



by
Cynthia M. Dickey, Lynn K. Wack, and Kristi Miller Ulrich

Texas Antiquities Permit No. 5859

Principal Investigator

Steve A. Tomka



Prepared for:
City Public Services
145 Navarro Street
P.O. Box 1771
San Antonio, Texas 78296

Prepared by:
Center for Archaeological Research
The University of Texas at San Antonio
One UTSA Blvd.
San Antonio, Texas 78249
Technical Report, No. 39

©2013

Archaeological Monitoring of the Construction of Two CPS Vaults in Central San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

by
Cynthia M. Dickey, Lynn K. Wack, and Kristi Miller Ulrich

Texas Antiquities Permit No. 5859

Principal Investigator

Steve A. Tomka



Prepared for:
City Public Services
145 Navarro Street
P.O. Box 1771
San Antonio, Texas 78296

Prepared by:
Center for Archaeological Research
The University of Texas at San Antonio
One UTSA Blvd.
San Antonio, Texas 78249
Technical Report, No. 39

Abstract:

From February 21 through March 24 and June 6 through August 12, 2011, the staff of the Center for Archaeological Research at The University of Texas at San Antonio (CAR-UTSA) conducted archaeological monitoring of vault and associated trench excavations in downtown San Antonio. Two vault installations were monitored. Vault 1 is located on Commerce Street near its intersection with North Presa Street along the sidewalk fronting the Riverbend Parking Garage. Vault 2 is located midway between Commerce and Crockett Streets, along the west side of North Presa Street. The two project APEs were within one city block of the San Antonio River. The construction monitoring was conducted under Texas Antiquities Committee Permit No. 5859, issued to Dr. Steve A. Tomka. Kristi Miller Ulrich served as Project Archaeologist, and Cindy Dickey was the on-site monitor. The installation of Vault 1 included trenching (n=3), 16 auger-bored pier locations, and the excavation of the main vault area. The installation of Vault 2 consisted of trenching (n=6), 16 auger-bored pier locations, the excavation of the main vault area, and the excavation of two manhole causeway-trenches. The monitoring identified a trash deposit that was likely associated with the John James residence (41BX1952) that stood at the location of Vault 2 from the mid-1840s until 1920. The deposit was sampled shortly after it was encountered. The materials recovered provided a window into the association between artifact assemblages and wealth in late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century San Antonio. No significant deposits were identified during the monitoring of Vault 1, and the construction of both vaults was allowed to proceed as planned.

Table of Contents:

Abstract.....	i
Table of Contents.....	ii
List of Figures.....	iii
List of Tables.....	v
Acknowledgements.....	vi
Chapter 1: Introduction.....	1
Chapter 2: Historical Background and Previous Archaeology.....	5
Historical Background.....	5
Previous Archaeology.....	18
Chapter 3: Field and Laboratory Methods.....	19
Field Methods.....	19
Laboratory Methods.....	19
Chapter 4: Monitoring Results.....	21
Vault 1.....	21
Vault 1 Feature Descriptions.....	28
Vault 2.....	29
Vault 2 Feature Descriptions.....	36
Chapter 5: Material Culture in the John James Midden.....	39
The John James Homestead Midden, 41BX1952.....	39
The Artifact Assemblage.....	40
Chapter 6: Analysis of Vertebrate Faunal Remains from the John James Midden.....	53
Analytical Methods.....	53
Analysis Results.....	53
Discussion and Conclusion.....	60
Chapter 7: Summary and Conclusion.....	61
Vault 1.....	61
Vault 2.....	61
References Cited.....	63

List of Figures:

Figure 1-1. The Areas of Potential Effect on the Southton 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle map.....	1
Figure 1-2. Vault locations on a current aerial of downtown San Antonio	2
Figure 1-3. Location of CPS Vault 1 along Commerce Street.....	3
Figure 1-4. Location of CPS Vault 2 along North Presa Street	3
Figure 2-1. Koch’s 1873 Bird’s Eye View of San Antonio showing the approximate locations of Vaults 1 and 2	7
Figure 2-2. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the APEs in 1885.....	8
Figure 2-3. Koch’s 1886 Bird’s Eye View of San Antonio showing the approximate locations of Vaults 1 and 2	9
Figure 2-4. The 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with the two vault locations.....	9
Figure 2-5. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the vault locations in 1892	10
Figure 2-6. The 1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with the locations of Vaults 1 and 2	11
Figure 2-7. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the layout in 1904 and the vault locations.....	12
Figure 2-8. The locations of the CPS vaults on the 1911-1924 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.....	13
Figure 2-9. The 1911-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with the locations of Vaults 1 and 2	14
Figure 2-10. John and Annie James. Photograph provided by James family descendants	15
Figure 2-11. Photograph of the homestead on Commerce Street provided by James Family descendants	16
Figure 4-1. Layout of Vault 1 and features noted during the monitoring	21
Figure 4-2. Removal of the sidewalk	22
Figure 4-3. Auger bore excavation to determine the nature of the substrate	22
Figure 4-4. a) Yellow brick wall exposed by backhoe trench; b) T-1 is on the left, and T-2 is on the right of wall.....	23
Figure 4-5. Concrete wall abutting brick wall at the west end of T-2	24
Figure 4-6. Concrete slab at the base of backhoe trench.....	24
Figure 4-7. Wall uncovered in T-3 near western edge of the vault.....	25
Figure 4-8. Western end of T-3: a) concrete wall abutting limestone blocks; b) note the continuation of limestone blocks beyond where concrete wall stood.....	26
Figure 4-9. I-beams and steel plates at south end of vault	27
Figure 4-10. Schematic of the trenches and auger bores excavated during the construction of Vault 2	30
Figure 4-11. Vault 2 and backhoe trenches connecting the vault to nearby manholes	31
Figure 4-12. Wooden electrical conduit housing: a.) bank of cypress pipes buried under street level; b.) close-up of individual segment.....	31
Figure 4-13. Reinforced concrete wall encountered in T-2	32
Figure 4-14. Short yellow brick wall segment in T-3	33
Figure 4-15. Elevator shaft exposed in T-5.....	34

Figure 4-16. Sandstone wall in Manhole Trench 1	35
Figure 4-17. Midden deposit in Manhole Trench 1, adjacent to sandstone wall	35
Figure 4-18. Close-up of cypress pipe bank, Feature 1 at Vault 2.....	36
Figure 5-1. Limits of 41BX1952, the John James Homestead midden	39
Figure 5-2. Knowles, Taylor and Knowles transferware ceramics: a-b) patterns; c-d) maker's marks.....	45
Figure 5-3. Unidentified examples of transferwares from midden	46
Figure 5-4. Makers' marks on Ironstone wares from midden.....	47
Figure 5-5. Examples of porcelain from midden	47
Figure 5-6. Example of Star Pottery Stoneware manufactured in Elmendorf (a) and ginger beer bottle (b).....	48
Figure 5-7. Flow Blue ware that was the traditional pattern used by the James family	49
Figure 5-8. Glass bottles from James Family midden: a) Congress and Empire Springs Co. mineral water bottle; b) French perfume bottle; and c) medicine bottle	50
Figure 6-1. Number of butcher marks present per bone element.....	59
Figure 6-2. Number of cut bone by bone element	59

List of Tables:

Table 5-1. Selected Artifacts Recovered from the John James Midden, 41BX1952.....	41
Table 6-1. Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and Weight (g) Calculations for Taxa, 41BX1952	54
Table 6-2. Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) Recovered, 41BX1952.....	55
Table 6-3. NISP, Percentage of the Total NISP of Taxa Identified to the Genus Level.....	55
Table 6-4. Weight (g) and Percentage of NISP Weight by Species.....	56
Table 6-5. Weight (g) and Percentage of NISP Weight by Species with Phalanges Removed	56
Table 6-6. NISP Count by Weathering Stage	58
Table 6-7. Frequency of Butcher Marks by Bone Element	58

Acknowledgements:

The authors wish to thank the Zachry Construction Superintendent, Alvin Zigmond, and Ditch Foreman, Pete Hernandez, for their communication, patience, and assistance throughout this project. Thanks also to Joe Arriaga, Filiberto Banda, Lorenzo Hernandez, Juan Herrera, Daniel Ramirez, Martin Rodrigez, and José Solorio, all Zachry Crew members, for help during the mechanical excavations. Our thanks also go out to A.H. Beck Drilling and Douglas Lake of Beaird Drilling for their contribution during the auger phase of work. Additionally, much appreciation goes to Bill Lyons for his historical site information regarding his grandfather's store where Vault 1 is now located. A very special thanks also goes to Barbara Mathews and the descendents of John James for providing wonderful background and historic information concerning the homestead remains under Vault 2.

We also thank Kelley Denham for help with artifact procesing. Gratitude is also sincerely extended to Bruce Moses for the supply of Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and Rick Young for report graphics. No project could be accomplished without the organization and direction of Marybeth Tomka, Laboratory Curator and Melissa Eiring Laboratory Coordinator at the CAR. Lastly, the guidance, advisement, and patience of Director and Principal Investigator Dr. Steve Tomka was highly valued and the authors' thanks are extended to him.

Chapter 1: Introduction

The Center for Archaeological Research at The University of Texas at San Antonio (CAR-UTSA) was contracted by City Public Services (CPS) to conduct archaeological monitoring of excavation associated with two proposed underground electrical vaults. The Areas of Potential Effect (APEs) are shown on the Southton 7.5-minute series USGS quadrangle map in Figure 1-1 and on a current aerial of downtown San Antonio (Figure 1-2).



Figure 1-1. The Areas of Potential Effect on the Southton 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle map.



Figure 1-2. *Vault locations on a current aerial of downtown San Antonio.*

The land impacted by the projects is owned by the City of San Antonio; therefore, the construction activities fell under the jurisdiction of the City of San Antonio's Unified Development Code (UDC). Chapter 35 of the UDC requires archaeological assessment of the project area to ensure that no significant cultural deposits are impacted by the proposed construction. Furthermore, with the work taking place on City-owned land, the project fell under the jurisdiction of the Antiquities Code of Texas. The construction monitoring was performed under Texas Antiquities Permit No. 5859, issued to Dr. Steve Tomka, CAR Director, who served as Principal Investigator. Kristi Miller Ulrich was Project Archaeologist. Daily monitoring activities were conducted by Ms. Ulrich and the junior author of this report.

Monitoring of the construction of Vault 1 occurred between February 21 and March 24, and the monitoring of the Vault 2 was carried out from June 6 through August 12, 2011.

Vault 1 is located on Commerce Street near its junction with North Presa Street (Figure 1-3). It is under the sidewalk fronting the Riverbend Parking Garage. Vault 2 is located along North Presa Street, midway between Commerce and Crockett Streets. It is under the western edge of the street (Figure 1-4).

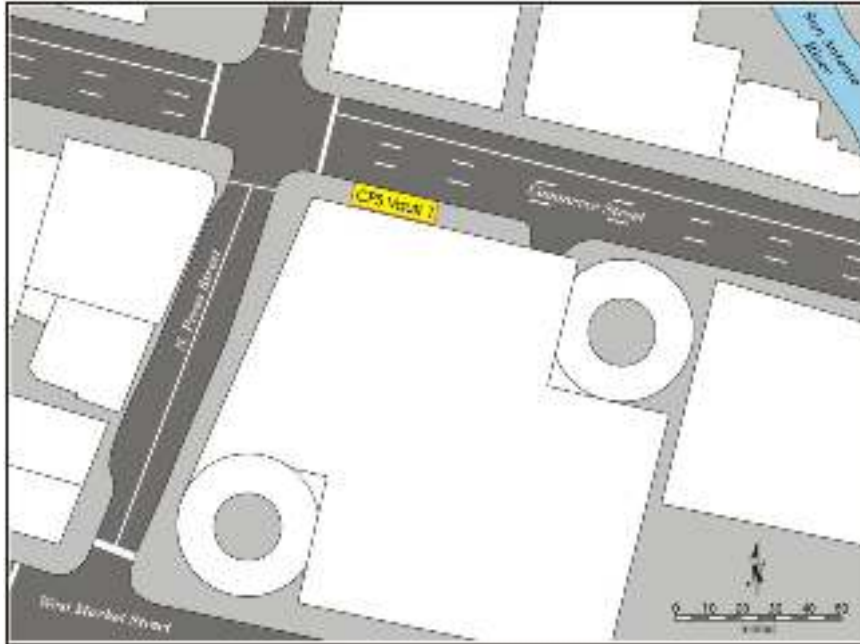


Figure 1-3. Location of CPS Vault 1 along Commerce Street.



Figure 1-4. Location of CPS Vault 2 along North Presa Street.

Chapter 2: Historical Background and Previous Archaeology

Historical Background

Both vaults lay within a portion of San Antonio that was referred to as the El Potrero (“the pastureland”) on early maps. El Potrero lies within the Great Bend of the San Antonio River with Mission San Antonio de Valero (the Alamo) located on the opposite bank to the northeast of the current APEs. During the early years of Mission Valero, the interior of the Great Bend was used as a horse pasture, and the bend of the river provided some protection from Apache raids (Ramsdell 1959). A large *jacal* structure was constructed within El Potrero towards the later part of the mission period to house visiting Comanches (Ulrich 2007). In February of 1836, several batteries and entrenchments were constructed near the Alamo. It is possible that two batteries were present within El Potrero according to Sanchez Navarro’s journal (Labadie et al. 1986:53-54). This parcel of land also may have been included in what was known as the Upper Labores (Cox 2005:43).

Within El Potrero the Calle de Calabosa, which later become Market Street, provided a route from the Plaza de las Islas to the Great Bend of the San Antonio River. Calle de Presidio did much of the same, but it also offered a river crossing. Calle de Presidio eventually became Commerce Street, and the surrounding area experienced much growth resulting in the need to widen the road in 1913 (Fisher 2007).

Vault 1

Vault 1 was located near the intersection of West Commerce Street and North Presa Street. Currently, the Riverbend Parking Garage is the main structure that occupies that corner. A few businesses have leased storefronts that are located along Commerce Street on the street level of the garage. In addition, near one of the main entrances to the garage is the USO, which has occupied its location for nearly 70 years.

CPS Vault 1 was located near the old Alamo National Bank Building. The Bank is located at the southwest corner of the intersection, and the current APE is located on the southeast corner. Prior to 1913, Commerce Street was only two lanes wide. Due to increasing traffic and commerce on the street, the City opted to widen the road. Many of the business fronts along the street had to be altered to accommodate the road widening. For instance, the Alamo National Bank Building was lifted onto wooden beams and moved back approximately 3.7 m (12 ft.; Jennings 1998).

The parcel of land encompassing Vault 1 likely was part of a much larger piece of land given to John McMullen. McMullen was an Irish immigrant who eventually made his way to Matamoros, Mexico. Prior to arriving in Mexico, McMullen worked in Savannah, Georgia, where he met and married a widow by the name of Esther Cummings. Upon arriving in Matamoros, McMullen's merchant business quickly flourished. It is likely that his business succeeded due to his ability to quickly learn to speak and read Spanish. His wife, whose maiden name was Esther Espada, had strong ties to the Spanish community, and these ties appeared to have been beneficial for her husband.

In 1828, McMullen and his son-in-law were granted an empresario contract by the Mexican government. An empresario was not an outright grant of land, rather it outlined an area where settlers could chose a plot, have it surveyed, and then receive a title for the property once the government approved the request. In 1829, McMullen and his son-in-law journeyed to Philadelphia to round up Irish colonists. He returned with several hundred people who settled along the Nueces River and named the area San Patricio, in honor of Ireland's patron saint.

McMullen played a part in the Texans' drive for independence. As a result, the town of San Patricio was subjected to many Mexican attacks and was nearly decimated by the time independence was won. Due to the unrest and the lack of support by the residents of San Patricio, McMullen began to sell off his holdings to his son-in-law who stayed to aid in the reconstruction of the town. McMullen took up residency in San Antonio in 1837. He moved to a house at the intersection of Market and North Presa Streets. The larger piece of property on which the house stood extended to Commerce Street and would have included the area on which Vault 1 is situated. It appears that he purchased the plot of land from Ignacio Arocha in 1839 (BCDR A2:170). McMullen served many different roles in San Antonio for the remainder of his life. He continued his merchant endeavors, but he also served as a Justice of the Peace. He served on the San Antonio City Council under Mayor John Smith and was Judge of the Probate Court. In 1844, he served as the Chief Justice of Bexar County. McMullen was murdered in his home in 1853.

Soon after his death a battle ensued between those who were to inherit his property. His wife, Esther, had passed away in 1846. His stepdaughter and her husband were to inherit a portion of the estate. Although McMullen had no biological children, he had adopted a son in the early 1800s. The adopted son never stepped forward during the process, so it is unknown if he died prior to McMullen's death. McMullen's nephew, John McMullen, arrived from Philadelphia to lay claim to his inheritance and that of his brothers and sisters. The battle over the McMullen estate ended with the McMullen nieces and nephews receiving half of the holdings, including his home at Market and North Presa Streets. Deed records indicate that the McMullans conveyed the property to Jacob Waelder in 1854 (BCDR M1:324). In 1857, Waelder

conveyed the property to Alex Sartor, Jr. (BCDR O2:174). The portion of the property at the corner of Commerce and North Presa Streets was conveyed by Louis Rummel to Fritz Rummel and Paul Wagner in June of 1867 (BCDR U2:413). It is unknown at this point how the Rummels obtained this portion of property prior to 1867. In 1871, Rummel and Wagner gained permission from the City to build a wall to front their store (BCDR W1:306).

The 1873 Koch's Bird's Eye View of San Antonio shows a large building in the area of Vault 1 (Figure 2-1). With the exception of the James Homestead, this area of town was a commercial district and consisted of many businesses. In 1879, Rummel sold his interest in the partnership, including claims to the property, to Wagner (BCDR 13:172). The earliest Sanborn Fire Insurance Map consulted (1885) indicates that there was a crockery warehouse, the Bazaar House Furnishing store, and a store specializing in stoves, hardware, and paints in the area where the vault was excavated (Figure 2-2).



Figure 2-1. Koch's 1873 Bird's Eye View of San Antonio showing the approximate locations of Vaults 1 and 2.

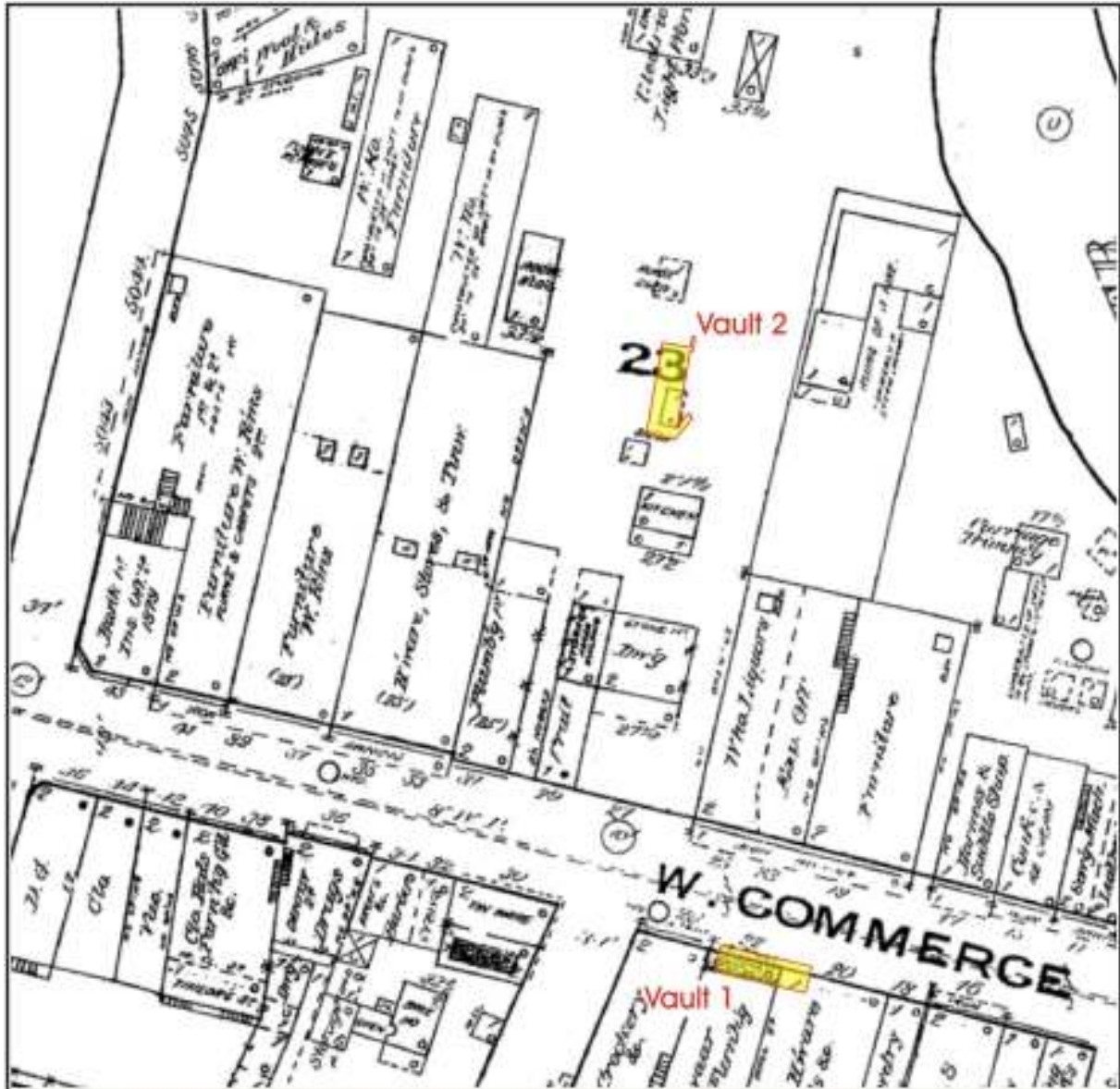


Figure 2-2. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the APEs in 1885.

The 1886 Koch's Bird's Eye View of San Antonio also depicts the structures at the corner. Due to the perspective, only the roof tops of the structures are shown, and Commerce Street is hard to see (Figure 2-3). The 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map also shows the same structures and businesses at that location (Figure 2-4).



Figure 2-3. Koch's 1886 Bird's Eye View of San Antonio showing the approximate locations of Vaults 1 and 2.

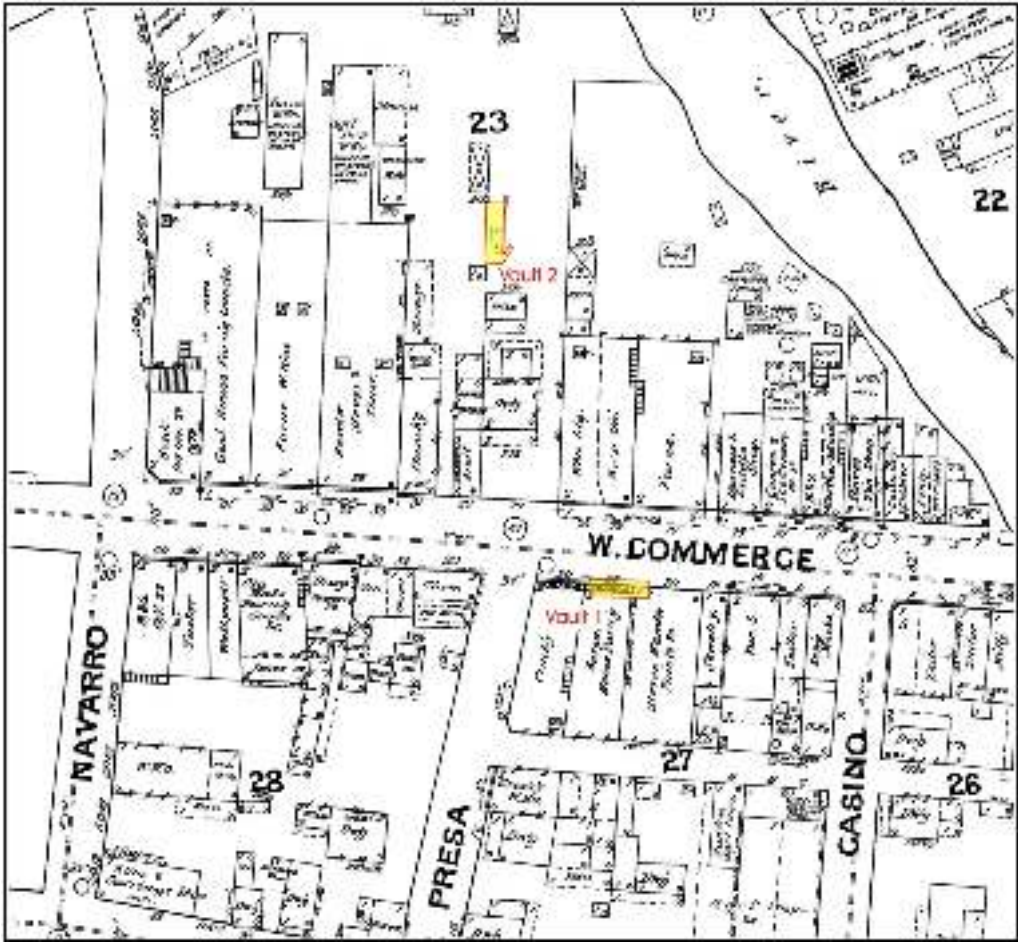


Figure 2-4. The 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with the two vault locations.

The 1892 Sanborn map shows the same lots, but the crockery warehouse and the Bazaar Furnishing store are not labeled (Figure 2-5). By the time the 1896 map was drawn, all three businesses had changed (Figure 2-6). The corner lot appears to house a toy store. The structure in the middle lot consisted of the Wells Fargo Export Company on the first floor and a toy store on the second. The third lot that had housed the stoves, hardware, and paint store was labeled only as a hardware store on the second and third floors of the structure. A partition that appears to be new is noted on the first floor of this building. Elevators were present in both the toy store at the corner lot and within the hardware store. In 1901, Sartor conveyed the property to Joseph Courand (beneficiary for Charles Hugo) for a sum of \$25,000 (BCDR 198:293). The deed stipulated that the payments of the four notes needed to be completed by August of 1904. The 1904 map depicts the same lots, but it does not identify the businesses within the lots (Figure 2-7). It is possible that the middle lot contained export offices. In July of 1905, the Sartors released the property fully to Courand as all payments had been received (BCDR 238:227). After Paul Wagner's death in 1908, the portion of land closest to the North Presa and Commerce Streets intersection was conveyed to Ira Hildebrand as determined in Wagner's will (BCDR 289:197).

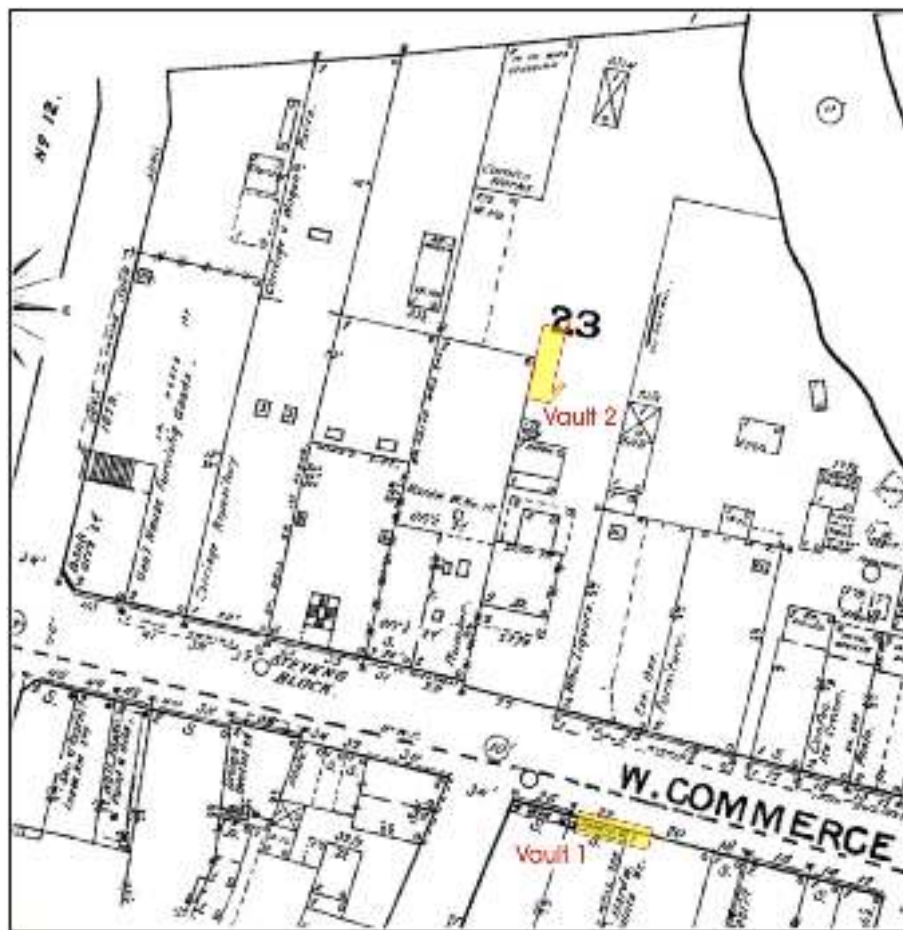


Figure 2-5. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the vault locations in 1892.

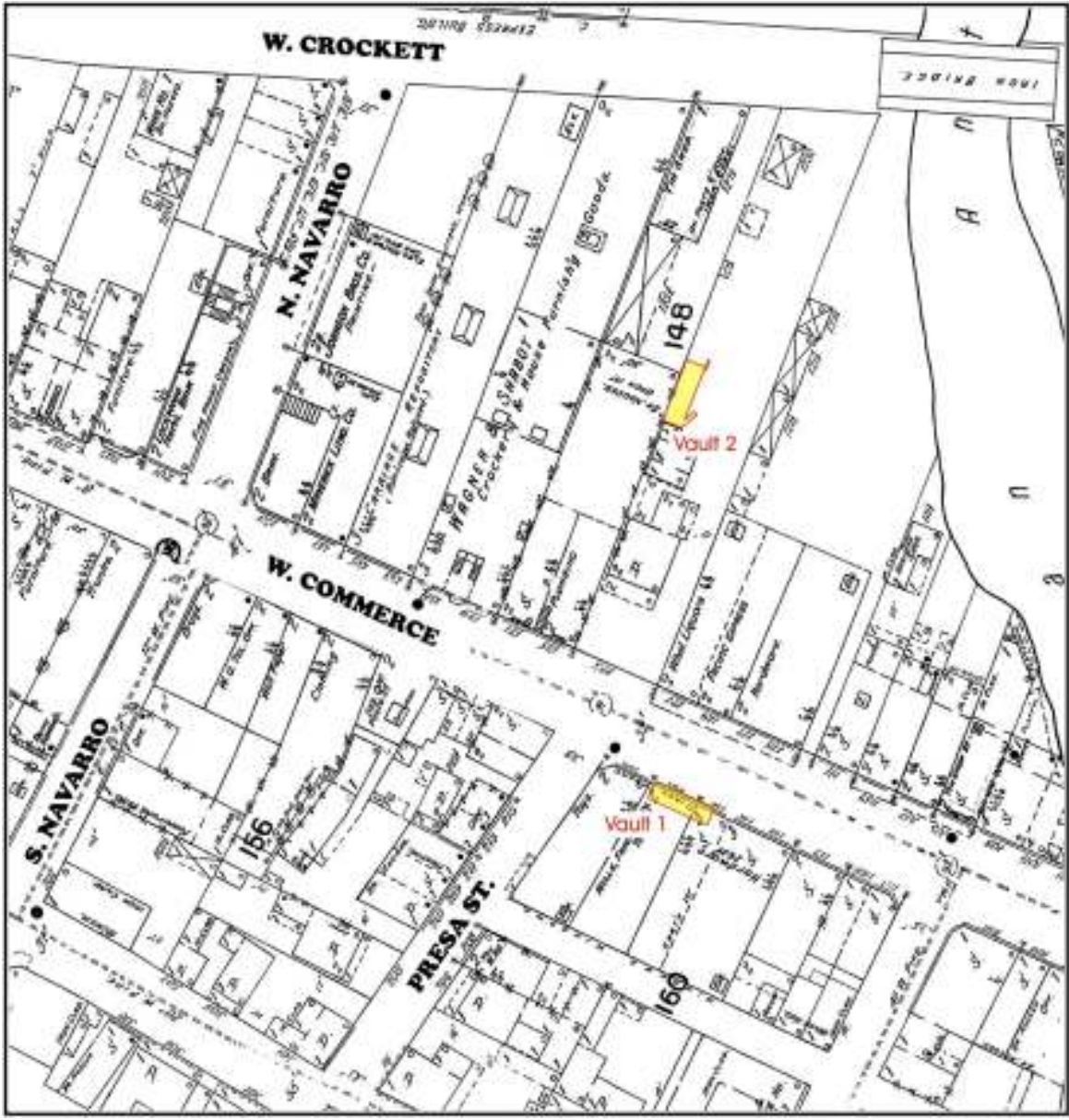


Figure 2-6. The 1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with the locations of Vaults 1 and 2.

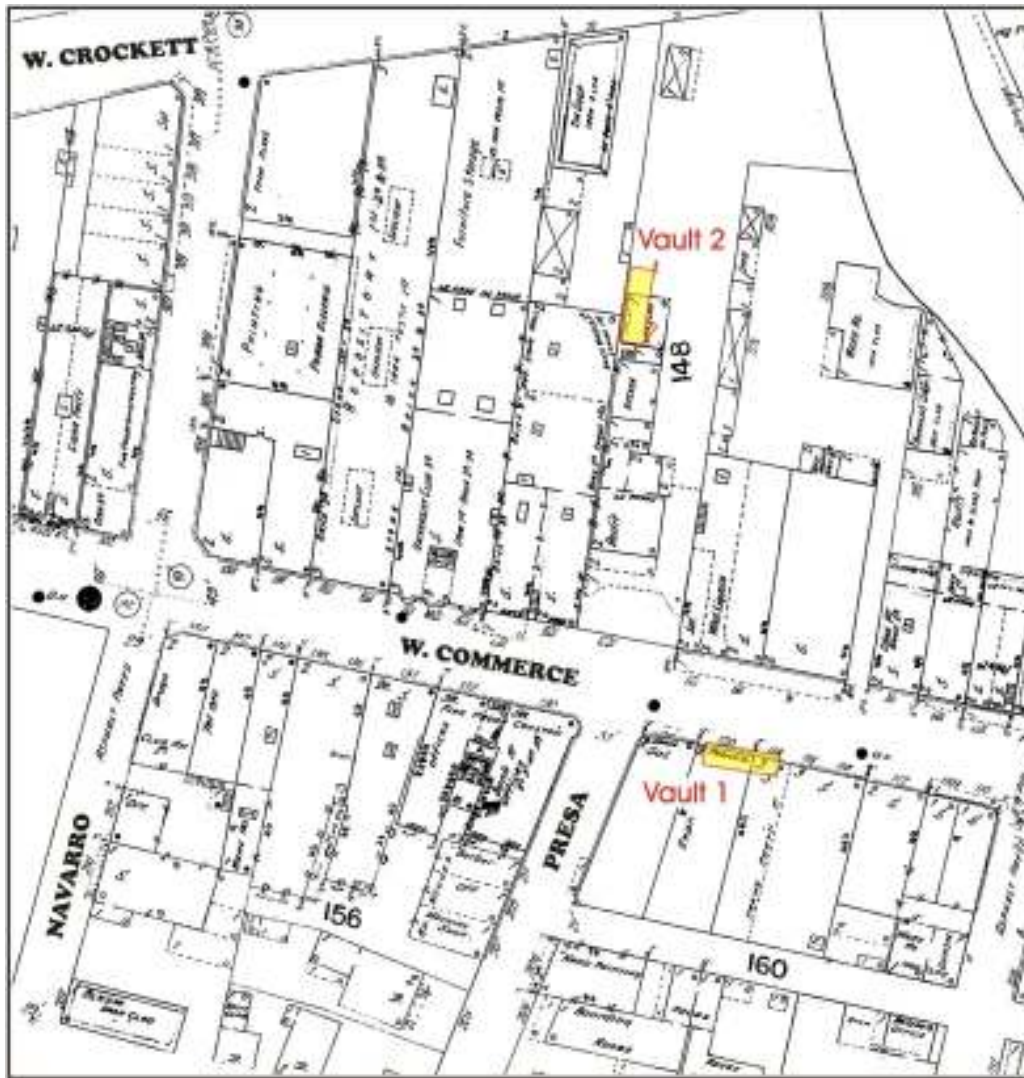


Figure 2-7. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the layout in 1904 and the vault locations.

The 1911-1924 Sanborn map shows that the corner lot has been divided into two businesses (Figure 2-8). The area is depicted in Volume Three of the Sanborn maps, which was drawn in 1912, prior to the widening of Commerce Street. The corner lot at this time housed a tailor and either a sales office, saloon, or salon (Sal. is the only notation on the map). The middle lot housed an office and may be the export offices noted on previous maps. The other lot appears to be a hardware store again. A stone wall separates the hardware store and the offices. The next series of maps depict the area between 1912 and 1951. Commerce Street had been widened by this time (Figure 2-9). In July of 1913, the City of San Antonio purchased the needed property for the widening of Commerce Street from Courand (BCDR 425:378). In September of the same year, the City purchased a portion of Hildebrand's property for the widening (BCDR 424:350). In addition, the corner lot seems to have absorbed some of middle lot, and

the interior lot also appears to have absorbed the remainder of the middle lot. Instead of three structures, there were now only two. The interior structure was labeled as the Courand Building. A agreement found between Courand and Henry Rilling indicates that the wall that was separating the two parcels of land was to extend from three stories to four stories in height (BCDR 429:76). Rilling owned the property immediately to the east of Courand, but the “party wall” lay completely on the Rilling property. The Hildebrands owned the parcel to the west until 1929 (BCDR 1087:250). In January of 1929, Hildebrand, his wife, and the remainder of his partners conveyed the property at the corner of Commerce and North Presa Streets to Ernest J. Altgelt and Jon H. Cunningham (BCDR 1087:250). In April of that year, Altgelt and Cunningham conveyed the property to Henry Rilling’s heirs (BCDR 1101:601).

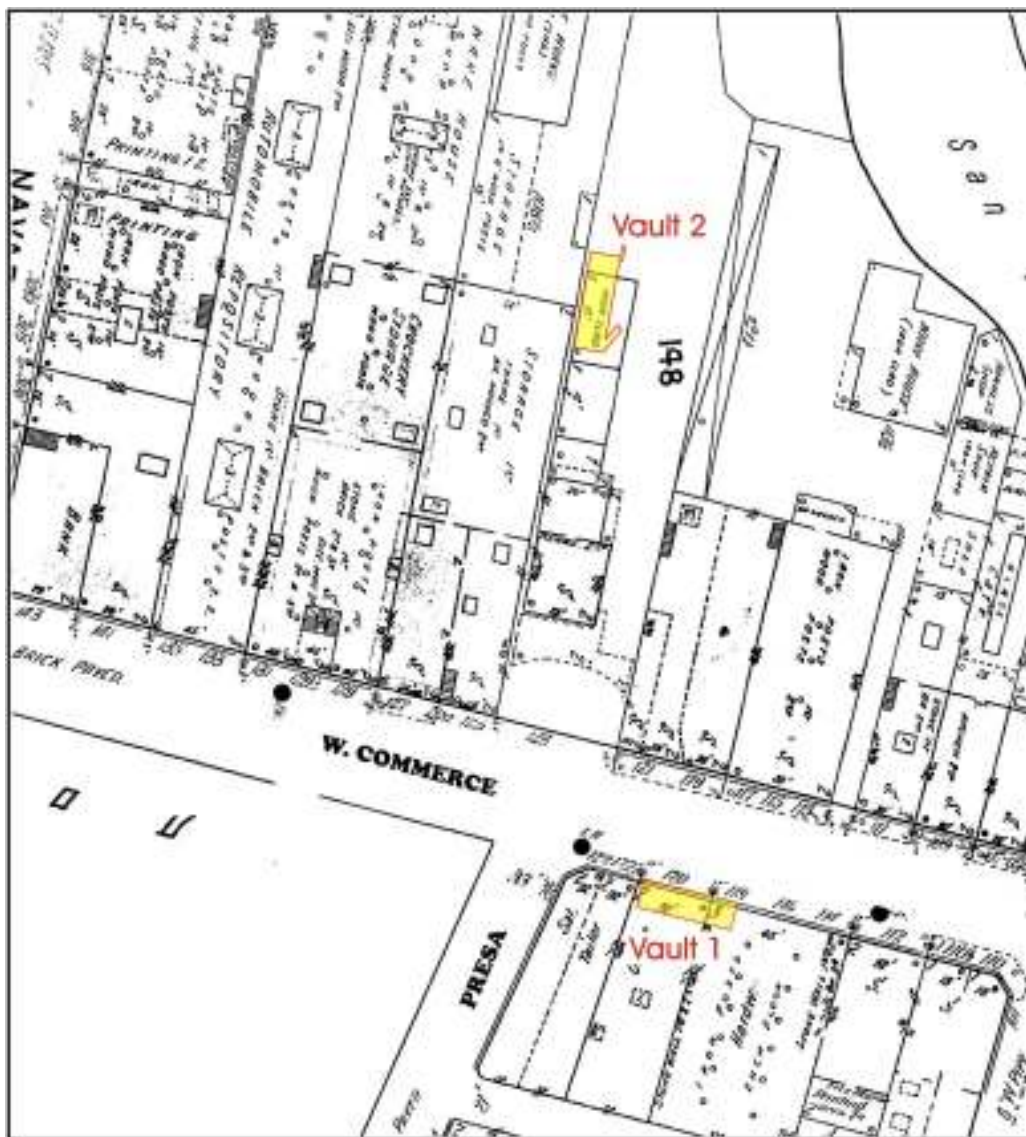


Figure 2-8. The locations of the CPS vaults on the 1911-1924 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

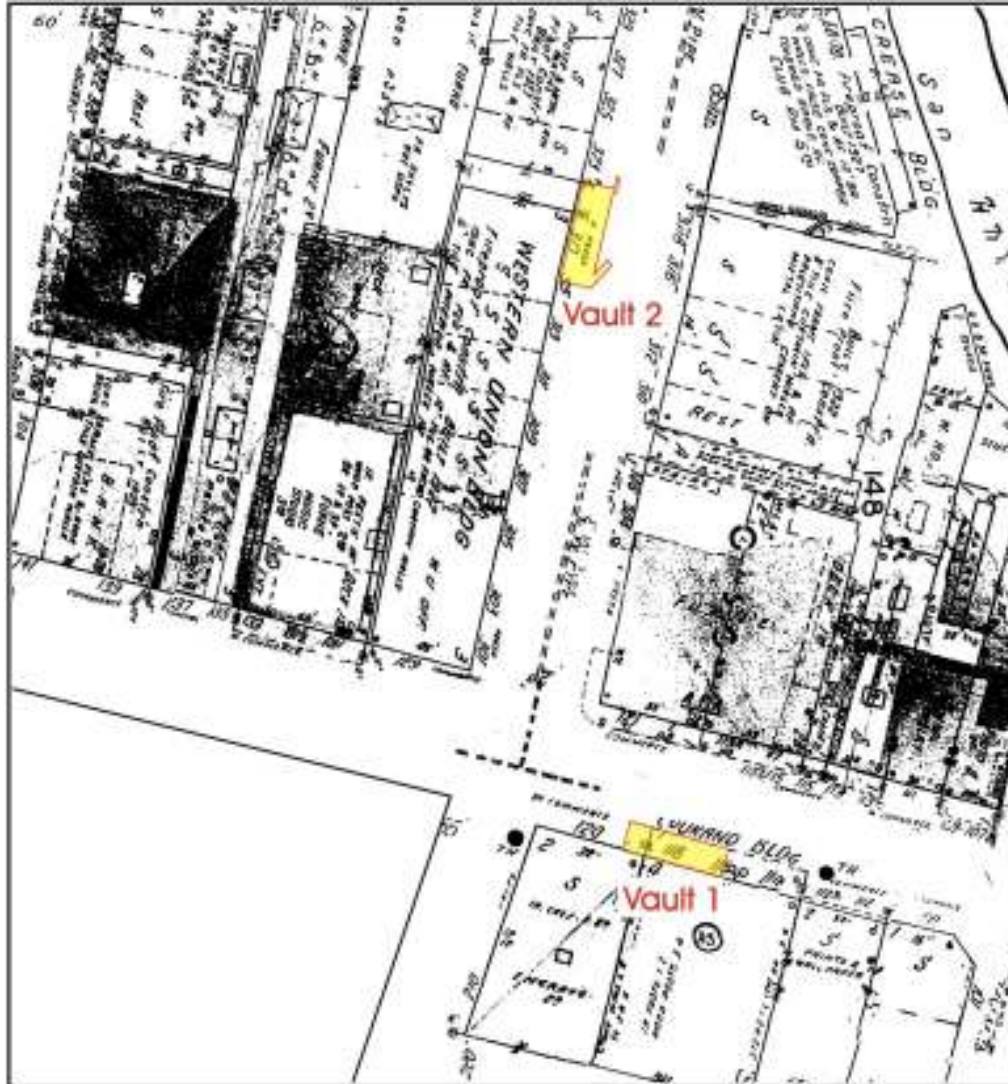


Figure 2-9. The 1911-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with the locations of Vaults 1 and 2.

In October of 1928, Courand conveyed his property to J.M. Watson (BCDR 1057:457). The deed indicates that it is conveying Lot 8 of New City Block 160 that starts 18.6 m (61.1 ft.) from the southeast corner of North Presa and Commerce Streets. Watson then conveyed the property to Central Properties, Inc. for a sum of \$50,000 in December of the same year (BCDR 1069:224). Courand purchased the property back from Central Properties, Inc. in 1931 (BCDR 1243:624). At the time of that sale, the Courand Building consisted of four stories with a basement constructed of brick. In July of 1936, Courand conveyed the property to A.J. Walser and Company (BCDR 1535:487).

In 1968, it appears that A.J. Walser and Company met to decide upon selling the property. The board meeting resulted in approval to sell the four story building to Julius Coben (BCDR 5423:168). Prior to

this meeting, Coben had set up a deed of trust through Groos National Bank that conveyed the property to Robert H. Seal as the Trustee (BCDR 5422:201). This record was submitted in 1965. It would appear that sometime after this transaction the Riverbend Parking Garage was constructed on the premises. Deed records for the garage show that the plat of the Riverbend Parking garage was drawn up in 1991.

Vault 2

John James arrived in San Antonio in 1839 at the age of 20. James was born in Great Yarmouth, England, in 1819, and moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, with his father when he was young. He became very interested in the Texan fight for independence which led him to take up residence in the Republic of Texas as soon as he was able (Jennings 1998). In March of 1839, James purchased 1,280 acres of land from Martin Hardin for a sum of \$250 (BCDR 000A2:0156). James acquired much land over the next few decades as he soon became the Chief Surveyor for Bexar County. It is unknown at which date James came into possession of the property on Commerce Street, but it would have been after his arrival in San Antonio (1839) and before 1849 as it is recorded that Maj. Gen. William Jenkins Worth died at the James house in May of 1849 due to cholera (Jennings 1998). It would be likely that James had the house built sometime around his first marriage to Emaline Polley in 1847. She died in 1848 (Strong 2012), and James married Annie Milby in 1851. John and Annie had eleven children throughout their marriage.



Figure 2-10. John and Annie James. Photograph provided by James family descendants.

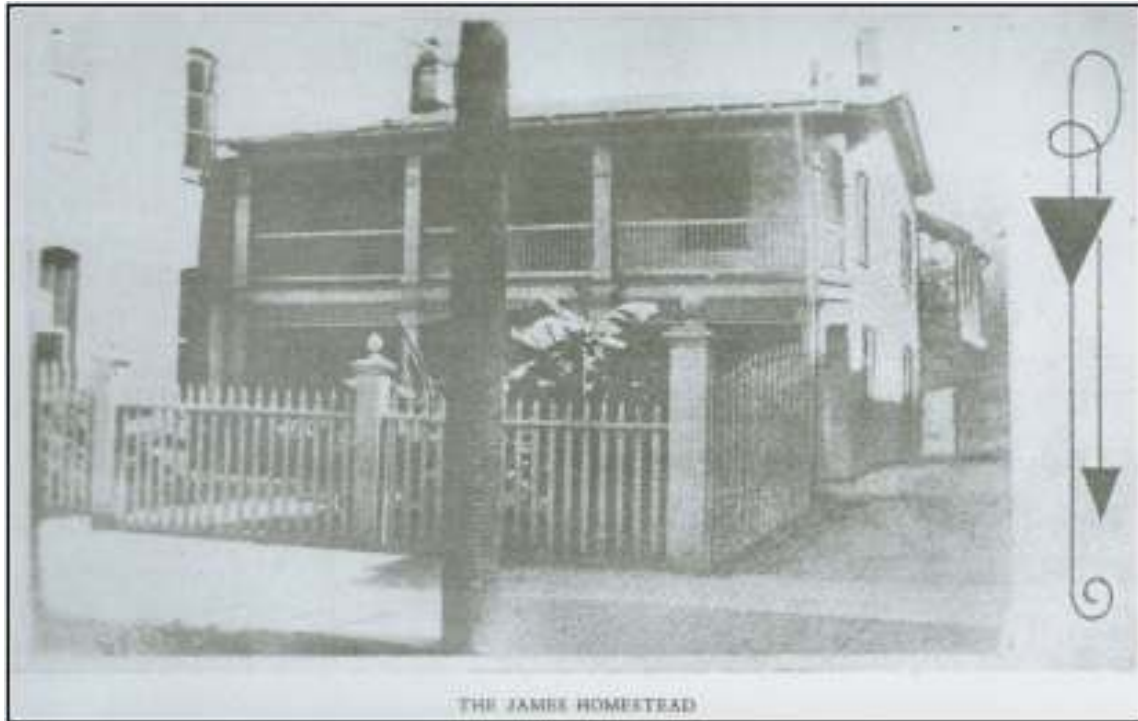


Figure 2-11. *Photograph of the homestead on Commerce Street provided by James Family descendants.*

James became the leading surveyor in Texas. He laid out the plans not only in San Antonio but also in Boerne, Castroville, and Bandera. He surveyed and platted more land than any other surveyor in the state. In addition to surveying, James had several other ventures. In collaboration with Charles Montel and John H. Herndon, James sponsored sixteen Polish families to establish themselves in Bandera. The Polish population in Bandera grew to about twenty families with the addition of people who left Panna Maria, the original Polish colony southeast of San Antonio. Some of the Polish families from Bandera joined the San Antonio Polish colony (Jennings 1998).

James went into business with James Sweet, his brother-in-law, in 1850. The business, a general merchandise store, was called James R. Sweet and Company and was successful until 1862 when Sweet entered the Confederate army (Strong 2012). In Bandera, James opened a sawmill that produced lumber from the cypress trees located along the Medina River. The lumber, shingles, and laths from the mill were taken by ox-cart to U.S. Army forts, as well as to the James lumber yard located on West Commerce Street (Jennings 1998; Strong 2012).

It is highly likely that the dwelling shown on the 1885 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map as a stone two-story structure with a detached kitchen is the James Homestead (Figure 2-2). The house is drawn on Koch's Bird's Eye View of San Antonio 1873 (Figure 2-1), although there is no kitchen. While the scale is much

smaller and it is difficult to determine all of the details of the lot, the structure is also present on the 1886 Bird's Eye View of the City (Figure 2-3). There is definitely a two story structure depicted on the map in the area surrounded by more commercial buildings. The house has been noted as being one of the first two-story houses in San Antonio (Jennings 1998). Additionally, many of the visitors to the James homestead went on to be high ranking military leaders, including Robert E. Lee, William Worth, Albert Sydney Johnson, S.B. Holabird, John Bell Hood, and John L. Bullis (Jennings 1998, Strong 2012). The property remained within the family until 1910. James passed away on November 26, 1877. At that time the house was passed to his wife and first son, John Herndon James.

In January of 1910, John H. James and the other James heirs sold the "James Homestead" to J. E. Jarratt for a sum of \$62,500, although the heirs retained a vendor's lien until the note was paid off (BCDR 302:545). In November of 1914, Jarratt paid off the note, releasing him from the lien (BCDR 453:191). Jarratt had conveyed the property to the Mercantile Building Company in February of 1914 (BCDR 431:462) and likely had received the payments to pay off his notes.

The Mercantile Building Company used the property over the next six years. Two versions of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps depict the area between 1911 and 1951 (Figure 2-8 and Figure 2-9). The earlier volumes of the Sanborn maps show the James Homestead still standing on the property; however, the main structure is identified as a restaurant. It is possible that during the Jarratt ownership the structure had been converted from a residence to a restaurant. This would seem like a good business venture as many of the surrounding buildings were being used for commercial properties. The Mercantile Building Company likely kept the building for the same use since Jarratt was the owner of the company.

At the end of January in 1920, the Mercantile Building Company conveyed the property to the City of San Antonio (BCDR 574:581). For a sum of \$66,000 in cash, the City purchased the property with the hopes of extending North Presa Street from Commerce Street over the San Antonio River to the north. The Mercantile Building Company had purchased a portion of the Callaghan property to the west that was also included in the plans for the street extension. This deed dealt with the sale of both portions of the property that the City needed to accomplish the task. The Mercantile Building Company continued to retain a portion of the Callaghan property it had purchased and moved its business to that lot. The James Homestead was razed in preparation for the road extension.

Descendants of the John James family still live in the San Antonio area, and after learning of the project, they visited the area several times. In conversations and interviews with the CAR staff, they provided background on the family history, some of which has been incorporated in the preceding narrative.

Previous Archaeology

Several historically significant buildings have been noted along Commerce Street during the City's neighborhood surveys carried out over the years. One such building is the River Bend Parking Garage located in the 400 block of East Commerce. One of the vaults was installed immediately in front of this building. No direct impact was anticipated to this property during the proposed construction.

Site 41BX829 is the nearest prehistoric site to the planned North Presa Street vault location. It was recorded by A. Briggs of Lone Star Archeological Services in 1991 during the NUMA San Antonio River Excavations-Alamo Cannon Search Project (Texas Archeological Sites Atlas). It was assumed that cannons, such as those that turned up during the excavations associated with the Gibbs Building, would be uncovered during the construction of the La Mansion del Rio Hotel. This hotel is located north of Crockett Street, west of the intersection of North Presa and Crockett Streets, and to the west, overall, of the two APEs under consideration. The site boundaries are described by Briggs as extending from "...one block west of Saint Mary's school from the rectified channel of the San Antonio River east almost to the Alamo, under the Crockett Street and Commerce Street bridges to the south, thence back to and through the 'La Villita' area and back to the rectified channel of the San Antonio River. All the channel known as the Paseo del Rio, River Bend, or the Riverwalk, is considered to be part of this archaeological site" (1991). The deposits that were tested by shovel-excavated 1-x-1, 1-x-2, and 2-x-2 m (3.28-x-3.28, 3.28-x-6.6, and 6.6-x-6.6 ft.) units dug to a depth of 1.6 m (5.3 ft.) below the surface (bs) and consisted of Middle and Late Archaic artifacts and historic materials ranging in age from the following periods: Spanish Colonial, Mexican Colonial, Republic of Texas, Early Federal, and modern. These items were found submerged; therefore, their preservation was unusually good according to Briggs (1991).

Regardless of the accuracy of the statements and projections reproduced above, the project area is considered a historically significant area because it is immediately across from the Alamo site. Coupled with the general pattern of hunter-gatherer occupation along permanent streams, the potential to encounter prehistoric resources within the area was considered to be likely.

Chapter 3: Field and Laboratory Methods

Field Methods

A total of 35 days of combined monitoring was carried out by CAR staff at the two vault locations. The construction of Vault 1 required nine days of monitoring. The construction of Vault 2 required 26 days of on-site monitoring. The construction monitor, Cindy Dickey, was present each of these days, and when needed the Project Archaeologist, Kristi Miller Ulrich, or the Principal Investigator, Dr. Steve A. Tomka, also made visits to the project locations to check on the appropriateness of the monitoring procedures, inspect finds, and check on project progress.

Based on conversations with CPS representatives and representatives of the Office of Historic Preservation of the City of San Antonio, it has been agreed upon that construction monitoring should focus on deposits that have the highest probability of containing cultural materials. Therefore, only excavations that occur within Holocene and terminal Pleistocene deposits were monitored. Construction activities were halted when cultural materials were observed to give the monitor time to carefully examine the materials and stratigraphy to determine whether the materials were found in a disturbed or intact context. When features were noted during monitoring, the construction was halted to provide time to examine and document the feature through drawings and photography. If it was judged that the feature had significant research potential, as much of the feature matrix as possible was collected for processing and analysis.

Laboratory Methods

All diagnostic cultural materials and records obtained and generated during the project were prepared for curation in accordance with federal regulation 36 CFR part 79 and Texas Historical Commission requirements for State Held-in-Trust collections. Additionally, the materials have been curated in accordance with current guidelines of the CAR. The diagnostic materials collected and processed in the CAR laboratory were washed, air-dried, and stored in 4 mil zip locking archival-quality bags. After analysis, information concerning the artifacts collected over the course of the project was entered into an Excel® database. Acid-free labels were placed in all artifact bags. Each laser-printed label contains provenience information and a corresponding lot number. Artifacts were separated by class and stored in acid-free boxes identified with standard tags. Field notes, forms, photographs, and drawings were placed in labeled archival folders. Digital photographs were printed on acid-free paper, labeled with archivally appropriate materials, and placed in archival-quality sleeves. All field forms were completed with pencil.

Any soiled forms were placed in archival quality page protectors. Ink-jet produced maps and illustrations were also placed in archival-quality page protectors to prevent against accidental smearing. All collected materials and project related documentation is permanently housed at the CAR.

Chapter 4: Monitoring Results

Vault 1

Three trenches (Ts) and 16 auger bores (ABs) were excavated to explore the area for buried features prior to installing the I-beam supports for the steel reinforcement plates around the perimeter of the vault (Figure 4-1). The excavation of CPS Vault 1 began with sidewalk and curb removal (Figure 4-2). Approximately 28 cm (11 in.) of deposits were removed using a John Deere 410J backhoe with alternating uses of an applied demolition-bit.

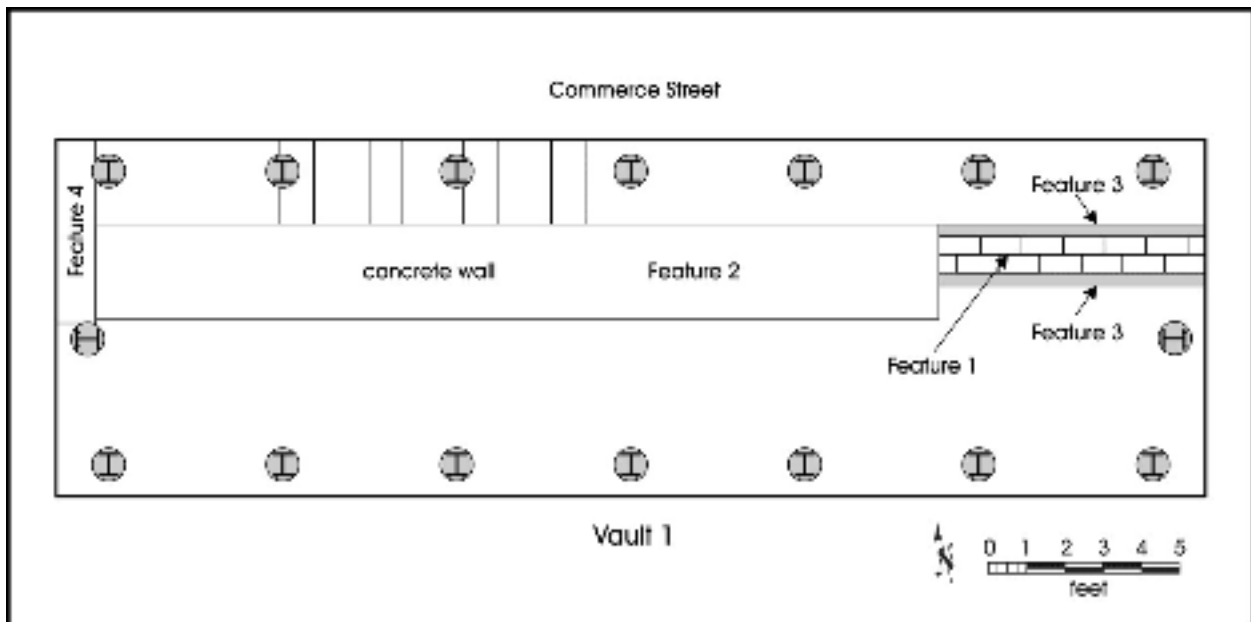


Figure 4-1. Layout of Vault 1 and features noted during the monitoring.



Figure 4-2. *Removal of the sidewalk.*

After the removal of the sidewalk, A.H. Beck Drilling personnel excavated a 0.9 m (3 ft.) diameter auger bore hole (AB-1) near the northeast corner of the vault (Figure 4-3) to determine the nature of the substrate. An impenetrable obstacle was encountered at a depth of 2.4 m (8 ft.) below the surface.



Figure 4-3. *Auger bore excavation to determine the nature of the substrate.*

To help determine the nature of the obstacle encountered in AB 1, Zachry personnel excavated a 0.6 m (2 ft.) wide and 2.4 m (8 ft.) long trench (T-1) immediately to the south of the auger hole. This trench exposed a yellow sandstone brick wall running in an E-W direction along the south edge of the trench (Feature 1; Figure 4-4a). In addition, a concrete wall (Feature 2) was exposed along the northern edge of the trench in line with and abutting the brick wall. A second trench (T-2) was excavated to expose the south side of the wall (Figure 4-4b) and to establish whether or not other walls were present in the southern half of the vault's footprint.

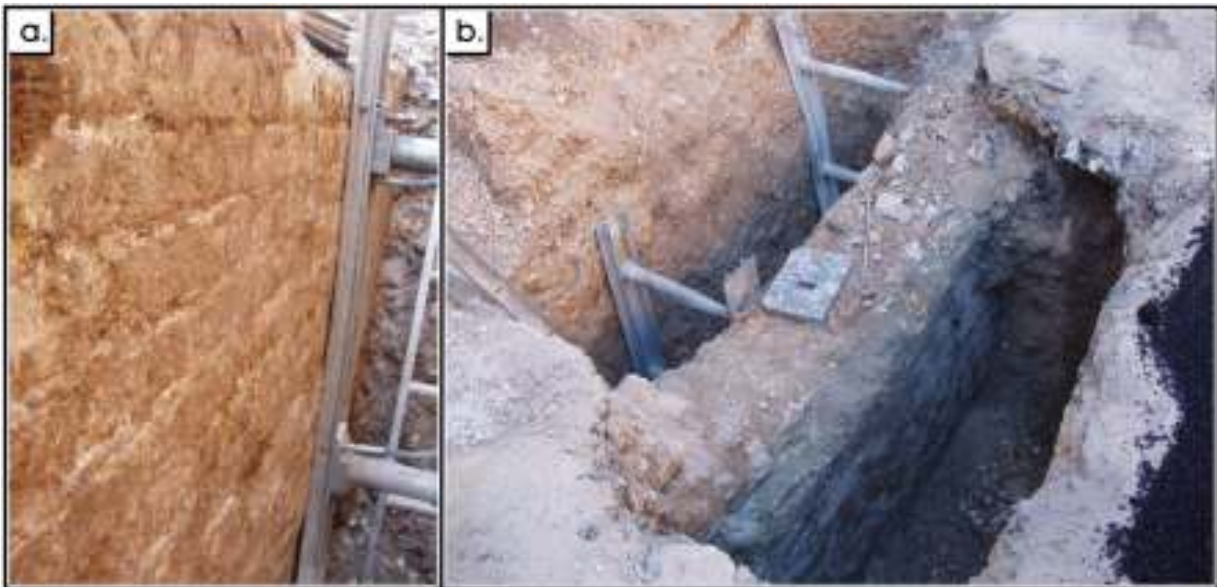


Figure 4-4. *a) Yellow brick wall exposed by backhoe trench; b) T-1 is on the left, and T-2 is on the right of wall.*

Trench 2 (T-2) measured 83.5 cm (32.9 in.) in maximum width, exposed the southern face of the yellow brick wall (Feature 1), and abutted the concrete wall at the southern end of the trench (Figure 4-5).



Figure 4-5. *Concrete wall abutting brick wall at the west end of T-2.*

At the base of T-1, some 2.4 m (8 ft.) below the ground surface, a flat concrete slab was exposed (Feature 3; Figure 4-6). Several attempts were made to break through the concrete slab. When finally successful, the layer proved to be roughly 14 cm (5.5 in.) thick and appeared to have been poured to cap an underlying clay horizon.



Figure 4-6. *Concrete slab at the base of backhoe trench.*

Next, a second auger bore (AB-2) was excavated some 4.9 m (16 ft.) south of T-1 to determine if the concrete slab extended that far south. The concrete slab was not encountered, and subsequently, another auger bore (AB-3) was excavated halfway between the south end of T-1 and AB-2. A segment of old railroad track was encountered around 4.3 m (14 ft.) below the surface that appeared to have been used as steel reinforcement within the concrete slab. Requiring limited excavation of the concrete and associated railroad track, auger work was moved to the south end of the vault.

AB-4 was excavated in the northwest corner of the vault. After encountering the concrete slab, a third trench (T-3) was excavated to delineate the extent of the slab at this location. The trench exposed a yellow sandstone wall (Feature 4; Figure 4-7) running perpendicular to the trench. The southern edge of the trench exposed the reinforced concrete wall that abutted a stacked limestone block wall (Feature 5; Figure 4-8a, b). The project monitor was told that four similar stacked limestone wall segments were noted along the length of the vault but had been removed to expose the concrete wall (Figure 4-1).



Figure 4-7. Wall uncovered in T-3 near western edge of the vault.



Figure 4-8. *Western end of T-3: a) concrete wall abutting limestone blocks; b) note the continuation of limestone blocks beyond where concrete wall stood.*

Subsequently, a series of 16 auger bores were drilled around the southern, eastern, and northern perimeters of the vault to install steel I-beams for steel support plates. These auger holes were spaced 1.2 m (4 ft.) apart and were excavated to a depth of 9.1 m (30 ft.).

After the installation of the I-beams and steel plates (Figure 4-9), Zachry personnel began removing the matrix from within the vault space. Digging began on the southern perimeter to a depth of 7.3 m (24 ft.) and progressed northward over the course of several days. As soil was cleared past each successive I-beam, steel support plates measuring 2.4-x-1.8 m (8-x-6 ft.) were lowered between the slots. Sixteen plates and I-beams were placed within the perimeter space of the vault.



Figure 4-9. I-beams and steel plates at south end of vault.

Additional work throughout the monitoring phase included the placement of protective wall-support brackets, sump-pump removal of ground water seepage, and bottom clearing of the vault with the addition of quarry gravel.

Vault 1 Feature Descriptions

Four features were identified during the construction of Vault 1. They consisted of segments of walls that likely belonged to structures that stood in the area prior to the widening of Commerce Street. The following section discusses each feature and its relationship to possible historic structures shown on the various Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of the area.

Feature 1

Feature 1 was a yellow brick wall identified near the northeast corner of the vault. It was exposed by T-1 and T-2, which were excavated on either side of the wall (Figure 4-4a, b). It was oriented in an E-W direction and was 63 cm (24.8 in.) wide. The brick wall rested on a concrete foundation. The foundation is 30 cm (11.8 in.) high and rested on a concrete slab (Feature 3). The bricks had a very sandy texture, and the mortar contains Portland Cement. The height of the wall was 2.4 m (8 ft.). The brick wall abutted a reinforced concrete wall (Feature 2).

Feature 2

Feature 2 is a reinforced concrete wall exposed along the southern edge of T-1 during the auger boring for the installation of the I-beams. Later trenching showed that it extended along the entire length of the vault. It measured 38 cm (15 in.) in thickness and was 2.4 m (8 ft.) in height. It sat on fill material rather than the concrete slab that was the base for Feature 1, the yellow brick wall. It is likely that this wall represents the front wall of the businesses that were located along Commerce Street before they were moved to widen the street in 1914. The front walls of the businesses were sheared off to make way for the wider road.

Feature 3

Feature 3 is a concrete slab found 2.4 m (8 ft.) below the surface. It provided a footing for the foundation of the yellow brick wall, Feature 1. The feature was noted during the excavation of T-1, but not in T-2, which was located on the south side of the yellow brick wall. The concrete slab was cleared and exhibited red and blue paint. A portion of Feature 3 was removed, revealing that the slab was roughly 14 cm (5.5 in.) thick. Groundwater began seeping into the vault area immediately after the removal of the slab suggesting that it had been poured to cap an underlying clay horizon and also provide a stable footing for the wall and foundation of Feature 1. It extended the length of Feature 1 but did not extend under Feature 2, the long concrete wall along the north face of the vault.

Feature 4

Feature 4 is a dry-stacked limestone block (Figure 4-7) wall that abutts the reinforced concrete wall that runs along the northern edge of the vault. The feature was exposed at the western end of T-3. Removal of the reinforced concrete wall showed that it abutted the limestone wall demonstrating different construction periods. It is not known how far to the south the stacked limestone wall continued along the western edge of the trench. The height of the stone wall is 3.7 m (12 ft.). However, Pete Hernandez, the Zachry Construction Project Foreman, indicated that four other similar dry-stacked stone wall segments were noted in the northern portion of the vault oriented in a N-S direction and spaced roughly 2.4 m (8 ft.) E-W from each other. These wall segments abutted the reinforced concrete wall at the northern edge of the vault. These dry-stacked stone walls may represent remnants of the foundation of the front of the businesses prior to the widening of Commerce in 1914. The building fronts were sheared off to allow for the road to be widened.

Vault 2

The construction of City Public Service's Vault 2 began with a different approach than that of Vault 1. A total of six trenches and 16 auger bores were excavated during the construction of Vault 2 (Figure 4-10). In addition, to connect electrical wiring to the vault, two additional backhoe trenches were excavated to nearby manholes (Figure 4-11).

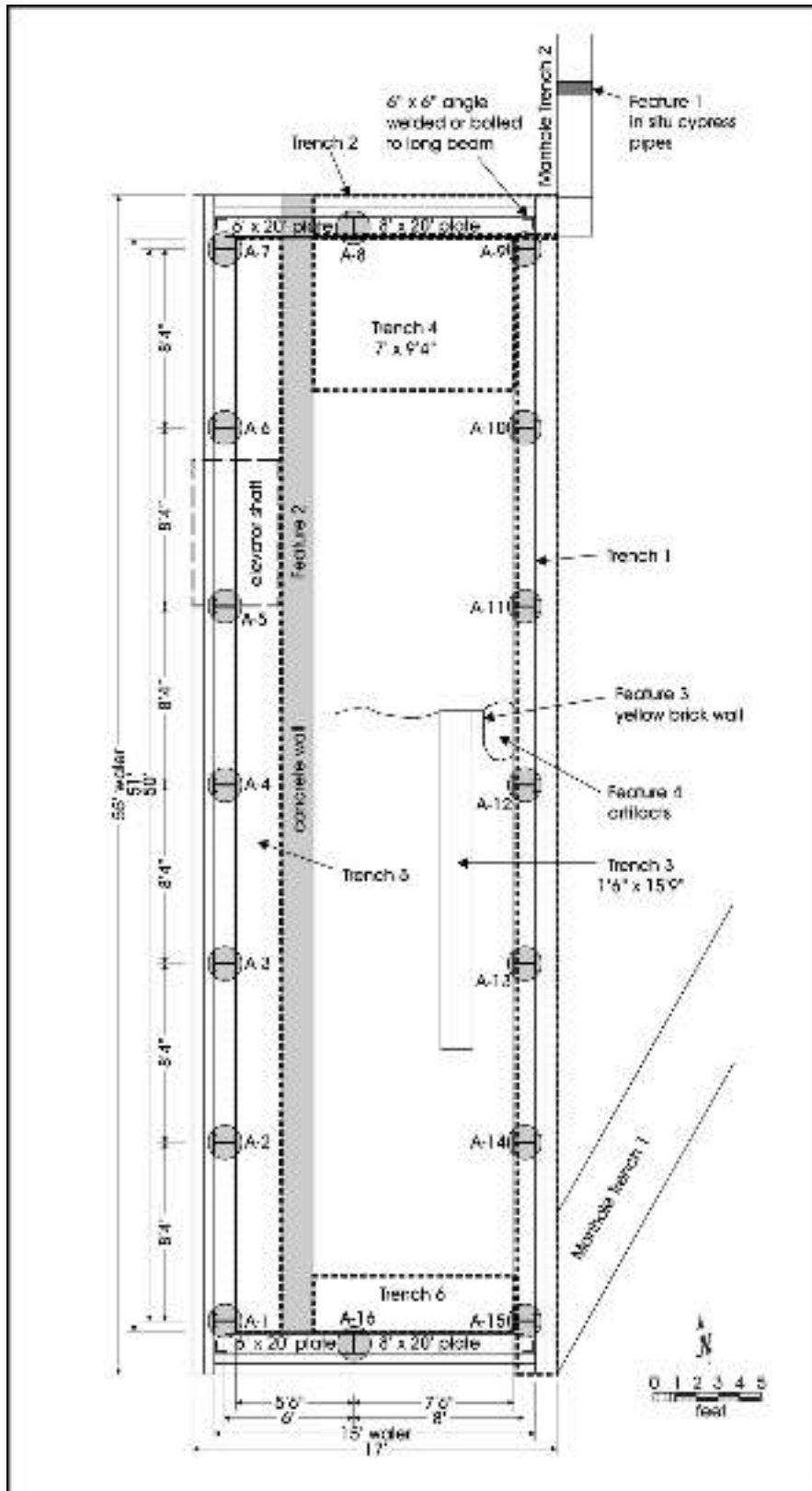


Figure 4-10. Schematic of the trenches and auger bores excavated during the construction of Vault 2.

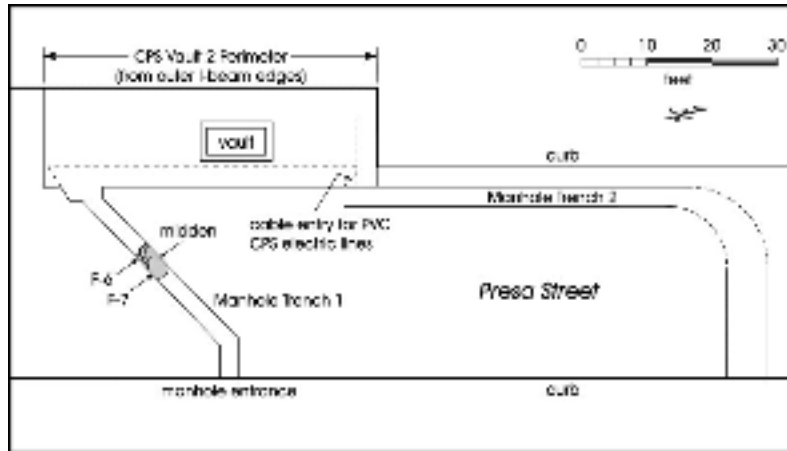


Figure 4-11. Vault 2 and backhoe trenches connecting the vault to nearby manholes.

Zachry Construction personnel removed the blacktop and curb along the northern perimeter of the vault and mechanically excavated a 15.5 m (51 ft.) long E-W oriented trench. The width of T-1 was 61 cm (2 ft.), and the depth was approximately 1.8 m (6 ft.). A bank of cypress pipes (Feature 1; Figures 4-10 and Figure 4-12a, b) was encountered at 1.4 m (4.5 ft.) below the surface in the east portion of this trench, running westward towards the midpoint of the North Presa Street City Block. Four cypress pipes measuring 45.7 cm (18 in.) across were lying horizontally and parallel to the street with a total of five stacked above each of these (20 all together). These were removed using a John Deere 410J Trackhoe bucket. A 0.6 m (2 ft.) sample was retained and returned to the CAR laboratory for study and curation. The trench space was then filled with Global-fill cement.

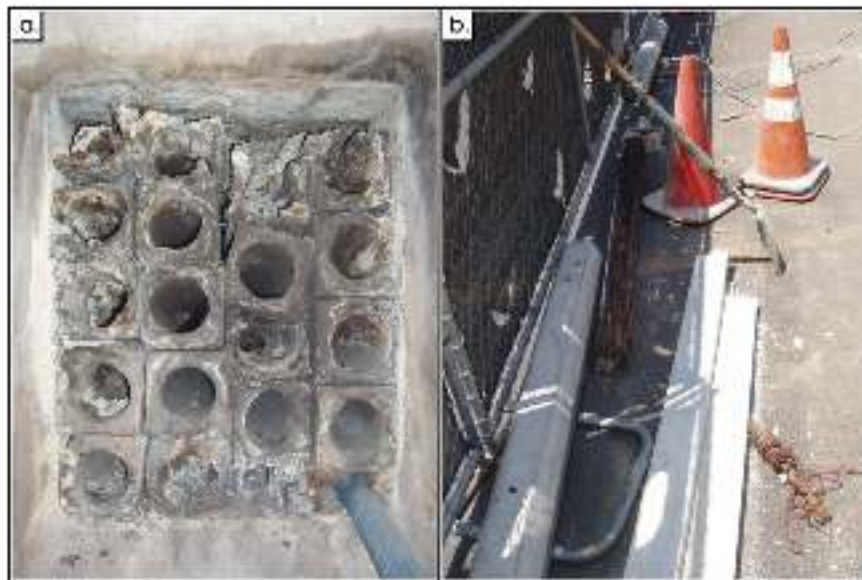


Figure 4-12. Wooden electrical conduit housing: a.) bank of cypress pipes buried under street level; b.) close-up of individual segment.

Next, a 1.8-x-0.6 m (6-x-2 ft.) short trench (T-2) was excavated at the western end of T-1 and perpendicular to the first trench. At 20 cm (7.9 in.) below the surface, a reinforced concrete wall (Feature 2; Figure 4-13) was encountered 185 cm (72.8 in.) south of the north wall of the vault. This wall extended to a depth of 3.7 meters (12 ft.) below the surface. The trench in this area was dug to a depth of 4.4 m (14.5 ft.) below surface before excavations stopped to allow for CPS and Zachry consultation.



Figure 4-13. Reinforced concrete wall encountered in T-2.

After moving the trackhoe back to an approximate mid-point of the vault, another trench (T-3) was excavated parallel to T-1. This trench was oriented E-W and was 0.6 m (2 ft.) wide and 1.4 m (4.5 ft.) deep. A reinforced concrete wall (Feature 2) was encountered at roughly 0.6 m (2 ft.) below the surface in the south wall of the trench. In addition, a segment of yellow brick wall (Feature 3; Figure 4-14) was exposed in the north wall of the trench at around 0.9 m (3 ft.) below the surface. A dense cluster of artifacts was noted in the vicinity (Feature 4).



Figure 4-14. *Short yellow brick wall segment in T-3.*

To further explore the extent of concrete wall noted in T-3, a fourth trench (T-4) was excavated from the western edge of T-3 to the western termination of T-2. Overall dimensions for T-4 were 6.1-x-2.4 m (20-x-8 ft.). The depth of the trench at its northern end was only 1.5 m (5 ft.) while the southern end dipped to 4.3 m (14 ft.) below street level.

Once the north facing concrete wall was revealed, a fifth trench (T-5) was begun along the south side of the wall. Starting at the southwest corner of the proposed vault and running eastward, a 1.8 m (6 ft.) wide trench was excavated to a depth of 4.4 m (14.5 ft.). This trench showed that the concrete wall was associated with an old elevator shaft (Feature 5; Figure 4-15). Trench 5 continued along the concrete wall to the far east end of the vault pit.



Figure 4-15. *Elevator shaft exposed in T-5.*

Finally, another short trench (T-6) was excavated along the east wall of the vault and perpendicular to North Presa Street. This trench measured 2.4-x-0.6 m (8-x-2 ft.) and was approximately 1.5 m (5 ft.) deep.

Following the completion of perimeter trenching and concrete wall investigation, the vault-pit was back-filled with matrix derived from the trench excavations or with Global-fill cement. Next, Beard Drilling Company began auger boring for the I-beam supports. A total of 16 auger holes were bored (AB-1 through AB-16), seven pairs along the long sides of the vault and one each in the two ends.

Two manholes were excavated in association with Vault 2. Each necessitated the excavation of trenches connecting the manholes to the vault. The first manhole was situated on the north side of the street directly across from the vault, roughly 10.7 m (35 ft.) north of the vault. The second manhole was also on the north side of the street, 18.3 m (60 ft.) west of the vault along the northern curb of North Presa Street. Each trench was one backhoe bucket wide and approximately 2.1 m (7 ft.). Manhole Trench 1 (MT-1) cross-cut a two-bricks-wide (40.6 cm; 16 in.) yellow sandstone wall (Feature 6) measuring 25.4 cm (10in.) in width (Figure 4-16). This wall was encountered 1.5 m (5 ft.) from the southeast corner of the vault at a depth of 1.2 m (4 ft.) below the ground surface.



Figure 4-16. *Sandstone wall in Manhole Trench 1.*

A midden deposit (Feature 7) containing a mixture of historic artifacts was noted on the northwest side of the narrow brick wall (Figure 4-17). The materials were in a silty, ashy, dark gray lens that was approximately 15.2-20.3 cm (6-8 in.) thick.



Figure 4-17. *Midden deposit in Manhole Trench 1, adjacent to sandstone wall.*

Vault 2 Feature Descriptions

The excavation of Vault 2 revealed four features within the vault footprint and three features in MT-1, which was excavated from the vault for manhole installation. Five of the features associated with Vault 2 appear to be related to the occupation of the property by the James family. The remaining two are more likely related to later utility installations.

Feature 1

Feature 1 consists of a series of cypress wooden conduits (Figure 4-12a, b). It was encountered at 1.4 m (4.5 ft.) below the surface in the east portion of T-1 within the footprint of Vault 2, running westward towards the midpoint of the North Presa Street City Block. The area where the wooden pipes are best preserved is in a portion of a concrete manhole located about 1.5 m (5 ft.) from the northwest corner of the vault. The manhole measures approximately 2.4-x-3 m (8-x-10 ft.), and in its north wall, 1.4 m (4.5 ft.) above the floor, is a bank of stacked cypress conduits lying horizontally next to each other oriented E-W and parallel to the street. The stack contains four conduits placed on top of five others forming a bank of closely spaced cedar pipes containing a total of 20 conduits (Figure 4-18). Each of the pipes measures 3.7 m (12 ft.) in length and has a square cross-section and rounded inner conduit. A cypress plug was noted in the ends of some of the conduits.



Figure 4-18. Close-up of cypress pipe bank, Feature 1 at Vault 2.

Feature 2

Feature 2 was a reinforced concrete wall situated 185 cm (72.8 in.) south of the north wall of the vault (Figure 4-13). This wall extended to a depth of approximately 3.7 m (12 ft.) below the surface. Intermittently along the wall, it jutted out forming column-like buttresses. The wall was approximately 45 cm thick and ran the length of the vault. At the base of the wall (3.7 mbs; 12 ft.) was a concrete beam that supported the concrete wall. It was encountered in both the northern and southern portions of the vault. The wall was oriented N-S and was encountered at roughly 0.6 m (2 ft.) below the surface in the south wall of the trench. The wall was situated approximately 7.3 m (24 ft.) from the east wall of the vault.

Feature 3

Feature 3 was a segment of yellow brick wall (Figure 4-14) that was exposed in the north wall of the trench (T-3). The wall was oriented in an E-W direction, and its top was uncovered approximately 0.9 m (3 ft.) below the surface. Five perpendicular (i.e., oriented N-S) interior brick walls were seen dividing the space along the original wall. These walls could potentially represent the remains of an outbuilding to the James Homestead that is noted on the 1885 and 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

Feature 4

Feature 4 is part of a midden deposit that was associated with the James Homestead according to Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and deed records. Feature 4 was located under an outbuilding behind the kitchen of the James household on the 1885 and 1888 Sanborn maps. The midden deposit extended over a large area that encompassed the vicinity of the long wall and cross-walls within the main Vault 2 pit. A large number of artifacts were noted during the excavation of this area. Cast iron stove pieces, glass, ceramics, metal objects, bricks, mule shoes, faunal remains, and oyster shell were encountered. A sample of items was returned to the CAR laboratory for further study and documentation.

Feature 5

Feature 5 was identified as the remnant of an old elevator shaft. The elevator shaft was located in the northwestern portion of the CPS Vault 2. The elevator shaft was removed, and there were no significant cultural remains noted. Cables were located in the vicinity of the feature, but these were cut as the elevator shaft was removed.

Feature 6

Feature 6 consisted of a yellow sandstone brick wall in Manhole Trench 1. The yellow sandstone brick wall was approximately two courses thick and constructed with sandy mortar. The brick wall was 25.4 cm (10 in.) thick and 1.14 m (3.6 ft.) tall. Feature 6 was located immediately adjacent to Feature 7.

Feature 7

Feature 7 appears to be a continuation of the Feature 4 midden but was located in Manhole Trench 1 extending from the northeast corner of the vault toward the north-northeast. On the northeast side of the yellow sandstone brick wall (Feature 6), the soil was ashy. Artifacts encountered in this area included burnt oyster shell, animal bone, several types of ceramics, various colors and shapes of bottle glass, window glass, metal objects, and coal. A sample of artifacts was collected for further analysis at the CAR laboratory. A detailed description of the faunal remains is provided in a later section of this report.

Chapter 5: Material Culture in the John James Midden

The John James Homestead Midden, 41BX1952

The midden deposit was identified within the Vault 2 footprint as well as within Manhole Trench 1, which extended north-northeast of the vault footprint (Figure 5-1). Given that the location of Vault 2 closely corresponds to the John James property and, specifically, to an open space behind (north of) the detached kitchen (Figure 2-2), it is likely site 41BX1952 is a portion of the household midden generated by the James Family. The John James Homestead is much larger than the midden deposit, and its limits have not been determined through archaeological investigations.



Figure 5-1. *Limits of 41BX1952, the John James Homestead midden.*

The midden deposit was first noted during the excavation of the vault in one of the cuts created by the backhoe bucket. Because of the depth of the trench and the uncertainty of contamination, CAR personnel could not excavate the strata that contained the exposed cultural material within the vault footprint. Rather, it was agreed that the midden deposit would be removed from the vault footprint and deposited on a nearby sidewalk where CAR personnel could screen the matrix to extract a representative sample of cultural materials. It is estimated that roughly 50 percent of the midden deposit was screened. As this screening operation was in progress, the crews continued to monitor the mechanical excavation of Manhole Trench 1, which also uncovered a portion of the midden located roughly 2.5 m (8.2 ft.) from the concentration noted in the vault footprint. A large number of oyster shells were noted both within the

vault footprint as well as within Manhole Trench 1. It is estimated that only about 5 percent of the oyster shells were collected, and the oyster shell was so numerous that it could have filled ten 5-gallon buckets.

Fresh oysters would have had to be transported from the Gulf and at a fairly fast pace. By the 1830s, the East Coast oyster merchants had developed several ways of transporting oysters to landlocked areas. One method involved pickling the oysters, and another involved shipping the live oysters in barrels. Years later, the canning of oysters made long-distance shipping possible. Shipping live oysters was still difficult; however, as methods of transportation improved, the distance at which live oysters could travel increased as well. Historical accounts during the Gold Rush indicate that oysters were shipped from Washington to San Francisco because people wanted fresh rather than canned oysters (Perry 2001). In the Midwest, people would order a barrel of oysters in December and keep it outdoors in the cold for refrigeration. They would eat oysters for the entire month (Perry 2001). Once the rail system was developed, oysters were transported further distances. In San Antonio, the rail system was established during the 1870s, so it is possible that the oysters could have been brought up from the coast by rail for the James family. Due to James' ties to Nova Scotia, oysters may have been a typical part of his diet prior to moving to San Antonio. James may have brought oysters in for special occasions or holidays.

The 1885 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (Figure 2-2) shows that the midden deposit was located behind the detached kitchen on the James' property. While a precise size of the midden deposit cannot be provided, it is estimated that the midden covered roughly 3-x-3 sq. m (9.8-x-9.8 sq. ft.) and was 50 cm (19.7 in.) thick, having been noted from 50-100 cmbs (19.7-39.4 in.) in the initial backhoe cut.

A collection of ceramics and glass artifacts were recovered from the midden deposit that was screened by CAR personnel (Table 5-1). The matrix contained ash and charcoal, construction materials such as bricks, miscellaneous discarded metal fragments, large quantities of oyster shell, animal bones, and a mix of household artifacts including cooking and serving vessels, and numerous glass bottles. Although a less than ideal sample, the artifacts recovered from the midden provide a representative sample of the material culture associated with a well-to-do and well-connected family.

The Artifact Assemblage

During the course of the monitoring, over 1,600 artifacts were recovered from Features 4 and 7 that can be considered unique and indicative of the status and wealth the James Family. They are listed in Table 5-1, and a small sample is shown in the figures presented in this chapter.

Table 5-1. Selected Artifacts Recovered from the John James Midden, 41BX1952

	Building Materials		Chinese Ceramics	European Ceramics	Other Ceramic	Glass	Metal		Organics		Personal	Total Count	Total Wt (g)
	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct		
Construction Materials	31	8,267.60			5		1	6.8	7	2,332.10		44	10,606.50
Brick	9	6,836.60					1	6.8				10	6,843.40
Asphalt	2	406.5										2	406.5
Cedar Porch Post	1											1	
Insulator Cap	1	80.2										1	80.2
Lead and Glass Post Topper	1											1	
Oyster									7	2,332.10		7	2,332.10
Porcelain Disk					1							1	
Porcelain Inset					1							1	
Porcelain Insulator	3	108.6										3	108.6
Porcelain Insulator					2							2	
Sandstone	1	276										1	276
Sandstone Brick	1											1	
Slate	2	489.7										2	489.7
Stoneware sewer pipe					1							1	
Tile	6	70										6	70
Wooden Cypress Pipe	1											1	
Wooden Plug	3											3	
Bottle						93						93	
Amber						3						3	
Aqua						14						14	
Blue						1						1	
Brown (light)						1						1	
Brown						5						5	
Clear w/Aqua tint						1						1	
Clear						27						27	
Cobalt Blue						1						1	
Dark Olive Green						10						10	
Emerald Green						11						11	
Green						4						4	
Milk						4						4	
Olive Green						10						10	
Purpled						1						1	
Panel Bottle						1						1	
Aqua						1						1	

Table 5-1. Continued...

	Building Materials		Chinese Ceramics	European Ceramics	Other Ceramic	Glass	Metal		Organics		Personal	Total Count	Total Wt(g)
	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct		
Prescription Bottle						2						2	
Aqua						1						1	
Brown						1						1	
Bottle Stopper						2						2	
Aqua						1						1	
Clear						1						1	
Bottle-jug						1						1	
Olive Amber						1						1	
Cut Nails							11	138.3				11	138.3
Cylinder						2						2	
Clear						1						1	
Dark Olive						1						1	
Drinking Glass						5						5	
Aqua						1						1	
Clear						3						3	
Purpled						1						1	
Earthenware Ceramics				169								169	
Creamware				13								13	
Earthenware				7								7	
Ironstone; Undecorated				70								70	
Ironstone; Transferware				5								5	
Ironstone; Transferware				1								1	
Pearl ware				1								1	
White Earthenware				3								3	
White Earthenware; Annular ware				3								3	
White Earthenware; Cut Sponge				2								2	
White Earthenware; Feather Edge				4								4	
White Earthenware; Flow Blue				9								9	
White Earthenware; Hand painted				3								3	
White Earthenware; Molded Feather Edge				1								1	
White Earthenware; Sponge				1								1	
White Earthenware; Transferware				39								39	
Yellowware				7								7	

Table 5-1. Continued...

	Building Materials		Chinese Ceramics	European Ceramics	Other Ceramic	Glass	Metal		Organics		Personal	Total Count	Total Wt (g)
	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct		
Insulator						1						1	
Aqua						1						1	
Other Objects							17	4,504.30				17	4,504.30
Barbed Wire							1	4.3				1	4.3
Buckle							1	41.5				1	41.5
Cast Iron Hinge Plate							1	182				1	182
Cast Iron Pipe							1	428.5				1	428.5
Cast Iron Stove Part							1	149.4				1	149.4
Cast Iron Stove Parts							1	1718.7				1	1718.7
Pipe							2	1054.6				2	1054.6
Spike							1	45.1				1	45.1
Unidentified							3	45.9				3	45.9
Unidentified Cast Iron							4	831				4	831
Wire							1	3.3				1	3.3
Other Personal Items											1	1	
Cotton Fabric											1	1	
Personal Fasteners											1	1	
Porcelain Button											1	1	
Porcelain			1	28								29	
Chinese Porcelain; Hand painted			1									1	
Porcelain; Undecorated				19								19	
Porcelain; Cut Sponge				1								1	
Porcelain; Decal				2								2	
Porcelain; Decal, Gilded				1								1	
Porcelain; Gilded				3								3	
Porcelain; Molded				1								1	
Unglazed Porcelain				1								1	
Radiocarbon Samples									6	62.2		6	62.2
Charcoal									6	62.2		6	62.2
Semi-porcelain				8								8	
Semi-porcelain; Undecorated				7								7	
Semi-porcelain; Molded				1								1	

Table 5-1. Continued....

	Building Materials		Chinese Ceramics	European Ceramics	Other Ceramic	Glass	Metal		Organics		Personal	Total Count	Total Wt (g)
	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct	Wt (g)	Ct		
Stoneware				74								74	
Stoneware				70								70	
Stoneware; Salt Glaze				4								4	
Tile	1	119.1										1	119.1
Sandstone	1	119.1										1	119.1
Tools/Fasteners							9	620.8				9	620.8
Bracket							1	166.5				1	166.5
Cover/Washer							1	6.8				1	6.8
Hook							1	52.2				1	52.2
Rebar							1	275.4				1	275.4
Strap							1	82.8				1	82.8
Wire							3	20				3	20
Wire with Cement							1	17.1				1	17.1
Wine Glass						1						1	
Clear						1						1	
Grand Total	32	8,386.70	1	279	5	108	38	5,270.20	13	2,394.30	2	478	16,051.20

*Faunal remains recovered from the midden are not included.

Ceramics

Several varieties of ceramics were encountered during the excavation and screening of the midden deposit. These mostly consisted of white earthenwares, stonewares, ironstones, semi-porcelains, and porcelains. The specific types encountered help tie the James family to this site.

Transferware

There were quite a few transferwares encountered in the midden deposit; however, one pattern dominated the assemblage. The pattern consisted of a blue-green ivy design around the rim of the vessels (Figure 5-2a-b). This design was manufactured by Knowles, Taylor and Knowles out of Liverpool, Ohio. The pattern was made between 1870 and 1929 (Lehner 1988:238). The Knowles, Taylor and Knowles specimens were the only pieces that had a clearly identifiable maker and dates of manufacture (Figure 5-2c, d).

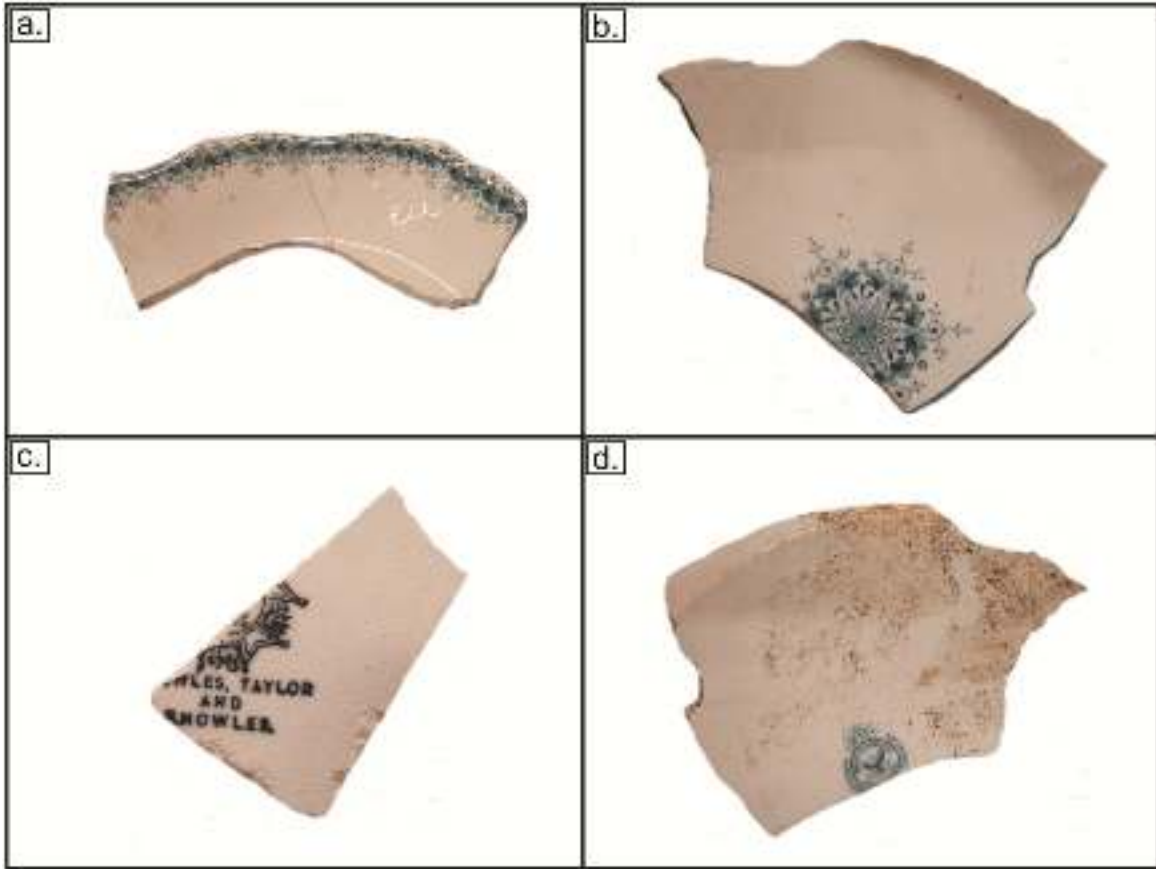


Figure 5-2. *Knowles, Taylor and Knowles transferware ceramics: a-b) patterns; c-d) maker's marks.*

Other examples of transferware that were encountered exhibited polychrome and light blue designs that had geometric, floral, and scenic motifs (Figure 5-3). They are similar in tone and design to styles that were popular during the late nineteenth century throughout England and the United States (Miller 1991). However, the manufacturers of these wares have not yet been identified.

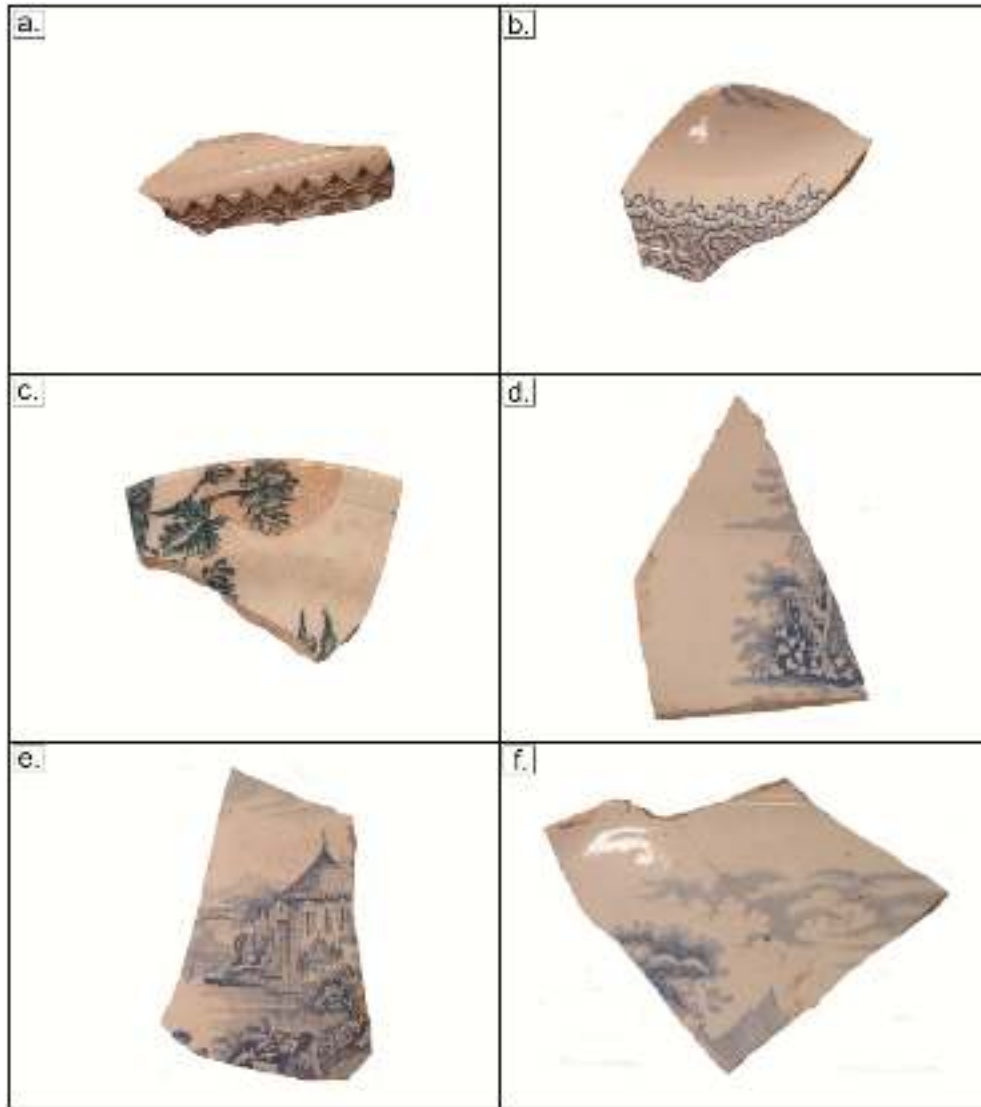


Figure 5-3. Unidentified examples of transferwares from midden.

Ironstone

Several pieces of ironstone encountered had makers' marks that allowed the identification of dates of manufacture (Figure 5-4). For instance, a serving dish base was recovered that retained the Powell and Bishop maker's mark. It clearly identified the ware as having been manufactured in England between 1866 and 1878 (Kowalsky and Kowalsky 1999:311). Other vessels were manufactured by J & G Meakin from England (Kowalsky and Kowalsky 1999:275), and Ironstone wares with two different Knowles, Taylor and Knowles maker's marks were identified (Lehner 1988:238-239). Both may have been manufactured between 1870 and 1926. Ironstone is typically a utilitarian ware, and vessel types included platters, plates, serving dishes, bowls, and mugs (Miller 1980:3).

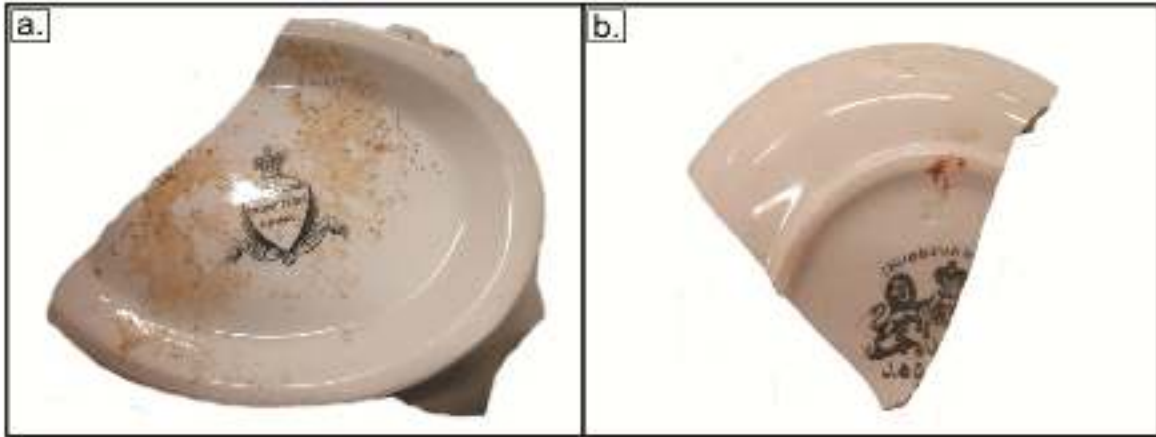


Figure 5-4. *Makers' marks on Ironstone wares from midden.*

Porcelain

Porcelain fragments also were recovered during the excavation of 41BX1952 (Figure 5-5). The porcelain fragments did not have any discernable makers' marks. Many of the pieces encountered appeared to be from tea cups, saucers, and plates. Although several exhibit gilded edges, gilded ceramics were not commonly found in most homes in San Antonio during the nineteenth century. However, due to their social status, the James Family would likely have had access to these luxury wares (Miller 1991).

Some of the porcelain wares were decorated with decal. Decalcomania, which is often shortened to "decal," was a method invented in England during the the middle of the nineteenth century. By 1900, it had become very popular in the United States (Yakubik 1990:305).

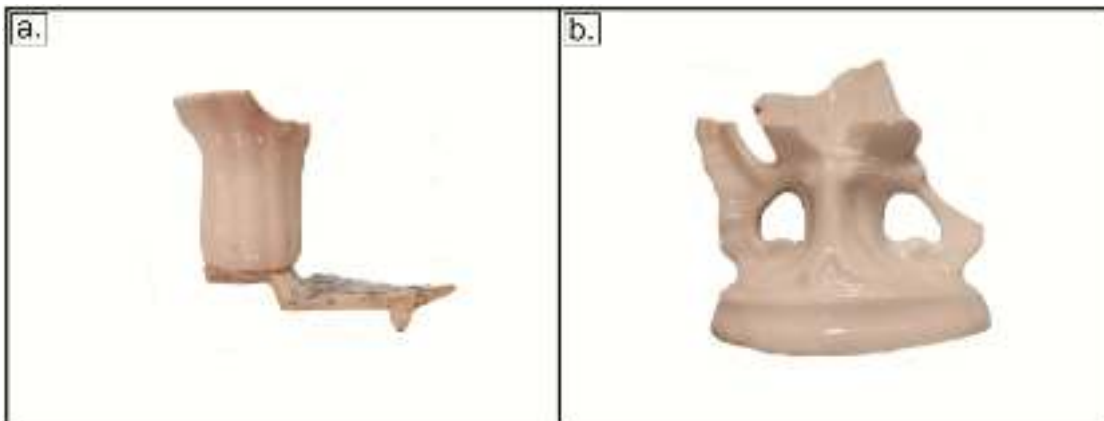


Figure 5-5. *Examples of porcelain from midden.*

Stoneware

Stonewares are typically associated with food preparation, serving, and storage (Cargill et al. 2004). Stonewares encountered during the excavations included crocks, jugs, platters, pitchers, and churns. Several fragments were identified as having been produced at Star Pottery in Elmendorf, Texas (Figure 5-6a). The kiln was in business between 1888 and 1914 (Lehner 1988:439). Ginger beer bottles also were noted within the fill of the trash midden. Ginger beer was a common product in Anglo households during the nineteenth century (Figure 5-6b).

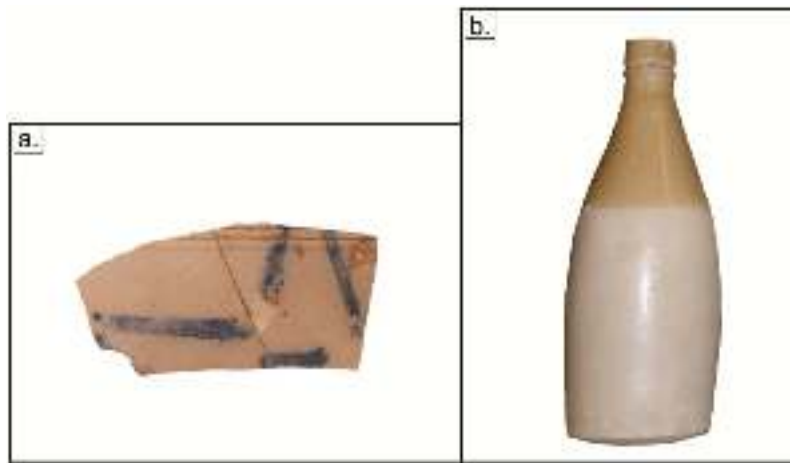


Figure 5-6. *Example of Star Pottery Stoneware manufactured in Elmendorf (a) and ginger beer bottle (b).*

Annular Ware

Several varieties of annular ware were recovered during the excavation of the midden. The simple banded decoration style was noted on many of the annular ware fragments, but the mocha and tricolor cat's eye styles were also present (Miller 1991). Annular wares are found at many historic sites in San Antonio and date as early as the 1850s.

Flow Blue

Flow Blue is a unique variety of transferware. It represents the earliest method used to transfer a design onto a white earthenware vessel. The ink in the image transferred would bleed and create a fuzzy imprint of the design. The first examples of Flow Blue were made in Staffordshire, England in 1825 (Cargill et al. 2004). They became popular in the American market during the 1840s (Kowalsky 1999). The early decoration types mimic Chinese porcelains and served as a cheaper and much sturdier replacement for the fine Chinese porcelains. During the mid- to late-1800s, the motifs changed to floral patterns and then to Japanese and Art Nouveau designs (Miller 1991). The sherds noted within the midden deposit depict a scene with a pagoda (Figure 5-7). This style dates to the early nineteenth century (Miller 1980).

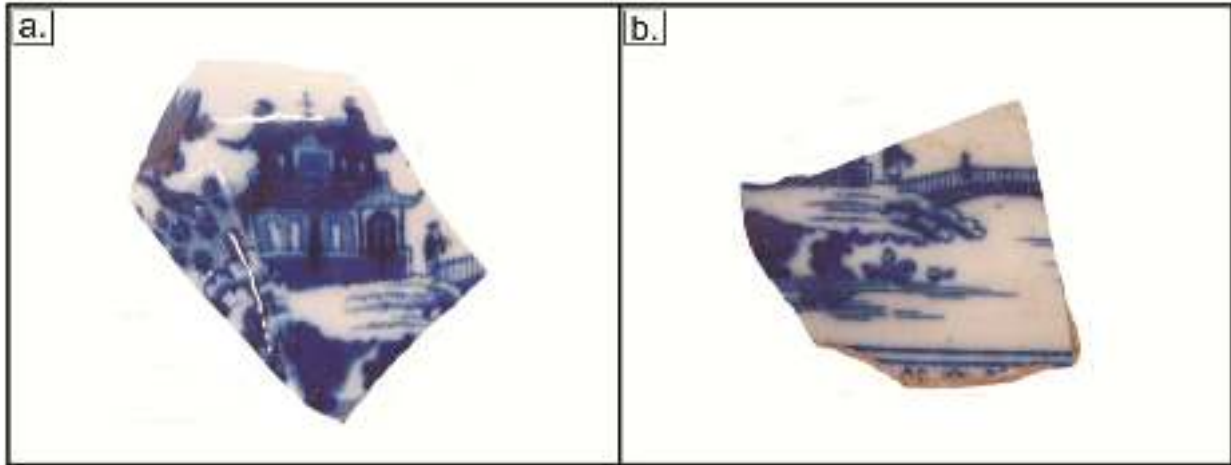


Figure 5-7. *Flow Blue ware that was the traditional pattern used by the James family.*

During the course of the project, a descendant of the James family contacted CAR archaeologists having seen mention of the project in the local paper. She provided helpful information about the James family and was also curious about the materials recovered from the midden. A photograph of a fragment of Flow Blue was shown to her, and she recognized the pattern as that shown in Figure 5-7. The Flow Blue collection that the James family utilized while occupying the site was passed down to the descendants. Another relative still has the remainder of the Flow Blue ceramics that the James family was using during the mid-1800s.

Glass

Glass fragments were prominent in the midden. Much of the glass encountered was broken, but there were a number of intact and almost intact bottles as well. The glass ranged in color: green, aqua, blue, brown, clear, amber, milk, and purple. Colors of glass help to date the midden deposits, but the presence of many of the colors spans a long time. The majority of the bottles produced prior to the mid-1800s were amber to dark green (olive). Typically the color resulted from impurities contained in the sand used for making glass (Fox et al. 1997). Aqua glass appears to be an early attempt to create clear glass. Purple glass results from the addition of manganese to the sand prior to firing. This technique actually produced clear glass, though due to exposure to sunlight, the manganese would later cause the glass to turn purple. The shade of purple was dependent on the amount of manganese used in the recipe and the amount of exposure to the sunlight. The use of manganese was prevalent from the last quarter of the nineteenth century to the onset of World War I (Fox et al. 1997). Specialty colors, such as blue and milk, were typical for cosmetics and perfumes. Some medicines were sold in blue and amber bottles.

Several bottle bases were recovered exhibiting pontil marks. These vessels were free-blown. The technique was common until snapcase and molds became the preferred (and easier) method of producing bottles. Snapcase became popular by the 1870s. The use of various mold techniques became common about the mid-nineteenth century. By 1917, the first mechanized bottle-making factory opened, and in 1922, approximately 80 percent of bottles were made by machines (Fox et al. 1997).

A fairly large quantity of emerald green bottle fragments and bottles were encountered during the excavations. The bottles had embossing that indicated that they contained mineral water from Saratoga Springs, New York. Whole bottles recovered were embossed with “Congress & Empire Spring Co. Saratoga NY” on the front (Figure 5-8a). The embossing on the back of these bottles varied depending on the actual spring the water came from. The two options were either Congress Springs or Empire Springs. The majority of the bottles examined were from Empire Springs, and these bottles were manufactured between 1867 and 1879. These bottles indicate that the James family had access to goods and products that were relatively unique and exclusive and may not have been available to the general population.

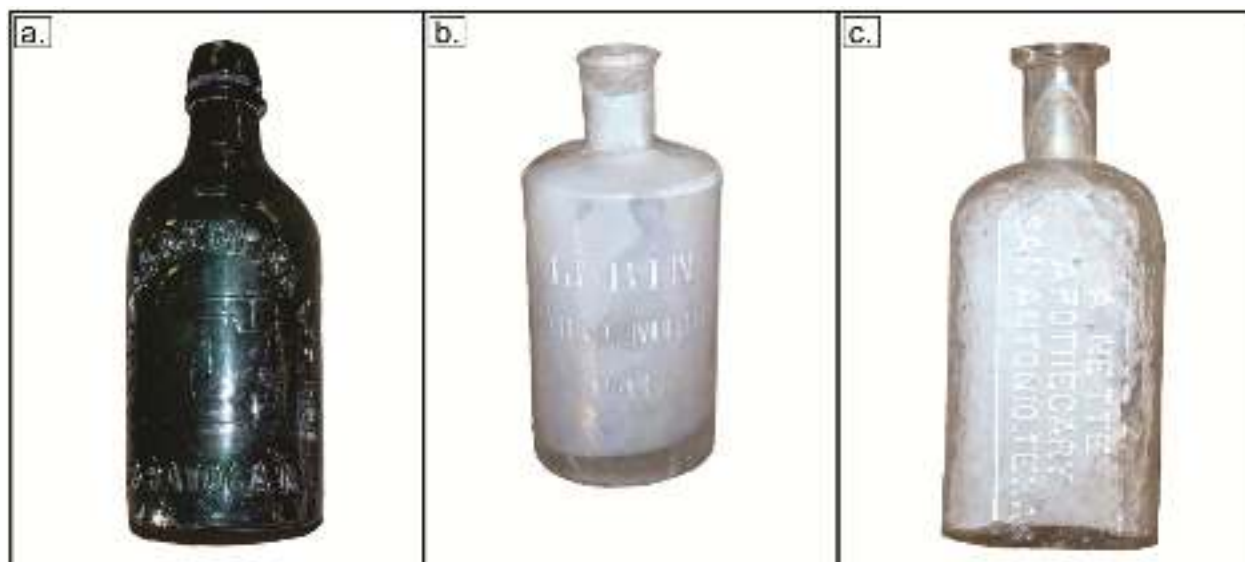


Figure 5-8. Glass bottles from James Family midden: a) Congress and Empire Springs Co., mineral water bottle; b) French perfume bottle; and c) medicine bottle.

Two of the bottles contained perfume. One clear, molded bottle was embossed with “DR PRICE’S AMERICAN PERFUMES, STEELE AND PRICE” and was produced sometime between 1860 and 1884 in Chicago, Illinois. The other bottle appears to be molded with an applied neck. It is of clear glass that shows a good deal of patination. The bottle (Figure 5-8b) was embossed with “LUBIN PARFUMEUR A PARIS” and was likely manufactured between 1870 and 1880.

One medicine bottle embossed with “A. NETTE APOTHECARY SAN ANTONIO, TX” was collected (Figure 5-8c). Nette was a prominent druggist during the mid- to late-1800s in San Antonio. The bottle would have been locally made and have come from a store that was located on Commerce Street.

Miscellaneous

Other artifacts noted during the excavations included architectural elements such as a wooden post and glass and lead post rest that appears to be from the James’ front porch (Figure 2-11). Similarly, several types of bricks were encountered during the project. Some were plain yellow brick with no marks. Others were yellow bricks that were made by Pioneer, though no information could be located regarding the manufacturer. Another brick type was a red sandstone brick produced by Alamo Brick Company. These were likely produced after 1880.

Chapter 6: Analysis of Vertebrate Faunal Remains from the John James Midden

Lynn K. Wack

Analytical Methods

Two hundred and twenty-one pieces of vertebrate faunal remains, weighing 1,687.31 g, were recovered from the James Midden, site 41BX1952. The bone was identified to the most specific taxon possible with the aid of the comparative collection housed at CAR and reference texts (Balkwill and Cumbaa 1992; Boessneck 1970; Gilbert 1990; Hiderbrand 1955). These identifications of the bones were conservative, i.e. cow-sized bone was not classified as *Bos taurus* unless it could be distinguished from the *Equus* and *Bison* species. All bone was weighed. Elements, portions of elements, and sides were recorded whenever possible. Exposure to heat was also noted along with any butcher marks and animal gnawing. In addition, the different stages of weathering as observed by Behrensmeyer (1978) and Andrews (1990) were recorded along with any signs of root etching. Age ranges were noted whenever possible. If bone could only be identified by class (mammal, bird, etc.), the size of the animal was estimated.

Analysis Results

Only 38 (17 percent) of the bone elements could be identified to at least the genus taxonomic level. In Table 6-1 below, roughly 63 percent of the vertebrate remains could only be identified as mammalian. The size of approximately 33 percent of those remains classified as mammalian could not be determined.

When attempting to measure the relative abundance of various taxa within a faunal assemblage the Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) or the Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) is usually used. Of course, these calculations are not without their limitations (see Grayson 1984). NISP does not consider the degree of bone fragmentation or whether bone attributed to a certain taxa comes from one or multiple animals. MNI calculations are based on distinguishing left and right sides of the most abundant elements of the identified species. Three left radii, for instance, attributed to the same species would indicate three individuals. Grayson discovered, however, that MNI is subject to variation depending on how the assemblage was aggregated. Rietz and Wing (1999, 2008) find that age determination can also affect MNI counts. In this analysis, the MNI was calculated for the entire assemblage as a single aggregate. As can be seen in Table 6-2, only *Capra hircus* (domesticated goat) had an MNI value greater than one. The small sample size and even smaller sample of taxa identifiable to the genus level may mask the relative

importance of the different taxa, as is usually the case for historic assemblages in South Texas (Meissner 1999a; Wack and Meissner 2010). NISP may be a better indicator of relative abundance.

Table 6-1. Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and Weight (g) Calculations for Taxa, 41BX1952

Taxonomic Group	Species	Common Name	NISP	% NISP	Weight (g)	% NISP Weight
Aves	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	Chicken	5	2.26	12.47	0.74
	Galliformes	Chicken, Pheasant, Quail, etc.	10	4.52	25.92	1.54
	Large Aves	Chicken-sized	15	6.79	15.9	0.94
	Medium Aves	Pigeon-sized	4	1.81	3.23	0.19
	Aves	Size Intermediate	1	0.45	0.4	0.02
Aves Total			35	15.83	57.92	3.43
Mammals	Artiodactyls	Deer, Sheep, Goat, etc.	13	5.88	31.31	1.86
	<i>Bos taurus</i>	Cattle	19	8.6	689.54	40.87
	<i>Canis</i> sp.	Dog, Wolf, or Coyote	1	0.45	0.21	0.01
	<i>Capra hircus</i>	Domestic Goat	5	2.26	42.11	2.5
	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Jack Rabbit	2	0.9	0.52	0.03
	<i>Neotoma</i> sp.	Wood Rat	1	0.45	0.41	0.02
	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed Deer	2	0.9	54.6	3.24
	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	European pig	3	1.36	9.38	0.56
	Small Mammal	Rabbit-sized	4	1.81	1.05	0.06
	Medium Mammal	Dog-sized	2	0.9	1.66	0.1
	Large Mammal	Deer, Sheep-sized	17	7.69	54.51	3.23
	Very Large Mammal	Cattle, Bison, Horse-sized	71	32.13	733.54	43.47
	Mammal	Size Intermediate	46	20.81	10.55	0.63
Mammals Total			186	84.14	1,629.39	96.58
Grand Total			221	99.97	1,687.31	100.01

According to the data in Table 6-1, very large mammals and mammals of indeterminate size dominate this assemblage. However, to determine the most relatively abundant species within this assemblage, the NISP of bone identified to the genus level was further analyzed. Table 6-3 displays the NISP and the percentage of the total NISP counts of those species identified to the genus level. Based on this table, *Bos taurus* (cattle) dominate the assemblage, constituting almost 9 percent of the total NISP. Other common animals include *Gallus gallus* (chicken), *Capra hircus* (domesticated goat), and *Sus scrofa* (European pig), constituting 2.26 percent, 2.26 percent, and 1.36 percent of the total assemblage, respectively.

Table 6-2. Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) Recovered, 41BX1952

Taxonomic Group	Species	Common Name	MNI	% MNI
Aves	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	Chicken	1	11.11
Aves Total			1	11.11
Mammals	<i>Bos taurus</i>	Cattle	1	11.11
	<i>Canis</i> sp.	Dog, Wolf, or Coyote	1	11.11
	<i>Capra hircus</i>	Domestic Goat	2	22.22
	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Jack Rabbit	1	11.11
	<i>Neotoma</i> sp.	Wood Rat	1	11.11
	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed Deer	1	11.11
	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	European Pig	1	11.11
Mammals Total			8	88.88
Grand Total			9	99.99

Table 6-3. NISP, Percentage of the Total NISP of Taxa Identified to the Genus Level

Taxonomic Group	Species	Common Name	NISP	% Total NISP
Aves	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	Chicken	5	2.26
Aves Total			5	2.26
Mammals	<i>Bos taurus</i>	Cattle	19	8.6
	<i>Canis</i> sp.	Dog, Wolf, or Coyote	1	0.45
	<i>Capra hircus</i>	Domestic Goat	5	2.26
	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Jack Rabbit	2	0.9
	<i>Neotoma</i> sp.	Wood Rat	1	0.45
	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed Deer	2	0.9
	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	European Pig	3	1.36
Mammals Total			33	14.92
Grand Total			38	17.18

Bone weight is said to be a generally good indicator of relative dietary importance (Meissner 1999a; Wack and Meissner 2010). However, the relationship between bone weight and amount of meat varies among the different taxa. Bone weight for birds is not as accurate an estimate of meat weight as it is for mammals. There are also considerable differences among bone weight from one part of the animal to another. Phalanges, for instance, are usually dense and heavy but carry little meat (Lyman 1993:389; Meissner 1999a). Table 6-4 below shows the NISP weight in grams and the percentage of the NISP

weight of the six mammalian taxa identifiable to the genus level. Table 6-5 shows NISP weight when phalanges are removed. Even when phalanges are removed, *Bos taurus* has the highest bone weight at 689.54 g, constituting 86.56 percent of the NISP bone weight.

Table 6-4. Weight (g) and Percentage of NISP Weight by Species

Species	Common Name	Weight (g)	% NISP Weight
<i>Bos taurus</i>	Cattle	689.54	86.54
<i>Canis sp.</i>	Dog, Wolf, or Coyote	0.21	0.03
<i>Capra hircus</i>	Domestic Goat	42.11	5.29
<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Jack Rabbit	0.52	0.07
<i>Neotoma sp.</i>	Wood Rat	0.41	0.05
<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed Deer	54.60	6.85
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	European Pig	9.38	1.18
Total		796.77	100.01

Table 6-5. Weight (g) and Percentage of NISP Weight by Species with Phalanges Removed

Species	Common Name	Weight (g)	% NISP Weight
<i>Bos taurus</i>	Cattle	689.54	86.56
<i>Capra hircus</i>	Domestic Goat	37.30	4.68
<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Jack Rabbit	0.52	0.07
<i>Neotoma sp.</i>	Wood Rat	0.41	0.05
<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed Deer	54.60	6.85
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	European Pig	9.38	1.18
Total		791.75	99.39

Evidence of exposure to heat can indicate whether remains were routinely thrown into the fire as a disposal method, were burned by natural fire, or were burned during the cooking process (Lyman 1993; Meissner 1999a; Wack and Meissner 2010). Only two bones (1 percent) showed evidence of heat exposure. This low figure is not surprising given that within an urban setting, food preparation and food refuse disposal practices are expected to have been different from those among hunter-gatherers or populations utilizing less structured spaces.

Evidence of animal gnawing can provide important information about disposal practices (Meissner 1999b). If signs of animal gnawing within an assemblage are common, then the bones may have been disposed in an open trash midden. However, in this assemblage, only eleven bones showed evidence of animal gnawing. The rarity of animal gnawing is again not surprising given the urban setting from which the assemblage derives and the fact that rodent populations would have been kept at a minimum within such settings.

Weathering stages can also provide information about disposal practices, as well as the general condition of preservation of the assemblage. Behrensmeyer (1978) observed six stages of weathering among large animal bones, and Andrews (1990) observed four stages of weathering among small animals. Below is a description of weathering stages for both large and small animals:

- 0- Bone shows no sign of weathering, no modification.
- 1- For the large animals, bone shows some longitudinal cracking. Articular surfaces may show mosaic cracking. For small animals, there is some slight, parallel splitting of bone. Teeth may be splitting and chipped.
- 2- For the large animals, bone shows some flaking, usually associated with cracks. Initially these flakes are long and thin with one or more sides still attached to the bone. Deeper flakes follow until most of the outermost portion of the bone is gone. Cross sections of crack edges are usually angular. For the small animal, more splitting but little flaking is observed. Chipping and splitting on teeth continue. Parts of the crown are lost.
- 3- For the large animals, rough patches emerge on the bone surface leaving a fibrous texture. Cross sections of crack edges are usually rounded. For the small animal, there is deep splitting and some flakes between splits. There is extensive splitting of teeth.
- 4- For large animals, bone surface is fibrous and rough in texture. Large and small splinters emerge. Splinters may be loose enough to fall away. Cracks are open and have splintered or rounded edges.
- 5- For large animals, bone is falling apart in situ. The original bone shape may be indistinguishable. Cancellous bone is usually exposed.

As presented in Table 6-6 below, most remains from 41BX1952 showed Stage 1 or Stage 2 type of weathering. Very few remains showed Stage 3, Stage 4, or Stage 5 types of weathering. Thus, the preservation at this site is relatively good. Also, the light weathering suggests that these remains might have been disposed and then buried.

Even though less than half of the bone could be identified to at least the genus level, some evidence of butchering and butchering patterns could be identified. According to Table 6-7, a total of 66 bone elements showed evidence of butchering.

Table 6-6. NISP Count by Weathering Stage

Weathering Stage	NISP Count
Stage 0	7
Stage 1	91
Stage 2	106
Stage 3	11
Stage 4	1
Stage 5	5
Total	221

Table 6-7. Frequency of Butcher Marks by Bone Element

Element	Frequency	%	Cumulative %
calcaneus	1	1.5	1.5
femur	1	1.5	3
humerus	1	1.5	4.5
innominate	1	1.5	6
long bone	6	9.1	15.1
phalange	1	1.5	16.6
radius	3	4.6	21.2
rib	5	7.6	28.8
sacrum	1	1.5	30.3
scapula	1	1.5	31.8
tibia	1	1.5	33.3
unfused, long bone	1	1.5	34.8
unknown	29	44	78.8
vertebrae	14	21.2	100
Total	66	100	

Most the bone elements (82 percent) displayed only one butcher mark. There were, however, a total of 12 bone elements that displayed more than one butcher mark, as seen in Figure 6-1.

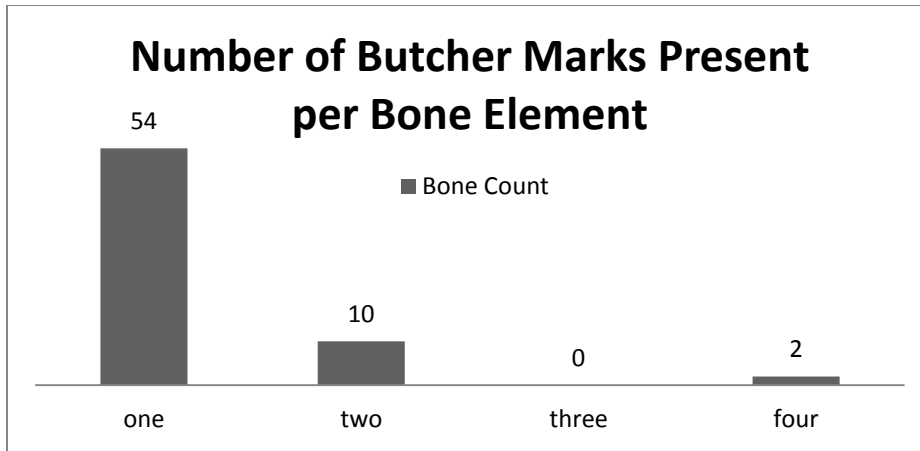


Figure 6-1. Number of butcher marks present per bone element.

Most of the bone elements that showed evidence of butchery were unidentifiable. However, among the identifiable elements, vertebrate were the most common elements to show signs of butchery (Figure 6-2).

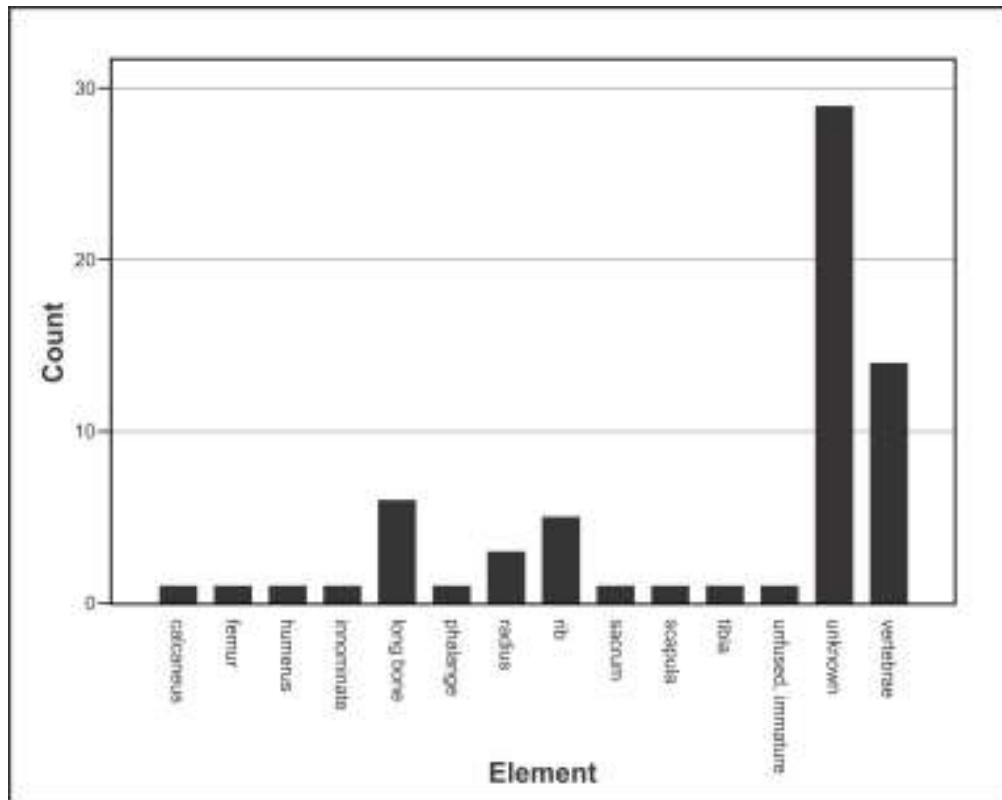


Figure 6-2. Number of cut bone by bone element.

In all, a total of 82 butcher marks were observed (Table 6-8). Most of these butcher marks were machine cuts (n=61, 74 percent). Shallow cuts that may have been created by a butcher knife were present on 16 (19.5 percent) pieces of bone, while deeper chopping cut marks appear on only 5 (6 percent) specimens. The average thickness of machine cut bone (Table 6-9) is approximately 19.9 mm (min=1.97 mm, max=118.5 mm).

Discussion and Conclusions

A total of 221 vertebrate faunal remains, weighing 1,687.31 g, was recovered during this project. Given that this faunal assemblage derives from the John James residential trash midden, it can firmly be dated to between 1839 and 1920 (see Chapter 2). The presence of machine-sawed bone is consistent with this time frame. Cattle have the highest relative importance within this assemblage, which is common among post-Colonial assemblages. Cattle comprised approximately 86 percent of the total weight of the assemblage identified to the genus level. Neck, chuck, sirloin, fillet, and rump cuts of meat are the most common in the assemblage and indicate a diet well supplied with meat.

Chapter 7: Summary and Conclusions

Vault 1

Monitoring of the construction of CPS Vault 1, located near the corner of North Presa and Commerce Streets, revealed that there had been quite a bit of disturbance that was directly related to the widening of Commerce Street in 1914 and later utility installations. Four features were recorded during the course of the excavation of Vault 1. They appear to be related to the businesses that occupied the lots prior to 1914. To attract more business to the area, the City decided to widen Commerce Street to allow for street car tracks. Previously, Commerce Street was narrow and brick paved, Market Street was asphalt paved, and Houston Street already had a thriving business sector. The Groos Building (or Alamo National Bank), located at the southwestern corner of Commerce and North Presa Streets, was jacked up onto a wooden platform and was pushed back approximately 5.2 m (17 ft.; Allen 2005). Workers had dug a trench around the building and placed the wooden platform on steel rollers. During the time that it took crews to push the building, the bank had normal operating hours. The bank reached its final resting place and was settled in January of 1915 (Allen 2005). Other buildings along Commerce, including the ones in the vicinity of Vault 1, had their fronts sheared off (Allen 2005). A period photograph found while conducting the background research depicts the two buildings located at the southeastern corner of Commerce and North Presa Streets with the fronts sheared off. Vault 1 stands in the footprint of one of these. The walls and foundations documented during monitoring are remnants of these original businesses prior to this street widening project.

Vault 2

Archival research conducted on the property that included Vault 2 showed that at the location there once was a two-story house that was built as early as the 1840s. The earliest map located that has the structure on the property is the 1873 Bird's Eye View of San Antonio. The house was owned by John James, a prominent resident of San Antonio. The vault itself appears to be located under or in the vicinity of an outbuilding present on the property behind the kitchen. The early Sanborn maps show that the main house and the kitchen are separate structures. It appears that the excavation of Vault 2 encountered what appears to be remnants of the John James Homestead, as well as trash deposits associated with the residence.

The trash midden that was encountered during the excavation was designated as site 41BX1952. It encompasses only a portion of the midden and, in turn, a small and unique part of the James Homestead. The cultural material encountered in the midden consisted of a variety of ceramics, glass, metal objects,

and faunal remains. Several artifact recovered from the midden are unique and offered a glimpse into the what the James family acquired and consumed. For instance, a perfume bottle from France is indicative of access to remote luxury goods that higher status and income facilitate. A fairly large quantity of mineral water bottles from Saratoga Springs also are consistent with this interpretation. The large quantity of oyster shell coupled with the meat cuts represented by the faunal remains recovered are indicative of a diet rich in meat protein.

The excavations of the John James family midden, 41BX1952, in the vicinity of Vault 2, revealed long-forgotten aspects of the history of the James family, the important role John James played in the City, and the social relationships and status that he and his family were able to build as a product of that role. When the family sold the property during the early twentieth century, North Presa Street was extended to cross the San Antonio River, and the homestead was razed and forgotten. This project offered a glimpse back into the life of the prominent family and provided insight to how a wealthy family in San Antonio lived.

References Cited:

Allen, P.

2005 *San Antonio: Then and Now*. Thunder Bay Press, San Diego, California.

Andrews, P.

1990 *Owls, Caves and Fossils: Predation, Preservation and Accumulation of Small Mammal Bones in Caves, with an Analysis of the Pleistocene Cave Faunas From Westbury-Sub-Mendip, Somerset, U.K.* University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Balkwill, D.M., and S.L. Cumbaa

1992 *Guide to the Identification of Postcranial Bones of Bos taurus and Bison bison*. Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa.

Behrensmeier, A.K.

1978 Taphonomic and Ecologic Information from Bone Weathering. *Paleobiology* 4(2): 150-162.

Bexar County Deed Records (BCDR)

2012 Originals on file, Bexar County Courthouse, San Antonio, Texas. Electronic documents, <https://gov.propertyinfo.com/TX-Bexar/Default.aspx>, accessed July 15, 2012.

Boessneck, J.

1970 Osteological Differences Between Sheep (*Ovis aries* Linné) and Goats (*Capra hircus* Linné). In *Science in Archaeology*, edited by D. Brothwell and E. Higgs, pp. 331-358. Praeger, New York.

Briggs, A.

2012 Texas Archeological Sites Atlas. Electronic document, <http://nueces.thc.state.tx.us/>, accessed July 15, 2012.

Cargill, D.A., B.A. Meissner, A.A. Fox, and I.W. Cox

2004 *Construction Package 1: Archeological Investigations at Mission San Francisco de la Espada (41BX4), City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas*. San Antonio Mission Trails Statewide Transportation Enhancement Project: Vol. 1. Archaeological Survey Report, No. 308. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Cox, I.W.

2005 *The Spanish Acequias of San Antonio*. Maverick Publishing, San Antonio.

Fisher, L.F.

2007 *River Walk: The Epic Story of San Antonio's River*. Maverick Publishing, San Antonio.

Fox, A.A., M. Renner, and R.J. Hard

1997 *Archaeology at the Alamodome: Investigations of a San Antonio Neighborhood in Transition. Vol. III. Artifacts and Special Studies*. Archaeological Survey Report, No. 239. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Gilbert, B.M.

1990 *Mammalian Osteology*. Missouri Archaeological Society, Columbia.

- Grayson, D.K.
1984 *Quantitative Zooarchaeology: Topics in the Analysis of Archaeological Faunas*. Academic Press, Inc., Orlando, Florida.
- Hiderbrand, M.
1955 Skeletal Differences between Deer, Sheep, and Goats. *California Fish and Game* 41: 327-346.
- Jennings, F.W.
1998 *San Antonio: The Story of an Enchanted City*. San Antonio Express News, San Antonio.
- Kowalsky, A.A.
1999 Flow Blue Ironstone. In *Encyclopedia of Marks on American, English, and European Earthenware, Ironstone, and Stone ware, 1780-1980: Makers, Marks, and Patterns in Blue and White, Historic Blue, Flow Blue, Mulberry, Romantic Transferware, Tea Leaf, and White Ironstone*, by A.A Kowalsky and D.E. Kowalsky, pp. 11-12. Schiffer Publishing Ltd., Atglen, Pennsylvania.
- Kowalsky, A.A., and D.E. Kowalsky
1999 *Encyclopedia of Marks on American, English, and European Earthenware, Ironstone, and Stone ware, 1780-1980: Makers, Marks, and Patterns in Blue and White, Historic Blue, Flow Blue, Mulberry, Romantic Transferware, Tea Leaf, and White Ironstone*. Schiffer Publishing Ltd., Atglen, Pennsylvania.
- Labadie, J.H., K.M. Brown, and T.R. Hester
1986 *La Villita Earthworks (41BX677), San Antonio, Texas: A Preliminary Report of Investigations of Mexican Siege Works at the Battle of the Alamo*. Archaeological Survey Report No. 159. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.
- Lehner, L.
1988 *Lehner's Encyclopedia of U.S. Marks on Pottery, Porcelain, and Clay*. Collector's Books, Paducah, Kentucky.
- Lyman, R.L.
1993 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Meissner, B.A.
1999a Analysis of Vertebrate Faunal Remains from a Spanish Colonial Deposit at Mission San Antonio de Valero (the Alamo). *Bulletin of Texas Archaeology* 70:281-313.
1999b Vertebrate Faunal Remains. In *Archaeological Investigation of Rainwater Catchment Basins Along the South Wall of Mission San José, San Antonio, Texas*, by S.A. Tomka and A.A. Fox, pp. 39-46. Archaeological Survey Report No. 287. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.
- Miller, G.L.
1980 Classification and Economic Scaling of 19th Century Ceramics. *Historical Archaeology* 14:1-40.
1991 A Revised Set of CC Index Values for Classification and Economic Scaling of English Ceramics from 1781 to 1880. *Historical Archaeology* 25:1-25.

- Perry, C.
2001 As American as Roasted Oysters. *Los Angeles Times*. 26 December. Los Angeles.
- Ramsdell, C.
1959 *San Antonio A Historical and Pictorial Guide*. University of Texas Press, Austin.
- Reitz, E.J., and Wing, E.S.
1999 *Zooarchaeology*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
2008 *Zooarchaeology*. 2nd ed. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Strong, B.
2012 James, John. *Handbook of Texas Online*. Texas State Historical Association. *Electronic document*, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fja17>, accessed November 13, 2012.
- Ulrich, K.M.
2007 *Mission San José French Drain Installation Monitoring, 41BX3, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas*. Technical Report, No. 3. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.
- Wack, L.K., and B.A. Meissner
2010 Vertebrate Faunal Remains at Perez Ranch. In *Testing and Data Recovery at Perez Ranch (41BX274)*, by K.M. Ulrich, J.L. Thompson, K. Hindes, B.K. Moses, J.J. Dowling, L.K. Wack, and B.A. Meissner pp. 59-65. Archaeological Report, No. 404. Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio.
- Yakubik, J.K.
1990 Ceramic Use in Late Eighteenth Century and Early Nineteenth Century Southeastern Louisiana. Ph.D. dissertation, Tulane University.