Archaeological Investigations on the Grounds of the San Antonio State Hospital, Bexar County, Texas

by Sarah Wigley and Jonathan Paige



Texas Antiquities Permit No. 30605

REDACTED

Principal Investigator Sarah Wigley

Prepared for: Chesney Morales Partners, Inc. 4901 Broadway, Suite 250 San Antonio, Texas 78209



Prepared by: Center for Archaeological Research The University of Texas at San Antonio One UTSA Circle San Antonio, Texas 78249-1644 Archaeological Report, No. 501

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Abstract:

In May of 2022, the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) staff conducted an archaeological survey with shovel testing and backhoe trenching in response to a request from Chesney Morales Partners, Inc. The survey documented three previously unrecorded sites (41BX2513, 41BX2514, and 41BX2515). In December of 2022, CAR staff conducted testing on two of these sites (41BX2513 and 41BX2515). The archaeological work was conducted in advance of development of a warehouse located on the grounds of the San Antonio State Hospital. As a state-owned property, the project requires review by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) under the Antiquities Code of Texas. CAR obtained Texas Antiquities Permit (TAP) Number 30605, issued to Sarah Wigley, Principal Investigator. Dr. Jonathan Paige served as the Project Archaeologist during the testing portion of the project.

The project area encompassed 4.2 acres (1.7 ha.) in south-central San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. Thirteen shovel tests, four backhoe trenches, and two test units were excavated. CAR initially recommended avoidance of impact to sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515 on the basis of survey results. Site 41BX2514 was found to contain mixed historic and precontact deposits in highly disturbed contexts during the initial survey. No further work was recommended at this site, which was found to be ineligible for the inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL).

Because construction plans proposed to impact sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515, additional testing to make an eligibility determination was necessary. During testing, both sites were found to contain mixed precontact and historic deposits, and site 41BX2515 was found to be disturbed by utilities. No temporally diagnostic artifacts or cultural features were documented in either site. Both sites were recommended as not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or for SAL designation. The THC concurred with the CAR's recommendations. Following laboratory processing and analysis, selected items that were determined to have no remaining scientific value were discarded with the concurrence of Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) and the THC. All remaining artifacts collected and records generated during the course of this project are curated at the CAR as accession number 2674 in accordance with THC guidelines.

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Acknowledgements:

The field work for this project was conducted by Sarah Wigley, Jason Perez, Dr. Jonathan Paige, and David Burns of the CAR. Jason Perez and Dr. Raymond Mauldin also assisted with background research. Thank you to David Yelacic, CAR Director, who oversaw the project and provided feedback and assistance. Thank you to Dr. Raymond Mauldin and Leonard Kemp of the CAR, who oversaw early planning of the project and offered feedback as well. Leonard Kemp also carried out early background research and produced maps for the project. Cindy Munoz, CAR Assistant Director, Lab Director, Lead Curator and human osteologist, analyzed bone recovered during this project and oversaw lab processing and curation. Jason Perez processed and inventoried the artifacts. Thanks to Dr. Mary Whisenhunt, Dr. Raymond Mauldin, Cindy Munoz, and David Yelacic for reviewing a draft of this report. Peggy Wall and Dr. Lynn Kim processed the GIS data and produced maps for this report. Peggy Wall produced report graphics as well as the final report version.

Thank you to Jason Walters, Richard Morales, and Tom Ross of Chesney Morales Partners, Inc; Carol Skacal and Bobby Bustillos of Texas Health and Human Services Commission; and Jonathan Bradley of SpawGlass for their assistance in facilitating this project. Thank you to Dr. Emily Dylla of the THC for her work in reviewing this project. Thank you to Brent Watson, Brandon White, Clint Pittman, and Carlos Maldonado of Jerdon Enterprise, L.P., who carried out the mechanical excavation.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Beginning April 2022 to December 2022, the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) conducted an archaeological survey with shovel testing and backhoe trenching, and subsequent eligibility testing for development of a warehouse located on the grounds of the San Antonio State Hospital in Bexar County, Texas. The work was conducted in response to a request from Chesney Morales Partners, Inc. and the State Hospital, who intend to develop the extant parking lot as a warehouse. As the project area is on state property, the project is subject to regulatory review by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) under purview of the Antiquities Code of Texas. Accordingly, CAR obtained Texas Antiquities Permit (TAP) Number 30605, issued to Sarah Wigley, Principal Investigator. Dr. Jonathan Paige served as the Project Archaeologist for the testing portion of the project.

Project Area

The project area, encompassing approximately 4.2 acres (1.7 ha), is in south-central San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas on the grounds of the San Antonio State Hospital (Figure 1-1). The hospital itself is historic, established in 1892 as

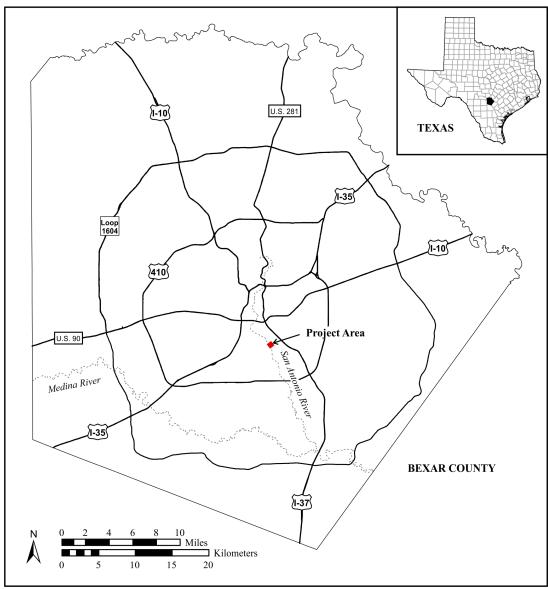


Figure 1-1. Project area location within Bexar County.

the Southwestern Insane Asylum. The property is adjacent to Mission Parkway National Register District, bounded by Presa Street (THC 2022), and approximately 280 m (919 ft.) east of the San Antonio River (Figures 1-2, 1-3). The district contains a number of contributing cultural resources which document "a continuum of land use and cultural change from prehistory to the present." (Clark et al. 1975:8). Sites in proximity to the project area include precontact,

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Figure 1-2. Project area on aerial imagery.

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Figure 1-3. Project area on a topographic map.

Spanish colonial, and historic materials. A number of these sites, including 41BX266, 41BX1628 and 41BX1920, are considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Human remains dating to the Late Archaic period were documented at 41BX1628 (THC 2022). These sites are discussed in greater detail in the second chapter.

Project Results

CAR excavated 13 shovel tests, four backhoe trenches, and two test units within the project area during the survey. Nine of the 13 shovel tests were positive for cultural material. One backhoe trench was positive for precontact cultural material. Two other backhoe trenches contained historic material in heavily disturbed contexts. Three previously undocumented archaeological sites were recorded; 41BX2513, 41BX2514, and 41BX2515. Site 41BX2514 was found during survey to contain mixed historic and precontact deposits within disturbed contexts. Due to a lack of research potential, CAR recommended that the site was not eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL, and that construction proceed as planned. The THC concurred with these recommendations.

CAR initially recommended avoidance of impact to 41BX2513 and 41BX2515, which were found during survey to contain buried precontact material. After consultation with Chesney Morales Partners, Inc., it was determined that impacts to these sites could not be avoided. Therefore testing, consisting of the excavation of one test unit in each site, was recommended. The THC concurred with this recommendation. During testing, deposits at both sites were found to consist of mixed historic and precontact materials, and 41BX2515 was found to be disturbed by utilities. These results indicated a lack of site integrity and research potential. Therefore, CAR recommended that both sites were not eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as SALs, and that construction proceed as planned. The THC concurred with these recommendations.

CAR's scope of work initially included limited monitoring for utilities. After reviewing construction plans, CAR determined that all underground utility installation was planned in areas found to be heavily disturbed during the initial survey. Therefore, CAR recommended that utility installation proceed without monitoring. The THC concurred with this recommendation.

All records generated and artifacts collected during this project were curated at the CAR in accordance with THC guidelines, with the exception of items discarded with the concurrence of the State Hospital and the THC. Project material is curated under accession 2674.

Report Organization

This report consists of six chapters, including this introduction. Chapter 2 provides a discussion of the project area background, including a review of the project area environment, culture history, and previous archaeology conducted in the area. Chapter 3 discusses the field and laboratory methods employed during the course of the project. Chapter 4 provides a discussion of the results of the initial survey. Chapter 5 provides the results of eligibility testing of sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515. Chapter 6 includes a project summary as well as the CAR's recommendations.

Chapter 2: Project Area Background

This chapter provides an overview of the natural environment and culture history of the project area. The chapter concludes with a brief discussion of previous archaeological investigations in the area. This discussion provides context for the findings of this investigation.

Environment

The city of San Antonio is positioned where the southernmost Great Plains meet the Gulf Coast, demarcated by the Balcones Escarpment (Petersen 2001). The Balcones Escarpment is the result of a series of faults found between the Edwards Plateau and the Gulf (Eckhardt 2022). San Antonio is also near a significant climate boundary, partitioning a humidsubtropical zone to the east from a semi-arid zone to the west (Petersen 2001). The city's location near these significant geological and climactic boundaries results in a varied resource base, which attracted settlers to the region (de la Teja 2001). The area contains a number of reliable freshwater sources, many of which, including the San Antonio River, are fed by artesian springs created by the fault zone, as well as the Edwards Aquifer, located south of the Edwards Plateau (Eckhardt 2022; Peterson 2001). Northern Bexar County is within the borders of the Balconian biotic province, which is described as an intermediate ecological area between the eastern forest and the western desert. South and southeastern Bexar County lies within the Tamaulipan biotic province, which has a semi-arid climate and is dominated by thorny brush (Blair 1950).

The project area, in south-central San Antonio in Bexar County, Texas, is roughly 280 m (919 ft.) east of the San Antonio River. It is at 180 m (590 ft.) above sea level. The project area is east of Presa Street, south and west of E Street, and encompasses the southern portion of C Street. It is located on State Hospital grounds and primarily functions as a parking lot. The Stoner aerial map of the area (Stoner n.d.; Figure 2-1) shows that this area was undeveloped in the

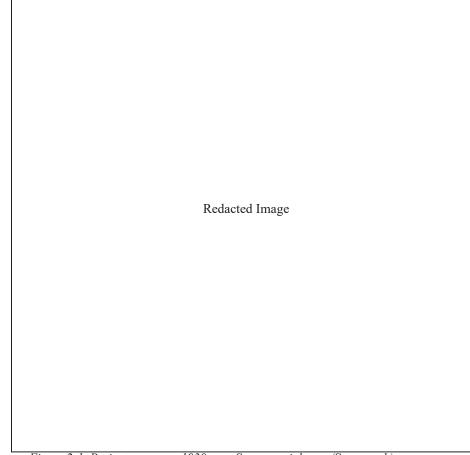


Figure 2-1. Project area on a 1930s-era Stoner aerial map (Stoner n.d.).

1930s, serving as the southern half of the long, landscaped drive leading to the asylum shown on postcards depicting the hospital (UTA 2023; Figure 2-2). This places the project area southwest of the main hospital complex and just north of a building described as the "Old Ladies Home" depicted on a georeferenced Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (Sanborn 1931; Figure 2-3).

The project area is dominated by Sunev clay loams (VcB), with a section of Houston black gravelly clay (HuC) in the southeast corner and small area of Patrick soils (PaC) along the entrance drive (Figure 2-4). Sunev clay loams are formed on stream terraces with one to three percent slopes. These soils are well-drained. Houston Black gravelly clays are formed on ridges of three to five percent. These soils are moderately well-drained. Both VcB and HuC reach depths of more than 203 cm (80 in.) and both are considered prime farmland. Patrick soils are well-drained on paleoterraces of three to five percent slopes. Soils are well-drained and also reach depths of more than 203 cm (80 in.), thought these soils are not prime farmland (NRCS 2022).

The project area is primarily situated within the Clay Loam ecological site (NRCS 2022). The vegetation is dominated by tallgrasses, including little bluestem (*Schizachyrium*)

scoparium), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) and Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), as well as numerous forbs, and scattered shrubs and live oak (*Quercus fulsiformis*) mottes. Without regular fire events, vegetation can become dominated by woody species. The natural vegetation of this ecological site has been impacted across the state by ranching and agricultural activities (NRCS 2022).

Culture History

The vicinity of the project area includes significant precontact and historic sites. A general review is provided for these periods to provide context for project results.

Texas Prior to European Contact

The precontact record in Texas is generally divided into the Paleoindian, Archaic, and Late Prehistoric periods. Many of the precontact sites in Bexar County are associated with the deposits surrounding the San Antonio River (THC 2022). Bexar County's archaeological record has been included in reviews of both Central (Collins 2004) and South (Hester 1980) Texas as the county is near the assumed boundary



Figure 2-2. 1908 postcard depicting the front lawn of the Southwestern Insane Asylum, courtesy of the UTA Libraries Texas Disability History Collection. Project area located approximately right foreground of the postcard.

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Figure 2-3. The project area on the 1931 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

Chapter 2: Project Area Background

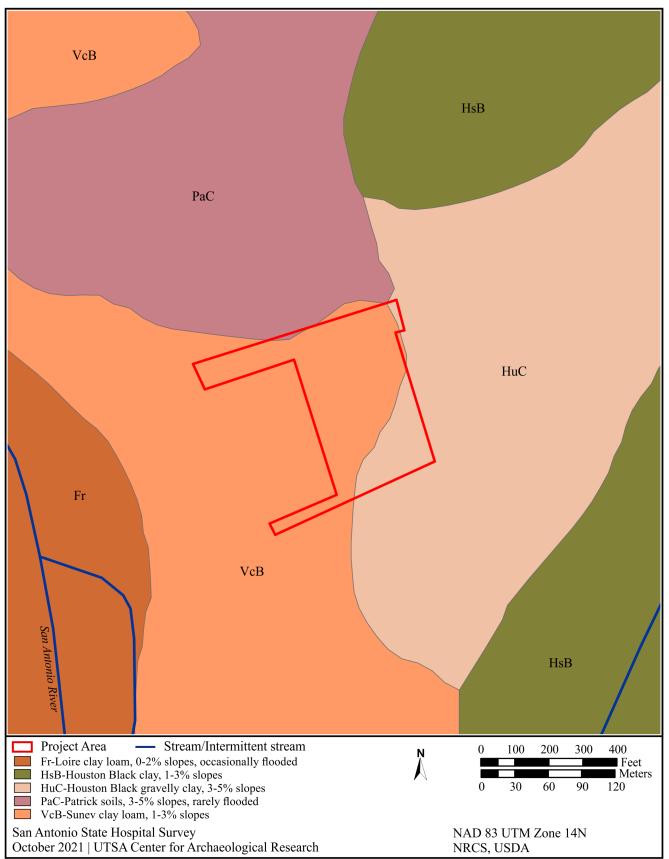


Figure 2-4. Soils within and in the vicinity of the project area.

between the two cultural areas. The following summary generally follows a Central Texas chronology.

The Paleoindian period in Central Texas spans 13,000-9000 BP. In-depth reviews of this time period are available (see Bousman et al. 2004). Groups inhabiting the area during this period are generally characterized as highly mobile (Bousman et al. 2004). Temporally diagnostic artifacts from the period include Folsom and Clovis points, among others (see Turner et al. 2011). Faunal remains from Paleoindian components on sites such as Lubbock Lake (41LU1) and Wilson-Leonard (41WM235) suggest a broad subsistence base (Bousman et al. 2004). Within Bexar County, multiple sites have Paleoindian components. These include the St. Mary's Hall site (41BX229; Hester 2020), and the Richard Beene site (41BX831; Bousman et al. 2004; McGraw and Hindes 1987; Thoms and Clabaugh 2011).

The Archaic period in Central Texas ranges from 9000-1200 BP. The period is characterized by several technological developments, including an increased diversity of material culture and the use of heated rock technology (Carpenter and Hartnett 2011; Collins 2004; Johnson and Goode 1994; Thoms and Clabaugh 2011). The period is often subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late Archaic periods (see Collins 2004; Hester 2004). Temporally diagnostic artifacts from the Early Archaic period (9000-6800 BP) include Angostura, Early Split Stem, and Martindale-Uvalde dart points, among others (Collins 2004). The Middle Archaic spans 6800-4200 BP. Temporally diagnostic artifacts from this period include Calf Creek, Bell-Andice, Nolan, and Travis points, among others (Collins 2004; Turner et al. 2011). The Late Archaic spans 4200-1200 BP. Temporally diagnostic artifacts from the Late Archaic include a wide variety of types, with Pedernales, Ensor, and Frio points being common (Collins 2004). Numerous Archaic Period components have been recorded in Bexar County, including 41BX1 (Lukowski 1988; Olmos Dam; Orchard and Campbell 1954), 41BX17 (Munoz et al. 2011; Schuetz 1966; Wigley 2018), 41BX323 (Figueroa and Dowling 2007; Houk et al. 1999; Houk and Miller 2001; Katz and Fox 1979; Meskill et al. 2000; Meskill and Frederick 1995; Miller et al. 1999; Miller and Barile 2001), and 41BX1396 (Barile et al. 2002; Katz and Fox 1979).

The Late Prehistoric period begins at 1200 BP and terminates around 350 BP (see Carpenter 2017; Kenmotsu and Boyd 2012). The time period is divided into two intervals, Austin (1200-750 BP) and Toyah (750-350 BP). The period is characterized by a shift to bow and arrow technology, evidenced by arrow points such as Scallorn and Perdiz (Collins 2004). The Toyah style interval of this period also includes the adoption of ceramic technology (Collins 2004). There is evidence that burned rock

middens increased in use (Black et al. 1997; Mauldin et al. 2003). Bison remains are common on Late Prehistoric sites (Mauldin et al. 2012), though they may have been more intensively exploited toward the end of the period (Lohse et al. 2014). Sites with significant Late Prehistoric components in Bexar County include two multi-component sites discussed previously, site 41BX256 (Osburn et al. 2007; Padilla and Nickels 2010; Padilla and Trierweiler 2012; Scurlock et al. 1976) and site 41BX323 (Figueroa and Dowling 2007; Houk et al. 1999; Houk and Miller 2001; Katz and Fox 1979; Meskill et al. 2000; Meskill and Frederick 1995; Miller et al. 1999; Miller and Barile 2001).

Historic Texas

In Central and South Texas, the historic period began with the first documented appearance of Europeans. Spain laid claim to the area that would become Texas early, following the 1519 Alonso Álvarez de Pineda voyage along the Texas Coast, but the first Europeans arrived in AD 1528 when Cabeza de Vaca and other survivors of the Narvaez expedition washed up on the Texas Coast (see Krieger 2000). Although interactions between Europeans and Indigenous people in the area were infrequent within Central Texas, the lifeways of the Indigenous populations there were significantly impacted by the spread of European disease as well as displacement of populations by European incursions (Foster 1998; Kenmotsu and Arnn 2012). Spain made little attempt to establish settlements in Texas prior to 1700 (Chipman and Joseph 2010). However, motivated by concerns about the French encroachment into Texas in 1685 by Robert Cavalier Sieur de la Salle's expedition, and colonization in Louisiana in the early 1700s, the Spanish government endeavored to strengthen its hold on Texas, which previously was sparsely populated by Europeans (Cruz 1988). Missions established in East Texas in the early 1700s were attempts to secure Spain's hold on the area. Additionally, a Spanish expedition intended to initiate contact with the Indigenous population and prevent them from establishing trade relationships with the French reached San Pedro Springs in present-day San Antonio on April 13, 1709 (Cruz 1988).

The primary institutions Spain employed to secure its colonies were the missions, intended to assimilate the Indigenous population through religious conversion; the presidio, which played a military defensive role; and the establishment of chartered town settlements (Cox 1997; de la Teja 1995). The mission and the presidio were intended to be transitory institutions, whose land and possessions would ultimately be distributed among successfully converted Indigenous families (de la Teja 1995). The Spanish Colonial *acequia* system in San Antonio was

established to serve as a source of water and irrigation for the inhabitants of these institutions. San Antonio is one of the few large cities of Spanish origin that still contains traces of its original *acequia* system, which spanned more than 80 km (50 mi.; Cox 2005).

Mission San Antonio de Valero (41BX6), the first Spanish settlement established in what would become San Antonio, was founded on May 1, 1718, on the west bank of the San Antonio River south of San Pedro Springs (Habig 1968:38). The Presidio de Bexar and the Villa de Bexar were established four days later. Initially, these settlements were located near San Pedro Springs, possibly within modern-day San Pedro Park (Meissner 2000), although firm archaeological evidence of these early settlements is currently lacking. The mission was moved to the east bank of the San Antonio River about a year later, and it was moved a third time to its final location following storm damage in 1724 (Habig 1968:44). The villa and presidio were relocated in 1722 (Habig 1968:38). Archaeological material associated with this second location of the presidio, including a Spanish Colonial sheet midden, has been documented at site 41BX2088 (McKenzie et al. 2016).

Four more missions were founded to the south along the San Antonio River between 1720 and 1731 (de la Teja 1995). Mission San José (41BX3) was founded by the College of Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe de Zacatecas in 1720 near or at the future location of Mission Concepción. It was moved to its present location sometime in 1721, possibly due to conflict with Mission Valero. Missions Concepción (41BX12), San Juan (41BX5), and Espada (41BX4) were founded by the Franciscan college at Queretaro and moved from East Texas in 1731 due to escalating conflict with France in that area. Mission Concepción was founded in the vicinity of two previously abandoned mission sites and likely used some of the existing infrastructure from those previous attempts at colonization, including partially constructed acequia systems. Missions San Juan Capistrano and Mission Espada are the southernmost of the San Antonio missions. Construction of more permanent buildings and improvements to existing structures at the missions continued gradually until the 1790s, when secularization began, according to a detailed structural history of the San Antonio missions provided by Ivey (2018). Archaeological work at the missions over the years has documented construction history and lifeways of mission inhabitants; summaries of work conducted in the San Antonio mission environs are provided by Scurlock and colleagues (1976), Ivey and Fox (1999) and Ivey (2018).

Although an early, unofficial town settlement associated with the presidio began to develop with the arrival of presidio soldiers and their families, this settlement lacked legal status (de la Teja 1991). The arrival of a group of immigrants from the Canary Islands in 1731 marked the establishment of the Villa de San Fernando (de la Teja 1995; Poyo 1991). The villa was granted water rights to the San Pedro Creek (de la Teja 1995) and an *acequia* for the new settlement was in operation by 1735 (Cox 2005:35). The early years of the settlement were marked with conflict between the villa, the missions, and the earlier settlers, particularly over land and irrigation (de la Teja 1991, 1995; Poyo 1991).

The Zacatecan college took over administration of all the San Antonio missions in 1772. Secularization of the missions began in 1793 (Cox 1997; de la Teja 1995; Ivey 2018). The Mission Valero compound subsequently served primarily a military function in the city, and it was, significantly, the site of the Battle of the Alamo in 1836. The other missions were not fully secularized until 1824, when their churches and furnishings were inventoried and surrendered (Habig 1968). After partial secularization in 1794, the secular properties of the lower missions (Missions San José, Concepción, San Juan, and Espada), including houses, acequias, and fields, became the property of the Native American inhabitants of the missions. Mission Concepción became a visita, or subordinate church, of Mission San José after 1794, and Mission Espada became a visita of Mission San Juan. There was significant decline in the number of inhabitants at Mission San José and Mission Concepción after 1794. Buildings fell into disrepair, and Mission Concepción was abandoned by 1813, following considerable conflict in the area. Both Mission San Juan and Mission Espada remained inhabited. The number of Hispanic occupants at Missions San Juan and Espada increased as Native Americans abandoned the settlements, and the military remained until the 1830s. After secularization, mission buildings saw significant decay, and at Concepción into the 1840s stone from the mission buildings was being sold for use in large institutional projects (Ivey 2018).

A failed uprising for independence from Spain in 1812 depleted San Antonio's population and negatively affected the city's development for decades (Cox 1997). Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821, and Texas became part of the state of Coahuila. Texas revolted against Mexico in 1835. Mexican General Martín Perfecto de Cos fortified the old Mission Valero against the Texans, including diverting a branch of the *acequia* to flow outside the Mission compound (Cox 1997). The Texans defeated General Cos, but they were defeated themselves by Santa Anna after a 13-day siege in 1836 at what became known as the Battle of the Alamo (Cox 1997). In the fall of 1836, Santa Anna was ultimately defeated, and Texas became a Republic (Cox 1997). A number of sites downtown include features associated with this military activity, including a trench feature associated with General Cos' occupation of Main Plaza at 41BX1752 (Hanson 2016) and a Mexican fortification trench associated with the Siege of Bexar at 41BX2170 (Kemp et al. 2019).

During the century that followed Texas' break with Mexico, San Antonio saw considerable growth despite the impact of numerous conflicts. In December of 1837, San Antonio was incorporated as one of the early acts of the newly established Republic of Texas. Several epidemics impacted the city's population during the early to mid-1800s, spread in part by pollution of the city's acequia system. The city attempted to combat the issue by establishing standards of cleanliness, but the issue remained ongoing (Cox 2005). After a turbulent period in which Texas saw conflict with both Mexico, which did not accept the new Republic's independence, and local Native American groups, Texas became part of the United States in 1846. This sparked the Mexican War between the United States and Mexico. The conflict ultimately resulted in setting the Rio Grande as Texas's southern boundary, as well as the United States gaining significant territory on the western side of the continent, including California, Arizona, and New Mexico (Bauer 2023).

In the 1840s, French and German immigrants began to settle in San Antonio and the surrounding area. By the 1850s, recent European settlers outnumbered the Mexican and Anglo populations in the city (Cox 1997). Texas seceded from the United States, joined the Confederacy in 1861, and primarily served a supply role during the Civil War. Five years later, Texas surrendered to the Union and rejoined the United States (Wooster 2022).

The arrival of the railroad in 1877 resulted in significant growth in San Antonio (Cox 1997). The late 1800s saw infrastructure and economic development throughout the city, including water, electric, and gas utilities (Heusinger 1951). The city attempted to update the acequia system with the construction of new ditches, including the construction of the Alazán ditch in 1875. The adoption of the new water works system in 1878 transformed the acequia infrastructure into, primarily, a drainage system, and water flow was reduced in the 1890s due to the increased drilling of wells. As a result of these infrastructural changes in the city, as well as ongoing cleanliness issues, the urban acequias were closed by 1913 (Cox 2005). The San Juan and Espada Acequias were the only ditches that remained in operation, maintained by private ditch companies for farming (Cox 2005).

The missions were restored in the 1930s as part of a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project, and restoration work continued through the 1970s (Ivey 2018; Scurlock et al. 1976). The lower missions became the San Antonio Mission National Historical Park in 1978 (NPS 2022). In 2015, all five missions were recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The missions are considered an example of interchange between two cultures, and they retain significant integrity and authenticity in their setting and construction. The remnants of the *acequia* system are considered elements contributing to the missions' significance (UNESCO 2022).

Project Area

Prior to the construction of the San Antonio State Hospital, there had been years of outcry about the lack of appropriate facilities to care for people with mental health conditions, which was seen as a matter of "Humanity, selfrespect (sic) and honor" (San Antonio Light [SAL] 23 November 1883:[4]; San Antonio Daily Express [SADE] 13 February 1889:[2]). In 1889 the Texas Legislature passed a bill to establish such a facility to serve Southwest Texas. Construction of the San Antonio State Hospital, first known as the Southwestern Insane Asylum, began in 1891 (Figure 2-5, 2-6; San Antonio Daily Light [SADL] 16 November 1889[5]; SADL 10 July 1891[10]). The first patients were received on April 6, 1892. One hundred and forty-two patients were received within the first month of the asylum's opening, nearly filling the five habitable wards available at that time. During the early years of the asylum, a jury determined if patients were legally insane. In 1902 the hospital superintendents argued in favor of a medical approach to patient diagnosis instead, in part due to the stress of the trial process on the patients (SADL 27 September 1902:[3]). The superintendent also argued for facilities to provide greater separations for patients on the basis of their specific diagnoses and needs. The facilities were segregated (SADL 23 December 1892:[1]) and did not provide care to patients of color until the 1960s (Geise and Markham 2022). The name was changed to the San Antonio State Hospital in 1925 (Geise and Markham 2022).

A reporter visiting the hospital in May of 1892 described the early facilities in an article pejoratively entitled "Our State Crankhouse." The article describes two "beautiful parks," an electric plant, a laundry, a bakery, a kitchen, and a 50-acre kitchen garden, which was later expanded (SADL 26 May 1892:[8]; SADL 21 September 1897:[7]; SADL 21 March 1900:[4]). Religious services were conducted at the asylum, which were open to the public (SADL 7 December 1901:[3]). The facility also included a dance hall, where dances, open to the public, were held regularly for years and described as well-attended (SADL 26 May 1892:[8]; San Antonio Sunday Light [SASL] 10 June 1900:[4]; SASL 3 June 1906:[12]). Social events held at the asylum or hosted by asylum administration are noted in local papers regularly, and were considered



Figure 2-5. Southwestern Asylum in 1892, soon after construction was completed; note extensive associated ground disturbance (Witteman 1892).



Figure 2-6. Southwest Lunatic Asylum, South Presa Street, San Antonio, Texas ca. 1905. Project area located in the right background in front of hospital buildings. Photo courtesy of UTSA Libraries Special Collections, General Photograph Collection.

beneficial for patients (SADL 18 June 1900:[8]); SAL 16 Dec 1900:[5]; SADL 14 July 1904:[3]; SADL 14 April 1905:[5]; San Antonio Gazette [SAG] 3 August 1908:[5]; San Antonio Express [SAE] 7 December 1953:[17]), as well as calls for donations of reading material for patients (SADL 5 January 1893:[2], SASL 6 September 1903:[7]).

Hot springs were discovered on the State Hospital grounds in the 19th century during construction of a water well (Fox and Highley 1985; SADL 3 March 1894:[2]; SADL 8 June 1895:[8]; SADL 23 March 1899:[2]; SADE 30 September 1899:[10]; SADL 27 January 1900:[5]). The hot springs, which later became known as "Hot Wells," were considered therapeutic, and ultimately became a source of funds when a hotel was developed around the springs. The hospital and associated Hot Wells Hotel were considered places of interest to tourists (SADL 8 June 1895:[8]). Moonlight drives to the asylum were also popular (SADL 4 August 1895:[8]).

After years of reports detailing the urgent need for the asylum's construction, subsequent reports on the state of the hospital during the late 19th and early 20th century often describe the need to expand the hospital's capacity, and to add specialized wards for the elderly, patients with tuberculosis, and patients with epilepsy (SADL 22 February 1894:[2]; SADL 12 February 1897:[1]; SADL 26 November 1897:[7]; SAL 16 December 1900:[5]; SADL 1 December 1901:[1]; SADL 10 April 1903:[2]; SADL 15 May 1903:[1]; SADL 13 January 1905:[2]; SAG 7 August 1908:[8]; San Antonio Light [SAL] 14 February 1909:[1]; SAL 8 March 1909:[4]; SAE 1 November 1949:[14]). Sewage from the hospital was dumped into the San Antonio River, resulting in complaints (SADL 28 March 1900:[8]. The hospital connected to the city water supply in 1901 (SADL 22 August 1901:[2]). Two cemeteries associated with the hospital are located south and east of the current hospital grounds and the project area (Diaz 2019; Find a Grave 2022a, 2022b; Google Maps 2022; Molina 2021).

The issue of overcrowding persisted through the hospital's history. The hospital ultimately failed to gain accreditation in 1966, based on overcrowding, understaffing, and deterioration of the hospital facilities (SAL 11 May 1976 [8]). In 1976 the old facilities were demolished and new buildings constructed. By 1990 the number of patients had decreased and patient to staff ratio significantly improved (Geise and Markham 2022).

Previous Archaeology

During a review of the Texas Archaeological Site Atlas, 13 archaeological sites were identified within 1 km (0.6 mi.) of the project area (Figure 2-7; Table 2-1). Most of these

sites are associated with the San Antonio River, as well as being included in the Mission Parkway National Register District. The majority of the sites are considered significant or potentially significant. In addition, human remains dating to the Late Archaic period were documented at 41BX1628.

Sites 41X237, 41BX239, 41BX240, 41BX241 and 41BX266 were initially recorded during the Mission Parkway survey by the Texas Historical Commission (Scurlock et al. 1976). Site 41BX237, the Hot Wells Bath House, dates to the late 19th and early 20th century. A brief discussion of the relationship of this site to the San Antonio State Hospital is included in the Culture History section. The site includes the remains of a resort that sprang up around the hot sulfur well, a well originally constructed by the hospital for domestic use (Fox and Highley 1985). Components of the site include the remains of the hotel, which burned down in 1925, and bathhouse. It is located approximately 700 m (2297 ft.) northwest of the project area adjacent to the San Antonio River. Following the initial survey, additional work at the site was conducted, recording an auxiliary bathhouse (Fox and Highley 1985, Fox and Cox 1990) and a nearby precontact site, discussed later in this section (Smith and Marceaux 2016). No formal recommendation of the site's eligibility is included in the Texas Site Atlas (THC 2022), but avoidance of impact to the site has been recommended (Fox and Highley 1985). The site is listed as a contributing resource to the Mission Parkway National Register District (Clark et al. 1975). The site has been partially restored as a county park (Bexar County 2022).

Site 41BX239 is an abandoned cemetery associated with the previous location of the Eden Home for the Aged. It dates from approximately 1921-1953. The site is 960 m (3150 ft.) south of the project area. No additional work was recommended at this site (Scurlock et al. 1976; THC 2022).

Site 41BX240 is an abandoned, brick-lined well or cistern that was excavated in 1946 (Scurlock et al. 1976). It was potentially associated with the *acequia*. The site is located approximately 930 m (3051 ft.) south of the project area. No additional work was recommended at this site (Scurlock et al. 1976; THC 2022).

Site 41BX241 is a house foundation and well associated with a man named Brown who operated a farm in the area (Scurlock et al 1976; THC 2022). Neighbors reported potential for precontact material at the site as well, but none was encountered at the time of recording. The site is located approximately 891 m (2923 ft.) southwest of the project area. Additional work was recommended at that time. CAR revisited the site in 2002 but could not locate any remaining architectural features or a precontact component (Meissner et al. 2007).

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Trinomial	Time Period	Site Description	
41BX237	Historic	Hot Wells Bath House	
41BX239	Early 20th century	Abandoned cemetery	
41BX240	Mid-20th century	Historic well or cistern	
41BX241	Early 20th century	House foundation and well	
41BX266	Spanish colonial	San Juan dam	
41BX1622	Prehistoric/historic	Mixed occupation	
41BX1628	Prehistoric/historic	Occupation, burials present	
41BX1757	Historic	Artifact scatter	
41BX1996	Prehistoric/historic	Lithic quarry/historic occupation	
41BX2089	Prehistoric/historic	Lithic scatter/historic scatter	
41BX2128	Prehistoric	Occupation	
41BX2318	Late 19th to 20th century	Hot Wells Cabins	
41BX2380	Late 19th to 20th century	Dump site	

Table 2-1. Summary of Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Project Area

Site 41BX266, the San Juan Dam, was constructed during the Spanish colonial period in order to divert water for the San Juan Acequia (Scurlock et al. 1976). The site is located approximately 280 m (919 ft.) west of the project area, on the other side of Presa Street. The dam functioned from the 1730s until the 1950s when the San Antonio River was channelized (Scurlock et al. 1976). It was destroyed by a flood in 1977 (Hafernick et al. 1989). The San Juan Acequia, still extant, flows south of the dam. The site was investigated by the CAR in 1988 (Hafernik et al. 1989). As a result of this work, the site, already a contributing resource to the Mission Parkway National Register District (Clark et al. 1975), was recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP and designated as a SAL (Hafernik et al. 1989; THC 2022).

Sites 41BX1622 and 41BX1628 were recorded by Geo-Marine, Inc., as part of the Mission Reach project in 2005 (Peter et al. 2006; THC 2022). Site 41BX1622 is a precontact and historic occupation site located adjacent to the San Antonio River. The site is partially located on private property. Precontact material recovered include lithic tools and cores, debitage, and burned rock. Historic materials recovered include a 1921 German coin, metal, glass, faunal bone, and construction material. The site was primarily tested through augering, so the integrity of the site is unclear. The site is located approximately 640 m (2100 ft.) south of the project area. The eligibility of the site is unknown (Peter et al. 2006; THC 2022).

Site 41BX1628 was initially recorded as a lithic scatter of unknown eligibility (Peter et al. 2006; THC 2022) but was determined after further testing by Geo-Marine (Osburn et al. 2007), Ecological Communications Corporations (Padilla and Nickels 2010), and the CAR (Kemp and

Mauldin 2023) to contain significant deposits, and the site was found eligible for listing in the NRHP (THC 2022). Two burials, an adult and an infant, were recorded, and associated charcoal returned a radiocarbon date falling within the Late Archaic period (Osburn et al. 2007). In addition, thermal features and cultural material falling within six distinct temporal components ranging from the Early Archaic to the Historic periods were documented (Kemp and Mauldin 2023; Osburn et al. 2007, Padilla and Nickels 2010). The site is located along the San Antonio River approximately 425 m (1394 ft.) northwest of the project area.

Site 41BX1757 is a historic site recorded in 2007 during the course of backhoe trenching conducted by the CAR (Dowling 2008; THC 2022). The site is an isolated trash deposit dating to the post-1840 period. The site was determined to be ineligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL due to prior disturbance (Dowling 2008; THC 2022). It is located approximately 630 m (2067 ft.) west of the project on the other side of the San Antonio River.

Site 41BX1996 was recorded in 2013 by Prewitt and Associates, Inc. during a survey (THC 2022). Chipped stone and burned rock as well as glass and ceramics were recovered during shovel testing, and brick and concrete foundations were recorded on the surface, as well as modern and historic debris. The site is located approximately 855 m (2805 ft.) northeast of the project area. The site was determined to be ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places within the ROW (THC 2022.)

Site 41BX2089 was recorded in 2015 during the Mission Reach project (Kemp and Mauldin 2023; THC 2022). The site is a multiple component deposit located approximately 250 m (820 ft.) northwest of the project area along the San Antonio River. Shovel testing, backhoe trenching, and test units were excavated, recovering historic and precontact material. The historic component consists of ceramics, glass, including soda bottles, and glass syringes, and mixed metal, including metal cups and plates, recovered from a pit and a trench, suggesting likely trash dumping. These materials date to the early 20th century, and the presence of syringes suggests an association with the hospital. The precontact deposit is limited to a few small pieces of chipped stone, with no temporally diagnostic artifacts present. The site is recommended as having limited research value to lack of data and lack of site integrity (Kemp and Mauldin 2023; THC 2022).

Site 41BX2128 is a precontact site recorded in 2016 during a survey of Hot Wells County Park conducted by the CAR (Smith and Marceaux 2016; THC 2022). Debitage, shell, and burned rock were recovered from four positive shovel tests at depths ranging from 0-60 cmbs (0-24 in.; centimeters below surface). The site was likely disturbed by the construction of the hotel. The site is recommended as having unknown eligibility for listing in the NRHP and is recommended as eligible for listing as a SAL (Smith and Marceaux 2016). The site is located along the San Antonio River about 620 m (2034 ft.) northwest of the project area.

Site 41BX2318, the Hot Wells Cabins, was recorded by SCI Engineering, Inc. during a survey in 2019 (THC 2022). The site includes a late 19th to early 20th century brick and limestone house foundation and the post-1925 ruins of cabins associated with the Hot Wells resort. While no formal eligibility recommendation is recorded, the site form suggests that the earlier foundation has some research value (THC 2022).

Site 41BX2380 was recorded during the course of a survey by Baer Engineering and Environmental Consulting, Inc, in 2020 (de Marigny et al. 2020; THC 2022). The site is a surface scatter of primarily early 20th century artifacts including whiteware, purpled clear glass, and a Prosser button. The assemblage is noted to be highly similar to artifacts collected from the Austin State Hospital, suggesting the site is likely associated with hospital activities. The site is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL (de Marigny 2020; THC 2022).

Chapter 3: Methodology

This chapter provides a discussion of the field and laboratory methods used during the completion of this project. This includes discussion of excavation techniques, collection policy, site definitions, field documentation, and final curation.

Field Methods

To identify and document potential cultural resources, CAR completed a pedestrian survey with shovel testing and backhoe trenches. CAR staff excavated nine shovel tests and four backhoe trenches in total within the 4.2-acre (1.7-ha) project area.

Shovel tests were approximately 30 cm (11.8 in.) in diameter and excavated to depth of 80 cm below the ground surface (cmbs), terminating before that depth if excavators encountered obstructions, disturbance, or the water table. Shovel tests were excavated in arbitrary 20-cm (7.9 in.) levels and all soil matrixes were screened through one-quarter inch hardware cloth. A standardized shovel test form was completed for all shovel tests.

Dimensions of backhoe trenches were approximately 1 m wide (3 ft.), 5-6 m (16-20 ft.) in length, and no greater than 1.5 m (5 ft.) in depth. Backdirt was examined for cultural material. Archaeologists produced measured drawings of a one-meter representative segment of the trench stratigraphy, including a description of soil types, and noted any artifacts within the matrix or wall of the trench. A standardized form was completed for each trench. Location of backhoe trenches was dependent on shovel testing, distribution across the project area, and avoidance of mapped utilities and potential hazards identified to the CAR by the State Hospital.

Test units measured 1-x-1 m and were excavated to a depth of 70 cmbs, the proposed depth of impact by construction, or until an obstruction, disturbance or sterile soil was encountered. Test units were excavated in arbitrary 10-cm levels and all soil matrixes were screened through onequarter inch hardware cloth. A standardized test unit level form was completed for each level. Test unit location was dependent on positive shovel test results, avoidance of mapped utilities and hazards, and proposed impacts to the sites. A datum was set to the north of each unit with a string height of 10 cmbs, and all test unit measurements were recorded in cmbd (centimeters below datum). MSS samples were collected from each test unit, but after test unit data was reviewed, it was clear that the site was previously disturbed, and samples were not analyzed.

The Project Archaeologist kept a daily log. Activities and discoveries were documented and supported by digital data, including photographs, where appropriate. CAR staff recorded shovel test, test unit, and backhoe trench locations with a GPS unit.

Site Recording and Collection Policy

For the purposes of this survey, CAR defined an archaeological site as follows:

- 1) Four or more surface artifacts within a threemeter radius;
- 2) An intact feature, such as a hearth or evidence of structure;
- 3) A positive shovel test or backhoe trench with five or more artifacts;
- 4) A shovel test with three or more positive levels;
- 5) Evidence of a feature (e.g., charcoal or several pieces of burned rock) in a shovel test or backhoe trench;
- 6) Two positive shovel tests or backhoe trenches within 30 m (98.4 ft.) of each other.

When evidence of cultural materials meeting the minimum criteria for an archaeological site was encountered in a shovel test or on the surface, shovel tests were excavated at close intervals to define the extent of the distribution. Per THC guidelines, a minimum of six shovel tests were excavated to define the site boundaries within the limits of the project boundaries. Site boundaries were plotted on aerial photographs and a topographic quadrangle map and location data was collected using a GPS unit. Digital photographs were taken of each site and CAR prepared and submitted Texas Archeological Sites Atlas forms for newly discovered archaeological sites.

CAR staff collected all artifacts recovered from shovel tests and test unit levels. Diagnostic artifacts recovered from examination of backhoe trench backdirt were collected. At the discretion of the Project Archaeologist, non-diagnostic artifacts associated with sites were documented.

Lab and Curation Methods

Throughout the project, the analysis and organization of records, artifacts, and daily logs was ongoing. All records generated during the project were prepared in accordance with Federal Regulations 36 CFR Part 79 and THC requirements for State Held-in-Trust collections. Field forms were printed on acid-free paper and completed with pencil.

Collected artifacts were tagged with an individual field sack number along with its description, quantity, feature number (if applicable), and location. The Project Archaeologist field checked artifacts before turning them over to the Laboratory Director for processing. Artifacts were washed, air-dried, and stored in separate bags by provenience. All recovered artifacts were analyzed and their pertinent information (i.e., provenience, artifact type, metrics, etc.) was entered into an Excel database.

Prior to final curation, in accordance with Chapter 26.27(g) (2) of the Antiquities Code of Texas, CAR requested permission from the HHS and the THC to discard items with no remaining scientific value, including non-feature burned rock, coal, non-diagnostic glass fragments, non-diagnostic metal, other rock, plastic, construction materials, snail and slag. State Hospital and the THC concurred and these items were discarded. All records related to the collection, analysis, and discard of the artifacts were curated.

All field notes, forms, photographs, and drawings were placed in labeled archival folders. Digital photographs were printed on acid-free paper and placed in archival-quality page protectors to prevent accidental smearing due to moisture. Finally, all recovered artifacts and project-related materials, including the final report, were permanently stored at the CAR's curation facility under accession number 2674.

Chapter 4: Results of Intensive Survey

Beginning May 3, 2022, through December 1, 2022, CAR conducted a pedestrian survey with shovel testing and backhoe trenching of a 4.2-acre (1.7 ha) section of San Antonio State Hospital grounds that is slated for development as a warehouse. In total 13 shovel tests and four backhoe trenches were excavated during the survey portion of the project. Three previously undiscovered archaeological sites were recorded; 41BX2513, 41BX2514, and 41BX2515. This chapter initially provides a broad discussion of shovel testing and backhoe trenching results before concluding with a detailed discussion of the archaeological sites.

Survey Results

Initial survey results indicated that sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515 were primarily precontact in nature. 41BX2514 contained precontact, historic, and modern material, and showed evidence of disturbance to 80 cm. No temporally diagnostic artifacts or cultural features were recorded during the initial survey. Based on the survey results, additional testing of sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515 was recommended when plans indicated that the sites would be impacted. The THC concurred with this recommendation. The results of that testing are discussed in Chapter 5.

Shovel Testing

The CAR's initial survey consisted of nine shovel tests (STs 1-9; Table 4-1) and four BHTs within the 3.2-acre (1.3 ha)

project area as originally delineated. The nine shovel tests consisted of STs 1-8 as well as ST 9, which was placed in order to delineate positive ST 2. In September 2022, CAR was informed by Chesney-Morales that changes to plans necessitated an amendment to the project area to include the existing entrance drive from Presa Street. To investigate this new area, four additional shovel tests (STs 10-13) were excavated in November and December of 2022. This total included two initial shovel tests (STs 10 and 11) and two additional shovel tests (STs 12 and 13) excavated to delineate positive ST 11 (Figure 4-1).

Nine of 13 shovel tests excavated (STs 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13) were positive for cultural material. Seven (STs 1-5, 9 and 11) of the 13 reached the full depth of 80 cm. Three shovel tests were terminated early when bedrock was encountered (STs 6-8), and one was terminated when an electrical conduit was broken (ST 10). STs 12 and 13 were terminated at 60 cmbs due to the shallow depth of the cultural material they were excavated to delineate.

Soils across the project area were found to be somewhat variable during shovel testing. STs 1 and 2, located between the edge of the parking lot and degraded sidewalk on the eastern edge of the project area, encountered some mottled silty clay soils ranging from dark brown (10YR 3/3) to yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) and containing pebbles and gravels. ST 2 was positive for faunal bone near the shovel test termination at 70 cmbs. ST 2 was ultimately included

Table 4-1. Shovel Test Summary

ST	Cultural Material Present	Site Trinomial	Termination Depth (cmbs)	Reason for Termination	Reason for Excavation
1	No	na	80	Complete	Initial Testing
2	Yes	41BX2513	80	Complete	Initial Testing
3	Yes	41BX2514	80	Complete	Initial Testing
4	Yes	41BX2514	80	Complete	Initial Testing
5	No	na	80	Complete	Initial Testing
6	No	na	77	Bedrock	Initial Testing
7	Yes	41BX2515	65	Bedrock	Initial Testing
8	Yes	41BX2515	60	Bedrock	Initial Testing
9	Yes	41BX2513	80	Complete	Delineation
10	No	na	60	Utility	Initial Testing
11	Yes	41BX2515	80	Complete	Initial Testing
12	Yes	41BX2515	60	Complete	Delineation
13	Yes	41BX2515	60	Complete	Delineation

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Figure 4-1. ST distribution within the project area.

in site 41BX2513 and will be discussed in further detail in the sites section. Utility maps show a water line near the sidewalk in this area.

STs 3 and 4, located along an old service road (C Street; Figure 4-1), encountered high levels of disturbance, with asphalt chunks and gravel fill encountered in all levels of both STs. Soils were very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) to dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clays containing some gravel lenses above 40 cmbs, and both STs exhibited mottling and gravels from 40-80 cmbs. Both STs were positive for a mix of modern, historic, and cultural material within a disturbed context above 40 cmbs. This area was recorded as site 41BX2514, and a detailed discussion of the material is included in the sites section of this chapter. Utility maps provided to the CAR by the State Hospital show gas and water lines running east-west through the area.

STs 5-8, located in the grass along the western side of the project area (Figure 4-1), showed less evidence of disturbance. Soils consisted of very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) to dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) blocky silty clays with flecks of calcium carbonate containing some limestone and chert gravels that increased with depth. Soils were shallower in this part of the project area; STs 6, 7 and 8 terminated early due to encountering limestone bedrock. Positive STs in this area contained precontact material only; in the case of ST 7, this material extended from Level 1 to bedrock These STs were included in site 41BX2515, and a detailed discussion of this material is included in the sites section of this chapter. While this area exhibited less disturbance than the southern and eastern edges of the project area, utility maps provided to the CAR show an electrical line running through the area.

STs 10-13, located along the existing entrance drive (Figure 4-1), also showed evidence of disturbance. Natural soils consisted of gravelly silty clays ranging in color from very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) near the top to grayish brown (10YR 5/2) to light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) near shovel test termination. Numerous slate fragments were found within the matrix, a sample of which was collected. Positive STs contained mixed precontact and historic material. These STs were included as part of site 41BX2515, discussed in more detail later in this chapter.

Backhoe Trenching

Four backhoe trenches were excavated within the project area (Figure 4-2). Backhoe trenches were evenly distributed across the project area to identify potentially deeply buried cultural deposits. BHTs 1, 3 and 4 served to delineate positive shovel tests encountered during the pedestrian survey. One backhoe trench (BHT 3) contained precontact cultural material. Three of the four (BHTs 1, 3, and 4) contained

historic construction debris. Three of the four (BHTs 1, 3, and 4) backhoe trenches showed some evidence of previous disturbance, including apparently abandoned utility lines.

BHT 1

BHT 1 was a roughly north-south oriented trench located near the southeastern corner of the parking lot. The trench location was selected to explore positive ST 2, while avoiding a water line to the east and obstructing the path of delivery trucks traveling to the west. The trench was terminated at 47 cmbs (19 in.) when an old cast iron utility line, possibly a gas line, was encountered. The line was not noted on the utility map provided to CAR staff and was likely abandoned. The line was oriented east to west. Yellow brick and slate were observed in the disturbed material above the gas line, and a small sample of the slate was collected and determined in the lab to be construction material. A small area of apparently undisturbed soil was documented in the southern end of the trench; no artifacts were observed in this profile. A small sample of construction slate (9.6 g) was collected from the backdirt.

Six layers were documented in the BHT 1 soil profile below an initial 3 cm (1.2 in.) layer of blacktop (Figure 4-3). Layer I ranged from 30-38 cm in thickness and consisted of a yellow (10YR 7/8) sandy clay base with gravels. Layer II extended ranged from 22-15 cm in thickness and consisted of very blocky dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) clay with calcium carbonate chunks and some limestone gravel. This layer is concentrated in the northern portion of the profile and does not extend south. Layer III ranged from 22-53 cm in thickness and consisted of mottled dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) and pale brown (10YR 6/3) caliche clay mixture with yellow brick and calcium carbonate chunks. This layer was also concentrated in the northern portion of the profile. Layer IV ranged from 4-19 cm in thickness and consisted of black (10YR 2/1) very blocky clay. This layer extends throughout most of the profile. Layer V ranged from 7-15 cm in thickness and consisted of a pale brown (10YR 6/3) pea gravel lens in a silty sand mix. This layer is concentrated in the southern portion of the profile and does not extend across to the north. Layer VI extended from 30-44 cm in thickness and consisted of dark gravish brown (10YR 4/2) clay with less than 5% chert gravels. It is concentrated in the southern portion of the profile and does not extend across to the north. This layer was noted as the only likely undisturbed layer in the profile; all other layers are noted as likely disturbed or containing fill.

BHT 2

BHT 2 was located centrally in the parking lot to target potential deposits that were inaccessible by hand excavation. The trench was oriented roughly east-west, perpendicular to

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Figure 4-2. BHT locations.

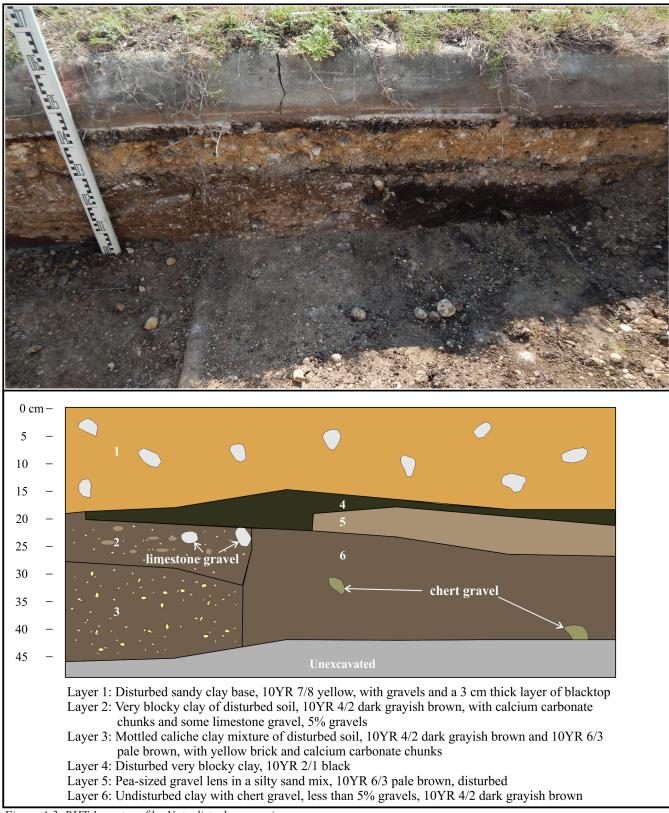


Figure 4-3. BHT 1, east profile. Note disturbances, pipe.

the line of the San Antonio River west of the project area. No cultural material was observed in the profile or backdirt of the trench. The trench was terminated at 90 cmbs when caliche bedrock was encountered.

Three layers were documented in the BHT 2 soil profile below a 3-5 cm layer of blacktop and approximately 15 cm (5.9 in.) of sandy base material (Figure 4-4). Layer 1 ranged in thickness from 27-44 cm and consisted of dense, black (10YR 2/1) clay containing the rotted remains of large tree roots and carbonate flecks. Layer II ranged from 17-24 cm in thickness and consisted of very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay containing some chert gravels. The boundary between Layers I and II was gradual and diffuse. Layer III ranged in thickness from 13-18 cm and consisted of dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty clay with high limestone gravel content.

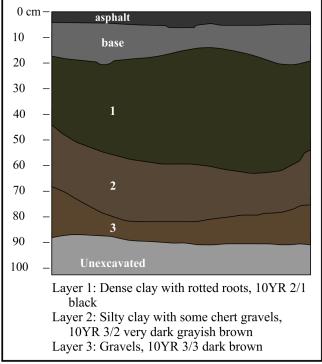


Figure 4-4. BHT 2, north profile.

BHT 3

BHT 3 was located east of positive STs 7 and 8, within the parking lot boundary. The trench was oriented roughly east-west. Chipped stone and construction material were recovered from the backdirt. The trench terminated at 138 cmbs, extending approximately 35 cmbs into the caliche bedrock.

Five layers were documented in the BHT 3 profile (Figure 4-5). Layer 1 consisted of yellow (10YR 7/8) sandy clay base with gravels extending from ranging in thickness from 22-25 cm, below a 3-5 cm layer of blacktop. Layer II ranged in thickness from 11-13 cm and consisted of very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) blocky clay containing charcoal chunks

and a layer of limestone gravel at the bottom. Layer III ranged in thickness from 27-39 cm. It consisted of brown (10YR 4/3) clay silt, and also included a disturbance, potentially a post hole or pit. The post hole extended from 60-90 cmbs and included some mixing of Layer III and Layer IV-type soils. Field notes that it is likely that posthole truly initiates in Layer III, hence the mixing, but that the top boundary is too diffuse to be certain of its initiation point. The possible post hole contained no cultural material and appeared to be a fairly recent disturbance, possibly related to either the early hospital construction in the area or the demolition of structures prior to the parking lot construction. If the post hole is not considered, Layer III terminates at 72 cmbs. Layer IV ranged in thickness from 30-35 cm. It consisted of a brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) layer of cemented limestone and chert gravels in a sandy clay matrix which exhibited size-sorting. This layer was sitting above the white (10YR 8/1) caliche bedrock, which began at 95 cmbs and extended below the trench extent.

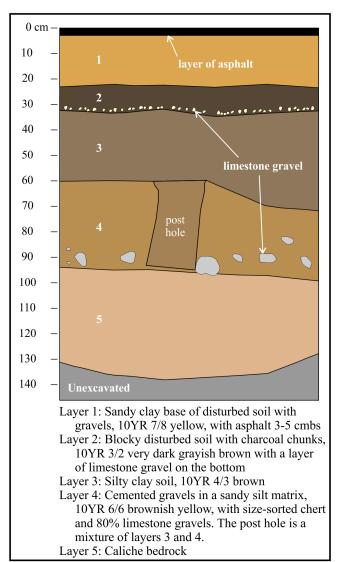


Figure 4-5. BHT 3 profile.

BHT 4

BHT 4 was located south of positive ST 7, outside of the parking lot. The trench was oriented roughly east-west. It was adjusted slightly to the east when an old iron pipe, possibly a gas line, was encountered near the west end (Figure 4-6). Another, similar iron pipe was encountered at 65 cmbs, and the trench was terminated. Neither of these pipes appeared on the utility map provided to CAR by the State Hospital, and they likely have been abandoned. From the fill above the pipes a piece of clear bottle lip and a partial red brick stamped "SE-" (likely SECO) were documented. No precontact material was recovered. SECO bricks, common in the San Antonio area, began production in 1910 (Odintz 2022), suggesting the brick may be debris from one of the hospital's multiple expansions.

Three layers were documented in the BHT 4 profile. Layer I ranged from 25-35 cm in thickness. It consisted of very dark gray (10YR 3/1) clumpy silty clay with rootlets and small gravels. Layer II was approximately 30 cm in thickness. It

consisted of very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) blocky and hard clay with increasing carbonates and large tree roots. Despite the small color difference, the primary distinction between Layers I and II was the significant shift in soil texture. Layer III measured at least 20 cm in thickness, but the terminating depth was not excavated. It consisted of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) gravels in a silty matrix.

Archaeological Sites Defined during Survey

Based on the results of the previously discussed shovel testing and backhoe trenching, three previously unrecorded archaeological sites were documented; 41BX2513, 41BX2514, and 41BX2515 (Figure 4-7). This section provides a more detailed discussion of the site contents. No cultural features or temporally diagnostic artifacts were recorded during the initial survey. Additional testing was recommended and subsequently conducted at sites 41BX2513 and 411BX2515 after review of plans provided by Chesney-Morales indicated that the sites would be impacted



Figure 4-6. BHT 4 facing east. Note pipes, shallow trench.

Redacted Image

Figure 4-7. 41BX2513, 41BX2514 and 41BX2515.

by parking lot construction to a depth of 61 cm (24 in.). The results of these investigations will be discussed in the following chapter. No additional testing was recommended at site 41BX2514, as survey results clearly indicated that this site contained only heavily disturbed, mixed deposits. The THC concurred with these recommendations.

41BX2513

41BX2513 was initially defined by positive STs 2 and 9. These two positive STs, located within 30 m of each other, meet the site definition provided in Chapter 3 (Figure 4-7). The site is bounded by the project area extent on the east, the parking lot on the west, BHT 1 on the south, and negative ST 1 and the project area on the north side. Project area boundaries and the parking lot prevented additional shovel testing on the east, west, and northern sides of the site. The site is located in Houston Black gravelly clay soils (HuC). While the parking lot surface precluded additional shovel testing on the western boundary, the negative results in BHT 2 indicate that the material encountered in 41BX2513 and 41BX2515 does not extend to form one site. The site may extend east, but likely does not extend north and south based on negative testing results. The utility map shows a water line just east of the project area that may have disturbed the site outside the project area boundary.

Initial Survey Results

Material recovered from STs 2 and 9 included faunal bone, chipped stone, and lithic tools (Table 4-2). Unidentified faunal bone was recovered from the final level of ST 2. Modern and historic trash was recovered from Level 1 (0-10 cmbs) of ST 9. Debitage and two expedient lithic tools, an edge-modified flake, and a uniface (Figure 4-8), were recovered from Level 2. Level 3 contained one piece of debitage, which showed

Level	Depth (cmbs)	ST 2	ST 9
1	0-20	Negative	Ferrous wire (1), Crown caps (2), and possible Bakelite fragment (1)
2	20-40	Negative	Debitage (1), Lithic tools (2), Other rock (1)
3	40-60	Negative	Debitage (1)
4	60-80	Unidentified faunal bone (1.07g)	Negative

Table 4-2. Material Recovered from Shovel Testing at 41BX2513

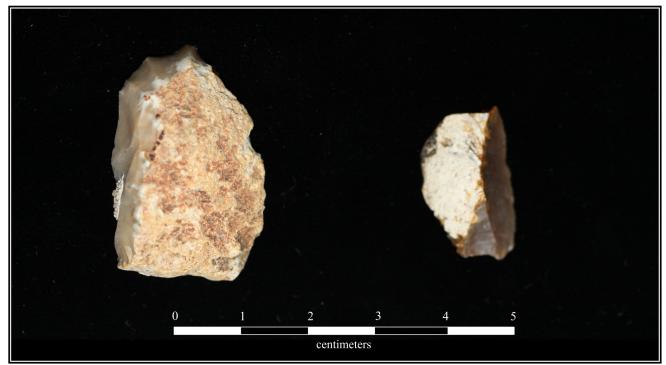


Figure 4-8. Expedient lithic tools recovered from 41BX2513, ST 9, Level 2 (20-40 cmbs). Uniface on the left, edge-modified flake on the right.

evidence of staining from tar or pitch. Snail was also noted in ST 9 in Levels 3 and 4, but not collected.

No cultural features were documented during the initial survey, but the recovery of faunal bone indicated potential for the preservation of organic material suitable for radiocarbon analysis. The site is spatially limited within the project area. Results of shovel testing suggested that deposits were undisturbed below 20 cmbs and extended to at least 80 cmbs. Installation of heavy-duty asphalt, with a depth of impact of approximately 24 in. (61 cm) is proposed for the area of this site. Therefore, CAR recommended excavation of a 1-x-1 m test unit to a depth of 70 cmbs (28 in.) to make a final determination of the site's research value within the project area. THC concurred with this recommendation. The results of this testing are discussed in the next chapter.

41BX2514

41BX2514 was defined by positive STs 3 and 4. Located within 30 m of each other, these two STs meet the site definition provided in Chapter 3. The site is bounded by the project area extent on the north, south, and west, and the parking lot and negative ST 5 on the east. It is likely that the site extends outside the project area on the north, south and west, but the project area boundary prevented further delineation. The site is located within Sunev clay loam (VcB) soils. While the parking lot obstructed additional STs on the east side, the negative results in ST 5 suggest that the site does not extend further in that direction. STs 3 and 4 both showed evidence of extensive disturbance, containing gravelly fill with asphalt chunks to the termination of 80 cm. Cultural materials were restricted to the first 40 cm. Utility maps provided by the State Hospital show multiple utility lines bisecting the site north to south C street runs roughly east to west along the southern boundary of 41BX2514, and its construction clearly impacted the site.

Materials recovered from 41BX2514 were restricted to Levels 1 and 2, and were recovered from clearly disturbed contexts (Table 4-3). Gravels and asphalt chunks extended through all levels; in the case of ST 3, it was clear that these fill deposits extended all the way to bedrock. The area is

so highly disturbed that it is likely that none of the cultural material is within its original context. Two of the three glass fragments recovered are clearly modern in origin.

Due to the lack of integrity of the deposits, 41BX2514 is found to have little to no research potential. No temporally diagnostic artifacts or cultural features were documented. CAR recommends no additional work at this site, and that construction proceed as planned. The THC concurred with this recommendation.

41BX2515

Site 41BX2515 was initially defined by positive STs 7 and 8 and positive BHT 3, all located within 30 m of each other. These positive excavations met the site definition provided in Chapter 3. After the project area was expanded, STs 11, 12, and 13 were excavated on the other side of the hospital entry drive in December 2022 and found to be positive. ST 12 was located within 30 m of ST 8, and STs 11 and 13 were located within 30 m of ST 12 and each other. Therefore, these positive STs were incorporated into site 41BX2515, expanding its boundaries north of the entry drive. The site is bounded by the project area extent on the north and west, the negative BHT 4 on the south, and the parking lot on the east. The project area extent and parking lot prevented additional delineation in these areas. Site 41BX2515 is located within Sunev clay loam (VcB) soils. The site may extend north or west outside the project area boundaries, where further delineation was prevented. Deposits extended from Level 1 (0-10 cmbs) to bedrock, which ranged from 60-100 cmbs across the site.

Materials recovered from shovel tests include chipped stone, burned rock, construction slate, faunal bone, and stoneware (Table 4-4). Material recovered from BHT 3 includes debitage, construction slate, and slag. No lithic tools or thermal features were identified. The slate recovered was clearly construction material; one fragment identified in ST 11, Level 2, included a drill hole. A sherd of Albanyslipped stoneware, dating to the late 19th century (THC 2006; Figure 4-9), was also recovered from this level. This late historic to modern material observed intermixed with

Table 4-3. Material Recovered from 41BX2514

Level	Depth (cmbs)	ST 3	ST 4
1	0-20	Debitage (1), burned rock (1.76 g)	Brown container glass (1)
2	20-40	Debitage (1), clear container glass (1)	Clear container glass (1), debitage (1)
3	40-60	Negative Negative	
4	60-80	Negative	Negative

Level	Depth (cmbs)	ST 7	ST 8	ST 11	ST 12	ST 13
1	0-20	Debitage (2)	Negative	Construction slate (1)	Burned rock (1), Unidentified faunal bone fragment (1), debitage (1)	Construction slate (2), debitage (1)
2	20-40	Burned rock (1.73 g)	Burned rock (3.45 g)	Construction slate (1), burned rock (3), stoneware (Albany slip; (1)	Debitage (1)	Metal (2), construction slate (1)
3	40-60	Burned rock (5.13 g)	Negative	Negative	Burned rock (1), debitage (1)	Construction slate (2), unidentified faunal bone (1), debitage (1)
4	60-80	Not excavated	Not excavated	Negative	Not excavated	Not excavated

Table 4-4. Material Recovered from Shovel Testing at 41BX2515

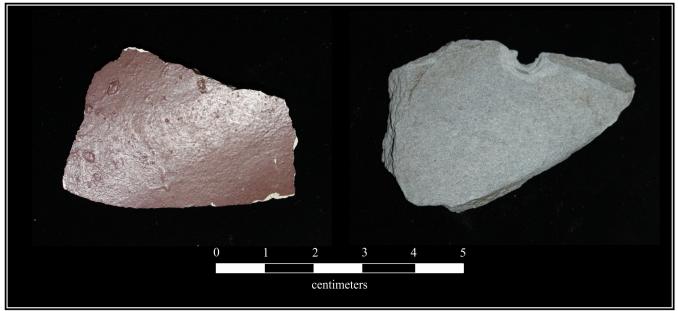


Figure 4-9. A stoneware sherd and a sample of construction slate recovered from ST 11, Level 2 (20-40 cmbs). Note drill hole on the right side of the slate.

the precontact is consistent with the property's function as a hospital across this time span. Disturbance includes a posthole evident in BHT 3, which also contained a small amount of construction material, and an electrical conduit recorded just to the north in ST 10.

No cultural features or material suitable for radiocarbon analysis were documented during survey at 41BX2515. Deposits include mixed precontact, historic, and modern materials. Results of shovel testing and backhoe trenching indicated that deposits extend to bedrock. Installation of heavy-duty asphalt, with a planned impact of 24 in. (61 cm), is planned for the northeast corner of the site, as well as planned impacts from tree removals. Based on the initial survey results (STs 7, 8 and BHT 3), CAR recommended excavation of a 1-x-1 m test unit to a depth of 70 cmbs (24 in.) to make a final determination of the site's research value within the area of the proposed impacts. The THC concurred with this recommendation.

Proposed Monitoring

CAR's scope of work initially included monitoring for utility installation. After reviewing plans provided by Chesney and Morales Partners, Inc., it was apparent that all underground utility installation was planned in areas previously surveyed that contained no significant cultural deposits (Appendix A). Based on survey results and the proposed plans, CAR recommended that archaeological monitoring of the utility installations was not necessary for this project. THC concurred with this recommendation and construction proceeded as planned.

Discussion and Summary

CAR excavated 13 shovel tests and four backhoe trenches within the project area during the course of the survey, documenting three previously unrecorded archaeological sites; sites 41BX2513, 41BX2514, and 41BX2515. CAR submitted an interim report (Wigley 2022) to the THC so that recommendations regarding these three sites could be reviewed before they were impacted by construction.

Excavation of two shovel tests (STs 2 and 9) within site 41BX2513 documented chipped stone, including expedient lithic tools, burned rock and faunal bone extending to a depth of 80 cmbs, indicating potential precontact deposits with preservation of organic material. The research potential of the site at this time was undetermined. Construction plans indicated that development would impact the site to a depth of 61 cm (24 in.). Therefore, CAR recommended additional testing prior to construction, the results of which are discussed in the following chapter. The THC concurred with this recommendation.

Two shovel tests (STs 3 and 4) were excavated within site 41BX2514. The site contained mixed modern, historic

and precontact materials likely disturbed by installation of multiple utilities and road construction in the site area. Due to the lack of site integrity, CAR recommended that the site is not eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL, and that construction be permitted to proceed as planned. The THC concurred with these recommendations.

Site 41BX2515 was defined during the initial survey by the excavation of two shovel tests (STs 7 and 8) and one BHT (BHT 3) that were positive for precontact material. These excavations documented deposits containing chipped and burned rock extending to bedrock, in the case of ST 7. The research potential of the site at this time was undetermined. Construction plans indicated that development would impact the site to a depth of 61 cm (24 in.). Therefore, CAR recommended additional testing prior to construction, the results of which are discussed in the following chapter. CAR submitted an interim report (Wigley 2022; Appendix B) to the THC for review, and the THC concurred with these recommendations. Following the amendment of the project area in December 2022, CAR excavated four additional shovel tests (STs 10, 11, 12 and 13) along the Presa Street entry drive, three of which (STs 11, 12 and 13) were positive and located within 30 m of site 41BX2515. At that time the site boundary was expanded north to include these positive STs. However, the STs along the northern edge of the site showed more evidence of mixed deposits than STs 7 and 8.

Chapter 5: Results of Eligibility Testing at Sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515

Beginning November 29, 2022, through December 1, 2022, CAR staff conducted eligibility testing of sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515. A 1-x-1 m unit was excavated in each site (TUs 1 and 2, Figure 5-1). Deposits at both sites were found

to exhibit mixing between historic and precontact materials. In addition, disturbance by tree roots and, in the case of 41BX2515, abandoned utilities were identified, which likely contributed to mixing of deposits.

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Figure 5-1. Test unit locations within archaeological sites.

Results of Testing at Site 41BX2513

Test Unit (TU) 1 was excavated within 41BX2513 to a depth of 80 cmbd. The top 10 cm of the unit (Level 1) consisted of a soft, loamy sediment which contained modern trash.

There was an abrupt transition to a blocky, mottled silty clay with 5% gravels and small flecks of calcium carbonates in Level 2. This blocky silty clay continued until 70 cmbd at which point there was a decrease in frequency of calcium carbonates, and a decrease in the strength of the blocky clay structure (Figures 5-2, 5-3).



Figure 5-2. Terminal level of TU1 (80 cmbd).



Figure 5-3. North profile of TU 1 at the terminal level (80 cmbd).

Historical materials were recovered from 10 cmbd to as deep as 70 cmbd, and often outnumber chipped stone artifacts even in the deepest levels (Table 5-1, Figure 5-4). Both artifact categories are sparsely distributed; TU 1 has an overall artifact density of 49 artifacts per m³ excavated. Later artifacts were relatively deeply buried, and were associated with precontact material, suggesting significant mixing has occurred. In Level 6 (60-70 cmbd) one debitage element, one ferrous metal fastener, one fragment of clear container glass, and a piece of coal were all recovered (Table 5-1). The final level was sterile apart from snail.

Between 30 and 60 cmbd, CAR encountered abundant evidence of disturbance from tree roots which may have

contributed to mixing of precontact and historical material. None of the precontact artifacts were diagnostic to a specific temporal period, and no edge modified pieces were identified. No features were identified within TU 1.

Precontact materials recovered from TU 1 include only debitage (n=10) and burned rock (10.4 g total). No lithic tools, including any temporally diagnostic lithic artifacts, were recovered. Potentially historic materials recovered include clear and brown container glass (n=4), a wire duplex nail and ferrous scrap, wire and a fastener, coal (3.9 g total) and construction materials (Figure 5-5). A number of these items, particularly the glass fragments and the nail, are almost certainly modern in origin. While late historic deposits at the

Table 5-1. Contents of fest offict (41DA2515) by Level		
Level	Depth (cmbs)	TU 1
1	0-10	Rubber (1), clear bottle glass (1), snail (<0.0 g)
2	10-20	Ferrous scrap (0.01 g), burned rock (7.9 g)
3	20-30	Wire duplex nail (1), ferrous scrap (0.6 g), slate (0.2 g), glass (2), burned rock (2.5 g), debitage (4), snail (0.3 g)
4	30-40	Debitage (2), coal (1.8 g), snail (0.1 g)
5	40-50	Debitage (3), ferrous wire (0.5 g), snail (0.6 g), charcoal (0.1 g)
6	50-60	Debitage (1), ferrous fastener (1), clear container glass (1), coal (2.1 g), snail (0.1 g)
7	60-70	Negative

Table 5-1. Contents of Test Unit 1 (41BX2513) by Level

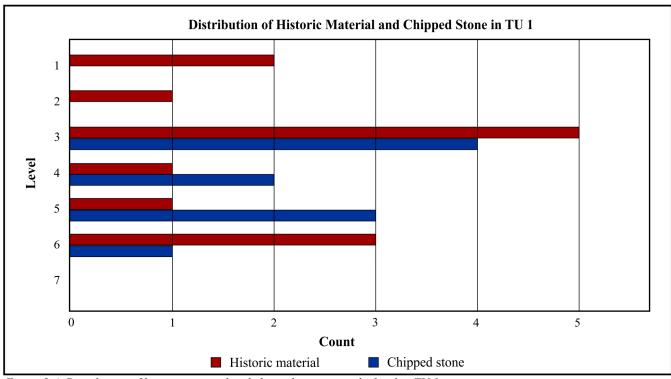


Figure 5-4. Distribution of historic material and chipped stone count by level in TU 1.



Figure 5-5. A sample of artifacts recovered from TU 1. Starting from the top left: a; a machine-made clear bottle base recovered from Level 1, b; a small metal fastener recovered from Level 6, c; a wire duplex nail recovered from Level 3, d-g; a sample of debitage recovered from Levels 3 and 5.

State Hospital potentially have significance due to the unique setting, in this case the sparse, mixed nature of the deposits indicates that they are lacking in research potential.

The comingled precontact and historical deposits at 41BX2513 suggest a history of mixing of deposits in the area, indicating limited research potential. Furthermore, no temporally diagnostic artifacts or cultural features were identified. As such, CAR recommends the site as not eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL, and that therefore construction can proceed as planned. The THC has concurred with this recommendation.

Results of Testing at Site 41BX2515

TU 2 was placed within the boundaries of 41BX2515. The top 20 cm of the unit yielded a soft loamy sediment with low clay content, which transitioned abruptly in Level 2 to a blocky, mottled, silty clay with abundant sand, and roughly 1% gravel by volume, as well as calcium carbonate flecks (see Figures 5-6, 5-7. This blocky mottled

clay contained a mix of coarse sand, gravels, some sparse chipped stone debris, burned rock, metal fragments, and container glass as deep as 50 cmbd (Table 5-2, Figure 5-8). Artifact density was low at 22 artifacts per m³, with historic materials outnumbering precontact material in all levels. The excavation terminated at 60 cmbd, short of the planned 80 cmbd final depth, due to an iron utility pipe uncovered running north to south through the middle of the unit (Figures 5-6, 5-7). The sediments within TU 2 saw significant tree root activity as deep as 60 cmbd. The survey results in this area indicated that bedrock depth is shallow (60-100 cmbs), suggesting that the extent of any deposits located below the utility pipe is limited.

Precontact materials were sparse in TU 2 and were encountered only in Levels 3 and 5. One piece of debitage and 14.6 g of burned rock were recovered (Figure 5-8). No lithic tools were identified. Sparse historic and/or modern materials were also recovered in all levels, including glass (n=3), construction material, and a piece of ferrous scrap that may have flaked off the iron utility pipe encountered in Level 5. While late historic deposits at the State Hospital



Figure 5-6. Terminal level of Test Unit 2 (60 cmbd).



Figure 5-7. North wall of TU 2 at terminal level (60 cmbd).

Level	Depth (cmbs)	TU 2
1	0-10	Clear container glass (1)
2	10-20	Clear container glass (1)
3	20-30	Burned rock (14.1 g), debitage (1), slag (1), worked limestone (1)
4	30-40	Aqua container glass, heavily patinated (1)
5	40-50	Ferrous scrap (0.5 g), burned rock (0.5 g)

Table 5-2. Contents of Test Unit 2 (41BX2515) by Level



Figure 5-8. A sample of burned rock recovered from TU 2, Level 3.

are potentially significant due to the unique setting, in the case of site 41BX2515 the deposits are too sparse and mixed to have significant research potential. No temporally diagnostic artifacts or cultural features were encountered.

The comingled precontact and historical deposits at 41BX2515 suggest a history of mixing of deposits in

the area, likely because of both historic construction and bioturbation. None of the artifacts were diagnostic to a specific temporal period. No features were identified within Test Unit 2. Given the mixed nature of the deposits, disturbances present, and sparse deposits, research potential of the site is very limited. CAR recommends the site as not eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL, and that therefore construction can proceed as planned. THC has concurred with these recommendations.

Modern Brick Structure

On January 20, 2023, Chesney-Morales notified the CAR that a brick structure had been encountered during

construction. While CAR staff who visited the site were not able to directly view the structure, as it had been removed and the remains buried before arrival, the contractor, SpawGlass, provided the CAR with photos and a location map. In the photos it is clear that the brick and concrete feature (Figures 5-9 and 5-10), located just south of the parking lot in the vicinity of BHT 4, is a modern structure. The BHT 4 results, as well as the two negative shovel tests



Figure 5-9. Material removed during demolition of brick structure. Note large chunks of concrete, brick sitting in concrete.



Figure 5-10. Concrete foundation and brick wall in profile.

(STs 5 and 6) excavated in the immediate area, confirm the area is disturbed and lacks intact cultural deposits.

Discussion and Summary

CAR conducted eligibility testing of sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515 in November and December of 2022 in advance

of impact to both sites for warehouse development. Deposits at both sites were found to be sparse and in mixed contexts. No temporally diagnostic artifacts or cultural features were recorded. CAR submitted an interim report (Paige 2022) to the THC for review prior to impacts to the site by construction. The THC concurred with the CAR's recommendations based on the testing results in the interim report.

Chapter 6: Summary and Recommendations

CAR conducted an intensive pedestrian survey with shovel testing and backhoe trenching of a 4.2-acre project area located on San Antonio State Hospital grounds in May of 2022, and eligibility testing of two of the recorded sites (41BX2513 and 41BX2515) in November and December of 2022. The project area is slated for development of a warehouse. The archaeological work was conducted to identify buried cultural deposits within the project area, document any previously unrecorded archaeological sites that were encountered, and assess the impact of the planned construction on any identified archaeological deposits. In total 13 shovel tests, four backhoe trenches and two test units were excavated. Three previously unrecorded sites (41BX2513, 41BX2514, and 41BX2515) were identified.

Sites 41BX2513 and 41BX2515 included buried precontact material. Avoidance of impact to both sites was initially recommended. However, after consultation with Chesney Morales Partners, Inc., it was clear the installation of heavy-duty asphalt would impact both sites. Due to these impacts, excavation of a test unit within each site was recommended to

provide data sufficient to make an eligibility recommendation. Both sites were found to have limited research potential due to sparse, mixed historic and precontact deposits and disturbed contexts. Due to lack of integrity or research potential neither site was recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL. The THC has concurred with these recommendations. No further work is recommended at site 41BX2513 or 41BX2515.

41BX2514 was found during the survey to contain mixed historic and precontact deposits in highly disturbed contexts. Due to lack of integrity or research potential this site is not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP or designation as a SAL. The THC has concurred with these recommendations. No further work is recommended at 41BX2514. Following laboratory processing and analysis, selected items that were determined to have no remaining scientific value were discarded with the concurrence of HHS and the THC. All remaining artifacts collected and records generated during this project are curated at the CAR in accordance with THC guidelines as accession number 2674. This page intentionally left blank.

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Appendix A: Proposed Utility Installation

Redacted Image

Figure A-1. Plumbed utilities georeferenced from provided civil engineering plans would not impact archaeological sites.

Redacted Image

Figure A-2. Electrical utilities georeferenced from provided site plans avoid impacts to archaeological site 41BX2513.

Redacted Image

Figure A-3. Additional electrical utilities georeferenced from provided site plans avoid impacts to archaeological site 41BX2513.