CSRS | BUILDING STRONGER, SMARTER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER.

LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CERTIFIED SITE

Exhibit HH.
Spanish Trail Industrial Park
Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment Report

ONEACADIANA

BROUSSARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SLEMCO

SMEDA St. Martin Economic Development Authority

CSRS | 6767 Perkins Rd., Suite 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 | 225.769.0546 | www.csrsinc.com

A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

Spanish Trail Industrial Park Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment Report

Prepared by
TerraXplorations, Inc.

Prepared for
One Acadiana

TerraXplorations, Inc.
1001 Hampton Gate
Mobile, Alabama 36609
www.terraxplorations.com

September 2019

One Acadiana
804 E. St. Mary Blvd.
Lafayette, Louisiana 70503

A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

NEGATIVE FINDINGS
DRAFT REPORT

BY
Amy Carruth

Prepared by
TerraXplorations, Inc.
1001 Hampton Gate
Mobile, Alabama 36609

Prepared for
One Acadiana
804 E. St. Mary Blvd.
Lafayette, Louisiana 70503

Principal Investigator
Paul D. Jackson

TerraX Report No. 2019.254

September 20, 2019

ABSTRACT

On August 27-28 of 2019, TerraXplorations, Inc. (TerraX) of Mobile, Alabama performed a cultural resources survey for the proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park located east of U.S. Highway 90 and Youngsville, and south of Billeaud in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. The Phase I survey was performed by Paul D. Jackson, Principal Investigator, who was assisted by Matthew Sumrall, Victoria Natell, and Katherine Sinitiere. This is in support of the Louisiana Economic Development (LED) Site Certification process. Total acreage for this project is 49.7 acres (20.1 hectares). No archaeological sites or historic structures were identified. All paperwork and supporting documents will be curated at the Troy University Archaeological Research Center in Troy, Alabama. There will be no historic properties affected. Accordingly, no further archaeological studies are recommended for the proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park project.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF TABLES

CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

TerraXplorations, Inc. (TerraX) of Mobile, Alabama was contracted by One Acadiana of Lafayette, Louisiana to conduct a cultural resources survey for the proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. The Phase I survey was performed on August 27-28, 2019 by Paul D. Jackson, Principal Investigator, who was assisted by Matthew Sumrall, Victoria Natell, and Katherine Sinitiere. The purpose of this study was to determine if any prehistoric or historic properties exist within the limits of the project area, and if so, to document and assess each based on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria. This is in support of the Louisiana Economic Development (LED) Site Certification process. The project area (PA) is the same as the area of potential effect (APE).

The project area lies between Youngsville and Billeaud, just east of U.S. Highway 90 (Figure 1.1). Total acreage for this project is 49.7 acres (20.1 hectares). The project area is found within Section 11, Township 11 South, Range 5 East as seen on the 1983 Youngsville, Louisiana USGS 7.5' series topographic quadrangle (Figure 1.2).

This report of our investigations is presented as follows. Chapter 2 contains information regarding land use history in the project area. Chapter 3 examines any previous sites or surveys in or near the project area. Chapter 4 presents the field and laboratory methodology as well as curation. Chapter 5 consists of the results of fieldwork. Chapter 6 concludes the report and summarizes our findings and recommendations. Appendix A contains the curation agreement.

Figure 1.1. *Aerial image showing the project area.*

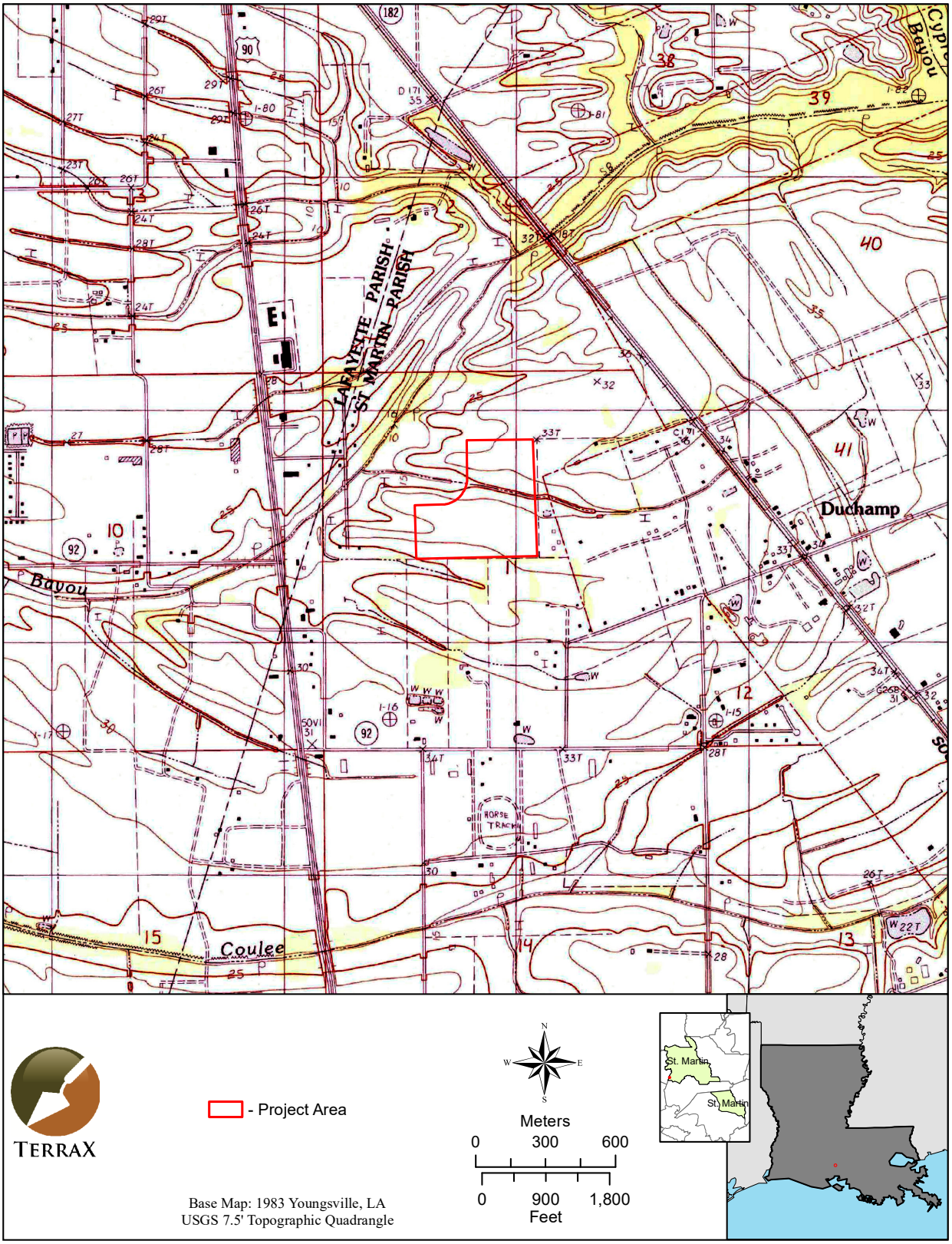

Figure 1.2. *Topographic map showing the project area.*

CHAPTER 2
LAND USE HISTORY

Located in southwest Louisiana in St. Martin Parish, the project area is in an overgrown pasture setting. Two canals run through the project area, one north-south and a larger one running roughly east-west. The project area is surrounded to the east by residences and woods, to the north by fields and pasture, to the south by woods and pasture, and to the west by pasture and other industrial development. There are no structures currently within the project area. Elevations in the project area are about 25 to 30 ft above mean sea level.

The study area is occupied by alluvium laid down in the Holocene and falls within the Western Gulf Coastal Plain ecoregion, which is composed of relatively flat areas that are historically mainly grasslands. Rice and soybeans are the principal crops grown in this region. Within this ecoregion, further divisions place the project area in the Lafayette Loess Plains. The original vegetation was primarily tallgrass grasslands with gallery forests along streams. Almost all the grasslands are now cropland, pasture, urban land, or crawfish aquaculture. A layer of wind-blown loess covers the region and there has been much urban expansion in recent years (Daigle et al. 2006).

The low ground containing the project area with no major water nearby was probably not the ideal location for pre-contact sites. The few previously recorded sites within a one-mile radius are all historic sites. Historic maps from 1939 do depict structures within the project area, lending a strong possibility for the discovery of historic twentieth century sites.

The oldest topographic map available is the 1939 St. Martinsville 15' series quadrangle (Figure 2.1). It depicts an unimproved road coming from the northern boundary ending at two structures. There is a light scatter of structures in the surrounding area, but not much in the way of development. Highway 90 shows up to the northeast and the intermittent stream/canal is shown running east-west through the property.

The 1957 St. Martinsville 15' map no longer shows the unimproved road or any structures in the project area (Figure 2.3). There appear to be fewer structures in the surrounding area as well.

By 1970, the St. Martinsville 15' map shows that U.S. Highway 90 is now shifted to the west of the project area and LA Highway 182 is in the place of the old Highway 90 location (Figure 2.4). There are no roads or structures in the project area and not much in the way of nearby development.

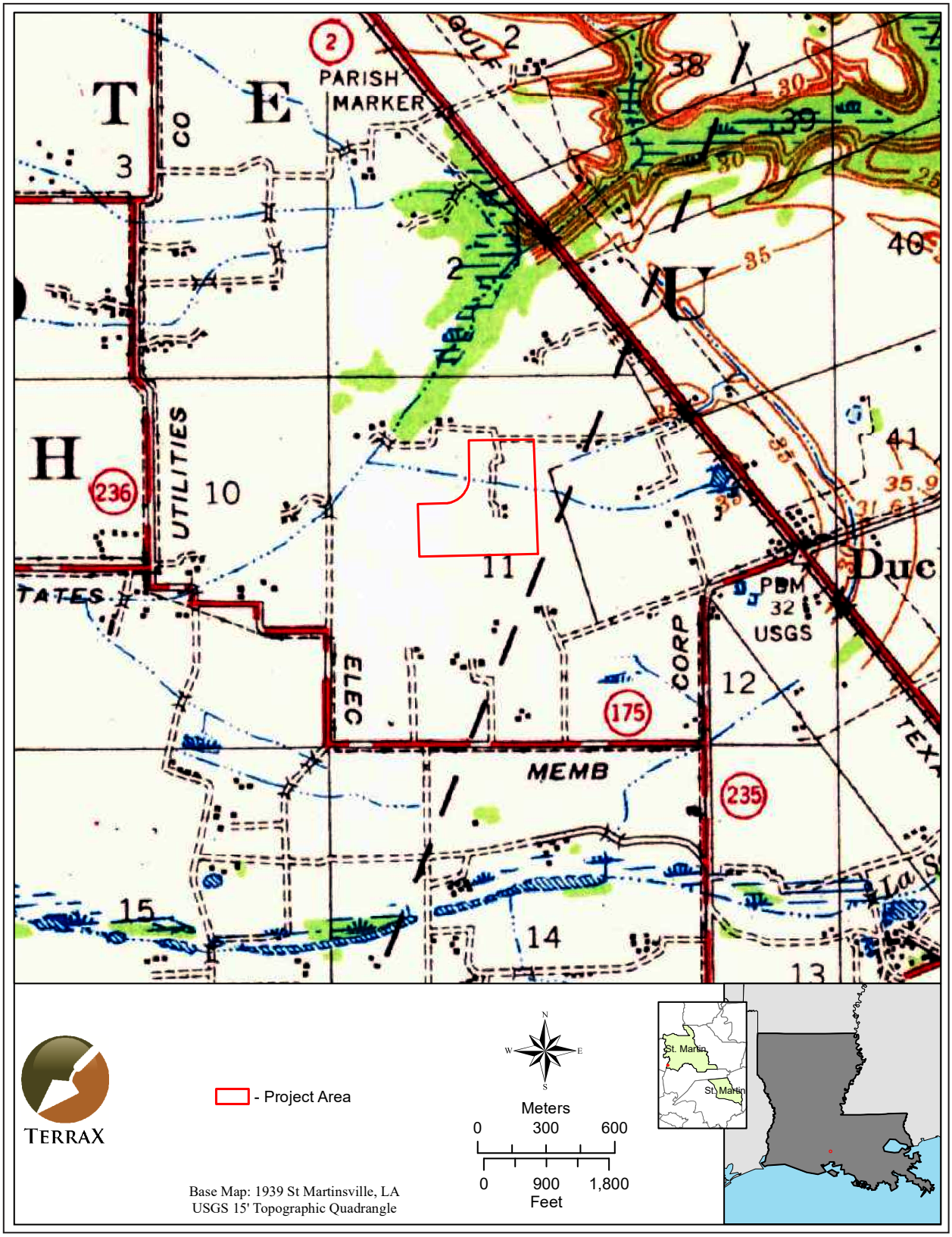

Figure 2.1. *Historic 1939 topographic map showing the project area.*

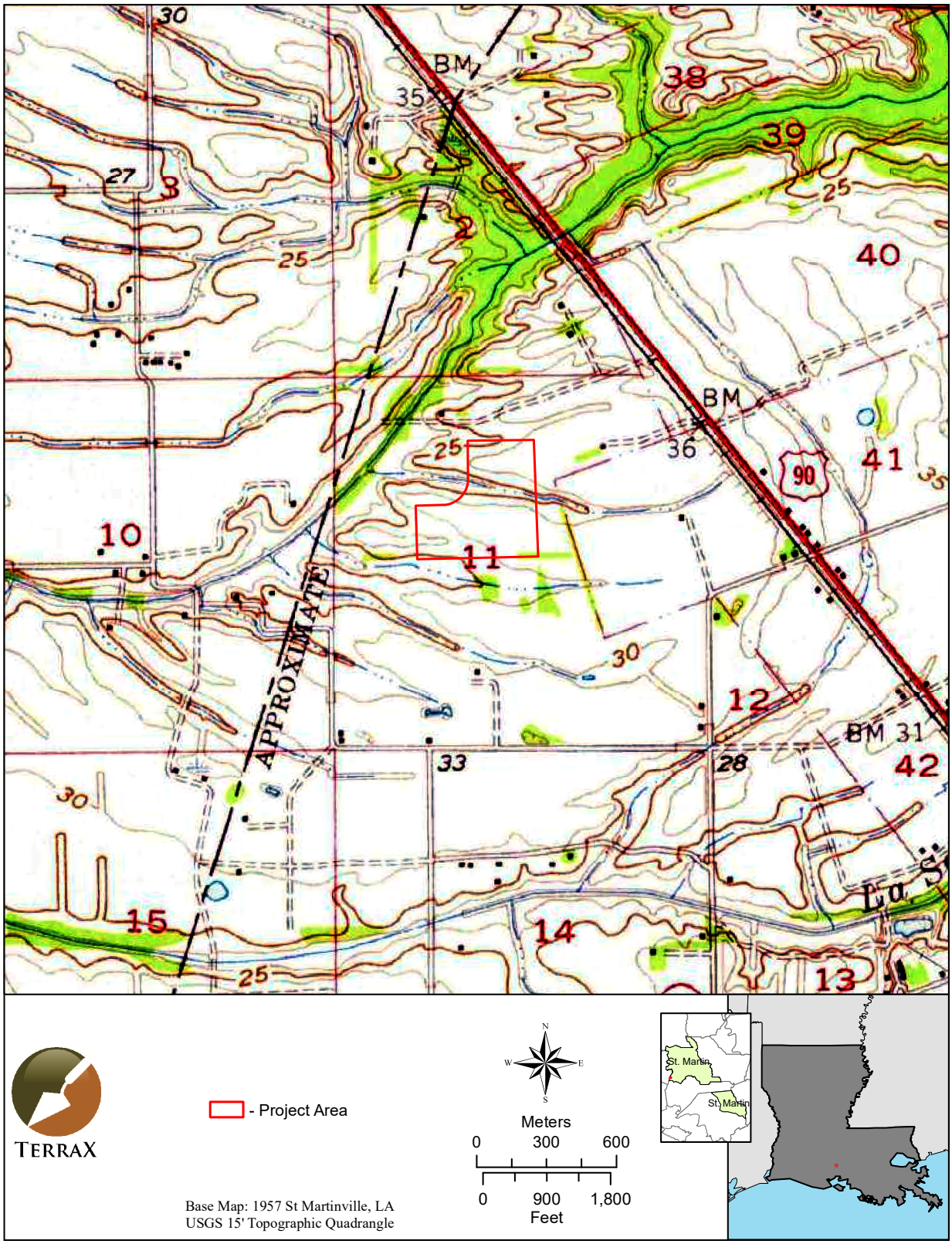

Figure 2.2. *Historic 1957 topographic map showing the project area.*

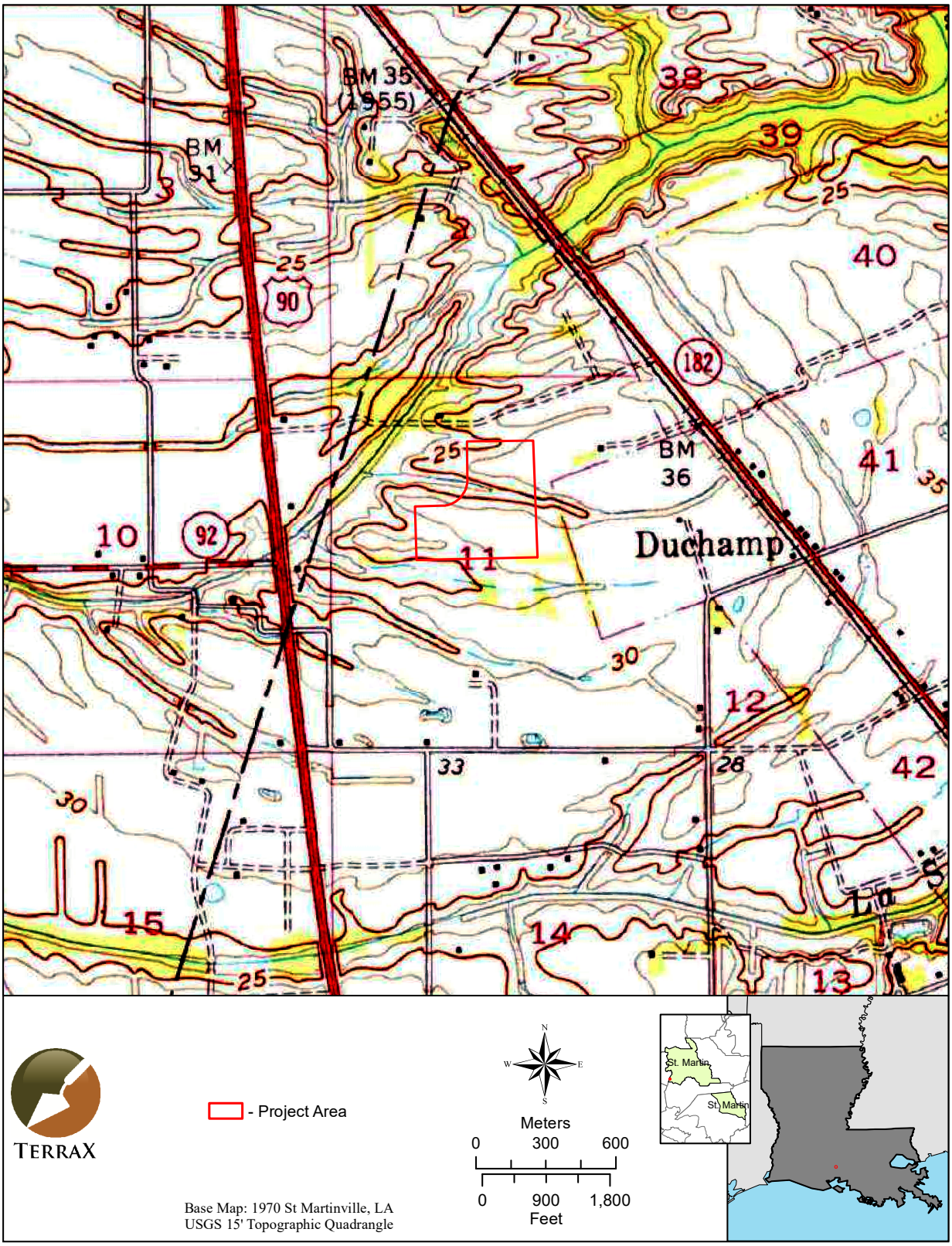

Figure 2.3. *1970 topographic map showing the project area.*

CHAPTER 3
PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

LITERATURE AND DOCUMENT SEARCH

Background research was conducted prior to the survey to identify previously recorded historic and pre-contact properties within a one-mile radius of the proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park project located in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. This search included an online query of the Louisiana Site Files (Louisiana Division of Archaeology [LDOA] 2019). A one-mile (1.6 km) radius search was conducted around the proposed project area for previously recorded archaeological sites and historic structures, and previous cultural resources surveys. Lastly, a query into the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (National Park Service 2019) was conducted.

A search of the Phase I Surveys database maintained by LDOA (2019) identified five surveys conducted within one mile, none within the project area (Figure 3.1, Table 3.1). There are seven previously recorded sites (Table 3.2; see Figure 3.1) and three previously recorded historic structures (Figure 3.2) within one mile. There are no NRHP-listed resources within the one-mile radius. Historic map research revealed two structures within the project area that are depicted on the 1939 Martinsville 15' series map (see Figure 2.1). These structures were absent from the 1957 and subsequent maps.

Previously recorded historic structure 50-00259 was built c.1915 in the Italianate style. It has undergone major alterations and has not been assessed for the NRHP. Historic structure 50-00260 dates to the 1930s and is an extremely altered raised Creole cottage. It has an unknown NRHP eligibility. Historic resource 50-00561 is a Victorian house that was moved to its present site. It has not been assessed for NRHP eligibility.

Figure 3.1. *Map showing previous surveys and previously recorded sites within a one-mile radius.*

Table 3.1. Previous surveys within one mile of the proposed project area.			
Report number	***Acreage***	***Report Title***	***Author & Date***
22-1926	265 miles	*A Cultural Resources Survey from Sorrento, Louisiana to Mont Belvieu, Texas*	Skinner 1995
22-1927-1	67	*Addendum to Beyond the River and the Ridge: Cultural Resources Investigations of Ambassador Caffery Parkway Lafayette Parish, South-Central Louisiana: Alternates C, D, G, K, and L*	Gibson & Brasseaux 1997
22-2455	350	*Intensive Cultural Resources Survey I-49 South Route US 90 Lafayette Regional Airport to Route LA 88 Lafayette, St. Martin and Iberia Parishes, Louisiana*	Yakubik 2004
22-2483	233	*A Phase I Cultural Resources Management Survey for the Proposed St. Martin Parish Business and Industrial Park St. Martin Parish, Louisiana*	Barber 2002
22-4625	4,676.50	*A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Proposed Aegis Ethane Header Pipeline Project, Segment 2 Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, Vermilion, Lafayette and St. Martin Parishes, Louisiana*	Schubert 2015

Table 3.2. Previously recorded sites within one mile of the project area.					
Site Number	***Site Name***	***NRHP Status***	***Components***	***Recorded by***	***Reference***
16LY103	Cameron Zoo Site	ineligible	historic	Barry South	South 2004
16LY105	Cypress Bayou Site	ineligible	historic	Barry South	South 2004
16LY110	I49-W-06	ineligible	historic	Barry South	South 2004
16LY111	All Cranes Site	ineligible	historic	Barry South	South 2004
16LY127	Southern Pacific Railroad	potenially eligible	historic	Wm. Matthew Tankersley	Tankersley 2009
16LY141	CC825	ineligible	historic	Mel Nichols	Nichols 2013
16SM120	Temp Site SC1	ineligible	historic	Steven Cummins	Cummins 2014

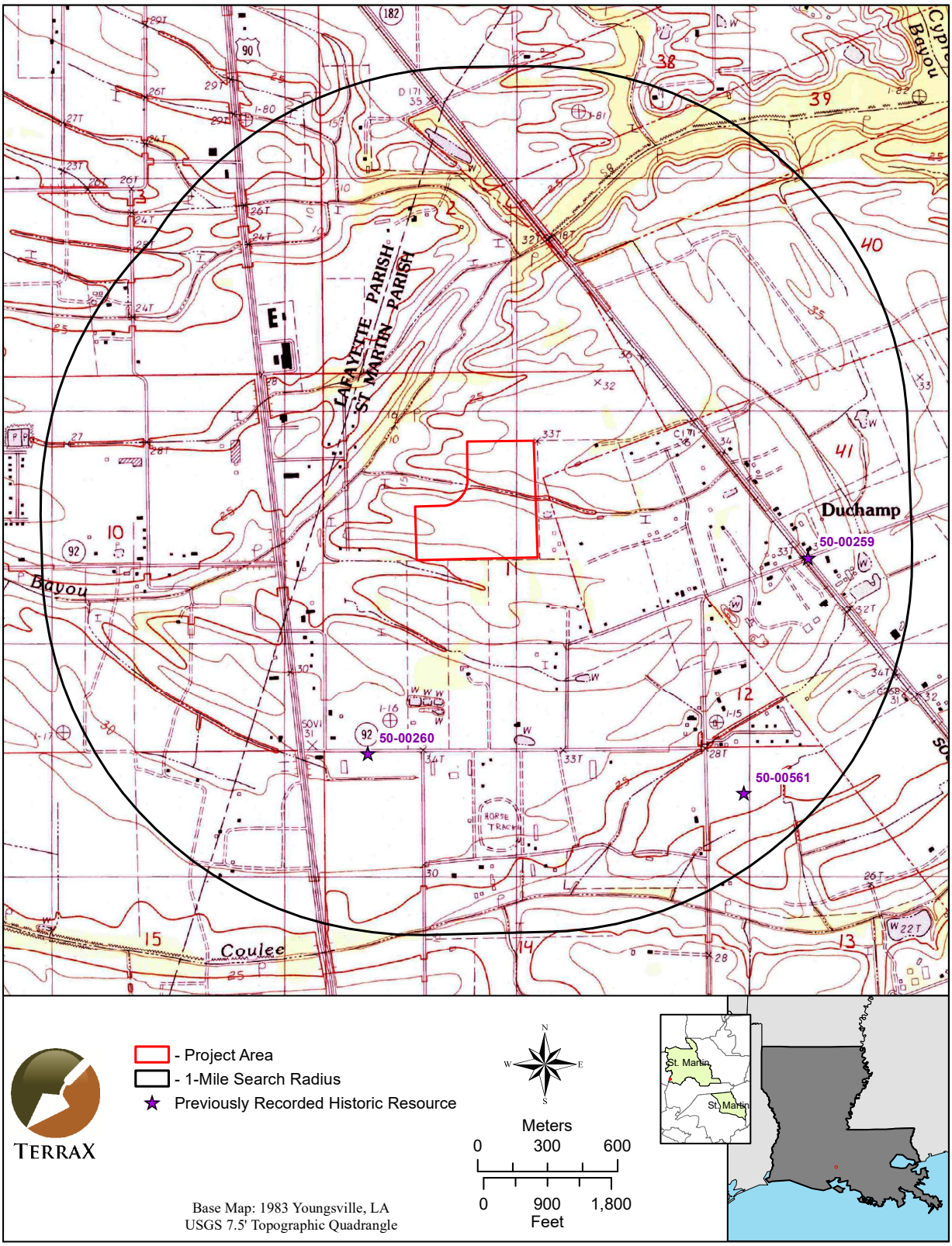

Figure 3.2. *Map showing previously recorded historic structures within a one-mile radius.*

CHAPTER 4
METHODOLOGY

STANDING STRUCTURES

Historic maps were reviewed before the field work was accomplished to ascertain the presence or absence of possible historic resources within the project area. As mentioned in previous chapters, two historic structures appear on the 1939 topographic quadrangle. Field reconnaissance demonstrated that there are no historic standing structures within the project area currently.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD METHODS

The field survey conducted implemented standard archaeological survey techniques. Full land coverage requirements were achieved through visual inspections of the entire survey area and subsurface testing. While conducting visual inspections, any exposed surfaces were carefully examined for cultural material.

Subsurface testing was performed along 30-m interval transects comprised of shovel tests spaced 30 m apart. Standard shovel tests consist of 30 centimeter (cm) diameter cylindrical holes excavated to the top of the sterile subsoil layer or until the water table or other obstruction was encountered. Soils from each test are screened through 1/4-inch (0.64 cm) hardware cloth for the purpose of recovering any cultural material that may exist at that location. When cultural material is encountered, the material is sorted by provenience and placed into bags labeled with the pertinent excavation information before being transported to TerraX's laboratory. Any cultural material identified during transecting is further examined in order to better define its horizontal and vertical limits. Delineations are conducted by placing additional shovel tests around positive tests. These additional tests are placed at 10 m intervals off of the original positive tests or cultural features in cardinal directions within the project area. This testing is conducted until two negative shovel tests are encountered in each direction or until delineations extend beyond the project boundary. A hand held Garmin GPS unit is used to record the site center and a sketch map is drawn by compass and pace and plotted to scale. Digital photographs are taken for any site recorded as well as for the survey area.

For the Spanish Trail Industrial Park project, 227 shovel tests were attempted, all of which were negative for cultural material (Figure 4.1).

LABORATORY METHODS

Any cultural materials recovered during field projects are delivered to TerraX's laboratory in Mobile, Alabama for processing. Upon initial receipt of materials and field forms, bag lists are entered into a computer database for use with a labeling program. Materials are cleaned and, if necessary, stabilized before classification and quantification by laboratory analysts. Cultural materials are sorted on the basis of material (i.e., ceramic, glass, etc.), manufacturing method, and/or decoration.

CURATION

Along with any cultural material, all project records, photographs, and maps produced while conducting the investigation are transported for curation at the Troy University Archaeological Research Center, Troy, Alabama (Appendix A).

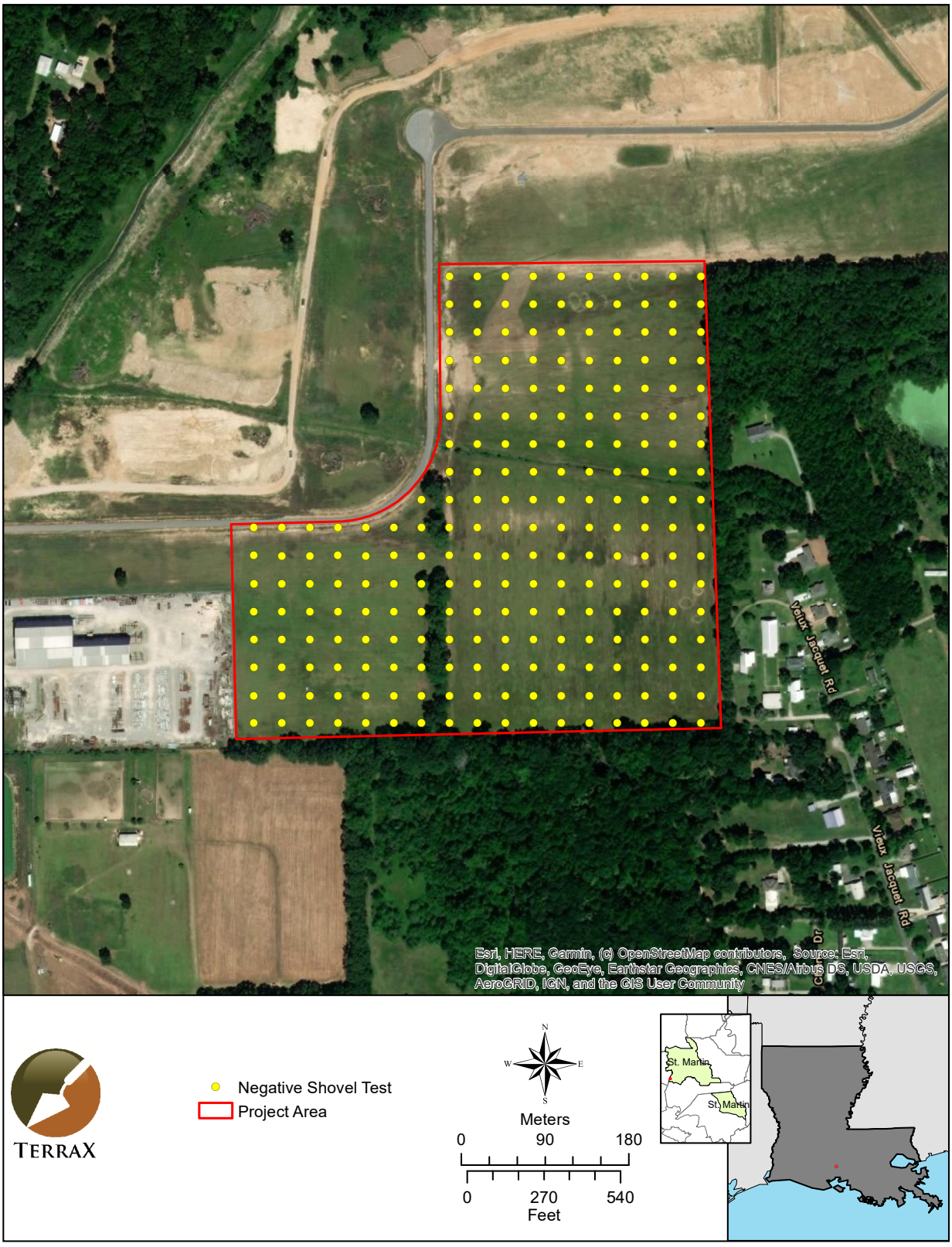

Figure 4.1. *Aerial image showing shovel tests within the project area.*

CHAPTER 5
RESULTS

OVERVIEW

This Phase I investigation included the placement of 227 shovel tests in this 49.7-acre (20.1-hectare) tract (see Figure 4.1). All were tested at 30-m high probability intervals and all were negative for cultural material. A typical shovel test consisted of 25 cm of dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty loam over strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty clay (Figure 5.1). Figures 5.2-5.5 depict the present condition of the project area.

Overgrown pasture occupies the majority of the project area. A canal/intermittent stream runs roughly east-west across the central portion of the area and a smaller drainage canal runs north-south. A row of trees that appears on aerial images had been cleared at the time of the survey. There was no evidence of the two structures that appear on the 1939 topographic map, either on the surface in the form of structural remains or subsuface in the form of artifacts.

No archaeological sites, historic areas, historic structures, or cultural material was found as a result of this survey and TerraX recommends that the project area be cleared of any cultural resource concerns.

Figure 5.1. *View of typical shovel test.*

Figure 5.2. *Northeastern portion of project area, facing south.*

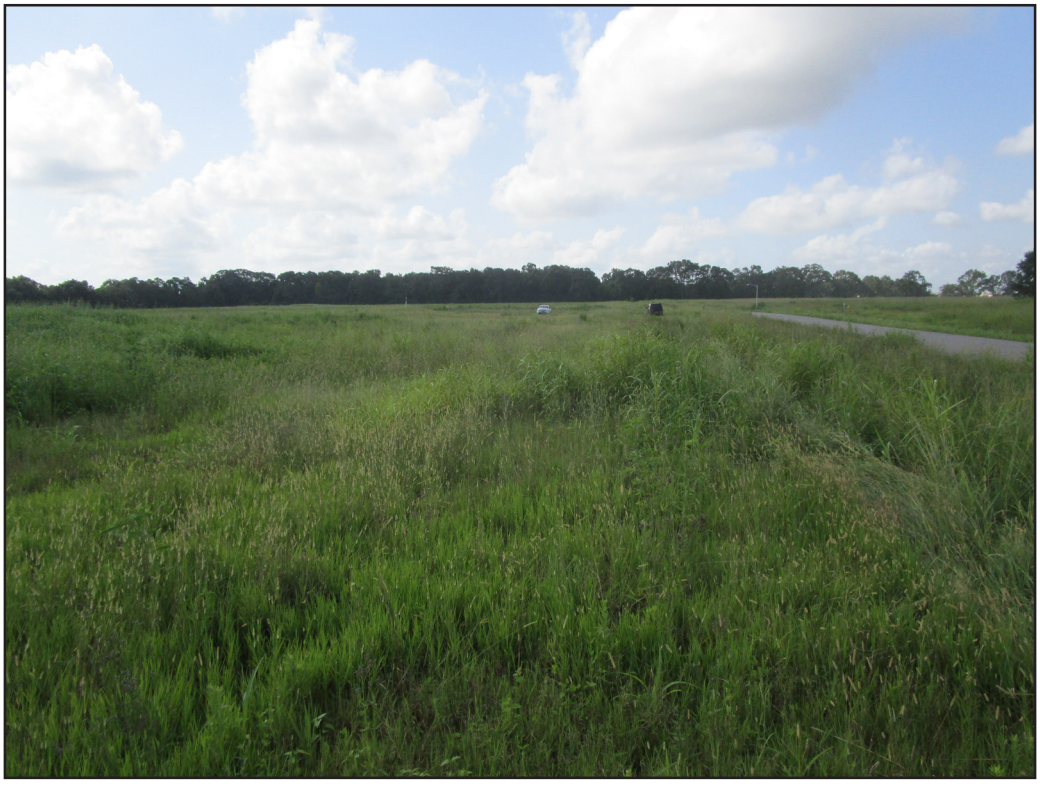

Figure 5.3. *Northern portion of project area, facing south.*

Figure 5.4. *Drainageway in project area, facing northeast.*

Figure 5.5. *Southern portion of project area, facing east.*

Figure 5.6. *Southwestern portion of project area, facing north.*

CHAPTER 6
SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

TerraX, under contract with One Acadiana of Lafayette, Louisiana performed the Phase I cultural resources survey for the proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park development project located in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana in compliance with state regulations. The Phase I survey was performed on August 27-28, 2019. No archaeological sites or historic standing structures are present within the project area. There will be no historic properties affected. No further archaeological studies are recommended for the proposed Spanish Trail Industrial Park development project.

REFERENCES

Daigle, J.J., G.E. Griffith, J.M. Omernik, P.L. Faulkner, R.P. McCulloh, L.R. Handley, L.M. Smith, and S.S. Chapman

2006 Ecoregions of Louisiana (color poster with map, descriptive text, summary tables, and photographs): Reston, Virginia, U.S. Geological Survey.

Louisiana Division of Archaeology (LDOA)

2019 Louisiana Archaeological Site Files. Louisiana Division of Archaeology, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Assessed online August 2019.

National Park Service

2019 *National Register of Historic Places*. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. Available online at www.cr.nps.gov/nr, accessed August 2019.

APPENDIX A
CURATION AGREEMENT

TROY UNIVERSITY

Archaeological
Research Center

Date: November 9, 2018

Paul Jackson
TerraXplorations
3523 18th Ave NE
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35406

Dear Paul,

As per your request, this letter is to confirm our standing agreement with you to provide curation services to Terra Explorations on an as-needed basis. As you know, we are recognized by a variety of Federal agencies as a repository meeting the standards in 36 CFR Part 79 and have formal agreements to provide curation under these guidelines to multiple federal agencies such as the Army National Guard and Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Please be advised that once a year we must be notified of all reports in which we were named as the repository. Project collections must be submitted within one calendar year of completion. Small projects may be complied for periodic submission. The AHC survey policy specifies which materials must be curated (Administrative Code of Alabama, Chapter 460-X-9). Renewal of this agreement is contingent upon compliance.

We appreciate this opportunity to be of assistance and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Jason Mann
Director
Archeological Research Center
Troy University