TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ANTIQUITIES PERMIT APPLICATION FORM ARCHEOLOGY

GENERAL INFORMATION

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	Name and Number Cobbs Cavern (3097-11) and Jarrell (3097-12)
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gency Representa	tive
OWNER (OR C	ONTROLLING AGENCY)
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wner Cu	rently private lands that will be purchased by Williamson County and County-owned land
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elephone (include	area code) Email Address
I. PROJECT SPO	NSOR (IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER)
ponsor	Williamson County
ponsorepresentative	Williamson County Judge Bill Gravell, Jr County Judge
ponsor epresentative ddress	Williamson County Judge Bill Gravell, Jr County Judge 710 South Main St, Suite 101
ponsor epresentative ddress ity/State/Zip	Williamson County Judge Bill Gravell, Jr County Judge

PROJECT INFORMATION

I. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (ARCHEOLOGIST)

Name	Andrea Burden			
Affiliation	Blanton & Associates Inc			
Address	5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200			
City/State/Zip_	Austin, TX 78734			
Telephone (include area	a code) 512-264-1095 Email Address andrea.burden@blantonassociates.com			

ANTIQUITIES PERMIT APPLICATION FORM (CONTINUED)

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION Proposed Starting Date of Fieldwork May 2022 Requested Permit Duration 5 Years 0 Months (1 year minimum) Scope of Work (Provided an Outline of Proposed Work) Attached III. CURATION & REPORT Temporary Curatorial or Laboratory Facility Non-Collection Survey Permanent Curatorial Facility CAR UTSA (Paperwork only) IV. LAND OWNER'S CERTIFICATION I, ________, as legal representative of the Land Owner, _______, do certify that I have reviewed the plans and research design, and that no investigations will be performed prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Owner, Sponsor, and Principal Investigator are responsible for completing the terms of the permit. Signature ______ Date_____ V. SPONSOR'S CERTIFICATION I, <u>Judge Bill Gravell, Jr.</u>, as legal representative of the Sponsor, <u>Williamson</u> County , do certify that I have review the plans and research design, and that no investigations will be performed prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Sponsor, Owner, and Principal Investigator are responsible for completing the terms of this permit. Signature ______ Date _____ VI. INVESTIGATOR'S CERTIFICATION I, <u>Andrea Burden</u>, as Principal Investigator employed by Blanton & Associates (Investigative Firm), do certify that I will execute this project according to the submitted plans and research design, and will not conduct any work prior to the issuance of a permit by the Texas Historical Commission. Furthermore, I understand that the Principal Investigator (and the Investigative Firm), as well as the Owner and Sponsor, are responsible for completing the terms of this permit. Principal Investigator must attach a research design, a copy of the USGS quadrangle showing project boundaries, and any additional pertinent information. Curriculum vita must be on file with the Archeology Division. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY Reviewer _____ Date Permit Issues _____ Permit Number ____ Permit Expiration Date _____ Type of Permit ______ Date Received for Data Entry ______

Texas Historical Commission Archeology Division P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276 Phone 512/463-6096 www.thc.state.tx.us 3/3/09





ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING * PLANNING * PROJECT MANAGEMENT

May 3, 2022

SCOPE OF WORK INTENSIVE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE C. BUD STOCKTON LOOP EXTENSION PROJECT WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS COUNTY JOB NUMBER P307

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Williamson County is proposing to construct approximately 1.3 miles of new location roadway that would extend C. Bud Stockton Loop from Farm-to-Market (FM) 487 to Williamson County Road (CR) 305 in the City of Jarrell, Williamson County, Texas. The proposed interim project would require an additional 118 feet-wide of new right-of-way (ROW) from 75 feet north of FM 487 to CR 305 (approximately 20.12 acres) in new location. Additional ROW would be required for approximately 955 feet long and 35 feet wide paralleling CR 305 to accommodate drainage improvements affiliated with the project (approximately 0.80 acre). The proposed improvements also include two temporary construction easement (TCE) areas to accommodate future driveway improvements from the City of Jarrell High School facility (0.07 and 0.32 acre, respectively) and a drainage easement along the west proposed ROW surrounding the City of Jarrell High School baseball field (1.09 acres). A proposed grading easement is needed surrounding an existing pond and is approximately 0.51-acre in size.

The existing C. Bud Stockton Loop roadway consists of two 12-foot-wide travel lanes, one in each direction, with 8-foot-wide outside shoulders. Drainage is accommodated through open ditches. Striping and pavement improvements are proposed along the existing C. Bud Stockton Loop roadway from approximately 500 feet south of the FM 487 intersection to the existing FM 487 ROW (approximately 1.14 acres). No additional ROW is proposed for these striping and paving improvements.

The proposed interim C. Bud Stockton Loop improvements would consist of two 12-foot-wide travel lanes, one in each direction, with 8 foot-wide inside and outside shoulders and a 30-foot-wide clear zone. At intersections, the roadway would include an additional 12-foot-wide left turning lane, as well as for right turning areas, a 12-foot-wide turning lane. For the right-turn areas, the roadway would include a flush median that varies between zero and 12 feet in width. Drainage would be accommodated through open ditches and culverts diverting surface flow under existing and proposed improvements at various locations and either discharging into the proposed drainage easement or into existing surface waters east of the intersection of intersection of the proposed future interim C. Bud Stockton Loop/CR 305 intersection.

The existing CR 305 facility contains two 12-foot-wide travel lanes, one in each direction, within an existing 69-foot-wide ROW. The existing ROW for CR 305 is approximately 0.62 acre. Drainage is accommodated through open ditches and swales outside of the travel lanes. Additional striping and pavement improvements

are proposed along CR 305 from approximately 400 feet west to approximately 145 feet east of the proposed future interim C. Bud Stockton Loop/CR 305 intersection. No additional ROW is proposed for these striping and paving improvements.

The proposed project would be approximately 24.67 acres in size, encompassing approximately 21.44 acres of right of way (ROW) across privately-owned land and approximately 3.23 acres of County-owned land. **Figures 1** and **2** (**Appendix A**) provide the project location on a county base map and topographic base map. The preliminary project plans are provided in **Appendix B**.

Since Williamson County either owns or will be purchasing the land where project activities are proposed, the project is subject to review under the Antiquities Code of Texas (9 TNRC 191) and associated state regulations (13 TAC 26). The proposed project will be completely locally funded and is not anticipated to require a federal permit, approval, or license, and as such the project will not require review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and associated federal regulations (36 CFR 800).

Definition of the Area of Potential Effects

The project's horizontal area of potential effects (APE) for archeological resources corresponds with the project footprint and would be approximately 24.67 total acres (1.76 acres of existing ROW, 20.92 acres of proposed ROW, 1.09 acres of proposed drainage easement, 0.39 acres of temporary construction easement, and 0.51 acres of grading easement). The vertical APE for the project would be the maximum depth of impacts, which is assumed to be no more than 3 feet deep except for existing and proposed ROW and temporary construction easement and grading easement and 10 feet deep for the proposed drainage easement.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A background review of data extracted from area topographic, soils, and geology maps was conducted. Also, previous archeological surveys and locations of recorded archeological sites within 1 mile of the project APE were reviewed by consulting the Texas Historical Commission's (THC's) restricted-access Online Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas). In addition to identifying recorded archeological sites, the review included the following types of information on the Atlas: National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs), Official Texas Historical Markers (OTHMs), Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHLs), and cemeteries. A combination of 1893, 1954, and 1964 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographical maps and 1963 and 1981 aerial photographs of the APE were consulted to identify historical structures, which may or may not be extant, that may represent high probability areas for the presence of historic archeological sites (otherwise known as an Historic High Probability Area or HHPA) (Nationwide Environmental Title Research [NETR] 2021; USGS 2021). The National Park Service's El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail GIS viewer was also consulted to determine proximity of the project APE to this resource as it may offer additional contextual information (National Park Service 2021). The Texas Freedom Colonies Atlas was also consulted to determine if a freedom colony has been recorded in this area (Texas A&M University 2021). The results of the comprehensive review are presented below.

Topography

The APE is located within the Edwards Plateau physiographic region (Bureau of Economic Geology [BEG] 1996). This area is dominated by relatively flat terrain with box canyons that ranges in elevation from 450 to 3000 feet above mean sea level (BEG 1996). The area surrounding the APE is a mix of residential, undeveloped rangeland and pasture, and small amounts of commercial uses. The APE crosses uplands overlooking Salado Creek and would be low to moderate probability for the presence of pre-contact era archeological sites.

Geology

The geologic structure of the Edwards Plateau is characterized by beds tilted south comprised of limestones and dolomites (BEG 1996). The APE crosses two geologic units: Early Cretaceous Georgetown Limestone and Late Cretaceous Buda Limestone and Del Rio Clay (BEG 1981). Buda Limestone, Del Rio Clay, and Georgetown Limestone predate the generally accepted timeframe for human occupation of North America, and thus appear too old to harbor preserved archeological deposits (BEG 1981).

Soils

The APE crosses three soil associations: Denton silty clay (1 to 3 percent slopes), Doss silty clay (1 to 5 percent slopes), and Houston Black clay (1 to 3 percent slopes (Web Soil Survey 2021). Denton soils are silty and clayey sloping alluvium that formed over residuum weathered from limestone bedrock, while Doss soils are clayey upland sloping soils that developed *in situ* from residuum weathered from marls and limestone (Web Soil Survey 2021). These soils have some potential to contain near surface archaeological deposits, but little to no potential to contain intact buried archeological deposits. Houston Black soils are generally dense clayey upland soils that developed *in situ* from chalks and marls (Web Soil Survey 2021) and have some potential to contain near surface archaeological deposits, but little to no potential to contain intact buried archeological deposits.

Discussion of Previous Work and Sites

According to review of Atlas data on November 10, 2021, no part of the APE has been previously surveyed for archeological resources, but three surveys have been conducted within a 1-mile radius (**Figures 3** and **4** in **Appendix A, Table 1**). No recorded archeological sites cross the APE, although one archeological site (41WM1276) is located within a 1-mile radius of the APE (see **Figures 3** and **4**, **Table 2**).

One cemetery, the non-perpetual care Land Cemetery, also known as the Salado Valley Cemetery, abuts the APE (see **Figures 3** and **4**, **Table 2**). According to research, the first interment within the Land Cemetery occurred in 1862, when the cemetery was exclusively private and used by the Land Family (THC 2006, 2010). The cemetery was rededicated as a public "burying ground for the citizens of Salado Valley and surround County" in 1886 (Williamson County Clerk's Office 1887). To date, Land Cemetery reportedly contains over 200 marked graves, an unknown number of unmarked graves, is open to the public, and is still actively accepting burials (Findagrave.com 2021; THC 2006, 2010). It is unknown if the cemetery was once racially segregated; however, as a community cemetery and given common social practices of the late

nineteenth and early twentieth century in Central Texas, this is likely. The cemetery received a Historic Texas Cemetery designation in 2006 (THC 2010), and the text of the historical marker erected at the site is as follows:

THIS BURIAL GROUND ORIGINALLY SERVED THE CORN HILL COMMUNITY, AN EARLY WILLIAMSON COUNTY SETTLEMENT NAMED BY COUNTY JUDGE JOHN E. KING FOR THE FIELDS OF CORN SURROUNDING HIS HOME. BY THE 1880s, CORN HILL HAD A POST OFFICE, BUSINESSES, CHURCHES, FRATERNAL LODGES, COTTON GINS, MILLS, A NEWSPAPER AND A SCHOOL. LAND CEMETERY IS ON PROPERTY OWNED BY SETTLERS NICHOLAS (d. 1896) AND ELIZABETH ANN (GILES) LAND (d. 1911), WHO IN 1863 BURIED HIS OLDEST SON, JOHN, HERE, ESTABLISHING A FAMILY BURIAL GROUND; THEY SOON OPENED IT TO NEIGHBORING FAMILIES AS WELL. AT LEAST 25 INDIVIDUALS WERE INTERRED IN THE GRAVEYARD BEFORE 1886, WHEN THE SALADO VALLEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION PURCHASED 4.1 ACRES FROM NICHOLAS AND ELIZABETH LAND FOR CEMETERY USE. OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE LAND TRANSACTION WERE R.K. AND MARY LOU SHAVER, J.B. AND BELL SHAVER, AND TRUSTEES G.B. BUCHANAN, W.P. ROUTON, AND J.W. ROBERTSON. IN 1909, THE BARTLETT WESTERN RAILWAY BYPASSED CORN HILL. THE COMMUNITY OF JARRELL WAS ORGANIZED ALONG THE RAIL LINE AND RESIDENTS SOON BEGAN TO ALSO USE THIS BURIAL GROUND. CEMETERY FEATURES INCLUDE CURBING, OBELISKS, INTERIOR FENCING, VERTICAL STONES, GRAVE SLABS AND FALSE CRYPTS. THE INTERRED INCLUDE VETERANS OF FOREIGN CONFLICTS AND MEMBERS OF THE KNAUTH, LANGENEGGER, AND SCHWERTNER FAMILIES, GERMAN IMMIGRANTS WHO WERE AMONG THE AREA'S EARLY SETTLERS. THE 1997 F5 JARRELL TORNADO, WHICH RESULTED IN THE DEATHS OF 27 INDIVIDUALS, DAMAGED GRAVESTONES IN THE CEMETERY; MANY WERE LATER REPAIRED. TODAY, THE SALADO VALLEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION CONTINUES TO CARE FOR THIS BURIAL GROUND, WHICH SERVES AS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE EARLY RESIDENTS OF CORN HILL AND THE MANY OTHERS WHO HAVE LIVED NEAR SALADO CREEK IN NORTHERN WILLIAMSON COUNTY.

Given potential for unmarked burials and the age of the cemetery, it is important to assess the current boundaries considering possible historic-era aberrations. Deed research has indicated that the cemetery measured 4.1 acres in 1886, but current county appraisal district records indicate the property has been reduced to 2.24 acres (97,574 square feet) in size (Williamson County Clerk's Office 1887; Williamson County Appraisal District 2021). A deed record for 163.36 acres of land (comprised of two tracts, one 133.41 acres and the other 29.95 acres), currently owned by Gregory Danek, that abuts the cemetery along its southern boundary states that "This property includes a fenced area that is subject to an old abandoned lane for the Land Cemetary that was formerly a part of the 4.1 acre property that was deeded to the Salado Valley Cemetery Association of record in Vol. 42, Pg. 356, Deed Records", suggesting the missing 1.86 acres is encompassed by this original lane to the cemetery (Williamson County Clerk's Office 2007). In an effort to test this fact, the project engineer plotted the metes and bounds of the 1886 deed that created the cemetery, which revealed the true extent of the 4 and 1/10th acres designated in the deed (Figures 5 and 6 in Appendix A). This plot confirms that the missing acreage is encompassed by the abandoned lane, i.e., does not alter the current fenced boundary of the cemetery. Copies of the referenced county records are included in Appendix C.

Two OTHMs are located within 1 mile of the APE (see **Figures 3** and **4**, **Table 2**). No NRHP Properties, or NRHP Districts were identified within 1 mile of the APE. Also, no HHPAs were identified within the APE (NETR 2021). The project is not within 1 mile of the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail or any currently documented freedom colony.

Table 1. Previous Investigations within 1 Mile of APE

Project	Sponsor/ Investigator	Site(s) Discovered or Revisited	Approximate Distance of Previous Project APE	Reference
1997 Williamson County Raw Water Pipeline Survey	Williamson County	None w/in 1 mile of APE	0.66 mile	Schroeder et al. 1999
2012 IH-35 Underpass at Bud Stockton Loop Survey	TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation)	41WM1276	0.81 mile	Beene and Burden 2018
2016 East Williamson County Rural Water Transmission System Survey	Lone Star Regional Water Authority	None w/in 1 mile of APE	0.96 mile	Godwin 2016

Table 2. Resources within 1 Mile of APE

Site/Cemetery/NRHP District	Description	SAL/NRHP eligibility	Approximate Distance to APE
41WM1276	Historic-era farmstead	Determined Ineligible within IH 35 ROW 2014	0.82 mile
Corn Hill Community	Historical Marker	NA	0.81 mile
Land Cemetery	Historical Cemetery/Historical Marker	Undetermined	Abuts the APE

Description of Existing Disturbances

Portions of the APE have been disturbed by roadway construction and the remainder has been subjected to agricultural cultivation for over 40 years. No documented oil and gas pipelines cross the APE (Railroad Commission of Texas 2021). One municipal water pipeline crosses the APE, parallel to the south side of CR 305 (Public Utility Commission 2021).

RESEARCH DESIGN

Blanton & Associates, Inc. (B&A) proposes to conduct 100-percent intensive archeological survey of the APE to identify archeological sites, which will consist of surface examination coupled with systematic shovel testing. Shovel test transect intervals will not exceed 98 feet (30 meters [m]) wide across the APE and shovel test density will be at least one shovel test for every 328 linear feet (100 linear m) per transect.

All 30-centimeter (cm) diameter shovel tests will be excavated in arbitrary 10-cm levels to a minimum of 80 cm in depth or culturally sterile sediments, whichever occurs first. All excavated soil will be screened through 0.25-inch (0.63 cm) hardware cloth.

All field investigations will be carried out prior to the proposed construction in order to identify any potential archeological or historic properties within the APE that may be affected by the undertaking. All survey methods will comply with applicable standards outlined and defined in 13 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) 26.15(6) and policies of the THC, as well as guidelines of the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA), or plausible justification for deviation from these standards will be explicitly provided in the draft survey report. Field observations will be recorded on appropriate B&A field forms and the locations of each shovel test will be plotted with a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) receiver equipped with submeter accuracy. The entire survey area will be photo documented.

In accordance with the 2020 revised state archeological standards, an archeological site and isolated find are defined as follows. An archeological site is any terrestrial or marine-based place that exhibits physical evidence of human activity over 50 years of age that may be surficial or subsurface and includes the material remains of said activity such as discrete cultural features (e.g., stains, middens, pits, hearths, postholes, mounds, roads, trails, human graves, shipwrecks, dams, remains of buildings or structures, rock art, water systems, or artifact caches, etc.) or non-discrete activity areas (e.g., artifact or ecofact scatters, lithic procurement localities, occupation zones, game processing locales, or battlefields, etc.) or a combination thereof that allows for its interpretation. This definition is based on Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Section 106 Archaeology Guidance, the Society for American Archaeology site definition, and 13 TAC 26.3[5]. Sites will be recorded on a State of Texas Archeological Site Data Form, a site sketch map will be drafted, and photos of the site will be taken. This form will be submitted to the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and a trinomial will be obtained. Each archeological site documented as a result of the survey will be evaluated according to published eligibility criteria for inclusion in the NRHP or designation as a SAL. An isolated find is the location of less than three artifacts (e.g., artifacts originating from one source, such as three pieces of the same bottle should be counted as one artifact) devoid of association with any discrete cultural feature or non-discrete activity area within a 328-foot (100m) diameter area, unless it is an exceptionally rare and significant find (e.g., Clovis point). Isolated finds will be photographed, and the locations of each will be recorded by GPS and documented in the survey report. This definition is based on State Historic Preservation Officer guidelines for Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, and Utah, as well as Arizona State Museum site designation guidelines.

Survey will be conducted within portions of the APE where right of entry (ROE) has been granted at the time of survey. If ROE is not granted at the time of survey, investigators will attempt to assess the APE from public land and will make recommendations regarding further survey, if necessary.

If cultural materials or indications of an archeological site are discovered during survey, a minimum of six shovel tests will be excavated in a cruciform pattern radiating out from the initial positive shovel test at intervals no greater than 10 m until two negative shovel tests are found in each direction or topographic limits (e.g., landform boundaries, streams) are reached to delineate the horizontal and vertical extent of the site.

Artifacts, if encountered, will not be collected during survey but will be sufficiently described and photographed in the field for further analysis according to 2020 revised state archeological survey standards. All survey records, including photographs, will be processed for curation at the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) at The University of Texas at San Antonio according to CAR's *Standards and Procedures for the Preparation of Archaeological Collections, Records, and Photographs* (n.d.).

As the Land Cemetery abuts the APE, possible compliance with the Texas Health and Safety Code Title 8 (c) Chapter 711 and associated regulations (13 TAC 22) may be required. Although the cemetery boundary is fenced and has been documented at its present extent since 1886, given the age and condition of the cemetery, there is potential for the existence of unmarked graves outside the fenced boundary near the APE. Therefore, as stipulated by the THC, mechanical scraping of a buffer zone extending 25 feet east of the current approximately 357-foot-long fenced eastern boundary of the Land Cemetery, an area measuring up to 8,825 square feet, will be conducted to determine the presence or absence of unmarked human graves that may be associated with the cemetery within the APE. The scraping will be performed using a trackhoe equipped with a 32-inch-wide or wider flat-bladed bucket and scraping will proceed in shallow, approximately 6-inch-thick layers and will be monitored by two to three archeologists. At intervals, the archeologists will enter the scraped pit and hand scrape the exposed surface to identify burial features such as grave shafts if present. Scraping will commence in this way until a depth of up to 3 feet below the current ground surface is reached unless clearly sterile soils, such as caliche, are encountered at a shallower depth. At this point, the entire floor of each scraping pit and side walls will be examined, the area will be photographed, and the dimensions of the pit recorded with a sub-meter accurate GPS unit. If any burial features are identified, these will be documented, and secured, and Williamson County will be notified of the find. Once documentation of the presence or absence of burial features is complete, each pit will be backfilled. In addition, the THC will be consulted to ensure work continues in accordance with provisions of the Texas Health and Safety Code Title 8 (c), Chapter 711, as amended, and associated regulations (13 TAC 22). Results of the scraping will be included in the survey report. If no burial features are identified as a result of the scraping, an inadvertent discovery plan will be included in the survey report.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Following fieldwork, a report of findings will be generated in accordance with standards for reports relating to archeological permits (13 TAC 26.16), guidelines of the CTA for cultural resources management reports. This report will include discussion of the results of the field investigations, a list of identified sites if any, eligibility recommendations for each site, and the criteria under which the sites were evaluated. The report will also include recommendations for further work or no further work with appropriate justifications based on the requirements of 13 TAC 26.15 and defined in 13 TAC 26.10. The report will also include the locations of each shovel test, recorded site locations, and specify land ownership for these areas.

A copy of the draft report will be submitted to Williamson County and the THC for review and comment. A shapefile or .kmz file of the project location will also be submitted to the THC. Upon concurrence with the draft report, a .pdf copy of the final report will be submitted to the THC in partial fulfillment of permit requirements. The .pdf copy of the final report will contain at least one map with the plotted location of any

and all recorded sites. A hardcopy of the final report will also be sent to the THC and the Texas State Library and Archives, and a copy will accompany all survey records and photographs to CAR for curation.

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Williamson County Appraisal District

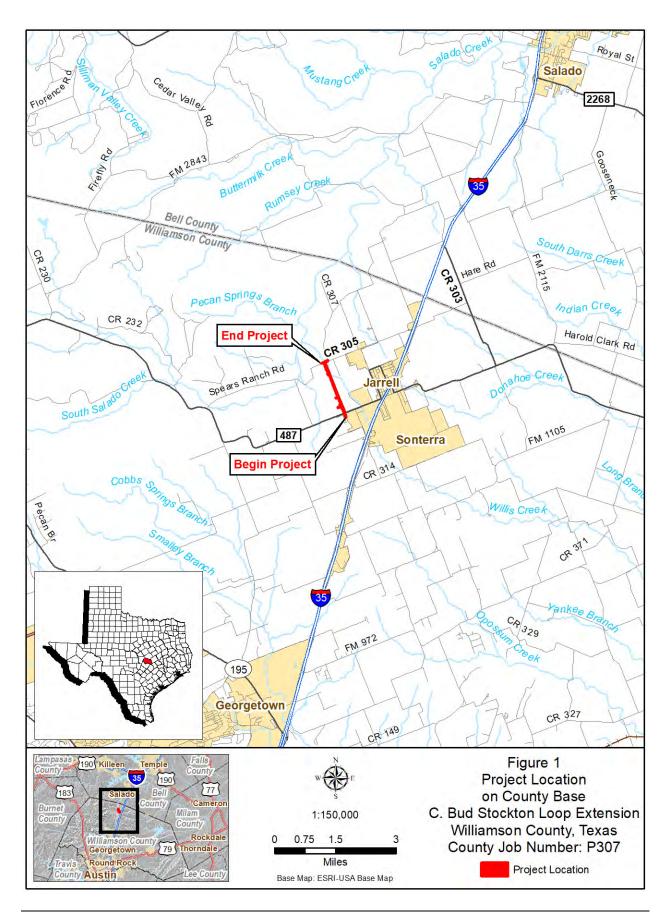
2021 Property R367208. https://search.wcad.org/Property-Detail/PropertyQuickRefID/R367208/PartyQuickRefID/O451333. (Accessed October 2021).

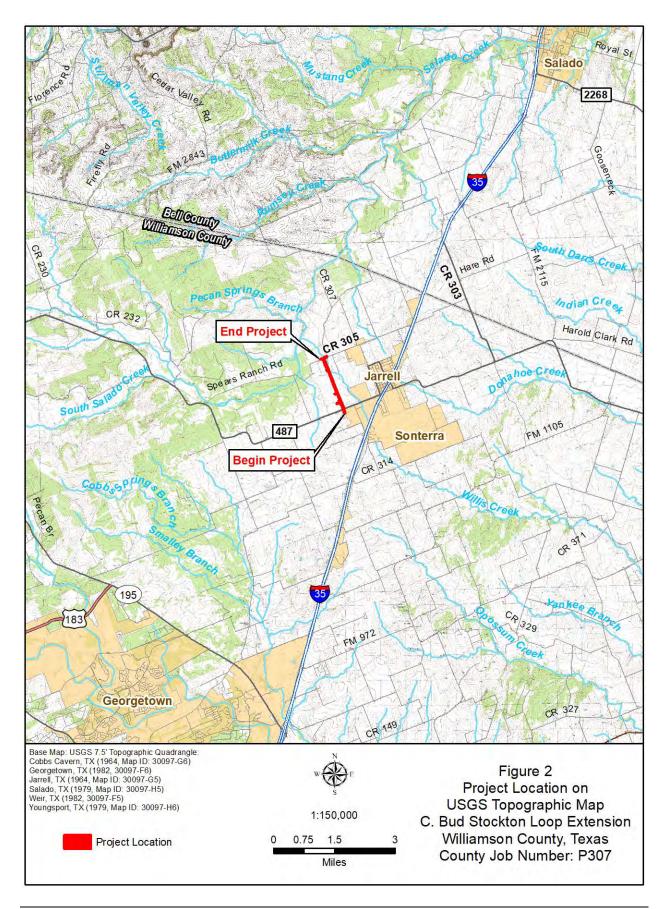
Williamson County Clerk's Office

- 1887 Deed Records Vol. 42, Page 356. Williamson County Clerk's Office, Georgetown, Texas.
- 2007 Deed Records Vol. 1584, Page 531. Williamson County Clerk's Office, Georgetown, Texas.

APPENDIX A

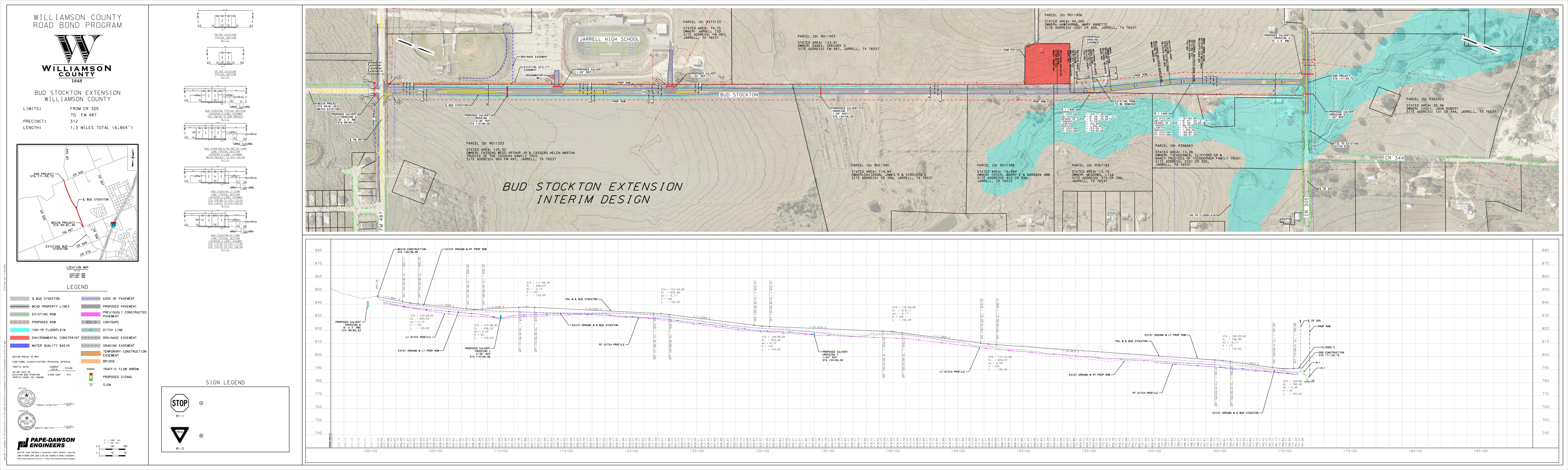
Figures





APPENDIX B

Preliminary Project Plans (Interim Design)



APPENDIX C

Land Cemetery Archival Records

All pages of this Appendix have been redacted