

***An Intensive Cultural Resources Survey
of the Proposed
CPS Energy Tri-County Substation
Comal and Guadalupe Counties, Texas***



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**AN INTENSIVE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OF THE PROPOSED CPS ENERGY TRI-COUNTY SUBSTATION
COMAL AND GUADALUPE COUNTIES, TEXAS**

TEXAS ANTIQUITIES PERMIT No. 6447

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Abstract

A cultural resources survey was conducted on February 4, 2013, by Atkins North America, Inc. (Atkins) for the proposed CPS Energy Tri-County Substation and associated easements in Comal and Guadalupe Counties, Texas. The project area consisted of two parts: (1) a 6.335-acre (2.564-hectare) plot for the substation and associated access road, and (2) an 18.3-meter (60-foot)-wide distribution line easement, which will occupy a total area of 4.452 acres (1.802 hectares). All 10.787 acres (4.365 hectares) were subjected to intensive pedestrian survey with supplemental shovel testing. The work was conducted under Texas Antiquities Permit No. 6447.

One previously unrecorded cultural resource site—41CM335—was located and recorded during the survey. The site consists of a single collapsed wooden structure, which appears to have been related to early-twentieth-century agricultural use. It is the opinion of Atkins that the site lacks integrity and thus does not merit additional investigation. Therefore, the site appears to lack eligibility for designation as a State Archeological Landmark and for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No artifacts were collected, and all project records and photographs will be curated at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at The University of Texas at Austin.

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Management Summary

Atkins North America, Inc. (Atkins) was contracted by CPS Energy to perform a cultural resources study of the entire 10.787 acres (4.365 hectares) of the proposed Tri-County Substation in Comal and Guadalupe Counties, Texas. This includes both the area for construction of the substation and associated access road, as well as an 18.3-meter (60-foot)-wide distribution line easement. In compliance with the Antiquities Code of Texas, a Texas Antiquities Permit was obtained from the Texas Historical Commission, and the work was conducted under Permit No. 6447. Mike Smith and Haley Rush performed the survey over a period of 3 hours on February 4, 2013. Archival work was performed at the courthouses of Guadalupe and Comal Counties by Brandy Harris, who authored the historical section, and Kelley Russell. Haley Rush conducted the artifact analysis for site 41CM335.

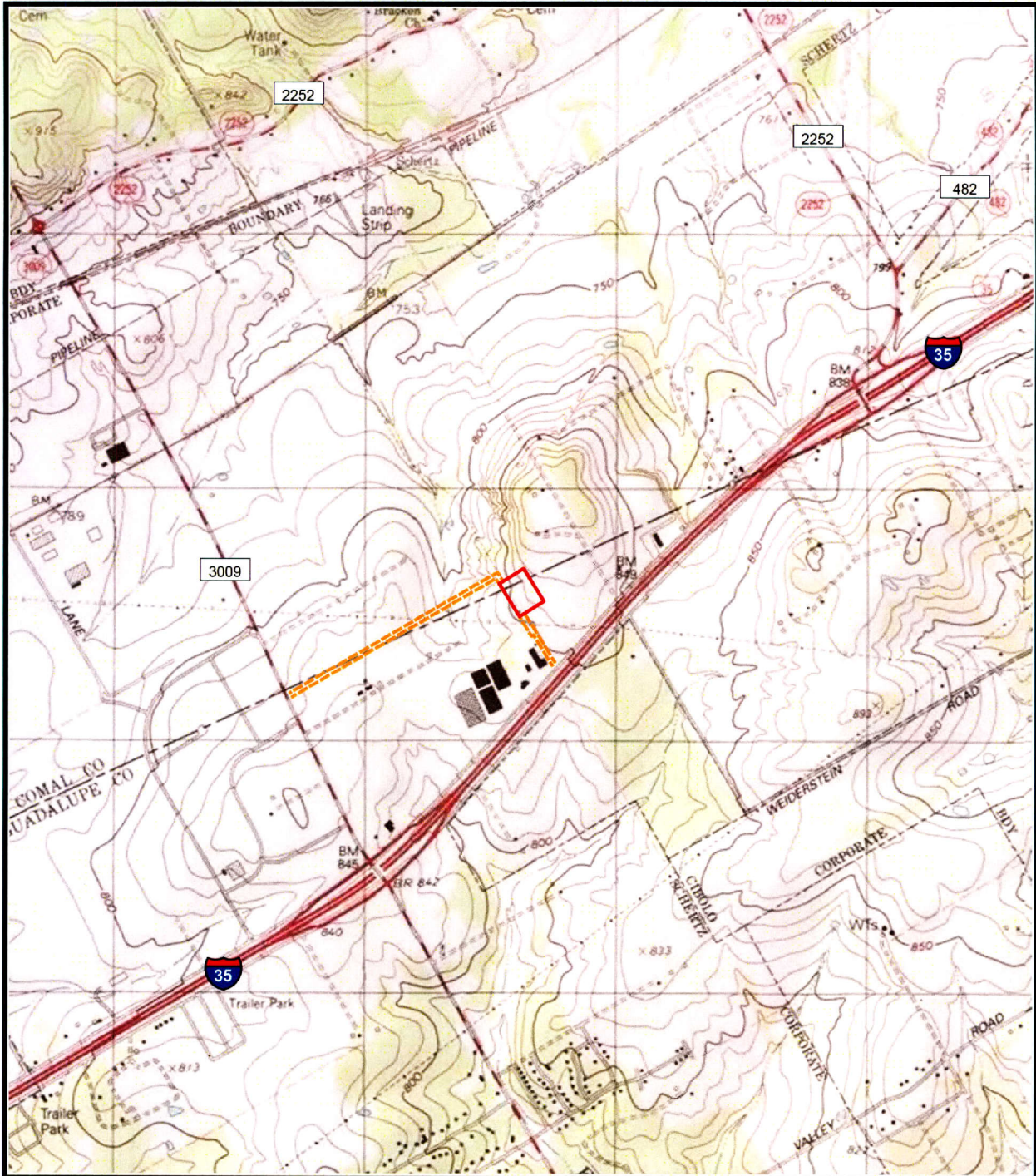
One archeological site, 41CM335, was recorded during the intensive pedestrian survey. It is the opinion of Atkins that the site lacks the integrity necessary for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or for nomination as a State Archeological Landmark. Therefore, no further investigations are considered necessary. Based on the results of the intensive pedestrian survey, it is recommended that construction of the proposed Tri-County Substation, associated access roads, and distribution line easement, which occupy a total area of 10.787 acres, be allowed to proceed.

I. INTRODUCTION

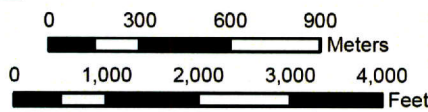
On behalf of CPS Energy, Atkins North America, Inc. (Atkins) conducted a cultural resources investigation of the proposed Tri-County Substation in Comal and Guadalupe Counties, Texas, on February 4, 2013 (Figure 1). This consisted of an intensive pedestrian survey of 10.787 acres (4.365 hectares [ha]) supplemented by shovel testing.

The project area consists of two parts: 1) a 6.335-acre (2.564-ha) plot for the substation and associated access road, and 2) an 18.3-meter (m) (60-foot)-wide distribution line easement, which will extend 985 m (3,232 ft) and occupy a total area of 4.452 acres (1.802 ha). Together, these parts will constitute the area of potential effects (APE) for cultural resources (Figure 2). Depths of impact have not been firmly determined at this time; however, due to the shallow natures of the local soils, it is likely that the impacts will extend into pre-Holocene sterile substrates.

Because CPS Energy is a municipally owned entity, the survey was conducted in compliance with the Antiquities Code of Texas of 1969 (Texas Natural Resource Code, Title 9, Chapter 191), as amended, under Permit No. 6447. The purpose of the survey was to locate and assess the significance of any cultural resources that may be affected by the proposed project with regard to National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and/or inclusion as a State Archeological Landmark (SAL). The survey was conducted in accordance with the rules of practice and procedure for the Antiquities Code of Texas outlined in Texas Administrative Code, Title 13, Chapter 26, and minimum archeological survey standards established by the Council of Texas Archeologists.



- Tri-County Substation
- Proposed Easement



Base Map:
USGS 7.5' Schertz Quadrangle

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Figure 1
Vicinity Map
CPS Tri-County Substation
Comal & Guadalupe Counties, Texas

Prepared By: Atkins/24125

Scale: 1" = 2000'

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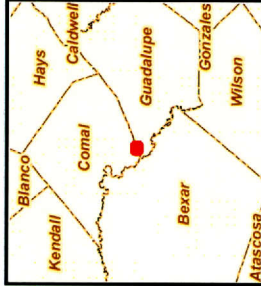
ATKINS

Figure 2
Area of Potential Effects
CPS Tri-County Substation
Comal & Guadalupe Counties, Texas

Prepared By: Atkins/24125 Scale: 1" = 600'
 Job No.: 100027130 Date: Feb 27, 2013
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- Shovel Test
- Tri-County Substation
- - - Proposed Easement



Service Layer Credits. Image courtesy of USGS © 2013 Microsoft Corporation ImageryPartn.com

II. NATURAL SETTING

The proposed Tri-County Substation is situated at the southernmost tip of Comal County and the westernmost edge of Guadalupe County, Texas. Located north of the intersections of Interstate Highway 35 (I-35) and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 3009 in Schertz, Texas, the project is bordered to the south by extensive modern commercial development. The proposed substation location and associated access road lie within an open field on gently sloping uplands, which has been subjected to past plowing. The distribution line easement, 18.3 m (60 ft) in width, runs along a fenceline from the substation location southwest to FM 3009 and skirts the edge of more gently sloping plowed fields to the northwest. The nearest water source is a small wetland near its northern end, which was vegetated with high grasses and inundated at the time of the survey; due to the presence of commercial development uphill to the south, it is unclear whether the wetland represents a natural seep or drainage from modern activities. Elevations within the project area range from 245 m (805 ft) to 260 m (860 ft) above mean sea level.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Geologically, the project area is underlain by Pecan Gap chalk, which dates to the Upper Cretaceous period (Bureau of Economic Geology 1983). It consists of chalk and chalky marl ranging from 30.5 to 122 m (100 to 400 ft) in thickness. The project area lies within the soil mapping unit defined as the Austin-Castephen-Houston Black Association in Comal County (United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service [USDA, SCS] 1984), and the Austin-Eddy Association in Guadalupe County (USDA, SCS 1977). This unit is made up of very shallow to moderately deep soils, which are typically very shallow to moderately deep, overlying the chalk or marly clay of the Pecan Gap formation. These clayey to gravelly loamy soils occupy broad ridges dissected by narrow valleys and drainages. Within the project area, soils of the Austin-Castephen complex predominate. These are silty clays and gravelly silty clay loams, respectively (USDA, SCS 1984).

VEGETATION

The study area lies at the junction of two vegetational areas, the Blackland Prairies and Edwards Plateau, as delineated in Hatch et al. (1990). The Blackland Prairies represent the southern extension of the true prairie that occurs from Texas to Canada. Characteristics include nearly level to rolling, well-dissected terrain. The once-natural vegetation community of the Blackland Prairies was dominated by prairie grasses, interspersed with scattered tree species. Dominant species included little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), yellow indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), and tall dropseed (*Sporobolus compositus* var. *compositus*), with sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), hairy grama (*Bouteloua hirsuta*), and buffalograss (*Buchloe dactyloides*) as minor constituents. Almost the entire region is now cropland and pastureland (Hatch et al. 1990).

The Edwards Plateau vegetational area correlates to the area known as the Texas Hill Country. The climax vegetation of the Edwards Plateau is largely grassland or open savannah, although many brush and/or invader species have colonized the area (Hatch et al. 1990). Within the northern portion of the project area is a small section of oak/Ashe juniper woodland. Plateau live oak (*Quercus virginiana* var. *fusiformis*) and Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*) are the dominant canopy species. Shrubby understory species include Texas kidneywood (*Eysenhardtia texana*), Texas persimmon (*Diospyros texana*), prairie sumac (*Rhus lanceolata*), evergreen sumac (*Rhus virens*), bluewood or brasil (*Condalia hookeri*), lotebush (*Ziziphus obtusifolia*), and agarito (*Berberis trifoliata*).

With the one exception above, the APE is composed completely of cropland. These areas have been previously plowed and are currently vegetated by various grass species (Figure 3). Consequently, ground visibility at the time of the survey was very high, ranging from 60 to 80 percent.



Figure 3. Overview of proposed Tri-County Substation location, facing north

FAUNA

The proposed Tri-County Substation lies at the junction of three of Blair's (1950) seven biotic provinces—the Tamaulipan Biotic Province, which includes much of the southwestern portion of Guadalupe County; the Balconian Biotic Province, which includes the northwest edge of Guadalupe County and the vast majority of Comal County; and the Texan Biotic Province, which includes most of Guadalupe County and the extreme eastern edge of Comal County. Wildlife habitats within the project area generally correspond to vegetation types described above and include upland woodland/brushland, grassland, and some riparian/bottomland woodland, and hydric/aquatic areas.

Mammals common to the project area include the Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), nine-banded armadillo (*Dasyurus novemcinctus*), eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), eastern fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*), hispid pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus hispidus*), common gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus*), northern raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), and white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) (Schmidly 2004).

Reptiles (lizards, snakes, and turtles) of potential occurrence in the study area include lizard species such as the green anole (*Anolis carolinensis*), Texas spotted whiptail (*Aspidoscelis gularis gularis*), Texas greater earless lizard (*Cophosaurus texanus texanus*), short-lined skink (*Plestiodon tetragrammus brevilineatus*), prairie lizard (*Sceloporus consobrinus*), Texas spiny lizard (*Sceloporus olivaceus*), and little brown skink (*Scincella lateralis*), (Bartlett and Bartlett 1999; Crother 2008; Dixon 2000). Snakes of potential occurrence within the study area include the eastern yellow-bellied racer (*Coluber constrictor flaviventris*), western coachwhip (*Coluber flagellum testaceus*), and Texas ratsnake (*Pantherophis obsoletus*), and venomous species such as the broad-banded copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix laticinctus*) and western diamond-backed rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*) (Crother 2008; Dixon 2000; Tennant 1998; Werler and Dixon 2000).

Avian species occupying the study area are a combination of urban species and rural species. These include the black vulture (*Coragyps atratus*), turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), white-winged dove (*Zenaida asiatica*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), Carolina chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*), black-crested titmouse (*Baeolophus atricristatus*), Carolina wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), great-tailed grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*), and house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*).

III. CULTURAL SETTING

The project area encompasses portions of two central Texas counties: Comal and Guadalupe. These counties are located in the southern portion of the Central Texas Archeological Region and the western portion of the Central Coastal Plain Archeological Region, respectively, of the Central and Southern Planning Region as defined by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) (Mercado-Allinger et al. 1996). The cultural developments in the Central and Southern Planning Region are classified by archeologists according to four primary chronological and developmental stages: Paleoindian, Archaic, Late Prehistoric, and Historic. These classifications have been defined primarily by changes in material culture over time, as evidenced through information and artifacts recovered from archeological sites.

CHRONOLOGY

Prehistoric

The Paleoindian period, representing the earliest occupations in the region, began before 10,000 B.C. and continued to about 6500 B.C. The Paleoindian people were hunters and gatherers who hunted now-extinct species of Pleistocene megafauna such as the mammoth, mastodon, camel, and bison. In most areas, however, big-game hunting was probably augmented by the utilization of wild plants and smaller animals. Data collected during excavations at the St. Mary's Hall site (41BX229) in adjacent Bexar County have contributed to this view of a more-varied diet for Paleoindian groups (Hester 1978).

At the end of the Paleoindian period, the archeological record exhibits evidence of a diversification in subsistence patterns that marks the beginning of the complex chronological period referred to as the Archaic. Indications suggest that the prehistoric inhabitants began hunting a variety of small game animals, including deer and rabbit, as well as gathering edible roots, nuts, and fruits (Black 1989). Site types include rockshelters, campsites, lookout sites, and quarry sites that are usually located near a reliable water source. The Archaic period is divided into three subperiods: Early, Middle, and Late. Early Archaic groups continue to exhibit many of the characteristics of the preceding Paleoindian period, and the early part of this period is sometimes referred to as transitional between the Paleoindian and the Archaic periods. The variety of projectile point types distributed over such a large area has prompted Prewitt (1981) to suggest that these people were organized in small, dispersed bands that roamed broad territories. It was during the Middle Archaic period that burned rock middens became a specialized site type (Black 1989), and their frequency suggests an intense and perhaps rather specialized plant-processing economy. Weir (1976) has even suggested a population increase during this period and possible developments in social organization. By the beginning of the Late Archaic, a proliferation of projectile point types again occurred and the frequency of burned rock middens appears to have decreased. Prewitt (1981) has suggested that proliferation of projectile points during the earliest phase of this subperiod may

represent a return to the Early Archaic pattern of small, dispersed bands with wide-ranging territorial areas. The latter part of this subperiod appears to be marked by an emphasis on the utilization of a wide variety of food resources, perhaps indicative of population or climatic stress at this time.

The Late Prehistoric period is marked by the introduction of several technological advances, most notably the bow and arrow and, later, pottery. The bow and arrow quickly became the standard weapon, replacing the throwing stick, or atlatl, and small thin arrow points became a key indicator among the material remains of the period. Sometime after the adoption of the bow and arrow, plainware ceramics were introduced into the area. This development probably came from agricultural groups to the east or northeast. Possible indications exist of major population movements, changes in settlement patterns, and, perhaps, lower population densities during the Late Prehistoric period (Black 1989).

Historic

Historic Indian groups in the area include the Tonkawa, Karankawa, Lipan Apache, and Comanche, who entered the area from the plains in pursuit of food and stopped at the area's springs. The Spanish were likely the first Europeans in the study area, perhaps as early as 1690, when Alonso De Leon reputedly passed through on his way to East Texas (*Handbook of Texas Online* 2012). In 1691, the first Spanish Provincial Governor of Coahuila, Domingo Terán de los Ríos, went across portions of Comal County (crossing the Guadalupe River near New Braunfels) laying the path for El Camino Real de los Tejas (The King's Highway, also known as the Old San Antonio Road in portions), which extended into many other counties and ran for about 2,500 miles.

El Camino Real de los Tejas was, at the time, the principal road connecting Coahuila, Mexico, with the former Spanish capital of the Texas province, Los Adaes (now Robelene, Louisiana). Spanish military forces used the route to counter French expeditions into what is now Texas as early as the mid 1680s. The Frenchman Louis Juchereau de St. Denis may have also traveled through southeastern Comal County in 1714 as he traveled from Natchitoches to San Juan Bautista on the Rio Grande (Pool 1975). Other expeditions to the Comal River include the Espinosa, Olivares and Aguirre expedition (1709), the Alarcón expedition (1718), the Aguayo expedition (1721), and the Rivera expedition (1727) (Nickels 2011). By the mid-eighteenth century, under the perceived threat of French encroachment into territories claimed by the Spanish Crown, Spanish friars and soldiers entered the central Texas area and established several missions, including the short-lived Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Mission on Comal Springs. The El Camino Real de los Tejas continued to see use through the nineteenth century, serving as an important transportation corridor to soldiers, merchants, and settlers alike.

In 1825, Juan M. Veramendi received a Mexican land grant for the area around Comal Springs. However, permanent settlement in Comal County did not begin until 1845 when Prince Carl of

Solms-Braunfels secured title to a portion of the Veramendi grant. German and American immigrants settled the area rapidly and shortly thereafter, in 1846, Comal County was formed, with New Braunfels as the county seat. Early on, the county supported both farming (especially corn) and ranching industries. By the early 1920s, the county had also become a center of manufacturing and shipping. During the Mexican Revolution in the early twentieth century, Mexican immigrants began settling in the area (both Comal and Guadalupe Counties) in significant numbers. Its location along I-35 between San Antonio and Austin, and later with the creation of Canyon Lake, allows Comal County to capitalize on its many natural and historic resources, as well as its German heritage, to support a large tourism industry (Greene 2012).

Between 1827 and 1835, 36 settlers received land grants in what was to become Guadalupe County. However, by 1834 many of these early settlers had retired to Gonzales because of fear of Indian attacks and the lands remained vacant until 1837 when much of it was granted to veterans of the Texas Revolution. Guadalupe County, with Seguin as its county seat, was created in March 1847 from portions of DeWitt's colony and Bexar County. The colonization of the New Braunfels area by Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels also attracted numerous German settlers to Guadalupe County. As with Comal County, the German-Americans were the predominant influence on the county's cultural identity. Early communities often organized around river crossings, mills, or schools. The settlers of the county, while mainly farmers (especially cotton following the Civil War) and ranchers, also placed a great value on education, working to establish a college in 1848. As recently as the 1980s, the county was still largely used for farming and ranching (Smyrl 2012).

BACKGROUND RESEARCH AND PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

A records review indicated that no cultural resources have been previously recorded within the boundaries of the project area, nor have any archeological investigations been performed before now. Two linear surveys were conducted by the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation in 1988 and the Federal Highway Administration in 1991 in connection with I-35, which abuts the project area (site card accessed via the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas Online); no sites were identified within 1 kilometer (km) (0.6 mile) of the proposed Tri-County Substation project area.

Approximately 1.4 km (0.9 mile) northeast of the current project area, SWCA surveyed 68 acres of land (Peyton 2010); though scattered lithics were found on the surface, no sites were recorded. The following year, SWCA investigated approximately 4 acres located 0.7 km (0.4 mile) west of FM 3009, also with negative results (Galindo 2011).

The previously recorded archeological site nearest to the project area is site 41GU82, located approximately 1 km (0.6 mile) to the southeast, which was reported during surveys by LCRA (site card accessed via the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas Online). The site represents a 6-acre surface scatter of burned rock and lithic debitage; it was not recommended for further investigation.

IV. METHODS

BACKGROUND RESEARCH AND RECORDS CHECK

Prior to the initiation of the field effort, a records review was conducted at the THC and Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) at The University of Texas at Austin, and the THC's Texas Archeological Sites Atlas Online was consulted. This work was performed to determine whether the project area has been previously surveyed or whether previously recorded archeological sites are located within, or in the vicinity of, the project area (within 1 km [0.6 mile]), and whether any of these sites have been listed or determined eligible for listing in the NRHP or for designation as a SAL. Reports of previous investigations in the vicinity of the project area were reviewed for information on local site types and conditions. The results are presented in the preceding chapter.

PEDESTRIAN SURVEY

The field methods for the investigation included an intensive pedestrian survey of the project area, supplemented by judgmentally placed shovel tests, to locate cultural resources in all areas with the perceived potential for buried cultural deposits and all areas with less than 30 percent surface visibility. These investigations were performed in accordance with the survey standards set forth by the Council of Texas Archeologists, which call for a minimum of one shovel test per acre in areas measuring over 10 acres. Shovel tests were excavated in 10-centimeter (cm) levels to subsoil or bedrock. All soil matrices excavated from shovel tests were sifted through ¼-inch-mesh hardware cloth, with the exception of soils with high clay content, which were sorted by hand. All shovel tests were recorded, visually described, plotted by a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, and backfilled upon completion.

SITE RECORDING

Once a site was located, a program of judgmental shovel testing was implemented in an effort to determine the site boundaries, the depth of the site, and the potential integrity of the cultural deposits within the footprints of the proposed substation and easements. The location of the discovered archeological site was recorded on a U.S. Geological Survey topographic map and with a Trimble GPS unit. Photographs were taken of the site, its cultural features, and representative artifacts, and a sketch map was created to show the location of all shovel tests and other salient features. The archeological site was recorded on TexSite forms and submitted to TARL for assignment of a state trinomial.

CURATION

The survey was conducted under a no-collection policy, with any finds to be left on the surface or reburied within shovel tests after being described and photographed. No artifacts were collected.

All associated paperwork will be submitted to the Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio (CAR) for curation.

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

The project historian conducted limited archival research in an attempt to determine whether historic site 41CM335 was associated with a documented historic occupation, and if so, whether those individuals may have been significant to local development patterns. This effort included chain-of-title research at the Comal and Guadalupe County courthouses in New Braunfels and Seguin, Texas, and population census research through the Texas State Library's Tex-Share database. The project historian also consulted Texas General Land Office (GLO) records, the *Handbook of Texas Online*, the Texas Historic Overlay, the Texas Historic Sites Atlas, and other secondary sources. These different sources assisted the project historian in efforts to correlate landowners with the subject archeological site and to learn whether any of the individuals associated with these sites were significant to local community development patterns.

V. RESULTS

FIELD SURVEY

The intensive pedestrian survey covered two components: (1) a 6.335-acre (2.564-ha) plot for the substation and associated access road, and (2) an 18.3-m (60-ft)-wide distribution line easement, which will occupy a total area of 4.452 acres (1.802 ha). Both components totaled 10.787 acres (4.365 ha). The substation site has been cleared in the past and subjected to agricultural use, including plowing. Surface visibility in this area was relatively high, ranging from 60 to 80 percent. This was also the case for the majority of the distribution line easement extending northeast from FM 3009. At the northeasternmost end, ground surface visibility dropped to less than 20 percent due to the presence of dense grasses, scrub brush, and leaves. In total, 15 shovel tests were excavated across the entire APE (see Figure 2), all of which proved negative for cultural materials. One cultural resources site, 41CM335, was recorded during the survey (Appendix A).

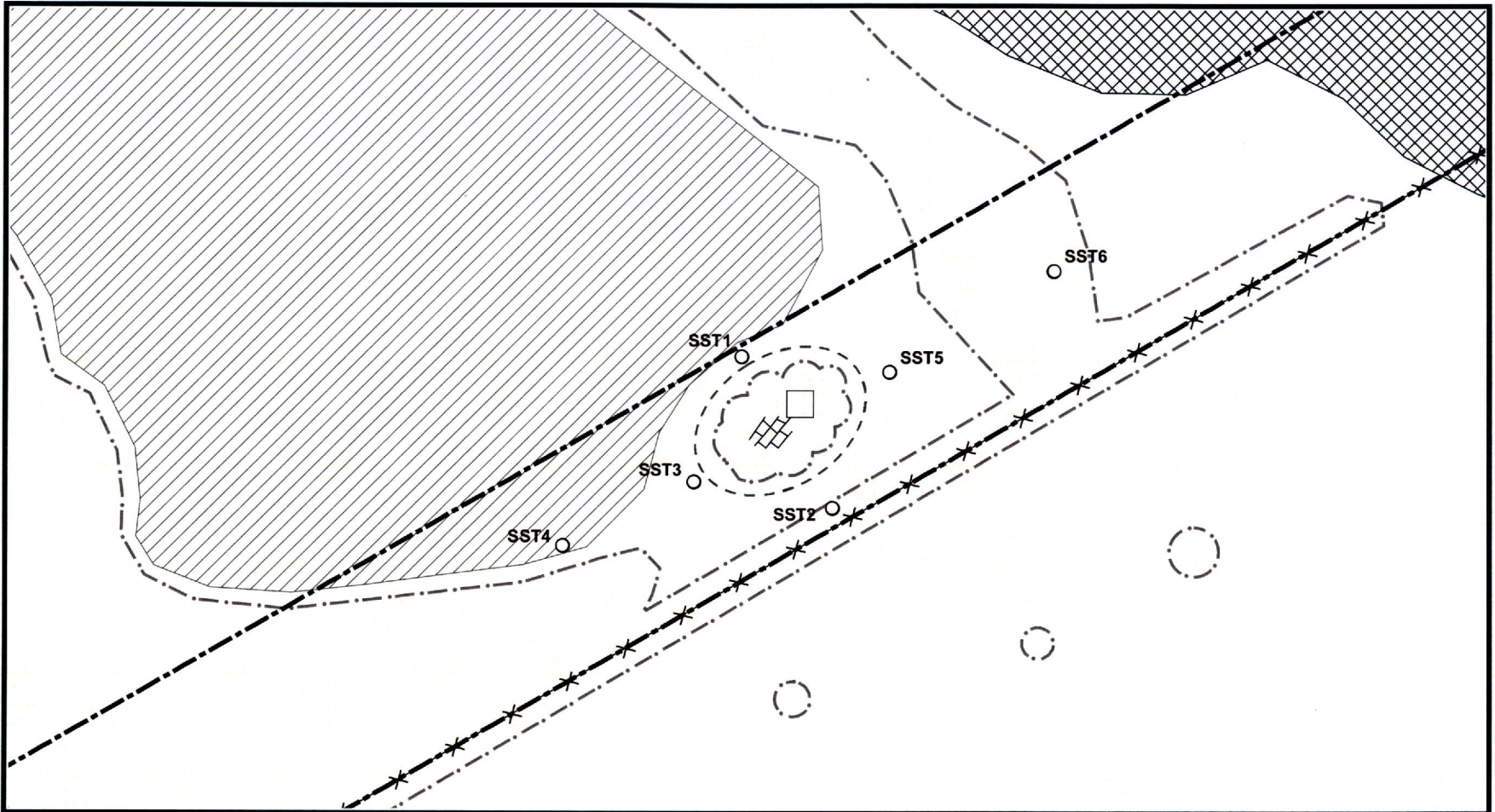
41CM335

Setting and Description

Site 41CM335 represents a collapsed shed associated with early twentieth-century agricultural use in the area of northern Schertz, Texas (Figure 4). The site occupies a gentle upland slope at an elevation of roughly 250 m (820 ft) above mean sea level, roughly 50 m (164 ft) east of an ephemeral drainage. Soils in the area have been mapped as belonging to the Austin-Castephen complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes, eroded (USDA, SCS 1984). The site itself, which sits on the southern edge of a plowed field, is now overgrown with tall grasses, various brush, and junipers (Figure 5). Ground surface visibility within the site limits was poor due to vegetal ground cover, but increased significantly within the field to the north.

The site includes the remnants of a circa 1920 shed, which is partially collapsed and measures roughly 3 x 5 m (9.8 x 16.4 ft) (Figure 6). The two remaining walls of the one-room wood-framed structure are clad in vertical wooden siding, though some corrugated metal replacement cladding is visible on collapsed sections of the building. The shed's original fenestration pattern is unknown as all door and window openings are either no longer extant or covered. Though the structure no longer has a roof, the original front-gabled roof is still located on site, immediately to the southwest of the structure. It is clad in corrugated metal.

The shed is surrounded by a very light scatter of artifacts, consisting of four ceramic sherds, three shards of glass, a partial brick, and two tires. An additional piece of glass and a ceramic sherd were observed within the plowed field to the north. Within the standing walls of the shed are roughly 15 rusted, square gas canisters as well as other debris, including the remains of what appear to be wooden shelves or benches. Beneath the roof are stacked numerous tires.



- Site Shovel Test
- ▨ Roof
- Structure
- - - Site Boundary
- × Fenceline
- · - · - Proposed Easement
- ▩ Drainage
- ▨ Plowed field
- · - · - Trees



ATKINS

Figure 4
Site 41CM335 Sketch Map
CPS Tri-County Substation
Comal & Guadalupe Counties, Texas

0 10 20 30 40
 Feet

0 5 10 15
 Meters

Prepared By: Atkins/24125	Scale: 1" = 40'
Job No.: 100027130	Date: Mar 11, 2013

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Figure 5. Overview of site 41CM335, facing southeast



Figure 6. Wooden structure at site 41CM335, facing southwest

Work Performed

Because of the preclusion of surface visibility by vegetal ground cover, six shovel tests were placed across the area in order to determine the horizontal and vertical extent of the site. All shovel tests terminated in pre-Holocene clay at depths from 10 to 30 cm (3.9 to 11.8 inches), and none produced cultural materials. The site's boundaries were determined to measure approximately 20 m (65.6 ft) on its southwestern to northeastern axis and 12 m (39.4 ft) on its southeastern to northwestern axis based on the extent of the surface scatter of artifacts.

Artifact Analysis

The artifactual materials observed at 41CM335 were all historic in age, consisting of glass and ceramic artifacts as well as structural remains (Figure 7). The four ceramic artifacts at the site consisted of undecorated refined earthenware and one decorated stoneware sherd. The refined earthenware sherds appeared to be ironstone, which was introduced in 1842 and remains in production today (Stelle 2013). The stoneware sherd had a cream white Bristol glaze on the exterior with the edge of a cobalt leaf decoration. The interior of the vessel sherd had a dark brown Albany glaze; stoneware with both a Bristol and Albany glaze usually pre-dates the 1920s (Greer 1981).



Figure 7. Artifacts at site 41CM335

The glass artifacts were all colorless and the two observed bottle finishes were machine made. Glass bottles made with the automatic bottle machine postdate 1905; however, colorless glass was not in popular use for machine made bottles until around the 1930s (Lindsey 2013). Of the two bottle fragments, one presents a crown cap finish that most commonly appears between the 1920s and 1940s (Lindsey 2013).

Among the structural artifacts observed at the site were machine-made brick and wire nails. The wire nails were noted in the construction of the associated shed. Machine-made bricks generally date to the turn of the twentieth century (Steinbomer 1982). Although wire nails were introduced in the nineteenth century, they did not become commonplace until the end of the nineteenth century (Adams 2002).

History of the Site 41CM335 Location

Archival research suggests that site 41CM335 was associated with the homestead occupation of the extended Voigt family during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is currently located in Comal County near the Guadalupe County line on a 28.72-acre parcel in the original John Saladin Survey (Texas General Land Office Records, Comal County Abstract 526); however, it was originally part of a larger 134.04-acre parcel extending into both Guadalupe and Comal Counties that included land in the Saladin and Jacob de Cordova Surveys (Texas General Land Office Records, Guadalupe County Abstract 117). Saladin's 510-acre grant was patented by his heirs in April 1853 (Comal County, Deed Records K:357). Cordova, a well-known Texas "land agent and colonizer," patented his 402-acre survey as the assignee of Almanzar Houston in March of 1857 (Texas General Land Office Records, Guadalupe County Abstract 117; Ornish 2013).

There is no evidence that Jacob de Cordova or the heirs of John Saladin ever lived on their holdings in the area; however, Saladin's heirs did not sell their interest in their survey until 1880. In that year, Henry and Mary Bonorden, John and Luisa Shumaker, and another heir whose name was indecipherable in the records sold the entire 510-acre tract to H. Strener. Strener paid \$1,530 for the property (Comal County, Deed Records O: 576). Though the historian could not find an entry for any of Saladin's heirs in Texas census records, Saladin was a resident of Harris County at the time of his death (Texas General Land Office Records, File 1189). As a result, it is possible his heirs resided there as well. It is also possible that one or more of them could have lived somewhere on the Saladin survey during the period.

The historian could not find an entry for Strener in the 1880 Texas census records; however, he is listed as a resident of Comal County in 1887 when he conveyed 150 acres of the 510-acre tract to Willy Hierholzer. Hierholzer was described as a resident of Bexar County in the transaction, and he paid \$1,300 for the property (Comal County Deed Records T:81). The tract's value increased between 1880 and 1887, suggesting improvements could have been made during the period,

though it is unknown what the tract was in use for, if anything, when Strener originally purchased it.

In 1880, 18-year-old Wilhelm Hierholzer lived in his parents' household in Precinct 2 of Comal County. This precinct historically included land within the current project area. It appears that the family rented their farm at this time. By 1887, when he purchased the subject 150 acres in the Saladin Survey, Hierholzer resided in Bexar County. He still lived there in 1899 when he transferred 55 acres of the property to Julius Voigt for \$2,700 (Comal County Deed Records Y:299). These 55 acres contain site 41CM335, and with an adjacent 156-acre parcel in the Cordova Survey, constituted the Voigt homestead. It is possible that the Hierholzers were renting the property before they acquired it, or that Wilhelm could have briefly lived on the tract during his 12-year ownership of the tract.

In contrast to the early history of the Saladin Survey, Cordova began to partition his holdings immediately after patenting the survey in 1857. In March of 1857 he conveyed 156 acres of the survey to Conrad Seabaugh. The record lists Cordova as a resident of Guadalupe County, while Seabaugh resided in Comal County. Seabaugh paid \$312 for the property, and the low price suggests it was not improved at this time (Comal County Deed Records E:590). Seabaugh, whom the project historian could not locate in contemporary Texas census records, only retained the property for a few months before transferring ownership to Andreas Eikel (*sic* Eickel, Eichel) for \$250 (Comal County Deed Records E:591). Seabaugh's short association with the property suggests he may have purchased it as an investment.

The Eikels owned the 156-acre tract in the de Cordova Survey for almost 30 years, and though its significant increase in value during this period from \$250 to almost \$4,000 suggests improvements may have occurred on the property, census records indicate they continued to reside in the community of New Braunfels from at least 1860 through Andreas Eikel's death in 1889 (Unknown 2005, Memorial #11145522). Andreas Eikel was one of the original German settlers of New Braunfels, and arrived via the "Weser" (Reveley 2012), one of the first of five ships carrying colonists whom Nicolaus Zink led to settle and establish New Braunfels in 1845 (Greene 2013).

Eickel [*sic*] and his wife Barbara appear in the 1860 Comal County census as residents of the City of New Braunfels. He worked as a cartwright and owned \$1,700 in real estate. Their household included their four children as well as a servant and a boarder who worked with Eikel in his cartwright operation. In 1870, the family still lived in the City of New Braunfels and Eickel [*sic*] (52) worked as wagonmaker. His real estate holdings had increased to \$4,000, and he had a personal estate valued at \$3,000. His household included his wife Barbara, six children, and three boarders. Two of the boarders worked in the wagon manufacturing operation, suggesting it had increased in size, while the other worked with his son Albert in a blacksmith shop.

The 1880 Comal County census has two entries for Eikel; one listing him as a 62-year-old farmer living in New Braunfels and the other as a 62-year-old farmer living in Precinct 2. According to the first entry, he and his wife Barbara, two of their sons (Robert and Walter), and their married daughter and her husband (Wilhelm and Bertha Schmidt) lived in the same household near Eikel's grown son Albert and his family in the City of New Braunfels. The second entry shows Andreas living with his wife, daughters (Anna and Antonie), and son (Fritz) with a servant in Precinct 2 of Comal County. Given the value of his real estate and personal holdings, it is possible Eikel maintained two homes, one in New Braunfels, and one on the subject tract. His listing as a farmer in 1880 after his previous listings as a tradesman may suggest that he established a farm on the subject tract while maintaining his city home for his daughter and son-in-law, who was a blacksmith. Eikel died in 1889, 3 years after selling the subject 156 acres in the Cordova Survey to Julius Voigt for \$3,950 with a vendor's lien (Comal County Deed Records S:525). The significant value suggests the property contained improvements, supporting the idea that Eikel had established a secondary residence or farm on the property, and subsequent records indicate it became part of the Voigt family homestead. As they acquired this property 13 years before their holdings in the Saladin Survey, the Cordova tract likely contained their original homestead property, and possibly their residence.

Julius Voigt was born in Comal County to German parents. He first appears as an infant in his parents' household in the 1860 census. Julius, his 2-year-old brother Carl, and his parents Julius (27) and Ulreke (24) Vogt [*sic*] lived in New Braunfels near several other families of Voigts. He still lived with his parents in New Braunfels in 1870 and 1880. In 1880, Julius was 19 years old, and he purchased the 156-acre portion of his homestead 6 years later. Subsequent census and probate records suggest he and his family occupied the property through his death.

In 1900, Julius Voigt (40) and his wife Emma (38) lived in Justice Precinct 2 of Comal County. He was a property-owning farmer, and the household included their children Alwine (12), Elisabeth (10), Carolina (9), Alma (7), Daniel (4), and Hermann (2). The family appears in the same area living along the New Braunfels Road in 1910. In that year, the household included Julius Voight [*sic*] (50), his wife Emma (48), and their children Elisa (20), Calina (19), Alma (16), Daniel (14), and Herman (12). He was still identified as a property-owning farmer.

Comal County probate records indicate Voigt died in 1916. In the inventory and appraisal of his estate, the 156-acre (Cordova Survey) and 55-acre (Saladin Survey) tracts are described as the Voigts' 211-acre homestead. It was valued at \$16,880. The couple also had equity in 221 acres in Bexar County that was subject to a \$3,000 lien. The probate documents confirm they were engaged in agriculture, as his other property included 36 head of cattle, 3 horses, 4 mules, and various farm implements. With the exception of cash bequests to each of his children, Julius Voigt left all of his property, including his homestead, to his wife Emma, who also served as the executor of the estate (Comal County, Probate Minutes O:405-410). He was buried in the St. Paul Church Cemetery near Cibolo (Tapley 2009a, Memorial #41920559), which was associated with a German Lutheran

Church that conducted services solely in German through the 1920s (THC 1992). This association suggests the family was still active in the local German community during the early twentieth century. Subsequent census records suggest Emma Voigt continued to live on the couple's homestead after her husband's death.

In 1920, Mrs. Emma Voigt (58) appears in the Comal County census. She still lived in Justice Precinct 2 along the "San Antonio and Austin Post Road," which generally followed the future I-35 corridor, with her children Karolina (27), Daniel (24), and Herman (21). Though all of the household members were born in Texas, they are specifically identified as "German" in the census records. Additionally, the record identifies Emma as a property-owning farmer.

By 1930, Emma's son Daniel is identified as the head of the household in census records, though they still appeared to be living on the same property. Daniel Voigt (34) is identified as a property-owning farmer, and the household included his wife Irma (28), their children Marvin (1) and Adeline (3 months), his mother Emma (68), and his sister Karolina (39). In 1940, Daniel and his mother lived in adjacent households on the "Austin Highway" near the unincorporated community of Bracken. This description confirms both households were likely on the Voigt homestead property as per historic maps of the area (Appendices B and C). Daniel's household included his wife Irma (37) and their children Marvin (11), Adeline (10), and Melva (7). His sister Carolina Voight [*sic*] is listed as the head of the adjacent household that includes her mother Emma (78). Both Karolina and her brother Daniel are identified as property-owning farmers.

According to Comal County probate records, Emma Voigt died in 1940. She was buried next to her husband in the St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery (Tapley 2009b, Memorial #41920496). Her will stipulated that her real estate holdings were to be divided evenly among her five living children. According to the associated inventory and appraisal of her estate, her real estate holdings included a 103-acre parcel in Comal County comprised of 55 acres in the Saladin Survey and 48 acres in the Cordova Survey and a 106-acre tract in Guadalupe County including 100 acres in the Cordova Survey and 6 acres in the Saladin Survey. These 209 acres constituted her homestead and were valued together at \$4,377. She also owned 208 acres in Bexar County out of the Eligiar Gortario Survey (Comal County Probate Minutes 26:143-149).

Her heirs officially partitioned her estate in December of 1940, and her son Dan Voight [*sic*] received a 134.04-acre tract containing site 41CM335. The tract consisted of 77.67 acres of the Cordova Survey (47.44 acres in Comal County and 30.23 acres in Guadalupe County) and 56.37 acres in the Saladin Survey (54.12 acres in Comal County and 2.25 acres in Guadalupe County). Dan Voigt did not render any payment for the property as the deed stipulated he was entitled to it as his share of the estate of Julius and Emma Voigt (Guadalupe County Deed Records 192:357).

Dan Voigt died in 1958. He was buried with his parents in the St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery (Jobe 2011, Memorial #72279628). Four years later, his children officially transferred ownership of the 134.04-acre tract to their mother Irma Voigt (Guadalupe County Deed Records 344:381). Irma retained the property until her death in 2000 at which time it was partitioned among her children (Guadalupe County Deed Records 523:245, 248). The subject property is still owned by members of the extended Voigt family at present.

Results Summary and Conclusions

Archival evidence and the age of the structural remnants recorded at the site suggest that site 41CM335 was likely associated with some aspect of the domestic and agricultural use of the associated property containing the site by the Julius and Emma Voigt family. Prior to the Voigts' association with the property, earlier occupants of the portion of the Saladin Survey containing site 41CM335 could have been the heirs of John Saladin or their tenants (1853–1880), Henry Strener or associated tenants (1880–1887), and/or members of the Hierholzer family and/or their tenants (1887–1899).

Though it does not contain site 41CM335, the history of occupation and land use on the adjacent and historically associated tract in the Cordova Survey is directly relevant to the site's history. Between 1857 and the conveyance of the 156-acre tract to the Voigt family in 1886, the Eikel family may have occupied part of the property. The Eikels lived in New Braunfels through at least 1870, although by 1880 they seem to have established two residences, one of which appears to be on the subject property. It became part of the homestead of the Julius and Emma Voigt family after 1886 and was expanded to include the tract containing site 41CM335 in the Saladin Survey in 1899.

Archival evidence suggests that Julius Voigt was the son of an early German immigrant to the New Braunfels area and that his family maintained ties with the German community during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries through membership in the congregation of the St. Paul Lutheran Church near Cibolo. Though all born in Texas, the family is specifically identified as "German" in the 1920 census records, likely due to public concerns about individuals with German ancestry during and immediately after World War I. Though German migration to the area surrounding site 41CM335 during the mid-nineteenth century is an important historical development trend, the site does not represent the homestead of an original German settler or provide evidence of German Texan lifeways during the period.

Instead, archival evidence suggests the tract containing the site was a part of the 211-acre homestead of a second generation descendant of an original German immigrant family, and that their home was actually on an adjacent tract. As a result, the site itself may have been associated with their agricultural use of the property during their tenure of ownership. Additionally, there is no evidence that the Voigt family was significant to local development patterns.

Recommendations

Due to its lack of associations with significant events, trends, or individuals, site 41CM335 is not recommended eligible for NRHP inclusion under Criteria A or B. Additionally, the collapsed circa 1920 shed on site does not retain sufficient integrity to warrant NRHP consideration under Criterion C. The paucity of cultural materials and the lack of soil depth preclude the site's eligibility under Criterion D. Therefore, site 41CM335 is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or for designation as a SAL, and Atkins does not recommend additional archeological or archival work.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Atkins' pedestrian survey of 10.787 acres (4.365 ha) for the proposed CPS Energy Tri-County Substation in Comal and Guadalupe Counties, Texas, resulted in the identification of one previously unrecorded archeological site, 41CM335. The site consists of a single collapsed wooden structure, which appears to have been related to early twentieth-century agricultural use. It is the opinion of Atkins that the site lacks integrity and thus does not merit additional investigation. Therefore, the site appears to lack eligibility for designation as a SAL and for listing in the NRHP. No artifacts were collected, and all project records and photographs will be curated at CAR.

Based on the results of the intensive pedestrian survey, it is recommended that construction of the proposed Tri-County Substation, associated access roads, and distribution line easement, which occupy a total area of 10.787 acres, be allowed to proceed. Within the entire project area, if evidence of presently undiscovered cultural material is encountered during construction, it is recommended that the discovery be evaluated by a qualified archeologist who can provide guidance on how to proceed in accordance with and state regulations.

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Appendix A

**Site Location
(not for public disclosure)**

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Appendix B

**1938 Bracken Quadrangle
(not for public disclosure)**

Appendix C

**1953 Schertz Quadrangle
(not for public disclosure)**

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