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Archaeological Survey of the Gibson Lane Expansion Project, Bowie County, Texas

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Antiquities Permit No. 8876

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Tejas Archaeology, Pittsburg Texas

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Abstract

Gibson Lane, an existing roadway, is slated for new expansion in Texarkana, Bowie County, Texas. The proposed project has been determined by the Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization to be a necessary transportation improvement for the City of Texarkana under a Texas Transportation Improvement Plan overseen by the Texas Department of Transportation. The Gibson Lane Expansion Project will be constructed on a section of private property slated for future development by the City of Texarkana. The private property development will be responsible for construction of the roadway following the guidelines set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act for a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit. The cultural resources considerations necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act fall under the purview of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (P.L. 96-515), and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800). The roadway will be locally funded by the City of Texarkana, and thus will fall under their control. Accordingly, this project also comes under the purview of the Antiquities Code of Texas, as amended, and its implementing regulations. An Antiquities Permit is necessary for the completion of this archaeological survey and the preparation of the report of findings.

The expansion project will add an additional 0.49 miles (780 meters) to Gibson Lane. A portion of the new proposed roadway, 0.24 mile (380 meters), was the subject of a 2017 archaeological survey conducted by Tejas Archaeology (Nelson and Perttula 2017). That archaeological survey was for a proposed commercial development project requiring a Section 404 permit issued by the USACE, Fort Worth District. The proposed commercial development in the area of the new proposed roadway extended from University Avenue west to Waggoner Creek. This leaves the portion of the proposed roadway 0.25 mile (400 meters) in length with a 200 ft. (61 meters) wide survey corridor from Waggoner Creek to McKnight Road needing an archaeological survey. On behalf of Hoffman Environmental, Inc. an archaeological survey of this portion of the proposed Gibson Lane Extension project was completed by Tejas Archaeology on April 23, 2019, under Antiquities Permit #8876 issued for this archaeological survey.

Based on the results of the pedestrian archaeological survey and intensive shovel testing of the proposed remaining Gibson Lane Expansion project area, there are no archaeological sites in the project area that are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or warrant designation as a State Archeological Landmark (SAL). Taken together with the extent of past disturbances in the project area, it is our recommendation that the proposed project will not have an effect on any

sites worthy of designation as an SAL or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Consequently, the proposed Gibson Lane Expansion project examined during the April 2019 archaeological survey should be allowed to proceed without further consultation under the Antiquities Code of Texas and the National Historic Preservation Act and their implementing regulations.

Introduction and Project Description

Gibson Lane, an existing roadway, is slated for new expansion in Texarkana, Bowie County, Texas (Figure 1). The proposed project has been determined by the Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization to be a necessary transportation improvement for the City of Texarkana under a Texas Transportation Improvement Plan overseen by the Texas Department of Transportation. The Gibson Lane Expansion Project will be constructed on a section of private property slated for future development by the City of Texarkana. The private property development will be responsible for construction of the roadway following the guidelines set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act for a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit. The cultural resources considerations necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act fall under the purview of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (P.L. 96-515) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800). The roadway will be locally funded by the City of Texarkana, and thus will fall under their control. Accordingly, this project also comes under the purview of the Antiquities Code of Texas, as amended, and its implementing regulations. An Antiquities Permit is necessary for the completion of this archaeological survey and the preparation of the report of findings. Antiquities Permit #8876 was issued for this archaeological survey by the Texas Historical Commission. On behalf of Hoffman Environmental, Inc., an archaeological survey of the proposed Gibson Lane Extension project in Texarkana, Bowie County, Texas, was completed by Tejas Archaeology on April 23, 2019.

The new expansion of existing Gibson Lane will be from its intersection with University Avenue heading westward through undeveloped commercial property and the crossing of Waggoner Creek to Farm to Market Road 2878 (FM 2878) and joining up with another section of the existing Gibson Lane (Figure 2). The expansion project will add an additional 0.49 miles (780 meters) to Gibson Lane. A portion of the new proposed roadway, 0.24 mile (380 meters), was the subject of a recent archaeological survey conducted in 2017 by Tejas Archaeology (Nelson and Perttula 2017). The recent archaeological survey was for a proposed commercial development project requiring a Section 404 permit issued by the USACE, Fort Worth District. The proposed commercial development in the area of the new proposed roadway extended from University Avenue west to Waggoner Creek. This leaves the portion of the proposed roadway 0.25 mile (400 meters) in length with a 200 ft. (61 meters) wide survey corridor from Waggoner Creek to McKnight Road needing an archaeological survey (see Figure 2). Hoffman Environmental, Inc. contacted Tejas Archaeology to conduct an archaeological survey of the proposed Gibson Lane expansion from Waggoner Creek westward to FM 2878.

The proposed Gibson Lane Expansion project will join two existing sections of Gibson Lane by completing the roadway between FM 989 to FM 559 for about 2.6 miles of totally uninterrupted highway. The proposed 0.49 miles is the last leg of the extension of Gibson Lane that will join up the road from the current east ending at University Avenue and joining the current west ending at FM 2827. This last leg has been scheduled last in part due to the bridge crossing at Waggoner Creek.

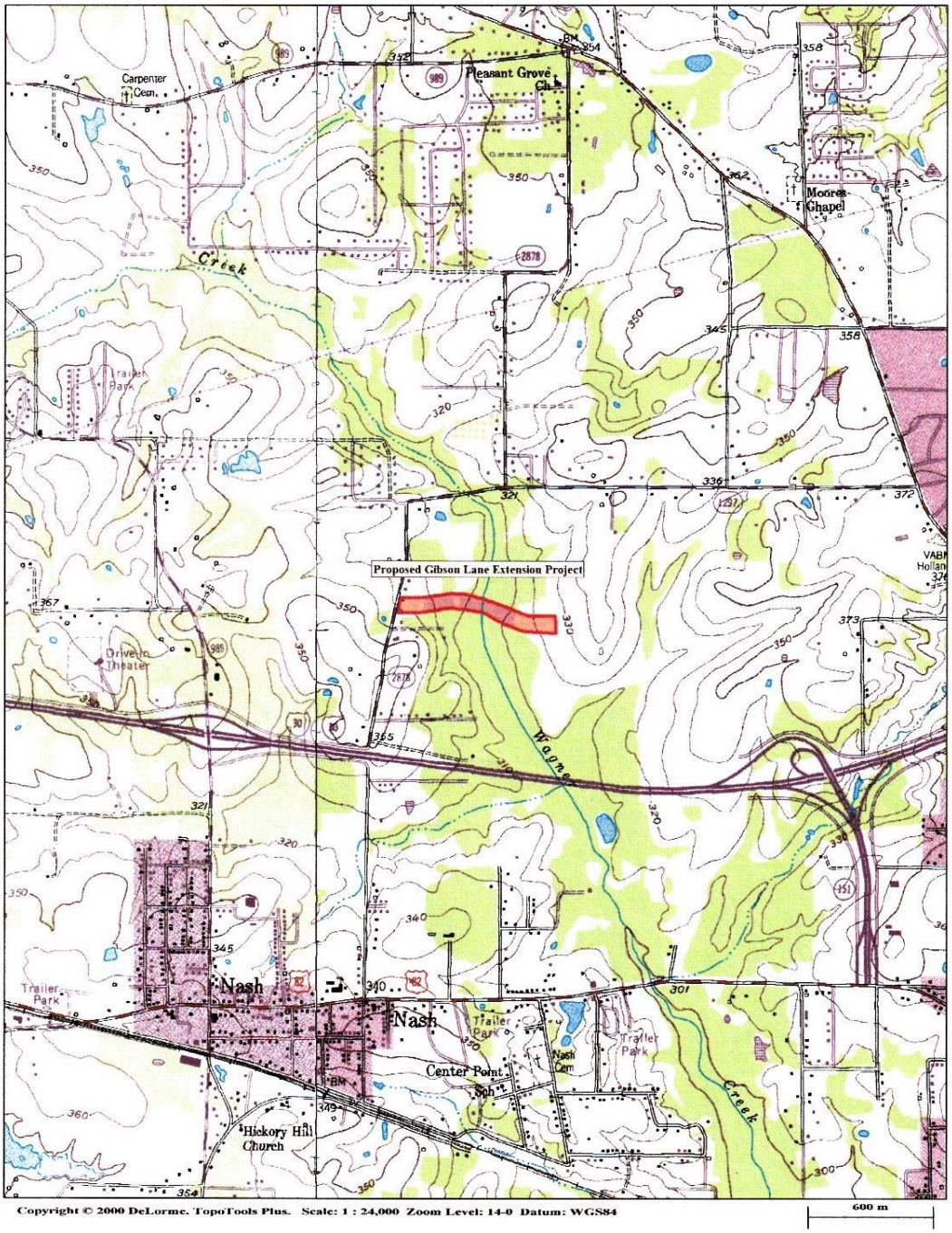

Figure 1. The location of the proposed Gibson Lane expansion project, Texarkana 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.

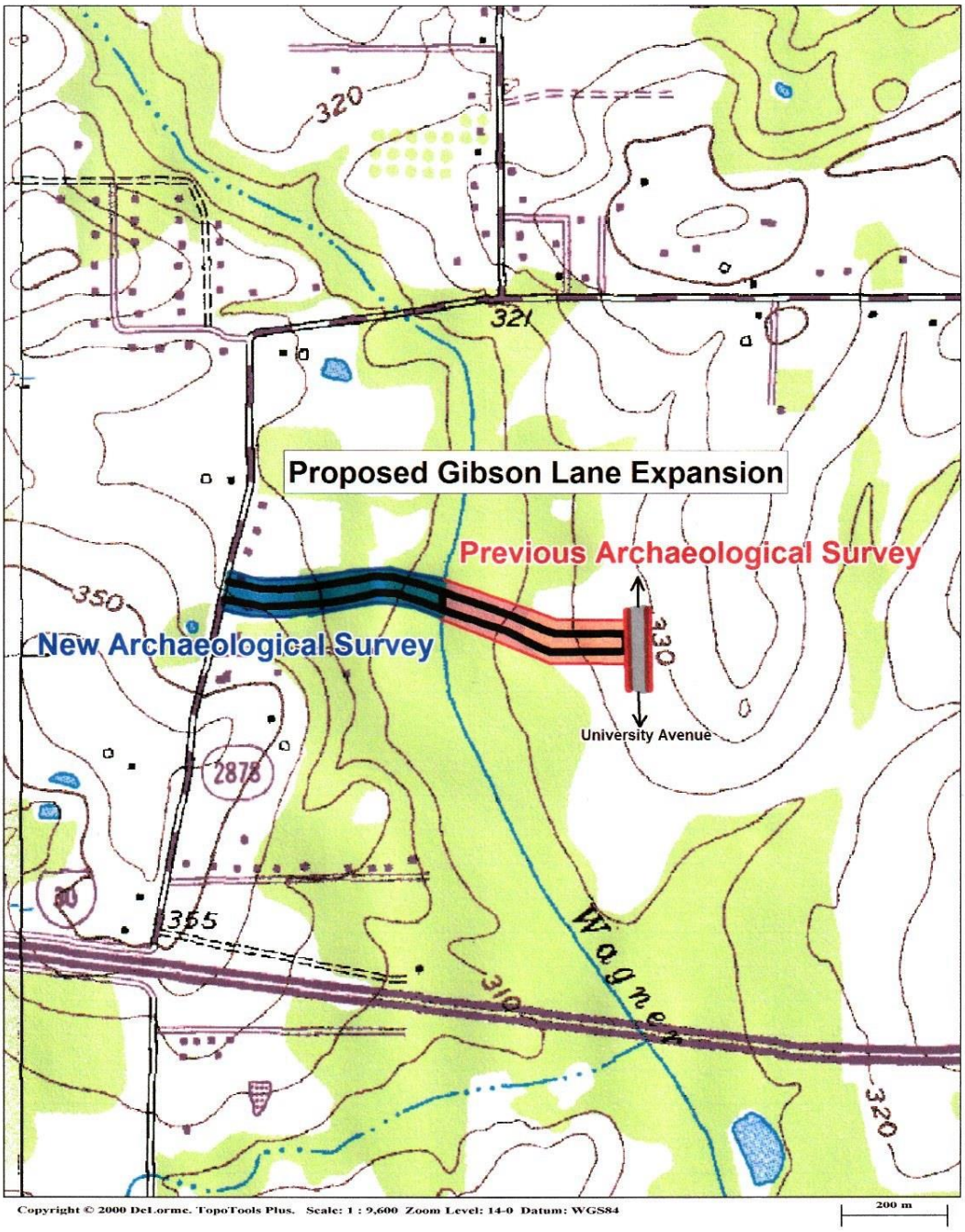

Figure 2. Proposed Gibson Lane expansion project showing previous archaeological survey area and the new archaeological survey area discussed in this report, Texarkana 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.

The Gibson Lane Expansion project will be a four-lane paved roadway 75 ft. (22.9 meters) in width with a permanent right of way of 100 ft. (30.5 meters) in width. The focus of the archaeological survey and environmental study covers a 200 ft. (61 meters) wide corridor to add flexibility to the project location in order to make any adjustments

within the roadway to avoid archaeological sites or environmental issues discovered during the fieldwork.

The Gibson Lane Expansion project area is situated in the Northeast Texas Pineywoods, in the Sulphur River basin. The proposed project boundary is located on the 1953 Texarkana 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangles (Photo-revised in 1970 and 1975). Waggoner Creek forms the eastern boundary of the proposed survey area. Waggoner Creek flows southeast to Days Creek, and the confluence of Days Creek with the Sulphur River is in Miller County, Arkansas. The Sulphur River is a major eastward-flowing tributary to the Red River.

Prior to farming and timbering activities beginning in the mid-19th century, this part of Northeast Texas had an overstory of pines and hardwoods on upland and upland slope landforms (see Brown et al. 1998:Figure 5 and Table 4). There were mesic hardwoods along the Red River and Sulphur River alluvial valleys, including trees and other plant species adapted to elevated sandy and silty loam landforms (i.e., terraces and natural levees) as well as other vegetation adapted to regular flooding. In present times, the area is mainly business and residential, with housing subdivisions in all directions, with areas of pasture and secondary-growth woodlands.

The project area is underlain by the Tertiary-age Midway Group (Bureau of Economic Geology 1966). The undivided Midway Group, some 600 feet thick, is composed of silty, calcareous, glauconitic, and selentic clays, with local beds of limestone.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, *Soil Survey of Bowie County, Texas* (Fox 1980), was used in determining which soils are present within the survey area. Additionally, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) website is utilized to update current official soil series names and descriptions from earlier soil surveys (NRCS 2019). The principal soils in the project area are Amy silt loam, Eylau fine sandy loam, Rosalie loamy fine sand, Ruston fine sandy loam, Sawyer silt loam, and Thenas fine sandy loam. Shovel testing and surface observations within the survey area noted soils generally consistent with these mapping units. These comprise related soils in the Ruston-McKamie soil association, which are found on gently to strongly sloping upland and high alluvial terrace landforms, and that developed in loamy and clayey sediments (Fox 1980:Figure 2) deposited by the Red River. Based on mid-19th century General Land Office records, the Ruston-McKamie soil association supported a pine-oak overstory, including shortleaf pine, blackjack oak, post oak, and black oak (Cliff and Peter 1990:13).

Previous Archaeological Investigations in the Area

A review of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas was conducted in April 2019, to identify previously recorded archaeological sites and surveys within the project area, and in the proximity to the proposed survey area. Eleven archaeological sites and five archaeological survey projects have been recorded within a one mile radius of the project area.

Site 41BW170 was recorded on private property in 1979 by Olin F. McCormick from North Texas State University (now University of North Texas). It is not known if the site recording was part of a cultural resources management project or a private endeavor by McCormick. The site contained artifactual materials dating to the prehistoric Archaic period along with a component dating from the late 19th century to the early 20th century.

In 2017, Tejas Archaeology conducted an archaeological survey for the proposed Waggoner Creek Crossing project (Nelson and Perttula 2017); a portion of the survey covers the east side of Waggoner Creek for the proposed Gibson Lane Expansion project (see Figure 2). Ten new archaeological sites (41BW838-847) were recorded during the survey. Seven sites (41BW838-844) are prehistoric in age, while (41BW845-847) are late 19th to early 20th century tenant farms.

The four other archaeological survey projects completed in the near vicinity of the Gibson Lane Expansion project area did not record any archaeological sites. They consisted of a 1981 reconnaissance within the project area along Waggoner Creek by the Texas Development Water Board (Jurgens and Fox 1981); a 2002 survey along Interstate Highway 30 by Geo-Marine, Inc. (Largent et al. 2005); a 2010 AR Consultants, Inc. survey for nearby Pleasant Grove Apartments through a HUD development (Coleman 2010); and a survey just west of the project area for road improvements to Brinlee Road in the nearby City of Nash (Bundy and Morrison 2011).

The review of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas in a two-mile radius identified additional sites, surveys, and test excavations to the northeast near Bringle Lake. In 1999, AR Consultants conducted an archaeological survey of a 150 acre tract for Bringle Lake Park (Trask and Skinner 1999). One small prehistoric lithic scatter (41BW673) was recorded during this survey. A survey by Stone Point Services was conducted in 2014 for upgrades to trails at Bringle Lake. No new archaeological sites were recorded during the survey (Wescott 2014)

Between 2004 and 2012, considerable archaeological survey work and several test excavation projects were conducted by Archeological & Environmental Consultants, LLC in Bowie County. In September 2004, they completed an archaeological survey of a 425 acre tract for Texas A&M University-Texarkana (Perttula and Nelson 2004). Eleven prehistoric and/or historic archaeological sites were recorded (41BW695-41BW705). In 2005, test excavations were conducted at the Wright site (41BW703), a late 19th to early 20th century farmstead (Perttula and Nelson 2005). In 2011, Archeological and Environmental Consultants, LLC returned to the Bringle Lake area to survey an approximate 11.5-acre tract for the expansion of University Ave., and two new archaeological sites (41BW770 and 41BW771) were recorded (Perttula and Nelson 2011). In 2011 there was reported damage from logging to the previously recorded Clear Creek site (41BW698) (Perttula and Marceaux 2011). Test excavations were conducted at the antebellum Clear Creek site in 2012 (Perttula et al. 2012, 2016), and other surveys were done for a proposed right-of way (Perttula and Nelson 2012a) as well as a proposed city of Texarkana park (Perttula and Nelson 2012b).

Most of the archaeological research conducted in Bowie County has been on prehistoric and early historic Caddo sites in the Red River bottoms—such as the Hatchel (41BW3), Mitchell (41BW4), and Roseborough Lake (41BW5) sites near the modern course of the Red River (Creel 1996; Gilmore 1986; Miroir et al. 1973; Perttula and Nelson 2003). Otherwise, there has been considerable archaeological survey work, along with limited excavations and archival research, at the Red River Army Depot and Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant in the central part of Bowie County (see Cliff and Peter 1990, 1994).

The area of the proposed Gibson Lane Expansion project is located in a part of the City of Texarkana that is experiencing an increase in urban growth. The western portion of Texarkana, especially along both sides of Interstate 30, has numerous new roads, housing additions, retail, and commercial businesses established across the area. This urban growth is quite evident during this survey when compared to survey conditions from 2004-2012 when earlier archaeological work was conducted near this specific area at Bringle Lake (Perttula and Nelson 2004, 2005, 2011, 2012a, 2012b). Then again in the short time period since the 2017 Tejas Archaeology archaeological survey of the Waggoner Creek Crossing project (Nelson and Perttula 2017), there are many additions of new homes and businesses located near the Gibson Lane Expansion project.

Historical Resources in the Project Vicinity

The review of the National Register of Historic Places and Official Texas Historical Markers, including Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks and recorded historic cemeteries on the Texas Historic Sites Atlas, did not identify any currently listed historical resources within the survey area. Additionally, there are no recorded historical resources located within a 1.6 kilometers radius of the project area.

A review of historic maps of Bowie County did not locate any structures that can be plotted within the project area. The 1906 Texarkana, Texas 7.5’ USGS topographic quadrangle, and the 1921 Bowie County Soils Map (1906 USGS topographic quadrangle and 1921 United States Bureau of Soils), and the 1953 Texarkana, TX 7.5’ USGS (Photo-revised 1970 and 1975) topographic quadrangle were used to determine if any structures were present in the proposed survey corridor.

Prehistoric and Historic Background

This part of northeastern Texas has been occupied from at least 13,000 years ago to about 200 years ago by Native Americans. The first Native Americans to use these lands were mobile hunter-gatherers (during the Paleoindian period, before 10,000 years ago), and these foragers continued to use the area for millennia (Fields and Tomka 1993). About 2000-2500 years ago, during the Woodland period, the prehistoric Native Americans living in the Red River and Sulphur River basins began to settle down in small hamlets and camps dispersed across recognizable territories (Schambach 2002). These Native Americans, ancestral Caddo peoples, made thick and plain grog-tempered pottery, and used Gary and Kent dart points for hunting and other tasks (Story 1990). About A.D. 700, these groups began to make and use small stemmed arrow points for hunting purposes.

The principal occupation of Bowie County in prehistoric and early historic times (up to about A.D. 1790) was by Caddo-speaking Indian groups that lived in settled horticultural and agricultural communities after about A.D. 800-850. These communities were composed principally of farmsteads and small hamlets, but larger villages were situated along the Red River itself during much of the prehistoric and historic era (e.g., Story 1990; Perttula 2004). Caddo archaeological sites in the region are known to be primarily located on elevated landforms (alluvial terraces and rises, natural levees, and upland edges) adjacent to the major streams, as well as along spring-fed branches and smaller tributaries with dependable water flow. They are also located in proximity to arable sandy loam soils, presumably for cultivation purposes with digging sticks and stone celts.

These Caddo groups were powerful theocratic chiefdoms that built earthen mounds (like the 30-ft. tall mound at the Hatchel site, see Jackson 2004) for political and religious purposes, functions, and rituals, traded extensively across the region and with non-Caddoan speaking groups, and developed intensive maize-producing economies. Due to diseases introduced by Europeans after the late 17th century, and the incursions of the Osage to obtain deer hides and Caddo slaves, by about 1790, the Red River and Sulphur River valleys in the Texarkana area had been abandoned by the Caddo groups.

The Bowie County area was settled by Anglo-Americans by the early 1820s. These "planters and plain folks" (Lowe and Campbell 1987) settled this part of the Red River valley, devoting considerable attention to the cultivation of cotton on both small farms and larger plantations (Strickland 1937; Torget 2015). Settlements grew with the ready availability of land, and Bowie County was created in 1840 as part of the Republic of Texas (Harper 1996). By 1850, there were 20,000 people living in northeastern Texas, about 3,000 in Bowie County alone, including a large proportion of slaves: slaves outnumbered whites 1,641 to 1,271 (Harper 1996:671).

Up until the time of World War II, Bowie County remained a prosperous agricultural economy (Buenger 1995). Cotton was the staple cash crop, followed by corn. The peak year in cotton production was 1929 (Harper 1996:672). By the 1880s, most farmers in the county were tenant farmers, farming on shares, and by 1930, 64 percent of the farmers in Bowie County were tenants. With the Great Depression, however, the number of farms fell more than 30 percent between 1930 and 1940, and there were less tenant farmers, as they left the farm for jobs in the cities and larger towns. Texarkana grew up along the Texas and Pacific Railway that crossed the county in the early 1870s, and by 1930, there were more than 16,600 people living in the Texas side of Texarkana (Harper 1996:672). With an ever-increasing urban base, the county's economy focused more on manufacturing and trade, both wholesale and retail rather than agricultural commodities; by the 1980s, the grazing of livestock was the most important agricultural product. A great boon to the economy was the construction of Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant and Red River Army Depot in 1941; these federal munitions facilities remain open to the present-day (Harper 1996:672).

Archaeological Survey Investigations

The objectives of this archaeological survey of the Gibson Lane Expansion project are to locate prehistoric and historic cultural resource sites within the project survey areas. If sites were to be found during the archaeological survey, then the investigations would next delineate the vertical and horizontal extent of each site, determine each site's integrity, and provide a preliminary evaluation of each site's potential for eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and State Archeological Landmark designation.

The archaeological survey was conducted with a combination of visual examination of the project area, a pedestrian walk-over, and through shovel testing, along with where possible the examination of any exposed surfaces or cut banks. Shovel testing intensity for the project follows the Texas Historic Commission's guidelines for shovel test intervals. According to these guidelines, a linear number of 16 shovel tests should be excavated per each mile of the project area. Shovel tests 35 cm in diameter were accordingly excavated in 20 centimeter levels down to the B-horizon clay sub-soils or 100 centimeters, the approximate maximum depth reachable by shovel. The excavated matrix was screened through a 0.635-centimeter wire mesh screen. The GPS location, the depth, texture, and color of the sediments in each shovel test, and the presence of cultural materials by depth, were recorded in the field and then included in this archaeological survey report produced at the conclusion of the project field work.

The survey employed a non-collection strategy, except for any recovered temporally diagnostic artifacts that would be recovered in the shovel testing. The diagnostic artifacts (e.g., projectile points, aboriginal ceramics, historic materials with maker's marks or other known temporal features) are to be collected, while the non-diagnostic artifacts (e.g., lithic debris, burned rock, historic glass, and metal scrap) are to be described, sketched, and/or photo-documented in the field and replaced in the same location in which they were found. Records, files, field notes, forms, and other documentation will be included in the curation package for the project. All field-generated documents will be temporarily curated at the Tejas Archaeology office in Pittsburg, Texas. These artifacts, documents and photographs will be organized and catalogued according to Stephen F. Austin State University Anthropology and Archaeology Laboratory curation standards.

The east side of Waggoner Creek back towards University Avenue around 0.24 miles of the proposed Gibson Lane Expansion project previously was surveyed in 2017 (see Figure 2) by Tejas Archaeology in a 164-acre tract of the northern portion of the proposed Waggoner Creek Crossing Development project (Nelson and Perttula 2017). During the course of the Waggoner Creek Crossing Development project and in the eastern proposed Gibson Lane Extension 11 of the 376 shovel tests are within the survey corridor (Figure 3). These shovel tests (ST 199-201) and ST 231-237) did not contain any cultural materials (Nelson and Perttula 2017). Two of the 10 archaeological sites (41BW839 and 41BW842) recorded during the course of the Waggoner Creek Crossing project are in vicinity of the proposed Gibson Lane. Both of these prehistoric archaeological sites did not meet the criteria for National Register of Historic Places

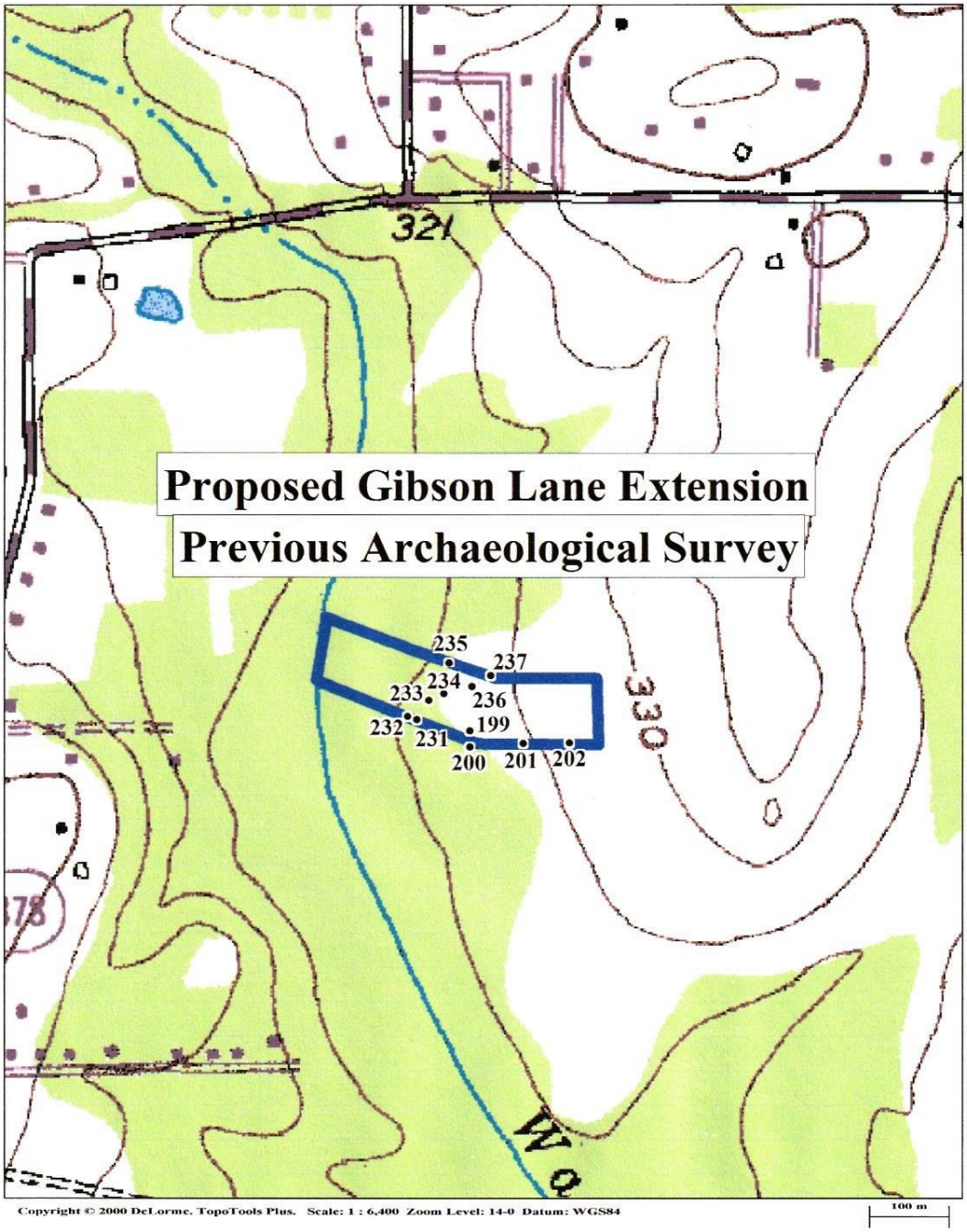

Figure 3. Location of shovel tests in previous archaeological survey work on the Gibson Lane expansion project.

status, and even though the sites were not eligible the roadway was still designed to bypass and avoid the archaeological sites boundaries.

The previous archaeological survey investigations completed by Tejas Archaeology in 2017 during the archaeological survey area of the Waggoner Creek

Crossing development project in the eastern portion proposed Gibson Lane Extension project consisted of a pedestrian survey, accompanied by the excavation of 11 shovel tests (see Figure 3), in the 380 meters (0.24 mile) length by 61 meters (200 ft.) wide survey corridor, which comprises around 5.7 acres. Approximately 1.93 shovel tests were excavated per acre of proposed road corridor, and 3.45 shovel tests per 100 meters of the project area. All the shovel tests were negative of any cultural materials, and had relatively shallow fine sandy loam sediments above a clay B-horizon (Table 1).

Table 1. Descriptions of sediments in shovel tests during the first survey (2017) of a portion of the Gibson Lane Expansion.

Shovel Test No.	Sediment Description
199	0-51 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 51-55 cm+, strong brown clay
200	0-63 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 63-67 cm+, strong brown clay
201	0-20 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 20-25 cm+, strong brown clay
202	0-14 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 14-18 cm+, strong brown clay
231	0-46 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 46-49 cm+, strong brown clay
232	0-44 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 44-47 cm+, strong brown clay
233	0-39 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 39-41 cm+, strong brown clay
234	0-41 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 41-44 cm+, strong brown clay
235	0-41 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 41-45 cm+, strong brown clay
236	0-65 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 65-69 cm+, strong brown clay

Table 1. Descriptions of sediments in shovel tests during the first survey (2017) of a portion of the Gibson Lane Expansion, cont.

Shovel Test No.	Sediment Description
237	0-84 cm, yellowish-brown fine sandy loam; 84-87 cm+, strong brown clay

In the new archaeological survey corridor for the proposed Gibson Lane Extension project, ST 1 was placed immediately adjacent to Waggoner Creek on a natural levee (Table 2 and Figure 4). The shovel test documented several lenses of organic materials mixed within the soil sediments to 94 cm bs. Between ST 1 and ST 2 is a low area that appears to be formed by overflow flood channels extending for approximately 80 meters in the entire survey corridor, and currently most of the low-lying areas have about 0.5 ft. of standing water. This area of wetlands is covered in small to medium-sized hardwood trees. The area of mostly standing water covers an area of about 1.2 acres.

Table 2. Shovel test descriptions for the new archaeological survey of the Gibson Lane Expansion project, Bowie County, Texas.

ST No.	Description of Sediments
1	0-94 cm, brown fine sandy loam with decaying organic materials; 94-98 cm+, strong brown sandy clay
2	0-42 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 42-46 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
3	0-51 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 51-54 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
4	0-49 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 49-53 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
5	0-40 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 40-43 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
6	0-43 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 43-45 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam

Table 2. Shovel test descriptions for the new archaeological survey of the Gibson Lane Expansion project, Bowie County, Texas, cont.

ST No.	Description of Sediments
7	0-39 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 39-42 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
8	0-41 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 41-45 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
9	0-46 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 46-50 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
10	0-19 cm, dark grayish-brown silt loam; 19-25 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
11	0-24 cm, disturbed mixed sediments; 24-30 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
12	0-23 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 23-27 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
13	0-13 cm, yellowish-brown silt loam; 13-20 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam
14	0-53 cm, disturbed mixed sediments; 53-60 cm+, strong brown silty clay loam

Between ST 2-9 and ST 10 is a low area with a small intermittent stream with a marshy area on the west side of the stream. There is a pile of broken concrete slabs about 5 meters in diameter and 1 meter in height. The pile of concrete appears to be a recently made stock pile to provide rubble to place across the small stream in order to cross in vehicles. There is a small bridge composed of these pieces of concrete placed over the small stream. The stream valley is covered in small to medium-sized hardwood trees (Figure 5). The stream and marshy area covers an estimated 1.4 acres of the proposed survey corridor.

The area where ST 10 through ST 14 were placed is covered in overgrown grasses and weeds with small clusters of scattered hardwood trees (Figure 6). Just south of ST 10 was once the probable location of a modern mobile home. There are several concrete blocks, a stair case, fencing for a small yard with three dog houses, and piles of scattered household garbage strewn throughout the location. An old elevated grass-covered road bed stretches from FM 2878 to the old mobile home location. ST 14 encountered mixed

Figure 5. Survey conditions near ST 7.

Figure 6. Survey corridor near FM 2878 at the west end of the project area.

soils, and the shovel test findings likely indicated the location of a road on the west end near the intersection with FM 2878 that led to the mobile home.

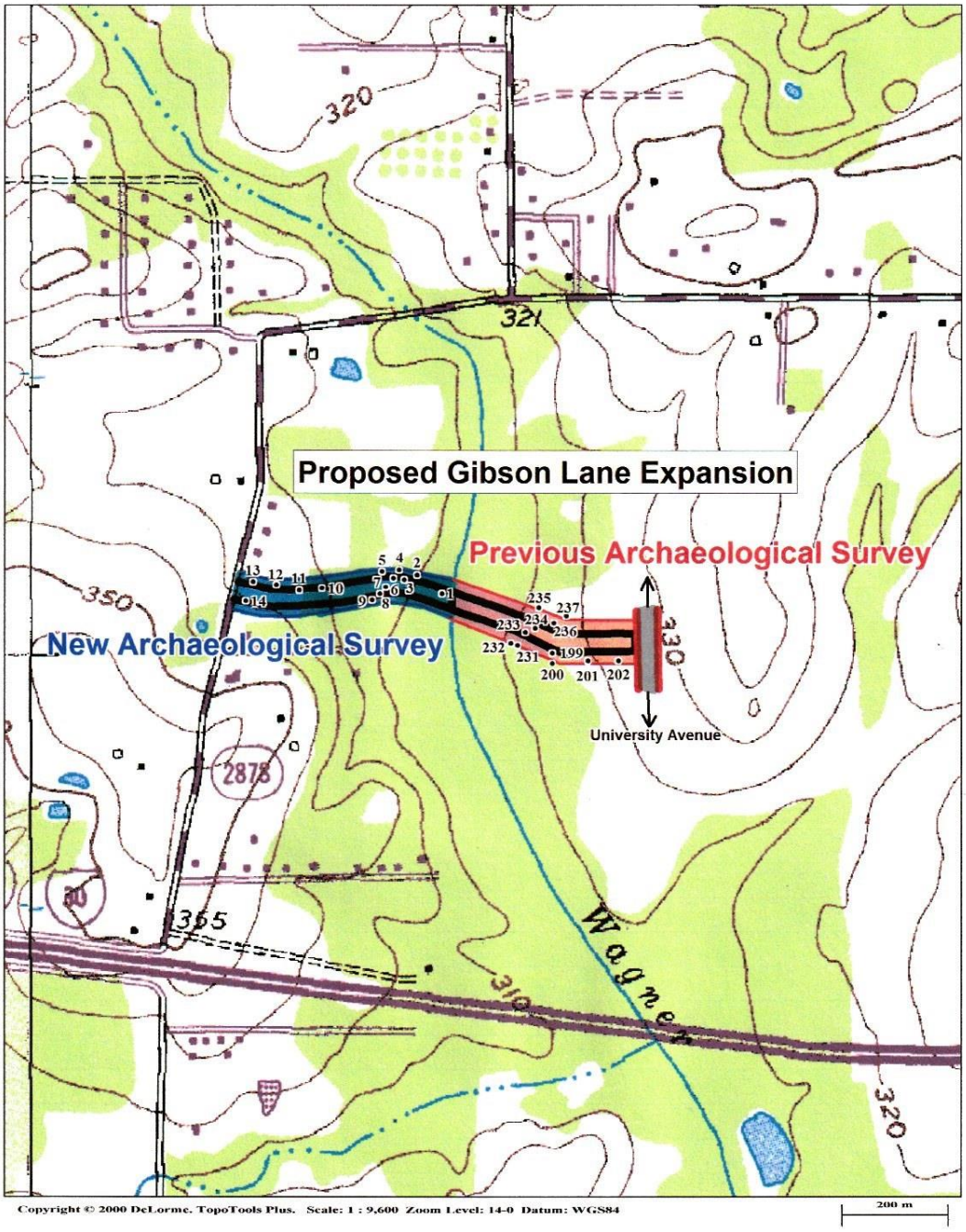

Figure 7. Shovel test locations for the previous and new archaeological surveys of the proposed Gibson Lane expansion project.

The archaeological survey investigations completed by Tejas Archaeology in the new archaeological survey area of the proposed Gibson Lane Extension project consisted of a pedestrian survey, accompanied by the excavation of 14 shovel tests, in the 400

meters (0.25 mile) length by 61 meters (200 ft.) wide survey corridor (Figure 7; see also Figure 4), which comprises around 6 acres. Approximately 2.33 shovel tests were excavated per acre of proposed road corridor, and 3.6 shovel tests were excavated per 100 meters of the project area. All the shovel tests were negative of any cultural materials. In total, 25 shovel tests have been excavated in the proposed Gibson Lane expansion project area during the 2017 and 2019 archaeological surveys (Figure 7), but no archaeological sites or archaeological materials were located in the project area.

Summary and Recommendations

Gibson Lane, an existing roadway, is slated for new expansion in Texarkana, Bowie County, Texas. The proposed project has been determined by the Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization to be a necessary transportation improvement for the City of Texarkana under a Texas Transportation Improvement Plan overseen by the Texas Department of Transportation. The Gibson Lane Expansion Project will be constructed on a section of private property slated for future development by the City of Texarkana. The private property development will be responsible for construction of the roadway following the guidelines set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act for a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit. The cultural resources considerations necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act fall under the purview of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (P.L. 96-515), and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800). The roadway will be locally funded by the City of Texarkana, and thus will fall under their control. Accordingly, this project also comes under the purview of the Antiquities Code of Texas, as amended, and its implementing regulations. An Antiquities Permit is necessary for the completion of this archaeological survey and the preparation of the report of findings.

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Gibson Lane Expansion project examined during the April 2019 archaeological survey should be allowed to proceed without further consultation under the Antiquities Code of Texas and the National Historic Preservation Act and their implementing regulations.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Mr. Jason Hoffman of Hoffman Environmental, Inc. for providing the opportunity for Tejas Archaeology to complete this archaeological survey, for providing much needed maps, and for his interaction with the City of Texarkana in obtaining the necessary information for the Antiquities Permit.

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