Thunderbird
Archeology

PHASE I ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE 31.98-ACRE NETWAY PROPERTY, LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

By
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February 2006

WSSI Project #21375.01

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ABSTRACT

A Phase I archeological survey was conducted on the 31.98 acre Netway property located in Ashburn, Loudoun County, Virginia. The work was carried out in February of 2006 by Thunderbird Archeology, a division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., of Gainesville, Virginia, for Keane Enterprises of Ashburn, Virginia. No archeological sites were found, and no additional archeological work is recommended.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF EXHIBITS

LIST OF PLATES

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a Phase I archeological investigation of the 31.98 acre Netway property located in Ashburn, Loudoun County, Virginia. The property consists of one large area located in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Waxpool Road (Route 625) and Ashburn Village Boulevard and one small area in the northeast quadrant (Exhibit 1). Thunderbird Archeology, a division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., of Gainesville, Virginia, conducted the study described in this report for Keane Enterprises of Ashburn, Virginia. The fieldwork was carried out in February of 2006.

Christine Jirikowic, Ph.D., served as Principal Investigator on this project, and Curt Breckenridge served as the Field Supervisor. Elizabeth Waters and Ed Johnson served as Field Technicians. Tammy Bryant, M.A., served as Laboratory Supervisor, and Kelsey Woodman, M.A., conducted the artifact analysis. The background material was prepared by Joan Walker, Ph.D.

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 2001 *Guidelines for Conducting Cultural Resource Survey in Virginia, Additional Guidance for the Implementation of the Federal Standards Entitled Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines* (VDHR 2001) as well as the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (Dickenson 1983).

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.

All artifacts, research data and field data resulting from this project are currently on repository at the Thunderbird offices in Gainesville, Virginia.

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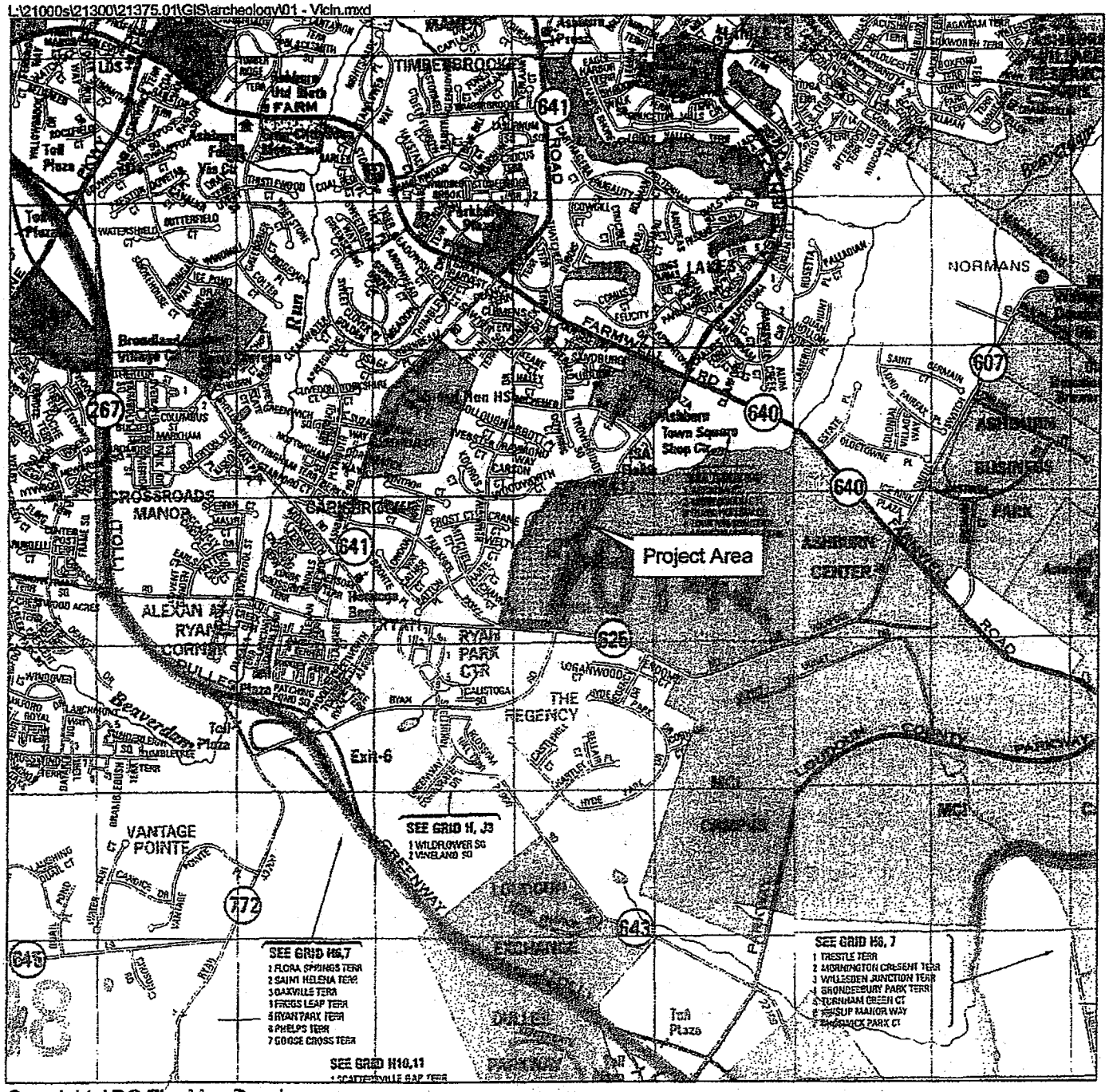
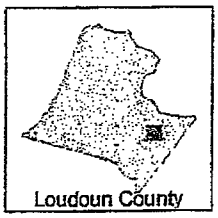
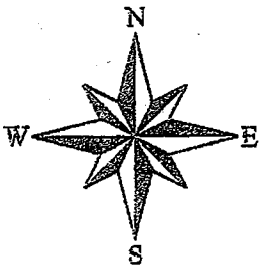


Vicinity Map
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = 2000'





Thunderbird Archeology
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Exhibit 1

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Loudoun County encompasses portions of the Piedmont Triassic Lowland and the Inner Piedmont Plateau sub-provinces and a portion of the Blue Ridge Province (Fenneman 1938; Bailey 1999). The Piedmont Physiographic Province is underlain by igneous and metamorphic rocks of various origins that were folded during the Paleozoic as the North American and African plates converged. Later, in the Mesozoic, rifting occurred as Pangea broke apart and the Atlantic Ocean formed. The Piedmont ranges from 200 feet above sea level (a.s.l.) at the Fall Line to circa 1000 feet a.s.l. in the western portion at the Blue Ridge. Because of the intensive weathering of the underlying rocks in the Piedmont's humid climate, bedrock is generally buried under a thick, 6 to 60 foot blanket of saprolite.

The Piedmont Province has been sub-divided into three sub-provinces: the Outer Piedmont Plateau, the Triassic Lowlands, and the Inner Piedmont Plateau. The project area lies in the Triassic Basin, or Triassic Lowlands. These are long, narrow rift valleys, or basins, formed during the Triassic period. These valleys, underlain by Mesozoic sedimentary and igneous rocks, have filled with sandstones and basalts. Elevations range from 200 to 400 feet a.s.l.

The project area contains a north-south trending ridge that occupies much of the property (Exhibit 2). The terrain slopes gently down to a stream on the west and towards a stormwater pond along the northern property boundary. The closest drainage to the project area is an unnamed tributary of Beaverdam Run, which runs along the northern and western edges of the project area. Several branches of this drainage extend into the northeast corner, the north center, and across the western boundary of the project area. The unnamed tributary joins Beaverdam Run approximately one mile northeast of the project area; this in turn joins Broad Run approximately three miles northeast of the project area. Broad Run runs north for approximately two miles, where it joins the Potomac River in the vicinity of Selden Island.

Five soil types have been mapped within the project area. A majority of the uplands areas on the ridge landform that dominates the project area are mapped as Penn silt loam. Penn series soils are moderately deep and well drained soils found on nearly level to steeply dissected uplands. Nestoria gravely silt loam, severely eroded is located in the western portion and along the northern boundary of the project area. Nestoria series soils are shallow and well drained; these soils can be found on ridgecrests as well as side slopes in highly dissected landscapes. A narrow section of the uplands on the western side of the project area has been mapped as Haymarket and Jackland series soils. Haymarket soils are very deep, well drained to moderately well drained with moderately slow permeability; Jackland soils are very deep, moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained with very slow permeability. Dulles silt loam is mapped in lowlands portions of the project area, along the drainage in the eastern portion of the property and in the southern half of the project area. Dulles series soils are deep, moderately well and somewhat poorly drained and are found on nearly level uplands and concave lowlands such as the heads of drainageways. Albano silt loam also occurs in the lowlands of the

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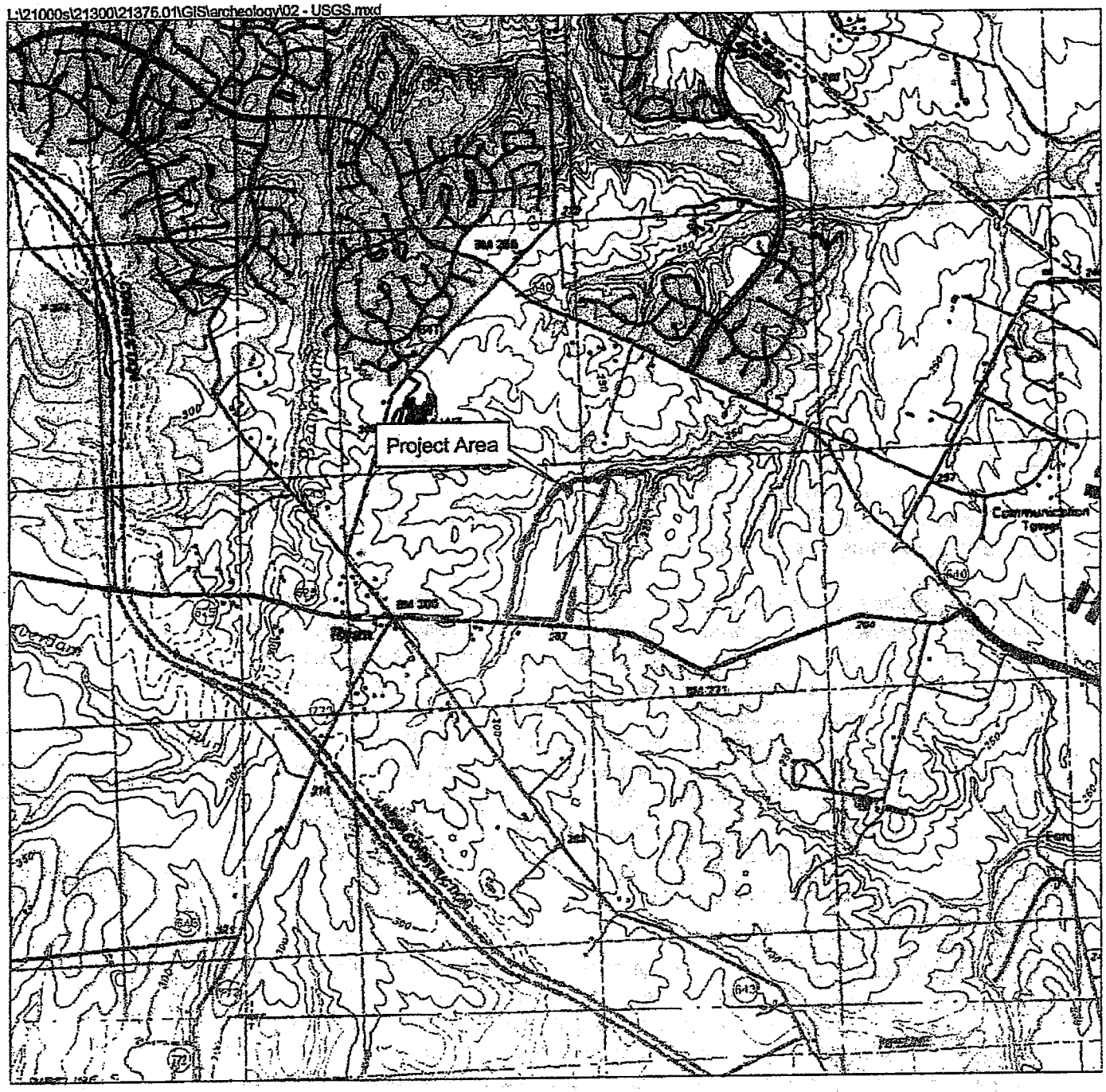
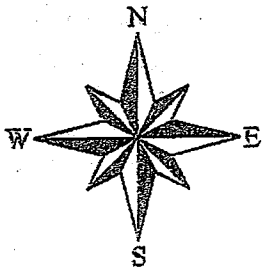


USGS Quad Map
Sterling, VA-MD 1994
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = 2000'



Latitude: 39°01'02" N
Longitude: 77°29'04" W
Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 02070008
Stream Class: III
Name of Watershed: Beaverdam Run

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Exhibit 2

project area; this soil series follows the drainage that runs along the northern and western edges of the project area. Albano series soils are deep and poorly drained and are found on upland flats and at the heads of drainageways.

The majority of the Netway property consists of an abandoned field (Exhibit 3; Plate 1). Vegetation within the property consists primarily of grasses in the open field and scattered young evergreen trees (Plates 2-3). Vegetation in the portion of the project area located just east of Ashburn Village Boulevard consists of mixed deciduous forest (Plate 4).

Conditions at the time of survey were generally moderately cold and windy. Light to moderate rain just prior to our survey contributed to the presence of moisture in the soils, although portions of the property are normally very poorly drained.

PALEOENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

The basic environmental history of the area has been provided by Carbone (1976; see also Gardner 1985, 1987, and Johnson 1986). The following will present highlights from this history, focusing on those aspects pertinent to the project area.

At the time of the arrival of humans into the region, about 11,000 years ago, the area was beginning to recover rapidly from the effects of the last Wisconsin glacial maximum of circa 18,000 years ago. Vegetation was in transition from northern dominated species and included a mixture of conifers and hardwoods. The primary trend was toward a reduction in the openness so characteristic of the parkland of 14-12,000 years ago. Animals were undergoing a rapid increase in numbers as deer, elk and, probably, moose expanded into the niches and habitats made available as the result of wholesale extinctions of the various kinds of fauna that had occupied the area during the previous millennia. The current cycle of ponding and stream drowning began between 18-16,000 years ago at the beginning of the final retreat of the last Wisconsin glaciation (Gardner 1985); sea level rise has been steady since then.

These trends continued to accelerate over the subsequent millennia of the Holocene. One important highlight was the appearance of marked seasonality circa 7000 B.C. This was accompanied by the spread of deciduous forests dominated by oaks and hickories. The modern forest characteristic of the area, the mixed oak-hickory-pine climax forest, prevailed after 3000-2500 B.C. Continued forest closure led to the reduction and greater territorial dispersal of the larger mammalian forms such as deer. Sea level continued to rise, resulting in the inundation of interior streams. This was quite rapid until circa 3000-2500 B.C., at which time the rise slowed, continuing at a rate estimated to be 10 inches a century (Darmody and Foss 1978). This rate of rise continues to the present. Based on the archeology (c.f. Gardner and Rappleye 1979), it would appear that the mid-Atlantic migratory bird flyway was established circa 6500 B.C.; oysters had migrated to at least

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Spring 2004 Color Infrared Imagery
Netway
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Scale: 1" = 400'

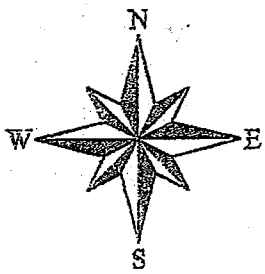

Photo Source: Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.

Thunderbird Archeology
A Division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.

Exhibit 3

the Northern Neck by 1200 B.C. (Potter 1982) and to their maximum upriver limits along the Potomac near Popes Creek, Maryland, by circa 750 B.C. (Gardner and McNett 1971), with anadromous fish arriving in the Inner Coastal Plain in considerable numbers circa 1800 B.C. (Gardner 1982).

During the historic period, at circa A.D. 1700, cultural landscape alteration becomes a new environmental factor (Walker and Gardner 1989). Around this time, Euro-American settlement extended into the Piedmont/Coastal Plain interface. With these settlers came land clearing and deforestation for cultivation, as well as the harvesting of wood for use in a number of different products. At this time the streams tributary to the Potomac were broad expanses of open waters from their mouths well up their valleys to, at, or near their "falls" where they leave the Piedmont and enter the Coastal Plain. These streams were conducive to the establishment of ports and harbors, elements necessary to commerce and contact with the outside world and the seats of colonial power. Most of these early ports were eventually abandoned or reduced in importance, for the erosional cycle set up by the land clearing resulted in tons of silt being washed into the streams, ultimately impeding navigation.

The historic vegetation would have consisted of a mixed oak-hickory-pine forest. Associated with this forest were deer and smaller mammals and turkey. The nearby open water environments would have provided habitats for waterfowl year round as well as seasonally for migratory species.

CULTURAL HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric Overview

A number of summaries of the archeology of the general area have been written (c.f. Gardner 1987; Johnson 1986; Walker 1981); a brief overview will be presented here. Gardner, Walker and Johnson present essentially the same picture; the major differences lie in the terminology utilized for the prehistoric time periods.

Paleoindian Period (9500-8000 B.C.)

The Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene of the Late Glacial period was characterized by cooler and drier conditions with less marked seasonal variation than is evident today. The cooler conditions resulted in decreased evaporation and, in areas where drainage was topographically or edaphically poor, could have resulted in the development of wetlands in the Triassic Lowlands (Walker 1981; Johnson 1986:P1-8). The overall cast of the vegetation was one of open forests with mixed coniferous and deciduous elements. The character of local floral communities would have depended on drainage, soils, and elevation, among other factors. The structure of the open environment would have been favorable for deer and, to a lesser degree, elk, which would have expanded rapidly into

the environmental niches left available by the extinction and extirpation of the herd animals and megafauna characteristic of the Late Pleistocene. As the evidence suggests now, the last of these creatures, e.g. mastodons, would have been gone from the area circa 11,000-11,500 years B.P., or just before humans first entered what is now Virginia.

Diagnostic artifacts of the earliest groups include Clovis spear points (Early Paleoindian), Mid-Paleo points, and Dalton points (Late Paleoindian). Although hard evidence is lacking, the subsistence settlement base of these groups appears to have focused on general foraging with an emphasis on hunting (Gardner 1989 and various). A strong component of the settlement and exploitative system was the preference for a restricted range of microcrystalline lithics, e.g. jasper and chert, a formal tool kit, and the curation of this tool kit. Sporadic Paleoindian finds are reported on the Potomac, but, overall, these spearpoints are uncommon in the local area (c.f. Gardner 1985; Brown 1979). Fluted points have been found as isolated finds in the county, though the others have not (Johnson 1986).

Early Archaic Period (8500-6500 B.C.)

The warming trend, which began during the terminal Late Pleistocene, continued during the Early Archaic. Precipitation increased and seasonality became more marked, at least by 7000 B.C. The open woodlands of the previous era gave way to increased closure, thereby reducing the edge habitats and decreasing the range and numbers of edge adapted species such as deer. The arboreal vegetation was initially dominated by conifers, but soon gave way to a deciduous domination.

Archeologically, temporally diagnostic artifacts shift from the lanceolate spear points of the Paleoindians to notched forms (Johnson 1986:P2-4). Diagnostic projectile points include Palmer Corner Notched, Amos Corner Notched, Kirk Corner Notched, Kirk Side Notched, Warren Side Notched and Kirk Stemmed. Although the populations still exhibited a preference for the cryptocrystalline raw materials, they began to utilize more locally available materials such as quartz (Walker 1981:32; Johnson 1986:P2-1). The tool kit remained essentially the same as the Paleoindian, but with the addition of such implements as axes.

At the beginning of the Early Archaic the settlement pattern was similar to that of the Paleoindians. Changes in settlement become evident from 7500 B.C. on, accelerating after 7200 B.C. Among the major shifts were a movement away from a reliance on a restricted range of lithics and a shift toward expedience, as opposed to curation, in tool manufacture. Johnson feels that this shift is particularly marked during the change from Palmer/Kirk Corner Notched to Kirk Side Notched/Stemmed (Johnson 1983; 1986:P2-6). The changes are believed to be the result of an increase in deciduous trees and the subsequent closure of the forested areas. These changes are reflected in the fact that sites show up in a number of areas not previously exploited. A population increase also seems to be a factor in this increased number of sites.

Middle Archaic (6500-3000/2500 B.C.)

The Middle Archaic period, which corresponds to the Atlantic environmental episode, exhibited an acceleration of the warming trend (Walker 1981). Two major sub-episodes were present: an earlier, moister period that lasted until approximately 4500 B.C., and a later, warmer and drier period, the mid-Holocene Xerothermic, which ended at approximately 3000 B.C. A gradual reduction in rainfall and increased evaporation characterized the period, which was marked by an increase in deciduous vegetation, a more marked seasonality of plant resources, a decrease in the deer population (because of the disappearance of edge habitats), and an increase in the numbers of other game animals such as turkey. Importantly for the local area, more of a mosaic of forests and grasslands might have been present because of edaphic factors. The dominance of deciduous species offered a high seasonal mast (acorns, nuts) that provided a nutritious and storable food base (Walker 1981).

Diagnostic projectile points include Lecroy, Stanly, Morrow Mountain, Guilford, Halifax and other bifurcate/notched base, contracting stem and side notched variants. The tool kit is definitively more expedient (Walker 1981) and includes grinding and milling stones, chipped and ground stone axes, drills and other wood working tools.

With the increasing diversity in natural resources came a subsistence pattern of seasonal harvests. Base camps were located in high biomass habitats or areas with the greatest variety of food resources nearby (Walker 1981). These base camp locations varied according to the season; however, they were generally located on rivers, fluvial swamps, or interior upland swamps. The size and duration of the base camps appear to have depended on the size, abundance, and diversity of the immediately local and nearby resource zones. In contrast to the earlier preference for cryptocrystalline materials, Middle Archaic populations used a wide variety of lithic raw materials, and propinquity became the most important factor in lithic raw material utilization (Walker 1981 and Johnson 1986). Settlement, however, continued to be controlled, in part, by the distribution of usable lithics.

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. The Triassic Lowlands, with their numerous upland swamps, would have offered numerous attractive settlement loci (Walker 1981). 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). Johnson notes a major increase in the number of sites during the bifurcate phase (Johnson 1986:P2-14) and the later phases such as Halifax.

Late Archaic (2500-1000 B.C.)

During this time period, the climatic changes associated with the Sub-Boreal episode continued, although the climate began to ameliorate. At this time, a major adaptive element was found in the resources offered by the rivers and estuaries.

Diagnostic artifacts include broadspear variants such as Savannah River and descendant forms such as the notched broadspears, Perkiomen and Susquehanna, Dry Brook and Orient, and more narrow bladed, stemmed forms such as Holmes. Gardner (1987) separates the Late Archaic into two phases: Late Archaic I (2500-1800 B.C.) and Late Archaic II (1800-1000 B.C.). The Late Archaic I corresponds to the spread and proliferation of Savannah River populations, while the Late Archaic II is defined by Holmes and Susquehanna points. The distribution of these two, Gardner (1982; 1987) suggests, shows the development of stylistic or territorial zones. The Susquehanna style was restricted to the Potomac above the Fall Line and through the Shenandoah Valley, while the Holmes and kindred points were restricted to the Tidewater and south of the Potomac through the Piedmont. Another aspect of the differences between the two groups is in their raw material preferences: Susquehanna and descendant forms such as Dry Brook and, less so, Orient Fishtail, tended to be made from rhyolite, while Holmes spear points were generally made of quartzite.

A new item in the inventory was the stone bowl manufacured of steatite, or soapstone. These were carved from material occurring in a narrow belt extending from Pennsylvania south to Alabama and situated, for the most part, along the edge of the Piedmont and Inner Coastal Plain provinces.

An increasingly sedentary lifestyle evolved, with a reduction in seasonal settlement shifts (Walker 1981; Johnson 1986:P5-1). Food processing and food storage technologies were becoming more efficient, and trade networks began to be established.

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. The adjacent interior and upland zones become rather extensively utilized as adjuncts to these fishing base camps. The pattern of using seasonal camps continues. Although hunting camps and other more specialized sites may occur in the Triassic Lowlands, the larger base camps are expected to be found along rivers or in estuarine settings (Walker 1981). Use of the interfluvial Piedmont diminished during the Late Archaic. Sites from this period are less frequent and more widely scattered. It was at this point that the stylistic differentiation becomes apparent between the areas above the Fall Zone and those below, as discussed earlier: rhyolite usage and Susquehanna Broadspear forms occur above the Fall Zone while Holmes and its derivatives, including Fishtail variations, occur below the Fall Zone.

Early Woodland (1000-500 B.C.)

At this time during the Sub-Atlantic episode, more stable, milder and moister conditions prevailed, although short term climatic perturbations were present. This was the point at which the climate evolved to its present conditions (Walker 1981).

The major artifact hallmark of the Early Woodland is the appearance of pottery (Dent 1995; Gardner and McNett 1971). The Early Woodland period may be separated into three phases: Early Woodland I, II, and III. The earliest dates for pottery are 1200 B.C. in the Northern Neck (Waselkov 1982) and 950 B.C. at the Monocacy site in the Potomac Piedmont (Gardner and McNett 1971). This pottery is tempered with steatite, and the vessel shape copied that of the soapstone bowl, suggesting a local source for this innovation. This steatite tempered pottery is characteristic of the Early Woodland I period and is widely distributed throughout the Middle Atlantic (Dent 1995; Gardner and Walker 1993). Diagnostic points included smaller side notched and stemmed variants such as Vernon and Calvert. Early Woodland II pottery is characterized by steatite or other heavily tempered ceramics with conoidal bases that were made by the annular ring technique. This ware is referred to as Selden Island Cordmarked. The wide-spread adoption of this pottery type by groups throughout the Middle Atlantic was perhaps due to the fact that sand and grit was such a versatile temper, for groups once far removed from the steatite sources quickly adopted this new medium (Goode 2002:3, 26). Again, small stemmed or notched points are diagnostic artifacts. Sand tempered pottery (Accokeek) is the Early Woodland III descendant of these steatite tempered wares. Rossville/Piscataway points are the diagnostic spear points.

It is important to note that pottery underscores the sedentary nature of these local resident populations. This is not to imply that they did not utilize the inner-riverine or inner-estuarine areas, but rather that this seems to have been done on a seasonal basis by people moving out from established bases. The settlement pattern is essentially a continuation of Late Archaic lifeways with an increasing orientation toward seed harvesting in floodplain locations (Walker 1981). Small group base camps would have been located along Fall Line streams during the spring and early summer in order to take advantage of the anadromous fish runs. Satellite sites such as hunting camps or exploitive foray camps would then have operated out of these base camps.

Middle Woodland (500 B.C.-1000 A.D.)

Diagnostic artifacts from this time period include various grit/crushed rock tempered pottery types including Albemarle and Popes Creek (common in the Coastal Plain) that appeared around 500 B.C. A local variant of the net marked pottery is Culpeper ware, found in the Triassic Basin. Net marking is characteristic of the Middle Woodland I period; however, it is supplanted by fabric impression and cord marking during the Middle Woodland II (Gardner and Walker 1993:4). Cord marked surfaces also occur on

Culpeper ware, a sandstone tempered ceramic occasionally found in the Piedmont (Larry Moore, personal communication 1993). The associated projectile points are unclear, but do include small notched and/or stemmed forms. In general, the period from A.D. 200 to about A.D. 900 sees little population in the Potomac Piedmont.

Late Woodland (1000 A.D. to Contact/depopulation)

In the early part of the Late Woodland, the diagnostic ceramics in the Northern Virginia Piedmont region are crushed rock tempered ceramics for which a variety of names, such as Albemarle, Shepherd, etc., are used. The surfaces of the ceramics are primarily cord marked. Later in the Late Woodland, decoration appears around the mouths of the vessels and collars are added to the rims. In the Potomac Piedmont, circa A.D. 1350-1400, the crushed rock wares are replaced by a limestone tempered and shell tempered ware that spread out of the Shenandoah Valley to at least the mouth of the Monocacy. Triangular projectile points indicating the use of the bow and arrow are diagnostic as well.

Horticulture was the primary factor affecting Late Woodland settlement choice and the focus was on easily tilled floodplain zones where the larger hamlets and villages were found. This was characteristic of the Piedmont as well as the Coastal Plain to the east and the Shenandoah Valley to the west (Gardner 1982; Kavanaugh 1983). The uplands and other areas were also utilized, for it was here that wild resources would have been gathered. Smaller, non-ceramic sites are found away from the major rivers (Hantman and Klein 1992; Stevens 1988).

Most of the functional categories of sites away from major drainages are small base camps, transient, limited purpose camps, and quarries. Site frequency and size vary according to a number of factors, e.g. proximity to major rivers or streams, distribution of readily available surface water, and the presence of lithic raw material (Gardner 1987). Villages, hamlets, or any of the other more permanent categories of sites are rare to absent in the Piedmont inter-riverine uplands. 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 Potomac, although not necessarily in the Piedmont where the fish runs could not get above Great Falls (Gardner 1982, 1987). It is possible some horticulture or intensive use of local resources appears sometime after 1000 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 area through hunting, fishing and gathering remained a necessity.

Perhaps after 1400 A.D., with the effects of the Little Ice Age, the resulting increased emphasis on hunting and gathering and either a decreased emphasis on horticulture or the need for additional arable land required a larger territory per group, and population pressures resulted in a greater occupation of the Outer Piedmont and Fall Line regions (Gardner 1991; Fiedel 1999; Miller and Walker n.d.). The 15th and 16th centuries were a

time of population movement and disruption from the Ridge and Valley to the Piedmont and Coastal Plain. There appear to have been shifting socio-economic alliances over competition for resources and places in the exchange networks. A severe drought may have occurred in the 16th century. More centralized forms of social organization may have developed at this time, and small chiefdoms appeared along major rivers at the Fall Line and in the Inner Coastal Plain at about this time. A Fall Line location was especially advantageous for controlling access to critical seasonal resources as well as being points of topographic constriction that facilitated controlling trade arteries (Potter 1993; Jirikowic 1999; Miller and Walker n.d.).

Historic Overview

Early English explorations to the American continent began in 1584 when Sir Walter Raleigh obtained a license from Queen Elizabeth of England to search for "remote heathen lands" in the New World, but all of his efforts to establish a colony failed. In 1606, King James I of England granted to Sir Thomas Gates and others of "The Virginia Company of London" the right to establish two colonies or plantations in the Chesapeake Bay region of North America in order to search ".... For all manner of mines of gold, silver, and copper" (Hening 1823, Vol. I:57-75).

It was in the spring of 1607 that three English ships--the *Susan Constant,* the *Godspeed*, and the *Discovery*, under the commands of Captains Newport, Gosnole, and John Smith, anchored at Cape Henry in the lower Chesapeake Bay. After receiving a hostile reception from native inhabitants, exploring parties were sent out to sail north of Cape Henry. Following explorations in the lower Chesapeake, an island 60 miles up the James River was selected for settlement (Kelso 1995:6, 7), and the colonists began building a palisaded fort, which came to be called Jamestown. In 1608, Captain Smith surveyed and mapped the Potomac River, locating the various native villages on both sides of the Potomac River. Captain Smith's "Map of Virginia" supplies the first recorded names of the numerous native villages along both sides of the Potomac River. The extensive village network along the Potomac was described as the "trading place of the natives (Gutheim 1986:22, 23, 28). After 1620, Indian trade with the English settlers on the lower Coastal Plain became increasingly intense. Either in response to the increased trade, or to earlier intra Indian hostilities, confederations of former disparate aboriginal groups were formed.

Reaffirmed by an "Ancient Charter" dated May 23, 1609, King James outlined the boundaries of the charter of "The Virginia Company:"

> "...in that part of America called Virginia, from the point of land, called Cape or Point Comfort, all along the sea coast, to the northward two hundred miles, and from the said point of Cape Comfort, all along the sea coast to the southward two hundred miles, and all that space and circuit of land, lying from the sea coast of the precinct aforesaid, up into the land, throughout from sea to sea, west and northwest; and also all the islands,

lying within one hundred miles, along the coast of both seas..." (Hening 1823, Vol II:88).

In 1611, John Rolfe (who later married Pocahontas in 1614) began experimenting with the planting of "sweet scented" tobacco at his Bermuda Hundred plantation, located at the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers. Rolfe's experiments with tobacco altered the economic future of the Virginia colony by establishing tobacco as the primary crop of the colony; this situation lasted until the Revolutionary War (O'Dell 1983:1; Lutz 1954:27). Tobacco was used as a stable medium of exchange, and promissory notes, used as money, were issued for the quantity and quality of tobacco received (Bradshaw 1955:80, 81). Landed Virginia estates, bound to the tobacco economy, became independent, self-sufficient plantations, and few towns of any size were established in Virginia prior to the industrialization in the south following the Civil War.

A number of early English entrepreneurs were trading along the Potomac River in the early 1600s for provisions and furs. By 1621, the numbers of fur trappers had increased to the point that their fur trade activities required regulation. Henry Fleet, among the better known of the early Potomac River traders, was trading in 1625 along the Potomac River as far north as the Falls. He traded with English colonies in New England, settlements in the West Indies; and English merchants across the Atlantic in London (Gutheim 1986:28, 29, 35, 39).

The first Virginia Assembly, convened by Sir (Governor) George Yeardley at James City in June of 1619, increased the number of "corporations" or boroughs in the colony from seven to eleven. In 1623, the first laws were made by the Virginia Assembly establishing the Church of England in the colony. These regulated the colonial settlements in relationship to Church rule, established land rights, provided some directions on tobacco and corn planting, and included other miscellaneous items such as the provision "...That every dwelling house shall be pallizaded in for defence against the Indians" (Hening 1823, Vol I:119-129).

In 1617, four parishes--James City, Charles City, Henrico and Kikotan--were established in the Virginia colony. By 1630, the colony had expanded, necessitating the creation of new shires, or counties, to compensate for the courts, which had become inadequate (Hiden 1980:3, 6). In 1634, that part of Virginia located south of the Rappahannock River was divided into eight shires called James City, Henrico, Charles City, Elizabeth Citty [sic], Warwick River, Warrosquyoake, Charles River, and Accawmack, all to be "...governed as the shires in England" (Hening 1823, Vol I:224). Ten years later, in 1645, Northumberland County, located on the north side of the Rappahannock River, was established "...for the reduceing of the inhabitants of Chickcouan [district] and other parts of the neck of land between Rappahanock River and Potomack River," thus enabling European settlement north of the Rappahannock River and in Northern Virginia (Hening 1823, Vol I:352-353). In 1634, when the Virginia colony was divided by the Virginia House of Burgess into eight shires, there were approximately 4,914 men, women, and children in the colony (Greene 1932:136).

Prior to 1692, most lands in the Virginia Colony were granted by the Governor of the colony under the "head right" system and were issued as Virginia Land Grants. In 1618, a provision of 100 acres of land had been made for "Ancient Planters," or those adventurers and planters who had established themselves as permanent settlers prior to 1618. Thereafter, Virginia Land Grants were issued by the "headright" system by which "any person who paid his own way to Virginia should be assigned 50 acres of land...and if he transported at his own cost one or more persons he should...be awarded 50 acres of land" for each (Nugent 1983:XXIV).

King Charles I was beheaded in January 1648/9 during the mid-17th century Civil Wars in England. His son, Prince Charles II, was crowned King of England by seven loyal supporters, including two Culpeper brothers, during his exile near France in September 1649. For their support, King Charles granted his loyal followers "The Northern Neck," or all that land lying between the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers in the Virginia colony; the grant was to expire in 1690. King Charles II was subsequently restored to the English throne in 1660.

In 1677, Thomas, Second Lord Culpeper became successor to Governor Berkley in Virginia, and by 1681, he had purchased the six Northern Neck interests of the other proprietors. The Northern Neck grant (due to expire in 1690) was reaffirmed by England in perpetuity to Lord Culpeper in 1688. Lord Culpeper died in 1689, and four-fifths of the Northern Neck interest passed in 1690 to his daughter, Katherine Culpeper, who married Thomas, the fifth Lord Fairfax. The Northern Neck became vested and was affirmed to Thomas, Lord Fairfax, in 1692 (Kilmer and Sweig 1975:5-9). In 1702, Lord Fairfax appointed an agent, Robert Carter of Lancaster County, Virginia, to rent the Northern Neck lands for nominal quit rents, usually two shillings sterling per acre (Hening 1820, Vol IV:514-523; Kilmer and Sweig 1975:1-2, 7, 9).

The extent and boundaries of the Northern Neck were not established until two separate surveys of the Northern Neck were conducted. These were begun in 1736, and a final agreement was reached between 1745 and 1747 (Kilmer and Sweig 1975:13-14).

The oldest known land grants in Loudoun County, dating from the early 1700s, were located in the eastern part of the county on the Potomac River, then the northern part of Stafford County. These were granted to Captain Daniel McCarty and John Pope in 1709. Daniel McCarty's land grant was located on both sides of the mouth of Sugarland Run in the northeastern corner of Loudoun County and was adjoined on the west side by John Pope's land grant located along the south side of the Potomac River waterfront (MacIntyre 1978:21). The southeastern part of Loudoun County consists of a small part of a 41,660 acre tract of land patented in 1724 by the Northern Neck proprietor, Robert "King" Carter of Lancaster County, for his sons and grandsons. Other early patents in eastern Loudoun County were to Hugh Thomlinson (1724), Major John Fitzhugh (1726), and in 1729 to Robert Carter, Jr., Frances and Elizabeth Barnes, and Abraham Barnes (MacIntyre 1978:21; Northern Neck Land Grants A:71-72).

Large parcels of the Northern Neck Land Grants in the eastern portion of Loudoun County were originally obtained by tidewater plantation owners for their growing families of sons. Initially, these tracts were seated by slaves and overseers to establish tobacco plantations that were later settled by the owners' sons and/or descendants. The western part of Loudoun County was initially settled during the second quarter of the 18th century by Germans, Irish, and English Quakers from the northern states. The settlers in this part of the county held smaller tracts of land than those in the eastern portion and had few or no slaves. Approximately 2,200 people lived within what was to become Loudoun County by 1749; the ethnic groups represented included descendants of the English, German and Scotch-Irish settlers and more than 600 slaves (History Matters 2004:11). The slaves included Creoles, those slaves who were born in the British colonies including Virginia) and those who were born in Africa, with western Africa being the most common point of origin (ibid).

Following several county divisions, Loudoun County was created by an Act of the Virginia Assembly from Cameron Parish in the western part of Fairfax County on May 2, 1757 (Hening 1819, Vol. VII:148-149). A survey of the dividing line between the two counties in 1757 began at the head of Difficult Run on the Potomac River and ran southwest to the head of Rocky Run on Bull Run. Parent counties of Loudoun County, derived from the Indian District of "Chickcoun" (Chicacoan) in 1645, were Northumberland County (1645-1651), Lancaster County (1651-1653), Westmoreland County (1653-1664) (Hening 1823, Vol. I:352-353; 381), Stafford County (1664-1732) (Hening 1823, Vol. II:239), Prince William County (1732-1742) (Hening 1820, Vol. IV:803), and Fairfax County (1742-1757) (Hening 1819, Vol. V:207-208). Loudoun County was named for John Campbell, 4th Earl of Loudoun, commander of British Forces in North America during the French and Indian Wars and Governor General of Virginia from 1756-1759 (Head 1908:109-110; Church and Reese 1965:23).

Leesburg, the Loudoun County seat, was established by an Act of the Virginia Assembly in September 1758 on 60 acres of land belonging to Nicholas Minor that adjoined the court house lot. In addition to Nicholas Minor, the property owner and an officer of the Loudoun County militia, Philip Ludwell Lee, Thomas Mason, Francis Lightfoot Lee, James Hamilton, Josiah Clapham, Aeneas Campbell, John Hugh, Francis Hague, and William West, "gentlemen," were appointed trustees for the town of Leesburg (Hening 1819, Vol. VII:235-236).

Although the early economic base of the county was tobacco, by the 1770s a shift from tobacco crops to the cultivation of wheat and the development of flour mills had begun. Factors contributing to this shift to a diversified agricultural base included the exhaustion of tobacco fields and increased English duties on tobacco at a time of drought and crop failures in Virginia. Coincidentally, there was increasing demand for American wheat in England as Britain began entering the industrial age. By the third quarter of the 18th century "...caravans of flour wagons...were already the life of tidewater trade" (Harrison 1987:401-405).

During the Revolutionary War, the majority of the Loudoun County residents were loyal to the Virginia colony. Committees were formed in the county to elect representatives to attend the general meetings in Williamsburg, for the militia draft, and for seeing that the needy families of their soldiers were provided for (Head 1908:127-137). Seven resolutions were passed when the committee met at the courthouse in Leesburg on June 14th "...to consider the most effectual method to preserve the rights and liberties of N. America, and relieve our brethren of Boston." In the seventh resolution passed, Thomas Mason and Francis Peyton were appointed to represent the county at a meeting to be held on August 1, 1774, at Williamsburg, Virginia, to discuss the resolves (Evans 1877/78: 231-236).

British subjects who held land and property in the Virginia colony were deemed to be enemy aliens and their lands and personal property in Virginia, including slaves, were ordered by the Virginia Legislature to be seized as Commonwealth property in 1777 (Hening 1822, Vol X:66-71). Heirs to the Fairfax family holding the Northern Neck were considered enemy aliens and subject to losing their land. "American citizens" in possession of leased Northern Neck lands at the time the Fairfax lands escheated obtained fee simple titles to the property by obtaining a certificate from the Governor of the Commonwealth, completing a Northern Neck Survey of the leased lands and paying a small fee.

Shipments of "State Arms" from Philadelphia for the militia of Loudoun County and the militia of the Northern Neck were kept in storage at Noland's Ferry, on the Potomac River in Loudoun County, by a Mr. Summers, "...an officer Stationed there to receive & Store them..." The Northern Neck militia was composed of men drafted from the counties of Loudoun, Fauquier, and Culpeper (Palmer 1881:223, 257, 308). In July of 1781, a report listing "State Arms" being shipped for the Virginia militia names the following stands of armament:

> "...in a return of the State Arms coming on from Philadelphia, 275 muskets and 104 bayonets are lodged at Fredericksburg, and 841 Muskets and 465 Bayonets at Fauquier Court House. This would make more than the number allowed by 116 -- At Noland's there are 920 muskets and 486 bayonets..." (Palmer 1881:258).

Head (1908:131) states that 1,746 men from Loudoun County were drafted into the Loudoun County militia in 1780 and 1781, contradicting the polls for Loudoun County in 1783 that enumerated 947 white males in the county over the age of 16 (Greene 1932:153), a portion of whom were Friends, or Quakers, who did not bear arms. The 1783 census also records that Loudoun County was the second largest slave holding county in the Commonwealth of Virginia, enumerating a total of 8,704 "blacks," most of whom were slaves, making the county second only to Amelia County, which had a population of 8,747 African-Americans. The 1790 census shows a total of 14,739 "free white males and females," 4,030 slaves, and 183 "other free persons" (Greene 1932:152. 153,155).

In 1787, the United States Constitution was ratified, a significant event for all of the colonists but particularly enslaved African Americans (History Matters 2004:11). Under this constitution, Congress could end the importation of slaves after, but not before, a 20 year period. On January 1, 1808, Congress ended the importation of slaves (ibid).

The Constitution also implemented the "three-fifths" clause which basically determined the method of allotting representatives to the U.S. House of Representatives (History Matters 2003:11). The method used was to count all free persons and three-fifths of the slaves; this prevented the domination of states with large slave populations and fewer free persons by states with large free populations and relatively few numbers of slaves (ibid). The Constitution also prevented Congress from establishing a head tax on slaves, thereby providing a benefit to slave owners.

In 1800, Loudoun County's population was 20,523 persons of which 333 were free persons of color and 4,990 were enslaved; bringing the total African American population to about 25% (History Matters 2004:11). The expansion of western settlements spurred Loudoun's growth in the late 18th and 19th centuries, although some slowing was observed in the 1830s and 1840s (ibid).

Early means of transportation, particularly during the colonial period, depended upon the Potomac River and inland water ways. Two early roads in Loudoun County were the Little River Turnpike (Route 50), chartered by an Act of the Virginia Assembly in 1801 and opened in 1806 from Alexandria as far as the town of Aldie (Edwards et al. 1994:82; Montague 1971:117), and the Leesburg Turnpike (Route 7), incorporated by an Act of the Virginia Assembly in 1809. The Leesburg Turnpike ran from Alexandria to Dranesville in western Fairfax County in 1822 and was finally extended to reach Leesburg in the late 1830s (Poland 1976:115, 117-118).

A study of Loudoun County's geology, indigenous trees and plants, its villages and its agrarian society was published in 1836 by Joseph Martin in his book titled *A New And Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia, And The District of Columbia* (Martin 1836: 206-216). In naming the common stones found within the county he notes that: "Small pointed stones of different kinds of flints, and supposed to be Indian darts, are occasionally found" (Martin 1836:208,209). Staple articles of produce in Loudoun County were flour, wheat, pork and beef, and there were a few farm orchards supplying apples, peaches, cherries and plums. In addition to wheat, most of which was milled into flour, grain crops included rye, corn, oats, and buckwheat.

Commenting on the ethnic residents in the county, Martin found:

> "A very considerable contrast is observable in the manners of the inhabitants in different sections of the county. That part of it lying northwest of Waterford was originally settled principally by Germans, and is now called the German settlement, and the middle of the county southwest of Waterford and west of Leesburg, was mostly settled by emigrants from the middle States, many of whom were members of the

society of Friends. In these two sections the farms are generally from one to three hundred acres each and are mostly cultivated by free labor. In the southern and eastern parts of the county the farms are many of them much larger and principally cultivated by slave labor."

Slave owners in Loudoun County in 1833 paid taxes on 3,021 slaves, the majority of whom were located within the eastern and southern portions of Loudoun County (Martin 1836:210). The 19th century, up until the Civil War, saw significant migration of enslaved African Americans out of the county because of Loudoun County's domestic slave trade (History Matters 2004:12). Over 1,000 slaves were sold out of Loudoun County between 1800 and 1810, and approximately 1,300 slaves were sold out of the county between 1850 and 1860 (ibid). Ninety per cent of the slaves worked in the field, cultivating and harvesting crops as well as establishing and maintaining all of the plantation lands (ibid:12-13).

Early in the antebellum period, free persons of color had formed communities within the towns of Leesburg, Middleburg, Hamilton, Snickersville/Bluemont, Waterford, , Lovettsville and Hillsboro (History Matters 2004:13). However, hostility towards all African Americans accelerated in the wake of the Nat Turner rebellion, and in 1831, Virginia passed a number of laws restricting the rights of free African Americans. These included barring African Americans from owning weapons, restriction of business, restriction of free movement and prohibiting them from learning to read or attend school (ibid

In the mid-1830s, the major towns of Loudoun County with populations of over 100 were: Hillsborough, on the public road from Harpers Ferry to Leesburg, with a population of 172; Leesburg, the county seat, with 500 dwellings and a population of 1,700; Middleburg, on Goose Creek and surrounded by 18 flour mills, with a population of 430; Upperville, in the southwestern part of Loudoun County near the Fauquier County Line, with a population of 300; and Waterford, a settlement in the northern part of the county, with a population of about 400. Other small settlements currently still in existence are: Aldie, at the junction of Snicker's Gap Turnpike and Little River Turnpike; Arcola, on the main stage road from Alexandria to Winchester; and Lovettsville, a German neighborhood about seven miles south of Harpers Ferry. The town of Purcellville was the site of Purcell's Store and was listed as a post office (Martin 1836:215, 216). Approximately 16 small villages and post offices located throughout Loudoun County and at the ferry crossings in 1835/36 are no longer in existence (Martin 1836:210-216).

Between 1830 and 1840, Loudoun County experienced a decline in its population, dropping from 21,939 individuals in 1830 to 20,431 in 1840, or 6.9% (Deck and Heaton 1926:62; Head 1908:85). This population fluctuation appeared again later in the 1800's as well and reflects a phenomena typical of agricultural areas in which partial or total crop failure leads to an out-migration of portions of the population to large cities or other parts of the country (Head 1908:86)

Edge notes on Taylor's 1853 map state that there were 77 water powered mills in the county at that time, including merchant mills, grist mills, and saw mills. The most notable was Carter's Mill on Goose Creek and N. Walker's Mill at Waterford. Taylor's 1853 map does not show any standing structures within the project area (Exhibit 4). The map does indicate that a town known as Farmwell was located at a crossroads west of the project area. Farmwell was named for George Lee's plantation and was also known as Five Forks and Five Corners. In 1849, Lee gave 4.25 acres of land to the Methodist Church and school (Scheel 2002: 39). By 1853, a combined church and school stood at the site. The deed is the oldest on record for a public school in Loudoun County (ibid: 40). In 1860, the five corners intersection became known as Old Farmwell when the Loudoun, Alexandria, and Hampshire Railroad bypassed the five corners, and a post office named Farmwell was established at the railroad stop at present Ashburn (ibid.).

A canal route from the mouth of Goose Creek on the Potomac River to the branches of Little River and Beaver Dam was surveyed in 1832 (Little River Navigation Company 1832). A second canal proposal to build lock and dam navigation for canal boats along Goose Creek was chartered by an Act of the Virginia Assembly in 1832, and a survey was carried out for the canal route in the same year. The purpose of the canal was to open navigation for 20 miles down Goose Creek from the Potomac River to the Snickers Gap Turnpike and to establish a five mile long canal up Little River to the town of Aldie.

Enough stocks in the Goose Creek and Little River Navigation Company, at $50.00 a share, were sold by 1839 to hold a stockholder's meeting. A contract was let in 1840 to James Roach of Alexandria for the first 12 miles of the canal. A financial statement of the Goose Creek and Little River Navigation Company for the year ending September 30, 1852, shows that 784 shares had been subscribed by individuals ($39,200.00) and 1,176 shares by the State of Virginia ($58,800.00). Expenses and disbursements from 1849 to 1852 totaled $75,552.46.

By the end of 1851, Goose Creek was open for the first seven miles, running through two canals, two guard gates, four dams and six locks. The canal was completed in 1854 to the mouth of Little River through a series of 99 locks (Trout 1967:31). The Goose Creek Canal survey shows eight mill sites operating at that time along Goose Creek.

The primary cause of the failure of the Goose Creek and Little River Navigation Company has been attributed to the industrial age advance into railroad systems. By 1854, the Company was financially broke, showing a balance of $1.95 on the account books. The company was dissolved in 1857 (Library of Virginia 1839-1857; Trout 1967:31-34).

The Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad, the first railroad system through Loudoun County, was chartered in circa 1853 (Salmon 1996:15, 47). Construction on the railroad line began in Alexandria in 1857 and reached Leesburg in 1860 (Geddes 1967:27). The Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad was renamed the Washington and Ohio Railroad circa 1873 and became the Washington, Ohio and Western Railroad in 1884 (Commonwealth of Virginia 1873:105; 1877:39; 1884:491).

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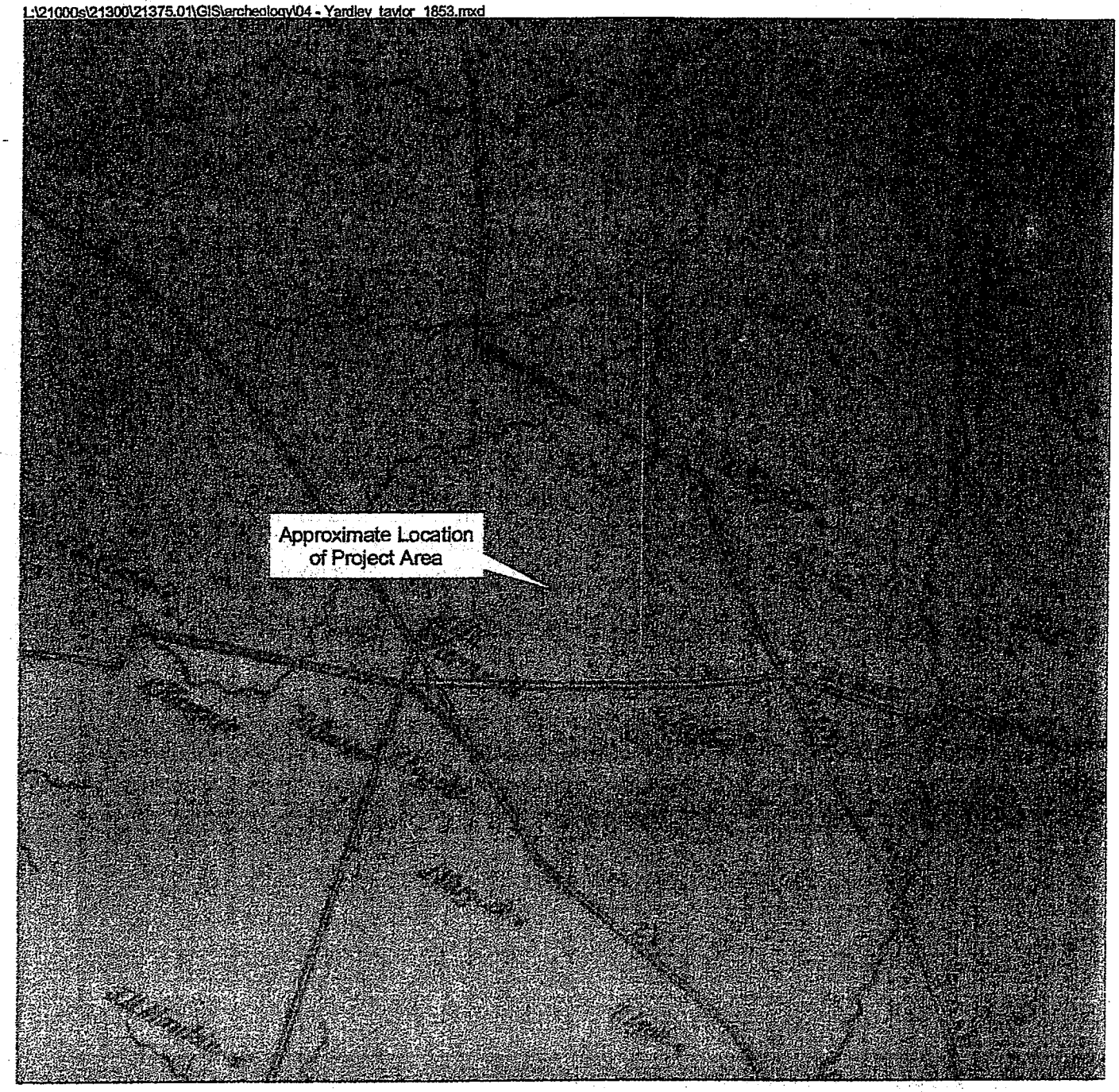
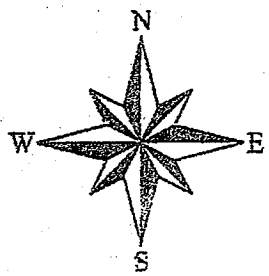


1853 Yardley Taylor Map
Loudoun County, VA
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = ½ mile



Map Source: "Map of Loudoun County, Virginia from actual surveys by Yardley Taylor, 1853". Original Scale: 1" = 1 mile

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Exhibit 4

The pre-Civil War population of Loudoun County was enumerated in 1860 at a total of 21,774 persons, including 5,501 slaves and 1,252 "free colored" persons. Slaves were owned at that time by 670 slave holders (Head 1908:85), indicating an average of eight slaves per household.

On the night of December 26, 1860, Major Robert Anderson moved his troops from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. Subsequently, on April 15, 1861, President Lincoln sent a reinforcement fleet of war vessels from New York to Fort Sumter to suppress the rebellion in the southern states. Two days later, the Commonwealth of Virginia seceded from the Union, adopting the Virginia Ordinance of Secession on April 17, 1861, and forming a provisional Confederate government (Gallagher 1989:29; Boatner 1991:729; Church and Reese 1965:134). The State formally seceded from the Union on May 23, 1861, by a vote of 97,000 to 32,000 (Bowman 1985:51, 55), with Loudoun County voting 1,626 to 726 to ratify the Ordinance of Secession (Hillsboro Bicentennial Committee 1976:21).

Located 25 miles from Washington, D. C., Loudoun County became a border county of divided loyalties during the Civil War years of 1861-1865. The southern and eastern parts of Loudoun County, settled by English colonials who farmed using slave labor, were loyal, for the most part, to the Confederacy. The northern and western parts of Loudoun County, settled by Quakers and Germans, although a minority, remained loyal to the Union.

Between 1863 and 1865, the southeastern part of Loudoun County was known as "Mosby's Confederacy" and was controlled by Mosby's Rangers who fought throughout the war using unconventional guerrilla warfare tactics. There were 46 skirmishes during the Civil War in the county, including the Battle of Ball's Bluff on October 21, 1861, and excluding less known skirmishes with Mosby's Rangers (Poland 1976:183, 191-192, 209).

The Battle of Balls Bluff, also known as the Battle of Harrison's Landing or the Battle of Leesburg, occurred on October 21, 1861; it centered around the Union Army's attempt to capture Leesburg by crossing the Potomac at Harrison's Landing. The Union attempt was thwarted by Confederate forces with an overwhelming number of Union casualties (921) compared to the number of Confederate losses (149). The conduct of the troops during the battle had strong political ramifications that led to the establishment of the Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War. The National Cemetery at Balls Bluff was established in 1865 for the burial of the Union soldiers who died in the battle. The Balls Bluff Battlefield and National Cemetery have been designated a National Historic Landmark.

McDowell's 1862 Map of Northeastern Virginia and the Vicinity of Washington shows no structures located within the project area boundaries (Exhibit 5). However, the map shows that the crossroads located approximately one mile west of the project area known as Farmwell had a number of structures. The estate of Dr. George Lee, a Leesburg physician whose slaves farmed 1,236 acres called Farmwell, granted the Alexandria

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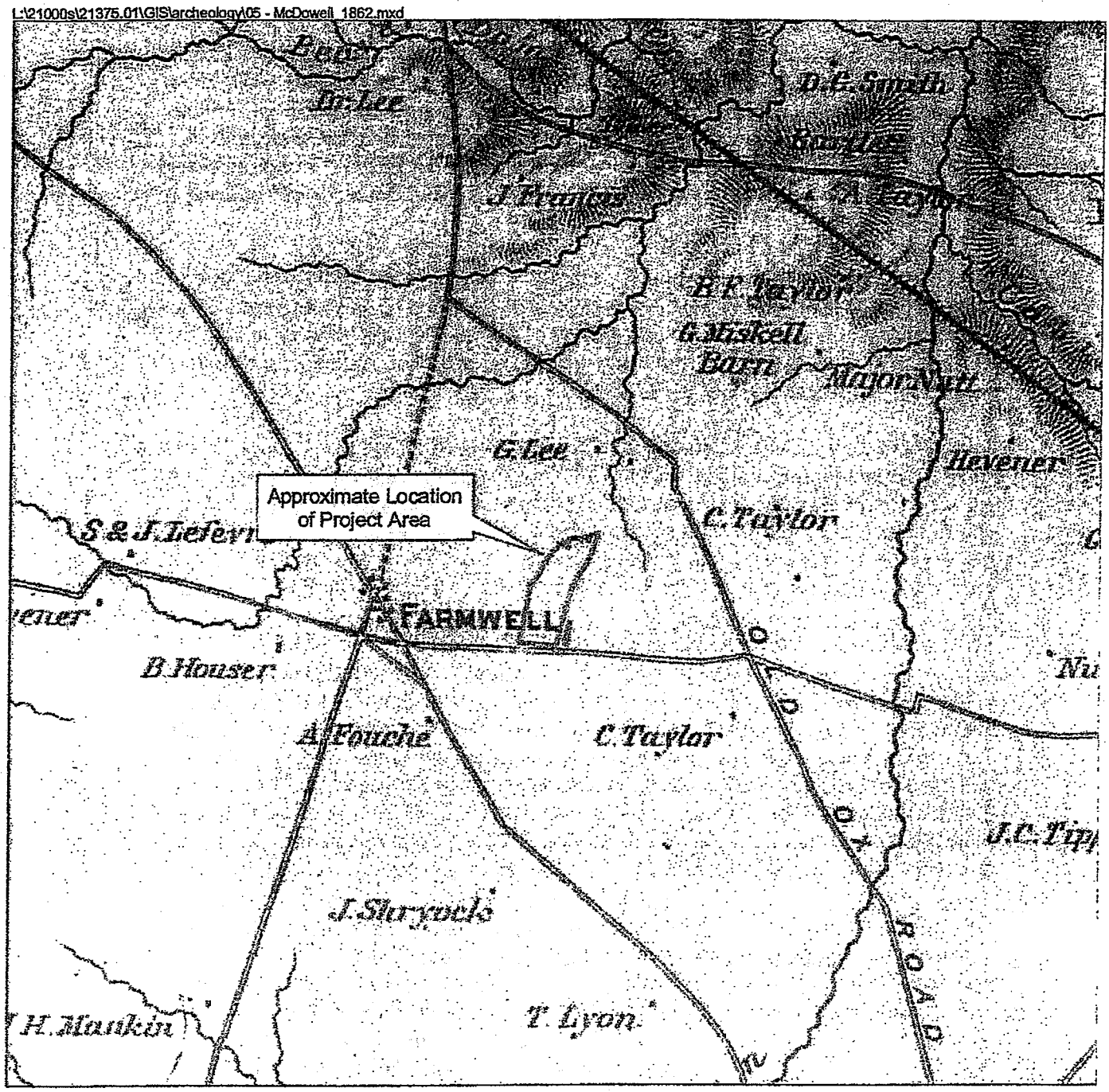
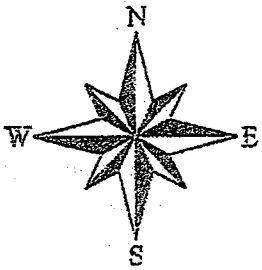


1862 McDowell Map
Northeast Virginia and Vicinity of Washington D.C.
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = ½ mile



Map Source: Map of N. Eastern Virginia and Vicinity of Washington. Compiled by General Irvin Mc Dowell, January 1862. United States. Corps of Topographical Engineers". Original Scale: 1" = 1 mile.

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Exhibit 5

Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad a right of way across his plantation in 1859. The new train station was called Farmwell and the town became known as Old Farmwell (Scheel 2002: 46). In 1889, the village became known as Ryan (Scheel 2002: 48). In 1896, the post office department changed the name of the nearby post office from Farmwell to Ashburn. This name change was necesary because of the confusion with a neighboring town in Prince Edward County named Farmville, which had been a post office since 1800 (Scheel 2002: 49).

In 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation which stated that all enslaved persons in Confederate territory to be free, and in 1865, Congress passed the 13th Amendment which banned slavery (History Matters 2004:15). However, with the abolition of slavery, Loudoun County saw a drop in the African American population from 6,753 in 1860 to 5,691 in 1870 (ibid).

Federal troops were stationed throughout Virginia, including Loudoun County, during the Reconstruction period, and in 1866, the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed, guaranteeing due process and equal protection under the law to all citizens and granting citizenship to African Americans (History Matters 2004:15). By 1869 the 15th Amendment was passed, giving African American men the right to vote, and the same year Virginia became the only former Confederate state to do this (ibid).

The Underwood Convention held in Richmond from December 1867 through April 1868 led to the new Virginia Constitution of 1869. The Virginia Constitution, ratified on July 6, 1868, provided for the division of each county into townships (later magisterial districts) and for the development of a revolutionary educational system. In 1871-1872 the Virginia state *Public Free School* system was adopted. At this time, there were 46 white schools and nine African American schools in the county (History Matters 2004:36). Many of the African American schools were built because of the efforts of the local African American communities who petitioned and acquired the land, money and labor for their construction (ibid).

The Virginia Constitution also disenfranchised all southerners who had served in a civil capacity or in the military, and required an oath by anyone seeking public office (Church and Reese 1965:134; Woods 1901:24, 25, 119). In 1874 Loudoun County was divided into six magisterial districts: Broad Run, Jefferson, Leesburg, Lovettsville, Mercer, and the Mount Gilead District.

The Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad, reorganized as the Washington and Ohio Railroad in 1864, went into receivership and was reorganized after the war as the Washington and Western Railroad (Geddes 1967:27).

Agricultural recovery during the period of Reconstruction was supplemented by the repair and upkeep of roads and bridges. The Leesburg and Aldie Turnpike (Little River Turnpike or Route 50) was reported to the Virginia Assembly in March of 1873 to be "well graded." The company was authorized at that time to apply capital stock to the "metaling" of the road and to change the route of the turnpike to "south of the Goose

Creek Bridge" (Commonwealth of Virginia 1873:249). On April 1, 1873, the Leesburg and Goose Creek Bridge Company was incorporated and authorized to erect toll bridges over Goose Creek from its mouth at the Potomac River to Ball's Mill. The company was also authorized to charge the following tolls: for each horse, mare, mule, gelding, jack, or jenny the toll was 3 cents; for each vehicle drawn by one animal, 10 cents; for each animal exceeding one, 3 cents; for each head of sheep, swine or goats, 1/4 cent; and for each head of neat cattle, 1/2 cent (Commonwealth of Virginia 1873:328-329).

Having lost most of the grist mills, mill dams, railroads, and bridges throughout the county, as well as farm buildings and houses, livestock, fences and crops during the Civil War years, Loudoun County planters were left with land but no laborers, money, farm animals, or farming tools. Loudoun County agriculture had a successful recovery during post-war reconstruction and was listed in the 1880 U. S. Census as the leading county in Virginia in the "...production of corn, butter, eggs, wool, numbers of milch cows and sheep, and second only to Fauquier County in the number of stock cattle" (Head 1908:88). The Loudoun County Live Stock Exhibition Association, incorporated on March 7, 1884, was formed for the "...purpose of holding annual exhibitions of live stock, racing, and other entertainment's" (Commonwealth of Virginia 1884:409-410).

The first telephone system in Loudoun County was introduced by the Loudoun County Telephone Company, incorporated on February 5, 1886. During the spring of 1887, additional telephone lines connected the major towns in Loudoun County. Three of the telephone companies authorized to extend lines between towns in Loudoun County were the North Loudoun Telephone Company, incorporated with a principal office at Hillsboro; the Arcola and Aldie Telephone Company, authorized on April 28, 1887, to erect and maintain telephone lines and offices in the counties of Loudoun and Fairfax; and the Aldie and Leesburg Telephone Company, incorporated on May 12, 1887 (Commonwealth of Virginia 1886:62-63; 1887:31, 109, 280).

The 1900 U.S. Population census showed a small population growth of less than 200 persons in Loudoun County from 21,774 in 1860 to 21,948 in 1900. By ethnic group, the 1900 census showed 16,079 whites, 5,869 blacks, and 101 foreigners. By ethnic comparison, there was a population increase of 1,058 whites between 1860 and 1900, and a decrease of 84 African-Americans during this period (Head 1908: 84, 85).

Although the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution had guaranteed the right of African American men to vote and the Virginia State Constitution of 1869 had affirmed this same right, in 1902, African Americans lost these rights (History Matters 2004:15). In Loudoun County, African Americans made up approximately 10% of the population at this time. The Virginia Constitution of 1902 limited the right to vote to war veterans, their sons; and to property owners who paid at least one dollar in property taxes or who could reasonably explain part of the new constitution (ibid:15-16). The new constitution also required potential voters to complete registration applications in their own handwriting and answer any and all questions from local registrars about their voting qualifications and it imposed a poll tax on voters (ibid:16). As a result, men who could not pay the poll tax, men who were illiterate and men who could not "correctly" answer

the local registrar's questions, could not vote. By these measures, by 1904, Virginia's voters were cut in half and African American voters were reduced from around 147,000 to less than 10,000 (ibid). This would not change until the 1960s.

Having recovered from the Civil War by 1900, Loudoun County had become the leading dairy county of Virginia. At the turn of the century, Loudoun County farmers were using agricultural farming methods and equipment that had been developed prior to the Civil War; this continued until the advent of World War I. General impacts on the agricultural community following the War were the introduction of powered machinery and an increase in prices of farm products and cattle; these were offset by rising taxes and expenses. By the early 1920s, 81% of farmlands within the county were improved; major agricultural products were corn, wheat, dairy products, and the shipping of beef and pork (Deck and Heaton 1926:106).

Land ownership and a focus on agriculture by former African American slaves in Virginia grew rapidly in the late 19th and early 20th century (History Matters 2004:44). Between 1870 and 1910, African American farm ownership increased 3,641% from 860 to 32,168 farm owners. This rise is felt by historians to derive from a number of factors including a tradition of African American proprietorship in the state, greater opportunities for mortgage money, the establishment of a variety of race based mutual aid societies, the promotion of enterprise and self sufficiency by institutions such as Virginia's Hampton Institute and the efforts of prominent African American Virginians (ibid).

Although land ownership grew, the African Americans in Virginia and in Loudoun County felt disenfranchised after the passage of the 1902 Virginia Constitution. This precipitated the formation of social, religious and economic support groups which would assuage the bitterness of segregation and disenfranchisement. It also accelerated a fight for civil rights which would not end for over 50 years. In 1883, a number of individuals from African American communities within Loudoun County petitioned for the right to serve as jurors in the county courts (History Matters 2004:16). In 1890, the Loudoun County Emancipation Association was formed in Hamilton. The association was formed to work for the "betterment of the race – educationally, morally and materially" and Emancipation Day was celebrated yearly on September 2 (ibid). In 1910, the association moved to Purcellville where it purchased 10 acres of land on which Emancipation Day activities were held. Other organizations formed during this period were the Odd Fellows, the Willing Workers Club and the Society of Galilean Fisherman.

In 1920, Loudoun County was described as a rural county with 10 incorporated towns, but having no towns with a population of 2,500 or more.

> "According to the Census for 1920 Loudoun County...ranked first in the percentage of Farm land improved; 2nd in the per Capita value of live stock... 3rd in the per capita county wealth ; 4th in total value of all farm property ...and 9th in total value of all crops. Loudoun's rank in these items seems to be particularly good when we consider that the county ranks 19th in size....New developments in agriculture have been

widespread in Loudoun in recent years. It has become the rule for farm boys to receive a college education. These men have been instrumental in the installing of improved farm machinery throughout the county. Our farmers have taken a real interest in the raising of pure bred stock. The breeders of horses and cattle have been foremost in this movement..." . (Deck and Heaton 1926:106).

The 1920 census shows 15,654 native whites, 4,810 African-Americans, and 111 "foreign-born" persons residing in the county. This shows a population decrease of 7.4% over a period of twenty years (Deck and Heaton 1926:62, 63).

The 1925 Post Office Map of Rural Delivery Routes shows no structures located within the project area boundaries (Exhibit 6). However, there was a structure located right across from the southern boundary, on the other side of the road, as well as several structures approximately one quarter mile north of the project area. The crossroads located approximately one mile west of the project area known as Farmwell on previous historic maps had become a small town containing a number of structures called Ryan.

The crash of the stock market in 1929 leading to the Great Depression of the 1930s, the extreme drought of 1930, and the subsequent government requests that cultivated acres be reduced 30%, saw hundreds of properties within the county being sold for delinquent real estate taxes in 1931 and 1932. The major relief during the depression years was the creation of the Rural Electrification Administration (R.E.A.) in 1935, which revolutionized rural life by introducing electricity and indoor plumbing (Poland 1976:279, 317, 319, 326, 327, 334).

Although slowed by the Depression, Loudoun County's African American communities continued to grow (History Matters 2004:46). A number of commercial enterprises owned and operate by African Americans grew into significant local institutions during this period.

Post-depression years saw Loudoun's farm production and income soaring during World War II (Poland 1976:337). Poland comments:

> "As the war demanded additional farm products and the labor shortage became critical, farmers were forced to use more modern farm equipment...During the later years of the war, attempts were made to alleviate labor shortages...by the use of Nazi prisoners of war. Approximately 170 German soldiers, held under U. S. Army guard in a camp near Leesburg, were taken from there by trucks to work on county farms" (Poland 1976:336).

In the early 1940s, efforts by African Americans succeeded in obtaining better public education and improved public facilities for African American children (History Matters 2004:53). One of the major achievements of this group was the construction in 1941 of the Douglass High School in Leesburg, the first high school for African Americans in the

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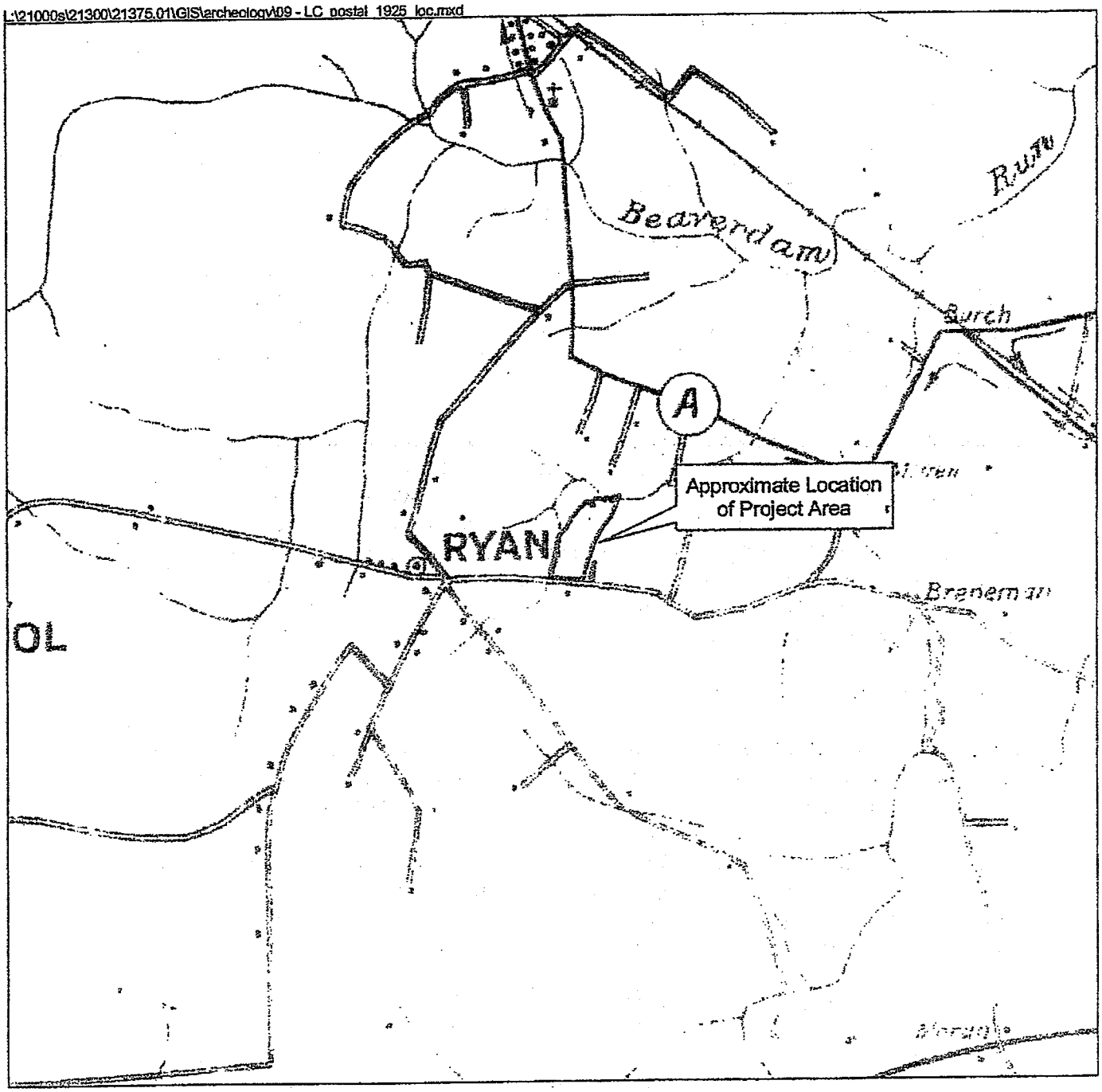
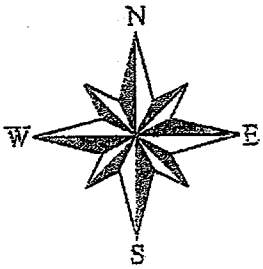


1925 United States Post Office Rural Delivery Routes Map
Loudoun County, VA
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = ½ mile



Map Source: "Rural Delivery Routes - Loudoun County, Virginia. Post Office Department, Division of Topography, 1925." Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington D.C. Original Scale: 1" = 1 mile.

Thunderbird Archeology
A Division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.

Exhibit 6

county (ibid:53-54). Two additional schools, the 1946 Carver School in Purcellville and the 1948 Banneker School in St. Louis followed (ibid:54). Ultimately the schools were integrated.

By the time of World War II in Europe, despite shortages in labor and farm equipment, Loudoun County's farm production and income had grown. The subsequent postwar years of mechanization saw more specialized farming with dairying, poultry and beef cattle leading the list of major agricultural pursuits; commuting increased significantly as well. By 1960, Loudoun County's life style was becoming increasingly urban (Poland 1976:336-337, 341, 342), a trend that continues into current times. By 1970 the new suburbanites tended to find housing in planned communities in the major incorporated towns in Loudoun County and commuted into the Washington, D.C., area to work (ibid:341, 342, 365).

No structures are depicted within the project area on the USGS Seneca, VA-MD 1908 topographic quadrangle (Exhibit 7). Several structures are located within the vicinity of the project area, both to the north and south; and the town of Ryan is located approximately one mile west of the project area on this map. USGS topographic quadrangles from 1944 through 1984 show that the property remained undeveloped (Exhibit 8). A change that does not appear on this most recent map is the construction of a new road, Ashburn Village Boulevard, that was completed sometime before 2004 and runs north along the eastern boundary of the project area.

History of Ashburn

Early in its history, what became the town of Ashburn was a small crossroads community that developed along Ox Road (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, pages 21-22). Ox Road ran from Vestal's Gap Road to the town of Occoquan and was constructed by Robert "King" Carter as a response to the storage and loading fees along the Potomac River. The road allowed Carter to send his tobacco from farms in the west to the warehouses at Occoquan, thus bypassing the fees from the Potomac River warehouses (ibid). The road construction was initiated in 1728 and completed by the 1740s. Ox Road served as a major thoroughfare until 1820 when the Leesburg Turnpike was built.

Ashburn is located on a 1,236 acre tract that was left to Thomas Ludwell Lee II by his father, Thomas Ludwell Lee, Sr. and ultimately was bequeathed to Thomas Ludwell Lee II's son, George Lee (Baynard et al. 2002:Section 8, page 22). George Lee established a plantation on his land, and in his 1802 will this plantation was called Farmwell. Although a post office called Ashburn was present by 1800 at the junction of Ox Road and Church Road, the crossroads community that later became known as Ashburn was for a long time called Farmwell after the Lee plantation (ibid).

In 1849, the Farmwell Methodist Church was established in a log building that also served as a school (Scheel 2002:47). A community, which was known as Old Farmwell, grew up around the church, and by 1889; the community became known as Ryan.

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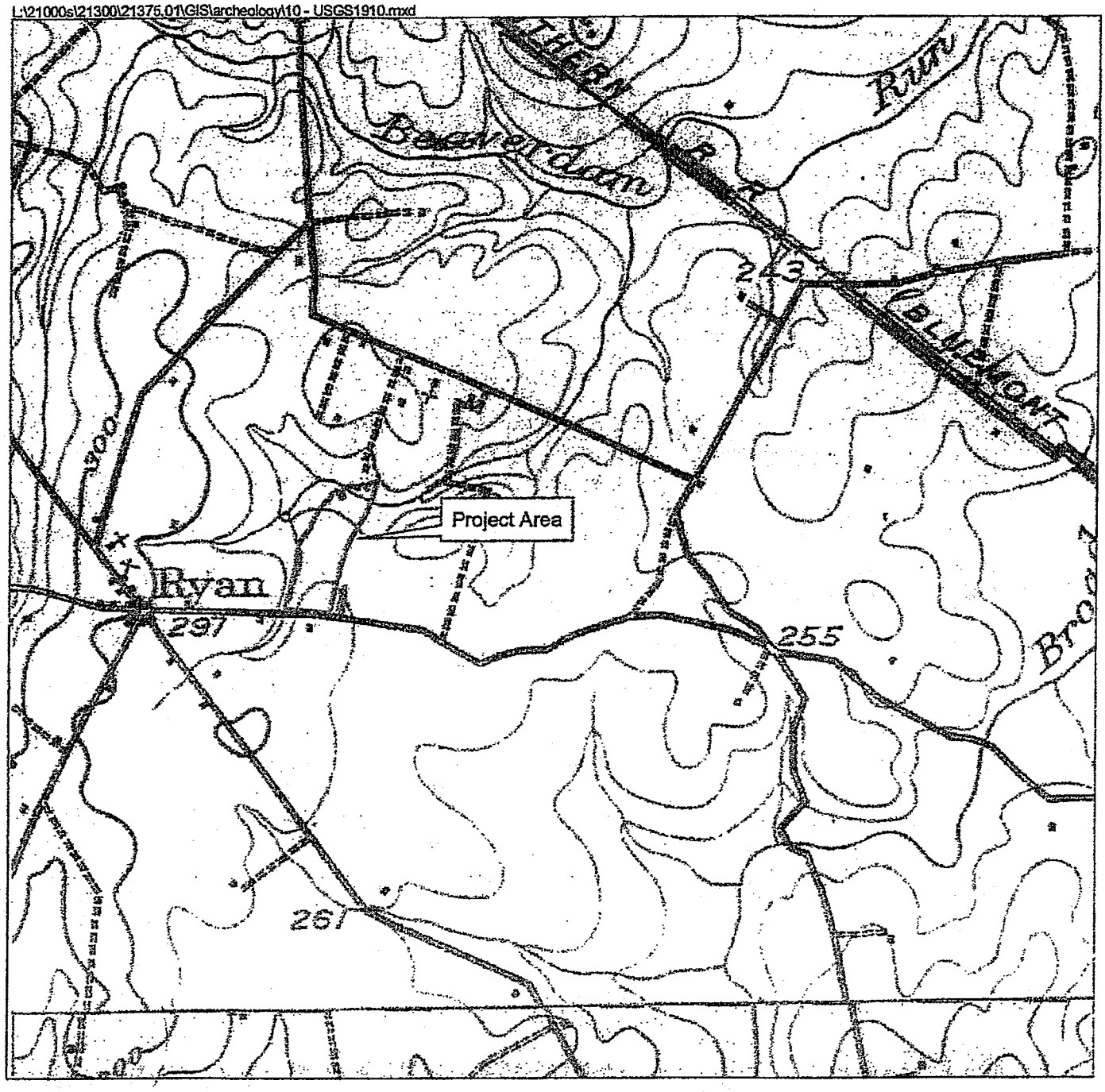
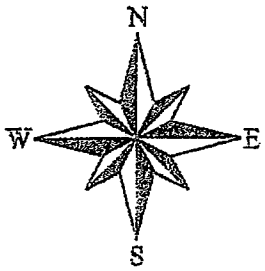


USGS Quad Map
Seneca, VA-MD 1908 & Fairfax, VA 1912
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = 2000'



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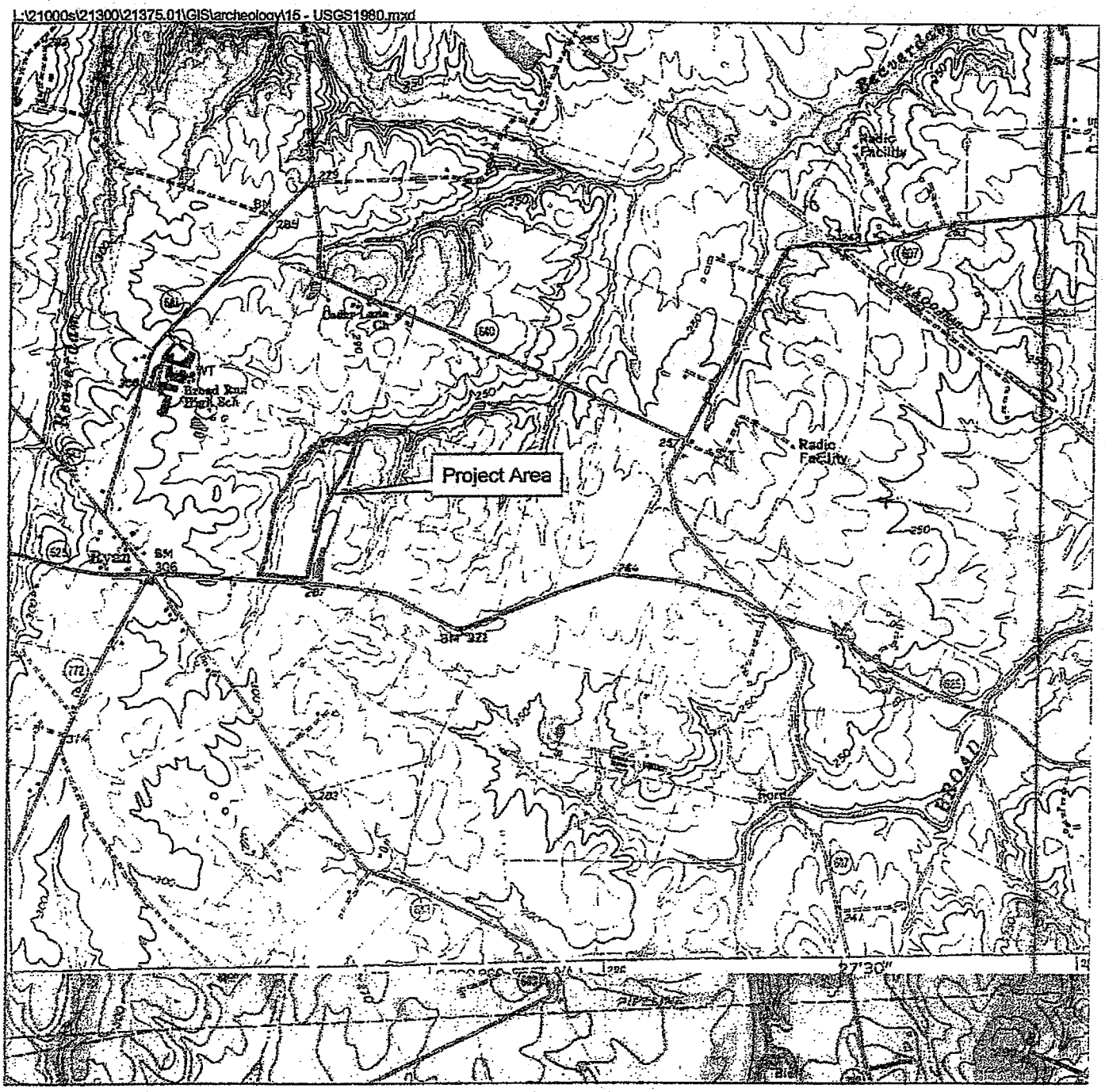
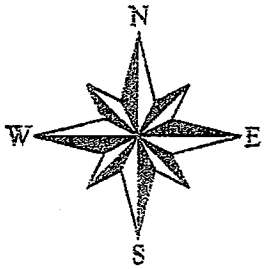


USGS Quad Map
Sterling, VA-MD 1968 (Rev 1984) &
Herndon, VA 1966 (Rev 1983)
Netway
WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = 2000'



George Lee died by 1805, leaving the property to his son, Doctor George Lee (II). After his death in 1858, the land conveyed to his son, George Lee III (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 22). In 1859, George Lee III allowed the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad a right-of-way across his property and, as a result of this, was responsible for bringing new commerce and trade to the area (ibid). The railroad ran from Alexandria to Harper's Ferry and served to move mail, farm products, freight and passengers between these two locales (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 23). A one-story depot was believed to have been constructed in Farmwell by 1860 and named after the community and the Lee plantation. Noah Downs served as the first postmaster, working in this capacity until the Civil War when he no longer served because of his Confederate sympathies (Scheel 2002:47). The post office reopened after the war in 1866, and Joseph Arundell ran the post office from his store until 1881 (ibid).

The railroad service was disrupted, as were most things in Loudoun County, by the Civil War. It was not until 1867 that the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad returned to a full schedule (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 24). By 1870, the railroad extended its lines to Point Pleasant, West Virginia, and the railroad was renamed the Washington and Ohio at this time. Depressed economic times and a lack of capital forced the sale of the railroad in 1882 when it was renamed the Washington and Western Railroad (ibid). The Washington and Western Railroad was short lived and was sold again in 1883 and named the Washington, Ohio and Western Railroad. In the early 1890s, it became part of the Southern Railroad.

The railroad brought prosperity to Farmwell, and by the third quarter of the 19th century, there was "unusually rapid growth" (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 24). In the late 19th century, the village had a population of 150 individuals with numerous stores. Many of the stores were placed near the railroad to facilitate transfer of goods (ibid: Section 8, page 25). Local stores at this time include Moore and Fadeley's, M.L. Kendrick's, and William O. and O.J. Orrison's (Scheel 2002:49). Kendrick's store was combined with a steam powered feed mill. The 1880 census indicates that many of the Farmwell residents were involved in agriculture with farm size ranging from 100 to 300 acres (ibid). Teachers, railroad workers, railroad agents, wheelwrights, surveyors, stone masons and ministers were also listed in the census. The 1891 *Hardesty's Encyclopedia* notes that Farmwell had three ministers and no intoxicating liquors were sold within the limits of the village (Scheel 2002:49).

The oldest church in Ashburn is the Ashburn Presbyterian Church, which started in 1876, first holding services in the Methodist Church in Ryan (Scheel 2002:55). In 1877, the Leesburg Presbyterian Church resolved that a new congregation be established in Farmwell, and by 1878, the church at Ashburn was completed (ibid:56). The Calvary Baptist Church was established in 1877, and the Greater Zion Baptist Church, for African Americans, was built in 1889 (ibid:57). Ashburn's oldest public school is located near the Greater Zion church. Built for African American children in 1892, it operated until 1960 as one of the last one-room schools in the county (ibid).

The Ashburn House hotel attracted visitors after its construction in 1882 (Scheel 2002:54). Bass fisherman tried their luck in nearby Goose Creek, and it was a popular place for those exploring the nearby countryside. An article in the *Loudoun Mirror* in 1909 noted that the hotel had rooms for 23 guests with modern conveniences including hot and cod baths, a pool and billiard room, and a telephone (ibid). In the first quarter of the 20th century, the hotel became popular with traveling salesmen.

In 1896, the name of the post office at Farmwell was changed to Ashburn because of confusion with Farmville in Prince Edward County (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 26). The derivation of the name "Ashburn" is shrouded in local lore, although post office records note that the crossroads community was called Ashburn in 1800. One story is that a lightening bolt struck an ash tree on the land of United States Senator William Morris Stewart and the tree burned for a week (ibid). Since the senator was a prominent citizen, the town was named for "the ash burn." Others felt that the town was named after Ashburn Farm, which was established by John Janney on land sold by Doctor George Lee. Janney's farm is said to have been named after a grove of ash trees along a burn, which is the Old English name for stream (ibid). All of the explanations post-date the first usage of the name, which was in 1800-1805.

By 1900, Ashburn had grown to 279 dwellings from 36 dwellings in the 1880 census (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 27). However, the census for 1900 and 1920 indicates that the majority of the population was still engaged in agriculture, with farmer or farm laborer listed as the primary occupation (ibid). The 1900 census also listed horse jockeys, carpenters, servants, laundresses, teachers, blacksmiths, a deputy sheriff, miller, dressmaker, wheelwrights, general merchants, a preacher, a wellsmith and physicians. By 1920, the increasing mechanization of the times is shown by the presence of automobile merchants, a railroad telegrapher, and rock quarry laborer (ibid).

In the first quarter of the 20th century, although a little less than 5 % of the land was owned by African Americans, Loudoun County's African American population made up 23.4% of the county total (Baynard et al. 2002:Section 8, page 27). This means that many of the African Americans were employed as tenant farmers, laborers, or sharecroppers (ibid).

In 1911, the Southern Railroad was re-organized and named the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 28). It continued to play a vital role in the economy of Ashburn and the area by providing passenger service for tourists and commuters and transporting mail and consumer goods, and it made daily milk runs from the farms of the region (ibid).

By the second quarter of the 20th century, Ashburn was becoming increasingly developed with both residential and commercial buildings; a number of new commercial buildings were constructed in the town center (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 28).

With the increasing use and popularity of the automobile by the close of the 1930s, the railroads began to decline and some of the lines were abandoned (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 29). By 1940, passenger service had declined to two runs per day as contrasted to 14 in 1911 (ibid). Finally, in 1941, passenger service was discontinued, but it was soon initiated again with the onset of World War II. All passenger and mail service ended for good in 1951, with the demise of the freight cars in 1968 (ibid). The rails were removed in 1971, and the depot was demolished in 1975, thus marking the end of the industry that had contributed so much to the growth of the community.

The last part of the 20th century has seen a proliferation of residential communities around what used to be the village center (Baynard et al. 2002: Section 8, page 29). New transportation corridors developed for the growing commuter population, and there was a large increase in industrial and commercial enterprises near the town (ibid: Section 8, pages 29-30). The rapidity of the growth in the eastern portion of Loudoun County is mirrored in the population growth of Ashburn, which rose from 170 in 1976 to 11,000 in 1990 and 33,000 in 2000 (ibid: Section 8, page 29).

PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

The background research for the archeological assessment was performed to compile and assess existing cultural resource data pertinent to the project area. The research involved a review of the online Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) file inventory and a review of maps and literature relative to the prehistoric and historic background of the project area.

No archeological sites or architectural resources have been recorded within the project area. Within a one-mile radius, however, eight archeological sites and ten architectural resources have been recorded with the VDHR.

Several cultural resources surveys have been conducted in the vicinity of the project area. Espey, Huston and Associates conducted a nearby Phase I survey in 1989 during which sites 44LD442, 44LD448 and 44LD449 were recorded. In 1994, Engineering Science conducted a Phase I archeological survey of the Broadlands Development; site 44LD511 was recorded in the vicinity of the project area (Petraglia and Bedell 1994). Thunderbird Archeological Associates, Inc. has conducted four Phase I surveys in this vicinity. In 2000, during survey of the Greenway Corporate Park property, site 44LD646 was recorded (Gardner and Snyder 2000). Site 44LD852 was recorded during a survey of a 42-acre property on Shellhorn Road, and site 44LD967 was recorded during survey of the Ryans Corner property; both surveys took place in 2002 (Gardner, Snyder and Hurst 2002; Blondino and Hurst 2003). A 2003 survey of the Ashburn Center Property recorded site 44LD994 (Snyder and Hurst 2003).

Surveys of architectural resources in the vicinity of the project area include work carried out by David Edwards in 1982 (resource 053-0970), by J. Haynes in 1988 (resources 053-0021, 053-0023, 053-0025, 053-0026, and 053-0027), and by Sidney King, also in 1988 (resources 053-1095, 053-1098, and 053-1099)

All of the archeological sites recorded in the vicinity date to the historic period; no prehistoric archeological sites have been recorded near the project area. Site 44LD449, the remains of a farmstead with several buildings, was not assigned to a specific historic time period when it was recorded. Three sites dating from the 19th through the 20th century are located in the vicinity of the project area. These sites (sites 44LD442, 44LD852 and 44LD967) consist of late 19th-20th century artifacts recovered in proximity to extant and demolished late 19th and 20th century buildings.

Four archeological sites dating to the 20th century have also been recorded in the vicinity. Site 44LD646, associated with the Lyon Farmstead (architectural resource 053-0021, see below), yielded early to late 20th century artifacts in the vicinity of a standing building. Site 44LD994 yielded mid to late 20th century artifacts, also found in close proximity to extant 20th century buildings. A secondary deposit of architectural materials, likely from early 20th century buildings, was recorded as site 44LD448, and a low density scatter of 19th or 20th century domestic artifacts was recorded as site 44LD511.

Ten architectural resources (consisting of two farmsteads, six dwellings, one cemetery and one bridge) have been recorded in the vicinity of the project area. Several of these resources have been demolished since they were originally recorded, as detailed below.

Architectural resources in the vicinity of the project area that date to the 19th century include three circa 1870 dwellings (053-0027, reported demolished, 053-1098 and 053-1099). A late 19th or early 20th century farmstead, including a house and six 20th century outbuildings was recorded as 053-0023; this complex was reported as demolished in 2004.

The Lyon Farmstead, dating to the early 20th century, consisted of a circa 1910 house and a later garage, these were reported demolished in 2005. Archeological site 44LD646 (detailed above) was associated with this farm complex, as well as the Lyons Cemetery (053-6074), a small family cemetery containing as many as five burials. The earliest marked grave dates to 1909.

Other 20th century architectural resources in the vicinity of the project area include three dwellings (053-0025, 053-0026, reported demolished, and 053-1095). A circa 1900 one lane, concrete slab Luten Company bridge spanning Beaverdam Run (053-0970) has also been recorded.

RESEARCH EXPECTATIONS

No prehistoric archeological sites have been recorded on or in the vicinity of the project area. In general, topography, proximity to water and soil drainage are primary factors in assessing the probability of locating prehistoric archeological sites. Although the Netway Project area has some low relief uplands and is located within close proximity to a water source, the poorly drained soils and lack of other such sites in the vicinity suggest a low probability of locating prehistoric sites in the project area.

The probability of locating historic period archeological sites is based upon the settlement history of an area, the proximity of historic roads, and the evidence of historic maps. Although there were no historic archeological sites or structures located on the Netway Property, several historic archeological sites and historic structures were recorded within the vicinity of the property. Historic maps do not show any structures on the property; however, the property is located along an historic road as well as approximately a mile from the historic town of Farmwell. The proximity of the historic archeological sites and historic structures as well as the evidence of historic maps suggest a medium probability for locating historic period archeological sites, particularly dating to the 19th and 20th centuries, within the project area.

FIELD AND LABORATORY METHODS

Fieldwork

The Phase I field methodology included both the use of surface reconnaissance and shovel testing to locate and define boundaries of archeological sites. The surface reconnaissance consisted of walking over the area and examining all exposed areas for the presence of artifacts. Exposed areas included cut banks, tree falls, machinery cuts, soils exposed by erosion, etc. The surface reconnaissance was also used to examine the topography of specific areas in order to determine the probability that they contain archeological sites. All high probability areas--areas that were well drained and possessed low relief--were tested at 50 foot (15 meter) intervals. High probability areas also included historic structure areas identified through surface reconnaissance or through archival review of historic maps. Additional shovel tests were excavated at 25 foot (7.6 meter) intervals in a cruciform pattern around the positive shovel tests as necessary to define site boundaries and to delineate artifact concentrations. In general, the low probability areas were those that were sloping, poorly drained or that had been disturbed.

Shovel test pits measured at least 12 inches (30 cm) in diameter. Vertical excavation was by natural soil levels; excavation stopped when gleyed soils, gravel, water, or well developed B horizons too old for human occupation were reached. Soil horizons observed at the site were classified according to standard pedological designations. All soil was screened through 1/4-inch mesh hardware cloth screens. Soil profiles were made of representative units, with soil descriptions noted in standard soil terminology (A, Ap, B, C, etc.). Soil colors were described using the Munsell Soil Color Chart designations. Artifacts were bagged and labeled by unit number and by soil horizon.

Laboratory

All artifacts were cleaned, inventoried, and curated. Historic artifacts were separated into four basic categories: glass, metal, ceramics, and miscellaneous. The ceramics were identified as to ware type, method of decoration, and separated into established types, following South (1977), Miller (1992) and Magid (1990). All glass was examined for color, method of manufacture, function, etc., and dated primarily on the basis of method of manufacture when the method could be determined (Hurst 1990). Metal and miscellaneous artifacts were generally described; the determination of a beginning date is sometimes possible, as in the case of nails.

The prehistoric artifacts were classified by cultural historical and functional types and lithic material. In addition, the debitage was studied for the presence of striking platforms and cortex, wholeness, quantity of flaking scars, signs of thermal alteration, size, and presence or absence of use. Chunks are fragments of lithic debitage which, although they appear to be culturally modified, do not exhibit clear flake or core morphology.

RESULTS OF FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

Most of the 31.98 acre Netway property is located in the northwest quadrant at the intersection of Waxpool Road (Route 625) and Ashburn Village Boulevard in Ashburn, Loudoun County, Virginia. A small portion of the project area lies within the northeast quadrant of that intersection.

The topography of the project area contains a north-south trending ridge that occupies much of the property (Exhibit 9). To the west and to the north, the terrain slopes down to a drainage. A man-made pond is located along the northern property boundary. The north central portion of the project area is gently sloping; a small stream drains into the pond located north of the property.

The closest drainage to the project area is an unnamed tributary of Beaverdam Run, which runs along the northern and western edges of the project area. Several branches of this drainage extend into the northeast corner, the north center, and across the western boundary of the project area.

Vegetation within the majority of the property located on the western side of Ashburn Village Boulevard consisted primarily of grasses in the open fields and scattered young evergreen trees (Plates 1-3). Vegetation in the portion of the project area located just east of Ashburn Village Boulevard consisted of mixed deciduous forest (Plate 4).

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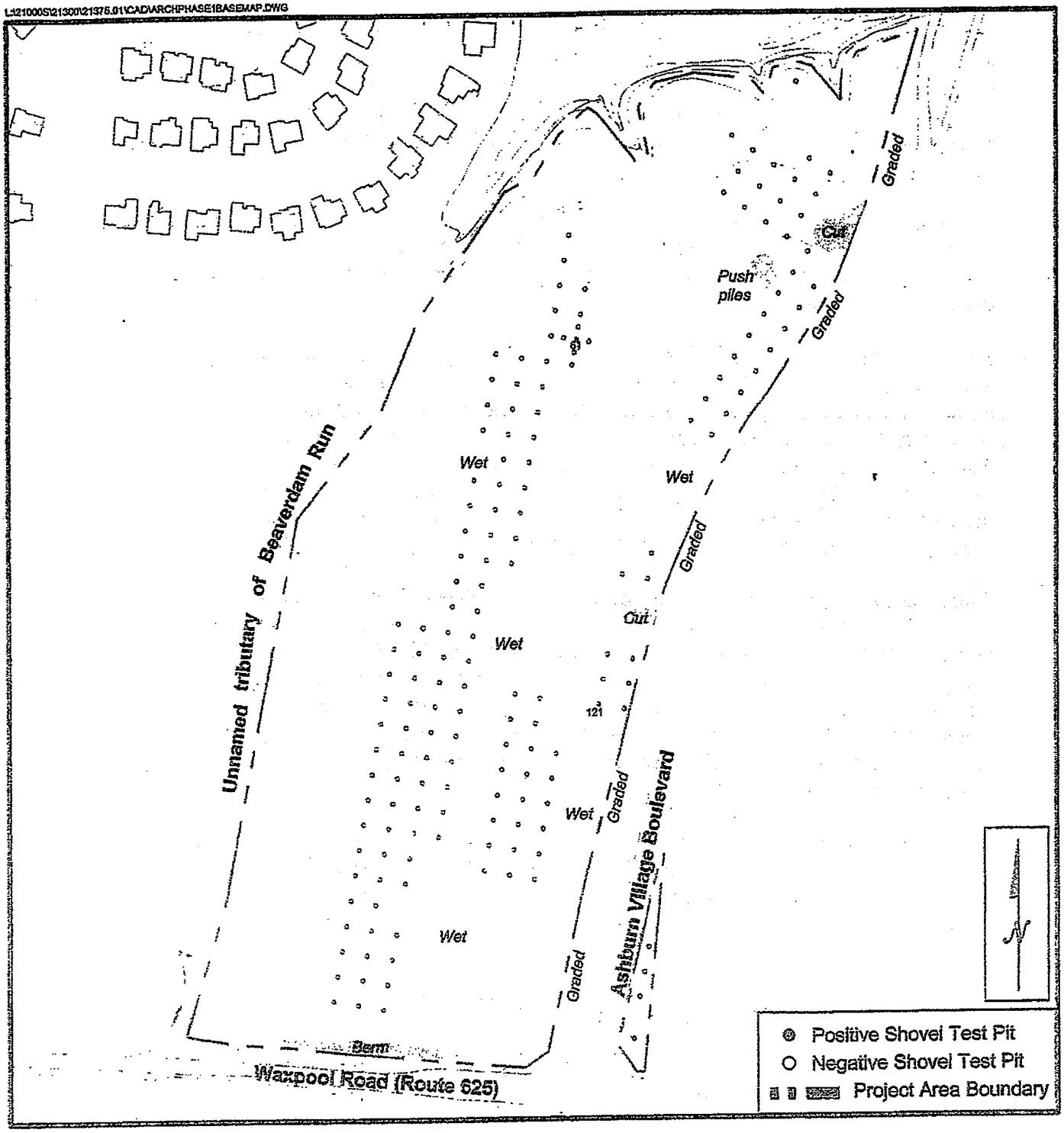

Project Map Showing the Locations of STPs
Netway - WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1" = 275'

The Netway property is composed of two parcels. The majority of the project area is located west of Ashburn Village Boulevard. This portion of the project area consisted of a large north-south trending ridge that was tested along the higher, flatter areas. These areas were primarily located in the central portion of the project area, with several high areas located along the eastern, central property boundary and in the northeastern corner of the project area.

The large ridge is surrounded by areas that are low and wet due to a drainage that has several branches extending into the northeast corner, the north center, and across the western boundary of the project area. Land along the western property boundary was generally too sloped to be tested.

There are several areas of disturbance located in the project area. The property is bound to the east by Ashburn Village Boulevard, a recently constructed road. During construction of this road, it appears that 75 feet of land outside of the property, between the road and the project area boundary, was graded (Plate 5). This grading created disturbances within the project area itself as well. There are two U-shaped cuts along the eastern property boundary that appear to be a result of the grading (Plate 6). Berms along the southern property boundary (Plate 7) as well as in the northeastern corner of the property (Plate 8) were most likely created by grading.

Other disturbances in the project area located west of Ashburn Village Boulevard include a push pile (Plate 9), a modern trash dump (Plate 10), and a stone pile (Plate 11); all of which are located in the northeast corner of the project area. Disturbances in the project area located to the east of Ashburn Village Boulevard include a drainage that runs through the southern portion as well as some grading just south of the drainage. These disturbed areas, along with low and wet areas and steeply sloping areas were generally not tested. There were no standing structures located within the project area at the time of this survey.

A total of 174 shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated within the project area at 50 foot and 25 foot intervals (see Exhibit 9). The majority of the soil profiles in the testable land on the property showed a plow zone over subsoil, which is demonstrated below in STP 31 (Exhibit 10).

STP 31

Ao/Ap horizon: 0-9.6 inches (0-24.4 centimeters) – [7.5YR4/4] brown silty clay loam with 10% saprolite bits

B horizon: 9.6-13.2 inches (24.4-33.5 centimeters) – [5YR4/6] yellowish red silty clay with 20% saprolite

Several soil profiles located along the eastern boundary of the project area showed a fill over a buried plow zone over subsoil. It is possible that this fill came from the recent construction of Ashburn Village Boulevard, which runs along the eastern boundary of the project area. An example of these horizons is evident below in STP 111 (see Exhibit 10).

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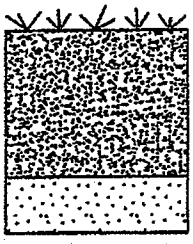
STP 31

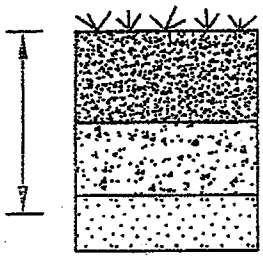


Ao/Ap horizon: 7.5YR 4/4 brown silty clay loam with 10% saprolite

B horizon: 5YR 4/6 yellowish red silty clay with 20% saprolite

STP 111

1 foot
(0.3 meter)

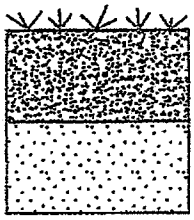


Ao/Fill horizon: 7.5YR 4/6 strong brown clay loam with 10% saprolite

Apb horizon: 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown compact silty loam

B horizon: 5YR 4/6 yellowish red silty clay with 20% saprolite

STP 173



Ao/Ap horizon: 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown silty loam

B horizon: 10YR 4/6 dark yellowish brown silty clay

Representative Soil Profiles
Netway - WSSI #21375.01
Scale: 1"=1'

STP 111

Ao/Fill horizon: 0- 6 inches (0- 15.2 centimeters) – [7.5YR 4/6] strong brown clay loam with 10% saprolite

Apb horizon: 6-10.8 inches (15.2-27.4 centimeters) – [10YR 5/4] yellowish brown compact silty loam

B horizon: 10.8-14.4 inches (27.4-36.6 centimeters) – [5YR 4/6] yellowish red silty clay with 20% saprolite

In the portion of the project area located east of Ashburn Village Boulevard the majority of the soil profiles in the testable land also showed plow zone over subsoil; however, the Munsell colors of the soils in this area differed from those located in the portion of the project area west of Ashburn Village Boulevard. This is demonstrated below in STP 173 (see Exhibit 10).

STP 173

Ao/Ap horizon: 0-6 inches (0-15.2 centimeters) – [10YR 5/4] yellowish brown silty loam

B horizon: 6-12 inches (15.2-30.5 centimeters) – [10YR 4/6] dark yellowish brown silty clay

One partial prehistoric quartz flake was recovered from STP 61, located in the northwestern corner of the project area. Close interval shovel tests were excavated around this shovel test and failed to produce additional artifacts. Another artifact, a piece of fence wire, was recorded and discarded in STP 121 located near the eastern central boundary of the project area. Both artifacts recovered were found in the plow zone. These artifacts are considered to be isolated finds and do not constitute archeological sites (VDHR 2001: 79).

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A Phase I archeological survey was conducted on the 31.98 acre Netway property located in Ashburn, Loudoun County, Virginia. No archeological sites or historic structures were located and no further archeological work is recommended for the property.

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PLATES

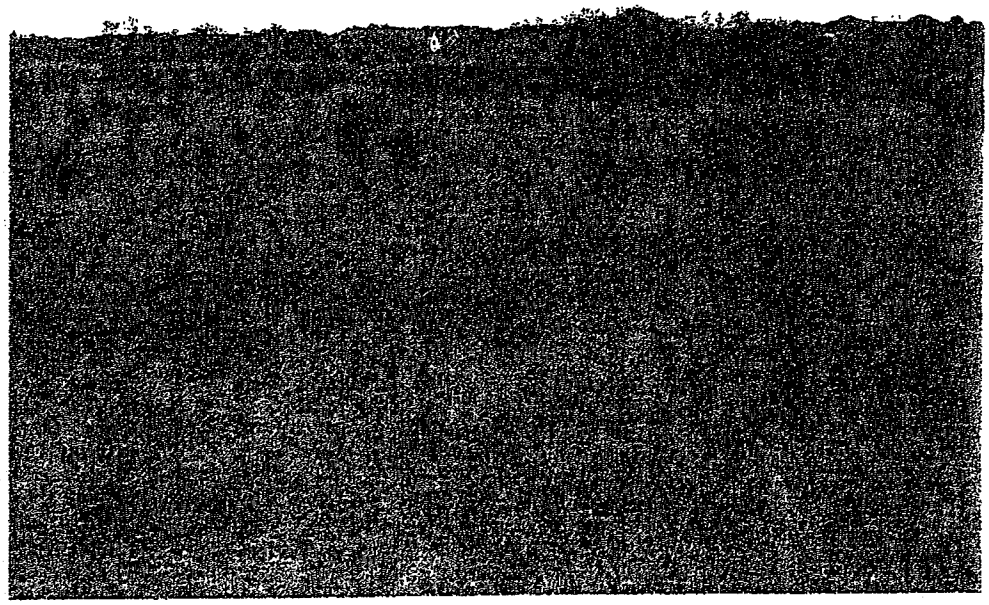

PLATE 1
Overview of Northern Portion of Project Area
View to West

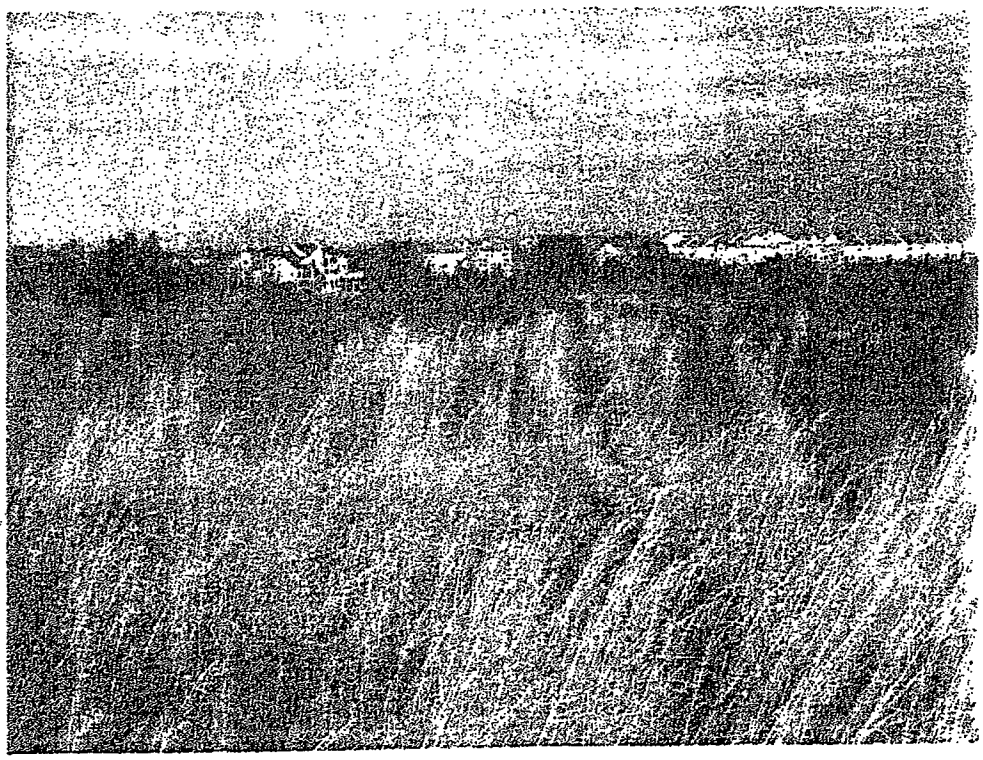

PLATE 2
Overview of Northwest Portion of the Project Area
View to Northwest

PLATE 3
Overview of Southeastern Portion of the Project Area
View to North

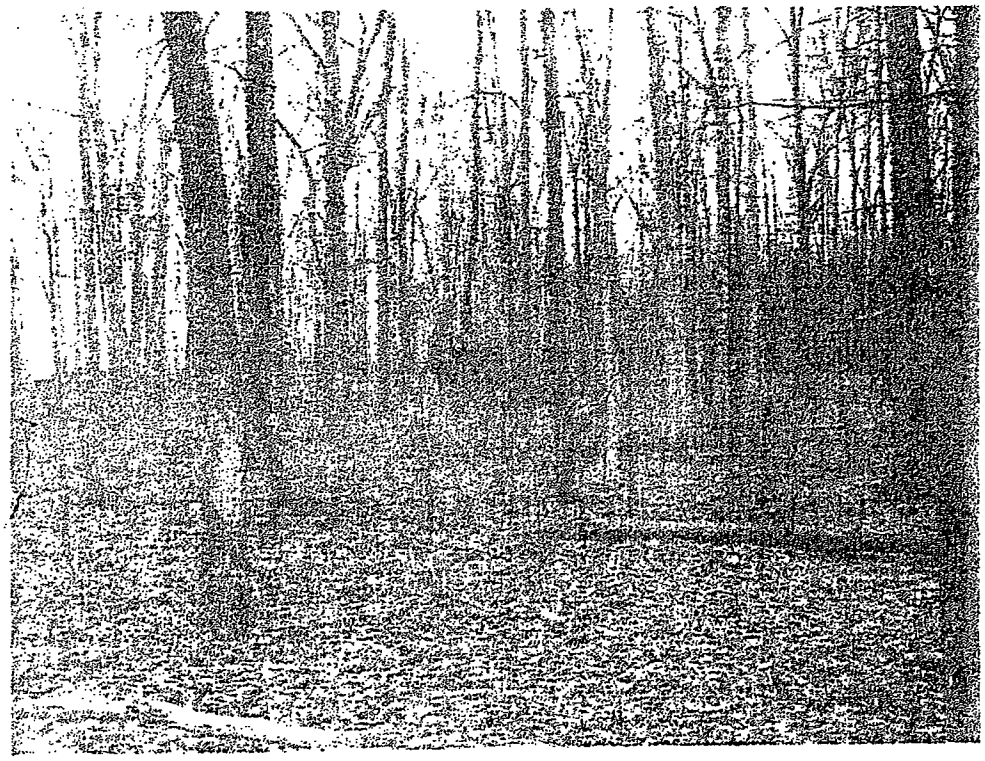

PLATE 4
Overview of Project Area on the East Side of Ashburn Village Boulevard
View to North

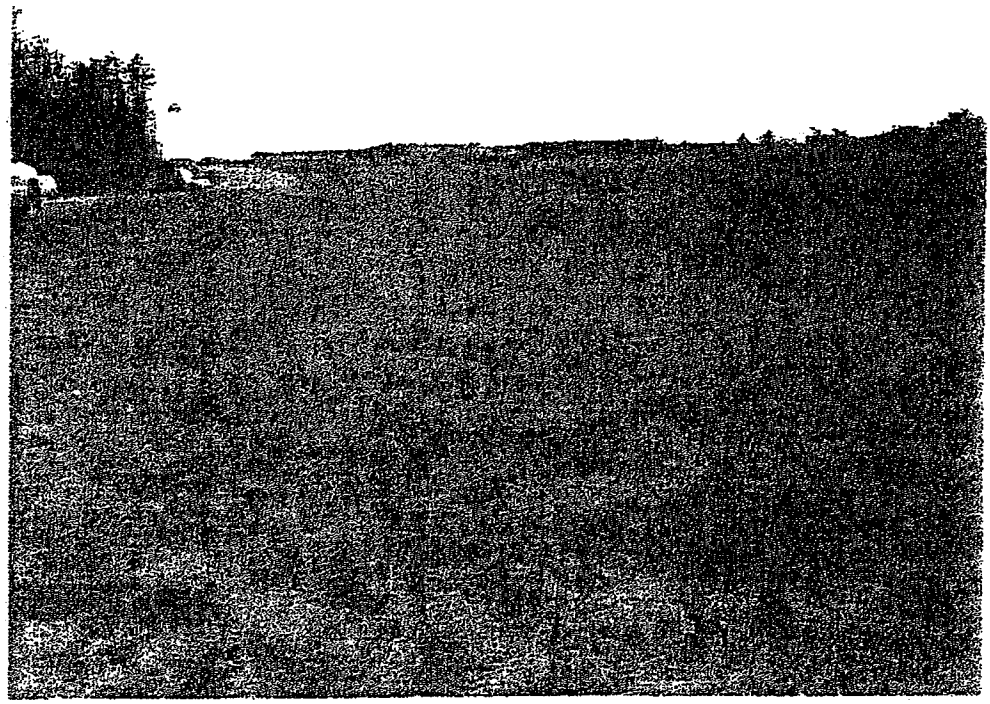

PLATE 5
Graded Area along Ashburn Village Boulevard
View to South

PLATE 6
Cut along Eastern Edge of Project Area
View to North

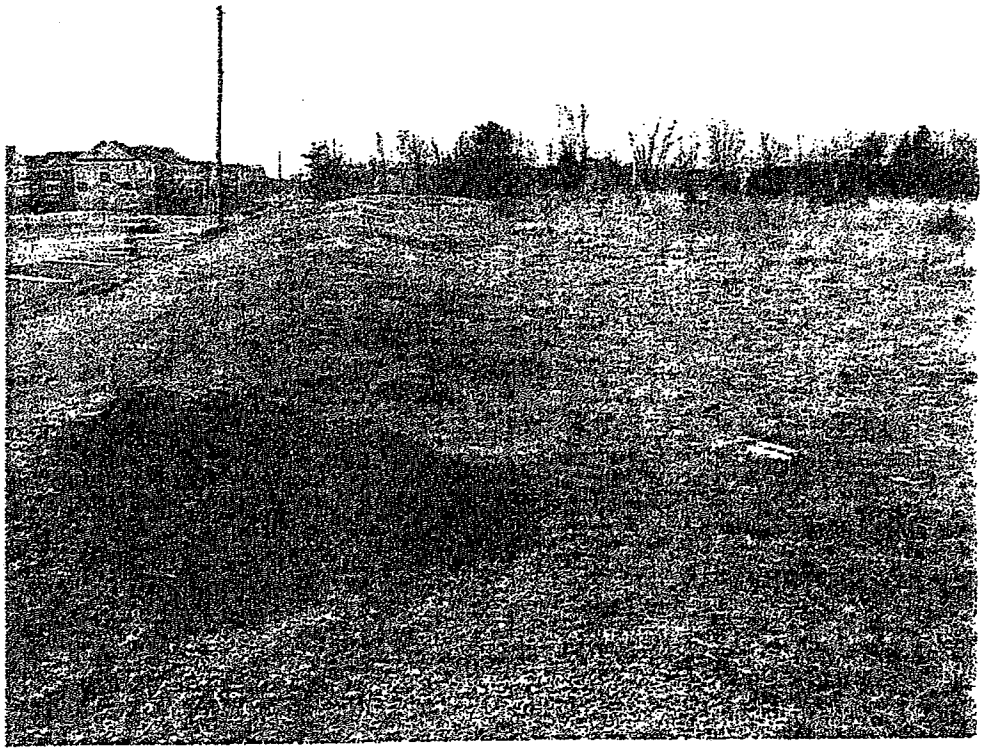

PLATE 7
Berm along Southern Edge of Project Area
View to West

PLATE 8
Berm in Northeastern Portion of the Project Area
View to North

PLATE 9
Area of Push Piles in Northern Part of Project Area
View to North

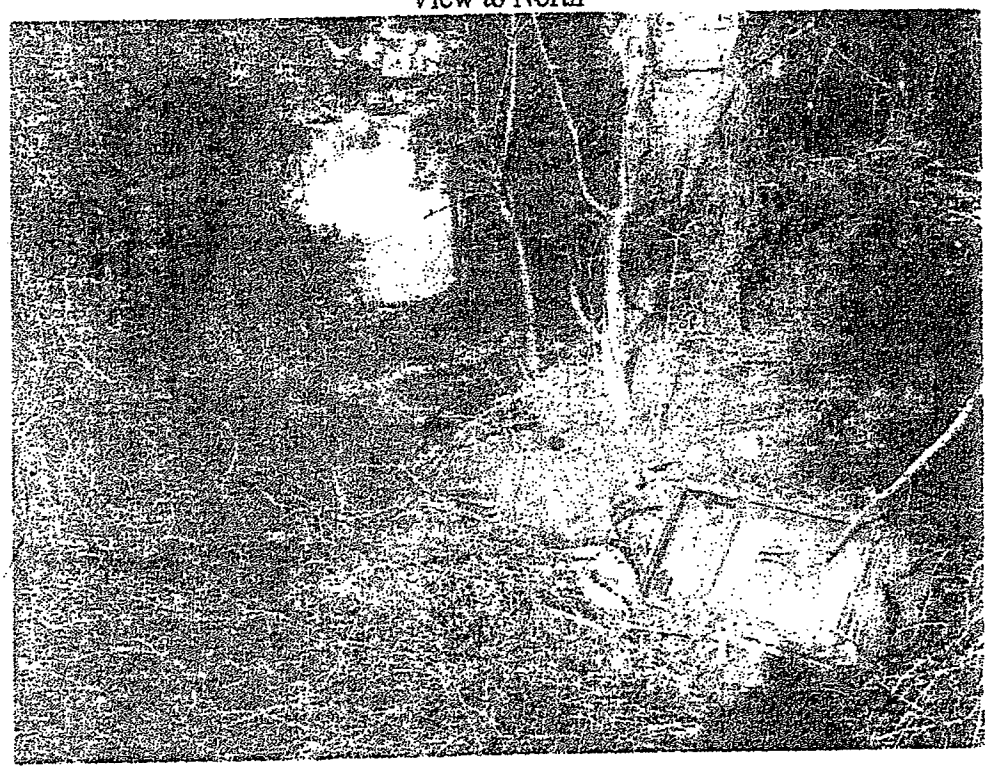

PLATE 10
Trash Pile in Drainage Cut at Northern Edge of Project Area
View to North

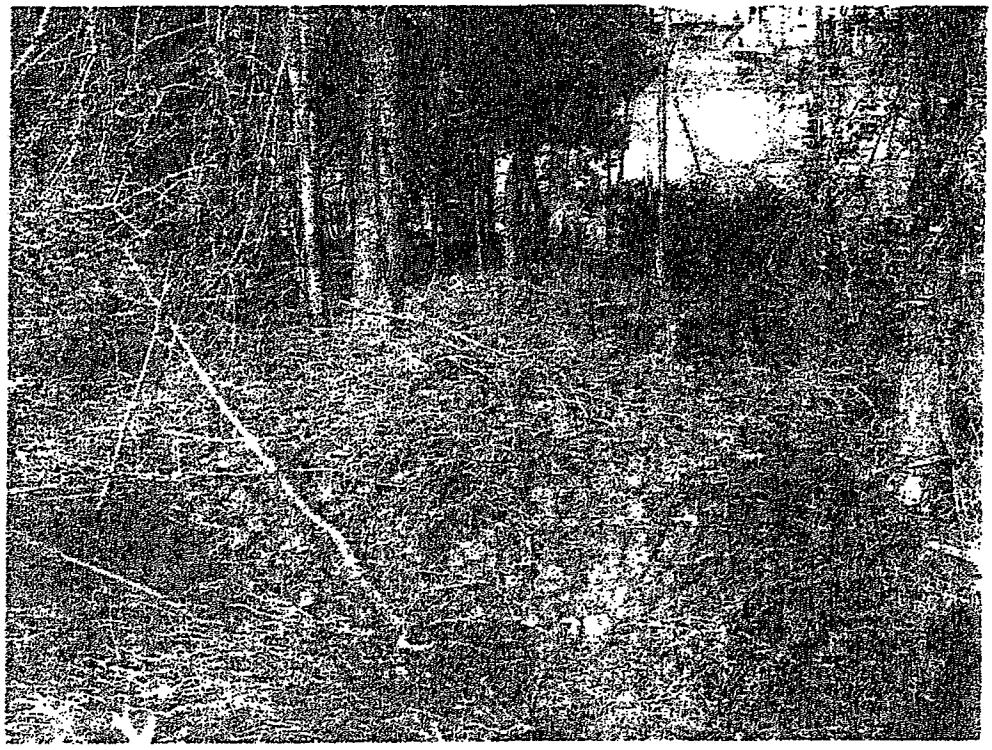

PLATE 11
Stone Pile at Northern Edge of Project Area
View to North