

**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY ADDENDUM**  
**IN SUPPORT OF THE SIMPSON ROAD POND,**  
**OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

<b>CONSULTANT:</b>	SEARCH 700 N. 9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Pensacola, Florida 32501
<b>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:</b>	Jessica Fish, MSt, RPA
<b>ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN:</b>	Jason Newton, MA, MLIS
<b>PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST:</b>	Drew Kinchen, BA
<b>CLIENT:</b>	Florida Department of Transportation, District 5, and Osceola County Department of Transportation and Transit
<b>DATE:</b>	July 2021
<b>FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT #:</b>	443548-1
<b>SEARCH PROJECT #:</b>	T21088

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This technical memorandum details the results of a cultural resource assessment survey (CRAS) of a preferred pond and easement location for use in conjunction with improvements to Simpson Road in Osceola County, Florida (**Figure 1**). This report serves as an addendum to the 2020 SEARCH report titled *Cultural Resource Assessment Survey in Support of the Simpson Road PD&E Study from US 192 to Myers Road, Osceola County, Florida* (Florida Master Site File [FMSF] Survey No. TBD). The Osceola County Department of Transportation and Transit and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 5, are proposing to construct one retention pond and easement associated with the proposed Simpson Road improvements. The current study is limited to archaeological and architectural history survey of the pond and easement location. The total area tested for the current survey is 3.45 acres. The discussions of regional prehistory and history, historic map and aerial review, research design, and laboratory methods provided in the previous report applies to the current CRAS and are not repeated in this technical memorandum. This is a Local Agency Program (LAP) project with Federal funding.

The area of potential effects (APE) defines the area within which visual, audible, and atmospheric effects that the roadway improvements and subsequent maintenance may have on historic properties. The APE defined for this project includes the proposed easement and Pond 3 footprint in addition to a 100-foot (30.5-meter) buffer (**Figure 2**). The archaeological survey was conducted within the proposed pond and easement footprint; the architectural history survey included the entire APE.

The purpose of the survey was to locate, identify, and bound any archaeological resources, historic structures, and potential districts within the project's APE and assess their potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This study was conducted to comply with Public Law 113-287 (Title 54 U.S.C.), which incorporates the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and the Archeological and Historic

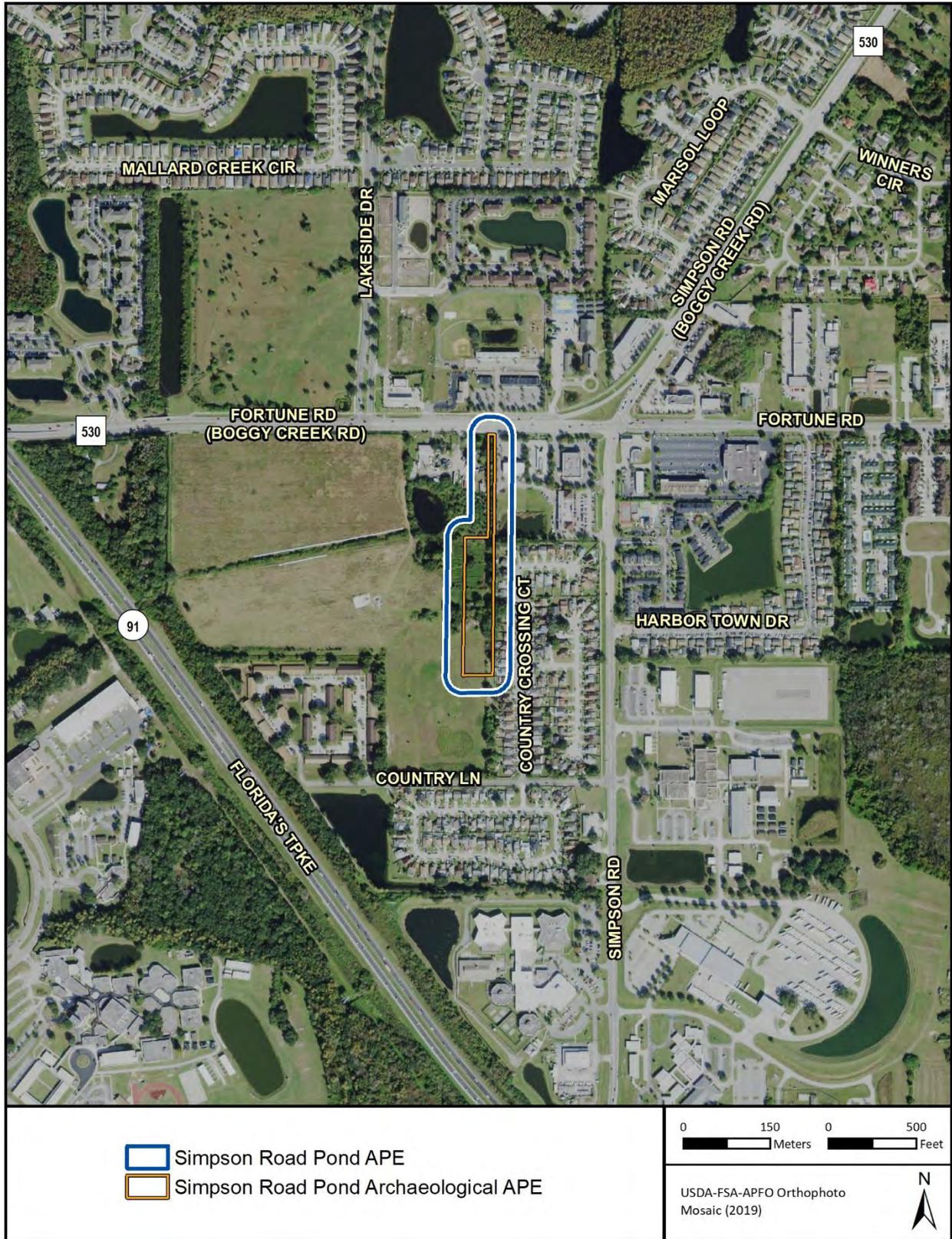


Figure 1. Location of the Simpson Road Pond project in Osceola County, Florida.



Figure 2. Location of the Simpson Road Pond APE, Osceola County, Florida.

Preservation Act of 1979, as amended. The study meets the regulations for implementing NHPA Section 106 found in 36 CFR 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 (PD&E) Manual (revised July 2020), 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 FR 44716-42).

## ENVIRONMENT AND MODERN CONDITIONS

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The Simpson Road Pond APE is located in agricultural fields used for orange groves and overgrown pastureland bordering modern residential and commercial developments in the City of Kissimmee in Osceola County, Florida (see **Figure 1**). The proposed pond and easement are located to the west of Simpson Road, southwest of its intersection with County Road (CR) 530 (Fortune Road). The APE is bordered on either side by two existing ponds and a residential development to the east. The proposed pond area is currently vegetated with brush, muscadine vines, dewberries, palmetto, and oak trees.

The project is located in Sections 18 and 19 of Township 25 South, Range 30 East. According to Brooks (1981), the APE falls within the Kissimmee Valley physiographic province, which is part of the larger Eastern Flatwoods District. The Kissimmee Valley province is characterized by seasonally flooded lowlands and grassland prairies with elevations ranging from approximately 50 to 90 feet (15.2 to 27.4 meters) above mean sea level (amsl). Soils in the project area consist of moderately well drained Pomello fine sand, poorly drained Myakka fine sand, and poorly drained Smyrna fine sand (**Figure 3**).

## FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE REVIEW

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A review of the FMSF database (updated April 2021) indicates that three previous surveys have been conducted within the Simpson Road Pond APE. FMSF Survey No. 12581 was a reconnaissance survey conducted by SouthArc, Inc. in 2006 of several parcels that included Pond 3 and its drainage easement. No subsurface testing was conducted within the current APE, and no cultural resources were recorded as a result of this survey. FMSF Survey No. 27178 was conducted by SEARCH in 2020 along the Fortune Road (CR 530) corridor, including the intersection with Simpson Road. Field methods included subsurface archaeological testing and the recording of historic structures; however, no shovel tests were excavated within the current project location. In 2020, SEARCH conducted a CRAS along a 4.1-mile (6.6-kilometer) segment of



Figure 3. Soil drainage in the Simpson Road Pond archaeological APE.

Simpson Road, which also included testing of several retention ponds. Survey methods included pedestrian survey, architectural survey, and subsurface archaeological testing; however, no shovel tests were excavated within the current APE. Four historic resources were recorded as a result of this survey, and no new archaeological resources were located. **Table 1** summarizes the previous surveys, which are shown in **Figure 4**. No archaeological sites, archaeological occurrences, or historic structures have been previously recorded within the proposed pond footprint.

**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resource Surveys Conducted within the Simpson Road Pond APE.**

FMSF No.	Title	Year	Reference
12581	<i>Reconnaissance Survey Ivey-Boggy Creek Osceola County, Florida</i>	2006	SouthArc, Inc.
27178	<i>Technical Memorandum: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the Lakeshore Trail Project, Osceola County, Florida</i>	2020	SEARCH
TBD	<i>Cultural Resource Assessment Survey in Support of the Simpson Road PD&amp;E Study from US 192 to Myers Road, Osceola County, Florida</i>	2020	SEARCH

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

### Archaeological Field Methods

The Phase I field survey consisted of subsurface shovel testing within the proposed pond and easement location at varying intervals according to the potential for containing buried archaeological sites. Shovel tests were judgmentally placed to achieve coverage within the project APE. The FDHR manual specifies that non-systematic testing (i.e., judgmental testing) is appropriate in “geographically restricted areas such as proposed pond sites” (FDHR 2002:17–18). The pond locations were visually examined via pedestrian survey for the presence of exposed artifacts and aboveground features (e.g., structural remains and prehistoric mounds).

The potential for archaeological sites to be present within the pond footprint was evaluated based on an examination of environmental variables (i.e., soil drainage, relative elevation, proximity to water or wetland resources), as well as the negative results of previously conducted surveys. Soils within the current APE were moderately well to poorly drained (see **Figure 4**); therefore, the potential for encountering archaeological deposits was determined to be moderate in the areas with better drainage and low in the poorly drained areas.

Shovel tests measured approximately 50 centimeters (19.7 inches) in diameter and were excavated to a minimum depth of 100 centimeters below surface (cmbs) (39.4 inches), subsurface conditions permitting. All excavated sediments were screened through 6.4-millimeter (1/4-inch) mesh hardware cloth. “No-dig” points were recorded in locations where testing was attempted but confirmed to be infeasible due to buried utilities or disturbances. The location of each shovel test and “no-dig” point was marked on aerial photographs of the project area (**Attachment A**). Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates were recorded for each shovel test and “no-dig” location with handheld units that used Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS). The cultural content, stratigraphy, and environmental setting of each shovel test were recorded.

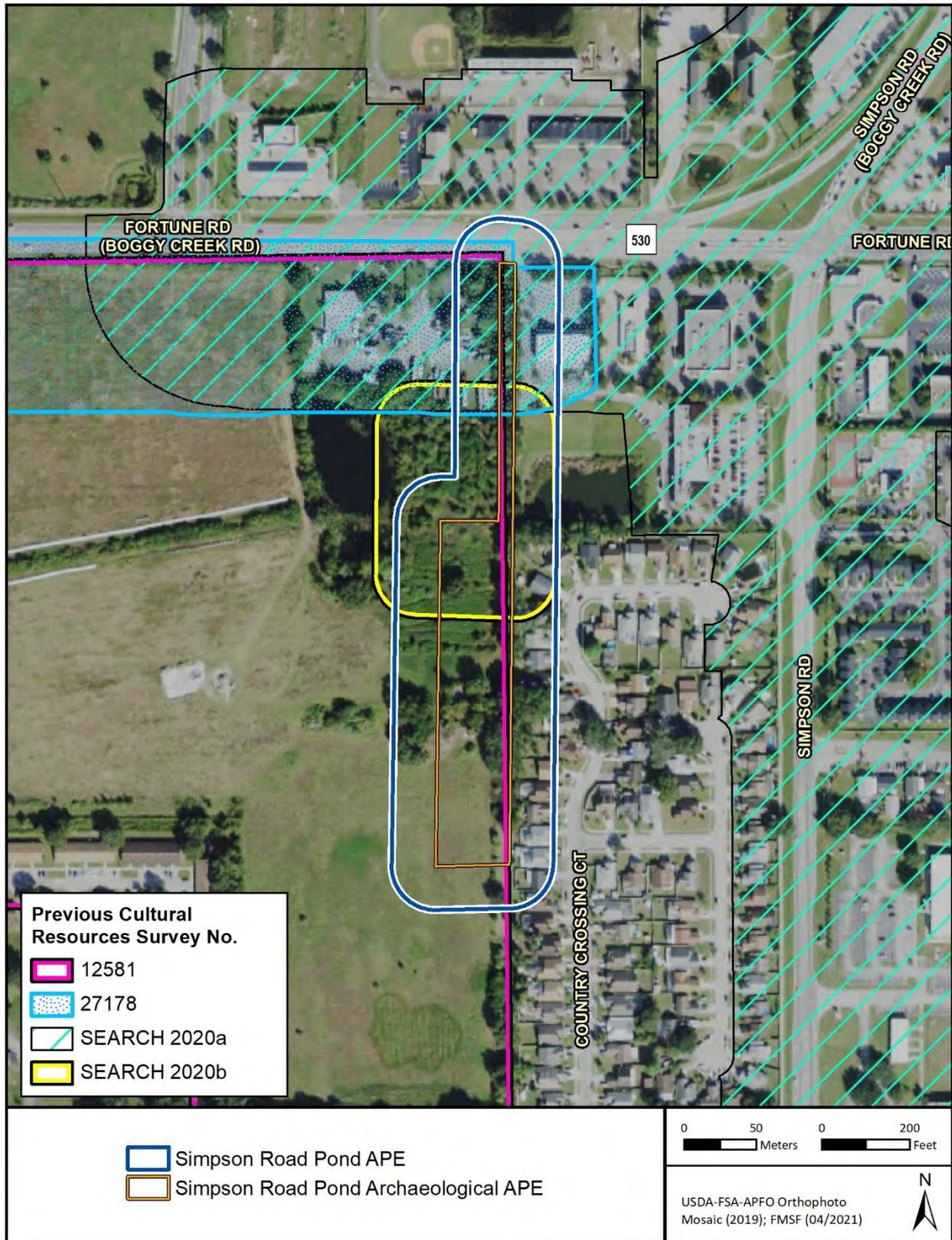


Figure 4. Previously conducted surveys in the Simpson Road Pond APE.

## **Architectural Field Methods**

In addition to a search of the FMSF for any previously recorded historic structures within the APE, older US Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps were reviewed for structures that were constructed prior to 1973. No historic resources were identified within the APE.

## **Certified Local Government Consultation**

Because this project is located in the City of Kissimmee, a Certified Local Government (CLG), SEARCH initiated consultation with Ashley Cornelison, the CLG representative for the city. On June 18, 2021, SEARCH Archaeologist Drew Kinchen, BA, emailed Ms. Cornelison to discuss the project and inquire whether the city might have any concerns related to cultural resources associated with the project. In the email, Ms. Kinchen provided the project maps to Ms. Cornelison for review. On June 22, 2021, Ms. Cornelison replied that the city has no 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 prehistoric and historic archaeological sites; however, the possibility exists that evidence of cultural resources may yet be encountered within the project limits. Should 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 aboriginal or historic pottery, prehistoric stone tools, bone or shell tools, historic trash pits, and historic building foundations. Should questionable materials be uncovered during the excavation of the project area, representatives of the FDOT, District 5, will assist in the identification and preliminary assessment of the materials. 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 or not the State Archaeologist should be contacted per the requirements of Chapter 872.05, Florida Statutes.

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

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### **Archaeology Results**

The Simpson Road Pond APE includes a 3.45-acre pond and drainage easement located in agricultural fields used for orange groves and overgrown pastureland south of Fortune Road in

Kissimmee, Florida. The APE consists of oak trees, palmettos, and various mixed brush. Two abandoned residential structures were identified near the center of the pond footprint, overtaken by overgrown vegetation (**Figure 5**). Review of these structures is provided in the Architectural Results section. A total of seven shovel tests were excavated within proposed Simpson Road Pond APE, all of which were negative for cultural material (see **Figure 5**).

Pond, drainage easement, and shovel test details are provided below. Representative views of the project area are presented in **Figure 6**. No artifacts were found during pedestrian survey or recovered in any shovel tests. No further archaeological survey is recommended for the Simpson Road Pond or drainage easement. An FDHR survey log sheet is included in **Appendix B**.

### **Pond 3**

A pedestrian survey of the pond, which is located within moderately overgrown brush and vines with sparse trees, was completed, and six shovel tests were excavated at 25- and 50-meter intervals. All six shovel tests were negative for cultural material. Typical shovel test soil profiles revealed a stratum of dark gray (10YR 4/1) sand from the surface to an average of 25 cmbs (10 inches) above white (10YR 8/1) sand from 25-35 cmbs (10-14 inches) over strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) sand from 35-45 cmbs (14-18 inches), over pale brown (10YR 6/3) sand with redox beginning at 45 cmbs (18 inches) (**Figure 7**). Inundation was encountered in shovel tests beginning around 80 cmbs (31 inches).

No archaeological sites or occurrences were identified within the proposed location of Pond 3. No further archaeological work is recommended.

### **Drainage Easement**

The drainage easement runs north to south on the northeastern area of Pond 3, south of Fortune Road, for approximately 591 feet (180 meters). A pedestrian survey was completed, and one shovel test was excavated due to an existing drainage ditch with berm and security fence in the APE. The excavated shovel test was negative for cultural material. The shovel test soil profile consisted of black (10YR 2/1) loam from surface to 30 cmbs (12 inches) above light gray (10YR 7/1) sand with gravel fill. The area appeared to be disturbed, and the shovel test terminated due to gravel impasse.

No archaeological sites or occurrences were identified within the proposed location of the drainage easement. No further work is recommended.

### **Architecture Results**

Two structures were identified during the field survey. Review of aerial imagery revealed the two structures are not of historic-age, as they do not appear in aerial imagery until 1999 (NETROnline 1980, 1999). No further work is recommended.

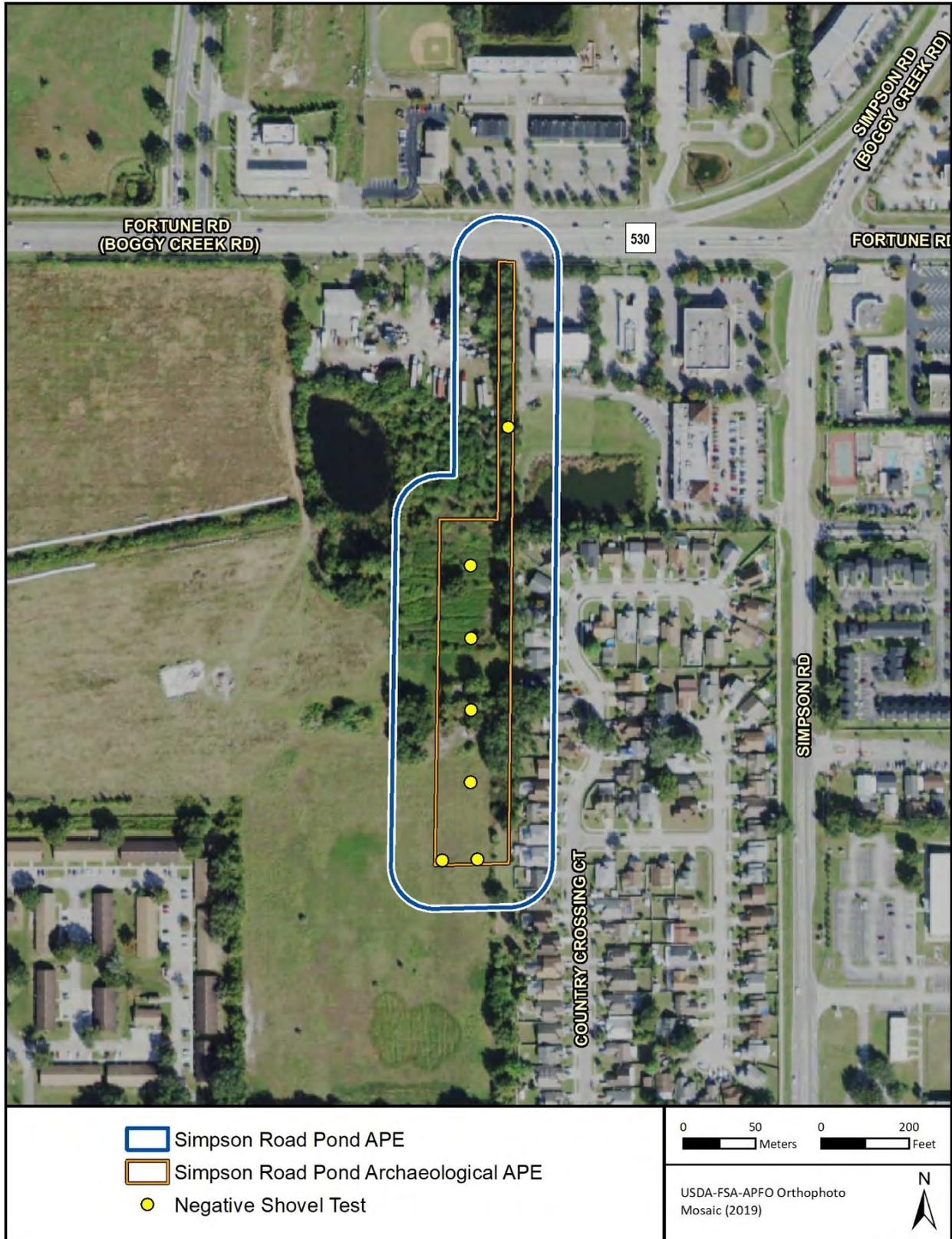


Figure 5. Shovel test results within the Simpson Road pond and easement footprints.



**Figure 6. Representative views of the Simpson Road Pond APE. Top left: Looking north in the southern end of Pond 3 footprint; Top right: Looking east in the southern end of Pond 3 footprint; Center left: View north in the center of APE near observed abandoned structures; Center right: Looking south in the center of APE near observed abandoned structures; Bottom left: View north from the shovel test in the northern portion of Pond 3 footprint; Bottom right: View east from the shovel test in the northern portion of Pond 3 footprint.**

## CONCLUSIONS

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This technical memorandum details the results of a CRAS of one preferred pond location and one drainage easement associated with proposed improvements to Simpson Road, Osceola County, Florida. This report serves as an addendum to the 2020 SEARCH survey report titled *Cultural Resource Assessment Survey in Support of the Simpson Road PD&E Study from US 192 to Myers Road, Osceola County, Florida* (FMSF Survey No. TBD).

The current archaeological survey included the excavation of seven shovel tests within the proposed pond and drainage easement. No artifacts were recovered during pedestrian survey or shovel test excavation; no archaeological resources were recorded as a result of this survey. No further archaeological survey is recommended for the Simpson Road Pond or drainage easement.



Figure 7. Soil profile of Shovel Test 2.

No historic structures were identified within the APE. No further architectural survey is recommended.

No NRHP-eligible or -listed resources were identified within the Simpson Road Pond APE. In the opinion of SEARCH, the proposed construction will have no effect on cultural resources listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP. No further work is recommended.

## REFERENCES CITED

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Brooks, H. K.

1981 *Guide to the Physiographic Divisions of Florida*. Florida Cooperative Extension Service. University of Florida, Gainesville.

Florida Division of Historical Resources (FDHR)

2002 *Cultural Resources Management Standards & Operational Manual, Module Three: Guidelines for Use By Historic Preservation Professionals*. Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

NETROnline

1980 Historic Aerials. <https://www.historicaerials.com/>. Accessed June 25, 2021.

1999 Historic Aerials. <https://www.historicaerials.com/>. Accessed June 25, 2021.

SEARCH

2020 *Cultural Resource Assessment Survey in Support of the Simpson Road PD&E Study from US 192 to Myers Road, Osceola County, Florida*. Florida Master Site File Survey No. TBD. Report on file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

2020 *Technical Memorandum: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the Lakeshore Trail Project, Osceola County, Florida*. Florida Master Site File Survey No. 27178. Report on file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

SouthArc, Inc.

2006 *Reconnaissance Survey Ivey-Boggy Creek Osceola County, Florida*. Florida Master Site File Survey No. 12581. Report on file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

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**APPENDIX A**  
**MARKED FIELD MAPS**



# Project #T21088 - Simpson Road Pond, Osceola County - AR Field Map - Aerial

N

465200                      465300                      465400                      465500



Structure 1  
 Structure 2  
 = negative ST  
 = Structure 2  
 = slope/direction  
 = private well

Grid UTM WGS 84 17N  
 Major ticks: 100m interval;  
 Minor ticks: 20m Interval

  Simpson Road Pond APE  
  Simpson Road Pond

● Negative Shovel Test (SEARCH 2020)

Previous Cultural Resource Survey No.  
— 42504    — 87170

0    25    50    100    Meter

N

465200

465300

465400

465500

3130500

3130600

3130700

3130800

3130900

3131000

3131000

3130900

3130800

3130700

3130600

3130500

LAKESIDE DR

BOGGY CREEK RD (FORTUNE RD)

530

COUNTRY CROSSING CT

COUNTRY FIELD WAY

WOODFIELD CT

001

002

003

004

005

007

008

009



**APPENDIX B**

**FDHR SURVEY LOG SHEET**



Ent D (FMSF only) \_\_\_\_\_



# Survey Log Sheet

Florida Master Site File  
Version 4.1 1/07

Survey # (FMSF only) \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Identification and Bibliographic Information

Survey Project (name and project phase) CRAS Addendum in Support of the Simpson Road Pond, Osceola County, Florida

Report Title (exactly as on title page) Technical Memorandum: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Addendum in Support of the Simpson Road Pond, Osceola County, Florida

Report Authors (as on title page, last names first) 1. Fish, Jessica 3. Kinchen, Drew  
2. Newton, Jason 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Publication Date (year) 2021 Total Number of Pages in Report (count text, figures, tables, not site forms) 13

Publication Information (Give series, number in series, publisher and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of *American Antiquity*.)  
Report on file at SEARCH, Newberry, Florida. SEARCH Project No. T21088. Financial Management No. 443548-1.

Supervisors of Fieldwork (even if same as author) Names Jessica Fish

Affiliation of Fieldworkers: Organization Southeastern Archaeological Research City Orlando, Florida

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

1. Simpson Road 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. pond 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization Florida Dept of Transportation - District 5

Address/Phone/E-mail 719 South Woodland Boulevard, DeLand, Florida 32720

Recorder of Log Sheet Jessica Fish Date Log Sheet Completed 7-1-2021

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

## Mapping

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

1. Osceola 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Name ST. CLOUD NORTH Year 2018 4. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

## Description of Survey Area

Dates for Fieldwork: Start 6-23-2021 End 6-23-2021 Total Area Surveyed (fill in one) \_\_\_\_\_ hectares 3.45 acres

Number of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed 1

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

Research and Field Methods

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

Scope/Intensity/Procedures archaeological testing at moderate and low probability intervals. Recording structures 45 years or older.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Survey Results (cultural resources recorded)

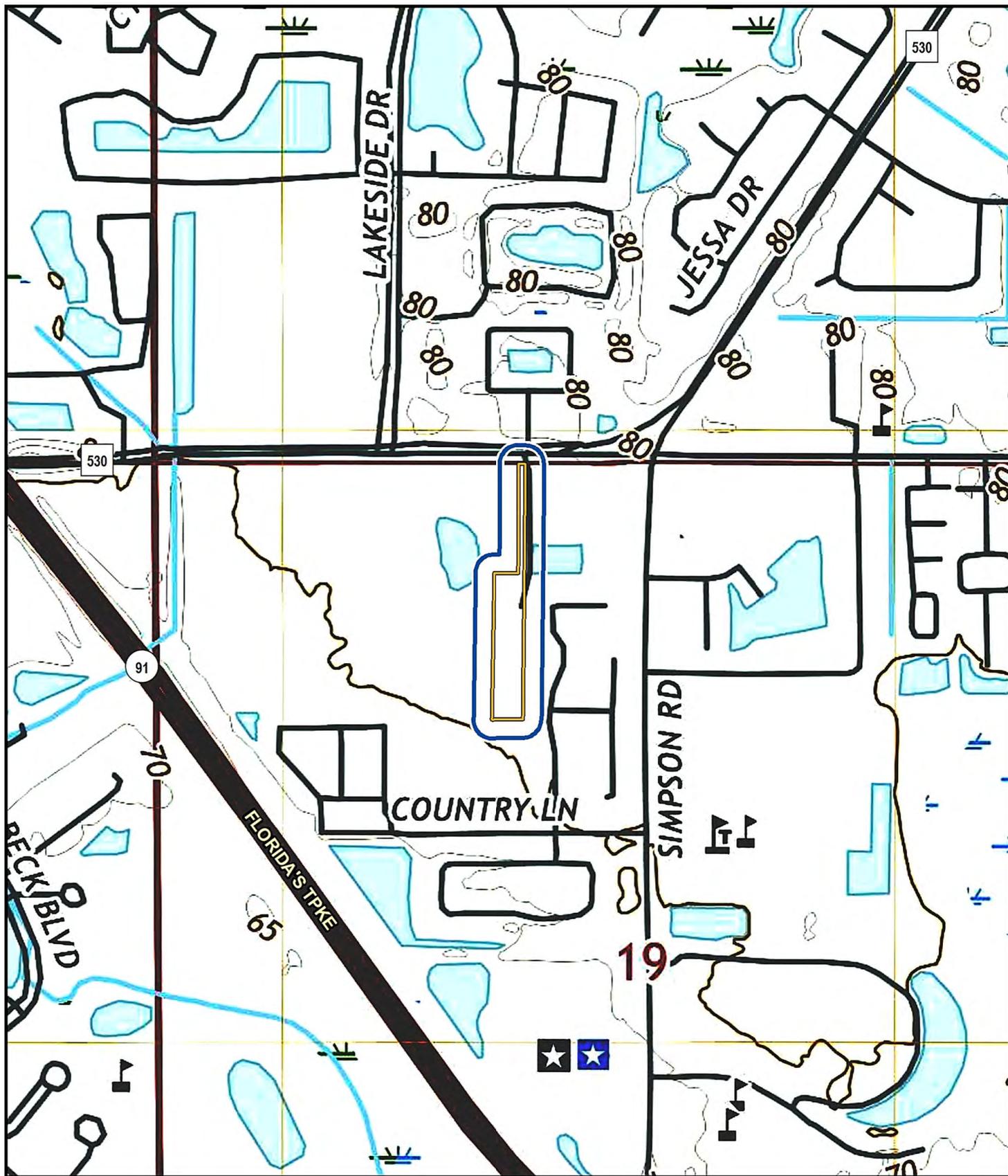
Site Significance Evaluated? Yes No
Count of Previously Recorded Sites 0 Count of Newly Recorded Sites 0
Previously Recorded Site #'s with Site File Update Forms (List site #'s without "8". Attach additional pages if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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



- Simpson Road Pond APE
- Simpson Road Pond Archaeological APE



USGS 7.5' Quadrangle Map:  
Saint Cloud North, FL (2018)

