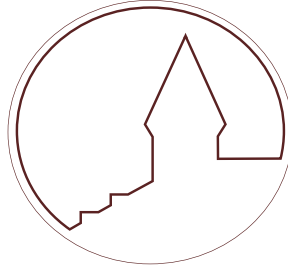


Illinois Archaeological Survey Short Report

Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Assessment of IBR 20 for Deer Run Mine, Hillsboro Energy, Montgomery County, Illinois

Prepared for
Hillsboro Energy
Hillsboro, Illinois

Prepared by
American Resources Group, Ltd.
Carbondale, Illinois



Principal Investigator
Steve Titus

Author
Cally Lence

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY SHORT REPORT
State Historic Preservation Office
1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507
(217) 782-4836

Reviewer:
Date:
Accept: **Reject:**

SHPO Log Number:

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION AND SURVEY CONDITIONS:

County: Montgomery **Quadrangle:** Coffeen, Illinois 7.5'

Project Type/Title: Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Assessment of IBR 20 for Deer Run Mine, Hillsboro Energy, Montgomery County, Illinois (ARG CRM 2288).

Funding and/or Permitting Federal/State Agencies: IDNR

Legal Location: E½, SE¼
Sections: 28 **Township:** 8N **Range:** 3W
UTM Coordinates: **UTM North:** 4330843 **UTM East:** 29580 Zone 16

Location: The project area is located along the south/west side of Route 185, 3.4 km (2.1 miles) northwest of Coffeen, Illinois (Attachment A, Figure A-1).

Project Description: Phase I archaeological survey of IBR 20 (HG 7 Ventilation Shaft) location for Hillsboro Energy.

Topography: The topography of the project area consists of a broad, level plain and ridge spur.

Elevation (AMSL): 615-630 feet amsl

Soils: Oconee-Cowden (University of Illinois 1966)

Drainage: The project area is drained by McDaniel Branch, which flows into East Fork Shoal Creek (portions of which are now Coffeen Lake), which drains into Shoal Creek before it empties into the Kaskaskia River.

Land Use/Ground Cover (include % visibility): At the time of investigation, the project area was covered by winter wheat affording 5-15% ground surface visibility.

Survey Limitations: None

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

Historic Plats/Atlases/Sources: Illinois Inventory of Archaeological Sites; HARGIS database; Illinois CRM Archive

- 1818 General Land Office Plat, Township 8 North, Range 3 West (Illinois State Archives) (Attachment B, Figure B-1);
- 1874 Illustrated Atlas Map of Montgomery County, Illinois (Brink, McCormick, and Company) (Attachment B, Figure B-2);
- 1902 Litchfield Herald's Map of Montgomery County, Illinois (Hixson Map Company) (Attachment B, Figure B-3);
- 1912 Standard Atlas of Montgomery County, Illinois (George A. Ogle and Company) (Attachment B, Figure B-4);
- 1925 Plat Book of Montgomery County, Illinois (W. W. Hixson and Company) (Attachment B, Figure B-5);
- 1947 USGS Hillsboro, Ill. 15-minute series topographic quadrangle (Attachment B, Figure B-6);

Previously Reported Sites: Within project area: None. Within 1-mile of project area: 11MY10

Previous Surveys: Within project area: none. Within 1-mile of project area: 8592 (Neal 1998), 16431 (Mansberger 2007), 19151 (DelCastello et al. 2011), 23552 (Blodgett 2019), 24354 (Lence 2022), 24668 (Lence 2023)

Regional Archaeologist Contacted: None, consulted the Illinois Inventory of Archaeological Sites

Investigation Techniques: The project area was subject to systematic, screened shovel testing along transects spaced 15 m apart; the access road (a dirt field lane) was subject to surface survey along a single transect.

Time Expended: 14 Hours

Sites/Find Spots Located: None

Cultural Material: n/a

Curated At: n/a

Collection Techniques: n/a

Area Surveyed (acres and square meters): 8 acres; 32,374 square meters

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: (check one)

- ☒ **Phase I archaeological reconnaissance has located no archaeological material; project clearance is recommended.**
- ☐ **Phase I archaeological reconnaissance has located archaeological materials; site(s) does(do) not meet requirements for National Register eligibility; project clearance is recommended.**
- ☐ **Phase I archaeological reconnaissance has located archaeological materials; site(s) may meet requirements for National Register eligibility; further testing is recommended.**
- ☐ **Phase II archaeological investigation has indicated that site(s) does(do) not meet requirements for National Register eligibility; project clearance is recommended.**
- ☐ **Phase II archaeological investigation has indicated that site(s) meet requirements for National Register eligibility; formal report is pending and a determination of eligibility is recommended.**

Comments: American Resources Group recently completed an intensive, Phase I cultural resources survey and assessment of as proposed 8-acre IBR for Hillsboro Energy's Deer Run Mine. The project is located along the south/west side of Route 185, 3.4 km (2.1 miles) northwest of Coffeen, Illinois (Attachment A, Figure A-1).

The project area consists of a 0.25-mile-long, north-south-oriented access corridor that runs along an existing dirt field road and, at the south end of the corridor, a rectangular block that is approximately 7 acres in extent. The block portion of the project area encompasses a portion of the crest and side slopes of a southeasterly trending upland ridge that overlooks an unnamed intermittent stream to the west and, to the east, the narrow valley of an intermittent stream named McDavid Branch. The project area is located in a large cultivated field.

A pre-field records check conducted prior to the initiation of the field work revealed that no sites had been recorded within the project area, and that one was located within 1-mile of it. Furthermore, there have been six previous professional surveys conducted within 1 mile of the project area.

Four of the six professional surveys located within a mile of the project area have been conducted in association with the Deer Run Mine (Blodgett 2019; Delcastello et al. 2011; Lence 2022, 2023). The fifth was conducted in 1998 for a rural water line (Neal 1998), and the final survey was done in advance of a

pool-elevation increase at Coffeen Lake (Mansberger 2007). During the latter survey, site 11MY10, the only site located within 1-mile of the project area, was revisited. Site 11MY10 was first reported in 1957 based solely on a historic atlas notation of a Fox Indian camping ground at the location (in nearby Section 34); at that time the local landowner noted finding occasional arrowheads in the area, though investigators found no artifacts there. The purported site location was revisited in 2007 during the shoreline survey for Coffeen Lake. No artifacts or indication that the site existed was observed (Mansberger 2007).

The results of the pre-field records and literature review suggested that both prehistoric and historic site density was apt to be low. No structures are shown in the project area on any of the historic maps available for review (Attachment B, Figures B-1–B-6).

At the time of survey, the field containing the project area was covered by 2-foot-high winter wheat. Ground surface visibility in the field was estimated to range from 5 to 15 percent (Attachment C, Figures C-1 and C-2). The survey of the block portion of the project area was conducted through screened shovel testing on a 15-m grid, and the access corridor was surveyed through surface survey of the dirt field road the corridor runs along. No cultural material was recovered in any of the shovel tests, and no cultural material was observed during surface survey of the access corridor.

The results of the present survey indicate the proposed undertaking will not have an adverse effect on significant cultural resources. It is recommended that the proposed undertaking be allowed to proceed as planned without any additional cultural resources investigations.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTRACTOR INFORMATION:

Archaeological Contractor: American Resources Group, Ltd.
Address/Phone: 127 North Washington Street
 Carbondale, Illinois 62901-1507 / (618) 529-2741
Surveyor(s): Steve Titus and Bob Sadler **Survey Date(s):** April 15, 2024
Report Completed by: Cally Lence **Date:** April 16, 2024
Submitted by (signature and title): *Steve Titus, Principal Investigator*

ATTACHMENT CHECK LIST: (#1 through #4 are mandatory)

- ☒ 1) Relevant portion of USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangle map(s) showing project location and any recorded site;
- ☒ 2) Project map(s) depicting survey limits and, when applicable, approximate site limits and concentrations of cultural materials;
- ☐ 3) Site form(s): (two copies of each form);
- ☒ 4) All relevant project correspondence;
- ☒ 5) Additional information sheets as necessary.

Address of Owner/Agent/Agency To Whom SHPO Comment Should Be Mailed To:

Hillsboro Energy, LLC	American Resources Group, Ltd.
925 S. Main St. #2	127 North Washington Street
Hillsboro, IL 62049	Carbondale, Illinois 62901-1507

Contact Person: Mr. Clayton Cross	Contact Person: Mr. Steve Titus
Telephone Number: (217) 532-3983	Telephone Number: (618) 529-2741

REVIEWERS COMMENTS:

List of Attachments

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Attachment A

Project Topographic Maps

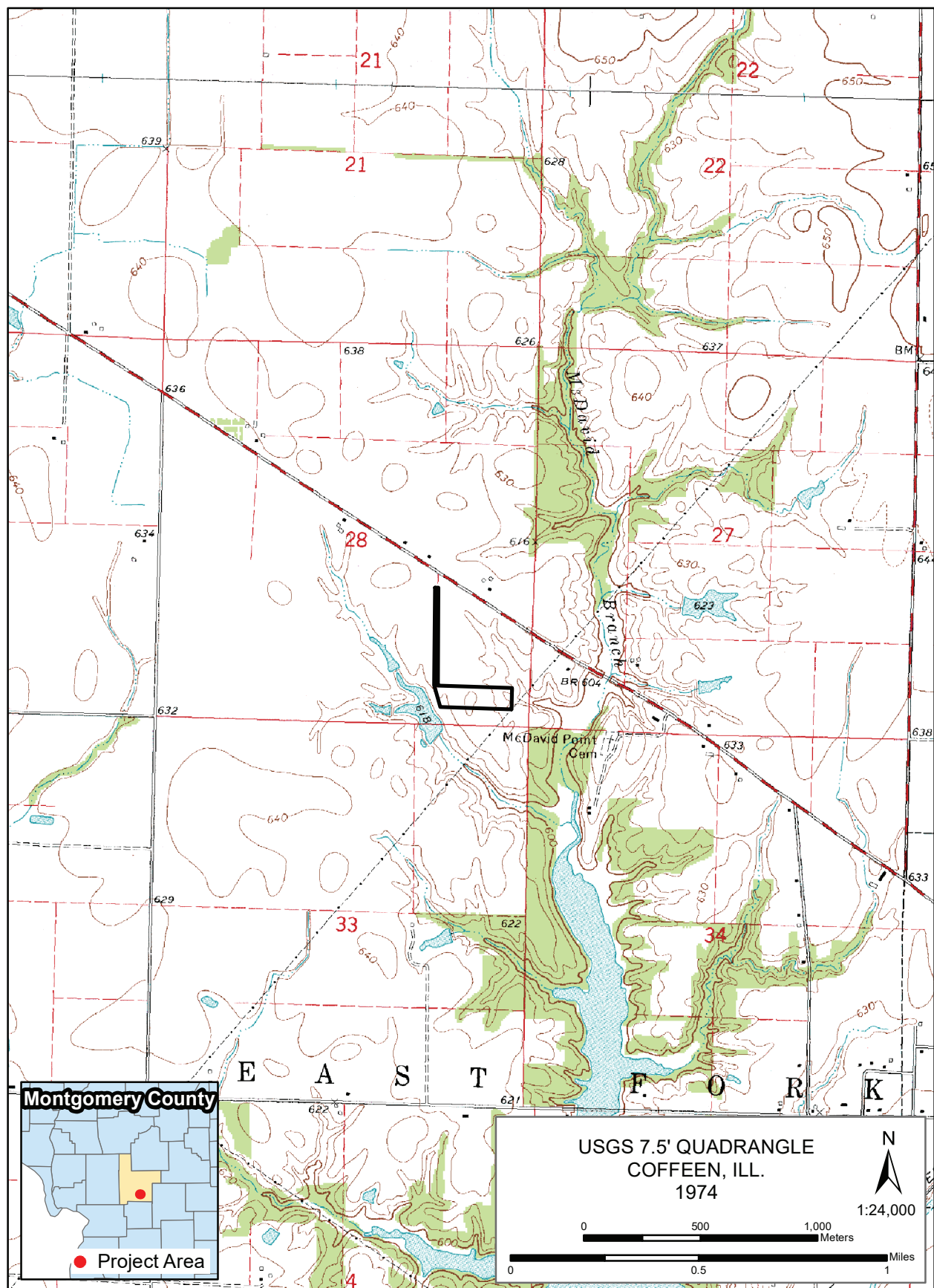
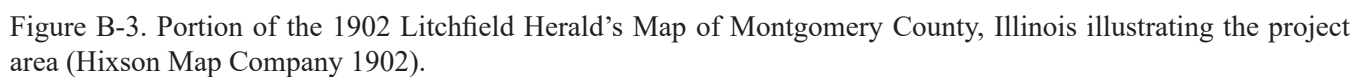


Figure A-1. Topographic location of the project area, Montgomery County, Illinois (USGS 1974).

Attachment B

Historic Maps



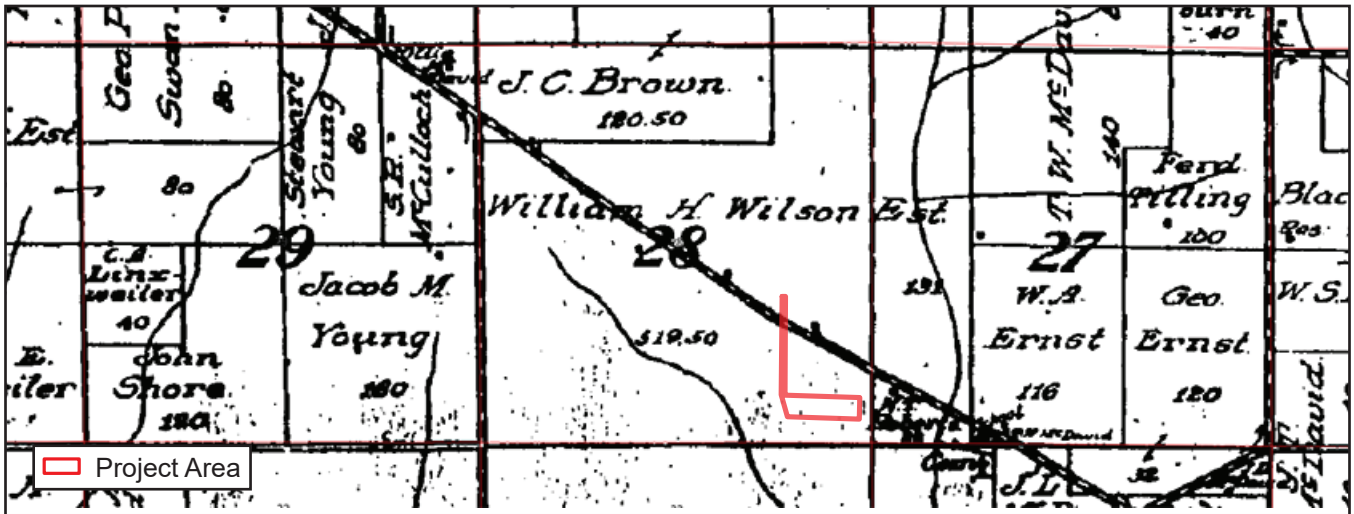


Figure B-4. Portion of the 1912 Standard Atlas of Montgomery County, Illinois illustrating the project area (George A. Ogle and Company 1912).

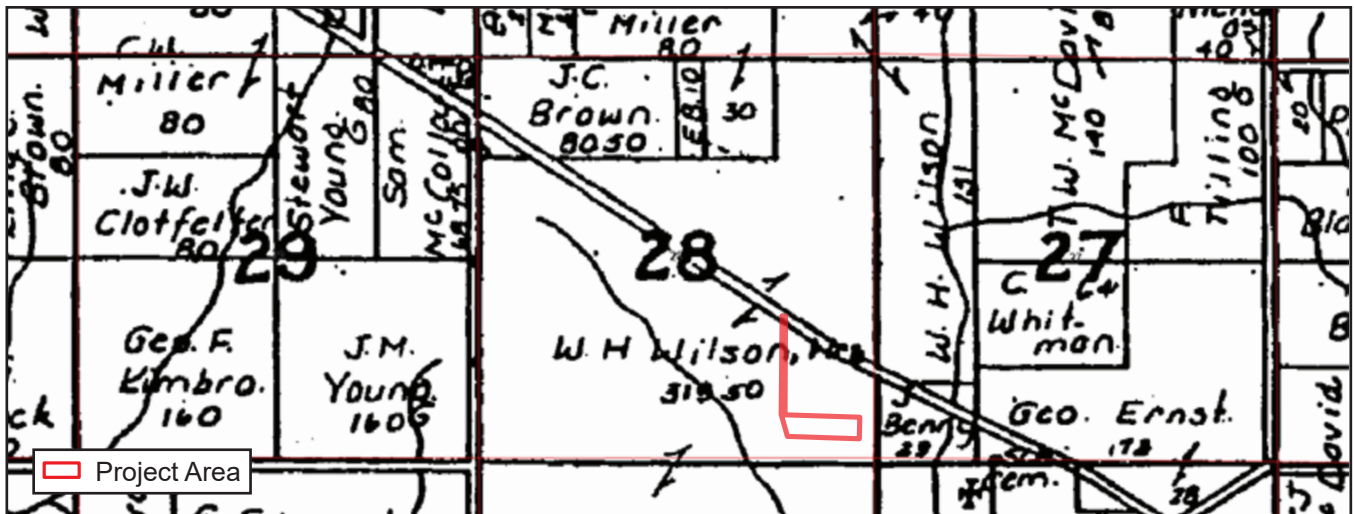


Figure B-5. Portion of the 1925 Plat Map of Montgomery County, Illinois illustrating the project area (W. W. Hixson and Company 1925).

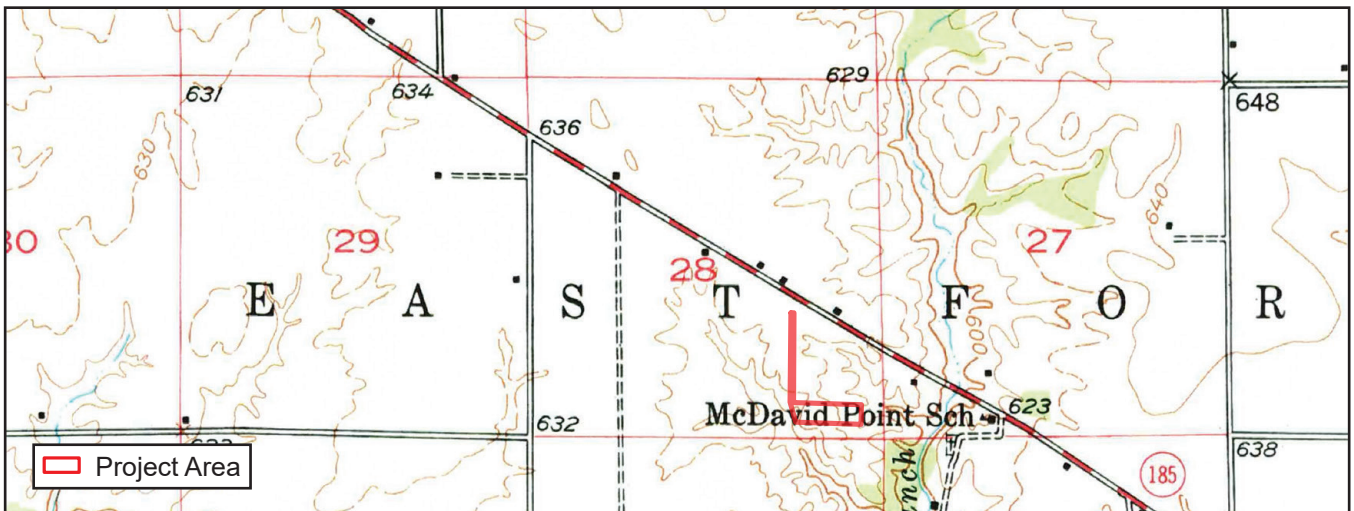


Figure B-6. Portion of the 1947 USGS Hillsboro, Ill. 15-minute series topographic quadrangle illustrating the project area (USGS 1947).

Attachment C

Project Photographs



Figure C-1. Project area overview from northwest corner of block, looking southeast.



Figure C-2. Project area overview from north end of access road, looking south.

Attachment D

References Cited

Blodgett, Daniel

- 2019 *Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Assessment of a Proposed, 6.2-Acre IBR for Deer Run Mine, Hillsboro Energy, Montgomery County, Illinois*. American Resources Group, Ltd., Carbondale, Illinois. Cultural Resources Management Report No. 2096.

Brink, McCormick, and Company

- 1874 *Illustrated Atlas Map of Montgomery County, Illinois*. Brink, McCormick, and Company, Saint Louis, Missouri.

DelCastello, Brian, G., Richard L. Herndon, Michael J. Curran, and Lisa J. Kelley

- 2011 *A Cultural Resource Survey for the Proposed Coffeen Rail Connector in Montgomery County, Illinois*. Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., Lexington, Kentucky.

George A. Ogle and Company

- 1912 *Standard Atlas of Montgomery County, Illinois*. George A. Ogle and Company, Chicago.

Hixson Map Company

- 1902 *Litchfield Herald's Map of Montgomery County, Illinois*. Hixson Map Company.

Illinois State Archives

- 2024 1818 GLO Township Plat, Township 8 North, Range 3 West. In Illinois Secretary of State, Federal Township Plats of Illinois website <http://landplats.ilsos.net/>

Lence, Cally

- 2022 *Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Assessment of a Proposed, 7.2-Acre IBR for Deer Run Mine, Hillsboro Energy, Montgomery County, Illinois*. American Resources Group, Ltd., Carbondale, Illinois. Cultural Resources Management Report No. 2166.
- 2023 *Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Assessment of a Proposed, 2.8-Acre IBR for Deer Run Mine, Hillsboro Energy, Montgomery County, Illinois*. American Resources Group, Ltd., Carbondale, Illinois. Cultural Resources Management Report No. 2220.

Mansberger, Floyd R.

- 2007 Archaeological Survey Short Report: *Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Coffeen Lake Shoreline for a Proposed Three-Foot Pool Raise, Ameren Coffeen Power Station, Montgomery County, Illinois*. Fever River Research, Inc., Springfield, Illinois.

Neal, Wes

- 1998 *Montgomery County Water Company Phase I*. American Resources Group, Ltd., Carbondale, Illinois. Cultural Resources Management Report No. 786.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- 1947 Hillsboro, Illinois, 15 minute topographic map.
- 1974 Coffeen, Illinois, 7.5 minute topographic map.

University of Illinois

- 1966 *General Soil Map of Illinois*. Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Illinois, Urbana. In cooperation with U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service.

W.W. Hixson and Company

1925 Plat Book of Montgomery County, Illinois. W.W. Hixson and Company. Rockford, Illinois.