CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY OF INTERSTATE 75 FROM SOUTH OF STATE ROAD 44 TO STATE ROAD 200 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY SUMTER AND MARION COUNTIES, FLORIDA

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT NO. 452074-2
SEARCH PROJECT NO. 230095

PREPARED FOR

VOLKERT, INC.
AND
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DISTRICT 5
DELAND, FLORIDA

BY

SEARCH

NOVEMBER 2023

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 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) PURSUANT TO 23 U.S.C. §327 AND A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING DATED MAY 26, 2022, AND EXECUTED BY THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) AND FDOT.

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NOVEMBER 2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings of a Phase I cultural resource assessment survey conducted in support of improvements to Interstate 75 (I-75) in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida. The Florida Department of Transportation, District 5, is proposing improvements to I-75 from south of State Road 44 to State Road 200. The project limits begin south of State Road 44 and continue north to the State Road 200 interchange, a total distance of 34.3 kilometers (21.3 miles). The project activities include the construction of two auxiliary lanes (one northbound and one southbound), and the replacement of three bridges (County Road 462, County Road 475, and SW 66th Street). Proposed improvements will take place within the existing right-of-way; no additional right-of-way is proposed. Proposed I-75 roadway improvements will require right-of-way for stormwater treatment; additional right-of-way is proposed to provide for stormwater retention ponds which will be evaluated under separate cover. This project is funded through the Moving Florida Forward initiative for construction in 2025.

To encompass all potential improvements, the area of potential effects (APE) was defined to include the existing I-75 right-of-way from south of State Road 44 to State Road 200. There is no additional buffer because the proposed work is limited to the existing right-of-way and the proposed improvements do not pose new viewshed concerns.

The archaeological survey included pedestrian survey and systematic subsurface testing of the APE. In total, 576 shovel tests were excavated within the APE, [redacted]

The architectural survey resulted in the identification and evaluation of two previously recorded historic resources (the Cross Florida Greenway [8MR03410] and the Community of Royal [8SM01343]) and one newly recorded bridge (8SM01393). The SHPO determined Resource 8MR03410 eligible for listing in the NRHP on June 28, 2022, and Resource 8SM01343 eligible for listing on April 4, 2022. SEARCH recommends 8SM01393 ineligible as a contributing feature to the Community of Royal (8SM01343) because it is not significant under NRHP Criterion A; it was constructed due to the detrimental effect of the I-75 construction and is not historically linked to the development of the Community of Royal. SEARCH recommends the resource is not significant under Criterion B because it lacks association with a person(s) significant in history. Furthermore, the bridge is not significant under Criterion C due to its lack of architectural or engineering distinction. Finally, the bridge is not significant under Criterion D because it lacks the potential to yield further information of historical importance.

The project will pass under the Cross Florida Greenway (8MR03410) and will not disturb the trail's route or materials, nor affect the structures associated with the trail. The addition of the auxiliary

lanes will not affect the resource more than the existing I-75 corridor. Therefore, SEARCH recommends the project will result in no adverse effect to Resource 8MR03410.
Within the boundaries of the Community of Royal (8SM01343), the project will occur within the existing right-of-way; no additional right-of-way is proposed. The construction of auxiliary lanes is a natural part of the continued use and maintenance of the existing roadway. The project will not affect the historic rural landscape more than the existing I-75 corridor. SEARCH recommends the project will have no adverse effect on Resource 8SM01343.

SEARCH recommends that this project will result in *No Adverse Effect* to historic properties. No further cultural resources work is recommended.

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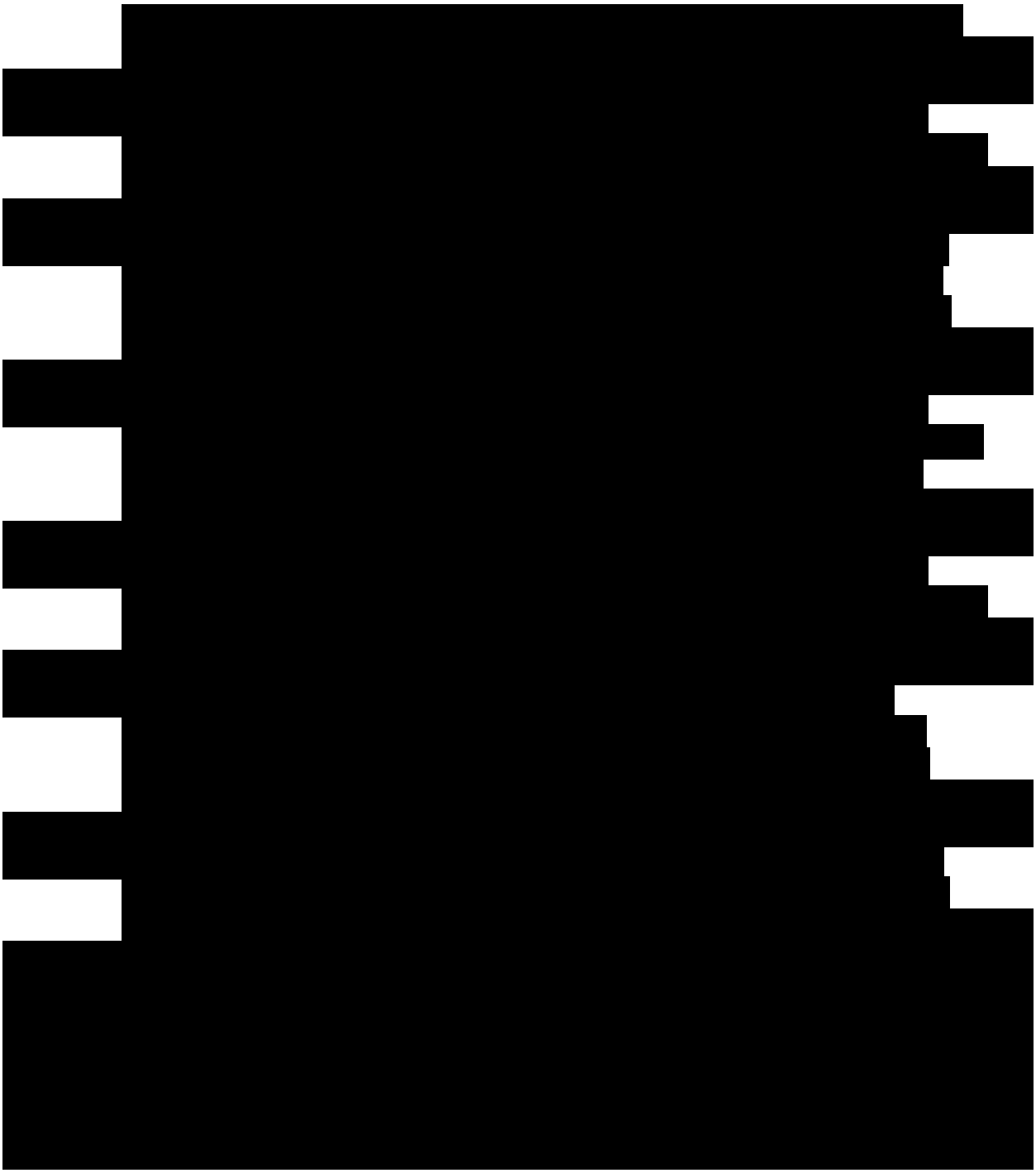

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of a Phase I cultural resource assessment survey (CRAS) conducted in support of improvements to Interstate 75 (I-75) in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 5, is proposing improvements to I-75 from south of State Road (SR) 44 to SR 200. The project limits begin south of SR 44 and continue north to the SR 200 interchange, a total distance of 34.3 kilometers (km; 21.3 miles [mi]). The project activities include the construction of two auxiliary lanes (one northbound and one southbound) and the replacement of three bridges (County Road 462, County Road 475, and SW 66th Street).Proposed improvements will take place within the existing right-of-way; no additional right-of-way is proposed. Proposed I-75 roadway improvements will require right-of-way for stormwater treatment; additional right-of-way is proposed to provide for stormwater retention ponds which will be evaluated under separate cover. This project is funded through the Moving Florida Forward initiative for construction in 2025.

To encompass all potential improvements, the area of potential effects (APE) was defined to include the existing I-75 right-of-way from south of SR 44 to SR 200. There is no additional buffer because the proposed work is limited to the existing right-of-way and the proposed improvements do not pose new viewshed concerns. The archaeological and architectural history survey was completed within the entire APE.

The purpose of the survey was to locate, identify, and bound archaeological resources, historic buildings or structures, and potential historic districts within the project's APE and assess their potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The need for a Nationwide Permit 14 is anticipated. This study was conducted to comply with Public Law 113-287 (Title 54 US Code), which incorporates the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, as amended. The study also meets the regulations for implementing National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800 (*Protection of Historic Properties*). This study also complies with Chapter 267 of the Florida Statutes and Rule Chapter 1A-46, Florida Administrative Code.

All work was performed in accordance with Part 2, Chapter 8 of the FDOT's Project Development & Environment Manual (revised July 2023), as well as the Florida Division of Historical Resources' (FDHR) recommendations for such projects as stipulated in the FDHR's *Cultural Resource Management Standards & Operations Manual, Module Three: Guidelines for Use by Historic Preservation Professionals*. The principal investigator for this project meets the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (48 Federal Register 44716-42).

Jessica Fish, MSt, RPA, served as the project manager and principal investigator of archaeology, and Mikel Travisano, MS, served as the principal investigator of architectural history. The report was written by Kyle Feriend, BA; Drew Kinchen, BA; Anna Suphanniam, MA; Mikel Travisano, MS; and Ashley Parham, PhD. The fieldwork was conducted by Eric Argibay, BA; Olivia Dunn, BA;

Mr. Feriend; Emery Gibson, BA; Cassandra Jiskoot, BA; Tyler Kolyno, BA; Kyle Marotz, BA; Therese Westman, BA; and Eric Wyrock, BA. Angelica Costa, MA, created all figures and field maps. Varna Boyd, MA, RPA, conducted the quality-control review, and Ali Sundook, BA, edited and produced the document.

Figure 1. Location of the I-75 from south of SR 44 to SR 200 project in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida.

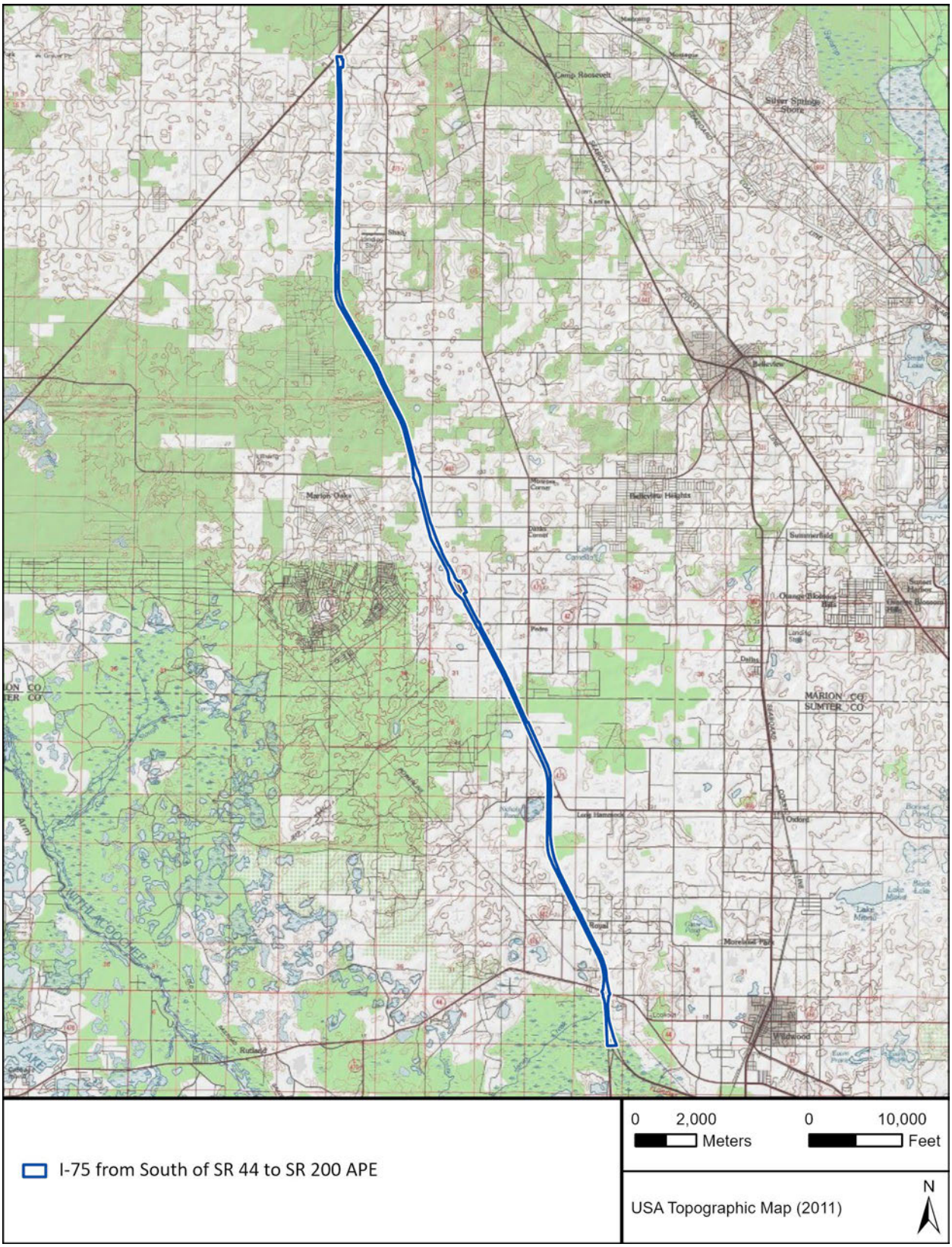

Figure 2. The I-75 from south of SR 44 to SR 200 project APE.

PROJECT LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENT

LOCATION AND MODERN CONDITIONS

The project corridor is a 34.3 km (21.3-mi) segment of I-75 in northern Sumter County and southern Marion County, Florida. The APE begins south of SR 44 and terminates at the I-75 interchange with SR 200. The APE is characterized by a maintained and heavily altered interstate corridor with occasional wooded sections, bordered by commercial development, undeveloped cleared fields and wooded parcels, and sparse residential housing. The terrain crossed by the corridor consists of an elevation ranging from 16.8 to 32 meters (m) (55 to 105 feet [ft]) above mean sea level The APE is located within the following units of the Public Land Survey System:

- Township 15 South, Range 21 East, Sections 34 and 35
- Township 16 South, Range 21 East, Sections 2, 11, 14, 15, 23, 26, 35, and 36
- Township 17 South, Range 21 East, Sections 1, 12, and 13
- Township 17 South, Range 22 East, Sections 18, 19, 29, 30, and 32
- Township 18 South, Range 22 East, Sections 4, 5, 9, 16, 21, 27, 28, and 34
- Township 19 South, Range 22 East, Section 3

Geologically, the project corridor falls within the three subprovinces of the greater Ocala Uplift District. North of the Marion County Southbound Rest Area, the APE is situated within the Kendrick Hills subprovince, which is characterized by low limestone hills with hill elevations up to 54.9 m (180 ft) (Brooks 1981). South of Sumter County Road (CR) 462 East, the APE is in the Tsala Apopka Basin subprovice, which is characterized as an erosional valley with an abundance of wetlands (Brooks 1981). The entire central section of the APE is situated in the Anthony Hills subprovince which is characterized by low hills and sandy soils with longleaf pine vegetation. The Ocala Uplift District consists of low rolling limestone plains and is referred to as the "lime sink region;" (Brooks 1981).

The most prevalent soils within the APE are well drained Arredondo sand, excessively drained Candler sand, well drained Kendrick loamy sand, well drained Zuber loamy sand, moderately well drained Tavares fine sand, excessively drained Astatula sand, very poorly drained Gator muck and somewhat poorly drained Sparr fine sand. Smaller sections containing very poorly drained Placid sand, poorly drained Pomona sand, poorly drained Blichton sand, somewhat poorly drained Adamsville sand, and several other series exists sporadically throughout the APE (**Figure 3**). There are no rivers or creeks that intersect the project corridor, although there are several ponds and lakes in the vicinity of the APE including Nichols Pond which is located just west of the I-75 and south of Sumter County Road (CR) 475 North interchange.

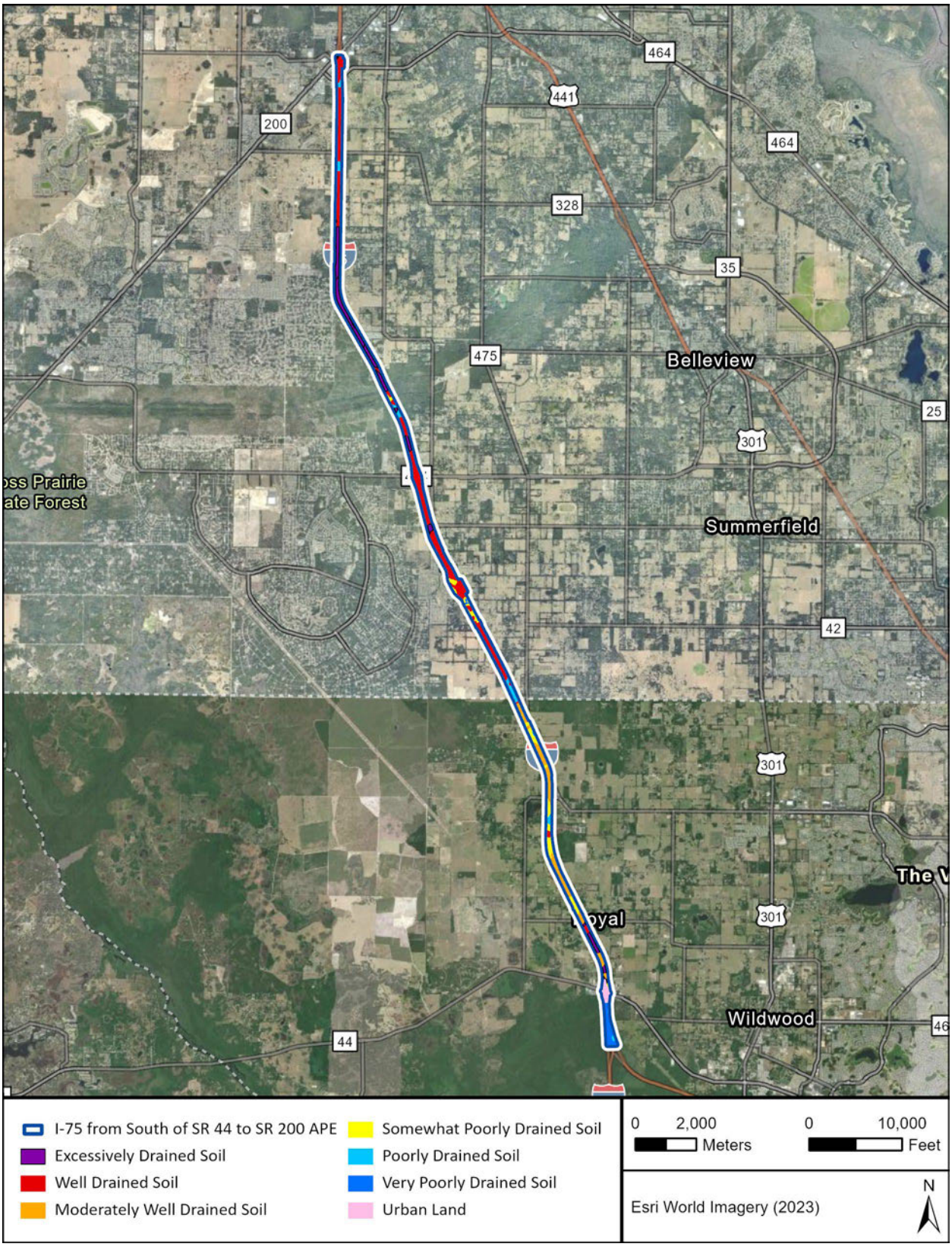

Figure 3. Soil drainage characteristics within the APE.

PALEOENVIRONMENT

Between 18,000 to 12,000 years before present (BP), Florida was a much cooler and drier place than it is today. Melting of the continental ice sheets led to a major global rise in sea level (Rohling et al. 1998) that started from a low stand of 120 m (394 ft) below current sea level at 18,000 BP. At that time, the temperature of southeastern United States, from North Carolina to Florida, was roughly 12 degrees Celsius (53.6 Fahrenheit) colder than today, as well as drier and windier (Watts 1980). The rise was slow while glacial conditions prevailed at high latitudes but became very rapid in the latest Pleistocene and earliest Holocene. It became warmer and wetter rather rapidly during the next three millennia. Sea levels rose rapidly between 12,000 BP and 8000 BP (Watts 1980). By about 9000 BP, a warmer and drier climate began to prevail. These changes were more drastic in northern Florida and southern Georgia than in southern Florida, where the "peninsular effect" and a more tropically influenced climate tempered the effects of the continental glaciers that were melting far to the north (Watts 1969, 1971, 1975, 1980). Sea levels, although higher, were still much lower than at present; surface water was limited, and extensive grasslands probably existed, which may have attracted large grazing mammals. By 6000–5000 BP, the climate had changed to one of increased precipitation and surface water flow (Watts 1969, 1971, 1975, 1980). By the late Holocene, ca. 4000 BP, the climate, water levels, and plant communities of Florida attained essentially modern conditions. The small prairies and oak savannas gave way to the more current species-rich pine forests. These have been relatively stable with only minor fluctuations over the past 4,000 years (Watts 1971).

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HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE HISTORY

The following precontact historic overview of central Florida consists of a three-part chronology; archaeologists recognize each period based on distinct cultural and technological characteristics. From oldest to most recent, the three temporal periods are Paleoindian, Archaic, and St. Johns. These periods, and the associated regional subperiods, are presented in **Table 1**. While each period is briefly discussed below, readers are referred to Milanich (1994) for a more comprehensive treatment of central Florida's precontact history.

Table 1. Prehistory of Central Florida.

Name	Time Period
Paleoindian Period	12,000+–10,000 BP
Archaic Period	10000–2500 BP
Early	10000–7000 BP
Middle	7000–5000 BP
Late	5000–2500 BP
Preceramic	5000–4000 BP
Orange	4000–2500 BP
St. Johns Tradition	2500–435 BP
St. Johns I	2500–1900 BP
St. Johns Ia	1900–1500 BP
St. Johns Ib	1500–1250BP
St. Johns IIa	1250–950 BP
St. Johns IIb	950–487 BP
St. Johns IIc	487–435 BP

Paleoindian Period (12,000–10,000 BP)

While definitive evidence of human occupation in the region is generally attributed to the Clovis culture with its signature fluted projectile points, beginning about 12,000 BP, traces of earlier occupation are present at several eastern North American sites (Goodyear 2005; Lothrop et al. 2016). The Meadowcroft Rockshelter site in southwestern Pennsylvania (Adovasio et al. 1998), the Barton site in western Maryland (Lothrop et al. 2016), the Cactus Hill site in southern Virginia (McAvoy and McAvoy 1997; Virginia Department of Historic Resources 2022), the SV-2 site in southwestern Virginia (Goodyear 2005), and the Topper site in South Carolina (Goodyear 2005) have all yielded carbon-dates pre-dating Clovis occupation, although no clear diagnostic artifacts have been identified in the earliest deposits at these sites. Regardless, it is now well accepted that pre-Clovis peoples precede the traditional Paleoindian period peoples.

The conventional view of Paleoindian existence in Florida is that people were nomadic hunters and gatherers who entered an environment quite different from that of the present. Excavations at the Harney Flats site in Hillsborough County altered this view, and many archaeologists believe that people during the Paleoindian period lived part of the year in habitation sites near critical resources such as fresh water. The climate during the Paleoindian period was cooler than today's climate, and the land was drier, with much lower coastal sea levels and inland water table (Carbone 1983; Watts and Hansen 1988). The paucity of potable water sources likely played a crucial role in the distribution of Paleoindian groups across the landscape. Archaeologists hypothesize that these populations frequented sinkholes and springs to collect water and exploit the flora and fauna that were also attracted to these locations (Dunbar 1991; Milanich 1994; Webb et al. 1984). Numerous freshwater sources were in areas of exposed Tertiary-age limestone that had become silicified, providing people with a raw material source (chert) for tool manufacture. Thus, it is thought that permanent freshwater sources (i.e., sinkholes and springs), along with locations of high-quality chert, were primary factors influencing Paleoindian settlement patterns in Florida.

Archaic Period (10000–2500 BP)

Around 10000 BP, climatic amelioration prompted pronounced environmental changes in Florida. These interconnected changes included a gradual warming trend, a rise in sea levels, a reduction in the width of peninsular Florida, and the spread of oak-dominated forests and hammocks throughout much of Florida (Milanich 1994; Smith 1986). Alterations in native subsistence strategies, which became more diverse due to the emergence of new plant, animal, and aquatic species, were concomitant with these environmental changes. A significant increase in population numbers and density, with native groups developing regional habitat-specific adaptations and material assemblages, also occurred (Milanich 1994; Smith 1986:10). Wetter conditions increasingly encouraged coastal, riparian, and lacustrine adaptations.

Within the East and Central Lakes District of the Florida Archaeological Regions, evidence of the earliest Archaic-period occupations usually consists of lithic scatters containing chert debitage and occasionally projectile points (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). While Early Archaic Bolen projectile points have been recovered at sites in central Florida, Middle Archaic points, such as Hardee, Sumter, Alachua, Putnam, and Newnan, are typically more common (Smith and Bond 1984:53–55). As human life became more settled during the Archaic period, an array of site types evolved, including residential bases, short-term settlements, specialized procurement camps, and cemeteries (Milanich 1994:75–85). These sites composed the regional settlement-subsistence system.

The trend toward increased sedentism and more circumscribed territories continued into the Late Archaic period, as environmental and climatic conditions approached those of today. The emergence of ceramic traditions and the inception of limited horticulture characterizes this period (Sassaman 1993). In north-central Florida, the development of pottery occurred around 4000 BP. Called Orange pottery, this early ceramic ware contained vegetal fibers, such as thin strands of palmetto or Spanish moss, as temper (Bullen 1972; Griffin 1945). During a span of approximately 1,500 years, plain, incised, and punctated types were produced; however, decorated variants underwent periods of stylistic popularity. Early vessel forms were hand molded and generally thick walled, whereas some of the later vessels were thinner and formed by coiling. Orange pottery is found sparingly in Florida and is primarily recovered in eastern and central portions of the state.

Orange fiber-tempered ceramics were first described by James Griffin (1945:219) and are considered among the earliest pottery types in North America. Norwood, the next recognized early fiber-tempered ceramic culture, extended from the Gulf Coast to the Orange series on the East Coast. Fiber-tempered ceramics with sand temper or inclusions characterize these early ceramic periods. The fiber-tempered Norwood pottery is usually undecorated or stick impressed. A variety of the later Deptford simple-stamped ceramic ware found on the Gulf Coast also is stick impressed and seems to be derived from the earlier Norwood ceramic assemblage (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980).

A third fiber-tempered ceramic variant, known as Tick Island Incised, was produced concomitantly with the Orange series ware and occurs in the Upper St. Johns River drainage area. The curvilinear designs incised onto the exterior of Tick Island ware incorporate small dashes or punctations. A typical design uses concentric circles and dashes between the lines of the circle. This type is somewhat localized and is not typical at sites outside the Upper St. Johns area.

Over time, increasing amounts of sand were added as a tempering agent to the clay used to make pottery. This technique eventually replaced the practice of using plant fibers as temper. The Deptford culture produced early sand- and grit-tempered pottery in northern Florida. St. Johns ware, the other dominant pottery type that followed the fiber-tempered tradition, was produced in northeastern Florida. St. Johns pottery temper contains microscopic sponge spicules, or exoskeletons. Although some sand was added to this pottery, St. Johns ware lacks the fiber, sand, and grit temper that is typical of pre-contact pottery in many parts of the southeastern United States. Deptford and St. Johns were produced at the same time and are often recovered in association with each other.

St. Johns Tradition (2500–435 BP)

Although the East and Central Lakes District is not well studied archaeologically, research suggests that St. Johns is the dominant ceramic type in the region. Chalky pottery produced between 2500 BP and 435 BP, increased population and settlement numbers, construction of sand burial mounds, continued economic dependence on aquatic resources, and greater emphasis on plant cultivation characterize the St. Johns culture (Goggin 1952:40; Milanich 1994:243–274). While St. Johns ceramics are found across the peninsula, the St. Johns River drainage in central and northeastern Florida was the core area of the St. Johns culture. In eastern and central Florida, the St. Johns culture grew directly from the Orange culture, as evidenced by the carryover of late Orange-period designs to early St. Johns-period pottery. Within the St. Johns period, there are two major subdivisions (I and II).

In addition to St. Johns wares, sites in the Central Lakes District typically contain Glades and Belle Glade ceramics, which originate in the Lake Okeechobee region. These are more common in the south-central portion of this district, whereas homogeneous St. Johns assemblages are found in the northern portion of the region (Sears 1959). Freshwater shell and black earth middens often characterize sites located along the banks of inland rivers and lakes in this area (Austin and Hansen 1988; Hardin et al. 1984).

St. Johns I (2500–1250 BP)

The St. Johns I period is divided into three subperiods (I, Ia, and Ib) based on observable changes in material culture, particularly ceramics (Goggin 1952:40; Milanich 1994:247). People of the St. Johns I culture (2500–1900 BP) were foragers who relied primarily upon hunting, fishing, and wild plant collecting. During this time, people primarily exploited resources found near freshwater wetlands, swamps, and the coastal zones. St. Johns I sites are often shell middens in

coastal zones that contain St. Johns Plain and St. Johns Incised pottery. Notably, the construction of sand burial mounds also occurred in the St. Johns I period. These mounds, described by Goggin (1952) as low rises or truncated cones, were present in east Florida prior to 1900 BP (Milanich 1994:260).

At St. Johns Ia sites (1900–1500 BP), St. Johns Plain and Incised pottery continued to be produced, and a red-painted St. Johns variant called Dunns Creek Red also was made. Exotic Hopewellian artifacts also occur in burial mounds. Weeden Island pottery, primarily a Gulf Coast ware, has been recovered from late St. Johns Ia sites, probably as a product of trade. The St. Johns Ib period (1500–1250 BP) assemblages also included St. Johns Plain and Incised wares and Dunns Creek Red; however, Weeden Island pottery became more common. Everyday ceramics are typically plain. As the St. Johns culture progressed, sand mound construction continued, and the mounds became larger through time.

St. Johns II (1250–435 BP)

The St. Johns II period is further divided into three subperiods (IIa, IIb, and IIc). As populations grew, the number and size of mounds and villages increased. The emergence of check-stamped ceramics marks the beginning of the St. Johns II period, around 1250 BP. This ceramic type, along with plain pottery, dominates artifact assemblages throughout the period. During St. Johns IIa (1250–950 BP), incised and punctated wares, possibly a reflection of Gulf Coast influences, occur with some frequency in mounds and middens. Late Weeden Island pottery continued to be traded into the St. Johns region and is recovered in sand burial mounds.

The St. Johns II tradition reached its apex in terms of social, political, and ceremonial complexity during the St. Johns IIb period (950–487 BP). Evidence of classic Mississippian traits, such as the construction of large, truncated mounds and the presence of Southern Cult burial paraphernalia in association with perceived elite burials, indicates influence from northwest Florida (Milanich 1994; Smith 1986). Some sand burial mounds were quite large and ceremonially complex, including truncated pyramidal mounds with ramps or causeways leading to their summits (Milanich 1994:269–270). The rise in the number of St. Johns village and mound sites implies greater cultural complexity compared to that of the earlier St. Johns I period (Milanich 1994:267–274; Miller 1991). Shell and bone ornaments, worked copper, and other exotic materials and artifacts occur with frequency in burial mounds (Goggin 1952; Milanich 1994).

In addition to the exploitation of aquatic resources for subsistence, archaeologists have suggested that populations were more dependent on horticulture during St. Johns II times (Goggin 1952; Milanich 1994:263–264). In fact, sixteenth-century French and Spanish documents allege that the Timucua of northern Florida heavily cultivated beans, squash, and maize (Bennett 1964, 1968, 1975; Lawson 1992), although direct evidence of pre-contact horticulture is lacking for the St. Johns region (Bennett 1964, 1968, 1975; Lawson 1992).

The St. Johns IIc period (487–435 BP) represents the protohistoric period in northeastern Florida and is characterized by the introduction of European artifacts. Prior to the founding of

St. Augustine by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés in 1565, the Spanish made several forays into Florida, beginning with Juan Ponce de León in 1513. Apart from intermittent exposure to European goods and diseases, the St. Johns IIc generally represents a continuation of the earlier St. Johns II period. Items such as glass beads, European pottery, hawk's bells, mirrors, metal hoes, axes, and chisels have been recovered in association with St. Johns IIc burials. Native artisans also acquired and reworked metals, including copper, silver, and gold.

Due to the presence of historic resources within the project APE, a brief historic context for Marion and Sumter Counties is provided below. Additional detail regarding historic development within the project area is provided in the Historic Map and Aerial Review section.

POSTCONTACT HISTORY

European Exploration and Settlement

The following context presents an overview of the history of Marion and Sumter Counties, Florida. Until the seventeenth century, Europeans made only cursory explorations of present-day Marionand Sumter Counties. However, these explorations significantly impacted the Potano people who lived in the area; the Spanish pillaged native villages and introduced devastating European diseases. The general route of the Spanish expedition under Pánfilo de Narváez (1528) passed through central Florida, although it is unknown if the expedition passed through Marion and Sumter Counties. The Hernando de Soto expedition marched through the region in 1539. Although Spain had claimed Florida, which then included much of the southeastern US, they did not make a notable foothold until 1565 when Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded St. Augustine (White 2010).

From St. Augustine, the Spanish established a mission system across northern and central Florida. Several missions extended along the Ocklawaha River in the eastern part of the county and near the Withlacoochee River in the western reaches of the county (White 2010). The Spanish mission system caused a drastic decline in Native American populations in Florida. Their numbers dropped significantly due to war and disease, allowing the Creek from Georgia and the Carolinas to migrate into the area. In 1765, the British referred to these migrating Native Americans by the Spanish term cimarrón, meaning wild or runaway, which later became Seminole (Fairbanks 1975; Milanich and Hudson 1993). The Seminole people prospered in Florida raising cattle and grew their traditional crops of corn, beans, squash, and tobacco (Fairbanks 1973).

Conflicts with the Seminole and US Acquisition of Florida

Nominal control over the Florida territory changed several times but in present-day Marion and Sumter Counties, the Seminole remained especially prominent. The Seminole included formerly enslaved people among their ranks who possessed valuable agricultural knowledge and could speak native languages and English. The issue of accepting people who had escaped slavery into the Seminole nation fueled tensions between Americans in the southern US (who opposed the

relationship between formerly enslaved people and Seminole) and the Spanish in East Florida (who accepted it) (Gannon 1996). During the resulting conflict, known as the First Seminole War, Andrew Jackson led a punitive mission against the Seminole and invaded Spanish Florida. Jackson's invasion also successfully pressured Spain to transfer all of Florida to the US. The Adams-Onis Treaty, signed in 1819 and ratified in 1821, transferred East Florida and West Florida to the US, which combined them into one territory (Carter 1956:8-11; Tebeau 1980).

Important events occurred in present-day Marion and Sumter Counties during the ongoing conflict between the US government, white settlers, and the Seminole, in the 1820s and 1830s. The American government induced the Seminole to sign the *Treaty of Moultrie Creek* (1823), which restricted all Native Americans in Florida to a reservation in the central part of the state. The reservation included Marion and Sumter Counties. Officials established Fort King, the headquarters of the Indian agency in Florida, near modern Ocala in 1827. A subsequent treaty called the *Treaty of Payne's Landing* (1832) agreed to the wholesale removal of the Seminole from Florida (Cusick and Mattick 1995). Around Christmas 1835, Seminole war leader Osceola attacked Fort King, and killed agent Wiley Thompson. The same day as Osceola's attack, a group of 180 Seminole warriors, led by Chiefs Micanopy and Alligator, surprised a column of 108 U.S. Army soldiers led by Major Francis Dade near present-day Bushnell. Only three soldiers survived the battle and two died shortly thereafter (Dovell 1952:1:244; Sprague 1964[1848]:89-91; Tebeau 1980). These events marked the start of the Second Seminole War (1835–1842) (Mahon 1985).

As the war progressed, the military erected a string of small forts across northern and central Florida. During the war, the Seminole inhabited portions of present-day Marion and Sumter Counties, especially around Wahoo Swamp and the Withlacoochee River (Writers Program ca 1930s:9). Aware of the Seminole presence, Major General Richard Keith Call along with Tennessee volunteers, Florida militia, regular army, and Creek engaged the Seminoles in the Battle of Wahoo Swamp on November 21, 1836 (Mahon 1985:183-186). A large Seminole village with hundreds of residents including families lived in the Wahoo Swamp. Lasting only a day, the Seminoles defeated Call's troops. In 1836, the Seminole destroyed Fort King. The government rebuilt it in 1837 when General Zachary Taylor made the site his headquarters (Ott and Chazal 1974). By the close of the Second Seminole War in 1842, the government had shipped several hundred Seminole to the western territories at a cost of $40,000,000 and the lives of 1,500 American troops. Casualties among the Seminole and white settlers are unknown. Some Seminole retreated farther southward into the peninsula (Mahon 1985).

Antebellum White Settlement and the Civil War

With the Seminole gone from the region, settlement proceeded apace with many of the new arrivals coming from northern Florida, South Carolina, and Georgia. At least 300 men started homesteads in the vicinity of Fort King between 1842 and 1860 (Ott and Chazal 1974:41). By the mid-1840s, these settlers became interested in creating a county of their own. Officials formed Marion County from portions of historic Alachua, Hillsborough, and Mosquito Counties (Carter 1962:994-995; State of Florida 1945:5, 8). At its inception Marion County included modern-day

Lake and Sumter counties. Settlers continued to pour into the region into the 1850s. In 1850, Marion County boasted a population of 3,338 (Dietrich 1978:15). Fueled by enslaved labor, large plantations as well as smaller farms of the county grew crops as varied as cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, rice, indigo, and cassava. Cattle raising also became an important economic feature. On January 8, 1853, the Florida legislature created Sumter County. At its inception the new county had a population of 1,500 (Covington 1957:285-287; Morris 1995:22). The population had more than doubled to 8,600 by 1860. Enslaved African Americans accounted for 60% of this figure (Ott and Chazal 1974:59-65).

Although no known battles or skirmishes occurred within present-day Marion and Sumter Counties, residents participated in the war through contribution of soldiers, cattle, wool, and other supplies in support of the Confederacy (Writers Program ca 1930s:10-11). The war stopped the flow of immigrants into the area (Dovell 1952:2:610; Ott and Chazal 1974).

Late Nineteenth Century

One of Florida's oldest free African American communities began in Sumter County after the Civil War. Formerly enslaved people from the Old Green Plantation resettled and built their own homes and began marking off 16.2-ha (40-ac) plots. Individuals separated their plots with picket fences that possibly led to the community's first name, Picketsville. Additionally, the Picket family settled in the community very early and may have lent their name to the new settlement. According to tradition, the people changed the name of the community to Royal by the 1880s to connect with a royal African past and to commemorate a history before a life of enslavement in the US. Much like other residents of Sumter County, these families took to farming their own land and working in the timber industries, creating new lives for themselves. They also built multiple churches. In 1874, residents constructed a one-room schoolhouse (Community of Royal 2019; Valentine 1981:91; Sumter County, Florida 2022). Along with the Pickets, the first settler families in the area included the Hartleys and the Andersons, but others soon followed.

Marion County's population swelled as the postwar economy expanded. The population grew from 8,600 residents in 1860 to 13,000 in 1880, making Marion one of Florida's 10 most populated counties (Dietrich 1978:16-18). Two important events occurred between 1870 and 1880 that helped spur growth in both Sumter and Marion Counties. Factors that lead to this growth included oranges becoming an important agricultural pursuit for farmers and the arrival of the railroad (Ott and Chazal 1974). In 1881, the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company, which operated a rail line from Fernandina to Cedar Key, built a line from Waldo into Ocala. By the following year, the Tropical Florida Railroad Company extended this farther southward to Wildwood and connected Sumer and Marion Counties. The railroads took farm products to northern and western markets and imported new settlers and tourists (Ott and Chazal 1974:110-111,118-123; Turner 2003:123).

Between 1880 and 1885, the Sumter County's population doubled as the railroads created new communities and revitalized older ones (Andriot 1993:98). With the arrival of the train and the continued success of its economy, the town of Wildwood grew in importance. In 1887, Wildwood

hosted a statewide Teacher Training Institute (Covington 1957:312-313). Wildwood reportedly had the largest orange grove in the world (Belding 1895:272). Local businesses include a saw and planning mill, two millinery and fancy goods stores, four general merchandise shops, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a livery service, two physicians, two druggists, a grocer, two hotels, a restaurant, a barber, a butcher, a boot and shoemaker, a shingle mill, and two notaries (Belding 1895:272).

Twentieth Century

The Florida Land Boom engulfed Marion County bringing new cities around Lake Weir and the blossoming of Marion's other communities in the 1920s. Sumter County did not participate in the 1920s land boom to the extent of other counties like Hillsborough, Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach. Much of this can be attributed to freezes that affected its citrus industry, limitations created by the cattle barons who did not want their pasture lands transformed into suburbs, and the draw of counties farther south (Writers Program 1930s:16). By 1940, only 31,243 resided in Marion, a growth of only 1,665 people (Dietrich 1978:23-24; Ott and Chazal 1974:186-191). That same year, Sumter's population reached 10,417. Its two largest towns, Wildwood's and Coleman's had populations of 1,346 and 764 respectively (State of Florida 1945:77).

By the 1930s, evidence indicated that the continuing rise in automobile traffic would lead to congestion with the existing road patterns (Federal Highway Administration 1977). Under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, congress authorized the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1938, which directed the chief of the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) to study the feasibility of a toll network (Weingroff 1996). In 1945, the federal government announced plans for a new interstate highway although Marion County. Planning for the interstate continued over the next decade. When President Dwight D. Eisenhower took office in 1953, only 10,327 km (6,417 mi) of system improvements had been completed at a cost of $955 million. In 1956, the federal government passed the Federal-Aid Highway Act to create an interstate road system (Weingroff 1996). When completed, Florida's 1,812 km (1,126 mi) would be a part of the 65.983-km (41,000-mi) nationwide network authorized by the act (Kendrick 1964:191).

In 1957, plans indicated the new interstate would pass west of Ocala, which led to controversy in the city (Cook 2007). As late as 1961, the exact route of the new interstate remained unknown to residents of Marion and Sumter Counties (Mase 1961:9). Florida Governor Farris Bryant stepped in to settle the debate over the interstate in favor of a route farther west than originally planned. Construction on I-75 in Marion County was underway by 1963 and eight new projects on the interstate in Sumter County were approved between the Marion County line and the Hernando County line (*Orlando Sentinel* 12 April 1963:1B). The Marion County portion of I-75 officially opened in 1964 (Cook 2007). In 1965, most of the construction on the interstate in Sumter County finished, although the county continued to improve interchanges along the route (Hendricks 1965:21I; Lee 1966:2B). Tourists and new settlers began visiting the area, especially after construction finished on I-75 (Ott and Chazal 1974:208-225). By 1970, 69,030 people resided in Marion County and 14,839 lived in Sumter County (Dietrich 1978: 25-27; Forstall 1996).

Marion County broke the 100,000 mark, growing to 122,488 residents in 1980, and the county continued to expand, reaching 194,835 residents 10 years later (Forstall 1996). However, a significant portion of Marion County remained rural. By the 1990s, 720 farms operated in Sumter County, owning 102,519 hectare (ha) (253,330 acres [ac]) (approximately 71% of the land in the county), with 25,245 ha (62,382 ac) under cultivation (US Department of Commerce 1992). Famers produced a multitude of crops and timber/ lumber industries made up a large component of the county economy. Like the rest of the state, retail trade, government, and service sectors constituted the county's largest employers (US Department of Commerce 1994). Sumter County's population skyrocketed in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries; between 1980 and 2000, the county nearly doubled from 24,000 residents to over 53,000.

Today, Marion County is home to more horses than anywhere else in the country, due in part to its mild climate and limestone calcium rich soil. Over 50 different breeds of horses are bred, raised, trained, and sold in the county creating more than $142 million in revenue in 2014 (Equine Land Conservation Resource 2014). In addition to producing champion horses for national competitions, Marion County also hosts HITS Ocala Winter Circuit, Live Oak International, Ocala Breeders' Sale and multiple competition series at World Equestrian Center. Local farms offer tours of their properties, which also benefits the tourism industry (Ocala/ Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau 2022). The county and the City of Ocala partner to encourage economic development. In 2022, the leading industries in Ocala Metro included health care and social services, retail, accommodation and food services, and education. Health care and social services provide 22,127 jobs within the county (Ocala Metro Chamber and Economic Partnership 2023).

Sumter County remains the home of many agricultural enterprises and produces citrus, fruit, livestock, aquaculture and timber. However, other industries have begun arriving in the county, drawn by the affordable price of land and access to transportation links. Businesses operating in Sumter County can utilize three interstates, two US Highways, Florida's Turnpike, two international airports, a major rail line, and five deep water ports (Sumter County, Florida 2023). In 2017, the top three employers in the county were the Villages Regional Medical Center, Publix and T & D Concrete and Distribution (Sumter County Economic Development 2017). By 2010, 93,420 residents called Sumter County home, and 129,752 people lived in the county by 2020 (US Census Bureau 2023). The establishment of The Villages, a retirement community in the northeastern portion of the county prompted much of the growth. Almost 59% of the population of Sumter County is over the age of 65 years old (Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research 2020; US Census Bureau 2023).

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BACKGROUND RESEARCH

FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE REVIEW

Florida Master Site File (FMSF) data from October 2023 were reviewed to identify any previously recorded cultural resources within the project APE. The FMSF review indicates that 28 previous cultural resource surveys have been conducted within the current project area (**Table 2; Figure 4**). Of these, the most relevant to the current project are Survey Nos. 785, 2243, 5341, 10383, 20820, 24259, 28437 and 28439. Those studies included large portions of the current APE or recorded resources within the APE.

Survey No. 785 was a corridor survey in support of proposed alternative sites for a US Veterans Administration National Cemetery (Dickinson and Wayne 1982). The survey overlapped an approximately 1.5 km (0.9 mi) section of the current APE around the Cross Florida Greenway overpass. Field methods for Survey No. 785 included pedestrian reconnaissance and systematic shovel testing but testing did not meet the current Module Three standards. [redacted]

Survey No. 2243 was a CRAS in support of a proposed extension to the Florida Turnpike (Austin et al. 1991). The eastern edge of the survey overlapped an approximately 16 km (10 mi) segment of the current APE from 2.1 km (1.3 mi) south of the Southwest Highway 484 interchange to the SR 44 interchange. Survey No. 2243 included pedestrian reconnaissance and systematic shovel testing but did not meet the current Module Three standards. The survey resulted in the recording of 56 new cultural resources, none of which intersect the current APE.

Survey No. 5341 was an archaeological survey in support of a proposed land development project in Marion County (Eck 1998). The survey overlapped a 1.6 km (1.0 mi) segment of the west half of the current APE between Southwest 66th Street and Southwest 43rd Street. Field methods employed during the survey included pedestrian reconnaissance and systematic shovel testing, but the survey did not meet the current Module Three standards. The survey resulted in the recording of five archaeological sites, none of which intersect the current APE.

Survey No. 10383 was a CRAS in support of a proposed peat mine development in Sumter County (Archaeological Consultants, Inc. [ACI] 2004). The survey overlapped an approximately 0.8 km (0.5 mi) segment of the west edge of the current APE, south of CR 475 N. The survey included pedestrian reconnaissance and systematic shovel testing but did not meet the current Module Three standards. [redacted]

Table 2. Previous Cultural Resources Assessment Surveys within the APE.

FMSF No.	Title	Year	Author(s)
785	*Cultural Resource Survey of Alternative Sites for US Veterans Administration National Cemetery, Marion and Sumter Counties, Florida*	1982	Dickinson, Martin F., and Lucy B. Wayne
1669	*Proposed widening of SR 200 from CR 484 to I-75, Marion County, Florida*	1988	Browning, William D., and Melissa G. Wiedenfeld
2104	*Archaeological and Environmental Survey, Ocala Meadows Country Club – 442 acres, Marion County, Florida*	1989	Worth and Associates
2227	*Archaeological (and historical) resources assessment survey, SR-44 from I-75 to SR-500/US 441*	1990	Browning, William D., and Roy Adlai Jackson
2243	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Florida Department of Transportation's Florida Turnpike Extension Study from Wildwood to Lebanon Station*	1991	Austin, Robert J. et al.
2711	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Wildwood Weighing Station on I-75 south of its intersection with SR 484 in Marion County, Florida*	1991	McMurray, Carl
3326	*Preliminary Cultural Resources Assessment of Two Water-Retention Areas Associated with the I-75 and Sr-44 Interchange Improvement Project, Sumter County, Florida*	1992	Browning, William D.
5217	*A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of Two Proposed Stormwater Retention Areas Along CR 484 and SW 20th Ave., Marion County, Florida*	1999	Stokes, Anne V.
5341	*An Archaeological Survey of the Bonnie Heath Farms Project DRI, Marion County, Florida*	1998	Eck, Christopher R.
5385	*A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Cross Florida Greenway Land Bridge, Marion County, Florida*	1998	Stokes, Anne V.
6906	*Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the PFNET, Inc. Fiber Optic Line Corridor, Columbia, Alachua, Levy, Marion and Sumter Counties, Florida*	2001	Stokes, Anne V.
8818	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of 1-75/CR 466 Interchange, Sumter County, Florida*	2003	Almy, Marion
9367	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Black Gold Composting Facility Sumter County, Florida*	2003	ACI
9396	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey, Proposed 1-75/CR 466 Interchange Commerce Area, Sumter County, Florida*	2003	Almy, Marion
10383	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey, Black Gold Peat Mine, Sumter County, Florida*	2004	ACI
12820	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of SR 93 (I-75) from 1.5 Miles North of the Hernando County Line to 0.2 Miles North of SR 91 (Florida's Turnpike) Sumter County*	2006	Janus Research
16700	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey 175-acre Tract Sumter County, Florida*	2008	ACI
18329	*Cultural Resource Analysis and Reconnaissance Survey Technical Memorandum Florida Turnpike Widening from SR 50 to I-75 (MP s73 to MP 309) Orange, Lake, and Sumter Counties, Florida*	2011	Almy, Marion M., and Elizabeth A. Horvath
20820	*Technical Memorandum Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of Interstate 75 Just North of State Road 44 to 7000 Feet North of State Road 44, Sumter County, Florida*	2014	Chambless, Elizabeth J.

Table 2. Previous Cultural Resources Assessment Surveys within the APE.

FMSF No.	Title	Year	Author(s)
21431	*Sabal Trail Transmission Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (Alachua, Citrus, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lake, Levy, Madison, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Suwannee, Sumter Counties, Florida)*	2014	Cardno ENTRIX, and SEARCH
22366	*Technical Memorandum, Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of CR 484 from SW 20th Avenue to CR 475A, Marion County, Florida*	2015	Chambless, Elizabeth J., and Jessica Fish
22817	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Santos Phase I of the Cross Florida Greenway Trail, Marion County, Florida*	2016	Altes, Chris
24259	*Community of Royal Cultural Resources Assessment Survey (Grant S1731)*	2017	Gonzalez-Tennant, Diana, and Edward Gonzalez-Tennant
25823	*Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Survey for I-75 Florida's Regional Advanced Mobility Elements ITS Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida*	2019	Altes, Kristina et al.
25824	*Cultural Resource Desktop Analysis and Field Review I-75 Florida's Regional Advanced Mobility Elements ITS Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida*	2018	Linville, Nick et al.
28045	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey SR 93/I-75 Northbound and Southbound Rest Areas (MP 9.38 to MP 10.382), Marion County, Florida*	2021	ACI
28437	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the I-75 Dynamic Message Sign Improvements, Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida*	2022a	Matusik, Angela and Jason Newton
28439	*Cultural Resource Assessment Survey in Support of the SR 93 (I-75) ITS Project, Marion and Sumter Counties, Florida*	2022b	Matusik, Angela and Jason Newton

between Sumter CR 462 East and SR 44. The survey included pedestrian reconnaissance and the excavation of 38 shovel tests within the current APE, all of which were negative for cultural material. The survey was conducted in accordance with the current Module Three standards. Survey No. 20820 did not identify any cultural resources.

Survey No. 24259 was a CRAS to better document historic resources and sites within the community of Royal (Gonzalez-Tennant 2017). The survey overlapped a 4.3 km (2.7 mi) segment of the current APE from the SR 44 interchange with I-75 to 1.8 km (1.1 mi) north of Sumter CR 462 East. The survey was limited to windshield reconnaissance. No archaeological field methods were utilized during the survey. Survey No. 24259 resulted in the recording of 31 historic buildings, none of which are located within the current APE. Survey No. 24259 was later utilized in support of the National Register nomination package for the Community of Royal (8MR01343) in 2022.

Survey No. 28437 was a CRAS in support of proposed signage improvements within the I-75 corridor in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida (Matusik and Newton 2022). Field methods included pedestrian survey, shovel testing, and architectural survey within five proposed signage locations. In total, 36 shovel tests were excavated within the current APE, seven of which

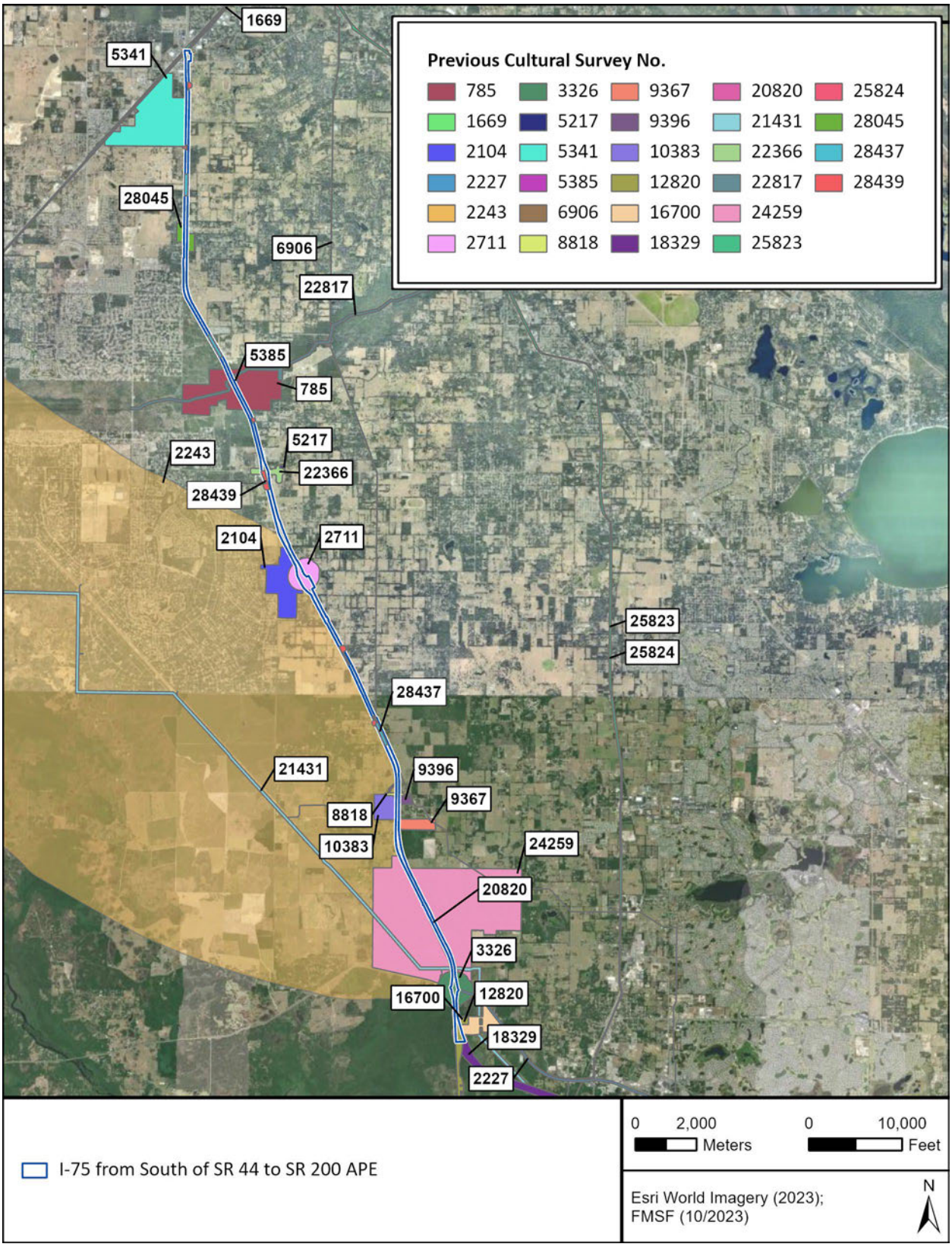

Figure 4. Previously conducted cultural resource surveys in the APE.

Survey No. 20820 was an archaeological survey in support of a proposed widening of a segment of I-75 (Chambless 2014). The survey overlapped a 2.1 km (1.3 mi) segment of the current APE [redacted] The survey was conducted in accordance with the current Module Three standards.

Survey No. 28439 was a CRAS in support of a proposed Intelligent Transportation Systems project within the I-75 corridor in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida (Matusik and Newton 2022). Field methods included pedestrian survey, shovel testing, and architectural survey within seven proposed improvement locations. [redacted] The survey was conducted in accordance with the current Module Three standards.

The FMSF review also indicates that [redacted] and two historic resource groups have been recorded within the APE (**Table 3**; **Figure 5**). [redacted] only the two resource groups have been recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP by the SHPO.

Table 3. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the APE.

[redacted]				
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Resource Groups				
FMSF No.	**Name**	**Period of Significance**	**NRHP Eligibility Status**	
8SM01343	Community of Royal	1870 to present	Eligible	
8MR03410	Cross Florida Greenway	American (1821 to present) and Depression and New Deal (1930 to 1940)	Eligible	

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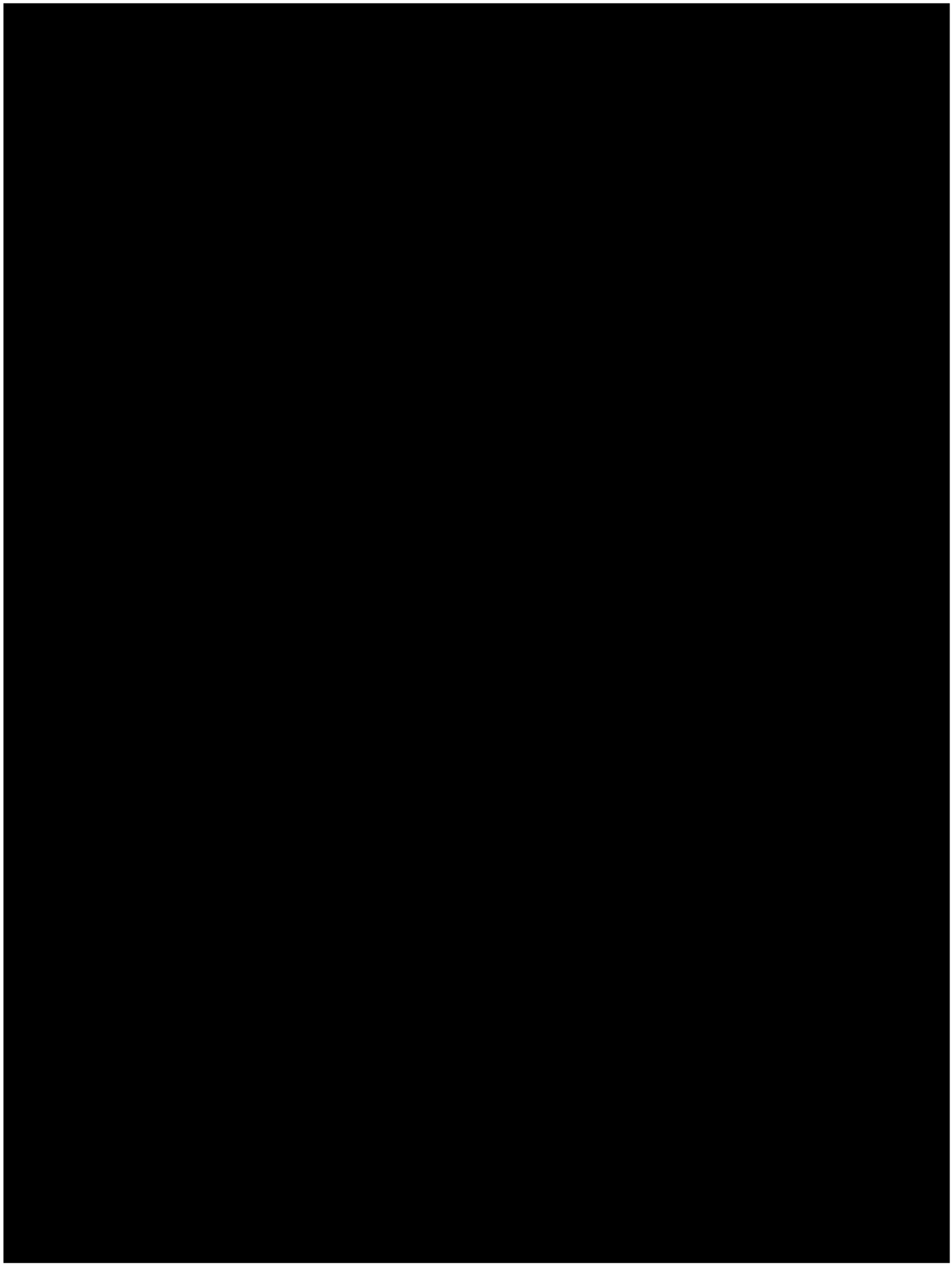

[redacted]

FMSF Resource No. 8SM01343 (Community of Royal) is a rural historic landscape which overlaps a 4.3 km (2.7 mi) segment of the current APE from East SR 44 to 1.8 km (1.1 mi) north of West CR 462. The Community of Royal was formed in the mid to late 1800s by formerly enslaved African Americans. The town is still active today as an agricultural community. SHPO has recommended 8SM01343 as eligible for NRHP listing.

FMSF Resource No. 8MR03410 (Cross Florida Greenway) is the site of the Cross Florida Barge Canal, which was never fully constructed. According to the FMSF database, the resource intersects the APE approximately 0.4 km (0.25 mi) south of the Cross Florida Greenway land bridge. Construction of the Barge Canal began in the mid-1930s and was officially terminated in 1971. In 1991 the Barge Canal project corridor was repurposed to become a State of Florida conservation and recreation area, which is its current use. Resource 8MR03410 has been recommended as eligible for NRHP listing by SHPO.

HISTORICAL MAP AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH REVIEW

SEARCH examined historical maps and aerial photographs to identify past land use in the vicinity of the APE. The earliest detailed maps consulted were General Land Office (GLO) survey maps. Government land surveyors created GLO maps during the nineteenth century as part of the surveying, platting, and sale of public lands. In Florida, these maps characteristically show landscape features such as vegetation, bodies of water, roads, and Spanish land grants. The level of detail in GLO maps varies, with some also depicting structures, Native American villages, railroads, and agricultural fields. GLO maps of Florida Townships 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 South, Ranges 21 and 22 East show five roads intersected the APE including two labeled Road to Withlacoochee and Road to Camp Izard. The APE is within a land grant belonging to Ludwig Funck and an area labeled Indian O. Field. Funck received the grant in 1843 and had it confirmed in 1849. The far south of the APE is within land plotted for sale (**Figures 6 and 7**) (GLO 1844a, 1844b, 1844c, 1844d, 1846, 1849a, 1849b, 1849c, 1849d, 1849e).

Ocala is labeled outside the APE to the northeast and a new northeast-southwest road intersects the APE by 1860 (Johnson 1860a, 1860b). In 1874, two new roads and three new unimproved trails intersect the APE (Drew 1874a, 1874b). By 1895, 26 additional roads are visible intersecting the APE at various points along its length. No buildings are illustrated within the APE. The communities of Taylor Springs and Royal are in the vicinity of the APE in Marion and Sumter Counties, respectively (**Figures 8 and 9**) (US Geological Survey [USGS] 1895a, 1895b). Taylor Springs is located at the northern end of the APE, while Royal is located near the southern terminus. No improvement is depicted within the APE by 1917, although several buildings

forming the community of Royal are scattered nearby (Baedecker 1904a, 1904b; Florida State Road Department [FSRD] 1917). General highway maps of Marion and Sumter Counties created in 1935 show an east-west road intersected the APE west of Wildwood (FSRD 1935a, 1935b).

Aerial photographs taken in 1949 show at least 24 roads intersect the APE but none on the present-day alignment of I-75 within the APE. Numerous improved fields are within the APE, but areas of dense foliage remain scattered throughout the APE (**Figures 10 and 11**) (USGS 1949).

In 1959, 22 roads intersect the APE, and a school is within the APE northwest of Wildwood. An abandoned canal project is evident outside the APE to the west in Marion County (**Figures 12 and 13**) (USGS 1959a, 1959b). The abandoned canal was part of a larger project to build an extended waterway linking both the east and west coast of Florida. Although initial construction was completed at various locations including within the APE, the project was eventually stopped and cancelled due to a combination of financial constraints and environmental concerns.

By 1968, a road on the present-day path of I-75 is within the entire length of the APE and connected to SR 200, CR 484, and SR 44 by ramps. The APE intersects the community of Royal which had expanded farther east since its initial establishment (**Figures 14 and 15**) (USGS 1966a, 1966b, 1967a, 1967b, 1967c, 1967d, 1967e, 1968).

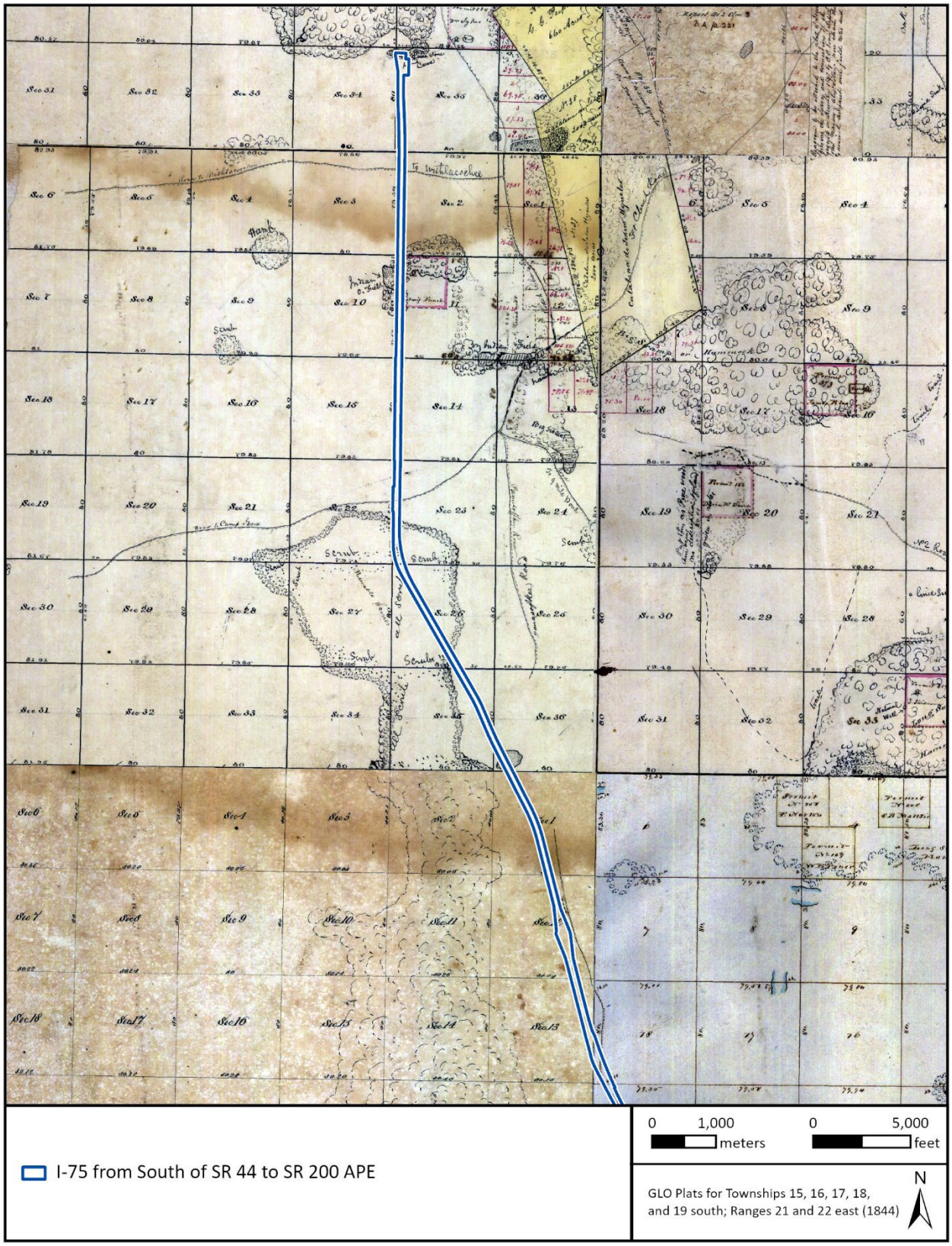

Figure 6. GLO survey maps of Townships 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 South, Ranges 21 and 22 East (GLO 1844a, 1844b, 1844c, 1844d, 1846, 1849a, 1849b, 1849c, 1849d, 1849e).

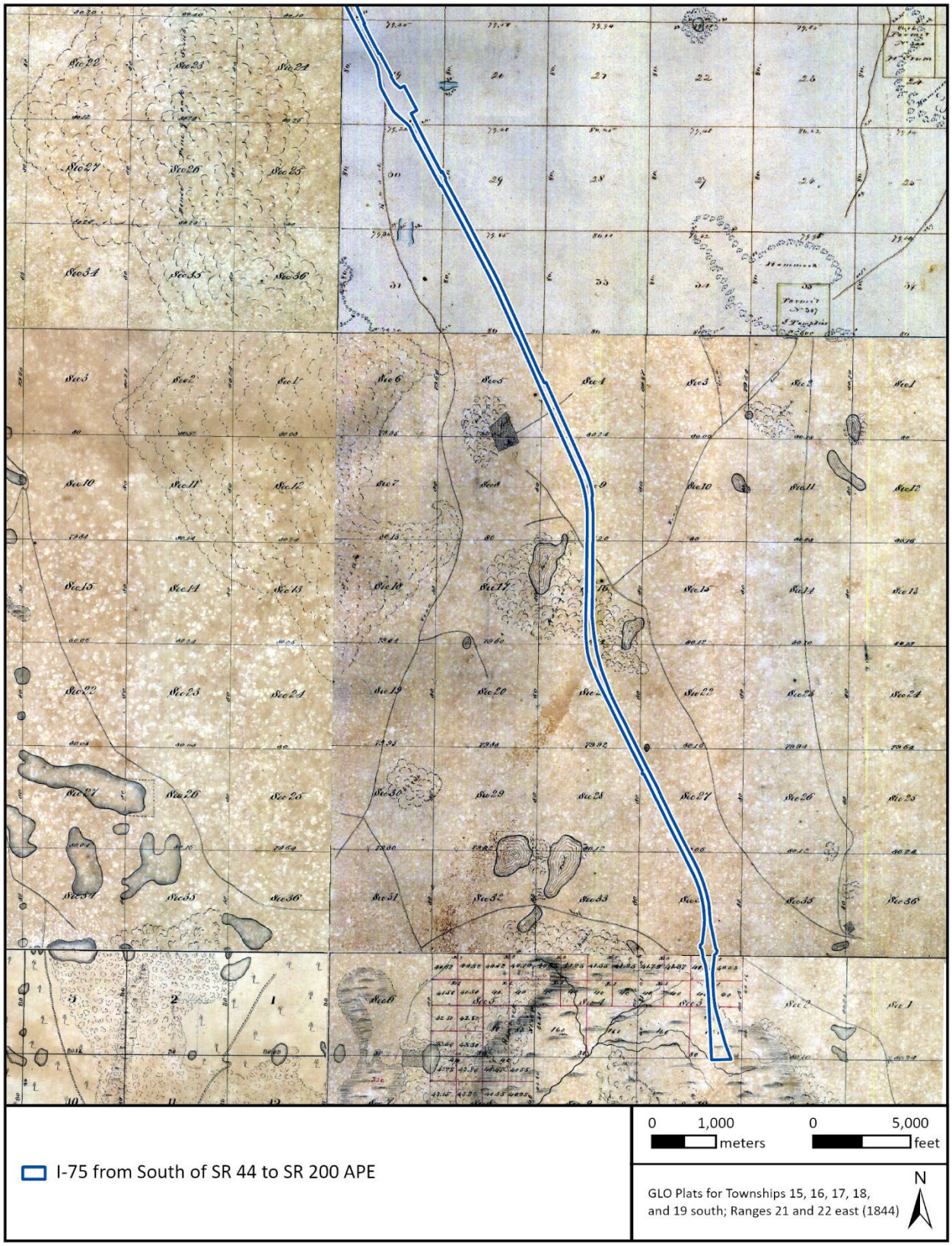

Figure 7. GLO survey maps of Townships 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 South, Ranges 21 and 22 East (GLO 1844a, 1844b, 1844c, 1844d, 1846, 1849a, 1849b, 1849c, 1849d, 1849e).

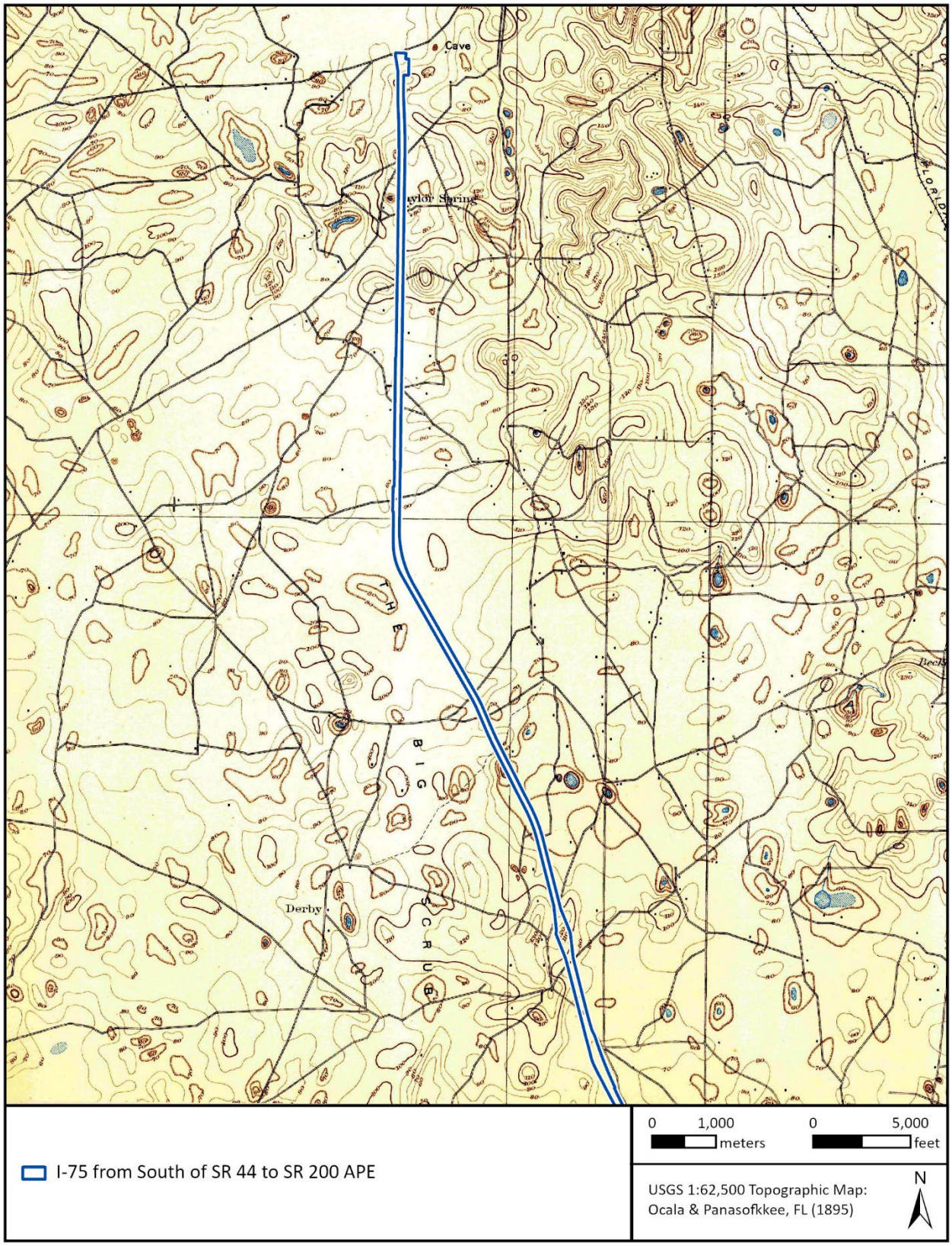

Figure 8. Ocala and Panasoffkee, FL USGS topographic maps (USGS 1895a, 1895b).

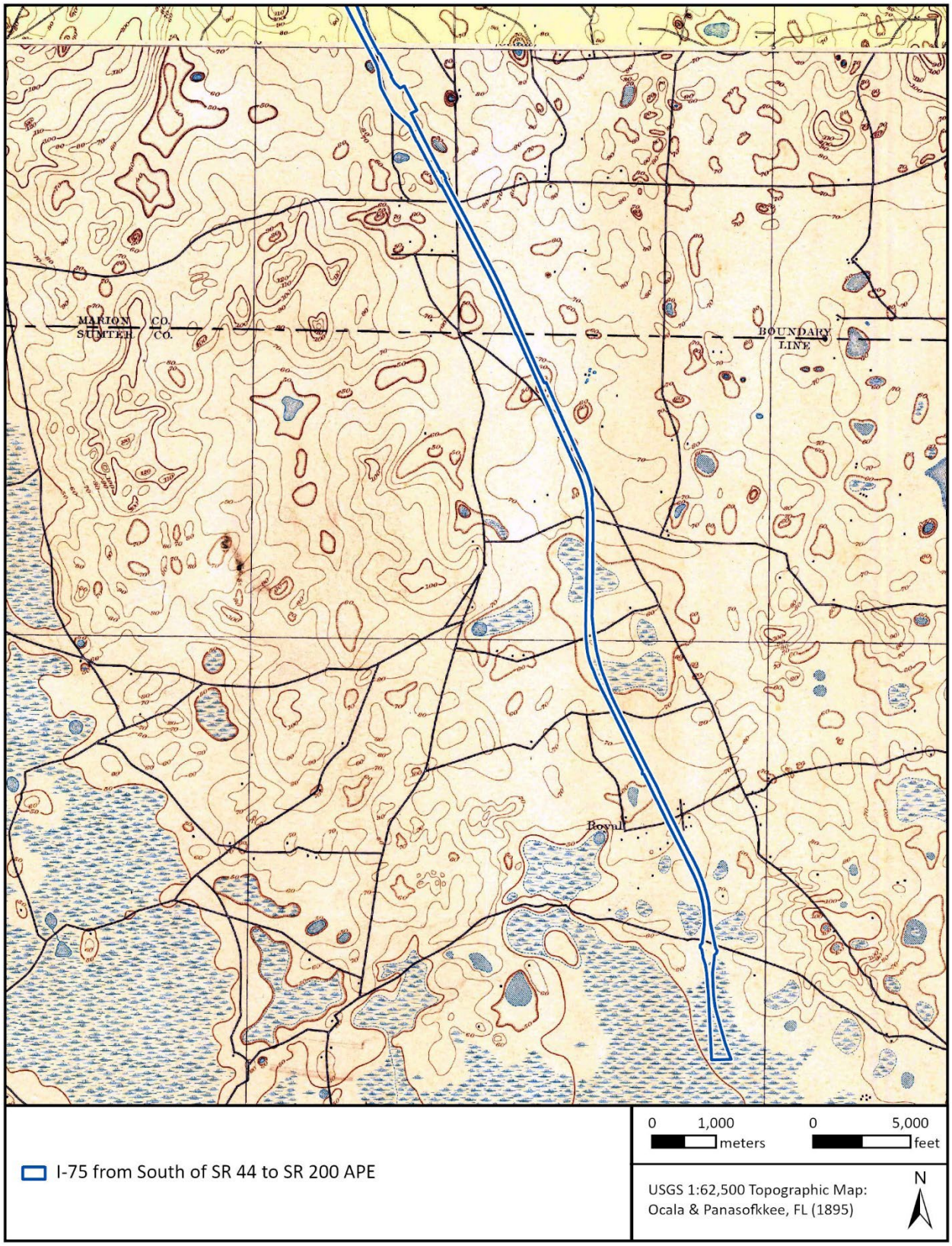

Figure 9. Ocala and Panasoffkee, FL USGS topographic maps (USGS 1895a, 1895b).

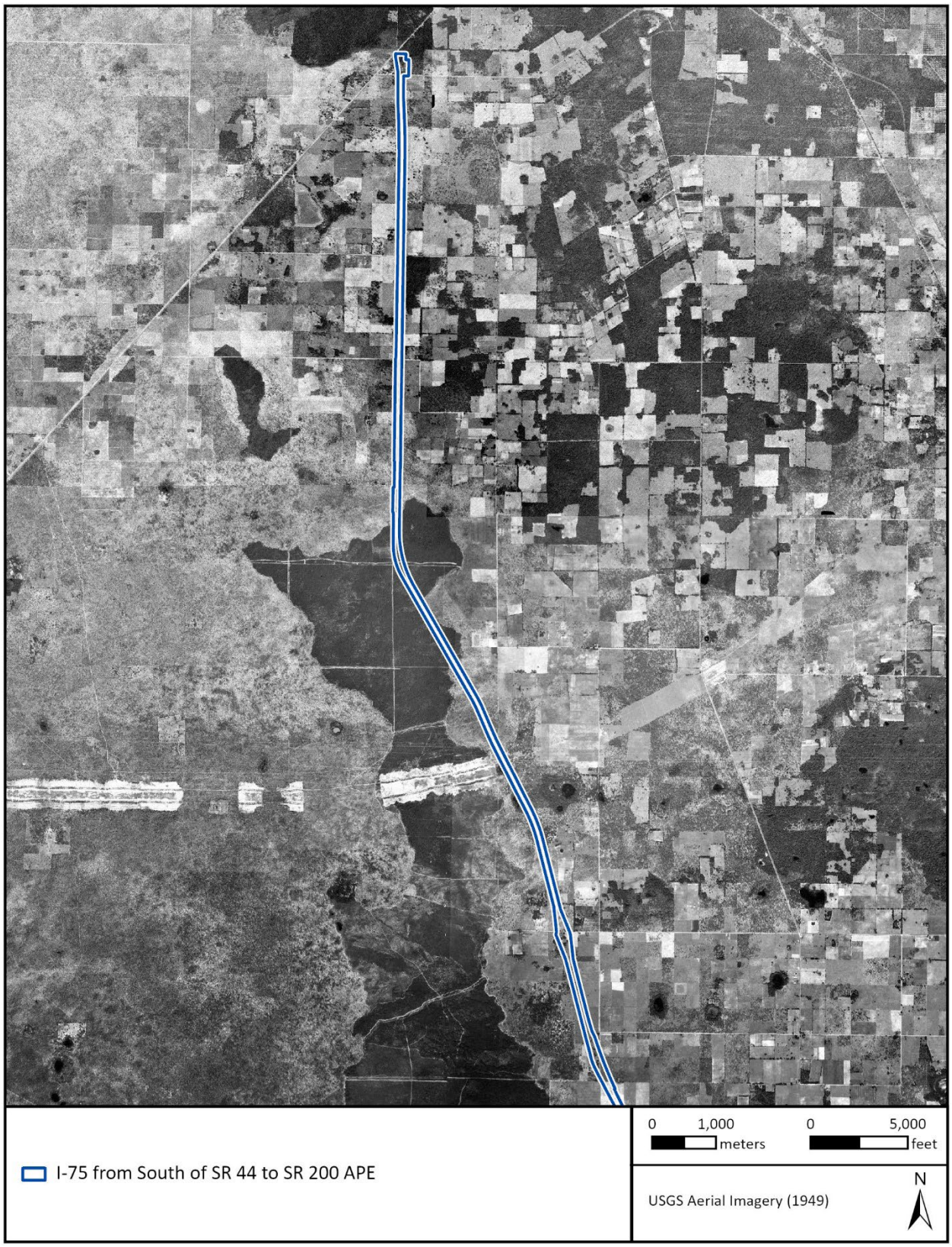

Figure 10. USGS aerial photographs of Marion and Sumter Counties, FL (USGS 1949).

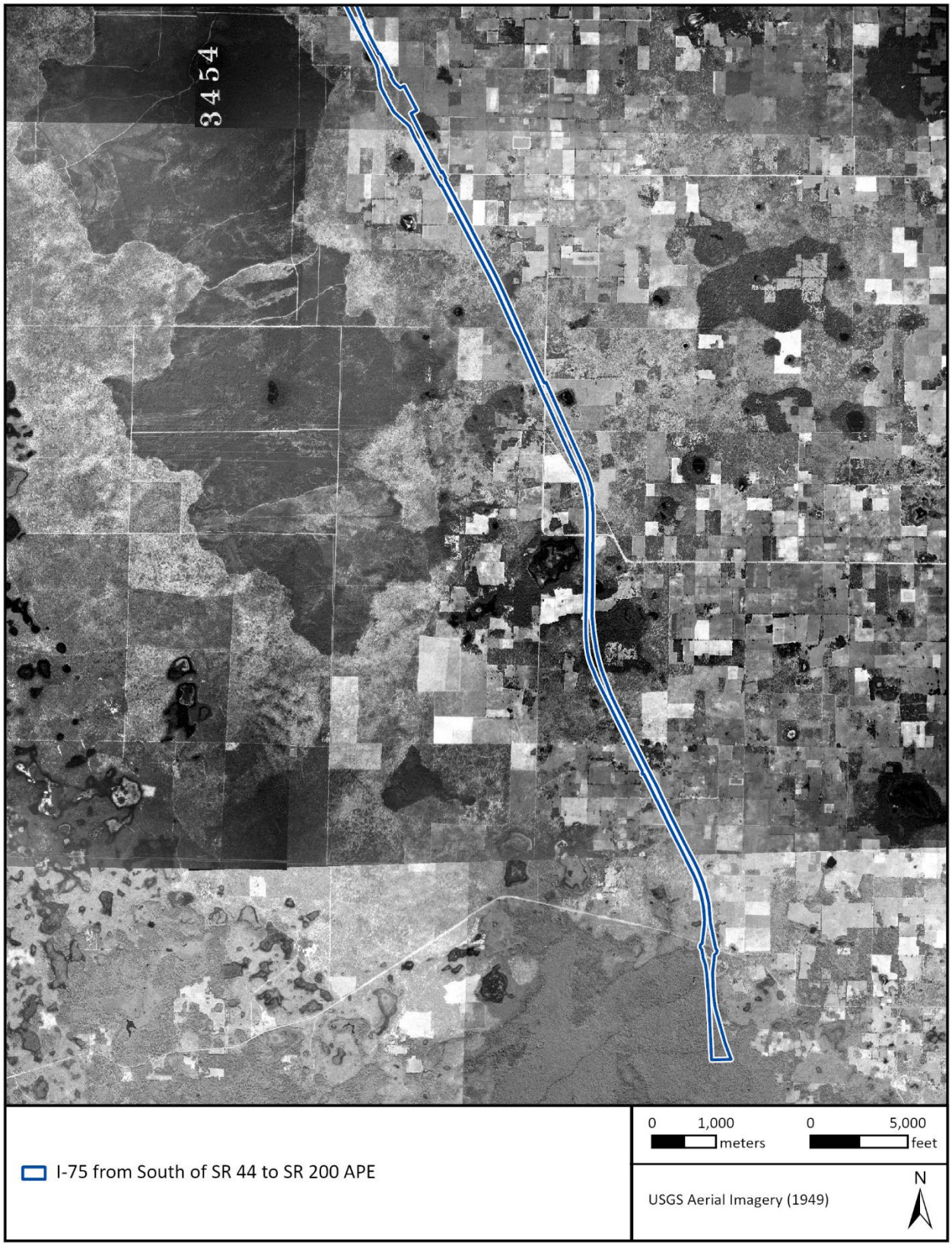

Figure 11. USGS aerial photographs of Marion and Sumter Counties, FL (USGS 1949).

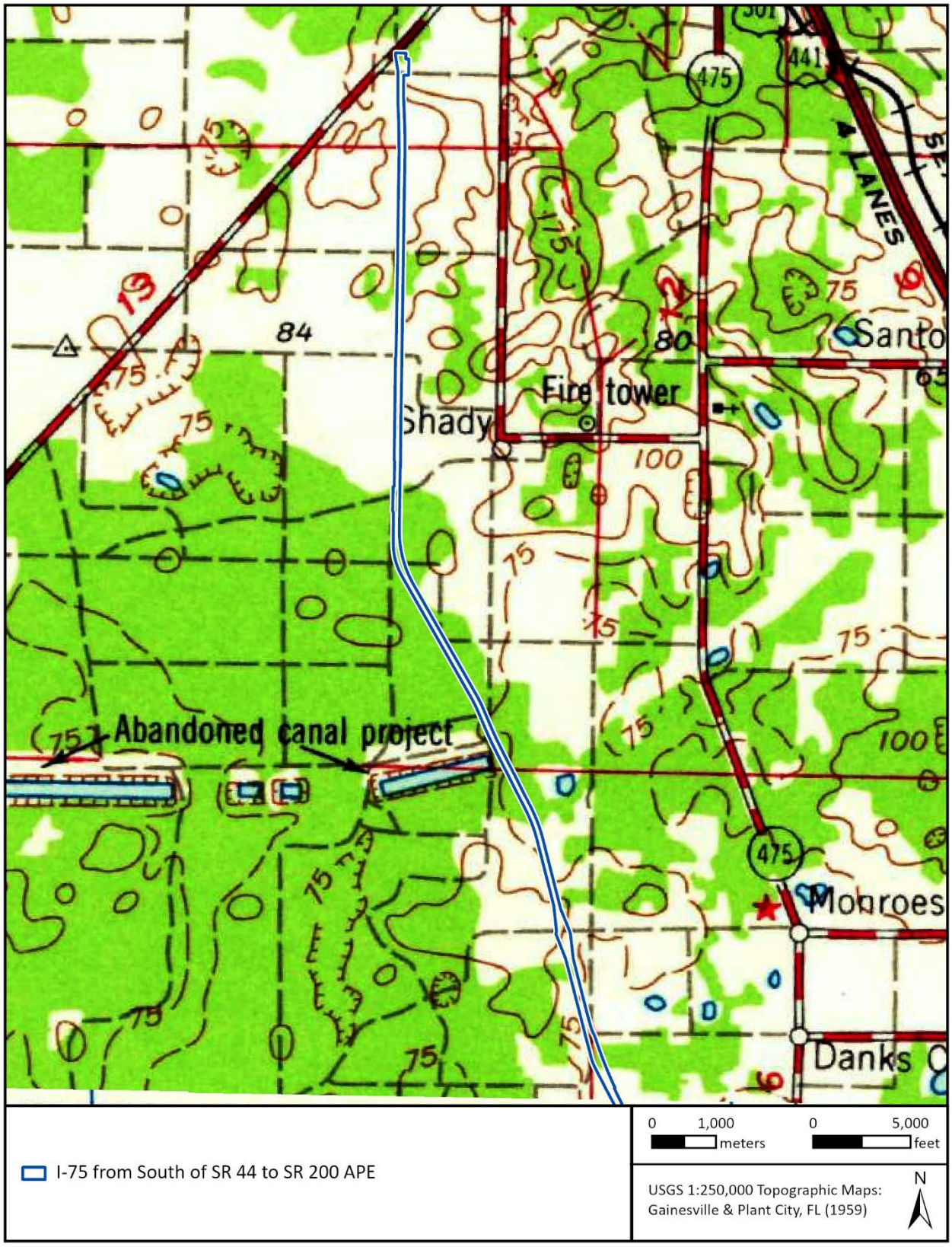

Figure 12. Gainesville and Plant City, FL USGS topographic maps (USGS 1959a, 1959b).

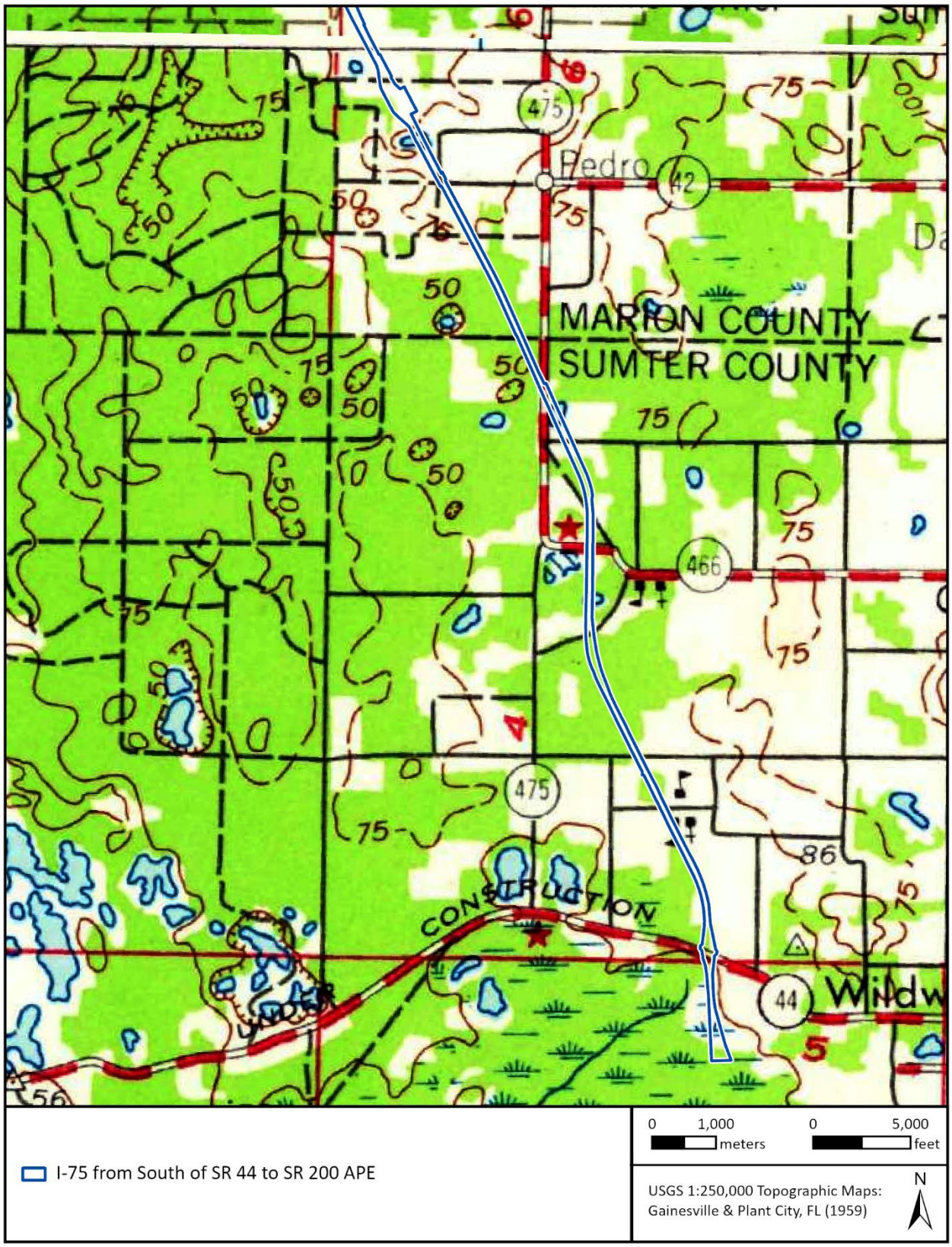

Figure 13. Gainesville and Plant City, FL USGS topographic maps (USGS 1959a, 1959b).

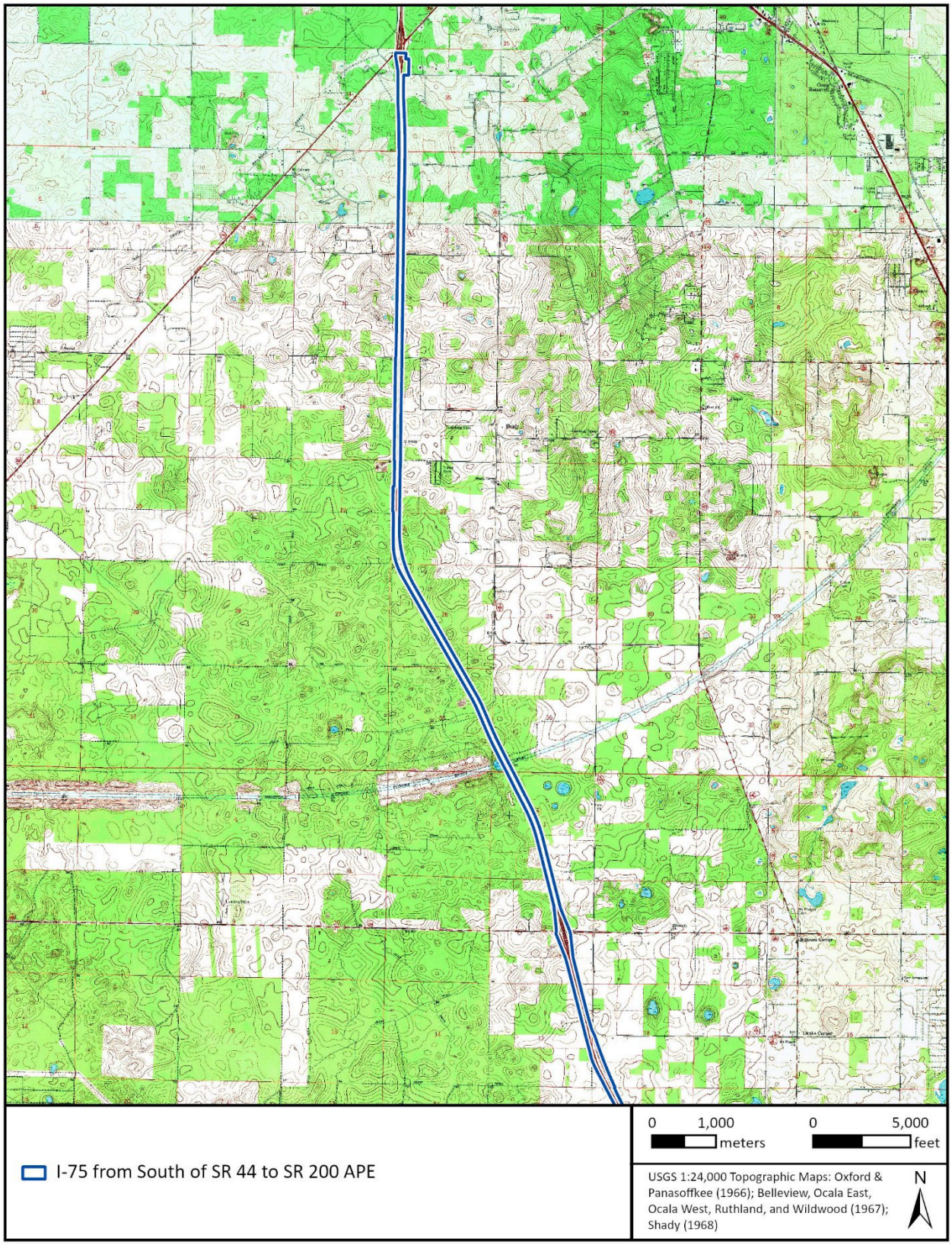

Figure 14. Belleview, Ocala East, Ocala West, Oxford, Panasoffkee, Rutland, Shady, and Wildwood, FL USGS topographic maps (USGS 1966a, 1966b, 1967a, 1967b, 1967c, 1967d, 1967e, 1968).

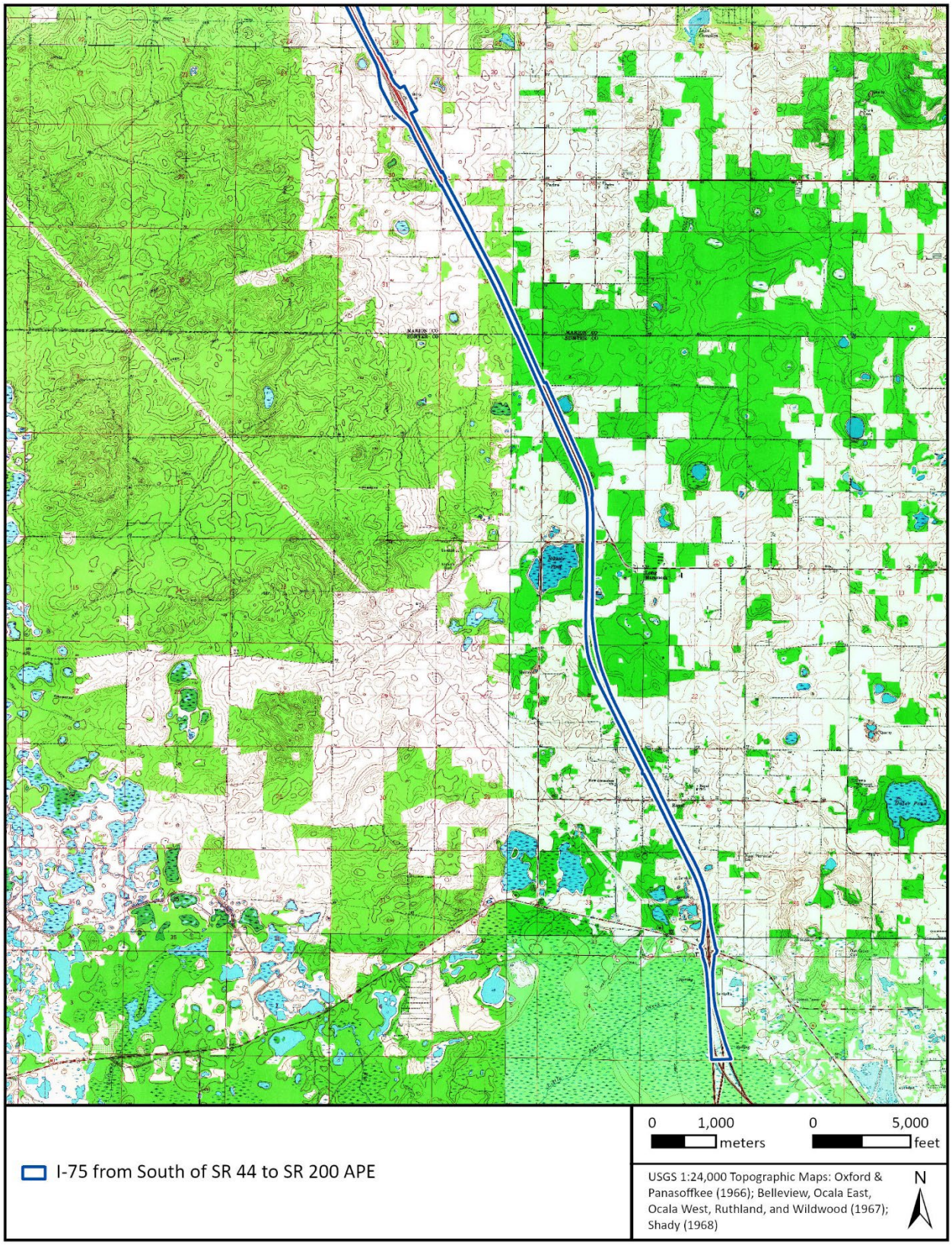

Figure 15. Belleview, Ocala East, Ocala West, Oxford, Panasoffkee, Rutland, Shady, and Wildwood, FL USGS topographic maps (USGS 1966a, 1966b, 1967a, 1967b, 1967c, 1967d, 1967e, 1968).

RESEARCH DESIGN

PROJECT GOALS

A research design is a plan to coordinate the cultural resource investigation from inception to the completion of the project. This plan should minimally account for three things: (1) it should make explicit the goals and intentions of the research, (2) it should define the sequence of events to be undertaken in pursuit of the research goals, and (3) it should provide a basis for evaluating the findings and conclusions drawn from the investigation.

The goal of this cultural resource survey was to locate and document evidence of historic or Native American occupation or use within the APE (archaeological or historic sites, historic resources, or archaeological occurrences [isolated artifact finds]), and to evaluate these for their potential eligibility for listing in the NRHP. The research strategy was composed of background investigation, a historical document search, and field survey. The background investigation involved a perusal of relevant archaeological literature, producing a summary of previous archaeological work undertaken near the project area. The FMSF was checked for previously recorded sites within the project corridor, which provided an indication of Native American settlement and land-use patterns for the region. Current soil surveys, vegetation maps, and relevant literature were consulted to provide a description of the physiographic and geological region of which the project area is a part. These data were used in combination to develop expectations regarding the types of archaeological sites that may be present and their likely locations (site probability areas).

The historical document search involved a review of primary and secondary historic sources as well as a review of the FMSF for any previously recorded historic resources. The original township plat maps, early aerial photographs, and other relevant sources were checked for information pertaining to the existence of historic structures or buildings, sites of historic events, and historically occupied or noted Native American settlements within the project limits.

NRHP CRITERIA

Cultural resources identified within the project APE were evaluated according to the criteria for listing in the NRHP. As defined by the National Park Service (NPS), the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. that are associated with events or activities that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

NRHP-eligible districts must possess a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. NRHP-eligible districts and buildings must also possess historic significance, historic integrity, and historical context.

CULTURAL RESOURCE POTENTIAL

[redacted]

SURVEY METHODS

Archaeological Field Methods

The Phase I field survey consisted of systematic subsurface shovel testing according to the potential for buried archaeological sites. Additionally, a pedestrian survey of the ground surface was conducted to locate surface artifacts or cultural features, such as structural remains. In areas where severe or obvious disturbance or marked utilities prevented shovel testing, “no-dig” points were recorded on Wide Area Augmentation System-enabled handheld Global Positioning System units. “No-dig” points were collected to demonstrate field-verified locations where archaeologists attempted to conduct subsurface testing but were impeded by existing

conditions. Additionally, field conditions were documented using digital photography and marked on aerial photographs of the project APE.

Shovel tests were excavated in 25-m (82-ft), 50-m (164-ft), and 100-m (328-ft) intervals based on the probability for a given location. Shovel tests measured approximately 50 centimeters (cm) (19.7 inches [in]) in diameter and were excavated to a minimum depth of 100 centimeters below surface (cmbs) (39.4 inches; inbs), subsurface conditions permitting. All excavated sediments were screened through 0.6-cm (0.25-in) mesh hardware cloth. Positive shovel tests were followed by delineation at reduced intervals (12.5 m [41 ft]). Shovel testing continued until two negative tests were excavated in cardinal directions from a positive shovel test or the project limits were reached. The location of each shovel test was marked on aerial photographs and recorded on Global Positioning System units. The cultural content, soil strata, and environmental setting of each shovel test were recorded on field forms.

Architectural Field Methods

The architectural survey for the project utilized standard procedures for locating, investigating, and recording historic properties. In addition to a search of the FMSF for previously recorded historic resources within the project area, USGS quadrangle maps were reviewed for structures that were constructed prior to 1978. The field survey inventoried existing buildings, structures, and other aspects of the built environment within the project APE. The location of each historic resource was recorded with a WAAS-enabled GPS unit and plotted on USGS quadrangle maps and on project aerials. All identified historic resources were photographed with a digital camera, and all pertinent information regarding the architectural style, distinguishing characteristics, and present condition was recorded on FMSF resource forms. Upon completion of fieldwork, forms and photographs were returned to the SEARCH offices for analysis. Date of construction, design, architectural features, condition, and integrity of the resource, as well as how the resources relate to the surrounding landscape, were carefully considered.

Two historic bridges were identified during field survey: FDOT Bridge No. 180048 and 360048. Both are examples of stringer/multibeam bridges. These structures were erected in 1964, according to the FDOT Bridge Maintenance Inventory's Florida Bridge Information list (FDOT 2022, 4th Quarter).

The 2012 *Program Comment Issued for Streamlining Section 106 Review for Actions Affecting Post-1945 Concrete and Steel Bridges* (Federal Register 2012:68793-68795) "relieves federal agencies from the Section 106 requirement to consider the effects of undertakings on the bridge types identified in Section V of this Program Comment" if a bridge does not meet three considerations listed in Section IV (Federal Register 2012:68793). Using these three considerations, SEARCH examined FDOT Bridge No. 180048 and 360048 to determine whether these bridges met the qualifications for application of the Program Comment.

First, based on a review of the FMSF, SEARCH determined that these bridges are not listed in the NRHP and have not been determined eligible for such listing. Furthermore, the bridges are not

located adjacent to or within a NRHP-listed or eligible historic district. SEARCH personnel examined records for FDOT Bridge No. 180048 and 360048 and determined that they do not constitute examples of one of the following bridge types: an arch bridge, a truss bridge, a bridge with movable spans, a suspension bridge, a cable-stayed bridge, or a covered bridge. Finally, FDOT Bridge No. 180048 and 360048 were not identified by the latest statewide bridge survey (ACI 2012) as having "exceptional significance for association with an event or individual, or being a very early or particularly important example of its type in a State or the nation, having distinctive engineering or architectural features that depart from standard designs, such as an aesthetic railing or balustrade, includes spans of exceptional length or complexity, or displaying other elements that were engineered to respond to a unique environmental context," which would except it from the Program Comment (Federal Register 2012:68794).

Based on the above considerations for the Program Comment, FDOT Bridge No. 180048 and 360048 are excluded from Section 106 consideration (Federal Register 2012:68793). For this reason, the bridges were not recorded or evaluated by the present survey. The Section 106 responsibilities of FDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have been completed regarding FDOT Bridge No. 180048 and 360048.

Laboratory Methods

Artifacts were brought to SEARCH's laboratory facility in Newberry, Florida, where they were washed, sorted, analyzed, and classified according to a coding system loosely based on South's method of artifact classification (South 1977). This information was recorded in a Microsoft Access database under the supervision of the Lab Director. All of the artifacts were given code numbers that allow for systematic, comparable data entry. Native American lithic artifacts were analyzed by source material, method of manufacture, and artifact function. Native American ceramics were analyzed by temper, surface decoration, and vessel morphology. Historic artifacts were analyzed by use, material type, and function. Materials were then rebagged and organized by provenience and artifact class. Field specimen (FS) catalog numbers were assigned in the lab and the FS log is provided in **Appendix A**.

Curation

SEARCH processed, cataloged, analyzed, and prepared all artifacts for permanent curation in accordance with 36 CFR Part 79. Artifacts are stored in acid-free primary containers that are labeled according to site number and provenience, if applicable. Artifacts within the primary containers are stored in zipper-type polyethylene bags. Each bag is labeled with a permanent black marker with the site number, provenience, material or artifact class, and other pertinent information. In addition, site number and provenience data are written with a permanent, waterproof marker on a small strip of acid-free paper or polyethylene film and included on each container. Material from the survey will be curated at the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research or as directed by FDOT.

The original maps and field notes will be turned over to FDOT, District 5, upon project completion; copies will be retained by SEARCH.

Certified Local Government Consultation

Because this project is in a Certified Local Government (CLG), SEARCH initiated consultation with Mr. Gus Gianikas, the CLG representative for the City of Ocala. On April 5, 2023, SEARCH archaeologist Cassandra Davis, MA, e-mailed Mr. Gianikas to discuss the project and inquire whether the county might have any concerns related to cultural resources associated with the project. In the e-mail, Ms. Davis provided the project maps to Mr. Gianikas for review. As of the submittal of this report, Mr. Gianikas has not responded with any concerns regarding the project.

Procedures to Deal with Unexpected Discoveries

Every reasonable effort has been made during this investigation to identify and evaluate possible locations of Native American and historic archaeological sites; however, the possibility exists that evidence of cultural resources may yet be encountered within the project limits. Should any evidence of unrecorded cultural resources be discovered during construction activities, all work in that portion of the project area must stop. Evidence of cultural resources includes precontact or historic pottery, stone tools, bone or shell tools, historic trash pits, and historic building foundations. Should potential cultural artifacts or features be uncovered during the excavation of the project area, representatives of FDOT, District 5, will assist in the identification and preliminary assessment of the resources. If such evidence is found, the FDHR will be notified within two working days.

In the unlikely event that human skeletal remains or associated burial artifacts are uncovered within the project area, all work in that area must stop. The FDOT, District 5, cultural resources coordinator must be contacted. The discovery must be reported to local law enforcement, who will in turn contact the medical examiner. The medical examiner will determine whether the state archaeologist should be contacted per the requirements of Chapter 872.05, Florida Statutes.

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RESULTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The APE consists of a 34 km (21 mi) segment of the I-75 corridor in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida, characterized by a maintained interstate corridor with drainage features and utilities bordered by modern commercial and residential development, cleared pastures, and undeveloped wooded parcels. The project corridor extends from south of SR 44 at the southern terminus to the SR 200 interchange at the northern terminus. Along with buried and overhead utilities, modern conditions also include lighted and signalized roadway intersections, cut ditches, man-made berms and heavily built-up roadway overpasses, paved roadway weigh stations, and a heavily modified landscape (**Figure 16**).

The archaeological survey consisted of pedestrian reconnaissance and subsurface testing within the APE. In total, 576 shovel tests were excavated along both sides of I-75,

[redacted]

A typical soil profile exhibiting natural strata consisted of dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) sand from 0 to 20.0 cmbs (0 to 7.9 inbs; Stratum I), yellow (10YR 7/6) sand from 20.0 to 80.0 cmbs (7.9 to 31.5 inbs; Stratum II), and a very pale brown (10YR 8/2) from 80.0 to 100.0 cmbs (31.5 to 39.4 inbs; Stratum III) (**Figure 26**). Many shovel tests throughout the APE exhibited heavy disturbance from roadway construction and utility installation.

[redacted]

Figure 16. Representative views of the APE. Top left: buried utilities and modified landscape near the southern terminus of the APE along the western side of I-75, view south. Top right: overview of the Ocala Northbound Weigh Station along the east side I-75 in the central portion of the APE, view north. Center left: view northeast of the heavily disturbed section with a large road berm and buried utilities near the central portion of the APE on the eastern side of the I-75 corridor. Center right: steep road cut with drainage ditch and I-75 roadway, view southwest. Bottom left: typical wooded section along the edge of the corridor on the eastern side of I-75, view northeast. Bottom right: disturbance from newly installed buried utilities along the eastern side of the I-75 corridor and modified landscape, view north.

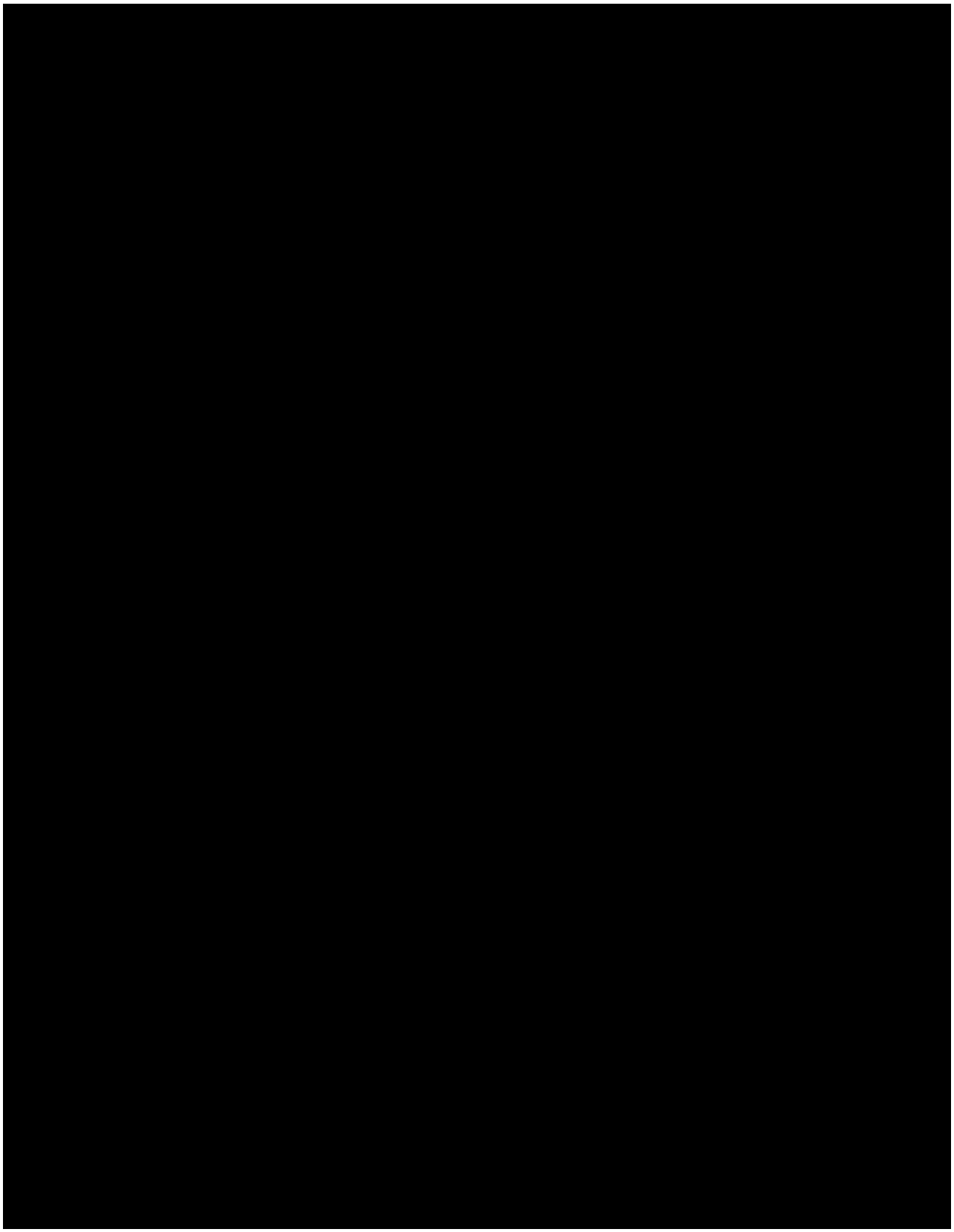
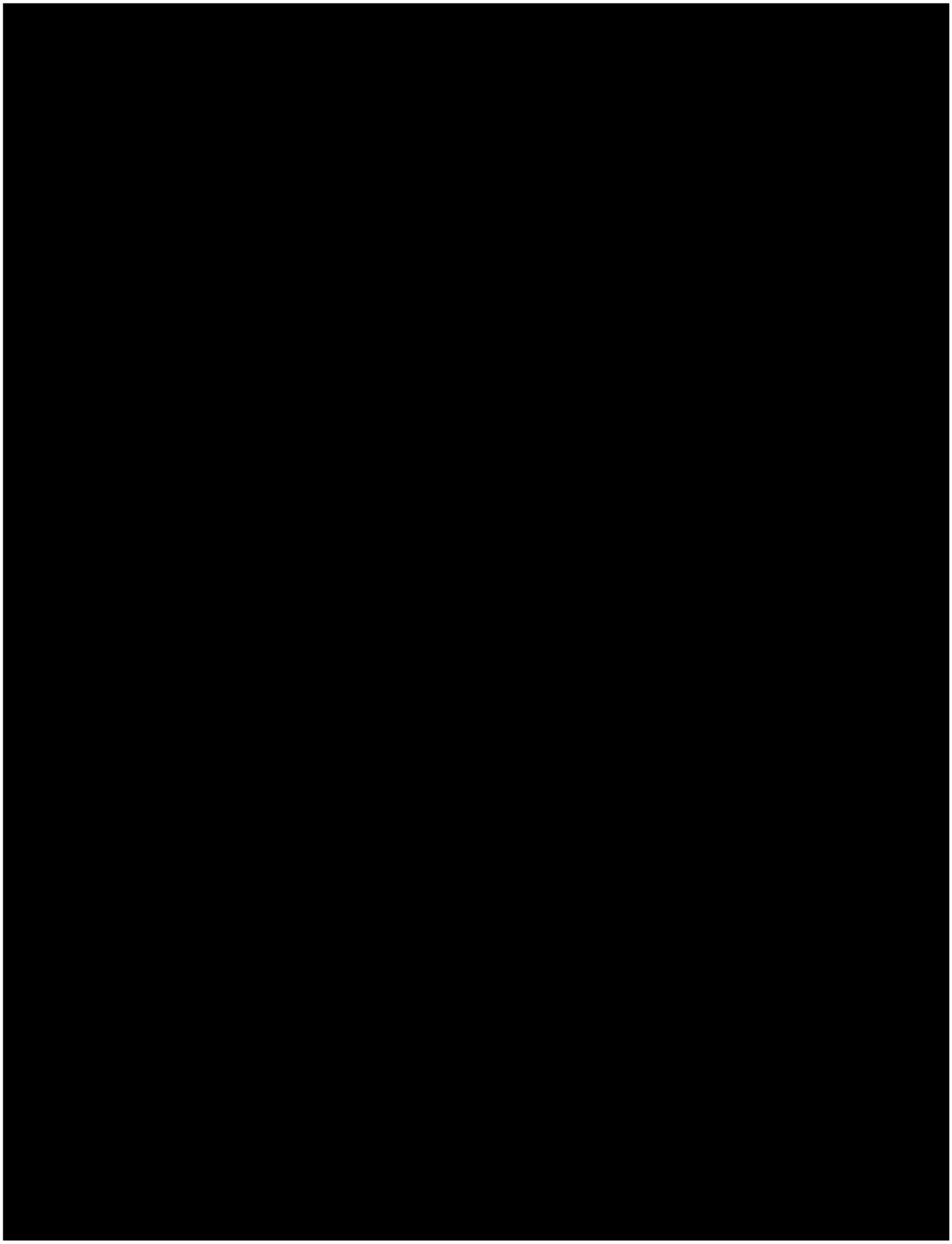


Figure 17. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map one of nine.



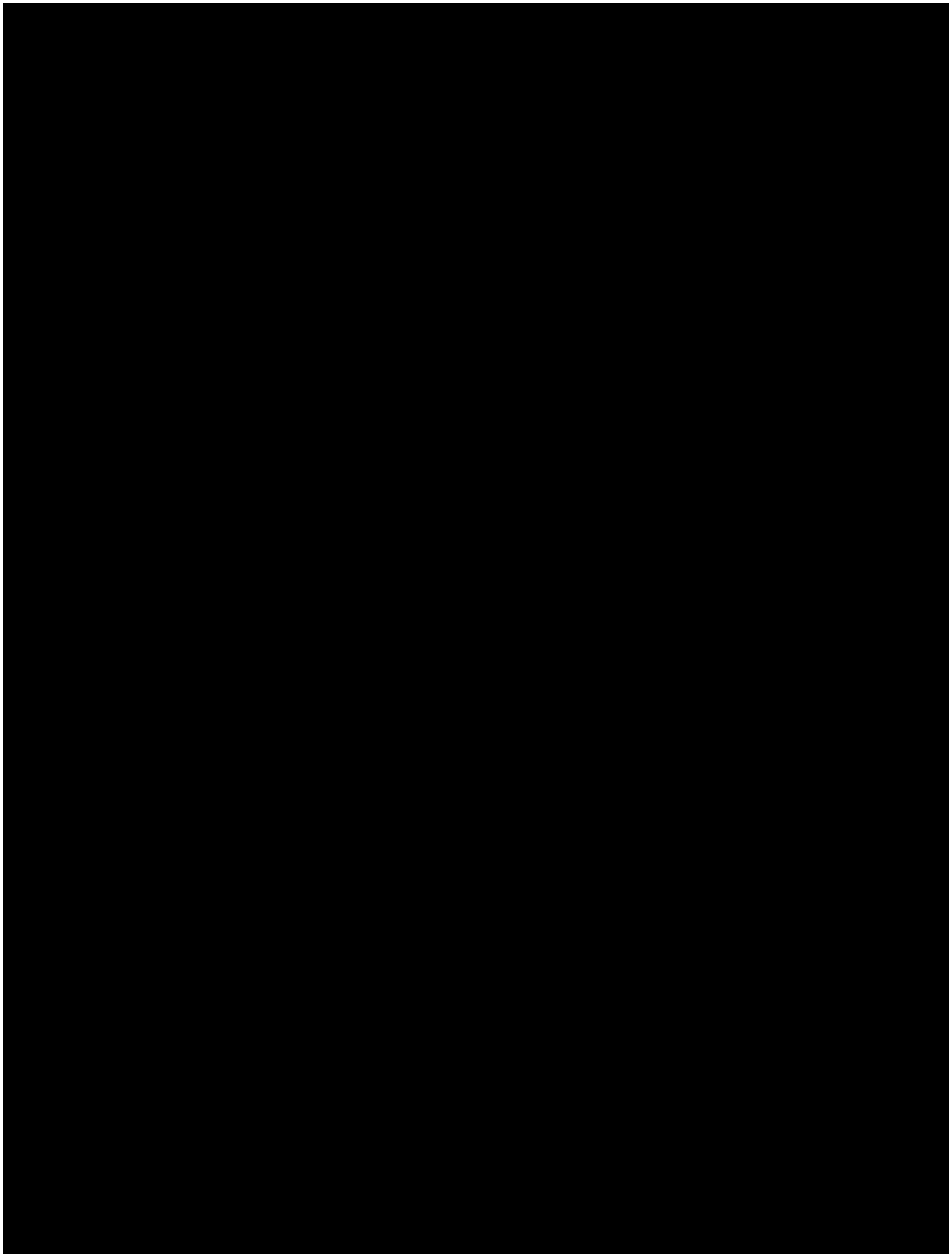


Figure 19. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map three of nine.

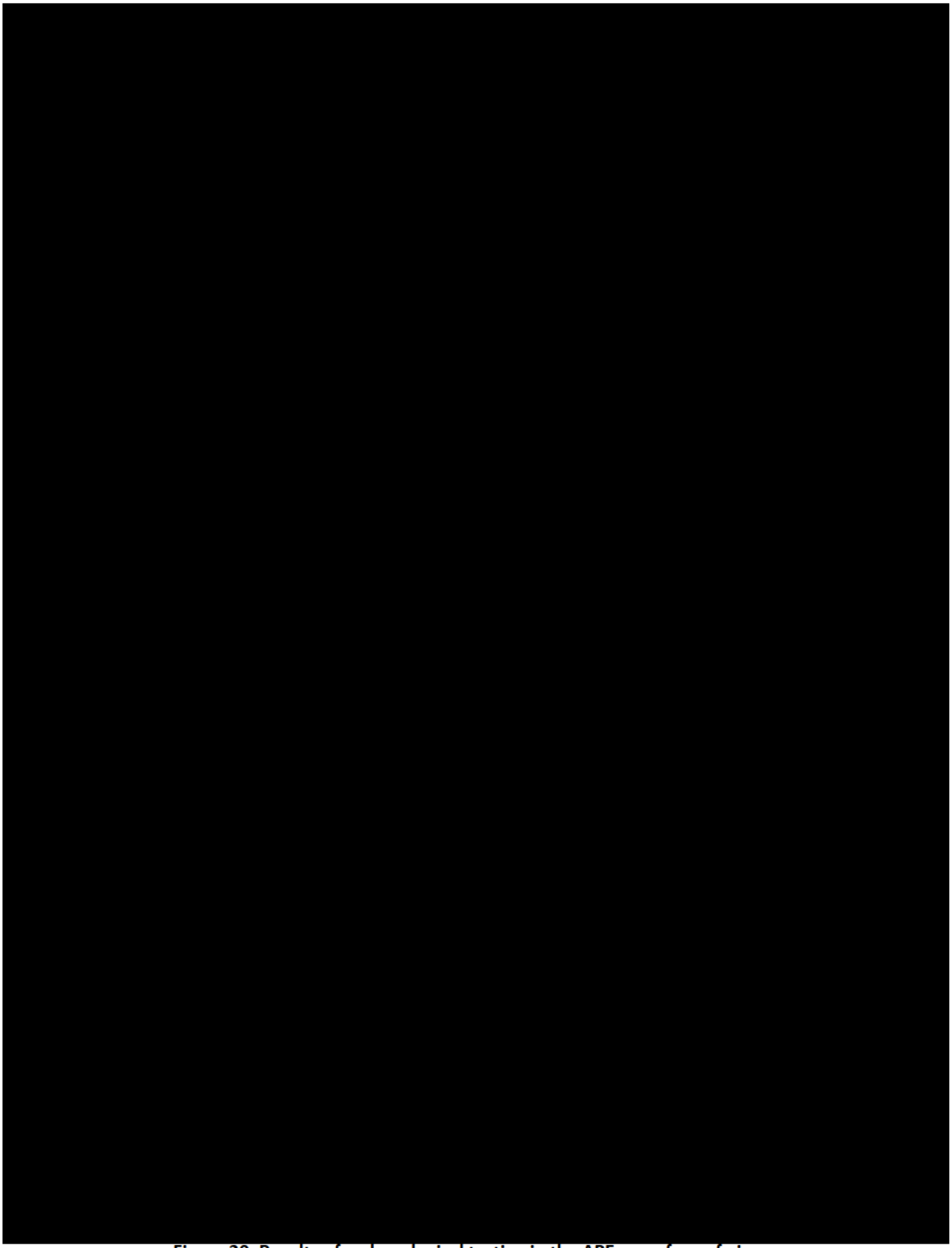


Figure 20. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map four of nine.

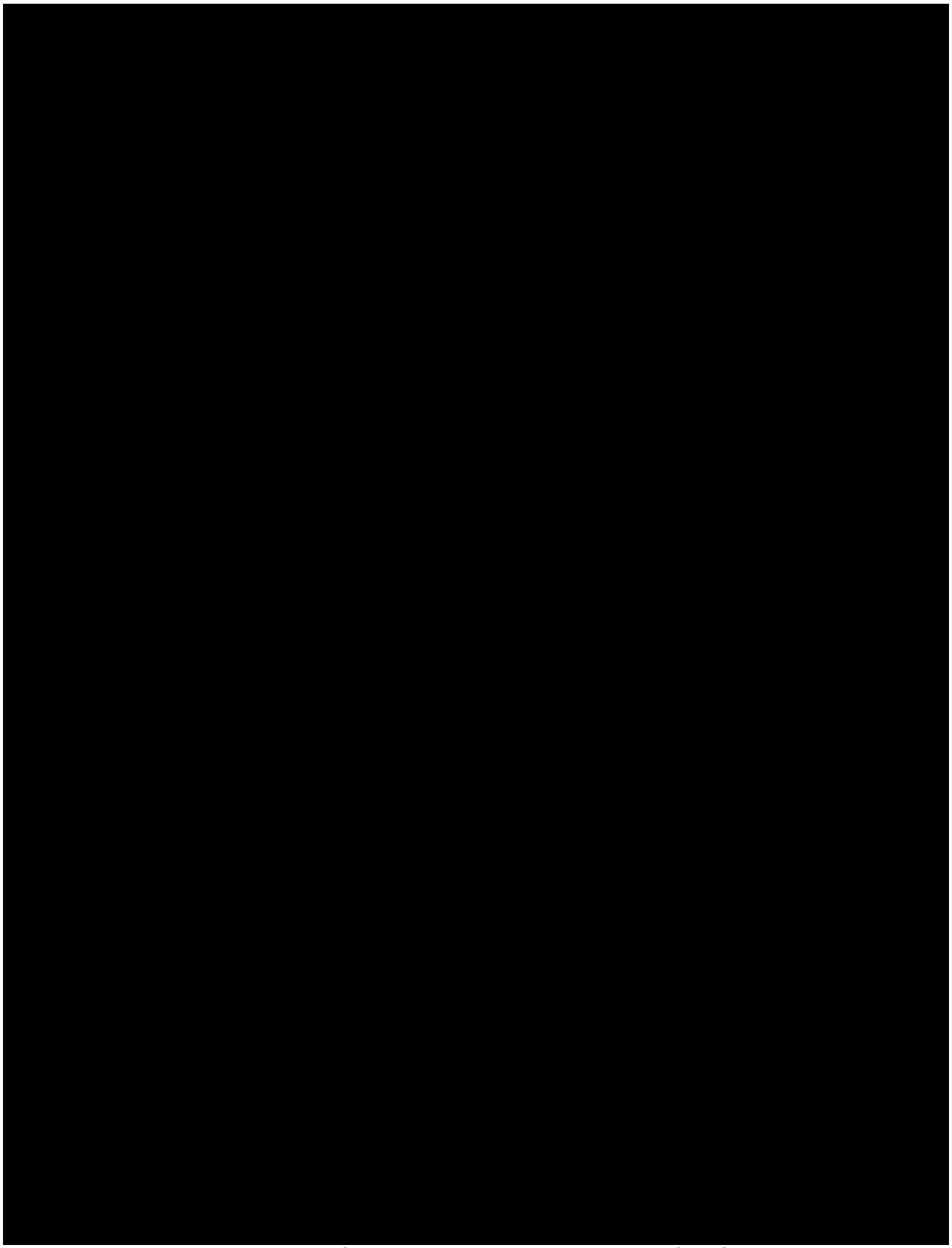


Figure 21. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map five of nine.

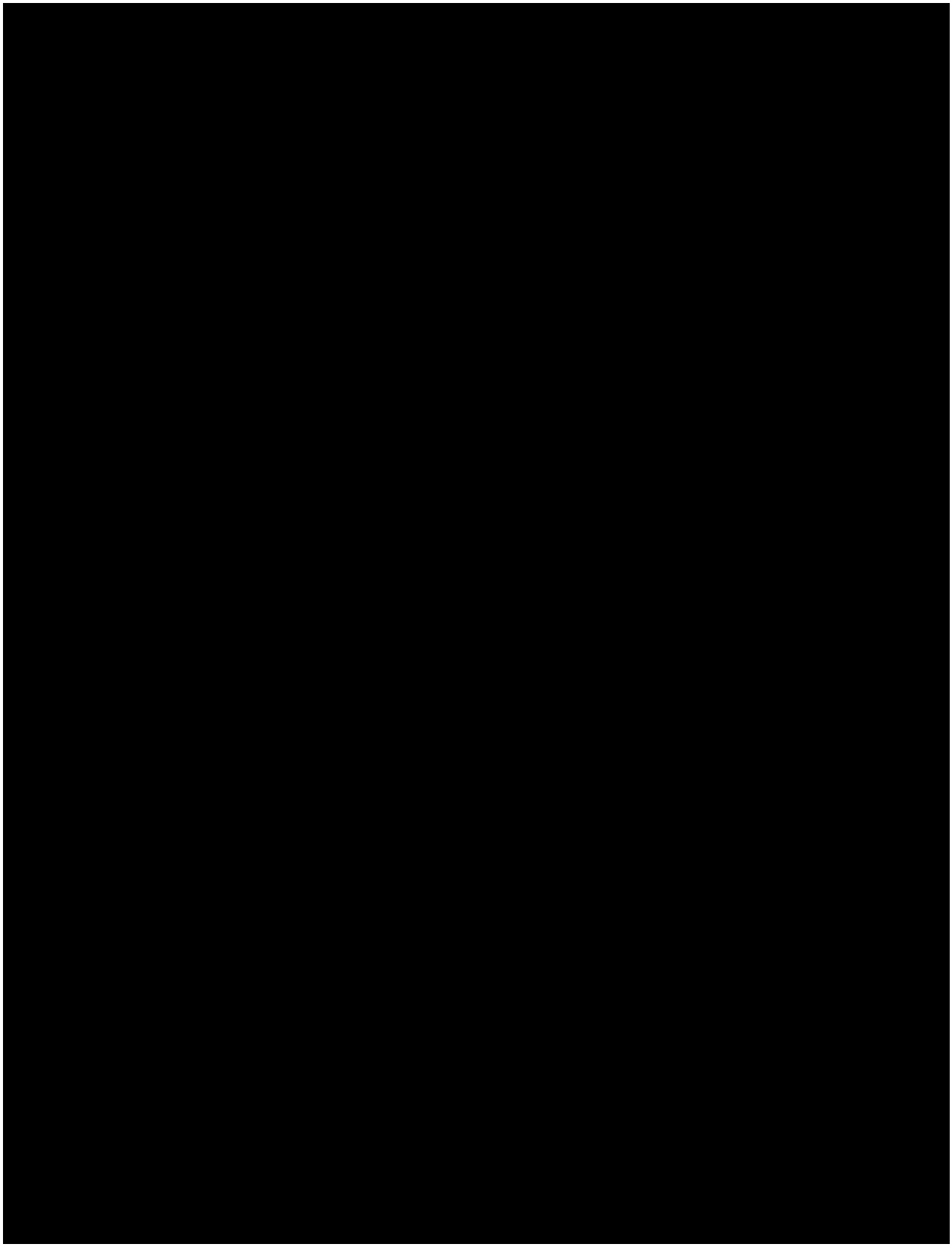


Figure 22. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map six of nine.

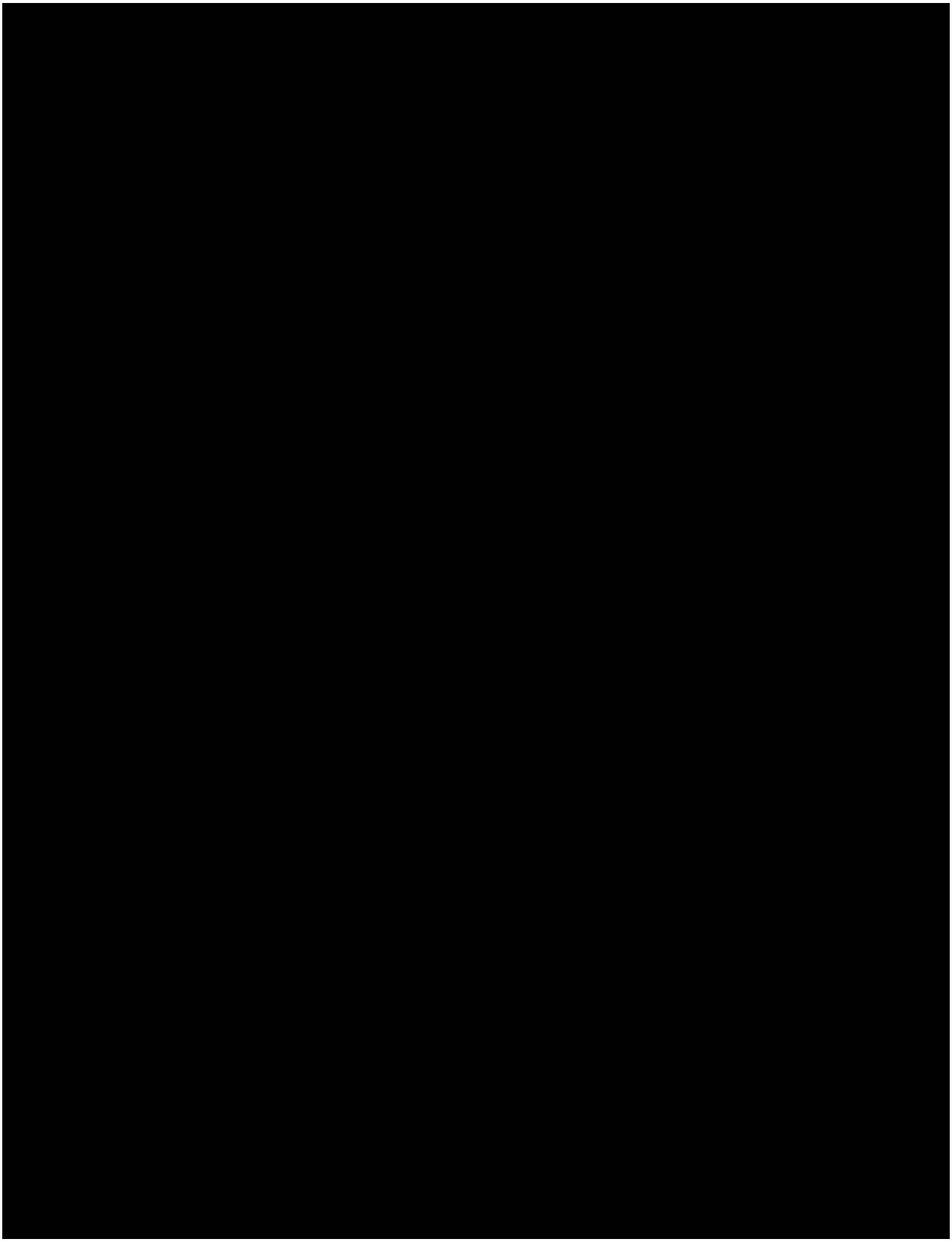


Figure 23. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map seven of nine.

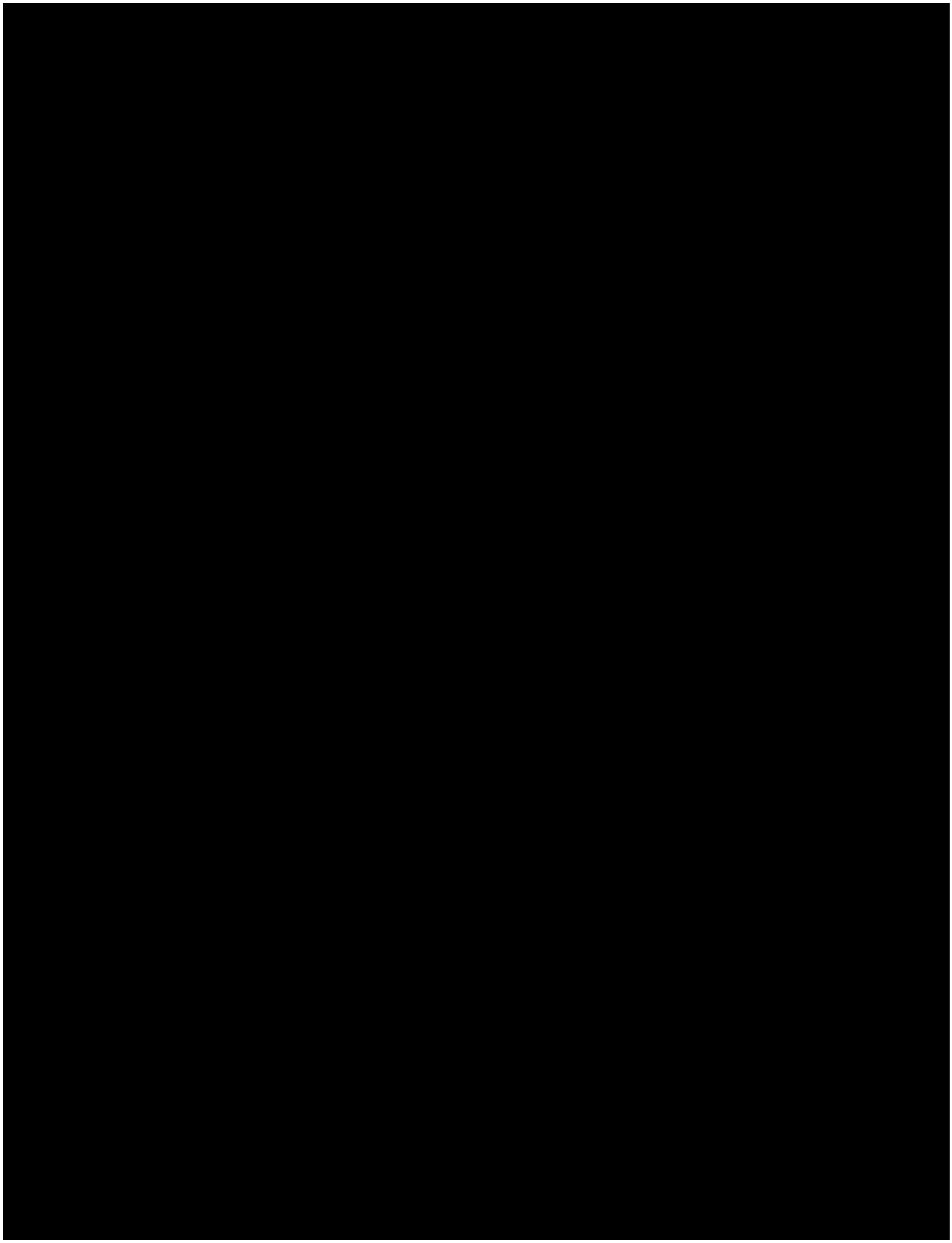


Figure 24. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map eight of nine.

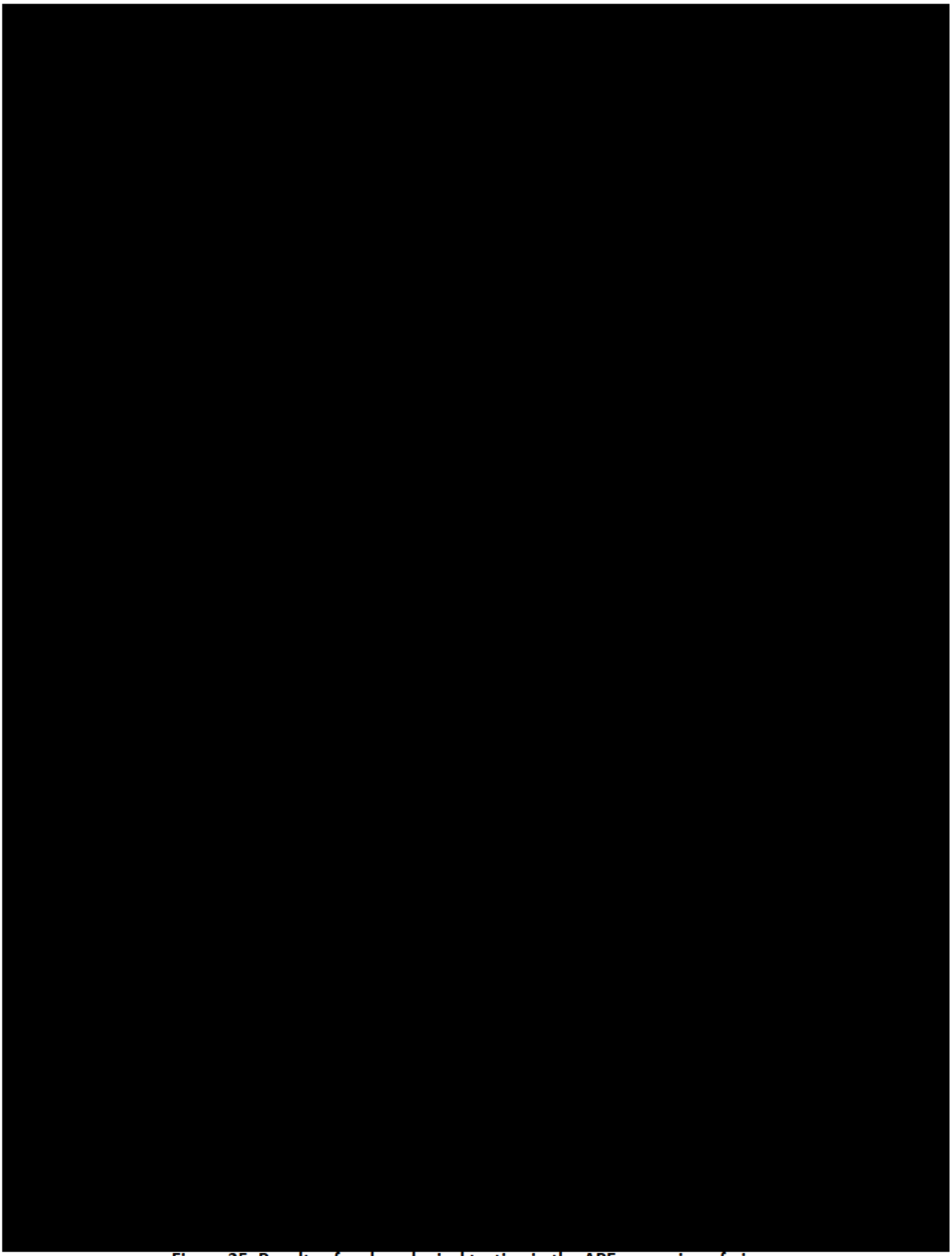


Figure 25. Results of archaeological testing in the APE, map nine of nine.

Figure 26. Typical soil profile within the APE.

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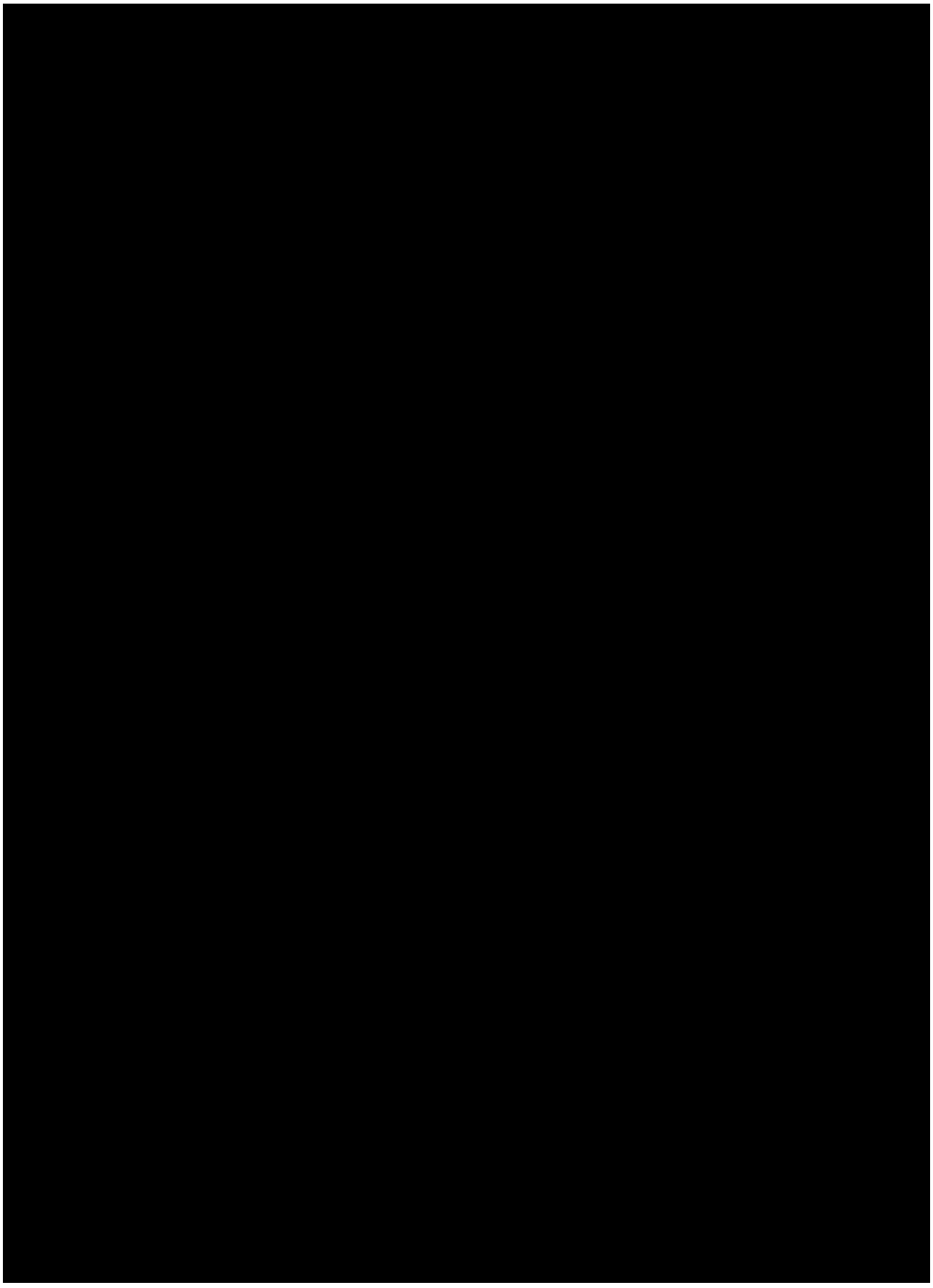

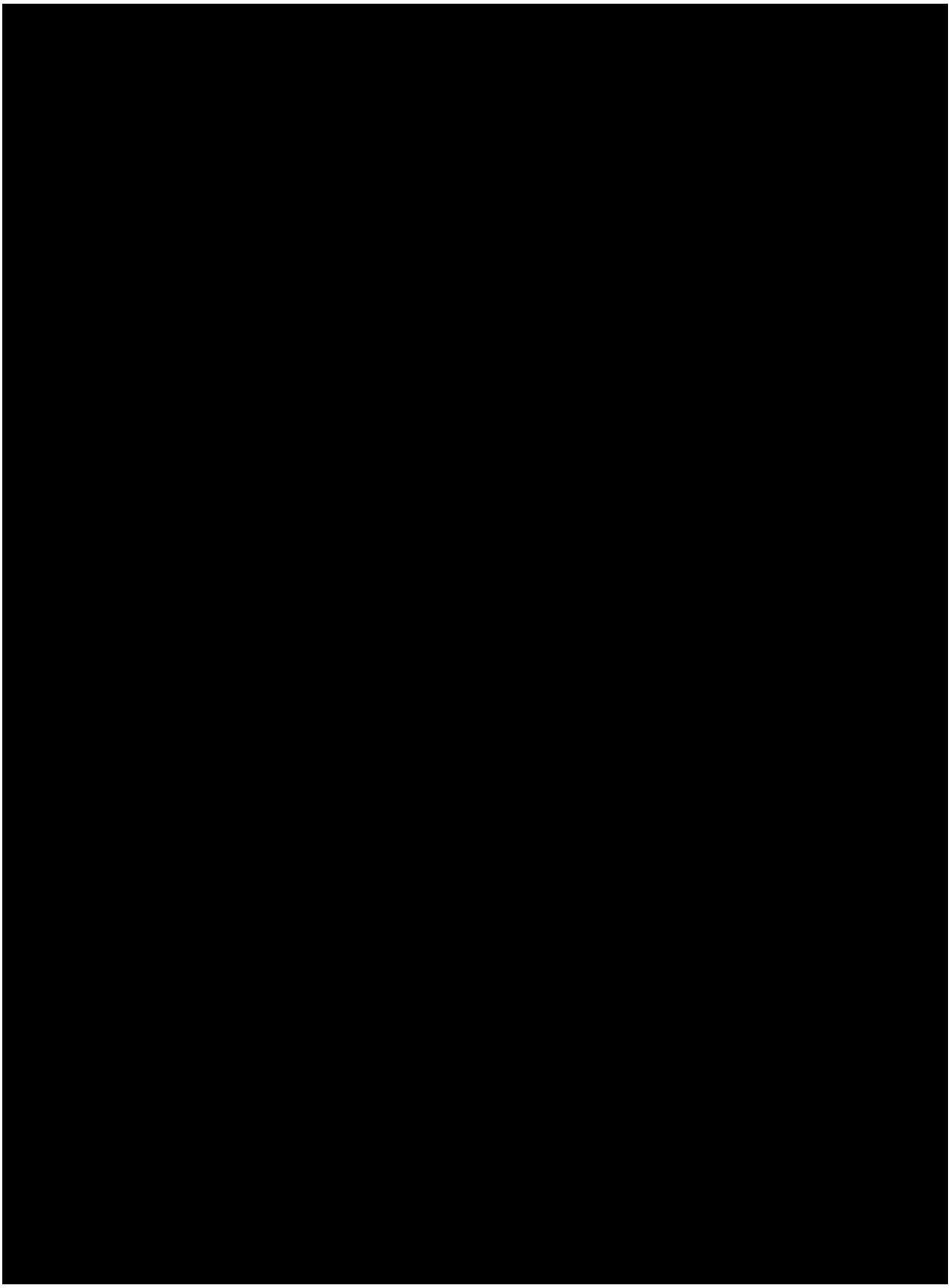

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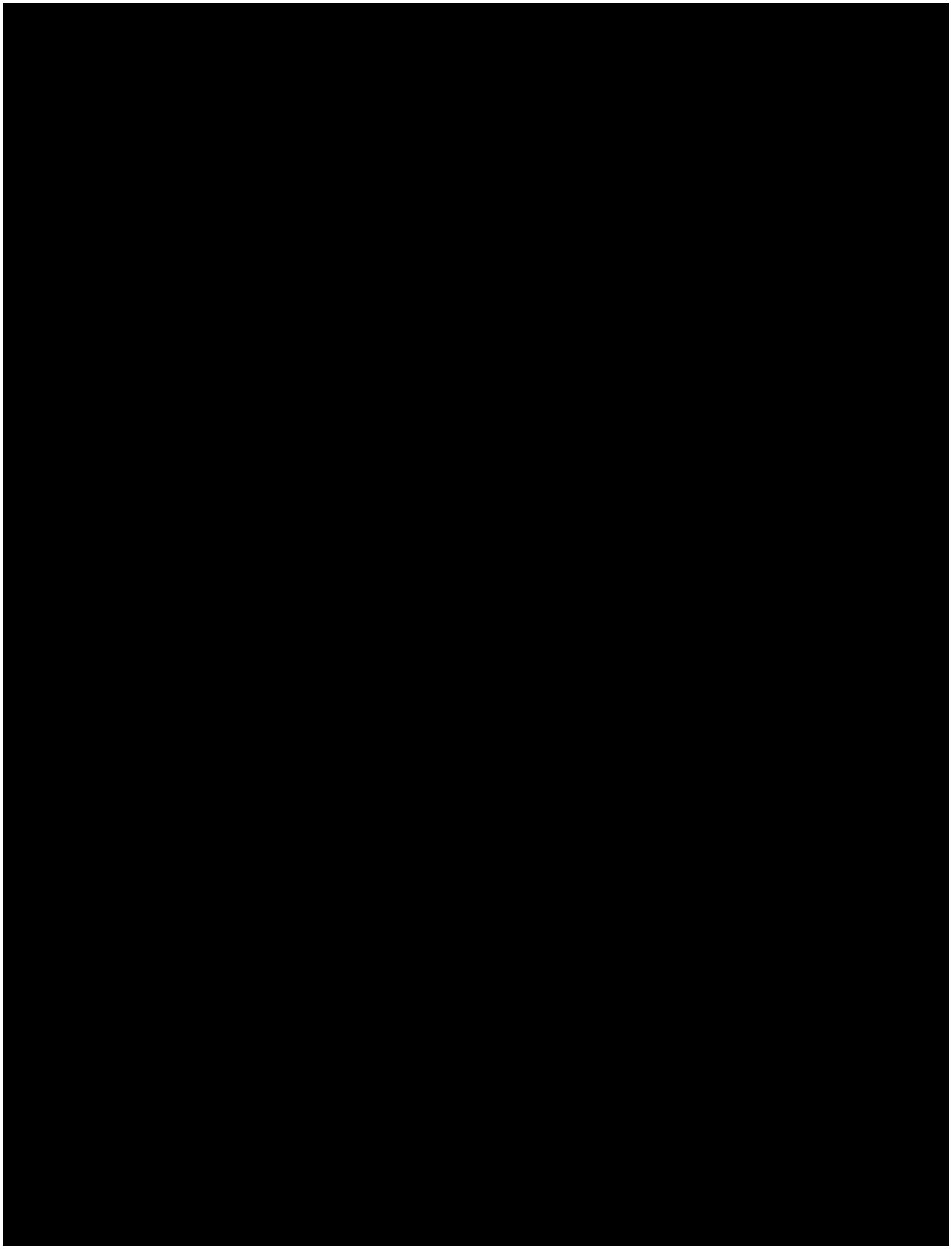

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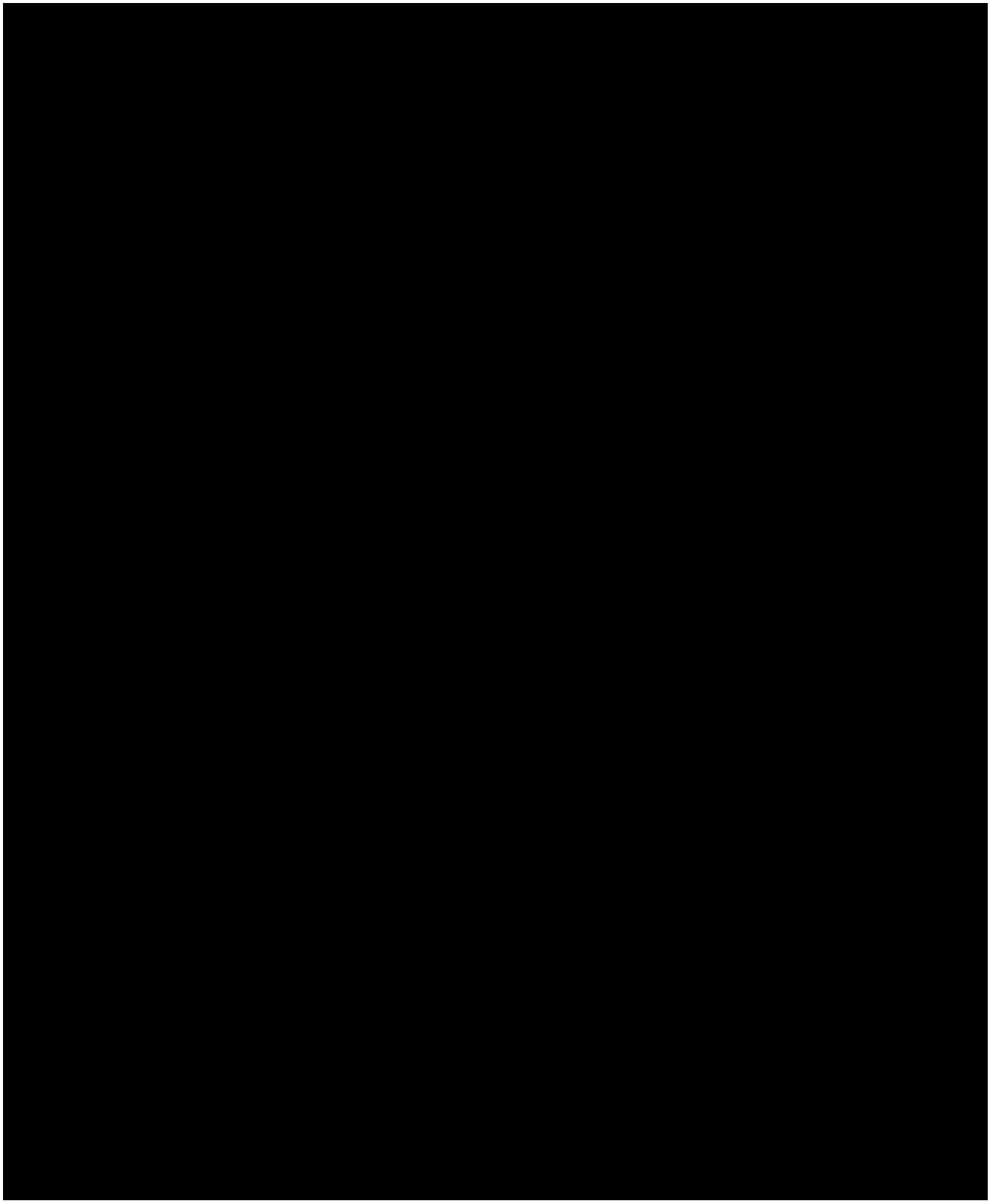

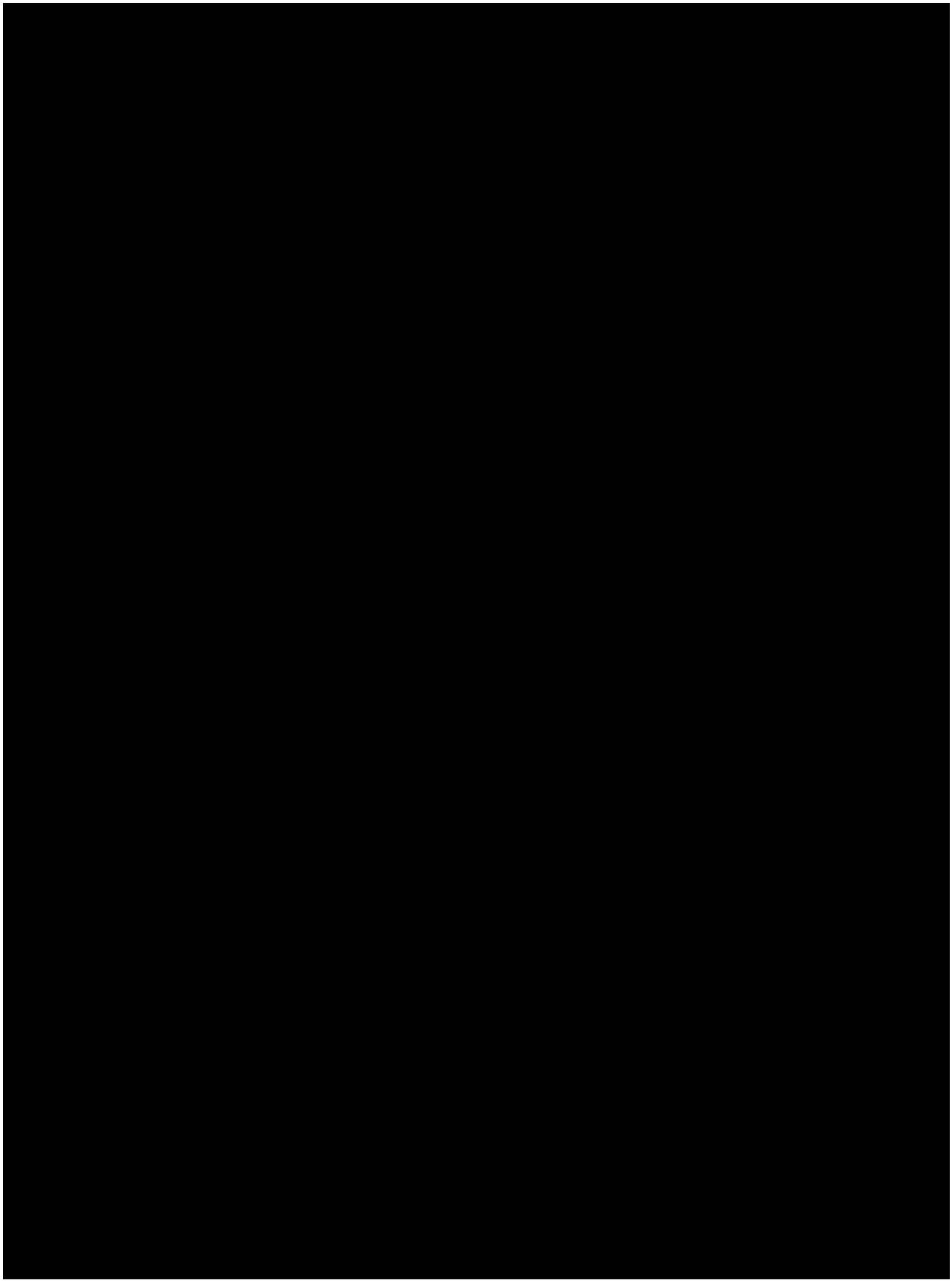

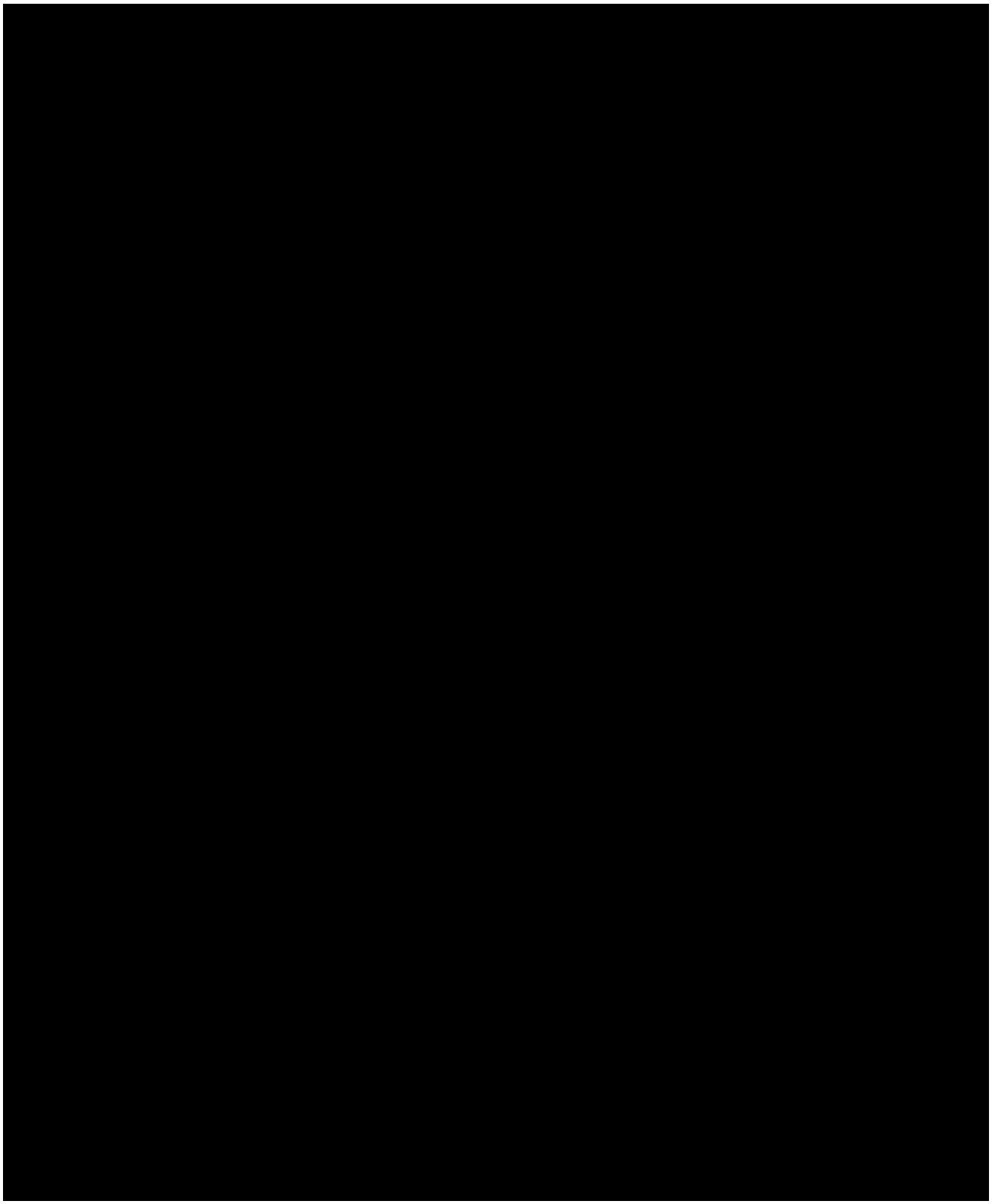

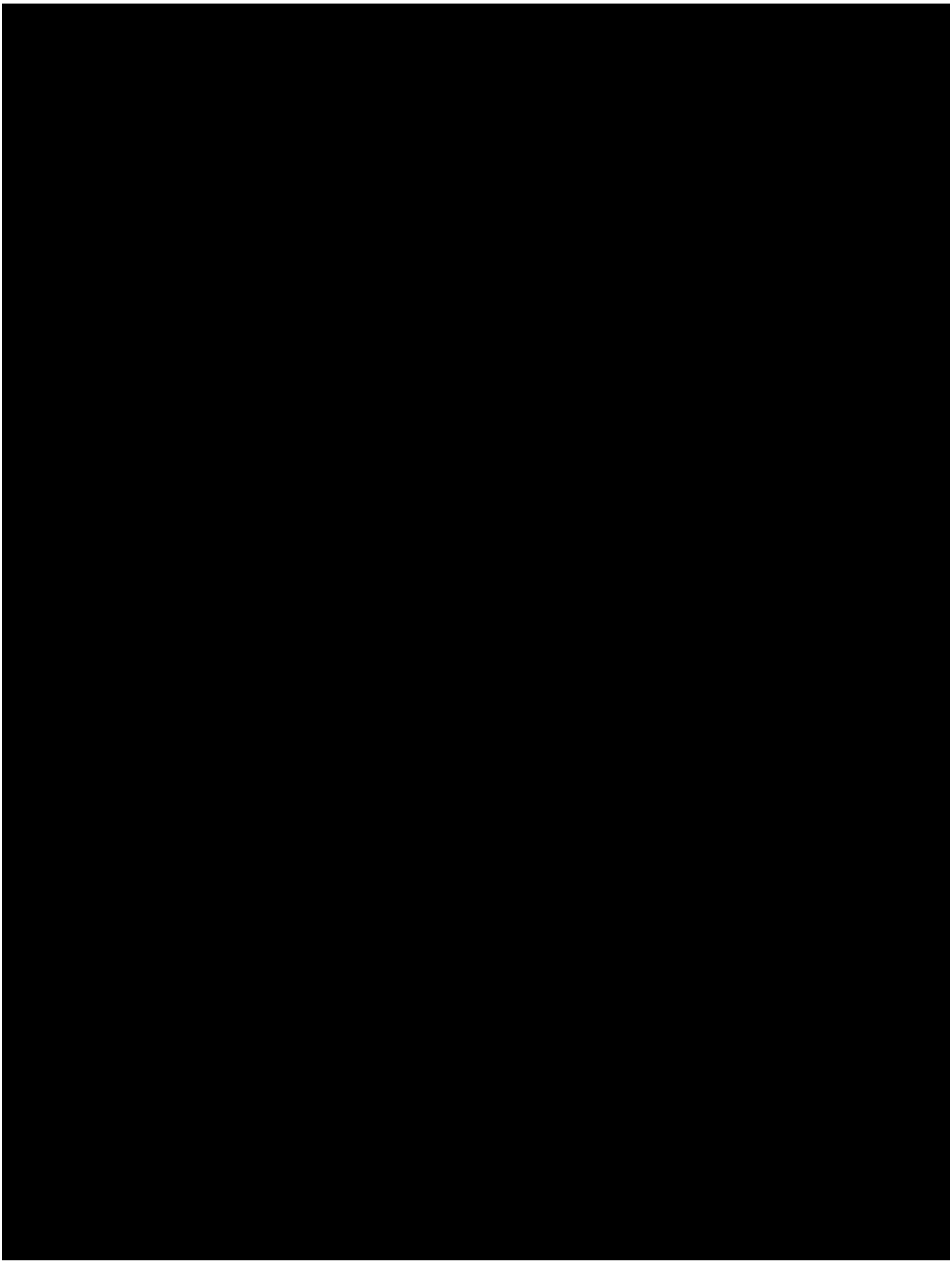

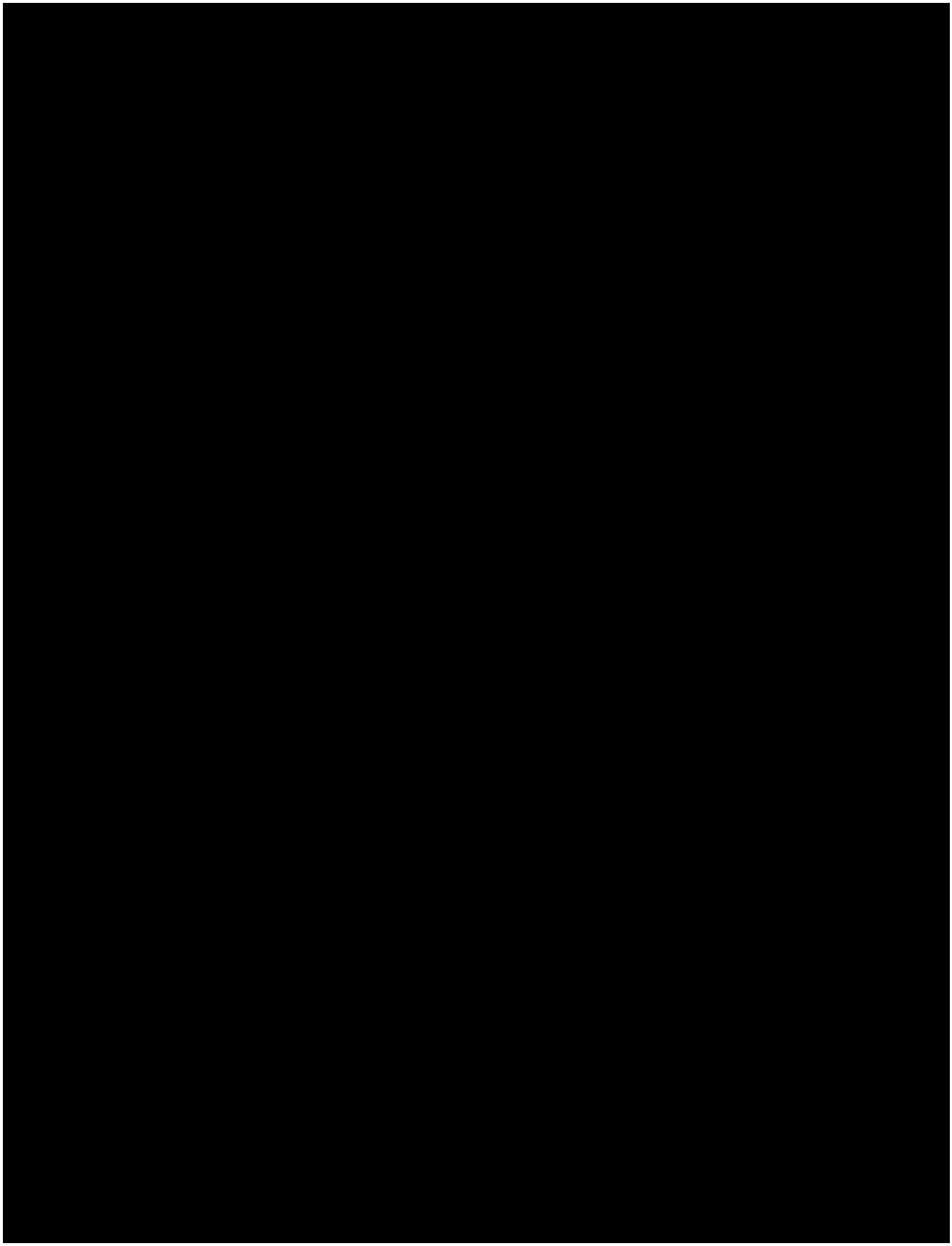

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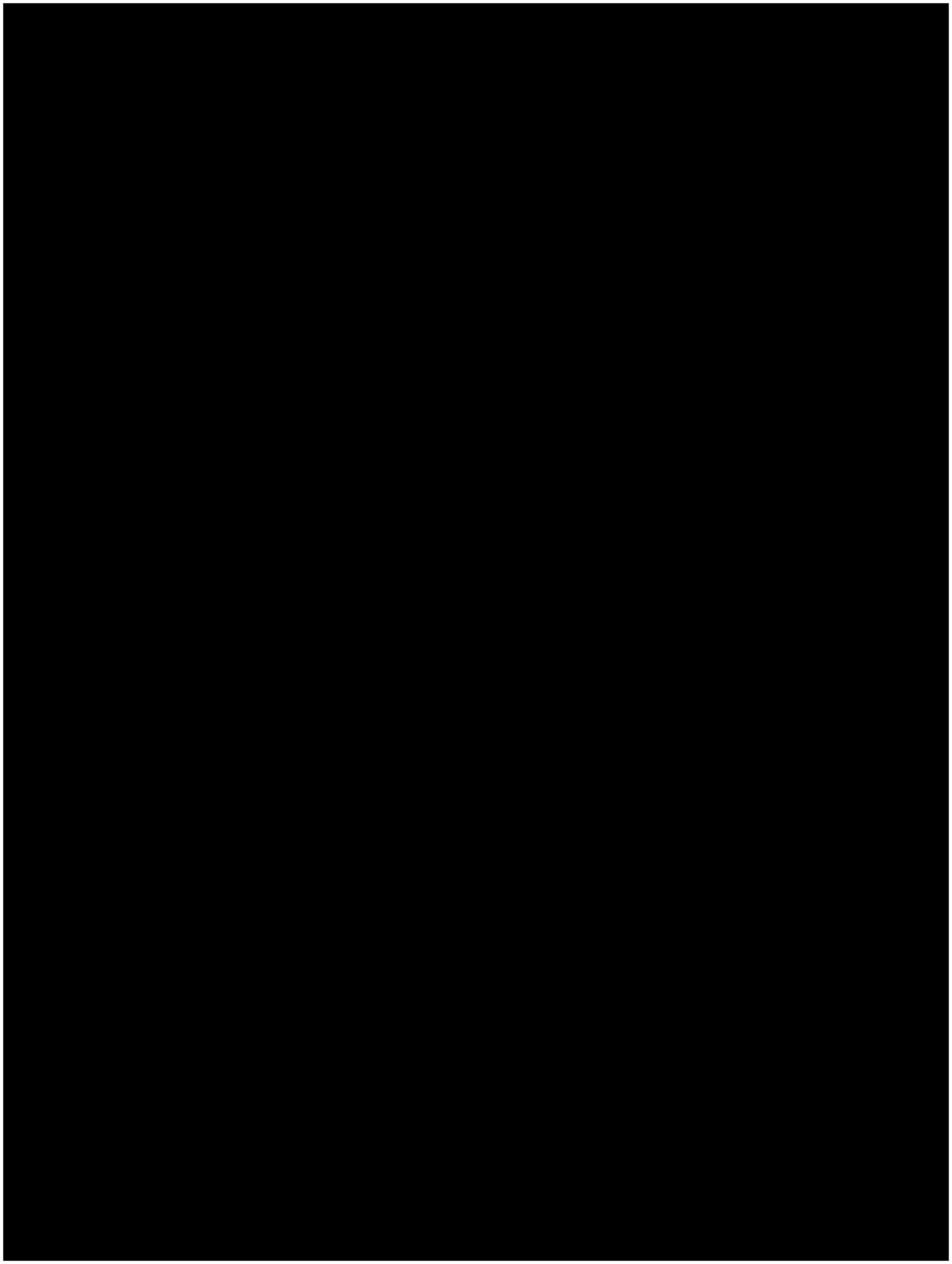

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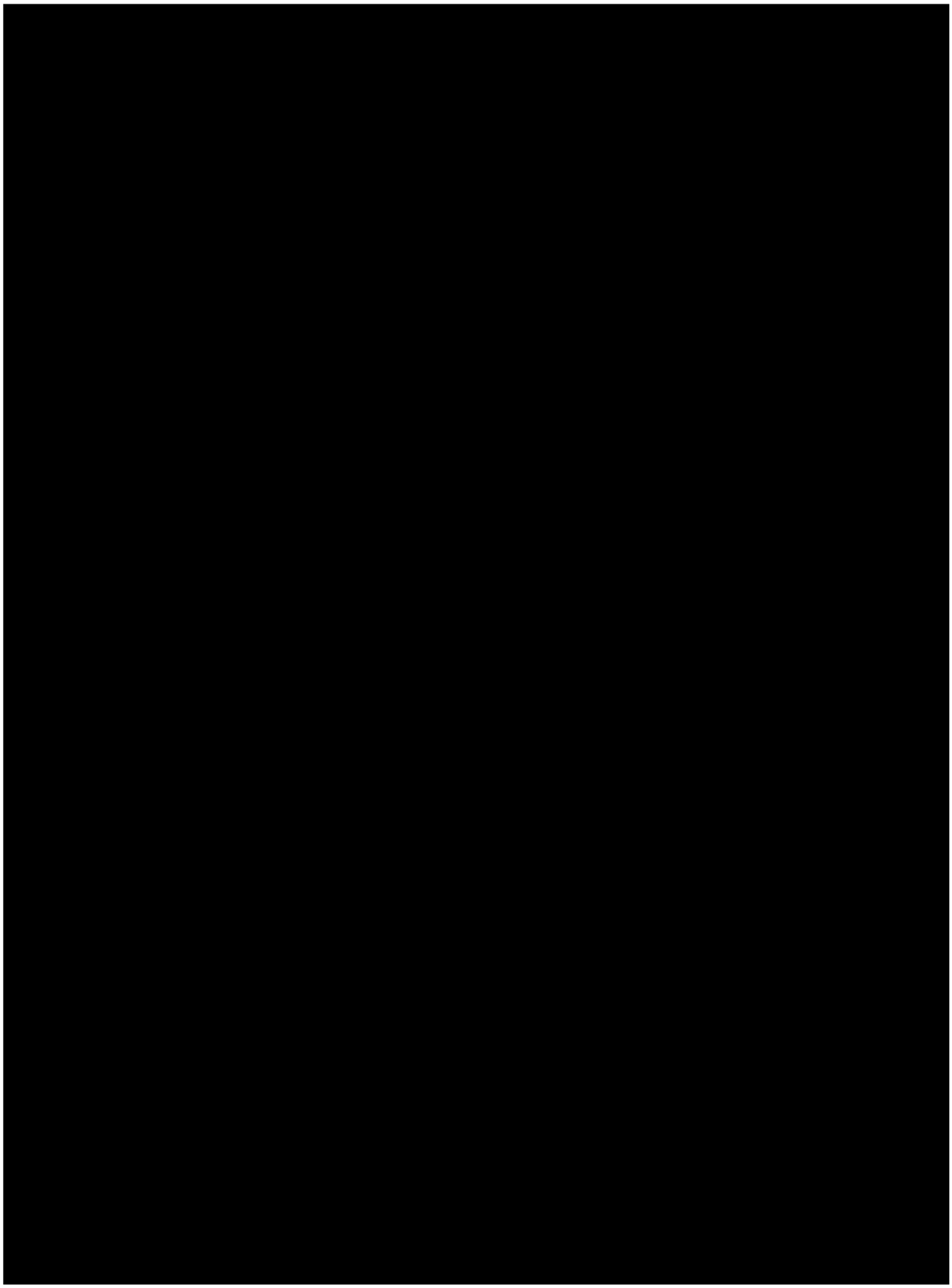

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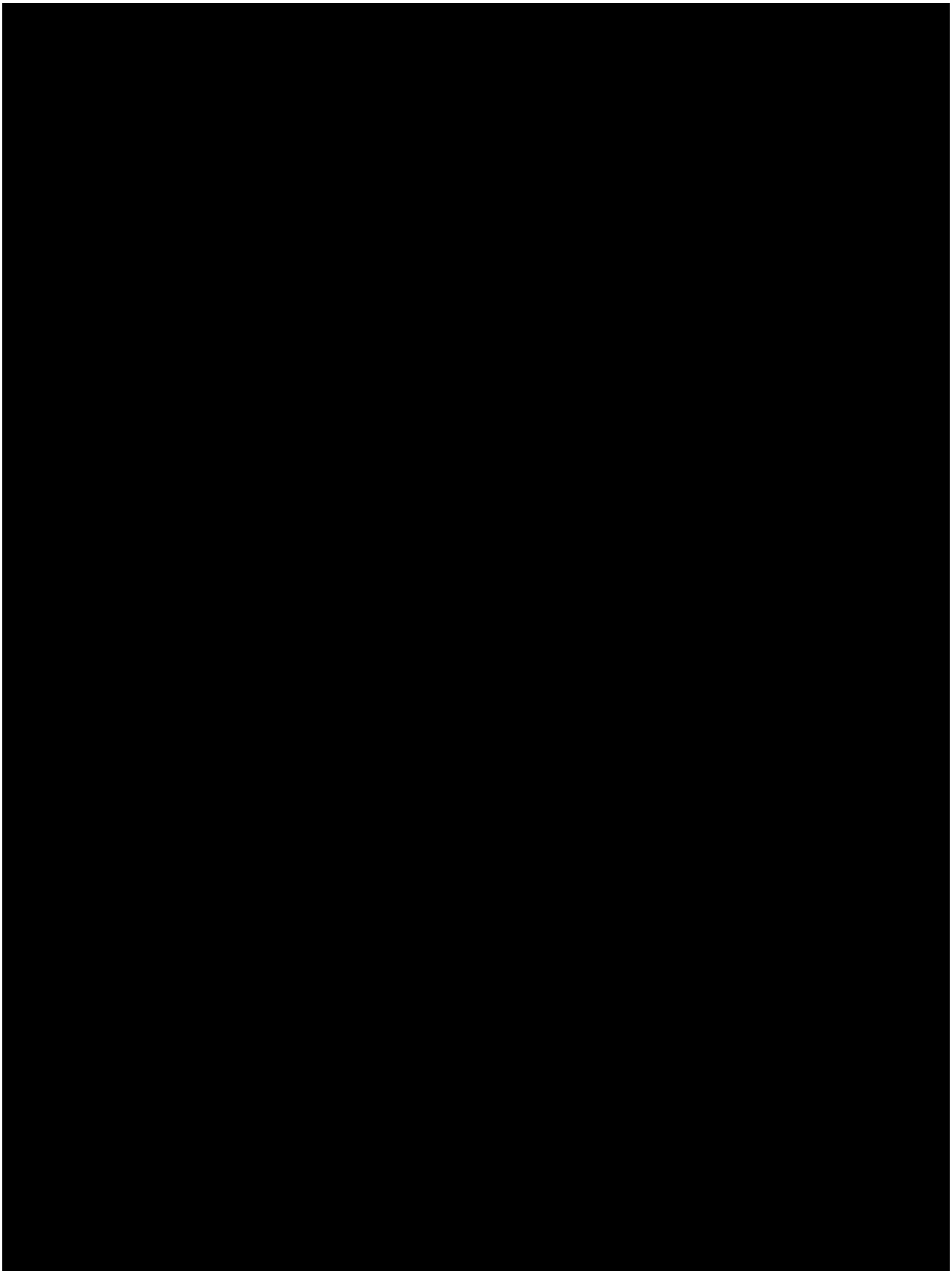

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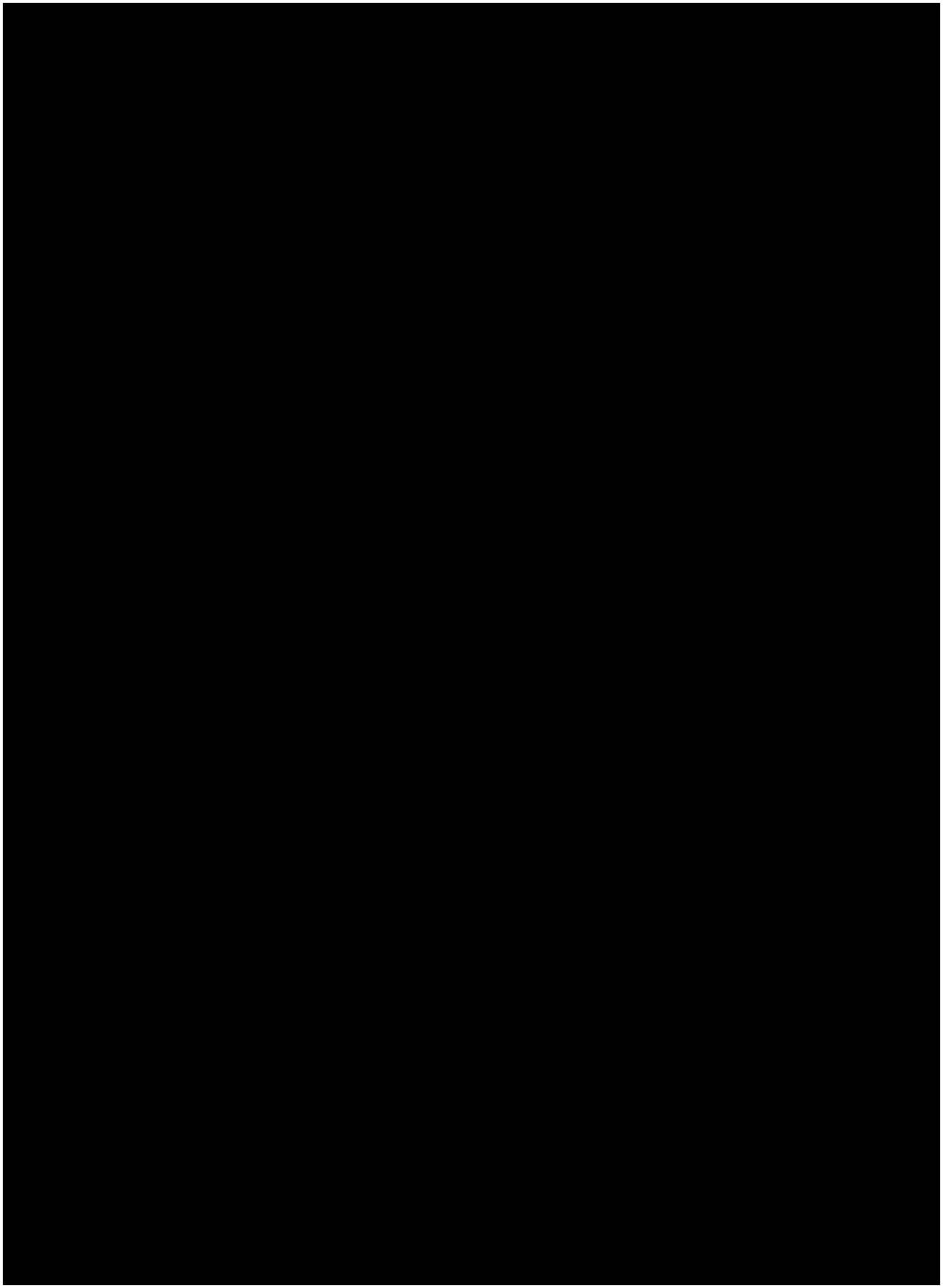

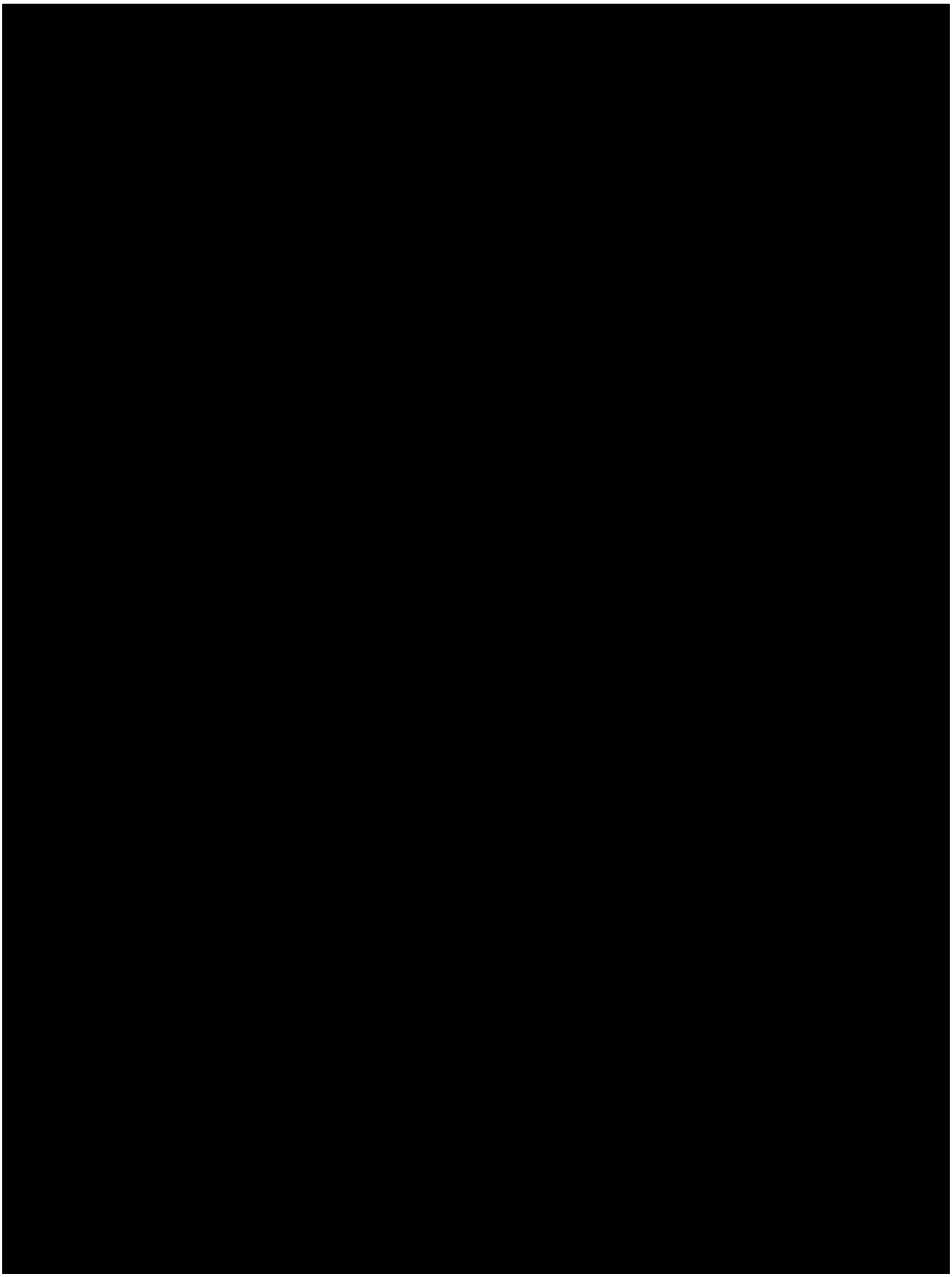

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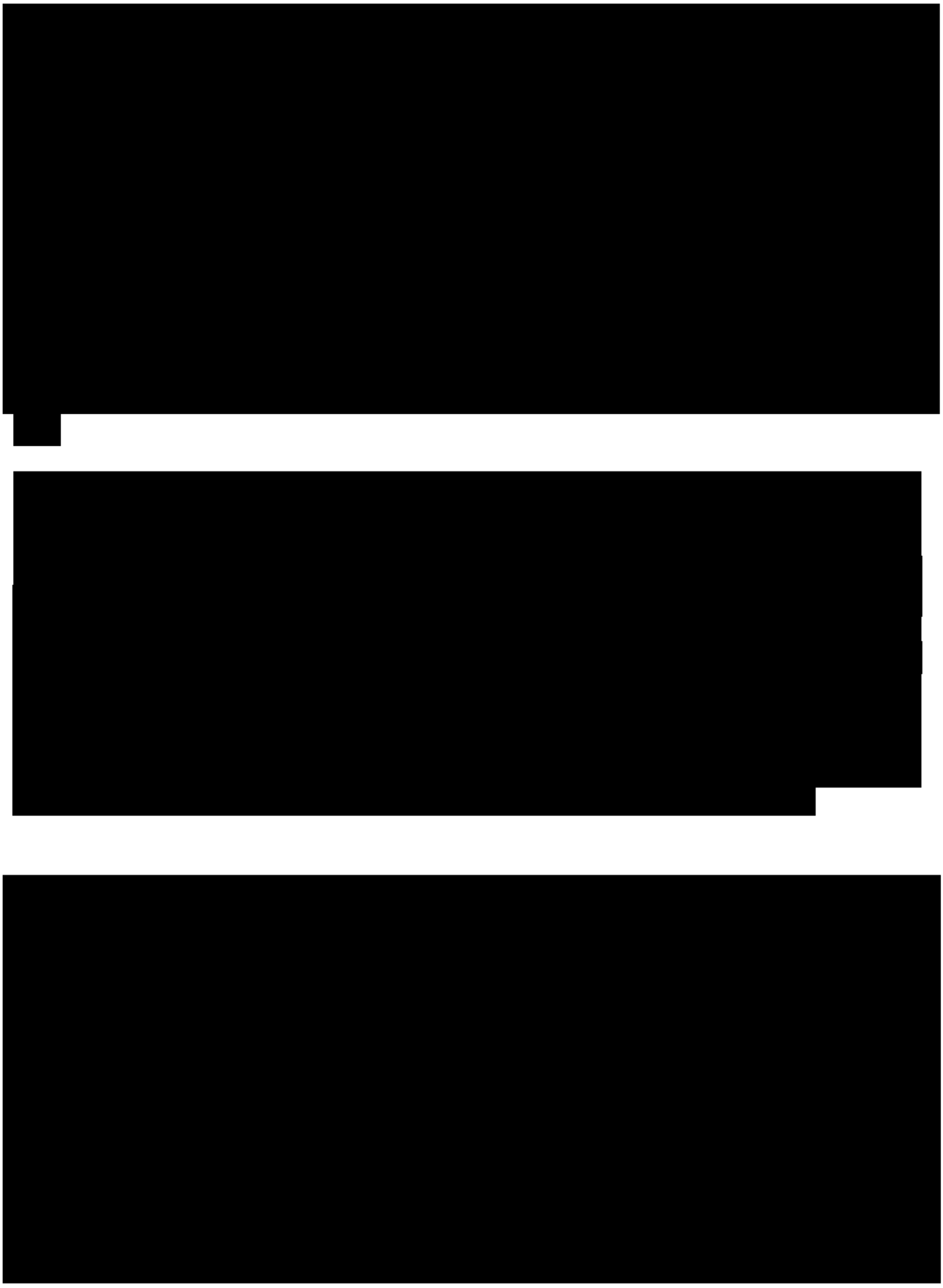

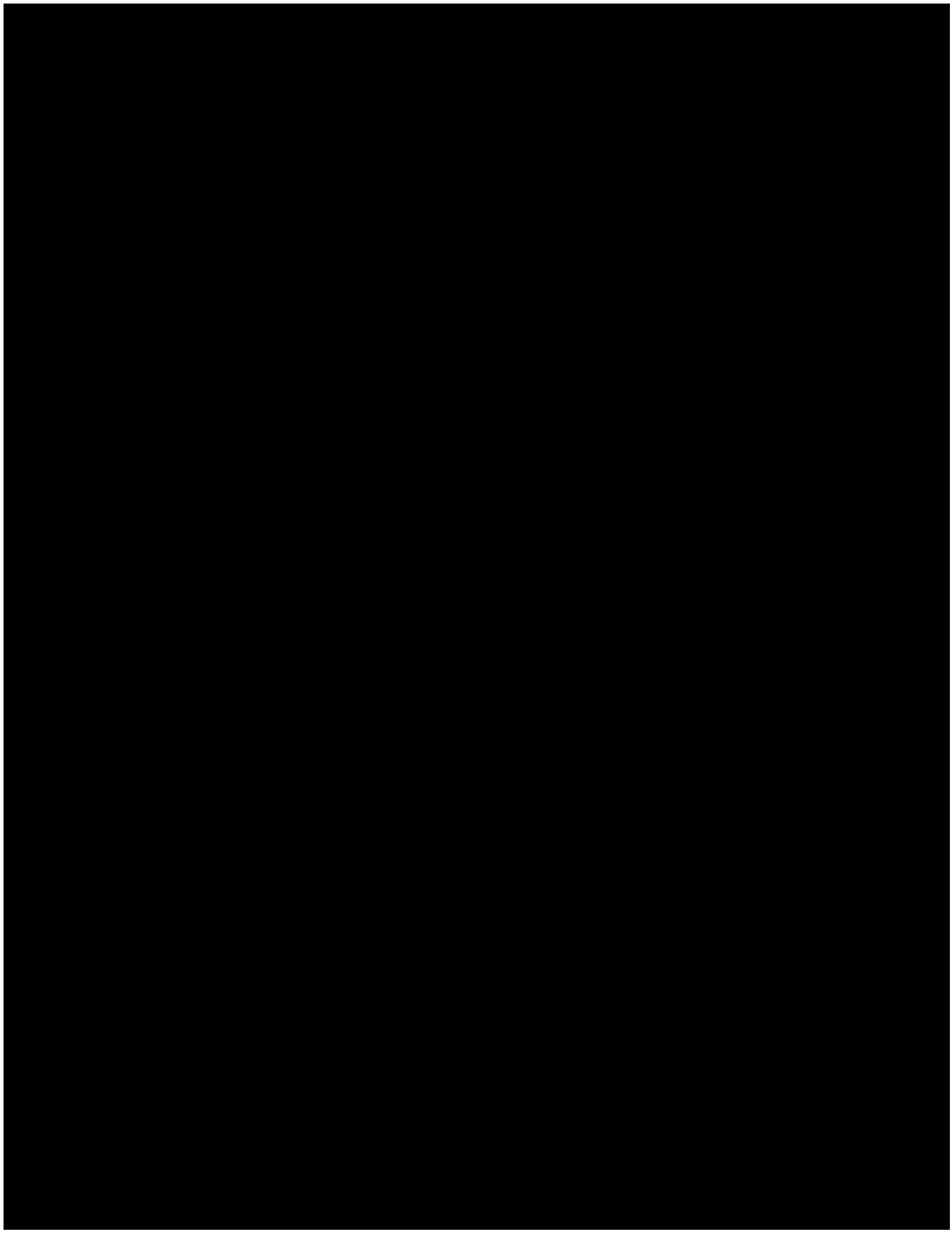

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

The architectural survey resulted in the identification and evaluation of two previously recorded historic resources (8MR03410 [the Cross Florida Greenway] and 8SM01343 [the Community of Royal]) and one newly recorded resource (8SM01393 [FDOT Bridge No. 180047]) (**Table 10**; **Figure 49** and **Figure 50**). The segment of Resource 8MR03410 in the APE was previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP on May 3, 2016 (SEARCH 2016), and 8SM01343 was determined eligible for listing on April 4, 2022 (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). SEARCH recommends 8SM01393 as not significant under NRHP Criterion A because it was constructed due to the detrimental effect of the I-75 construction and is not historically linked to the development of the Community of Royal. Descriptions and evaluations of the historic resources are provided below. FMSF forms for each resource were completed and are provided in **Appendix B**. An FDHR survey log sheet is included in **Appendix C**.

Table 10. Summary of Previously and Newly Recorded Historic Resources.

Resource Type	Number of Resources Identified	Number of Resources with Updated FMSF Forms	Number of Resources Recommended Eligible for the NRHP
Previously Recorded Resources			
Historic Districts	1	1	1
Linear Resource	1	1	1
Newly Recorded Resources			
Bridges	1	1	0
Total	**3**	**3**	**2**

NRHP EVALUATIONS

Bridge

8SM01393, FDOT Bridge No. 180047

Resource 8SM01393, FDOT Bridge No. 180047, is a newly recorded bridge within Sumter County (see **Figure 50**). The entirety of the bridge is in Section 27 of Township 18 South, Range 22 East, as shown on the 2021 Oxford, Fla. USGS quadrangle map. Resource 8FL01042 is 72 m (237 ft) long and was built in 1964 to carry eastbound and westbound CR 462 vehicle traffic over I-75. It is a concrete multibeam stringer bridge with two approach spans measuring 11.0 m (36.0 ft) long and 8.7 m (29.0 ft) wide and two main spans measuring 23.4 m (76.8 ft) long and 8.7 m (29.0 ft) wide. The bridge is set upon three rows of paired reinforced concrete piers topped with a concrete beam. The bridge also features concrete abutments, metal guardrails, and a pedestrian sidewalk adjacent to the westbound lane (**Figure 51**).

Figure 49. Historic resources identified within the APE (Map one of two).

Figure 50. Historic resources identified within the APE (map two of two).

Figure 51. Representative views of Resource 8SM01343 within the APE. Left: facing southeast. Right: facing north.

In 1955, the Community of Royal (8SM01343) was bisected by the construction of I-75 (USGS 1955). Royal is a historic rural landscape that consists of the only remaining Black freedman homestead community in Florida. It is characterized by small-scale agricultural practices, agricultural structures, and open, grassy fields. The community has come under constant threat of displacement by modern development. CR 462 historically served as the main thoroughfare through Royal. Subsequently, its severance in 1955 was detrimental to the community's traditional character. The halves were rejoined in 1964 with a bridge reconnecting Royal's main thoroughfare, CR 462, over I-75 (FDOT 2022). Resource 8SM01393 is still in use.

Assessment

Based on the field survey and further research, it is SEARCH's opinion that Resource 8SM01393 is not significant under NRHP Criterion A. The bridge was constructed due to the detrimental effect of the I-75 construction and is not historically linked to the development of the Community of Royal. Furthermore, the resource is not significant under Criterion B because it lacks association with a person(s) significant in history. Also, the resource is not significant under Criterion C due to its lack of architectural/engineering distinction. It is not a notable representation of a specific type, period, or method of construction. It also does not feature notable technological advances or innovations and does not possess high aesthetic value or incorporate remarkable innovative engineering techniques for the period. Finally, 8SM01393 is not significant under Criterion D because it lacks the potential to yield further information of historical importance. The bridge has not been excluded by the Federal Highway Administration from the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation's Section 106 Exemption Regarding Effects to the Interstate Highway System because it falls within the NRHP-eligible Community of Royal. Based on the field review and subsequent research, FDOT Bridge No. 180047 (8SM01393) is recommended ineligible as a contributing feature to the Community of Royal (8SM01343).

Linear Resource

8MR03410, Cross Florida Greenway

The Cross Florida Greenway (8MR03410) is a previously recorded linear resource in Marion County. The SHPO determined this segment of 8MR03410 eligible for listing in the NRHP on May 3, 2016 (SEARCH 2016). Within the APE, the resource group is in Section 1 of Township 17 South, Range 21 East, as shown on the 2021 *Shady, Fla*. USGS quadrangle map (see **Figure 49**). Within the architectural history APE, Resource 8MR03410 crosses the I-75 right-of-way in an east–west direction for approximately 39 m (128 ft) via beam and girder concrete bridge (**Figure 52**). The nonhistoric bridge did not appear on aerial photographs until 2007 (US Department of Agriculture 2007).

Figure 52. Representative views of 8MR03410. Left: facing southeast. Right: facing southwest.

The Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway (8MR03410) was created in response to the proposed construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal, which would have transected Central Florida by linking a series of lakes, rivers, and artificial waterways. Construction ebbed and flowed in tandem with funding and support. In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson presided over the groundbreaking in Palatka, Florida. However, a new wave of environmental activism, along with new awareness of the costs associated with the canal, brought construction to a final halt. Majorie Harris Carr was instrumental in ending construction. Carr was a lifelong environmentalist based in Gainesville, Florida. She was a member of the Alachua Audubon Society, which presented probable effects of the Cross Florida Barge Canal to state and federal agencies. Carr also led the creation of the Florida Defenders of the Environment, which consisted of hydrologists, zoologist, geologists, and economists. Together, they crafted a scientific report titled “The Environmental Impact of the Cross Florida Barge Canal with Special Emphasis on the Ocklawaha River System.” The report served as a motivating factor in the creation of the National Environmental Policy Act. The Florida Defenders of the Environment filed a suit in 1970 along with the Environmental Defense Fund to stop the construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal (Florida Defenders of the Environment 2023). With this injunction, President Richard Nixon

stopped the project in 1971, and the canal was officially deauthorized in 1990 (Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2023a).

Established in 1998, the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway spans the footprint of what would have been the Cross Florida Barge Canal. It encompasses 30,351 ha (75,000 ac) and is 177 km (110 mi) long and nearly 1.0 mi (1.6 km) wide in places, stretching from Palatka along the St. Johns River to Yankeetown on the Gulf of Mexico. It is a wildlife corridor featuring pedestrian, biking, and equestrian trails, as well as a land bridge, which hikers and wildlife use to cross I-75 (Friend 2012). The greenway boasts more than 483 km (300 mi) of trails with campgrounds and offers visitors a view of natural Florida landscapes (Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2023b). It is a stark contrast to the quickly developing Marion County surrounding it in the project APE.

Assessment

The SHPO determined this segment of 8MR03410 eligible for listing on the NRHP on May 3, 2016 (SEARCH 2016). However, the current survey includes only an 81 m (266 ft) portion of the resource within the APE, whereas the overall resource measures approximately 177 km (110 mi) long. While the linear resource appears to remain eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A for its association with the environmental and conservation movement, it is beyond the scope of the current project to evaluate the entire resource. Therefore, SEARCH has insufficient information to make an eligibility recommendation for the resource, and no changes to the resource's current NRHP-eligible status are recommended. An effects evaluation is provided below based on its previous eligibility status.

Effects

The current project proposes the construction of two auxiliary lanes (one northbound and one southbound) within the vicinity of the resource. The project will pass under the Cross Florida Greenway (8MR034100) and will not disturb the trail's route or materials or affect structures associated with the trail. The addition of the auxiliary lanes will not affect the resource more than the existing I-75 corridor. Therefore, SEARCH recommends the project will result in no adverse effect to Resource 8MR03410.

Rural Historic Landscape

8SM01343, Community of Royal

The Community of Royal (8SM01343) is a previously recorded rural historic landscape within Sumter County. The boundaries shown in **Figure 53** are those included in the FMSF database (shaded area), and the corrected boundary (dashed line) is based on the map included with the NRHP registration documentation (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). A misplotted resource letter is included in **Appendix D.** Resource 8SM01343 is a rural historic landscape that the SHPO recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP on April 4, 2022 (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC

2022). The district is roughly bound by CR 216A to the north, Sumter CR 475 N to the west, NE 90th Ave and just north of NE 84th Pl. to the south, and CR 223 to the east. Resource 8SM01343 encompasses approximately 788.26 ha (1947.84 ac) and includes 46 contributing resources (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). There are no contributing resources within the project APE. The period of significance for 8SM01343 spans 1870 to 1972. Within the architectural history APE, 8SM01343 is in Section 21, 27, 34 of Township 18 South, Range 22 East, as seen on the 2021 *Oxford, Fla*. USGS quadrangle map. A small portion of the resource (18.00 ha [44.49 ac]), consisting of a segment of I-75, intersects the APE.

The Community of Royal (8SM01343; **Figure 54**) developed in the 1870s following the end of the Civil War. Upon General Sherman's march to the sea, he issued Special Order #15, which confiscated southern land and distributed it to freed Black people in 16.2 ha (40.0 ac) increments (New Georgia Encyclopedia 2020). This was followed by the Homestead Act of 1862 (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022).

After five years of residing on the land, homesteaders received the land title for a small fee (National Archives 2021). Many Black homestead communities of freedmen developed across the south, but Royal is the only one to remain in Florida. Other communities like this have either been intentionally destroyed through racial violence or displaced by modern development (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). Many of the homestead plots that make up the community featured small-scale, nonindustrial agricultural activities, such as farming, logging, and turpentine dipping. Cash crops such as tobacco and sugar cane were common, and families raised cattle and hogs (**Figure 55**). Structures on these plots consisted of a homestead and associated agricultural outbuildings. These plots developed organically as descendants built new homes on the same family land. Today, multiple generations reside on land characterized by open, grassy fields.

As of 2020, 69% of the total landscape was zoned for agriculture (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). Although this percentage is lower than the historic use, agriculture is still a distinguishing and visible way of life for many in the community of Royal (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022).

The explosive growth of development in Sumter County has increasingly become a threat to Royal's traditional way of life. By 1955, the community was bisected by the construction of I-75 (USGS 1955). The halves were rejoined in 1964 with a bridge reconnecting Royal's main thoroughfare, CR 462, over I-75 (FDOT 2022). Additionally, The Villages, a conglomeration of age-restricted retirement neighborhoods, have been developing nearby since the 1970s (Inside the Bubble n.d.). As Florida has become a beacon for retirees, Sumter County's population has nearly quadrupled since 1990; most of this growth has come from The Villages (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). The Community of Royal combats the imposition of modern development by preserving their cultural heritage through community events, such as sugarcane processing, Juneteenth celebrations, and a compilation of oral histories (Digital Heritage Interactive, LLC 2022). These events harken back to the small-scale agricultural practices that sustained their ancestors.

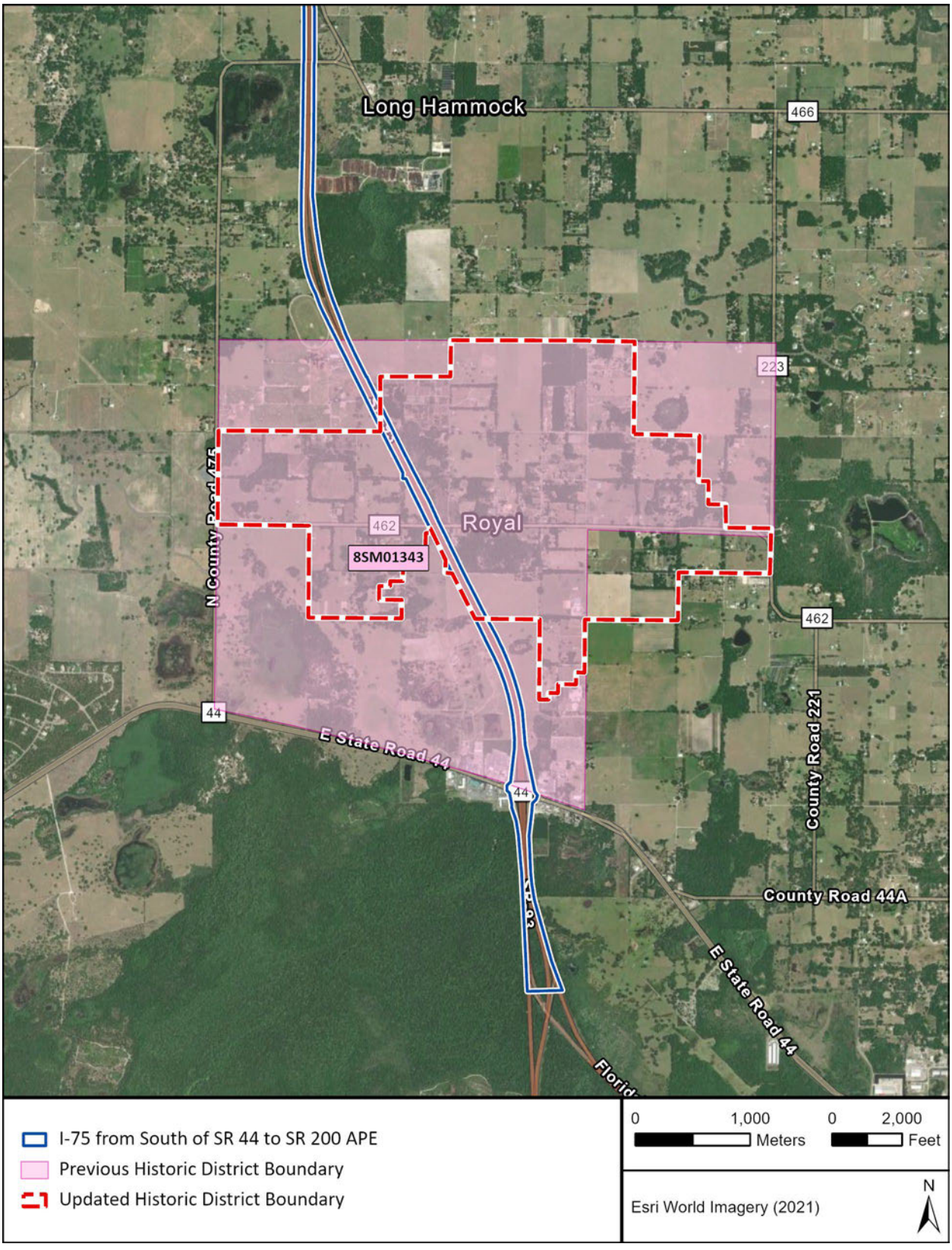

Figure 53. Resource 8SM01343 overlapping the APE.

Figure 54. Representative photographs of Resource 8SM01343. Left: facing west. Right: facing north.

Figure 55. Tobacco field in Royal, 1950 (Florida Phoenix 2022).

Assessment

Resource 8SM01343 exemplifies a homestead community from the late nineteenth century and is the only remaining freedmen homestead community in Florida. The variety of contributing agricultural resources and landscapes, ranging from 1870 to 1972, is illustrative of the development of the Community of Royal since its founding in the Reconstruction era following the Civil War. However, the current survey includes the right-of-way of I-75 (23.94 ha [59.16 ac])

within the APE, whereas the overall resource measures approximately 1,441 ha (3,560 ac). While the district appears to remain eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A for significance in the areas of community planning and development, Black freedman heritage, settlement, and agriculture, it is beyond the scope of the current project to evaluate the entire resource. Therefore, SEARCH has insufficient information to make an eligibility recommendation for the resource, and no changes to the district's current NRHP-eligible status are recommended. An effects evaluation is provided below based on its previous eligibility status.

Effects

The current project proposes the construction of two auxiliary lanes (one northbound and one southbound) within the vicinity of the historic resource, as well as the expansion of a noncontributing bridge within the district. The project runs through the center of the Community of Royal (8SM01343), and farms and agricultural fields are along either side of the I-75 right-of-way. The project will occur within the existing right-of-way; no additional right-of-way is proposed. The construction of auxiliary lanes is a natural part of the continued use and maintenance of the existing roadway. The project will not affect the historic rural landscape more than the existing I-75 corridor. SEARCH recommends the project will have no adverse effect on Resource 8SM01343.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report presents the findings of a Phase I CRAS conducted in support of improvements to I-75 in Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida. The FDOT, District 5, is proposing improvements to I-75 from south of SR 44 to SR 200. The project limits begin south of SR 44 and continue north to the SR 200 interchange, a total distance of 34.3 km (21.3 mi). The project activities include the construction of two auxiliary lanes (one northbound and one southbound) and the replacement of three bridges (County Road 462, County Road 475, and SW 66th Street).Proposed improvements will take place within the existing right-of-way; no additional right-of-way is proposed. Proposed I-75 roadway improvements will require right-of-way for stormwater treatment; additional right-of-way is proposed to provide for stormwater retention ponds which will be evaluated under separate cover. This project is funded through the Moving Florida Forward initiative for construction in 2025.

The archaeological survey included pedestrian survey and systematic subsurface testing of the APE. In total, 576 shovel tests were excavated within the APE, [redacted]

The architectural survey resulted in the identification and evaluation of two previously recorded historic resources (the Cross Florida Greenway [8MR03410] and the Community of Royal [8SM01343]) and one newly recorded bridge (8SM01393). The SHPO determined Resource 8MR03410 eligible for listing in the NRHP on June 28, 2022, and Resource 8SM01343 eligible for listing on April 4, 2022. SEARCH recommends 8SM01393 ineligible as a contributing feature to the Community of Royal (8SM01343) because it is not significant under NRHP Criterion A; it was constructed due to the detrimental effect of the I-75 construction and is not historically linked to the development of the Community of Royal. SEARCH recommends the resource is not significant under Criterion B because it lacks association with a person(s) significant in history. Furthermore, the bridge is not significant under Criterion C due to its lack of architectural or engineering distinction. Finally, the bridge is not significant under Criterion D because it lacks the potential to yield further information of historical importance.

The project will pass under the Cross Florida Greenway (8MR03410) and will not disturb the trail's route or materials nor affect structures associated with the trail. The addition of the auxiliary lanes will not affect the resource more than the existing I-75 corridor. Therefore, SEARCH recommends the project will result in no adverse effect to Resource 8MR03410.

Within the boundaries of the Community of Royal (8SM01343), the project will occur within the existing right-of-way; no additional right-of-way is proposed. The construction of auxiliary lanes is a natural part of the continued use and maintenance of the existing roadway. The project will not affect the historic rural landscape more than the existing I-75 corridor. SEARCH recommends the project will have no adverse effect on Resource 8SM01343.

SEARCH recommends that this project will result in *No Adverse Effect* to historic properties. No further cultural resources work is recommended.

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APPENDIX A.

FIELD SPECIMEN LOG

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APPENDIX B.

FMSF RESOURCE FORMS

☐ Original
☒ Update

RESOURCE GROUP FORM
FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE
Version 5.0 3/19

Consult the *Guide to the Resource Group Form* for additional instructions

Site # MR03410
Field Date 4-11-2023
Form Date 4-24-2023
Recorder# _____

NOTE: Use this form to document districts, landscapes, building complexes and linear resources as described in the box below. Cultural resources contributing to the Resource Group should also be documented individually at the Site File. **Do not use this form for National Register multiple property submissions** (MPSs). National Register MPSs are treated as Site File manuscripts and are associated with the individual resources included under the MPS cover using the Site File manuscript number.

Check ONE box that best describes the Resource Group:

- ☐ **Historic district** (NR category "district"): buildings and NR structures only: NO archaeological sites
- ☐ **Archaeological district** (NR category "district"): archaeological sites only: NO buildings or NR structures
- ☐ **Mixed district** (NR category "district"): includes more than one type of cultural resource (example: archaeological sites and buildings)
- ☐ **Building complex** (NR category usually "building(s)"): multiple buildings in close spatial and functional association
- ☐ **Designed historic landscape** (NR category usually "district" or "site"): can include multiple resources (see *National Register Bulletin #18*, page 2 for more detailed definition and examples: e.g. parks, golf courses, campuses, resorts, etc.)
- ☐ **Rural historic landscape** (NR category usually "district" or "site"): can include multiple resources and resources not formally designed (see *National Register Bulletin #30, Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes* for more detailed definition and examples: e.g. farmsteads, fish camps, lumber camps, traditional ceremonial sites, etc.)
- ☒ **Linear resource** (NR category usually "structure"): Linear resources are a special type of structure or historic landscape and can include canals, railways, roads, etc.

Resource Group Name Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Fl. Greenway Multiple Listing [DHR only] _____
Project Name CRAS I-75 from South of SR44 to SR200 PD&E FMSF Survey # _____
National Register Category (please check one): ☐building(s) ☐structure ☐district ☐site ☒object
Linear Resource Type (if applicable): ☐canal ☐railway ☐road ☒other (describe): _____
Ownership: ☐private-profit ☐private-nonprofit ☐private-individual ☐private-nonspecific ☐city ☐county ☒state ☐federal ☐Native American ☐foreign ☐unknown

LOCATION & MAPPING

Address: Street Number | Direction | Street Name | Street Type | Suffix Direction
City/Town (within 3 miles) Ocala In Current City Limits? ☐yes ☐no ☐unknown
County or Counties (do not abbreviate) Marion
Name of Public Tract (e.g., park) _____
1) Township 17S Range 21E Section 1 ¼ section: ☐NW ☐SW ☐SE ☐NE Irregular-name: _____
2) Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ ¼ section: ☐NW ☐SW ☐SE ☐NE
3) Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ ¼ section: ☐NW ☐SW ☐SE ☐NE
4) Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ ¼ section: ☐NW ☐SW ☐SE ☐NE
USGS 7.5' Map(s) 1) Name SHADY USGS Date 2021
2) Name _____ USGS Date _____
Plat, Aerial, or Other Map (map's name, originating office with location) _____
Landgrant _____
Verbal Description of Boundaries (description does not replace required map)

Within the architectural history APE, Resource 8MR03410 includes 266 feet, running north to south, in the I-75 ROW.

DHR USE ONLY	OFFICIAL EVALUATION	DHR USE ONLY
NR List Date _____ ☐Owner Objection	SHPO – Appears to meet criteria for NR listing: ☐yes ☐no ☐insufficient info Date _____ Init._____ KEEPER – Determined eligible: ☐yes ☐no Date _____ NR Criteria for Evaluation: ☐a ☐b ☐c ☐d (see *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 2)	

Florida Master Site File / Div. of Historical Resources / R. A. Gray Bldg / 500 S Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250
Phone **850.245.6440** / Fax **850.245.6439** / E-mail **SiteFile@dos.myflorida.com**

RESOURCE GROUP FORM

Site #8 MR03410

HISTORY & DESCRIPTION

Construction Year: 1935 ☒approximately ☐year listed or earlier ☐year listed or later
Architect/Designer: _____ Builder: _____
Total number of individual resources included in this Resource Group: # of contributing 1 # of non-contributing 0
Time period(s) of significance (choose a period from the list or type in date range(s), e.g. *1895-1925*)
1. American 1821-present 3. Depression/New Deal 1930-1940
2. Nineteenth C. American 1821-1899 4. Twentieth C American
Narrative Description (*National Register Bulletin 16A* pp. 33-34; attach supplementary sheets if needed)

The Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway (8MR03410) was created in response to the proposed construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal, which would have transected Central Florida by linking a series of lakes, rivers, and artificial waterways.

RESEARCH METHODS (check all that apply)

☒FMSF record search (sites/surveys)	☐library research	☐building permits	☐Sanborn maps
☐FL State Archives/photo collection	☐city directory	☐occupant/owner interview	☐plat maps
☐property appraiser / tax records	☐newspaper files	☐neighbor interview	☐Public Lands Survey (DEP)
☒cultural resource survey	☐historic photos	☐interior inspection	☐HABS/HAER record search

☒other methods (specify) Pedestrian/Windshield Survey
Bibliographic References (give FMSF Manuscript # if relevant)

OPINION OF RESOURCE SIGNIFICANCE

Potentially eligible individually for National Register of Historic Places? ☒yes ☐no ☐insufficient information
Potentially eligible as contributor to a National Register district? ☐yes ☒no ☐insufficient information
Explanation of Evaluation (required, see *National Register Bulletin 16A* p. 48-49. Attach longer statement, if needed, on separate sheet.)

SHPO determined this segment of 8MR03410 eligible for listing on the NRHP on May 3, 2016 (SEARCH 2016). However, the current survey includes only an 81 m (266 ft) portion of the resource within the architectural history APE,

Area(s) of Historical Significance (see *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 8 for categories: e.g. "architecture", "ethnic heritage", "community planning & development", etc.)
1. Commerce 3. Conservation 5. Transportation
2. Community planning & developm 4. Tourism 6. _____

DOCUMENTATION

Accessible Documentation Not Filed with the Site File - including field notes, analysis notes, photos, plans and other important documents
1) Document type All materials at one location Maintaining organization Southeastern Archaeological Research
Document description Photos, Maps, Field Notes, Aerial File or accession #'s 230095
2) Document type _____ Maintaining organization _____
Document description _____ File or accession #'s _____

RECORDER INFORMATION

Recorder Name Suphanniam, Anna Affiliation Southeastern Archaeological Research
Recorder Contact Information 700 N 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32501/850.910.5031/anna.suphanniam@searchinc.co
(address / phone / fax / e-mail)

Required Attachments

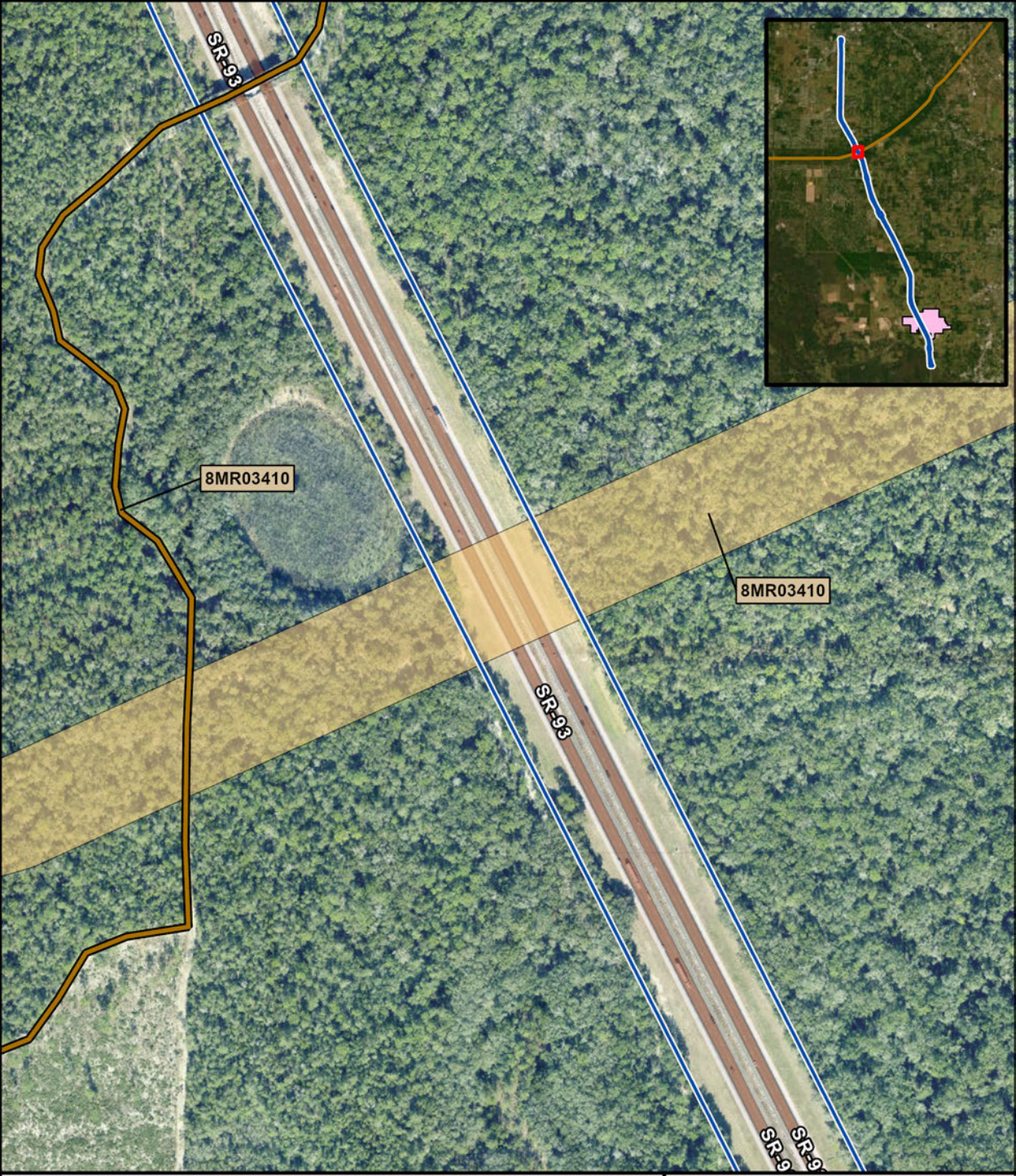
❶ **PHOTOCOPY OF USGS 7.5' MAP WITH DISTRICT BOUNDARY CLEARLY MARKED**
❷ **LARGE SCALE STREET, PLAT OR PARCEL MAP WITH RESOURCES MAPPED & LABELED**
❸ **TABULATION OF ALL INCLUDED RESOURCES -** Include name, FMSF #, contributing? Y/N, resource category, street address or other location information if no address.
❹ **PHOTOS OF GENERAL STREETSCAPE OR VIEWS (Optional: aerial photos, views of typical resources)** When submitting images, they must be included in digital AND hard copy format (plain paper grayscale acceptable). Digital images must be at least 1600 x 1200 pixels, 24-bit color, jpeg or tiff.

8MR03410_a Facing Southeast

8MR03410_b Facing South

8MR03410_c Facing West

8MR03410_d Facing Southwest



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

Corrected Location Previously Recorded Linear Resource

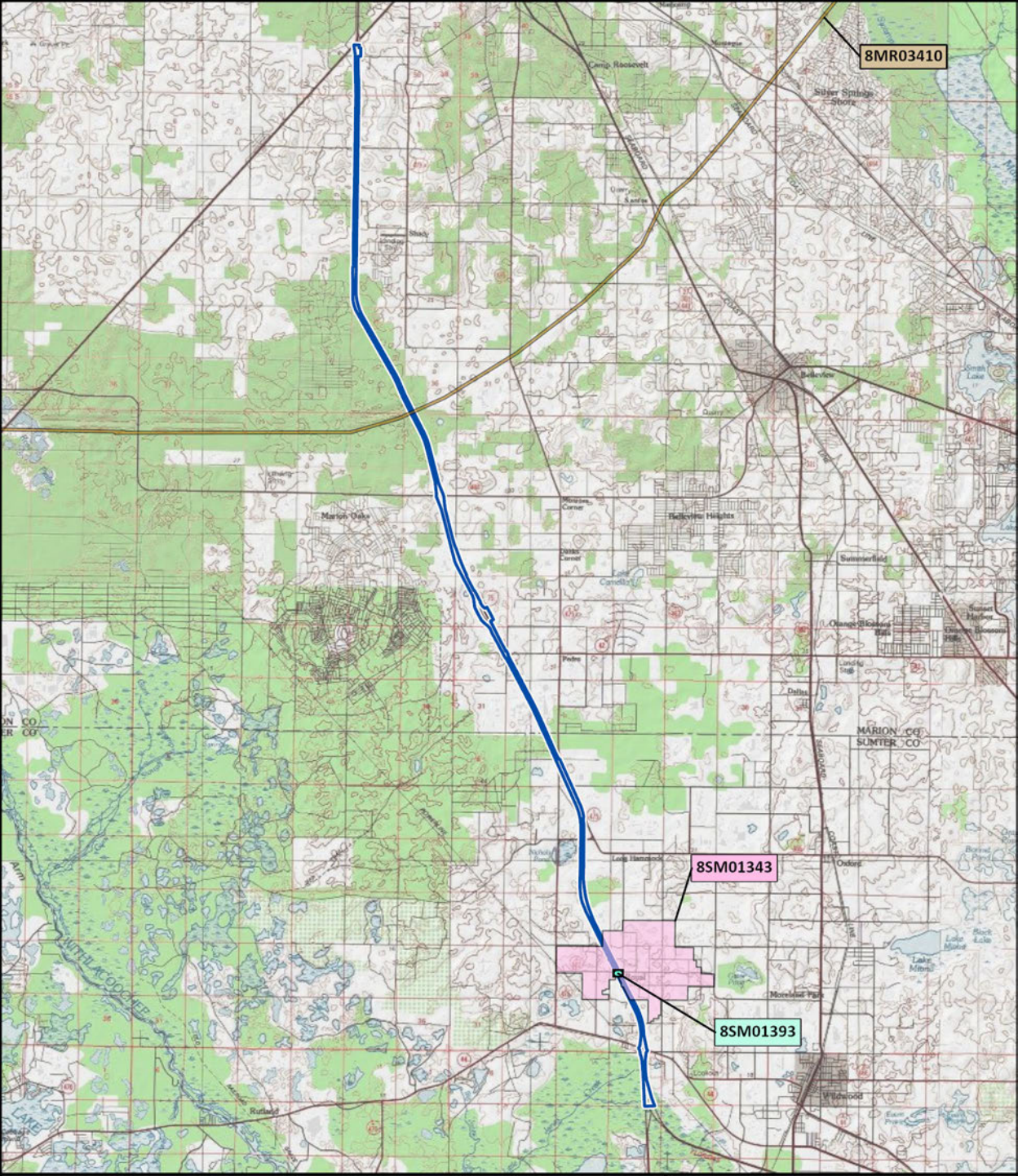
Misplotted Location Previously Recorded Resource Group

0 100 Meters

0 200 Feet

Esri World Imagery (2023);
FMSF (10/2023)

N



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

Newly Recorded Historic Bridge

Previously Recorded Linear Resource

Previously Recorded Historic District

0 2,000 Meters

0 10,000 Feet

USGS 30 x 60' Quadrangles:
Inverness, Florida (1979) and
Ocala, Florida (1978); FMSF (10/2023)

N

☐ Original
☒ Update

RESOURCE GROUP FORM
FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE
Version 5.0 3/19

Consult the *Guide to the Resource Group Form* for additional instructions

Site # SM01343
Field Date 4-14-2023
Form Date 5-5-2023
Recorder# _____

NOTE: Use this form to document districts, landscapes, building complexes and linear resources as described in the box below. Cultural resources contributing to the Resource Group should also be documented individually at the Site File. **Do not use this form for National Register multiple property submissions** (MPSs). National Register MPSs are treated as Site File manuscripts and are associated with the individual resources included under the MPS cover using the Site File manuscript number.

Check ONE box that best describes the Resource Group:

- ☐ **Historic district** (NR category "district"): buildings and NR structures only: NO archaeological sites
- ☐ **Archaeological district** (NR category "district"): archaeological sites only: NO buildings or NR structures
- ☐ **Mixed district** (NR category "district"): includes more than one type of cultural resource (example: archaeological sites and buildings)
- ☐ **Building complex** (NR category usually "building(s)"): multiple buildings in close spatial and functional association
- ☐ **Designed historic landscape** (NR category usually "district" or "site"): can include multiple resources (see *National Register Bulletin #18*, page 2 for more detailed definition and examples: e.g. parks, golf courses, campuses, resorts, etc.)
- ☒ **Rural historic landscape** (NR category usually "district" or "site"): can include multiple resources and resources not formally designed (see *National Register Bulletin #30, Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes* for more detailed definition and examples: e.g. farmsteads, fish camps, lumber camps, traditional ceremonial sites, etc.)
- ☐ **Linear resource** (NR category usually "structure"): Linear resources are a special type of structure or historic landscape and can include canals, railways, roads, etc.

Resource Group Name Community of Royal Multiple Listing [DHR only] _____
Project Name CRAS I-75 from South of SR44 to SR200 PD&E FMSF Survey # _____
National Register Category (please check one): ☐ building(s) ☐ structure ☒ district ☐ site ☐ object
Linear Resource Type (if applicable): ☐ canal ☐ railway ☐ road ☐ other (describe): _____
Ownership: ☐ private-profit ☐ private-nonprofit ☒ private-individual ☐ private-nonspecific ☐ city ☐ county ☐ state ☐ federal ☐ Native American ☐ foreign ☐ unknown

LOCATION & MAPPING

Address: Street Number | Direction | Street Name | Street Type | Suffix Direction

City/Town (within 3 miles) Oxford In Current City Limits? ☐ yes ☐ no ☒ unknown
County or Counties (do not abbreviate) Sumter
Name of Public Tract (e.g., park) _____

1) Township 18S Range 22E Section 21 ¼ section: ☐ NW ☐ SW ☐ SE ☐ NE Irregular-name: _____
2) Township 18S Range 22E Section 27 ¼ section: ☐ NW ☐ SW ☐ SE ☐ NE
3) Township 18S Range 22E Section 34 ¼ section: ☐ NW ☐ SW ☐ SE ☐ NE
4) Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ ¼ section: ☐ NW ☐ SW ☐ SE ☐ NE

USGS 7.5' Map(s) 1) Name OXFORD USGS Date 2021
2) Name _____ USGS Date _____

Plat, Aerial, or Other Map (map's name, originating office with location) _____
Landgrant _____
Verbal Description of Boundaries (description does not replace required map)

The district is roughly bounded by CR 216A to the north, Sumter County Road 475 N to the west, SR 44 to the south, and CR 223 to the east.

DHR USE ONLY	OFFICIAL EVALUATION	DHR USE ONLY
NR List Date _____ ☐ Owner Objection	SHPO – Appears to meet criteria for NR listing: ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ insufficient info Date _____ Init. _____ KEEPER – Determined eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Date _____ NR Criteria for Evaluation: ☐ a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d (see *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 2)	

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Phone **850.245.6440** / Fax **850.245.6439** / E-mail **SiteFile@dos.myflorida.com**

RESOURCE GROUP FORM

Site #8 SM01343

HISTORY & DESCRIPTION

Construction Year: 1870 ☒approximately ☐year listed or earlier ☐year listed or later
Architect/Designer: _____ Builder: _____
Total number of individual resources included in this Resource Group: # of contributing 54 # of non-contributing 521
Time period(s) of significance (choose a period from the list or type in date range(s), e.g. *1895-1925*)
1. Reconstruction 1866-1879 3. _____
2. Post-Reconstruction 1880-1897 4. _____
Narrative Description (*National Register Bulletin 16A* pp. 33-34; attach supplementary sheets if needed)

Many black homestead communities of freedmen developed across the south after the Homestead Act of 1862, however Royal is the only one to remain in Florida. Homestead plots within the community feature small-scale agricultural activities.

RESEARCH METHODS (check all that apply)

☒FMSF record search (sites/surveys)	☒library research	☐building permits	☐Sanborn maps
☐FL State Archives/photo collection	☐city directory	☐occupant/owner interview	☐plat maps
☒property appraiser / tax records	☐newspaper files	☐neighbor interview	☐Public Lands Survey (DEP)
☒cultural resource survey	☐historic photos	☐interior inspection	☐HABS/HAER record search

☒other methods (specify) Pedestrian/Windshield
Bibliographic References (give FMSF Manuscript # if relevant)

OPINION OF RESOURCE SIGNIFICANCE

Potentially eligible individually for National Register of Historic Places? ☒yes ☐no ☐insufficient information
Potentially eligible as contributor to a National Register district? ☐yes ☒no ☐insufficient information
Explanation of Evaluation (required, see *National Register Bulletin 16A* p. 48-49. Attach longer statement, if needed, on separate sheet.)

It is beyond the current scope to evaluate the resource in its entirety. SEARCH has insufficient information to make an eligibility recommendation for the resource, and no changes to the district's current NRHP-eligible status are recommended.

Area(s) of Historical Significance (see *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 8 for categories: e.g. "architecture", "ethnic heritage", "community planning & development", etc.)
1. Community planning & developm 3. Exploration/settlement 5. _____
2. Ethnic heritage 4. _____ 6. _____

DOCUMENTATION

Accessible Documentation Not Filed with the Site File - including field notes, analysis notes, photos, plans and other important documents
1) Document type All materials at one location Maintaining organization Southeastern Archaeological Research
Document description Photos, Maps, Field Notes, Aerial File or accession #'s 230095
2) Document type _____ Maintaining organization _____
Document description _____ File or accession #'s _____

RECORDER INFORMATION

Recorder Name Suphanniam, Anna Affiliation Southeastern Archaeological Research
Recorder Contact Information 700 N 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32501/850.910.5031/anna.suphanniam@searchinc.co
(address / phone / fax / e-mail)

Required Attachments

❶ **PHOTOCOPY OF USGS 7.5' MAP WITH DISTRICT BOUNDARY CLEARLY MARKED**
❷ **LARGE SCALE STREET, PLAT OR PARCEL MAP WITH RESOURCES MAPPED & LABELED**
❸ **TABULATION OF ALL INCLUDED RESOURCES -** Include name, FMSF #, contributing? Y/N, resource category, street address or other location information if no address.
❹ **PHOTOS OF GENERAL STREETSCAPE OR VIEWS (Optional: aerial photos, views of typical resources)** When submitting images, they must be included in digital AND hard copy format (plain paper grayscale acceptable). Digital images must be at least 1600 x 1200 pixels, 24-bit color, jpeg or tiff.

8SM01343_a Facing North

8SM01343_b Facing East

8SM01343_c Facing South

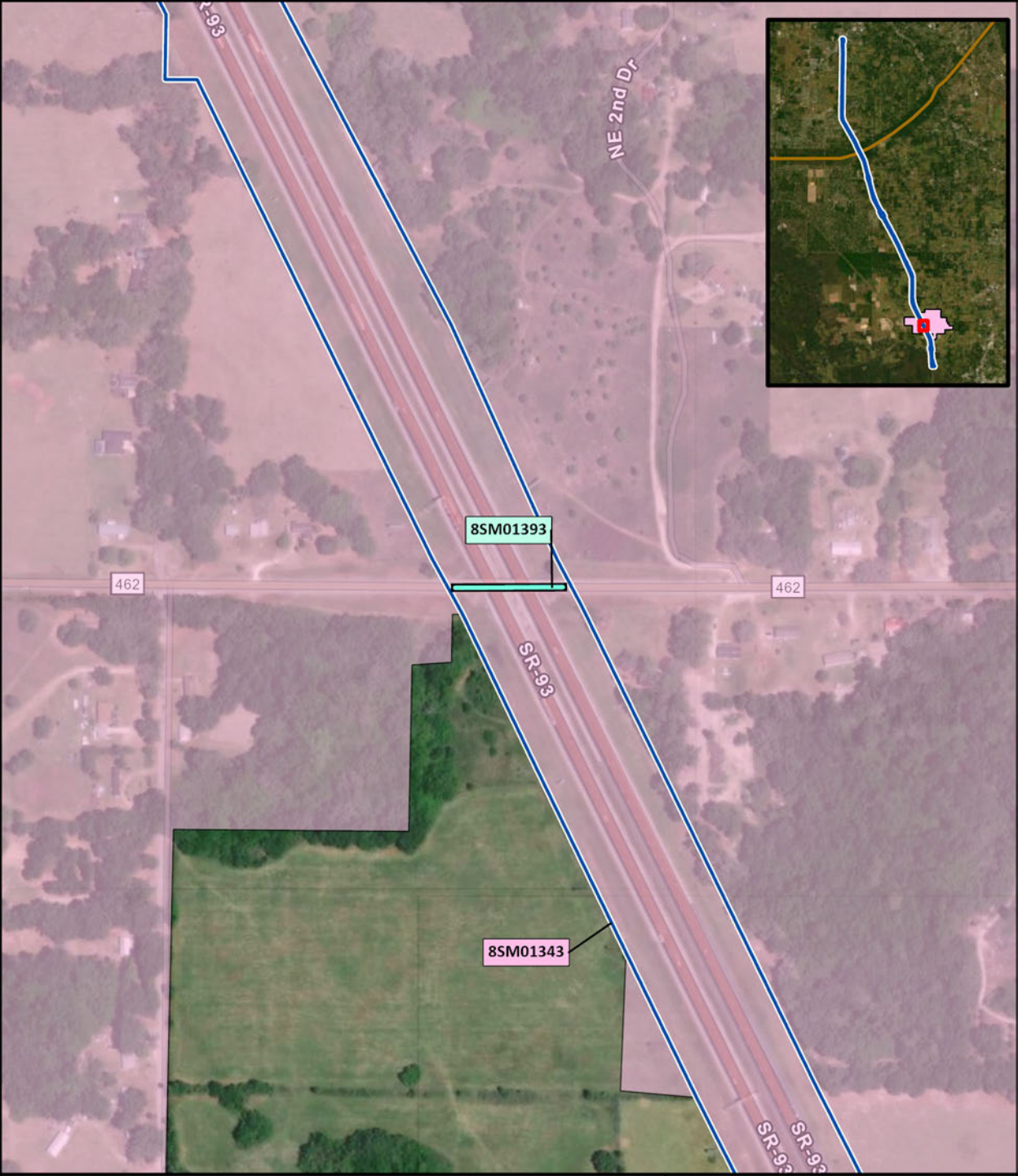
8SM01343_d Facing West

8SM01343_e Facing North

8SM01343_f Facing East

8SM01343_g Facing South

8SM01343_h Facing West



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

Newly Recorded Historic Bridge

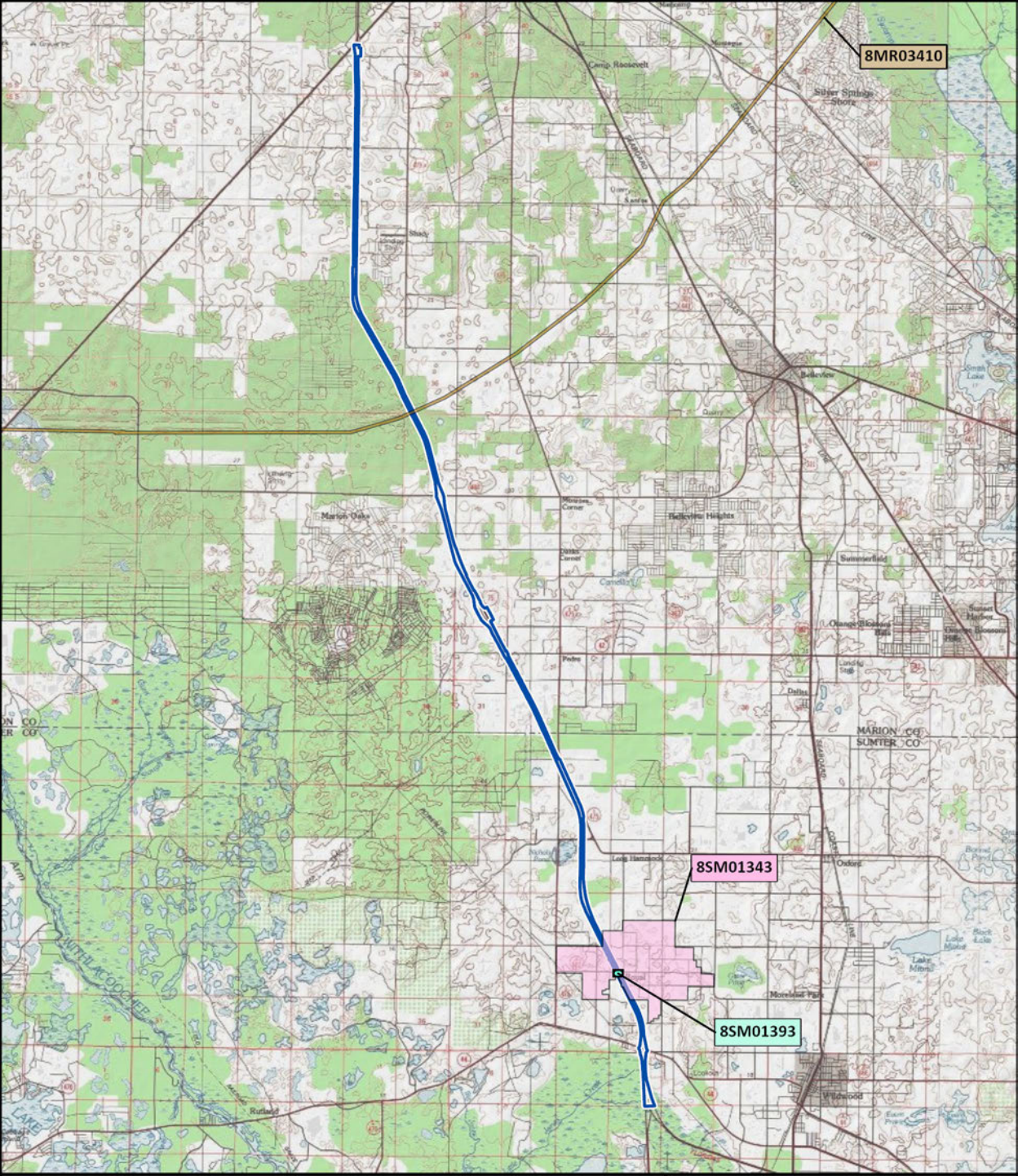
Previously Recorded Historic District

0 100 Meters

0 200 Feet

Esri World Imagery (2023);
FMSF (10/2023)

N



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

Newly Recorded Historic Bridge

Previously Recorded Linear Resource

Previously Recorded Historic District

0 2,000 Meters

0 10,000 Feet

USGS 30 x 60' Quadrangles:
Inverness, Florida (1979) and
Ocala, Florida (1978); FMSF (10/2023)

N

☒Original
☐Update

HISTORICAL BRIDGE FORM
FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE
Version 5.0 3/19

Consult *Guide to the Historical Bridge Form* for detailed instructions

Site #8 SM01393
Field Date 4-14-2023
Form Date 5-5-2023
Recorder #
FDOT Bridge # 180047

Bridge Name(s) FDOT Bridge No. 180047 Multiple Listing (DHR only)
Project Name CRAS I-75 from South of SR44 to SR200 PD&E Survey # (DHR only)
Ownership: ☐private-profit ☐private-nonprofit ☐private-individual ☐private-nonspecific ☐city ☐county ☒state ☐federal ☐Native American ☐foreign ☐unknown

LOCATION & MAPPING

Route(s) Carried/Feature(s) Crossed eastbound and westbound CR 462 vehicle traffic over I-75
USGS 7.5 Map Name OXFORD USGS Date 2021 Plat or Other Map
City/Town (within 3 miles) Oxford In City Limits? ☐yes ☒no ☐unknown County Sumter
Township 18S Range 22E Section 27 ¼ section: ☐NW ☐SW ☐SE ☐NE Irregular-name:
Township Range Section ¼ section: ☐NW ☐SW ☐SE ☐NE
Landgrant Tax Parcel #
UTM Coordinates: Zone ☐16 ☐17 Easting ☐☐☐☐☐☐ Northing ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Other Coordinates: X: Y: Coordinate System & Datum
Name of Public Tract (e.g., park)

HISTORY

Year Built 1964 ☒approximately ☐year listed or earlier ☐year listed or later
Still in use? ☒yes ☐no ☐restricted use (describe)
Prior Fords, Ferries, or Bridges at this Location

N/A

Bridge Use: original and current with dates (standard descriptions: auto, railway, pedestrian, fishing pier, abandoned)
Auto
Ownership history

State Highway Agency (1964-present)

Designers/Engineers
Builders/Contractors
Text of Plaque or Inscription

"County 462" plaque mounted to south side of bridge

Narrative History (How did bridge come to be built? How was it financed?, etc.)

Resource 8SM01393 was built in 1964 to carry eastbound and westbound CR 462 vehicle traffic over I-75. I-75 split the community of Royal in 1955. Resource 8SM01393 was constructed to reconnect the community.

DESCRIPTION

GENERAL

Overall Bridge Design 1. Stringer--Multi Beam 2.
Overall Condition ☒excellent ☐good ☐fair ☐deteriorated ☐ruinous
Style and Decorative Details

Concrete multi-beam stringer bridge with two approach spans, each measuring 11 m (36 ft) long and 8.70 m (29 ft) wide, and two main spans, each measuring 23.40 m (76.80 ft) long and 8.70 m (29 ft) wide.

Tender Station Description

N/A

Alterations: Dates and Descriptions

N/A

DHR USE ONLY	OFFICIAL EVALUATION	DHR USE ONLY
NR List Date ☐Owner Objection	SHPO – Appears to meet criteria for NR listing: ☐yes ☐no ☐insufficient info Date Init. KEEPER – Determined eligible: ☐yes ☐no Date NR Criteria for Evaluation: ☐a ☐b ☐c ☐d (see *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 2)	

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Phone **850.245.6440** / Fax **850.245.6439** / E-mail **SiteFile@dos.myflorida.com**

HISTORICAL BRIDGE FORM

Site #8 SM01393

DESCRIPTION (continued)

SUPERSTRUCTURE

Spans: Total Number 4 Total Length(ft) 237

Main Spans: Number 2 Length(ft) 77 Width(ft) 29 Roadway width(ft) 23
Main Span Design Stringer--Multi Beam
Main Span Materials 1. Concrete 2. _____

Approach Spans: Number 2 Length(ft) 36 Width(ft) 29 Roadway width(ft) 23
Approach Span Design Stringer--Multi Beam
Approach Span Materials 1. Concrete 2. _____

Deck Materials 1. Concrete 2. _____

SUBSTRUCTURE

Abutment Materials 1. Concrete 2. _____
Abutment Description _____

Pier Materials 1. Concrete 2. _____
Pier Description three rows of paired reinforced concrete piers

RESEARCH METHODS (check all that apply)

- ☐ FDOT database search
- ☐ HABS/HAER record search
- ☐ FMSF record search (sites/surveys)
- ☐ Fla. Archives / photo collection
- ☐ property appraiser / tax records
- ☐ library research
- ☐ newspaper files
- ☐ city directory
- ☐ Public Lands Survey (DEP)
- ☐ informal archaeological inspection
- ☐ formal archaeological survey
- ☐ cultural resource survey
- ☐ Other methods (specify) _____

Bibliographic References (give FMSF manuscript # if relevant, use separate sheet if needed)

OPINION OF RESOURCE SIGNIFICANCE

Potentially eligible individually for National Register of Historic Places? ☐ yes ☒ no ☐ insufficient information
Potentially eligible as contributor to a National Register district? ☐ yes ☒ no ☐ insufficient information

Explanation of Evaluation (**required**, use separate sheet if needed)

Due to lack of sufficient historic significance and architectural distinction, 8SM01393 is ineligible for listing in the NRHP, either individually or as a contributing resource within a historic district.

Area(s) of historical significance (See *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 8 for categories: e.g. "architecture", "ethnic heritage", "community planning & development", etc.)

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

DOCUMENTATION

Accessible Documentation Not Filed with the Site File - including field & analysis notes, photos, plans, other important documents

1) Document type All materials at one location Maintaining organization Southeastern Archaeological Research
Document description Photos, Maps, Field Notes, Aerial File or accession #'s 230095

2) Document type _____ Maintaining organization _____
Document description _____ File or accession #'s _____

RECORDER INFORMATION

Recorder Name Suphanniam, Anna Affiliation Southeastern Archaeological Research
Recorder Contact Information 700 N 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32501/850.910.5031/anna.suphanniam@searchinc.co
(address / phone / fax / e-mail)

Required Attachments

❶ **USGS 7.5' TOPO MAP WITH BRIDGE LOCATION CLEARLY MARKED**

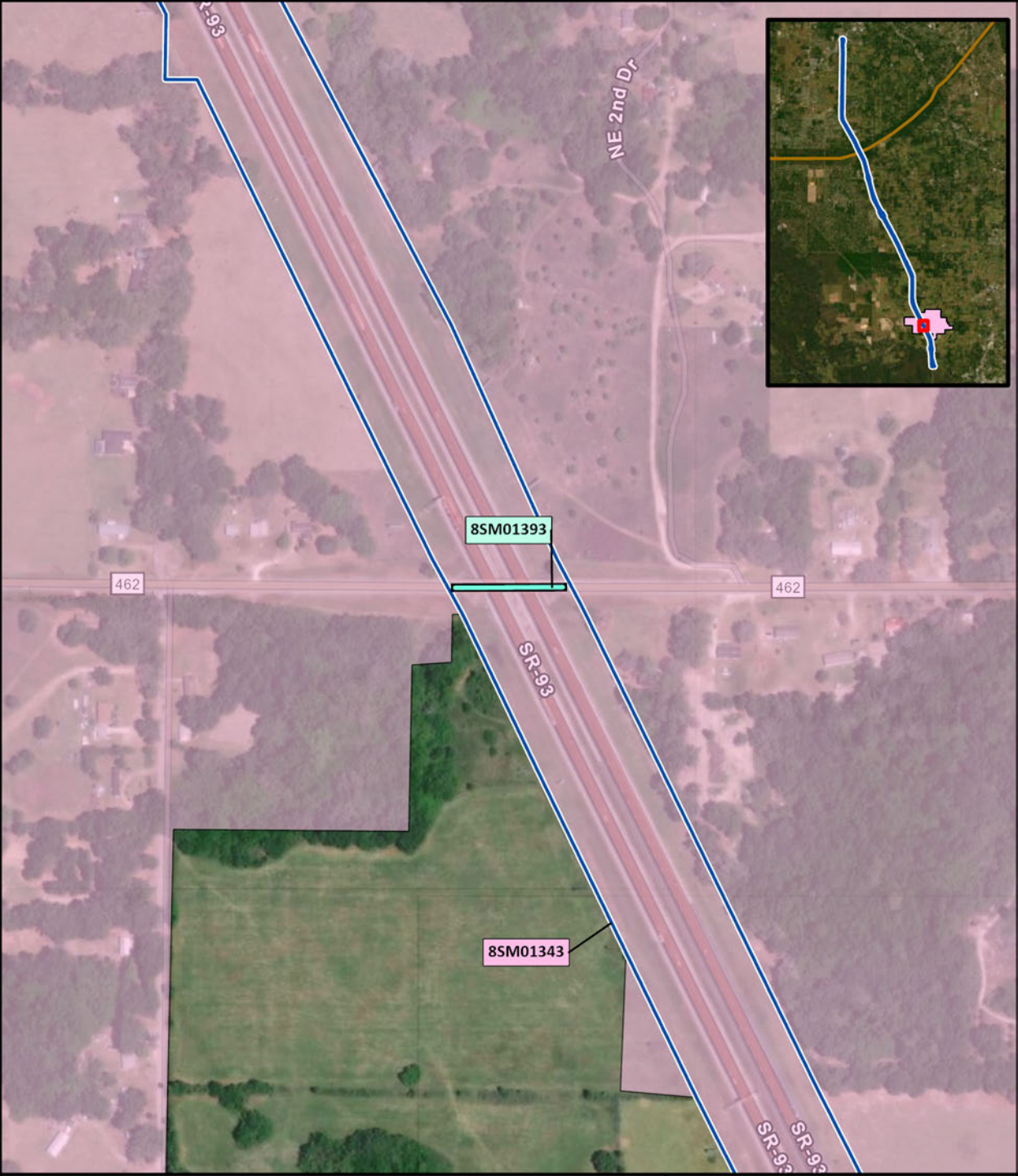
❷ **PHOTO OF BRIDGE**
When submitting an image, it must be included in digital AND hard copy format (plain paper grayscale acceptable). Digital image must be at least 1600 x 1200 pixels, 24-bit color, jpeg or tiff.

8SM01393_a Facing Southeast

8SM01393_b Facing Southeast

8SM01393_c Facing Northeast

8SM01393_d Facing North



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

Newly Recorded Historic Bridge

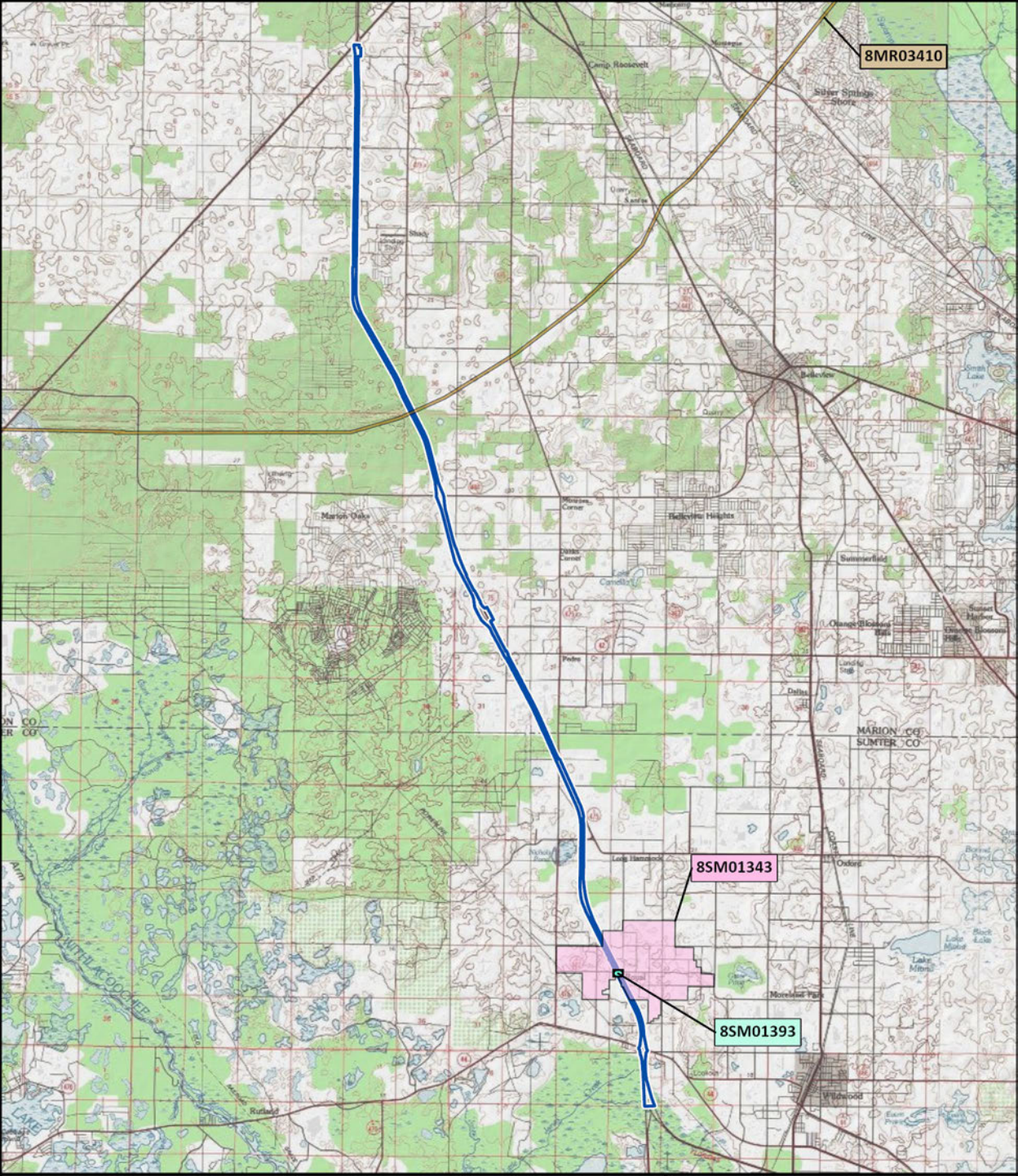
Previously Recorded Historic District

0 100 Meters

0 200 Feet

Esri World Imagery (2023);
FMSF (10/2023)

N



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

Newly Recorded Historic Bridge

Previously Recorded Linear Resource

Previously Recorded Historic District

0 2,000 Meters

0 10,000 Feet

USGS 30 x 60' Quadrangles:
Inverness, Florida (1979) and
Ocala, Florida (1978); FMSF (10/2023)

N

APPENDIX C.

FDHR SURVEY LOG SHEET

Ent D (FMSF only) _____

Survey Log Sheet

Florida Master Site File
Version 5.0 3/19

Survey # (FMSF only) _____

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

Manuscript Information

Survey Project (name and project phase)
CRAS of I-75 from south of SR 44 to SR 200

Report Title (exactly as on title page)
Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida

Report Authors (as on title page)
1. Feriend, Kyle
2. Kinchen, Drew
3. Parham, Ashley
4. Suphanniam, Anna

Publication Year 2023 **Number of Pages in Report** (do not include site forms) 135

Publication Information (Give series, number in series, publisher and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of *American Antiquity*.)
On file at SEARCH Newberry, SEARCH project number 230095, FDOT FM# 450274-2

Supervisors of Fieldwork (even if same as author) Names Boyd, Varna

Affiliation of Fieldworkers: Organization Southeastern Archaeological Research City Pensacola, FL

Key Words/Phrases (Don't use county name, or common words like *archaeology*, *structure*, *survey, architecture, etc.*)
1. I-75
2. SR 44
3. SR 200
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.

Survey Sponsors (corporation, government unit, organization, or person funding fieldwork)
Name FDOT D5 Organization Florida Dept of Transportation - District 5
Address/Phone/E-mail DeLand, FL

Recorder of Log Sheet D. Kinchen **Date Log Sheet Completed** 9-12-2023

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

Project Area Mapping

Counties (select every county in which field survey was done; attach additional sheet if necessary)
1. Marion
2. Sumter
3.
4.
5.
6.

USGS 1:24,000 Map Names/Year of Latest Revision (attach additional sheet if necessary)
1. Name OCALA WEST Year
2. Name OCALA EAST Year
3. Name PLANT CITY Year
4. Name Year
5. Name Year
6. Name Year

Field Dates and Project Area Description

Fieldwork Dates: Start 4-3-2023 End 5-15-2023 **Total Area Surveyed** (fill in one) _____hectares 940.00 acres
Number of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed 1
If Corridor (fill in one for each) **Width:** _____meters 330 feet **Length:** _____kilometers 22.00 miles

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Phone 850.245.6440, Fax 850.245.6439, Email: SiteFile@dos.myflorida.com

Survey Log Sheet

Survey #_____

Research and Field Methods

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

Scope/Intensity/Procedures

Systematic shovel testing and pedestrian survey of APE, recording of all pre-1978 resources

Preliminary Methods (select 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 ☐LIDAR
☐Florida Photo Archives (Gray Building) ☐library-special collection ☐newspaper files ☒soils maps or data ☐other remote sensing
☒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 (select 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) ☐metal detector
☐surface collection, uncontrolled ☐water screen ☐soil resistivity ☐other remote sensing
☒shovel test-1/4"screen ☐posthole tests ☐magnetometer ☒pedestrian survey
☐shovel test-1/8" screen ☐auger tests ☐side scan sonar ☐unknown
☐shovel test 1/16"screen ☐coring ☐ground penetrating radar (GPR)
☐shovel test-unscreened ☐test excavation (at least 1x2 m) ☐LIDAR

☐other (describe): _____

Historical/Architectural Methods (select 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 ☒windshield survey ☐occupant interview ☐tax records
☐interior documentation ☒local property records ☐occupation permits ☐unknown

☐other (describe): _____

Survey Results

Resource Significance Evaluated? ☒Yes ☐No

Count of Previously Recorded Resources [redacted] **Count of Newly Recorded Resources** [redacted]

List Previously Recorded Site ID#s with Site File Forms Completed (attach additional pages if necessary)

[redacted]

List Newly Recorded Site ID#s (attach additional pages if necessary)

[redacted]

Site Forms Used: ☐Site File Paper Forms ☒Site File PDF Forms

REQUIRED: Attach Map of Survey or Project Area Boundary

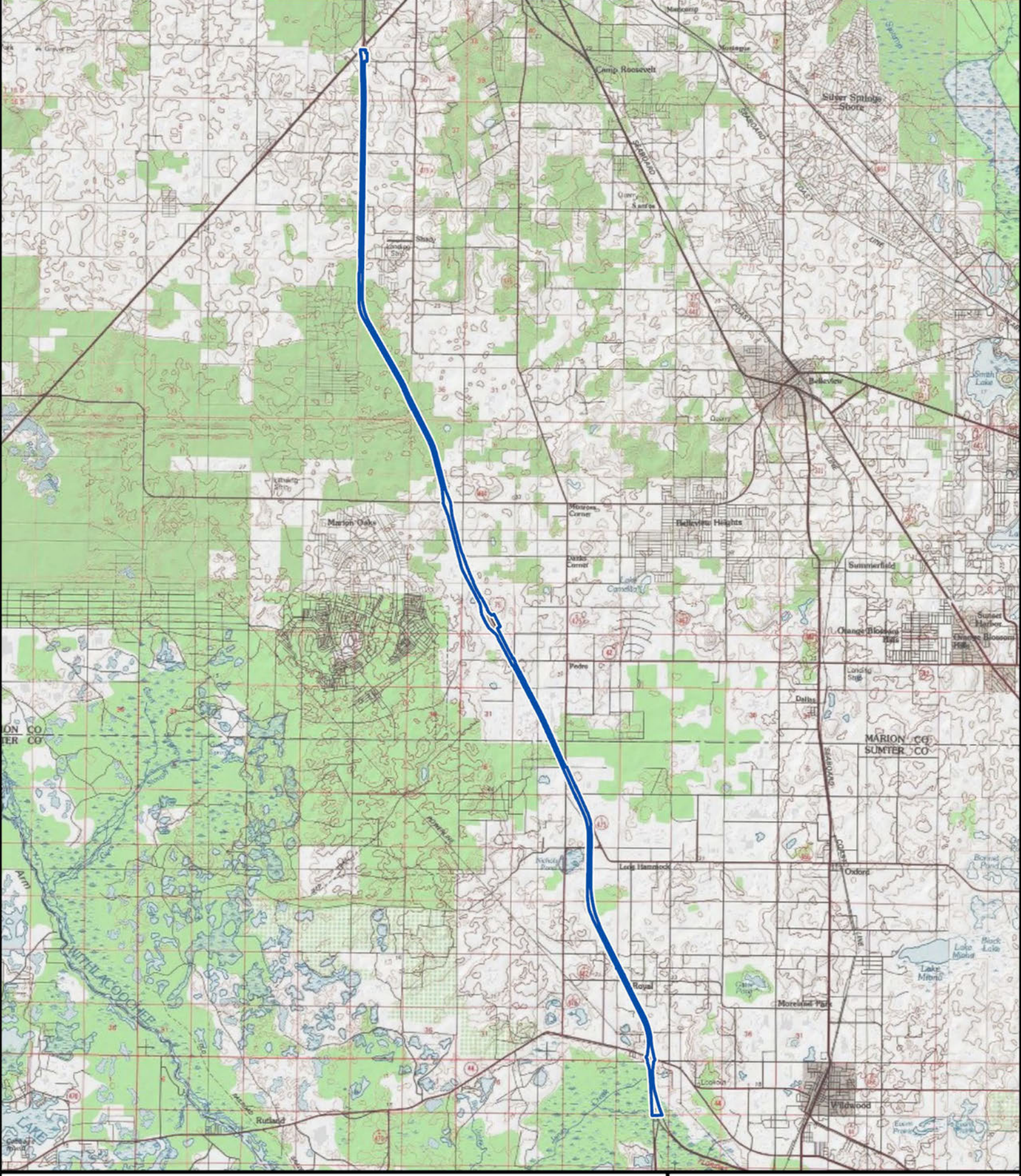
SHPO USE ONLY **SHPO USE ONLY** **SHPO USE ONLY**

Origin of Report: ☐872 ☐Public Lands ☐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
☐Desktop Analysis ☐MPS ☐MRA ☐TG ☐Other: _____

Document Destination: Plottable Projects Plotability: _____

Florida Master Site File / Div. of Historical Resources / R.A. Gray Bldg / 500 S Bronough St., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250
Phone 850.245.6440, Fax 850.245.6439, Email: SiteFile@dos.myflorida.com



I-75 from South of SR 44 to SR 200 APE

0 2,000 Meters

0 10,000 Feet

USA Topographic Map (2011)

N

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APPENDIX D.

MISPLOT LETTER

September 12, 2023

Eman M. Vovsi, PhD
Historical Data Analyst
Florida Master Site File
500 S. Bronough St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Subject: **CRAS of I-75 From South of State Road 44 to State Road 200, Sumter and Marion Counties, Florida.**

Dear Dr. Vovsi,

One previously recorded NRHP-eligible resource group, the Community of Royal (8SM01343) is inaccurately plotted in the Florida Master Site File Geographic Information System data within the area of potential effects for the above-referenced project. This previously recorded resource group is misplotted along its southern and northern boundary **Table 1; Figures 1 and 2**, below.

Table 1.

Resource Groups				
FMSF No.	**Name/Address**	**Demolished or Misplotted**	**Period of Significance**	**SHPO Evaluation**
8SM01343	Community of Royal	Misplotted; Figures 1-2	1870-1972	Eligible

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me at mikel.travisano@searchinc.com.

Sincerely,

Mikel Travisano

Mikel Travisano, MS
Architectural Historian and Principal Investigator

SM1343

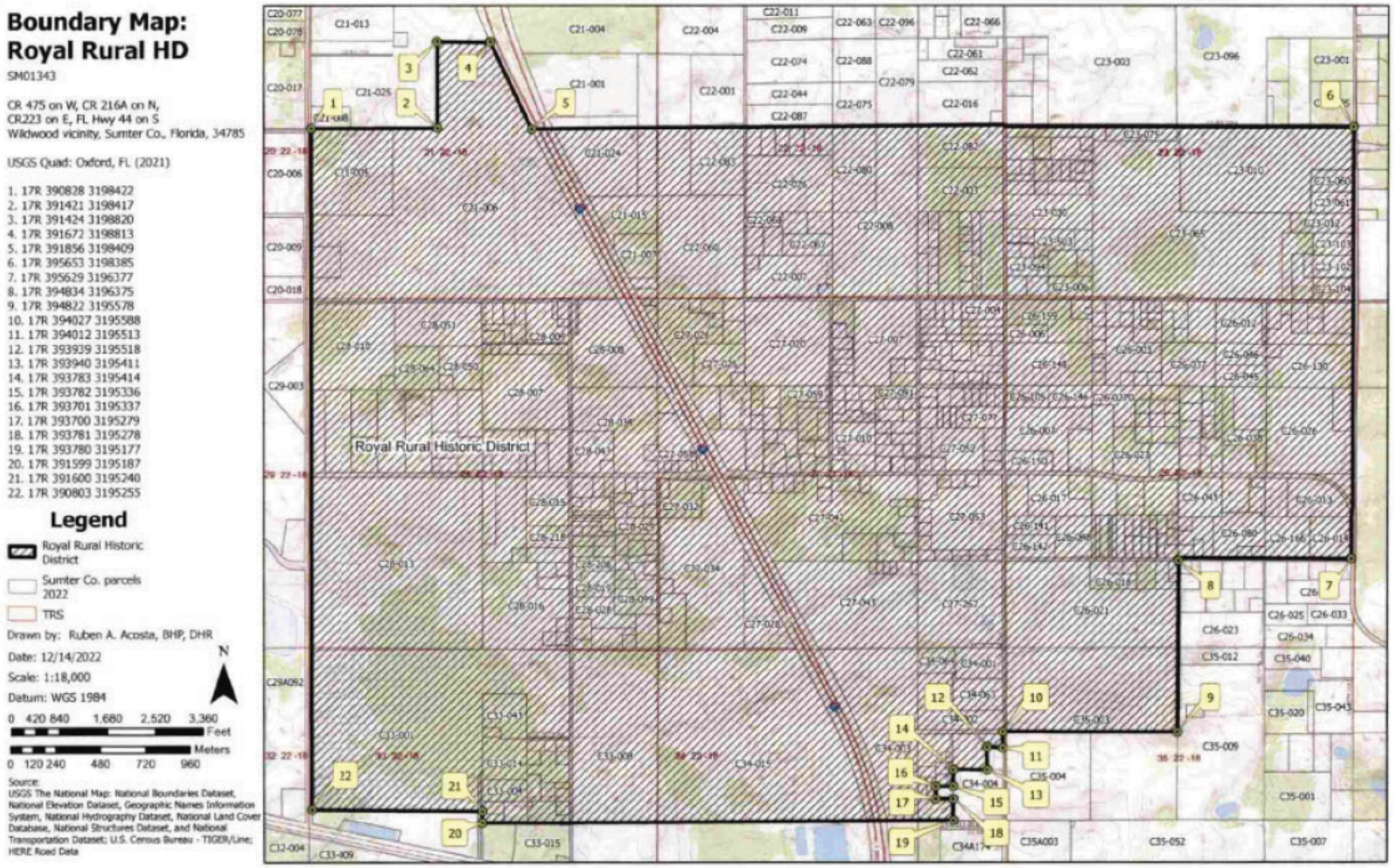

Figure 1. The boundary pap included with the Community of Royal included in the NRHP Registration Documentation. Note that it was drawn by DHR.

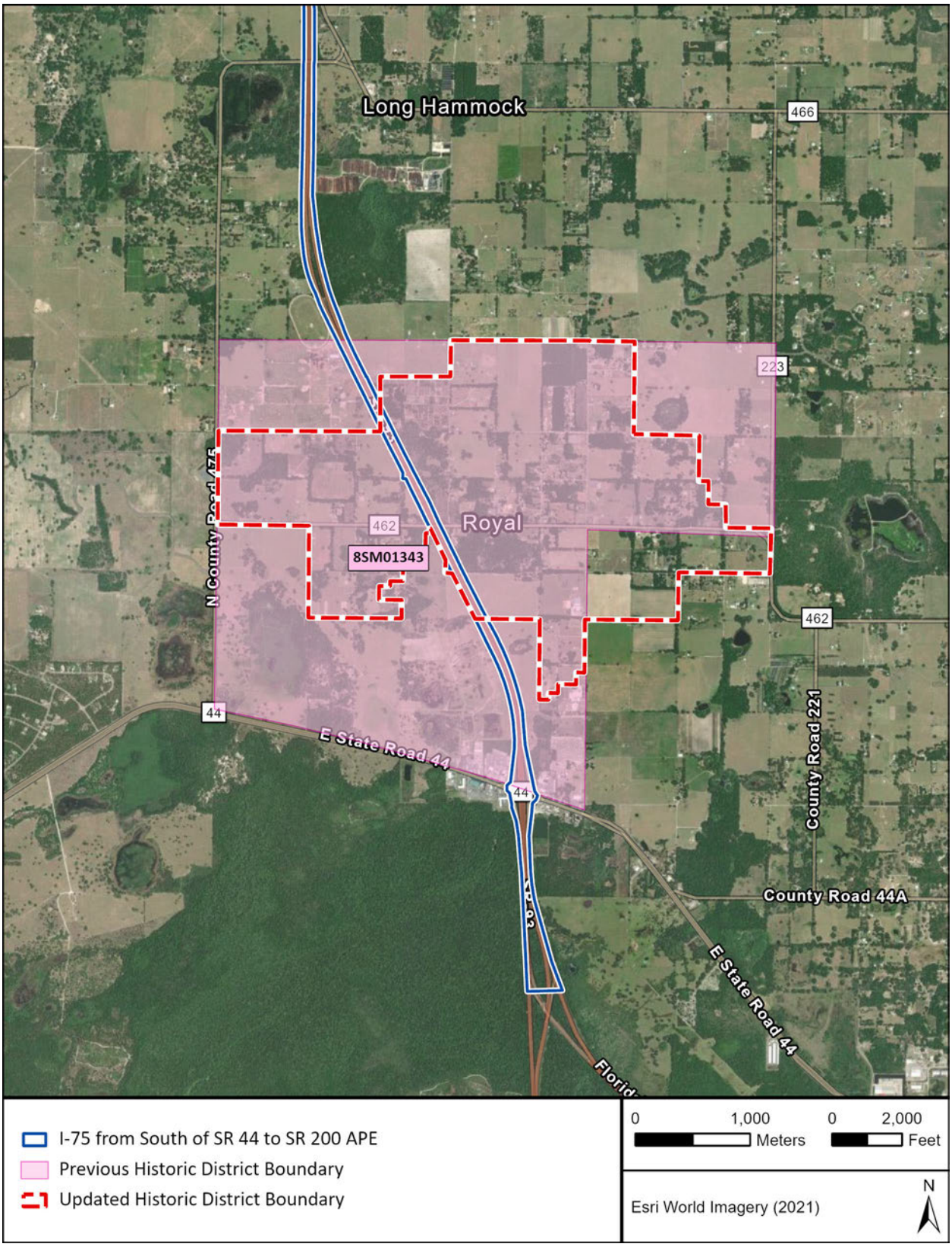

Figure 2. Resource 8SM01343 overlapping the APE. Note that the corrected boundary is illustrated by the dashed line and is the boundary drawn by DHR in Figure 1.