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# Final Short Report on the Archeological Investigations for the San Antonio River Authority's Elmendorf Lake Park Improvements Project Bexar County, Texas

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### Final Short Report on the Archeological Investigations for the San Antonio River Authority's Elmendorf Lake Park Improvements Project Bexar County, Texas

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## FINAL SHORT REPORT ON THE ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY'S ELMENDORF LAKE PARK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

Antiquities Permit #6881

Hicks & Company Archeology Series #257

Submitted to:

San Antonio River Authority, City of San Antonio and Texas Historical Commission

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## INTRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

On May 29 and 30, 2014, archeologists from Hicks & Company conducted a 100-percent intensive areal survey of the Elmendorf Lake Park Improvements Project in Bexar County, Texas. Subsequent monitoring work was conducted on June 11, 2015. The project area consists of the limits of Elmendorf Lake Park and its associated existing trail system from south of Commerce Street between Southwest 24th Street and 19th Street, and along the north and south banks of Apache Creek beginning approximately 200 feet north of Commerce Street and terminating at Southwest 24th Street, an area that includes a segment of the Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU) campus (**Figure 1**).

According to current design plans, the proposed project includes trail improvements, water quality improvements, property acquisition, street realignment, utility relocation, parking lot construction, park bench and shade structure installation, channel modification, the demolition of the existing pool, and the creation of a new pool (**Appendix A: Sheets SL1.00–SL1.14**). Other planned improvements include signage, elevated walkways and tie-ins with existing paved roads, parking lots, and outfalls and bio-swales (**Appendix A: Sheets DT1.01–DT1.24**). The proposed project will be constructed on land that is owned and controlled by the San Antonio River Authority (SARA), the City of San Antonio (COSA) Parks and Recreation Department, and OLLU, all of which are political subdivisions of the State of Texas. Therefore, the proposed project is subject to the requirements of the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT). The project will also likely require federal permitting under Section 408 of the Clean Water Act, necessitating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended.

The intensive pedestrian survey took approximately 32 labor-hours to complete and was supplemented by shovel testing (n = 34) in relatively undisturbed contexts. Following survey-level investigations, a small-segment of the park, where bridge support piers would be installed well below a meter in depth, was recommended for archeological monitoring by the COSA Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) during construction. Monitoring at this location was conducted on June 11, 2015 and resulted in the recordation of no new archeological sites.

Based on the results of the current investigations, it is recommended that no archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16(1)) or State Antiquities Landmarks (13 TAC 26.12) will be affected by this project and that no further archeological investigations are necessary for the majority of the proposed project area prior to construction at the main body of Elmendorf Lake Park and the proposed trail system improvements on the west of 24<sup>th</sup> Street and on the OLLU side of the Lake. However, in coordination with the COSA OHP, due to planned impacts beyond the limit of shovel test investigations, it was determined that excavations for pier supports at the two planned foot bridges at the "island formation" will require archeological monitoring during construction. A separate, historic standing structures survey is to be conducted by Hicks &

Company and will further address direct and indirect effects to these items under the ACT and Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended.

Report production immediately followed the conclusion of fieldwork. Josh Haefner served as the Principal Investigator for the project, and Gregg Cestaro served as Project Archeologist. Josh Haefner and Gregg Cestaro conducted the survey investigations. Archeological monitoring was done by Meghan Egan and Josh Haefner. Gregg Cestaro, Josh Haefner, Samantha Champion, and Ashleigh Knapp authored the report. Subsequent sections of this report include a discussion of the environmental setting, cultural background, brief discussion of previous surveys and recorded sites, description of field methodology, and discussion of the results of field investigations. The report concludes with formal regulatory recommendations.

Figure 1: Elmendorf Lake Park Project Location

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING**

## GEOLOGY

The project area lies within a single geological zone identified as Terrace deposits (Qt) (**Figure 2**). Associated with the Edwards uplift, these deposits are composed of gravel, sand, silt, and clay derived primarily from Tertiary limestone dolomite and cherts that form low floodplain terraces surrounding deeply cut and eroded streams (Barnes 1983). This formation dates to the Pleistocene and, with deposits that may coincide with the arrival of the first humans into the continent, has low to moderate potential to contain deeply buried archeological sites or materials.

## PEDOLOGY

According to the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Web Soil Survey for Bexar County, Texas, accessed March 5, 2014, two soils are mapped as underlying the proposed project area: Branyon clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes (HtB) and Tinn and Frio soils, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded (Tf) (**Figure 3**). Branyon clays are clayey, upland soils that are dark gray to black in color, located on flat surfaces or on strongly sloped lobes. Gravels tend to be found in the fine blocky structure of the upper layers, while the deeper layers exhibit a medium blocky structure of mottled and calcareous clay with inclusions of shale and gypsum. Archeological sites in these contexts are generally found on the ground surface or shallowly buried. Tinn and Frio soils are described as clay and clay loams located in low lying, flat, floodplains formed by repeated yearly flooding. As soils that developed from recent alluvial deposits, locales within the project area that are mapped as the Tinn and Frio series exhibit moderate to high potential to contain buried and intact archeological deposits.

## FLORA AND FAUNA

The project area is located at the southern extent of the Blackland Prairie ecological zone, just north of the Post Oak Savannah and South Texas Plains, and just south of the Edwards Plateau (McMahan et al. 1984). The modern vegetation regime is dominated by oak-hickory forests, and bunch and short grasses. Flora elements associated with the juniper-oak-mesquite savannah of the Edwards Plateau and associated with the mesquite chaparral regime of the South Texas Plains are also expected in the area (McMahan et al. 1984).

According to the Vegetation Types of Texas (McMahan et al. 1984), vegetation expected to occur in the project area and surrounding region includes Oak-Mesquite-Juniper Parks and Silver Bluestem-Texas Wintergrass Grassland. Commonly associated species in this area include Texas oak (*Quercus texana*), live oak (*Q. fusiformis*), shin oak (*Q. sinuata* var. *breviloba*), Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*), cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), Texas wintergrass (*Nassella leucotricha*), little

Figure 2: Elmendorf Lake Park Project Area Geology

Figure 3: Elmendorf Lake Park Project Area Soils

bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), curly mesquite (*Hilaria belangeri*), Texas grama (*Bouteloua rigidiseta*), and so forth.

The climate of the south-central Texas area is considered humid subtropical (Thornthwaite 1948). Hot summers and cool winters characterize the seasonal climate of the area with the coldest month typically in January, the warmest months in July and August, and an average annual temperature of 70 degrees (Carr 1967). Precipitation in the region, based on measured years 1871–2013, averages 29.11 inches a year. However, it should be noted that the area is prone to intensive rainfall and concomitant flooding due to a variety of factors, including proximity to the Gulf of Mexico and the effects of tropical storms, the orographic uplift of moist gulf air masses that occurs as they meet the Balcones Escarpment, and the movement of polar air masses from the north into central Texas.

### HYDROLOGY

The project area is primarily located at the northern extent of Apache Creek, with the upstream extent of the Lake located at the southern reach of Zarzamora Creek, which provides most of the drainage to the lake (Malcolm Pirnie/Arcadis 2012). Bandera Branch also drains into Elmendorf Lake. Along with Alazan, Olmos, San Pedro, Martinez, and Zarzamora Creeks, Apache Creek is one of the smaller drainages that flow into the San Antonio River. Collectively, these waterways comprise the San Antonio River Watershed.

## PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC CONTEXT

## PREHISTORIC CONTEXT

The proposed project area is at the southern reach of the Central Texas archeological region, as defined by Collins (2004) (**Figure 4**). This region encompasses the Edwards Plateau and portions of the Blackland Prairies to its east and the upper reaches of the South Texas Plains located below the Balcones Escarpment. Because this region has great variation in faunal, floral and water resources, there is also great variation in this region's archeological record (Perttula 2004). Prehistoric archeological sites on the periphery would be expected to have characteristics typical of neighboring regions. In a broad sense, the temporal divisions of prehistory in the Central Texas archeological region generally corresponds with changes in technology, settlement patterns, and subsistence strategies. These periods are as follows: the Paleoindian (11,500–8800 B.P.), the Archaic (8800–1200 B.P.), and the Late Prehistoric (1200–400 B.P.) periods.

### Paleoindian Period (11,500–8800 B.P.)

Beginning at the close of the Pleistocene, the Paleoindian period is estimated at ca. 11,500–8800 B.P. in Central Texas (Collins 2004). Collins (2004) divides this period into two early and late subperiods. Diagnostic projectile points of the early Paleoindian interval include Clovis and Folsom projectile points, followed by late Paleoindian lanceolate forms such as Angostura, Golondrina, St. Mary's Hall, and Barber, with early stemmed points appearing later. The noted wide distribution of Clovis-type points across most of North America and even into Central America attests to a wide dispersal of and interaction with the people who knapped them (Kelly 1993). For the state of Texas, Bever and Meltzer (2007) have documented the presence of 544 Clovis points in 149 of 254 counties. For the Central Texas region, the distribution of Clovis points generally follows the Balcones Escarpment, where high-quality chert is readily available. Further south, below the Balcones Escarpment, fewer than expected Clovis points have been documented. For example, only four Clovis points have been recorded from Bexar County. The early Paleoindian culture in Central Texas is believed to be related to the well-known big game hunting tradition of the Great Plains (Hester 1980). Most of the well-documented early Paleoindian sites in Texas that are associated with extinct megafauna are located north and west of Central Texas on the Llano Estacado and on adjacent areas of the Southern High Plains. In general, early Paleoindian sites are scarce in Central Texas, or at least not as visible as later sites. Conversely, later Paleoindian sites are numerous in south and Central Texas, although both are usually identified from only surface-collected artifacts (Black and McGraw 1986).

Following the Clovis and Folsom style intervals in the archeological record are a series of dart point styles (Angostura, San Patrice, Wilson, Golondrina, St. Mary's Hall, Barber, etc.) for which the temporal and technological context is currently unclear. Subsistence data from several late Paleoindian sites does suggest, though, that small game was exploited rather than now-

Figure 4. Cultural Resources Within Project Location

extinct megafauna. This data supports the idea that a hunting and gathering lifestyle may have already been adopted across much of southwest and Central Texas prior to the advent of the Archaic period. For Central Texas, Hester (1976:9) notes that the "terminal Pleistocene in Texas appears to have a wide range of adaptations, reflecting the use of fairly localized environments and resources, and leading to the development of regional lithic specializations."

With the exception of the Bone Bed, Lubbock Lake, Wilson-Leonard and the Wilson Sites, most Paleoindian sites on record for Texas have low artifact counts (Bousman et al. 2004). Predominantly, sites that have been discovered in Central Texas have been described as campsites (e.g., Wilson-Leonard, Loeve-Fox, Richard Beene, and Levi Rock Shelter). In contrast, sites along the Plains are recorded as short-term occupation kill/butchery sites. Generally, an assemblage associated with a Paleoindian camp will have more cobble and pebble raw material, burin spalls, and groundstone tools, while kill/butchery sites seem to have comparatively higher numbers of projectile points. Early Paleoindian assemblages are more known from the Plains, where their assemblages are dominated by projectile points and unifacial tools. One important Paleoindian Site located in the San Antonio area is Site 41BX52, the Pavo Real Site. Located adjacent to Loop 1604, Pavo Real was originally recorded in 1970 and has been intensively excavated and researched over the past 45 years. A multi-component site, with multiple burned rock features and artifact clusters, Pavo Real has occupations that span the Paleo and Archaic time periods.

Two additional continuously inhabited sites located in the San Antonio area are Site 41BX708, the Chandler Site, and Site 41BX1396. Located in northwest San Antonio, Chandler is a deeply buried stratified site with occupations that date from the Paleoindian period through all phases of the Archaic and part of the Historic Period. In addition to extensive burned rock middens, documented lithic artifacts noted at this site include projectile points (including a brass arrow point), cores, debitage, faunal remains, and pottery. As reported in Shafer and Hester (2007), McKenzie and Moses' (2005) report on excavations by the Southern Texas Archaeological Association's Field School at Chandler dates the Late Paleoindian occupation dating to approximately 9000-10,000 B.P. This occupation includes a St. Mary's Hall Component (Kay Hindes, Personal Communication).

Site 41BX1396 was initially documented in 1979 by Katz and Fox during an archeological survey of Brackenridge Park. During this survey two locales of activity located along the San Antonio River were noted. A revisit by SWCA in 2001 noted that the previously described locales were connected by a continuous scatter of artifacts (Barile et al. 2002). Subsequent data recovery investigations conducted on segments of this site by SWCA recovered the Uvalde, Bandy, Travis, Pedernales, Kinney, and Langtry point types. In 2011, the Center for Archaeological Research conducted data recovery excavations at segments of Site 41BX1396. Artifacts collected during excavation include a Clearfork Adze, Guadalupe tools, Angostura points, St. Mary's Hall points, and a Dalton point (Ulrich et. al. 2012). Subsequent investigations focused on the St. Mary's Hall Component with associated radio carbon dates

returning a range of 10,490-10,230 B.P. (Kay Hindes, Personal Communication). These dates are earlier than the age range of 9990-8870 B.P. reported for this point type in Bousman et al. 2004. Site 41BX1396 is currently listed as an SAL.

### Archaic Period (8800–1200 B.P.)

As the warming trend that marks the transition from Pleistocene to Holocene climates began to take effect in Texas, prehistoric inhabitants adapted with changes in lifestyle. Material culture became more diverse, with the increased exploitation of diverse flora evidenced by the use of burned rock middens. This climatic shift is also marked by the decline and extinction of the mammoth, mastodon, horse, camel, and giant bison (*Bison antiquus*) that began at the end of the Early Paleoindian period and reached a zenith during the advent of the Archaic. Evidence suggests that sometime after 11,000 B.P., large, gregarious game animals were extinct in Texas, except for the bison. These extinctions would have forced hunters to concentrate on deer, antelope, and other medium-sized or smaller game. Changes in the subsistence base required technological shifts that began during the Late Paleoindian period and continued into Archaic. Collins (2004) divides the Archaic into Early, Middle, and Late sub-periods based on technological, environmental, and adaptive changes.

The Early Archaic marks a shift to the use of multiple tons of burned limestone and other rocks in the form of scatters, hearths, middens and other features for the heated processing of plant foods. This represents the start of a long-lived Archaic cooking tradition, which lasted from roughly 8800 to 1400 B.P. This tradition was characterized by the repeated utilization of earth ovens and the resulting creation of burned rock middens at strategic places on the landscape. These new subsistence practices began with a distinctive cooking technology using layered arrangements of heated rocks in earth ovens which allowed for the exploitation of a broad range of geophytes. These included upland xerophytic plants like sotol and other species, such as Lily family onion bulbs, which grow in wetter environments (Decker et al. 2000).

The widespread use of rock and earth ovens (and the resultant formation of burned rock middens) for processing and cooking plant foods evidences a subsistence technology that was parcel to a generalized foraging strategy. Within Central Texas during certain periods of the Archaic, this generalized foraging economy appears to have shifted to a more specialized strategy focused on bison hunting (Collins 1968).

While the data and resulting models concerning environmental change during the Paleolithic-Holocene transition are robust, cultural adaptations for the same period are still unclear. This is especially true for Texas (McKinney 1981). Historically, the primary difference between Paleoindian and Archaic peoples was in associated subsistence strategies, and, by extrapolation, mobility patterns and lithic technology; Paleoindians were envisioned as nomadic specialized big-game hunters, while Archaic humans followed a migratory hunting and gathering lifeway (Suhm et al. 1954; Willey and Phillips 1958). Locally, the long Archaic Period was envisioned as a transitional time between nomadic hunters and sedentary, pottery-producing agriculturalists (Suhm et al. 1954). However, as discussed above, the idea of exclusive big-game hunting cultures is no longer apropos when describing the entirety of the material assemblages or subsistence strategies of the Paleoindian time period. Adaptations that were once wholly ascribed to the Archaic have manifestations that date before 8800 B.P. Likewise, "survivals" of past adaptations would be expected to infiltrate the Early Archaic.

#### Late Prehistoric (ca. 1200-400 B.P.)

The Late Prehistoric or Post-Archaic (ca. AD 600–1600) (Johnson 1995) in Central Texas is initially marked by the replacement of the dart and atlatl with the bow and arrow, as reflected in the shift from dart points to smaller, thinner and lighter arrow points (Ricklis and Collins 1994). Despite the shift to the bow and arrow, evidence indicates that the broad-based hunting-gathering economy of the Late Archaic persisted into and through most of the Late Prehistoric period. The latter part of this period is marked by the appearance of pottery and a distinctive complex of tools composed of contracting-stem Perdiz arrow points; an abundance of unifacial end scrapers; thin, alternately beveled bifacial knives; and drills or perforators made of flakes and blades. The Post-Archaic era again turned dry and somewhat arid toward the middle of the Late Prehistoric, during which there was a rather dramatic increase in bison exploitation.

### **HISTORIC PERIOD**

The most radical changes in the Native American history of Central Texas came during the historic era. The horse was introduced into North America by Spanish settlers in the sixteenth century. Nomadic groups, initially the Apaches and later the Comanches, adopted the horse and rapidly altered the aboriginal situation of Central Texas. These nomadic groups entered Central Texas from the plains and mountainous areas to the north and west and, within 150 years, had forced most of the native peoples to flee. Most groups were destroyed by the combined effects of nomadic raiders and the foreign diseases introduced by the Europeans. Others moved south, entering Spanish missions and settlements, or eastward to join various agricultural groups such as the Wichita (Black 1989).

The historic period in Texas begins with the arrival of Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca and other survivors of the Navarez expedition on the Texas coast in 1528, although earlier landings may have occurred (Chipman and Joseph 2010). In any case, the influences of European colonization were not felt strongly in Texas until several centuries later. By the middle of the eighteenth century, however, the Spanish had established missions in east Texas and settlements in south Texas. This resulted in massive depopulation and cultural disintegration among Native American groups.

### **Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries**

Colonial settlement of what would become the city of San Antonio began in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The area had been part of New Spain since the conquest of Mexico in 1540 (Steen 1948), but beyond a few forays north of the Rio Grande, Spain paid little attention to the area until the seventeenth century when French encroachments raised concerns. After the French explorer René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle landed on the Texas coast in 1685, the Spanish responded with the founding of a mission in east Texas, San Francisco de los Tejas (Ramsdell 1959). In 1691, the newly named governor of the province of Texas, Domingo de Teran, ventured deeper into the territory to found additional missions. His motives were largely twofold: to establish a secure intermediate point for expeditions passing to and from east Texas and to relocate the failing Mission San Francisco de Solano away from the Rio Grande. Domingo de Teran, accompanied by Padre Massanet traveled northeast, then east, across the territory, eventually entering into the San Antonio region. During their stay, the men noted the river in which they camped along sustained numerous fish, the banks contained several types of trees, and the wild chickens and buffalo were present in high numbers. It was at this time that the settlements of the Papaya Indians were first observed by the expedition. The Papaya Indians were first recorded in 1690 occupying an area from San Antonio southwestward, extending beyond the Frio River (Campbell, 2010). These people were a Coahuiltecan- speaking group who referred to their village (present day San Antonio), as well as the San Antonio River as Yanaguana (Campbell, 2010; Hatcher, 1932; Crimmins and Freeman 2010). The area where they lived near the headwaters of the San Antonio River was later christened "San Antonio" in honor of San Antonio de Padua by both Domingo Teran and Padre Massanet in 1691 (Donecker 2010; Jordan 2004).

Though this initial attempt to establish missions was not successful, the Spanish returned to "the site called San Antonio" in 1718, and Governor Martin de Alarcon formally established the Mission of San Antonio de Valero, along the banks of San Pedro Creek approximately half a league to three-quarters of a league south of the villa and presidio possibly near the present day "Chapel of the Miracles," west of the San Antonio River (Ramsdell 1959) or at a site recently discovered on land owned by the Christopher Columbus Society (Kay Hindes, personal communication). The mission was soon moved east of the San Antonio River, though the complex was destroyed by a 1724 hurricane. It was then rebuilt at its current location on today's Alamo Plaza. In addition to Mission San Antonio de Valero, six other missions were subsequently founded, extending south along the San Antonio River. Mission San Jose was established in 1720, and Missions Concepción, San Juan, and Espada were relocated from east Texas along the river in the 1730s.

Early development centered around today's Military and Main Plaza, west of the Alamo, between San Pedro Creek and the San Antonio River. In 1718, Alarcon established the villa and presidio at the San Pedro Springs in modern day San Pedro Park. Several *jacales* (wattle-and-daub huts) were built in this area, and an *acequia* (irrigation canal) was constructed at this time

(SABHC 1976). In 1721-22, at the site of today's Military Plaza, Aguayo constructed the second site of the presidio, where military officers and their families lived. The population for the period 1718–1731 has been estimated at approximately 400, with a settlement of about 100 houses (SABHC 1976). In 1731, a group of families from the Canary Islands arrived on order from the King of Spain to help settle the area. A town, called San Fernando, was established for them in the vicinity of present day Main Plaza, east of the presidio at "the distance of a gunshot" (SABHC 1976). At the same time the Villa of San Fernando was surveyed in 1731, a route for an acequia was planned along the watershed between San Pedro Creek and the San Antonio River; this acequia was completed in 1738 (SABHC 1976). The residence of the commandant of the Presidio was constructed in 1747 (now known as the Governor's Palace).

In 1773, San Antonio became the capital of Spanish Texas. At that time the population numbered about 2,000, divided between five distinct communities: (1) Mission San Antonio de Valero; (2) the Presidio; (3) missions to the south; (4) Villa San Fernando; and (5) La Villita (between the villa and the mission).

### Nineteenth Century

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, the Spanish influence on the city was waning. All of the missions were secularized by 1795, and the religious offices of San Antonio de Valero were consolidated into San Antonio de Bexar (Schoelwer 2010). In 1821, Mexico declared itself independent of Spain, and San Antonio became part of Mexican territory. The first group of Anglo-American colonists came to Texas in the same year, and during the late 1820s and early 1830s, increasing numbers of American settlers began moving to San Antonio (Long 2014).

In the mid-1830s, San Antonio began to resist the rule of Santa Anna, the harsh dictator-President of Mexico. Joining in the movement for independence, San Antonio was the site of several battles of the Texas Revolution. Mexico sent large numbers of troops to San Antonio in 1835, but the revolutionists won several small victories, notably at Goliad and Gonzales. In December of that year, Texans stormed occupied San Antonio and forced a Mexican surrender in a battle known as the Siege of Bexar. Though Santa Anna exacted his revenge at the Battle of the Alamo in March of 1836, the revolutionists won a decisive victory at the Battle of San Jacinto, earning independence for Texas. In 1836, following establishment of the Republic of Texas, Bexar County was created with San Antonio as the county seat.

San Antonio was subject to several Mexican raids in the 1840s, and the population had dropped to about 800 in 1846. In 1845, Texas entered the Union, and under the protection of the US, began to grow more rapidly. German immigrants comprised a large portion of new settlers to the city (and elsewhere in Texas) during this time period.

San Antonio's first railroad was the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railway (GH&SA), which reached the city in February 1877 and connected San Antonio to the coast (Long 2014).

San Antonio saw rapid population growth after the arrival of the rail; the population reached 20,550 in 1880, compared to around 12,000 in 1870. The railroads brought prosperity to San Antonio and, equally significantly, contributed to an evolution of the city's character. New Anglo settlers and access to manufactured building products transformed the city from a community dominated by Mexican traditions to one with a mix of influences (Long 2014). From the late 1870s through the 1880s, the city was transformed "from a rude Spanish outpost to a modern city" (Ramsdell 1959:46). In 1878, new waterworks shifted city water supply from the acequias to artesian wells. In the same year, San Antonio's first street cars provided a route between Alamo Plaza and San Pedro Springs. Stone crossings were also added to the unpaved downtown streets (Ramsdell 1959).

Beginning in the second half of the nineteenth century, San Antonio also developed into an important military center. In 1846, the U.S. Army set up a quartermaster depot in San Antonio, which provided support for American military operations during the Mexican War (NRHP 1975). San Antonio served as the headquarters of the U.S. Army 8th Military Department from 1849 until 1869, when the headquarters were moved to Austin (NRHP 1975). Hoping to keep the depot even though the headquarters had moved, the city offered the Army land for a permanent post (NRHP 1975).

### **Twentieth Century**

In 1900, San Antonio was the largest city in the state for the first time since 1860 and sustained this position until 1930, fueled by immigration and the development of local service industries. The confluence of Hispanic, German, and Southern Anglo-American cultures in San Antonio made for a distinct culture and built environment. In the 1930s, the New Deal provided another round of civic improvements for the city, including paving streets, and building bridges, sewers and parks. Larger New Deal improvements would become defining elements of the city, including the renovation of La Villita and the San Antonio missions and the construction of the Riverwalk along the San Antonio River in the center of the city (Long 2014).

During World War I, Kelly and Brooks fields (which later became Kelly Air Force Base and Brooks Air Force Base) were established to train pilots, and Randolph field was opened in 1931 (Long 2014). During World War II, Bexar County's already large military presence grew even more and became the city's leading economic generator for many years (Fehrenbach 2014).

San Antonio began to expand into suburbs in the 1940s with the growing dominance of the automobile. Although the first Texas skyscraper was constructed in San Antonio in the early twentieth century, high-density development did not continue, and the city's center of population steadily moved northward (Fehrenbach 2014).

Trinity University moved to its present site in San Antonio in 1952, and the University of Texas at San Antonio was funded by the Texas Legislature in 1969. These institutions, as well as

several other schools and colleges, represent an important part of the city's role as a major educational center (Long 2014).

Although the lack of high-paying manufacturing and finance-industry jobs has kept incomes in San Antonio relatively low, the city has developed a viable economy from its stable military bases, educational institutions, tourism, and its medical-research complex (Fehrenbach 2014).

### DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY OF ELMENDORF LAKE AND PARK

Elmendorf Lake and Elmendorf Lake Park are located in San Antonio's west side, within a portion of the 687-acre Coulson Tract that includes portions of Apache Creek. The original land was sold in 1889 by W.E. Elmendorf to be purchased by the New England Syndicate, and later, in 1890, conveyed to the New England Land Company of Maine. In 1893, Mrs. Amalie Elmendorf repurchased the now-improved land under an agreement to set aside parcels to create eight new parks: Central, Electrical, Highland, Lake Side, Little Margaret, Magnolia, and two unnamed parks. She again sold the land later that year to an individual who resold to the Lake View Land Company of Maine. On December 2, 1893, Lake View Land Company planned and created a new residential development named Lake View, touted as "the most desirable suburb in San Antonio" (Pfeiffer 2014). Lake View was to be solely residential with special covenants such as 10-foot setbacks from the street, manicured properties, and homes to be valued at over one thousand dollars (Pfeiffer 2014).

According to Pfeiffer (2014), in order to entice new development in the west side, the San Antonio Street Railway Company and New England Land Company were contracted in 1892 to provide streetcar service to the area (the Lake View Rapid Transit Company). However, due to problems with construction and deadlines, the City Council revoked the transit franchise on December 4, 1893. Nevertheless, additional infrastructure was constructed in the area during that period, including seven miles of roads and an artesian water supply (Pfeiffer 2014). Additionally, the founding of the private Catholic OLLU by the Sisters of Divine Providence in 1895 added to the potential of the Westside community. The school, originally an academy for girls, later became coeducational in 1969, and is known for its Gothic spires, imported Italian marble and German stained glass (Callahan 2014). The University's churches, classrooms, and residences are set on 71 acres adjacent to the lake (Callahan 2014).

At first, the Lake View community was slow to develop, in part due the national recession of the 1890s that adversely affected real estate sales in the San Antonio area (Pfeiffer 2014). By 1914, there were only 30 homes at Lake View, and by 1921, there were only 63 homes. On May 15, 1917, the Lake View Town Site Company sold Elmendorf Lake and Lakeside Park to the City of San Antonio for one dollar, provided the City rebuild the dam, beautify the park, build sidewalks, and take over maintenance of the property (Pfeiffer 2014). The 29.60-acre lake and park at Elmendorf has been owned and maintained by San Antonio since 1917.

Currently, Elmendorf Lake Park comprises both modern-day and older, nineteenth-century structures, swim and sports facilities, and a series of winding concrete and crushed granite pedestrian paths set in a riparian environment of cypress and cattails along Apache Creek. It also features a long, man-made island with footbridge access. According to aerial photos, this island was formed by creating a new channel along the southern bank associated with OLLU (Figures 5 and 6). An additional, smaller island with no pedestrian access was also created by excavation and is currently a sanctuary for a large number of egrets and cormorants. A "labyrinth weir dam" at the parks southeastern terminus is a complex concrete structure that was built in 1973 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Pfeiffer 2014) (Figure 7). The park also features a 1950s era faux bois (false wood) stage/pavilion made by Dionicio Rosales, a protégé of artist Dionicio Rodriquez (COSA OCA 2014) (Figure 8). This structure is located adjacent to the existing foot bridge used by park patrons to access the island. The island formation at Elmendorf Lake Park is a 360-meter-long elongated strip of land that follows the natural course of Apache Creek (see Figures 17 and 18). The island was originally a grassy bank associated with OLLU, before excavation sometime after 1973 added another channel to the creek creating the presentday island.



Figure 5: 1938 aerial photo showing OLLU and pre-island phase Lake Elmendorf.



Figure 6: 1986 aerial photo showing OLLU and post-island phase Lake Elmendorf.



Figure 7: 1995 aerial photo showing OLLU and Lake Elmendorf during dam construction.



**Figure 8:** *Faux bois* stage with bench constructed at Elmendorf Lake Park by Dionicio Rosales.

## **PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS**

According to the THC Archeological Sites Atlas, accessed on March 5, 2014, there are have been no previous archeological surveys and there are no documented archeological sites within 500 meters of the project area. A single historic-age cemetery is located approximately 220 meters southwest of the project area. The cemetery is associated with OLLU, an independent Catholic university founded in 1895 by the Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Providence, a religious institute originating in Lorraine, France. Texas. OLLU is a place of historical significance, and recognized by a historical marker located at 411 Southwest 24th Street.

# METHODOLOGY

Background research conducted for the proposed project included accessing the THC's online Archeological Sites Atlas as well as a review of survey reports, site files, and maps on file at the THC, the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, and the University of Texas in Austin. These sources were utilized to identify previous recorded cultural resources within the vicinity of the proposed project and identify potential site types and their probable horizontal and vertical location on the landscape in consideration of topographical, geological, and pedological data.

Hicks & Company conducted a pedestrian survey supplemented by shovel testing (n = 34) in order to assess the proposed project's potential to impact archeological resources. Along planned trail components, archeologists traversed the areas in a single transect or multiple transects spaced no more than 30 meters apart as dictated by width of the project area, and as allowed by access and existing infrastructure. In total approximately 23 acres was inspected. A total of 34 shovel tests were conducted throughout the project area, exceeding the THC's minimum standards for a project of this size (approximately 1 per every 2 acres or 12 in total). Most shovel tests terminated before 35 centimeters below ground surface (cmbs) within a hard clay matrix with intermixed gravel inclusions. Sediment from all shovel tests was screened through <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch hardware cloth, and shovel test locations were recorded utilizing GPS technology. Investigators recorded their observations and the results of shovel tests through notes, standardized shovel test forms, and photographs. Due to the presence of manicured grasses throughout the project area, ground surface visibility was relatively high in most all locations.

During initial consultation, it was proposed that areas with impacts exceeding a meter in depth, namely proposed foot bridge locations and a proposed new pool location, would require mechanical backhoe trenching to assess potential impacts to archeological resources. However, during pedestrian survey it was noted that, in the case of proposed bridges, locations were either inaccessible by heavy machinery or were planned in locales that been extensively and recently disturbed by underground utility installation and maintenance. In the case of the proposed pool, the planned location was observed to currently be an unutilized small-sized baseball field, inaccessible during survey due to a locked fence. However, shovel tests conducted immediately adjacent to this fence noted no cultural materials and indicated the presence of sediment unlikely to house deep and intact archeological deposits.

According to current design plans, there are no planned impacts that will have a direct effect on the intact historic-age structures such as retaining walls and the *faux bois* structure (see **Figure 8**). While noted for their presence during background review and archeological survey, this report is intended to only address the archeology portion of the cultural resource investigation. A separate, historic standing structures survey is to be conducted by Hicks & Company and will further address direct and indirect effects to these items under the ACT and Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended.

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# **RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS**

For discussion purposes, the archeological survey results are divided into three segments: Elmendorf Lake Park, the proposed trail system connectors, and the OLLU campus area. The Elmendorf Lake Park area includes the island formation and investigations within the park boundaries between Northwest 19th Street and Southwest 24th Street, north of the lake. The proposed trail system connectors are located west of Southwest 24th Street along the north bank of Apache Creek and along the south bank, north of West Commerce Street and the refurbishment of the trail system just west of OLLU, located between Southwest 27th Street and Southwest 21st Street.

## **ELMENDORF LAKE PARK**

Elmendorf Lake Park is located on a flat, mostly flood plain, landform that is bisected by Apache Creek. The northern portion of the park (Southwest 24th Street to Southwest 19th Street) has been extensively modified, and contains grass, cypress, oak, and palm trees with reeds and riparian vegetation lining the bank edges (**Figures 9–11**). Within the park, archeologists conducted 14 shovel tests (GC1–GC5, GC8–GC11, GC15–GC17, JH1–JH4, JH7–JH10, and JH14–JH16) at various locations in this northern survey area (**Appendix B**). Despite the area's long historical usage, only a single, small, marble was recovered, found in shovel test JH4, near the water's edge and near the intersection of West Commerce Street and Southwest 24th Street.

The southern bank of Elmendorf Lake Park (Southwest 19th Street to the Southwest 24th Street bridge) is a thin grassy ribbon of waterfront, highlighted by concrete and gravel paths, a sewer line that starts at the Labyrinth Weir dam and ends at the Southwest 24th Street Bridge at OLLU (**Figures 12–16**). The current path is bounded by a residential neighborhood and an OLLU parking lot to the south. This area is heavily disturbed and the four shovel tests (GC15, GC16, JH14, and JH15) conducted within the area were negative for cultural materials. One shovel test (JH15) was performed at the proposed foundation of a new footbridge connecting to the island and displays a mixed sandy clay loam, which was the effect of sewer line construction. Closer to the 24th Street Bridge, two tests were performed: GC15, located in an area for new path construction under the bridge. Both shovel tests were negative for cultural materials and soils appeared indicative of the immediate area, with dark gray (7.5YR 4/1) silt loams and clay loams over clays with high alluvial gravel content inclusions (**Table 1**). Shovel Test GC16 was excavated on a high-angle slope close to the water's edge, and was sediment here appeared to have been previously disturbed during channel cutting to create the island.



Figure 9: Overview of current park infrastructure, facing east from STJH4.



Figure 10: Overview of existing pool area, facing southeast from STJH7.



**Figure 11:** Overview of current park infrastructure, facing east from north end of Fenton Bridge crossing at Southwest 24th Street.



Figure 12: Overview of dam, facing north from southeast project terminus.



**Figure 13:** Overview of existing disturbances at proposed trail area, facing west from just west of Southwest 19th Street.



Figure 14: Overview of footbridge and culvert ditch drainage, facing south.



Figure 15: Overview of planned bridge location, facing southeast from existing trail.



Figure 16: Overview of second footbridge and drainage culvert, facing northwest towards OLLU parking lot.

	Table 1. Elmendorf Lake Park and Trail Shovel Test Results.						
Shovel Test	Location	Depth (cmbs)	Munsell Color	Description	Cultural Material		
		0-1	7.5YR 4/1	Hard silty clay loam.	None		
GC1	At island on proposed trail alignment	13-38	7.5YR 2.5/1	Silty clay loam with gravel inclusions.	None		
	adjacent to proposed fishing dock location.	38–40	7.5YR 2.5/1	Pale red sticky clay with high amount of 7.5YR 2.5/1 mottling and gravel inclusions.	None		
GC2	At island on proposed trail alignment.	0-10	7.5YR 4/1	Hard and compact silty clay loam.	None		
		10–26	7.5YR 2.5/1	Silty clay loam within a 90% gravel matrix, mottles.	None		
		26–35	7.5YR 2.5/1 2.5YR 8/2	Mixed silty clay loam within a 90% gravel matrix, mottles.	None		
		0–5	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam.			
	At proposed bridge location at southern	5-10	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay with 80% gravel inclusions			
GC3	extent of island formation.	10–13	2.5YR 8/2	Sandy clay with numerous hard granules. Terminated at impenetrable rocks.	None		
	At proposed bioswale location adjacent to planned trail alignment 10 meters south of commerce. Manicured grass and picnic area.	0–5	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam, top soil.	None		
GC4		5-25	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay with 30% gravel inclusions.			
001		25–38	2.5YR 8/2 & 7.5YR 4/1	Mixed clays.			
	Near northwest corner of Elmendorf Lake Park along planned trail alignment.	0–4	7.5YR 4/1	Hard silty clay loam below humic layer.	None		
GC5		4–20	7.5 YR 4/1	Silty clay loam, sticky, with 50% gravel inclusions.			
		20–28	2.5 YR 8/2 & 7.5YR 4/1	Mottled clays with 30% gravel inclusions.			
	Within existing picnic bench area between	0–28	7.5YR 4/6	Silty clay loam w/ gravels.	None		
GC8	Within existing picnic bench area between trail segments.	28–32	2.5YR 7/2 & 7.5YR 4/6	Mixed loams and clays.			
	South of existing pool area at interface of a planned parking lot location and activity area.	0–5	7.5YR 4/6	Hard silty clay loam with 30% gravel.	None		
GC9		5–15	7.5YR 4/6	Silty clay loam with 80% gravel. Terminated within gravel bed.			
		0–6	7.5YR 4/1	Hard silty clay loam.			
GC10		6–20	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam with 30% gravel inclusions.	None		
		20-45	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay with increasing mottles of clay with 10% gravel inclusions.			
	Along planned trail alignment 12 meters west of planned pool location.	0–6	7.5YR 4/1	Hard silty clay loam.	None		
GC11		6–20	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam with 30% gravel inclusions.			
		20–45	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay with increasing mottles of clay with 10% gravel inclusions.			
GC15	On planned trail ten meters east of 24th Street.	0–23	7.5YR 4/1	Pea gravel surface. Silty clay loam with 40% gravel inclusions. Terminated at thick gravels. Very disturbed appearance.	None		
GC16	On planned trail ten meters east of 24th Street.	0–10	7.5YR 4/1	Gravel matrix under thin top-soil and grass. Disturbed appearance.	None		

Table 1. Elmendorf Lake Park and Trail Shovel Test Results.					
Shovel Test	Location	Depth (cmbs)	Munsell Color	Description	Cultural Material
GC17	At southern extent of planned improvements to Elmendorf Lake Park, overlooking dam.	0–20	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay with 10% gravel inclusions.	None
		20–29	2.5YR 8/2 & 7.5YR 4/1	Mottled clays with a few gravels.	
JH1	At northwest extent of island formation.	0–40	10YR 3/2	Clay loam with 2% rounded gravel inclusions.	None
JH2	Twenty meters south of GC2 near large cypress tree.	0–5	10YR 4/3	Sandy loam.	None
JH2		5–45	10YR 3/2	Clay loam.	
JH3	At planned trail location within existing picnic bench area, 10 meters north of water's edge.	0-30	10YR 3/2	Clay loam with increasing thickness. Terminated at impenetrable clay.	None
	South extent of northwest corner of Elmendorf Lake Park along planned trail alignment overlooking lake.	0–20	10YR 3/1	Sandy loam.	None
JH4		20-40	10YR 3/2	Clay loam with mottling of 7.5YR 4/1 clay throughout. Broken up sandstone bedrock @ 40 cmbs.	
	In lawn area adjacent to existing pool.	0-10	10YR 4/4	Silty loam.	None
JH7		10-40	10YR 3/1	Clay loam with 20% gravel inclusions increasing with depth.	
JH8	At planned parking lot location.	0–35	10YR 3/1	Thick clay loam with compaction increasing with depth.	None
JH9	At the interface of a planned bioswale and activity area.	0–35	10YR 3/1	Thick clay loam with compaction increasing with depth.	None
JH10	Immediately south of fenced-off baseball field, 25 meters east of planned pool location.	0–35	10YR 3/1	Thick clay loam with compaction increasing with depth.	None
JH16	At southern extent of planned improvements to Elmendorf Lake Park, overlooking dam or slight rise.	0–20	7.5YR 3/1	Thick silty loam and gravel fill.	None

The island formation at Elmendorf Lake Park is a 360-meter-long elongated strip of land that follows the natural course of Apache Creek (**Figures 17** and **18**). The island was originally a grassy bank associated with OLLU, before excavation sometime after 1973 added another channel to the creek creating the present-day island. The island is currently connected to the main body of Elmendorf Lake Park by a metal footbridge accessed from the *faux bois* pavilion area. At the southern extent of the island two foot bridges are proposed as additional connectors, linking the island to trails on both sides of the lake. During survey, it was noted that the island is a modified landform with a gently rounded surface and dotted with cypress trees, oaks, and other riparian flora (**Figure 17**). A short, 20-meter-long existing concrete path initiates at the bridge and terminates in short grasses near the island's center (**Figure 18**). Intermittent remnants of an older asphalt path that once extended to the southern point of the island but now broken and covered with soil and grasses were also observed (this path is visible in the 1986 aerial photo depicted in **Figure 6** above).



**Figure 17:** Overview of the island at Elmendorf Lake Park, facing west from STJH2.



**Figure 18**: Overview of the island at Elmendorf Lake Park, facing east towards existing bridge structure and concrete path from STJH1.

Five shovel tests (GC1–GC3, JH1, and JH2) were excavated along the length of the island, yielding no cultural materials. Shovel testing consistently noted a top stratum of silty clay loams and clay loams that ranged in color from dark gray (7.5YR 4/1) to dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/3). Observed in this stratum were numerous gravel inclusions from approximately 0–10 cmbs. A second clay stratum, that ranged in color from black (7.5YR 2.5/1) to very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2). The stratigraphy of the island was observed to be fairly consistent with the stratigraphy of the surrounding park. Hence, while channel modification has impacted the area itself, creating the formation, the island represents the older, intact portion of the drainage bank.

### **Trail System Connectors**

The western extent of the project area, located west of the Fenton Bridge at Southwest 24th Street, consists of undeveloped land that abuts commercially zoned parcels (Conn's, Family Dollar, and Texas Thrift Store). Proposed new trail through these aeaas would connect with existing trails along Apache Creek, north of Commerce Street, which would connect Apache Creek Park to Elmendorf Lake Park. As noted during survey, the creek bank is currently a grass covered landform with cypress trees and riparian flora along the bank (**Figure 19**). As depicted in the 1938 aerial photo presented as **Figure 5** above, this area was formally a tree-grove used for agriculture.

Four negative shovel tests (GC6, GC7, JH5, and JH6) were performed at this location along the north bank of Apache Creek over the proposed trail alignment. Shovel test JH6, located 30 meters from the intersection of Commerce Street and Northwest 26th Street, was conducted at the planned loation of a footbridge that would tie-in trails on both sides of the drainage (**Appendix B**). Shovel testing noted consistent stratigraphy with area sediment characterized by a silty clay loams that ranged in dark gray (7.5YR 4/1) to dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) stratum over mottled clays that ranged from light reddish brown (2.5YR 7/2) to pinkish gray (7.5YR 6/2) with high concentrations of rounded alluvial gravels distributed throughout (**Table 2**). A single shovel test, shovel test JH11, was placed at the far northwest terminus of the proposed project within Apache Creek Park, just north of the Commerce Street Bridge along the south bank of the drainage (**Figure 20**). This shovel test noted inundated mixed clays of a very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) and brown color with rounded gravel inclusions.

Table 2. Trail System Connectors Shovel Test Results.						
Shovel Test	Location	Depth (cmbs)	Munsell Color	Description	Cultural Material	
	40 meters west of 24th Street on slight rise and modern trash littered area.	0–4	7.5YR 4/1	Hard silty clay loam.	None	
GC6		4–25	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam with gravel inclusions.	None	
		25–32	2.5YR 7/2	Light reddish brown sticky clay with high amount of 7.5YR 2.5/1 mottling and gravel inclusions.	None	
GC7	In grassy area behind parking lot along planned trail alignment.	0–3	7.5YR 4/1	Hard and compact silty clay loam.	None	
GC/		3-12	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam within a 90%-gravel matrix.	None	
	On new proposed trail area, behind Conn's.	0-10	10YR 4/4	Loam.	None	
JH5		10–40	2.5YR 7/8, 5YR 6/6, 7.5YR 6/2, and 5YR 5/8	Mixed and mottled clays with fragmented sandstone.	None	
JH6	In grassy area behind parking lot at planned bridge location.	0–30	10YR 4/4	Silty clay loam above mottled clays and gravels.	None	
JH11	At far northwest project terminus at trail tie-in area.	0–30	10YR 3/2 and 10YR 4/3	Mixed and mottled silty clay loam w/ increasing thickness with depth and 20% inclusions of rounded rocks at 20+ cmbs.	None	
		30–60	7.5YR 4/2	Brown clay w/ 10% mottle of 2.5YR 5/3 clay, similar in texture to gleying clays.	None	



**Figure 19:** Overview of proposed trail location, facing northwest from STJH5. Rear of the Texas Thrift Store building is right-frame center.



**Figure 20:** Overview of proposed trail at the north terminus, facing south from STJH11.

### Our Lady of the Lake University Campus Area

West of the Fenton Bridge Crossing at Southwest 24th Street, the proposed project area was noted to consist of a well-manicured decorative landscape maintained by OLLU that gently slopes from the campus area towards Elmendorf Lake (**Figures 21** and **22**). Six negative shovel tests (GC12–GC14, JH12, JH13 and JH17) were performed along the proposed trail alignment with six recent dedicated tree plantings by the university that feature dated metal plates afixed to a concrete grave marker-like base (**Appendix B**). During shovel testing, it was noted that the sediment on this side of Elmedorf Lake was similar in stratigraphy to that of the north side, consisting of silty clay loams that ranged from dark gray (7.5YR 4/1) to dark brown (10YR 3/3) in color over thick clays pink (2.5YR 8/3), dark gray (7.5YR 4/1) or very dark gray (10YR 3/1) in color. Below topsoils, high concentrations of rounded gravels inclusions were noted (**Table 3**).



Figure 21: Overview of OLLU waterfront, facing east.



**Figure 22:** Overview of the OLLU waterfront, facing northwest towards West Commerce Street.

Table 3. Our Lady of the Lake University Campus Area Shovel Test Results						
Shovel Test	Location	Depth (cmbs)	Munsell Color	Description	Cultural Material	
GC12	Thirty meters south of Commerce at proposed trail area on OLLU Campus lawn.	0–6	7.5YR 4/1	Hard silty clay loam.	None	
		6–20	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam within an 80% gravel matrix.	None	
		20-25	7.5YR 4/1	Thick clay.	None	
	At proposed trail area just east of OLLU parking lot.	0–6	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay, humic top soil with rock content.	None	
GC13		6–30	7.5YR 4/2	Silty clay loam within gravel matrix (80%).	None	
		30-32	2.5YR 8/2	Clay with 30% gravel.	None	
GC14	On proposed trail within picnic area on OLLU campus.	0–25	7.5YR 4/1	Silty clay loam with 20 % gravel inclusions	None	
		25–27	2.5YR 8/3 & 7.5YR 4/1	Mixed clays.	None	
	On proposed trail area just east of OLLU parking lot.	0–10	10YR 3/3	Thick loam with high rootlet content.	None	
JH12		10-30	10YR 3/1	Thick clay loam	None	
		30–60	10YR 3/1	Thick very dark gray clay with 10% mottles of light brown (7.5YR 6/4) clay within a gravel and sandstone nodule matrix (65%).	None	
JH13	On proposed trail within picnic area on OLLU campus.	0–10	10YR 3/3	Thick loam with high rootlet content.	None	
		10-30	10YR 3/1	Thick clay loam.	None	
		30–50	10YR 3/1	Thick very dark gray clay with 10% mottles of light brown (7.5YR 6/4) clay within a gravel and sandstone nodule matrix (65%).	None	
JH17	Near drainage ditch, just off proposed trail alignment.	0–10	10YR 3/3	Thick loam with high rootlet content.	None	
		10-30	10YR 3/1	Thick clay loam	None	
		30-40	10YR 3/1	Thick very dark gray clay with 10% mottles of light brown (7.5YR 6/4) clay within a gravel and sandstone nodule matrix (65%).	None	

# Table 3. Our Lady of the Lake University Campus Area Shovel Test Results

#### Monitoring at Elmendorf Lake

In accordance with recommendations made by COSA OHP, excavations for pier supports at the two planned foot bridges at the "island formation" were monitored during construction (**Figure 23**). Piers were drilled to depths exceeding 7 meters, with archeologist monitoring both the inprogress excavations and back dirt piles for the presence of artifacts (**Figure 24**). No such materials were noted.



Figure 23: Pier drilling at completed depth.



Figure 24: Pier drilling underway.

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On behalf of the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) and its partners (including the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and Our Lady of the Lake University), Hicks & Company archeologists have completed a 100-percent intensive pedestrian survey of the proposed Elmendorf Lake Park Improvements Project and archeological monitoring during excavation for pier drillings to support a two new footbridges. The survey consisted of pedestrian survey supplemented by shovel testing (n = 34) throughout the near entirety of the project area, approximately 23 acres in size. A single location, an existing baseball field, located at the northwestern extent of the main body of Elmendorf Lake was fenced off during the time of survey. Though this area was visually expected from all sides, it was not shovel tested. The survey determined that the project area is largely a modified alluvial flood plain setting with sediment consisting of thin silty clays over a thicker clay stratum typically interspersed with river worn and rounded gravel inclusions. No archeological sites, features, or artifacts were noted during the monitoring phase of the investigations.

### **ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

The archeological survey and monitoring revealed no new archeological sites or features that would be affected by the proposed project. Based on the results of the current survey, it is recommended that no archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16(1)) or State Antiquities Landmarks (13 TAC 26.12) will be affected by this project and that no further archeological investigations are necessary for the proposed project area prior to construction at the following locations: the main body of Elmendorf Lake Park, the proposed trail system improvements west of 24<sup>th</sup> Street, and proposed improvements on the OLLU side of the Lake. For areas where construction may proceed, in the unlikely event that cultural materials are encountered, all work in the area is recommended to cease until the COSA Office of Historic Preservation and the THC are contacted so a professional archeologist can assess the finding and make recommendations for any future action that may be required.

### HISTORIC STRUCTURE RESOURCES

As previously noted, a separate standing structures survey is to be conducted by Hicks & Company and will further address direct and indirect effects to these items under the ACT and Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended. Any historic structures that are listed with the National Register of Historic Places as a result of that survey should also be considered for listing as a State Antiquity Landmark.

This report is offered in partial fulfillment of the requirement of Antiquities Permit #6881.

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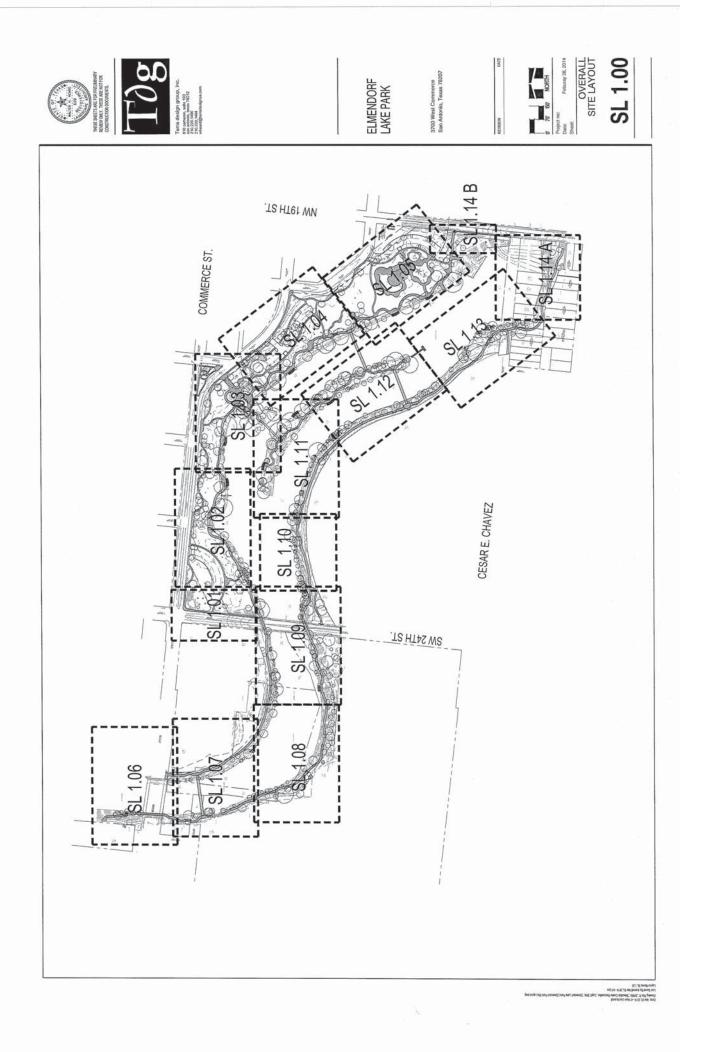
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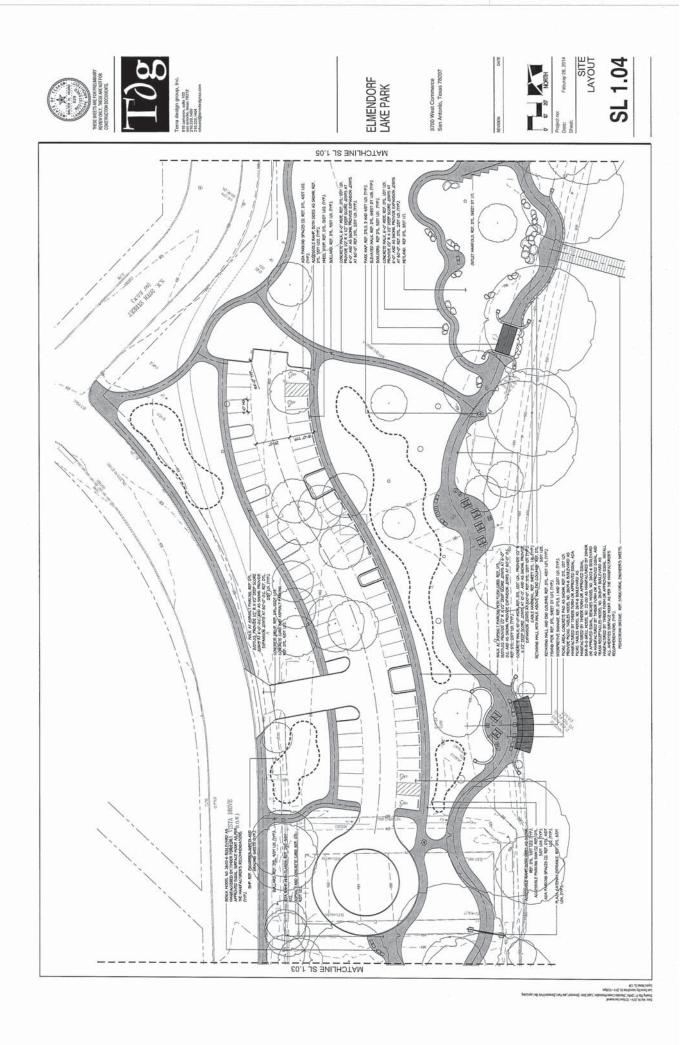
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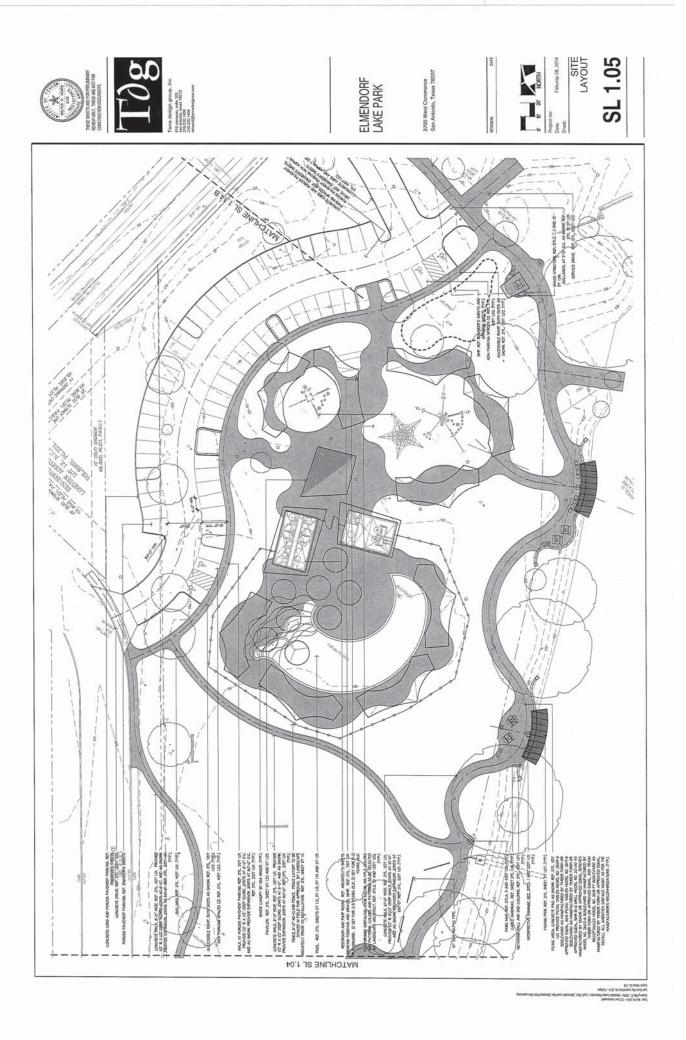
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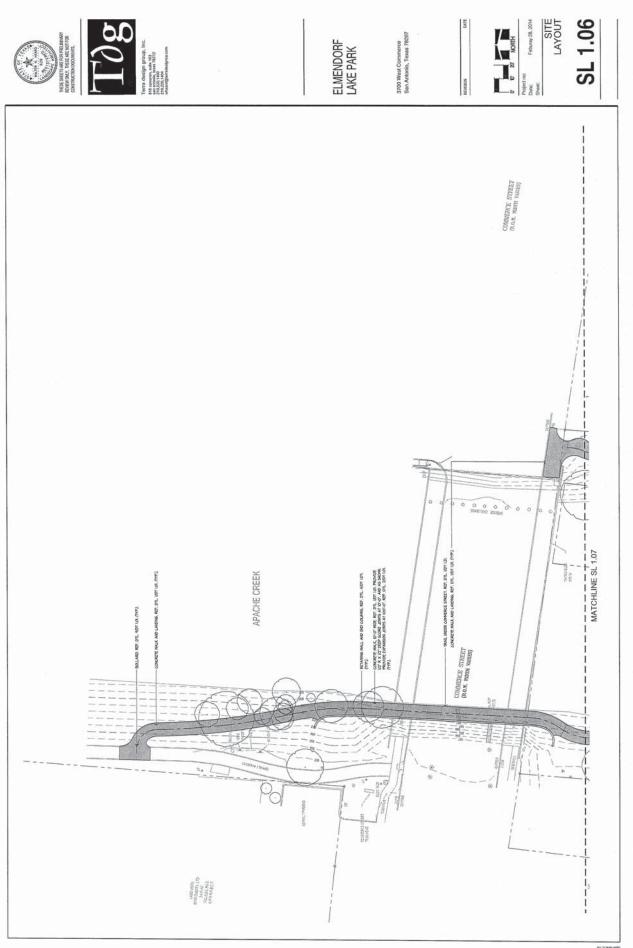
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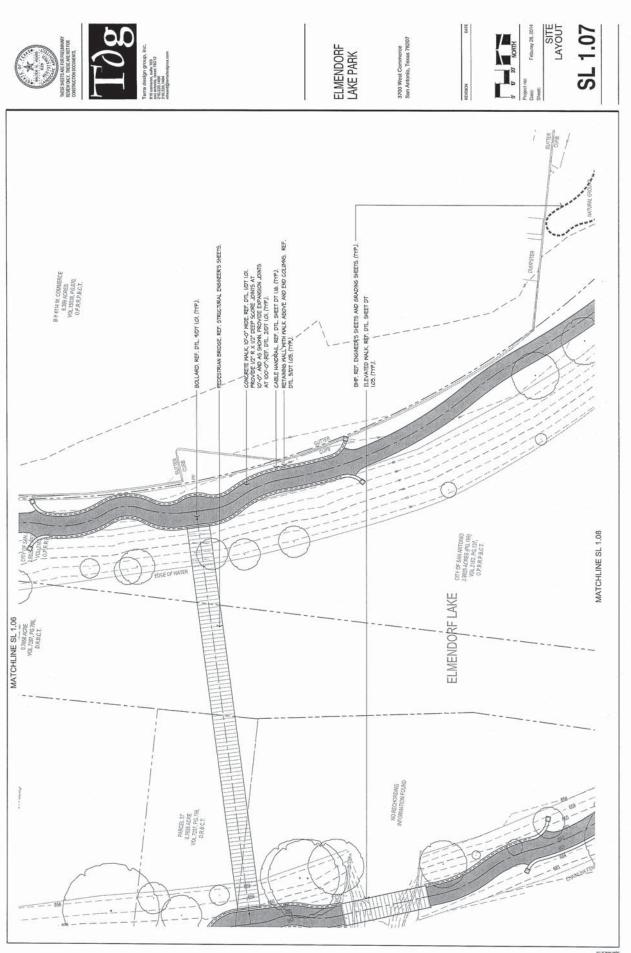




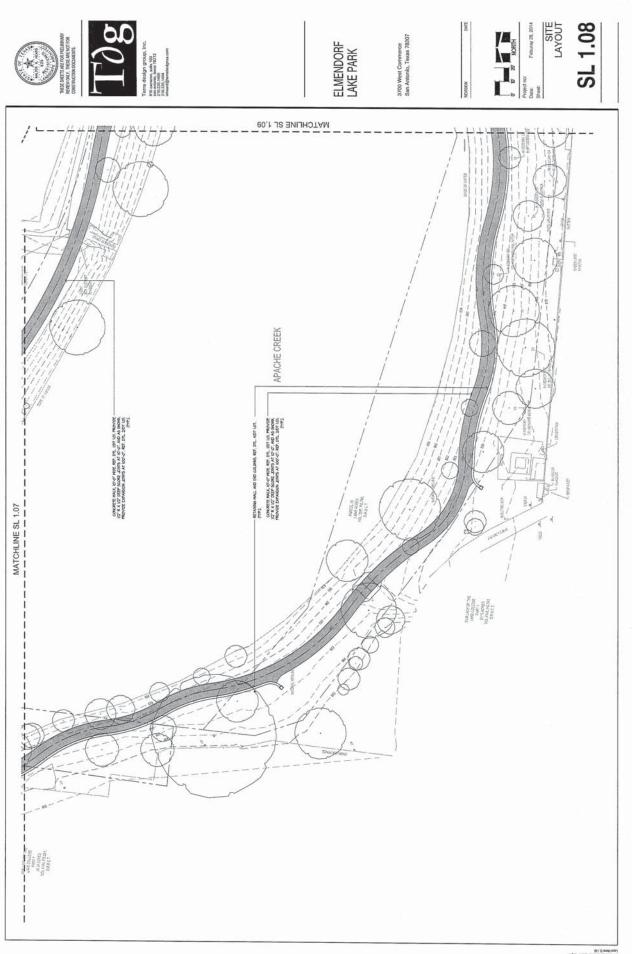


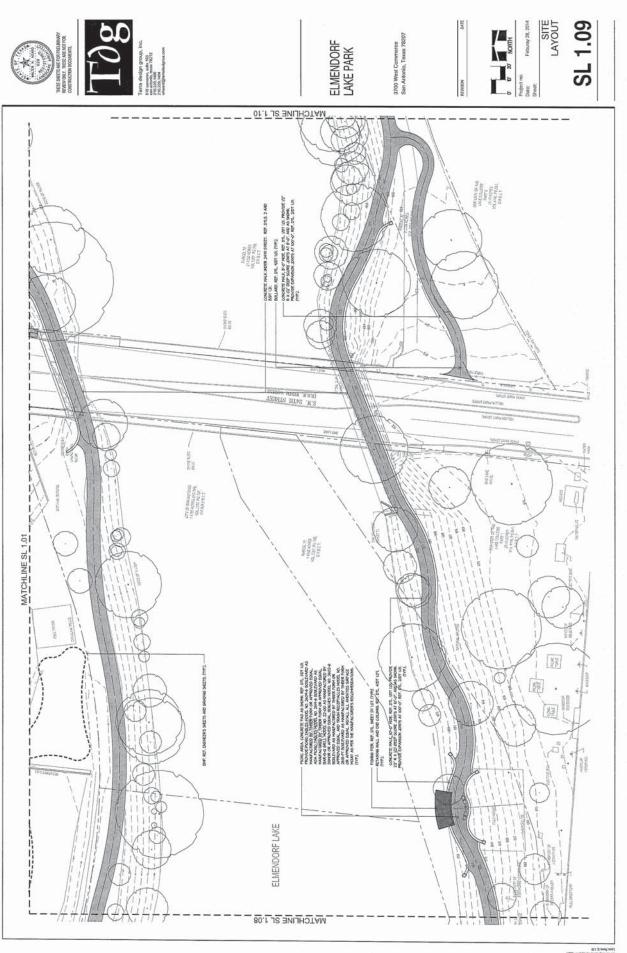


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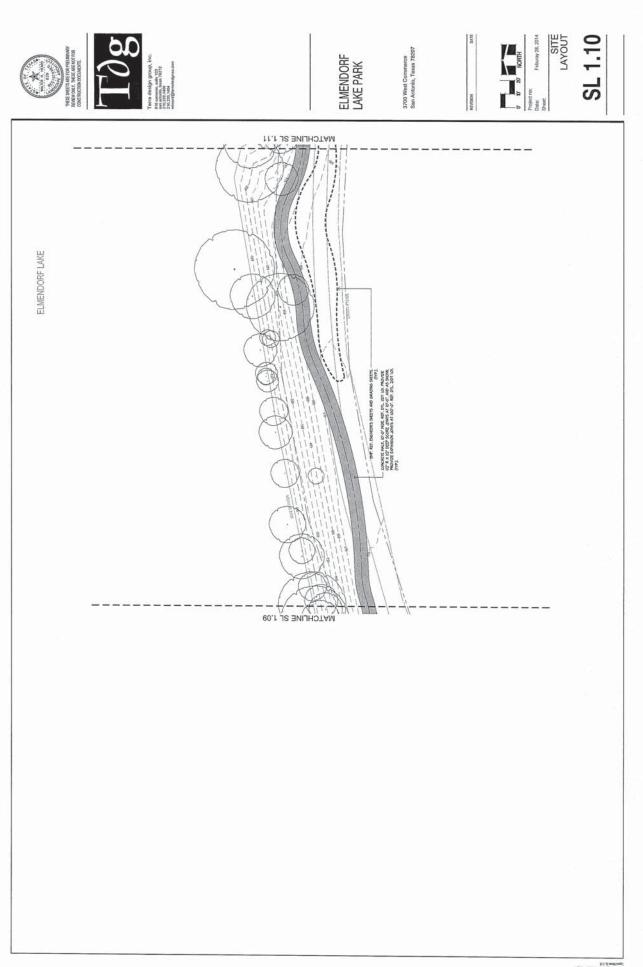


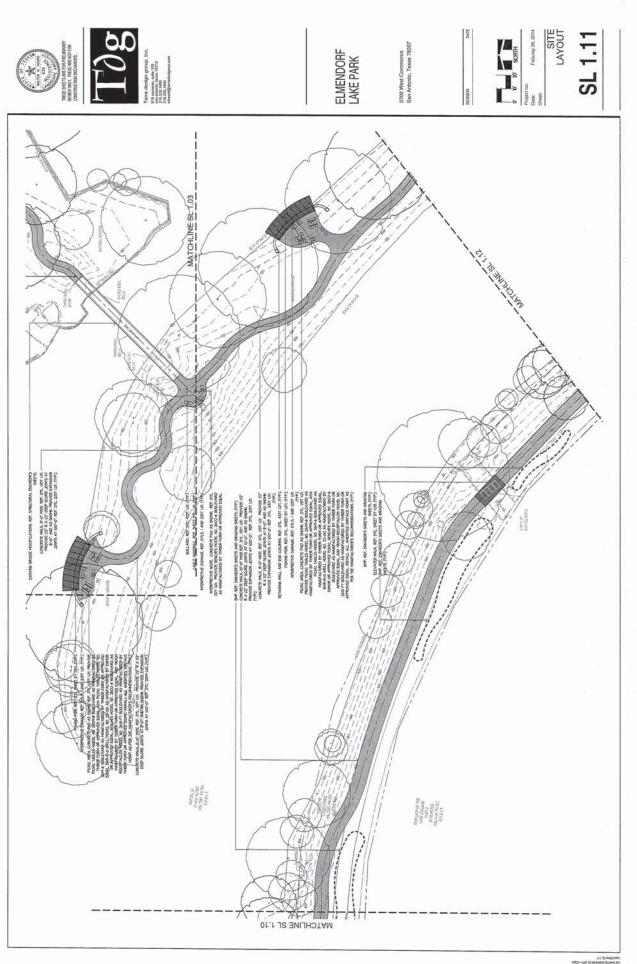
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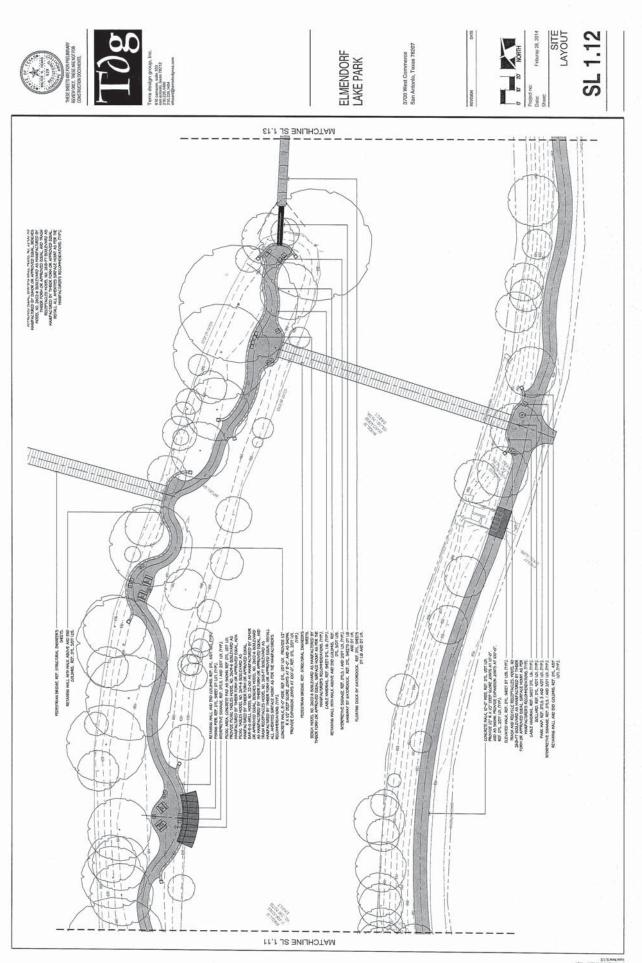


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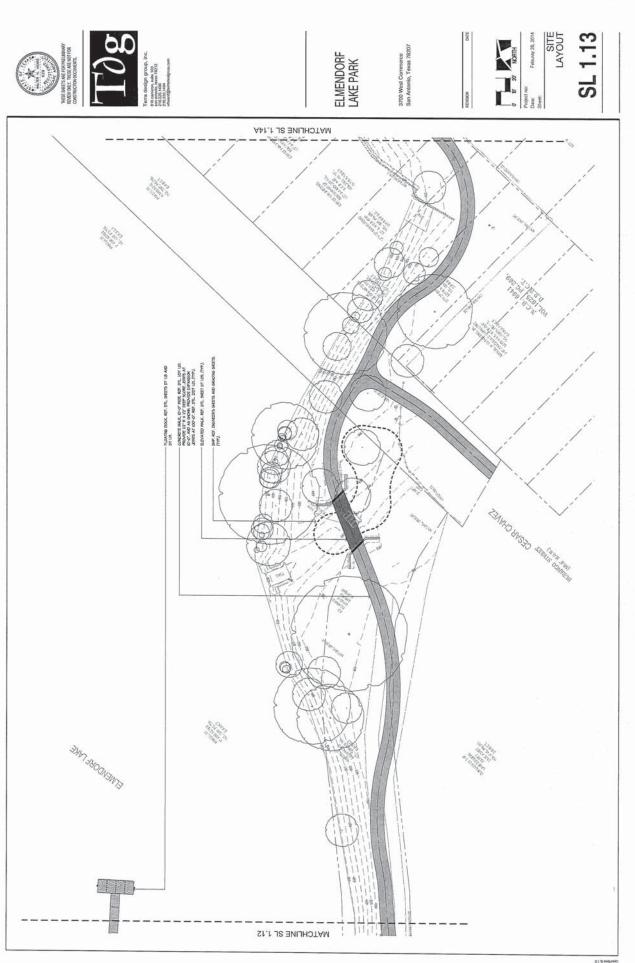




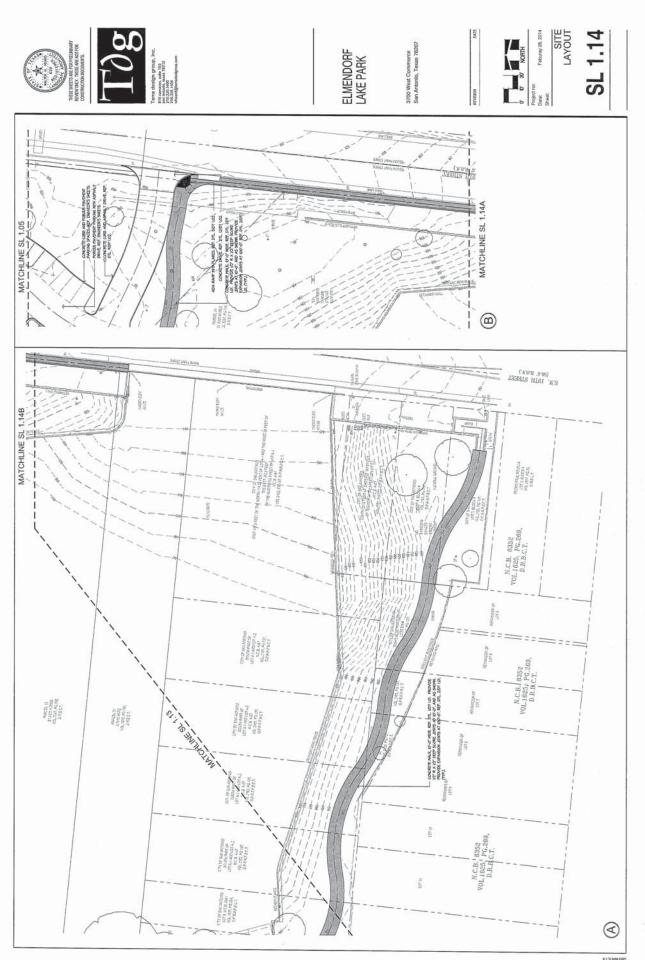
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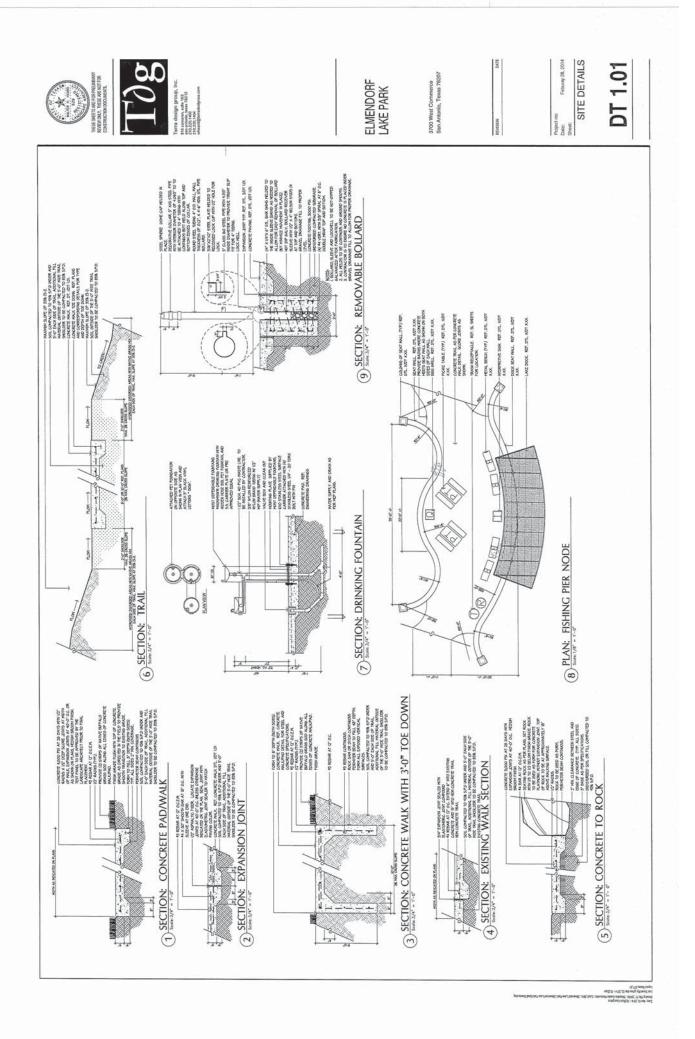
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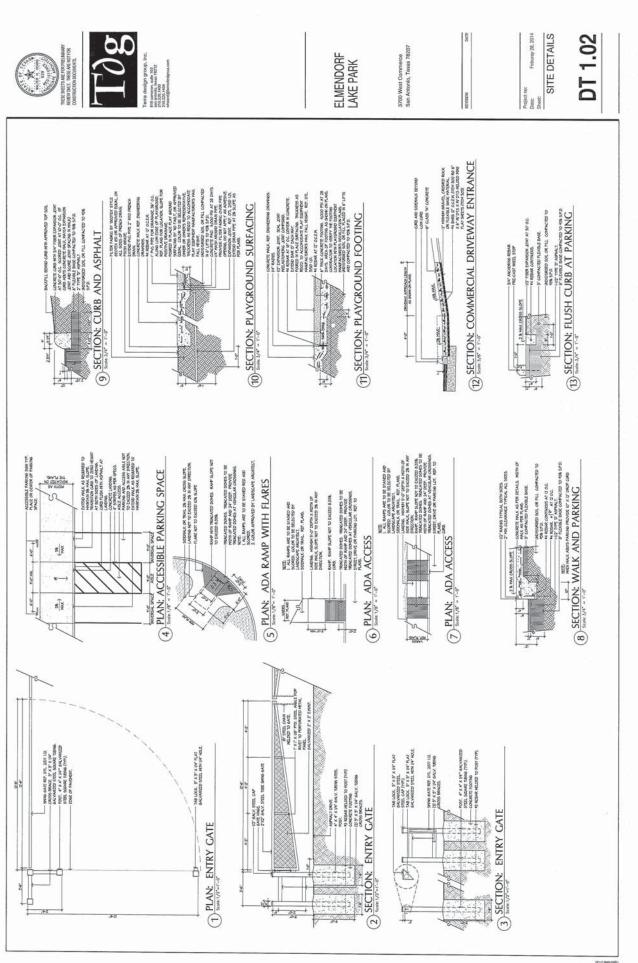


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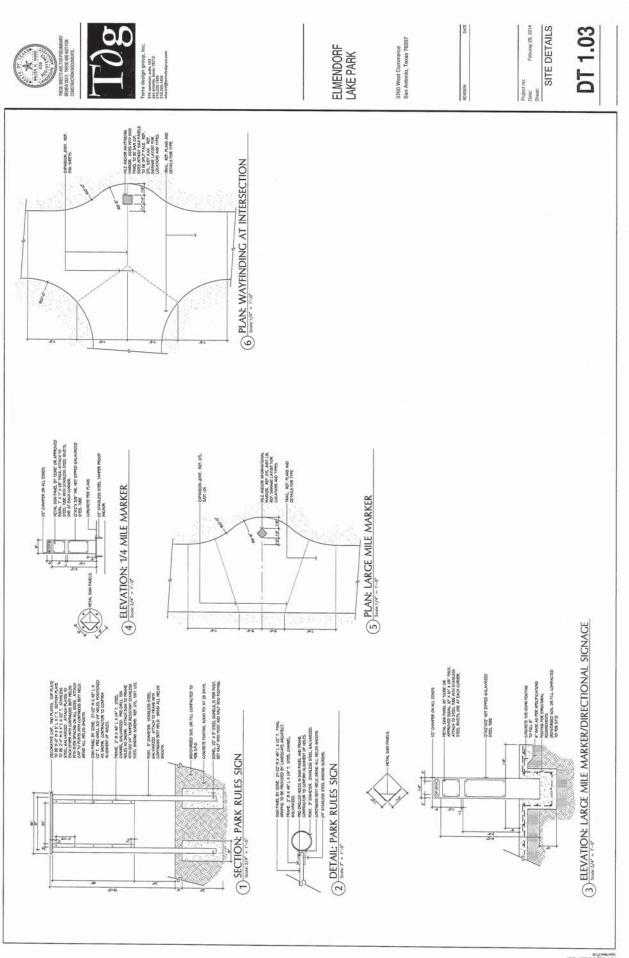


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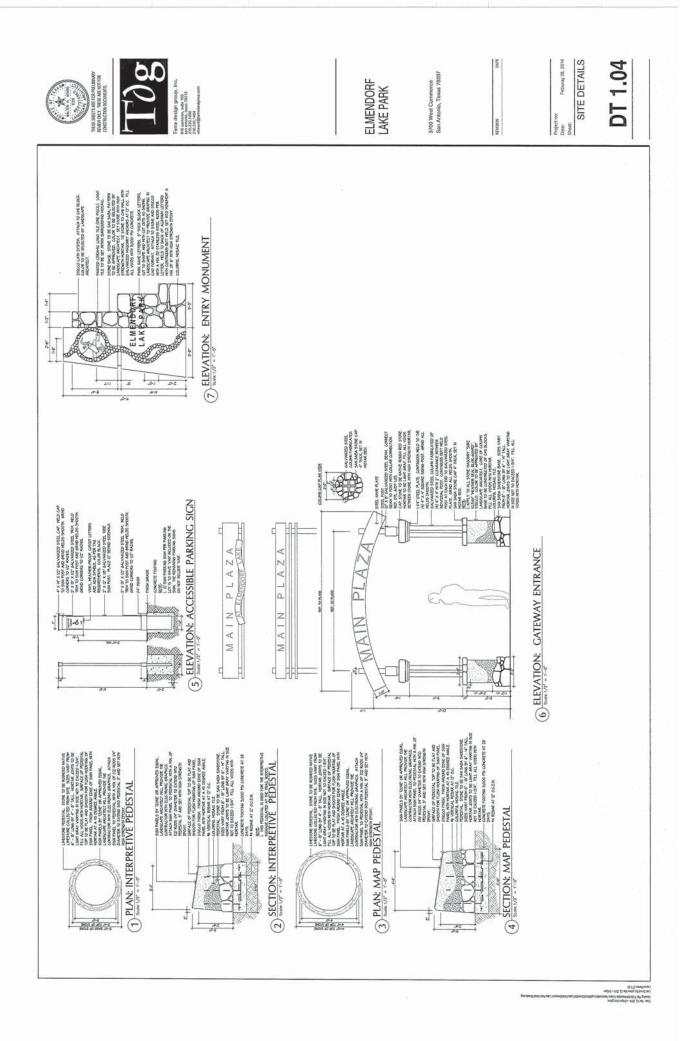


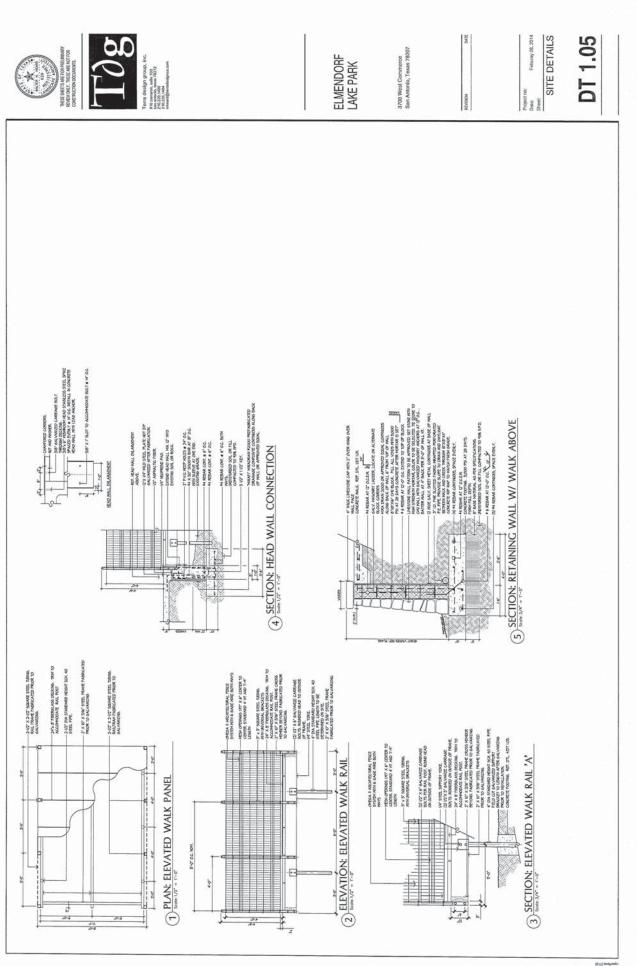


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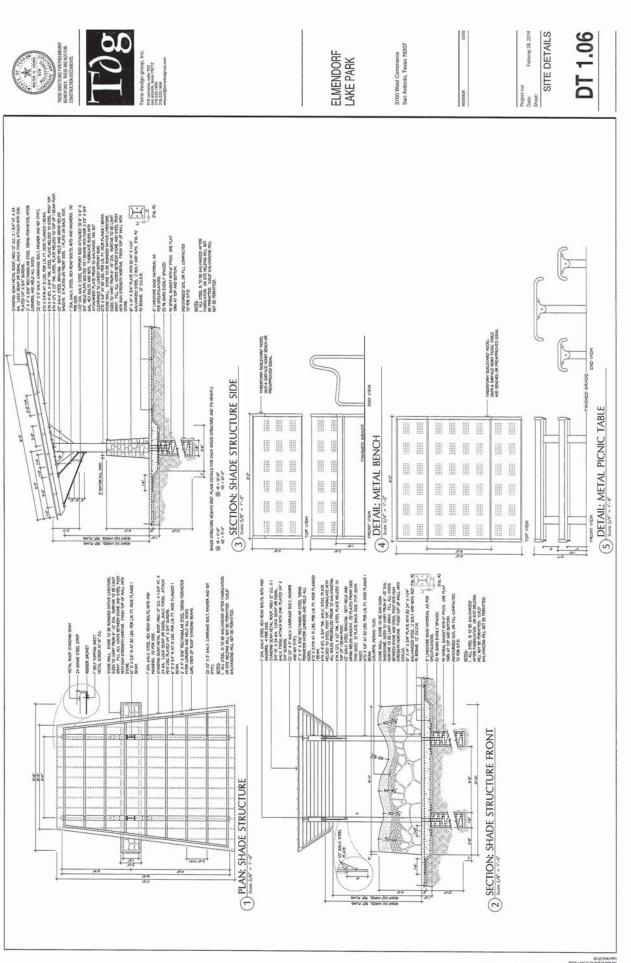


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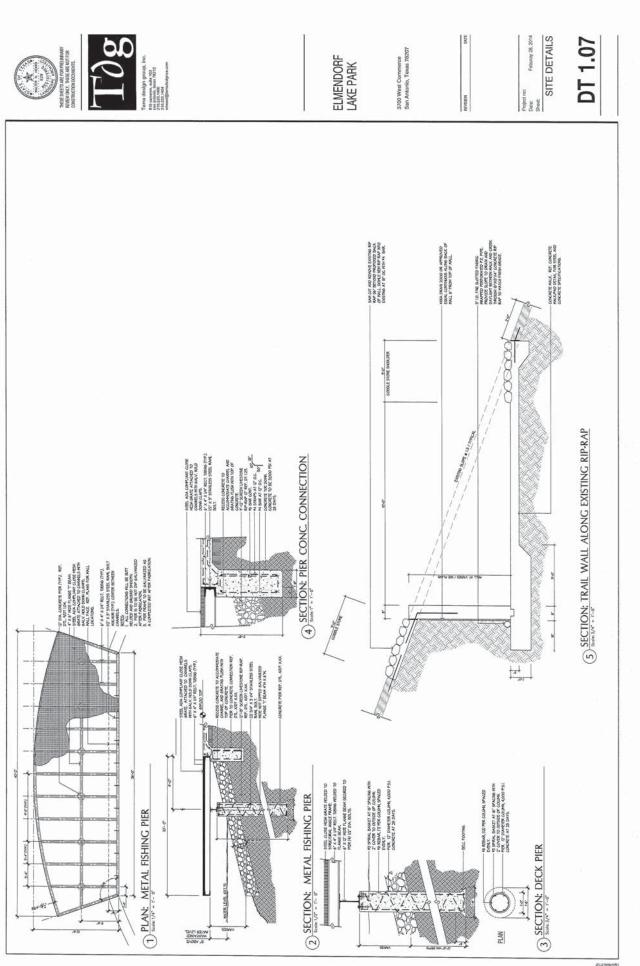




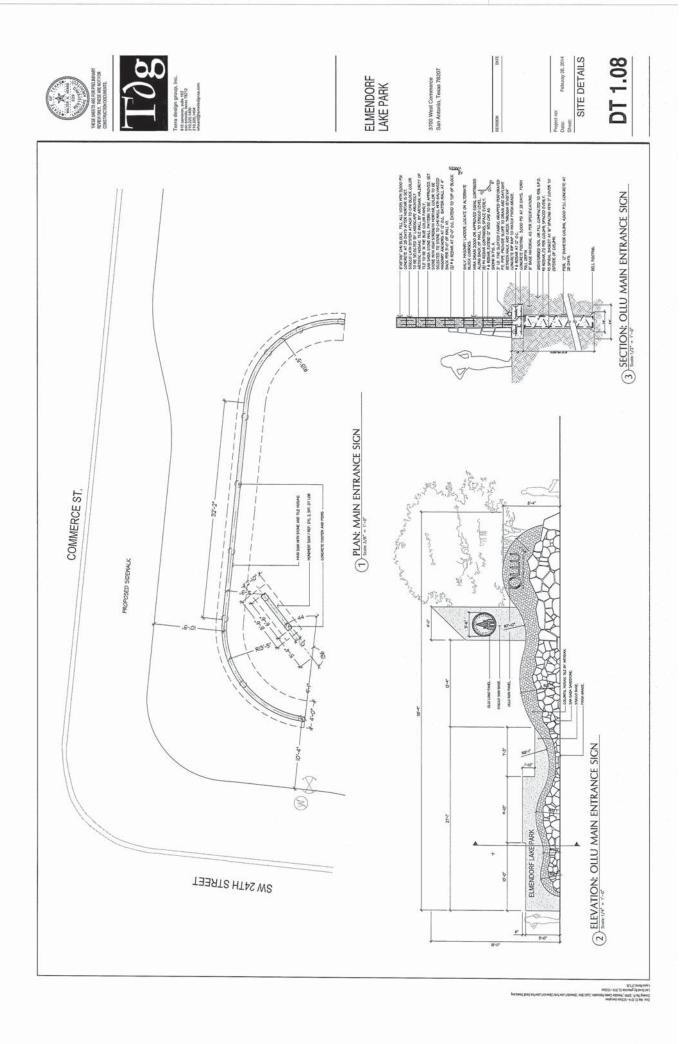
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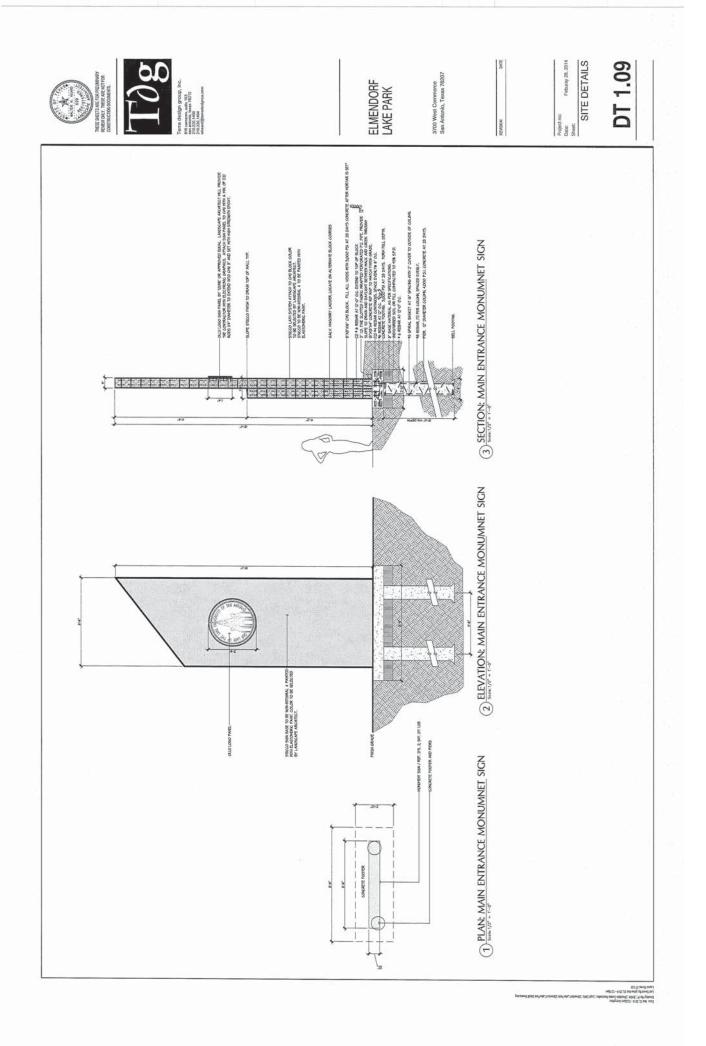


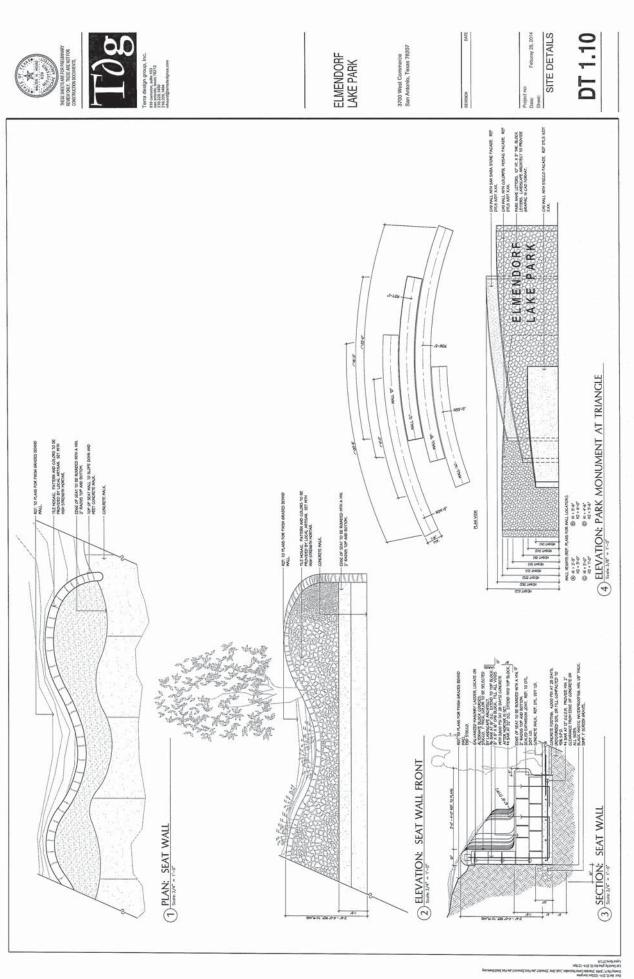
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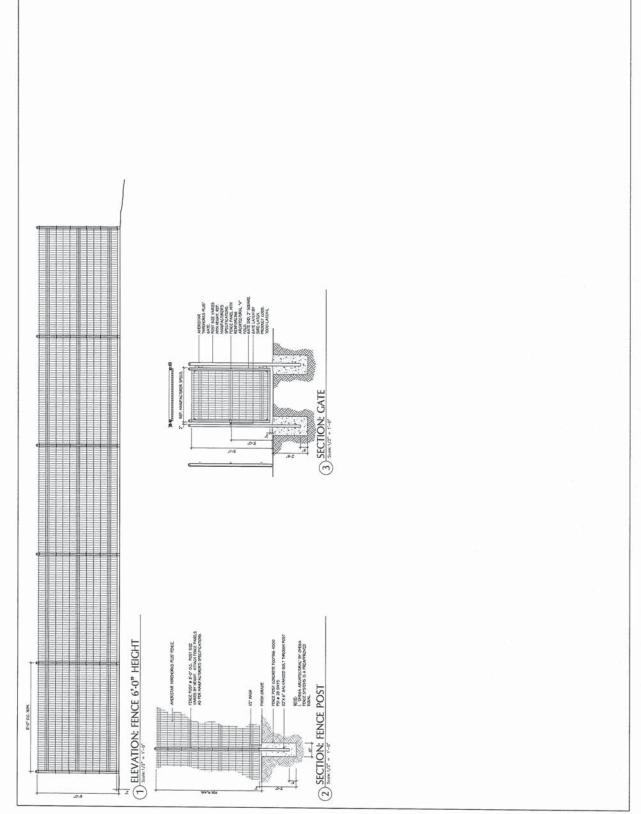


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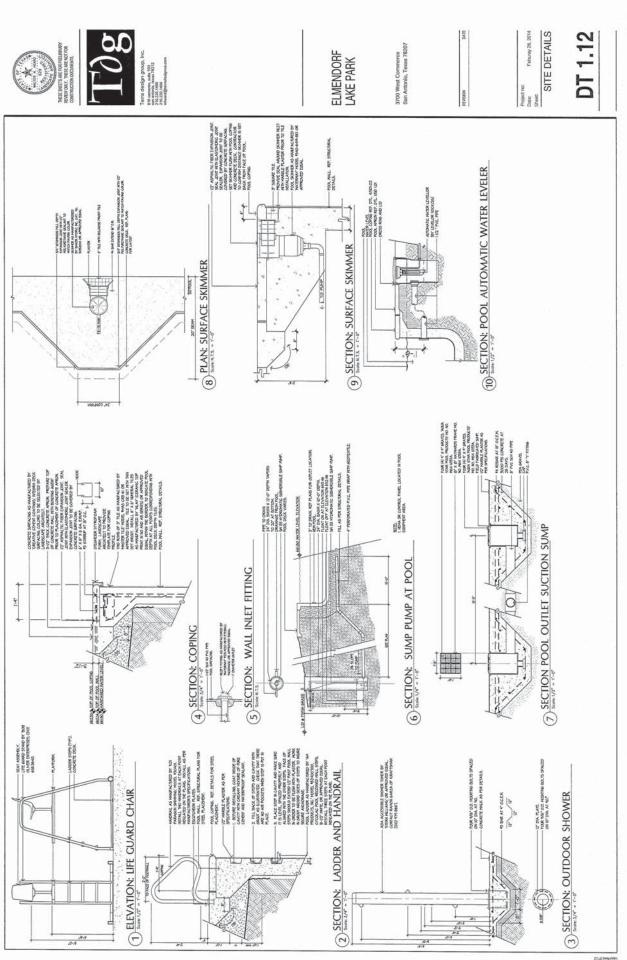
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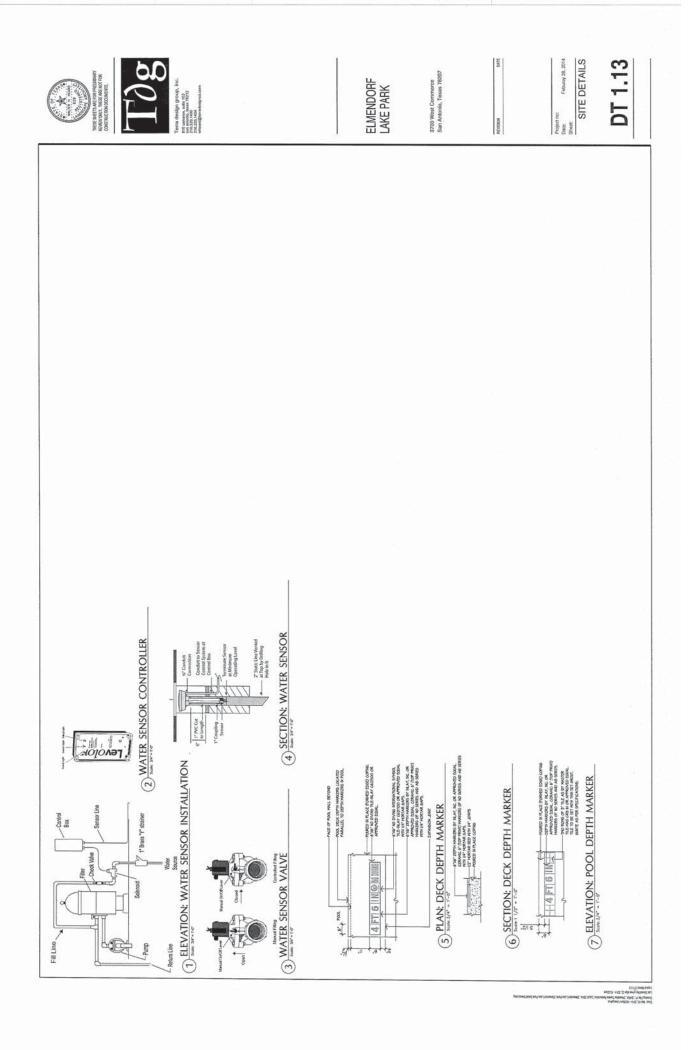
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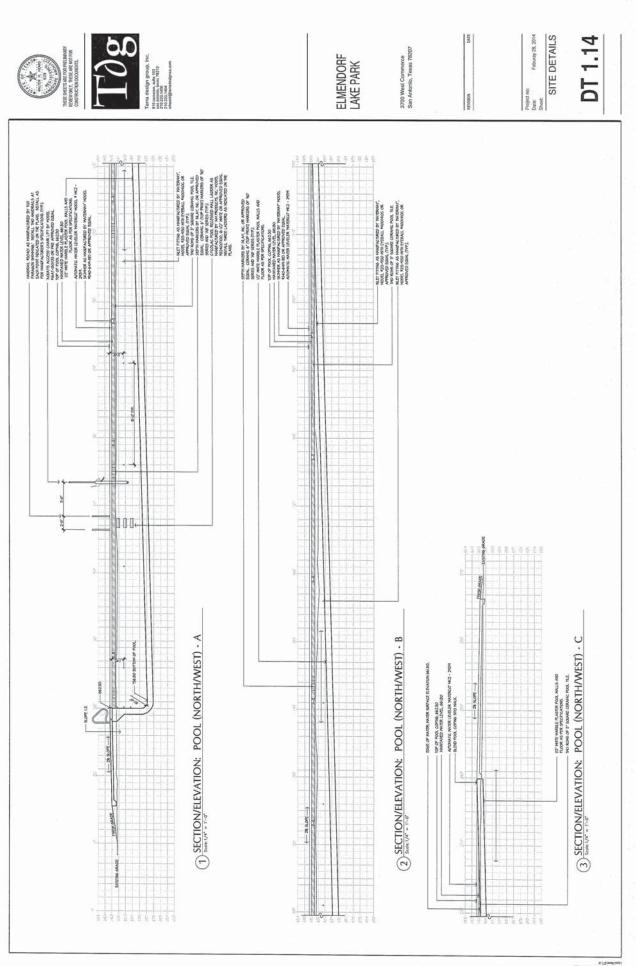


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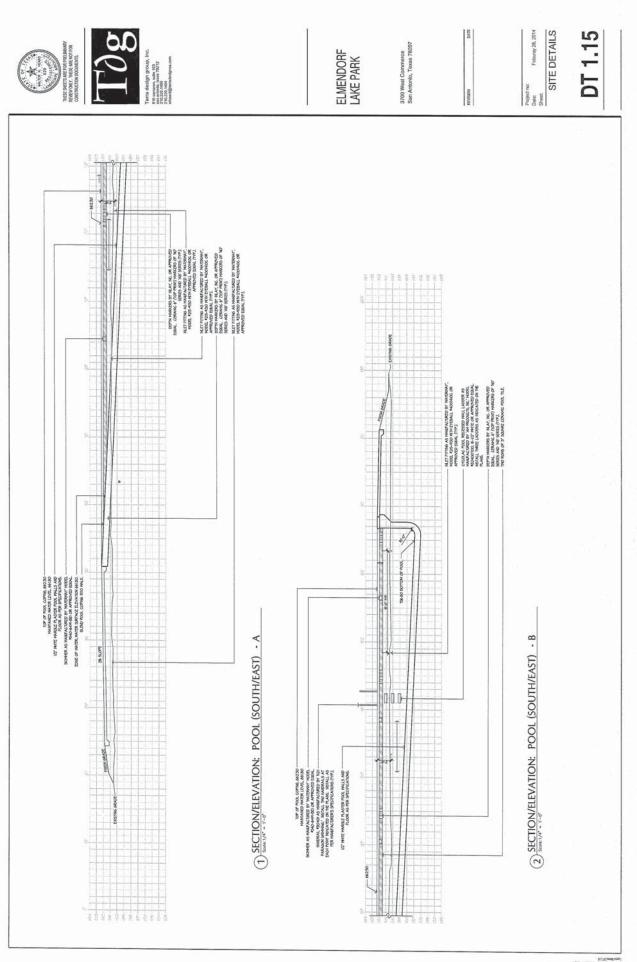


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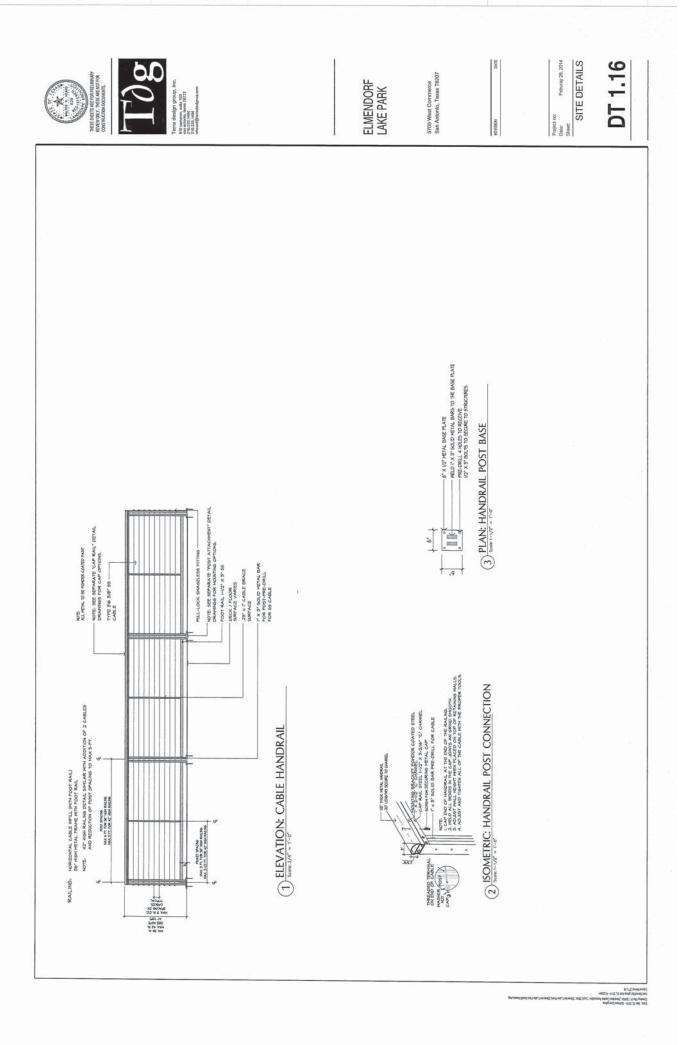


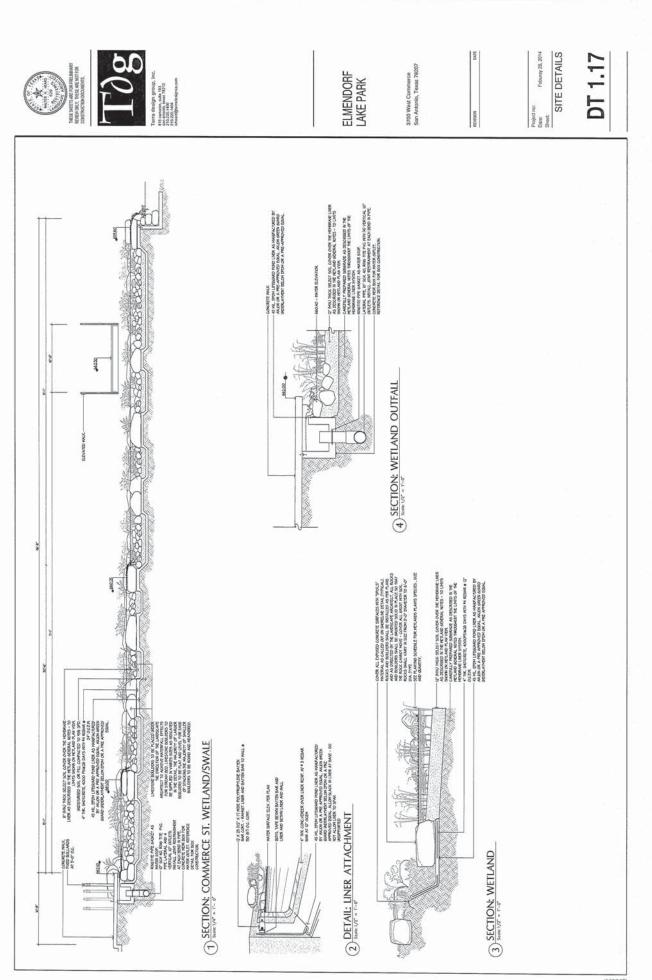


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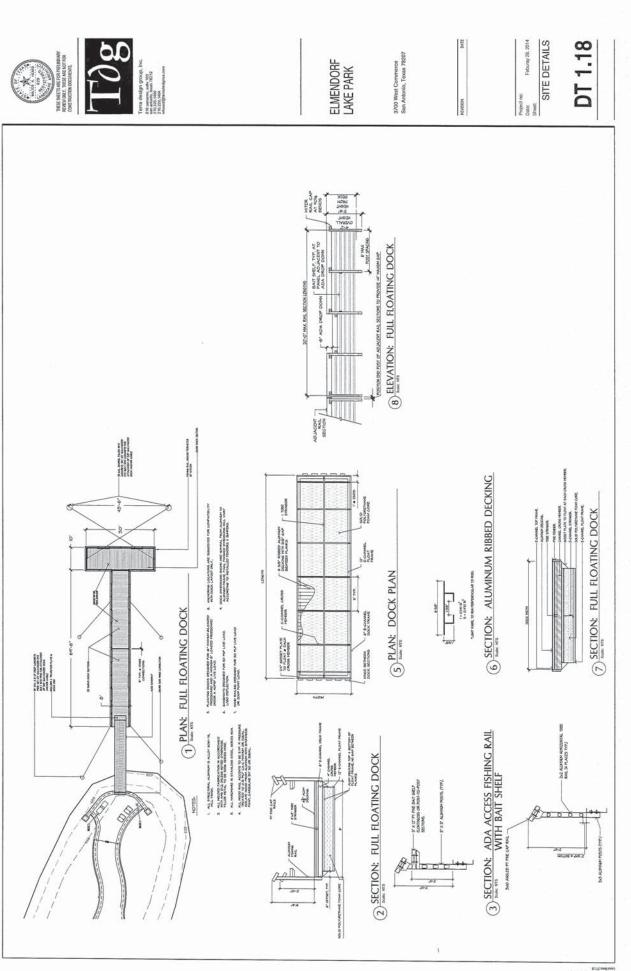


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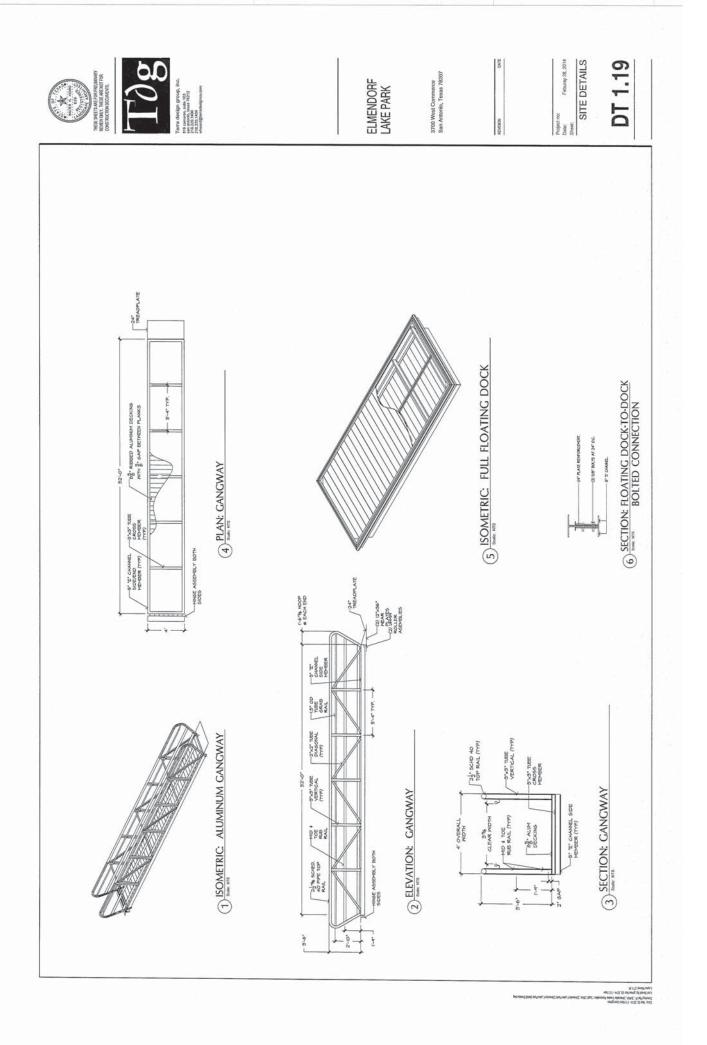




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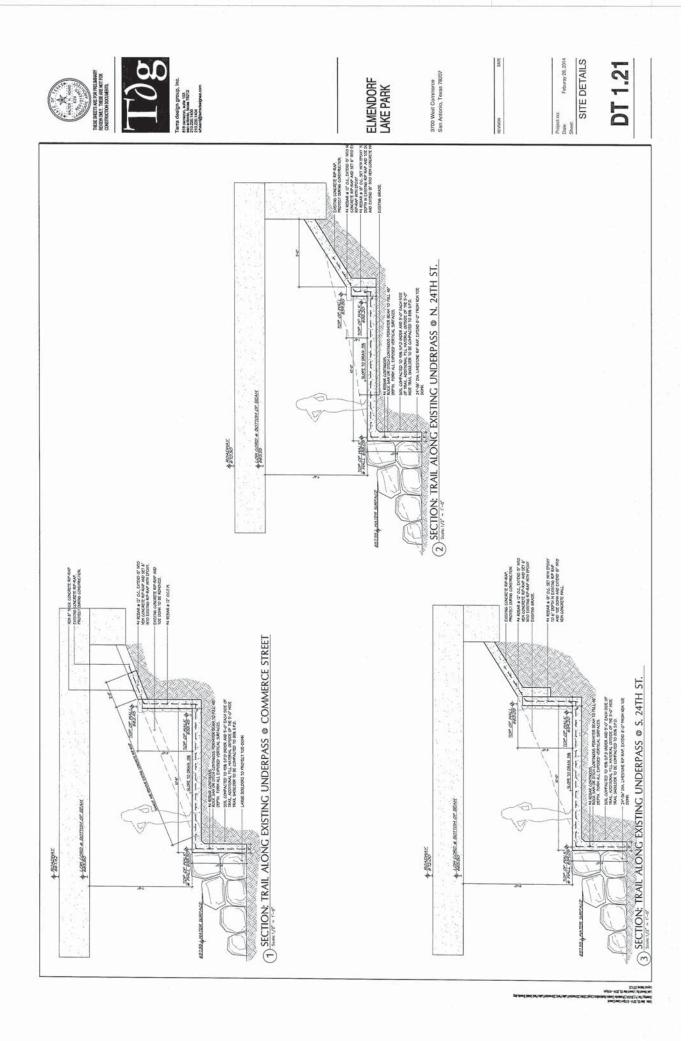
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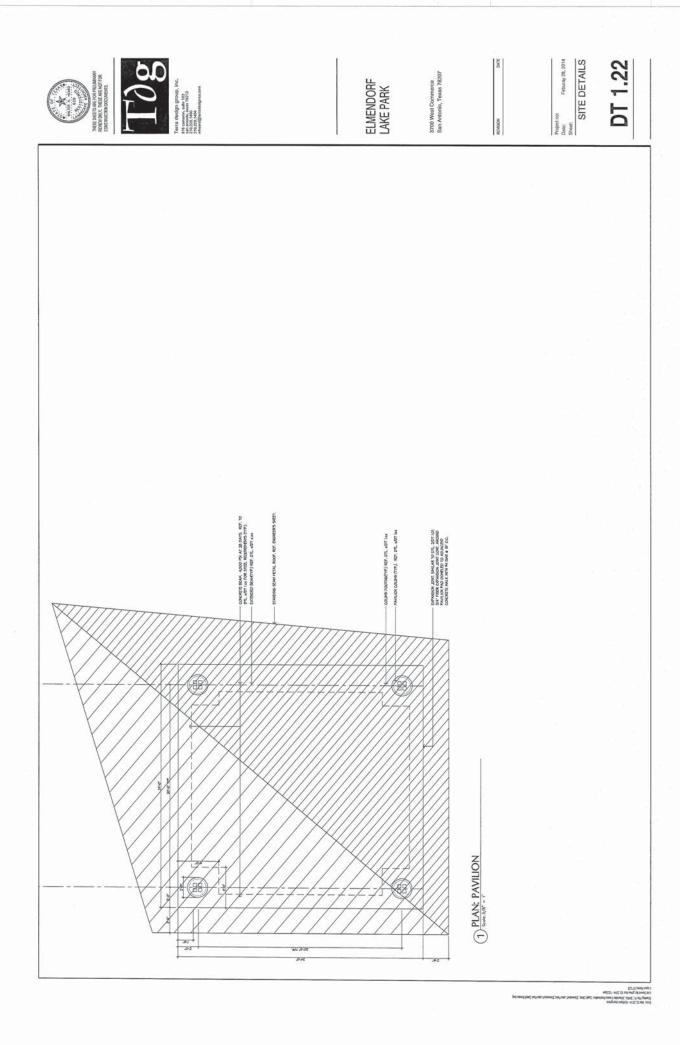
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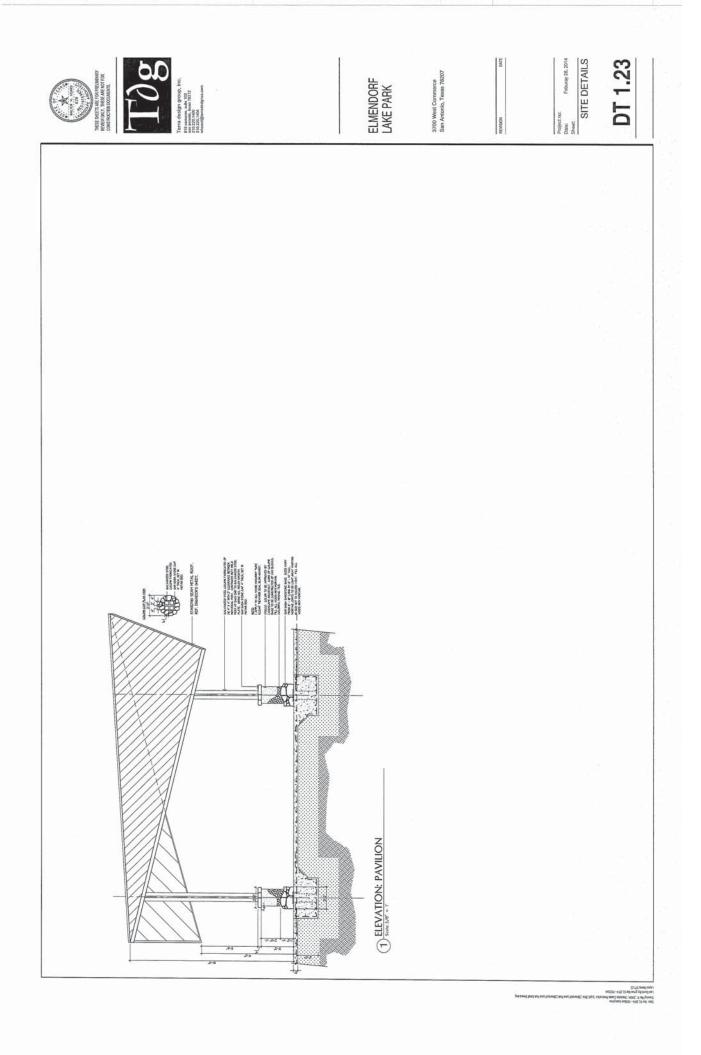
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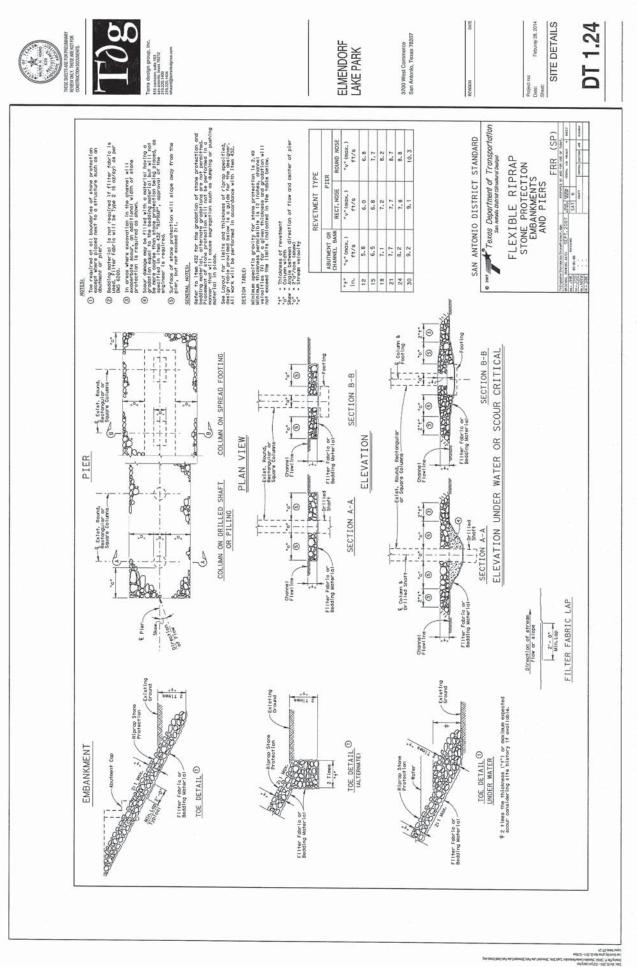
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Appendix B

**Plates B-1 and B-2: Location of Shovel Tests** 

