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PHASE I ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF AN 11.5 ACRE PARCEL AT THE INTERSECTION OF VAN DORN STREET AND EISENHOWER AVENUE, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

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PUBLIC INTERPRETIVE SUMMARY

During December of 1995, a Phase I archeological survey was undertaken at an 11.5 acre site at the intersection of Van Dorn and Eisenhower Streets within the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

The project area consists of a level upland which is bordered by gentle slopes on the north and south and more abruptly on the east and west. The area is wooded with trees which generally range in age from 60-80 years. Some older trees, on the order of 100-150 years, were present and these trees, along with the masses of periwinkle indicated that an historic period site may be present in this location. Other domestic plants such as iris were also observed.

The Phase I archeological work involved the excavation of shovel tests and five trenches. This testing revealed the presence of two archeological sites. The first is an historic period occupation which appears to date from the 1820s to the 1840s. Intact structural remains and a refuse deposit were found at the site. Based on the amount of brick present at the site and on adjacent slopes, the structure appears to have been constructed of brick and of a fairly large size. The top of the hill on which the house sat was filled in and leveled at the time when the house was destroyed and, in some cases, the original ground surface lies under as much as 31 inches of fill.

A sheet midden or refuse deposit is present behind the house and continuing down the slope. In the northern portion of the site, the sheet midden is exposed on the ground surface. In other areas, it is more deeply buried. The soils in the midden are highly organic. A possible outbuilding was present as well.

The artifacts recovered from the site consisted primarily of ceramics, bottle glass and architectural debris. Most of the artifacts were found next to the house.

Based on the hypothesized size of the structure, the fact that the structure and possibly an outbuilding were made of brick, and the presence of artifacts such as special purpose ceramic vessels, decanters, etc., the occupants of the house appear to have been fairly well off.

Phase II intensive archeological investigations were recommended for the house site as it has the potential to provide important information about the rural upper middle class.

At the extreme northern end of the property, bordering Metro Road, is the remnants of an unused railroad bed built during the Civil War. This is part of another unused railroad bed which is located off the project area. A trench excavated across this nine-foot wide feature showed at least three levels of fill but no evidence of use. Minimal Phase II work, specifically recordation, should be undertaken at this railroad bed to gain information about construction techniques. Artifact yield is expected to be low and recordation should be sufficient to mitigate the effects of the proposed construction. Portions of the feature are preserved outside the project area.

Local informants have also indicated the possible presence of a cemetery within the project area. A combination of hand and backhoe trenching is recommended in the possible cemetery locations in order to determine if graves are actually present.

ABSTRACT

Phase I archeological investigations were conducted at an eleven-plus acre tract near the Van Dorn Metro Station. The terrain consists of a high low relief ridgetop (an old marine terrace) and a lower region with areas ranging from gentle slopes to poorly drained. The setting is in the extreme Inner Coastal Plain near Backlick Run, not far from its intersection with Cameron Run. An historic house site (44AX178) dating from between the 1820s-1840s was discovered. The amount of brick and the high incidence of expensive ceramics suggests the residence of a family within the middle class or higher. Intact bricks, remnants of a floor or foundation were found as well as buried midden deposits and the edge of some kind of pit or cellar. At some point, the house was razed and in an effort to level the hilltop, bricks were pushed to the south. This has served to bury and protect cultural deposits. Based on the apparent short range of the occupation and the presence of intact cultural deposits and features, Phase II evaluation is recommended. At the extreme northern end of the property bordering Metro Road, remnants of an unused railroad bed were found and trenched. The Phase II investigation of the reailroad bed should consist of the excavation of a single trench and recordation of such information as construction techniques, etc. This feature predates the Civil War and is believed to be part of 44AX54 which lies just outside the project area. According to information provided by local informants, it is possible that a cemetery is present on the property as well. Additional machine and hand excavations are recommended in the potential cemetery locations to determine if graves are actually present. The study was conducted by Thunderbird Archeological Associates for JCE of Alexandria, Virginia during December, 1995.

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INTRODUCTION

This report represents the results of a Phase I archeological resources reconnaissance of the 11.5 acre Van Dorn site at the corner of Van Dorn Street and Eisenhower Avenue in the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

The work reported here was conducted by Thunderbird Archeological Associates, Inc. (TAA) of Woodstock and Winchester, Virginia, for JCE of Alexandria, Virginia. Fieldwork was carried out in November of 1995. William M. Gardner, Ph.D., was Principal Investigator. Tammy L. Bryant acted as Field Supervisor. Damian Gessner, John Mullen, Antonia Davidson, Michael Petrakis, James Blevins and Leslie Mitchell served as Field Technicians. Joan M. Walker served as Contracts Manager. Gwen Hurst conducted the background study and did the glass analysis. C. Lanier Rodgers and Kimberly Weinberg served as Lab Technicians.

The archeological investigation was conducted in order to comply with the City of Alexandria Archeological Protection Ordinance No. 3413 which governs the protection of potentially significant historic properties. Fieldwork and report contents conformed to the guidelines set forth by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) for a Phase I reconnaissance level survey as outlined in their 1992 "Guidelines for Preparing Identification and Evaluation Reports for Submission Pursuant to Sections 106 and 110, National Historic Preservation Act, Environmental Impact Reports of State Agencies and the Virginia Appropriation Act, 1992 Session Amendments" as well as the "1990 City of Alexandria Archaeological Standards" and the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation".

Fieldwork followed the guidelines set forth by the VDHR and the City of Alexandria for a Phase I survey. The purpose of the survey was to locate any cultural resources within the impact area and to provide a preliminary assessment of their potential significance in terms of eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. If a particular resource was felt to possess the potential to contribute to the knowledge of local, regional or national prehistory or history, Phase II work would be recommended. Consultation was maintained throughout the duration of the project with Alexandria Archaeology, the City of Alexandria's Archeological Office.

An historic house site, 44AX178, was discovered. All artifacts and field data resulting from this project are on repository at Thunderbird Archeological Associates, Woodstock, Virginia.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND HISTORIC PERIOD LAND USE

The project area is located near the interface of the Inner Potomac Coastal Plain and the Outer Piedmont. The project area is situated atop an eroded marine terrace in a wooded area within the limits of the City of Alexandria (Figure 1). Marine gravels are present throughout. The closest drainage is an unnamed tributary of Backlick Run which runs along the western border of the ridgetop. Backlick Run is a tributary of Cameron Run which, in turn, empties into the Potomac.

Topographically, the project area varies from a level upland which slopes gently down toward the north and south and more abruptly to the west and east. The southern and western boundaries have been severely truncated by modern construction, specifically the widening of South Van Dorn Street and the construction and/or widening of Eisenhower Avenue. The 1965, photorevised 1971, U.S.G.S. 7.5', Annandale, VA. quadrangle map indicates this to be the case, especially along the southern margins.

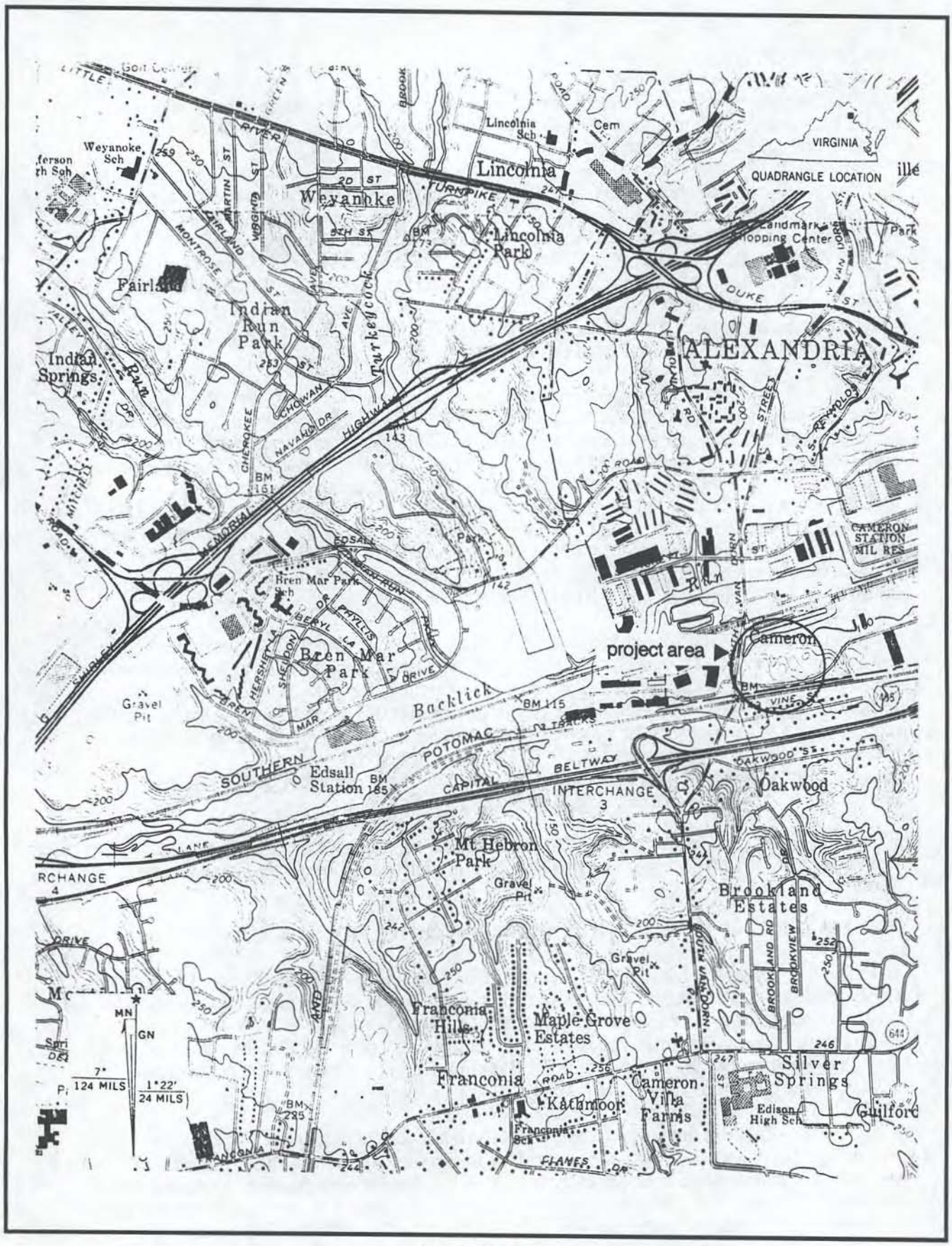


FIGURE 1
Portion of U.S.G.S. Annandale, VA. Topographic Map
(1966, photorevised 1971) Showing Project Area
Scale 1:24,000

Apropos of land modification, the same map shows at least three to four parallel uplands (trending west to east) most of which have been removed by the above noted construction, as well as the land modification associated with the building of Metro Road and the Van Dorn Metro stop. Indeed, the high point on which the historic site to be discussed below was found sits like an island in the middle of surrounding flatlands. In addition to this recent land alteration, the top of the hill on which the historic house site sits was filled in and artificially leveled when the house was destroyed at some unknown point in the past 145 years. Further modification appears to have taken place at the eastern edge of the highest point of the hill where an obviously artificial terrace exists. Immediately at the base of this are numerous pieces of heavy metal trash including numerous boilers. It is possible some landfill operations took place in the past.

Dropping back in time to the Civil War, Figure 2 shows a house (with the name Stout associated) to the east of a road with broken lines (presumably unimproved), the route of which follows closely present day South Van Dorn (before its modification in conjunction with the construction of Interstate 495). This road continues south to where it intersects with what is Fairfax Road in 1927 (Figure 3). Also shown on the 1927 map is a house lying to the east of Van Dorn Street which sits at the end of an unimproved road. The scale on the 1927 map is approximately half that of Figure 2 (the scale was derived by two measurements--first from where South Van Dorn Street crosses Backlick Run and from the intersection of South Van Dorn and Edsall Road to the intersection of South Van Dorn and Fairfax Road). If this scale is correct, it appears that the Stout house was standing in 1927 or located where the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad was built. The latter is most likely the case since the route of the railroad tracks is almost identical to the eastward running road which leads from the Stout house to Bush Hill, a nearby plantation.

The implication of this discussion is that the Stout house property lay to the south of the 11.5 acre Van Dorn tract and south of what is now Eisenhower Road. The same situation is also shown on Figure 4, which is another Civil War era map. The scale on this map is approximately the same as that of the 1927 map. Three buildings are shown in association with the Stout house on Figure 4. If all this is correct, then the 11.5 acre Van Dorn tract has no houses on it during the Civil War. Corroboration of this is seen in the discussion of 44AX178 (see Results section), the occupation of which seems to be from the 1820s to the 1840s. Artifacts which postdate the 1840s are associated with the demolition fill which lies over the house remains and it appears as if the house was demolished in the 1850s or 1860s, possibly in connection with the acquisition of the property by the railroad.

An unused railroad bed also appears as an earthen berm on the Civil War maps (Figures 3 and 4). Part of this is still present and borders the study area along its north side between the tract terminus and Metro Road. The distance from 44AX178 to this feature is 285 feet.

Both Figures 3 and 4 show a road which runs to the east just north of the Stout house. The part of it closest to the intersection with South Van Dorn is drawn in solid lines suggesting a more finished section. This road continues to the east where it intersects with a road to the west of a plantation known as Bush Hill. As noted above, the railroad tracks more or less follow this road. This may indicate the Stout house was no longer present, as suggested by later maps as no buildings appear on the Van Dorn project area on the post-Civil War maps of 1879, 1886, the 1912 map of Rural Delivery Routes in Fairfax County (Figures 5-7), the 1927 topographic map or on current revised U.S.G.S. topographic maps (Figures 1 and 3).

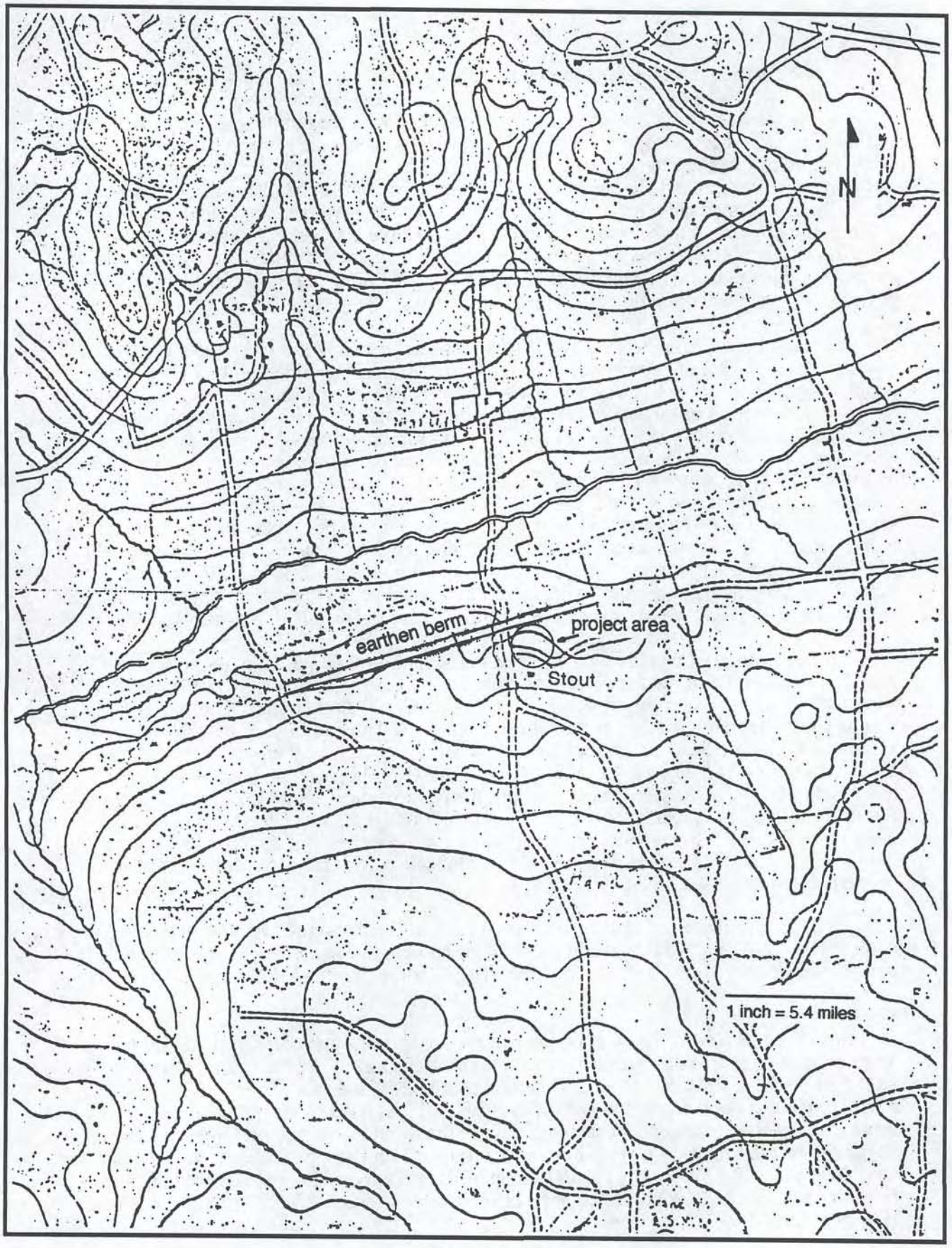


FIGURE 2
Portion of 1864-1866 Environs of Washington Topographic Sector Map Showing Project Area

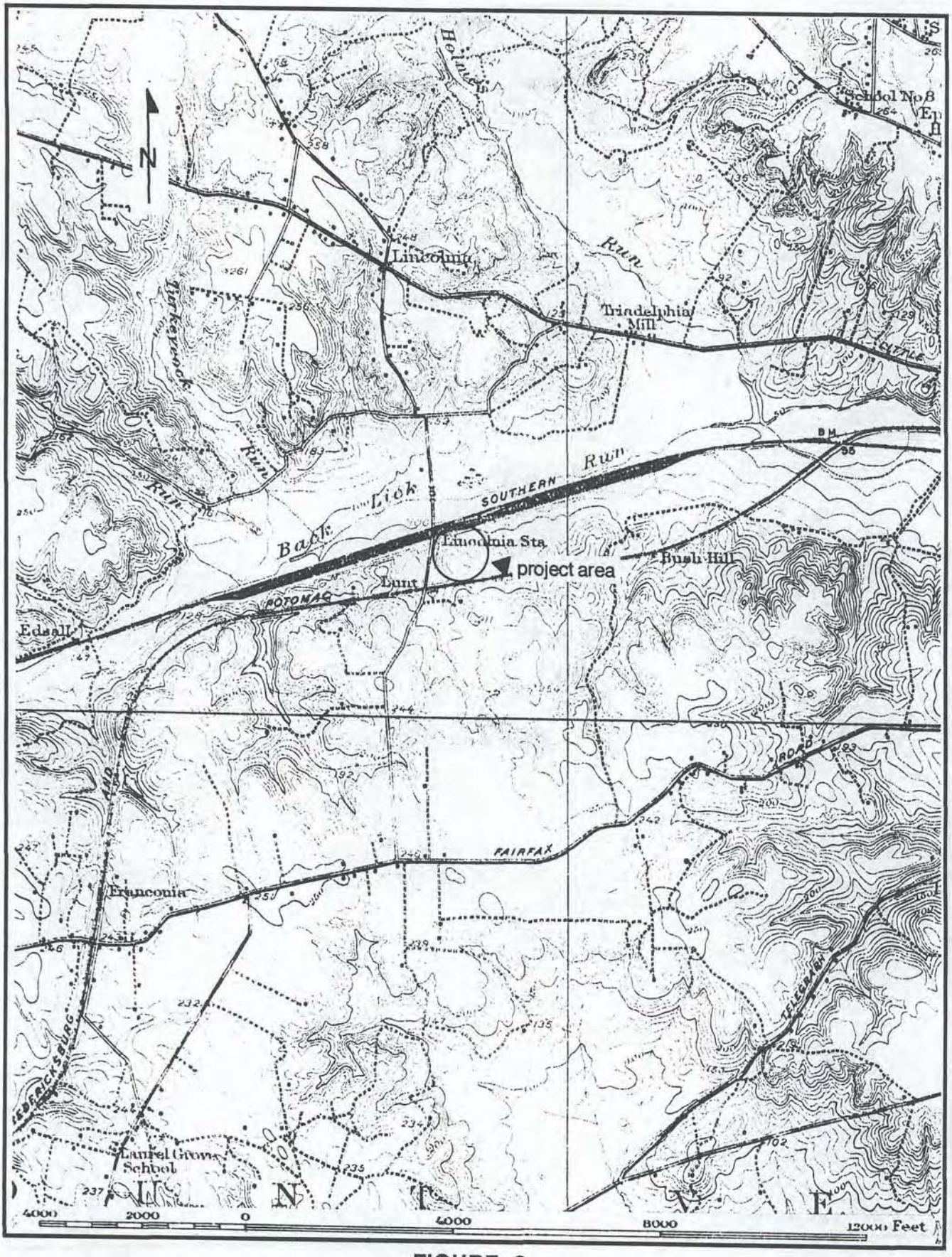


FIGURE 3
Portion of 1913-1915 (photorevised 1927) U.S.G.S. Topographic Map of Washington and Vicinity Showing Project Area
Scale 1:31680

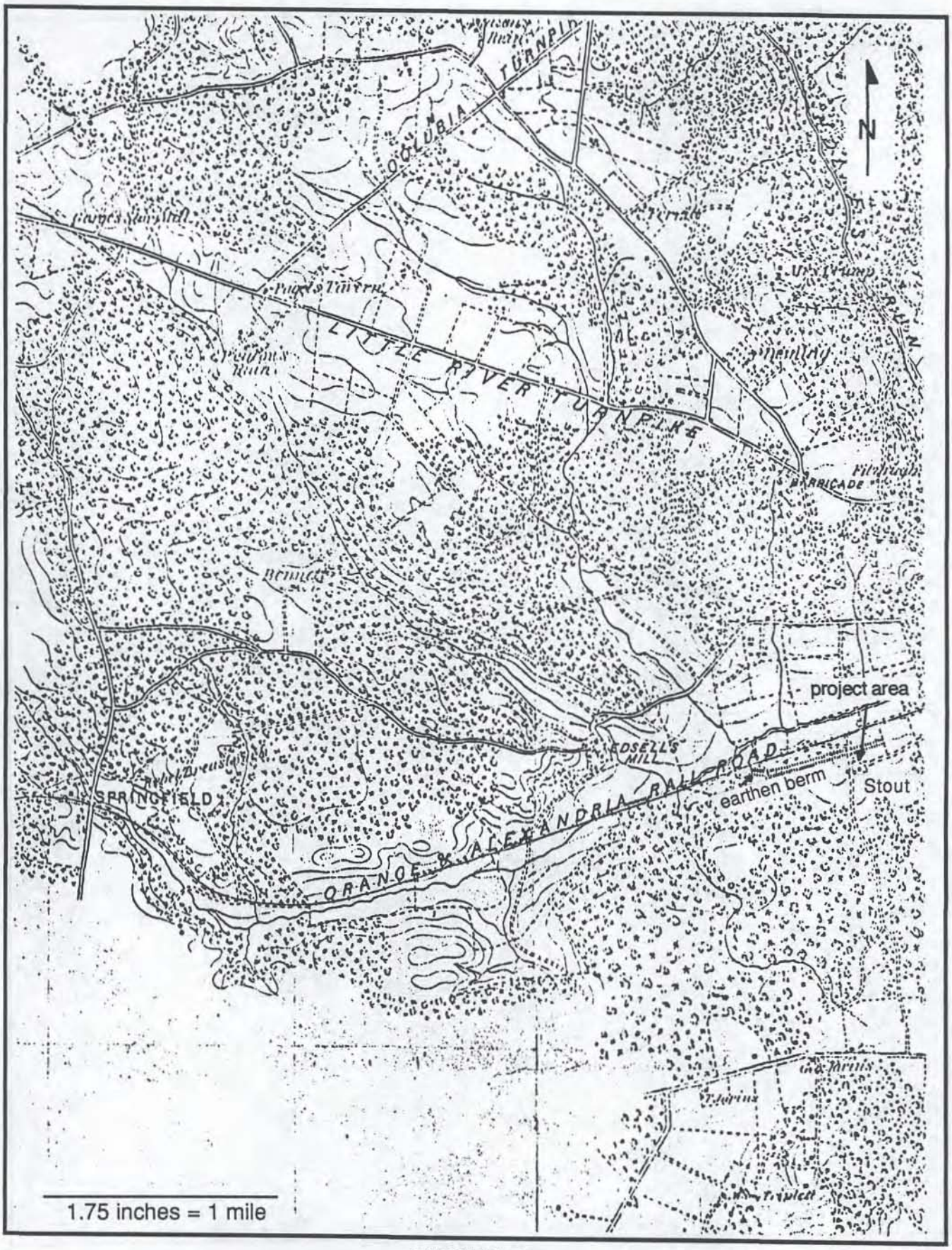


FIGURE 4
Portion of 1864-1866 Environs of Washington Topographic Sector Map Showing Project Area

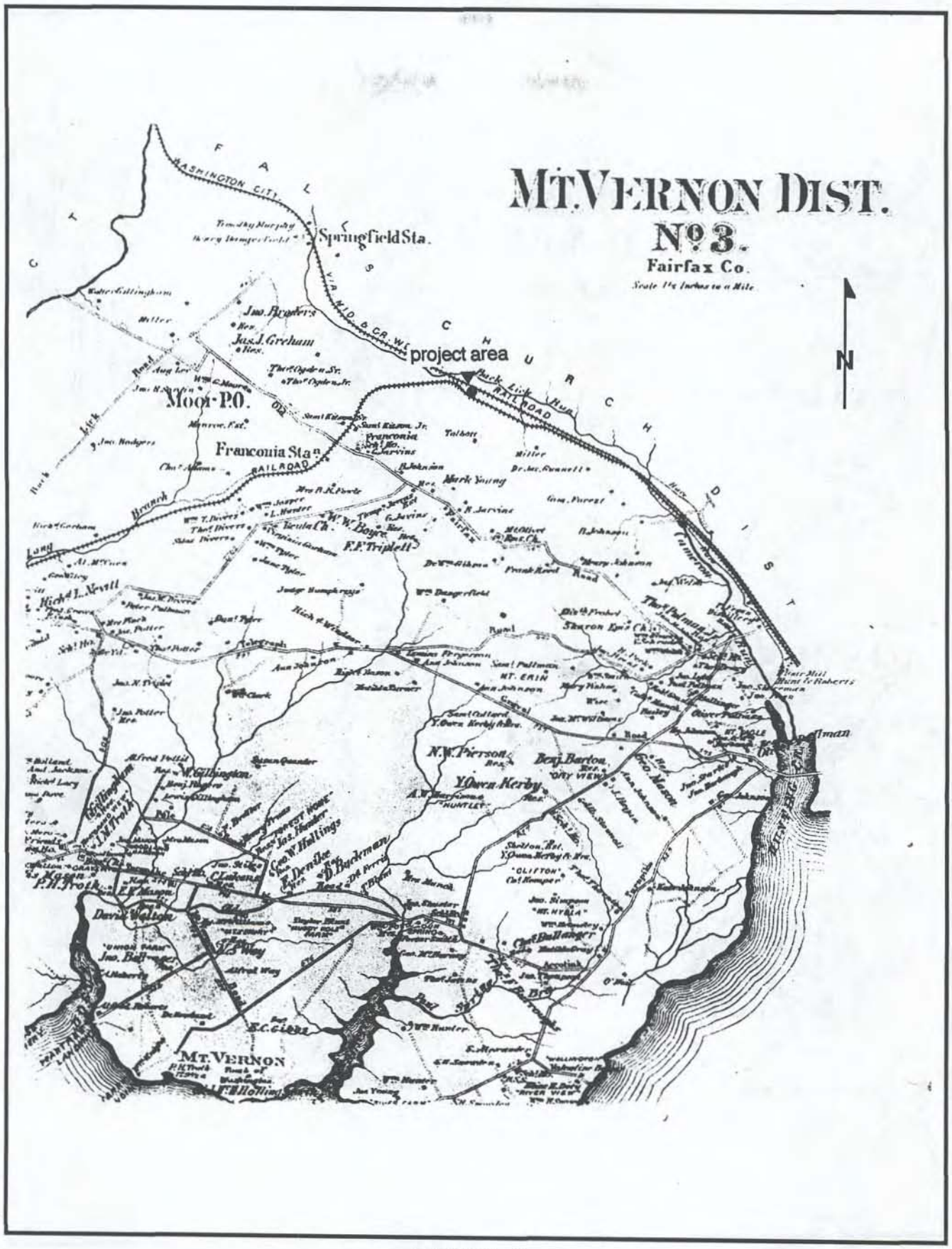


FIGURE 5
Mount Vernon District No. 3, 1879
(Stephenson 1981, Plate 76)

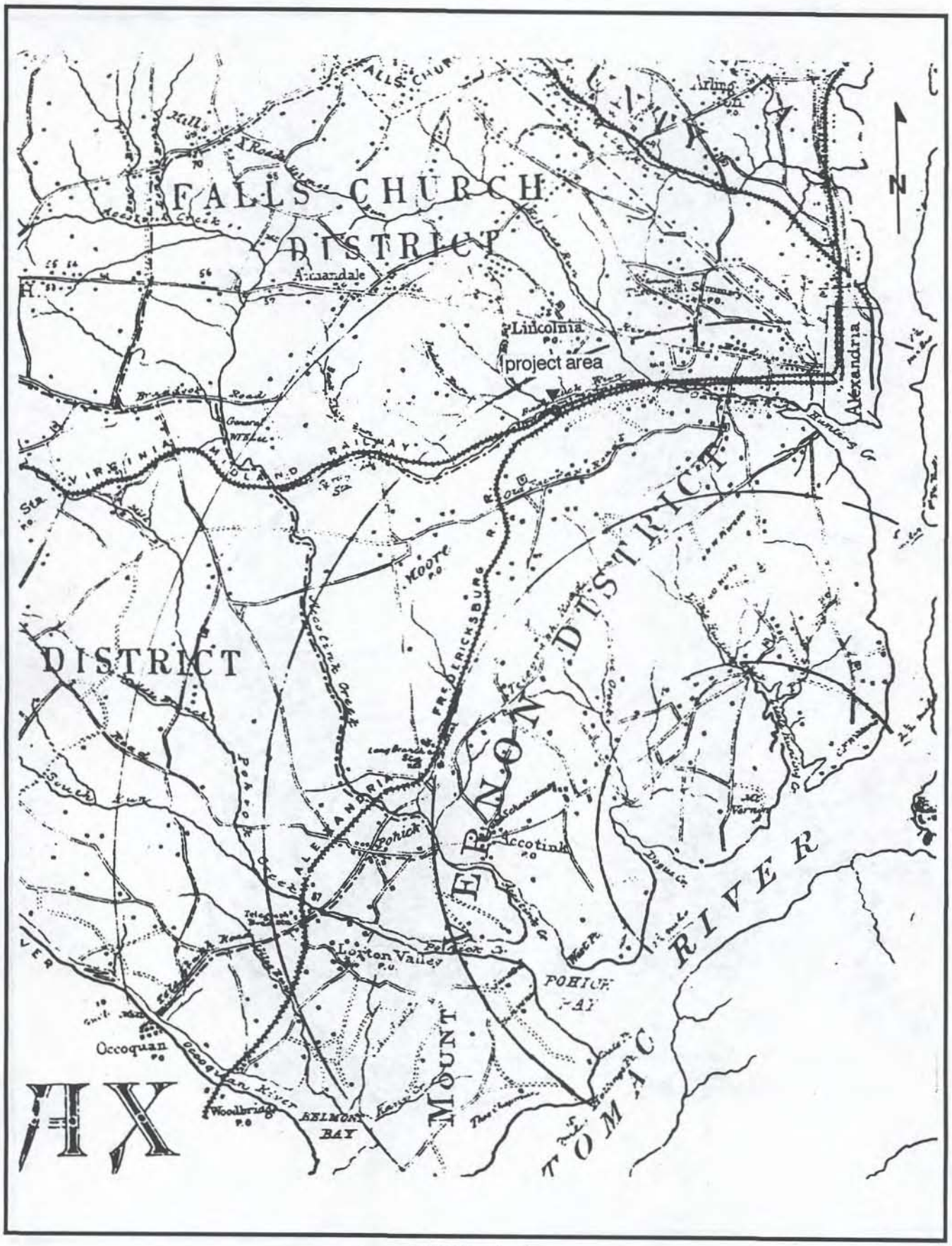


FIGURE 6
A Map of Fairfax County, 1886
(Stephenson 1981, Plate 84)
No Scale

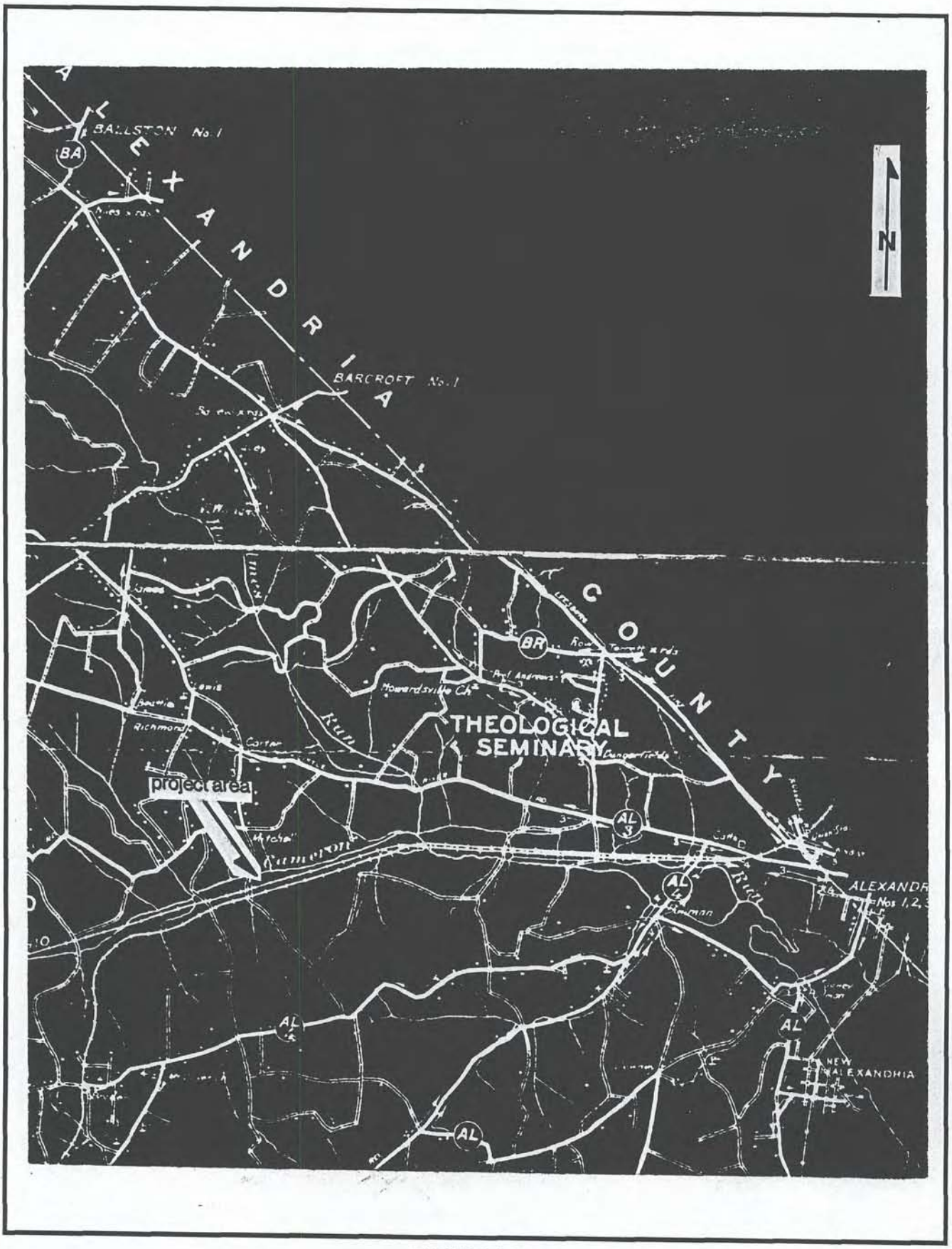


FIGURE 7
Rural Delivery Routes, Fairfax County, 1912
U.S. Post Office Department
Scale 1" = 1 Mile

All of this suggests the Stout house is not 44AX178, and the Stout house was probably demolished with the construction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad between 1865-1879. Of course, this cannot be absolutely determined at the Phase I level of investigation. Another line of evidence which can be used is a full chain of title for the project area, which may show Stout ownership around the Civil War period if 44AX178 is the Stout house.

The Van Dorn tract is shown as cleared fields during the Civil War. To the south and southeast are woods. Vegetation is not depicted on the 1927 map but contour lines are present. Unfortunately, the contours on the Civil War maps are unclear when comparing them to the later map. The topography of the tract in 1927 (Figure 3) is essentially the same as that shown on the 1971 photorevised version of the 1965 topographic map (Figure 1). By the time of the 1995 project area map, much of the surrounding landforms have been severely altered, including the eastern half of the project area. Based on the contour interval of the 1927 and the 1965 (1971) maps, the eastern half is as much as 12-15 feet lower today. Where the Van Dorn Metro stop is located, the contour alteration is staggering.

The portion of the project area where the historic house site was located escaped much of the land alteration associated with modern improvements. It appears as if (this will be discussed more fully later) the house was demolished with its superstructure (notably bricks) spread southward along the ridgetop for distances up to 30-60 feet. Fill dirt was brought in later and the demolished house and its associated yard, midden, etc., to the south was buried. This portion of the hill was then graded to provide a level surface, causing artificially abrupt contour changes to the east and southwest. Very little was done to the north of the site. The stream to the west and north of the site was channelized after 1971, as part of the widening of South Van Dorn, the construction of the entrance to the Metro Station and widening of Eisenhower Avenue. In the process, much of the eastern slope appears to have been machined to provided a relatively broad flat (see project area maps). The extreme southern end of the site has also been provided with an abrupt slope by modern equipment in connection with the improvements of Eisenhower Avenue. The post-Civil War construction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad also contributed to the alteration of the terrain south of the project area.

If the location of South Van Dorn Street and the stream were as they are depicted on Figures 2 and 4, it would appear that by 1927, South Van Dorn Street had been shifted to the west of the stream. It is our opinion that this is not likely, but it is possible considering the amount of land alteration that has taken place in the past 25 years.

Vegetation in the area at the beginning of the historic period was a mixture of white oak, pine and hickory in the uplands with a sere of sycamore and willow along the streams. Prior to deforestation and cultivation with the arrival of the Euroamericans in the 18th century, the former forests would have been at or near climax with a high canopy and little underbrush. The successional forests depicted on the Civil War period maps would have been more or less the same in terms of species, although earlier successional species would have been co-dominants.

Following the Civil War, land holdings were reduced and smaller scale farming prevailed. Residential development increased somewhat during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. During World War II and the years following, the area began to move into the orbit of suburban Washington, D.C. This has accelerated during the past 30 years.

Based on the size of the trees, the project area has been cleared within the past 60-80 years. At least two oak trees, located off the peak of the hill, are on the order of 150-plus years. A very large sweet gum with a broad canopy may be of similar age. These trees were the initial signals that an historic period site might be present. Closer to the hill where the site was located, a cultivated ornamental, periwinkle, covered the ground, another line of evidence for the existence of an historic period property. Another cultivar, iris, was also present on the periphery of the area.

CULTURAL HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

The following presents an overview of the prehistoric cultural history of the area. Johnson (1986) divides the prehistoric chronology and adaptive patterns for the general area into the following (modified here slightly from the original):

Paleoindians or First Virginians	Foraging	ca. 9500-8000 B.C.
Hunter-Gatherer I	Foraging	ca. 8000-6500 B.C.
Hunter-Gatherer II	Foraging	ca. 6500-4000 B.C.
Hunter-Gatherer III	Foraging	ca. 4000-3000 B.C.
Hunter-Gatherer IV	Collecting	ca. 3000 B.C.-A.D. 800
Early Agriculturalist	Collecting-Gardening	ca. A.D. 800-1500/1600

Gardner's (c.f. Barse and Gardner 1982, Gardner 1980, 1985, 1987, 1989; see also Walker 1981) perspective varies somewhat:

PREHISTORIC CHRONOLOGY
(Revised from Gardner 1980)

(Years B. P.)

Episode	Phase (projectile point)	Year B. P.
		Paleoindian
Late Glacial	Fluted (Clovis)	11,500
(-10,030)	Fluted (Mid-Paleo)	11,000
	Fluted (Dalton)	10,500
	Early Archaic	
Pre-boreal	Corner notched (Palmer)	10,000
(10,030-9,300)	Corner notched (Kirk)	9,500
Boreal	Side notched (Big Sandy-like)	9,200-9,000
(9,300-8,490)	Side notched (Kirk)	9,000
	Stemmed (Kirk)	9,000
(Transitional)	Bifurcate base (Lecroy)	8,500
		Middle Archaic
Atlantic	Stemmed (Stanly)	7,500
(8,490-5,060)	Contracting stemmed (Morrow Mountain I)	7,000
	Contracting stemmed (Morrow Mountain II)	6,500
	Lanceolate (Guilford)	6,000
	Corner/side notched (Halifax/Brewerton)	5,500
		Late Archaic
Sub-boreal	Stemmed (Savannah River)	5,000-4,500

(5,060-2,760)	Corner notched (Susquehanna)	5,000-4,500
	Stemmed (Holmes)	3,500-3,000
	Side notched (Hellgrammite)	3,500-3,000

(At this point, the chronological emphasis shifts to ceramics)

		Early Woodland
	Soapstone temper (Marcey Creek)	3,000
	Soapstone temper (Seldon Island)	3,000
Modern (2,760-Present)	Sand temper (Accokeek)	2,750
		Middle Woodland
	Crushed rock/grit temper (Popes Creek)	2,500
	Shell temper (Mockley)	2,100
		Late Woodland
	Shell temper (Townsend/Rappahannock)	1,100
	Grit temper (Potomac Creek)	700

The major prehistoric time periods of import are: the Paleoindian-Early Archaic (circa 9200-6700 B.C.; the Archaic, circa 6800-1800 B.C.; the Transitional/Early and Middle Woodland, circa 1800 B.C.-A.D. 900; and the Late Woodland, circa A.D. 900-1600.

The first of these represents the period of initial human occupation of the region. Sporadic Paleoindian finds are reported on the Potomac, particularly around Bennings, just above the junction of the Anacostia and the Potomac, and along the Accotink and the Occoquan, but, overall, spearpoints of this time are uncommon in the local area (Gardner 1985). Early Archaic components show a slight increase in numbers, but it is during the Middle Archaic (Morrow Mountain and later) that prehistoric human presence becomes relatively widespread (Gardner various; Johnson 1986; Weiss-Bromberg 1987). Whereas the earlier groups appear to be more oriented toward hunting and restricted to a limited range of landscapes, Middle Archaic populations move in and out and across the various habitats on a seasonal basis. Diagnostic artifacts from upland surveys along and near the Potomac show a significant jump during the terminal Middle Archaic (e.g. Halifax) and beginning Late Archaic (Savannah River).

The most intense utilization of the region begins circa 1800 B.C. with the advent of the Transitional Period and the Savannah River Broadspear derivatives, which include the Holmes and other related points. In models presented by Gardner, this is linked with the arrival of large numbers of anadromous fish. These sites tend to be concentrated along the shorelines near accessible fishing areas which are up the tributaries to points above where these tributaries begin to constrict. The adjacent interior and upland zones become rather extensively utilized as adjuncts to these fishing base camps. In some instances, (c.f. Gardner et al 1995), cobble quarry and cobble quarry reduction stations prevail. The pattern of using seasonal camps continues. The same essential settlement pattern continues throughout the Early and Middle Woodland. The post-A.D. 900 Late Woodland change is precipitated by the advent of agriculture and, between A.D. 1350 and 1600, scattered agricultural hamlets coalesce into larger sites such as that found at Accokeek Creek (Stephenson et al 1963) and at Potomac Creek (Schmitt 1965).

The cultural diagnostics listed in the table above are simplified. For instance, Early Archaic side notched points are more common in the western part of the Middle Atlantic. There is also a formal overlap between terminal Middle Archaic side notched forms such as Brewerton and Halifax and the Early Archaic side notched types. The possibility also

exists of overlap between either of these, particularly Halifax/Brewerton, and the presumed Early Woodland Vernon Side Notched. Indeed, it is not even clear if the latter exists. Projectile point types certainly become more diverse in the Late Archaic. For instance, the large Savannah River Stemmed point can have an expanding stem, a straight stem, or a contracting stem. The same holds true for the derivative and later Holmes or small Savannah River Stemmed. By this latter period, circa post-1800-1200 B.C., the Fall Line of the Potomac appears to be a stylistic divide between the Piedmont oriented Susquehanna-Dry Brook-Fishtail-Vernon (?) sequence and the Savannah River Stemmed-Holmes-Calvert evolution.

Another mis-identification can occur between smaller versions of the contracting stem Morrow Mountain point and the Early Woodland Rossville/Piscataway. A similar error in identification can happen between the contracting stem large Savannah River (which seems to be post-1800 B.C.) and Morrow Mountain.

Ceramics present less of a complex scene. The earliest ceramic series in the Piedmont and Upper Potomac Coastal Plain are the steatite tempered Marcey Creek Plain followed by Seldon Island Cordmarked, which is also tempered with steatite particles. The third phase of the Early Woodland is marked by the sand tempered Accokeek ware. Point styles vary, but include the Holmes point and other stemmed variants descending from Savannah River Stemmed, as well as Orient Fish Tail and Hellgrammite which develop out of the Susquehanna Broadspears. The previous stylistic boundary in projectile points at the Fall Zone seems to continue although all of the ceramics cross this boundary. Shell middens become evident by Early Woodland III in the Lower Potomac Coastal Plain where the water was of sufficient salinity to support oyster populations.

The period after 500 B.C. is marked by the appearance of Albemarle Net Marked in Potomac Piedmont and Ridge and Valley and the related Popes Creek Net Impressed in the Coastal Plain. Shell tempered Mockley ware marks the Coastal Plain circa A.D. 200. The Potomac Piedmont may have been all but abandoned at this juncture. Point styles associated with the earlier ceramic phases are in the Rossville-Piscataway contracting stemmed genre. These are succeeded by small stemmed and notched points.

By A.D. 900, refined crushed rock tempered ceramics in the Albemarle/Shephard ware category show up in the Potomac Piedmont. In the latter part of the Early Agriculturalist period, limestone tempered and shell tempered (Keyser series) pottery successively dominate the areas along the Potomac from the Ridge and Valley through to the mouth of the Monocacy and the Fall Zone. In the Upper Potomac Coastal Plain, the Townsend/Rappahannock series evolves out of the Mockley series to be replaced circa A.D. 1350 by Potomac Creek. The groups associated with the Potomac Creek ceramic series appear to have evolved out of the Montgomery Focus in the Piedmont, only to have been pushed out by expansionistic groups in the interior. Triangular points are the norm for the entire Early Agriculturalist period. These groups appear to have been full time residents practicing agriculture. Village and hamlet locations were around the mouths of creeks contiguous with broad floodplain locations; in this area, at the mouths of streams with good agricultural soil along the Potomac. The non-riverine or non-estuarine Woodland sites were short term occupations related to general foraging components of the subsistence system (c.f. Gardner 1982, 1985, Weiss-Bromberg 1987, Cissna 1990).

In early historic times, Indians were no longer resident, even along the Potomac, in most of the area at the time of Euroamerican settlement, although they were present in the area for the period up to circa A.D. 1700. The Dogue, who were related to the Piscataway, are generally considered to be the indigenous occupants of the region. The Potomac Piedmont may well have been vacant--a kind of no-man's land.

Most of the functional categories of sites away from major drainages are those of small base camps, transient camps, limited purpose camps and quarries. Site frequency and size vary according to a number of factors, e.g. proximity to major river or streams, distribution of readily available surface water, and the presence of lithic raw materials (Gardner 1987). The pattern of seasonally shifting use of the landscape begins circa 7000 B.C., when seasonal variation in resources first becomes marked. By 1800 B.C., runs of anadromous fish occur and the Indians spent longer periods of time along the estuarine Potomac (Gardner 1982, 1987). It is possible that some horticulture or intensive use of local resources appears between 1200-500 B.C. for, at this time, the seasonal movement pattern is reduced somewhat (Gardner 1982). However, even at this time and during the post A.D. 900 agriculture era, extension of the exploitative arm into the upland and inter-riverine areas through hunting, fishing and gathering remained a necessity.

General Historic Background

During the initial settlement of the Virginia Colony at James Forte (Jamestown) on the James River, Captain John Smith explored the lower shores of the Potomac River in June of 1608. Captain Smith's "Map of Virginia", as then known, supplies the first recorded names of the numerous native villages along both sides of the Potomac River. The extensive village network was described as the "trading place of the natives" (Gutheim 1986:22, 23, 28). Captain Giles and Mary Brent are recognized as the earliest settlers in Northern Virginia, moving from Maryland to the north side of Aquia Creek in 1647 and patenting lands south of the Occoquan River, now in Prince William County, in 1651 (Harrison 1964:43-44).

The Van Dorn project was formerly located in the County of Fairfax and was annexed to the southwest side of the City of Alexandria in 1952. Fairfax County was established within the Northern Neck proprietary in 1742 from the parent counties of Westmoreland (1643), Stafford (1664), and Prince William (1730/31). Most of the early Northern Neck patents were issued during the Cromwellian period, or during the English Civil War which was carried on from 1648, when Charles I was beheaded, through 1660, when Charles II regained the English throne. Between 1661 and 1677, the Northern Neck patents were required to be reaffirmed with the colonial government and no new patents were issued. Issuance of Northern Neck land patents was resumed in 1690; no longer being Crown lands, they were regulated by appointed proprietary agents of the Lord Fairfaxes.

Alexandria was established in 1749 on 60 acres of land owned by descendants of John Alexander, the third patentee of a 6,000 acre tract originally patented in 1658. Locally known as "Hunting Creek [tobacco] Warehouse", and later as "Belhaven", Alexandria, named for John Alexander, was a prosperous shipping and trading center for Fairfax County when it was incorporated as a town in 1779. Alexandria was then located in Fairfax County, also being the second site of the Fairfax County Courthouse, until it was ceded to the seat of the Federal Government in 1791 (Harrison 1964:60; The Virginia State Library 1965:16, 31; Sweig 1995:3). Although tobacco planting and the export of hogsheads of cured tobacco crops was the economic focus of Fairfax County during early colonial formation and settlement, the county's Northern Virginia planters had begun a major shift of the agricultural tobacco base to diversified grain crops by the 1760s (Gardner et al. 1995:31). Fairfax County historians (Netherton et al. 1978:172) state that:

> "Despite the fact that Alexandria was part of the Federal District in the first half of the nineteenth century, it remained a commercial and cultural center for Fairfax County...being a seaport, Alexandria depended considerably on the decline and rise of the country's agricultural

circumstances...."

Fairfax County and the City of Alexandria began a long economic decline beginning in about 1799 and lasting through about 1842. Contributing agricultural factors were depletion of soils and the division of plantations into smaller, barely supporting tracts of farmlands among the planters sons. Newly available western lands claimed by the United States by victory over the British in the Revolutionary War; the Ordinance of 1787 establishing the Northwest Territory, and the Virginia Military Bounty were set aside for settlement by Virginians and Kentuckians about 1800. These lands spurred the migration of third and fourth Fairfax County generations during the post-Revolutionary War period. Throughout the international conflicts following the Revolutionary War, Alexandria shipping was affected by the danger of French privateer ships, embargoes, and the War of 1812, followed by a long agricultural depression.

By the late 1830s and early 1840s, Fairfax County's "economy was perhaps more depressed than at any other period in the county's history" (Netherton et al. 1978:261); the residents of the county subsisted on "marketing, fishing, and the sale of slaves (ibid.) to the south. Low land prices in the 1840s caused an influx of northeastern farmers who introduced new agricultural methods of deep plowing, fertilizer usage, and a system of allowing fields to remain fallow between crops. Economic agricultural recuperation was completed by the construction of railroad lines through Fairfax County in the 1850s.

The project area is currently located between two railroad lines: what is now called the Southern Railroad (Orange and Alexandria) on the north of the project area and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad(Alexandria and Fredricksburg) to the south (Figure 1). The Orange and Alexandria Railroad was incorporated in 1848 by an act of the Virginia General Assembly to lay a railroad from Gordonsville to Alexandria routed past the Orange and Culpeper County courthouses. Construction on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad began in Alexandria in early 1850 and was opened to Tudor Hall, later known as Manassas Junction, in October 1851 (Harrison 1964:585). No major Civil War battles were fought in this area of Fairfax County, although the railroads figured in major troop movements into and out of the Washington, D.C. area. Fort Worth and Fort Williams, and batteries for the defense of Washington, D.C. and training of Union troops, were installed to the northwest of the project area during this war time (Figure 8).

Patrick Reed, in his section of *Postwar Conditions* of Fairfax County (Netherton et al. 1978:392) states that previous histories of Fairfax County indicate that the "late nineteenth century...[was] uneventful" in comparison to the earlier historic events and associated Fairfax County leaders that participated in the Revolutionary and Civil War periods. The summation of the *Postwar Conditions* of Fairfax County "was one of a quiet agricultural area, drifting through times of both modern difficulties and moderate advance" (ibid.). World War II appears to have had an opposite affect from the post-Civil War drifting; the employment opportunities in the Washington, D.C. area attracting large numbers of new residents (ibid.: 631). "By 1960, much of the growth of Virginia "has occurred in the Hampton Roads and Arlington-Fairfax-Alexandria areas...adjacent to large Federal installations" (Virginia State Library 1965:100).

Van Dorn Project Area

The Van Dorn project area is located near the center of a 4,639 acre Northern Neck land warrant issued to John West, William Harrison, Thomas Pearson, and Thomas Harrison of Stafford County in April 1706. The land warrant survey describes the property as located on Great Hunting Creek in Stafford County below the Great Fork on the branch of Dogues Run bounded by Indian Branch (Indian Run) and the land of Colonel

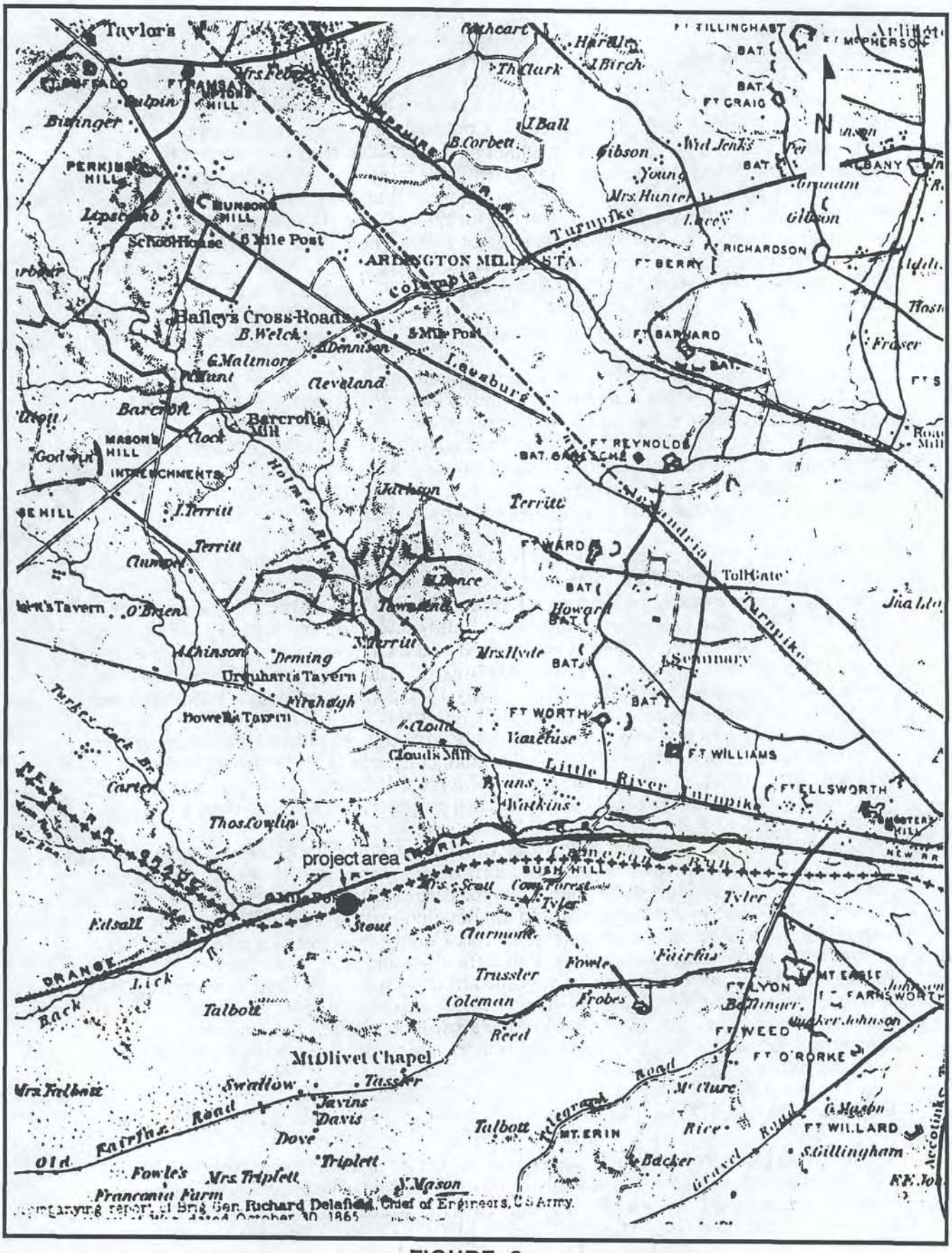


FIGURE 8
Defenses of Washington, Engineers Bureau, War Department, 1865
Scale 1 1/4" = 1 Mile

William Fitzhugh (Northern Neck Patents 3:153). Reconstructed locations and boundaries of the early land grants, and the 1706 project area patent boundaries, are shown on the *Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County* overlay map (Figures 9 and 10). William Fitzhugh's 1694 patent of 21,196 acres formed the western boundary of the project area. Waterway landmarks through the grant were the confluence of Holmes and Cameron Runs in the northeast, Indian Run on the west; and Backlick Run draining through the grant from Holmes Run/Cameron Run into Indian Run.

West, Harrison, Pearson and Harrison's grant was divided into eight sections in 1714 with the project area being within a section designated as "Ragans." (Figure 9). Michael Regan, presumably an heir of the original "Ragan", obtained a deed to 107 acres of the property then in his possession with "reversion and remainders of rents and services" for 1 shilling sterling (Fairfax County Deeds C:24-25). In the Fairfax County Court session of March 1794, "it was ordered and decreed that the lands of Michael Regan [deceased] in Fairfax County be laid off and sold" by Nicholas Regan and other heirs (Fairfax County Deeds Y:392-394). A survey map of the property in 1794 shows the 635 acre parcel divided into six lots; the project area being located apparently within Lots No. 2 (116 acres) and Lot No. 3 (107 1/2 acres) (Fairfax County Record of Surveys, Section 2:65).

Lot No. 3, Lot No. 5 near Hepburns Mill (102 acres), and Lot No. 6 (101 1/2 acres) located "on the side of Hepburns Mill and on the north side of the road from Rogers shop" were purchased by William Cash on 19 January 1796 (Fairfax County Deeds Y:392-394; E2:140-142). "Hepburn and Dundas" were granted rights to build Hepburns Mill on Back Lick and Indian Runs in 1788 (Netherton et al. 1978:140). The remainder of the parcel containing Lots No. 2 (116 acres) and Lots No. 4 (82 acres) was obtained by William Cash prior to his decease in February 1818. The deeds to these parcels were not located during the current research. Lots No. 2 and 3 were located on the south side of Back Lick Run; the Van Dorn project area appears to be in the lower section of Lots 2 and 3.

In *Hugh Violett and wife vs. James Compton and wife*, heard in the Fairfax County Courts on 22 July 1823, William Cash's land in Fairfax County was partitioned in two parts between the legatees. Hugh and Lucretia-West Violett received the lower section (formerly Lots 4, 5, and 6) containing their house site; James and Linny-West Compton receiving the upper section located below Back Lick Run (formerly Lots 2 and 3) of the containing their house site (Fairfax County Deeds W2:21).

As previously stated, the project area is currently located between two railroad lines: the Southern Railroad (Orange and Alexandria) on the north of the project area and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad(Alexandria and Fredricksburg) to the south. The Southern Railroad was mandated to begin construction in 1848 and construction was begun in Alexandria in 1850 (Harrison 1964:585). At this time, Richard Marshall Scott of nearby Bush Hill (44AX111) "noted in his journal in November 1849: 'I sent in proposals to the office of Orange and Alexandria Railroad to furnish them 1640 cross ties of white oak, box oak, locust, cedar and chestnut, seven and one half feet long for $1.00 a piece to be delivered by myself at the section of the [rail] road called the crossing at Holmes Run'" (Wilkinson 1969:46-47).

An examination of historic maps indicates that the Orange and Alexandria Railroad was in place by 1862 (Figure 11). A "new railroad grade" is also shown on the 1862 map. A residence with the name "Stout" associated is located to the south of the Orange and Alexandria and the "New Railroad Grade" on the 1862 map. McDowell's map was copied in 1865 by the U.S. War Department Engineer's Bureau and issued as *Defenses of Washington* (Figure 8). This map also shows a residence with the name Stout near the

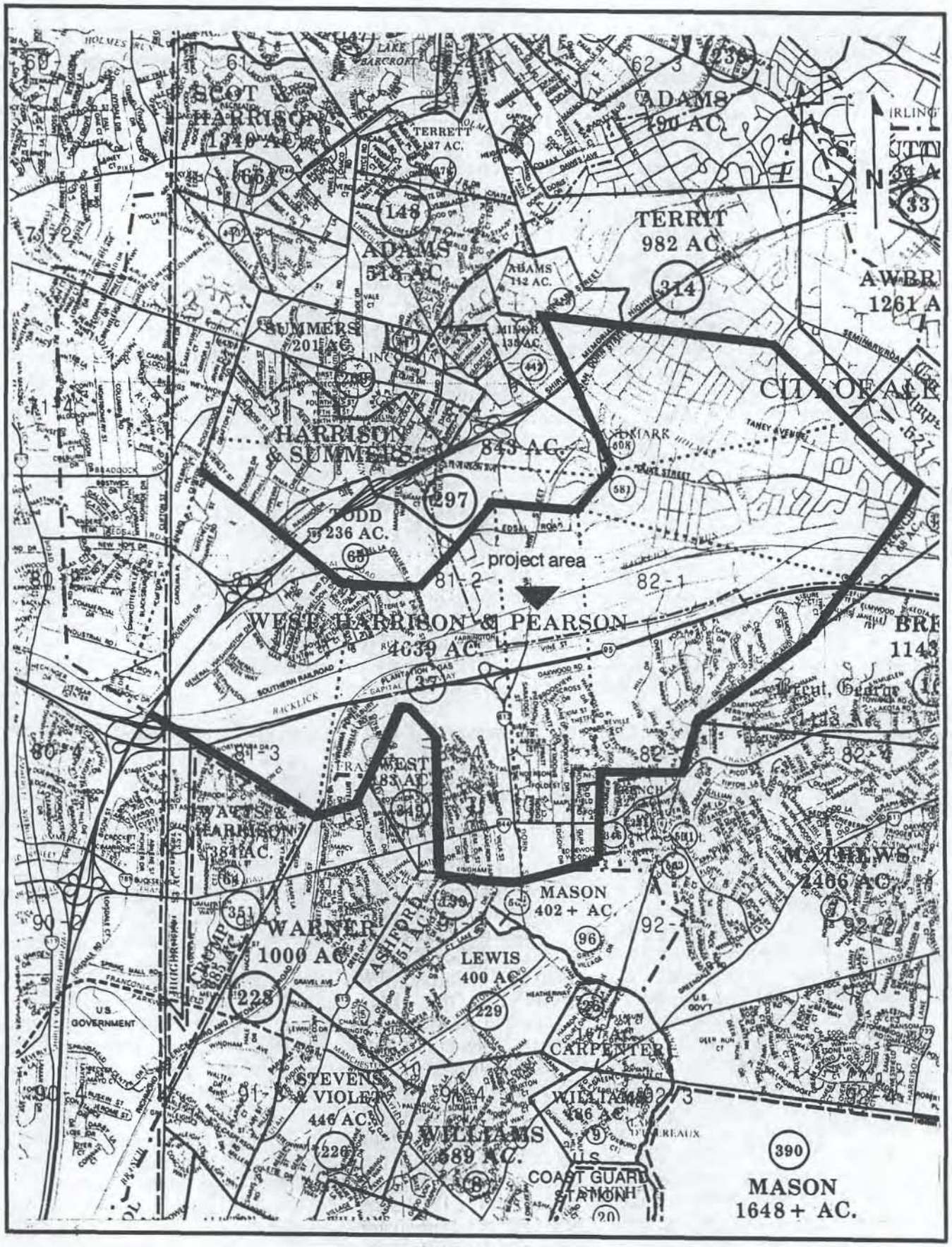


FIGURE 9
Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, Virginia
(County of Fairfax 1990)
Scale 1 1/2" = 1 Mile

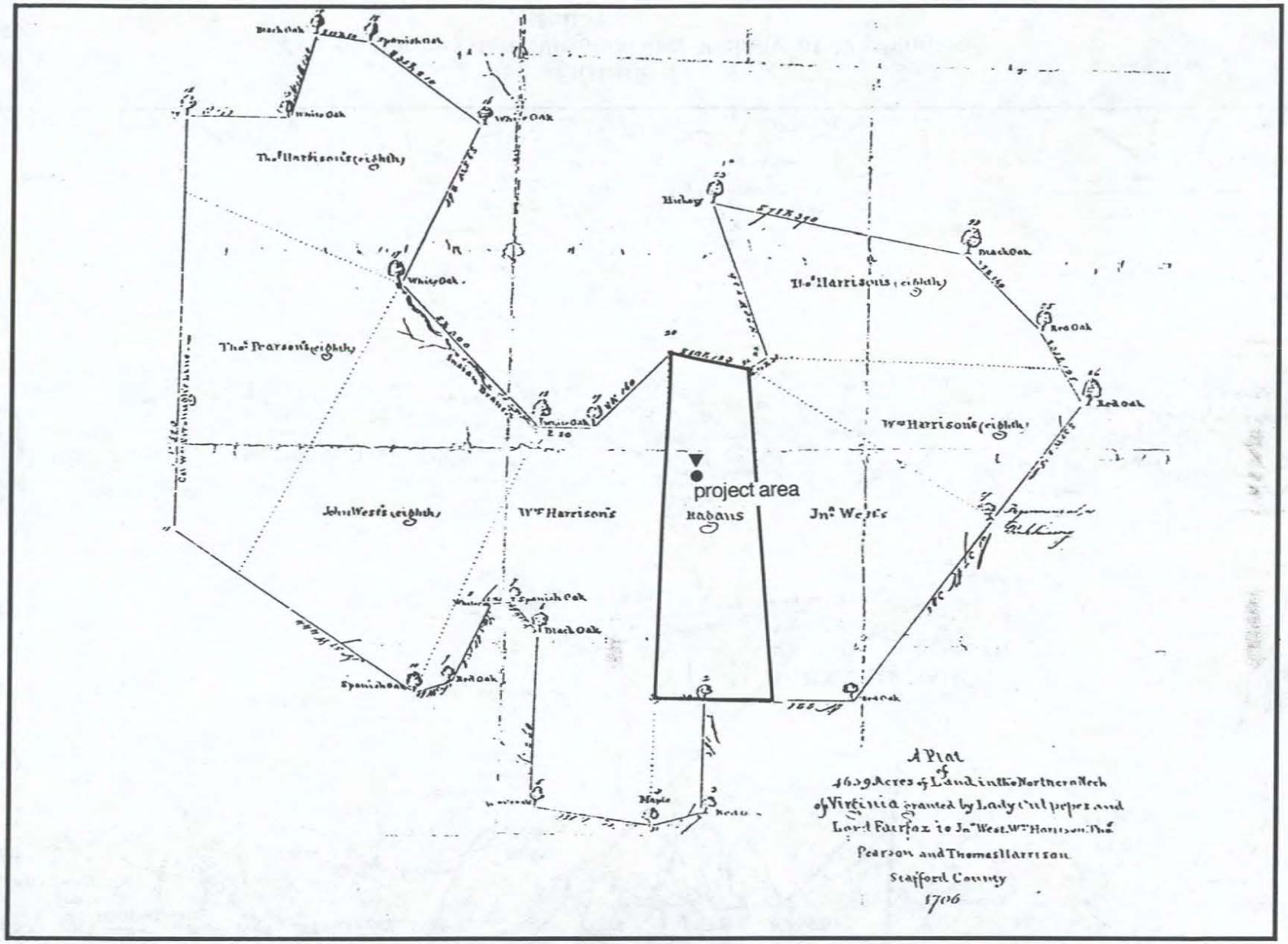


FIGURE 10
A Plat of 4,639 Acres, 1706
(Mitchell, 1988)
No Scale

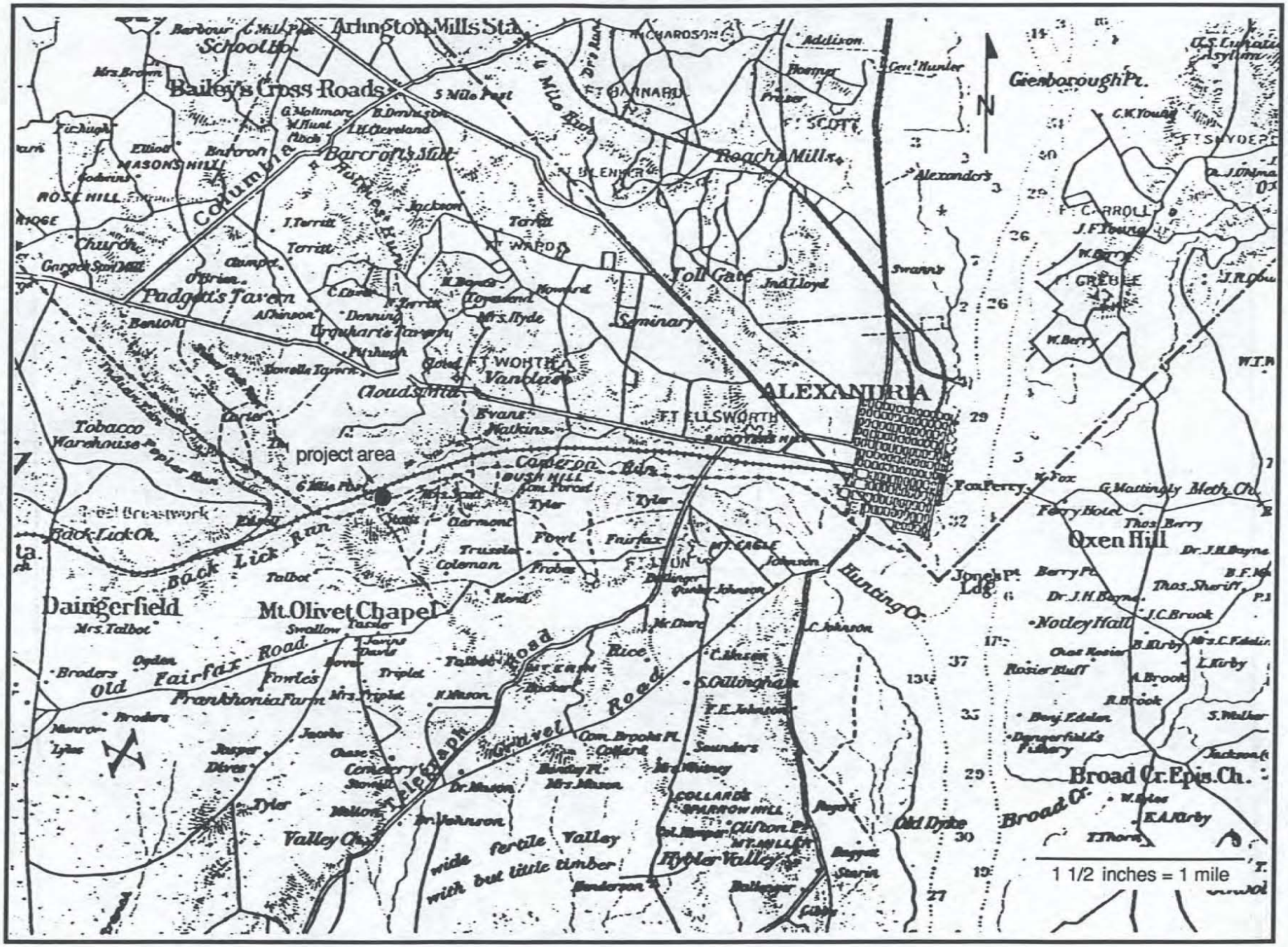


FIGURE 11
Map of Northeastern Virginia and Vicinity of Washington
(McDowell 1862)

location of the project area. Other Civil War era (1864-1866) maps show the Orange and Alexandria Railroad as well as what appears to be an earthen berm in the location of the project area (Figures 2 and 4). A residence with the name "Stout" is also shown on one of these maps (Figure 2). Figure 4 , also a Civil War era map, shows the same structure with two additional buildings.

An 1879 map shows the Orange and Alexandria Railroad (as the Washington, VA, MD & CR Western Railroad) as well as a railroad to the south (Figure 5). This is the first time that the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad is shown; indicating that it must have been constructed sometime between 1865-1879. On the 1886 map, the Southern Railroad is called the Virginia Midland Railroad and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad is shown as the Alexandria Fredericksburg Railroad (Figure 6). By 1927, the name Southern Railroad is shown for the tracks to the north and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad is shown for the tracks to the south (Figure 2). These names are still shown on the current U.S.G.S. topographic map.

No buildings appear on the Van Dorn project area on the post-Civil War maps of 1879, 1886, the 1912 map of Rural Delivery Routes in Fairfax County (Figures 5-7), or on current revised U.S.G.S. topographic maps.

As discussed in the Environmental Setting section, when examining the positions of the roads, the topography and other natural features through time, it does not appear as if the structure marked "Stout" on the Civil War maps is in the same location as 44AX178. The "Stout" house, which appears to have been located south of what is now Eisenhower Avenue, seems to have been demolished sometime between 1865 and 1879, probably in connection with the construction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad lines. However, the question of whether or not 44AX178 is the Stout house will have to be determined by additional archival and archeological research.

PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL WORK

Three sites have been surveyed and registered with the State of Virginia near the Van Dorn project area. These sites include an earthen railroad ramp (Alexandria Site 168; Virginia Site 44AX54) recorded in 1982 and located near the northeastern perimeter of the project area, and a portion of the railroad bed (Alexandria Site 81; Virginia Site 44AX158) located north of Eisenhower Avenue. Along the Southern Railroad tracks, to the east of the project area on Bush Hill, the remains of a 19th century house site (Alexandria Site 169; Virginia Site 44AX111), were identified in 1979 as Richard M. Scott 's (Sr. and Jr.) plantation home.

Potential historic resources compiled by Alexandria Archeology from old maps include an additional section of the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad (Alexandria Site 94), a Civil War period site (170), and several 19th century house sites to the north of the project area.

South of the project area in Fairfax County, a number of sites have been investigated and registered with the Virginia State Department of Historic Resources, the majority of the sites being prehistoric upland camps (44FX517-521, 523-527, 559-561, 601, 1568, 1586 and 1596. Halifax points were identified from 44FX519 and 44FX601, and a possible Broadspear was recovered from 44FX517. Historic sites include two cemeteries (44FX1147 and 1273), and three sites having historic components (44FX522, 523, and 1596).

Remains of an early historic sheet midden associated with Burgundy Hill Farm, a nineteenth century farm located on Bush Hill, southeast of the project area, was excavated by the Fairfax County Office of Heritage Resources (DeLeonardis and Gardner 1993:5). An additional two acre parcel of land located on Burgundy Hill Farm was surveyed and tested by Thunderbird Archeological Associates in 1993, however no significant deposits were found in this area of Burgundy Hill Farm during this survey and testing (ibid.).

METHODOLOGY

Archival Research

A preliminary examination of documents and maps was undertaken by Thunderbird Archeological Associates to determine some of the impacts and land use of the Van Dorn project site. Maps, reports, and county histories in the TAA cartography collection, files, and library were initially consulted for areal information. As the Van Dorn site was located in Fairfax County until recently, supplementary research was conducted at the Fairfax County Library for Fairfax County maps, railroad file collections, and abstracts of deeds and wills in published form. Additional information on county histories, land patents and grants, and tax records were researched at the Shenandoah County Library in Edinburg, Virginia.

Site files designating previous archeological work and historic resources known within the site area were reviewed at the offices of Alexandria Archeology. Additional archeological sites recorded outside the City of Alexandria were obtained from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources in Richmond, Virginia.

Field Investigations

The initial step in the reconnaissance was a pedestrian survey. A pedestrian survey of each portion of the project area was conducted prior to subsurface testing in order to observe land features (disturbances, surface visibility, etc.) and to better assess high potential locations. Ground visibility was generally poor. Brick, periwinkle and irises were observed during the surface reconnaissance in one area.

Shovel testing was carried out in order to locate any cultural remains present within the area, either prehistoric or historic. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at varying intervals, depending upon the likelihood that the area being tested would contain cultural materials. Figure 12 presents a map showing high, medium and low probability areas as well as the Phase I test units. All high and moderate probability areas were tested at 15 meter (50 foot) intervals. High probability areas are those areas which are well drained with minimal relief. Medium probability areas were considered to be areas with less than 10 degrees of slope. Low probability areas consisted of locations which were poorly drained, on steep slopes or previously disturbed. Low probability areas were walked over but generally were not shovel tested. Some low probability areas which appeared to have been previously disturbed were tested to verify this fact. When artifacts were found, the testing interval was reduced.

Shovel test units measured at least 12 inches (30 by 30 cm) square. Vertical excavation was by natural soil levels, excavation stopped when well developed B horizons too old for human occupation, gleyed soils, gravel, water, etc. were reached. Soil horizons observed at the site were classified according to standard pedological designations, e.g. Ao (a surface organic mat which is recent in age), Ap (a plowzone which is historic but which can incorporate prehistoric horizons as a result of erosion and deflation), Ab (a buried organic horizon which can be either historic or prehistoric), E (an

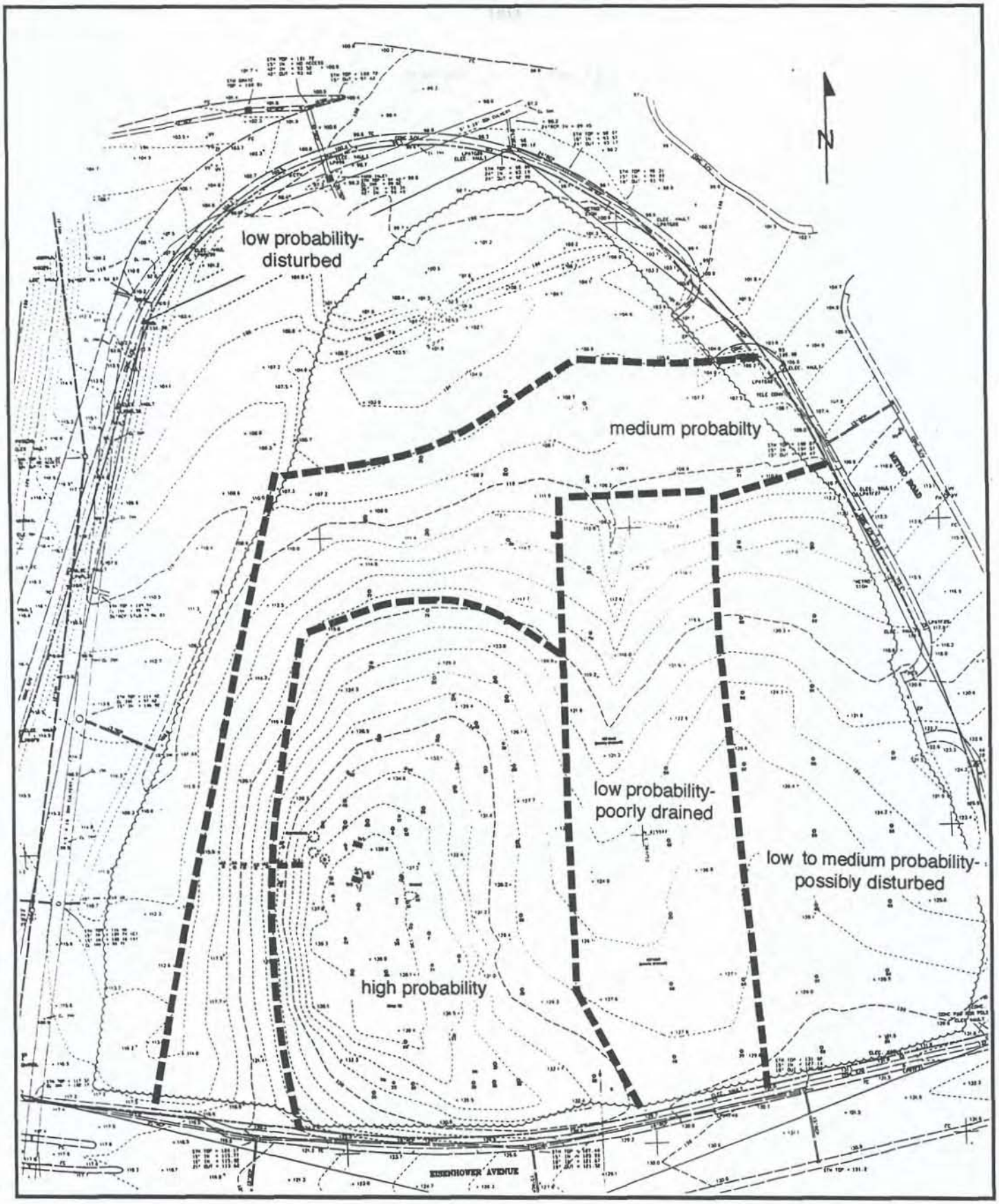


FIGURE 12
Map of Project Area Showing High, Medium and Low Probability Areas and Areas Tested

eluviated or leached organic horizon which is almost always prehistoric), B1 (a macroscopically inorganic zone not disturbed by cultivation which is always prehistoric), etc. All soil was screened through 1/4 inch hardware mesh screens. Artifacts were bagged and labeled by unit number and by soil horizon. Soil profiles were made of representative units and the colors were described using the Munsell soil color designations.

Artifacts were curated according to Alexandria Archeology curation standards. All artifacts were cleaned, inventoried, and curated. Historic artifacts were separated into four basic categories: glass, ceramics, metal and miscellaneous. The ceramics were identified as to ware type, method of decoration, vessel type (if possible) and separated into established types. The dates from the ceramics were based on Miller's (1991 and 1992) refinement of South's types. The glass was be examined for color, method of manufacture, function, etc., and dated primarily on the basis of method of manufacture, when the method could be determined. The dates for manufacturing methods are based primary upon the patent dates for individual technological advances. Metal and miscellaneous artifacts were generally described; the determination of a beginning date was sometimes possible, as in the case of nails.

RESULTS OF FIELDWORK

The project area is bounded on the north and east by Metro Road, on the south by Eisenhower Avenue and on the west by Van Dorn Street. A large upland knoll is present in the southwest corner of the project area with associated adjacent slopes and flats in the remainder of the area (Figure 1). What appeared to be an old road ran down the center of the project from the knoll.

The project area was generally wooded with primarily wild cherry trees (Plates 1 and 2). Large circa 150 year oaks and a sweet gum were present in the north central area of the project. Poorly drained areas were present in the central and southern portions of the project area. A steep sided embankment, which was clearly man-made, ran along the western boundary of the hilltop. Scattered just to the east of this boundary was an assortment of modern junk, including a number of boilers. An informant had indicated this area was used as a location where junk was deposited.

The initial step in the Phase I survey was a walkover reconnaissance of the entire project area. This reconnaissance revealed a periwinkle covered knoll with scattered brick in the southwestern corner of the project area. Testing was begun in this location. Clearing of the periwinkle revealed more brick debris and artifacts on the ground surface.

Three depressions, approximately 6 feet (1.8 meters) in diameter were present on the northwestern corner of the knoll (Figure 13). Brick fragments were present on the ground surface around the depressions and what appeared to be a brick chimney fall was present to the west of the southernmost depression. Figure 13 presents the shovel locations in this area.

STP 1 was placed in the southernmost depression (Figure 13). The soils in this unit consisted of (Figure 14 and Plate 3):

A horizon : 0-13 inches (0-33 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black silty loam
B horizon : 13-17 inches (33-43 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/8] brownish yellow clay

The A horizon in this unit was highly organic. It contained an underglaze blue hand painted hard paste porcelain sherd, two clear glass fragments and three windowpane

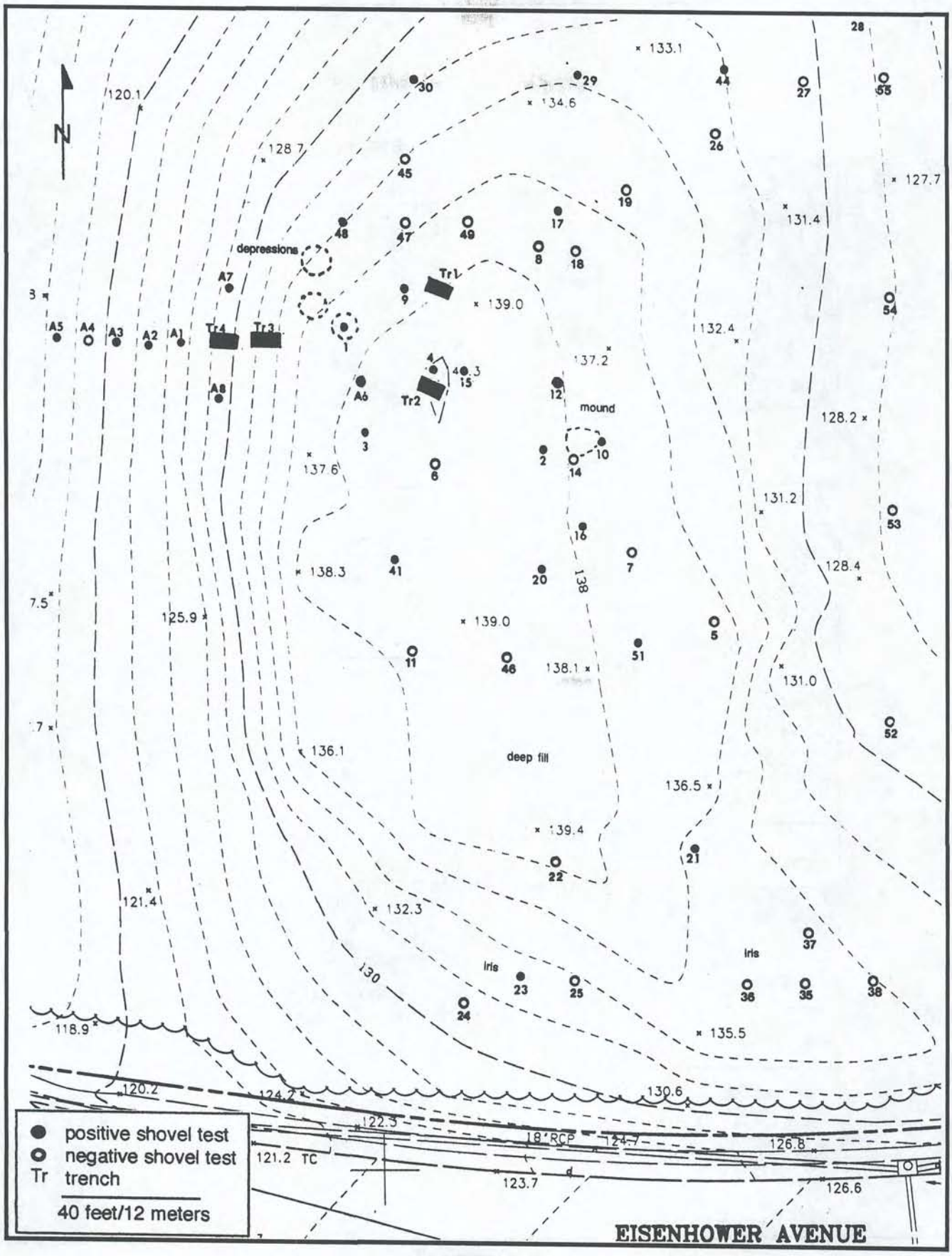


FIGURE 13
Portion of Project Area Showing Shovel Tests and Features

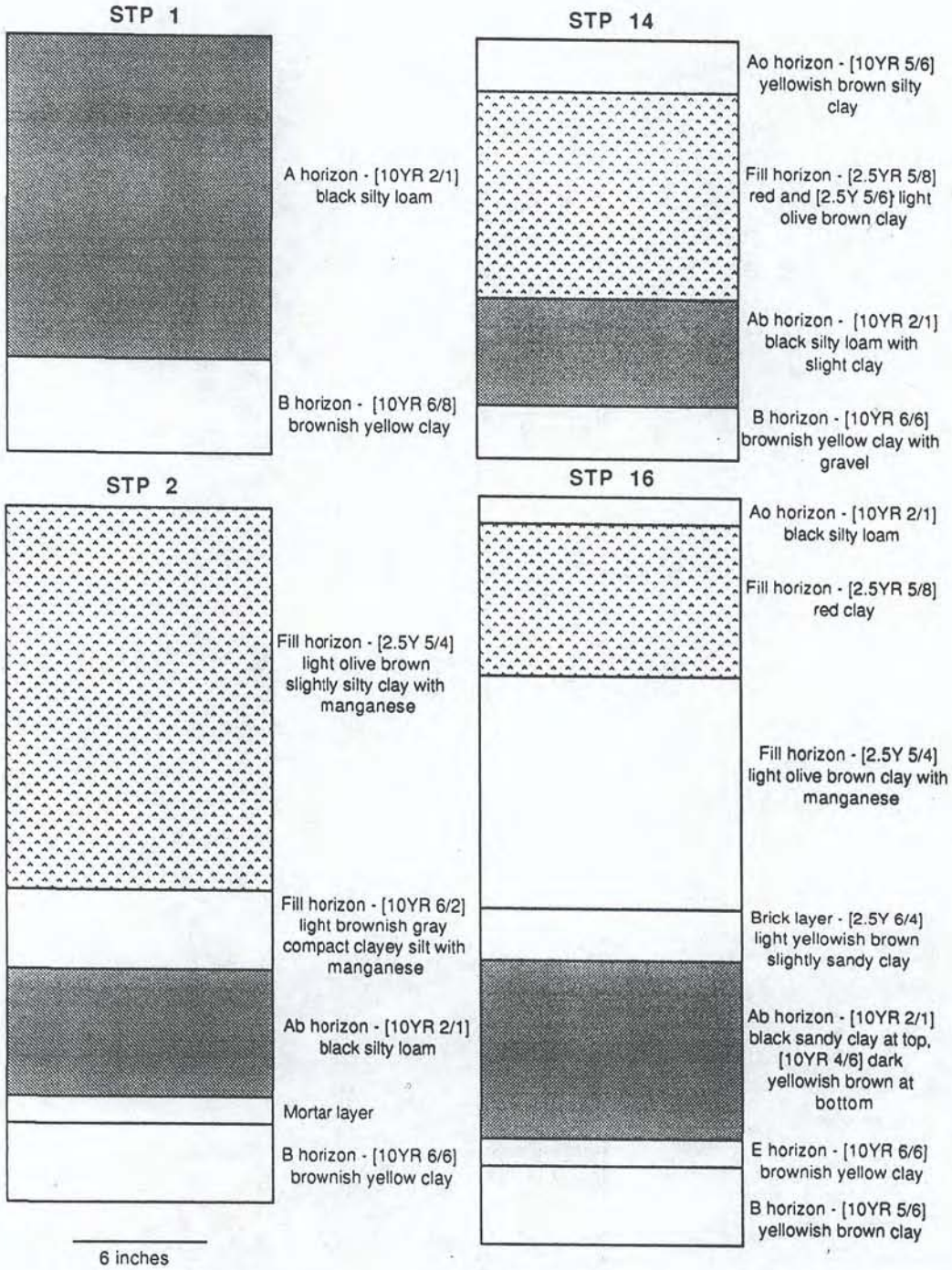


FIGURE 14
Representative Soil Profiles

fragments (pre 1864). A layer of disarticulated and jumbled brick was present from 10-13 inches (25-33 cm) below the ground surface in this unit. The artifacts found in the unit came from directly above the bricks.

Two low dirt mounds were present in the central portion of the knoll. STP 2 was placed on the western side of one of the mounds (Figure 13). The soils in this unit consisted of deep fills overlying an organic horizon and the shovel test pit was expanded to 2 x 2 feet (.61 x.61 meters) in order to explore the organic horizon beneath the fills. STP 2 exhibited the following soil profile (Figure 14):

Fill horizon I : 0-15 inches (0-38 cm) below surface - [2.5Y 5/4] light olive brown slightly silty clay with a lot of large manganese particles
Fill horizon II : 15-18 inches (38-46 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/2] light brownish gray very hard compact slightly clayey silt with large manganese/charcoal particles
Ab horizon : 18-23 inches (46-58 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black silty loam. A layer of Ab soil only extended from 18-19 inches (46-48 cm); this was then mixed with brick to 23 inches (58 cm)
Mortar layer : 23-24 inches (58-61 cm) below surface
B horizon : 24-27 inches (61-69 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/6] brownish yellow clay

The Ab horizon found in STP 2 appears to be the same midden layer which was found in STP 1, however, in this location, the midden has been covered with fill. Bricks were found throughout the fill horizons and in the Ab. Artifacts recovered from STP 2 included a single modern bottle fragment from the fill horizon.

Two additional shovel tests, STPs 10 and 14, were placed near the mound and STP 2 (Figure 13). STP 14, which was located closest to STP 2, also contained a fill horizon upon which a modern Ao had developed (Figure 14):

Ao horizon : 0-2 inches (0-5 cm) below surface - [10YR 5/6] yellowish brown silty clay
Fill horizon : 2-10 inches (5-25 cm) below surface - mixed [2.5YR 5/8] red and [2.5Y 5/6] light olive brown clay
Ab horizon : 10-14 inches (25-36 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black silty loam with slightly clay content
B horizon : 14-16 inches (36-41 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/6] brownish yellow clay with gravel

Brick rubble was present at the top of the Ab horizon. This shovel test did not contain artifacts.

STP 10 contained an A horizon over a B horizon. A single windowpane fragment was recovered from the A horizon.

STPs 7 and 16 were placed to the south of STPs 10 and 14 to examine the soils in this area (Figure 13). STP 7 contained soils similar to those found on the western side of the knoll: a thin Ao underlain by fill to 15 inches (38 cm), underlain by a 4 inch (10 cm) thick Ab horizon which was atop a B horizon. STP 7 did not produce artifacts.

STP 16 was placed 15 feet (4.6 meters) to the northwest of STP 7 (Figure 13). This unit contained the following soil profile (Figure 15 and Plate 4):

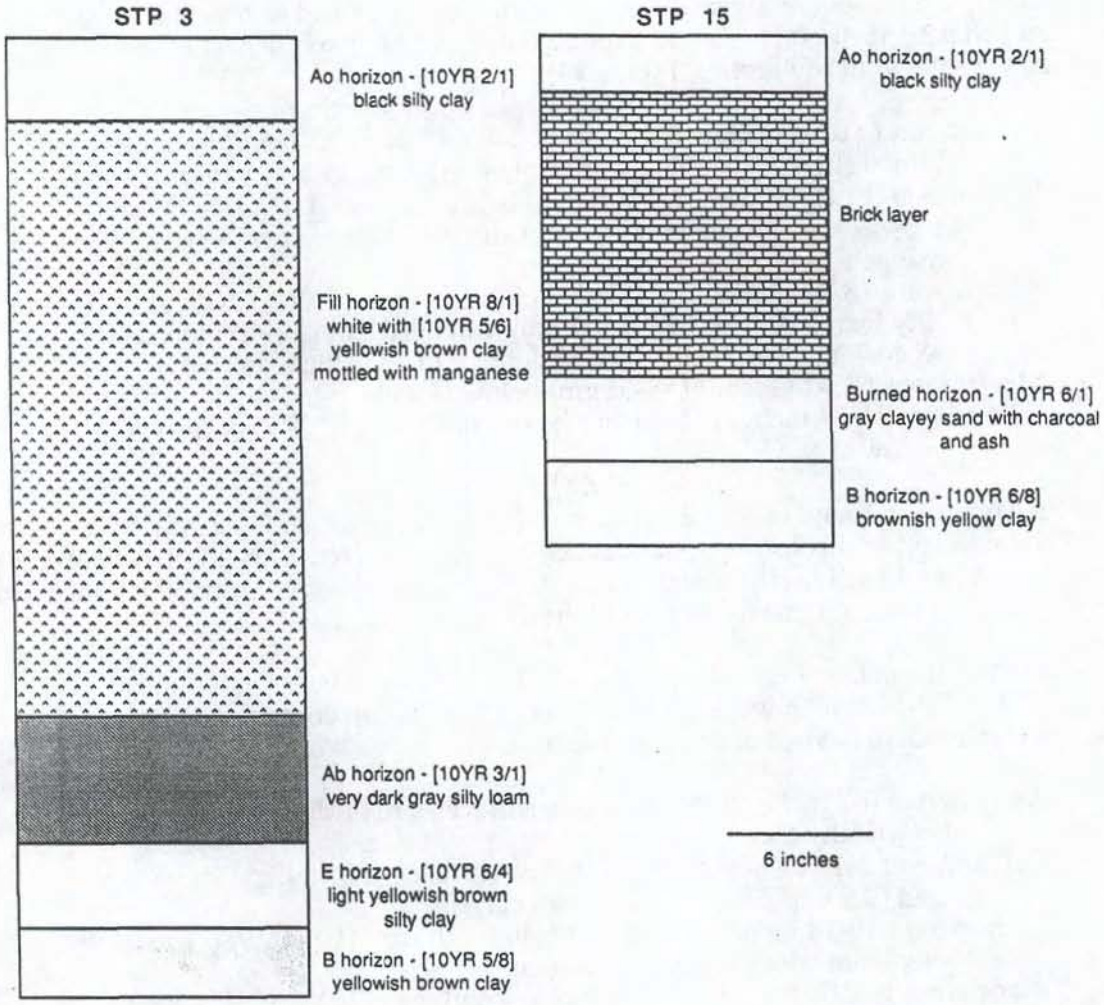


FIGURE 15
Representative Soil Profiles

Ao horizon : 0-1 inches (0-2.5 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black silty loam
Fill horizon : 1-7 inches (2.5-18 cm) below surface - [2.5YR 5/8] red clay
Fill horizon : 7-16 inches (18-41 cm) below surface - [2.5Y 5/4] light olive brown clay with manganese
Brick level : 16-18 inches (41-46 cm) below surface - [2.5Y 6/4] light yellowish brown slightly sandy clay
Ab horizon : 18-25 inches (46-63.5 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black sandy clay. This horizon is dark yellowish brown [10YR 4/6] at the lower levels
E horizon : 25-26 inches (63.5-66 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/6] brownish yellow clay
B horizon : 26-29 inches (66-74 cm) - [10YR 5/6] yellowish brown clay

A brick layer was reached at 16 inches below surface and the unit was expanded to more fully expose the brick layer. The brick within the brick layer does not appear to be in situ; it appears to be rubble which was pushed onto the original yard surface. The Ab layer was not nearly as organic in this location as it was in other areas, indicating this unit was placed beyond the house midden.

This unit yielded a melted glass fragment, a cut nail (post 1790) and a brick fragment from the Ab horizon.

STP 3 was placed on the opposite side of the knoll crest as the units described above to determine the soils in that location (Figure 13). The soils in STP 3 were similar to those described above, but the fill horizon was much deeper and an E horizon was present above the B (Figure 15):

Ao horizon : 0-3 inches (0-8 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black silty clay
Fill horizon : 3-24 inches (8-61 cm) below surface - [10YR 8/1] white with [10YR 5/6] yellowish brown silty clay mottled with manganese flecks
Ab horizon : 24-28.5 inches (61-72 cm) below surface - [10YR 3/1] very dark gray silty loam with brick fragments and small gravel
E horizon : 28.5-31.5 inches (72-80 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/4] light yellowish brown slightly silty clay
B horizon : 31.5-34 inches (80-86 cm) below surface - [10YR 5/8] yellowish brown clay

Seven oyster shell fragments and a brick fragment were recovered from the Ab/E horizon in STP 3.

STP 6 was placed midway between STP 2 and STP 3 (Figure 13). This unit contained fill soils to a depth of 21.5 inches (55 cm), followed by the buried A horizon and a solid layer of brick which began at 23 inches (58 cm) below the ground surface. No artifacts were recovered from STP 6.

STP 4 was placed towards the center of the knoll near an area where midden soils were exposed on the surface (Figure 13 and Plates 5 and 6). The midden soils in this unit were six inches (15 cm) thick and were underlain by a solid layer of brick and mortar which continued beyond the 11 inch (28 cm) depth of the excavation unit.

Two coarse stoneware sherds, a tumbler fragment, a bottle fragment and a windowpane fragment (pre 1864) were found on the surface of a dirt pile near STP 6. The surface midden soils in STP 4 contained a windowpane fragment, 11 cut nails (post 1790), a sheet iron fragment, a brass eye (from hook and eye), six oyster shell fragments, a bone fragment and 10 mortar fragments. A kaolin pipe fragment stamped "197 Derry" was also recovered from the midden soils.

Because of the architectural debris found in STP 4, two additional shovel tests and one trench were placed at this location. STP 13 was located 5 feet (1.5 meters) to the west of STP 4 (Figure 13). This unit did not contain the midden soils present in STP 4. Instead, a 12 inch (30.5 cm) thick fill horizon lay directly atop the B horizon. STP 13 did not contain artifacts.

STP 15 was located 5 feet (1.5 meters) to the east of STP 4 (Figure 13). This unit also exhibited a different soil profile (Figure 15):

Ao horizon : 0-2 inches (0-5 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black silty clay
Brick layer: 2-12 inches (5-30.5 cm) below surface
Burned horizon : 12-15 inches (30.5-38 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/1] gray clayey sand with charcoal
B horizon : 15-18 inches (38-46 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/8] brownish yellow clay

The burned horizon also contained ash. The overall impression was that of a hearth but this is an impression only.

Two windowpane fragments (pre 1864), a blue transfer printed whiteware sherd (1830-1865+) and three cut nails were recovered from the burned horizon in STP 15.

Trench 2, which measured 1.5 x 5 feet (.46 x 1.5 meters) was excavated just to the southeast of STP 13 (Figure 13). This trench was placed in this location to determine if a foundation wall was present. The soils in the unit were as follows (Figure 16):

Fill horizon : 0-6/9 inches (0-15/23 cm) below surface - [10YR 3/6] dark yellowish brown loam. This fill was shallower in the western half of the trench
Fill horizon/West Half : 9-12 inches (23-30.5 cm) below surface - [10YR 5/3] brown clay
Pit Fill/East Half: 9-18 inches (23-46 cm) below surface - [10YR 2/1] black sandy loam. The first six inches of the pit fill was slightly lighter, [10YR 3/2] very dark grayish brown, than the remainder of the fill
B horizon : 9/18-15/19 inches (23/46-38/48 cm) below surface - [10YR 5/6] yellowish brown silty clay

The fill horizon in Trench 2 contained an ironstone sherd (post 1840), three whiteware sherds (1820-1900+/1830-1865+), a soft paste porcelain sherd (post 1800), 15 windowpane fragments, a milk glass button, 21 unidentified glass fragments, a spirits bottle fragment (1810-1880), a partially melted bottle fragment, an ink bottle fragment (1830s-1850s), 3 unidentified bottle fragments, a pictorial flask fragment (1830s-1860s), a tableware/decanter fragment (1820s-1830s), a brass button and two thin ferrous metal fragments.

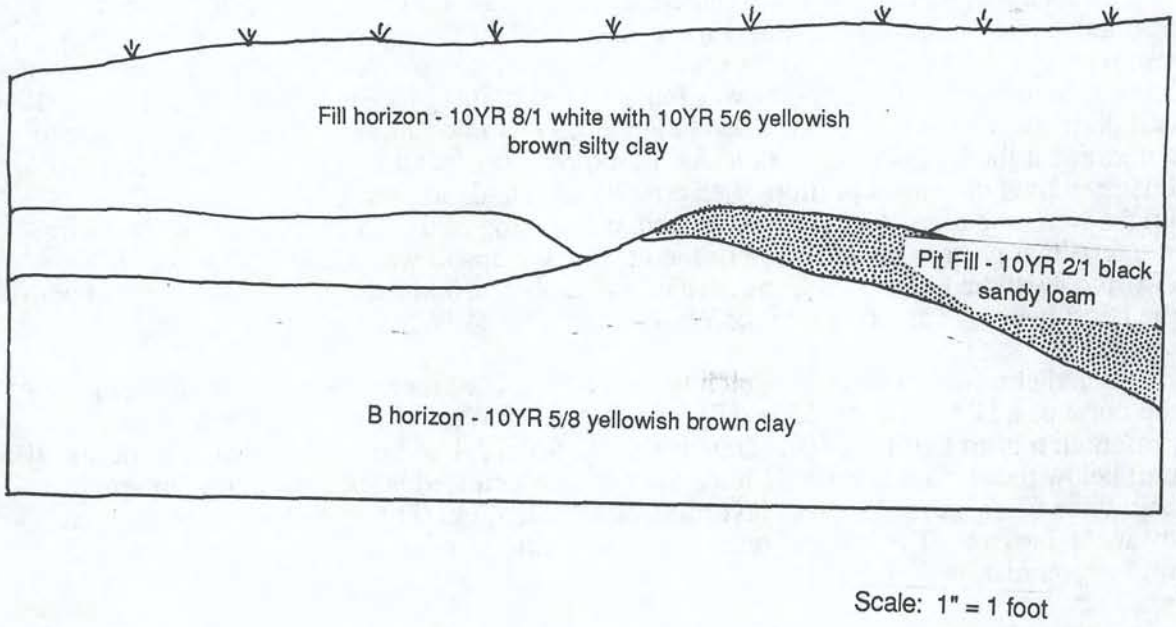


FIGURE 16
Soil Profile, North Wall, Trench 2

The fill horizon in the west half of the unit contained seven spirits bottle fragments made in a cup mold (1860-1880) and two thin ferrous metal fragments.

Although no foundation wall was encountered, the edge of a pit was present in the eastern half of the trench just below the first fill horizon. This pit contained large artifacts - two stoneware crock fragments, six whiteware sherds, a possible burned ironstone fragment, three tumbler fragments, a mold blown medicinal bottle fragment (post 1825), five freeblown bottle fragments (pre 1860), ten unidentified bottle fragments, three spirits bottle fragments made in a contact mold (1810-1860), two tumbler or bottle fragments (1825-1860), nine tumbler/bottle fragments, four crown glass windowpane fragments (1812-1839), 12 other windowpane fragments (pre 1864), a milk glass button (post 1790s), 16 sheet glass fragments, five melted glass fragments, 22 ferrous metal fragments, a wrought nail, 15 cut nails (post 1790), two charred bone fragments and a mortar fragment.

STP 12 was placed 25 feet (7.6 meters) to the east of STPs 4, 13, 15 and Trench 2 to examine the soils in this direction (Figure 13). Much of the topsoil in this area had been removed by a trench excavated for unknown reason at some unknown point in the past. A layer of partially articulated brick was found in this unit at just below the surface (Figure 17 and Plate 7). The unit was expanded to 2.5 x 2.5 feet in order to expose the brick layer to determine if the bricks were in situ. As the exposed bricks all lay flat and were conjoined, it is presumed they are a portion of an articulated foundation wall, pier, or floor. The bricks were one brick thick and lay immediately on top of the underlying B horizon. This suggests that prior to construction of the house, the topsoil was stripped, possibly in an effort to level the hilltop. This practice was also observed at a tenant house associated with the Leesylvania plantation in Prince William County (44PW568, Activity Area 2).

Another trench, Trench 1, which measured 1.6 x 3.2 feet (.5 x 1 meter), was placed to the north of STPs 4, 13 and 15 and Trench 2 in order to see if a foundation wall was present in this area (Figure 13). Trench 1 contained a fill horizon to a depth of 8 inches (20 cm) below the surface (Figure 18). A layer of disarticulated brick rubble was present just below the fill (Figure 19). This layer was one brick thick. The brick layer was underlain by an Ab horizon. The layer of brick rubble in Trench 1 may represent a collapsed brick wall or foundation pier.

The fill horizon in Trench 1 contained two unglazed redware fragments, ten crown glass windowpane fragments (1812-1839), 16 other windowpane fragments (pre 1864), an unidentified glass fragment, a cut nail (post 1790) and a .58 caliber lead bullet from the Civil War era. Four mortar fragments and a hickory nut hull fragment were recovered from the fill.

Two additional trenches were placed along the slope west of STP 1 to determine if the midden extended along the slope.

Trench 3, which measure 1.3 x 2.5 feet (.4 x .8 meters), was located 15 feet (4.6 meters) west of STP 1 (Figure 13). This unit contained a fill horizon underlain by midden soils (Ab) at 16 inches (41 cm) below the surface in the eastern portion of the trench and at 26 inches (66 cm) at the western end of the trench (Plate 8). The top of the Ab horizon represents the original ground surface at the time that the site was occupied. The overlying bricks probably represent the house razing.

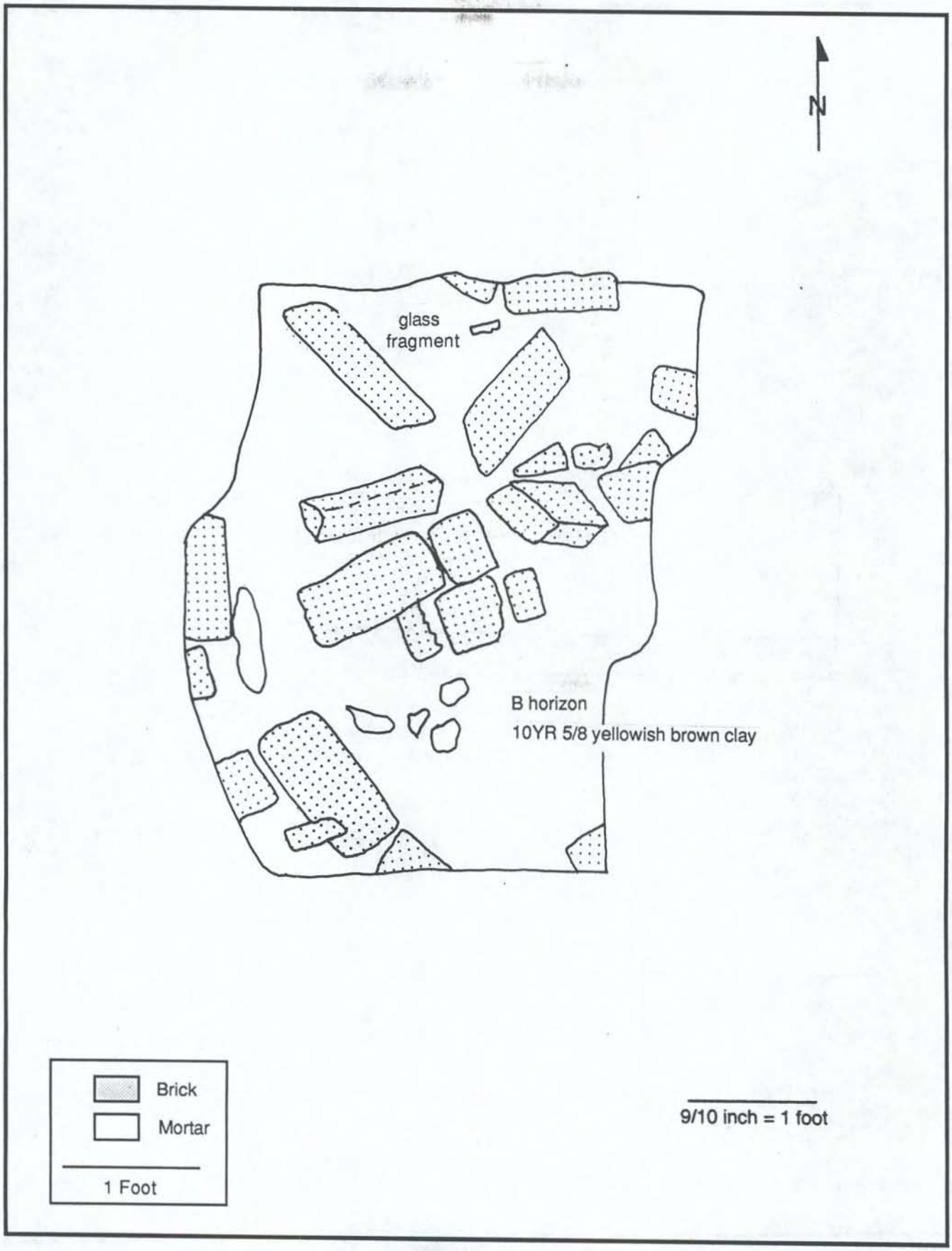


FIGURE 17
Plan Map, STP 12

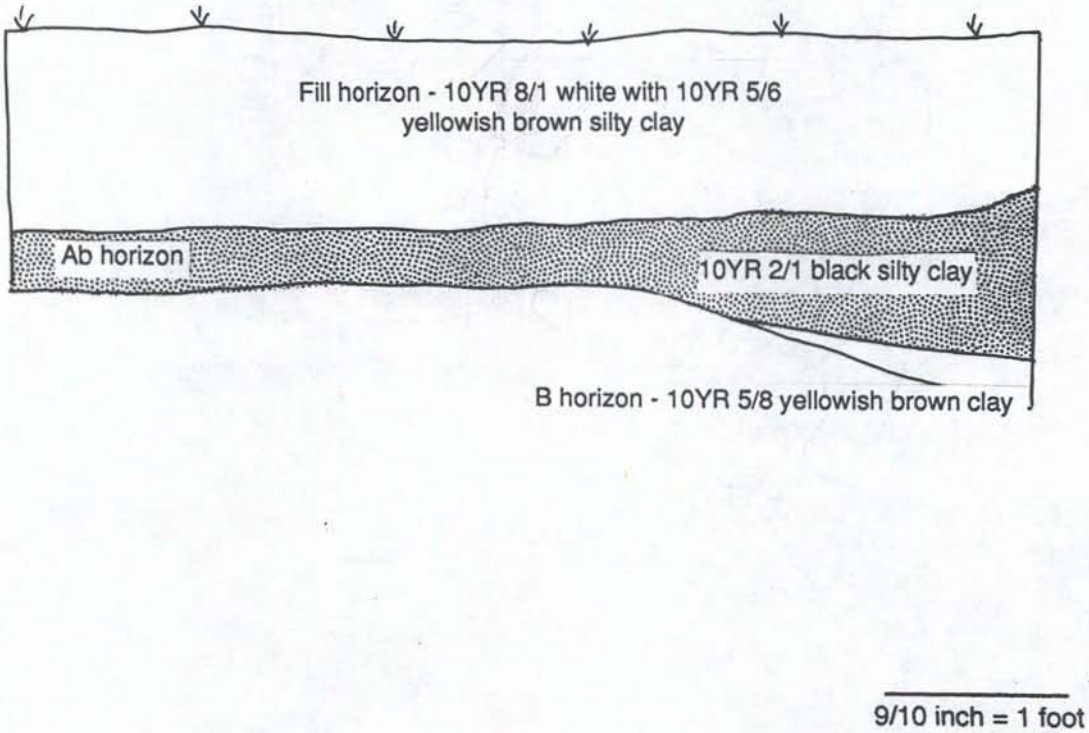


FIGURE 18
Trench 1, North Wall Profile

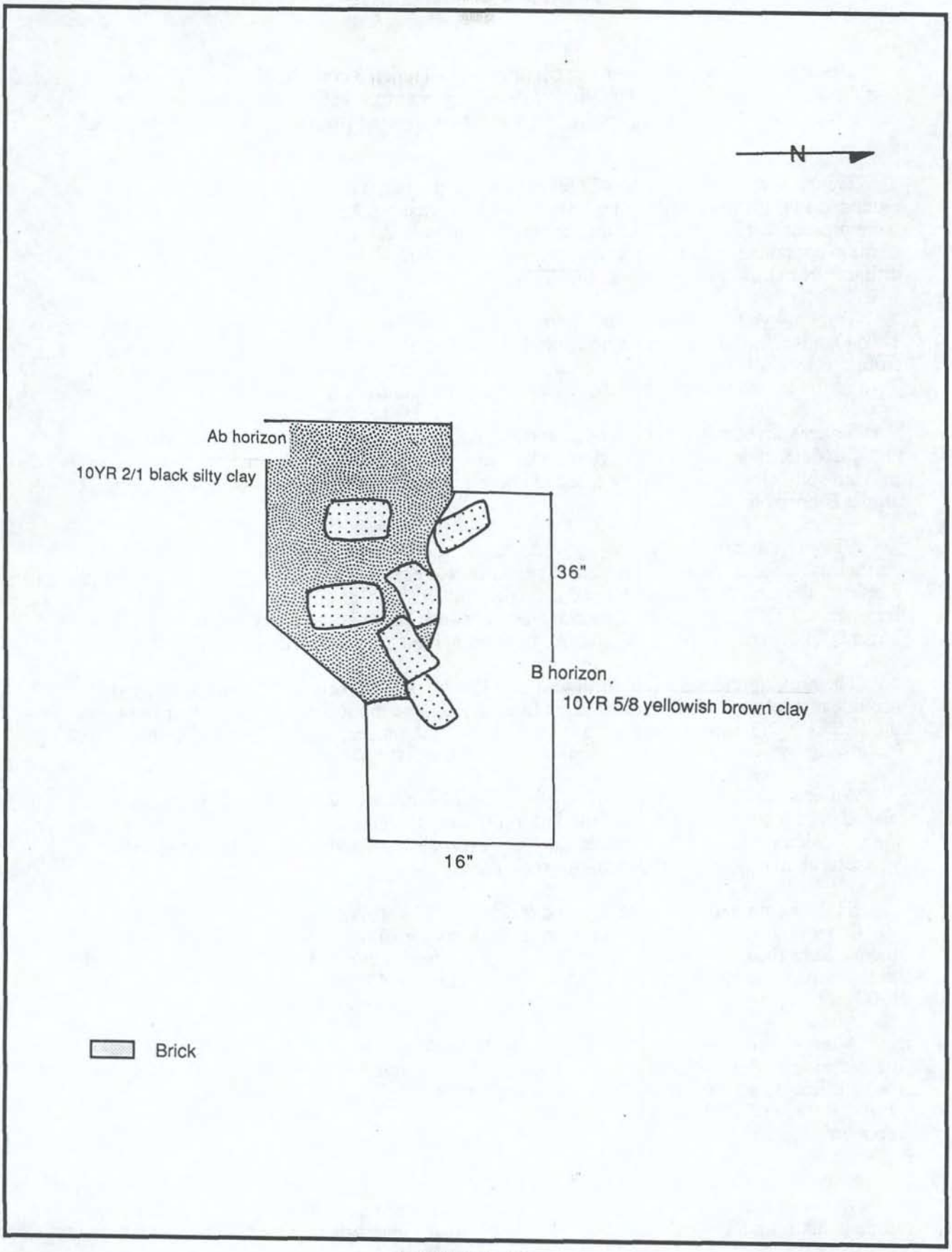


FIGURE 19
Plan Map, Trench 1

The artifacts recovered from the fill horizon in Trench 3 consisted of a mold blown bottle fragment (post 1810), one windowpane fragment (pre 1864) and an unidentified glass fragment. Six windowpane fragments were recovered from the Ab horizon in Trench 3.

Trench 4 was placed 6 feet (2 meters) west of Trench 3 to determine if the midden extended in this direction (Figure 13). This unit measured 1.3 x 2.5 feet. Fill horizons were present to 12 inches (30.5 cm) in this unit (Figure 20 and Plate 9). The second fill horizon contained bricks. This was underlain by a thin Ab horizon. The majority of the artifacts from this unit came from the Ab/E interface.

Trench 4 yielded a pearlware sherd (1780-1830), two whiteware sherds (1830-1865+), a Rockingham/Bennington sherd (1812-1900), two bottle fragments (one dates from the 1850s/1860s), 12 windowpane fragments, three cut nails and a lead musket ball. Two of the window fragments are crown glass and date from 1812-1839.

Seven shovel tests (STPs A1-A5 and A7-A8) were placed to the south of Trenches 3 and 4 to determine the midden extent in this area (Figure 13). None of the units contained midden soils. Instead the soils consisted of a circa 8 inch (20 cm) A horizon which lay atop a B horizon.

STP A1 contained six whiteware sherds, two pearlware sherds, a refined white earthenware sherd, two windowpane fragments, a sheet glass fragment, three cut nails and a brick fragment. STP A2 contained a single whiteware sherd and three windowpane fragments, STP A3 contained a mortar fragment and STP A5 contained a stoneware sherd and a brick fragment. STPs A7 and A8 each contained a single redware sherd.

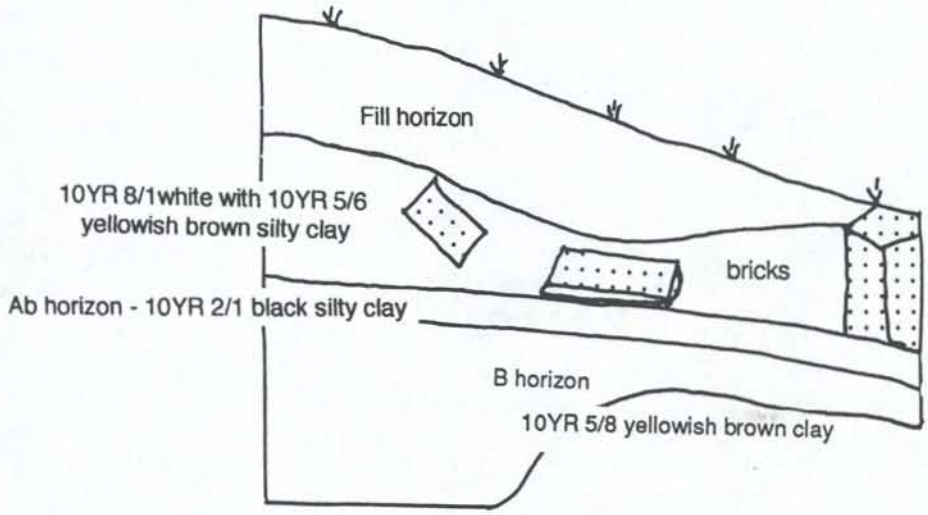
The areas to the west and northwest of STPs A1-A5 had been mechanically graded to provide a level surface. This is evident from the change in topography from that shown on the U.S.G.S. 7.5' topographic map (Figure 1) and the project maps (Figures 21 and 22). No testing was conducted in this area because of the disturbance.

An additional 13 shovel test pits (STPs 8-9, 17-19, 26, 29, 44-45, and 47-49) were placed on the northern portion of the knoll (Figure 23). Those units which were located on the west side of the knoll, closest to the knoll crest (STPs 9 and 49), contained the fill horizons characteristic of those on the knoll crest.

STP 9 contained four windowpane fragments. No artifacts were recovered from STP 49. Other units containing artifacts from this vicinity include: STP 17 - a bottle fragment and a quartz flake; STP 29 - two bottle fragments, an unidentified glass fragment, a cut nail and a mortar fragment; STP 44 - a quartz flake and STP 48 - two whiteware sherds (1820-1900+), two pearlware sherds (1780-1830/1780-1835) and a cut nail (post 1790).

A large, circa 6 x 6' hole was present in the vicinity of STP 19. A small profile cut in the east side of this feature failed to reveal anything conclusive. The absence of bricks in the profile cut and around the hole suggests it is not a well. B horizon soils were present on the surface of STP 19, indicating the topsoil had been removed. No artifacts were recovered from the unit.

STP 5 was placed on a the edge of a wide shelf, adjacent to a steep cut which appeared to be artificial (Figure 24). The vines and periwinkle were much thicker along the eastern slope containing STP 5 than along the western slope. The soils in STP 5 contained fill



1 inch = 1 1/4 feet

FIGURE 20
Soil Profile, South Wall, Trench 4

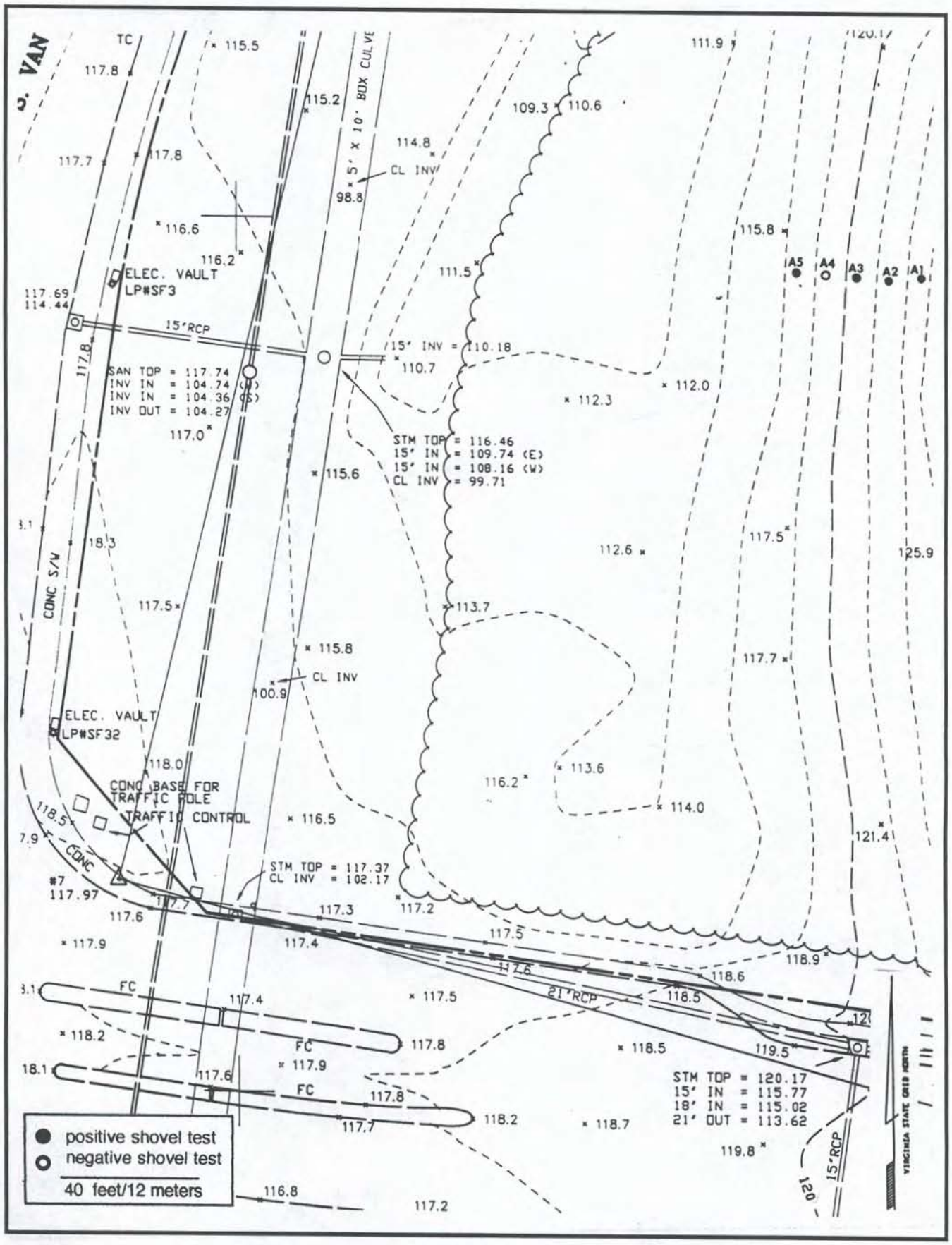


FIGURE 21
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

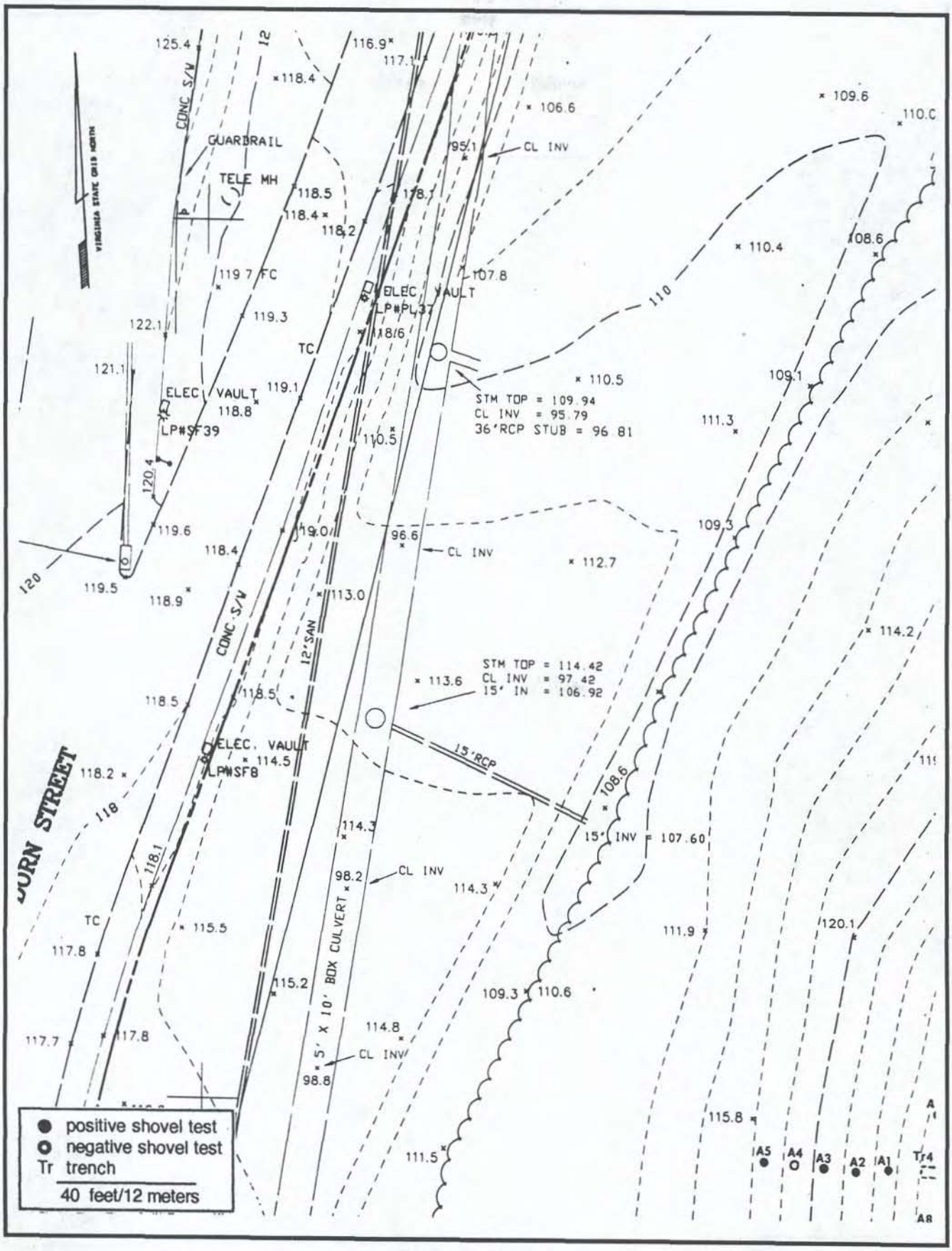


FIGURE 22
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

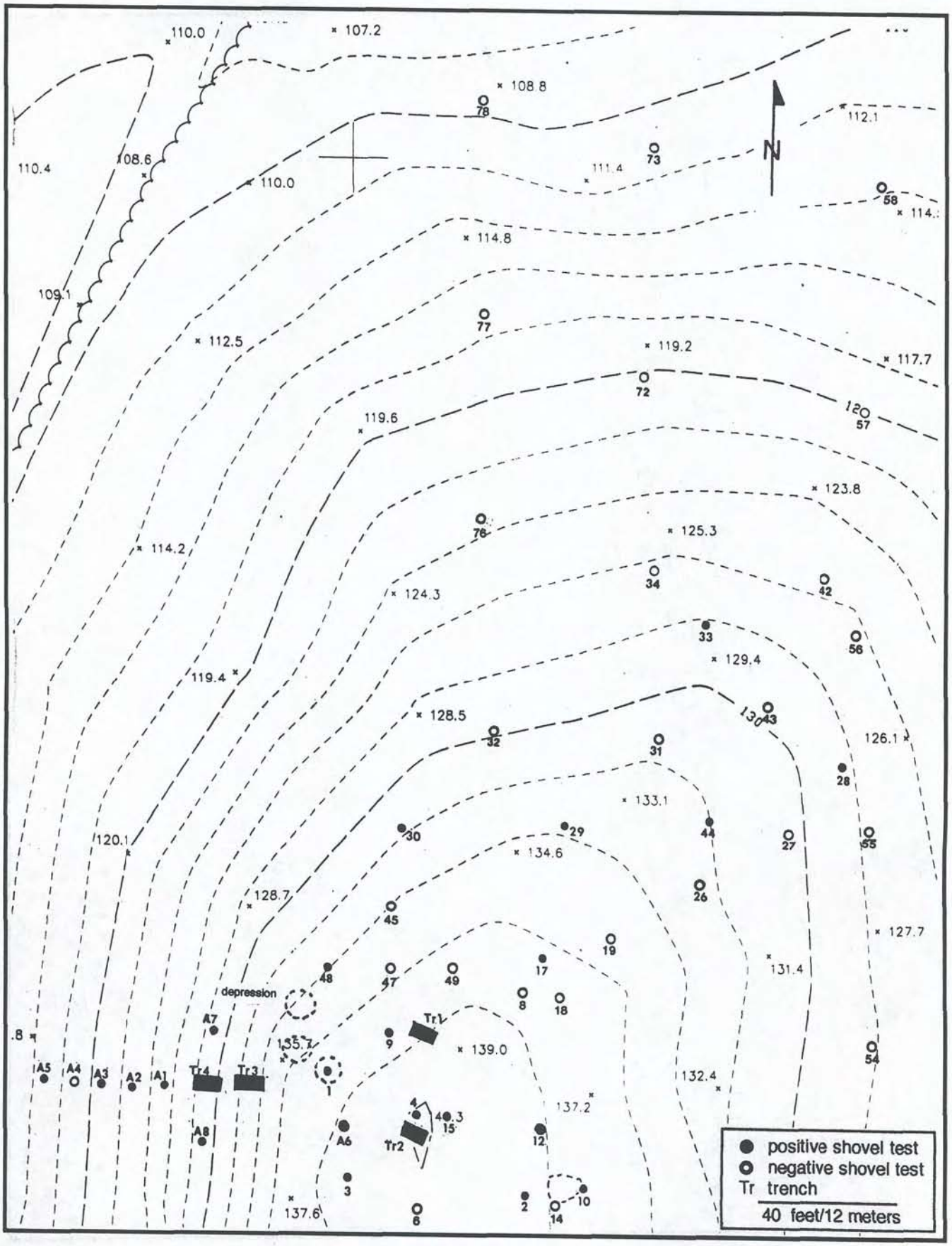


FIGURE 23
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests

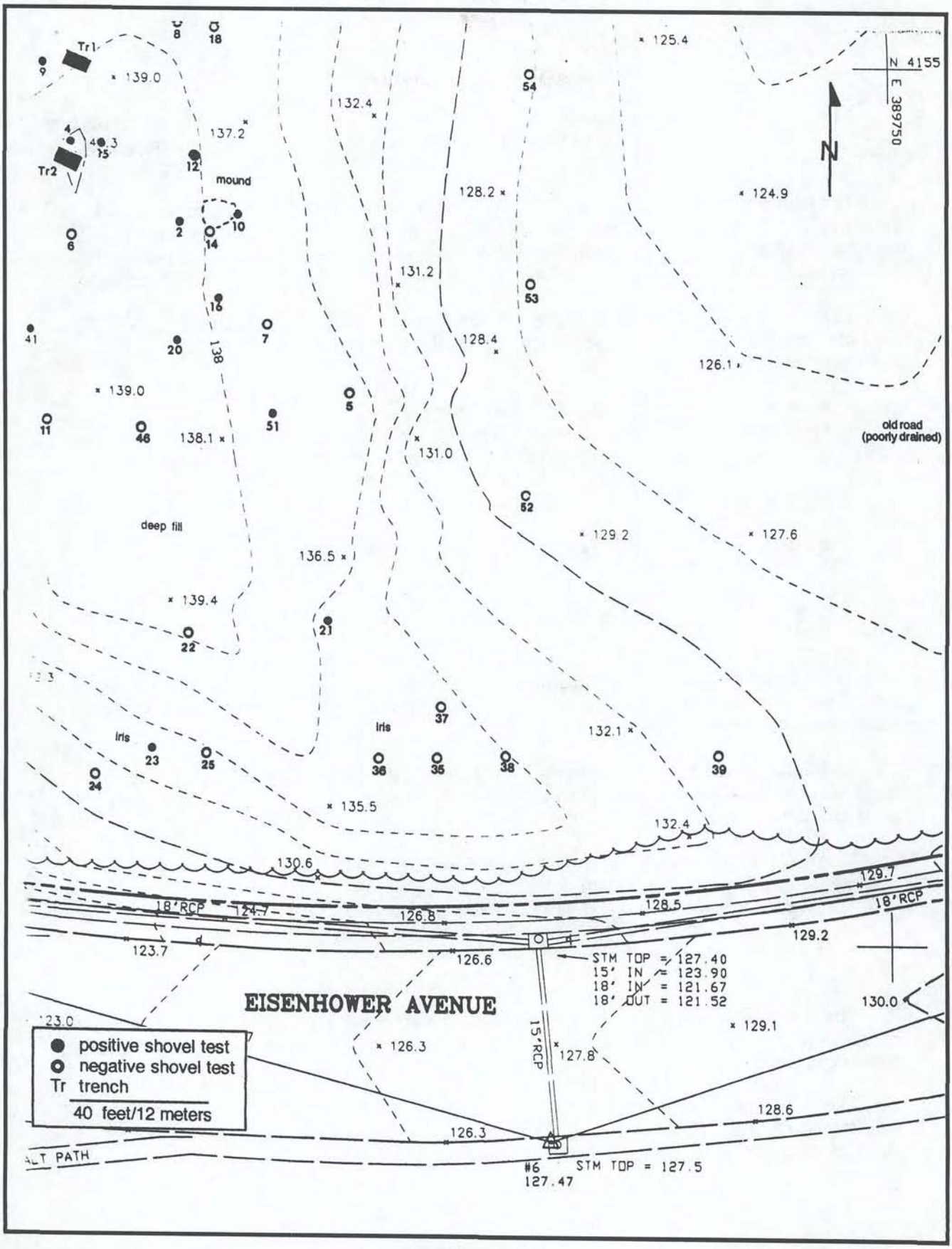


FIGURE 24
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

soils to a depth of 36 inches (91 cm) indicating that the degree of slope evident in this location is not natural. No artifacts were recovered from STP 5.

STP 51, located 20 feet (6 meters) to the west of STP 5, contained fill soils to a depth of 14 inches (35.6 cm) below the surface. The fill was underlain by a three inch thick Ab horizon and then the B horizon. A redware sherd was recovered from the Ab horizon.

The fill soils on the ridge crest west of STP 51 were very deep and similar to those found in STP 5. STP 46 contained fill soils to a depth of 24 inches (61 cm) below the surface. Augering below this depth showed fill soils to 37 inches below the surface. STP 11, located 25 feet (7.6 meters) to the west of STP 46, also had deep fill soils (31 inches).

STPs 21 and 22 were placed on the southern portion of the knoll (Figure 24). STP 21 contained the fill soils found in the units to the north, however a thin organic layer had developed atop the fill (Figure 25):

Ao horizon : 0-2 inches (0-5 cm) below surface - root mat
Fill horizon: 2-14 inches (5-35.6 cm) below surface - [2.5Y 6/8] olive yellow mixed with [2.5YR 5/4] weak red clay with large amounts of cobbles and gravels
Ab horizon : 14-17 inches (35.6-43 cm) below surface - [10YR 3/1] very dark gray silty clay
B horizon : 17-23 inches (43-58 cm) below surface - [7.5YR 6/8] reddish yellow silty clay with sand

A modern bottle fragment was recovered from the Ab horizon in STP 21.

STP 22, located in a patch of irises, 25 feet (7.6 meters) to the west of STP 21 did not contain fill soils. Instead, the soil profile consisted of a 6 inch thick A horizon which lay atop the B horizon. The A horizon soils in STP 22 were very loose and silty. No artifacts were recovered from STP 22.

An additional seven shovel test pits were placed at the southernmost extent of the knoll, also in an area which contained a number of irises (Figure 24). The soils in these units are represented by STP 23 (Figure 25):

Ao/A horizon : 0-8 inches (0-20 cm) below surface - [10YR 3/2] very dark grayish brown loam
E horizon : 8-16 inches (20-41 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/6] brownish yellow clayey silt
B horizon : 16-23 inches (41-58 cm) below surface - [10YR 6/8] brownish yellow sandy clay

The B horizon in all of the units contained large amounts of gravels and cobbles. STP 38, located on the far eastern portion of the knoll, contained cobbles and gravels in the E horizon as well.

The A horizon in STP 23 contained a redware sherd, a pearlware sherd (1780-1830), a windowpane fragment and a cut nail. The E horizon contained a wrought nut and bolt. None of the other units in this area contained artifacts.

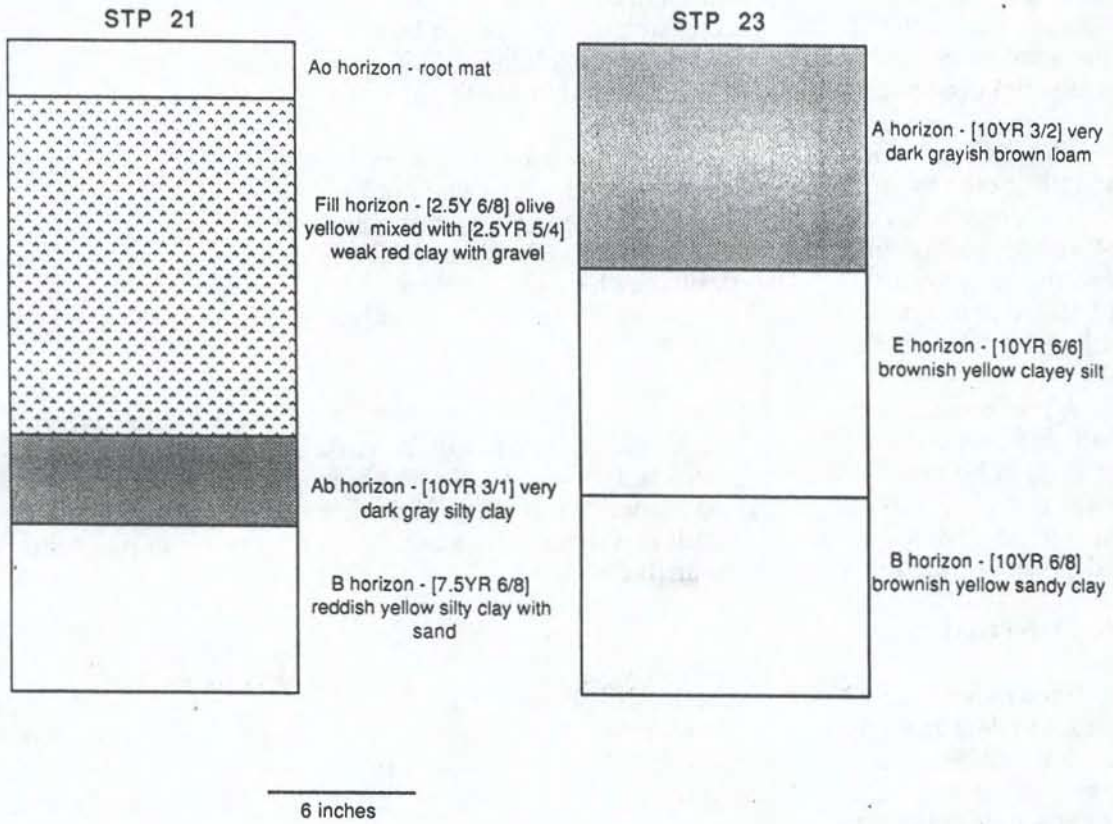


FIGURE 25
Representative Soil Profiles

Twenty nine additional shovel test pits were placed to the north and east of the knoll discussed above, west of a drainage cut which ran through the center of the parcel (Figures 26-28). The soils in these units consisted of an Ap horizon over a B horizon. Only one of the units, STP 33, contained artifacts - a single pearlware sherd.

An examination of the project map revealed a topographic anomaly in the northwestern corner of the project area (Figure 28 and 29). The anomaly consisted of a small rise which was approximately five feet high and 10 feet wide (Plates 10 and 11). A trench, Trench 5, was placed in this area to determine the function of this feature (Figures 28 and 29). The soils within the trench consisted of an organic horizon (A horizon) which had developed atop fills. The first fill horizon consisted of a yellowish brown clay and the second was a white sand. The soils were very loosely consolidated and uncompacted. No artifacts, gravels, or compacted soils were encountered in the three-foot deep trench.

The feature, which varies in width but was circa nine feet wide in the area of Trench 5, was interpreted as an old railroad or road bed which had not been used (because the soils had not been compacted). This was confirmed by an informant who revealed that the feature was part of an Orange and Alexandria (Southern Railway) railroad bed which was constructed in the 1850s. Two drainage channels cut through the feature. The feature is probably a continuation of 44AX54, also an unused railroad bed which lies adjacent to the northeast corner of the parcel.

A additional 29 shovel test pits were placed east of the old road, adjacent to Metro Road (Figures 30-32). The soils in these units generally consisted of a plowzone which overlay a B horizon. In some locations, the water table was reached at 12 inches. Two shovel test pits, STPs 84 and 85 contained fill to about 15 inches below the surface. The units are near Metro Road and the fill is probably associated with the construction of the road. None of the units contained artifacts.

Site Discussion

Excavations at an historic site, 44AX178, revealed a domestic occupation which appears to date from the 1820s to the early 1840s. Datable ceramics consist primarily of pearlware (22%) and whiteware (64%). Two sherds of ironstone (post 1840) appear to be present which would place the end of the occupation after this date. This is consistent with the glass dates, as bottles were found which date to the 1820s and 1830s, but few post 1840 bottles were found. The post 1840 bottles that were found were in the fill horizons associated with the demolition of the structure perhaps indicating that the structure was razed in the 1850s/1860s. The single exception to this was a bottle fragment dating to the 1850s/1860s which was found in the Ab horizon in Trench 4. Bioturbation may account for the presence of this bottle. If the occupation extended to the 1850s and beyond, it is likely that greater quantities of ironstone and later bottle types would be present in the Ab and in the features.

Intact structural remains are present as well as refuse deposits. The structure evidently was constructed directly atop the B horizon. The A horizon which should have been present in the structure vicinity had been completely removed. This is similar to 44PW568, Activity Area 2, a structure excavated in 1995 by TAA. In the case of 44PW568, a portion of the hillside had been cut away and the structure was erected on the artificial shelf which had been created. Because of the topographic alteration during the razing of 44AX178, it is difficult to say if identical ground preparation techniques were used.

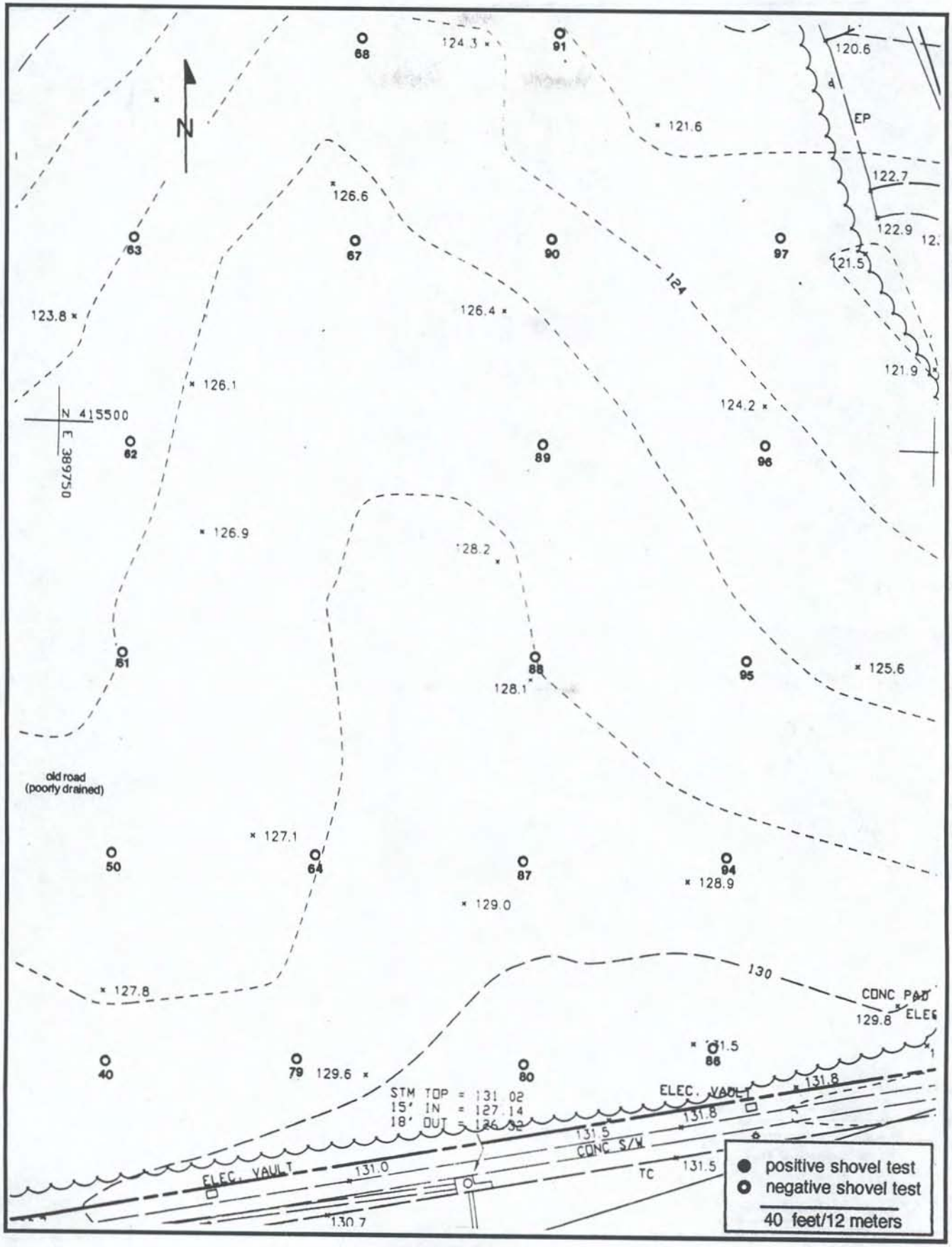


FIGURE 26
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests

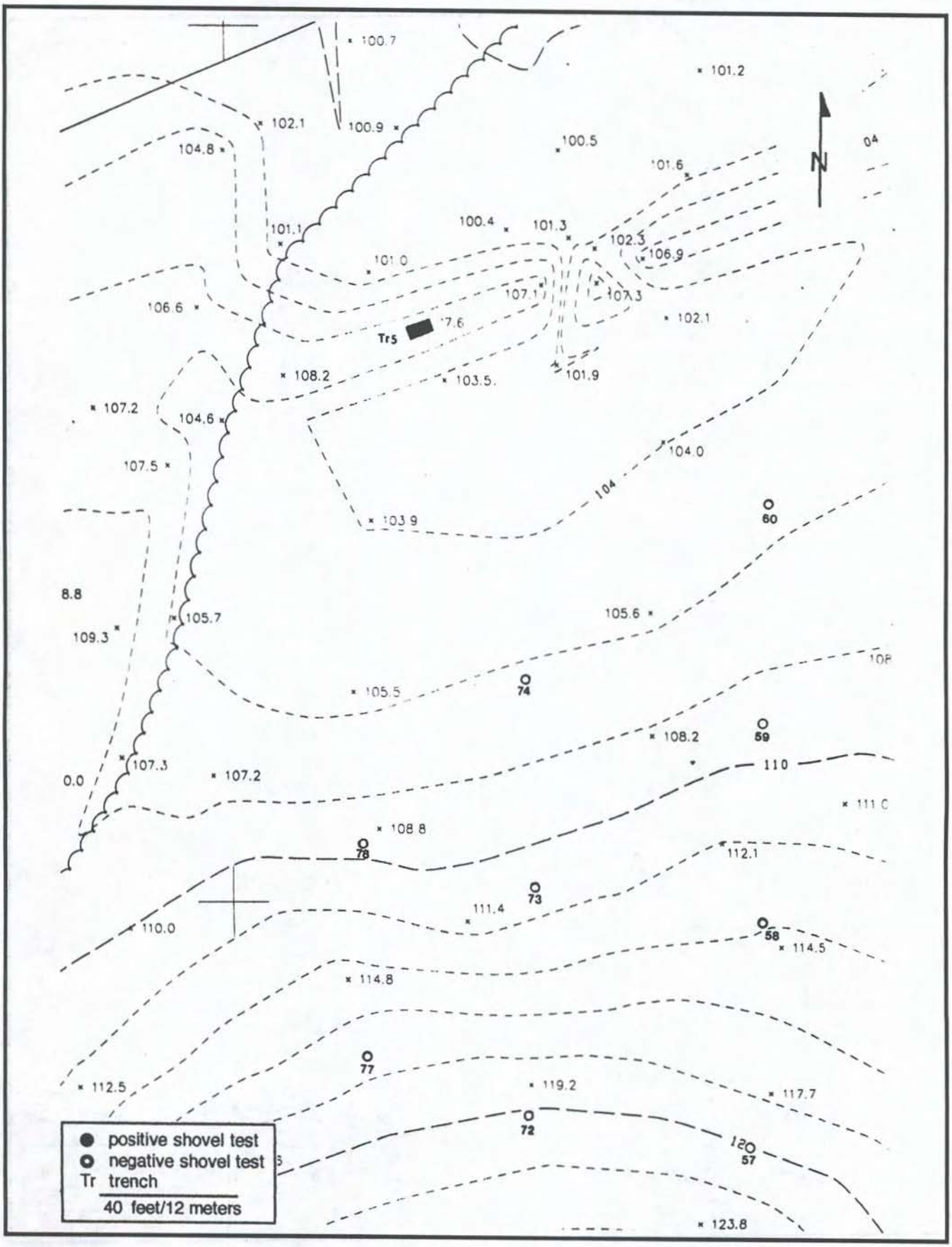


FIGURE 27
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

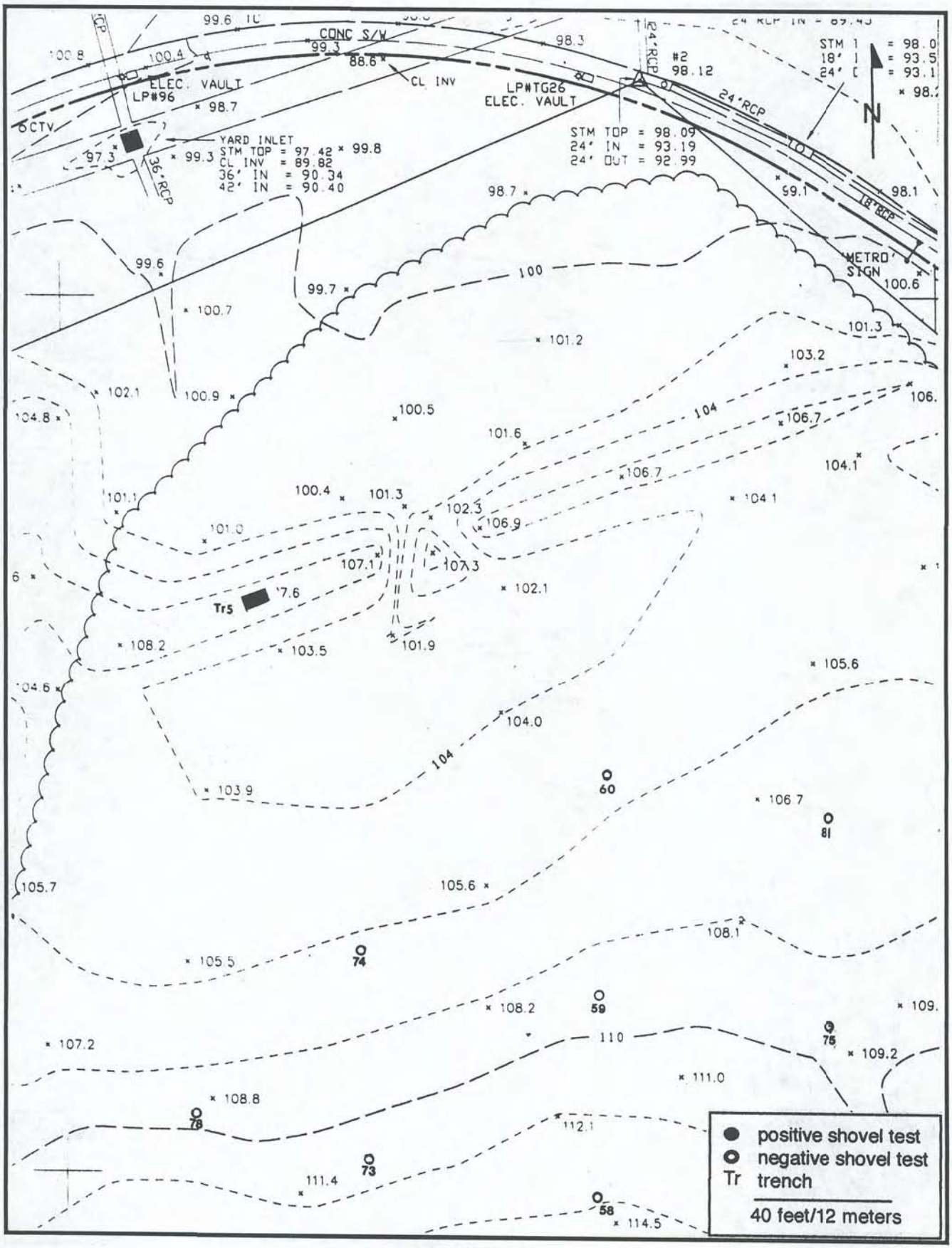


FIGURE 28
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests, Trench 5, Railroad Bed and Topographic Features

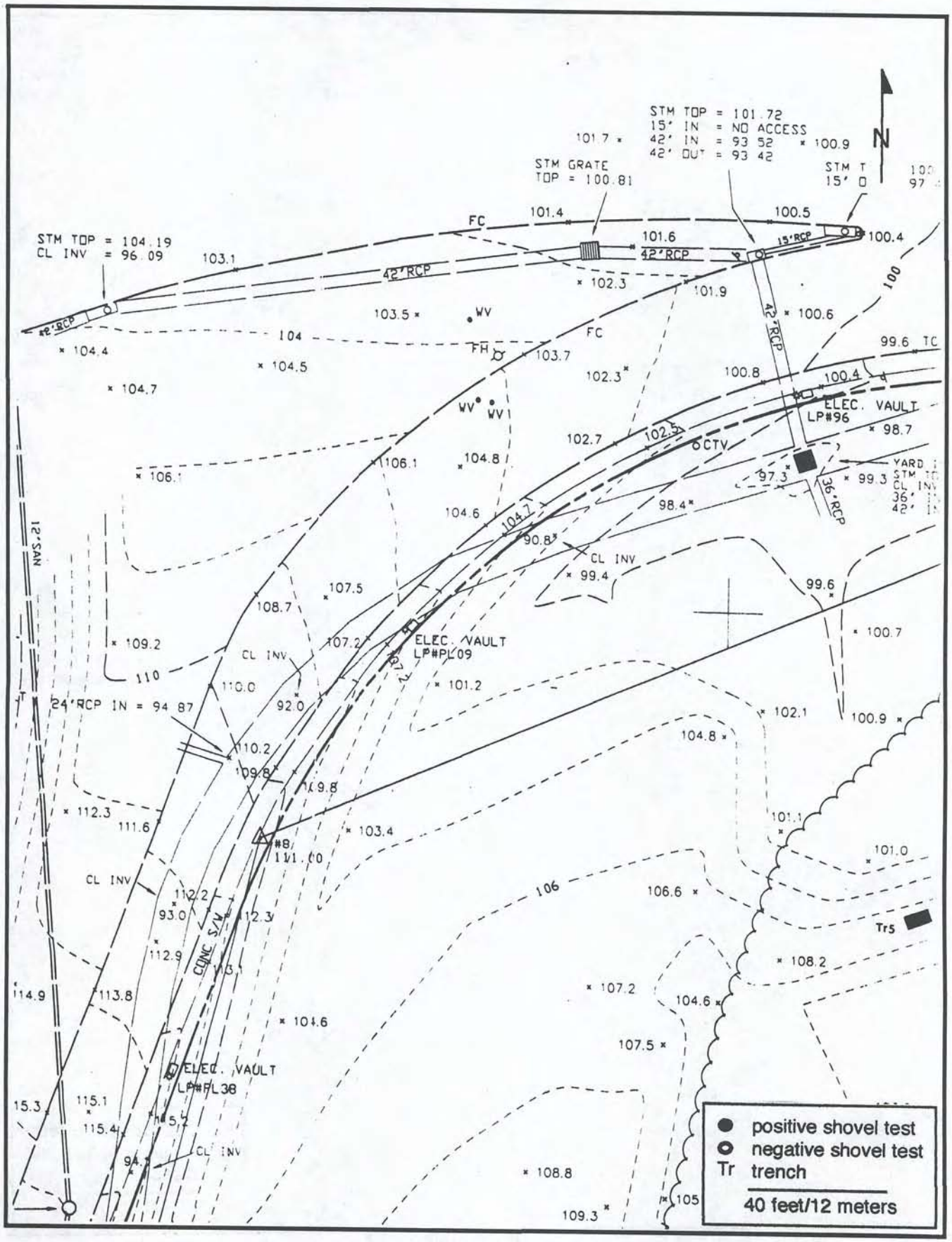


FIGURE 29
Portion of Project Map Showing Testing and Topographic Features

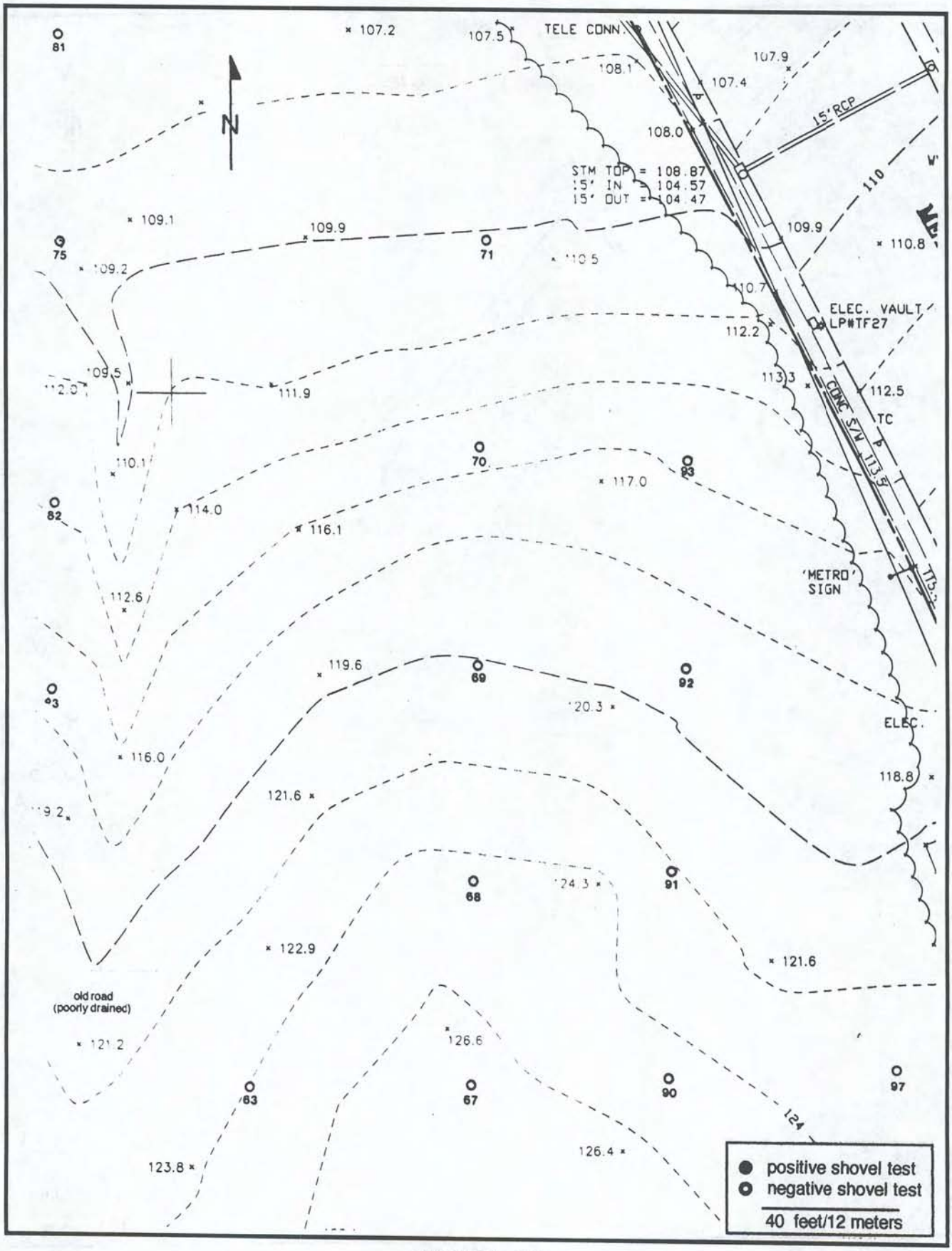


FIGURE 30
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

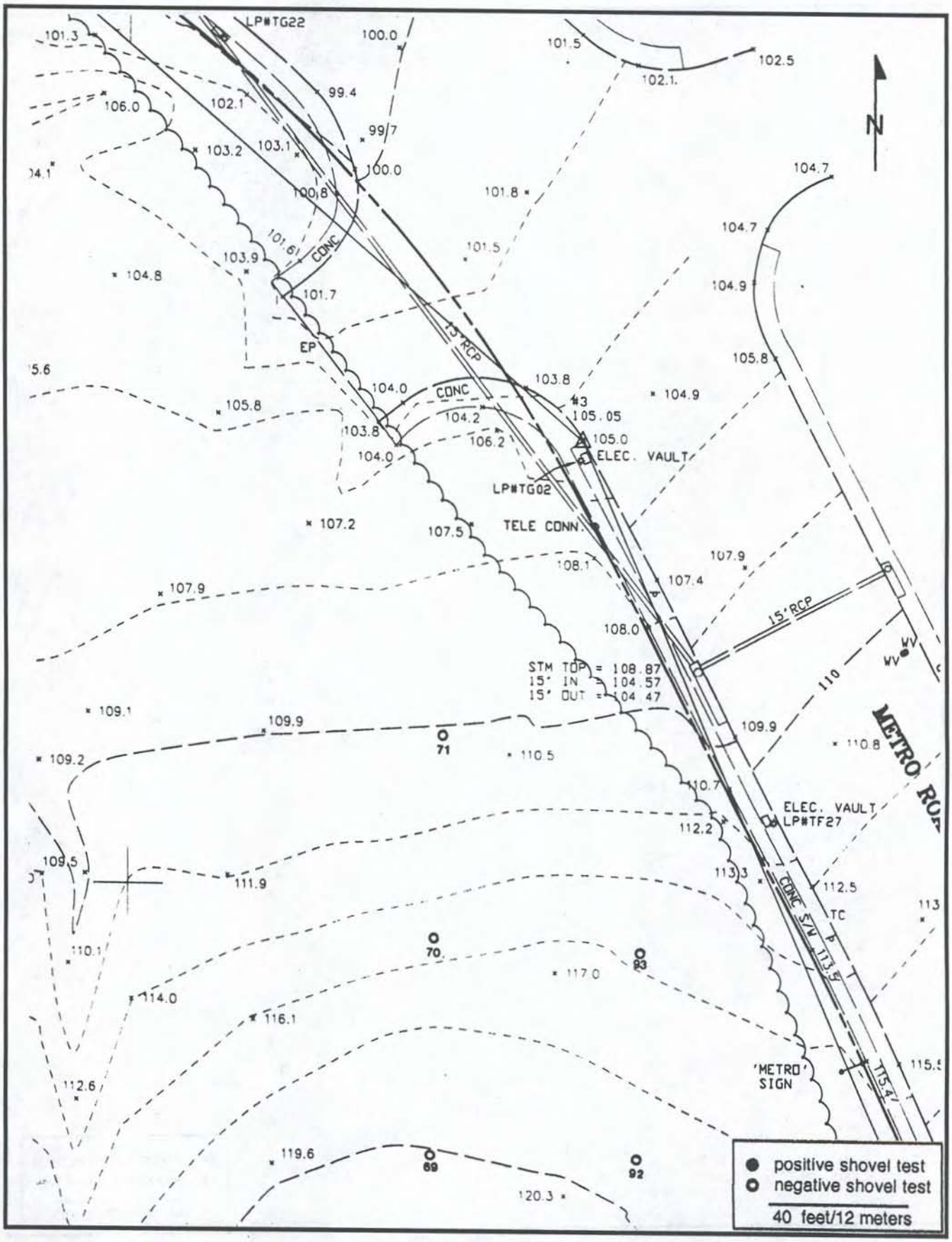


FIGURE 31
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

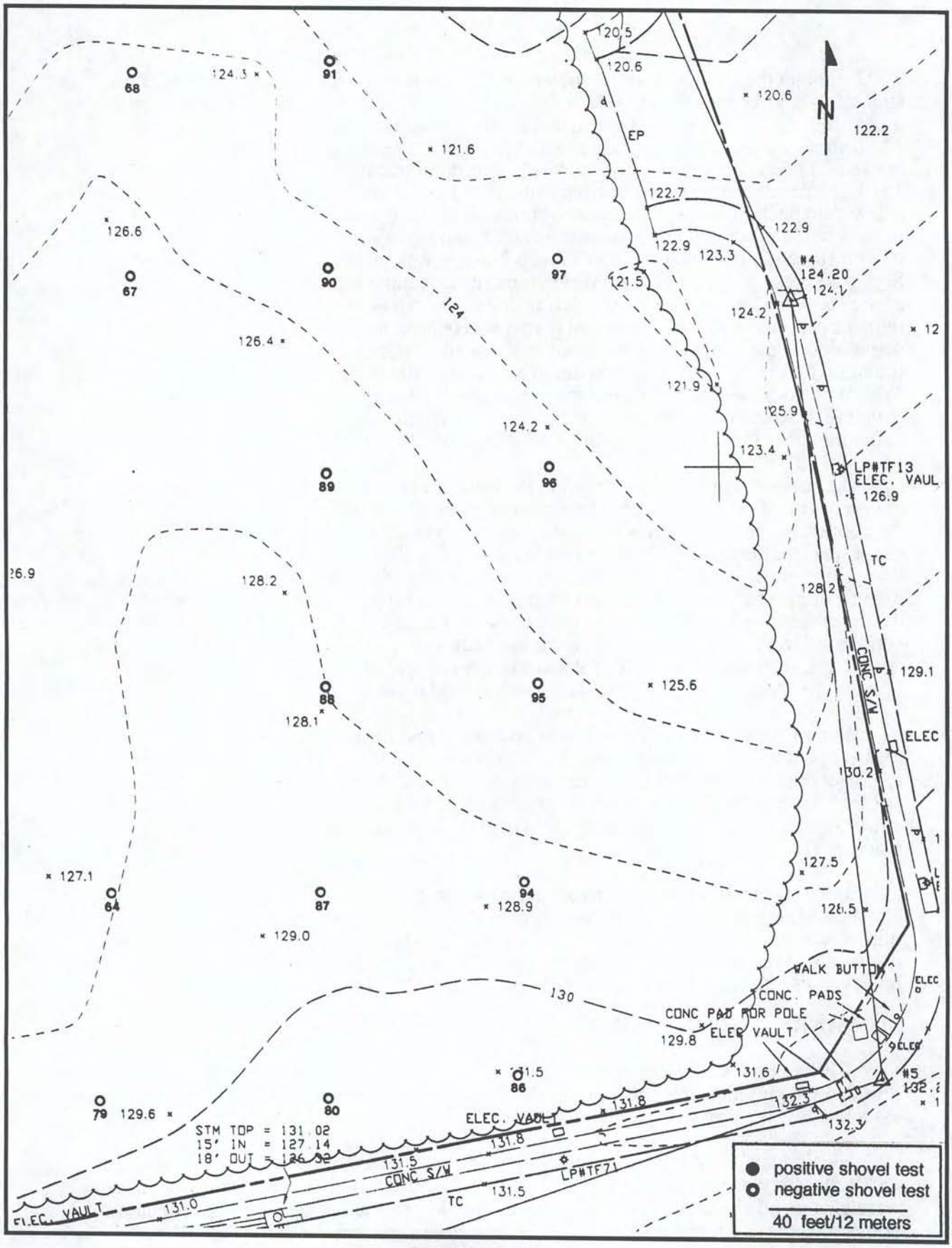


FIGURE 32
Portion of Project Map Showing Shovel Tests and Topographic Features

Based on the amount of brick strewn about the site and over the bank, the structure appears to have been brick and relatively substantial. What appears to be an collapsed brick pier or foundation remnant is present in Trench 1 and articulated bricks were found in STP 12. If these are located on the same wall, this would give one possible dimension of the house as 33 feet. A burned area which is believed to indicate a chimney was found in STP 15. If the chimney represents one wall and STP 12 represents a corner, another possible side would be 30 feet long. A scatter of bricks indicating a possible chimney fall was present to the northwest and downslope from this unit. A feature which may be a portion of a pit (basement?) was present in Trench 2 which was located southwest of STP 15. Figure 33 presents a map of the projected structural features and the hypothesized location of the house. Along with domestic debris, the pit contained large numbers of architectural remains perhaps indicating either that the pit was open at the time of the structure demolition or the feature may be demolition related. Apparently intact bricks were also found in STP 16. As this is a considerable distance (40 feet from STP 12 and 75 feet from Trench 1) from the other structural features, if the bricks represent the in situ remains of a structure, it seems more likely that the bricks found in this unit are related to an ancillary structure rather the structure present in STPs 12 and 15 and Trench 1.

The structural remains are buried in the southern portion of the site by as much as 31 inches of fill. Two episodes of fill seem to be present. The first is associated with the destruction of the house and is marked by brick rubble overlying an Ab which, closer to the suggested structure, is highly organic or midden-like. The sheet midden extends south and downslope of the hypothesized structure for a distance of 60 feet. Further to the south, the organic element in the Ab decreases. The subsequent fill event (s) are post-house destruction and appear to be related to an attempted to level the hilltop into its present condition. In the northern portion of the site near STP 4, the sheet midden is exposed on the ground surface. North of STP 9 and Trench 1, the soil profile consists of an Ao horizon overlying an Ap which in turn overlies a B horizon.

When examining the distribution of artifacts across the site, most of the artifacts regardless of type were found immediately adjacent (south) to the house; in the areas where the sheet midden was thickest and most organic. This is felt to represent the backyard area. Artifacts in lesser quantities were also present in the vicinity of the possible ancillary structure in STP 16. Some disposal of trash over the bank to the west seems to have taken place as Trenches 3 and 4 suggest.

Based on the hypothesized size of the structure, the fact that the structure and possibly an outbuilding were brick and the nature of the artifacts recovered, i.e. large numbers of tumblers, special purpose ceramic vessels such as the gravy boat, decanters, etc., the occupants of the structure appear to have been relatively well off. This is tentative, however, as artifact quantities were not large.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A Phase I archeological resources reconnaissance of the proposed Van Dorn Metro site revealed the presence of an historic period archeological site, 44AX178, as well as a feature associated with a previously known site, 44AX54.

The first site is a domestic occupation which appears to date from the 1820s to the 1840s, possibly later. What appears to be the remains of a fairly substantial brick structure were uncovered along with a possible outbuilding location and a sheet midden containing domestic refuse. Although Civil war era maps show a structure with the name Stout associated in the general vicinity of the project area, after a careful examination of both

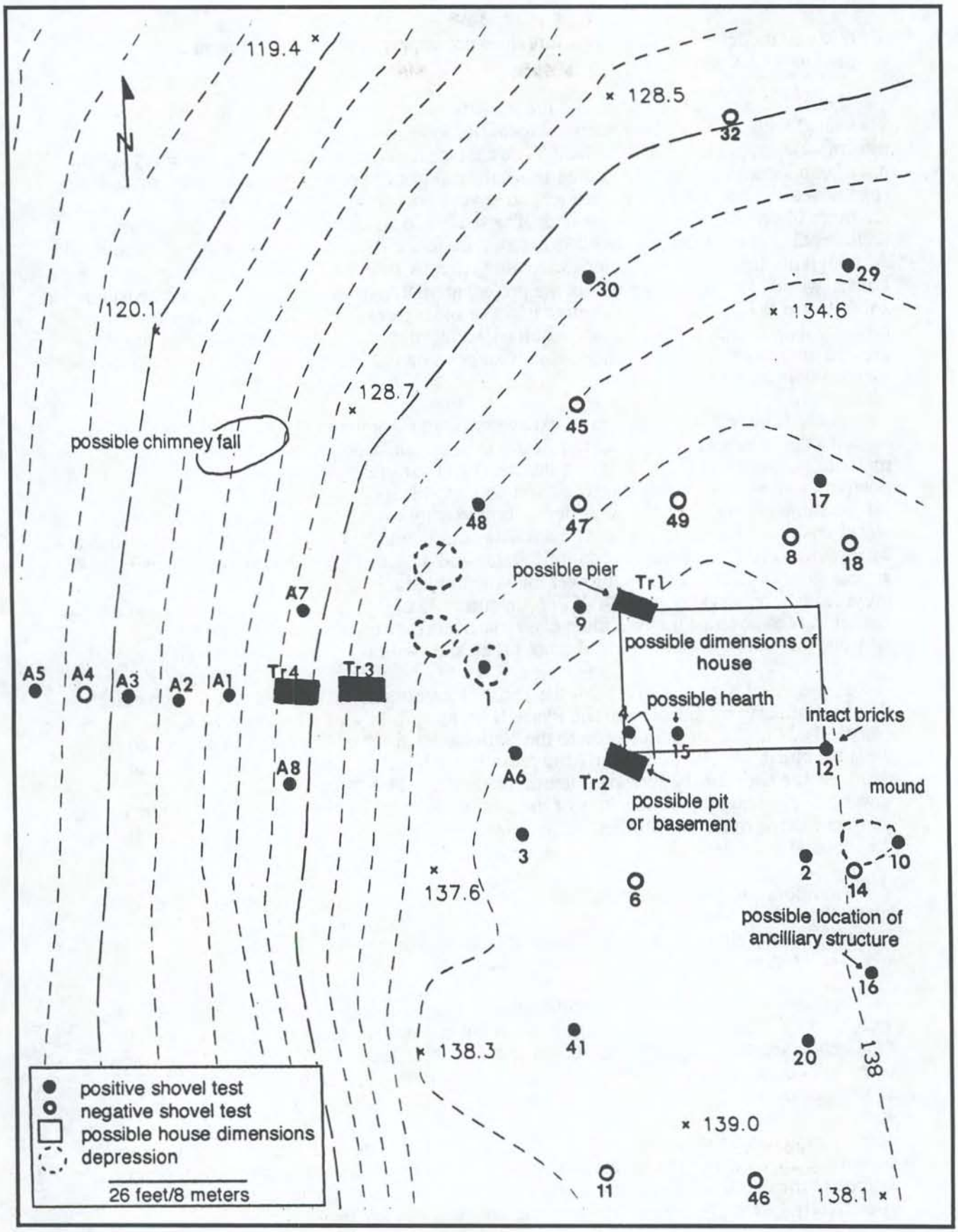


FIGURE 33
Enlargement of Portion of Project Map Showing Structural Features and Hypothesized House Location

historic and modern maps, this structure does not appear to have been present in the same location as 44AX178.

Local informants have indicated the possible presence of a cemetery which may be associated with the site. Two potential locations have been identified based upon information supplied by an informant. The first is felt to be unlikely as the cemetery would have been located in a low lying area in what would have been an old road. The incised road now serves as a drainage channel and is very poorly drained. Cemeteries in general are more likely to be on higher ground. The second location indicated by an informant includes the area containing the historic structure found during the Phase I investigation. Although not impossible, cemeteries are not generally found in such close proximity to the house. More likely locations within the project area include areas to the east, northeast and southeast of the structure; areas where irises or older trees are now present. It is also possible that the cemetery was located on adjacent ridgetops which, although they are present on older topographic maps, are no longer extant. These ridges have been destroyed by road construction.

Phase II intensive archeological excavations are recommended for this site as it contains the potential to provide significant information about rural upper middle class material culture and lifeways. Intact structural and yard features are present and these could potentially provide significant information about spatial organization and landscape usage for the same period. The site provides an opportunity to contrast the upper middle class with two other sites recently excavated in Alexandria: the Winkler site which was occupied by individuals of lower socio-economic status and 44AX177, the occupants of which appear to be of middle class but lower than the individuals at 44AX178, at least at the present time. Excavations at 44AX177 are currently ongoing. The site also provides an opportunity to contrast upper middle class material culture and landscape patterning between 44AX178, a rural site and other urban sites within the City of Alexandria.

A proposed Scope of Work for the Phase II investigations is presented as Appendix III. In summary, the purpose of the Phase II investigation would be to evaluate the potential of the site for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Based on what we already know, particularly the presence of intact structural features and trash deposits, the site already appears potentially eligible. The Phase II would be oriented toward discovering the dimensions of the house, the extent of structural features remaining, the presence of other undisturbed cultural features such as outbuildings, privies, wells and the like and the extent of the known trash deposit feature.

Additional archival investigations should also be undertaken in order to determine the site occupants. These investigations should include a chain of title to document land ownership through time. The deed research may clarify the issue of whether or not 44AX178 represents the remains of the Stout house.

In addition, areas with irises growing on the surface to the south of the house in the vicinity of STP 23 and near the large trees to the east and northeast of the house will be trenched to see if a cemetery or other cultural feature is located here. Phase II excavation units will consist of 3 x 3 foot squares in a combination of contiguous or isolated squares as well as the hand trenching noted above. Soils from these 3 x 3-foot units will be screened through 1/4-inch mesh hardware cloth. Some backhoe trenching will also be employed in areas to the south, east and southeast of the known location of the house to determine the extent of the fill and what might be buried. Hand and/or backhoe trenching will be to the depth of the interface of the Ap/E horizons with the subsoil or B horizons to specifically locate graves. Soil from these trenches will not be screened.

The placement of the hand excavated and screened squares should be concentrated in three areas: the area around the hypothesized structure, the area near STP 16 where an ancillary structure may be located and in the midden area. The two depressions on the northwestern corner of the knoll should be tested. Artifact analysis will focus on isolating functional areas of the site and determination of socio-economic placement insofar as this is possible as well as comparisons with other sites outside of the center of Alexandria and with the archeological excavations done within downtown Alexandria.

The second site on the parcel consists of an unused railroad bed which appears to have been constructed in the late 1850s. At a maximum, if Phase II work is deemed necessary by Alexandria Archeology, the work should consist of the excavation of a single backhoe trench circa three feet wide which will crosscut the feature. A detailed profile should be made of the trench and photographs should be taken. This may provide information about construction techniques. Artifact yield is expected to be low and the recordation techniques outlined above should be sufficient to mitigate the effects of the proposed construction. Portions of the feature are preserved outside the project area.

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PLATES

PLATE 1
General View of Historic Site

PLATE 2
General View of Historic Site

PLATE 3
STP 1, Soil Profile

PLATE 4
Soil Profile and Bricks, STP 16

PLATE 5
View of Midden Soils on Surface, STP 4

PLATE 6
Soil Profile, STP 4

PLATE 7
Soil Profile and Bricks, STP 12

PLATE 8
Soil Profile, Trench 3

PLATE 9
Soil Profile, Trench 4

PLATE 10
View of Unused Railroad Bed

PLATE 11
View of Unused Railroad Bed

APPENDIX I
Artifact Inventory

STP 1, A horizon (Midden)

Ceramics

1 hard paste porcelain sherd, underglaze blue hand painted

Glass

2 unidentified clear glass fragments
1 soda glass windowpane fragment, 0.15 cm thick (pre 1864)
1 soda glass windowpane fragment, 0.21 cm thick (pre 1864)
1 soda glass windowpane fragment, 0.11 cm thick (pre 1864)

STP 2, Fill horizon

Glass

1 honey amber cylindrical bottle fragment, automatic bottle machine, modern

STP 3, E horizon

Miscellaneous

7 oyster shell fragments
1 brick fragment

Surface of Mounded Pile Near STP 4 (Midden)

Ceramics

1 coarse stoneware sherd, salt glazed, undecorated
1 coarse stoneware sherd, cobalt blue hand painted, crock rim - burned

Glass

1 clear lead tumbler fragment, fluted heel
1 pale aqua cylindrical bottle fragment, stained
1 soda glass windowpane fragment, 0.2 cm thick, heat melted (pre 1864)

Miscellaneous

1 oyster shell fragment

STP 4, Midden Soil On Surface

Ceramics

1 kaolin pipe stem fragment, stamped "197 Derry" (19th century)

Glass

1 potash windowpane fragment, 0.13 cm thick (pre 1864)

Metal

11 cut nails (post 1790)
1 sheet iron fragment
1 brass eye (from hook and eye)

Miscellaneous

6 oyster shell fragments
1 bone fragment
10 mortar fragments

STP 9, Ao horizon

Glass

2 potash windowpane fragments, 0.14 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)
2 potash windowpane fragments, 0.16 cm thick (pre 1864)

STP 10, A horizon (Midden)

Glass

1 potash windowpane fragment, 0.16 cm thick (pre 1864)

STP 15, Burnt Level, 12-15" B.S.

Ceramics

1 whiteware sherd, dark blue transfer printed decoration, platter fragment -burned (South 1977, 1820-1900+; Miller 1992, 1830-1865)

Glass

1 potash windowpane fragment, 0.18 cm thick, corner sherd (pre 1864)

Metal

3 cut nails

STP 16, Below Brick Layer in Ab Layer

Glass

1 unidentified pale green glass fragment, heat melted

Metal

1 cut nail (post 1790)

Miscellaneous

1 brick fragment

STP 17, A horizon

Glass

1 olive green spirits bottle fragment, neck sherd

Prehistoric

1 quartz flake, complete, 16 x 10 mm

STP 20, Ab horizon

Ceramics

1 coarse stoneware sherd, salt glazed

1 refined white earthenware sherd, undecorated - burned

Glass

1 aqua unidentified sheet glass fragment

Metal

1 cut nail (post 1790)

STP 21, Ab horizon

Glass

1 green cylindrical bottle fragment, embossed [No] "Dep"[osit], automatic bottle machine, modern

STP 23, A horizon

Ceramics

1 redware sherd, brown glazed

1 pearlware sherd, undecorated (1780-1830 - South 1977; Miller 1992)

Glass

1 soda windowpane fragment, 0.13 cm thick (pre 1864)

Metal

1 cut nail (?)

STP 23, E horizon

Metal

1 wrought nut and bolt

STP 28, Ao/Ap horizon

Glass

1 clear flint glass fragment, cylindrical vessel, freeblown (pre 1860)

STP 29, Ap horizon

Glass

1 clear square/rectangular bottle fragment, mold blown, stained (post 1825)

1 aqua cylindrical bottle fragment

1 unidentified clear glass fragment

Metal

1 cut nail (post 1790)

Miscellaneous

1 mortar fragment

STP 30, E horizon

Metal

2 unidentified ferrous metal fragments

STP 33, A horizon

Metal

1 cut nail (post 1790)

STP 33, E horizon

Ceramics

1 pearlware sherd, undecorated (1780-1830 - South 1977; Miller 1992)

STP 41, Ab horizon

Metal

1 ferrous metal corner cover from a trunk/chest

Prehistoric

1 quartz cobble fragment with cortex

STP 44, Ap horizon

Prehistoric

1 quartz flake, complete, 6 x 6 mm

STP 48, Ao/Ap horizon

Ceramics

2 whiteware sherds, undecorated (1820-1900 - South 1977; Miller 1992)
1 pearlware sherd, undecorated (1780-1830 - South 1977; Miller 1992)
1 pearlware sherd, polychrome hand painted, floral motif (South 1977 - 1795-1815; Miller 1992 - 1780-1835)

Metal

1 cut nail (post 1790)

STP 51, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 redware sherd, unglazed

STP A1, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 whiteware sherd, blue shell edged (1820-1900, South 1977; 1830-1860, Miller 1992)
3 whiteware sherds, undecorated (1820-1900, South 1977; Miller 1992)
2 whiteware sherds, polychrome hand painted (1820-1900, South 1977; 1825-1860, Miller 1992)
2 pearlware sherds, undecorated (1780-1830, South 1977; Miller 1992)
1 refined white earthenware sherd

Glass

2 soda windowpane fragments
1 clear lead sheet glass fragment

Metal

2 cut nails, hammered heads (post 1790)
1 cut nail fragment

Miscellaneous

1 brick fragment

STP A2, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 whiteware sherd, undecorated (1820-1900, South 1977; Miller 1992)

Glass

3 soda windowpane fragments (pre 1864)

STP A3, Ap horizon

Miscellaneous

1 mortar fragment

STP A5, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 coarse stoneware sherd, salt glazed

Miscellaneous

1 brick fragment

STP A6, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 whiteware sherd, blue transfer printed (1820-1900, South 1977; 1830-1865, Miller 1992)

1 whiteware sherd, undecorated (1820-1900, South 1977; Miller 1992)

1 pearlware sherd, undecorated (1780-1830, South 1977; Miller 1992)

2 coarse stoneware sherds, salt glazed, 1 cobalt hand painted - crock

1 refined white earthenware sherd, blue and brown annular decoration

Glass

1 lime soda windowpane fragment (post 1864)

1 unidentified burned glass fragment

STP A7, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 redware sherd, brown glazed

STP A8, Ap horizon

Ceramics

1 redware sherd, brown glazed

Trench 1, Fill horizon

Ceramics

2 redware fragments, unglazed

Glass

6 soda windowpane fragments, 0.18 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)

13 soda windowpane fragments, 0.18 cm thick (pre 1864)

2 potash windowpane fragments, 0.15 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)

3 soda windowpane fragments, 0.13 cm thick (pre 1864)

2 soda windowpane fragments, 0.13 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)

1 unidentified clear glass fragment

3 aqua square/rectangular paneled bottle fragments, contact mold (post 1810)

Metal

1 cut nail (post 1790)

1 .58 caliber lead bullet - Civil War era

Prehistoric

1 sandstone cobble fragment with cortex, possibly fire cracked

Trench 1, Ab horizon

Miscellaneous

4 mortar fragments

1 hickory nut hull fragment

Trench 2, Fill horizon

Ceramics

1 ironstone sherd, molded decoration (1813-1900 - South 1977; 1840-1900 - Miller 1992)

2 whiteware sherds, light blue transfer printed decoration, plate (South 1977, 1820-1900+; Miller 1992, 1830-1865)

1 whiteware sherd, undecorated (1820-1900 - South 1977; Miller 1992)

1 soft paste porcelain sherd, overglaze hand painted, saucer (post 1800 - Miller 1992)

Glass

1 olive amber cylindrical spirits bottle fragment, contact mold (1810-1880)

1 amber bottle fragment, partially heat melted

1 aqua cylindrical ink type bottle fragment, rib around heel, blown pattern mold (1830s-1850)

1 clear manganese square/rectangular bottle fragment, freeblown (pre 1860)
1 aqua oval pictorial flask fragment, embossed anchor on side, blown pattern mold (1830s-1860s)
1 clear manganese cylindrical tableware/decanter fragment, blown three piece pattern mold (1820-1830s)
2 clear manganese cylindrical bottle fragments, stained/etched (post 1825)
1 clear manganese cylindrical tumbler (?) fragment, stained/etched
2 aqua square/rectangular bottle fragments, opalized, thin, freeblown (pre 1860)
1 potash windowpane fragment, 0.1 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)
6 soda windowpane fragments, 0.18 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
6 soda windowpane fragments, 0.1 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
2 soda windowpane fragments, 0.12 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
1 entire white milk glass 4-hole button fragment, ribbed rim, 1.1 cm in diameter, hand pressed (post 1790s)
1 unidentified aqua glass fragment, heat melted
4 clear manganese curved glass fragments
9 clear unidentified glass fragments
7 clear sheet glass fragments

Metal

1 brass shank type button with soldered eye and stamped back (Type 18) - " Orange Colour"
2 thin ferrous metal fragments

Trench 2, West Fill

Glass

7 olive amber cylindrical spirits bottle fragments, cup mold, three piece contact mold (1860-1880 - Civil War era)
1 soda windowpane fragment, 0.13 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)

Trench 2, Pit Fill

Ceramics

1 coarse stoneware sherd, blue hand painted, crock with lug handle - burned
1 whiteware sherd, dark blue transfer printed, spout from gravy boat (South 1977, 1820-1900+; Miller 1992, 1830-1865)
1 hard paste porcelain sherd, undecorated - burned
1 coarse stoneware sherd, cobalt blue hand painted, crock - burned
1 whiteware sherd, undecorated (1820-1900 - South 1977; Miller 1992)
1 whiteware sherd, blue spatter/sponge decoration - small bowl (1820-1900, South 1977; 1830-1865, Miller 1992)
2 whiteware sherds, light blue transfer printed decoration, blue printed partial maker's mark (mend) - burned (South 1977, 1820-1900; Miller 1992, 1830-1865)
1 whiteware spall, blue shell edge decoration (South 1977, 1820-1900; 1830-1860, Miller 1992)
1 ironstone (?) sherd, undecorated - burned (1840-1900, Miller 1992)

Glass

2 clear lead tumbler fragments, fluted heel, 5.0 cm base diameter, rough rim pontil
1 clear lead tumbler fragment, blown pattern mold
1 clear manganese cylindrical, circa 4 oz. medicinal bottle fragment, mold blown, stained (post 1825)
1 very pale green square/rectangular bottle fragment, etched/stained
3 olive amber tall cylindrical quart spirits bottle fragments, freeblown (pre 1860)

1 dark amber cylindrical spirits bottle fragment, freeblown (pre 1860)
1 amber cylindrical bottle fragment, stained
3 amber black glass tall cylindrical spirits bottle fragments, kick up, refired pontil, contact mold (1810-1860)
1 aqua cylindrical bottle fragment, stained
3 green square/rectangular bottle fragments, stained
1 aqua square/rectangular bottle fragment, contact mold (1810-1880)
2 very pale aqua cylindrical bottle or tumbler fragments, pontil mark, stained (1825-1860)
1 clear oval (?) bottle fragment, stained (post 1825)
1 clear lead tumbler (?) fragment, fire polished, stained
1 aqua square/rectangular bottle , freeblown (pre 1860)
2 clear manganese cylindrical bottle fragments, thin, mold blown, stained (post 1825)
2 potash windowpane fragments, 0.12 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)
3 potash windowpane fragments, 0.18 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
7 soda windowpane fragments, 0.16 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
2 soda windowpane fragments, 0.18 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
2 soda windowpane fragments, 0.13 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)
1 entire white milk glass 4-hole button, 3.0 cm diameter, hand pressed (post 1790s)
8 clear tumbler/bottle fragments
16 clear unidentified sheet glass fragments
1 green (?) curved cylindrical bottle (?) fragment, heavily opalized
5 aqua glass fragments, heat melted

Metal

22 thin ferrous metal fragments
1 wrought nail
15 cut nails, some with hand hammered heads (post 1790)

Miscellaneous

2 charred bone fragments
1 mortar fragment

Trench 3, Fill horizon

Glass

1 amber cylindrical bottle fragment, mold blown (post 1810)
1 potash windowpane fragment, 0.12 cm thick, stained (pre 1864)
1 clear unidentified glass fragment

Trench 3, Ab horizon

Glass

5 soda windowpane fragments, 0.11 cm thick (pre 1864)
1 soda windowpane fragment, 0.15 cm thick (pre 1864)

Trench 4, Ab horizon

Ceramics

1 pearlware sherd, undecorated, plate (1780-1830 - South 1977; Miller 1992)
1 whiteware sherd, blue spatter/sponged decoration (South 1977, 1820-1900; Miller 1992, 1830-1865)
1 whiteware sherd, unidentified green decoration - burned (1820-1900 - South 197; Miller 1992)
1 buff paste earthenware, brown glaze - Rockingham/Bennington (1812-1900, Miller 1992)

Glass

1 peacock cylindrical soda bottle fragment, neck sherd (1850s-1860s)
1 olive amber bottle fragment

9 soda windowpane fragments, 0.18 cm thick (pre 1864)
2 soda windowpane fragments, 0.12 cm thick (pre 1864)
1 soda windowpane fragment, 0.15 cm thick, crown glass (1812-1839)

Metal

3 cut nails (post 1790)
1 lead musket ball

APPENDIX II
PHASE I PROPOSAL AND LIST OF PERSONNEL

PHASE I ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE 11.5 ACRE VAN DORN SITE, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Methodology

The initial portion of the project will involve Phase I background and archival work which includes an examination of the site files at the Alexandria Archeology offices. Historic maps, also on file at Alexandria Archeology offices, will be examined to determine project area land use in the past. Based on research conducted by Alexandria Archeology personnel, a structure was present on the property in the past. Local histories and any other pertinent books or documentary sources will be examined to gain additional information about this structure as well as general information with which a cultural historical context for the structure will be developed.

The proposed Phase I field methodology involves the use of surface reconnaissance, shovel testing and bucket augering, if necessary, in order to locate and define boundaries of archeological sites. Shovel tests will be 30 cm or more in diameter and up to one meter deep, depending on the nature of the sediments. Shovel tests will be placed at 15 meter intervals in high probability areas. This interval will be reduced if cultural materials are encountered in order to determine site boundaries and in the area which may contain the historic structure. The exact placement of these units will be based upon strategies accepted by Alexandria Archeology. A map with proposed unit placement will be provided to them prior to beginning the fieldwork.

All soils excavated will be screened through 1/4-inch mesh hardware cloth. Boundaries of any discovered sites will be determined. All recovered artifacts will be bagged according to shovel test location and depth, or soil horizon. Representative soil profiles will be drawn. Test units, site boundaries, etc. will be located on U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute quadrangle maps and/or appropriate project maps. Pace and compass maps of sites will be made. A datum will be established to mark locations of sites and features. A Virginia Department of Historic Resources site form will be completed for any site discovered during the course of the investigations and a site number will be obtained.

Prehistoric artifacts will be classified according to lithic material type, debitage, cores, bifaces, tools, projectile point type, etc. Debitage will be further analyzed on selected attributes such as presence/absence of cortex, number of dorsal flake scars and length/width (on whole flakes). Prehistoric pottery will be classified according to type. Projectile points and pottery will provide the basis for the prehistoric cultural chronology. Historic artifacts will be separated by materials and function and further classified into cultural historic type using types compatible with Alexandria Archeology's artifact classification system. Where warranted, artifacts will be mapped according to various function classes to determine if there is intra-site variability.

A standard archeological report following the VDHR, federal and City of Alexandria guidelines and requirements will be written. All the data will be placed into existing regional paleo-environmental and cultural models. Recommendations regarding additional evaluation for each site will be made, with appropriate justifications.

PERSONNEL

The following comprises a list of personnel who worked on the project.

Dr. William M. Gardner - Principal Investigator
Joan M. Walker - Contracts Manager/Editor
Kimberly A. Snyder - Assistant Contracts Manager
Tammy Bryant - Crew Chief
Michael Petrakis - Field Technician
Antonia Davis - Field Technician
Damian Gessner - Field Technician
James Blevins - Field Technician
Christoph Bachuber - Field Technician
Jeffrey Davis - Field Technician
Gwen Hurst - Laboratory Supervisor/Archivist
Kimberly Weinberg - Lab Technician
C. Lanier Rodgers - Lab Technician

APPENDIX III

PROPOSED PHASE II SCOPE OF WORK, 44AX178

INTRODUCTION

This transmittal presents a Scope of Work for conducting Phase II intensive archeological investigations of an historic site, 44AX178, located within an 11.5 acre parcel near the Van Dorn Metro in the City of Alexandria. The purpose of the Phase II investigation would be to evaluate the potential of the site for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The site area is generally wooded with wild cherry trees dominant. Large, circa 150 year oaks and a sweet gum were present in the north central area of the project. Poorly drained areas were present in the central and southern portions of the project area. The southwestern and much of the eastern portions of the project area had been disturbed by road construction. A steep sided embankment, which was clearly man-made ran along the western boundary of the hilltop. Scattered just to the east of this boundary was an assortment of modern junk, including a number of boilers.

PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

A Phase I archeological resources reconnaissance of the proposed Van Dorn Metro site revealed the presence of an historic period archeological site, 44AX178, as well as a feature associated with a previously known site, 44AX54.

44AX178 is a domestic occupation which, based on the results of the Phase I, appears to date from the 1820s to the 1840s. What appears to be the remains of a fairly substantial brick structure were uncovered along with a possible outbuilding location and a sheet midden containing domestic refuse (Figure III-1). Intact structural remains are present as well as refuse deposits. Based on the soil profiles uncovered during the Phase I, the structure appears to have been constructed directly atop the B horizon. The A horizon which should have been present in the structure vicinity had been completely removed. This would indicate the ground on which the house sits was leveled prior to construction. Based on the amount of brick strewn about the site and over the bank, the structure seems to have been brick and relatively substantial. Potential ancillary structures may be indicated by concentrations of brick outside of the main structure.

The structural remains are buried in the southern portion of the site by as much as 31 inches of fill. Two episodes of fill seem to be present. The first is associated with the destruction of the house and is marked by brick rubble overlying an Ab which closer to the suggested structure is highly organic, or midden-like. The sheet midden extends south and downslope of the hypothesized structure for a distance of 60 feet.

When examining the distribution of artifacts across the site, most of the artifacts regardless of type were found immediately adjacent (south) to the house; in the areas where the sheet midden was thickest and most organic. This is felt to represent the backyard area. Artifacts in lesser quantities were also present in the vicinity of the possible ancillary structure. Some disposal of trash over the bank to the west seems to have taken place.

An unused railroad bed which was constructed at this time is located across the northern portion of the parcel containing the site. Civil war era maps appear to show no structures within the project area at that time. This feature is probably a continuation of 44AX54 which is located just east of the northern portion of the site.

Local informants have indicated the possible presence of a cemetery within the project area.

HISTORIC PERIOD LAND USE

Topographically, the project area varies from a level upland which slopes gently down toward the north and south and more abruptly to the west and east. The southern and western boundaries have been severely truncated by modern construction, specifically the widening of South Van Dorn Street and the construction and/or widening of Eisenhower Avenue. The 1965, photorevised 1971, U.S.G.S. 7.5', Annandale, VA. quadrangle map indicates this to be the case, especially along the southern margins. .

The same map shows at least three to four parallel uplands (trending west to east) most of which have been removed by the above noted construction, as well as the land modification associated with the building of Metro Road and the Van Dorn Metro stop. Indeed, the high point on which 44AX178 was found sits like an island in the middle of surrounding flatlands. In addition to this recent land alteration, the top of the hill on which the historic house site sits was filled in and artificially leveled when the house was destroyed at some unknown point in the past 145 years. Further modification appears to have taken place at the eastern edge of the highest point where an obviously artificial terrace exists. Immediately at the base of this are numerous pieces of refuse including numerous boilers. It is possible some landfill operations took place in the past.

Dropping back in time to the Civil War, a portion of the 1864-1866 Environs of Washington map shows a house (with the name Stout associated) to the east of a road with broken lines (presumably unimproved) the route of which follows closely present day South Van Dorn (before its modification in conjunction with the construction of Interstate 495). This road continues south to where it intersects with what is Fairfax Road on the 1927 topographic map. Also shown on the 1927 map is a house lying to the east of Van Dorn Street which sits at the end of an unimproved road. The scale on the 1927 map is approximately half that of the 1864-1866 map (the scale was derived by two measurements--first from where South Van Dorn Street crosses Backlick Run and from the intersection of South Van Dorn and Edsall Road to the intersection of South Van Dorn and Fairfax Road). If this scale is correct, it appears that the Stout house was standing in 1927 or located where the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad was built. The latter is most likely the case since the route of the railroad tracks is almost identical to the eastward running road which leads from the Stout house to Bush Hill on the earlier maps.

The implication of this discussion is that the Stout house property lay to the south of the 11.5 acre Van Dorn tract and south of what is now Eisenhower Avenue. The same situation is also shown on another Civil War era map. The scale on this map is approximately the same as that of the 1927 map. Three buildings are shown in association with the Stout house on the Civil War map. If all this is correct, then the 11.5 acre Van Dorn tract has no houses on it during the Civil War. Corroboration of this is seen in the artifacts from 44AX178, the occupation of which seems to be from the 1820s to the 1840s. Artifacts which postdate the 1840s are associated with the demolition fill which lies over the house remains and it appears as if the house was demolished in the 1850s or 1860s, possibly in connection with the acquisition of the property by the railroad.

An unused railroad bed also appears on the 1864-1866 Civil War maps. Part of this is still present and borders the study area along its north side between the tract terminus and Metro Road. The distance from 44AX178 to this feature is 285 feet.

As additional evidence, the Civil War maps show a road which runs to the east just north of the Stout house. The part of it closest to the intersection with South Van Dorn is drawn in solid lines suggesting a more finished section (unimproved roads generally are shown as broken lines). This road continues to the east where it intersects with a road to

the west of a plantation known as Bush Hill. As noted above, the railroad tracks more or less follow this road. This also may indicate the Stout house was no longer present, as suggested by later maps.

All of this suggests the Stout house is not 44AX178, and the Stout house was probably demolished with the construction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad between 1865-1879. Of course, this cannot be absolutely determined at the Phase I level of investigation. Another line of evidence which can be used is a full chain of title for the project area, which should show Stout ownership around the Civil War period.

The Van Dorn tract is shown as cleared fields during the Civil War. To the south and southeast are woods. Vegetation is not depicted on the 1927 map but the contours are. Unfortunately, the contours on the Civil War maps are unclear when comparing them to the later map. The topography of the tract in 1927 is essentially the same as that shown on the 1971 photorevised version of the 1965 topographic map. By the time of the 1995 project area map, much of the surrounding landforms have been severely altered, including the eastern half of the project area. Based on the contour interval of the 1927 and the 1965 (1971) maps, the eastern half is as much as 12-15 feet lower today. Where the Van Dorn Metro stop is located, the contour alteration is staggering.

Fortunately, that portion of the study area where 44AX178 is located escaped much of this. The house (44AX178) was demolished with its superstructure (notably bricks) spread southward along the ridgetop for distances up to 30-60 feet. Fill dirt was brought in later and the demolished house and its associated yard, midden, etc., to the south was buried. This portion of the hill was then graded to provide a level surface, causing artificially abrupt contour changes to the east and southwest. Very little was done to the north of the site. The stream to the west and north of the site was channelized after 1971 as part of the widening of South Van Dorn, the construction of the entrance to the Metro Station and the widening of Eisenhower Road. In the process, much of the eastern slope appears to have been machined to provide a relatively broad flat area. The extreme southern end of the site has also been provided with an abrupt slope by modern equipment in connection with the improvements of Eisenhower Road. The post-Civil War construction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad also contributed to the alteration of the terrain south of the project area.

Vegetation in the area at the beginning of the historic period was a mixture of white oak, pine and hickory in the uplands with a sere of sycamore and willow along the streams. Prior to deforestation and cultivation with the arrival of the Euroamericans in the 18th century, the former forests would have been at or near climax with a high canopy and little underbrush. The successional forests depicted on the Civil War period maps would have been more or less the same in terms of species, although earlier successional species would have been co-dominants.

Following the Civil War, land holdings were reduced and smaller scale farming prevailed. Residential development increased somewhat during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. During World War II and the years following, the area began to move into the orbit of suburban Washington, D.C. This has accelerated during the past 30 years.

Based on the size of the trees, the project area has been cleared within the past 60-80 years. At least two oak trees, located off the peak of the hill, are on the order of 150-plus years. A very large sweet gum with a broad canopy may be of similar age. These trees were the initial signals that an historic period site might be present. Closer to the hill where the site was located, a cultivated ornamental, periwinkle, covered the ground, another line

of evidence for the existence of an historic period property. Another cultivar, iris, was also present on the periphery of the area.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH RESULTS

The Van Dorn project area is located near the center of a 4,639 acre Northern Neck land warrant issued to John West, William Harrison, Thomas Pearson, and Thomas Harrison of Stafford County in April 1706.

West, Harrison, Pearson and Harrison's grant was divided into eight sections in 1714 with the project area being within a section designated as "Ragans." Michael Regan, presumably an heir of the original "Ragan", obtained a deed to 107 acres of the property then in his possession with "reversion and remainders of rents and services" for 1 shilling sterling (Fairfax County Deeds C:24-25). In the Fairfax County Court session of March 1794, "it was ordered and decreed that the lands of Michael Regan [deceased] in Fairfax County be laid off and sold" by Nicholas Regan and other heirs (Fairfax County Deeds Y:392-394). A survey map of the property in 1794 shows the 635 acre parcel divided into six lots; the project area being located apparently within Lots No. 2 (116 acres) and Lot No. 3 (107 1/2 acres) (Fairfax County Record of Surveys, Section 2:65).

Lot No. 3, Lot No. 5 near Hepburns Mill (102 acres), and Lot No. 6 (101 1/2 acres) located "on the side of Hepburns Mill and on the north side of the road from Rogers shop" were purchased by William Cash on 19 January 1796 (Fairfax County Deeds Y:392-394; E2:140-142). "Hepburn and Dundas" were granted rights to build Hepburns Mill on Back Lick and Indian Runs in 1788 (Netherton et al. 1978:140). The remainder of the parcel containing Lots No. 2 (116 acres) and Lots No. 4 (82 acres) was obtained by William Cash prior to his decease in February 1818. Lots No. 2 and 3 were located on the south side of Back Lick Run; the Van Dorn project area appears to be in the lower section of Lots 2 and 3.

In *Hugh Violett and wife vs. James Compton and wife*, heard in the Fairfax County Courts on 22 July 1823, William Cash's land in Fairfax County was partitioned in two parts between the legatees. Hugh and Lucretia-West Violett received the lower section (formerly Lots 4, 5, and 6) containing their house site; James and Linny-West Compton receiving the upper section located below Back Lick Run (formerly Lots 2 and 3) of the containing their house site (Fairfax County Deeds W2:21).

The project area is currently located between two railroad lines: the Southern Railroad (Orange and Alexandria) on the north of the project area and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad(Alexandria and Fredricksburg) to the south. The Southern Railroad was mandated to begin construction in 1848 and construction was begun in Alexandria in 1850.

An examination of historic maps indicates that the Orange and Alexandria Railroad was in place by 1862. A "new railroad grade" is also shown on the 1862 map. A residence with the name "Stout" associated is located to the south of the Orange and Alexandria and the "New Railroad Grade" on the 1862 map. McDowell's map was copied in 1865 by the U.S. War Department Engineer's Bureau and issued as *Defenses of Washington* . This map also shows a residence with the name Stout near the project area. Other Civil War era (1864-1866) maps show the Orange and Alexandria Railroad as well as what appears to be an earthen berm in the location of the project area. A residence with the name "Stout" is also shown on one of these maps. The second map shows the same structure with two additional buildings.

An 1879 map shows the Orange and Alexandria Railroad (as the Washington, VA, MD & CR Western Railroad) as well as a railroad to the south. This is the first time that the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad is shown; indicating that it must have been constructed sometime between 1865-1879. On the 1886 map, the Southern Railroad is called the Virginia Midland Railroad and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad is shown as the Alexandria Fredericksburg Railroad. By 1927, the name Southern Railroad is shown for the tracks to the north and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad is shown for the tracks to the south. These names are still shown on the current U.S.G.S. topographic map.

No buildings appear on the Van Dorn project area on the post-Civil War maps of 1879, 1886, the 1912 map of Rural Delivery Routes in Fairfax County, or on current revised U.S.G.S. topographic maps.

As was detailed previously in the Historic Period Land Use section, when examining the positions of the roads, the topography and other natural features through time, it does not appear as if the structure marked "Stout" on the Civil War maps is in the same location as 44AX178. The "Stout" house, which appears to have been located south of what is now Eisenhower Avenue, seems to have been demolished sometime between 1865 and 1879, probably in connection with the construction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad lines. However, the question of whether or not 44AX178 is the Stout house will have to be determined by additional archival and archeological research.

SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND RESEARCH ORIENTATION

Phase II intensive archeological excavations were recommended in the Phase I report for this site as it contains the potential to provide significant information about rural upper middle class material culture and lifeways. Intact structural and yard features are present and these could potentially provide significant information about spatial organization and landscape usage for the same period. The site provides an opportunity to contrast the upper middle class with two other sites recently excavated in Alexandria: the Winkler site which was occupied by individuals of lower socio-economic status and 44AX177, the occupants of which appear to be of middle class but of somewhat lower socio-economic status than the individuals at the Van Dorn site, at least at the present time. The site may also be compared, insofar as the data allows, to upper class sites within the City of Alexandria to determine how rural and urban middle class residences differed or were the same.

METHODOLOGY

Archival

An examination will be made of secondary and primary documents in order to determine who lived at the site and perhaps to tie the site to a particular family. A complete chain of title will be prepared. Original sources to be examined (depending upon the results of the title search) include the property records, tax records, wills and inventories as well as other documents such as court records. Other documentation available at Alexandria Archeology and the Fairfax County library will be examined as the need arises. This may include such sources as census records. In addition, depending upon the nature of the information found during the archival research, an attempt will be made to determine kinds of activities that may have occurred on the property. For example, documentary sources may offer information about the physical environment in which the occupants of the site lived. Specific buildings such as smokehouses and quarters may be shown on plat maps or mentioned in wills. This could possibly aid both in the interpretation of features found at the site and aid in the discovery of the remains of these outbuildings.

The archival investigations will include a literature search, both to provide comparative material and to aid in the determination of the site's rarity within the region. The comparative research will include a examination of rural elite/middle class residences in Alexandria and Fairfax County in order to gain an understanding of expected spatial patterning within such residences. The information which is obtained from the Phase II investigation could then be compared or contrasted with the data available from other rural elite/middle class residences.

In order to resolve the question of whether 44AX178 was the Stout residence, a chain of title documenting land ownership though time will be prepared for the project area. An examination will be made of pertinent deeds including those concerning the Violett and Compton portions of the 1823 Cash estate (see above) which encompassed both the project area (Compton) and the area to the south of the project area (Compton and Violett). If the need arises and depending upon the results of the deed research, other archival sources such as census and tax records will be searched for the name Stout. This may also provide a fruitful line of investigation.

Field Investigations

The Phase II excavations will consist of the excavation of between 20-30 3 x 3-foot units and/or the equivalent with closely spaced shovel tests. The tentative locations of the 3 x 3-foot units are noted on Figure III-2. Deviations from these locations will occur if incoming field data indicates our Phase I interpretations are wrong and/or if additional structures and features indicate a more complex site setting. These units will be directed towards uncovering information about the size of the house; the functional areas of the house such as kitchen, doorways, front yard, back yard; the extent of the foundation remaining; whether or not a basement is present; the size of the midden; the presence or absence of outbuildings such as summer kitchens; slave quarters, etc.; and the presence or absence of privies; wells, etc.

Phase II excavation units will consist of 3 x 3 foot squares in a combination of contiguous or isolated squares and hand trenching. Soils from these 3 x 3-foot units will be screened through 1/4-inch mesh hardware cloth. Some backhoe trenching will also be employed in areas to the south, east and southeast of the known location of the house to determine the extent of the fill and what might be buried. Two depressions, which were not tested during the Phase I, will be examined during the Phase II investigation.

In addition, areas with irises growing on the surface to the south of the house and near the large trees to the east and northeast of the house will be trenched (either by hand or with a backhoe) to see if a cemetery or other cultural features are located here. The placement and number of these trenches are included on Figures III-3 and III-4. A maximum of ten such trenches will be placed in what is considered the backyard area. The placement of the trenches may be shifted if the incoming field data warrants. The number may be increased or decreased, again based on the results of the trenching. A maximum of 12 trenches will be placed north and northwest of the house area, and on a lower level area to the south near "iris" on Figure III-3. If graves are found, the number of trenches will be reduced or expanded as the outer limits of the burial area are located. These trenches will be oriented north-south as our past experience has indicated this is the best orientation to cross-cut grave stains. The grave trenches will extend to the interface of the Ap/Ab or Ap/E horizons with the B horizons. Soil from these trenches will not be screened.

In all areas, the bottom of the backhoe/hand excavated trenches will be shoveled scraped and/or troweled if the soils at the interface of the B1 and horizon immediately

above cannot be read. In the yard areas, the trenches will initially be excavated only to the Ab or E horizons. Shovel test pits will then be excavated into the Ab/E horizon to test for the presence of artifacts. The shovel test pits will be screened. If features are present, they will be noted, examined and partially excavated. If no features are encountered, after testing for artifacts, trenches will be excavated down to the B1 horizon in these areas: the area around the hypothesized structure, the area near STP 16 where an ancillary structure may be located and in the midden area. Figure III-2 presents the planned placement of the units. If the shovel testing indicates that the Ab/E horizons do not contain artifacts, then the remaining trenches will be excavated directly to the top of the B1 horizon. A maximum of 20 shovel test pits shall be placed in the trenches. The location of the shovel tests shall be determined by the field results, i.e. the exact placement of the tests will depend on artifact density, presence/absence of features and the nature of the soils.

In addition, shovel testing will be conducted along the flat to the west of the house and along the slopes immediately adjacent to the house to uncover any refuse deposits which may be present in these locations. These shovel tests will be placed between 10-20 feet apart.

Figures III-3 and III-4 show the potential locations of the cemetery based upon information supplied by an informant. The informant location shown on Figure III-4 is felt to be unlikely as the cemetery would have been located in a low lying area in what would have been an old road. The incised road now serves as a drainage channel and is very poorly drained. Cemeteries in general are more likely to be on higher ground. The second location indicated by an informant includes the area containing the historic structure found during the Phase I investigation (Figure III-3). Although not impossible, cemeteries are not generally found in such close proximity to the house. More likely locations within the project area include areas to the east, northeast and southeast of the structure (Figure III-3). Areas where irises or older trees are now present. It is also possible that the cemetery was located on adjacent ridgetops which, although they are present on older topographic maps, are no longer extant. These ridges have been destroyed by road construction.

Artifacts will be bagged and labeled by unit number and by soil horizon. Soil profiles will be made of representative units and the colors were recorded using the Munsell Color Charts. After excavation, all units will be backfilled. All site areas will be mapped, drawn, and photographed.

In all cases, the units will be placed where the maximum number of artifacts were recovered and where undisturbed contexts were present during the Phase I study. All work shall be conducted in accordance with the City of Alexandria Archeological Standards and the Archeological Protection Code.

The second site on the parcel consists of an unused railroad bed which appears to have been constructed in the late 1850s. At a maximum, if Phase II work is deemed necessary by Alexandria Archeology, the work should consist of the excavation of a single backhoe trench circa three feet wide which will crosscut the feature. A detailed profile should be made of the trench and photographs should be taken. This may provide information about construction techniques. Artifact yield is expected to be low and the recordation techniques outlined above should be sufficient to mitigate the effects of the proposed construction. Portions of the feature are preserved outside the project area.

Any deviation from this methodology shall be undertaken in consultation with personnel from Alexandria Archeology. For example, if the areas for unit placement prove to be unproductive, then the excavation strategy will be changed in order to maximize results. In essence, field results will ultimately dictate unit placement. Approximately

midway through the field investigations, a meeting will be scheduled with personnel from Alexandria Archeology to discuss the results of the field investigations thus far. Any changes from the original Scope of Work which are deemed necessary will be discussed at this time. The archival work will be completed at the time of this meeting so that the results may be used in determining the testing strategies.

Laboratory Analysis

Artifacts shall be curated according to Alexandria Archeology curation standards. Historic artifacts will be separated into four basic categories: glass, ceramics, metal and miscellaneous. The ceramics will be identified as to ware type, method of decoration, vessel type (if possible) and separated into established types. The glass will be examined for color, method of manufacture, function, etc., and dated primarily on the basis of method of manufacture, when the method could be determined. Metal and miscellaneous artifacts will be generally described; the determination of a beginning date is sometimes possible, as in the case of nails.

Artifact distribution maps will be made in order to determine functional areas within the site.

A professional quality report will be prepared detailing the results of the work. This report will follow the format set forth in the City of Alexandria Archeological Standards. A draft copy of the report will be submitted to Alexandria Archeology for review prior to submission of the final report. Four copies of the final report will be submitted: an unbound original with original photos and three bound copies.

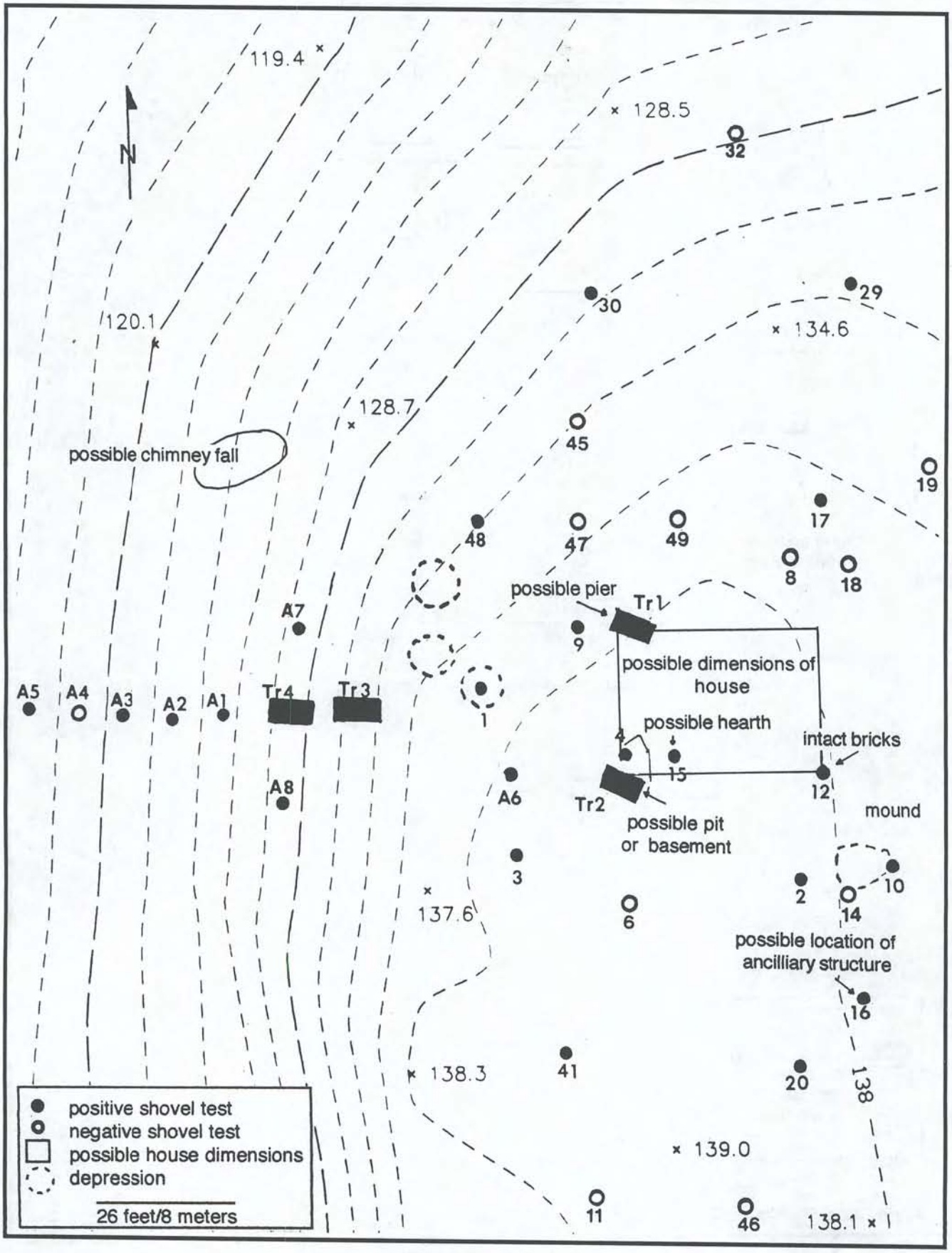

FIGURE III-1
Portion of Project Map Showing Possible Structural Features and Possible House Location

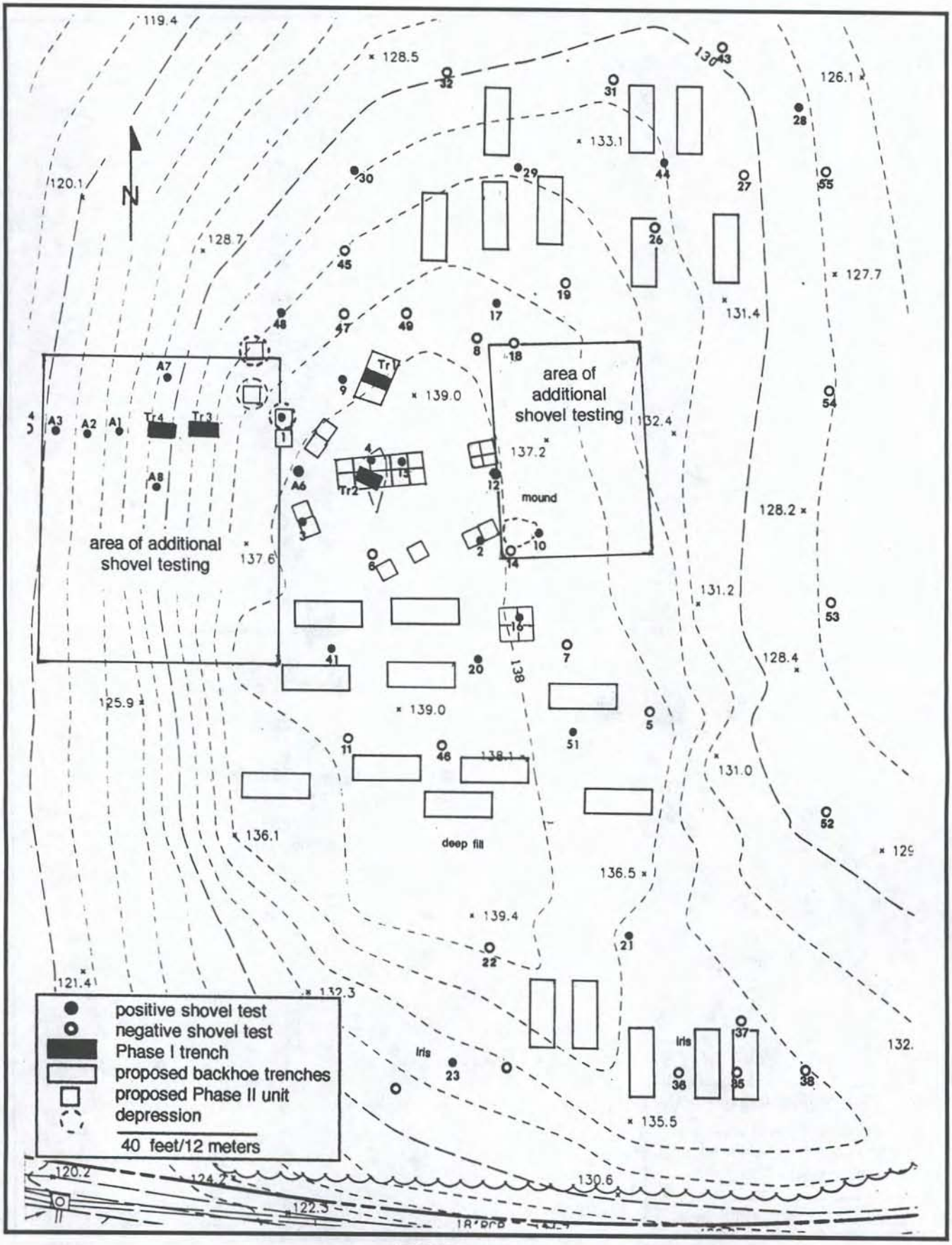

FIGURE III-2
Portion of Project Map Showing Proposed Phase II Test Units and Trenches

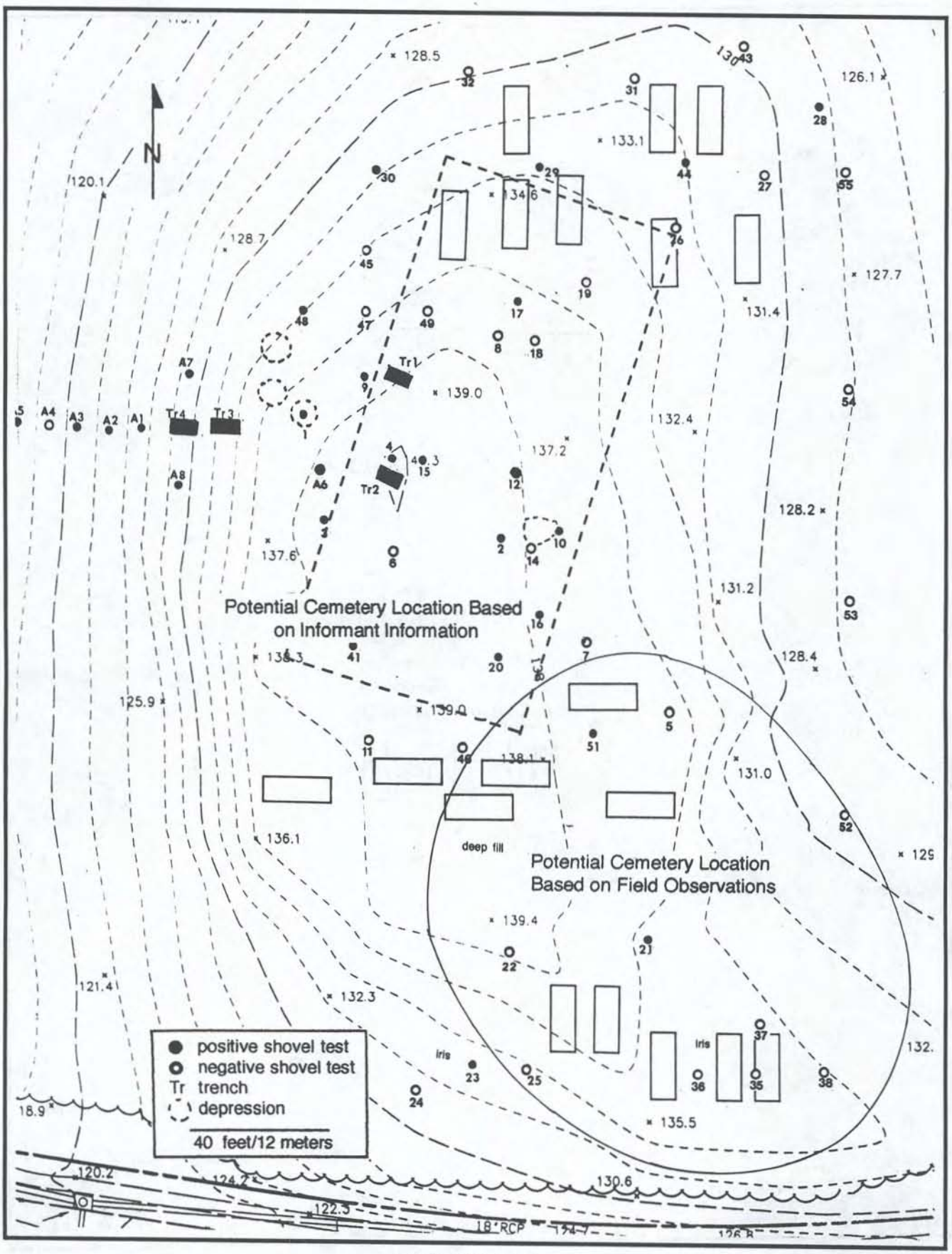

FIGURE III-3
Portion of Project Map Showing Potential Cemetery Locations and Proposed Trenches

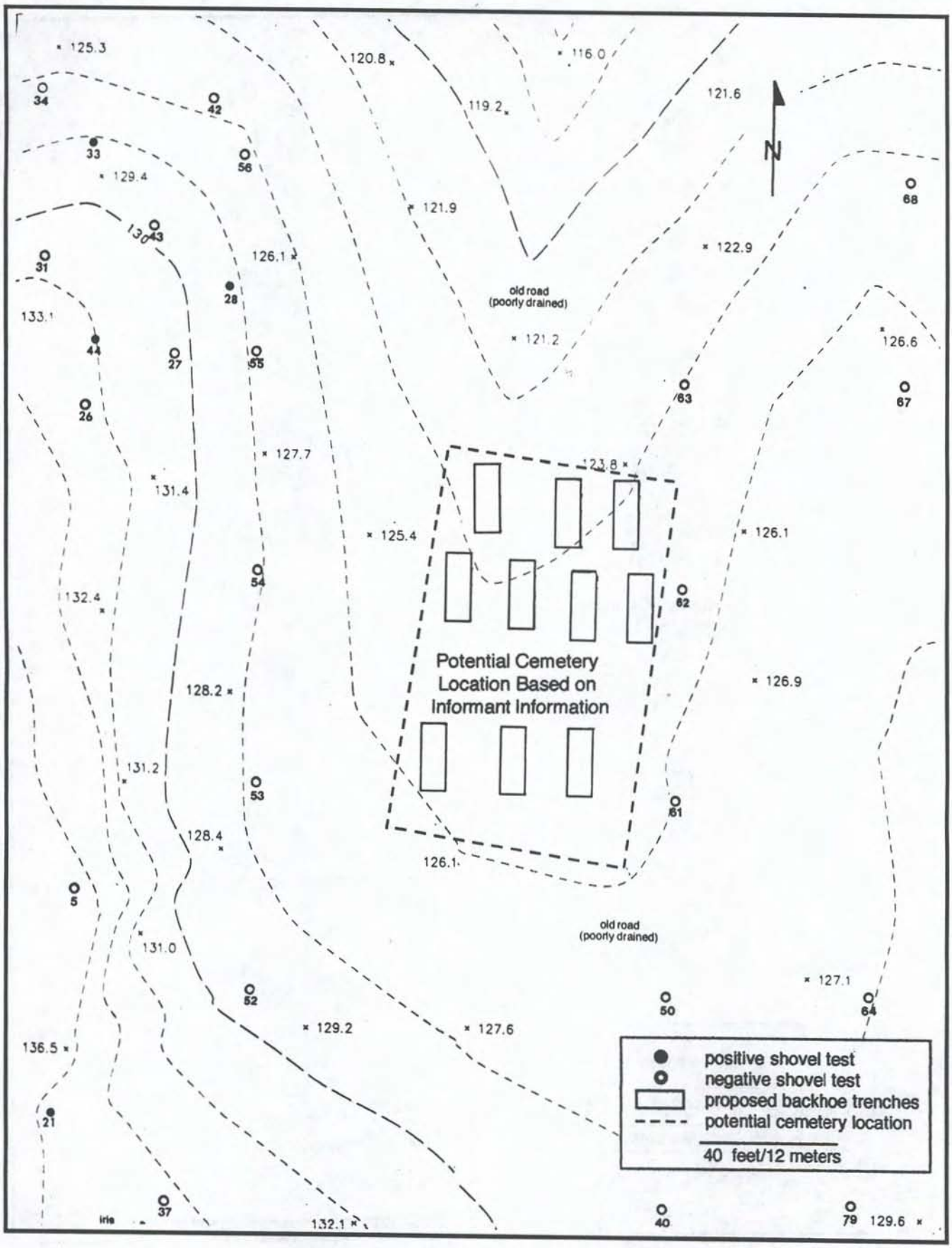

FIGURE III-4
Portion of Project Map Showing Potential Cemetery Location and Proposed Trenches

APPENDIX IV

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES SITE FORM

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

City/County: Alexandria
Site Name:
Temporary Designation: Van Dorn

VDHR Site Number:
Other VDHR Number:

Cultural/Temporal Affilition: Historic-17th century-2nd quarter

Site Class: _x_ Terrestrial, Open-Air __Terrestrial, Cave/Rockshelter __Underwater

Thematic Contexts: domestic

Site Function: single dwelling

Specialized Contexts:

USGS Quadrangle: Alexandria, VA
UTM Zone: 18 Easting: 314740
Loran:
Northing: 4296460

(Attach photocopy of appropriate section of USGS 7.5 minute series topographical map showing site boundaries.)

Physiographic Province: inner coastal plain
Landform: ridgetop
Elevation: 100' ASL
Site Soils:
Nearest Water Source: unnamed tributary of Backlick Run
Drainage: Potomac
Aspect:
Slope:
Adjacent Soils:
Distance: 1600 m to North

Ownership Status: _x_Private __ Public/Local: __ Public/State: __ Public/Federal:

Owner Name (if private): JCE
Owner Telephone: 703-658-6073
Owner Address: 5350 Shawnee Road Suite 310
Alexandria, VA 22312
Informant Name:
Informant Address:
Informant Telephone:

Surveyed By: Thunderbird
Affiliation: TAA
Date: 1/96
Address: 126 E. High St.
Woodstock, VA 22664

Site Dimensions:
265 ft x 265 ft (81m x 81 m)

Survey Strategy: __ Historic Map Projection __ Informant __Observation
_X_ Surface Testing _X_ Subsurface Testing

Survey Description:
shovel test pits placed at 15 m intervals or less over landform

Site Condition:

(4) surface deposits present and with subsurface integrity

Current Land Use:
wooded

Specimens Obtained: _X_ Yes __ No Depository: TAA
Assemblage Description:

see attached inventory

Specimens Reported: __ Yes _x_ No
Owner Name: Owner Address:
Assemblage Description:

Field Notes: _x_ Yes __ No Depository: TAA

Photographic Documentation: _x_ Yes __ No Depository: TAA

Report(s): _x_ Yes __ No Depository: TAA

Reference(s):

1996: W. Gardner, K. Snyder, and G. Hurst "Phase I Archeological Investigation of an 11.5 Acre Parcel at the Intersection of Van Dorn and Eisenhower Streets, City of Alexandria, VA". Report on file, Alexandria Archeology, City of Alexandria.

Additional Comments:

Scale:

Form Completed By: K. Weinberg Affiliation: TAA Date: 1/3/96
Address: 126 E. High St. Woodstock, VA 22664

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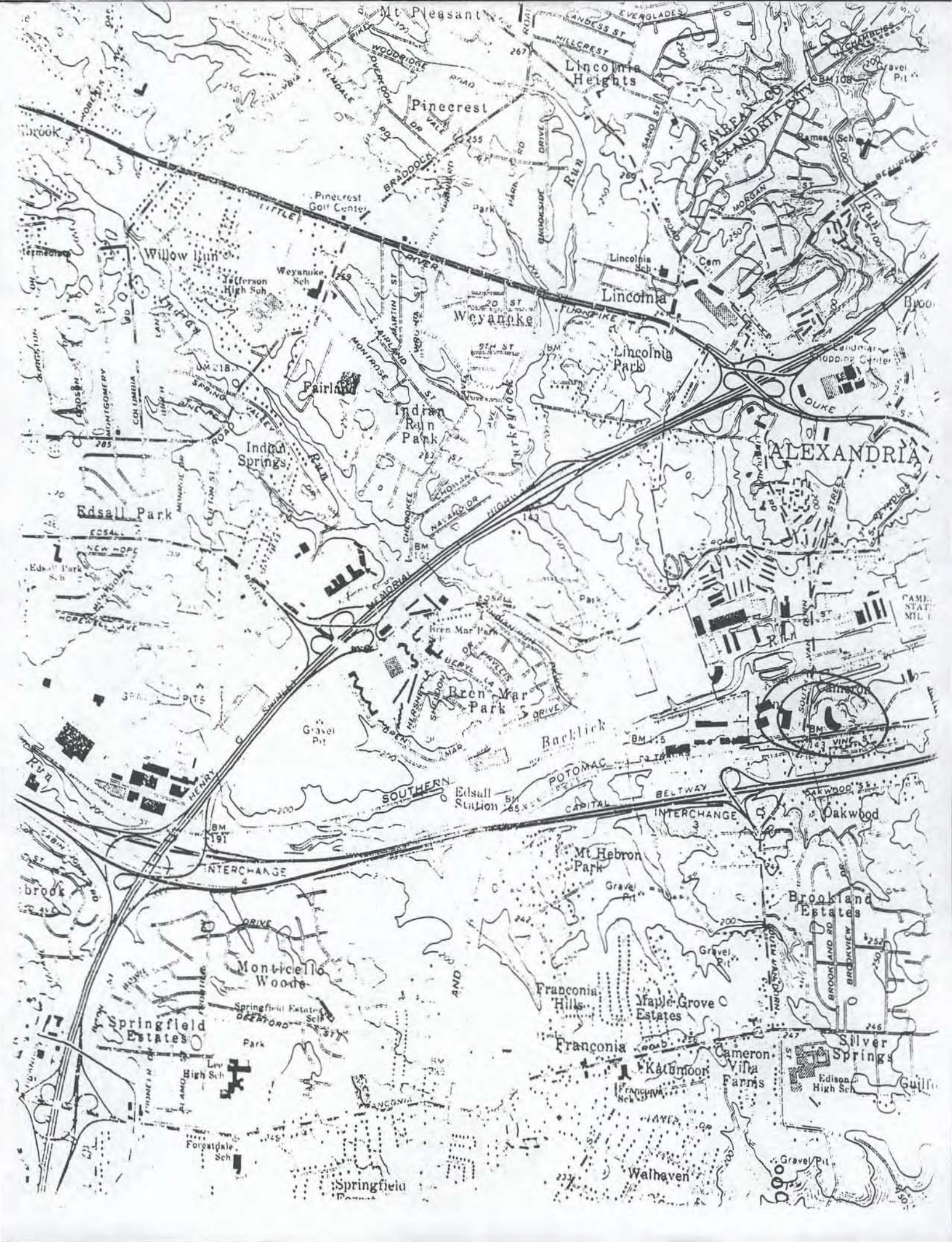
Mt Pleasant
Lincolnia Heights
Pinecrest
Pinecrest Golf Center
Willow Run
Jefferson High Sch
Weyanoke Sch
Weyanoke
Lincolnia Sch
Lincolnia
Lincolnia Park
Fairlan
Indian Run Park
Indian Springs
ALEXANDRIA
Edsall Park
Bren Mar Park
Backlick
Gravel Pit
Edsall Station
SOUTHERN
POTOMAC
CAPITAL
BELTWAY
INTERCHANGE 3
INTERCHANGE 4
Oakwood
Mt Hebron Park
Brookland Estates
Monticello Woods
Springfield Estates
Franconia Hills
Maple Grove Estates
Franconia
Kathmoor
Cameron Villa Farms
Silver Springs
Edison High Sch
Walhaven
Forestdale Sch
Springfield