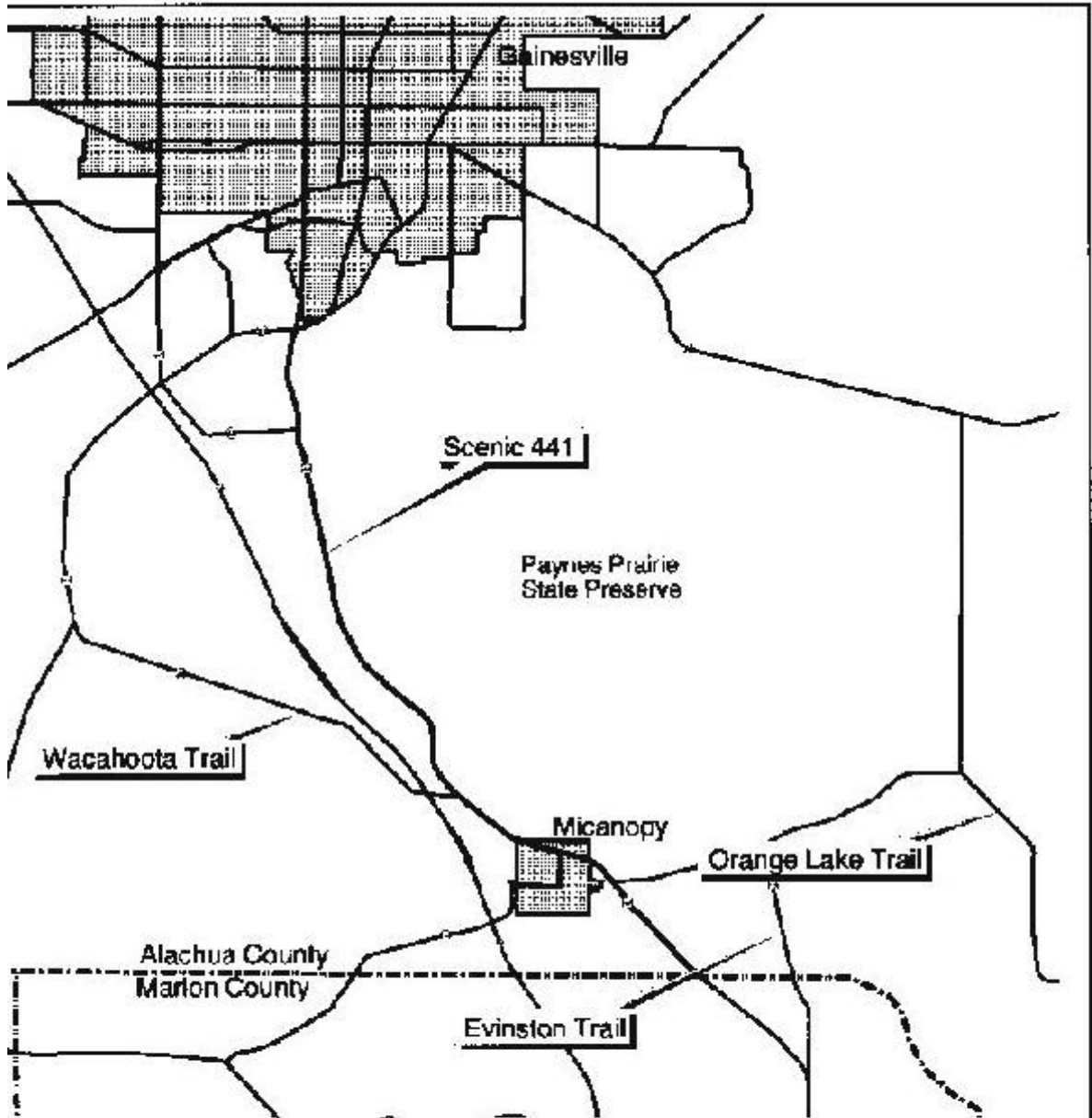




INTRINSIC RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Preliminary Corridor Limits

The preliminary corridor limits selected were from the north rim of Paynes Prairie at Williston Road in Alachua County to the Horse Farm Country in Marion County. These limits were refined through subsequent CAG meetings, and discussions with FDOT staff. Please refer to the Scenic Highway/Locator map on page 6. See also the Scenic Highway System Map, page 28.



**US 441 Scenic Corridor
Scenic Trails Adjacent to US 441**

US 441 (Proposed Scenic Corridor)
 County Municipalities
 Parks



0 0.6 1.2 Miles
1:85000

The St. Johns River Water Management Agency prepares and uses this information for its own purposes and this information may not be suitable for other purposes. The information is provided "as is". Further documentation of this data can be obtained by contacting St. Johns River Water Management District, Geographic Information Systems, Program Management, P.O. Box 428, Palmdale, Florida 32178-1428 (904) 399-1178

Corridor Impressions Survey

The Corridor Impressions Survey was completed by members of the Corridor Advocacy Group and by the general public. Each participant traveled the corridor separately or in a small group and returned the survey form to the CAG.

The corridor was divided into six segments and pull-off locations were selected because they offered a safe location for travelers to get off the roadway and record their impressions. The segments were not of equal length, but were as close to being five-mile segments as possible. See the Corridor Impressions Survey Map, page 34.

The survey was completed by 13 participants. It gives a personal perspective into the areas of the corridor that should define its character. The survey also allowed individuals to specify deficiencies so that future goals can adequately address improvements to the corridor. The survey forms are located in Appendix 1.

Survey Summary

<u>1. Segment A-B:</u>	
+ Nice area	1
+ Palm trees in the median	3
- Power lines	1
+ Park at intersection offers good opportunity for creating a gateway to Gainesville	4
+ Opportunity for overlook of the Prairie	2
+ Opportunity for linkage to U.F.	1
+ Need to protect vegetative buffer at ROW	9
+ Non-conforming businesses not too obtrusive	2
+ Excellent view of Paynes Priairie	9
- Need more Prairie pull-off opportunities	1
- Prettiest part (Prairie) has highest speed limit	2
- Rundown businesses are distractions	2
- Need for bike lane and lower speed limit	1
+ Like wildlife viewing pull-off at Prairie	3
- Uninteresting except for Prairie	1
- Beckwith sign distracting	1
- Enclose urban road section to define beginning of corridor	1
+ Bolen Bluff a good interpretive opportunity	1
+ Horse pasture	2

- Gas station, steakhouse, motel less appealing	3
+ Country homes are appealing	3
+ Unattractive utility poles	1
+ Big live oaks with spanish moss	1
- Florida School of Massage sign is strange	1
+ Flock of egrets along Prairie edge	2
+ Contrast of light on trees in the distance	1
+ Maintains qualities of real rural N. Florida	1
+ Gently curving road	1
+ Anhingas, wildflowers, wood storks	1
- Corner of Williston unattractive	1
+ A rare glimpse of Florida's ancient landscape	1
<u>2. Segment B-C:</u>	
+ Nice quaint area	1
- Smiley's billboard/shooting range distracting	4
+ Need to protect vegetative buffer at ROW	7
+ Median planting enhanced at entrance to Micanopy	1
+ Opportunity to open view to Lake Wauberg	9
- Utilities should be rerouted to prevent topping of large trees	2
+ Nice canopy on both sides	2
- Need median vegetation	1
- Satellite dish distracting	2
+ Like trees in median	1
- Development is not nice	1
+ Plantation style houses	1
- House blocking view of Lake	1
+ Daylilies of Shiloh sign	1
- Need more median planting	2
+ Access to Prairie resources	2
+ Contrast of closed canopy with intermittent openings	1
+ Views of pasture land	3
- Billboard distracting	2
- Gas station unattractive	2
+ Entrances to Paynes Prairie, Lake Wauberg	2
+ Country homes appealing	2
+ Intriguing driveways heading into woods	1
- Entrance to Lake Wauberg is ugly	1
- Potato vine in trees	1
+ Palms in the median are nice	2
- Out-of-character home with white fencing	1
+ Heron in swale at roadside edge	1

3. Segment C-D:

- Surprised by speed limit of 65mph	1
+ Nice tall trees	3
+ Protect open rural landscape views	4
- Some roadside businesses obtrusive	6
+ Beautiful topography	1
- Power lines prevent tree canopy over road	3
+ Very pretty pasture	5
+ Pretty old barn and farm	2
+ Need to clear vegetation for better view of Lake Tuskawilla	3
- Too much strip development leaving McIntosh	1
+ Nice old cemetery	3
- Micanopy entrance nondescript	2
+ Micanopy has good cultural resource value	3
+ Tuskawilla Lake view is excellent	2
+ Sandhill cranes	1
+ McIntosh is an excellent spot	2
+ McIntosh Ice House and antique stores are cultural opportunities	3
+ Llama farms	2
+ Reddick Brothers Hardware	1
+ Pretty country homes	3
+ Appealing country businesses	1
+ Franklin Crates adds character	4
- Franklin Crates unattractive with trailers and barbed wire	1
+ Open field with a little pond	1
+ Donkey pasture	1
+ Levy Prairie – view of wildflowers and water	1
+ Pet cemetery with sand oaks	1
+ Access to Cross Creek	2
+ Access to Evinston	2
- Trailers at entry to McIntosh unattractive	1
- Gas station unattractive	1
+ Hay fields	3
+ Beautiful green forest	1

Additional Comments:

- Excellent potential for enhanced scenic experience. Current development appears to be in character. Enhance this. Overall scenic, currently very minimal blight in isolated areas. The right mitigation strategies could ensure a well-preserved corridor with low-impact development, tourist-oriented. Many outstanding natural and cultural features.

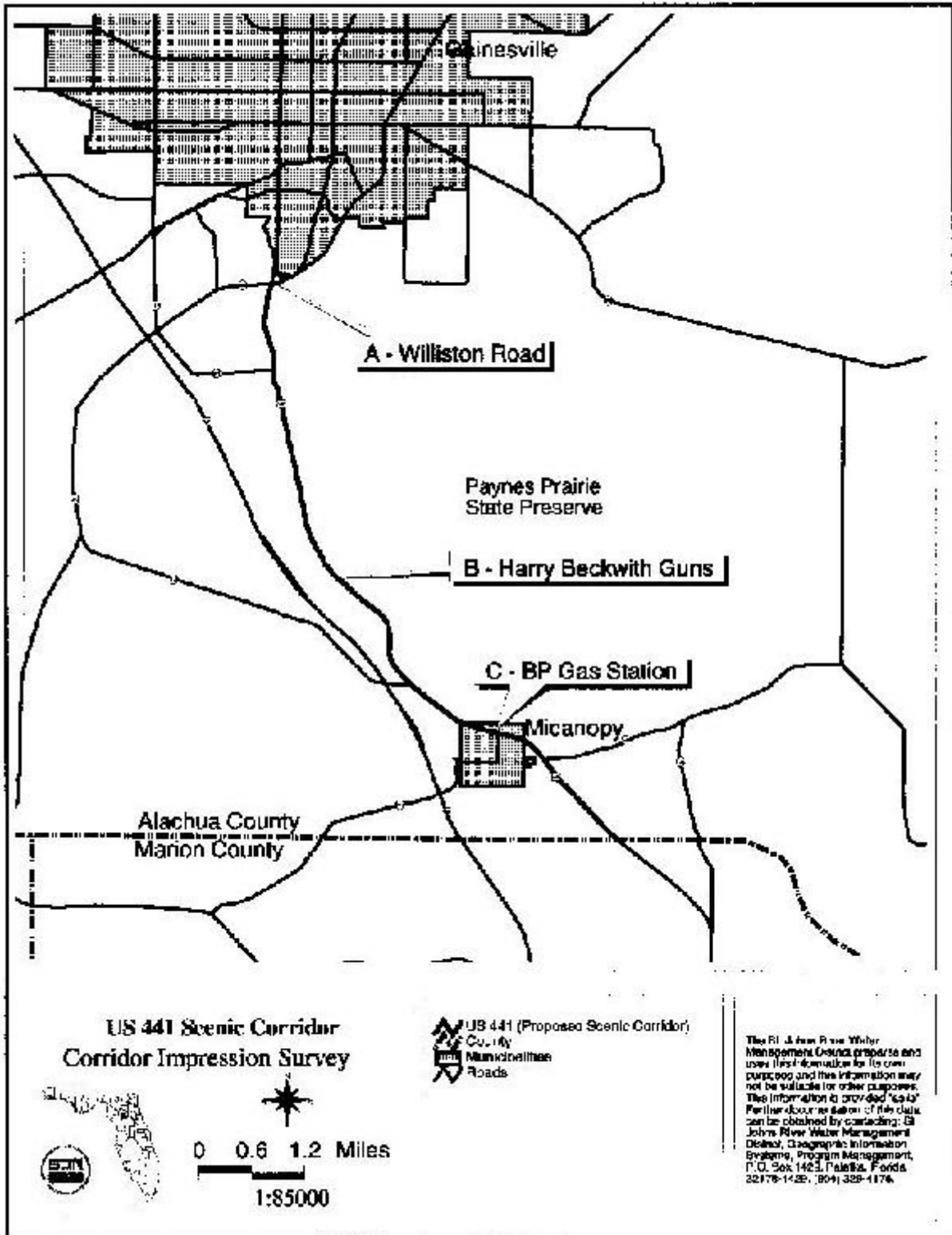
- Expanding corridor into Gainesville, remarkable scenery at Bivens Arm on both sides, the road continues to reflect natural with its Live Oak canopy, views of the University of Florida, including Century Tower and University Gallery. The scenic corridor should terminate at University Ave. at the main entrance to the campus. This would allow the City of Gainesville to be a participant in the project.
- The only spectacular view along the way was Paynes Prairie. Most others seemed ordinary except for the horse farm country.
- Good opportunity to use wildflowers in median. Demarking different areas with predominant flower color changes could enhance “themes” along the way.

Vividness

- High 6
- Medium 3
- Low 0

Unity

- High 5
- Medium 4
- Low 0



Source: https://www.gis.com/arcgis/arcgis/rest/services/US441_Scenic_Corridor/MapServer/info 05/16/2000

Field Inventory Summary

The field inventory was completed by six members of the Corridor Advocacy Group who traveled the corridor as a group on Tuesday, November 9, 1999. The pull-off locations selected for the Corridor Impressions Survey were used again for the Field Inventory, with one modification. Under the direction of Professor Les Linscott, the landscape architecture graduate studio students also each completed a field inventory survey sheet focusing on their area of research. These are synthesized throughout this report. This information helped to identify many of the resources that enhance the corridor as well as note areas that can be improved in the future.

Scenic Resources Summary

Segment One: (A: Williston Road to Harry Beckwith Guns)

Positive Features: Paynes Prairie, long beautiful views, YMCA camp, attractive signage, old oaks, wildflowers, meadows, Lake Wauberg, small fields, little farms, wooded edge, an old nursery, a fruit stand, farm equipment, pines, a bald eagle.

Negative Features: Powerlines, cogan grass, unlandscaped house on prime view property, commercial development, gas stations, some billboards.

Segment Two: (B: Guns to BP Gas at 8.8 mile mark, continuing south)

Positive Features: Crate storage, water tower, Lake Tuscawilla, meadows, cattle grazing, cedars, grasses, old barn, rolling hills, distant views, hay fields, dogwoods, magnolias, wooded edge, country trailer park.

Negative Features: Powerlines, cogan grass, out-of-character houses, billboards, Kudzu grass, poorly maintained edge which obstructs potential views.

Segment Three: (C: 8.8 BP gas to 14.7 BP gas station, continuing south)

Positive Features: Long beautiful views, open pastures, horse farms beginning to appear, historical town (McIntosh), planted pines, hay fields, wooded edge, sink area, small lakes, pretty white church, antique shops, old ice house, rustic wagon.

Negative Features: Billboards, cogan grass, gas stations, trailer park, power lines.

Natural Environment Summary

Segment One: (A: Williston Road to Harry Beckwith Guns)
Paynes Prairie, Oak hammock, Endangered wood stork, Beautiful, old oaks, Flatwood forest, Boardwalk into Prairie, Freshwater marshes, George's Pond, and Wooded edge.

Segment Two: (B: Guns to BP Gas at 8.8 mile mark, continuing south)
Xeric hammock, Lake Wauberg, Levy Lake, Pinelands, Oak Hammock, and Wildflowers.

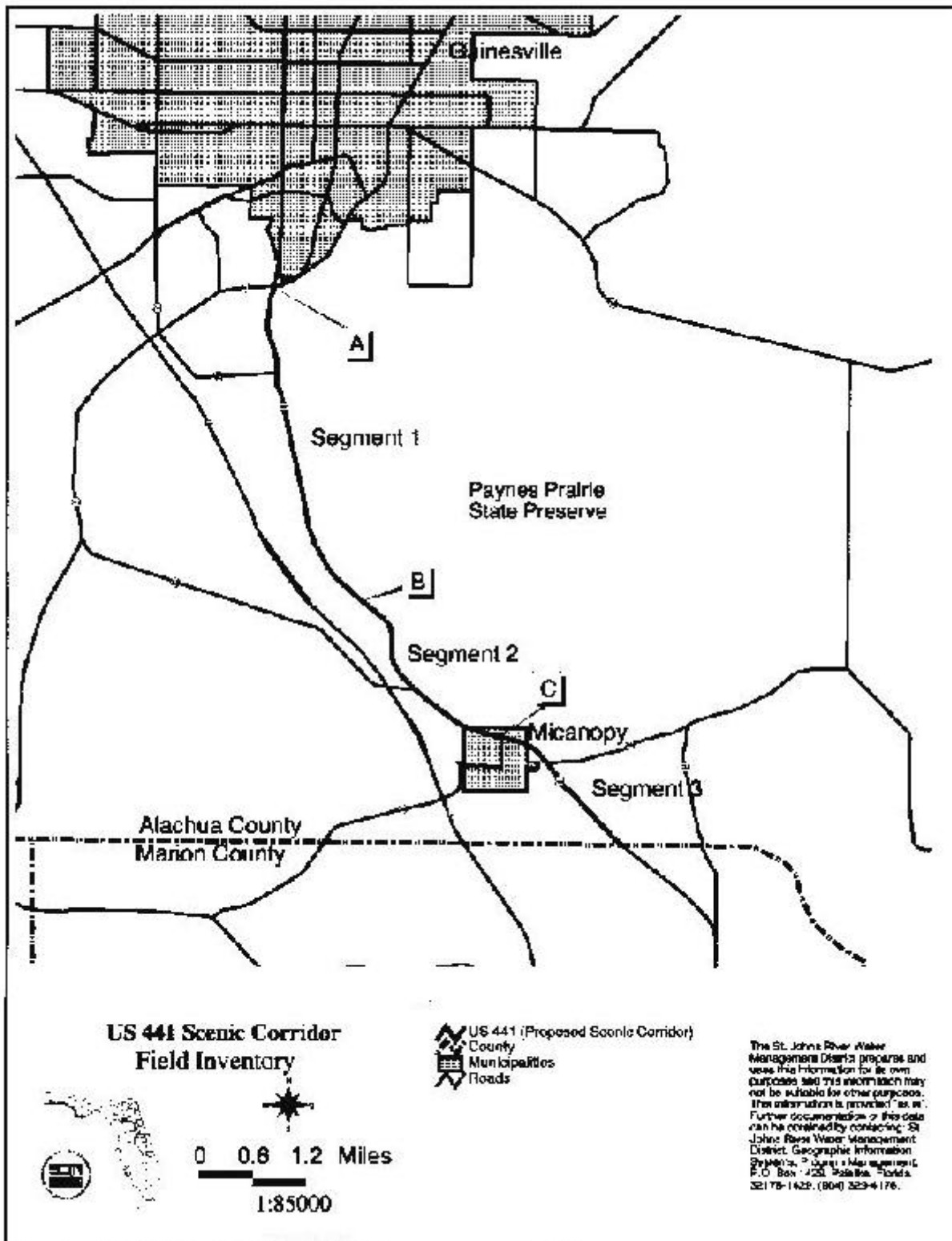
Segment Three: (C: 8.8 BP gas to 14.7 BP gas station, continuing south)
Beautiful old oaks, Sandhill Cranes, Beautiful pond, Pasturelands, Lake Tuscawilla, Hedgerows of native forest, Hayfields, Pinelands, Pecan Grove, Upland ecosystems, Kestrel nest on powerpoles, Wildflowers, Natural edge, and Florida Gammagrass.

Historical and Cultural Summary

Segment One: (A: Williston Road to Harry Beckwith Guns)
Payne's Prairie Reserve: site of Paleo-indian archeology, rare Spanish horses, remaining Ice Age grasslands. Old ferry site. Bolen Bluff home. Traditional country residences. Traditional country development. Attractive country signs. Historic rocky point. Old dairy farm. Old nursery. Old town of Takoma. Goodwin Lumber Co.

Segment Two: (B: Guns to BP Gas at 8.8 mile mark, continuing south)
Broken view of Lake Walburg; Lake Walburg/ Paynes Prairie entry; entry to historic Micanopy. Indian mounds. Franklin crates tower. Cattle pastures. Beautiful old barn. Hay fields. Veterans' Administration building. Traditional country residences.

Segment Three: (C: 8.8 BP gas to 14.7 BP gas station, continuing south)
Road leading to Cross Creek and Marjorie Kinnan Rawling's homesite; small horse/cattle community; silviculture. Llama farms. Beautiful old barn. Sugar cane patch. Evinston. Traditional country development. Cemetery.



Source: /home/ok/eris/gis/walachuap/gvillc/gvillc.apr 02/16/2000

Intrinsic Resources Research

Please refer to the research provided in the Background Assessment, in the section on Resource Specific Criteria, beginning on page 46.

Refining the Corridor Limits

The final proposed corridor limits are from Williston Road in Alachua County, just north of Paynes Prairie, to the Alachua/Marion County line. The corridor is twelve miles long.

Future goals of the corridor advocacy group include expanding the corridor to encompass the historic town of McIntosh and the Horse Farm Country in northern Marion County.

Consideration was also given to including local scenic loop roads in the corridor. However, the CAG also decided to consider this possibility in a subsequent phase or through local scenic road programs. In the meantime, the CAG believes that these natural, cultural, and scenic resources can be interpreted in the context of the great Scenic 441 Heritage Corridor.

The City of Gainesville has also expressed interest in improving the urban street scape from University Avenue south to the city limits. As a result, extension of the corridor limits into the City may be considered as a subsequent phase of this project.

Corridor Video and Graphic Depiction

*Compiled by Brian Goe and Bruce Monserud, Graduate
Landscape Architecture Studio*

SEGMENT ONE: PAYNES PRAIRIE

441 & Williston Road

Baber's Park provides an ideal starting point to begin the tour south along the scenic 441 corridor. As a picnic spot, a place to rest, to orient oneself and to prepare for the journey south -- this park provides a nicely wooded retreat that offers shade, green grass and quiet time.



Small park at Williston Rd. and 441

Paynes Prairie

Paynes Prairie provides views of a profusion of native vegetation, a glimpse into Florida's ancient past. Views of wildflowers, lakes, grazing cattle, and a variety of wildlife offer an everchanging panorama of beautiful scenery. The spacious vistas extend over miles on each side of the corridor, enhanced by the colors of cloud and sky. This is one of the major highlights of the 441 corridor -- a long look at Florida's natural beauty.



Wildflowers and water at Payne's Prairie

Paynes Prairie

S.R. 441 through Paynes Prairie serves as a reminder of the value served by exposing people to natural resources. Even though the road severs the hydrological and biological connections, it also raises awareness of the region's valuable natural resources.

SEGMENT TWO: RURAL WOODLANDS

The Woodsy Edge

Moving south along the US 441 corridor, we encounter a wooded edge on both sides of the road—a reminder of the forest that once covered this entire area. This stretch of the corridor is used by bicyclists traveling between Micanopy and the Prairie. Glimpses of Lake Wauberg to the east offer views into a natural lake environment, which also provides numerous recreational opportunities.



Micanopy and 441



Paynes Prairie Preserve

Special hideaways along this portion of the corridor provide access to some of the exceptional natural features found in North Central Florida. Paynes Prairie Preserve provides opportunities for camping, picnicing, hiking, and numerous natural recreational opportunities.



Entry to Bolen's Bluff

This unique retreat on the south side of Paynes Prairie offers extraordinary views and beautiful hiking trails through natural habitat.

SEGMENT THREE: TOWN AND COUNTRY



Lake Tusawilla

The view of Lake Tusawilla combines elements of natural beauty with the pastureland of a modern cattle farm. The grazing cattle in the foreground remind us that this is also a thriving agricultural region.



Pristine Pastureland

Often we find that the most striking scenery is that which combines natural and manmade elements. We consider this photograph to express the finest in rural scenery.

SEGMENT FOUR: THE CORRIDOR RESOURCES

Historic Micanopy

The historic town of Micanopy represents an anomaly in today's high

tech world. Both attract tourists seeking a glimpse of Florida's past and its slower-paced world. The old fashioned buildings, the plethora of antique shops, and the beautiful views are all scenic delights adding to the motorist's experience.



Downtown Micanopy

Historic Micanopy

This view of main street hints of a mysterious past hidden in the midday shadows. The ghosts of yesterday still linger in the bookstore, the old shops, and the cafes. These elements are the pride of today's citizens who live and work here -- and are wonderful attractions for the tourists who are lucky enough to discover them.



Marjorie Keenan Rawling's house

A Writer's Retreat

Near the quiet eastern shores of Orange Lake stands the homestead of Marjorie Keenan Rawling, one of Florida's most celebrated writers.



Cross Creek

A Morning View of Cross Creek



The Old South (Evinson)

A Classic Southern Road

The small town of Evinson brings us deep into Florida's colorful past. Here beneath the oaks of a beautiful tree-lined road we wind our way to the shores of Orange Lake.