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October 27, 2005

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

**Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34284, Southwest Gulf Railroad Company –
Construction and Operation Exemption – Medina County, TX**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

This will supplement my September 15, 2005 letter on behalf of Southwest Gulf Railroad forwarding the Eastern Route cultural resources report prepared by GTI Environmental, SGR's cultural resources consultants. GTI has now determined that some of the figures in its report contained a small error due to a recently discovered issue with respect to the georeferencing process used. A revised Report is attached, and the changes to the Report are discussed below.

Specifically, GTI has advised that it georeferenced historic county maps, topo maps, and aerial photographs for the proposed eastern route using control points within the immediate area surrounding the Eastern Route. Any geographic information system software will complete the georeferencing by rubber sheeting the maps as layers superimposed over one another. Rubber sheeting is a process under which the maps are stretched to create a consistent scale. After submission of its Report on September 15, GTI decided to incorporate additional control points which include the project area surrounding the other alternative alignments that SEA had considered in the Draft EIS. GTI did so because it noticed a small discrepancy in the location of the APE of the Eastern Route between where the APE showed up on the historic maps versus where it showed up on the aerial photographs. As a result of the use of the additional control points, the rubber sheeting process removed the discrepancy and created a more accurate depiction of the location of the historic property boundaries in relation to the Eastern Route. This also created a slight shift toward the west in the location of the portion of the Eastern Route nearest its northern terminus in relation to the historic maps. As a result of this shift, two additional historic

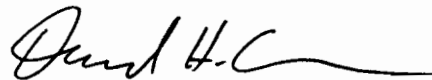
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property boundaries (but no additional historic structures) were determined to fall within the APE of the Eastern Route. This can be seen on the revised version of Figure 6, which shows that the APE now incorporates two properties in the area just west of the loading loop that were not incorporated in the original version of Figure 6. Also, two additional structures less than 50 years old are now within or near the APE. These have been designated as structures K and L on Figure 15.

In the attached revised Report, each of the figures (number 1 through 15) have been corrected to reflect the slight westward shift in the Eastern Route, and its APE. As noted, structures K and L, both less than fifty years old, have been added to Figure 15. In addition, the following changes were made to the Report: (1) the last line on the first paragraph of page 24 has been revised to change the reference to non-historic "Structures A-J" to Structures "A-L"; (2) the first paragraph on page 34 has been revised to change from 19 to 21 the number of properties identified within the proposed APE or within 200 yards of the APE; to change from ten to twelve the number of structures constructed in the last fifty years and to change the references to "Structures A through J" to "Structures A through L"; and (3) in the second full paragraph on page 43, the reference to ten buildings less than fifty years old has been changed to twelve buildings and the reference to six of these buildings being inside the designated APE has been changed to seven such buildings inside the designated APE.

None of the above changes have any bearing on either the findings with respect to historic properties or the recommendations in the Report. However, we did want to correct the record to reflect the above changes to the Report. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David H. Coburn
Attorney for Southwest Gulf Railroad

cc: Ms. Rini Ghosh
Ms. Jaya Zyman-Ponebshek



González, Tate & Iruegas, Inc.
Environmental Consultants



**A CULTURAL RESOURCES RECONNAISSANCE
SURVEY FOR AN EASTERN ROUTE,
MEDINA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Please contact the Section of Environmental
Analysis to view a color copy of this document.



González, Tate & Iruegas, L.P.
Environmental Consultants

**A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance
Survey for an Eastern Route,
Medina County, Texas**

Prepared For:

Southwest Gulf Railroad

Finance Docket No. 34284

Prepared By:

González, Tate & Iruegas, Inc.

**Principal Investigator
Sergio A. Iruegas, RPA**

Authors:

**Sergio A. Iruegas, R.P.A.
Monica Penick**

August 2005

Abstract

This document reports the results of a reconnaissance cultural resources survey for an eastern route east of Quihi in Medina County, Texas. This route is separate from the alternative alignments considered by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (Finance Docket No. 34284). Prior to initiating fieldwork, SGR submitted a proposed scope of work to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) for review which was approved on July 15, 2005. The report was prepared for Surface Transportation Board's (STB) and THC's consideration of this proposed project's possible affects to cultural resources.

This reconnaissance survey report assesses cultural resources in terms of archeological and historic properties. Accordingly, a sufficient level of background research was conducted for both types of resources prior to initiating field investigations. After reviewing the THC's 7.5 minute topographic maps files, there were no documented archeological sites or historic properties with the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the eastern route. Mr. Sergio Iruegas (RPA) and Ms. Monica Penick reviewed historic maps of Medina County in the Texas General Land Office historic map archives, as well as historic and current aerial photographs of the project area. Field investigations of the eastern route were limited to access areas directly adjacent to farm to market road and county roads. The survey confirms the presence of high and moderate probability areas where buried archeological resources are likely to be present and the presence of nine historic structures that are potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

It is GTI's opinion that intensive cultural resource investigations are warranted within the eastern route APE to fully document the cultural resources, if STB approves this route and the Programmatic Agreement is in place. It should be noted that since cultural materials were not observed, there are no curation issues.

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Introduction

This document reports the results of a reconnaissance cultural resources survey for an eastern route for the Southwest Gulf Railroad's (SGR) east of Quihi in Medina County, Texas. This route is separate from the alternative alignments considered by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (Finance Docket No. 34284). Although this eastern route would begin at the juncture of the UP Rail line just north of Highway 90 and terminates at the proposed rail loop, the majority of the route is approximately two to three miles east of Quihi and approximately three to four miles southeast and northeast of Quihi. Prior to initiating fieldwork, SGR submitted a proposed scope of work to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) for review which was approved on July 15, 2005. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) was 1200 feet on both sides of the suggested route (See Figure 1). The report was prepared for Surface Transportation Board's (STB) and THC's consideration of an eastern route's possible affects to cultural resources. This reconnaissance survey report assesses cultural resources in terms of archeological and historic properties.

In the mid 1800s, Henri Castro, a French impresario under contract with the Republic of Texas, introduced a large number of French and German settlers into Medina County. Along with Castroville, Quihi was one of Castro's earliest settlements. Accordingly, a sufficient level of background research was conducted for archeological and historic properties resources prior to initiating field investigations. After reviewing the THC's 7.5 minute topographic maps files, there were no documented archeological sites or historic properties within the APE of the eastern route. A qualified archeologist (Sergio A. Iruegas, RPA) and architectural historian (Monica Penick) that meet the Secretary of the Interiors Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation reviewed historic maps and aerial photographs of the project area. The Texas General Land Office historic map archives contained an 1846 survey of the Quihi area, an 1850 Map of Castro's Colony, and the 1862, 1878, 1880, and 1895 Medina County maps. Mr. Iruegas and Ms. Penick also reviewed historic and current aerial photographs of the project area dating from 1940, 1952, 1964, 1996, and 2004. These maps and aerial photographs were reviewed to determine settlement patterns, the presence of any extant historic structures or cemeteries, and the likelihood of establishing historic districts or rural historic landscapes. The historic maps and photos also enabled Mr. Iruegas and Ms. Penick to establish historic property boundaries that may have remained the same over time thereby indicating possible high probability areas where historic archeological sites may be present. Mr. Iruegas also reviewed the topographic setting on USGS quadrangle maps to establish high probability areas where buried prehistoric cultural deposits were likely to be present.

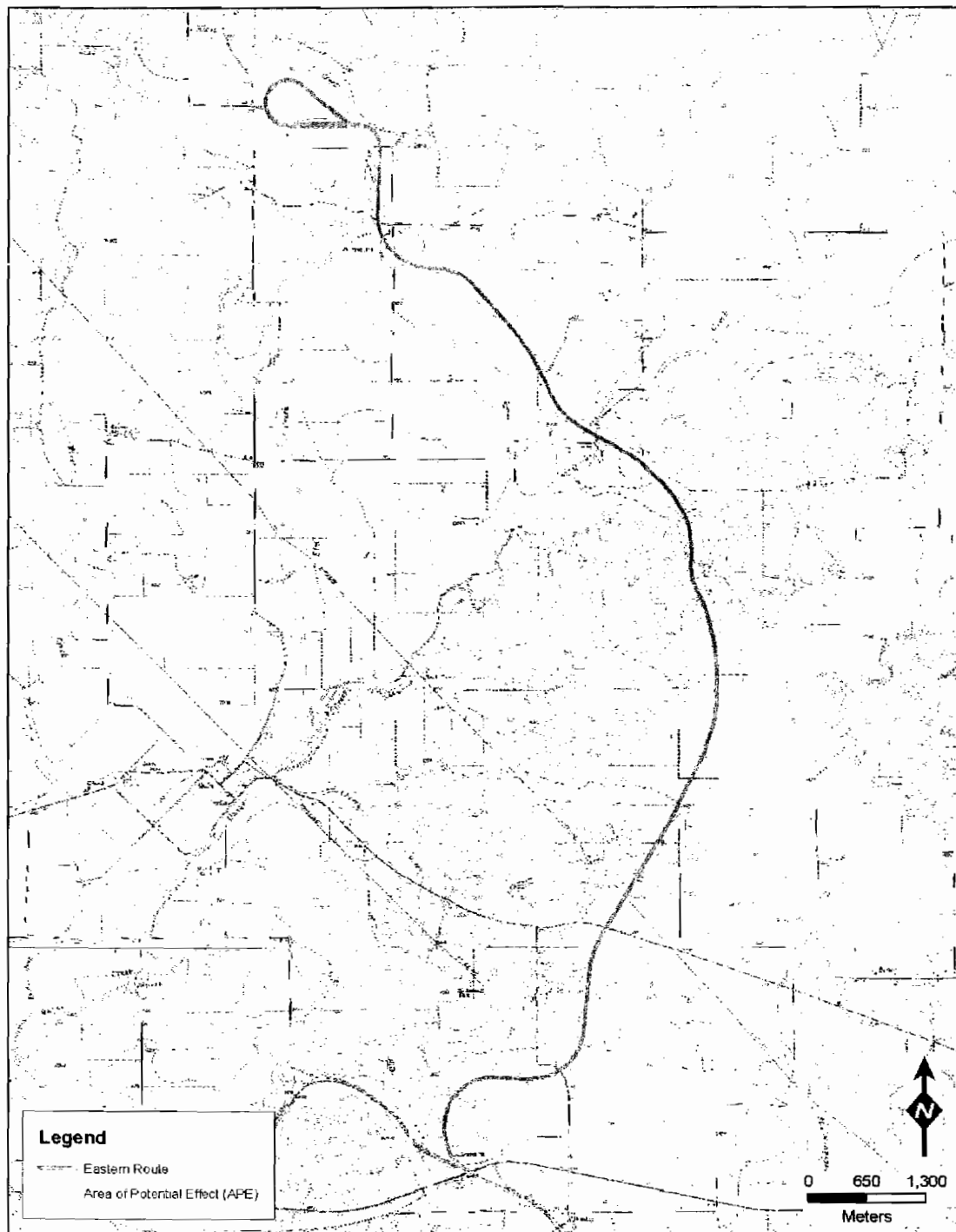


Figure 1: Location of Southwest Gulf Railroad Eastern Route

Field investigations of the eastern route were limited to access areas directly adjacent to farm to market road and county roads. The reconnaissance survey was conducted by Sergio A. Iruegas and Monica Penick, and the results confirm the presence of high and moderate probability areas where buried archeological resources are likely to be present and the presence of nine historic structures potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It is GTI's opinion that intensive cultural resource investigations are warranted within the eastern route APE, if STB approves this route and the Programmatic Agreement is in place. It should be noted that since cultural materials were not observed, there are no curation issues.

Archeological Investigations

The archeological reconnaissance survey was conducted concurrent with the historic structure survey. This section of the report contains an archival review section and regional chronology for central Texas. Archeologists anticipated that historic and prehistoric sites may be encountered because of the long history of property boundaries remaining the same over time and because of recent excavations by the South Texas Archeological Association in the general area that were reported to have encountered cultural materials that span the time ranges in the regional chronology. High probability areas where archeological sites were likely to be present were developed prior to field investigations and included on a map of the project area with the scope of work approved by the THC. The survey results are reported below.

Archival Review

Mr. Sergio Iruegas reviewed the THC Atlas database. There were no recorded archeological sites within the project area. Archeologists also reviewed an 1846 survey of the Quihi area, an 1851 Map of Castro's Colony, and the 1862, 1873, 1880, and 1895 Medina County maps at the Texas General Land Office (GLO) historic map archives (See Figures 2-7). Historic and current aerial photographs from 1940, 1952, 1964, 1996, and 2004 (See Figures 8-12) of the project area were reviewed in conjunction with the historic maps at the GLO for potential extant historic structures and cemeteries, as well as establish historic property boundaries that may have remained the same over time thereby indicating possible high probability areas where historic archeological sites may be present, particularly those associated with important historical persons (See Table 1). Archeologists reviewed the topographic setting on USGS quadrangle maps to establish high probability areas where buried prehistoric cultural deposits were likely to be present.

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The aerial photographs indicate that in 1940 land use for agricultural purposes was greater north of Quihi Creek with minor use south of the creek. The 1952 aerial photograph clearly shows the remnants of the Old Medina Dam route with some agricultural land use south of the creek. Between the years of 1952 to 1964, development of the land south of the creek becomes more prevalent further away from the creek. As early as 1940, there is a swath of land that runs in a northeast to southwest direction paralleling Quihi Creek that is not used over time in all probability because the topographic setting slopes greatest in this area. This undeveloped swath of land is bounded by limited agricultural use just south of the creek and the area further southeast where more intensive agricultural land development becomes more prevalent over time.

Table 1: Property Owners Listed on the Historic Medina County Maps

1846	1851	1862	1873	1880	1895
	Tract not delineated.	Tract not delineated.	Tract not delineated	51, M.A. (Martha A.) Oliver , S.40107, F.35288, , F.18104	52, (M.B.O.), (C-40107), 35288, ptd.
	A. Desatin Sr., 494, 3.2360, ptd.	D.I., Antoine Desalras, 494, 3.2360, ptd.	Not Legible	Antoine Desalin o, 494, 3.2360, ptd.	Antoine Desadras Sr.; 494, 3.2360, ptd.
	R. Cordier, 497, 3.4651, ptd.	D.I. Remi Cardier, 497, 3.4651, ptd.	Remi Cardier, _____, _____, ptd.	Remi Cardier, 497, 3.651, ptd.	Remi Cardier, 497, 3.4651, ptd.
	495	D.I. B. Barth, 465, 3.6646, ptd.	B. Barth, _____, _____, ptd.	B. Barth, 495, 3.6646, 495, ptd.	B. Barth, 495, 3.6646, ptd.
	John Grossenbach, 47, 3.4557, ptd.	D.I. John Grossenbach, 407, 3.4557, ptd.	_____ossenbach, _____, _____7, ptd.	John Grossenbach, 50, 3.4557, ptd.	_____Sre_enbach, 50, 3.45____, ptd.
	Jacob Benderle, 15, 3.1290, ptd.	D.I. Jacob Benderle sr., 25, 3.1290, ptd.	Jacob Benderly, _____, 3.____90, ptd.	Jacob Benderly, 25, 3.1290, ptd.	Jacob Benderly, 25, 3.1290, ptd.
	Jacob Benderle, 14, 3.1290, ptd.	D.I. Jacob Benderle sr., 24, 3.1290, ptd.	Jacob Benderly, 24, 3.____90, ptd.	Jacob Benderly, 24, 3.1290, ptd.	Jacob Benders, 24, 3.1290, ptd.
	N.Hoffman, 16, 3.1250, ptd.	D.I. Nic. Hoffman, 26, 3.1250	____, Hoffman, _____, _____, ptd.	Nic. Hoffman, 26, 3.1250, ptd.	Nic. Hoffman, 26, 3.1250, ptd.
	J. Benderle, _____	D.I. Jac.	____. Ben _____	Jac. Benderly,	Jse. Benderly,

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1846	1851	1862	1873	1880	1895
	3.1256, ptd.	Benderle, 23, 3.1256, ptd.	23, 3.____, ptd.	23, 3.1256, ptd.	23, 3.1256, ptd.
J. _ Benedict, 128	J.F. Benedict, , ____, 3.179	John T. Benidicte, 128, Sec. 5, 3.179, ptd.	Ben_____ 1_8, ____ ptd.	John T. Benedict, 128, 3.179, ptd.	Jno. T. Bencollet, 128, 3.179, ptd.
	Jean B. Schmidt, 17, 3.1262, ptd.	D.I. Jean Bapt. Schmidt, 14, 3.1265, ptd.	Jean Bapt. Schmidt, 17, 3.1_65, ptd.	Jean Bapt. Schmidt, 17, 3.1265, ptd.	Jean. Bapt. Schmidt, 17, 3.1265, ptd.
W. Thorp, 127	W, Thorp, 117	Wm Thorp, 127, Sec. __, 3.189, ptd.	Wm Thorp, __7, ____ ptd.	Wm. Thorp, 127, 3.189, ptd.	Wm. Tho____, 127, 3.189, ptd.
J.J. Kayhendoll, 126,	J.J.K_____, 1, 126	John J. Kaghendoll, 126, 3.18____, ptd.	Kagondell, _____, ____ ptd.	John J. Kaykendall, 126, 3.187, ptd.	Jno. Kerkendoll, 126, 3.____87, ptd.
Jno. M. Allen, 124	John M. Allen, 124	John M. Allen, 124, Sec 5., D-319, ptd.	_____ Allen, ____ D.319, ptd.	John M. Allen, 124, D.319, ptd.	Jno. Allen, 124, D.319, ptd.
	Jos. Meyer, 22, Int, 3.1994, ptd.	D.I. Joseph Meyer, 22, 3.1994, ptd.	____ Meyer, _____, ____ ptd.	Jas. Meyer, , 22, 3.1994, ptd.	Jas. Meyer, 22, 3.1994, ptd.
W.M. Seargent, 123	Wm. Seargent, 123	Wm M. Sergeant, 123, Sec 5, 3.187, ptd.	Not legible	Wm. M. Sergeant, 123, 3.187, ptd.	Wm____ Sergeant, 123, 3.187, ptd.
	An Bischof, 318, 3.5592, ptd.	D.I. Anton Bischof, 318, 3.5592, ptd.	_____ B_____, ____ _____, ____	Anton, Bischof, 318, 3.5592, ptd.	Anton Bischof, 318, 3.5592, ptd
	J.M. Peltzer, 364, 3.5752, ptm.	D.I. Jeanette Peltzer, 3.5752	____ D Peter	364, S.50964, ptd.; D.2317, ptd.; 3.5752	Wm. Peer, 341, S.50964, ptd.
	H. Castro, 314	John Dikres, 314, 3.6435, ptd.	Not Legible	314, 3.6435	Part of Peer property
	344	D.I. Jos. Hagetin, 344, 3.2347, ptd.	Not Legible	344, 3.2347	Part of Peer property
	Ider Bizchhorn, 3.2363, 371, ptd.	Pet Bickhorn, 371, Sec. 6, 3.2363, ptd.	Not Legible	Pet Bickhorn, 371, 3.2363, ptd.	K. Bickhorn, 371, 3.2363, ptd
	Ider Bizchhorn, 3.2363, 371, ptd.	Pet Bickhorn, 371, Sec. 6, 3.2763, ptd.	Not Legible	Pet., Kickhorn, 5, 3.2363, ptd.	____ Bickhorn, 5, 3.2363, ptd
	Jas. Chrystilles, 272, 3.1125, ptd.	D.I. J. Chrystilles,	Not Legible	J. Chrystilles, 272, 3.1125,	J. Chrystilles, 272, 3.____25,

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1846	1851	1862	1873	1880	1895
		272, 3.1125, ptd.		ptd.	ptd.
	Jas. Chrystilles, 389, 3.1125, ptd.	D.I. J. Chrystilles, 389, 3.1135, ptd.	Not Legible	J. Chrystilles, 389, 3.1135, ptd.	J. Chrystilles, 389, 3.1135, ptd.
	426	Parceled – Blank	Not Legible	Ptd. S.48140	B. _____, S. 1 _____, ptd.
	G. Chrystilles, 14 _____, 3.1126, ptd.	D.I. George Chrystilles, 275, 3.1126, ptd.	Not Legible	Geo. Chrystilles, 275, 3.1126, ptd.	Geo. Chrystillis, 275, _____, 26, ptd.
	Felix Ménétrier, 276, 3.1414	D.I. Felix Mienetrier, 276, 3.1414, ptd.	Not Legible	Felix Menetrier, 276, 3.1414, ptd.	Felix Mert _____, 276, 3.1414, ptd.
	A. Bonomy, 390, 3.1328, ptd.	D.I., Hrs. of Aug. Bonamy, 390, 3.1328, ptd.	Not Legible	Hrs. of Aug Bonamy, 390, 3.1328, ptd.	Hrs. of A. Bonamy, 390, 3.132 _____, ptd.

The earliest plated property boundaries were established in the first survey of Medina County in 1846. The ten property owners that show up on the entire survey may be associated with the original ten families that came to settle Quihi, although the settlement itself is approximately three miles southwest of where these property boundaries are located. Each of these property boundaries remains consistent over time up to 1895. One family name in particular is very important. The Kuykendalls were one of Stephen F. Austin's "Old 300" settler family names and the possibility that one of the Kuykendalls moved from Austin Colony and settled within Castro's Colony cannot be overlooked because of the important role the Kuykendall's have in Texas history. The other two important family names are the Schmidt's and Meyer families because they appear on the list of names provided in the historical architecture reconnaissance survey section of this report. It should be noted that Henri Castro's name appears on a property in 1851 which was sold to John Dikres by 1862. The property, however, is within undeveloped land according to the aerial photographs. The majority of the historic property boundaries in the project APE are platted by 1851 and remain consistent over time.

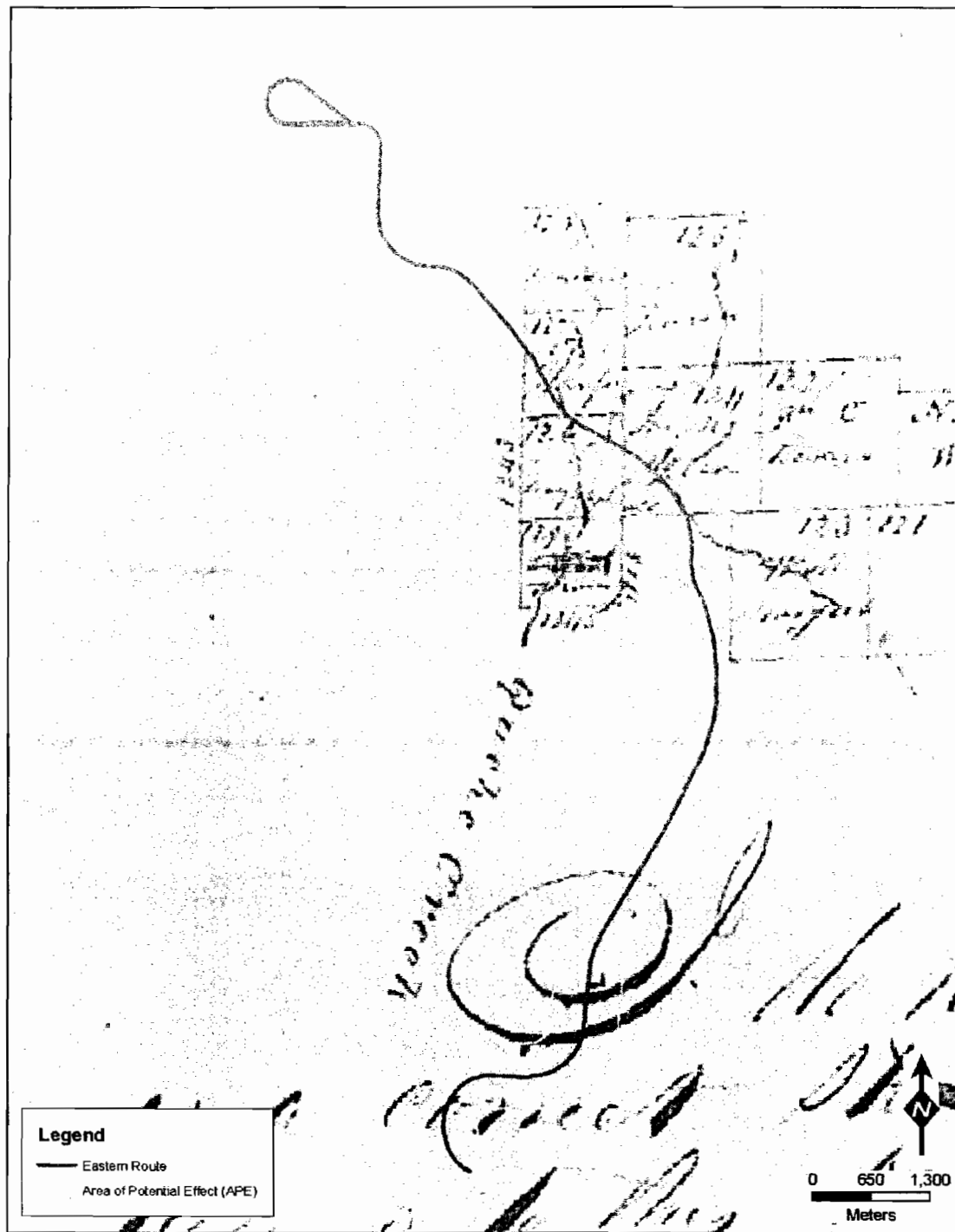


Figure 2: Historic 1846 Medina County Survey Map with Project Area

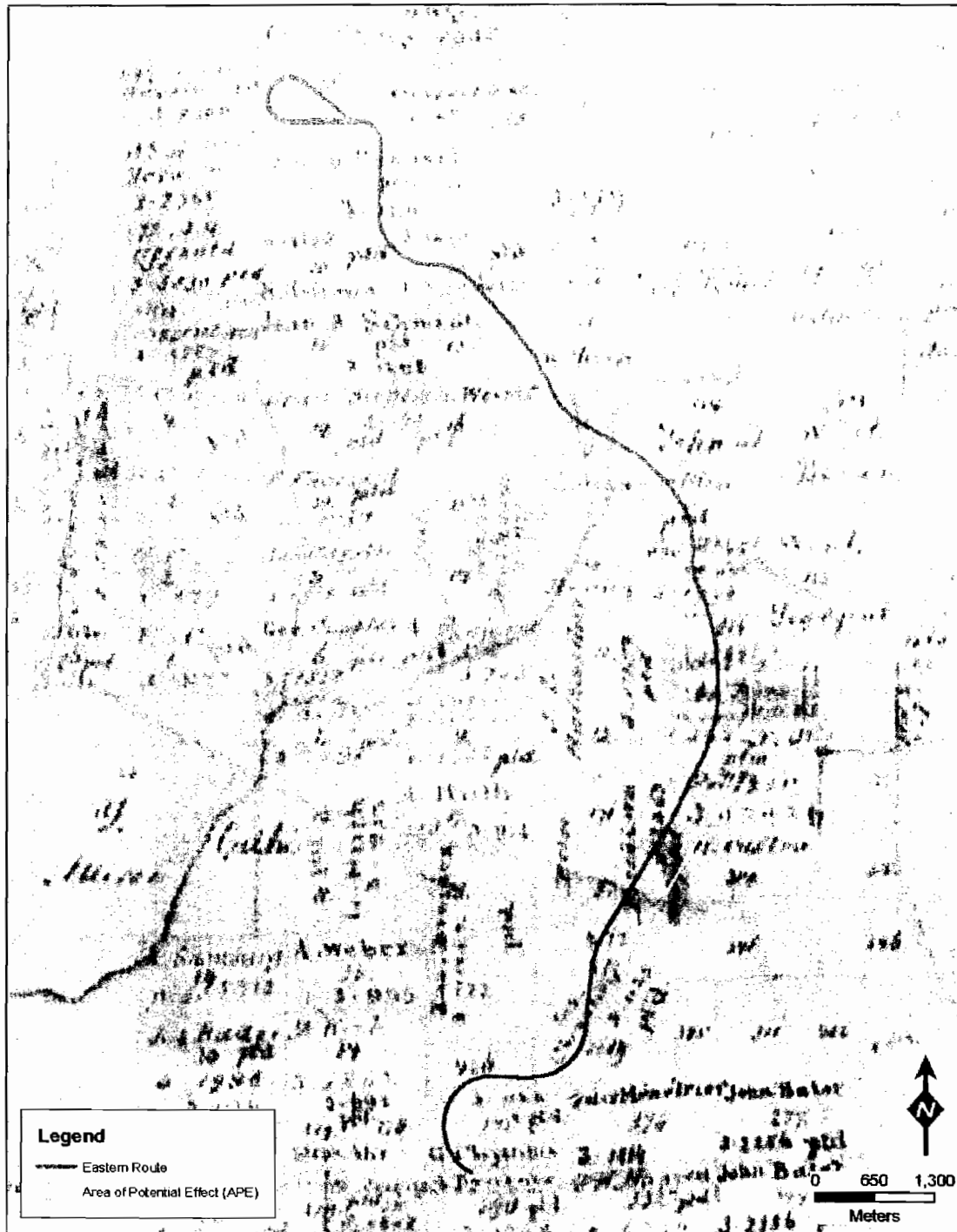


Figure 3: Historic 1851 Castro Colony Map with Project Area



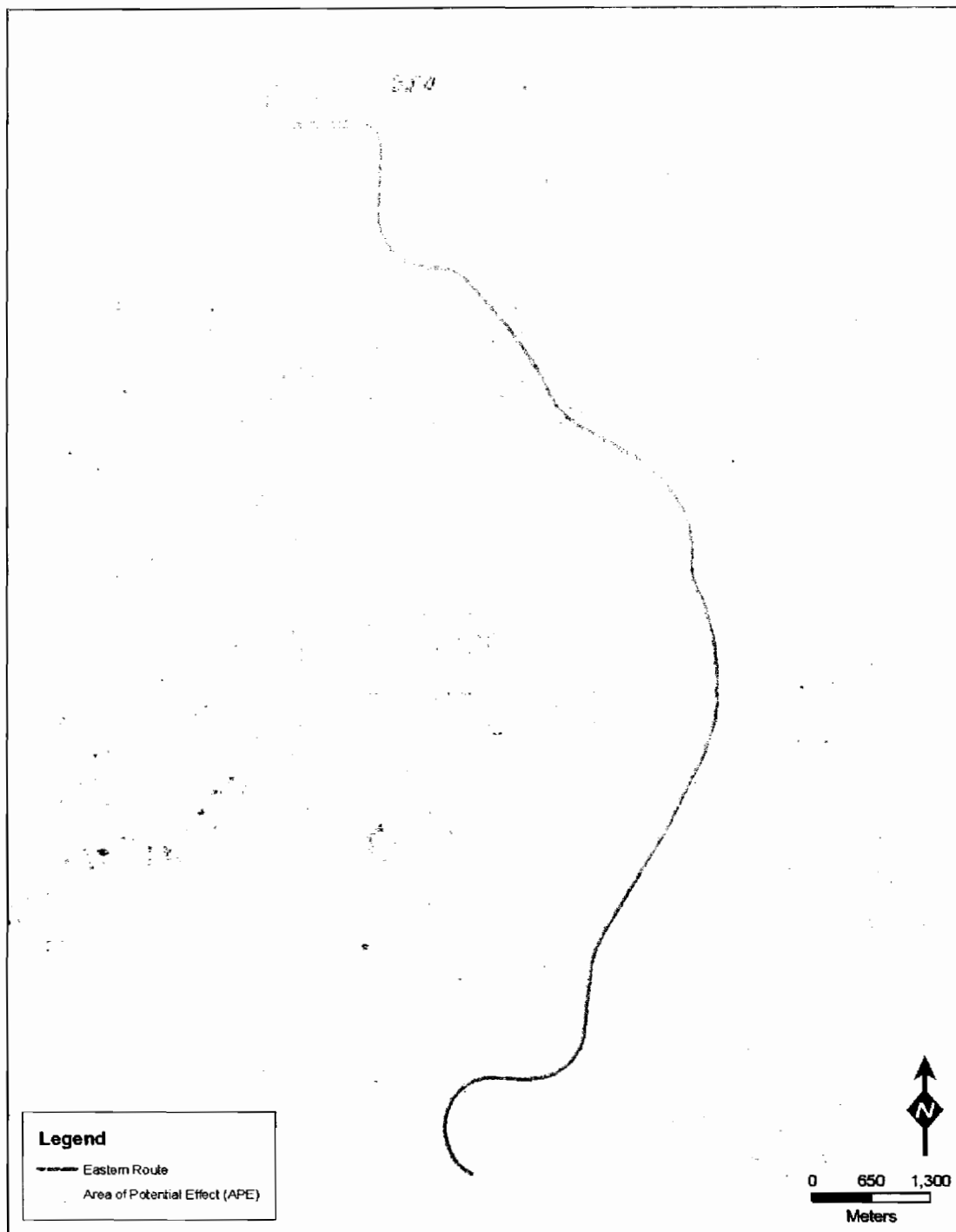


Figure 5: Historic 1873 Medina County Map with Project Area

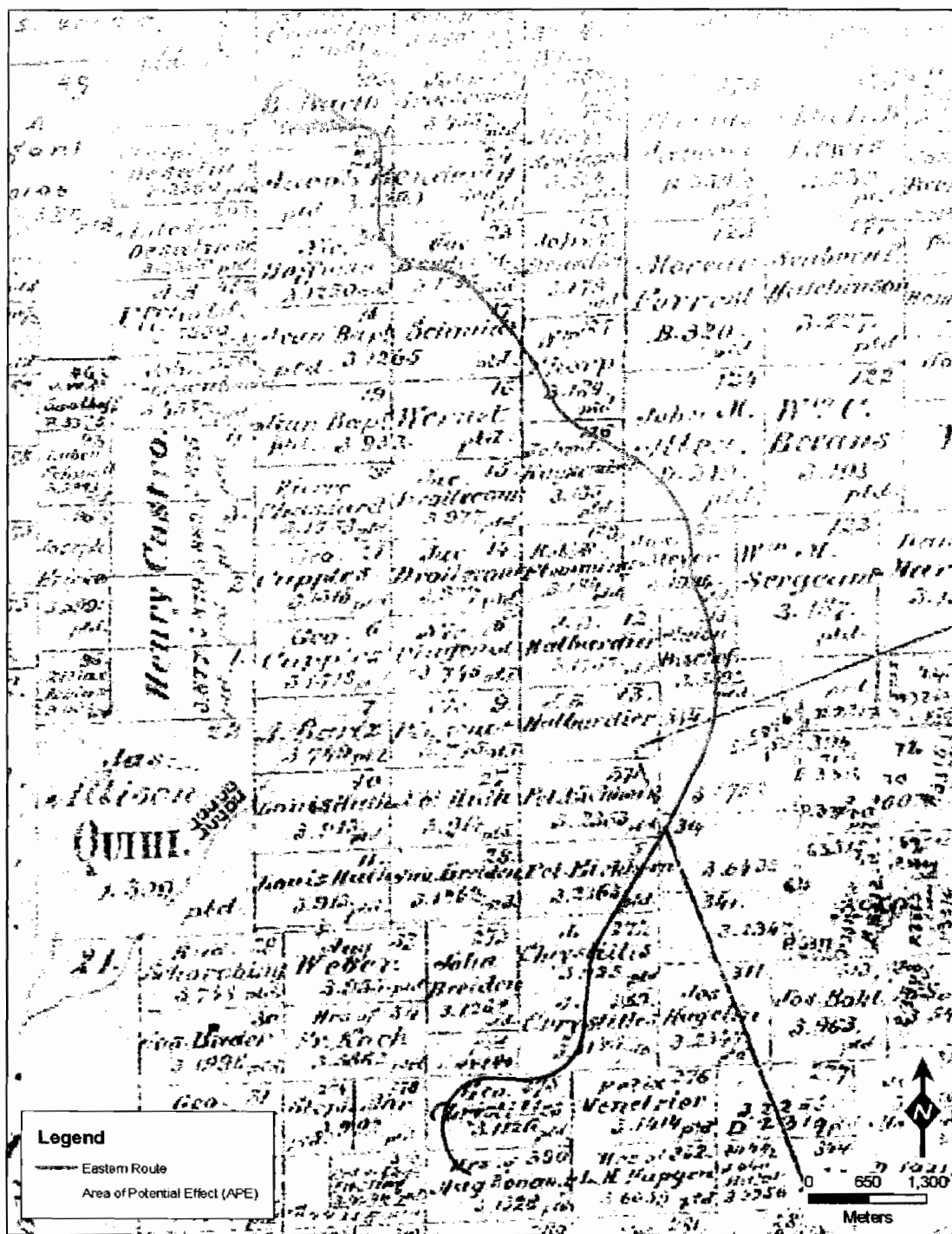


Figure 6: Historic 1880 Medina County Map with Project Area



Figure 8: Historic 1940 Aerial Photograph of Project Area

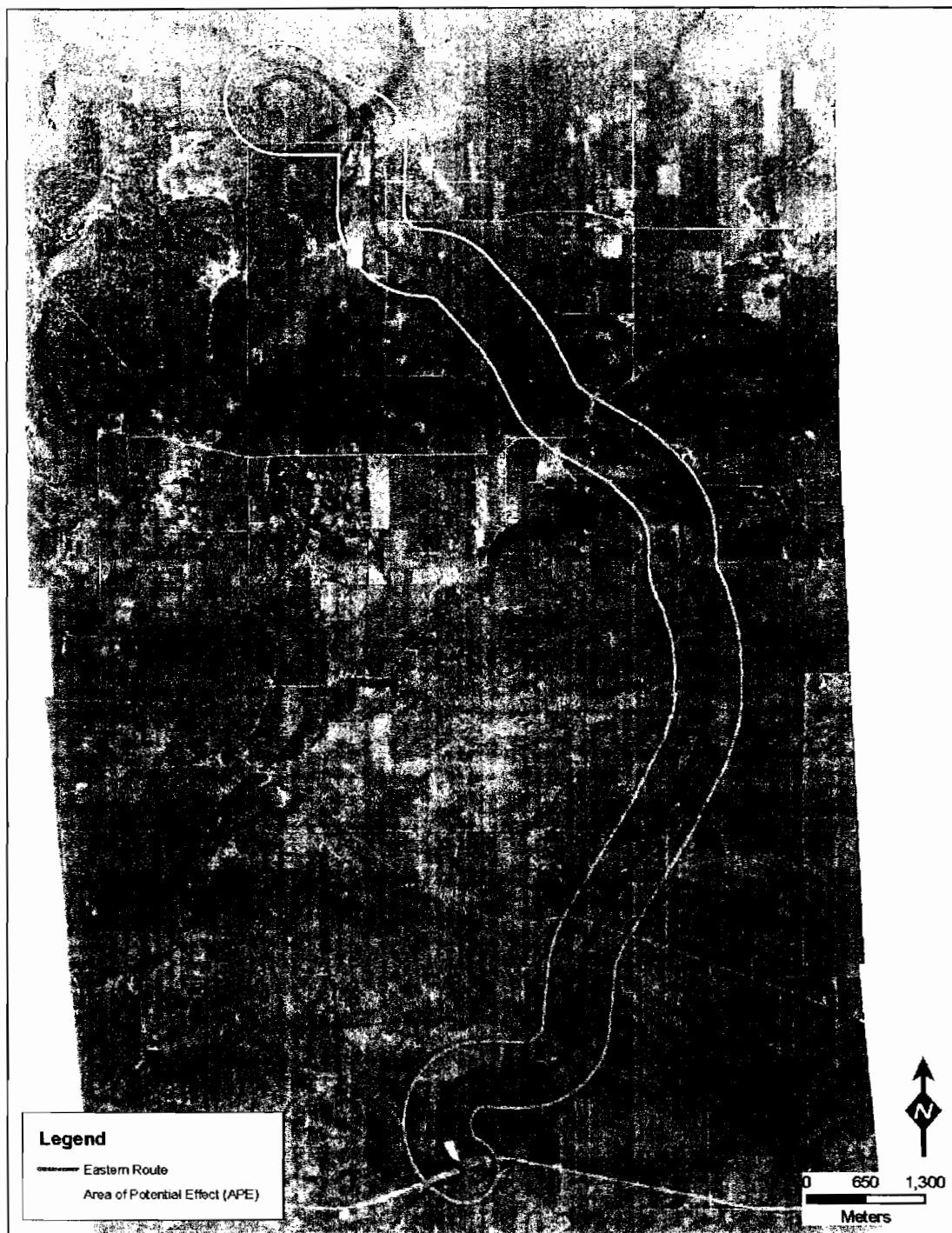


Figure 9: Historic 1952 Aerial Photograph of Project Area

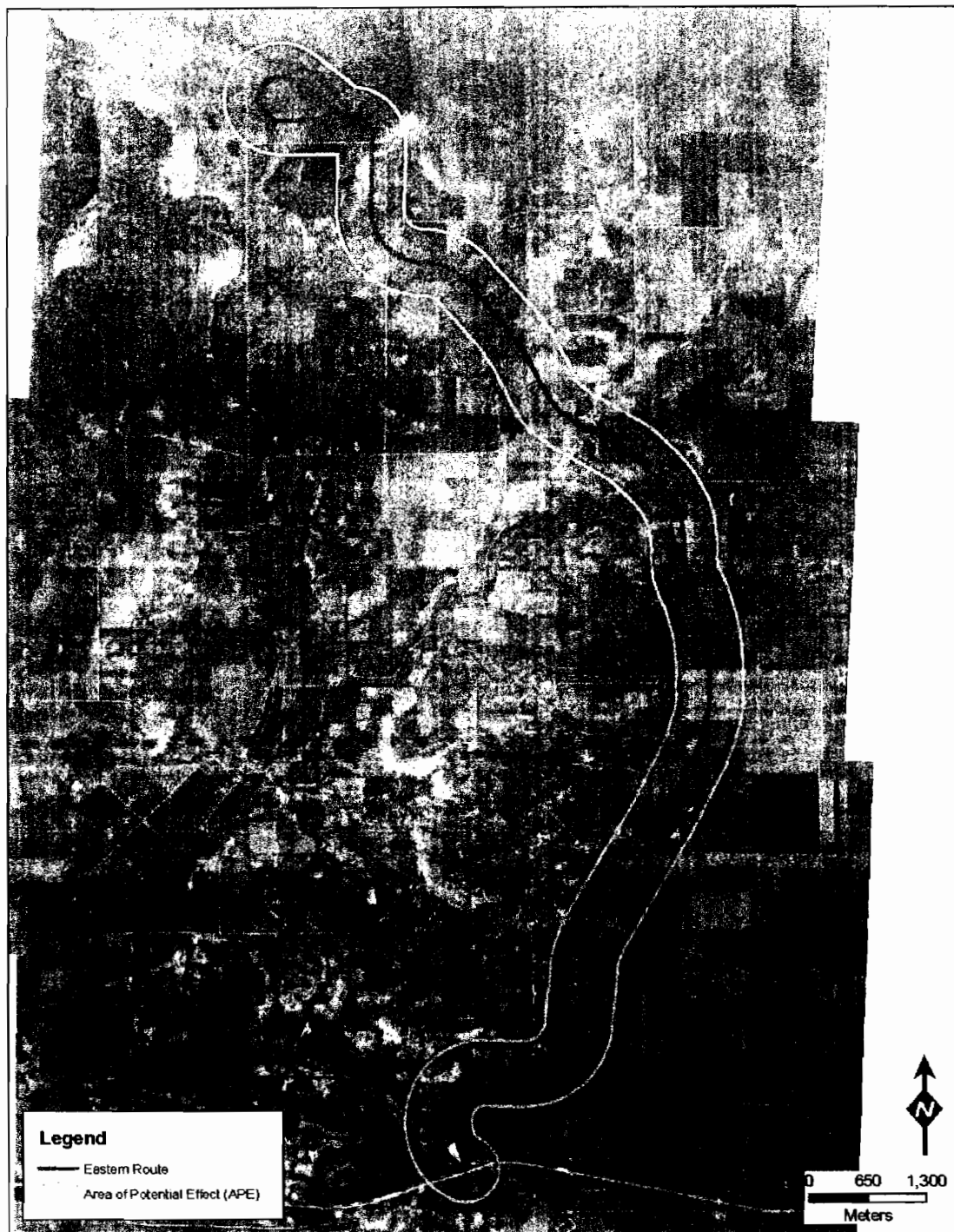


Figure 10: 1964 Aerial Photograph of Project Area

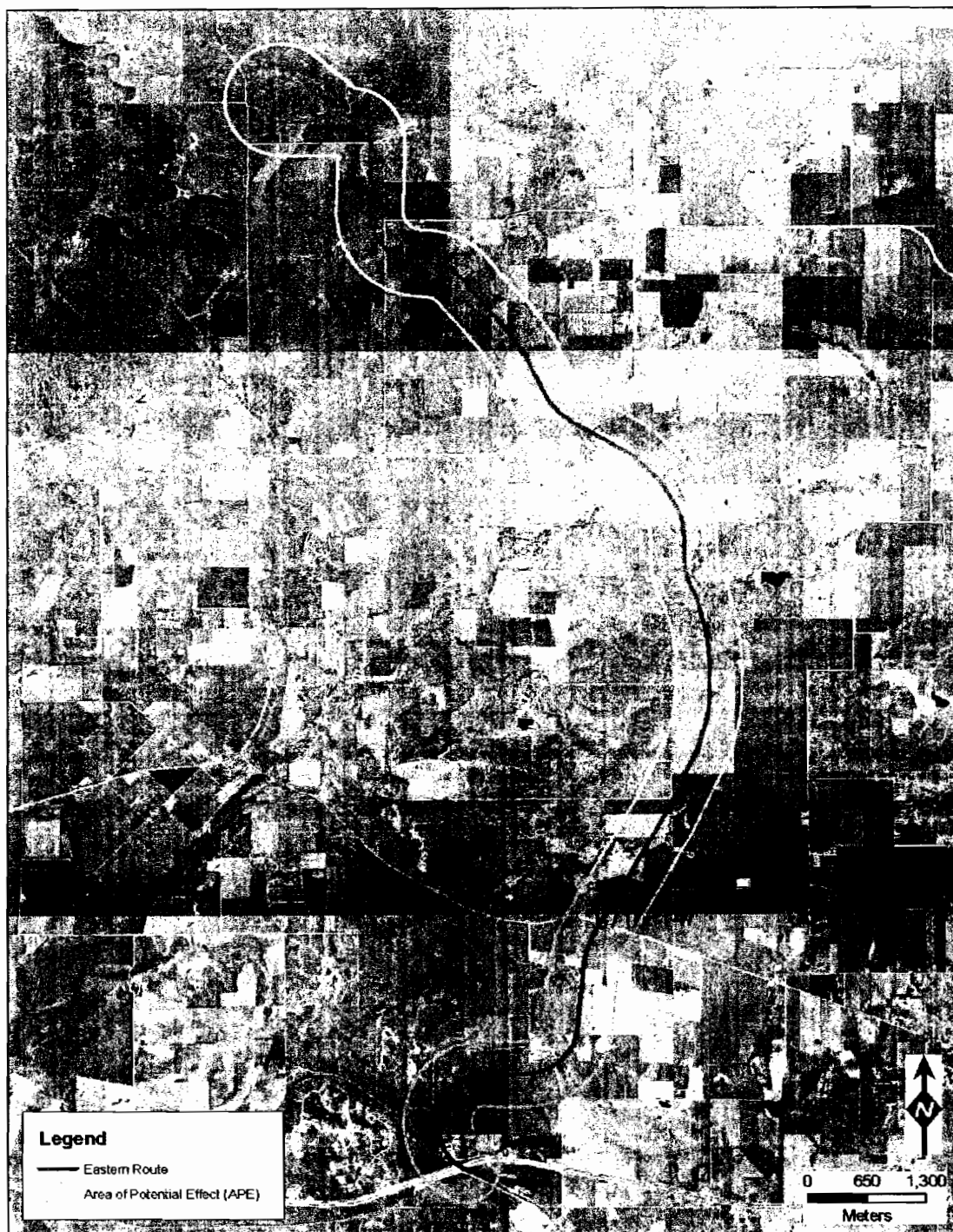


Figure 11: 1996 Aerial Photograph of Project Area

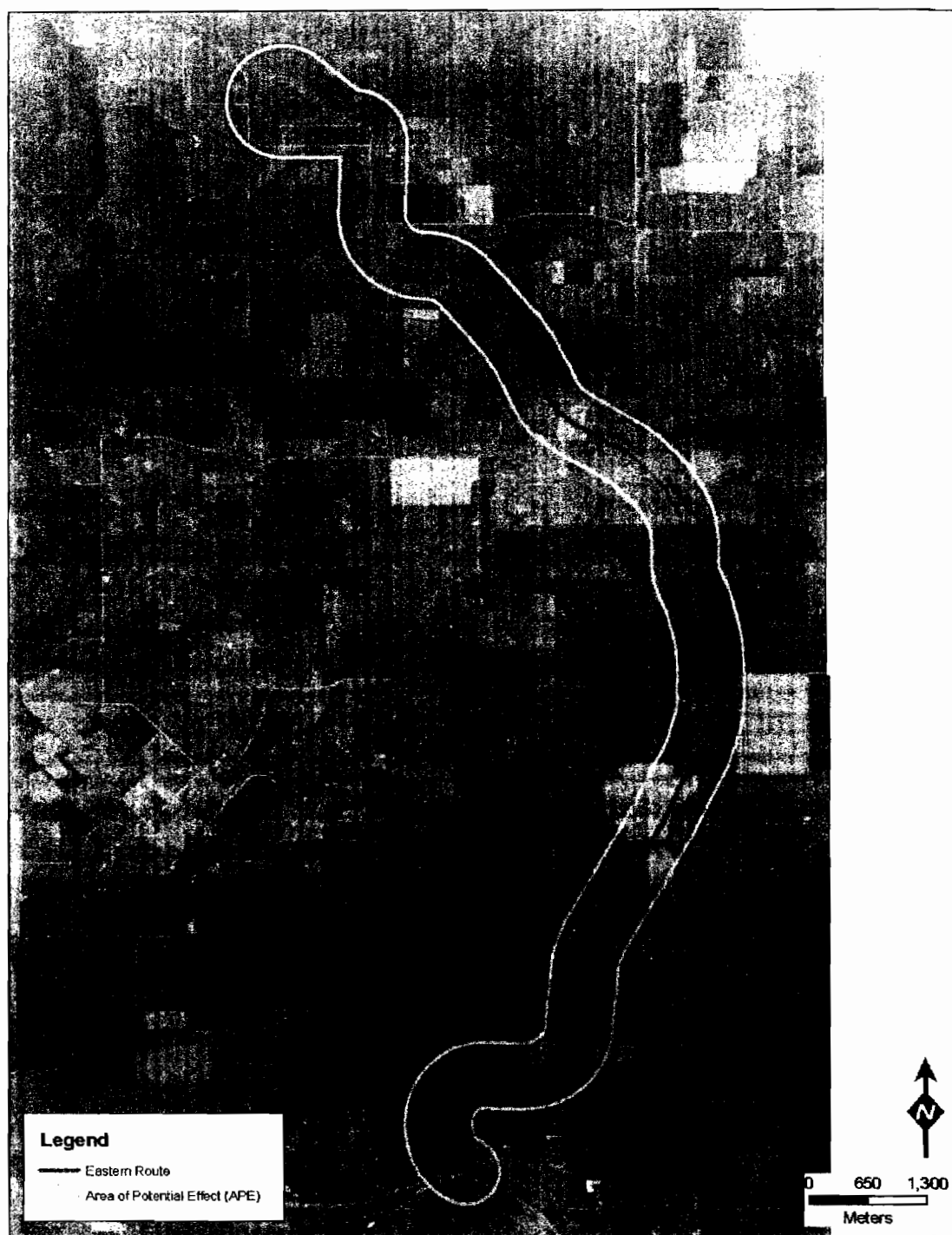


Figure 12: 2004 Aerial Photograph of Project Area

Regional Archeological Chronology

A temporal framework for prehistoric archeological sites in Texas can be categorized by three main periods: the Paleoindian (10,500–8500 BP), the Archaic (8500–1200 BP), and the Late Prehistoric (1200–400 BP). The Archaic period is further subdivided into the Early Archaic (8500–6000 BP), the Middle Archaic (6000–3500 BP), and the Late Archaic (3500–1250 BP). Suhm et al. (1954), Suhm and Jelks (1962), Prewitt (1981, 1985), and Turner and Hester (1986) established this temporal framework based on projectile point type seriation and based on technological changes in diagnostic artifacts due to changing environment and subsistence strategy adaptations.

Paleoindian Period

The Paleoindian period dates from approximately 10,500 to 8,000 years B.P.. Archeological sites have been found in rock shelters and out in the open. Mobile hunters and gathers exploited megafaunal species such as mastodon, mammoth, bison, horse, and camel. The Paleoindian period has been documented as the earliest occupation of Texas archeological prehistoric sites and straddles the end of the Pleistocene era and the beginning of the Holocene. Although few megafaunal assemblages have been recovered at archeological sites, the stone tool assemblages are better known. The stone tools of this period are generally lanceolate projectile points that include *Plainview*, *Clovis* and *Folsom* type points. Processing tools include *Clear Fork* bifaces *Albany* tools, and end scrapers (Hester 1985: 137.5). Much debate has occurred in recent years regarding the beginning of this period or that a pre-clovis culture entered North American prior to 10,500 years B.P. and as early as 13, 500 years B. P. as evidence at Monte Verde in Chile, South America. The basic chronology, however, remains the same for Texas at this time.

Archaic Period

The Archaic Period dates from approximately 8500 to 1250 B. P.. Researchers have divided this period into the Early Archaic (8500–6000 years B.P.), Middle Archaic (6000–3500 years B. P.), and Late Archaic (3500–1250 years B.P.). This time period is characterized as becoming warmer in temperatures with rising sea levels. As the sea levels raised so did other water systems like rivers and streams. These changing environmental conditions were the impetus for a burgeoning increase in floral and faunal supply for the inhabitants and the demise of some big game animals like the mastodon and mammoth. As the environment changed, the Archaic people's diet changed as well as their stone tool technology and assemblages that they used to procure and process these new plants and animals. Regional diversification in diet and material culture occurs

during the Archaic Period. In general, Archaic people began to make their projectile points with stems as the lanceolate form fell from use. During the Early Archaic *Angostura*, *Scottsbluff*, *Golondrina*, *Merserve*, *Gower*, *Hoxie*, *wells*, *Bell*, *Andice*, *Martindale*, *Uvalde*, *Baird*, and *Taylor* points show this change in stone tool technology. During the transition from Early Archaic to Middle Archaic periods, stemmed points become more common and begin to show a greater degree of diversity in point form. Archaic peoples also begin to make burned rock midden deposits. Point types found at burned rock midden sites typically include *Nolan*, *Travis*, *Bulverde*, *Pedernales*, *Marshall*, *Williams*, and *Lange* forms. The last three forms have been considered as transitional forms leading into the Late Archaic. Typical Late Archaic point forms include *Marcos*, *Montell*, *Castroville*, *Frio*, *Fairland*, *Ensor*, and *Mahomet*. Archaic population increased throughout this time period at which time social and exchange relationships developed based on the ubiquitous variety of point types and forms and material cultural evidence.

Late Prehistoric Period

The Late Prehistoric Period dates approximately from 1200–400 years B.P.. The greatest innovation during this period was the development of the bow and arrow and stone tool technology also evolved with this new innovation. Late Prehistoric people made their stone points smaller and more various in forms depending on the game animals that they were hunting. Some of these stone arrow points include *Edwards*, *Scallorn*, *Zavala*, *Perdiz*, *Cuney*, *Padre* and *Alba* types. The second greatest innovation during this period was the development of ceramics. Settlement patters also change at this time as sedentary and horticultural communities become more common, and corn is introduced to Texas as evidence for exchange networks between sedentary and nomadic groups. Archeological site types also include open camp, lithic scatters, and cemeteries.

Historic Native American Period

The Historic Native American Period begins at the point of contact with European explorers in 450 B.P.; i.e, A.D. 1492. The first European explorer to reach Texas was Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca during the 1528 Narvaez Expedition of the Gulf coast. Cabeza de Vaca was stranded in Texas for eight years and traveled throughout South Texas and Mexico and meeting different Native American groups. He was eventually rescued and went back to Spain. During his journey, Cabeza de Vaca documented numerous groups of people, their customs, and cultural differences. Subsequent Spanish entradas in Texas began during the early 1700s with the establishment of the Spanish missions. Changing and shifting social and cultural ties characterize this time. For example, although the Tonkawa were one of the more numerous Native American groups

in Texas, the Ervpiame moved into the area from northern Mexico and many of them joined the Tonkawa groups as a matter of survival (Hester 1930: 51). The Lipan Apaches immigrated and came from the northwest into Texas. Hester (1930: 51) has noted that by the early 1700s, the Lipan Apache numbered between 3000–5000 in population size and controlled Central Texas area by 1775. Shortly there after, the Comanche moved into Texas from the Colorado and Wyoming areas and displace the Lipan Apache groups. During the French and Indian War in the Great Lakes region, the Kickapoo also moved across the United States and into Texas passing the project area and settling in the Fort Clark and Eagle Pass areas

Archeological Reconnaissance Survey Results

The great majority of the eastern route was not available for surface inspection. Several portions of the route and the associated APE, however, were observable from road right-of-ways. The high probability areas (See Figure 13) that traverse roads were confirmed in the field as potential areas where buried prehistoric cultural deposits are likely to be present. Soil profiles were observable in the southern project area within the western portion of the APE where the route begins to traverse in a north/south direction. In several cases, the top soil was very shallow with poorly sorted cobble strata below. The south central portion of the project area was also observed within a high probability area that was located in an agricultural field. Black clay soils with abundant cobbles comprise this area. There is a moderate probability that surface cultural deposits would be intact if present in this area. Because this high probability area is adjacent to terraces and water resources, there remains the possibility that colluvial processes may have deeply buried ancient cultural deposits.

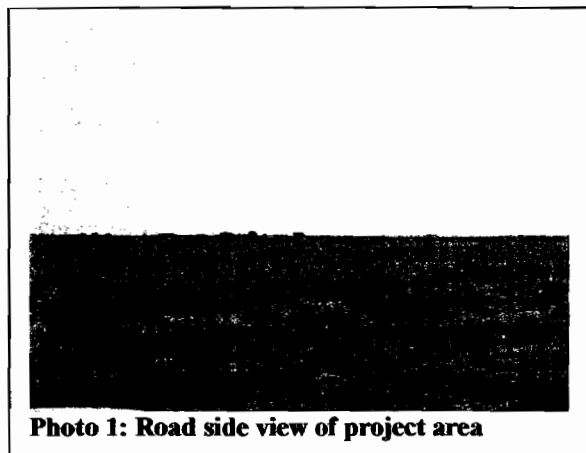


Photo 1: Road side view of project area

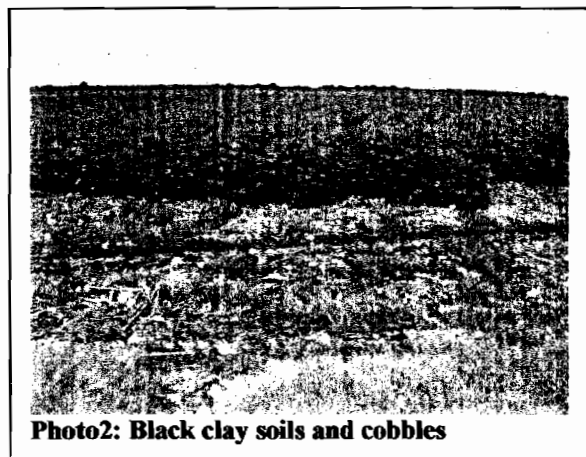


Photo2: Black clay soils and cobbles

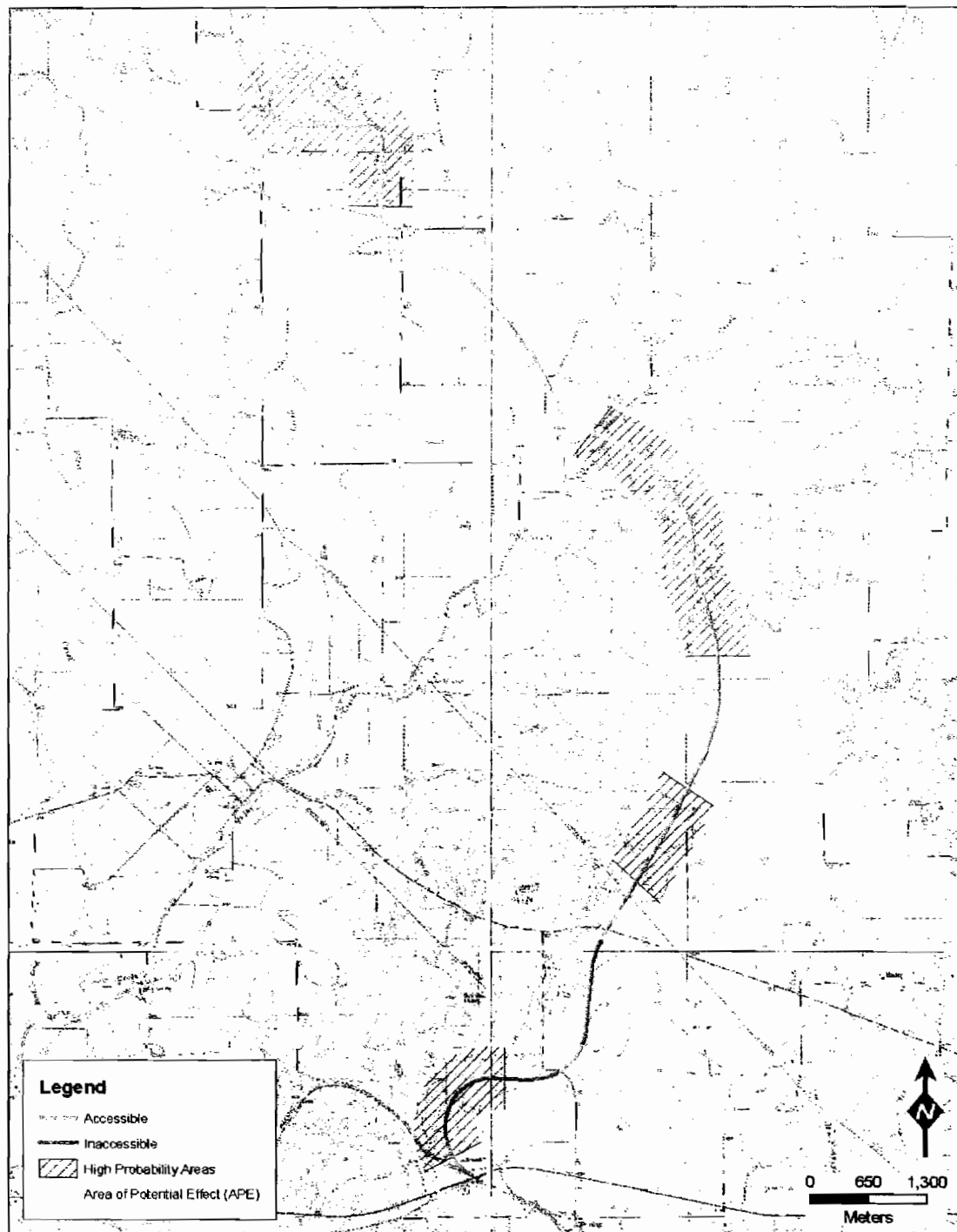


Figure 13: Archeological High Probability Areas in Project Area

The aerial photographs indicate a swath of land running in a northeast to southwest direction that has not been developed or used for agricultural purposes in the past and up to the present according to the 1952 through 2004 aerials. Intensive surface inspection of this area is recommended if the eastern route is approved by STB and chosen for construction, particularly in the high probability areas. Shovel testing is not recommended in the areas where agricultural fields have been plowed over time provided that ground surface visibility is greater than 30 percent.

The probability of historic archeological resources being present within the project APE is greatest north of Quihi Creek and just south of the creek. Additional archival information should be obtained for the property boundaries that remain the same over time in this part of the project APE to determine if tenant farming was practiced by the property owners prior to 1940. The aerial photographs do not indicate small agricultural fields that could be associated with tenant farming after 1940. The probability of discovering such resources just south of Quihi Creek is moderate. The probability within the undeveloped swath of land is considered to be low.

The archeological reconnaissance survey revealed that the high probability areas where archeological sites are likely to be present within the project APE are accurate and worthy of intensive archeological investigations that meets the minimum survey standards for linear projects in Texas. The survey also indicated where shovel testing may not be warranted. The majority of the property boundaries that remain over time do not show a probability of containing historic archeological sites that could add new and important information to Texas history because they are on land that has not been developed. The high probability areas where historic archeological sites are likely to be present should be investigated further with additional archival research within probate and tax records, if STB approves this route and it is chosen for construction. This data collection can be concurrent with the recommended research for historic structures encountered during the survey. For instance, more research would be needed with in historic property boundaries that remain the same over time within the project area and supported with georeferenced historic maps and topo maps (See Figure 14). It is recommended that the focus of this additional archival research for the historical archeology high probability areas also focus on the oldest structures within the project APE. Possible cultural deposits associated with these structures are more likely to add new information to Texas history and should be evaluated through the Programmatic Agreement as a contributing component for National Register eligibility under Criteria D.

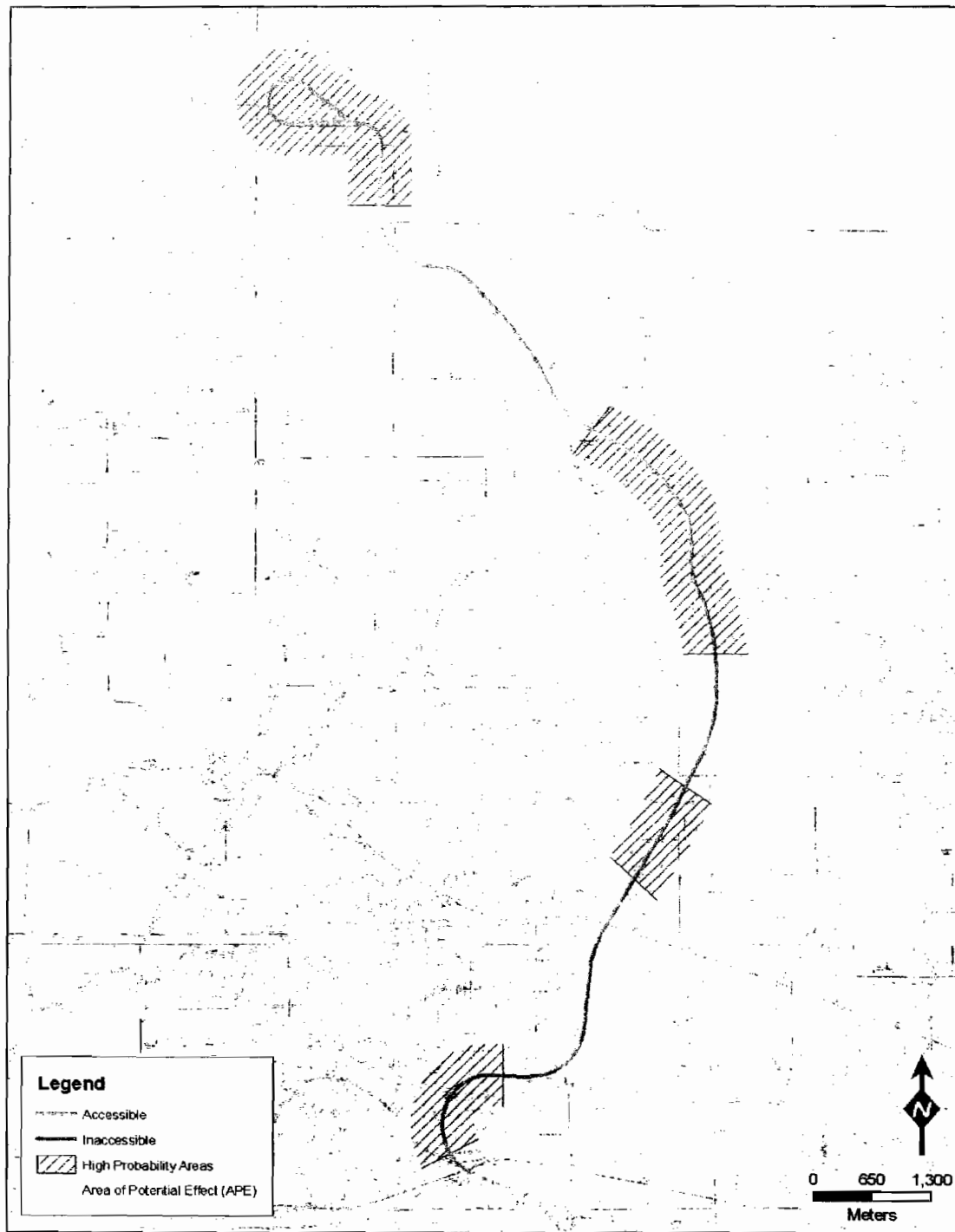


Figure 14: Georeferenced Topographic Map and 1895 Medina County Map
Showing High Probability Areas

Historical Architecture Reconnaissance Survey Results

The historical architecture reconnaissance survey was conducted concurrent with the archeological survey. Prior to the field investigation, the architectural historian reviewed the Texas General Land Office historic map archives containing an 1846 survey of the Quihi area, an 1850 Map of Castro's Colony, and the 1862, 1878, 1880, and 1895 Medina County maps. The architectural historian, Ms. Monica Penick, also reviewed historic and current aerial photographs of the project area dating from 1940, 1952, 1964, 1996, and 2004. Preliminary background and archival research revealed designated historic properties and historical markers within and near the project area. A summary of the project area history, including a list of early immigrants and property owners, is provided in the context of the colonization efforts made by Henri Castro, the associated settlements and building practices of late-19th century German immigrants. A brief discussion of the local farming, ranching, and rail economy is provided, as well as 19th- and 20th-century demographics. The findings of the historical architecture reconnaissance survey have been evaluated in the context of area's history and cultural heritage. A brief architectural description and discussion of potential significance have been provided, accompanied by labeled photographs. The locations of these structures (HS#1–HS#9) are noted on the field survey map (See Figure 15). The locations of buildings and structures less than 50 years old have also been indicated on this map as Structures A–L.

Archival Review

A number of important persons and families are associated with the communities of Quihi and New Fountain.¹ A preliminary list of these, derived from early immigrant lists, land grants, and census data serve as a guide for identifying historically significant sites and properties within the project area. A number of standing structures and extant cemetery plots are known to be associated with these families and thus may warrant further investigation. These family names include:

Acke

Bauer

Bohnekamp

Brucks [Westphalia Germany]

Brinkhoff [Brinchoff, Westphalia Germany]

Brinkmann

Deuters

Eisenhauer

¹ Source: "History of Settlement of Quihi" by Rudolph Schorobing (1879); Immigrant Families: [http://www.sgr.com/sgreasternroute/reconnaissance/culturalresources/immigrantfamilies.htm](#)

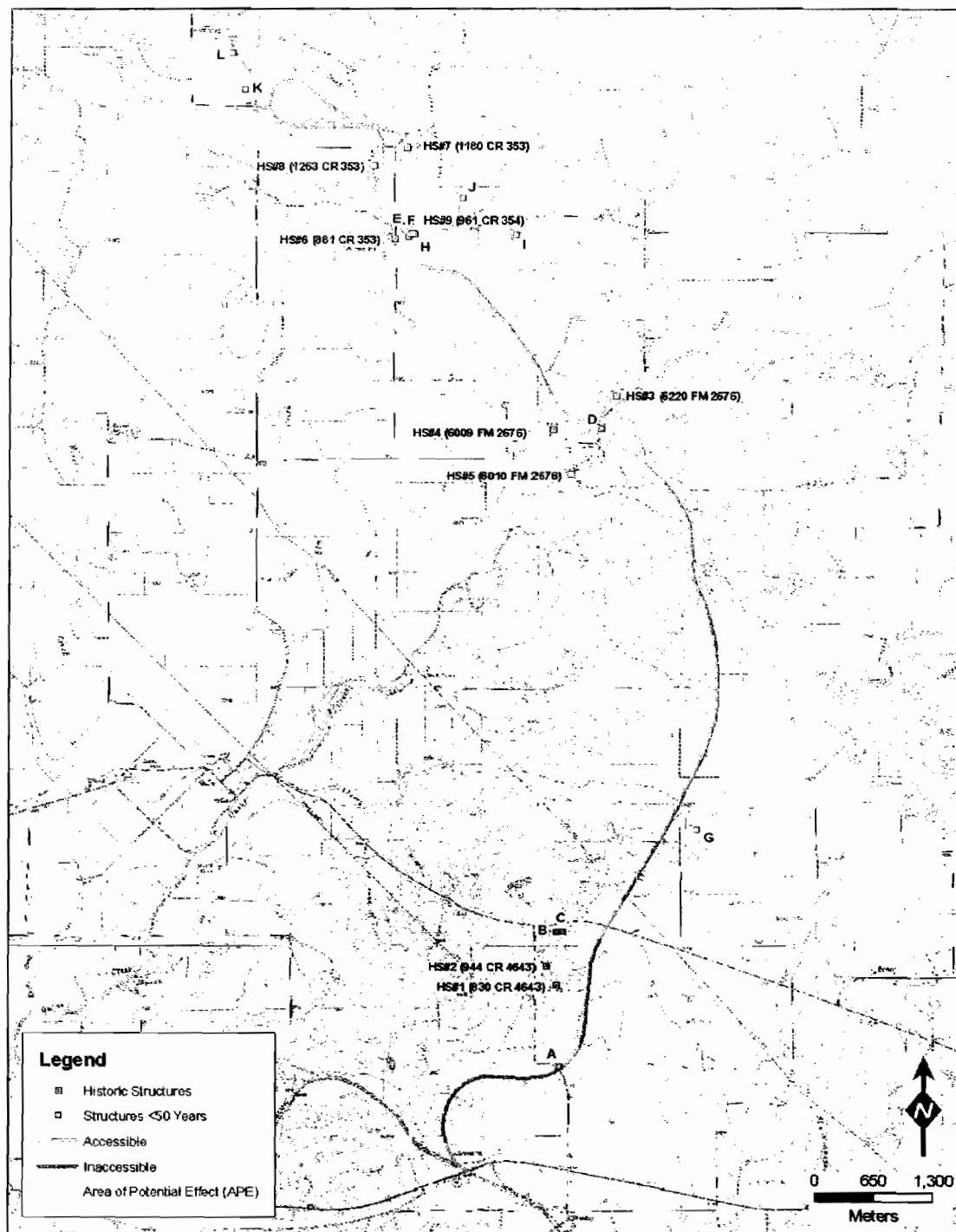


Figure 15: Locations of Historic Structures and Structures Less than 50 Years Old in Project Area

Gaster
Gerdes
Gersting
Henning
Heyehn
Korn
Meyer
Muennink
Oefinger [Wurttemberg Germany]
Opus
Pichot [Meuse France / Lorraine Region]
Reiden
Reiser
Riff
Saathoff [Ost Friesland, Hanover Germany]²
Schneider
Schmidt
Schweers [Hanover Germany]
Schuele
Schulte [Hanover Germany]
Sievers
Sturm [Wurttemberg Germany]
Tancher
Wilpers
Weimer

According to the designation, marker and survey records of the Texas Historical Commission (confirmed by using the ATLAS database), there are no designated properties within the APE of the eastern route. There are several designated and marked properties in the general Quihi and New Fountain areas (this list is not intended to be exhaustive and pertains to the level of a reconnaissance survey), and these include:

- Schuehle-Saathoff House, ca 1870. National Register and Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. This is a good example of regional Germanic-Alsatian domestic architecture characteristic of Medina County and Central Texas. The Schuehle-Saathoff is significant for its historic associations with the early German settlement in the vicinity of Quihi and the Saathoff family, whose members, including Mimke H.

² <http://www.summitsoftware.com/pwa/Genealogy/Saathoff/m.htm>
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Saathoff, Jr., Schweer H. Saathoff, and William N. Saathoff, were instrumental in the establishment of the first free public school system in Medina County, the founding of Quihi and the formation of the Lutheran Church in Medina County. This house remains a rare intact example of vernacular German-Alsatian stone architecture common to this area, and has minor additions and few alterations. Located on the Nicholas Pingent Survey No. 9, Abstract 764, a grant of 320 acres which was surveyed on October 11, 1846, for empresario Henry Castro, assignee of Pingent. Louis Huth, acting as agent for Castro, brought the first ten families, predominantly German, to Quihi in 1846. Surveyed lots were subsequently divided into farms of 640 and 320 acres for each married and single man respectively. The Pingent Survey which had passed, by the 1870s, to members of the Schuehle, Schweers, and Saathoff families, all early settlers of Medina County. (source: ATLAS)

- Bethlehem Lutheran Church, ca 1914, Quihi. Historic Marker, no designation. Founded in 1852 by Reverend Christian Oefinger.³ (source: ATLAS)
- New Fountain United Methodist Church, (address: 2980 FM 2676). New Fountain. Historic Marker, no designation. (source: ATLAS)
- Oefinger House, ca 1909. 2.7 miles north of Quihi on FM 2676. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. This well-preserved example of late Victorian architecture was built in 1909 by Christian Oefinger (1861-1950), son of early German immigrant Andreas Oefinger (b. 1819) and Ursula Nee Fuos. The house remains intact, with on the addition of a third bedroom, added in 1915, that served as a boarding house for a local schoolteacher.. The house remained in the Oefinger family for several generations. (source: ATLAS)
- Town of Quihi, ca 1844-46. Historic Marker, no designation. The Town of Quihi was surveyed in October, 1844, by Henry Castro. Quihi was settled in March, 1845 by ten families.

Family cemeteries

- Breiten; located in Quihi; (earliest tombstone 1902)
- Britsch; located Hwy 173 and CR 448 on Verde Creek. Earliest tomb: 1918 (WWI soldier).
- Brucks; Located next to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Cemetery in Quihi, Texas. Earliest tomb: 1872.
- Decker: location 292421N 0990619W
- Quihi Community Cemetery: located 292258N 0990148W Quihi (CR 4517). Note: some of Saathoff family buried here.
- Saathoff Family Cemetery; no location given

³ http://www.rootsweb.com/~txmedina/bethlehem_lutheran.htm
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- St. John's Lutheran Cemetery; located on Old Bandera Road near Quihi 292306N 0990434W Quihi ; earliest tomb 1889
- Schorobiny Family Cemetery; no location given
- New Fountain Methodist Church cemetery
- New Fountain Masonic Cemetery; earliest tomb 1856

Summary of Project Area History

Permanent settlement of the areas adjacent to the eastern route area began in 1844, when Frenchman Henri Castro negotiated an empresarioial contract with the Republic of Texas to establish a colony along the Medina River west of San Antonio. With the assistance of German wine merchant Ludwig Huth and his son Louis August Ferdinand Huth, Castro recruited a number of German and French-speaking families from the Alsace region of northeastern France, and a large number of German families from Wurttemberg (a southwestern province adjacent to Alsace) and Hannover in Lower Saxony (a northwestern province of Germany).⁴ The majority of Castro's first colonists, as well as subsequent groups of Texas-bound German settlers, departed from ports near Bremen, Germany and sailed to the Port of Galveston or Port Lavaca, Texas. From there, they made an arduous journey over land to the Castro grant in what would become Medina County. Castro's first group of colonists, under the escort of Texas Rangers led by John Coffee Hays, landed in 1844 and by September had founded Castroville, at the time the westernmost settlement in Texas.⁵

By 1845, settlement began to expand west of Castroville and centered around the communities of Quihi (founded 1845), Vandenburg (founded 1845-46), New Fountain (founded 1846 to replace Vandenburg), and Old D'Hanis (founded 1848). As in Castroville, each of these new settlements was laid out in a pattern reminiscent of practices held in their native German or French villages. In this traditional layout, homes seldom formed a gridded system, but were often scattered on acre-plots. These small town lots, often the site of primary residences, were surrounded by outlying twenty and forty-acre farming plots.

Quihi, now at the intersection of Farm to Market Road (FM) 2676 and Quihi Creek, was laid out in 1845 by Castro. By March 1846, ten families, most of them German-speaking, had taken up permanent residence at the town site. These original

⁴ Between 1843 and 1847, Castro charted twenty-seven ships from Europe to Texas, in which he brought 485 families and 457 single men. Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "CASTRO, HENRI," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/CC/fca93.html> (accessed July 22, 2005). See also U.S. Census for Medina County, 1850 1860, 1870.

⁵ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).
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settlers (between Quihi, New Fountain and nearby Verdana) included Louis Boehle, Mimke Saathoff, Focke E. Saathoff, Gerd Schmidt, and John Henry Gerdes. The Brucks, Heyens, Muennicks, Pichots (a French Alsatian family), Schweers, Schuelel, and Weimers were also included in this original group, which, as many of their other family members and friends joined in this area, became known at least informally as the "Saathoffsche Kolonie".⁶ Other emigrant settlers from Alsace and East Frisia settled in the community in the 1840s and 1850s (see list above). Quihi had grown considerably by the 1850s, and by 1852 had one church (the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, founded in 1852 by Reverend Christian Oefinger), a post office (1854), and a private school (1856). Citizens of Quihi, particularly the Saathoff family, were instrumental in the establishment of the first public school in Medina County (1874). As was common in many German-speaking towns, social and cultural groups were formed and played a large role within the community and surrounding areas. In Quihi, residents formed the Quihi *Schuetzen Verein* (English translation: Shooting Association) in 1890. Such groups were formed by German-speaking immigrants across the United States, and functioned as social clubs, and often as a form of militia or public safety committee. Now known as the Quihi Gun Club, this society still draws members drawn from all over Medina County and claims to be the "oldest continually running gun club" in the United States -- though today the club seems to be more well-known for its monthly dances.⁷ In the 1940s, Quihi had two businesses, a school (which closed in 1930 and was in use as a community center), a church, scattered residences, numerous family cemeteries, and an estimated twenty inhabitants. By the 1960s the town's population was estimated at 100. The population was still estimated at 100 in 1990, though only a few residents remain today.⁸

New Fountain, approximately two miles southwest of Quihi on FM 2676, was also founded by German-speaking Castro colonists in 1846. In 1857, New Fountain opened the fourth post office in Medina County (postmaster Roland Goering). In 1858, the town established a German Methodist Church (led by Reverend Johann August Schaper), and by 1860 had a mill, a Masonic lodge and a stagecoach stop servicing the route between San Antonio and Uvalde. The New Fountain School was established in 1876, and only twenty years later, the town reported a population of 400, two general stores, a corn mill, and a railroad express and telegraph agent. The George Muennink's gin is believed to have been the first cotton gin in Medina County, as well as the first building with a tin roof, the first with electricity, and the first with a telephone.⁹ The

⁶ Castro Colonies Heritage Association, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txmedina/ccha.htm>.

⁷ <http://www.honkytonktx.com/dancehalls/>

⁸ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "QUIHI, TX,"

<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/qq/hnq2.html> (accessed July 22, 2005). See also U.S. Census, Medina County.

⁹ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "NEW FOUNTAIN, TX,"

<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/nn/hvn21.html> (accessed July 22, 2005).

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fortunes of New Fountain appeared to fluctuate in the second decade of the 20th century, as the 1906 school was expanded (1911), while the post office closed (1914). The construction of the Medina Dam in 1913 improved the economic conditions of the surrounding areas for a time, but by the 1940s, a new German Methodist church was the only active organization in New Fountain. By the mid-1980s all that remained in the community was the church and the adjoining cemetery.¹⁰

Settlement and Building

The first structures erected in Castro's colonies were typical pioneer buildings, often crude shelters constructed with materials close at hand by methods that proved quick and economical. By the mid-1850s, the settlers (particularly the Germans) began to build more permanent buildings constructed of hand-hewn native limestone, sandstone, or some combination of stone and timber, often roofed with cypress shingles. In traditional German buildings, stonework normally appeared on the ground floor of the house, and gave way to half-timbering (*fachwerk*) on upper levels; in many of the Texan examples, it was not uncommon to see several building phases (log, *fachwerk*, and stone) combined in successive additions to the structure. The colors found in the stone ranged from an off-white, common in the Castroville area, to a rich blend of ochres and gold characteristic of the New Fountain and Quihi communities.¹¹ Although German-built limestone and sandstone structures appear widely through south central Texas, the greatest concentrations are in the Hill Country and Medina County.¹²

The earliest homes in this area of Medina County were typically one to 1 ½ stories, characterized by their small rectangular shape, steeply-pitched roofs often in saltbox formation, thick masonry walls smoothed with lime plaster (though sometimes sheathed in weatherboard), full-façade porches, gable-end chimneys and small window openings (both a function of the structural system and defensive requirement against warring Indian tribes, who were reported to raid as late as 1874). Some of the earliest roofs were sheathed in thatch as was the French and German tradition, but as early as 1850, the abundance of cypress trees along the Medina River made the more weather-resistant wood shingles a desirable and obtainable option; in fact, many Germans immigrants were instrumental in developing the cypress-shingle industry of the Texas

¹⁰ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "NEW FOUNTAIN, TX,"
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/NN/hvn21.htm>

¹¹ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY,"
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹² Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMAN VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE,"
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/cbg1.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).
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Hill Country.¹³ The European method of building ground floors of stone and second floors with vertically placed timbers was characteristic of two-story construction. Many of these architectural features were common to the rural structures of their German homelands, though settlers quickly learned to make adaptations that suited the unique climate of Medina County and the materials at hand.¹⁴ This second phase of construction, characterized by the stone and *fachwerk* structures, ended about the time of the Civil War, and few if any half-timbered buildings were erected after 1870.”¹⁵

Buildings erected after 1870 to the 1940s were typical of architectural developments across Texas and the United States. In the late 19th century, waves of immigration from various cultural and ethnic groups in combination with increased contact with eastern states had a tremendous impact on the development of architecture in the region. The introduction of railway lines into Medina County in 1881 not only opened the region to increased export commerce, but allowed the import of new architectural ideas and perhaps more significantly, new building materials such as milled lumber, factory-made brick, window glass, and cast-iron elements (such as storefronts). The majority of extant buildings within the project area are residential; most of these built in the early-twentieth century. These homes reflect national trends and reveal the stylistic influence of Folk Victorian, bungalow, and 1940s minimal-traditional. The German vernacular building tradition that was prominent before the Civil War gradually gave way to architectural trends present across the country, thus demonstrating significant changes in regional development patterns and perhaps an increased sense of a shared “American” cultural heritage.

Economy: Farming, Ranching and Rail

As required by contract, mid-19th century settlers to Medina County immediately began to cultivate their land grants. Although their first efforts were unsuccessful, they soon began to grow corn, cotton and sorghum. Many of these first settlers operated subsistence farms while learning livestock husbandry, which they had quickly realized was better suited to the area.¹⁶ Aided by the introduction of barbed wire (1873), cattle ranching doubled during the 1870s to become the largest was the dominant agricultural activity by 1882.¹⁷ The coming of the railroad to Medina County (Galveston, Harrisburg

¹³ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMAN VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/cbg1.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹⁴ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "CASTROVILLE, TX," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/CC/hjc5.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹⁵ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMAN VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/cbg1.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹⁶ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹⁷ [p://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html](http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html) (accessed July 21, 2005).

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and San Antonio Railway in 1881 and the Great Northern Railroad in 1882) insured a solid connection for the burgeoning livestock trade, and aided further community growth in this region and spurred the establishment of nearby towns of Hondo (later the county seat), La Coste, Dunlay, and New D'Hanis were established along the GH&SA; the towns of Devine and Natalia were established along the IG&N."¹⁸

While the extension of railroad lines into Medina County and throughout Texas spurred economic growth and population increases, subsequent economic developments, settlement patterns and demographic shifts during the early decades of the twentieth century were dictated by creation of an automobile-related infrastructure. During the 1920s and 1930s, a number of roads were built and upgraded, often improved from wagon or horse tracks to passable all-season roads. In 1921 the Old San Antonio Road was graded and designated State Highway 2; later it was widened and improved to become U.S. Highway 81, which served as the main north-south route until Interstate 35 was completed in 1964. State Highway 3, completed in 1922, was improved through Castroville, Dunlay, Hondo, and D'Hanis; it was later designated U.S. Highway 90 and serves as the main east-west route."¹⁹ A number of smaller Farm-to-Market and county roads received similar upgrades and were integral in the survival and development of this area. Rail provided the major means of transport until the advent of the state and federal highway system (1926). With improved road and increased availability of automobiles, economic systems changed. The use of trucks to transport products to market increased in popularity, leading to the increased production of truck crops, such as spinach, sweet potatoes, cabbage, beans, turnips, tomatoes, Irish potatoes, and strawberries. Broom corn was one of Medina County's most lucrative cash crops in 1930s and 1940s. Ranching and poultry farming also continued.²⁰

Farming and livestock ranching remained major endeavors in the county up to World War II. Cotton and corn were both lucrative until at least 1940 (notwithstanding the 1905 boll weevil epidemic, which devastated cotton crops for a number of years).²¹ The completion of the Medina Dam in 1913, at that time the fourth-largest dam project in the United States, provided water to irrigate an estimated 60,000 farmland acres. This

¹⁷ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹⁸ [p://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html](http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html) (accessed July 21, 2005).

¹⁹ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²⁰ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²¹ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

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major project not only encouraged prospective farmers, but provided a large number of jobs related to both the dam project and increased farm production. This project and subsequent economic shifts had a marked affect on the number of Mexican immigrants to the county.²²

Demographics: 19th and 20th Centuries

The first wave of German settlers who immigrated to Texas under the auspices Friedrich Ernst, the Adelsverein, and Henri Castro were typically considered middle-class, often from land-owning families. Many were accomplished artisans, and, in a few cases, university-educated professionals.²³ The majority were farmers with a modest experience in trade. For the most part, they were neither poverty-stricken nor oppressed (although some were truly fleeing the social and economic backlash from revolutions of 1848), and were able to afford the substantial cash investment required in overseas migration.²⁴ By 1850, the "German Belt" in Texas was well-established, and during this decade alone, the number of German-born persons in Texas more than doubled to over 20,000 individuals.²⁵ Immigration was curtailed during the American Civil War, but from 1865 to the early 1890s, more Germans arrived in Texas than during the thirty years before the war (though many of these settled outside the Hill country and Medina County).²⁶

Population during the early decades of the twentieth century fluctuated a great deal. The population declined during the Depression years, but rebounded in the 1930s due to the construction of the Medina Dam. While new immigration from Germany slowed markedly, records demonstrate that descendants of the first colonists remained in the area to the present day. The presence of other cultural groups, predominantly Mexican immigrants, increased dramatically. This shift paralleled the growth of industries such as broom corn farming, lignite coal mining (near Natalia), the Medina Dam construction, and brick making (around D'Hanis).²⁷

²² Between 1900 and 1910 the number of Mexicans in the grew from 842 to 3,147, representing one quarter of the county's residents. By 1930 Mexicans numbered 6,172. This growth was curtailed by the Depression, and had been reduced to around 1,000 by 1940. Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²³ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMANS," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/png2.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²⁴ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMANS," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/png2.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²⁵ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMANS," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/png2.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²⁶ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "GERMANS," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/png2.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

²⁷ Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "MEDINA COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/hcm10.html> (accessed July 21, 2005).

Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Survey Results

The reconnaissance level survey of the eastern route included the identification of nineteen standing structures and a number of associated outbuildings. These nineteen buildings were located within visual range of the proposed route and were to varying degrees accessible by county roads or farm-to-market roads. Investigation of these properties was limited to viewing from the public access, and documentation was limited to photographs taken with a zoom lens. Several properties were not visible or accessible from the public roadway, and have not been noted as part of this survey. Of the 21 properties identified within the proposed APE (and within approximately 200 feet of the APE), 12 were constructed within the last fifty years and have been deemed non-historic and not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. These properties are all residential, and are labeled as Structures A through L on the attached survey map. Nine of the properties identified within the proposed APE are considered historic, with construction dates ranging from approximately 1870 to 1940. Of these nine, two date from the late 19th century and possibly represent the earliest waves of settlement in the areas of Quihi and New Fountain. The remaining seven were constructed in the first three decades of the twentieth century, and seem to represent another cohesive period of residential development in this area. Several of these nine properties are currently owned by descendants of the earliest German settlers in Quihi and New Fountain, thus suggesting possible association with important historic people or patterns of events.

The reconnaissance survey was restricted by limited access to each of these properties, but has revealed that at least nine historic properties lie within the proposed APE and within approximately 200 feet. All historic structures within the APE or immediately adjacent (approximately 200 feet) were considered not only for their individual eligibility but for possible inclusion in a historic district or possible rural historic landscape. The majority of these nine properties retain their architectural character, possess a high degree of integrity, and suggest the possibility of significant association with historic events, trends, development patterns or persons. Because work was performed at the reconnaissance level, further investigation is recommended to verify eligibility for inclusion in the National Register, if this eastern route is chosen for construction and the Programmatic Agreement is in place. To properly assess the eligibility of individual properties or groups of properties (for the inclusion in historic districts or rural historic landscapes), the architectural historian would carry out the stipulations in the Programmatic Agreement related to historic property identification, documentation, and assessment. Figure 16 shows the location of the historic structures in relation to the Historic 1895 Medina County map as a reference to the estimated oldest structures in relation to historic property owners.

HS #1

Address: 830 CR 4643

Owner: unknown

Approximate date: 1930

Status: Potentially Eligible

HS #1 is a 1-story wood frame residence, displaying stylistic influence derived from the American bungalow. This particular example is characteristic of

vernacular derivatives popular in the United States between approximately 1905 and 1935. Elements include a low pitched, front gable roof over an offset partial-width front gable porch supported on squared Doric columns.

Decorative knee braces are visible under the gable roof of the porch. The primary entrance appears to be centered in the façade beneath the porch, and is flanked by paired wood sash windows. The residence is clad in drop-type wood siding typical of this type and period. The character-defining features of this residence that existed during the historic period appear intact, and the resource displays a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

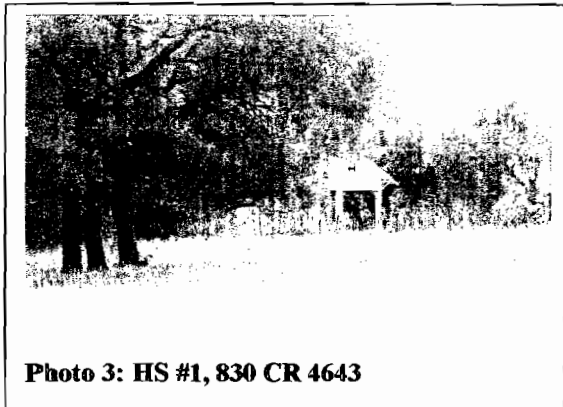


Photo 3: HS #1, 830 CR 4643

The historic significance of this property is unknown, but may be linked to a wave of residential development that occurred in the area during the 1920s and 1930s. Much of this development seems to be tied with descendants of the original settlers of Quihi and New Fountain, as family names of historic note are attached to many of these properties. This pattern of settlement suggests that subsequent generations obtained nearby property or divided family lands and constructed their own homes as they came of age or were married.

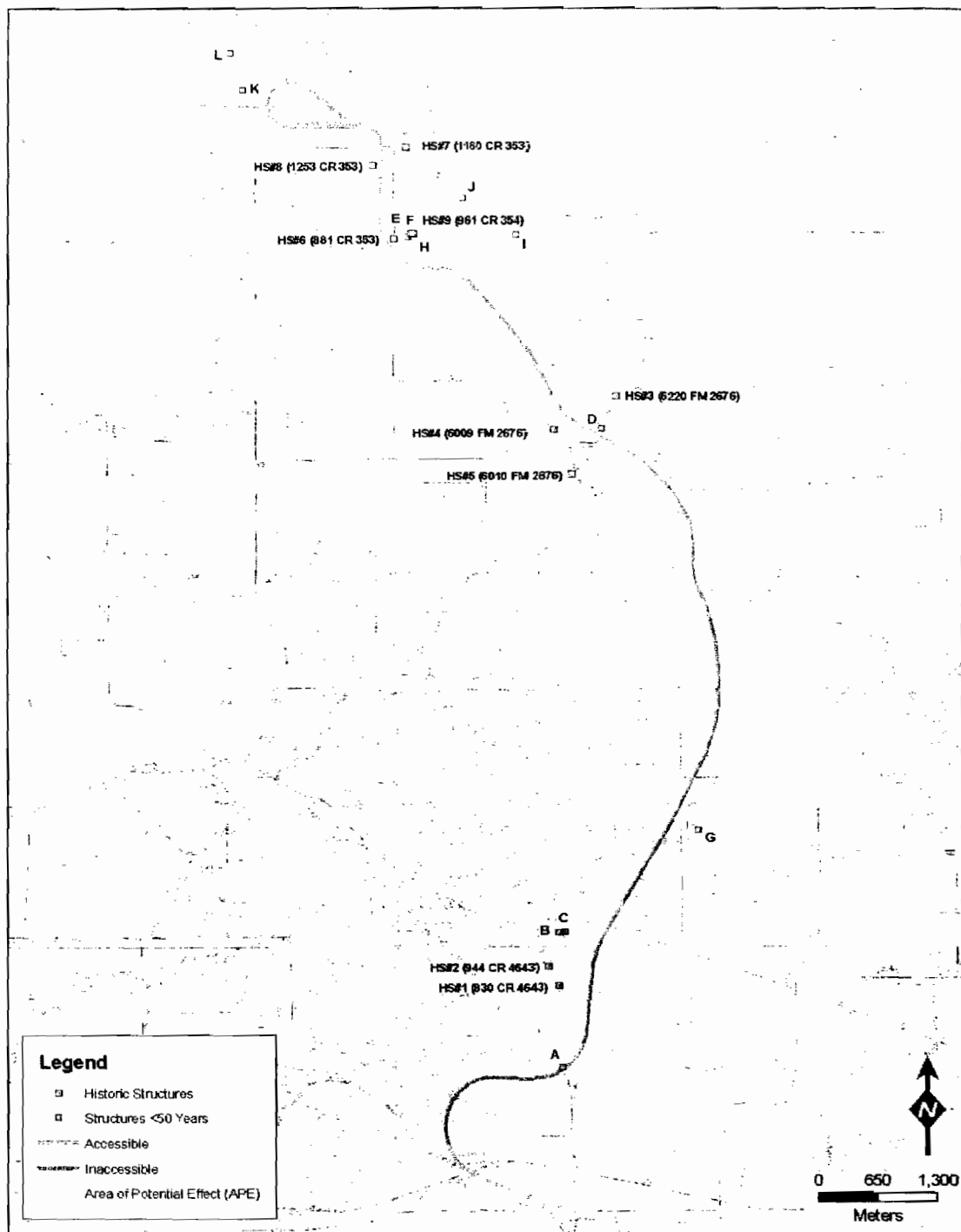


Figure 16 : Georeferenced Topographic Map and 1895 Medina County Map
Showing Historic Structure Locations

HS #2

Address: 944 CR 4643

Owner: Hilda Oefinger

Approximate date: 1930

Status: Potentially Eligible

HS #2 is a 1-story wood frame residence set among various outbuildings. This residence may have been built in two stages, as massing indicates several elements appended. Because the primary façade and entrance face away from the county road and only the rear façade is visible from the public access, a closer investigation of the front of the property would be necessary to further determine character defining elements and the degree of integrity present. A number of key historic features are identifiable from the public access, and include a cross-gabled (a side-facing gable linked to a steeply pitched hipped gable roof). Two brick chimney stacks protrude for the roof, one centered along the roof slope and the other positioned at the peak marking the transition between the side gable and the hipped gable roofs. Windows on this rear façade are boarded, but the dimensions suggest the presence of both single and paired wood-frame sash windows. The residence is clad in drop-type wood siding typical of this type and period. The character-defining features of this residence that existed during the historic period appear intact, and the resource has a high likelihood of retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

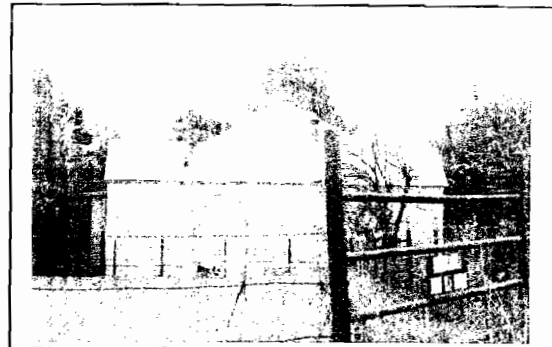


Photo 4: HS #2, 944 CR 4643

This particular property is associated with the Oefinger family, who emigrated to Castroville, New Fountain and Quihi from Wurtemberg, Germany. Members of the Oefinger family, including John, John 2, Paul, Andre and Orsalsa [Ursula], have been listed on the Medina County Census since 1860. The Oefinger family made many significant contributions to the development of nearby communities, for example, Christian Oefinger founded the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Quihi. The historic significance of this particular property is unknown, but may be linked to a wave of residential development that occurred in the area during the 1920s and 1930s.

HS #3

Address: 6220 FM 2676

Owner: Glen Bohlen

Approximate Date: 1870

Status: Potentially Eligible

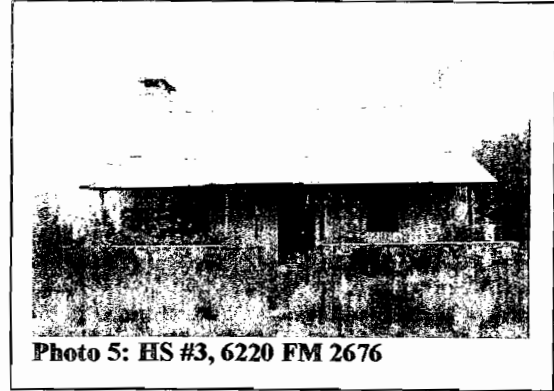


Photo 5: HS #3, 6220 FM 2676

HS #3 is a 1 ½ - story residence, displaying elements characteristic of 19th century vernacular architecture found in Castroville, Quihi and throughout Medina County. This saltbox form is typically associated with vernacular architecture imported from the Alsatian region (located between present-day Germany and France), and is often constructed of stone masonry clad in plaster. The structure of this particular property was not visible beneath the stucco or plaster exterior, but the form and gable-end chimney placement indicate a high probability of a masonry structural system. Adjacent landscape elements, including a masonry garden wall and outdoor fireplace or kiln, further substantiate this hypothesis. Notable architectural elements of this historic building include a low pitched, side gable roof extending into a full-facade porch. The porch is supported on turned wood posts, which are formed to match the molding around the chimney cap. These later two details appear to be non-original, but may have replaced the original elements over fifty years ago thus becoming part of the historic development of this property. The centered entry portal is flanked by wood sash windows. The exterior walls and chimney stack are clad in stucco typical of this architectural type and period. Nearby outbuildings include a wood-frame, wood clad barn structure. Landscape features include low stone wall, outdoor stone fireplace, and a windmill positioned near the highway. The character-defining features of this residence that existed during the historic period appear intact with minor alterations, and the resource displays a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

This particular property is owned by members of the Bohlen family, who came to this area from Hanover, Germany and appears on the Medina County Census as early as 1870. The historic significance of this property is unknown, but the architectural form, construction methods, and estimated construction date suggest that it is linked to the earliest waves of settlement in this area of Medina County, and to some of the earliest settlers. Areas of potential significance for this property could be in the areas of architecture, as an intact representative of 19th century vernacular building types derived from German-Alsatian traditions, and association with early settlement patterns and important persons.

HS #4

Address: 6009 FM 2676

Owner: D. Rios

Ranch Name: Los Papalotes

Approximate date: 1880

Status: Potentially Eligible



HS #4 is a 1-story masonry building, displaying characteristics typical of the late 19th century vernacular architecture found in Medina County. Although this building differs from the saltbox form associated with German-Alsatian building traditions, it does display similar planning, construction methods, and materials common to pioneer dwellings. This building is characterized by masonry exterior walls clad in plaster or stucco (now partially eroded), and a low-pitched side-gabled roof. The roof structure was originally constructed of wooden rafters clad with wood shingles, but is now over-clad with corrugated metal (presumably to preserve underlying historic building materials). A stone chimney and chimney stack protrude on the gable end, a placement that is common in warm climates such as Texas. The façade is arranged asymmetrically, with a centered front portal flanked on the left by two single sash windows on the west and one single window (of smaller dimension). As was typical of pioneer homes of this period and region, this residence appears to be only one room deep and symmetrical form from side to side, with a possible addition of a single bay to the left side of the building (which would account for the asymmetrical façade arrangement). The use of vertical plank siding rather than stone and the insertion of framed windows of differing dimension from the original single opening to the far right of the main façade suggest an addition to the original structure or possibly indicate a structural failure in the exterior masonry wall that was later remedied with this infill construction. The overall form of this residence remains intact although materials have degraded. Nearby structures and objects include a concrete cistern, outhouse, windmill, and non-historic log cabin that has clearly been moved onto the property. The character-defining features of this residence that would have existed during the historic period appear intact, and the resource displays a moderate degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Although the historic significance of this property is unverified, the type, construction method, materials and estimated construction date of this building suggest that is associated with early settlement of Medina County. The building's close proximity to FM 2676 (Old Castroville Road), and to other historic resources of similar architectural character and age further substantiates this potential association.

HS #5

Address: 6010 FM 2676

Quihi Creek Ranch

Owner: unknown

Approximate date: unverified

HS #5 is a 1-story single-family home clad in masonry, displaying stylistic influence associated with local vernacular traditions dating to the late 19th century. This particular residence appears to be

new construction that adopts historic stylistic vocabulary associated with the German-Alsatian tradition, but the resource is located a great distance from the public access and a determination cannot be made without closer investigation.

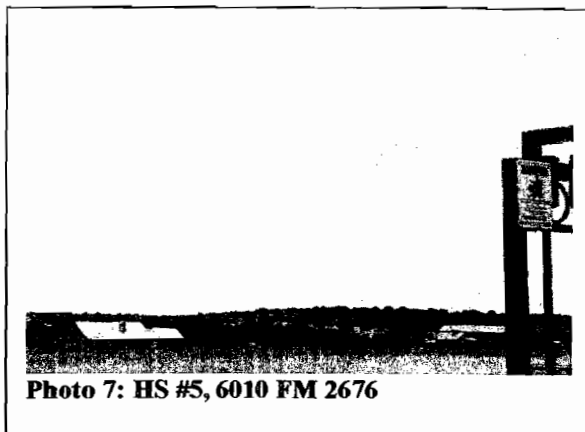


Photo 7: HS #5, 6010 FM 2676

HS #6

Address: 881 CR 353

Owner: J. Dittmar

Approximate date: 1930

Status: Potentially Eligible

HS #6 is a 1-story wood frame residence, displaying stylistic influence derived from the American bungalow. This particular example is characteristic of

vernacular derivatives popular in the United States between approximately 1905 and 1935. Elements include a low pitched, front gable roof over an offset partial-width front gable porch supported on squared Doric columns. Decorative vertical trimmings are visible at the peak of the gable roof of both the main mass and the porch, and rafter end are exposed at the eaves. The primary entrance appears to be centered in the façade beneath the porch, and is flanked by a single wood sash window. Paired sash windows pierce the side elevations. The residence is clad in clapboard wood siding typical of this type and period. The character-defining features of this residence that existed during the historic period appear intact, and the resource displays integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

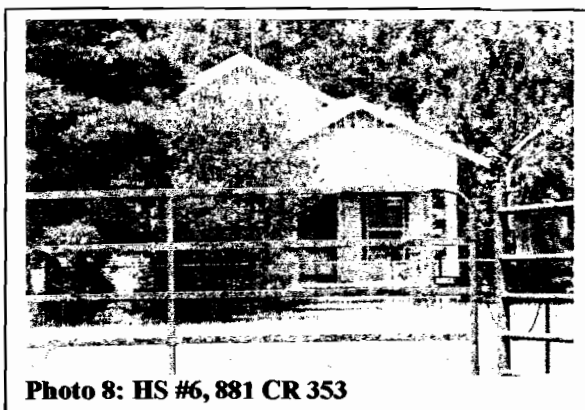


Photo 8: HS #6, 881 CR 353

The historic significance of this property is unknown, but may be linked to a wave of residential development that occurred in the area during the 1920s and 1930s. Several resources in this area are of the same approximate construction period, including HS #1,

which bears a strong similarity to this property. Much of this development seems to be tied with descendants of the original settlers of Quihi and New Fountain, as family names of historic note are attached to many of these properties. This pattern of settlement suggests that subsequent generations obtained nearby property or divided family lands and constructed their own homes as they came of age or were married.

HS #7

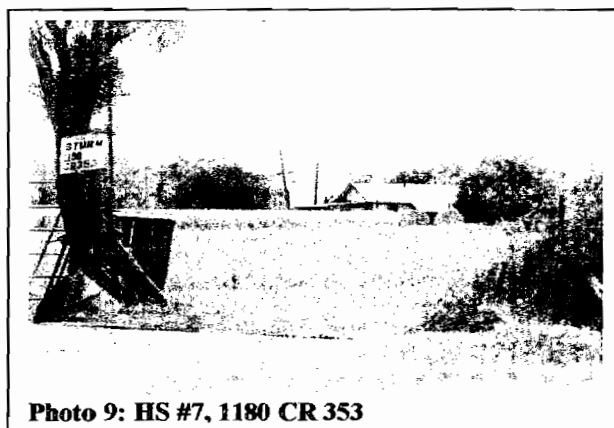
Address: 1180 CR 353

Owner: Margie Sturm

Approximate date: 1940

Status: Undetermined

HS #7 is not clearly visible from the public access, but the massing and line suggest this building is 50 years old or older. Given its proximity to other historic properties, this particular building and surrounding structures warrant further investigation.



This property is associated with descendants of the Sturm family, who came to this area from Wurtemberg, Germany and appears on Medina County Census as early as 1860. The historic significance of this particular property is unknown, but may be linked to a wave of residential development that occurred in the area during the 1920s and 1930s. Much of this development seems to be tied with descendants of the original settlers of Quihi and New Fountain, as family names of historic note are attached to many of these properties. This pattern of settlement suggests that subsequent generations obtained nearby property or divided family lands and constructed their own homes as they came of age or were married.

HS #8

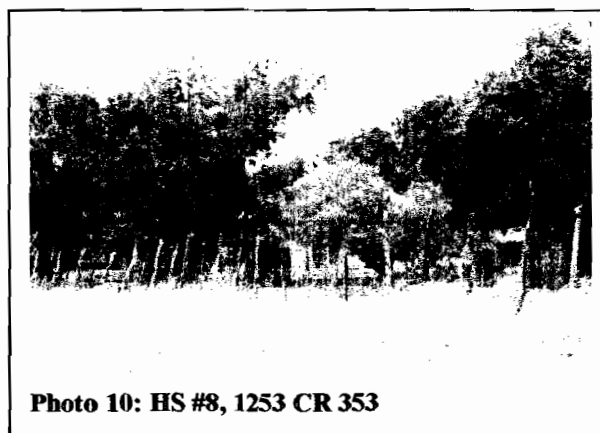
Address: 1253 CR 353

Owner: C.R. Saathoff

Approximate date: 1930

Status: Potentially Eligible

HS #8 is a 1-story wood frame residence, displaying stylistic influence derived from the American bungalow. This vernacular derivative is



characterized by its steeply pitched hipped roof with a flat-roof porch extension supported on metal posts. The exterior is sheathed in drop-type wood siding, and most windows are paired wood sash. Details appear to be minimal. Because this house is located at a distance from the public access, closer investigation would be necessary to make a formal determination.

This property is associated with descendants of the Saathoff family, one of the original families to settle in this area. Mimke Saathoff and his family emigrated from Hanover, Germany to Medina County in 1846 as part of Castro's Colony. Members of the Saathoff family appear on the Medina County Census of 1850 (and beyond) as residents of New Fountain. A branch of the family was also associated with the town of Verdina, fourteen miles northeast of Hondo. The Schuehle-Saathoff House (ca 1870) in Quihi is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic significance of this particular Saathoff property is unknown, but may be linked to a wave of residential development that occurred in the area during the 1920s and 1930s. This pattern of settlement suggests that descendants of the first German settlers obtained nearby property or divided family lands and constructed their own homes as they came of age or were married.

HS #9

Address: 961 CR 354

Owner: unknown

Approximate date: 1940

Status: Potentially Eligible, though historic form must be verified

HS #9 is a 1-story frame building displays characteristics typical of early 1940s vernacular residential design often denoted as minimal-traditional. This

small home is characterized by its side-gable roof accentuated by a small cross gable emerging from its peak. Rafter ends are exposed under the eaves. The roof is sheathed in standing seam metal, and the exterior walls are clad with irregular courses of ashlar masonry stone (non-load bearing). The front-gabled porch extends slightly from the façade, and is supported on decorative metal piers. The façade is symmetrically arranged, with 1/1 wood Sash windows flanking a set of double entry doors. Although this home is at least fifty years old, it appears to have been superficially modified with non-original elements such as masonry cladding, metal roofing material, and porch supports (although these changes could have been made over 50 years ago). The historic appearance of this building would need to be verified in order to determine its integrity and make a formal

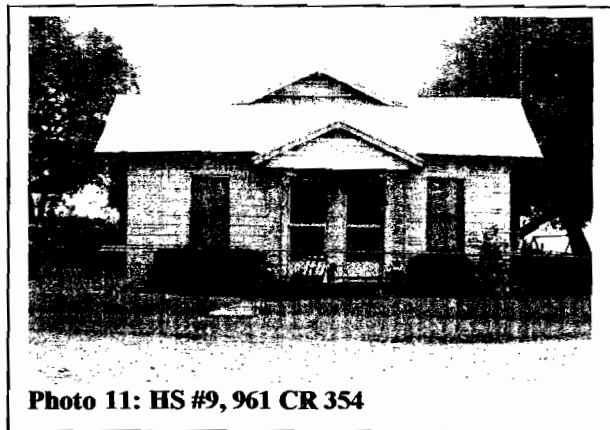


Photo 11: HS #9, 961 CR 354

determination of eligibility. The historic significance of this property is unknown, but may be linked to a wave of residential development that occurred in the area during the 1920s and 1930s, and possibly into the 1940s. Much of this development seems to be tied with descendants of the original settlers of Quihi and New Fountain, as family names of historic note are attached to many of these properties.

Recommendations

GTI has conducted a reconnaissance cultural resources survey for an eastern route. Portions of the project area, however, were not accessible. Figure 13 and Figure 15 show the areas that were accessible to the archeologist and architectural historian. Based on the archeological field investigations, Mr. Sergio Iruegas confirmed the high probability areas where archeological resources are likely to be present. There were no archeological sites noted during the reconnaissance survey.

The architectural historian identified six historic buildings within the APE, three historic buildings within approximately 200 feet of the APE, and twelve buildings less than 50 years old (seven of which are inside the designated APE). The buildings that fall outside of the designated APE, such as HS #2, were taken into consideration because it appears that the APE crosses through property boundaries (possibly historic land divisions) and several associated outbuildings may fall within the designated APE. The precise locations of all nine historic structures were obtained with a Magellan Explorist 100 GPS hand-held unit (WAAS enabled to provide three meter accuracy) and correlated onto the 7.5 minute USGS topographic maps. All historic structures within the APE or immediately adjacent (approximately 200 feet) were considered not only for their individual eligibility but for possible inclusion in a historic district or rural historic landscape (a subcategory of the historic site or historic district designation). Ms. Monica Penick determined that the nine historic properties identified as part of the reconnaissance-level survey are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The likelihood of a historic residential district encompassing these nine properties appears low, due in part to the proximity of a number of non-historic properties. Because of limited accessibility to various individual properties along the eastern route, the reconnaissance-level survey was not sufficient to identify, evaluate or document rural historic landscapes. The Programmatic Agreement contemplates that a more intensive survey and review of the possibility of the historic landscape in the area of the eastern route would be undertaken should this route be chosen for construction. It is GTI's opinion that intensive cultural resource investigations are warranted within the proposed eastern route APE to fully document the cultural resources, if STB approves this route and the Programmatic Agreement is in place.

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Appendix A

Scope of Work

Scope of Work

Prior to field investigations, González, Tate & Iruegas, Inc. (GTI) submitted this proposed scope of work to the THC for review and it was approved on July 15, 2005. As in the previous alternative alignments surveys, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) was proposed to be within 1200 feet on either side of the right of way of the potential eastern route. Since this project is for a potential eastern route, right-of-entry was not granted for the entire route. Therefore, the reconnaissance survey was limited to road right of ways. In some cases, the ground surface was inspected at the edge of plowed fields within high probability areas where archeological resources were likely to be present, and digital photographs were taken of any potential historic properties.

Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties

Qualified personnel of the appropriate profession will conduct reconnaissance archeological and architectural surveys within the APE to locate archeological sites, buildings or other structures, objects or districts that may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

GTI will ensure that:

1. The work will be conducted in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*, 48 Fed. Reg. 44716, September 29, 1983.
2. Any archeological sites, buildings or other structures, objects or districts located during the survey will be evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4 within the context of a reconnaissance survey. GTI will also consider other applicable State of Texas laws, standards, and guidelines related to Historic Properties report documentation, specifically, the Antiquities Code of Texas, Title 9, Chapter 191 of the Texas Natural Resource Code; Rules of Practice and Procedure Chapter 26.24 and Chapter 26.25, and the Texas Historical Commission's Minimum Archeological Survey Standards, in accordance with 36CFR800.4(b)(1).
3. GTI will submit to SGR a report that meets the Secretary's Standards for Identification, Archeological Documentation and Historical Documentation. The report shall include but not be limited to all of the following:

- A. For buildings and other structures, objects and districts, the documentation will include the following for the areas of reconnaissance survey, outside 300 feet on either side of the right of way, but within 1200 feet on either side of the right of way of the Approved Corridor, for any property over 45 years old:
 - i. A map showing the location of the historic properties in relation to the potential eastern route and the alternative alignments; and
 - ii. Clear photographic prints, including at least one front elevation of each property surveyed, and area or streetscape views in potential districts.
- B. Identification of historic and prehistoric archeological high probability areas, buildings and other structures, objects, districts, traditional cultural properties, and cultural or historic landscapes located during the reconnaissance survey that may be eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places;
- C. Reconnaissance survey level recommendations regarding National Register eligibility of cultural resources identified in 2 above; and
- D. Reconnaissance survey level recommendations and descriptions on findings of potential Project effects on potentially eligible historic and prehistoric archeological sites, buildings and other structures, objects, districts.

Where ever possible, evidence of soil profiles erosion was noted and examined for cultural materials. Field notes were maintained on terrain, vegetation, soils, land forms, etc. Photographs were taken of general project area views where the route traverses the landscape and historic structures. General location data of the historic structures was acquired via handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) units (Etrex) using the UTM coordinate system and map datum NAD 83. The GPS waypoints were entered into National Geographic Topo software that showed the precise location where the photographs were taken, and each GPS waypoint was correlated with structures indicated on the USGS quadrangle maps.

Appendix B

**Texas Historical Commission
Approval for
Scope of Work**

González, Tate & Iruegas, Inc.

(GTI) González, Tate & Iruegas, Inc.
Environmental Consultants

July 11, 2005

Mr. Bill Martin
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

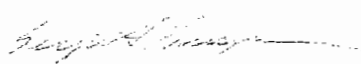
Re: Southwest Gulf Railroad proposed Eastern by-pass route

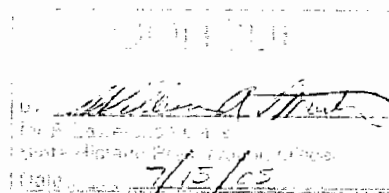
Dear Mr. Martin,

I am submitting the attached reconnaissance cultural resources survey scope of work for your review and approval. Southwest Gulf Railroad (SGR) would like to consider possible effects to cultural resources within a potential eastern by-pass route for its proposed railroad. This eastern by-pass route is not one of the alternative alignments discussed in the draft Environmental Impact Statement associated with its proposed railroad project in Medina County. González, Tate & Iruegas, Inc. has emphasized that this survey will be at the reconnaissance level and recommendations will be limited to a statement that further work is warranted at an intensive survey level or that no further work is necessary.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 512/914-1842.

Thank You,


Sergio A. Iruegas, RPA
President/Cultural Resources Director



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