Intensive Archaeological Survey of the Intech Office Development, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Principal Investigator: Melanie Nichols, M.Sc.

Prepared for:
Garrison/Namvar Construction
9110 IH-10 West, Suite #111
San Antonio, Texas 78230

Report Authors:
Melanie Nichols, M.Sc.; Jacob I. Sullivan, B.S.; Katie Hill, M.A.; and Nesta Anderson, Ph.D

Pape-Dawson
2000 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, TX 78213

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Abstract

Pape-Dawson Engineers (Pape-Dawson) conducted a cultural resources survey of the proposed Intech Office development project located within San Antonio in Bexar County, Texas. The irregularly-shaped project area is maximally 813 feet (ft) (248 meters [m]) northwest to southeast and 644 ft (196 m) southwest to northeast, for a total area of approximately 11.14-acres (4.5 hectare [ha]). The proposed development will include the construction of an office building and parking lot. As the project area is currently in the design phase, the location and maximum depths of subsurface impacts are unknown, though the impacts within the project area are anticipated to include bulldozing and grading as well as the installation of associated utility lines.

Pape-Dawson’s archaeological survey for the Intech Office development project was conducted in compliance with the Historic Preservation and Design Section of the city’s Unified Development Code (UDC). However, as no federal funding or permitting is anticipated for this project, and it is situated on private property, compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas was not required. All work was done in accordance with the archaeological survey standards and guidelines as developed by the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA) and adopted by the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

The entirety of the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area was subjected to visual inspection augmented by judgmentally placed shovel tests in order to evaluate the impact of the proposed project on cultural resources. A total of 23 shovel tests was excavated, exceeding the state’s minimum standard of 1 shovel test every 2 acres for project areas measuring between 11 to 100 acres in size. Of the 23 shovel tests, only 2 were positive for cultural material.

During the course of the current survey, Pape-Dawson archaeologists revisited site 41BX1616. No new archaeological sites were encountered or recorded. In addition, 3 historic-age structures were photographed and are presented in the Appendix of this report.

Site 41BX1616 is recorded as a German farmstead built circa 1850. While the majority of the site is mapped outside the limits of the current project area, a small portion of the site falls within the project area’s eastern corner. During the current survey, the portion of site 41BX1616 that extends into the current project area was investigated and was found to consist of a small scatter of historic artifacts and the remains of two dry-stacked limestone dams.
Archival research revealed that both the Braun and Knowlton families were associated with the larger property containing the site during the first half of the twentieth century. While the Braun family lived on the property during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Knowltons appear to have only operated a commercial dairy on the land during the early-to-mid-twentieth century without ever living on it. Shovel testing at the portion of site 41BX1616 within the project area recovered a few twentieth century artifacts, only one of which was diagnostic, suggesting that the site could be associated with either one of these families. This lack of artifacts reflects that only a small portion of the site is located within the current project area, and that the remainder of the site extends onto an adjacent tract, on which historic-age structures were once located.

Based on the results of the archival research and archaeological fieldwork, Pape-Dawson recommends that the portion of site 41BX1616 that extends into the current project area is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under any criteria or for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL), in compliance with the UDC. The principal investigator recommends no further archaeological work is necessary for the proposed project and that the project be allowed to proceed. However, if evidence of cultural material is encountered during construction, it is recommended that all work in the vicinity should cease and the COSA archaeologist be contacted.

No artifacts were collected, and all project records and photographs will be curated at the Center for Archeological Research (CAR) at the University of Texas at San Antonio.
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Management Summary

Garrison/Namvar Construction proposes to development an 11.14-acre (4.5 hectare [ha]) tract of land (project area) for commercial use. The project area is located in northwest San Antonio in Bexar County, Texas. The proposed development will include the construction of an office building and parking lot. Subsurface impacts to the project area are anticipated to include bulldozing and grading as well as the installation of associated utility lines. As the proposed project is currently in the design phase, the maximum depth of ground disturbance has not yet been established.

Pape-Dawson’s archaeological survey for the Intech Office development project was conducted in compliance with the Historic Preservation and Design Section of the city’s Unified Development Code (UDC). However, as no federal funding or permitting is anticipated for this project, and it is situated on private property, compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas was not required. All work was done in accordance with the archaeological survey standards and guidelines as developed by the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA) and adopted by the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Pape-Dawson archaeologists Melanie Nichols and Jake Sullivan conducted the field work between April 18 and 21, 2017. As a result of the field effort, one previously recorded archaeological site (41BX1616) was revisited. In addition, 3 historic-age structures were photographed and are presented in the Appendix of this report.

Site 41BX1616 is recorded as a German farmstead built circa 1850. While the majority of the site is mapped outside the limits of the current project area, a small portion of the site falls within the project area’s eastern corner. During the current survey, the portion of site 41BX1616 that extends into the current project area was investigated and was found to consist of a small scatter of historic artifacts including four glass shards, one wire nail, and one .22 shell casing at depths ranging from 0-30 cm below the surface. The artifact assemblage indicates that the historic component within the current project area likely dates to the twentieth century.

Based on the results of the archival research and archaeological fieldwork, Pape-Dawson recommends that the portion of site 41BX1616 that extends into the current project area is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under any criteria or for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL), in compliance with the UDC. The principal investigator recommends no
further archaeological work is necessary for the proposed project and that the project be allowed to proceed. However, if evidence of cultural material is encountered during construction, it is recommended that all work in the vicinity should cease and the COSA archaeologist be contacted.
Introduction

Garrison/Namvar Construction proposes to development an 11.14-acre (4.5 hectare [ha]) tract of land (project area) for commercial use. The project area is located in northwest San Antonio in Bexar County, Texas (Figures 1). The 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area is bounded by Braun Road to the south, Leslie Road to the west, a paved driveway to the north, and commercial development to the east. The proposed development will include the construction of an office building and parking lot. Impacts to the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area are anticipated to include bulldozing and grading as well as the installation of associated utility lines. Depth of ground disturbance for all improvements will vary. However, as the project is currently in the design phase, the location and maximum depth of impact for the various improvements is presently unknown.

Pape-Dawson’s archaeological survey for the Intech Office development project was conducted in compliance with the Historic Preservation and Design Section of the city’s Unified Development Code (UDC). However, as no federal funding or permitting is anticipated for this project, and it is situated on private property, compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas was not required.

Pape Dawson’s investigations of the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area included an intensive pedestrian survey with shovel testing. The goals of the investigation were to: (1) locate all prehistoric and historic cultural resources, if present, within the project area; (2) establish vertical and horizontal site boundaries, as appropriate with respect to the project area; (3) evaluate the significance of recorded cultural resources with regard to National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and State Antiquities Landmark (SAL) eligibility, in compliance with the UDC. In addition, Pape-Dawson archaeologists also photo-documented and mapped potential historic-age structures within the project area, the results of which are present in the Appendix of this report.
Figure 1: Project Location Map
**Project Setting**

Located in northwest San Antonio, the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area is situated just east of the Braun Rd and Leslie Rd intersection. The project area is one of several undeveloped tracts of land oriented northeast to southwest along an unnamed tributary of Helotes Creek (Figure 2). Commercial development abuts the project area to the southeast, while residential development sits across Leslie Road to the northwest. Recent aerial maps depict the project area as undeveloped and partially wooded. The unnamed tributary to Helotes Creek dissects the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area into southeastern and northwestern portions. The southeastern portion of the project is situated across upland terrain and is more densely vegetated, while the northwestern portion falls across stream terraces with sparse tree cover.

The underlying geology of the project area is mapped as Pleistocene-age Leona Formation, which consists of fine calcareous silt grading down to coarse gravel (Bureau of Economic Geology [BEG] 1983). The soils that are mapped within the project area belong to the Eckrant (TaB), Lewisville (LvB), Patrick (PaB), and Stephen (ScC) series (Figure 3). The dominant soil is mapped as Eckrant cobbly clay (1-3 percent slopes). Eckrant soils are taxonomically classified as Mollisols and are formed in residuum derived from limestone. These soils are typically found on nearly level to very steep summits, shoulders, and backslopes of ridges and are characterized by very dark gray very cobbly clay (A-horizon) yielding to coarsely fractured indurated limestone bedrock (R-horizon) at an average depth of 30 centimeters (cm) (12 inches) below the ground surface. The second most common soil within the project area is mapped as Lewisville silty clay (1-3 percent slopes). Lewisville soils are classified as Mollisols and are formed in ancient loamy and clayey calcareous sediments. These upland soils occur in the stream terraces of river valleys and are characterized by dark grayish brown silty clay (A-horizon) yielding to grayish brown silty clay (B-horizon) at an average depth of 41 cm (16 inches) below the ground surface. The next most common soil is mapped as Patrick soils (1-3 percent slopes, rarely flooded). Patrick soils are classified as Mollisols and are formed in clayey over gravelly sediments. These upland soils occur on nearly level to strongly sloping ancient terraces and are characterized by dark grayish brown clay (A-horizon) yielding to brown clay (B-horizon) at an average depth of 25 cm (10 inches) below ground surface. The remainder of the soils is mapped as Stephen silty clay (3-5 percent slopes). Stephen soils are classified as Mollisols and are formed in residuum weathered from chalk. These soils occur on gently sloping to sloping uplands. Stephen soils are characterized by brown silty clay (A-horizon) overlying very pale brown platy
Figure 2: Project Area Map

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chalk (Cr-horizon) at an average depth of 30 cm (12 inches) below the ground surface (Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture 2016).

Within the project area the soils are a mix of shallow upland soils and moderately deep beds of ancient alluvium. These soils are considered to have a low potential to contain deeply buried cultural material, and thus it was anticipated that archaeological deposits, if present, would be found on the surface or reachable through shovel test investigations.
Figure 3: Soils Map

Legend

- Project Area
- Lewisville Silty Clay (LvB)
- Patrick Soils (PaB)
- Stephen Silty Clay (ScC)
- Eckrant Cobbly Clay (TaB)

COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD83 UTM ZONE 14N, METER
BASEMAP: GOOGLE©

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Historic Setting

San Antonio was the site of many occupations by prehistoric peoples, but Europeans did not explore the area until the seventeenth century. Alonso de León’s 1689 and 1690 expeditions and Domingo Terán de los Ríos’ 1691 expedition were likely some of the first interactions between Europeans and Native groups (de la Teja 1995:6). These explorations helped the Spanish choose locations to establish five missions in and around what would later become San Antonio. Don Martín de Alarcón established the first mission, San Antonio de Valero, in 1718, on the west bank of the San Pedro Creek, followed by the Presidio San Antonio de Béxar and the Villa de Béxar (de la Teja 1995). However, by 1722 the Marqués de San Miguel de Aguayo had moved the presidio and villa downstream to a second location along San Pedro Creek. Other missions, including Mission San José y San Miguel de Aguayo, Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción, San Juan Capistrano, and San Francisco de la Espada were established in the area from 1720 to 1731 (Clark et al. 1975). Most of the Native American people recruited to live at these missions comprised many different groups (Campbell 1977), but it is difficult to know all the groups that were present due to the variations in spelling and phonetic complexity. The missions used this Native labor force to construct acequias, or irrigation ditches, which helped them to develop self-sustaining communities bordered by farmland (Long 2010).

In 1731, Spain sent 16 families from the Canary Islands to the villa de Béxar to establish the secular village. With the arrival of these families, surveyors set out the city’s main plaza, or Plaza de las Islas, next to the church, designated a spot for the Casas Reales, and began to establish residential lots (Spell 1962). In 1773, San Antonio de Béxar Presidio was named the capital of Spanish Texas, and the settlement including mission Indians had a population of about 2,000 by 1778 (Fehrenbach 2010). During this period of early settlement, water was an essential component for successful settlement and survival. The acequia system, begun with the arrival of the missionaries, continued to expand to serve irrigation and drinking water needs. The acequia system influenced the street layout in the city (Cox 2005:20) and played an integral part in contact between the Spanish, who brought the engineering concepts for the system, and the indigenous groups forced to provide the construction labor.

During the 1820s and early 1830s, American settlers began moving to San Antonio in increasing numbers, though the population remained predominately Mexican. In 1824, Texas and Coahuila were united into a single state with its capital at Saltillo. San Antonio fought for Mexican Independence in
1813, then for its own sovereignty during the Texas Revolution. The Siege of Bexar and the Battle of the Alamo, in 1835 and 1836, were both located within San Antonio, showing its importance in the region. After Texas gained its independence from Mexico in 1836, Bexar County was created and San Antonio was chartered as its seat (Long 2010). However, this was not the end of conflict in the city; a dispute with Comanche Indians resulted in the Council House Fight in 1840, and Woll’s invasion in 1842 precipitated Texas’ entrance into the United States as the 28th state.

On March 2, 1861, Texas seceded from the Union about a month before the Civil War began. San Antonio became a Confederate storage area as well as a location where military units could be organized; however, the city kept its distance from most of the actual fighting (Fehrenbach 2010). After the Civil War, San Antonio continued to grow larger, spurred on by the arrival of the railroad in 1877 (Fehrenbach 2010). Industries such as cattle, distribution, ranching, mercantile, gas, oil, and military centers in San Antonio prospered. The city served as the distribution point for the Mexico-United States border as well as the rest of the southwest. At the turn of the twentieth century, San Antonio was the largest city in Texas with a population of more than 53,000. Much of the city’s growth after the Civil War was a result of an influx of southerners fleeing the decimated, reconstruction-era south. An additional population increase came after 1910, when large numbers of Mexicans began moving into Texas to escape the Mexican Revolution (Fehrenbach 2010).

Modernization increased dramatically between the 1880s and the 1890s, compared to the rest of the United States. Civic government, utilities, electric lights and street railways, street paving and maintenance, water supply, telephones, hospitals, and a city power plant were all built or planned around this time (Fehrenbach 2010). The First United States Volunteer Cavalry was organized in San Antonio during the Spanish-American War, and San Antonio was an important military center for the army and air forces during both world wars. Its five military bases provided an important economic base and contributed to the evolution of the city’s medical research industry.

In 1921, a disastrous flood engulfed downtown San Antonio with up to 12 ft (3.7 m) of water. The Olmos Dam was built in response to this event to prevent further flooding. Sections of the San Antonio River were straightened and widened in areas to control the water flow. Another recommendation was to construct an underground channel in downtown San Antonio and to cover portions of the river with concrete. This last idea was controversial, but a compromise was eventually agreed upon to create a
Riverwalk with shops and restaurants along the water channel, which was completed in 1941 (Fisher 2010).
Methods

Records Review
Prior to fieldwork, Pape-Dawson archaeologists conducted a thorough background literature and records search of the proposed project area. This research included reviewing the Helotes (2998-312) U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and searching the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas) online database for any previously recorded surveys and historic or prehistoric archaeological sites located within a 0.62-mile (1-km) radius of the project area. The review also included information on the following types of cultural resources: NRHP-listed properties and districts, SALs, Official Texas Historical Markers (OTHM), Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL), and cemeteries. The archaeologists also examined the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Survey of Bexar County (Taylor et al. 1991), Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey, the Geologic Atlas of Texas-San Antonio Sheet (BEG 1983), and historic maps and aerials that depict the project area (Nationwide Environmental Title Research Online [NETR Online] 2016).

Fieldwork
Pape-Dawson archaeologists conducted an intensive cultural resources survey of the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area that included a 100-percent pedestrian survey augmented with shovel testing. Survey methods followed the Council of Texas Archeologists’ Archeological Survey Standards for Texas. Archaeologists examined the entire ground surface along transects spaced 98 ft (30 m) apart and any erosional exposures for cultural resources. Subsurface investigations were placed in settings with the potential to contain buried cultural materials. A total of 23 shovel tests were excavated to investigate the 11.14-acre project area. Shovel tests were approximately 12 inches (30 cm) in diameter and were excavated to sterile substrate, bedrock, or to a maximum of 31.5 inches (80 cm) below the ground surface when intact soils were encountered. Soils were screened through ¼-inch (.64-cm) hardware mesh unless they were dominated by clay. Clay soils were finely divided and hand sorted. Shovel tests were visually described, mapped using a handheld Trimble GPS unit, and backfilled upon completion.

Archaeological site boundaries located on the property were defined within the project area. Sites were then recorded on TexSite forms in the field, and the forms were submitted to the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL). Artifacts observed during the survey were photographed and documented in the field, but not collected. Project records and photographs will be curated at the Center for
Archaeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio (CAR-UTSA) following their specific standards of preparation.

In addition, Pape-Dawson archaeologists recorded potential historic-age structures present within the project area. Each structure was photographed, and the location of each recorded structure was mapped using a Trimble GPS unit.

ARCHIVAL

Pape-Dawson historians conducted archival research to identify historic land owners and potential occupants of the land tract containing site 41BX1616 that was revisited as part of the current survey. The effort involved using the Bexar County Clerk’s online research tool to construct the chain of title for the parcel of land containing the site. In addition, Pape-Dawson used the Texas General Land Office Land Grant Database to identify the land grant and patent. Once parcel owners had been identified, historians conducted census research on HeritageQuest online for additional insight into which of these owners could have occupied the sites. This information was used to present the SAL and NRHP-eligibility assessments included in the results section, in compliance with the COSA’s UDC.
Results

Records Review

The background review revealed no previously documented NRHP-listed properties or districts or SALs within the project area or within the 1-km study area. However, one OTHM, two cemeteries (Helotes Lutheran Cemetery and Zion Lutheran Cemetery), and three local historic landmarks (Zion Lutheran Cemetery, Zion Lutheran Church, and Two Rock Houses) are mapped within 1 km of the project footprint (Figure 4). In addition, three previously recorded archaeological sites (41BX1003, 41BX1615, and 41BX1616) are located within 1 km of the project area (Figure 5). Of these, one site (41BX1616) falls within the limits of the current project area. Three linear archaeological surveys have been previously conducted within 1 km of the project area, but none within the current project area itself.

Sites 41BX1615 and 41BX1616 were first recorded by San Antonio City Archaeologist Kay Hindes in 2005 and are described as German farmsteads built circa 1850. Site 41BX1615 is located roughly 90 meters (295 feet) southwest of the project area within a wooded tract adjacent to property developed by Zion Lutheran Church. Site 41BX1616 is partially mapped within the east corner of the current project area. Based on recent aerial maps of the area, much of the site has been impacted by commercial development along the Loop 1604 frontage road.

Located approximately 0.95 km (0.59 miles) south of the current project area, site 41BX1003 is a multi-component site first recorded in 1993. The site consists of a prehistoric lithic scatter of unknown cultural affiliation and the remains of a late-nineteenth century stone farmstead. Prehistoric artifacts observed include debitage and bifacial tools. Historic artifacts observed in association with the farmstead include white earthenware, stoneware, and semi-porcelain ceramics; clear, aqua, amethyst, and lamp glass fragments; cut nails, barbed wire, and a metal buckle.
Figure 4: Previously Recorded Historic Resources within 1 km of the Project Area
Map and Aerial Photograph Review


Historic topographic map and aerial photograph research (NETR Online var. 2011) identified two HHPAs within the project area (Figure 6). Two structures are mapped in the southeastern side of the project area on the 1959 topo. While the structures are not observed on the 1955 aerial, two tracks can be seen leading to both locations. The long rectangular shape of the northeastern most structure (HHPA-1) can be seen on the 1963 aerial but has been removed or demolished by 1986. The second structure (HHPA-2), located roughly 104 meters (340 feet) southwest of HHPA1, is too small to be observed on any of the aerials but is also not present on any of the topo maps subsequent to 1959. The historic aerials and maps also show that the northwestern portion of the project area was cleared and likely plowed from at least 1955 to 1986, while the southeastern portion remained moderately wooded.

FIELDWORK

Pape-Dawson archaeologists, Melanie Nichols and Jacob Sullivan, conducted an intensive archaeological survey of the project area on April 18 and 21, 2017. The field crew walked the entire project area, at transects spaced 98 ft (30 m) apart, visually inspecting the ground surface for artifacts and features. Shovel tests were placed in areas with the perceived potential for intact soils and with low ground surface visibility. Shovel tests were also placed within the portion of site 41BX1616 that falls within the project area and within the previously defined HHPAs.

The landscape of the project area was found to consist of gently to moderately sloping upland landforms bisected by an unnamed tributary of Helotes Creek. Vegetation primarily consisted of short grass, prickly pear, and groves of oak, mesquite, and persimmon trees. Ground surface visibility throughout the project area was generally poor depending on leaf litter and grasses (Figure 7).

Disturbances within the project area have resulted from both natural and artificial impacts. Artificial impacts included the installation of two culverts as well as a small and now heavily degraded asphalt parking area located within the west corner of the project area along Braun Road. Additional artificial
Legend

- Project Area
- Stream
- HHPA

Figure 6: Historic High Probability Area (HHPA) Map

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impacts include the clearing of the land west of the unnamed tributary, a push pile located near the eastern corner of the project area consisting of tree branches and narrow black plastic piping (Figure 8), and a dump site consisted mostly of furniture (Figure 9) and modern debris within HHPA-2. Natural impacts include erosion and bioturbation caused by roots and burrowing worms and insects.

Shovel test excavations revealed that the soils varied across the project area from shallow rocky upland soils to slightly deeper ancient alluvial clayey soils. Those excavated in the uplands southeast of the Helotes Creek tributary typically exposed dark grayish brown gravelly loam to clay loam to a max depth of 30 cm below surface before encountering dense limestone cobbles or bedrock (Figure 10). This generally corresponded to Eckrant cobbly clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes mapped in the area. Soils northwest of the tributary typically ranged from brown to very dark grayish brown silty clay loam and clay loam with a max depth of 30 cm below surface before encountering dense limestone cobbles or bedrock (Figure 11). These tended to correspond to Patrick soils, 1 to 3 percent slopes, rarely flooded, mapped in the area. A single shovel test (JS10), excavated near the western corner of the project area, encountered the Lewisville silty clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes soil mapped within this portion of the project
Figure 8: Push-pile consisting of tree branches and black plastic piping, facing northwest

Figure 9: Dump site with modern furniture within project area, facing north
Figure 10: Typical profile of shovel test excavated southeast of Helotes tributary, facing south

Figure 11: Typical profile of shovel test excavated northwest of Helotes tributary, facing southeast
area. The soil exposed in the shovel test was black, silty clay. The shovel test was terminated at a depth of 50 cm below surface upon encountering pre-Holocene clay (Figure 12) (USGS 2016).

During the survey effort, a total of 23 shovel tests were excavated (Figure 13). Of those, 2 shovel tests were positive for cultural material. The two positive shovel tests were located within the previously recorded boundary of site 41BX1616. Additionally, three historic-age structures were identified including two small dams located on the north end of the unnamed tributary to Helotes Creek and one outhouse located within a modern dump site and within HHPA-2. The dams are constructed of dry-stacked limestone cobbles and boulders, the original configuration and age of which are unknown. However, as the dams are likely associated with site 41BX1616, the site boundary was extended to include these structures. The outhouse is a wooden structure fitted together with wire nails atop a cement slab (see Appendix). The outhouse may have been associated with the structure mapped in HHPA-2 on the 1959 historic topo map. However, it appears that the outhouse has been moved from its original location as no evidence of a pit beneath the outhouse was observed. In addition, no artifacts were observed on the surface or were recovered from shovel tests placed near these historic-age structures.
This page has been redacted as it contains restricted information
SITE DESCRIPTION

During the current survey, no new archaeological sites were encountered or recorded. However, a portion of previously recorded site 41BX1616 located within the project area was revisited. A detailed description of the revisited portion of the archaeological site is presented below, followed by a discussion of the history of the tract where the site is located.

Site 41BX1616

Setting and Description

Site 41BX1616 is situated on an upland rise overlooking an unnamed tributary of Helotes Creek to the west. The portion of the site revisited during the current survey is located in the eastern corner of the project area. Vegetation consists of seasonal grasses, weeds, and prickly pear with patches of mature oak, mesquite, and persimmon trees (Figure 14). Soils in the area have been mapped as Eckrant cobbly clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes (Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture 2016).

Figure 14: Overview of Site 41BX1616 within the project area, facing northeast

Site 41BX1616 (Reumple Complex) is a German farmstead built circa 1850. The site was initially recorded by San Antonio City Archaeologist Kay Hindes and avocational archaeologist David Calame in 2005.
UTSA-CAR revisited the site during their survey for the North Loop 1604 Improvements Project in 2008. At that time, UTSA-CAR identified three standing structures at the site though all three structures were located outside of the limits of their project area. However, a review of historic aerial maps shows as many as seven structures stood within the site as far back as 1955. Of those seven, one structure (an outbuilding, HHPA-1) was located within the eastern corner of the current project area. The outbuilding reappears on the subsequent 1975 and 1983 topo maps as well as on the 1973 aerial photograph. However, the structure does not appear on the following 1986 aerial photograph indicating that the structure had been removed or demolished by this time (NETR Online var. 2011). Recent aerial maps of the area show that much of the site situated outside of the current project area has been impacted by commercial development along the Loop 1604 frontage road. As a result, it appears that there are no longer any standing structures associated with site 41BX1616.

Work Performed and Recommendation

Pape-Dawson archaeologists revisited site 41BX1616 during the course of the current survey. The ground surface was visually inspected, and nine shovel tests were excavated to investigate the potential for subsurface archaeological deposits within and near the portion of the original site boundary that extends into the current project area (Figure 15). Shovel tests exposed a shallow layer (10 to 30 cm think) of dark grayish brown gravelly clay loam over indurated limestone bedrock. Two of the nine shovel tests were positive for cultural material, yielding glass shards, a wire nail, and a .22 shell casing at depths ranging from 0-30 cmbs. No artifacts were observed on the ground surface. However, ground surface visibility at the site was limited due to dense vegetation. In addition to the artifacts, the remains of two limestone dams (see Appendix) were encountered. As the dams are likely associated with site 41BX1616, the site boundary was extended to include these structures (see Figure 15).

Artifacts

Pape-Dawson archaeologists recorded artifacts in two site shovel tests (ST). ST01 yielded three colorless bottle glass shards, two of which were heavily patinated, and one wire nail dating to the twentieth century (Wells 1998) at depths ranging from 0-10 cmbs (Figure 16). ST02 yielded one colorless window glass shard and one .22 Long Rifle (LR) rimfire shell casing at depths ranging from 20-30 cmbs (Figure 17). This .22 LR shell casing has limited diagnostic utility as it lacks a visible headstamp, which typically identifies the manufacturer. The .22 LR is one of the most long lived and popular cartridges going back to its introduction in 1887 (Kokalis 2001). This cartridge is still in production today. Overall, the assemblage observed and recovered at site 41BX1616 during the current survey appears to date to the twentieth century.
This page has been redacted as it contains restricted information
Figure 16: Artifacts recovered from ST01 within site 41BX1616.

Figure 17: Artifacts recovered from ST02 within site 41BX1616.
Archival Research (History of the Tract Containing Site 41BX1616)

Site 41BX1616 is located on a tract of land that the State of Texas originally granted to Joseph Braden, who patented the tract in 1860 (Texas General Land Office 2017). Braden was the recipient of a 160-acre Preemption Grant, which required settlers to live on a tract of land for three years and to make improvements to the land prior to receiving the grant (Texas General Land Office 2015). Field notes accompanying the grant and patent application indicate the land was Survey 302 in Section 5, and was assigned Abstract 71 (Texas General Land Office 2017).

While Braden may have resided on the property long enough to receive it as a land grant, the 1860 Bexar County census suggests that he was living in the city of San Antonio by that time. The census shows 55-year old Joseph Braden as a landlord heading a household containing 34 other people, including 55-year old Barbara Braden, Edward Braden (31), Catharine Braden (31), Edward Braden (6), Joseph Braden (4), and Martin Braden (2). This suggests Joseph’s occupation of the land tract associated with Site 41BX1616 was brief, and may have been only long enough to receive the land.

In 1867, Braden conveyed the entire 160-acre tract to Wilhelm Braun (Bexar County Deed Records U2:235). Braun appears in the 1870 Bexar County census as William Braun (26), a German-born farmer who headed a household containing Caroline Braun (23), C. Braun (2 months), and John Sauter, a 57 year-old, German-born stonemason. Their neighbors are Philip and Caroline Rumpel (sic); the Ruempels are listed as being associated with Site 41BX1616 in the site form on the Atlas. According to the NRHP nomination for the Historic Farms and Ranches of Bexar County, Caroline’s maiden name was Braun (Dase et al 2010:68), suggesting that there was a familial connection between the neighbors. While the Ruempels may not have owned the land tract containing Site 41BX1616, their close proximity to the Brauns in the census suggests they are all living in the area, and that the Brauns were likely living on the subject property at this time.

The Brauns continued to live next to the Ruempels, as the 1880 Bexar County census again shows them as neighbors. In that year, Wm Braun (36) headed a household containing his wife Carolina (33) and children Mathilda (9), Ida (7), Anna (6), Marie (4), Louis (2), and Ernestine (3 months). Wilhelm was listed as a farmer. The 1900 census suggests the family continued to live on the property, showing Wilhelm as a 56 year-old farmer who owned his property free of mortgage. Caroline (52) and their children Louis (22), Ernestine (20), Theodor (18), Lina (15), and an adopted daughter, Pauline Nickel (4) were also living
in the household. Pauline was likely a relative, as Caroline’s maiden name was Nickel (Bexar County Deed Records E:246).

Wilhelm died in 1907, leaving his wife Carolina and children Ida Weyel, Anna Weimer, Mary Weimer, Louis Braun, Ernestina Braun, Theo Braun, Lena Tezel, Robert Braun, as well as his granddaughter Otillie Weimer as heirs (Bexar County Deed Records 1051:190). In 1909, the children conveyed their interest in the 160 acre tract to Carolina (Bexar County Deed Records 309:528); Otillie conveyed her interest once she reached legal age (Bexar County Deed Records 335:286). The 1910 census confirms Carolina (62) continued to live on the tract with Louis (32), Ernestina (30), Robert (23), and Pauline (12). Both Louis and Robert were listed as farmers, while Carolina had her “own income.”

The Brauns continued to live on the property through the early twentieth century. Carolina conveyed the tract (minus the family cemetery but with all the farm implements) to Ernestine and Charles E. Hoffman (her daughter and son-in-law) in 1920, reserving the right to live in the house on the property (Bexar County Deed Records 598:231; P2:49). The Bexar County census records confirm that the Hoffmans were living in Carolina’s household at that time, along with Paulina and Philip Nickel, listed as niece and nephew respectively. Charles and Philip were working as laborers on the farm. About 12 months later, the Hoffmans conveyed everything back to Carolina (Bexar County Deed Records 626:117). Carolina made the same conveyance to her son Robert in 1921 (Bexar County Deed Records 658:23). Carolina died in 1927 (Bexar County Deed Records 1051:190). These records indicate the Brauns continued to work and live on the land through the early twentieth century.

Robert Braun kept the land only two years following his mother’s death, selling it to S.E. Knowlton and Lloyd Knowlton (a single man) in 1929 (Bexar County Deed Records 1081:275). It appears he used these years to tie up loose ends legally to create a clear title, as he put the land in trust with the Federal Land Bank of Houston in 1928 representing both himself and the estate of his deceased wife Mary. The deed stipulated the land should continue to be terraced and used for agriculture as it was part of the Federal Farm Act (Bexar County Deed Records 1060:506). Carolina’s Estate released his vendor’s lien on the property a few weeks later, suggesting Robert had paid the outstanding balance on the property (Bexar County Deed Records 1053:524).

The 1930 Bexar County census indicates that S.E. Knowlton was a 42-year old dairy manager who lived on Summit Street in San Antonio. His household included his wife Mary Alice (39), sons Lloyd (18) and Edmund (2), daughters Lois (16), Mildred (14), and Frances (8), and nephew Richard Desha (21). Lloyd is
listed as a farm manager, while Richard was the night manager for a dairy. As S.E. was listed as owning his property, it is doubtful the Knowltons were living on the 160-acre tract.

The Knowltons kept the property within their family for nearly 40 years. In 1940, the Bexar County census shows that S.E. owned a creamery, but that he, Mary Alice (49), Mildred (24), Frances (18), and Edmund (12) were living in the same house in San Antonio. Mildred was employed as a stenographer at a creamery. Lloyd (28), his wife Roberta (25), and their son James (2), were living on Woodlawn Street in San Antonio, and Lloyd was listed as a creamery manager. While the Knowlton family was living within the city limits, they appear to have been operating the creamery on the 160 acre tract, as they established a co-partnership under the name Knowlton’s Creamery and transferred the land to the creamery in 1947 (Bexar County Deed Records 4473:393). Another transaction transferring the interest in the land to the creamery was filed in Colorado and implies that S.E. and his wife Mary Alice were living in Colorado by that time (Bexar County Deed Records 2453:5).

Mary Alice died in 1948, leaving her interest in the creamery to her husband and sons (Bexar County Deed Records 2547:56). Within the next 20 years, S.E. appears to have died and left his interest to his sons, as a transaction in 1968 indicates that Lloyd and Edward and their wives, acting as agents of the creamery, conveyed two tracts (a 37.470 acre tract and a 18.205 acre tract) out of the larger 160 acre tract to Dean L. Toland (Bexar County Deed Records 6009:934). Toland further divided the 18 acre tract when he sold a 7.078 acre tract and a 5 acre tract out of the 18 acres to Charles and Anita Berger in 1969 (Bexar County Deed Records 6093:263; 6141:146). Together, these two tracts comprise the 12 acre tract that is the current project area.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Both the Braun and Knowlton families were associated with the larger property containing the site during the first half of the twentieth century. While the Braun family lived on the property during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Knowltons appear to have only operated a commercial dairy on the land during the early-to-mid-twentieth century without ever living on it. Shovel testing at the portion of Site 41BX1616 within the project area recovered a few twentieth century artifacts, only one of which was diagnostic, suggesting that the site could be associated with either one of these families. This lack of artifacts reflects that only a small portion of the site is located within the current project area, and that the remainder of the site extends onto an adjacent tract, on which historic-age
structures were once located. While the Braun family was significant as one of the early German families to settle the area, early deposits reflecting this significance do not exist within the current project area, although they may exist elsewhere on adjacent tracts. As a result, while site 41BX1616 may be associated with a family who is significant to the early settlement of the region under Criterion A, the portion of the site within the project area does not contain archaeological deposits associated with this early settlement, and therefore; does not meet Criteria A or B of the NRHP. Due to the absence of standing structures, there is no basis for NRHP inclusion under Criteria C. The lack of artifacts and the absence of features preclude the portion of the site within the project area from NRHP inclusion under Criterion D as there is little potential to gain additional information. For these reasons, the portion of site 41BX1616 located within the project area is not recommended for listing in the NRHP or for designation as a SAL.

Summary

Pape-Dawson Engineers (Pape-Dawson) conducted a cultural resources survey of the proposed Intech Office development project located within San Antonio in Bexar County, Texas. The irregularly-shaped project area is maximally 813 feet (ft) (248 meters [m]) northwest to southeast and 644 ft (196 m) southwest to northeast, for a total area of approximately 11.14-acres (4.5 hectare [ha]). The proposed development will include the construction of an office building and parking lot. As the project area is currently in the design phase, the location and maximum depths of subsurface impacts are unknown, though the impacts within the project area are anticipated to include bulldozing and grading as well as the installation of associated utility lines.

Pape-Dawson’s archaeological survey for the Intech Office development project was conducted in compliance with the Historic Preservation and Design Section of the city’s Unified Development Code (UDC). However, as no federal funding or permitting is anticipated for this project, and it is situated on private property, compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas was not required. All work was done in accordance with the archaeological survey standards and guidelines as developed by the CTA and adopted by the THC.

The entirety of the 11.14-acre (4.5 ha) project area was subjected to visual inspection augmented by judgmentally placed shovel tests in order to evaluate the impact of the proposed project on cultural resources. A total of 23 shovel tests was excavated, exceeding the state’s minimum standard of 1 shovel
test every 2 acres for project areas measuring between 11 to 100 acres in size. Of the 23 shovel tests, only 2 were positive for cultural material.

During the course of the current survey, Pape-Dawson archaeologists revisited site 41BX1616. No new archaeological sites were encountered or recorded. In addition, 3 historic-age structures were photographed and are presented in the Appendix of this report.

Site 41BX1616 is recorded as a German farmstead built circa 1850. While the majority of the site is mapped outside the limits of the current project area, a small portion of the site falls within the project area’s eastern corner. During the current survey, the portion of site 41BX1616 that extends into the current project area was investigated and was found to consist of a small scatter of historic artifacts and the remains of two dry-stacked limestone dams.

Archival research revealed that both the Braun and Knowlton families were associated with the larger property containing the site during the first half of the twentieth century. While the Braun family lived on the property during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Knowltons appear to have only operated a commercial dairy on the land during the early-to-mid-twentieth century without ever living on it. Shovel testing at the portion of site 41BX1616 within the project area recovered a few twentieth century artifacts, only one of which was diagnostic, suggesting that the site could be associated with either one of these families. This lack of artifacts reflects that only a small portion of the site is located within the current project area, and that the remainder of the site extends onto an adjacent tract, on which historic-age structures were once located.

Based on the results of the archival research and archaeological fieldwork, Pape-Dawson recommends that the portion of site 41BX1616 that extends into the current project area is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria or for designation as a SAL, in compliance with the UDC. The principal investigator recommends no further archaeological work is necessary for the proposed project and that the project be allowed to proceed. However, if evidence of cultural material is encountered during construction, it is recommended that all work in the vicinity should cease and the COSA archaeologist be contacted.

No artifacts were collected, and all project records and photographs will be curated at the Center for Archeological Research (CAR) at the University of Texas at San Antonio.
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Appendix

HISTORIC RESOURCES MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS
Resource ID: 01
Location: N/A
Style/Form: N/A
Description/Notes: Wood frame privy with metal gable roof, concrete bowl and floor.
Oblique of Resource 01, camera facing southeast

Close-up of Resource 01 interior, camera facing northeast
Concrete bowl on Resource 01, camera facing northeast.
Resource ID: 02
Location: 
Style/Form: N/A
Description/Notes: Remains of diversion or detention dam consisting of dry-stacked limestone cobbles within creek bed.
View of Resource 03, camera facing north

<table>
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<th>03</th>
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Close-up of Resource 03, camera facing north