

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD REPORT
SCDOT ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION



TITLE: Cultural Resources Reconnaissance for Proposed Intersection Improvements at SC-125 (Atomic Road) and S-62 (North Silverton Street), Aiken County, South Carolina

DATE OF RESEARCH: November 20, 2017

COUNTY: Aiken

PIN: P028058

ARCHAEOLOGIST: Tracy Martin

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN: David Kelly

PROJECT: Intersection Improvements – SC-125
(Atomic Road) at S-62 (N. Silverton Street)

DESCRIPTION: The Department is proposing improvements to the intersection of SC-125 (Atomic Road) and S-62 (North Silverton Street) in Aiken County, South Carolina (**Figure 1**). This includes improvements to turning radii, pavement marking, driveway relocations, and the possible installation of advance warning devices (**Figure 2**). The archaeological area of potential effect (APE) for the survey consisted of land within the existing right-of-way (ROW) that may be impacted by the proposed undertaking. The architectural APE consisted of a 200 foot buffer placed around the archaeological APE (**Figure 3**). No new ROW will be required for the project.

LOCATION: The project area is located in western Aiken County in the southeastern portion of the town of Jackson, approximately three miles west of the Georgia border.

USGS QUADRANGLE: Jackson

DATE: 1989

SCALE: 7.5'

APE Centroid:

UTM: NAD 27

ZONE: 17

EASTING: 427523.82

NORTHING: 3687507.75

UTM: WGS 84

ZONE: 17

EASTING: 427540.91

NORTHING: 3687715.81

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: The project area is located in the Upper Coastal Plain physiographic province. The lands within the project APE consist of heavily disturbed grassy, paved, or graveled areas within the current ROW. Ground disturbances in the project area consist of buried and above ground utility lines, roadside ditches, and paved driveways. **Figures 4 – 5** show the APE as it looked at the time of survey.

NEAREST RIVER/STREAM AND DISTANCE: The closest water source to the project area is an intermittent unnamed tributary approximately .6 miles to the northeast.

SOIL TYPE: Four soil types are present within the project area. The majority of soil is Lucy sand, 0 – 2 percent slopes. This type comprises 96.1 percent of the project area. Fuquay sand, 6 – 10 percent slopes comprises just 2.7 percent of the project area and is situated at the far northern end of the APE. Orangeburg loamy sandy, 0 – 2 percent slopes makes up 1.2 percent of the project area and is found in the southern portion of the APE.

REFERENCE FOR SOILS INFORMATION: Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Web Soil Survey. Available online at: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>. Accessed [11/30/2017].

GROUND SURFACE VISIBILITY: 1-25% X 26-50% 51-75% 76-100%

CURRENT VEGETATION: Because the project area is limited to current right-of-way, vegetation within the project area is mostly comprised of grasses and weeds.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: Prior to the field investigation the online GIS database (ArchSite) was examined to determine if any previously identified archaeological sites, historic structures or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) sites were present within a quarter mile of the project area (**Figure 6**). Background investigations indicated that three archaeological sites and two historic resources had been recorded within or within a quarter of mile of the project area. All three archaeological sites (38AK0759 – 38AK0761) were recorded as not eligible for the NRHP and all three were located to the southeast of the project area within property owned by the Savannah River Site. One previously recorded historic resource was found to be located within the APE. This site,

#0408, is situated in the southwestern quadrant of the intersection under review, and was recommended not eligible for the NRHP at the time that it was recorded. A second resource, #0407, is less than a quarter mile to the west outside of the project APE and was also recommended not eligible for the NRHP.

In addition, historical maps and aerial photos dating to between 1932 and 1971 were examined to determine if any structures or architectural features could be identified within the project area (SCSHD 1932, 1939, 1956, and 1968; USGS 1965, 1971, and 1989). None of the General Highway and Transportation Maps of Aiken County showed structures within or adjacent to the project area (**Figures 7a and 7b**). The earliest aerial images examined were from 1966 and 1971 (USASCS 1966, USGS 1971). Structures or features are visible in or within 200 feet of the project area on these aerials (**Figure 8**).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY: An archaeological survey of the project area was conducted on November 20, 2017. Field methods consisted of a pedestrian reconnaissance of the entire project area.


ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS: The APE was confined within the existing SC-125 and S-62 ROW, which was found to be uniformly disturbed by modern construction. Disturbances consisted of road construction, roadside ditches, and buried and above ground utility lines. **Figures 9 – 11** show typical disturbances present within the APE.

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY: A historical resources survey of the project area was conducted on November 20, 2017. Site survey methods consisted of a visual examination of all structures within the project APE.

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY RESULTS: Two historic structures were identified during these investigations. **Figure 12** shows the locations of the two structures. Site # 3526 (**Figure 13a**) is a circa 1910 country store. This site was recorded in the 1986 Aiken County Survey (as site #9.014 on original survey card and plotted as site #0408 on ArchSite GIS) and was determined to be not eligible for the NRHP by the State Historic Preservation Office at that time. Revisiting this structure for the proposed project, it is now recommended that site #3526 is eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C for significance in local commerce and architecture, respectively. The proposed project will have no adverse effect to site #3526 as it takes no new right-of-way (ROW) from the site's eligible boundary area (recommended as the existing parcel—shown as parcel 13 on plans in **Figure 14**) and does not significantly alter the character, setting, or view of the resource's surroundings. See **Figure 14** for the project plan sheet which shows that site #3526 is already partially within existing SCDOT ROW and that the only substantive changes proposed at this location are the removal of non-contributing asphalt from the area in front of the resource (shown as cross-hatching on plans) and the addition of a small driveway cut to the rear of the structure.

Site #3527 (**Figure 13b** and parcel 15 on plan sheet in **Figure 14**) is an unidentified commercial/light industrial structure. It has been assessed as possessing no significance under any of the NRHP criteria and is therefore recommend not eligible for the NRHP. The proposed project will not affect this resource.

REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The cultural resources survey of the SC-125 and S-62 intersection improvements project area resulted in the identification no new archaeological sites and one new above ground resource. In addition, one previously recorded historic resource was reevaluated. The newly recorded historic resource, site # 3527, is an unidentified commercial/industrial structure. It is not considered NRHP eligible and will not be impacted by the proposed undertaking. The previously recorded resource, originally recorded as site #0408, but assigned site # 3526 during the current project, is a circa 1910 country store. This structure was originally assessed as not NRHP eligible but was reevaluated and determined NRHP eligible under Criteria A and C during the current survey. However, the proposed intersection improvements will not impact this building or significantly alter the character, setting, or view of the resource's surroundings. There will be no adverse effect to historic properties from the proposed undertaking. No additional cultural resources investigations are recommended.

SIGNATURE:  David P. Kelly Digitally signed by David P. Kelly
DN: cn=David P. Kelly, o=SCDOT,
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Date: 2017.12.07 16:01:06 -0500 **DATE:** 12/7/2017

References Cited

South Carolina State Highway Department (SCSHD)

- 1932 General Highway and Transportation Map of Aiken County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections <<http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/49/rec/1>>.
- 1939 General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections <<http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/26/rec/2>>.
- 1956 General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections <<http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/78/rec/3>>.
- 1968 General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections <<http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/14/rec/6>>.

United States Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (USASCS)

- 1966 Aiken County, 1966. Aerial Photograph, Sheet 7 of 7. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Digital Collections, South Carolina Aerial Photograph Indexes, 1937-1989. <<http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/scai/id/396/rec/6>>.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- 1967 1965 Jackson 1:24,000 Scale Topographic Quadrangle. Retrieved from USGS Historical Topographic Map Explorer <<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>>.
- 1971 1971 Aerial Photo Single Frames. Entity ID AAR1VCUP00010360, Project VCUP0, Roll 000001, Frame 360, Scale 24,000, Retrieved from USGS Earth Explorer <<https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>>.
- 1989 1989 Jackson 1:24,000 Scale Topographic Quadrangle. Retrieved from USGS Historical Topographic Map Explorer <<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>>.

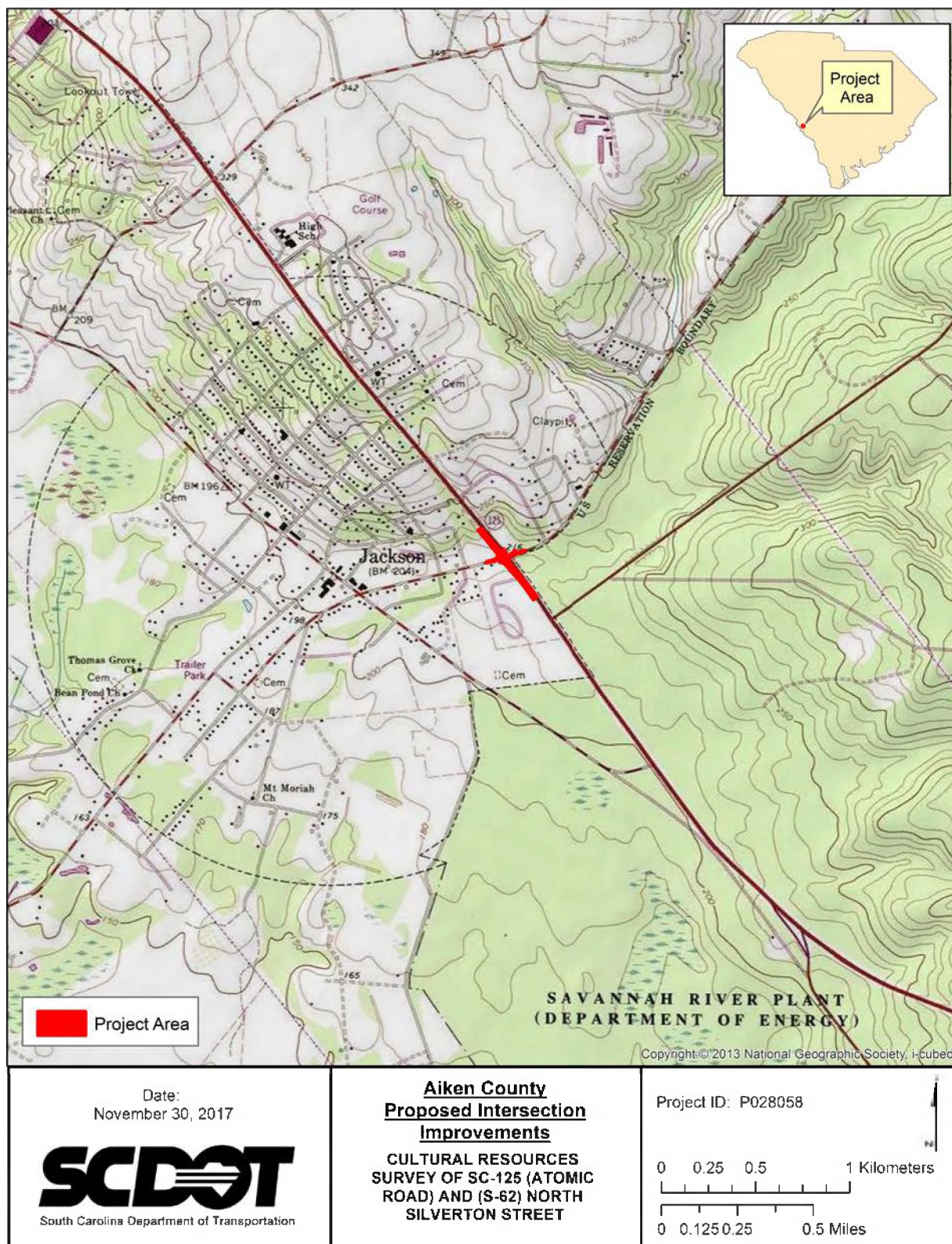


Figure 1. Project Area, Jackson 7.5' USGS Quadrangle (USGS 1989)

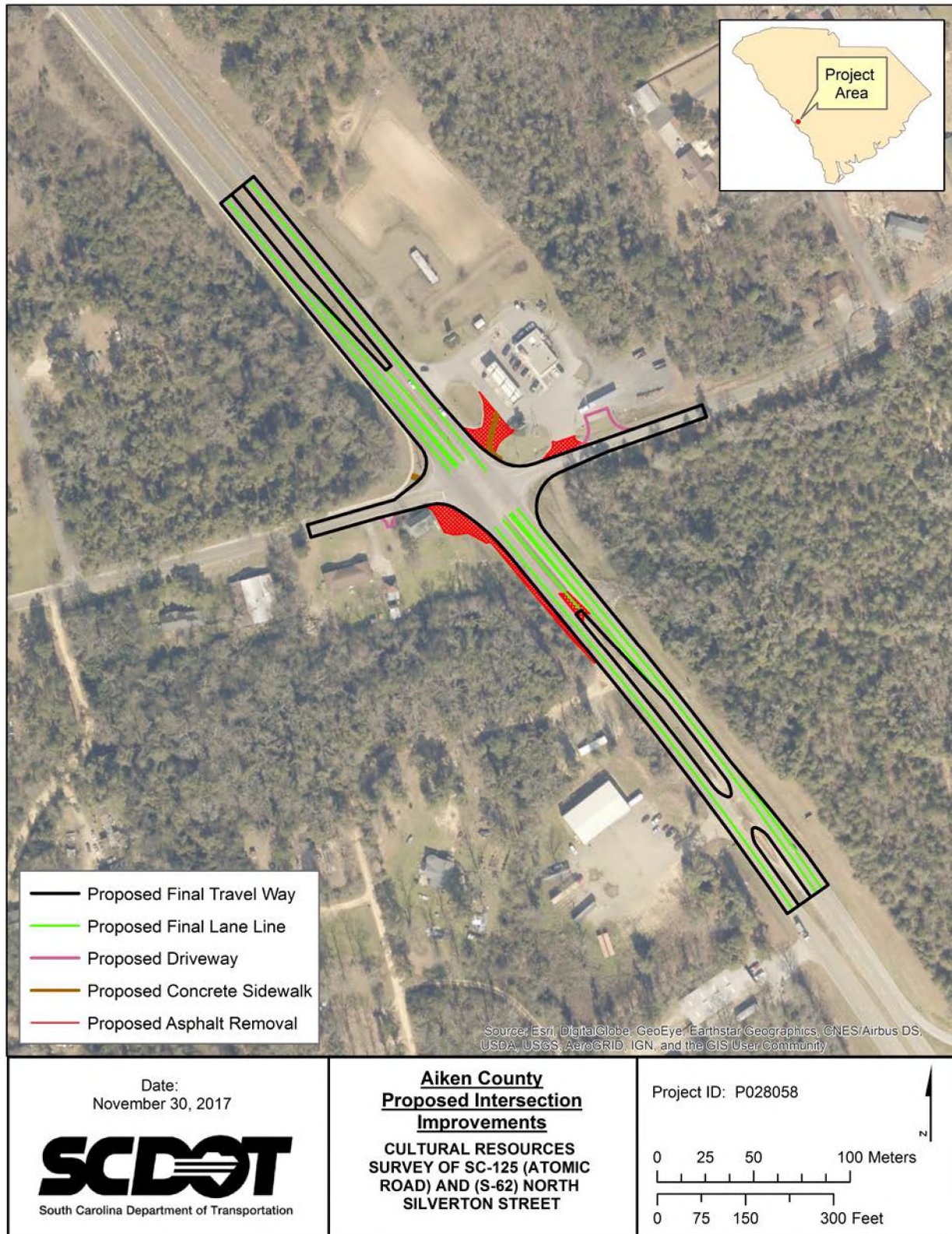


Figure 2. Intersection Improvement Plans.

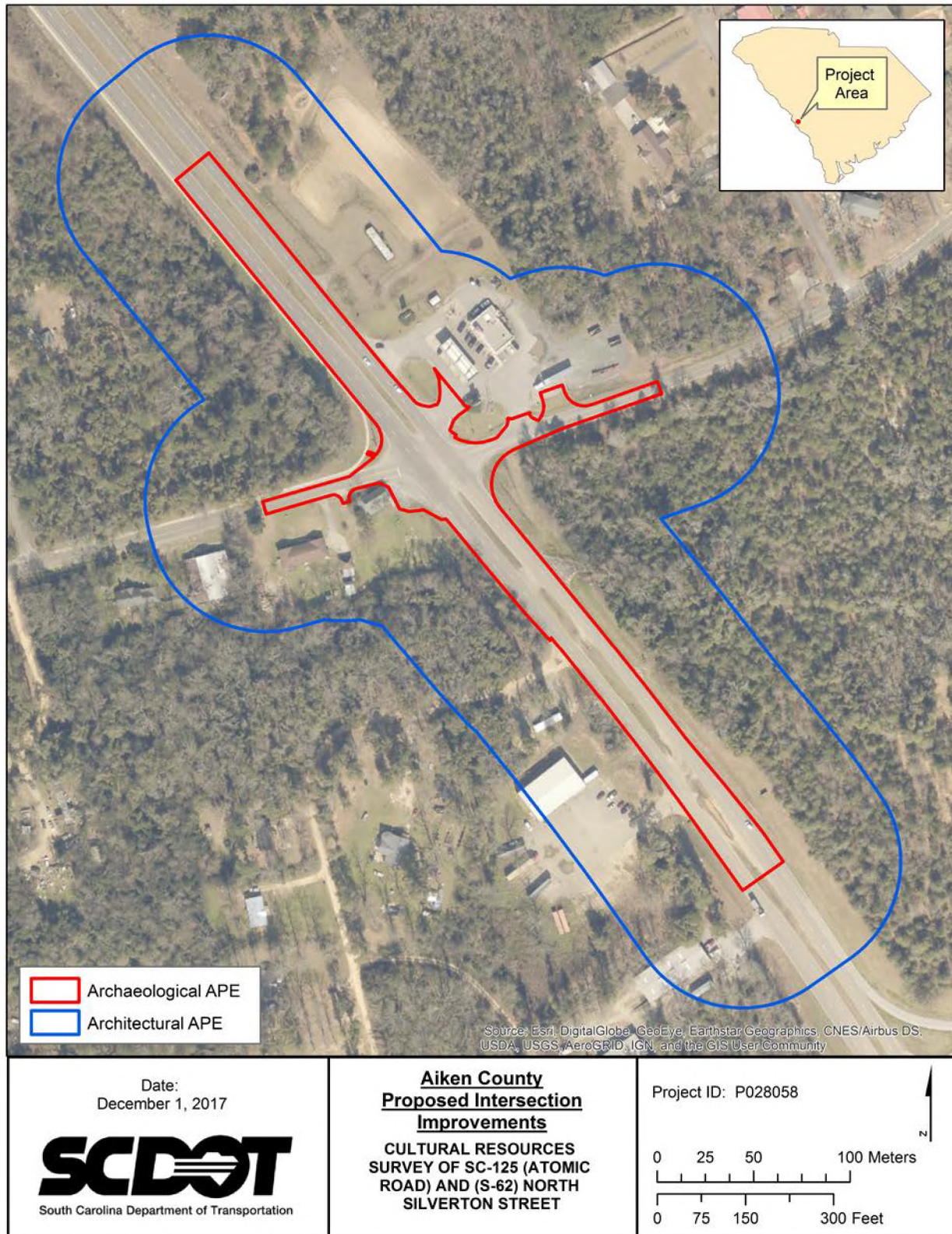


Figure 3. Archaeological and Architectural APEs.



Figure 4a. View From the Intersection of SC-125 and S-62 Facing Northwest.



Figure 4b. View From the Southern End of the APE Facing Northwest.



Figure 5a. View of S-62 From West of Intersection, Facing West.



Figure 5b. View of S-62 From East of Intersection, Facing East.

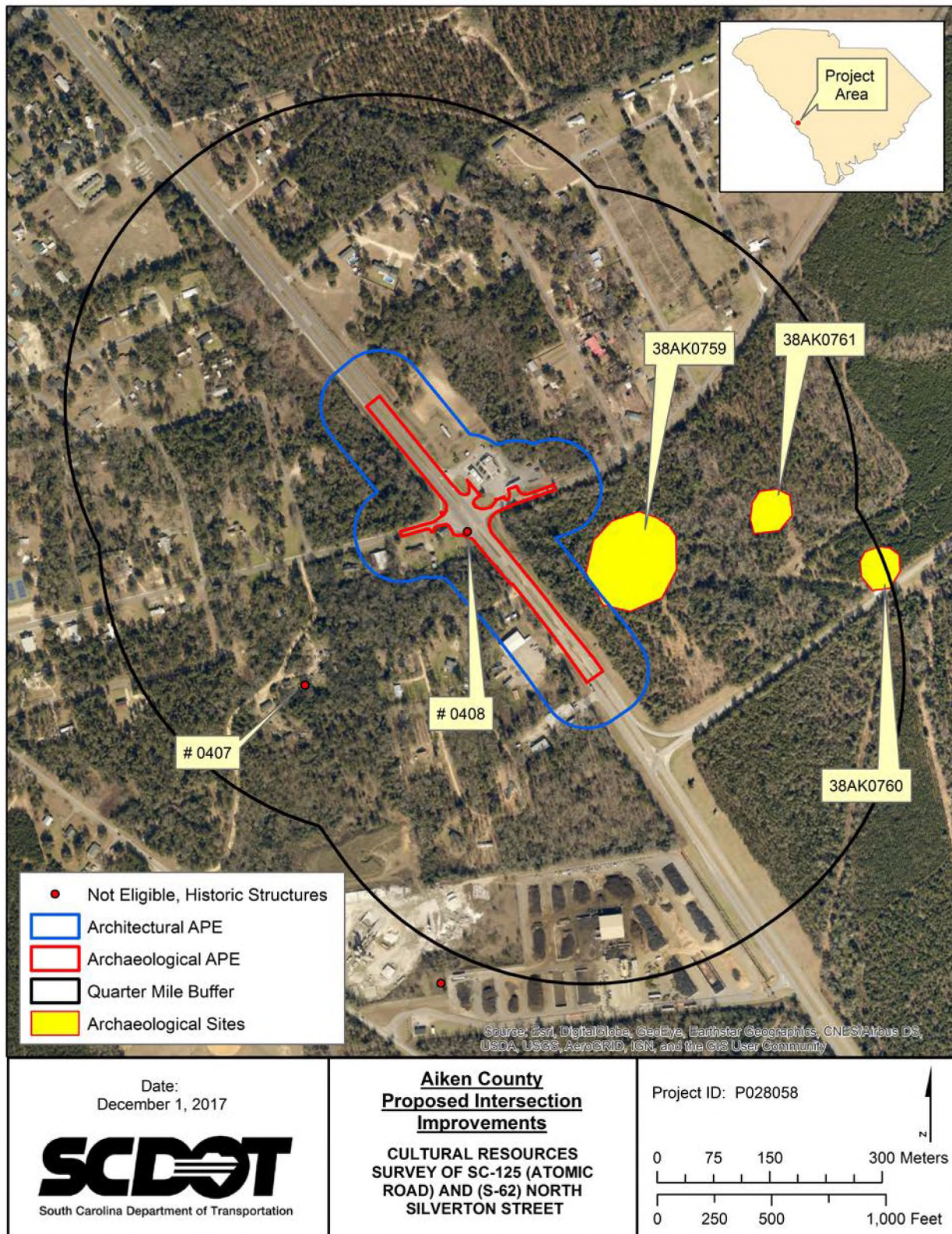


Figure 6. Archaeological and Architectural APEs Showing Previously Recorded Sites.

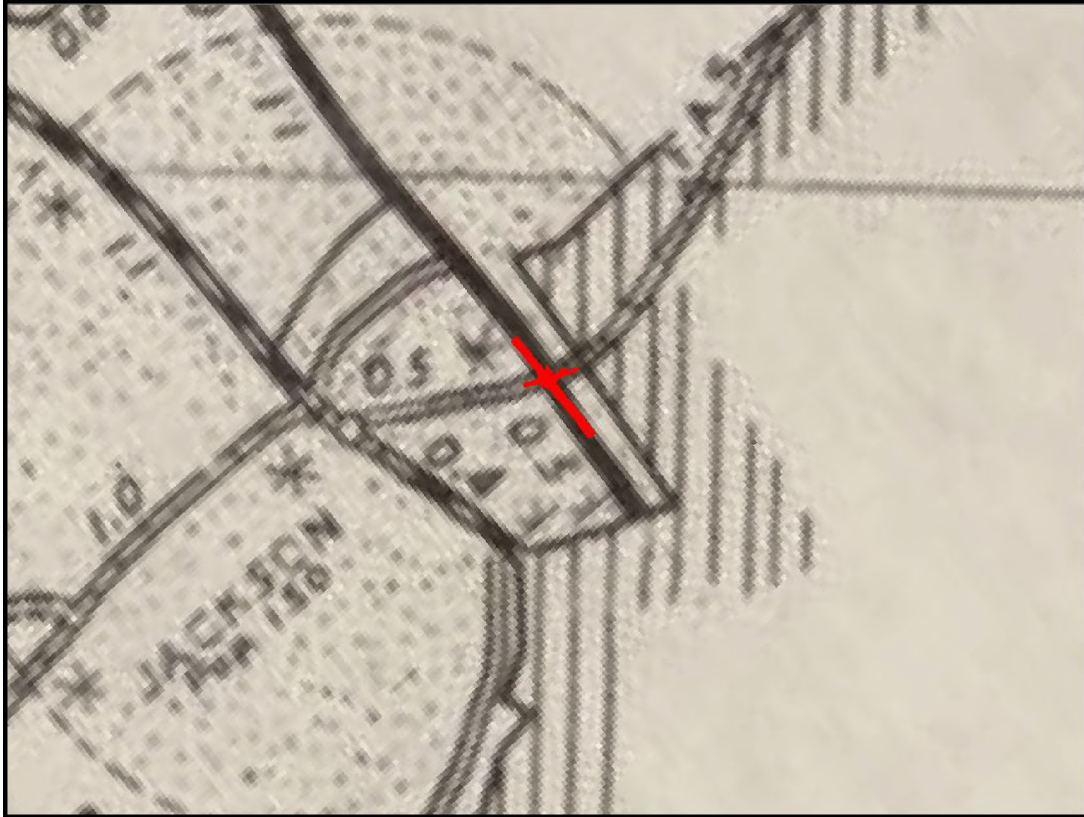


Figure 7a. 1932 Aiken County Highway Map Showing APE (SCSHD 1932).

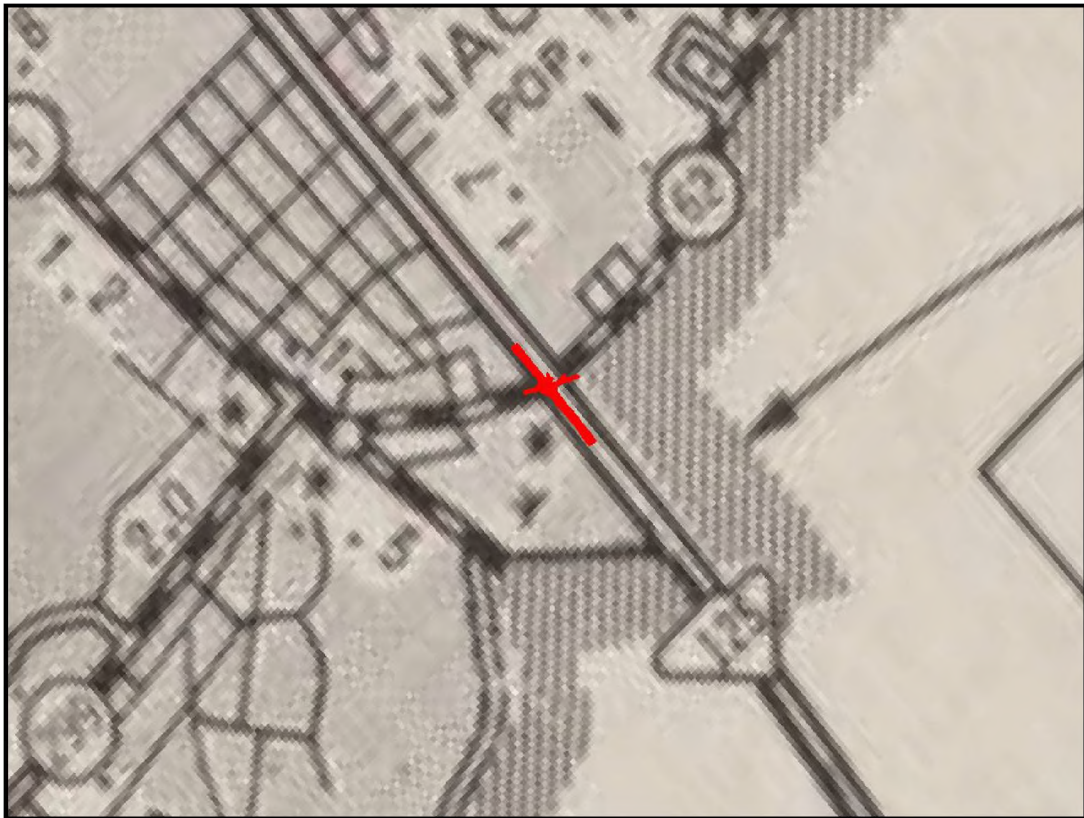


Figure 7b. 1968 Aiken County Highway Map Showing APE (SCSHD 1968).

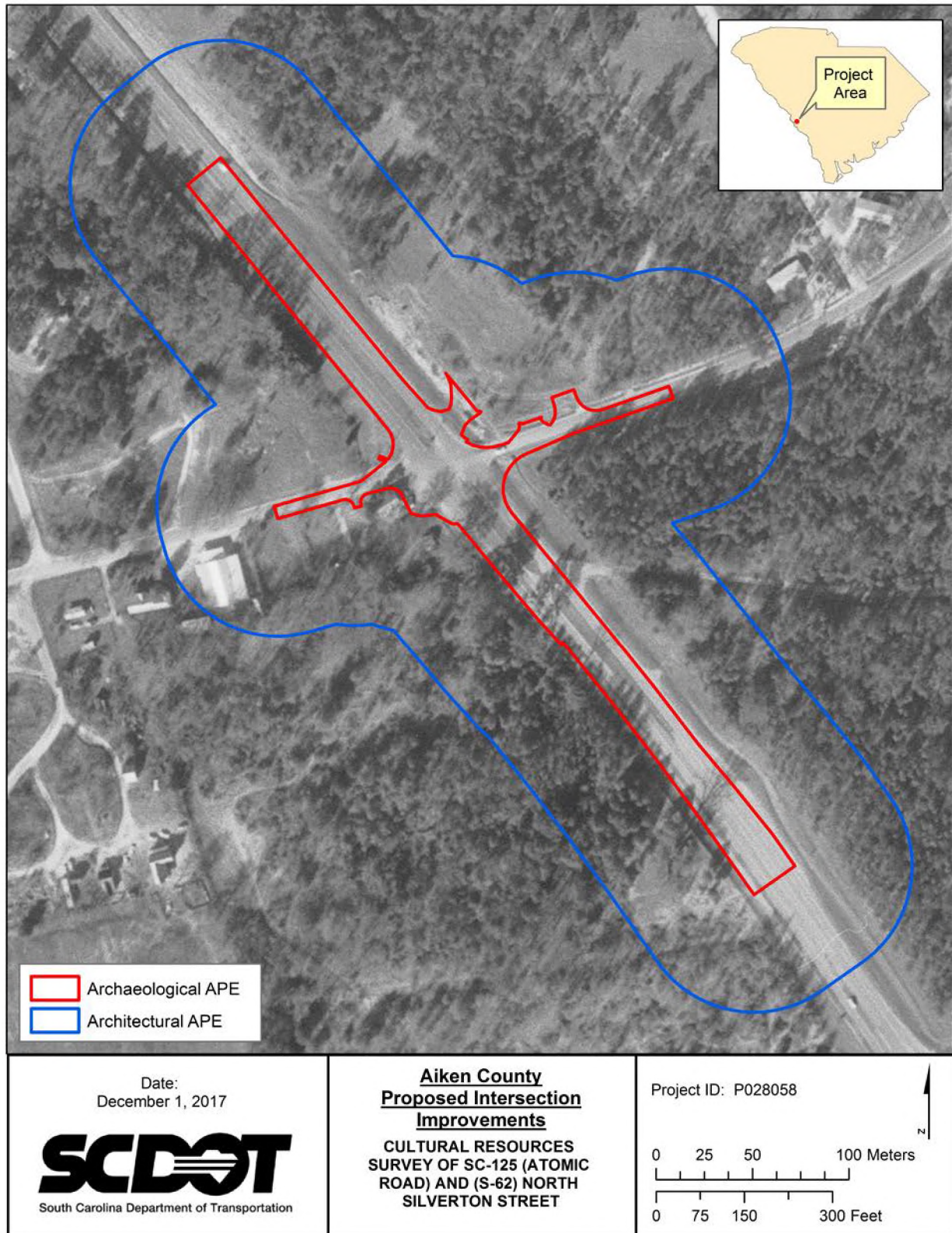


Figure 8. Map of Archaeological and Architectural APEs on 1971 Aerial Photograph (USGS 1971).



Figure 9a. Ground Disturbance in the APE Along S-62.



Figure 9b. Ground Disturbance in the APE Along S-62.



Figure 10a. Ground Disturbance in the APE Along S-62.



Figure 10b. Ground Disturbance in the APE Along SC-125.



Figure 11a. Ground Disturbance in the APE Along SC-125.



Figure 11b. Ground Disturbance in the APE Along SC-125.

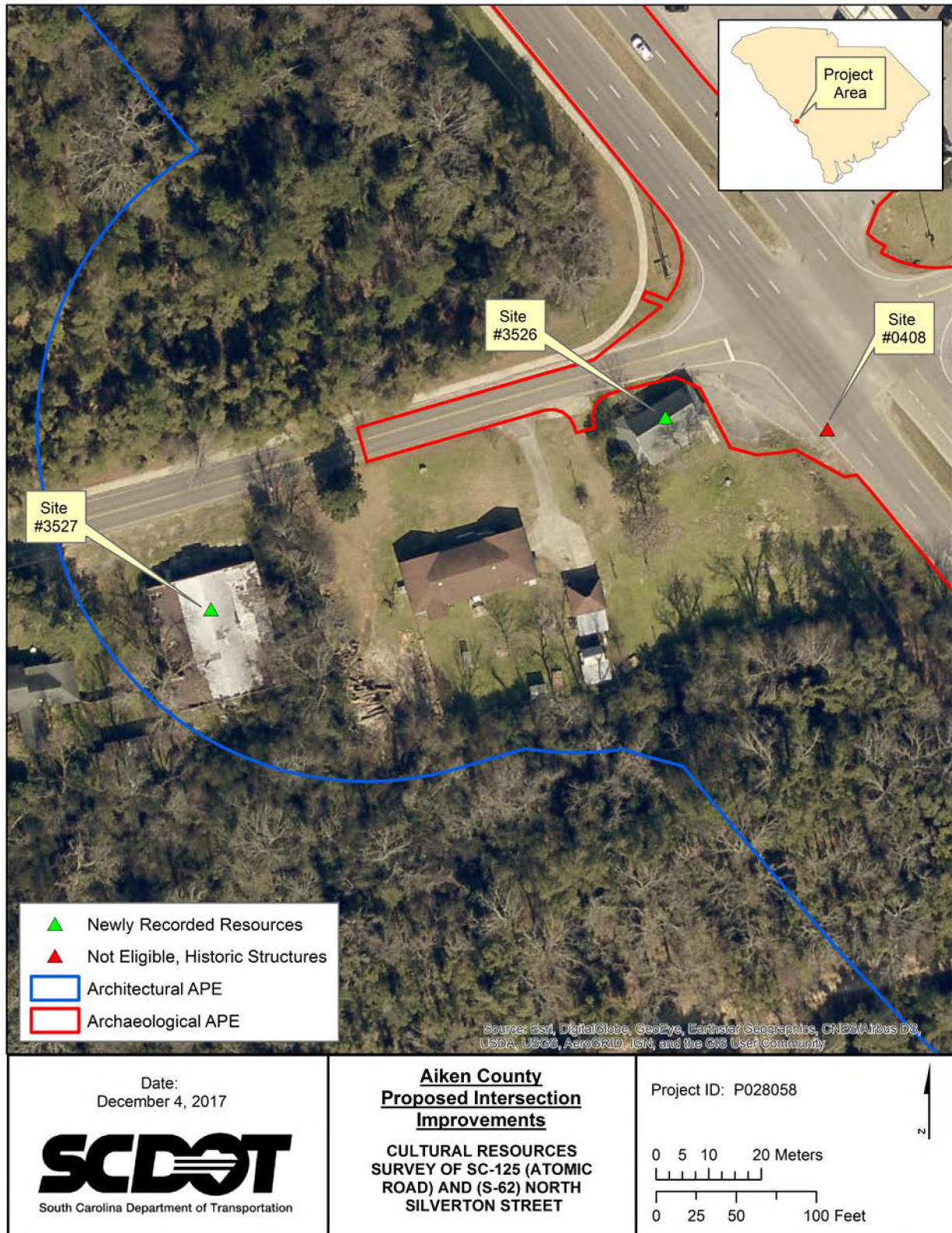


Figure 12. Newly Recorded Historic Resources.



Figure 13a. Newly Recorded Resource, Site #3526, Facing West.



Figure 13b. Newly Recorded Resource, Site #3527, Facing Southwest.

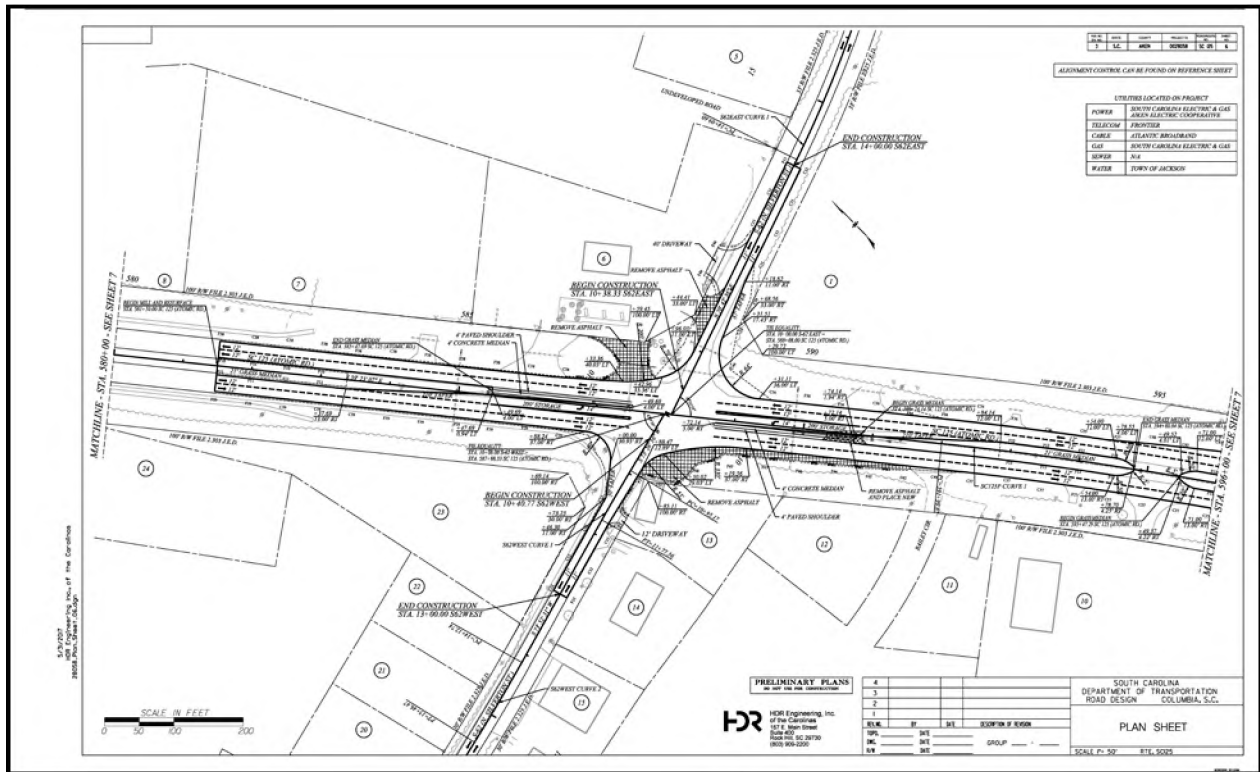


Figure 14. Project Plan Sheet.