

**CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY
OF PREFERRED POND SITES
SR 710 FROM US 441 TO THE L-63N CANAL
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Financial Project No.: 419344-3-32-01

Federal Project No.: NA

Prepared for:

**Federal Highway Administration
545 John Knox Road
Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32303**

and the:

**Florida Department of Transportation
District One
P.O. Box
Bartow, Florida 33830-1249**

November 2016

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On Behalf of:

**Wantman Group, Inc.
213 South Dillard Street, Suite 210
Winter Garden, Florida 34787**

Prepared by:

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1. Executive Summary

Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) conducted a cultural resource assessment survey (CRAS) of five preferred pond sites located along a new SR 710 proposed alignment, from the intersection with US 441 to south of the L-63N Canal (Interceptor Creek), Okeechobee County, Florida (**Figure 1**). The purpose of the assessment was to locate and identify any cultural resources within the area of potential effects (APE), and to assess their significance in terms of eligibility for listing at the national level in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Background research indicated that no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites or historic structures were recorded within the APE. The archaeological and historic APE is defined as the area contained within each pond site. As a result of field investigations, no prehistoric archaeological sites or historic buildings or structures were identified within the APE.

Based on the results of the CRAS, this undertaking will have no effect on resources listed, determined eligible, or potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP.

2. Introduction

The purpose of the survey was to locate and identify any archaeological sites and historic resources located within the APE and to assess their significance in terms of eligibility for listing in the NRHP. This work was conducted in compliance with the provision of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended; The Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act (Public Law 93-291) as amended; Executive Order 11593; and Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes (FS)*. All work was carried out in conformity with Part 2, Chapter 12 (Archaeological and Historical Resources) of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) *Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Manual* (FDOT 2016) and complies with the standards contained in the Florida Division of Historic Resources' (FDHR) *Cultural Resource Management Standards and Operational Manual* (FDHR 2003).

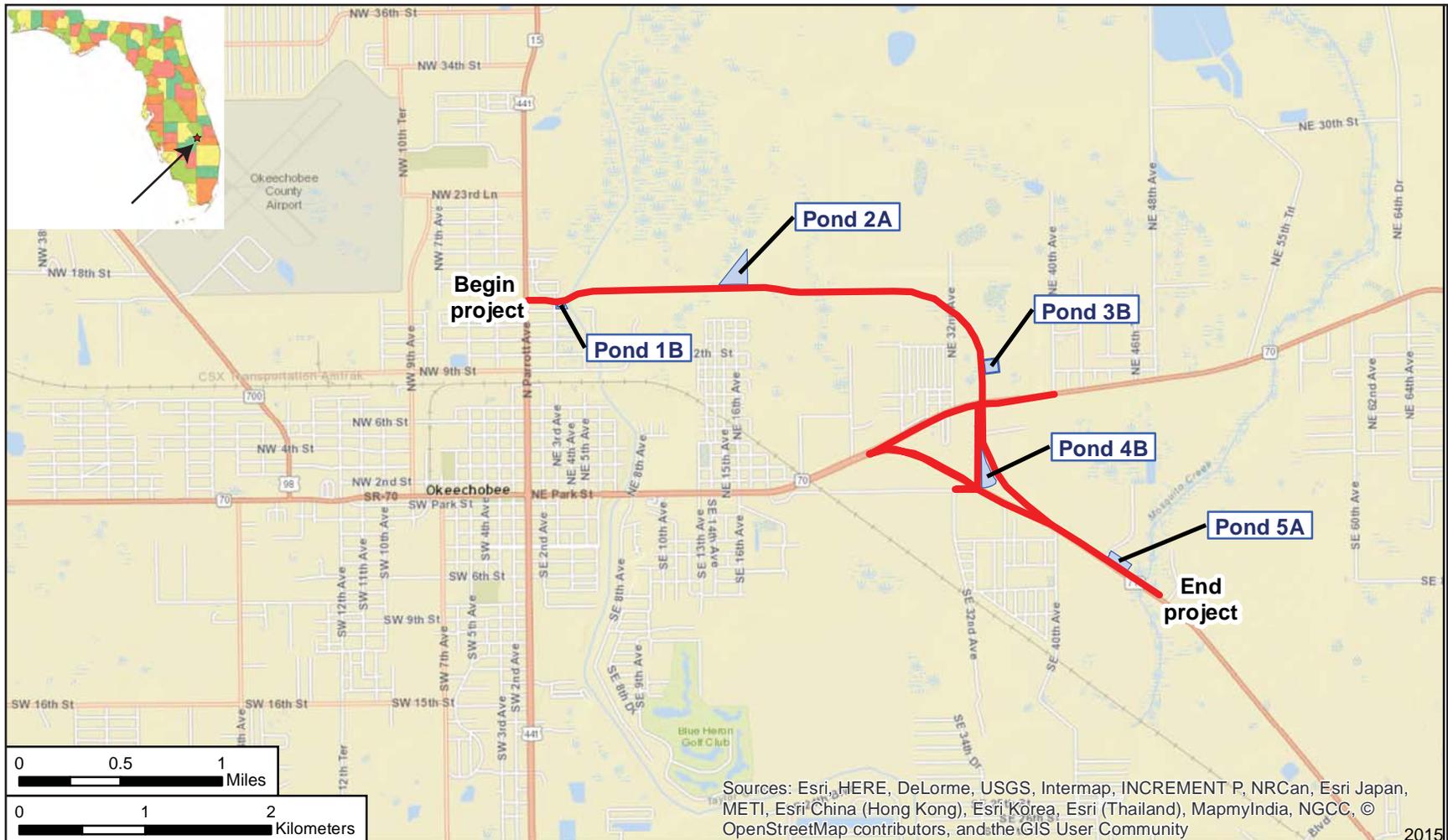


Figure 1. Location of the SR 710 preferred pond sites, Okeechobee County.

CRAS
Preferred Pond Sites
SR 710 from US 441
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3. Project Description

The project is located on SR 710 in Okeechobee County, Florida. The proposed project is a new alignment that begins at the intersection with US 441 and extends south easterly to south of the L-63N Canal (Interceptor Creek), where it ties into the existing SR 710 in Okeechobee, Florida.

The new alignment of SR 710 is approximately 3.8 miles (mi) in length, and it is designated as an Urban and Rural Principal Arterial and a Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) facility. The existing SR 710 is currently classified by FDOT as an Access Management Class four facility. The proposed access classification for the new roadway extension is class three from US 441 to Taylor Creek and class two from Taylor Creek to SR 70, the remainder of the corridor would be classified as class three from SR 70 to Mosquito Creek. The design speed for the entire facility is 50 miles-per-hour (mph).

A four-lane high speed suburban typical section is proposed. The roadway will consist of two 12-foot (ft) wide travel lanes in each direction, separated by a raised 30-ft wide grassed median. This roadway section will also include 4-ft shoulders to the inside of the travel lanes and 6.5-ft (8-ft useable) shoulders adjacent to the outside travel lanes. Type E curb and gutter will be provided along the median and outside edges of the roadway along with a closed storm-water conveyance system. A continuous 5-ft wide concrete sidewalk will be provided on the south side of the roadway and a 10-ft wide shared-use path will be provided on the north side of the roadway. Appropriate left and/or right turn lanes will be provided at major intersections. This high-speed urban typical section has a 29-ft border width and is to be constructed within 160 ft minimum of right-of-way (ROW). The surrounding land uses consist primarily of large areas of rangeland, pastureland, residential developments, and rural residences (Wantman Group 2014).

4. Environmental Overview

The proposed undertaking is located in portions of Sections 13-16, and 24, Township 37 South, Range 35 East (**Figure 2**). Elevation of the general area is 20-25 ft above mean sea level (amsl).

Examination of the Okeechobee and Taylor Creek SE, Florida United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps (USGS 1952, 1953), the *Okeechobee County Soil Survey* (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1971, 2003), and a visual reconnaissance of the area revealed that the natural landscape of the survey area has somewhat been altered by development as a result of agriculture, commercial, and residential development (**Photos 1 and 2**). Based on a review of soil data prior to development (USDA 1971), the most common local soil types in the survey area was poorly drained soil of the broad flatwoods and open prairies (USDA 1971:3-4). The soil in the project APE is part of the Myakka-Basinger general soil association.

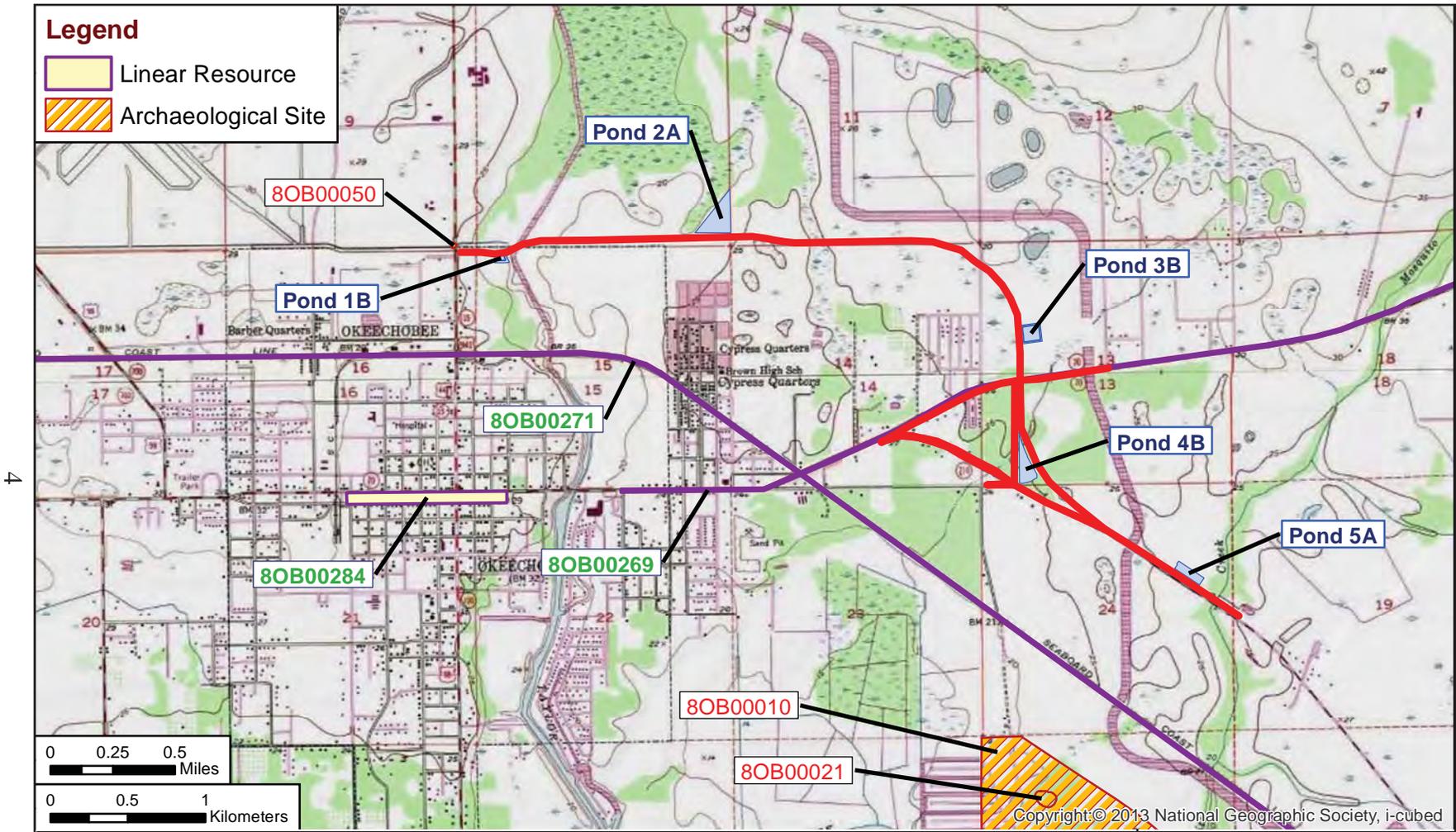


Figure 2. Environmental setting and the location of the previously recorded cultural resources within one mile of the SR 710 preferred pond sites, Township 37 South, Range 35 East, Sections 13-16 and 24; USGS Taylor Creek SE and Okeechobee.

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Photo 1. Looking north at Pond 2A.



Photo 2. Looking northwest at Pond 5A.

5. Prehistoric Overview

An extensive prehistoric overview was included in the CRAS for the SR 710 PD&E Study from US 441 to CR 714 (SW Martin Avenue) in Okeechobee and Martin Counties (Janus Research 2010). Therefore, the prehistory is not repeated here.

6. Archaeological Background and Considerations

Archaeological: Prior to initiating the archaeological and historical survey for this project, ACI reviewed information at the Florida Master Site File (FMSF). This was followed by a review of previous archaeological surveys in the vicinity (ACI 2005, 2006, 2007a/b, 2010; Arbutnot and Savage 2006; Beiter 2003; Coughlin 2010; Estabrook 1992; Janus Research 2000, 2001; PBS&J 2010) including the CRAS conducted for the project area (Janus Research 2010) the Preliminary Pond Memorandum (ACI 2013), and a technical memorandum of 17 pond sites (ACI 2015). Although several historic and prehistoric archaeological sites are recorded within one mile of the APE (**Figure 2; Table 1**), as a result of these surveys, no significant (NRHP eligible) prehistoric or historic archaeological sites were found within the project APE.

The research also revealed that archaeological sites in the Okeechobee Basin are quite different from those in other parts of peninsula Florida. Typically, the types of sites found within the Okeechobee Basin include earthworks, burial mounds, and habitation mounds or middens. Among the more spectacular sites are large earthworks found in the open savannah, often bordering creeks or major environmental zones. Earthwork types include circular ditches, linear embankments, and combined mound and midden embankments. However, this research identified no prehistoric archaeological resources within or near the proposed undertaking.

Prehistoric settlement data demonstrates that archaeological sites in Okeechobee County near and within the APE would most likely be located on better drained to somewhat poorly drained soils near a permanent or semi-permanent source of potable water such as seasonal depressions, sloughs, and ponds where foods such as fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants are readily accessible. The data also suggest that because of the urban setting and disturbances caused by the infrastructure, including buried cables, ditches, and other utilities, the potential for sites was very low.

Table 1. Previously recorded cultural resources within one mile.

Site No.	Site Name	Site Type	Cultural Period	NRHP Eligible	Recorder
8OB00010	Okeechobee Battlefield	Military	American Historic 1821-45	NRHP Eligible	Carr 1975
8OB00021	Hazelieff	Artifact Scatter; Historic Refuse	Belle Glade; American Late 19 th , Early 20 Century	Not Evaluated	AHC 1987
8OB00050	City Limits	Single Artifact	Unknown	Ineligible	Janus Research 1995
8OB00269	Okeechobee Road	Linear Resource	American 19 th Century	Ineligible	ACI 2007a, b, 2010; Janus Research 2010
8OB00271	Seaboard Airline Railroad	Railroad	American 20 th Century	NRHP Eligible	Janus Research 2010
8OB00284	Flagler Park	Historic Landscape	American 20 th Century	Ineligible	PBS&J 2010

Historic: Although no historic archaeological sites were anticipated, portions of SR 70, adjacent to the APE, have been recorded in the FMSF (Okeechobee Road, 8OB00269). As noted in **Figure 2**, Pond 3C is south of this linear resource (**Figure 2; Table 1; ACI 2006, 2007**). The FMSF form for 8OB00269 was updated in 2010 (Janus Research 2010), and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) determined the resource was not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Therefore, no update was required during this survey.

7. Methods

Archaeological field survey methods: included both ground surface reconnaissance and judgmental subsurface shovel testing. To the extent possible, each shovel test pit measured .5 meter (m) (20 inches [in]) in diameter and was dug to a depth of 1 m (3.3 ft) unless impeded by water. Soil from each test pit was screened through a 6.3 millimeter (mm) (.25 in) mesh hardware cloth to maximize the recovery of artifacts. The location of all shovel tests was plotted on the aerials, and, following the recording of relevant data such as stratigraphic profile, all test pits were refilled.

Interviews: No interviews were conducted in relation to any of the five preferred pond sites.

Laboratory Methods: No artifacts were found, therefore no laboratory or curation methods are included.

Curation of all project related materials (field notes, photos, maps, etc.) will take place at ACI (P12087) in Sarasota, pending transfer to a FDOT designated repository. In addition, a copy of the CRAS report and Survey Log will be curated and on file at the FDHR in Tallahassee.

Unexpected Discoveries: If human burial sites such as Indian mounds, lost historic and prehistoric cemeteries, or other unmarked burials or associated artifacts were found, then the provisions and guidelines set forth in Chapter 872.05, *FS* (Florida's Unmarked Burial Law) would be followed. However, it was not anticipated that such sites would be found during survey.

8. Results and Summary

Archaeological Results: As a result of the archaeological field survey, 16 shovel test pits (TP) were placed judgmentally in the pond sites (**Figures 3, 4; Table 2**). None of the TPs was positive and the soil stratigraphy was variable. Sample stratigraphy consisted of: 0-30 cm (0-12 in) of grey sand, 30-80 cm (12-31 in) of light grey/tan sand, and 80-100 cm (31-39 in) of dark brown hardpan; 0-50 cm (0-20 in) of black sandy-clay muck, 50-70 cm (20-28 in) of wet grey sand, and 70-100+ cm (28-39 in) of water; and 0-35 cm (0-14 in) of very dark grey/brown loam; 35-70 cm (13-28 in) of mottled grey/brown sandy loam, and 70-100 cm (28-39 in) of mottled light grey/brown sandy loam.

Historical Results: As a result of field survey, including a visual reconnaissance, no historic structures were found to be located within the APE. This is in keeping with the background research.

Summary: As a result of background results and archaeological field survey, no prehistoric or historic sites were found within any of the five pond sites tested (APE). In addition, the proposed undertaking also will not impact that portion of SR 70 (8OB00269) previously recorded adjacent to the project APE; this resource is not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Table 2. Archaeological data.

Pond ID.	Acres	Soil Type, Elevation, Drainage, and Environmental Association	*ZAPs/Comments	Test Pits
1B	1.203	Manatee, Delray, and Okeelanta soils Nearly level, very poorly drained on marshy plains	Low	1
2A	14.227	Immokalee fine sand Nearly level, poorly drained in broad flatwoods	Moderate	6
3B	4.181	Basinger and Pompano fine sands Nearly level, poorly drained, in sloughs and isolated depressions in the flatwoods Immokalee fine sand Nearly level, poorly drained in broad flatwoods	Low	3
4B	8.168	Immokalee fine sand Nearly level, poorly drained in broad flatwoods	Moderate	4
5A	2.624	Immokalee fine sand: Nearly level, poorly drained in broad flatwoods	Low	2

* Zone of Archaeological Potential



Figure 3. Location of shovel tests (not to scale) within the SR 710 preferred pond sites.

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Figure 4. Location of shovel tests (not to scale) within the SR 710 preferred pond sites.

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SR 710 from US 441
to the L-63N Canal
Okeechobee County
FPID No. 419344-3-32-01
Federal Project No.: NA

9. Bibliography

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Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI)

- 2005 Cultural Resource Assessment Research Design and Survey Methodology SR 70 PD&E Study from NE 34th Avenue to Berman Road Okeechobee County, Florida. ACI, Sarasota.
- 2006 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey SR 70 PD&E Study from NE 34th Avenue to Berman Road, Okeechobee County, Florida. ACI, Sarasota.
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- 2007b Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of SR 70 from Berman Road Avenue to the St. Lucie County Line, Okeechobee County, Florida. ACI, Sarasota
- 2010 Draft: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of SR 70 at US 441 Intersection Improvement Project, Okeechobee County, Florida. ACI, Sarasota.
- 2013 Preliminary Cultural Resource Assessment of Proposed Pond Sites, SR 710 from US 441 to the L-63 Canal, Okeechobee County, Florida. ACI, Sarasota.
- 2015 Cultural Resource Assessment of Preferred Pond Sites, SR 710 from US 441 to the L-63 Canal, Okeechobee County, Florida. ACI, Sarasota.

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- 1987 Archaeological Investigations of the Taylor Camp Site, Okeechobee County, Florida: the Okeechobee Battlefield Project, Phase II. FDHR, Tallahassee.

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Coughlin

- 2010 Florida Gas Transmission Phase VIII Second Addendum Report, Okeechobee County. FDHR, Tallahassee.

Estabrook, Richard

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Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

- 2016 *Project Development and Environmental Manual Part 2, Chapter 12, "Archaeological and Historical Resources."* FDOT, Tallahassee.

Florida Division of Historical Resources (FDHR)

- 2003 *Cultural Resource Management Standards and Operational Manual.* On file, FDHR, Tallahassee.

Janus Research

- 2000 Cultural Resource Supplemental Report 1 of the Gulfstream Natural Gas System Pipeline, Okeechobee County, Florida. Janus Research, Tampa.
- 2001 Gulfstream Cultural Resources Supplemental Report 3, Okeechobee County, Florida. Janus Research, Tampa.
- 2010 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the SR 710 Project, Development, and Environment Study from US 441 to Cr 714, Okeechobee County, Florida. Janus Research, Tampa.

PBS&J

- 2010 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Technical Memorandum, SR 70 at US 441 Intersection Improvement Project, Okeechobee County, Florida. FDHR, Tallahassee.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- 1952 Okeechobee, Fla., Photorevised 1972.
- 1953 Taylor Creek SE, Fla., Photorevised 1972

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- 1971 *Soil Survey of Okeechobee County.* Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
- 2003 *Soil Survey of Okeechobee County.* Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Wantman Group, Inc.

- 2014 Project Description for Pond Sites Provided to ACI, Sarasota.

APPENDIX: Survey Log

Ent D (FMSF only) _____



Survey Log Sheet

Florida Master Site File
Version 4.1 1/07

Survey # (FMSF only) _____

Consult *Guide to the Survey Log Sheet* for detailed instructions.

Identification and Bibliographic Information

Survey Project (name and project phase) SR 710 Ponds, Phase I

Report Title (exactly as on title page) Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of Preferred Pond Sites, SR 710 from US 441 to the L-63N Canal, Okeechobee County, Florida; FPID No.: 419344-3-32-01; FAP No.: NA

Report Authors (as on title page, last names first) 1. ACI 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Publication Date (year) 2016 Total Number of Pages in Report (count text, figures, tables, not site forms) 15

Publication Information (Give series, number in series, publisher and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of *American Antiquity*.)
P12087, ACI, Sarasota

Supervisors of Fieldwork (even if same as author) Names Almy, Marion

Affiliation of Fieldworkers: Organization Archaeological Consultants Inc City Sarasota

Key Words/Phrases (Don't use county name, or common words like *archaeology, structure, survey, architecture, etc.*)

1. _____ 3. _____ 5. _____ 7. _____
2. _____ 4. _____ 6. _____ 8. _____

Survey Sponsors (corporation, government unit, organization or person directly funding fieldwork)

Name Wantman Group Organization _____

Address/Phone/E-mail 213 South Dillard Street, Suite 210 Winter Garden, Florida 34787

Recorder of Log Sheet Lee Hutchinson Date Log Sheet Completed 11-2-2016

Is this survey or project a continuation of a previous project? No Yes: Previous survey #s (FMSF only) _____

Mapping

Counties (List each one in which field survey was done; attach additional sheet if necessary)

1. Okeechobee 3. _____ 5. _____
2. _____ 4. _____ 6. _____

USGS 1:24,000 Map Names/Year of Latest Revision (attach additional sheet if necessary)

1. Name SEARS Year 1958 4. Name _____ Year _____
2. Name _____ Year _____ 5. Name _____ Year _____
3. Name _____ Year _____ 6. Name _____ Year _____

Description of Survey Area

Dates for Fieldwork: Start 10-1-2016 End 10-1-2016 Total Area Surveyed (fill in one) _____ hectares 31 acres

Number of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed 5

If Corridor (fill in one for each) Width: _____ meters _____ feet Length: _____ kilometers _____ miles

Research and Field Methods

Types of Survey (check all that apply): archaeological architectural historical/archival underwater
damage assessment monitoring report other(describe): _____

Scope/Intensity/Procedures background research, systematic and judgmental subsurface testing, 1 m deep, 50 cm diameter, 6.4 mm mesh screen; all sterile; photos taken, tech memo prepared

Preliminary Methods (check as many as apply to the project as a whole)

Florida Archives (Gray Building) library research- local public local property or tax records other historic maps
Florida Photo Archives (Gray Building) library-special collection - nonlocal newspaper files soils maps or data
Site File property search Public Lands Survey (maps at DEP) literature search windshield survey
Site File survey search local informant(s) Sanborn Insurance maps aerial photography
other (describe): _____

Archaeological Methods (check as many as apply to the project as a whole)

Check here if NO archaeological methods were used.
surface collection, controlled shovel test-other screen size block excavation (at least 2x2 m)
surface collection, uncontrolled water screen soil resistivity
shovel test-1/4" screen posthole tests magnetometer
shovel test-1/8" screen auger tests side scan sonar
shovel test 1/16" screen coring pedestrian survey
shovel test-unscreened test excavation (at least 1x2 m) unknown
other (describe): _____

Historical/Architectural Methods (check as many as apply to the project as a whole)

Check here if NO historical/architectural methods were used.
building permits demolition permits neighbor interview subdivision maps
commercial permits exposed ground inspected occupant interview tax records
interior documentation local property records occupation permits unknown
other (describe): _____

Survey Results (cultural resources recorded)

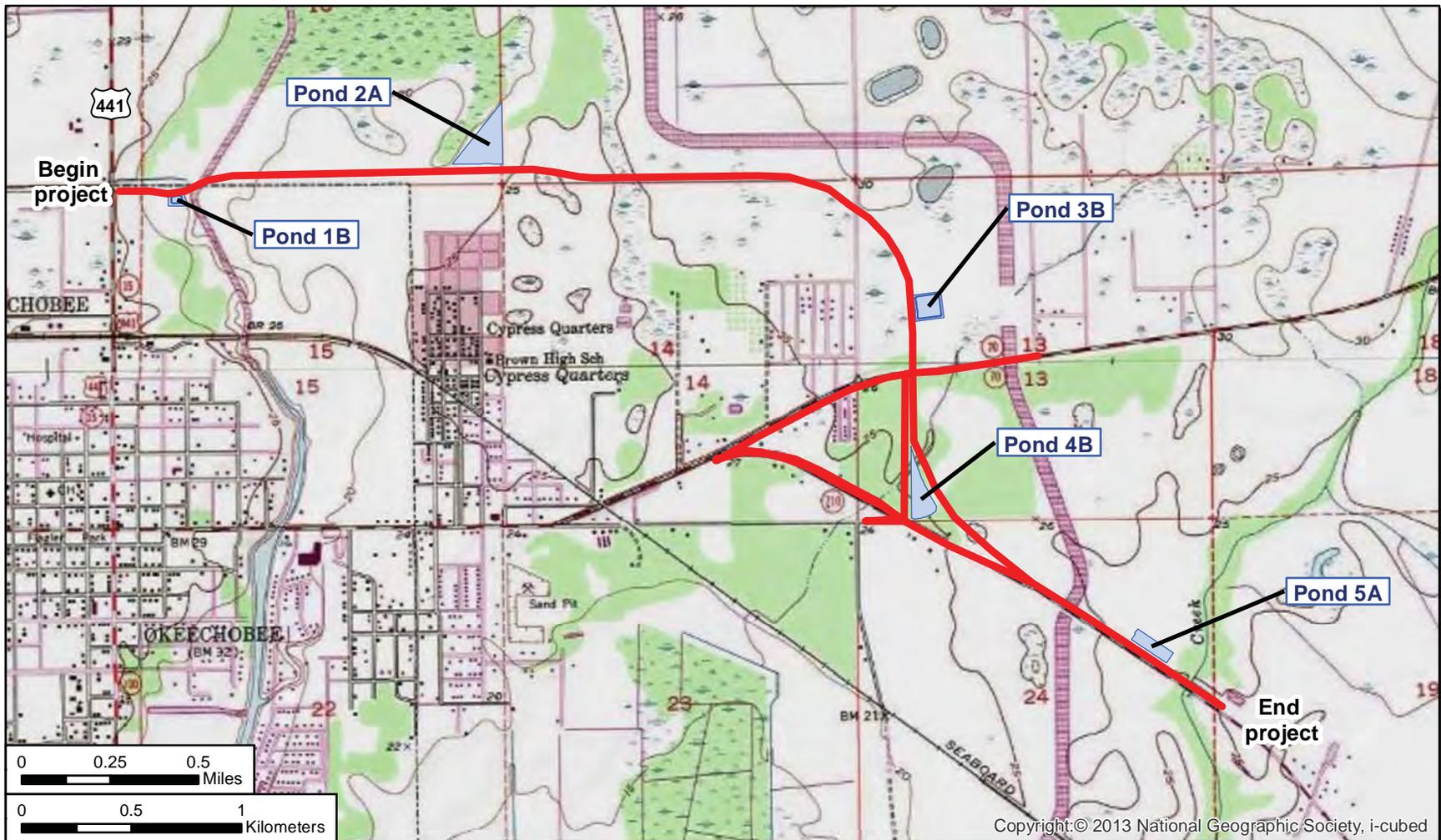
Site Significance Evaluated? Yes No
Count of Previously Recorded Sites 0 Count of Newly Recorded Sites 0
Previously Recorded Site #'s with Site File Update Forms (List site #'s without "8". Attach additional pages if necessary.) n/a

Newly Recorded Site #'s (Are all originals and not updates? List site #'s without "8". Attach additional pages if necessary.) n/a

Site Forms Used: Site File Paper Form Site File Electronic Recording Form

REQUIRED: ATTACH PLOT OF SURVEY AREA ON PHOTOCOPY OF USGS 1:24,000 MAP(S)

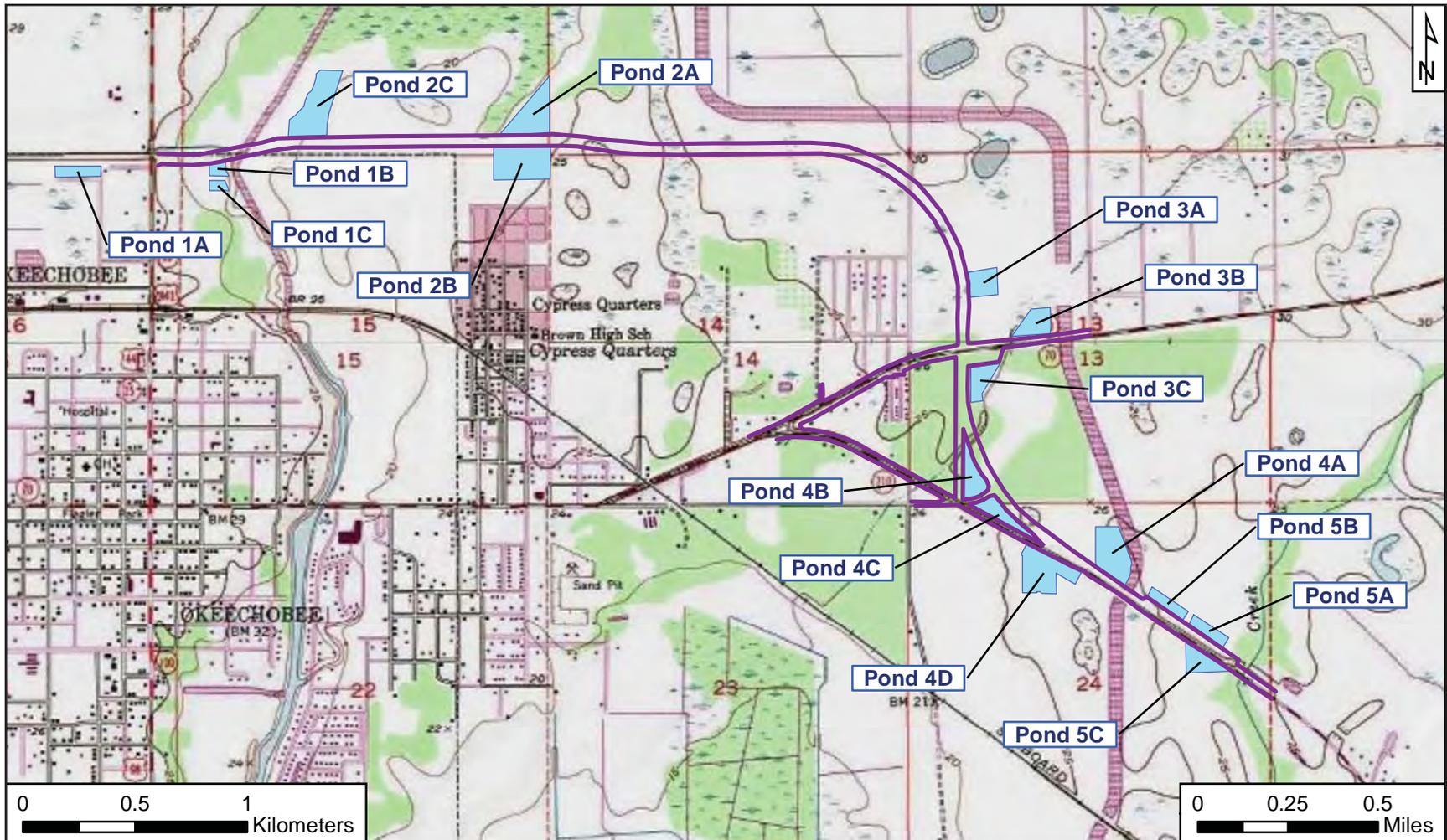
SHPO USE ONLY SHPO USE ONLY SHPO USE ONLY
Origin of Report: 872 CARL UW 1A32 # _____ Academic Contract Avocational
Grant Project # _____ Compliance Review: CRAT # _____
Type of Document: Archaeological Survey Historical/Architectural Survey Marine Survey Cell Tower CRAS Monitoring Report
Overview Excavation Report Multi-Site Excavation Report Structure Detailed Report Library, Hist. or Archival Doc
MPS MRA TG Other: _____
Document Destination: _____ Plotability: _____



SR 710 preferred pond sites

Township 37 South, Range 35 East, Sections 13-16 and 24
 USGS Taylor Creek SE and Okeechobee
 Okeechobee County

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 USGS Taylor Creek SE and Okeechobee
 Okeechobee County
 National Geographic Society 2013 - *USA Topo Maps*

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