

CULTURAL RESOURCES

SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

summary

historic photographs

historic maps

SUMMARY OF WORK BY SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Owned for decades by Max and Minnie Voelcker, the 311-acre Voelcker Park is known to contain existing historic cultural resources associated with the dairy farm as well as other cultural resources such as prehistoric campsites. Several of these resources have been identified through previous archaeological surveys, including a survey of the right-of-way for Wurzbach Parkway conducted by the Texas Department of Transportation in 1991, a survey of the right-of-way for Blanco Road by the Federal Highway Administration in 1992, and another for the North Salado Greenway Belt by the University of Texas at San Antonio, Center for Archeological Research in 2006. The survey of the greenway belt was conducted in anticipation of a hike and bike trail along Salado Creek (Figueroa and Urich 2006). However, a full survey of the park to locate archaeological and historic resources has yet to be completed, and will be conducted in the near future.

The previously identified and recorded cultural resources located in or adjacent to Voelcker Park include sites 41BX560, 41BX946, and 41BX1744. The first two are prehistoric archaeological sites and the third is Voelcker Dairy Farm itself. Site 41BX560 is located on the southwestern boundary of Voelcker Park, bisected by NW Military Highway. The site was identified as a prehistoric quarry found in the eroded areas within the right-of-way of NW Military Highway. The site most likely extends into the Voelcker Park area (TARL Site Files, 41BX560). Site 41BX946, found during the survey for Wurzbach Parkway, includes sparse lithic material in a scatter across a wide area (TARL Site Files, 41BX946). Finally, site 41BX1744 is the Louis Voelcker Dairy Farm. It was recorded as an archaeological site in August 2007 by the Texas Archaeological Society and City of San Antonio Historic Preservation Office. They identified the site as a mid to late nineteenth century German farmstead that has been marked as a site of historic importance to the City of San Antonio (TARL Site Files, 41BX1744). All of these sites will be revisited during the archaeological and historic above-ground cultural resources survey.

The archaeological field survey will consist of archaeologists examining the 311-acre property, with particular focus on areas where known cultural resources are present and the high probability areas for intact subsurface deposits. During the survey, archaeologists will examine the ground surface

and erosional profiles for cultural resources. In areas where the potential for subsurface deposits is low, SWCA will conduct walkover inspections, and in areas where the potential for subsurface deposits are higher, shovel testing will be conducted. Artifacts will be tabulated, analyzed, and documented in the field, but not collected. The researchers will document the nature, extent, and, if possible, significance of the archaeological sites found at Voelcker Park. In addition, determinations as to the eligibility for the sites to be included in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or for listing as a State Archeological Landmark (SAL) will be recommended, or more research will be suggested.

In addition, the 311-acre property will be surveyed by an architectural historian to determine the integrity, age, function, alterations, and significance of the existing buildings, structures, objects and sites located at Voelcker Park. The dairy farm will be evaluated, and should the site be eligible as a historic district, a district boundary will be proposed as well as an appropriate "cut-off" date. The survey for historic above-ground cultural resources will include a site visit; digital photographic documentation of exterior and interior of buildings, structures, objects and sites; the development of architectural and historical significance statements; supplemental archival research including a literature review and locating historic maps and photographs; and an inventory of historic age resources and recommendations as to their NRHP eligibility. As the Master Plan documents are fleshed out and decisions are made through Design Team meetings, recommendations will be made for future historic preservation and display of historic resources as part of the park's amenities.

Figueroa, A. L., and K. M. Urich

2006 Archaeological Survey of the North Salado Greenway Belt, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. Archaeological Report No. 367, Center for Archeological Research, University of Texas at San Antonio. Produced for Rehler Vaughn & Koone, Inc.



PHOTO 1: Unknown woman next to car, possibly Minnie Voelcker, ca. 1920s or early 1930s based on dress style. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.

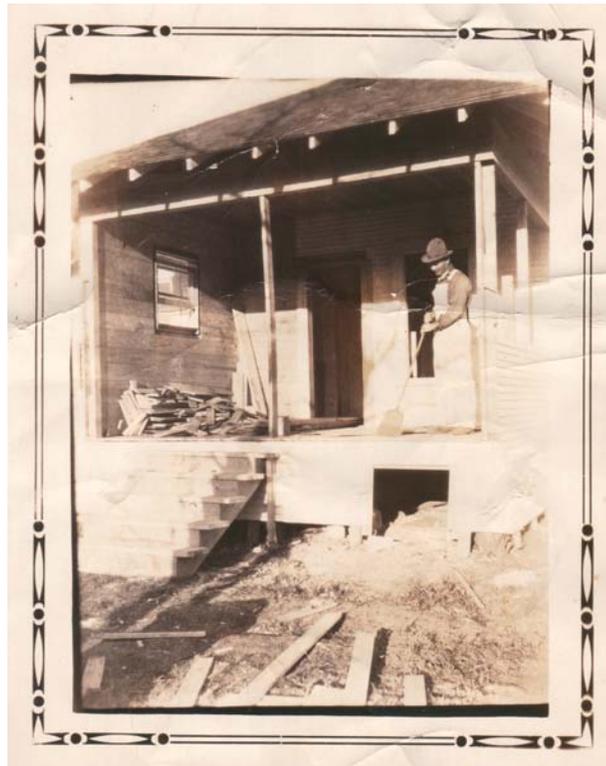


PHOTO 2: "Max Voelcker (still single), March 13, 1927." From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 3: Unknown man on horse in front of Voelcker bungalow, possibly Max Voelcker, unknown date. Colorized black and white photo. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 4: Child with fawn in front of Voelcker bungalow, August 1938. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 5: Unknown woman with chickens in front of windmill and water tanks, unknown date. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 6: Old stone house, August 1983. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 7: Unknown man next to car with deer on hood in front of garage, possibly Max Voelcker, December 22-23, no year. Caption reads "After three weeks hard work." From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 8: Horse and car at rear of Voelcker Bungalow, unknown date. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 9: Minnie Voelcker with deer in front of garage, unknown date. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 10: Four girls on stone wall next to field, possibly at the Tommerlin Farm (Minnie Voelcker's childhood home), unknown date. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 11: Unknown man and child with deer, fawn, and dog in front of Voelcker bungalow, August 1938. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 12: "Onis and his mother Cordelia," unknown date. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 13: Ten cows in pasture, ca. 1970s or 1980s. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 14: Three cows in pasture, ca. 1970s or 1980s. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



PHOTO 15: View of seasonal pond with trees behind, unknown date. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.

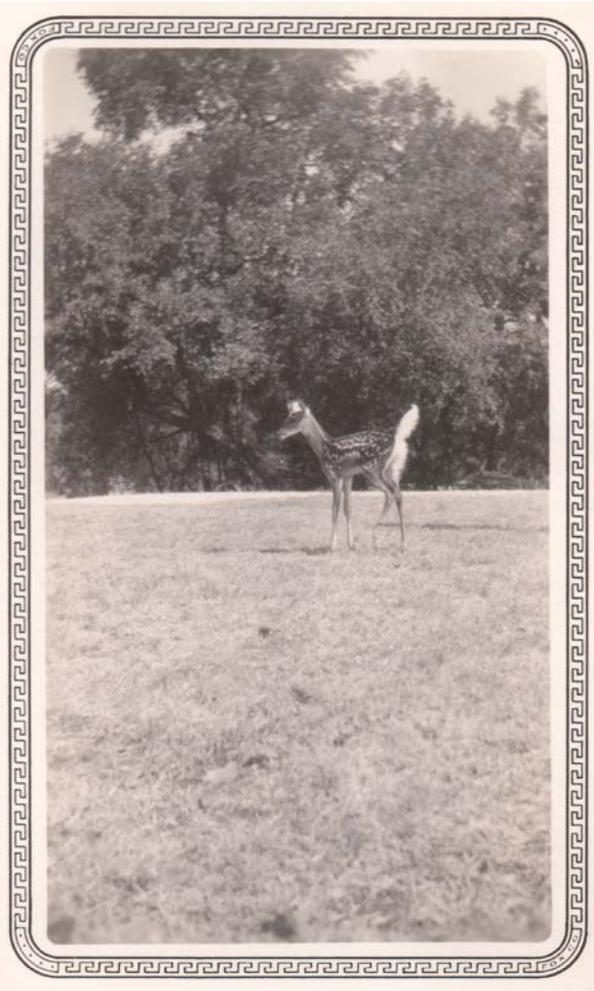


PHOTO 16: Fawn in field, August 1938. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



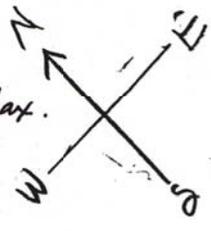
PHOTO 17: Road, fence, and pasture, ca. 1970s or 1980s. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.



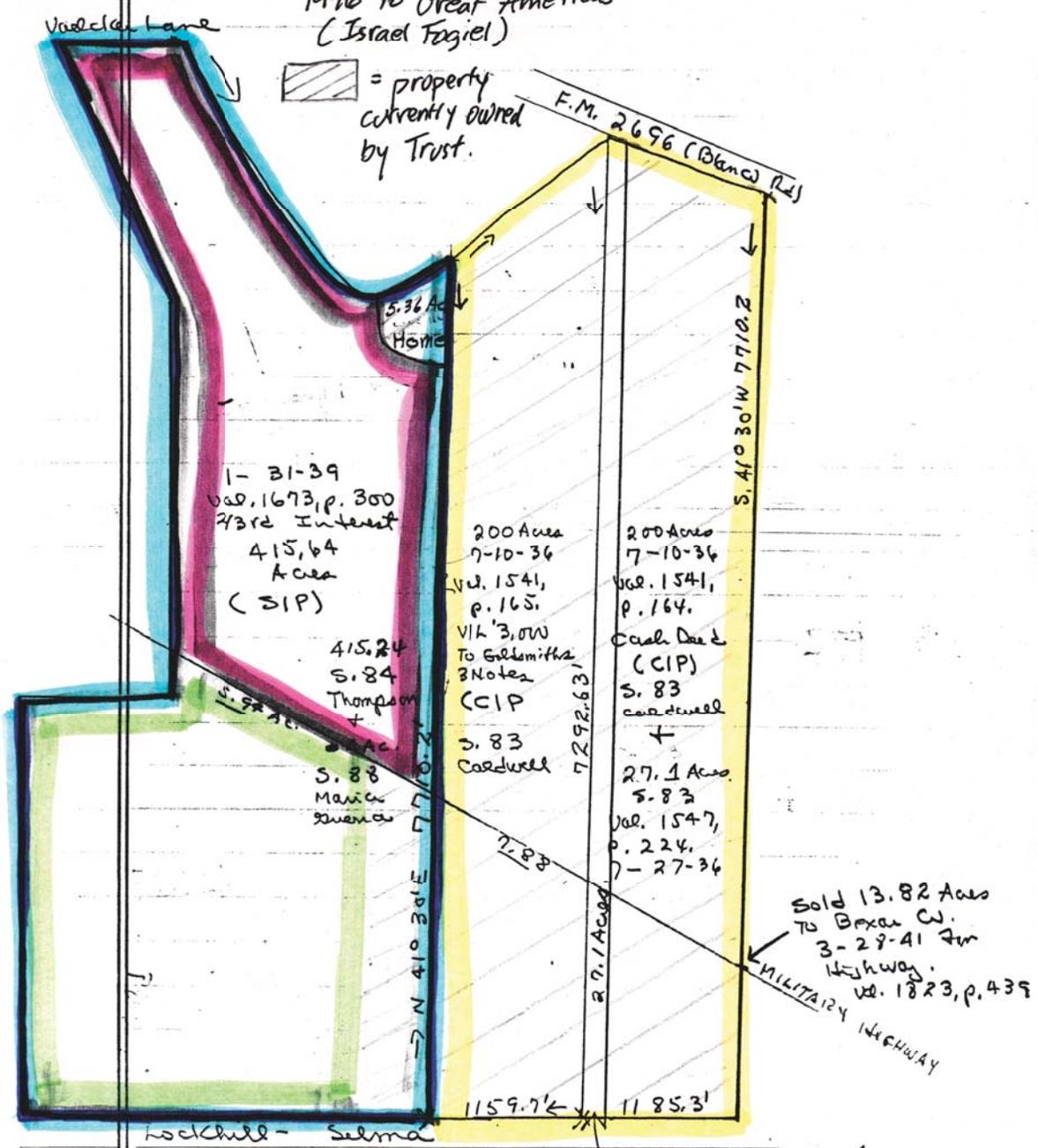
PHOTO 18: Canadian geese in front of seasonal pond, ca. 1970s or 1980s.. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.

Voelcker - Jan. 1996 - same

- = Seperate
- = Community
- = seperate property sold to Folsom in 1981 to pay for death taxes for Max.
- = seperate property sold in 1996 to Great Americas (Israel Fogiel)



= property currently owned by Trust.



415.64 SIP
(less sale to state)

27.1 Acre 7-27-36
Vol. 1547, p. 224

427.1 Acres CIP,
(less sale to state)

MAP 5: Hand drawn map, possibly by Minnie Voelcker, ca. 1996. From Voelcker Collection housed with family attorney Mr. Banks Smith.