Antiquities Advisory Board Committee

April 28, 2023
AGENDA
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING #112
Embassy Suites Austin Central
Agave A-B
5901 N. Interstate Hwy 35
Austin, TX 78723
April 28, 2023
8:30 a.m.

This meeting of the Antiquities Advisory Board has been properly posted with the Secretary of State’s Office according to the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code. The members may discuss and/or take action on any of the items listed in the agenda.

1. Call to Order – Chairman Bruseth
   A. Board Introductions
   B. Establish a Quorum
   C. Recognize and/or excuse absences

2. Consider approval of Minutes – Bruseth
   Antiquities Advisory Board Meeting # 111, February 1, 2023

3. Discussion and possible action on the proposed 3-year second extension for Archeology Permit #7937, Valley Crossing Pipeline Project, Nueces, Liberty, Willacy, Cameron Counties, for principal investigator Janice A. McLean (Item 7.7) – Jones

4. Reports – Division Reports/Presentations on recent and current permitted projects – Jones & Brummett

 (*The Texas Historical Commission will convene and meet concurrently with the AAB for the presentation noted below)

5. Discussion and possible action regarding an Archeology Permit for investigations associated with the proposed potholing to locate existing buried utilities for Phase 2 of the Alamo Plan, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas (Item 3.2) – Jones

6. Adjournment

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille, are requested to contact Paige Neumann at (512) 463-3768 at least four (4) business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ANTQIUITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MEMBERS
4/28/2023

THC Commissioner/AAB Chair
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Historian
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512/452-7305/office
512/796-1050/cell
Email: bobward7@gmail.com

Historian
Joaquin Rivaya-Martinez
Texas State University
Department of History
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666
512/245-2142
Email: jr59@txstate.edu
Note: For the full text of action items, please contact the Texas Historical Commission at P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711 or call 512.463.6100.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) was called to order by Chair Commissioner James Bruseth at 9:31 am on February 1, 2023. He announced that the meeting had been posted with the Secretary of State’s Office according to the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

A. Board Introductions

AAB members present included:
Commissioner James Bruseth
Commissioner Lilia Garcia
Commissioner Laurie Limbacher (present at 8:38 am)
AAB member Doug Boyd
AAB member Joaquin Rivaya-Martinez
AAB member Bob Ward

AAB members absent included:
AAB member Todd Ahlman
AAB member Niki Hise
AAB Member Norman Alston
AAB member James Lewis

At the time the AAB convened, Commissioner Limbacher was still in transit and a quorum could not be established. Chairman Bruseth requested that in the interim, AD Director Bradford Jones present background information on the second-permit extensions for archeological permits.

Archeology Division (AD) Director Bradford Jones informed the AAB members that due to the inclement winter weather, the requirement for applicants to attend the AAB in person for extension applications would be waived. He then presented summaries of each of the four second extensions for archeology permits to be considered.
B. Establish a Quorum
With the arrival of Commissioner Limbacher at 8:38am, Chairman Bruseth reported a quorum was present and the meeting was opened.

C. Recognize and/or excuse absences
Commissioner Limbacher moved, AAB member Doug Boyd second, and the AAB voted unanimously to excuse the absences of AAB members Todd Ahlman, Niki Hise, Norman Alston, and James Lewis.

2. Approval of Minutes
Commissioner Lilia Garcia moved to approve the minutes from Antiquities Advisory Board Meeting #110 (October 18, 2022) with no changes, AAB member Rivaya-Martinez seconded, and the AAB voted unanimously to approve.

3. Consider approval of proposed second extensions for Texas Antiquities Archeological permits:

For a 5-year second extension for Scotty Moore for the Ground Penetration Radar Survey - Founders Memorial Cemetery, Harris County, Texas Antiquities Permit #8695, Doug Boyd recused himself because the applicant is employed by the same firm as Boyd. Bob Ward moved, Joaquin Martinez-Rivaya seconded, and the AAB voted unanimously to recommend approval to the Commission of the 5-year extension.

For a 5-year second extension for Brandon Young for the Sanchez Oil and Gas Corp. Project, Cameron County, Texas Antiquities Permit #4276, Doug Boyd moved, Bob Ward seconded, and the AAB voted unanimously to recommend approval to the Commission of the 5-year extension.

For a 5-year second extension for Brandon Young for the Loop 375 from IH 10 to Franklin Mountains State Park Project, El Paso County, Texas Antiquities Permit #5580, Doug Boyd motioned, Bob Ward seconded, and the AAB voted unanimously to recommend approval to the Commission of the 5-year extension.

Finally, for a 2-year second extension for Angela Moody for the Jasper County EWP Culverts Project, Jasper County, Texas Antiquities Permit #8702, Doug Boyd moved, Joaquin Rivaya-Martinez seconded, and the AAB voted unanimously to recommend approval to the Commission of the 2-year extension.

4. Reports
AD Director Jones summarized the 122 archeology permits that had been issued in the past quarter. Architecture Division Director Elizabeth Brummett presented information on the Historic Structures and Buildings permits issued and closed in the past quarter.

*Recess 9:47 am*

*10:08 am AAB reconvened with the Texas Historical Commission*

Chairman Bruseth announced that due to the inclement weather AAB agenda items 8 & 9/Commission item 3.2 regarding Brackenridge Park in San Antonio, would be postponed until a future meeting of the AAB. Additionally, the planned presentation by the Alamo Trust, Inc. and
Gallagher & Associates on the Alamo project (Commission Item 3.1a) was canceled due to travel concerns.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding an Archeology Permit for investigations associated with the construction of the Education Center at the Alamo Site, 41BX6, San Antonio, Bexar County (Item 3.1b)

Jones presented the request from the Alamo Trust, Inc. for an archeology permit for monitoring and intensive survey associated with the planned construction of the Education Center on the Alamo grounds. Jones noted that the proposed project was occurring in a location where portions of the Acequia Madre and the 19th-century Thiel-Pape house had been identified in previous archeological investigations, but AD staff reviewed the application and were in support of issuing the permit with minor changes to the excavation methodology if historic artifacts were encountered. AAB member Doug Boyd noted that historic 1877 Sanborn Maps suggested that in the location of the proposed building there was the potential for historic cisterns and a well from the 19th-century. Boyd requested that the permit application be amended to allow for hand excavation to facilitate investigations of these possible features. Chairman Nau and AAB Chairman Bruseth agreed with Boyd. Commissioner Limbacher asked if the Thiel-Pape House was found to continue outside the current project footprint, would it be investigated, and would any portions in the footprint be preserved or destroyed. Jones responded that investigations typically do not exceed the project limits and additional investigation was unlikely, and due to the proposed 8-foot depth of the Education Center foundation any elements of the Thiel-Pape house would be documented, but not preserved.

Chairman Bruseth introduced a modification of the motion supporting the permit including hand excavation of any walls or cistern that are encountered. Doug Boyd moved, Laurie Limbacher seconded, and the AAB unanimously voted to recommend the Commission authorize the executive director to issue an Archeology Antiquities Permit for the proposed archeological investigations to include hand excavation of any wells or cisterns that are encountered associated with the construction of the Education Center at the Alamo Site, 41BX6, San Antonio, Bexar County.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding Historic Buildings and Structures Antiquities Permit #1207 related to construction of the Mission Gate and Lunette outdoor interpretation, Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Bexar County (Item 3.1c)

Director of Architecture Elizabeth Brummett reported the project entails construction of an outdoor interpretive exhibit representative of the south Mission Gate and the adjoining temporary interpretive exhibit representative of the Lunette fortification present at the time of the Battle of the Alamo. She reported the gate will employ modern construction methods and materials, reinforced concrete and concrete masonry units, finished by artist Carlos Cortes to simulate earthen texture and color. She went on to describe additional work to the existing pavement, curbs, raised planters, and landscaping throughout the project area. Brummett reported that the applicant was seeking a new construction permit, not a reconstruction permit. As stated in the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Reconstruction, this treatment should only be considered when documentary and physical evidence is available to permit accurate reconstruction with minimal conjecture. Brummett informed the members due to site constraints this work would prevent reconstruction of
the full extent of the Mission walls. Brummett provided more information regarding the new construction and how the Gate and Lunette will be located in a similar relationship to the Alamo Chapel and Long Barrack as they existed historically.

Brummett read two written statements pertaining to the permit she received from stakeholders, who were not able to travel to the meeting to provide public comment due to the inclement weather.

- Rhea Roberts, Special Project Manager, City of San Antonio, in support of the permit
- George Nelson, historian and illustrator, concerns of work.

The AAB and Commission discussed at length ensuring that the conjectural aspects of the Main Gate and Lunette were clear in the interpretation. Commissioner Limbacher moved forward a motion to recommend approval of the permit application, Doug Boyd seconded, and the AAB voted unanimously to approve.

*The Commission recessed for 5 minutes*

7. Discussion and possible action regarding Historic Buildings and Structures Antiquities Permit #1206 related to selective demolition at the Woolworth Building, San Antonio, Bexar County

Brummett reported the Woolworth Building was designated as a State Antiquities Landmark in May 2019. The permit is to investigate the architectural design of the proposed Alamo Visitors Center and Museum. Brummett stated the scope of work will include selective demolition of existing materials at the site and each level of the building, followed by restoration to pre-construction conditions. She noted the investigation will include the foundation and wall condition, and selective areas of cladding and trim at the storefronts will be removed to investigate the substrate, then reinstalled. On upper levels the window sashes, transom windows, and trim will be temporarily removed from selected locations for investigation of jamb, head, sill, and masonry opening conditions. Three mortar samples each will be removed from the terra cotta and brick, then patched with approved mortar. The roof investigation will entail cutting four one-foot square openings into the roofing material, removal of coping stones at one location per façade to expose the top of the wall and cornice support structure, and removal of terra cotta brackets at one location per façade. The roof will be patched to match existing conditions. The interior investigation will determine historic finishes, including the extent and type of flooring and other finishes remaining in the lunch counter area.

Commissioner Limbacher moved to approve the permit, Bob Ward seconded, and the AAB unanimously approved the recommendation to the Commission to issue Antiquities Permit #1206 related to selective demolition at the Woolworth Building, San Antonio, Bexar County.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding Historic Buildings and Structures Antiquities Permit #1208 for Phase I of the 2017 bond project.
   Item postponed. No action taken.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding an Archeology Permit for investigations
associated with Brackenridge Park Phase I of the 2017 bond project.
Item postponed. No action taken.

10. Adjournment
Commissioner Limbacher requested that the cancelled presentation on the Alamo be presented in a
timely manner to keep the Commission informed. Chairman Nau indicated this was the plan.

Commissioner Bruseth thanked the AAB, and Chairman Nau reiterated that Item 3.2 on Brackenridge
Park would be addressed at a future meeting.

The AAB was adjourned at 11:03am.
Item 3
Texas Historical Commission
Antiquities Advisory Board
April 28, 2023

Discussion and possible action on the proposed 3-year second extension for Archaeology Permit #7937, Valley Crossing Pipeline Project, Nueces, Liberty, Willacy, Cameron Counties, for principal investigator Janice A. McLean

Background:

On February 20, 2023, Janice A. McLean, principal investigator for R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, requested a second extension for Antiquities Permit 7937, the Valley Crossing Pipeline Project in Nueces, Kleberg, Willacy, and Cameron counties. Since the original 5-year extension in February 2018, the principal investigator reports that the loss of project professionals and ongoing health and personal challenges have delayed the anticipated completion of the project. The PI indicates that the original project analysis is complete, report production of both volumes is nearing completion, and curation agreements have been established with the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, but the curation will not be submitted until the reports are approved and finalized. The PI reports that funding for the project was stopped in 2018, but the project will be completed using overhead and volunteer time.

Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 26, Subchapter C Rule 26.14 (g)(2) states that “upon review and recommendations by the Antiquities Advisory Board, the commission may by a majority vote of its members, approve or disapprove an additional extension of the expiration date of an Antiquities Permit beyond the single extension that the AD staff of the commission is authorized to issue under subsection (c) of this section and this paragraph, provided that the following conditions are met:

(A) the principal investigator (PI), and/or the investigative firm listed under an Antiquities Permit must complete and submit a Second Extension Application Form to the commission, and give an oral presentation before the Antiquities Advisory Board justifying why a second permit expiration-date extension is warranted; and

(B) the justification for the second extension must show that the extension is needed due to circumstances beyond the control of the PI. Example include but are not limited to: funding problems, death of the PI, and artifact curation problems.

A second permit extension for an additional 3 years has been requested by Janice McLean. If approved, the new permit deadline will be February 24, 2026.

Suggested Motions (AAB):

1. Approve the second extension for the Valley Crossing Pipeline Project for principal investigator Janice A. McLean.
2. Establish a new permit deadline of February 24, 2026.
1. Move that the Board send forward and recommend to the Commission the granting of Janice C. McLean a second 3-year extension for Antiquities Permit #7937.

2. Move that the Board send forward and recommend to the Commission the denial of Janice C. McLean a second 3-year extension for Antiquities Permit #7937.
GENERAL INFORMATION

Permit Number 7937  Original Permit Expiration Date February 24, 2018
First Permit Extension Expiration Date February 24, 2023
Principal Investigator Name Janice A. McLean
Project Name Valley Crossing Pipeline Project, Nueces, Kleberg, Willacy, Cameron Counties, Texas

STATUS OF PERMIT REQUIREMENTS (attach additional sheets as needed)

I. ANALYSIS
List all ongoing analyses and percentage of completed analyses Artifact analysis is 100% complete.

II. REPORT
List the current percentage of completion, including number of chapters in draft or final form
The Volume III final report is 90% complete; six chapters are in final form; two chapters are in draft form. The Volume IV draft report (Supplemental survey on state lands and monitoring at 41CF4) is approximately 70% complete; six chapters and report graphics are in draft form. A site form update needs to be submitted for 41CF4.

III. CURATION
Provide summary of status The only artifacts collected from state lands were collected during monitoring at 41CF4. The research design for the monitoring at 41CF4 specified that any artifacts collected would be curated at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. The curator agreed to accept the collection in November 2021, and then the curator left. Her replacement reaffirmed acceptance of the collection in November 2022. All materials except for the draft and final reports are ready for deposit. As a cost-saving measure, we request permission to deposit all documentation associated with Permit 7937 at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History instead of at TARL.

IV. BUDGET
List funds available to complete all permit requirements $0.00.

V. JUSTIFICATION FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERMIT EXTENSION
Provide details about circumstances beyond the control of the Principal Investigator Budget, staffing, and health issues have complicated the completion of these permit requirements. Spectra terminated funding for this work in May 2018; all work completed since then has been on overhead or on volunteered time. The historical archaeologist responsible for Volume IV left the firm in November 2018. In early 2019, I was diagnosed with uterine cancer and underwent major surgery and radiation treatment; concurrently, my father entered hospice care and died from lung cancer. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused innumerable disruptions to all aspects of our business. In 2021, my husband underwent surgery and treatment for thyroid cancer.
SECOND PERMIT EXTENSION REQUEST

Permit Extension Requested for ___3____ Years ___0____ Months (1 year minimum)

Principal Investigator Name   Janice A. McLean

Mailing Address   850 E. 13th St., Suite C

Email Address jamclean@rcgoodwin.com

City, State, Zip   Lawrence, KS 66044

Office Phone Number   785-856-0744   Cell Phone Number   785-250-8957

CERTIFICATION

I, Janice A. McLean, as Principal Investigator employed by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. (Investigative Firm), do certify that I understand that I am responsible for providing written documentation to, and oral presentation before, the Antiquities Advisory Board to demonstrate that the additional extension is needed due to circumstances beyond my control, as specified in Rules of Practice and Procedure for the Antiquities Code of Texas Chapter 26. I further certify that I understand that the commission may approve or disapprove a second extension of the permit due date, based upon the review and recommendation of the Antiquities Advisory Board. If granted, the permit completion date may be extended for no less than one year and no more than 10 years.

Principal Investigator Janice A. McLean (Signature)       Date 2/20/2023

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

☐ Second extension granted by Commission
   Date approved ___________________________   for Mark Wolfe, Executive Director
   New Expiration Date ___________________________

☐ Second extension denied by Commission
   Date denied ___________________________   Reason for denial ___________________________

Texas Historical Commission
Archeology Division
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone 512/463-6096
www.thc.state.tx.us
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Discussion and possible action regarding an Archeology Permit for investigations associated with the proposed potholing to locate existing buried utilities for Phase 2 of the Alamo Plan, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Background:
Alamo Trust, Inc. (ATI) is requesting an archeological monitoring permit associated with potholing to identify buried utilities and structural features associated with the activities for the proposed Phase 2 design improvements of the Alamo Plan at the Alamo Complex and adjacent streets. The current investigations because previous investigations have regularly demonstrated the potential for archeological deposits across the Alamo Site and adjacent streets, ATI archeologists will oversee all work conducted to identify cultural deposits or features that may be encountered.

Scope of work:
The approximately 4.3-acre project area includes property under the ownership of the General Land Office (GLO) and the City of San Antonio (COSA), however, for the project ATI archeologists will conduct and oversee all the work of the permit in coordination with COSA. In the submitted scope of work, ATI archeologists are proposing to monitor the 126 proposed potholes to test for the presence of buried utilities including storm drains, water lines, electrical and telecom lines, sanitary sewer systems, and sub-surface basements. Each pothole will range in depth from 5-15 feet in depth with diameters of 12-24 inches. ATI archeologists will observe all potholing activities and should significant cultural material or features be identified, work will stop, and ATI will consult with THC and COSA to determine the best path forward.

Staff have reviewed the scope-of-work for the project and recommend the Commission authorize staff to issue the permit upon submission of a final permit application and scope-of-work through eTRAC.

Recommended Motions:
1. Move to send forward to the Commission and recommend authorizing the Executive Director to issue an Archeology Antiquities Permit for the proposed archeological monitoring associated with 126 proposed pothole tests at the Alamo Site, 41BX6, San Antonio, Bexar County.

2. Move to send forward to the Commission and recommend the Executive Director to deny issuance of an Archeology Antiquities Permit for the proposed archeological monitoring associated with 126 proposed pothole tests at the Alamo Site, 41BX6, San Antonio, Bexar County.
GENERAL INFORMATION

I. PROPERTY TYPE AND LOCATION

Project Name (and/or Site Trinomial) ______________________________________
County (ies) ____________________________________________________________________ Bexar
USGS Quadrangle Name and Number ____________________________________________________________________ San Antonio East
UTM Coordinates Zone 14 ____________________________________________________________________ E 549812 ____________________________________________________________________ N 3255280
Location ____________________________________________________________________ Downtown San Antonio, Alamo Plaza
Federal Involvement □ Yes □ No
Name of Federal Agency ____________________________________________________________________
Agency Representative ____________________________________________________________________

II. OWNER (OR CONTROLLING AGENCY)

Owner ____________________________________________________________________ Texas General Land Office
Representative ____________________________________________________________________ Mark Havens
Address ____________________________________________________________________ 1700 N. Congress
City/State/Zip ____________________________________________________________________ Austin, TX 78701
Telephone (include area code) ____________________________________________________________________ 512-463-5201
Email Address ____________________________________________________________________ mark.havens@glo.texas.gov

Owner ____________________________________________________________________ City of San Antonio
Representative ____________________________________________________________________ Paul Shawn Marceaux
Address ____________________________________________________________________ PO BOX 83966
City/State/Zip ____________________________________________________________________ San Antonio, TX 78283
Telephone (include area code) ____________________________________________________________________ 210-207-7306
Email Address ____________________________________________________________________ shawn.marceaux@sanantonio.gov

III. PROJECT SPONSOR (IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER)

Sponsor ____________________________________________________________________ Alamo Trust, Inc
Representative ____________________________________________________________________ Kate Rogers
Address ____________________________________________________________________ 321 Alamo Plaza, Ste. 300
City/State/Zip ____________________________________________________________________ San Antonio, TX 78205
Telephone (include area code) ____________________________________________________________________ 210-225-1391
Email Address ____________________________________________________________________ krogers@thealamo.org

PROJECT INFORMATION

I. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (ARCHEOLOGIST)

Name ____________________________________________________________________ Tiffany Lindley
Affiliation ____________________________________________________________________ Alamo Trust, Inc.
Address ____________________________________________________________________ 321 Alamo Plaza, Suite 300
City/State/Zip ____________________________________________________________________ San Antonio, TX 78205
Telephone (include area code) ____________________________________________________________________ 210-225-1391
Email Address ____________________________________________________________________ tlindley@thealamo.org
II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Proposed Starting Date of Fieldwork: June 1, 2023
Requested Permit Duration: 7 Years, 14 Months (1 year minimum)
Scope of Work (Provided an Outline of Proposed Work): Monitoring of utility location in Alamo Plaza and adjoining Alamo Street and Crockett Street for Phase 2 of the Alamo Plan

III. CURATION & REPORT

Temporary Curatorial or Laboratory Facility: Alamo Trust
Permanent Curatorial Facility: UTSA-CAR

IV. LAND OWNER'S CERTIFICATION

I, [Name], Paul Shawn Marineau, City of San Antonio, as legal representative of the Land Owner, do certify that I have reviewed the plans and research design, and that no investigations will be performed prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Owner, Sponsor, and Principal Investigator are responsible for completing the terms of the permit.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 03/10/23

I, [Name], Mark Havens, Texas General Land Office, as legal representative of the Land Owner, do certify that I have reviewed the plans and research design, and that no investigations will be performed prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Owner, Sponsor, and Principal Investigator are responsible for completing the terms of the permit.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 3-9-2023

V. SPONSOR'S CERTIFICATION

I, [Name], Kate Rogers, Alamo Trust, Inc., as legal representative of the Sponsor, do certify that I have reviewed the plans and research design, and that no investigations will be performed prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Sponsor, Owner, and Principal Investigator are responsible for completing the terms of this permit.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 3/9/2023

VI. INVESTIGATOR'S CERTIFICATION

I, Tiffany Lindley, Alamo Trust, Inc., as Principal Investigator employed by (Investigative Firm), do certify that I will execute this project according to the submitted plans and research design, and will not conduct any work prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Principal Investigator (and the Investigative Firm), as well as the Owner and Sponsor, are responsible for completing the terms of this permit.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 3/9/2023

Principal Investigator must attach a research design, a copy of the USGS quadrangle showing project boundaries, and any additional pertinent information. Curriculum vita must be on file with the Archaeology Division.
Introduction

Alamo Trust, Inc. (ATI) requests to conduct archaeological investigations associated with the proposed Phase 2 design improvements of the Alamo Plan at the Alamo Complex (41BX6) and adjacent streets. Phase 2 includes design and construction of the Plaza de Valero and Promenade. The proposed design of this phase includes rerouting of utility lines and large tree planting, which will be addressed in a future antiquities permit application. Potholing to locate buried extant utilities and underground basement structures within the footprint of the Project Area will aid in the final design of the future Plaza de Valero and Promenade. This Scope of Work is only for proposed archaeological monitoring of utility location via potholing.

The proposed project will partially take place on lands owned by the City of San Antonio (COSA) but leased by the State of Texas, by and through the Texas General Land Office (GLO), as well as lands owned by the COSA (Figure 1). ATI is the non-profit organization tasked by the GLO to oversee the management and daily operations at the Alamo site. The project falls under the jurisdiction of the City Code, Chapter 35, Unified Development Code (UDC) of the City of San Antonio (COSA) (Article VI, Historic Preservation and Urban Design, COSA UDC). In addition, as both COSA and GLO are entities of the State of Texas, the project is subject to the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT) (Texas Natural Resources Code, Title 9, Chapter 191). The ACT calls for the assessment of all improvement activities that have potential to disturb historically significant resources and significant subsurface deposits on lands owned by the State. Oversight of compliance with the UDC is provided by the COSA Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), while the ACT is administered by the Texas Historical Commission (THC). All work will be conducted in accordance with standards set forth by the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA).
The GLO and COSA have a lease agreement in place for Parcel A which determined that the GLO/ATI are responsible for activities, funding, and management related to improvements and proposed improvements as a result of implementation of the Alamo Plan. As such, GLO/ATI will comply with applicable laws and rules as required by Section 6.08 of the Lease. In addition, the proposed project also falls partially within Parcel B, which is a portion of land to be leased in the future. Activities conducted in Parcel B and on COSA property will comply with COSA procedures and protocols.

While the ATI archaeologist will serve as the project manager and permit holder, this project will be a collaborative undertaking with COSA archaeology and consultant archaeologists from Raba Kistner. Furthermore, as a portion of the Project Area is on COSA property, City Archaeologists will be consulted throughout the duration of the project.

**Project Description and Project Area**

The proposed Project Area is located in downtown San Antonio at Mission San Antonio de Valero (41BX6), also known as the Alamo, and the adjacent Alamo Street and Crockett Street. The Project Area is depicted on the San Antonio East 7.5 minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle map (Figure 1). Within a 50-meter radius of the proposed Project Area there are four recorded archaeological sites: Mission San Antonio de Valero (41BX6), the Lopez-Losoya Houses (41BX436), the Ice Plant site (41BX437), and the Radio Shack site (41BX438) (THC Atlas 2022) (Figure 2). The entire Project Area also falls within the National Register Alamo Plaza Historic District, listed in 1977 (Figure 3). Additionally, The Alamo is a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL) and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP). The Alamo site was also designated a part of the San Antonio Missions UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2015. The total area of the Project Area is approximately 4.3 acres.
Figure 1. Location of Project Area (outlined in blue) on the 2019 San Antonio East 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle map.
Figure 2. Archaeological Sites within 50 meters of the proposed Project Area.
Figure 3. Proposed Project Area, outlined in blue, overlaid on current aerial.
Brief History of the Area

The proposed project partially falls within the boundary of the Mission San Antonio de Valero and Alamo fortress complex. The current site of Mission San Antonio de Valero is the third location of the Spanish mission initially established by Franciscan missionaries in 1718. While its first location may have been in the vicinity of San Pedro Springs, the mission occupied this site for less than 12 months. Sometime in 1719 the mission was moved to a new location. Following a hurricane that hit the region in 1724 (Chabot 1930:23), the mission was heavily damaged, and the decision was made to move it yet again. The new, and current, location was a short distance to the north. Mission San Antonio de Valero continued to expand and change shape until the Mission was secularized in 1793.

Due to the stone walls constructed around the mission compound, the location came to be used by Spanish, Mexican, and Texian forces during the military and political struggles of the early 19th century. During the early 1800s, the site became known as the Alamo, in reference to the presence of the Second Flying Company of San Carlos de Parras (Alamo de Parras) at the site. General Martín Perfecto de Cós of Mexico fortified the site in advance of the Siege of Bexar in 1835. Cós constructed a timber palisade extending from the southwest corner of the church, as well as added the low barrack to the south wall/mission gate structure during this time. A lunette was added to the southern side of the mission gate as an additional defensive feature. After the 1836 battle at the Alamo, the Mexican Army was ordered to destroy the standing structures.

The Catholic Church took control of the site in 1841, though by 1846 the Church and Convento were the only original mission structures that remained (Cox 1994; Fox 1992). The U.S. Army began to use the site as a Quartermaster Depot in 1849 and the low barrack and church were used for storage space (Cox 1994:7). The Confederate Army then assumed control of the site from approximately 1861 to 1866 and continued its use as a storage area until the U.S. Army repossessed the Alamo in 1866. The low barrack, constructed in the plaza in 1835, was removed
in the 1870s when the City of San Antonio acquired the land, which opened the plaza space to facilitate its growing utilization as a commercial and transportation hub (Fox 1992).

Throughout the years, Alamo Plaza remained a central focus on the landscape, becoming a hub for traders and economic growth. Structures within the central portion of the plaza were largely absent through history and into the current era, as the space was used as an open-air plaza. The Project Area is projected on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from 1877, 1885, 1904, and 1922 (Figures 4-7). Alamo Plaza served as an open public space and development there was no development within the area, with the exception of a market house and well visible on the 1877 Sanborn. By 1922 the structures lining the streets reflect the current landscape.
Figure 4. Approximate Project Area projected on the 1877 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.
Figure 5. Approximate Project Area projected on the 1885 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (Sheets 2, 3, and 4 stitched together).
Previous Archaeological Investigations

Due to the rich history of San Antonio and the Alamo site, several archaeological investigations have occurred within and near the Project Area (Figure 8). For the purpose of this SOW, only investigations in the immediate vicinity (within 50 meters) will be described. For an in-depth discussion of previous archaeological investigations associated with Mission San Antonio de Valero please see Anderson et al. 2018.

Figure 8. Previous archaeological investigations within and surrounding Alamo complex. Note: the 2023 ATI/Raba Kistner investigations are not depicted on this map as those investigations have not completed at the time of this proposal.
In 1975, excavations were undertaken in the plaza and encountered remnants of defensive fortifications (Fox et al. 1976). The 1975 excavations were conducted to aid in the City’s plan to renovate the Plaza. The excavations were meant to determine if any subsurface remnants of the south wall and gate structures remained. An area approximately 9 by 30 meters (m) was laid out in which two trenches were excavated. The trenches were oriented with the intention of creating a cross-section of the south wall and gate structures. Trenches were excavated mechanically to remove overburden to the point at which possible remnants of a stone structure were encountered and soils revealed cultural material.

Between trenching and excavations, a portion of wall footings of the south wall and interior wall were believed to be encountered in Trench A at approximately 59 to 70 inches (in) (150 to 175 centimeters [cm]) below datum. Other trenches revealed a part of the lunette trench. The top of the possible wall footing was approximately 59 in (150 cm) below the grade and extended to approximately 73 in (186 cm) below datum. The feature spanned approximately 75 in (190 cm) across. The possible interior wall extended to approximately 70 in (180 cm) below datum and spanned 53 to 55 in (135 to 140 cm) across. The distance between the alignments was approximately 17 ft (5.18 m). Fox et al. asserted that these were remnants of the south wall and rooms.

The lunette was recorded at 55 to 80 in (140 to 205 cm) below grade in Trench B (It is of note that the level of grade has changed over the years due to building of various landscaping features). A subsurface deposit of medium-sized stones and friable soils was first indicative of a wall foundation or pavement, but further excavations revealed that the deposit extended across much of the area and was likely natural. Recent excavations in the Long Barrack in 2019-2020 have indicated that there is a naturally occurring subsurface stratum of hardpan that is composed of medium-sized stones conglomerated togethers and this is likely what was encountered by the crew in 1975 (Tomka et al. unpublished, preliminary manuscript on file at ATI). The trench did not appear to have a wall footing which is likely related to the many changes to the Plaza since the 1870s.
While excavations by Fox et al. (1976) indicate significant disturbance of subsurface deposits by modifications to the plaza, intact cultural features associated with their findings may still remain in situ. The report indicates that the grade below the floors of the structure were likely removed as none were encountered during the trenching and excavations. The investigations also speculated that soils were brought in from elsewhere to raise the elevation of the Plaza during the mid-to late 1800s, with a dark clay placed on top, likely for landscaping purposes. Fox et al. (1976) recommended any future modifications to the plaza should be preceded by archaeological investigations to mitigate impacts to any remaining cultural deposits.

Across the street from the Alamo, almost due west from the Church, excavations at site 41BX438, also known as the RadioShack site, were conducted by the Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio (CAR-UTSA) in 1979 (Ivey notes on file at CAR; Anderson et al. 2018). Archaeologists revealed remnants of adobe structures and the suspected western wall of the original Alamo compound, among other features. CAR-UTSA revisited the site in 1980 for additional excavations and revealed an arcaded portico and two rectangular arch bases, as well as more adobe brick. After these investigations, an approximation of the original west wall was established. The multi-firm excavations in 2016 also revealed remnants of a collapsed adobe wall in this area (Anderson et al. 2018). While deposits may have been destroyed during the construction of the paseo to the river, it is likely that cultural deposits are still present adjacent to this site.

Excavations north of the RadioShack site, at the location of the former Remember the Alamo Theater, were undertaken in 1983 by archaeologists from CAR-UTSA (Ivey 2005). Excavation units were placed in targeted areas with the purpose of locating any adobe foundations associated with those found from site 41BX438. Matrix was not screened during excavations, but observed artifacts include a musket ball, 19th century ceramics, unglazed earthenwares, and metal objects (Anderson et al. 2018).

The CAR-UTSA directed an archaeological field school in the summers of 1988 and 1989 in the Alamo Plaza, west and southwest of the Church (Fox 1992). Excavations revealed a portion of the lunette, which had previously been encountered during 1975 investigations by CAR, and a
related defensive trench, in addition to other fortifications. Excavations suggest the lunette measured approximately 32 ft by 55 ft (10 m by 20 m) and that the southern extent of the fortification was tri-faceted. Cultural material dating to both the Mission Period and events surrounding the 1836 Battle was collected. Excavations revealed cultural deposits between 10 to 20 in (25 and 50 cm) below grade at that time. No evidence of architectural features associated with the south wall or mission gate structures were encountered.

In 2016, a multi-firm collaboration conducted excavations immediately west of the Plaza landscaping planters in an effort to locate remains of the south gate. Results of the investigations suggest there are intact, subsurface deposits associated with the area of the south wall. The same project also performed a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of the Alamo Plaza. GPR results indicated that much of Alamo Plaza no longer had significant in situ deposits, however the grid (Grid 1) that was placed over the area of the south wall did suggest an archaeological feature remained in that area (Nichols and Tomka 2016). Archaeologists encountered disturbance from previous development, but also possible features. The top of these features ranged between at approximately 18 and 29 in (46 and 75 cm) below datum (Anderson et al. 2018). The top of the feature located in Unit B-2 was located approximately 66 cm below datum, just below a layer of road base. It was determined during the excavations that the road base sat atop the feature, with no soils located in between. This same feature extended in Units B-3, B-5, B-6, and B-8. This feature appeared very similar to the description provided by Anne Fox during the 1975 excavations east of the 2016 project. In comparison to the excavations conducted in Locus A during the 2016 investigation, Locus B had a relatively low density of cultural material, with the highest levels consisting of metal fragments. A few fragments of possibly Spanish Colonial ceramics were noted, but the total number for all units in Locus B was 5 sherds. Excavations in 2023 indicated that the feature encountered in 2016 was likely hardpan.

The CAR-UTSA conducted investigations in 2019-2020 in the Alamo Plaza, just west of the current Arcade, in support of the Safety Perimeter Project for the Alamo (Zapata and McKenzie 2021). While several areas were included in the project, one locus was the south wall/mission gate area. Investigations began with shovel tests and progressed to 1-m by 1-m excavation units after a positive shovel test. The shovel tests and excavations encountered mixed temporal
deposits. However, one excavation unit identified a possible cobble-lined berm feature related to the south gate and is possibly a post-1835 modification (Zapata and McKenzie 2021). While the top of the feature varied, the shallowest point was 12 in (30 cm) below the current hardscape surface. The feature was left in situ and protected in place. In the 2023 investigations by ATI and Raba Kistner archaeologists, the southern-most section of the feature was exposed during excavation related to tree removal. With a broader exposure of the feature and comparison with the geology of associated excavations, archaeologists were able to determine that this feature was natural hardpan and not cultural.

Recent investigations (2022-2023) in the Plaza by ATI and Raba Kistner archaeologists included five excavation units, seven backhoe trenches, and archaeological monitoring. The project began as exploratory excavations but expanded to backhoe trenching to accommodate a modified scope of work. The initial excavation units were dug in an effort to locate any remnants of the south wall and gate of the Mission San Antonio de Valero complex. Two north-south backhoe trenches were also excavated and documented in order an attempt to find a cross-section of the south wall. Excavations for both the units and trenches were terminated when archaeologists revealed hardpan, a geologic formation, which predates cultural occupation. The hardpan is an undulating surface that exists throughout the site and was first identified during the 2019-2020 data recovery project for the Alamo Church and Long Barrack. No features were encountered during excavations and the artifacts indicate multiple mixed context strata. Preliminary results suggest any Mission-era or Battle of 1836-related features were demolished, likely after the City of San Antonio purchased the land and tore down the low barrack remains in 1871 (Fox 1992).

In addition to investigations to identify remnants of the south wall, ATI and Raba Kistner performed five backhoe trenches in support of construction activities. Three parallel trenches extended north to south in an area that construction needed to excavate to four feet below surface to successfully remove two trees. No features were encountered, very few artifacts were recovered, and the trench profiles indicated several disturbances from utilities. Two additional backhoe trenches were excavated at the location of proposed helical piles, which are meant to support a structural exhibit. The trenches extended east to west approximately 79 feet (24
meters) and were terminated at hardpan, which ranged between 4 and 6 feet (120 to 180 cm). No features were encountered and very few artifacts were recovered. Finally, archaeologists monitored the excavation of 3 potholes in Alamo Street, due west of a live oak tree slated for removal and the location of the lunette. The potholes were directly above a water line and modern construction fill, such as sand and road base gravels were all that was present. The pothole excavations ceased at 3 ft (0.9 m) when the water line was identified.
Scope of Work

The purpose of the archaeological investigations is to identify any buried cultural deposits within the limits of the Project Area and, if possible, assess their significance in regard to the site’s designation on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and as State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs). All proposed archaeological investigations associated with this permit will comply with the standards and guidelines set forth by the Council of Texas Archaeologists (CTA) and the THC. Work will also comply with the protocols set forth in the previously defined, collaborative Protocol for Protection and Treatment of Human Burial Remains During the Alamo Plan Phase 2 Utilities Potholing Project, a discovery plan designed by COSA Archaeologists with input from ATI (Appendix A). The protocol includes criteria such as having a Tribal Monitor on site during archaeological investigations and also details the communication procedure in the event human burial remains are encountered.

Archaeological Monitoring of Utility Potholing

An ATI archaeologist will be present for the ground disturbing activities associated with the utility location efforts within the Project Area. Prior to the future rerouting of utilities within the Project Area, the depths and locations of extant pipes need to be confirmed by the design team to better prepare for the full utility excavation. Additionally, some of the buildings that stand along the perimeter of the Project Area have basements that protrude horizontally under the street. The horizontal extent of these basements must be confirmed to prevent any rerouted utilities from extending over the basements. Figure 9 depicts the Project Area and proposed potholes on a recent aerial, which shows all proposed work will occur within the streets.

The civil engineer has consulted known utility maps and has identified locations to place potholes. Up to 126 test potholes are proposed to be excavated to identify existing buried utility lines and the basement extents (Figures 10 and 11 and Table 1). Maximum pothole depths for utility location confirmation will range between 5 and 15 ft (1.8 and 4.6 m). Storm drain potholes
will be an approximate maximum depth of 5 ft (1.5 m); water lines will be an approximate maximum depth of 6 ft (1.8 m); water service, electric, and telecom lines will be an approximate maximum depth of 8 ft (2.4 m); sanitary sewer will be an approximate maximum depth of 15 ft (4.6 m). Potholes for locating basement extents will not exceed 3 ft (1 meter). Once the utility and basements are identified, further vertical excavation will be terminated and may not reach the maximum proposed depth.

Pothole excavation methodology will include hydro-vacuum excavation. This methodology is typical for subsurface utility engineering as it creates the most minimal ground disturbance. Furthermore, all potholes will be over known existing utilities which means there will be modern trench fill and likely no archaeologically significant deposits. The diameter of the potholes will be approximately 12 to 24 in (30 to 60 cm) and extend to the depth of the utility.

The archaeologist will monitor the excavations to observe if intact significant cultural artifacts or remains are present. The general location of the potholes has been predetermined, however if unforeseen circumstances arise the potholes may need to be moved. If this occurs, ATI will coordinate with the THC and COSA prior to excavation. Pothole locations will be recorded in the field with a handheld GPS unit and projected on an overall project map. During the excavations, the archaeologist will inspect the area excavated as well as the backdirt for unique cultural items. The process will be photo-documented throughout the project. For each location, the ATI archaeologist will prepare monitoring notes that records location, depth of impact, and cultural materials observed.
Figure 9. Proposed Potholes on recent aerial of the Project Area.
Figure 10. Location of potholes for the northern portion of Project Area (exhibit courtesy of Pape-Dawson Engineers).
Figure 11. Location of potholes in southern portion of Project Area (Courtesy of Pape Dawson Engineers).
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B: Basement  
E: Electric Ductbank  
SD: Storm Drain  
SS: Sanitary Sewer  
SSS: Sanitary Sewer Service  
T: Telecom Ductbank  
TS: Telecom Service  
W: Potable Water  
WS: Potable Water Service
Archaeological Features

Should intact features or deposits be encountered, the excavations in that area will stop to allow time for the archaeologist to record the location and fully document the feature and associated context. A Feature Form will be used to record each feature encountered. Photos will be taken of the feature and GPS points will be recorded using a Juniper Systems Geode as well as with a Total Data Station (TDS). If intact archaeological features are encountered, ATI will immediately notify via email the GLO, THC, and COSA-OHP. The ATI Archaeologist will consult with the THC and COSA-OHP if and when significant deposits or features are encountered, and not resume excavations in that area until THC and COSA/OHP concur with the proposed course of action. All features encountered during excavations and predating the early 20th century will be documented and preserved in place. All preservation methods will be discussed with THC and in collaboration with GLO and COSA-OHP so as to prevent the future construction from impacting archaeological features and/or deposits. If warranted, samples of the matrix encountered associated with a feature will be screened through a ¼-inch wire mesh screen. All artifacts associated with a feature will be collected. Should human remains be encountered at any point, the collaborative Protocol for Protection and Treatment of Human Burial Remains will be enacted.

Artifact Collection Policy

The project will adhere to a limited artifact collection policy, only temporally diagnostic artifacts will be collected during monitoring, unless associated with a feature. Non-diagnostic artifacts encountered during the investigations that are not collected will be photographed in the field with a scale. In addition, descriptions and drawings that convey the range of variation and relative frequencies of observed specimens will be recorded in accordance with Section 4.2.3.6 of the CTA’s Professional Performance Standards. All work will comply with CTA standards for the overall project, unless documented field conditions warrant otherwise.
**Laboratory Methods**

Artifacts will be processed in the archaeology laboratory on the Alamo grounds, where they will be washed, air dried, and stored in archival-quality, 4-mil zip-lock bags. Acid-free labels will be placed in all artifact bags. Each label will display provenience information and a corresponding lot number written in pencil. The materials will be processed in accordance with current Council of Texas Archaeologists guidelines.

**Reporting Requirements**

Following the completion of the field investigations, the ATI will produce a technical report for review by the GLO, COSA-OHP, and THC in accordance with its Rules of Practice and Procedure, Chapter 26, Section 27, and the CTA Guidelines for Cultural Resources Management Reports. The report will provide a discussion of the field methods and survey results of the field investigation. The report will also include recommendations for further work or no further work with appropriate justifications based on the requirements of 13 TAC 26.5(35), 13 TAC 26.20(1), and 13 TAC 26.20(2) and CTA Guidelines.

A draft of the technical report will be submitted to the GLO and COSA-OHP for review and comments. Subsequently, the report will be revised to address GLO and COSA-OHP comments and then submitted to THC for their review and approval. Once the report has been reviewed by the respective agencies, ATI will make revisions and submit a digital copy of the final report and completed Abstract form to the GLO, COSA-OHP, and THC for their records. Non-restricted copies of the final report will also be submitted to various repositories as mandated by the Texas Antiquities Committee (TAC).

**Curation**

Artifacts collected during the investigations will be submitted for final curation to the CAR-UTSA. Field notes, field forms, photographs, and field drawings will be placed into labeled archival folders and converted into electronic files. Digital photographs will be printed on acid-free paper, labeled with archivally appropriate materials, and will be placed in archival-quality
plastic sleeves when needed. All field forms will be completed with pencil. Ink-jet produced maps and illustrations will be placed in archival quality plastic page protectors to prevent against accidental smearing due to moisture. Artifacts and associated project records will be permanently curated at the University of Texas at San Antonio-Center for Archaeological Research.

Temporary Curatorial or Laboratory Facility: Alamo Trust Inc., 321 Alamo Plaza, Suite 200, San Antonio, TX 7805
Permanent Curatorial Facility: UTSA-CAR, One UTSA Blvd., San Antonio, Texas 78249.

Additional Considerations

Should human remains be encountered during any portion of this project, the archaeologist will immediately stop work in that unit and will notify the appropriate parties, in accordance with the previously created Protocol for Protection and Treatment of Human Burial Remains During Alamo Plan Phase 2 Utilities Potholing Project. The protocol is attached to the scope of work (Appendix A). All archaeologists on site will follow all State legal procedures including the current statutes of the Texas Health and Safety Code in dealing with any remains. As previously mentioned, no work in that unit will proceed until all agencies and stakeholders are notified, and the next steps are determined in consultation with the oversight agencies. In the event of the discovery of any human remains, a press release will be issued jointly by the ATI and City.

In consultation with the THC, subsequent to proper analyses and/or quantification, ATI will develop a detailed plan with an artifact disposal protocol that meets the requirements of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 26, Subchapter C, Rule 26.17(f). Redundant materials and artifacts possessing little scientific value will be recommended to be discarded pursuant to Chapter 26.27(g)(2) of the ACT. Artifact classes to be discarded specific to this project may include, but are not limited to, burned rock, snail shell, unidentifiable metal, glass fragments, soil samples, and materials later identified as recent (post-1950). Prior to disposal, the Principal Investigator will confirm with the THC the items that are proposed to be discarded.
References

2018 *Archaeological Testing of Site 41BX6, The Alamo, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.*  
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Austin, Texas.

Chabot, F.C.  
Naylor, San Antonio.

Cox, I.W.  

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Ivey, J.E.  

Nichols, K.M. and S.A. Tomka  

Zapata, J.E. and C.M. McKenzie  
2021 *Archaeological Investigations Associated with Security Upgrades at the Alamo (41BX6), San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.* Archaeological Report, No. 487. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.
APPENDIX A:

PROTOCOL FOR PROTECTION AND TREATMENT OF HUMAN BURIAL REMAINS DURING ALAMO PLAN PHASE 2 UTILITIES POTHOLING PROJECT
PROTOCOL FOR PROTECTION AND TREATMENT OF HUMAN BURIAL REMAINS DURING ALAMO PLAN PHASE 2 UTILITIES POTHOLING PROJECT

Updated November 2022

Burials and cemeteries, including Native American burials and cemeteries, discovered or identified within the City of San Antonio (City) property or right-of-way during the Alamo Plan Phase 2 Utilities Potholing Project (Project) shall be treated in accord with provisions of Chapters 711 and 715 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; Title 9, Chapter 191 of the Texas Natural Resources Code; and Title 13, Part 2, of the Texas Administrative Code. These laws require that all treatment, handling, exhumation, and reburial of human burial remains be done with dignity and respect for the individual. They also provide a legal process for burial removal and protection of burials from intentional disturbance from utility installation or thoroughfare construction or improvements.

Any action taken during this Project will be consistent with state laws and regulations identified above, including the filing of applicable notices, application for appropriate permits from state agencies, and actions regarding the handling of remains or associated objects from the Project site. Specific requirements and actions will be dependent on the circumstances of the found objects and the legal requirements applicable to those circumstances. The project is not a federal undertaking.

Discovery Procedures

In the event human remains or funerary objects are discovered in the course of the Project, all ground- disturbing work within the excavation unit will cease, and the City Archaeologists, Alamo Trust, Inc. (ATI), and the Texas Historical Commission (THC) will be notified immediately by the Archaeology Principal Investigator (PI). The City in collaboration with ATI will notify appropriate stakeholders of the discovery and begin coordination to ensure the appropriate and respectful identification and treatment of the human remains. The City Archaeologists will notify the appropriate City and project officials. The ATI will contact the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and Bexar County officials as well as the Alamo Mission
Archaeology Advisory Committee. The City Archaeologists, or designated City representative, will contact Native American groups including the Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation and the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas as well as the Archdiocese of San Antonio and local descendant groups, including but not limited to the American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions, the 1718 San Antonio Founding Families and Descendants, the Los Bexareños Genealogy and Historical Society, the Granaderos y Damas de Galvez, the Canary Islands Descendants Association, and the Alamo Defenders Descendants Association to notify them of the discovery of human remains and will consult with them on appropriate methods and procedures to follow under the Texas Health and Safety Code. The ATI will reach out to the Bexar County Medical Examiner’s Office prior to the commencement of the Project to make them aware of the activities and notify the ME in the event of a discovery.

In coordination with the City, ATI, and PI, field investigations may be monitored by Native American groups and/or other descendant groups. Archaeologists will provide these monitors with a shaded area for seating that is located outside the zone of heavy equipment operation. All human remains will be treated with respect and care. In the event of discovery of a burial shaft or physical human remains or funerary objects, as stated above, all work will cease in the excavation unit and all exposed intact human remains will be immediately covered with muslin fabric, then geotextile and light weight plastic sheeting and reburied under a shallow blanket of soil to prevent unnecessary exposure. Soil from the excavation unit will be used to cover the burial along with a clean layer of sand placed above the soil. The location will be marked in the field.

Any analysis of remains will be conducted by a qualified Physical Anthropologist/Osteologist with experience in Native American and Historic Spanish Colonial skeletal morphology and pathology. Analysis of remains will include skeletal and burial pit measurements, burial arrangements, soil test (if warranted) and macroscopic examination of the skeletal elements. No intrusive or destructive analysis of human remains shall occur. Field notes will be taken to document identifying attributes of the burial. Photography of encountered burials will only be permitted in cases that hand-drawn depictions are not possible. Photographs should be converted to hand-drawn depictions. At no time will photographs of the human remains be presented.
Digital files and prints will be destroyed after they have been converted to hand-drawn depictions.

Any discovered remains will be enclosed within a fenced area that is screened from public view. Fencing shall be anchored above-ground with no subsurface components or placed in an area with a low potential to impact buried human remains.

The ATI will provide law enforcement/security services to ensure the discovered site is secured and protected from damage or vandalism 24-hours per day. The City will assist to ensure the site is secured daily until all human remains at discovery sites have been exhumed under the law, and with consultation with descendant groups. Individuals or groups not directly involved with the archaeological investigations and the Project will not be allowed to view, handle, or photograph human remains, except by authorization of the THC, in consultation with the ATI and City.

If any human remains are discovered, all work within the excavation unit will cease until the notifications and consultation process has occurred. All project contact with the media will be coordinated with the Director of Communications and Community Outreach representing the ATI and the Public Information Officer representing the City. During discovery, archaeologists will document the position and location of the remains. As required, they may also perform exploratory investigations around the discovery of the site to determine whether the remains are part of an articulated burial and whether other remains and/or burials are clustered nearby. The purpose of these investigations will be to determine whether the remains are associated with an articulated burial, a disarticulated burial, or disarticulated remains previously disturbed, and if so, whether the burial is an isolated occurrence or part of a larger cemetery area. All discovered remains and/or burials will be treated under the legal requirements of the law. The City will file all required records or notices associated with discovered remains and/or burials consistent with all local and state laws and regulations. All proposed actions will follow all applicable local and state regulations.

It is not the intention of the Project to remove and relocate human remains; however, it is possible this could be unavoidable in certain situations requiring actions consistent with the
Texas Health and Safety Code. If such a situation arises, the City, ATI, and archaeologists shall follow the removal of human remains requirements outlined in Chapter 711 of the Texas Health and Safety Code as well as any other laws that apply. They will consult with the appropriate regulatory agencies as well as descendant groups prior to any removal of human remains. All remains will be hand removed by qualified archaeologists. Should the entirety of each burial determined to require exhumation extend beyond the excavation unit, the unit will be extended in order to remove the complete burial. The immediate location surrounding the burial will be screened in accordance with best practices as determined by the City Archaeologists, ATI Archaeologist, THC, and PI. Soils associated with the burial will be collected and stored with the burial until the time of the reinterment. Remains will be stored in a climate controlled, secure curatorial facility until the time of reinterment. All cultural material and associated grave goods will be collected and curated with the associated burial.

All human remains and funerary objects shall be carefully removed using manual archaeological techniques and shall be documented in the field and laboratory in accordance with professional standards for archaeological documentation and shall include photographs, drawings, and notes. The human remains will be documented with sketch maps in plan view, and their vertical and horizontal position will be captured with a Total Data Station collector. Location data will be tied into permanent datum points. Archaeologists will use soft brushes and tools to expose any skeletal elements for appropriate documentation. A qualified Physical Anthropologist/Osteologist with human osteology experience will examine the remains and if possible, provide a biological profile estimation, including age, sex, stature, and possible ethnic, cultural, or racial affiliation.

If the City, ATI, and State determine additional analytical techniques are required, those techniques will be non-destructive and will be performed under the direction of a qualified Physical Anthropologist/Osteologist with human osteology experience.

If reinterment is necessary under the Health and Safety Code, this will occur at the completion of the project and/or according to the timelines established in the project’s Texas Antiquities Permit. Reburial may be above ground and may require commingling of remains that cannot be
associated with a specific individual or burial (e.g., disarticulated, out-of-context, or scattered). Reburial within Alamo Plaza is highly preferred. The City and ATI will coordinate with the descendant groups regarding any reburials, including for appropriate ceremonial procedures for reinterment. This may include more than one appropriate ceremony or procedure. Appropriate parties may be present for and/or conduct the reburial ceremony. The ceremony will be kept private and not open to the public. Any potential reburial location will be done in accordance with the Health and Safety Code and all other applicable laws.