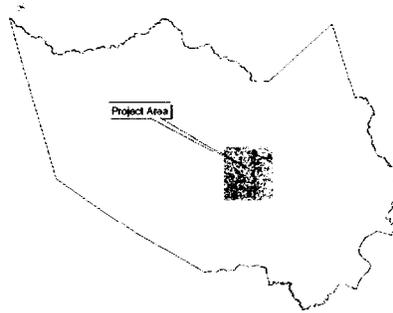


**SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED
HOMESTEAD ROAD 75-ACRE DETENTION BASIN,
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

Harris County Flood Control District Project Number H500-01-00-R001

Texas Antiquities Permit No. 3741



by
Douglas G. Mangum
Project Archeologist
and
Roger G. Moore
Principal Investigator

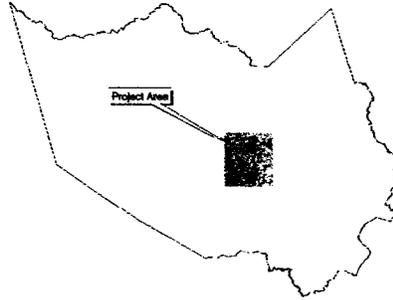


Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc.
Report of Investigations Number 435
June 2005

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ABSTRACT

In April of 2005, Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. of Houston, Texas conducted a surface survey of the proposed 75 acre Homestead Road Detention Basin (HCFCD Project Number H500-01-00-R001) in Harris County, Texas. The investigation was performed for Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) under Antiquities Permit Number 3741. The results will be subject to review by the Texas Historical Commission and HCFCD. A total of 51 shovel tests were excavated during the survey of the proposed detention basin. Basal clay or sterile clay subsoils were reached in all 51 units. No cultural materials or features were observed during this investigation.

It is the recommendation of Moore Archeological Consulting that construction of the proposed Homestead Road Detention Basin be permitted to proceed with no further cultural resource investigations. Should archeological deposits or features be encountered during construction, it is advised that construction cease in the immediate area of the finds and the Archeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission should be contacted for further consultation.

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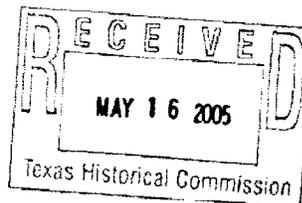
Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc.

3511 Houston Avenue Suite B
Houston, Texas 77009
www.moore-archeological.com

Office (713) 861-8663
Laboratory (713) 861-2323
Fax (713) 861-8627

May 11, 2005

Mark Denton
Archeology Division
Texas Historical Commission
PO Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711-2276



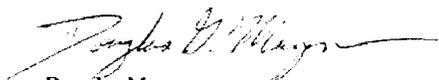
Re: Survey of the Proposed Homestead Road 75-Acre Detention Basin, Harris County, Texas.

THC Permit No. 3741
HCFCID Project ID H500-01-00-R001
MAC PN 05-36, ROI 435

Dear Mr. Denton,

Enclosed are two copies of the above referenced draft report. We look forward to your review of the manuscript.

Sincerely,


Douglas Mangum
Project Archeologist

NO HISTORIC
PROPERTIES AFFECTED
PROJECT MAY PROCEED

By 
for F. Lawrence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer
Date 6-7-05

DRAFT REPORT
ACCEPTABLE

Please submit 20 final report copies

by 
for F. Lawrence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer
Date 6-7-05



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR
JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN
F. LAWRENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 12, 2005

Roger Moore, Ph.D.
Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc.
3511 Houston Avenue, Suite B
Houston, TX 77009

Re: Project review under the Antiquities Code of Texas
75-ac. Detention Basin HCFCO #H1500-01-00-R001, Harris County
Texas Antiquities Permit #3741

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for your Antiquities Permit Application for the above referenced project. This letter presents the final copy of the permit application from the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission, the state agency responsible for administering the Antiquities Code of Texas.

Please keep this copy for your records. Additionally, please note that the Antiquities Permit investigations require production of 20 copies of the final report and verification that any artifacts recovered and records produced during the investigations are curated at the repository listed in the permit.

If you have any questions concerning this permit or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Lillie Thompson at 512/463-1858. The reviewer for this project is Mark Denton, 512/463-6096.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. Lawrence Oaks".

for
F. Lawrence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer

FLO/ft

Enclosure

Cc: Catherine Elliott, HCFCO

State of Texas
TEXAS ANTIQUITIES COMMITTEE
ARCHEOLOGY PERMIT # 3741

This permit is issued by the Texas Historical Commission, hereafter referred to as the Commission, represented herein by and through its duly authorized and empowered representatives. The Commission, under authority of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Title 9, Chapter 191, and subject to the conditions hereinafter set forth, grants this permit for:

Intensive Survey

To be performed on a potential or designated landmark or other public land known as:

Title: 75-ac. Detention Basin HCFCD #H500-01-00-R001
County: Harris
Location: Central Harris County just north fo Hunting Bayou

Owned or Controlled by: (hereafter known as the Permittee):

Harris County Flood Control District
9900 Northwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77092

Sponsored by (hereafter known as the Sponsor):

Harris County Flood Control District
9900 Northwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77092

The Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm representing the Owner or Sponsor is:

Roger Moore
Moore Arch. Cons., Inc., 3511 Houston Ave., Ste. B
Houston, TX 77008

This permit is to be in effect for a period of:

5 years

and Will Expire on:

4/11/10

During the preservation, analysis, and preparation of a final report or until further notice by the Commission, artifacts, field notes, and other data gathered during the investigation will be kept temporarily at:

Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc.

Upon completion of the final permit report, the same artifacts, field notes, and other data will be placed in a permanent curatorial repository at:

Texas Archeological Research Lab.

Scope of Work under this permit shall consist of:

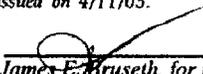
Shovel testing of the proposed 75-acre detention basin. For details, see technical proposal submitted with permit application.

ARCHEOLOGY PERMIT # 3741

This permit is granted on the following terms and conditions:

- 1) This project must be carried out in such a manner that the maximum amount of historic, scientific, archeological, and educational information will be recovered and preserved and must include the scientific techniques for recovery, recording, preservation and analysis commonly used in archeological investigations.
- 2) The Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, serving for the Owner/Permittee and/or the Project Sponsor, is responsible for insuring that specimens, samples, artifacts, materials and records that are collected as a result of this permit are appropriately cleaned, and cataloged for curation. These tasks will be accomplished at no charge to the Commission, and all specimens, artifacts, materials, samples, and original field notes, maps, drawings, and photographs resulting from the investigations remain the property of the State of Texas, or its political subdivision, and must be curated at an appropriate repository. Verification of curation by the repository is also required, and duplicate copies of any requested records shall be furnished to the Commission before any permit will be considered complete.
- 3) The Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm serving for the Owner/Permittee, and/or the Project Sponsor is responsible for the publication of results of the investigations in a thorough technical report containing relevant descriptions, maps, documents, drawings, and photographs. A draft copy of the report must be submitted to the Commission for review and approval. Any changes to the draft report requested by the Commission must be made or addressed in the report, or under separate written response to the Commission. Once a draft has been approved by Commission, twenty (20) copies of the final report shall be furnished to the Commission.
- 4) If the Owner/Permittee, Project Sponsor, or Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm fails to comply with any of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure or with any of the specific terms of this permit, or fails to properly conduct or complete this project within the allotted time, the permit will fall into default status and/or the Commission may cancel the permit until such time that the terms of the permit are properly completed. Notification of Cancellation shall be sent to the Owner/Permittee and the Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, and all work associated with the permit must then stop immediately upon receipt of the notice. Notification of Default status shall be sent to the Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, and the Principal Investigator will not be eligible to be issued any new permits until such time that the conditions of this permit are complete.
- 5) The Owner/Permittee, Project Sponsor, and Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, in the conduct of the activities hereby authorized, must comply with all laws, ordinances and regulations of the State of Texas and of its political subdivisions including, but not limited to, the Antiquities Code of Texas; they must conduct the investigation in such a manner as to afford protection to the rights of any and all lessees or easement holders or other persons having an interest in the property; and they must return the property to its original condition insofar as possible, to leave it in a state which will not create hazard to life nor contribute to the deterioration of the site or adjacent lands by natural forces.
- 6) Any duly authorized and empowered representative of the Commission may, at any time, visit the site to inspect the field work as well as the field records, materials, and specimens being recovered.
- 7) For reasons of site security associated with nautical historical resources, the Project Sponsor (if not the Owner/Permittee), Principal Investigator, and Investigation Firm shall not issue any press releases, or divulge to the news media, either directly or indirectly, information regarding the specific location of, or other information that might endanger those resources, or their associated artifacts without first consulting with the Commission, and the State agency or political subdivision of the State that owns or controls the land where the resource has been discovered.
- 8) This permit may not be assigned by the Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, Owner/Permittee, or Project Sponsor in whole, or in part to any other individual, organization, institution, or corporation not specifically mentioned in this permit, without the written consent of the Commission.
- 9) Hold Harmless: The Owner/Permittee hereby expressly releases the State and agrees that Owner/Permittee will hold harmless, indemnify, and defend (including reasonable attorney's fees and costs of litigation) the State, its officers, agents, and employees in their official and/or individual capacities from every liability, loss, or claim for damages to persons or property, direct or indirect of whatsoever nature arising out of, or in any way connected with, any of the activities covered under this permit.
- 10) Addendum: The Owner/Permittee, Project Sponsor and Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm must abide by any addenda hereto attached.

Upon a finding that it is in the best interest of the State, this permit is issued on 4/11/05.


 James E. Bruseth, for the
 Texas Historical Commission

INTRODUCTION

In April of 2005, a crew from Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc., of Houston, Texas conducted an archeological survey of the proposed 75 acre Homestead Road Detention Basin (HCFCD Project Number H500-01-00-R001) in Harris County, Texas (Figures 1-4). This investigation deals with a 75-acre tract just north of Hunting Bayou and immediately east of Homestead Road in central Harris County. Within this tract it is proposed that the construction of a flood control detention basin will be occur. The investigation was conducted under TAC Permit Number 3741 for Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD). The results will be subject to review by HCFCD and the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

The objective of the investigation is to determine the presence or absence of cultural materials within the location proposed for the project. If possible it will also assess any potentially impacted archeological sites and provide recommendations regarding mitigation measures, if any are necessary. Finally it will provide a report of the results of the survey to HCFCD and THC.

Based on the soils it was not anticipated that deep reconnaissance (in the form of backhoe trenching) would be necessary for this project. Only if deep deposits were found during the shovel testing would it be necessary to reevaluate this methodology.

The crew excavated a total of 51, 30 x 30-centimeter (1' x 1') shovel tests during the survey at preset intervals as described in the METHODS section of this report. Project Archeologist Randy Ferguson and Crewmember Steven Hall conducted this investigation under the supervision of Project Archeologist Douglas G. Mangum and the Principal Investigator, Roger G. Moore Ph.D.

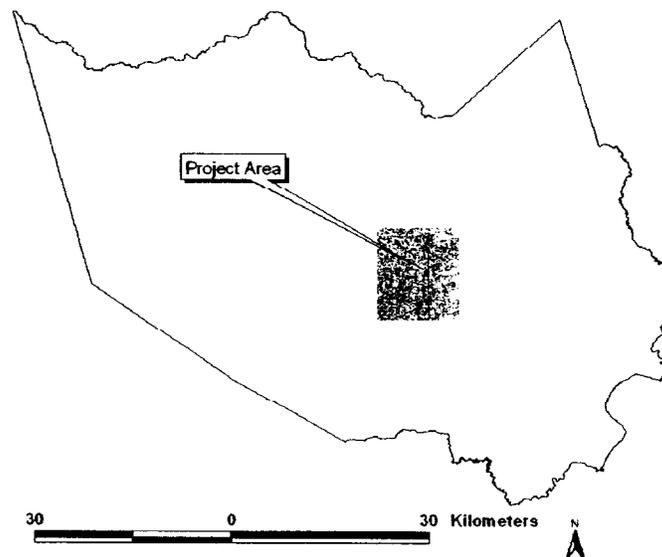


Figure 1. Project Area in Harris County

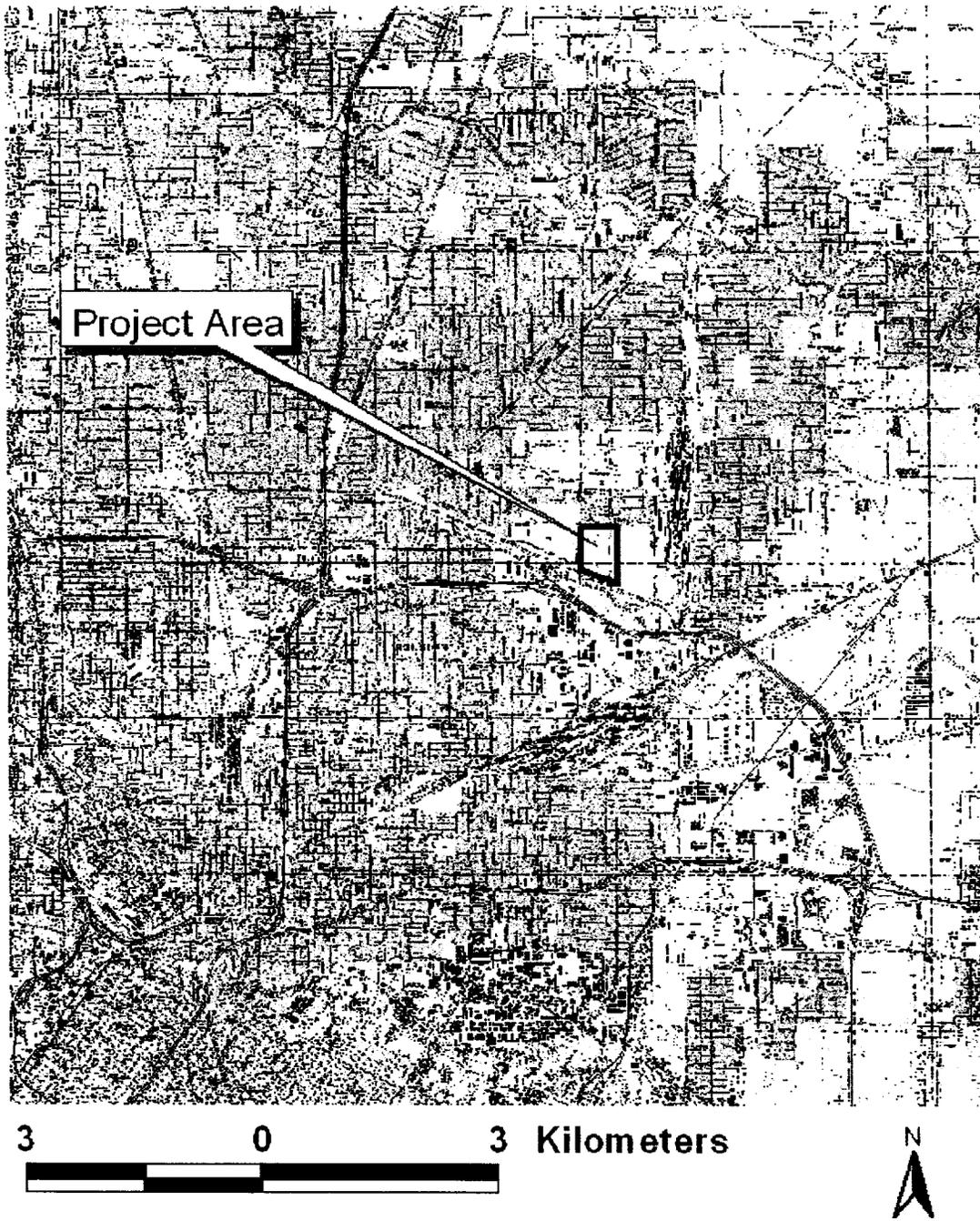


Figure 2. Project Area on the Settegast USGS Quadrangle Map (299514)

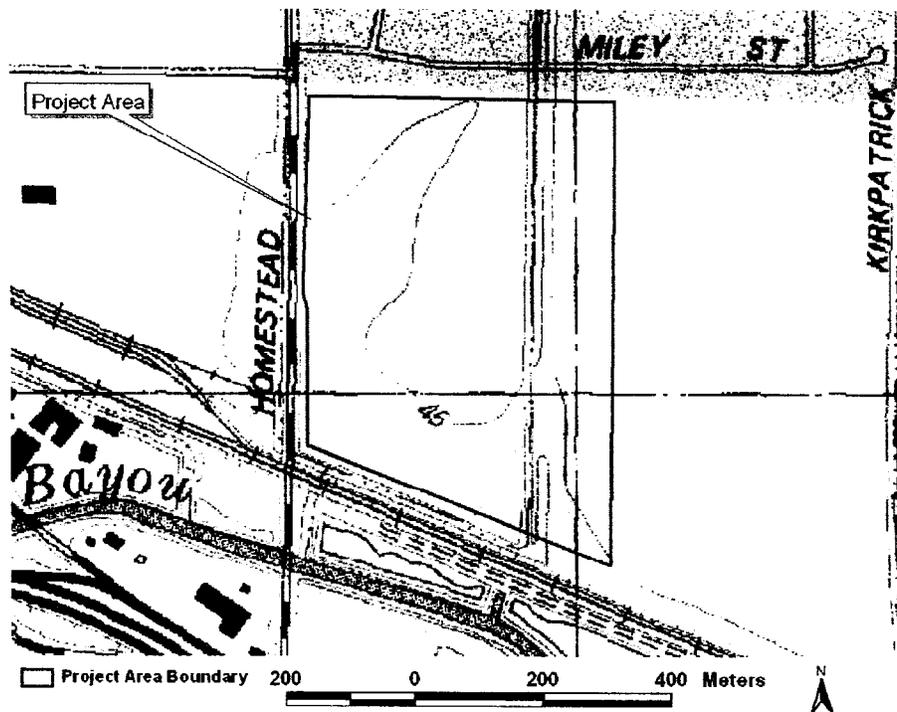


Figure 3. Detail of Project Area

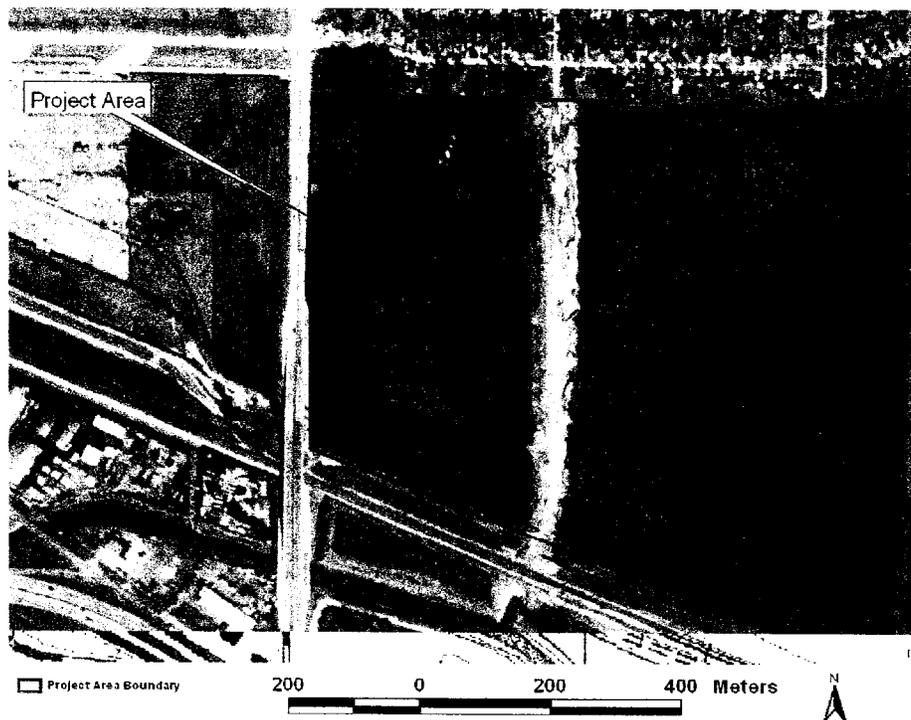


Figure 4. Aerial view of Project Area.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Modern Climate

The modern climate of the Project Area can aptly be characterized as hot and wet for most of the year. The mean annual temperature for the Study Area region is about 20 degrees Celsius (68 F), with mean rainfalls of 117 centimeters (46"). Summer temperatures average about 34 degrees Centigrade (93 F) with temperatures above 38 degrees (100 F) common, during the months of July and August (Carr 1967; St. Clair et al. 1975). The average winter temperature is a mild 18 degrees Centigrade (64 F). Freezes are infrequent and of short duration, with an average of 271 frost-free days per year.

Rainfall varies from 7 centimeters (2.7") in March to 11 centimeters (4.3") in December, with July to December rainfalls often supplemented by tropical fronts and storms. The rainfall records range from a low of 45 centimeters (17.7") to a high of 185 centimeters (72.8"). Prevailing winds are usually from the southeast except during the winter months when 'Northers' sweep into the area.

Modern Flora and Fauna

Southeast Texas is within the Austroriparian biotic province near its western boundary with the Texan province (Blair 1950:98-101). This boundary, set by available moisture levels, is marked by pine-hardwood forests on the eastern Gulf coastal plain. The Project Area is situated within the pine-oak forest subdivision of the Austroriparian province and includes, within its western limits, portions of the coastal prairie (Tharp 1939).

Grasses within the coastal prairies and marshes vegetation area are described from a range-management perspective in Hoffman *et al.* (nd: 45). This 4046873 hectares (10,000,000-acre) area consists of 3844529 hectares (9,500,000 acres) of gulf prairies and 202343 hectares (500,000 acres) of gulf marshes. The regional vegetation of the coastal prairies is characterized as follows:

"The principal grasses of the prairies are tall bunchgrass, including big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardi*), little bluestem, seacoast bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*, var. *littorus*), Indiangrass, eastern gamagrass (*Tripasum dactyloides*), switchgrass, and gulf cordgrass. Seashore saltgrass is common on moist saline sites. Grazing pressures have changed the composition of the range vegetation so that the grasses now existing are broomsedge bluestem, smutgrass, threeawns, tumblegrass and many other inferior grasses. The other plants that have invaded the productive grasslands are oak underbrush, macartney rose, huisache, mesquite, pricklypear, ragweed, bitter sneezeweed, broomweed, and many other unpalatable annual weeds" (Hoffman *et al.* nd: 45).

The dominant floral species of the pine-oak forest subdivision of the Austroriparian biotic province include loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), yellow pine (*Pinus echinata*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), post oak (*Quercus stellata*), and blackjack oak (*Quercus marilandica*). Hardwood forests are found on lowlands within the Austroriparian and are characterized

by such trees as sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*) and other species of oaks, elms, and ashes, as well as the highly diagnostic Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*) and palmetto (*Sabal glabra*). Swamps are common in the region.

Blair (1950) and Gadus (Gadus and Howard 1990:12-15) define the following mammals as common within the Austroriparian province: white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), *Scalopus aquaticus*, *Pipistrellus subflavus*, *Lasiurus borealis*, *Sciurus niger*, *Sciurus carolinensis*, *Glaucomys volans*, *Geomys breviceps*, *Reithrodonomys fulvescens*, *Peromyscus leucopus*, *Oryzomys palustris*, cotton rat (*Sigmodon hispidus*), packrat (*Neotoma floridana*), eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), and swamp rabbit (*Sylvilagus aquaticus*). Bison (*Bison bison*) may have been present on nearby grasslands at various times in the past (Gadus and Howard 1990:15).

Common land turtles include eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*) and *Terrapene ornata*, while snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), mud turtle (*Kinosteron* spp.), river cooter (*Chrysemys concinna*), and diamondback terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*) comprise common water turtles. Common lizards include *Anolis carolinensis*, *Sceloporus undulatus*, *Leiopisma laterale*, *Eumeces laticeps*, *Cnemidophorus sexlineatus*, and *Ophiosaurus ventralis*. Snakes and amphibians are also present in considerable numbers and diversity.

The resources provided by river-influenced estuarine and marsh environments were undoubtedly of great importance to the littoral residents of southeast Texas. These resources are admirably summarized by Gadus (Gadus and Howard 1990: 12 - 15). Estuarine fish resources cited by Gadus include sand trout (*Cynoscion arenarius*), spotted sea trout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*), Atlantic croaker (*Micropogon undulatus*), striped mullet (*Mugil cephalus*), southern flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*), shortnose gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*), channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), freshwater drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*), red drum (*Sciaenops ocellata*), and bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) and other sunfishes. Common shellfish include Rangia (*Rangia cuneata*), *Macoma* spp., dwarf surf clam (*Mulinia lateralis*), oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*), *Vioscalba louisianae*, and olive nerite (*Neritina [Vitta] reclinata*). Arthropods, such as shrimp and crab, are also numerous and highly productive.

Area marshes replete with plants such as cordgrasses (*Spartina* spp.), reeds (*Phragmites* spp.), giant millet (*Setaria magna*), and bullrushes (*Scirpus* spp.) would have formed a highly attractive and bountiful magnet for waterfowl (Gadus and Howard 1990).

The Project Area was observed to vary between two vegetation types. The first was in the riparian zone along the unnamed drainage. This area had numerous mature hardwoods as well as a mixture of shrubs, vines, and other significant undergrowth. The remaining portion of the Project Area appeared to have been clear cut at some point in the recent past and had time to grow back. This area had very dense zones of shrubs, thorn vines

and poison ivy. Access into these areas was difficult and where possible was achieved cutting in from nearby clear areas.

Soils and Geology

The segment of the Texas Gulf Coast encompassing the Project Area is on soils deposited over the last million to two million years. It sits on the Beaumont Formation, bands of alluvial deltaic soils running parallel to the coastline and laid down during a series of glacial/interglacial intervals during the Middle to Late Pleistocene epoch. Downcutting and erosion processes during the most recent glacial period incised and widened many of the river drainages running through the Beaumont Formation. After the sea levels rose during the Holocene, river valleys filled with alluvial soils creating broad, level floodplains.

The proposed project area is depicted on sheet 81 of the Soil Survey of Harris County, Texas (Wheeler 1976). Three soil types fall within the route of the Project Area. These are Bernard-Urban land complex, Clodine-Urban land complex, and a small amount of Lake Charles-Urban land complex. The Bernard-Urban makes up approximately 90% of the overall Project Area. The Clodine and Lake Charles-Urban soils make up the remainder. The Bernard soils are considered somewhat poorly drained loamy ancient alluvium with low geoarcheological potential (Abbott 2001). The Clodine is a poorly drained loamy ancient alluvium with a low/moderate geoarcheological potential (Ibid.). The Lake Charles soils are considered somewhat poorly drained loamy ancient alluvium, and has a low potential (Ibid.). The Urban land designation of the soils represented within the Project Area means that these soils have either had structures built upon them or have likely been impacted by various episodes of grading, filling, or cutting. There may be undisturbed soil layers beneath fill in some Urban land complex soils, however the likelihood of intact deposits is lower.

The overall Project Area is basically flat, though sloping gently down towards Hunting Bayou. There is also a depression in the area of the unnamed drainage in the western portion of the tract.

Hydrology

The Project Area has only one remnant natural (i.e. native) stream channel within its boundaries. This is an abandoned, unnamed tributary to Hunting Bayou, which runs generally from the center of the northern boundary to the southwest corner of the Project Area (Appendix A: Photographs 2 & 3). There are also two man made drainage canals within or immediately adjacent to the Project Area. One parallels Homestead Road along its western right-of-way (ROW) while the other runs north to south through the eastern half of the Project Area. The mapped channel of Hunting Bayou to the south of the Project Area strongly suggests that the stream has been significantly modified by human usage. This is confirmed by a review of older editions of the quadrangle maps.

CULTURAL HISTORY

The Project Area is in the Southeast Texas Archeological Region, which has been summarized by Patterson (1995). Other recent prehistoric summaries with the prehistory of the Houston area include Ensor (1991), and Moore and Moore (1991). The reader is referred to these works for detailed data on the prehistory of this region.

Previous investigations in Southeast Texas have demonstrated that occupation of this area began as early as 12,000 years ago. All through prehistory the inhabitants were nomadic hunter-gatherers. Ensor (1991) has proposed a prehistoric cultural sequence of periods for Southeast Texas which are as follows: Paleo-Indian (10,000-8,000 BC), Early Archaic (8,000-5,000 BC), Middle Archaic (5,000-1,000 BC), Late Archaic (1,000 BC – AD 400), Early Ceramic (AD 400-AD 800), and Late Ceramic (AD 800-AD 1750).

Evidence for prehistoric occupation of Southeast Texas is scarce in the Paleo-Indian period, and indeed, is ambiguous through the Middle Archaic period (Patterson 1983; Aten 1983:156-157). Although most previously recorded sites date to the Late Archaic and Ceramic periods, it is probable that earlier dating sites have been lost to erosion, channel cutting, and, in the case of very early sites, to rising sea level. In cases where early-dating artifacts have been found, such as Wheat's (1953) finds of projectile points dating from the Paleo-Indian through Middle Archaic periods at Addicks Reservoir in western Harris County, the materials occur in deposits with poor contextual integrity.

Sites dating from the Late Archaic through the Ceramic periods are more commonly found in the region. During the Late Archaic period, modern climatic conditions evolved, sea level rose and stabilized, and coastal woodlands expanded. Aten (1983) hypothesizes that an increase in population and the establishment of seasonal rounds, including regular movement from littoral to inland areas occurred during the Late Archaic period. Relevant to the prehistory of the Project Area are Hall's (1984) data from the Allens Creek project in nearby Austin County, Texas. Excavations of a large cemetery there suggest a Late Archaic trade system linking Southeast Texas to Central Texas and into Arkansas.

Aten (1983) has proposed that ceramics were introduced in the artifact assemblage on the Upper Texas Coast at AD 100. Ensor (1991) places the beginnings of the Early Ceramic period at AD 400, which may be more applicable for inland areas. The Early Ceramic period is characterized by a continued growth in population. Ensor places the beginning of the Late Ceramic at AD 800, coinciding with the introduction of the bow and arrow. Plain sand-tempered pottery dominates throughout both parts of the Ceramic era. Story et al. (1990) defined the Mossy Grove Cultural Tradition for Late Prehistoric cultures in Southeast Texas with sandy paste pottery being the principle diagnostic artifact.

Although European settlement did not begin to seriously disrupt aboriginal habitation in the areas inland from the Upper Texas Coast until after AD 1700 (Patterson 1995; 249), European diseases, probably introduced by explorers and early traders, began to have impacts as early as AD 1528. Seven *recorded* epidemics ran through the tribes of the

study area between that year and AD 1890 (Ewers, 1974). The Project Area appears to have been within the territory of the Akokisa in the 18th and 19th centuries (Aten 1983). Other groups that may have resided in Harris County include the Atakapan, Karankawa, and the Tonkawa. During the 18th and 19th centuries disease, the mission system, and the fur trade acted to reduce, and in some cases exterminate, the indigenous populations.

PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

An examination of the Project Area was made in an Archeological Gazetteer produced for Harris County Flood Control by Moore Archeological Consulting (Dureka, 1998, updated by Moore Archeological Consulting in 2003). This document contains details of all recorded archeological investigations conducted within the county. According to the gazetteer there has been 1 previous survey within Harris County that touch on the Project Area.

In 2001 a crew from Greenstone Geoscience conducted surveys of segments of Hunting Bayou and the location for a proposed detention basin. This survey was conducted for Turner Collie and Braden and included the current Project Area. This investigation was conducted under TAC Permit Numbers 2431. Although the boundaries of this investigation included the current Project Area, an examination of shovel test maps suggests that this specific tract was insufficiently covered to insure archeological compliance. No cultural resources were found during either investigation and THC approved the findings of no effect.

METHODS

The pedestrian cultural resources survey covered 100% of the 75-acre survey area. The survey was conducted in accordance with prevailing standards accepted by the State, the Council of Texas Archeologists, and Section 106 regulations. All areas of exposed soil were examined for surface exposure of cultural remains and features. Shovel testing was conducted in an attempt to identify buried cultural resources within the Project Area. The survey methodology was based on the project limits within the proposed detention basin. Transects were run through the tract and an additional set of tests were dug along the unnamed drainage (Figure 5). Shovel tests were excavated along these transect at an interval of approximately every 100 meters (328 feet).

Alterations were made to shovel test intervals when necessary to avoid landscape variations such as roads and other impacted areas. Alterations were also made to allow testing of better landforms such as mounds and stream banks. All visible surfaces were examined for historic or prehistoric archeological materials. Surface visibility varied greatly throughout the Project Area, from 100%-0%. Some areas were eroded and provided complete visibility while other locations were invisible due to dense thickets and heavy groundcover.

The crew excavated all shovel tests in 10-cm (3.9") arbitrary levels and screened the soils through .6 centimeter (1/4") hardware cloth. Soils that were too compact or clayey to sieve through hardware cloth were broken up by hand. All materials were carefully examined for cultural artifacts. Location, size, depth, and all other information for each shovel test was recorded on standardized Moore Archeological Consulting shovel test forms. Shovel tests were immediately backfilled. The UTM locations of all shovel tests were recorded utilizing handheld, recreation-grade GPS units (Magellan GPS 315s). The location of each shovel test was then plotted on a USGS quadrangle map of the Project Area (Figure 5) utilizing ArcView 3.3.

Based on the soils it was not anticipated that deep reconnaissance (in the form of backhoe trenching) would be necessary for this project. It was proposed that should deep deposits be found during the shovel testing it would be necessary to reevaluate the need for backhoe trenching. If it was then determined that backhoe trenching was required, then a separate proposal and budget would be determined. However, all shovel tests hit basal clay. Thus it was determined that there is no need for backhoe trenching (see Results, below)

Any locality that produced either prehistoric or historic cultural remains was recorded on State of Texas archeological site forms for submission to Texas Historical Commission. In addition to form information, photographs, plan and stratigraphic sketches and measured drawings and crewmembers' daily field notes documented sites and features.

Investigations at any identified site or feature sought to determine site boundaries, depth, nature of the archeological deposits, and the site's state of preservation as far as was possible with shovel testing. Archeological sites and cultural features were photographed,

mapped in plan view and plotted with accuracy on USGS quadrangle maps and project maps. If possible, a recommendation for State Archeological Landmark and National Register of Historic Places eligibility was made.

For buried or obscure sites, boundaries were delineated through shovel test excavation. Where necessary, shovel tests were dug at 5 or 10-meter (16.5' or 33') intervals radially, generally in the cardinal directions from the presumed center of each site until no further artifacts were encountered in two successive units (or until the boundary of the Project Area was reached). The site boundaries on each radius were presumed to lie between the last artifact-producing test and the first sterile unit. Information on the depth and nature of the deposits was derived from shovel test results, as well as available surface observations. No prehistoric resources were found during this investigation.

Any prehistoric or potentially pre-1870 historic materials recovered from the shovel tests or other subsurface investigations, and any diagnostic cultural materials from the above periods found on the surface were collected and retained. No historic cultural resources were observed during this investigation.

Photographs were taken of the ROW and general landforms within the Project Area. Photographs were also taken of any feature that stood out (i.e. pimple mounds, structure remnants, etc.) and of localities that could not be dug for various reasons. Photograph direction, subject, photographer name, and dates were recorded on a standard Moore Archeological Consulting photographic log.

RESULTS

In April of 2005, a crew from Moore Archeological Consulting performed a pedestrian archeological survey of the proposed Homestead Detention Basin project in Harris County, Texas (Figures 1-4). As mentioned in the METHODS section, this survey was performed utilizing shovel testing along transects through the Project Area, and visual examination of all visible surfaces. This sampling methodology resulted in the excavation of 51 shovel tests during the survey and the visual inspection of approximately 51 acres of ground surface within the Project Area (Figure 5). On average one (1) shovel test was excavated per 1.5 acres within the Project Area. All of the 51 shovel tests excavated within the Project Area during the survey were sterile. No cultural resources were observed or recovered during the investigation.

All of the 51 total shovel tests reached intact basal clay or sterile subsoil clays. Two units were not dug deeply into the clay due to roots, although both were clearly within the basal clay. Six units were excavated into disturbed soils or artificial fill too deep to penetrate with shovel testing. It is felt that these shovel tests represent locales where significant truncation, mixing and/or artificial filling occurred in clay soils. It is felt that backhoe trenching is not necessary. Overall the appearance of the soils within the Project Area suggest that these soils were mixed, truncated and filled during prior clearing and channel modifications, including the building of the two man-made drainages.

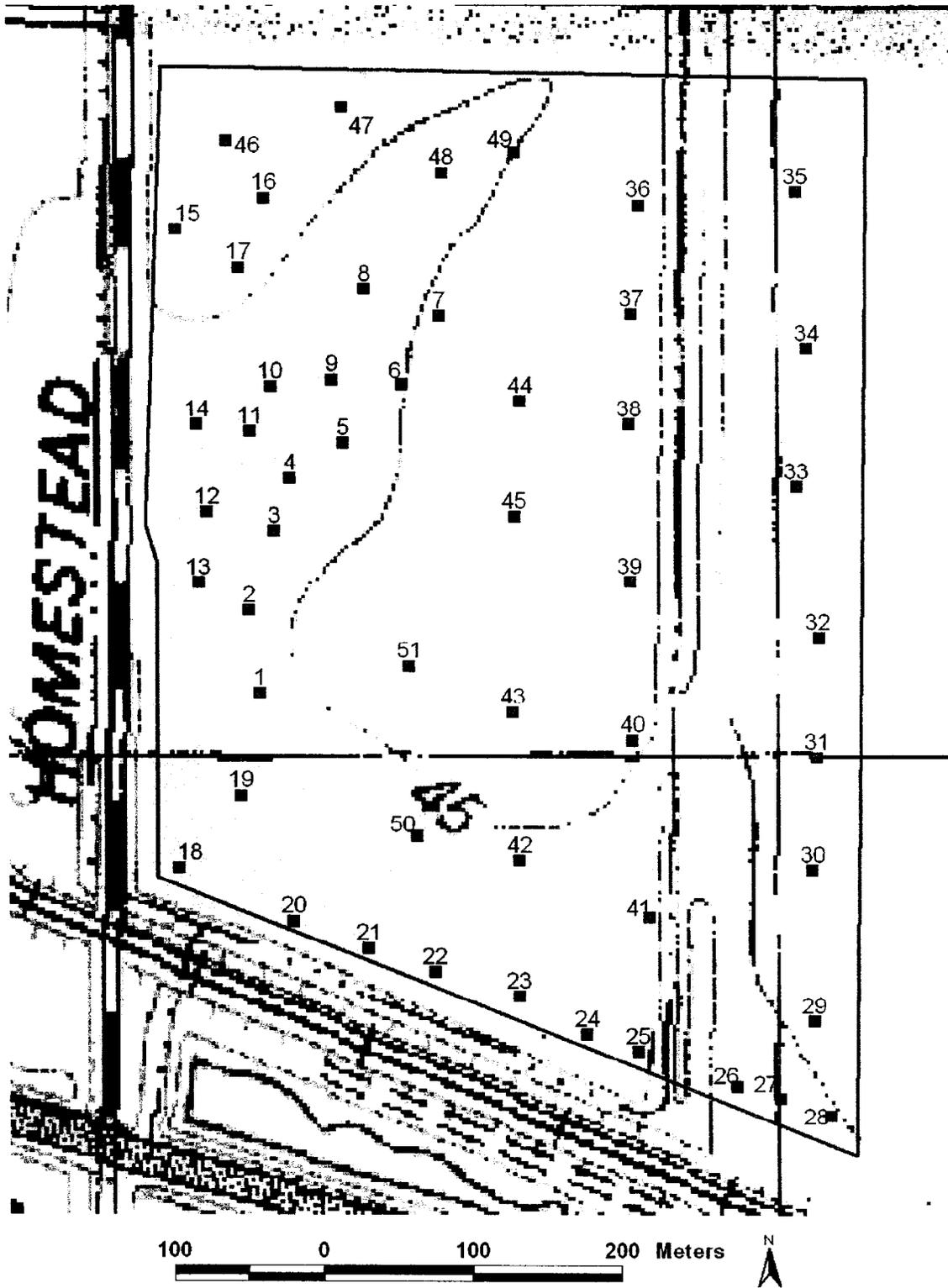


Figure 5. Shovel Test location within Project Area

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the negative findings of this archeological investigation reported herein it is the recommendation of Moore Archeological Consulting that no additional archeological investigation is necessary in the Project Area for the Homestead Road Detention Basin before construction begins. Should archeological deposits or features be encountered during construction, it is advised that construction cease in the immediate area of the finds and the Archeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission should be contacted for further consultation.

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APPENDIX A: Photograph Log



Photograph 1: North/south drainages and two-track road down central east part of Project Area.



Photograph 2: Natural drainage in western portion of Project Area.



Photograph 3: Small pond on southern edge of Project Area.

Shovel Test Log HCFC
75 Acre Homestead Road Survey

| No. | Recorder | Status | Depth | Description | Comment |
|-----|----------|----------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Hall | Negative | 0-20 21-52 | disturbed black clay black clay, sticky | |
| 2 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-18 19-52 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | CAC03 concretions in final 20 cm |
| 3 | Hall | Negative | 0-45 46-61 | black clay w/ pale brown sandy inclusions. Black clay | water table at 47 cmbs |
| 4 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-12 13-50 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | CAC03 concretions in final 10 cm |
| 5 | Hall | Negative | 0-38 39-40 41-57 | black clay w/ heavy roots very dk grayish brown clay dk grayish brown clay | |
| 6 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-9 10-50 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | few CAC03 concretions at bottom |
| 7 | Hall | Negative | 0-38 38 | black clay tree root blockage | |
| 8 | Hall | Negative | 0-30 31-50 | black clay dk gray clay | area possibly disturbed by drainage fill |
| 9 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-17 18-48 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | |
| 10 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-19 20-48 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | |
| 11 | Hall | Negative | 0-17 18-55 | black clay very dk gray clay | |
| 12 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-20 21-50 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | few CAC03 concretions at bottom |
| 13 | Hall | Negative | 0-40 41-55 | black clay, disturbed dk gray clay | |
| 14 | Hall | Negative | 0-35 36-41 42-45 | black clay very dk gray clay w/ black mottles black clay | extremely disturbed |
| 15 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-11 12-46 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr 4/1 dk gray clay | upper black clay appears truncated |
| 16 | Hall | Negative | 0-15 16-25 26-40 41-60 | black clay very dk gray clay dk gray clay lt gray clay | all has inclusions of the other colors - very disturbed |
| 17 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-16 17-50 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr 4/1 dk gray clay | few CAC03 concretions at bottom |
| 18 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-15 16-75 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray CL 10yr4/1 dk gray clay | |

Key
S= sand
C= clay
L= loam

Shovel Test Log HCFC
75 Acre Homstead Road Survey

| | | | | | |
|----|----------|----------|------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 19 | Hall | Negative | 0-12 13-20 21-45 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr4/2 dk grayish brown clay - disturbed 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 20 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-17 18-29 30-51 | clay fill 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | CACO3 concretions in final 10 cm |
| 21 | Hall | Negative | 0-10 11-16 17-50 | 10yr 3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr3/2 very dk grayish brown clay - disturbed 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 22 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-21 22-48 | disturbed, lg CACO3 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | CACO3 in final 10 cm |
| 23 | Hall | Negative | 0-16 17-30 31-40 | 10yr6/2 lt brownish gray C 10yr3/2 very dk grayish brown C, compact & friable 10yr 3/2 very dk grayish brown C, compact & sticky | |
| 24 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-30 31-53 | lt gray clay fill w/ CACO3 gray & dk gray clay fill w/ CACO3 | |
| 25 | Hall | Negative | 0-31 | clay fill | hit cement block at 31 cms |
| 26 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-55 | clay fill | |
| 27 | Hall | Negative | 0-18 19-50 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr 2/1 black clay | |
| 28 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-30 31-52 | 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | |
| 29 | Hall | Negative | 0-6 7-40 41-53 | 7.5yr6/1 gray clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 30 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-7 8-31 32-48 | humic layer - pine needles 10yr2/1 black clay disturbed 10yr4/1 dk gray clay w/ few yellow mottles | |
| 31 | Hall | Negative | 0-10 11-24 24-55 | 10yr7/1 lt gray clay 10yr5/2 grayish brown clay 10yr3/1 very dk grayish brown clay w/ yellow mottles | |
| 32 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-20 21-40 41-54 | clay fill 10yr3/2 very dk grayish brown clay few orange mottles 10yr 4/1 dk gray clay few orange mottles | |
| 33 | Hall | Negative | 0-3 4-45 | 10yr5/2 grayish brown clay 10yr4/1 dk gray clay w/ yellow mottles | |

Key
S= sand
C= clay
L= loam

Shovel Test Log HCFC
75 Acre Homestead Road Survey

| | | | | | |
|----|----------|----------|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 34 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-25 26-52 | 10yr2/1 black clay somewhat disturbed 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay few yellow mottles | |
| 35 | Hall | Negative | 0-14 15-55 | 10yr7/1 light gray clay 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 36 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-23 24-52 | 10yr3/2 very dk grayish brown clay 10yr4/2 dk grayish brown clay w/ few yellow mottles | CACO3 concretions in final 10 cm |
| 37 | Hall | Negative | 0-8 9-20 21-50 | 10yr7/1 lt gray clay 10yr4/1 dk gray clay 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 38 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-12 13-33 34-50 | clay fill 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr4/1 dk gray clay w/ few yellow mottles | CACO3 conc in final 20 cm |
| 39 | Hall | Negative | 0-15 16-51 | 10yr4/1 dk gray clay 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 40 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-13 14-58 | disturbed clay mix 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | |
| 41 | Hall | Negative | 0-15 16-40 41-45 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr 4/1 dk gray CL 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 42 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-20 21-40 41-50 | 10yr3/2 very dk grayish brown CL 10yr2/1 black clay 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | CACO3 flecking |
| 43 | Hall | Negative | 0-8 9-20 21-53 | 10yr7/1 lt gray clay 10yr4/2 dk grayish brown C 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 44 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-16 17-36 37-52 | disturbed clay loam 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay 10yr4/1 dk gray clay | CACO3 concretions in final 15cm |
| 45 | Hall | Negative | 0-12 13-45 46-55 | 10yr7/1 lt gray SC w/ pale brown mottles 10yr4/1 dk gray clay 10yr3/2 very dk grayish brown clay | |
| 46 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-13 14-35 36-48 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray CL 10yr5/2 grayish brown FSCL 10yr5/2 grayish brown FSC w/ orange mottles & Fe concretions | |
| 47 | Hall | Negative | 0-18 19-48 | 10yr4/2 dk grayish brown C 10yr3/1 very dk gray clay | |
| 48 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-18 19-53 | 10yr3/1 very dk gray CL 10yr4/1 dk gray clay | CACO3 concretions in final 15 cm |

Key
S= sand
C= clay
L= loam

Shovel Test Log HCFC
75 Acre Homestead Road Survey

| | | | | |
|----|----------|----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 49 | Hall | Negative | 0-9 10yr7/1 lt gray SC 10-35 10yr4/2 dk grayish brown C 36-41 10yr2/1 black clay 42 impassible root 10yr3/1 very dk grayish brown clay | |
| 50 | Hall | Negative | 0-20 10yr7/1 lt gray clay w/ pale brown mottles 21-40 10yr7/1 lt gray clay w/ pale brown mottles 41-57 10yr2/1 black clay | |
| 51 | Ferguson | Negative | 0-30 10yr3/1 very dk gray CL 31-52 10yr4/1 dk gray clay | CAC03 concretions in final 10 cm |

Key
 S= sand
 C= clay
 L= loam