

**Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail IH-10 Alternative
Alignment Project**

**An Intensive Archeological Survey,
Bexar County, Texas**

Texas Antiquities Permit #5371

January 2010

**Principal Investigator
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Melinda Tate Iruegas
Virginia Moore**



GTI Environmental, Inc.
Environmental Consultants

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**Prepared For:
S&B Infrastructure, Ltd**

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**On Behalf of:
City of San Antonio, Texas**

**Prepared By:
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Abstract

The following documents the results of archaeological field investigations for the City of San Antonio's (COSA) Proposed Alternate Alignment for its Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail Project. The document fulfills the preliminary reporting requirement as required by TxDOT-ENV. In accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas, GTI will conduct a detailed historical background review and an intensive archeology survey of the proposed Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail Project at IH-10. The Texas Historical Commission requires that an antiquities permit application must be filed and issued by their office in accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas—*Chapter 26.21: Rules of Practice and Procedure*. The project is also under the dual jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration through its delegated representative the Texas Department of Transportation in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (36CFR800). In particular, all work performed will be in compliance and under the terms and conditions of the First Amended Programmatic Agreement (2005) among the FHWA, TxDOT, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the THC/SHPO. Accordingly, the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) will be the length between Mitchell Street and Alamo Street (approximately 2 miles), and 50 feet on either side of the staked centerline of the Hike and Bike trails or streets centerline unless otherwise defined. This preliminary report is being provided to the City of San Antonio for their review and submittal to TxDOT and the Texas Historical Commission (THC) for their review and consideration regarding the assessed effects this proposed project may have on cultural deposits whose eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is unknown.

The COSA is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Accordingly, the project falls under the Antiquities Code of Texas and requires an antiquities permit application. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) issued Antiquities Permit #5371. COSA intends to construct a hike and bike trail along Salado Creek (Figures 1). In particular, COSA proposes the Alternative Alignment at IH-10 for the hike and bike trail, referred to as the Project (Figure 2). Funding includes reimbursable federal funds from the TxDOT Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program. Accordingly, all work will address the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA and be conducted under the terms and conditions of the First Amended Programmatic Agreement among TxDOT, the Texas SHPO, FHWA, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (2005).

GTI conducted an archeology survey within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the undertaking and completed 49 shovel tests and 1 backhoe trench (Figure 3). GTI assessed the archaeological remains associated with previous historical occupations in the area related to the Alsbury Family historic homestead complex and prehistoric surface lithic scatter present within the hike and bike trail alternative alignment Project area not previously cleared by UTSA. It should be noted that UTSA previously surveyed the Northwest fork of the original alternate alignment at the "Y" intersection as shown on the figures based on the Pape-Dawson Engineer civil survey data, as well as the original hike and bike alignment. GTI documented the historic complex with temporary Site Number

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GTI-1-Alsbury Site (Figure 4) and the prehistoric Site Number GTI-2-DaFoste Park Site (Figure 5) within COSA (public) property. GTI demonstrated that there are no artifact deposits or buried cultural features within the Proposed Alternate Alignment.

The report demonstrates that the historic Alsbury Site contains definable yardscape patterns and preserved cultural deposits, and the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and worthy for designation as a State Archaeological Landmark. Because the Alsbury Site is on public property adjacent to the Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail, possible effects include development of the public land with retainer walls and or park furniture similar to those of other hike and bike trails in San Antonio, as well as possible effects by the public. Accordingly, GTI recommends that COSA avoid this site and select its proposed alternate alignment closer to Salado Creek and develop a treatment plan for this Site. Archaeological investigation of the DaFoste Park Site demonstrated that the stable terrace has been truncated by natural events or past development of the area and the A-Horizon and B-Horizon are no longer present. GTI, however, documented an intact buried midden and pit feature with cultural materials and charcoal. Based on field visits Section 106 consultation with TxDOT-ENV, GTI collected 20cm x 20cm x 10cm column soil samples from the pit feature in place of the required 50cm x 50cm hand controlled excavation unit. The possible impacts to the site are from development of the hike and bike trail where 5 to 7 feet of the terrace will be removed from this Site. Based on consultation with TxDOT, GTI recommends that COSA avoid the DaFoste Park Site. If avoidance is not possible, GTI recommends National Register evaluation of the site that include a single 1 x 1 meter test unit, radio carbon dating of the charcoal sample, and macrobotanical analysis of the collected soil samples.

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Chapter 1: Introduction and Project Description

The following report documents the results of archaeological field investigations for the City of San Antonio's (COSA) Proposed Alternate Alignment for its Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail Project. The Texas Historical Commission requires that an antiquities permit application must be filed and issued by their office in accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas—*Chapter 26.21: Rules of Practice and Procedure*. The project is also under the dual jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration through its delegated representative the Texas Department of Transportation in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (36CFR800). In particular, all work performed will be in compliance and under the terms and conditions of the First Amended Programmatic Agreement (2005) among the FHWA, TxDOT, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the THC/SHPO.

The COSA is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Accordingly, the project falls under the Antiquities Code of Texas and requires an antiquities permit application. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) issued Antiquities Permit #5371. COSA intends to construct a hike and bike trail along Salado Creek (Figures 1). In particular, COSA proposes the Alternative Alignment at IH-10 for the hike and bike trail, referred to as the Project (Figure 2). Funding includes reimbursable federal funds from the TxDOT Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program, as well as American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) federal funds. Accordingly, all work will address the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA and be conducted under the terms and conditions of the First Amended Programmatic Agreement among TxDOT, the Texas SHPO, FHWA, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (2005).

Archival Research and Oral History Background

GTI conducted archival research prior to, during, and after archaeological field investigations to assist COSA and TxDOT with the identification of Stakeholders under NEPA. GTI also prepared an oral history questionnaire in consultation with the COSA and TxDOT based on archival research and Alsbury Family documentation submitted to TxDOT, THC and COSA in the past. GTI conducted the oral history interviews with the Alsbury Family members after the intensive archaeology survey fieldwork as agreed to by THC and TxDOT in the meeting (4/02/2009). GTI integrated the oral history data into the draft intensive archaeology survey report and presents the questionnaire as an appendix in the draft report.

Synopsis of field Investigations

GTI conducted an archeology survey within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the undertaking and completed 49 shovel tests and 1 backhoe trench. GTI assessed the archaeological remains associated with previous historical occupations in the area related to the Alsbury Family historic homestead complex and prehistoric surface lithic scatter present within the hike and bike trail alternative alignment Project area not previously

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cleared by UTSA. It should be noted that UTSA previously surveyed the Northwest fork of the original alternate alignment at the "Y" intersection as shown on the figures based on the Pape-Dawson Engineer civil survey data, as well as the original hike and bike alignment. GTI documented the historic complex as 41BX1832-Alsbury Site and the prehistoric site as 41BX1833-DaFoste Park Site within COSA (public) property. GTI demonstrated that there are no artifact deposits or buried cultural features within the Proposed Alternate Alignment.

The report demonstrates that the historic Alsbury Site contains definable yardscape patterns and preserved cultural deposits, and the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and worthy for designation as a State Archaeological Landmark. Because the Alsbury Site is on public property adjacent to the Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail, possible effects include development of the public land with retainer walls and or park furniture similar to those of other hike and bike trails in San Antonio, as well as possible effects by the public. Accordingly, GTI recommends that COSA avoid this site and select its proposed alternate alignment closer to Salado Creek and develop a treatment plan for this Site. Archaeological investigation of the DaFoste Park Site demonstrated that the stable terrace has been truncated by natural events or past development of the area and the A-Horizon and B-Horizon are no longer present. GTI, however, documented an intact buried midden and pit feature with cultural materials and charcoal. Based on field visits Section 106 consultation with TxDOT-ENV, GTI collected 20cm x 20cm x 10cm column soil samples from the pit feature in place of the required 50cm x 50cm hand controlled excavation unit. The possible impacts to the site are from development of the hike and bike trail where 5 to 7 feet of the terrace will be removed from this Site. Based on consultation with TxDOT, GTI recommends that COSA avoid the DaFoste Park Site. If avoidance is not possible, GTI recommends National Register evaluation of the site that include a single 1 x 1 meter test unit, radio carbon dating of the charcoal sample, and macrobotanical analysis of the collected soil samples.

Section 106 and Antiquities Code Consultation

The City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation City Archaeologist, Ms. Kay Hinde, consulted with the Texas Historical Commission on August 19, 2009. The City Archaeologist wrote:

"Based on the recommendations of the preliminary draft report prepared by the city's consultant, GTI on the above referenced project, the city withdraws the alternate alignment from the project known as the DaFoste Park route (the "Northwest fork of the original alternate alignment at the "Y" intersection as shown on the figures based on the Pape-Dawson Engineer civil survey data, as well as the original hike and bike alignment") on the west bank of the Salado Creek. Although the significance of the site and its potential eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is not known, we will avoid any potential impacts to the site.

In addition, the city agrees with the assessment that the Alsbury Homestead site is "eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and worthy for designation as a State Archeological Landmark". Therefore, due to the significance of the Alsbury Homestead site and following the recommendations of the preliminary report to avoid impacts to the site by moving the trail to the alternative alignment, the city is in the process of realigning the trail on the east bank at the Alsbury homestead site. The trail will be realigned to the area surveyed and cleared by GTI (the alternative alignment #2 known as the alignment between the Salado Creek and the stable terrace where the 2002 UTSA BHT and Alsbury Site is located and as shown in Fig. 5). This realignment of the trail from the original alignment surveyed by UTSA to the area cleared by GTI at the base of the terrace and beyond the site boundaries thus avoids any adverse impact to this important site."

The Texas Historical Commission responded on August 27, 2009, stating, "This avoidance plan is acceptable to the THC, and therefore, as far as the THC is concerned no further archeological investigations related to the DaFoste Park route will be necessary, and we will await a formal clearance request from TxDOT-ENV."

On September 24, 2009, TxDOT-San Antonio District determined, "[i]n summary and because of these changes, no archeological sites were identified within this segment of the project area's redefined APE. As a result, TxDOT-ENV completed its review of this undertaking's design change and found that the proposed APE does not contain archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16.(1)); nor will the proposed undertaking affect any and; that the project may proceed toward development and construction. In the event that unanticipated archeological deposits are encountered during construction, work in the immediate area will cease, and TxDOT archeological staff will be contacted to initiate post-review discovery procedures under the provisions of the PA (2005) and the MOU."

As a result, TxDOT-ENV submitted a consultation letter to THC dated September 25, 2009 reiterating TxDOT-San Antonio District's assessment and noted that TxDOT-ENV would "forward the final GTI draft archaeological report to THC for review and completion of the permitting requirements of THC Antiquities Permit No. 5371." The THC concurred on October 1, 2009 with TxDOT-ENV's determination "...that the proposed APE does not contain archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16.(1)); nor will the proposed undertaking affect any and; that the project may proceed toward development and construction."

Report Format

This Report is divided into seven chapters. Chapter 1: Introduction and Project Description contains the scope of work for the project as well as a summary of the cultural resources survey results. The project description discusses the project dimensions, and type as well as the topography, soils, geology, and flora of the project

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area. Chapter 2: Cultural Chronology, discusses the prehistoric and historic history of the project area. Chapter 3: Archival preformed an archival review of historic maps and records regarding the Alsbury homestead. Chapter 4: Oral History discussed the Oral History methodology. Chapter 5: Methodology discusses the methods used to guide the investigations. Chapter 6: Results discusses the details of the archaeological survey and describes the attributes of the site and assessments of affect and NRHP eligibility of archaeological resources within the project area. Chapter 7: Conclusions discuss the recommendations for the archeological survey. Chapter 8: References contains all the references used in the report.

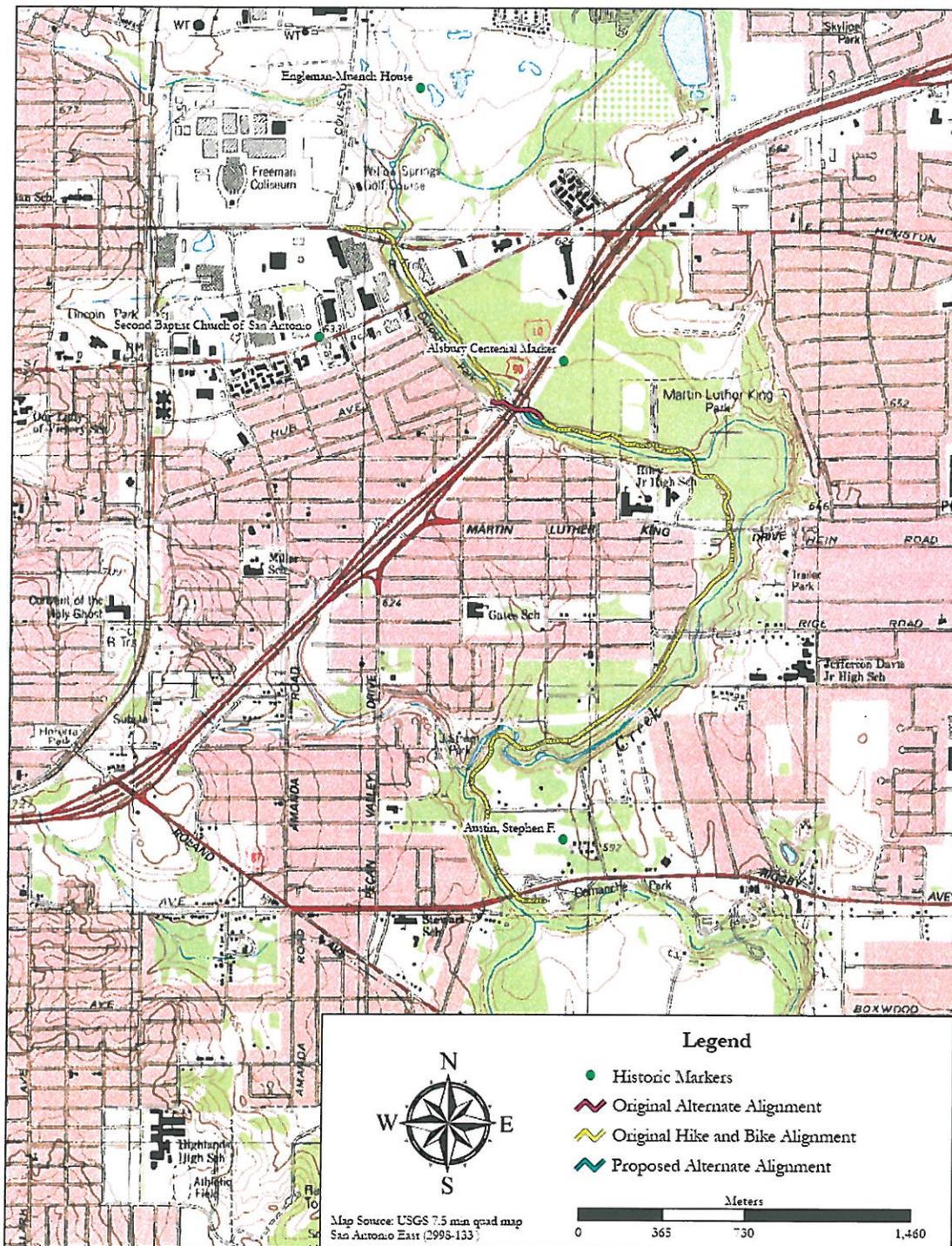


Figure 1: Topographic Map of Project Area.

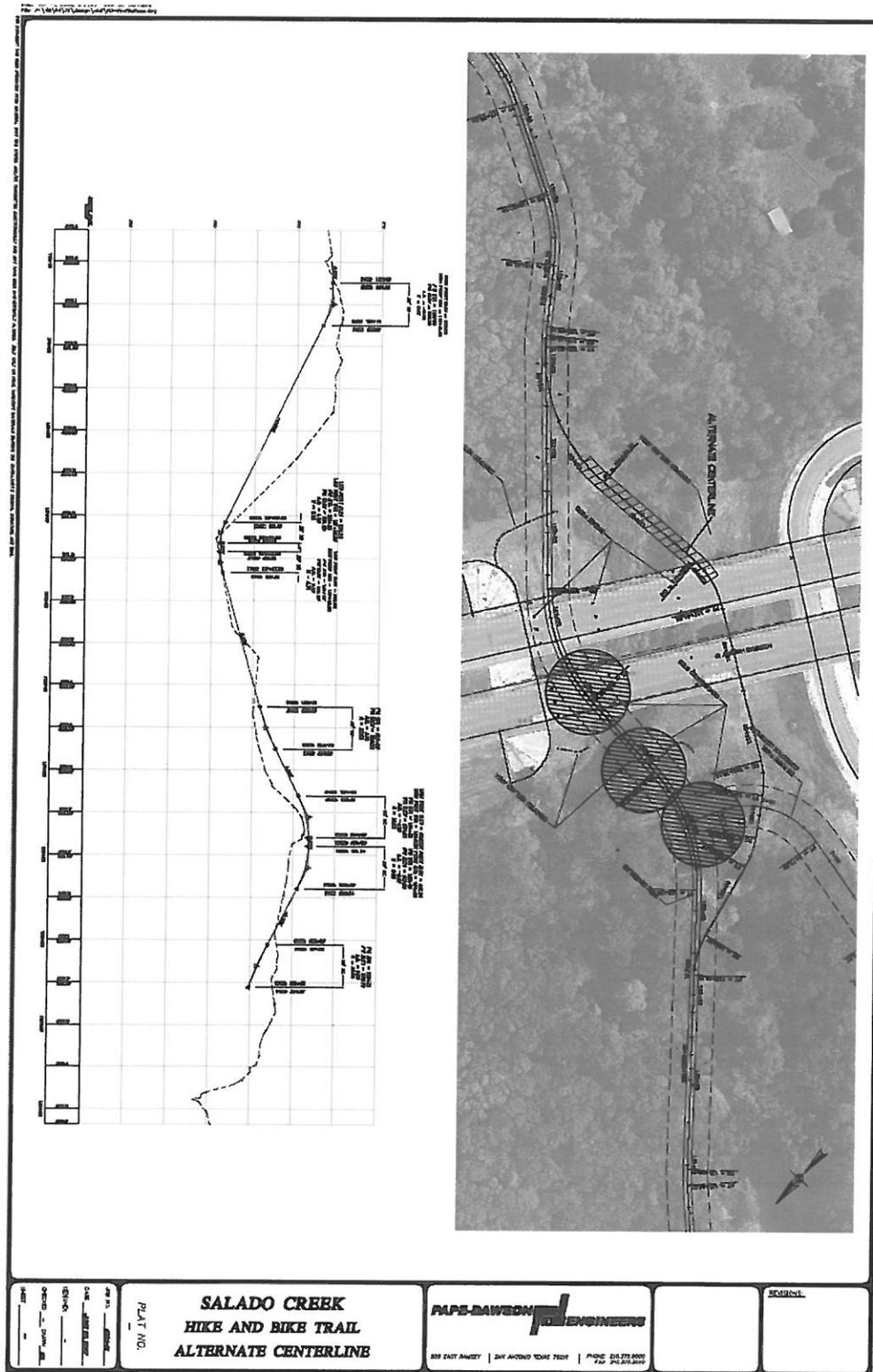


Figure 2: Original Engineer drawing of APE.

Project Area Description

The Project APE is based on the Pape-Dawson Engineering plans dated 7/31/2009. The Alternative Alignment is approximately 1020 feet long as illustrated by station markers 116+00 –708+00 each 100 feet long. The width of the trail right-of-way (ROW) is 50 feet. The maximum depth of the Project impacts will be as much as 5-7 feet deep (between station markers 701+00 –702+00) where historic ceramics are present on the eastern side of the Project area and as much as 3 feet deep (between station markers 708+00 –127+00) on the western terminus of the Project area. Fill material will be brought in and placed on the western side of the project area near the lithic materials on the ground surface (between station markers 705+00 –707+00). The Project is Linear-Type. COSA, TxDOT-ENV, and THC informed GTI that historic artifacts were observed eroding from a segment of the UTSA 2002 BHT (100 meters long), that a prehistoric lithic scatter was observed within the Project APE adjacent to DaFoste Park within COSA property, and a Centennial Marker is present on private property adjacent to the northern boundary of the city owned property. GTI notes that the Minimum Standards for Archaeological Surveys in Texas require 16 shovel tests for every 100 foot wide by 1 mile long project length, and these standards are minimum number of shovel tests when no archaeological sites are recorded within a Linear-Type project. Accordingly, GTI proposes estimated number of shovel tests in the Research Design section of this Scope of Work that addresses the known undocumented archaeology sites within the Alternative Alignment Project APE as discussed in consultation with COSA, TxDOT-ENV, and THC. The Project does not require any new ROW. COSA has purchased, however, additional property from the private landowner north of the Project area. The new COSA property northern boundary is 307 feet north of Salado Creek centerline. Civil surveyors will be verifying the northern boundary commensurate with archaeological investigation fieldwork.

Topography

Bexar County is situated on both the Edwards Plateau and the interior section of the Coastal Plains of South Central Texas. The northwestern part of Bexar County lies on the Edwards Plateau ending in the Balcones Escarpment. This rolling hill county is the source of many springs some of which are were the San Antonio River and San Pedro Creek originate from. Salado Creek is a smaller tributary of the San Antonio River that crosses hilly terrain covered primarily by clay loam that supports a variety of vegetation including live oak, mesquite, and many types of grasses (Handbook of Texas, 2009).

Soils

The soils within the project area are classified as Loire clay loam (Fr) 0 to 2 % slope, Branyon clay (HtB)1 to 3 % slopes, Lewisville silty clay (LvB) with 1 to 3 % slopes, Patrick soils (PaB) with 1 to 3 % slopes, and Sunev clay loam (VcB) with 1 to 3 % slopes (Web Soil Survey, 2009).

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The Loire series consists of very deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in calcareous, loamy, alluvial sediments that can be found on nearly level flood plains with upper drainage areas in the Edwards Plateau. From 0 to 8 inches the soil is brown (10YR 5/3) silty clay loam. Below this from 8 to 16 inches is grayish brown (10YR 5/2) silty clay loam with a few thin light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) loamy strata. The next layer (16 to 42 inches) is pale brown (10YR 6/3) loam. The bottom layer consist of 42 to 80 inches of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) fine sandy loam (USDA 2003)

The Branyon series consists of very deep, moderately well drained, very slowly permeable soils that formed in calcareous clayey sediments that are found on nearly level to very gently sloping Pleistocene terraces. From 0 to 4 inches the soil is dark gray (10YR 4/1) clay. This is followed by 4 to 12 inches of dark gray (10YR 4/1) clay. The next layer consists of 12 to 44 inches of dark gray (10YR 4/1) clay, followed by 44 to 72 inches of gray (10YR 5/1) clay. The bottom layer is 72 to 80 inches thick with light gray (10YR 7/2) clay (USDA 2001).

The Lewisville series consists of very deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in ancient loamy and calcareous sediments that are found on nearly level to rolling landscapes having plane to convex surfaces. From 0 to 6 inches is dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay. Followed by 6 to 16 inches of dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay. Below this is 16 to 34 inches of grayish brown (10YR 5/2) silty clay. The bottom layer is 34 to 62 inches thick with pale brown (10YR 6/3) silty clay (USDA 2006).

The Patrick series consists of moderately deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in calcareous clay over gravelly sediments. These soils are on nearly level to strongly sloping ancient terraces of uplands of about Pleistocene age. From 0 to 10 inches is dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) clay. Followed by 10 to 22 inches of brown (7.5YR 5/4) clay. The next layer consists of 22 to 120 inches of brownish very gravelly loamy sand (USDA 1983).

The Sunev series consists of very deep, well drained moderately permeable soils that formed in loamy alluvial sediments that are high in calcium carbonate. These soils are on nearly level to moderately steep terraces or colluvial foot slopes. The topstrat is 0 to 6 inches with dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) loam. This is followed by 6 to 12 inches of dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) loam. Below this is 12 to 21 inches of brown (10YR 5/3) loam. The next layer is 21 to 60 inches of very pale brown (10YR 7/4) loam. The last layer is 60 to 72 inches of very pale brown (10YR 7/4) loam (USDA 1990).

Geology

The geology of the project area consists of fluvial terrace deposits of Pleistocene age. These deposits are located on river and stream terraces consisting of gravel, sand, silt, and clay. These deposits are described as being adjacent to the Edwards Plateau (Figure 3). The project area geology was consistent with Fluvial terrace deposits predominated of gravel, limestone, dolomite, and chert.

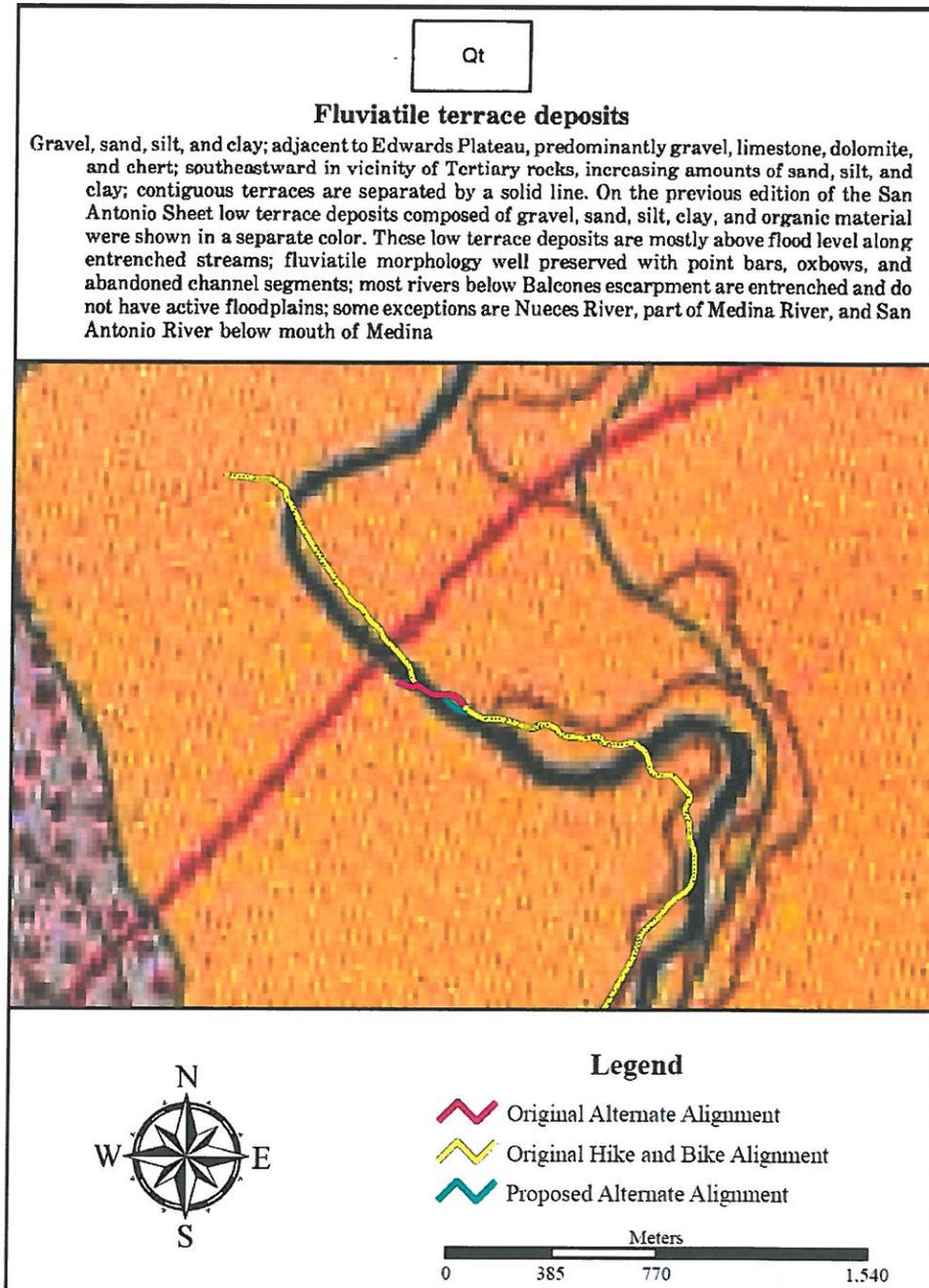


Figure 3: Geology

Chapter 2: Cultural Chronology

A temporal framework for prehistoric archeological sites in Texas can be categorized by three main periods: the Paleo-Indian (10,500–8500 Before Present [B.P.]), the Archaic (8500–1200 B.P.), and the Late Prehistoric (1200–400 B.P.). The Archaic period is further subdivided into the Early Archaic (8500–6000 B.P.), the Middle Archaic (6000–3500 B.P.), and the Late Archaic (3500–1200 B.P.). Suhm et al. (1954), Suhm and Jelks (1962), Prewitt (1981, 1985), and Turner and Hester (1999) established this temporal framework based on projectile point type seriation and based on technological changes in diagnostic artifacts due to changing environment and subsistence strategy adaptations.

Paleoindian

The Paleo-Indian period dates from approximately 10,500 to 8,500 years B.P. Archeological sites from this period have been found in rock shelters and out in the open. Mobile hunters and gathers exploited megafaunal species such as mastodon, mammoth, bison, horse, and camel. The Paleo-Indian period has been documented as the earliest occupation of Texas archeological prehistoric sites and straddles the end of the Pleistocene era and the beginning of the Holocene. Few megafaunal assemblages have been recovered at archeological sites, however, stone tool assemblages are better known. The stone tools of this period are generally lanceolate projectile points that include *Plainview*, *Clovis* and *Folsom* type points. Processing tools include *Clear Fork* bifaces *Albany* tools, and end scrapers (Hester 1999:246, 277, 280). Much debate has occurred in recent years regarding the beginning of this period or that a pre-clovis culture entered North America prior to 10,500 years B.P. and as early as 13,500 years B. P. as evidence at Monte Verde in Chile, South America. The basic chronology, however, remains the same for Texas at this time.

Archaic

The Archaic Period dates from approximately 8,500 to 1,200 years B.P. Researchers have divided this period into the Early Archaic (8500–6000 years B.P.), Middle Archaic (6000–3500 years B. P.), and Late Archaic (3500–1200 years B.P.). This time period is characterized with warmer temperatures and rising sea levels. As sea levels rose, so did other water systems like rivers and streams. These changing environmental conditions were the impetus for a burgeoning new ecosystem which was exploited by early inhabitants and the demise of some big game animals like the mastodon and mammoth. As the environment changed, the Archaic people's diet changed, as well as, the stone tool technology they used to procure and process these new plants and animals. Regional diversification in diet and material culture occurs during the Archaic Period. In general, Archaic people began to make their projectile points with stems and points such as the lanceolate form fell from use. During the Early Archaic *Angostura*, *Scottsbluff*, *Golondrina*, *Merserve*, *Gower*, *Hoxie*, *wells*, *Bell*, *Andice*, *Martindale*, *Uvalde*, *Baird*, and *Taylor* points show this change in stone tool technology.

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During the transition from Early Archaic to Middle Archaic periods, stemmed points become more common and begin to show a greater degree of diversity in point forms. Archaic peoples begin to make burned rock midden deposits. Point types found at burned rock midden sites typically include *Nolan*, *Travis*, *Bulverde*, *Pedernales*, *Marshall*, *Williams*, and *Lange* forms. The last three forms have been considered as transitional forms leading into the Late Archaic. Typical Late Archaic point forms include *Marcos*, *Montell*, *Castroville*, *Frio*, *Fairland*, *Ensor*, and *Mahomet*. Archaic populations increased throughout this period at which time social and exchange relationships developed based on the ubiquitous variety of point types, forms and material cultural evidence.

Late Prehistoric

The Late Prehistoric Period dates approximately from 1,200–400 years B.P. The greatest innovation during this period was the development of the bow and arrow. Stone tool technology evolved in step with this new innovation. Late Prehistoric people made their stone points smaller and more diverse in form depending on the game animals that were being hunted. Some of these stone arrow points include *Edwards*, *Scallorn*, *Zavala*, *Perdiz*, *Cuney*, *Padre* and *Alba* types. The second greatest innovation during this period was the development of ceramics. Settlement patterns also change at this time as sedentary and horticultural communities become more common, and corn is introduced to Texas indicating the existence of exchange networks between sedentary and nomadic groups. Archeological site types also include open camps, lithic scatters, and cemeteries.

Historic Period

The Historic Period begins at the point of contact with European explorers in A.D. 1492. The first European explorer to reach Texas was Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca during the 1528 Narvaez Expedition of the Gulf coast. Cabeza de Vaca was stranded in Texas for eight years and traveled throughout South Texas and Mexico meeting different Native American groups. He was eventually rescued and went back to Spain. During his journey, Cabeza de Vaca documented numerous groups of people, their customs, and cultural differences. The first explorers to reach the San Antonio area were Domingo Terán de los Ríos and Fray Damián Massanet (Handbook of Texas, 2009). Subsequent Spanish entradas in Texas began during the early 1700s with the establishment of the Spanish missions. Many Indians of the Jamrame, Payaya, and Pamaya groups had joined these missions by the end of 1718 (Handbook of Texas, 2009). Changing and shifting social and cultural ties characterize this time. For example, although the Tonkawa were one of the more numerous Native American groups in Texas, the Ervipiame moved into the area from northern Mexico and many of them joined the Tonkawa groups as a matter of survival (Hester 1980: 51). The Lipan Apaches immigrated and came from the northwest into Texas. Hester (1980: 51) has noted that by the early 1700s, the Lipan Apache numbered between 3,000 and 5,000 in population size and controlled the Central Texas area by 1775. Shortly there after, the Comanche moved into Texas from the Colorado and Wyoming areas and displaced the Tonkawa and Lipan Apache groups.

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The first Anglo-American colonists came to Texas in 1821. During the late 1820s and early 1830s more and more settlers from American started moving to San Antonio, despite this flux it remained predominantly Mexican through the start of the Texas Revolution (October 1835 to April 1836). On March 2, 1836 The Texas Declaration of Independence was signed by members of the Convention of 1836 establishing the Republic of Texas, with San Antonio as its seat (Handbook of Texas, 2009). San Antonio was claimed by both Mexico and the Republic of Texas and continued to be fought over until Texas joined the Union as the 28th state in 1845. The conflict between the United States and Mexico in 1846-48 began over the disputed southern of Texas boundary at the Rio Grande River and to the sale of northern California (Handbook of Texas, 2009). The few years between this time and the beginning of the Civil War were relatively prosperous for Texans. In 1861 Texas seceded from the Federal Union and joined the Confederate forces in the Civil War. The last land engagement of the Civil War was fought at the Battle of Palmito Ranch just north of Brownsville Texas on May 13, 1865, which marked the end of the Civil War and the beginning of Reconstruction (Handbook of Texas, 2009). After the Civil War, San Antonio was the southern hub for cattle, distribution, mercantile, and military for areas in the border region and the Southwest. In 1877, the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railway was constructed through San Antonio pushing the area into a new era of economic growth (Handbook of Texas, 2009).

Chapter 3: Archival Research

GTI Environmental, Inc. historian preformed an archival review of historic maps and records regarding the Alsbury homestead. The project is located in Bexar County, Texas on the San Antonio East Topographic 7.5' Quadrangle (2998-133). Adjacent to the project APE is the Texas Centennial Commission Marker documenting the location of the Alsbury family cemetery. During meetings with COSA and THC it was determined the archival level of effort would also include materials collected by COSA, TXDOT, and THC as well as the J. Ben Stoner Map collections. During the review, historic county plat maps from the Texas General Land Office (GLO), Corps of Engineers U.S. Army Tactical Maps, and historic USGS topographic from the Perry Castañeda Library Map Collection were consulted. The 1936 General Highway Bexar County map from the Texas State Archives was also reviewed. Deed and court records were also reviewed from the GLO, Bexar County Archives, COSA and TXDOT files. Other online resources include the searchable deed record database of the Bexar County Clerks Office, as well as the Land Grant database of the GLO. These efforts were made in accordance with the antiquities permit scope of work to establish how the Alsbury family obtained the land and determine if artifacts located in the field were associated with the historic Alsbury homestead. In addition, existing genealogical studies were considered (Gibson 2009; Generational Network 2009; Leal 1984) to establish the Alsbury family land tract history.

Prior to GTI's investigations, the THC, TxDOT, and COSA's discovery of archeological remains adjacent to the UTSA backhoe trench in the location of what is believed to be the Young Perry Alsbury homestead was the impetus for THC and TxDOT's requirement to conduct an oral history interview and additional archival review. These efforts were made in order to determine exactly how Young Perry Alsbury obtained the lands where he, his wife and his mother as well other family members utilized the land tract and were laid to rest on the Salado Creek. Out of this research came intrigue and discovery of yet more significant individuals that are intertwined and important to Texas history that must be considered in accordance with 36CFR60.4(a) and 36CFR60.4(b). The intrigue begins with the disapproval and possible disowning of a 13 year old girl from one of San Antonio's wealthy influential and important historic families that date to the late 18th-Century for a marriage to an older protestant man. The archival and oral history information provided insight on one of the families that played a significant role in the history of San Antonio. The review begins with a discussion of Young Perry Alsbury and his wife Maria Romana Rodriguez, followed by a brief history of Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière who was the original grantee of the land tract and based on this research is the Great, great, grandfather to Maria Romana Rodriguez. Presented after this brief history is a discussion of who is Maria Romana Rodriguez's father either Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez or J.M. Rodriguez and their connection to the Courbière family and their historic roles in San Antonio and Texas history. By establishing the family lineage of Maria Romana Rodriguez we were able to review the archival record and connect the Alsbury land tract history to the Courbière land tract. By making these connections, we further see how the descendants of Courbière and Rodriguez family assisted Young Perry Alsbury in his disputes with George W. Paschal over lands that had

been divided among the Courbière descendants. Lastly, a review of the historic maps was made in order to identify the exact location and layout of building associated with the Alsbury homestead. The reader should note that names are discussed as presented in the historic records and in some cases, the first and second names are reversed.

Young Perry Alsbury and Maria Romana Rodriguez

Young Perry Alsbury, a recognized important individual in Texas history in his own right (Autry 2009) married into a prominent Texas family who were descendants of Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière (Curvier) a Frenchman and 18th-Century Spanish Colonial settler of Texas and San Antonio. Through the marriage the young couple received land on the Salado Creek from his wife's family where the Alsbury's established their homestead. Young Perry Alsbury was a member of "Deaf Smith's spy company" and a volunteer for the burning of the bridge over Vince's Bayou which passed within 100 yards of the Mexican Calvary during the Battle of San Jacinto (Green 1934). He came to San Antonio in 1845. After his involvement and injury during the Battle of Palo Alto, Young Perry Alsbury returned to San Antonio. For his military service Young Perry Alsbury was awarded a grant. Deed records at the Bexar County Clerks Office Book L1, Page 218 filled August 18th 1853 state that Young Perry Alsbury was granted 640 acres in Survey No. 133, in Section No. 3, on the waters of "Ciboli" 19 miles east of San Antonio, by virtue of Donation Warrant No. 247 on the 28th day of May 1838. In 1847 Young Perry Alsbury married Maria Ramona Rodriguez, according to the oral history interview (Mrs. Tudy Alsbury – Personal Communication) and Generation Network. The exact date of their marriage remains unknown. Generation Network identified her father as J.M. Rodriguez. However, based on archival research and a comparison of genealogical studies it appears that Maria Romana was actually the daughter of Lieutenant Ambrosio Rodriguez and Maria de Jesus Olivarri (Bexar County Genealogy Gibson 2009). According to Gibson's (2009) genealogical study Ambrosio Rodriguez and his wife had seven daughters: two were named Romana de Jesus Rodriguez born February 25, 1834 died unknown in childhood and Maria de Jesus Rodriguez born February 15, 1842 and died unknown. Generational Network (2009) places Maria Ramona being born in 1831. Oral history interview with Mrs. Tudy Alsbury (Personal Communication) indicated that Young Perry's wife, although they had no birth date, was 13 years old when they were married. Comparison of the records and information gathered as well as court case information in regards to the Alsbury homestead and of family associations indicate that Romana de Jesus Rodriguez was Young Perry Alsbury's wife. Interestingly, even though he had been awarded a Donation Warrant of property, the young couple made their homestead on lands given and/or sold to them by his young wife's mother Maria de Jesus Olivarri.

Young Perry Alsbury born 1814 was the son of Thomas Perry Alsbury (Allsberry), Jr. and Leah Jane Catlett, he was the youngest of 10 children which included: Young Perry, Charles Grundison, Susannah B., Hanson, Leah Ann, James Harvey, Horace Arlington, William Wirt, Marion B. and Thomas Jefferson (Generational Network 2009). His father is described as a "frontiersman, tavern keeper, army captain, Indian scout/spy, farmer and stock raiser" and is one of the founders of Hopkinsville,

Kentucky (Generational Network 2009). In 1820 Thomas Alsbury moved his family to Brazoria County, Texas. Thomas Alsbury and his three sons of age Charles, Harvey and Horace are listed as part of the “Old Three Hundred” of Stephen F. Austin’s Colony. According to family history compiled by Generational Network (2009), Thomas Alsbury died of a rattlesnake bite in Louisville, Kentucky and his wife Leah Catlett left a widow spent her remaining years living with her youngest son, Young Perry Alsbury on Salado Creek.

Romana (Maria) Rodriguez was described by her daughter in law as “the most beautiful girl who ever came across the border of Texas in any direction” (Generational Network 2009). The couple had four children Lea Jane, Thomas Jefferson, Young Perry the 3rd, and Mary Ann whom they raised at their home on Salado Creek. According to family lore, Mary Ann Alsbury ran away to Divine, Texas. As the story goes she had a “carpetbagger” suitor whom her father did not approve of and Young Perry and his son Thomas Jefferson reportedly took the young man for a “talk” and he was never seen again (Generational Network 2009). Family letters say that during an argument between Thomas Jefferson Alsbury and his wife, she called him a murderer, and it was said that he was allegedly jailed for several days in regards to the missing man. Young Perry Alsbury died at his home on November 19th 1877, and family records say that Maria died one year later in November of 1878 of pneumonia. Census records, however, place here as a widow living with three children in 1880 (Generational Network 2009).

The research question, who was Maria Romana Rodriguez, is intertwined with the historic record that Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez disapproved and possibly disowned his young 13 year old daughter who married an older (Young Perry Alsbury) protestant husband. According to Gibson (2009) (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez died unknown in childhood. This conflicting information, as previously said, may be due to her father’s disapproval of the marriage (Generational Network – Maria R. Rodriguez 2009). GTI historian considered this inconsistency in the archival record because the genealogical history indicated that Young Perry Alsbury and (Maria) Romana [de Jesus] Rodriguez had four children. Through the process of the archival research three separate genealogies by Steve Gibson (2009 Bexar County Genealogy), John Odgen Leal’s “The Courbière Family of Texas (1984), and the Generational Network at genealogy.com (2009) were compared and cross referenced with court records as well as Los Bexarenos Volume XIII No. 4 detailing Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière and his wife Maria Feliciano Duran’s children in order to establish how Young Perry Alsbury and his young wife (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez received their property. The family lineage and connections between the Courbière family descendants to (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez and Young Perry Alsbury is the key to understanding the turbulence and trials suffered by the young couple in keeping their land, the importance of the extended family ties, and the role that this family played in Texas history (Figure 4).

Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière and his Descendants

Through the archival research it was established that Romana de Jesus Rodriguez was a descendant of Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière. As McGraw (2009) points

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out in his research, Courbière's role during the Spanish Colonial era broaden the significance of the Alsbury homestead and marker and its contribution to the history of San Antonio and Texas. Courbière arrived in the New World by way of New Orleans, and he initially served as *jornalero* on a local merchant boat that traveled between New Orleans and "Natchitos" (Leal 1984: 92). Following this period of time he stayed in New Orleans and joined Gaspar Fiol, Juan Bosquet and Agustin DuChesne who were members of a local trading company. These business men traded with the Tahuacanes and Tanchahues Indians, and this is where Courbière learned his first Native American languages. On one of his many trips to Natchitoches, Courbière met a man by the name of Athanase de Mezieres, who requested Courbière to accompany him to New Orleans. After this meeting Courbière then began to work for Mr. Metelle for a short while after which he joined Mezieres as an interpreter (Leal 1984: 93).

After the land in western Louisiana was ceded from the French to Spain in 1762, Alejandro O'Reilly recognized the need to reorganize the northern out posts of New Spain as the relationship between the tribes and Spaniards in the region were already hostile. He acknowledged that the French had established and prospered from their trade relations with the tribes of the region and planned to employ these relationships to the benefit of New Spain (Leal 1984). To this end O'Reilly's plan included to appoint a Frenchmen to the Red River District. His first act was to appoint the position of lieutenant-governor of the Natchitoches District to Athanase de Mezieres, a socially connected and trusted friend of the Red River District tribes. De Mezieres had established his allegiance and friendship to these groups during his years of service to France and during his extensive traveling in the region in 1772 which fortified these relationships (Leal 1984:92). Courbière, as part of De Mezieres' company, continued to serve under De Mezieres to his end. In 1779 De Mezieres returned to Texas from Natchitoches for his last time. Spain was now directing his efforts toward quelling the hostile relationship with the Comanche. An accident delayed De Mezieres and the company on the Atoyaque River for three months. Upon his arrival in San Antonio, De Mezieres learned that he had been appointed governor of Texas. Unfortunately never quite recovering from the accident, he never took office and died November 2, 1779. After De Mezieres death, Courbière remained in San Antonio and in 1780 he married Maria Feliciana Duran the daughter of Pedro Duran and Antonia Cortinas.

In San Antonio, Courbière served as an interpreter for Native Americans that came to the Quartel (Leal 1984:93; McKeehan 2008). Courbière was considered one of the most important interpreters in Spain's service. He enlisted in 1781 as a soldier distinguishing himself along side individuals such as Francisco Xavier Chaves (Leal 1984: 93). During his service at La Bahia del Espiritu Santo, he was appointed lieutenant. Because Courbière was a linguist fluent in numerous native languages and served as the Native American interpreter for the Spanish Crown, Courbière was called upon to gain access to one of the meeting of El Mocho, the Tonkawa War Chief responsible for the destruction of the San Sabá Mission who was determined to rid the country of Spaniards. In 1782 during his service at la Bahia, Courbière was sent in native disguise to report upon a meeting between El Mocho and the Lipan, Mescaleros and Apache tribes to Captain Cazorla of La Bahia. These Native American tribes were attempting to make

peace with the Tonkawa in order to use the Tonkawa's relation with the French to obtain weapons. El Mocho in his ambition offered the Apache to become their head chief and rid the country of the Spaniards. Jealousy ensued and the meeting ended without any alliance being made. A mere two years later El Mocho's authority diminished as he continued to cause resentments even among the Tonkawa, and he was captured by the Spaniards and executed in the plaza at La Bahia (Access Genealogy 2009). Following Courbière's service at La Bahia, due to the said "lack of good men", he was sent to San Antonio in 1804 and appointed the Sargent at Bexar by the King of Madrid (Leal 1984: 94). For his service to Spain, Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière was awarded two leagues of land which was issued on November 7, 1807.

Lt. Ambrosio and J.M Rodriguez

This land was over time shared between descendants of the Courbière family and ultimately included the land given and/or sold to Young Perry Alsbury and his wife (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez. According to Leal (1984) and the documents of the Los Bexareños Genealogical Society, Maria Feliciana Duran and Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière had nine children. There are discrepancies and it is unclear whether the ninth child is Juan or Antonia. The majority of the records indicate that their daughter Maria Antonia Margarita Courbière married Manuel Ignacio Rodriguez in 1805 (see Figure 4). They had one child which was Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez, who is said to have been the first to inform William B. Travis of the advancement of Santa Ana on the Alamo (Cutrer 2009). When Travis failed to listen, Ambrosio Rodriguez joined a cavalry of Tejanos who were opposed to the dissolution of the Constitution of 1824, and they rode to join Sam Houston at Gonzales (Cutrer 2009). The Constitution of 1824 created two separate states in the Mexican Republic as the Departamento de Coahuila y Tejas, which gave the State wide autonomy to choose its own destiny as opposed to Santa Anna's edict of a strong central government with no representation (Poyo 1996). Serving under Juan Seguin during the battle of San Jacinto, Rodriguez became close friends with Sam Houston. In the army of the Republic of Texas, he served as second lieutenant under Lt. Manuel Flores (Cutrer 2009). Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez married Maria de Jesus Olivarri and they had eleven children (see Figure 4). He and his descendents became one of the wealthiest and most influential families in San Antonio (Cutrer 2009). Based on the archival research it is believed that one of Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez's daughters without her father's blessing married Young Perry Alsbury. It is unknown how Young Perry Alsbury became acquainted with the daughter of Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez. However having fought in many of the same battles during their military service career, it is assumed that Young Perry Alsbury had the opportunity to become acquainted with Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez's family.

In Generational Network's (2009) research, Young Perry Alsbury's wife is identified as "Maria Ramona Rodriguez" and her father as Jose Maria (J.M.) Rodriguez, who based on comparison of the genealogy compiled by Gibson (2009) is actually her older brother rather than her father. According to the story provided by Generational Network (2009), (Maria) Romana's father did not initially approve of the marriage between Young Perry Alsbury and his daughter due to religious differences and her

youthful age which based on Gibson's (2009) research and oral history she would have been 13 years old. This caused the couple to elope and marry in a small town in Mexico. The research indicates her father eventually gave approval and a wedding "gift" of about 600 acres on the Salado Creek was "given" to them (Generational Network 2009). It is uncertain whether Young Perry and Romana were ever forgiven by her father. The archival research indicates that Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez is most likely her father and died in 1848. If he forgave the young couple it may have been on his deathbed if at all. Furthering the intrigue Autry (2009) and personal communication with Mrs. Tudy Alsbury, indicated that the Alsbury's didn't move to the property on Salado Creek until the early spring of 1848.

José María Salomé (J.M.) Rodríguez, who we now know based on the archival research as (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez's brother was a politician and attorney, serving as Webb County judge for 35 years (Espinosa 2009). His memoirs which were published upon his death in 1913, further document the family ties between the Rodriguez and Courbière family. In his memoirs he recounts his mother taking him to the house of Doña Santos Ximenes where he described getting on the roof of the house where he could "see the flash of the guns and hear the booming of the cannon" during General Santa Ana's attack on the Alamo (McKeehan 2008). Based on Gibson's (2009) genealogy of the Courbière family, Doña Santos Ximenes is likely one of J.M. Rodriguez's father's mother's sisters (Maria Antonia Margarita). Maria Alexandra Courbière married Manuel Francisco Ximenes (see Figure 4). Also in his memoirs he proposes where the name of Texas originated. His memoirs state that he possessed a Spanish government document dated 1786 issued to Andres Benito Curvier (Courbière), making him a knight of the Spanish crown and giving him the title of "Capitan De Los Tejas de esta Provincia" (McKeehan 2008). The document continues in regards to the reasoning of the honor for Courbière's title as he "faithfully acted interpreter in the negotiations with Tejas Indians" (McKeehan 2008). He further explains that according to his father, Ambrosio Rodriguez, the word Tejas means "round or disc-like metal" which was said to be worn by all Tejas Indians to distinguish them from other tribes and recalled as a child seeing many Indians of this tribe adorned with them (McKeehan 2008). J.M. Rodriguez's memoirs make reference to other kinsman of the Curvier or Courbière lineage fortifying the family tie.

Courbière/Alsbury Land History and Dispute

The trouble began for Young Perry Alsbury and his young wife (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez after they were supposedly forgiven by her family for eloping and given and/or sold part of the land that was passed down from the Courbière family. Difficulties and eventual legal disputes for Alsbury ensued about their land because the land that was granted to Andres Benito Courbière and his wife Maria Feliciano Duran in 1807 was occupied by family members and handed down to their descendants, as supported by J.M. Rodriguez's memoirs, and were never validated by previous governments (McGraw 2009). The early land grant research at the GLO indicated that the property that was given and/or sold to Young Perry Alsbury and his wife Romana de Jesus Rodriguez was also deeded to Guillerma Nuñez on August 31st 1833. It was later

sold and patented by George W. Paschal. The deed describes the sale and release of the land to George W. Paschal under Survey No. 151 which shows a detailed drawing the property and its location (Figure 5). The original land grant (Abstract 548, Land Grant database – Guillerma Nuñez) indicated that the request was filed for Guillerma Nuñez on August 31st 1833 and was officially transferred and patented by George W. Paschal on May 12th 1847.

Interestingly, the Courbière's requested a survey of their property on March 27th 1847, three month prior to Paschal's survey and purchase of the land. In this survey it states that the survey is to establish the "limits of the two leagues of land originally deeded to Dona Maria Felciana Duran and generally known as the tract belonging to the heirs of 'Curbier', and in conformity with the acts of survey as set forth in a certified translation of the deed to said land" (GLO File No 14468). This document provides insight not only to the boundaries of the Courbière grant which mentions an old Rancho but also important historic roads and property boundaries. The survey begins at the location of the old Rancho, and the first road mentioned in the survey refers to an old pass that is supposed to be the "Paso del Torito". The next survey measurements cross the "Paso Hondo Road". The survey also identified the San Antonio Town tract as a known point of measurement. Continuing the survey to the north the "Astillero Road" or Arms or Armament Road leading to the Alamo is encountered and east of that is the Carbonero Road or "Camino del Carbonero". The survey included a map identifying the roads and Rancho where the measurements were made (Figure 6). Also in the GLO collection is a map dating to 1847 entitled "Surveys in the Bexar District in the vicinity of Salado and Saltillo Creeks", which identifies the tract of land as "Heirs of Curbier" (Figure 7). The 1868 plat of Bexar County also shows the original land tract of "Maria F. Curbier" (T. Novbr. 7th 1807 B.58 P. 173) (Figure 8). This map also details the lands reissued under later patents.

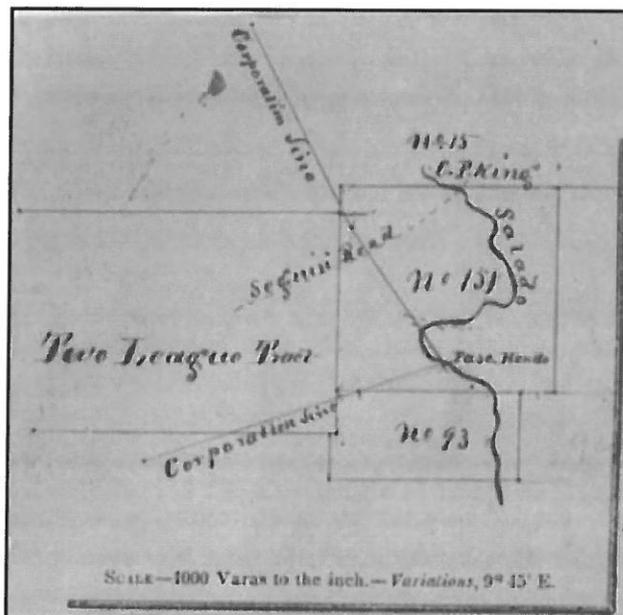


Figure 5: May 12th 1847 George Pascal Survey of Deed, Texas GLO

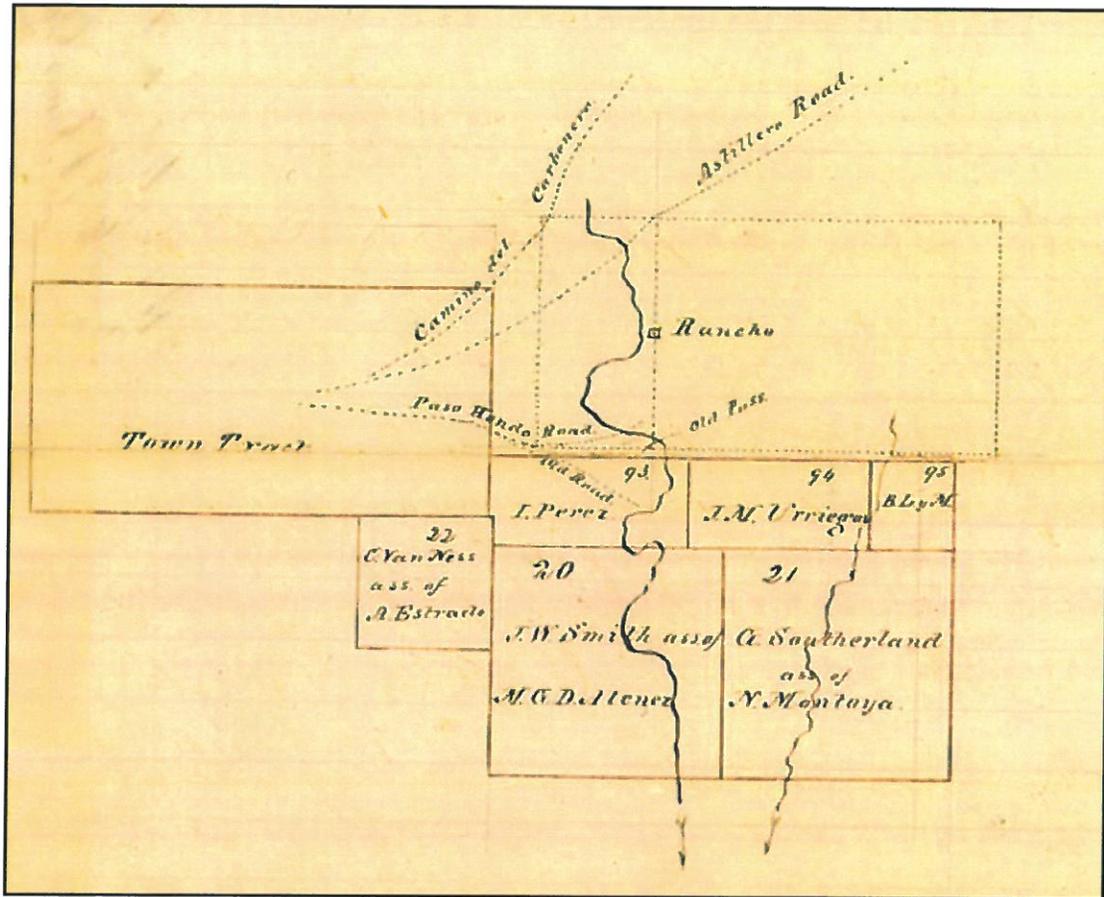


Figure 6: March 27th 1847 Survey of "heirs of Curbier" tract, Texas GLO

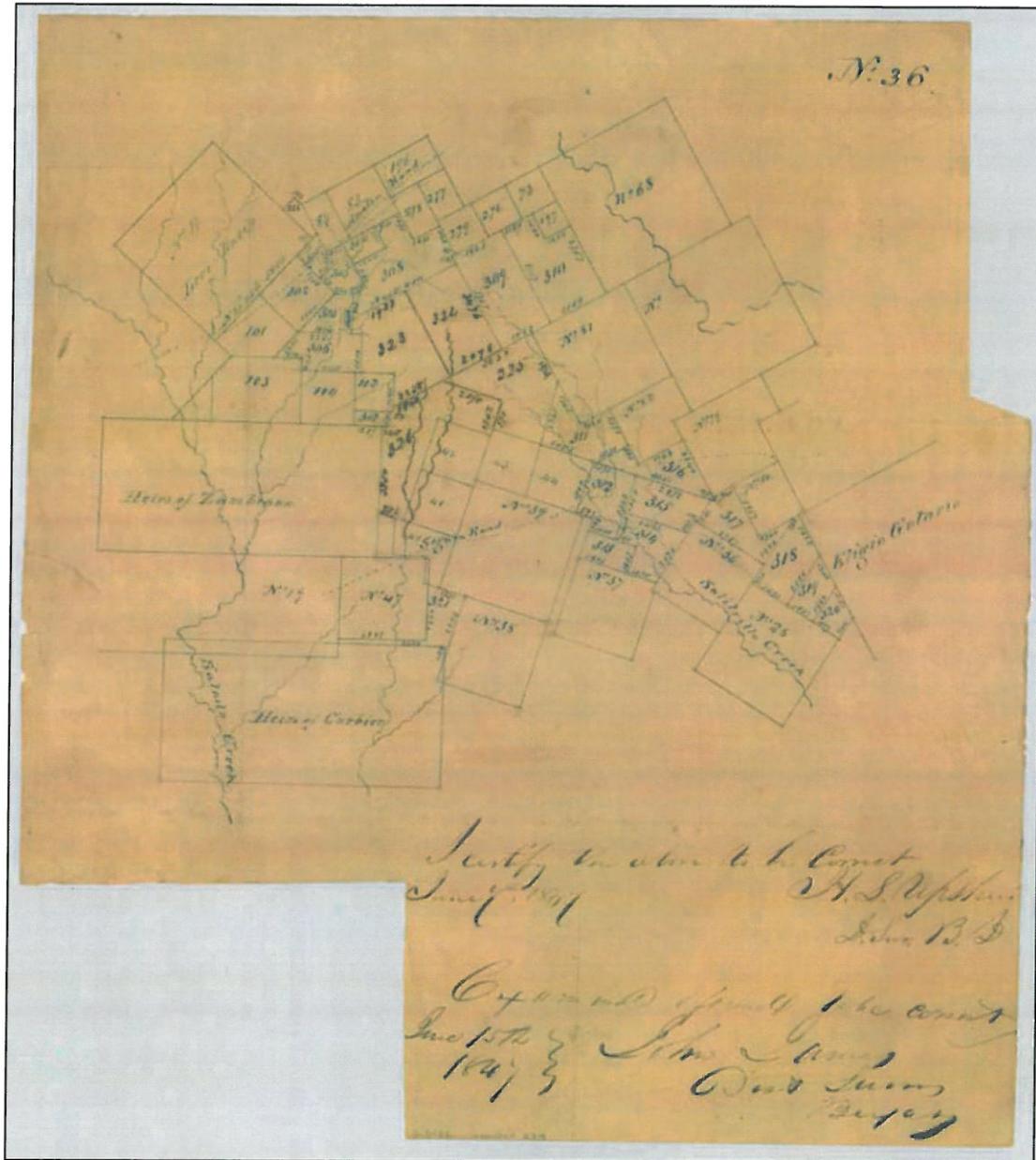


Figure 7: 1847 "Surveys in the Bexar District in the vicinity of Salado and Saltillo Creeks", Texas GLO

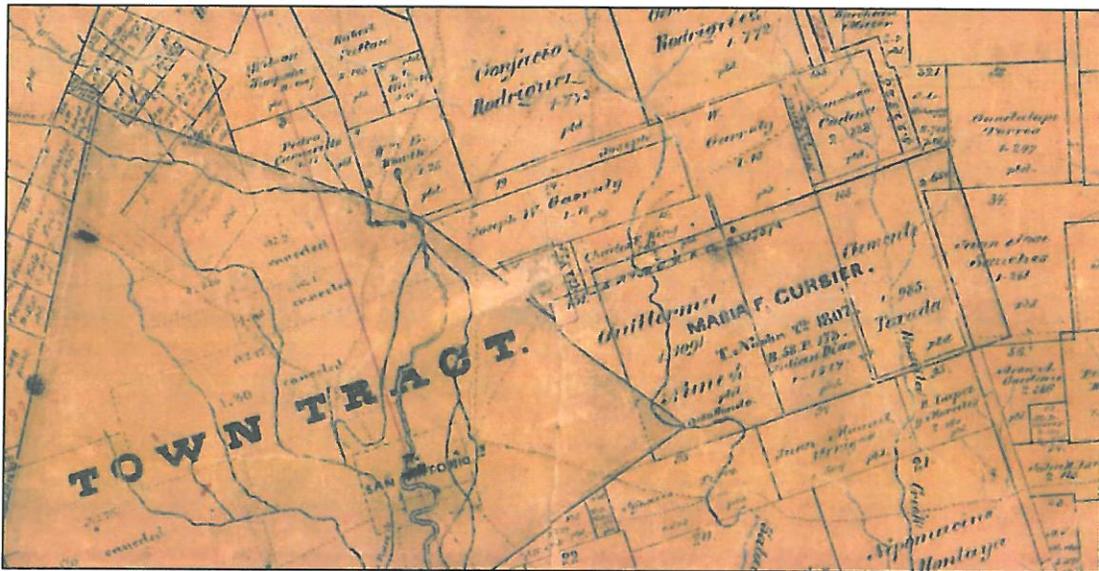


Figure 8: 1868 Bexar County Plat, Texas GLO

The later plat maps reviewed from the GLO collection dated from 1871, 1879, 1887, 1896, and 1932 (Figures 9–13). These maps show Guillerma Nunez as the original grantee with no reference to the Courbière grant. Thus George W Pascal was under the impression that he had obtained free and clear title of lands he purchased from Guillerma Nunez in 1847. As mentioned the exact date that Young Perry Alsbury and Romana de Jesus Rodriguez were married is unknown, however it was in the year of 1847. Since there was a request for a survey March 27th 1847, it may have been in anticipation of subdividing the Courbière family’s property and gifting a portion of the land to the newly married “forgiven” young couple. The Will of Maria Feliciana Duran dated 1814 states her marriage to Andres Benito Courbière and describes her property:

“I herby declare that I own the following property: A ranch situated on the Salado Creek; it contains two leagues in the direction of the woods belonging to Galvan and one league in the direction of the presidio”

In the will she appoints her daughter Maria Alexandra and her son Juan as executors of her estate (Los Bexarenos Genealogical Society Volume XIII No. 4). As previously mentioned, in J.M. Rodriguez’s memoirs and based on Gibson’s (2009) genealogy of the Courbière family, Doña Santos Ximenes is likely one of J.M. Rodriguez’s father’s, mother’s sister, Maria Alexandra Courbière who married Manuel Francisco Ximenes. With this being said, it is likely that the Ranch that J.M. Rodriguez visited during the Battle of the Alamo was the original homestead of Great Grandparents, Andres Benito Courbière and Maria Feliciana Duran, as described in her 1814 Will.

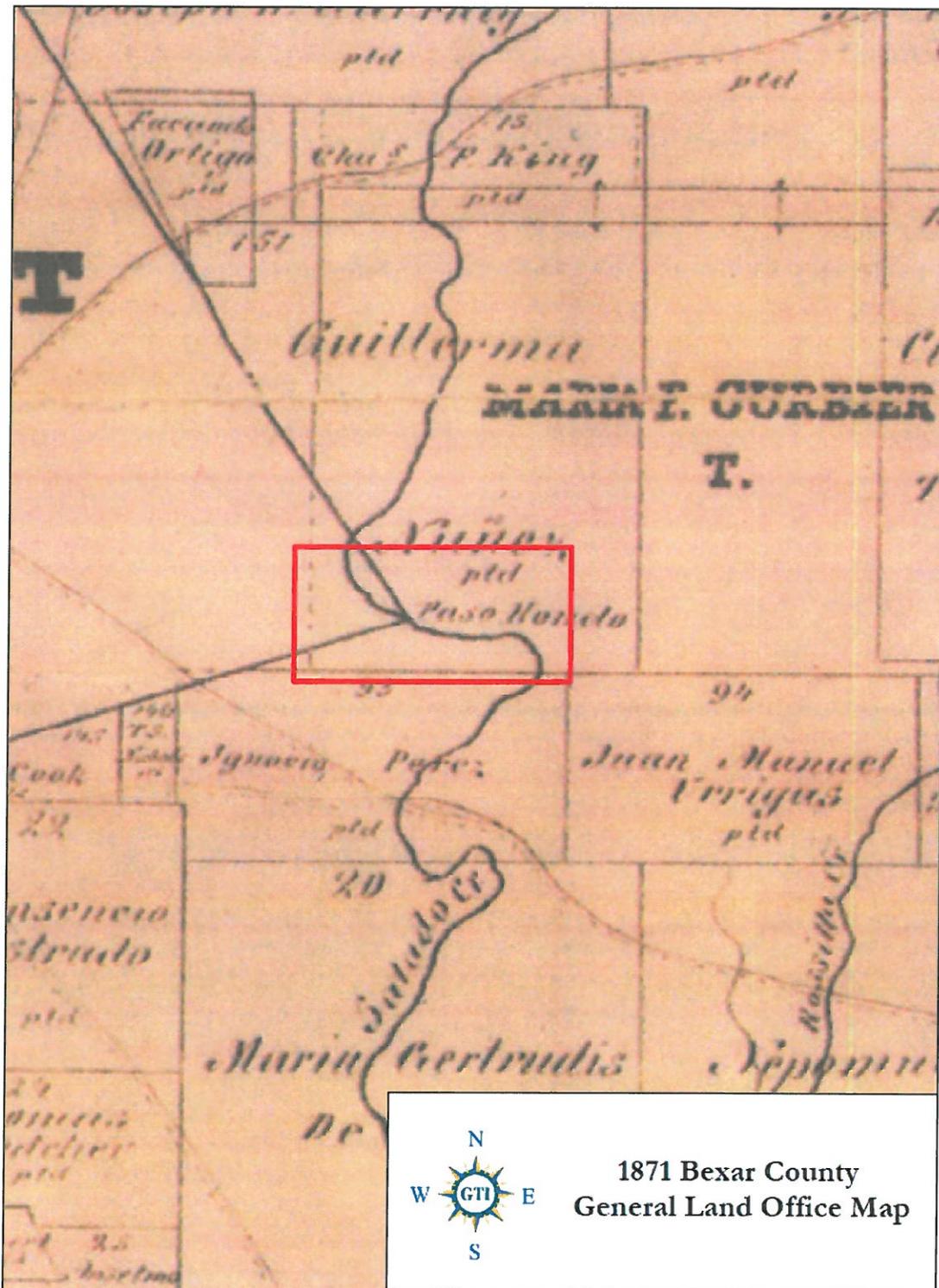


Figure 9: 1871 Bexar County Plat Map, Texas GLO

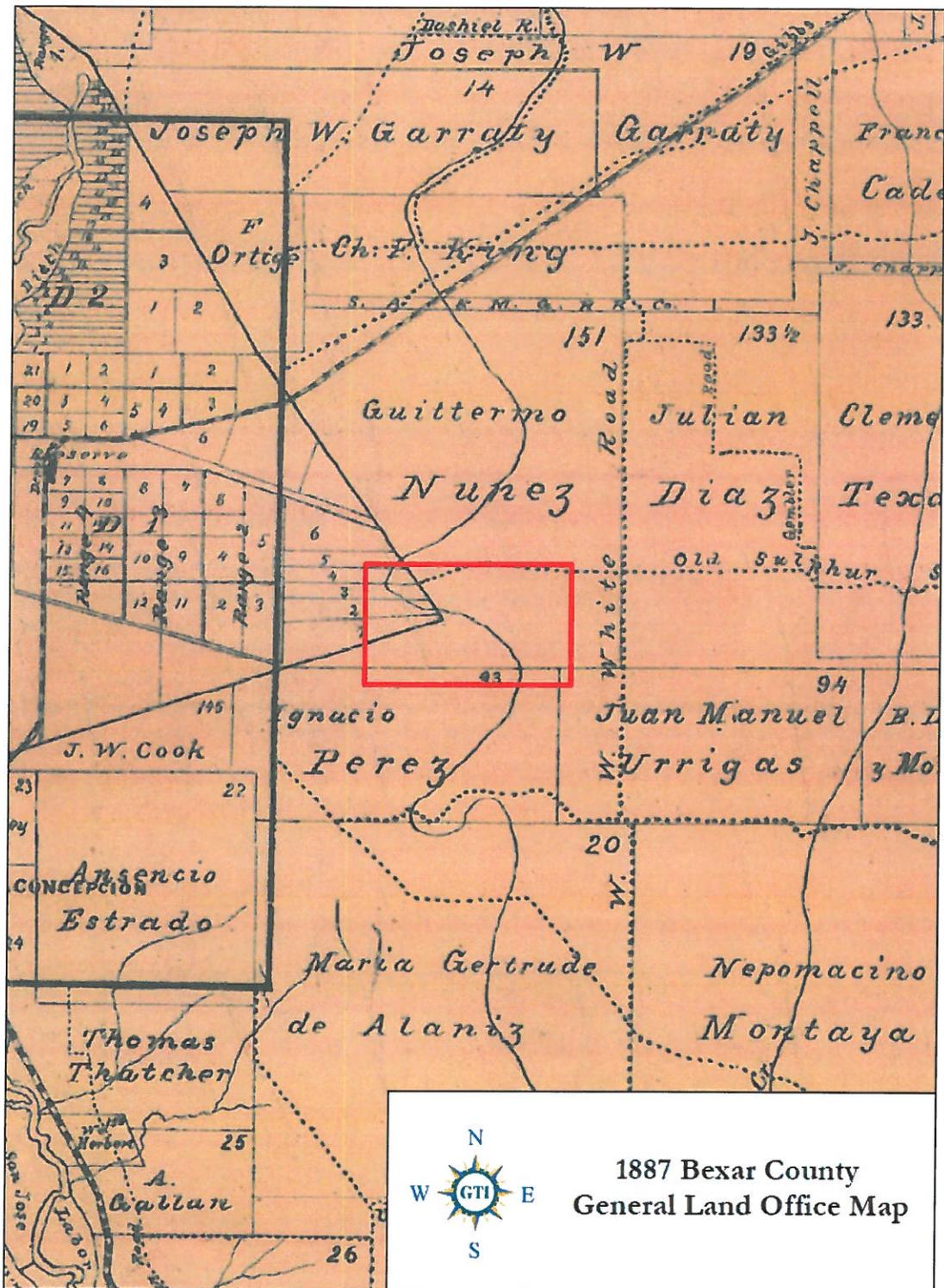


Figure 10: 1887 Bexar County Plat map, Texas GLO



Figure 11: 1896 Bexar County Plat Map, Texas GLO

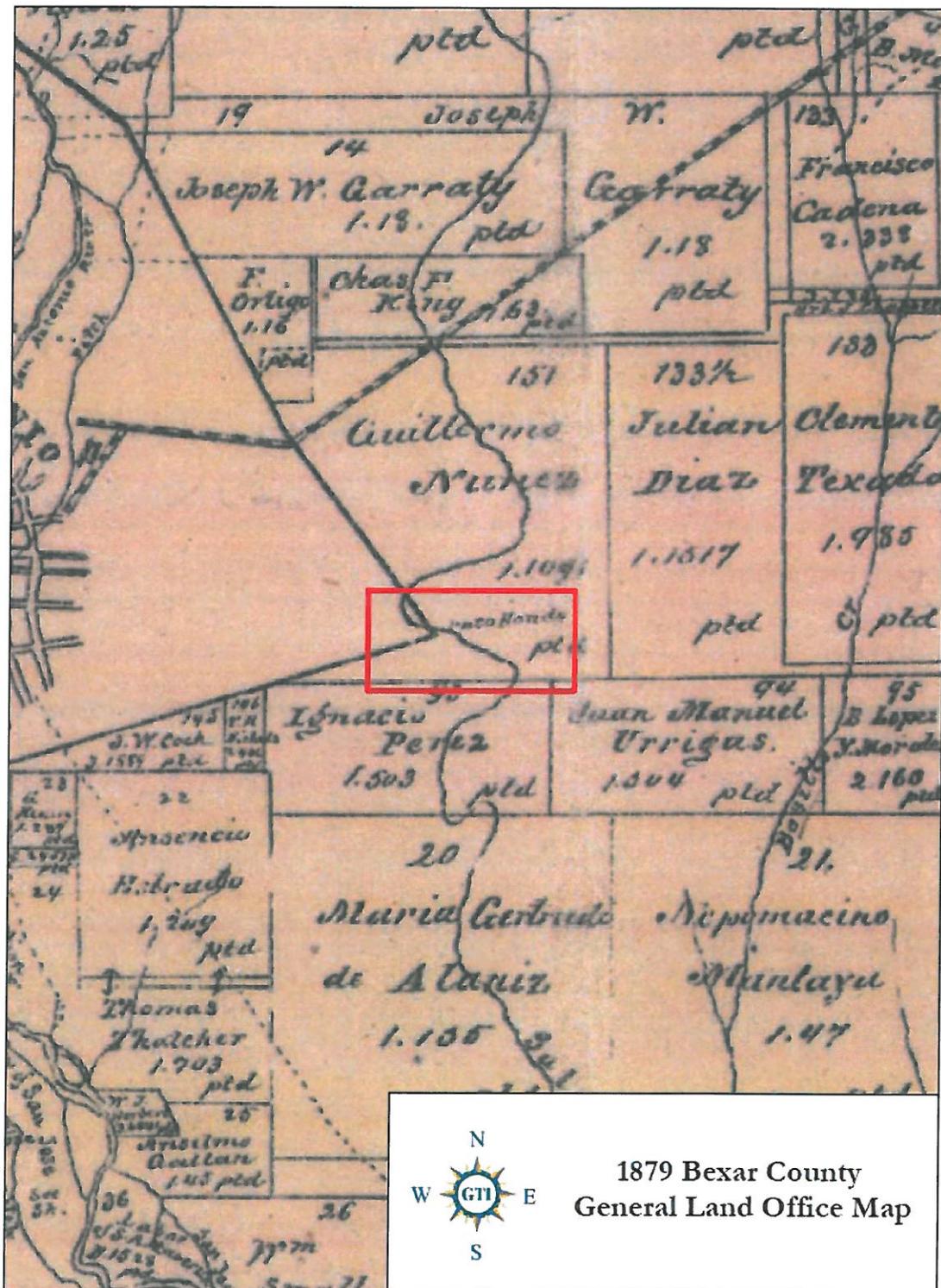


Figure 12: 1879 Bexar County Plat Map, Texas GLO

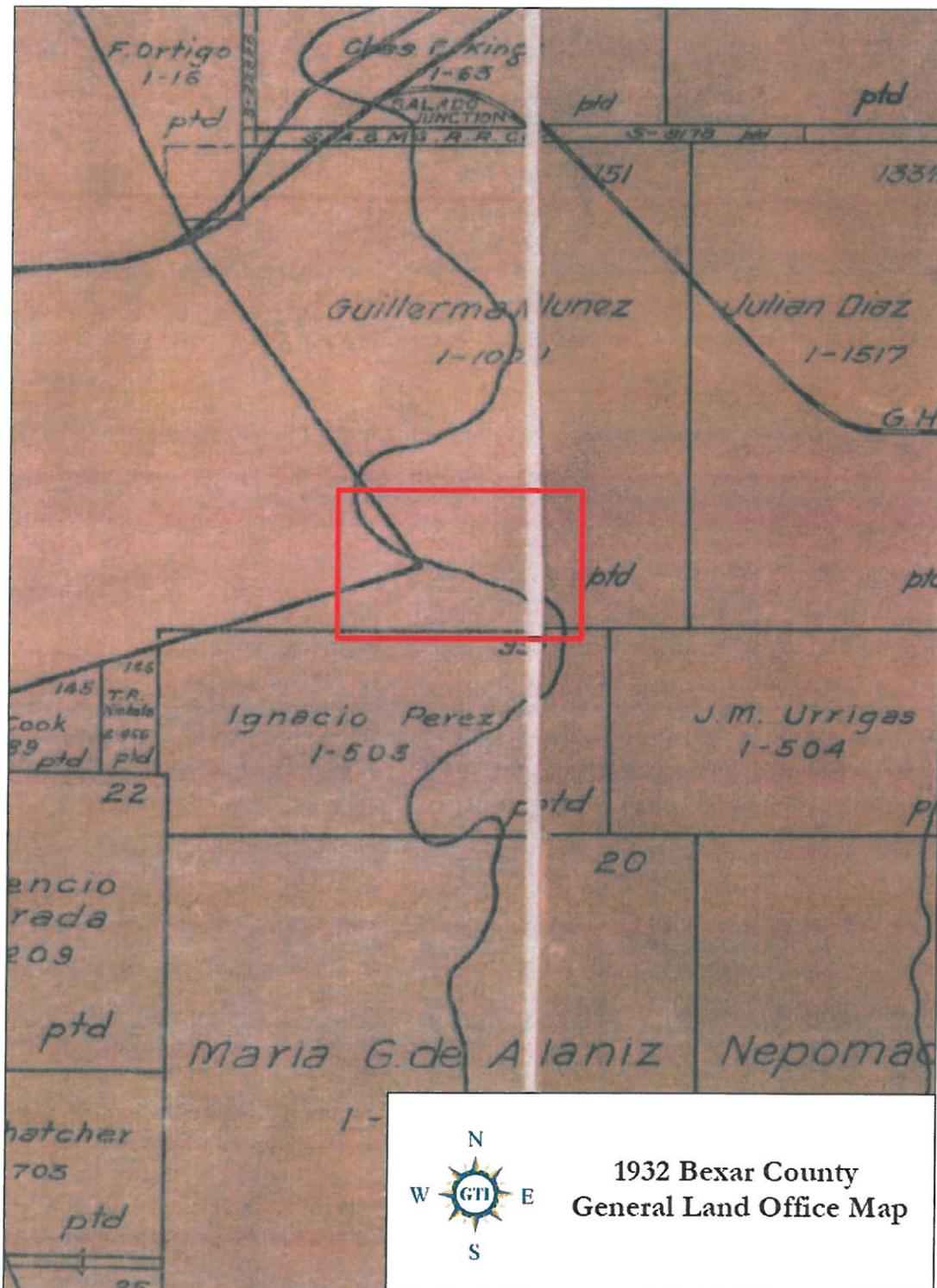


Figure 13: 1932 Bexar County Plat Map, Texas GLO

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The true problems for the Alsbury's began with legal disputes of land ownership between Young Perry Alsbury and George W and Isaiah A. Paschal. The first letter obtained from the District Clerk Office of Bexar County in regards to the legal dispute is dated December 5, 1849 which states his intentions of bonding Alsbury for the sum of \$1200.00 and holding him responsible for any damages for the property on the Salado Creek which Alsbury responded and denied. The next letter dated December 7th 1849 is to the Sheriff of Bexar County, with orders to sequester and take possession of the 200 acres of lands that are "alleged to be in the possession of Y.P. Alsbury" the letter refers to the case G.W. & I.A. Paschal brought against Y.P. Alsbury. The next letter dated January 1st 1849 [likely misdated and is 1850] is a response to Paschal's letter from Young Perry Alsbury in regards to the Sheriff of Bexar County order to sequester and take possession of the property and be responsible for the bond. To this end it is agreed that Y.P Alsbury served as the principal, J.M. Rodriguez and Rafael Herrera served as seconds to the bond. The letter is signed by these three individuals as well as Maria Jesus Olivarri Rodriguez (Figure 14). This letter is of particular interest in the respect of the signers. It represents the descendants of the Courbière family by birth or by marriage defending their rights to their property. Recall, Maria de Jesus Olivarri Rodriguez is Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez's wife and mother to (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez and J.M. Rodriguez. Rafael Herrera is married to Francisca Vincenta Courbière, the daughter of Juan Andres Mariano Courbière and Catarina Quinones. Juan was one the children assigned as executor of the Courbière estate in Maria Feliciana Duran's will. .

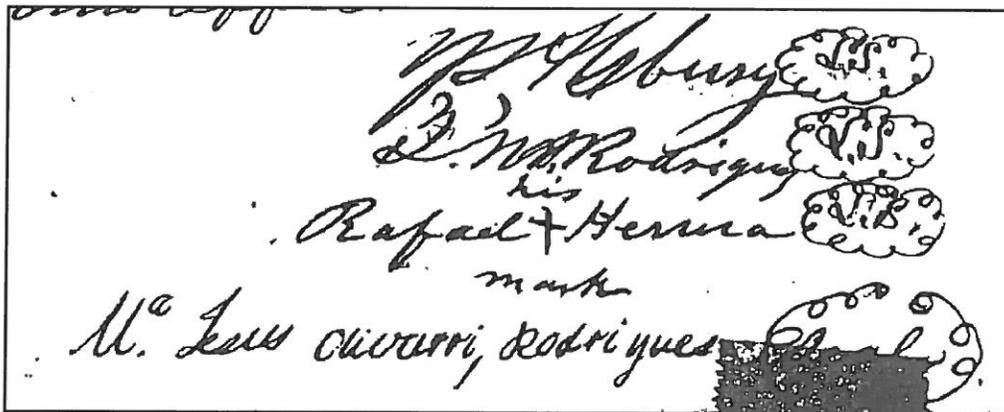
The image shows a rectangular box containing four handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature is 'Y.P. Alsbury'. The second is 'J.M. Rodriguez' with 'his' written below it. The third is 'Rafael Herrera' with 'mark' written below it. The fourth is 'M. Jesus Olivarri, Rodriguez'. Each signature is followed by a circular stamp or seal, which is mostly illegible but appears to contain some text and a central emblem.

Figure 14: Bexar County Archives Letter dated January 1, 1849 signatures

The legal disputes continue in February of 1850, G.W. Paschal denies the validity or existence of any title or certificate for the land that Y.P. Alsbury is occupying. G.W. Paschal further presses that Y.P. Alsbury owes him a sum of \$500.00 for the felling of timber on the property thus causing damages to the property and for Alsbury selling the timber for benefit of himself. During that same month Y.P. Alsbury's lawyer responds. The lawyer is Raphael Herrera. The letter continues that the "land in question was possessed by him of proper person or persons and that he holds good and valid title papers of the same, and which he is ready to verify." It is interesting to note that according to the cover page for the Maria Feliciana Duran Courbière deed was entitled:

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“A Copy of the Testimonies of the Original Title for 2 Leagues of lands on the Salado Creek, granted to Maria Feliciana Curbier. Files issued 7, Nov. 1807.”, and indicates that the deed was “Deposited in the General Land Office of the State of Texas. 5th April 1847. by G. W. Paschal” before any of the legal disputes started. This would indicate that G.W. Paschal had prior knowledge to a previous title for the lands he was purchasing from Guillerma Nunez.

From the 1807 title for the property we find mention of significant historic cross roads and boundaries and find supporting evidence for the ranch being the original Courbière homestead. In short, the title states that the land the Courbière family obtained was north of San Antonio on the Salado Creek, and they built their house, corrals “for her herd of new ‘Crios’ [new born calves]”, and garden which “in formality is a ranch” from Maria Feliciana’s personal work and her husband’s savings. The roads previously discussed in the 1847 are also mentioned in this document. Besides the document stating that the Courbière family built a ranch, there is an older ranch discussed which is identified as the “Rancho de San Andres de las Hermanas”. This ranch is identified on the 1847 survey and on the 1807 title (Figure 15).

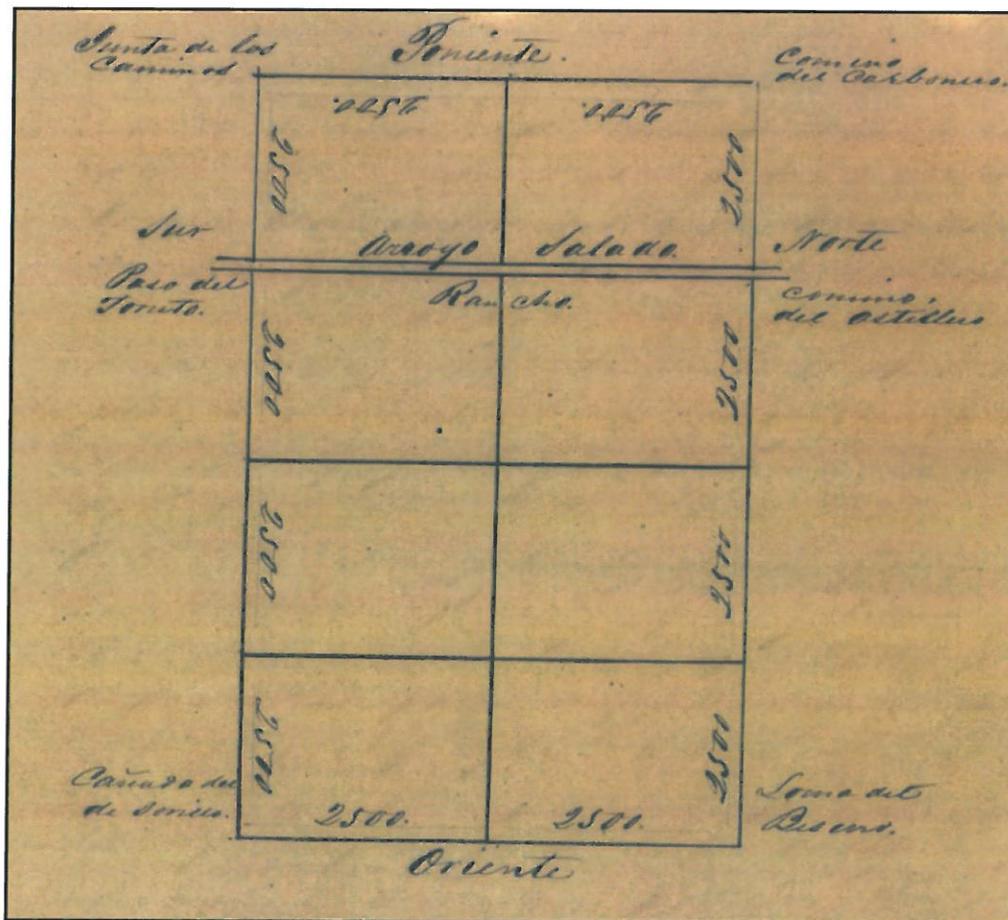


Figure 15: 1807 Title tract map showing roads, ranch and creek.

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This older ranch is of unknown association with the Courbière family, but it is on the Courbière land tract. The older ranch is identified as a ranch of the Sister of San Andres which is a Catholic sisterhood established in Guinnetiere, France in 1806 that may find associations with San Antonio's San Fernando church (Catholic Encyclopedia 2009). Further, the 1807 land tract title also identifies lands and boundary of Mission Valero, and the reference of the road in the exact translation paragraph below is a Courbière land tract boundary:

“I believe if you deem it convenient - In spite of what is of the that in the old times had in possession the secularized Mission of Valero - Consider this as a piece of good luck that the measures for the part of the north begin from the road that passes immediately to the Ranch & house of Don Jose Flores and for the other surrounding areas in a way that expresses the supplicant in her writing I believe no one will be harmed.”

GTI's transliteration of the 1807 land tract title found that the title basically discussed the boundary of the Courbière land tract, and the surveyor describes the fortunate coincidence that the northern land tract boundary shares a historic permanent fixed boundary – the road that was a historic boundary of Mission Valero lands.

The Courbière Ranch and the Rancho de San Andres de las Hermanas do not appear to be within the Alsbury tract or COSA property boundary. These historic ranchos are significant for Spanish Colonial and Republic of Texas history, as well as the individuals within the Courbière and Alsbury families. In addition, the Alsbury homestead location within the historic Courbière land grant is significant because it demonstrates the utilization and history of the landscape associated with Mission Valero—The Alamo.

In Book H1 page 444 of the Bexar County Archives is the agreement between Maria de Jesus Olivarri Rodriguez and Young Perry Alsbury which was filed November 22nd 1849 but is dated November 21st 1847. This letter indicates that the property of 200 acres was to be sold to Young Perry Alsbury for “the sum of one hundred dollars in cash and execute his note for the sum of one hundred dollars payable in twelve months bearing eight percent annum”. The property boundaries are described as follows:

“Commencing at a point on the Salado Creek nine hundred and forty varas below and south of the southern line of the tract of land now occupied by George martin and on which a mill is situated, thence on a straight line south three hundred yards entrancing two hundred acres in Equal proportion of one hundred acres on each side – East and West of said creek. The quantity intended to be conveyed being two hundred acres and whereas the title of said land being now

unsettled and in dispute upon the termination of said dispute and in the course of recovering said suit”

This document is witnessed by J.M. Rodriguez as well as another individual whose name is illegible. The filing was likely based on the dates in response to Paschal’s lawsuit. The saga continued with no clear decision even by 1850. In 1852 the Texas District Court finally made a decision in favor of Pascal, however Young Perry Alsbury appealed the ruling thus remaining on the land. In 1854 Young Perry Alsbury apparently sold the 100 acres west of Salado Creek to James Bohanan for \$500.00. This same year he also joined a suit against Paschal for his land holding “deals”, however, once again the ruling was in Paschal’s favor (Weston 2004). According to Weston’s (2004) research, the 1854 decision was overturned in 1857 as a result of a motion for a continuance to obtain testimony to prove the title was overruled. This in effect would validate Alsbury’s claim on the land. Paschal, however, appealed this decision that same year. It wasn’t until 1873 that the final ruling was made, again in favor of Paschal. At this point Pascal had sold his holding of the Alsbury land to his son George W. Paschal, Jr. Interestingly, the Alsbury family continued to live on the land and he and other family members were buried on the property. The oral history collected by Green (1934) indicated that the cemetery is on the Young Perry Alsbury homestead-farm and that Young Perry Alsbury was buried “only a few yards from the home he loved. A huge Pecan tree marks the head of his grave” (USGEN Web Project 2008). Young Perry died November 17, 1877 and was followed by his wife in 1880. Young Perry’s mother, Catlett Alsbury, is also said to be buried next to her son and died in 1853. Thomas Quitman Alsbury, Young Perry’s brother Hanson’s son who died in a hunting accident, is also buried in the small family plot. Another unfortunate relative that was attacked by an alligator is also said to be buried in the cemetery.

Alsbury Homestead Historic Map Review

Archival efforts were made to find historic maps that documented the location of the structures and outbuildings associated with the Young Perry Alsbury homestead observed in the painting by Helen Mae Byrd Burnam (Figure 16). Ms. Burnam is the daughter of Thomas Jefferson Alsbury. The painting was inspired as part of the oral history of the family that came about because of the 1936 placement of the historical marker (Tudy Alsbury – Personal Communication). As previously mentioned the Bexar County Clerk archives were searched for plat records, the San Antonio Conservation Society provided COSA with the J. Ben Stoner Map Collection (Figure 17 and 18), and GTI historian reviewed the Corps of Engineers U.S. Army Tactical Maps and historic USGS topographic from the Perry Castañeda Library Map Collection. The Stoner Map Collection contains aerials that date to 1938 and illustrated maps that date to 1931. The tactical and topographic maps included the 1903 San Antonio Topographic Map and the 1927 Tactical Map (Figures 19 and 20). The historian also reviewed the 1936 Bexar County General Highway Map from the Texas State Library (Figure 21).

During the oral history interview the questioner was asked whether or not the Alsbury Family had any additional plats that show the Alsbury homestead? According to

Mrs. Tudy Alsbury, the family did not (Personal Communication). Minimally, the painting shows that there were six building associated with the Alsbury homestead. The main house which sites on a low terrace on the east bank above Salado Creek has three building behind the house. North to northwest of the main house on the left side of the painting is an additional outbuilding with a small outbuilding across from it, both of which are associated with fenced corral areas. The resolution of the aerial photograph dating to 1938 associated with the J. Ben Stoner collections makes it difficult to discern individual remaining structures at that time (see Figure 17).

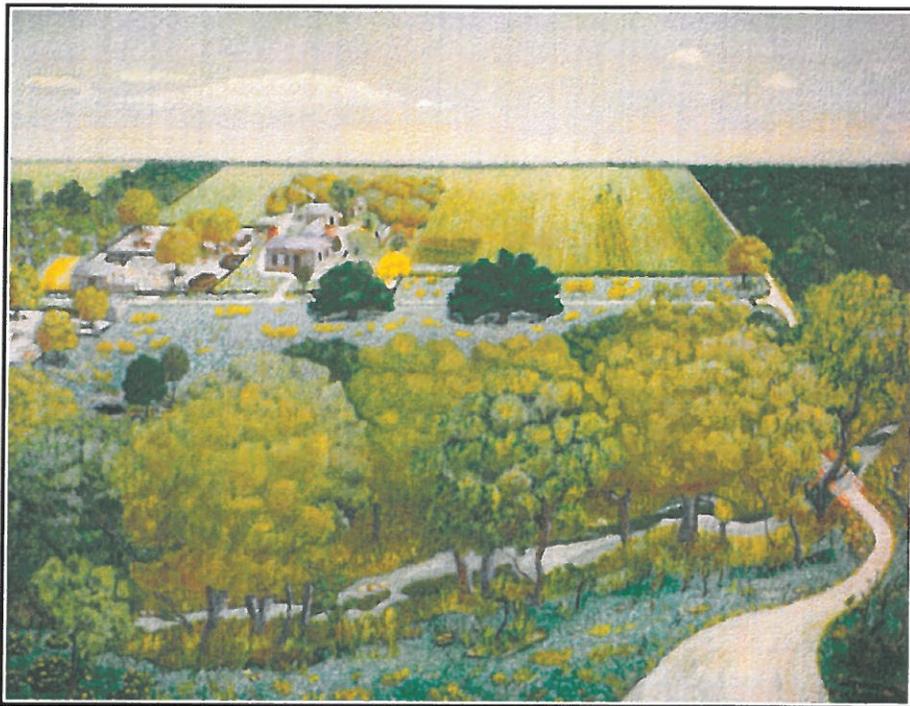


Figure 16: Painting Y.P. Alsbury homestead by Helen Mae Byrd Burnam (Weston 2004)



Figure 17: 1938 Aerial (1027) J. Ben Stoner Map Collection, SAC & COSA

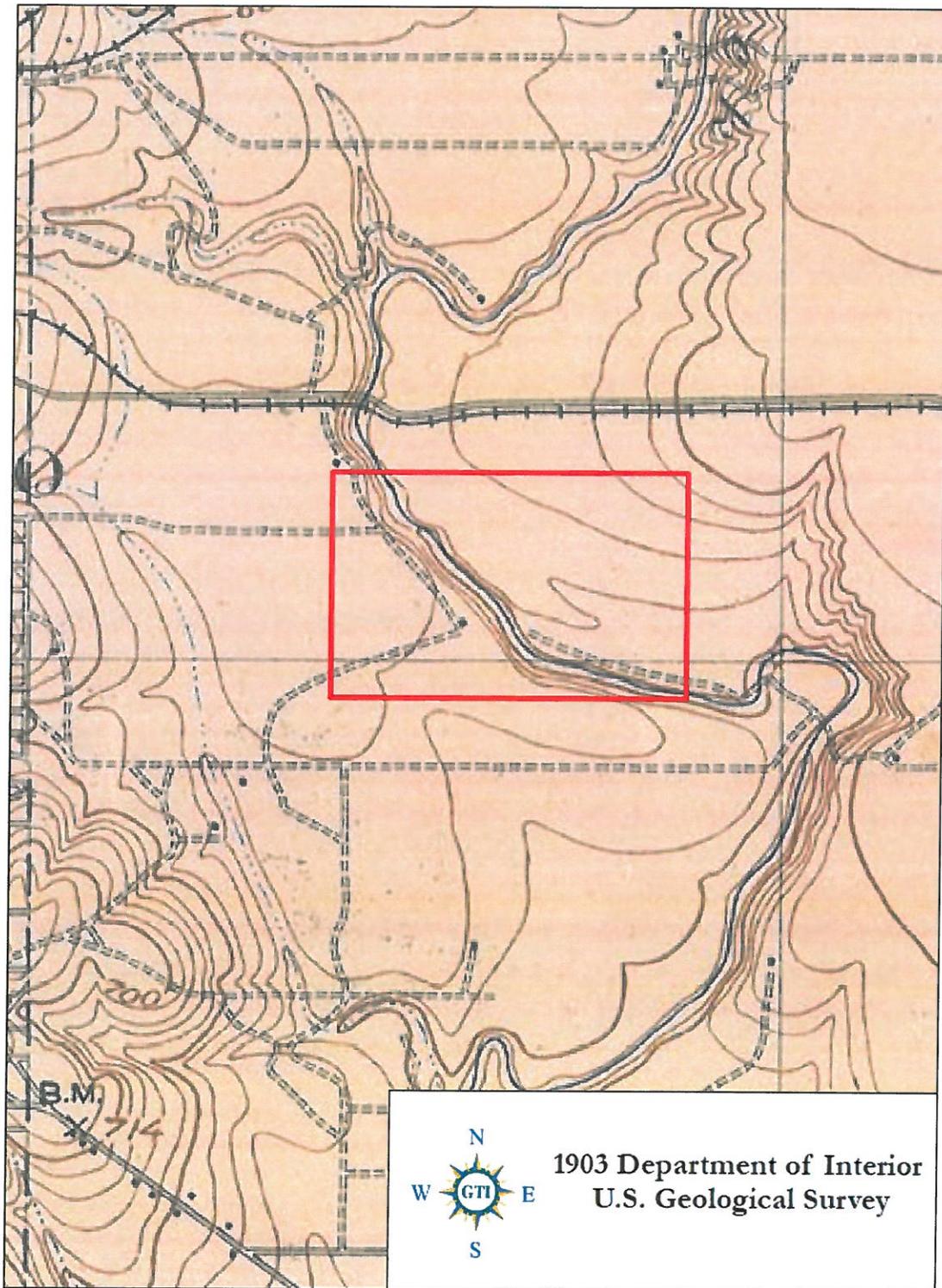


Figure 19: 1903 San Antonio Topographic Map, Perry Castañeda Library

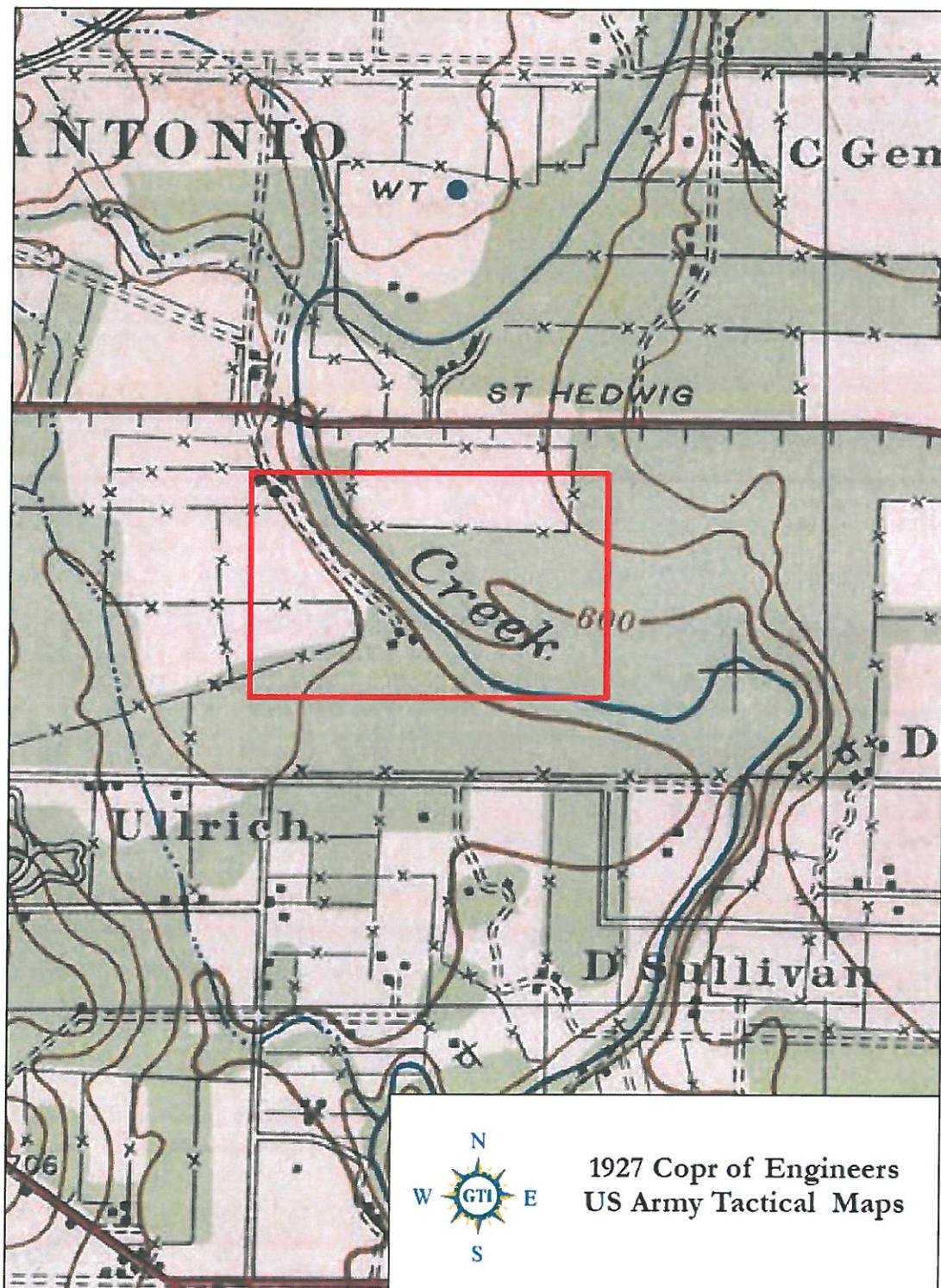


Figure 20: 1927 San Antonio East Corp of Engineers Us Army Tactical Map, Perry Castañeda Library

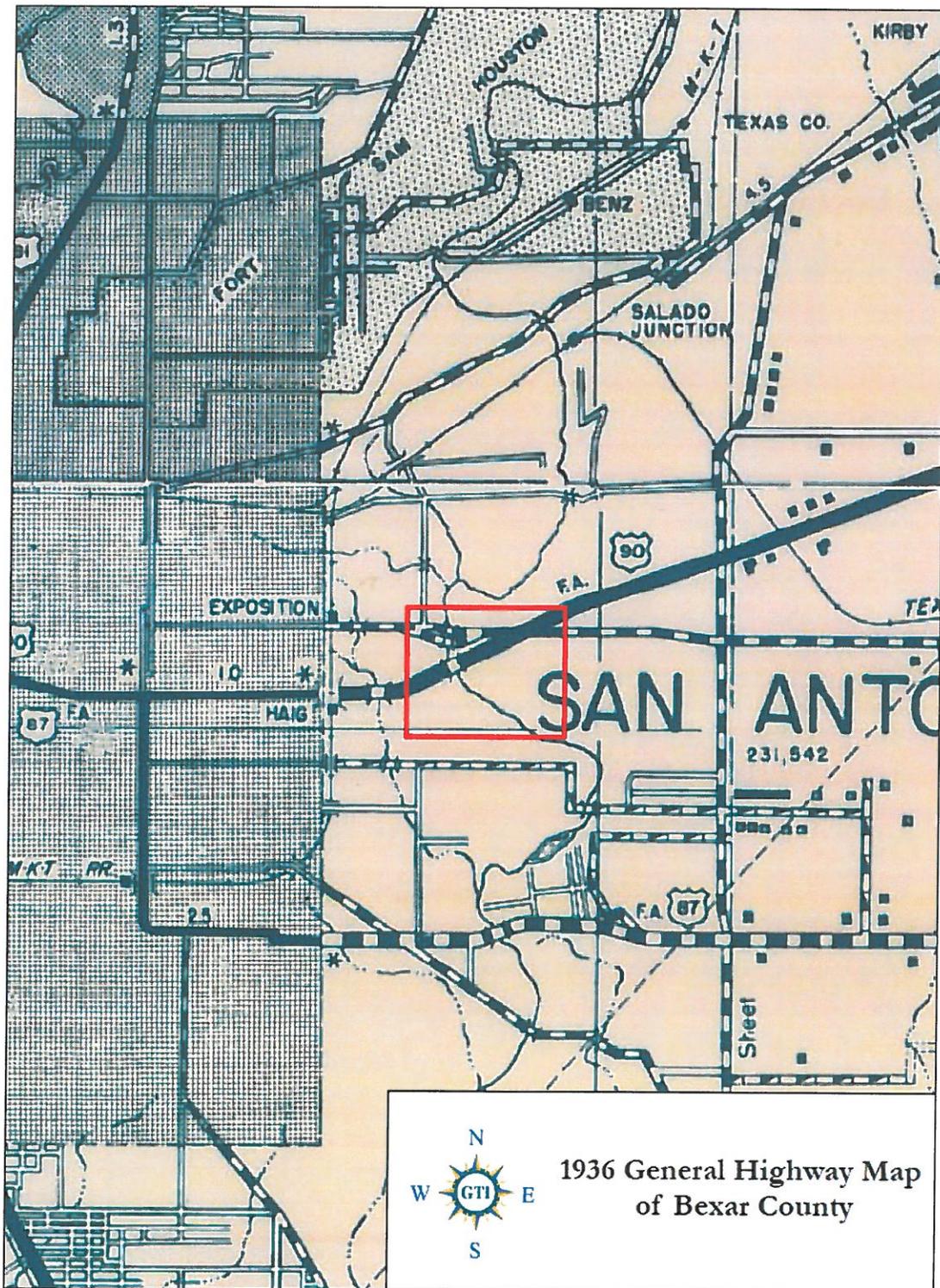


Figure 21: 1936 Bexar County General Highway Map, Texas State Library.

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There is a rectangular area that may suggest the main house, however. Map Sheet 1027 of the J. Ben Stoner illustrated collection falls short of the Alsbury homestead location. The map sheets indicate which adjacent sheet to reference or move to on the outside edge the sheets. The Alsbury homestead would be located adjacent to Unit 572. In this direction there is no map sheet referenced (see Figure 18).

In 1903 a single structure is seen in the vicinity where the Young Perry Alsbury land tract is located. The structure, however, is located on the west side of Salado Creek. According to Green (1934), Young Perry Alsbury was buried on the east bank of Salado Creek near the Dittmar Road only a few yards from the home under a huge pecan tree which marks the head of his grave, and Green (1934) noted that Young Perry's wife was buried on his right and his mother on his left. This information was obtained by Green (1934) during an oral history interview with Thomas Jefferson Alsbury, one of Young Perry Alsbury sons who was born in the home in 1851. It should be noted that on the 1903 San Antonio Topographic Map there is an unimproved road that runs along the east bank of Salado Creek which may indicate a drive to the house or access to the land claimed by Young Perry Alsbury.

The 1927 San Antonio Tactical map has two additional structures associated with the structure on the west side of Salado Creek. Again no structures are indicated on the east side of the creek and the unimproved road is no longer depicted. North of the area where the unimproved road once led to is an area now enclosed as a coral. The 1936 General Highway Bexar County map from the Texas State Archives was also reviewed which indicates at that time there were no structures on the east or west bank of Salado Creek (Figure 21). Additionally, there is no indication of a cemetery on either side of the creek.

The archival research in regards to the Alsbury homestead has brought to light individuals greatly significant to Spanish Colonial and Republic of Texas history. With this being said, Young Perry Alsbury having fought for Texas and as a descendant of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred is significant to Texas history on his own merit. His marriage to (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez and his ultimate acceptance into his wife's family extends the period of significance into the Spanish Colonial era. (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez and her family are descendant of Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière who as a Knight of the Spanish Crown was given the title of "Capitan De Los Tejas de esta Provincia" and helped lay the foundation of Native American relationships in Texas during his time. His children went onto settle and become significant individuals and leaders in Texas and San Antonio. (Maria) Romana de Jesus Rodriguez's father Lt. Ambrosio Rodriguez was a soldier during the Republic of Texas era and her brother Jose Maria Rodriguez was a judge in Webb County for 35 years. This archival research has brought to light the significance of Sgt. Andrés Benito Courbière and his descendants contributed to Texas history within the context of the COSA property where the Salado Creek Hike and Bike Trial Project is proposed.

Chapter 4: Oral History

GTI prepared an oral history questionnaire in consultation with the COSA and TxDOT based on archival research and Alsbury Family documentation submitted to TxDOT, THC and COSA in the past. GTI conducted the oral history interview during late November-early December 2009 with the Alsbury Family after the intensive archaeology survey fieldwork as agreed to by THC and TxDOT in the meeting (4/02/2009). GTI integrated oral history data into this intensive archaeology survey report and presents the questionnaire below.

The oral history questionnaire was prepared using a quantitative research approach as defined by Yow (1994: 5-8). The quantitative research approach was selected over the qualitative research approach, because the project is at the intensive archaeological survey phase, as opposed to a mitigation phase. The quantitative research approach also allows a number of variables to be considered by examining a number of researcher-controlled answers and determine if a preconceived hypothesis is operating based on archival research (Merriam 1988: 6-7). By using a questionnaire requiring short answers, a large number of subjects could be queried. The subjects were selected in such a way that they represented the families studied, and it allowed the researchers to make generalizations with a degree of confidence. The quantitative research approach also reduces the influence of the researcher's bias, as much as possible.

In accordance with the antiquities permit scope of work, GTI assisted COSA and TxDOT with the identification of Stakeholders under NEPA based on archival research and oral histories as part of Section 106 Identification of Consulting Parties. TxDOT was responsible for initiating consultation with the Consulting Parties and conducting all Native American identification and consultation.

Interview Guide

The interview guide is the plan for the interview that contains topics that are pursued during the interview but are not limited to those topics because the narrator has the freedom to suggest other topics. The interviewer would "probe" unanticipated topics as they are introduced by the narrator and document the data. The interview guide provides a strategy for following a line of questioning based on the archival research. The oral history aspect of this project is specifically designed for family research because it bridges across generations that have held title to the portion of land owned by COSA in the context of the overall historic land tract boundary, as well as the context of major historical events, such as Spanish Colonization of the general area, Mexican Republic Period, Texas Republic Period, and Early Statehood Period. The results of the oral history have been incorporated into the archival section of this report.

Alsbury Oral History Questionnaire

1.) Do you know who Young Perry Alsbury was married too?

- Romana de Jesus Rodriguez
- Maria de Jesus Rodriguez

Other Maria Ramona Rodriguez

2.) Do you the date that Young Perry Alsbury's wife was born?

No

3.) What date in 1847 did Young Perry Alsbury and his wife get married?

No Record. Family lore indicated that they were from Spain and married in Mexico by a Protestant Minister.

4.) What date in 1848 did Young Perry Alsbury and his wife move to Salado Creek?

No

5.) What date did Young Perry Alsbury wife's father die?

No

6.) Do you know the story about Mary Ann Alsbury in regards to the destruction of deed records?

Never heard story.

7.) Does the Alsbury family have any plat's or maps that show building location of the Alsbury homestead on Salado Creek?

No

Chapter 5: Archeological Survey Methodology

Research Design

Expectations

GTI anticipated documenting the historic cultural material associated with the proposed historic Alsbury homestead evident in the 2002 UTSA backhoe trench, as well as the prehistoric cultural material adjacent to DaFoste Park visible on the ground surface. GTI noted there was a high probability deeply buried cultural deposits will be present at the location of the prehistoric artifact surface scatter because the site's location is on a high terrace overlooking Salado Creek. The cultural materials GTI encountered were intact and in situ and maintained integrity based on the soil profile of the backhoe trench and stable terrace landform. GTI also noted that although historic paintings of the historic Alsbury homestead clearly depict the homestead complex on a terrace, this location overlooking Salado Creek was a high probability area where deeply buried prehistoric cultural deposits may be present and required investigations to determine the presence or absence of any prehistoric cultural materials aside from the known historic cultural materials already being present on this terrace. GTI documented two lithics within the context of historic artifacts in one shovel test. No other prehistoric cultural materials were recovered at the Alsbury Site.

Work to be Undertaken

Archival Review & UTSA Review & Meetings: GTI will review the archaeology reports produced by University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) for the City of San Antonio's Salado Creek Hike and Bike Trail project. GTI will also review archival data obtained for this project by TxDOT and COSA and review the THC record files. GTI will also assess the archival documentation and supplement the archival record with additional research to answer any questions, as well as to facilitate the development of Oral History questionnaire. The questionnaire will not include questions regarding the historic Alsbury Family Cemetery. GTI will conduct research and fieldwork (in San Antonio to review Stoner Maps at Vista Verde Building). GTI will inform COSA, TxDOT-ENV and THC of the archival research results at these repositories prior to or during intensive survey fieldwork, particularly if the results include additional information that is not included in the TxDOT-ENV or THC files.

Intensive Archaeology Survey: In accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas [13TAC26.5(35) and 13TAC26.20(2)], GTI will conduct an archaeological intensive survey to assess the presence or absence of any archaeological remains associated with previous historic occupations in the area related to the historic complex (excluding historic Alsbury Family Cemetery) on the east side of I-10, as well as the prehistoric cultural deposits west of I-10 as part of the hike and bike trail realignment at DaFoste Park (Pape-Dawson Engineer Plan date 7/31/2009). GTI will define the horizontal and vertical site boundaries of historic and prehistoric cultural deposit areas. Shovel testing

in all four cardinal directions is proposed to define site boundaries on the east bank and linear shovel tests along the Alternative Route not previously surveyed by UTSA, as well as one backhoe trench on the west side of I-10. The investigations will be limited to COSA (public) property. Shovel testing at the cultural deposits areas will extend beyond the project ROW to determine the vertical and horizontal site boundaries up to the COSA property boundary. GTI is not authorized and will not document site boundaries in private property. GTI will not conduct shovel testing outside the ROW that is not associated with defining archaeological site boundaries. These areas under investigations for the Alternative Alignment immediately east and west of IH-10 are considered a subset of the project APE, which is the total length of the COSA proposed Salado Creek hike and bike trail project. In accordance with 13TAC26.21(d), intensive survey investigation efforts will include:

A. East Bank

1. Shovel Tests (ST) in cardinal directions from known cultural deposit and define vertical and horizontal site boundaries for cultural deposits. ST's will be excavated at intervals of 10 or possible 5 meters apart to assess patterns and to determine frequency of artifact clusters if present :
 - a) Historic ceramics in exposed 100 meter UTSA 2002 backhoe trench (BHT) east of I-10 at the base of the terrace margin (estimated 50-100) shovel tests 30 centimeters diameter to depth of cultural deposits limited to 1 meter);
2. Exposed 2002 BHT (approximately 100 meters):
 - a) inspect soil profile and document any cultural deposits in soil profile (entire profile does not have to be cleaned and re-documented according to THC and TxDOT);
 - b) compare soil profile with UTSA documentation of the 2002 BHT profile;
 - c) sample screen backdirt pile where the cultural deposits are present or discovered in soil profile;
3. Excavate linear ST along approximate alignment of area of proposed Alternative Route at terrace base towards creek where not already surveyed by UTSA

B. West Bank

1. Excavate a BHT west of I-10 near prehistoric cultural deposit (4-8 meters long and 1 meter wide to depth of cultural deposits);
 - a) controlled hand excavated and screened 50x50 cm unit within BHT wall;
 - b) document and illustrate the entire BHT (approximately 4 to 8 meters long as required by TxDOT).
 - c) prehistoric lithic deposits west of I-10 (possible 10 ST's 30 cm diameter to depth of cultural deposits limited to 1 meter)

The survey followed the Texas Historical Commission's Minimum Archeology Survey Standards for Texas as discussed in the meeting (4/02/2009) and excluded identification and assessment of the historic Alsbury Family Cemetery. In the event

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evidence of burials was present, GTI would cease all work in the immediate area and notify COSA, TxDOT-ENV, and THC. Work may continue in other areas where burials are not present.

All excavated matrix was passed through 1/4-inch hardware mesh when possible or trowel sorted to inspect for cultural materials. Shovel tests were excavated in 10 cm levels. Diagnostic artifacts (such as projectile points, ceramics, historic materials with maker's marks, identifiable/contextual metal fragments, etc.) were collected. All other artifacts (such as debitage, burned rock, and metal scrap, etc.) were tabulated in the field. Collected artifacts were bagged and labeled appropriately. These artifacts were formally curated at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) following analysis and reporting (permitted projects must curate artifacts). Field notes were maintained on location, disturbances, soils, shovel tests, etc. Digital photos were taken when appropriate and recorded on a photograph log. A handheld GPS unit (UTM, NAD 27) was used to mark the location of shovel tests as well as any newly recorded sites.

The COSA, the THC and TxDOT were notified 48 hours prior to completion of the field work. An interim letter report was submitted to TxDOT and COSA within two weeks of completion of field work summarizing the results of the field work and provided recommendations. A report of the investigations was produced following the survey in accordance with the THC's *Rules of Practice and Procedure Chapter 26.24*, the CTA Guidelines for Cultural Resource Management Reports, as well as the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*, and *TxDOT's Standards of Uniformity for Archaeological Reports*. GTI included a list of sites identified on public property owned by COSA. The report assessed possible effects the project may have to the sites and document each site's potential eligibility status for listing in the NRHP and for formal designation as an SAL based on eligibility criteria 36CFR60.4 and 13TAC26.8. GTI submitted archaeological site forms to TARL to obtain archaeological site trinomial numbers for each newly recorded site. The report also included recommendations for further work or no further work with appropriate justifications based on the requirements of 13TAC26.20 and defined in 13TAC26.5. A copy of the draft report was submitted to the client for approval, and upon the client's approval GTI submitted the draft report to TxDOT-ENV for review. Upon TxDOT's review, GTI incorporated TxDOT-ENV comments and resubmit the draft report for TxDOT-ENV's submittal to THC. Upon THC's approval of the draft report, GTI submitted the required number of copies as outlined in Section 26.24 of Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 26 of the Texas Administrative Code, concerning Reports Relating to Archeological Permits.

Previous Work & Sites within 1 Kilometer

After reviewing the THC Atlas database, the Principal Investigator noted there are no previously recorded archaeological sites within a one kilometer (km) radius of the project area. 925 meters northwest of the project area is the Historic Marker for the Second Baptist Church of San Antonio. This historic Church was first organized in 1879 by ex-slaves, and was know as the Macedonia Baptist Church until 1890. In 1968 the Second

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Baptist church congregation moved to its present site. UTSA documented the presence of the Alsbury Centennial Marker within private property during their 2002 investigations. Two previous surveys have been conducted within one km of the APE. According to the Atlas database, the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) conducted archaeological and geomorphologic investigations for COSA's Salado Creek Hike and Bike Trail Project in 2002 and 2003 under Texas Antiquities Permit #2917, as well as archaeological monitoring for backhoe trenching related to geotechnical services along Salado Creek at IH-10 in 2008 under Texas Antiquities Permit #4879. The Alsbury Centennial marker, nor the proposed Alsbury Family historic homestead, nor the prehistoric lithic scatter adjacent to DaFoste Park is on the Atlas database. The centennial marker is on private land adjacent to the project area and the cultural material from the historic homestead is within the original APE surveyed by UTSA on the east bank. The prehistoric lithic scatter is within the realigned project APE not previously surveyed by UTSA.

Existing Disturbances

The UTSA investigations 100 meters long trench that parallels Salado Creek within the project APE is still open and represents the only existing disturbance. The open-cut trench does not affect identification, evaluation, or potential future data recovery efforts. The disturbances were documented during project area visits, as opposed to determination of these disturbances from soil maps, DOQ files, available photographs, and other materials provide by the project sponsor.

Chapter 6: Archeological Survey Results

Intensive Archaeology Survey Results

In accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas [13TAC26.5(35) and 13TAC26.20(2)], GTI conducted an archaeological intensive survey to assess the presence or absence of any archaeological remains associated with previous historic occupations in the area related to the historic complex (excluding historic Alsbury Family Cemetery) on the east side of I-10, as well as the prehistoric cultural deposits west of I-10 as part of the hike and bike trail realignment at DaFoste Park (Pape-Dawson Engineer Plan date 7/31/2009). GTI defined the horizontal and vertical site boundaries of historic and prehistoric cultural deposit areas. Shovel testing in all four cardinal directions was conducted to define site boundaries on the east bank and linear shovel tests along the Alternative Route not previously surveyed by UTSA, as well as one backhoe trench and two shovel tests on the west side of I-10. The investigations were limited to COSA (public) property. Shovel testing at the Alsbury Site cultural deposits areas extended beyond the project ROW to determine the vertical and horizontal site boundaries up to the COSA property boundary. GTI was not authorized and did not document site boundaries in private property. GTI did not conduct shovel testing outside the ROW that is not associated with defining archaeological site boundaries. These areas under investigations for the Alternative Alignment immediately east and west of IH-10 were considered a subset of the project APE, which was the total length of the COSA proposed Salado Creek hike and bike trail project. In accordance with 13TAC26.21(d), intensive survey investigation efforts included assessment of cultural deposits on the east and west side of the project APE as described in Antiquities Permit #5371 Scope of Work.

GTI consulted with COSA, TxDOT, and THC regarding concurrent archaeological survey north and west of city property. The investigation was coordinated with the separate but contemporaneous archeological study of the Salado Creek under the direction of TxDOT. In late August 2009, the Archeological Studies Program, Environmental Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation conducted a small scale but intensive archeological field investigation and a background historical review around the 1936 Texas Centennial burial marker identifying the Young Perry Alsbury family cemetery (McGraw 2009). McGraw's report (2009) noted that "TxDOT performed this work in cooperation with the Texas Historical Commission, the City of San Antonio, landowners, Alsbury descendants, and the Bexar County Historical Commission." According to the report (McGraw 2009), "[t]he purpose of TxDOT's recent work was to address the verbal and written allegations and, as well, the concerns of Alsbury family members. TxDOT staff was to determine what evidence existed that the marker had been moved and as a result, recommend whether it should be relocated based on its historical setting, the archeological findings, and any new important archival information. McGraw (2009) "also obtained the original 1936 construction plans and specifications for placement of centennial markers from the archives of the Texas State Library as part of its background historical research. These plans show that that the Alsbury marker reflects subtle key erection features specified in the 1936 construction



IMAGE REDACTED

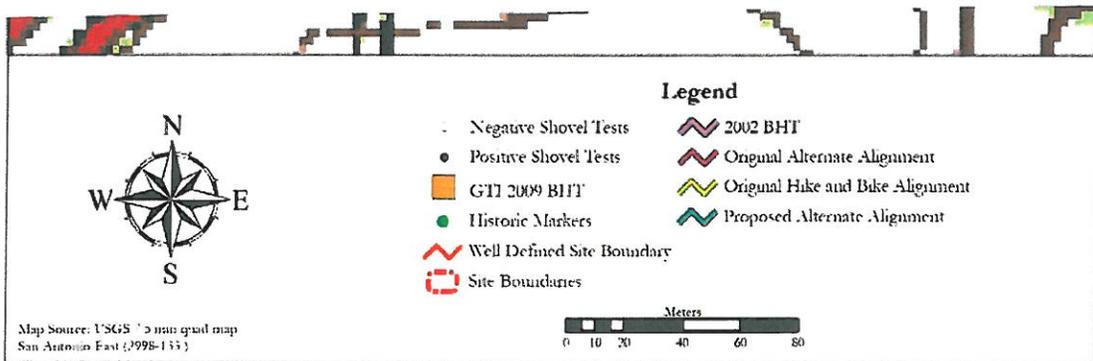


Figure 22: 41BX1832 and 41BX1833 at Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail Project

plans that would not have been known or could not have been reproduced without access to that information.” McGraw (2009) noted that “TxDOT’s archeological investigation also found that the location surrounding the marker on private and adjacent COSA property contains clear archeological evidence of the associated historical Alsbury homestead.” McGraw (2009) also noted, “the collective evidence of the recent investigation indicates the high probability that the monument is in its original location.” The archaeological evidence obtained by TxDOT is integral to a better understanding and interpretation of the cultural material GTI encountered within city property.

Based on the combined archaeological evidence documented by TxDOT on private property and excavated by GTI on city property, one can apply THC’s policy for the assessment of historic archaeological sites. According to THC, three lines of evidence (archival, oral history, and archaeological) are appropriate to assess properly historic archaeological sites. In this case, GTI was required to obtain all three lines of evidence in accordance with the Antiquities Permit #5371 scope of work. Based on these lines of evidence, GTI presents the archaeological data in tabular format and offers an interpretation and synthesis of the cultural material data from a historical archaeology perspective in terms of *historic yardscapes*.

Historic artifact analysis and discussion is separated first by artifact category that includes: ceramic, glass, and metal. Within each of these categories function, type, ware/decoration and morphology (i.e. rim, body, base etc.) are discussed. The function categories were developed based on Beaudry’s (1988) *Documentary Archaeology in the New World*. Looking at function and type allows for interpretation of how individuals were occupying and utilizing the site. Quantitative efforts offer a view of the duration that a site was occupied. Examination of wares and their decoration can speak to two questions in historical archeology the first being social status viewed in terms of the ratio between decorated and undecorated wares and types of decorated materials present, and the second with regards to temporal associations of artifacts. Temporally diagnostic historic artifacts were documented and compared to works that include Sussman (1997), Pollan et al. (1996), and Toulouse (1971).

The quantification of the cultural material that represents historic yardscapes has been documented in the past by THC archaeologists where the spatial and frequency of artifact concentrations at Fort Davis (Kenmotsu et al. 1992) facilitated the location of cultural activity areas. Synthesis of the cultural materials at the historic Boott Mills Boardinghouses in Lowell, Massachusetts (Mrozowski et al. 1996) demonstrates how the methodology of historical archaeology cultural material analysis in conjunction with spatial and quantitative efforts at the historic Alsbury Complex can illuminate historic yardscape patterns and material culture despite the limited nature of the cultural assemblage within the context of the whole historic Alsbury complex.

Analysis of the archaeological assemblage includes the archival and oral history research as an overall effort to apply transdisciplinary, interpretive material culture studies, and the opportunities they offer for material culture analysis in contemporary historical archaeology as documented by Cochran and Beaudry (2006: 191-204). The

analysis of the mid-19th century and late 19th century Alsbury cultural material collected within city property during the excavations under Antiquities Permit #5371 is offered as a starting point for possible future collaborative research between Alsbury Family descendants, current landowners, THC, and other interested non-profit organizations to explore historical archaeology research themes of Spanish/Tejano and Anglo *resistance and accommodation* because the historic Alsbury Family and the descendants are themselves descendants of Sergeant Andres Benito Coubiérie, a well known Spanish Colonist of San Antonio. As McGraw (2009) notes, “[t]he surprising and significant role of Andre Courbiérie in the Spanish Colonial history of San Antonio and Texas has not been fully recognized and his association with the locale broadens the historic context and importance of the marker location along the historic crossing of Paso Hondo on the Salado Creek.

Historic Alsbury Site—41BX1832

GTI conducted a total of 34 shovel tests (ST-1 to ST-34) to define the vertical and horizontal Alsbury Site boundaries at 10m and 5 m intervals (Figure 23). The total number of shovel tests anticipated was anywhere from 50 to 100 based on a field visit where the stable terrace was covered with trees and the precise northern boundary of COSA property boundary was not known. At the time of the survey the COSA northern property boundary was staked by civil surveyors. Shovel testing was initiated adjacent to the 2002 UTSA BHT and continued northward at 10 meter and 5 meter intervals and then in east and west cardinal directions. Archaeologists documented the site boundary with double negative shovel tests where possible or up to the terrace edge or COSA property boundary. The Alsbury Site western and southern boundary is demarcated by the stable terrace slope, and its northern boundary is the COSA property line. The Site extends into private property, but this portion of the site was not assessed by GTI and was assessed by TxDOT (McGraw 2009). The site boundary is 50 meters by 30 meters within city property.

Archaeologists excavated 18 positive shovel tests and 16 negative shovel tests. The cultural materials were buried within Level-1 and Level-2 and did not appear in the lower levels. Archaeologists encountered cultural materials that included ceramic, glass, metal, and bone fragments in varying quantities in different shovel tests, as well as a possible buried pier foundation in ST-2 associated with the historic Alsbury Homestead Complex documented as Feature-1. The feature was characterized as an alignment of stones over stones and plaster with a straight eastern face, and the feature provides a possible house location in relation to associated yardscape patterns. GTI has determined that yardscape patterns were present based on the artifact category frequency and location. Although statistical software was not used during the development of this report, the analysis of the cultural material frequency and locations was based on similar investigation analyses as reported by Kenmotsu et al. 1992. By developing basic maps showing artifact categories illustrated by circles representing frequency counts, glass, ceramic, metal and bone activities areas became apparent and in some cases overlap (See Figures 24 - 27). The distribution of glass artifacts are evenly spaced north, east and west of the possible pier foundation, and the highest frequency on the west side. Archaeologists noted that window



IMAGE REDACTED

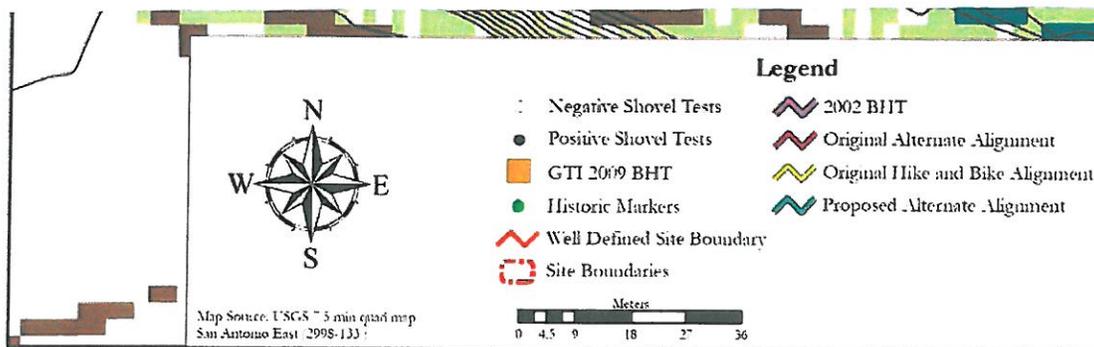


Figure 23: Shovel Test locations at 41BX1832 within city property

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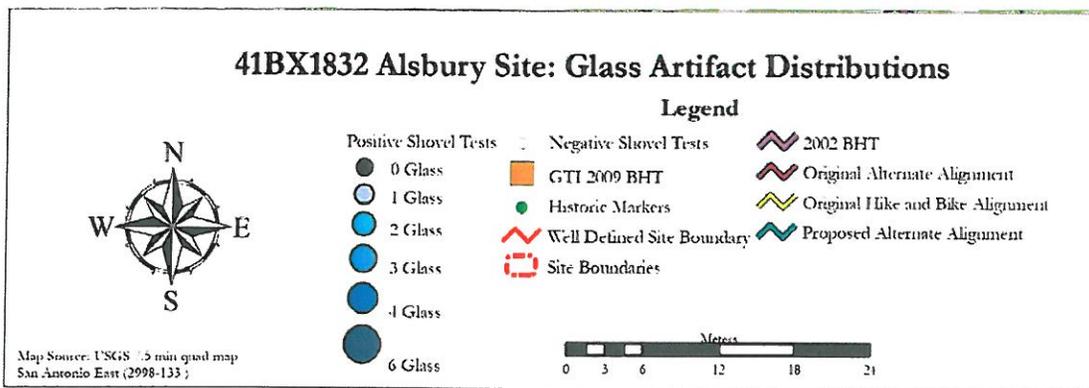


Figure 24: 41BX1832 glass artifact frequency and spatial distribution

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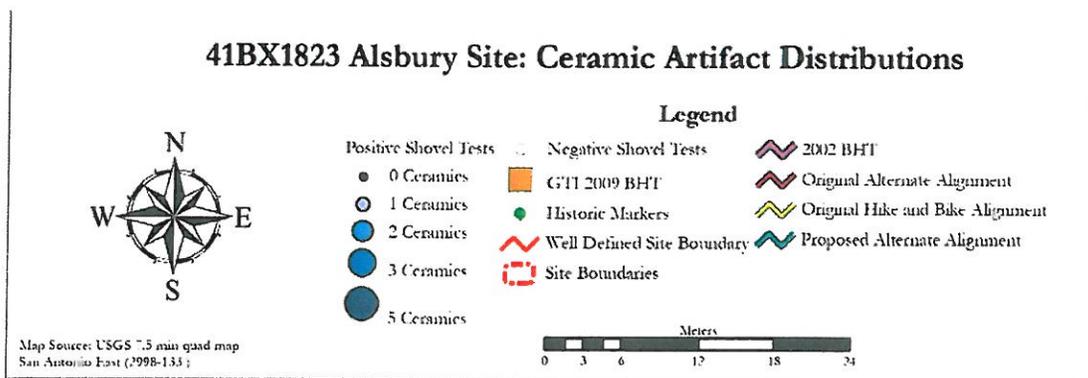


Figure 25: 41BX1832 ceramic artifact frequency and spatial distribution

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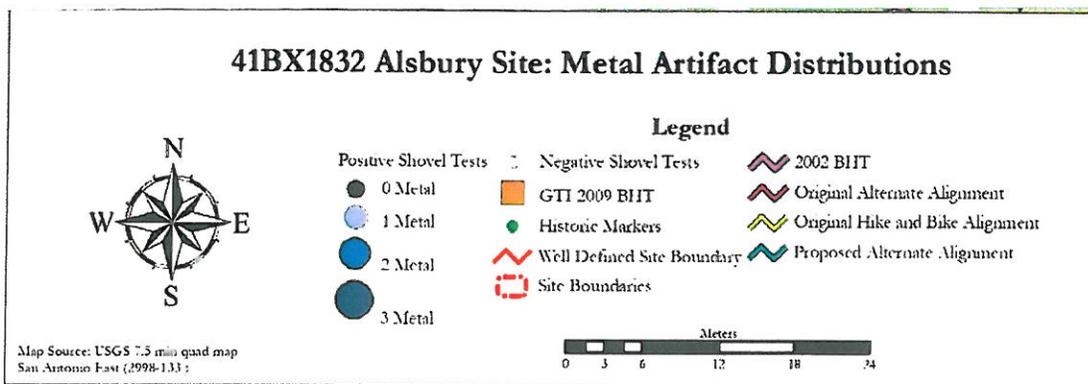


Figure 26: 41BX1832 metal artifact frequency and spatial distribution

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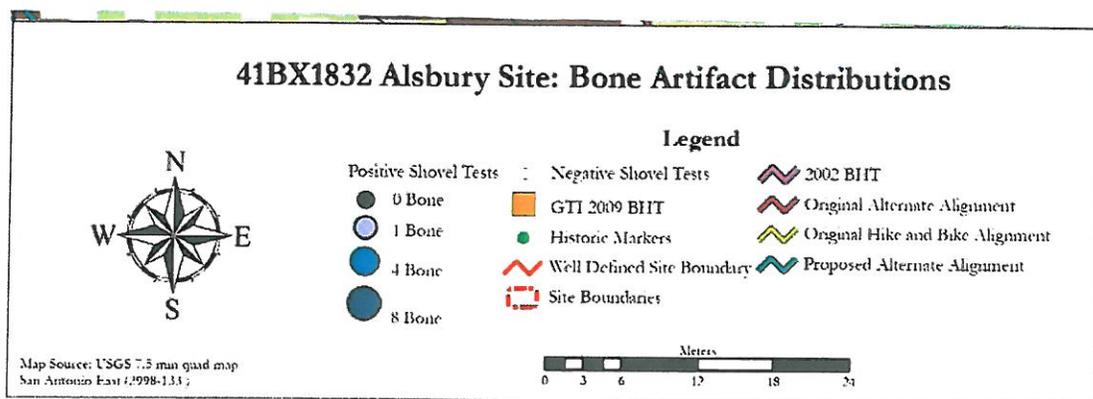
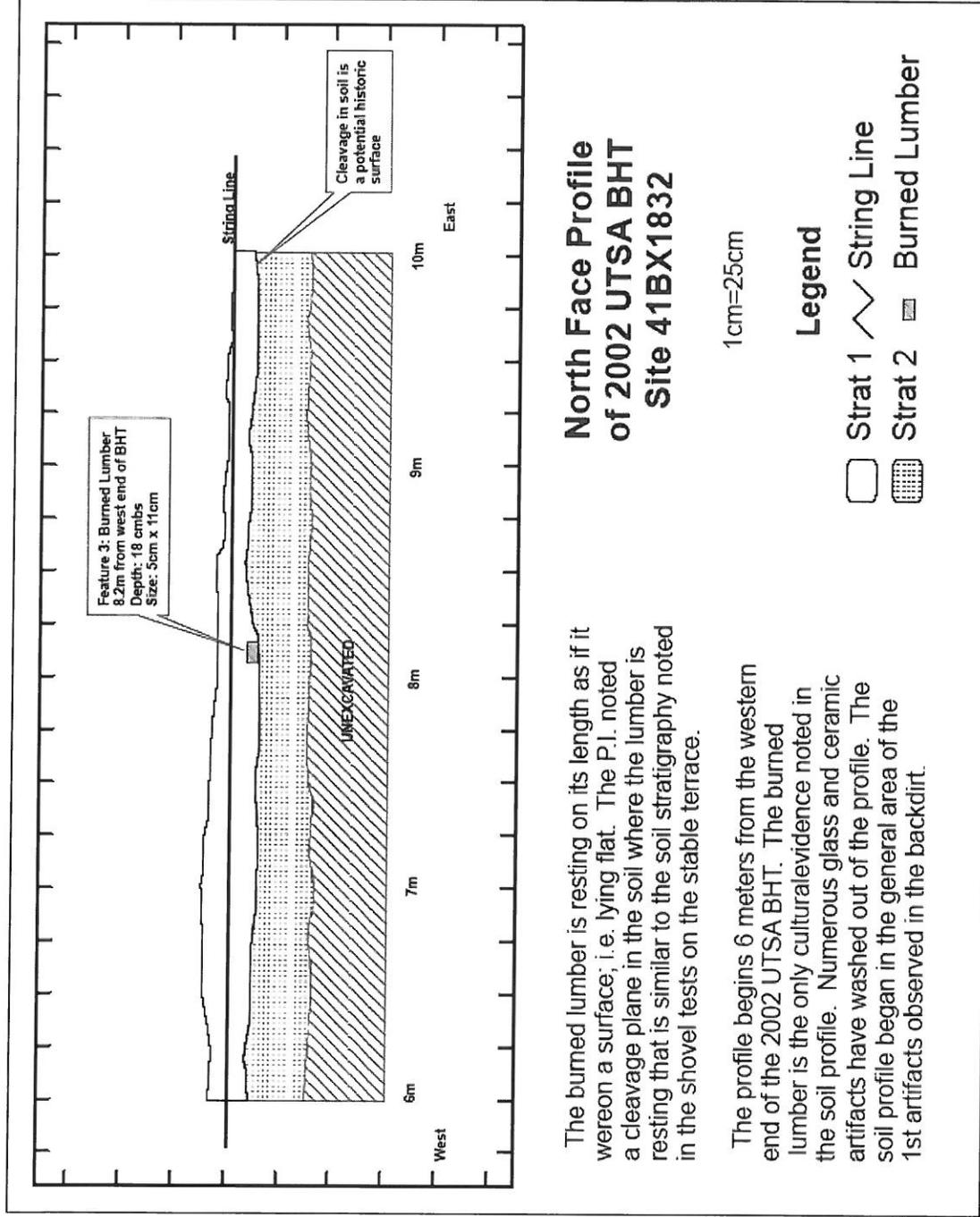


Figure 27: 41BX1832 bone artifact frequency and spatial distribution

glass was closest to the possible pier foundation while bottle glass was further away. The highest distribution of ceramics was north of the possible house location with limited amounts east and west and less southwest of the possible pier foundation. The metal (nails) distribution was primarily west of the possible pier foundation. The highest frequency of animal bone was distributed 10m northeast of the possible pier foundation and at two locations west of the possible house foundation 10m and 30m away.

The total artifact assemblage numbered 124 fragments and is presented in the artifact analysis section in tabular format, which described the unit and depth of each artifact, their function, ware, decoration, and form, as well as type (rim, body, or base), counts and percentages, and comments on the decorations. It should be noted that COSA, TxDOT and THC initiated consultation prior to COSA issuing a work authorization for GTI through its environmental contractor. The city and agencies observed some historic artifacts in the exposed UTSA 2002 BHT backdirt during field meetings. The artifacts were collected and piled adjacent to the roots of a tree next to the 2002 BHT. COSA requested that GTI attend additional consultation meetings in the field and THC and COSA city archaeologist requested that GTI collect the historic artifacts during fieldwork. Those historic artifacts are part of the ceramic assemblage GTI collected during field investigations and presented by the initials of Mark Denton (THC) and Kay Hinder (COSA City Archaeologist).

As part of the antiquities permit requirements, GTI collected artifacts from the UTSA 2002 BHT during and after cleaning the soil profile and documenting it in relation to the location of the site boundary (Figure 28). The 2002 BHT backdirt was also sample screened throughout the length of the 2002 BHT, as required, and the artifacts were collected and noted in the table. The majority of the artifacts were collected from the backdirt, and the soil profile showed that the historic artifacts were no deeper than 20 cm below surface on average as indicated by two ceramic sherds and more importantly a rectangular, sectional profile of burned lumber lying flat at the bottom of the historic occupation surface. The depth of artifacts in the soil profile comports with the shovel test data as the great majority of the artifacts were collected in the first levels from 0-10cm below surface and the deepest artifacts were recovered from the second level (10-20 cmbs) in shovel test 4 and 12. Accordingly, archaeologists concluded that the historic site occupation is very shallow and susceptible to adverse affects by ground disturbing impacts.



The burned lumber is resting on its length as if it were on a surface; i.e. lying flat. The P.I. noted a cleavage plane in the soil where the lumber is resting that is similar to the soil stratigraphy noted in the shovel tests on the stable terrace.

The profile begins 6 meters from the western end of the 2002 UTSA BHT. The burned lumber is the only cultural evidence noted in the soil profile. Numerous glass and ceramic artifacts have washed out of the profile. The soil profile began in the general area of the 1st artifacts observed in the backdirt.

Figure 28: 2002 UTSA Backhoe trench soil profile.

Proposed Alternate Alignment

GTI archaeologists excavated 12 shovel tests (ST-36 to ST-47) within the Proposed Alternative Alignment between Salado Creek and the stable terrace where the 2002 UTSA BHT and Alsbury Site is located. Archeologists excavated the shovel tests as deep as 80 cm with negative results. In some cases, plastic and styrofoam were documented as deep 60 cm indicating the disturbed nature of the proposed alternate alignment area of the project APE. Archaeologists did not encounter any prehistoric or historic cultural material within the proposed alternate alignment area.

Prehistoric DaFoste Park Site—41BX1833

GTI excavated BHT-1 at the location of the surface artifacts. Due to the slope of the terrace edge, the backhoe was not able to excavate the trench at the centerline. The location of the backhoe trench was placed at the edge of the 25 foot ROW for safety reasons (See Figure 29). The backhoe trench was 4 meter long and 1.56 meter deep. Based on the presence of calcium carbonate nodules at the top of the soil profile, the Principle Investigator determined in consultation with TxDOT-ENV that the stable terrace had been truncated in the past or by past development of the neighborhood. The A-Horizon and B-Horizon are absent from the soil profile and the calcium carbonate nodules increase in size (from 1 cm to 6 cm) with the depth of the soil profile (Figure 30). Archaeologists noted the presence of buried cultural material (midden) consisting of lithics and charcoal deposits within the first 40 cm from the ground surface and a buried pit feature (Feature-2) with a top elevation at 25cm below datum and bottom elevation at 97 cm below datum. The datum is 0 cm at the base of the third metal post and wire fence from the wooden fence at the entrance of DaFoste Park. The soil profile indicates that a large portion of the site within the B-Horizon is no longer present. Accordingly, the DaFoste Park Site is represented by the deepest intact remaining portion of the site that was excavated in the Archaic Period into the C-Horizon.

The site extends eastward approximately 30 feet down slope as documented by two shovel tests (ST-48 and ST-49), and its western and southern boundary extends to COSA public property line on its east and south side, the stable terrace slope on its north side. Based on field visits Section 106 consultation with TxDOT-ENV, GTI collected 20cm x 20cm x 10cm column soil samples from the pit feature in place of the required 50cm x 50cm hand controlled excavation unit and substituted the two shovel tests to define the horizontal site boundary. The soil samples were collected for future research at the National Register level investigations if COSA cannot avoid the site. The Principle Investigator and Al McGraw of TxDOT-ENV determined the site dates to the Archaic Period by examination of a bi-face that was embedded in the soil profile within the midden 10 cm below ground surface at the base of a thin dark soil line indicating a buried surface within the midden. Based on Turner and Hester (1999: 273), the bi-face meets the description criteria for a San Gabriel Biface, which is Transitional Archaic A.D. 200–A.D. 550. The artifacts from the trench profile all came from the midden deposits or the pit feature below the midden. Artifacts were scattered throughout the midden deposit and

few in the pit feature and some artifacts were vertical. The diagnostic biface, however, was horizontal, as well as the two flakes towards the bottom of the pit feature. The PI purposely left the biface in situ until COSA City Archaeologist or TxDOT-ENV could inspect these artifacts in their context of the soil profile. TxDOT-ENV was present when the biface was removed and examined in the field.

Based on consultation with TxDOT-ENV, GTI recommended that COSA avoid the DaFoste Park Site. If avoidance is not possible, GTI recommends National Register evaluation of the site that include a single 1 x 1 meter test unit, radio carbon dating of the charcoal sample, and macrobotanical analysis of the collected soil samples. The soil samples were collected from a 20x20cm column from the midden (0-30cmbs) directly above the pit feature and the center of the pit feature's top through bottom elevations (30-80cmbs) in 10cm increments, and the soil samples were curated at TARL. Avoidance of the site was possible by eliminating the DaFoste Park alignment from the proposed project and TxDOT and THC agreed to this measure of avoidance on October 1, 2009.



IMAGE REDACTED

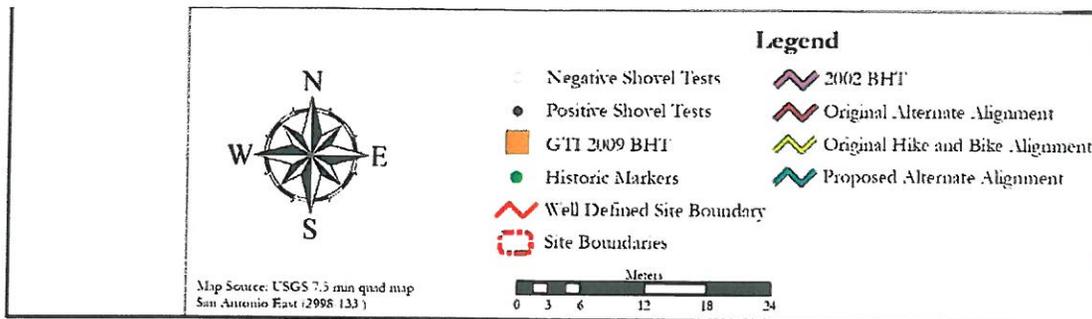


Figure 29: Shovel Test & Backhoe Trench locations at 41BX1833 within city property.

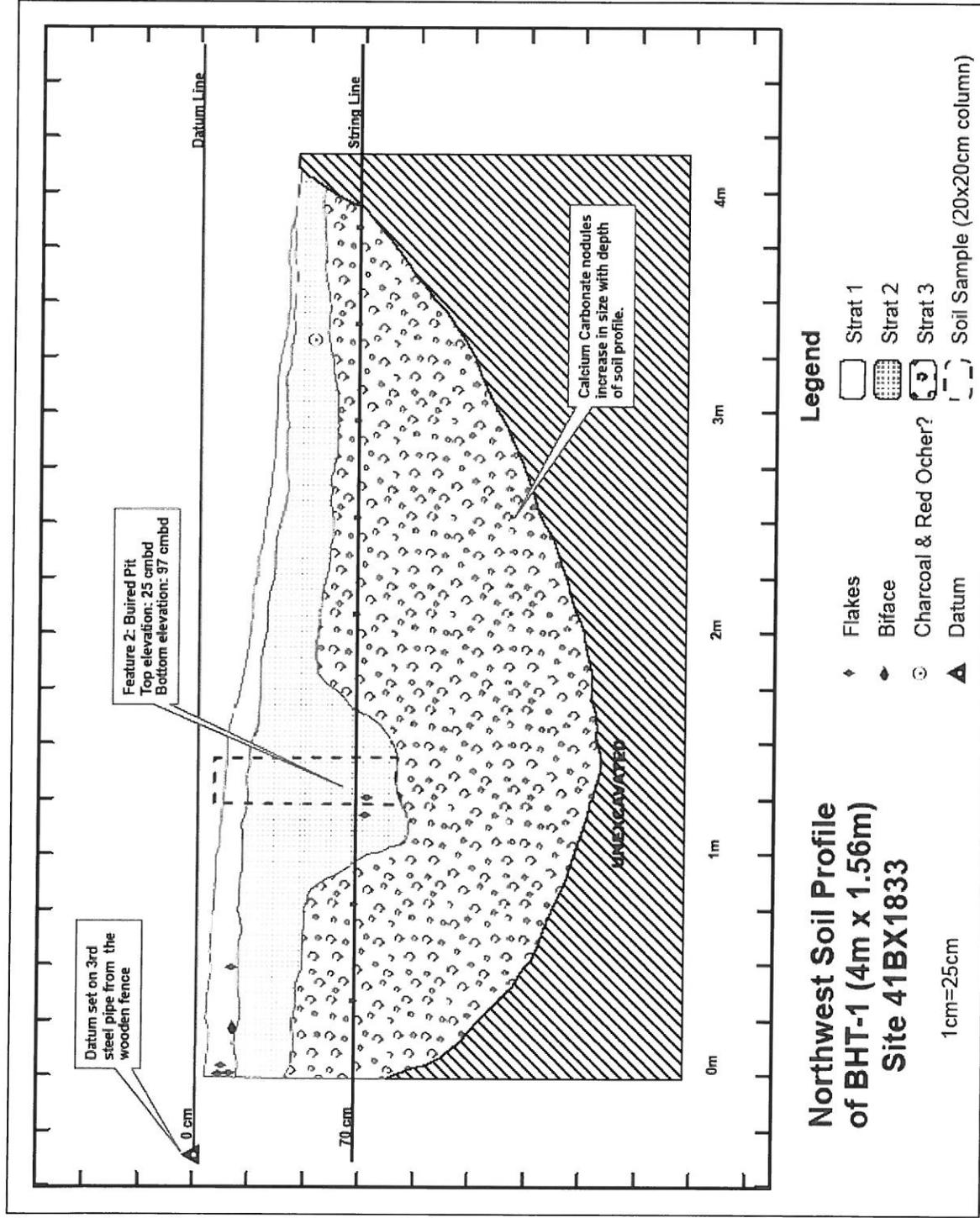


Figure 30: Soil Profile of BHT 1 at site 41BX1833.

41BX1832 Artifact Analysis

The great majority of the glass artifacts (41 fragments out of a total of 124 from the artifact assemblage) served the function of storage vessels, and they were classified as bottle fragments and constituted 33.1 percent of the total artifact assemblage (Figures 31 – 35 and Table 1). These bottle fragments came in a variety of colors, such as dark green and olive wine bottles, brown and aqua medicine bottles, and clear bottles, which served as containers, and together with the window glass made up 36.3 percent of the total artifact assemblage. Only 4 glass fragments were classified as window glass, which constituted 3.2 percent of the total artifact assemblage. The lack of serving wares (drinking glasses) is a peculiar anomaly and may be significant in terms of cultural interpretations between Spanish/Tejano and Anglo accommodations within the context of an overall analysis of artifacts from the historic Alsbury homestead complex beyond the city property.

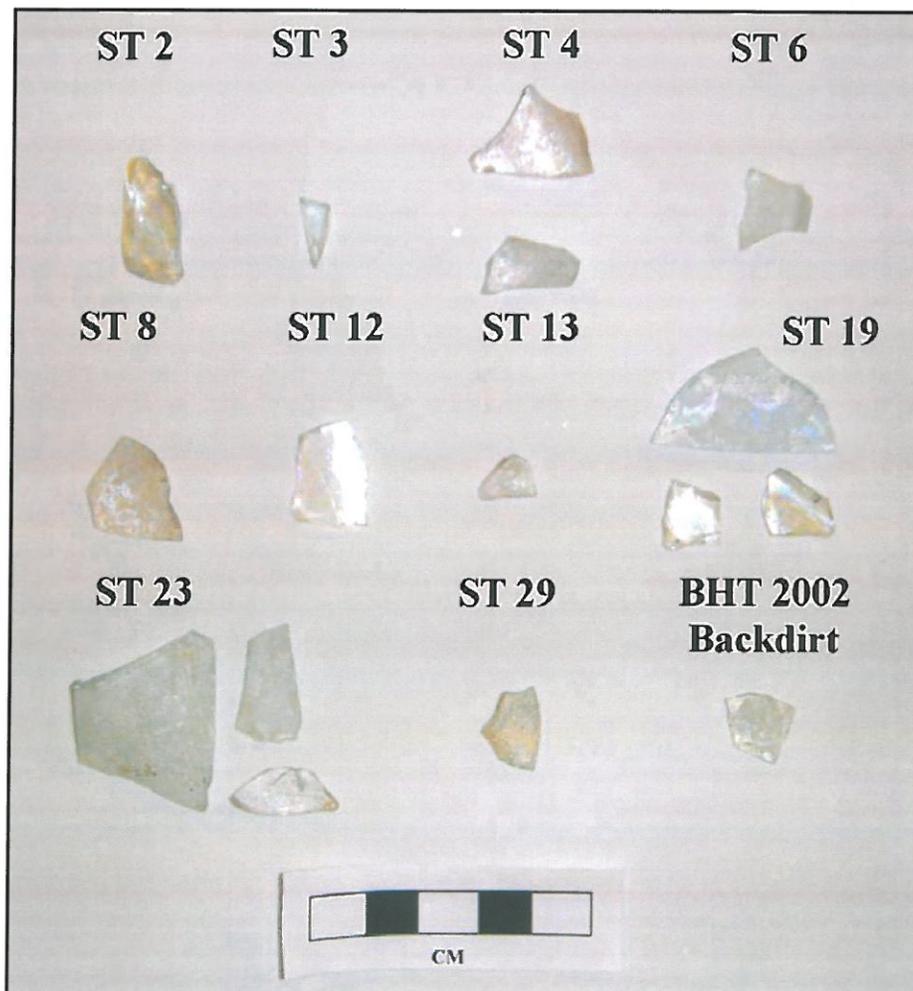


Figure 31: Clear glass collected at 41BX1832.



Figure 32: Aqua glass collected at site 41BX1832.

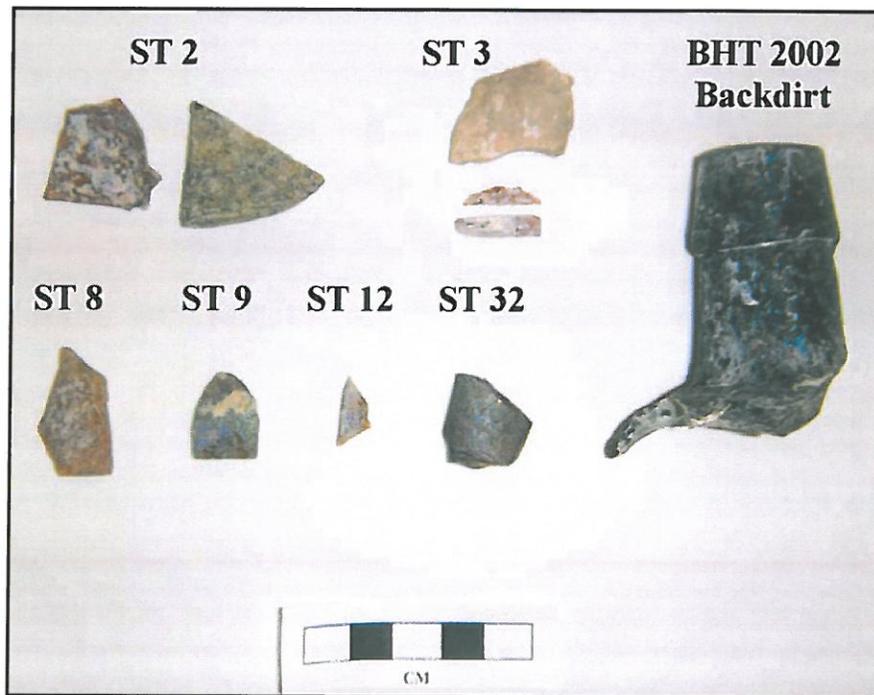


Figure 33: Brown glass collected at site 41BX1832.

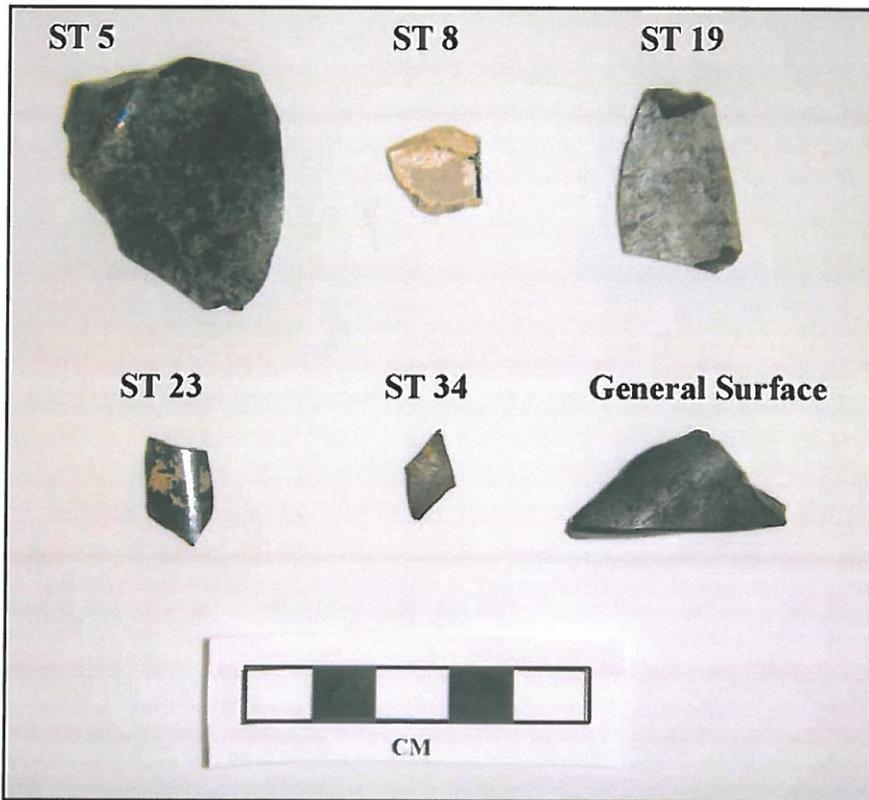


Figure 34: Green/Olive glass collected at site 41BX1832.



Figure 35: Window glass collected at site 41BX1832.

Table 1: Glass

Unit#	Level	Depth (cmbs)	Artifact Category	Function	Ware/Decoration/Form	Part (rim, body, base, lid)	Total Count	Percentage %	Comments
ST#2	1	0-10	Glass	Food and Drink Storage	Brown/Angular Vessel	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#2	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#2	1	0-10	"	"	Drk Brown/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Heavy Patina
ST#3	1	0-10	"	"	Aqua/Bottle	Body	4	3.2%	1 pc. Broken Patina
ST#3	1	0-10	"	"	Brown/Angular Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	2 pcs. Broken Patina
ST#3	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#3	1	0-10	"	"	Drk Brown/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Heavy Patina
ST#4	1	0-10	"	"	Aqua/Angular Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#4	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#4	2	10-20	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#5	2	10-20	"	"	Olive/Bottle	Shoulder	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#6	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#8	1	0-10	"	"	Aqua/Bottle	Body	2	1.6%	Patina
ST#8	1	0-10	"	"	Brown/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#8	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#8	1	0-10	"	"	Olive/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Heavy Patina
ST#9	1	0-10	"	"	Brown/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#12	1	0-10	"	"	Aqua/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#12	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	slight patina
ST#12	2	10-20	"	"	Brown/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#13	2	10-20	"	"	Clear Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#19	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	3	2.4%	Patina
ST#19	1	0-10	"	"	Olive Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#23	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	3	2.4%	Patina
ST#23	1	0-10	"	"	Dark Green/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#28	1	0-10	"	"	Aqua/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#29	1	0-10	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#32	1	0-10	"	"	Brown/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
ST#34	1	0-10	"	"	Olive Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	
General	Surface		"	"	Olive/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Clear/Bottle	Body	1	0.8%	Patina
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Aqua/Angular bottle	Body	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Dark Brown/Bottle	Finish/ Neck/ Shoulder	1	0.8%	M.D. and K.H.; Oil or Ring (tapered collar) finish, applied, commonly used between 1830-1920.
Sub Total:							41	33.1%	
ST#3	1	0-10	Glass	Housing/Implement/ Construction	Window Amethyst		1	0.8%	Patina
ST#6	1	0-10	"	"	Window		1	0.8%	Patina
ST#8	2	10-20	"	"	Window		1	0.8%	Patina
ST#27	1	0-10	"	"	Window		1	0.8%	Patina
Sub Total:							4	3.2%	
Total:							45	36.3%	
41BX1832 Total Artifacts:							124		

The ceramic assemblage consisted of a total of 37 fragments out of a total 124 fragments of the artifact assemblage and represented 29.2 percent of the total artifact assemblage (Figures 36 – 39 and Table 2). The inhabitants of the Alsbury Family Complex used 35 fragments (plates and bowls) for their food consumption and food serving, and 2 fragments (jars) were used for food storage. The table and serving wares was 28.2 percent of the total assemblage and the storage vessels comprised 1.6 percent, which represents a reasonable ration between plates and bowls compared to jars.

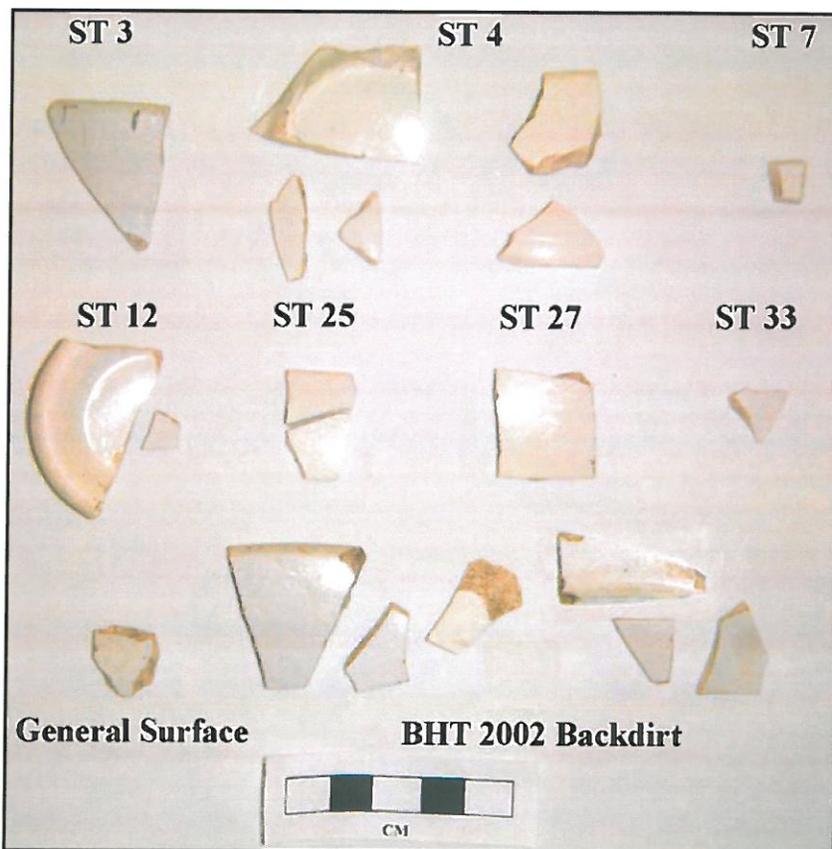


Figure 36: Plain White ware ceramics collected at site 41BX1832.

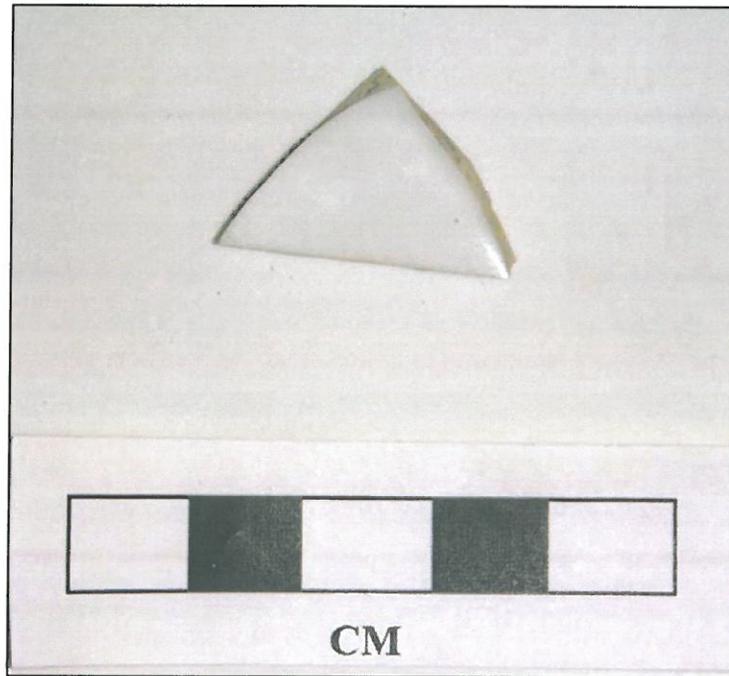


Figure 37: Porcelain collected from site 41BX1832.

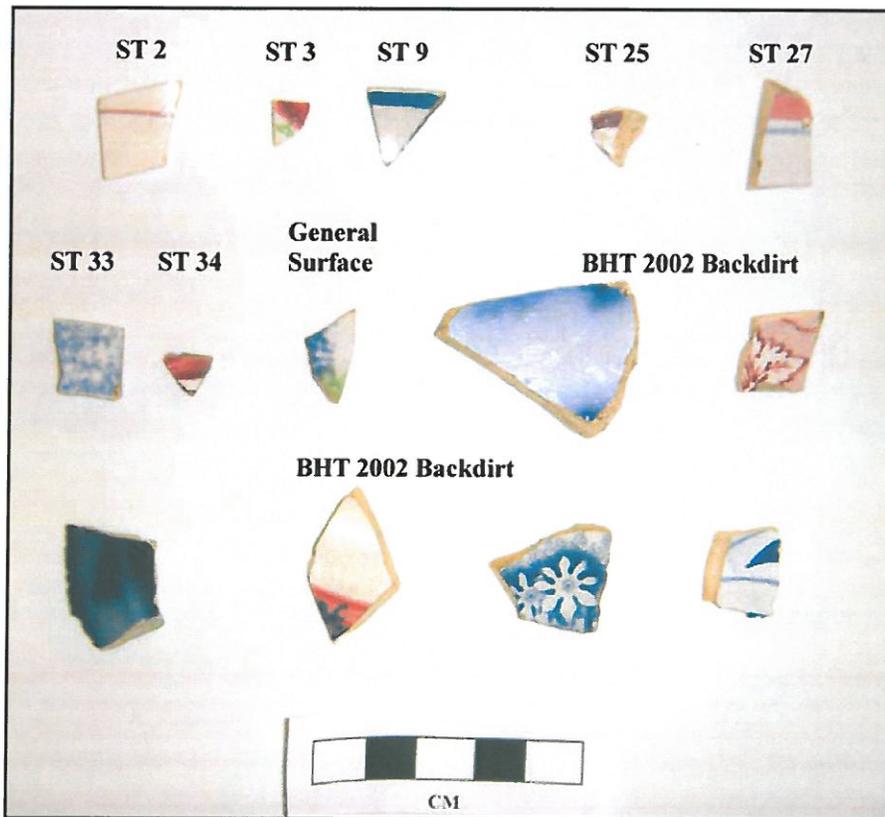


Figure 38: Decorated ceramics collected from site 41BX1832.



Figure 39: Stoneware collected from site 41BX1832.

Table 2: Ceramics

Unit#	Level	Depth (cmbs)	Artifact Category	Function	Ware/Decoration/Form	Part (rim, body, base, lid)	Total Count	Percentage %	Comments
ST#2	1	0-10	Ceramic	Food Consumption/ Serving	Whiteware/thin red band/cup	Body	1	0.8%	Sprig design element
ST#3	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/painted/Unknown	Body	1	0.8%	Red and green hand painted floral pattern
ST#3	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/plain/bowl	Rim	1	0.8%	
ST#4	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/plain/plate	Base	1	0.8%	
ST#4	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware plain/Unknown	Body	2	1.6%	
ST#4	2	10-20	"	"	Whiteware plain/bowl	Body	1	0.8%	
ST#4	2	10-20	"	"	Whiteware/plain/plate	Rim	1	0.8%	
ST#7	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware plain/Unknown	Body	1	0.8%	
ST#9	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/Banded/plate	Rim	1	0.8%	Single blue band on the interior rim below lip.
ST#12	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/plain/Cup	Base	1	0.8%	
ST#12	2	10-20	"	"	Whiteware plain/Unknown	Body	1	0.8%	
ST#25	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/Banded/unknown	Body	1	0.8%	Single dark red band interior surface.
ST#25	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware plain	Rim/Body	2	1.6%	
ST#27	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/Banded/Plate	Body	1	0.8%	Two bands top thick red band with thin blue band below.
ST#27	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/plain/Bowl	Body	1	0.8%	
ST#33	1	0-10	"	"	Spongeware/blue Plate	Body	1	0.8%	Blue Spongeware
ST#33	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/plain/bowl or cup	Body	1	0.8%	
ST#34	1	0-10	"	"	Whiteware/painted/Unknown	Body	1	0.8%	Dark Red Painted no visible motif
General	Surface		"	"	Spongeware/blue & green/Plate	Body	1	0.8%	Floral pattern spongeware blue and green
General	Surface		"	"	Whiteware plain/Unknown	Body	1	0.8%	
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Whiteware/plain, plate	Rim/Body	3	2.4%	1 rim, 2 body
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Porcelain/plain/plate	Body	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Spongeware red and blue/plate	Body	1	0.8%	M.D. and K.H.; red band underneath with blue sponge over top.
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Transferware blue plate	Body	1	0.8%	M.D. and K.H.; Floral pattern
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Transferware/red/plate	Rim	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM; Red transferware white leaf within matrix.
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Whiteware/flowblue/plate	Body	1	0.8%	M.D. and K.H.; painted oriental pattern
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Whiteware/flowblue/plate	Body	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM; flowblue design elements not visible.
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Whiteware/painted/plate	Body	1	0.8%	M.D. and K.H.; painted
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Whiteware plain/plate	Base	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Whiteware/plain/Unknown	Body	2	1.6%	M.D. and K.H.
Sub Total:							35	28.2%	
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Ceramic	Food Storage	Stoneware/Bristol/Jar	Body	1	0.8%	Bristol Salt Glaze
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	"	"	Stoneware/Bristol/jar	Body	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM;Bristol Salt Glaze interior and exterior
Sub Total:							2	1.6%	
Total:							37	29.8%	
41BX1832 Total Artifacts:							124		

Analysis of the metal artifacts documents 10 artifacts out of the 124 artifact assemblage that constituted 8.1 percent of the total artifact assemblage (Figures 40 – 42 and Table 3). The metal fragments classified as housing implements/construction represented by 7 square shank nail fragments that constituted 5.6 percent of the total artifact assemblage. One horse shoe fragment made up 0.8 percent of the total artifact assemblage, while the other 2 metal functioned as food and drink storage containers that made up 1.6 percent of the total artifact assemblage.

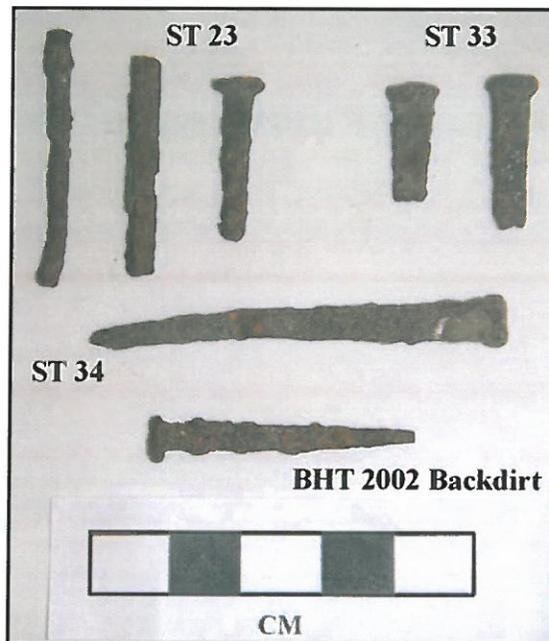


Figure 40: Nails collected from site 41BX1832.



Figure 41: Horseshoe fragment collected from site 41BX1832.



Figure 42: Food and drink storage container fragments collected from site 41BX1832.

Table 3: Metal

Unit#	Level	Depth (cmbs)	Artifact Category	Function	Description	Part (rim, body, base, lid)	Total Count	Percentage %	Comments
ST#32	1	0-10	Metal	Food and Drink Storage	Metal	Rim	1	0.8%	Metal Rim Fragment Broken
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Metal	Food Storage	Can	Base	1	0.8%	
							Sub Total:	2	1.6%
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Metal	Horse Implement	Horseshoe		1	0.8%	Fragment of a horseshoe
							Sub Total:	1	0.8%
ST#23	1	0-10	Metal	Housing/Implement/Construction	Nails		3	2.4%	1 head and 2 body
ST#33	2	10-20	Metal	Housing/Implement/Construction	Nails		2	1.6%	Head fragments
ST#34	1	0-10	Metal	Housing/Implement/Construction	Nails		1	0.8%	Complete
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Metal	Housing/Implement/Construction	Nails		1	0.8%	Complete
							Sub Total:	7	5.6%
							Total:	10	8.1%
							41BX1832 Total Artifacts:	124	

There were a total of 20 bone fragments all representing animal bones and constitutes 16.1 percent of the total artifact assemblage (Figures 43 – 44 and Table 4). One specimen (0.8 percent of the total artifact assemblage) was a tooth of an omnivore. The other 19 bone fragments were from various animals and made up 15.3 percent of the total artifact assemblage collected during field investigations within city property.

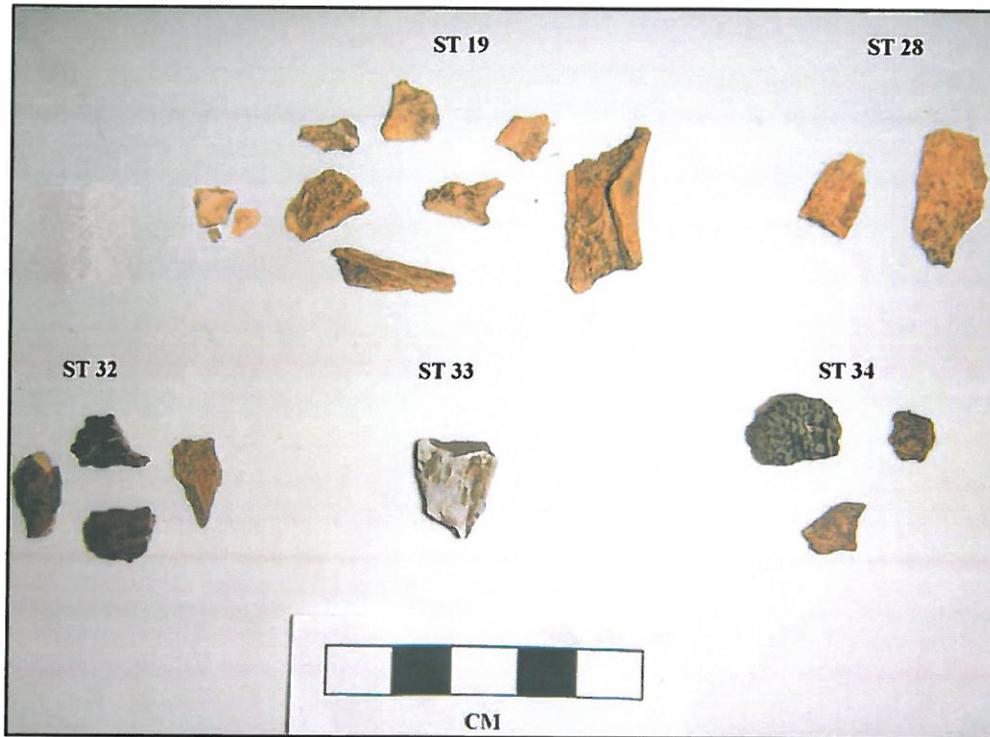


Figure 43: Bone fragments collected from site 41BX1832.



Figure 44: Tooth fragment collected from site 41BX1832.

Table 4: Bone

Unit#	Level	Depth (cmts)	Artifact Category	Description	Total Count	Percent %	Comments
ST#19	1	0-10	Bone	Animal	8	6.5%	1 broken 3 pieces
ST#28	1	0-10	"	"	2	1.6%	
ST#32	1	0-10	"	"	4	3.2%	
ST#33	2	10-20	"	"	1	0.8%	Burned
ST#34	1	0-10	"	"	3	2.4%	2 Burned
Sub Total:					18	14.5%	
ST#34	1	0-10	Tooth	Animal (Omnivor)	1	0.8%	
Sub Total:					1	0.8%	
Total:					19	15.3%	
41BX1832 Total Artifacts:					124		

Shell artifacts were also collected and constituted 5.6 percent of the total artifact assemblage (Figure 45 and Table 5). There were a total of 7 mussel shell fragments out of the 124 artifact assemblage. The majority of these fragments (N=5) were observed in the 2002 BHT backdirt, one was collected as a general surface find, and there was only 1 muscle shell fragment that came from shovel test 34 in level one.



Figure 45: Mussel shell fragments collected from site 41BX1832.

Table 5: Shell

Unit#	Level	Depth (cmbs)	Artifact Category	Description	Total Count	Percentage %	Comments
ST#34	1	0-10	Shell	Muscle shell fragment	1	0.8%	
General	Surface		Shell	Muscle shell fragment	1	0.8%	
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Shell	Muscle shell fragment	3	2.4%	
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Shell	Muscle shell fragment	1	0.8%	M.D. and K.H.
BHT 2002	Backdirt	N/A	Shell	Muscle shell fragment	1	0.8%	SAI, MTI, VM
Total:					7	5.6%	
41BX1832 Total Artifacts:					124		

The presence of prehistoric artifacts within the historic Alsbury complex was anticipated because the complex was located on a stable high terrace over looking Salado Creek (Figure 46 and Table 6). The dearth of prehistoric cultural materials came from shovel test 13, level 2 (10-20 cmbs). There were a total of 5 prehistoric artifacts that made up 4 percent of the total 124 artifact assemblage. It should be noted, however, that only 2 of these artifacts were decorticate and corticate chips, one of which was heat treated, and the other 3 artifacts were pieces of burned wood at the same level. Archaeologists did not encounter any prehistoric artifacts from sample screening the 2002 BHT backdirt or observe any prehistoric artifacts within the historic cultural horizon 0-20cm below ground surface, and more importantly below 20 cm where prehistoric cultural materials might be present deeply buried and not truncated by the historic occupation by the Alsbury family.



Figure 46: Prehistoric artifacts collected from site 41BX1832.

Table 6: Prehistoric Artifacts

Unit#	Level	Depth (bd)	Classification (type)	Material	Heat Treated	Total	Percentage %
ST#13	2	10-20	Decorticate heat spall	Chert	Yes	1	0.8%
ST#13	2	10-20	Corticate Chip	Chert	No	1	0.8%
ST#13	2	10-20	C-14	Burned Wood	Yes	3	2.4%
Total:						5	4.0%
41BX1832 Total Artifacts:						124	

The plates and bowls consisted of porcelain, undecorated whiteware and decorated whiteware with blue bands and thin hand painted red bands reminiscent of Sprig design elements, as well as blue and red transfer ware fragments, flow blue fragments, Sponge ware fragment, and blue decorated with possible oriental pattern. The majority of the nails were whole and partial fragments of square shank nails and a few small carpentry flathead nails. The glass was composed of aqua fragments, dark green wine bottle fragments, dark brown bottle fragments, light brown bottle fragments, clear bottle glass, and window glass. Archaeologists noted that the artifact assemblage dates to the mid-1800s, which comports with the time period when the Alsbury's occupied the land.

The historic Alsbury Site contains definable yardscape patterns and preserved cultural deposits, and the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and worthy for designation as a State Archaeological Landmark. Because the Alsbury Site is on public property adjacent to the Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail, possible effects include development of the public land with retainer walls and or park furniture similar to those of other hike and bike trails in San Antonio, as well as possible effects by the public. Accordingly, GTI recommends that COSA avoid this site and select its proposed alternate alignment closer to Salado Creek and develop a treatment plan for this Site.

GTI collected all visible artifacts on the surface directly adjacent to the 2002 UTSA BHT. Archaeologists noted the presence of artifacts in the 2002 UTSA BHT coincided with the presence of artifacts in shovel tests within the Alsbury Site. Archaeologists also sample screened the backdirt from the 2002 UTSA BHT and documented the presence of historic artifacts. The Principle Investigator cleaned the soil profile 6 meters from the western end of the 2002 UTSA BHT where the first surface artifact was visible and 26 meters eastward where artifacts were no longer visible on the surface or in the backdirt screening samples. Although there were no historic artifacts exposed in the soil profile, the PI noted and documented the presence of a rectangular burned piece of lumber (Feature 2) in the soil profile 8.2 meters from the western end of the 2002 UTSA BHT. In particular, the burned lumber was lying flat on its profile length 18 cm below surface where a natural cleavage in the soil was apparent. The burned lumber still showed its annual growth rings in semicircular fashion, and the burned lumber was adjacent to the shovel tests that contained nails.

41BX1833 Artifact Analysis

The prehistoric artifact analysis is presented in tabular format and described by unit and level, classification, material, whether it is heat treated, as well as the total counts for each classification and percentage amounts (Figures 47 – 49 and Table 7). Comments are provided for some of the artifacts. The cultural material was excavated from BHT-1 and shovel test 48; the other shovel test (ST-49) was negative. The soil profile, backdirt and shovel test contained a total artifact assemblage of 29 prehistoric artifacts.

Archaeologists noted a diagnostic biface within BHT-1 soil profile at the base of a buried surface 10 cm below surface, which tapered eastward and eventually was exposed at the ground surface. Based on Turner and Hester (1999: 273), the bi-face meets the description criteria for a San Gabriel Biface, which is Transitional Archaic A.D. 200–A.D. 550. The biface has a medial hinged break and from the break to the distal end, it measures 41.8 mm. The biface measures 47.1 mm wide at the break and the base is 33.6 mm wider and it is 7.6 mm thick. As definitive aspect of this biface are its recurving convex lateral edges and its defined basal corners with a slightly concaved base. The prehistoric Archaic inhabitants of this site also discarded a corticate utilized flake that archaeologists collected from the back dirt. Each of these tools accounted for 3.4 percent of the total artifact assemblage for a total of 6.9 percent after rounding off.

The same percentages were estimated for two pieces of burned rock fragments that archaeologists obtained; one from BHT-1 backdirt and one artifact from shovel test 48 within level 1. A core and primary flake was also obtained from the backdirt and shovel test and each artifact consisted of 3.4 percent of the total artifact assemblage for a total of 6.9 percent. Archaeologists recovered 2 secondary flakes from the backdirt (one heat treated) and 1 secondary flake from the soil profile. Respectively, these flakes made up 6.9 percent and 3.4 percent for a total of 10.3 percent of the total artifact assemblage. A single tertiary flake was obtained each from the backdirt, pit feature, and shovel test 48 accounting each for 3.4 percent, and 2 tertiary flakes were documented and collected from the soil profile that made up 6.9 percent and all 5 tertiary flakes equaled 17.2 percent of the total artifact assemblage. Archaeologists' also recovered 4 chips from the backdirt and shovel test 48, of which 3 were decorticate chips and 1 corticate chip that totaled 13.8 percent of the total artifact assemblage. There were 5 shatter fragments and 2 spall fragments, the majority of which came from shovel test 48 as well as the backdirt and soil profile. Together, these artifacts accounted for 24.1 percent of the total artifact assemblage. Four fresh water muscle shell fragments were also collected from the backdirt and accounted for 13.8 percent of the total artifact assemblage.

As noted above, based on field visits Section 106 consultation with TxDOT-ENV, GTI collected 20cm x 20cm x 10cm column soil samples from the pit feature in place of the required 50cm x 50cm hand controlled excavation unit and substituted the two shovel tests to define the horizontal site boundary. The soil samples were collected for future research at the National Register level investigations and presented in Table 8.

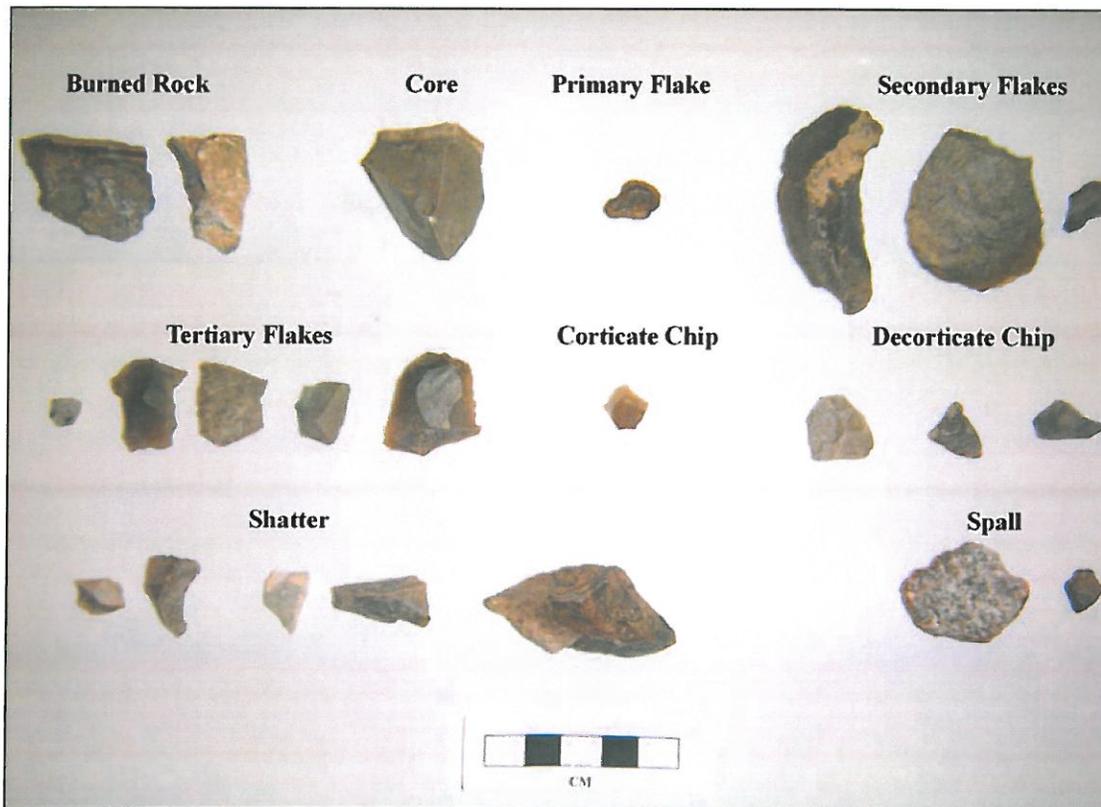


Figure 47: Lithic artifacts collected from site 41BX1833.

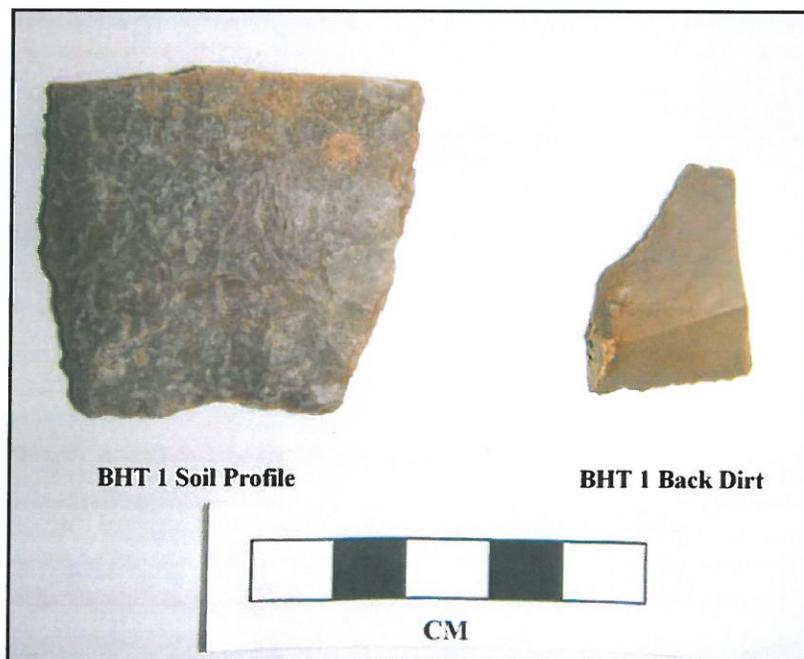


Figure 48: Tools collected from site 41BX1833.

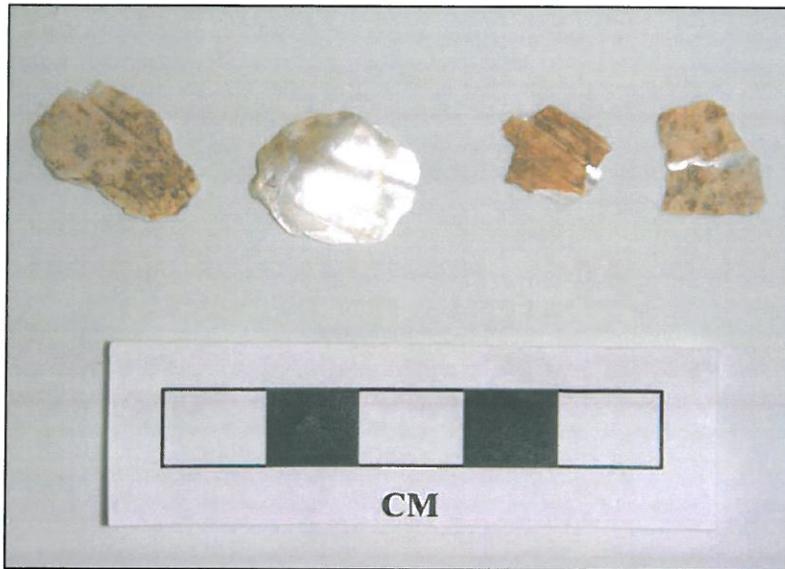


Figure 49: Mussel shell fragments collected from site 41BX1833.

Table 7: Prehistoric Artifacts

Unit#	Level	Depth (cmbs)	Classification (type)	Material	Heat Treated	Total	Percentage %	Comments
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Burned Rock	Limestone and chert	Yes	1	3.4%	
ST#48	1	0-10	Burned Rock	Chert	Yes	1	3.4%	Extensive heating.
						Sub Total:	2	6.9%
BHT#1	Soil Profile		San Gabriel Biface Distal Fragment	Chert	No	1	3.4%	Transitional Archaic ca A.D. 200-A.D. 350 (Turner and Hester 1999:273) This Biface has a medial hinged break. From the break to the distal end it measures 41.8 mm; it measures 47.1 mm wide at the break; the base is 33.6 mm wide; and is 7.6 mm thick. As definitive of this type it has recurving convex lateral edges and defined basal corners and a slightly concave base.
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Corticate Utilized Flake	Chert	No	1	3.4%	Medial broken distal end of flake with cortex on dorsal surface, usewear on outside edges of flake. One edge shows usewear on the dorsal surface while the other is worn on both the ventral and dorsal surfaces.
						Sub Total:	2	6.9%
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Core	Chert	No	1	3.4%	
ST#48	1	0-10	Primary	Chert	Yes	1	3.4%	
						Sub Total:	2	6.9%
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Secondary	Chert	1 Yes; 1 No	2	6.9%	
BHT#1	Soil Profile		Secondary	Chert	No	1	3.4%	
						Sub Total:	3	10.3%
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Tertiary	Chert	No	1	3.4%	
BHT#1	Pit Feature 2		Tertiary	Chert	No	1	3.4%	Terminus of flake ends in a hinge fracture.
BHT#1	Soil Profile		Tertiary	Chert	No	2	6.9%	
ST#48	2	10-20	Tertiary	Chert	Yes	1	3.4%	
						Sub Total:	5	17.2%
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Corticate chip	Chert	No	1	3.4%	
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Decorticate chip	Chert	Yes	2	6.9%	
ST#48	1	0-10	Decorticate chip	Chert	Yes	1	3.4%	
						Sub Total:	4	13.8%
BHT#1	Soil Profile		Shatter	Chert	Yes	1	3.4%	
ST#48	1	0-10	Shatter	Chert	Yes	2	6.9%	
ST#48	2	10-20	Shatter	Chert	No	2	6.9%	
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Spall	Ironstone	Yes	1	3.4%	
ST#48	2	10-20	Spall	Chert	Yes	1	3.4%	
						Sub Total:	7	24.1%
BHT#1	Back Dirt		Fresh Water Muscle Shell Fragments	Shell	No	4	13.8%	1 broken
						Sub Total:	4	13.8%
						Total:	29	100.0%
						41BS1833 Total Artifacts:	29	

Table 8: 41BX1833 Samples Collected

Unit #	Feature #	Level	Depth (cmbs/cmbd)	Total Count	Comments	Excavator(s)	Date of Excavation
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	1&2	0-20 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	3	20-30 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	4	30-40 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	5	40-50 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	6	50-60 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	7	60-70 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1, Pit Feature	2	8	70-80 cmbs	1	Colmn Sample Collected within Pit Feature	SAI,MTI,VM	8/14/2009
BHT#1 East end of trench				1	Charcoal and Soil Collected	SAI	8/14/2009
Total:				8			

Summary

As noted above, GTI anticipated documentation of the historic cultural material associated with the proposed historic Alsbury homestead evident in the 2002 UTSA backhoe trench, as well as the prehistoric cultural material adjacent to DaFoste Park visible on the ground surface. GTI noted in the antiquities permit scope of work there was a high probability deeply buried cultural deposits would be present at the location of the prehistoric artifact surface scatter because the site's location was on a high terrace overlooking Salado Creek. GTI also noted that the cultural materials may be intact and in situ and possibly maintain integrity based on the soil profile of the backhoe trench and stable terrace landform. GTI's hypothesis was based on Pape-Dawson Engineer 2 foot contour map because the terrace was better defined than it appeared on the topographic map. Although historic oil painting of the Y.P Alsbury homestead by Helen Mae Byrd Burnam clearly depicts the homestead complex on a terrace, GTI noted the stable high terrace overlooking Salado Creek was also a high probability area where deeply buried prehistoric cultural deposits may be present at this location and required investigations to determine the presence or absence of any prehistoric cultural materials aside from the known historic cultural materials already being present on this terrace. The single shovel test 13 that contained the 2 decorticate chips and three pieces of burned wood are considered an isolated find because none of the other shovel tests in all four cardinal directions contained any prehistoric cultural materials and the 2002 BHT soil profile and backdirt did not show any evidence of prehistoric cultural materials being present.

The survey followed the Texas Historical Commission's Minimum Archeology Survey Standards for Texas as discussed in the meeting (4/02/2009) and excluded identification and assessment of the historic Alsbury Family Cemetery. All excavated matrix was passed through 1/4-inch hardware mesh to inspect for cultural materials. Shovel tests were excavated in 10 cm levels. Diagnostic artifacts (such as ceramics, historic materials with maker's marks, identifiable/contextual metal fragments, etc.) were collected. All other artifacts (such as debitage, burned rock, and metal scrap, etc.) were tabulated in the field and a small sample was collected for photographs. Soil samples from midden and Pit Feature 2 at the DaFoste Park Site were collected from a 20 cm soil column in place of the 50 x 50 cm excavation unit that was prescribed in the antiquities permit scope of work, in consultation with TxDOT. Collected artifacts and samples were bagged and labeled appropriately. These artifacts are formally curated at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) following analysis and reporting (permitted projects must curate artifacts). Field notes were maintained on location, disturbances, soils, shovel tests, etc. Digital photos were taken when appropriate and recorded on a photograph log. A handheld GPS unit (UTM, NAD 27) was used to mark the location of shovel tests as well as the recorded sites.

Chapter 7: Conclusions

The following report documents the results of archaeological field investigations for the City of San Antonio's (COSA) Proposed Alternate Alignment for its Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail Project. The Texas Historical Commission requires that an antiquities permit application must be filed and issued by their office in accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas—*Chapter 26.21: Rules of Practice and Procedure*. The project is also under the dual jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration through its delegated representative the Texas Department of Transportation in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (36CFR800). In particular, all work performed will be in compliance and under the terms and conditions of the First Amended Programmatic Agreement (2005) among the FHWA, TxDOT, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the THC/SHPO.

The COSA is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Accordingly, the project falls under the Antiquities Code of Texas and requires an antiquities permit application. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) issued Antiquities Permit #5371. COSA intends to construct a hike and bike trail along Salado Creek. In particular, COSA proposes the Alternative Alignment at IH-10 for the hike and bike trail, referred to as the Project. Funding includes reimbursable federal funds from the TxDOT Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program, as well as American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) federal funds. Accordingly, all work will address the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA and be conducted under the terms and conditions of the First Amended Programmatic Agreement among TxDOT, the Texas SHPO, FHWA, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (2005).

GTI conducted an archeology survey within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the undertaking and completed 49 shovel tests and 1 backhoe trench. GTI assessed the archaeological remains associated with previous historical occupations in the area related to the Alsbury Family historic homestead complex and prehistoric surface lithic scatter present within the hike and bike trail alternative alignment Project area not previously cleared by UTSA. It should be noted that UTSA previously surveyed the Northwest fork of the original alternate alignment at the "Y" intersection as shown on the figures based on the Pape-Dawson Engineer civil survey data, as well as the original hike and bike alignment. GTI documented the historic complex as 41BX1832-Alsbury Site and the prehistoric site as 41BX1833-DaFoste Park Site within COSA (public) property. GTI demonstrated that there are no artifact deposits or buried cultural features within the Proposed Alternate Alignment.

The report demonstrates that the historic Alsbury Site (41BX1832) contains definable yardscape patterns and preserved cultural deposits, and the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and worthy for designation as a State Archaeological Landmark. Because the Alsbury Site is on public property adjacent to the Salado Creek Hike & Bike Trail, possible effects include development of the public land with retainer walls and or park furniture similar to those of other hike and bike trails in San Antonio, as well as possible effects by the public. Accordingly, GTI recommends that COSA avoid

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this site and select its proposed alternate alignment closer to Salado Creek and develop a treatment plan for this Site.

Archaeological investigation of the DaFoste Park Site (41BX1833) demonstrated that the stable terrace has been truncated by natural events or past development of the area and the A-Horizon and B-Horizon are no longer present. GTI, however, documented an intact buried midden and pit feature with cultural materials and charcoal. Based on field visits Section 106 consultation with TxDOT-ENV, GTI collected 20cm x 20cm x 10cm column soil samples from the pit feature in place of the required 50cm x 50cm hand controlled excavation unit. The possible impacts to the site are from development of the hike and bike trail where 5 to 7 feet of the terrace will be removed from this Site. Based on consultation with TxDOT, GTI recommends that COSA avoid the DaFoste Park Site. If avoidance is not possible, GTI recommends National Register evaluation of the site that include a single 1 x 1 meter test unit, radio carbon dating of the charcoal sample, and macrobotanical analysis of the collected soil samples.

The City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation City Archaeologist, Ms. Kay Hindes, consulted with the Texas Historical Commission on August 19, 2009. The City Archaeologist wrote:

“Based on the recommendations of the preliminary draft report prepared by the city's consultant, GTI on the above referenced project, the city withdraws the alternate alignment from the project known as the DaFoste Park route (the "Northwest fork of the original alternate alignment at the "Y" intersection as shown on the figures based on the Pape-Dawson Engineer civil survey data, as well as the original hike and bike alignment") on the west bank of the Salado Creek. Although the significance of the site and its potential eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is not known, we will avoid any potential impacts to the site.

In addition, the city agrees with the assessment that the Alsbury Homestead site is "eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and worthy for designation as a State Archeological Landmark". Therefore, due to the significance of the Alsbury Homestead site and following the recommendations of the preliminary report to avoid impacts to the site by moving the trail to the alternative alignment, the city is in the process of realigning the trail on the east bank at the Alsbury homestead site. The trail will be realigned to the area surveyed and cleared by GTI (the alternative alignment #2 known as the alignment between the Salado Creek and the stable terrace where the 2002 UTSA BHT and Alsbury Site is located and as shown in Fig. 5). This realignment of the trail from the original alignment surveyed by UTSA to the area cleared by GTI at the base of the terrace and beyond the site boundaries thus avoids any adverse impact to this important site.”

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The Texas Historical Commission responded on August 27, 2009, stating, “This avoidance plan is acceptable to the THC, and therefore, as far as the THC is concerned no further archeological investigations related to the DaFoste Park route will be necessary, and we will await a formal clearance request from TxDOT-ENV.”

On September 24, 2009, TxDOT-San Antonio District determined, “[i]n summary and because of these changes, no archeological sites were identified within this segment of the project area's redefined APE. As a result, TxDOT-ENV completed its review of this undertaking's design change and found that the proposed APE does not contain archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16.(1)); nor will the proposed undertaking affect any and; that the project may proceed toward development and construction. In the event that unanticipated archeological deposits are encountered during construction, work in the immediate area will cease, and TxDOT archeological staff will be contacted to initiate post-review discovery procedures under the provisions of the PA (2005) and the MOU.”

As a result, TxDOT-ENV submitted a consultation letter to THC dated September 25, 2009 reiterating TxDOT-San Antonio District's assessment and noted that TxDOT-ENV would “forward the final GTI draft archaeological report to THC for review and completion of the permitting requirements of THC Antiquities Permit No. 5371.” The THC concurred on October 1, 2009 with TxDOT-ENV's determination “...that the proposed APE does not contain archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16.(1)); nor will the proposed undertaking affect any and; that the project may proceed toward development and construction.”

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