

APPENDIX J

Cultural Resource Reports

Public

**CULTURAL RESOURCES
UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY
PLAN**

Castle Rock Solar LLC

**Castle Rock Solar Project
Dakota County, Minnesota**



Prepared for:
Castle Rock Solar LLC
3316 Highland Avenue
Wayzata, MN 55391

Prepared by:
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October 22, 2024

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1 Introduction

Castle Rock Solar LLC proposed to construct and operate a photovoltaic electricity-generating facility and associated infrastructure referred to as the Castle Rock Solar Project (Project). The associated facilities include a Project collector substation, switchyard, a short generator tie in line to connect the solar facility to the point of interconnect, access roads, underground electrical collection system, and an operations and maintenance building. Current plans locate the photovoltaic electric-generating facilities covering most of the Project Area. The Project encompasses 1,355 acres in Dakota County, Minnesota (see Figure 1 in Appendix A).

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Stantec), on behalf of Castle Rock Solar LLC, performed cultural resource evaluations on the Project, including literature reviews, probability analyses, architectural and archaeological surveys.

A literature review conducted prior to the archaeological survey identified two previously recorded archaeological sites (21DK0075 and 21DK0094) and one previously recorded above-ground historic structure (DK-CRK-00052) within the Project Area. Site 21DK0075, a structural ruin previously determined to be not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), was not relocated during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remains not eligible for listing on the NRHP. Site 21DK0094, an artifact scatter and structural ruin previously unevaluated for the NRHP, was not relocated during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remain unevaluated for listing on the NRHP as the bulk of the site is mapped outside of the Project Area. No new archaeological sites were identified as a result of the survey. Based on the results of the investigations, Stantec concludes that there are no properties listed in the National or State Registers of Historic Places and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area that will be affected by the proposed Project.

As the Phase I archaeological survey focused on the modeled high probability portion of the Project Area along with additional areas designated as having moderate potential for archaeological sites based on in-field observations, an Unanticipated Discovery Plan will be implemented during construction of the project to address the unlikely event that resources are encountered.

This document describes the procedures to be followed by Castle Rock Solar LLC in the event of an unanticipated discovery of archaeological resources or human remains during construction associated with the Castle Rock Solar Project. It is intended to:

- Maintain compliance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations during construction of the Project;
- Describe to regulatory and review agencies the procedure the Project or its representative will follow to prepare for and deal with unanticipated discoveries; and
- Provide direction and guidance to Project personnel as to the proper procedure to be followed should an unanticipated discovery occur.

This plan applies to Castle Rock Solar LLC employees, contractor(s), and subcontractor(s) during construction, and describes the specific measures to be implemented to protect the resource, should one be identified. The procedures differ depending on whether potentially significant cultural materials (Section 3) or human remains (Section 4) are encountered.

1.1 Training

Prior to commencement of the Project, construction and contractor personnel will receive training from Castle Rock Solar LLC on this plan.

All on-site personnel participating in the construction of the Project will be required to participate in a training program. This program will be designed to educate all personnel on the identification, procedures, and legal responsibilities associated with respect to archaeological and cultural resources. Each individual must attend the training program prior to commencing work on the Project. Individuals who have not fulfilled the requirements of the training will be unable to work on the Project.

The purpose of the program is to educate personnel about the potential for unanticipated discoveries, the protocol to be implemented in and near the Project area and the measures required to protect said resources. It is the responsibility of Castle Rock Solar LLC personnel to protect the environment and natural and cultural resources in accordance with federal and state laws.

The training program will be prepared prior to the start of ground disturbing activities in the Project Area. Personnel should be familiarized with the Unanticipated Discovery Plan. Castle Rock Solar LLC employees and contractors will be provided a basic knowledge of resource types, law and regulations, penalties, and procedures in case of an unanticipated discovery.

The training program will include the following points of discussion for cultural resources:

- Brief historical context of the Project area, including a discussion of Native American resources;
- Information on the identification of archaeological materials and skeletal remains. Basic identification information for major artifact classes will be included; and
- Unanticipated discovery procedures.

A list of potential unanticipated cultural material discoveries is provided in Sections 3 and 6 and a list of potential evidence of human remains and burials is provided in Section 4. These lists will be shared as part of Project personnel training with the knowledge that they are not exhaustive.

2 Unanticipated Discovery Conditions

Ground disturbing activities during Project construction have the potential to uncover previously unknown archaeological materials, human skeletal remains, and possible burial sites, as well as other cultural and natural elements such as modern refuse and faunal remains. The intent of this plan is to explain provisions applicable to any instances where previously unknown materials are encountered during construction.

The Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10) protects burials, burial markers (including Native American mounds), and burial artifacts from disturbance, including vandalism, defacement, destruction, sale, exchange, excavation, or removal. Evidence of burial sites encountered during ground disturbance can include, but are not limited to:

- Any human remains including articulated or disarticulated bones, teeth, hair, preserved soft tissue, etc.;
- Burial pit or grave shaft outlines in the soil;

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- Headstones or footstones; or
- Coffin wood fragments and coffin hardware.

Additional examples of cultural resources you may encounter include:

- Accumulations of shell, burned rocks, or other food-related materials;
- An area of charcoal or dark stained soil;
- Stone tools or stone waste flakes;
- Clusters of glass bottles, cans, jars, bricks, etc.;
- Stone or brick foundations; or
- Buried railroad ties or tracks, machinery, or other industrial equipment.

If an unanticipated discovery is made during the course of the Project all construction activities at the find location will cease and the on-site construction manager will immediately notify the Castle Rock Solar Project Manager and Environmental Manager. Castle Rock Solar LLC will assist with a coordinated consultation effort among Castle Rock Solar LLC, the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA), the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), landowners, Professional Archaeologist, and other interested parties, including Native American tribes. In the event that a suspected discovery is determined not to involve archaeological materials, human skeletal remains, or a burial site, construction would resume and there would be no need of the consultation process as outlined below; however, documentation of the event must be made and can include notes, photographs, and drawings as appropriate. Note that all actions surrounding unanticipated discoveries would be the subject of written documentation appropriate to the discovery.

All unusual objects or soil deposits should be assumed to be a cultural resource until determined otherwise by the Professional Archaeologist, as described below. If archaeological materials or suspected human skeletal remains are identified during ground disturbing activities, the Castle Rock Solar Project Manager will be notified immediately of the discovery before the following actions ensue:

- 1) Immediately following identification of the discovery,
 - a) all construction equipment will halt, in place,
 - b) the on-site construction manager will be notified, and
 - c) a 100-foot no-work zone buffer around the edge of the discovery will be established (using flagging, stakes, and/or fencing) will be established,
 - d) all other on-site personnel will halt all ground-disturbing activities within the buffered area until otherwise notified by Castle Rock Solar LLC, and
 - e) implement measures to protect the discovery from looting and vandalism, including 24-hour security, if necessary.

No cultural material will be transported from its original location. The area of discovery shall be treated as potentially significant and kept intact until a formal determination of significance is made. Do not call 911 (unless there is an actual emergency warranting such action) or speak with the media. Work may continue in other areas outside of the 100-foot buffer zone.

- 2) Castle Rock Solar LLC will then contact a qualified Professional Archaeologist (for possible archaeological materials) meeting the qualification standards outlined in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 61 in order to conduct the assessment.

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- 3) When contacted by Castle Rock Solar LLC, the Professional Archaeologist shall gather additional information from the discovery area and assess the potential significance and condition and integrity of the discovery according to the guidelines established by the National Park Service (NPS) in Bulletins 15 and 36 and their amendments:
 - a) The Professional Archaeologist will conduct an initial assessment and document the find, which may include reviewing photos and/or video from onsite personnel provided the find is not suspected human remains. If the find does not include archaeological materials or cultural resources greater than 45 years of age, or deemed otherwise significant, the Professional Archaeologist will document the discovery for the record and advise Castle Rock Solar LLC that ground disturbing activities may proceed.
 - b) If the find includes archaeological material or cultural resources over 45 years of age, the Professional Archaeologist will notify Castle Rock Solar LLC to continue the suspension of work within the identified area. The Professional Archaeologist will record as much information as practical. The initial site determination should be completed within 24 hours. However, depending on the nature of the find, the process of full recordation, additional survey, and testing may extend beyond 24 hours. The Professional Archaeologist will advise Castle Rock Solar LLC during the recordation process and notify them of the status.
 - c) When contacted by Castle Rock Solar LLC, the Professional Archaeologist shall investigate the site to assess the likely nature of the remains. If the remains are likely human, then Castle Rock Solar LLC will initiate the process outlined in Section 4 below.

Pursuant to the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10), the cemetery condition assessment of non-American Indian cemeteries is at the discretion of the state archaeologist based on identified needs in M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10 or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority.

Pursuant to the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10), the cemetery condition assessment of American Indian cemeteries is at the discretion of MIAC based on identified needs in M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10 or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority. If MIAC has possession or takes custody of remains they may follow United States Code, title 25, sections 3001 to 3013.

Pursuant to the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10) If the cemetery condition assessment of cemeteries that include American Indian and non-American Indian remains or include remains whose ancestry cannot be determined shall be assessed at the discretion of the state archaeologist in collaboration with MIAC based on the identified needs in M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10 or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority.

- ii. If the discovery does not represent human skeletal remains, the Professional Archaeologist will document the discovery for the record in coordination with OSA. The Professional Archaeologist will inform the Castle Rock Project Manager and Environmental Project Manager, who can advise the on-site construction manager ground-disturbing activities may resume.

3 Discovery of Archaeological Materials

Upon the discovery of archaeological materials or cultural resources greater than 45 years of age, the Professional Archaeologist will notify the Environmental Project Manager who will notify MIAC, OSA, and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and provide information regarding its significance and integrity.

- (a) Castle Rock Solar LLC will consult with MIAC, SHPO, OSA, and other consulting parties as appropriate, to assess the discovery. Criteria of eligibility for listing on the NRHP will be considered as a guideline to determine the significance of the find and SHPO and OSA may be consulted during the assessment.
- (b) If, after consultation, the parties agree that the discovery does not represent an NRHP- eligible or otherwise important resource Castle Rock Solar LLC may resume ground-disturbing activities at the discovery location.
- (c) For properties eligible for listing on the NRHP, construction may not resume until SHPO, OSA and/or MIAC, have developed avoidance or mitigation strategies and notified Castle Rock Solar LLC. Consulting parties will provide their response and recommendations within 48 hours. Castle Rock Solar LLC shall carry out the approved treatment measures and, after doing so, may resume construction.

4 Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains or Possible Burial Sites

When human skeletal remains or possible burial sites are encountered during construction activities, Castle Rock Solar LLC will comply with all applicable laws, specifically Minnesota's "Private Cemeteries Act" (M.S. 307.08). **Do not take photos of human remains.**

In the event human skeletal remains or possible burial sites are encountered during ground-disturbing construction activity, all construction shall immediately cease within 100 feet of the find, and Castle Rock Solar LLC will notify the Dakota County Dispatch non-emergency line. Barriers will be installed, as appropriate, to ensure any other potential for ground disturbance is prevented in the enclosed area.

As required by M.S. 307.08, Castle Rock Solar LLC will notify MIAC and OSA in the event the find is considered to be an unplatted human burial not associated with a crime scene. All unidentified human remains or burials found during construction activity shall be treated with the utmost respect for all human dignity and dealt with accordingly. If such burials are not American Indian or their ethnic identity cannot be ascertained, as determined by OSA, they shall be dealt with in accordance with provisions established by the state archaeologist and other appropriate authority. If such burials are American Indian, as determined by OSA and MIAC, efforts shall be made to follow procedures as defined in United States Code, title 25, section 3001 et seq., and its implementing regulations, Code of Federal Regulations, title 43, part 10, within and outside of reservation boundaries.

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The OSA or MIAC have sole authority to authorize continuation of ground disturbing activities following the discovery of human remains. To ensure that no human remains exist in soils adhered to or otherwise resting on construction machinery, such machinery will not be moved without the OSA and/or MIAC approval. MIAC has the authority to determine if American Indian burials can be removed and relocated, disturbed, or have any fence, tree, or other protective measures removed.

All parties involved will consult and devise a plan of action. Castle Rock Solar LLC will coordinate efforts to as possible to resolve the issues surrounding the unanticipated discovery. After permission to resume construction has been issued by the OSA and MIAC, Castle Rock Solar LLC may restart ground-disturbing activities. No public or press disclosure of any information regarding human remains shall be shared by Castle Rock Solar LLC, at any time, during or after the Project.

5 Contact List

Agency	Name	Title	Phone	Email
Castle Rock Solar	Derek Hasek	VP of Development	612-655-5807	derek.hasek@solarstonepartners.com
Castle Rock Solar	Ryan MacWilliams	Project Manager	786 939 5746	rmacWilliams@matrixrenewables.com
Stantec	Angela Julin	Professional Archaeologist	763-245-1005	Angela.julin@stantec.com
Stantec	Joshua Jensen	Physical Anthropologist	612-801-1223	Joshua.jensen@stantec.com
OSA	Amanda Gronhovd	State Archaeologist	651-201-2263	amanda.gronhovd@state.mn.us
SHPO	Lucy Harrington	Environmental Review Archaeologist	651-201-3283	Lucy.harrington@state.mn.us
MIAC	Melissa Cerda	Cultural Resources Manager, Senior	218-308-2750	melissa.cerda@state.mn.us
Dakota County Coroner	TBD	Dakota County Medical Examiner	651-480-4253	
Dakota County Sheriff		Law Enforcement	651-322-2323	
TRIBAL CONTACTS TO BE ADDED UPON REQUEST				

6 Non-Exhaustive Examples of Cultural Resources (Not Project Specific)



Figure 1 Pre-Contact Native American Stone Bifaces.





Figure 4 Coffin Hardware.



Figure 5 Pre-Contact Native American Features/ Soil Staining.



Figure 6 Historic Foundation Feature.



Figure 7 Historic Brick Foundation Segment.

Appendix A Project Location

Please mail the completed form and required material to:

ENReviewSHPO@state.mn.us



Request for Project Review by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

☒ This is a new submittal

☐ This is additional information relating to SHPO Project #: _____

DATE: 10/25/2024

I. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Castle Rock Solar Project

Project Address (or Location): Castle Rock Township

City / Township (circle one): Castle Rock Zip: _____ County: Dakota

Legal Description: Township 113 Range 19 E/W (circle one) Section^{2-4, 9, 10} _____ Quarter-section _____

II. PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Contact Name: Derek Hasek Title: VP of Development

Company/Agency: Castle Rock Solar LLC

Street Address: 3944 Xerxes Ave S Phone Number: (612) 655-5807

City: Minneapolis State: MN Zip: 55410 Email: derek.hasek@solarstonepartners.com

III. FEDERAL AND/OR STATE INVOLVEMENT

Federal Agency (if applicable): _____
(Agency providing funds, licenses, or permits)

Permit or Project Reference #: _____

State Agency (if applicable): MPUC
(Agency providing funds, licenses, or permits)

Permit or Project Reference #: _____

Local Agency (if applicable): _____

(Continued on Reverse Side)

Please refer to *Instructions for Completing the Request for Project Review* form on our website. Submit one *Request for Project Review* form for each project. For questions regarding the SHPO review process, please [visit our website](#) or contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson (651-201-3285) or Leslie Coburn (651-201-3286) or by email at ENReviewSHPO@state.mn.us.

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BOUNDARIES

A) REQUIRED FOR ALL PROJECTS

- ☒ Write a detailed description of the proposed project. (See attached.)

see attached

- ☒ Attach a map of project location, with project area(s) clearly marked. Road names must be included and legible.

B) Architecture

Are there any buildings or structures within the project area? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **No**, continue to the Archaeology section below. If **Yes**, submit all of the following information:

- ☒ List all buildings and structures within the project area and the year they were built. (See attached.)

see attached

- ☒ Photographs of **each** building and structure located within the project area, along with a photo key. Include streetscape images, if applicable. All photographs must be clear, crisp, focused, and taken at ground level. Aerial photos are insufficient.

- ☒ List known historic buildings or structures located within the project area (i.e., individual properties or districts which are listed in the National Register or which meet the criteria for listing in the National Register). (See attached.)

see attached

C) Archaeology

Does the proposed undertaking involve ground-disturbing activity? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **No**, this form is complete. If **Yes**, submit all of the following information:

- ☒ Attach the relevant portion of a 1:24000-scale USGS topographic map (photocopied or computer generated) **with the project boundary marked**.

- ☒ Description of current and previous land use and disturbances: (See attached.)

see attached

- ☐ Any available information concerning known or suspected archaeological resources within the project area. (See attached.)

see attached

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October 25, 2024

Amy Spong

State Historic Preservation Office
Administration Building #203
50 Sherburne Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Reference: Castle Rock Solar LLC Solar Project, Pine County,
Minnesota MPUC Docket No. IP7137/GS-24-267, In the Matter of the Application of Castle
Rock Solar LLC for a Site Permit for the up to 150 MW Castle Rock Solar Project in Dakota
County, Minnesota, Request for Project Review**

Dear Amy Spong,

Castle Rock Solar LLC (Castle Rock Solar) is proposing the construction and operation of a photovoltaic (PV) electricity-generating facility and associated infrastructure on approximately 1,355 acres of land for a total of up to 150 megawatts (MW) alternating current (AC). The Castle Rock LLC Solar Project (Project) is located in Sections 2 – 4, 9, and 10, Township 113 North, Range 19 West, Castle Rock Township, Dakota County, Minnesota.

The associated facilities include a Project substation, switchyard, access roads, underground electrical collection system, and an operations and maintenance (O&M) building. This energy generation facility meets the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) definition of a large electric power generating plant, thereby necessitating a Site Permit from the MPUC.

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) conducted a Phase I archaeological survey for Castle Rock Solar in preparation for MPUC Site Permit application. The cultural resources investigation followed federal and state guidelines for conducting cultural resources investigations, including the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation [48 Federal Register 44716-44740] (National Park Service [NPS] 1983), Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (MnSHPO) Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota (Anfinson 2005), and Guidelines for History/Architecture Projects in Minnesota (MnSHPO 2005).

Stantec identified 250 acres with medium to high potential for unrecorded archaeological sites, and a Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey was recommended for these areas. An additional 140 acres were included in the Survey Area to encompass block transects, and include additional areas designated as having a moderate potential for archaeological sites based on in-field observations. No new archaeological sites were identified as a result of the 390-acre Phase I archaeological survey. Previously recorded sites 21DK0075 and 21DK0094 were not relocated within the Project Area. As a result, Stantec recommends a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the proposed Project. Castle Rock Solar is requesting your review of the Phase I archaeological survey in the attached report "An Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Castle Rock Solar Project, Dakota County, Minnesota". Your attention to this request is appreciated. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at (612) 655-5807, or by email at derek.hasek@solarstonepartners.com, or contact Angela Julin, Stantec's environmental consultant for this Project, at (612) 756-4977, or by email at angela.julin@stantec.com.

Kindest Regards,

Derek Hasek

VP of Development

Phone: 612-655-5807

Email: derek.hasek@solarstonepartners.com

Website: www.solarstonepartners.com



Enc. An Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Castle Rock Solar Project, Dakota County, Minnesota.



**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY OF THE
CASTLE ROCK SOLAR PROJECT
DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

October 22, 2024

Prepared for:
Castle Rock Solar LLC
3316 Highland Avenue
Wayzata, MN 55391

Prepared by:
Joshua Jensen, M.Sc, RPA
Angela Julin, MA, RPA

Principal Investigator:
Angela Julin, MA, RPA

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. One
Carlson Parkway North Suite 100
Plymouth, MN 55447-4440

Project Number:
193709215

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The conclusions in the Report titled An Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Castle Rock Solar Project, Dakota County, Minnesota are Stantec's professional opinion, as of the time of the Report, and concerning the scope described in the Report. The opinions in the document are based on conditions and information existing at the time the scope of work was conducted and do not take into account any subsequent changes. The Report relates solely to the specific project for which Stantec was retained and the stated purpose for which the Report was prepared. The Report is not to be used or relied on for any variation or extension of the project, or for any other project or purpose, and any unauthorized use or reliance is at the recipient's own risk.

Stantec has assumed all information received from Castle Rock Solar LLC (the "Client") and third parties in the preparation of the Report to be correct. While Stantec has exercised a customary level of judgment or due diligence in the use of such information, Stantec assumes no responsibility for the consequences of any error or omission contained therein.

This Report is intended solely for use by the Client in accordance with Stantec's contract with the Client. While the Report may be provided by the Client to applicable authorities having jurisdiction and to other third parties in connection with the project, Stantec disclaims any legal duty based upon warranty, reliance or any other theory to any third party, and will not be liable to such third party for any damages or losses of any kind that may result.

Prepared by:


Signature

Joshua Jensen, M.Sc, RPA, Archaeologist

Printed Name

Reviewed by:



Signature

Angela Julin, MA, RPA, Senior Archaeologist

Printed Name

Approved by:



Signature

Jennifer Kamm, Associate Project Manager

Printed Name

Executive Summary

On behalf of Castle Rock Solar LLC, Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) completed a Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey for the Castle Rock Solar Project (Project). Castle Rock Solar LLC proposes to construct and operate the proposed Castle Rock Solar Facility, an up to 150-megawatt photovoltaic solar energy generating system. The proposed approximately 1,355-acre Solar Facility is to be constructed in Castle Rock Township, Dakota County, Minnesota. The Project is located in Sections 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10 of Township 113 North, Range 19 West. The Project is located in Minnesota archaeological region 3: Southeast Riverine.

In accordance with Minn. Stat. § 216E.03, subd. 1, a Site Permit is required for solar energy generating systems greater than 50 MW. The Solar Facility will be 150 MW in size and will therefore require a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission prior to construction. The Phase I archaeological survey followed federal and state guidelines for conducting cultural resources investigations, including the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation [48 Federal Register 44716-44740] (National Park Service [NPS] 1983), Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (MnSHPO) Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota (Anfinson 2005), and Guidelines for History/Architecture Project in Minnesota (MnSHPO 2005).

A literature review conducted prior to the archaeological survey identified two previously recorded archaeological sites (21DK0075 and 21DK0094) and one previously recorded above-ground historic structure (DK-CRK-00052) within the Project Area. Site 21DK0075 is a structural ruin determined to be not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Site 21DK0094 is an artifact scatter and structure ruin that is unevaluated for listing on the NRHP. DK-CRK-00052 is a Timber Slab Span bridge previously determined to be not eligible for listing on the NRHP, the details of which are discussed in the associated historic architectural survey report (Flatt et al. 2024). An archaeological site location predictive model was developed prior to the survey which indicated that 250 acres of the Project Area yielded a moderate to high potential for intact cultural deposits, which comprised the Survey Area. An additional 140 acres were included in the Survey Area to encompass block transects, and include additional areas designated as having a moderate potential for archaeological sites based on in-field observations.

Stantec archaeologists conducted the Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey of the 390-acre Survey Area on November 13 to 16, 2023 and May 13 to 15, 2024. Site 21DK0075 was not relocated during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remains not eligible for listing on the NRHP. No evidence of Site 21DK0094 was identified during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remains unevaluated for listing on the NRHP as the bulk of the site is mapped outside of the Project Area. No new archaeological sites were identified as a result of the survey; therefore, Stantec recommends a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the proposed Project. Should additional ground disturbing activities be proposed, additional fieldwork and consultation may be required.

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Acronyms / Abbreviations

GIS	Geographic Information System
GLO	General Land Office
GSV	Ground surface visibility
MN DNR	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
MnSHIP	Minnesota Statewide Historic Inventory Portal
MnSHPO	Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NPS	National Park Service
OSA	Office of the State Archaeologist
PN	Provenience Number
Project	Castle Rock Solar Project
Stantec	Stantec Consulting Services, LLC
Study Area	Project Area plus a 1-mile buffer
UMN	University of Minnesota
USGS	United States Geological Survey

1 Introduction

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) conducted a Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey of the proposed Castle Rock Solar Project (Project) in Dakota County, Minnesota, on behalf of Castle Rock Solar LLC. The Project involves the construction and operation of a photovoltaic electricity-generating facility and associated infrastructure on approximately 1,355 acres for a total of 150 megawatts alternating current. The Project is located in Sections 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10 of Township 113 North, Range 19 West (see Figure 1 in Appendix A). The Project Area boundary generally follows private property lines, section lines, and roads. Current landcover within the Project Area is agricultural fields, and with forested tracts present along streams, drainages, and wetlands.

The associated facilities include a Project collector substation, switchyard, a short generator tie in line to connect the solar facility to the point of interconnect, access roads, underground electrical collection system, and an operations and maintenance building. Current plans locate the photovoltaic electric-generating facilities covering most of the Project Area.

At this time, the Project is being conducted at a state-level review due to anticipated requirements of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission as part of the Site Permit Application process as required under the Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E). The cultural resources assessment followed federal and state guidelines for conducting cultural resources investigations, including the Secretary of the Interior's the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation [48 Federal Register 44716-44740] (National Park Service [NPS] 1983), Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (MnSHPO) Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota (Anfinson 2005), and Guidelines for History/Architecture Projects in Minnesota (MnSHPO 2005).

The Phase I investigation was conducted between November 13 to 16, 2023 and May 13 to 15, 2024 by Stantec archaeologists Angela Julin, Joshua Jensen, Rikka Bakken, Alexis Smith, Rebekah Gansemer, Mickey Gefeke, Keyah Adams, and Claire Witt with Angela Julin, Joshua Jensen, and Rebekah Gansemer acting as field leads. Angela Julin, MA, RPA, served as the Principal Investigator. Ms. Julin exceeds the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for Archaeology as published in 36 CFR Section 61.

2 Physical and Environmental Context

The Project Area comprises approximately 1,355 acres in Dakota County, Minnesota and is situated on a flat to gently rolling plateau surrounding wetlands around the South Branch Vermillion River which extends through the middle of the Project Area. The Project Area setting is primarily rural consisting of agricultural fields, with small, sporadic wooded areas along field boundaries. Numerous tributaries of the South Branch Vermillion River drain the Project Area.

2.1 Topography and Hydrology

The Project Area is located along the eastern edge of the Oak Savanna subsection of the Minnesota & NE Morainal section, just west of the Rochester Plateau subsection (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 2024). The topography within the Oak Savanna subsection is characterized by rolling plains of loess-mantled ridges. Late Wisconsin end moraines, stagnation moraines, and outwash plains are found in this subsection. The Project Area is characterized by low terraces overlooking the South Branch of the Vermillion River and its associated wetlands and gently rolling to rolling uplands.

The Project Area crosses over the South Branch Vermillion River. A majority of the Oak Savanna subsection exhibits a fairly well-developed drainage network (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 2024).

2.2 Geology

The Project Area is comprised of Prairie du Chien Group, and Platteville and Glenwood Formations bedrock geology units. These groups are made up of Lower, Middle, and Upper Ordovician age dolomite, sandstone, limestone, and shale (Jirsa et al. 2011). Depth to bedrock in the Project Area ranges between 100 and 200 feet (Olsen and Mossler 1982).

2.3 Soils and Geomorphology

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) data was used to determine soil types within the Project Area. Soils representing 2 percent or more of the Project Area are shown in Table 2.3-1 below. Soils in the Project Area range from very poorly drained to excessively drained. Over half (54 percent) of the soils in the Project Area are well drained. Nearly half (46 percent) of the soils are characterized as loam. The typical profile of the Wadena loam soil series, which is the most common soil series within the Project Area, consists of an 8-inch black loam Ap horizon above an 8 to 13 inch very dark gray loam horizon, reaching the Bw1 subsoil at 13 inches which consists of a dark brown loam extending to 20 inches (NRCS 2024).

Table 2.3-1. Soils within the Project Area

Map Unit Name	Drainage Class	Landform	Percent of Project Area
Lindstrom silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Well drained	hills	3%
Klossner muck, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Very poorly drained	depressions	4%
Ostrander-Carmi loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Well drained	moraines	5%
Waukegan silt loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Well drained	outwash plains	6%
Kanaranzi loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Well drained	outwash plains	6%
Klinger silt loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Somewhat poorly drained	moraines	7%
Ostrander loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Well drained	moraines	8%
Hawick gravelly sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Excessively drained	terraces	8%

Map Unit Name	Drainage Class	Landform	Percent of Project Area
Maxfield silty clay loam	Poorly drained	moraines	10%
Wadena loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Well drained	terraces	18%

2.4 Natural Resources

Prior to Euro-American settlement, vegetation within the Project Area consisted of burr oak savanna with areas of tallgrass prairie and maple-basswood forest. The burr oak savanna developed on the moraine ridges, while tallgrass prairie was concentrated on the level to- gently rolling plains. The maple-basswood forest developed on portions of the landscape with the greatest fire protection including steep ravines (Albert 1993). Well established drainage networks are present within the Project Area and would have supported a variety of fauna including bison, elk, and deer, as well as smaller mammals, fish, and migratory waterfowl, among others (Minnesota State Archaeologist 2022).

3 Cultural Context

This section will outline southeastern Minnesota's cultural setting. The goal of this section is to present a cultural context through which to examine the region and the proposed Project Area. The Project Area is located within the Southeast Riverine (3w) archaeological region. People have lived in present day Minnesota for at least 12,000 years and archaeologists have divided this length of time into two main eras; the precontact and post-contact eras. The precontact era comprises of the time before non-indigenous involvement while the post-contact era comprises of the time after the arrival of non-indigenous peoples into the region. Archaeological research in the Southeast Region of Minnesota has largely been focused along major rivers and their tributaries.

3.1 Precontact Period

Minnesota's precontact history is divided into four main periods: Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, and Late Prehistoric. These periods are based on changes in material culture, subsistence systems, and settlement systems.

3.1.1 PALEOINDIAN PERIOD (12,00 – 7,500 BC)

The Paleoindian period reflects a pattern of cultural adaptation based on environmental conditions that marked the shift from the Late Pleistocene to the Early Holocene epoch. The climate was considerably wetter and colder than the present and hosted many large species of megafauna such as mammoths, caribou, and extinct species of bison (Schermer et al. 1995). In the Midwest, the period is characterized by glacial retreat and draining of glacial lakes. Native American groups entered what is now Minnesota at least 12,000 years ago. These early inhabitants, along with those that settled elsewhere in North America, were

nomadic hunters from Asia. As nomadic hunters, they followed migrating animal herds into the region as the glaciers of the last Ice Age retreated.

Within the Southeast Riverine archaeological region, only a few Early Prehistoric sites have been identified with Archaic and Woodland period sites concentrated along the Mississippi River. Sites in this region may be deeply buried in the floodplain alluvium (Gibbon 2012).

3.1.2 ARCHAIC PERIOD (7,500 – 500 BC)

The Archaic period in Minnesota corresponds to the warming post-glacial environment of the region. Megafauna such as mammoths, horses, and camels have gone extinct, and the floral and fauna of this period began to resemble the environment of today (Benchley et al. 1997). The large spearpoints of the Paleoindian period were eventually replaced by smaller dart points with stems and notches that were used with atlatls to hunt game. Other new types of artifacts, such as ground and pecked stone tools, grooved axes, and atlatl weights, also begin to appear in the artifact assemblages from this period. Atlatl weights were attached to throwing sticks to allow for better balance and increased throwing distance (Morrow 1996).

The Project Area lies within the Riverine Archaic area of southeastern Minnesota. No excavated Archaic site in this region have exhibited the full sequence of 7000 to 500 BC, yet the King Coulee site near Wabasha County has the largest Late Archaic information and covers from 1500 to 500 BC. The Riverine Archaic area along the lower Mississippi River and in deeply-cut river valleys of southeastern Minnesota with floodplains offering gardening areas for squash and other early cultigens, and bottomlands offering varied sources of animals and vegetation like waterfowl and aquatic tubers (Minnesota State Archaeologist 2022).

3.1.3 WOODLAND PERIOD (500 BC – AD 1000)

While various aspects of Archaic culture continued (e.g., subsistence strategies and lithic technology), the Woodland period is noted for several major changes including introduction of the bow and arrow, pottery manufacture, corn and squash agriculture, and burial mound construction (Perry 1996). The Woodland period is further divided into early, middle, and late periods. The transition from Archaic to Early Woodland exhibits considerable overlap in projectile point styles and settlement pattern with different groups adapting new technologies at different times and forming regional identities (Benchley et al. 1997).

The Early Woodland period generally coincides with the Sub-Boreal climatic episode, which approximated modern conditions although attenuated cycles of climatic change have been identified. The landscape began to stabilize with a mix of prairie and small swaths of forest similar to that described by early Euro-American settlers (Perry 1996). Distinguishing between Late Archaic and Early Woodland sites can be difficult since the transition between the two was not abrupt. Over time, though, larger sites with earthen burial mounds appeared as did a more sedentary settlement system. Associated with these changes is the presence of ceramic vessels, constructed burial mounds, and intentional cultivation of several native plants such as gourds, goosefoot, and sunflower (Perry 1996; Mason 2002). Early Woodland pottery types in southern and eastern Minnesota include La Moille Thick and Fox Lake Trilled (Gibbon 1986).

The Early Woodland is one of the least known periods in the region (Heartfield, Price and Greene, Inc. 1980). Evidence from other areas of the Midwest Region, including Illinois, indicates that the more sedentary lifestyle of the Early Woodland may have been caused by a variety of factors: increased population pressure; diminishing reserves of previously utilized food sources; climatic changes; and a new reliance on domesticated crops. This period marked the beginning of the shift from hunting and gathering to food production.

The Middle Woodland period is not generally regarded as a distinct phase in Minnesota archaeology. The initial reason for dividing the Early from Middle Woodland was arbitrary in nature to accommodate a growing body of data, however the scarcity of sites in Minnesota never warranted this division (Benchley et al. 1997).

The Late Woodland period is characterized by a growing population, increased sedentism, and a heavier reliance on agricultural crops. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of Late Woodland camp, village, and cemetery sites that are found throughout the Midwest (Mason 2002). Maize is known from Late Woodland sites in Minnesota such as the Nelson site (21BE24) (Benchley et al. 1997). Maize became an important food source for many Midwestern groups by AD 800 but was likely known much earlier than AD 750 (O'Brien and Wood 1998). There are strong similarities to artifact types in Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota including Nininger Cord-wrapped Stick Impressed and Bremer Triangular Punctate ceramics and small triangular lithics and scrapers. These lithics are presumed to be associated with the introduction of the bow and arrow during this time (Benchley et al. 1997).

3.1.4 THE LATE PREHISTORIC (AD 1000 – HISTORIC CONTACT)

Beginning around AD 1000, Middle Mississippian influences from the American Bottom began to appear in Minnesota groups. A direct link has never been established between these groups and the precise nature is not currently known (Benchley et al. 1997). Similar to the transition from Archaic to Early Woodland, the transition from Late Woodland to Mississippian periods exhibits considerable overlap in projectile point styles and settlement patterns with different groups adapting new technologies at different times. Some of the most recognizable changes included the shift to shell-tempered pottery and the appearance of fortifications associated with village sites. Archaeologically, in the upper Midwest these changes form what is the basis of the Oneota complex.

The Oneota complex is known for its characteristic ceramics. Oneota ceramics typically consist of shell-tempered, globular jars with rounded bases, constricted necks and vertical or flaring rims. Often there are two or four loop or strap handles joining the upper and lower rim on opposing sides of the vessels. Lugs are present on some vessels that lack handles. Common pottery decorations include punctations, finger impressions, diagonal or vertical lines, triangles, chevrons, and scrolls and concentric circles. Common chipped stone tools include small triangular projectile points of the Madison type, end scrapers, side scrapers, graters, drills, bifaces, and a variety of flake tools. Oneota commonly produced artifacts from Catlinite, which was quarried in southwestern Minnesota and was prominent in the Oneota exchange network after about AD 1350 (Logan 1976; O'Brien and Wood 1998). Subsistence changes including a heavier reliance on maize and wild rice facilitated an energy surplus that produced major changes to social organization, gender roles, and settlement patterns (Benchley et al. 1997).

Oneota in southeastern Minnesota prominently include the Silvernale phase of the Red Wing locality. Red Wing phase sites are located between the confluence of the Cannon and Trimbelle Rivers with the Mississippi River. This area encompasses approximately 58 acres and 2,000 mounds/earthworks, eight village sites, and dozens of other secondary sites. Within the Red Wing locality is the distinctive Silvernale phase lasting from AD 1050–1300 and includes four major sites. These sites are situated on glacial outwash terraces and are surrounded by earthen mounds (Benchley et al. 1997). Oneota groups involve a large time span and several sub-groups, including Winnebago, Missouri, Ioway, Oto, Kansa, Osage, Quapaw, and Omaha-Ponca. As a result, there is little consistency in architecture from one site to another and architectural form is more reliant on the subgroup that populated the site at the time (O'Brien and Wood 1998).

3.2 Contact and Post-Contact Period

While some Native American groups faced direct encounters with early European explorers by the early sixteenth century, most groups' first interactions involved "down the line" trade of European goods from other Native Americans and exposure to European diseases that decimated populations well before first contact. The post-contact period, which varies in date across North America, is generally defined as beginning with initial European exploration and settlement of an area (Lass 1998; Neill and Williams 1881).

The French were the first European explorers in what is now Minnesota. Beginning in the mid-17th century, French traders traveled the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers from Canadian posts to trade with the Ioway, Oto, Eastern Dakota, Teton, Yanktonai, and Assiniboiné groups (Benchley et al. 1997). Though the European ownership of the territory exchanged hands numerous times, the native peoples of the territory remained its primary inhabitants.

3.2.1 DAKOTA COUNTY

Dakota County was one of the original nine counties established at this time by the Minnesota Territory (Dakota County 2020). At the time Minnesota became a state, most of the population lived between the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers (Benchley et al. 1997). The first Euro-American settlers and explorers arrived in the area that would become Dakota County in the mid-1820s. Prior to this early settlement, the area contained oak prairie savannas. The land that now is Dakota County was situated in an area inhabited by Dakota (Sioux) groups (Genealogy Trails 2022).

By 1900, Hastings, the county seat, became a central point of transportation, communication, and commerce. Hastings, located on the Mississippi River at the confluence of the St. Croix River and the Vermillion River, was provided abundant waterpower. Lumber, milling, and railroads boomed, supplying decent incomes for local workers. During this time, the stockyards and meat-packing plants in South St. Paul, Minnesota became the world's largest stockyards (Lass 1998). Ranchers in the west shipped their livestock to St. Louis, Memphis, and New Orleans. These plants were driven by immigrants from Eastern European countries. The remainder of Dakota County was chiefly agricultural due to lack of bridge connections. Rail access came in 1866 via the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Omaha Railroad which shipped grain to millers (Neill and Williams 1881).

In the early twentieth century, the Minneapolis St. Paul Rochester and Dubuque Electric Traction Company line was primary for passengers going to resorts in Burnsville and Lakeville. By the 1950s, population growth swung to western Dakota County, which had been largely Irish and Scottish extending southward toward the Scandinavians of Southern Minnesota (Lass 1998). As population grew south from Minneapolis and Bloomington, the completion of Interstate 35W and 35E brought about major construction in the post-World War II period, rapidly turning villages into cities. Burnsville, Apple Valley, Eagan, and Lakeville brought over 200,000 people into the county by the end of the century (Lass 1998).

3.2.2 CASTLE ROCK TOWNSHIP

Castle Rock Township was formed in 1858 and was named after a local sandstone formation. The township was first settled in 1854 by T. P. Brown and shortly after by B. R. Morrison, J. B. Stevens, Leonard Aldrich, Alfred Bliss, and Horace Boyce (Genealogy Trails 2024). Larger waves of settlers followed in 1855 and 1857. The first blacksmith shop was established in 1858 by George Mosher. A post office was also established in 1858 with Uriah Sherd serving as the postmaster. A railroad station was established along the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul railway in 1867 (Genealogy Trails 2024). The earliest church constructed in the township was a German Evangelical church completed in 1866. Congregations of other Christian denominations met at local schoolhouses and the residence of Leonard Aldrich until the construction of another church in 1874 (Genealogy Trails 2024).

4 Literature Review

Stantec reviewed the MnSHPO previous survey report data, the Minnesota Statewide Historic Inventory Portal (MnSHIP), as well as the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) Portal online in April of 2024. The literature search focused on previously identified cultural resources (archaeological sites and architectural properties) within the literature search Study Area, defined as the Project Area plus a 1-mile buffer. In addition, Stantec reviewed archival resources including the General Land Office (GLO) maps, county atlases, the University of Minnesota Borchert Map Library, Trygg maps, the NRHP database, and historical aerial imagery to identify potential cultural features in the Project Area. Online sources for topics such as soils, hydrology, physiography, and the natural environment were also consulted.

4.1 Previously Conducted Archaeological Surveys

Two previously conducted archaeological surveys are recorded intersecting the Project Area (see Table 4.1-1). No additional previously conducted archaeological surveys are recorded within the Study Area. Copies of reports MULT-2007-16 and MULT-2013-32 were not located during an in person visit to MnSHPO and no further information could be found on the reports.

Table 4.1-1 Previously Conducted Archaeological Surveys within the Study Area

Report Number	Title	Author	Year
MULT-2007-16*	Phase I and II Cultural Resources Survey for the Minnesota Pipeline Company's MinnCan Pipeline, Clearwater, Hubbard, Wadena, Todd, Morrison, Stearns, Meeker, Wright, McLead, Carver, Sibley, Scott, and Dakota Counties, Minnesota	Andrew P. Bielakowski, et al.	2007
MULT-2013-32*	Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey for the Chub Lake Substation to Hampton Substation Segment of the CapX2020 Brookings County to Hampton 345kV Transmission Line Project	Dylan Eigenberger	2013
*Intersects Property Boundary			

4.2 Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites

Two previously recorded archaeological sites (21DK0075 and 21DK0094) are located within the Project Area and one alpha site (21DKk) is located in the Study Area (see Figure 2 in Appendix A). Site 21DK0075, known as the Empey site, is a structural ruin identified in 2006. This site consists of 78 concrete pilings that served as a foundation for a historic corncrib, no associated artifacts were identified. This structure has been dated to the post-contact historic period (1873–1945). This site has been recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Site 21DK0094 is an artifact scatter and structural ruin identified in 2013. Site 21DK0094 consists of the remains of a Historic Euro-American farmstead dating to the post-contact historic period (1873–1945). The site has not been evaluated for listing in the NRHP.

Alpha site 21DKk is recorded as a precontact artifact scatter containing projectile points. As an alpha site, the site has not been verified through an archaeology survey by an archaeologist. Alpha site 21DKk has not been evaluated for listing in the NRHP.

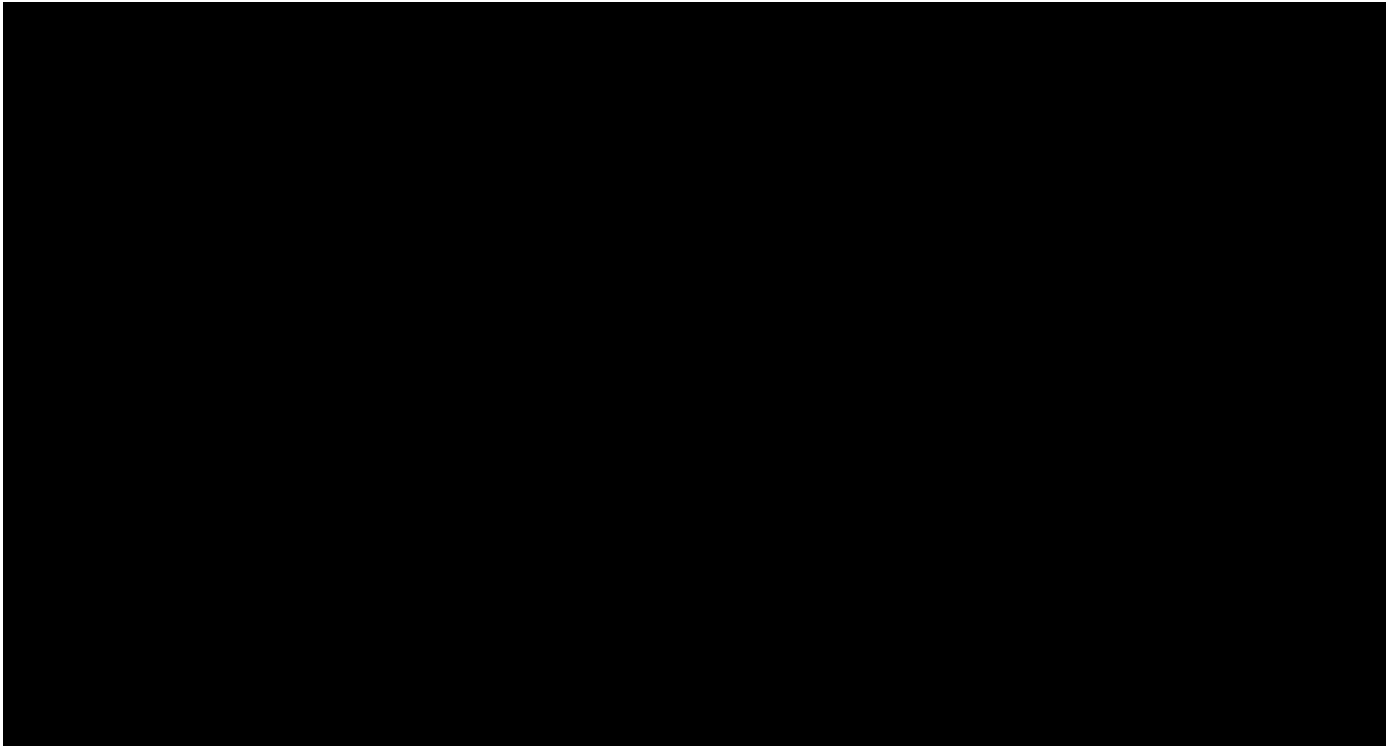
4.3 Previously Recorded Above-Ground Historic Resources

There is one previously recorded above-ground historic resource within the Project Area (see Figure 2 in Appendix A; Table 4.3-1). Bridge L3254 (DK-CRK-00052) is a Timber Slab Span bridge crossing the South Branch Vermillion River on 230th Street E. The bridge was constructed in 1945 and was evaluated and determined not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP in 1995. The bridge was reevaluated in 2023 and still considered not eligible (MnSHPO 2024).

An additional 11 above-ground historic resources are located within the Study Area (see Figure 2 in Appendix A; Table 4.3-1). The resources consist primarily of roadways (XX-ROD-00050, XX-ROD-00070, and XX-ROD-00178), bridges (DK-CRK-00009, DK-EMP-00013, DK-EMP-00014, DK-CRK-00049, and DK-CRK-00051) and culverts (DK-EMP-00011), all have been determined not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Castle Rock Town Hall (DK-CRK-00003) is an administrative building that is currently unevaluated for listing in the NRHP. The structure was recorded in 1979, and date of construction is not noted in MnSHPO records (MnSHIP 2024). Pfenning Farm (DK-FMC-00076) is a farmstead constructed in 1880 and has been determined not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP (MnSHIP 2024).

[NONPUBLIC DATA BEGINS HERE...]

Table 4.3-1. Previously Recorded Above-Ground Historic Resources in the Study Area



4.4 Previously Recorded Cemeteries

No previously recorded cemeteries/burial sites are located in the Project Area. One previously identified cemetery/burial site is located within the Study Area. Emmanuel Cemetery (20178) is a post-contact, Euro-American cemetery located along Blaine Avenue and 0.21 miles south of 220th Street East, approximately 0.95 miles from the Project Area. Google Streetview Imagery indicates that enclosing the cemetery is a chain link fence (Google nd.). A metal arch flanked by brick piers is located within the center of the current cemetery boundary. The cemetery, which contains approximately 203 burials, is well maintained and appears to still be active (Find a Grave 2022). This cemetery appears to have been associated with the Emmanuel Church which stood from 1864 to 1957. However, the earliest known burial dates to 1862. The site is protected under the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (MS 307.08).

4.5 Historic Map Review

[...NONPUBLIC DATA ENDS HERE]

Historic maps were reviewed as part of the background research conducted for this assessment. Online map repositories, including the Library of Congress, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Historical Topographic Map Explorer, Government Land Office Survey Maps, and State and County Atlases were examined to identify historic maps which depict the Project Area and Study Area (ESRI 2022). Some of the earliest maps of the areas were prepared in the mid-nineteenth century. Unfortunately, the earliest maps lack sufficient detail on presence of structures that could aid in an understanding of the location of potentially early settlement in Dakota County.

The Government Land Office Map shows wetlands surrounding the South Branch of the Vermillion River and the area is depicted as marsh surrounded by prairie in 1854 (BLM nd; Trygg 1964; see Figure 3 in Appendix A). The 1869 atlas of Dakota County only shows the location of railroads, waterways, and settlements (Colton 1869). The 1874 Map of Dakota County maps the locations of roads, railroads, post offices, schools, churches, and other structures. It also maps ownership of structures, but not land ownership information (Andreas 1874). The 1896 Plat Book of Dakota County maps and label structures as well as parcel ownership. The town hall (DK-CRK-003) is labeled as is the Emmanuel Cemetery (Ger. M.E. Church Cemetery) (Union Publishing Company 1896). The 1916 Dakota County map continues to show locations of roads, railroads, post offices, schools, churches, and other structures, including the town hall (DK-CRK-003) and Emmanuel Cemetery (Webb Publishing Co. 1916).

Mid-to late-twentieth-century topographic maps dated 1957 and 1985 continue to depict the Project Area and Study Area as predominantly rural, with farmsteads and outbuildings, schools, churches, and the larger settlement of Farmington illustrated (USGS 2024). Google Earth Pro aerial imagery from 1985 to present indicates that the Project Area remains predominantly agricultural (Google n.d.).

5 Objectives and Methodology

The general objective of a Phase I investigation is to identify archaeological resources within the Project Area that are at least 45 years of age. Archaeological resource types considered for this investigation included precontact and historic period archaeological sites and earthworks that could provide information about human occupation. Such sites could be evident in artifacts or features on or below the existing ground surfaces. This field investigation focused on understanding if any unknown resources could be positively identified in the Project Area.

5.1 Archaeological Site Probability Modeling

Upon completion of the cultural resources database review, Stantec developed a model of precontact Native American archaeological site probability (see Figure 4 in Appendix A). The archaeological site probability model utilized general tendencies of precontact Native American site locations and divided these tendencies into high, medium, and low probability areas. In short, large sites with dense concentrations of artifacts, as well as small sites with low densities of artifacts, tend to be located near sources of water such as streams, rivers, and marshes. In contrast, at greater distances from water, sites tend to be small with low densities of artifacts or isolated artifacts. Also factored into the site probability model is suitability of specific landforms for habitation. The Survey Area includes:

- A 150-meter buffer on either side of former wetlands and waterbodies mapped in the MnModel Historic and Precontact Hydrographic Model;
- A 150-meter buffer on either side of existing wetlands and waterbodies;
- Sample parcels centered on topographically distinct landforms;

Utilizing the landcover Minnesota land classification system, low potential areas removed from the Survey Area include:

- Altered/non-native dominated seasonally flooded shrubland;
- Buildings and pavement with 76 to 90% impervious cover;
- Hydric soils - row cropland;
- Littoral open water;
- Mixed emergent marsh - seasonally flooded;
- Native dominated disturbed upland shrubland;
- Mixed hardwood swamp - seasonally flooded;
- Saturated altered/non-native dominated graminoid vegetation;
- Seasonally flooded altered/non-native dominated emergent vegetation;
- Temporarily flooded altered/non-native dominated grassland;
- Wet meadow - temporarily flooded soils; and
- Wet meadow shrub subtype.

Additionally, wetlands field delineated by Stantec as well as waterbodies were removed from the Survey Area. A pipeline through the Survey Area was buffered by 25 feet on either side and removed from the Survey Area as well. The total Survey Area encompasses 390 acres.

High to moderate probability areas landform types not included in the model due to their absence within the Project Area include previously reported NRHP-eligible and/or listed architectural resources, historic structures, historic trails, intermittent and identifiable remnant streams, and former and existing cemeteries.

5.2 Field Methods

In areas with greater than 25 percent ground surface visibility (GSV), Stantec utilized pedestrian survey methods. Pedestrian survey was conducted in transects spaced at a maximum of 15 m (50ft) intervals. Artifacts were marked with pin flags to capture the distribution of artifacts on the ground surface. Each location was assigned individual Provenience Numbers (PN). Archaeologists recorded the artifact distribution, along with relevant landscape features with a tablet and EOS Arrow 100 series GNSS receiver unit capable of sub-meter accuracy. Artifacts were collected for analysis and returned to landowners following analysis. Shovel tests were conducted to determine if an intact A-horizon was present in agricultural fields and to document soil stratigraphy.

Shovel testing was used in areas with less than 25 percent GSV. Shovel tests measured between 30 and 40 cm in diameter and extended at least 10 centimeters into sterile sub-soil to adequately examine the Holocene soil column. All soil removed from the shovel tests was screened through ¼-in hardware mesh and immediately backfilled. No artifacts were identified during the survey. The survey was geographically oriented using Geographic Information System (GIS) data in conjunction with an EOS Arrow 100 series GNSS receiver. GIS locational information was documented for shovel tests, artifacts and cultural features identified in the field. Field observations, including vegetation, GSV, slope, general topography, and areas of soil disturbance or inundation, were described in field forms. Soil stratigraphy was recorded using the Munsell system and recorded through forms and photos. Artifacts were collected and assigned a PN associated with specific shovel tests.

6 Fieldwork Results

Stantec archaeologists conducted the Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey on November 13 to 16, 2023, and May 13 to 15, 2024. The field crew consisted of Joshua Jensen, Rikka Bakken, Angela Julin, Alexis Smith, Keyah Adams, Rebekah Gansemer, Mickey Gefeke, and Claire Witt with Joshua Jensen, Angela Julin, and Rebekah Gansemer acting as field leads.

The Project Area consisted of wetlands, terraces, and uplands surrounding the South Branch of the Vermillion River. Wetlands were located primarily in the southern half of the Project Area where the South Branch of the Vermillion River runs through the Project Area. Small areas of mixed deciduous woodland were located along the edges of rural residences, field boundaries, and drainages into the Vermillion River. The cultivated fields were previously primarily planted in corn and soybeans, but one small field was planted with a wide variety of mixed vegetables and one field was planted with winter wheat.

The Project Area was divided into Parcels A through L due to the size of the Project Area (see Figures 4 and 5 in Appendix A). The portions of each parcel that were determined to yield a moderate to high potential for archaeological materials based on known environmental variables were systematically surveyed and referred to as the Survey Area.

6.1 Parcel A

The Survey Area within Parcel A comprised two fields located northeast of the intersection of 240th Street West and Biscayne Avenue West (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The fields consisted of uplands bisected north-south by a tributary of the South Branch Vermillion River. The northwest quarter of the western field was pedestrian surveyed on November 13, 2023. The northwest quarter consisted of harvested soybeans offering between 50 and 70 percent GSV (see Photos 6.1-1 and 6.1-2). The remainder of the high probability areas of both fields were pedestrian surveyed on May 14, 2024. At the time of survey, the fields were tilled and planted with recently sprouted corn yielding between 90 and 100 percent GSV, therefore no shovel testing was conducted (see Photos 6.1-3 and 6.1-4). No cultural materials were identified in the Survey Area in Parcel A.



Photo 6.1-1. Western Field Overview in 2023, Facing Southwest.



Photo 6.1-2. Western Field Overview in 2023, Facing South.



Photo 6.1-3. Northwestern corner of Western Field Overview, Facing South.



Photo 6.1-4. Eastern Field Overview, Facing East.

6.2 Parcel B

The Survey Area within Parcel B comprised a recently tilled and planted field located east of Parcel A and north of 240th Street West (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The field extended north from 240th Street West to the wetlands surrounding the South Branch Vermillion River (see Photos 6.2-1 and 6.2-2). A sparse covering of soybean debris was still present on the field surface offering between 85 and 100 percent GSV, therefore no shovel testing was conducted. No cultural materials were identified in the Survey Area in Parcel B.



Photo 6.2-1. Field Overview, Facing South.



Photo 6.2-2. Field Overview, Facing North.

6.3 Parcel C

The Survey Area within Parcel C consisted of a field located east of Parcel B extending north from 240th Street West to the wetlands south of the South Branch Vermillion River (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The field consisted of a rolling upland overlooking the wetlands to the north. A relatively flat hill was located in the southeast of the field sloping gently down to the north and east. The lower area to the north was only slightly elevated above the wetland. The field was planted alfalfa measuring 30 to 40 cm in height. The alfalfa throughout most of the field was sufficiently spaced to yield between 25 to 40 percent GSV throughout most of the Survey Area (see Photos 6.3-1 to 6.3-4). Denser patches of alfalfa yielding between 10 and 20 percent GSV were scattered throughout the field, covering roughly 20 to 30 percent of the total area. The field was pedestrian surveyed at 5-m intervals. Due to the variable GSV, judgmental shovel tests and soil probes were excavated along the landforms with higher probability for cultural resources to assess soil conditions. The soil profiles from the shovel tests and soil probes were partially inconsistent with the anticipated Rockton Loam soil series recorded for the landform (NRCS 2024).



Photo 6.3-1. Field Overview, Facing North.



Photo 6.3-2. Field Overview, Facing Southwest.



Photo 6.3-3. Field Overview, Facing South.

Photo 6.3-4. Field Overview, Showing GSV.

The profiles were consistent with stripping of the upland A-horizon and mixing with bordering sandy soils. The typical soil profile consisted of an approximately 38 cm thick 10YR 3/2 loam Bt1-horizon over an over a 10YR 4/4 clay loam Bt2-horizon (see Photos 6.3-5 and 6.3-6; Table 6.3-1). The soil profile near the wetlands showed colluvial deposits overlaying darker soils with redox concentrations indicative of hydric soils. The soil profile excavated on a terrace in the northeast corner of the field was consistent with the Hawick soil series; this area yielded 30 to 40 percent GSV and was therefore not systematically shovel tested. Due to the presence of disturbed topsoil on the upland landforms and adequate GSV throughout the majority of the field, additional shovel testing was not conducted. No cultural material was identified in the Survey Area in Parcel C.



Photo 6.3-5. Shovel Test Profile, KA 1.



Photo 6.3-6. Shovel Test Profile, RG 1.

Table 6.3-1. Parcel C Shovel Test Profiles

Shovel Test No.	Depth (cmbgs)	Horizon	Munsell Color	Texture	Notes
KA 1	0-38 38-50	Bt1 Bt2	10YR 3/2 10YR 4/4	Loam Clay Loam	Stripped
RG 1	0-19 19-31	Bt1 Bt2	10YR 4/1 10YR 4/4	Sandy Loam Sandy Clay Loam	Stripped
MG 1	0-40 40-55	Ap A	10YR 3/2 10YR 2/1	Loam Sandy Loam	Eroded upland soils overlaying A-horizon, Iron redox concentrations
KA 2	0-25 25-50	Ap Bw	10YR 3/3 10YR 3/6	Sandy Loam Medium coarse sand with 30-40% gravel	

6.4 Parcels D & E

The Survey Area within Parcels D and E comprised a freshly tilled field located south of 230th Street West extending south from 230th Street West to the wetlands south of the South Branch Vermillion River (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The field consisted of gently rolling terraces overlooking the river. The field had not yet planted at the time of survey on May 15, 2024, and yielded 90 to 100 percent GSV (see Photos 6.4-1 and 6.4-2). Due to the excellent GSV, shovel testing was not conducted. No cultural materials were identified in the Survey Area in Parcels D and E.



Photo 6.4-1. Field Overview, Facing Southeast.



Photo 6.4-2. Field Overview, Facing Northeast.

6.5 Parcel F

The Survey Area within Parcel F consisted of a recently planted corn field located south of 230th Street West extending south to the wetlands of the South Branch Vermillion River (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The field consisted of a gently rolling terrace overlooking the South Branch Vermillion River and a tributary draining an area to the north. Parcel F yielded 90 to 100 percent GSV, therefore no shovel testing was conducted (see Photos 6.5-1 and 6.5-2). No cultural materials were identified in the Survey Area in Parcel F.



Photo 6.5-1. Field Overview, Facing Northwest.



Photo 6.5-2. Field Overview, Facing South.

6.6 Parcel G

[NONPUBLIC DATA BEGINS HERE...]

The Survey Area within Parcel G consisted of two fields located [REDACTED] (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). An upland ridge and south facing slope occupied the southern half of the field. At the time of survey on May 15, 2024, the field was planted in recently sprouted corn yielding 90 to 100 percent GSV, therefore no shovel testing was conducted (see Photos 6.6-1 to 6.6-3). No cultural materials were identified in the Survey Area in Parcel G.

The Empey site (21DK0075), which consists of the ruins of a corncrib recorded in the southwest quarter of the field, was not relocated during this investigation (see Photo 6.6-3). The 76 cement pilings described in the site form are no longer extant. No artifacts were identified on the surface, suggesting that the site has been completely destroyed; the same conclusion was reached in an update to the site record following a 2013 survey (Eigenberger 2013).

[...NONPUBLIC DATA ENDS HERE]

6.7 Parcel H

The Survey Area in Parcel H comprised two fields located north of 230th Street and immediately east of Parcel G (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). During the 2023 investigation, the field consisted of harvested and tilled corn, yielding between 80 to 100 percent GSV west of the farmstead and 40 to 100 percent east of the farmstead (see Photos 6.7-1 and 6.7-2). The high probability areas on the south slope of an east-west oriented ridge in the south half of the field were pedestrian surveyed in November 2023. At the time of survey on May 15, 2024, the field was planted with recently sprouted corn yielding between 90 and 100 percent GSV (see Photo 6.7-3). At this time, the ridge northeast of the farmstead was pedestrian surveyed. A large field rock pile was noted in the center of the north spur of the Survey Area. The Survey Area is

situated on a dissected bedrock upland hillslope. Due to the excellent GSV, no shovel testing was conducted. No cultural materials were identified in the Survey Area in Parcel H.



Photo 6.7-1. Western Field Overview, Facing East.



Photo 6.7-2. Eastern Field Overview, Facing West.



Photo 6.7-3. Western Field Overview, Facing East.

6.8 Parcel I & J

[NONPUBLIC DATA BEGINS HERE...]

The Survey Areas in Parcels I and J are two fields [REDACTED] (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The Survey Area within Parcel I consisted of tilled corn yielding between 80 to 90 percent GSV, located in the northern half of the Parcel (see Photo 6.8-1). [REDACTED]

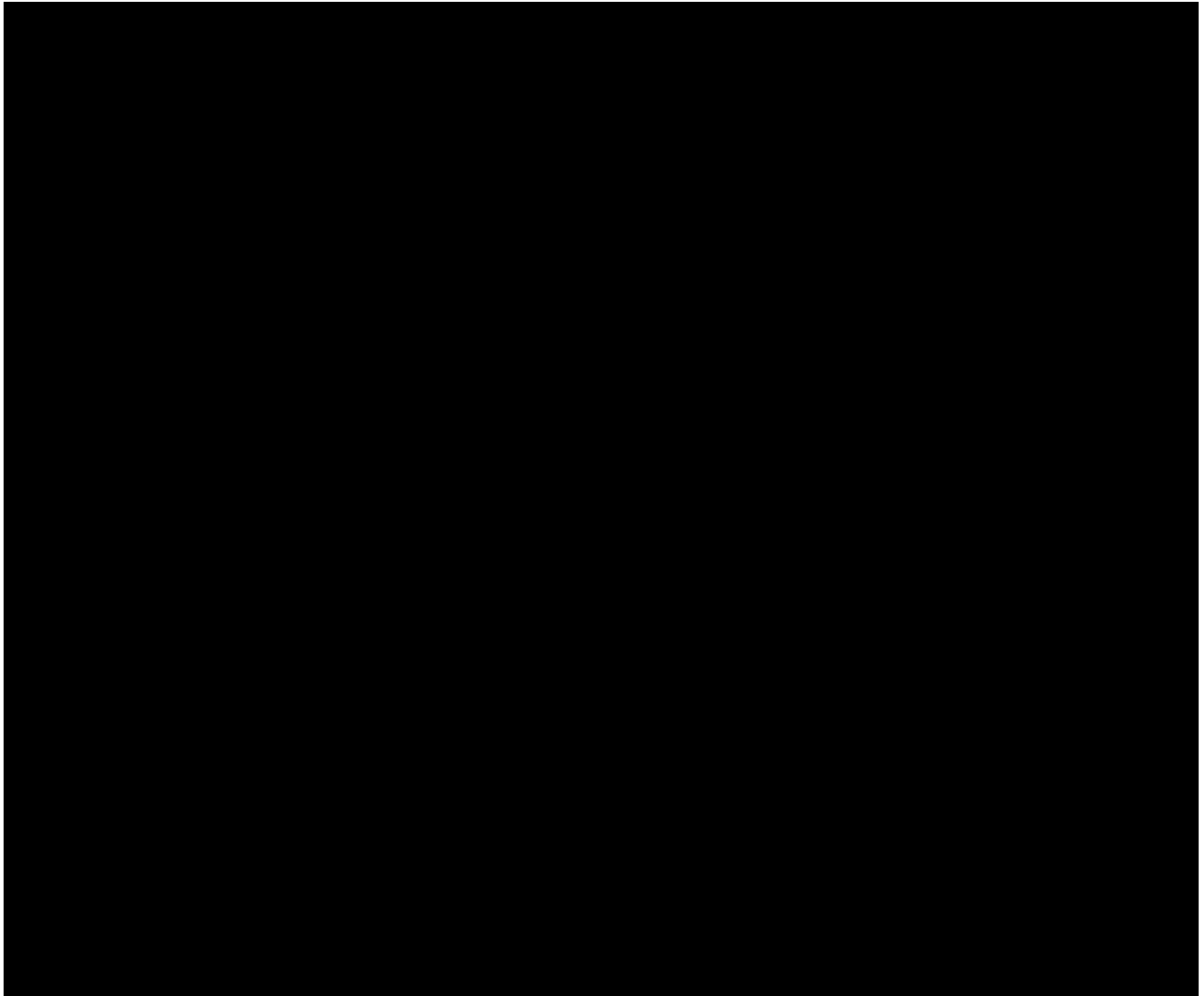
[REDACTED]. The pedestrian survey of Parcel I was completed on May 14, 2024. The Survey

Area within Parcel J consisted of recently tilled corn field affording 80 to 90 percent GSV (see Photo 6.8-2). The pedestrian survey of Parcel J was conducted on November 14, 2024. No shovel tests were excavated due to excellent GSV. No cultural resources were identified within the Survey Area in Parcels I or J.

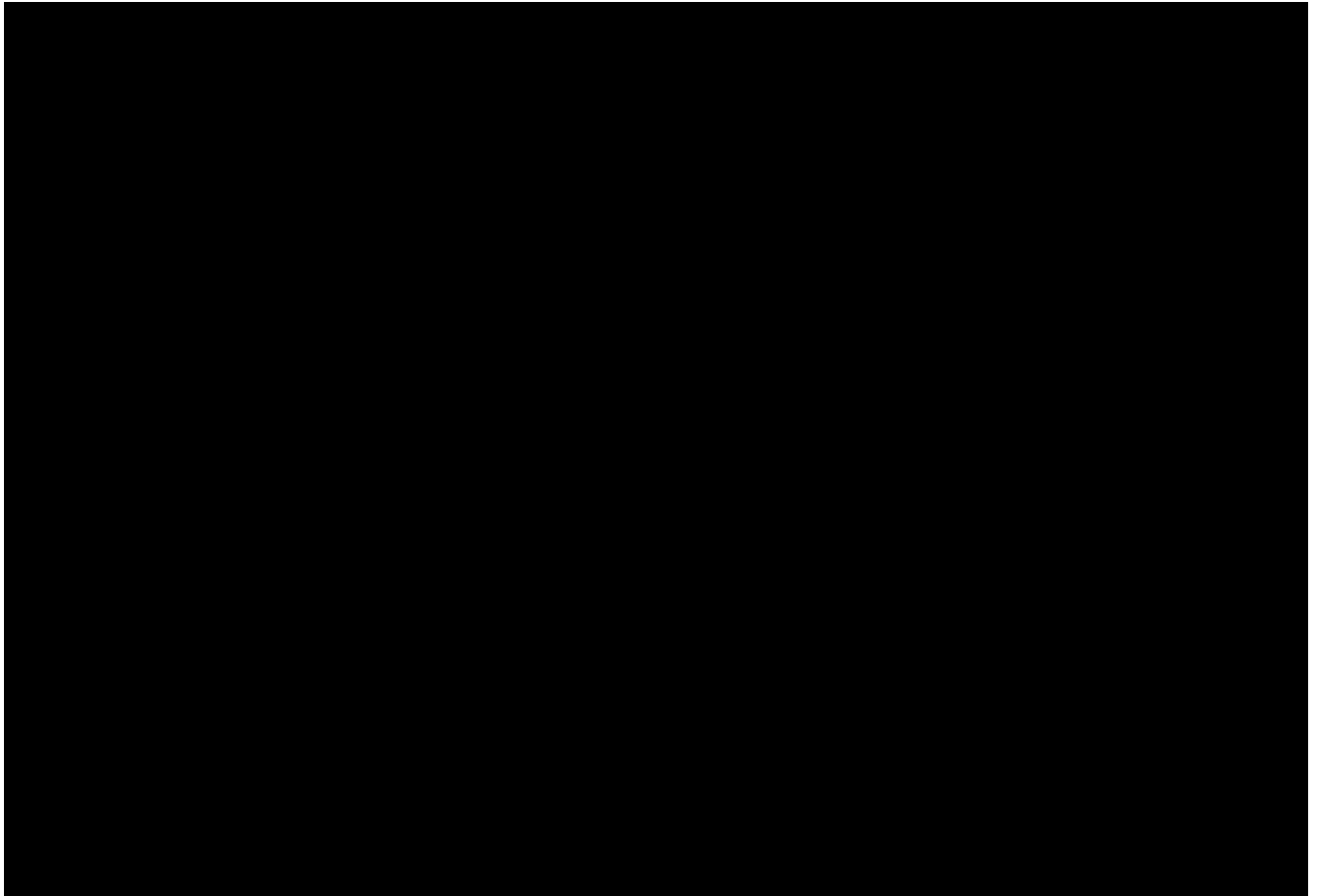
Structure DK-CRK-0009 (Bridge 19505) was not relocated as a result of the survey. The bridge is recorded as carrying TWP 172 over the South Branch of the Vermillion River. Structure DK-CRK-0009 appears mapped inaccurately and is likely located 194 meters to the south where Audrey Avenue crosses the South Branch of the Vermillion River.

6.9 Parcel K

The Survey Area within Parcel K consisted of two fields on a [REDACTED] (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). The field [REDACTED] was a tilled field previously planted with a mix of vegetables on a terrace, yielding 100 percent GSV (see Photo 6.9-1). Due to the excellent GSV, no shovel testing was conducted. No cultural materials were identified. The field [REDACTED] was a harvested soybean field on a terrace and general upland, yielding between 30 and 80 percent GSV (see Photo 6.9-2). The majority of the field was pedestrian surveyed at 10- to 15-m intervals, using closer intervals where GSV was lower. Due to sufficient GSV throughout the field, systematic shovel testing was not conducted. The northern and central portion of the Survey Area in Parcel K were surveyed on May 14, 2024. The northern portion of the Survey Area yielded 100 percent GSV in a recently tilled field, west of a man-made pond (see Photo 6.9-3). The Survey Area east of the pond consisted of a sprouting corn field in the eastern half, yielding 90 percent GSV, with an alfalfa field in the western segment, yielding 25 percent GSV where non-wetland soils and vegetation were present (see Photo 6.9-4). While GSV was limited closer to the man-made pond, no shovel testing was conducted due to the low potential for intact cultural deposits in the wetland soils. The Survey Area was generally characterized by rolling hills.



One dense concentration of historical materials (Field Site CR-1) was identified in Parcel K on the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (see Photo 6.9-5). The concentration covered a 40 m by 35 m area adjacent to a field road, with a farmstead located 100 meters to the southwest. Three shovel tests were excavated, two within the concentration and one outside the concentration, to assess the potential for intact features beneath the plow zone (see Table 6.9-1; Figure 5 in Appendix A). The two tests excavated within the concentration were positive for cultural materials while the one test excavated outside of the concentration was negative. The positive shovel tests differed from recorded soil profiles for the location, consistent with a fill deposit. The negative shovel test profile has colluvial deposits thickening the A-horizon when compared to the recorded soil profiles for the location (NRCS 2024).



A roughly rectangular depression with well-defined borders is visible in the same location on aerial imagery from 1937, 1940, 1951, and 1957 (University of Minnesota 2015). A structure is indicated at the location of the extant farmstead in Minnesota state plate books and Dakota County plat books in 1874, 1896, 1916, and 1925 (Andreas 1874; State of Minnesota 1916; Union Publishing Company 1896; Webb Publishing Company 1916).

is listed among the first large wave of European settlers to Castle Rock Township in 1856 (Genealogy Trails 2024) The Dakota County property viewer lists a 1910 build date for the current farmstead (Dakota County 2024). In a brief conversation, (landowner) mentioned the original farmhouse was demolished prior to him acquiring the property in the 1930s. motioned in the direction of the concentration, but everything other than trees was inaudible over a running tractor. However, 1937 aerial imagery shows a no longer existing structure northwest of the extant farmhouse in the trees (University of Minnesota 2015).

A representative sample of artifacts (N=513) were analyzed. The artifacts included colorless flat glass fragments, red and cream bricks, concrete bricks, ceramic tile, cut and wire nails, electrical insulators, whiteware and stoneware vessels, and various colored and colorless glass containers Forty-seven artifacts showed signs of burning/heat exposure, including burnt wood, melted glass, and carbonized brick.

Some identified artifacts were more temporally constrained in their manufacture and/or use. The porcelain insulators were used for knob and tube wiring and first introduced in the 1890s and started falling out of

popular use in the 1930s (Myers 2010). A milk glass lid-liner has a Hazel-Atlas company H over an A mark used between 1923 and the 1960s (Peterson 1992). The Hi-Lex cork stop bleach bottle finish is a similar type to those used by The Clorox Company between 1931 and 1938 (The Clorox Company 2024). The Hi-Lex screw top bleach bottle finish is a similar type to those used by The Clorox Company between 1940 and 1959 (The Clorox Company 2024). The other datable bottle finishes were a crown top and a small external tread finish both of which were first manufacture in the 1890s and continue to be manufactured to the present day (Lindsey 2024). Sherds of one ceramic vessel had a decaled floral print, a technique first used in the 1890s and still used in present day. Decal ware ceramics were most popular between the 1890s and 1930s (Stelle 2001).

The identified concentration of artifacts is likely a burn pit used by the nearby farmstead. The date range of the identified artifacts overlaps with aerial imagery showing a depression that was present between at least 1937 and 1957 (UMN 2015). Though the current landowner mentioned the pre-1910 farmhouse and motioned towards the historic material concentration, 1937 aerial imagery suggest that the old farmhouse was located northwest of the current farmhouse rather than at the location of the historic material concentration.

According to the Special Considerations for Historical Archaeology in the MnSHPO Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota (Anfinson 2005), sites older than 50 years old that are located within a project area should still be examined through literature searches and field surveys; however, inventory forms for post-contact historical archaeological sites will only be filed out if the site needs additional and justifiable archaeological work, was subjected to intensive survey, is clearly eligible for the NRHP, or burial sites not located in well documented cemeteries (Anfinson 2005). As a review of available literature did not identify an associated structure and the concentration is comprised of materials associated with the more recent and general occupation of the farmstead, the concentration does not meet the requirements for a post-contact site as described in the above mentioned SHPO Manual and therefore, the concentration was not assigned a site number.

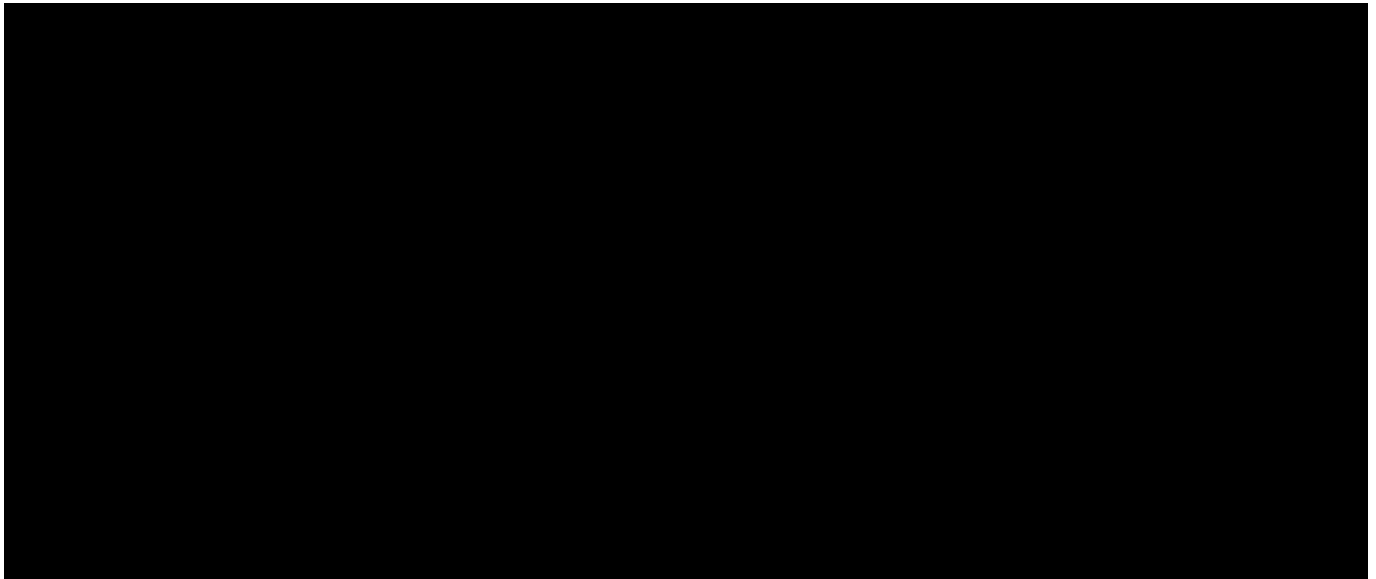
Table 6.9-1. Field Site CR-1 Shovel Test Profiles

Shovel Test No.	Depth (cmbgs)	Horizon	Munsell Color	Texture	Notes
AS 1	0-52	Fill	10YR 3/2	Clayey Sand w/ 40% cobbles and artifacts	Contained large amount of flat glass, wire and cut nails, slag, and wire. Terminated at impasse.
AS 2	0-26 26-30 30-45 45-70	Fill 1 Fill 2/burnt Fill 3 C1	10YR 3/2 10YR 2/1 10YR 2/1 w/ 10YR 6/6 10YR 6/6	Clayey Sand w/ artifacts N/A - Charcoal Clayey Sand w/ Coarse Sand Gravel and cobbles w/ 30% coarse sand	Contained large amount of burnt mortar, brick, wood, flat glass, wire and cut nails, slag, and wire.
AS 3	0-80 80-95	Ap/A Bw1	10YR 3/1 10YR 3/3	Loam Clay Loam	

6.10 Parcel L

The Survey Area within Parcel L consisted of winter wheat fields located on a collapsed outwash plain (see Figure 5 in Appendix A). Pedestrian survey transect intervals decreased along the rises within the Survey Area to 5 m intervals however continual agricultural operations and erosion have stripped the soil, evidenced by dense glacial cobbles (see Photos 6.10-1 and 6.10-2).

The mapped location of previously recorded site 21DK0094, which represents foundational remains of a large, uninvestigated historic farmstead, was surveyed; however, no evidence of the site was documented within the Project Area (see Photo 6.10-3). No cultural resources were identified within Parcel L.





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7 Conclusions and Recommendations

Stantec archaeologists conducted the Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey of the 390-acre Survey Area on November 13 to 16, 2023 and May 13 to 15, 2024. A literature review found no previous surveys, three archaeological sites, 12 above-ground historic resources and one mortuary site within the Study Area. Two of the archaeological sites (21DK0075 and 21DK0094) are recorded within the Project Area. Site 21DK0075 was not relocated during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remains not eligible for listing on the NRHP. No evidence of Site 21DK0094 was identified during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remains unevaluated for listing on the NRHP as the bulk of the site is mapped outside of the Project Area. No new archaeological sites were identified as a result of the survey; therefore, Stantec recommends a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the proposed Project. Should additional ground disturbing activities be proposed, additional fieldwork and consultation may be required.

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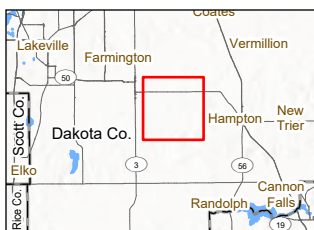
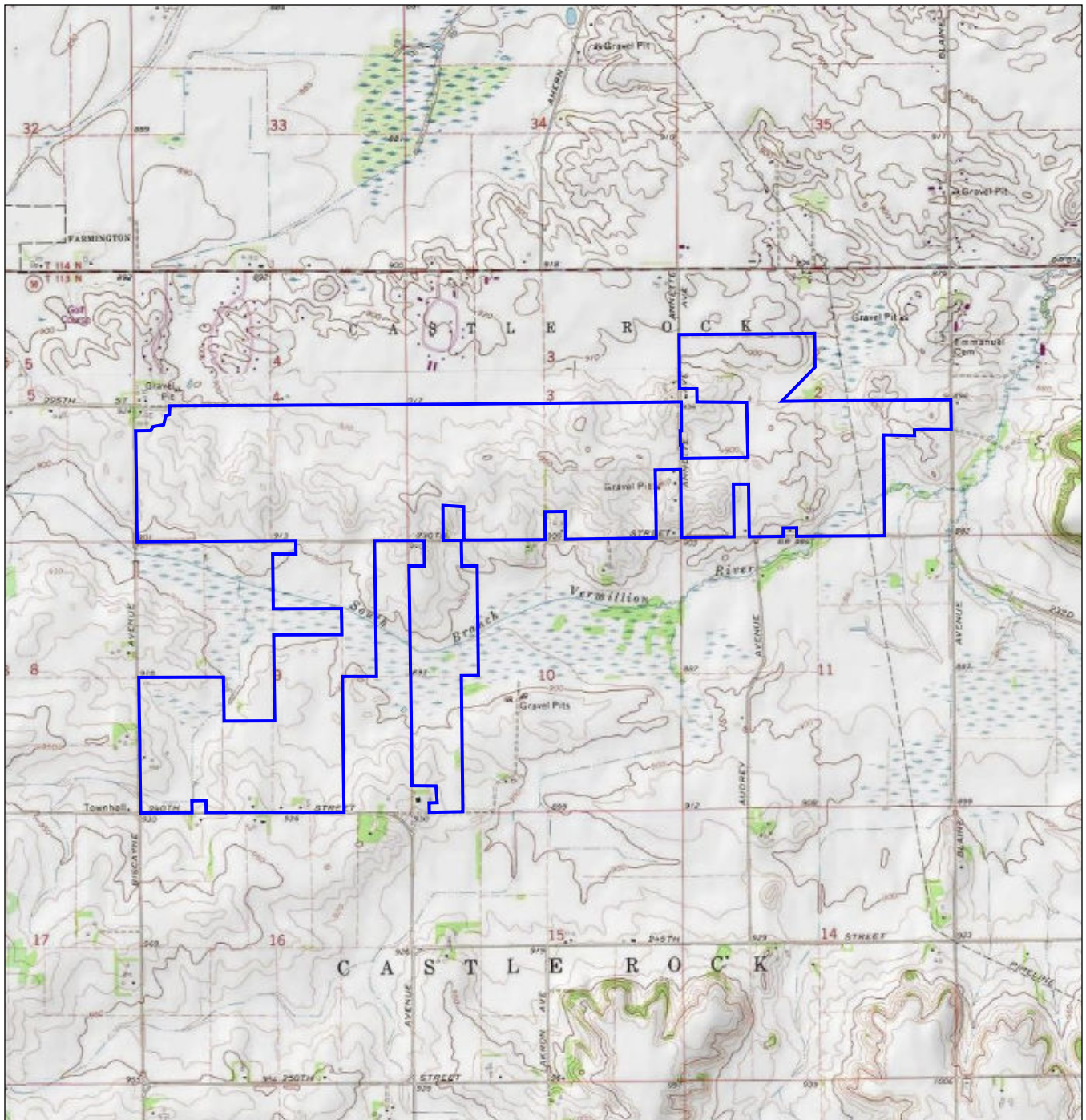
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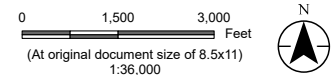
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APPENDICES

Appendix A Figures



Legend
 Project Boundary



Project Location
 T. of Castle Rock,
 Dakota Co., MN

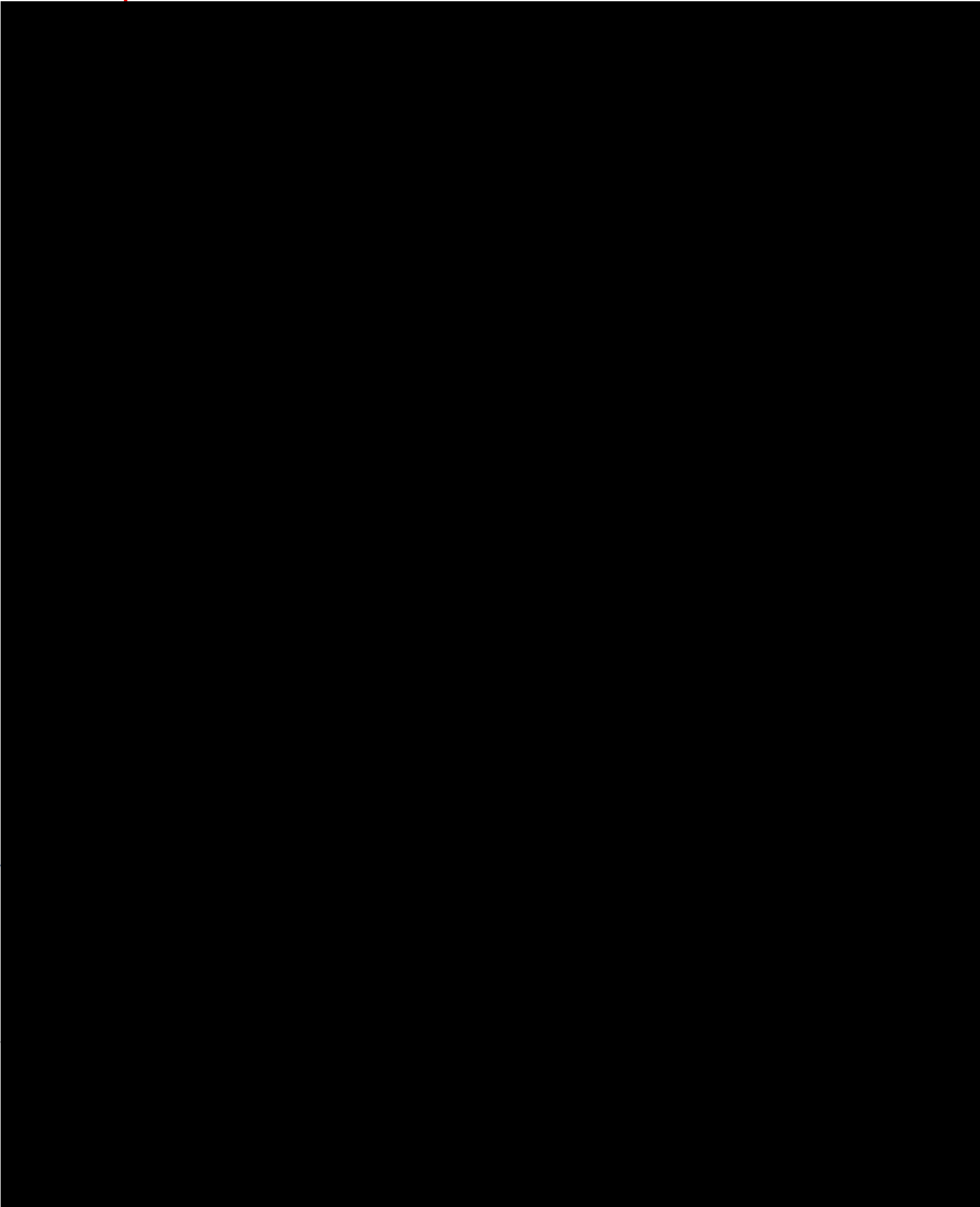
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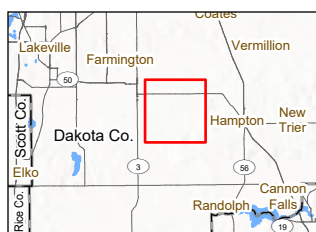
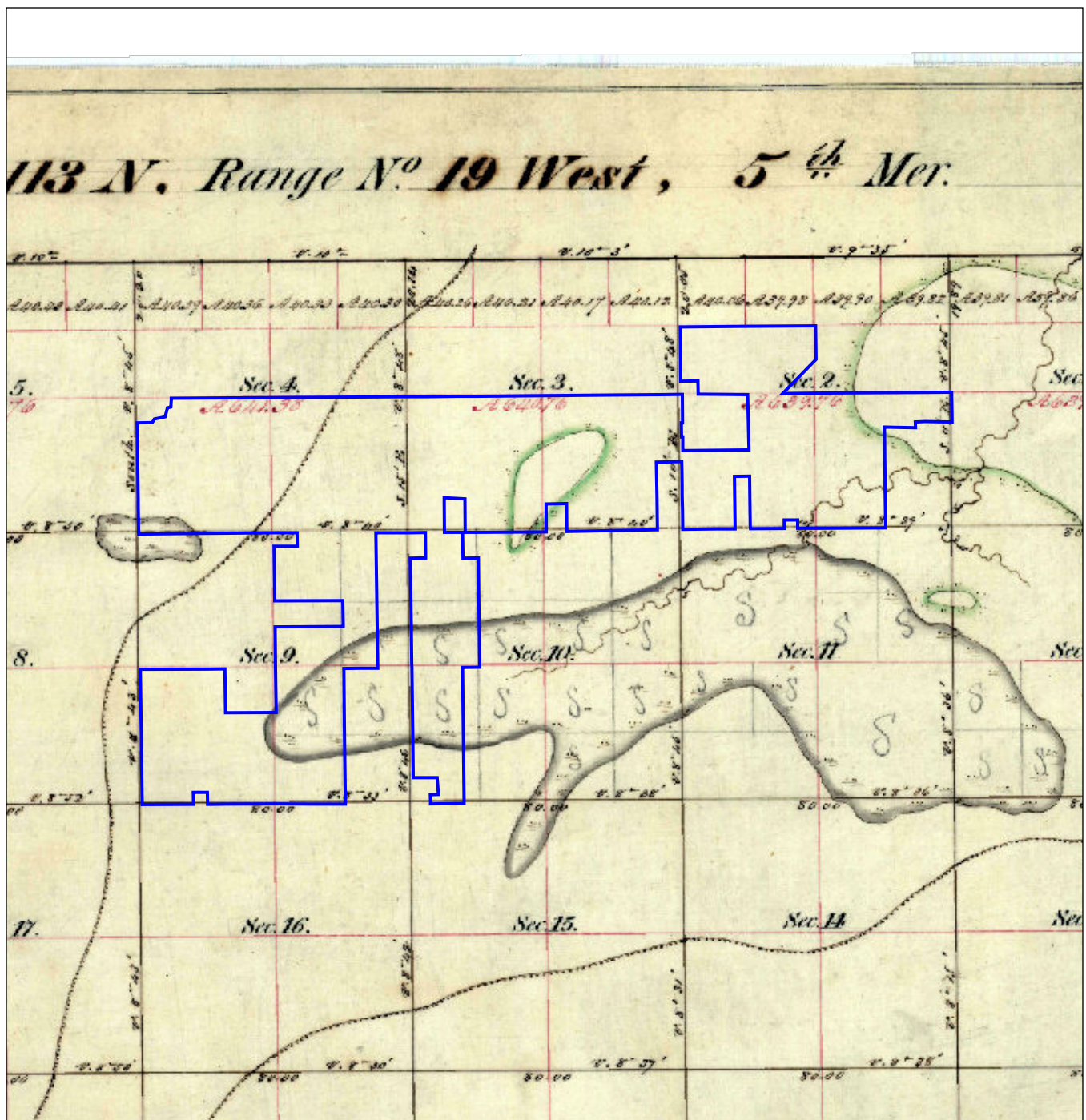
Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

Figure No.
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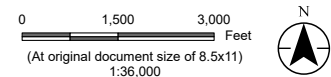
Title
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Notes
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 Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC,
 USGS, NADS
 3. Background: USGS 7.5 Topographic Quadrangles





Legend
 Project Boundary



Project Location
 T. of Castle Rock,
 Dakota Co., MN

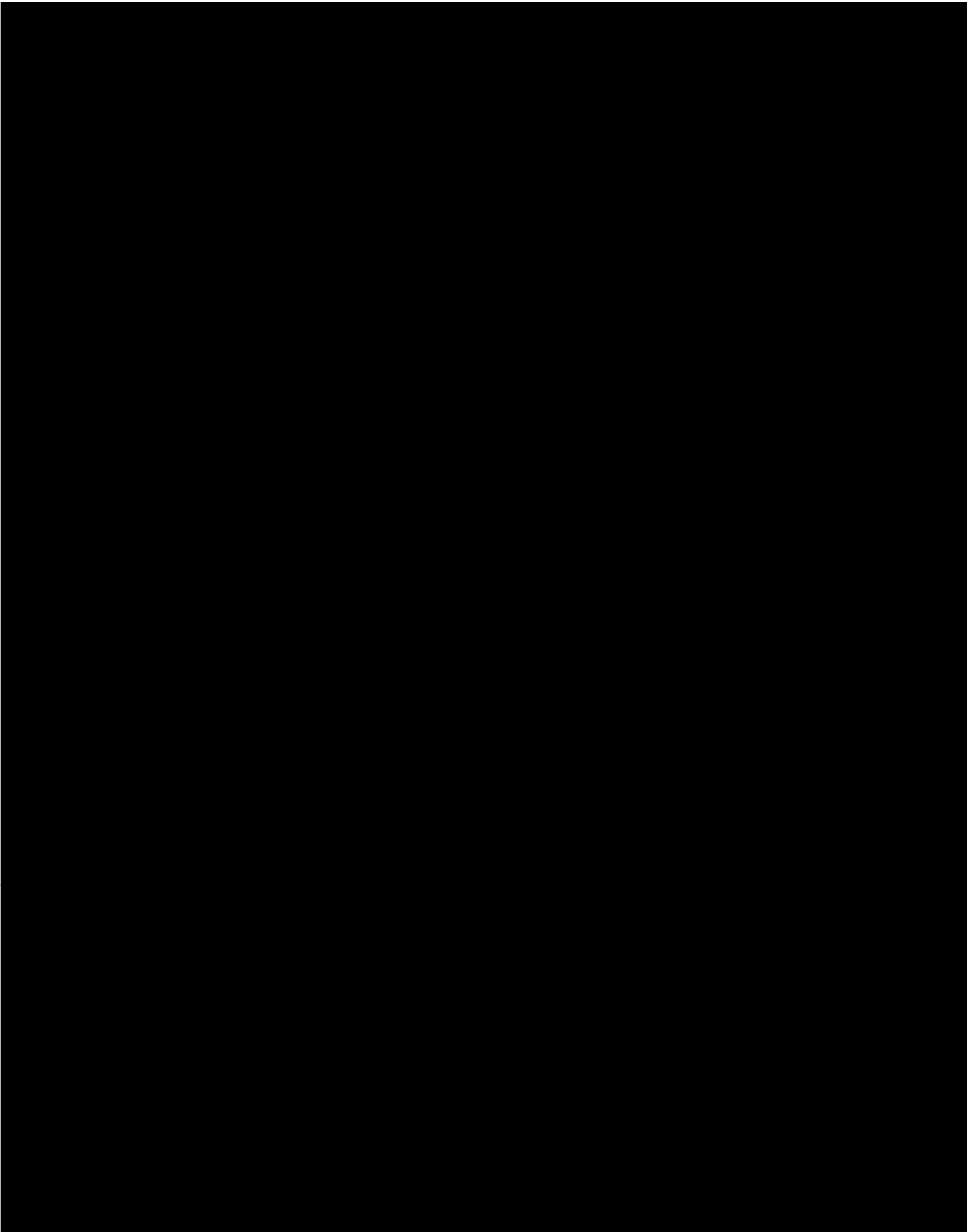
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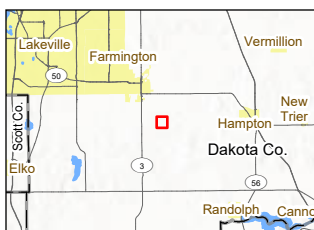
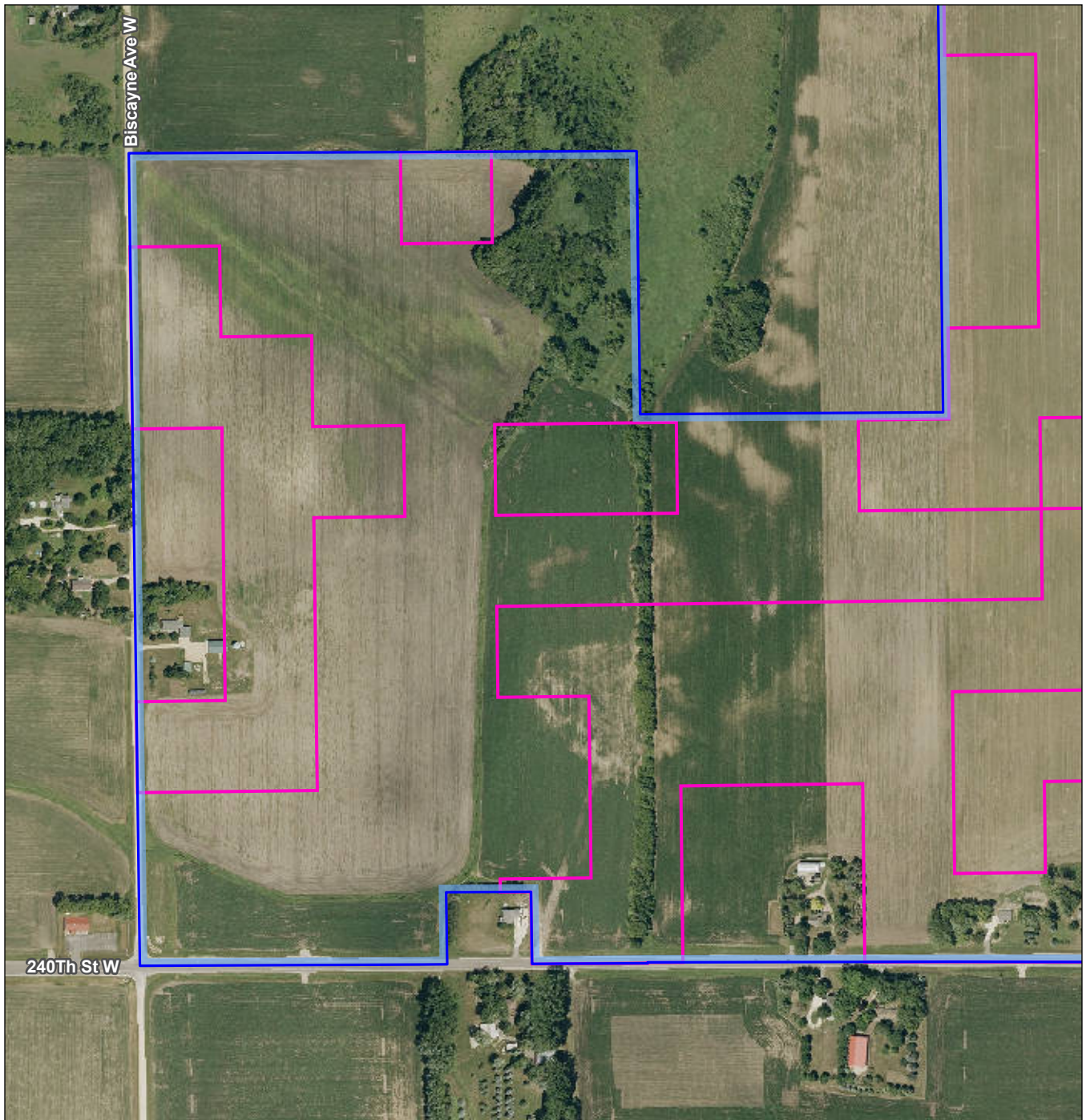
Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

Figure No.
 3

Title
 General Land Office Records
 Survey Map

Notes
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 Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC,
 USGS, Esri, NADS
 3. Background: MN GLO Plat





Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
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Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
- Positive Shovel Test
- Archaeological Site

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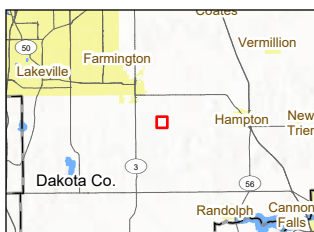
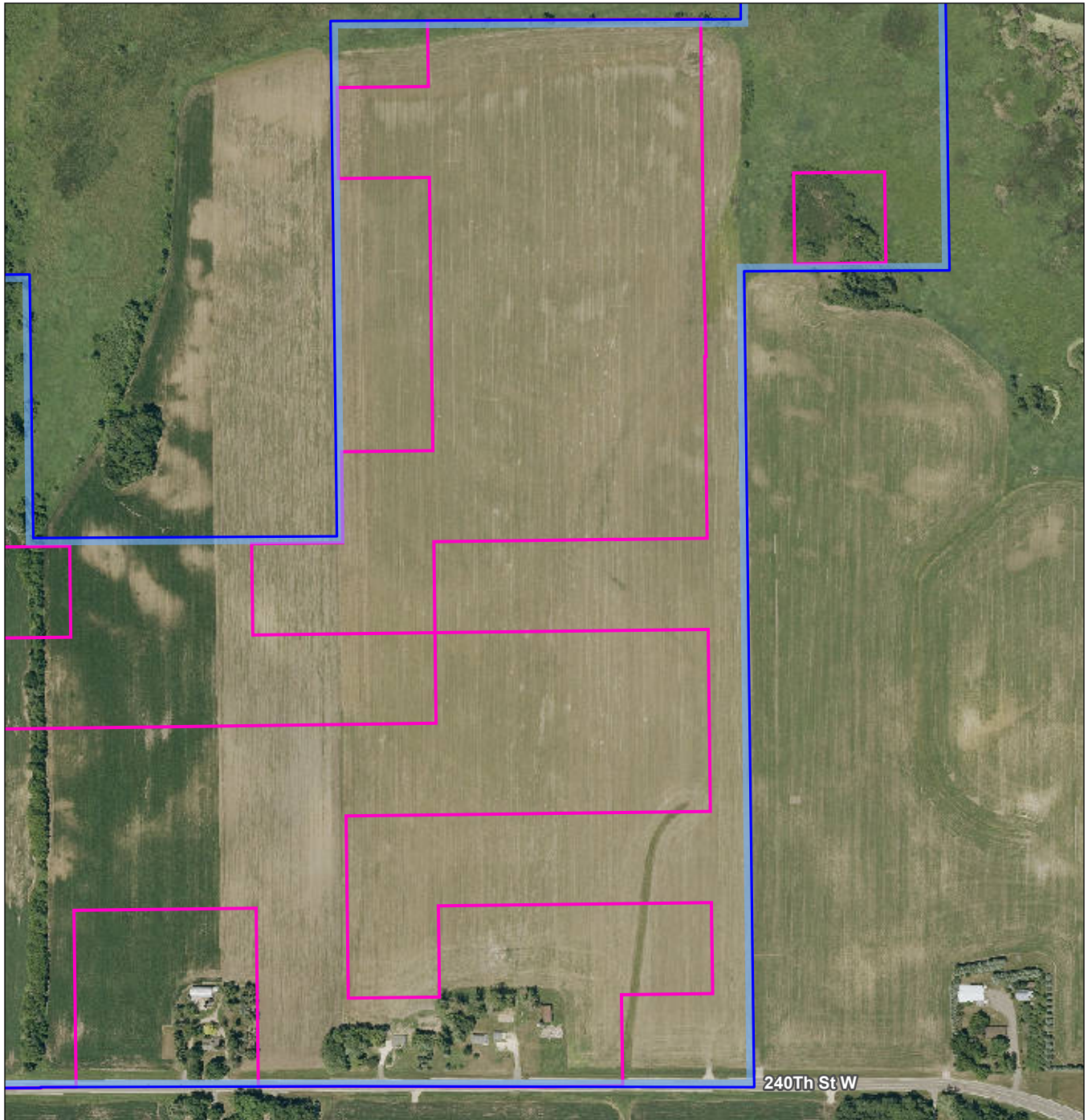
Project Location
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 Dakota Co., MN

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 IR by XX on 2024-XX-XX

Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

Figure No.
 5

Title
 Survey Results: Parcel A



Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
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Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
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- Archaeological Site

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Project Location
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 Dakota Co., MN

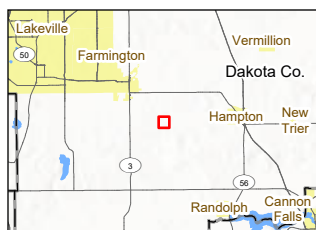
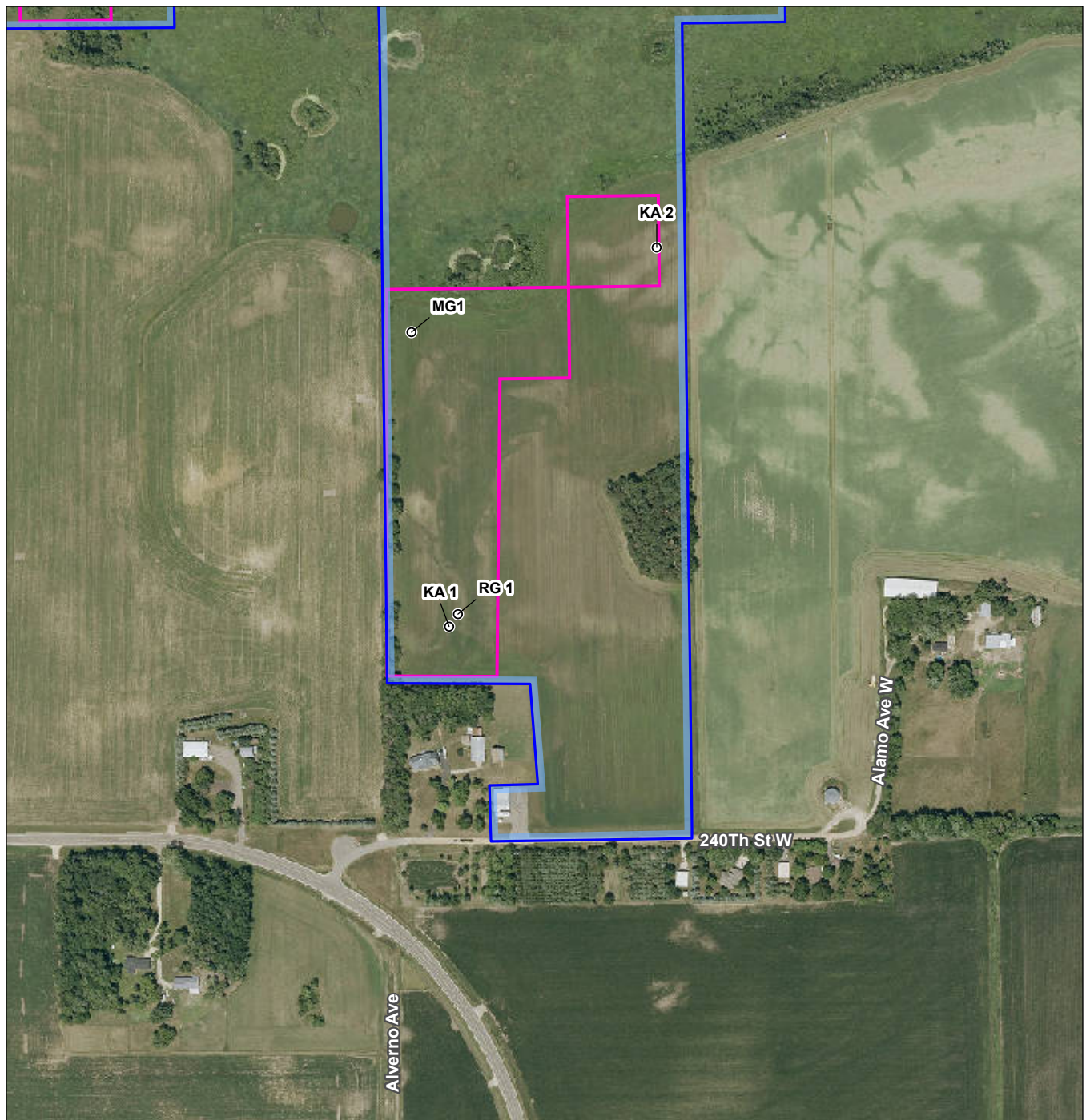
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Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

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Figure No.
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Title
 Survey Results: Parcel B

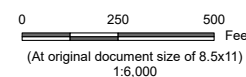


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Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
- Positive Shovel Test
- Archaeological Site



Project Location
T. of Castle Rock,
Dakota Co., MN

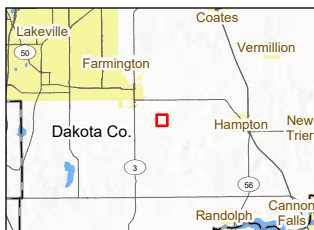
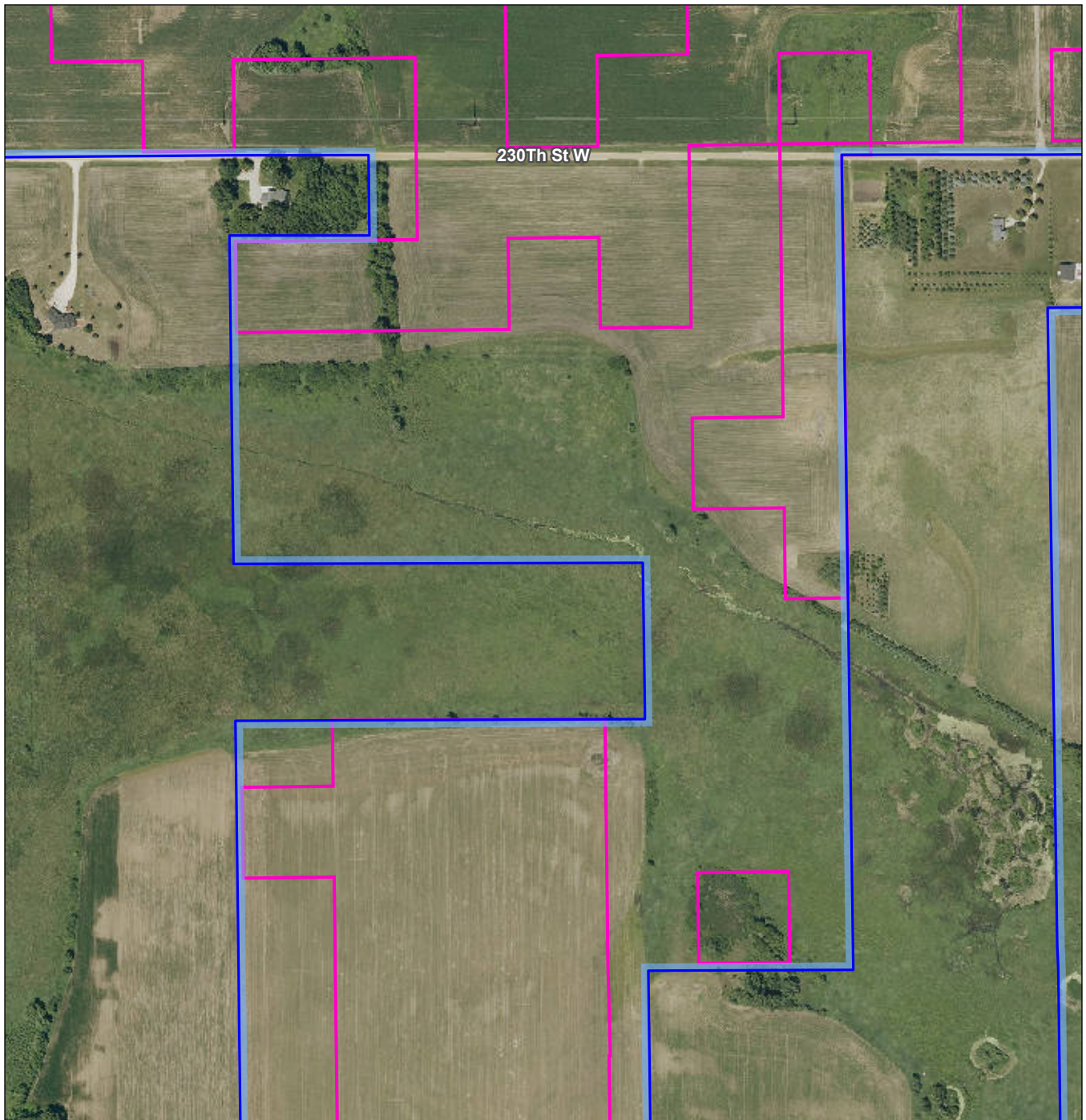
Prepared by JDS on 2024-08-01
TR by XX on 2024-XX-XX
IR by XX on 2024-XX-XX

Client/Project
Castle Rock Solar LLC
Castle Rock Solar Project
Castle Rock Cultural Survey

193710359

Figure No.
5

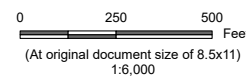
Title
Survey Results: Parcel C



Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
 3. Background: NAIP 2023

Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
- Positive Shovel Test
- Archaeological Site



Project Location
 T. of Castle Rock,
 Dakota Co., MN

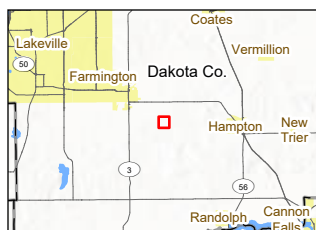
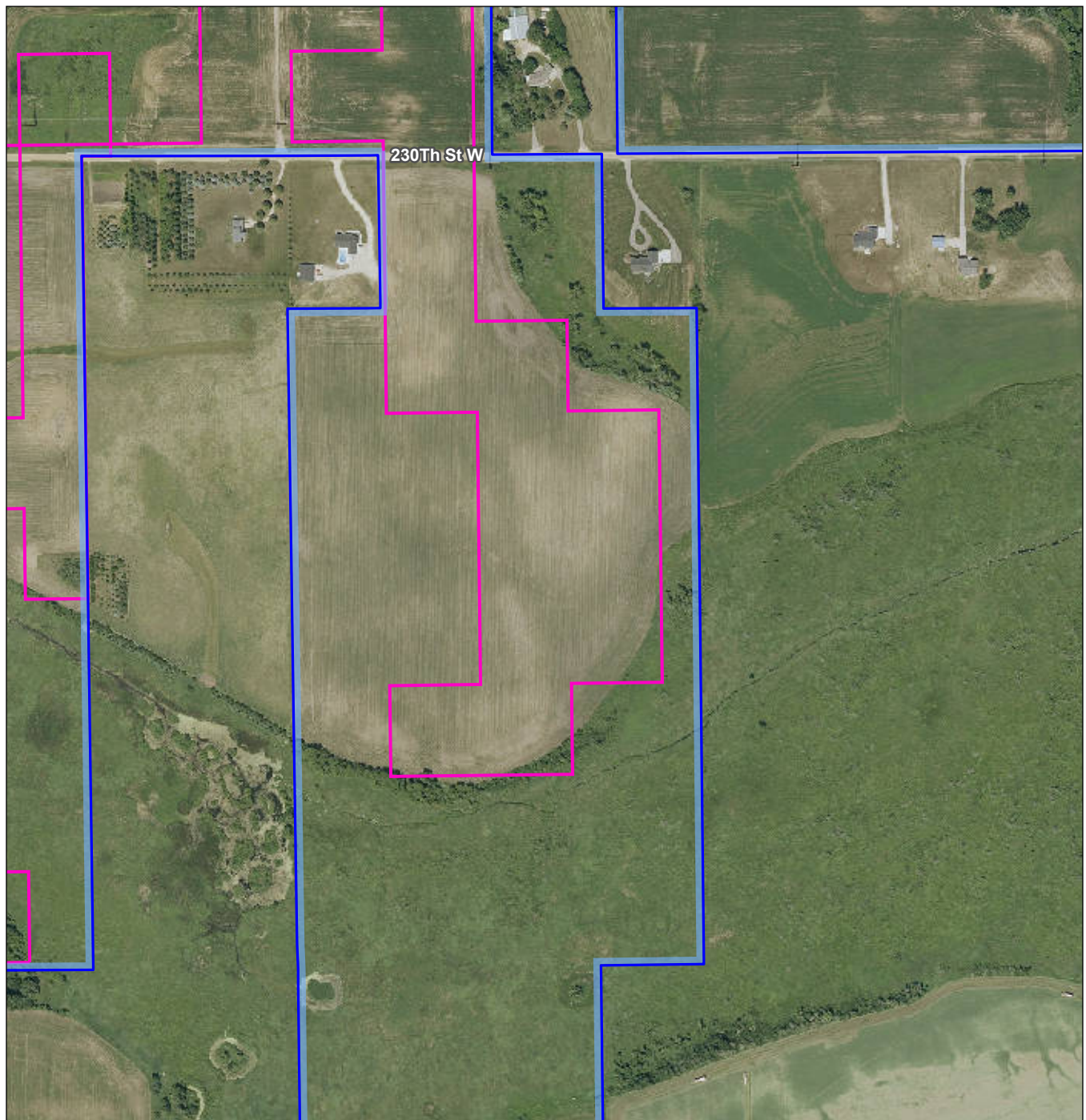
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Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

193710359

Figure No.
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Title
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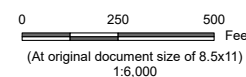


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2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
3. Background: NAIP 2023

Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
- Positive Shovel Test
- Archaeological Site



Project Location
T. of Castle Rock,
Dakota Co., MN

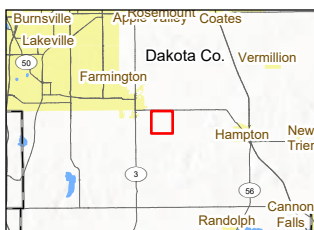
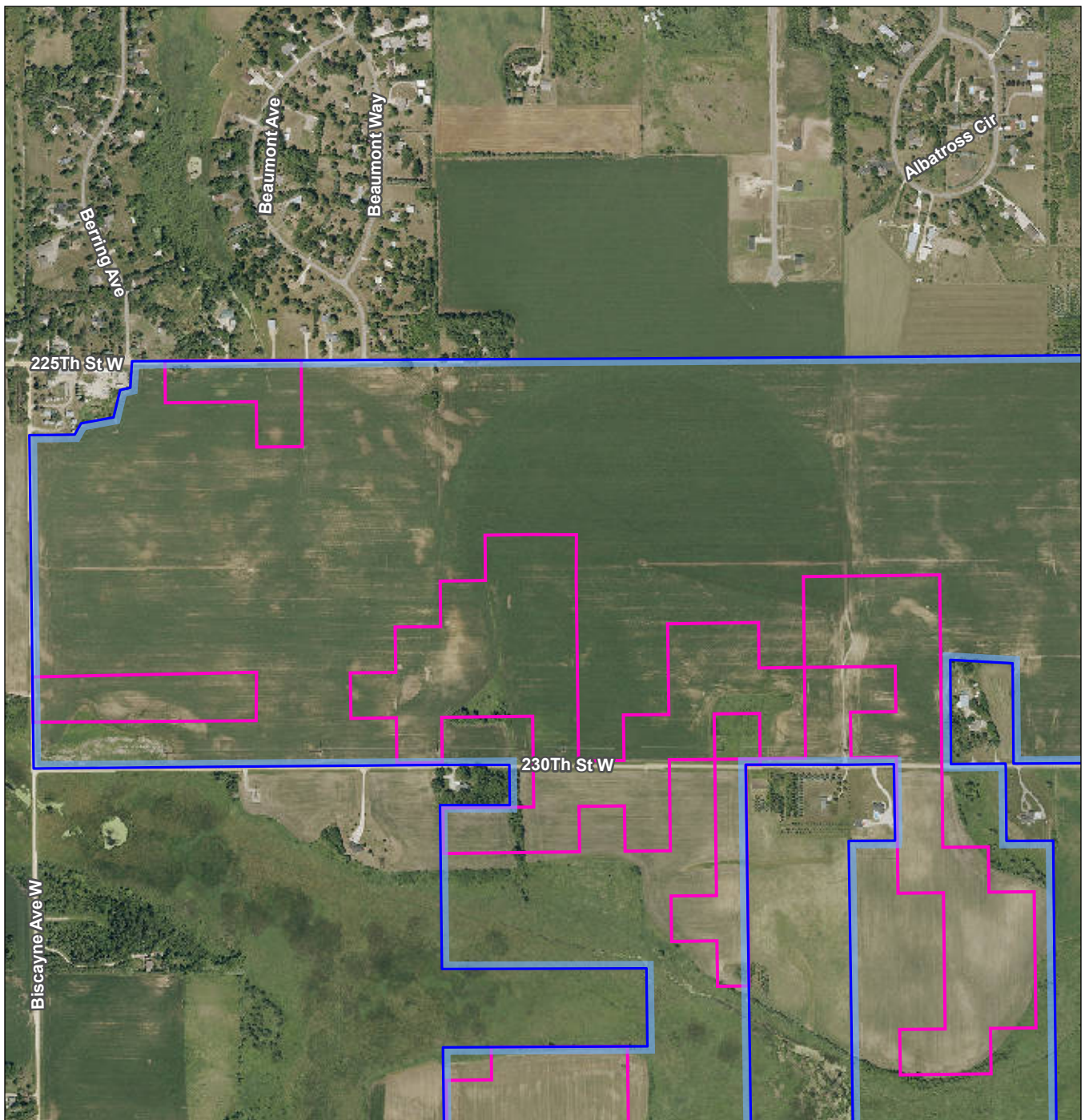
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TR by XX on 2024-XX-XX
IR by XX on 2024-XX-XX

Client/Project
Castle Rock Solar LLC
Castle Rock Solar Project
Castle Rock Cultural Survey

193710359

Figure No.
5

Title
Survey Results: Parcel F



Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
 3. Background: NAIP 2023

Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
- Positive Shovel Test
- Archaeological Site

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Project Location
 T. of Castle Rock,
 Dakota Co., MN

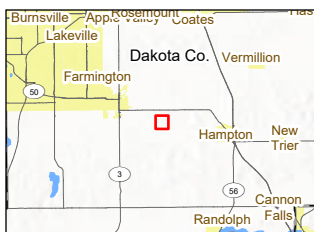
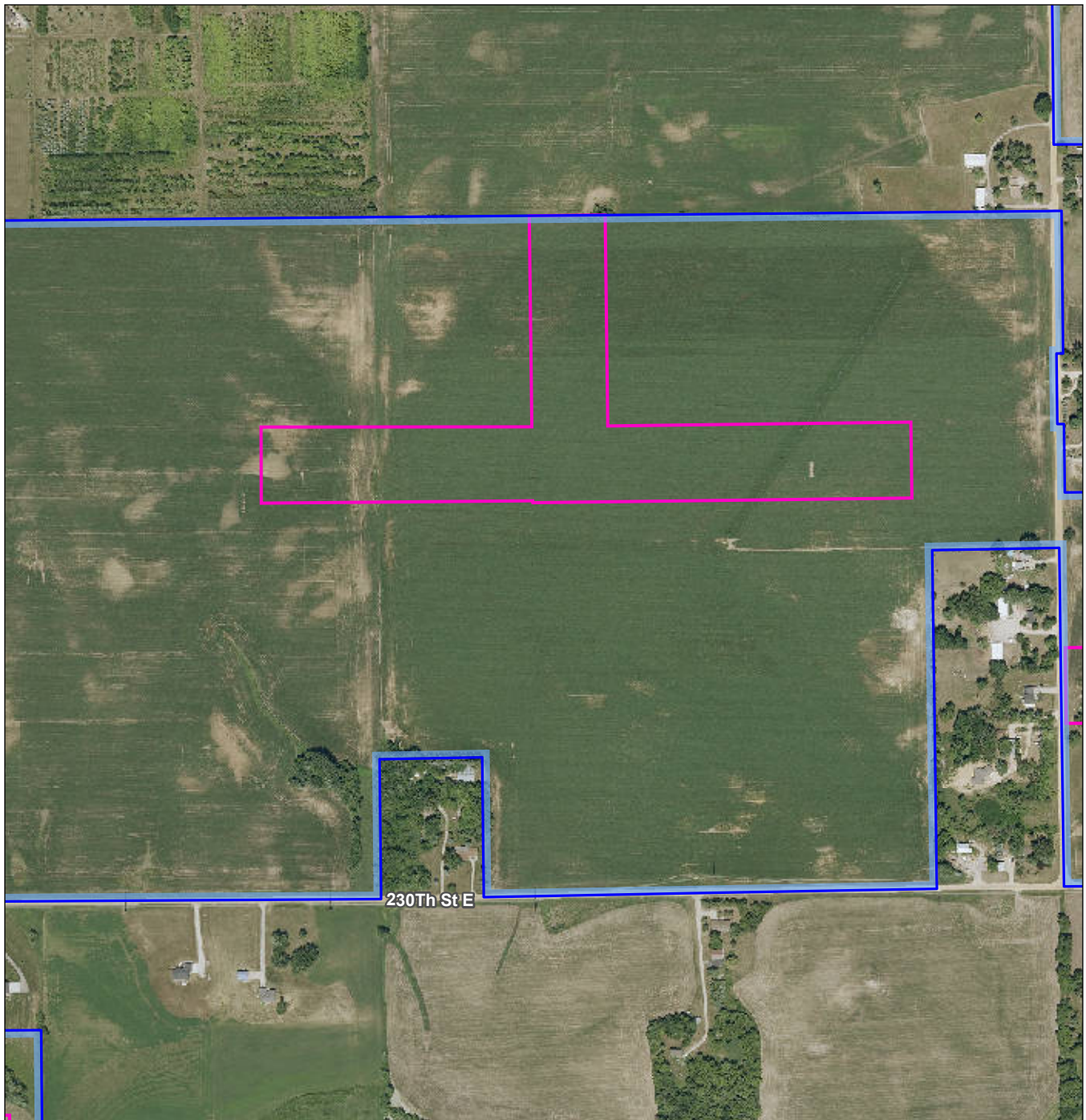
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 TR by XX on 2024-XX-XX
 IR by XX on 2024-XX-XX

Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

193710359

Figure No.
5

Title
Survey Results: Parcel G

**Notes**

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
3. Background: NAIP 2023

Legend

- Project Boundary
- Survey Area
- Negative Shovel Test
- Positive Shovel Test
- Archaeological Site

0 300 600 Feet
(At original document size of 8.5x11)
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Project Location
T. of Castle Rock,
Dakota Co., MN

Prepared by JDS on 2024-08-01
TR by XX on 2024-XX-XX
IR by XX on 2024-XX-XX

Client/Project
Castle Rock Solar LLC
Castle Rock Solar Project
Castle Rock Cultural Survey

193710359

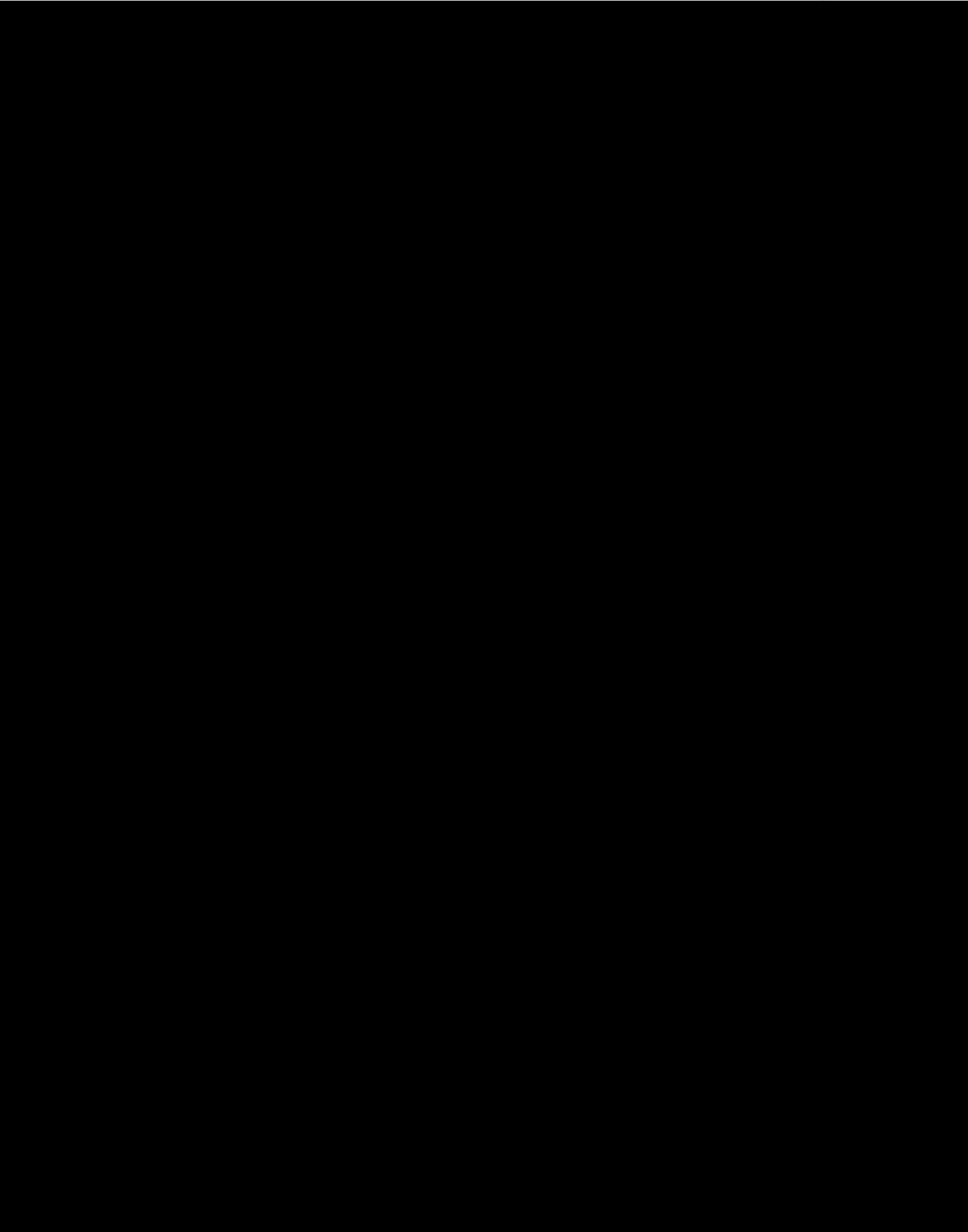
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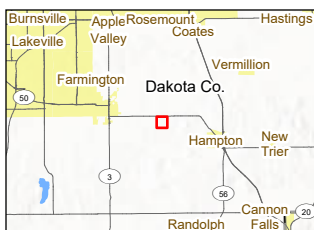
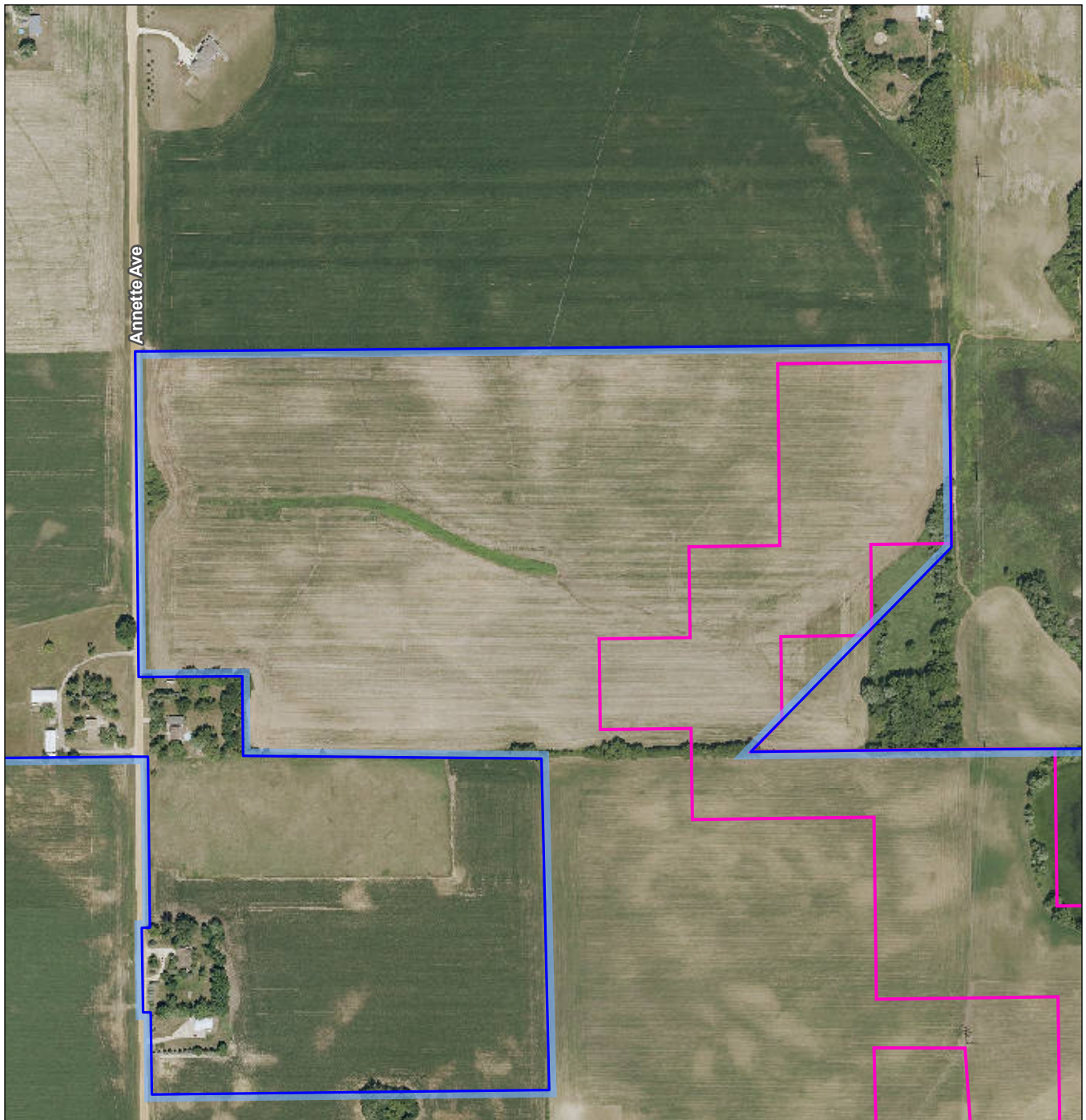
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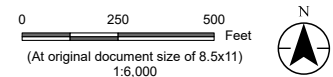






Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec, Castle Rock Solar LLC, USGS, Esri, NADS
 3. Background: NAIP 2023

- Legend**
- Project Boundary
 - Survey Area
 - Negative Shovel Test
 - Positive Shovel Test
 - Archaeological Site



Project Location
 T. of Castle Rock,
 Dakota Co., MN

Prepared by JDS on 2024-08-01
 TR by XX on 2024-XX-XX
 IR by XX on 2024-XX-XX

Client/Project
 Castle Rock Solar LLC
 Castle Rock Solar Project
 Castle Rock Cultural Survey

Figure No.
 5

Title
 Survey Results: Parcel L

**CULTURAL RESOURCES
UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY
PLAN**

Castle Rock Solar LLC

**Castle Rock Solar Project
Dakota County, Minnesota**



Prepared for:
Castle Rock Solar LLC

Prepared by:
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
One Carlson Parkway, Suite 100
Plymouth, Minnesota 55447

October 22, 2024

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1 Introduction

Castle Rock Solar LLC proposed to construct and operate a photovoltaic electricity-generating facility and associated infrastructure referred to as the Castle Rock Solar Project (Project). The associated facilities include a Project collector substation, switchyard, a short generator tie in line to connect the solar facility to the point of interconnect, access roads, underground electrical collection system, and an operations and maintenance building. Current plans locate the photovoltaic electric-generating facilities covering most of the Project Area. The Project encompasses 1,355 acres in Dakota County, Minnesota (see Figure 1 in Appendix A).

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Stantec), on behalf of Castle Rock Solar LLC, performed cultural resource evaluations on the Project, including literature reviews, probability analyses, architectural and archaeological surveys.

A literature review conducted prior to the archaeological survey identified two previously recorded archaeological sites (21DK0075 and 21DK0094) and one previously recorded above-ground historic structure (DK-CRK-00052) within the Project Area. Site 21DK0075, a structural ruin previously determined to be not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), was not relocated during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remains not eligible for listing on the NRHP. Site 21DK0094, an artifact scatter and structural ruin previously unevaluated for the NRHP, was not relocated during the current field survey; Stantec recommends the site remain unevaluated for listing on the NRHP as the bulk of the site is mapped outside of the Project Area. No new archaeological sites were identified as a result of the survey. Based on the results of the investigations, Stantec concludes that there are no properties listed in the National or State Registers of Historic Places and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area that will be affected by the proposed Project.

As the Phase I archaeological survey focused on the modeled high probability portion of the Project Area along with additional areas designated as having moderate potential for archaeological sites based on in-field observations, an Unanticipated Discovery Plan will be implemented during construction of the project to address the unlikely event that resources are encountered.

This document describes the procedures to be followed by Castle Rock Solar LLC in the event of an unanticipated discovery of archaeological resources or human remains during construction associated with the Castle Rock Solar Project. It is intended to:

- Maintain compliance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations during construction of the Project;
- Describe to regulatory and review agencies the procedure the Project or its representative will follow to prepare for and deal with unanticipated discoveries; and
- Provide direction and guidance to Project personnel as to the proper procedure to be followed should an unanticipated discovery occur.

This plan applies to Castle Rock Solar LLC employees, contractor(s), and subcontractor(s) during construction, and describes the specific measures to be implemented to protect the resource, should one be identified. The procedures differ depending on whether potentially significant cultural materials (Section 3) or human remains (Section 4) are encountered.

1.1 Training

Prior to commencement of the Project, construction and contractor personnel will receive training from Castle Rock Solar LLC on this plan.

All on-site personnel participating in the construction of the Project will be required to participate in a training program. This program will be designed to educate all personnel on the identification, procedures, and legal responsibilities associated with respect to archaeological and cultural resources. Each individual must attend the training program prior to commencing work on the Project. Individuals who have not fulfilled the requirements of the training will be unable to work on the Project.

The purpose of the program is to educate personnel about the potential for unanticipated discoveries, the protocol to be implemented in and near the Project area and the measures required to protect said resources. It is the responsibility of Castle Rock Solar LLC personnel to protect the environment and natural and cultural resources in accordance with federal and state laws.

The training program will be prepared prior to the start of ground disturbing activities in the Project Area. Personnel should be familiarized with the Unanticipated Discovery Plan. Castle Rock Solar LLC employees and contractors will be provided a basic knowledge of resource types, law and regulations, penalties, and procedures in case of an unanticipated discovery.

The training program will include the following points of discussion for cultural resources:

- Brief historical context of the Project area, including a discussion of Native American resources;
- Information on the identification of archaeological materials and skeletal remains. Basic identification information for major artifact classes will be included; and
- Unanticipated discovery procedures.

A list of potential unanticipated cultural material discoveries is provided in Sections 3 and 6 and a list of potential evidence of human remains and burials is provided in Section 4. These lists will be shared as part of Project personnel training with the knowledge that they are not exhaustive.

2 Unanticipated Discovery Conditions

Ground disturbing activities during Project construction have the potential to uncover previously unknown archaeological materials, human skeletal remains, and possible burial sites, as well as other cultural and natural elements such as modern refuse and faunal remains. The intent of this plan is to explain provisions applicable to any instances where previously unknown materials are encountered during construction.

The Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10) protects burials, burial markers (including Native American mounds), and burial artifacts from disturbance, including vandalism, defacement, destruction, sale, exchange, excavation, or removal. Evidence of burial sites encountered during ground disturbance can include, but are not limited to:

- Any human remains including articulated or disarticulated bones, teeth, hair, preserved soft tissue, etc.;
- Burial pit or grave shaft outlines in the soil;

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- Headstones or footstones; or
- Coffin wood fragments and coffin hardware.

Additional examples of cultural resources you may encounter include:

- Accumulations of shell, burned rocks, or other food-related materials;
- An area of charcoal or dark stained soil;
- Stone tools or stone waste flakes;
- Clusters of glass bottles, cans, jars, bricks, etc.;
- Stone or brick foundations; or
- Buried railroad ties or tracks, machinery, or other industrial equipment.

If an unanticipated discovery is made during the course of the Project all construction activities at the find location will cease and the on-site construction manager will immediately notify the Castle Rock Solar Project Manager and Environmental Manager. Castle Rock Solar LLC will assist with a coordinated consultation effort among Castle Rock Solar LLC, the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA), the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), landowners, Professional Archaeologist, and other interested parties, including Native American tribes. In the event that a suspected discovery is determined not to involve archaeological materials, human skeletal remains, or a burial site, construction would resume and there would be no need of the consultation process as outlined below; however, documentation of the event must be made and can include notes, photographs, and drawings as appropriate. Note that all actions surrounding unanticipated discoveries would be the subject of written documentation appropriate to the discovery.

All unusual objects or soil deposits should be assumed to be a cultural resource until determined otherwise by the Professional Archaeologist, as described below. If archaeological materials or suspected human skeletal remains are identified during ground disturbing activities, the Castle Rock Solar Project Manager will be notified immediately of the discovery before the following actions ensue:

- 1) Immediately following identification of the discovery,
 - a) all construction equipment will halt, in place,
 - b) the on-site construction manager will be notified, and
 - c) a 100-foot no-work zone buffer around the edge of the discovery will be established (using flagging, stakes, and/or fencing) will be established,
 - d) all other on-site personnel will halt all ground-disturbing activities within the buffered area until otherwise notified by Castle Rock Solar LLC, and
 - e) implement measures to protect the discovery from looting and vandalism, including 24-hour security, if necessary.

No cultural material will be transported from its original location. The area of discovery shall be treated as potentially significant and kept intact until a formal determination of significance is made. Do not call 911 (unless there is an actual emergency warranting such action) or speak with the media. Work may continue in other areas outside of the 100-foot buffer zone.

- 2) Castle Rock Solar LLC will then contact a qualified Professional Archaeologist (for possible archaeological materials) meeting the qualification standards outlined in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 61 in order to conduct the assessment.

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- 3) When contacted by Castle Rock Solar LLC, the Professional Archaeologist shall gather additional information from the discovery area and assess the potential significance and condition and integrity of the discovery according to the guidelines established by the National Park Service (NPS) in Bulletins 15 and 36 and their amendments:
 - a) The Professional Archaeologist will conduct an initial assessment and document the find, which may include reviewing photos and/or video from onsite personnel provided the find is not suspected human remains. If the find does not include archaeological materials or cultural resources greater than 45 years of age, or deemed otherwise significant, the Professional Archaeologist will document the discovery for the record and advise Castle Rock Solar LLC that ground disturbing activities may proceed.
 - b) If the find includes archaeological material or cultural resources over 45 years of age, the Professional Archaeologist will notify Castle Rock Solar LLC to continue the suspension of work within the identified area. The Professional Archaeologist will record as much information as practical. The initial site determination should be completed within 24 hours. However, depending on the nature of the find, the process of full recordation, additional survey, and testing may extend beyond 24 hours. The Professional Archaeologist will advise Castle Rock Solar LLC during the recordation process and notify them of the status.
 - c) When contacted by Castle Rock Solar LLC, the Professional Archaeologist shall investigate the site to assess the likely nature of the remains. If the remains are likely human, then Castle Rock Solar LLC will initiate the process outlined in Section 4 below.

Pursuant to the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10), the cemetery condition assessment of non-American Indian cemeteries is at the discretion of the state archaeologist based on identified needs in M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10 or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority.

Pursuant to the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10), the cemetery condition assessment of American Indian cemeteries is at the discretion of MIAC based on identified needs in M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10 or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority. If MIAC has possession or takes custody of remains they may follow United States Code, title 25, sections 3001 to 3013.

Pursuant to the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act (M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10) If the cemetery condition assessment of cemeteries that include American Indian and non-American Indian remains or include remains whose ancestry cannot be determined shall be assessed at the discretion of the state archaeologist in collaboration with MIAC based on the identified needs in M.S. 307.08 Subd. 10 or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority.

- ii. If the discovery does not represent human skeletal remains, the Professional Archaeologist will document the discovery for the record in coordination with OSA. The Professional Archaeologist will inform the Castle Rock Project Manager and Environmental Project Manager, who can advise the on-site construction manager ground-disturbing activities may resume.

3 Discovery of Archaeological Materials

Upon the discovery of archaeological materials or cultural resources greater than 45 years of age, the Professional Archaeologist will notify the Environmental Project Manager who will notify MIAC, OSA, and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and provide information regarding its significance and integrity.

- (a) Castle Rock Solar LLC will consult with MIAC, SHPO, OSA, and other consulting parties as appropriate, to assess the discovery. Criteria of eligibility for listing on the NRHP will be considered as a guideline to determine the significance of the find and SHPO and OSA may be consulted during the assessment.
- (b) If, after consultation, the parties agree that the discovery does not represent an NRHP- eligible or otherwise important resource Castle Rock Solar LLC may resume ground-disturbing activities at the discovery location.
- (c) For properties eligible for listing on the NRHP, construction may not resume until SHPO, OSA and/or MIAC, have developed avoidance or mitigation strategies and notified Castle Rock Solar LLC. Consulting parties will provide their response and recommendations within 48 hours. Castle Rock Solar LLC shall carry out the approved treatment measures and, after doing so, may resume construction.

4 Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains or Possible Burial Sites

When human skeletal remains or possible burial sites are encountered during construction activities, Castle Rock Solar LLC will comply with all applicable laws, specifically Minnesota's "Private Cemeteries Act" (M.S. 307.08). **Do not take photos of human remains.**

In the event human skeletal remains or possible burial sites are encountered during ground-disturbing construction activity, all construction shall immediately cease within 100 feet of the find, and Castle Rock Solar LLC will notify the Dakota County Dispatch non-emergency line. Barriers will be installed, as appropriate, to ensure any other potential for ground disturbance is prevented in the enclosed area.

As required by M.S. 307.08, Castle Rock Solar LLC will notify MIAC and OSA in the event the find is considered to be an unplatted human burial not associated with a crime scene. All unidentified human remains or burials found during construction activity shall be treated with the utmost respect for all human dignity and dealt with accordingly. If such burials are not American Indian or their ethnic identity cannot be ascertained, as determined by OSA, they shall be dealt with in accordance with provisions established by the state archaeologist and other appropriate authority. If such burials are American Indian, as determined by OSA and MIAC, efforts shall be made to follow procedures as defined in United States Code, title 25, section 3001 et seq., and its implementing regulations, Code of Federal Regulations, title 43, part 10, within and outside of reservation boundaries.

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The OSA or MIAC have sole authority to authorize continuation of ground disturbing activities following the discovery of human remains. To ensure that no human remains exist in soils adhered to or otherwise resting on construction machinery, such machinery will not be moved without the OSA and/or MIAC approval. MIAC has the authority to determine if American Indian burials can be removed and relocated, disturbed, or have any fence, tree, or other protective measures removed.

All parties involved will consult and devise a plan of action. Castle Rock Solar LLC will coordinate efforts to as possible to resolve the issues surrounding the unanticipated discovery. After permission to resume construction has been issued by the OSA and MIAC, Castle Rock Solar LLC may restart ground-disturbing activities. No public or press disclosure of any information regarding human remains shall be shared by Castle Rock Solar LLC, at any time, during or after the Project.

5 Contact List

Agency	Name	Title	Phone	Email
Castle Rock Solar	Derek Hasek	VP of Development	612-655-5807	derek.hasek@solarstonepartners.com
Castle Rock Solar	Ryan MacWilliams	Project Manager	786 939 5746	rmacWilliams@matrixrenewables.com
Stantec	Angela Julin	Professional Archaeologist	763-245-1005	Angela.julin@stantec.com
Stantec	Joshua Jensen	Physical Anthropologist	612-801-1223	Joshua.jensen@stantec.com
OSA	Amanda Gronhovd	State Archaeologist	651-201-2263	amanda.gronhovd@state.mn.us
SHPO	Lucy Harrington	Environmental Review Archaeologist	651-201-3283	Lucy.harrington@state.mn.us
MIAC	Melissa Cerda	Cultural Resources Manager, Senior	218-308-2750	melissa.cerda@state.mn.us
Dakota County Coroner	TBD	Dakota County Medical Examiner	651-480-4253	
Dakota County Sheriff		Law Enforcement	651-322-2323	
TRIBAL CONTACTS TO BE ADDED UPON REQUEST				

6 Non-Exhaustive Examples of Cultural Resources (Not Project Specific)



Figure 1 Pre-Contact Native American Stone Bifaces.



Figure 2 Pre-Contact Native American Lithic Flakes and Ceramics.



Figure 3 Metal Artifacts, Historic Ceramic Pieces, Buttons, and Bottle Glass Fragments.



Figure 4 Coffin Hardware.



Figure 5 Pre-Contact Native American Features/ Soil Staining.



Figure 6 Historic Foundation Feature.



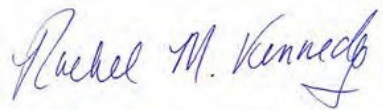
Figure 7 Historic Brick Foundation Segment.



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Document Information

Project Name Historic Architectural Survey Report, Castle Rock Solar Project
Lead State Agency MN Public Utilities Commission
Project Number 193709215
Project Manager Jennifer Kamm, Stantec Associate
Date January 8, 2024
Prepared and Submitted by Jason Flatt, Sarah Garrett, Christopher Harris, Holly Higgins, Sarah Zaske, and Rachel M Kennedy
Principal Investigator Rachel M. Kennedy, MHP



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Prepared for:

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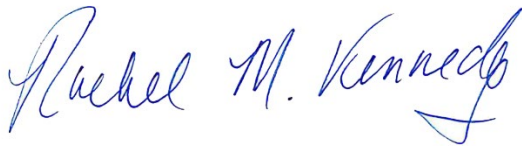
ABSTRACT/MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Stantec was contracted by Castle Rock Solar, LLC (Castle Rock Solar), in support of a proposal to construct and operate an up to 150-megawatt (“MW”) photovoltaic (“PV”) solar energy generating system and associated facilities known as the Castle Rock Solar Project (the “Project”) in Dakota County, Minnesota. The Project will consist of an approximately 1,342 acre solar facility located in Castle Rock Township in Dakota County. Castle Rock Solar must obtain a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) in accordance with the Minnesota Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes §216E) and Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 7850. to construct the proposed. A US Army Corps of Engineers permit is anticipated for this project as well; however, the permit application has not yet been filed.

In November of 2023, Stantec’s cultural-historic staff, led by Christopher Harris, MAHP, surveyed 38 newly recorded resources and seven previously recorded resources as part of this project. Stantec recommends that none of the resources are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS

I certify that this investigation was conducted and documented according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines and that the report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



January 8, 2024

Signature of Principal Investigator

Date

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1

INTRODUCTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Castle Rock Solar is proposing to construct and operate an up to 150-megawatt (“MW”) photovoltaic (“PV”) solar energy generating system and associated facilities in Dakota County, Minnesota (the “Project”). The Project will consist of an approximately 1,342 acre solar facility located in Castle Rock Township in Dakota County (**Figure 1**). Castle Rock Solar must obtain a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) in accordance with the Minnesota Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes §216E) and Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 7850 to construct the proposed Project. A US Army Corps of Engineers permit is anticipated for this project as well; however, the permit application has not yet been filed.



Plate 1. Overview of the APE and project area from 230th St. E, looking north.



Plate 2. View toward the APE and project area looking northwest from Audrey Avenue.



Plate 3. Overview of project area from 250th St. W, looking southeast.



Plate 4. View along 250th St. W toward FS96, looking west.



Plate 5. Overview of project area from 240th St. W, looking northeast.

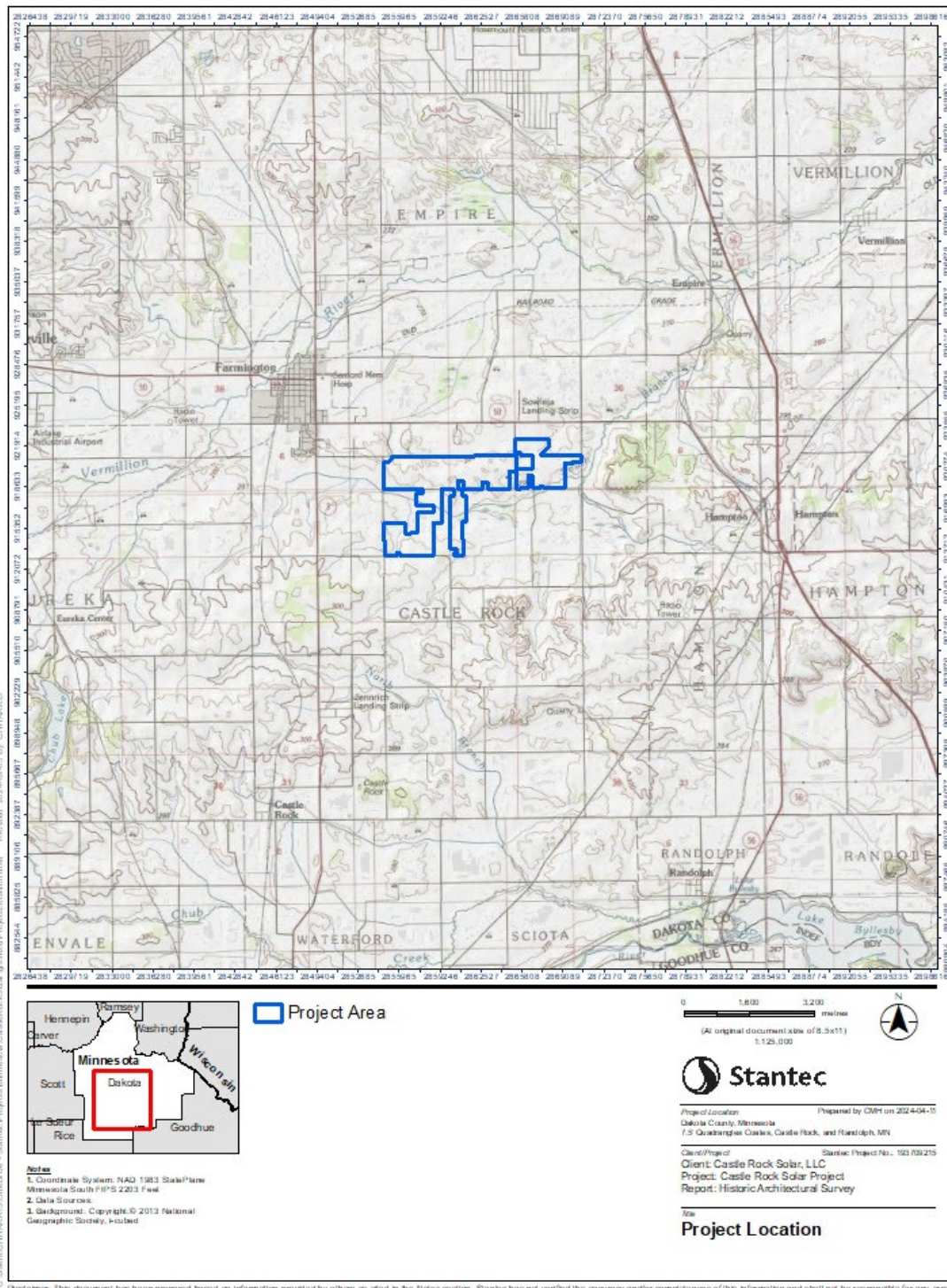


Figure 1. Project Location, Dakota County, Minnesota.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

This undertaking is subject to the Minnesota Power Plant Siting Act, as defined in Minnesota Statute § 216E. Permitting requirements are defined under Chapter 7850 of the Minnesota Administrative Rules for power plant sites and power line routes. Per these requirements, a site permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) is required to construct a large electric power generating plant designed for or capable of operation at a capacity of 50,000 kilowatts (50MW) or more. The proposed energy generation facility meets the MPUC definition for a large electric power generating plant and a HVTL, thereby necessitating MPUC site permit. The historic architectural survey was requested to satisfy the requirements of Minnesota Administrative Rule 7850.1900, subpart 3, Item D. This 7850.1900.3.D requires a description of the effects of the facility on archaeological and historic resources, to be included as part of the environmental impact statement required for the site and route permit applications. A USACE permit is anticipated as part of this project's approvals. This report was designed to meet those needs, when and if they occur, as well as the state requirements outlined above.

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

Per 36 CFR 800.4, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) includes the project area, as well as a quarter-mile buffer around project area. See **Figure 2** below for a graphic representation of the project APE.

The APE consists primary of a rural landscape situated southeast of Farmington, MN. The boundaries of the irregularly shaped APE are loosely defined by MN 50 (220th St E and W) and 225th St W in the north, CSAH 79 (Blaine Avenue) in the east, CSAH 78 (240th St W) and 230th St E in the south, and Biscayne Ave W in the west. The terrain is largely level and clear agricultural land, with small areas of mature vegetation and hills. The adjacent properties include additional farmland and wooded areas, interspersed with residential development and farmsteads, including individual residences constructed throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

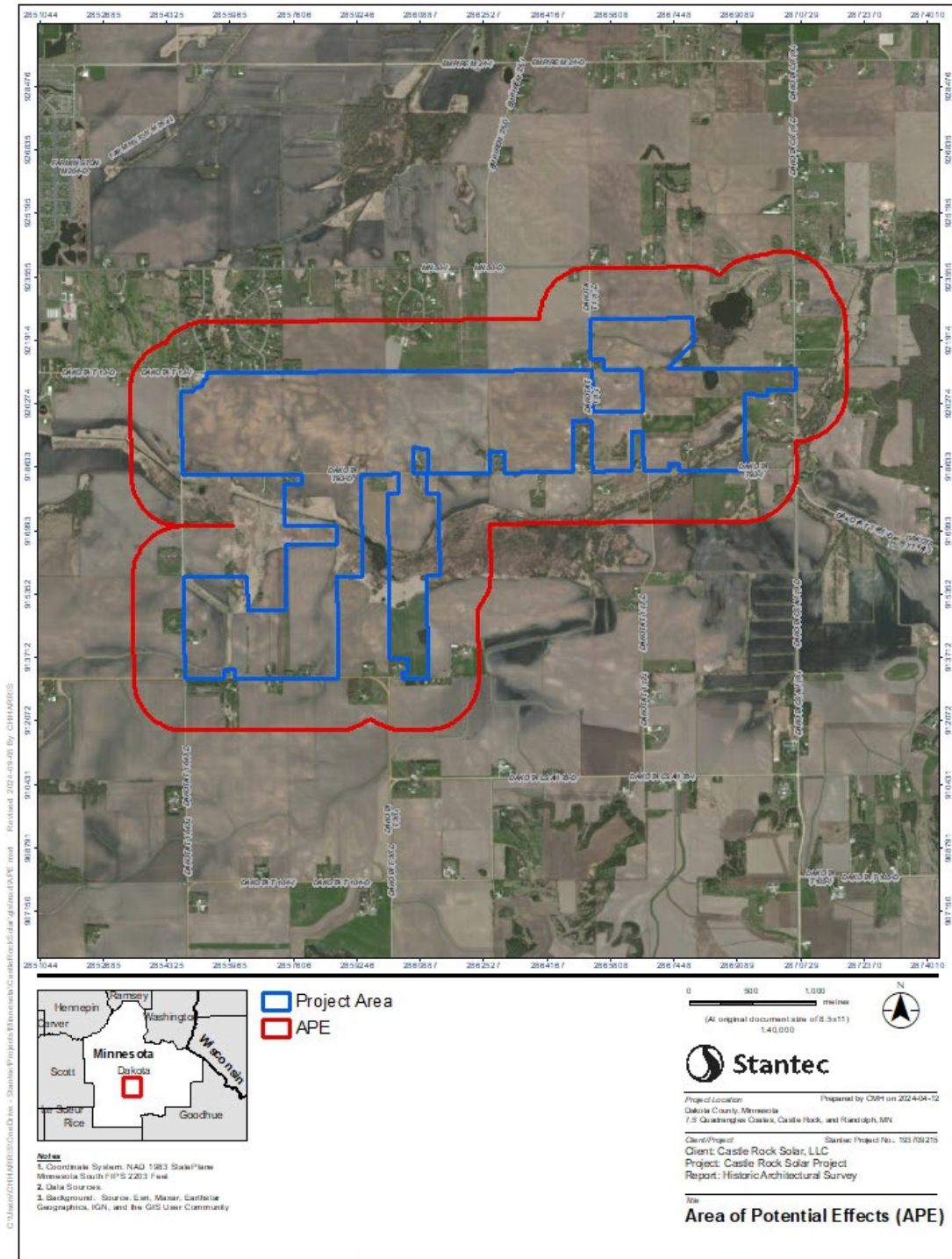


Figure 2. Historic Architectural Above-Ground APE.

2

METHODOLOGY

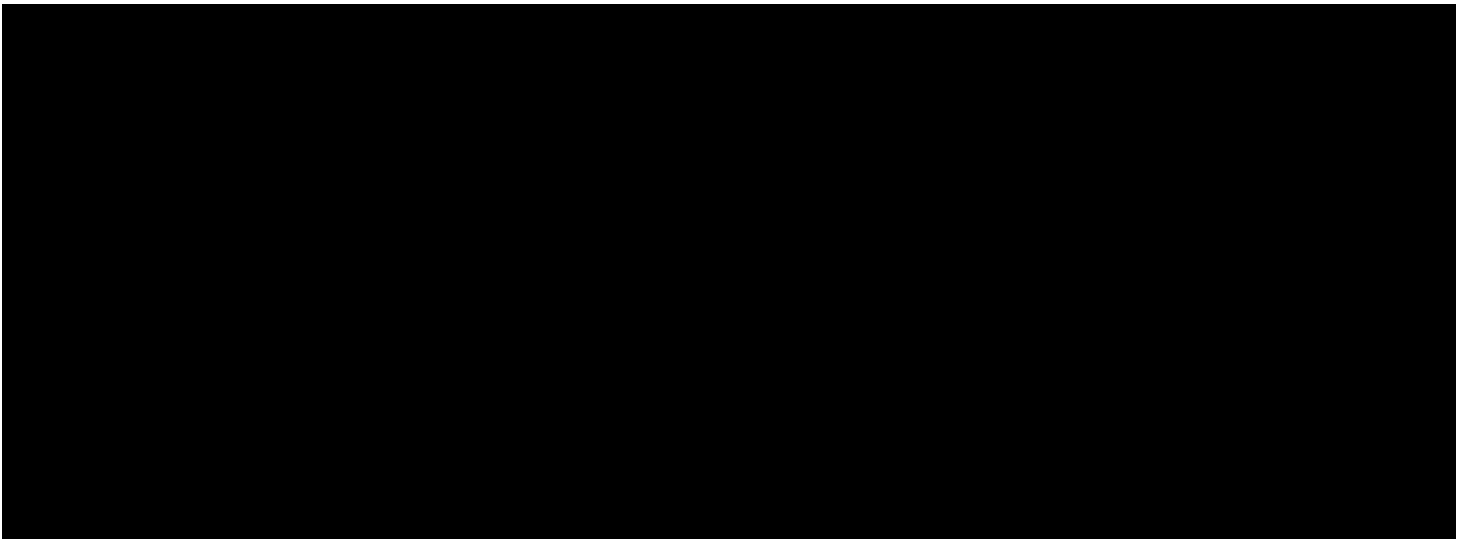
The investigation was completed using guidelines set forth in the Secretary of the Interior Standards and the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office)/Heritage Preservation Department (Mn-SHPO/HPD) *Historic and Architectural Survey Manual*. The Principal Investigator (PI), Rachel Kennedy, exceeds the requirements for professional architectural historian as detailed in the Secretary of the Interior (SOI) Standards. This investigation includes a records check, review of maps and literature, and survey.

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Stantec completed a MnSHIP records search of the APE in November 2023 to identify previously recorded, historic architectural resources. This search identified seven previously recorded above-ground resources within the APE, including one farmstead, one town hall building, and four bridges. Of the seven previously recorded, one building, Castle Rock Townhall, has been demolished. See **Table 1** and **Figure 3** for a list and geographic representation of the previously recorded resources within the APE.

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Table 1. Previously Recorded MnSHIP Above-Ground Resources, Dakota County, MN.



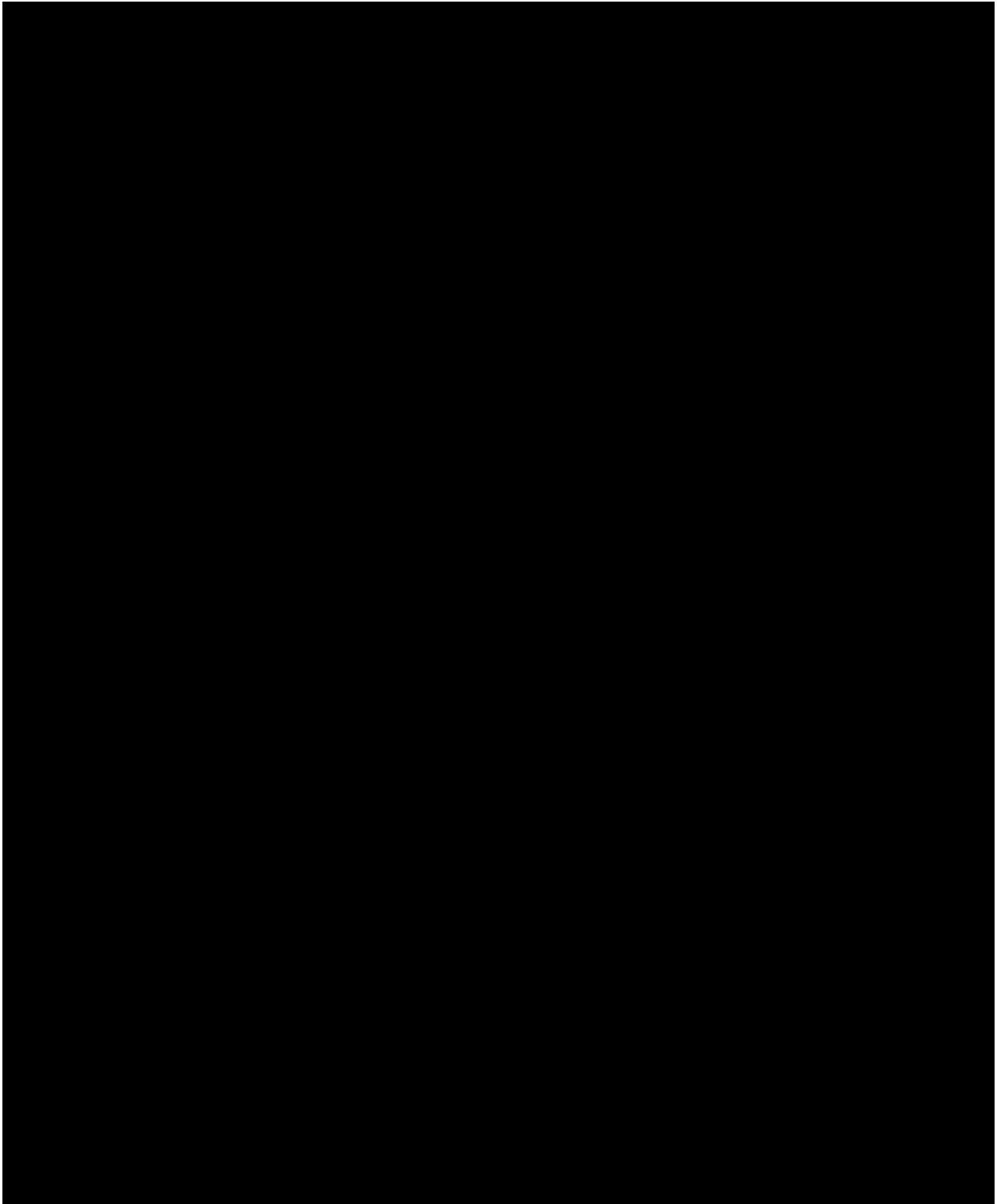


Figure 3. Previously Recorded MNSHPO Properties.

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One historic architectural survey report, which addresses portions of the county near the APE, was identified. Additionally, one National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Multiple Property Documentation Form was identified and examined for contextual material. These are listed in **Table 2** below.

Table 2. Cultural Resource Reports

Author	Title	Date
Kevin (Lex) Palmer	<i>Minnesota Architecture-Inventory Form – Pfenning Farm (DK-FMC-00076)</i>	2013
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Architecture-Inventory Form – Bridge 91168 (DK-EMP-00013)</i>	1995
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Architecture-Inventory Form – Bridge 19505 (DK-CRK-00009)</i>	2011
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Architecture-Inventory Form – Bridge L3253 (DK-CRK-00051)</i>	1995
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Architecture-Inventory Form – Bridge L3254 (DK-CRK-00052)</i>	1955
Susan P. Reynolds	<i>Minnesota Architecture-Inventory Form – Castle Rock Town Hall (DK-CRK-00003)</i>	1979
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Bridges: 1956-1970</i>	2011
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Trunk Highways (1921-1954): Historic Context and National Register Evaluation and Integrity Considerations</i>	2018
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	<i>Minnesota Trunk Highways (1955-1970): Historic Context and National Register Evaluation and Integrity Considerations</i>	2018

[...NONPUBLIC DATA ENDS HERE]

MAP AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Archival research was conducted in November 2023. Primary and secondary materials were online at the University of Minnesota¹ website. Research was also conducted online using the websites of the US Geological Service's (USGS) Map Store and Historic Map Works.² Maps reviewed are listed in **Table 3**.

Table 3. Maps of Project Area

Date	Title	Author
1879	Castle Rock	Warner & Foote
1953	<i>USGS Topographic Map for St. Paul, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1957	<i>USGS Topographic Map for Farmington, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1959	<i>USGS Topographic Map for St. Paul, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1974	<i>USGS Topographic Map for Coates, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1974	<i>USGS Topographic Map for Castle Rock, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1974	<i>USGS Topographic Map for Randolph, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1985	<i>USGS Topographic Map for St. Paul, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS
1993	<i>USGS Topographic Map for Coates, MN Quadrangle</i>	USGS

¹ Accessed online November 2023 at <https://apps.lib.umn.edu/mhapo/>.

² Accessed online November 2023 at <https://historicmapworks.com>.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In November 2023, Stantec’s architectural history/cultural team, managed by Christopher Harris, MAHP surveyed the project APE for properties that appear to meet the 45-year age consideration for the NRHP (i.e., built before circa 1978). Each potential historic property was photographed and a preliminary assessment of integrity and NRHP eligibility was conducted. Forty-five (45) field sites were examined, located throughout the APE. Most of the field survey was conducted from the public right-of-way (ROW). General landscape photographs were also taken. The project area was also surveyed for potential historic districts.

Per MnSHPO requirements, Stantec also examined 55 field sites that were not of sufficient age for NRHP consideration or under the Guidance for Criterion Consideration G. These were not inventoried but a summary list of these resources can be found in Appendix A.

Standing resources are considered eligible for the NRHP if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meet Criteria A, B, or C on the local, state, or national level.

Criterion A: associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

Criterion B: associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

Criterion C: embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

MnSHPO inventory forms, photographs, and mapping were prepared using guidance found in MnSHPO’s Historic and Architectural Survey Manual (8/2017).³ As well, this study followed applicable National Park Service Guidelines for survey and NRP eligibility, including NRHP Bulletin 24, “Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis For Preservation Planning,” NRHP Bulletin 15, “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation,” and NRHP Bulletin 16A, “How to Complete the National Register Registration Form.”

³ *Historic and Architectural Survey Manual*, Minnesota Historical Society – Heritage Preservation Department, St. Paul, Minnesota, 2017.

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SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Stantec performed a field survey on 45 field sites of sufficient age for NRHP eligibility (**Table 4**).⁴ A description and image of this resource can be found below in the **SITE DESCRIPTIONS AND RESULTS** section of this report. No field sites are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Stantec also examined 57 field sites that were not of sufficient age for NRHP consideration or under the Guidance for Criterion Consideration G. Please see Appendix B.

Table 4. Inventoried Resources

Field Site No.	Inventory No.	Historic/Common Name	Address	Approx. Date of Construction	NRHP Recommendation	Effects Assessment
4	DK-CRK-00057	House	2465 225th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1930	Not Eligible	N/A
5	DK-CRK-00058	Farmstead	22558 Biscayne Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1900	Not Eligible	N/A
12	DK-CRK-00059	House	1941 225th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1900	Not Eligible	N/A
13	DK-CRK-00060	House	22470 Beaumont Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1978	Not Eligible	N/A
16	DK-CRK-00061	House	22360 Beaumont Way, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1977	Not Eligible	N/A
17	DK-CRK-00062	House	22320 Beaumont Way, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1977	Not Eligible	N/A
28	DK-CRK-00063	House	22255 Albatross Circle, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1975	Not Eligible	N/A
29	DK-CRK-00064	House	22285 Albatross Circle, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1975	Not Eligible	N/A
30	DK-CRK-00065	House	22295 Albatross Way, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1977	Not Eligible	N/A
36	DK-CRK-00066	Farmstead	1432 S 220th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1880	Not Eligible	N/A
38	DK-CRK-00067	House	22447 Annette Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1971	Not Eligible	N/A

⁴ Due to a mapping error, the field site (FS) numbers assigned are not consecutive.

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Field Site No.	Inventory No.	Historic/Common Name	Address	Approx. Date of Construction	NRHP Recommendation	Effects Assessment
39	DK-CRK-00068	House	22444 Annette Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1966	Not Eligible	N/A
40	DK-CRK-00069	Farmstead	22765 Annette Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1910	Not Eligible	N/A
41	DK-CRK-00070	House	22795 Annette Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1972	Not Eligible	N/A
42	DK-CRK-00071	House	22915 Annette Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1910	Not Eligible	N/A
49	DK-CRK-00072	House	1950 220th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1969	Not Eligible	N/A
50	DK-FMC-00076	House	1986 220th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1880	Not Eligible	N/A
61	DK-CRK-00074	House	22004 Blaine Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1920	Not Eligible	N/A
62	DK-CRK-00075	Farmstead	22104 Blaine Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1860	Not Eligible	N/A
63	DK-CRK-00076	Emmanuel Cemetery	22225 Blaine Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1877	Not Eligible	N/A
65	DK-CRK-00077	House	22520 Blaine Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1975	Not Eligible	N/A
66	DK-CRK-00078	House	23139 Blaine Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1880	Not Eligible	N/A
67	DK-CRK-00079	Farmstead	1971 230 th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1910	Not Eligible	N/A

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Field Site No.	Inventory No.	Historic/Common Name	Address	Approx. Date of Construction	NRHP Recommendation	Effects Assessment
68	DK-CRK-00080	House	23134 Audrey Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1974	Not Eligible	N/A
72	DK-CRK-00081	House	1731 230 th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1973	Not Eligible	N/A
73	DK-CRK-00082	House	1608 230 th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1965	Not Eligible	N/A
74	DK-CRK-00083	House	1535 230 th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1950	Not Eligible	N/A
75	DK-CRK-00084	House	1228 230 th Street E, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1890	Not Eligible	N/A
76	DK-CRK-00085	House	1055 230 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1960	Not Eligible	N/A
77	DK-CRK-00086	House	1385 230 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1975	Not Eligible	N/A
84	DK-CRK-00087	Farmstead	23403 Biscayne Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1954	Not Eligible	N/A
85	DK-CRK-00088	House	23741 Biscayne Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1890	Not Eligible	N/A
86	DK-CRK-00089	House	23816 Biscayne Avenue, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1966	Not Eligible	N/A
87	DK-CRK-00090	Farmstead	2278 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1900	Not Eligible	N/A
88	DK-CRK-00091	House	2086 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1918	Not Eligible	N/A

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Field Site No.	Inventory No.	Historic/Common Name	Address	Approx. Date of Construction	NRHP Recommendation	Effects Assessment
89	DK-CRK-00092	House	2002 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1966	Not Eligible	N/A
90	DK-CRK-00093	Farmstead	2079 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1880	Not Eligible	N/A
91	DK-CRK-00094	House	1640 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1969	Not Eligible	N/A
92	DK-CRK-00095	House	1266 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1976	Not Eligible	N/A
93	DK-CRK-00096	House	1205 240 th Street W, Castle Rock Township	Circa 1954	Not Eligible	N/A
108	XX-ROD-00070	Trunk Highway 50	Trunk Highway 50 from Farmington to Hampton	1921	Not Eligible	N/A
109	DK-EMP-00013	Bridge 91168	Hwy 50 over stream	1925	Not Eligible	N/A
110	DK-CRK-00051	Bridge L3253	Township Road 93 over stream	1945	Not Eligible	N/A
111	DK-CRK-00052	Bridge L3254	Township Road 93 over Vermillion River	1945	Not Eligible	N/A
112	DK-CRK-0009	Bridge 19505	Township Road 79 over Vermillion River	1968	Not Eligible	N/A

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Dakota County, Minnesota

Dakota County, located in the southeast quadrant of Minnesota, just southeast of Minneapolis, is comprised of 562.5 square miles of land and has a population of over 443,000 people.⁵ Dakota County is one of the nine original counties in the state. Established in 1849, the county was created by the Minnesota Territory Legislature, nine years before Minnesota was a state. Dakota County lies within the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers along the northern border and the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers on the eastern border. The County's proximity to these rivers has greatly influenced its development and history.⁶

The land that makes up present-day Dakota County once belonged to the Dakota tribe. The confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers was believed to be, "the point of origin and a center point for spirituality for Dakota people."⁷ In 1689, Nicolas Perrot, a French fur trader, declared the land to be French territory. The land was annexed to the United States as a part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1805.⁸

Although present-day Minnesota achieved statehood in 1858, the story of its boundaries is inextricably linked to a series of treaties between the United States Federal Government and indigenous people of the Dakota, Ojibwe, and Ho-Chunk tribes. In 1805, the Dakota ceded 100,000 acres of land at the intersection of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, a first within the present-day boundaries of the state which precipitated an influx of settlers. A pair of treaties were signed in 1851, at Traverse des Sioux and Mendota, in which the Dakota ceded all their remaining lands in Minnesota and Iowa. These lands covered roughly 35-million acres and included the area of Minnesota's Dakota County. Other treaties followed, culminating in treaties with the Ojibwe in 1863 and 1866 concerning lands in northern portions of Minnesota, effectively solidifying the state's boundaries in the form known today.⁹

In 1857, Hastings became the county seat in Dakota County. Hastings is located at the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers. People of European descent first came to the area around 1820, coinciding with the construction of Fort Snelling at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers, fewer than 20 miles northwest of Hastings. By 1850, a trading post was opened and just three years later the

⁵ United States Census Bureau, "QuickFacts: Dakota County, Minnesota," accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/dakotacountyminnesota/LND110220#LND110220>.

⁶ No author, "A Premier County," Dakota County Historical Society, accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.dakotahistory.org/firsts>.

⁷ Edward Fleming et al., *An Archeological Survey of Dakota County, Minnesota*, (2018) 57.

⁸ No author, "A Premier County," Dakota County Historical Society, accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.dakotahistory.org/firsts>.

⁹ No author, "Minnesota Treaty Interactive," Minnesota Historical Society, accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.usdakotawar.org/history/treaties/minnesota-treaty-interactive>.

town was laid out and named after Henry Hastings Sibley, one of the original founders who later became the first governor of Minnesota. Historically, the city's economic driver was grain milling. Today, the economy relies on manufacturing office supplies and plastics, agriculture, and flour milling.¹⁰

One of the county's economic drivers in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries was the meatpacking industry in South St. Paul. This area, located in the northern portion of the county, was quickly inhabited once Dakota County was open for settlement in 1853.¹¹ Alpheus Beede Stickney opened a stockyard in the mid-1880s along the Mississippi River, and this stockyard quickly became a stopping point for ranchers to fatten up their livestock before taking them to Chicago for meatpacking. This stockyard was so successful that meatpacking companies moved to the area. This booming industry attracted European immigrants to the area for work, causing an influx in population (**Figure 4**). The area continued to thrive into the twentieth century; however, the area faced hardship in the 1960s. The city destroyed over 120 buildings with the intention of rebuilding. The project was never completed though, and 12,000 jobs were lost. Today, about seventy businesses operate in South Saint Paul employing approximately 4,000 people.¹²

¹⁰ Amy Tikkanen, "Hastings," Encyclopedia of Britannica, accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.britannica.com/place/Hastings-Minnesota>.

¹¹ South St. Paul Chapter of the Dakota County Historical Society, "A Brief History of South Saint Paul and Map of Historic Sites," accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.dakotahistory.org/images/HistoryMaps/South-St.-Paul-History-Map.pdf>.

¹² No author, "City of South St. Paul: A Brief History," accessed November 2023 online at <https://twincitiespropertyfinder.com/history-of-south-saint-paul-minnesota/>.



Figure 4. View of South St. Paul's Stockyards circa 1945.¹³

Located within the county is the largest Cambodian temple in North America. Watt Munisotaram serves 9,000 people across the state, many of whom have Cambodian roots or practice Buddhism.¹⁴ The need for a temple arose after many Cambodian refugees moved to the area in the 1980s.¹⁵ In 1988, the Minnesota Cambodian Buddhist Society purchased the 40-acre parcel and built a shrine and a modest dormitory for several monks.¹⁶ In 2002, construction began on a new temple and in 2007, the temple was completed (**Figure 5**). The 10,000 square foot temple is two stories in height and extremely ornate.¹⁷ This parcel is northeast of the project site, roughly one-quarter mile outside of the APE.

¹³ No author, "On This Date in Twin Cities History- September 20, 1887," accessed November 2023 online at <http://www.historictwincities.com/this-day-in-history/09-30-1887/>.

¹⁴ No author, "Reasons to Love Minnesota No. 86: Watt Munisotaram," Minnevangelist, accessed November 2023 online at <https://minnevangelist.com/watt-munisotaram-hampton-minnesota/>.

¹⁵ Curt Brown, Holy Site on the Hill, Star Tribune June 23, 2007, B1; B5.

¹⁶ No author, "Reasons to Love Minnesota No. 86: Watt Munisotaram."

¹⁷ Curt Brown, Holy Site on the Hill, Star Tribune June 23, 2007, B5.

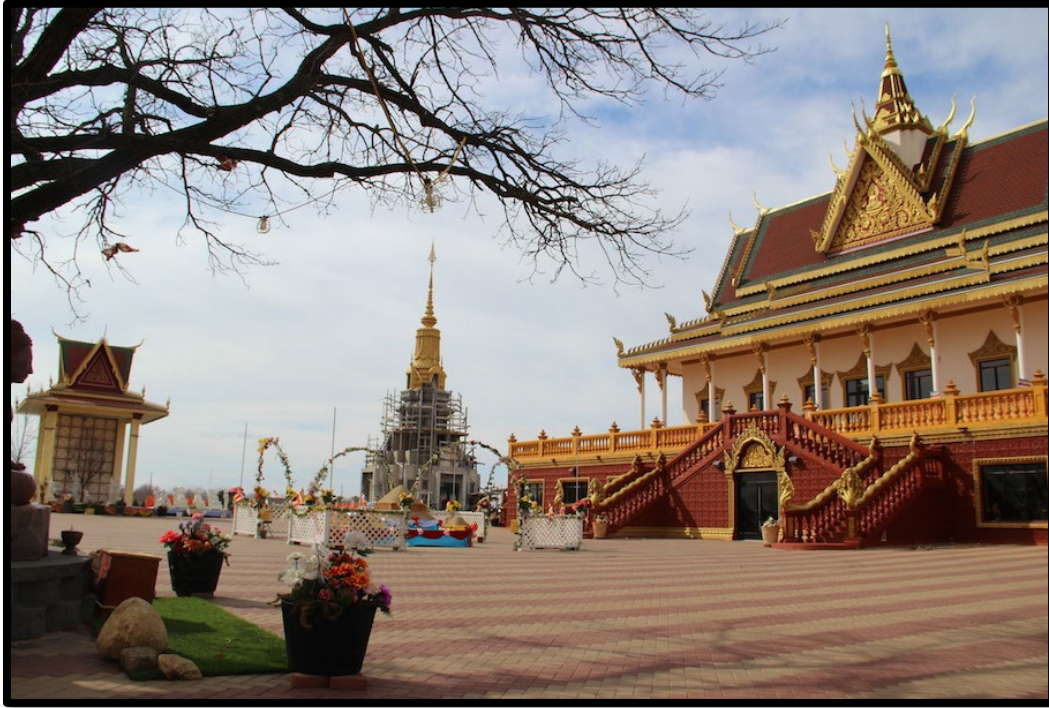


Figure 5. Watt Munisotaram.¹⁸

Dakota County Agriculture

Beginning with the arrival of settlers in the 1850s, agriculture has played a vital role in Dakota County's economy. In 1856, James Dow, editor of the Dakota Weekly Journal territorial newspaper, wrote, "Farmington is situated on the Vermillion River, about fifteen miles from Hastings. This place is rightly named for it looks like a village of farms".¹⁹ By 1870, roughly 80 percent of Dakota County land was being used for agriculture.²⁰ In 1913, the Dakota County Improvement Association was created. This Association made it possible for the county to have an agricultural extension agent.²¹

Agriculture continues to play a vital role in Dakota County's economy; however, in the late-twentieth and early-twenty-first centuries, population growth and urban sprawl began reducing farmland. In 1950, roughly 85 percent of county land was used for agriculture. By 1997, only 60 percent of county land was

¹⁸ Will Yetvin, Jonah Hudson-Erdman, and Hannah Comstock-Gray, "Watt Munisotaram, accessed November 2023 online at <https://religionsmn.carleton.edu/exhibits/show/wattmunisotaram/introduction>.

¹⁹ No author, "Farmington History – How Farmington Got Its Name," City of Farmington, accessed December 2023 online at https://www.farmingtonmn.gov/community/about_our_city/history.

²⁰ No author, "History – Rosemont Research and Outreach Center," University of Minnesota, accessed December 2023 online at <https://rroc.cfans.umn.edu/about/history>.

²¹ No author, "Dakota County: A Growing County with Deep Agricultural Roots," accessed November 2023 online at https://www.republicaneagle.com/news/taking-a-look-back-to-farmingtons-early-days/article_e4948417-d918-5e60-b1e1-7bb8841ef931.html.

considered farmland.²² This led to zoning ordinances and easements. Today, about 200,000 acres (over half) of the land in the county is used as farmland. About 7,800 acres of county land are protected farmland through easements. Corn is the top crop in the county.²³ In 2017, Dakota County grew more greenhouse/nursery products than any other county in Minnesota and ranked third in vegetable/potato production.²⁴

Castle Rock Township, Dakota County

Castle Rock Township, organized in 1858, takes its name from a sandstone rock that stood as a well-known landmark on a prairie in the area. This rural township covers an area of 35.75 square miles, with the municipality of Farmington carved from northwestern portions of the Township (**Figure 6**).

Neighboring townships are Empire (to the north), Hampton (to the east), Waterford and Sciota (to the south), and Eureka (to the west). Also nearby are the townships of Vermillion (to the northeast), Randolph (to the southeast), Greenvale (to the southwest), and Lakeville (to the northwest, beyond Farmington).

The economy of Castle Rock Township has, since the arrival of settlers of European descent, been primarily centered around agriculture. Writing about the township in 1868, W. H. Mitchell claimed, “Neither store, or hotel, or saloon has ever been opened, nor even a blacksmith shop, it being an emphatically farming community, and the people thinking it best to attend to legitimate business and leave other matters to take care of themselves.”²⁵ As of 2007, 74.1 percent of the township’s land use was dedicated to agriculture (followed by 15.2 percent as wetlands and floodplains, and 7.4 percent for residential use).²⁶ The current population of Castle Rock Township is 1,563.²⁷

²² The Trust for Public Land, et al., “Dakota County Farmland and Natural Area Protection Plan,” accessed November 2023 online at

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/LandConservation/History/Documents/FNAPPlan.pdf>.

²³ No author, “Dakota County: A Growing County with Deep Agricultural Roots,” accessed December 2023 online at <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/News/Pages/growing-county.aspx>.

²⁴ USDA, Dakota County Minnesota, Census of Agriculture, accessed November 2023 online at https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online_Resources/County_Profiles/Minnesota/cp27037.pdf.

²⁵ W. H. Mitchell, *Dakota County, Its Past and Present: Geographical, Statistical and Historical : Together with a General View of the State*. (United States: Tribune Print. Company, 1868), accessed December 2023 online at <https://genealogytrails.com/minn/dakota/townshiphistory.html>.

²⁶ No author, “Castle Rock Township Comprehensive Plan,” Castle Rock Township, July 2009, accessed December 2023 online at <http://www.castlerocktownship.com/pdf/Castle%20Rock%20Addendum.pdf>

²⁷ No author, “Castle Rock Township, Dakota County, Minnesota,” Census Reporter, accessed December 2023 online at <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/06000US2711532984-castle-rock-township-dakota-county-mn/>.

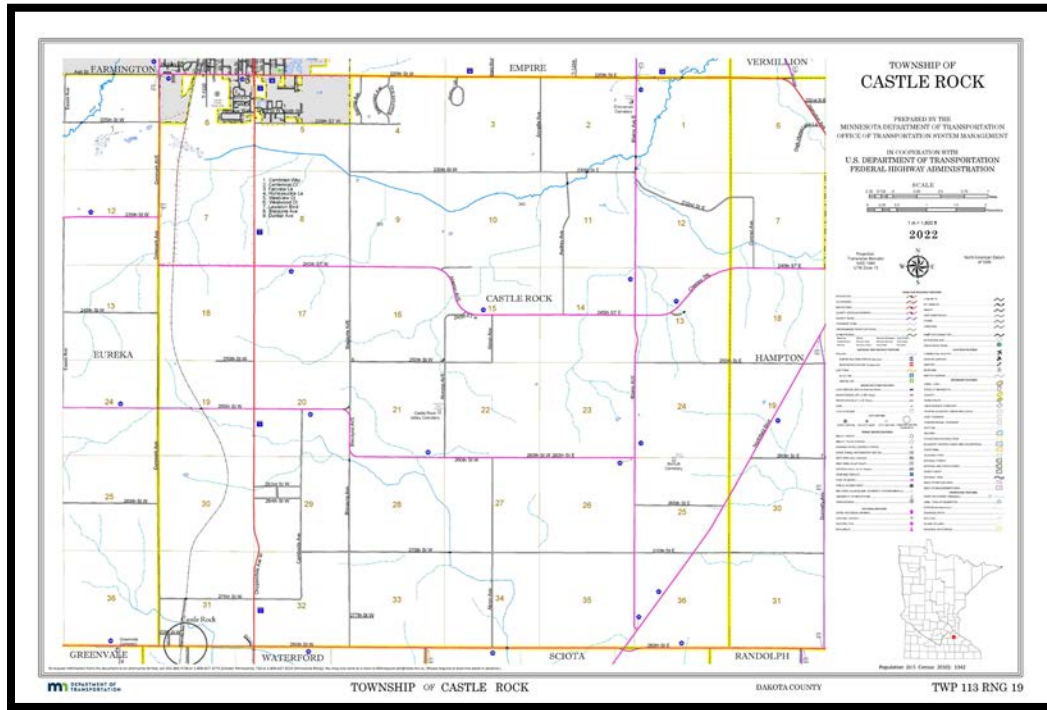


Figure 6. Township of Castle Rock.

City of Farmington

Farmington is located just south of Saint Paul along State Route 3 and the Vermillion River. Today, the city spans 14.6 square miles and has a population of about 23,500.²⁸ Farmington was first settled by people of European descent in the 1850s. The village was an important railroad town as it was located at the intersection of the Minnesota Central, Hastings, and Dakota Railroads.²⁹ Farmington was officially incorporated in 1872.³⁰

In 1897, Farmington became one of the first communities in the state to offer free rural mail delivery.³¹ At this point in time, people living in a densely populated area had their mail delivered to the house for free while people living in more rural areas had to pick up their mail at the Post Office. John Wanamaker, the Postmaster General from 1889-1893, argued that everyone should receive the newspaper, as it contained important information and many people living in rural areas did not have the time to walk or ride to the post office daily. The first rural free mail delivery service began on October 1, 1896, in several communities in West Virginia. The experiment was successful and within a year, the rural free mail delivery service was implemented in twenty-nine states in some capacity. In December 1899 the US Post

²⁸ United States Census Bureau, "Farmington City, Minnesota," accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/farmingtoncityminnesota>.

²⁹ No author, "City of Farmington: A Brief History," Twin City Property Finder, accessed November 2023 online at <https://twincitiespropertyfinder.com/brief-history-of-farmington-minnesota/>.

³⁰ Warren Upham, *Minnesota Geographic Names*, (Saint Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1920), 167.

³¹ Minnesota Department of Transportation, "Minnesota Historic Farms Study," accessed December 2023 online at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/culturalresources/docs/crunite/devperiods.pdf>, 3.27.

Office Department expanded the program across the entire United States. In 1902, rural free delivery became a permanent service.³²

Farmington continued to be a rural agricultural community until the mid-twentieth century when the population grew rapidly. Between 1960 and 1970 the population grew from 2,300 to 3,104. This growth in population was due to its proximity to the Twin Cities; Farmington was becoming a commuter city.³³ This trend continued into the twenty-first century. Now, Farmington is home to over 23,000 people.³⁴

Castle Rock

Inyan Bosdata was the name given to present-day Castle Rock by the Native Americans who valued this rock formation as a place of worship. The Dakota people painted the rock twice per year and decorated it with flowers. During these ceremonies, the tribe danced around the rock before sunrise, chanting and praying.³⁵ When European explorers surveyed the area, they named the formation “Rock-standing-on-end.”³⁶ Eventually, the term “rock-standing-on-end” was no longer used on maps and the area became known as Castle Rock. In 1854, the first settlers of European descent moved to the area. In 1858, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners created Castle Rock Township which, by that point, already had its own post office. As the settler population grew, many Native Americans were displaced, forcing them to leave their land and sacred locations.³⁷

In the late 1860s, the Castle Rock formation became a tourist attraction. Visitors climbed the rock and carved their names into the soft St. Peter sandstone. Some even took portions of the rock home with them as a souvenir. This vandalism, in combination with natural erosion, caused the spire to topple in 1895.³⁸ The formation continued to deteriorate with time. Castle Rock is still accessible, however, after many years of vandalism and erosion, the formation is significantly altered (**Figure 7** and **Figure 8**).³⁹ This natural monument is located about two miles southwest of the APE, near the southwest corner of the township.

³² No author, “Rural Free Delivery,” United States Postal Service, accessed December 2023 online at <https://about.usps.com/who/profile/history/rural-free-delivery.htm>.

³³ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Federal Insurance Administration, *Flood Insurance Study*, (1978) 2-4.

³⁴ United States Census Bureau, “Farmington City, Minnesota.”

³⁵ Farmington Area Historical Society, *Inyan Bosdata*, October 2004, 2.

³⁶ *Ibid*, 3.

³⁷ *Ibid*.

³⁸ *Ibid*, 3-4.

³⁹ *Ibid*, 8.



Figure 7. Left: View of Castle Rock prior to 1895. Right: View of Castle Rock after the spire collapsed.⁴⁰

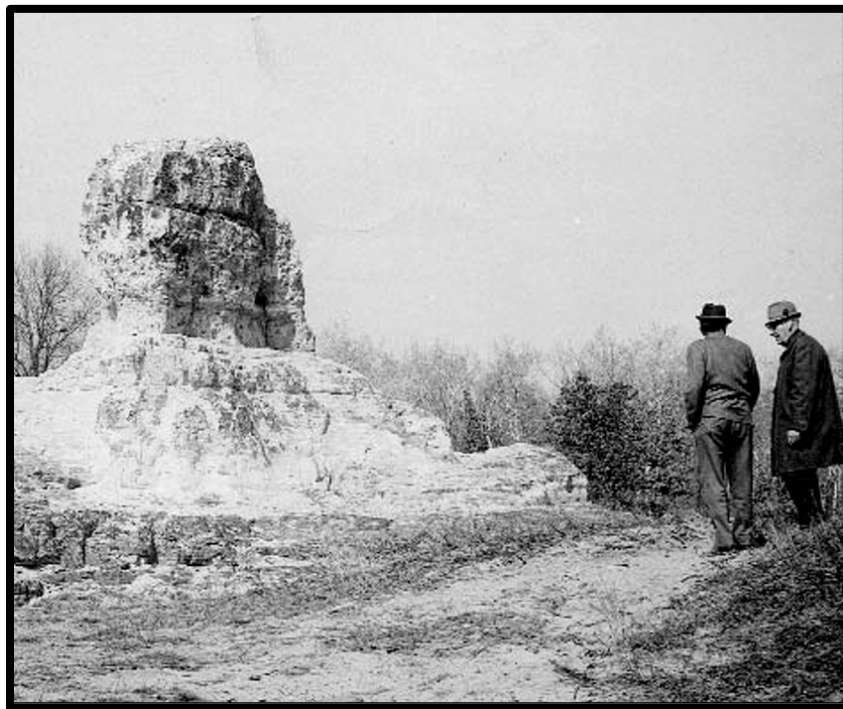


Figure 8. View of Castle Rock in 1972.⁴¹

⁴⁰ Farmington Area Historical Society, *Inyan Bosdata*, October 2004, 4-5.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, 6.

Nike Missile Site MS-40

Located in Castle Rock Township is one of four Nike missile stations built in the mid-twentieth century to protect the Twin Cities from Soviet bombers.⁴² A Nike missile is any surface-to-air missile designed in the United States between the 1940s-1960s.⁴³ The missiles protecting the Twin Cities were the last line of defense should Soviet bombers attack from the north. Each missile contained a nuclear warhead that could destroy a formation of bombers 90 miles away. The US Army built the Farmington missile site in October 1959, when many Americans feared a nuclear attack (**Figure 9**). Nike missiles were stored underground and brought to the surface via a hydraulic elevator. Although the missile site was decommissioned in 1971, visual evidence remains.⁴⁴ While the missiles were not visible, the radar arrays and the barracks were. Nike Missile Site MS-40 is located about one-half mile south of the APE, along County State Aid Highway 80 (260th Street East).



Figure 9. View of missile assembly building in Farmington circa 1968.⁴⁵

Automobile Roads

In the late nineteenth century through about 1920, local communities built their own stretches of road to accommodate non-rail traffic in an era of horses and wagons. At this time, many people, specifically

⁴² Andy Sturdevant, "Visiting the Missile Sites Designed to Protect the Twin Cities from a Soviet Attack," *Minnpost*, accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.minnpost.com/stroll/2016/11/visiting-missile-sites-designed-protect-twin-cities-soviet-attack/>.

⁴³ Robert Curley, "Nike Missile," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, accessed November 2023 online at <https://www.britannica.com/technology/Nike-missile>.

⁴⁴ Sturdevant, "Visiting the Missile Sites Designed to Protect the Twin Cities from a Soviet Attack."

⁴⁵ Historic American Engineer, *Nike Missile Battery MS-40, County Road No. 260, Farmington, Dakota County, MN*, circa 1968,

farmers, wanted more reliable roads that could withstand harsh weather conditions.⁴⁶ Simultaneously, the boom of bicycling in the 1870s and 1880s, in conjunction with the advent and later widespread adoption of the automobile, fueled a nationwide Good Roads Movement. This movement encouraged state governments to invest in an infrastructure system more compatible with these emerging modes of transportation. As part of this movement, private associations promoted and constructed a series of motor trails across the country between 1910 and 1920.

All of the roads discussed below were present prior to 1916. The former Jefferson Highway, which has been replaced with MN 3, runs north and south along the western edge of the township. Present-day MN 50 extends east and west along the northern edge of the township. Existing county State Aid Highways, county roads, and township roads all retrace earlier roadways that were present in 1916, with minor changes made to the path of some of those roads (**Figure 10**).

⁴⁶ Wayne E. Fuller, "Good Roads and Rural Free Delivery of Mail." *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review* 42, no. 1 (1955): 69.

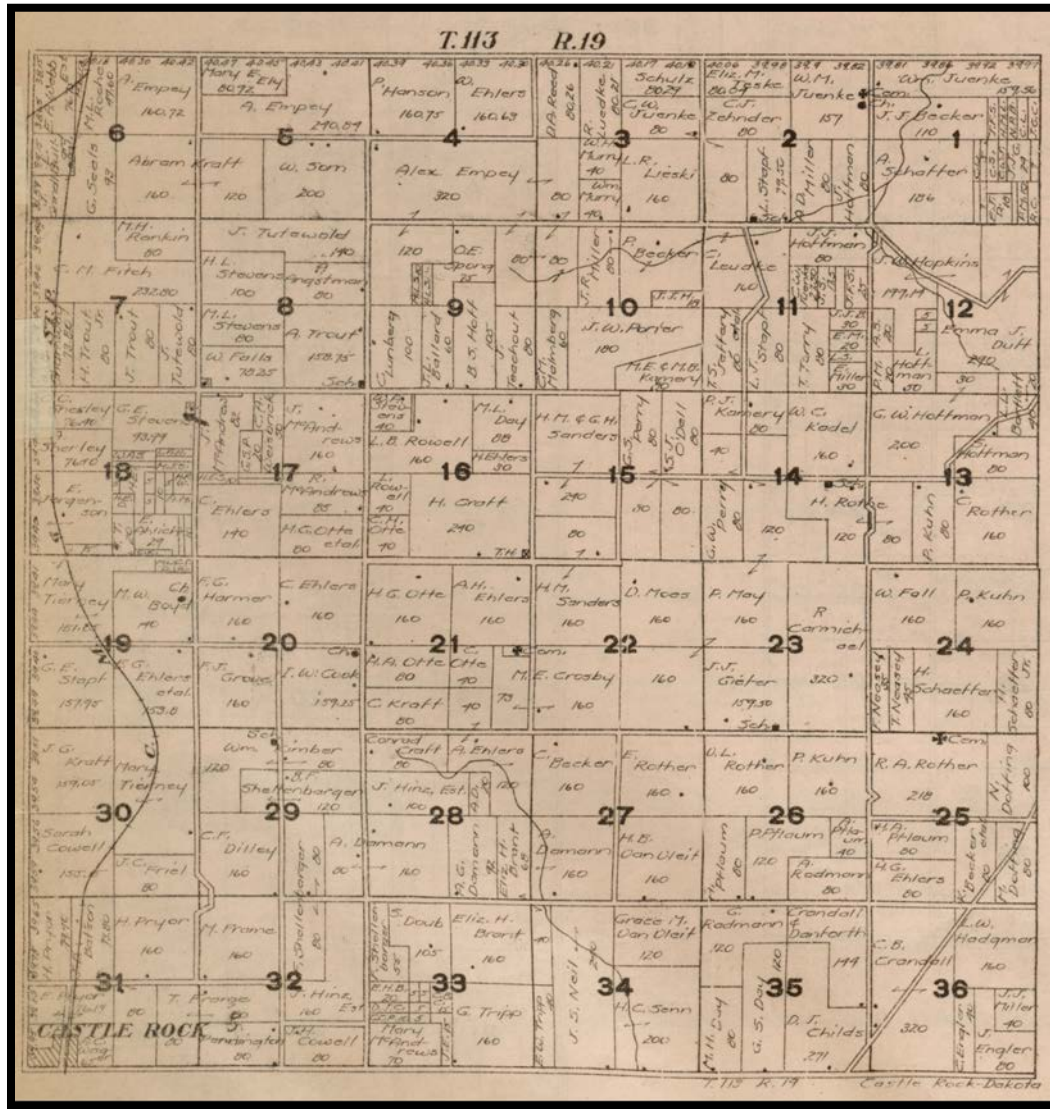


Figure 10. W.W. Hixson & Co. Minnesota State Atlas, 1916

MN 50

Construction of present-day State Highway 50 (also known as Trunk Highway 50), which is a short distance north of the APE, was initially authorized in 1920 as Constitutional Route 50. This was the primary route exiting Minneapolis to the south and east, with a connection to Constitutional Route 1 at Farmington and with Constitutional Route 20 at Cannon Falls. The portion between Farmington and Hampton, including a section just north of the APE, was built sometime between 1923 and 1929. A pair of nearby MN 50 culverts were constructed in 1925, suggesting that the Farmington-to-Hampton portion was completed at that time (previously recorded resources DK-EMP-00013 and -00014). In 1934, the portion northwest of Farmington was replaced by U.S. Highway 65, and the portion between Hampton and Cannon Falls,

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southeast of Farmington, was replaced by U.S. Highway 52.⁴⁷ The portion between Farmington and Hampton remains in place today and, along with a stretch of road extending to the east from Hampton, now spans a length of just over 15 miles.

County and Township Roads

Just as the Good Roads Movement encouraged states to invest in road projects like Constitutional Route 1, so too did it encourage investment in smaller roads that connected agricultural areas with nearby markets, such as many of those in present-day Dakota County. The Dunn Amendment of 1912 revised the road and bridge section of the Minnesota state constitution, the result being that rural roads were divided into three classes (state, county, and township) for construction and maintenance purposes. State roads were to be constructed by the counties with state aid.⁴⁸ This system for state roads remains in use today, with the former state classification roads now frequently called County State Aid Highways (CSAH).

The APE includes portions of CSAH 78 (portions of 240th St E). Several township roads are also present within the APE, including T-13 (225th St W), T-93 (230th St E and W), 250th St W, T-1643 (Biscayne Avenue), T-172 (Audrey Avenue), and Annette Avenue. Three bridges are in the northeastern portion of the APE. Two of those bridges were constructed in 1945 (previously recorded resources DK-CRK-00051 on CSAH 79, and -00052 on T-93), the other in 1968 (previously recorded resource DK-CRK-00009 on T-172). A concrete box culvert, constructed in 1925 as part of MN 50, is also present (previously recorded resource DK-EMP-00013).

⁴⁷ Andrew Munsch, "Trunk Highways of Dakota County - A History (Page 2)," Deadpioneer's Historic Minnesota Highways, accessed November 2023 online at <https://deadpioneer.com/articles/dakota/dakotahwyhistory/dakota1934-1945.htm>

⁴⁸ Monte Castleman, "A History of Minnesota's Highways Part Two," Streets.mn, accessed November 2023 online at <https://streets.mn/2018/03/09/a-history-of-minnesotas-highways-part-two/>.

4

SITE DESCRIPTIONS AND RESULTS

FIELD SURVEY SITES

Field survey sites range in period of construction from the mid-to-late nineteenth century through late-twentieth century, as far as can be determined from exterior survey. All properties that appear to have been built prior to 1978 were examined for this survey (**Figure 12**). Thirty-eight (38) newly surveyed sites and seven (7) previously surveyed field survey sites are described in this section of the report.⁴⁹

⁴⁹ Due to a mapping error, the field site (FS) numbers assigned are not consecutive.

Field Site 4

House

DK-CRK-00057

Circa 1930

2465 225th Street West

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.623538, -93.115697



Plate 6. House, looking north.

Description:

This .75-acre parcel contains a residence and an outbuilding. The one-story, circa 1930 house has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The house is clad with vinyl siding. There is a small front gable, projecting bay addition with picture window near the center of the main elevation. The house has WW-WW-D-W-W-W-W-W fenestration with a combination of fixed and casement vinyl windows, some flanked by non-operational shutters. The non-historic metal door has one sidelight. It is sheltered by a front gable entrance porch supported by two wood posts. Wood railings extend from these posts to the house. The entrance porch is accessed by two wood steps. A wood deck is located on the east end of the main elevation and is accessed by a door in the projecting bay addition. The house rests on a parged concrete block foundation.

A circa 1950 concrete block outbuilding with a hipped roof is located north of the house. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.



Plate 7. Outbuilding, looking northwest.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of an early-twentieth century house in Dakota County. It has had many unsympathetic alterations and does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 5

Farmstead

DK-CRK-00058

Circa 1900

22558 Biscayne Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.622974, -93.115995



Plate 8. House, looking east.

Description:

This 6.1-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), a metal equipment barn, five sheds, eleven grain bins, five silos, a Quonset hut, and an arched roof building. The circa 1900, one-and-a-half story, Gabled Ell dwelling is clad with vinyl siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. There is an interior brick chimney in the front gable wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has WW-W-D-W fenestration with vinyl casement windows and 1/1 windows with metal storms. Two 1/1 vinyl windows are located in the half-story gable end. A smaller attic window is located under the eave of the wing's side gable. A full-length, shed roof porch is located along the wing and is supported by three posts. The poured concrete porch is accessed by a single concrete step. The house rests on a poured concrete foundation.

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A circa 1990 metal clad equipment barn is located northeast of the primary resource. Its gable roof is covered by standing seam metal. The entire west elevation is a sliding door, as is the south elevation. Due east of the equipment barn is a circa 1950 single story, concrete block building. Its arched roof is covered in corrugated metal panels. A large portion of the roof on the east end of the building is missing. Nine, 4/2 wood windows are located on the north elevation. A garage bay is located on the west elevation. A small concrete block shed is located east of the primary resource. Its front gable roof is covered with red asphalt shingles. A circa 1930 long, open frame machine shed is located due east of the primary resource. Its walls are clad with tongue and groove wood siding and its gable roof is covered with corrugated metal. Rafter tails are exposed under the eaves. Some roofing material is missing. A gable roof shed is located immediately west of the machine shed. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Another gable roof shed is located southeast of the primary resource. The walls are clad with wood siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. The shed's west elevation has a wood door and a 2/2 wood window. It contains an interior brick chimney. A circa 1950 Quonset hut is located south of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with metal panels and ends wall are clad with vertical wood siding. A metal rolltop garage door is located on the west elevation, as is a single wood door. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. A circa 1975 front gable shed is located east of the Quonset hut. Its roof is covered with metal panels and the walls are also clad in metal. It rests on a concrete foundation.

The parcel also has a cluster of five concrete stave silos with metal roofs located in a row to the east of the primary resource. Eleven metal grain bins of varying sizes are grouped in three clusters to the south of the primary resource.



Plate 9. Pole barn, silos, machine shed, and shed, looking southeast.



Plate 10. Arched roof building, looking southeast.



Plate 11. Arched roof building, shed, silos, grain bin, shed, and pole barn, looking south.



Plate 12. Grain bin, Quonset hut, silo, shed, and grain bins, looking northeast.



Plate 13. Quonset hut and grain bins, looking north.



Plate 14. Shed and machine shed, looking east.

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NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. Although this property retains the primary resource, unsympathetic alterations have negatively impacted its integrity of materials and workmanship. The addition of the non-historic outbuildings has negatively impacted its integrity of setting and association. This farmstead is not a notable example of an early-twentieth century farmstead in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of farm design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 12

House

DK-CRK-00059

Circa 1900

1941 225th Street West

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.623477, -93.105539



Plate 15. House, looking north.

Description:

This three-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), a secondary house, and a garage. The circa 1900, one-and-a-half story, Upright-and-Wing house is clad with metal siding. There is an interior brick chimney in the side gable wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Some roofing material is missing from the side gable wing. There is a one-story flat roof addition to the east elevation. A hipped roof bay extends from the west elevation. The house has D-WW-WWWW fenestration with two 1/1 windows in the half-story front gable. The door is accessed by two concrete steps. The house rests on a concrete foundation.

A second house is located to the northeast of the primary resource. The circa 1953, one-story Ranch is clad in metal siding. Its side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has W-W-D-W-WW fenestration with 1/1 windows. The entrance stoop is sheltered by the roof's deep overhanging eave. Wood steps access the stoop from the side. A wood handrail is present. The foundation was not visible from the right-of-way. A circa 1980 garage is located east of the primary residence. Its front gable roof is

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covered with asphalt shingles. The walls are clad with metal siding. A metal, rolltop garage door is located along the west elevation. The south elevation has a four light window and single metal door.



Plate 16. Second house and garage, looking north.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of an early-twentieth century house in Dakota County. It is in poor condition, has had many unsympathetic alterations, and does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 13

House

DK-CRK-00060

Circa 1978

22470 Beaumont Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.623772, -93.107626



Plate 17. House, looking east.

Description:

This house is located on a 2.5-acre parcel. The one-story, circa 1978 Spanish Ranch house has a cross-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The walls are clad with a rough stucco finish. The house has G-D-WWWW fenestration with metal casement windows. A defining feature of this house is the covered arcade along the south elevation of the integral garage. The arcade leads to the main door and has two arched door openings and two arched window openings. The attached two-car attached garage has an arched door opening with a rolltop metal door. The foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.



Plate 18. House, looking northeast.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century Ranch house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 16

House

DK-CRK-00061

Circa 1977

22360 Beaumont Way

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.625333, -93.107472



Plate 19. House, looking east.

Description:

This 2.57-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), a garage, and a shed. The one-story, circa 1977 Ranch house has a side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles with a front gable attached two-car garage. Walls are clad with board and batten wood siding on the main elevation with vinyl siding on the secondary elevations. The house has G-WW-D-W-W fenestration with 6/1 windows. There are wood flower boxes beneath two of the windows. The chamfered garage door opening has a paneled metal rolltop door. The concrete entrance stoop is sheltered by the roof's overhanging eave. Two wood posts extend from the stoop to the eave, with wood railings from the posts to the house. The foundation is concrete block.

A circa 2008 prefabricated, "Cleary" brand front gable garage/workshop building is located south of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with standing seam metal and walls are metal. A large, paneled rolltop metal garage door and a sliding metal window are located on the west elevation. The garage rests on a poured concrete slab. A side gable shed with shed roof extension is located southeast of the primary residence. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with vertical wood siding.



Plate 20. Garage/workshop and shed, looking east.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 17

House

DK-CRK-00062

Circa 1977

22320 Beaumont Way

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.625805, -93.107213



Plate 21. House and equipment shed, looking east.

Description:

This 2.57-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), an equipment barn, and a shed. The circa 1977 Tri-Level Split house has a front gable roof with a “wounded dove” gable attached two-car garage wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with a combination of horizontal, clapboard-profile vinyl siding; vertical board-and-batten vinyl siding in the front gable; and stone veneer at the lower level and around the entrance. There is an interior brick chimney. The house has G-D-WW-WW fenestration with metal windows. A deck accesses the front door, which is flanked by sidelights. A fixed window is located above the door, illuminating a two-story foyer. There is a paneled metal rolltop garage door. A raised, front gable screen porch is located on the east elevation. The house’s foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

A circa 2008 prefabricated side gable equipment barn is located northeast of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with metal. A small shed is located immediately

adjacent to the primary resource's east elevation. The shed's gambrel roof is covered with plywood panels, as are its walls.



Plate 22. Equipment barn and shed, looking southeast.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 28

House

DK-CRK-00063

Circa 1975

22255 Albatross Circle

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.626530, -93.095087



Plate 23. House, looking west.

Description:

This 4.29-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), an equipment barn, and a detached garage. The one-and-one-half story, circa 1975 house with an attached two-car garage has a side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with vinyl siding. The house has WWW-D-WWW-GG fenestration with two polygonal bay windows flanking the centrally located front door. Each bay window has a central picture window with simulated divided lights flanked by 1/1 windows with simulated divided lights. Three dormers in the half-story have 1/1 windows with simulated divided lights. The full-length porch's shed roof is supported by four wood posts. The front door is flanked by sidelights. Garage doors are paneled metal rolltop. The foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

A circa 1979 one-and-one-half story equipment barn is located northwest of the primary resource. Its broken gambrel roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with vinyl siding. One-story wings extend from the north and south elevations. The barn has a paneled metal rolltop door, a metal pedestrian door, and four light windows on the east elevation. North of the primary resource is a circa 2003 two-bay

garage. Its side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with vinyl siding. Garage doors are paneled metal rolltop.



Plate 24. Equipment barn and detached garage, looking west.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 29

House

DK-CRK-00064

Circa 1975

22285 Albatross Circle

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.625866, -93.094354



Plate 25. House and equipment barn, looking south.

Description:

This 10.34-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource) and an equipment barn. The circa 1975 Tri-Level Split house has a front gambrel roof with a side gable attached two-car garage wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with a combination of vertical board-and-batten wood siding in the front gambrel; brick veneer at the lower level; and horizontal wood siding on the garage wing. There is an exterior brick chimney. The house has G-D-W-W fenestration with 1/1 windows flanked by non-operational wood shutters. A poured concrete stoop accesses the front door and sidelight, which is sheltered by the gable roof's overhanging eave. The original door has applied trim details. There is a bracket under the peak of the gable. A brick wall with integral light fixture extends from the gable wing of the house. The chamfered garage opening has an original wood rolltop door with applied "barn door" trim details.

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A circa 1979 front gable equipment barn is located southeast of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with metal. Sliding metal garage doors and a pedestrian door are located on the north elevation.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Although it is beyond the scope of the current survey, further research into this mid-1970s “neo-barn” stylistic sub-type is recommended. Examples of this type of Ranch or Split-level exist throughout the Upper Midwest. Unified stylistic details include: gambrel roofs (with or without “hay hoods), “hay hook” detailing in gable peaks, board-and-batten siding, rusticated shutters, battened detailing on doors/garage doors, and cupolas.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 30

House

DK-CRK-00065

Circa 1977

22295 Albatross Way

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.625655, -93.093272



Plate 26. House, looking south.

Description:

This 10.32-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), an equipment barn, a horse barn, and a shed. The circa 1977 Tri-level Split house has a front gable roof with a “wounded dove” gable wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front gable roof’s beam ends are exposed. Walls are clad with roughcast stucco. An attached two-car garage is located on the front elevation and is topped by a wood balustrade. The garage bays have paneled metal rolltop doors. The house has WWW-W-D-G-G fenestration with casement windows. Window and door openings have pointed arch trim. A poured concrete stoop accesses the front door, which is flanked by a sidelight. A fixed window is located above the door, illuminating a two-story foyer. A wall with an arched opening beneath a shed roof marks the sidewalk leading to the front door. There is an exterior, stucco clad chimney. The house’s foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

A circa 1979 side gable equipment barn is located southwest of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with metal. A circa 1991 side gable metal horse barn is located south

of the equipment barn. These two building are connected by smaller sheds. An open sided gable roof shed is located south of the horse barn.



Plate 27. Shed, Horse barn, and equipment barn, looking southeast.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 36

Farmstead

DK-CRK-00066

Circa 1880

1432 S 220th Street East

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.629991, -93.077036



Plate 28. House and windmill, looking southeast.

Description:

This 2.5-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), two detached garages, a metal windmill, a metal equipment barn, and a stable. The circa 1880 one-and-a-half story, Upright-and-Wing house is clad with non-original wood siding. The lower portion of the house, including the foundation, is clad with shingles and vertical board skirting. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has WWW-D-W-W-W fenestration with casement windows and 1/1 windows with metal storms. Two 1/1 vinyl windows are located in the half-story gable end. Some window openings on each elevation retain original wood trim and hood detailing. A full-length, shed roof porch is located along the wing and was enclosed at an unknown date. The metal front door is accessed by a single concrete step. There are one-story gable and shed roof additions to the east elevation. The foundation is not visible.

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Immediately adjacent to the primary resource's south elevation is a circa 1950 front gable, single bay detached garage. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with wood siding. A metal frame windmill and a circa 2005 metal equipment barn are located southeast of the primary resource. Although the windmill is missing its wind wheel, it retains its original metal vane and tail fin. The equipment barn's side gable roof is covered with corrugated metal panels and walls are clad with a combination of vertical and horizontal metal siding. The west elevation has two paneled metal rolltop garage doors and a single metal pedestrian door. A circa 1975 front gable two-car detached garage is located southwest of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with wide reveal metal siding. There are two metal rolltop garage doors on the east elevation and a pedestrian door on the north elevation. A circa 1900 animal barn is located southeast of the primary resource. Its gable roof is clad with corrugated metal panels and walls are clad with vertical wood siding.



Plate 29. House, windmill, equipment barn, garage, and barn, looking southeast.



Plate 30. Equipment barn, windmill, garage, and house, looking west.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. Although this property retains the primary resource, unsympathetic alterations have negatively impacted its integrity of materials and workmanship. The addition of the non-historic outbuildings has negatively impacted its integrity of setting and association. This farmstead is not a notable example of a late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century farmstead in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of farm design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 38

House

DK-CRK-00067

Circa 1971

22447 Annette Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.623447, -93.076310



Plate 31. House and equipment shed, looking west.

Description:

This 80.34-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), two equipment barns, and a detached garage. The circa 1971 Bi-Level Split house has a side gable roof with side gable three-car garage wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with a combination of horizontal wood clapboard siding, vertical wood board-and-batten siding, and vertical bands of brick veneer. The bands of brick veneer delineate three distinct bays on the main façade. There is an exterior brick chimney on the south elevation. The house has WWW-D-WWW-D-G-G fenestration with casement windows. The front door is flanked by a sidelight. A wood deck extends from the main elevation. In the garage wing, there is a pedestrian door and two rolltop garage doors. The house's foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

A circa 1979 side gable equipment barn is located west of the primary resource. Its roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with metal siding. There are five rolltop garage doors and a pedestrian door on the east elevation. A circa 1980 detached garage is also located west of the primary resource. Its front gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and its walls are clad with siding. There is a rolltop garage door on the east elevation. Another equipment barn is located northwest of the primary resource. Its

front gable roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with metal. There is a pedestrian door and a garage door on the east elevation.



Plate 32. Equipment barn, detached garage, and equipment barn, looking west.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 39

House

DK-CRK-00068

Circa 1966

22444 Annette Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.623401, -93.07526



Plate 33. House and garage, looking east.

Description:

This two-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource) and a detached garage. The circa 1966 one-and-one-half story Minimal Traditional house has a side gable roof with a cross gable. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with a combination of horizontal vinyl clapboard siding and vinyl shingle siding. The house has WWWWW-D-W-W fenestration with 1/1 windows. The bay window has casement and fixed windows. The front door is accessed by three wood steps. The house rests on a concrete block foundation. The east (rear) elevation has a shed roof dormer and a one-story shed roof addition.

A detached two-car garage is located immediately north of the primary resource. Its front gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with horizontal and diagonal wood siding and stone veneer. There are two paneled metal rolltop garage doors on the west elevation. This garage was added to an existing building, possible a garage or workshop, circa 1979.

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NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 40

Farmstead

DK-CRK-00069

Circa 1910

22765 Annette Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.619502, -93.076179



Plate 34. House and garage, looking west.

Description:

This one-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), a garage, a shed, and an equipment barn. The circa 1910, one-and-a-half story, front gable house is clad with vinyl siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. There is an interior chimney. The house has WWW-D fenestration with vinyl casement windows flanked by non-operational shutters. Two 1/1 windows are located in the half-story gable end. A corrugated plastic shed roof awning shelters front door and two poured concrete steps. It is supported by wood framing. There is a one-story shed roof addition to the west elevation. Its door and 1/1 window sheltered by a corrugated plastic shed roof awning supported by wood framing. The house's foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

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A circa 1973 detached two-car garage is located northwest of the primary resource. Its side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with metal siding. There are two paneled metal rolltop garage doors. A front gable shed is located immediately west of the garage. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and its walls are clad with vertical wood siding. A circa 2020 small equipment barn is located south of the primary resource. Its side gable roof is covered with standing seam metal and its walls are vertical metal panels.



Plate 35. Equipment barn, shed, and garage, looking west.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of an early twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 41

House

DK-CRK-00070

Circa 1972

22795 Annette Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.618854, -93.07612



Plate 36. House and equipment shed, looking northwest.

Description:

This 5.3-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), two equipment sheds, a livestock shed, and an equipment barn. The circa 1971 one-story Ranch house has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are clad with horizontal vinyl siding. The house has WW-WW-D-WWW fenestration with paired casement windows with simulated divided lights and a fixed picture window flanked by casement windows with simulated divided lights. There is a partial-length deck with metal railing on the east (main) elevation. The deck and front door are accessed by five steps. A second deck with metal railing is located on the north elevation. The house rests on a concrete block foundation.

A circa 2020 equipment shed is located immediately north of the primary resource. Its side gable roof is covered with metal panels and walls are metal. There is a pedestrian door, a garage door, and a casement window in the south elevation. A circa 1973 equipment shed with battered sidewalls is located west of the primary resource. Its flat roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with metal. An open sided livestock shed is in a corral to the southwest of the primary resource. A circa 2015 equipment barn

is located southwest of the primary resource. The front gable roof is covered with metal panels. Walls are clad with metal siding. There is a sliding door and two paired windows with simulated divided lights on the east elevation.



Plate 37. Livestock shed, equipment shed, and house, looking northwest.



Plate 38. Equipment barn and livestock shed, looking west.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 42

House

DK-CRK-00071

Circa 1910

22915 Annette Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.617606, -93.076619



Plate 39. House, looking west.

Description:

This 3.7-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), a Quonset hut, and a newly constructed house. The circa 1910 one-and-one-half story, Upright-and-Wing house is clad with non-original vertical wood panel siding, with wood clapboard siding in the gable-front entry addition. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has W-W-D-W fenestration with sliding and 1/1 windows. A sliding window flanked by non-operation shutters is located in the half-story gable end. The front door is flanked by a sidelight. There is a one-story, shed roof addition to the north elevation. The foundation is not visible.

Southeast of the primary residence is a Quonset hut. Aerial images indicate that this was constructed sometime between 1957 and 1973. Its roof is covered with metal panels and the ends are clad with horizontal metal siding. There is a shed roof awning covered with asphalt shingles on the north elevation. At the time of this survey (November 2023), there was a new house under construction at the southwest corner of the parcel.



Plate 40. New construction house and Quonset hut.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of an early twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 49

House

DK-CRK-00072

Circa 1969

1950 220th Street East

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.630071, -93.066377



Plate 41. House and equipment barn, looking north.

Description:

This 2.07-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), an equipment barn, a secondary house, and grain bins. The circa 1969 Bi-Level Split house has a side gable roof with a lower side gable wing. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with horizontal metal siding. The house has W-W-DD-WWW-W-W fenestration with 1/1 windows flanked by non-operational shutters. A concrete step accesses the front double door, which is tucked under the side gable roof line. The roof's overhanging eave is supported by four wood posts. The attached two-car garage is located in the lower side gable wing. The paneled metal rolltop garage door is located on the west elevation. There is an interior/exterior brick chimney at the intersection of the main house with the lower gable garage wing. There is a one-story side gable addition to the west end of the south elevation. The foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

A circa 1973 side gable equipment barn is located west of the primary resource. Its side gable roof is covered with metal panels and its walls are metal. There is a secondary house located west of the primary resource. Its gable roof is in a deteriorated condition and is partially covered with asphalt shingles. Walls

are clad with Masonite siding. Windows are 1/1 metal. There are exterior wood steps located on the south and east elevations.



Plate 42. Equipment barn, looking southwest.



Plate 43. Secondary house, looking west.

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NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-to-late twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 50

House

DK-FMC-00076

Circa 1880

1986 220th Street East

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.630128, -93.065812



Plate 44. House, looking south.

Description:

This 72.2-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), a detached garage, and an outbuilding. The one-and-one-half-story, circa 1880 Upright-and-Wing house has a cross gable roof with a lower hipped roof wing on the east elevation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with metal siding. The house has W-WWW-W fenestration with 1/1 windows. Sliding glass doors are located in the half-story gable end. These doors access a wood balcony supported by two wood posts. There are doors located in the west elevation of the west wing and the east elevation of the hipped roof addition. The foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

A circa 1957 detached garage is located southeast of the primary resource. Its front gable roof is covered with metal panels that simulate Spanish tiles. Walls are clad with vinyl siding. An outbuilding is located south of the primary resource. Its gambrel roof is covered with metal panels and walls are clad with seamed vertical metal. There is a gable roof addition on the outbuilding's south elevation.



Plate 45. Detached garage, outbuilding, and house, looking southwest.

NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a late nineteenth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 61

House

DK-CRK-00074

Circa 1920

22004 Blaine Street

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.629042, -93.054970



Plate 46. House, looking southeast.

Description:

This one-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource) and three outbuildings. The one-story, circa 1920 house has two front gable wings connected by a side gable hyphen. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with vinyl siding. The house has sliding windows. The foundation is not visible from the right-of-way. Three outbuildings are only partially visible from the right-of-way.

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NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of an early-twentieth century house in Dakota County. It does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 62

House

DK-CRK-00075

Circa 1860

22104 Blaine Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.628280, -93.054974



Plate 47. House, looking northeast.

Description:

This 3.56-acre parcel contains a house (primary resource), two deteriorated barns, and two silos. The two-story, circa 1860 cross gable house has been heavily modified. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and walls are clad with Masonite siding. There is an exterior brick chimney on the west elevation and an exterior concrete block chimney on the east elevation. An extensive addition to the east elevation was constructed sometime between 1973 and 1979. There is a second-story wood deck supported by wood posts on the south elevation. The foundation is not visible from the right-of-way.

Historic aerial photographs from the 1950s indicate that this parcel originally had at least five agricultural outbuildings. Of these, only two remain, but in ruined condition. There are two silos on the parcel, one concrete and hollow ceramic tile.

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NRHP Eligibility: Not Eligible

This property is recommended *Not Eligible* for the NRHP. It is not a notable example of a mid-nineteenth century farmstead in Dakota County. It has been heavily modified and does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type of building design that is rare or innovative in the region or state, nor is it an example of an important common type; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C. This property does not have an association with a significant person; therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Finally, the property does not have an association significant to the history of Dakota County, and is therefore not eligible under Criterion A.

Effects Assessment: Not Applicable

Field Site 63

Emmanuel Cemetery

DK-CRK-00076

Circa 1877

22225 Blaine Avenue

Castle Rock Township, MN 55024

44.62688, -93.055937



Plate 48. Cemetery with granite marker and gate, looking southwest.

Description:

This 3.33-acre parcel known as Emmanuel Cemetery contains approximately 205 marked burials, a decorative gate, an equipment shed, and signage. A granite marker on the property indicates the site of the “First Session Minnesota Conference Evangelical Church, April 24, 1868,” demolished in 1957. The earliest marked headstone found is for Jacob Stapf (born March 13, 1858 – died March 1, 1862) and the latest found is for Marcelle McCullough Hodson (born June 11, 1934 – died September 1, 2018).⁵⁰ Older markers appear to be concentrated in the southwest portion of the parcel. Landscaping is minimal, apart

⁵⁰ No author, Castle Rock Valley Cemetery, FindAGrave, accessed December 2023 online at <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/82233/emmanuel-cemetery>.

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from several mature deciduous trees and one large conifer. The cemetery is well-maintained. Most of the nineteenth-century marble markers exhibit signs of weathering.

An arched decorative gate is located on the east side of the parcel. The metal archway holds letters spelling "EMMANUEL CEMETERY." It is supported by two concrete brick piers. A circa 2000 concrete block equipment shed is located near the parcel's north boundary. Its front gable roof is covered with standing seam metal, with vertical wood paneling in the gable end. A metal door is located in the gable end. A non-historic sign mounted on wood posts lists cemetery hours, rules, and contacts. A chain link fence is located along the east edge of the property.



Plate 49. Equipment shed, looking northwest.



Plate 50. Signage and fence, looking west.



Plate 51. Nineteenth century grave marker, looking west.