

*Archeological Survey*  
*The CMH Parks, Inc. Tract*  
*74.582 Acres*  
*San Antonio, Texas*

*June 2, 2006*

*FGS Control # FGS-06173*

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*Prepared exclusively for*

*Fieldstone Communities SA, LLC.*  
*21232 Gathering Oak, Suite 103*  
*San Antonio Texas 78258*

***Frost GeoSciences***

***Geologic and Environmental Consulting***

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June 2, 2006

Fieldstone Communities SA, LLC.  
21232 Gathering Oak, Suite 103  
San Antonio, Texas 78258

Attn: Mr. Oscar Dominguez

Re: Archeological Survey  
The CMH Parks, Inc. Tract  
74.582 Acres  
San Antonio, Texas

Frost GeoSciences, Inc. Control # FGS-06173

Gentlemen:

Frost GeoSciences, Inc. in conjunction with Abasolo Archeological Consultants have completed the Archeological Survey at the above referenced project site. The results of our investigations have been combined and are provided in the following report.

If you have any questions regarding this report, or if Frost GeoSciences, Inc. may be of additional assistance to you on this project, please feel free to call our office. It has been a pleasure to work with you and we wish to thank you for the opportunity to be of service to you on this project. We look forward to being of continued service.



Sincerely,  
Frost GeoSciences, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Frost", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Frost, C.P.G.  
President

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### Restricted Cultural Information

According to the Texas Administrative Code: TITLE 13: CULTURAL RESOURCES, PART 2, TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, CHAPTER 24, RESTRICTED CULTURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION, RULE §24.3      Scope: "The intent of these rules is to restrict access to specific cultural resource data to those individuals that have a legitimate scientific or legal interest in obtaining and using that information. The intent is not to limit the public's use of all information that the commission has within its libraries, files, documents, and the THSA database; however, as provided for in §442.007(f) of the Texas Government Code, and §191.004(a-c) of the Texas Natural Resources Code, the commission can determine what cultural resource information is sensitive and what information needs to be restricted due to potential dangers to those resources. The cultural resources that the commission considers to be at risk include archeological sites, shipwrecks, certain historic structures and engineering features. Public disclosure of any information relating to the location or character of these resources would increase their risk of harm, theft or destruction. Therefore, this information is defined as restricted and is not subject to public disclosure under state law. Restrictions on who can obtain data and how the data are used is within the legal authority of the commission, and can be defined through the rule-making authority of the commission."

As a result, it must be noted that the information contained within this report cannot be made available to the general public and additional copies of this report and the attached maps are not permissible without the written consent of Frost GeoSciences, inc. and Abasolo Archeological Consultants.

### Site Location

The project site consists of 74.582 Acres of undeveloped land located approximately 1/2 mile east of the intersection of Highway 90 and Pue Road in San Antonio, Texas. The approximate Latitude/Longitude for the center of the project site is Latitude: N 29° 23' 16.76", Longitude: W 98° 41' 7.10". The location of the project site was obtained using the 1927 North American Datum (NAD27). An overall view of the area is shown on a copy of the Site Plan, a local street map, a USGS Topographic Map, a geologic map, and historic & current aerial photographs. Copies of the above mentioned maps indicating the location of the project area are presented on Plates 1 through 9 in Appendix A.

### Geologic Map Review

Geologic formations capable of being a source bed for flint/chert make favorable sites for prehistoric and historic cultures. These same formations will produce flint/chert gravels within streambeds that drain the areas covered by the formations. Caves and cliff overhangs would have the potential to provide shelter for prehistoric and historic nomadic hunting tribes. Some areas with the potential for vertical caves can make suitable mortuary depositories for the dead dating back as much as ca. 8,000 years. The caves will be primarily restricted to areas with carbonate strata such as limestones and chalk formations.

According to the Bureau of Economic Geology, Geologic Atlas of Texas, San Antonio Sheet (1982), the project site is located on the Quaternary Uvalde Gravel (Q-Tu) and the Navarro Marl (Kknm).

The Uvalde Gravel consists of caliche with cemented gravel. Well-rounded cobbles of chert, quartz, limestone, and igneous rocks compose the gravel. Some boulders up to one foot in diameter are included in the section. Overall thickness ranges from several feet to over 20 feet.

The Navarro Marl consists of marl, clay, sandstone, and siltstone. The marl and clay are glauconitic and contain concretions of limonite and siderite. The sandstone is fine grained with very little lateral



continuity. The siltstone is yellow to brown and contains concretions of hard bluish-gray siliceous limestone 2 to 10 feet in diameter. Overall thickness is up to 580 feet.

A copy of the Bureau of Economic Geology, Geologic Atlas of Texas, San Antonio Sheet (1983) indicating the location of the project site and the geologic formations present is included in this report on Plate 4 in Appendix A.

#### Historic Aerial Photography

Historic aerial photography from 1938 indicates that no structures are visible on the project site at this time. Based on a review of the historic aerial photography, the project site has remained mostly as undeveloped land. By 1995, a structure is visible in the southeastern corner of the property. By 2003, a large cleared area is visible in the southeastern portion of the project site. Cleared roads are visible around the perimeter of the property. A copy of the historic aerial photography is included on Plates 5 through 9 in Appendix A.

#### U.S.D.A. Soil Survey Review

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas (1966), the project site is located on the Houston black gravelly clay (HuB and HuD) and the Houston black clay (HsB).

Houston black gravelly clay is found on the uplands. This soil has more pebbles on the surface and with the profile than the other Houston black soils. The surface layer is black and is about 38 inches thick. Wide cracks form when it dries. Gravel ordinarily makes up to 8 to 18 percent of this layer, by volume, and on small, narrow ridgetops, as much as 60 percent. The subsurface layer, about 12 inches thick, is clay or gravelly clay. The gravel is discontinuous, but where it occurs, it makes up 30 to 60 percent of this layer, by volume. The pebbles range from half and inch to 3 inches in diameter. Runoff is medium or slow. The pebbles on the surface reduce the risk of water erosion somewhat, and the hazard is none to slight.

The Houston black clay consists of clayey soils that are deep, dark gray to black and calcareous. The surface layer is very dark gray to black, mildly alkaline, and about 38 inches thick. This layer has weak, very fine, blocky structure in the uppermost 8 inches. Below that depth, it has moderate, fine, and very fine, blocky structure and is extremely firm but crumbly when moist. This layer cracks when dry and swells when wet. The subsurface layer is about 12 inches thick. It is gray or dark gray clay and has some grayish brown or olive brown streaks. It has moderate, medium blocky structure and is extremely firm when moist. Like the surface layer, this layer cracks when dry and swells when wet. The underlying material is very pale brown, calcareous clay or marl and has mottles of olive brown and gray. There are some shale fragments and gypsum crystals. The Houston Black Clay has slow to rapid surface drainage. Internal drainage is slow to none. Rainfall is very rapidly absorbed when the soil is dry and cracked, but practically all of it runs off after the water content of the soil has reached field capacity. Most areas lack a permanent water table. The capacity to hold water is good. Water erosion is a hazard.

A copy of the 1962 Aerial Photograph from the U.S.D.A. Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas (1966) indicating the location of the project site and the soil types is included in this report on Plate 6 in Appendix A.

#### ABSTRACT

In May 2006, an archaeological survey was conducted on the 75-acre CMH Parks Tract in Bexar County, Texas. During the survey, scattered flakes represented the primary evidence for prehistoric activity in the area. Additionally, a diagnostic Guadalupe Tool was found as an isolated artifact in the western part of the tract. It dates to the Early Archaic, around 4000 B.C. There was also evidence of sporadic use of the Uvalde Gravel outcrops in the western portion of the tract. However, prehistoric activities, seeking suitable chert (flint) for tool-making, was so limited that no site documentation was warranted. Given the very limited nature of the archaeological data observed in this survey, it is our recommendation that no further studies are needed on the CMH Parks Tract.

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## INTRODUCTION

In May 2006, Abasolo Archaeological Consultants and Frost GeoSciences, Inc. conducted an archeological survey of the 75 acres in the CMH Parks Tract in Bexar County, Texas (Plates 1-9 in Appendix A). The survey was done for Fieldstone Development. The assessment was carried out in accordance with the "Archeological Survey Standards for Texas" in order to assess the eligibility of any cultural resources for nomination to National Register of Historic Places. The survey consisted of a comprehensive pedestrian survey by Dr. Tom Hester, Dr. Harry Shafer and Mr. Steve Frost.

The area, between US Highway 90 on the south, Kriewald Road to the north, and Pue Road on the west, is today covered with thick mesquite, whitebrush and thorn brush growth, scattered live oaks, cactus, sotol, yucca and other vegetation typical of the region. The soils are typical of the Houston Black Series, characterized by deep dark gray to black clayey soils. Most of the tract is HuB soil, a gravelly clay with 1 to 3% slopes. However, at the west end of the tract, there are more extensive gravel exposures (Uvalde Gravels) in the Hilly Gravelly Land Series (Taylor et al. 1991:17). These are typically on knolls and ridges along old waterways. At the far western end of the tract, sloping terrain is related to the upper part of the Long Hollow (Creek) drainage, a tributary of the Medina River to the south.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### Regional cultural sequence

There are nearly 1700 recorded sites in Bexar County. These reflect a cultural chronology spanning 11,000 years of prehistory and a historic era that left many important structures. Archaeologists have divided this broad range of time into four general periods: Paleoindian, Archaic, Late Prehistoric, and Historic (see Turner and Hester 1993). Comprehensive statements on the archaeology and historic archaeology of the Applewhite area to the south provide additional details on regional archaeology (McGraw and Hindes 1987).

The Paleoindian period, 9,200-6,800 B.C., has distinctive chipped stone spear points used in hunting mammoth and other late Ice Age mammals early in the period. Other spear types appear with a shift to bison, deer and other game after the Ice Age ended around 8000 B.C. Known site types in Bexar County are campsites with flint-chipping debris from stone-tool making and repair. One site of Clovis age (9,200 B.C.) was excavated near FM1604 and Leon Creek. A later site, dating around 7,500 B.C., was investigated on the grounds of St. Mary's Hall on Salado Creek. To the south of the present project locale, an Angostura occupation (6800 B.C.) has been documented in the Applewhite Reservoir basin.

Sites of the following Archaic period are common across Bexar County. These peoples were hunters and gatherers as in the earlier Paleoindian period, but lived in an environment very similar to those of modern times. Projectile points used to tip spears (often erroneously called "arrowheads") change in shape through time, from 6,800 B.C. to 500 A.D. Archaeologists use these forms to recognize more specific time frames within the Archaic (e.g., Early, Middle and Late Archaic). In northern Bexar County, the most distinctive Archaic site is the burned rock midden (large accumulations of fire-cracked limestone result from the use of earth-oven cooking starting around 3,000 B.C.). But in southern Bexar County, open campsites are found along creek and river terraces with large amounts of flint debris from tool-making; sometimes, animal bone (dietary remains) and charcoal that can be used for radiocarbon dating. Other Archaic site types include lithic procurement areas (in northern Bexar County, where flint cobbles eroded out of the Edwards limestone and were processed, and in southern Bexar County, exposures of hilltop Uvalde Gravels), lithic scatters (lightly-used areas probably representing short-term hunting and gathering activities), cemeteries and rarely, sinkhole burials (Archaic peoples often disposed of their dead by placing them in sinkholes and caverns).

By 700 A.D., there began to be some changes in the long hunter-gatherer lifeway. The Late Prehistoric is first seen with the introduction of the bow and arrow. The stone arrow points are very small (mistakenly called "bird points"), but could be used in hunting game of any size. By 1300 A.D., the economy emphasized buffalo-hunting. Most sites of this era

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include campsites, often in areas previously used by Archaic peoples, lithic scatters of this age; and the lithic procurement areas of earlier times continued to be used.

During the Historic period, the best known archaeological remains are ranch and farm houses of cut stone, dating from the 1840s through the 1880s (see McGraw and Hindes 1987; they also recorded Spanish Colonial structures in the Medina River drainage to the south). Stacked-stone fences also occur. Such sites, including those without surviving structures, are recognized from 19th century pottery fragments, artifacts of glass and metal, etc. Later Historic houses and farmsteads, through the early 1900s, are also found.

#### **Sites near CMH Parks Tract**

A large number of sites have been recorded on the Medina Annex Base, south of Highway 90. These data result from a survey by the Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio, in 1995 (Nickels et al. 1997). Of six sites that are just south of the CMH Parks Tract, only one is described as prehistoric campsite(41BX1109); it is undated, as no diagnostic artifacts were found. The other five sites are all described as "lithic quarries" (41BX1109, 1110,1111, 1116, 1118) and reflect occasional lithic procurement in Uvalde Gravels outcrops.

To the west of the CMH Parks Tract is 41BX774, another lithic procurement site that is undated. And, to the east of the Tract is 41BX465, recorded by McGraw (1977) during his survey of Medio Creek; it, too, is a lithic procurement site. A copy of a USGS topographic Map indicating the location of the project site and the associated offsite TARL locations within a 1/2 mile radius are included in Appendix C.

#### **THE SURVEY**

On May 17, 2006, a survey team comprised of Harry J. Shafer, Thomas R. Hester and Steve Frost. The survey was a comprehensive one. However, some areas of the tract were thick in mesquite and thorn brush, and had the surface covered by leaf fall. Thus, a "100%" coverage could not be obtained.

The survey began in the eastern portion of the CMH Parks Tract, in an area where storage and office buildings are located. Some surface disturbance is present, from clearing activities. Houston Black soils are found in this east area, and there are widely scattered chert (flint) flakes on the surface. However, no concentrations of flakes or other cultural remains were observed.

The northern section of the CMH Parks Tract provided some extensive, exposed surface, again in the Houston Black soils (Fig. 1 in Appendix B). Live oaks, mesquite, whitebrush, and grasses obscured some of this area. However, there was sufficient surface exposure, especially in a broad fence line road, to conclude that no archaeological materials were present in this part of the tract. The southern portion is very similar to the rest of the tract; a structure had possibly been removed, or perhaps an accumulated trash dump, and this caused a small area of disturbance. All of this debris was very recent.

It was in the western portion of the CMH Parks Tract that some archaeological materials were found. That area has fairly extensive surface visibility, due to the presence of Uvalde Gravel outcrops. Additionally, there are old erosional slopes related to the upper Long Hollow drainage. This area is typified by the Hilly Gravelly Soils, and there is a variety of vegetation - mesquite, thorn brush, white brush, live oak, flowering yucca stalks, prickly pear, and sotol. Along a ranch road in the western area, a Guadalupe tool was found, partially exposed. Guadalupe tools (Fig. 2 in Appendix B; Turner And Hester 1993) date to around 4000 B.C. (Early Archaic). Although they are crudely shaped, their manufacturing technology is very distinctive and they are excellent diagnostic specimens. However, very little in the way of cultural material was found in the vicinity, and there were insufficient data to designate the locale as a site. Guadalupe tools had some broad function across the landscape and it is not uncommon to find them as "isolated" artifacts, discarded by the ancient person who was using them.

In the western and southwestern area of the tract, scattered flakes were found among the Uvalde Gravels (Fig. 3 in Appendix B). Occasionally, a large specimen was noted. In Fig. 4 in Appendix B is a fragment of core, from which a number of flakes had been removed. It is patinated from long exposure on the site surface. This array of scattered flakes and core fragments

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are often found in the Uvalde Gravels in this part of Bexar County. Indeed, the "lithic quarries" recorded by Nickels et al. (1997) along Long Hollow to the south of Highway 90 are simply areas within the Uvalde Gravels where intensive procurement and processing occurred in prehistoric times. The scattered materials on the CMH Parks Tract do not warrant site designation.

### SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological survey of the 75-acre CMH Parks Tract in May 2006 found very little in the way of cultural resources. There were some scattered flakes resulting from use or manufacture of stone tools over the last several thousand years of prehistory. There were no concentrations that warranted documentation as archaeological sites. Evidence of very minor ancient "quarrying" (lithic procurement) in Uvalde Gravel outcrops was observed at the western edge of the tract, again in minimal numbers. While we do not feel that this specific area should be recorded as a site, we do recognize that it reflects the use of the Uvalde Gravels for tool-making in ancient times. These activities are better seen in sites recorded on Medina Base Annex to the south.

### REFERENCES CITED

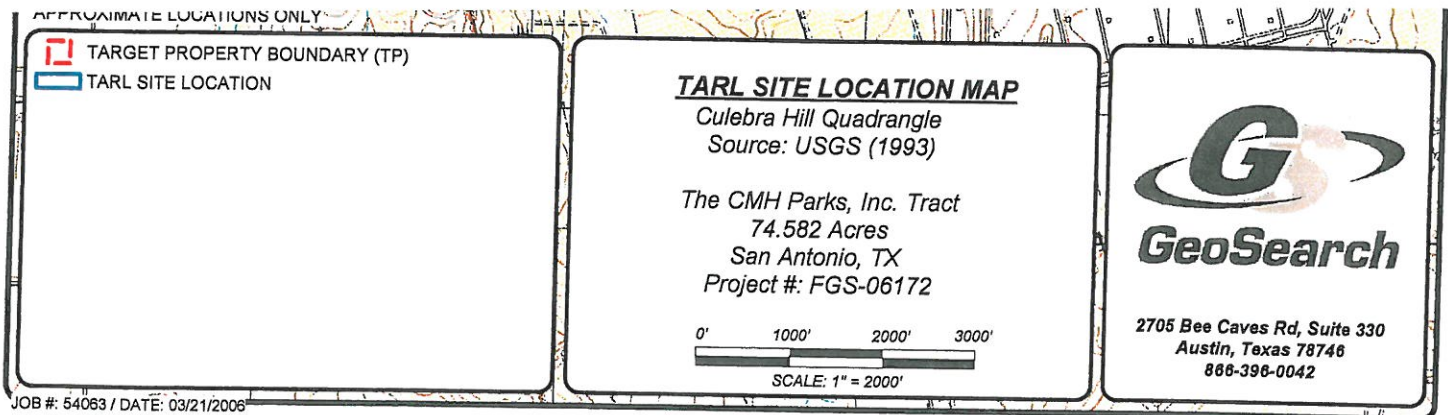
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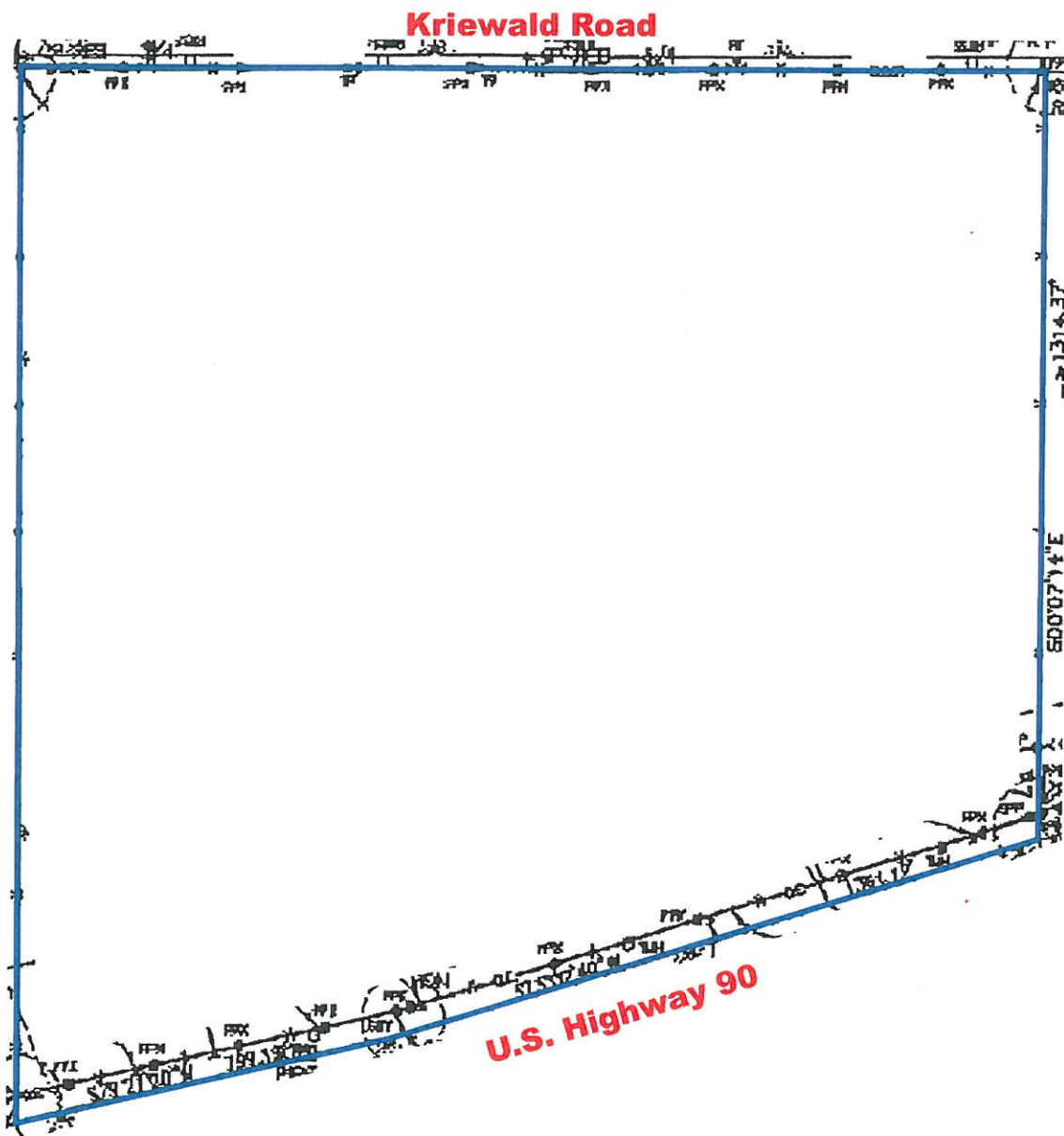
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IMAGE RESTRICTED







**PROJECT NAME:**

Archeological Survey  
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74.582 Acres  
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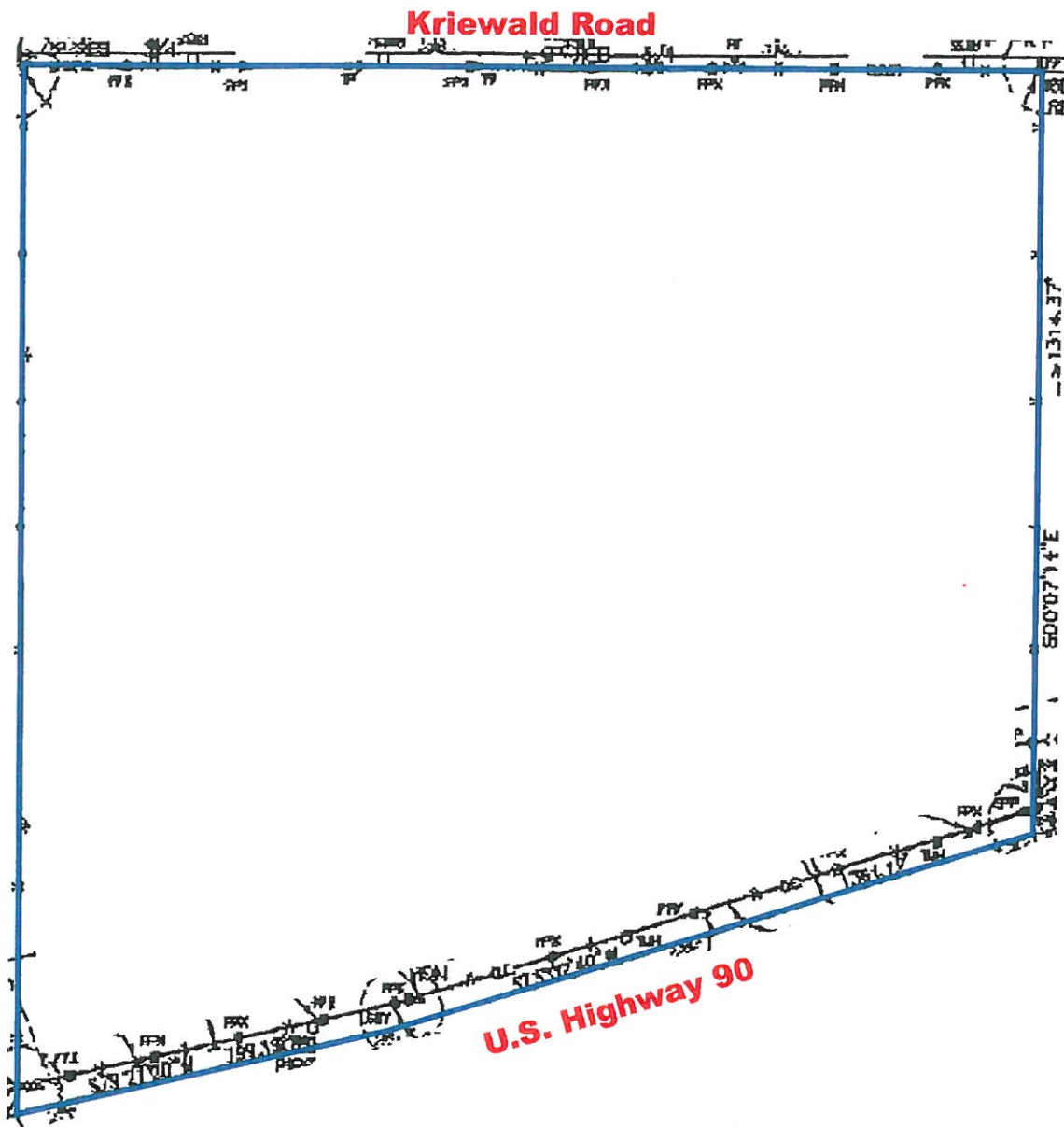
**Site Plan**

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FGS-06173

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**Site Plan**

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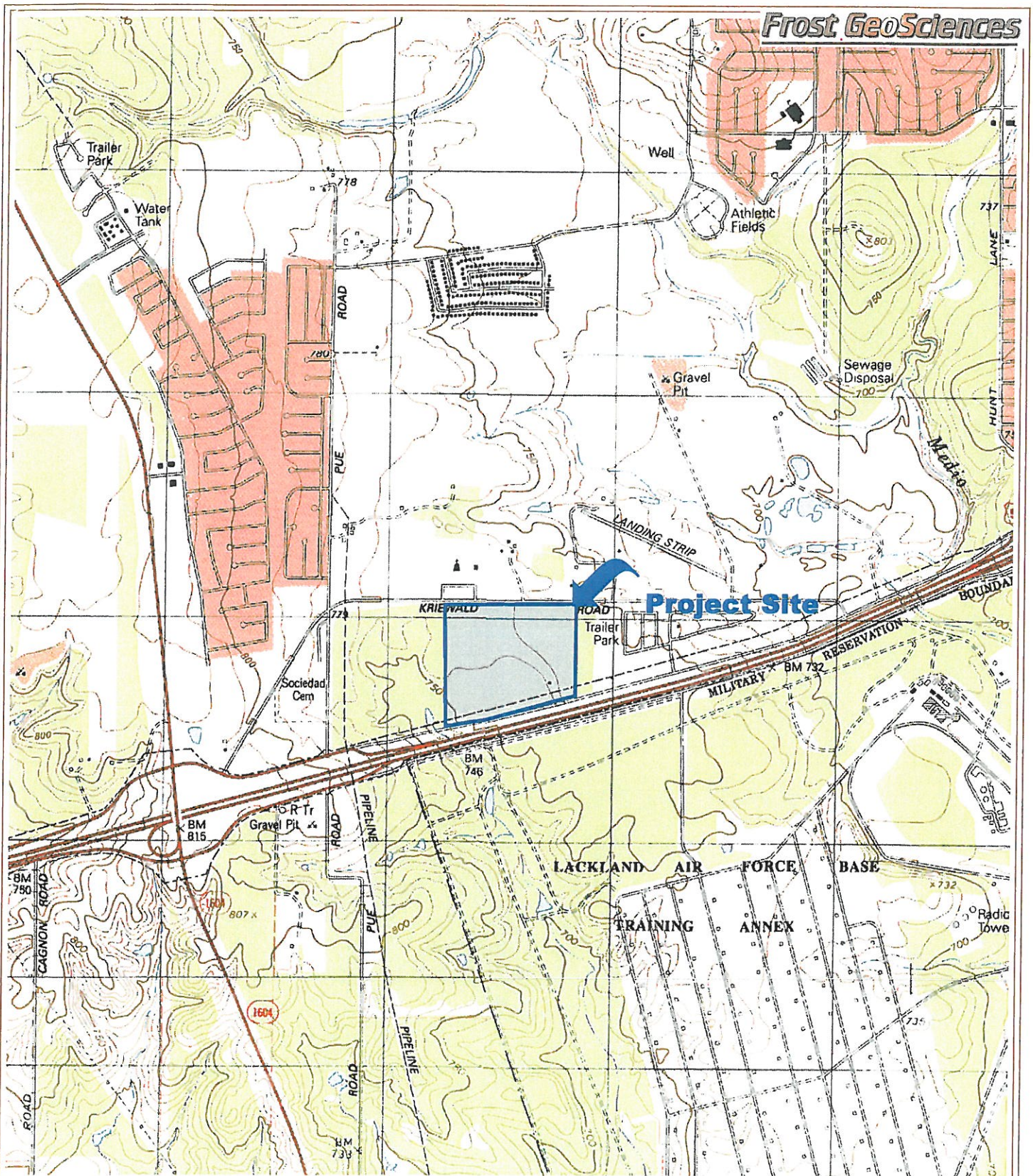
Archeological Survey  
The CMH Parks, Inc. Tract  
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Archeological Survey  
The CMH Parks, Inc. Tract  
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U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map  
Culebra Hill, Texas Sheet (1993)

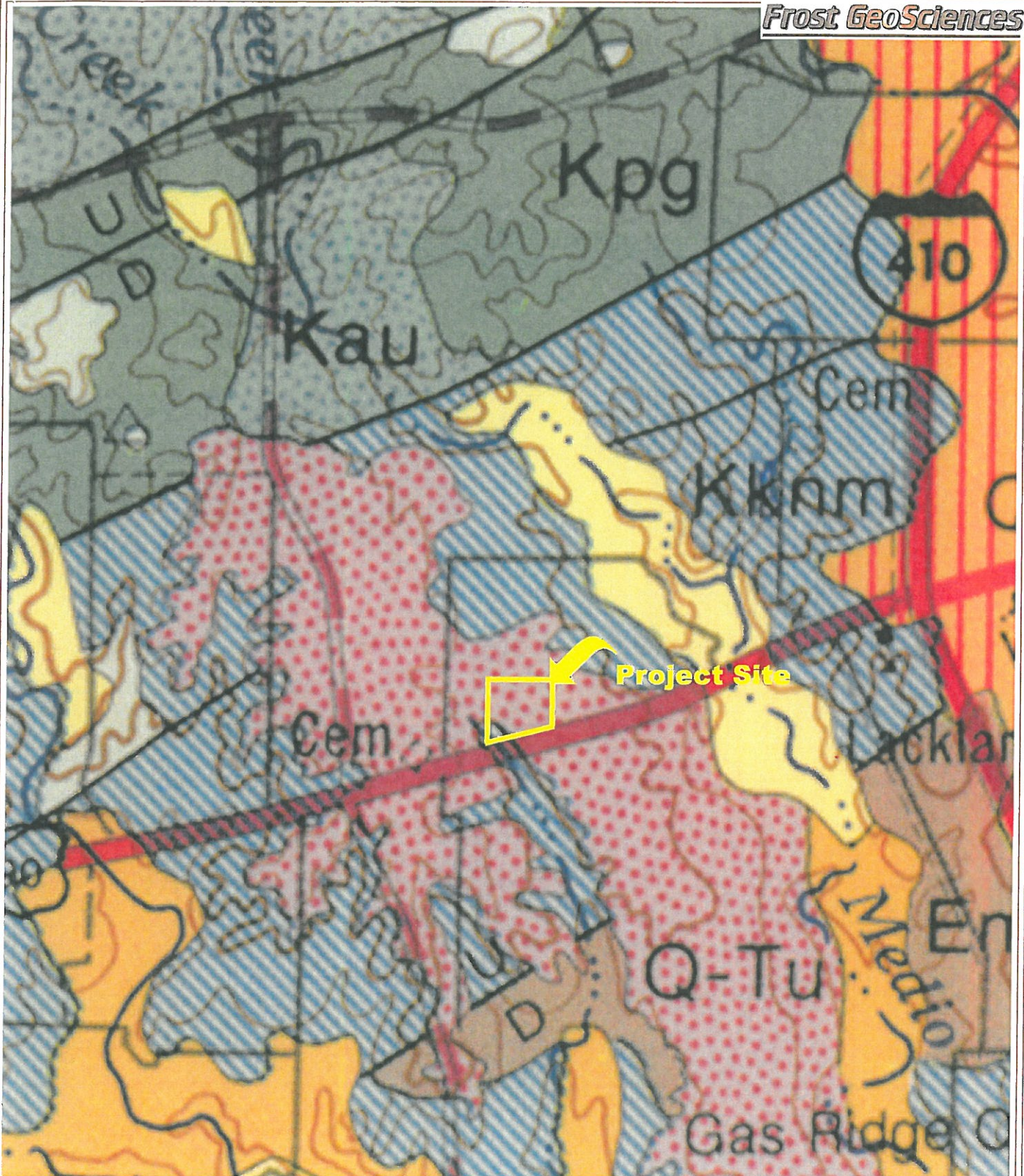
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Bureau of Economic Geology  
Geologic Atlas of Texas  
San Antonio Sheet (1983)

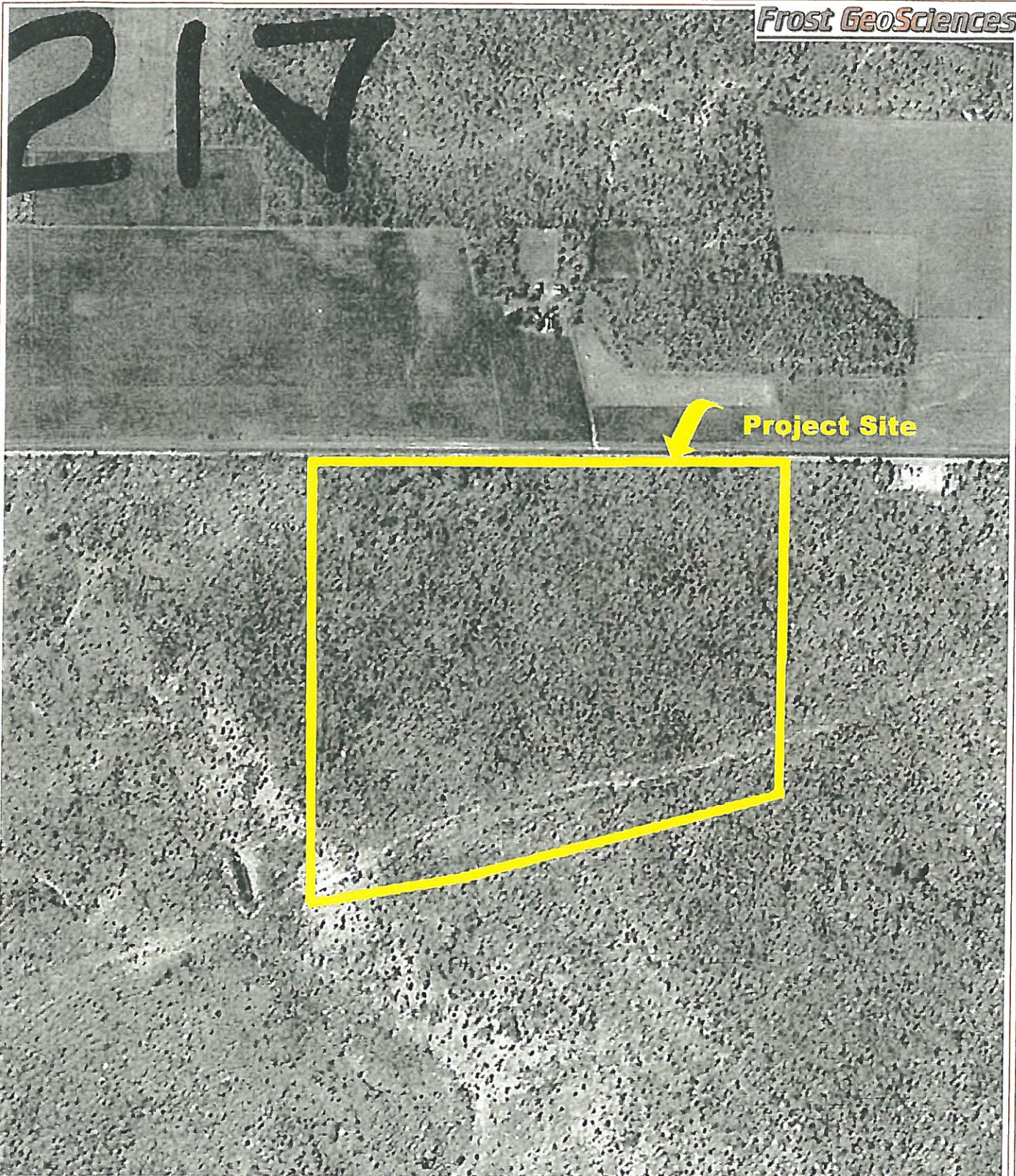
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**PROJECT NAME:**

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San Antonio, Texas

1938 Aerial Photograph  
Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service

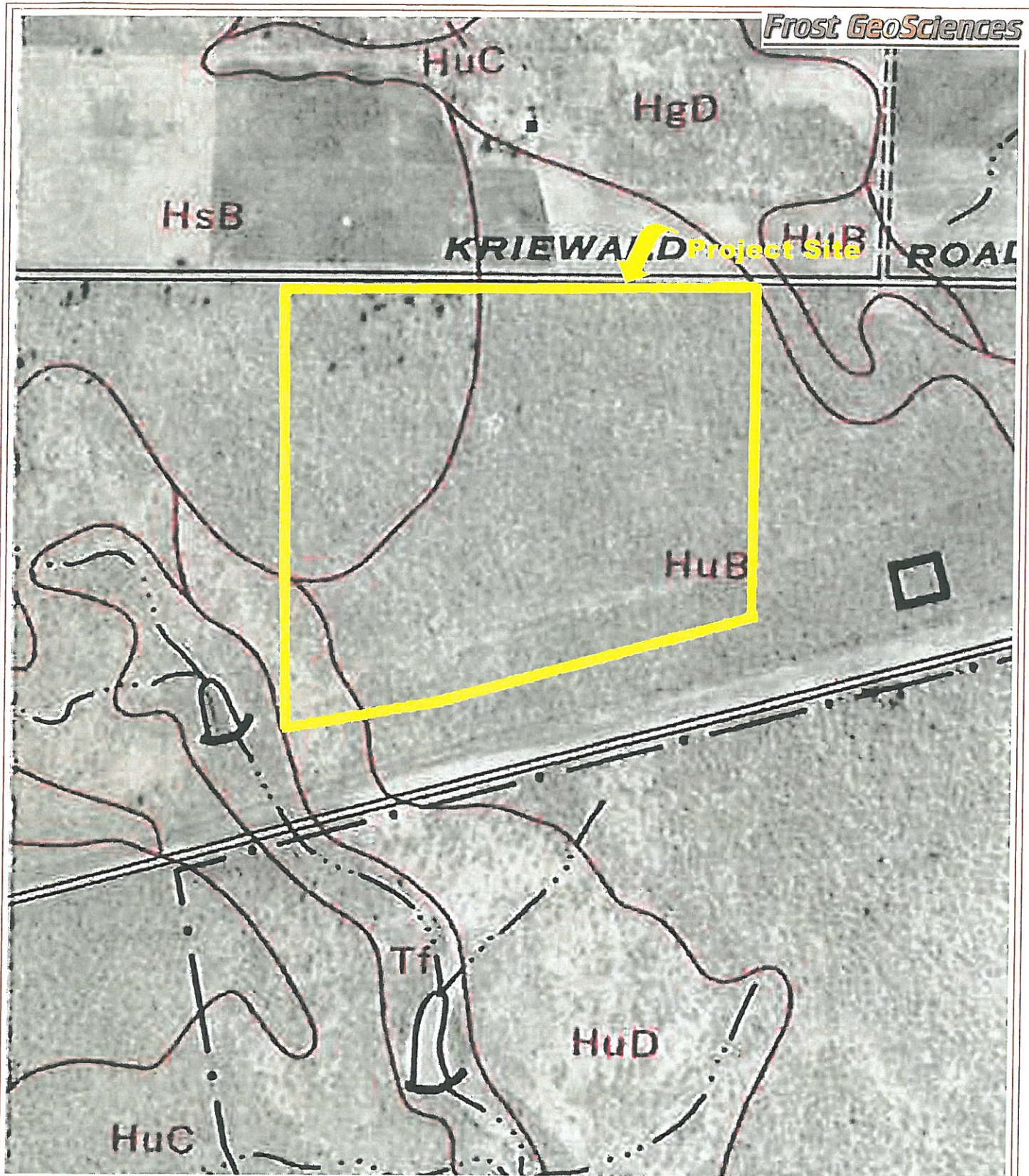
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**PROJECT NAME:**

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1962 Aerial Photograph  
United States Department of Agriculture

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Project Site

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1995 Aerial Photograph  
United States Geological Survey

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**PROJECT NAME:**

Archeological Survey  
The CMH Parks, Inc. Tract  
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2003 Aerial Photograph  
Landscor Aerial Information

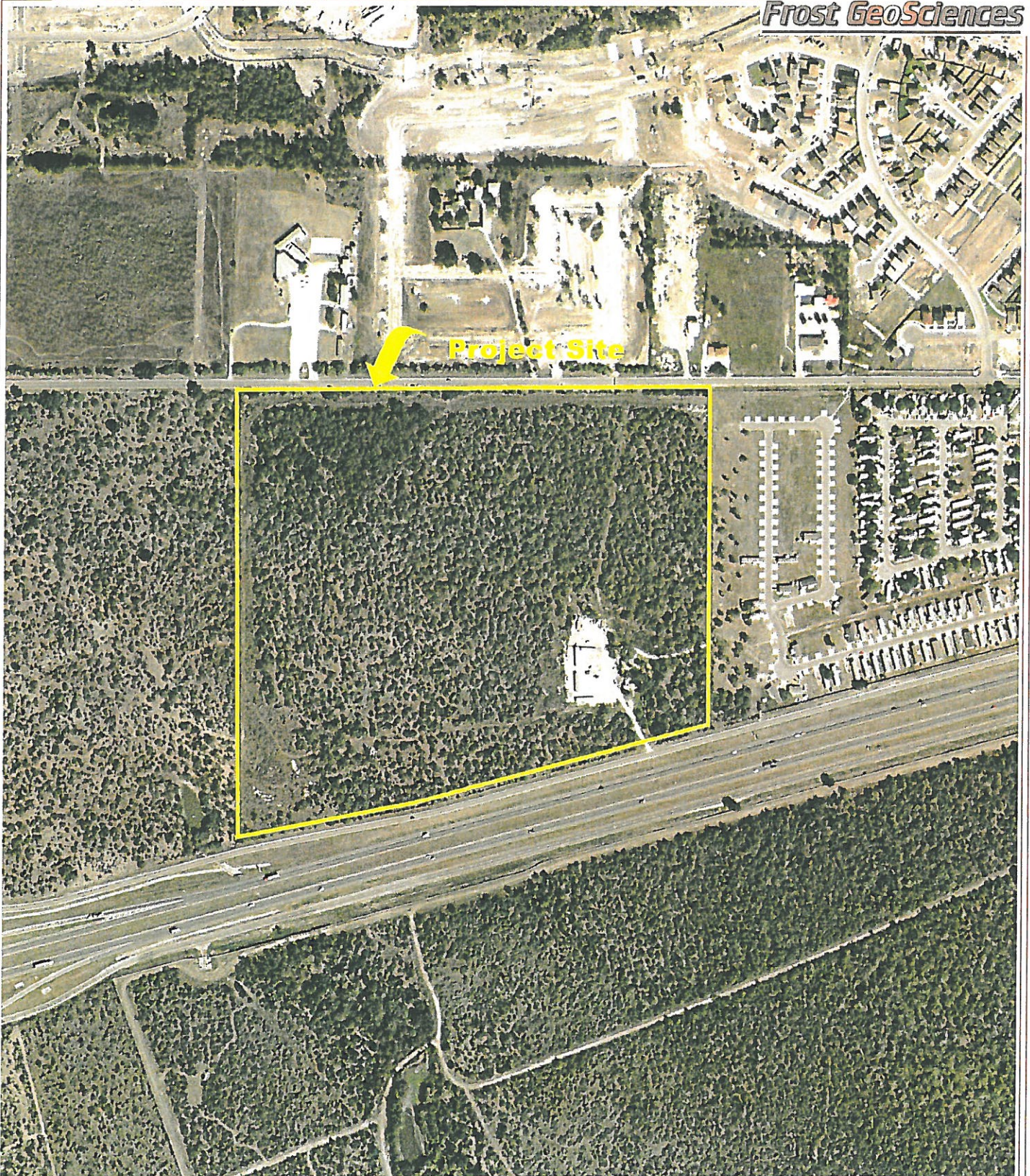
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**PROJECT NAME:**

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2005 Aerial Photograph  
Landscor Aerial Information

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Figure 1. CMH Parks, Inc. Tract. Area in the northern portion of the property.





Figure 2. Guadalupe Tool Isolated artifact found in the western part of the CMH Parks, Inc. Tract.  
Scale is in inches.





Figure 3. View of Uvalde Gravel Outcrop in the western portion of the CMH Parks, Inc. Tract.





Figure 4. Core Fragment found among Uvalde Gravel outcrops, as seen in Figure 3.