figure 12: Machine made square cut nail recovered from site 41BX1624.

result of recent burning and not a prehistoric feature.

The artifact assemblage at site 41BX1771 is sparse ( $N < 50$ ), non-diagnostic in nature, and in an extensively disturbed setting (Figure 14). One artifact was found during shovel tests in a semi-intact area, however it was shallowly buried. Based on these results, site 41BX1771 does not have significant intact deposits or the ability to contribute unique information to the archaeological record. Therefore, site 41BX1771 is not considered significant and no further work is recommended.

#### **41BX1772**

An area with one small standing feature and several structural feature remnants was observed in the central portion of the project area, west of Vance Jackson Boulevard and south of Presidio Parkway (see Figure 6) and recorded as Site 2. This site was assigned the trinomial 41BX1772. This area is roughly the same location as a structure depicted on the topographic quad map (Figure 15), which was compiled in 1952 and revised in 1986.

The standing feature is a small (3 feet x 6 feet) rectangular tank with two reservoirs, made from cut limestone blocks and mortar (Figure 16). One wall has collapsed. The function of this feature is uncertain, although similar features may have been water troughs or mixing tanks for chemicals used in dipping sheep. A small tree is growing from one part of the tank, suggesting that it has not been used for a number of years, and it seems likely that the feature is in situ. No diagnostic artifacts were found in the vicinity of the trough.

A bored well, roughly 5 inches in diameter, with a cement cap is located to the east of the tank feature (Figure 17). Part of the upper portion of the well hole is an iron pipe. The depth of the well was unable to be determined. No

evidence of a pump or a windmill was found around the well hole, nor were any diagnostic artifacts. However, bored wells are a modern innovation.

Southeast of the well is a concrete foundation with iron angle bars inset (Figure 18). The foundation is square, with each side roughly 15 feet for a total area of 225 square feet. The size and inset bars suggest that the foundation was for an outbuilding, such as a shed. This may be the structure indicated on the topographic quad map; if so the only definite remnants are the foundation. Some cinder blocks and plywood were on top of and by the foundation and may be related to the structure, or they may have been dumped there more recently. No diagnostic artifacts were found in the vicinity of the foundation.

The final feature in the cluster is a large pile of bricks (Figure 19), located almost 50 m to the west of the other three features. The pile consists of two lines of brick, roughly 20 feet long, intersecting approximately at a right angle, with a maximum height of 3 feet. The bricks are jumbled and the mortar remnants are facing all directions, suggesting that this a dump or push pile rather than a wall collapse. Three manufacturer's marks are represented in the bricks. "SECO" was used by the Oak Hill Fire Brick and Coal Co., based in Ohio. This mark was registered in 1935. "ACE" was used by the Louisville Fire Brick Works, in Kentucky. This mark was registered in 1942. Finally, "STAR FIRE BRICK" is a mark of Star Clay Products, from Elmendorf, Texas, registered in 1919 (Gurcke 1987). Elmendorf is located to the southeast of San Antonio, roughly 30 miles from the project area.

Fire bricks are far more expensive than common building bricks, and are mostly used in areas of extreme heat (Gurcke 1987). If these bricks are related to the foundation, this suggests that the structure may have been a kiln

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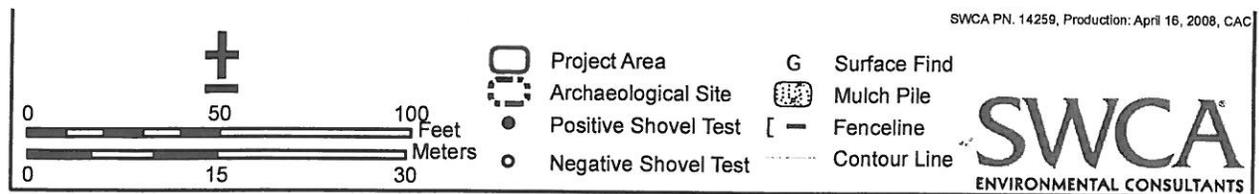


Figure 13. 41BX1771 plan map.



Figure 14: Site 41BX1771 overview, facing north. Daniel Culotta is standing at site center, by a biface and ST 12. Note disturbances and cedar mulch pile in background.

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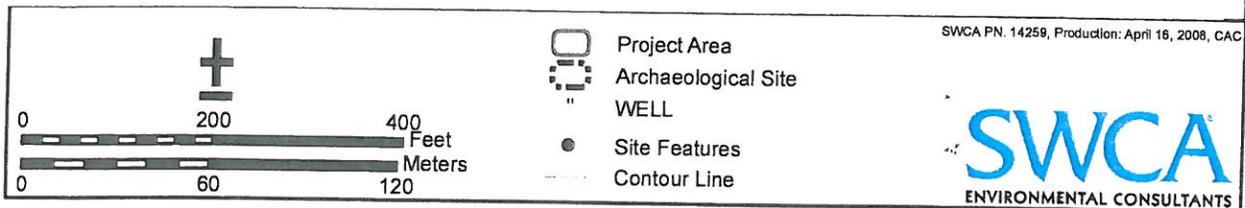


Figure 15. 41BX1772 site map.



Figure 16: Limestone block tank, site 41BX1772, facing east.



Figure 17: Bored well with concrete cap, site 41BX1772.



Figure 18: Concrete outbuilding foundation, site 41BX1772, facing east.



Figure 19: Brick debris pile, detail, site 41BX1772. Note brick manufacturer marks, facing west.

or a smokehouse. It also means that the structure can not predate 1942, assuming all of the bricks were used in a single building episode. However, the bricks may be a secondary deposit and can not be conclusively tied to the other features. Furthermore, while the earliest dates for these bricks meet the 50-year standard for historic age, these bricks continued to be manufactured into the modern era.

Overall, the only evidence suggesting that the features (excluding the well) at site 41BX1772 may be older than 50 years is on the topographic maps. A 1953 topographic quad map shows five structures in the general area, roughly 75 meters south of the current features. A 1973 topographic quad map shows four structures and a different road alignment. By 1986, only two structures are depicted. It seems likely that the foundation is the only in situ remnant of this probable agricultural structural complex, while the bricks may be the redeposited remains of a different building. The tank is too small to have been depicted on the maps, but is clearly associated with the complex. Intensive survey of the area did not encounter any other structural remains, some of which were likely located within the current Vance Jackson Boulevard right-of-way.

The features individually lack integrity and are in a disturbed setting. The well is a modern feature, and the brick pile is almost certainly a secondary deposit. The bricks are the only diagnostic artifacts, and while the earliest dates for their marks are of historic age, these marks continued in use into the modern era. For these reasons, none of the features are individually considered significant under any state or national criteria. The primary buildings associated with these features have been demolished. The remaining features are of a secondary nature and shed little light and no unique information on activities at the site (former agricultural complex?). No further

archaeological investigations are recommended for site 41BX1772. Archival research would be needed to identify the owner and residents of the complex and the former function of the structures depicted on the map.

## **HISTORIC SCATTER**

A small scatter of probable historic debris was observed in a disturbed setting next to a large bulldozed area south of Presidio Parkway. This is labeled as TRASH on Figure 6. The assemblage (Figure 20) includes broken bottle glass fragments (including a milk bottle neck), milk glass fragments, a metal sardine can and a metal can with a "cut clear around" opening. A maker's mark on one bottle base partly resembles a mark used by the Owens-Illinois Glass Company from 1929 to 1954 (Toulouse 1971), but damage to the bottle made positive identification impossible. None of the other artifacts are diagnostic. Due to the extremely sparse (N=20) and disturbed secondary nature of the trash, along with the lack of positive diagnostic materials, it was decided not to record this assemblage as an archaeological site, and no further work is recommended for this area.

## **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

On behalf of Galleria Ventures, Ltd., SWCA conducted a cultural resources investigation of the 260-acre Umbell Oaks project area in northern Bexar County, Texas. The work was designed to assess the presence and potential for cultural resources in accordance with the requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO) per the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-360 to 35-634).

The background review revealed that one previously recorded archaeological site (41BX1624, the Spanish Lance Site) is located



Figure 20: Trash scatter, possibly historic aged, facing south.

within the project area, and that one previously conducted survey crossed the southern part of the project area. In addition, there are 19 recorded sites and six previously conducted archaeological surveys within a mile of the project area.

The survey included 23 shovel tests placed in areas that had the highest potential for containing buried cultural materials with good integrity, as well as intensive metal detector survey in the vicinity of site 41BX1624. Diffusely scattered prehistoric lithic debitage and one 19<sup>th</sup> century nail are all that remains of site 41BX1624 within the current project area; no additional Spanish Colonial artifacts were encountered during the metal detector survey. The artifact assemblage is sparsely distributed across a disturbed setting with mixed soils. For this reason, the portion of site 41BX1624 within the project area is considered not eligible for the NRHP. Intact areas of the site may exist to the north and outside of the current project boundary, and these areas should be investigated prior to any future development.

The survey also recorded two additional archaeological sites on the property. Site 41BX1771 is a small scatter of lithic flakes and tools in a disturbed context. The only positive shovel test was within the site boundaries, encountering a single patinated chert flake in the upper 10 centimeters. Due to its sparse, non-diagnostic assemblage and the disturbed setting, Site 1 is not considered significant or eligible for the NRHP.

Site 41BX1772 is a collection of possible historic and modern aged features related to a former agricultural complex. The features lack integrity, are in a disturbed setting, and are minor elements of a larger agricultural structural complex that has been completely destroyed. For these reasons, Site 2 is considered not considered significant or eligible for the NRHP.

A small possible historic-aged trash scatter was also observed, but could not be conclusively dated and was not designated an archaeological site.

Overall the 260-acre project area has been significantly disturbed by construction and vegetation clearing activities. These activities, in combination with the shallow upland soils across the project area, have destroyed the possibility of any significant, intact archaeological deposits. Furthermore, none of the cultural resources located within the 260-acre project area are considered significant. Given the study results and extensive levels of impacts to the property, the potential for further undiscovered cultural resources is absent. No further archaeological investigations are recommended for any of the three sites or the overall 260-acre project area.

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