

# Alamo Archaeology: 2016 Field Season Results



# Sponsors and Participants

- The Texas General Land Office
- The City of San Antonio
- The Alamo Endowment
  
- Pape-Dawson Engineers
- Raba-Kistner
- The Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Texas-San Antonio

# Where do we start?

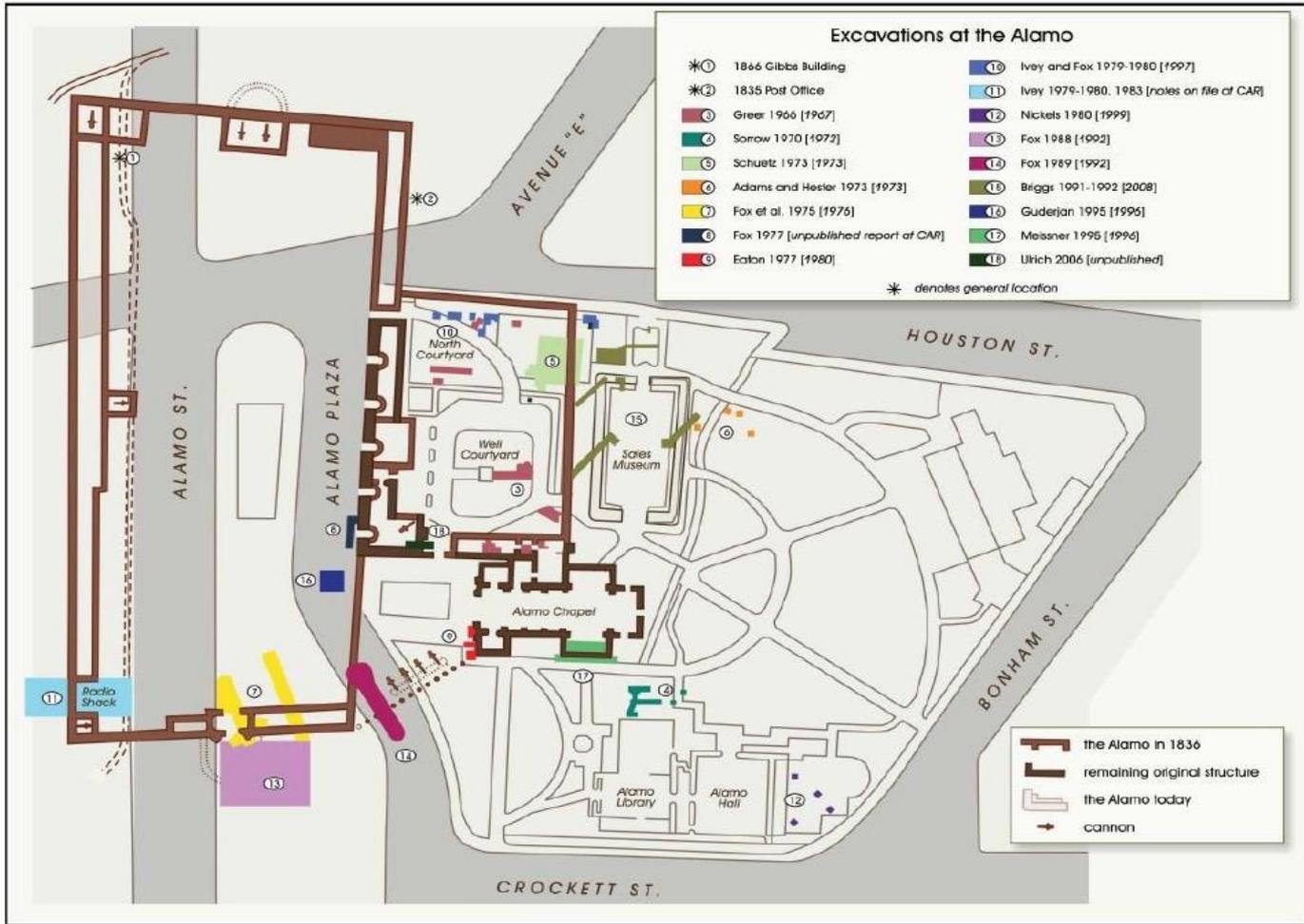
- Archival Research
  - How much? What kind?
- Previous Archaeology
  - Where and when?
- Existing Environment
  - Disturbances
- What are the questions being asked?
  - Master Plan Team Goals

# 1849 Maverick Map



# Previous Archaeology at the Alamo

- 1966 – (John Greer) Convento and Calvary Courtyards
- 1970 – (William Sorrow) North of the Library
- 1973 – (Mardith Schuetz) Calvary Courtyard
- 1973 – (UTSA) East of the restored acequia
- 1975 – (CAR-UTSA) South Wall
- 1977 – (CAR-UTSA) Long Barracks
- 1977 – (CAR-UTSA) Southwest of the chapel
- 1979 – (CAR-UTSA) Radio Shack Building across Alamo Street
- 1979 – 1980 – (CAR-UTSA) North Wall in the Calvary Courtyard
- 1980 – (CAR-UTSA) Thielepape House behind Alamo Hall
- 1988 – 1989 – (CAR-UTSA) South wall and Lunette
- 1991 – 1993 – (Alton Briggs) Near the Museum
- 1995 – (CAR-UTSA) Church wall and transept
- 1995 – (St. Mary's University) West Courtyard
- 1997 – (CAR-UTSA) Near the Museum.
- 2006 – (CAR-UTSA) Long Barracks
- 2014 – (CAR-UTSA) Courtyard
- 2015 – (Texas Historical Commission) GPR survey; various locations
- 2016 – (Pape-Dawson, Raba Kistner, CAR, UTSA)



# What do previous excavations tell us?



Excavations at the West Wall, 1979

Close-up of an adobe wall



# What do previous excavations tell us?





# What do previous excavations tell us?



Trench Excavation at the South Wall

1988-1989 CAR Field School



# What do previous excavations tell us?



Profile of the Lunette Trench

Wall Footings at the South Wall





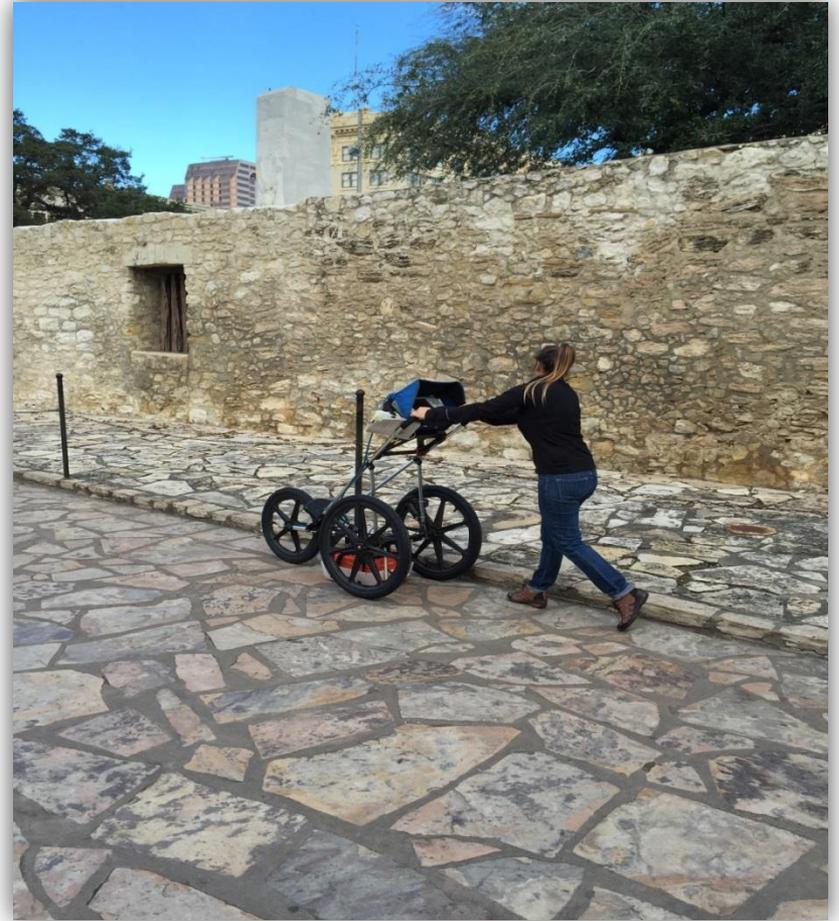
## 1988-1989 Excavations



1988-89



# Special Studies: Ground Penetrating Radar



THC December, 2015



Raba Kistner, 2016





# The West Wall

# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall

Adobe brick pier adjacent  
to reconstructed wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



Units showing evidence of disturbance on the right.



Sand indicates edge of 1980s excavation unit; lighter colored soil represents adobe "melt."

# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



## 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall





**2016 Excavations at the West Wall**

# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



## 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the West Wall





**Excavations at the South Wall**

# Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the South Wall



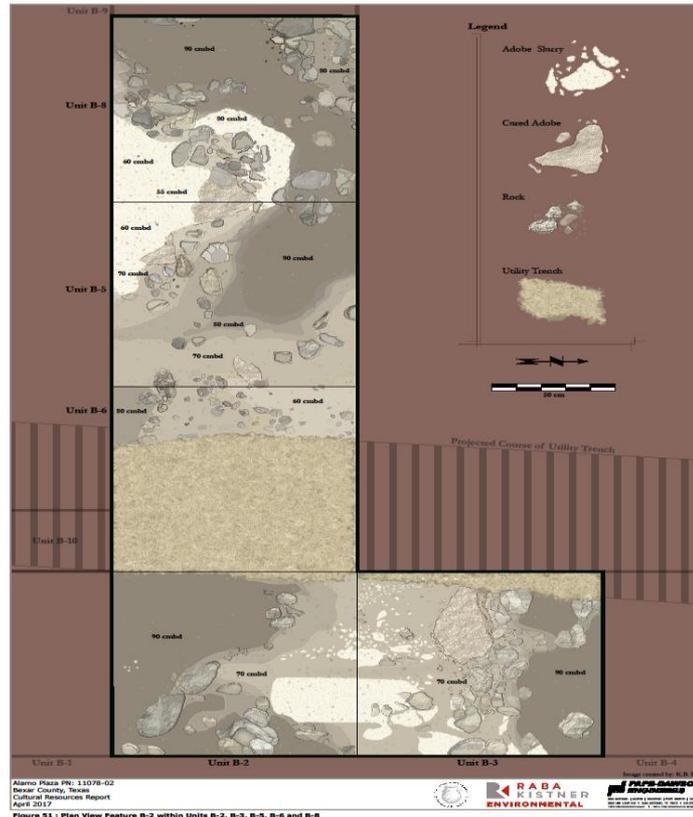
# 2016 Excavations at the South Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the South Wall



# 2016 Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# Excavations at the South Wall



# ARTIFACTS



Majolicas



Native American bone  
tempered ceramics



Green Shell-Edge  
Pearlware



Lead glazed wares



Wheel Thrown Ceramics



Valero Red Ceramics



Valero Red and wheel thrown



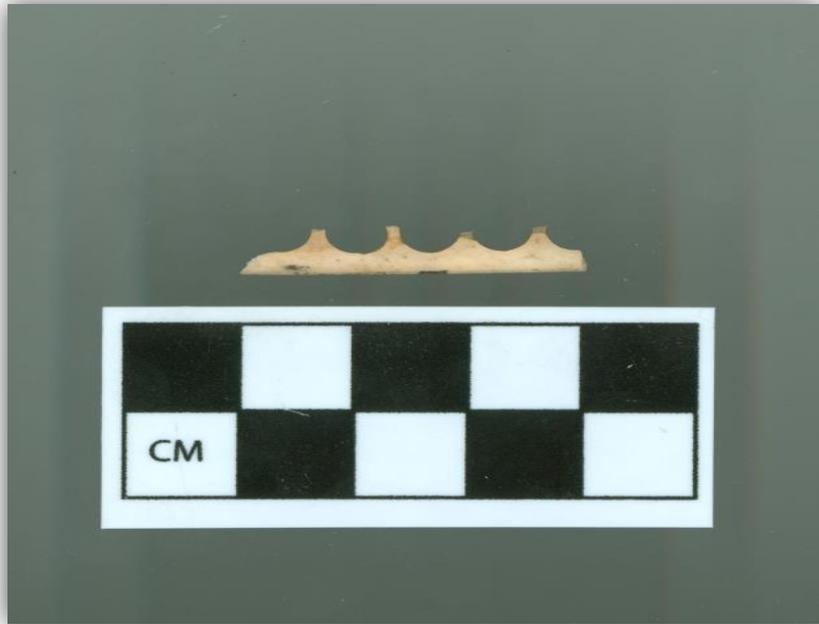
Bone tempered



Metal



Mexican non-commissioned officer's sword tip, briquette



Toothbrush fragment



Bone Button Blank



Gunflint



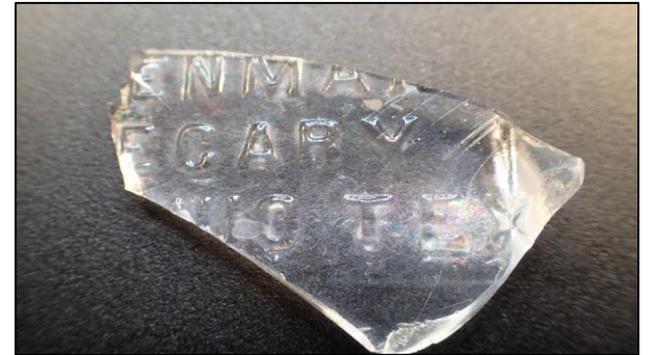
Chipped Stone



Seed Bead



Button



Glass from an  
apothecary bottle

# Public Outreach



