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Archaeological Survey Of The Los Rios Clubhouse Area Collin County, Texas

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Archaeological Survey Of The Los Rios Clubhouse Area Collin County, Texas

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE
LOS RIOS CLUBHOUSE AREA
COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

Texas Antiquities Permit Number 8283

Molly A. Hall, MA
Principal Investigator

and

Susan Allen Kline, MA
Architectural Historian

Submitted to:

CITY OF PLANO
5901 Los Rios Boulevard
Plano, Texas 75074

Submitted by:

AR CONSULTANTS, INC.
805 Business Parkway
Richardson, Texas 75081

Cultural Resources Report 2018-23
February 27, 2018

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ABSTRACT

The City of Plano is proposing to convert the Los Rios Golf Course and Country Club into a city park. For the first phase of the project, the city may choose to remove the clubhouse and associated physical facilities. The City of Plano contracted with AR Consultants, Inc. to conduct an archaeological survey of the 8.3-acre area surrounding the clubhouse and an architectural evaluation of the clubhouse. Of the 8.3 acres, six are paved or are the sites of buildings. The archaeological survey, which was conducted under the authority of Texas Antiquities Permit 8283, was conducted on January 12, 2018 and focused only on the unpaved areas. No prehistoric cultural remains were found. A few isolated historic artifacts were found on the surface but were not determined to be a site. The architectural evaluation determined that the clubhouse may be significant based on its connection to local entertainment/recreation, its example as a Modern-style clubhouse, and its connection to the Craycroft-Lacy & Partners architectural firm. However, the clubhouse is not yet 50 years old. Therefore, it is not recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark. Given the results of this survey, AR Consultants, Inc. recommends that further cultural resource investigations are unnecessary within the 8.3-acre project area surrounding the clubhouse, and requests that the Texas Historical Commission concur with this recommendation. Documents related to the archaeological survey will be curated at the Center for Archaeological Studies at Texas State University in San Marcos.

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INTRODUCTION

The City of Plano is planning to convert the Los Rios Golf Course (1700 County Club Drive, Plano) into a city park. For the first phase of the project, the city may choose to remove the clubhouse and associated physical facilities (Figure 1). The City of Plano contracted with AR Consultants, Inc. (ARC) to conduct an archaeological survey of the 8.3-acre area surrounding the clubhouse and an evaluation of the clubhouse structure. Of the 8.3 acres, only 2.3 acres are unpaved. The archaeological survey focused only on the unpaved areas; this strategy was approved by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) on January 12, 2018. There are four unpaved portions, three of which are each less than one-third of an acre. The fourth (in the northwest corner of the project area) is 1.75 acres.

In conjunction with the archaeological survey conducted by AR Consultants, Inc., Susan Allen Kline, an architectural historian, conducted an historic and architectural evaluation of the Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse. Also documented were its associated porte cochere and pool house.

The cultural resource investigation was required because the City of Richardson is a state entity and Texas Antiquities Permit Number 8283 was issued for the archaeological survey. Relevant legislation includes the Antiquities Code of Texas (Texas Natural Resource Code, Title 9, Chapter 191). The Archeology Division of the THC will review this report on behalf of the State.

This report is written in accordance with report guidelines used by the Archeology Division of the THC (Council of Texas Archeologists 2018). The following report presents a brief description of the natural setting of the project area, followed by a discussion of the culture history and previous investigations within the study area. A chapter on the research design and methodology employed in the investigation is then followed by the results of the field investigation. The report concludes with recommendations followed by the references cited.

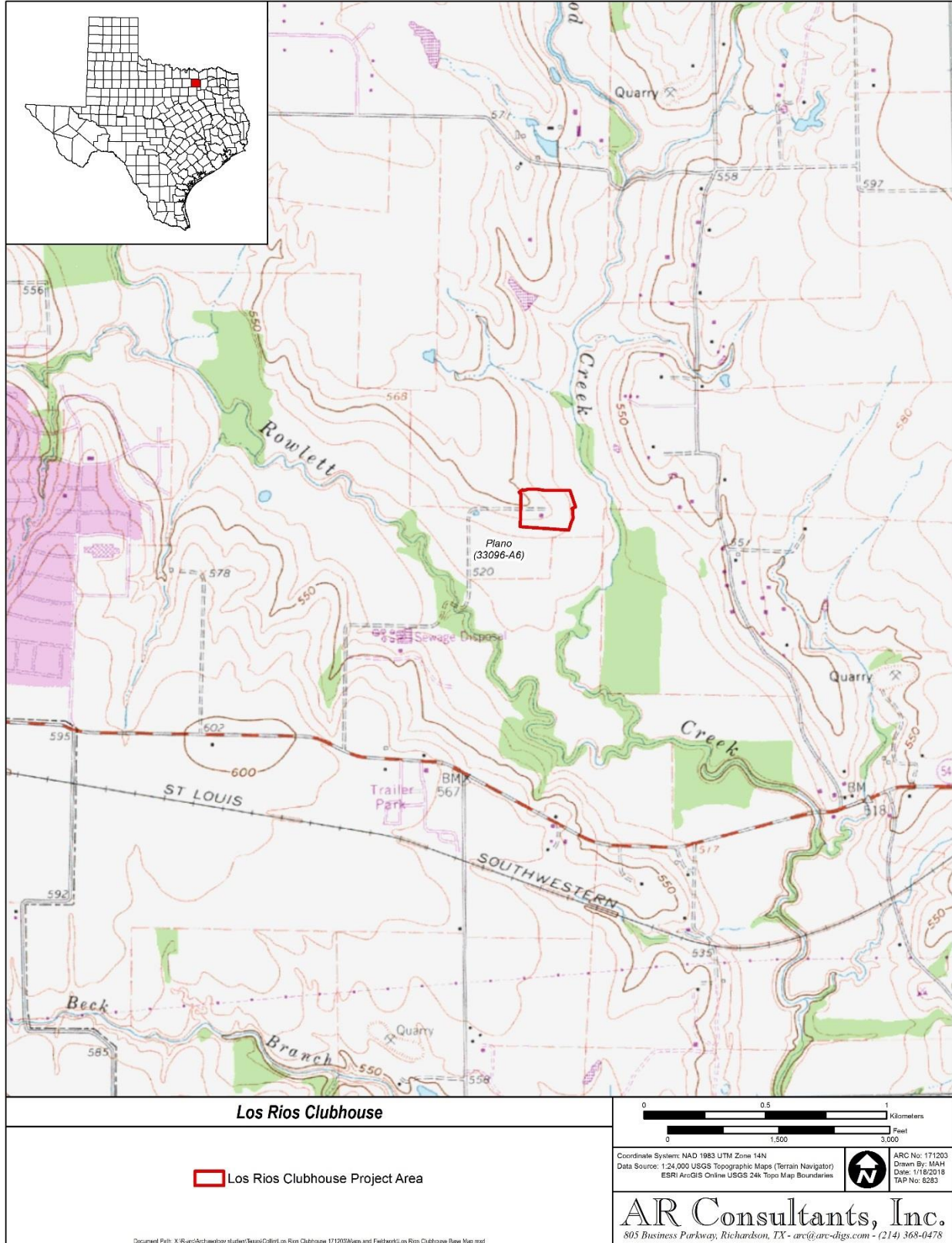


Figure 1. The Los Rios Clubhouse Project Area shown on the Plano, TX 7.5' USGS topographic map.

Administrative Information:

ARC Project Number: 171203
Sponsor: City of Plano
Review Agency: Archeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission
Principal Investigator: Molly A. Hall, MA
Field Dates: January 19, 2018 and February 3, 2018
Field Crew: Molly Hall and Susan Kline
Field Person Days: 1
Acres Surveyed: approximately 2.5 acres
Structures Evaluated: One (Los Rios Clubhouse)
Sites Investigated: None
Curation: Center for Archaeological Studies, Texas State University, San Marcos

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The study area is in the Northern Blackland Prairie Ecoregion of Texas (Griffith et al. 2007). In a climax setting, the Blackland Prairie is an expanse of rolling tallgrass prairie. This region features low, stair-step hills and plains (Bureau of Economic Geology 1996). The study area is in the uplands northwest of the confluence of Rowlett and Cottonwood Creeks. Though the study area is almost a kilometer from their confluence, it sits less than 200 m from the confluence of their floodplains.

The geology of the project area is anchored by the Upper Cretaceous-aged Austin Chalk (Bureau of Economic Geology 1991). This formation consists mostly of chalk and calcareous clay. The study area is mapped mostly on Altoga silty clay with 5-8 percent slopes; a small portion of the northwest corner of the project area is mapped on Houston Black clay with 0-3 percent slopes (Hanson and Wheeler 1969:Sheet 60). Altoga silty clay has a 7-in-thick A horizon of light brownish-gray silty clay underlain by the pale brown B horizon, while Houston Black clay has a 60-in-thick A horizon of very dark gray clay above the dark gray clay AC horizon.

CULTURAL HISTORY

A prehistoric chronology, based on Prikryl (1990), with an added historic period, for North Central Texas is presented in Table 1 below to provide the reader with a temporal framework for the culture history of the region.

Table 1. Cultural Chronology.

Period	Dates
Historic European	A.D. 1800 to present
Protohistoric (Historic Native American)	A.D. 1600 to 1800
Late Prehistoric	A.D. 700 to 1600
<i>Late</i>	<i>A.D. 1400 to 1600</i>
<i>Middle</i>	<i>A.D. 1000 to 1400</i>
<i>Early</i>	<i>A.D. 700 to 1000</i>
Archaic	6000 B.C. to A.D. 700
Paleoindian	11,000 to 6000 B.C.

The Paleoindian period is characterized as having small, nomadic bands of hunter-gatherers whose primary emphasis was the exploitation of now-extinct megafauna, such as mammoth and bison. Smaller game and plant gathering likely supplemented the Paleoindian diet (Meltzer and Bever 1995:59). As such, the archaeological record for the region consists of several distinctive styles of projectile points, such as the Clovis, Plainview, and Folsom. Currently, no Clovis points have been reported in Collin County, but numerous have been found in surrounding counties (Bever and Meltzer 2007:67-70). Subsistence patterns began to change as a general drying climatic trend swept the region, leading to extinction of many of the area’s large mammals toward the end of the Paleoindian period.

The Archaic period is characterized by increased alluviation of water channels and a generally wetter environment than the previous period. This change in climate resulted in modification of Native American subsistence patterns, with broad exploitation of bottomland food resources. This, in turn, resulted in clusters of seasonal settlements along large drainages, including the Trinity River and its various forks and tributaries, and a marked increase in population density. With the advent of repeated, seasonal occupation of sites along drainages came a perceived increase in territorial constrictions among different groups in the region, with several authors citing the limited use of regional lithic resources as evidence of this trend (Prewitt 1983; Skinner 1981).

The Late Prehistoric period is interpreted as a dryer period, with a focus on procurement of faunal resources, agriculture, and food preservation. The appearance of pottery and the bow and arrow help date artifact assemblages to this period (Shafer 1977). The Protohistoric period is characterized by Native American abandonment of north central Texas in the period around 1500/1600, with almost no archaeological evidence found in the region dating to this time (Skinner 1988).

The Historic European period saw widespread Anglo settlement of north central Texas beginning in the 1830s. This expansion often resulted in brutal conflicts between settlers and nomadic

bands of Native Americans (Garrett 1972:24). These early conflicts gave way to various Anglo strategies aimed at cohabitation, including peace treaties signed as early as 1843. Eventually, the entirety of north central Texas was settled, with numerous Anglo military installations established in the region. There is very little evidence of historic-era Native American occupation anywhere in the Dallas area, although historic accounts indicate that groups were present in the early 1800s. Beginning in the 1830s and continuing into the 1840s, the aboriginal inhabitants continued to play a role in the regional history. Garrett (1972:24) states, “Indian hostilities almost depopulated North Texas (of Anglo dwellers) after 1839. It dwindled to less than half.” Hostilities continued until the Republic of Texas and ten Native American tribes signed the Treaty of 1843. This treaty provided the impetus for settlement of several North Central Texas counties. After Texas became part of the United States in 1845, peace was short lived. The Civil War took its toll on the north central Texas population, as most of the able-bodied men left to fight for the Confederacy.

Collin County was separated from Fannin County in 1846 and McKinney became the county seat (Minor 2016). The first phase of settlement in Collin County was from 1840 to 1860. Commercial farming was not important until after the Civil War, and the early settlers were essentially self-sufficient. Besides domestic plants and animals, wild animals and plants were commonly consumed, so settlers established homesteads near creeks and rivers. In 1872, the Houston and Texas Central Railway became the first major route through the county, initiating the second phase of settlement near railroad hubs. By 1870, cotton, corn, and wheat were the main cash crops. The county experienced continuous growth until the Great Depression, but like most of the country, had recovered and was once again prospering by 1950. Post-1960, many farms and ranches turned to mechanized techniques and relied less on tenant farmers who had dominated the workforce in the 1800s and early 1900s. This led to a general decline in the county’s population. Recent decades have seen a dramatic increase in the county’s population and residential neighborhoods dominate the present-day landscape.

Previous Investigations

No previously recorded archaeological sites, historical markers, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, or cemeteries are within a mile of the Los Rios Clubhouse project area (TASA 2018). No previous archaeological studies have been conducted in the project area, but three have taken place within a mile of it. All three were conducted in the 1980s and no information beyond their locations and dates of survey are available. Approximately 0.7 mi south of the project area was a survey along FM544/14th Street. Approximately 0.7 miles north of the project area was a survey at the Park Boulevard crossing of Cottonwood Creek, and 0.9 mi northwest of the project area was a survey of Bob Woodward Park.

Beyond this one-mile search radius, prehistoric sites have been recorded in the floodplain of and the upland edges along Rowlett Creek downstream from the project area, but none have been recorded along Cottonwood Creek (TASA 2018). Most notably, the Firewheel Golf Course expansion survey conducted by ARC in 1999 recorded three prehistoric sites, one of which (41COL385) was recommended eligible for listing on the NRHP (Skinner 1999). Several historic sites have been recorded within several miles of the project area. Most common are home/farmsteads, typically corresponding to structures shown on historic maps (Lang and Green

2016; TASA 2018). Less common are specialized features such as a historic dam, a 19th century cemetery, and a one-room school house (TASA 2018).

As of December 31, 2017, Plano had three entries in the NRHP. The Plano Downtown Historic District, roughly bounded by the 1000 block E. 15th, was listed in July 2017; the Plano Station/Texas Electric Railway building, 901 E. 15th Street, was listed in August 2005; and the Ammie Wilson House, 1900 W. 15th, was listed in December 1978. As of December 31, 2017, there were no State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs) in Plano.

Historic Map and Aerial Photograph Review

The 1930 Collin County Soil Map shows a single structure in the project area. A newer structure is depicted just east of the 1930s structure on 1960s and early 1970s USGS topographic maps (Figure 1). Aerial photographs accessible online show at least two structures and a few trees (likely a home/farmstead) were present in 1968 and 1972 (NETRonline 2018). The next available aerial photographs are from 1979 and they depict the Los Rios clubhouse. Subsequent aerial photographs show modifications to the Los Rios Club and are discussed in detail in the Architectural Evaluation chapter.

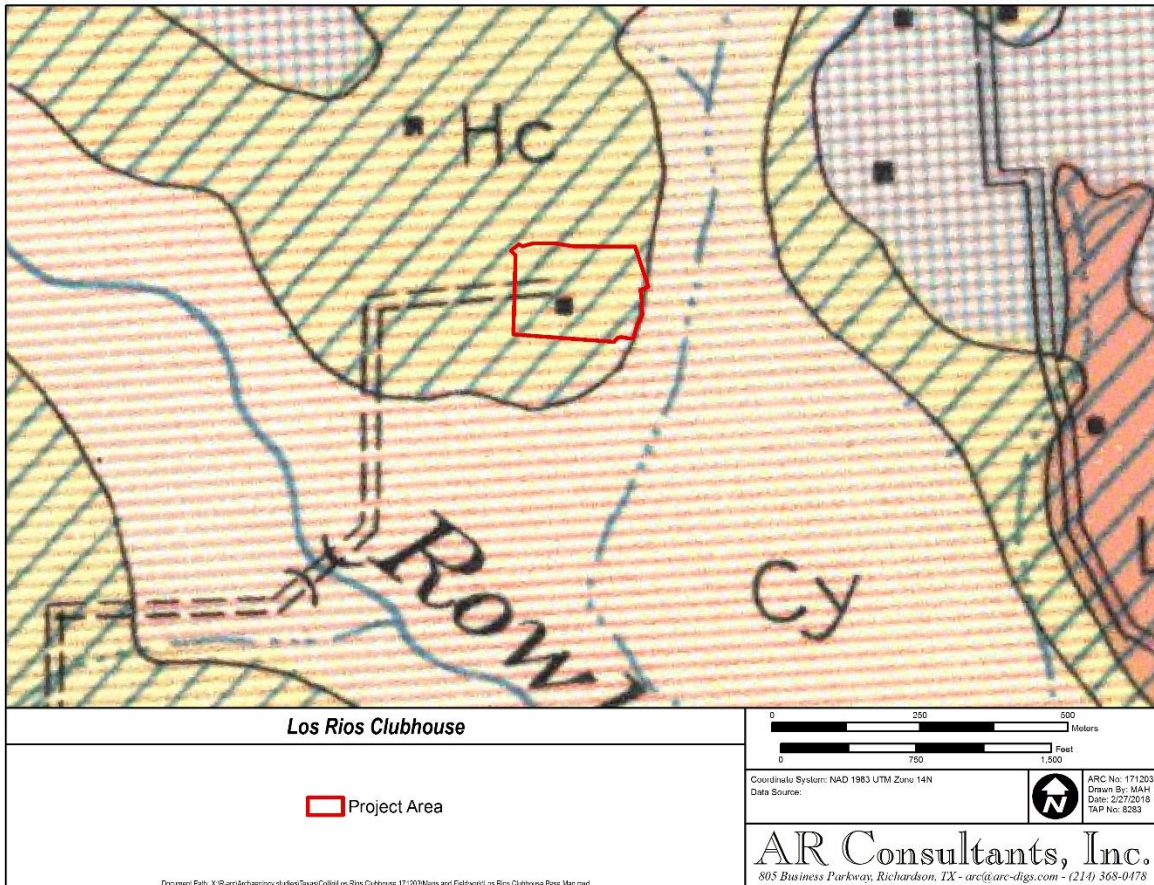


Figure 2. The Los Rios Clubhouse project area overlaid on the 1930 Collin County Soil Map. The clubhouse is located in the southeast corner of the project area and does not correspond to the structure depicted on the map.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

Research Design

Based on the research conducted prior to the survey, two hypotheses were developed. First, it was hypothesized that it was unlikely to encounter prehistoric archaeological sites within the project area. Though the setting is one that may have been occupied by prehistoric people in order to access the lush nearby floodplains of Cottonwood and Rowlett creeks, the disturbances related to the construction of the Los Rios Golf Course and, specifically the clubhouse, would have likely destroyed any artifacts and/or features that would have remained.

The second hypothesis states that there was potential for encountering historic sites in the project area. First, the clubhouse and associated facilities were evaluated by an architectural historian. Second, there could be sparse remains of artifacts related to the home/farmstead that predated the clubhouse. Similar to prehistoric artifacts, historic artifacts related to these structures were likely removed or disturbed during the construction of the clubhouse in the 1970s.

Architectural and Historic Evaluation Methodology

Prior to making a site visit, the architectural historian conducted initial research in the *Dallas Morning News* online archives. This effort provided background information on the development of the Los Rios subdivision from its inception in 1973. Research in the online records of the Collin Central Appraisal District confirmed that the Los Rios Country Club's clubhouse was constructed in 1975 and provided a plat of the Los Rios subdivision that included the location of the clubhouse. The *Handbook of Texas Online* provided brief histories of Plano and Collin County. Other online searches uncovered early maps of the Plano area. City of Plano staff indicated that they were not in possession of original architectural plan or construction documents.

The architectural historian made a site visit on February 3, 2018 and photo-documented the exterior and interior of the clubhouse and its relationship to the pool house, porte cochere, golf course, tennis courts, and adjacent parking lot. Following the site visit, research was conducted at the Haggard Branch of the Plano Public Library which houses the library system's genealogy and local history section. Little information was found on the post-World War II residential development of Plano or the Los Rios Country Club. Vicki Northcutt's book *Plano: An Illustrated Chronicle* (1998) provided information on the city's postwar growth. Review of publications of the Plano Chamber of Commerce from the late 1970s-early 1980s provided information on the community's use of the country club and advertisements for the golf course. The 1980 edition of the *Planonian*, the yearbook of Plano High School, contained a black and white rendering of the building (Figure 3). Additional research in the *Dallas Morning News* revealed the name of the architectural firm that designed the clubhouse and more information on the city's postwar development. Research was also conducted on the development of country clubs in the United States in the mid-20th century.

A narrative description of the building and its associated resources was prepared as well as a historic context for it. With this information, an evaluation of the Los Rios Country Club

Clubhouse's eligibility for listing in the NRHP and designation as a SAL was made. This evaluation can be used by the City of Plano as its plans for future use of the building.

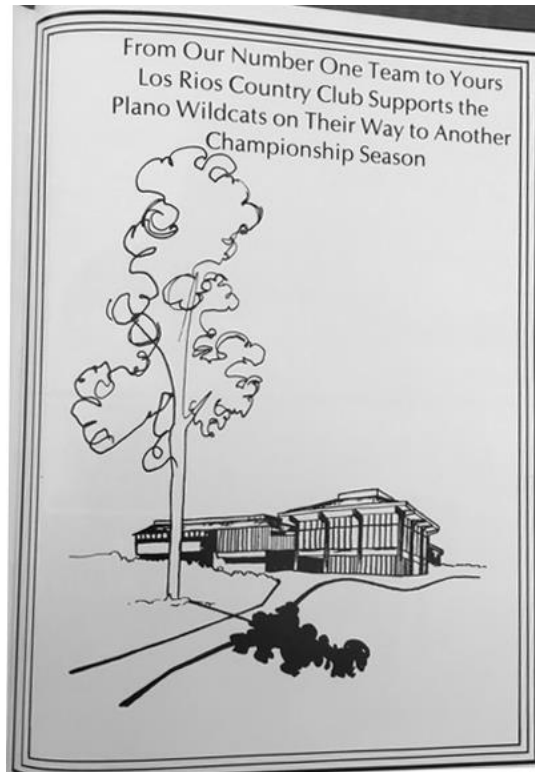


Figure 3. Rendering of the Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse from the south. From *The Planonian*, the Plano High School year book, 1980.

Archaeological Survey Methodology

Survey was conducted in accordance with the standards set forth by the THC (2014). Field personnel walked the 2.3 unpaved acres in transects spaced no wider than 15 m apart. One shovel test was placed in each of the three small unpaved areas, and X were placed in the larger grassy area in the northwest corner of the project area. Shovel tests averaged 30 cm in diameter. Clay fill from the shovel tests was inspected visually and broken into smaller chunks in order to determine if artifacts were present. Shovel test matrices were described on the basis of composition, texture, and color. The Munsell Soil Color Chart (2009) was used to identify soil colors. Field personnel made notes about the ground exposure and disturbed areas. Photographs were taken during the survey using a GPS-equipped digital camera. Shovel test and project boundary locations were marked with a handheld GPS receiver.

National Register of Historic Places Evaluation Guidance

The NRHP is the nation's official list of properties deemed worthy of preservation because of their historical or architectural significance. This significance can be at the national, state, or local level. The NRHP is a federal program that is administered in the state by the THC in coordination with the National Park Service. In general, buildings, districts, sites, structures and objects are eligible for this designation if they are at least 50 years old (with rare exceptions) and

meet established criteria. The criteria (36 CFR Part 60.4 [a-d]) for evaluating properties for inclusion in the NRHP are codified under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The following criteria and considerations were applied to the Los Rios Clubhouse and would have applied to any recorded archaeological sites.

Criteria for Evaluation

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- (a) That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- (b) That are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- (c) That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (d) That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory [36 C.F.R § 60.4].

Criteria Considerations

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties *will qualify* if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- (a) A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- (b) A building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- (c) A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life; or
- (d) A cemetery that derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- (e) A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- (f) A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- (g) A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance [36 C.F.R § 60.4].

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION OF AND HISTORIC CONTEXT FOR ABOVE-GROUND RESOURCES

This chapter is divided into three sections. The first is the architectural evaluation of the Los Rios Clubhouse including descriptions of its exterior, its interior, and associated resources. Then a historic context is provided. Conclusions specific to the architectural review end the chapter.

Architectural Evaluation

Location: 1700 Country Club Drive, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Date of Construction: 1975 *Alterations:* 1977; unknown

Resource type: Building *Function:* Social/clubhouse

Designer: Craycroft-Lacy & Partners, architects, Dallas, Texas

Builder: Not identified

Integrity: Good

The former Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse (hereafter referred to as Los Rios Clubhouse or clubhouse) is located approximately 3.25 miles due east of the Plano Downtown Historic District. It is approximately 3.8 miles east of North Central Expressway (U.S. Highway 75) and approximately one mile north of Plano Parkway. The former country club associated with the clubhouse is located along the east and south sides of the Los Rios residential subdivision. This subdivision was developed by the same corporation that developed the Los Rios Country Club. The clubhouse is located approximately 650 feet southeast of the intersection of the subdivision's Country Club Drive and El Santo Road. Its address is 1700 Country Club Drive.



Figure 4. View of the Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse from entrance, looking southeast.

There are two drives that provide access to the building and grounds. One drive extends from Country Club Drive south for approximately 300 feet to a large asphalt parking lot located on the west side of the clubhouse. Another drive extends east from the entrance approximately 325 feet to a paved area that surrounds the four tennis courts and a golf cart and maintenance building to the east of the tennis courts and north of the clubhouse (Figure 5).

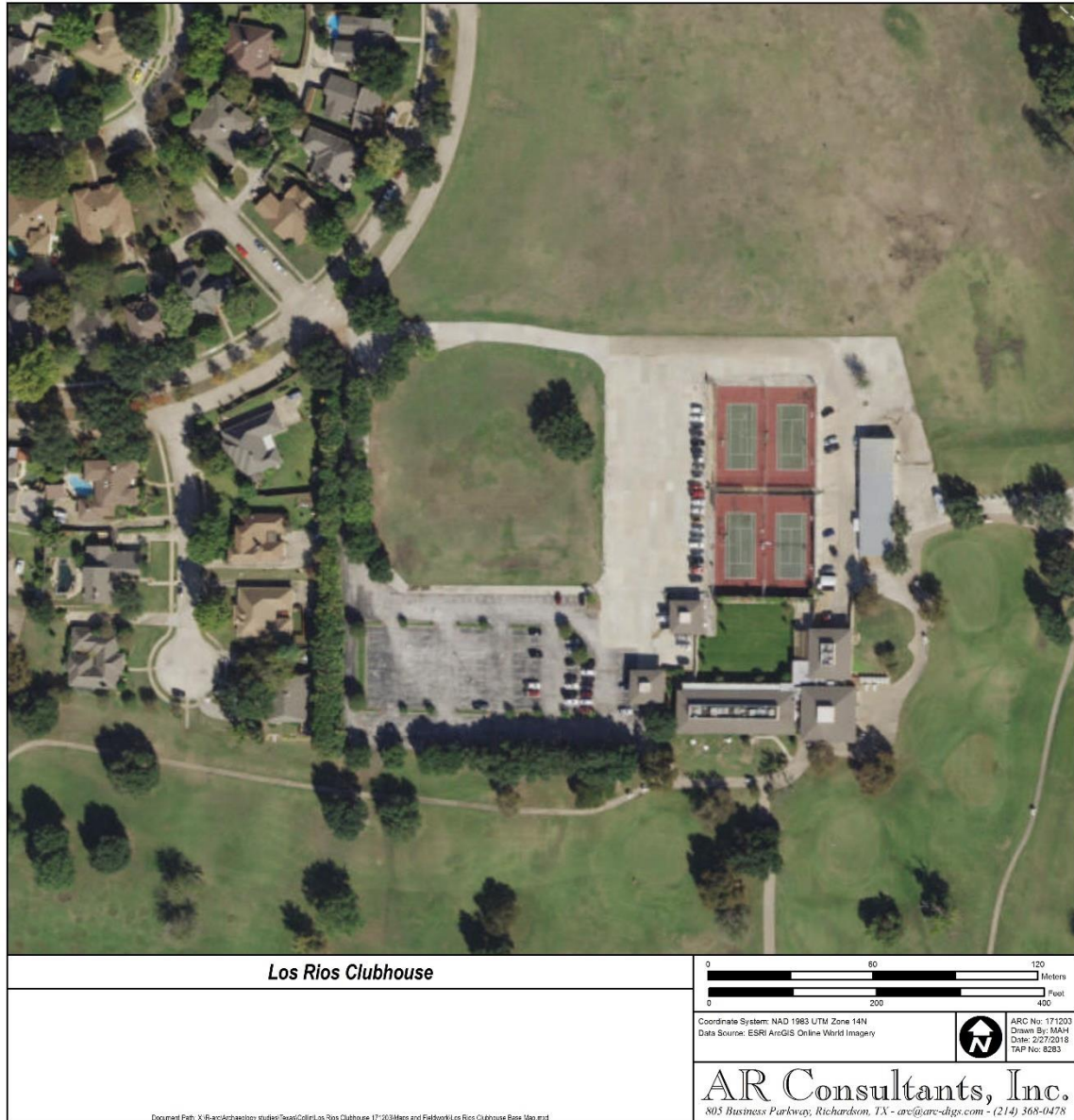


Figure 5. Aerial view of the clubhouse complex, drives, and parking lots and their relationship to the golf course and adjacent Los Rios subdivision.

The Los Rios Clubhouse is a one-story building (with a below-grade ground floor at the southeast corner) constructed of concrete panels and brick. The brick and concrete panels are beige and the trim around windows and eaves is painted brown. The building is composed of an asymmetrical arrangement of three “pods” aligned in an L-shaped configuration with each pod covered by a separate hipped roof (Figure 6). The first pod (hereafter referred to as west wing) contains the longer leg of the “L” and has an east/west orientation. This wing contains the men’s and women’s locker rooms as well as the club’s grill. The pod at the junction of the two legs of the “L” (hereafter referred to as center wing) is located on the east end of the west wing. It is mostly composed of the dining/banquet room on the first floor with the original pro shop on the ground floor beneath it. The third pod (hereafter referred to as north wing) comprises the shorter leg of the “L” and contains the kitchen and a meeting room. Each wing’s hipped roof has wide

overhanging boxed eaves. Along the apex of each roof is a box structure that also conceals the building's mechanical systems. Tinted glass is used in most windows. Although the public entrance is located on the north side of the building, the south and east elevations overlook the golf course and have a more commanding presence.



Figure 6. Aerial view of the three wings of the clubhouse, pool house, and porte cochere. Retrieved from Google Earth on February 23, 2018.

Exterior

Along the north side of the west wing is a flat-roofed canopy that covers the sidewalk that leads to the public entrance (Figure 7). The canopy is supported by evenly spaced narrow columns. The columns are sheathed by regular-coursed rough-faced stone blocks that are likely not original. Two beams extend out from the canopy above each column. The western two-thirds of the wall beneath the canopy have a ribbon of high, narrow windows and the eastern third is composed of full-length windows. The public entrance is located at the east end of the long canopy at the intersection of the center and north wings. The section containing the entrance may have been added in 1977. It has a wood door with glass panels divided by a long centered muntin. To the left of the door is a divided sidelight. The west wall of the north wing is partially obscured by a wood fence that is connected to the building by a wood trellis-type structure (Figure 8). Behind the fence is an aluminum-framed “storefront” style door flanked by full-height windows.



Figure 7. North side of west wing showing canopy. View looking southwest.



Figure 8. West elevation of the north wing and canopy along north elevation of west wing. View looking east.

The west elevation of the west wing continues with the ribbon of high windows above the concrete wall panels and immediately below the eave. The west wing's south elevation has three types of windows (Figure 9). The left section has six rectangular windows that extend to the roof's eave. They are connected by paired windows below the eave. The right section has continuous full-height windows atop a base of concrete panels. Between these two sections is an entrance approached by wood stairs with simple wood railings. This entrance provides access to the locker rooms and the room currently serving as the pro shop. The roof's overhang provides some protection to the windows and entrance.



Figure 9. South elevation of west wing. Looking northeast.

The west wing is connected to the center wing by a link with full-height windows (Figure 10). The south elevation of the center wing extends out from the west wing and reveals the bi-level nature of the building. The wall of the upper level is composed of full-height windows in a tripartite grid pattern. The windows are separated by steel pilasters that sit on columns faced with coursed, rough-faced stone like the stone used on the columns supporting the canopy on the west wing's north elevation (Figure 11). Below the windows are concrete panels. Below the panels, the lower level recedes beneath the upper level. The wall of the lower level is composed of continuous full-height windows. The upper level's overhang provides shade and creates a space for outdoor seating. The east elevation of the center wing repeats the pattern of full height-windows, steel pilasters, stone columns, roof overhang, and recessed space beneath the upper level. The window wall wraps around to the north elevation of this wing. The entrance to the original pro shop is located on the lower level of the east elevation.



Figure 10. South elevations of link and center wing. Note how the lower level is recessed under the upper level. View looking northeast.



Figure 11. Detail of the upper level windows and steel pilasters of the center wing.

Viewing the east side of the building, there is a short link that connects the center wing to the north wing (Figure 12). There is a door at the south end of the link that leads to an exterior steel staircase. The east side of the north wing has concrete panels covering the wall. A recessed cavity has two windows. The roof overhang is also present on this elevation. The north elevation of the north wing is mostly obscured by a wood fence. The wall is also composed of concrete panels and has a recessed cavity similar to the one on the east elevation.



Figure 12. East elevation of center wing and east and north elevations of north wing. View looking southwest.

Interior

Inside the public entrance is a small, tile-floored vestibule that leads to a reception area. This entry may be the one that was added in 1977 as later referenced in the historic context for the development of the Los Rios Country Club. In the northwest corner of the reception area is a wood French door that leads to an office. Heading east through the reception area, one enters the large dining/banquet room (Figure 13). The east and south walls are composed of floor to ceiling fixed windows that provide a panoramic view of the golf course. The windows are divided into a tripartite grid pattern. An interconnected system of wood trusses supports the vaulted ceiling. Non-original pendant light fixtures are suspended from the ceiling as are ceiling fans. The west and north walls are divided by pilasters that rise to the lower beams of the trusses. On the pilasters are non-original sconces. A wood chair rail is located on the lower portion of the walls. The floor is carpeted and there is a small, wood dance floor near the center of the room.



Figure 13. Dining/banquet room showing full-height windows and ceiling trusses. View looking south.

Near the west end of the north wall are paired French doors that lead to the Willow Room, a small meeting room with built-in bookshelves and cabinets. Acoustical tiles are on the ceiling. Near the east end of the north wall is the entrance to the kitchen. It has a red tile floor and acoustical tile ceiling.

Toward the south side end of the east wall of the reception area are stairs that descend to the original pro shop (Figure 14). The pro shop is notable for the full-height windows on the east and south elevations.



Figure 14. Interior view of original pro shop looking southeast.

Toward the south end of the reception area's west wall are paired French doors which are the entrance to a large room that is now used as a bar and grill as well as the pro shop (Figure 15). The bar is located on the east wall. The south wall is filled with full-height windows. Acoustical tiles cover the ceiling. On the west side of the room are entrances to the men's and women's locker rooms.



Figure 15. Bar and grill and current pro shop, looking east.

Alterations: Alterations to the building appear to be minimal. The most obvious alteration is the addition of stone around the exterior columns. The entrance on the north side of the building may have been altered in 1977 when a new lobby was created. Also in 1977, a smaller banquet room was created adjacent to the larger dining/banquet room and was separated from it by an opaque door. The smaller banquet room no longer exists. The current light fixtures in the dining room are not original. Further investigations may reveal additional alterations.

Integrity: The building retains good integrity. Character-defining features include the concrete panels on the exterior walls, window walls of tinted glass on the east and south elevations of the center wing, exterior steel pilaster between those windows, hipped roofs with wide overhanging boxed eaves, and boxed structures on top of the roofs. All of these features are still present.

Other Associated Resources

At the west end of the clubhouse is a tall porte cochere (Figure 16). Like the clubhouse, the porte cochere has a hipped roof with wide overhanging boxed eaves and a box structure at the ridge. The roof is supported by four columns. The columns are wrapped with rough-faced stone similar to the columns around the exterior of the clubhouse. The columns on the west side sit on a low wall that is covered with uncoursed sandstone like that used on landscape features around the clubhouse. The walk that leads to the clubhouse's public entry is near the northeast end of the porte cochere. This structure was built at the same time as the clubhouse.



Figure 16. View looking southeast showing porte cochere and west elevation of west wing.

Northeast of the porte cochere (and immediately southwest of the tennis courts) is a small, square one-story building (Figure 17). It also has the hipped roof with wide overhanging boxed eaves and the box structure on top of the roof like those on the clubhouse and porte cochere. This building served as the pool house. The main entrance is located in the center of the east elevation. Ribbons of fixed windows flank the entrance and wrap around a few feet to the north and south elevations. An entrance on the west elevation appears to have been infilled. This building was also constructed in 1975.



Figure 17. East elevation of pool house looking west.

East of the tennis courts is a long, one-story metal garage/maintenance building with a very low-pitched gable roof (Figure 18). It has a north/south orientation with three garage bays on the north elevation. It appears in an aerial photograph in 1979 so it, too, may have been constructed in 1975. According to later aerial photos, it was enlarged on the north end between 1989 and 1995.



Figure 18. Garage/maintenance building, looking northeast.

Alterations to the Site Immediately surrounding the Los Rios Clubhouse

At the time the clubhouse was opened in 1975, a junior-Olympic-size swimming and diving pool was located immediately north of building between the legs of the “L.”. This pool was located to the east of the pool house. A smaller “family” swimming pool was added on the west side of the pool house by 1977. North of the swimming pools were six tennis courts that were later increased to eight (two rows of four courts). The four westernmost courts were removed between 2008 and 2010 as were the swimming pools. The area where the larger swimming pool was has been sodded with grass. The areas where the family pool and tennis courts were have been paved.

Google Earth images from 2007 indicate that the two drives to the clubhouse were lined by rail fences which also marked the north perimeter of the country club. These fences have been removed. The drives were formerly paved with asphalt.

Another possible alteration includes the addition of a graveled golf cart drive on the south side of the west wing of the building that provides access to the entrance to the Grill.

Historic Context

Early History of Plano

Prior to the settlement of Anglo Americans on the Blackland Prairie of Collin County in the 1840s, the area was inhabited by the Caddo tribe. With the arrival of the settlers, conflicts arose between the two groups and the Caddo were mostly gone from the region by the mid-1850s. Offers of land grants from the Peters Colony attracted emigrants from Kentucky and Tennessee, further establishing Anglo settlement in the region. Located in the southwest corner of the county, the community of Plano began when William Forman of Kentucky purchased land from Sanford Beck, another early settler. Forman was a farmer who also built a distillery, a gristmill, a saw mill, a gin, and a store. These amenities attracted other settlers to the area. Mail service began in 1850, and an official post office was established in 1852. A resident suggested the name “Plano” for the community, believing it was the Spanish term for “plain,” an appropriate description of the area’s topography (Friends of the Plano Library 1985:223; Minor 2016; Northcutt 1998:7; Schell and Wells 2010).

In 1872, the Houston and Texas Central Railway connected Plano with Dallas. The arrival of the railroad greatly influenced the physical layout of the community when it was platted the following year as well as the development of the area as a farming region. A small business district developed on the east side of tracks. The St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railway arrived in 1888. By 1890, Plano had a population of between 824 and 1,200 residents (depending on the source) that included a small African American community. The town’s economy was based on its position as the agricultural center of south Collin County (Friends of the Plano Library 1985:247-248; Northcutt 1998:10-11; Schell and Wells 2010).

Over the ensuing decades, Plano’s population went through periods of decline followed by slight increases. By 1920, it had 1,715 residents. The decade of the 1920s saw steady growth but by 1930, the population had decreased to 1,554. The population remained fairly stagnant with only a net gain of 28 residents by 1940. Its economy was still largely based on the production of cotton and grain (Kline 2017).

Postwar Growth of Plano

In 1946, Plano’s first significant non-agricultural-related industry, Standards Products, Inc., was established and was quickly followed by the Sure-Heat Stove Company. By 1950, the town’s population stood at 2,126, representing an increase of 34 percent from 1940. The decade of the 1950s brought more growth as the city underwent a significant transformation with the construction of the North Central Expressway (1950-1958), now designated as U. S. Highway 75. It extended north from Dallas to McKinney, the seat of Collin County, located approximately ten miles north of Plano (Figure 19). Plano was destined to grow based on its proximity to the ever-increasing growth of Dallas’ north side, “the plentiful supply of low mineral count water from Lake Levon, service by two major railroads and access to a third, and possibly of greatest significance, the initial tide of commuter residents who preferred to live away from Dallas” (Key 1957; Kline 2017).

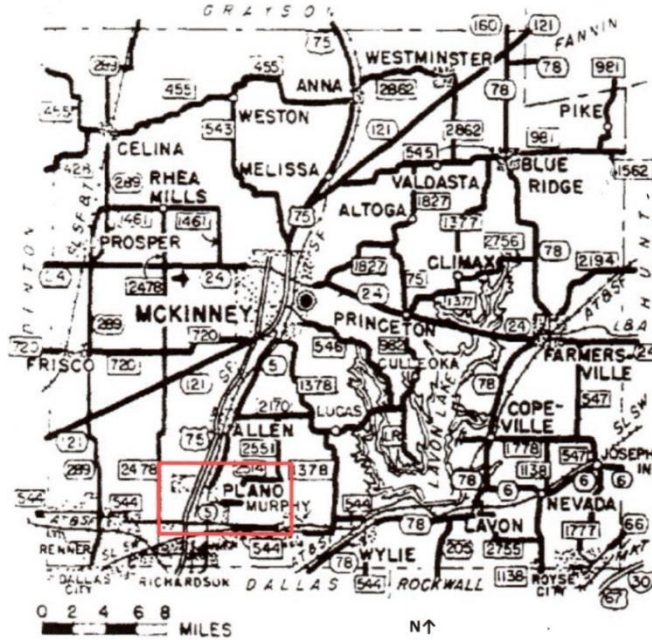


Figure 19. Map of Collin County, c. 1967 with Plano outlined in red. The North Central Expressway runs north from Dallas to McKinney (A. H. Belo Corporation 1967:258).

By 1954, Plano’s population stood at 3,100 and by 1957, it was estimated that it had 3,750 residents. By the early 1960s, Plano was one of the two fastest growing cities per capita in the state. City leaders estimated that 362 families moved into the community in 1962. Development had begun at the 1,200-acre Dallas North Research Park and ground was broken for the 2500-acre Dallas North Industrial Park in January 1963. The opening of the Biometrics Instrument Corp. and Home Metal Products Company plants later that year was expected to bring “hundreds of new persons to the city” (Bagwill 1963).

Even before the construction of North Central Expressway, some had come to recognize the development potential of Plano. Dallas’ Hunt family began buying up farm land in 1940 for future development. After the construction of the expressway, Hunt Industries developed the industrial real estate projects of Palisades Business Park and Palisades Research and Development Park; Pitman Corners and Palisades Square Shopping Center in commercial real estate; and Creekwood Apartments and Pitman Corners in residential real estate (Ledbetter 1976).

In 1970, Plano had 17,872 residents. In 1975, three new elementary schools were opened. That was the same year that the Los Rios Country Club’s clubhouse was completed. By 1976 it was estimated that Plano had a population of 44,000 with a median age of 26. A new hospital had opened and several more schools were under construction. The largest employer was Chrysler Boat Corporation. Other industries included Capital Wire and Cable, Texas Transformer, Luminator, and Atlantic Richfield Corporation. The cost of houses ranged from \$26,000 to \$250,000, which was considered reasonable in the Metroplex although prices were rising. All of this activity greatly stimulated the city’s growth and by 1980, it population was greater than 72,000 (Ledbetter 1976; Schell and Wells 2010).

Development of Los Rios Country Club and the Los Rios Clubhouse

Prior to the development of the Los Rios subdivision and its namesake country club on Plano’s east side, this area was cultivated agricultural land nestled between Rowlett Creek on the west and Cottonwood Creek on the east. The presence of the creeks made it susceptible to flooding. Aerial photographs from 1968 and 1972 indicate that there was one building and perhaps as many as three buildings west of the current clubhouse (NETRonline 2018). The photographs reveal traces of a road to the west of the structures but no heavily used drives associated with the buildings, although there was a heavier used north/south road to the east near Cottonwood Creek. A USGS map from 1930 also indicated the presence of a building north of the current clubhouse near an unpaved road (Figure 2).

In late January 1973, General Portland Inc. announced the planned development of the new Los Rios Country Club (Dallas Morning News [DMN], 28 January 1973). The club and its 18-hole championship golf course, designed by Billy Martindale, would occupy a 180-acre tract with the course measuring 6,700 feet in length (Figure 20). The country club would be the centerpiece of the Los Rios development, a 700-acre master planned community. The development was “[conceived] as a distinctive, yet moderately priced planned community” that was “recreation-centered.” Located three miles east of North Central Expressway on FM 544, its gently sloping terrain was said to offer beautiful homesites with the homes designed to take advantage of the views. Care was taken to preserve large groves of trees. House styles “represented a variety of contemporary and traditional designs” (DMN, 23 January 1977).¹

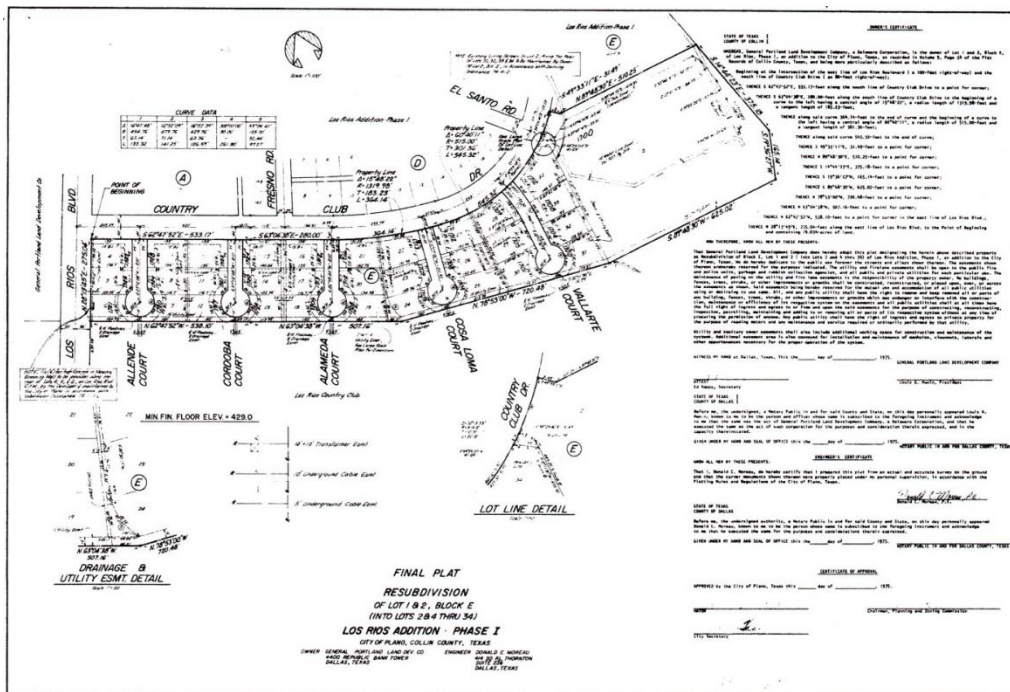
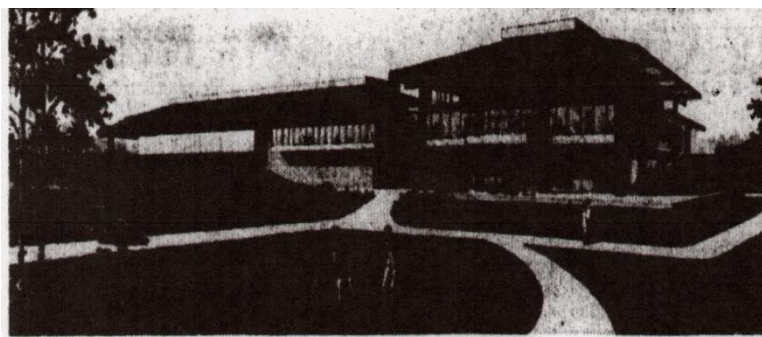


Figure 20. Plat of the re-subdivision of Lot 1 & 2, Block E, Los Rios Addition, Phase 1, 1975. The large lot on the right is the location of the clubhouse complex.

¹ At the time, General Portland was the nations’ largest cement manufacturer. Land development was part of its diversification efforts (DMN, 12 December 1976).

The country club's clubhouse was promoted as the focal point of the Los Rios development. On April 22, 1973, the *Dallas Morning News* published a rendering of the building designed by the Dallas architecture firm Craycroft-Lacy & Partners (Figure 21). The image depicted its south elevation—a more impressive view than the north elevation. The asymmetrically linear building was divided into two sections with the third section, the kitchen wing, slightly visible to the rear. The elongated west section was one-story covered by a hipped roof. Its right end had long windows over an exposed lower level wall beneath it. These were the windows of the grill or casual dining space. The east section of the building was two stories although the upper story was level with the west section. The full-height windows of the dining/banquet room overlooked the golf course to the south and east. Recessed beneath this section was the pro shop. Surmounting this portion of the building was a massive hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves. This roof form would offer the interior spaces some protection from the strong Texas sunlight. Radiating from and around the building were paved pathways that accommodated pedestrians and golf carts. The article revealed that the building was to have dining and lounge facilities on the upper level as well as saunas and lockers for 500 men and 144 women. The pro shop on the lower level was to be under the supervision of Don January and Billy Martindale, the designers of the golf course (DMN, 22 April 1973).



Artist's view of clubhouse at Los Rios Country Club.

Los Rios Clubhouse Design Focal Point of Development

Focal point of the new, 700-acre Los Rios country Club and residential community being developed by General Portland Inc. on F.M. Road 544 in Plano, will be this clubhouse designed by the Dallas architectural firm of Craycroft-Lacy & Partners and scheduled to open in early fall.

The lower level of the clubhouse will contain the club's Pro Shop, which will be under the supervision of Golf Stars Don January and Billy Martindale, designers of the

6,700-yard golf course. On the upper level will be dining and lounge facilities, saunas and lockers for 500 men and 144 women.

In addition to golf, the club will have a large swimming pool in a garden setting, and six hard-surface tennis courts, with provision for six more courts in the future.

The golf course in itself will be a greenbelt, flanked on its northern and southern boundaries by environmentally-planned single and mul-

ti-family residential areas covering a total of 500 acres. Included in this area will be shopping facilities, a school site and an 11-acre park. The first homes are expected to be completed and available simultaneously with the club's opening.

Families need not live in Los Rios to apply for memberships in the country club, nor will club memberships be included in the purchase of Los Rios property, the developer said.

Figure 21. Rendering of the Lois Rios Country Club Clubhouse from the Dallas Morning News, April 22, 1973. This view is of the south elevation.

More details about the country club's amenities were revealed in another article in the *Dallas Morning News* two and one-half years later. The article publicized an open house for the country club that coincided with the completion of the clubhouse. The Los Rios was described as Plano's only country club residential area. Assets of the facility included a "\$2 million multi-level clubhouse, tennis courts, swimming and diving pools and an 18-hole championship golf course." The clubhouse included "an elegant dining room, private party facilities, quiet cocktail lounge, 19th Hole, [and] pro shop" as well as the previously mentioned saunas in the locker rooms (DMN, 28 September 1975).

The building's Modern architectural style was a reflection of postwar trends in the design of clubhouses. Clubhouses of previous generations often reflected traditional, or Period Revival, styles. Los Rios' asymmetrical design and use of concrete wall panels and steel pilasters were a modern touch. Where earlier clubhouses may have had a courtyard, a swimming pool was substituted for a landscaped courtyard or garden. With the advent of central air conditioning and tinted windows, verandas and operable windows were no longer needed for cross ventilation and shade. Los Rios dining room's great expanse of full-length windows, particularly on a southern exposure, would have been problematic a few decades before. Likewise, a grand fireplace was no longer needed to provide heat during the winter. Another trend that was reflected in the new building's design was the sizeable locker room for women. Although slightly more than a quarter of the size of the men's locker room, this amenity reflected the growing participation of women in the sports and social aspects of club life (Mayo 1998:172-177).²

Minor alterations were made to the building in 1977. A new lobby and entry were added on the north side of the building. A smaller banquet room was created next to the existing dining room. A new "family" swimming pool was added on the west side of the pool house (DMN, 21 August 1977).

By June 1977, the club had more than 800 members, which included individuals who were not residents of the Los Rios subdivision. In the early 1980s, the club became "the meeting spot for the well-to-do and well-connected north of Dallas." Celebrity members included Dallas Cowboys running back Tony Dorsett³ and assistant head coach Mike Ditka⁴. Early members recalled that it was the only place in town where one could order a mixed drink with dinner. The dining/banquet room hosted functions open to the wider community such as luncheons and fashion shows for the Plano Newcomers Club (Figure 22) or for events hosted by the Plano Chamber of Commerce. However, by the mid-1980s, the club lost some of its luster with the opening of the Gleneagles Country Club on the city's affluent west side. In addition the increase in the number of daily-fee and municipal golf courses made club membership unnecessary for those wishing to play golf. And nationally, interest in golf fell as Americans found other ways to spend their leisure time. Over the ensuing decades membership at Los Rios waned and ownership changed several times. By 2007, the facility was "semi-private," meaning that both members and the general public were welcome. The City of Plano purchased the property in

² However, Mayo notes that beginning in the 1980s, traditionally designed clubhouses started to regain favor.

³ Tony Dorsett was a running back for the Cowboys from 1977-1988

⁴ Mike Ditka played for the Dallas Cowboys from 1969-1972 and then was the team's assistant head coach under Tom Landry from 1973-1981.

2014 (DMN 12 June 1977; Kim 2007; Moss 2001:144-146; Plano Star Currier [PSC] 5 Feb 1978).



Figure 22. Interior view of the Los Rios Country Club's dining/banquet room. It was to be the location of the annual Plano Newcomers luncheon, demonstrating the venue's popularity with the larger community (PSC, 5 February 1978). Courtesy of John Brooks.

Recent Owners of the Property

The following information regarding property owners was obtained through the Collin Central Appraisal District's website:

Prior to 2001: National Golf Operating Partnership
2001-2008: Los Rios Golf Course LP
2008-2014: Golf Addicks LLC
2014-present: City of Plano

Development of Country Clubs

The establishment of country clubs in conjunction with adjacent residential development has been a practice in the United States since the late 1800s. One of the most influential developments was J. C. Nichols' Country Club District in Kansas City which he began to develop around 1910. Nearer to Plano, Fort Worth's River Crest Country Club and adjacent subdivision were established in 1911. Around the same time, Edgar Flippen and Hugh Prather, developers of Highland Park on Dallas' northern edge, enticed the Dallas Golf and Country Club (now known as the Dallas Country Club) to purchase 150 acres in the pair's subdivision for the purpose of relocating the club. As a result, 172 of the development's 186 lots were sold before the new golf course was completed (Mayo 1998:120-124).⁵

In the immediate postwar years and through the 1950s, few country clubs were organized and built. In the 1960s, developers were in the forefront of country club creation, relying on the model of using the country club as a lure to attract residential sales. Developers frequently organized project corporations to solicit potential shareholders in the club and residential development scheme. This was a different approach than that taken by club organizers earlier in the century that relied on land syndicate arrangements. Coincidentally, the number of private clubs with golf courses increased from 4,016 to 4,770 clubs between 1966 and 1976 (Mayo 1998:187, 193).

Craycroft-Lacy & Partners (or Associates)

The Dallas architectural firm Craycroft-Lacy & Partners was founded in 1961. The namesake principals were Jack Craycroft and Larry Lacy. The firm specialized in the design of apartment buildings, having designed more than 75,000 housing units by 1973. In 1972, it received an Honor Award from the Texas Society of Architects for "outstanding architectural design and achievement" for its work on the Tres Vidas Apartments in Hurst, Texas. However, by the late 1960s, the firm's practice expanded to include the design of recreational facilities across the country. Projects in the Dallas area that were underway or had been completed by 1973 included the Prestonwood Country Club and Royal Oaks Country Clubs in Dallas, the Bent Tree Country Club in North Dallas, the Park Valley Country Club in Grand Prairie, and a tennis facility at the Dallas Country Club (DMN, 14 January 1972, 16 September 1973).

Conclusions

The National Register Criteria as Applied to the Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse

The Los Rios Clubhouse meets Criterion A at the local level of significance under the Area of Community Planning and Development. When it was completed in 1975, it was publicized as the focal point of the Los Rios subdivision and its namesake country club. Development of this eastside master-planned residential area was started by General Portland Inc. in 1973. It may also meet Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation as the clubhouse associated with the social and sports activities of the country club. However, this area of significance may not apply

⁵For a history of Fort Worth's River Crest Country Club and adjacent residential development, see Hollace Ava Weiner, *River Crest Country Club: The First 100 Years, 1911-2011* (Fort Worth: River Crest Country Club, 2011).

because of the loss of the swimming pools and the pending conversion of the golf course to a park. The building meets Criterion C under Architecture at the local level of significance as an excellent example of a Modern-style clubhouse and its ability to convey the changing architectural trends in the design of such buildings. It may also meet Criterion C at the local level for its association with Craycroft-Lacy & Partners, an architectural firm that designed several country club clubhouses and sports facilities in the Dallas area in the late 1960s-early 1970s. The building potentially meets Criterion C as a contributing resource in a historic district encompassing the Los Rios subdivision. Even with the alteration to the north entrance, the building has good integrity and appears to retain many original materials and such character-defining features as its asymmetrical arrangement of wings, hipped roofs with wide overhanging boxed eaves and boxed structures across the tops of the roof, and full-height windows on the east and south elevations of the center wing. These windows provide a panoramic view of the adjacent golf course. The building's associated porte cochere and the pool house also retain integrity.

Because the Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse is less than 50 years old and has not achieved significance of exceptional importance within the past 50 years as provided in Criteria Consideration G, it is not currently eligible for listing in the NRHP.

State Antiquities Landmark

The Antiquities Code of Texas (Texas Natural Resource Code, Title 9, Chapter 191) provides for designation of cultural resources on public land as SAL. Historic buildings and other above ground resources must be listed in the NRHP before they can be designated as SALs. Because the Los Rios Country Club Clubhouse currently is not eligible for listing in the NRHP, it is not eligible for designation as a SAL.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

This chapter is divided into two sections. The first describes the natural setting of the project area and the survey results. Conclusions derived from the survey close the chapter. Shovel tests (STs) are described generally throughout the text and are detailed in Table 2.

Survey Results

Prior to conducting field work, four grassy areas (A-D) were noted on aerial photographs. Area A covers 1.8 acres in the northwest portion of the project area. Area B is a 0.2-acre rectangular portion of ground immediately south of the tennis courts. Area C is 0.15 acres due east of the second on the east side of the club house. Area D is south of the clubhouse and measures 0.15 acres. Once in the field, areas C and D were noted as steeply sloped, artificial surfaces and no STs were excavated in them (Figure 24 and Figure 25).

Area A is covered in short, manicured grass. There are three live oaks near the northeast corner and the west edge is lined with the same type of trees (Figure 26). Though ground visibility is typically 0-10 percent, there are patches measuring up to two meters square that have 90-100 percent ground visibility. North/south transects were walked at intervals no more than 30-m wide. Under the cluster of oak trees is an eroded area measuring approximately 20 m north/south by 12 m east/west that had 70-100 percent ground visibility.

Several artifacts were found on the surface in this eroded area but were limited to an area roughly 6 m north/south by 3 m east/west (Figure 27). Concrete fragments no larger than 5 cm in any dimension were scattered through the area. Three waypoints were taken marking artifact locations. STs were dug at two of these locations. ST1 was excavated near a cluster of glass fragments: two amber, and four clear. The four clear glass fragments were likely from a single Dr. Pepper bottle. Only one sherd had a portion of the Dr. Pepper logo, but all were from a similarly sized bottle and had the same amount of wear. ST2 was dug near a decorative cast iron fragment that was found on the surface (Figure 28). ST1 exposed mottled, subsoil clay at 8 cmbs. ST2 revealed that the subsoil was exposed on the surface of the eroded area. No artifacts were found in STs 1 and 2. The third waypoint marks the location of a piece of crockery with cream glaze on the interior and exterior surfaces as well as two pieces of sun-colored amethyst (SCA) glass. Sun-colored amethyst glass was commonly used until the end of World War I, when clear glass became the dominant glass type for vessels and containers (Lindsay 2018). One of the SCA glass shards was plain and the other had a daisy-and-button design that could not be further identified (Figure 29). STs 3 and 4 were excavated in Area A outside of the surface scatter. ST3 revealed a 14-cm thick A horizon of brown clay underlain by mottled brown and brownish yellow clay subsoil. ST 4 was purposely placed as far south in Area A as was sensible in order to explore for cultural remains related to the early-20th-century farmstead, but it exposed very dark grayish brown mottled subsoil on the surface.

Area B is the clubhouse courtyard and is covered with well-maintained commercial sod (Figure 30). One ST (ST5) was placed in this 0.2-acre area. ST5 revealed very dark gray sandy clay loam. This is drastically different from the other shovel tests and from what is expected for this area. Based on this difference and the high sand content, it is likely that this area was filled and

sodded resulting in an artificial, non-native soil profile. After fieldwork was completed, aerial photographs were found that show this area had once been the junior-Olympic-sized swimming pool and was subsequently filled and sodded.

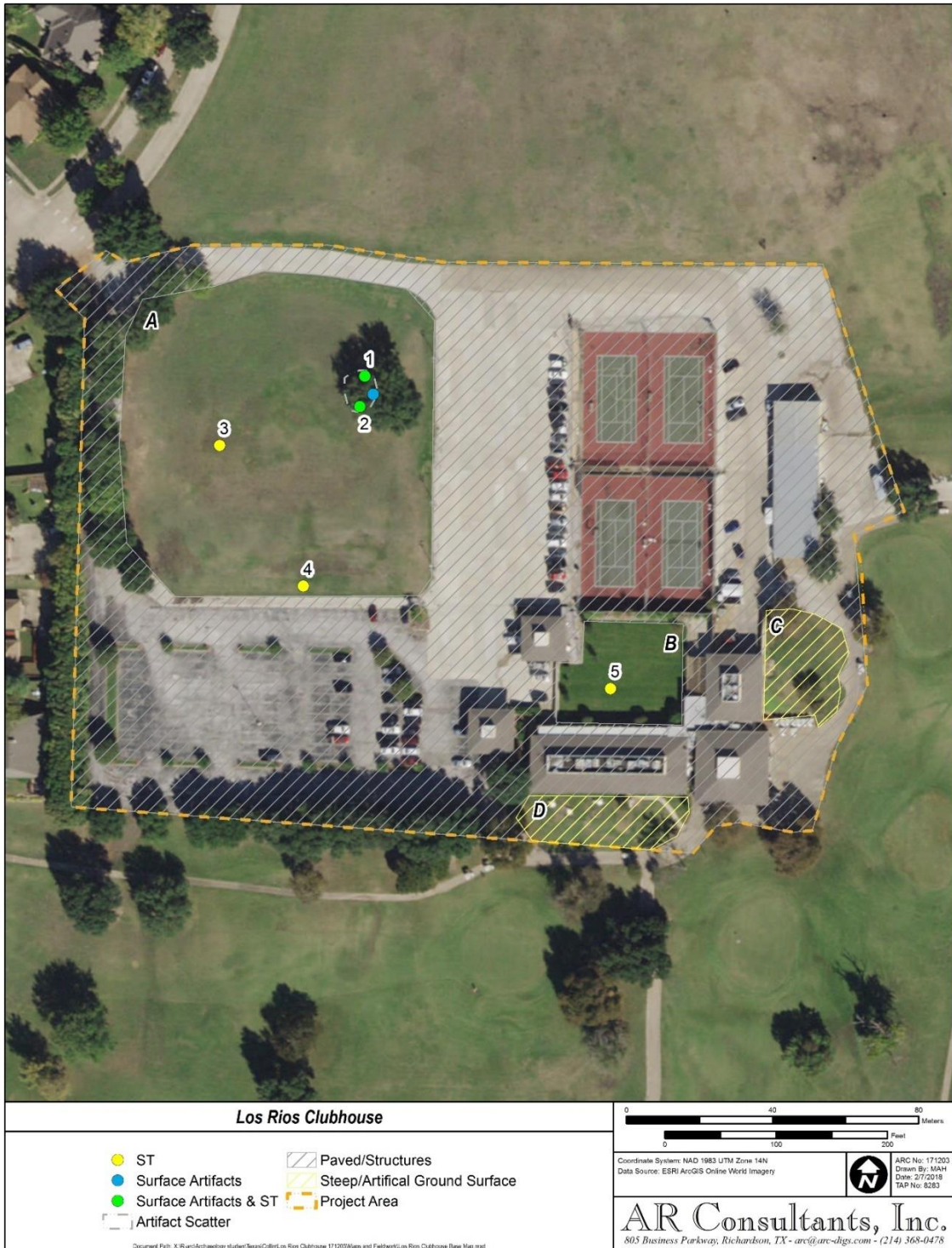


Figure 23. Los Rios Clubhouse project area, shovel tests, surface artifacts, artifact scatter, and ground surface alterations shown on a recent aerial photograph.



Figure 24. Area C, view to the northwest.



Figure 25. Area D is left of the path with golf carts part on top of it, view to the east.



Figure 26. Area A from near the northwest corner, facing southeast. Note the cluster of oak trees along the left edge of the photograph.



Figure 27. The eroded area in the northeast corner of Area A, facing south. ST1 was excavated amidst the exposed roots in the foreground and the shovel is at the approximate location of ST2.



Figure 28. Cast iron fragment from the surface of Area A.



Figure 29. Crockery and SCA glass fragments from the surface of Area A.



Figure 30. Area B – the clubhouse courtyard, facing northeast.

Table 2. Shovel Test Descriptions.

ST#	Depth (cmbs)	Description	Comments/Artifacts
1	0-8	Brown (10YR4/3) loamy clay	None
	8-25	Brown (10YR4/3) mottled with 20% light yellowish brown (10YR6/4) clay	
2	0-20	Dark brown (10YR3/3) clay (exposed subsoil)	None
3	0-14	Brown (10YR5/3) clay	None
	14-30	Brown (10YR5/3) mottled with brownish yellow (10YR6/6) clay	
4	0-20	Very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) mottled with dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) clay	None
5	0-15	Very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sandy clay loam (possibly modern fill)	None

Conclusions

No prehistoric archaeological resources (features or artifacts) were found during the survey. The upland setting is near the converging floodplains of Cottonwood and Rowlett Creeks, but is safely above the elevation of typical floods. Such access to water and other riparian food resources combined with the elevated protection from floodwaters, would have made the area appealing to prehistoric inhabitants. However, even if archaeological sites had existed in the project area, historic and modern farming and construction would have heavily disturbed and possibly even eliminated any evidence of them. Therefore, the results of the survey regarding prehistoric cultural resources was expected.

No historic archaeological sites were found during the survey of the Los Rios Clubhouse project area. However, a small scatter of historic ceramics, glass, concrete, and metal was found in the northeast portion of Area A. The crockery, decorative metal, and SCA glass may have been

related to the structure depicted on the earliest maps, while the clear and amber glass shards are likely from the era of the golf course. There were not enough items that were clearly historic in age to warrant designating the scatter as an archaeological site. Therefore, no significant historic-aged archaeological properties were identified during the course of the survey.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this investigation was to determine if significant cultural resources are present in the Los Rios Clubhouse project area in Collin County, Texas. No archaeological sites were recorded. Though the clubhouse potentially satisfies criteria A and C for listing on the NRHP, the structure is only 43 years old. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible for listing on the NRHP or as an SAL. AR Consultants, Inc. concludes that further cultural resource investigations are unwarranted within the proposed project area and recommends that the THC concur with this assessment. However, if buried cultural materials are discovered during construction, the Archeology Division of the THC should be notified.

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