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## Intensive Archeological Survey For The Proposed Widening Of Fairgrounds Road Between Loop 250 And Pecan Avenue, Midland County, Texas

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## Intensive Archeological Survey For The Proposed Widening Of Fairgrounds Road Between Loop 250 And Pecan Avenue, Midland County, Texas

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INTENSIVE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE  
PROPOSED WIDENING OF FAIRGROUNDS ROAD  
BETWEEN LOOP 250 AND PECAN AVENUE,  
MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS  
(CSJ 0906-32-049)

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*For*  
  
The City of Midland  
300 North Loraine  
P.O. Box 152  
Midland, TX 79702

*Under*  
Texas Antiquities Permit 7059

Cox | McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. Archeological Report 087  
(CMEC-AR-087)



January 19, 2015

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## Management Summary

In October 2014, an intensive archeological survey was completed in order to inventory and evaluate archeological resources within the footprint of proposed road widening along Fairgrounds Road between Loop 250 and Pecan Avenue in northeast Midland, Midland County, Texas. The archeological area of potential effects (APE) is approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 km) of existing and additional proposed right-of-way. At the time of this investigation, a preferred alignment was still under consideration. Therefore, the entire proposed and existing right-of-way for all alternative alignments was surveyed. The right-of-way reaches a maximum width of approximately 150 feet (ft) or 45.7 meters (m) for a total of 22 acres (ac) including 2 ac of new right-of-way. Depth of impacts in the APE would be limited to less than 3 ft. The work was carried out for the City of Midland under Texas Antiquities Permit 7059 by Chris Dayton and Melissa Green (Principal Investigator) of Cox | McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. (CMEC), a subcontractor to Dunaway Associates.

Ground surfaces within the APE ranged from low (20 to 40 percent) to highly visible (between 50 and 90 percent). Much of the APE, including the 2 acres of proposed right-of-way, is considered disturbed from the construction and maintenance of Fairgrounds Road, installation of utilities, grading for shoulders and drainage, bioturbation, and erosion. The project corridor is in a mixed open land, commercial/industrial, residential, and recreational area; the Hogan Park and Richland Hills Country Club golf courses abut Fairgrounds Road on the west side. A total of nine shovel test units were excavated where ground visibility was lowest, near the north end of the corridor.

No archeological or other cultural resources were encountered during the survey. One previously recorded archeological site, 41MD34, was mapped near the APE to warrant a revisit. It was found that much of 41MD34 is highly disturbed and/or destroyed. No cultural materials, features, or deposits were noted in the right-of-way near the site nor in the portion of the site that access was granted, and the site appears to be highly disturbed from oil and gas activities.

No materials were collected; therefore, this project generated no archeological materials to be curated. Notes, forms, and other project data will be made permanently available to future researchers at Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) at the University of Texas at Austin as per TAC 26.16 and 26.17.

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) concurred with the findings and recommendations in this report on December 5, 2014.

# INTENSIVE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE PROPOSED WIDENING OF FAIRGROUNDS ROAD BETWEEN LOOP 250 AND PECAN AVENUE, MIDLAND, MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS

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## 1.0 Introduction

### Overview of the Project

The City of Midland, a political subdivision of the State of Texas, has proposed widening Fairgrounds Road in northeast Midland, Midland County, Texas (**Figure 1**). The archeological area of potential effects (APE) is approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 km) of existing and additional proposed right-of-way for Fairgrounds Road from Loop 250 south to Pecan Avenue (Figure 1). At the time of this investigation, a preferred alignment was still under consideration. Therefore, the entire proposed and existing right-of-way for all alternative alignments was surveyed. The right-of-way reaches a maximum width of approximately 150 feet (ft) or 45.7 meters (m) for a total of 22 acres (ac) including 2 ac of new right-of-way. Depth of impacts in the APE would be limited to less than 3 ft. Existing and proposed typical design plans are found in Appendix A.

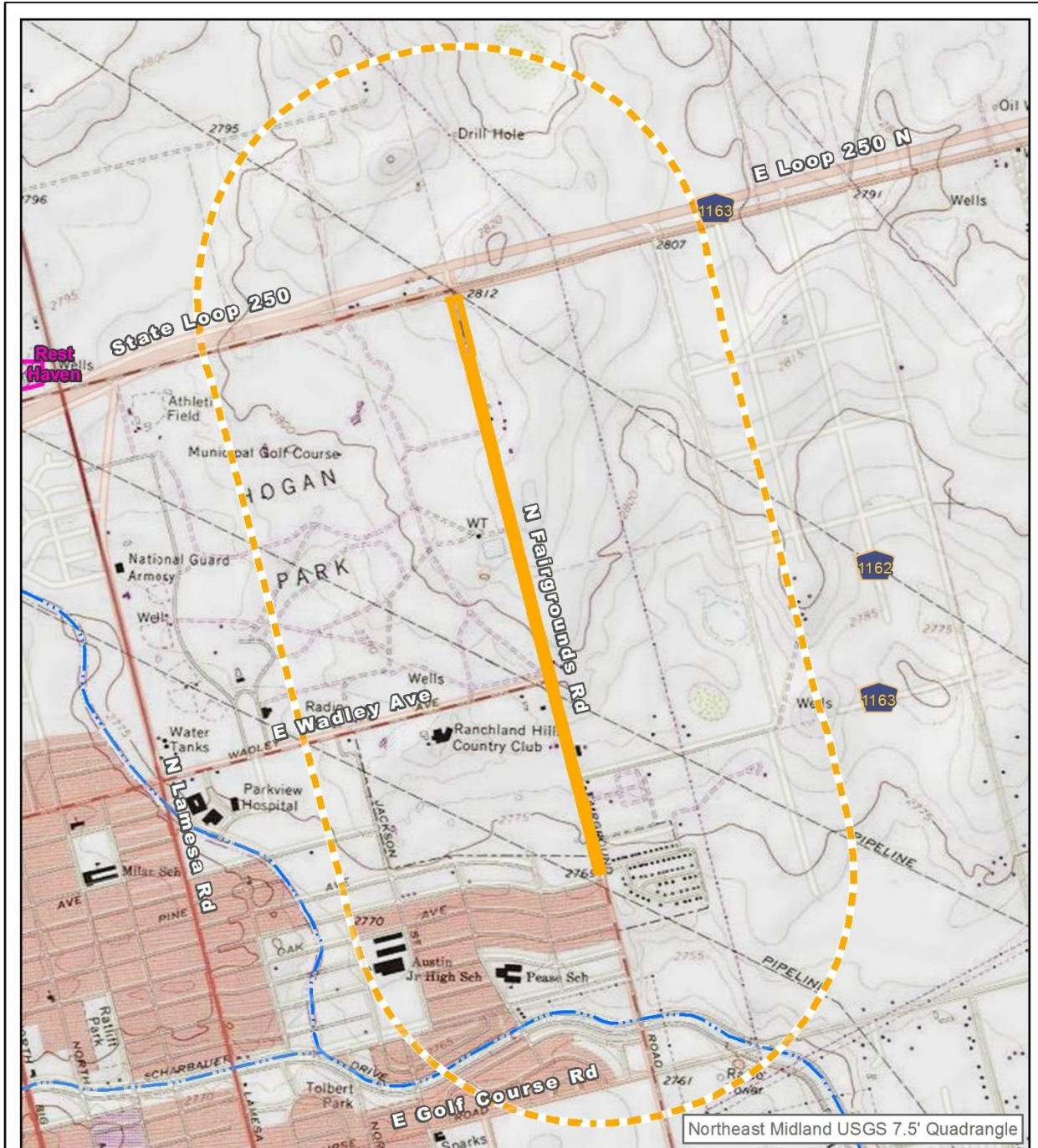
The project is owned and funded by the City of Midland with partial funds from Federal Highways Administration, rendering the project subject to the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191) as well as triggering Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended (16 USC 470; 36 CFR 800). All materials generated from this work will be permanently housed at Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) at the University of Texas at Austin as per TAC 26.27 and 26.5.

Chris Dayton of Cox | McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc., (CMEC) performed the fieldwork in October 2014 as a subcontractor to Dunaway Associates. Melissa M. Green served as Principal Investigator. All shovel tests were placed judgmentally within the APE based on observed disturbance levels and ground surface visibility. All shovel tests were placed based on guidelines established by the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA) and approved by the Texas Historical Commission (THC). The methods employed during this study and relevant constraints are discussed further in Chapters Three and Four.

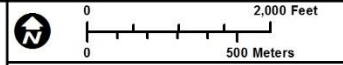
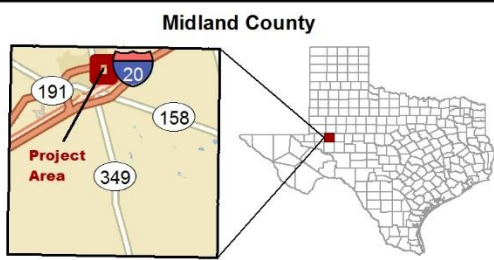
### Structure of the Report

Following this introduction, Chapter Two presents environmental parameters, a brief cultural context, and a summary of previous archeological research near the APE; Chapter Three discusses research goals, relevant methods, and the underlying regulatory considerations; Chapter Four presents the results of the survey and summarizes the implications of the investigations, and references are in Chapter Five.





- Project APE
- 1-km Buffer of APE
- Cemetery



**Figure 1**  
Location of Archeological APE

Sources: THC (2014), TARL (2014), NHD (2013), National Geographic Society (2013)

Prepared for: City of Midland	1 in = 2,100 feet
CSJ: 0906-32-049	Scale: 1:25,200
Prepared by: SL	Date: 1/23/2015

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## 2.0 Environmental and Cultural Context

### Topography, Geology, and Soils

Midland County is in the middle of the Permian Basin, a Permian-age shallow sea that was located between central Texas and New Mexico. The Edwards Plateau is found in the southeastern third of Midland County and the remainder of the county, including the City of Midland, is on the Llano Estacado. The Llano Estacado is a very flat, arid plain found in western Texas and eastern New Mexico, with elevations of 2,776 to 2,830 ft (846 to 862.5 m) above mean sea level. The APE is underlain by Pleistocene windblown cover sand (BEG 1976), and according to Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) data, the mapped soils within the APE are primarily Amarillo fine sandy loam on 1 to 3 percent slopes with a small portion of Amarillo fine sandy loam on 0 to 1 percent slopes near the north end (NRCS 2014). These are well drained soils found on playa slopes and plains.

### Vegetation, Physiography, and Land use

The project is located in the southern portion of the High Plains ecoregion (Griffith et al. 2007; BEG 1996). According to the TPWD's *Vegetation Types of Texas* map and accompanying descriptions, the APE is in an area (Type 44) mapped as cropland (McMahan et al. 1984). However, the parcel does not appear to be used as cropland and field observations confirm the vegetation in the area is more in line with other nearby mapped Type 11b, (Mesquite-Brush). Permanent water sources are few, primarily consisting of playa basins that have been reduced in size. Average annual precipitation in both regions is reported to be less than 14 inches between 1981 and 2010 (SCAS 2000). Although rainfall likely fluctuated throughout prehistory, the region tends to be dry at present.

### Archeological Chronology for the High Plains

The APE is at the southwestern corner of the Southern High Plains archeological region (Perttula 2004). Detailed descriptions of the archeological chronology will not be presented here; three recent reviews on the archeology of the Llano Estacado by Hofman et al. (1989) and Johnson and Holliday (1995; 2004) are excellent references for such details.

**Table 1** presents the chronology of the Southern High Plains. Following Perttula (2004:9) **Table 1** combines the chronology of the Southern High Plains and the Panhandle into one region, simply known as the "High Plains". However, Johnson and Holliday (2004:294-295) note that the Late Quaternary paleoenvironmental records of the Southern Plains are well preserved in the draws, dunes, and lake basins, with draws providing the most complete and sensitive environmental record available. Likewise, the known archeological record provides a lengthy and rich heritage for the region with people living on and using the Southern Plains for at least 11,000 years and possibly longer due to the ample and varied natural resources available. Climate changes over the millennia determined the availability and variety of resources, but the occupation of the Southern Plains generally consisted of small, mobile groups making repeated, short-duration seasonal visits to resource gathering and residential areas.



Table 1: Archeological Chronology for the High Plains in Texas*	
Period	Years Before Present (BP)**
Early Paleoindian	11,500 – 10,500
Late Paleoindian	10,500 – 8,500
Archaic	8,500 – 2,000
Ceramic (Late Prehistoric)	2,000 – 1,000
Antelope Creek	1,000 – 500
Protohistoric	500 – 250

\* After Perttula 2004: 9, Table 1.1  
 \*\* Based on uncalibrated radiocarbon dates, which are typical in Texas archeology (see Perttula 2004:14, Note 1).

**Historic Context**

Midland, originally called Midway, was established in 1881 when the Texas and Pacific Railway placed a section house or Midway Station on its line halfway between Dallas and El Paso. The first permanent resident was Herman N. Garrett, who settled there with a herd of sheep in 1882. A post office was established in 1884 and the name changed to Midland as more ranchers moved into the area. By 1885 over 100 families lived in the area and Midland County was established with Midland as the county seat. A courthouse was built in 1886 with churches and a school following soon afterward. As the area had become an important cattle shipping center, the area prospered and the population grew into the early twentieth century, particularly with the Permian Basin oil boom which began in the 1920s (Leffler 2010).

The area suffered during the early part of the Depression as oil and gas production was greatly reduced and many workers were forced out of work. However, the oil and gas industry began to recover after the Railroad Commission began regulating oil and gas production across the state and tariffs on foreign oil were instituted. The Permian Basin oil production grew and Midland along with it. Midland also grew with the establishment of the Midland Army Air Force Base which operated the Army Air Force Bombardier School during World War II until it was closed in 1946 (Leffler 2010).

Since the end of World War II, with the exception of a short time during the 1960s and early 1970s, Midland and the surrounding area has continued to prosper due to oil and gas exploration and production, and the city has remained the financial and administrative center for the Permian Basin (Leffler 2010).

**Previous Investigations and Previously Identified Resources**

A search of the *Texas Archeological Sites Atlas* (Atlas) maintained by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) was conducted in order to identify archeological sites, historical markers (Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks or RTHLs), properties or districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs), cemeteries, or other cultural resources that may have been previously recorded in or near the APE, as well as previous surveys undertaken in the area.

According to Atlas survey coverage data, the APE has not been subjected to an archeological survey nor are any archeological sites recorded within the APE. Three archeological sites (41MD19, 41MD34,

and 41MD40) and three cultural resources surveys have been conducted within the one-kilometer buffer surrounding the APE (THC 2014). Archeological site 41MD34, an open campsite with burned rock, flakes, cores, brownware pottery, and red sandstone fragments (possible metate fragments) of undetermined age (Strickney 1987), is located just east of the project area. Site 41MD19 is an open campsite with dart points, arrow points, end and side scrapers, manos, and brownware pottery attributed to the Archaic to Neo-American (Late Prehistoric) periods (Riggs 1975) located east of the project abutting SL 250. Site 41MD40 is a lithic scatter found during a survey for proposed nature trails by Geo-Marine, Inc., in 2007 for the Sibley Nature Center; the site was recommended ineligible (Meyer 2008). Other surveys in the area include the 1991 State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (SDHPT, now TxDOT) survey of Fairgrounds Road from US 80 to Oak Avenue; no cultural resources were identified (SDHPT 1991). The remaining survey was conducted for the north lane of SL 250 and intersects with the north terminus of this current project (Denton 1983). The Atlas indicates that 41MD19 was discussed in this report.

### 3.0 Research Goals and Methods

#### Purpose of the Research

The present study was carried out to accomplish three major goals:

1. To identify all historic and prehistoric archeological resources located within the APE defined in Chapter One;
2. To perform a preliminary evaluation of the identified resources' potential for inclusion in the NRHP and/or for designation as a SAL (typically performed concurrently); and
3. To make recommendations about the need for further research concerning the identified resources based on the preliminary NRHP/SAL evaluation and with guidance on methodology and ethics from the THC and CTA.

#### The Antiquities Code of Texas

Because the project is currently owned and funded by the City of Midland, a political subdivision of the State of Texas, the project is subject to the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191), which requires consideration of effects on properties designated as—or eligible to be designated as—SALs, which are defined as:

...sites, objects, buildings, structures and historic shipwrecks, and locations of historical, archeological, educational, or scientific interest including, but not limited to, prehistoric American Indian or aboriginal campsites, dwellings, and habitation sites, aboriginal paintings, petroglyphs, and other marks or carvings on rock or elsewhere which pertain to early American Indian or other archeological sites of every character, treasure imbedded in the earth, sunken or abandoned ships and wrecks of the sea or any part of their contents, maps, records, documents, books, artifacts, and implements of culture in any way related to the inhabitants, prehistory, history, government, or culture in, on, or under any of the lands of the State of Texas, including the tidelands, submerged land, and the bed of the sea within the jurisdiction of the State of Texas. (13 TAC 26.2)

Guidelines for the evaluation of cultural resources as SALs and/or for listing on the NRHP, which is also explicitly referenced at the state level, are detailed in 13 TAC 26. An archeological site identified on lands owned or controlled by the State of Texas may be of sufficient significance to allow designation as a SAL if at least one of the following criteria applies:

1. the site has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the prehistory and/or history of Texas by the addition of new and important information;
2. the site's archeological deposits and the artifacts within the site are preserved and intact, thereby supporting the research potential or preservation interests of the site;
3. the site possesses unique or rare attributes concerning Texas prehistory and/or history;
4. the study of the site offers the opportunity to test theories and methods of preservation, thereby contributing to new scientific knowledge;
5. the high likelihood that vandalism and relic collecting has occurred or could occur, and official landmark designation is needed to insure [sic] maximum legal protection, or alternatively further investigations are needed to mitigate the effects of vandalism and relic collecting when the site cannot be protected (13 TAC 26.10).

For archeological resources, the state-level process requires securing and maintaining a valid Texas Antiquities Permit from the THC, the lead state agency for Antiquities Code compliance, throughout all stages of investigation, analysis, and reporting.

### **Survey Methods and Protocols**

With the goals and guidelines above in mind, CMEC personnel conducted an intensive survey in October 2014, per category 6 under 13 TAC 26.15 and using the definitions in 13 TAC 26.3, searching for previously identified and unidentified archeological sites. Field methods complied with the coverage requirements of 13 TAC 26.15, as elaborated by the THC and CTA.

Shovel tests were excavated in natural levels to major color/texture changes or restrictive features, as allowed by compaction and hardness of the deposits. Excavated matrix was screened through 0.635-cm (0.25-in) hardware cloth as allowed by moisture and clay content, which often required that the removed sediment be crumbled/sorted by hand, trowel, and/or shovel point. Deposits were described using conventional texture classifications and Munsell color designations, and all observations were recorded on standard CMEC shovel test forms. The testing protocol detailed in the approved scope for Texas Antiquities Permit 7059 called for radial shovel tests to be placed at 5-m (16-ft) intervals around each shovel test positive for cultural material until two negative units were established in each cardinal direction. As detailed in the next chapter, due to high ground surface visibility and extensive disturbance, double negative shovel tests were not always necessary and/or feasible.

No materials were collected during the investigation; therefore, this project generated no archeological materials to be curated. Project field notes, forms, and other data will be made available to future researchers at TARL as per 13 TAC 26.16 and 26.17.

## 4.0 Results and Recommendations

### General Field Observations

In October 2014, CMEC personnel conducted an intensive survey of the 22-acre (8.9-hectare) APE. Ground surface visibility was mostly moderate to high (between 50 to 90 percent; **Figure 2**) with a small area of low visibility at the north end of the APE being between 20 and 40 percent (**Figure 3**). Most of the APE appears to be disturbed due to the construction and maintenance of Fairgrounds Road, grading for shoulders and drainage, installation of utilities, bioturbation, and erosion (**Figures 4-6**). The areas of proposed new right-of-way along the east side of Fairgrounds Road have also been altered and disturbed due to oil and gas activities, cultivation for a tree/horticultural farm, and residential and commercial endeavors. Two golf courses, Hogan Park Golf Course and Ranchland Hills Golf Club, abut the project corridor along the west side of Fairgrounds Road; East Wadley Avenue separates the two golf courses.



Figure 2. Sparse vegetation on west side of Fairgrounds Road; looking south





Figure 3. Dense vegetation on east side of Fairgrounds Road at north end of 41MD34, looking southwest



Figure 4. Utility and grading/mounding disturbances along the APE, looking north





Figure 5. Total disturbance in proposed right-of-way at tree farm on east side of APE, looking south



Figure 6. Erosion in right-of-way on west side of APE, looking north

A total of nine shovel tests (ST) were excavated primarily along approximately 0.7 mi at the north end of the APE where visibility was low (**Figure 7 - map**). Typical shovel tests revealed a sandy loam to 30 or 40 centimeters (cm) deep over a clayey loam that continued to the terminus of shovel tests at least 60 centimeters deep (**Table 2**). The soils were moist or slightly moist in the upper levels and became drier and compact deeper (**Figure 8**). Only one shovel test yielded artifacts – a modern golf ball found in the top 30 cm of ST 4.

**Table 2: Shovel Test Unit Excavation Results**

Shovel Test (ST) Unit Number	Site Location	Depth (cmts*)	Soil/Sediment Observations	Cultural Materials Observed/Collected	Notes
1	Non-Site	0-30	7.5YR 3/4 (brown) slightly moist sandy loam	Bottle cap & plastic fragments/None	Modern trash on surface
		30-60	5YR 4/6 (yellowish red) slightly moist clayey sand	None/None	
		60+	5YR 4/4 (reddish brown) dry, compact clayey sand		Terminated due to compactness
2	Non-Site	0-40	7.5YR 3/4 (brown) slightly moist sandy loam	None/None	
		40-60	7.5YR 4/4 (brown) sandy clay loam		Terminated at depth
3	Non-Site	0-60	7.5YR 4/4 (brown) moist sandy loam; clay loam with depth	None/None	Terminated at depth
4	Non-Site	0-30	7.5YR 3/4 (dark brown) moist sandy loam	Golf ball	
		30-60	5YR 4/4 (reddish brown) moist sandy clay loam		Terminated at depth
5	Non-Site	0-30	7.5YR 4/4 (dark brown) moist sandy loam	None/None	
		30-60	5YR 4/4 (reddish brown) moist sandy clay loam		Terminated at depth
6	Non-Site	0-40	7.5YR 4/4 (brown) moist sandy loam	None/None	
		40-60	5YR 4/4 (reddish brown) moist sandy clay loam		Terminated at depth
7	Non-site	0-40	7.5YR 4/4 (brown) moist sandy loam	None/None	
		40-60	5YR 4/4 (reddish brown) moist sandy clay loam		Terminated at depth
8	Non-Site	0-60	7.5YR 4/4 (brown) slightly moist sandy loam	None/None	Terminated at depth
9	Non-Site	0-60	5YR 4/4 (reddish brown) slightly moist sandy clay loam	None/None	Terminated at depth

\* Centimeters below surface.

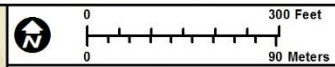




- Project APE
- Negative Shovel Test

Data Sources: CMEC (2014), TARL (2014), ESRI (2013)  
 Aerial Source: NAIP (2014)

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**Figure 7a**  
 Location of  
 Shovel Tests

**COX | McLAIN**  
 Environmental Consulting

Prepared for: City of Midland	1 in = 300 feet
CSJ: 0906-32-049	Scale: 1:3,600
Prepared by: SL	Date: 1/23/2015

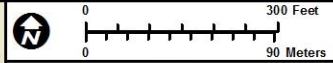
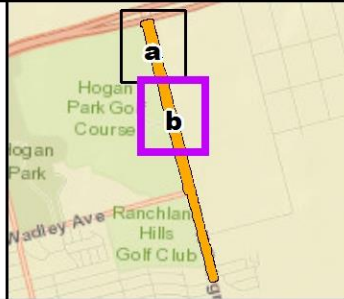




- Project APE
- Negative Shovel Test

Data Sources: CMEC (2014), TARL (2014), ESRI (2013)  
 Aerial Source: NAIP (2014)

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**Figure 7b**  
 Location of  
 Shovel Tests

**COX | McLAIN**  
 Environmental Consulting

Prepared for: City of Midland	1 in = 300 feet
CSJ: 0906-32-049	Scale: 1:3,600
Prepared by: SL	Date: 2/5/2015





Figure 8. Shovel test 5, showing typical profile

### Site 41MD34 Revisit

As mentioned above, site 41MD34 was recorded adjacent to the APE. The site's close proximity to the project APE, particularly since new right-of-way was being acquired warranted a revisit. Also, the rather sharp, straight line drawn as the western site boundary (as noted on the Atlas) caused CMEC archeologists to look more closely at the area adjacent to the proposed right-of-way. It was thought that the site's west boundary line should be attributed to the fenceline, as it appears to be drawn as a straight line along the edge of the road on the original site form (Strickney 1987; THC 2014). Although the fenceline is approximately 46.6 m (153 ft) from the drawn western site boundary line (as noted on the Atlas), the site was suggested to have extended across present-day Fairgrounds Road and onto the property now part of the Hogan Park Golf Course (Strickney 1987; THC 2014). The polygon on the Atlas may have also been sent to THC later (after mapping with a GPS) or is just an inaccurate reproduction of the original sketch, as it is more angular than what was drawn on the original site map.

Strickney described site 41MD34 as a large (approximately 15 acres) open campsite with burned rock, flakes, cores, brownware pottery, and red sandstone fragments (possible metate fragments) of undetermined age and as having been disturbed from deep plowing in the past. As mentioned above, it was suggested that the site may have extended across Fairgrounds Road at one time.

The area of proposed right-of-way near (or within) the site, has been further disturbed over the years since it was recorded by Strickney. A large commercial enterprise, the Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals,

is situated across a large portion of the site, as well as a couple of pump jacks, adjoining road, and a storage facility. Dense vegetation was observed along the edge of the fenceline and within the site boundaries (see **Figure 3**) Although right-of-entry access to part of this site was not granted and based on what was observed on parcels available and from the street, it is still considered that the site has been heavily impacted and/or destroyed.

**Recommendations**

No evidence was found of preserved deposits with a high degree of integrity; associations with distinctive architectural and material culture styles; rare materials and assemblages; the potential to yield data important to the study of preservation techniques and the past in general; or potential attractiveness to relic hunters (13 TAC 26.10; 36 CFR 60.4).

Based on the amount of disturbances within the current and proposed right-of-way and the lack of cultural resources, no further work within the APE is recommended under the Antiquities Code of Texas. If any unanticipated discoveries occur during construction, work should halt immediately and the Archeology Division of the THC should be contacted.

No materials were collected; therefore, this project generated no archeological materials to be curated. All notes, photos, forms, and other information generated from this work will be permanently housed at TARL at the University of Texas at Austin as per TAC 26.27 and 26.5.



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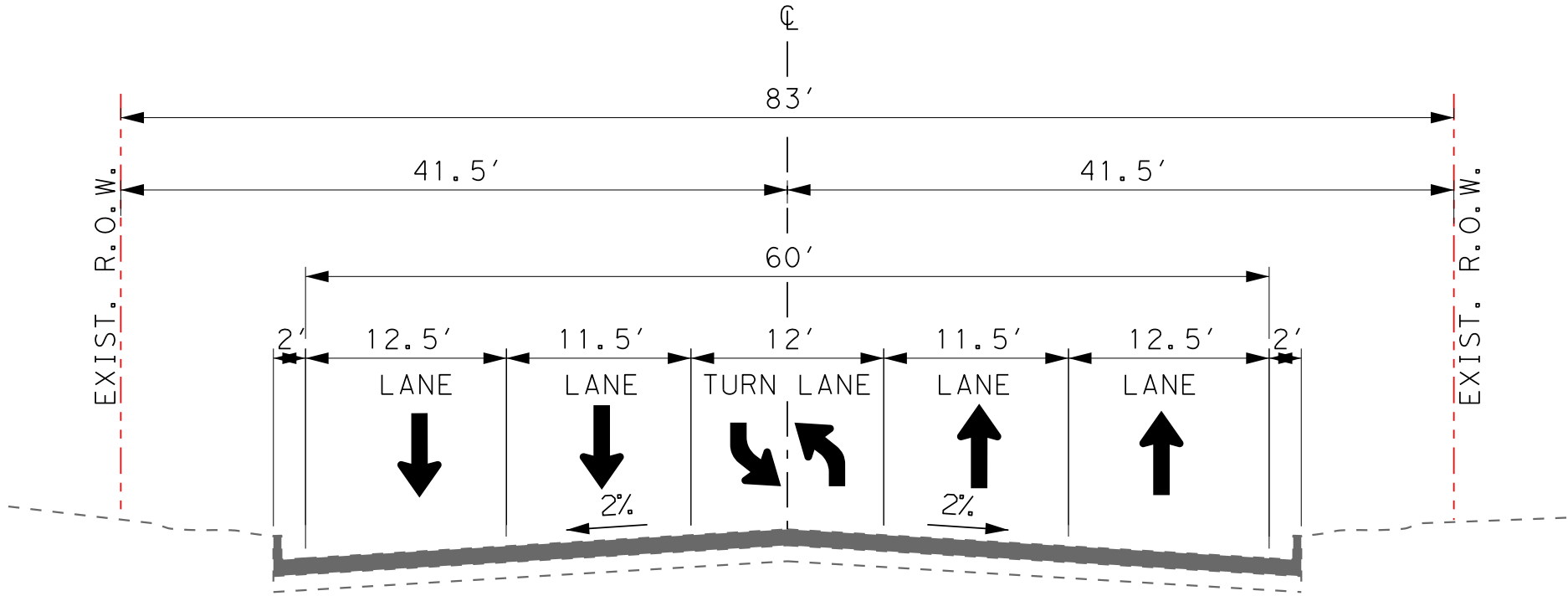
## Appendix A – Existing and Proposed Typical Design Plans







EXISTING FAIRGROUNDS ROAD  
SOUTH OF PECAN AVE & FAIRGROUNDS RD  
(LOOKING NORTH)

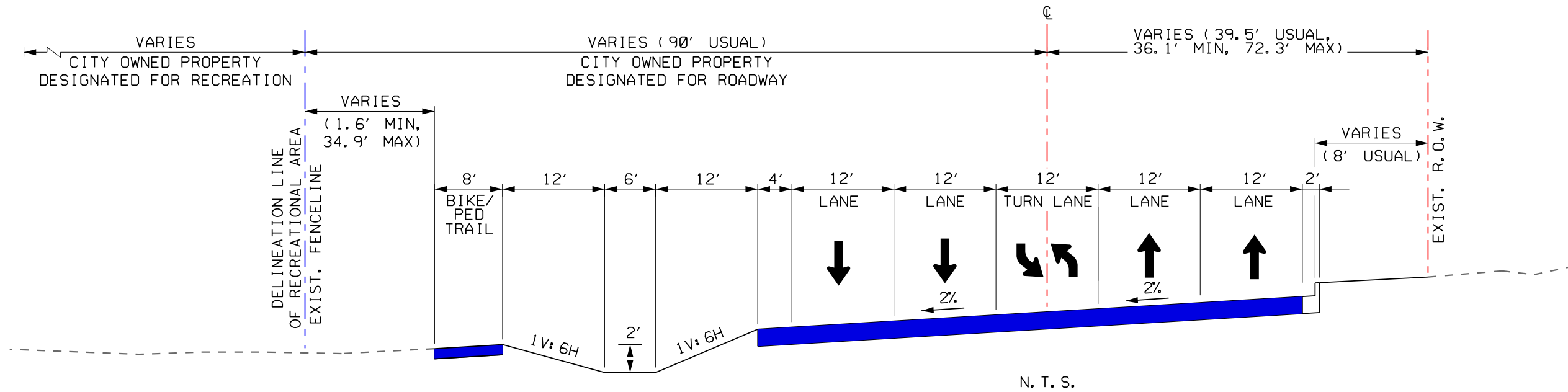


N. T. S.



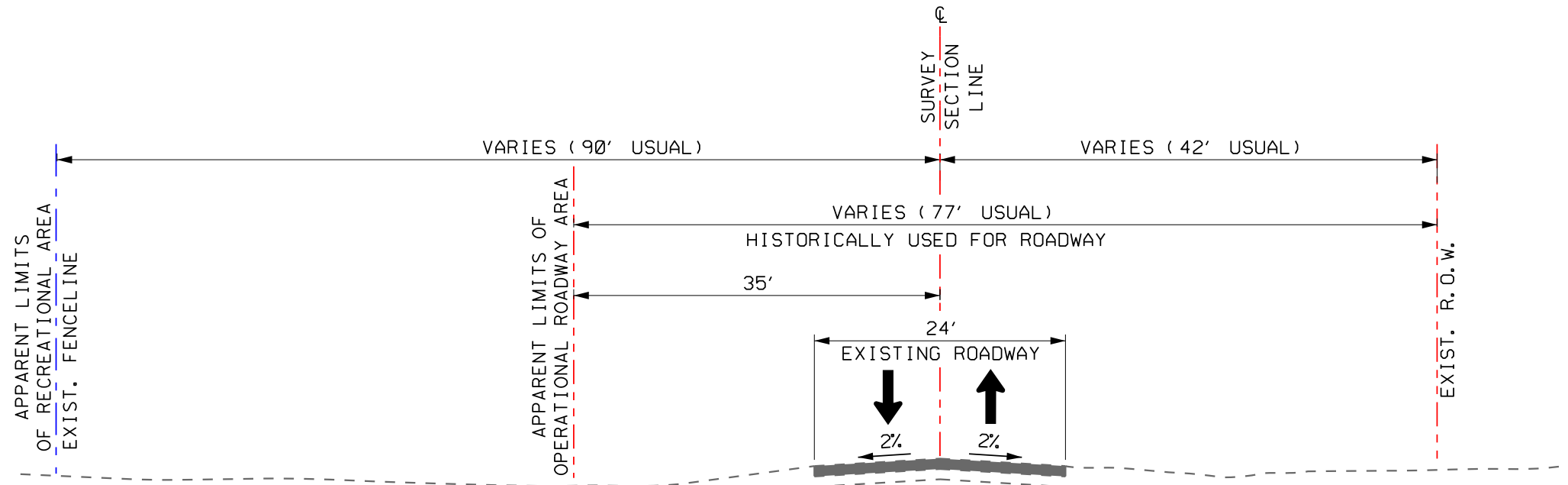
# NORTH OF WADLEY AVE

PROPOSED FAIRGROUNDS ROAD  
 BETWEEN WADLEY AVE & LOOP 250 FRONTAGE RD  
 (LOOKING NORTH)



N. T. S.

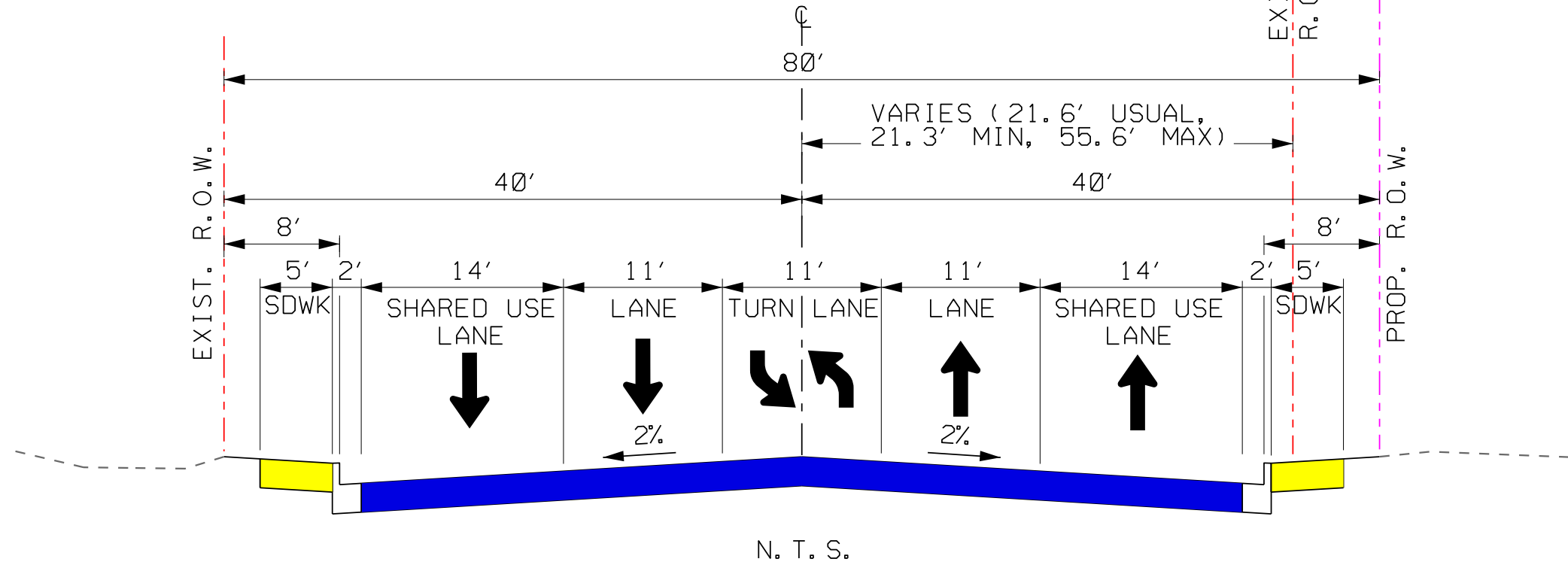
## EXISTING FAIRGROUNDS ROAD (LOOKING NORTH)



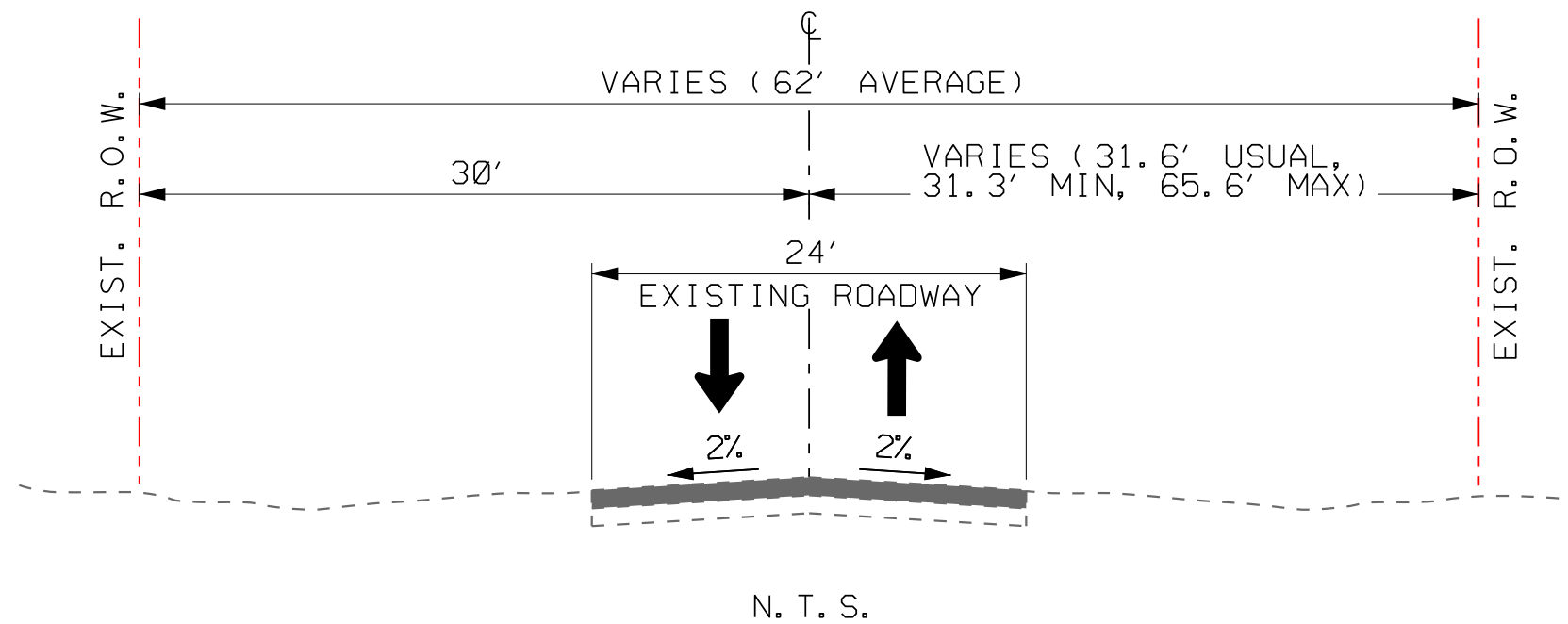
N. T. S.

# SOUTH OF WADLEY AVE

## PROPOSED FAIRGROUNDS ROAD BETWEEN PECAN AVE AND WADLEY AVE (LOOKING NORTH)



## EXISTING FAIRGROUNDS ROAD (LOOKING NORTH)



## Appendix B – Regulatory Correspondence



December 1, 2014

Section 106 Consultation/ Antiquities Code of Texas  
Transmittal of Cox/McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. Survey Report; *Intensive Archeological Survey for the Proposed Widening of Fairgrounds Road between Loop 250 and Pecan Avenue, Midland County, Texas.*

CSJ: 0906-32-049

THC Antiquities Permit No. 7059

Ms. Pat Mercado-Allinger,  
Division of Archeology, Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Ms. Mercado-Allinger:

The above proposed project will be undertaken with local and federal funds. As required by the First Amended Programmatic Agreement (PA, 2005) and the Memorandum of Understanding with your agency, we are continuing consultation with your office on this project and are enclosing for your review and processing a draft report of an archeological survey recently conducted by Cox/McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. for the undertaking.

Cox/McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. (CMEC) conducted the Intensive Archeological Survey of Fairgrounds Road in Midland County on behalf of the City of Midland and Dunaway Associates. The project will require a total of approximately 22 acres or right-of-way (ROW), about 2 acres of which are proposed new ROW. CMEC surveyed this area in October 2014.

Site 41MD34, an open campsite of undetermined age with burned rock, flakes, cores, brownware pottery, and red sandstone (possibly metate) fragments, was previously documented adjacent to the east side of the APE. The proximity of the site to the APE warranted survey and a revisit. No cultural materials, features, or deposits were noted in the ROW near the site nor in the portion of the site for which access was granted, and much of 41MD34 appears to be highly disturbed and/or destroyed due to oil and gas activities. No archeological or other cultural resources were encountered during the survey, and no further work is recommended. **A report of investigations is enclosed.**

A TxDOT archeologist has reviewed the report by Cox/McLain and concurs with the results. **TxDOT seeks THC concurrence that:**

OUR GOALS

MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE AGENCY

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

1. Based on the results of the Intensive Archeological Survey conducted by Cox/McLain, no archeological historic properties (36 CFR Part 800.16(1)) or State Archeological Landmarks (13 TAC 26.12) are present (see attached report) and there is little likelihood of significant or intact prehistoric or historical archeological sites within that portion of the APE surveyed, so no further archeological investigations are warranted.
2. Since the survey was conducted under an individual THC Antiquities Permit, we are forwarding the draft for your review and processing in partial fulfillment of THC Antiquities Permit No. 7059. TxDOT finds the report acceptable as a draft and pending any final report review comments from your office, we request your concurrence that the report may proceed toward production and that it provides sufficient documentation that the proposed undertaking will have no effect on archeological historic properties or State Archeological Landmarks.

In the event that unanticipated archeological deposits are encountered during construction, work in the immediate area will cease and TxDOT archeological staff will be contacted to initiate post-review discovery procedures under the provisions of the PA (2005) and the Memorandum of Understanding between TxDOT and the THC.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions regarding the survey report, please contact Melissa Green (469) 647-4866. If you have any other questions or have need of further information, please contact me at (512) 416-2639. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



J. Kevin Hanselka, Archeological Studies Program  
Environmental Affairs Division

Cc w/attachment: Holly Brady, TxDOT Odessa District Environmental Scientist; ECOS; Kevin Hanselka ENV-Arch TxDOT

Concurrence By:



for: Mark Wolfe, Executive Director and SHPO  
Texas Historical Commission

12-5-14

Date

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INTENSIVE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE  
PROPOSED WIDENING OF FAIRGROUNDS ROAD  
BETWEEN LOOP 250 AND PECAN AVENUE,  
MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS  
(CSJ 0906-32-049)

[DRAFT]

Prepared by  
Melissa M Green, RPA (Principal Investigator)  
Cox | McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc.  
600 E. John Carpenter Freeway  
Suite 380  
Irving, TX 75062

For  
The City of Midland  
300 North Loraine  
P.O. Box 152  
Midland, TX 79702

Under  
Texas Antiquities Permit 7059

<b>DRAFT REPORT ACCEPTABLE</b>
by 
for Mark Wolfe Executive Director, THC
Date <u>12-5-14</u>
Track# _____

Cox | McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. Archeological Report 087  
(CMEC-AR-087)



**COX | McLAIN**  
Environmental Consulting

November 19, 2014

*This report contains archeological site information (not for public disclosure).*

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