

**INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE  
47-ACRE CITY BASE WEST PROJECT AREA, PLAT #090328,  
BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS**

Prepared for

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## ABSTRACT

On behalf of CFR Development Services, LLC, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an intensive archaeological survey of the 47-Acre City Base West Project Area, (Calicar Plat #090328), located in Bexar County, about 6 miles southeast of downtown San Antonio, Texas. The project area is 47 acres in size, with 2,000 feet of frontage along South New Braunfels Avenue and 1,500 feet of frontage along Southeast Military Drive.

Cultural resource investigations were conducted to satisfy the requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO) per the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634). These investigations included a background archival review and an intensive pedestrian survey with subsurface investigations designed to identify any potentially significant prehistoric or historic cultural resources which may be affected by the project.

The background review revealed that one archaeological survey has been previously conducted adjacent to the eastern boundary of the project area and that no previously recorded sites are located within the project area. However, 11 previously recorded sites are within 1 mile of the property (41BX239, 41BX240, 41BX242, 41BX243, 41BX258, 41BX268, 41BX269, 41BX279, 41BX280, 41BX1395, and 41BX1622). In addition, 12 previously conducted archaeological surveys, four cemeteries, a National Register Property, and a National Register District are located within 1 mile of the project area.

Prior disturbances within the 47-acre project area include vegetation clearing, two-track road and fence construction, and modern construction debris deposits. An unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River flows through the project area from northwest to south. The project area occupies upland terraces and the floodplain of the tributary. SWCA's investigations consisted of an intensive pedestrian survey with subsurface investigations within the project area. A total of 18 shovel tests and 10 backhoe trenches were conducted in settings that were assessed as having a high probability to contain buried intact cultural resources. No significant cultural materials were identified on the surface of the 47 acres or within any of the subsurface investigations.

This survey exceeded the Texas Historical Commission's survey standards, which require a minimum of two shovel tests per acre, or 24 for a project of this size. Overall, SWCA's intensive archaeological survey determined that no significant cultural resources will be affected by any construction activities within the project area. SWCA recommends no further archaeological investigations.



## INTRODUCTION

On behalf of CFR Development Services, LLC, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an intensive archaeological survey of the 47-acre City Base West Project Area, (Calicar Plat #090328), located in Bexar County, about 6 miles southeast of downtown San Antonio, Texas (Figure 1).

The project area is 47 acres in size, with 2,000 feet of frontage along South New Braunfels Avenue and 1,500 feet of frontage along Southeast Military Drive. The property's northern and western borders are irregularly shaped. The San Antonio State Hospital is along the project area's western boundary. An unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River flows through the project area from northwest to south.

Cultural resource investigations were conducted to satisfy the requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO) per the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634). These investigations included a background archival review and an intensive pedestrian survey with subsurface investigations. The purpose of the work was to locate and identify all prehistoric and historic archaeological sites in the project area, establish vertical and horizontal site boundaries as appropriate with regard to the project area, and evaluate the significance and eligibility of any site recorded within the property for designation as a State Archeological Landmark (SAL). SWCA archaeologists Mary Jo Galindo and Matthew Stotts conducted the fieldwork on May 24, 2010.

## DEFINITION OF STUDY AREA

Located in southeast Bexar County, Texas, the project area is 2.5 miles northwest of the inter-

section of Interstate Highway (IH) 37 and Loop 410 (Figure 2). The project area is grass covered and mostly cleared of larger vegetation, with a riparian corridor along the unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River. A network of two-track roads traverses the project area and modern construction debris (concrete fragments, concrete drainage tubes, fencing material, a pair of wooden and metal bleachers, etc.) is evident in several areas along these roads. At the time of survey the creek had flowing water and debris in the trees along the banks indicating a recent high-energy flooding incident. The creek enters the project area along South New Braunfels Avenue at Lasses Street, flowing in a southeasterly, and then southerly, route before exiting the project area at Southeast Military Drive.

A review of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Historic Sites Overlay using five maps depicting the project location from 1871, 1887, 1903, 1927, and 1953, indicates the parcel has been undeveloped rural land for most of its history. The two nineteenth century maps depict the project area mostly within a parcel belonging to William Small and also within an adjacent parcel belonging to Justo Esqueda. The surrounding area depicted in these maps includes farms and ranches in a rural setting. An unnamed road traverses the northeast corner of the project area as the road heads from the northwest to the southeast.

By 1903, the project area remains in a largely rural setting; however, the State Insane Asylum has since been constructed nearby. In 1927, fences are mapped within the project area and residential development is evident to the north and east, while Brooks Air Force Base has been constructed to the south. By 1953, there is some development in the north end of the project area at the end of a dead end street that is south of Upson Road (Figure 3). This dead end street and the surrounding

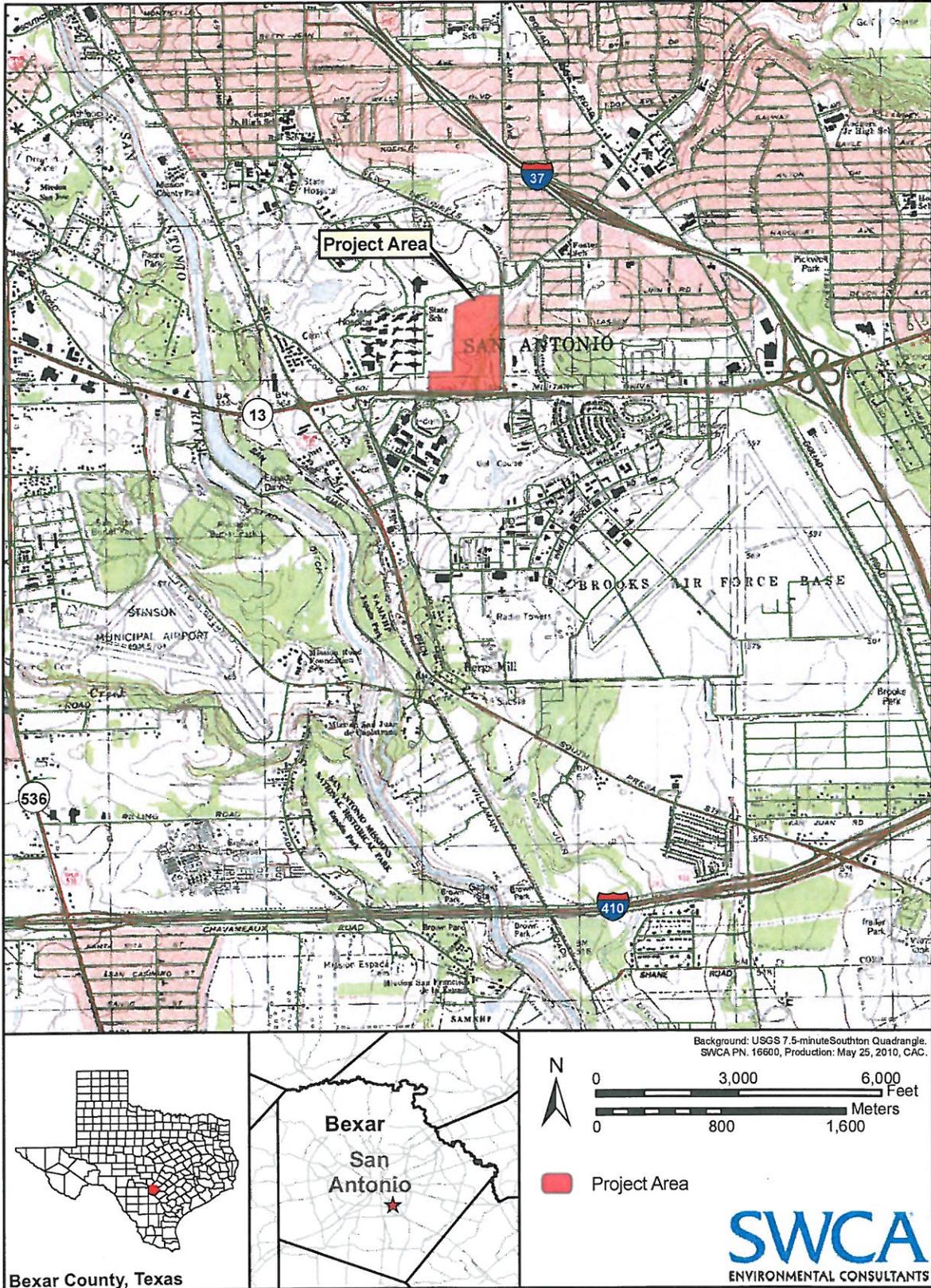


Figure 1. Project location map.



Figure 2. Project location map with 2008 aerial background.

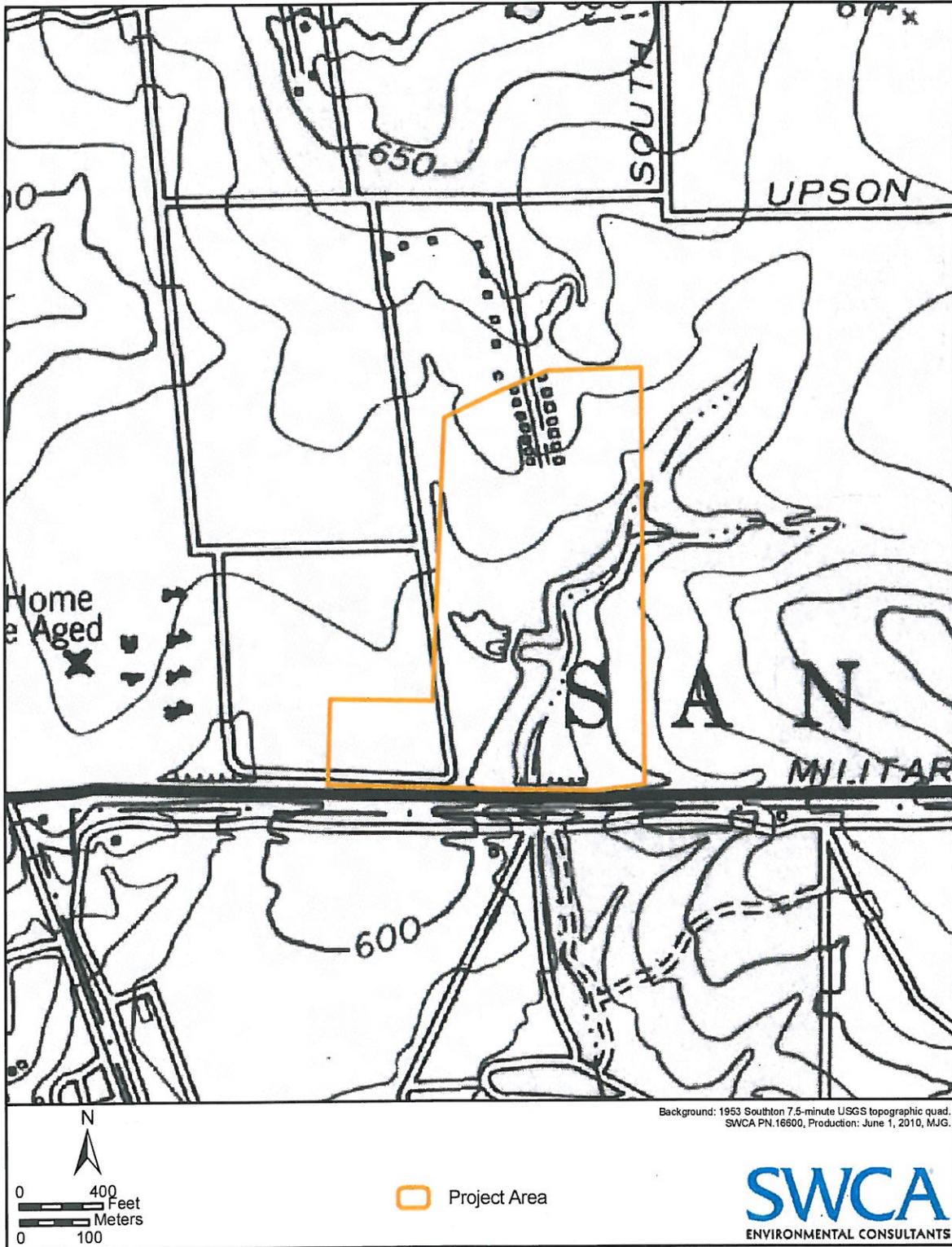


Figure 3. Project location map with 1953 USGS topographic quadrangle background.

development are not evident on the 1992 Southton, Texas (2998-132) U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle; instead the State Hospital grounds now occupy much of this area and South New Braunfels Avenue has been constructed adjacent to the project area's eastern border.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The underlying geology of the project area is mapped as Holocene-era Fluvial terrace deposits (Fisher 1983). These terrace deposits consist of predominately gravel, limestone, dolomite, and chert, with sand, silt, and clay. Most low terrace deposits along entrenched streams are above flood level (Fisher 1983).

Several types of soil are mapped in the project area: Webb fine sandy loam, Lewisville silty clay, and Patrick soils (Taylor et al. 1991:Map Sheet 63). Approximately 75 percent of the project area is mapped as Webb fine sandy loam, which are very deep, well drained, slowly permeable soils that form in loamy sediments. These nearly level to gently sloping soils are on uplands with slopes ranging from 1 to 5 percent (Taylor et al. 1991:34). The surface layer is a sandy loam 8–12 inches thick, while the underlying layer consists of sandy clay, 16–18 inches thick (Taylor et al. 1991:34).

Lewisville silty clay comprises about 20 percent of the project area. Lewisville silty clay, with 1 to 3 percent slopes, occurs on nearly level, broad terraces along the unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River. The surface layer is a silty clay or light clay, 24 inches thick. The underlying layer consists of brown silty clay, 20 inches thick (Taylor et al. 1991:25).

The remainder of the project area is mapped as Patrick soils with 3 to 5 percent slopes that are rarely flooded. These soils are shallow and

are on nearly level and gently sloping terraces along the tributary (Taylor et al. 1991:27). These long and narrow terraces are often 3–30 feet above the present streambed.

## METHODS

### *BACKGROUND REVIEW*

SWCA conducted a thorough background cultural resources and environmental literature search of the project area. An SWCA archaeologist reviewed the Southton (2998-132), Texas, USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and searched the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas) online database and TxDOT Historic Overlay maps for any previously recorded surveys and historic or prehistoric archaeological sites located in or near the project area.

In addition to identifying recorded archaeological sites, the review included information on the following types of cultural resources: National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, SALs, Official Texas Historical Markers (OTHM), Registered Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL), cemeteries, and local neighborhood surveys. The archaeologist also examined the *Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas* (Taylor et al. 1991) and the *Geologic Atlas of Texas, San Antonio Sheet* (Fisher 1983). Stoner System map sheet 1006 and aerial photographs were also reviewed to assist in identifying any historic resources or disturbances.

### *FIELD METHODS*

SWCA's investigations consisted of an intensive pedestrian survey with subsurface investigations within the project area. Archaeologists examined the ground surface and extensive erosional profiles and exposures for cul-

tural resources. Subsurface investigations involved shovel testing and backhoe trenches in settings with the potential to contain buried cultural materials. For areal projects less than 100 acres, the THC's survey standards require a minimum of two subsurface investigations per acre, thus requiring a minimum of 24 shovel tests or backhoe trenches, dependent on variables such as disturbances and soils. The shovel tests were approximately 30 cm in diameter and excavated to culturally sterile deposits, bedrock, or impassible basal clay, whichever came first. The matrix from each shovel test was screened through ¼-inch mesh, and the location of each excavation was plotted using a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) receiver. Each shovel test was recorded on a standardized form to document the excavations.

The project area possesses characteristics that have the potential for deeply buried archaeological sites (namely the alluvial floodplain of the unnamed San Antonio River tributary). The primary method for quickly and efficiently exploring these types of areas is backhoe trenching. Trenches were usually placed approximately 100–300 m apart, with tighter intervals if necessary. Trench placement was based on the level of disturbance within the project area, the location of buried utilities, and the preservation potential for archaeological sites. Backhoe trenches were excavated to a depth sufficient to determine the presence/absence of buried cultural materials and allowed the complete recording of all features and geomorphic information to depths of project impacts. Generally, trenches were 2 m deep, 8 m long, and 1.5 m wide.

Trenching was monitored by an experienced archaeologist while excavations were underway. Trenches were inspected by an Occupational Safety and Health Standards (OSHA) certified Competent Person prior to an experienced archaeologist entering the excavation to record profile drawings with soils descrip-

tions for each trench. All features, if encountered during trenching, were to be mapped and photographed. All OSHA safety protocols were utilized in these trenches and they were backfilled and leveled upon completion of excavation and recording.

Had any new or previously documented sites been encountered, both prehistoric and historic, they would have been documented on appropriate forms and plotted on USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps and appropriate project maps for planning purposes. Submeter GPS will be utilized to produce site maps.

SWCA performed a non-collection survey. Artifacts encountered were tabulated, analyzed, and documented in the field, but not collected.

## RESULTS

### *BACKGROUND REVIEW*

The results of the background review determined that one previous archaeological survey has been conducted adjacent to the eastern boundary of the project area and no previously recorded sites are located within the project area location. However, 11 previously recorded sites are within 1 mile of the property (41BX239, 41BX240, 41BX242, 41BX243, 41BX258, 41BX268, 41BX269, 41BX279, 41BX280, 41BX1395, and 41BX1622). In addition, 12 previously conducted archaeological surveys, four cemeteries, a National Register Property, and a National Register District are located within 1 mile of the property. Aerial photographs indicate that no standing structures are present on the property. Likewise, no structures are evident on the historic Stone System Map Sheet 1006, which is circa 1940s. One 1953 map from the TxDOT Historic Overlay depicts a dead end street with development within the project area; however, by 1992, this road and development no longer

exist and the area has become part of the State Hospital grounds.

SWCA conducted a series of surveys in 2002 for San Antonio Water System (SAWS) customer distribution lines, which included archival research, survey, and monitoring (Barile et al. 2002). The Riverside Main Line segment included surveys along New Braunfels Avenue which forms the eastern boundary of the 47-acre City Base West Property project area. Site 41BX1395 was among the sites identified during the investigation, located north of the project area. It was recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP or for designation as an SAL (Barile et al. 2002).

Twelve previous archaeological surveys were conducted within 1 mile of the 47-acre City Base West Property. Two surveys were performed within the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park located west of the project area between South Presa Street and Roosevelt Drive, one by the THC in 1976 for the proposed Mission Parkway and another by the National Parks Service in 1980 (Atlas; Scurlock et al. 1976). Four other investigations include monitoring by HCRS in 1978, testing in 1978 under permit 186 and investigations in 1983 under permit 317. These surveys were also located west of South Presa Street. A survey was also conducted in 1983 for the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation (now TxDOT) along Pecan Valley Drive. Besides locational data, no other information is available for these surveys on the Atlas.

The University of San Antonio Center for Archaeological Research (UTSA-CAR) conducted three surveys within 1 mile of the project area. A survey and testing project was performed in 1992 for the San Antonio River Authority west of the project area. A survey for the proposed South New Braunfels Park Site was conducted in December of 1993 and

located north of the project area between IH 37 and New Braunfels Drive. UTSA-CAR also completed archival research, survey, and monitoring in 1998 for the Federal Housing Administration west of the project area. No cultural resource sites were recorded during these investigations within the project area (Atlas).

A survey was conducted by Geo-Marine in 2005 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District and included archival research and survey west of South Presa Street. Site 41BX1622 was among the sites identified during the investigation (Atlas; Peter et al. 2006). Geo-Marine also conducted a survey for the Old Salado Siphon Replacement on behalf of SAWS in 2008 southwest of the project area and south of Southeast Military Drive. No cultural resource sites were recorded during these investigations within the project area (Atlas).

Finally, City of San Antonio Archaeologist Kay Hindes alerted SWCA about archaic burials that were excavated by Geo-Marine at site 41BX1628 and recently analyzed by Ecological Communications Corporation (EComm); however, this site is 1.25 miles northwest of the project area.

#### **PREVIOUSLY RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

Site 41BX239 is a former cemetery for the Eden Home for the Aged and was recorded in 1974 as part of the Mission Parkway survey (Atlas; Scurlock et al. 1976). It is 0.65 mile northwest of the project area. According to the site form, all of the approximately 30 burials were moved in about 1953, leaving grave stones and linings (Atlas; Scurlock et al. 1976). The site's eligibility for inclusion to the NRHP or for designation as an SAL was not determined.

Eight other sites were identified during the Mission Parkway survey and are within 1 mile of the project area, including 41BX240, 41BX242, 41BX243, 41BX258, 41BX268, 41BX269, 41BX279, and 41BX280.

Site 41BX240 is a white brick-lined well or cistern that has been filled in. The site is 0.69 mile northwest of the project area, near both the San Juan Acequia and the San Antonio River. Site 41BX242 is the Old James House, a former home for the mentally disabled, constructed of local sandstone with limestone lintels over the doors and windows. The site is 1 mile southwest of the project area and 0.55 mile northwest of Mission San Juan.

Site 41BX243 is the former Grothaus homestead, consisting of a house, barn, and mill complex, built around 1884. The site is 0.92 mile southwest of the project area and near both the Espada Acequia and the San Antonio River. Site 41BX258 is the Mariano Zuniga house, an adobe and stone house that is 1 mile south of the project area and 0.4 mile northeast of Mission San Juan.

Site 41BX268 is an acequia that begins on the north bank of the San Antonio River, east of Mission San José, passes Mission San Juan and then rejoins the river south of Mission Espada. The site is 0.58 mile southwest of the project area. Site 41BX269 is an acequia that begins at Espada Dam on the southwest bank of the San Antonio River, passes Mission Espada and then rejoins the river near Cassin Lake. The site is 0.81 mile southwest of the project area.

Site 41BX279 is the former Pyron homestead at the corner of Southeast Military Drive and Mission Road, about 0.93 mile southwest of the project area. The house is made of adobe and about 0.5 mile south of Mission San José. The final Mission Parkway site is 41BX280,

the Espada Dam and acequia, which is 0.82 mile southwest of the project area.

The last two sites were recorded more recently. Site 41BX1395 is a prehistoric lithic scatter and upland lithic procurement site that was recorded in 2000 by SWCA during a series of surveys for SAWS customer distribution lines (Barile et al. 2002). The site is 0.37 mile north of the project area. No features or diagnostic artifacts were recorded and the site was recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP or for designation as an SAL (Atlas; Barile et al. 2002).

Site 41BX1622 is a multi-component site along the San Antonio River with both prehistoric and historic artifacts. It is 0.91 mile west of the project area and was recorded in 2005 by Geo-Marine, Inc. (Atlas). Non-diagnostic, prehistoric lithic artifacts were recovered along with historic glass and ceramic fragments that date to the late eighteenth or nineteenth century. The site was recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP or for designation as an SAL (Atlas; Peter et al. 2006).

## CEMETERIES

There are four cemeteries recorded within 1 mile of the project area, including East Mt. Calm (0.61 mile northeast of the project area), South Mt. Calm (0.51 mile northwest), Kielman (0.32 mile southwest), and Mission Funeral Park (0.82 mile southwest).

The East Mt. Calm Cemetery (BX-C017) contains approximately 1,000 burials from 1900–1945 and is on State Hospital property, 0.1 mile east of South New Braunfels Avenue. The South Mt. Calm Cemetery (BX-C212) contains approximately 500 burials from 1892–1945 and is on State Hospital property, 300 feet east of 7378 Old Corpus Christi Highway.

The Kielman Cemetery (BX-C201) contains at least one burial although two time frames are specified for the burials (1860–1900 and 1900–1945) and it is currently behind a business along South Presa Street. Finally, The Mission Funeral Park Cemetery (BX-C015) contains approximately 1,000 burials from 1900–2005 and is just south of 1693 Southeast Military Drive.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTY**

One National Register Property, Hanger 9 at Brooks Air Force Base (#70000895), is 0.72 mile southeast of the project area. It was listed on the NRHP in 1970 (Atlas). Hanger 9 is the lone survivor of 16 similar structures constructed at Brooks Field in 1918. It was refurbished in 1968 and dedicated as an aviation museum in honor of Astronaut Edward H. White II (Atlas).

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT**

One National Register District, Mission Parkway (#75001953), is 0.45 mile west of the project area. It was listed on the NRHP in 1975 and covers approximately 24,000 acres along the San Antonio River, including four of the five Spanish colonial missions in San Antonio (Atlas; Ivey and Fox 1997, Scurlock et al. 1976).

#### **FIELD SURVEY**

On May 24, 2010, two SWCA archaeologists conducted an intensive pedestrian and subsurface survey of the City Base West project area. SWCA excavated a total of 18 shovel tests (ST) and 10 backhoe trenches (BHT) within the project area (Figure 4 and Tables 1 and 2). BHTs 1–5 were placed along the west bank of the San Antonio River tributary, while BHTs 6–10 were excavated along its east bank. Three shovel tests were also excavated east of the tributary with the remainder covering the area to the north and west. Additional

shovel tests were placed near BHTs 1 and 2 to investigate what turned out to be isolated flakes near or on the surface, respectively.

BHT 1 was excavated on a terrace west of the unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River (see Figure 4 and Table 1). Three soil strata were observed in the trench (Figure 5). Stratum 1 in BHT 1 was 25 cm thick and consisted of dark yellowish-brown silty clay with roots and 50 percent gravel inclusions. One large chert flake with retouching scars along one edge (Figure 6) was encountered at 0–15 cm below surface (cmbs). Stratum 2 was 20 cm thick and was a light yellowish-brown silty clay loam mottled with 25 percent calcium carbonate filaments with rootlets and about 10 percent gravel. It tapered in depth from east to west. Stratum 3 was 85 cm thick and the matrix was yellow brown clay mottled with 50 percent calcium carbonate filaments and nodules (Stage 2) with rootlets, and no gravel. BHT 1 terminated at sterile basal clay at 130 cmbs. The dense calcium carbonates in the lower strata typically represent a stable surface of some age. Nordt (1999:33) notes that similar Bk horizons in San Antonio and other regions have been dated to the late Pleistocene. This strata therefore has no potential to contain cultural materials. In the City Base West property, this horizon has been shallowly buried by Holocene deposits in the southern portion of the parcel.

Ordinarily, a column sample is excavated within a trench when cultural materials are encountered. In this case, the stratum containing the flake, Stratum 1, was only 25 cm thick and no other cultural materials or features were evident in the trench's sidewalls. Therefore, four shovel tests were excavated around BHT 1 to determine the nature of the archaeological deposit and its horizontal extent. STs 10–13 were each excavated to 25 cmbs and placed 3–10 m from BHT 1 in each cardinal direction (see Table 2). No other cultural

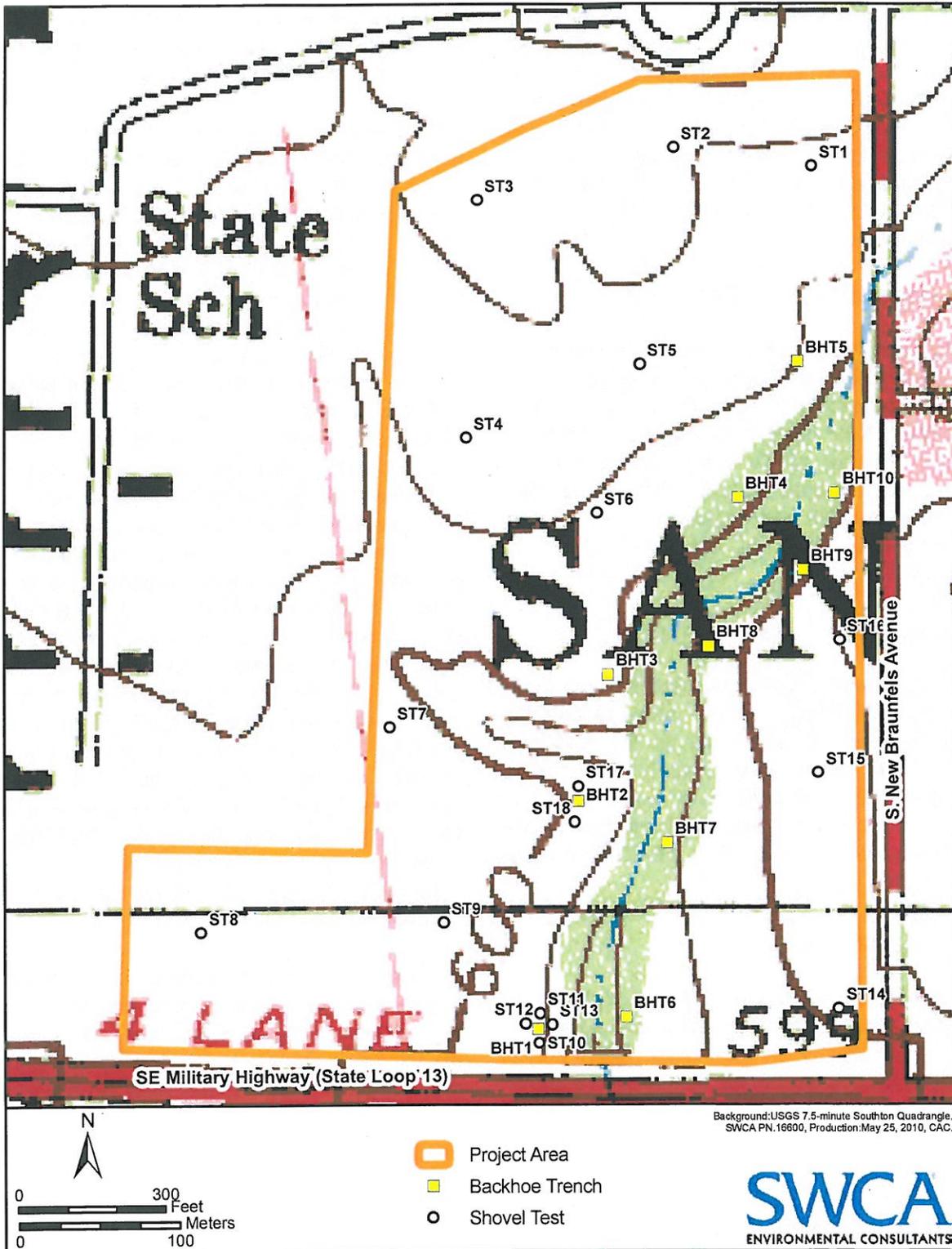


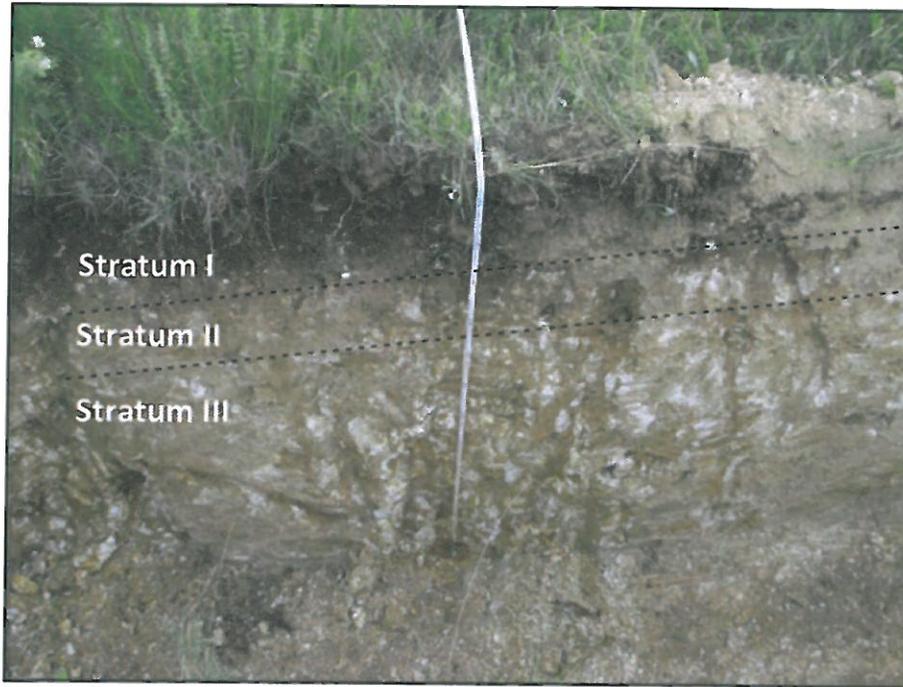
Figure 4. Backhoe trench and shovel test locations.

**Table 1. Backhoe Trench Data for City Base West Project**

Trench	Depth (cmbs)	Munsell	Soil Color	Soil Texture Description	Inclusions	Lower Boundary	Comments
1	0-25	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	silty clay	50% cobbles and gravels, roots, rootlets	clear	positive: one large chert flake with retouched edge
	25-45	10YR6/4	light yellowish brown	silty clay loam	10% gravel, calcium carbonate, rootlets	diffuse	tapers from east to west
	45-130	10YR5/8	yellowish brown	silty clay	20% calcium carbonate, rootlets, no gravel	unknown	terminated at basal clay
2	0-23	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	silty clay	50% cobbles and gravels, roots, rootlets	diffuse	topsoil is 40 cm thicker at west end and absent in east
	23-48	10YR6/4	light yellowish brown	silty clay loam	10% gravel, calcium carbonate, rootlets	diffuse	topsoil is 80 cm thick at west end
	48-130	10YR6/4	light yellowish brown	silty clay	50% gravel, few rootlets	unknown	terminated at basal clay
3	0-27	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	silty clay loam	75% cobbles and gravels, rootlets	abrupt	none
	27-60	10YR6/4	light yellowish brown	silty clay loam		unknown	terminated at bedrock marl
4	0-40	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	clay loam	roots, rootlets, no gravels	diffuse	barbed wire fragment at 40 cm
	40-75	7.5YR4/6	strong brown	silty clay loam	roots, rootlets	gradual	none
	75-140	2.5YR5/3	reddish brown	clay loam	30% calcium carbonate, occasional gravels, few roots	unknown	terminated at basal clay
5	0-50	10YR6/6	brownish yellow	clay	large boulders, roots	abrupt	steel cable (guy wire), large chunk of concrete, razor blade (fill)
	50-70	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	clay	rootlets	diffuse	none
	70-140	10YR7/6	yellow	clay	high percentage of calcium carbonate	unknown	terminated at basal clay
6	0-60	10YR3/4	dark yellowish brown	clay loam	roots, rootlets, no gravels	abrupt	deposit thicker at west end (toward creek)
	60-130	10YR7/3	very pale brown	clay	occasional root and cobble	unknown	terminated at basal clay
7	0-60	10YR3/2	dark yellowish brown	clay loam	roots, rootlets	diffuse	none
	60-140	7.5YR7/2	pinkish gray	clay loam	rootlets	unknown	terminated at basal clay
8	0-50	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	clay loam	roots, rootlets, no gravels	diffuse	none
	50-110	7.5YR4/6	strong brown	silty clay loam	roots, rootlets	gradual	none
	110-140	2.5YR5/3	reddish brown	clay loam	30% calcium carbonate, occasional gravels, few roots	unknown	terminated at basal clay
9	0-50	10YR4/4	dark yellowish brown	clay loam	50% cobbles	diffuse	none
	50-110	2.5YR8/2	pinkish white	silty clay	70% cobbles and gravels, occasional boulder	gradual	none
	110-140	white	white	silty clay	50% gravel	unknown	terminated at basal clay
10	0-70	5YR5/4	reddish brown	clay	70% cobbles and gravels	abrupt	positive: one biface preform in this fill
	70-100	10YR4/6	dark yellowish brown	clay loam	5% small gravels	gradual	none
	100-155	7.5YR5/6	strong brown	silty clay loam	50% gravels at base	abrupt	none
	155-160	white	white	clay	marl with flagstones	unknown	terminated at bedrock marl

Table 2. Shovel Test Data for City Base West Project

Shovel Test #	Site	Depth (cmb)	Munsell	Soil Color	Soil Texture Description	Inclusions	Comments
1	n/a	0-33	10YR4/3	brown	silty loam	75% chert gravels	hillslope north of unnamed creek
2	n/a	0-27	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam		gradual hillslope along project north boundary
		27-29	2.5YR3/6	dark red	clay		ancient sterile clay; 0% surface visibility
3	n/a	0-33	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam		flat area, northwest project area, 30 m east of mound
		33-36	2.5YR3/6	dark red	clay		ancient sterile clay; 0% surface visibility
4	n/a	0-30	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam		flat area, at western project boundary
		30-31	2.5YR3/6	dark red	clay		ancient sterile clay; 0% surface visibility
5	n/a	0-25	10YR4/3	brown	clay loam		100 m west of BHT5; open field, south of mound
		25-30	5YR8/1	white	caliche		caliche marl; 0% surface visibility
6	n/a	0-25	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam		center of proj area west of creek
		25-27	2.5YR3/6	dark red	clay		ancient sterile clay; 0% surface visibility
7	n/a	0-30	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam		immediately south of small drainage at west fenceline
		30-32	2.5YR3/6	dark red	clay		ancient sterile clay; 30% surface visibility
8	n/a	0-27	10YR4/3	brown	clay loam		southwest corner of project area
		27-30	2.5YR3/6	dark red	clay		same soils as most st's in this 1/2 of project area, 30% surface visibility
9	n/a	0-30	10YR4/4	dark yellowish brown	silty loam	gravels, calcium carbonate	120 m west of creek
		30-31	10YR5/4	yellowish brown	clay		very gravely with high calcium carbonate content; 5% surface visibility
10	IF1	0-25	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam	gravels	gravely clay loam; 3 m south of BHT1
11	IF1	0-25	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam	gravels	gravely clay loam; 10 m north of BHT1
12	IF1	0-25	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam	gravels	gravely clay loam; 7 m east of BHT1
13	IF1	0-25	10YR3/3	dark brown	clay loam	gravels	gravely clay loam; 7 m west of BHT1
14	n/a	0-15	10YR5/4	yellowish brown	silty clay	gravels	hilltop, disturbed? Southeast corner of project area, same vegetation as rest of project area
		15-20	10YR5/4	yellowish brown	clay		heavily mottled; gray, orange, light brown clay
15	n/a	0-10	10YR3/4	dark yellowish brown	silty loam	dense gravels	80 m east of BHT7 along east project boundary dense gravels at 10 cm
16	n/a	0-30	7.5YR3/2	dark brown	clay loam		at east fenceline between BHT 8 and 9
		30-33	5YR3/4	dark red brown	clay		ancient sterile clay at 30 cm
17	IF2	0-20	10YR3/3	dark brown	silty loam	gravels	12 m north of BHT2; gravely loam; excavated through depth cultural material (surface)
18	IF2	0-10	10YR3/3	dark brown	silty loam	gravels	12 m south of BHT2; gravely loam; excavated through depth cultural material (surface)



**Figure 5.** South wall profile of BHT 1, facing south.



**Figure 6.** Chert flake with retouching scars from BHT 1.

materials besides the initial flake were encountered; thus, the flake is considered an isolated, non-diagnostic artifact that does not merit the designation of a trinomial.

BHT 2 was excavated about 145 m north of BHT 1 on the west terrace of the creek (see Figure 4). The trench was placed where a chert core and a flake were evident on the surface (Figure 7). Three strata were encountered in BHT 2 (see Table 1). Strata 1 and 2 were similar to those encountered in BHT 1, while Stratum 3 consisted of 82 cm of light yellowish-brown clay mottled with 20 percent yellowish-brown clay with rootlets, calcium carbonates, and 50 percent gravel inclusions. Both Strata 1 and 2 exhibited thicker deposits to the west. In fact, Stratum 1 was 40 cm thick in the west end of the trench and absent in the east. Stratum 2 was 80 cm thick in the west and 25 cm in the east. BHT 2 terminated at sterile basal clay at 130 cmbs.

A column sample was not excavated in BHT 2 because the core and flake were found on the surface. Instead, two shovel tests were excavated around BHT 2 to determine the nature of the archaeological deposit and its horizontal extent. No further cultural material was evident on the surface surrounding BHT 2. STs 17 and 18 were excavated to 20 and 10 cmbs, respectively, and placed about 12 m north and south from BHT 2 (see Table 2). No other cultural materials besides the initial core and flake were encountered; thus, these artifacts are considered isolated, non-diagnostic cultural materials that do not merit the designation of a trinomial.

BHT 3 was excavated about 77 m north of BHT 2 on the west terrace of the creek (see Figure 4). Two strata were encountered in BHT 3 (see Table 1), which terminated at bedrock marl at 60 cmbs.

BHT 4 was excavated about 133 m northeast of BHT 3 on the west terrace of the creek (see Figure 4). Concrete fragments were observed on the surface near BHT 4 and a barbed wire fragment was encountered at 40 cmbs (Figure 8). Three strata of soil were observed in the trench, which terminated at sterile basal clay at 140 cmbs.

Two trenches (BHTs 5 and 10) at the northeast extent of the unnamed tributary contained a layer of fill above the natural stratigraphy. BHT 5 was excavated about 100 m north of BHT 4 on the west terrace of the creek (see Figure 4). Three strata of soil were observed in the trench. Stratum 1 contained large concrete fragments, a steel cable guy wire, and a razor blade, which indicated that this is a fill layer (Figure 9). Strata 2 and 3 represented the natural stratigraphy. BHT 5 terminated at sterile basal clay at 140 cmbs.

BHT 10 was excavated about 100 m north of BHT 9 on the east terrace of the creek and on the bank opposite from BHT 5 (see Figure 4). Four strata of soil were observed in the trench (Figure 10; see Table 1). One biface perform was encountered in Stratum 1; however, this layer was judged to be fill. The provenience of the biface, therefore, is uncertain and the artifact was not included in the analysis. BHT 10 terminated at 160 cmbs at bedrock marl and limestone flagstones.

BHT 6 was excavated on a terrace east of the unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River and across the creek from BHT 1 (see Figure 4 and Table 1). Two strata of soil were observed in the trench, which terminated at sterile basal clay at 130 cmbs.

BHT 7 was excavated about 100 m north of BHT 6 on the east terrace of the creek and on the bank opposite from BHT 2 (see Figure 4). Two strata were encountered in BHT 7



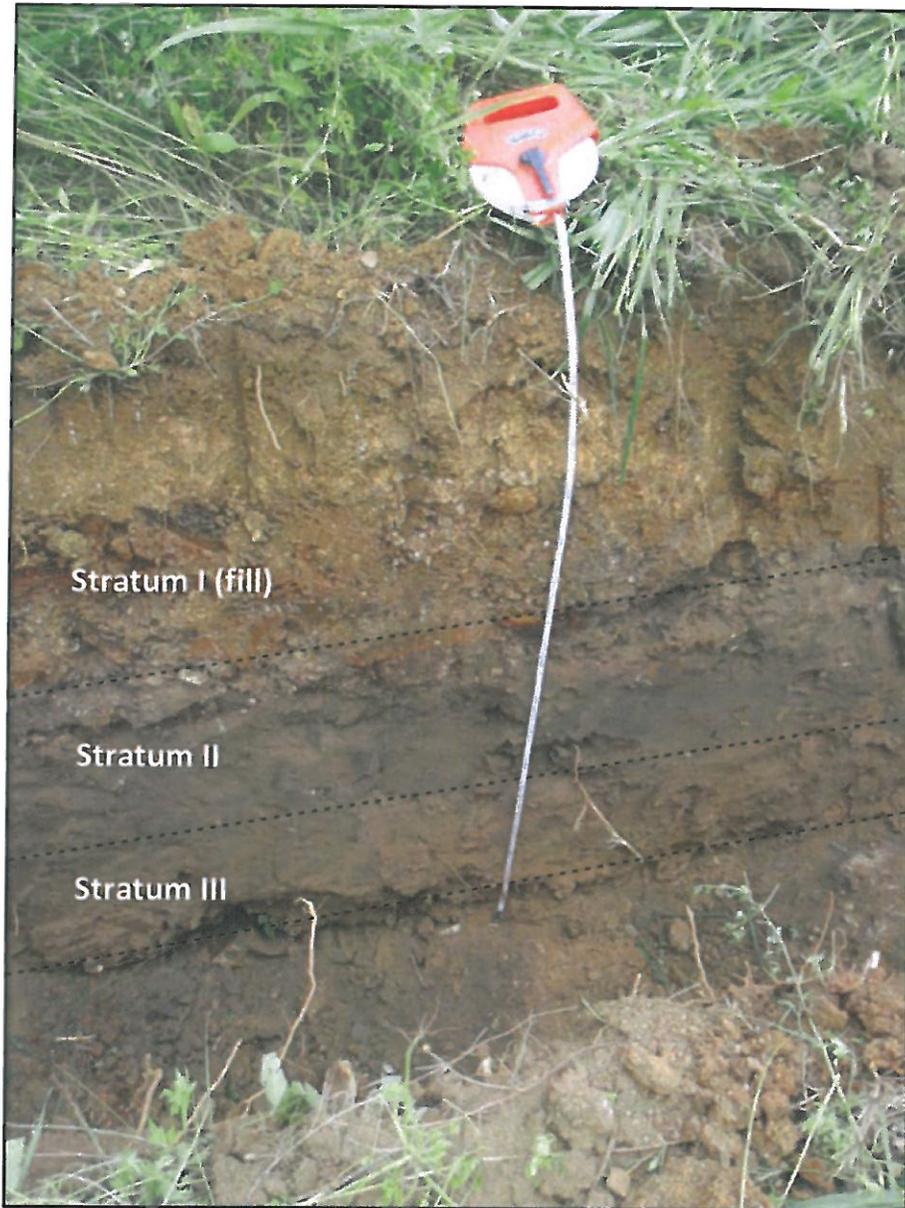
**Figure 7.** Chert core and flake from surface near BHT 2.



**Figure 8.** Concrete fragments on the surface near BHT 4, facing west.



**Figure 9.** Plan view of BHT 5 with steel cable guy wire visible, facing west.



**Figure 10.** North wall profile of BHT 10, facing north. Stratum 4 (bedrock flagstones) has been removed.

(see Table 1), which terminated at sterile basal clay at 140 cmbs.

BHT 8 was excavated about 100 m north of BHT 7 on the east terrace of the creek and on the bank opposite from BHT 3 (see Figure 4). Three strata of soil were observed in the trench (see Table 1), which terminated at sterile basal clay at 140 cmbs.

BHT 9 was excavated about 100 m north of BHT 8 on the east terrace of the creek and on the bank opposite from BHT 4 (see Figure 4). Three strata of soil were observed in the trench (see Table 1), which terminated at sterile basal clay at 140 cmbs.

Eighteen shovel tests (STs 1–18) were excavated within the project area (see Table 2). The depth of these investigations ranged from 10–36 cmbs with an average depth of 26.2 cmbs. These excavations encountered brown to dark yellowish-brown sandy clay loam over bedrock or sterile basal clay.

Besides modern trash, the flake in the upper 15 cm of BHT 1, and the core and flake on the surface at BHT 2, no other cultural materials were encountered on the surface or within any subsurface investigation during this survey.

## **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

SWCA conducted an intensive archaeological survey of the 47-acre City Base West project area located in Bexar County, Texas. Cultural resource investigations were conducted to satisfy the requirements of the San Antonio Historic Preservation Office per the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code (Article 6 35-630 to 35-634).

The background review revealed that one archaeological survey has been previously conducted adjacent to the eastern boundary of the

project area and that no previously recorded sites are located within the project area. However, 11 previously recorded sites are within a mile of the property. In addition, 12 previously conducted archaeological surveys, four cemeteries, a National Register Property, and a National Register District are located within a mile of the project area.

The project area occupies upland terraces and the eroded floodplain of an unnamed tributary of the San Antonio River. Prior disturbances within the 47-acre project area include vegetation clearing, two-track road and fence construction, and modern construction debris deposits. Approximately 75 percent of the project area is mapped as very deep upland soils, while another 20 percent are deep, silty clays on the broad terraces along the unnamed tributary. Finally, a small amount of the project area is mapped with shallow soils on the level to sloping terraces along the tributary.

During the archaeological survey a total of 18 shovel tests and 10 backhoe trenches was excavated in areas that were assessed as having a high probability to contain buried intact cultural resources. The subsurface work revealed a variety of deposits across the property, mainly clays and clay loams of varying composition and thickness. Shallow Holocene deposits were noted in the south along the tributary while modern fill deposits and disturbances were noted in trenches to the north. No significant cultural materials were identified on the surface of the 47 acres or within any of the subsurface investigations.

This survey exceeded the THC's survey standards, which require a minimum of two shovel tests per acre, or 24 for a project of this size, as a total of 28 subsurface investigations were conducted. Overall, SWCA's intensive archaeological survey determined that no significant cultural resources will be affected by any construction activities within the project area.

SWCA recommends no further archaeological investigations.

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