Main CSJ: 0915-12-585
Child CSJs:
District(s): San Antonio
County(ies): Bexar
Roadway Name: Blanco Road
Limits From: West Oak Estates Drive
Limits To: Borgfeld Drive

Project Description: The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (ARMA) proposes to improve a 3.6 mile segment of Blanco Road between West Oak Estates Drive and Borgfeld Drive from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane roadway with two 12-foot travel lanes and 6-foot shoulders/bike lanes in each direction. The roadway would have a raised median, curb and a sidewalk on the northbound side of the project.

District personnel should complete this form with all appropriate documentation attached. ENV-HIST staff review is contingent on provision of an active CSJ (or equivalent if the project is not a construction project) against which environmental work can be charged. District-provided responses should reflect known data about the project and identify any limitations that hindered provision of the requested information. ENV-HIST staff will review the PCR form and attached information per established Documentation Standards. This review will result in:

- ENV-HIST environmental clearance of the project; OR
- ENV-HIST identification of additional technical studies required for clearance; OR
- ENV-HIST rejection of the PCR for failure to meet specific Documentation Standards and instructions on how to redress the rejection.

This form specifies minimally required information needed to properly facilitate ENV-HIST's review process. Please submit all relevant documentation with this PCR at one time.

NOTE: * If this project information changes over the course of design OR if the funding source changes, then HIST requires re-coordination and a revised PCR in ECOS.

Information Required to Process Historic Resources Coordination and Consultation

1. Targeted ENV clearance date: February 16, 2018

2. *Anticipated letting date: August 2018

3. "Historic-age" date (let date minus 45 years): 1973

4. Yes       *The proposed action is subject to federal permitting (i.e. Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard, IBWC, etc.).

   Describe:

   USACE NWP 14 without a PCN is anticipated to be needed.

5. No       *The proposed action requires additional ROW (purchased or donated) or easements?
6. The following maps, tables or equivalents been uploaded to ECOS?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes/No/NA</th>
<th>Map Type</th>
<th>ECOS File Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Existing and proposed ROW boundaries.</td>
<td>41347 Blanco Road Supplemental_CR Constraints Analysis_121517.pdf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Area of Potential Effects (APE) appropriate for project type.</td>
<td>41347 Blanco Road Supplemental_CR Constraints Analysis_121517.pdf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Parcel boundaries for properties within the APE.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Results of the Texas Historic Sites Atlas search, identifying NHL, NRHP, SAL, RTHL resources located within one-quarter mile of the project area listed in a table format and identified on color aerial map(s) or equivalent.</td>
<td>41347 Blanco Road Supplemental_CR Constraints Analysis_121517.pdf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments: Nine prehistoric sites (five of which are determined ineligible), one historic site (with no determination listed), and one multicomponent site (determined ineligible) were located within one kilometer of the study area.

Yes

Results of Google Earth search with HIST-provided eligibility and historic bridge layers. 41347 Blanco Road Supplemental_CR Constraints Analysis_121517.pdf

Comments: No historic bridges are located within the project area.

7. Yes Representative and dated photographs of the project area are uploaded to ECOS.

Note: Photographs should include the following elements:

1. Buildings/structures in the APE and those adjacent.
2. Road Features (culverts, bridges, landscaping, etc.)
3. Areas of proposed construction.

File Name in ECOS: 41347 Blanco Road Supplemental_CR Constraints Analysis_121517.pdf

8. Yes Preliminary plans are uploaded to ECOS.

File Name in ECOS: Blanco Rd Phil.pdf

9. No Historic-age bridges are within the project area.

10. No Rock masonry features (culverts, ditches, walls, etc.) are within the project area.

11. No Historic-age rest area(s) are located within the project area.

12. No The proposed action involves the relocation of historical markers.

13. No Additional consulting parties (other than the THC) may be involved in this project.
District Personnel Certification

[Yes] I reviewed all submitted documents for quality assessment and control.

Brian Witherell
District Personnel Name

May 17, 2018
Date:
The following table shows the revision history for this document.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Effective Date Month, Year</th>
<th>Reason for and Description of Change</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2013</td>
<td>Version 1 released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2015</td>
<td>Version 2 released. The form was converted to a PDF format. Form level validations were installed to ensure that all certified forms contained the minimum required information. Various questions were modified to accommodate the improved functionality of the PDF format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2015</td>
<td>Version 3 released. Revised the form to make it compatible with Adobe Acrobat Reader DC. No changes were made to the question sequence or form logic.</td>
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</table>
Cultural Resources Constraints Analysis Report - Supplemental
Blanco Road Phase II from West Oaks Estates to Borgfeld Project
Bexar County, Texas

Prepared for:
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

Prepared by:
SWCA Environmental Consultants
6200 UTSA Boulevard Suite 102
San Antonio, Texas 78249

December 2017
Cultural Resources Constraints Analysis Report - Supplemental

Blanco Road Phase II from West Oaks Estates to Borgfeld Project
Bexar County, Texas

Prepared for

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
233 N. Pecos, Suite 420
San Antonio, TX 78207
(210) 335-7065 office
(210) 335-6713 fax

Prepared by

Rob Lackowicz, MA, RPA

SWCA Environmental Consultants
6200 UTSA Boulevard, Suite 102
San Antonio, Texas 78249
www.swca.com

SWCA Project No. 41347-SAN

December 19, 2017
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List of Preparers

Robert Lackowicz, M.A., R.P.A.
## Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Antiquities Code of Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARMA</td>
<td>Alamo Regional Mobility Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFR</td>
<td>Code of Federal Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cm</td>
<td>centimeters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cmbs</td>
<td>centimeters Below Surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FM</td>
<td>Farm to Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>km</td>
<td>kilometers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHPA</td>
<td>National Historic Preservation Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRCS</td>
<td>Natural Resources Conservation Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRHP</td>
<td>National Register of Historic Places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROW</td>
<td>Right-of-way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAL</td>
<td>State Antiquities Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWCA</td>
<td>SWCA Environmental Consultants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THC</td>
<td>Texas Historical Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THO</td>
<td>Texas Historic Overlay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TxDOT</td>
<td>Texas Department of Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USACE</td>
<td>United States Army Corps of Engineers</td>
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</table>
Introduction

In June 2017, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) performed a cultural resources constraints analysis of the proposed Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (ARMA) Phase II expansion of Blanco Road (Atwood 2017). That report examined a 2.9-mile (4.7-kilometer [km]) segment between West Oak Estates Drive and Old Blanco Road / West Borgfeld Drive in northern Bexar County, Texas. The report reviewed prior cultural resources investigations, previously recorded cultural resources and assessed the potential for the project to negatively impact significant unrecorded cultural resources. Based on the analysis, the assessed right-of-had been surveyed recently and no cultural resources were identified within the planned activity areas. Based on this finding SWCA recommended no further archaeological field studies.

Subsequently the proposed project alignment was extended approximately 1060 feet to the south and 2280 feet to the north; the latter now terminating at the north end of Bullis County Park (Figure 1). This report assesses these two extensions for their potential to negatively impact significant recorded or unrecorded cultural resources. The methodology used for this supplemental analysis is identical to that used earlier (Atwood 2017) and is repeated below.

The proposed road improvements consist of widening the existing Blanco roadway from a two-lane configuration to a four-lane divided roadway with a raised median, drainage, and operational improvements. The project is located on land owned by Bexar County, a political subdivision of the State of Texas and it is within the City of San Antonio Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Boundary. As such, the proposed undertaking will be subject to review under both the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT) and the Historic Preservation and Design Section of the City of San Antonio’s Unified Development Code (Article VI 35-360 to 35-634).

A formal archaeological survey of the study area was not performed as an element of this research. This constraints analysis does not constitute any form of archaeological clearance for the study area, but may be used to coordinate future cultural resources compliance with federal, state and/or local agencies.

Environmental Setting

The two proposed Blanco Road extensions assessed here are located within the Balcones Canyonlands Level IV Ecoregion, located upon the southeastern boundary of the Edwards Plateau (Griffin and Omernik 2017). The Balcones Canyonlands formed from the erosion and the solution of above- and below-ground rivers and streams dissolving the underlying limestone. As a result, the Balcones Canyonlands are highly dissected. Woodlands formed by escarpment black cherry, Texas mountain-laurel, madrone, Lacey oak, bigtooth maple, Carolina basswood, as well as some relict communities of eastern swamp vegetation, are found within the Balcones Canyonlands (Griffin and Omernik 2017).

Geology

The two extensions are located within the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone. Rock outcroppings on the property are of Cretaceous-age and consist of the Glen Rose Formation composed of thinly bedded yellow-tan limestone (Collins 1994; Stein and Ozuna 1995).

The project area is located within the Balcones Fault Zone. During the middle Tertiary, structural downwarping occurred to the southeast associated with the formation of the ancestral Gulf of Mexico. The earth’s crust was stretched in response, and the Balcones Fault Zone formed along an area of weakness that today marks the boundary between the Edwards Plateau and the Gulf Coastal Plain throughout central Texas. The zone consists of a series of northeast-trending, predominantly normal, nearly vertical, in echelon faults. One mapped fault occurs within the project area (Collins 1994).
Figure 1. Project location map showing original and supplemental study areas.
Soils

The two proposed work area extension cross xx soil series as mapped by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS 2017; Figure 2):

The northern extension crosses through the following two main series:

**Eckrant cobbly clay, 1 to 8 percent slopes (TaB):** The Eckrant series consists of well-drained, moderately slowly permeable soils that is shallow over indurated limestone bedrock. These soils typically occur on ridges and plateaus. It is not classified Prime Farmland. Depth to lithic bedrock is 4 to 20 inches. The typical pedon consists of 0 to 4 inches cobbly clay (A1), 4 to 11 inches of very cobbly clay (A2), and 11 to 80 inches of bedrock (R).

**Brackett gravelly clay, 3 to 12 percent slopes (BrD):** The Brackett series is derived from paralithic bedrock and is located on ridge backslopes on dissected plateaus of the Edwards Plateau. This soil is well draining and has moderate permeability. Bracket soils form in residuum weathered from Cretaceous limestone. It is not classified Prime Farmland. Depth to paralithic contact is 5 to 20 inches. The typical pedon consists of 0 to 5 inches of gravelly clay loam (A), 5 to 16 inches of clay loam (Bk), and 16 to 60 inches of bedrock (Cr).

A very small portion of Blanco Road immediately north of its intersection with Old Blanco Road crosses the following series:

**Anhalt clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes (Ca):** The Anhalt series is well draining and has very slow permeability. It is generally found on nearly level to gently sloping upland landforms and is classified as a Prime Farmland soil if irrigated. Anhalt forms in residuum weathered from limestone. Depth to paralithic contact is 5 to 20 inches. The typical pedon consists of 0 to 12 inches of clay (Ap), 12 to 28 inches of clay (Bss) and 28 to 60 inches of bedrock (Cr).

The Southern Blanco Road extension crosses solely through the following series:

**Krum clay, 1 to 5 percent slopes (Kr):** The Krum series consists of very deep, well-drained soils located on stream terraces. These soils form in calcareous clayey sediments. The depth to restrictive feature is more than 80 inches. Krum soils are moderately slowly permeable soils. It is classified a Prime Farmland soil if irrigated. Depth to lithic bedrock is 4 to 20 inches. The typical pedon is 0 to 80 inches of clay (H).

Constraints Analysis and Methods

Methods

The cultural resources constraints analysis consisted of a background cultural resources and environmental literature search of the two additional review areas. A SWCA Secretary-of-Interior qualified archaeologist reviewed the Camp Bullis (1998-31), Texas, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map on the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas) to identify prior surveys and previously recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites located within 0.6 mile (1.0 km) (Texas Historical Commission [THC] 2017). In addition to identifying recorded archaeological sites, the review included information on the following types of cultural resources: National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs), Official Texas Historic Markers, Registered Texas Historic Landmarks, cemeteries, and local neighborhood surveys. Archaeologist also examined the following sources: the NRCS online Web Soil Survey (NRCS 2017), the Geologic Atlas of Texas, and the Texas Department of Transportation’s (TxDOT) Texas Historic Overlay (THO), a mapping/geographic information system database with historic maps and resource information covering most portions of the state (Foster et al. 2006).
Figure 2. Aerial view of project area with soils overlay.
Utilizing this information, the study area was assessed for the potential to contain archaeological and/or historical resources. The study area was then divided into high, medium, and low-probability areas, based on the potential to contain archaeological and historical resources. High-probability areas are defined as landforms that have been shown in other regional surveys to contain archaeological sites, near waterways, have soil deposition and limited ground disturbance evident. In the case of historic resources, high probability areas are identified by the presence of mapped historic-age properties within the study area. Moderate- and low-probability areas are defined as locales where archaeological and/or historical resources are increasingly likely to be absent or landforms in upland settings with shallow soils or areas with intensive development.

Regulatory Framework

Projects in Texas can come under the purview of two primary cultural resources regulations, the NHPA of 1966 and the ACT, both administered by the THC, the State Historic Preservation Officer of Texas. If an undertaking is federally permitted, licensed, or funded, the project must comply with Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended. Section 106 of the NHPA requires that every federal agency consider the undertaking’s effects on historic properties. According to the NHPA, a “historic property” is defined as any object, building, structure, site, or district that may be considered significant to the archaeological, historic, engineering, or cultural heritage of the United States (Hardesty and Little 2000). The Section 106 process begins with an inventory and evaluation of these properties within the study area. Under Section 106, any property listed in or eligible for the NRHP is considered significant. The NRHP is a cultural resources inventory maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This list includes buildings, structures, objects, sites, districts, and archaeological resources. These regulations are defined in “Protection of Historic Properties,” 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 800 of the NHPA. Examples of projects in Texas requiring compliance with the NHPA include those conducted on federal lands or those projects acquiring a federal permit such as a Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Projects requiring a Section 404 permit from the USACE must be completed in accordance with 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix C (Processing Department of Army Permits: Procedures for the Protection of Historic Properties; Final Rule 1990; with current Interim Guidance Documents dated April 25, 2005, and January 31, 2007). Title 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix C requires all projects under review of the USACE to take into account the effects of proposed undertakings on historic properties within the permit area(s) and fulfill the requirements as set forth in the NHPA, other applicable historic preservation laws, and Presidential directives as they relate to the regulatory program of the USACE (33 CFR Parts 320–334).

Cultural resources on lands owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions are protected by the ACT. The ACT requires state agencies and political subdivisions of the state, including cities, counties, river authorities, municipal utility districts, and school districts to notify the THC of any action on public land involving five or more acres of ground disturbance; 5,000 or more cubic yards of earth moving; or those that have the potential to disturb recorded cultural resources. The THC’s Archeology Division manages compliance with the ACT, including the issuance of formal Antiquities Permits, which stipulate the conditions under which scientific investigations will occur. Under the ACT, any historic or prehistoric property located on state land may be determined eligible as an SAL. Projects in Texas that typically necessitate compliance with the ACT include entities such as the TxDOT, cities, counties, and public utilities.

Finally, the Historic Preservation and Design Section of the City of San Antonio’s Unified Development Code (Article VI 35-360 to 35-634) applies for certain undertakings within the City of San Antonio and its Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Boundary. The code mandates various levels of historic preservation applicable to many development projects within the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Boundaries, which includes most of Bexar County and the greater San Antonio area. This regulation allows for the review of projects by the City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation to assess a project’s potential effects to cultural resources.
Known Cultural Resources Background Review

The background review for the two supplemental locations overlaps with the four prior cultural resources investigations described in the initial report (Atwood 2017; Figure 3; Tables 1 and 2). The additional survey listed was performed in 2000 and was associated with the examination of karst features identified during an inventory of Camp Bullis lands. It overlaps with the northern project alignment.

The known cultural resources that are plotted on the Sites Atlas within 1 km of the supplemental work areas also remains the same as that found in the prior report (Atwood 2017; Figure 3; Tables 3 and 4). The only adjustment is that the northern extension now shows as being within 100 feet of site 41BX1254 (Table 3). This site was associated with the karst inventory study discussed above. The archaeological materials were located inside the karst features and primarily consisted of early 20th century artifacts, although several prehistoric Archaic Period dart points were also found. The THC agreed with the finding that the site was not eligible for NRHP-listing. SWCA ecological staff searched for evidence of the karst features during a field inspection performed on December 11, 2017 but found no evidence they remained intact (see Photos 1-1 and 1-2).

### Table 1. Cultural Resources Investigations within the Project Alignment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Investigation</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Antiquities Permit No.</th>
<th>Reporting Agency/ Author</th>
<th>Summary of Investigations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Prewitt and Associates/ McWilliams, Kibler, and Freeman</td>
<td>Multiple area surveys within Camp Bullis area. No further information available on Atlas (THC 2017).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>9.5-Mile FM 2696 (Blanco Road) Improvement Project</td>
<td>3652</td>
<td>SWCA Environmental Consultants, Inc./ Ken Lawrence and Kevin Miller</td>
<td>Cultural resources survey of 9.5 miles of FM 2696 for road improvements. No cultural resources documented (Lawrence and Miller 2006).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Camp Bullis-Army Fort Sam/ Peter Pagoulatas</td>
<td>Survey and testing investigations within Camp Bullis. No other information available on Atlas (THC 2017).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2. Cultural Resources Investigations within the 1-kilometer Study Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Investigation</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Antiquities Permit No.</th>
<th>Reporting Agency/Author</th>
<th>Summary of Investigations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>West Borgfeld Drive Improvements from Timberline to Blanco Road</td>
<td>7195</td>
<td>Prewitt and Associates, Inc./Karl W. Kibler</td>
<td>Survey in advance of improvements to West Borgfeld Drive. No cultural material encountered. Study area found to be disturbed within ROW (Kibler 2015).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3. Cultural Resources within 300 feet of Study Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural Resource</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Site Type</th>
<th>Eligibility Status</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41BX1254</td>
<td>Multicomponent</td>
<td>Historic dump with prehistoric materials mixed in</td>
<td>Ineligible (2002)</td>
<td>Historic dump located in karst sinkholes. Distal Pedernales point fragment, proximal fragment of an untyped point, earthenware, a silver-plated buckle, and various bottle types collected. Boundary plotted within 100 feet of Blanco Road on western side of ROW.</td>
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Table 4. Cultural Resources within the 1-kilometer Study Area

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<th>Cultural Resource</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Site Type</th>
<th>Eligibility Status</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41BX391</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Occupation or special use</td>
<td>Ineligible (2002)</td>
<td>Heavily eroded lithic scatters with flakes, cores and core fragments, bifaces, scrapers, 3 points (1 Plainview, 1 Bulverde, 1 Ensor/Frio), 12 point bases. 1 preform, and 2 armadillo bones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX431</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Lithic and burned rock occupation site</td>
<td>Ineligible (2007)</td>
<td>Low-density palimpsest of lithic material and burned rock. Site is highly eroded. Surface and subsurface deposits present to at least 30 cmbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX1246</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Lithic scatter</td>
<td>Ineligible (1997)</td>
<td>1 distal biface fragment (thin), 1 tested cobble, 5 secondary flakes, 3 tertiary flakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX1255</td>
<td>Historic</td>
<td>Historic dump</td>
<td>No determination listed</td>
<td>Located in a sinkhole. Early-twentieth-century milk glass, earthenware, stoneware, terra cotta, medicine and alcohol bottles, condiment jars, clear and colored glass, metal food and oil cans, car parts, cast-iron stove parts, corrugated sheet metal, farming implements and a 1934 license plate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX1644</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Lithic and burned rock scatter</td>
<td>Undetermined (2007)</td>
<td>3 pieces of burned rock, 3 amorphous flakes, 2 of which are thermally altered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX1645</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Lithic scatter</td>
<td>Undetermined (2007)</td>
<td>2 utilized flakes, 1 amorphous flake, 1 piece of shatter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX1648</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Lithic and burned rock scatter</td>
<td>Undetermined (2007)</td>
<td>1 hearth, 1 Tortugas point, 1 Early triangular point, 1 unifacial sidescraper, 1 uniface, 1 thinning flake, 2 amorphous flakes, 3 shatter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41BX1650</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>Lithic scatter</td>
<td>Undetermined (2007)</td>
<td>1 unifacially-worked sidescraper, 1 uniface, 1 thinning flake, 4 utilized flakes, 7 amorphous flakes, 13 pieces of shatter.</td>
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</table>

Historic Map Review

The addition of the two extensions does not change the historic map review findings from that presented in the main document (Atwood 2017). The text is repeated here for context.

A review of the THO depicts the study area in moderate detail as early as the late nineteenth century (Foster et al. 2006). An 1871 map of Bexar County illustrates the project alignment as directing south from land owned by Juan Mc. Rivas, and paralleling parcels granted to the Trustees of Guadalupe
College, Rob Shultz and Nathaniel Lewis. By 1878, the alignment intersected seven parcels granted to V. Zapata, P.J. Poss (two parcels), J. Pointevent, R. Schultz, Nathaniel Lewis and the Comanche Cr. Ir. Co. The original alignment of Blanco Road is illustrated on the 1879 map as more-or-less paralleling parcel property lines.

A review of the Stoner System Maps, circa 1930–1940, clearly depict Blanco Road, Old Blanco Road, and Cowgill Road. Fritz Poss is indicated to be a major landowner of parcels immediately east of Blanco Road, and J.N. Bidwell, I.G. Yates owned much of the land west of Blanco Road. A complex of four buildings is illustrated near present-day Oak Fanfair Road. The eastern boundary of Leon Springs Military Reservation (now Camp Bullis Army Base), is depicted approximately 1.5-mile (2.4 km) east of the project alignment. The Stoner System maps depict the project area as undeveloped rangeland vegetated with scrub and trees. The area southwest of Slumber Pass is depicted as a cleared grassy field that may have been used for as a pasture.

Historic aerial photographs indicate that the land west of the alignment has consistently remained undeveloped, whereas the eastern boundaries of the alignment began developing into residential neighborhoods by 1963. By 2008, the majority of the area east of the proposed alignment was heavily impacted by urban development. Some of the buildings identified during the Stone System map review near Oak Fanfair are visible in recent aerial photographs. The general setting of the study area is a well-defined road and ROW surrounded by undeveloped rangeland used for military maneuvers to the west and suburban residential neighborhoods to the east.

Summary and Recommendations

This supplemental cultural resources background review revealed that the two Blanco Road project areas, an approximately 1,060-foot extension to the south and 2,280-foot extension to the north; have been previously investigated several times for cultural resources. One recorded archaeological site with prehistoric and historic components is plotted on the Sites Atlas as being within 100-feet of the Blanco Road alignment near Bullis Park. A THC review in 2002 concurred the site is not eligible for listing on the NRHP and it is not a protected resource under state or federal laws. Additionally, an inspection of this location by SWCA staff did not observe any intact karst features and we conclude that any portion of site 41BX1254 within the current Blanco Road ROW was covered or destroyed by roadwork performed in the intervening period.

The earlier report (Atwood 2017) recommended a reconnaissance survey and photo documentation of the project area in order to demonstrate the level of disturbance. A visit on December 11, 2017 by SWCA ecologists performing a karst survey confirmed that the existing right-of-way generally consists of cleared, grassy shoulders adjacent to the existing paved road. Photographs in this document illustrate the heavy degree of land disturbance that typify the entire Blanco Road alignment (see Photo Areas 1-7). SWCA maintains the earlier finding that multiple prior cultural resources field surveys and the limitation of project activities to the cleared ROW have sufficiently examined the project area. Further cultural resources studies are not warranted unless the project design changes to extend beyond the locations reviewed.

This constraints analysis and the original (Atwood 2017) do not constitute archaeological clearance for the study area, but may be used to coordinate cultural resources compliance with agencies if required for federal, state and/or local permits.
References

Atwood, K.

Collins, E.W.
1994  Geologic map of the Camp Bullis quadrangle, Texas; University of Texas at Austin Bureau of Economic Geology; 1:24,000.

Foster, T.R., T. Summerville, and T. Brown

Griffin, G. E., and J. M. Omernik

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Kibler, Karl

Lawrence, K., and K.A. Miller

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Stein, W., and G. Ozuna

Texas Historical Commission (THC)
Photo Area 1-1. Reported location of site 41BX1254, west side Blanco Road ROW, facing north.

Photo Area 1-2. Reported location of site 41BX1254, west side Blanco Road ROW, facing south.
Photo Area 1-3. East side Blanco Road ROW at north end Bullis Park, facing north.

Photo Area 1-4. East side Blanco Road ROW at north end Bullis Park, facing south.
Photo Area 2-1. West side Blanco Road ROW at W Borgfeld Dr., facing northeast.

Photo Area 2-2. East side Blanco Road ROW at W Borgfeld Dr. intersection, facing southwest.
Photo Area 3-1. West side Blanco Road ROW near Rye Dr., facing north.

Photo Area 3-2. East side Blanco Road ROW near Rye Dr., facing south.
Photo Area 4-1. West side Blanco Road ROW near Tivoli Manor, facing north.

Photo Area 4-2. East side Blanco Road ROW near Tivoli Manor, facing south.
Photo Area 5-1. West side Blanco Road ROW near Slumber Pass, facing north.

Photo Area 5-2. East side Blanco Road ROW near Slumber Pass, facing south.
Photo Area 6-1. West side Blanco Road ROW near Midnight Drive, facing north.

Photo Area 6-2. East side Blanco Road ROW near Midnight Drive, facing south.
Photo Area 7-1. West side Blanco Road ROW near Oak Estates Drive, facing south.

Photo Area 7-2. East side Blanco Road ROW near Oak Estates Drive, facing north.