Archaeological Pedestrian Survey for the Proposed Trail in Pittman-Sullivan Park, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

by
Justin Blomquist

Texas Antiquities Permit No. 6448

Principal Investigator
Steve A. Tomka

Prepared for:
Adams Environmental, Inc.
12000 Crownpoint Drive, Suite 120
San Antonio, Texas 78233

Prepared by:
Center for Archaeological Research
The University of Texas at San Antonio
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas 78249
Technical Report, No. 53

©2013

Archaeological Pedestrian Survey for the Proposed Trail in Pittman-Sullivan Park, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

by
Justin Blomquist

Texas Antiquities Permit No. 6448

Principal Investigator
Steve A. Tomka

Prepared for:
Adams Environmental, Inc.
12000 Crownpoint Drive, Suite 120
San Antonio, Texas 78233

Prepared by:
Center for Archaeological Research
The University of Texas at San Antonio
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas 78249
Technical Report, No. 53

©2013

Management Summary:

In January 2013, Adams Environmental, Inc. contracted with the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) at The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) to complete a background review for a proposed trail system followed by a pedestrian archaeological survey. The work was to be performed for the City of San Antonio (COSA). The Area of Potential Effect (APE) consists of a 1 km (0.6 mi.) long pedestrian trail and associated trail heads around the YMCA located at Pittman-Sullivan Park, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. Pittman-Sullivan Park is bounded by Iowa Street to the south, New Braunfels Avenue to the east, Nevada Street to the north, and Palmetto Avenue to the west.

Because the Pittman-Sullivan Trail Project is located on property owned by the COSA, archaeological work was conducted in accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas, as well as under Chapter 35 of the Unified Development Code of the City of San Antonio. The survey was conducted under Texas Antiquities Permit No. 6448 issued to Dr. Steve Tomka, CAR Director, who served as the Principal Investigator. Justin Blomquist served as Project Archaeologist.

In late January prior to the initiation of the fieldwork, the CAR carried out the background review associated with the project. The review found that in the late 1910s and early 1920s, at least a portion of the park consisted of the remnants of the City Gravel Pit. To help clean up after the massive 1921 floods, the flood debris may have been dumped in the western section of the park. It is possible that after abandonment, a portion of the gravel pit may have been cleverly reused to create a sunken garden by the late 1920s. A concrete tree sculpture attributed to famed San Antonio artist Dionicio Rodriguez stood in the garden at one time. City cemetery lots stood north of the project boundary but none look to have extended inside of the project APE. Also as part of the background review, the records of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas, the CAR files, and archaeological reports associated with projects conducted in the vicinity of the APE were consulted. The review found no known previously documented historic or prehistoric sites recorded within the APE.

Subsequently, on February 5, 2013, archaeologists from the CAR conducted the pedestrian survey of the APE. The survey yielded no prehistoric or historic cultural materials in any of the nine shovel tests excavated along the project easement. It is therefore recommended that the proposed project be carried out as planned given that no historic properties will be impacted as part of the proposed improvements.

All documentation generated by the project, including notes and photographs, was prepared for curation according to Texas Historical Commission guidelines and is permanently housed at the CAR curation facility.

Table of Contents:

Management Summary i
Table of Contents ii
List of Figures iii
List of Tables iv
Acknowledgments v
Chapter 1: Introduction 1
Areas of Potential Effect (APE) 1
Chapter 2: Project Area Background 3
Project Environs 3
Cultural History 6
Paleoindian 6
Archaic 7
Late Prehistoric 8
Historic 8
Pittman-Sullivan Park 9
Previous Archaeological Investigations 14
Chapter 3: Archaeological Field and Laboratory Methods 17
Field Methods 17
Laboratory Methods 18
Chapter 4: Results of the Pedestrian Survey 19
Reconnaissance of the APE 19
Shovel Testing 21
Chapter 5: Summary and Recommendations 27
Recommendations 28
References Cited 29

List of Figures:

Figure 1-1. Project APE, in blue, on the San Antonio East USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map 2
Figure 1-2. Project APE with proposed trail location 2
Figure 2-1. Map showing soil units on the Pittman-Sullivan Trail project area 4
Figure 2-2. The 1904 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Key Sheet showing the project area.....10
Figure 2-3. The 1911-1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Key Sheet showing the project area 10
Figure 2-4. The southwestern portion of the project area on the 1911-1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map 11
Figure 2-5. The 1912-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Key Sheet depicting the project area 12
Figure 2-6. The southwestern portion of the project area on the 1912-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the athletic field.....13
Figure 4-1. Shovel test locations along proposed trail (disturbed area shaded in yellow).....19
Figure 4-2. Disturbed area southwest of current YMCA building, showing eroding bedrock with ST 5 in background 20
Figure 4-3. Disturbed area near ST 5 showing southern boundary of project area, facing northwest 20
Figure 4-4. ST 1 in progress with view of potential disturbances 22
Figure 4-5. Profile of ST 1 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).....22
Figure 4-6. Location of ST 3, facing west toward ST 1.....23
Figure 4-7. Profile of ST 3 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).....23
Figure 4-8. View of ST 5, facing northwest toward ST 4.....24
Figure 4-9. Profile of ST 5 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).....24
Figure 4-10. Location of ST 7 near western boundary of project area, facing east 25
Figure 4-11. Profile of ST 7 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).....25
Figure 4-12. ST 9 between YMCA building and existing track within project area, facing north 26
Figure 4-13. Profile of ST 9 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).....26

List of Tables:

Table 4-1. Pittman-Sullivan Trail Project Soil Results – Munsell Colors 21

Acknowledgements:

The author would like to thank Sable Kitchen and Brian A. Gottschalk with Adams Environmental, Inc. for their assistance during the contract development phase of the project and in coordinating this project with the Center for Archaeological Research. Thanks to Taylor Freeman for his excellent performance during the field survey. Thanks also to Lynn Wack for providing background research for the project. Richard Young, CAR's graphics artist, generated the illustrations for the report and Kelly Harris, CAR's editor, diligently edited this report. My thanks go out to both of them for their great work. This author would like to give very special thanks to Dr. Steve Tomka, CAR Director, for his guidance and wisdom throughout field portion of this project and the writing of this report.

On February 5, 2013, the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) was contracted by the City of San Antonio, on behalf of Adams Environmental, Inc., to provide archaeological services associated with the planned installation of a pedestrian hike and bike trail system within the Pittman-Sullivan Park. The intensive archaeological pedestrian survey was carried out within the Pittman-Sullivan Park property bounded by Iowa Street to the south, New Braunfels Avenue to the east, Nevada Street to the north, and Palmetto Avenue to the west.

Chapter 1: Introduction

In January 2013, Adams Environmental, Inc. contracted with the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) at The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) to complete a background review for the proposed Pittman-Sullivan Trail Project sponsored by the City of San Antonio (COSA). Following the background review, CAR staff was to conduct a pedestrian survey of the project area to search for any historic or prehistoric deposits that may be found within the project easement.

Since the Pittman-Sullivan Trail Project is located on property owned by the COSA, the project falls under the jurisdiction of the under Chapter 35 of the Unified Development Code of the City of San Antonio and the Antiquities Code of Texas. The Antiquities Code requires that an archaeological consultant systematically examine any project easements prior to impact to ensure that no significant cultural deposits will be disturbed by the proposed project. If the examination, typically consisting of a pedestrian survey of the project area, discovers prehistoric and/or historic deposits, their eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and their potential formal designation as a State Archeological Landmark (SAL) has to be determined prior to any project impacts. To determine whether such historic properties exist within a proposed project easement, archaeologists typically conduct a pedestrian survey of the project area accompanied by shovel testing and backhoe trenching. Backhoe trenching is only carried out if the potential exists that deeply buried cultural deposits may be present within the easement. Such deposits are more likely along stream terraces and on floodplains and less likely in upland settings not prone to flooding.

The pedestrian survey of the project area was conducted under Texas Antiquities Permit No. 6448 issued to Dr. Steve Tomka, CAR Director. Dr. Tomka served as the Principal Investigator, and Justin Blomquist served as Project Archaeologist.

Area of Potential Effect (APE)

The APE is located in San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, on the San Antonio East USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map (Figure 1-1). It is bounded by Iowa Street to the south, New Braunfels Avenue to the east, Nevada Street to the north, and Palmetto Avenue to the west (Figure 1-2). The trail section of the APE comprises two trails (2.4 m; 8 ft.), one trail head, and four trail interpretive and rest node areas along with expanded parking areas. In total, the APE and proposed improvements stretch over 1 km (0.6 mi.) in length on approximately 29 acres. The proposed trail will include minimal subsurface disturbance (30.5-35.6 cm below the surface; 12-14 in.) and, therefore, only requires a pedestrian survey accompanied by shovel test excavations.

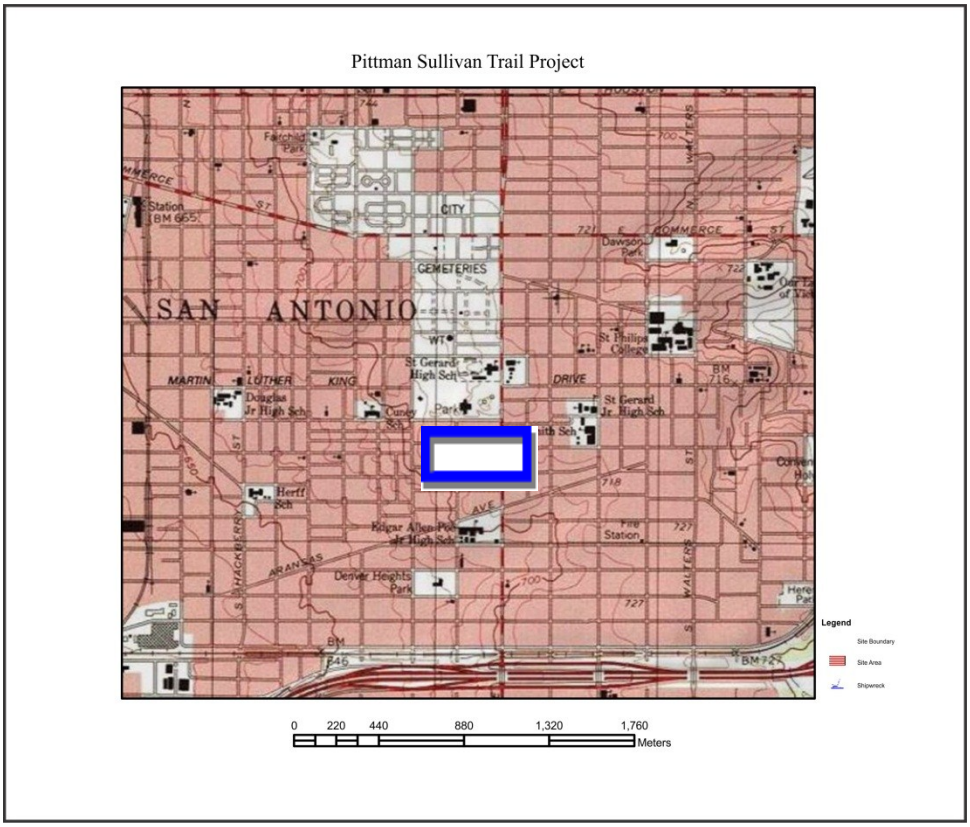

Figure 1-1. *Project APE, in blue, on the San Antonio East USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map.*

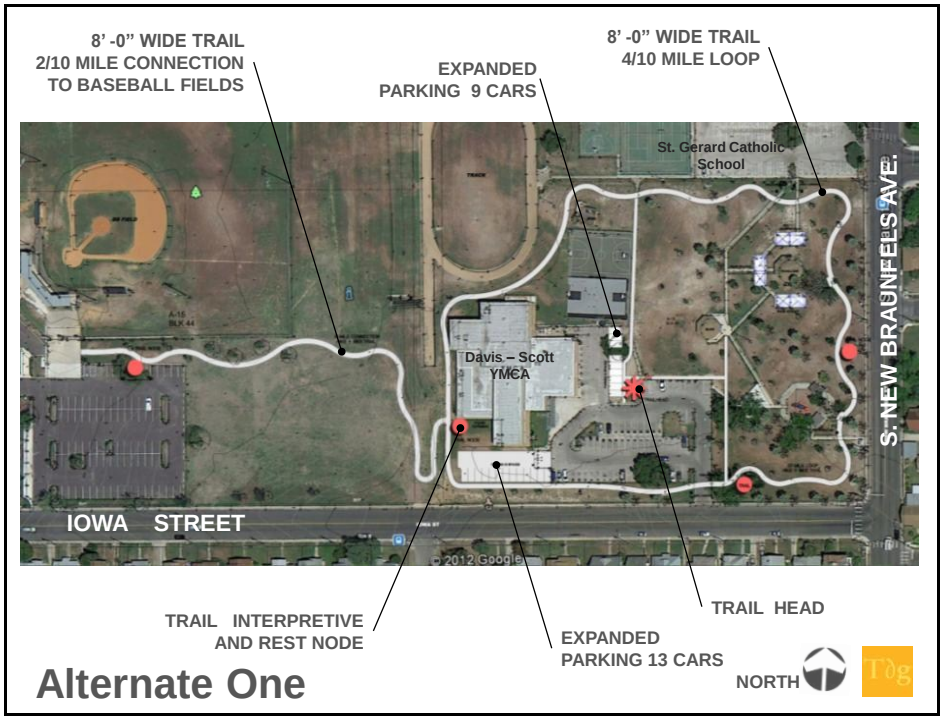

Figure 1-2. *Project APE with proposed trail location.*

Chapter 2: Project Area Background

This chapter characterizes the environs and cultural history of the Pittman-Sullivan Trail project area. It is essentially the product of the background review conducted by the CAR prior to the inception of the pedestrian survey. It is included here rather than as a self-standing report because the project timelines did not allow for the production of a separate report. Typically project backgrounds review the environmental and geological setting of the project APE, its cultural history, and previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the project. Knowledge of the project's environmental context does provide hints regarding the prehistoric and historic resources that may have attracted humans to occupy the area. The geological setting of the APE is important since it informs archaeologists about the likelihood of encountering surface-exposed or buried cultural deposits within the APE. Finally, the review of the archaeological projects that have occurred in the vicinity of the APE and findings derived from them informs archaeologists about the types and age of the cultural materials that may be found within the project area.

Project Environs

The project area, consisting of 29 acres in northern Bexar County, is on the southeastern margins of the Edwards Plateau. Bexar County lies in the transition zone between the northern border of the South Texas Plains portion of the Gulf Coastal Plain and the southern edge of the Edwards Plateau Escarpment. The escarpment edge is characterized by large eroding limestone uplifts and light, calcareous soil. The Edwards Plateau is made up of Cretaceous-age sandstone, shale, dolomite, and limestone deposits. During the Cretaceous Period (66-144 million years ago), shallow seas covered the plateau. As calcareous animals died and sank to the sea floor, thick layers of limestone formed that gradually built immense sedimentary rock formations (Spearing 1991). Elevations on the Edwards Plateau range from roughly 183 m (600 ft.) above mean sea level (amsl) on the eastern side to roughly 610 m (2,000 ft.) amsl on the western side. Elevation of the project area is approximately 224 m (735 ft.) amsl.

The surface geology for the property consists of undivided Uvalde Gravel. The Uvalde Gravel formation contains abundant, well-rounded pebbles and cobbles of chert, quartz, and limestone; minor igneous rock; and some boulders (USGS 2013). Uvalde Gravels are caliche-cemented gravel present on topographic divides and high areas not associated with present drainage (USGS 2013). Uvalde gravels are found in large areas forming an almost continuous band in the east-central part of Bexar County. The gravel resources found within the area would have been the primary raw material sources for prehistoric craftsmen looking to manufacture stone tools. They would have offered both raw materials for stone

tools as well as hammer stones used in chipped stone tool manufacture and grinding stone blanks, such as quartzite pebbles for use as manos or hand-held grinding implements.

Two soil units are present within the project area, the Olmos complex (HgD) and the Houston Black gravelly clay (HuC; Figure 2-1). Olmos complex soils consist of rock outcrop in addition to Olmos and similar soils. Olmos complex soils contain Calcareous loamy alluvium found with 5-8 percent slopes on ridge landforms and 10.2-50.1 cm (4-20 in.) above petrocalcic, a Cretaceous limestone associated with the Edwards Plateau. Olmos complex soils cover approximately 56 percent of the project area (Soil Survey Staff 2013; Taylor et al. 1962). Houston Black soils consist of 0-20.3 cm (0-8 in.) of gravelly clay underlain by 137.2 cm (54 in.) of clay from the surface to bedrock. Houston Black soils are relatively flat and found with 3-5 percent slopes. Houston Black soils cover approximately 44 percent of the project area (Soil Survey Staff 2013; Taylor et al. 1962).

Figure 2-1. *Map showing soil units on the Pittman-Sullivan Trail project area*.

Houston Black clays are subject to cracking during dry periods, and archaeological materials may be shallowly buried within them. However, the project setting is not subject to flooding, and the likelihood that cultural materials are deeply buried below the present surface is minimal within the project APE.

Currently the project area is dominated by grasses and low-lying shrubs and trees. Traditionally, the Edwards Plateau region is dominated by a variety of forbs and grasses (Texas A&M Forest Service 2008; TPWD 2013a). Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*) also encompasses a large portion the Edwards plateau eco-region (TPWD 2013a). Historically, Ashe juniper was confined to overgrazed areas along streams but is now more common due to the addition of livestock into the region. The Blackland Prairie is dominated by a variety of perennial and annual grasses (Texas A&M Forest Service 2008). Among the trees, live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) dominates a large portion of this region. Post oak (*Quercus stellate*), blackjack oak (*Quercus marilandica*), American elm (*Ulmus Americana*), winged elm (*Ulmus alata*), cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*), honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*), and eastern red-cedar encompass a large portion of the northern Blackland Prairie. Besides the species listed for the northern and central areas, the southern area consists of live oak and Ashe juniper. Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), black willow (*Salix nigra*), American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*), and bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) are commonly found in bottomland woodlands throughout this region. Many of these species are economically significant and sources of both edible resources and raw materials for the manufacture of tools and weaponry (i.e., bows, arrows, tool handles).

The project area at one time supported a diverse assemblage of flora including three vegetation types, Live Oak-Ashe Juniper Parks, Live Oak-Ashe Juniper Woods, and Live Oak-Mesquite-Ashe Juniper Parks, as defined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (Texas A&M Forest Service 2008, TPWD 2013b). These are found on gently rolling uplands and ridge tops, on shallow limestone soils, on hills and escarpments, and on level to gently rolling uplands and ridge tops, respectively (TPWD 2013b). Plants from all three vegetation types found on the Blackland Prairie and Edwards Plateau eco-regions include Texas oak (*Quercus texana*), shin oak (*Quercus sinuate* var. *breviloba*), cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), saw greenbriar (*Smilax bonanox*), Texas wintergrass (*Stipa leucotricha*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium* var. *frequens*), curly mesquite (*Hilaria belangeri*), Texas grama (*Bouteloua rigidiseta*), cedar sedge (*Carex planostachys*), and mat euphorbia (*Euphorbia Serpens*). Plants commonly associated with both Live Oak-Ashe Juniper Parks and Live Oak-Mesquite-Ashe Juniper Parks include netleaf hackberry (*Celtis reticulata*), flameleaf sumac (*Rhus lanceolata*), agarito (*Berberis trifoliolata*), Mexican persimmon (*Diospyrost texana*), Texas prickly pear (*Opuntia lindheimeri*), kidneywood (*Eysenhardtia texana*), Halls panicum (*Panicum hallii*), purple three-awn (*Aristida purpurea*), hairy tridens (*Tridens hirsuta*), two-leaved senna (*Cassia roemeriana*), and rabbit tobacco (*Evax prolifera*). Types associated with Live Oak-Ashe Juniper Woods include evergreen sumac (*Rhus virens*), escarpment cherry (*Prunus serotina* var. *eximia*), mescal bean (*Sophora secundiflora*), poison oak (*Rhus toxicodendron*), twistleaf

yucca (*Yucca rupicola*), elbowbush (*Forestiera pubescens*), Neally grama (*Bouteloua uniflora*), meadow dropseed (*Sporobolus asper* var. *hookeri*), pellitory nosebum (*Tragia ramosa*), spreading sida (*Sida filicaulis*), and woodsorrel (*Oxalis* spp.; TPWD 2013b).

Bexar County is located in the Balconian Biotic Province (Blair 1950). Fifty-seven species of mammals, one species of turtle, sixteen species of lizard, thirty-six species of snakes, and fifteen frog and toad species have been documented on the Balconian Province (Blair 1950). Extant mammals commonly found in the area include white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteous*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatis*). Bison (*Bison bison*), mountain lion (*Felis concolor*), and black bear (*Ursus americanus*) were in the area prehistorically (Davis and Schmidly 1994). The Balconian Province is the main breeding area for the golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*) and the black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*; Kutac 1994). Many of these species were critical resources during the annual subsistence quest of native groups inhabiting the region.

Climate in this general area is classified as subtropical-subhumid with hot summers and mild winters. Rainfall averages approximately 78.7 cm (31 in.) per year. The average minimum and maximum temperature for the region is 39°F in January and 96°F in July, respectively. The growing season averages 265 days annually (Handbook of Texas Online 2013).

Cultural History

In Central Texas, researchers have been able to document a long prehistoric sequence that can be broken down into four major time periods: Paleoindian, Archaic, Late Prehistoric, and Historic (Black 1989; Collins 1995; Johnson and Goode 1994; Prewitt 1981). These periods are further divided into sub-periods that are based on particular subsistence strategies and material culture. A brief description of each period follows to illustrate the archaeological potential of the region.

Paleoindian

The Paleoindian Period (11,500-8800 BP) is divided into early and late sub-periods, and each characterized by particular projectile point styles and subsistence patterns (Collins 1995). The period begins at the close of the Pleistocene with the earliest evidence of humans in the Central Texas region. Clovis and Folsom point types, bifacial Clear Fork tools, and finely flaked end scrapers characterize the early Paleoindian Period (Black 1989). The first stemmed points (i.e., Wilson), as opposed to lanceolate

points (i.e., Angostura and Golondrina), begin to appear during the late Paleoindian Period. In the past, Paleoindian populations have generally been characterized as hunter-gatherers who ranged over wide areas in pursuit of now extinct megafauna, such as mammoth and *Bison antiquus*. However, research from the Wilson-Leonard site in Central Texas (Collins 1998) and other perspectives on Paleoindian adaptations (Tankersley and Isaac 1990) indicate that the diet of these early inhabitants may have been much broader. Although exploiting Late Pleistocene megafauna may have constituted a part of Paleoindian subsistence, these peoples are perhaps better characterized as more generalized hunter-gatherers who exploited a wide variety of plants and animals including large herbivores, like deer and bison, and small animals, such as turtles, alligators, rabbit, and raccoons (Collins 1995; Nickels 2000).

In Central Texas, many of the sites containing Paleoindian materials are found on high terraces, valley margins, and upland locations (Black 1989). This seems to fit with a broader pattern of Paleoindian site distributions where sites are located on landforms providing views of the surrounding landscape, are centered on critical resource zones, or are found in highly productive resource areas (Tankersley and Isaac 1990). Paleoindian artifacts are commonly recovered as isolated finds or from lithic scatters lacking good stratigraphic context, including kill, quarry, cache, camp, ritual and burial sites (Collins 1995).

Archaic

The Archaic Period (8800-1200 BP) is identified as a period of intensification of hunting and gathering and a move toward greater exploitation of local resources. As a result, a broadening of the material culture is evident, including the "extensive use of heated rock" in cooking (Collins 1995:383). Food processing technologies appeared to have broadened as features, such as hearths, ovens, and middens, increase in frequency during this time (Black and McGraw 1985). During this period, large cemeteries were formed indicating an increasing population and the subsequent establishment of territories (Black and McGraw 1985).

The Early, Middle, and Late Archaic sub-periods correspond with changes in climatic conditions and resource availability and are distinguished by differences in diagnostic projectile points (Collins 1995; Johnson and Goode 1994). During the Early Archaic (8800-5000 BP), a variety of Early Corner-Notched (Uvalde, Martindale, Baker) and Early Basal-Notched (Bell, Andice) points appeared across Central Texas. Early Archaic sites are often recorded on river terraces or on hills overlooking valleys (Hester 1995:439). A new set of temporally diagnostic artifacts are associated with the onset of the Middle Archaic (5000-2400 BP), including Pedernales, Langtry, Kinney, and Bulverde point types as well as triangular bifaces and tubular stone pipes (Black 1989; Hester 1995). In addition to the upland setting, Middle Archaic campsites are located on floodplains, low terraces, and natural levees. The Late Archaic

(2400-1200 BP) is characterized by Shumla, Montell, and Marcos point types and a diminution of projectile point sites near the end of the sub-period (i.e. Ensor, Ellis, Figueroa). Late Archaic sites are usually located near modern stream channels and occur in all topographic settings (Black 1989; Hester 1995). The Late Archaic sub-period is divided into the Initial and Terminal segments.

Late Prehistoric

The Late Prehistoric Period (1200-350 BP) in Central Texas marks a distinctive shift from the use of the atlatl and dart to the use of the bow and arrow (Black 1989; Collins 1995; Hester 1995). The Late Prehistoric is subdivided into early and late sub-periods termed Austin and Toyah Phases, respectively. Temporal diagnostics including Scallorn and Edwards arrow points define the Austin Phase (1200-650 BP; Prewitt 1981). It appears that the use of burned rock middens may have reached its peak during this phase (Black and Creel 1997). The subsequent Toyah Phase spans 650-350 BP and includes the first occurrence of pottery in South Texas (Black 1989). Characteristic artifacts of this phase include Perdiz and Cliffton arrow points (Black 1986). Material culture associated with the Late Prehistoric Period points to increasing complexity in subsistence patterns and to very large prehistoric populations (Black 1989; Collins 1995).

Historic

The Historic Period in Texas begins with the arrival of Europeans. Although the Historic Period theoretically begins in Texas with the shipwreck of the Narvaez expedition along the Texas coast in 1528, the majority of the inhabitants of Texas were Native Americans until the late eighteenth century. From AD 1550 to the late 1600s, European forays into South and Central Texas were infrequent. René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, established a French settlement, Fort St. Louis, along Matagorda Bay on the Texas coast in 1685. Hunger, disease, and escalating hostilities between the French and the Karankawas, subsequently led to its destruction (Foster 1998). The southward incursion of the Comanche and Apache and the northward expansion of the Spanish led to the displacement of many of the area's indigenous groups. Decimated by disease brought by Europeans, many of the remaining groups sought refuge in the numerous Spanish missions established early in the eighteenth century. The move to the missions significantly impacted the hunter-gatherer way of life and material culture. Artifacts from the Historic Period reflect European influences and include metal, glass, and ceramics along with pre-Hispanic Goliad wares and metal arrow points, and gunflints (Taylor 1996).

Pittman-Sullivan Park

In the 1920s, the property for the new park was set aside. By July 15, 1920, the citizens of the area petitioned to have the park named Pittman-Sullivan (CM July 15, 1920). The petition for the name was accepted on July 22, 1920 (CM July 22, 1920). Originally, the park was named East End Park and shows up in the city records as early as 1918 (SAMA 1918). The park was renamed to honor two local men killed in World War I (San Antonio Neighborhood Tours 2013). The park boasted a sunken garden with open fields to the north and south. The garden was enclosed by a rock wall and only accessible by stone stairs. Some records indicate that refuse from the 1921 flood were dumped in the western section of the park.

During the mid-1920s, Dionicio Rodriguez was commissioned to produce one of his *faux bois* pieces for the Pittman-Sullivan Park (Allen 2012). The piece was made to look like an old oak tree. It was hung with lights so it could illuminate the area in the evening. What has become of the piece is unknown. No records indicate when the piece was removed, although some believe that it was during the 1950s (Allen 2012).

Early Sanborn maps of the area show it as mostly unoccupied until the late 1910s. The 1904 Sanborn map depicts the area on the key, but no pages were dedicated to close-ups. The key showed vacant blocks, which were at least four blocks from the City Cemetery (Figure 2-2). The key for the 1911-1924 map indicates that the park was on property identified as the City Cemetery (Figure 2-3); however, the close-up sheets appear to show the cemetery to be north of the project area. The project area is shown as vacant with the exception of one small structure at the corner of Iowa and South Palmetto Streets. The City Gravel Pits were located to the north (Figure 2-4). Unfortunately, no Sanborn Fire Insurance Map covers the area to the north. Based on these partial maps, however, Nevada Street serves as the southern boundary of the City Cemetery lots located in this area. The key for the 1912-1951 Sanborn maps, again suggests that the area may fall in a section designated as "Cemeteries" (Figure 2-5) since the northern half of two tracts appear to be marked as such; however, the individual sheets to not agree with this notation. The sheet depicting the southeast corner of the project area shows the block as vacant. The sheet that depicts the southwest corner shows the San Antonio Public Schools Athletic Field (Figure 2-6). Here too, unfortunately, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps do not cover the entire project area.

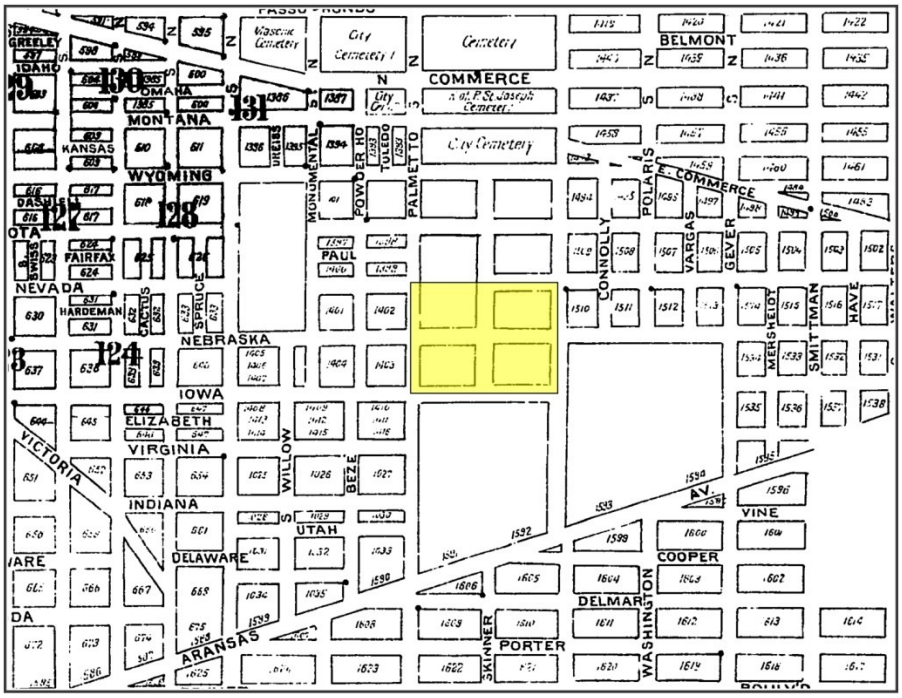

Figure 2-2. *The 1904 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Key Sheet showing the project area. Project area in yellow.*

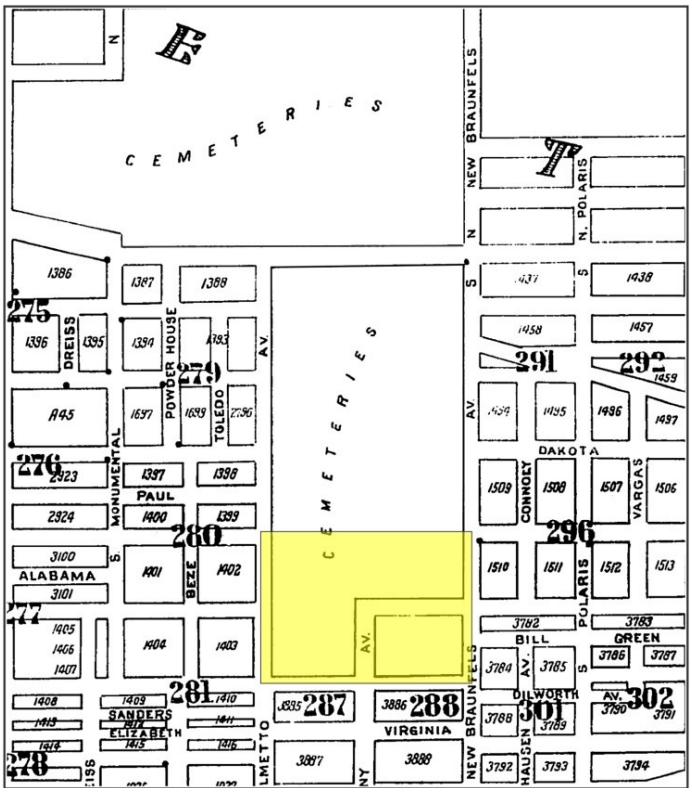

Figure 2-3. *The 1911-1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Key Sheet showing the project area. Project area in yellow.*

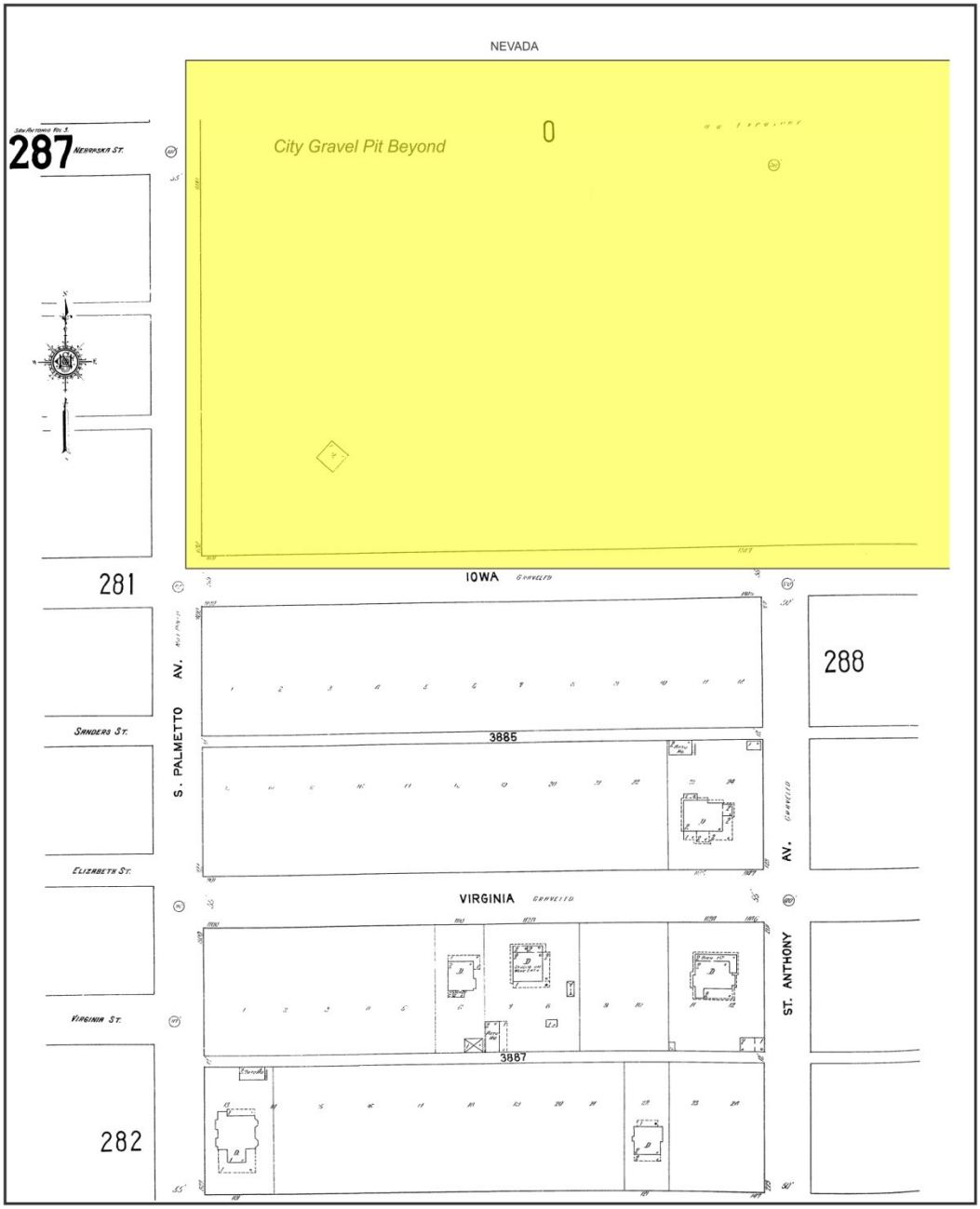

Figure 2-4. *The southwestern portion of the project area on the 1911-1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Project area in yellow.*

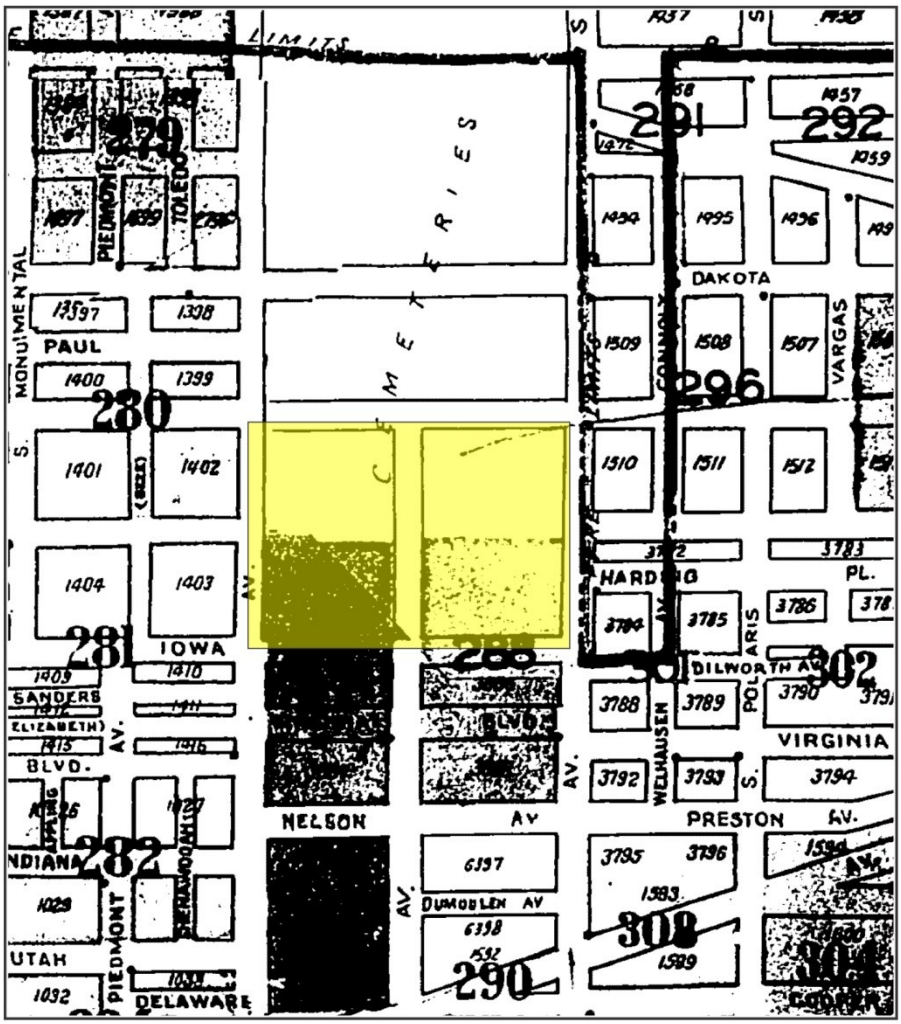

Figure 2-5. *The 1912-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Key Sheet depicting the project area. Project area in yellow.*

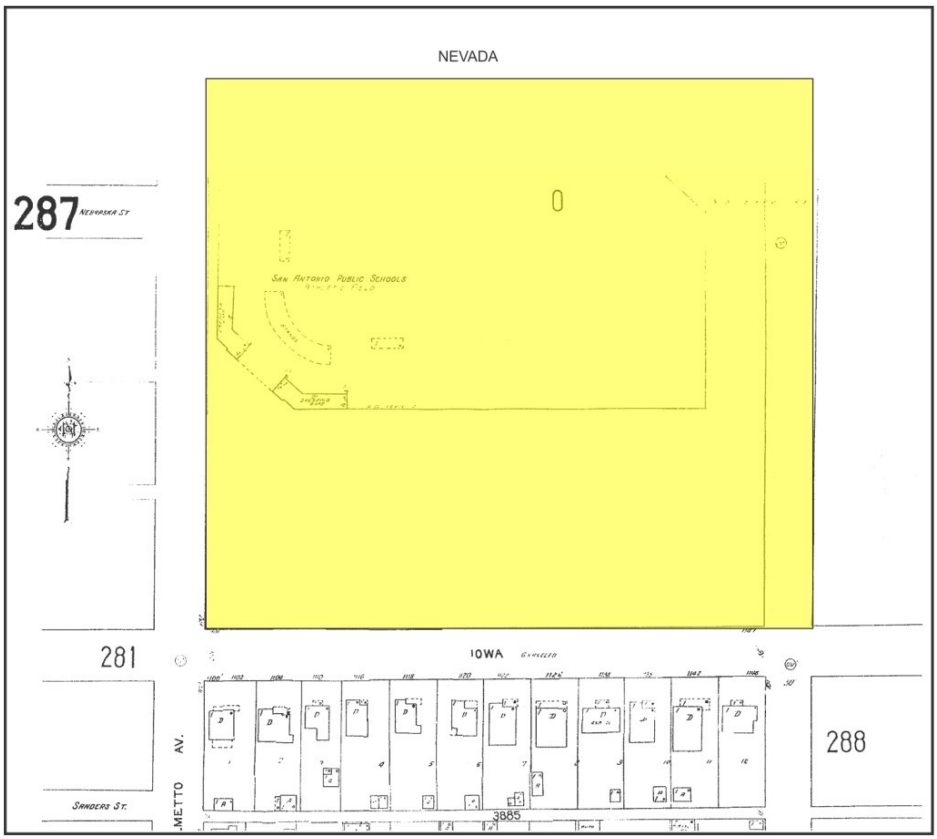

Figure 2-6. *The southwestern portion of the project area on the 1912-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the athletic field. Project area in yellow.*

During the 1940s, many changes took place within the park. Starting in 1940, approximately 2,000 cubic yards of soil was delivered to the ball field at Pittman-Sullivan Park (CM Sept. 5, 1940). It seems that the soil was to be used for the construction of the baseball diamond. On September 19, 1940, the mayor executed a contract for the field as well as locker rooms, bath houses, and additional improvements to the remainder of the park. Other renovations were done throughout the 1940s using federal funds. One item was the construction of bleachers at the baseball field (CM Aug. 7, 1941). In August of 1941, the City hired a truck to haul fill from Alamo Stadium, Baptist Temple, and the Police Station to Pittman-Sullivan Park (CM Aug. 28, 1941).

In October of 1944, the City directed the City Clerk to advertise the sale of land adjacent to the northeastern portion of the park. The sale was to take place on October 12, 1944. The plot of land was located adjacent to the southwestern intersection of South New Braunfels Avenue and Nevada Street (CM Oct. 5, 1944). It appears that this sold plot became the site of St. Gerard Catholic High School. There was no mention in the proceedings that the property had been used as a cemetery at any time.

In 1946, discussion about making the park the home game location for the San Antonio Missions Baseball team began but met with opposition. The City received a telegram from Dr. P.S. Wilkinson of the New Light Baptist Church that stated reasons why the park should not host the baseball team (CM Nov. 29, 1946). The matter was not decided at the meeting, but it was deferred to a later date.

In 1947, a house that was once located at 1306 Mistletoe Avenue was relocated to Pittman-Sullivan Park for a sum of $550 (CM Oct. 9, 1947). In 1949, funds were allotted for the construction of a police radio tower (CM Oct. 29, 1949).

In 1970, the possibility of using the park land for the construction of the Wheatly High School campus was discussed by the City Council (CCMM). The decision was subsequently reached not to go ahead with these plans.

In 1972, the park underwent some renovations to the baseball diamond and associated buildings (CCMM June 8, 1972). During the remainder of the 1970s, several renovation projects were undertaken within the park (CCMM). During the 1980s, the police radio tower was removed from the park (CCMM March 4, 1982). Other smaller improvements were done during the 1980s and were noted in the City Council Minutes such as the installation of sprinklers and light posts.

Located in the southern portion of the project area is the Davis-Scott YMCA that was built during the late 1980s to replace an existing branch. Pittman-Sullivan Park has been the site of the largest Martin Luther King Day event for the past years. It also has been the location of other events such as Texas Funfest (CCMM July 5, 1990).

Previous Archaeological Investigations

A review of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas indicates that no known prehistoric or historic sites are present within the APE. However, it is important to note that this is generally the result of no systematic pedestrian surveys of the APE having been conducted. The nearest archaeological site is 41BX939, the Jones House Site occupied until the 1920s, and it was recorded during the archaeological investigations of the Alamodome Project (Fox et al. 1997) conducted by the CAR in 1990.

Several sites were recorded as part of this project, and 41BX939 is the closest to the APE (approximately 1.6 km [1 mi.] west). The house site was documented during backhoe trenching. Large amounts of post-1900 domestic debris were encountered in association with the ruins of the residence (Fox et al. 1997).

A review of COSA's neighborhood survey results indicates that there are no standing historical structures

within or in the immediate vicinity of the project APE. However, immediately north of the project area, along the north side of Nevada Street, is the beginning of the Eastside Cemetery Historic District (THC 2012). This cemetery is part of the City of San Antonio Cemeteries Historic District. The nearest historical marker (0.6 km; 0.4 mi.) within the confines of the cemetery is the grave marker of Colonel Edward Miles. This marker was recorded in 1964. He was born February 8, 1816, and died April 1, 1889. Colonel Edward Miles served as a soldier in the battles of Anahuac and San Jacinto in the Texas War for Independence, the Mexican War, and the Civil War.

Chapter 3: Archaeological Field and Laboratory Methods

Field Methods

Crew members conducted a linear pedestrian survey of 100 percent of the proposed trail easement accompanied by shovel testing. According to the THC Minimum Survey Standards, the linear survey of a corridor 30.5 m (100 ft.) or less in width requires the excavation of a minimum of 16 shovel tests (STs) when surface visibility is below 50 percent. The scope of work submitted for the acquisition of the survey permit proposed that a minimum of nine shovel tests be excavated along the project easement. If a positive shovel test were to have been encountered, additional shovel tests would have been excavated within 10 m (32.8 ft.) of the positive shovel test along the APE. In case a site is encountered, the THC recommends that a minimum of eight additional shovel tests be excavated to properly define the boundaries of any newly documented site; however, sometimes linear surveys or narrow corridors do not allow room for the excavation of that many additional shovel tests. Nonetheless, the Scope-of-Work allowed for the excavation of additional shovel tests in case of the discovery of archaeological deposits.

For this survey, an archaeological site was to be defined as a specified space containing a requisite number of cultural materials or features at least 50 years old. The definition of a site used for this survey was five or more surface artifacts within a 15-m radius (ca. 706.9 m^2), or

1. A single cultural feature (i.e., a hearth) observed on surface or exposed in shovel testing, or
2. A positive shovel test containing at least three artifacts within any given 10-cm level, or
3. A positive shovel test containing at least five total artifacts, or
4. Two positive shovel tests located within 30 m of each other.

Shovel tests excavated during the project were approximately 30 cm (11.8 in.) in diameter and extended to a depth of 60 cm below the surface (cmbs; 23.6 in.). Shovel tests were excavated in 10 cm (3.9 in.) increments, and all soil from each level was screened through ¼-inch mesh. A shovel test form was completed for every excavated shovel test. Data collected from each shovel test included the final excavation depth, a tally of all materials recovered from each 10 cm (3.9 in.) level, and a brief soil description (texture, consistency, Munsell color, and inclusions). Profile sketches may have been included on the shovel test form, when necessary. The location of every shovel test was recorded with a GPS unit. Shovel test locations were also sketched onto aerial photographs as a backup to GPS information. Any additional observations considered pertinent were included as comments on the standard shovel test excavation form.

No surface artifacts were noted within the project APE, and therefore, the procedures for their recordation are not reviewed here.

Laboratory Methods

All records obtained or generated during the project were prepared in accordance with federal regulations 36 CFR Part 79 and THC requirements for State Held-in-Trust collections. Field forms were printed on acid-free paper and completed with pencil. Field notes, forms, photographs, and drawings were placed in labeled archival folders, and any forms that were soiled during use were placed in archival-quality page protectors to prevent accidental smearing due to moisture. Digital photographs were printed on acid-free paper. All project related materials are permanently stored at the CAR's curation facility.

Chapter 4: Results of the Pedestrian Survey

Reconnaissance of the APE

Prior to the start of the systematic archaeological survey, a reconnaissance of the project area was carried out to determine the extent of disturbances and construction activities in the APE. The Pittman-Sullivan Trail APE is approximately 960 m (3,149 ft.) in length and was not delimited by stakes prior to survey (Figure 4-1). The proposed trail location was determined based on a map overlay provided to the CAR (Figure 1-2). The vegetation had been clear-cut, and surface visibility ranged from 80 to 100 percent within the trail APE.

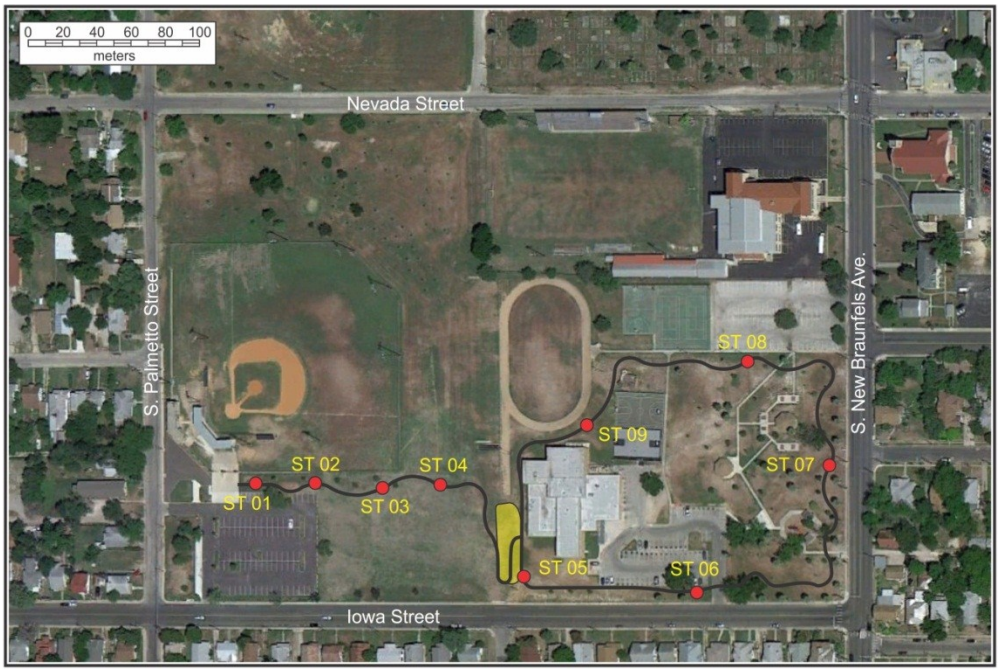

Figure 4-1. *Shovel test locations along proposed trail (disturbed area shaded in yellow).*

Observed disturbances to sediments within the project area stemmed from park landscaping. They included the addition of a thick layer of mulch along the western portion of the APE near Shovel Tests (STs) 1-4. It is clear that the construction of the Davis-Scott YMCA building resulted in surface and subsurface disturbances including the grading of the project area. The southeastern portion of the project area, the yellow shaded area in Figure 4-1 and the photos in Figures 4-2 and 4-3, also revealed that the underlying bedrock is shallowly buried. This supports the observation that buried cultural deposits are not likely to be present within the APE. With the exception of scarce modern artifacts, no additional cultural materials were noted during the reconnaissance of the project easement.

Figure 4-2. *Disturbed area southwest of current YMCA building, showing eroding bedrock with ST 5 in background.*

Figure 4-3. *Disturbed area near ST 5 showing southern boundary of project area, facing northwest.*

Shovel Testing

Subsurface disturbances were recorded in numerous shovel tests. They consisted of construction fill concentrated in the top three to four levels of the shovel tests and were the product of the construction of the Davis-Scott YMCA building and associated park improvements.

All shovel tests (ST 1-9) excavated within the project APE terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.; Table 4-1). None of the nine shovel tests produced cultural materials, and therefore, no archaeological sites were recorded within the Pittman-Sullivan Trail APE. Based on surface and subsurface observations within the Pittman-Sullivan Trail, it is unlikely that intact archaeological deposits exist from surface to 60 cmbs within the APE. Figures 4-4 through 4-13 illustrate the context of each shovel test (Figures 4-4, 4-6, 4-8, 4-10, and 4-12) and the soil stratigraphy exposed by each (Figures 4-5, 4-7, 4-9, 4-11, and 4-13).

Table 4-1. Pittman-Sullivan Trail Project Soil Results – Munsell Colors

Level	ST 1	ST 2	ST 3	St 4	ST 5	ST 6	ST 7	ST 8	ST 9
0-10 cmbs	2.5Y 4/2	10YR 3/1	10YR 4/2 & 10YR 8/1	2.5Y 3/2	2.5Y 5/2	10YR 2/1	10YR4/2	2.5Y 3/2	10YR 4/1
10-20cmbs	2.5Y 6/2	2.5Y 6/4	10YR 8/2 & 10YR 4/1	2.5Y 3/2	2.5Y6/2	10YR 2/1	2.5Y 4/2	2.5Y 3/2	2.5Y 5/2
20-30 cmbs	2.5Y 6/2	2.5Y 6/4	2.5Y 5/2 & 10YR 8/1	2.5Y 4/2 & 2.5Y8/2	2.5Y 7/2	10YR 2/1	2.5Y 5/2	2.5Y 3/2	2.5Y 3/2
30-40 cmbs	2.5Y 7/2	2.5Y 6/4	2.5Y 5/4 & 10YR 8/2	2.5Y 5/2	10YR 8/1	10YR 3/1	2.5Y 5/2 & 2.5Y8/2	2.5Y 4/2	10YR 4/1
40-50 cmbs	2.5Y 8/2	2.5Y 5/4 & 2.5Y 4/4	2.5Y 7/2	2.5Y3/2	10YR 8/2	10YR 2/2	2.5Y 8/2	2.5Y 5/2	10YR 3/1
50-60 cmbs	2.5Y 8/2	2.5Y 6/4	2.5Y 6/4 & 10YR 8/1	2.5Y 3/2	10YR 8/1	10YR 3/2	2.5Y8/2	2.5Y 5/2	10YR 3/1

Figure 4-4. *ST 1 in progress with view of potential disturbances.*

Figure 4-5. *Profile of ST 1 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).*

Figure 4-6. *Location of ST 3, facing west toward ST 1*.

Figure 4-7. *Profile of ST 3 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).*

The area located near ST 5 was noted as the most disturbed area within the project APE and least likely to contain archaeological materials. The shovel test is located atop an eroding limestone embankment. The soil profile (Figure 4-4) exposed by the shovel test shows the petrocalcic limestone of the Rock outcrop-Olmos complex soils.

Figure 4-8. *View of ST 5, facing northwest toward ST 4.*

Figure 4-9. *Profile of ST 5 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).*

Figure 4-10. *Location of ST 7 near the western boundary of project area, facing east.*

Figure 4-11. *Profile of ST 7 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).*

Figure 4-12. *ST 9 between YMCA building and existing track within project area, facing north.*

Figure 4-13. *Profile of ST 9 terminated at 60 cmbs (23.6 in.).*

Chapter 5: Summary and Recommendations

On February 5, 2013, archaeologists from the Center for Archaeological Research at The University of Texas at San Antonio conducted a pedestrian archaeological survey of the planned Pittman-Sullivan pedestrian trail for the City of San Antonio. The survey was conducted under contract with Adams Environmental, Inc. The APE consists of a pedestrian trail and trail heads around the Davis-Scott YMCA building located at Pittman-Sullivan Park, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. The Pittman-Sullivan Park property is bounded by Iowa Street to the south, New Braunfels Avenue to the east, Nevada Street to the north, and Palmetto Avenue to the west. The park covers approximately 29 acres.

The background review carried out in association with the Pittman-Sullivan Trail project indicates that the tract has undergone dramatic impacts since its initial establishment as a park. In the late 1910s and early 1920s, a portion of the park consisted of the remnants of the City Gravel Pit. To help clean up the City after the massive 1921 floods, the flood debris may have been dumped in the western section of the park. It is possible that after abandonment, the gravel pit may have been cleverly reused to create a sunken garden by the late 1920s. A concrete tree sculpture attributed to famed San Antonio artist Dionicio Rodriguez stood in the garden at one time. City cemetery lots stood north of the project boundary but none look to have extended inside of the project APE.

Prior to the inception of the field investigations and in addition to the historical review, the project archaeologist also examined the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas, records of the CAR, and archaeological reports associated with projects conducted in the vicinity of the APE were consulted. The review found no known previously documented historic or prehistoric sites recorded within the APE.

The planned trail system and its easement stretch for approximately 1 km (0.6 mi.) within the park boundary. The archaeological pedestrian survey included a reconnaissance of the project easement prior to shovel testing and the subsequent excavation of nine shovel test units thereafter. Due to the shallowness (12-14 inches) of the projected impacts, only shovel testing was proposed as an investigative technique.

The shovel testing to 60 cm (23.6 in.) below the surface revealed significant subsurface disturbances associated with the construction of the Davis-Scott YMCA building and associated improvements to park facilities, such as the addition of a playground and the construction of baseball fields within Pittman-Sullivan Park. In addition, the survey also revealed that bedrock is shallowly buried below the current surface indicating that there is little chance for cultural deposits to be buried below the terminal depth of the shovel tests excavated during the project.

Recommendations

No previously recorded archaeological sites are present within Pittman-Sullivan Park. Furthermore, the archaeological investigations of the project area revealed no shallowly buried cultural deposits that may be impacted by the proposed project. The distance of the project area from existing streams and water sources limits the likelihood of significant prehistoric occupations occurring within the project easement. Historic cultural deposits associated with the former sunken garden have not been identified within the project easement and they may have been heavily impacted during historic times. No evidence has been found of the use of the park proper as a cemetery. Given these findings it is suggested that the proposed project be carried out as planned since no historic properties will be impacted as part of the proposed improvements.

References Cited:

Allen, P.
2012 "Disappearance of Pittman-Sullivan Park tree a mystery." *San Antonio Express News*. Sunday, 4 November. Electronic document, http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/news_columnists/article/Dissappearance-of-Pittman-Sullivan-Park-tree-a-4006547.php, accessed March 12, 2013.

Barnes, V.E.
1983 Geological Atlas of Texas. San Antonio Sheet. Robert Hamilton Cuyler Memorial ed. Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin.

Black, S.L.
1986 *The Clemente and Herminia Hinojosa Site, 41JW8: A Toyah Horizon Campsite in Southern Texas*. Special Report No. 18. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

1989 Central Texas Plateau Prairie. In *From the Gulf Coast to the Rio Grande: Human Adaptation in Central, South and Lower Pecos Texas*, edited by T.R. Hester, S.L. Black, D.G. Steele, B.W. Olive, A.A. Fox, K.J. Reinhard, and L. C. Bement, pp. 17-38. Research Series No. 33. Arkansas Archaeological Survey, Fayetteville.

Black, S.L., and D.G. Creel
1997 The Central Texas Burned Rock Midden Reconsidered. In *Hot Rock Cooking on the Greater Edwards Plateau: Four Burned Rock Midden Sites in West Central Texas*, edited by S.L. Black, L.W. Ellis, D.G. Creel, and G.T. Goode, pp. 446-515. Studies in Archaeology 22. Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin.

Black, S.L., and A.J. McGraw
1985 *The Panther Springs Creek Site: Cultural Change and Continuity in the Upper Salado Creek Drainage, South Central Texas*. Archaeological Survey Report, No. 100. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Blair, W.F.
1950 The Biotic Provinces of Texas. *The Texas Journal of Science* 2(1):93-117.

City Council Meeting Minute (CCMM)
Electronic document, http://www.sanantonio.gov/clerk/ArchiveSearch/AdvancedSearch.aspx, accessed March 12, 2013.

Commission Minutes (CM)
Electronic document, http://www.sanantonio.gov/clerk/ArchiveSearch/AdvancedSearch.aspx, accessed March 12, 2013.

Collins, M.B.
1995 Forty Years of Archeology in Central Texas. *Bulletin of the Texas Archaeological Society* 66:361-400.

1998 *Wilson-Leonard: An 11,000 Year Archeological Record of Hunter-Gatherers in Central Texas.* Studies in Archeology 31. Texas Archeological Research Laboratory. The University of Texas at Austin.

Davis, W.B., and D.J. Schmidly
1994 *The Mammals of Texas*. Texas Parks and Wildlife, Austin.

Foster, W.C.
1998 *The La Salle Expedition to Texas: The Journal of Henri Joutel 1664-1687*. Texas State Historical Association, Austin.

Fox, A.A., M. Renner and R.J. Hard
1997 *Archaeology at the Alamodome: Investigations of a San Antonio Neighborhood in Transition*. Archaeological Report No. 237. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Handbook of Texas Online
2013 Bexar County. Texas State Historical Society. Electronic document, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcb07, accessed January 29, 2013.

Hester, T.R.
1995 The Prehistory of South Texas. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 66:427-459.

Johnson, L., and G. Goode
1994 A New Try at Dating and Characterizing Holocene Climates, as well as Archaeological Periods, on the Eastern Edwards Plateau. *Bulletin of the Texas Archaeological Society* 65:1-15.

Kutac, E.A.
1994 Birds. In *Birds & Other Wildlife of South Central Texas*, edited by E.A. Kutac and S.C. Caran, pp. 47-102. University of Texas Press, Austin.

McGraw, A.J.
1985 An Overview of the Prehistory of the Upper Salado Creek Watershed. In *The Panther Springs Creek Site: Cultural Change and Continuity within the Upper Salado Creek Watershed, South-Central Texas,* edited by S.L. Black and A.J. McGraw, pp. 302-330. Archaeological Survey Report, No. 100. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Nickels, D.L.
2000 *The Beisenbach Site (41WN88): A Case Study in Diet Breadth*. Unpublished Master's thesis, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Prewitt, E.R.
1981 Culture Chronology in Central Texas. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 52:65-89.

San Antonio Municipal Archives (SAMA)
Electronic document, http://www.sanantonio.gov/clerk/ArchiveSearch/AdvancedSearch.aspx, accessed March 12, 2013.

San Antonio Neighborhood Tours
2013 Electronic document, http://www.saculturaltours.com/spot.php?t=3&s=277, accessed March 12, 2013.

Soil Survey Staff
2013 Web Soil Survey. Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Electronic document, http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/, accessed January 25, 2013.

Spearing, D.
1991 *Roadside Geology of Texas*. Roadside Geology Series. Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana.

Tankersley, K.B., and B.L. Isaac
1990 Early Paleoindian Economies of North America. JAI Press, Greenwich, Connecticut.

Taylor, F.B., R.B. Hailey, and D.L. Richmond
1962 *Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas*. United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Taylor, R.
1996 *The New Handbook of Texas in Six Volumes*. Texas State Historical Association, Austin.

Texas A&M Forest Service
2008 Tree Identification. Electronic document, http://texastreeid.tamu.edu/, accessed February 21, 2013.

Texas Historical Commission (THC)
2013 Texas Archeological Site Atlas. Electronic document, http://nueces.thc.state.tx.us/, accessed January 29, 2013.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)
2013a Edwards Plateau Ecological Region. Electronic document, http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/habitats/cross_timbers/ecoregions/edwards_plateau.p html, accessed February 21, 2013.

2013b GIS Vegetation Types of Texas. Electronic document, http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/pwd_bn_w7000_0120/woods/, accessed January 27, 2013.

United States Geologic Service (USGS)
2013 Mineral Resources and Online Spatial Data. Uvalde Gravel. Electronic document, http://mrdata.usgs.gov/geology/state/sgmc-unit.php?unit=TXQTu;0, accessed February 21, 2013.