

August 15, 2005

Dr. James Bruseth
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Re: Permit 3837. Summary of GPR investigations

Dear Dr. Bruseth:

This letter report serves as a summary interim letter for the GPR investigations of the HISD 4th Ward Property in Houston, Texas, Permit #3837. Investigations were conducted July 13-15, 2005 by Hicks & Company and Anthony & Brown Consulting. Rachel Feit of Hicks & Company served as Principal Investigator and oversaw Gradall trenching, which was proposed as part of this project. The results of that effort are included in this letter. David Brown and Dana Anthony performed the GPR survey. Their draft summary of the radar survey is attached. The radar survey documented over 400 anomalies, only 30 of which deemed of historical interest or worthy of further study. The remaining anomalies were attributed to grass clumps, posts, surface features, or buried utilities. The patterning and signature of the anomalies did not generally match those of burials. However, Brown & Anthony's report recommends that the 30 or so significant anomalies be investigated.

Two Gradall trenches was dug in support of the GPR survey. Heavy rain impeded not only recording of one trench, but also excavation of additional trenches. Rain hindered work on the afternoons of July 13th, 14th, and during the most of the 15th. By the time July 14th's deluge ended, both excavated trenches had completely filled with water (**Figure 1**). Nevertheless, the trenching provided some useful data from which to plan future excavation efforts.

Each of the trench corners were recorded using a hand-held Trimble Geo XT GPS, as were basic landmarks such as the track, fence corners, and the areas investigated by radar. Gradall Trench 1 was examined and profiled. Gradall Trench 2 was examined but the Principal Investigator did not have time to profile or photograph the trench before heavy rains occurred.