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March 31, 2025

Danielle Gosselin
Surface Transportation Board, Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E Street Southwest
Washington, DC 20423

Re: *Project Review Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Docket No. FD 36815, Texas Materials Group, Construction and Operation Exemption, Burnet and Lampasas Counties, Texas (STB/106, THC #202507918)*

Ms. Gosselin:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the above-referenced project. This letter serves as comment on the proposed undertaking from the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

The THC History Programs Division review staff, led by Justin Kockritz, recommends that a qualified architectural historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualification Standards (35 CFR Part 61) survey the project's area of potential effect (APE) and evaluate the eligibility of any aboveground/non-archeological historic-age properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We recommend that for portions of the project where new right-of-way is proposed that the APE for aboveground resources include all parcels wholly or partially within 300 feet of the edge of the proposed right-of-way; for portions of the project that are limited to the existing railroad right-of-way, we recommend that the APE for aboveground resources be limited to the existing right-of-way. THC also notes that the proposed northern terminus is located adjacent to the Shade Denson House, which was designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1964.

The THC Archeology Division review staff, led by Rebecca Shelton, recommends a detailed desktop analysis be conducted by a SOI-qualified archeologist to identify previously recorded archeological sites, State Antiquities Landmarks, properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and cemeteries that may be within, or adjacent to, the proposed routes. According to our maps, the majority of the APE has not been surveyed, therefore an intensive archeological survey should be conducted to identify all cultural resources within the preferred route.

Finally, THC notes that the northern section of the applicant's preferred alignment appears to pass near the Thomas Lafayette Thornal Cemetery. For your reference, attached is additional information on this cemetery from THC's files is attached. Although this cemetery currently has no historic designation, state laws protecting cemeteries and burials apply, including Chapters 711–715 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and Title 13, Chapter 22 of the Texas Administrative Code.

We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. Thank you for your cooperation in this federal review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. If you have any questions concerning our review of

aboveground historic resources, please contact Justin Kockritz at justin.kockritz@thc.texas.gov or 512-936-7403; for any questions concerning our review of archeological resources, please contact Rebecca Shelton at rebecca.shelton@thc.texas.gov or 512-463-6043.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JK' with a stylized flourish.

Justin Kockritz, Lead Project Reviewer, Federal Programs
For: Joseph Bell, State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Alan Tabachnick and Adam Assenza, Surface Transportation Board *via email*
STB E-Filing

THC CEMETERY MANAGEMENT

Home | Create Cemetery | Create Survey | Create Track | Search Notes | Reports |

ID: LM-C041

Name: Thomas Lafayette Thornal

Type: 2

Records: True

Inventory: True

Directions: Take Hwy 190 east from Lampasas to the Snell Ranch (5269). The cemetery is located on the south side of the highway about .2 miles into the ranch.

Atlas Number: 7281004103

Additional Names: Thornal

USGS Map: 3198-111

Source of Records: LCHC

Markers:

Located on the Snell ranch between a deer blind and a large tank. There is a cattle trail that passes right by the graves but the cattle have not bothered the site. Two graves; infant with head and footstones from fieldstone with no inscription and the fenced grave of Thomas Lafayette Thornal (1878-1900). Both graves are in good condition . The Thornal grave has a cast iron fence but the infant grave is not fenced. Ask at the Snell Ranch for permission to enter.

Location

Address: Snell Ranch, 5269 Hwy 190 East

County: Lampasas

Map Feature: False

UTM Easting: 31.02°51.227°N

City: Lampasas

TxDot Map: Lampasas Base Sheet

UTM Zone: 14

UTM Northing: 98.06°15.087°W

Setting

Urban: False

Transition: False

Lake:

Slope: False

Suburban: False

Rural: True

Level: True

Encroachment: private ranch land, cattle pasture

Markers & Designations

HTC:

Grave Medal:

Other:

Subject:

Centennial:

Historical Information

Number of Graves: 1

Unmarked Graves: False

Dated Graves: True

Dates of Burials: Specific dates avail.

Marked no Dates: True

Associated Cult Context: False

Subsequent Community Est: False

No Info Available: False

Original Geo Context Removed: True

Site Relocated: False

Source: observation

Conditions

Maintained: True

Selective Maintenance: False

Overgrown: False

Depressed Graves: False

Vandalized: False

No Evidence of Maintenance: False

Evidence of Repairs: False

Graves not Visible: False

Fallen Stones: False

Missing or Stolen Features: False

Trash/Dumping: False

Sunken Graves: False

Undetermined: False

Leaning Stones: False

Evidence of Cemetery above Ground: 1

Mounds: False

Erosion:

Endangered: medium; cattle pasture, no fence, no sign, maintained on private property

Culture

African American: False

Asian: False

Jewish: False

Jewish: False

Native American: False

European: True

European: False

Language on Stones: English

Religion: False

Nationality: False

Econmomic: False

Fraternal: False

Baby: False

Institution: False

Veterans

1812: False

Mexican: False

Indian: False

WWI: False

Korea: False

Gulf: False

Texas Rev: False

Civil: False

Spanish: False

WWII: False

Vietnam: False

Other: False

Feature Overview

Comments: Combination

Entry Gate: False

Family Fences: False

Individual Fences: True

Manufacturer:

Number: 0

Number: 1

Features

Benches: False

Folk Stones: True

Shrine(s): False

Local Casting: False

Vault(s): False

Flagpole: False

Fountains: False

Slab(s): False

Masonry Cairns: False

Obelisk(s): False

Fences

Barbed Wire: False

Brick: False

Cast Iron: True

Chain Link: False

Combination: False

Woven Wire: False

Stone: False

Wood: False

Curbing

Curbstone: False

Brick: False

Concrete: False

Other: False

Interior Roads

Dirt: True

Gravel: True

Cobble Stone: False

Brick: False

Paved: False

Grass: True

Other

Original Statuary: False

Outhouse: False

Stone Carving: False

Well: False

Structures: False

Tabernacle: False

Urns: False

Other: False

↑ Hwy 190
.2 miles

↑ large tank
100'

Gravel Road

Cattle trail

31°02'51.4"N

31°02'51.2"N

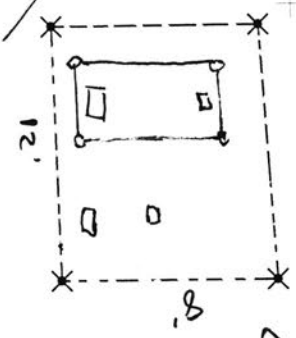
31°02'51.0"N

98°06'15.6"W

98°06'15.4"W

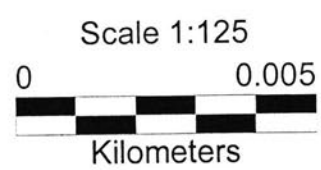
98°06'15.2"W

98°06'15.0"W



LM-C041; Thomas Lafayette Thornal;
.015km; 3198-111

Lat/Long
NAD 1927 (Conus)



Scale 1:125

7-24-03.cor
7/25/2003

GPS Pathfinder® Office
Trimble

↓ Dean Stand









