Use this documentation standard (DS) and the template pinned to Appendix A to prepare a historical resources survey report (HRSR). The DS and template can be used for state projects and for federal projects assigned to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Historic resources surveys shall be performed and documented at sufficient levels to satisfy the SHPO that the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are met for determining the presence of and documenting historic properties in the project Area of Potential Effects (APE) and in accordance with 36 CFR 800 and the Antiquities Code of Texas. Findings must be documented per the provisions of TxDOT's Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (PA) and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Historical Commission (TAC Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 26, Subchapter E).

The HRSR also must meet the TxDOT publication standards as outlined by the TxDOT Brand Guidelines.

Survey reports must contain sufficient evidence to either justify National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility determinations for all historic-age resources encountered during field investigations or make a case for conducting an intensive-level survey to finalize the determinations.

To prepare an HRSR, use the standards and instructions in the DS to enter project-specific information in the prompts and required sections of the template. The required sections are included in the template. Prompts are highlighted in grey, <as shown here>. When complete, review the HRSR addressing any remaining prompts. Ensure no prompts remain in the final HRSR.

I. HRSR Scope Parameters

The HRSR must include the following components:

- A. The Study Area is defined as 1300 feet from Area of Potential Effects (APE).
- B. The APE definition as codified in the Section 106 PA or the MOU with the Texas Historical Commission (TAC Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 26, Subchapter E).
- C. The Period(s) of Significance (POS) and the Areas of Significance must be clearly identified in the context statement of the report. Period of Significance refers to the span of time during which significant events and activities occurred in the project area. Period of Significance should not be automatically calculated to the 45 or 50 year mark. Events and associations with historic properties are finite; most properties have a clearly definable period of significance. Each project may have multiple POS. Each historic context and location may have a different POS. A historic property may have a different POS from the context POS. For example, the local context about irrigation in the 1910s would not be relevant to an architect-designed landmark from the 1960s. Each theme in the context and each historic property must have a POS. See National Parks Service (NPS) Bulletin 39 for further discussion. A POS is not required for surveys of historic-age resources where no historic properties are present.
- D. Survey cut-off date (construction letting date minus 45 years)
- E. Documentation of previously identified resources in APE
 - Texas Historical Commission (THC) atlas [found at http://atlas.thc.state.tx.us]

Texas Department

Documentation Standard for a Historical Resources Survey Report

- TxDOT files/online maps found in TxDOT's Historical Resources Toolkit
- Locally designated properties as determined by Certified Local Governments (CLGs)
- Communities in the Texas Freedom Colonies Atlas
- Family Land Heritage Farms
- F. Documentation of previously identified historic districts. Indicate:
 - whether a property was determined to be contributing or non-contributing to the district
 - Is the property still extant?
 - Is the property now recommended non-contributing

A desktop or windshield/ADA¹ survey report must contain a minimal literature review. Discuss the scope with TxDOT historians.

A Reconnaissance survey report must contain appropriate archival and bibliographical references that facilitate analysis of historic properties, which may include but are not limited to:

- A. Historical Maps (such as those in the Texas Historic Overlay (THO) or Sanborns) and/or aerial photography
- B. Local history sources, such as published county histories and county records
- C. Desktop research based on state/local history websites
- D. TxDOT historic roadway/bridge plans of the project area, if available and relevant
- E. Documents available in the Historical Resources Toolkit found on TxDOT.gov at: https://www.txdot.gov/business/resources/environmental/compliance-toolkits/historic-resources.html
- F. Studies for similar properties done by other state SHPOs and other state departments of transportation (DOTs)

An Intensive survey report must contain the archival and bibliographical references included in a Reconnaissance report, as well as:

- A. Oral Histories
- B. Deed and/or title research
- C. Tax Assessor records research
- D. Contemporaneous newspapers or periodicals
- E. Additional archival research directly related to the property

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¹ Americans with Disability Act



II. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Data (not required for desktop)

The HRSR must include project area maps built using GIS data (not required for a desk top survey) gathered during the survey effort. Submit all GIS data with the final report. The following criteria must be met for that data to be accepted.

A. NAD83 Projection

Each layer utilizes the NAD83 projection

B. Vectors

Layers must be vectors (i.e. points, lines, or polygons), not rasters.

C. The area of potential effects (APE), existing right-of-way (ROW) and proposed new ROW and easements.

D. Attribute Tables

All fields in attribute tables must have clear descriptions, including all pertinent information. At minimum attributes must include the following and be consistent with data recorded in the survey forms and inventory tables.

Overall

- Control Section Job (CSJ) Number
- Project Name
- County of City
- TxDOT District
- Project Limits
- Survey Type (i.e. windshield, reconnaissance, or intensive)
- Year Surveyed
- Company Performing the Survey
- Principal Investigator
- Authors of the Report
- Number of Listed National Register of Historic Places Properties (NRHP)
- Number of Eligible National Register of Historic Places Properties (NRHP)
- Number of Not Eligible National Register of Historic Places Properties (NRHP)

2. Individual Properties

- Latitude
- Longitude
- Property ID Number
- · Date of construction
- National Bridge Inventory Number (NBI)



For projects involving a bridge, include this number

NRHP Status
 Listed, eligible, or not eligible

NRHP Criterion

Indicate the criteria qualifying the property for listing in the National Register. For example, criterion A, B, and/or C.

• NRHP Areas of Significance

For example: transportation, commerce, agriculture, etc.

Notes

Include relevant notes about the property's significance or integrity

E. Metadata

Use the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM). The metadata style must include:

Date

The date the data was created

Summary

A summary of the purpose for which the dataset was developed. Briefly describe the origin of the data; Global Positioning System (GPS) collected, digitized, etc. If GPS data was collected describe the GPS receiver, manufacture and model; if digitized, list scale and background source used.

Description

A brief abstract describing the dataset

Credits

Recognition of those who created or contributed to the dataset

Use Limitations

Details about any limitations on how the data should or should not be used should not be used.

III. Cover Page

The HRSR must have a cover page including the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template.

- A. The following information, as included in the template
 - 1. The TxDOT logo
 - 2. The main title, Historical Resources Survey Report
 - 3. The type of survey that was performed and documented Desktop, Windshield Survey, Reconnaissance Survey, or Intensive Survey.
 - For FHWA Assigned Projects the following statement must be included at the bottom of the cover page of the final report.



The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated July 17, 2025, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

For state projects, delete this statement.

- B. The name of the highway/facility or project name For example: County Road, State Highway, Bridge Crossing, etc.
- C. The project limits

Enter the proposed project limits. Ensure the limits match the limits defined in the CE determination or the environmental review document (i.e. EA or EIS).

- D. The name of the TxDOT district(s) where the project is located
- E. The name of the county(s) where the project is located
- F. The control section job (CSJ) number(s)
- G. The name of principal investigator
- H. The date the HRSR was prepared

IV. Template Page Two

The second page of the HRSR must have the following components, which are included in the template. Do not change or remove these components.

- A. The statement about complying with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT), and other cultural resource legislation
- B. The footer, which is applied to the remainder of the HRSR

V. Abstract Page Three

Provide a summary of the findings of the HRSR including the project type, the area of potential effect (APE), a summary of historic properties and potential project impacts. Do not include a project description in the abstract.

VI. Template Page Four

The fourth page of the HRSR is the table of contents, which is included in the template. When complete, update the table of contents as needed to reflect the actual content of the HRSR.

See instructions in the HRSR on how to use and update the table of contents.

VII. Project Identification

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template, selecting only one check box per bullet.



A. HRSR Completion Date

Enter the date the HRSR was completed.

B. Dates of Fieldwork

Enter both dates as requested.

N/A for desktop

C. Historical Studies Survey Type

Select desktop, windshield, reconnaissance or intensive survey.

D. Report Version

Select Draft or Final.

E. Regulatory Jurisdiction

Select Federal or State

F. TxDOT Contract Number

Enter the TxDOT Assigned Number

G. District or Districts

Ensure this is consistent with the cover page.

H. County or Counties

Ensure this is consistent with the cover page.

I. Highway

Enter the highway name. Ensure it is consistent with the cover page.

J. Project Limits

Enter the project limits. Ensure it is consistent with the cover page.

K. CSJ Number

Enter the TxDOT CSJ number and ensure it is consistent with the cover page.

L. Report Author(s)

Enter the name of the professional historian and consulting firm who prepared the Historic Resources Survey Report (HRSR).

M. Principal Investigator

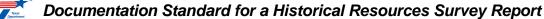
Enter the name of the professional historian and consulting firm who conducted the survey.

N. List of Preparers

Enter the names of individuals who participated in the preparation of the report, including their role(s) and task(s)

VIII. Project Description

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template, selecting only one check box per bullet. If the value for any of the requested measurements is zero or the prompts do not apply to the project, delete the prompt, and enter the value as zero or enter N/A. Do not leave any prompts visible in the final report.





Project description, length, right-of-way (ROW), and easements will be located solely in TxDOT's Environmental Compliance Oversight System (ECOS) database. Attach a screenshot from ECOS with the description, length, ROW, and easements as Appendix A of the report. Screenshots may be received from TxDOT District or historian staff, as appropriate.

- A. Area of Potential Effects (APE) Select the APE definition as codified in the Section 106 PA or the MOU with the Texas Historical Commission (TAC Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 26, Subchapter E). Use Custom Options to describe an APE that was determined as a result of Section 106
- B. Historic-Age Survey Cut-Off Date Enter the anticipated construction letting date minus 45 years.
- C. Study Area The study area is defined as 1300 feet from the edge or proposed new ROW.

IX. Section 106 Consulting Parties/Stakeholders

consultation with the SHPO.

The identification of consulting parties and efforts to involve them in the Section 106 review process is a requirement of 36 CFR 800.2(a)(4). The Section 106 Public Involvement happens at various points in the proposed transportation undertaking development process. Section 106 Public Involvement Plan (PIP) is not limited to, but typically focuses on the following components:

- Addresses how consulting parties will be identified, communicated with and their comments considered
- Provides an opportunity for the public to examine the results of the TxDOT's efforts to identify historic properties, evaluate their significance and assess the undertaking's effects upon them
- Provides information to the public about the undertaking, its effects on historic properties and alternatives to resolve the adverse effects
- Provides the public an opportunity to express their views on resolving adverse effects and any mitigation agreements or proposals.

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template. If a Section 106 Public Involvement Plan (PIP) was developed for the project, include a copy in Appendix F of the report.

- A. Public Involvement Outreach efforts Briefly describe the public involvement efforts to identify consulting parties as defined by 36 CFR 800.3(f).
- B. Identified Section 106 Consulting Parties List consulting parties that have been contacted during the Section 106 review process as required under 36 CFR 800.3, such as the Texas Historical Commission (THC), Certified Local Governments (CLG), County Historical Commissions (CHC), Texas Freedom Colonies, historical



societies, etc. The list should include names and contact information such as address, phone number, and or email address.

The HRSR should include:

- Name of Person(s) Contacted
- Name of Organization
- Date of Correspondence
- Method of Contact
 For example, email, phone call, or letter

C. Section 106 Review

Indicate what phases in the Section 106 process that consulting parties were invited to participate and provide input and comment (i.e. identification of APE, historic resource eligibility determinations, project effects determination).

D. Summary of Consulting Party Comments

Summarize any comments received from consulting parties as a result of consultation efforts, including public meetings regarding NRHP eligibility and effects determinations. Attach copies of comments by consulting parties in the appendix.

X. Project Setting/Study Area

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template.

- A. Historic-age Bridge in APE
 - Provide a description of historic-age bridges in the APE, whether they have been widened or altered, and if so when. Also, describe any proposed changes to the historic-age bridges, if any.
- B. Previously Evaluated Historic Resources and Districts

 Identify previously evaluated historic resources and districts within the APE to foster development of appropriate contextual analysis. Explicit references must be included for review of THC survey files and Historic Sites Atlas, TxDOT's Historic Resources Aggregator, Texas Freedom Colonies
- C. Previously Designated Historic Properties

Atlas and, locally designated properties determined by a CLG.

- Identify previously designated historic properties within 1300' of the APE to foster development of appropriate contextual analysis. Explicit reference to review of THC survey files and Historic Sites Atlas, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the list of State Antiquities Landmarks (SAL), and the list of Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL) must be included.
- D. Previously Designated Historic Districts
 - Identify previously designated historic districts and indicate whether a property was determined contributing or noncontributing to the district and whether or not it is now recommended noncontributing. Where appropriate, indicate when contributing properties are no longer extant.



E. Historic Land Use

Describe historic use of landscape, based on sources including – but not limited to – Texas Historic Overlay, United States Department of Agriculture Soil Survey maps, old United States Geological Survey maps, old Texas State Highway Department maps, aerial photographs, and Sanborn maps.

F. Current Land Use and Environment

Enter land use type and location for each discrete land use type in and adjacent to the area surveyed. Include both the natural and built environment.

G. Historic Period and Property Types

Based on when the project is projected to let and historical research, identify the historical period(s) for the study area. Include a brief description of property types developed from observations on patterns of settlement, development trends, resource distribution, and analysis of survey data.

H. Integrity of Historic Setting

Discuss how current setting characteristics affect the historic setting and integrity of historic properties within the area surveyed. This evaluation shall describe any factors that would compromise the integrity of historic properties that could preclude them for NRHP eligibility. If no factors exist, the report should note the absence of such factors.

XI. Survey Methods

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template

- A. Methodological Description
 - Provide a brief justification for why the type of survey conducted is appropriate for the proposed project (i.e. desktop, windshield, reconnaissance, or intensive.) and how the survey was conducted.
- B. Comments on Methods

Provide any applicable comments on methods undertaken for survey.

XII. Literature Review Guidance

The HRSR must include a literature review based on a TxDOT approved research design for non-archeological historic-age resources specific to the APE. Desktop and windshield surveys do not require a literature review. The literature review must be appropriate to the type of survey, the study area, and historic-age resources. The draft literature review must be compliant with the TxDOT "Historic Resources Research Design" template and approved by TxDOT historians prior to the initiation of fieldwork.

XIII. Historical Context Statement

Include a historic context appropriate to the age of the resources present in the APE and study area. The context may not necessarily cover the entire period of development if extant resources do not warrant it. For example, if survey efforts identified only post-WWII development properties, the context should address only that time period, not early settlement history, etc.



Instead of relying on the Handbook of Texas Online for contexts (particularly for historic contexts after the 1940s), look to other sources such as NPS bulletins, historic maps, local informed citizens, CHC and CLG staff, and historic property reports produced by other states. Use appropriate TxDOT property type guidance available online in the <u>Historic Resources Toolkit</u> such as the Agricultural Theme Study for Central Texas or discuss with TxDOT historians staff during the development of the research design. Let the number of resources, their historic significance, and the degree of risk for adverse effects dictate the level and complexity of the context statement. A discussion of evaluating properties within a historic context can be found in the NPS Bulletin 15 on page 7).

XIV. National Register Eligibility Recommendations

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template Using the National Register Eligibility Criteria (36 CFR 60.4) and the Seven Aspects of Integrity as described in National Register Bulletin 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, evaluate and document the NRHP eligibility of surveyed properties. Evaluations shall explicitly refer to relevant background information present in the Historical Context statement and data collected in the field regarding the surveyed properties.

- A. Eligible Properties/Districts
 - List each NRHP eligible property/district separately. Include a brief description of each property/district. Descriptions should include property location, property type(s), the applicable NRHP eligibility criterion and significant contributing features.
- B. Ineligible Properties/Districts
 - In a narrative form, list each NRHP ineligible property with a statement as to why it is not eligible for NRHP listing. Where applicable, justifications for non-eligibility should include loss of historic integrity. Note: if there are more than 10 properties identified in the survey, the narrative about ineligible properties may be generalized and discussed in groupings of similar property types.
- C. Recommendations for further study
 - In instances where NRHP eligibility cannot be determined for a given property/district provide explicit recommendations regarding the need to conduct additional studies and why they are needed. If no additional studies are needed, indicate in the HRSR that no further studies are required. If there are properties in the APE which may be NRHP-eligible that have clear associations with parcels outside the APE, please discuss the situation with the TxDOT historian. Survey of the additional related parcels may be required in this instance. For example, a parcel with agricultural outbuildings (work zone) may be in the APE, the parcel containing the house, (domestic zone) is outside the APE. The property, as a complete entity with all its historically associated parcels may retain its NRHP significance and integrity, but without the house parcel, it would not. In that situation surveying a few parcels outside the APE may be necessary. However, this should be rare and may warrant discussion with TxDOT historians.

XV. Determination of Section 106 Effects Recommendations

The HRSR must include the following components. Enter the information as prompted by the template Using the criterion of adverse effects (36 CFR 800.5) assess project effects to historic properties including potential direct, indirect, cumulative effects and reasonable foreseeable effects. Documentation should comply with 36 CFR 800.11. The evaluation of effects should describe any project related factors



that would compromise the integrity of historic properties within the APE. The HRSR should also note the absence of such factors and discuss the following types of effects as required.

- A. Direct Effects
- B. Indirect Effects
- C. Cumulative
- D. Reasonable Foreseeable Effects

XVI. U.S. DOT Section 4(f) Applicability Statement

Determine if project activities will constitute a use of historic property as defined by <u>23 CFR 774</u> including Section 4(f) Exceptions and De Minimis determinations. Explicitly state whether project activities would trigger a Section 4(f) evaluation or not. Include the following for properties requiring Section 4(f) evaluations:

- A. Property Name
- B. Inventory/Survey ID Number
- C. Size in Acres of the Property Parcel or the Historic District
- D. Size in Acres of the Proposed new ROW and or temporary/permanent easement(s)
- E. Percentage of Total impact by the Proposed Use

XVII. Reference Citations

List the research resources used to inform decisions about the study area and its historic-age properties. Use a single standard style. Be consistent in citing references.

XVIII. Photographic Documentation Standards

The report must include photographic documentation for each historic-age resource sufficient in number and perspective to show visual architectural elements to determine architectural integrity and significance as detailed below. For circumstances beyond the technical expert's control, such as resources obscured by leafy vegetation, the technical expert must provide written descriptions of any visual architectural elements not captured in photographs.

Current and/or historic aerial photographs may supplement on-the-ground photos for any property that may be questionable or hard to discern from the ROW. Google Streetview/Bing images should not be the only images of the resource unless circumstances in the field prohibit on-the-ground photography. In this case, take on-the-ground photographs to justify the use of aerial images.

- A. All photographs must be digital and be at least 1200 x 1600 pixels, with 2000 x 3000 pixels preferred. Make photographs available to TxDOT reviewers in their original digital format, delivered electronically.
- B. For each historic-age resource include at least two photographs incorporating both primary façade and a side elevation, with the resource filling the frame (i.e. one third of the image should



not be pavement). For potential historic districts, also photograph representative non-historic-age resources within the district boundaries.

- C. When the property has more than one historic-age resource present, provide multiple photographs showing each resource and their relationship to each other (i.e. the house and outbuildings).
- D. For resources that are listed or potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP include multiple views of elevations and architectural details. Photographs must be well focused and clearly depict character-defining features and other details that justify the NRHP eligibility recommendation.
- E. For properties that are listed or potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP, document the relationship of the property and its resources to the proposed highway project.
- F For properties subject to intensive survey, photograph standards must be pre-approved by TxDOT historians.

XIX. Project Information and ROW Information

 Insert screenshot from ECOS WPD I screen showing project description and amount of new ROW.

XX. Tabular Inventory of Surveyed Properties

The report includes an inventory of all historic-age resources provided in a table format that details the following:

- A. Resource ID numbers
- B. Address/latitude-longitude
- C. Property type and subtype classifications
- D. Stylistic influences or form
- E. Construction dates
- F. Integrity Issues
- G. Preliminary eligibility recommendations referencing the applicable NRHP criteria

XXI. Survey Forms Standards

Each surveyed historic resource shall be recorded on individual property survey sheets and contain the following information. (1 picture per page)

- A. The survey resource identification (ID) number
- B. The county and project name (i.e. Erath County, SH 123 etc.)
- C. The project's parent CSJ Number
- D. The longitude-latitude of the property and the physical address, if known,



- E. The direction camera is facing for each photograph
- F. The architectural style and/or form of each surveyed resource
- G. The construction date (known, or estimated)
- H. A physical description of the resource describing any integrity loss and why it may disqualify the resource for listing in the NRHP
- Photographs showing integrity issues and/or aerial photographs showing additions if present (and not viewable from on the ground photos
- J. Any investigative limitations encountered when surveying the resource (i.e. limits on photo documentation)
- K. A recommended NRHP eligibility determination for Criteria A-C, with justification as to how the property meets or fails to meet the threshold for significance and integrity. If using Criterion D, perform evaluation/recommendation for non-archeological information potential only.

XXII. Maps

The report must include maps based on GIS data including:

- A. The APE, existing ROW and proposed new ROW and easements, with major street names and other directional landmarks clearly indicated.
- B. The location of each of the following in the APE Each property should be labeled respectively
 - NRHP properties including historic districts
 - State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs)
 - Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHLs)
 - Official State Historical Markers (OSHM)
 Only if the marker may be moved or directly impacted by construction
- C. The location of each historic-age resource labeled with resource ID numbers running as consecutively as possible from left to right, generally northwest to southeast.
 - Outbuildings and landscape features must be subsets of the main property ID number. For
 example, a residence and associated garage could be labeled Resource Nos. 100a and
 100b. If an eligible or potentially eligible historic property has multiple resources, the overall
 map must have an inset aerial photograph of the property, with the labeled resources on the
 overall map, or a separate map to be used as a site plan).
 - Resources of an eligible or listed historic district can be reported as a subset of a main
 property ID number for the district. Consult with TxDOT historians regarding numbering of
 resources. A map including the historic district must have an inset aerial photograph of the
 district with the labeled resources on the overall map or a separate map to be used as a site
 plan. The map must also include district boundaries for NRHP-listed districts.



- E. Project Area Photographs

 Provide area photos to give context of project area and relationship of resources to each other.
- F. Consulting Party Comments

 Provide any CP comments received.

Appendix A

The template can be obtained by clinking on the link (Historical Studies Survey Report).



Historical Resources Survey Report

<Desktop Survey> <Windshield Survey> <Reconnaissance Survey> <Intensive

Survey>

Project Name: <Roadway or Facility>

Project Limits: < Project Limits)>

District(s): <District(s)>
County(s): <County(s)>

CSJ Number(s): <CSJ Number(s)>

Prinicipal Investigator: < Principal Investigator>
Report Completion Date: < Month and Year>

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TXDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated 12-9-2019, and executed by FHWA and TXDOT.



Appendix B

The following table shows the revision history for this document.

Revision History	
Effective Date Month, Year	Reason for and Description of Change
August 2025	Version 4 was released. Updated NEPA MOU language, corrected outdated links and typographical errors.
May 2022	Version 3 was released. Removed some sections that were not useful. Added incorporation of project description and ROW information from ECOS. Added Desktop Survey as a type.
January 2020	Version 2 was released. Removed reference to project description, length, and ROW in report itself and relegated to Appendix A. Updated GIS layer requirements and new NEPA MOU.
August 2017	Version 1 was released.