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Short Report On The Intensive Archaeological Survey Of Travis County's Cameron Road Improvements Project Travis County, Texas

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SHORT REPORT ON THE INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF TRAVIS COUNTY'S CAMERON ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Written by:
Josh Haefner and Shannon Smith

Texas Antiquities Committee Permit #6960

Principal Investigator:
Josh Haefner

Submitted to:
Travis County

Hicks & Company
Austin, Texas

Archaeology Series No. 260

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Hicks & Company archaeologists, working on behalf of Travis County, recently conducted an archaeological survey for the proposed Cameron Road Improvements Project from Gregg Lane to State Highway (SH) 130, in Travis County, Texas (**Figure 1**). According to current design plans, the existing two-lane road is to be expanded to a four-lane arterial road. The existing roadway is an undivided facility with one travel lane in each direction and no shoulders. The proposed project would construct two 3.50 meter (11 feet) wide lanes in each direction, bike lanes, concrete curbs and gutters, and sidewalks on both sides of the road. Other proposed improvements include the addition of new drainage and water quality management infrastructure. Bridge crossings are planned at Gilleland Creek and a tributary of Gilleland Creek. Depth of impacts are expected to be less than a meter for the majority of the alignment; however, support columns at bridge locations would be anchored into consolidated substrate at depths potentially exceeding 7 meters (23 feet). The proposed road improvements project, including realignment of the existing facility at approaches, is approximately 3,428 meters (11,246 feet) in length within a construction corridor that is 33.5 meters (110 feet) in width.

The Cameron Road Improvements Project is being funded by Travis County and, as such, is subject to the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT). As depicted in **Figure 1**, in coordination with the Texas Historical Commission (THC), it was determined that only the previously unsurveyed portion of the proposed project would require archaeological survey (see letter Wolfe to Haefner, July 7, 2014 in **Appendix A**). This requisite survey area begins approximately 40 meters (132 feet) north of the intersection of Cameron Road and Gregg Manor Road and terminates at the intersection of Cameron Road and South Killingsworth Lane, for a total distance of 670 meters (2,198 feet). Investigations were conducted under Texas Antiquities Permit #6960 in accordance with the THC's and the Council of Texas Archaeologists' (CTA) guidelines for intensive archaeological survey, with Hicks & Company archaeologists surveying 100 percent of the requisite portion of the proposed project. During the investigations, 19 shovel tests and three backhoe trenches were excavated, with all excavations negative for cultural materials.

Investigations were conducted on August 5 and September 29, 2014, requiring approximately 22 labor hours to complete. Josh Haefner served as Principal Investigator. Josh Haefner, Shannon Smith, and Chris Lamon conducted the survey while, as Geographic Information System (GIS) specialist, Jerod McCleland produced all maps and graphics. This report includes chapters on environmental background, previous surveys and recorded sites, field methodology, and a discussion of the results of the field investigation. These sections are followed by a conclusion containing formal regulatory recommendations. Also included are appendices on regulatory correspondence (**Appendix A**), locations of shovel tests and backhoe trenches (**Appendix B**), and shovel test results (**Appendix C**). As no archaeological sites were documented during the investigations, all project-generated notes, forms, and photographs will be curated at Hicks & Company in Austin, Texas. This report is offered in partial fulfillment of Texas Antiquities Permit #6960.

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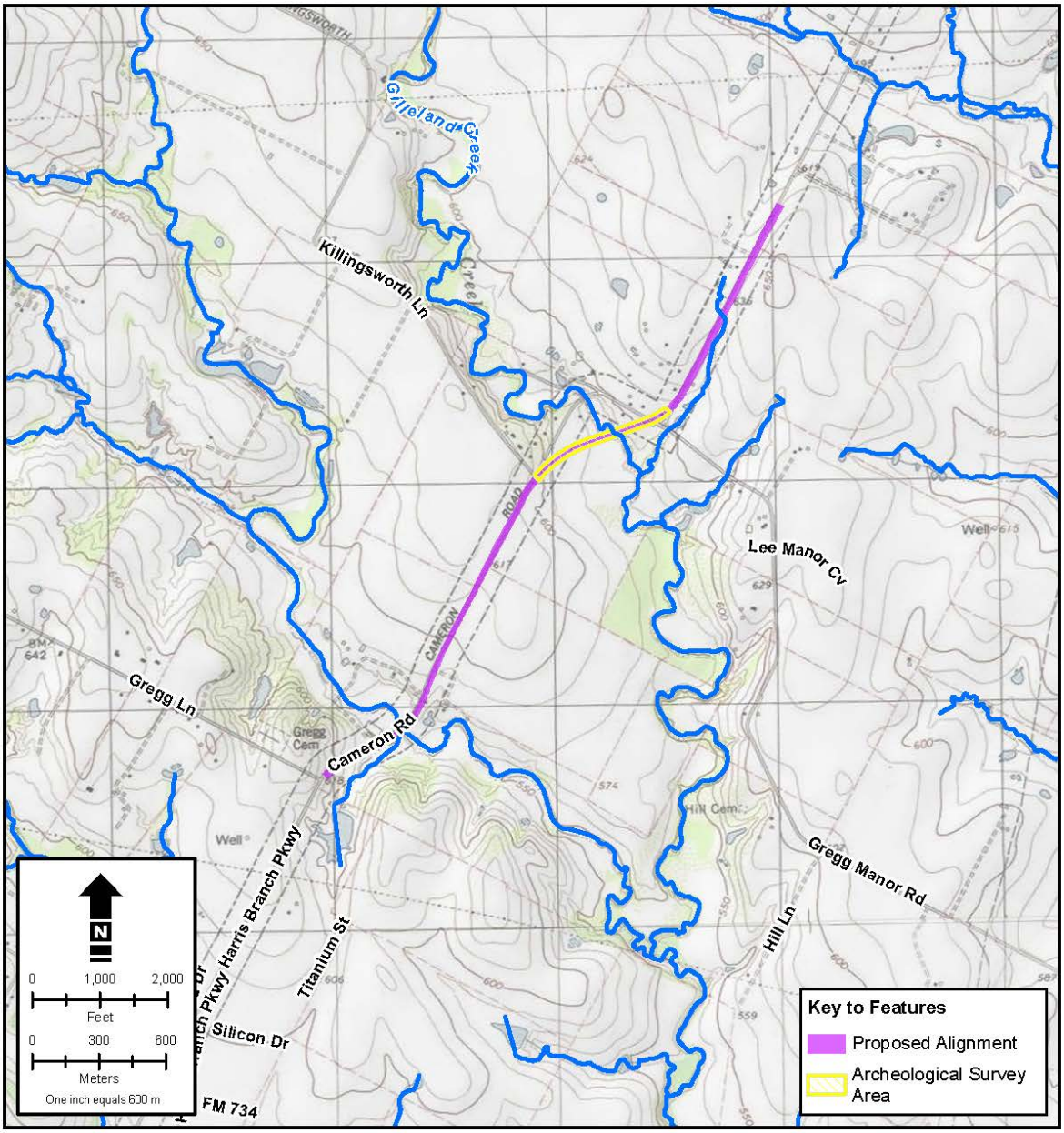

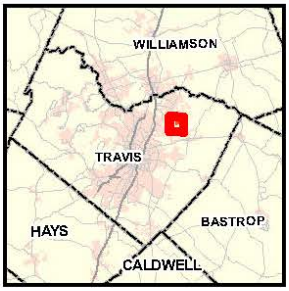

Figure 1
Project Location

USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangles:
Pflugerville East, Tx (USGS# 30097-D5)

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ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

GEOLOGY

Geologically, the proposed project area is situated on the Navarro and Taylor Groups undivided (Knt) formation of the Upper Cretaceous (also referred to as "upper Taylor marl") (**Figure 2**). This formation is calcareous, clayey, light to medium gray and brown (weathering to light grayish orange and white) in color, with a thickness of approximately 200 meters (656 feet). Dating to the cretaceous period, this geologic formation long predates the arrival of humans in the Americas. Hence, any associated archaeological deposits, if present, would be in overlying sediment.

PEDOLOGY

The United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service's Web Soil Survey for Travis County, accessed on April 21, 2014, indicates that soil series within the proposed project area largely consist of Houston Black clay (HnB and HnC2) with some Heiden Clay (HeD2) present in intermittent patches, and Tinn clay (TW) along Gilleland Creek (**Figure 2**). Houston Black clay is a residuum weathered from calcareous shale of Taylor marl and Eagleford shale. It is a relatively deep soil, reaching a depth of at least 20 meters (66 feet) before terminating at bedrock. Heiden clay is a clayey residuum also weathered from calcareous shale of Eagleford or Taylor marl. It consists of clay to approximately 13 meters (43 feet) before transitioning to silty clay to termination at a depth of at least 20 meters (66 feet) below the surface. Archaeological sites in these soil contexts (HnB, HnC2 and HeD2 series) are generally found on the ground surface or shallowly buried. Tinn clay, a Holocene age-derived clayey alluvium from mixed sources, reaches a depth of 20 meters (66 feet). Archaeological sites in this soil (TW series) may be found either shallowly- or deeply-buried, resulting in an increased potential for preservation.

VEGETATION AND LAND USE

The project area is in the ecological region known as the Blackland Prairie. The region is grassland characterized by gentle topography and in its natural state is predominantly covered with native grasses including little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), and tall dropseed (*Sporobolus asper*) in the uplands and eastern grama grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*) and switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*) in the lowlands (Gould 1975). The generally southeasterly trending river and stream drainages are home to elm, cottonwood, pecan, oak, and sugarberry dominated woodlands. Today much of the region is agricultural land, with an emphasis of cotton, corn, milo, and wheat. Blair (1950) notes the presence of an array of mammal species including deer, rabbit, coyote, bobcat, as well as many reptiles, amphibians, and snails.

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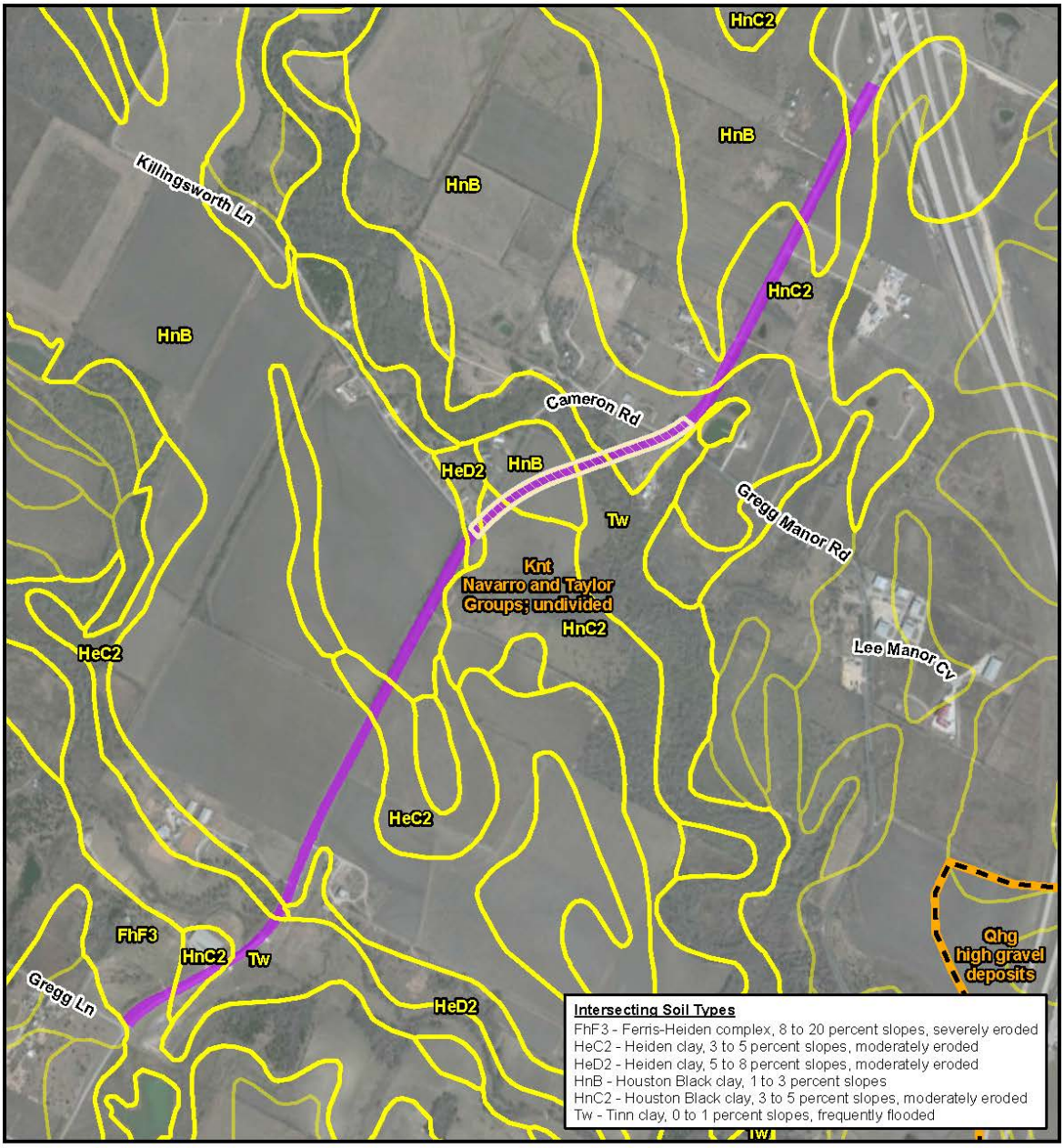

Figure 2

Project Area Geologic Formations and Soil Series

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PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

According to the THC's Online Sites Atlas (the Atlas) accessed on April 21, 2014, segments of the proposed alignment have been previously surveyed (**Figure 3**). A single linear survey, conducted in 2003 by Antiquities Planning and Consulting Inc. on behalf of Travis County, encompasses two segments of the proposed project's alignment: from its northern terminus to just north of the intersection of Cameron Road and Gregg Manor Road, and from its southern terminus to just south of the intersection of Cameron Road and Killingsworth Lane. In addition to this survey, two areal surveys and a single linear survey are documented as having been conducted within one kilometer (3,280 feet) of the proposed project area. The aerial surveys include work done for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1998 and the City of Pflugerville in 2003. Both are located west of the proposed project. A linear survey of the SH 130 alignment, located adjacent north and east of the proposed project, was conducted by PBS&J on behalf of the Texas Department of Transportation in 2001.

No previously recorded archaeological sites are documented within the proposed project area. One archaeological site, Site 41TV1973, documented during the survey of the SH 130 alignment, is located approximately 700 meters (2,297 feet) north of the project's northern terminus (**Figure 3**). This site contains the extant remains of at least one historic residential structure and is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL), nor is it recommended for further investigation. Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery is located to the northeast and Gregg Cemetery to the southwest of the proposed project location. However, no cemeteries are documented within the immediate vicinity of the proposed project area.

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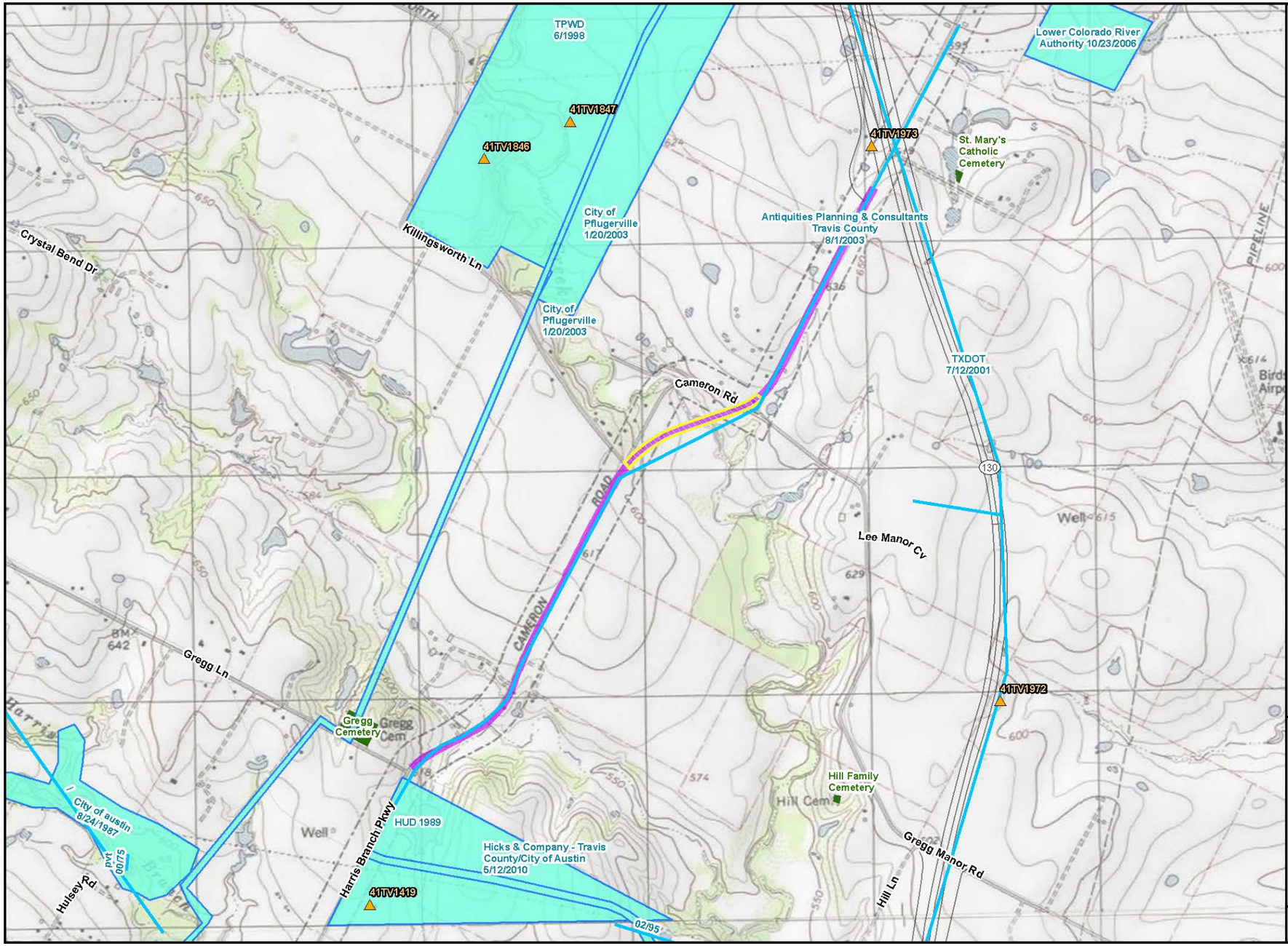
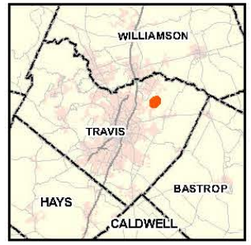


Previously Conducted Archeology Surveys & Recorded Cultural Resources



Key to Features

- Archeological Sites
- Previous Archeological Surveys (linear)
- Proposed Alignment
- Previous Archeological Surveys (poly)
- Cemeteries
- Archeological Survey Area

USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangles:
Pflugerville East, Tx (USGS# 30097-D5)

N

0 600 1,200
Feet
0 200 400
Meters
One inch equals 400 m

Figure 3

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METHODOLOGY

The field methodology utilized in the course of the archaeological survey was tailored to provide the broadest possible evaluation of cultural resources within the project area. Hicks & Company performed a 100 percent intensive pedestrian survey, supplemented by shovel testing and mechanical trenching within the survey area, covering a total of 5.5 acres. Survey was done in accordance with CTA guidelines, with spacing between survey transects reduced to approximately 20 meters (66 feet). The number of shovel tests excavated (n = 19) exceeded the minimum requisite amount (n= 11). In addition, three backhoe trenches were excavated along the alluvial T1 terrace (**Appendix B: Shovel Test and Backhoe Trench Locations**). It should be noted that five of these shovel tests and a single backhoe trench are just outside of the current project boundaries, aligned with earlier variations on the current proposed alignment.

All excavated soil from shovel tests was screened through quarter-inch wire mesh or hand-sorted when clays would not pass through screens. Results of each shovel test were recorded on standardized forms. Once data were recorded, all shovel tests were backfilled. Sediment from backhoe trenches were monitored but not screened and one wall from each of the trench units were profiled. Investigators utilized handheld global positioning system (GPS) units and detailed maps to locate and record excavations within the proposed project area. Following survey, all GPS positions were downloaded and plotted on 7.5-minute U.S. Geological Survey topographic and aerial maps by Hicks & Company GIS personnel.

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RESULTS OF FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

On August 5 and September 29, 2014, Hicks & Company archaeologists performed an intensive archaeological survey, supplemented by shovel testing and mechanical backhoe trenching of the project area, for Travis County's proposed Cameron Road Improvements Project, covering an approximate distance of 670 meters (2198 feet) within a corridor width of 36.5 meters (120 feet), for a total of 5.5 acres surveyed. During the investigations, 19 shovel tests (STs) and three backhoe trenches (BHTs) were excavated, none of which tested positive for cultural materials.

Pursuant to coordination with the THC, the limits of the proposed project area is from its northern terminus at the northwest corner of the intersection of Cameron Road and Gregg Manor Road, to its southern terminus approximately 100 meters (328 feet) north-northeast of the intersection of Cameron Road and Killingsworth Lane. The proposed survey area is bisected east to west by Gilleland Creek (**Figure 4**). Shovel tests were performed at an interval of approximately one shovel test per every 100 meters (328 feet) along three transects spaced approximately 20 meters (66 feet) apart.

Figure 4: Overview of project area facing the north bank of Gilleland Creek from the south bank.

SHOVEL TESTING AND BACKHOE TRENCHING NORTH OF GILLELAND CREEK

During survey north of Gilleland Creek, it was noted that the project area at the northwest corner of the intersection of Cameron Road and Gregg Manor Road has been recently disturbed. According to aerial photographs taken in 2006 and 2008, a residential home was demolished at this location, leaving behind concrete slab foundation remnants (**Figure 5**). One shovel test, STSS6, located 10 meters (33 feet) south of these slabs, was excavated to a depth of 45 centimeters (19.7 inches) below the ground surface (cmbs), noting a silty clay loam matrix, dark gray (10YR 4/1) in color. Two medium size pieces of modern concrete were observed in the upper 20 centimeters (7.9 inches) of excavated sediment, likely a result of previous demolition to the original house foundation.

Figure 5: Overview of the disturbed northwest corner of the intersection of Cameron Road and Gregg Manor Road.

Southwest of Cameron Road, the proposed project area transitions into a fallow agricultural field supporting medium to tall grasses, various scrub brush, as well as mesquite, hackberry, American elm, and cedar elm dominated woodland (**Figure 6**). The surrounding vegetation becomes progressively denser with proximity to Gilleland Creek, resulting in lower ground surface visibility (**Figure 7**). Eight shovel tests were excavated along this segment (CL1, CL2, JH1, JH5, JH6, JH7, SS1, and SS2,) noting clay loam sediment that ranged in color from black (7.5YR 2.5/1) to dark gray (10YR 4/1) that became increasingly compact with depth. Shovel Tests JH5 and JH6 were excavated within approximately 30 meters (11.8 inches) of the creek's south bank, noting a color change from light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) to dark yellowish

brown (10YR 4/4). Located approximately 50 meters (164 feet) north of Gilleland Creek, BHT3 was excavated parallel to the northern sloping bank, and measured approximately three meters (9.8 feet) long and 1.08 meters (3.5 feet) deep (**Figure 8**). The trench matrix was noted as hard silty clays ranging from very dark gray (10YR 3/1) in the upper approximate 50 centimeters (19.7 inches) of the first strata, to brown (10YR 5/3) in the second strata, measuring approximately 50 to 80 cmbs (19.7 – 31.5 inches). The third strata, with an approximate measurement of 80 to 130 cmbs (31.5 – 51.2 inches), contained very pale brown, (10YR 7/3) with yellowish brown mottled dense silt clays, that transitioned into the fourth strata, a brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) dense silt clay, measuring approximately 130 to 170 cmbs (51.2 – 67 inches). Upon a dense layer of mottled carbonate-rich clay, also observed during trenching on the south side of the Gilleland Creek in BHT2, BHT3 excavation was terminated. (**Figure 9**).

Figure 6: Project overview of the fallow agricultural field north of Gilleland Creek facing southeast from STCL1.

Figure 7: Overview of dense vegetation bordering Gilleland Creek, facing southeast from STCL2.

Figure 8: Backhoe Trench 3 in progress.

Figure 9: East Wall Profile in BHT3.

SHOVEL TESTING AND BACKHOE TRENCHING SOUTH OF GILLELAND CREEK

Directly south of Gilleland Creek, the proposed project area supports various scrub brush, as well as mesquite, hackberry, American elm, and cedar elm dominated woodland. Directly south-southeast of this creek brush is an agricultural field currently used to produce and harvest haygrazer in summer and wheat in winter (**Figure 10**). According to Bade et al. (2014:1), "haygrazers are described as crosses of forage types of sorghum, sorgo, and sudangrasses." The grass, when in optimum growing conditions and well-drained soil, can reach up to 2.1 meters (6.9 feet) in height. At the time the survey was conducted, the haygrazer field had not been harvested resulting in grass that was chest-to-head height, thus rendering ground surface visibility low to moderate (**Figure 11**).

Figure 10: Overview of the vegetation transition from dense creek brush to harvested agricultural field, facing southeast.

Figure 11: Overview of the haygrazer field facing northwest from near STJH4.

Ten shovel tests (CL3-CL6, JH2-JH4, and SS3-SS5) were excavated within the project area located south of Gilleland Creek with an average termination depth of 40 cmbs (15.8 inches). These tests noted sediment that was as a black (5Y 2.5/1), dry, silty clay loam that, with depth, became more dry and compact, transitioning to a very dark grayish brown clay (10YR 3/2). The top 35 to 40 cmbs (13.8 - 15.8 inches) of matrix in the haygrazer field has been disturbed due to current and past plowing.

Due to thick vegetation bordering the Gilleland Creek bank, BHT1 and BHT2 were both excavated parallel to the south bank of the creek. In the top 1.3 meters (4.3 feet) of sediment, both trenches revealed a silty clay loam matrix ranging in color from very dark grey (10YR 3/1) to brown (10YR 5/3) above pale brown (10YR 6/3) gravely silty clay. Backhoe Trench 2 had a termination depth of approximately 2.8 meters (9.2 feet) noting a thick gravel lens in the north wall with an approximate depth of 130 to 150 cmbs (51.2 – 59 inches), as well as a distinct strata change to a firm grey (10YR 6/1) clay with olive yellow (2.5Y 6/6) mottles (**Figure 12**). The grayish green tint to the sediment likely indicates gleying due to a prolonged presence of standing water, likely a result of episodic flooding from Gilleland Creek. These sediment colors were not observed north of the creek in BHT3.

Figure 12: North Wall Profile BHT2.

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CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On behalf of Travis County, Hicks & Company, archaeologists recently completed a 100 percent pedestrian survey of approximately 5.5 acres for proposed Cameron Road Improvements Project from Gregg Lane to SH 130, in Travis County, Texas. The survey consisted of pedestrian inspection supplemented by shovel testing (n = 19) and backhoe trenching (n = 3).

None of the shovel tests or backhoe trenches excavated during this survey were positive for cultural materials and no archaeological sites, features, or artifacts were observed during the investigations. Based on the results of the current survey, Hicks & Company recommended that no archaeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16(1)) or SALs (13 TAC 26.12) will be affected by the proposed project and no further cultural resource investigations are necessary prior to construction. On December 17, 2014, the THC concurred with these recommendations (**Appendix A**). In the unlikely event that cultural materials are found during construction, all work in the area is recommended to cease until the THC is contacted so that a professional archaeologist can assess the finding and make recommendations for any future action that may be required. This report is offered in partial fulfillment of the requirement of Antiquities Permit #6960.

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APPENDIX A

REGULATORY CORRESPONDENCE

HICKS & COMPANY

ENVIRONMENTAL
ARCHEOLOGICAL
AND PLANNING
CONSULTANTS

October 2, 2014

Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
Attn: Mark Denton
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276 – Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

RE: Antiquities Code of Texas Coordination for Travis County's Cameron Road Improvements Project, Travis County, Texas

Dear Mr. Denton,

Travis County proposes to improve Cameron Road from Gregg Lane to State Highway (SH) 130, in Travis County, Texas (**Figure 1**). According to current design plans, the existing two-lane road is to be expanded to a four-lane arterial with bike lanes, curb and gutter facilities, and sidewalks. Other proposed improvements include the addition of new drainage and water quality management infrastructure. The existing roadway is an undivided facility with one travel lane in each direction and no shoulders. The proposed project would construct two 11 or 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, bike lanes, a two-foot wide concrete curb and gutter, and six-foot sidewalks on both sides of the road. Planned improvements also include the realignment of Cameron Road, the exact location yet to be determined, but approximately beginning 0.25 miles south of its intersection with SH 130 before transitioning back to parallel the existing alignment approximately 0.18 miles south of Killingsworth Lane, and then terminating at Gregg Lane. As depicted on **Figure 1**, three alternative routes are being considered by Travis County. All three routes include planned bridge crossings at Gilleland Creek and a tributary of Gilleland Creek. Depth of impacts for all three alternatives are expected to be less than four feet for the majority of each proposed alignment; however, support columns at bridge locations would be anchored into consolidated substrate at depths potentially exceeding 20 feet.

Hicks & Company has been contracted to conduct coordination with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and to identify potential cultural resource constraints for the proposed roadway improvements. Since the proposed project will take place on land owned by Travis County and will be funded through Travis County's Capital Improvement Program, it is subject

to the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT). Because the proposed project does not involve federal funding or permitting, coordination under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is not required.

Geologically, the proposed project area is situated on Navarro and Taylor Groups undivided (Knt) of the Upper Cretaceous (also referred to as "upper Taylor marl") (**Figure 2**). This formation is calcareous, clayey, light to medium gray and brown (weathering to light grayish orange and white) with a thickness of approximately 600 feet. Dating to the cretaceous period, this geologic formation long predates the arrival of humans in the Americas. Hence, any associated archeological deposits, if present, would be in overlying sediment.

The United States Department of Agriculture's Web Soil Survey for Travis County, accessed on April 21, 2014, indicates that soil series within the proposed project area largely consist of Houston Black clay (HnB and HnC2) with some Heiden Clay (HeD2) in intermittent patches, and Tinn clay (TW) along Gilleland Creek (**Figure 2**). Houston Black clay is a residuum weathered from calcareous shale of Taylor marl and Eagleford shale. It is a relatively deep soil, reaching a depth of at least 80 inches before terminating at bedrock. Heiden clay is a clayey residuum also weathered from calcareous shale of Eagleford or Taylor marl. It consists of clay to approximately 50 inches before transitioning to silty clay to termination at a depth of at least 80 inches below the surface. Archeological sites in these soil contexts (HnB, HnC2 and HeD2 series) are generally found on the ground surface or shallowly-buried. Tinn clay, a Holocene age-derived clayey alluvium from mixed sources, reaches a depth of 80 inches. Archeological sites in this soil (TW series) may be found either shallowly- or deeply-buried, resulting in an increased potential for preservation.

According to the THC Online Sites Atlas (the Atlas) accessed on April 21, 2014, segments of each of the proposed alternatives have been previously surveyed (**Figure 3**). A single linear survey, conducted in 2003 by Antiquities Planning and Consulting, Inc. on behalf Travis County, includes the current right of way for this segment of Cameron Road and follows the entire length of Alternative 1. This survey also overlaps segments of Alternatives 2 and 3, although, as depicted on **Figure 3**, approximately 2,300 feet of the former and 6,600 feet of the latter have not been previously surveyed. A linear survey of the SH 130 alignment, located adjacent north and east of the proposed project, was conducted for the Texas Department of Transportation in 2001. Other previous projects located nearby include archeological surveys for Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) in 1998, the City of Pflugerville in 2003, the Lower Colorado River Authority in 2008, and the City of Pflugerville and the US Army Corp of Engineers in 2011 to the north and west of the proposed project area. Two surveys were conducted approximately 4600 feet south of the proposed project's southern terminus: an aerial survey conducted in 1989 on behalf of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and a survey conducted by Hicks & Company on behalf of Travis County and the City of Austin for an extension to Howard Lane.

No previously recorded sites are documented as located within the proposed project area for any of the alternatives; four sites are documented as located within a mile (**Figure 3**). Sites 41TV1972 and 41TV1973 were documented as part of a pedestrian survey for SH 130 by PBS&J. Site 41TV1972 consists of the remnants of a historic agricultural building, and Site 41TV1973 includes the extant remains of at least one historic residential structure. These sites are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or as State Archeological Landmarks (SALs), nor are they recommended for further investigation. Sites 41TV1846 and 41TV1847 were documented as part of the TPWD survey in 1998. Site 41TV1846 is a prehistoric dense scatter of burned rock and lithic artifacts, including a Bulverde projectile point, on an upland landform overlooking Gilleland Creek. This site is eligible for the NRHP with potential for intact subsurface deposits. Site 41TV1847 consists of a limestone well and associated historic debris. The eligibility status for this site is undetermined. St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery is located to the northeast and Gregg Cemetery to the southwest of the proposed alternatives. However, no cemeteries are documented within the immediate vicinity of the proposed project area for any of the alternatives.

Because the project area is largely undeveloped, and archeological sites have been documented in similar contexts nearby, the project area should be considered to have moderate probability for cultural resources. As it is anticipated that the presence of any archeological resources could inform the selection of an alternative, archeological survey is recommended for previously unsurveyed portions of each alignment. The survey should include pedestrian inspection and shovel testing in all undisturbed areas conducted in accordance with the THC's minimum survey standards. Furthermore, due to the presence of deep alluvial soils, backhoe trenching is recommended at the planned bridge crossings at Gilleland Creek the tributary to Gilleland Creek.

On behalf of Travis County, Hicks & Company presents this letter to the THC to inform your office of the proposed project and to request recommendations regarding the County's responsibilities for regulatory compliance under the ACT. Please contact me at 512-478-0858 if you have any questions or comments regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Josh Haefner
Senior Archeologist

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

JUL - 9 2014

July 7, 2014

Josh Haefner
1504 West 5th Street
Austin, TX 78703

Re: Project review under the Antiquities Code of Texas: Antiquities Code Coordination for Travis County's Cameron Road Improvements Project (Travis County; Track #20141027)

Dear Mr. Haefner:

Thank you for your correspondence describing the above referenced project. This letter serves as comment on the proposed undertaking from the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission.

The review staff, led by Tiffany Osburn, has examined our records. According to our maps, portions of the proposed project area have never been surveyed by a professional archeologist. We recommend that a professional archeologist survey the previously unsurveyed portions of each alignment.

The work should meet the minimum archeological survey standards posted on-line at www.thc.state.tx.us. A report of investigations should be produced in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and submitted to this office for review. You may obtain lists of most professional archeologists in Texas on-line at: www.c-tx-arch.org or www.rpanet.org. Please note that other potentially qualified archeologists not included on these lists may be used.

Since the survey is being performed on public land or within a public easement your contract archeologist must obtain an Antiquities Permit from our office before any investigations are undertaken. An Antiquities Permit can be issued as soon as we have a completed permit application.

Thank you for your cooperation in this federal review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. **If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Tiffany Osburn at 512/463-8883 or tiffany.osburn@thc.state.tx.us.**

Sincerely,

William A. Martin

for
Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer

MW/to

1504 WEST 5TH STREET AUSTIN, TEXAS 78703 TEL: 512 / 478.0858 FAX: 512 / 474.1849

HICKS & COMPANY
ENVIRONMENTAL
ARCHEOLOGICAL
AND PLANNING
CONSULTANTS

DEC 19 2014

RECEIVED

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November 26, 2014

Mark Wolfe, Executive Director and SHPO
Attn: Mark Denton
Texas Historical Commission
Post Office Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711-2276

Reference: Antiquities Permit #6960, Draft Report of the Archeological Survey of Travis County's Cameron Road Improvements Project, Travis County, Texas.

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

Hicks & Company archaeologists recently completed an archaeological survey of the proposed Cameron Road Improvements Project, from Gregg Lane to State Highway 130, in Travis County, Texas. The survey was conducted for Jacobs Engineering on behalf of Travis County for Antiquities Code of Texas compliance and was coordinated with the Texas Historical Commission under Texas Antiquities Committee Permit #6960. Lacking federal funding or permitting, there was no coordination under Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act. According to current design plans, the existing two-lane road is to be expanded to a four-lane arterial road. The proposed project would construct two 3.50 meter wide lanes in each direction, bike lanes, concrete curbs and gutters, and sidewalks on both sides of the road. Bridge crossings are planned at Gilleland Creek and a tributary of Gilleland Creek. In coordination with the Texas Historical Commission, it was determined that only the previously unsurveyed portion of the proposed project would require archaeological survey. This requisite survey area begins approximately 40 meters north of the intersection of Cameron Road and Gregg Manor Road and terminates at the intersection of Cameron Road and south Killingsworth Lane, for a total distance of 670 meters. The survey consisted of pedestrian surface inspection supplemented by shovel testing (n=19) and backhoe trenching (n=3), with all excavations negative for cultural materials.

Enclosed please find a final copy of the archeological survey report entitled Short *Report on the Intensive Archeological Survey of Travis County's Cameron Road Improvements Project, Travis County, Texas.* Upon your review and barring any further comment, we will prepare the final copies for delivery to the THC and other repositories in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Antiquities Permit #6960. If you have any questions regarding the materials provided, please contact me at (512) 478-0858 or jhaefner@hicksenv.com.

Sincerely,

Josh Haefner
Principal Investigator

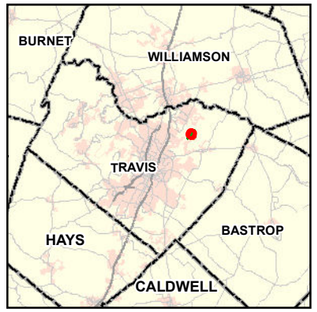
ANTIQUITIES CODE OF TEXAS REVIEW
NO SIGNIFICANT SITES
PROJECT MAY PROCEED
by _____
for Mark Wolfe
Executive Director, THC
Date 12/17/14
Track# _____

APPENDIX B

SHOVEL TEST and BACKHOE TRENCH LOCATIONS

SHOVEL TEST & BACKHOE TRENCH LOCATIONS

Cameron Road EA



Killingsworth Ln

Cameron Rd

CL6
SS5
JH4
CL5
SS4
CL4
SS3
JH3
CL3
BHT1
BHT2
BHT3
JH6
CL2
SS2
JH5
JH7
SS1
JH1
CL1
SS6

Gregg Manor Rd

Key to Features

- Shovel Tests
- Backhoe Trenches
- Streams (COA Hydro 2003)
- Proposed Alignment
- Archeological Survey Area
- Mechanical Trenching Area

N

0 100 200 300
Feet
0 30 60 90
Meters

One inch equals 60 m

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C

SHOVEL TEST DATA

Table B-1 Shovel Test Results				
Shovel Test	**+/–**	**Location**	**Description**	**Comments/ Cultural Materials**
CL1	–	Northern terminus of survey area, approximately 30 meters south of Cameron Road.	0–43 cmbs: Black (7.5YR 2.5/1) clay loam. with rootlet and < 5% gravel inclusions. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
CL2	–	Within a small clearing surrounded by tall grasses, approximately 20 meters northeast of Gilleland Creek.	0-31 cmbs: Black (7.5YR 2.5/1) clay loam , with rootlet and < 5% gravel inclusions. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
CL3	–	At edge of hay grazer field adjacent to thick wooded area, approximately 40 meters southwest of Gilliland Creek.	0-37 cmbs: Black (7.5YR 2.5/1) clay loam , with rootlet and < 5% gravel inclusions. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
CL4	–	Within hay grazer field approximately 85 meters southwest of STCL3.	0-32 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1) silty clay loam. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
CL5	–	Within hay grazer field approximately 80 meters southwest of STCL4.	0-37 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1) silty clay loam. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
CL6	–	At edge of hay grazer field approximately 8 meters east of Cameron Road.	0-50 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1) silty clay loam. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
JH1	–	Near northern terminus of survey area within overgrown unutilized field, approximately 45 meters south of Cameron Road.	0-68 cmbs: Dark Gray (7.5YR 4/1) clay loam, with fragmented rabdotus shell at 40 cmbs. Terminated at thick loam.	None
JH2	–	Small clearing between hay grazer field and tree line, approximately 15 meters west of Gilleland Creek.	0-40 cmbs: Brown (10YR 4/4) silty loam with <2% pebble inclusions. Terminated at thick root.	None
JH3	–	Within hay grazer field, approximately 100 meters west of STJH2.	0-40 cmbs: Black (5Y 2.5/2) dry silty clay loam. 40-50 cmbs: Very Dark Grayish Brown (10YR 3/2) thick clay.	None
JH4	–	Within hay grazer field near southern terminus of survey area, approximately 130 meters southwest of STJH3.	0-40 cmbs: Black (5Y 2.5/2) dry silty clay loam. 40-50 cmbs: Very Dark Grayish Brown (10YR 3/2) thick clay.	None
JH5	–	Within the floodplain in an area thick with trees, approximately meters north of drainage.	0-33cmbs: Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay loam with small root inclusions.	None
JH6	–	Within the floodplain. ST excavated outside of APE, approximately 8 meters north of Gilleland Creek.	0-15cmbs: Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay loam. 15-42cmbs: Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay loam with root inclusions.	None

Table B-1 Shovel Test Results				
Shovel Test	**+/–**	**Location**	**Description**	**Comments/ Cultural Materials**
JH7	–	Within the floodplain, northwest of STJH6. ST excavated outside of APE,	0-15cmbs: Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay loam. 15-42cmbs: Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay loam with root inclusions.	None
SS1	–	Northwest corner of survey area, approx. 20 meters south of Cameron Road .	0-45 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1), large blocky clay loam with insect casts (5%) and small gravel inclusions (5%). Sediment becomes more compact and sticky with depth. Terminated at very compact clay loam.	None
SS2	–	40 meters northwest of Gilleland Creek in medium-thick tree line.	0-40 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1), with 5% insect burrow casts and 1% gravel inclusions. 40-45 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1) clay loam with Gray (10YR 5/1) sandy loam mottles. Terminated at compact clay.	None
SS3	–	At edge of tree line approximately 25 meters southwest of Gilleland Creek, adjacent to hay grazer field.	0-30 cmbs: Dark Grayish Brown (10YR 4/2), compact dry clay loam with 1% root inclusions. Terminated at compact clay.	None
SS4	–	Within hay grazer field, approximately 100 meters southwest of STSS3.	0-45 cmbs: Dark Gray (10YR 4/1) blocky clay loam with 5% insect burrow casts, becomes more compact and dry with depth. Terminated at compact clay.	None
SS5	–	Near southern terminus of survey area, approximately 45 meters east of Cameron Road, within hay grazer field.	0-35 cmbs: Dark Grayish Brown (10YR 4/2), clay loam with 5% insect burrow casts, becomes more compact and dry with depth. Terminated at compact clay.	None
SS6	–	On the northwest corner of the intersection of Cameron Rd and Gregg Manor Rd; south of concrete slabs.	0-45cmbs: Very dark brown (10YR 4/1) moist clay loam with small chunks of concrete noted in the upper 30 cm, likely due to disturbances in the area.	None