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Cultural Resource Survey of the U.S. Highway 67 Water Improvement Project, City of Presidio, Presidio County, Texas


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Cultural Resource Survey of the U.S. Highway 67 Water Improvement Project, City of Presidio, Presidio County, Texas

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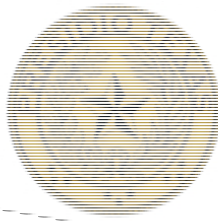
By:

Benjamin G. Bury, Paul M. Matchen, Ashleigh Knapp, and J. Michael Quigg



TRC Technical Report No. 250666

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



August 2016

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**Cultural Resource Survey of the U.S. Highway 67 Water
Improvement Project, City of Presidio, Presidio County, Texas**

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August 2016

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Presidio is proposing to upgrade their water distribution system, provide services to the Colonia of Las Pampas, north of Presidio, and improve the overall water system reliability to accommodate these additional demands. Following a review of the proposed undertaking, the Texas Historic Commission (THC) recommended that a cultural resource survey be performed (THC letter dated October 21, 2015). To meet its responsibilities under existing State and Federal statutes, the City contracted TRC Environmental Corporation (TRC) of Austin to conduct the necessary cultural resource survey. Subsequently, TRC archeologists submitted a Texas Antiquities Permit Application to the THC, and Antiquities Permit #7722 was issued to archeologist Benjamin G. Bury, who served as Principal Investigator.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) consists of approximately 8.18 acres and includes the existing Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) ROW along U.S. 67 and two 0.02 acre parcels adjacent to the ROW that are currently privately owned, but will be acquired by TxDOT as new ROW easements prior to construction. The project will be funded by the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC). Given the involvement of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) with the BECC, the USEPA is the lead federal agency for this effort.

Fieldwork was conducted on July 26th and July 27th, 2016. The field effort consisted of a systematic pedestrian survey at 15 m (50 ft.) intervals across the APE. Cultural resources documented during the survey included one historic site (41PS1220) and three isolated core reduction flakes that were widely separated and not associated with any other cultural materials. Site 41PS1220 consists of mid-to late-20th century trash left from informal dumping along U.S. 67. The dumping ground has been graded smooth in the last 30 years. Consequently, site materials are in a secondary context. Given these disturbances, TRC recommends that site 41PS1220 is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or qualified for nomination as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL). Additionally, one previously recorded site (41PS346) recorded within the ROW in 1976 was not relocated during the investigation, and has likely been significantly redeposited during previous road maintenance activities. TRC recommends that the portion of site 41PS346 within the U.S. 67 ROW is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or qualified for nomination as a SAL. Therefore, TRC recommends the project proceed as planned.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The City of Presidio is proposing to upgrade their water distribution system, provide services to the Colonia of Las Pampas, north of Presidio, and improve the overall water system reliability to accommodate these additional demands. This project will be funded by the BECC. Given the involvement of the USEPA with the BECC, the USEPA will serve as the lead agency for this effort. The City proposed undertaking represents a publically sponsored project on publicly owned land with the potential to impact cultural resources that may exist within the APE. Therefore, the City was required by the THC to conduct a cultural resource survey to meet its legal obligations under existing state guidelines that include the Antiquities Code of Texas 1977 (revised 1987), Title 9, Chapter 191, VACS, Art. 6145-9. Federal guidelines that support cultural resource legislation in Texas include: Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (P.L. 89-665; 80 Stat. 915; 16 USC §470 et seq.); the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (P.L. 91-190; 83 Stat. 852; 42 USC §4221 et seq.); Executive Order No. 11593 of 1971, “Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment;” the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act (AHPA) of 1974 (P.L. 93-291; 88 Stat. 174; 16 USC §469 et seq.); the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) of 1978 (P.L. 95-341; 92 Stat. 469; 42 USC §12996); and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 (P.L. 101-601; 104 Stat. 3048; 25 USC §3001 et seq.).

The APE consists of approximately 8.18 acres planned for development (Figure 1). The project area is located along U.S. Highway 67 north of Presidio, roughly between the Riata Inn and the road leading to the Desert Hills Cemetery. This project will include the installation of water services extending up to the road leading to the cemetery, a booster station, an elevated storage tank and pressure reducing valves (Table 1; Appendix A, Figures A1-A5). Fieldwork was conducted between July 26th and July 27th, 2016. The field effort consisted of a systematic pedestrian survey at 15 m (50 ft.) intervals across the APE. Cultural resources documented during the survey included one historic site (41PS1220) and three isolated core reduction flakes that were widely separated and not associated with any other cultural materials. Site 41PS1220 consists of mid-to late-20th century trash left from informal dumping along U.S. 67. The dumping ground has been previously graded and the cultural materials are in a secondary context. Additionally, one previously recorded site (41PS346) recorded within the U.S. 67 ROW in 1976 was not relocated during the investigation, and has likely been significantly redeposited during previous road maintenance activities.

Table 1. Project Details.

Project Component	Construction Footprint for Each Site	Operational Footprint for Each Site	Notes
Booster Station and Storage Tank Sites	100 ft. x 100 ft. = 0.02 acre	50 ft. x 50 ft. = 0.002 acre	New ROW/easement obtained for these sites
Waterline	30 ft. x 11,850 ft. = 8.16 acres	15 ft. x 11,850 ft. = 4.08 acres	12-15 inches in diameter, buried 4-5 ft. deep within existing ROW

Figure Redacted Due to Sensitive Site Data

Figure 1. Project area with inset maps around the proposed elevated storage tank and booster station.

2.0 PHYSIOGRAPHIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

The APE is situated on a Pleistocene alluvial terrace adjacent to a floodplain at the confluence of the Rio Conchos and Rio Grande within the southeast corner of the Basin and Range Physiographic Province (Wermund 1996). This province extends into Mexico, central New Mexico and Arizona, all of Nevada, eastern California, western Utah, and southern Oregon and Idaho. It is characterized by alternating basins and mountain ranges aligned linearly, generally from north to south. Evidence of volcanism occurs throughout the province and is represented in the Texas portion by numerous flows of volcanic ash and calderas (Wermund 1996). Ancient eruptions in Texas were generally explosive, and lava flows are not common.

West Texas is located within the Chihuahuan Desert. The climate is classified as a semi-arid steppe and is slightly cooler and wetter than a typical desert climate. Where rainfall and soils are sufficient, vegetation at higher elevations is dominated by Piñon Pine, Alligator Juniper and Gray Oak. Tobosa-black grama grass covers many of the basins. In the Presidio area, typical floral species include althorn, catclaw acacia, creosote bush, chino grams, goosefoot, guayacan, huisache, leatherstem, lechuguilla, mormon tea, ocotillo, palo verde, pigweed, purslane, sacaton, saltbush, sotol, tarbush, and yucca (Cloud et al. 2007). Other less common Chihuahuan Desert species include various shrubs, cacti and succulents. Stands of cottonwood are common along the Rio Grande.

Geologically, the APE is mapped as Old Quaternary Deposits (QAO) (Brown et al. 1979). Soils within the APE belong primarily to the Corazones-Ojinaga complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes (COC), and the Corazones-Ojinaga complex, 10 to 40 percent slopes (COE), with a small amount of Melado-Pantera complex soils (MPB), 1 to 5 percent slopes, near the southern end. These soil complexes consist mostly of gravelly fan alluvium derived from igneous and sedimentary rock and are Pleistocene in age (Soil Survey Staff 2015). Given the characteristics and age of the overlying soils and underlying geology, the APE has little potential to contain deeply buried Late Pleistocene or Holocene deposits. Cultural materials in this context would be at or near the present ground surface.

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3.0 CULTURE HISTORY

The culture history of the Trans-Pecos archeological region spans from the arrival of Late Pleistocene hunter-gatherers to the establishment of semi-sedentary farming communities. The abbreviated overview of regional culture history provided in this section is intended to familiarize the reader with a broad contextual setting for the project's cultural resources. A more thorough overview of the prehistoric cultural history and the history of archaeological research for the Trans-Pecos region can be found in: Cloud et al. 2007; Fletcher 1931; Gonzales 1986; Lehmer 1958; Kelley 1938, 1939, 1940, 1947, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952a, 1952b, 1953, 1957, 1985, 1986, 1990, 1992; Kelley et al. 1940; Mallouf 1981, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1999; Miller and Kenmotsu 2004; and Wooten et al. 2004.

3.1 Paleoindian Period (11,000 B.C. to 6500 B.C.)

The earliest, well-documented evidence of human activity in the Americas has been defined as the Paleoindian period. Although there is growing evidence of earlier human activity, insufficient information has been recovered to characterize the nature and extent of these occupations. Evidence from Meadowcroft Rockshelter in Pennsylvania indicates humans were present in Eastern North America as early as 14,000 to 16,000 years ago (Adovasio et al. 1990), and Cactus Hill in southeastern Virginia contains unmixed stratigraphic deposits from ca. 22,000 B.P. (McAvoy and McAvoy 1997), where discoveries at Monte Verde in Chile provide unequivocal evidence for human occupation in South America by at least 12,500 years ago (Dillehay 1989, 1997, 2000; Meltzer et al. 1997). Many archeologists still discount claims of much earlier human occupation during the Pleistocene glacial period (cf. Butzer 1988). In central Texas, the Levi Rockshelter contains human artifacts that potentially date to the pre-Clovis period (Alexander 1961). More locally, Pendejo Cave in southern New Mexico contains artifacts that may predate Clovis occupations (MacNeish and Libby 2010). However, poor stratigraphy and inconsistent radiocarbon dates do not clearly indicate a primary context for many of these artifacts. More recent discoveries at the Gault site (41BL323) in central Texas have yielded pre-Clovis artifacts in a primary context below the Clovis component (Gault School of Archaeological Research 2016).

In Texas, as in most of North America, the Paleoindian period begins with the appearance of the Clovis Culture approximately 13,000 years ago and is defined by a unique lanceolate biface with a distinct method of hafting. Clovis points are generally large, manufactured from high quality materials, and thinned at the base with large, elongated flake removals or "flutes," to aid in hafting to a detachable fore shaft. Although these bifaces are often referred to as projectile points, there is evidence they were used for multiple tasks that required a cutting edge (Smallwood 2010). The materials preferred by Clovis people were often collected from distant sources indicating a high degree of mobility.

Approximately 12,800 years ago the Clovis point was replaced by the Folsom point in the archaeological record. The style of the Folsom point is directly descended from the Clovis point but has a larger, broader flute and is generally smaller. Experiments by archaeologists have shown that fluting a Folsom point is extremely difficult with a high degree of failure during manufacture (Winfrey 1990). Unlike Clovis points, Folsom points are more restricted geographically to the plains and surrounding regions, suggesting that Folsom people were becoming regionally adapted. The transition to Folsom technology generally parallels

the disappearance of many species of megafauna, including mammoth, and likely represents a more intense focus on extinct forms of bison. Sites producing Folsom artifacts are sparsely scattered across Texas and mostly concentrated in West Texas and the Southern Great Plains (Anderson et al. 2010).

Approximately 10,500 years ago Folsom points were replaced by a variety of Late Paleoindian point styles which are used by archaeologists to mark the end of the Paleoindian period. Most retained a lanceolate design but were no longer fluted (e.g. Scottsbluff and Plainview styles). In general, the same pattern can be seen throughout the continental United States with the exception of the Great Basin where stemmed points may be as old as Clovis points (Jenkins et al. 2012). Late Paleoindian specimens are more abundantly recorded than earlier Clovis and Folsom types in the Trans-Pecos region. Presumably, this fact reflects an increasing regional population by ca. 10,500 years ago. However, it is unclear to what extent these styles of projectile points represent a culture in the present sense, or are simply technological styles that diffused through multiple groups of people.

3.2 Archaic Period (6000 B.C. to A.D. 200)

The Archaic period in the Trans-Pecos region is generally divided into Early (6000-2500 B.C.), Middle (2500-1000 B.C.) and Late (1000 B.C. to A.D. 750) subperiods. Although isolated projectile points are fairly common, the Early Archaic in this region is generally poorly understood due to a scarcity of habitation sites and features (Cloud et al. 2007; Miller and Kenmotsu 2004). Early Archaic projectile point styles are more varied than in the preceding Paleoindian period, and reflect increasing experimentation with new hafting techniques and a broader range of raw materials. Presumably, these changes reflect an increasingly diverse subsistence base related to shifting resources and the disappearance of megafauna during the transition to the early Holocene. Common Early Archaic projectile point styles include Andice, Bandy, Jetta, Martindale, Pandale and Uvalde points (Turner and Hester 1999).

By the Middle Archaic, the Trans-Pecos environment was similar to today and characterized by desert-adapted species. In turn, Middle Archaic people developed new techniques for processing plant materials, including steaming and baking with heated rocks (Cloud et al. 2007; Miller and Kenmotsu 2004). Middle Archaic sites, features and projectile points are more common, suggesting an increase in population during this period. Projectile point styles associated with the Middle Archaic include Langtry and Jorra points which have contracting stems, a hafting technique not seen in previous periods. The Middle Archaic is also notable for having the first evidence of the use of structures, suggesting semi-sedentary mobility patterns (Cloud et al. 2007; Miller and Kenmotsu 2004).

Features and isolated projectile points from the Late Archaic period are much more frequent than in preceding periods. The remains of structures are also more common and include the first pit houses. In general, this reflects an increasing population most likely related to a period of increased rainfall, the perfection of resource extraction techniques, and the first use of cultigens (Cloud et al. 2007; Miller and Kenmotsu 2004). An abundance of storable resources and increased sedentism may also have spurred the development of pottery which first appears in the archaeological record during this period. New hafting techniques developed in the Late Archaic include side and corner notching. Late Archaic projectile point styles are notable for having expanding stems and corner notches. Scallorn, Shumla, Paisano and Charcos points are common styles from this period (Turner and Hester 1999).

3.3 Late Prehistoric Period (A.D. 200 to 1450)

The Late Prehistoric period was a time of significant cultural change for inhabitants in the Trans-Pecos region. While some groups continued a hunter-gather lifestyle, others made pottery, establish semi-sedentary communities, invested increasing energy into horticulture, and participated in regional interaction spheres to acquire prestige goods used in various social transactions (Cloud et al. 2007; Miller and Kenmotsu 2004). Local population levels increased, and as a consequence, social and political life became increasingly complex. The Late Prehistoric archaeological record in the region surrounding the confluence of the Rio Conchos and the Rio Grande near Presidio, Texas has been defined as the La Junta archaeological district (Kelley et al. 1940). Archaeologically distinct phases or complexes in this district include the Livermore phase (A.D. 800–1200), the Cielo complex (A.D. 1300–1680), and the La Junta phase (A.D. 1200–1450) (Kelley et al. 1940).

The Livermore phase is defined by distinct Livermore, Toyah and Fresno projectile points and may reflect an influx of new hunter-gatherers to the region (Malouf 1990). Alternatively, the phase may represent the continuation of hunting and gathering by some indigenous groups while others became increasingly sedentary and dependent on horticulture (Kelley et al. 1940). Similarly, the Cielo complex is defined by the Perdiz point and may represent a continuation of a hunting and gathering lifestyle into historic times.

The La Junta phase marks a transition to sedentary communities consisting of pit house villages situated in locations suitable for farming. Crops included maize, beans and squash and were supplemented with hunting and gathering. Houses were composed of rectangular adobe structures built over subterranean pits. Although the La Junta people comprised a distinct social group, they did not manufacture their own pottery, obtaining the majority from Jornada Mogollon communities near El Paso, Texas, and some from Casas Grandes in Mexico (Kelley et al. 1940; Cloud et al. 2007). Similar to other groups in the Southwest, their way of life came to an abrupt halt around A.D. 1450, a cultural shift that is often linked to a major drought that occurred throughout the region (Cordell 2012).

3.4 Protohistoric and Historic Periods (A.D. 1450 to Present)

The Protohistoric and Historic periods in the La Junta district are divided by Kelley et al. (1940) into the Concepcion phase (A.D. 1500–1684), the Conchos phase (A.D. 1684–1760) and the Alamito and Presidio Phases (1760–modern). The Concepcion phase marks the return to a sedentary lifestyle in the La Junta district following an apparent abandonment around A.D. 1450 (Kelley et al. 1940). As in the previous phase, structures were partially subterranean but larger and made from wattle and daub rather than adobe and were both rectangular and circular in shape. Ceramics were no longer imported from the Jornada Mogollon or Casas Grandes, but made locally (Kelley et al. 1940). Ceramic styles included Chinati Plainware, Chinati Scored, Capote Plain, Capote Red-on-brown, Chinati Filleted Rim and Paloma Red-on-gray.

The beginning of the Conchos phase (also referred to as the “Mission period”) is marked by the first Spanish missions, El Apóstol Santiago and San Francisco de los Julimes, built between 1683 and 1684 near Presidio, Texas (Cloud et al 2007). People continued to live in rectangular or circular wattle and daub structures and manufactured most of the ceramic styles from the previous period. However, interactions with the Spanish became increasingly common and Spanish ceramics and metal artifacts are well represented in the archaeological record from this phase. Between 1689 and 1732 the Spanish were repeatedly driven out of

the area during revolts against the Spanish slave trade. Beginning in 1744, the Apaches and Comanches periodically raided the La Junta communities, eventually leading to the establishment of Presidio del Norte in 1760. The Alamito and Presidio phases mark the end of the Spanish colonization and the establishment of a distinctly Mexican culture. For a detailed overview of the extensive history of Presidio, the reader is directed to Cloud et al. 2007 and Wooten et al. 2004.

4.0 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

According to the current online version of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas) (<http://nueces.thc.state.tx.us/>; accessed March 8, 2016), two archeological sites have been documented within or immediately adjacent to the APE. Site 41PS345 was recorded in 1976, approximately 12 m west of the U.S. 67 ROW. The site was described as a 20 m by 40 m deflated lithic scatter. Site 41PS346 was also recorded in 1976 on the western side of U.S. 67 and is plotted within the ROW on the Atlas. The site was described as a 20 m by 30 m deflated lithic scatter. No diagnostic artifacts were recorded at either site.

Approximately 25 percent of the APE has been previously surveyed. In 1974, a survey was conducted that included 1,800 ft. of U.S. 67 ROW near the southern end of the APE. In 1976 and 1982, two very narrow linear surveys were conducted adjacent to U.S. 67 for the entire length of the APE. Sites 41PS345 and 41PS46 were recorded during the 1976 survey. In 1997, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducted a survey that included approximately 50 ft. of ROW at the southern end of the APE and included the proposed location of the booster station. In 2011, two locations within the APE totaling approximately 1,050 linear feet were surveyed by the Gulf South Research Corporation and included both U.S. 67 ROW and the location of the proposed elevated storage tank. No sites were recorded within the APE.

In total, 22 archeological sites are located within a one-mile radius of the APE and the Desert Hills Cemetery is located approximately 0.33 mi. east of the northern end of the APE. Approximately 3,000 ft. of the southern portion of the APE passes through the La Junta de los Rios Archeological District. However, no sites are depicted within the vicinity of the APE in this area. No historic structures are depicted within or adjacent to the APE on the 1932 USACE Tactical Map or the 1979 USGS Presidio East USGS Quadrangle. No neighborhood surveys, National Register Properties or historical markers are located within a one-mile radius of the APE.

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5.0 FIELD METHODS

The goals of the cultural resources survey were as follows:

- Determine if there are cultural materials present within the APE.
- If cultural materials are present within the APE, determine if these materials are contained in archeological deposits that can be identified as one or more sites.
- If archeological deposits are present within the APE, attempt to determine their spatial extent.
- If archeological deposits are present within the APE, attempt to determine the general cultural affiliation/age of these deposits.

Fieldwork was conducted by TRC archaeologist Benjamin G. Bury on July 26th and July 27th, 2016 and followed the guidelines and survey standards set forth by the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA) and the THC. The field effort consisted of a systematic pedestrian survey at 15 m (50 ft.) intervals across the proposed locations for the booster station and storage tank and the entire ROW on both sides of U.S. 67 between the Riata Inn and the road leading to the Desert Hills Cemetery. The ground surface within the APE was found to have 85 percent visibility or greater, and consisted of Pleistocene gravels; therefore no shovel testing was required, as per CTA/THC standards. All isolated artifacts were photographed and recorded with a Trimble Juno GPS unit. A “no collection” policy was followed for all cultural materials identified during the survey. The final report, field notes, photographs, shapefiles and associated paper and electronic records will be curated at the Center for Archaeological Studies, Texas State University, San Marcos.

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6.0 RESULTS

Disturbances within and adjacent to the APE were numerous and included large graded areas, roads, existing buried utilities and evidence of off road vehicle traffic. The entire length of the eastern ROW adjacent to U.S. 67 has buried fiber optic cables (Appendix A, Figure A-6). Large portions along both sides of U.S. 67 have been developed for residential and commercial use (Appendix A, Figure A-7). The southern 1/3 of the U.S. 67 ROW, as it descends into the Rio Grande Valley, has been cut into the Pleistocene terrace up to 16 m below the original ground surface (Appendix A, Figure A-8). The area around the Riata Inn is entirely disturbed and has been graded smooth in the past (Appendix A, Figure A-9). The only portion of the APE that does not appear to have been previously disturbed is the proposed location for the elevated storage tank at the northern end of the APE (see Appendix A, Figures A-3 and A-4).

In total, three isolated core reduction flakes and a historic site (41PS1220) consisting of an extensive scatter of 20th century artifacts were recorded during the survey. Flake 1 was fashioned from fine-grained, gray rhyolite and was recorded within the parcel proposed for an elevated storage tank at the northern end of the APE (Appendix A, Figure A-10). Flake 2 was recorded within the existing ROW on the eastern side of U.S. 67 and was composed of yellow chert (Appendix A, Figure A-11). Flake 3 was recorded on the western side of U.S. 67 ROW approximately 75 m southwest of the boundary of site 41PS346.

6.1 Site 41PS346

Site 41PS346 was recorded in 1976 on the western side of U.S. 67 and is plotted as a single point within the ROW on the Atlas. No cultural materials were observed within the ROW where site 41PS346 is mapped on the Atlas and the ROW is heavily disturbed (Appendix A, Figure A-12). The portion of the site that was in the ROW in 1976 has likely been scattered and redeposited. Google Earth Imagery from 1991 shows extensive disturbance at that location from TxDOT highway improvements during the 1980's (personal communication, Brad Newton, Executive Director of the Presidio Municipal Development District; Appendix A, Figure A-13).

6.2 Site 41PS1220

Site 41PS1220 was created from informal dumping activities and extends across the entire 100 ft. by 100 ft. proposed booster station location and beyond. The assemblage consists primarily of shards of aqua, brown, clear, blue and green bottle glass, whiteware sherds, unidentifiable ceramic material, shoe soles, rubber and plastic fragments, aluminum pull tab cans, church key cans, a glass marble and miscellaneous unidentifiable metal fragments (Appendix A; Figure A-14 to A-16). The total number of artifacts was too large to quantify, but is likely in the thousands within the booster station APE. The majority of the artifacts date to the mid-20th century or later. The dumping ground was graded smooth by TxDOT in the 1980s (personal communication, Brad Newton, Executive Director of the Presidio Municipal Development District). Google Earth imagery from 1991 shows an area approximately 880 m by 180 m encompassing the current APE that was free of vegetation at that time and recently graded (Appendix A; Figure A-17).

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7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Regulations issued by the ACHP in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.4 require that federal agencies identify and evaluate the effects of federally funded undertakings on properties listed in, or potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Antiquities Code of Texas applies to undertakings under the control of the State of Texas, or any sub-entity of the State (Texas Natural Resource Code, Title 9, Chapter 191). Furthermore, it requires that municipalities notify the THC of any proposed ground-disturbing activities on publically-controlled lands. Title 13 Part 2, Chapter 26 of the Texas Administrative Code, Rules of Practice and Procedure outline the regulations pertaining to the Code. Given that this proposed development is federally funded and located on a publicly-controlled easement, both Section 106 of the NRHP and the Antiquities Code of Texas apply.

For designation as a SAL an archaeological site must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
- (2) The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
- (3) The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
- (4) The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
- (5) There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

For inclusion in the NRHP, archeological sites or historic properties must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- A. Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. Association with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- C. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

7.1 Site 41PS346

The location of site 41PS346 within the U.S. 67 ROW has been extensively disturbed and no cultural materials are present. Therefore, the portion of the site recorded within the ROW in 1976 does not meet Criteria 1 through 5 for designation as a SAL or Criterion D for NRHP eligibility. TRC recommends this

portion of the site ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP or designation as a SAL. The eligibility of any portions of the site that may extend outside of the ROW remains undetermined.

7.2 Site 41PS1220

Site 41PS1220 consists of a historic, mid-to late-20th century informal dumping ground that was last used in the 1980's. The site has been graded smooth and redeposited and does not meet Criteria 1 through 5 for designation as a SAL or Criteria A, C or D for NRHP eligibility. Additionally, there is no evidence the dumping ground is associated with the lives of significant persons, and is therefore ineligible under Criterion B. TRC recommends the portion of the site surveyed during this investigation ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP or designation as a SAL. However, the site extends outside the currently surveyed parcel. The eligibility of any areas extending outside of this 100 ft. by 100 ft. area remain undetermined.

7.3 Project Recommendation

The City of Presidio is proposing to upgrade their water distribution system, provide services to the Colonia of Las Pampas, north of Presidio, and improve the overall water system reliability to accommodate these additional demands. Under permit #7722, Benjamin G. Bury conducted a systematic pedestrian survey of the APE between July 26th and July 27th, 2016. No cultural resources eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or designation as a SAL were recorded within the APE. Therefore, TRC recommends the project proceed as planned.

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APPENDIX A: PHOTOGRAPHS

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Figure A-1. Proposed location of booster station, facing northeast.



Figure A-2. Proposed location of booster station, facing north.



Figure A-3. Proposed location of storage tank, facing southeast.



Figure A-4. Proposed location of storage tank, facing north.



Figure A-5. U.S. 67 right-of-way facing north.



Figure A-6. Buried fiber optic line within the U.S. 67 right-of-way facing southwest.



Figure A-7. Large graded area adjacent to U.S. 67 facing south.



Figure A-8. Deep roadcut in the U.S. 67 ROW as it descends into the Rio Grande Valley, facing east.



Figure A-9. Large graded area north of the Riata Inn, facing southwest.



Figure A-10. Core reduction Flake 1 within U.S. 67 right-of-way.



Figure A-11. Core reduction Flake 2 within U.S. 67 right-of-way.



Figure A-12. Core reduction Flake 3 within U.S. 67 right-of-way.

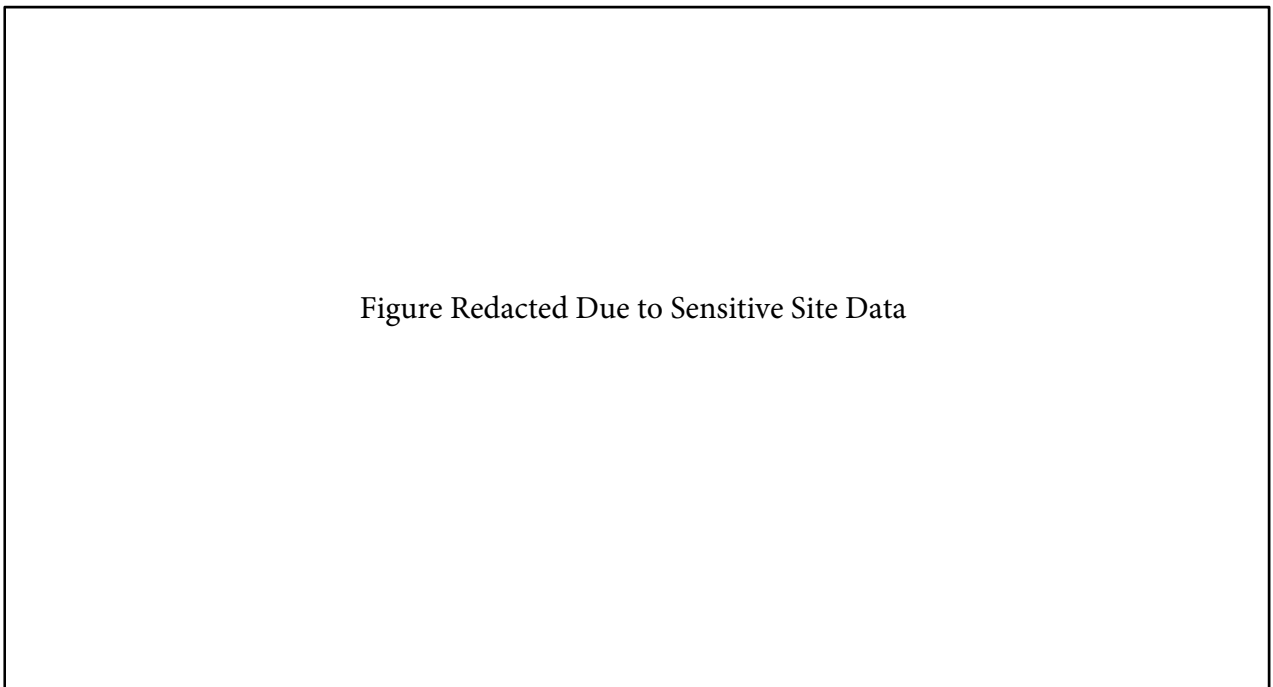


Figure Redacted Due to Sensitive Site Data

Figure A-13. Google Earth imagery showing site 41PS346 within a previously disturbed area (red dotted line).



Figure A-14. Site 41PS1220 overview, facing northeast towards the Riata Inn.



Figure A-15. Scatter of mid-twentieth century artifacts within site 41PS1220.



Figure A-16. Scatter of mid-twentieth century artifacts within site 41SP1220.



Figure A-17. Google Earth imagery from 1991 showing graded area (red dotted line) in relation to project area.

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