

**INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF PORTIONS OF THE PRESERVE AT
THE MEDINA RIVER,
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS**

Prepared for

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ABSTRACT

On behalf of Presto Properties, LTD, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an intensive archaeological survey of portions of the 500-acre proposed Preserve at the Medina River project area in southwestern Bexar County, Texas. The project is located west of the intersection of Texas Highway (TX) 16 (Poteet Jourdanton Freeway) and Watson Road. The proposed undertaking involves the development of the 500 acres as a subdivision with commercial properties along the TX 16 frontage. The extent of subsurface impacts is not currently known, but it is anticipated to include the construction of subsurface and above ground infrastructure, roadways, and other impacts associated with the construction of houses and commercial structures on the property. As a result, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the entire 500-acre project area. However, in consultation with the City of San Antonio Planning and Community Development Department, it was determined that the scope of the current archaeological investigations would focus on relocating and assessing those areas previously identified as archaeological sites.

Cultural resource investigations were conducted in compliance the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634).

SWCA conducted a background review and an intensive archaeological survey of the 500-acre project area. A background literature review identified five previously documented archaeological sites with in the APE. In addition, it was revealed that two sites (41BX862, 41BX859) are adjacent to the eastern and southern project boundary and a small section of the southern boundary of the project area had been previously surveyed for cultural materials.

SWCA archaeologists conducted field investigations within the Preserve at the Medina River project area on October 17, 2008. Five previously recorded sites, three prehistoric (41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862), one multi-component (41BX346) and one historic (41BX860) were revisited and evaluated for their level of archaeological integrity and significance. Shovel testing and pedestrian survey was conducted at all five of the sites. Sites 41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862 were all found to either have been heavily impacted by modern farming or mining activities or to hold sparse surface deposits. As a result, sites 41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862 are considered ineligible for listing in the NRHP under 36 CFR 60.4, Criterion D or as a SAL under 13 TAC 60.4, as that they all lack significant cultural deposits and are unlikely to yield any additional or unique information regarding the prehistoric or historic occupation of Bexar County

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE: Intensive Archaeological Survey of Portions of the Preserve at the Medina River, City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

SWCA PROJECT NUMBER: 14986-401-AUS.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: SWCA conducted archaeological investigations of portions of the 500-acre project area in southwestern Bexar County, Texas, on behalf of Presto Properties, LTD who intends to develop the project area for residential and commercial use. The entire 500 acres of the project area is the Area of Potential Effects (APE), however, in consultation with the City of San Antonio Planning and Community Development Department, the scope of the current archaeological investigations focused only on relocating and assessing those areas previously identified as archaeological sites.

LOCATION: The project area is in southwestern San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas and is depicted on the Terrell Wells USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. The project area is just north of the Medina River near the intersection of Texas Highway (TX) 16 and Watson Road.

NUMBER OF ACRES SURVEYED: Approximately 120 acres.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Christian T. Hartnett.

DATES OF WORK: October 17, 2008.

PURPOSE OF WORK: The client is fulfilling project regulatory requirements in compliance with the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634).

NUMBER OF SITES: Five previously recorded sites, of which three is prehistoric (41BX858, 41BX861, and 41BX862), one is multi-component (41BX346) and one is historic (41BX860).

ELIGIBILITY OF SITES: Sites 41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862 are considered ineligible for listing in the NRHP under 36 CFR 60.4, Criterion D or as SALs under 13 TAC 60.4.

CURATION: No artifacts were collected; as a result, no curation was necessary.

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Presto Properties, LTD, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an intensive archaeological survey of portions of the proposed 500-acre Preserve at the Medina River in southwestern San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas (Figure 1). The project is located west of the intersection of Texas Highway (TX) 16 (Poteet Jourdanon Freeway) and Watson Road. The project area is owned by Presto Properties, LTD and intends to develop the property for residential and commercial use. The extent of subsurface impacts is not currently known, but it is anticipated to include the construction of subsurface and above ground infrastructure, roadways, and other impacts associated with construction on the property.

Cultural resource investigations were conducted in compliance with the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634).

The entire 500 acres of the project area is the Area of Potential Effects (APE), however, in consultation with the City of San Antonio Planning and Community Development Department, it was determined that the scope of the current archaeological investigations would focus on relocating and assessing those areas previously identified as archaeological sites.

The archaeological investigations for this project included a 100 percent intensive archaeological survey with shovel testing in areas where archaeological sites had been previously recorded. All work was done in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the THC and the Council of Texas Archaeologists.

PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION

The project area is bounded by Watson Road to the north, TX 16 to the east, and an unnamed north-south two track road to the west. The southern boundary is defined by a relic channel of the Medina River. The eastern and southern sections of property have been actively used for ranching purposes. The center of the project area is dominated by a sand and gravel mining operation, which extends from Watson Road in the north to the terrace edge overlooking the Medina River (Figures 2 and 3). This operation has caused significant subsurface disturbance throughout the project, and has heavily impacted the southern and southeastern sections. Ranching activities have created several stock tanks and ponded areas for cattle throughout the property.

The project is on gently sloping upland terrace overlooking the Medina River. Along TX 16, the land is dominated by several small hills that are outlined by ephemeral drainages. Towards the east central section of the property is a natural sulfur spring that flows southeastward, emptying into a stock tank.

Prior to mining, the entire property appears to have been used for ranching and farming. As a result, vegetation is typical of ranch land, including stands of mesquite, cedar, and live oak. The entire APE is bisected by several two-track roads.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

GEOLOGY

The northern most portion of the project area is mapped as Pleistocene-age Leona Formation. These deposits consist of fine calcareous silt grading down into coarse gravel (Barnes 1983). Most of the center portion of the project area is mapped as

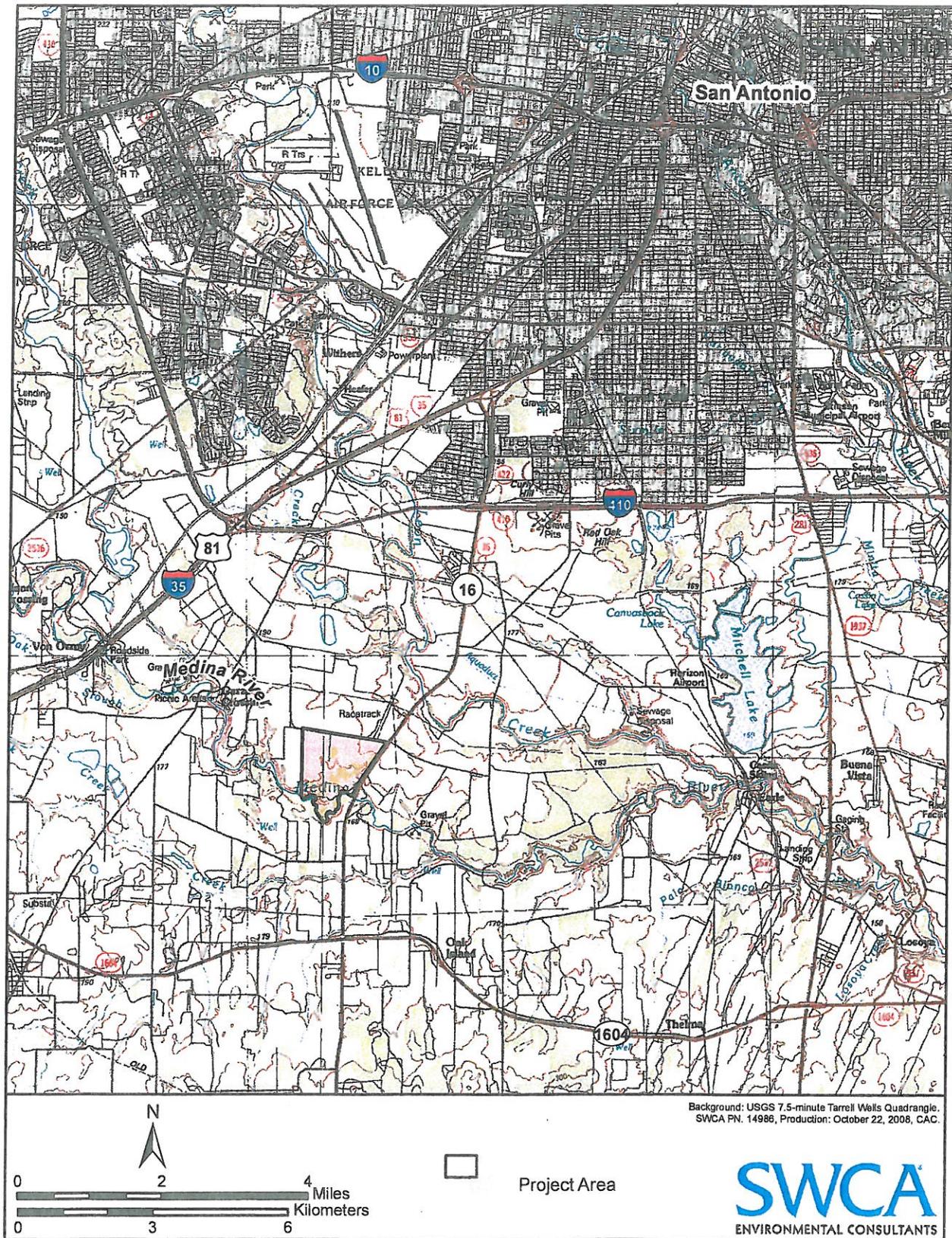


Figure 1. Project location map.

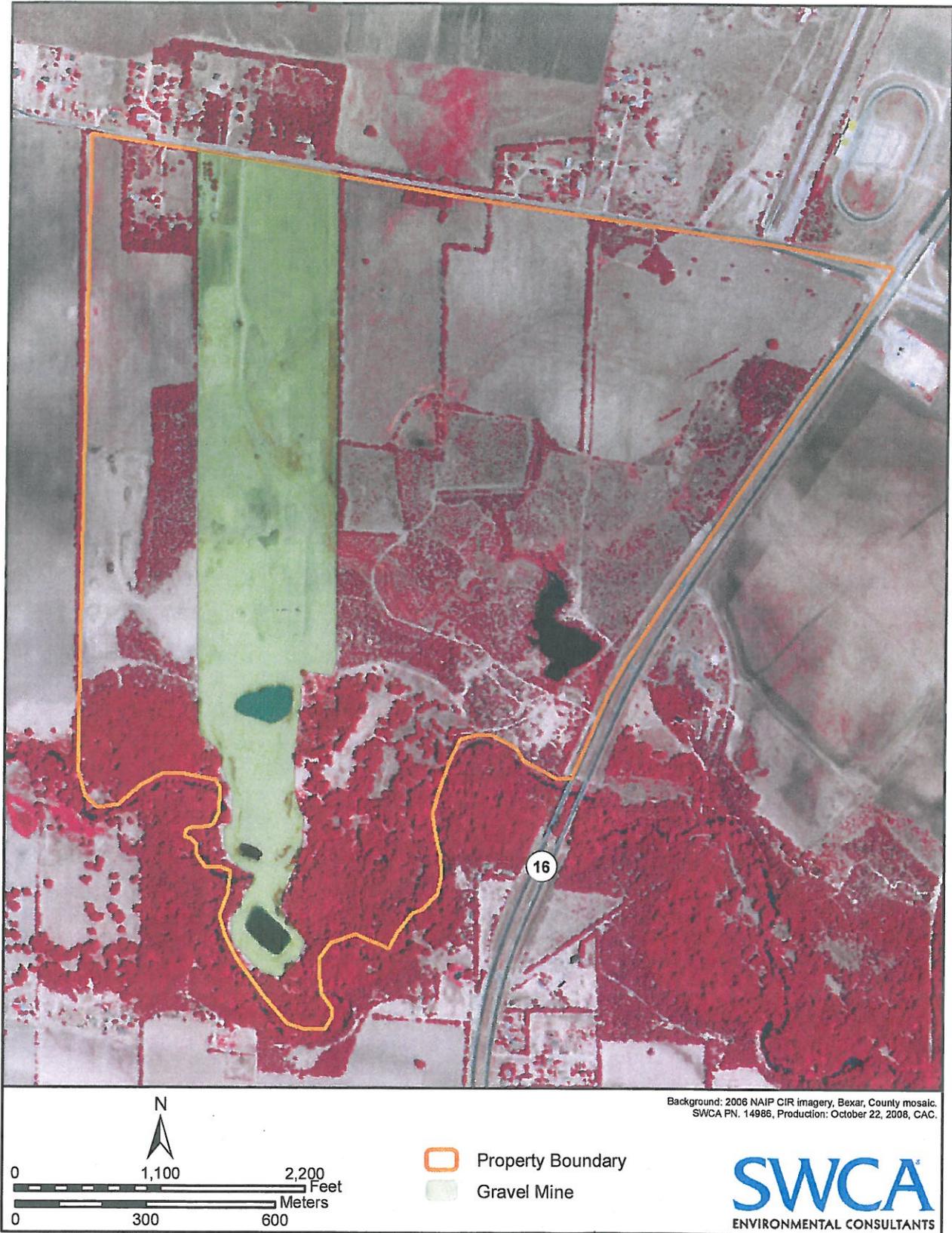


Figure 2. Project area and gravel mine.



Figure 3. Sand and gravel mine within APE (facing northing).

Pleistocene-age Fluvial terrace deposits. These low terrace deposits consist of gravel, sand, silt, and clay (Barnes 1983). The southern portion of the tract below the upper terrace of the Medina River is mapped as Alluvium flood plain deposits (Barnes 1983).

SOILS

The soils of project area are part of three general soil associations. The majority of the northern project area is a part of the Houston Black-Houston association (Taylor et al. 1991). These soils are characterized as deep clayey soils over calcareous clay and marl. The southern project area along the flood plain of the Medina River is part of the Venus-Frio-Trinity association. Soils are characterized by deep calcareous soils in bottomlands and terraces (Taylor et al. 1991). A small western portion of the project area is part of the Lewisville-Houston Black association, characterized by deep calcareous clayey soils in old alluvium (Taylor et al. 1991) (Figure 4).

The specific soils of the Houston Black-Houston association within the northern portion of the project area include Houston black clay, Webb fine sandy loam, Duval fine sandy loam, and Gullied Land. The Houston Black clay, terrace, 0 to 1 and 1 to 3 percent slopes, are found near the center and northeastern corner of the northern portion of the project area (Taylor et al. 1991). The Houston Black clay, terrace, 0 to 1 percent soils consist of a thick dark gray surface layer 40 inches thick. It is calcareous and has a fine, blocky structure. The underlying material may vary from a clay loam to sandy loam in texture and from a reddish yellow and dark brown to light gray in color (Taylor et al. 1991). A water-bearing gravel layer usually occurs near the base of alluvial deposits. These soils occur as broad, smooth terraces and as broad areas of an old outwash plain (Taylor et al. 1991).

The Houston Black clay, terrace, 1 to 3 percent slopes, occurs adjacent to large drainage ways as long, narrow slopes (Taylor et al. 1991). These soils are more susceptible to water erosion than the Houston Black clay, terrace, 0 to 1 percent slopes. Soils consist of a dark gray surface layer, 34 inches thick, over a gray subsurface layer, 20 inches thick. The subsurface layer is a blocky, crumbly structure and contains few lime concretions (Taylor et al. 1991).

The Webb fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, is located within the northern portion of the tract between the Houston Black soils. The soils occur along major field drainages and streams as side slopes. The surface layer ranges from a fine sandy loam to sandy clay loam, and depending on the type and severity of erosion, it ranges from 0 to 10 inches in thickness. The thicker parts of the surface layer occur between gullies and rills. The subsoil is sandy clay, representative of the soil series (Taylor et al. 1991).

The Duval fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, is located on the northwestern corner of the tract and at the near the eastern boundary below the Webb soils. The soils consist of a fine sandy loam surface layer, 14 inches thick, and massive, porous sandy clay loam subsoil, 30 inches thick (Taylor et al. 1991).

The Gullied Land is located below the Duval and Houston Black soils on along the eastern boundary of the tract and extends towards the center of the project area along the upper terrace of the Medina River. The Gullied Land divides the northern and southern portions of the tract. This type occurs where high terraces break to flood plains along rivers and streams (Taylor et al. 1991). The soils consist of strongly calcareous loam, clay loam, or silty clay derived from alluvium in a grayish-brown or light grayish-brown. The soil erodes off

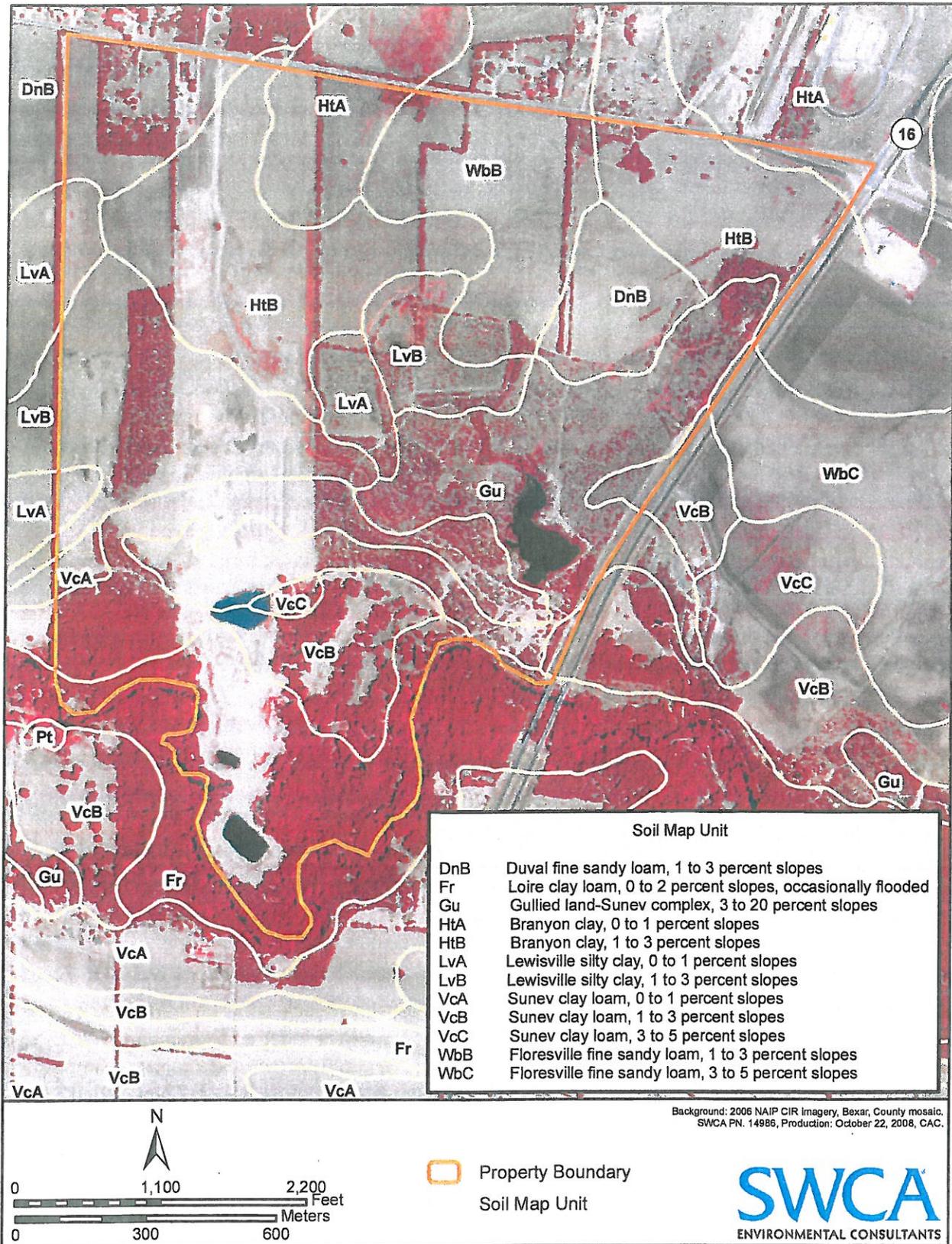


Figure 4. Soils map of project area.

steep, exposed slopes very rapidly preventing the development of soil profiles (Taylor et al. 1991).

The specific soils in the southern portion of the project area include Venus clay loam, Gullied Land, and Frio clay loam. The Gullied Land is bordered by segments of Venus clay loam. The Venus clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, is in a small area located near the western boundary of the tract (Taylor et al. 1991). These soils occur on smooth terraces 20 to 40 feet above the flood plains and are limy with many snail shells, worm casts, and fine pores. The surface layer is a clay loam, 16 inches thick, over a slightly less clayey loam subsurface layer, 20 inches thick (Taylor et al. 1991).

The Venus clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, borders most of the Gullied land soils located near the center of the project area along the upper terrace of the Medina River. These soils occur between the terraces and upland soils or between the terraces and the floodplains, as gentle slopes (Taylor et al. 1991). The surface layer consists of a clay loam, 14 inches thick. The subsurface layer consists of a clay loam, less clayey than the surface layer, and is 20 inches thick (Taylor et al. 1991).

A small area of the Venus clay loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes is located between the Gullied Land soils and Venus clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, in the center of the tract. These soils are extensive and occur as short, steep slopes between terrace benches or as side slopes along creeks and along deeply entrenched field drainages (Taylor et al. 1991). Soils consist of a grayish brown surface layer, 14 inches thick, over a very pale brown, limy light clay loam subsurface layer, 18 inches thick (Taylor et al. 1991).

The Frio clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, is located along the Medina River. These soils

occur mainly on low terraces bordering the flood plains of the San Antonio and Medina Rivers or on the flood plains and their chief tributaries (Taylor et al. 1991). In some places, the uneven surface layer is dissected by partly filled old stream channels. Soils consist of grayish-brown or dark grayish brown clay loam surface layer, 20 inches thick, that is limy with worm casts and snail fragments over a light brownish gray clay loam or loam, 5 inches thick. The underlying material ranges from sandy loam through stratified loam to clay loam, below 25 to 30 inches in depth. The water rounded limestone gravel is at 3 to 6 feet in depth (Taylor et al. 1991).

The western area of the tract is mapped as Lewisville silty clay, 0 to 1 and 1 to 3 percent slopes. These soils extend towards the center of the project area adjacent to the Gullied Land soils. The Lewisville silty clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes, along river and creeks as nearly level broad terraces (Taylor et al. 1991). The silty clay or light clay surface layer is 24 inches thick and the brown silty clay subsurface layer is 20 inches thick. The Lewisville silty clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes, occurs in long, narrow sloping areas that separate nearly level terraces from soils on the uplands (Taylor et al. 1991). The surface layer is a dark grayish brown light clay to silty clay loam, 20 inches thick, over a brown limy clay subsoil (Taylor et al. 1991).

VEGETATION

The project area is situated along the southern margin of the Balconian biotic province (Blair 1950). This province has highly variable vegetation of the Edwards Plateau and Hill country (Spearing 1991:24). Typical vegetation of the Edwards Plateau region consists of Texas oak (*Quercus texana*), live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), Mexican cedar (*Juniperus mexicana*), mesquite (*Prosopis*

glandulosa), some bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), and grass prairies (Blair 1950; Simpson 1988; Spearing 1991). As noted above, the general vegetation of the 500 acres mostly comprised of mesquite, cedar, and live oak.

FAUNA

The Balconian biotic province is a transitional zone from the mesic forests of eastern North America to the xeric grasslands of the central United States. Thus, this province has a high faunal diversity. Blair (1950) identified at least 57 species of mammal, over 42 species of reptile, and 15 species of amphibians. None of the fauna for the Balconian is restricted solely to this province (Blair 1950).

Some mammals common to the Balconian province include: coyote (*Canis latrans*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), mink (*Mustela vison*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), eastern pipistrel (*Pipistrellus subflavus*), eastern fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*), eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), pocket gopher (*Geomys breviceps*), pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), valley pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*), and badger (*Taxidus taxus*) (Burt and Grossenheider 1976). Historically, red wolf, bison and black bear ranged into or near this region (Burt and Grossenheider 1976).

The general reptilian assemblage for this province include the Great Plains rat snake (*Elaphe guttata emoryi*), Eastern yellowbelly racer (*Coluber constrictor flaviventris*), Yellow mud turtle (*Kinosternon flavescan flavescan*), bullfrog (*Rana catesbiana*), southern leopard frog (*Rana utricularia*), and the gulf coast toad (*Bufo vallicepus*) (Blair

1950; Conant and Collins 1998; Kutac and Caran 1994).

CULTURAL SETTING

PREHISTORIC CULTURAL HISTORY

The project area falls within Central Texas Archaeological Region (Pertulla 2004). Although the archaeological regions are not absolute, they do generally reflect recognized biotic communities and physiographic areas in Texas (Pertulla 2004:6). The Central Texas Region, as its name implies, is situated in the center of Texas and covers the Edwards Plateau and portions of the Blackland Prairie east of the Edwards Plateau. The following synopses provide basic culture histories of the Central Texas Archaeological Region.

The archaeological record of the Central Texas Archaeological Region is known from decades of investigations of stratified open air sites and rockshelters throughout the Edwards Plateau, its highly dissected eastern and southern margins, and the adjoining margins of physiographic regions to the east and south (see Collins [2004] for review). Traditionally, the Central Texas Archaeological Region has included the Balcones Canyonlands and Blackland Prairie—that is, areas north of San Antonio (e.g., Prewitt 1981; Suhm 1960). These two areas are on the periphery of the Central Texas Archaeological Region, and their archaeological records and projectile point style sequences contain elements that suggest influences from, and varying degrees of, contact over time with other areas such as the Lower Pecos and Gulf Coastal Plain (Collins 2004; Johnson and Goode 1994). Archaeological sites in these two areas of Bexar County that have contributed important information include the Richard Beene site at Applewhite Reservoir (McGraw and Hindes 1987; Thoms et al. 1996; Thoms and Mandel 1992), the Cibolo Crossing site at Camp Bullis

(Kibler and Scott 2000), the Panther Springs Creek site in Bexar County (Black and McGraw 1985), the Jonas Terrace site in Medina County (Johnson 1995), the Camp Pearl Wheat site in Kerr County (Collins et al. 1990), 41BX1 in Bexar County (Lukowski 1988), 41BX300 in Bexar County (Katz 1987), and several sites at Canyon Reservoir (Johnson et al. 1962). For more-complete bibliographies concerning archaeological work done in the region, see Black (1989), Collins (1995), and Johnson and Goode (1994).

PALEOINDIAN PERIOD

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

Collins (2004) divides the Paleoindian period into early and late subperiods. Two projectile point styles, Clovis and Folsom, are included in the early subperiod. Clovis chipped stone artifact assemblages, including the diagnostic fluted lanceolate Clovis point, were produced by bifacial, flake, and prismatic-blade techniques on high-quality and oftentimes exotic lithic materials (Collins 1990). Along with chipped stone artifacts, Clovis assemblages include engraved stones, bone and ivory points, stone bolas, and ochre (Collins 2004:116; Collins et al. 1992). Clovis

points are found evenly distributed along the eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau, where the presence of springs and outcrops of chert-bearing limestone are common (Meltzer and Bever 1995:58). Sites within the area yielding Clovis points and Clovis-age materials include Kincaid Rockshelter (Collins et al. 1989), Pavo Real (Henderson and Goode 1991), and San Macros Springs (Takac 1991). A probable Clovis polyhedral blade core and blade fragment was found at the Greenbelt site in San Antonio (Houk et al. 1997). Analyses of Clovis artifacts and site types suggest that Clovis peoples were well-adapted, generalized hunter-gatherers with the technology to hunt larger game but did not solely rely on it.

In a survey of fluted points reported from throughout the state, Bever and Meltzer (2007:72) identified 151 Clovis points recovered from the counties comprising the Central Texas region. However, only four Clovis points have been recorded for Bexar County (Bever and Meltzer (2007:67). Bever and Meltzer (2007:91) also determined that roughly 76 percent of the Clovis point raw material originated from the Edwards Plateau, but the distribution suggests the Clovis groups focused on the Nueces-Guadalupe Plain in the South Texas region.

In contrast, Folsom tool kits—consisting of fluted Folsom points, thin unfluted (Midland) points, large thin bifaces, and end scrapers—are more indicative of specialized hunting, particularly of bison (Collins 2004:117). Folsom points have been recovered from Kincaid Rockshelter (Collins et al. 1989) and Pavo Real (Henderson and Goode 1991). Folsom point distributions, both the frequency and spatial patterning, differ from the Clovis patterns, suggesting a shift in adaptation patterns (Bever and Meltzer 2007; Meltzer and Bever 1995:60, 74). Folsom points appear more frequently in the coastal plain as well as the South Texas plain, located to the south and

southeast of Bexar County. As Folsom points are almost exclusively found in plains settings (they are conspicuously lacking in the Edwards Plateau), the technology perhaps marks a more specialized adaptation, likely to a more intensive reliance on ancient bison.

Postdating Clovis and Folsom points in the archaeological record are a series of dart point styles (primarily unfluted lanceolate darts) for which the temporal, technological, or cultural significance is unclear. Often, the Plainview type name is assigned these dart points, but Collins (2004:117) has noted that many of these points typed as Plainview do not parallel Plainview type-site points in thinness and flaking technology. Recent investigations at the Wilson-Leonard site (see Bousman 1998) and a statistical analysis of a large sample of unfluted lanceolate points by Kerr and Dial (1998) have shed some light on this issue. At Wilson-Leonard, the Paleoindian projectile point sequence includes an expanding-stem dart point termed Wilson, which dates to ca. 10,000–9,500 B.P. Postdating the Wilson component is a series of unfluted lanceolate points referred to as Golondrina-Barber, St. Mary's Hall, and Angostura, but their chronological sequence is poorly understood. Nonetheless, it has become clear that the artifact and feature assemblages of the later Paleoindian subperiod appear to be Archaic-like in nature and in many ways may represent a transition between the early Paleoindian and succeeding Archaic periods (Collins 2004:118).

ARCHAIC PERIOD

The Archaic period for the Central Texas Archaeological Region dates from ca. 8,800 to 1,300–1,200 B.P. (Collins 2004:119–121) and generally is believed to represent a shift toward hunting and gathering of a wider array of animal and plant resources and a decrease in group mobility (Willey and Phillips 1958:107–108). In the eastern and

southwestern United States and on the Great Plains, development of horticultural-based, semi-sedentary to sedentary societies succeeds the Archaic period. In these areas, the Archaic truly represents a developmental stage of adaptation as Willey and Phillips (1958) define it. For Central Texas, this notion of the Archaic is somewhat problematic. An increasing amount of evidence suggests that Archaic-like adaptations were in place before the Archaic (see Collins 2004:118, 1998; Collins et al. 1989) and that these practices continued into the succeeding Late Prehistoric period (Collins 1995:385; Prewitt 1981:74). In a real sense, the Archaic period of the Central Texas Archaeological Region is not a developmental stage, but an arbitrary chronological construct and projectile point style sequence. Establishment of this sequence is based on several decades of archaeological investigations at stratified Archaic sites along the eastern and southern margins of the Edwards Plateau. Collins (1995, 2004) and Johnson and Goode (1994) have divided this sequence into three parts—early, middle, and late—based on perceived (though not fully agreed upon by all scholars) technological, environmental, and adaptive changes.

Early Archaic (8,800–6,000 B.P.) sites are small, and their tool assemblages are diverse (Weir 1976:115–122), suggesting that populations were highly mobile and densities low (Prewitt 1985:217). It has been noted that Early Archaic sites are concentrated along the eastern and southern margins of the Edwards Plateau (Johnson and Goode 1994; McKinney 1981). This distribution may indicate climatic conditions at the time, given that these environments have more reliable water sources and a more diverse resource base than other parts of the region. Early Archaic projectile point styles include Hoxie, Gower, Wells, Martindale, and Uvalde. Clear Fork and Guadalupe bifaces and a variety of other bifacial and unifacial tools are common to

Early Archaic assemblages. Construction and use of rock hearths and ovens, which had been limited during late Paleoindian times, became commonplace. The use of rock features suggests that retaining heat and releasing it slowly over an extended period were important in food processing and cooking and reflects a specialized subsistence strategy. Such a practice probably was related to cooking plant foods, particularly roots and bulbs, many of which must be subjected to prolonged periods of cooking to render them consumable and digestible (Black et al. 1997:257; Wandsnider 1997; Wilson 1930). Botanical remains, as well as other organic materials, are often poorly preserved in Early Archaic sites, so the range of plant foods exploited and their level of importance in the overall subsistence strategy are poorly understood. But recovery of charred wild hyacinth (*Camassia scilloides*) bulbs from an Early Archaic feature at the Wilson-Leonard site provides some insights into the types of plant foods used and their importance in the Early Archaic diet (Collins et al. 1998). Significant Early Archaic sites include the Richard Beene site in Bexar County (Thoms and Mandel 1992), the Camp Pearl Wheat site in Kerr County (Collins et al. 1990), and the Jetta Court site in Travis County (Wesolowsky et al. 1976).

During the Middle Archaic period (6,000–4,000 B.P.), the number and distribution of sites, as well as their size, probably increased as population densities grew (Prewitt 1981:73; Weir 1976:124, 135). Macrobands may have formed at least seasonally, or more small groups may have used the same sites for longer periods (Weir 1976:130–131). Development of burned rock middens toward the end of the Middle Archaic suggest a greater reliance on plant foods, although tool kits still imply a considerable dependence on hunting (Prewitt 1985:222–226). Middle Archaic projectile point styles include Bell,

Andice, Taylor, Baird, Nolan, and Travis. Bell and Andice points reflect a shift in lithic technology from the preceding Early Archaic Martindale and Uvalde point styles (Collins 2004:119). Johnson and Goode (1994:25) suggest that the Bell and Andice darts are parts of a specialized bison-hunting tool kit. They also believe that an influx of bison and bison-hunting groups from the Eastern Woodland margins during a slightly more mesic period marked the beginning of the Middle Archaic. Though no bison remains were recovered or present, Bell and Andice points and associated radiocarbon ages were recovered from the Cibolo Crossing (Kibler and Scott 2000), Panther Springs Creek, and Granberg II (Black and McGraw 1985) sites in Bexar County. Bison disappeared as more-xeric conditions returned during the late part of the Middle Archaic. Later Middle Archaic projectile point styles represent another shift in lithic technology (Collins 2004:120; Johnson and Goode 1994:27). At the same time, a shift to more-xeric conditions saw the burned rock middens develop, probably because intensified use of a specific resource (geophytic or xerophytic plants) or resource patches meant the debris of multiple rock ovens and hearths accumulated as middens on stable to slowly aggrading surfaces, as Kelley and Campbell (1942) suggested many years ago. Johnson and Goode (1994:26) believe that the dry conditions promoted the spread of yuccas and sotols, and that it was these plants that Middle Archaic peoples collected and cooked in large rock ovens.

During the succeeding Late Archaic period (4,000 to 1,300–1,200 B.P.), populations continued to increase (Prewitt 1985:217). Within stratified Archaic sites such as Loeve-Fox, Cibolo Crossing, and Panther Springs Creek, the Late Archaic components contain the densest concentrations of cultural materials. Establishment of large cemeteries along drainages suggests certain groups had

strong territorial ties (Story 1985:40). A variety of projectile point styles appeared throughout the Late Archaic period. Johnson and Goode (1994:29–35) divide the Late Archaic into two parts, Late Archaic I and II, based on increased population densities and perceived evidence of Eastern Woodland ceremonial rituals and religious ideological influences. Middle Archaic subsistence technology, including the use of rock and earth ovens, continued into the Late Archaic period. Collins (2004:121) states that, at the beginning of the Late Archaic period, the use of rock ovens and the resultant formation of burned rock middens reached its zenith and that the use of rock and earth ovens declined during the latter half of the Late Archaic. There is, however, mounting chronological data that midden formation culminated much later and that this high level of rock and earth oven use continued into the early Late Prehistoric period (Black et al. 1997:270–284; Kleinbach et al. 1995:795). A picture of prevalent burned rock midden development in the eastern part of the central Texas region after 2,000 B.P. is gradually becoming clear. This scenario parallels the widely recognized occurrence of post-2,000 B.P. middens in the western reaches of the Edwards Plateau (see Goode 1991).

The use of rock and earth ovens (and the formation of burned rock middens) for processing and cooking plant foods suggests that this technology was part of a generalized foraging strategy. The amount of energy involved in collecting plants, constructing hot rock cooking appliances, and gathering fuel ranks most plant foods relatively low based on the resulting caloric return (Dering 1999). This suggests that plant foods were part of a broad-based diet (Kibler and Scott 2000:134) or part of a generalized foraging strategy, an idea Prewitt (1981) put forth earlier. At times during the Late Archaic, this generalized foraging strategy appears to have been marked

by shifts to a specialized economy focused on bison hunting (Kibler and Scott 2000:125–137). Castroville, Montell, and Marcos dart points are elements of tool kits often associated with bison hunting (Collins 1968). Archaeological evidence of this association is seen at Bonfire Shelter in Val Verde County (Dibble and Lorrain 1968), Jonas Terrace (Johnson 1995), Oblate Rockshelter (Johnson et al. 1962:116), John Ischy (Sorrow 1969), and Panther Springs Creek (Black and McGraw 1985).

The Archaic period represents a hunting and gathering way of life that was successful and that remained virtually unchanged for more than 7,500 years. This notion is based in part on fairly consistent artifact and tool assemblages through time and place and on resource patches that were used continually for several millennia, as the formation of burned rock middens shows. This pattern of generalized foraging, though marked by brief shifts to a heavy reliance on bison, continued almost unchanged into the succeeding Late Prehistoric period.

LATE PREHISTORIC PERIOD

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

minor importance to overall subsistence strategies (Collins 2004:122).

In central Texas, the Late Prehistoric period generally is associated with the Austin and Toyah phases (Jelks 1962; Prewitt 1981:82–84). Austin and Toyah phase horizon markers, Scallorn-Edwards and Perdiz arrow points, respectively, are distributed across most of the state. Violence and conflict often marked introduction of Scallorn and Edwards arrow points into central Texas—many excavated burials contain these point tips in contexts indicating they were the cause of death (Prewitt 1981:83). Subsistence strategies and technologies (other than arrow points) did not change much from the preceding Late Archaic period. Prewitt's (1981) use of the term "Neoarchaic" recognizes this continuity. In fact, Johnson and Goode (1994:39–40) and Collins (2004:122) state that the break between the Austin and Toyah phases could easily and appropriately represent the break between the Late Archaic and the Late Prehistoric.

Around 1,000–750 B.P., slightly more-xeric or drought-prone climatic conditions returned to the region, and bison came back in large numbers (Huebner 1991; Toomey et al. 1993). Using this vast resource, Toyah peoples were equipped with Perdiz point-tipped arrows, end scrapers, four-beveled-edge knives, and plain bone-tempered ceramics. Toyah technology and subsistence strategies represent a completely different tradition from the preceding Austin phase. Collins (1995:388) states that formation of burned rock middens ceased as bison hunting and group mobility obtained a level of importance not witnessed since Folsom times. Although the importance of bison hunting and high group mobility hardly can be disputed, the argument that burned rock midden development ceased during the Toyah phase is tenuous. A recent examination of Toyah-age radiocarbon assays

and assemblages by Black et al. (1997) suggests that their association with burned rock middens represents more than a "thin veneer" capping Archaic-age features. Black et al. (1997) claim that burned rock midden formation, although not as prevalent as in earlier periods, was part of the adaptive strategies of Toyah peoples.

HISTORIC CULTURAL HISTORY

The Historic period in central Texas theoretically begins with the arrival of Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca and the survivors of the Narváez expedition along the Texas coast in 1528. European incursions, however, into south-central Texas were initially rare, and the first Europeans did not settle in this region until around A.D. 1700 (Taylor 1996). Spanish incursions into the region from the late seventeenth century on left valuable information on native groups and tribes. Several scholars, including Hester (1989) and Newcomb (1961), have provided historical accounts of Native Americans and their interactions with the Spanish, the Republic of Mexico, the Texas Republic, and the United States throughout the region.

The beginning of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries was an era of more-permanent contact between Europeans and Native Americans as the Spanish moved northward out of Mexico to establish settlements and missions on their northern frontier (see Castañeda [1936–1958] and Bolton [1970] for extended discussions of the mission system and Indian relations in Texas and the San Antonio area). There is little available information on aboriginal groups and their ways of life except for the fragmentary data Spanish missionaries gathered. In the San Antonio area and areas to the south, these groups have been referred to collectively as Coahuiltecan because of an assumed similarity in way of life, but many

individual groups may have existed (Campbell 1988). Particular Coahuiltecan groups, such as the Payaya and Juanca, have been identified as occupying the San Antonio area (Campbell 1988). This area also served as a point of contact between the southward-advancing Apaches and the northward-advancing Spanish, with native groups often caught in between. Disease and hostile encounters with Europeans and intruding groups such as the Apache were already wreaking their inevitable and disastrous havoc on native social structures and economic systems by this time.

After a series of missions had been established in what would become eastern Texas, the Spanish government in the New World decided to begin settlement at a bend in the San Antonio River. The location was a convenient stopping point on the Camino Real, the newly established highway founded in 1691 by Domingo Terán de Los Ríos and Father Damián Massenet to connect Mexico to the East Texas missions (Shuffler 1974). However, in 1719 war between France and Spain resulted in the withdrawal of the Spanish from the east Texas missions, who reestablished their mission communities near the settlement along the San Antonio River.

San Antonio River, the mission was moved to the west side around 1730. After a disastrous epidemic in 1739, the mission was moved to its present location on higher ground, more than one-half mile from the former site (Cruz 2008).

San Antonio became the capital of Spanish Texas in 1773. By 1778, the settlement had a population of 2,060 including those Indians living in the missions. However, conditions within the settlement were often describe as poor, resulting from its location of the edge of Spanish controlled Texas. The population was comprised of a mix of Europeans, mestizos, and a few slaves. By 1795, all the missions in

San Antonio were secularized and Mission San Antonio de Valero, later called the Alamo, was converted to a military barracks (Fehrenbach 1978).

At the turn of the 19th century, growing independence movements began in Texas, spurred on by Mexico and other Latin American countries their fight for independence from Spain and. In 1813, an expedition, encouraged by the United States, set out from Louisiana and quickly moved through East Texas capturing Nacogdoches Trinidad de Salcedo, La Bahía, and San Antonio. The Gutiérrez-Magee expedition quickly declared Texas independent from Spain, forming the first Texas Republic. Intendance was short lived, however, as Spanish troops quickly retook the city after a battle in Medina, just south of San Antonio. Spain reestablished control of the city, declaring marshal law and severally punishing those inhabitants who had supported the insurrection (Schwarz and Thonhoff 1985).

San Antonio and Bexar County continued to be the sight of conflict between Texas and Mexico. During the Texas Revolution, several battles were fought in the county, including the siege of Bexar and the Battle of the Alamo. Following the establishment of the Republic of Texas, Bexar County was officially established in December of 1836 and the City of San Antonio was chartered a month later in January of 1837. The city continued to be a source of contention. In 1840, the Council House fight between the Comanche and city residents broke out in the streets after a failed attempt by to release captives held by the Comanche. The city was twice captured during Mexican invasions of Texas in 1842. As result, the population of San Antonio had dropped to 800 in 1846 (Fehrenbach 1978).

The entering of Texas into the Union saw a rapid increase in the cities population, growing to 3,500 in 1850 and to 8.235 in 1860. The rapid increase in population had been a direct result of the influx of German speaking settlers. Up until 1877, German speaking people outnumber both Hispanics and Anglos.

After the Civil War, San Antonio continued to grow larger, spurred on by the arrival of the railroad in 1877. The city served as the distribution point for the Mexico-US border as well as the rest of the southwest. At the turn of the 20th century, San Antonio was the largest city in Texas with a population of more than 53,000. Much of the city's grow 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 1978).

Despite the cities rapid growth, it had not expanded beyond its original Spanish land grant until 1940, allowing for the establishment of several unincorporated suburbs, which were later annexed by the city as it expanded.

METHODS

HISTORICAL/ARCHIVAL RESEARCH AND BACKGROUND REVIEW

SWCA conducted a thorough archaeological background review of the project area. An SWCA archaeologist searched site files and maps at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and the THC's Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas), an online database, for any previously recorded surveys and historic or prehistoric archaeological sites located in or adjacent to the project area. In addition to identifying previously recorded

archaeological sites, the Atlas review included the following types of information: NRHP properties, SALs, Official Texas Historical Markers, Registered Texas Historic Land Marks, cemeteries, and local neighborhood surveys.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD METHODS

As mentioned, consultation with the City of San Antonio Planning and Community Development Department determined that the scope of the current archaeological investigations would focus on relocating and assessing those areas previously identified as archaeological sites. Pedestrian survey and shovel testing would be of sufficient intensity to evaluate the previously recorded locations of archaeological sites within the project area

Where conducted, shovel tests were approximately 30 cm in diameter and excavated in arbitrary 20-cm levels to 100 cm below surface or culturally sterile deposits, whichever came first. The matrix from each shovel test was screened through ¼-inch mesh, and the location of each excavation was plotted using a hand-held GPS receiver. Each shovel test was recorded on a standardized form to document the excavations. During the survey of the project area, the archaeological crew photographed the environment and disturbances. Also, all available exposures were examined for the presence of cultural materials.

ARTIFACT COLLECTION

SWCA proposed a non-collection survey. Artifacts were tabulated, analyzed, and documented in the field, but not collected. Temporally diagnostic artifacts were described in detail and photographed in the field. Only especially rare artifacts or discoveries were to be collected.

RESULTS

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

The results of the background review determined that the northern half of the project area has not been previously surveyed for archaeological resources and no previously recorded sites are located within the northern portion of the tract. However, the southern portion has been previously surveyed for archaeological resources and five archaeological sites (41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, 41BX862) are located within the project boundary. Two sites (41BX859 and 41BX863) are adjacent to the eastern and southern project boundary, and 28 sites are located within 1 mile of the project area.

Most of the sites were discovered during numerous surveys conducted by various contractors for the Applewhite Reservoir project that was later cancelled. The largest of the surveys was conducted in 1981 and 1984 by archaeologists from the Center of Archaeological Research (CAR) at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Texas A&M University (TAMU) and Southern Methodist University (SMU) completed additional surveys and limited testing for the Applewhite Reservoir in the early 1990s (Houk et al. 2003; Figueroa and Tomka 2004). However, results of both surveys were not located with the exception of recorded site information on the Atlas. SMU also conducted historic archaeological investigations at various sites within the Applewhite Reservoir project in 2003 (Atlas, report abstract).

Several sites within 1 mile of the project boundary were newly recorded and revisited by subsequent surveys conducted for the San Antonio Water System (SAWS), San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department (SAPRD), and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

(TPWD). The Medina River Park survey performed for the SAPRD by CAR archaeologists in 2003 is adjacent to the project area, east of TX 16. Two other surveys conducted adjacent to the project and within 1 mile of the project boundary did not result in any newly recorded sites.

The five archaeological sites located within the Preserve at the Medina River project area consist of one multi-component site (41BX346), three prehistoric sites (41BX858, 41BX861, 41BX862), and one historic site (41BX860) (Figure 5). These sites are located along the upper terrace of the Media River. The two sites located adjacent to the project area include a multi-component site (41BX863) and a historic site (41BX859).

Site 41BX346 has both prehistoric (Early and Middle Archaic) and historic components and was initially recorded during the 1981 survey conducted by CAR for the Applewhite Reservoir project. The western portion site is located along TX 16 on the eastern boundary of the project area. Most of the site lies east of TX 16. TAMU archaeologists revisited the site in 1990, and the eastern portion of the site was revisited during the Medina River Park survey in 2003. The Medina River Park survey investigations revealed low densities of both prehistoric and historic materials and evidence of land disturbances within the site boundaries (Figueroa and Tomka 2004). The results determined that the site does not contain significant research potential and further investigations for eligibility determination are unwarranted.

Sites 41BX858, 41BX861, and 41BX862 are prehistoric open campsites recorded by TAMU archaeologists in 1990. Based on the information provided from site records, it appears the investigations consisted of a pedestrian survey with no shovel testing. Site 41BX858 consists of a surface scatter of

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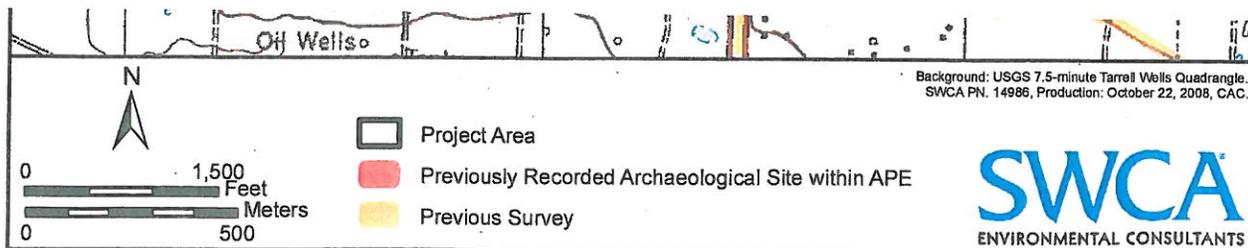


Figure 5. Previously recorded sites and surveys within the project area.

prehistoric artifacts that include debitage flakes, burned rock, an unidentified projectile point, and an end scraper (Atlas, 41BX858 site record). An intensive survey was recommended for the site to determine if there are intact cultural deposits or features.

Site 41BX861 contains areas with high densities of artifacts interspersed with low to moderate densities (Atlas, 41BX861 site record). Artifacts observed on the surface include debitage flakes, burned rock and mussel shell. Further investigations were recommended to determine if the site contains intact cultural deposits.

Site 41BX862 consists of light surface scatter of artifacts with an associated burned rock cluster (Atlas, 41BX862 site record). The burned rock cluster, designated as a possible hearth, has eroded out of the landform on which the site is located. Monitoring of the site was recommended.

Site 41BX860 is described as a residential historic complex with several surface structures and post-1930s debris scattered on the surface (Atlas, 41BX860 site record). The structures observed at the complex include three residential structures, several associated outbuildings, and a small dam or bridge with a pond. TAMU archaeologists suggested the site may have a business-related component associated with the warm sulfur spring located on the property. Archival and oral history research was recommended as well as architectural and archaeological investigations.

Sites 41BX863 and 41BX859 are adjacent to the project area just outside its boundaries. TAMU archaeologists recorded the sites in 1990. Site 41BX863 is located west of site 41BX862 outside of the western boundary of the project area and contains both prehistoric and historic components. The prehistoric

component consisted of surface scatter of debitage and burned rock (Atlas, 41BX863 site record). Artifacts associated with the historic component include ceramics, lead shot, nails, and glass. Additional testing was recommended as well as archival and oral history research. Site 41BX859 is located south of the project area and Medina River. The site consists of an early twentieth-century historic farmstead with standing structures and surface scatter (Atlas, 41BX859 site record). The structures observed at the site include a two-story house and barn. Based on the site description, the house may have been continuously remodeled since its initial construction (Atlas, 41BX859 site record). No further work or research is recommended for the site.

A total of 28 sites are located within 1 mile of the project area. Site type, component information, and recommendations for each site are included in Table 1. With the exception of site 41BX1519, all sites were recorded and/or tested during the Applewhite Reservoir survey projects and the Medina River Park survey. Archaeologists from CAR recorded site 41BX1519 during the Government Canyon survey for TPWD in 2001.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SURVEY

On October 17, 2008 an intensive pedestrian and subsurface archaeological survey was conducted by SWCA archaeologists at the proposed 500-acre Preserve at the Medina River development. The goal of the survey was to 1) relocate those five previously located sites; 2) determine the extent to which they are within the current project area; 3) evaluate the level of intactness of the sites and assess the potential significance of the deposits; and 4) evaluate the possible impacts upon those sites within the project area.

Table 1. Site Description and Recommendations of 28 Sites within 1 mile of Project Area

Site trinomial	Component	Site Description	NRHP Eligibility	Further Work
41BX347	Prehistoric	Lithic scatter	not eligible	No further work recommended
41BX348	Prehistoric	Lithic scatter	not eligible	No further work recommended
41BX350	Prehistoric	surface scatter	not eligible	Further work recommended; Monitoring
41BX527	Historic	Structures	unknown	Further work recommended
41BX528	Multi-component	Open campsite; possible burial	potentially eligible	Further work recommended; Extensive testing
41BX529	Historic	Cemetery	not eligible	Further work recommended if site cannot be avoided for future impacts
41BX542	Historic	Cemetery	not eligible	Further work recommended if site cannot be avoided for future impacts
41BX553	Historic	Structure	not eligible	Further work recommended is site will be disturbed
41BX554	Prehistoric	Open campsite	unknown	Further work recommended
41BX675	Historic	Cemetery	not eligible	Further work recommended if site cannot be avoided for future impacts
41BX837	Multi-component	surface scatter	not eligible	Further work recommended, Monitoring
41BX848	Prehistoric	open campsite	not eligible	No further work recommended
41BX850	Prehistoric	Open Campsite	not eligible	Further work is recommended to determine extent of artificial impacts and integrity.
41BX857	Historic	Historic bridge and river crossing	potentially eligible	Further work recommended; Archival research, oral history, and archaeological testing
41BX859	Historic	Farmstead	unknown	Further work; assessment based on aerial photographs
41BX864	Multi-component	Open campsite, farm complex	unknown	Further work recommended; Testing, archival research
41BX865	Multi-component	Open campsite; historic occupation	unknown	Further work recommended; Testing and archival research
41BX866	Multi-component	Open campsite, farm complex	unknown	Further work recommended; Testing and archival research, oral history, and architectural evaluation
41BX867	Historic	Undershot waterwheel/dam	unknown	Further work is recommended; Archival research, oral history, and subsurface testing
41BX868	Multi-component	Open campsite, farm/ranch complex	not eligible	No further work recommended for prehistoric component; Archival research is recommended for historic component
41BX869	Historic	Farmstead	unknown	Further work is recommended; Archival research, architectural evaluation, and subsurface testing
41BX986	Historic	Homestead	not eligible	No further work recommended
41BX987	Historic	Farmstead	not eligible	No further work recommended
41BX1519	Prehistoric	Open campsite	not eligible	No further work recommended
41BX1577	Prehistoric/ Protohistoric	Open campsite	unknown	Further work recommended; Monitoring
41BX1578	Multi-component	surface scatter	not eligible	Further work recommended; Monitoring
41BX1579	Prehistoric	Open campsite	unknown	Further work recommended; Monitoring
41BX1580	Prehistoric	surface scatter	not eligible	Further work recommended; Monitoring

A total of five previously recorded sites (41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862) were revisited during the course of field investigations. A 100 percent pedestrian survey was conducted in the areas where sites were previously recorded in order to identify any surficial artifacts or features. In addition, 30 shovel tests were excavated to assess the deposition of any subsurface cultural materials (Figure 6, Table 2). Soils throughout the project area were generally found to be a brown to grayish brown silty clay loam, often very compact, ranging in depth from 5 to 50 cmbs.

SITE 41BX346

The multi-component site 41BX346 is located along the eastern boundary of the project area, and is bisected by TX 16 (Figure 7). The majority of the site is mapped outside the APE on the eastern side of TX 16. The site is mapped as extending into the APE approximately 150 meters westward and stretches north-south along TX for 400 meters.

The site has been revisited several times and was found to contain a low density of both prehistoric and historic artifacts. The current SWCA survey conducted a 100 percent pedestrian survey of the portion of the site within the project area, surface visibility was found to range from 0 to 70 percent. No cultural materials were noted on the surface. A total of three shovel tests were excavated within the mapped boundaries of site 41BX346. Soils within all three shovel tests were brown to grayish compact clay loam. All four were negative for cultural materials.

The area appears to have been impacted by construction associated with TX 16. Fragments of roadway were noted on the surface and within several of the shovel tests. In addition, a low berm had been constructed along the fence line suggesting mechanical

scrapping of the APE. In addition, a significant portion of the site had been impacted by construction along the right-of-way of TX 16 in the form of drainage ditches and overhead utilities.

SWCA archaeologists were unable to relocate the portion of site 41BX346 which extends into the project area. The site has been impacted by modern construction and farming activities along the eastern border of the project area. The portion of site 41BX346 within the project area does not retain sufficient integrity or significance to contribute to the understanding of prehistoric or historic occupation of Bexar County. As a result, the portion of 41BX346 within the project area is recommended as ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In addition, 41BX346 is not recommended for official designation as an SAL under 13 TAC 26.12 as it does not meet SAL criteria 1-5.

SITE 41BX858

Site 41BX858 is a small prehistoric site located on top of a ridge overlooking a small drainage that leads to a manmade stock tank. It is approximately 490 meters northwest of the intersection of TX 16 and the Medina River and is situated amongst a stand of mesquite and prickly pear cactus (Figure 8).

SWCA conducted a 100 percent pedestrian survey of the site. Surface visibility ranged from 60 to 100 percent. A total of six shovel tests were excavated within the mapped site boundaries, all were negative for buried cultural materials. Soils were found to be generally a compact brown to grayish brown silty clay loam. Evidence of brush clearing suggests that the site has been impacted by agricultural practices (Figure 9).

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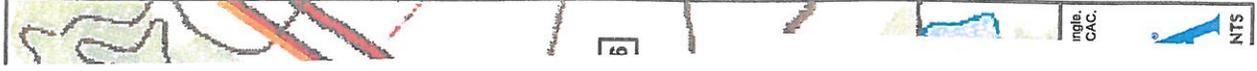


Figure 6. Shovel test map.

Table 2. Shovel Test Log

Shovel Test Number	Site Number	Level	Depth	Munsell	Soil	Comments
1	41BX860	1	0-25	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Church key beverage top at surface
2	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
3	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Screw, clear glass, brown glass at surface
4	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
5	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
6	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
7	41BX860	1	0-25	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
8	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
9	41BX860	1	0-40	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	brass grommet at surface
10	41BX860	1	0-30	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
11	41BX860	1	0-40	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
12	41BX860	1	0-40	10YR 4/6	Clay loam	Negative
13	41BX861	1	0-30	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
14	41BX861	1	0-30	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
15	41BX861	1	0-40	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
16	41BX861	1	0-50	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
17	41BX861	1	0-50	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
18	41BX862	1	0-30	10YR 5/2	Clay loam	Negative, gravelly soils
19	41BX862	1	0-31	10YR 5/2	Clay loam	Fragment of FCR at surface, gravelly soils
20	41BX862	1	0-32	10YR 5/2	Clay loam	Negative, gravelly soils
21	41BX862	1	0-33	10YR 5/2	Clay loam	Negative, gravelly soils
22	41BX346	1	0-10	10YR 3/2	Clay loam	Negative, disturbed soils, very compact
23	41BX346	1	0-10	10YR 3/2	Clay loam	Negative, disturbed soils, very compact
24	41BX346	1	0-10	10YR 3/2	Clay loam	Negative, disturbed soils, very compact
25	42BX858	1	0-20	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
26	42BX858	1	0-25	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative
27	42BX858	1	0-30	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	fragment of burnt chert at surface
28	42BX858	1	0-40	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	eight fragments of chert at surface
29	42BX858	1	0-25	10YR 4/2	Clay loam	Negative

IMAGE RESTRICTED



Figure 7. Site 41BX346 overview (facing south), note impacts: overhead utilities (right of frame), drainage ditch (center of frame), and TX-16 (left of frame)

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 8. Site 41BX858 overview (facing northeast).

IMAGE RESTRICTED



Figure 9. Brush pile showing land clearing within 41BX858 (facing south).

Artifact density is generally low and limited to the surface. Approximately 7-10 tertiary and secondary flakes were noted, as well as one large possible tested core. No diagnostic materials were observed.

The site has been impacted by modern construction and farming activities through repeated brush clearing. In addition, the overall paucity of cultural materials suggests that the site does not retain sufficient integrity or significance to contribute to the understanding of prehistoric occupation of Bexar County. As a result, the portion of 41BX858 within the project area is recommended as ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In addition, 41BX858 is not recommended for official designation as an SAL under 13 TAC 26.12 as it does not meet SAL criteria 1-5.

SITE 41BX860

Site 41BX860 is described as a historic site consisting of a complex of three buildings, a barn, and a manmade pond (Figure 10). The site is located at the southeastern corner of the project area, 150 meters northwest of the intersection of TX 16 and the Medina River and is bisected north-south by a two track road. The site extends from TX 16 eastward, parallel to the terrace overlooking the Medina River for 400 meters. SWCA archaeologists noted a complex of four structures: three houses (Structures 1 through 3) and one barn (Structure 4), situated along the two track road.

Structure 1, is a located approximately 40 meters east of the split in the two track road (Figure 11). The building is an approximately 30 feet by 30 foot, square, wood-framed gabled house, on pier and beam foundations. An assessment of architectural features dates Structure 1 to anywhere from 1910 to 1930.

Approximately 20 meters northeast of Structure 1, is a concrete-capped well, measuring approximately 1 meter in diameter and of unknown depth (Figure 12).

Structure 2 (Figure 13), is approximately 35 meters southwest of Structure 1, on the western side of the two track road. It is a rectilinear house, measuring 20 feet by 40 feet. It is a wood frame, side-gabled building featuring a front porch that extends along the front façade of the building. An assessment of architectural features dates Structure 2 to circa 1920.

Structure 3 (Figure 14), is located 45 meters northwest of Structure 2, on the western side of the two track road. It is a T-shaped pier and beam house, measuring approximately 22 feet by 20 feet. It is of similar construction as Structure 1 and 2. An architectural analysis dates the structure to c. 1920, similar to the other structures. The structure shows later additions or repairs post 1930, exemplified by the presence of asbestos shingles on the eastern façade.

Structure 4 (Figure 15), is a wooden frame barn with corrugated metal roofing, located 25 meters northwest of Structure 3. It measures approximately 30 feet by 20 feet. Architectural analysis of the barn suggests a construction date of c. 1930, making it the last addition to the complex.

A total of twelve shovel tests were excavated in the vicinity of 41BX860. Attention was focused on the areas immediately around the four structures. All twelve shovel tests were negative for subsurface cultural material. All soils excavated from shovel tests within site 41BX860 were compact brown to grayish brown clay loam. Surface visibility ranged from 50 to 100 percent. A 100 percent pedestrian survey identified a moderate

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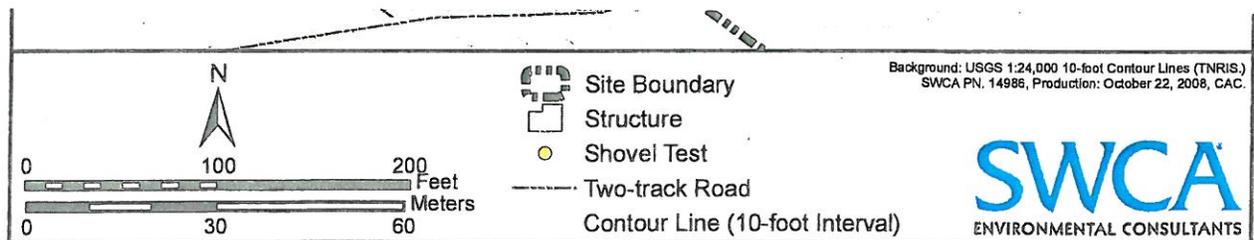


Figure 10. Farm complex, 41BX860.

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 11. 41BX860, Structure 1, (facing northwest).

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 12. 41BX860, well near Structure 1.

IMAGE RESTRICTED



Figure 13. 41BX860, Structure 2 (facing west).

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 14. 41BX860, Structure 3 (facing east).



IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 15. 41BX860, Structure 4 (facing east).

density of glass and ceramic fragments throughout the site.

Along the terrace edge overlooking the Medina River, a heavier density of artifacts was noted, with particular focus along washout areas and gullies leading down to the flood plain. These areas suggest use as a trash dump and contain both historic and modern debris.

The majority of artifacts noted on the surface was non-diagnostic clear and cobalt blue glass and fragments of whiteware and decorated porcelain. Several whole glass bottles were noted; of those one diagnostic bottle was noted (Figure 16). It is a 5 ½' tall, machine made, medicinal bottle of clear glass. On one side reads "Foley & Company" on the other "Chicago, USA" (Figure 17). This bottle is an example of the cure alls and tonics widely available during the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries. This particular example comes from the Foley Co, which sold kidney and bladder tonics as well as other curatives, beginning around 1903. The lack of solarization suggests the bottle dates to post World War I and is consistent with the 1920 date of construction for two of the houses.

The presence of medicinal bottles as well as decorated porcelain, and fragments of other serving and storage vessels suggests that the complex was used for residential purposes beginning as early as 1910, with the construction of Structure 1. The 1990 site form on file at TARL notes aerial imagery from 1938 indicating several structures present on the property and the 1931 Stoner Map, showing five extent structures.

The site form also suggests that in addition to residential use, the complex may have served in a commercial capacity, possibly associated with the warm sulfur spring located 250 meters northeast of the complex. However,

evidence from both the cultural material observed on the surface as well the residential architectural style of the buildings suggests that the site was a typical early 20th century farmstead. There is no archaeological evidence observed in the field to indicate that site 41BX860 exploited commercially the nearby sulfur spring. In addition, the area around the sulfur spring was inspected by SWCA archaeologists as part of the current investigations. No cultural materials were observed in proximity to the spring.

Overall the site has been heavily impacted by the ongoing use of the land for ranching. Modern debris is intermixed with historic materials throughout the site, and at least one of the buildings (Structure 3) has been altered or added on to after its initial construction.

The property has no significant association with important historic events or trends, nor is it known to be associated with persons of historic importance. The structures associated with site 41BX860 are not noteworthy examples of their respective styles or types, and the property has low potential to yield information on historic peoples, events, or trends.

Site 41BX860 has been heavily impacted by ongoing farming activities within the project area. In addition, the site does not show any significant cultural deposition. The site does not retain sufficient integrity or significance to contribute to the understanding of historic occupation of Bexar County. As a result, site 41BX860 is recommended as ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In addition, 41BX860 is not recommended for official designation as an SAL under 13 TAC 26.12 as it does not meet SAL criteria 1-5.



Figure 16. 41BX860, Foley and Co. medicinal bottle, c. 1903-1930.



Figure 17. 41BX860, Foley and Co medicinal bottle marks.

SITE 41BX861

Site 41BX861 is a large prehistoric campsite extends 400 meters east-west, parallel to the ridge overlooking the Medina River, in the southern section of the project area. The site has been heavily impacted by mining operations within the center of the project area. What little of the site remains, is situated amongst a thick stand of mesquite trees close the ridge edge (Figure 18).

A 100 percent pedestrian survey was also conducted with a surface visibility of 60 to 100 percent. A total of five shovel tests were excavated within the previously mapped boundaries of the site. All were negative for cultural material and produced soils that were generally compact brown silty clay loam. Only five tertiary flakes were identified on the surface, all at the eastern end of the site.

Site 41BX861 has been heavily impacted by ongoing farming and mining activities within the project area, with more than 75 to 80 percent of the original area having been destroyed. The site does not retain sufficient integrity or significance to contribute to understanding of prehistoric occupation of Bexar County. As a result, the portion of 41BX861 within the project area is recommended as ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In addition, 41BX861 is not recommended for official designation as an SAL under 13 TAC 26.12 as it does not meet SAL criteria 1-5.

SITE 41BX862

Site 41BX862 is located at the southeastern corner of the project area and is described as a prehistoric open camp site (Figure 19). It is situated on the high terrace overlooking an old channel of the Medina River to the south. The area is currently an open field with 60 to 100 percent surface visibility with signs of having

been mechanically altered from nearby mining activities.

A 100 percent pedestrian survey was also conducted in the area, with a surface visibility of 60 to 100 percent. A total of four shovel tests were excavated within the mapped area of site 41BX862, and all four were negative for cultural material. Soils within all four shovel tests were brown to grayish brown cobbly clay loam. Two small tertiary flakes were noted in the two track road that bisects the mapped site location and one fragment of fire cracked rock was noted on the surface near ST-19.

Site 41BX862 has been heavily impacted by ongoing mining activities within the project area. The site does not retain sufficient integrity or significance to contribute to the understanding of prehistoric occupation of Bexar County. As a result, the portion of 41BX862 within the project area is recommended as ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In addition, 41BX862 is not recommended for official designation as an SAL under 13 TAC 26.12 as it does not meet SAL criteria 1-5.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On behalf of the Presto Properties, LTD, SWCA conducted an intensive archaeological survey of portions of the proposed 500-acre Preserve at the Medina River in southwestern San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, located west of the intersection of TX 16 and Watson Road.

The proposed undertaking will not utilize local, state, and/or federal funding in its development. As such, cultural resource investigations were conducted in compliance the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 18. Site 41BX861 overview (facing south).

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 19. Site 41BX862 overview (facing west).

Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634).

Archaeologists from SWCA conducted an intensive pedestrian and shovel testing survey of areas where archaeological sites had been previously recorded. Five previously recorded prehistoric archaeological sites (41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862) were re-identified. A total of 30 shovel tests were excavated in the location of the previously recorded sites. None of the shovel tests were positive for artifacts. All cultural material was noted on the surface. Soils throughout the site areas were found generally to be very compact silty loams or silty clay loams.

Based upon the results of current investigations, the five sites (41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862) do not retain sufficient integrity or significance to contribute meaningful information concerning the prehistoric occupation of Bexar County. As a result, all five sites are recommended as ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D or as SALS.

No further archaeological work is recommended for sites 41BX346, 41BX858, 41BX860, 41BX861, and 41BX862 or for the remainder of the 500-acre project area.

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