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Archeological Survey For The Proposed Singing Hills Recreation Center Dallas County, Texas

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ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE PROPOSED SINGING HILLS RECREATION CENTER DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

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COX | McLAIN
Environmental Consulting

January 20, 2015

Management Summary

On December 29, 2014, an intensive archeological survey was completed in order to evaluate potential archeological impacts associated with the proposed construction of a new recreation center within an approximately 10-acre (4-hectare) parcel in south central Dallas County, Texas. Melissa M. Green (Principal Investigator) of Cox|McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. (CMEC) carried out the survey for City of Dallas Park and Recreation, a subentity of the State of Texas, under the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191). CMEC conducted the survey under Texas Antiquities Permit 7121.

Ground surface visibility across most of the 10-acre area of potential effects (APE) was variable and ranged between 0 and 50 percent. The APE was once farmland, but is currently open land with invasive vegetation. Extensive ground disturbances and dumping were noted. No cultural resources were identified during the survey.

All materials (notes, photographs, administrative documents, and other project data) generated from this work will be housed at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) at the University of Texas at Austin where they will be made permanently available to future researchers as per 13 TAC 26.16-17.

If any unanticipated cultural materials or deposits are found at any stage of clearing, preparation, or construction, the work should cease and Texas Historical Commission (THC) personnel should be notified immediately.

The THC concurred with the findings and recommendations of this report on January 6, 2015.

ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE PROPOSED SINGING HILLS RECREATION CENTER, DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

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1.0 Introduction

Overview of the Project

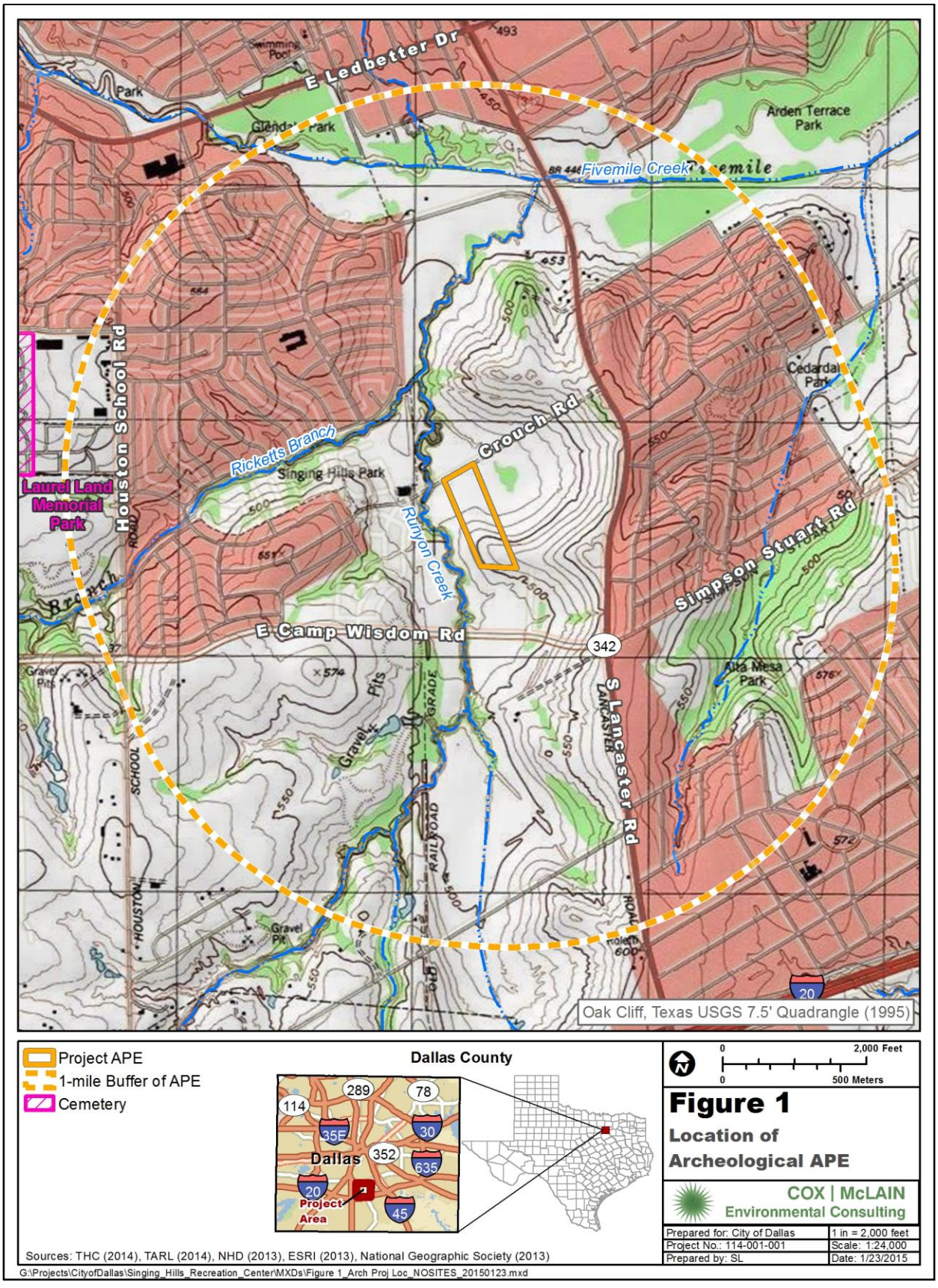
The City of Dallas Park and Recreation proposes to construct a new recreation center located in south central Dallas in Dallas County, Texas (**Figure 1**). On December 29, 2014, Cox|McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc., (CMEC) under contract to Perkins+Will conducted archeological survey for the proposed recreation center. The archeological area of potential effects (APE) for this project is a rectangular-shaped area with a northwest-southeast orientation covering approximately 10 acres (ac; 4 hectares [ha]). The property is bounded on the north by Crouch Road, on the east by Patrol Way, on the south by the South Central Police Station, and by Runyon Creek on the west.

Regulatory Context

This investigation was conducted in fulfillment of the City of Dallas' obligations as a political subdivision of the State of Texas under the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191); there is no known federal nexus. Antiquities Permit 7121 was assigned to this project by the Texas Historical Commission (THC). The purpose of the investigation described in this document was to conduct intensive survey for archeological resources (Category 2 under 13 TAC 26.20) for both previously unknown resources and previously documented resources, if any, within the 10-acre archeological APE. In addition, this investigation evaluated the eligibility of identified resources for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or NRHP (36 CFR 60) or for listing as State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs; 13 TAC 26.12). All materials generated from this work will be permanently housed at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) at the University of Texas at Austin.

Structure of the Report

Following this introduction, Chapter Two presents environmental parameters for the study area; Chapter Three presents a brief cultural context, including a summary of previous archeological research in and near the APE; Chapter Four discusses research goals, relevant methods, and the regulatory considerations underlying them; Chapter Five presents the results of the survey; Chapter Six summarizes the findings and provides recommendations; and Chapter Seven lists references.


E Ledbetter Dr
Arden Terrace Park
Fivemile Creek
Houston School Rd
Laurel Land Memorial Park
Ricketts Branch
Singing Hills Park
Crouch Rd
Cedardale Park
Runyon Creek
Simpson Stuart Rd
E Camp Wisdom Rd
342
Alta Mesa Park
S Lancaster Rd
Gravel Pits
Oak Cliff, Texas USGS 7.5' Quadrangle (1995)
Project APE
1-mile Buffer of APE
Cemetery
Dallas County
289
78
114
35E
30
Dallas
352
635
20
Project Area
45
0
2,000 Feet
0
500 Meters
Figure 1
Location of Archeological APE
COX | McLAIN Environmental Consulting
Prepared for: City of Dallas
1 in = 2,000 feet
Project No.: 114-001-001
Scale: 1:24,000
Prepared by: SL
Date: 1/23/2015
Sources: THC (2014), TARL (2014), NHD (2013), ESRI (2013), National Geographic Society (2013)
G:\Projects\CityofDallas\Singing_Hills_Recreation_Center\MXDs\Figure 1_Arch Proj Loc_NOSITES_20150123.mxd

2.0 Environmental Context

Topography and Drainage

The 10-acre APE is located at approximately 470 to 520 feet above mean sea level in south central Dallas County, Texas. The APE is situated above Runyon Creek, a tributary to Ricketts Branch, which flows into Fivemile Creek about a mile to the north northeast. Fivemile Creek eventually flows into the Trinity River about 3.7 miles (5.7 kilometers) east northeast of the APE.

Geology and Soils

The project APE is underlain by Upper Cretaceous Austin Chalk (BEG 1987) made up of limestone, mudstone, clay, mud, and bentonite (Stoeser et al. 2007), and the mapped soils consist of deep occasionally flooded Frio silty clay in the northern half, a small corner of shallow Sunev clay loam at 3 to 8 percent slopes near the east central boundary, and shallow Eddy-Whitewright complex at 8 to 20 percent slopes on the southern half (Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS] 2014) within an area of rolling, eroded uplands.

Vegetation and Land Use

The project area is located within the Blackland Prairies Natural Region of Texas (Gould et al. 1960), characterized by deep, black, rich clay and clay loam soils on nearly level to gently rolling topography and experiences 30 to 40 inches of rainfall per year (Correll and Johnston 1996). Although the characteristic vegetation of the Black Prairie region was once tallgrass prairie, land conversion for agricultural use has left little native prairie intact (Telfair 1999).

According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's *Vegetation Types of Texas* map and accompanying descriptions, the vegetation of the project area is mapped as "Urban" (McMahan et al. 1984). Urban vegetation generally consists of residential and commercial landscaping and maintained grasses in transportation right-of-way, along with various ornamental plantings. The vegetation observed on the APE property did not meet this characterization, although there is Urban landscape to the northeast, northwest, and due south of the APE. Invasive grasses, briar, thistle, and cedar trees were noted on the parcel along with some young hardwoods near the creek on the northwest side, similar to what would be expected in a fallow or undeveloped field in this area.

3.0 Cultural Context

Archeological Chronology

The APE lies within the western part of the North-central Texas archeological region (Perttula 2004a). The standard cultural chronology for the region has changed little in the last two decades; thus, the periods and date ranges established by Peter and McGregor (1988), Prikryl (1990), and Yates and Ferring (1986) still apply (**Table 1**). The general prehistoric framework for North-central Texas is similar to that used in other areas of Texas, and indeed throughout much of North America, with the first unequivocal human occupations occurring approximately 11,500 radiocarbon years before present (BP), or approximately 13,000 calendar years ago, and most of the prehistoric record is contained within a long Archaic period lasting nearly 8,000 years.

Table 1: Archeological Chronology for North-central Texas*

Period	Years Before Present (BP)**
Paleoindian	11,500 – 9,000
Archaic	9,000 – 1,300
Early Archaic	9,000 – 6,000
Middle Archaic	6,000 – 4,000
Late Archaic	4,000 – 1,300
Late Prehistoric	1,300 – 400
Late Prehistoric I	1,300 – 700
Late Prehistoric II	700 – 400
Protohistoric	400 – 200
Historic	200 – 50

* After Peter and McGregor (1988), Prikryl (1990), and Yates and Ferring (1986).
** Based on uncalibrated radiocarbon dates, which are typical in Texas archeology (see Perttula 2004a:14, Note 1).

PALEOINDIAN PERIOD

The Paleoindian occupation is the least known period in the prehistory of North-central Texas, due primarily to three factors: the light population density of Paleoindian peoples, the great age of the occupation (up to 13,000 calendar years), and taphonomic factors such as severe erosion and deep sedimentation, depending on location (Ferring 1989, 2001; Holliday 2004). Although initially seen as narrowly specialized big-game hunters, Paleoindian groups such as Clovis are being reevaluated in light of recent discoveries such as the Aubrey site north of Dallas-Fort Worth. At Aubrey, investigators found evidence of a more balanced, flexible subsistence strategy, with remains of big game such as bison and mammoth but also fish, birds, and other small game (Ferring 2001). Generally, Paleoindian people are thought to have been more mobile than subsequent populations, utilizing lithic and other resources from broad geographic areas.

ARCHAIC PERIOD

Usually divided into three more or less equal parts, the Archaic Period encompasses the bulk of North-central Texas prehistory. The Archaic record is clouded by mixed deposits (Hofman et al. 1989; Prikryl 1990) and possible large-scale erosion in the middle of the period (as has been documented further to the west by Blum and colleagues [1992]). Still, the available data show that Archaic peoples were more likely than their predecessors to make projectile points and other stone tools out of local raw materials, potentially indicating more spatially restricted territories and/or subsistence areas, perhaps reflecting seasonal rounds through a specific series of resource-gathering zones (Ferring and Yates 1997; Peter and McGregor 1988). Generally, population is thought to have increased throughout the Archaic Period, perhaps in response to stabilizing climatic conditions.

LATE PREHISTORIC PERIOD

The Late Prehistoric Period is defined technologically, as the beginning of the period is typically marked by the appearance of arrow points and ceramics. Aside from the addition of these extremely important technologies, the overall trajectory of subsistence lifeways in the Late Prehistoric is usually thought to represent a continuation of trends seen in the later part of the Archaic, with even more dramatic focus on very local resources and broad-spectrum foraging (Ferring and Yates 1997). In the latter part of the period (Late Prehistoric II), the picture shifts, with ceramic and lithic evidence indicating links to Plains populations to the north and west (Prikryl 1990).

PROTOHISTORIC AND HISTORIC PERIODS

The beginning of the Protohistoric Period is marked by the first appearance of Europeans in Texas: the Spanish explorers, priests, and speculators who began moving into the state from colonies to the south and west in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries A.D. Although technically historic (i.e., characterized by the use of writing), this earlier phase is often separated from the more formally designated Historic Period due to the relative infrequency of direct Spanish incursions into North-central Texas, in contrast to the high-profile, early Spanish occupations in South and South-central Texas (Campbell 2003). Even without the missions, military outposts, and other facilities characteristic of the Spanish presence to the south, the effects of trade, disease, and other factors on native populations were still dramatic, and indigenous groups of the Protohistoric Period are little known apart from sporadic finds of European trade goods at native sites (Stephenson 1970). The last two centuries are considered the Historic Period. In brief, the landscape and material culture of North-central Texas during this time are characterized by the overwhelming dominance of European-derived populations and the expansion of railroads, the discovery and exploitation of petroleum resources, the supplanting of small tenant farming by mechanized agriculture and urban sprawl, and various waves of commercial and industrial development, the most recent example being the rise of the service and information economy (Campbell 2003).

For further general background information, particularly regarding prehistoric periods, the reader is referred to the major reports mentioned above, as well as to Perttula's recent statewide synthesis, *The Prehistory of Texas* (Perttula 2004b). Although the latter does not include a chapter devoted specifically to North-central Texas archeology, the introductory chapter includes an invaluable side-by-side comparison of cultural chronologies from all of the archeological regions in Texas (Perttula 2004a: Table 1.1). For later periods, the reader is referred to Randolph B. Campbell's *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State* (2003), now considered the standard comprehensive overview of historical events, demographic changes, social movements, industrial developments, and other aspects of Texas history.

Previous Investigations and Previously Identified Cultural Resources

A data search of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas maintained by the THC and TARL was conducted in order to identify any previously recorded cemeteries, historical markers, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties or districts, State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs), archeological sites, and previous surveys in the APE and within a one-mile buffer (the standard buffer zone for such searches) surrounding the APE.

According to the Atlas search, no archeological sites are recorded or cultural resources surveys conducted along the project APE, although there are five cultural resources surveys, six previously recorded archeological sites, and several neighborhood surveys within the one-mile buffer zone surrounding the APE (THC 2014). Surveys include transportation, education, Section 404, and housing projects. In 2013 a Federal Transportation Authority survey was conducted for the extension of the DART South Oak Cliff Corridor Blue Line which runs immediately adjacent to the APE to the east; no cultural resources were identified (Allen and Weston 2013). AR Consultants, Inc., conducted a survey for Housing and Urban Development also just east of the APE; no cultural resources were identified (Skinner and Coleman 2010). In 2010, a segment of Ricketts Branch was surveyed for proposed channel widening; no archeological sites were identified (Byers and Welch 2010). A large areal survey of the University of North Texas (UNT) South Dallas campus southwest of the APE was conducted by LGGroup Inc., in 2005 and identified four historic sites that were determined ineligible (THC 2014). A large areal survey was also shown over the Fivemile Creek floodplain east of Lancaster Road northeast of the project APE, but no other information was forthcoming.

Previously recorded archaeological sites included four sites identified during the survey of the UNT South Dallas campus by LGGroup Inc., in 2005. Sites 41DL432, 41DL433, 41DL434, and 41DL435 are all historic sites with foundation remains; all were determined ineligible by the THC in August of 2005. Site 41DL432 consisted of a historic residential site with a concrete slab house floor, standing horse shed, an electric horse walker, two older concrete slabs, standing corral and fence remnants, water meter box, and an old road bed. Glass, ceramics, metal, plastic, old lumber, pallets, and plastic barrels were noted on the site. Site 41DL433 also consisted of a residential structure foundation made of cinder block and concrete pipe piers and measuring 10 x 11 m, a sidewalk, and two large pipe sections for a septic tank. Two small scatters of ceramics were noted, along with glass, metal, and bricks on the surface. Site 41DL434 consisted of a concrete slab foundation, a round concrete-stem well or cistern, a wood pen of railroad ties, a collapsed board-and-batten structure, and two cedar posts stuck in the ground; all of these features were part of an extensive gravel operation. Artifacts notes included a distribution of glass, metal, bone, and plastic were noted on the surface while a large pile of lumber and old tires fill a depression. FERRIS bricks were also noted. Site 41DL435 consisted of a rubble pile of broken concrete slabs, a rubble pile of mortared brick and sandstone, a hand-dug well, and a metal cistern along with a thin scatter of glass, metal, and ceramic artifacts attributed to a late 19th to early 20th century farmstead. As stated above, all of these sites have been determined ineligible.

Site 41DL374, or the Brady House Site, is a braced frame standing structure built with cut nails and sawn timber but recorded to be in major disrepair. A scatter of glass, ceramics, and metal was also noted. Site 41DL375, or the Pecan Tree Site, was a historic resource (occupation ?) that was destroyed by the construction of the existing DART Ledbetter Station. These two sites were identified and recorded during the investigations for the South Oak Cliff DART line in 1991 and recommended not eligible (Skinner et al. 1996).

4.0 Research Goals and Methods

Purpose of the Research

The present study was carried out to accomplish three major goals:

1. To identify all historic and prehistoric archeological resources located within the APE defined in Chapter One;

2. To perform a preliminary evaluation of the identified resources' potential for inclusion in the NRHP and/or for listing as a SAL (typically performed concurrently); and

3. To make recommendations about the need for further research concerning the identified resources based on the preliminary NRHP/SAL evaluation and with guidance on methodology and ethics from the THC and the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA).

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Despite the lack of a federal nexus for the present project, detailed discussion of Section 106 and the NRHP is still warranted; the THC's Rules of Practice and Procedure (13 TAC 26) for investigations carried out under the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191) make direct reference to NRHP eligibility as a component of state-level resource identifications and evaluations, which are discussed further in the next section.

In order to determine the presence of historic properties (with this phrase understood in its broader Section 106 sense), an APE is first delineated. The APE is the area in which direct impacts (and in a federal context, indirect impacts as well) to historic properties may occur. Within the APE, resources are evaluated to determine if they are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, and to determine the presence of any properties that are already listed on the NRHP. To determine if a property is significant, cultural resource professionals and regulators evaluate the resource using these established criteria:

> …The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, 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 persons significant 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 prehistory or history (36 CFR 60.4).

Note that significance and NRHP eligibility are determined by two primary components: integrity *and* one of the four types of association and data potential listed under 36 CFR 60.4(a-d). The criterion most often applied to archeological sites is the last—and arguably the broadest—of the four; its

phrasing allows regulators to consider a broad range of research questions and analytical techniques that may be brought to bear (36 CFR 60.4[d]).

Antiquities Code of Texas

Because the City of Dallas is a political subdivision of the State of Texas, the project is subject to the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191), which requires consideration of effects on properties designated as—or eligible to be designated as—SALs, which are defined as:

> ...sites, objects, buildings, structures and historic shipwrecks, and locations of historical, archeological, educational, or scientific interest including, but not limited to, prehistoric American Indian or aboriginal campsites, dwellings, and habitation sites, aboriginal paintings, petroglyphs, and other marks or carvings on rock or elsewhere which pertain to early American Indian or other archeological sites of every character, treasure imbedded in the earth, sunken or abandoned ships and wrecks of the sea or any part of their contents, maps, records, documents, books, artifacts, and implements of culture in any way related to the inhabitants, prehistory, history, government, or culture in, on, or under any of the lands of the State of Texas, including the tidelands, submerged land, and the bed of the sea within the jurisdiction of the State of Texas. (13 TAC 26.2)

Rules of practice and procedure for the evaluation of cultural resources as SALs and/or for listing on the NRHP, which is also explicitly referenced at the state level, are detailed at 13 TAC 26. An archeological site identified on lands owned or controlled by the State of Texas may be of sufficient significance to allow designation as a SAL if at least one of the following criteria applies:

1. the site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
2. the site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
3. the site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
4. the study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge;
5. the high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to insure [sic] maximum legal protection, or alternatively further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected (13 TAC 26.8).

For archeological resources, the state-level process requires securing and maintaining a valid Texas Antiquities Permit from the THC, the lead state agency for Antiquities Code compliance, throughout all stages of investigation, analysis, and reporting.

Survey Approach and Methods

Field methods complied with the requirements of the guidelines as set forth by the CTA and approved by the THC. The survey included a pedestrian walkover of the entire 10-acre APE. Shovel test (ST) units excavated in natural levels to major color/texture changes or restrictive features were placed where ground surface visibility is below 30 percent, soils appear to be of sufficient depth to contain subsurface cultural materials, and/or previous disturbance appears minimal. Excavated matrix was screened through 0.25-in (0.635-cm) hardware cloth, as allowed by moisture and clay content. Deposits were described using conventional texture classifications and Munsell color designations, and all observations were recorded on standardized CMEC shovel test forms.

5.0 Results

Prior to conducting the survey, a review of available historic aerials and topographic maps on Google Earth and the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) website, www.historicaerials.com, was undertaken to determine how the parcel had been utilized over time and when the present structures were constructed. The earliest aerial available was produced in 1952 and revealed that the parcel was farmed until about 1979 when it appears as fallow fields (NETR 2014). Aerials since that time (1989, 1995, 2003, 2005, 2006, and 2011) show the gradual spread of invasive cedar trees across the property. Although there are topographic maps dating back to 1891, none are very detailed until 1959. None of the topographic maps show structures on or near this parcel. Additionally, the 1936 Texas State Highway Department *General Highway Map Dallas County, Rockwall County, Texas* shows no structures in this area.

The survey was conducted on December 29, 2015, a cold but sunny day. The parcel is covered in invasive grasses, thistle, briar, and cedar trees. Some young hardwood trees were noted in the northwestern corner of the property near the creek. All of this vegetation is typical of a fallow or undeveloped field. Ground visibility was variable ranging from 0 to 50 percent, with grasses thicker and denser on the southern end of the property. Two shovel tests (ST) were excavated within the APE (**Figure 2**). The property abutting the eastern boundary is currently being stripped and leveled as part of the DART South Oak Cliff line extension (**Figures 3** and **4**). It was noted that the chalk rock bedrock surface was very shallow. A two-track road was observed running from near the southeast corner of the APE (where it originated from the adjacent property) and ending in a cleared area near the parcel center (see **Figure 2**, **Figure 5**). Evidence of rabbit, deer, and horse was noted across the property. No cultural resources of historic-age or significance were observed during the survey.

A number of disturbances were noted across the APE. The southern boundary was once graded as a road and abuts the fence to the South Central Police Station property (**Figure 6**). Several areas on the north end of the APE, likely initiated by heavy equipment use, are now eroding into natural-looking scours (**Figures *7* and 8**). Additionally, it was noted on the south end of the project APE that near clumps of or larger trees, the soil was higher than the areas lacking in trees (**Figure 9**). At the end of the two-track mentioned above, a very large spoil pile was observed adjacent to a large cleared area (see **Figure 2**, **Figures 10** and **11**).

Just below the tree line and as the project area parcel flattens out and becomes more level (toward the north end), a large area showed evidence of fairly recent burning. In fact, walking across this area stirred up the ground enough to have the smell of wood ash waft through the air. It is likely that this burn episode was not intentional (possibly a lightning strike), and does not appear to have caused much damage to the area, although it was rather widespread over this area. However, other substantial damage to the surface and near surface was evident by the amount of bedrock gravel and cobbles on the surface, as this area was mapped to have deep (potentially up to a meter deep) occasionally flooded Frio silty clay. Also noted were several large dumps: a recent trash, a linear concrete dump, and a large tire dump in particular (**Figures 12-14**). In other places, an occasional tire, plastic bucket, rebar, concrete slab, or large metal piece was observed partially buried. A very large spoil pile around a few trees and a large scour located near the western boundary (**Figures 15** and **16**) indicated that some heavy equipment had done some major ground disturbances in the past.

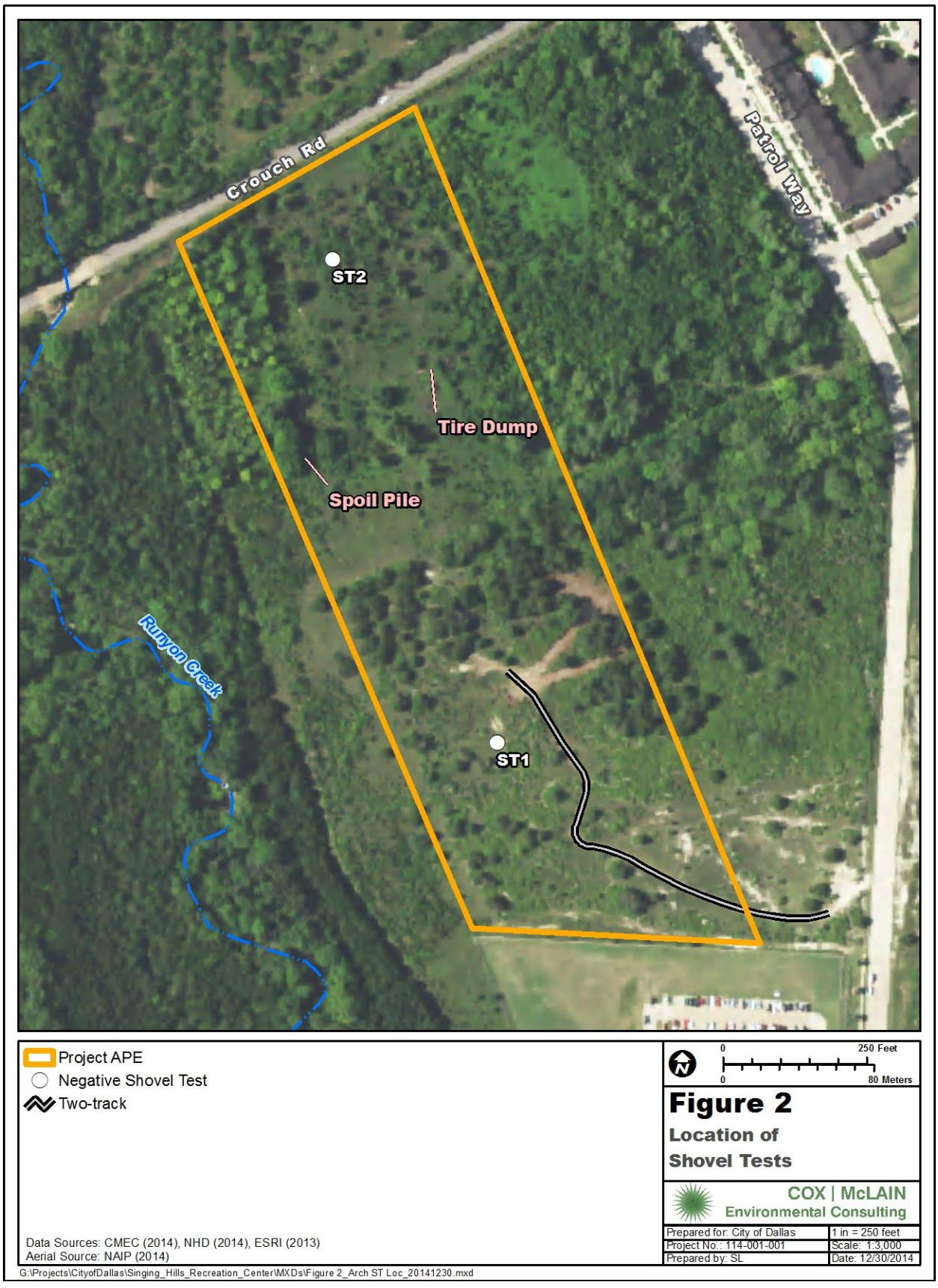

Crouch Rd
Patrol Way
ST2
Tire Dump
Spoil Pile
Runyon Creek
ST1
Project APE
Negative Shovel Test
Two-track
0
250 Feet
0
80 Meters
Figure 2
Location of
Shovel Tests
COX | McLAIN
Environmental Consulting
Prepared for: City of Dallas
1 in = 250 feet
Project No.: 114-001-001
Scale: 1:3,000
Prepared by: SL
Date: 12/30/2014
Data Sources: CMEC (2014), NHD (2014), ESRI (2013)
Aerial Source: NAIP (2014)
G:\Projects\CityofDallas\Singing_Hills_Recreation_Center\MXDs\Figure 2_Arch ST Loc_20141230.mxd

Figure 3. View along the east boundary with DART construction on right; facing northwest

Figure 4. DART construction occurring on abutting property to the east; facing east

Figure 5. Two-track road running across the project area from near southeast corner; facing west

Figure 6. Once graded road along south boundary; facing east

Figure 7. Small scour on the southern end of project area; facing west

Figure 8. Larger scour eroding into a drainage and located below ST 1; facing slighlty northwest. Note large spoil pile in upper right corner.

Figure 9. Evidence of grading around tree clump; facing northwest. Note dumped concrete and bedrock gravel on surface.

Figure 10. Large cleared area at end of two-track road; facing northeast

Figure 11. Large spoil pile adjacent to cleared area at end of two-track road; facing slightly southwest

Figure 12. Recent trash dump near west boundary on northern end of project area; facing southeast

Figure 13. Large concrete dump south and adjacent to the tire dump; facing northwest

Figure 14. Large tire dump in northern end of project area; facing north

Figure 15. Large scour made by heavy equipment; facing northwest. Note bedrock slabs on walls and surface.

Figure 16. Large spoil pile along the west boundary; facing northwest

Although the APE exhibited numerous disturbances, two shovel tests were excavated to examine the depth of disturbances. ST 1 was located on the southern end of the property in an area near a small clump of trees that was presumed to have some integrity. The matrix and profile exhibited the traits of the Eddy-Whitewright complex as mentioned in Chapter 2. It was shallow: the A-horizon being a dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) clay loam to about 25 centimeters below surface (cmbs) followed by a grayish brown (10YR 5/2) clay with some loam with some light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) mottles B-horizon to about 35 cmbs where the excavation was terminated (**Figure 17**). ST 2 was excavated in the flatter, more level, northern end of the property. The soil was expected to be deeper and having the characteristics of the deep occasionally flooded Frio silty clay. The matrix yielded many bedrock cobbles and gravels, similar to what was observed on the surface in the surrounding area; this was not expected and is indicative of the high level of disturbance. It was immediately obvious that the whole area had experienced extensive churning and displacement, likely due to both earlier cultivation and later dumping and burying. The unit was excavated to 17 cmbs where it was terminated due to the occurrence of a large bedrock cobble in the southeast corner. The matrix in ST 2 was a dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) clay with brown (10YR 5/3) and gray (10YR 6/1) mottling and lots of bedrock gravel throughout (**Figure 18**). Neither shovel test yielded cultural materials.

Figure 17. Shovel Test 1

Fiugre 18. Shovel Test 2

6.0 Summary and Recommendations

On December 29, 2014, an archeological survey was completed in order to evaluate potential archeological impacts associated with the proposed construction of a new recreation center in south central Dallas in Dallas County, Texas. The APE was once farmed, but is now a fallow, undeveloped field that has been used for dumping. Numerous ground disturbances were noted across the property, which have disturbed any soil profile integrity; first there were years of cultivation and more recently there have been multiple earth-moving activities associated with dumping episodes. Two shovel tests were excavated to determine soil profile integrity, but only emphasized the amount of disturbances that have occurred over time. No historic or significant cultural resources were identified during the survey, and no artifacts were recovered from the shovel tests or surface. No further work is recommended within the APE prior to any construction for the proposed recreation center.

Although no artifacts were recovered, all notes, photographs, administrative documents, and other project data generated from this project will be housed at TARL where they will be permanently available to future researchers.

If any unanticipated cultural materials or deposits are found at any stage of clearing, preparation, or construction, the work should cease and THC personnel should be notified immediately.

7.0 References

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Appendix A – Field Forms and Regulatory Correspondence

JAN 05 2015

COX | McLAIN
Environmental Consulting

TRANSMITTAL MEMO	To: Rebecca Shelton – THC Regional Reviewer CC: Trent Williams – Park and Recreation, Phil Callison – Perkins+Will
Cox|McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. 600 E. John Carpenter Frwy, Suite 380 Irving, TX 75062 www.coxmclain.com (469) 647-4866	From: Missi Green – Cox|McLain
	Date: 2 January 2015
	RE: Draft Report Submittal: *Archeological Survey for the Proposed Singing Hills Recreation Center, Dallas County, Texas*

Dear Becky,

Please find enclosed one (1) unbound copy of the draft report *Archeological Survey for the Proposed Singing Hills Recreation Center, Dallas County, Texas* for your review. No cultural resources were identified during the survey of the 10-acre parcel proposed for the new rec center. The parcel has been heavily impacted by ground disturbances and dumping/burying episodes. Two shovel tests were excavated and the parcel completed walked. The work was carried out under Antiquities Permit #7121.

As we have coordinated with you on this project and its need for a fast turnaround, I ask that this report be expedited if possible. The construction permit and contract is schedule to be let later this next week.

No further study is recommended prior to the construction of the proposed recreation center.

Please do not hesitate to call or email if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Missi Green

Melissa M. Green, RPA
Senior Archaeologist
missig@coxmclain.com
(469) 647-4866

ANTIQUITIES CODE OF TEXAS REVIEW
NO SIGNIFICANT SITES
PROJECT MAY PROCEED
by William A. Martin
for Mark Wolfe
Executive Director, THC
Date 1/6/15
Track#

DRAFT REPORT
ACCEPTABLE