

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ANTIQUITIES PERMIT APPLICATION FORM  
ARCHEOLOGY

GENERAL INFORMATION

I. PROPERTY TYPE AND LOCATION

Project Name (and/or Site Trinomial) CR 258 Roadway Extension Project

County (ies) Williamson

USGS Quadrangle Name and Number Leander NE (30097-F7)

UTM Coordinates Zone 14 E 608348 m N 3393363 m

Location The project area is located 0.3 mile (0.5 km) east-southeast of the intersection of US 183 and CR 258, east of Liberty Hill, Texas. Along existing right of way of CR 258.

Federal Involvement  Yes  No

Name of Federal Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Representative \_\_\_\_\_

II. OWNER (OR CONTROLLING AGENCY)

Owner Williamson County

Representative Presiding Officer

Address 710 S. Main Street, Suite 101

City/State/Zip Georgetown, TX 78626

Telephone (include area code) 512.493.1100 Email Address ctyjudge@wilco.org

III. PROJECT SPONSOR (IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER)

Sponsor Williamson County

Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT INFORMATION

I. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (ARCHEOLOGIST)

Name Analise Hollingshead, M.S.

Affiliation SWCA Environmental Consulting

Address 4407 Monterey Oaks Boulevard, Suite 110, Bldg. 1

City/State/Zip Austin, Texas 78749

Telephone (include area code) 210-441-7763, ext. 17303 Email Address: analise.hollingshead@swca.com

(OVER)  
**ANTIQUITIES PERMIT APPLICATION FORM (CONTINUED)**

**II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Proposed Starting Date of Fieldwork September 1, 2025

Requested Permit Duration 5 Years                      Months (1 year minimum)  
Scope of Work (Provided an Outline of Proposed Work) See attached scope of work

**III. CURATION & REPORT**

Temporary Curatorial or Laboratory Facility SWCA on-site facilities, Austin, Texas  
Permanent Curatorial Facility Center for Archaeological Research at UT in San Antonio

**IV. LAND OWNER'S CERTIFICATION**

I, Steve Snell, as legal representative of the Land Owner, Williamson County, 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, Steve Snell, as legal representative of the Sponsor, Williamson 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, Analise Hollingshead, as Principal Investigator employed by SWCA Environmental Consultant (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.  
Signature [Signature] Date 8/8/2025

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 \_\_\_\_\_



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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Austin, Texas 78749  
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www.swca.com

September 29, 2025

Rebecca Shelton  
Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas 78711-2276

**Re: Proposed Scope of Work for Cultural Resources Investigations for the County Road 258 Roadway Extension Project, Williamson County, Texas / SWCA Project No. 87699-014**

Dear Rebecca Shelton:

This letter is a request for a Texas Antiquities Permit to conduct cultural resources investigations for the proposed County Road (CR) 258 Roadway Extension Project in Williamson County, Texas (project). The project consists of extending CR 258 Sunset Ridge Drive by approximately 0.6 mile (0.9 kilometer) in length with the maximum width not being greater than 212 feet (65 meters), and a proposed easement for a culvert extension, totaling approximately 4 acres (0.8 hectares). As the proposed project is being undertaken by Williamson County, a political subdivision of the State of Texas, a Texas Antiquities Permit is required in accordance with the Antiquities Code of Texas (Texas Natural Resource Code, Title 9, Chapter 191) and accompanying Rules of Practice and Procedure (Texas Administrative Code, Title 13, Chapter 26).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (281) 733-9791 or [analise.hollingshead@swca.com](mailto:analise.hollingshead@swca.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Analise Hollinghead'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

Analise Hollinghead, M.S.  
Principal Investigator

## **PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE COUNTY ROAD 258 ROADWAY EXTENSION PROJECT, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS**

*Project Landowner and Sponsor – Williamson County*  
*Project Consultant – SWCA Environmental Consultants*  
*Principal Investigator – Analise Hollingshead, M.S.*  
*Architectural Historian – Kelsey Riddle, M.S.*  
*Date – August 9, 2025*

### **INTRODUCTION**

On behalf of Williamson County, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) proposes to conduct an intensive archaeological survey in support of the County Road (CR) 258 Roadway Extension Project (project), east of Liberty Hill in Williamson County, Texas (Figure 1). The project consists of extending CR 258 by approximately 0.6 mile (0.9 kilometer [km]) in length with the maximum width not being greater than 212 feet (65 meters [m]), and a proposed easement for a culvert extension, totaling approximately 4 acres (0.8 hectares [ha]) (project area). Depth of impact for a majority of the project will be 2 feet (0.6 m), and maximum depth of impact will be 4 feet (1.2 m).

As the proposed project is owned and maintained by Williamson County, a subdivision of the State of Texas, the project will be subject to review under the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT), and the archaeological field investigation will require a Texas Antiquities Permit. At this time, there is no federal nexus for the project; therefore, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 United States Code 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800) are not applicable to these investigations.

SWCA proposes to conduct an intensive archaeological survey with subsurface testing of the entire 4-acre (0.8-ha) project area (Figure 2). The goal of the work will be to identify any previously recorded prehistoric and historic-age archaeological sites in the project area; locate any previously undiscovered archaeological sites; establish vertical and horizontal site boundaries, as appropriate with regard to the project area; and evaluate the significance and eligibility of any site recorded for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL). All work will be conducted in accordance with the ACT.

SWCA also proposes a reconnaissance-level historic resources survey to complement the archaeological investigation. SWCA understands Section 106 of the NHPA is not applicable to this project; therefore, this survey will follow parameters of the ACT and will also serve as a due diligence effort.

### **Project Description**

The project area appears on the *Leander NE* (30097-F7), Texas, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps. The project area is located 0.3 mile (0.5 km) east-southeast of the intersection of U.S. Highway (US) 183 and CR 258, east of Liberty Hill, Texas (see Figure 2).

Proposed Scope of Work for Cultural Resources Investigations for the County Road 258 Roadway Extension Project, Williamson County, Texas

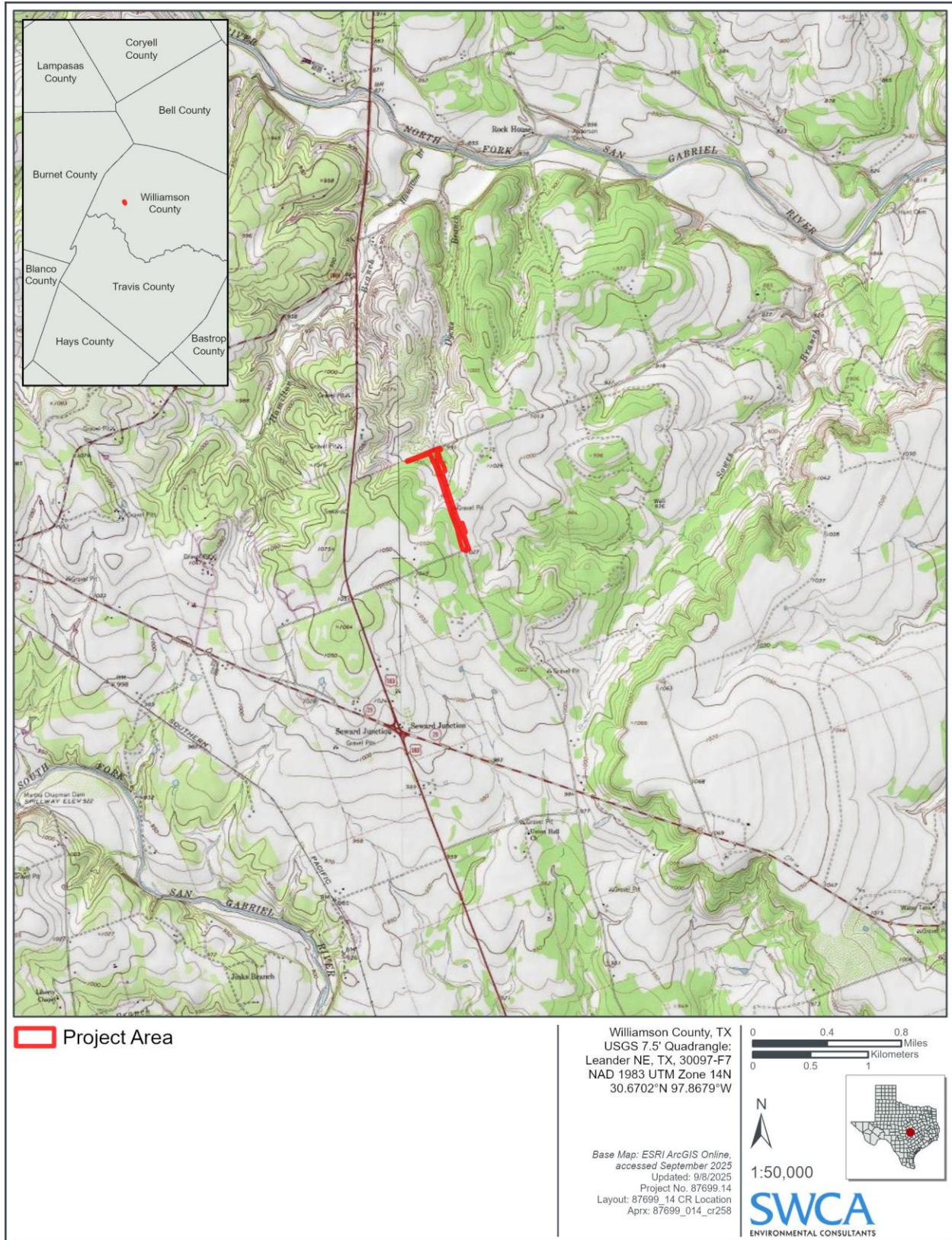


Figure 1. Project location.

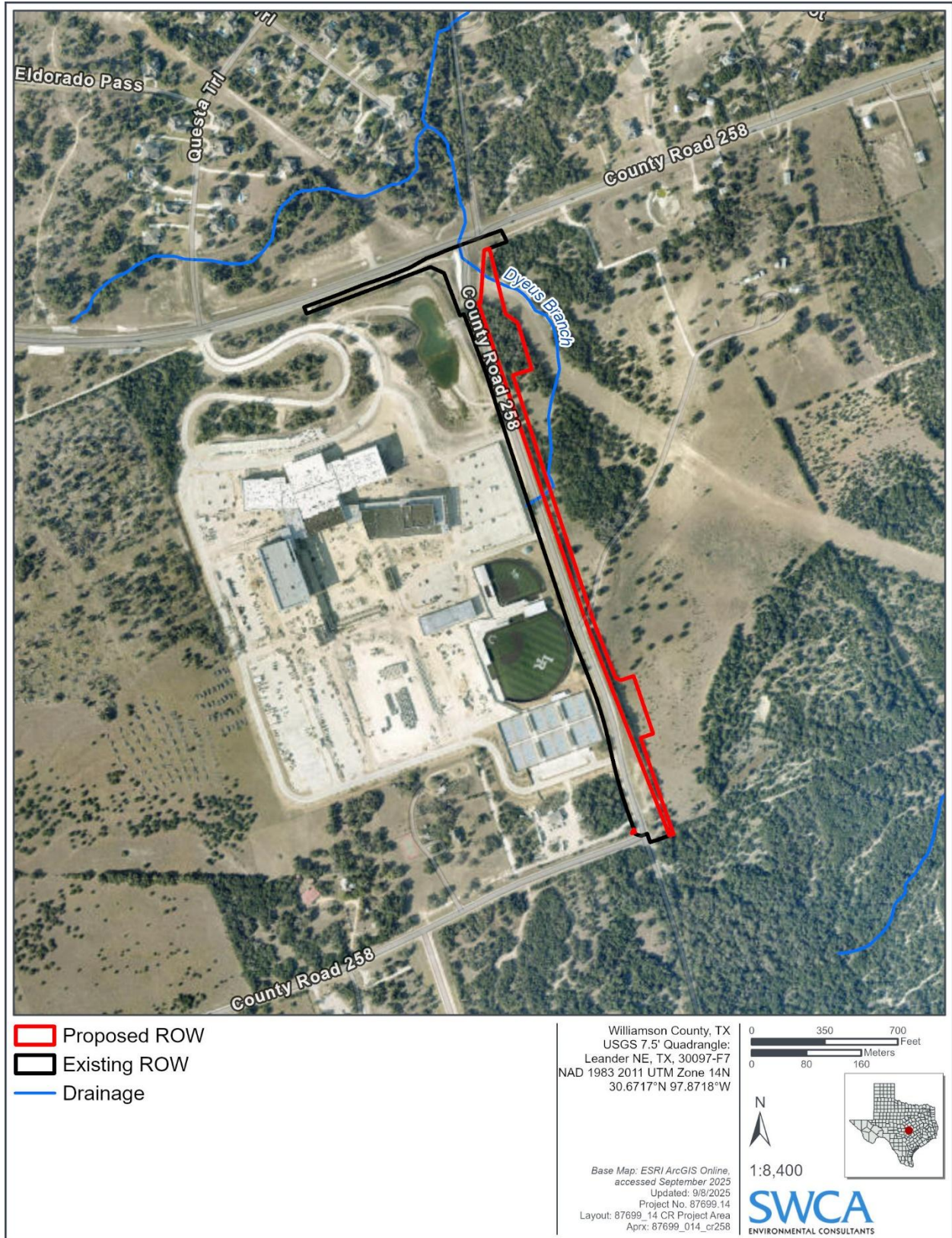


Figure 2. Project area overview.

## **PROJECT SETTING**

The project area is situated on a transitional boundary between the Blackland Prairie and the Edwards Plateau ecoregions (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department [TPWD] 2025). The Edwards Plateau, also known as the Texas Hill Country, is formed by steep canyons and stony hills carved out by many springs that host an abundance of faunal and floral species. Soils of the Edwards Plateau are generally shallow, underlain by limestone formations honeycombed with thousands of karst geological formations, including large underground lakes known as aquifers. The Blackland Prairie ecoregion is characterized by generally level to gently rolling open, tallgrass prairies. Soils of the Blackland Prairie consist of dark-colored “black gumbo” alkaline clays mixed with some gray acidic sandy loams that support crop production and rangeland for cattle ranching (TPWD 2025).

## **Geology**

The underlying geology throughout the project area consists of Bee Cave Marl Formation (40.5%), Comanche Peak Limestone Formation (34.8%), and Upper Glen Rose Formation (24.7%) (Figure 3) (USGS 2025a). The dominant lithology for the Comanche Peak Limestone formation consists of white chalky limestone, fossiliferous, with a thickness between 20 and 55 feet (USGS 2025a). The dominant lithology for the Upper Member of the Glen Rose formation consists of overlying limestones, with a thickness of about 525 feet (USGS 2025a).

## **Soils**

Project area soils are mapped as Doss silty clay, moist, 1 to 5 percent slopes (62%); Eckrant cobbly clay, 1 to 8 percent slopes (29.3%); Denton silty clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes (6.9%) and Brackett gravelly clay loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes (1.8%) (Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS] 2019) (see Figure 3).

The Doss soil series consists of shallow to weakly cemented limestone with well-drained soils formed in clayey residuum and calcareous loamy and derived from marls and limestone (NRCS 2019). These soils occur on dissected plateaus and hill slopes and have little to no potential to contain deeply buried archaeological material as they are derived of weakly cemented limestone and marls of primarily Lower Cretaceous age.

The Eckrant series soils consist of very shallow or shallow, well-drained and moderately slowly permeable clay over limestone bedrock. These soils are nearly level to very steep slopes on summits, shoulders, and backslopes of ridges on dissected plateaus (NRCS 2019). These soils have little to no potential to contain deeply buried archaeological materials, as it was formed in residuum derived from limestone of Cretaceous age.

The Denton series soils consist of well-drained, deep, slowly permeable soils, formed in clayey materials over residuum limestone bedrock are found on nearly level or gently sloping footslopes and backslopes of ridges (NRCS 2019). This soil formed over weathered residuum derived from limestone of Lower Cretaceous age, it has little to no potential to contain deeply buried archaeological materials; however, there is potential for shallowly buried cultural materials.

The Brackett soil series consist of shallow to paralithic well-drained limestone bedrock located on dissected plateaus of the Edwards Plateau and backslopes of ridges (NRCS 2019). This soil being formed from material deposited during the Cretaceous period in residuum weathered from limestone, has little to no potential to contain deeply buried archaeological materials; however, there are potentially shallowly buried cultural materials.

## **BACKGROUND REVIEW**

An SWCA archaeologist researched the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (Atlas), a restricted, online database maintained by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, for any previously recorded surveys and historic-age or prehistoric archaeological sites located in the project area or within 0.6 mile (1.0 km) of the project area (i.e., study area) (Figure 4) (THC 2025a). In addition to identifying previously recorded archaeological sites, the Atlas review includes the following types of information: NRHP districts and properties, SALs, Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHLs), Official Texas Historical Markers (OTHMs), cemeteries, and local neighborhood surveys. Listings in Atlas are limited to projects under purview of the ACT; therefore, the Atlas does not necessarily list all previous work conducted within a specific area. However, SWCA made a concerted effort to obtain reports for all previous cultural resources work conducted in the project area.

An SWCA architectural historian reviewed the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Historic Resources Aggregator (Aggregator), which maps resources and districts determined eligible for the NRHP, National Historic Landmarks (NHLs), and local historic districts (TxDOT 2025). The Aggregator also has a data set for the 1936 Texas Centennial Markers, which are eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A for Social History in the Monuments and Buildings of the Texas Centennial Multiple Property Submission Documentation Form (TxDOT 2025; Wilson and Smith 2018). SWCA also reviewed the study and project areas for Family Land Heritage Centennial Farms identified by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), as well as cemetery locations on Find a Grave's (2025) online database, and relevant locations in the Texas Freedom Colonies Project (TDA 2025; Texas Freedom Colonies Project 2025).

As part of the review, SWCA also examined the TxDOT Historic Overlay, a mapping/geographic information system (GIS) data set with historical maps and resource information covering most portions of the state (Foster et al. 2006), historical USGS quadrangle maps available on the USGS TopoView website (USGS 2025b), and historical aerial photography contained on the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) Historic Aerials website (NETR 2025) to determine if any historic-age resources such as potential historical features, and/or potential historical aboveground resources (PHRs) are located within the study and project areas.

The background review identified seven previously conducted archaeological surveys and four previously recorded archaeological sites located within the study area (see Figure 4). No NHLs, NRHP-listed or -eligible districts or properties, SALs, RTHLs, OTHMs, cemeteries, freedom colonies, or local neighborhood surveyed resources are in the study area (TDA 2025; Texas Freedom Colonies Project 2025; THC 2025a; TxDOT 2025). Based on historical map analysis, 22 PHRs are within the study area (see Figure 4) (NETR 2025; USGS 2025b). None of the PHRs are located within the project area; however, one PHR is located adjacent to (within 300 feet [91.4 m] of) the project area.

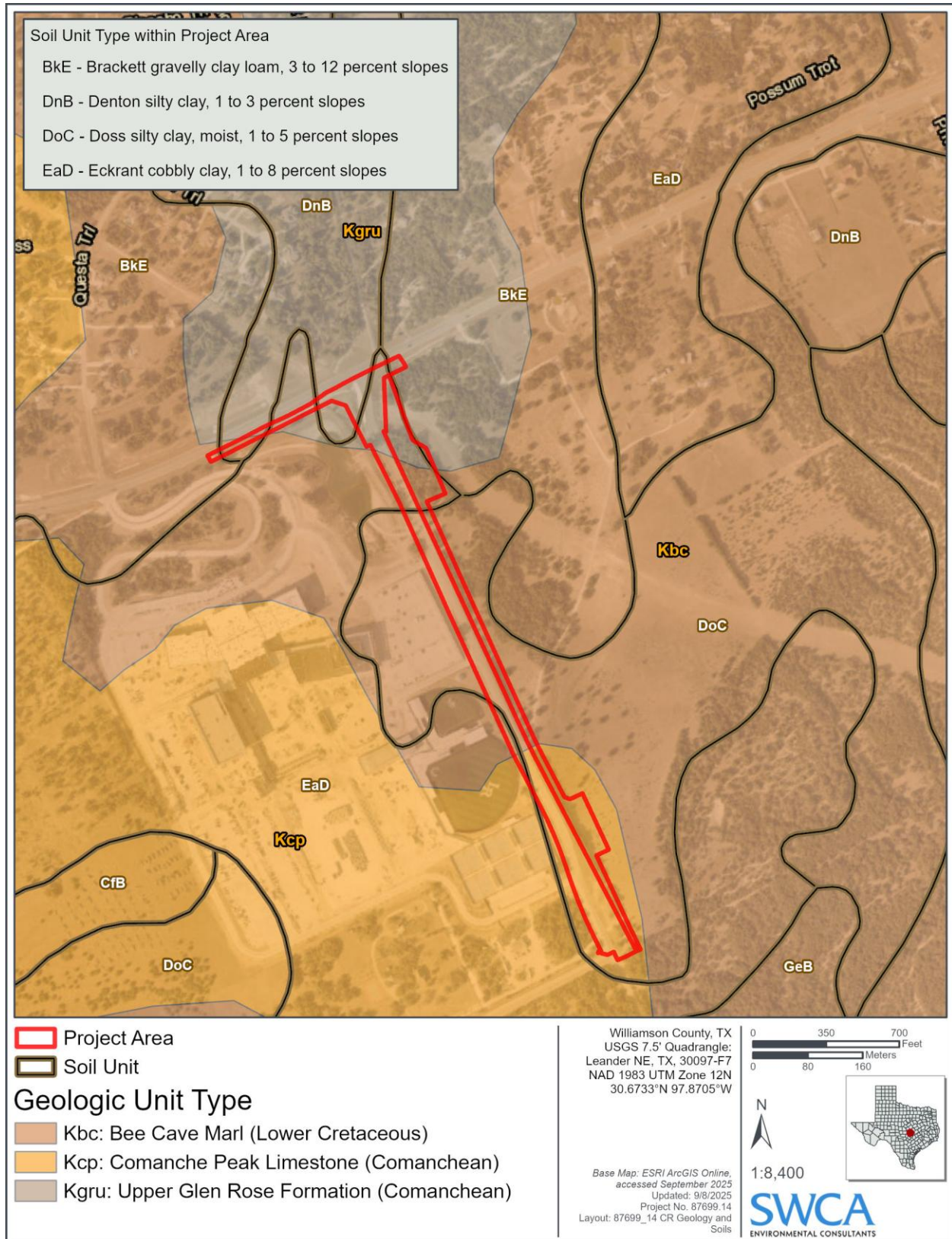


Figure 3. Geology and soils in the project and study area.

## Previous Cultural Resources Surveys

The background review identified seven previously conducted cultural resources surveys, four of which intersect project area (Table 1; see Figure 4) (THC 2025a). In 2005, an archaeological survey (Atlas No. 8500011956) was completed by Archaeological and Cultural Sciences Group (ACSG) and ACI Consulting on behalf of Williamson County for an improvement project of a 1.5-mile segment of CR 258, North of Seward Junction in Williamson County. No archaeological sites were recorded during that survey (Nash 2005).

An intensive archaeological survey (Atlas No. 8500020659) was conducted in 2012 by Blanton & Associates, Inc. (Blanton), on behalf of Williamson County for proposed improvements to CR 258 from Sunset Ridge to Ronald Reagan Boulevard in Williamson County. No archaeological sites were recorded, and no cultural material was encountered during that survey (Griffith 2012).

An intensive archaeological survey (Atlas No. 8500082667) was completed in 2020 by SWCA on behalf of American Structurepoint, Inc., for the proposed CR 258 from US 183 to Sunset Ridge Roadway, Williamson County, Texas. Surface scraping and 37 shovel tests were completed during this survey, and no cultural materials were encountered (Morton 2024).

In 2021, an archaeological survey (Atlas No. 8500082248) was completed by Tejas Archeology on behalf of Liberty Hill Independent School District (ISD) for the proposed Hill ISD new school expansion. One archaeological site (41WM1461) was recorded during this survey; however, that site has been determined to be ineligible (see Table 1) and did not warrant further investigation. No other cultural materials were encountered (Nelson and Perttula 2022). The remaining three previously conducted cultural resources surveys are discussed in Table 1.

**Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Investigations within the Project and Study Areas.**

Year	Survey Type	Atlas No.	Distance to Project area	ACT Permit	Investigating Firm	Agency	Comments
2005	Area survey	8500011956	Within the project area	3825	ACSG / ACI Consulting	Williamson County	Area survey for CR 258 1.5 mile segment improvement project. No archaeological sites recorded.
2012	Area survey	8500020659	Within the project area	6344	Blanton & Associates, Inc.	Williamson County	Area survey for proposed improvements to CR 258 from Sunset Ridge to Ronald Reagan Boulevard
2018	Area survey	8500082312	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	8605	Cox McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc.	TxDOT, CTRMA	Intensive Archaeological Survey for the Proposed 183A Phase III Improvements Project
2020	Area survey	8500082667	Within the project area	9353	SWCA Environmental Consultants	American Structurepoint, Inc.	Area survey of the CR 258 from US 183 for the Sunset Ridge Roadway Improvement Project
2021	Area survey	8500082248	Within the project area	30389	Tejas Archeology	Liberty Hill ISD	Area survey for the Proposed Hill ISD 95.61-acre New School Expansions

Year	Survey Type	Atlas No.	Distance to Project area	ACT Permit	Investigating Firm	Agency	Comments
2022	Area survey	8500082167	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	9799	Tejas Archeology	Liberty Hill ISD	Area survey for the Proposed Liberty Hill ISD New School Expansions
2022	Area survey	8500082246	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	30390	Tejas Archeology	Liberty Hill ISD	Area survey for the Proposed Liberty Hill ISD 79.23-acre (35.1-ha) New School Expansions

Source: THC (2025a)

Note: Bold indicates surveys that intersect project area.

## Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites

According to the background review, four previously recorded archaeological sites are located within the study area (i.e., 41WM1439, 41WM1440, 41WM1461, 41WM1550), however none are within the project area (Table 2; see Figure 4) (THC 2025a).

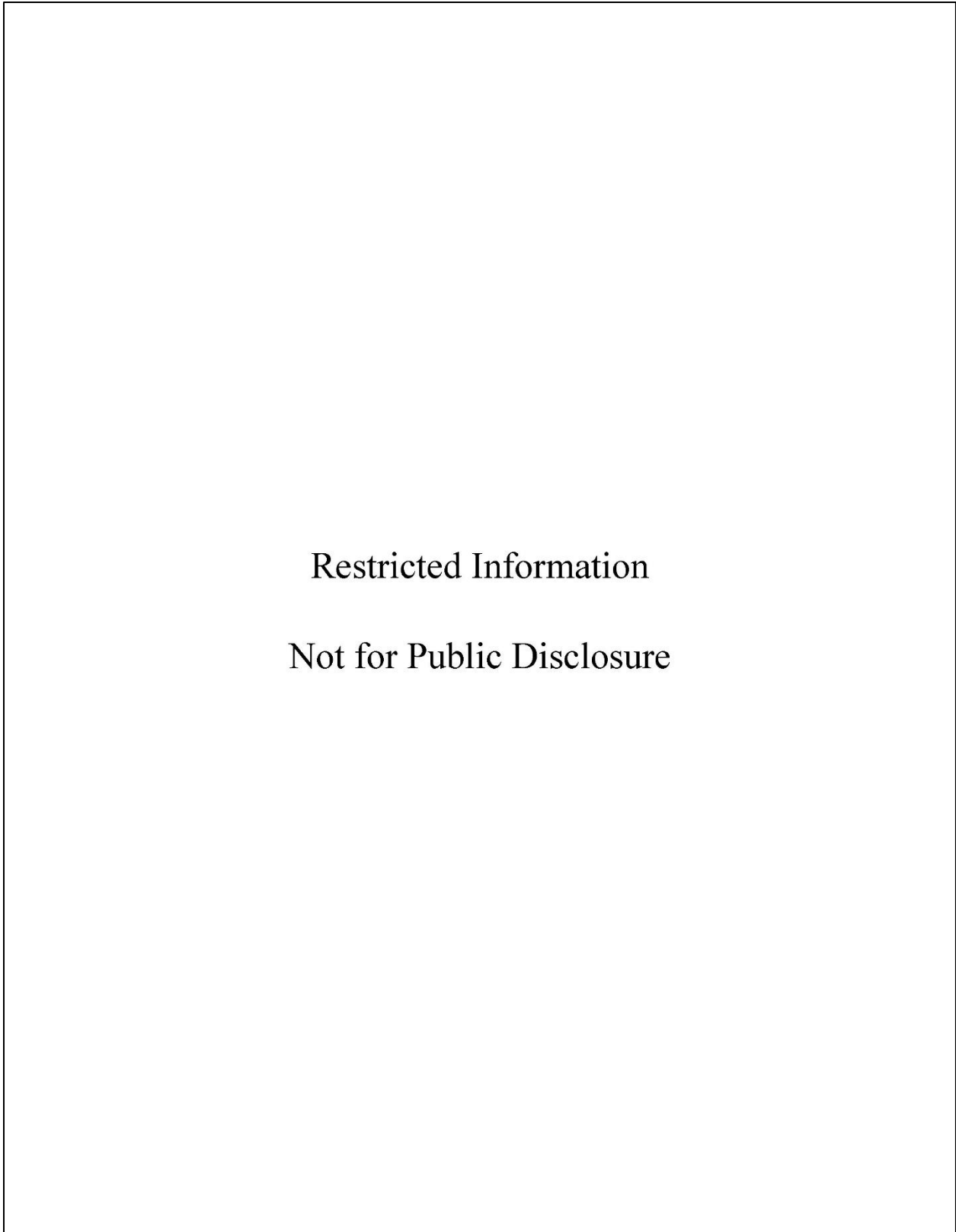
**Table 2. Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites within the Study Area**

Trinomial	Site Type	Distance to Project Area	Description	NRHP Eligibility
41WM1439	Unknown Prehistoric / Historic	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	Old barn built in 1969 and subsurface artifact scatter including bone, glass, metal and lithic debitage.	Ineligible (THC 5/7/2021)
41WM1440	Unknown prehistoric	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	Surface and subsurface lithic debris scatter.	Ineligible (THC 5/7/2021)
41WM1461	Unknown prehistoric	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	Surface and subsurface lithic debris scatter.	Ineligible (THC 12/21/2021)
41WM1550	Unknown prehistoric	Within 0.6 mile (1.0 km)	Surface and subsurface lithic debris scatter.	Ineligible (THC 8/22/2024)

Source: THC (2025a)

## Historical Map Review

A total of 22 PHRs are identified within the study area. None of the PHRs are within the project area; however, one PHRs is adjacent to (within 300 feet [91.4 m] of) the project area (see Figure 4). All resources are depicted on reviewed historical maps and aerial imagery dating from 1893 to 1962 (Foster et al. 2006; NETR 2025; USGS 2025b).



**Figure 4. Cultural resources background review results map.**

## **PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK**

### **Intensive Archaeological Survey**

Once an Antiquities Permit has been obtained, SWCA will conduct an archaeological field survey of the 4 acre (0.8 ha) project area. The field survey will be performed by a team of two SWCA archaeologists walking the proposed project area. SWCA archaeologists will survey a 212-foot-wide (65-m-wide) transects along the project area, examining the ground surface for artifacts and features. The survey will be of sufficient intensity to determine the nature, extent, and, if possible, potential significance of any cultural resources located within the proposed project area. Subsurface explorations will be accomplished through shovel testing. The placement and quantity of these excavations will depend on the level of disturbance within the proposed project boundary and the nature of the soils, geology, and topography. Although the western half of the project area has been previously investigated, no shovel testing was conducted within this portion (see Figure 4) (Burden and Goodson 2021). As such, SWCA proposes to shovel test the entire 4.0 acre (0.8 ha) project area.

Shovel tests will be approximately 12 inches (30 centimeters [cm]) in diameter and excavated in arbitrary 8-inch (20-cm) levels to 31 inches (80 cm) below surface unless the bottom of Holocene deposits in depositional areas, subsoil in upland areas, or bedrock are encountered which preclude reaching that depth. The matrix will be screened through ¼-inch mesh. The location of each shovel test will be plotted using a submeter accurate global positioning system (GPS) receiver, and each test will be recorded on appropriate project field forms. Shovel tests will be excavated according to Council of Texas Archaeologists (CTA) standards (CTA 2020) promulgated by the THC.

For projects less than 25 acres (10.1 ha) in size, CTA standards require a minimum of two shovel tests per acre. Based on these standards, a minimum of 10 shovel tests are required for this project. Any deviations from these standards will be clearly discussed and explained in the resulting report for the investigation.

### **Potential Deep Testing Area Review**

SWCA geoarchaeologist and Principal Investigator Analise Hollingshead, M.S., reviewed the project area to determine if deep mechanical investigations (i.e., backhoe trenching) are warranted and, if so, to what extent. The soils, geology, and lack of significant terrace development along the adjacent first-order creek in the project area precludes the likelihood of intact, deeply buried cultural deposits; therefore, deep testing investigations are not warranted within the project area, as currently defined. In the event that shovel test excavations determine the potential for cultural deposits deeper than 31 inches (80 cm) below surface, SWCA will make recommendations for any areas that would require deep testing (i.e., backhoe trenching). If deep testing is determined to be necessary, an ACT permit amendment detailing this proposed methodology will be submitted to the THC for review and approval.

### **Site Documentation**

If an archaeological site is encountered during the investigation, it will be explored as much as possible with consideration to land access constraints. All recorded sites will be mapped in detail and plotted on USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps with a hand-held, submeter accurate GPS unit and appropriate project maps for planning purposes. All identified sites will be assessed regarding potential significance so that recommendations can be made for property management (i.e., avoidance, non-avoidance, or further work).

All identified cultural resources will be delineated and recorded following CTA standards (CTA 2020) promulgated by the THC. An archaeological site is defined as physical evidence of human activity that is at least 50 years old and contain, or are characterized, by one or more of the following criteria:

- Ten or more artifacts (of any class and type) within a 50-foot (15-m) diameter area. Fire-cracked rock or artifacts that all appear to originate from a single source (e.g., one ceramic pot drop, one broken glass bottle) are not considered a site; however, discrete, single knapping episodes (activity areas) are also treated as a site.
- One or more datable archaeological features (with or without associated artifacts).
- Two or more undatable archaeological features within 100 feet (30.5 m) of each other.
- A single undatable feature with associated artifacts.

If an archaeological site is identified during the investigation, SWCA will delineate the site according to CTA standards (CTA 2020). Cultural manifestations observed greater than 100 feet (30.5 m) apart will be considered spatially unrelated, and cultural materials that do not fit within the archaeological site criteria will be considered Isolated Occurrences. As such, occurrences will be recorded noting the type and quantity of materials, as well as the size and shape of any features, architectural/construction details, possible function, and any potential relationship to nearby cultural materials. Additionally, guidelines set forth by the THC's *Guidance for Studying Late 19th-Century and Early 20th-Century Sites* (THC 2025b) will be followed for any historic-age sites documented within the project area.

SWCA proposes a non-collection survey. Artifacts will be tabulated, analyzed, and documented in the field but not collected. Temporally diagnostic artifacts will be described in detail and photographed in the field. This policy will reduce curation costs once the fieldwork is concluded; however, as per the stipulations of the Antiquities Permit, all paperwork and photographs generated during the field investigation must be curated at an approved repository.

The following procedures will be initiated in the event unanticipated human remains are discovered. Should human remains be encountered during construction, work in the immediate area will cease, and the archaeological survey crew and Principal Investigator will evaluate the finding(s) and provide recommendations for how to manage the resource under Texas Health and Safety Code and Chapter 49 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. Upon discovery of human remains by the Principal Investigator, the appropriate law enforcement officials, Williamson County representative, and the THC will be notified immediately. In all cases, the location will be immediately secured with all work to cease within the project area and a buffer zone of at least a 100-foot (30.5-m) radius from the discovery. Any human remains will be carefully covered with muslin fabric, geotextile and lightweight plastic sheeting, and reburied under a shallow blanket of soil to prevent unnecessary exposure. Care will be taken to prevent any disturbance of the potential human remains during removal of vehicles and equipment. Until appropriate consultation has occurred, the discovery shall remain protected from any disturbance, such that no human remains, or associated artifacts are touched, moved, or collected. Until consultation is complete, and a removal strategy is defined, the human remains will remain in place (in the ground), protected from natural forces, vandalism, and looting. Construction in the area of discovery may resume only upon approval and/or clearance by the THC (and law enforcement, if applicable).

## Historic Resources Survey

SWCA architectural historians who meet the Secretary of the Interior Professional Qualifications (36 CFR 61) for Architectural History and/or History will complete survey documentation according to National Park Service (NPS) and THC documentation standards (Denton 1999). The architectural historian will document historic-age resources built in or before 1980, 45 years prior to the estimated let date of 2025. Historic-age resources include any districts, buildings, structures, objects, and sites identified in the area of potential effects (APE). Resource documentation will adhere to the following parameters:

- Resources will be numbered sequentially from north to south in accordance with TxDOT documentation standards. Historic-age resources were numbered with the first alpha-number (i.e., 7A, 7B). Nonhistoric-age resources were included on the primary 'A' record and were assigned alpha-numbers after historic-age resources (i.e., 7C, etc.).
- Each historic-age resource will be documented on an inventory form with at least two photographs. Photographs will have a minimum resolution of 1200 x 1600.
- If a resource was not visible from the right-of-way, oblique and orthographic aerial imagery will be used to supplement documentation of the resource (Bing 2025; ESRI 2025).

SWCA will summarize each documented historic-age resource with a brief architectural description, research findings, integrity assessment, and an NRHP evaluation. SWCA will apply the following literature review to guide documentation and evaluation efforts:

- *A Field Guide to American Houses (Revised): The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture* by Virginia Savage McAlester (McAlester 2013)
- *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* by NPS Cultural Resources (NPS 1997)
- *Guidance for Studying Late 19th-Century and Early 20th-Century Sites and Dealing with Late 19th and Early 20th-Century Sites* (Denton 1999)

SWCA architectural historians will supplement archival research with these additional tools:

- Archival records available on Ancestry.com subscription service (Ancestry 2025).
- Williamson Central Appraisal District (CAD) data and records (Williamson CAD 2025). Williamson County Clerk records and CAD information available from the Williamson County Courthouse in Georgetown.
- Historical aerial imagery and topographic maps available from the NETR Historic Aerials database (NETR 2025).

SWCA anticipates one survey location for this project: the agricultural complex and its associated parcels which intersect the proposed project right-of-way areas.

## **Reporting and Curation**

SWCA will prepare a single draft report of the investigation detailing the results of the archaeological and historic resources surveys. The report will conform to THC and CTA reporting standards (CTA 2025). The report will document the general nature of the project area, the methodology used in the investigation, the presence and condition of any previously recorded sites revealed in the records review, the general nature and extent of cultural resources encountered during the archaeological survey, recommendations on the need for further work, and the potential significance of the cultural resources regarding future development and NRHP/SAL status.

SWCA will submit a digital draft copy of the report to Williamson County for review and comment. Once this has been accomplished, SWCA will incorporate any appropriate edits and will submit a final draft report to the THC for review and comment. As part of completing Antiquities Permit requirements, SWCA will furnish two electronic copies of the final report on a tagged PDF formatted CD, as well as project area shapefiles, to the THC, and complete an Abstracts in Texas Contract Archeology Summary form and abstract text online. Field records will be curated at an approved curatorial facility which, in this case, is the Center for Archaeological Research at The University of Texas at San Antonio, per requirements of the ACT.

## REFERENCES CITED

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- Council of Texas Archaeologists (CTA). 2020. Intensive Terrestrial Survey Guidelines. Standards and Guidelines Committee. Updated March 30, 2020. Available at: <https://counciloftexasarcheologists.org/Standards-and-Guidelines>. Accessed July 2025.
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