Antiquities Advisory Board Committee

July 25, 2022
AGENDA
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING #109
DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel
2nd Floor
Houston Room
303 W 15th Street
Austin, TX 78701
July 25, 2022
9:30 a.m.

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

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

2. Approval of Minutes – Bruseth (advance handout)
   Antiquities Advisory Board Meeting # 108 (April 29, 2022)

3. Consider approval of State Antiquities Landmark Nominations for 11 sites (41PS113, 41PS115, 41PS128, 41PS130, 41PS132, 41PS133, 41PS140, 41PS150, 41PS200, and 41PS1102) located in the Big Bend Ranch State Park, Presidio County – Jones

4. Consider approval of the proposed 6-year extension on Antiquities Permit #6247 for principal investigator Jorge Garcia-Herreros, Search for the Twin Sisters Cannons 41HR1105 (Item 6.5) – Jones

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

6. Adjournment

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille, are requested to contact Esther Brickley at (512) 463-5768 at least four (4) business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MEMBERS
02/01/2022

THC Commissioner/AAB Chair
James (Jim) Bruseth, Ph.D.
6806 Rio Bravo Lane
Austin, TX 78737
512/288-6053
Email: jim.bruseth@gmail.com

THC Commissioner/AAB Vice-Chair
Lilia Marisa Garcia
P.O. Box 325
Raymondville, TX 78580
956/882-8260/office
Email: liliamarisaagarcia@gmail.com

THC Commissioner/AAB
Laurie Limbacher
2124 East 6th Street, #102
Austin, TX 78702
512/450-1518/office
Email: llimbacher@gmail.com

CTA, President
Todd Ahlman
Center for Archaeological Studies
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666
512/245-2724
Email: toddahlman@txstate.edu

TAS Representative
Douglas K. Boyd
8132 Forest Mesa Drive
Austin, TX 78759
512/751-1682
Email: doug.boyd@stantec.com

State Agency Archeologist
Nicki Hise
Texas Water Development Board
1700 Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701
512/936-4304 office
Email: nicki.hise@twdb.texas.gov

Architect
James (Rick) Lewis
226 W. Gramercy Place
San Antonio, TX 78212
210/458-3010/office
Email: james.lewis@utsa.edu

Architect
Norman Alston, FAIA
506 Monte Vista Drive
Dallas, TX 75223
214/826-5466/office
Email: norman.alston@alstonarchitects.com

Historian
James Robert (Bob) Ward
1707 Romeria Drive
Austin, TX 78757
512/452-7305/office
512/796-1050/cell
Email: bobward7@gmail.com

Historian
Joaquin Rivaya-Martinez
Texas State University
Department of History
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666
512/245-2142
Email: jr59@txstate.edu
ITEM # 1
CALL TO ORDER

Today’s date is July 25th, 2022 and the time is [09:30 A.M.]

This meeting of the Antiquities Advisory Board has been properly posted with the Secretary of State’s Office according to the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code. The members may discuss and/or take action on any of the items listed in the agenda.
ITEM # 2
1. AAB Call to Order

Commissioner Jim Bruseth opened the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) meeting on April 29, 2022, at 08:30. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the AAB members to introduce themselves.

**Members Present**
- Jim Bruseth
- Rick Lewis
- Laurie Limbacher
- Bob Ward
- Douglas Boyd
- Todd Ahlman
- Lilia García
- Nicki Hise
- Norman Alston
- Joaquín Rivaya-Martínez

**Members Absent**

Bruseth announced that all members were present. A quorum was established, and the meeting was opened.

Bruseth welcomed Nicki Hise and Joaquín Rivaya-Martínez, the newest AAB members.

2. Approval of AAB Minutes

Bruseth asked if changes or corrections were needed for the AAB #107 Minutes. He called for a motion.

Todd Ahlman moved.

Douglas Boyd seconded.
Bruseth called for the approval of the minutes and heard no objections. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Division Report

Bruseth called on Archeology Division (AD) director, Brad Jones to present his report.

Jones updated the AAB on the types of permits issued in the last quarter. He announced that permit issuance remained consistent, and intensive survey permits continued to be the most common type of permit issued.

Bruseth thanked Jones.

Bruseth called on Division of Architecture (DOA) director, Bess Graham. He announced that this would be Graham’s final AAB meeting and thanked her for her service. Bruseth called for a round of applause.

Graham presented DOA’s permit activities in the last quarter, issuing eleven permits and closing six. She shared that DOA did not have the same permit demand as AD. Graham announced that permits were issued for the Courthouse Preservation and Disaster Assistance programs along with other permits, which resulted in a 57% increase over the previous year.

Graham provided renovation photos from the Admiral Nimitz Historic Ballroom at the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas. She shared that the museum was a state historic site and that she was glad to issue the permit for this project. Graham concluded her report.

Bruseth thanked Graham.

Bruseth announced that there would be a nine-minute break before convening with the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Commissioner Nau convened the AAB with the THC.

4. Alamo Church and Long Barrack Masterplan Update

Bruseth called on Kate Rogers of the Alamo Trust, Inc. (ATI) and Patrick and Patrick Gallagher of Gallagher & Associates to present the Alamo and Long Barrack updates.

Rogers thanked the commission. She welcomed the AAB to San Antonio. She announced that her team was fully present and ready to answer questions.

Rogers presented all the components of the Alamo Masterplan. Her presentation moved the AAB through a conceptual journey from the Alamo Promenade to Plaza de Valero. She delineated the footprints of the future visitor center, museum, exhibit hall, education center, event center, and collections building.

Rogers presented the three guiding principles of Gallagher’s plan for the Alamo. The principles focused on preservation of historic buildings, a unified experience across the Alamo district, and
visitor comfort. Additionally, the update worked to eliminate vehicle traffic and focused on a pedestrian experience.

Rogers showcased current and future Alamo Complex photos. Details included native plant selections, drainage control options, Cenotaph plans, views from Crockett Street, the alteration of Plaza De Valero into a community space, and travels through the Paseo de Alamo.

Rogers explained that the design of the new visitor center was still in the early stages. She informed the AAB that the goal was to repurpose the Crockett Building. Gallagher’s team vowed to maintain the interior’s original stone walls. Rogers shared that most buildings within the Alamo Complex had served many purposes throughout the years, and that they would be modified as part of the masterplan. She emphasized the construction of the Crockett Building’s future rooftop event center and the rooftop’s spectacular views.

Rogers gave insight into the Crockett Building’s stone flooring in the lobby space. The proposed flooring provided visitors with interpretive views of the outline of the Alamo’s original West Wall.

Rogers informed the AAB on the installation of the Civil Rights era exhibit proposed for the Woolworth Building. She shared that the exhibit would be housed in the same space where San Antonio’s lunch counter protests occurred. Rogers concluded by stating that a 4D theater would be located on the second floor.

Rogers shared that Gallagher utilized the help of twenty historians to consult on the Alamo’s history. She announced that a digital application was being developed and that the goal was to ease the visitor’s educational experience.

Rogers introduced the timeline of the Alamo reconstruction. Members were informed that the construction would span into 2026 and that a master schedule was being created. Rogers hoped that the plan would help predict future historic preservation requests and minimize visitation interruption.

Rogers announced that the THC remained one of ATI’s most valuable partners and that they valued the THC’s support.

Bruseth thanked Rogers. He asked for questions and comments.

Commissioner Lilia Garcia suggested that history occurred in layers. She wanted further insight into the content that focused on the history after the Alamo Battle.

Rogers answered that eight galleries would occupy the museum space. She informed Garcia that the museum’s content would follow the Alamo’s chronological history.

Nau said that the Visitor Center was important because it captured all sides of the Alamo history and story.

Norman Alston apologized for his absence at the previous meeting. He questioned the construction plan and the claim that three buildings would be repurposed. Alston mentioned that he only saw two of the three buildings portrayed in the construction plans.
Rogers answered that the building in question was the Palace Theater. She informed the AAB that the building had sustained fire damage many years ago. The plan was to transform the old entrance of the theater into the entrance of the new Alamo Visitor Center. Rogers suggested that the facades of the historic buildings would remain the same, but that the theater space would be opened to serve as a viewpoint to the Alamo Complex.

Alston said that he noticed the façade of the building, but asked if any other remains of the building remained?

Rogers answered no.

Gallagher added that an architectural assessment had been completed for all three buildings. The architectural firm concluded that the entrance of the theater was not historically significant. He shared that the architectural firm suggested that the entrance could be replaced in the renovation process.

Commissioner Laurie Limbacher congratulated the group on their efforts and ideas. She asked for Rogers to elaborate on Alston’s question on the use of the Palace Theater.

Rogers explained that the project was in the early design stages. She stated that there would be future consultations with the THC. Rogers asked for further questions and feedback.

Limbacher congratulated the commitment of ATI and asked the group to provide the THC with future updates.

THC Executive Director Mark Wolfe shared that the Woolworth Building was a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL). He explained that the THC did not have permitting authority for other buildings on the site.

Commissioner David Gravelle asked if the design team would interpret the Alamo’s funeral pyre?

Rogers answered yes, depending on the research basis.

Gravelle asked if the visitor would be able to experience the importance of the Alamo’s walls.

Rogers responded that they would integrate as much of the original Alamo footprint as possible. She said that the outline of the walls would be delineated in the pavement. Rogers explained that ATI was working to bring back the original mission gate and the lunette. She hoped that the lunette would provide visitors with an understanding of the original Alamo fortification.

Nau believed that having a masterplan would make it easier for the public to comprehend and understand ATI’s future vision. He congratulated Rogers and Gallagher.

Rogers highlighted the importance that the Alamo’s digital application. She believed that the application would further cultivate a visitor’s experience.

Limbacher agreed that the digital application would help transport the visitor through time.
Bruseth asked for further comments, heard none, and thanked Rogers for her presentation.

Bruseth called on Jeff Kauffman and Pam Rosser. Both reported on future permit and amendment requests for the Alamo Church and Long Barrack.

Rosser introduced herself as the Alamo’s lead conservator.

Kauffman introduced himself as the Chief Deputy for Construction Services for the Texas General Land Office (GLO). He shared that he was a registered architect with seven years of Alamo experience. Kauffman explained that he started his Alamo journey with restoration work and then transitioned into accessibility. His current work focused on the conservation and restoration of the Alamo Church and Long Barrack.

Kauffman introduced various stages of the Alamo restoration project. He stated that the undertaking started in 2018 and continued into the present day. Stages included data collection, analysis of existing conditions, development of options, and the generation of potential recommendations. Kauffman shared that a draft report was delivered in August of 2020.

Rosser shared that she held thirty years of conservation experience. Her work with the Alamo dated back to 2000. She explained that her current work focused on non-destructive conservation and moisture monitoring. Rosser provided photographic documentation of her recent work. Highlights included views of the century old mudline and images of the walls inside of the Alamo Church and Long Barrack. The AAB was informed that experts were studying how voids in the walls impacted stability.

Rosser explained that eight archeological excavations were completed adjacent to the Long Barrack. She shared that the primary purpose of the work was to expose the foundation walls, document wall condition, and determine future repairs. Rosser provided the three major finds of the study. The AAB was informed that plaster, mortar, and a single musket ball from the Mission Era were discovered within the excavation units.

Kauffman shared that the first restoration task was to continue with the moisture monitoring study. The second task was the repair of the Alamo Church’s concrete roof. Kauffman explained that the repairs to the church’s above ground wall were still in the design phase. The rebuild of the Alamo’s North Wall addressed structural flaws and was slated to begin soon. Kauffman mentioned that the Alamo and Long Barrack’s rooftops were undergoing structural analysis.

Kauffman reported that the Long Barrack’s skirted surfaces were cleaned and that the above ground masonry wall repairs were scheduled next. He reported that the completed archeological excavations exposed the necessity for below ground wall repairs and that the structure had been reinforced. It was shared that the Alamo Church and Long Barrack would be renovated using a two-stage renovation plan. Kauffman noted that future permit requests would be focused on long term preservation and interpretation. He concluded by ensuring the THC that future permit request and amendments would follow.

Bruseth called for questions and comments.
Limbacher was curious about the musket ball that was found below the Alamo Battle era soil level.

Rosser answered that the musket ball was from an earlier period.

Garcia asked about the voids within the walls. She asked if that was an initial construction method?

Kauffman said that it was an intentional building method that was used during the Alamo’s construction era. He was surprised by the sizes and variations of the voids.

Limbacher said that mortar gave way to moisture and caused the formation of voids.

Kauffman stated that they were waiting on the results of the lab analysis.

Rick Lewis asked about the tactic used to stabilize the voids.

Kauffman answered that his team was working to find a solution. He said that the original plan was to fill all voids and that they needed to halt the potential for water and salts to go from wall to wall.

Doug Boyd said that he visited the Alamo and that he enjoyed the interpretation that was provided for the moisture monitoring. He asked about how the dry weather conditions in Texas impacted a moisture monitoring study? Boyd wanted to know if the monitors could be left in place.

Kauffman said that the monitors could be left in place. He noted that the monitors had experienced snow and heat.

Nau asked about the discussion of adding an additional level to the barracks. He wondered if this is what the survey was intended to study.

Kauffman answered that stage four of the plan dealt with future projects. He mentioned that the discussion would start after the moisture monitoring study was completed.

Nau thanked Kauffman.

5. Battleship Texas Update

Bruseth called on the Battleship Texas Foundation to present their update.

Michael Strutt the director of Texas Parks and Wildlife’s (TPWD) Cultural Resources program introduced the update. He explained that TPWD was the steward of the ship and that they partnered with the Battleship Texas Foundation. Strutt announced that both organizations contributed to repairs of the ship and that they wanted to present two permit applications to the AAB.

Strutt said that the first permit dealt with the coating of the ship and the second with the repairs of the haul. He explained that the restoration work would be complicated. Strutt assured the AAB that all work would meet the Secretary of the Interior’s standards for the preservation of historic vessels. He concluded and introduced Tony Gregory who serves as the chairman of the Battleship Texas Foundation.
Gregory introduced himself and his team. His presentation focused on permit requests and ship updates. He noted that his team worked to repair the ship using approved funds. Gregory informed the AAB that no shipyard in Texas had the ability to lift the ship. He explained that the foundation had secured a repair contract with Gulf Copper Shipyard in Galveston. Gulf Copper’s contract spanned over a ten-month period and focused on providing a dry dock. The dry dock was under repair and would be towed to Galveston to be used for the Battleship’s repairs. Gregory stated that the journey would begin in June of 2022.

Gregory stated that the foundation was working to secure a permanent home for the Battleship Texas. He indicated that Galveston, Baytown, and Beaumont expressed interest in harboring the ship. Gregory introduced Brad Currin.

Currin provided a general update. His current project focused on the management of the ship’s repairs, travel, and a new berth. Currin explained that the foundation’s goal was the long-term preservation of the ship. He noted that his team wanted to secure an SAL nomination and deliver the project within budget.

Currin explained that they utilized thousands of gallons of expanded foam, pumps, and water monitoring systems to increase the hull’s watertight integrity. Currin reviewed the permits and amendments for #1041 and #1042.

Currin spoke of the floating dry dock technique and provided insight into how the dock functioned. He mentioned that the dock served as a stabilizer and rehabilitation tool for the ship. Currin shared that the dry dock would be delivered from the Bahamas and be utilized for transport. He explained that the transport to the Bahamas would be one of the project’s biggest risks. The AAB was informed that numerous stakeholders were involved and that the Coast Guard provided consultation.

Bruseth asked for questions and comments.

Nau asked if the Coast Guard served as the primary authorization entity for the tow of the Battleship.

Currin explained that the Coast Guard served as a consultant. He said that they would deny the transport if it did not meet federal standards. However, they would not serve as the authorizing force for the departure of the ship. The AAB was informed that the Insurer’s Warranty Surveyor (MSW) provided documentation for ships that met all standards for departure. Currin assured the AAB that the documentation would be forwarded to the THC.

Bruseth thanked Currin for the clarification.

Currin indicated that the ship would not move if the group could not secure proper insurance.

Nau asked if TPWD had approved the process thus far.

Strutt confirmed that TPWD was comfortable with the plan.
Nau asked who provided oversight over the ship channel.

Currin said that the Coast Guard controlled the traffic.

Limbacher asked how the dry dock was transported from the Bahamas to Texas.

Currin clarified that the dock would be towed from the Bahamas to Texas.

Alston appreciated the presentation and the attention to detail.

Gregory said that the AAB would be invited to witness the towing of the ship out of the harbor.

Bruseth thanked the Battleship Texas Foundation for their presentation.

Bruseth read the motion for the #1042 permit amendment. He called on Graham to provide the details.

Graham clarified that the #1041 permit addressed repairs to the Battleship Texas. She indicated that the repairs focused on double plating damaged areas, adding stiffeners to the inner bottom of the ship, and rebuilding the blister tanks. Graham pointed out that repairs occurring four feet above the waterline would be visible.

Bruseth read the motion.

Alston moved.

Lewis seconded.

Bruseth called for further discussion, heard none, and the motion carried unanimously.

Bruseth read the motion for the #1042 permit amendment. He called on Graham to provide the details.

Graham stated that this was the fourth amendment to the permit. The current amendment included where the ship would be repaired, Coast Guard involvement, and where the ship would be dry docked. She shared that all items were addressed and that the current permit reflected the changes.

Bruseth read the motion.

Boyd moved.

Alston seconded.

Alston asked about what a dry tow of a ship entailed.

Currin explained that a dry tow ultimately lifted the hull out of the water, but that exposure to water remained a factor. He mentioned that his team originally didn’t foresee the amount of dredging required to move the ship out of Galveston Bay.
Alston thanked Currin.

Bruseth called for further discussion, heard none, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Adjournment

Bruseth called for a motion to adjourn the AAB meeting.

Limbacher moved.

Todd Ahlman seconded.
ITEM # 3
Consider approving sites nominated for State Antiquities Landmarks

Background
The following publicly owned antiquities site resources were nominated for designation to State Antiquities Landmark status. Proper notice has been given to Texas Parks and Wildlife, the landowning organization of the proposed nominated sites of the State Antiquities Landmark designation process. Three motions are presented below.

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>41PS113, Big Bend Ranch State Park</td>
<td>Brewster County</td>
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<td>B.</td>
<td>41PS115, Big Bend Ranch State Park</td>
<td>Presidio County</td>
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<td>C.</td>
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<td>I.</td>
<td>41PS200, Big Bend Ranch State Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>J.</td>
<td>41PS1102, Big Bend Ranch State Park</td>
<td>Presidio County</td>
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**Suggested Motion A:**
Move that the Board send forward and recommend to the Commission the approval of SAL nominations of: 41PS113, 115, 128, 130, 132, 133, 140, 150, 200, and 1102, Big Bend Ranch State Park, Presidio counties, owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

**Suggested Motion B:**
Move that the Board send forward and recommend to the Commission the disapproval SAL nominations of: 41PS113, 115, 128, 130, 132, 133, 140, 150, 200, and 1102, Big Bend Ranch State Park, Presidio counties, owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

**Suggested Motion C:**
Move that the board report to the Commission that the SAL nominations of: 41PS113, 115, 128, 130, 132, 133, 140, 150, 200, and 1102, Big Bend Ranch State Park, Presidio counties, owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife, are incomplete. The AAB is therefore unable to determine whether or not the subject properties are eligible for designation as SALs and recommend that the nominations be returned to the nominators.
TExAS HiSTORiCAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial 41PS113

Address Big Bend Ranch State Park

City Presidio County Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner Park Archeologist)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
☐ Historic
☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)
☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
☐ The site’s archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
☐ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
☐ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
☐ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck

Criterion for Shipwrecks:
☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship’s remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection

Criterion for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)
☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
☐ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
☐ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
☐ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>UTM Zone</th>
<th>NAD datum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NE Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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<td>SE Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Centroid</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- USGS quad name and number
- Acreage of nominated property 0.5 acre
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location: ____________

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Prehistoric aboriginal rockshelter

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures

- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  - Deed
  - Metes and bounds
  - Block & Lot description with plat map
  - Survey map
  - Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  - Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name: Tim Gibbs
Address: 21800 FM 170
City: Terlingua
County: Brewster
State: TX
Telephone: 432-424-3327
Email Address: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator's Signature: [Signature]
Date: 03-10-2022

6. Property Owner

Name: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address: 4200 Smith School Road
City: Austin
County: Travis
State: TX
Telephone: 512-389-4736
Email Address: michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, ____________________________, as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission’s records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by, the Antiquities Code of Texas insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark,” will be recorded in the deed records in the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner's Signature: ____________________________ Date ____________________________

• Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual’s or group’s own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant's residence.

• The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
• An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper's publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

☐ Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property’s eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)

☐ Maps

☐ Deed

☐ Proof of Publication

☐ Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).

☐ National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)

☐ Archaeological site data form

☐ Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

☐ Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places

☐ Individually listed

☐ District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)

☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District __________________________

Certified by __________________________ Date __________________________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.

☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: __________________________ Date: 7/6/22

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone: 512/463-6100
www.thc.state.tx.us
Site 41PS113 is comprised of two shallow rockshelters with smoke-blackened ceilings and midden-stained occupational surfaces that terminate in talus deposits. The eastern shelter measures roughly 10m wide by 3m deep by 2m high. The western shelter measures roughly 15m wide by 2 meters deep by 2 meters high. The easternmost shelter appears to have been more intensively occupied, retaining dark midden soils with charcoal, ash, and FCR. Abundant lithic debitage, cores, and a portable groundstone metate were observed concentrated on the surface of the shelters and associated talus.

Most of the site is in good condition. Modern beverage and food cans testify to recent use and occupational surfaces exhibit extensive bioturbation, but there is no evidence of looting. Both rockshelters and their talus middens appear to retain as much as 20cm of buried cultural deposits. Based on the original site form and notes from 1975, the site does not seem to have changed significantly and may be upwards of 90 percent intact. Overall, the site appears to be stable and park visitation does not represent a significant threat to its long term integrity.

Site 41PS113 may retain intact cultural deposits, making it eligible for official SAL status based on Criteria 1 & 2.

Future actions at this site will include biennial monitoring by qualified Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
General Site Information

Site Name
Site Type rockshelter

Explanation of Type
Shallow disturbed rockshelter

Project and Permit

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Recorder Information

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<th>Tim Gibbs</th>
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<td>Phone</td>
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<td>Affiliation</td>
<td>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</td>
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<td>Address</td>
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Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant

Additional Sources
Also recorded by Barbara Baskin and Mike Mallouf (1975)

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date 2/28/2017
Surface Inspection/Collection Date 2/28/2017
  Method Pedestrian Survey - non-collective
Mapping Dates 2/28/2017
  Method Mapping-grade GPS
Testing Dates None
  Method None
Excavation Dates None
  Method None
Records and Materials

Records
digital map; digital photos; shapefile

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing
None

Permanent Housing
None

Location

Primary County
Presidio

Location in County
Southeast along Rio Grande corridor

Other Counties

Environment

Nearest Natural Water
~150 meters east of ephemeral upland drainage

Major Drainage
Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage
Unnamed tributary of the Rio Grande

Soil Description and Reference
Corazones-Ojinaga complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible 90%

Surface Texture
Gravelly fan alluvium derived from igneous and sedimentary rock.

Soil Derivation
☐ Alluvial  ☑ Colluvial  ☑ Eolian  ☑ In Situ  ☐ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
Site occupies a rockshelter along the edge of an exposure of Tertiary volcanism associated with the Las Burras Lava member of the Rawls Formation. Holocene-aged lithosols comprised of Aeolian and colluvial material are present within the shelter and the surrounding talus slopes formed through in-situ degradation of Oligocene-aged basalt lavas. Surrounding soils are skeletal gravels of the Corazones-Ojinaga complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes, consisting of gravelly fan alluvium derived from igneous and sedimentary rock. Vegetation is sparse along the
slopes and terrace interfaces becoming denser along the lower fan deposits and drainages. The plant community is dominated by tasajillo, opuntia, ocotillo, yucca, leatherstem, guyacan, forbes, and grasses, with acacia and mesquite present in the drainages.

**Site Conditions**

**Circumstances Affecting Observation**
Warm sunny, clear day

**Site Condition**  Good/ 90% intact

**Current Land Use**
Big Bend Ranch State Park

**Natural Impacts**
Erosion; bioturbation

**Artificial Impacts**
None observed

**Future Impacts**
Continued visitor traffic and erosion.

---

**Cultural Manifestations**

**Time Period of Occupation**
Prehistoric; Modern (1901-present)

**Basis for Time Period**
Presence of prehistoric and modern artifacts

- [ ] Single Component  [ ] Multiple Component  [✓] Component Unknown

**Basis for Component**
No temporally diagnostic artifacts observed

**Cultural Features**
Cultural features consist of two small rockshelters along the base of a low escarpment. Both shelters face south and have smoke blackened ceilings and midden-stained occupational surfaces that terminate in talus deposits. The eastern shelter measures roughly 10m wide by 3m deep x 2m high. The western shelter measures roughly 15m wide by 2 meters deep by 2 meters high. The easternmost shelter has a more extensive occupational surface with a darker soil with extensive charcoal, ash, and FCR. No evidence of rock imagery was observed in either shelter. No recent evidence of looting was observed, though both have extensive bioturbation. Shelters may retain as much as 20cm of intact buried cultural deposit.

**Approximate Site Size**  2195m²/ 0.54 acre

- **Basis for Determination**  Distribution of surface features and artifacts; GIS
Top of Deposit Below Surface  Surface
  Basis for Determination  Artifacts at surface
Bottom of Deposit  ~20 cmbs in shelters
  Basis for Determination  Bioturbation/erosion
Artifactual Materials Observed
Roughly 200 pieces of lithic debitage, 20 cores and core fragments, and a portable groundstone metate were observed on the surface of this site. A handful of modern sanitary and beverage cans were also noted.

Discussion of Site
This small rockshelter site appears to have been used sporadically over an unknown period of time. Though surface artifacts extend beyond the shelters, intact buried deposits appear to be entirely constricted to the shelters and their associated talus deposits. Based on the original site form and notes from 1975, the site does not seem to have changed significantly. Overall, the site appears to be stable and park visitation does not represent a significant threat to its long term integrity.

Registration and Recommendations

<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State Arch Landmark</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered TX Landmark</td>
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Registration Comments

Research Value
Site has moderate research potential owing to intact buried shelter deposits

Further Investigations
Monitor for impacts to shelter deposits and talus, as well as for the presence of exposed temporally diagnostic artifacts and/or human remains.

Attachments
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial 41PS115
Address Big Bend Ranch State Park
City Presidio County Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner Park Archeologist)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
☐ Historic
☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)

☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;

☐ The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;

☐ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;

☐ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and

☐ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck

Criterion for Shipwrecks:

☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection

Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)

☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;

☐ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;

☐ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or

☐ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

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<thead>
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<th>UTM Zone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>NW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site Centroid</td>
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- USGS quad name and number: Agua Adentro Mountain (2904-144)
- Acreage of nominated property: 0.6 acre
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location: [Insert location]

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Prehistoric rockshelter and encampment

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures

- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name: Tim Gibbs
Address: 21800 FM 170
City: Terlingua
County: Brewster
State: TX
Telephone: 432-424-3327
Email Address: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator’s Signature: [Signature]
Date: 03-10-2022

6. Property Owner

Name: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address: 4200 Smith School Road
City: Austin
County: Travis
State: TX
Telephone: 512-389-4736
Email Address: michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, [Name], as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission’s records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by, the Antiquities Code of Texas as insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark” will be recorded in the deed records of the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner’s Signature: [Signature]
Date: [Date]

* Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual’s or group’s own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant’s residence.

* The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
* An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper’s publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property's eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
- Proof of Publication
- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form

- Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

☐ Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places

☐ Individually listed
☐ District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District ____________________________

Certified by ____________________________ Date ____________________________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.
☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: 7/10/22
Site 41PS115, also known as “Crow Town”, is a prehistoric open campsite and rockshelter site on a large tributary creek near the Rio Grande. The site was first recorded in 1975 as CC27 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of Colorado Canyon (Survey #11). The site was re-recorded in 2018 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has since been monitored annually.

The extensive prehistoric component of this site includes rockshelters, midden deposits, scattered burned rock, hearths, and numerous bedrock mortar depressions. The best-preserved prehistoric features present at this site are concentrated along the eastern side of the prominent volcanic tuff outcrop that dominates the site. These include a small smoke-blackened rockshelter with ochre staining, two large burned rock midden deposits, and at least nine bedrock mortars on the upper surface of the tuff outcrop and a fallen block. A second rockshelter and associated talus midden deposit is present on the western side of the outcrop, as well as seven additional bedrock mortars, two deflated hearths, and a burned rock scatter. The entire site area is covered in hundreds of pieces of lithic debitage and core fragments.

The eastern part of the site retains integrity and the prehistoric component here is eligible for SAL designation under Criteria 1 and 2. Furthermore, public visitation and looting suggests a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur. Therefore, the site is recommended eligible for designation as a SAL under Criterion 5.

Future actions at this site will include intensive site mapping and annual monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
General Site Information

Site Name  Crow Town  ✅ Revisit
Site Type  open campsite; rockshelter; midden; ruin

Explanation of Type
Heavily disturbed prehistoric rockshelter and midden site impacted by historic ranchstead and modern movie set

Project and Permit

Project Name  Not project specific  Project Funding  TPWD
Project Number  Annual Permit #8278  Permit Source  Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

Name  Tim Gibbs  Address  HC 70 Box 375
Phone  432-424-3327  Fax
Email  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Affiliation  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  ✅ Recorder Visited Site

Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant

Additional Sources
Also recorded by Barbara Baskin and Mike Malloul (1975)

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date  3/14/2018
Surface Inspection/Collection Date  3/14/2018
Method  Pedestrian Survey - non-collective
Mapping Dates  3/14/2018
Method  Mapping-grade GPS
Testing Dates  None
Method  None
Excavation Dates  None
Method  None
Records and Materials

Records
digital map; digital photos; shapefile

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing  None
Permanent Housing  None

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water  ~20 meters east of ephemeral upland drainage

Major Drainage  Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage  Unnamed tributary of the Rio Grande

Soil Description and Reference
Terlingua-Rock outcrop complex, 3 to 30 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible  80%

Surface Texture  Sandy and gravely alluvium derived from igneous rock

Soil Derivation  ☑ Alluvial  ☑ Colluvial  ☑ Eolian  ☑ In Situ  ☐ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
Site occupies a shallow rockshelter at the base of a small tuff escarpment near the top of a low hill associated with the Leyva Canyon member of the Rawls Formation. Holocene-aged lithosols comprised of Aeolian and colluvial material are present within the shelter and the surrounding talus slopes formed through in-situ degradation of Tertiary-aged debris flow and pyroclastic deposits. Surrounding soils are sandy and gravelly alluvium derived from igneous rock of the Terlingua-Rock outcrop complex, 3 to 30 percent slopes. Vegetation is generally absent in the
shelter and sparse along the slopes and terrace interfaces, becoming more dense along the lower fan deposits and drainages. The plant community is dominated by creosote, tasajillo, opuntia, ocotillo, yucca, leatherstem, guyacan, forbes, and grasses, with acacia and mesquite present in the drainage and along the road.

**Site Conditions**

**Circumstances Affecting Observation**
Multiple site visits to easily accessible site near road

**Site Condition** Moderate to Poor/ ~50% intact

**Current Land Use**
Big Bend Ranch State Park

**Natural Impacts**
Erosion; bioturbation; flooding; livestock

**Artificial Impacts**
Ranching; construction of movie set; park visitors; dumping; looting; surface collection

**Future Impacts**
Continued visitor traffic and erosion.

**Cultural Manifestations**

**Time Period of Occupation**
Prehistoric; Modern (1901-present)

**Basis for Time Period**
Abundant prehistoric artifacts and features along with historic artifacts and modern construction

- Single Component
- Multiple Component
- Component Unknown

**Basis for Component**
No temporally diagnostic artifacts observed

**Cultural Features**
Numerous cultural features are present at this site. Prehistoric features include a boulder shelter, midden deposits, scattered burned rock, thermal hearths, and numerous bedrock mortar depressions. Most of the best preserved prehistoric features present at this site are concentrated along the eastern edge of the prominent tuff outcrop that dominates the northeastern half of the site. While there are numerous collapsed boulders and shallow caves (wind caves) that punctuate this landform, only two exhibit evidence of prehistoric occupation. Both shelters retain dark, smoke blackened ceilings and lack evidence of rock imagery. The larger of the two occupied shelters (F01) is along the northern extent of the arc of the tuff outcrop opens to the north and south. Both openings feature the remains of low dry-stacked masonry walls of unknown origin. This shelter measures roughly 5m long by 4m deep and 3.5 meters high. While burned rock is abundant to the south of the shelter, its floor appears to have been
scraped bare and retains only loose gravel. A modern graffiti pictograph was observed to be chipped into the berok near the mouth of the shelter.

The second shelter is a boulder shelter (F02) at the southeastern edge of the landform. This north-facing shelter is small, measures only 1.5m high and 2m wide, and extending around 2m deep. The shelter was looted for artifacts in 2014 with a roughly 1.5m² by 0.6m deep impact placed directly into the mouth of the feature. Documentation prior to stabilization and back-filling (with geotextile and sterile alluvium) indicated that the subsurface floor and midden deposits here extend at least 50cm below the modern surface. The boulder that forms this structure appears to have broken away from the tuff outcrop at some point during the long occupation of this site and overtops buried cultural deposits. A nearby fallen boulder appears to retain two mortar holes in its side that were ground into place before the structure fell.

Midden deposits are present on the east, west, and south sides of the tuff outcrop, with the eastern deposits being the most extensive. The western midden (F03) occupies a sloped alcove along the western side of the ridge at the base of a shelter (F-1) and measures roughly 10m by 15m, though it is heavily impacted at its downslope edge. The eastern midden (F04) measures 36m by 13m, the southern midden (F05) measures 18m by 16m, and both extend from the base of the tuff outcrop to surround small boulder shelter (F02). Midden features are comprised of large amounts of thermally affected rock, charcoal stained soil, ash, and abundant lithic debitage and tools.

The remains of a heavily impacted and deflated midden deposit (F-6) is present roughly 45m west of the ridge. Little appears to remain aside from a 10m by 8m stain within the bulldozed roadway and movie set that impacts much of the western half of the site. Two partially deflated thermal hearths are also present, each roughly 12m south of the impacted midden stain. Both features (F-7&8) are circular and roughly 1m in diameter and, while being impacted by modern activities, may yet retain intact buried deposits.

Groundstone features on the site consist of 16 well-developed bedrock mortars. These features are grouped into three prominent clusters, the easternmost (F09) having 4 mortars, the northern (F10) having 3, and the easternmost (F11), having 7 ground into the high bedrock outcrop that divides the site. Another cluster of 2 mortar features (F12) are present the side of a large boulder that appears to have broken away from the outcrop just south of cluster F11. The mortars are generally ground into a roughly conical shapes ranging in diameter from 20-30cm and in depth from 30-50cm.

Historic features include the remains of four adobe structures and several loosely stacked rock walls, though it is not abundantly obvious if the structures are authentic owing to the presence of a modern movie set from the early 1990’s at the location.

Feature F13 is the foundational remains and associated melt of a large rectangular adobe structure measuring roughly 22ft by 26ft. Parts of the north wall and northeast corner remain intact and stand a maximum of 4ft high. Several walls appear to have fallen and melted, leaving an irregular adobe melt stain roughly 1000ft². Based on the foundation, a door appears to have built into the structure’s east side. A few pieces of degraded sheet metal and tar paper roofing were observed eroding from the adobe melt pile but no other historic artifacts were observed.

Feature 14 is the foundational remains and associated melt of a small square adobe structure measuring roughly 13ft on each side. Standing wall remains are present on the north and west sides and the southwest corner, with maximum standing height of about 2ft. The southeast corner has collapsed entirely and is being eroded away by a shallow rill. There is no evidence of a door accessing the structure. No artifacts were observed in association with the structure.

Feature 15 is the foundational remains and melt of a small rectangular adobe structure measuring roughly 12ft by 10 ft. No standing walls remain above about a foot in height. All walls appear to have fallen outward, leaving a melt stain measuring around 500ft². No doorway or historic artifacts were observed in association with this structure.

Feature 16 is a partially intact rectangular adobe structure measuring roughly 15ft by 18ft, with three full height walls standing 8ft and partially intact roof. The southern wall has either collapsed or was left open to accommodate filming interior shots. This structure is built with a combination of small adobe bricks and modern dimensional lumber and appears to have been left completely unplastered on both interior and exterior surfaces. The building
features a small curvilinear hearth/ fireplace in the northeast corner that does not appear to have been functional.

**Approximate Site Size** 2484m³/ 0.61 acre  
**Basis for Determination** Distribution of surface features and artifacts; GIS  
**Top of Deposit Below Surface** Surface  
**Basis for Determination** Artifacts at surface  
**Bottom of Deposit** >50 cmbs  
**Basis for Determination** Erosive cuts and looter's pit

**Artifactual Materials Observed**  
An estimated 500 pieces of debitage and core fragments are present on the site surface, though surface context is questionable given the surface impacts. Modern trash and wire is abundant.

**Discussion of Site**  
This large, complex site has a large prehistoric component but suffers from significant modern impacts. The distribution of prehistoric artifacts and features suggests that the original archaic site deposits were far more expansive than what can be observed today. Dark midden soils and debitage were both observed to extend around presumably below the adobe structures that dominate the site. The 1975 site form simply states the presence of burned rock midden deposits and bedrock mortars and makes no mention of ranching era structures, though historic features were frequently ignored in this time.

The general absence of an extensive historic artifact assemblage, in conjunction with no corresponding ranches depicted on historic topographic maps, suggests that all of the structures at this location are the remains of movie props rather than the result of any legitimate historic occupation. This also suggests that the prehistoric occupation was likely more extensive prior to being impacted and destroyed by construction and use of the movie set.

The remaining buried and potentially intact prehistoric deposits are isolated to the base of the prominent tuffaceous outcrop. The deposits on the east side of this outcrop appear to retain the most intact deposits though they are also the most exposed to erosion from flooding of the adjacent creek drainage. Erosive cuts and the recent looter's pit (now stabilized and filled) indicate that midden deposits extend at least 50cm below the modern surface. This part of the site is a good candidate for additional subsurface testing and/or mitigation of the damage done elsewhere on the site. Given their modern origins, no effort should be made to stabilize the adobe structures, though vehicle access to the landform should be restricted to prevent dumping and further damage to buried deposits.
Registration and Recommendations

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<th>Registration Status</th>
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<th>Conservation Easement</th>
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<tr>
<td>State Arch Landmark</td>
<td>Has potential</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered TX Landmark</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
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Registration Comments

Research Value
Remaining intact portion of site has moderate research potential

Further Investigations
Monitor for impacts to shelter deposits and midden, as well as for the presence of exposed temporally diagnostic artifacts and additional looting impacts

Attachments
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial: 41PS128
Address: Big Bend Ranch State Park
City: Presidio
County: Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner: Park Archeologist)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner:)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
☐ Historic
☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)
☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
☐ The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
☐ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
☐ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
☐ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck

Criterion for Shipwrecks:
☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection

Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)
☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
☐ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
☐ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
☐ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UTM Zone</th>
<th>NAD datum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NE Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
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<td>SE Corner</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Centroid</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- USGS quad name and number: Santana Mesa (2903-232)
- Acreage of nominated property: 1.5 acres
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location: [Redacted]

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Historic ranchstead habitation

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures
- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  - ☐ Deed
  - ☐ Metes and bounds
  - ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  - ☐ Survey map
  - ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  - ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name  Tim Gibbs
Address  21800 FM 170
City  Terlingua  County  Brewster  State  TX
Telephone#  432-424-3327
Email Address  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator’s Signature  Tim Gibbs  Date 03-10-2022

6. Property Owner

Name  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address  4200 Smith School Road
City  Austin  County  Travis  State  TX
Telephone#  512-389-4736
Email Address  michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, ______________________________________, as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission’s records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by, the Antiquities Code of Texas insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark,” will be recorded in the deed records in the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner’s Signature: ______________________________________________ Date ________________

* Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual’s or group’s own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant’s residence.

* The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
* An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper’s publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property's eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
- Proof of Publication
- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form
  - Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

☐ Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  - Individually listed
  - District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  - Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District ____________________________

Certified by ____________________________ Date __________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.
☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: 7/6/22
41PS128 – Casa Reza
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Site 41PS128, the Casa Reza site, is an early 20th century habitation occupied by the Victorio Reza family along Panther Canyon 1907 - 1954. The site was initially recorded in 1975 as CC8 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of Colorado Canyon (Survey #11) and was one of the few historic occupations recorded during this project. The site assemblage and historic structures were intensively documented in maps and architectural drawings by TPWD staff in 1991 prior to stabilization. The site was re-recorded in 2017 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has been monitored annually since. Architectural condition assessments of structures were conducted in 2017 and 2019.

Features at Casa Reza site include two standing adobe structures and an associated artifact scatter. The structures are constructed on a mud-mortared stone foundation with locally fabricated bricks measuring roughly 4" by 14" by 20" in size. Each structure appears to have originally supported flat roofs supported by cottonwood vigas, sotol and lechugilla latillas, and finished with a thick puddled adobe cap. Standing animal pens constructed of dry-laid masonry remain in place nearby the habitation. Numerous historic appliances and artifacts are present within the two structures, and metal and glass artifacts are scattered broadly around the habitation and surrounding terraces. The area within and surrounding the structures is anticipated to retain intact cultural deposits buried by abundant adobe and plaster sloughed from the structures since abandonment.

A large portion of the surface artifact assemblage of 41PS128 was collected by TPWD archeologists when the site was mapped in 1991 before the installation of the Rancherias Loop Trail. The falling ruins of Casa Reza were repaired in 1992, further impacting the surrounding site through the acquisition of earth for adobe and plaster. The subsequent use of the trail increased impacts to the site through graffiti, camping, and ground fires in and around the habitation. Despite its historic utilization as a line camp, artifact collection, rehabilitation, and modern use of the trail, it is estimated that upwards of 70 percent of the site remains intact. The potential for buried deposits, in conjunction with the intact vernacular architecture and an extensive ethnographic record give this site high research potential. The historic component Casa Reza site is eligible for official SAL status based on Criteria 1, 2, and 5.

Future actions at this site will include annual monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff, as well as the completion of a Historic Architectural Building Survey (HABS) documentation of surviving structures.
General Site Information

Site Name: Casa Reza  
Site Type: Historic Habitation  

Explanation of Type: Historic ranching occupation with two standing adobe buildings and two masonry animal pens

Project and Permit

Project Name: Evaluation of sites along Rancherias Loop Trail  
Project Number:  
Project Funding: TPWD  
Permit Number: Annual Permit #7898  
Permit Source: Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

Name: Tim Gibbs  
Phone: 432-424-3327  
Fax:  
Email: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov  
Affiliation: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
Address: HC 70 Box 375 Terlingua TX 79852

Sources of Information

Owner: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant: Originally recorded as Casa Reza (41PS128) by Barbara Baskin in 1975; site transit mapped and artifacts collected in 1991 by TPWD staff (D. Ing, D. Beene, & B. Davis); revisited in 1992 by Ed Baker for TPWD, but no formal revisit form appears to have been filed

Additional Sources: Additional recorders: David Keller, Sam Cason, and Matthew Beavers

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date: 3/13/2017  
Surface Inspection/Collection Date: 3/13/2017  
Method: Pedestrian survey

Mapping Dates: 3/13/2017  
Method: Compass and pace with consumer-grade GPS

Testing Dates: None  
Method: None

Excavation Dates: None  
Method: None

11/19/2017
Records and Materials

Records
shapefile; digital map; daily journal; field inventory catalogue; paper map

Materials Collected
Numerous metal, glass, ceramic, and assorted other artifacts recorded during work conducted February 5-7, 1991 by TPWD staff (D. Ing, D. Beene, & B. Davis). No artifacts collected during recent site revisit.

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing
Unknown

Permanent Housing
Texas Parks and Wildlife Archeology Laboratory

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water
Perennial Spring, West, 20m

Major Drainage
Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage
Panther Creek

Soil Description and Reference
Bofellos-Rock outcrop complex, 12 to 60 percent slope- SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible
85%

Surface Texture
Sandy and gravelly alluvium derived from igneous and sedimentary rock

Soil Derivation
✓ Alluvial ✓ Colluvial □ Eolian □ In Situ □ Marine

Other Soils
Environmental/Topographical Setting
Site occupies a small creek terrace comprised of Oligocene-aged basalt lavas (from the Las Burras Lavas Member of the Rawls Formation) and Quaternary-aged alluvial fan deposits resulting from the downcutting of Panther Creek. Soils are relatively thin across the landform. Vegetation is dense along the creek edge, becoming much thinner at the center of the terrace where historic impacts and modern camping are focused. The plant community is dominated by acacia, mesquite, and hackberry thicket, interspersed by tasajillo and opuntia, ocotillo, yucca, leatherstem, guyacan, forbes, and grasses.

Site Conditions

Circumstances Affecting Observation
Hot, sunny spring afternoon

Site Condition Good/70% intact

Current Land Use
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Natural Impacts
Erosion, flooding, and bioturbation.

Artificial Impacts
Livestock, historic modification, surface collection, park hiking trail, heavy pedestrian traffic

Future Impacts
Continued pedestrian traffic and erosion.

Cultural Manifestations

Time Period of Occupation
Unknown Prehistoric; Historic

Basis for Time Period
Presence of prehistoric and historic artifacts

☐ Single Component  ✔ Multiple Component  ☐ Component Unknown

Basis for Component
Presence of both historic and prehistoric artifacts

Cultural Features
The cultural features present at this site are historic in origin and consist of two intact adobe buildings and two dry-laid masonry animal pens. The structures are constructed of locally made adobe blocks on a foundation of igneous rock. Both the adobe blocks and masonry foundations appear to be held together with earthen mortar and plastered on both interior and exterior surfaces with multiple layers of earthen plaster. The northern structure (F01) measures roughly 20 feet by 15 feet and is smaller than the southernmost structure (F02), which measures roughly 40 feet by
15 feet. Both structures stand roughly 12 feet tall along the eastern edge with a galvanized metal roof sloping to about 11 feet tall along the western edge. The structures are aligned roughly North-South along the creek terrace with a narrow drainage having formed in the roughly 12 feet between the buildings. The interiors of both buildings are heavily etched with the graffiti of historic visitors dating back to the 1970's. Both structures have undergone significant modern stabilization and renovation, with the most recent work conducted in 2009 according park maintenance staff. The initial effort to stabilize the buildings occurred in 1999 when TPWD staff sought to stabilize the structure with the addition of new adobe block to replace the missing segments of upper wall, plaster, doors and shutters for the windows, and a roof to protect the interior from further erosion. The plaster and aperture treatments were repaired again roughly 10 years later in 2009, though no written or photographic documentation has thus far been found to support the extent of work that was conducted in 1999 or 2009.

The masonry animal pens are located upslope to the north of the structures (F03) and a short distance to the south on the same terrace (F04). The structure F03 is roughly circular and retains full-height walls of between eight and ten courses of locally occurring igneous rock built around a large boulder to create a pen with no entryway. This feature measures around 5 feet by 6 feet with walls 4-4.5 feet high. Based on the lack of a doorway and the height of the walls, it would appear that this structure functioned as a pen for young animals (most likely goats) that could easily be lifted out from above. The other feature (F04) is similar in its construction style but larger at about 8 feet by 6 feet. The walls of the structure are marginally thicker but have collapsed on the downhill edge. The intact wall segment that remains is roughly 3 feet high. The northern wall appears to be a partial with the remainder of the wall made of large flat rocks that could have been easily moved to gain access to the pen. Based on informant interviews, the shorter walls, and the presence of an entry this feature likely functioned as a Trochil or Chiquero de Puercos or pig pen.

**Approximate Site Size** 425m x 175m (6,250m²)

**Basis for Determination** Distribution of cultural features and artifacts

**Top of Deposit Below Surface** Surface

**Basis for Determination** Artifacts and features observed on the surface

**Bottom of Deposit** >20cm

**Basis for Determination** Bioturbation and erosional cuts near structures

**Artifactual Materials Observed**
Both historic and prehistoric artifacts are present at this site, though the vast majority of those observed are historic in origin. During the TPWD effort to map this site in 1991, archeologists described a total of 110 historic artifacts of metal, glass, ceramic, and other materials associated with the early 20th century occupation of Casa Reza. Of this described artifact assemblage, 88 appear to have been collected from the site to mitigate the perceived visitor impacts by the newly constructed Rancherias Loop Trail. During the most recent site visit, the remaining artifact assemblage consists of around 50 metal cans, 30 pieces of glass, 30 sherds of pottery, and another 20 pieces of assorted metal scrap and fragmentary wood. No more than 20 pieces of prehistoric debitage were observed across the site and a single metate was observed within the interior of the animal pen (F03) upslope from the adobe structures.

**Discussion of Site**
The historic occupation of Casa Reza was initiated in 1907 by homesteader Victorio Reza and his family, who had moved into the canyon some years earlier to raise goats and occupied a nearby rockshelter (41PS129) downstream until the first of the building was finished (Ing et al 1996: 59). The Reza family maintained a fruit orchard and extensive temporales (crops grown in the drainage channel) in "Cañon de Leon" irrigated by the spring to provide for the family, and raised upwards of a thousand animals in the surrounding valley, selling the resulting wool, cheese, and meat in Redford, TX and in the nearby mining camps of Terlingua (Ing et al 1996:189-190,
Klingemann 1998: 197-227). The Reza family occupied Panther Canyon for over 42 years, until 1954, when it was transferred to the present owner of Big Bend Ranch due to foreclosure for delinquent tax payments (Ing et al. 1996: 190). There is no evidence that the site was occupied on a full-time basis after being abandoned by the Reza family, though the structures “may have been occupied intermittently occupied throughout the years” for short periods by pastores tending animals in the area of the spring (Baskin 1975:125). The property, along with the bulk of the remaining Big Bend Ranch, was acquired in 1988 by the State of Texas and the area around Casa Reza has since become a popular overnight camping destination with the installation of the Rancherias Loop Trail.

Overall, the historic artifact assemblage is remarkably sparse at this site. Granted extensive collection activities have been conducted by TPWD archeologists before the Rancherias Loop trail was installed, but there are still curiously few cans, bottles, and other domestic materials for a perennial habitation that supported a large homesteader family for over forty years. In particular, there is little to no evidence for older can types that one might expect to have been used in the early decades of the 20th century. There are also very few lard cans and no solder-dot milk cans in the site assemblage, which is exceptionally unusual for a domestic occupation along the borderlands. Also underrepresented are feminine or child-specific artifacts such as cosmetic jars, decorative combs, doll parts, or marbles, despite the presence of both women and numerous children during the long occupation of this valley. Overall the lack of diversity in this small assemblage could be the result of extensive historic surface collection or a function of seasonal flooding of the midden deposits along Panther Creek, but it could just as easily be simply indicative of the meager consumer goods that could be afforded and brought in to such a remote location by people of limited means. Mrs. Anita Carrasco Reza, daughter-in-law of Victorio Reza and occupant of Casa Reza, stated during an interview that while the family grew abundant food and had good water at Cañon de Leon, they generally lacked money (Klingemann 1998: 223). Given the poverty that defined the border region at the turn of the 19th century, it should come as no surprise that the occupants of this site would have reused everything that they could and left little behind of value.

The Casa Reza site was first recorded in 1975 by Barbara Baskin and Michael Mallouf as part of the interdisciplinary University of Texas Natural Area Surveys conducted across what would eventually become BBRSP. Though they had little time for thorough investigation and rarely focused on historic sites, Baskin’s team recognized the site as an important occupation in the region. The site received little attention until the ranch was bought by the State of Texas and turned into a State Natural Area. In its earliest days, Big Bend State Natural Area provided little in the way of public access, but this was to change with the creation of the RLT in 1991. In an effort to mitigate damage to this and other sites by the proposed trail, archeologists and surveyors from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) mapped the site with a surveyor’s transit and collected many of the artifacts that once covered the area around the adobe structures. A short time after the trail was opened to the public, staff from TPWD returned to Casa Reza in 1999 to stabilize the structure with the addition of new adobe blocks to replace the missing segments of upper wall, plaster, doors and shutters for the windows, and a roof to protect the interior from further erosion. The plaster and aperture treatments were repaired again roughly 10 years later in 2009, though no written or photographic documentation has thus far been found to support the extent of work that was conducted in 1999 or 2009. The structures are currently maintained as an interpretive wayside stop for backpackers along the Rancherias Loop trail, as well as a park gear cache to support trail work and resource monitoring efforts along this trail.
Registration and Recommendations

Registration Status

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<th>State Arch Landmark</th>
<th>Has potential</th>
<th>Conservation Easement</th>
<th>Unknown or n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered TX Landmark</td>
<td>Has potential</td>
<td>National Register</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration Comments
Site should be submitted for SAL status

Research Value
While there are limited intact buried resources present, the good condition of the architecture here in conjunction with the rich ethnohistoric record make this site highly valuable.

Further Investigations
This site should be monitored regularly for changes to its condition and the presence of additional artifacts. The structures should be maintained regularly and an interpretive panel should be installed to detail the history of this valley and promote continued stewardship of this valuable resource

Attachments
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial 41PS130
Address Big Bend Ranch State Park
City Presidio County Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner Park Archeologist)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
☐ Historic
☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)

☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;

☐ The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;

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Criterion for Shipwrecks:

☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

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Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)

☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;

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- USGS quad name and number: Santana Mesa (2903-232)
- Acreage of nominated property: 0.1 acre
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location: [Blank]

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Prehistoric rockshelter

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures

- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
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  ☐ Deed
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County Travis
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Owner's Signature: ____________________________ Date ____________

• Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

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☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property's eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
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- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form
  - Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

- Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  - Individually listed
  - District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  - Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District ____________________________

Certified by ____________________________ Date ______________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.

☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: 7/10/22

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone: 512/463-6100
www.thc.state.tx.us
Site 41PS130 is a rockshelter occupation of unknown prehistoric age. The site was first recorded in 1975 as CC10 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of Colorado Canyon (Survey #11). The site was re-recorded in 2017 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has since been monitored biennially.

Site features include two shelter areas with smoke blackened ceilings, bedrock mortars, two small rock imagery panels, a thin talus midden, and a possible human internment. The larger shelter has three generally level terraces covered in dark midden soils and artifacts. Six bedrock mortars are located on the exposed surface of the central terrace. Several small faded pictographic elements are also present in two locations along the back wall of the larger shelter. No cultural features are present in the smaller shelter. The surface site assemblage consists of chipped stone debitage and tools, groundstone, bone, and abundant perishable materials. The presence of possible human bone in association with a historic looter's pit at the back of the large shelter would suggest that buried human remains may be present.

Both rockshelters at 41PS130 are well protected from the elements and exhibit very little evidence of erosion. Collapsed barbed wire fencing at the mouth of the large shelter suggests that the rockshelter was historically utilized as an animal pen. A shallow depression in the rear of the larger shelter, along with modern historic beverage cans and a section of modified pipe, appears to correspond with an open looter's pit observed in 1975. Despite these historic impacts, as much as 70 percent of the site may remain intact, including buried cultural deposits in the larger shelter.

The presence of probable intact buried cultural deposits with good preservation, coupled with the potential for human remains, makes 41PS130 eligible for official SAL status under criteria 1, 2, & 5.

Future actions at this site are to include biennial monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
General Site Information

Site Name
Site Type Rock Shelter

Revisit

Explanation of Type
High rockshelter with extensive aboriginal occupation

Project and Permit

Project Nam Evaluation of sites along Rancherias Loop Trail
Project Number
Permit Number Annual Permit #7898
Project Funding TPWD
Permit Source Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

Name Tim Gibbs
Phone 432-424-3327
Fax
Email tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Affiliation Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address HC 70 Box 375
Terlingua
TX 79852
☑ Recorder Visited Site

Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant
Originally recorded by Barbara Baskin in 1975; revisited in 1992 by Ed Baker for TPWD, but no revisit form appears to have been filed

Additional Sources
Additional recorders:
David Keller, Sam Cason, and Matthew Beavers

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date 3/13/2017
Surface Inspection/Collection Date 3/13/2017
Method Pedestrian survey
Mapping Dates 3/13/2017
Method Compass and pace with consumer-grade GPS
Testing Dates None
Method None
Excavation Dates None
Method None

11/20/2017
Records and Materials

Records
shapefile; digital map; daily journal

Materials Collected
Painted gourd fragment
Special Samples
None
Temporary Housing
None
Permanent Housing
Texas Parks and Wildlife Archeology Laboratory

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water
Perennial Spring, Southeast, 300m

Major Drainage
Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage
Panther Creek

Soil Description and Reference
Bofecillos-Rock outcrop complex, 12 to 60 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible
95%

Surface Texture
Exposed basalt, aeolian silt, and colluvium derived from basalt

Soil Derivation
☐ Alluvial ☑ Colluvial ☑ Eolian ☑ In Situ ☐ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
Site occupies a large rock shelter and a smaller boulder overhang along the lower edge of a high escarpment composed of Oligocene-aged trachyte lava of the Sauceda Lavas Member of the Rawls Formation. The interior of
the shelters are comprised of exposed bedrock, degraded colluvium, and fine Aeolian silts, along with dense deposits of cultural midden fill. Vegetation is generally absent with the shelter and sparse along the drip line and subsequent talus deposits. The plant community includes opuntia, leatherstem, creosote, forbes, and grasses.

### Site Conditions

**Circumstances Affecting Observation**
Hot, sunny spring afternoon

**Site Condition** Moderate/ ~70% intact

**Current Land Use**
Big Bend Ranch State Park

**Natural Impacts**
Bioturbation and erosion

**Artificial Impacts**
Livestock, historic modification, surface collection, looting

**Future Impacts**
Possible pedestrian traffic and erosion.

### Cultural Manifestations

**Time Period of Occupation**
Unknown Prehistoric; Modern (1901-present)

**Basis for Time Period**
Presence of prehistoric and modern artifacts

- Single Component
- Multiple Component
- Component Unknown

**Basis for Component**
Presence of prehistoric and modern artifacts

**Cultural Features**
Cultural features present at this site are predominantly aboriginal, but also include a historic fence at the mouth of the large shelter. The prehistoric features include two separate shelter areas with smoke blackened ceilings, 6 bedrock mortars, two small rock imagery panels, a thin talus, and a possible human interment.

Within the large shelter, there are three main activity areas concentrated to three generally level terraces that can be very simply described by their elevation: upper, middle, and lower. The lower terrace occupies the mouth of the shelter and abuts the middle terrace and the top of the talus cone, and can be characterized by a thin layer (10-15cm) of dark midden soil, wind-blown dust, ash, burned rock, and debitage trending downslope into the talus. Also present at the northern edge of the shelter at the base of the lower terrace is a fence post connected to roughly 10 feet of rusted barbed wire that, along with abundant animal feces, suggests that this shelter was used a livestock
pen during the historic occupation of the valley below. The southern edge of the shelter is obscured by fallen boulders and debris from the shelter roof and upper escarpment, and may preserve intact cultural deposits.

The second terrace is composed of exposed tuffaceous bedrock that rises 30-50 cm above the lower terrace and stretches across the width of the shelter. Though much of this middle surface is covered in fallen boulders and roof spall, the northern half is mostly exposed and features six metates ground into its surface. The metates have been constructed at varying depths and diameters from incipient, shallow features 10cm across and 5cm to deep, well-worn metates 20cm across and at least 25cm deep.

The upper terrace is roughly 50cm higher than the middle terrace and stretches along the entire back (west side) of the shelter. The surface of the upper shelter terrace is a mix of exposed tuffaceous bedrock, midden soils, and roof-fall. The far southwestern corner of the shelter features a shallow alcove that extends roughly 60cm beyond the rear shelter wall and appears to feature some small (<10cm) pictographic images executed in ochre pigment. Another single element was also observed along the back wall of the shelter roughly 6 meters north of the alcove. Though the images are heavily faded, the natural lighting was poor and insufficient to attempt digital enhancement. Between these two small panels, roughly 40cm from the back wall, a small depression in the surface was observed that is consistent with the looter impact identified during the initial recordation of the site in 1975. While a number of artifacts where observed at the surface along the edge of the presumed looter’s impact, the presence of a skull fragment containing morphology similar to that of a human is most disconcerting and points to the potential presence of a (at least partially) intact human internment within upper terrace deposits.

**Approximate Site Size**  70 m x 15m (460m²)

**Basis for Determination** Distribution of cultural features and artifacts

**Top of Deposit Below Surface** Surface

**Basis for Determination** Artifacts and features observed on the surface

**Bottom of Deposit** Unknown

**Basis for Determination** No erosive exposures in shelter deposits

**Artifactual Materials Observed**
The cultural artifacts observed at this site are predominantly aboriginal with a few historic elements that are indicative of recent impacts. Native American artifacts include around 150 pieces of chipped stone debitage, a biface fragment, a unifacial scraper, a small portable metate, a mano with extensive wear along its edges. The most abundant artifacts are perishable materials including a fragment of cordage tied to a small stick, several small fragments of wound cordage, large quantities of animal bone, and a single fragment of dried gourd with ochre pigment on the exterior surface (collectected). Most notably, a possible human skull fragment was also observed at the edge of a presumed looting impact that may indicate the presence of additional human remains. Historic materials include several strands of rusted barbed wire and a modified pipe fragment that may have been used during modern times as a digging bar by looters.

**Discussion of Site**
The occupational areas are generally confined to the larger, east-facing shelter, an erosion caveate formed at a geological contact zone between basalt lava and tuff, and a smaller boulder shelter comprised of a small boulder shelter beneath a large fallen basalt block from the overlying escarpment above. All cultural features were observed in the larger shelter, though both exhibit smoke stained ceilings and walls. Artifacts were found in both shelters, though only a low density scatter was observed in the boulder shelter and the narrow strip of level ground that runs along the base of the escarpment between the two shelters.

During the initial site visit in 1975, Baskin noted that the site had been looted and the presence of a shallow pit roughly 1 meter by 2 meters in size impacting the interior deposits of the shelter. This looter’s impact was
tentatively located during this revisit in the upper rear portion of the shelter. Though the pit is no longer open, it currently exists as a depression of similar dimensions and is characterized by a higher concentration of cultural materials (presumably disturbed from buried deposits) including debitage, charcoal, cordage, sotol leaf bases, a painted gourd fragment, and a unique bone fragment. Most importantly, the bone fragment retains morphology that closely resembles structures and sutures present on the ventral surface of the human skull. Given the prevalence of human interments within the deeper deposits often present at the rear of caves and shelters, this looter’s pit may have purposely targeted this area in search of grave goods. A piece of galvanized steel pipe, modified on one end to form a wedge, was also observed near the looter’s pit and may have been used as a breaker bar or digging stick in the excavation of the pit.

Overall, this site appears to have been occupied periodically over a long period of time, though not intensively enough to facilitate the development of a large midden. Based on the spatial location of the shelter, the cultural occupations of this site, both historic and aboriginal, were probably related to the cluster of sites located in the valley below around Ojo de Leon.

Registration and Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
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<td><strong>State Arch Landmark</strong></td>
<td>Has potential</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Registered TX Landmark</strong></td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Conservation Easement</strong></td>
<td>Unknown or n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Register</strong></td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration Comments
Site should be submitted for SAL status

Research Value
Site potentially retains intact buried deposits and may contain human remains

Further Investigations
Monitor for impacts to shelter deposits and talus, as well as for the presence of exposed temporally diagnostic artifacts and/or human remains.

Attachments
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial: 41PS132
Address: Big Bend Ranch State Park
City: Presidio  County: Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner) Park Archeologist
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
☐ Historic
☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)
☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
☐ The site’s archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
☐ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
☐ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
☐ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck

Criterion for Shipwrecks:
☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship’s remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection

Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)
☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
☐ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
☐ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
☐ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UTM Zone</th>
<th>NAD datum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NE Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Centroid</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- USGS quad name and number
- Acreage of nominated property: 0.1 acre
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location:

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Prehistoric rockshelter

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures

• Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
• Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name  Tim Gibbs
Address  21800 FM 170
City  Terlingua
County  Brewster
State  TX
Telephone  432-424-3327
Email Address  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator's Signature  Tim Gibbs
Date  03-10-2022

6. Property Owner

Name  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address  4200 Smith School Road
City  Austin
County  Travis
State  TX
Telephone  512-389-4736
Email Address  michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, ____________________________________________, as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission’s records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by, the Antiquities Code of Texas insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark,” will be recorded in the deed records in the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner’s Signature:  ____________________________  Date  ______________

• Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual's or group's own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant's residence.

• The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
• An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper's publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

☐ Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property's eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)

☐ Maps

☐ Deed

☐ Proof of Publication

☐ Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).

☐ National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)

☐ Archeological site data form

☐ Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

☐ Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places

☐ Individually listed

☐ District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)

☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District

Certified by ___________________________ Date ___________________________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.

☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: 7/6/22

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phonc 512/463-6100
www.thc.state.tx.us
Site 41PS132 is a rockshelter with an unknown prehistoric occupation. The site was first recorded in 1975 as CC15 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of Colorado Canyon (Survey #11). The site was re-recorded in 2020 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has been monitored biennially since.

Cultural features are concentrated under a shallow smoke-blackened overhang formed by two large boulders. Ash and dark midden soils are present across the site and locally dense within the northernmost shelter. These midden deposits extend roughly 5 meters to the north of the shelter within a dense thicket of thorny brush and may represent the remains of either an occupational talus or small burned rock midden. Chipped stone debitage and tools are present scattered across the surface of the site and the large amount of fallen spall within the shelters suggests that additional cultural materials are buried within the shelters. Historic food and tobacco cans are present on the site, as is a strand of barbed wire that appears to have anchored a fence across the drainage.

The shelter and adjacent landforms show signs of erosion from upslope and delamination of the surface of the boulders, but no obvious impacts were observed to the site surface itself. The presence of cans and wire, as well as the neighboring historic occupation at 41PS133, indicate that this site was probably used by goat herders (*pastores*) for shelter for themselves and/or their animals. Site 41PS132 is in a remote part of the park and its bushy setting is unlikely to attract public attention. Despite the proximity to the creek, there is no evidence that flooding has impacted site deposits, and the site appears to be about 80 percent intact.

Based on its remote location and the likelihood of intact buried cultural deposits, site 41PS132 is eligible for official SAL status under criteria 1 & 2.

Future actions at this site are to include biennial monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
State Of Texas
Archeological Site Form

Form Date 12/14/2020

General Site Information

Site Name
- Site Type: Rockshelter

Explanation of Type
- Small multiple component boulder shelter and thermal feature

Project and Permit

- Project Name: Not project specific
- Project Number: Annual Permit #8278
- Project Funding: TPWD
- Permit Number: Annual Permit #8278
- Permit Source: Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

- Name: Tim Gibbs
- Phone: 432-424-3327
- Fax: 
- Email: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
- Affiliation: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Address: HC 70 Box 375
- Terlingua
- TX
- 79852

Sources of Information

Owner
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant

Additional Sources
- Also recorded by Liz Shropshire (1973) and Barbara Baskin and Mike Mallouf (1975)

Work Performed

- Observation/Recording Date: 1/9/2020
- Surface Inspection/Collection Date: 1/9/2020
- Method: Pedestrian Survey - non-collective
- Mapping Dates: 1/9/2020
- Method: Mapping-grade GPS
- Testing Dates: None
- Method: None
- Excavation Dates: None
- Method: None
State Of Texas
Archeological Site Form

Records and Materials

Records
digital map; digital photos; shapefile

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing None

Permanent Housing None

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water ~20 meters east of Tapado Canyon

Major Drainage Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage Tapado Creek

Soil Description and Reference
Studybutte-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 30 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible 60%

Surface Texture Gravelly residuum weathered from rhyolite

Soil Derivation □ Alluvial □ Colluvial □ Eolian □ In Situ □ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
The site occupies a low creekside terrace above Tapado Canyon Creek composed of boulders and gravelly residuum, mapped as Study Butte-Rock outcrop complex, which is weathered from exposed Oligocene-aged Mitchel Mesa Rhyolite. Vegetation on the landform is dense and predominantly comprised of hackberry, acacia, and mesquite.
Site Conditions

Circumstances Affecting Observation
Difficult to access location requires difficult hike to reach; multiple visits with clear weather with ample time to observe

Site Condition  Good/80%

Current Land Use
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Natural Impacts
Erosion; bioturbation

Artificial Impacts
Historic use; surface collection

Future Impacts
Park visitors; erosion

Cultural Manifestations

Time Period of Occupation
Prehistoric; Historic

Basis for Time Period
Prehistoric and historic artifacts present

☐ Single Component  ☐ Multiple Component  ☑ Component Unknown

Basis for Component
No temporally diagnostic artifacts observed

Cultural Features
This small site is focused around a series of small boulder shelters that appear to have been utilized prehistorically and by historic ranchers. The cultural activities are concentrated under a shallow overhang (F01) formed under two very large tuffaceous boulders. Ash and thermally altered soil and rock are present across roughly 136 square meters, though the most concentrated deposits extend roughly 5 meters from the northernmost shelter (F02). The feature is covered in dense thorny vegetation making it difficult to ascertain whether the feature is an oven/midden or just the talus from repeated use of the shelter. Abundant debitage was observed amidst this feature, becoming sparser under the shelters. A strand of historic barb wire tied to a void in the edge of the northern shelter, along with numerous sanitary cans, indicates a historic use by pastores or goat herders.

Approximate Site Size  280m²/ 0.07 acre

  Basis for Determination  Distribution of surface features and artifacts; GIS

Top of Deposit Below Surface  Surface

12/14/2020
Basis for Determination  Artifacts at surface

Bottom of Deposit  Unknown

Basis for Determination  No exposed erosion or bioturbation of cultural deposits

Artifactual Materials Observed
Around 100 pieces of chipped stone debitage and 3 core fragments were observed scattered across the landform and under the boulder shelters. An unfinished biface and a unifacial scraper were observed among the talus deposits on the north side of the site. The large amount of surface breakdown spall within the shelters suggests that additional artifacts may be buried within the shelters. No diagnostic prehistoric artifacts were observed. Numerous recent historic and modern food and beverage cans and abundant fencing wire were also noted on this site.

Discussion of Site
This small boulder shelter site is small but appears to have a fairly extensive prehistoric occupation. The site is stable and well-protected by a dense brush thicket, which also prevents close inspection of the cultural deposits outside of the shelter area. The original 1973 site form describes 2-3 “potholes” (looter pits) in the midden deposit, but these could not be observed during recent site visits; based on the notes, forms, and site sketch map it appears that the two neighboring sites may have been conflated to some degree in the original forms.

Registration and Recommendations

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</table>

Registration Comments

Research Value
Moderate owing to presence of potentially intact buried deposits

Further Investigations
Regular monitoring for damage and eroded diagnostic artifacts; testing of midden deposits for depth and intactness

Attachments
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial 41PS133
Address Big Bend Ranch State Park
City Presidio County Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
  ☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
  ☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner Park Archeologist)
  ☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
  ☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
  ☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
  ☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
  ☐ Historic
  ☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)
☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
☐ The site’s archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
☐ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
☐ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
☐ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck
Criterion for Shipwrecks:
☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship’s remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection
Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)
☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
☐ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
☐ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
☐ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Centroid</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- USGS quad name and number: Aqua Adentro Mountain (2904-144)
- Acreage of nominated property: 3.7 acre
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location:

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Prehistoric encampment

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures:
- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name: Tim Gibbs
Address: 21800 FM 170
City: Terlingua
County: Brewster
Telephone: 432-424-3327
Email Address: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator's Signature: [Signature]
Date: 03-10-2022

6. Property Owner

Name: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address: 4200 Smith School Road
City: Austin
County: Travis
Telephone: 512-389-4736
Email Address: michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, ________________________________, as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission's records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by and its use governed by the Antiquities Code of Texas insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a "Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark," will be recorded in the deed records in the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner's Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________

* Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual's or group's own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant's residence.

* The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
* An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper's publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property’s eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
- Proof of Publication
- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form
  - Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

- Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  - Individually listed
  - District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  - Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District ____________________________
Certified by __________________ Date _____________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.
☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: 7/10/22
Site 41PS133 is a large multiple component site with evidence of 20th century and prehistoric occupations. The site was first recorded in 1975 as CC16 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of Colorado Canyon (Survey #11). The site was re-recorded in 2020 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has been monitored biennially since.

Cultural features at the site include a large burned rock midden, two shallow rockshelters, a large cluster of bedrock mortars, and two large stacked rock structures. The largest stacked rock structure is isolated in the northern half of the site and consists of extensive dry-stacked masonry walls constructed between several large volcanic tuff boulders on a low rise. South of this structure is a dense concentration of at least 15 mortars ground into an extensive exposure of bedrock at the margin of the upland terrace. The escarpment separating the terrace from the drainage has two shallow rockshelters with dry-stacked walls and smoke-blackened ceilings and shallow gravel floors that appear to have been used as animal pens. Another much larger shelter just below the rim of the escarpment features a full-height dry-stacked, double-coursed masonry wall across its mouth that is supported with a large cottonwood trunk, which appears to be historic in origin. Two small stacked rock structures are also present at the base of the escarpment and may represent the remains of aboriginal architecture or historic animal pens. The large burned rock midden extends from just below the escarpment to the edge of the drainage and stands roughly 1.5 meters above the surrounding landscape. This midden feature appears to have been intensively utilized and is dense with ash, thermally altered soil, ash, and rock.

Chipped stone and groundstone artifacts are abundant across the surface of the site and are especially dense in association with the midden feature. Historic glass and cans are present on the site, as are the remains of a barbed wire fence that crossed the site parallel to the drainage. A single lost spur was also observed but not collected.

Much of the surface of the site shows signs of erosion. Surface soil deposits are thin, aside from the large burned rock midden that may retain over a meter of cultural deposits. The presence of numerous cans, glass, wire, and presumably historic features indicate that this site was intensively used as a line camp by goat herders (pastores). Much of the upper terrace portion of the site appears to have been heavily grazed by livestock and remains largely denuded of grasses. Site 41PS133 is in a remote part of the part but does have evidence of tent pads from occasional backcountry campers. The large shelter structure has recent modern trash and blankets likely left by border crossers from Mexico. Despite numerous impacts and significant historic use, the site appears to be about 80 percent intact.

Given the modern and historic impacts, the unusual stacked rock architecture, and the high likelihood of intact midden deposits, the prehistoric component of site 41PS133 is eligible for official SAL status under criteria 1, 2, & 3.
Future actions at this site are to include biennial monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
General Site Information

Site Name
Revisit

Site Type  Open Campsite; ranching

Explanation of Type
Prehistoric camp and historic ranching structure

Project and Permit

Project Name  Not project specific

Project Number
Permit Number  Annual Permit #8278

Project Funding  TPWD

Permit Source  Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

Name  Tim Gibbs
Phone  432-424-3327  Fax
Email  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov

Affiliation  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Address  HC 70 Box 375
Terlingua

TX  79852

Recorder Visited Site

Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant

Additional Sources
Also recorded by Liz Shropshire (1973) and Barbara Baskin and Mike Mallouf (1975)

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date  3/13/2018

Surface Inspection/Collection Date  3/13/2018

Method  Pedestrian Survey - non-collective

Mapping Dates  3/13/2018

Method  Mapping-grade GPS

Testing Dates  None

Method  None

Excavation Dates  None

Method  None
Records and Materials

Records
digital map; digital photos; shapefile

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing  None
Permanent Housing  None

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water  ~30 meters east of Tapado Canyon
Major Drainage  Rio Grande River
Creek Drainage  Tapado Creek
Soil Description and Reference
Studybutte-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 30 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible  75%
Surface Texture  Gravelly residuum weathered from rhyolite
Soil Derivation  □ Alluvial  ✔ Colluvial  ✔ Eolian  ✔ In Situ  □ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
The site occupies a terrace above Tapado Canyon Creek composed of gravelly residuum, mapped as Study Butte-Rock outcrop complex, which is weathered from exposed Oligocene-aged Mitchel Mesa Rhyolite. Vegetation on the landform is relatively sparse and predominantly comprised of opuntia, leatherstem, acacia, grasses, and mesquite along the arroyo margins.
Site Conditions

Circumstances Affecting Observation
Multiple visits involving a long difficult hike and hot weather

Site Condition  Good/ >80% intact
Current Land Use
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Natural Impacts
Erosion; bioturbation; livestock

Artificial Impacts
Historic occupation; modern park visitors

Future Impacts
Continued visitor traffic and erosion.

Cultural Manifestations

Time Period of Occupation
Prehistoric; Modern (1901-present)

Basis for Time Period
Abundant prehistoric and historic artifacts and features

☐ Single Component  ☒ Multiple Component  ☑ Component Unknown

Basis for Component
No temporally diagnostic artifacts observed

Cultural Features
This large multiple component site contains a number of historic and prehistoric features. The prehistoric features consist of a large cluster of bedrock mortars, rockshelters, and an extensive burned rock midden. Historic features include two unique masonry structures, fencing, and animal pens. Both sets of features are focus on a prominent spring within the Tapado Canyon drainage and a smaller seep in the shallow drainage at the southern end of the site.

The burned rock midden (F01) lies at the southern extreme of the site nearest the seep and covers roughly 900 square meters to an estimated maximum of depth of around 1.5 meters. The feature is dense with ash, thermally altered soil and rock, debitage, and tools. It is covered with a short but dense stand of mesquite that stabilizes the feature but inhibits close inspection.

The shelters (F02 & F03) in the nearby escarpment just north of the midden all show varying degrees of smoke blackening and ashy talus, along with extensive historic use (more below). Just beyond the escarpment above the shelters is a large bedrock exposure pocked with at least fifteen bedrock mortars (F04). Most exposed mortars measure between 20-25 cm in diameter and varied 20-40 cm in depth, though many are filled with sediment and
may be deeper.
The historic structures (F03 & F06) are both constructed of dry-stacked locally abundant rock arranged in concert with natural landforms. The northernmost is focused on a cluster of exposed tuff boulders filled with stacked rock top forms a small room about 100 square feet in size. It is not apparent whether the structure had a roof, though it could have supported a simple roof of sotol and brush. Few historic artifacts were found in association with this feature. The other structure is built within the mouth of the largest shelter just below the rim of the escarpment at the southern end of the site. This shelter features a large dry-stacked wall with a large interior cottonwood support. The wall extends roughly 9 feet of shelter mouth, completely enclosing it except for a narrow doorway at the eastern edge of the shelter mouth. The interior is heavily blackened and contains abundant evidence of recent use. The smaller shelters both feature small dry-stacked walls that may have supported brush fencing for goats.
A small pen (F05) extends from the base of the escarpment below the shelter-structure and the midden deposit. Historic cans and wire cover the area below the structure. A historic pasture corner fence line runs through the site along the top of the escarpment, turns sharply to the east, and continues to Upper Guale Mesa.
Two modern “camp rings” or wallowed out areas were observed near the northernmost structure (F06) and appear to result from groups of overnight park visitors.

**Approximate Site Size** 14924m² / 3.69 acre

- **Basis for Determination** Distribution of surface features and artifacts; GIS

**Top of Deposit Below Surface** Surface

- **Basis for Determination** Artifacts at surface

**Bottom of Deposit** 1.5m

- **Basis for Determination** Erosion/ bioturbation

**Artifactual Materials Observed**

An estimated 300 pieces of debitage and at least 12 cores and core fragments were observed across this site. Most prehistoric artifacts are concentrated in a large lithic scatter between the exposed bedrock mortar field (F04) and the canyon rim and also in association with the large burned rock midden (F01) at the southern end of the site. Numerous pieces of groundstone fragments, as well as an intact “biscuit” mano were also observed in association with the midden and nearby shelters. Numerous historic and modern food and beverage cans and wire were observed across the site, as well as a single spur lost by a historic horse rider. The southern shelter (F03) has abundant evidence of modern use, with numerous modern food cans and abandoned blankets and clothing.

**Discussion of Site**

This large and complex site contains abundant evidence of extensive cultural occupation. The prehistoric component is extensive and well-preserved, with at least one area with potentially intact buried midden deposits. The historic component is consistent with other early- to mid-20th century ranching occupations in the area and likely functioned as a “line shack” or short-term habitation for goat herders (pastores) while tending remote pastures. The sparse historic artifact assemblage suggests that it was only sporadically utilized, possibly on a seasonal basis and may have been associated with the nearby El Oso (Elozo) ranchstead roughly two miles up-canyon. The site’s proximity to numerous springs would have made this area attractive throughout time. Its present remote location has likely helped to preserve it from all but the hardiest visitors to the area. The original 1975 site form mentions the northern “boulder house” feature but makes no effort to identify and describe the historic component nor the cluster of bedrock mortars; based on the notes, forms, and site sketch map it appears that the two neighboring sites may have been conflated to some degree in the original forms.
### Registration and Recommendations

#### Registration Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Arch Landmark</th>
<th>Registered TX Landmark</th>
<th>Conservation Easement</th>
<th>National Register</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has potential</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
<td>Unknown or n/a</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Registration Comments

**Research Value**
Site has moderate research value due to potentially intact buried midden deposits

**Further Investigations**
Monitor for impacts to shelter deposits and midden, as well as for the presence of exposed temporally diagnostic artefacts and potential looting impacts

**Attachments**
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial: 41PS140
Address: Big Bend Ranch State Park
City: Presidio
County: Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

☐ Public
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner: Park Archeologist)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

☐ Private
☐ Nomination prepared by property owner
☐ Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
☐ Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

☐ Archeological
☐ Historic
☐ Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)
☐ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
☐ The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
☐ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
☐ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
☐ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck
Criterion for Shipwrecks:
☐ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection
Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)
☐ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
☐ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
☐ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
☐ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archaeological properties (including shipwrecks)

- UTM Zone
- NAD Datum

- NE Corner
  - Easting
  - Northing
- SE Corner
  - Easting
  - Northing
- SW Corner
  - Easting
  - Northing
- NW Corner
  - Easting
  - Northing
- Site Centroid
  - Easting
  - Northing

- USGS quad name and number
- Acreage of nominated property: 1.5 acres
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location: Site occupies two rockshelters in canyon tributary of Rancherias Canyon

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Multicomponent rockshelter site

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures

- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name: Tim Gibbs
Address: 21800 FM 170
City: Terlingua
County: Brewster
Telephone: 432-424-3327
Email Address: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator’s Signature: [Signature]
Date: 6-30-2022

6. Property Owner

Name: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address: 4200 Smith School Road
City: Austin
County: Travis
Telephone: 512-389-4736
Email Address: michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

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7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

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Owner’s Signature: ____________________________ Date __________

- Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual’s or group’s own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant’s residence.

- The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
- An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper’s publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property's eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
- Proof of Publication
- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form
  - Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

- Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  - Individually listed
  - District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  - Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District ________________________________
Certified by ___________________________ Date ________________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.
☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: 7/6/22

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone: 512/463-6100
www.thc.state.tx.us
41PS140 – Skull Cave
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Site 41PS140, the Skull Cave site, is a multicomponent rockshelter with evidence of 20th century and Late Prehistoric occupations. The site was first recorded in 1975 as CC25 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of Colorado Canyon (Survey #11). The site was re-recorded in 2020 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has been monitored annually since.

Cultural features include two shelter areas with rock walls and smoke blackened ceilings, bedrock mortars, dry-stacked rock structures, a dense talus midden, and historic rock imagery. Both shelters are of similar size and have large dry-stacked masonry walls of unknown origin constructed at their driplines. Bedrock mortars are present in the floor of each shelter and in the exposed bedrock of the level bench just beyond the rockshelter spaces. Much of this bench is covered with a dense mantle of burned rock and ash, which extends off its edges into an extensive talus descending 10 meters downslope. Above this bench and the paired shelters, are two masonry features built of a single course of large rocks arranged in a roughly circular fashion on exposed bedrock surfaces of the top of the escarpment. Historic graffiti is etched into rear wall of the easternmost shelter, which depicts the word “Bogle”, presumably in reference to the Bogle Family who ran Big Bend Ranch until 1934.

Chipped stone debitage and tools, groundstone, and mussel shells were documented in association with the rockshelters and bench at 41PS140, though no artifacts were found with the upper component. A Late Prehistoric Perdiz type arrow point was collected from the back wall of the westernmost shelter. Historic food and tobacco cans are also abundant on the site.

While the rockshelters are well protected from the elements and exhibit little evidence of erosion, the occupational bench and talus slope have eroded. Abundant historic artifacts, in conjunction with the graffiti and possibly the rock walls, suggest a regular historic occupation of the site, likely by goat herders or pastores. The shelter and midden deposits appear mostly intact but are likely shallow. The western leg of the Rancherias Loop Trail runs roughly 30 meters downslope from the shelters and the site is plainly visible (the shelters resembling an animal skull) from FM 170 roughly 0.5 mile to the South. Despite its exposure, however, the Skull Cave site does not appear to regularly attract much visitor attention and remains around 80 percent intact.

The public nature of 41PS140, along with the presence of probable intact buried cultural deposits, unique aboriginal architecture, and a demonstrative connection to the historic Big Bend Ranch, makes both the historic and prehistoric components eligible for official SAL status under criteria 1, 2, 3, & 5.

Future actions at this site are to include annual monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
General Site Information

Site Name  Skull Cave
Site Type  Rockshelter

Explanation of Type
Two prominent rockshelters with historic and prehistoric components

Project and Permit

<table>
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<td>Project Number</td>
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<td>Project Funding</td>
<td>TPWD</td>
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Recorder Information

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tim Gibbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>432-424-3327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov">tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliation</td>
<td>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>HC 70 Box 375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terlingua</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TX 79852</td>
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Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Informant

Additional Sources
Also recorded by Barbara Baskin and Mike Mallouf (1975)

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date  3/12/2018
Surface Inspection/Collection Date  3/12/2018
  Method  Pedestrian Survey - non-collective
Mapping Dates  3/12/2018
  Method  Mapping-grade GPS
Testing Dates  None
  Method  None
Excavation Dates  None
  Method  None
Records and Materials

digital map; digital photos; shapefile

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing  None
Permanent Housing  None

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water  Seasonal intermittent drainage ~ 90 meters Southeast

Major Drainage  Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage  Unnamed tributary to Rancherias Creek

Soil Description and Reference
Terlingua-Rock outcrop complex, 20 to 70 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible  90%

Surface Texture  Gravelly residuum with fine silt on shelter floors

Soil Derivation  ☑ Alluvial  ☑ Colluvial  ☑ Eolian  ☑ In Situ  ☐ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
The site occupies two high, isolated terraces punctuated by a pair of shallow rock shelters. The surface of the landform features shallow skeletal soils comprised of gravelly residuum, mapped as Terlingua-Rock outcrop complex, weathered from Oligocene-aged San Carlos Tuff. The sparse vegetation present is dominated by creosote, tasajillo, leatherstem, opuntia, and acacia.
### Site Conditions

**Circumstances Affecting Observation**
Multiple site visits to easily accessible site near road

**Site Condition**  Good/ 80%

**Current Land Use**
Big Bend Ranch State Park

**Natural Impacts**
Erosion; bioturbation; spalling

**Artificial Impacts**
Road construction; surface collection; recreation

**Future Impacts**
Park visitors

---

### Cultural Manifestations

**Time Period of Occupation**
Prehistoric; Late Prehistoric 2; Modern (1901-present)

**Basis for Time Period**
Abundant prehistoric artifacts and features; diagnostic artifact and graffiti

- [ ] Single Component
- [x] Multiple Component
- [ ] Component Unknown

**Basis for Component**
Temporarily diagnostic projectile point; early 20th century graffiti

**Cultural Features**
This small multiple component site has numerous historic and prehistoric features including bedrock mortars, rockshelters, stacked rock structures, a dense talus midden, historic graffiti and possible animal pens. The site occupies a prominent canyon terrace immediately above a historic ranch road that is now part of the venerable Rancherias Loop Trail; while the trail sees a lot of traffic, there was no obvious recent use. The site is prominently visible from FM 170 owing to the two shelters which prompt the local colloquial name “Skull Caves” from its resemblance to an animal skull.

The prominent shelters for the habitational basis of the prehistoric component and flank a projection of bedrock that appears to have housed the primary occupational surface for the site. Both shelter features are shallow tuffaceous cavelets that have extensive smoke blackening and ashen floors. The easternmost shelter (F01), or left eye, measures roughly 7 meters wide, 2 meters high, and 3.5 meters deep. Two small mortar holes (<20cm in diameter) are exposed in the partial bedrock floor of the left eye shelter and another four mortars are present just beyond the mouth of the feature. A dry-stacked rock wall roughly 0.5 meters high spans around 3.5 meters of the mouth of this shelter. A few pieces of debitage are present on the floor of the shelter along with 2 small pieces of...
freshwater mussel shell.
The westernmost shelter (F02), or right eye, measures roughly 6 meters wide, 2.5 meters high, and 3.5 meters deep. This shelter has an extensive dry-stacked rock wall assembled across its entrance. This wall is actually two walls flanking an entrance, with the west wall measuring 2.5 meters by 0.6 meter high and the east wall measuring 3 meters by 1.5 meters high that curves back in towards the back wall of the shelter forming a small room. A small sediment filled mortar lies at western edge of the mouth of the right eye shelter. A small Perdiz projectile point and historic graffiti (described below) were also found within this shelter feature. There appears to be 10-15cm of potentially intact deposits within the floor of the right eye shelter.

Two additional dry-stacked rock structures were found on the canyon terrace above the shelters. Each stacked rock feature is built of a single course of large rocks arranged in a roughly circular fashion on exposed bedrock surfaces. The westernmost (F03) is larger at roughly 2.2 meters by 2.5 meters in size. The smaller eastern feature (F04) measures around a meter by 1.2 meters in size. While they are similar to redoubt features observed at other sites, no associated artifacts were observed and no function is understood.

The mostly level bedrock occupational surface between the two “eyes” of the site extends roughly 15 meters south of the shelters. This surface has three large, deep mortar holes (for a total of 10 mortars at the site) and is covered in abundant debitage and ashen soil and FCR. A well-developed burned rock talus (F05) extends off of this surface comprised of dense thermally altered soil, rock, and ash extending roughly 10 meters downslope. Abundant historic and prehistoric artifacts are both present in association with this talus midden feature, suggesting a unique continuity of habitation across components.

The historic component of this site is abundant, but also difficult to parse due to the degree of palimpsest overlap. The dry-stacked walls in particular are problematic as they have no clear origin based on their design or associated artifacts and represent a technology present throughout time. The abundant wire, sanitary, tobacco, and milk cans all indicate a fairly extensive occupation of this site by historic pastores or goat herders. In particular, the graffiti present on the wall of the “right eye” shelter draws a strong connection to ranching; while it is not entirely legible, one can clearly read the name “BOGEL” scrawled in the soft rock of the shelter. Given the presence of the historic road below the site, one can easily draw a connection between this graffiti and the Bogle Family who ran the Big Bend Ranch until 1934.

**Approximate Site Size** 6200m²/ 1.53 acre

**Basis for Determination** Distribution of surface features and artifacts; GIS

**Top of Deposit Below Surface** Surface

**Basis for Determination** Artifacts at surface

**Bottom of Deposit** <20cm in shelters; <1m in talus

**Basis for Determination** Erosion and bioturbation

**Artifactual Materials Observed**

An estimated 100 pieces of lithic debitage, 1 core, 1 biface, and two groundstone manos were observed on the surface of this small site. Most of the debitage is concentrated around the occupational area in front of the shelters and its talus. Two small pieces of freshwater mussel shell were noted on the floor of the easternmost shelter and a small Perdiz arrow point was found (and collected) from the back wall of the westernmost shelter. At least 20 modern and historic food cans litter the surface, along with wire and other metal fragments.

**Discussion of Site**

This multiple component rockshelter site preserves some fascinating glimpses into the occupants of this area. The site commands a scenic overlook above Rancherias Canyon opposite of Mesa la Nueva near the mouth of Colorado Canyon of the Rio Grande. This prominent location represents a sort of cross-roads of established travel corridors along the river and into the heart of the Bofecillos Mountains. The two shelters that make up the “eyes” of the Skull Cave represent some of the largest shelters in the Rancherias Canyon area and are large enough to
provide shelter for a small group or people or livestock. The prehistoric artifact and feature assemblage of this site contains abundant evidence of extensive habitation, presumably over a long period of time. The presence of the Perdiz arrow point at least demonstrates that this site was utilized during the Late Prehistoric roughly 1300 to 500 years ago (AD 700-1500), a time period that has also been ascribed to the construction of stacked rock architectural features elsewhere in the Big Bend. The historic occupation is consistent with the tradition of Hispanic goat herders (pastores) that extensively utilized the region from the Late 19th to the mid-20th century. While the stacked rock walls of the shelters are not temporally diagnostic of this occupation, they were extensively constructed across the region by pastores to help protect and control their livestock, as well as to divide the landscape into watered pastures (apurcanderos). This herding tradition was gradually absorbed into large ranches as Anglos began buying up smaller holdings and employing their former owners and laborers alike. This is evidenced at this site by the presence of graffiti including the name “Bogel” in reference to the Bogel Family that operated the nearby Saucedo Ranch (early Big Bend Ranch) from 1911 to 1934. The road below the site is one two important roads that would have historically connected Big Bend Ranch via Upper Guale Mesa to the village of Mulato, where many of the hands called home. Despite occupying a prominent locale at a well-traveled crossroads for a millennia, the site is in remarkable condition and appears to retain intact buried cultural deposits in the talus and shelters.

### Registration and Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Status</th>
<th>Conservation Easement</th>
<th>National Register</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Arch Landmark</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered TX Landmark</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Registration Comments**

**Research Value**
Moderate based on presence of intact buried deposits; historical connection to prominent family

**Further Investigations**
Regular monitoring for damage and eroded diagnostic artifacts

**Attachments**
Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial: 41PS150
Address: Big Bend Ranch State Park
City: Presidio  County: Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)
   - Public
     - Nomination prepared by property owner
     - Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner: Park Archeologist)
   - Private
     - Nomination prepared by property owner
     - Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
     - Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)
   - Archeological
     - Historic
     - Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)
   - The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
   - The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
   - The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
   - The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
   - There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

☐ Shipwreck
   Criterion for Shipwrecks:
   - The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

☐ Cache / Collection
   Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)
   - The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
   - The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
   - Cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
   - Cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

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<th>NAD datum</th>
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<td>Easting</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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<td>SW Corner</td>
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<td>NW Corner</td>
<td>Easting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site Centroid</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- USGS quad name and number
- Acreage of nominated property: 4 acres
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site
Location: Site occupies upland terrace and rockshelters on a tributary of Lower Shutup Creek.

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Multiple component encampment and rockshelter site

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures
- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name: Tim Gibbs
Address: 21800 FM 170
City: Terlingua
County: Brewster
State: TX
Telephone#: 432-424-3327
Email Address: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator’s Signature: [Signature]
Date: 03-11-2022

6. Property Owner

Name: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address: 4200 Smith School Road
City: Austin
County: Travis
State: TX
Telephone#: 512-389-4736
Email Address: michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, ____________________________, as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission’s records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by, the Antiquities Code of Texas insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark,” will be recorded in the deed records in the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner’s Signature: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

☐ Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual’s or group’s own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant’s residence.

- The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
- An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper’s publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

☐ Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property's eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
☐ Maps
☐ Deed
☐ Proof of Publication
☐ Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
☐ National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
☐ Archeological site data form
  ☐ Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

☐ Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  ☐ Individually listed
  ☐ District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District

Certified by ___________________________ Date ___________________________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.
☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: 7/10/22

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone: 512/463-6100
www.thc.state.tx.us
Site 41PS150, the Cuevas del Solitario site, is a large multiple component open encampment and rockshelter site. The site was first recorded in 1975 as field number THC22 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of the Solitario (Survey #9). The site was re-recorded in 2020 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has been monitored biennially since.

Cultural features present at this site include numerous smoke-blackened shelters, ground bedrock features, and extensive midden deposits concentrated in two loci. The northern locus consists of a large boulder shelter with a heavily smoke-blacked roof, a smaller boulder shelter, two clusters of bedrock mortars, and an extensive midden of FCR, ash, and debitage. The southern locus has a row of shallow tuff caveats formed with a low dry-laid rock wall and an extensive midden talus containing FCR, ash, debitage.

Chipped stone debitage and groundstone are scattered across site 41PS150 and most abundant in association with the site loci. A Late Prehistoric Perdiz type arrow point was collected from the midden deposits associated with the northern locus. Several ground ochre fragments were found within the smaller shelter in the northern locus. Historic food and tobacco cans are also abundant on the site, with most found within site shelters of both loci.

The rockshelters are generally protected from the elements but exhibit erosion at their exposed openings and associated midden deposits. Abundant historic artifacts, and possibly the rock walls, demonstrate the occupation of the site by historic goat herders (*pastores*). The site is large and conspicuous, but far removed from the Lower Shutup Road and Trailhead roughly a mile to the south. The shelter and midden deposits appear mostly intact and may be as much as a meter deep. Despite the historic occupation of site 41PS150, it remains around 80 percent intact.

Site 41PS150 is remote and probably retains intact buried cultural deposits, making the prehistoric component eligible for official SAL status under criteria 1 & 2.

Future actions at this site are to include biennial monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
General Site Information

Site Name

Site Type  rockshelter;open campsite

Explanation of Type
Complex of rock and boulder shelters with extensive lithic scatter and midden deposits

Project and Permit

Project Name  Not project specific
Project Number  Annual Permit #6442
Project Funding  TPWD
Permit Source  Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

Name  Tim Gibbs
Phone  432-424-3327  Fax
Email  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Affiliation  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address  HC 70 Box 375
Terlingua
TX  79852

Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department - Big Bend Ranch State Park

Informant
Site was initially recorded by William Hudson in 1975

Additional Sources
Hudson, W. R., Jr.

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date

Surface Inspection/Collection Date  3/17/2016
Method  Pedestrian Survey - non-collective

Mapping Dates  3/17/2016
Method  Mapping-grade GPS

Testing Dates  None
Method  None

Excavation Dates  None
Method  None
Records and Materials

Records

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing None

Permanent Housing None

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water Tributary of Lower Shutup Creek lies roughly 100 feet southwest

Major Drainage Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage Lower Shutup Creek

Soil Description and Reference
Reduff, Scotal, and Holguin soils, 1 to 30 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible 80

Surface Texture gravelly residuum and/or colluvium derived from tuff and/or igneous colluvium

Soil Derivation ✔ Alluvial ✔ Colluvial □ Eolian ✔ In Situ □ Marine

Other Soils
Environmental/Topographical Setting
Site occupies upland tributary of Lower Shutup Creek. The site landscape is comprised of eroded Tertiary-aged debris-flow deposits composed of igneous rock in a fine matrix and unwelded ash-flow tuff deposited during the uplift of the Solitario Laccolith Dome between 35-36 million years ago, as well as subsequent Quaternary-aged deposits formed though erosional and alluvial breakdown along Lower Shutup Creek. Vegetation consists of creosote, leatherstem, tasajillo, opuntia, and various grasses and forbes, as well as dense stands of mesquite and acacia lining the creek terraces.

Site Conditions

Circumstances Affecting Observation
Cool, sunny spring day

Site Condition  80% intact/ good site condition despite historic use and visitation

Current Land Use
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Natural Impacts
Erosion and bioturbation

Artificial Impacts
Historic ranching and modern visitation/ looting

Future Impacts
Erosion; bioturbation; potential visitor impacts

Cultural Manifestations

Time Period of Occupation
Late Prehistoric; Modern (1901-present)

Basis for Time Period
Diagnostic prehistoric projectile point and historic artifacts observed

☐ Single Component   ☑ Multiple Component   ☐ Component Unknown

Basis for Component
Prehistoric and historic artifacts and features observed

Cultural Features
The prehistoric features present at this site include numerous smoke-blackened shelters, ground bedrock features, and extensive midden deposits. The northern part of the site, dubbed Area A by Howard, consists of a large boulder shelter with a heavily smoke-blacked roof (F-01), a smaller boulder shelter (F-02), two clusters of bedrock mortars (F-03&04 and F-05&06), and an extensive midden of FCR, ash, and debitage. Howard's Area B occupies the southeastern part of the site and consists of a row of shallow caveats (F-07) formed in the tuff, a low dry-laid rock
wall, and an extensive midden talus containing FCR, ash, debitage.
F-01 - Large boulder shelter - this shelter measures roughly 5x7 meters and occupies much of the space beneath a very large igneous boulder. The surface is covered in debris and animal waste from Javalina covering what appears to be abundant fire-cracked rock and ashen midden soil. The shelter is accessible from both the north and south sides, and midden deposits extend from both openings, with the most extensive deposits present in the talus that extends some 10 meters below the north entrance. The entire roof of the shelter is heavily smoke blackened.
F-02 - Small boulder shelter - this small, shallow shelter measures roughly 1x2 meters beneath the eroded southwestern edge of a large igneous boulder. This shelter lacks the midden deposits of the larger shelter (F01) but it does feature smoke-blackening and a small amount of burned rock in its interior.
F-03 - Boulder mortars - pair of deep mortars extending up to 30 cm into igneous boulder near mouth of small shelter.
F-04 - Boulder mortar - extends up to 20 cm into igneous boulder near mouth of small shelter.
F-05 - Bedrock mortars - cluster of two mortars, each extending up to 20 cm, ground into exposed tuffaceous bedrock south the large shelter (F-01).
F-06 - Bedrock mortar - single mortar about 25 cm deep, ground into exposed tuffaceous bedrock south the large shelter (F01).
F-07 - Shallow caveate shelters - this feature consists of a series of culturally utilized shelters comprised of shallow caveates formed at the lower contact facet of igneous tuff. Three more or less distinct shelters extend roughly 20 meters east to west and up to 3 meters deep. The floors of the shelters are mostly covered in wall breakdown and spill. The shelter ceiling and up aperture edges appear to have remnant smoke-blackening. A substantial midden talus extends at least 30 meters downslope to the south of the shelters. A short masonry wall (F-08) lies at the far edge of the easternmost shelter. This feature is found roughly 100 meters east from the large boulder shelter (F-01) on the western side of the site.
F-08 - Dry-stacked rock wall - dry-sacked masonry wall, roughly 6 meters long and up to 1 m high, built at the eastern margin of the shallow caveate shelters on the east side of the site. This structure contains at least one reused metate in its construction. A single piece of wire was observed wrapped around a rock on the interior surface. While features like this are frequently interpreted as the result of historic goat herders (pastores) the general lack of associated historic artifacts, aside from the wire, prevent a clear temporal affiliation.

Approximate Site Size 90m x 200m (∼15,800m²)

Basis for Determination  Distribution of surface artifacts and features
Top of Deposit Below Surface  Surface
Basis for Determination  Distribution of surface artifacts and features
Bottom of Deposit  Unknown, though potentially deep
Basis for Determination  Bioturbation of midden suggest deposits up to 1 m deep

Artifactual Materials Observed
The cultural assemblage at this site is predominantly prehistoric with a light scatter of historic artifacts associated with the area’s goat ranching past. The most predominant element consists of an extensive distribution of lithic debitage that covers the site in a scatter that is most dense in proximity to the two main loci. Tested cobbles, well-utilized cores, and hammer stones can also be found across the site. Groundstone is also present here, with three mano fragments and a large metate preserved in the talus midden below the caveate shelters in Area B (F-07). While several bifacial and unifacial tool fragments were also found in both areas, the lone temporally diagnostic artifacts is a Perdiz arrow point fragment (A-01) in of Area A just below the mouth of the large shelter (F-01). Also of particular interest here is the presence of several ground ochre fragments found within the smaller shelter (F-02) that may provide some interesting XRF data to compare against area pictographs. Historic artifacts consist of a piece of dimensional lumber inside of the large boulder shelter (F-01) and abundant wire and food cans observed within shelters in both loci.

7/23/2018
Discussion of Site
Site 41PS150 is located among a complex igneous landform northeast of the Lower Shutup along an unnamed tributary that drains the most of the area to the South of the Solitario Vent and roughly 1.7km North of the Lower Shutup Trailhead. This site was originally recorded as Las Cuevas del Solitario by Hudson in 1975, though this is a misnomer given that the shelters present at this site are formed either below large boulders or within “wind caves” or caveates commonly formed at the contact interface of igneous stratum. Cultural deposits here demonstrate a substantial prehistoric occupation, as well as evidence of a far smaller historic component associated with 20th century pastores, or goat herders.
Overall this is a fairly amazing site. While the rock imagery reported by Hudson in 1975 could not be relocated, there are extensive intact talus/midden deposits that extend upwards of 70 centimeters below surface and exhibit no evidence of looting. The historic component but it is minor and fairly light in terms of impact. Overall the site is in good condition despite historic surface collection and periodic visits by park visitors. It is also of note that this site is clearly visible from the road connecting the Tres Papalotes Campsite to the Lower Shutup Trailhead. The largely intact and extensive site deposits could yield substantial clues to the cultures that ground these deep mortar holes and should provide excellent candidates for potential testing projects in the near future. This entire landform surrounding the site should be afforded much more attention when the opportunity for survey arises.

Registration and Recommendations

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<td>National Register</td>
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Registration Comments

Research Value
Given the potential for intact buried cultural deposits in the large boulder shelter and site midden, there is a good likelihood that additional temporally diagnostic artifacts are present. This site is also a good candidate for radiometric and macrobotanical sampling.

Further Investigations
Site should be monitored for changes or impacts

Attachments
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>29. SITE ENDED</strong>: □ YES □ NO □ NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>30. SITE VANDALIZED</strong>: □ YES □ NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>31. SITE DESTROYED</strong>: □ YES □ NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>32. SITE TESTED</strong>: □ YES □ NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>33. IF YES, WHAT DEGREE?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>34. IF YES, WHEN?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>35. IF YES, SPECIFY</strong>:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>36. IF YES, WHERE?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>37. IF YES, HOW?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>38. IF YES, COMMUNITY</strong>:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>39. IF YES, OTHER</strong>:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>40. IF YES, WHEN?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>41. IF YES, HOW?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>42. IF YES, WHERE?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>43. IF YES, SPECIFY</strong>:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PREHISTORIC INDIAN SITES** |
- Camp
- Village (with houses)
- Burial
- Chipping-quarrying
- Earth Mound
- Rock Art
- Lithic scatter

**HISTORIC INDIAN SITES** |
- Camp with trading goods
- Documented Village
- Village with trade goods (undocumented)
- Burial with trade goods
- Battleground
- Rock Art
- Other Specify:

**SPANISH COLONIAL SITES** |
- Mission
- Presidio
- Pueblo
- Rancho
- Shipwreck

**FRENCH COLONIAL SITES** |
- Fort
- Village
- Trading Post
- Shipwreck
- Other Specify:

**ANGLO-AMERICAN SITES** |
- Military Camp
- Fort
- Village
- House, Farm, Ranch
- Store, Mill, etc.
- Battleground
- Dump
- Trading House
- Shipwreck
- Other Specify:

**HISTORIC INDIAN SITES** |
- Camp
- Village (with houses)
- Burial
- Chipping-quarrying
- Earth Mound
- Rock Art
- Lithic scatter

**HISTORIC INDIAN SITES** |
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- Other Specify:

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**FRENCH COLONIAL SITES** |
- Fort
- Village
- Trading Post
- Shipwreck
- Other Specify:

**ANGLO-AMERICAN SITES** |
- Military Camp
- Fort
- Village
- House, Farm, Ranch
- Store, Mill, etc.
- Battleground
- Dump
- Trading House
- Shipwreck
- Other Specify:
**SPECIAL FEATURES**

**STONE**
- Structural
  - Burned rock
  - Ground stone bedrock
  - Ground stone artifacts
  - Chipped stone artifacts

**CERAMICS**
- Bottles, window, etc.
- Glass beads
- Non-wheel-made Indian Ceramics
- Wheel-made wares (Indian)
- Anglo-American
- Oriental
- Majolica (Mexican)
- Other decorated wares
- Other plainware
- Figurines
- Other ceramic artifacts

**METAL**
- Prehistoric
- Historic

**BONE AND ANTLER**
- Human skeletal material with associations
- Human skeletal material without associations
- Animal bones and antlers
- Bone tools for antler tools
- Ornaments
- Extinct fauna

**PHOTOGRAPHS?**
- Yes
- No

**FIELD RECORDS?**
- Yes
- No

**COLLECTIONS?**
- Yes
- No

**DATING?**
- Yes
- No

**SPECIAL samples?**
- Yes
- No

**BIBLIOGRAPHY?**
- Yes
- No

**DOCUMENTS?**
- Yes
- No

**ARCHITECTURE**

**ARCHITECTURE data**

**SPECIAL FEATURES**

**SITE WARRANT FURTHER INVESTIGATION?**
- Yes
- No

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

**RECORDED BY**

**INSTITUTION**

**SKETCH MAP ATTACHED?**
- Yes
- No

**PORTION OF LOCATION MAP ATTACHED?**
- Yes
- No

**ATTACH CONTINUATIONS OF ABOVE NUMBERS ON ATTACHED SHEETS WHEN SPACE IS INSUFFICIENT.**
- Yes
- No
## TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

### STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. **Property Name**
   
   Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial: 41PS200
   
   Address: Big Bend Ranch State Park
   
   City: Presidio  
   County: Presidio

2. **Ownership (check all that apply)**
   
   □ Public
     - Nomination prepared by property owner
     - Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)  
       Park Archeologist
     - Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission
   
   □ Private
     - Nomination prepared by property owner
     - Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
     - Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. **Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)**
   
   □ Archeological
     - Historic
     - Prehistoric

   **Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)**
   
   □ The site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
   
   □ The site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
   
   □ The site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
   
   □ The study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge; and
   
   □ There is a high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to ensure maximum legal protection, or alternatively, further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected.

□ Shipwreck

   **Criterion for Shipwrecks:**
   
   □ The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

□ Cache / Collection

   **Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)**
   
   □ The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
   
   □ The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
   
   □ The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
   
   □ The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

*Continued on next page*
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UTM Zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Centroid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- USGS quad name and number: Concho, Travis (2002-2003)
- Acreage of nominated property: 1.6 acres
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location:

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric rockshelter and encampment with architecture

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures
- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name: Tim Gibbs
Address: 21800 FM 170
City: Terlingua
County: Brewster
State: TX
Telephone: 432-424-3327
Email Address: tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator's Signature: [Signature]
Date: 03-11-2022

6. Property Owner

Name: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address: 4200 Smith School Road
City: Austin
County: Travis
State: TX
Telephone: 512-389-4736
Email Address: michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I, ____________________________, as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and entered into the Commission's records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by, the Antiquities Code of Texas as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark,” will be recorded in the deed records in the county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medalion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner's Signature: ____________________________ Date __________

☐ Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual's or group's own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant's residence.

☐ The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.

☐ An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper's publisher must be submitted to the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property’s eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
- Proof of Publication
- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form
  - Other supporting documentation (briefly describe) Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

☐ Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  - Individually listed
  - District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  - Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District ____________________________
Certified by ____________________________ Date ____________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

☐ The nomination is complete and acceptable.
☐ The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: 7/6/22
Site 41PS200 is a prehistoric open encampment and rockshelter site with stacked-rock architecture. The site was first recorded in 1975 as field number BM27 during the University of Texas Natural Area Survey of the Bofecillos Mountains (Survey #12). The site was re-recorded in 2018 by the BBRSP Park Archeologist and has been monitored biennially since.

Cultural features present at this site include a large annular midden, a deflated hearth, a pair of shallow rockshelters at the base of the escarpment, multiple bedrock grinding features, and a conspicuous dry-laid masonry structure at the far-eastern edge of the site. Both shelter features have smoke-blackened ceilings and dark stained floors and are associated with burned rock talus deposits that cascade downslope. The southernmost shelter is partially collapsed. The annular midden is circular with low mounded edges and is roughly 12 meters in diameter. The dry laid structure consists of two semi-circular comprised of partially collapsed dry-stacked walls two to three courses high with opposing entrances, which appear to be aboriginal in origin.

Chipped stone debitage, tools, groundstone, and perishable artifacts are present on the surface of site 41PS200, with most materials concentrated on the western locus. A Late Prehistoric Perdiz type arrow point was collected from the site in 1990, though it is unclear from what part of the site. No historic artifacts were observed.

The rockshelters are generally protected from the elements but exhibit erosion at their exposed openings and along their associated midden deposits, and much of the ceiling of the southern shelter has completely collapsed, burying the prehistoric occupational surface. The dense brush that covers much of the site, however, appears to have protected the annular midden and associated deposits. Based on erosive cuts and bioturbation, as much as 30-50cm of intact buried cultural deposits may be preserved at 41PS200. Despite its location within the historic ranching operation of Big Bend Ranch and its conspicuous visibility of the site from the Main Park Road, site 41PS200 remains around 90 percent intact.

The proximity to a major public road within the park, together with the presence of potentially intact buried deposits and unique prehistoric architecture, make 41PS200 eligible for official SAL status under criteria 1, 2, 3, & 5.

Future actions at this site are to include biennial monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff.
State Of Texas

Archeological Site Form

General Site Information

Site Name

Site Type  Rock Shelter; Burned Rock Midden; Cielo Structure/ Pithouse

Explanation of Type
Rockshelter site with annular midden, bedrock metates and mortars, midden talus deposits, and dry-laid masonry enclosures

Project and Permit

Project Name  Not project specific
Project Number
Permit Number  Annual Permit #6442
Permit Source  Texas Historical Commission

Recorder Information

Name  Tim Gibbs
Phone  432-424-3327
Email  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Affiliation  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Address  HC 70 Box 375
Terlingua
TX  79852

Sources of Information

Owner
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department - Big Bend Ranch State Park

Informant
Site originally recorded by Barbara Baskin in 1975 and last revisited by David Ing and Bob Mallouf in 1990

Additional Sources

Work Performed

Observation/Recording Date  10/17/2015
Surface Inspection/Collection Date  10/17/2015
Method  Pedestrian Survey - non-collective
Mapping Dates  10/17/2015
Method  Mapping-grade GPS; compass and pace
Testing Dates  None
Method  None
Excavation Dates  None
Method  None
Records
shapefile; digital map; daily journal

Materials Collected
None

Special Samples
None

Temporary Housing
None

Permanent Housing
None

Location

Environment

Nearest Natural Water
Cinco Tinajas/ 700m/ Northeast

Major Drainage
Rio Grande River

Creek Drainage
Leyva Creek

Soil Description and Reference
Pantak and Lingua soils, and Rock outcrop, 10 to 30 percent slopes - SSURGO

Percentage Surface Visible
60%

Surface Texture
Gravelly residuum weathered from igneous rock

Soil Derivation
☐ Alluvial ✓ Colluvial ☑ Eolian ✓ In Situ ☐ Marine

Other Soils

Environmental/Topographical Setting
Site occupies a middle and high terrace above an unnamed tributary of Leyva Creek upstream from Cinco Tinajas and across from Cerro Boludo. The surface geology is principally comprised of Quaternary/ Holocene aged residuum and degraded parent bedrock exposed at the surface. Parent geology is principally associated with...
Oligocene-aged silicic trachyte lavas of the Levyva Canyon Member originating from the area of the nearby Bofecillos Mountains Vent. The landform is fairly densely vegetated with creosote, yucca, ocotillo, mesquite, acacia, cacti, grasses, and forbes. A lone cottonwood tree stands conspicuously at the head of an ephemeral drainage at the Western edge of the site.

### Site Conditions

**Circumstances Affecting Observation**
Clear cool day

**Site Condition**  Good to excellent/ 90%

**Current Land Use**
Big Bend Ranch State Park

**Natural Impacts**
Bioturbation; erosion; rock-fall of shelter

**Artificial Impacts**
Livestock; surface collection

**Future Impacts**
Continued erosion and surface collection

### Cultural Manifestations

**Time Period of Occupation**
Prehistoric; Late Prehistoric 2; Protohistoric

**Basis for Time Period**
Presence of temporally diagnostic artifacts observed and possible Cielo structures

☐ Single Component  ☑ Multiple Component  ☑ Component Unknown

**Basis for Component**
Only a single temporally diagnostic artifacts observed, though the presence of possible Cielo structures may indicate separate Late Prehistoric/Protohistoric occupation

**Cultural Features**
This site contains a number of well-preserved cultural features, including bedrock grinding features, rockshelters, dry-laid masonry enclosures, a hearth, and an annular midden.

1. **Hearth** – This appliance is roughly 1 meter in diameter and is heavily deflated with poorly embedded FCR, suggesting that there is little chance of buried intact materials.

2. **Annular Midden** – Roughly circular with a raised crescent-shaped edge of discarded material that is thickest at its downslope edge, this ring midden feature is heavily obscured by vegetation. It measures roughly 12 meters across with outer edge up to 0.3 meters high; formed from heavily fragmented FCR; no intact slabs observed; does not
appear to have been looted historically
3. Bedrock mortar – Well-formed and conic, this mortar is around 0.2 meter in diameter and 0.3 meter deep
4. Bedrock mortars – This feature is a dual mortar. The smaller facet appears incipient at 0.15 meter in diameter by 0.1 meter deep. The larger facet is better formed at 0.25 meter in diameter by 0.2 meter deep.
5. Rockshelter w/ talus – This small shelter, measuring roughly 2 meters high by 3 meters deep and 7 meters across, is at the edge of a small basalt escarpment near the middle of the site. This shelter faces west and overlooks the midden feature several meters below. The bedrock grinding features (F03, 04, 06, and 07) all occur in close proximity, set into the bedrock alongside and above the shelter. The roof and back wall are moderately soot stained and a well-formed talus up to 10 meters wide extends up to 15 meters from the mouth of the shelter entrance. Unlike many rockshelters in the region, the floor lacks evidence of looting and retains debitage and fragments of perishable remains on its surface. Close inspection of the shelter walls and ceiling turned up no evidence of rock imagery.
6. Bedrock metate – Heavily smoothed rectangular grinding facet on bedrock exposure directly above rockshelter (F05). Grinding surface measures 0.6 meter by 0.25 meter.
7. Bedrock metate – Heavily smoothed circular grinding facet on bedrock roughly 3 meters south of other bedrock grinding feature (F06). Grinding surface measures 0.6 meter by 0.25 meter.
8. Dry-stacked masonry enclosure – Partially collapsed dry-laid masonry structure. This structure features two enclosures sharing a single interior wall. The entire feature measures roughly 7 meters by 4 meters in total extent, with each interior space measuring around 2.25 meters in size. Currently, the feature's walls have two to three intact courses but may have had five to six at one point measuring up to 0.5 – 0.75 meter high. The walls appear to have gaps (roughly 0.7 meter wide) that may have functioned as entry-ways to the interior spaces. It is surmised that these walls formed the foundation for a brush and pole structure like a wikup or Apache Gowa.
9. Rockshelter w/ talus – This collapsed shelter appears to have been used as an occupational space prior to the collapse of its roof. Before the collapse, the occupational space within the shelter is estimated to have measured approximately 2 meters high by between 1.5 – 2.5 meters deep and up to 14 meters across. The cultural talus extending from the occupational surface measures roughly 12 meters by 14 meters and contains a rich deposit of debitage, burned rock, and ash. Examination of the exposed edge of the former roof and rear wall suggests that it was moderately smoke blackened. This shelter is also found at the edge of a small basalt escarpment around 10 meters to the south of the other shelter (F05) and facing southwest.

Approximate Site Size 140m x 60m (6800m²)

- Basis for Determination Distribution of surface artifacts and features
- Top of Deposit Below Surface Surface
  - Basis for Determination Artifacts present on surface
- Bottom of Deposit 15-30 cm
  - Basis for Determination Possible depth of midden deposit and/or preserved within the floor of rockshelters

Artifactual Materials Observed
This site contains an extensive and diverse assemblage of prehistoric artifacts, though the full breadth of which was hard to discern given the dense vegetation present at the site. At least a few hundred pieces of debitage were observed at the site, with most being secondary and tertiary flakes. Bifacial reduction and thinning flakes, as well as dozens of microflakes, 2 biface fragments, a unifacial scraper, and at least five fragments of perishable materials (cordage), were observed in the shelters and associated talus deposits. Only three cores and core fragments were found on the entire site. Two manos were found in close proximity to the stacked stone enclosures (F08). On a macroscopic level, the highest densities of artifacts were found in close association with the annular midden (F01), the masonry enclosures, and the rockshelters (F05 and F09).
Discussion of Site

Registration and Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Status</th>
<th>Has potential</th>
<th>Unknown or n/a</th>
<th>National Register</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Arch Landmark</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered TX Landmark</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration Comments

Research Value
This site has moderate to high research value owing to the presence of intact cultural deposits in the shelters and midden, as well as the presence of unique masonry enclosures that may contain temporally diagnostic materials.

Further Investigations
This site should be regularly monitored for impacts and protected from visitor incursions

Attachments
digital photos; plan map
PS 200 (REVIT)

ING ET AL 1936:213 TABLE B1

open camp, pyramids, shell, footrills, flat ridge, above.
Lava Canyon, tributary, 150 m.
From springs in unnamed arroyo, covers 10,000 sq. m.,
50 cm. thick, health, BRM, ring midden, midden soil
or scattered burned rock,
lithic scatter, cibola complex
stacked stone circles,
bedrock metavolcanic rock.
Snow point covers debitage,
uniface, ground, prob. stone.
STATE OF TEXAS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD

1. SERIAL NUMBER: ____________ 2. INSTITUTION NUMBER(S): ____________

3. SITE NAME(S): THC-312072

PS SITE DESCRIPTION: SMALL ROCK SHELTER (OVERWALD) WITH BURNED ROCK TALUS - SMALL RING MIDDEN ON TERRACE BELOW

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDMARK: □ YES □ NO □ IN PROGRESS □ DON'T KNOW
5. NATIONAL REGISTER: □ YES □ NO □ IN PROGRESS □ DON'T KNOW
6. OTHER SPECIFY: □ YES □ NO □ IN PROGRESS □ DON'T KNOW
7. ELIGIBLE FOR: □ YES □ NO □ IN PROGRESS □ DON'T KNOW
8. ADDRESS: ____________ B. CITY: ____________
9. COUNTY: ____________

10. LATITUDE ____________ LONGITUDE ____________ 11. LEGAL DESCRIPTION

12. ESTIMATED AREA OF OCCUPATION: ____________ 90 Meters □ Feet □ Yards □ Other SPECIFY: ____________

13. DEPTH OF SITE FROM CA: □ YES □ NO □ IN PROGRESS □ DON'T KNOW

14. SITE DISCARDED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW DECADES? ____________
15. SITE ENCROACHED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
16. SITE ENDED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
17. SITE VANDALIZED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, WHAT DECADES? ____________
18. SITE DESTROYED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
19. SITE TRENCHED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
20. SITE TEC: □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, WHAT DECADES? ____________
21. PAIRED UP WITH: □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, WHAT? ____________
22. PREDOMINANT VEGETATION: ____________ IN ConTINuATION? ____________

23. ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS: □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, COMPLETE ARCHITECTURAL DATA SECTION
24. TYPE AND PERIOD OF SITE (CHECK APPLICABLE BOXES)

□ HISTORIC INDIAN SITES
□ Camp with trade goods
□ Documented Village
□ Village with trade goods (undocumented)
□ Burial with trade goods
□ Battleground
□ Rock Art
□ Other Specify:

□ SPANISH COLONIAL SITES
□ Mission
□ Presidio
□ Pueblo
□ Rancho
□ Shipwreck
□ Other

□ FRENCH COLONIAL SITES
□ Fort
□ Village
□ Trading Post
□ Shipwreck
□ Other
□ Other Specify:

25. ESTIMATED AREA OF OCCUPATION: ____________ 90 Meters □ Feet □ Yards □ Other SPECIFY: ____________

26. DEPTH OF SITE FROM CA: □ YES □ NO □ IN PROGRESS □ DON'T KNOW

27. SITE DISCARDED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW DECADES? ____________
28. SITE ENCROACHED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
29. SITE ENDED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
30. SITE VANDALIZED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, WHAT DECADES? ____________
31. SITE DESTROYED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, HOW? ____________
32. SITE TRENCHED? □ YES □ NO □ IF YES, WHAT DECADES? ____________
33. PREDOMINANT VEGETATION: ____________ IN ConTINuATION? ____________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEATURES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Earthworks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Earth mounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Burial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Stone mounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Stone structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Adobe structures</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Post mold structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Wooden structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Other structures</td>
</tr>
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<td>9. Hearths</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Flexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Extended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Cremation</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Walls</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Ditches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Refuse pits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Others</td>
</tr>
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<td>18. Others</td>
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<td>19. Others</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. Others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BONE AND ANTLER

- 1. Human skeletal material with associations
- 2. Human skeletal material without associations
- 3. Animal bones and antlers
- 4. Bone and/or antler tools
- 5. Ornaments
- 6. Others

### BONE AND ANTLER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATA</th>
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<tr>
<td>34. PHOTOGRAPHS?</td>
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<td>35. FIELD RECORDS?</td>
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<td>36. COLLECTIONS?</td>
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<td>37. DATING?</td>
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<td>38. SPECIAL SAMPLES?</td>
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<td>39. BIBLIOGRAPHY?</td>
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<td>40. DOCUMENTS?</td>
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<td>41. COUNTY RECORDS?</td>
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<td>42. ORAL HISTORY?</td>
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### ARCHITECTURE

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<td>44. BURIALS?</td>
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<td>45. FOUNDATIONS?</td>
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<td>46. MATERIALS USED?</td>
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### UNDERWATER SITES

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<thead>
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<td>48. UNDERWATER SITE?</td>
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<td>49. MAGNETOMETRIC RECORDS?</td>
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<td>50. WATER DEPTH?</td>
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<td>51. BOTTOM TERRAIN?</td>
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<td>52. CONDITION?</td>
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<td>53. VISIBILITY?</td>
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<td>54. TESTED?</td>
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### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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<td>55. SITE WARRANT FURTHER INVESTIGATION?</td>
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<td>56. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</td>
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### RECORDED BY

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<tr>
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<td>58. RECORDED BY:</td>
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### OTHER DATA

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<td>59. INSTITUTION:</td>
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### DETAIL

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<td>60. DETAIL:</td>
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### ATTACHMENTS

<table>
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<td>61. PORTION OF LOCATION MAP ATTACHED?</td>
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### ATTACHMENTS

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62. ATTACH COPIES OF ABOVE BUMPS TO ATTACHED SHEETS WHERE SPACE IS INSUFFICIENT.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Broke camp this morning before beginning our final day of surveying which will entail the recoding of three known sites on our way back to Alpine.

Flow with a ring midden ca. 30 meters to the SW of shelter along a dry arroyo (probably associated with Laun Canyon drainage). Cultural talus ca. 1.5 meters in depth with much thermally altered stone.

BM 29 is just NE of the main ranch road as it crosses Laun Canyon drainage.

Site BM 28 is Las Cuevas Amarillas a very large site which has been known about for years. Many pictographs once were very evident in the shelters and on the vertical cliffs of the prominent yellow tuff formation around which the site is located. Several rockshelters are included within the site and, although many small weathered crevices occur in the large tuff formation.
Redford Bolson.

Mapped to date are at least 16 house structures, a large midden, a ring midden, and at least 10 possible cairn or slab burials. Bedrock mortars and slab metates are abundant, and an unusual number of arrow and dart points have been documented. Much more research remains to be done on the Late Prehistoric occupations on the park, but the presence of Cielo complex components on the uplands away from the main rivers suggests that the research will be rewarding.

ROCKSHELTERS
Appendix B

Archeological Information for Sites Recorded at Big Bend Ranch State Park from 1988 to 1994

J. David Ing

Legend for Cultural Features:

1. hearth
2. burned-rock midden (BRM)
3. ring midden
4. midden soil or scattered burned rock
5. lithic work station
6. lithic scatter
7. lithic quarry
8. rock fence (common on Big Bend Ranch State Park)
9. cairn (usually noted as “cairn or possible burial”)
10. “tepee ring” or aboriginal structure remnant
11. stone circles or enclosures (see especially Sites 41PS519, PS521, PS522)
12. Cielo complex stacked stone circles (Sites 41PS200, PS563, PS668)
13. stone alignment (see Site 41PS499)
14. hunting blind
15. stone corral
16. stone pavement (see Site 41PS454, for example)
17. bedrock mortar or metate
18. adobe (walls, buildings, etc.)
19. stone building
20. concrete structure (buildings, slabs, water troughs, etc.)
21. wax camp
22. earthen dam
23. rock art
24. cemetery or grave, historic
25. “casa de chivo” or chivetero (small stone shelter for kid goats)

Legend for Artifacts Collected and/or Observed:

1. dart point
2. arrowpoint
3. drills/perforators
4. scrapers
5. spokeshaves
6. utilized flakes
7. net sinker
8. choppers
9. miscellaneous biface
10. miscellaneous uniface
11. cores and debitage
12. ground and pecked stone ( mano, metate, shaft abrader, stone pipe [Site PS473], hammerstone)
13. other stone (doggtooth-spar calcite [Sites 41PS520, PS521]), stone debris
14. ceramics, prehistoric
15. shell (marine or freshwater)
16. perishable items
17. metal
18. glass
19. ceramics (European or Mexican)
20. perishable items, historic
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Type</th>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>Environmental Zone</th>
<th>Land Form</th>
<th>Elevations (m)</th>
<th>Distance to Water (m)</th>
<th>Site of Site (sq m)</th>
<th>Vertical Extent (cm)</th>
<th>Cultural Features</th>
<th>Artifacts Observed</th>
<th>Chronology</th>
<th>Site Condition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open camp</td>
<td>PS446</td>
<td>mountains</td>
<td>colluvial slope</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>4, 17</td>
<td>Archaic; Historic</td>
<td>erosion; collecting; livestock trampling</td>
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<td>Open camp</td>
<td>PS433</td>
<td>mountains</td>
<td>high mesa and canyon rim</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>4,400</td>
<td>surface</td>
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<td>riverine basin</td>
<td>gravel colluvium</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>22,500</td>
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<td>surface</td>
<td>4, 17</td>
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<td>100</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
<td>erosion; collecting; roading through site</td>
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<td>PS450</td>
<td>Tumamoc lowlands; shallow canyon</td>
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<td>1,055</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>2, 6, 7, 17</td>
<td>Prehistoric</td>
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<td>1,054</td>
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<td>3,000</td>
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<td>PS63</td>
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<td>mesa top</td>
<td>1,256</td>
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<td>4, 12</td>
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<td>colluvial flat above canyon head</td>
<td>1,316</td>
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<td>Open camp with bedrock shelter</td>
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<td>foothills</td>
<td>cliff, deep-canyon</td>
<td>1,069</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>flat ridge above Lava Canyon tributary</td>
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<td>150</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<td>foothills</td>
<td>volcanic outcrop above tributary</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<td>PS200</td>
<td>foothills</td>
<td>colluvial slope and shelters above creek</td>
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<td>300</td>
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<td>Tumamoc lowlands</td>
<td>high terrace on stream</td>
<td>968</td>
<td>1,300</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>erosion, severly collecting; livestock trampling; erosion; collecting; livestock trampling; erosion; collecting</td>
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<td>Lot</td>
<td>Excavator</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Provienence</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.5NG</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Big Bend Ranch
8-6-91

PS 114  43 meters
201  18 east
   28 west
   6 B
   1 north
   1 northwest
   (54 meters at 201)
456  4
458  6
459  8

total  115 meters
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Provenience</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>D.W.G.</td>
<td>5 Sep 63</td>
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Site Number: HIPS 200
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<th>#</th>
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<td>Surface Collected</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>POINT, GREY TRANSPARENT CHERT - 1 BARB MISSING, HIGHLY SERRATED</td>
<td>SF13</td>
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12/1/90
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE ANTIQUITIES LANDMARK NOMINATION FORM

1. Property Name

Name of Property or Archeological Site/Trinomial: 41PS1102 (Buena Suerte Cinnabar Mill)
Address: Big Bend Ranch State Park
City: Presidio, County: Presidio

2. Ownership (check all that apply)

- Public
  - Nomination prepared by property owner
  - Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner: Park Archeologist)
  - Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

- Private
  - Nomination prepared by property owner
  - Nomination prepared by third party (indicate relationship to owner)
  - Nomination prepared by Texas Historical Commission

3. Property Type & Significance (check all that apply)

- Archeological
  - Historic
  - Prehistoric

Criteria for Archeological Sites (check all that apply)

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

- Shipwreck
  Criterion for Shipwrecks:

- The shipwreck is located on land owned or controlled by the State of Texas or one of its political subdivisions; the shipwreck is pre-twentieth century or is otherwise historically significant and is 50 years old or older in age; the remains consist of a shipwreck sunken, abandoned, or a wreck of the sea, or are represented by the ship's remains and/or contents or related embedded treasure.

- Cache / Collection
  Criteria for Caches / Collections (check all that apply)

- The cache or collection was assembled with public funds or taken from public lands;
- The preservation of materials is adequate to allow the application of standard archeological or conservation techniques;
- The cache or collection is of research value, thereby contributing to scientific knowledge; or
- The cache or collection is of historic value or contributes to a theme.

Continued on next page
☐ Buildings, structures, objects, districts, and non-archeological sites (check all that apply)
  ☐ Building (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Structure (must be listed in National Register of Historic Places)
    ☐ Individually listed
    ☐ Contributes to significance of a listed district
  ☐ Site
  ☐ Object
  ☐ District (must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if buildings or structures are included)

Criteria for buildings, structures, non-archeological sites, objects (check all that apply):
  ☐ The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, including importance to a particular cultural or ethnic group;
  ☐ The property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
  ☐ The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
  ☐ The property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in Texas culture or history;

4. Geographic Data

Archeological properties (including shipwrecks)

UTM Zone [ ]
NAD datum [ ]

NE Corner Easting [ ] Northing [ ]
SE Corner Easting [ ] Northing [ ]
SW Corner Easting [ ] Northing [ ]
NW Corner Easting [ ] Northing [ ]
Site Centroid Easting [ ] Northing [ ]

- USGS quad name and number Lajitas (2903-231)
- Acreage of nominated property 15.2 acres
- Attach USGS map with boundary and UTM coordinates or shapefiles

Description of Site

Location: [ ]

Site Type and Cultural Affiliation: [ ]

Buildings/Structures, or Districts with Buildings/Structures

- Attach scale map with boundary (survey map preferred)
- Attach deed or legal description. Indicate here if:
  ☐ Deed
  ☐ Metes and bounds
  ☐ Block & Lot description with plat map
  ☐ Survey map
  ☐ Written boundary description (with reference to landmarks, property boundaries, and/or other fixed points)
  ☐ Indicate if boundary is the same as in the National Register nomination
5. Application Preparer

Name  Tim Gibbs
Address  21800 FM 170
City  Terlingua
County  Brewster
State  TX
Telephone  432-424-3327
Email Address  tim.gibbs@tpwd.texas.gov
Nominator’s Signature  Tim Gibbs
Date  6-30-2022

6. Property Owner

Name  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Address  4200 Smith School Road
City  Austin
County  Travis
State  TX
Telephone  512-369-4736
Email Address  michael.strutt@tpwd.texas.gov

☐ Additional owner information is attached.

7. Acknowledgments by Private Property Owners

I,  as owner of this property, understand that if this site is accepted and
entered into the Commission’s records as a State Antiquities Landmark, it will thereafter be protected by, and its use governed by,
the Antiquities Code of Texas insofar as provided in that Code. Furthermore, I understand that if the site is designated as a State
Antiquities Landmark, a “Notice of Designation as a State Antiquities Landmark,” will be recorded in the deed records in the
county in which the property is located. Furthermore, if the nominated property is building or structure, I understand that I must
purchase a State Antiquities Landmark medallion. Furthermore, I understand that, in accordance with Section 191.097 of the
Antiquities Code of Texas, the Commission may remove the designation of State Antiquities Landmark from the site if it is
determined that such designation is no longer warranted. Furthermore, I swear that I am the owner of the parcel of land nominated
for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark, or have consent of a legal authority to make this nomination, subject to penalty
of law as provided by Texas Penal Code, Sec. 37.10.

Owner’s Signature:  
Date  
* Each private property owner must sign a copy of the nomination.

8. Nomination by Third Party Applicant of Properties owned by Cities and Counties

Any private individual or private group that desires to nominate a property owned by a political subdivision as a landmark must
complete and return to the commission a nomination form, and must give notice of the nomination at the individual’s or group’s
own expense, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city, town, or county in which the building, structure or site is
located. If no newspaper of general circulation is published in the city, town, or county, the notice must be published in a
newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining or neighboring county that is circulated in the county of the applicant’s residence.

* The notice must be printed in 12-point boldface type; include the exact location of the building or site; and include the
name of the group or individual nominating the building or site.
* An original copy of the notice and an affidavit of publication signed by the newspaper’s publisher must be submitted to
the commission with a nomination form.

☐ I have complied with this requirement (attach proof of publication)
9. Attachments (indicate which items are included in application)

- Current photographs, sufficient for THC staff to confirm the property’s eligibility (digital files not accepted in lieu of prints)
- Maps
- Deed
- Proof of Publication
- Fiscal Impact Statement (Optional. For a building or structure owned by a political subdivision, the nomination may be accompanied by a statement assessing fiscal impacts of the potential designation on the political subdivision. The political subdivision may also supply a fiscal impact statement to be considered by the Commission).
- National Register form (to be attached by THC staff)
- Archeological site data form
  - Other supporting documentation (briefly describe)

Written site summary

10. Evaluation by THC Staff (for buildings and structures only)

- Building/Structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
  - Individually listed
  - District (nominated in its entirety as an SAL)
  - Contributes to significance of a listed district

Name of District

Certified by __________________________ Date __________________________

11. Evaluation by THC Executive Director

- The nomination is complete and acceptable.
- The property retains integrity at the time of the nomination and is eligible for designation.

Signature: __________________________ Date: 7/6/22
41PS1102 (Buena Suerte Cinnabar Mill)  
Big Bend Ranch State Park

Site 41PS1102 is the location of a cinnabar flotation mill and settlement occupied between about 1939 and 1944, and a lithic scatter of unknown prehistoric age. The site was recorded in 2009 by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Archeology Survey Team during a trail survey in Big Bend Ranch State Park. In 2010, a follow-up investigation was conducted, and additional temporally diagnostic artifacts were collected for curation.

Numerous historic cultural features are present at 41PS1102, including one stone masonry mill ruin, two adobe structure ruins, two building foundations (one stone and concrete pier and beam, one concrete slab), one rock platform, one rock retaining wall, two rock alignments, one brick pile, three concrete machine bases (one inscribed MAY-7-1942), one concrete inlet, three sets of stone and concrete troughs, two pipes, two cinnabar tailings piles, two roads, four dumps, five pits, one truck body, and one rock mound. Numerous domestic, industrial, and construction-related artifacts were observed at 41PS1102, and a small sample of items were recovered for curation. These items included 14 red Willow transferware sherds, one yellowware sherd with green glaze, two Fiesta ware sherds with turquoise glaze, one white earthenware sherd with edge molded decoration, one shell casing (F A 34), one green and white ‘cats eye’ marble, and four dry cell batteries. Other observed historic artifacts included numerous cans and bottle glass fragments. The prehistoric component at 41PS1102 is limited to a sparse scatter of chipped stone debitage. No diagnostic prehistoric artifacts were observed at the site. Based on the height of the largest tailings pile at the site, the thickness of the cultural deposit at 41PS1102 is up to four meters.

Historical research revealed that when cinnabar was discovered approximately one mile to the

Site 41PS1102 has been impacted by the removal of structures and materials around 1944 and possibly later, after the Buena Suerte Mill was abandoned. A possible recent hearth near Fresno Creek suggests that the site is perhaps being accessed by park visitors or others. The site is estimated to be approximately 50 percent intact. Nonetheless, the historic component retains moderately high research value and is eligible for official SAL status under Criteria 3 and 5.

Future actions at this site will include annual monitoring by trained Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff, as well as the completion of a Historic Architectural Building Survey (HABS) documentation of surviving structures.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trinomial</td>
<td>41PS1102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site Type</td>
<td>historic cinnabar flotation mine and related settlement</td>
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<td>Explanation of Type</td>
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<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Buena Suerte Mill &amp; settlement</td>
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<td>Field Identifier</td>
<td>Buena Suer</td>
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<td>Project Name</td>
<td>Big Bend Ranch State Park Trail Survey</td>
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<td>Funding Source</td>
<td>Texas Parks &amp; Wildlife Department</td>
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<td>Texas Antiquities Permit</td>
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<td>Permit Number</td>
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<td>Additional Sources of Info.</td>
<td>Other crew: Corky Kuhlmann, Mark Lacy, Nelson Rodriguez, John Parks (TPWD). Current project report: Archeological Assessment of Selected Trail Corridors 2009-2011, Big Bend Ranch State Park, Brewster and Presidio Counties, Texas, By Tim Roberts (draft). Harris Smith's records on Fresno Mine and Buena Suerte Mill and community, housed at Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX</td>
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<td>Recorder</td>
<td>Margaret Howard</td>
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<td>Texas Parks &amp; Wildlife Department</td>
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<td>4200 Smith School Road</td>
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<td>Recorder's State</td>
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<td>Recorder's Zip Code</td>
<td>78744</td>
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<td>Recorder's Phone Number</td>
<td>512/389-4875</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recorder's Fax Number</td>
<td>512/389-4819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorder's Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:margaret.howard@tpwd.state.tx.us">margaret.howard@tpwd.state.tx.us</a></td>
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<td><strong>Observe/Record Dates</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Surface Inspect/Collect Dates</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mapping Dates</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mapping Methods</strong></td>
<td>high-precision GPS readings on features</td>
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<td><strong>Types of Records</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Materials Collected</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Special Samples</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Primary County</strong></td>
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<td><strong>USGS Map</strong></td>
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<td>Description of Location</td>
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<td>Elevation of Site in Feet</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Nearest Natural Water</td>
<td>Fresno Creek tributary (currently dry)</td>
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<td>Major Drainage</td>
<td>Fresno Creek</td>
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<td>Name and Type of Drainage Basin</td>
<td>Rio Grande</td>
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<td>Owner Information</td>
<td>Texas Parks &amp; Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, TX 78744</td>
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<td>Informant Information</td>
<td>Wileen Smith Austin 1503 Fort Davis Drive Alpine, TX 79830 432/837-9071</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soil Description</td>
<td>539 - Mariscal - rock outcrop complex, 10% - 30% slopes</td>
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<td>Soil Genetic Type</td>
<td>Lithosol</td>
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<td>Soil Surface Texture</td>
<td>sandy loam</td>
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<td>Soil Derivation</td>
<td>Derivation Colluvial, Derivation Alluvial</td>
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<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Soil Derivation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground Surface Visible</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<td>Environmental Description</td>
<td>Thin alluvial deposit on high bedrock (strath) terrace, on east bank of Fresno Creek at confluence with tributary, which adjoins site on N and W. Cinnabar mine ca. 0.9 miles to E. Moderately dense to sparse woody shrubs, grasses, and cacti cover site. Overlooks Fresno Canyon to SSW.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time Periods of Occupation</td>
<td>prehistoric - sparse debitage; historic - date on foundation, oral histories, and mine records</td>
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<tr>
<td>Component</td>
<td>Multiple Component</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basis for Determining Components</td>
<td>see above</td>
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<td>Cultural Features</td>
<td>1 stone masonry mill ruin, 2 adobe structure ruins, 2 building foundations (1 stone and concrete perimeter beam, 1 concrete slab), 1 rock platform, 1 rock retaining wall, 2 rock alignments, 1 brick pile, 3 concrete machine bases (1 inscribed MAY-7-1942), 1 concrete inlet, 3 sets of stone and concrete troughs, 2 pipes, 2 cinnabar tailings piles, 2 roads, 4 dumps (see list of contents), 5 pits, 1 truck body, 1 rock mound</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site Size</td>
<td>280 m N/S x 220 m E/W</td>
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<td>Basis for Size</td>
<td>GPS mapping of features observed directly; extent of landform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Top of Deposits Below Surface</td>
<td>0 cm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basis for Top of Deposit</td>
<td>artifacts and features observed on surface</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thickness of Deposit</td>
<td>3 - 4 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basis for Thickness</td>
<td>height of largest tailings pile</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artifactual Materials Present</td>
<td>prehistoric debitage; historic metal, glass, and ceramics; intensive scrutiny of site surface not conducted - would increase diversity of assemblage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circumstances Affecting Observations</td>
<td>Initial reconnaissance of site over ca. 5 hours by 5 person crew</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percentage of Site Intact</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Land Use</td>
<td>Big Bend Ranch State Park; adjoins Fresno Canyon trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Impacts</td>
<td>Deterioration of ruins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial Impacts</td>
<td>Structures and materials removed around 1944 and possibly later. Recent visitation may be evidenced by possible recent hearth near Fresno Creek.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Future Impacts</td>
<td>Visitation by persons using trail.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Value</td>
<td>Moderately high; short-term occupation, unusual cinnabar processing method, engineering of related water system (outside site boundary).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further Investigations</td>
<td>Intensive surface examination and additional documentation of features.</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Archeological Landmark</td>
<td>Has Potential</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Register</td>
<td>Has Potential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation Easement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recorded TX Historical Landmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comments on Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Comments</td>
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ITEM # 4
Consider approval of the proposed 6-year extension on Antiquities Permit #6247 for principal investigator Jorge Garcia-Herreros, Search for the Twin Sisters Cannons 41HR1105

Background:

On April 15, 2022, Jorge Garcia-Herreros, principal investigator for Gulf Coast Archeology Group, requested a second extension for Antiquities Permit 6247, Search for the Twin Sisters Cannons 41HR1105. At the time of the original 3-year extension on August 17, 2017, the principal investigator reported that the fieldwork was completed, but analysis and report production were ongoing but delayed due to lack of funds and the PI’s health issues. While additional progress has been made, the PI reports that ongoing health issues related to a severe automobile accident and is requesting the second extension to complete the outstanding requirements to close the permit.

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

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

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

A second permit extension for an additional 6 years has been requested by Jorge Garcia-Herreros. If approved, the new permit deadline will be October 25, 2026.

Suggested Motions (AAB):

Move that the Board send forward and recommend to the Commission the granting of Jorge Garcia-Herreros a second 6-year extension for Antiquities Permit #6247.

Move that the Board send forward and recommend to the Commission the denial of Jorge Garcia-Herreros a second 6-year extension for Antiquities Permit #6247.
GENERAL INFORMATION

Permit Number 6247 Original Permit Expiration Date 05/07/2017
First Permit Extension Expiration Date 05/07/2019
Principal Investigator Name Jorge Garcia-Herreros
Project Name Search for the Twin Sisters Cannons 41HR1105

STATUS OF PERMIT REQUIREMENTS (attach additional sheets as needed)

I. ANALYSIS
List all ongoing analyses and percentage of completed analyses
Analysis of railroad ties ongoing

II. REPORT
List the current percentage of completion, including number of chapters in draft or final form
Introduction 95% complete; Background and History 100% complete; Environment 100% complete; Methodology 100% complete; Analysis 65% complete; Findings 60% complete; Conclusions and Recommendations 20% complete

III. CURATION
Provide summary of status Analysis still ongoing.

IV. BUDGET
List funds available to complete all permit requirements All funding has run out.

V. JUSTIFICATION FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERMIT EXTENSION
Provide details about circumstances beyond the control of the Principal Investigator
Due to the lack of funds, a car accident that injured the PI, and additional health illness that has affected the PI work on this project has had multiple delays.
SECOND PERMIT EXTENSION REQUEST

Permit Extension Requested for 6 Years 0 Months (1 year minimum)

Principal Investigator Name  Jorge Garcia-Herreros

Mailing Address  9597 Jones Road, PMB 2760

Email Address  Jgarciah@GCAGroup.net

City, State, Zip  Houston, Texas 77065

Office Phone Number  713.703.9252  Cell Phone Number  713.703.9252

CERTIFICATION

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

Principal Investigator  
(Signature)  Date  4/15/2022

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

☐ Second extension granted by Commission
Date approved 
New Expiration Date

☐ Second extension denied by Commission
Date denied 
Reason for denial

Texas Historical Commission
Archeology Division
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone 512/463-6096
www.thc.state.tx.us
ITEM # 5
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<th>Permit</th>
<th>SAL</th>
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<td>Brackenridge Park Celtis Laevigata 21in Tree Removal</td>
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<td>Build greenhouse in kitchen garden and extend flatwork of garden into adjacent level grounds area</td>
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<td>Installation of audio/visual system in Commissioners Courtroom on the Fourth floor</td>
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<td>Harris County Courthouse</td>
<td>Architectural</td>
<td>Geotechnical Test and Report. Plan to do four (4) borings of 4&quot; - 6&quot; diameter on the first floor of the courthouse.</td>
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<td>1122</td>
<td>The Alamo</td>
<td>New Construction</td>
<td>Installation of a palisade temporary exhibit</td>
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<td>Repair of water damage from leak (HVAC) Winter Storm Viola 2021</td>
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ITEM # 6