

APPENDIX B:
Previous Cultural Resources
Reports and Concurrence Letters



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APR 11 2006

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 11, 2006

Mark Denton
Archeology Division
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

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APR 11 2006

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Subject: Eagleland Hike and Bike Trail Project, City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, from Eagleland Drive to Alamo Street Bridge

Dear Mr. Denton:

The City of San Antonio proposes to construct a hike and bike trail along the west bank of the San Antonio River from Eagleland Drive north to Alamo Street (see attached project location map and project plans). The project when constructed will occur within City-owned or controlled lands, will link to the existing Mission Trails facility that currently approaches the project area from the south, and will be constructed using local rather than federal or state funding sources. To assist the City in fulfilling its obligations under the Antiquities Code of Texas and its responsibility as a Certified Local Government, the City hired PBS&J to assess possible project impacts to archeological resources in the project area.

Review of the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas website revealed no previously recorded sites in or adjacent to the project area. Further review of 1960s-era flood control channelization plans (USACE 1966) identified locations where the project area has been modified through cutting and filling of the original river banks. However, in consultation with Kay Hindes, archaeologist with the City of San Antonio's Preservation Division, PBS&J archaeologists determined that the project area contains archeologically sensitive areas that may be impacted by deep excavations for required storm water drainage structures.

Further consultation with the City of San Antonio's Environmental Management Division (of the Environmental Services Department) identified possible contamination of soils within the project area. The City provided three separate environmental site assessment reports that discussed locations within the project area that contained "areas of concern" for soil contamination (see attached reports, Pape-Dawson Engineers 2003; Geo-Marine, Inc. 2003; City of San Antonio Environmental Services Department, 2004a) as well as other documents addressing possible contamination of soils (see attached Raba Kistner (2000); City of San Antonio Environmental Services Department Memorandum, 2004b; Medina Consulting Company 2005). Based on these sources of information, PBS&J prepared a technical memorandum summarizing its analysis of how these areas of

concern correlate to the archaeologically sensitive areas (see attached PBS&J Technical Memorandum dated April 11, 2006 and the city's project plan sheets), recommending no archaeological work be conducted in the project area because "excavation of these areas would require extensive safety precautions, including limitations on archaeological testing procedures to an extent that may preclude learning useful information from any archaeological sites that are present."

In lieu of archaeological fieldwork, the City of San Antonio and PBS&J propose to conduct an archival investigation focused on historic maps of the project area and oral informant interviews. This archival investigation will attempt to locate sites and land use patterns in the project area from the period prior to urbanization and industrial development. On behalf of the City of San Antonio, your concurrence is requested that archeological methods are precluded due to the contaminated nature of the soils in this area and that a focused program of archival research will provide an acceptable alternative to resource documentation for this project. The results of that research will be presented in an archival/historical research report delivered to your office for review and approval prior to initiation of construction activities.

I look forward to receiving your response to this proposed approach.

Sincerely,



Nesta Anderson, Ph. D.
Historic Archeologist
Cultural Resources Division
PBS&J
6504 Bridge Point Parkway
Austin, Texas 78730

CONCUR	
by	
for F. Lawrence Oaks State Historic Preservation Officer	
Date	7-26-06

Enclosures

Cc:

John Cantu, City of San Antonio, Environmental Services Division, 1920 Grandstand,
San Antonio, TX 78238; w/o enclosures

Kay Hindes, City of San Antonio, Historic Preservation Division, Planning Department,
1901 S Alamo, SA, TX 78204; w/o enclosures

PBS&J



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June 13, 2008

RECEIVED
JUN 13 2008
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mark Denton
Archeology Division
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Subject: Eagleland Hike and Bike Trail Project, City of San Antonio, Bexar County
Texas

Dear Mr. Denton:

The City of San Antonio proposed the project referenced above, extending from Eagleland Drive north to Alamo Street. The project is sponsored solely by the City of San Antonio using only local funding sources. In an April 11, 2006 memorandum, PBS&J requested concurrence on an approach to this project requesting that in lieu of archaeological work, an archival investigation focusing on historic land use patterns within the project area be submitted. This request was made due to the presence of contaminants in the soil, and the Texas Historical Commission (THC) agreed to substitute the archival report.

PBS&J is pleased to submit the attached archival report that provides an overview of historic land use patterns within the project area. The report analyzes land use and the potential for historic archaeological sites in the area where the project is located. We look forward to your review and concurrence or comments regarding this report, which is being submitted for the purpose of fulfilling our agreement to produce an archival report instead of performing an archaeological investigation of contaminated soils within the project area for the Hike and Bike Trail project.

Sincerely,

Nesta Anderson, Ph.D.
Historic Archaeologist
Cultural Resources Division
PBS&J
6504 Bridge Point Parkway, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78730

CONCUR	
by	
for F. Lawrence Oaks State Historic Preservation Officer	
Date	6-25-08
Track#	200809834