

**CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT
DESKTOP ANALYSIS**

**ADDENDUM TO US 98/SR 35/SR 700 FROM CR 54 TO US
301/SR 39 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
(PD&E) STUDY IN PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Work Program Item Segment No. 443368-2

Prepared for:



**Florida Department of Transportation
District Seven
11201 N McKinley Drive
Tampa, Florida 33612**

Prepared by:

**Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
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September 2022

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) prepared a desktop analysis in association with H.W. Lochner, Inc. for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Seven. The analysis serves as an addendum to the *Final Cultural Resource Assessment Report US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301/SR 39 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study* conducted by ACI in October 2021 (ACI 2021a). The Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) received concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in 2021 (Parsons 2021a; Florida Division of Historical Resources [FDHR] Project No. 2021-40D; **Appendix A**). ACI also received concurrence for a preferred pond memo and a technical memorandum addendum prepared as the result of design changes/modifications (ACI 2021b, 2022; Parsons 2021b, 2022; FDHR Project Nos. 2021-6591; 2019-40E; **Appendix A**).

The desktop analysis encompasses the remaining segment of US 98 between the new US 98 connection (surveyed by ACI in 2021) and US 301, and measures approximately 1.0-mile in length (**Figure 1**). Improvements to the segment are limited to milling and resurfacing the existing roadway. US 98 is a two-lane undivided facility and is functionally classified as an urban principal arterial.

The purpose of this analysis is to determine if any listed or eligible National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) historic/prehistoric archaeological sites or historic resources are located within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). As defined in 36 CFR Part § 800.16(d), the APE is the “geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” Based on the scale and nature of the activities, the project has a limited potential for any indirect or cumulative effects outside the immediate footprint of construction. Therefore, the archaeological and historical APE is defined as the existing pavement within the right-of-way (ROW) from pavement edge to pavement edge (FDOT 2022).

All work was conducted in compliance with the provisions of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966* (Public Law 89-665), as amended, and the implementing regulations 36 CFR 800, as well as with the provisions contained in the revised Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes (FS)*. All work was carried out in conformity with the provisions contained in the Chapter 1A-46, *Florida Administrative Code (FAC)*.

ACI’s study includes the identification and description of previously recorded archaeological sites and historic resources within the study area, as well as a discussion of potential archaeologically sensitive areas. The evaluation factors included previously recorded sites within or immediately adjacent to the study area, soil type, elevation, and distance to freshwater for archaeological sites. For historic resources, pertinent United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps (USGS 1960), and the Pasco County Property Appraisers website (Wells 2022) were reviewed to determine the potential for unrecorded historic resources (47 years of age or older; constructed in 1975 or earlier). Other CRAS surveys were also reviewed (Streelman 2005; ACI 2006, 2009, 2021a, 2021b; Driscoll 2011).

The archaeological background research indicated that one archaeological site is recorded within one mile of the APE. This site, [REDACTED] was determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP by the SHPO. Although the general area adjacent to the US 98 APE was considered to have a varied probability for archaeological site occurrence and the ETDM (#14374) review determined there was a minimal degree of effect (FDOT 2021), no sites were expected within the

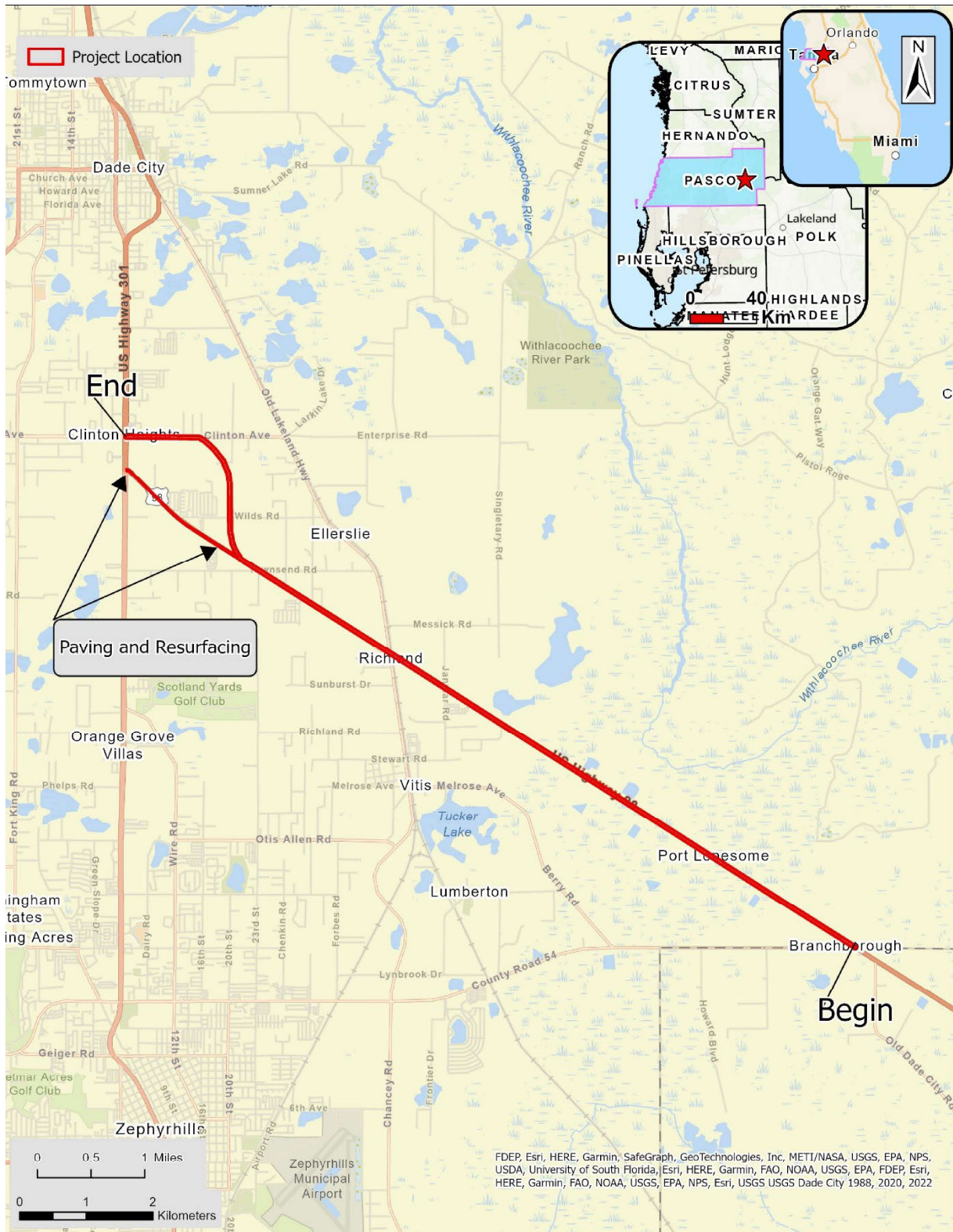


Figure 1. Location of the US 98 project limits; the desktop focused on the paving and resurfacing area.

APE given the disturbance that has occurred as a result of road construction and maintenance, and the presence and maintenance of underground utilities. However, work is limited to the existing pavement and no ground disturbing activities are proposed.

Historic/architectural background research, including a review of the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) and the NRHP indicated that no historic resources were previously recorded within the APE. A review of the Pasco County Property Appraiser data and historic aerial photographs suggested no historic resources, 47 years of age or older (constructed in 1975 or earlier), are located within the APE (Wells 2022).

Based on the background research, there is no potential for discovery of any historic and/or prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE and no potential for historic resources within the APE.

2.0 LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The APE is located in Sections 11 and 14 of Township 25 South, Range 21 East (USGS 1960). Much of the APE is surrounded by undeveloped agricultural land with a limited amount of residential development. Residential development is located adjacent to, but outside of the APE and is primarily located toward the central portion of the APE, north of US 98. Elevation of the study area is between 125 and 150 feet [ft] above mean sea level (amsl) and is shown on **Figure 4**. Freshwater sources in the study area include lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) soil survey indicates that the study area crosses one soil association (USDA 1982). This association is Lake-Candler, which is nearly level to sloping, excessively drained, and occurs on uplands; The specific soil types within the study area, are listed in **Table 1** and shown in **Figure 2**. The natural environments of the study area would have been comprised of forests of longleaf pine and xerophytic oak, as well as water tolerant trees and grasses (USDA 1982:8, 9).

Table 1. Soil types, drainage, and environmental setting within the study area

SOIL TYPE, % SLOPES	DRAINAGE	SETTING
Arredondo fine sand 5-8% slope	Well	Uplands
Candler fine sand, 0-5%	Excessively drained	Knolls and ridges
Kendrick fine sand, 0-5% slope	well drained	Uplands
Lake fine sand, 0-5% slope	Excessively drained	Ridgetops and low hillsides

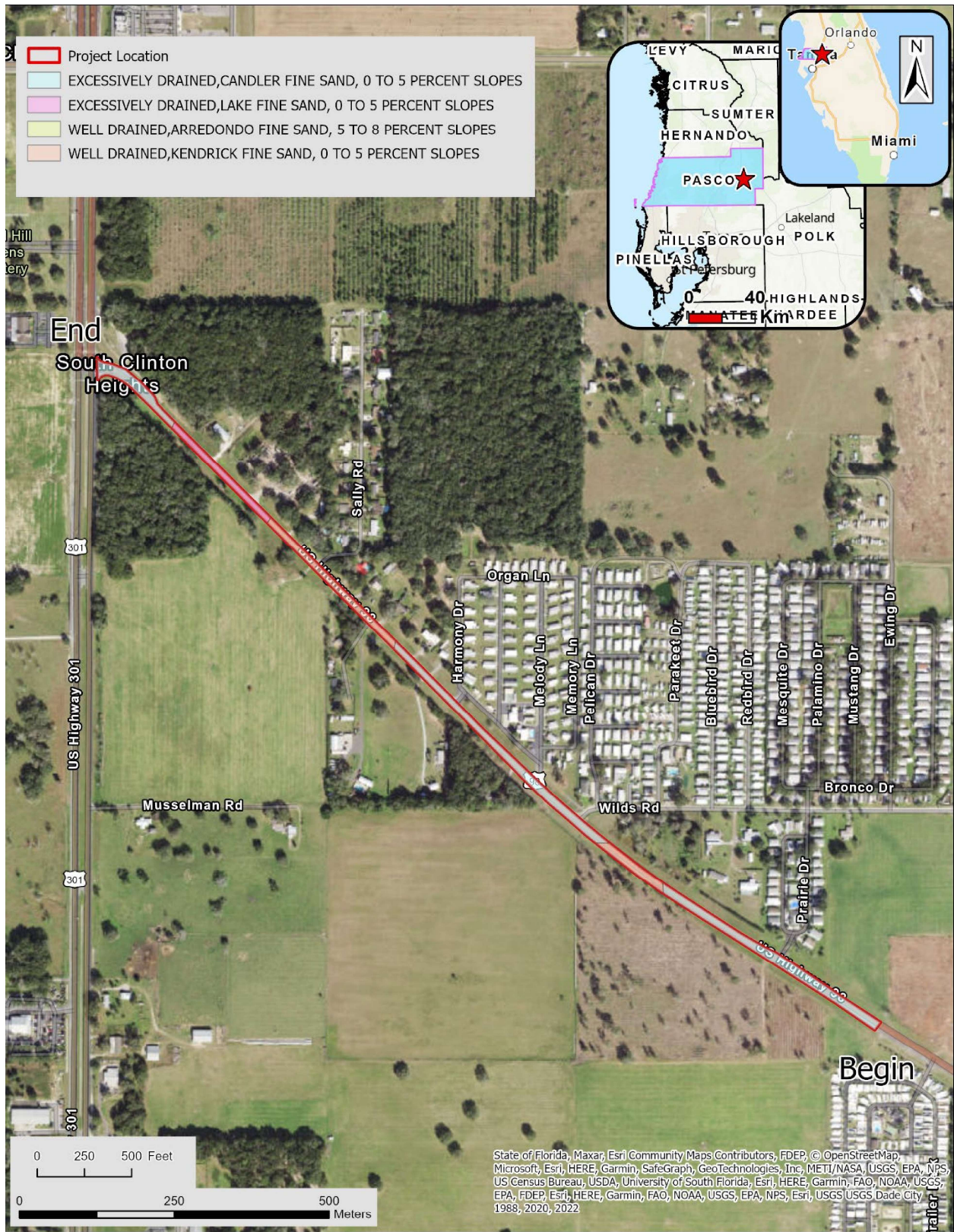


Figure 2. Soils within the APE.

3.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH AND LITERATURE REVIEW

A review of pertinent archaeological and historical literature, records, and other documents and data pertaining to the general area was conducted. The focus of this analysis was to ascertain the types of cultural resources known in the project vicinity, as well as the potential for the occurrence of yet unrecorded resources. Research included a review of the NRHP and the FMSF (July 2022), an examination the Pasco County Property Appraiser’s data (Wells 2022), soil survey information, plats, field notes, and tract book records (State of Florida 1846, 1849, n.d.), historic aerial photographs on file with the Publication of Archival Library and Museum Materials (PALMM) (USDA 1951, 1974), regional prehistories, histories, and site location predictive models, and relevant CRAS reports and manuscripts (Streelman 2005; ACI 2006, 2009, 2021a, 2021b; Driscoll 2011). **Table 2** provides a list of the CRAS projects conducted within one mile of the APE. The 2021 CRAA conducted by ACI, can be referenced for in-depth historic and prehistoric overviews.

Table 2. CRAS projects conducted within one mile of the APE.

REFERENCE	PROJECT & FDHR SURVEY #
Streelman 2005	Historic Resources Survey of East Pasco County (#11798)
ACI 2006	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Highland Lakes Property, Pasco County, Florida (#12976)
ACI 2009	Final Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Report Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study US 301 (SR 39) from South of CR 54 (Eiland Boulevard) to US 98 Bypass (SR 533) Pasco County, Florida (#18104)
Driscoll 2011	An Archaeological and Historical Survey of the Townsend Road Project Area in Pasco County, Florida (#18305)
ACI 2021a	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from Polk County Line/CR 54 to US 301 (SR 39/SR 41) PD&E Study Pasco County, Florida; FPID No.: 443368-2 (#28009)
ACI 2021b	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey SMF & FPC Sites US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301/SR 39, Pasco County, Florida; WPI Segment No.: 443368-2 (#27998)
ACI 2022	SHPO Concurrence Letter, FDHR Project No. 2019-40E Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Technical Memorandum Addendum Modificatins to US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301/SR 39, Pasco County, Florida. WPI Segment No. 443368-2

3.1 Archaeological Considerations

A check of the FMSF digital database (July 2022) indicated that no archaeological sites are recorded within the study area. However, one site is recorded a little over a mile to the south of the project (it is not shown on Figure 3). This site, [REDACTED] a 20th Century homestead, was determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP by the SHPO.

Based on the information gathered during a review of previously recorded sites and location criteria, including elevation, soil drainage characteristics, and proximity to freshwater, there is a pattern favoring the relatively better-drained terrain near a permanent or semi-permanent source of potable water including rivers, creeks, and freshwater marshes. Upland sites well-removed from potable water are rare. In the pine flatwoods, sites tend to be situated on ridges and knolls near a freshwater source. It should be noted that the settlement patterns noted above could not be applied to sites of the Paleoindian and Early Archaic periods, which precede the onset of modern environmental conditions. Although the general area adjacent to the US 98 APE was considered to have a varied probability for archaeological site occurrence, no sites were expected

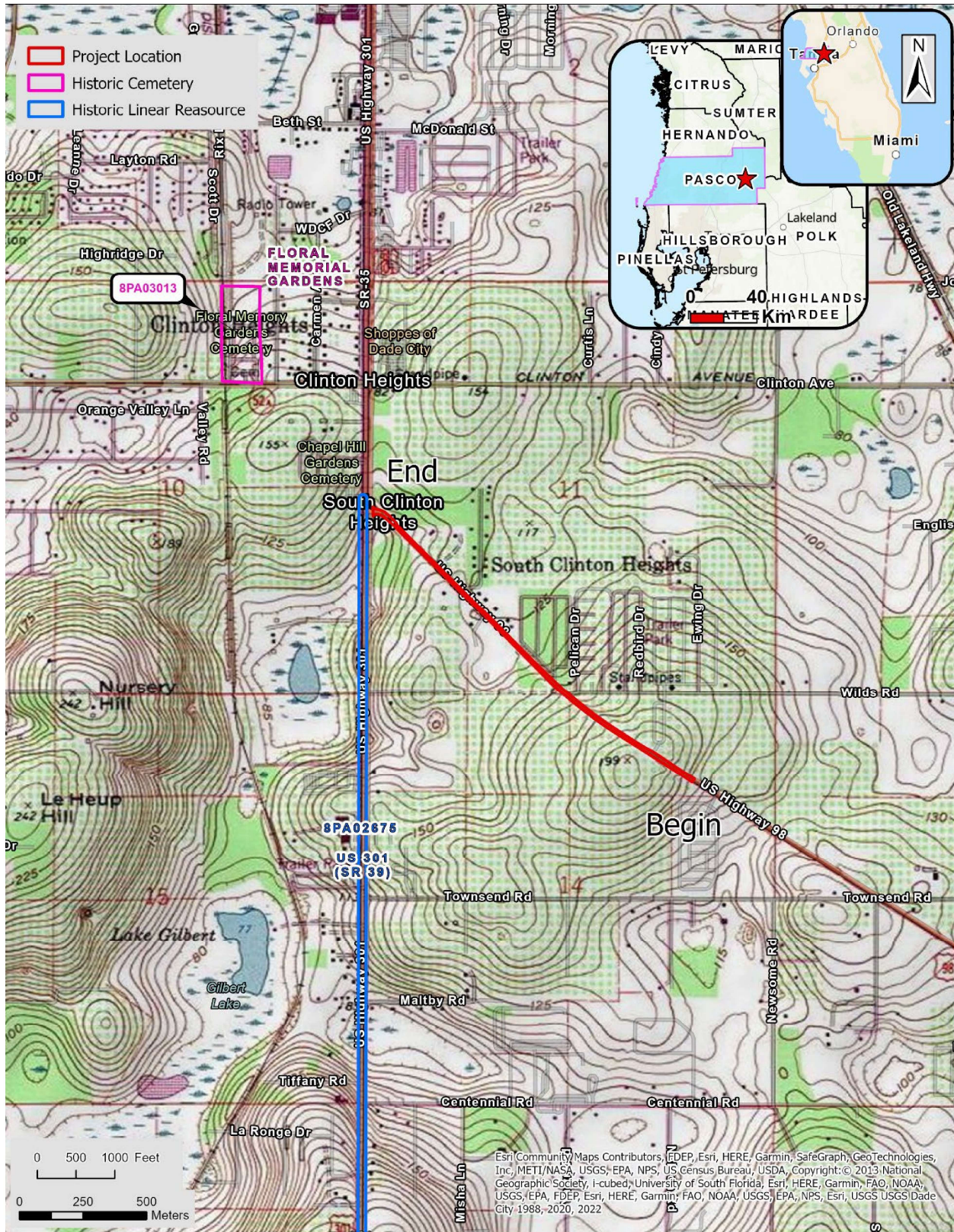


Figure 3. Environmental setting and location of previously recorded cultural resources within close proximity to the study area.

within the APE given the disturbance that has occurred as a result of road construction and maintenance, and underground utilities.

3.2 Historical Considerations

A review of the historic aerial photographs revealed a low potential for historic resources within the APE. In circa (ca.) 1941, US 98 was not present and a vast majority of the area surrounding the APE was undeveloped (USDA 1941). Most of the surrounding area was utilized for agricultural purposes, such as groves or pasture (**Figure 4**). By ca. 1957, US 98 was present, and the surrounding area remained primarily agricultural; however, some residential development had occurred along US 98 adjacent to, but outside of, the APE (USDA 1957) (**Figure 4**). This includes approximately six single family residences, the construction and residential development of Sally Road, and the development of the Harmony Heights mobile home park along the north side of US 98, as well as approximately two single family residences along the south side of US 98. Throughout the 1970s, additional trailer parks were developed north of US 98 along Wilds Road, including the Blue Jay Mobile Home and RV Resort, as well as an unnamed park immediately to the east of Blue Jay (FDOT 1982). With the exception of two additional mobile home parks along US 98, little development has occurred adjacent to the APE since the early 1990s (Google Earth 2022).

Historic/architectural background research including a review of the FMSF and the NRHP indicated that no historic resources were previously recorded within the APE. A review of the Pasco County Property Appraiser data and historic aerial photographs suggested the potential for no historic resources 47 years of age or older (constructed in 1975 or earlier), located within the APE (Wells 2022).



Figure 4. 1941 and 1957 historical aerial of the APE.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

The background research indicated that no archaeological sites had been recorded within the APE. Although the general area adjacent to the US 98 APE was considered to have a varied probability for archaeological site occurrence, no sites were expected within the APE given the disturbance that has occurred as a result of road construction and maintenance, and the presence and maintenance of underground utilities. The historical/architectural background research indicated no new and no previously recorded historic resources within the APE. Based on the results of the background research and field investigations, no archaeological sites or historic resources that are listed, eligible, or that appear potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP are located within the APE. Therefore, it is the professional opinion of ACI that the proposed undertaking will result in no historic properties affected.

5.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- 2021a Cultural Resource Assessment Survey US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from Polk County Line/CR 54 to US 301 (SR 39/SR 41) PD&E Study Pasco County, Florida; FPID No.: 443368-2. ACI, Sarasota. Survey No. 28009.
- 2021b Cultural Resource Assessment Survey SMF & FPC Sites US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301/SR 39, Pasco County, Florida; WPI Segment No.: 443368-2. ACI, Sarasota. Survey No. 27998.
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Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

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State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection

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APPENDIX A
Survey Correspondence



Florida Department of Transportation

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KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.
SECRETARY

October 20, 2021

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer
Florida Division of Historical Resources
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Attention: Alyssa McManus, Transportation Compliance Review Program

**Re: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey
US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301 (SR 39)
Pasco County, Florida
Work Program Item Segment (WPIS) No.: 443368-2
Federal Aid Project No.: TBD**

Dear Dr. Parsons:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Seven, is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study along US Highway (US) 98 / State Road (SR) 35 / SR 700 from County Road (CR) 54 to US 301 / SR 39 in Pasco County, Florida. The PD&E Study will focus on widening this section of US 98 from a two-lane undivided facility to a four-lane divided facility and includes the realignment of US 98 between CR 35A to US 301. The realignment allows US 98 to align with the Clinton Avenue (New SR 52) intersection at US 301. The PD&E Study satisfies all applicable requirements to qualify for federal-aid funding of subsequent development phases (design, right-of-way [ROW]) acquisition, and construction).

Where the roadway is widened, the roadway consists of a rural typical section and will fit within the existing 160-foot-wide ROW. In the realignment section, the roadway consists of a suburban typical section within a proposed 245-foot-wide ROW and include a 6-foot sidewalk on the east side of the road and a 12-foot trail on the west side of the road. Where the new US 98 connects to Clinton Avenue and extends to US 301, the roadway consists of an urban typical section within a 140-foot-wide ROW and includes a 6-foot sidewalk on the east side of the road and a 10-foot trail on the west side of the road. The proposed improvements will include construction of stormwater management facility (SMF) and floodplain compensation (FPC) sites which will be selected and surveyed for cultural resources soon.

Enclosed is one copy of the Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) (dated October 2021), one Survey Log Sheet, 46 Florida Master Site File (FMSF) forms (39 original and

seven updated), and a CD containing an electronic version of these files.

On behalf of the FDOT District Seven, Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) conducted a CRAS for this project. The purpose of the CRAS Update was to identify the presence of resources listed in or considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) according to the criteria set forth in 36 CFR Section 60.4 and if applicable, to apply the Criteria of Adverse Effect, as set forth in 36 CFR 800.5 (a)(1) and Chapter 267, FS to the project. The CRAS was conducted by staff who meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (48 FR 44716).

The archaeological APE was limited to the footprint of proposed activities within the existing boundaries of the project. The historical/architectural APE includes immediately adjacent parcels where resources within 200 feet (ft) of the existing ROW were surveyed along the existing segment of US 98. However, in the area of the new alignment between US 98 and Clinton Avenue (New SR 52), the APE was extended to include historic resources within 500 ft from the edge of the proposed ROW. All proposed work activities as shown in the October 2021 Preferred Alternative Concept Plans (included in the CRAS Appendix A) will take place within the APE as defined in the CRAS report.

Background research and a cultural resource field survey was conducted to locate, identify, record, and evaluate any archaeological resources, historic structures (constructed in or prior to 1975), and potential districts within or adjacent to the APE.

Archaeological background research indicated that four previously recorded archaeological sites are within the APE and three are immediately adjacent to the APE. Given the known patterns of aboriginal settlement, the APE was considered to have a variable probability for prehistoric archaeological site occurrence and a low probability for historic archaeological sites. Background research also indicated that sites, if present, would most likely be small lithic or artifact scatters. Archaeological field survey included ground surface reconnaissance as well as the excavation of 282 shovel tests with 10 being positive for artifacts. As a result of this survey, two new archaeological sites were found (8PA03418 and 8PA03419) and evidence of two previously recorded archaeological sites were also documented (8PA0144B and 8PA0145K), as well as one Archaeological Occurrence (AO). An AO is defined by the FMSF as "the presence of one or two nondiagnostic artifacts, not known to be distant from their original context which fit within a hypothetical cylinder of 30 meters diameter regardless of depth below surface." Thus, occurrences are not recorded as sites and are not NRHP eligible. No evidence was found for sites 8PA00355 and 8PA00046 that extended into the US 98 APE but the FMSF forms for these sites were updated to reflect the negative evidence within the APE. In addition, no evidence of adjacent sites 8PA00047, 8PA00145C, and 8PA0144B were found to extend into the APE, thus those FMSF forms were not updated. The portion of each identified site located within the US 98 APE is not eligible for listing in the NRHP; however, there is insufficient information to evaluate the site as a whole.

Historic background research indicated that one historic resource was previously recorded within the APE. This includes the circa (ca.) 1925 Frame Vernacular residence located at

1061 Beckum Road (8PA02224). The resource was first recorded in 2005 and has not been evaluated by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In addition, unrecorded segments of the South Florida Railroad – Pemberton Ferry Branch/Richloam Railroad (8PA02802) and Old Lakeland Highway (8PA03343) are located within the historical APE. The SHPO evaluated segments of the Railroad (8PA02802), located outside of the APE, and found there was insufficient information to make a determination of eligibility; however, the segments of Old Lakeland Highway have not been evaluated by the SHPO.

The historical/architectural field survey resulted in the identification and evaluation of 40 historic resources within the APE. Of these, 37 were newly identified, recorded, and evaluated (8PA03346 – 8PA03381; 8PA03417), two unrecorded segments of the South Florida Railroad – Pemberton Ferry Branch/Richloam Railroad (8PA02802) and Old Lakeland Highway (8PA03343) were recorded and evaluated, and one previously recorded historic resource (8PA02224) was identified and re-evaluated. These 40 historic resources include: 32 buildings (8PA02224, 8PA03350 – 8PA03355, 8PA03357 – 8PA03381) constructed between ca. 1925 and ca. 1975, one object (8PA03346), one building complex resource group (8PA03417), two linear resources (8PA02802 and 8PA03343), and four bridges (8PA03347, 8PA03348, 8PA03349, 8PA03356).

Of the 40 identified historic resources, 38 appear ineligible for listing in the NRHP either individually or as part of a historic district. Overall, the buildings are common examples of their respective architectural styles that have been altered. The bridges and one linear resource (8PA03343) are of common design and construction that lack unique design features and characteristics. In addition, background research for these resources did not reveal any historic associations with significant persons and/or events; therefore, none appear eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Two historic resources within the APE appear eligible for listing in the NRHP. These include a segment of the South Florida Railroad – Pemberton Ferry Branch/Richloam Railroad (8PA02802) and the newly identified Polk-Pasco County Line Obelisk (8PA03346). Since these two resources are considered NRHP eligible but not yet evaluated by the SHPO, proposed project effects will be evaluated as if the resources have been determined NRHP eligible. Therefore, the Criteria of Adverse Effect, as set forth in 36 CFR Part 800.5(a)(1), was applied to the project.

The segment of South Florida Railroad – Pemberton Ferry Branch/Richloam Railroad (8PA02802) within the APE appears eligible for listing in the NRHP at the local level under Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning & Development and Transportation. Within the APE, Bridge No. 140025 carries US 98 over the railroad. Per the Concept Plans, work in this area includes widening the east and west bound lanes of the bridge to accommodate the US 98 road widening from a two-lane facility to a four-lane facility. Based on the scope of work, the undertaking will not affect the historical alignment or the integrity of the railroad as a whole.

The Polk-Pasco County Line Obelisk (8PA03346) appears eligible for listing in the NRHP at

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the local level under Criterion A in the areas of Transportation and Local History. The Obelisk is located over the Polk County line in Pasco County at the northeast intersection of US 98 and CR 54. Per the October Concept Plans, the roadway improvements are being performed within the existing ROW and centered on the centerline of the roadway. While this will result in the roadway shifting closer to the obelisk, the obelisk will not be impacted and will maintain its current location. Based on the scope of work, the undertaking will not adversely result in physical destruction, damage, or alteration of all or part of the of the Obelisk. Therefore, it is the opinion of ACI and FDOT District Seven, that the proposed undertaking will have *no adverse effect* on the South Florida Railroad – Pemberton Ferry Branch/Richloam Railroad (8PA02802) or the Polk-Pasco County Line Obelisk (8PA03346).

In addition to the 40 historic resources identified within the APE, the Pasco County property appraiser identified one historic resource constructed in ca. 1961 that could not be evaluated or recorded during the field survey due to lack of accessibility and/or obstructed views from the US 98 ROW. The resource is located at 9287 US Highway 98. Based on available information, the resource is probably a typical example of a vernacular style building; however, the status and condition of the resource is unknown. Per the Concept Plans dated October 2021, there is no proposed ROW acquisition from this parcel. Since the building is hidden by existing vegetation on the parcel and there is no proposed ROW acquisition, the proposed project should have no effect on the building.

This information is being provided in accordance with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended), which are implemented by the procedures contained in 36 CFR, Part 800, as well as in accordance with the provisions contained in the revised Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes*.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016, and executed by the FHWA and FDOT.

Provided you approve the recommendations and findings in the enclosed CRAS, please sign below for concurrence. If you have any questions, or if I may be of assistance, please contact me at (813) 975-6637 or crystal.geiger@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,



Crystal Geiger
Environmental Specialist III
Cultural Resource Coordinator

Enclosures

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director
US 98 / SR 36 / SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301 (SR 39)
Pasco County, Florida
WPIS No.: 443368-2
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cc: Robin Rhinesmith, FDOT
Lindsay Rothrock, FDOT OEM
Maranda Kles, ACI

Craig Fox, FDOT
Berenice Sueiro-Vazquez, Atkins

The State Historic Preservation Officer finds the attached Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) complete and sufficient and concurs / does not concur with the recommendations and findings in this cover letter for SHPO / FDHR Project File Number 2021-40D. Or, the SHPO finds the attached CRAS document contains insufficient information.

In accordance with the Programmatic Agreement among the FHWA, ACHP, SHPO, and FDOT Regarding Implementation of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Florida, if providing concurrence with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for a project as a whole, or to No Adverse Effect on a specific historic property, SHPO shall presume that FDOT will proceed with a *de minimis* Section 4(f) finding at its discretion for the use of land from the historic property.

SHPO/FDHR Comments:

11/18/2021

for

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director
Florida Division of Historical Resources

Date



Florida Department of Transportation

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November 4, 2021

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Attention: Alyssa McManus, Transportation Compliance Review Program

**Re: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Technical Memorandum
Stormwater Management Facility (SMF) Sites and Floodplain Compensation
Sites
US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301 (SR 39)
Pasco County, Florida
Work Program Item Segment (WPIS) No.: 443368-2
Federal Aid Project No.: TBD**

Dear Dr. Parsons:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Seven, is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study along US Highway (US) 98 / State Road (SR) 35 / SR 700 from County Road (CR) 54 to US 301 / SR 39 in Pasco County, Florida. The PD&E Study will focus on widening this section of US 98 from a two-lane undivided facility to a four-lane divided facility and includes the realignment of US 98 between CR 35A to US 301. The realignment allows US 98 to align with the Clinton Avenue (New SR 52) intersection at US 301. This is a federally funded project and part of on-going improvements to US 98.

A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) (dated October 2021) for the mainline corridor was submitted to your office on October 21, 2021. The proposed improvements will include construction of eight (8) off-site stormwater management facility (SMF) and two (2) floodplain compensation (FPC) sites. A CRAS for the SMF and FPC sites has since been prepared and is being submitted with this letter.

Enclosed is one copy of the CRAS for SMF and FPC sites (dated November 2021), one Survey Log Sheet, two Florida Master Site File (FMSF) forms (one original [8PA03432] and updated [8PA00144]), and a CD containing an electronic version of these files.

On behalf of the FDOT District Seven, Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) conducted a CRAS for the SMF and FPC sites for this project. The purpose of the CRAS Update was to

identify the presence of resources listed in or considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) according to the criteria set forth in 36 CFR Section 60.4 and if applicable, to apply the Criteria of Adverse Effect, as set forth in 36 CFR 800.5 (a)(1) and Chapter 267, FS to the project. The CRAS was conducted by staff who meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (48 FR 44716).

The archaeological area of potential effects (APE) was defined as the area contained within the footprint of each SMF and FPC site. The historical/architectural APE includes the archaeological APE and immediately adjacent parcels as contained within 100 feet (ft) or not obstructed from view by vegetation. The proposed off-site SMF and FPC sites are outside of existing US 98 ROW.

Background research and a cultural resource field survey was conducted to locate, identify, record, and evaluate any archaeological resources, historic structures (constructed in or prior to 1975), and potential districts within or adjacent to the APE.

Archaeological background research indicated a low to high probability for the occurrence of historic and/or prehistoric archaeological sites. There are three previously recorded prehistoric archaeological sites within three of the pond sites (SMF 200-1/8PA00046, SMF 300-1/8PA00144A and 8PA00144B, and FPC 300 South-01/8PA00144A). As a result of the field survey, which included both ground surface reconnaissance and the excavation of 181 shovel tests (11 positive), no evidence of 8PA00046 was found within SMF 200-1. However, additional evidence of 8PA00144B was found in SMF 300-1; the positive shovel tests merge the two sites found in SMF 300-1 (8PA00144A and 8PA00144B) into 8PA00144 as per the FMSF guidance and a FMSF update form was prepared. This additional site evidence does not provide any previously unknown information about the site; therefore, it is not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP. No new historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were found during the current field survey.


Historic background research indicated that one historic resource (8PA03375) was previously recorded within the proposed pond site SMF 900-1. The resource is a circa (ca.) 1975 Masonry Vernacular style building that was recently identified and recorded during the US 98 PD&E Study CRAS (dated October 2021). The Masonry Vernacular style building is a common example of its respective architectural style without significant historical associations; therefore, does not appear eligible for listing in the NRHP. The current SMF and FPC CRAS field survey resulted in the identification of two historic resources within and/or adjacent to two proposed pond sites. These include one previously recorded resource (8PA03375) within SMF 900-1 and one newly identified resource (8PA03432) adjacent to FPC 300-North-01. The newly identified, recorded, and evaluated historic resource within the APE includes a ca. 1968 Ranch Style residence. Because the previously recorded resource was recently recorded, a FMSF form was not prepared for this survey. Overall, the historic resources are of common design and construction and lack significant historical associations to persons or events. Therefore, the historic resources within the APE appear ineligible for listing in the NRHP.

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director
US 98 / SR 36 / SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301 (SR 39)
Pasco County, Florida
WPIS No.: 443368-2
November 4, 2021
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This information is being provided in accordance with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended), which are implemented by the procedures contained in 36 CFR, Part 800, as well as in accordance with the provisions contained in the revised Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes*.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FDOT.

Provided you approve the recommendations and findings in the enclosed CRAS, please sign below for concurrence. If you have any questions, or if I may be of assistance, please contact me at (813) 975-6637 or crystal.geiger@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Crystal Geiger
Environmental Specialist III
Cultural Resource Coordinator

Enclosures

cc: Robin Rhinesmith, FDOT
Lindsay Rothrock, FDOT OEM
Maranda Kles, ACI

Craig Fox, FDOT
Berenice Sueiro-Vazquez, Atkins

The State Historic Preservation Officer finds the attached Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) complete and sufficient and concurs / does not concur with the recommendations and findings in this cover letter for SHPO / FDHR Project File Number 2021-6591. Or, the SHPO finds the attached CRAS document contains _____ insufficient information.

In accordance with the Programmatic Agreement among the FHWA, ACHP, SHPO, and FDOT Regarding Implementation of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Florida, if providing concurrence with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for a project as a whole, or to No Adverse Effect on a specific historic property, SHPO shall presume that FDOT will proceed with a *de minimis* Section 4(f) finding at its discretion for the use of land from the historic property.

SHPO/FDHR Comments:

for

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director
Florida Division of Historical Resources

11/30/2021

Date



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

11201 North McKinley Drive
Tampa, FL 33612

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.
SECRETARY

May 26, 2022

Dr. Timothy Parsons, Director
Florida Division of Historical Resources
Department of State, R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Attn: Alyssa McManus, Transportation Compliance Review Program

RE: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Technical Memorandum Addendum
US 98/SR 35/SR 700 from CR 54 to US 301/SR 39
Pasco County, Florida
WPI Segment No. 443368-2

Dear Dr. Parsons:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study to evaluate the proposed widening of US 98 from CR 54 to US 301 in Pasco County. The study will focus on widening this section of US 98 from a two-lane undivided facility to a four-lane divided facility and includes the realignment of US 98 between CR 35A to US 301. The realignment allows US 98 to align with the Clinton Avenue (New SR 52) intersection at US 301 and was the result of a separate Alternatives Corridor Evaluation (ACE) study (WPI Segment No. 443368-1). The study will also evaluate issues related to traffic operations, access management, safety, and include pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. In addition, there will be the construction of Stormwater Management Facility (SMF) sites (Ponds) and Floodplain Compensation (FPC) sites. Based on the comments received at a public hearing in December 2021, modifications to the conceptual plans were made which resulted in additional cultural resource review and the preparation of this Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) Technical Memorandum Addendum. This is a federally funded project.

The archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the area contained within the footprint of proposed modifications where previously archaeological survey was not conducted. The historical/architectural APE includes the archaeological APE and immediately adjacent parcel properties as contained within 100 feet (ft) or not obstructed from view by vegetation.

All work was conducted to comply with Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act* of 1966 (Public Law 89-655, as amended), as implemented by 36 CFR 800 (*Protection of Historic Properties*, effective August 2004), as well as Chapters 267 and 373, *Florida Statutes* (FS), Chapter 1A-46, *Florida Administrative Code* (FAC). All work was performed in accordance with the standards outlined in Part 2, Chapter 8 ("Archaeological and Historical Resources") of the FDOT's *Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Manual* (FDOT 2020), and the

Dr. Timothy Parsons, Director
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standards and guidelines contained in the *Cultural Resource Management Standards and Operational Manual: Module 3* (Florida Division of Historical Resources [FDHR] 2003).

Archaeological background research indicated a variable probability for the occurrence of historic and/or prehistoric archaeological sites. There is one previously recorded prehistoric archaeological site within a portion of one of the new pond sites, SMF 200-1, 8PA00046 (NRHP ineligible). As a result of the field survey, no evidence of 8PA00046 was found within SMF 200-1 and no new historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were found during the current field survey. *Crystal Geiger* Historical architectural background research included a review of the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) and the NRHP. The research indicated no historic resources were present within the historic APE and none were found during the field survey.

Based on the results of the background research and field survey, there are no significant historic or prehistoric archaeological sites or historic resources within the APE. Thus, it appears that the proposed undertaking will result in no historic properties affected and have no effect on any NRHP listed, determined eligible, or potentially eligible resources within the APE.

The CRAS Report is provided for your review and comment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 813.975.6637 or Crystal.Geiger@dot.state.fl.us.

Crystal Geiger
Environmental Specialist III

Enclosures: One original copy of the CRAS (May 2022), One Completed Survey Log

CC: Kevin Connor, HWLochner
Marion Almy, ACI

The Florida State Historic Preservation Officer finds the Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) Technical Memorandum Addendum complete and sufficient and concurs / does not concur with the recommendations and findings of the CRAS Technical Memorandum for SHPO / FDHR Project File Number 2019-40E. Or, the SHPO finds the letter contains insufficient information.

In accordance with the Programmatic Agreement among the FHWA, ACHP, SHPO, and FDOT Regarding Implementation of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Florida, if providing concurrence with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for a project as a whole, or to No Adverse Effect on a specific historic property, SHPO shall presume that FDOT will proceed with a *de minimis* Section 4(f) finding at its discretion for the use of land from the historic property.

SHPO Comments:

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer
Florida Division of Historical Resources

6.7.2022

Date