"ATTACHMENT A"

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PEASE PARK CONSERVANCY'S GRANT APPLICATION TO THE AUSTIN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU HERITAGE GRANT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Introduction: The Pease Park Conservancy was founded in 2008 by a group of local neighbors of the park to reverse the precipitous decline of this historic central Austin green space. Since then this non-profit corporation has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars from private donors and foundations for a long list of projects and improvements in the park, including planting over 2,000 trees or saplings, installing irrigation systems, hosting over one hundred volunteer work days and restoring park buildings and other facilities. It privately funded an award winning Master Plan for the park in partnership with the Austin Parks Department that was unanimously approved by the City Council in October 2014. The Conservancy and the City are now actively working together to implement the first phases of this Master Plan.

As part of the Conservancy's ongoing stewardship for the park, it respectfully seeks heritage grant funding for the restoration and repair of several Depression era limestone walls and picnic tables at Pease District Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt in central Austin. Specifically, we seek funding for the restoration of three picnic table benches and one picnic table top and one stretch of low limestone perimeter walls at Pease Park and two stretches of limestone walls at the Shoal Creek Greenbelt adjacent to the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail near Gaston Avenue and Shoal Creek Blvd. (A map showing the location of these features is attached).

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built these improvements in 1934-1935, during a period in which they were very active in Austin as well as in much of the nation. The one exception is the northernmost wall for which funding is sought. It dates from 1960-1961 when park pioneers and civic leaders Janet Fish and Russell Fish constructed the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail.

Pease Park Picnic Tables: The picnic tables and benches at the park are excellent examples of "New Deal Rustic" style and obviously serve a utilitarian function as the location for family reunions, children's birthday parties, barbeques and outdoor picnics. They receive heavy use and have proved their general durability for over 80 years. But, the three tables to be repaired have been damaged by recent flooding and impact from heavy falling tree limbs. Chipped concrete on one picnic table's seat poses a danger of injury to park visitors. It is located in the main picnic table grouping at 1100 Kingsbury. Another picnic table's seat has been bent by vandalism and is in danger of failure. The third table's top has been chipped by flood debris during the Memorial Day Flood of 2015, exposing its rebar. Both of these last two tables are located in the Custer's Meadow section of the park along Parkway.

Pease Park Perimeter Walls: The limestone perimeter walls at Pease Park are both decorative and utilitarian. They create an atmosphere of rusticity in the green space and define the general boundaries of active recreation. The also serve as a barrier between the street and the park for wandering small children and offer a spot for seating. The stretch of wall abuts and parallels Kingsbury Street at the extreme southern end of the park. It has been damaged in several spots by motor vehicle doors and bumpers. This wall is the most visible in the park at its main entry point. Damage here reflects poorly on the whole space, giving visitors a bad impression of the park. (Photographs of these picnic tables, benches and walls at Pease Park are attached as part of this application).

Shoal Creek Greenbelt Wall (Dog Park): There are two additional stretches of limestone walls further north in the Shoal Creek Greenbelt for which restoration funding is sought in this grant application. The CCC built the first segment of these perimeter walls at what is now the Dog Park on Shoal Creek Blvd. from the 1934-1935. These handsome limestone walls mark the entrance to this section of parkland, an area once called Wooten Woods." It uses cut stone and was built with rebar incorporated into it. The wall sits at a trailhead on the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail at the 2600 block of Shoal Creek Blvd. It is 17 inches tall and 16 inches wide, similar to the perimeter walls at Pease Park.

Decades of flooding have badly damaged this perimeter wall, with sections completely washed away or missing. Its restoration is a critical need at this time or it will be lost in its entirety. One 23-foot section of the wall will have to be rebuilt in its entirety. There is very little left of it. Other sections outside the immediate flood zone need much more minor repairs from cracking and weathering. (See photographs attached).

Shoal Creek Greenbelt Wall (Gaston Avenue): Another segment of these walls further north was constructed with creek rocks along the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail in 1960-1961. Janet Fish, the trail's creator, built it by hand with the help of a stone mason according to her son Andy Fish. Andy tells stories of his diminutive mother lugging sacks of concrete down the trail in the heat of summer and having spirited discussions with the stone mason about which rocks to incorporate into it. The handcrafted nature of this wall makes it an especially significant feature of the trail and worthy of preservation in order to better tell the story of this pioneering civic leader and park visionary.

This wall is obviously a less formal structure than the cut stone perimeter wall nearby. It is raised from 17 to 24 inches in height off the trail, similar to a raised flowerbed, with native xeriscape plants arranged on top of it. It is approximately 116 feet in length and will be extend along both the trail and street side (a total of 233 feet). The plantings were recently nicely refreshed with new plant material as part of an Eagle Scout project and an irrigation system has been extended to it as part of the Watershed Protection Division's Shoal Creek Stabilization Project

However, the wall itself is in poor shape with flood damage evidently again the main cause. It was built without rebar and many stones are missing or undercut. It will be taken down and reconstructed using the existing rocks with some new rock purchased to complete its length and height. It will be rebuilt using new footings and rebar and constructed at a uniform 24 inches in height.

It is our hope to restore this lengthy segment of decorative limestone wall along the trail to be in as good condition as the new plants that sit on top of it. Together they will greatly beautify this heavily traveled section of the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail. (See photographs attached).

Scope of Work: These walls and picnic tables will be reconstructed utilizing the Secretary of Interior's standards for historic restoration. The work will be done in very close coordination with Kim McKnight and other personnel of the Parks Department and comply with all City of Austin codes and permitting requirements.

The masons performing this work will incorporate steel rebar and new concrete joints and footings as necessary to assure their stability of these structures for another 80 years time. Work will be performed so as not to close Pease to park patrons or the trail to joggers, bicyclists and through commuters on the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail. (Additional details relating to the wall construction on the Shoal Creek Trail near the Gaston Trailhead will be identical to the creek rock wall restored by PSP Landscapes in 2015. See attachment)

Bids: We have received four independent bids for all this work. We have bids from Ash Masonry Masterworks, PSP Landscapes, Maas Verde Landscapes and Fabian Flores. (These bids are all attached to this document for your information).

Choice of Masons: We propose to use **Ash Masonry Masterworks** for the masonry work on the historic picnic tables and the CCC era limestone walls at Pease Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt (Dog Park). That firm has been in business since1978 and has an excellent reputation for historic restoration work. Brian Ash and his crew have worked on Spanish missions in San Antonio, the Governor's Mansion and St. Mary's Cathedral in Austin and many historic courthouses all across Texas for the Texas Historical Commission. They have also worked closely with the Austin Parks & Recreation Department on a number of buildings and structures in various Austin parks, including Pease, Mayfield and Zilker Park.

Their total bid for this work is **$26,734**. This includes the retaining wall repair on Kingsbury, the stone column on Kingsbury, the CCC picnic tables and benches at Pease and the restoration of twelve stone wall segments at parking area at the Dog Park on Shoal Creek Blvd. We will defer restoration of the perimeter retaining walls on the near Shoal Creek at Pease Park (that bid by Ash Masonry was $4,700) in order to keep the cost of this project down.

We propose to use **PSP Landscapes** for the creek rock wall at the foot of Gaston Avenue on the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail. PSP Landscapes restored another similar section of wall nearby on the Shoal Creek Trail for the Pease Park Conservancy in 2015 funded by foundations and neighbors from Pemberton Heights. They did an excellent job on it for a very reasonable price. This was another section of wall that had been hand built by Ms. Fish herself with the help of a local mason around 1961. We feel that PSP's proposal of **$21,600** for this lengthy section of wall represents real value here as well.

Conclusion: The total cost of the proposed work under these two bids referenced above is **$48,334 ($21,600 + $26,734)**. The Conservancy has agreed to fund **$5,000** of the total cost of this project. So, the Conservancy respectfully requests heritage grant funding under the Austin Convention and Visitor Bureau Heritage Grant Program in the amount of **$43,334** for this worthy project.

We feel the stories of the Civilian Conservation Corps and park pioneer Janet Fish are worthy telling by means of the physical structures they left behind in stone and concrete in Pease District Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt. Once restored, they will enhance the experience of thousands of visitors to these beautiful Austin green spaces and promote return trips to our city by these individuals. We feel this restoration project is just the type of admirable endeavor that the Heritage Grant Program was put in place to assist.

ATTACHMENT "A." PROJECT DESCRIPTION

INDEX TO ATTACHMENTS

CCC-BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE/ PEASE PARK & GREENBELT

1.) Map of Historic Walls and Picnic Tables to be repaired.
2.) Photo of Cracked Picnic Bench, Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury
3.) Wide photo of picnic table area, Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury
4.) Close-up of picnic Bench, Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury
5.) Photo of bent Picnic Table Bench joint, Pease Park, 2100 Parkway
6.) Photo of chipped Picnic Table edge, Pease Park, 2300 Parkway
7.) Photo of Entrance pillars at Dog Park, 2600 Shoal Creek Blvd.
8.) Photo of Missing section of stone perimeter wall, Dog Park
9.) Photo of Missing section of stone perimeter wall, Dog Park

JANET FISH STONE WALL

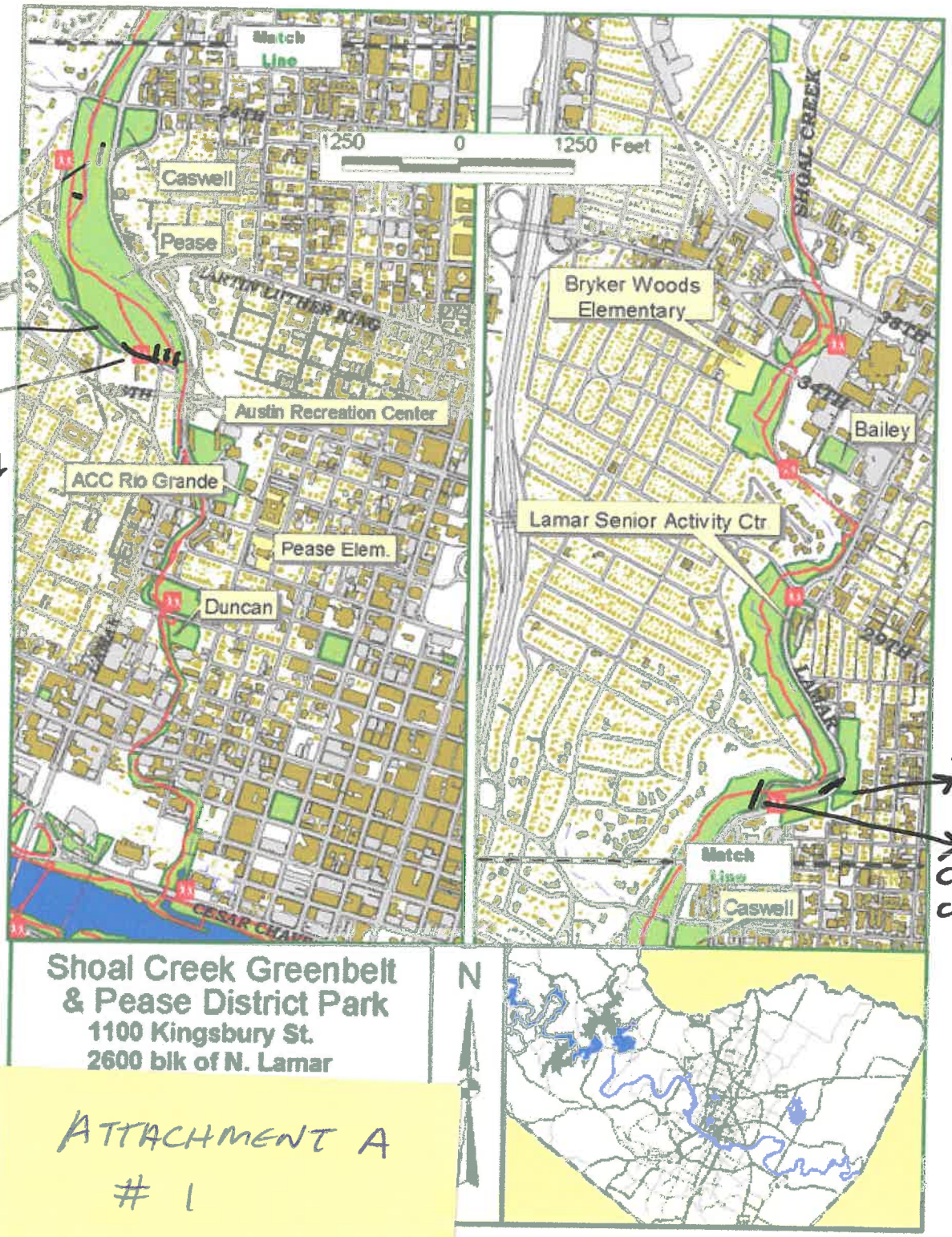
10. Janet Fish Wall on Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail (Gaston & Shoal Creek Blvd.)
11. Janet Fish Wall on Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail (Gaston & Shoal Creek)
12. Close up photo of Janet Fish Stone Wall on Hike & Bike Trail showing sloppy mortar repair performed during recent Watershed Protection Shoal Creek stabilization project.

KINGSBURY STREET CCC-BUILT PERIMETER WALL

13. Photo of Damaged section of Perimeter Wall, Pease District Park
14. Photo of Perimeter Wall at Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury Street

RESTORATION OF JANET FISH WALL –SUMMER 2015

15. Photo of Section of Janet Fish Wall restored north of Gaston Avenue Trailhead by Pease Park Conservancy in the Summer of 2015.
16. Photo of PSP Landscape Sign advertising work on Janet Fish Wall.
17. Photo of Conservancy sign warning trail users of work on the Janet Fish Wall north of Gaston Avenue, Summer 2015.



Shoal Creek Greenbelt & Pease District Park
1100 Kingsbury St.
2600 blk of N. Lamar

ATTACHMENT A
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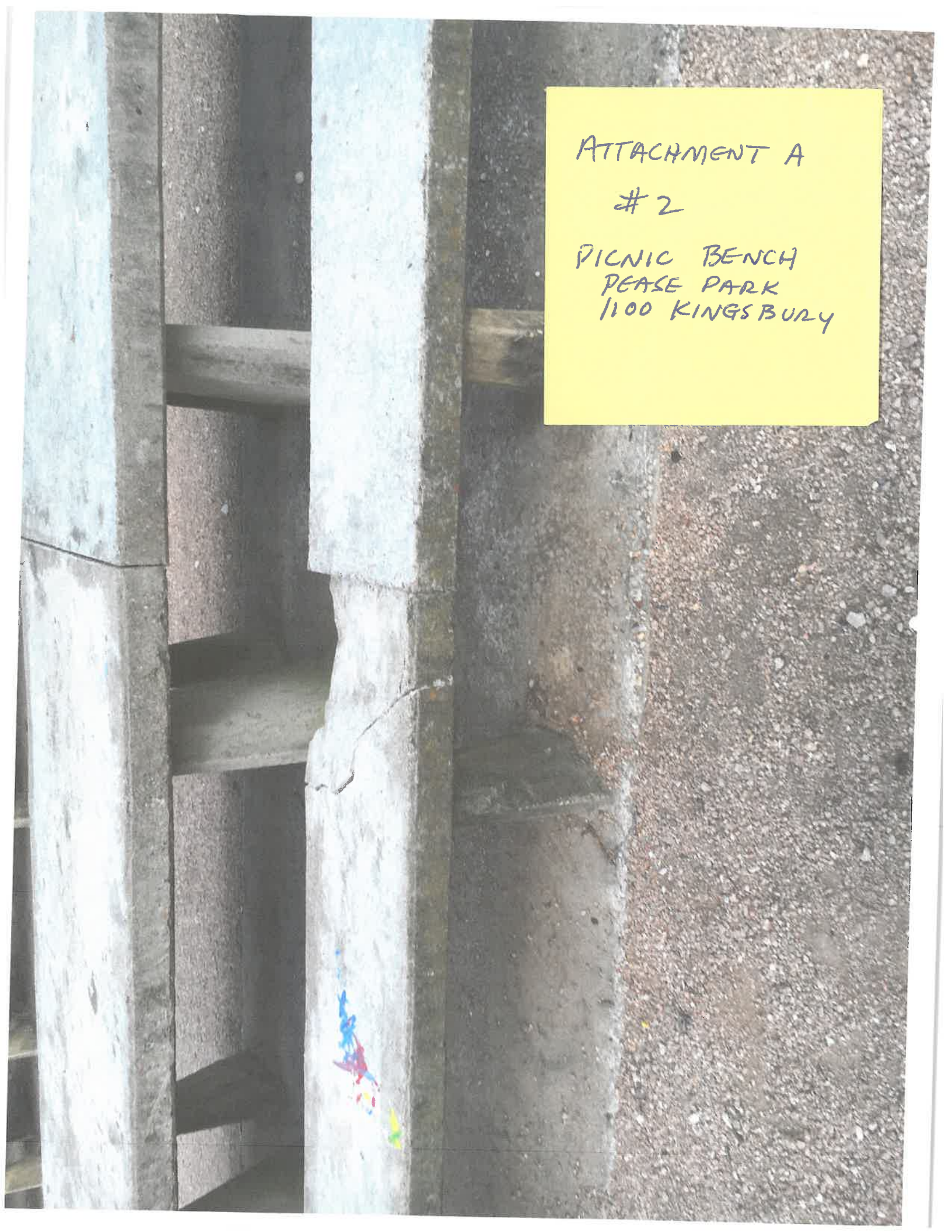
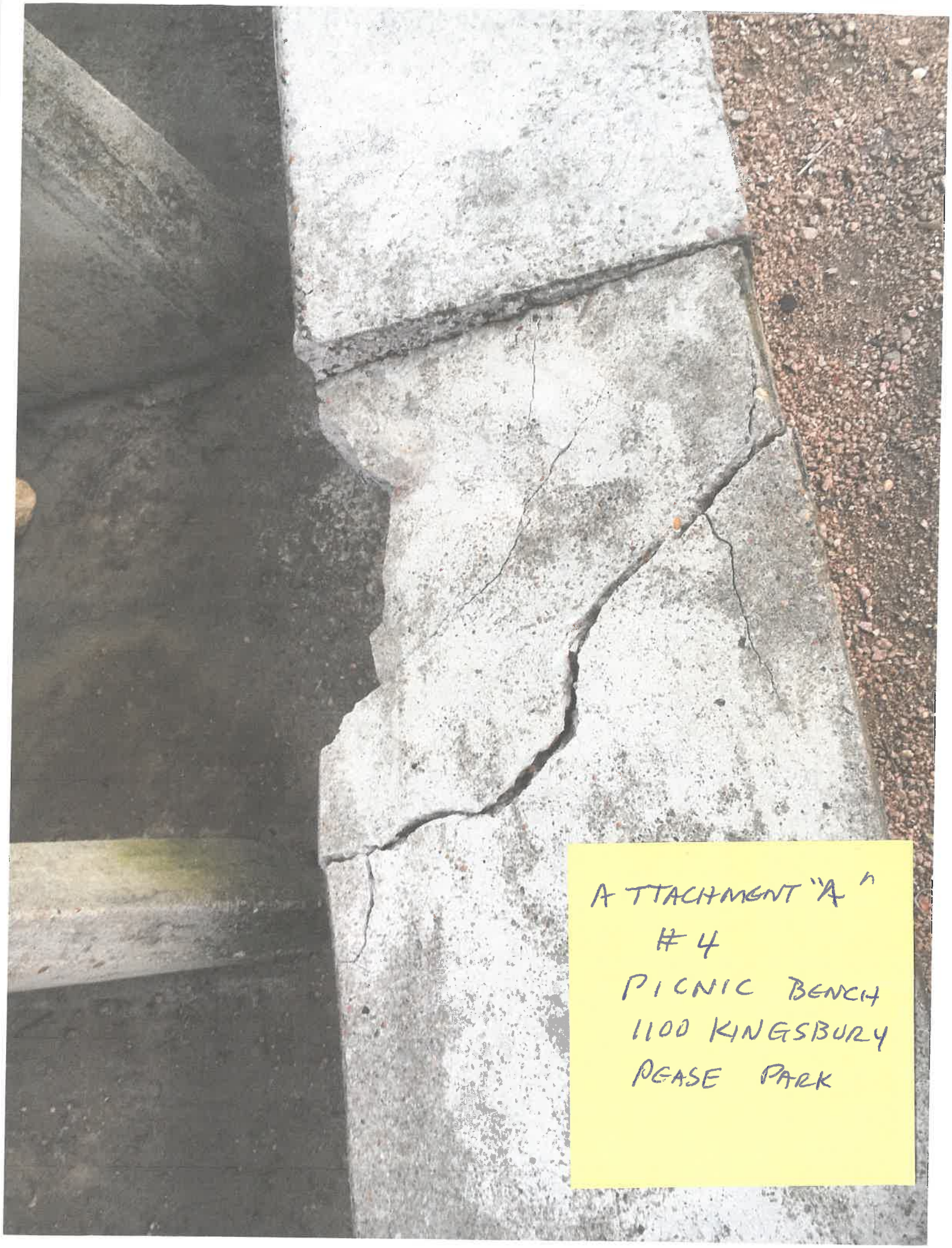

ATTACHMENT A
#2
PICNIC BENCH
PEASE PARK
1100 KINGSBURY

ATTACHMENT A
3
PICNIC TABLES
PEASE PARK
1100 KINGSBURY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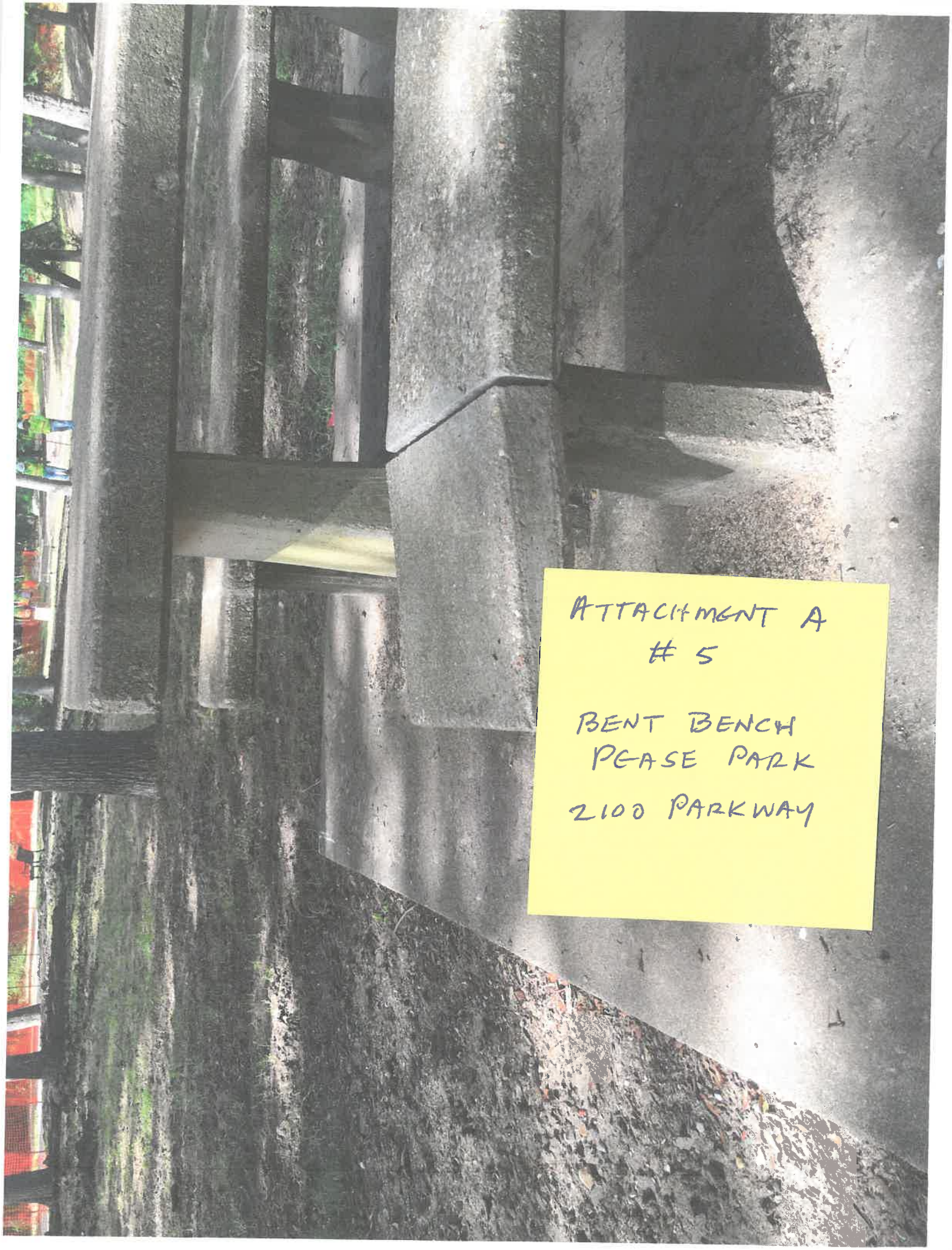
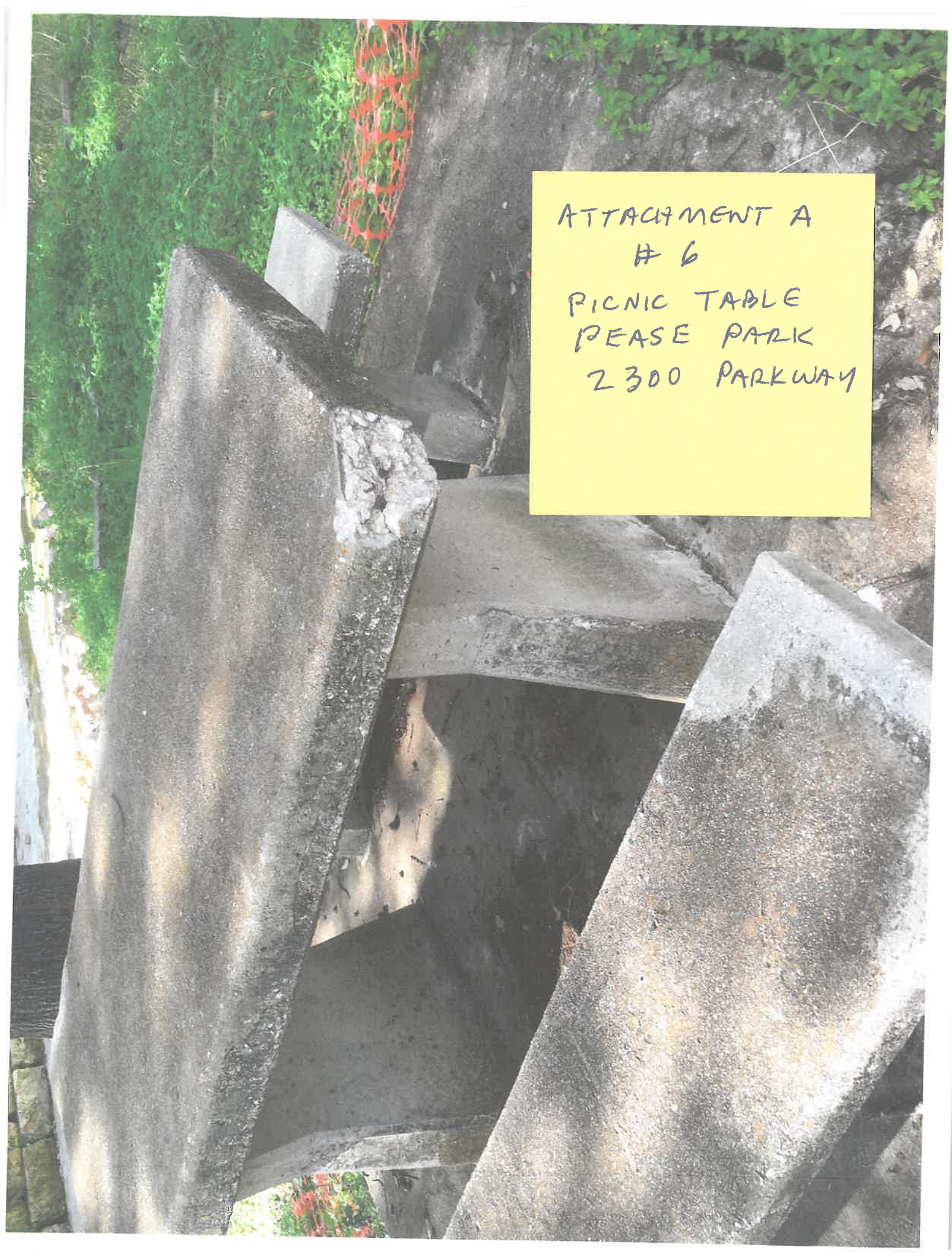
#4
PICNIC BENCH
1100 KINGSBURY
PEASE PARK


ATTACHMENT A
5
BENT BENCH
PEASE PARK
2100 PARKWAY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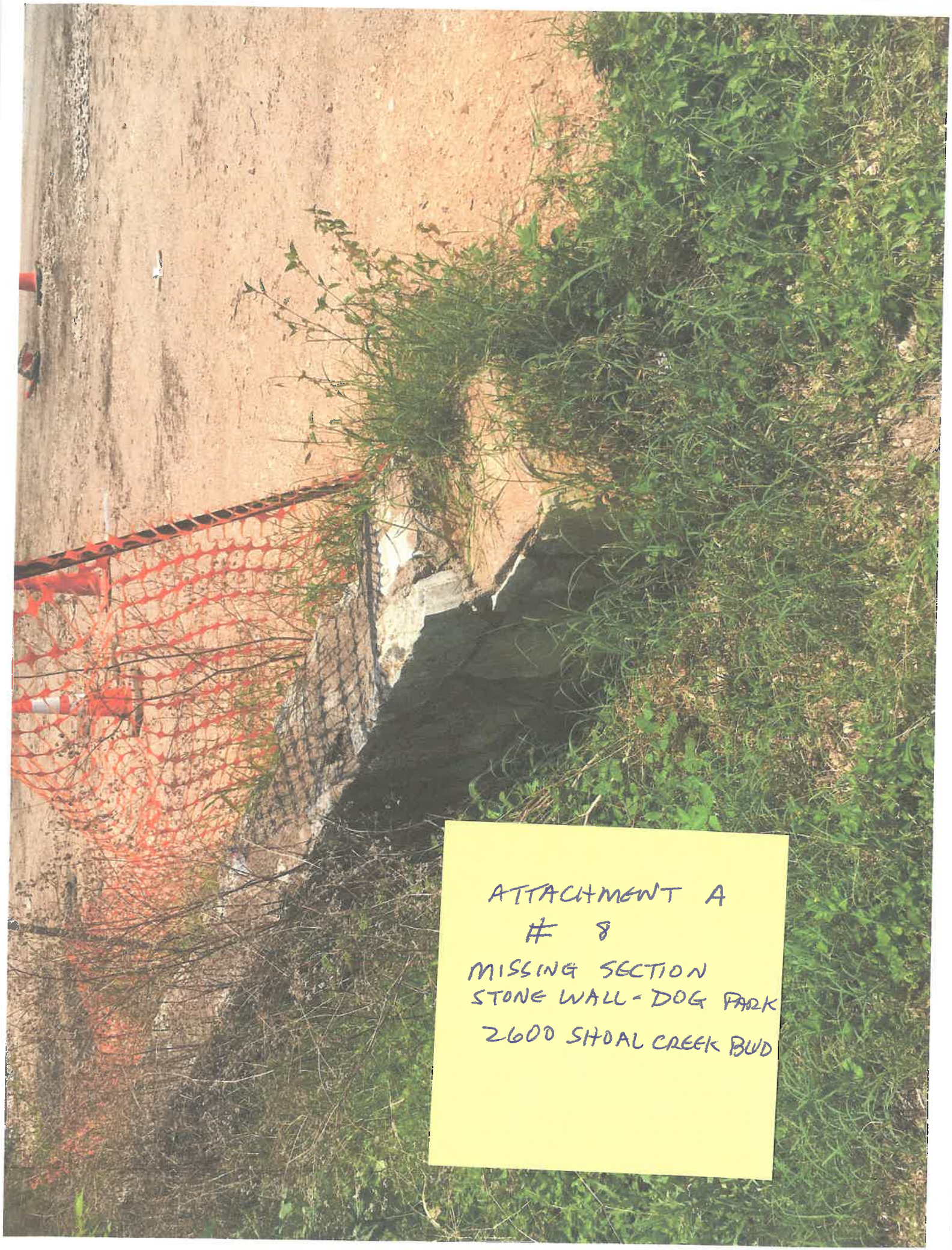
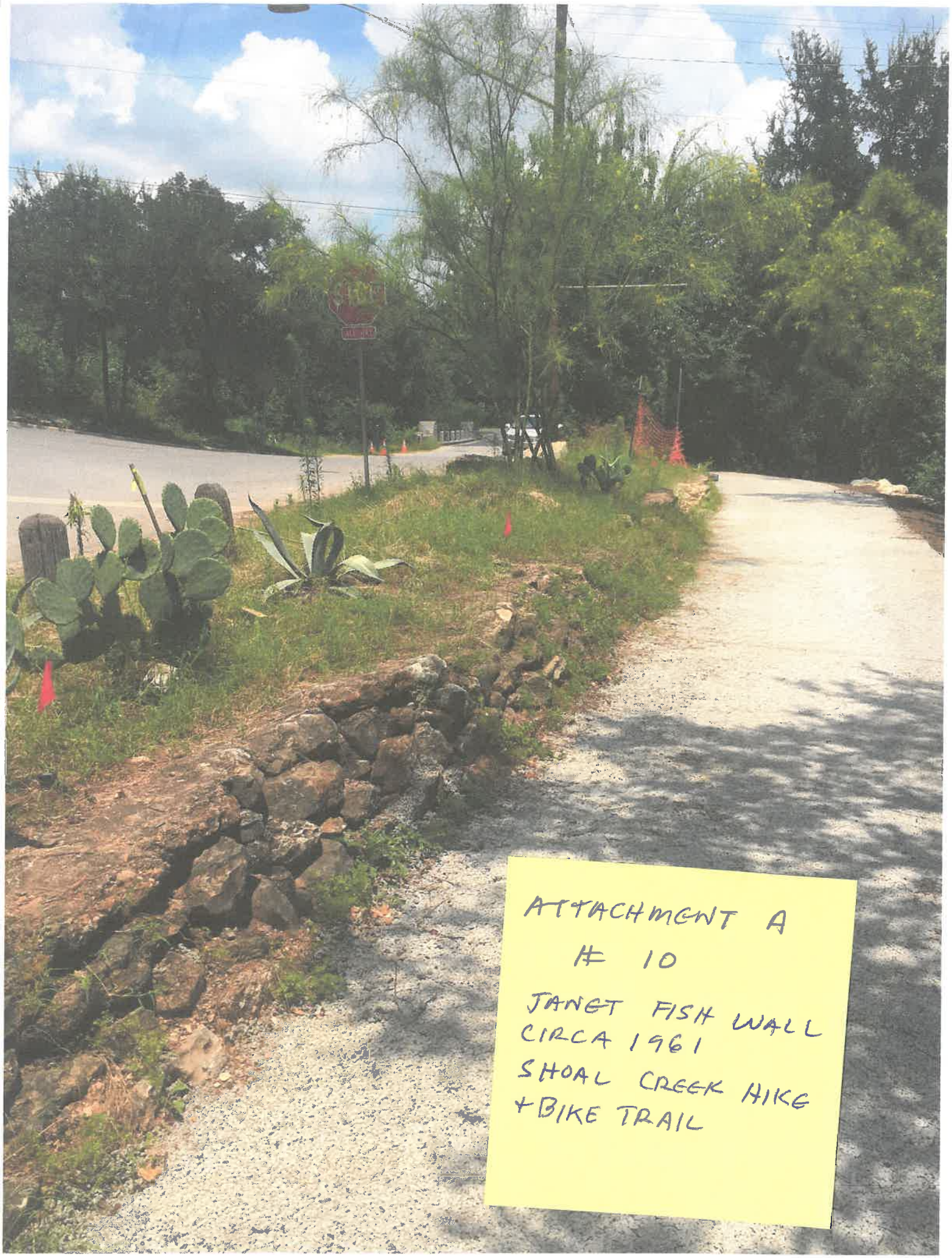
PICNIC TABLE
PEASE PARK
2300 PARKWAY

ATTACHMENT A
#7
ENTRANCE PILLARS
CCC-ERA
DOG PARK ON
SHOAL CREEK TRAIL
2600 SHOAL CREEK BLVD


ATTACHMENT A
8
MISSING SECTION
STONE WALL - DOG PARK
2600 SHOAL CREEK BLVD

ATTACHMENT A
9
ANOTHER MISSING
SECTION STONE WALL
BUILT BY CCC IN
DEPRESSION
2600 SHOAL CREEK BLVD.


ATTACHMENT A
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JANET FISH WALL
CIRCA 1961
SHOAL CREEK HIKE
+BIKE TRAIL

ATTACHMENT "A"
#11
JANET FISH
STONE WALL
SHOAL CREEK TRAIL
AT GASTON AVE.

ATTACHMENT A
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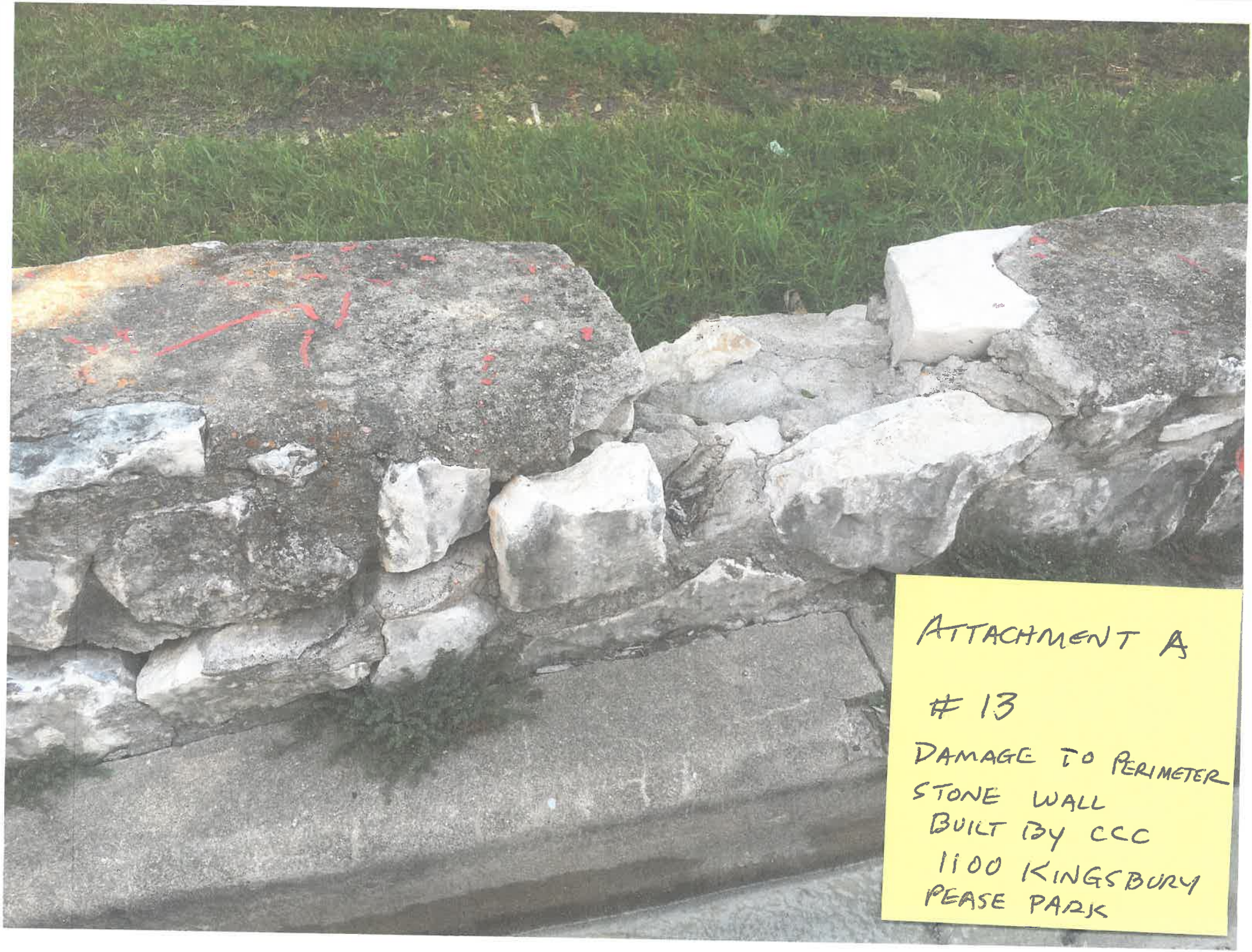
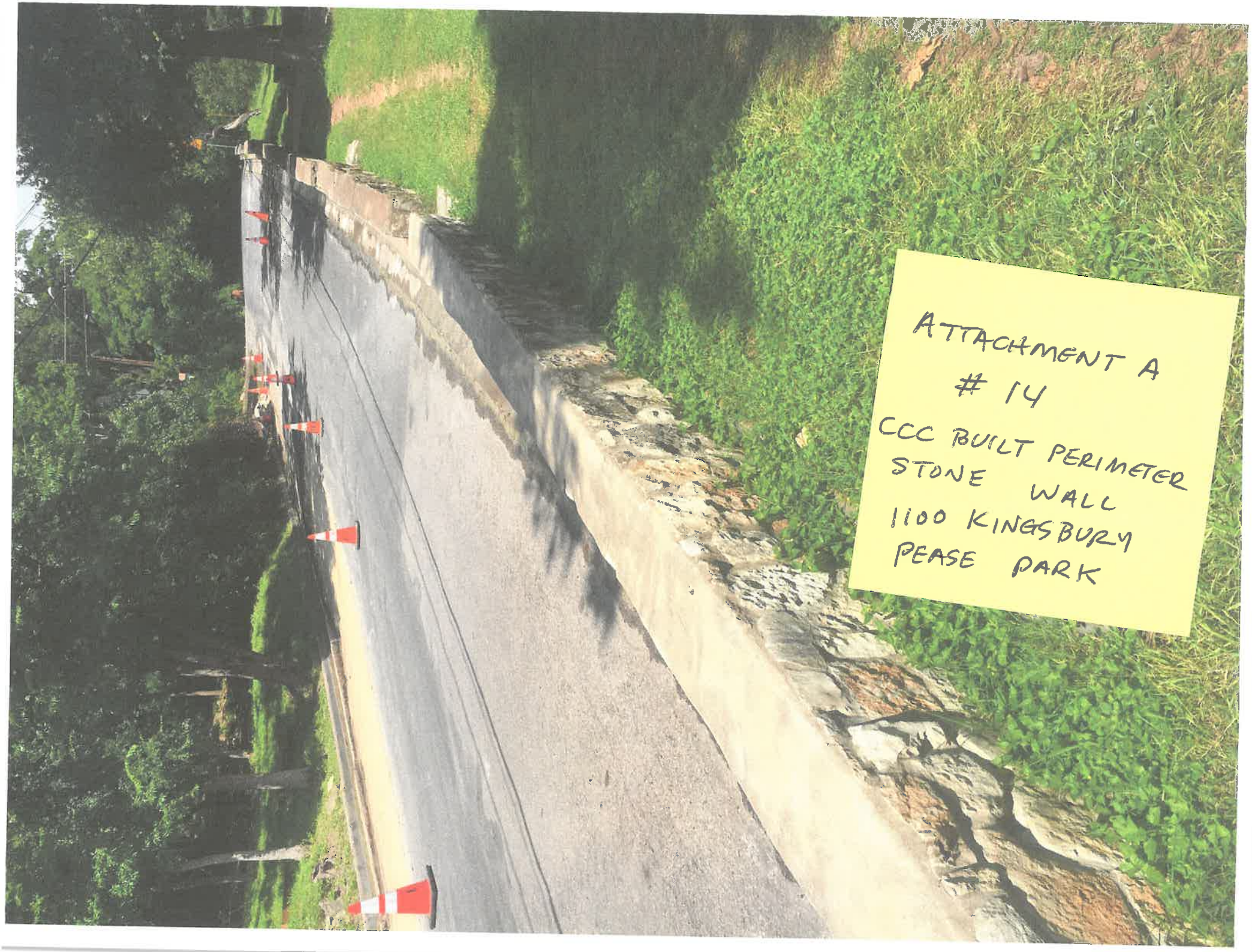
JANET FISH STONE WALL
SHOAL CREEK HIKE +
BIKE TRAIL AT
GASTON AVE.


ATTACHMENT A
13
DAMAGE TO PERIMETER
STONE WALL
BUILT BY CCC
1100 KINGSBURY
PEASE PARK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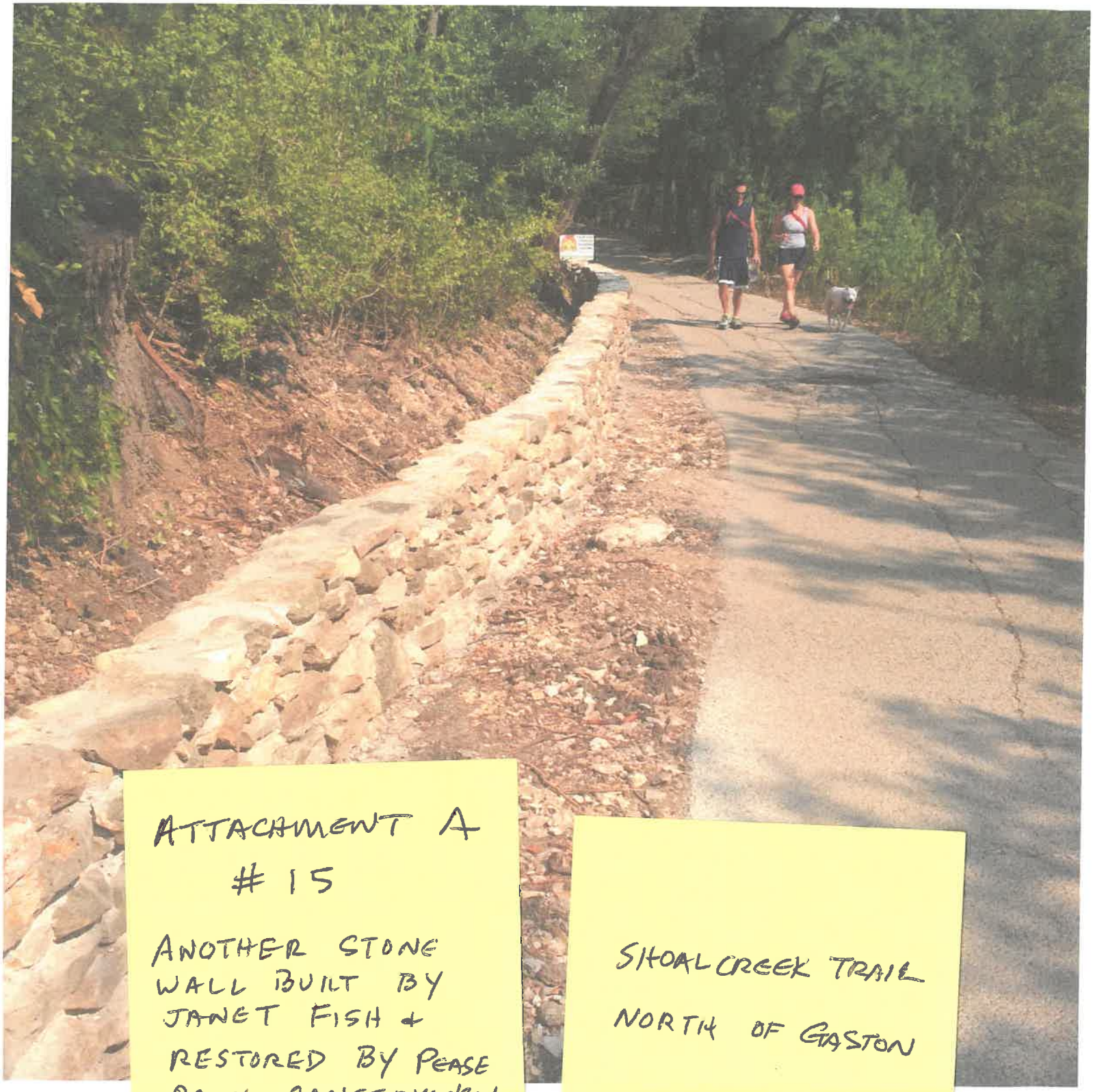
14
CCC BUILT PERIMETER
STONE WALL
1100 KINGSBURY
PEASE PARK

ATTACHMENT A
#14(a)
1100 KINGSBURY
CCC BUILT PERIMETER
WALL - PEASE PARK
ENTRANCE PILLAR

ATTACHMENT A
14 (b)
1100 KINGSBURY
CCC BUILT STONE
PERIMETER WALL +
ENTRANCE PILLAR
PEASE PARK



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ANOTHER STONE WALL BUILT BY JANET FISH + RESTORED BY PEASE PARK CONSERVANCY SUMMER 2015

SHOAL CREEK TRAIL NORTH OF GASTON

ATTACHMENT A
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SIGN FOR
PSP LANDSCAPES
ADVERTISING WORK
ON JANET FISH WALL
SUMMER 2015

ATTACHMENT A
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SIGN WARNING OF
TRAIL WORK
INVOLVING JANET
FISH WALL
RESTORATION

"ATTACHMENT B"

TOURISM JUSTIFICATION

PEASE PARK CONSERVANCY'S GRANT APPLICATION TO AUSTIN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU HERITAGE GRANTS TOURISM JUSTIFICATION

Introduction: Pease District Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt are destinations for thousands of tourists coming to Austin annually. Although, they are perhaps not the "first stop" destination for most out-of-town visitors, they are clearly popular spots for people to visit while in our community. The park and Greenbelt are an 88-acre wooded expanse in the middle of the urban core of the city, immediately adjacent to the dense high-rise student population of West Campus and the Downtown hotel and entertainment district. Given the park's strategic central location along heavily traveled Lamar Blvd., a major civic gateway, visitors can hardly avoid encountering it. Both are featured in many Austin visitor guides and for many tourists it is a destination that is sought out to enjoy a variety of recreational activities.

The Austin City Council unanimously adopted a comprehensive Master plan for Pease Park in 2014. The planning process was spearheaded by the nationally known landscape design firm of WRT of Philadelphia and funded with private dollars raised by the Pease Park Conservancy. It envisions an exciting revitalization of the park and Greenbelt for the benefit of visitors and residents alike. It entails state of the art playscapes, a restored Tudor Cottage, new restrooms and picnic facilities and additional inter-modal trails and creek crossings. The Conservancy invites the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau to be a part of this larger revitalization effort at Pease by restoring some of the park's and Greenbelt's Depression era infrastructure: specifically certain picnic tables and decorative stone walls.

Park Recreational Activities: This much loved green space hosts a wide variety of activities. This includes innumerable picnics, family reunions and children's birthday parties. Joggers, bicyclists, walkers, mothers with small children, petanque and bocce ball enthusiasts, dog lovers and youth soccer and basketball players all frequent it daily. It also is the location of various educational walks organized by groups like Tree Folks, Travis Audubon Society, Pease Park Conservancy, Shoal Creek Conservancy, Austin Society of Landscape Architects and Watershed Protection. These informative "walk and talk" events have proven very popular with tree huggers, bird watchers, history buffs and ghost hunters. In November 2015, the park also was the host to the *"What's Out There Tour"* by the Cultural Landscape Foundation, a national organization that has recognized the park's unique history and landscape. But, the park and Shoal Creek Greenbelt are perhaps best known for the one large annual festival held there: Eeyore's Birthday Celebration.

Eeyore's Birthday Party: Pease Park has been the site of Eeyore's on the last Saturday of every April since 1974. This event is Austin's special ode to Spring and "Flower Power" and it is ground zero for keeping our city "weird." The event was started in 1968 by a University of Texas English professor whose class was studying the work of the children's author A.A. Milne's *"Winnie the Pooh"* stories. The restless students were having trouble concentrating so the professor adjourned the class to

nearby Eastwoods Park where their scholarly insights into children's literature were further augmented by a keg of beer.

The celebration proved so popular that it became an annual one. It quickly outgrew tiny Eastwoods and was moved to Pease District Park, which proved a much better substitute for Christopher Robin's "100 acre wood." The park hosts over 15,000 revelers during the roughly nine-hours of Eeyore's. The event has a nation-wide reputation and draws people from all over Texas and many other states. Travis County Constable Stacy Suits, Friends of the Forest Board Trustee and long-time Eeyore's organizer, estimates that roughly 20% of these celebrants come from out of town. This means 3,000 people filling hotel rooms in Austin. (See Mr. Suits' letter of June 29, 2016 attached).

Eeyore's is clearly a children's affair during the morning and early afternoon hours with face painting, petting zoo, May-poles and sack races. The latter part of the afternoon takes on a more adult character as university students mingle with old hippies around the ubiquitous drum circles and rock bands. The party ends at dusk and the park is cleared by curfew, none the worse for the wear.

Proximity to Austin Hotels: Many major Austin hotels and bed and breakfasts are located in very close proximity to Pease Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt. These hotels include the Doubletree Hotel on 303 West 15th Street, Hotel Ella, 1900 Rio Grande, Hampton Inn at 1701 Lavaca and the AT&T Conference Center at 1900 University Avenue. Austin Bed and Breakfasts close to the park include the Inn at Pearl Street, 1809 Pearl, Brava House B&B, 1108 Blanco, Austin Folk House, 506 West 22nd Street and the Star of Texas Inn, 611 West 22nd Street.

If visitors and tourists at these popular accommodations want some exercise in a nearby green space, it will inevitably have to take place at Pease Park and the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail. Austin's horrendous traffic simply does not allow easy or ready access to the Butler Trail around Lady Bird Lake or other parks or greenbelts during either the morning or evening rush hours for visitors staying in these hotels. Their only option is Pease.

An email from Hotel Ella's Assistant Manager Mickey Farmer and a letter from the Pearl Vintage Hotel's owner Jill Bickford both verify that the guests of both hotels use the park and trail and are directed there by their concierge often. Mickey Farmer states that he has used the Shoal Creek Hike and Bike Trail alongside some guests to show them "how great of an area it is."(See Attachments B #5 & B #6).

Data from Master Plan: Clipboard survey data collected by the Pease Park Conservancy during the year-long Pease Park Master Plan planning process in 2013-2014 showed that a surprisingly large number of park and Shoal Creek Trail patrons did not reside within the Austin city limits. Approximately fifteen (15%) percent of the individuals randomly questioned by volunteers in the park (out of a 150 person sample size) did not live in Austin.

Most of these out-of-town visitors said that they sought out these conveniently located central green spaces for bike rides, walks, runs or picnics with family and friends who either lived, worked or attended school nearby. Others had been directed there by hotel concierges as a good place to jog or get some exercise. A few others had simply stumbled upon it and decided to explore.

Tourism Guidebooks: Pease Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt are also prominently featured as major attractions in many Austin tourist guidebooks or other publications aimed at visitors. Both merit separate paragraphs in *Insiders' Guide to Austin* (2004). Other local guidebooks featuring these very special green spaces include *Explorer's Guide to Austin, San Antonio & Hill Country* (2013) by Amy K. Brown, *60 Hikes within 60 Miles of Austin & San Antonio* (2013), published by the American Hiking Society and *Cheap Bastard's Austin* (2015) by Kristen Finan. These books generally highlight the park's convenience and hiking and biking potential.

The park and Greenbelt are also featured at great length in the book *Ghosts of Austin; Who They are and Where to Find Them* (2007). This book showcases a number of dark stories centered on the creek, park and the Pease Mansion, Woodlawn, including the Comanche Indian massacre of early settler Gideon White on Shoal Creek in 1836 and the cholera epidemic that killed a number of General Custer's cavalry troopers camped on the creek in the winter of 1865-1866.

The park is also featured on a number of on line websites that are aimed at visitors and tourists in the Austin area. These include:

365 Things to Do in Austin (http://365thingsaustin/?s=pease+park
Trip Advisor: (https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g30196-d560362)
10BEST: (http://10best.com/destinations/texas/austin/north-austin/attractions)
Yelp: (http://www.yelp.com/biz/pease-park-austin)
Gogobot: (http://www.gogobot.com/pease-park-austin-attractions)
Texas Outside: (http://www/texasoutside.com/peaseparkframes.htm)
Do 512: (http://www.do512.com/venues/pease-park)
City of Austin: (http://austintexas.gov/blog/pease-park)

Educational Trail Markers: The Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail has a number of educational markers along its length that tell the story of the area's history. These include markers about General Custer's post-Civil War encampment, the "gold rush fever" that swept Austin in the late 19th Century, the massacre of Gideon White and abducted settler Sara Hibbens' miraculous escape from the Comanches. She waded down the middle of the creek to avoid being tracked and reached safety at the little settlement of Waterloo, the village that preceded the 1839 founding of Austin. The Austin Junior League installed these markers along the trail in 1992 and they have proven to be a big draw that enriches visitors' jogs or walks. (Photos attached).

B-Cycle Station at Pease: It should also be noted that Pease Park now has a heavily used B-Cycle station at 1100 Kingsbury. This is just one of several dozen such stations located all around central Austin and Lady Bird Lake. People can rent bicycles for short-term use at one of these convenient kiosks. B-Cycle is a nation-wide phenomena designed to give visitors and residents a readily available alternative means of transportation.

The B-Cycle station at Pease is an important one because it allows visitors easy access north and south along the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail. That trail is a major component of the City's Bicycle Master Plan and will assume ever greater importance as Austin grows and motor vehicle traffic worsens even more. The B-Cycle station at Pease is already a very popular amenity and will draw even more tourists and visitors to the park over time. (See Austin B-Cycle stations map and photo attached, B#16 & 17).

Conclusion: Hard statistics for the origin of people patronizing a free public park are obviously difficult to come by. Since tickets are not required, there is no interaction between park users and Parks Department personnel and no opportunity to gather data. But, there is simply no question that they are coming. Stacy Suits' letter concerning the origins of Eeyore's patrons and the clipboard survey data collected during the Pease Park Master Planning process in 2013-2014 validate this. The email from Hotel Ella's assistant manager and the letter from the Pearl Hotel's owner further confirm this fact. All this evidence taken together amply demonstrates that Pease Park and Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail are clearly "on the map" when it comes to tourism in Austin. We feel this visitor interest and active presence in these green spaces make it quite reasonable to justify the expenditure of some of our city's hotel occupancy taxes on the restoration and repair of historically important improvements there.

We certainly want tourists to have a favorable impression of our City and keeping the historic built infrastructure in Pease Park and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt in good condition is imperative in that regard. Well-maintained facilities enhance the visitors' experience and demonstrate civic pride. This helps us "put our best foot forward" as a community.

We feel quite strongly that the beautiful limestone walls built by the CCC and Janet Fish at Pease Park and the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail and the CCC built Depression era "New Deal rustic" picnic tables and benches at Pease Park qualify as worthy projects that will promote tourism in our community. Their restored appearance and function will contribute to a favorable impression of Austin and indisputably help put "heads in beds," as required under the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau's heritage grant program. Therefore, the Pease Park Conservancy respectfully urges the Committee to approve this grant application.

ATTACHMENT "B" TOURISM JUSTIFICATION

INDEX TO ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from Stacy Suits, Trustee of Eeyore's Birthday Celebration, Friends of the Forest Foundation, June 29, 2016.
2. Eeyore's Birthday Party, Austin Texas (Wikipedia)
3. Lady Bird & Lynda Bird Johnson at Eeyore's Birthday Party circa 1972.
4. Three photographs of Eeyore's Birthday Celebration at Pease, April 2012.
5. Letter from Jill Bickford, the Pearl Vintage Hotel, August 16, 2016, verifying its guests use Pease Park & the Shoal Creek Greenbelt.
6. Email from Mickey Farmer, Hotel Ella Assistant Manager, verifying that the hotel's guests use Pease Park and Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail.
7. Austin Parks Dept. blog: "Pease Park: So Much More than Meets the Eye"
8. Trip Advisor: "Pease Park" (http://www.tripadvisor.com)
9. 365 Things Austin, Pease Park, (http://365thingsaustin.com?s=pease+park)
10. Yelp reviews: Pease Park, http://www.yelp.com/biz/pease-park-austin
11. List of Other Websites referencing Pease Park as a tourist destination.
12. 10 Best, Travel & Lifestyle Advice, Pease Park Austin
13. "What's Out There Austin," Pease Park Tour, November 21, 2015 sponsored by the Cultural Landscape Foundation
14. *Ghosts of Austin* by Fiona Broome, "The Shoal Creek Curse"
15. *Insiders Guide to Austin"* by Cam Rossie
16. Photo of B-Cycle Station, Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury
17. Map of Austin B-Cycle Station locations.
18. Interpretive, Way-finding and Historical Markers on the Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail erected with funding from the Austin Junior League in 1992.
    (a) Shoal Creek: Shallow Waters-Way-finding sign at West 24th Street Bridge
    (b) The Native Americans-Sara Hibbens' escape from the Comanches by wading down Shoal Creek to the village of Waterloo (Austin) in 1835.
    (c) Shoal Creek Landmarks: Cat Hole, Blue Hole & Spilt Rock.
    (d) Gold Fever: The Myth of the Buried Mexican Gold along Shoal Creek.
    (e) Austin Daily Statesman article *"Hidden Treasure said to exist in Pease Park, The Wild Search Goes on,"* January 3, 1897.

Friends of the Forest Found
PO Box 12902
Austin, TX 78711

ATTACHMENT B
1

EEYORE'S LETTER
REGARDING CELEBRANTS
FROM OUT OF TOWN.

June 29, 2016

Mr. Steve Genovisi
Senior Vice President for Sales
Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau
111 Congress Avenue, Suite 700
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: Pease District Park/ Eeyore's Birthday Celebration

Dear Mr. Genovisi:

I have been involved with Eeyore's Birthday Celebration in Austin in numerous capacities since 1983. Much of this time I have been an officer on the board of directors of Friends of the Forest, the organization that stages the event. One of my functions is handling security for it and working with law enforcement to assure everyone's safety. This lengthy experience has given me significant insights into the size of the crowd attending Eeyore's and knowledge of where these celebrants are from.

I have watched Eeyore's grow into a major festival over the last forty years, attracting more and more visitors every year. The park's capacity is 7,800 people and we have about 5,000 people in the park at any one time during the day. However, most people come and go throughout the day. So, the total number of people who attend the celebration over the nine or ten hours of the event is closer to 15,000.

It is my best estimate that approximately 20% of the people who attend it annually are from communities outside of Austin and in a surprising number of cases from outside of Texas. The festival has a nationwide reputation for its uniqueness. There is nothing like it anywhere. Quite a number of former Austin residents remember Eeyore's as a highlight of their year and return to the city each year to participate in it. Additionally, a number of tourists are drawn to it by word of mouth recommendations from friends and family who currently reside in Austin. It should be noted that Eeyore's has no paid advertising for this event.

I know this through personal conversations I have had with many of these out of town visitors over the decades. Also, at our Board of Directors meeting last Tuesday night, the group

consensus was that my 20% estimate was correct. However, some board members thought 25% was a better number.

People enjoy themselves immensely at this event and wish that there was something like Eeyore's in their own hometowns. There is no doubt in my mind that Eeyore's Birthday Celebration fills a lot of hotel rooms in this city every year.

If you have any questions about the direct connection between Eeyore's and tourism in Austin, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached by telephone at 512-554-2710 .

Sincerely,

Stacy Suits

Stacy Suits
Board Trustee
Friends of the Forest

Photos from 2016 are beginning to come in!

Eeyores Birthday Party
Volunteer information

Medical Volunteers

Our next (54th annual) celebration will be held on April 29th, 2017.

That's only 3 2 4 Days folks

In addition to the funds generated by the **Local Non Profit** food vendors,

the Friends of the Forest Foundation makes donations to **Local Non Profit** groups.

We had our meeting to disperse funds from the 2015 event on Tuesday, October 27 2015 and are proud to support the following groups.

Animal Trustees of Austin
Austin HARM Reduction
Austin Zoo
Blackland Community Development Center
Blue Dog Rescue
Care Connection (formerly Cancer Connection)
Chautauqua - Texas River School
Central Texas German Shepherd Rescue
Drive a Senior
Foundation for the Homeless
Hospice Austin
KOOP Radio
Mother's Milk Bank
Pease Park Conservancy
Planned Parenthood of Austin
Project Transition
Soccer Assist
Shadowcat
Texas Firewalkers
Workers Defense Project

Some of the recipients of charitable donations from past Eeyores Birthday Parties include:

American Red Cross
Anderson Mill ADA Renovation
Animal Trustees of Austin
Art Enrichment Program at MapleWood Elementary
Austin Advocate
Austin American-Statesman Newspapers in Education
Austin Community Music Center
Austin Guajoya Sister City Project
Austin HARM Reduction
Austin Humane Society
Austin Jaycees
Austin Jugglers Society
Austin Pets Alive
Austin Trees for Pease
Austin Yellow Bike Program

Austin Zoo
Blackland Community Development Center
Blanton Elementary camp Champ
Blue Dog Rescue
Boy Scouts
Breast Cancer Resource Center of Austin (BCRC)
Campus Cat Coalition
Cancer Connection
Capital Area Food Bank
Cedar Park Animal Control
Chautauqua - Texas River School
Chromosome 9P- Network
Clarksville Community Development Corp
Comfort House
Consider the Kids Task Force
DACT
DiverseArts
Donkey Rescue
Ecology Action of Austin
Elizabeth Ney Museum
Eloise's House
Emancipet
Faith Home
Family Eldercare
Friends of Deep Eddy
German Shepherd Rescue
GIFTS-TA
Green Corn Project
Groundworks Music Project
Health Alliance for Austin Musicians (HAAM)
Hearts and Hooves
Hill Country Foundation Well Monitoring
Hospice Austin
Keep Austin Beautiful
KOOP Radio
Lilith Fund
Lone Star Paralysis Foundation
Lucky Mutts
MEEELJ
Men and Father's Resource Center
Mother's Milk Bank
PACT
Partners in Pease Park
Partners of Youth
PAWS
Pease Park Conservancy
Political Asylum Project of Austin

River City Youth
SafePlace Austin
SIMS Foundation
Sustainable food Center
Texans in Motion
Texas Bioregional Congress
Texas Urban Chicken
The Peace Garden at MapleWood Elementary
Treefolks
Urban Roots
Wee Rescue
Wildlife Rescue
Wonders and Worries
Workers Defense Project

Thank you Austin for your GREAT support. See you in April.

Lost and Found

Several items have been placed in our lost and found box, from bicycles to bongos.
If you have lost anything at the the celebration this year you may contact us at:

lostandfound@eeyores.org

You MUST be able to POSITIVELY identify your item in order for me to return it to you.
(ie. something more than my bike has 2 wheels...)

In order to keep up with the times we will no longer be mailing out the volunteer postcards. We have created an Eeyores Volunteer Email List.
To be added to the list send an email to: volunteers-subscribe@eeyores.org
You should receive a confirmation message that you MUST reply to in order to be added to the list.

Eeyore's Birthday Party

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Eeyore's Birthday Party is a day-long festival taking place annually in Austin, Texas since 1963. It typically occurs on the last Saturday of April in Austin's Pease District Park.[1] It includes live music, food and drink vending which benefit local non-profit organizations, attendees in colorful costumes, and very large drum circles. The event is frequented by children and families, with specific events presented for them by the event organizers. The festival is named in honor of Eeyore, a character in A. A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh stories.[2]

Eeyore's Birthday Party, 2010

Contents

1 History
2 Contemporary
3 References
4 External links

ATTACHMENT B
#2

EEYORE'S BIRTHDAY
WIKEPEDIA

The Eeyore of Liberty, a statue which combines The Statue of Liberty with Eeyore, frequently appears near the drum circles at this annual event.

History

Eeyore's Birthday Party began in 1963 as a spring party and picnic for Department of English students at the University of Texas at Austin by Lloyd W. Birdwell, Jr. and other UT students.[2] It was named for Eeyore, a chronically depressed donkey in A. A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh stories who, in one story, believes his friends have forgotten his birthday only to discover they have planned a surprise party for him.[3] Despite its name, the event does not fall on the official birthday of the fictional character.[4] The original event featured a trashcan full of lemonade, beer, honey sandwiches, a live, flower-draped donkey, and a may pole (in keeping with the event's proximity to May Day).[5] For many years the party was a UT tradition, but subsequently the annual Birthday Party became a tradition in Austin's hippie subculture.[2]

When the festival moved from Eastwoods Park to Pease District Park in 1974, Austin-area non-profit Friends of the Forest Foundation, an organization which distributes funds to other area charities, began arranging for food and drink vendors at the festival. They continue this task today along with arranging public services (toilets, buses, security, medics) and scheduling live music and family-oriented games and contests. The event is still known to most as a festival oriented towards modern hippies. It now boasts an annual attendance in the thousands.[2]

Over time, the festival has outgrown its original founders. It is now sponsored by the Friends of the Forest Foundation. [6]

Contemporary

One of the smaller drum circles at the 2005 Eeyore's Birthday Party. Drum circles at the festival range in size from a handful of participants, like this one, to circles with hundreds of drummers and dancers.

Drummers bring a wide variety of instruments from hand drums to kettledrums. What started as a small picnic for University of Texas at Austin students has today swelled to a major annual festival with live bands, non-profit vendors of food, drink and local beers, as well as a children's area complete with arts and crafts and carnival games, family-oriented games and contests such as costume contests, and an egg toss.[7] Attendance at the Birthday Party is free. Weather-permitting, it occurs on the last Saturday in April in Pease District Park; a rain date is scheduled for the following weekend. Bright and diverse costumes are common. In keeping with the original traditions of the event, a live donkey and a may pole are always present. The event begins in the late morning and continues until dusk. Food and drinks are sold onsite by local Austin 501c-3 non-profit groups. Purified water is available onsite for participants to fill their own containers. Due to the lack of parking in the area and the high attendance, the Friends of the Forest Foundation provides festive shuttle buses between state parking lots just north of the capitol building and Pease Park. Singing of folk and road trip songs is encouraged on the short bus ride.[1][2]

Eeyore's Birthday Party is attended by people from a wide variety of backgrounds and ages, some of whom may have been attending for decades. Austin's hippie community still puts in a major appearance at the event, which they celebrate by forming large drum circles which can sometimes contain hundreds of drummers and dancers in the large areas of the park not occupied by other events. Members of the Deaf community like the drum circles because they can feel the vibrations. [6]

As of 2008, the event has also spread to Seattle's Cal Anderson Park as an annual celebration.[8][9]

References

1. Sexton, Scott. Eeyore's Birthday Party (http://eeyores.sexton.com/). Retrieved March 4, 2006.
2. Rossi, Victoria. "Celebrating Eeyore: Young and old gather for traditional tribute to fictional character (http://www.dailyt

exanonline.com/media/paper410/news/2005/05/02/TopStories/Celebrating.Eeyore-945511.shtml)". (May 2, 2005). *The Daily Texan*. Retrieved January 18, 2006. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20060527231645/http://www.dailytexanonline.com/media/paper410/news/2005/05/02/TopStories/Celebrating.Eeyore-945511.shtml) May 27, 2006, at the Wayback Machine.
3. Milne, A. A.. *Winnie-the-Pooh* (1926). New York: Dutton Juvenile Press. ISBN 0-525-44443-2.
4. Topher. Winnie-the-Pooh FAQ (http://www.lavasurfer.com/pooh-faq7.html). Retrieved January 18, 2006.
5. Ramirez, Elena. Eeyore's Birthday (http://www.klru.org/austinnow/archives/eeyores/eeyores.asp). *Austin Now*. Retrieved January 18, 2006.
6. Richey, Howie (2014). *Party Weird: Festivals and Fringe Gatherings of Austin*. The History Press, Charleston, SC. p. 84. ISBN 978-1-62619-652-0.
7. http://www.klru.org/austinnow/archives/eeyores/eeyores.php
8. Eeyore's Birthday on Yelp Seattle (http://www.yelp.com/events/seattle-eeyores-birthday)
9. Eeyore's Birthday on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=103285956380134)

External links

- Eeyore's Birthday Party official homepage (http://eeyores.org/)
- Eeyore's 2010 photos on Austinist.com (http://austinist.com/2010/04/26/snapshots_eeyores_birthday_2010.php)

Wikimedia Commons has media related to ***Eeyore's Birthday Party***.

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Eeyore%27s_Birthday_Party&oldid=718184945"

Categories: 1963 establishments in Texas | Festivals in Austin, Texas | Recurring events established in 1963 | April events

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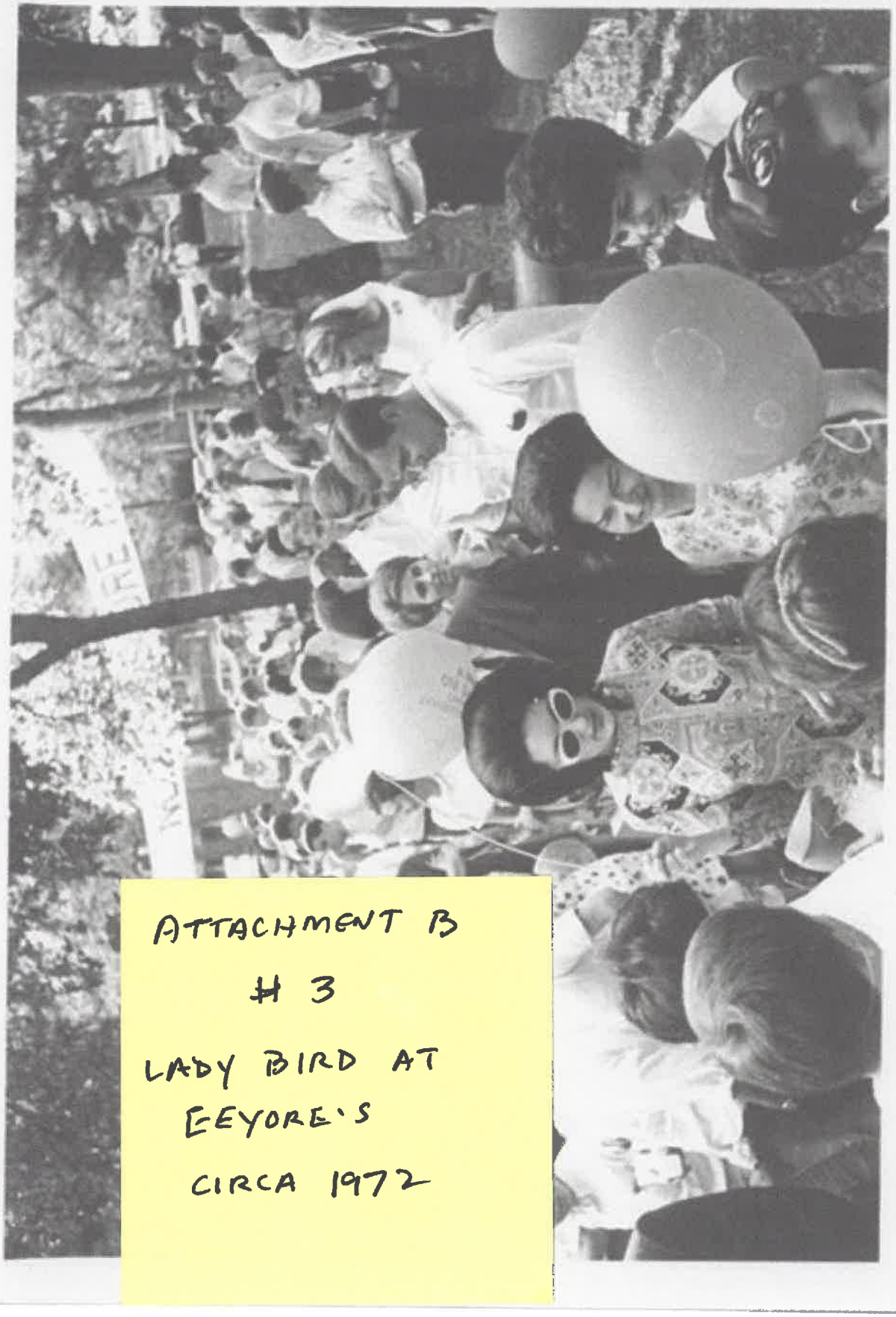
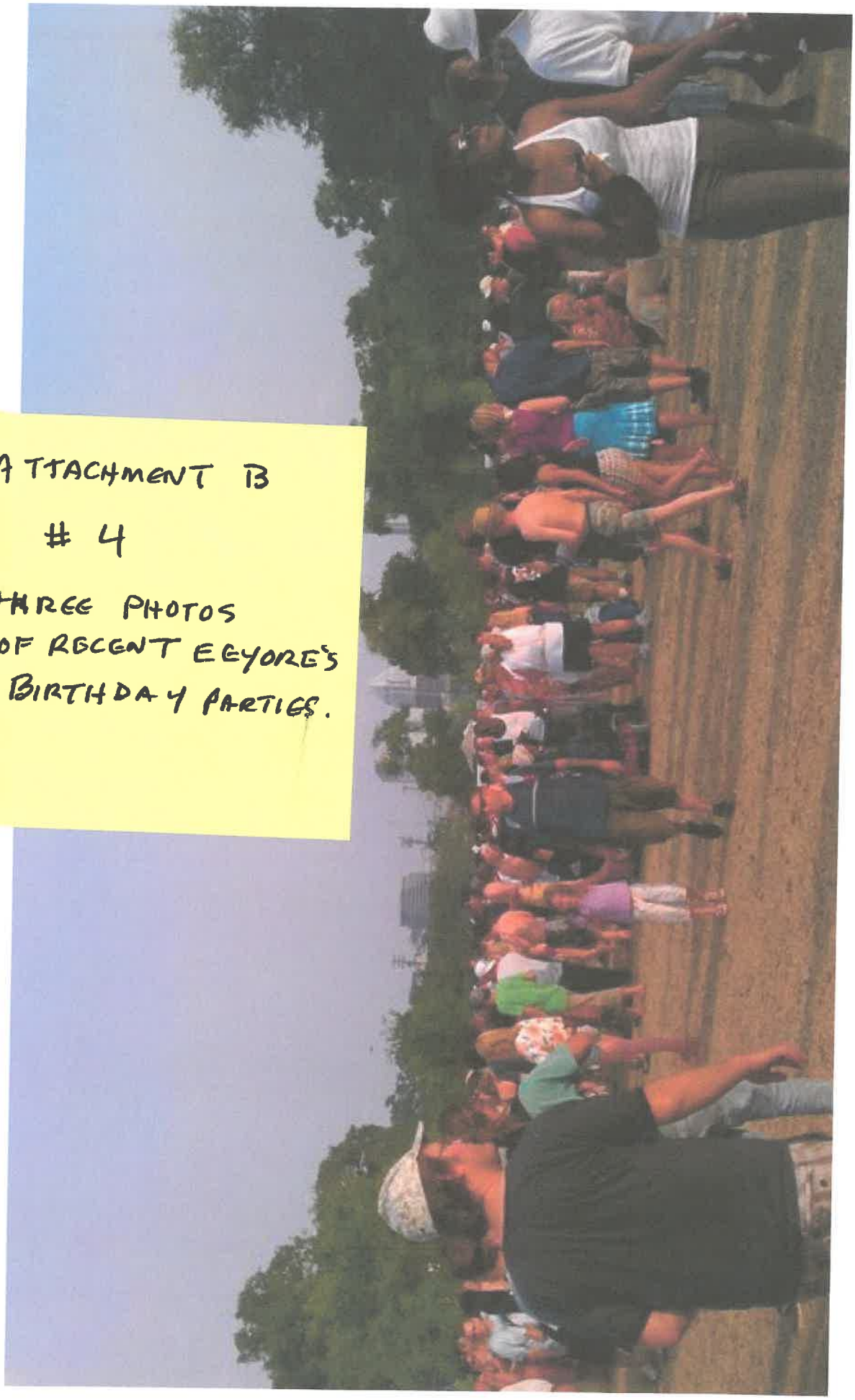


ATTACHMENT B

3

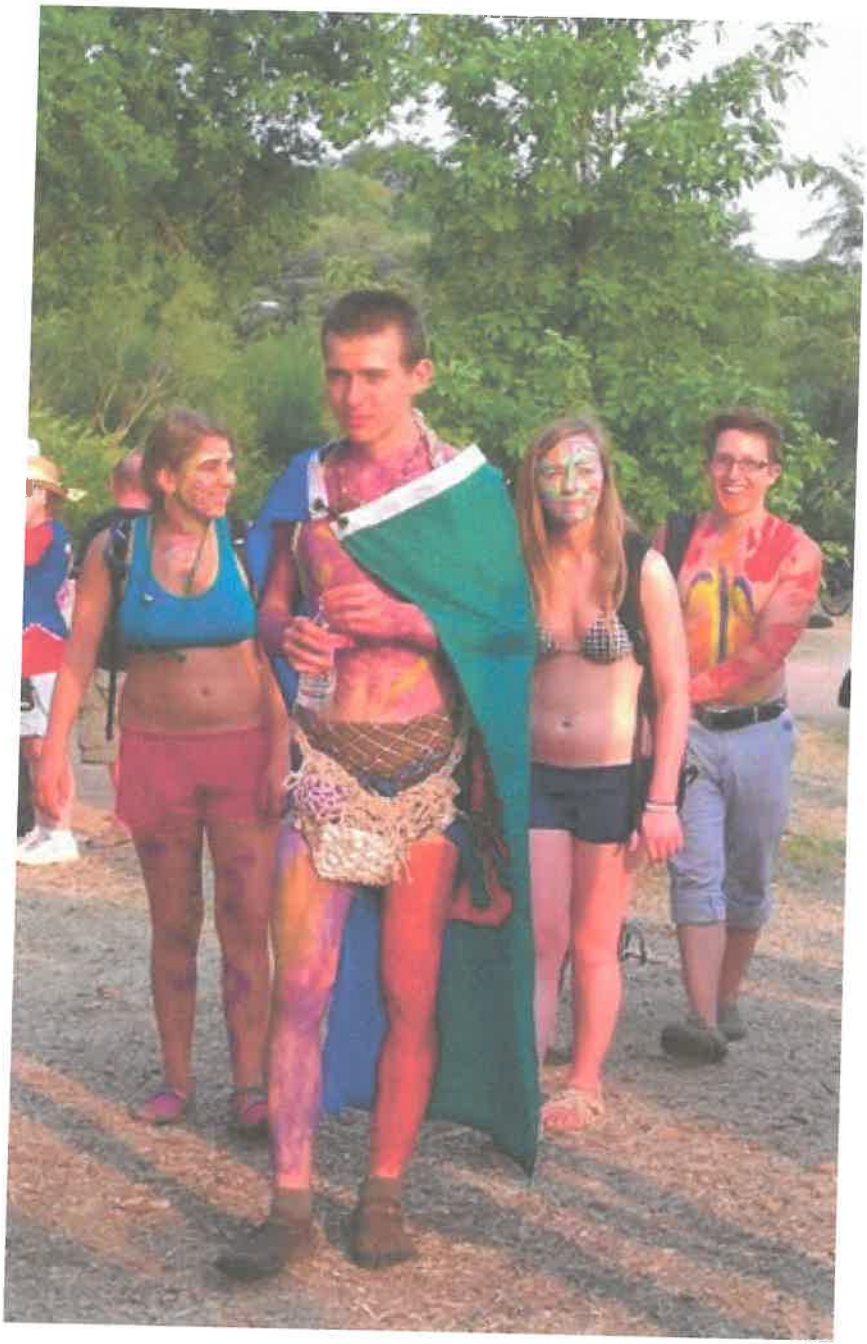
LADY BIRD AT
EEYORE'S
CIRCA 1972



ATTACHMENT B

4

THREE PHOTOS
OF RECENT EEYORE'S
BIRTHDAY PARTIES.



The PEARL
VINTAGE HOTEL & VENUE
est. 1995
innpearl.com

ATTACHMENT B
5
LETTER FROM
THE PEARL B+B
RE: USE OF PEASE
BY GUESTS

August 16, 2016

Mr. Steve Genovisi
Senior Vice President, Sales
Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau
111 Congress Avenue
Suite 700
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: Pease District Park & Shoal Creek Greenbelt

Dear Mr. Genovisi:

This letter is written to you with regard to a heritage grant application filed with your office by the Pease Park Conservancy.

We support the Conservancy in their request to improve the Pease District Park & Shoal Creek Greenbelt and Hike & Bick Trail. The Pearl has many quests visiting us from all over the world, and one of the primary reasons they visit Austin is for the wonderful parks and trails contained within the city's borders.

Many of our visitors are familiar with Town Lake and the related hike and bike trails. We are approximately 19 blocks from that area. The Pearl, however, is only 3-4 blocks from Peace Park. It would be beneficial to the City of Austin and to the adjoining property owners to have an improved Pease District Park and Shoal Creek Greenbelt for the many guests that stay with us visiting local governments, UT-Austin or to attend the various music venues and festivals in the area.

The Pearl is a small boutique hotel whose clients would use and love just as unique a park in the area. We sit within Judge's Hill and support all efforts that can be made to better the overall experience of coming to Austin.

Best regards,

Jill Bickford
Owner

Gmail

richard craig <richardcraig2004@gmail.com>

Hotel Ella/Peace Park & Shoal Creek

1 message

Mickey Farmer <mickey.farmer@hotelella.com>
To: richardcraig2004@gmail.com

Wed, Aug 17, 2016 at 5:40 PM

Good evening RIchard,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me. As discussed, the nearby Peace Park & Shoal Creek areas are quite important to the guests of Hotel Ella. Our concierge refers many guests to Shoal Creek, and I personally have utilized the trails around the park alongside some guests to show how great of an area it is.

With our busy season coming, and all of the UT functions, we expect the use of these areas to increase greatly due to the parents of UT students frequently visiting Hotel Ella.

Thank you again for your time.

All the best,

--
Mickey Farmer | Asst. General Manager
Hotel Ella
p 512.495.1800
1900 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78705
www.hotelella.com

ATTACHMENT B
6

HOTEL ELLA
EMAIL RE: GUESTS
USE OF PEASE PARK
+ SHOAL CREEK TRAIL.

ATTACHMENT B
#7
AUSTIN PARKS DEPT.
BLOG

PARK OF THE MONTH

Pease Park: So Much More than Meets the Eye

Feb 05, 2014 - 02:11 pm CST

Austin's Pease Park. For most people just the name of this park conjures up memories of the annual Eeyore's Birthday Party—a fete thrown by locals in honor of the perpetually-sad donkey in A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh stories. Since 1974, the 42-acre park in the heart of Austin has been the gathering place for the eclectic party that features live music, family games (think giant maypole, sack races and oversized jigsaw puzzles) and a costume contest renowned for its creativity. But there is much more to Pease park than its annual tribute to the fictional donkey.

A Rich and Varied History

Shoal Creek, which makes up the backbone of the park, was home to native Americans who fished in, and drank from, the creek's pristine waters. In 1842, a Mexican invasion caused many Austin residents to flee. After that time, the Native Americans became more aggressive in skirmishes with European settlers. Most Native Americans were pushed out by the 1850s.

After the Civil War, the Congressional Reconstruction Plan called for George Custer and his troops to come to Texas, restore order and reign in post-war opportunists. Custor and his men were encamped along Shoal Creek when cholera swept through the camp, killing a reported 35 to 40 men, all of whom were buried along the west side of Pease Park. In the 1880s, most of the bodies were located and reinterred to the National Cemetery in San

Pease Park—A Community's Treasure

Richard Craig, Chairperson for the Pease Park Conservancy (PPC), sees the park as far more than just a nice, outdoor event venue.

"The trees, fields, hillsides and the creek are what make the park great," Craig said. "There is the illusion that it has been unchanged since the Comanche Indians left, although it is in the literal heart of an exploding urban area. We want to keep that so it can be enjoyed by future generations."

The PPC has led efforts to improve the area's landscape, including planting hundreds of new trees and restoring historic features in the park, such as the Tudor Cottage and Memorial Entry Gates constructed in the 1920s and the picnic tables installed in the 1930s. In 2012, the PPC established a permanent financial endowment for the park at the Austin Community Foundation. The fund now boasts a $165,000 balance, five percent of which can be used annually for improvements in the park and greenbelt.

The PPC went even further by funding a Master Plan for the park and teaming up with the City of Austin to gather significant public input. "The Master Plan will provide a blueprint for the ecological restoration and maintenance of the park and greenbelt as well as some recreational enhancements of the area," says Craig. "Once it is completed and adopted by the Austin Parks Board and City Council, the PPC and City will work together to find funding to implement the plan in phases over time."

Another project aims to address erosion issues in Shoal Creek. The Shoal Creek Restoration Project will include: stabilizing the creek banks; improving creek access points; extending trails and paths; installing infiltration areas to better manage stormwater runoff; removing some wastewater line and restoring soil and native vegetation. Work on these projects will begin in the spring of this year and will last approximately 18 months. The project will be constructed in three phases such that the park will not be impacted all at once.

This year promises to be an exciting one for Pease Park. The combination of dedicated residents, neighbors and City staff have all come together to address the diverse needs of the park in a permanent and ongoing way.

"As our central city population grows rapidly in density and size, these green spaces are going to be under intense pressure from residents seeking recreation," Craig said. "We want it to be sustainable and this will be hard work that the next generation, and the following one,

Antonio. Seven more bodies were discovered in the aftermath of the flood of 1900. These were then reinterred at Austin's Oakwood Cemetery, where they lie in state today. Robert E. Lee, as a young man, also camped with troops all along Shoal Creek.

If the Shoal Creek area hadn't already seen enough, the 1890s brought a surge of gold-rush fever. Rumors of buried Mexican gold brought treasure hunters to dig in the park for years. But no gold was ever found. Rough times were not over for the park... In 1875 Governor Pease and his wife gave the land we know as Pease Park to the citizens of Austin. But for another 50 years, the parkland remained little more than a dump where locals disposed of dead livestock. It wasn't until 1926, that help came to the park when the community spent thousands of dollars for a rest room, entrance gates, a wading pool and more. After its 1926 beautification, Pease Park thrived with parties, concerts, Easter egg hunts, and many other events. But with any park, a lack of maintenance and unrestrained overuse can quickly result in a decline of both natural features and man-made amenities.

The Park Protectors

Fortunately for Austin, an abundance of dedicated stewards have stepped in over the years to develop and protect the park.

The Austin Kiwanis Club: In the 1920s, the Club committed to beautifying Pease Park and raised money for theTudor Cottage restroom, entrance gates, a wading pool and more.

Janet Long Fish: In the early 1950s, daughter of Austin community leader, Walter E. Long persuaded the Austin City Council to approve the construction of the hike and bike trail from Pease Park to 39th street. Janet spent her own money, time and considerable effort in getting it done—even leading a bulldozer along the trail to grade it according to the City requirements.

The Junior League of Austin and the Austin Metro Trails and Greenways: have contributed time, effort and money towards Shoal creek's preservation.

The Pease Park Conservancy (PPC): In 2008, a group of residents concerned about the park's recent decline decided to "adopt" the park under the umbrella of the Austin Parks Foundation. Now a full-fledged non-profit corporation with a 17-member Board of Directors and a 10-person Advisory Board, the group seeks to work toward an improved and sustainable future for the park.

must take up in turn."

So by all means check out Eeyore's party, but come back for everything else this great park has to offer.

Note: Pease Park offers miles of trails for walking, cycling and dog-walking. The park also has a playscape, a splashpad, two basketball courts, three volleyball courts and many picnic tables. There is an off-leash area along the trail to the west of Shoal Creek between 24th and 29th Streets.

Tagged: Pease Park, Eeyore's Birthday, Shoal Creek

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United States › Texas (TX) › Austin › Things to Do in Austin › Pease Park

Pease Park

Is this your business?

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Nature & Parks

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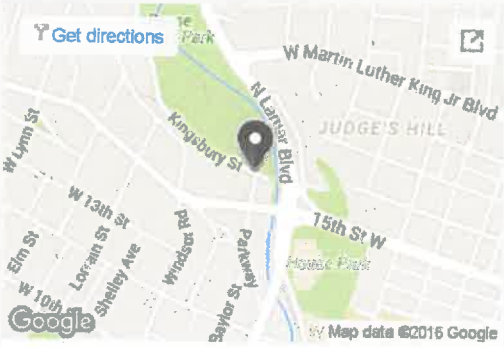
Is this attraction accessible using public transportation?

Yes No Unsure



Address: 1100 Kingsbury, Austin, TX 78705

Phone Number: 512 499 6700

Improve this listing

Today 5:00 am - 10:00 pm Open now

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TripAdvisor Reviewer Highlights

Read all 6 reviews

Visitor

Ex

nd great location"

It is a place that is fun to walk s to. It is also the site for Eeyore's is a rite of spring in Austin.

Reviewed September 23

Austin, Texas, USA

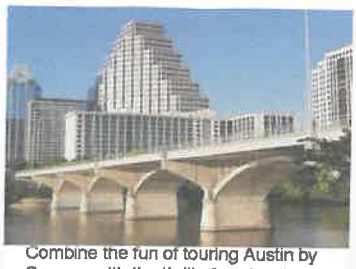
ATTACHMENT B
8
TRIP ADVISOR
PEASE PARK

Top S

from $69*

from $60*

from $60*



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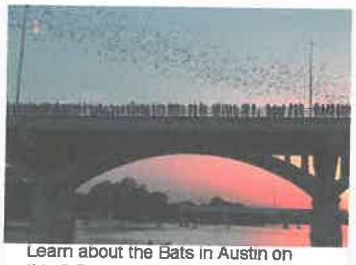
Duration: 1.5-hrs to 2-hrs



Learn about the Bats in Austin on this 2.5 hour bat watching bike tour! It's the largest urban bat population in North America. This tour takes place... read more

Enjoy a leisurely bike tour to get acquainted with Austin, including the Capitol, Castle Hill, Barton Springs and Butler hike-n-bike trail. This 2-hour... read more

This informative and historic 2-hour tour starts at Lady Bird Lake and makes its way around on the Butler trail 10 mile loop, including the new boardwalk,... read more

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Gary Goodfriend has rated this attraction See their rating...

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- Sep-Nov (1)
- Dec-Feb (0)

- English (6)

Start your review of Pease Park

Click to rate

Gary Goodfriend

Friend's rating

Gary Goodfriend rated Pease Park

Rated on June 4, 2013

Gloria L
Austin, Texas, USA

Amex Traveler

Level 6 Contributor

321 reviews

146 attraction reviews

120 helpful votes

"Great park and great location"

Reviewed September 23, 2015

I love Pease Park! It is a place that is fun to walk around or take kids to. It is also the site for Eeyore's every sping, which is a rite of spring in Austin.

Helpful? Thank Gloria L. Report

Which Austin hotels are on sale?

07/07/2016 | 07/21/2016

See hotels

ThinkHoliday
Austin
Level 4 Contributor
30 reviews
22 attraction reviews
18 helpful votes

"Eeyore's Birthday is the Best!"

Reviewed August 31, 2015

All the creatures of the forest are welcome and usually make an appearance. Fun for the whole family - drum circles, face painting, crazy costumes, maypole, etc. Don't miss this, if you're in Austin the end of April.

Helpful? Thank ThinkHoliday Report

MyMimosa
Austin, Texas
Level 3 Contributor
11 reviews
6 attraction reviews
7 helpful votes

"Visit Austin with young kids? Pease Park"

Reviewed August 13, 2014

What to do in 100 degree weather in Texas with young kids? Grab a few towels, water bottle, lawn chairs and spend a few hours at Pease Park. Turn into Parkway/Enfield from Lamar to park. It is a local spot, walk along the creek to see how this is one of the best secret park in Austin.

Helpful? Thank MyMimosa Report

Piquarick
Piqua
Level 6 Contributor
182 reviews
33 attraction reviews
75 helpful votes

"Celebrate Eeyore's Birthday"

Reviewed April 29, 2014 via mobile

Having come of age in the 60s, going to Pease Park for Eeyore's 51st birthday party was a step back in time and a new experience all at the same time. The park was packed on a pleasantly overcast Spring afternoon with thousands of mostly-costumed hippies, former hippies, wanna-be hippies and perhaps future hippies. I attended with many of my...

More

Helpful? Thank Piquarick Report

goodchi
Fresno
Level 5 Contributor
79 reviews
20 attraction reviews
41 helpful votes

"Eeyore's Birthday Party"

Reviewed April 27, 2013

Keep'n Austin Weird happens at Eeyore's birthday party every year in Austin. Whoa!!!! for some 'alternative fun' for young and old alike. Get your freak on young and old and just come out and 'be' with drum circle, food vendors, musicians on stage in a gorgeous setting in Pease Park. Large tissue paper flowers hung in trees along pathway to...

More

Helpful? Thank goodchi Report

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- Zilker Metropolitan Park
- Mount Bonnell
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
- Town Lake
- University of Texas at Austin
- SoCo District
- South Congress Avenue
- Circuit of The Americas
- Congress Avenue Bridge / Austin Bats
- Zilker Botanical Garden
- The Blanton Museum of Art
- 6th Street
- Texas State Cemetery
- Capitol Complex Visitors Center

365 | THINGS AUSTIN

(htt

ATTACHMENT B
9

365 THINGS AUSTIN

pease park - search results

(http://sourcedcraftcocktails.com/)

pease park

Sea

If you're not happy with the results, please do another search

Pease Park (http://365thingsaustin.com/venue/pease-park/)
Jan 13, 2015

52. Pease Park (http://365thingsaustin.com/2010/02/21/52-pease park/)
Feb 21, 2010

65. Volunteer At A City Park (http://365thingsaustin.com/2010/03/06/65-volunteer-at-a-city-park/)
Mar 6, 2010

ngsaustin.com/2016/04/30/ /)

Eeyore's 53rd Birthday Party (http://365thingsaustin.com/2 53rd-birthday/)
Apr 30, 2016

ngsaustin.com/2015/04/25/eeyores-

ngsaustin.com/2014/05/09/

y-party/)

Eeyore's 52nd Birthday Party (http://365thingsaustin.com/2015/04/25/eeyores-52nd-birthday-party/)

Apr 25, 2015

rthday/)

116.14 Eeyore's Birthday (http://365thingsaustin.com/2014-eeyores-birthday/)

May 9, 2014

116.13 50th Annual Eeyore's Birthday (http://365thingsaustin.com/2013/04/27/116-13-50th-annual-eeyores-birthday/)

Apr 27, 2013

118.12 Eeyore's Birthday (http://365thingsaustin.com/2012/04/28/118-12-eeyores-birthday/)

Apr 28, 2012

ngsaustin.com/2011/05/02/25-
-do-in-austin-texas/)

25 Best Things To Do In Austin, Texas (http://365thingsaustin.com/2011/05/02/25-best-things-to-do-in-austin-texas/)

May 2, 2011

120.11 Eeyore's Birthday (http://365thingsaustin.com/2011/04/30/120-11-eeyores-birthday/)

Apr 30, 2011

1 2 (http://365thingsaustin.com/page/2/?s=pease+park)

Next > (http://365thingsaustin.com/page/2/?s=pease+park)

Page 1

365 Planner (https:/

yelp
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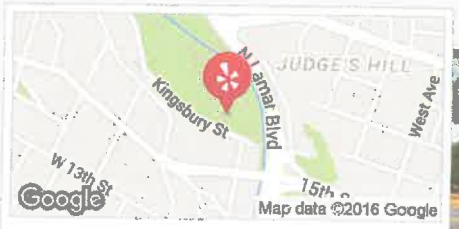
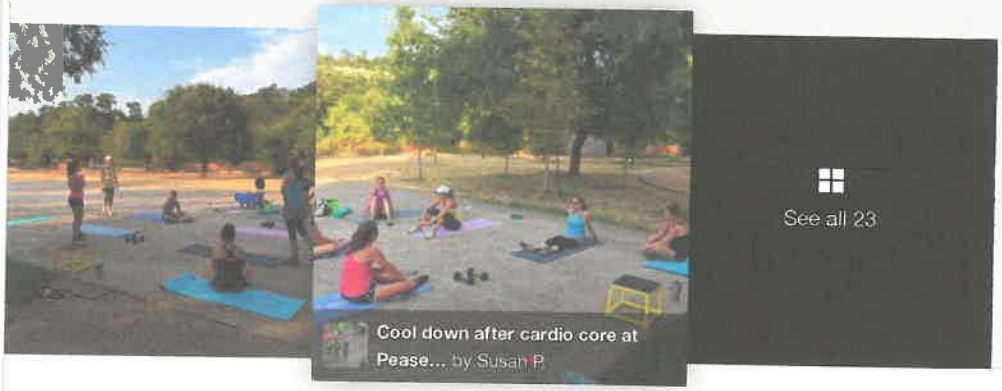
Pease Park

26 reviews Details

Parks Edit



1100 Kingsburry St Edit
Austin, TX 78799
Downtown, Old Enfield
Get Directions
(512) 777-1632
peasepark.org



"Excellent place for picnics, birthday parties, gentle hikes, with kids play scape, **splash pad**, volleyball, basketball and so much more." in 5 reviews

"This is also where **Eeyore**'s Birthday Party is held, which is very Austin-ish." in 4 reviews

"The **disc golf course** is very challenging with a wide variety of holes from a wide-open down hill drive to par 5's through thick forest." in 3 reviews

ATTACHMENT B
#10

YELP
PEASE PARK

Ads
Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral
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Lives.
www.wcfish.com

Recommended R

Sort by **Yelp Sort** Lang

Your trust is our top c ... more.

Start your review of **Pease Park**.

Edit business info

Work here? Claim this business

Hours

More business info

Bike Parking **Yes**
Good for Kids **Yes**

Manny A.
First to review

People also viewed

Little Stacy Park
16 reviews
Lovely wooded area with a basketball court and playground.

Mayfield Park
128 reviews
All we had to do was mention "peacocks" and take them to Mayfield Park.

Shipe Park
21 reviews
Just going to comment on the tennis courts mainly.

Carmela S.
Austin, TX
671 friends
777 reviews

6/16/2014

1 check-in

Listed in Outdoor Activities

Quiet park, plenty of swings and splash park!

I was babysitting for a friend of mine and instead of just hanging around my place and watching Dora or whatever, I decided to take her to the park. This park is really tucked away in an area of nice upscale homes. At first I thought maybe it was just a park for the housing area because it was so nice and quiet but, it is a public park. Parking was easy, we did street parking and there was plenty of spots!

They have a huge picnic table area with cement tables and benches that could easily seat 100 people, benches throughout to enjoy the shade, a small kids playground with swings and a seperate big kids area with regular swings and a splash pad.

We went on the swings first and there was plenty of open swings! We then went over to the splash pad as it was almost 100 degrees and cooled off. The splash pad turns itself off every 15 minutes so you have to hit the button (which is acutally on top of one of the short poles) but, it didn't look like a button. There were a couple kids who of course were unattended by parents and splashing the adults sitting on the side. You will have that at any park. For the most part this park was pretty quiet for a Sunday afternoon.

They had plenty of water attractions for everyone to be able to enjoy it, even when it's busy. When we were leaving the splash pad did start to fill up.

This is one of the better well planned out parks for kids that I have been to in Austin! This is my new go to babysitting duty park!

Splash Pad!

Lists including Pease Park

Ooooh La La
Simply. My favorite reviews. For any complicated reason.
48 businesses

When Your Kids Are Cooler then You...
Here are some of my kid's favorite places to eat, shop, and have fun.....
8 businesses

Field Trips for Those Under 2
Places that are fun to take a kid ages two and under.
34 businesses

More Lists

Browse nearby

Restaurants
Nightlife
Shopping
Show all

Work at Pease Park? Claim your business

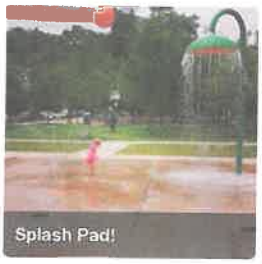
- Respond to reviews and privately message customers
- Claiming is free, and only takes a minute

People found Pease Park by searching for...

Outdoor Basketball Court Austin

Splash Pad Austin

Picnic Areas Austin



See all photos from Carmela S. for Pease Park

Brett J.
Austin, TX
774 friends
161 reviews
Elite '16

12/5/2013

1 check-in

I used to bike the Pease Park Trail all the time when I lived in Rosedale/Hyde Park. It's the best way (in my opinion) to get there. Otherwise, getting to Lamar from MOPAC or 35 via car can be daunting depending on the time of day: do not EVER take Lamar during rush hour, or during any kind of festival! One festival that happens at Pease Park is Eeyore's Birthday.

Eeyore's Birthday: taking place usually in April (2014: April 26th), Eeyore's Birthday Party is a day-long festival taking place annually in Austin, Texas since 1963. It typically occurs on the last Saturday of April in Austin's Pease Park. It includes live music, food and drink vending which benefit local non-profit organizations, attendees in colorful costumes, and very large drum circles. The event is frequented by children and families, with specific events presented for them by the event organizers. The festival is named in honor of Eeyore, a character in A. A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh stories

During non-festival days, Pease Park is a great place to bike, jog, play in a drum circle, or wheel the stroller around. There are volleyball courts, a huge playground WITH water fountains for kids to play under, and Shoal Creek nearby.

Fun fact: Shoal Creek/Pease Park is the location of two buried treasures and is apparently haunted: There are many unmarked graves at Shoal Creek. Many victims of cholera and yellow fever were hastily buried at the Creek. These include soldiers who camped at the creek during the Civil War, and those who served with General Custer during his Reconstructionist occupation of Austin. Most of those bodies were later removed and reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery, but about 35 graves were never found!

Don't go too far toward downtown using the pease park/Shoal Creek trail - you run the risk of hitting the "hobo highway", an intricate path of spillways, canals, underpasses, and, you guessed it, hobos! The end of this trail pops out at the Austin Electric Company.

Watch out for mosquitos! Otherwise Pease Park is a great place for family and fun.

Robin G.
Austin, TX
194 friends
260 reviews
Elite '16

9/28/2014

Pease park is great, its quiet, not terribly crowded, shaded in a lot of places, and has a few different trail sets that run at different levels of the trail. I think there is a splash pad

and you can actually run it pretty far north of 24th where most people tend to start off int he park.

Be aware if you are going off-leash with your dog the only off-leash area is between 24 and 29. I thought it was further south but I got a lot of angry eyes from cyclists (is this really an awesome place to cycle?) and people with on-leash dogs so when I got home I checked the city site. Not sure its the best place to go running off leash with a dog due to all those factors still coming into play in the leash-free area. I'll stick with Walnut Creek & Turkey Creek. Even the greenbelt, which is technically not leash-free, seems better in this regard than Pease.

austinparks.org/our-park...

Gary H.
Austin, TX
184 friends
253 reviews
Elite '16

9/9/2013

This hidden little park is my favorite jogging spot. Please do not run here so it can remain quiet and hidden. lol jk

The trail is great for exercise, not to mention that one steep hill. Great for dogs, yoga, martial arts, and anything else.

This is also where Eeyore's Birthday Party is held, which is very Austin-ish.

Aaron A.
Austin, TX
143 friends
122 reviews

6/13/2014

4 check-ins

Home to Eeyore's, our city's own fest
Verdant and spacious, competes with the best

Kickball and volleyball, courts for the fit
Day drinking and weed smoking, sports we won't quit

Scenes of the hills, views of Lamar
Shoal creek runs calmly, draws guests from afar

Vein of the city, artery of the town
One of the best parks in the city of the Violet crown!

Holly A.
Austin, TX
864 friends
320 reviews

8/1/2012

Listed in Ooooh La La, Is My Ass Squeeking?, Here Kitty Kitty ...

Pease Park (24th -29th streets) will always and forever have a very, very special place in my heart.

It is the home of many walks, many stares and many talks between myself and my little Jesse James. From the first arrival back in 2000 to his last visit in 2008, Pease Park gave my boy more happiness than anything else on this planet.

Jesse would walk me up and down the nice semi-muddy trails for years. He couldn't go far enough or fast enough. He loved everyone he met (here anyway), and even when he tried to be the park BOSS every once in a while, he was still in love in his own little way. Trust me, I hung out with that boy for 14 years so I knew all his dachshund/corgi quirks quite well.

Towards the end of those 14 years with me and his 18 years on this planet, he slowed down substantially. But this was still his favorite place, even if he was just sitting there or laying there taking in the peace, shade, sunlight and serenity. Jesse loved the water -it didn't matter if the creek was running or not. Jesse loved sitting on the benches and making his presence known every time anyone sauntered by. He and I saw all kinds of things and people at this Austin is Totally Being Kept Weird Park. I personally think his favorite encounter was with a pig - a full sized pig that came bum rushing out of a van with 3 other dogs. From the second that pig stepped hoof out of his van, he was glued to Jesse; gave him the shovel nose over and over. You know, bumping him with his big pig nose. What a sight to see. Jesse did not let just anyone bump him with their pig nose, ya know?!?!

Through the years I have seen quite a bit of change here and it's all been for the better. Well, except for the fact that my big little boy is no longer with us to kiss pigs and take names.

Erin K.
Dallas, TX
50 friends
91 reviews

12/18/2010

This summer my dog and I went on a walk and discovered the splash pad at the playground in Pease Park; I subsequently spent multiple weekends pulling a 50 pound 4 year-old in a wagon through a crowded park while a 10 year-old rode her bike alongside me to get to said splash pad. I became the world's most fun babysitter this summer, and for that I thank Pease Park.

With my boyfriend and dog, we LOVE to take the trails all the way to the lake. By the end we're tired, sort of wet from falling off the river rocks, and happy. I love to see my pup sleep after a nice long walk!

The only negative is that at the splash pad some unsavory adults showed up sans kids and were creeping out my charges. It only happened once and a few of the other parents ended up saying something to them so they left, yay!

A picture taken from inside the splash pad

Walking the trail to Town Lake!

Greg M.
Austin, TX
34 friends
603 reviews

11/14/2012

21 check-ins

My current favorite park for jogging. Or Yogging. I think the J is silent. Anyway, it never has anything near the crowds you see at Town Lake, which is nice, and there's some challenging hills and rocky areas that keep you from getting bored. There's a playscape, basketball court, picnic area and other fun stuff too. Plus there's a no-leash area for the doggies.

Homeless dudes sometimes congregate at one end in the evenings, but they're a harmless bunch near as I can tell. A good park that connects to many other good trails in the area.

Victoria A.
Austin, TX
136 friends
246 reviews

10/9/2013

1 check-in

I love that Austin has parks and green spaces like this. I love the playground and the park has plenty of places to have a picnic, hang out, play with your dog, and take nature in. You can take a walk on the Shoal Creek Hike and Bike trail. There are a few rough spots but it's pretty nice. It's near Lamar but traffic noise is pretty low. I'm glad Austin has places like this. It's one of the jewels of the city.

Anna B.
Austin, TX
89 friends
46 reviews

5/22/2011

Listed in When Your Kids Are Cooler then You...

Water park birthday:
Hot, sweat, splash, cool, repeat.
Then, let them eat cake.

Mike T.
Austin, TX
301 friends
322 reviews
Elite '16

2/7/2012

1 check-in

Was my favorite course to play at. Until COA decided we, the golfers were the cause of the Erosion problems and removed our Course. Haven't been there in a year. That's saying A lot.

Cris G.
Austin, TX
110 friends
566 reviews
Elite '16

6/25/2012 · Updated review

12 check-ins

Still 4 stars for Pease, but don't forget the disc golf course is gone. Good thing all those hippies playing disc golf and ruining the environment are gone so all the loose dogs can freely poop in the creek and run in front of bikes.

5/2/2011 · Previous review

I can't believe I'm only giving Pease Park 4 stars, but let's run over the points:
At the south end... Read more

Kari M.
Austin, TX

1/3/2012

210 friends
517 reviews

1 check-in

Pease is one of my favorite parks in all of Austin, which is saying a lot because Austin has tons of amazing parks.

Pease has two sides to it, depending on how you're feeling that day. It's large enough to wander off and make some space for just you and your friends. We have taken blankets and walked up into the hills amongst the trees to have our own safe haven. But also, it's got enough of a community feel that you can pick up a game at the courts, socialize with frisbee, kites, and a nice playground area.

This is the kind of park you could nap in under the trees on a breezy day, and also the same place you could play volleyball with a large group of friends.

It has nice big grills, tons of picnic tables (perfect for birthday parties), bathrooms, recycling bins, and a designated dog park area.

I know most people know what Pease park is so it's a bit overkill to rate something so well known, but I love this place and I felt I had to review it!

Mark D.
Austin, TX
73 friends
280 reviews

11/12/2012

26 check-ins

My favorite park in Austin. No matter what mood you're in, this park's got it - walking trail, big open fields, short hiking trails up in the hills, off leash area for the dogs, basketball court, volleyball court, plenty of picnic tables and grills, huge playscapes for the kids, seriously, it's got everything but enough parking. We find it usually best to just pull into the lot off 24th Street and walk in..

Heather R.
Austin, TX
50 friends
131 reviews

6/14/2011

Listed in Field Trips for Those Under 2

Took Ms. Princess here this morning to visit the splash pad. It's located on the south edge of the park. It was small, but pretty cool. It turns off every 15 mins and you have to hit a button to get the water to turn on. If you've never been there before, the "button" is on top of a purple pillar on the edge of the water play. For the eco-girl in me, that was neat, for the toddler, it was a bit annoying.

Unfortunately, the splash pad turned itself off today due to a chemical imbalance in the water. Austin Parks and Recreation responded and had it back on in about a hour and a half. In the mean time, we had a snack and played on the playscape nearby.

The playscape is mostly shaded with large trees. There are two of them and my 20 month old had not problem with either one. She actually liked the bigger one a bit better.

Restrooms are close by this area and parking is street parking. The street is about 40 feet away from the splash pad and offers plenty of space, at least on on weekday in the summer.

Overall, we had a good time and my only real concern is not enough shade by the splash pad. There are some

newer trees around though so I don't think this will be a problem in a few years.

Troy H.
Round Rock, TX
141 friends
669 reviews
Elite '16

2/6/2010

1 check-in

Listed in The Disc Golf Players "Go To" List

Great course to experience the urban Austin Disc Golf Environment. This park is maintained by the City Parks and Rec Dept with a partnership from the Waterloo Disc Golf Club.
There are rotating monthly mini tourney's that go in the area, and the club does it's most to maintain the park because they love the park and the sport.
Hole#5 is a great traditional hole, the basket is mounted the cradle of a historic Oak... true Austin.
Spend some time and play this historic course especially in tournaments when the baskets are moved to the alternate positions. It will challenge your game.

Tara M.
Bedford, TX
523 friends
1275 reviews

5/29/2008

Listed in I love the outdoors list

I go here a couple times a month to run or walk with the pup mainly for the off leash area between 24Th and Enfield. It is not as crowded as Lady Bird Lake so if you are running there are less people and strollers to weave in and out of.

One of the things I love most about this trail is the Spanish Moss hanging from the trees - a rare find in Central Texas - and so beautiful yet creepy at the same time.

If you want to do the entire trail you can park in the Randal's parking lot at 38Th street and walk or run all the way to Lady Bird Lake and back for a good 6 mile workout.

Liz B.
Austin, TX
236 friends
405 reviews
Elite '16

7/29/2008

Attention Disc / Frisbee Golf Players- Pease Park has a great 18 hole course!

Over the water, around the trees, and don't forget the beer!

Mike H.
Austin, TX
4 friends
5 reviews

7/14/2009

Pease is the best park in Austin by far!! The disc golf course is by far the hardest, and most interesting around. The course has all sorts obstacles from throwing within trees, over water, and wide open fields for the wind to take your disc off course.

Other amenities of the park include basketball courts, volleyball courts, open fields for soccer, football, or a quiet

picnic with the family.

I highly recommend everyone check it out!

Dan V.
Austin, TX
21 friends
25 reviews

11/29/2011

The "Central Park" of Austin. Recent major improvements from the non-profits Pease Park Conservancy & Trees for Pease are transforming this park into something truly amazing. Excellent place for picnics, birthday parties, gentle hikes, with kids play scape, splash pad, volleyball, basketball and so much more. Historical and natural discoveries abound in this very large city park. (44 acres) A must visit. Don't miss the large dog park on the far north end of the park! Certainly a real gem hidden in Austin.

Page 1 of 2

1 2 Next

3 other reviews that are not currently recommended

Other great stuff nearby

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LIST OF ADDITIONAL WEBSITES FEATURING PEASE PARK AND THE SHOAL CREEK HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL AS AN AUSTIN TOURIST ATTRACTION OR DESTINATION

www.texasoutside.com/peasepark.frames.htm

www.gogobot.com/pease-park-austin-attraction

www.foursquare.com/v/pease-district-park/4

www.do512.com/venues/pease-park

www.eeyores.org

www.austin.com/six-pefect-austin-parks-where-dogs0can-run-free/

www.austinhikeandbike.com/

www.mountainbiketx.com/downloads/texas/maps/shoal_creek.pdf

www.austinbike.com/index.php/austin/134-shoal-creek

www.yelp.com/biz/shoal-creek-parl

www.bartonspringsbikerental.com/

www.traillink.com/trail.shoal-creek-

www.rootsrated.com/austin-tx/road

ATTACHMENT B
11

LIST OF WEBSITES ON PEASE PARK + SHOAL CREEK TRAIL

10BEST: Trusted Travel & Lifestyle Advice

Pease District Park

SAVE TO MY LISTS +

1100 Kingsbury St
Austin, TX 78703
Phone: 512-499-6700
www.ci.austin.tx.us

Hours:
Daily 5am-10pm

Admission:
Free

Type:
Parks

Map / Directions

Free Maps & Directions
mapsgalaxy.com
Download & Print Maps o
Go with MapsGalaxy. Free

ATTACHMENT B
#12

10 BEST
TRAVEL + LIFESTYLE
ADVICE -
PEASE PARK

Edit Business Info

Add a photo

Flight Hotel Vacation

Compare other sites

Staying In

Austin, TX

Checking In

mm/dd/yy

Checking Out

mm/dd/

Enter Your Trip Details

Compare Prices on Multiple Travel Sites

SEARCH

10BEST Says

Parks: Popular with picnickers and joggers thanks to a convenient location and almost palpable serenity, Pease Park is also a favored hangout of students from the nearby University of Texas. Many local events are held here throughout the year. Located along Shoal Creek between 12th and 24th Streets.

Pease District Park

ALSO FEATURED IN

Parks

10BEST says

Locate

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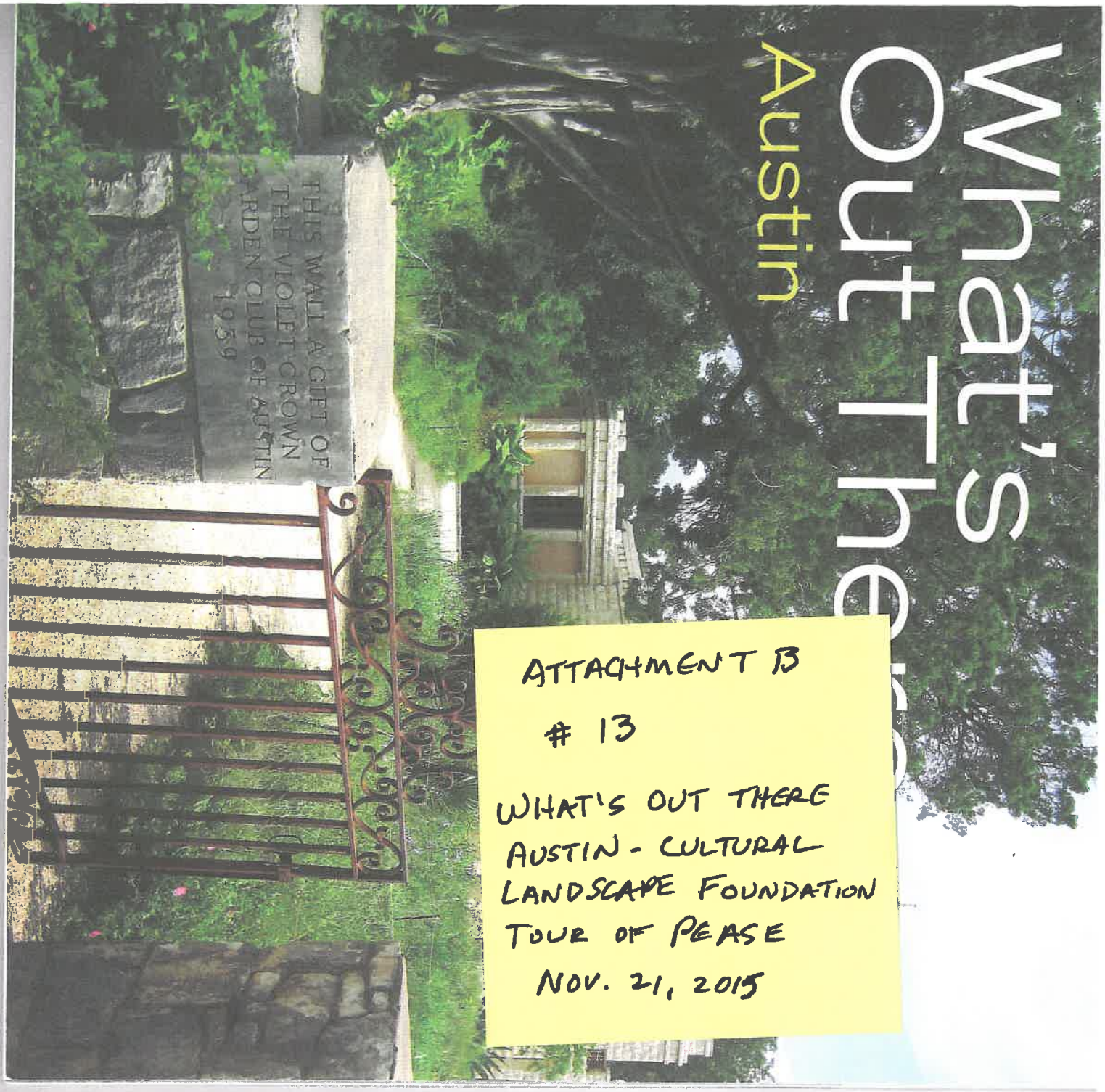
Save

What's Out There

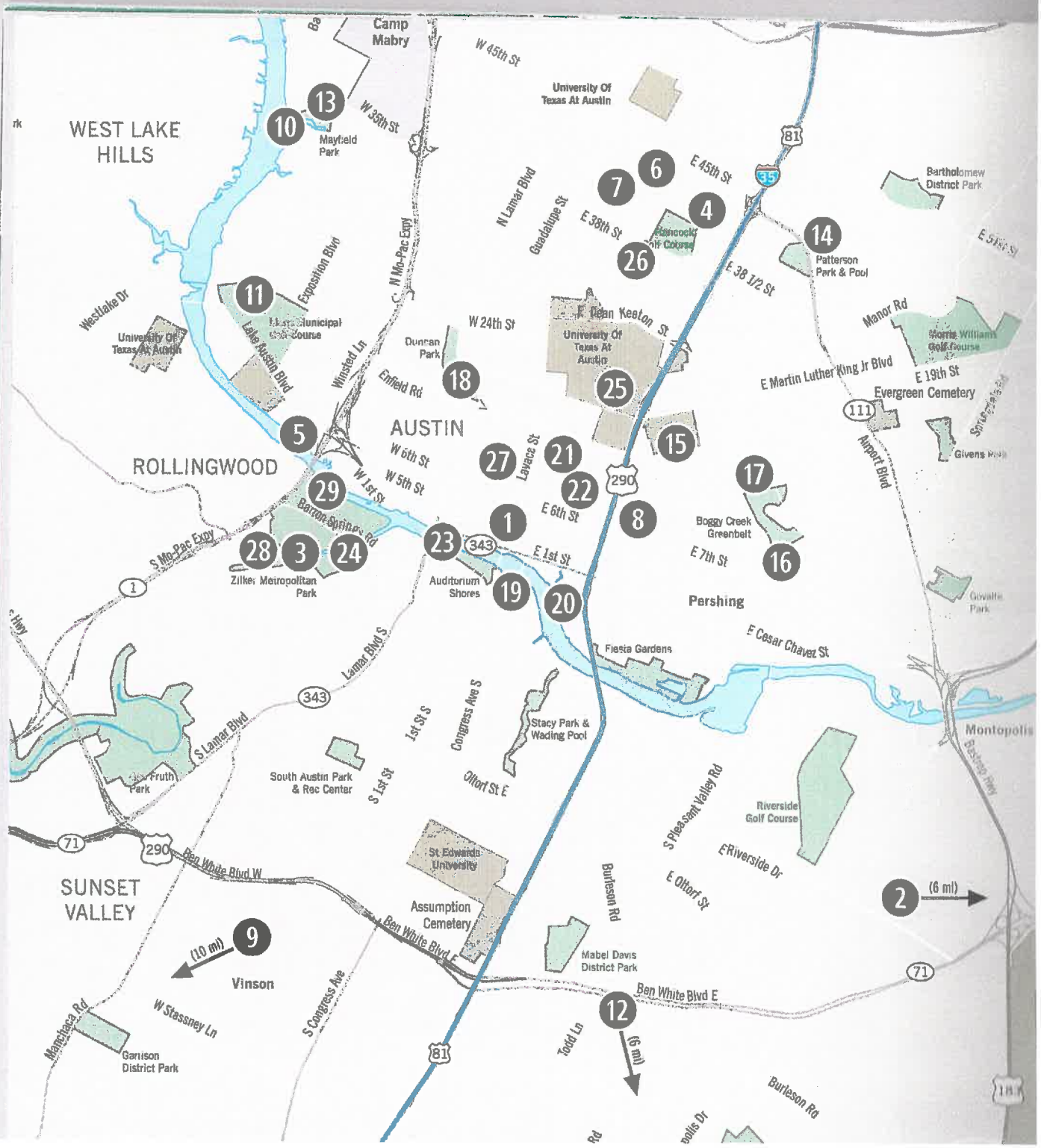
Austin



ATTACHMENT B

13

WHAT'S OUT THERE
AUSTIN - CULTURAL
LANDSCAPE FOUNDATION
TOUR OF PEASE
NOV. 21, 2015


WEST LAKE HILLS
ROLLINGWOOD
AUSTIN
SUNSET VALLEY
Vinson
Camp Mabry
Mayfield Park
University Of Texas At Austin
Westlake Dr
Exposition Blvd
Lake Austin Blvd
Municipal Golf Course
Winsted Ln
N Mo-Pac Expy
W 45th St
W 35th St
W 24th St
Duncan Park
Enfield Rd
W 6th St
W 5th St
W 1st St
Barton Springs Rd
S Mo-Pac Expy
Zilker Metropolitan Park
Auditorium Shores
N Lamar Blvd
Guadalupe St
E 38th St
E 45th St
E 38 1/2 St
Hancock Golf Course
E Dean Keeton St
Lavaca St
E 6th St
E 1st St
Boggy Creek Greenbelt
E 7th St
Pershing
Fiesta Gardens
E Cesar Chavez St
Stacy Park & Wading Pool
Congress Ave S
1st St S
S 1st St
Olforf St E
South Austin Park & Rec Center
Lamar Blvd S
S Lamar Blvd
Fruth Park
Ben White Blvd W
St Edwards University
Assumption Cemetery
Ben White Blvd E
Mabel Davis District Park
Burleson Rd
S Pleasant Valley Rd
Riverside Golf Course
E Riverside Dr
E Olforf St
Todd Ln
Manchaca Rd
W Stassney Ln
S Congress Ave
Garrison District Park
Patterson Park & Pool
Bartholomew District Park
Manor Rd
Morris Williams Golf Course
E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
E 19th St
Evergreen Cemetery
Airport Blvd
Givens Park
Montopolis
Govalle Park
Burleson Rd
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1100 Kingsbury St, Austin

Pease District Park

Landscape Style:
Naturalistic or Cohesive

Landscape Type:
Public Park
Neighborhood Park

Designers:
Hugo Kuehne
Wallace, Roberts & Todd
Pease Park Conservancy

Related Institutions:
Works Progress Administration

Once inhabited by Native Americans and serving as a Civil War encampment for George Custer's troops, this linear park buffers Shoal Creek bounded by Lamar Boulevard on its east and Kingsbury Street and Parkway on the west. In 1875 on what was then Austin's western limit, Governor Elisha Pease and his wife deeded to the City some 23 acres of land—the first donation of private land for a park in Texas. By 1888, the City had increased the area to about 40 acres and in 1903 a committee was formed to oversee the park's development, naming landscape gardener W. H. Pittsford the park keeper. As the surrounding neighborhood developed, the park was used as dumping grounds until 1926 when the Austin Kiwanis Club funded the installation of irrigation, lighting, and landscape improvements including the construction of a wading pool and limestone arches on Parkway. Architect Hugo Kuehne is credited with the design of Tudor Cottage style restrooms and, in the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration funded the construction of bridges, limestone walls, picnic tables, and improvements to the Shoal Creek Trail.

By the 1960s Pease Park was again suffering from neglect. Local resident Janet Fish recalled riding horses along the trail in her youth and funded its rehabilitation, renaming it the "Hike and Bike Trail." Today the 43-acre park comprises meadows, forests, riparian habitat, and steep bluffs. It forms the eastern boundary of the Old West Austin Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. In 2013, a master plan for the park was developed by Pease Park Conservancy and Wallace, Roberts & Todd.

All photos on this page by William Wendorff

1100 Kingsbury St, Austin

Photo by William Niendorff

The Ghosts of Austin

Who They are and Where to Find Them

Fiona Broome

Schiffer

ATTACHMENT B
14

GHOSTS OF AUSTIN
"THE SHOAL CREEK CURSE"
BY FIONA BROOME

THE SHOAL CREEK CURSE

"It is a well-known tradition in Austin and vicinity that there is a buried treasure of great value on the banks of Shoal Creek, about a mile west of the city ..."

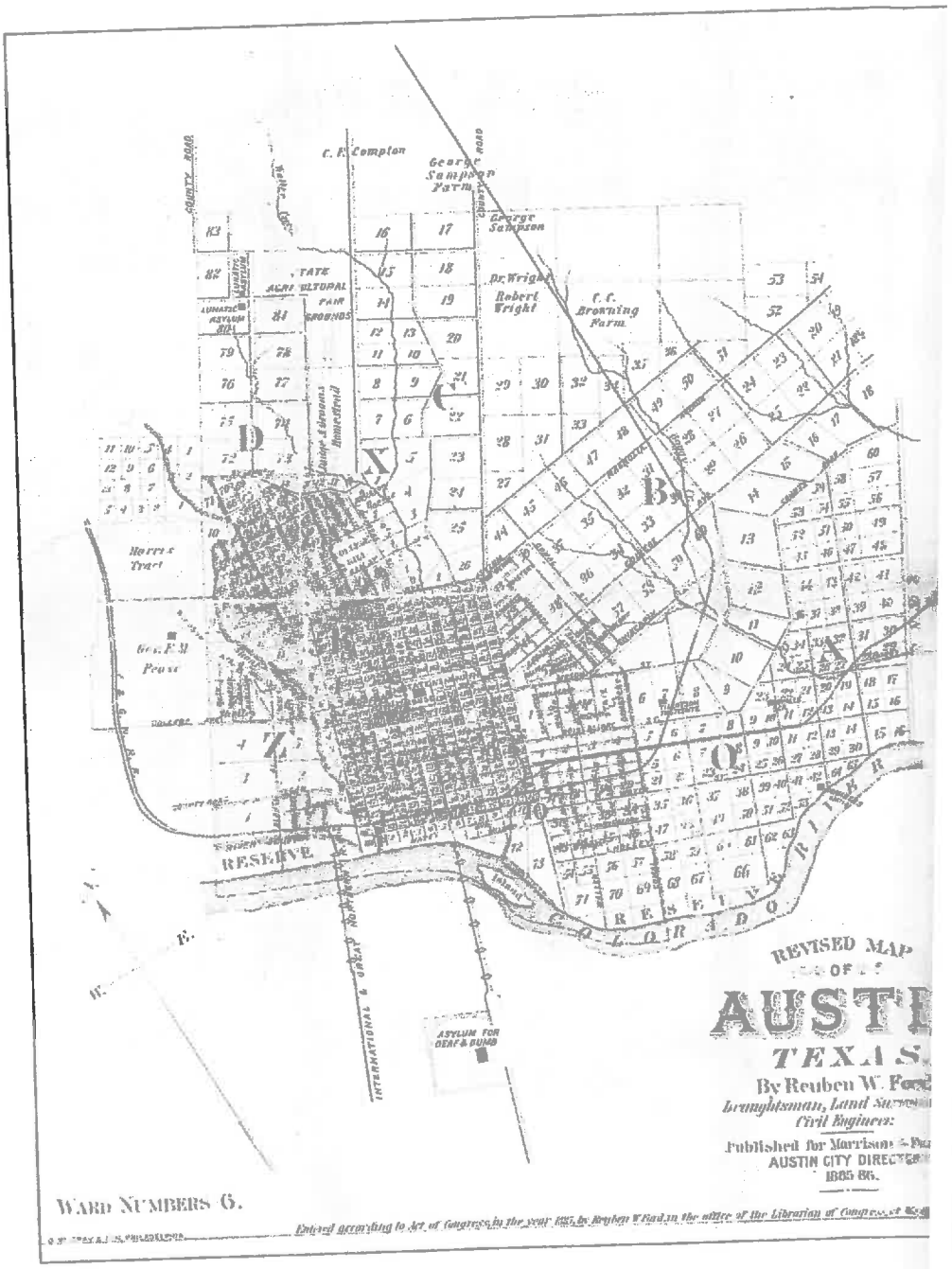
That's what famous storyteller O. Henry wrote in the 1890s when he and his friends were searching for treasure along the haunted shores of Shoal Creek. After a terrifying encounter one night, Henry and his friends swore never to return there again.

Like Gettysburg and Little Big Horn, Shoal Creek is so haunted that even the ground holds residual ghostly energy.

Before Europeans arrived in the Austin area, Native Americans lived and died at Shoal Creek. It was a source of water, limestone for cooking, and flint for arrowheads and sparking fires. In fact, hikers still find arrowheads around Shoal Creek. A path near the creek was once a Native American thoroughfare; today, it is the Shoal Creek Hike and Bike Trail.

Parts of Shoal Creek have always been sacred. A seven-foot tall Indian burial mound, covered in shale, was found near Old McCall Spring just west of Balcones Trail. Natives also revered the magic powers of Treaty Oak, at Shoal Creek just south of Duncan Park.

However, Shoal Creek is haunted for many more reasons than an ancient burial mound and a few Native legends. It has been the site of buried treasure, flash floods, and tragic deaths.



City of Austin map, 1885.

Buried Treasure and the Paymaster's Ghost

Where there is buried treasure, you'll find ghosts. Some are protecting the treasure while others are still looking for it.

Shoal Creek is home to at least two buried treasures. One of them is a cache of eighteenth century Spanish gold ingots, and the other is an 1836 Mexican payroll.

In the mid eighteenth century, one of the West's richest gold mines was in Digger Hollow, about fifteen miles northwest of Austin. Every day, burros carried heavy gold ingots from the mine to Mexico.

Then, early in 1770, the mine was hurriedly closed due to the threat of Indian attack. The manager of the mine ordered his men to hide seventy-five burro-loads of gold ingots in a cave. The entry was sealed, and the cave's location was marked on a flat rock that was hidden under a bush.

Then, the miners loaded eight burros with gold and headed towards Mexico. Their journey took them along the western border of Austin and the shores of Shoal Creek.

As they approached Barton Springs, the men realized that they were being followed. They quickly dug a hole and buried their gold. Soon after, Indians attacked, killing everyone except one small boy who hid in the bushes and told the tale later. The victims' bodies were left to rot on the shores of the Colorado River not far from Shoal Creek.

When nearby settlers discovered what had happened, they provided funerals and respectful burials for those who'd lost their lives, and the little boy was adopted by a local family.

According to one story, the gold was found many years later at Barton Springs. However, another story claims that the gold remains undiscovered somewhere near Shoal Creek, and the area is haunted by men who are still looking for it.

The second treasure has never been found. In 1836, a corrupt paymaster in Santa Anna's army stole the payroll. He buried it at Shoal Creek, but claimed that he had been ambushed. Soon after this, he was killed in a drunken brawl and never returned to recover the treasure.

Over the years, Shoal Creek has flooded many times and its landmarks have changed. It is said that on dark and moonless nights, the paymaster's ghost walks slowly along the creek. An eerie light from his spectral lantern has been seen as if it is floating in midair.

At about four a.m., I've seen this lamp bobbing along at about shoulder height. It flickers and moves unevenly not far from the bank of the creek.

Shoal Creek is also haunted by the ghosts of men whose lives were dedicated to—and destroyed by—their searches for Shoal Creek's treasure.

One of these ghosts is the gray, shadowy form of the Travis County Treasurer who, in 1896, embezzled $4,500 to buy a "correct chart" to the Shoal Creek treasure. He never received the map, and the money could not be replaced. When the state prepared to audit the Treasury accounts, the man committed suicide. A basically honest man, he is still searching Shoal Creek for the gold that would redeem his reputation.

Unmarked Graves

In addition to burial mounds, the unmarked graves of Native Americans and victims of Indian attack, Shoal Creek has been the site of many other burials.

During the Civil War, General Robert E. Lee camped by Shoal Springs when disease killed many of his men. Cholera epidemics were frequent in those years. No one knows how many of Lee's men were hastily buried at Shoal Creek, in an attempt to contain the fatal disease.

After the Civil War, General George Armstrong Custer arrived in Austin to enforce Reconstruction. He used the shores of Shoal Creek as a tent city for his soldiers. He also set up areas that he called bullpens, for unreconstructed Confederates.

During Custer's years in Austin, cholera and yellow fever swept through the community many times. Bodies of dead soldiers and some of the Confederates were placed in unmarked graves along Shoal Creek.

In later years when Shoal Creek flooded, the corpses rose to the surface and floated downstream. The soldiers' bodies were removed from their graves and reinterred at Arlington National cemetery. However, many people believe that approximately thirty-five bodies still remain in unmarked graves along Shoal Creek.

It's interesting that the number is estimated at thirty-five. That is the same number of people who were killed during the April 1915 flash floods. As the Austin American Statesman reported, "Houses were washed away, cows,

horses, chickens and other fowls were careening down swelled Shoal and Waller Creeks to join the human corpses that had gone swirling before them to the bosom of the Colorado."

Ghost hunters wonder if the thirty-five bodies in unmarked graves at Shoal Creek have extracted their revenge, or if they still haunt Austin on rainy nights.

At least one ghost dates to the 1915 flood. Firefighter Thomas Edward Quinn lost his life at Shoal Creek while attempting to rescue people from the fast-rising waters. His spirit also returns on rainy nights, and he may protect people from Shoal Creek's frequent floods.

Haunted Grounds and Ghost-Filled Buildings

While studying the many ghosts of Austin, Texas, a pattern became obvious. Haunted houses built by Abner Cook—including the Texas Governor's Mansion and the Neill-Cochran Museum—far outnumber haunted homes built by others.

Studying Abner Cook's life for clues, there was no tragedy or pattern of accidents associated with the building of these houses.

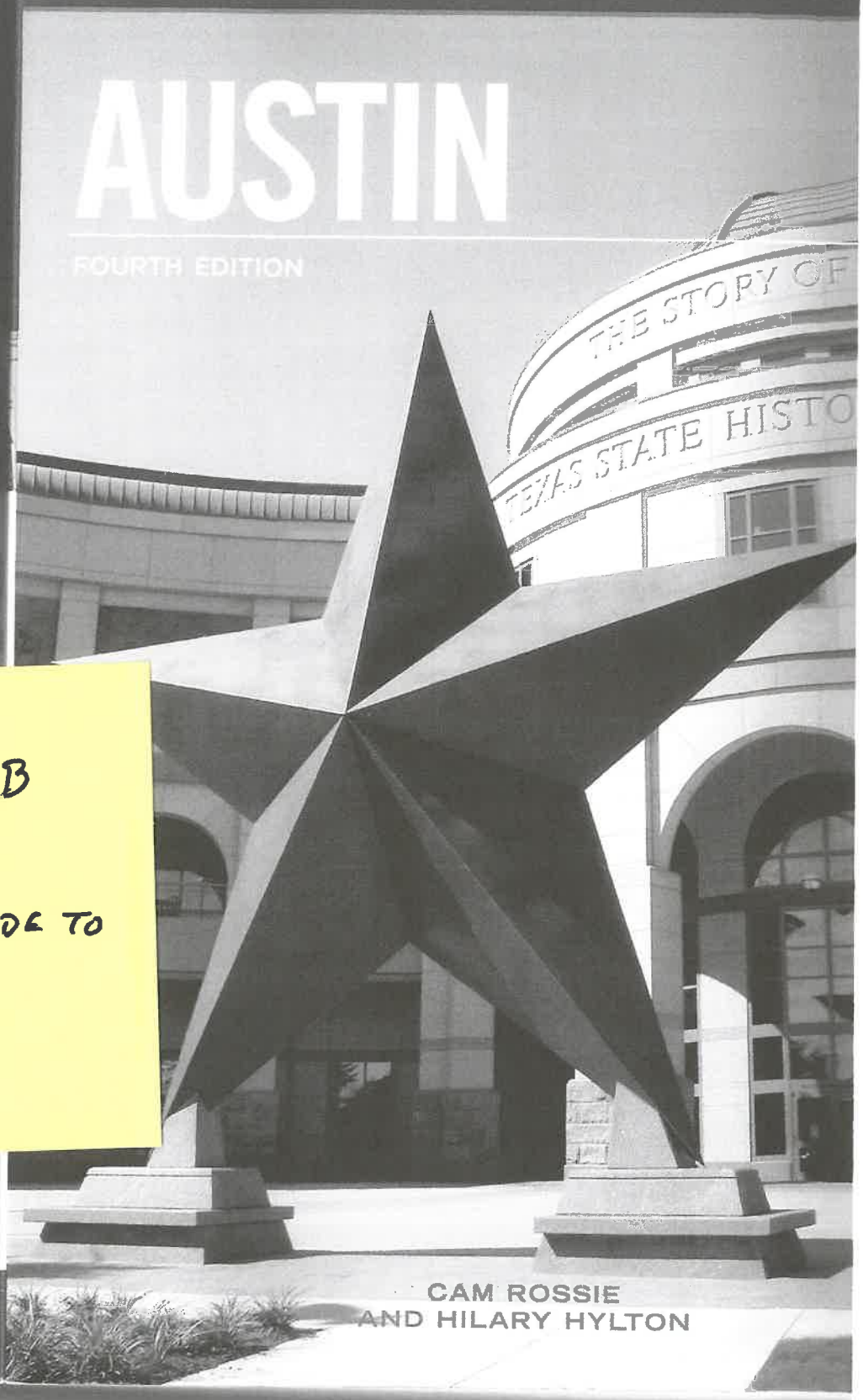
However, Abner Cook was a frugal man. One reason why he secured so many building contracts is because he was able to underbid his competitors. He could keep his bids low by supplying his own lumber and his own bricks.

The bricks came from Abner Cook's factory on the haunted shores of Shoal Creek. Ignorant of the residual

INSIDERS'GUIDE®

AUSTIN

FOURTH EDITION



ATTACHMENT B
15
INSIDERS GUIDE TO
AUSTIN

CAM ROSSIE
AND HILARY HYLTON

(785 feet) to the peak for a great view of the city. No mountain, but a sturdy climb.

Several local legends purport to account for the mount's name. One claims it is named in honor of George W. Bonnell, a New Yorker who came to Texas to fight in the War of Independence against Mexico. He fought the Native Americans and was a sometime newspaper editor. He met his death on December 26, 1842, when he was captured and shot by Mexican troops.

Others say the name is a corruption of the names Beau and Nell, two lovers who were married on the peak minutes before a Native American attack. After their first kiss, they leapt to their death. Other legends are variations on this theme, involving Native American princesses and beautiful Spanish senoritas, all forced to take a dive. On a serious note, visitors should be careful at the peak, since an unfortunate few have slipped and fallen down the hillside.

Mount Bonnell is the stuff of romance and a popular spot for young couples who want to watch the stars come out over Austin—a particularly romantic spot for University of Texas students, who can get a clear view of the UT Tower, aglow in orange light when the university's athletic teams win. It is also a great spot for a picnic with a view. The park opens at 5:00 A.M. for sunrise viewing and closes at 10:00 P.M.

Pease Park
1100 Kingsbury Street

Along Shoal Creek between 12th and 24th streets, this Central Austin park is popular among lunchtime picnickers and joggers. The land was donated by former Governor Elisha M. Pease, hence the name. During the Civil War General George Armstrong Custer camped on this site and buried 35 of his men here. There are legends of buried treasure here involving a lost cache of money supposedly stolen by a paymaster in the Mexican Army. Digging, of course, is forbidden.

These days it is known for happier occasions, including Eeyore's Birthday, an annual free-spirit celebration—sort of a mini Woodstock-meets-Mardi Gras event that includes both the whimsical and the outrageous (see our Annual Events chapter). Street parking on Kingsbury Street and neighboring roads is permitted but quickly fills up during Eeyore's Birthday. The popularity of this park, particularly the Eeyore's Birthday event, has created tension between park users and the neighborhood. So far, efforts to force the celebration to another location have proved unsuccessful.

Shoal Creek Hike and Bike Trail
Lamar Boulevard, from 38th Street to Town Lake

This wide, 3-mile-long greenbelt along the urban pathway of Shoal Creek, roughly paralleling Lamar Boulevard, winds through the heart of Central Austin and can be accessed at many points along the way. This popular trail was heavily damaged by flash floods in 1981. Repairs and flood-control devices have restored the trail, which is always alive with runners, walkers, kids, and dogs. Like other urban Austin creekbeds, Shoal Creek has an early warning system in place to alert residents and emergency workers of flash floods. These high-tech devices can be seen near bridges and low crossings in city creeks. They look like large traffic signal boxes and are equipped with solar panels and antennas. The warning system does not sound off but sends alerts to a central point so that emergency workers can monitor rising waters.

Slaughter Creek Metropolitan Park
507 West Slaughter Lane

Adjacent to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Southwest Austin, this park is at its best in spring, when the Hill Country wildflowers bloom throughout the park. That's not to say the park is not worth a visit during the other seasons. The prime attraction is the 3-mile velo[illegible] which attracts bicyclists and in-line skaters. The park also has a nature trail, picnic facilities, playground, soccer fields, volleyball, and basketball courts.

ATTACHMENT B
16

PHOTO OF
B-CYCLE STATION
PEASE PARK

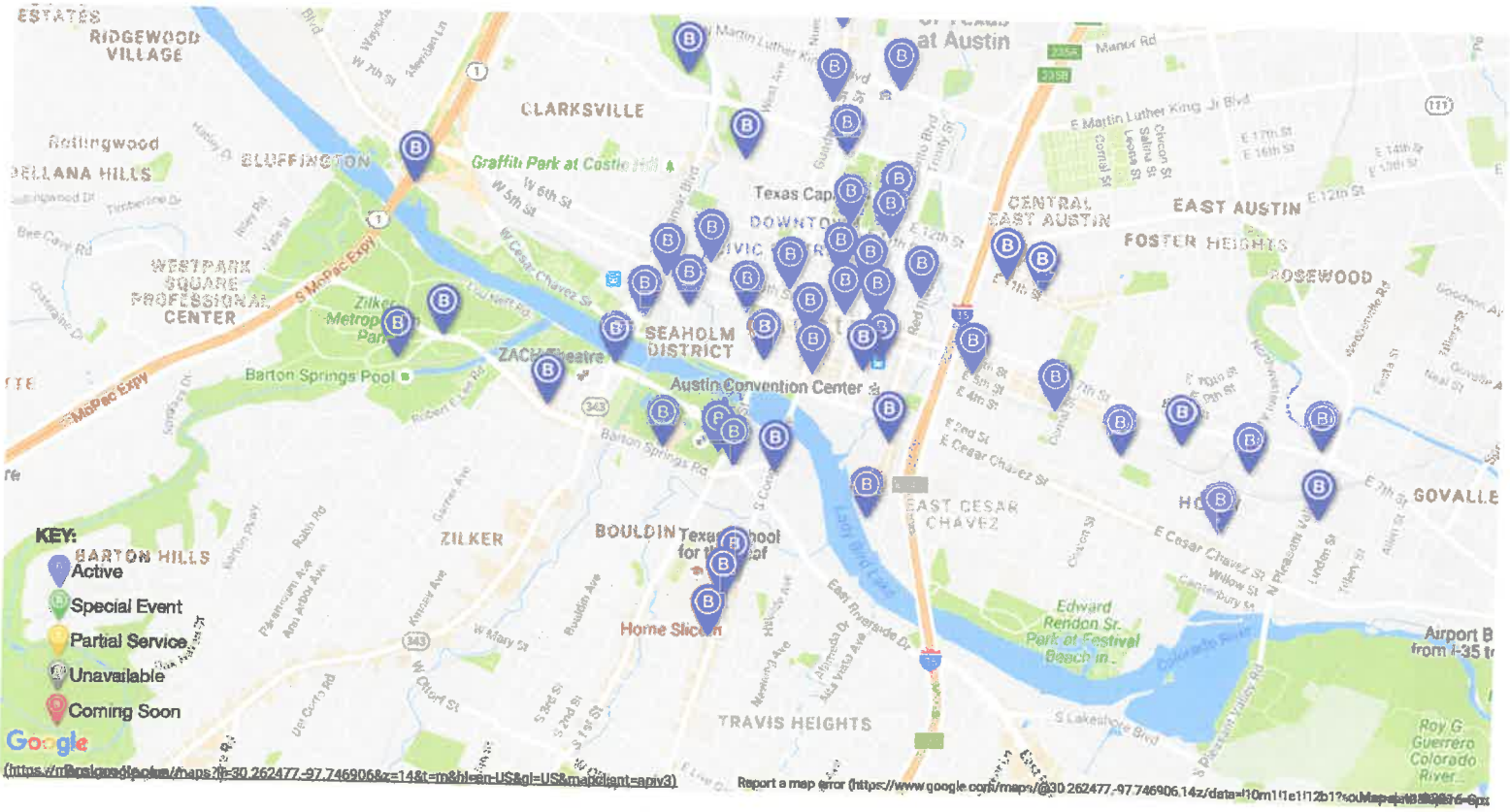
español (../es/estaciones/mapa-de-estaciones)

AUSTIN B cycle (http://austinbcycle.com/)

Username Password Login

(../sign-up-login) Forgot Password? (../forgot-password)

Find a Station Address or Cross Streets Go Bike Routes



WEBSITE TERMS, CONDITIONS, & PRIVACY
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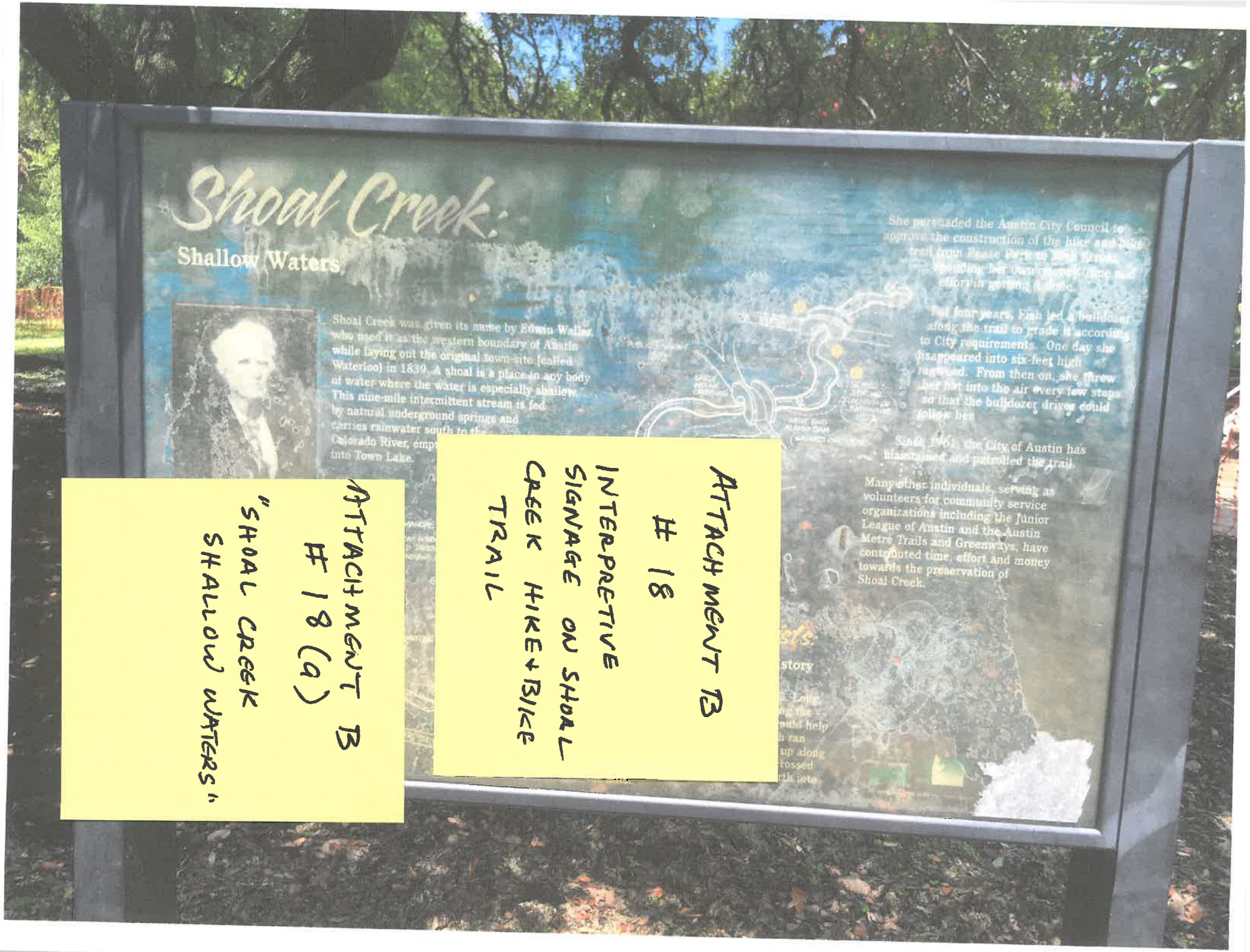
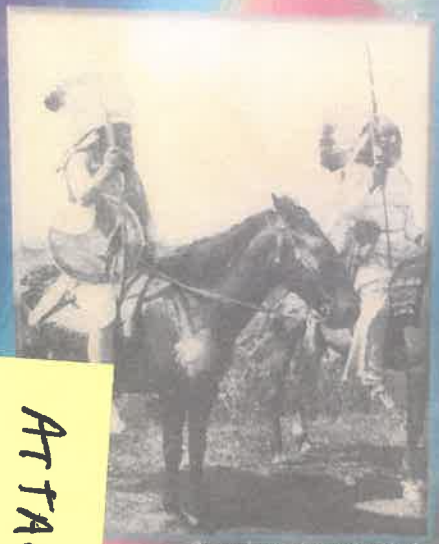
ATTACHMENT B
17
MAP OF AUSTIN
B-CYCLE STATIONS


Shoal Creek:
Shallow Waters
Shoal Creek was given its name by Edwin Waller, who used it as the western boundary of Austin while laying out the original town-site (called Waterloo) in 1839. A shoal is a place in any body of water where the water is especially shallow. This nine-mile intermittent stream is fed by natural underground springs and carries rainwater south to the Colorado River, emp into Town Lake.
She persuaded the Austin City Council to approve the construction of the hike and bike trail from Pease Park to
For four years, Fish led a bulldozer along the trail to grade it according to City requirements. One day she disappeared into six-feet high ragweed. From then on, she threw her hat into the air every few steps so that the bulldozer driver could follow her.
Since 1961, the City of Austin has maintained and patrolled the trail.
Many other individuals, serving as volunteers for community service organizations including the Junior League of Austin and the Austin Metro Trails and Greenways, have contributed time, effort and money towards the preservation of Shoal Creek.
ATTACHMENT B
18
INTERPRETIVE
SIGNAGE ON SHOAL
CREEK HIKE+BIKE
TRAIL
ATTACHMENT B
18 (a)
"SHOAL CREEK
SHALLOW WATERS"

The Native Americans:

Comanche, Apache, Waco and Tonkawa

Archeologists have determined that the earliest ancestors of the Native Americans were in Central Texas 11,400 years ago, and they undoubtedly found the Shoal Creek Valley an attractive place to live. This was the time a drought was ending and the great glaciers were retreating back across Canada. The Central Texas area was becoming green and luxuri- and some of the now extinct ice



Comanche warriors on horseback

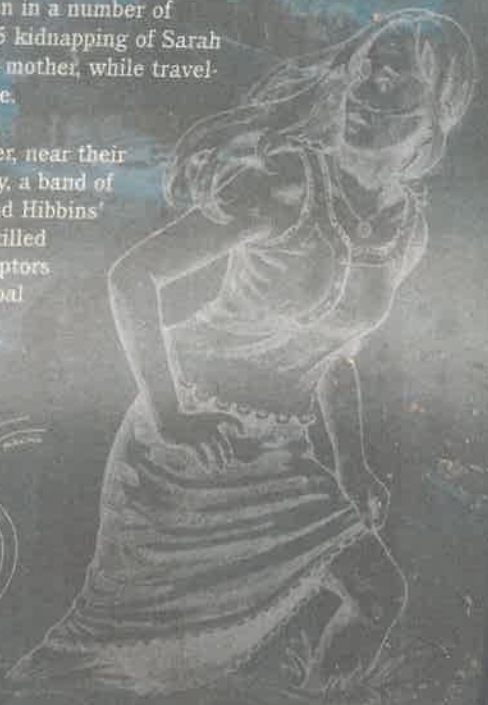
, as Austin's population grew outward from the central city, ple resisted private land eek, wanting to maintain o the pristine waters. In March al Rafael Vasquez, invaded Antonio. Many residents of fled, and encounters between he settlers became more fre- resulting in numerous deaths.

f Native Americans living d disappeared.

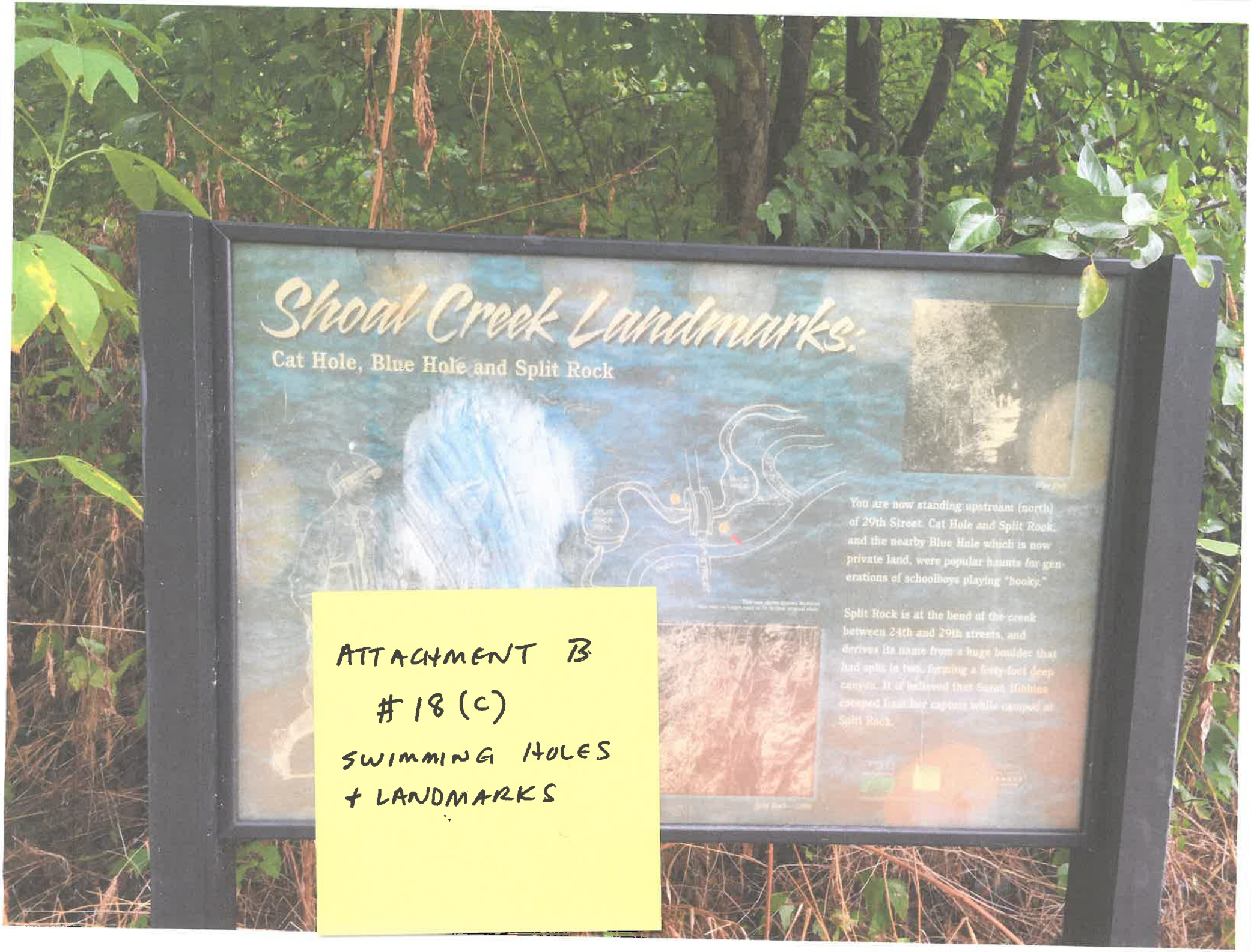
The Story of Sarah Hibbins

As early as 1835, armed encounters between the new settlers and the Native Americans resulted often in a number of deaths. One such incident was the 1835 kidnapping of Sarah Hibbins, her husband, two children and mother, while traveling back home to Austin from Tennessee.

As they were crossing the Colorado River, near their home in what was called Dewitt's Colony, a band of Native Americans captured the group and Hibbins' husband, mother and infant child were killed in the encounter. Hibbins escaped her captors the following night, and waded down Shoal Creek so as not to leave any tracks. She traveled about 10 miles east toward the settlements on the Colorado River. Hibbin's' six year old son was later rescued and returned to his mother.



ATTACHMENT B
18 (b)
NATIVE AMERICANS



ATTACHMENT B
#18 (C)
SWIMMING HOLES
+ LANDMARKS

Gold Rush Fever:
The Myth of the Mexican Treasure
In the 1890s, buried treasure fever struck the intrepid settlers of Austin
Lights were seen in the dead of night along Shoal Creek in Pease Park
what is now the 29th Street Bridge, and great holes were found in the g
the next morning. Folklore, legend and rumor held that gold treasure fr
Mexico was buried here. One Travis County treasurer misused $4,000 of
county's money in a futile effort to dig for gold. William Sidney Porter, be
known as the short story writer O. Henry, mentioned the Spanish gold in his
short story "Bexar Scrip No. 2962", published March 5, 1894. Porter lived in
Austin from 1887 to 1891 and worked as a draftsman at the
Texas General Land Office. No gold or treasure of
any sort was ever found.
ATTACHMENT B
18 (d)
"GOLD FEVER"
BURIED MEXICAN
TREASURE -
URBAN LEGEND
19th CENTURY

TRANGE STORY: THE HIDDEN TREASURES THAT ARE SAID TO EXIST IN PEASE ...
ustin Daily Statesman (1891-1902); Jan 3, 1897;
roQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
g. 8

STRANGE STORY.

HE HIDDEN TREASURES THAT ARE SAID TO EXIST IN PEASE PARK.

E WILD SEARCH GOES ON.

HAS HARASSED MEN'S VERY SOULS FOR THREE YEARS PAST.

NY OF AUSTIN'S PROMINENT MEN

AVE BEEN MIXED UP IN THE FUTILE SEARCH FOR HIDDEN WEALTH.

TRUE ORIGIN OF THIS MYTHICAL TREASURE.

Spaniard Said to Have Told the Story. Strange Things Attendant Upon the Search—The Creek Bottom Torn Topsy Turvey for Three Miles or More.

Extending over something like a period three years now Austin has been in tate of feverish fermentation. It has n that fever which burned inwardly l did not make its force felt violently the surface, and yet at intervals it ke forth, and the result was that victim afflicted would either flee the ntry or would seek oblivion in death. short Austin has been undergoing a dden treasure" fever that has brought e of her most prominent citizens into minence that they do not court. The er has been on for some three years, l during that time there have been f a dozen victims of the fever who e been compelled to flee the country. ring that time there have been others have played their last card and last sought relief in death.

he situation is one that is not only ulierly dramatic and touching, but it ast beggars understanding or explanation. It is a story that rivals all fic, yet it is so true that it is painful, shows the desire of people to get ey. In this instance, as in many rs, they have been hunting the end the rainbow, however. They have e forth like Monte Cristo, but they e returned empty handed. In the ntime the arch fiend that has led n on takes the place of the count, says: "One," "Two," "Three," painful regularity as the victims of dread fever either seek their own or flee the sight and sound of old nds and old surroundings. Verily tin seems under a spell, and yet who ere that can locate the hoodoo? That must be located all will agree. During the past two or three years he has ked in such excellent advantages, in city, men who were once in prominence, are now bowed down in shame, some who were here a year ago are in South America. And what has ed all this? It is easily explained.

ome three years ago the first rumors he present rupture was raised. The y of hidden treasures in and near tin has been told for time immemorial. It was some three years ago, however, that the present crisis, or rather the spending of it, was precipitated. lexican living on a place near Pease awoke one night to hear the peck, of a pick in the ground, and every e in a while he would hear low murmurs. He arose quietly from his bed, dressing, went out to investigate. heard the sound of the digging which removed from him some distance, still distinctly in the quiet night air. also saw a light. He advanced iously nearer and nearer. Finally he where he could see within the

found and the matter was dropped. It was the beginning of the end, however. In a short time it became rumored around among the negroes that there was a hidden treasure in Pease park. The rumor was not confined to the negroes. The white men got hold of it. What's more they believed it. The rumor spread. About this time a gentleman came here from Mexico. He was a Spaniard. He came here to visit friends. He told something about an engagement between the Indians and a body of surveying Mexicans in Pease park long before this state was settled up. He said that upon the occasion of this engagement between the Indians and the Mexicans, that the Mexicans, in order to lighten their packing animals for flight, had buried something like $100,000 in gold bars in the creek bottom in the center of a triangle formed by three trees located in the valley of the creek that runs through Pease park, below the old Neal place. The treasure was buried, so the story ran, under a rock pile in the center of this triangle. The story went further to say that this Spanish gentleman, in order to help the friends that he was visiting to find the hidden thousands, secured an old map with the exact location of the treasure. This he gave to the parties he was visiting, and then he went home.

The story soon began to be whispered around. It was like a fairy story. Those who heard about it looked at one another askingly, and said, don't tell anybody else. In the course of time possibly twenty-five people knew it. No five of that twenty-five, however, knew that the others knew it, for awhile, at least. Some of the more enterprising treasure hunters went about the matter systematically. They organized a stock company and went in so much money apiece to buy the tools with which to work. They made other arrangements to get the treasure. The lady at whose house the Spaniard had visited had a young daughter. These worthy treasure hunters accordingly set about using her as a decoy to find the exact spot where the treasure was located. They sent one of their crowd, a most reputable young man, to call on the young lady, and gave him so much a night to buy candy and other refreshments that might be necessary in his line of work to secure the map with the location of the hidden treasure. The young man was constant in his attention to the young lady. He did his best, and sometimes he called for as much as $50 a night, but he did not seem to make much headway. His partners complained and finally they went up the creek to see if anybody else had been anywhere near the treasure. They stood aghast. They found great trenches dug in many places. Somebody was after the treasure. They waited no longer. That night, when the valley was in the very deepest of gloom, they went to the place where the hidden treasure was supposed to be located. They found others there before them. They could hear them digging. They laid around and watched, and finally the first comers became weary and left. Then the new comers went to work and worked until daybreak. The next day they returned only to find that somebody was seeking to remove all traces of the treasure. They had burned one of the trees, the south corner one, down, close off to the ground, so as to remove the triangular guide. They worked hard after that, they realized that somebody else was after their treasure, and they never let a single night pass but what they were working. It soon came to pass that the entire valley of the creek that runs through the park was alive with workers at night. They went about as silent as the grave. Every once in awhile some crowd would bump up against another in the dark, in which case the disturbed crowd would invariably run away. Time went on. One company that had organized became weary of waiting and digging. They secured an old negro hoodoo, with his eyes set away back in his head, and took him out to hunt the treasure. The old fellow said that if he walked over gold his feet would burn like he was stepping on needles. So he was marched out to the charmed place where the treasure was supposed to be. He was walked up and down the creek back and cross, and over his best time and again, until he fell from exhaustion, but he could never make his feet burn. He told his employers that the only thing that he could find under him was water, and that there was no gold there. His employers fired him in disgust, and renewed their digging.

On their first visit to the ground they found that somebody had dug a deep trench across the triangle formed by the trees, from each of the tree corners, to meet at the center, but all to no purpose, apparently. The story, as it was told to these worthy treasure hunters, was that when the Mexicans buried the treasure they had placed a stake in the ground directly over the spot and placed some stones over it. There was an immense stake in the center of the triangle. The treasure hunters turned it over and dug under it until they almost reached China, but it

armed. They were determined that nobody should get their treasure. They fought shy of the many other treasure hunters who were fairly lining the creek bank and worked on in silence. They could not have a light for fear of exposing their localities, and they were ready to shoot on the slightest provocation. One night a harmless negro, wandering through the valley on a short cut to his home, came within an ace of being killed by the desperate hunters. Many a night as they were hunting around they would run up on some other treasure hunters. They would invariably rout them and capture all their tools. They hid so many picks and shovels and so many crow-bars up in the creek that a man could start a hardware store if he cared to go up there and collect the various articles that are hid away behind logs and under the ledges of the cliffs.

Several months passed and still there were no signs of the treasure. The secret was known to at least twenty-five now, and every night men and ghostly figures were seen wandering to and fro in the valley. They were all on the same mission, and many of them were prominent citizens of Austin who had become wild on the subject of hunting the golden treasure.

One night the party that had been calling on the young lady reported that he had come to the conclusion that the treasure was buried under some natural steps that are near the triangle formed by the trees. Search was made there, but all to no purpose. No treasure. By this time this party and others who were nightly prowling up and down the creek had succeeded in digging up the creek bottom, and on both sides for a distance of some three miles. There were holes that you could bury an ox wagon in, and varying in size from that on down to a water bucket. Some of the more careful diggers, after digging a deep hole, would cover it up again.

It was about this time that one of the treasure-hunting crowds busted. It had required a great deal of money to run the venture and as only two in the crowd had the money it all fell on them to keep the young man up in his visits to the young lady, to pay the expenses of the search and to

able have for months past mixed up in this wild scramble for hidden wealth. They have dug up and down that creek bottom and they have hired others to dig for them. They are all searching for the hidden treasure. When the search was first started about three years ago, every man expected to find the treasure the very next minute and accordingly every man was on the alert. Many and many a time has one partner caught another stealing away from him during the day to hunt for the treasure. They watched one another like cats and dogs. They couldn't trust one another. The desire to get the gold was the one absorbing theme. As time went by and no treasure was forthcoming, their selfish desire waned some and they were willing to work in unison, but they never for a moment gave up hope.

As time flies by, the hunt for hidden treasure has proven itself a great drag net that pulls everything in that comes within reach, until now at this particular moment there are not less than thirty of Austin's most prominent people mixed up in this gold hunting business.

Yet there is a great secret behind all this. Somebody is making money and the question is, who is it? Several men have so far been ruined financially by this search. One man is an invalid from exposure and several have killed them-

for being connected with this hidden treasure business. It is the strangest thing that ever visited a city. It is a fever that is sapping the very foundation of our citizenship. It is making maniacs out of sensible men. They are maniacs in a mild form, but they are maniacs. Men of prominence in this city have been seen to go to this park at all hours of the day and night looking for this treasure, and yet they were formerly good business men who could be relied upon. The fever has struck them, however, and they have gone down before it. During the past two years not less than a dozen citizens of Austin have fallen under the ban of this hidden treasure. Like death, it has placed all on an equality. White men of prominence and negroes of ordinary intelligence have been hand in glove in their search for this hidden treasure. It is a will-o-the-wisp that has led many into the marshes of ruin and despair. Will it lead others? Is the end near? The average thinking citizen of Austin is fearing the worst. In this great Nineteenth century, when times are so hard and man's avarice so great, it is not safe to say that they will cease to hunt the hidden treasure. The telling of such a story as this reads like a fairy story, but it will prove to be only too true in the very near future. It is feared that only half the story has been told. Some of our prominent citizens are now mixed up in this matter. Will others who are lightly involved now take warning, or will they rush recklessly on to their ruin, as have the others? This hidden treasure has brought sorrow into Austin. Its mythical existence has brought trouble into more than one home and all are worried that the end is not yet.

Those who think that there is nothing in all this story about searching parties spending the night up there are invited to make a trip up and down the creek. For a distance of some three miles, beginning at half a mile above the bridge that crosses the creek on West Sixth, and going north, they will find the holes. The whole face of creation has been torn up. If they want further proofs there are those who can take them out and show them the hiding place of picks, shovels and ... one not a ... them. The ... filled with

... park are ... the imagination ... the dark, ... any crevices ... and earth ... and suggestive ... ures.

... round Austin ... as a hiding ... the most at... ...red at that ... almost frenzy ... the hidden ... their senses. There are ... gloomy as ... and when ... the land ... fore him. ... dare have ... these dark ... did not see ... It is not ... most went ... it in pursuit ... it digging ... as using ... ish about ... he had ... in his ex... ...es of the ... the very ... ered that ... it.

... certainly ... 800) that ... Edwin Brown buried there four years ago. He buried it under a rock, at a certain distance from a leaning tree, and then went down to Bastrop on a visit. While he was gone the tree was cut down, the rock removed, and Edwin could not find his money when he returned. He hunted around for awhile, and finally gave the search up as a bad one. The money is in silver dollars, and it is highly probable that a syndicate will be formed to dig for it.

ANOTHER VERSION.

After all, it is not to be wondered at that "Dad" Jernigan was carried away by the extravagant, bewildering stories of hidden wealth near Austin.

Men more intelligent and infinitely better able to withstand the seductive influence of the reasonableness of the stories told have been caught, and from the very earliest settlement of this country they have spent money and time digging for gold in the vicinity of Austin.

Aged Mexicans, within the recollection of many old citizens, have appeared in Austin with plats and maps that were said to have the metes and bounds of the locality wherein the gold was deposited by a Mexican army on its retreat from Nacogdoches to San Antonio. Their mission would leak out and then some inquisitive American would get from them their stories, and often aided in a search

yet in other respects be clear-headed and eminently honest and respectable.

To many, however, such a man is a queer, paradoxical and topsy-turvy humorist, if not positively idiotic.

Bah! the very idea of a man going off on a wild goose chase after hidden treasure. Alas, alack, all the treasure of this world is hidden. Man strives after hidden wealth always, and where one finds it thousands upon thousands fail. Scores have failed, delving into the soil about Austin for the wealth alleged to have been buried by Mexican officers.

Have you ever met such men? The Statesman has, and they are a queer set at times. Poor old man Andrew George has been a fair type of them during the past year. There has been a great weight resting upon the very innermost recesses of his heart. There has been a strange misery. If you accosted him, his eyes gleamed with lurking suspicion. The sight of a stranger, or the consulting of two or more persons about the court house filled him with horrible uncertainty. His life has been a burden. Of course, not all who have engaged in the business of digging for the hidden treasure have been so profoundly weighted down as Andrew George has been, but all have been more or less affected with fear that their secret would come to the knowledge of others. Some of these men are with you now. You know them. You have met them daily, perhaps, during the past year. They are intelligent men, standing high in the estimation of their friends, and they have many. They have sought the hidden treasure. Within the past few weeks they have, under the shadow of night, digged deep into the earth seeking for this hidden gold. They have spent much time and money and like "Dad" Jernigan, they have "had confidence" in the stories.

Not the stories of Jim Bridgers, for they have been ignorant of them, but the stories handed down by tradition or twined about by pleasing and picturesque romance.

Tradition has it that a large body of Mexican troops retreating across Texas early in the century, were surrounded by Apache and Comanche Indians within the vicinity of Austin. The Mexicans constructed very strong stockade forts about six miles east of town on what is now known as Fort Prairie, and after a seige of several weeks, they succeeded in repulsing and driving off the Indians. This army had an immense amount of gold and silver belonging to the treasury of the state of Coahuila and Texas, and the Mexican officers fearing another attack by the Indians determined to bury this treasure, and they did, so making a careful map of the locality. They then destroyed their wagons and destroyed everything that would impede their retreat to San Antonio. That army never returned to Austin, but soldiers in it scattered abroad the story of the buried treasure, and over and over again have very old Mexicans visited Austin and searched for it. One of these old men, shortly after the war, was here some time investigating and searching for the buried money. He claimed to have been a soldier under the officers who had the money in charge and who secreted it. He had a rough sketch showing, he claimed, that the treasure was somewhere on the banks of Shoal creek about where Mrs. Pease's place is now. He dug around there for some months, but if he found any money he kept it to himself.

Before and after the war aged Mexicans searched diligently for the money just south of the river not far east of Fairview park, and the pits they dug are seen there to this day. As late as 1878 a Mexican, a very old man, came here, and dug several very large pits and trenches just south of town, and an old negro named John camped over there and continued the digging for several years. He was finally sent to the asylum.

A great deal of digging for this treasure was done just after the war by both whites, Mexicans and negroes on the old Bastrop road not far from Rudum's garden. It was kept up for years, the work progressing day and night. A great deal of digging has been done on Fort Prairie, and some on Onion creek. One story has it that the money was buried near Waller creek where it now meanders through the Seventh ward.

Col. J. J. Dupre, who for many years edited The Statesman, and who was a great archaeologist, had a map and statement musty with age, he obtained from some old Mexican showing that the Mexican army on its retreat buried the money on the banks of the Brazos river not far from the Nashville ford. A lot of guns were buried with their muzzles just outside the ground and a certain distance from these guns the money was buried. Col. Dupre visited the locality once, but inroads of the river had so changed the locality that his charts were useless. He had faith in the story of the treasure, but believed it had been swept away with the soil by floods and overflows in the Brazos. He had no faith in the buried treasure about Austin.

RECENT WORK.

Ever since the war, with certain intervals, different persons have searched ...

ATTACHMENT B
#18(e)
AUSTIN DAILY STATESMAN NEWS ARTICLE ON GOLD FEVER - JAN. 3, 1897

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