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Natural Gas Pipeline Survey Northwest Menard County, Texas
Prepared for the City of Menard

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NATURAL GAS PIPELINE SURVEY
NORTHWEST MENARD COUNTY, TEXAS
Prepared for the City of Menard

Thomas C. Kelly and Fred Valdez, Jr.

Center for Archaeological Research
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Archaeological Survey Report, No. 78
May, 1979
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May, 1979
Pursuant to requirements of the E.D.A. as outlined in a letter from
the City of Menard, Texas dated April 16, 1979, the Center for Archaeological
Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) submitted a proposal for
an archaeological survey of the route of a new natural gas pipeline. This
proposal was accepted by the City of Menard in a letter dated April 23, and
the survey was accomplished on May 1 and 2 by Thomas C. Kelly and Fred Valdez, Jr.,
arkeologists from the UTSA Center for Archaeological Research.

SURVEY PROCEDURE AND RESULTS

The field survey was accomplished using the U.S.G.S. Eden S.W. topographic
map quadrangle (scale 1:24,000) on which the proposed pipeline was transposed
from the Menard County highway map provided by the City of Menard. This was
necessary because the county map was at too small a scale (1"=2 miles) and
contained no topographic detail.

The southeast end of the proposed pipeline begins at an oil well .2 of
a mile southwest of the Grandstaft Ranch house which is reached by following
Highway 83 6.5 miles north from Menard, then 3.4 miles west on a county road
to the Grandstaft front gate. The proposed route proceeds 4.9 miles northwest
crossing the Kothmann Ranch and terminating across the county road on the
Menzies Ranch at a Sun Oil Company well near the Lackey triangulation station.
This route has had an engineering survey at some time in the recent past, and
enough of the flagging tape and stakes remained to provide confirmation that
our survey was on the proposed pipeline route. Beginning and ending coordinates
on the Eden S.W. topographic map (attachment) are (in UTM coordinates):
415200 meters east, 3,430,000 meters north; 411600 meters east, 3,433,920 meters
north.

The archaeologists, being uncertain of the width of the pipeline easement,
walked a 50 meter wide search pattern and checked all areas likely to contain archaeological sites either side of the proposed route for 100 meters.

The route is entirely across rolling pasture land that is presently used only for cattle grazing. Grass and weeds were low providing excellent ground visibility. Broken limestone and inferior quality chert were observed throughout the area. No chert of artifact-manufacturing quality was found.

Despite the ideal survey conditions, no artifacts, debitage, hearths, or any other traces of aboriginal presence in the area were found.

The survey area contains no flowing streams and there is no indication that the one intermittent creek that crosses the route about midway has ever been anything but intermittent. Water today is obtained from wells and windmills. The absence of usable chert, highly important to the prehistoric aboriginal population for tool and weapon-making, is another negative factor.

Based on our thorough on-the-ground survey, we are confident that there are no prehistoric or historic cultural resources that will be affected in any way by the proposed natural gas pipeline.
ATTACHMENT

Copy of the southeast corner of the U.S.G.S. Eden S.W. topographic map. Route of proposed natural gas pipeline is shown. Entire route examined by UTSA archaeologists.
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n. El
1 KILOMETER
10 FEET
LEVEL
80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 202
SCHOOL AVAILABLE IN REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard surface
Improvised road
Unimproved road

EDEN SW. TEX.
MARCH 9971
LABORATORY