

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AT THE ALEXANDRIA BUSINESS CENTER, ALEXANDRIA VIRGINIA

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ENGINEERING-SCIENCE, CHARTERED
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PUBLIC REPORT SUMMARY

An archaeological survey of the Alexandria Business Center property has been conducted by the Cultural Resources Staff of Engineering-Science. The goal of the survey was to identify if any prehistoric native american or historic sites existed in the project area before they were impacted by impending development.

The Alexandria Business Center property was considered to potentially contain prehistoric sites since it was located in an favorable environmental setting, situated along Taylor Run and Cameron Run. Moreover, historic research indicated that a 19th and 20th century cemetery, belonging to the Bloxham and Whaley families, was located in a portion of the project area. Beginning in the early 1900s, railroads and facilities were built over the Alexandria Business Center property.

In May of 1990, archaeological survey was conducted by means of a backhoe, so that former prehistoric and historic levels could be reached through the railroad construction fill. In a portion of the eastern section of the project area prehistoric artifacts, consisting of stone tools, were found along the former channel of Taylor Run. The Bloxham family cemetery was also identified. A footstone bearing the inscription "W.H.W." was located. Genealogical research indicated that this was likely the grave of William H. Whaley, who was a stage coach owner in Alexandria during the 1800s. Excavation through the grave shaft identified the presence of human skeletal remains and a deteriorated coffin. Osteological analysis on the skeletal remains have confirmed that these were likely the remains of William Whaley. Among interesting findings on an arm bone was skeletal evidence for stress from pulling and pushing motions, likely because of constant use of reins during operation of a stage coach. Further archaeological work is recommended in the prehistoric site and cemetery should any construction occur in these areas.

TECHNICAL ABSTRACT

This report describes archaeological investigations conducted for Himes Associates, Ltd, on behalf of CSX Realty, Inc. The project area consisted of two parcels making up 22 acres of property bounded on the south by the RF&P railroad right-of-way, on the east by Telegraph Road, on the north by an irregular property line roughly following Colvin Street and Longview Drive, and on the west by a property line extending as far west as South Quaker Street in Alexandria, Virginia. The archaeological field work was conducted in May 1990.

Sixteen trenches were mechanically excavated and their stratigraphy and deposits analyzed. Modern fill deposits were found to cover the entire project area to a depth of at least 30 inches below the surface. A preserved pre-filling surface was discovered in the eastern part of the project area. A historic cemetery belonging to the Bloxham family was identified in the eastern part of the project area. An osteological analysis of the excavated human remains was conducted. A historic and prehistoric site, consisting of historic ceramics and lithic debitage and fire cracked rock were found at and below a preserved historic lawn surface.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to express our appreciation to those individuals who have helped us to successfully complete this project, including Mike Catlett of Himes Associates, Ltd.; Jonathan Rak of Hazel, Thomas, Fiske, Weiner, Beckhorn and Hanes; Cornelia Hanifin of CSX Realty, Inc.; Keith Barr of Alexandria Archaeology; Ron Crabtree of the City of Alexandria's Surveyor's Office; Beth Mitchell; and Gene M. Spencer, General Manager at Fruit Grower's Express.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Location

The project area lies between the RF&P railroad right-of-way and Duke Street (Va. Rte. 236) in southwestern Alexandria, Virginia (*Figures 1 and 2*). The project area investigated in this study consisted of two non-contiguous sections of the property, the western and eastern sections. The fieldwork was conducted in May 1990. The section in between them was the subject of archaeological investigation in July and August of 1989 (Pfanstiehl *et al.* 1989a; Pfanstiehl *et al.* 1989b).

B. Environmental Setting

1. Climate

The climate in the vicinity of the project area is characterized as humid, semi-continental, with meteorological systems generally flowing west to east. Seasonal variations exist; summer and fall are generally dominated by tropical air masses originating in the Gulf of Mexico and moving northward, while winter is more frequently dominated by cold, dry air streaming out of central Canada (Mack 1966). The average temperature range is from 48.2 degrees Fahrenheit to 66.3 degrees Fahrenheit. Average annual precipitation is 38.7 inches, of which 17.7 inches fall as snow (Mack 1966).

2. Surface Environment and Drainage

The project area is level and lies on the north side of the Cameron Run floodplain at an elevation of approximately 40 ft above sea level. The Cameron Run floodplain, defined by the 50-ft contour, is approximately 3400 ft wide in the vicinity of the project area. To the north, Shooter's Hill and Seminary Hill rise to 150 ft and 250 ft above sea level. The southern slopes of these hills are drained primarily by Taylor Run in the east and an unnamed drainage that joins Cameron Run approximately 1/2 mi west of the project area. Taylor Run crosses the project area underground in a concrete culvert approximately 300 ft west of the project area boundary.

The ground cover at the time of these investigations was mostly loose earthy fill, with some areas of gravel and concrete. Trees (mostly maple and locust) and opportunistic grasses, forbs, and vines share the perimeter of the project area. Observed animal species were limited to birds nesting outside the project area.

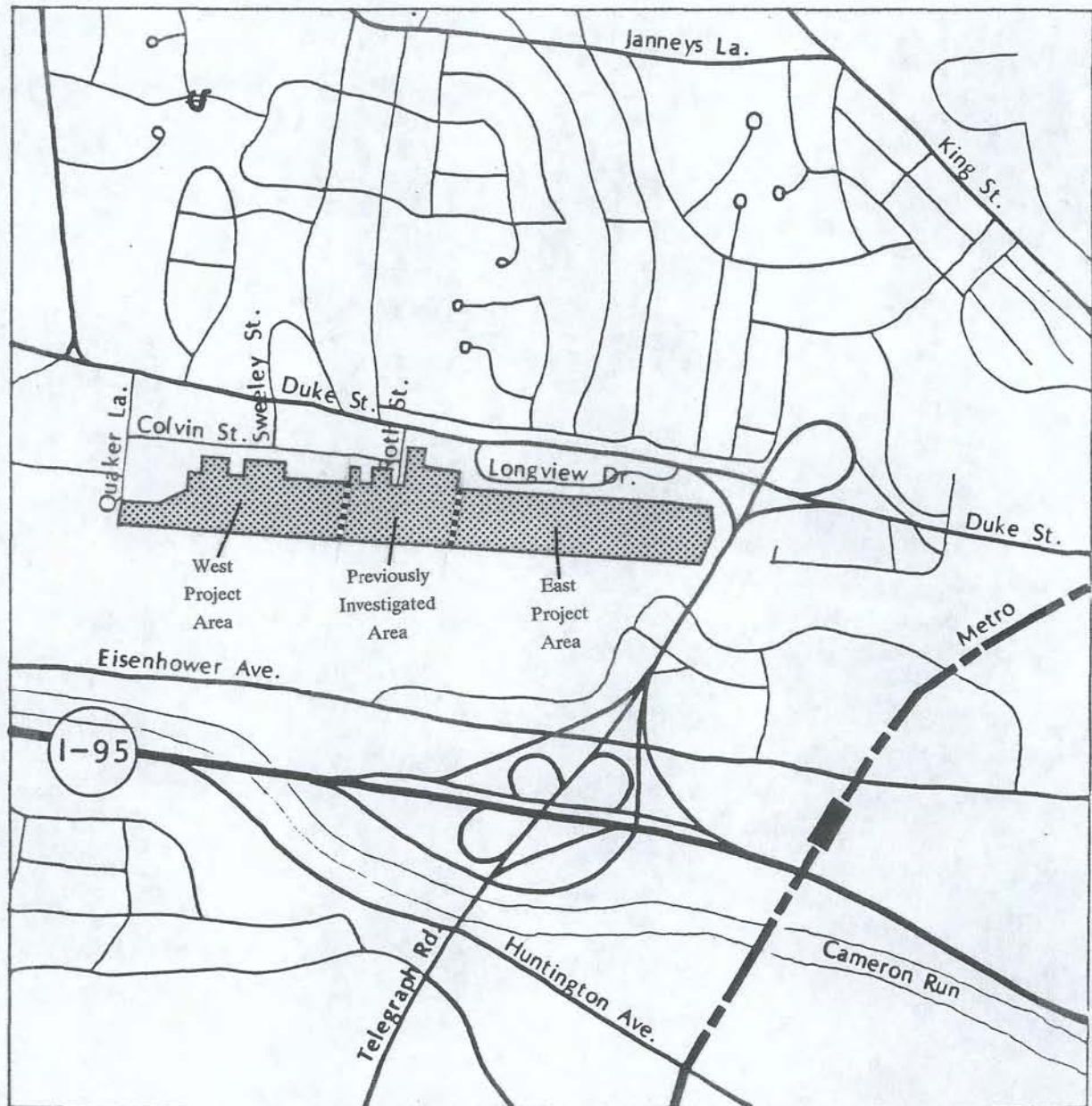


Source: USGS/Alexandria, VA.

Scale 1:24,000

Alexandria Business Center

Figure 1
Project Area Location Map



Source: Perkins and Wills
Alexandria Business Center

Figure 2
Project Vicinity Map

3. Geology, Soils, and Stratigraphy

The project area lies within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province. The geology of the area is typical of the Coastal Plain, which is characterized by a series of unconsolidated deposits of gravel, sand, silt, and clay ranging in age from the Cretaceous to Recent.

The Coastal Plain does not provide any primary lithic sources. However, secondary deposits of cobbles and gravels are commonly exposed in streambeds and relict river channels and on old marine and river terraces (Wentworth 1930). Quartz is the most abundant lithic material in the region. Quartzite is also common while chert and jasper pebbles are occasionally available. The nearby Piedmont Uplands province also serves as a source for lithic materials -- both as outcrops in primary form and as secondary deposits of cobbles and pebbles in streambeds.

The project area lies within the Quaternary alluvium associated with Cameron Run. The Cameron Run valley is cut through Quaternary terrace gravels and Cretaceous clays and sands of the Patapsco, Arundel, and Patuxent Formations (Johnston 1964).

The stratigraphy revealed in the Phase I trenches suggests that grey and orange silt and clay subsoils are overlain in most portions of the project area by at least partial natural soil sequences. The natural soil sequences, some of which appear to be complete, have been filled over both with clays and silts and with railroad debris. The thickness of the fill layers generally increases southward, towards Cameron Run; it is apparently greatest in the eastern part of the project area along the presumed course of Taylor Run.

II. PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

The project area lies in the Middle Atlantic region of the eastern United States. The prehistory of this region is traditionally divided into three major periods: the Paleo-Indian (c. 10,000 B.C. - 7500 B.C.), the Archaic (c. 7500 B.C. - 1000 B.C.), and the Woodland (c. 1000 B.C. - A.D. 1600). These cultural periods represent a taxonomic device, whereby changes in material culture and subsistence strategies are emphasized. Shifts in the types of artifacts often reflect technological transformations, which can be seen as adaptive responses to changing environmental conditions (Allan and Stuart 1977). Thus a discussion of the archaeological background of the region must combine aspects of the environment, subsistence base and artifactual record. The model for prehistoric site distribution which results from such a discussion enables archaeologists to predict the most likely locations for sites of the different time periods (Gardner 1978, 1982; Bromberg 1987). A model of this nature is a useful tool for archaeologists, as it allows them to judge the likelihood of finding sites in areas slated for development.

A. Paleo-Indian Period

The record of human habitation in the Middle Atlantic began some 12,000 years ago, concurrent with the final retreat of the Wisconsin polar ice cap. Pollen profiles from the area indicate a predominance of spruce and pine elements in the region, with an influx of oak as temperatures rose. Thus, the replacement of the parkland or tundra conditions of glacial times by boreal forests had begun in the Middle Atlantic by the time of Paleo-Indian occupation of the area. The current consensus is that the large Pleistocene herd animals hunted by Paleo-Indians in the western United States were probably no longer present in abundance in the Middle Atlantic by about 10,000 B.C. It is therefore postulated that smaller game and a variety of plants were most likely the main resources exploited in the region during the Paleo-Indian period (Custer 1989).

The characteristic artifact of the Paleo-Indian times is the fluted stone point, often made of high quality cryptocrystalline lithic material such as chert or jasper (Gardner 1974, 1979). These points, used as spear tips, are relatively rare throughout the Mid-Atlantic. The points are usually found alone, without other artifacts nearby, and it is unclear whether they represent camp sites or were lost during a hunting trip. The region's most intensively studied Paleo-Indian sites are situated in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Excavation of these sites has indicated a tendency for Paleo-Indian base camps to be situated in areas of maximum habitat overlap near sources of cryptocrystalline stone (Gardner 1974a, 1974b, 1979). Other smaller, more temporary camp sites were situated nearby to serve a variety of purposes, and the even more ephemeral hunting camps were often further from the base camp location (Gardner 1974, 1979). In the future, other settlement patterns may be detected for the Paleo-Indian period in the Middle

Atlantic region, and it is possible that some sites are located on the now-submerged continental shelf (Kraft and Chacko 1978).

B. Archaic Period

The Archaic Period lasted from about 7500 B.C. to 1000 B.C. A generalized foraging pattern emerged to exploit the resources available during this period. As the foragers spread out in search of game and vegetable resources, they began to use locally available materials such as quartz and quartzite for their tool manufacture. Early, Middle and Late Archaic sub-periods have been defined to aid in describing the chronological history of the Mid-Atlantic.

The Early Archaic period (c. 7500 B.C. - 6500 B.C.) is marked by the introduction of a number of new projectile point styles. Among the cultural diagnostics of this period are the corner-notched, serrated Palmer and Kirk points; the slightly later Kirk-stemmed types; the still later bifurcate base points (LeCroy, Kanawha). Like the Paleo-Indian points, these types probably served as spear tips. Custer (1989) has recently stressed the fact that the new point types probably represent a stylistic rather than functional change. Despite changes in length, overall shape, and hafting elements, thickness of the points remained constant between the Paleo-Indian and Early Archaic periods; this was a key characteristic for hunting efficiency because the points had to be thin enough to penetrate the animal but thick enough not to fall out.

Most archaeologists agree that there is some continuity between the Paleo-Indian and the Early Archaic periods (Gardner 1974; Custer 1989). While there is evidence for an increase in the number of sites, the Early Archaic inhabitants of the area, like their predecessors, probably had high mobility and a varied subsistence base. The pollen record indicates that forests of the Middle Atlantic were oak-dominated by 7000 B.C. but also contained significant populations of hemlock, maple, birch and pine, with spruce still evident at higher elevations (Joyce 1988:200).

Pollen profiles from the Middle Archaic period (c. 6500 B.C. - 2500 B.C.) indicate a change in forest elements in the Middle Atlantic. Hemlock abruptly declined about 5000 B.C., and hickory continued to migrate into the area (Joyce 1988). In addition, variations in sea level were occurring, thereby creating other new environmental zones. With the retreat of the glaciers, the Chesapeake Bay began to form through inundation of the ancient Susquehanna River system. By c. 6500 B.C., this inundation would have already begun to cause ponding and the formation of wetland habitats in the major rivers feeding the bay as well as in some of their tributaries.

Gardner (1978) believes that the focus of the Middle Archaic subsistence settlement pattern was at large inland swamp areas, formed as the sea level rose in

post-glacial times. With regard to settlement patterns, Gardner has postulated the existence of base camps in these marshy areas with seasonally specialized, transient camps to exploit available resources in a variety of other environments (Gardner 1978).

The succeeding Late Archaic period (c. 2500 B.C. - 1000 B.C.) was characterized by the prevalence of the oak/hickory forest environment. The rate of rising sea level slowed, thereby allowing for the creation of riverine and estuarine environments stable enough to support significant populations of shellfish and anadromous fish (Custer 1978; Gardner 1978). It is speculated that the focus of settlement shifted during the Late Archaic period to riverine and estuarine locales to take advantage of predictable fish and shellfish resources.

For the Late Archaic period, there is a great increase in the number of known sites. Some sites in the riverine and estuarine areas tend to be larger and more complex than any occupied during previous periods, thereby indicating a trend toward sedentism. In the vicinity of the project area, Gardner (1982) maintains that large Late Archaic spring/summer base camps were present in areas where large numbers of anadromous fish could be caught with smaller fall/winter base camps in inland stream settings. More transient camps were located in a variety of environments to offer additional support to the large and small base camp occupations. Gardner (1978) notes that the greatest variation in site size occurs on the Coastal Plain, where camps are both very small and very large. Cultural diagnostics of this period include steatite vessels and several types of broad-bladed points (Savannah River, Susquehanna -- mainly found in the Piedmont, and Holmes -- primarily confined to the Coastal Plain). Possibly serving as knives, the new point types may have been designed to exploit the new riverine resources.

C. Woodland Period

Around 1000 B.C. the manufacture of pottery was introduced. This artifactual innovation defines the beginning of the Woodland Period, which, like the Archaic, is traditionally divided into early, middle and late sub-periods. The earliest known ceramic in the area, used from about 1200 B.C. to 800 B.C., is a steatite-tempered variety referred to as Marcey Creek ware after its type site on the Potomac River in Arlington County, Virginia (Manson 1948). A subsequent diagnostic ceramic type of the Early Woodland period is the sand and grit-tempered Accokeek ware in use from about 800 B.C. to 300 B.C.

In general, the Late Archaic lifestyle continued into the Early Woodland period (c. 1000 B.C. - 500 B.C.). While the deliberate and intensive foraging strategies of the preceding period appear to have remained unchanged, there is some evidence for an increase in sedentism as the inhabitants of the area became more efficient in exploiting the available resources. Gardner (1982) has postulated that, rather than breaking up into small base camps in interior freshwater settings,

occupants of the large spring/summer base camps in anadromous fishing zones regrouped in the fall and winter near the freshwater/saltwater transition to take advantage of the abundant shellfish resources there.

The Middle Woodland lifestyle (c. 500 B.C. - A.D. 900) was similar to its predecessor, with a reliance on hunting, gathering, and fishing. There is some evidence for a shift in the locations of semi-sedentary base camps from small creek floodplains to large river floodplains (Snyder and Gardner 1979:9). This shift may have helped to set the stage for the local development or acceptance of horticulture. The early Middle Woodland period (c. 500 B.C. - A.D. 200) in the area is characterized by a thick ware, known locally as Popes Creek, tempered with coarse sand or quartz and usually impressed with nets. By late Middle Woodland times (c. A.D. 200 - 900), a shift to the shell-tempered, often cord-marked or net-impressed ceramic, known locally as Mockley, had occurred.

By the Late Woodland period (c. A.D. 900 - 1600), the development of horticulture probably began to achieve a significant role in the total subsistence system. Maize, squash and beans were probably the focus of initial agricultural efforts. The significance of an agriculturally-based subsistence strategy cannot be overestimated; no other factor is as crucial in the establishment and maintenance of permanent, year-round settlements. Sedentary villages were established near the fertile soils of riverine floodplains (Barber 1979). Smaller, less permanent sites in a variety of settings attest to the fact that other resources were still being utilized. Artifacts diagnostic of Late Woodland occupation in the area include triangular points, shell-tempered Rappahannock ceramics of the Townsend series, and Potomac Creek ware (after 1300 A.D.). As the Late Woodland Period progressed, the size and complexity of the villages and settlement systems in the Mid-Atlantic increased, with fortifications, specialized societal roles, development of inter-tribal alliances, growth of inter-tribal government authority and a higher degree of complexity in the observation of religious and ceremonial activities (Barber 1979; Snow 1978).

D. European Contact Period

The Washington, D.C. area was the site of Native American occupation at the time of European contact. The village of Nacochtanke was noted on the east bank of the Anacostia River by Captain John Smith on his journey up the Potomac in 1608. The people of Nacochtanke, the "Necostins," have traditionally been associated with the Conoy, part of the Algonquin linguistic group, although there is little actual historic or linguistic evidence to support this assumption (Humphrey and Chambers 1977). The records of John Smith's voyage represent the earliest historic documentation of the area. Descriptions of subsequent occupation rely on a variety of maps and records which document the history of land use in the area.

III. HISTORIC BACKGROUND

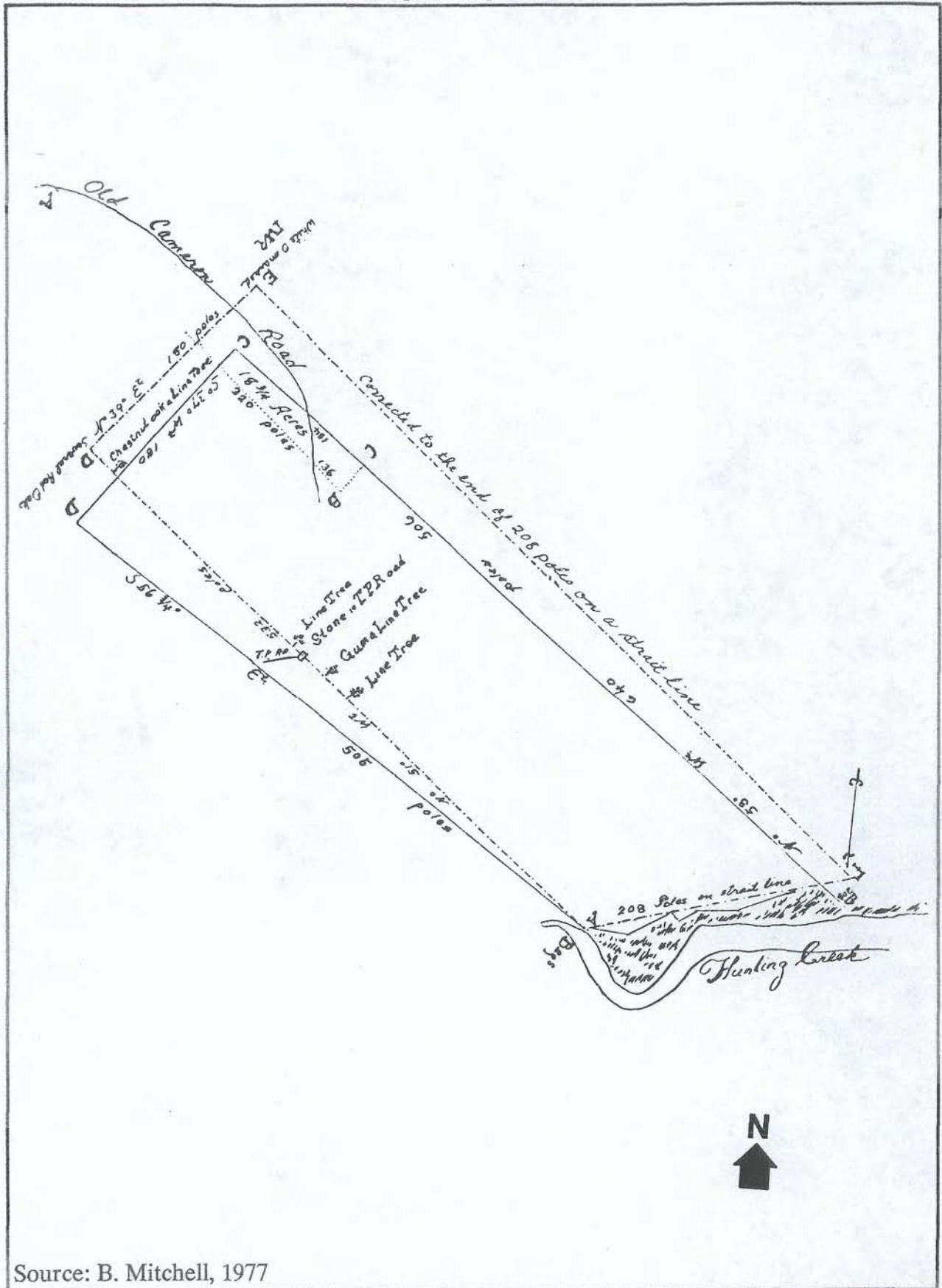
A. Regional History

After the 1607 foundation of Jamestown, European settlement expanded further into the "New World." In 1608, Captain John Smith explored the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River and kept detailed notes of the Indian villages and the abundant natural resources he encountered. Smith's account inspired others to travel up the Potomac River in order to trade with the Indians or take advantage of the natural resources. The men who bought and settled the Potomac riverfront property were generally the descendants of southern tidewater gentry. They continued the tobacco plantation system which had developed in the southern tidewater during the seventeenth century. This system was managed by a landed aristocracy who gained title to their land through royal grants and was made possible by slave labor. The wealth derived from the tobacco trade was the main impetus for expanding into newly explored land (Chittenden *et al.* 1985).

The project area became part of the Northern Neck Proprietary granted to seven Englishmen by the exiled King Charles II in 1649. This proprietary included all the land between the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers. In subsequent years, the seven shares of the original grant were consolidated through purchase and inheritance. In 1719, Thomas, Sixth Lord Fairfax, controlled the entire proprietary and had the right to issue patents (Mitchell 1977; Netherton *et al.* 1978:6). During this period, 1650 to 1720, many tracts of land in the proprietary were granted. The majority of the tracts lay along the western shore of the Potomac River which was the key transportation route for the tobacco trade. The land in the Northern Neck Proprietary was bought by the sons of wealthy planters seeking to increase their profits. In most cases, these planters seated their new land with indentured servants, tenant farmers, and/or slaves. This expansion of the tobacco plantation system was the basis of the economic, social, and political system of the eastern region of Fairfax County. Warehouses and wharves were built along the river and "rolling roads" served as connections with the trade centers. The two major port towns, Alexandria and Georgetown, developed as a result of being key tobacco inspection stations. For example, by 1740, the inspection station known as Hugh West's Hunting Creek Warehouse supported the establishment of Alexandria along the waterfront in 1749 (Smith and Miller 1989).

B. Early Patents

The project area is situated about two miles northwest of Great Hunting Creek and the Alexandria waterfront which were focal points of early eighteenth century settlement and trade. By the end of the seventeenth century, large tracts of land had been patented around Great Hunting Creek. The project area was a part of the 627-acre patent granted to John Carr and John Simpson in 1678 (Figure 3). In



Alexandria Business Center

Figure 3
Patent of Carr and Simpson, 1678

1694, John Simpson repatented the land and in 1698 he sold 313 acres to John West. Carr's half of the patent was sold several times and was finally purchased by Hugh West in 1753. Inheritance rights caused many disputes over this land in the West family. However, in 1790, Hugh West's grandson, Thomas West acquired the entire tract (Mitchell 1977:42). During the 1760s, development in the vicinity of the project area included an inn, John Minor's Ordinary, which lay to the southwest and John Colville's mill (Mitchell and Sweig 1987). A small settlement known as Cameron had developed around Minor's inn. The exact location of this settlement has yet to be determined though it may have been at what is now the intersection of Telegraph Road and the Capital Beltway (Louis Berger and Associates 1989; Knepper and Pappas 1990).

Beginning in 1790, Thomas West began selling off portions of his great landholdings. By this time, the value of tobacco had declined and Virginia, particularly the eastern region, was entering a period of economic depression. The plantation farming methods of cropping until the soil was unproductive and then clearing new land had seriously depleted the soil. Wheat and corn supplanted tobacco and became the more profitable crops. Alexandria succeeded in retaining its importance as a center for maritime trade by participating in the international flour trade (Knepper and Pappas 1990).

During this period, Alexandria merchants realized the need for improved transportation routes which would encourage farmers from inland areas to market their goods in the city. A number of privately financed roads were constructed. Just north of the project area was the Little River Turnpike, financed in 1795 and completed in 1806 (Artemel *et al.* 1987). Intersecting the turnpike from the south and bounding the project area on the east was the Telegraph Road, an important north-south post road. These improved roads increased the value of the neighboring land and encouraged settlement and development. Much of the land in the vicinity of the project area was subdivided and sold and many homes and services were built along the Turnpike at the turn of the nineteenth century.

To the east of the project area, on the north and south sides of the Little River Turnpike, grew the small village known as the West End. It was bound on the west by the first Toll Gate and on the east by Hooff's Run. Cameron Mills, also east of the project area, served as the village's southern boundary. The mill race from Cameron Mills ran south of the present project area. The Turnpike served as the village's main street and Catt's Tavern as its central meeting point where local residents gathered to vote and conduct other political business and to attend auctions. Initially, Catt's Tavern had been called "Drovers Rest" and was the location of cattle sales for the District of Columbia on the Virginia side (Miller 1989). The village was described by Miller as a "transshipment" center because livestock were sold "on hoof", butchered locally and then transported to Alexandria markets (Louis Berger and Associates 1989). Many of the butchers located their slaughter houses on the south side of the village by Cameron Run. The West End developed into a commercial and light industrial center, which included, for

example, tanneries, potteries, a distillery, and a glass factory (Artemel *et al.* 1987:41).

C. Settlement and Development of the Project Area

Settlement and development of the project area land occurred at the end of the eighteenth century. The project area is comprised of an eastern and western section. The history and land use of these two sections will be discussed separately up to 1926 when all of this property was purchased by the Fruit Growers Express Company. A final discussion will focus on the history of that company.

1. The Eastern Section of the Project Area

This section of the project area was divided into two separate parcels of land and owned by different families from the 1790s to 1926. The boundary between these two parcels was, for the most part, Taylor's Run. Each of these parcels contained a family graveyard. The parcel east of Taylor's Run contained the Trisler cemetery (*Figure 4*). This cemetery was moved, at some time between 1969 to 1975, to the Washington Street United Methodist Church by the Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home (Barr 1989). No human remains were found, but two headstones and a footstone were removed (Barr 1989). The parcel west of Taylor Run contains the Bloxham family cemetery which is presently under investigation (*Figure 5*).

The eastern parcel of land, bound by Telegraph Road on the east, Taylor Run on the west, and the Turnpike on the north, was sold by Thomas West in two portions. One portion, containing nine acres, was sold to William Ward in February 1791 (FCDB R-2:101); the other was sold to Ludvick Trisler on February 10, 1795 (FCDB N-3:262). These parcels were united by Ludvick Trisler's son, Peter, when he purchased the nine acre portion in 1819 (FCBD N-3:262; R-2:101 is missing). This property remained in the Trisler family until August 1870 when Curtis Trisler, Peter's grandson, sold it to David B. Watkins (FCDB L-4:426).

Watkins owned additional land west of the project area where the Dominion Grist Mill was located. This mill was formerly known as the Phoenix and made use of the Cameron Mill's mill race which ran south of the project area. Watkins owned the mill from 1853 to 1888.* Watkins bequeathed this property to his wife, Elizabeth, in December 1887. Elizabeth died intestate in November 1900. The Watkins estate was divided by the court in the lengthy case of *Watkins vs. Watkins* (cff # 109L). George Watkins received the property including the project area for a sum of \$1400. At that time the property was "improved by a two story, seven room, brick house, a stable and a barn" (cff #109L). A plat of the property situates these structures adjacent to the Turnpike and thus outside the project area boundary. The

*James H. Watkins and Peter H. Watkins were West End butchers; Lemuel Brown was a miller for D.G. Watkins and Co.

1879 and 1894 Hopkins Atlases show the Watkins family location on the project area (*Figures 6 and 7*).

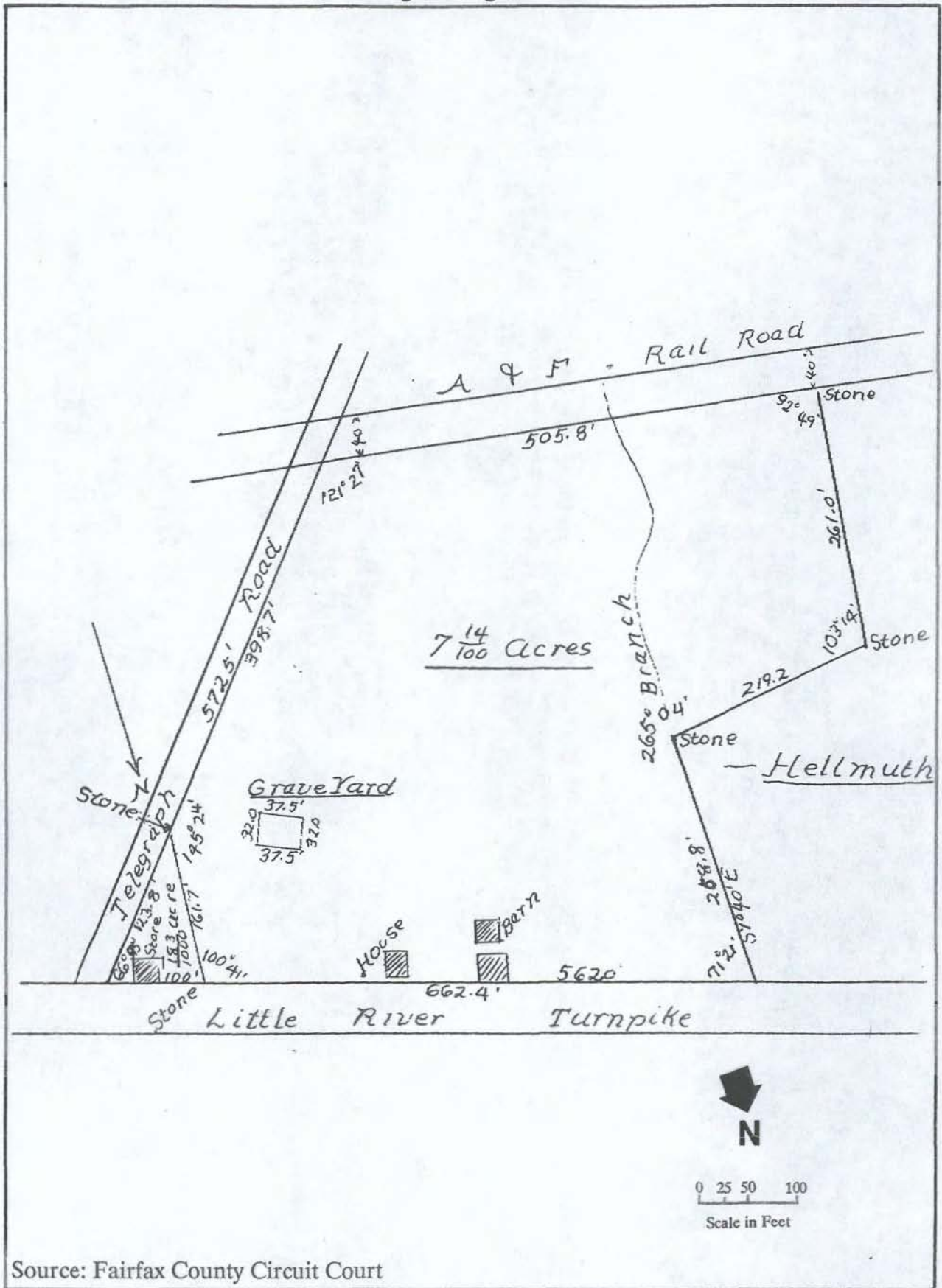
On April 9, 1926, the portion of this property including the project area was sold by Virginia Watkins to Margaret Young (FCDB S-9:271). In June 1926, the Fruit Growers Express Company purchased it (FCDB T-9:339).

The parcel of land on the western side of Taylor Run was part of a 40-acre parcel that Thomas West sold to Alexander Smith in August 1790 (FCDB Y-1:14). Soon after, Smith agreed to sell the land to James Bloxham for 310 pounds. Bloxham had paid Smith only half of the money when he died in 1793. His wife, Mary, who served as administrator of his estate, secured the property for the Bloxham family by paying the remainder of the money to Smith in 1795 (FCWB F-1:203 and FCDB Y1/14). The deed drawn up at that time specified that after Mary's death the property would be inherited by the Bloxham children: William, James, Elizabeth and Thomas (*Figure 8*).

The Bloxham's son, James, was in possession of the 10- acre unimproved lot containing the Bloxham graveyard when he died intestate in 1858. James owned two additional parcels of land, one along the north side of the turnpike, which contained his home, and the other in Georgetown. He also owned seven slaves. In order to divide the property among his heirs, James' son John T. instigated a court case, *Bloxham vs. Bloxham and Whaley* in 1859 (cff #2A, suspended). It was decided that all the property should be sold at Catt's Tavern and the proceeds divided among the heirs. John T. was to receive an additional \$1000 because he had managed his father's business for five years prior to his death. The property containing the graveyard was purchased by John T. and was held in trust by Lawrence B. Taylor until paid in full. John T. did not make all the payments and this property was resold in 1860. The advertisement for the auction in the *Alexandria Gazette* read:

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF LAND ...ON SATURDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL, 1860 at the West End, in front of the Tavern of Samuel Catts, offer at public auction to the highest bidder, the REAL ESTATE, in the county of Fairfax, whereof James Bloxham died possessed, being a HOUSE and LOT, on the Little River Turnpike road, at gate No. 1, where the said James Bloxham resided at the time of his death; and a lot about TEN and a HALF ACRES OF LAND on the said road, very near said gate, and opposite the land of John H. Taylor. One quarter acre of this lot is reserved for the grave-yard, with the right of egress and ingress thereto... (*Alexandria Gazette, February 10, 1860*)

Rozier Catts, a tavern owner from the West End, purchased the property but reserved the quarter acre graveyard lot for the Bloxham family. John T. attempted to retrieve the property by filing a case against the trustee for instituting the sale and selling it for less than its value (cff # 8n). Depositions were taken from several neighbors who stated that the low value of the land was a result of the railroad



Source: Fairfax County Circuit Court

Alexandria Business Center

Figure 4
Plat of Trisler
Cemetery in 1901

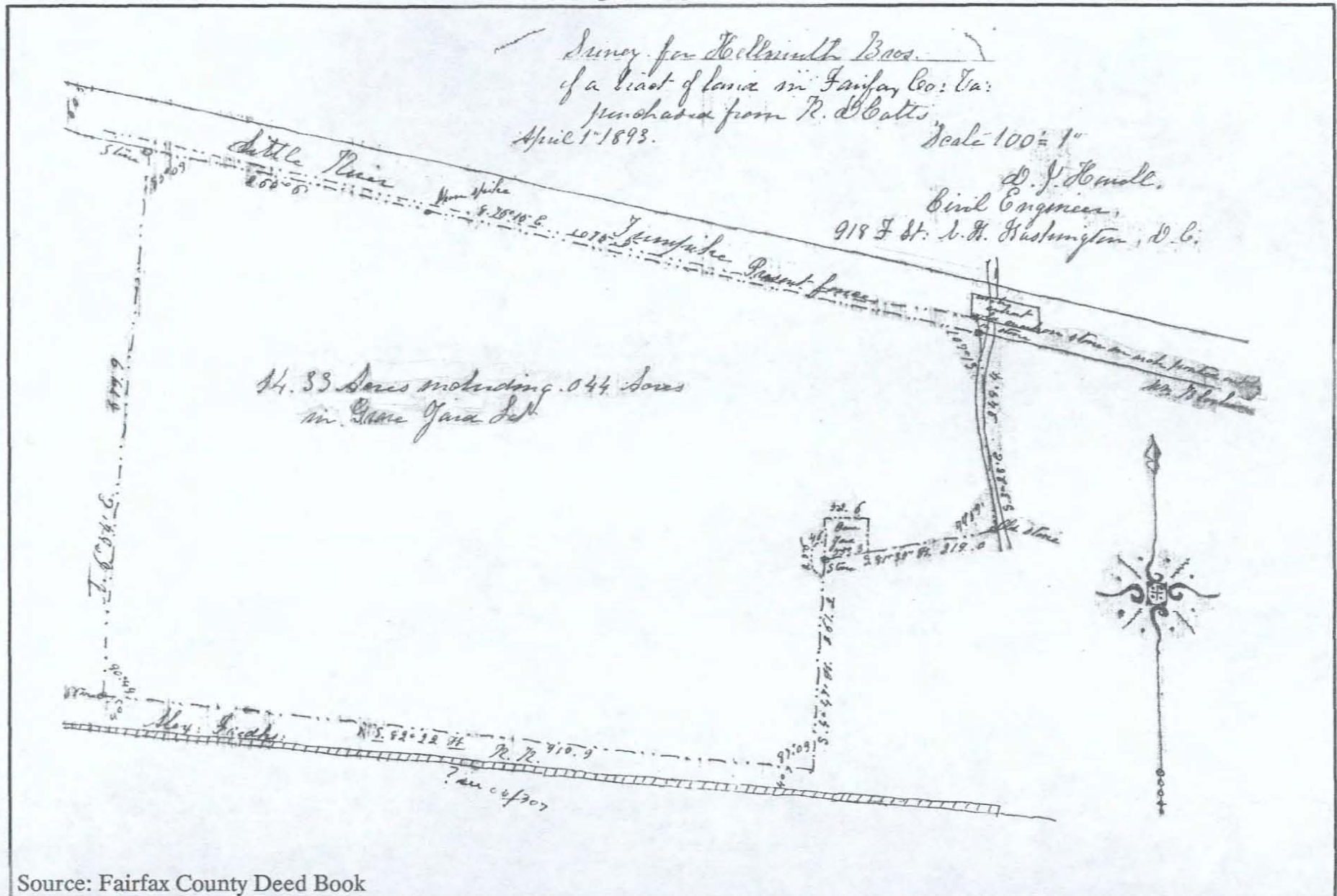
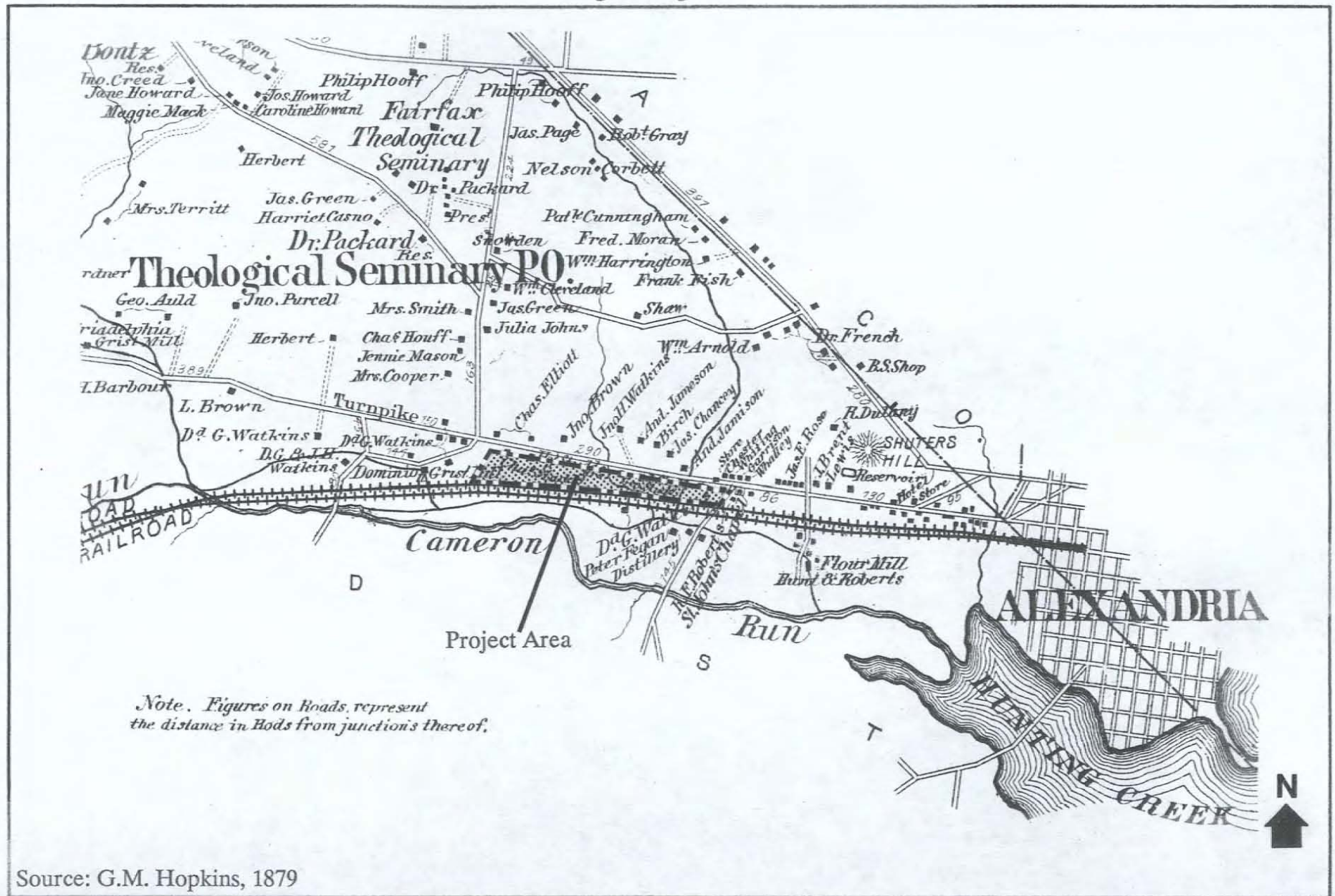
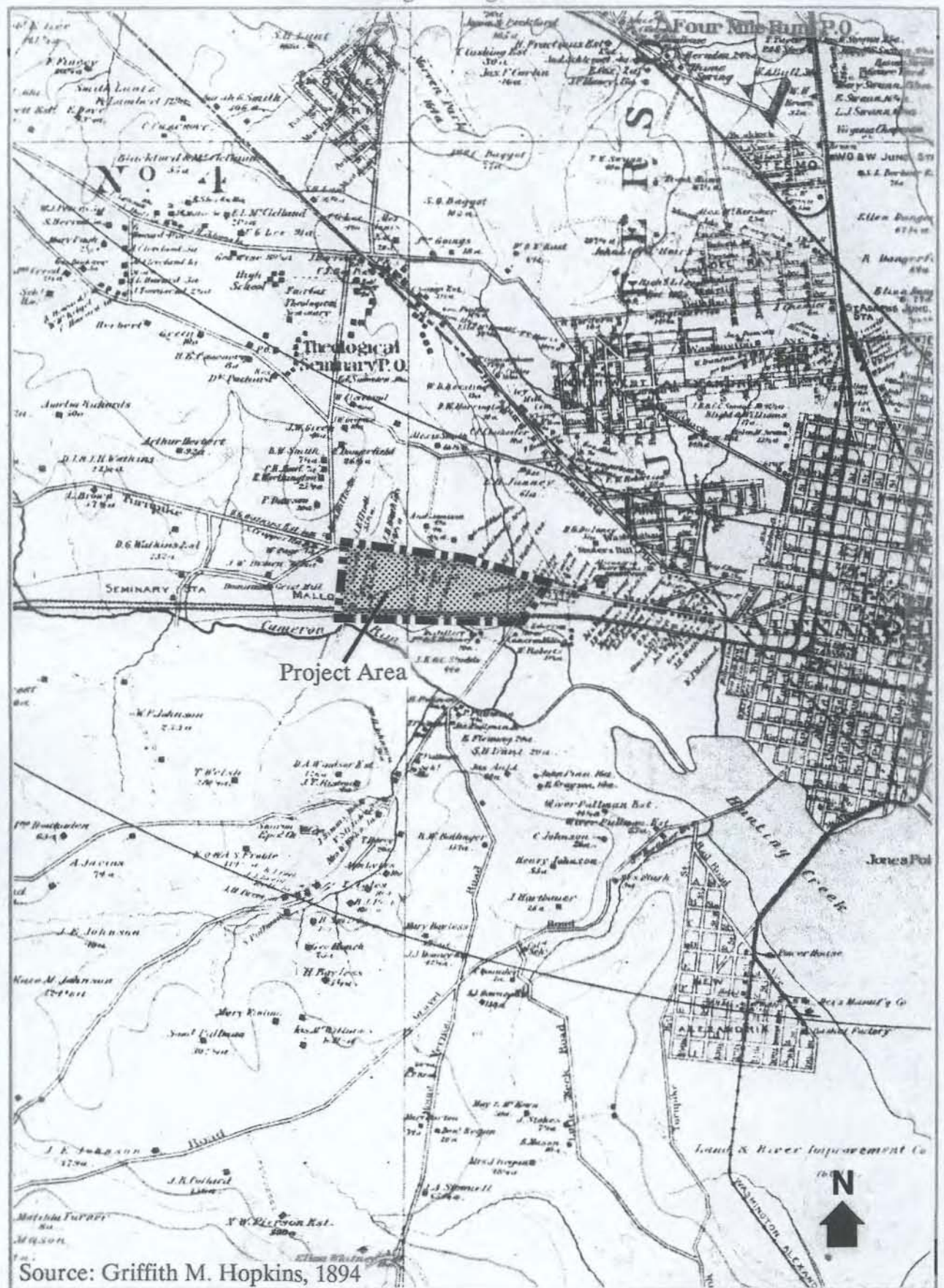


Figure 5
Plat of Bloxham
Cemetery in 1893



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Figure 6
Project Area in 1879

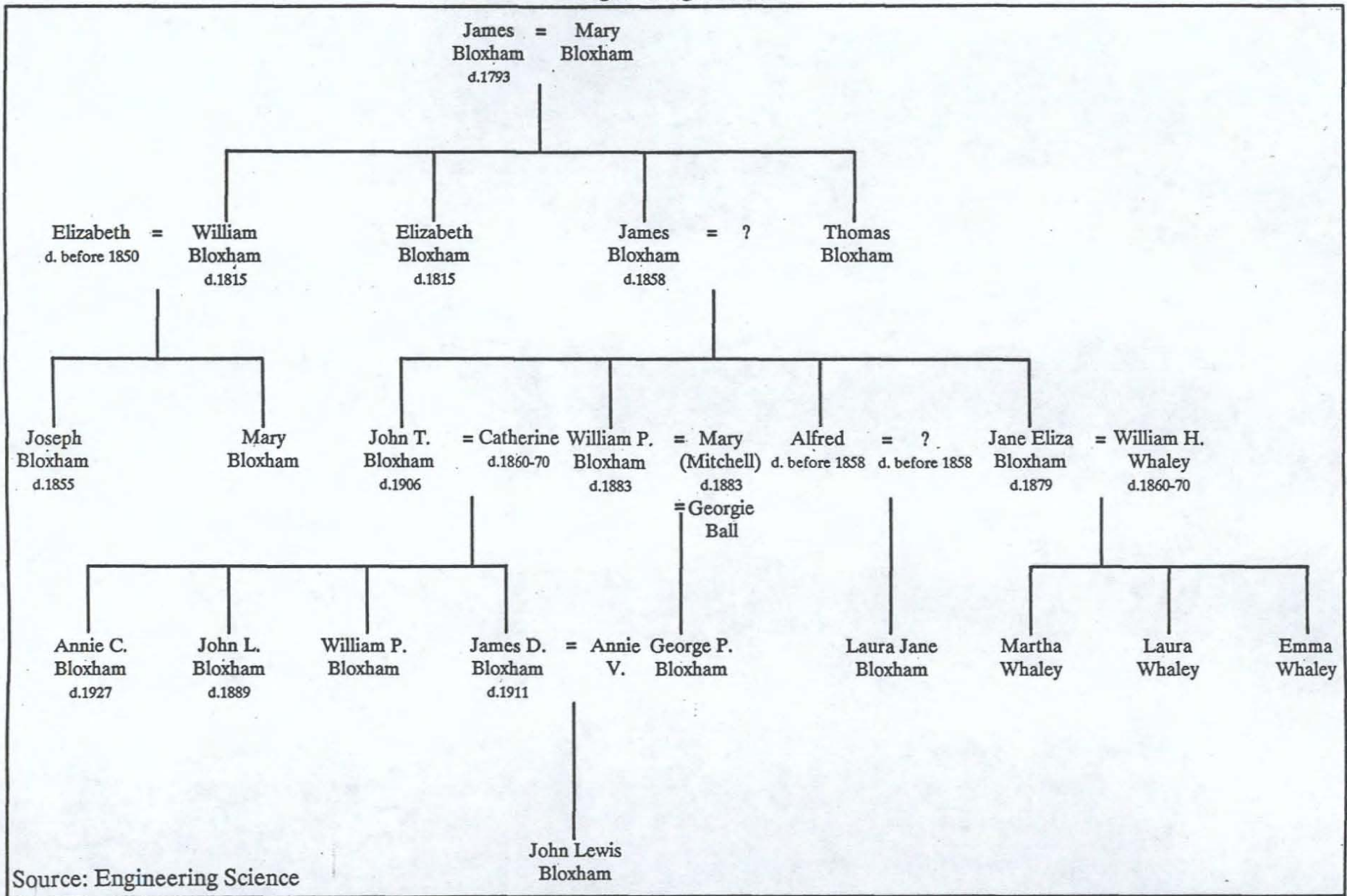


Source: Griffith M. Hopkins, 1894

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Figure 7
Project Area in 1894

Engineering-Science



Source: Engineering Science

Alexandria Business Center

Figure 8
Bloxham Family Genealogy

tracks running through it and the lack of a house and other improvements on the property (cff # 8n). John T. lost the case and the property passed out of Bloxham family possession.

On April 18, 1893, Rozier Catts and his wife Fanny sold the Bloxham property, along with some acreage they had purchased from Richard Windsor, to William H. Hellmuth and Charles T. Hellmuth of Alexandria (FCDB O-5:245). These men were very successful butchers. A one page advertisement in the 1895 Alexandria Directory claims that they sold "all kinds of meats, pure lard and vegetables and fruits in season." They had a store on the northwest corner of King and Columbus Streets as well as a stall in the City Market.

In April 1922, the Hellmuth brothers sold their land to William Duncan, a trustee for Joseph Duncan. In 1926, Elizabeth Duncan, widow and administrator of W. Duncan's estate, asked that the property be sold for the benefit of an infant. The property was sold in June 1926 to the Fruit Growers Express Company (FCDB T-9:337).

2. Bloxham Family History

The discovery of the Bloxham family graveyard in the course of these archaeological investigations made an understanding of the family history essential. James Bloxham and his wife, Mary, came to America from England during the eighteenth century. They had four children; William, Elizabeth, James, and Thomas. At least two of the children, William and James, were born in England (1850 Virginia Census).

Early city directories for Alexandria and Washington do not list any Bloxhams. However, there is evidence which indicates that two of the Bloxham children, Elizabeth and James, were living in Alexandria during the early nineteenth century. Elizabeth was recorded in the 1810 Alexandria tax list as a seamstress residing at Princess and St. Asaph Streets, with two white people and two slaves. In 1815, she died intestate and the judge of the Orphans Court appointed Grafton Cawood as administrator of her "goods, chattles and credits" on February 11, 1815 (ACWB 1/344). James was listed in the 1810 Virginia Census. Seven males and three females, ranging in ages less than 45, and two slaves made up his household. On November 10, 1815, James insured his two story brick dwelling and store located on the north side of King Street between St. Asaph and Washington Streets. He stated this as his residence. The building was valued at \$1400 (Mutual Assurance Society #1771). The 1820 DC Census records him in Alexandria. James continued to live at this house and reinsured it in 1823. A record exists of a chancery case filed by J. Bloxham, in 1833, against J. Ricketts. Unfortunately, only the summons of the case survive (cff. #4E).

No other substantial information about the family during this early period has been located. Census records show that there were Bloxhams in Accomack and

Northampton Counties. However, no evidence to date establishes a relationship with the Fairfax County Bloxhams.

The 1850 Virginia Census is the next record which provides information on two of the brothers, William and James. No further information was found on the third brother, Thomas. William's and James' families lived near each other and are listed on the same page in the census. Neither of the men's wives are listed and it is likely that they had died.

In 1850, the oldest brother, William, was a 77 year old miller with an estate worth \$12,000. His son Joseph, 24, had no occupation and his daughter Mary was 19. William died in 1853 and his two children inherited all of his property. That same year, his son Joseph transferred all his rights and title to his father's land to George H. Padgett (FCDB T3/278) and in 1854, his sister, Mary did the same (FCDB I3/245). No further information about Mary has been found. The voting records which have survived from the West End show that Joseph Bloxham voted in 1854.

In 1855, Joseph was stabbed to death by George W. Crump while he was returning from an exhibition at Liberty Hall in Alexandria. The account in the *Gazette* explained that the two Crump brothers and Bloxham exchanged "epithets" and Joseph reacted by striking Emery Crump on the head with his cane. Joseph was described as a cripple who walked with a cane and a crutch. George Crump responded by stabbing Joseph in the back, tossing the knife over a fence and running off. Joseph was taken to the doctor by his friends but could not be saved. The coroner explained that the knife "penetrated the body in the back, between the sixth and seventh ribs, just behind the shoulder blade, going through the lower lobe of the left lung and also passing through the pulmonary artery" (*Alexandria Gazette* March 13, 1855). George Crump was sentenced to 12 years in the state penitentiary (Miller 1988:55-56).

In 1850, William's younger brother, James Bloxham, was a 69 year old farmer whose personal estate was valued at \$5000. Making up his household were: his son, John T., a farmer; his daughter, Jane E. Whaley; her husband William Whaley, a 32 year old stage coach owner; and their three daughters Martha (11), Laura (8), and Emma (9 mos.). Later records show that James had two other children, William P. and Albert. William P. joined the First Virginia Regiment Company B which departed for the Mexican War in December of 1846 (Miller 1987:133; *Gazette* 1899). Albert married but both he and his wife died, leaving a daughter Laura Jane (cfr #2A).

James Bloxham died on March 17, 1858 of gangrene at the age of 76 (Register of Deaths FX Co.). The case of *Bloxham vs. Bloxham and Whaley*, mentioned above, provides some additional family information. James's deceased son, Albert, had a daughter named Laura Jane living in Nashville, Illinois with a guardian named Amos Watts in 1858. James's son William who had fought in the

Mexican War was then living in Tallahassee, Florida. William chose to give his portion of the inheritance to his brother John T. (FCDB B-4:90).

According to the 1860 Virginia Census, John T. was married and had four children. He was a 40 year old farmer with real estate valued at \$1000 and a personal estate of \$4000. His wife Catherine was 37, and his children were Annie C. age 9, John L. age 7, William P. age 5, and James age 2. The Whaley family continued to live near by. William was 50 years old and worked as a mail contractor. His real estate was worth \$2000 and his personal estate \$2000. Jane Eliza was 41 and only two of their daughters remained at home, Laura (17) and Emma C. (9). It is possible that the oldest daughter, Martha, had married.

During the 1860s, John T.'s brother William P. returned to Virginia from Florida. He was recorded in the 1870 Census as a 46 year old "engineer on a steamboat", who owned no real estate but had a personal estate of \$600. His wife, Mary was 42 and was born in Baltimore, Maryland. Living with the couple was Ellen Mitchell, aged 74, who may have been Mary's mother. In April 1883, Mary died at the age of 53 from paralysis (*Alexandria Gazette* April 27 1883). She was buried at the Methodist Protestant Cemetery (Avery n.d.). After her death, William remarried. His second wife was Georgie Bell. William died May 1 1899 of paralysis and was described as "one of the oldest residents of the West End neighborhood, a good citizen, known by everyone and esteemed by all". He left his widow and child (*Alexandria Gazette* April 30 1899). William had bequeathed all of his property to Georgie Bell Bloxham, his wife, and his son George P. Bloxham (WB H2/110). He was also buried at the Methodist Protestant Cemetery (Avery n.d.).

Turning once more to the 1870 Census, we find further information on John T. Bloxham and the Whaley family. John T. and his sister Jane Whaley lived in the same household presumably because John's wife, Catherine, and Jane's husband, William Whaley, had died. John T. was then 49 and worked as a "carrier of mail." His personal estate had decreased to \$275. Two of his children remained at home, Ann aged 17 and James aged 10. One of his sons, John L., age 16, lived with the Pulman family. Pulman was a grocer and John L. worked as a clerk in his store. It is likely that John T.'s other son, William P., was also living in another household. Jane Whaley and her two daughters, Emma and Laura, remained at the home. A black woman, Fannie Butler, who served the family as a domestic servant, lived there with her three children.

John Bloxham is listed in the Alexandria City Directory in 1870, 1871, and 1873 as a clerk in the West End. The 1876 Directory lists John L. as a clerk and William P. as a huckster. In 1888, John L. is listed as a bookkeeper who resided at 920 King Street. In 1889, John L. died of pneumonia. The obituary printed in the *Alexandria Gazette*, stated that he was a "popular citizen who for a number of years was connected with the grocery business of Mr. Thomas Burrough near Hunting Creek" (*Alexandria Gazette* July 13 1889).

John T. and his two remaining sons are listed in the 1895 Directory. All of them lived on Duke Street extended (Little River Turnpike). James worked as a laborer and William P. as a gardener. Only James was listed in the 1903 directory; he worked as a dairyman at that time.

John T. Bloxham died in 1906 at the age of 87 (*Alexandria Gazette* June 19 1906). He died intestate. His son James died on February 13, 1911 leaving his wife Annie V. and a son, John Lewis. In 1914, Annie V., aged 23, filed a case in court in order to have James's real estate sold (cff # 113ee). She stated that James owned a six acre parcel of unimproved land near Ft. Ellsworth and half of the Bloxham home at the time of his death. She explained that the sale of the six acre lot would enable her to better care for James's four year old son. During the years following her husband's death, she had been doing odd jobs and had relied on the kindness of her relatives and friends. She lived in the Bloxham home with Annie C., James's sister.

In her deposition, James's sister, Annie C., supported Annie V.'s claims and added that her brother had almost no personal property at the time of his death. She further stated that both his parents were dead and only she and her brother William, who lived in Loudoun, remained. The property was sold and the two women and child continued to live in the Bloxham home. By 1924, Annie V. had married Frank Saffell, a telephone operator and they remained at the Bloxham family home, 2629 Duke extended.

In 1924, Annie C. made a will in which she bequeathed all of her property to her nephew, John Lewis (FC WB 12:46). She died on February 17, 1927. By 1934, Annie V.'s second husband, Frank, had died. John Lewis was the last Bloxham listed in the Alexandria city directories. In 1936 he was listed at 2629 Duke Street and worked as a car repairman.

3. The Western Section of the Project Area

This section of the project area also came out of Thomas West's land. In 1821, Moss and Peyton sold a parcel of land to Philip Grimes; the property was bound on the north by the turnpike, on the east by William Bloxham's land, and on the west by Daniel Lomax's land (FCDB M3/170 PP2/93 missing). In December of 1847, William H. Grimes sold this property to Richard Windsor and reserved the use of the graveyard on the property (FCDB M-3:170). Later deeds locate this graveyard along the Turnpike, outside the boundaries of the project area. Richard Windsor owned a lot of land in the area and was also involved with milling. He was an owner of the Accotink mill and Cameron Mills in the early nineteenth century (Knepper and Pappas 1990).

During the mid-nineteenth century, Windsor sold portions of his land to members of the Studds family. In 1852, he sold George Studds some land which lay east of the graveyard (FCDB Q-3:509). In 1859 and 1864, he sold two adjacent parcels of land to Henry Studds, these had a combined acreage of 37 acres (FCDB

E-4:18 and E-4:359). This land lay to the west of the graveyard and shared the western boundary of George Studds land.

During the Civil War years, soldiers camped on the project area and two forts were built across the Turnpike, Fort Ellsworth to the northeast and Fort Williams to the northwest. George and John Studds served as witness for other men's property losses in Southern Claims cases (Case # 10171 and 107126). Both men explained that soldiers took crops without paying and took control of the Cameron distillery just south of the project area. George Studds worked as a herder for government cattle during the war. These herds were pastured one or two miles west of Alexandria (Case # 10171). John Studds was in the U.S. Service at that time (Case # 107126). A Corps of Engineers map drawn in 1861 shows the location of the forts, distillery, and Cameron Mills as well as the railroad tracks south of the project area (*Figure 9*).

By the end of the nineteenth century Colin Studds had acquired all of this land and other parcels south of the railroad tracks from various family members. He owned a total of 123 acres. The 1878 and 1894, Hopkins maps illustrate the Studds family ownership of the project area (*Figures 6 and 7*).

Colin Studds sold his 123 acres to Robert M. Pettit on June 18, 1913. Pettit in turn conveyed it to his son, Clarence Pettit later that year (FCDB Q-7:385). Clarence Pettit sold a portion of this property to John Nash in August 1913 (R-7:46). The Nash's kept a dairy on the property until 1920 when they sold 26 acres and the dairy paraphernalia to Early Saums (FCDB P-8:121). The Bill of Sale included "41 tuberculin tested milch cows, three horses, two road wagons, a dairy wagon, and such items as milk cans, bottles, separators, cooling apparatus". In addition, the Nash's sold their milk routes and contracts with the railroad company to Saum (P-8:123). In subsequent years, Saum sold portions of this property in 2 1/2 acre to 5 acre parcels. It was not until 1926 that all the parcels were united. On April 8 and 9, 1926, Margaret Young purchased nine separate parcels of adjoining land. Three days later, on April 12, Young sold this land to Fruit Growers Express.

D. Industry and Railroads in Alexandria.

Alexandria had developed into a commercial and shipping center rather than an industrial center and adequate transportation routes were essential to the city's economy. Industry had been slow to develop because inexpensive sources of power (*i.e.* water), labor, and raw materials (coal and iron) were not locally available. When trains became the most modern mode of transportation, Alexandria merchants realized their importance and became involved in their promotion. During the 1840s, there were five railroad construction projects taking place in Alexandria. Two of the railroads, the Orange and Alexandria Railroad and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, laid tracks just beyond the southern boundary of the project area.

The Orange and Alexandria Railroad was incorporated in 1848. It initially went to Orange, but tracks were later extended to Manassas. This railroad "promised to bring in trade, freight and passengers" (Sharrer 1977:30). The Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad was the next company to lay tracks next to the O&A. The RF&P had been a carrier since 1834 which connected Richmond and Fredrick. In 1856, the Virginia General Assembly granted the RF&P permission to "extend its line northward to join the O&A and the Manassas Gap Railroad." Completion of this extension was delayed by the Civil War (Ames 1977).

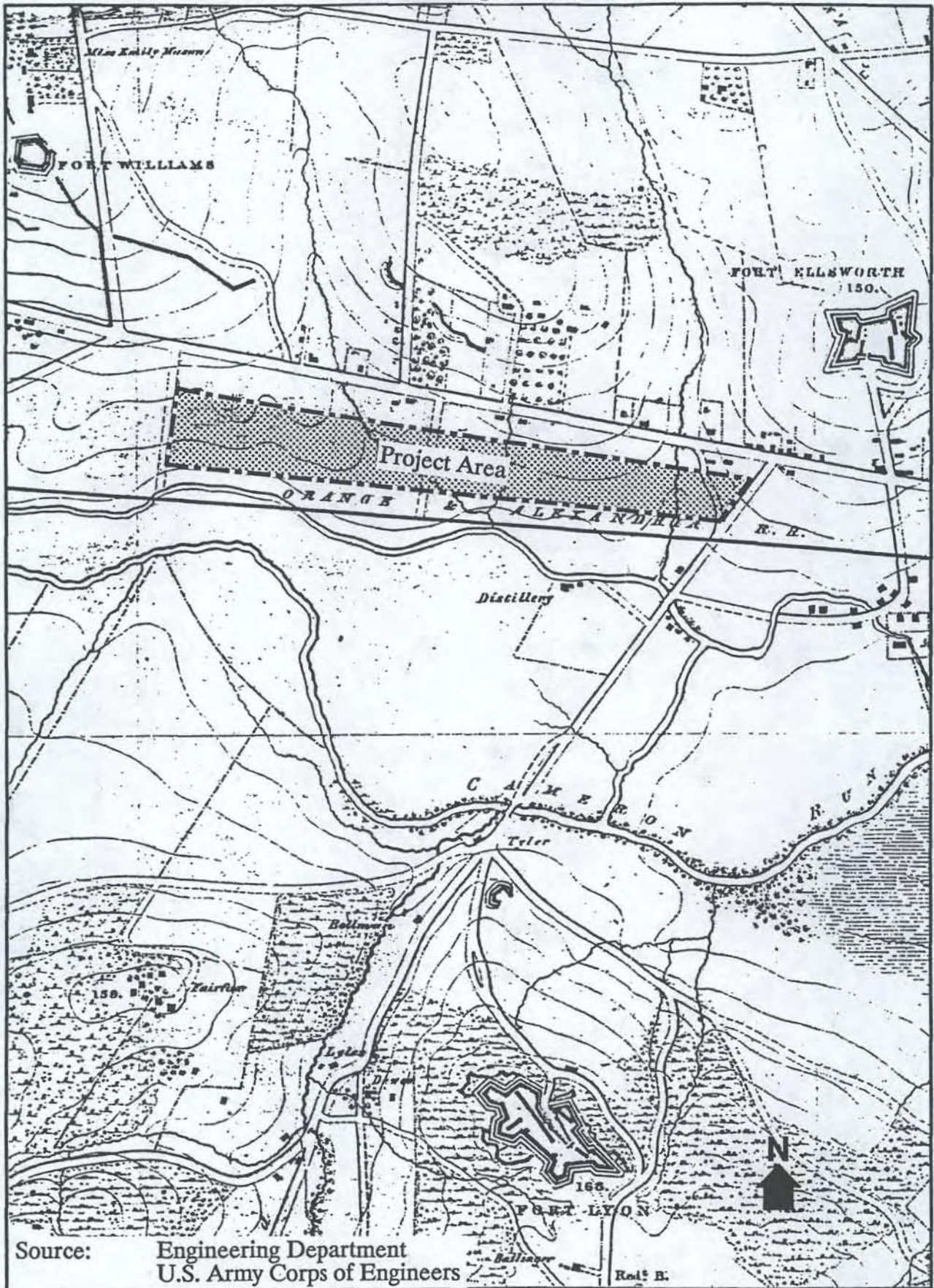
On the eve of the Civil War, there were 97 manufacturing firms in Alexandria (Sharrer 1977:30). However, the war interrupted development. When Virginia seceded from the Union in 1861, Union soldiers crossed the Potomac and immediately occupied Alexandria. They took control of the O&A railroad and used its shop complex as the headquarters for the U.S. Military Railroad (Williams 1977:59).

After the war, Alexandria suffered economically for a decade. The rebuilding of the railroads was the first sign of economic recovery. The O&A became the Virginia Midland Rail Road. During the 1870s, railroads began transporting "perishables; eggs, dairy products and fruit." A company called the Potomac Fruit Growers Association sent apples and peaches to Alexandria from as far as Harper's Ferry. In the 1880s, there was a new wave of industrial development in Alexandria based on the consolidation of railroads and the organization of "freight pools" (Sharrer 1977:30). Alexandria's position as a "rail center" was enhanced in 1906 with the construction of Potomac Yards for the classification and interchange of freight. In 1920, the Washington Southern Railroad Co.(originally O&A) merged with the RF&P. During this year, the Fruit Growers Express Company entered the railroad refrigerator car industry.

1. Fruit Growers Express.*

The Fruit Growers Express Company (FGE) was incorporated on March 18, 1920 in Delaware. The company was financed by nine eastern and southeastern railroads with the intention of operating the "fruit and vegetable cars" it acquired interests in from Armour and Company on May 1, 1920. In addition to 4,279 refrigerator cars, FGE acquired Armour's shop and icing facilities at Potomac Yards and operation began immediately. FGE operating headquarters were located in Washington, D.C.

*The material for this section was provided by Gene M. Spencer, General Manager at Fruit Grower's Express.



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Figure 9
Environs of Washington Map
circa 1861

The company's First Annual Report, written by president H. B. Spencer, outlined the goals for the company's near future. He explained the importance of

broadening the scope of the Company's activities, with a view of performing all of the perishable protective service east of the Mississippi river. The perishable movement is seasonal, and by centralizing the control of refrigerator cars of the lines in that territory, the efficiency of the present equipment will be materially increased, thus relieving the shortage of refrigerator cars and reducing the number of cars of this type that the railroads will be required to finance and build in order to meet the demands of the perishable traffic. The Interstate Commerce Commission and large shippers of perishables have urged the desirability of establishing such a central organization (FGE 1920).

The need for this service was great and FGE grew rapidly. Subsequent annual reports describe the number of new building, repair, and icing facilities purchased from Indiana to Florida. The concept of pooling refrigerator cars worked so successfully that it was adopted further west. Western Fruit Growers Express was organized in 1923 and Burlington Refrigerator Express in 1926. Both of these were managed by the FGE headquarters in Washington.

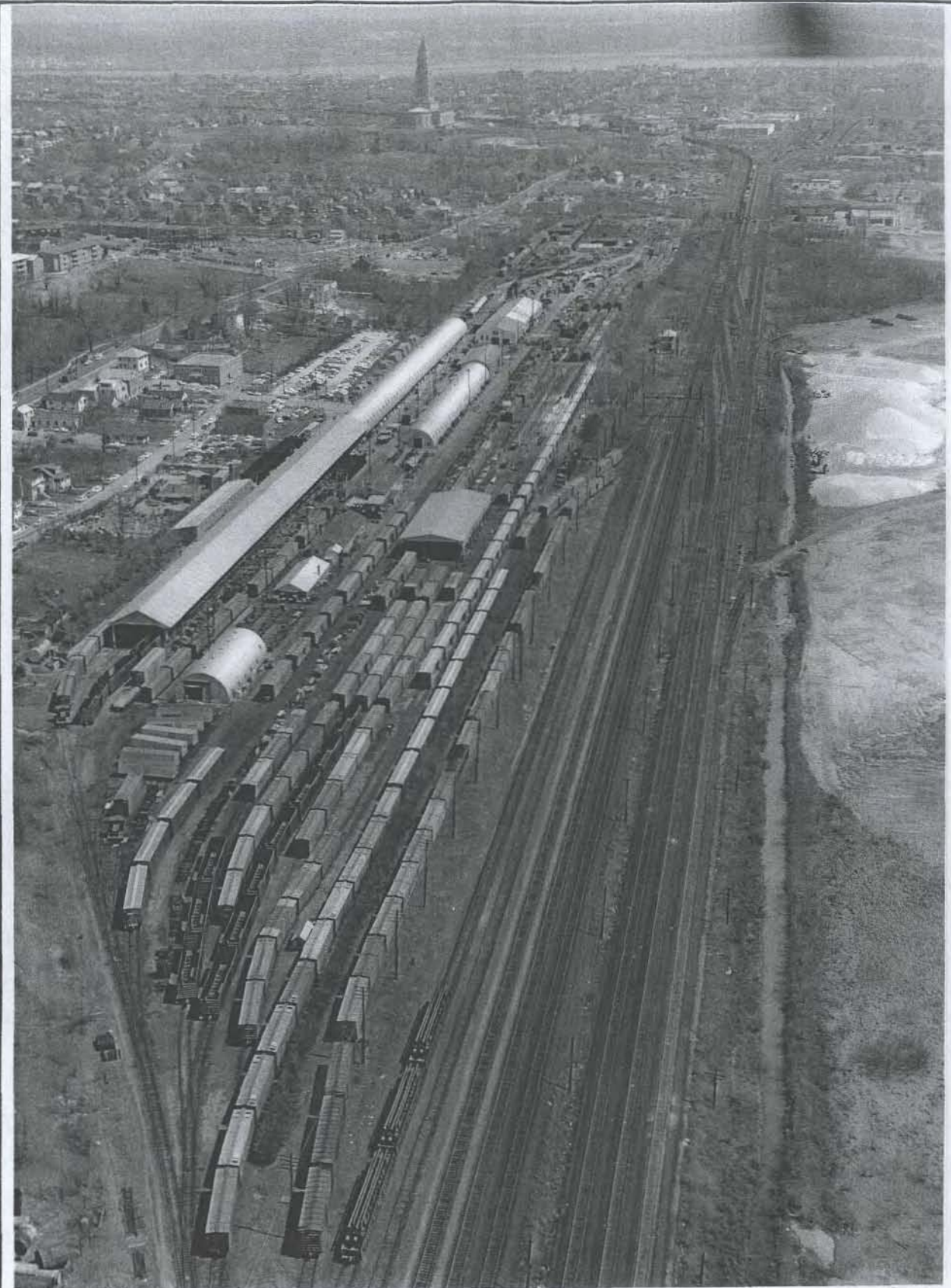
According to the 1926 Annual Report, the land leased for the car repair shops at Potomac Yards was required for railroad improvements. The company chose to move the shop to "Seminary, Virginia." The cost for the tracks and buildings at the new location was \$250,000. The report further stated that "the arrangement and equipment of the new shop would afford more efficient and economic operations than had been possible in the former location" (FGE 1926). The Sandborn maps provide a record of the facilities located on beginning from 1931. According to Gene Spencer of FGE, the long wooden assembly shed burnt down during the 1940s and one was brought up from Jacksonville, Florida to replace it.

During the 1940s, the transportation of fresh fruits and vegetables by rail decreased dramatically. Replacing it was the frozen food and concentrate industry. To keep up with these developments FGE designed the first mechanical refrigerator car in 1949. FGE President J.C. Rill, reported that new mechanical refrigeration cars were powered by diesel electric engines. The old insulated bunker cars which held up to 10,000 pounds of ice became obsolete.

The FGE shop property was annexed from Fairfax County by the City of Alexandria on December 3, 1951. The Alexandria shop was capable of manufacturing 8 to 10 cars pers day from its main freight car line and 1 to 2 cars per day from its caboose line where more specialized cars were produced (*Plate 1*). In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the FGE customer base expanded to include

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contracts with Middle Eastern countries and Mexico. In 1989, FGE became a fully owned subsidiary of CSX Transportation.



Source: Fruit Growers Express

Alexandria Business Center

Plate 1
Fruit Growers Express
and Rail Yard, 1963

IV. METHODOLOGY

A. Field

The project area was investigated by means of 16 backhoe trenches (*Figures 10, 11*). These trenches were placed in locations where the potential for intact archaeological remains was judged to be high. This criterion suggested trench placement along the courses of historically documented drainages (Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 13) and in the predicted location of a historical cemetery (Trenches 5, 6, 7). Other trenches were located where they might yield information about the range of deposits to be encountered in the project area and their modification by human activity.

Excavation of each trench was monitored by an archaeologist who examined note-worthy strata and stratigraphic boundaries before excavation proceeded farther. Trenches were dug down to undisturbed subsoil deposits and trench walls were cleaned, drawn, and photographed. When small prehistoric artifacts were observed in Trenches 3B and 4, material from those trenches was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth. Where possible, soil samples were taken from deposits that appeared to be intact and natural. Historic artifacts were noted but not collected unless they appeared to be in primary, pre-twentieth century context; prehistoric artifacts were collected.

B. Laboratory

Upon arrival in the laboratory all artifacts were cleaned, bagged, catalogued, and stored. Lithic artifacts were lightly rinsed without using a brush in order to prevent damaging any adhering organic residues.

Most historic artifacts were washed and brushed. However, unless soils were very wet and muddy, metal artifacts were dry brushed only. All metal was bagged separately with silica gel and blue indicator crystals in order to maintain a dry environment. Organic artifacts which came from a dry environment were dry brushed only, otherwise they were lightly washed. In the field, human skeletal materials were placed in polyethylene bags and packed in the soils from which they were derived. Once in the laboratory, the bags were placed in cold storage in order to retard deterioration. Upon initiation of osteological analysis, the skeletal material was removed from the bags and gently washed and thoroughly dried. The skeletal material was then packaged in acid-free boxes, protected with polyethylene bubble wrap and acid-free tissue paper.

All historic and prehistoric materials were stored in polyethylene resealable bags into which were punched small holes so that air can circulate. Only the metals were sealed in their own environment, in order to maintain maximum dryness with the silica gel.

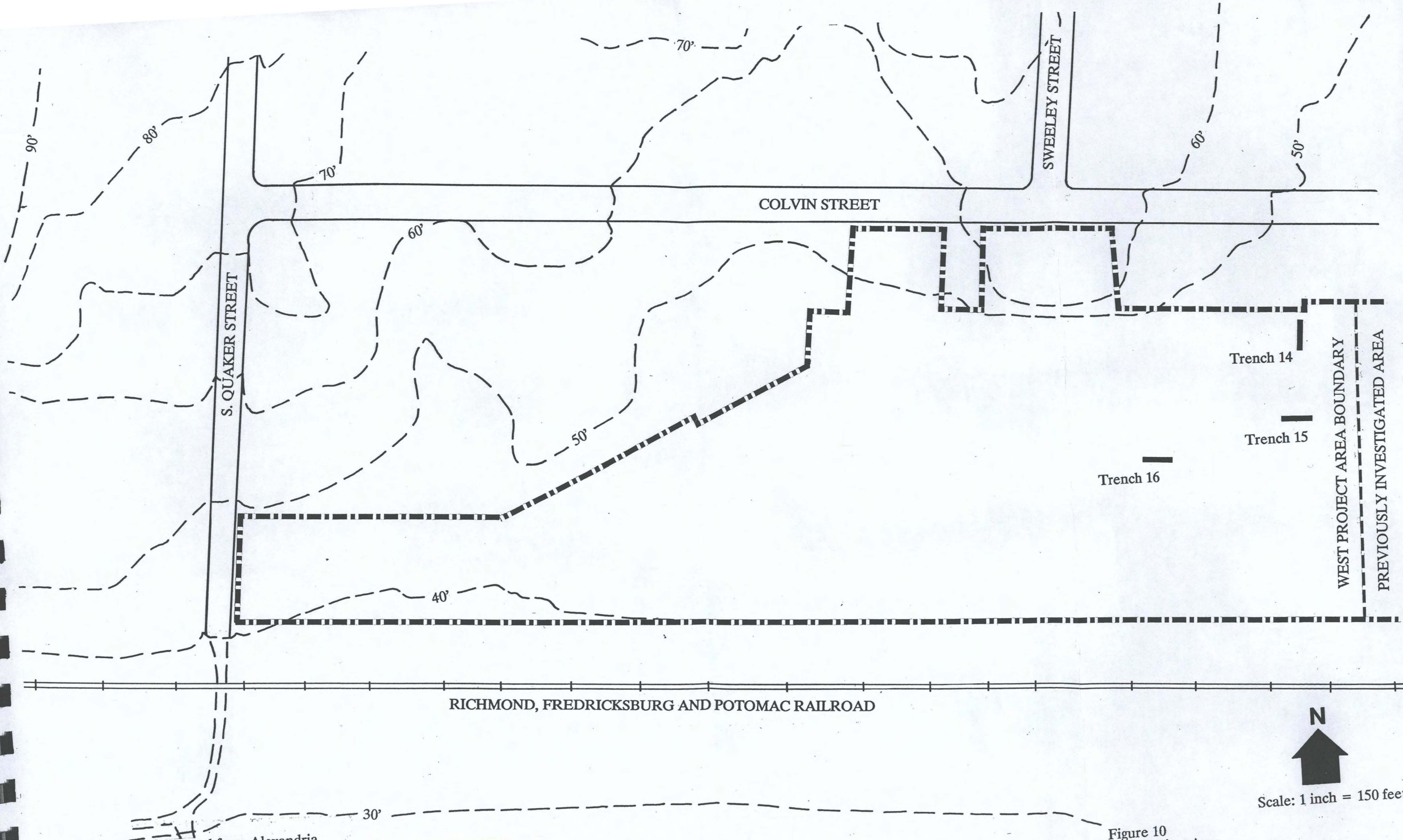
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Bags were placed in archival boxes by bag number order. The site name and bag number were written on the outside of each bag in indelible ink. Inside each bag was placed an acid-free tag containing site, provenience, and bag number information. Artifacts were numbered according to state guidelines.

On each box is an acid-free, self adhesive label stating site, phase of work, bag numbers, and the number of the specific box within the series, for example:

CSX
PHASE I
Bags 15-21
Box 3 of 8

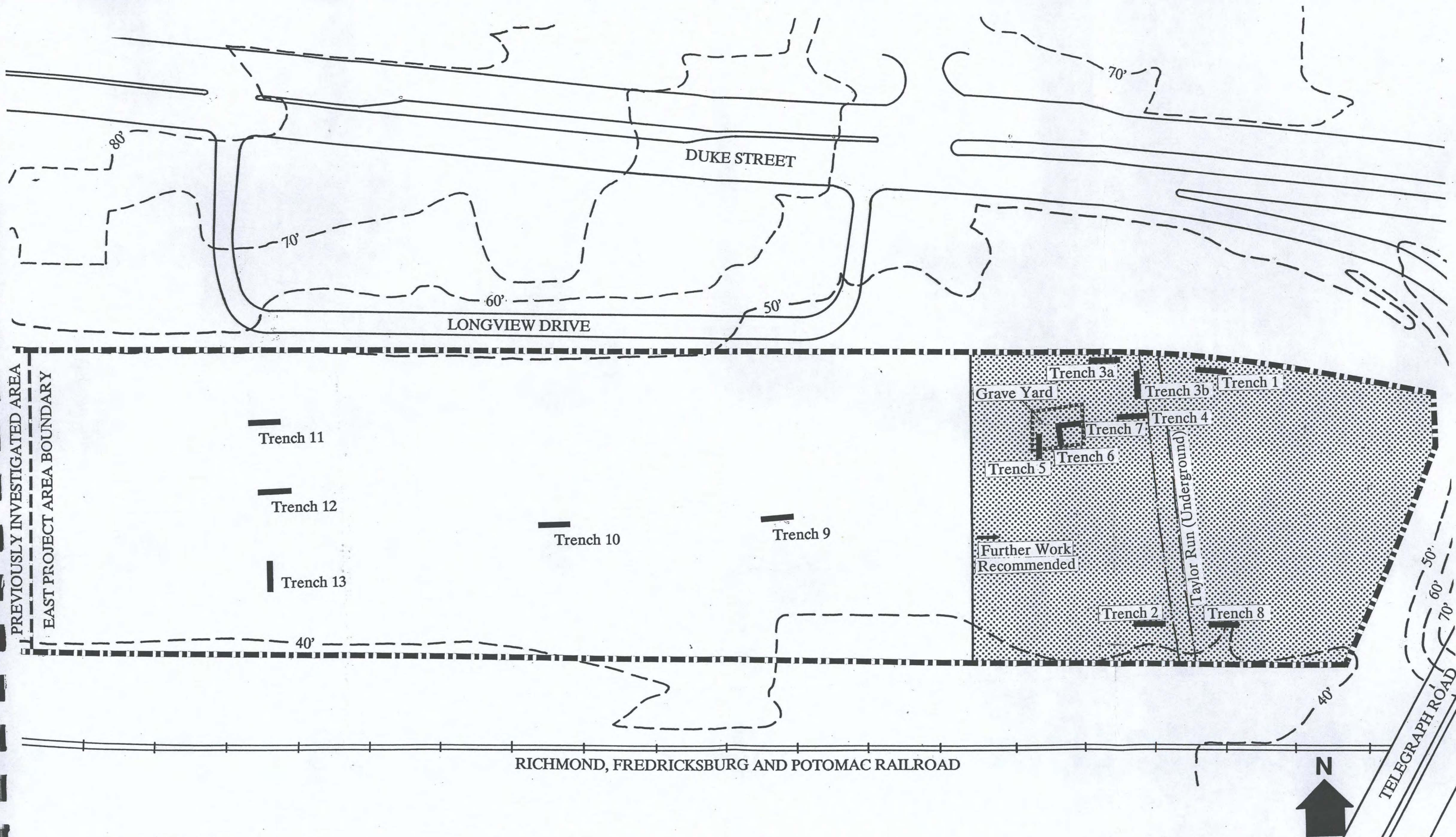
The human skeletal material will be transferred to and held in the Alexandria Archaeology Storage Facility. The remains will be safely stored and protected from deterioration by a state-of-the-art climate control system and archivally safe packing materials. The human remains will be treated with the utmost respect, and only handled as necessary for care or scientific study, until such time as it can be studied by a physical anthropologist in conjunction with other skeletal materials from the family cemetery. Access to the storage facility and remains would be restricted, and the remains will not be made available for public viewing.



Source: Adapted from Alexandria
Public Works Department

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Figure 10
West Project Area



Source: Adapted from Alexandria
Public Works Department
Alexandria Business Center

Figure 11
East Project Area

V. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

A. Descriptions of Trenches

The following sections presents description of the deposits and features encountered in the excavation trenches. More general discussion of the stratigraphy revealed in various parts of the project area is included. Trenches are described generally from west to east through the project area. Unless otherwise noted, all trenches were 10 - 12 ft long and 4 - 6 ft wide. Munsell color notations are provided only for those deposits from which soil samples were taken; other color descriptions were made in the field. Munsell color notations were obtained from moist samples under fluorescent light.

1. Western Project Area

The three trenches dug in the western part of the project area (Trenches 14, 15, and 16) revealed a general sequence of 20 - 30 inches of modern fill resting on orange and grey clay subsoils. No clear grading contact could be identified, except perhaps in Trench 16, but the truncated appearance of the natural deposits suggests that they were graded before the fill was put in place. The upper soil and humus horizons were not present.

Trench 14. The ground surface where Trench 14 was dug consisted of loosely packed and deeply rutted earthy fill with large items of modern hardware and rubbish protruding from it. The surface was soft and water stood in tire tracks and other depressions.

The top 21 inches of the Trench 14 profile were made up of two fill deposits, Strata A and B. Each about 10 inches thick, they were dark brown to black and very loose. Brick, coal, concrete, and iron debris formed a great deal of the fabric of these fills. The two fills were distinguished from one another on the basis of color and texture, with the lower fill (Stratum B) being somewhat lighter in color and more compact than Stratum A.

The fills rested on an orange clay (Stratum C) that was mottled with grey and contained a small amount of gravel. Stratum C extended from 21 inches to 29 inches below the surface and appeared to be a natural subsoil deposit. The upper portions of the soil profile it developed from had presumably been removed by grading. Beneath Stratum C lay Stratum D, also a subsoil. Extending from 29 inches below the surface to the maximum excavated depth of the trench, 39 inches below the surface, Stratum D was a pebbly, sandy clay. It was predominantly light grey (5Y 7/1) but contained pockets of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6).

Trench 14 was dug in a north-south alignment. No slope was observed in the stratigraphic boundaries within the trench.

Trench 15. The ground surface where Trench 15 was excavated was similar to that at Trench 14. The surface fill deposits, Strata A and B, were similar to those in Trench 14. Stratum A was a black gritty fill containing large quantities of modern brick, nails, iron, coal, construction materials, and stones. It was 22 inches thick. Beneath it, Stratum B was only 4 inches thick. It was greyer in color and more compact in texture, but contained the same assortment of debris.

Underneath the fill layers lay Stratum C, an orange clay stained with iron and mottled with light grey. It extended from 26 inches to 40 inches below the surface and contained a few gravels. It appeared to be a natural subsoil deposit. Stratum D, encountered at 40 inches below the surface, was a slightly pebbly silt. It was grey or light grey (5Y 6/1) and mottled with brown or dark brown (7.5YR 4/4). Although it appeared to be undisturbed, it smelled slightly of petroleum. The maximum depth excavated in Trench 15 was 52 inches below the surface. The trench was aligned east-west. No slope was observed in the stratigraphic boundaries within the trench.

Trench 16. The top of the Trench 16 sequence, Stratum A, was composed of 6 inches of brown fill. Beneath it lay 10 inches of wet black grit and gravel, presumably associated with past railroad activity. Stratum C was a narrow (4 inch thick) band of silty olive brown clay that lay beneath the wet gravel. It was a fill layer and contained some gravel. Beneath it, at a depth of 20 inches below the surface, was Stratum D. This stratum was 10 inches thick and was composed of loosely-packed yellowish brown silty clay fill.

Stratum D peeled easily off the underlying Stratum E, suggesting perhaps that the top of Stratum E represents the pre-filling surface. Stratum E was a compact grey silty clay encountered at 30 inches below the surface. It was mottled with yellowish brown and was 16 inches thick. Beneath it lay Stratum F, a thick (29 inches) band of mottled and iron-stained grey clay. It was compact and contained some gravel. Stratum G was a gritty clay, heavily stained by iron and appearing dark red and grey. It contained few gravels. Beneath it, at a depth of 90 inches below the surface, was a hard-packed grey silty clay slightly stained red. All the deposit below Stratum D appeared to be natural and in place.

2. Eastern Project Area

a. Trenches Along Suspected Drainage

The remaining 13 trenches were located in the eastern portion of the project area. Of these, Trenches 11, 12, and 13 were the westernmost. They were placed along the suspected course of a pre-filling drainage. No evidence of the drainage

was revealed in these trenches. All three trenches had generally similar natural deposits beneath the fill, but the fill in the southernmost trench, No. 13, was almost twice as thick as it was in the other trenches. What may be an undisturbed natural surface was found at 51 inches below the surface in Trench 13.

Trench 11. The surface stratum in Trench 11, Stratum A, was composed of brown earthy fill, brick, and construction materials. Beneath it, at a depth of 3 inches below the surface, was Stratum B, a series of lenses of black and dark grey gritty material mixed with modern metal debris and brick. This deposit extended to a depth of 21 inches below the surface. It rested on a thin (4 inches) layer of well-preserved moist organic material. This material was designated Stratum C. It appeared to be composed mostly of wood chips and resembled mulch. It lay on top of the uppermost natural stratum in the trench, Stratum D. A wooden stake approximately 2 ft long and 4 inches wide was discovered in the north wall of the trench. It had been pounded about 8 inches into the subsoil. The black and gritty material appeared to have been deposited over top of the stake.

Beneath the black and grey gritty fill was Stratum D, a grey or greenish grey (5Y 5/1 or 5GY 5/1) fine silt. It appeared to be changing color to an olive brown (2.5Y 4/4) with exposure to air. Patches within the deposit were very dark grey (2.5Y 3/0), possibly because of burning or organic decay. Stratum D extended from 25 inches to 32 inches below the surface. Stratum E was a light grey (5Y 7/1) slightly sandy clay with some orange staining. It reached from 32 inches to 61 inches below the surface. Stratum F, a stiff clay, was a mix of light brownish grey (2.5Y 6/2) and strong brown (7.5YR 4/6).

Strata E and F appeared to be natural deposits. Stratum D may represent a contact zone between the fill and the clays, or it may represent a humus or soil level preserved beneath the fill.

Trench 12. Stratum A in this trench was a relatively thick (22 inches) band of dark brown and black gritty loam containing bits of brick and other modern construction materials. It rested directly on top of what appeared to be a natural silt deposit, Stratum B. Stratum B was a stiff light olive brown (2.5Y 5/3) silt. Small inclusions of very dark grey (5Y 3/1) material appeared to have been burnt. Stratum B extended from 22 inches to 29 inches below the surface. Stratum C was another stiff silt, this one extending from 29 inches to 44 inches below the surface. It was yellowish brown (10YR 5/6). Beneath it was Stratum D, a stiff silty clay. Stratum D reached to 70 inches below the surface and was grey to light grey (5Y 6/1). With exposure to air the color was observed to change to a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6). Beneath it was Stratum E, a slightly sticky silty clay, grey (2.5Y 6/0) stained with yellowish brown (10YR 5/6). It was excavated to a depth of 75 inches below the surface.

Trench 13. In contrast to Trench 12, Trench 13 contained a variety of fill layers in the upper portion of its stratigraphy. The top layer, Stratum A, was greyish

brown fill with modern construction debris at the surface. It was approximately 6 inches thick. Beneath it was Stratum B, an orange brown sandy, gravelly fill 6 inches thick. Stratum C was black gritty fill containing burnt modern iron hardware (nails, nuts, bolts, a drill bit), unidentifiable iron scraps, and some flat glass. It reached to a depth of 21 inches below the surface. Beneath it was Stratum D, a mix of orange, grey, and red clay fills containing gravels, cobbles, and pebbles. Stratum D formed a sharp contact with Stratum E at a depth of 51 inches below the surface.

Stratum E was a light olive brown (2.5Y 5/3) sandy silt that included some organic material. It was approximately 8 inches thick and rested on Stratum F, a brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt approximately 5 inches thick. Beneath Stratum F lay Stratum G, a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silt. Stratum G extended from 64 inches to 72 inches below the surface. Stratum H was a clay silt varying in color between light brownish grey (2.5Y 6/2) and strong brown (7.5YR 5/6). It reached from 72 inches to 87 inches below the surface. Beneath it was Stratum I, a clayey sand that varied between light brownish grey (2.5Y 6/2) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) in mottles up to 4 inches across.

Strata E through I in this trench appear to form a natural sequence of undisturbed deposits. It is possible that this sequence is complete and was not graded or truncated before the fill was put in place on top of it.

b. Exploratory Trenches

Trenches 9 and 10 were located between the suspected course of the drainage (investigated through Trenches 11 - 13) and the surveyed location of the Bloxham family cemetery. These were exploratory trenches. Their subsoil deposits, reached at approximately 30 inches below the surface, were similar. No clear evidence of complete intact natural stratigraphic sequences were observed, but the presence of such a sequence in Trench 9 cannot be entirely ruled out.

Trench 10. Stratum A in this trench was a deposit, 8 inches thick, of very dark brown sand and grit containing fragments of brick, mortar, and asphalt. Beneath it was Stratum B, made up of dark brown and red (aggregate color 10YR 3/3) coarse wet sand. This deposit, which extended to a depth of 26 inches below the surface, was made up of very angular to sub-angular clear sand grains and was clearly artificial fill. It rested on Stratum C, a very dark grey (5Y 3/1) fine pebbly silt. Stratum C was 9 inches thick and appeared to derive its color from pieces of decayed organic material. Stratum D was a light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) sandy silt that reached from 35 inches to 54 inches below the surface. Beneath it was Stratum E, a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay that extended from 54 inches to 65 inches below the surface. At 65 inches below the surface was Stratum F, a light grey (10YR 7/1) sandy silt. Stratum F was excavated to a depth of 77 inches below the surface.

Strata C through F in this trench appeared to be natural, although the origin of Stratum C is open to question. The extent of pre-filling grading that took place at this location is not entirely clear, but no definite soil or humus layer was observed.

Trench 9. (*Plate 2*) Stratum A in this trench was a dark brown sandy and gravelly fill containing construction debris. It extended 6 inches below the surface to Stratum B, a coarse orange fill deposit containing sand, gravel, and cobbles. Stratum B was 4 inches thick. Beneath it was Stratum C, a black gritty fill containing metal debris. Stratum C was an average of 10 inches thick. Its contact with Stratum D below showed the regularly-spaced impressions of railroad cross-ties, pieces of which were found in the deposit. The ties were 3 ft apart and were placed in a north-south orientation. Stratum D was 8 inches thick and composed of light grey silty clay with inclusions of charcoal and shell. It was wavy in profile, dipping down slightly beneath each railroad crosstie.

Stratum D rested on Stratum E, a light olive brown silt that extended from 28 to 42 inches below the surface. Stratum F was a clay silt, light brownish grey (2.5Y 6/2) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/6). At 67 inches below the surface Stratum F gave way to Stratum G, a light brownish grey sandy clay (2.5Y 6/2) with very limited orange iron-staining.

Strata E, F, and G in this trench seem to be natural deposits. The contact between Strata E and F includes a band of somewhat lighter material that appears in the photographs but was not observed in the field. This material may represent a zone of mixing between the two strata. Stratum D appeared to be a fill deposit.

c. Trenches Along Taylor Run

Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 were located along the course of Taylor Run, which crosses the eastern part of the project area in an underground concrete culvert. Deposits of gravelly and cobbly streambed material were encountered at depths of 5 to 8 ft below the surface in Trenches 3B, 4 and 8.

Trench 1. This trench was dug in a narrow space between the silt fence that marked the northern edge of the project area and a large dump of contaminated earth. It was immediately east of the presumed course of Taylor Run. The trench walls were wet and soft and caved in several times during work. Soil descriptions and measurements in this trench are consequently approximate.

Stratum A was a greyish brown gritty silt with gravels. It was approximately 8 inches thick and contained glass, nails, and metal debris. Beneath it was Stratum B, a mottled yellowish brown and brownish orange clay with brick, nails, glass, large concrete chunks, and large cobbles. Stratum B was 28 inches thick. Stratum C, a mottled orange and grey clay, extended from 36 inches to 52 inches below the surface. It contained large cobbles and gravels. Beneath it was Stratum D, a grey clay fill that had large pockets of wet wood, reed, and other organic matter mixed in



Source: Engineering-Science

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Plate 2
Trench 9, South Profile Showing
Rail Road Cross Tie Undulations

with it. Stratum D also contained fragments of glass and burned wood. It reached from 52 to 76 inches below the surface. Stratum E, extending from 76 to 88 inches below the surface, was a slightly sticky clay composed of grey to light grey (5Y 6/1) and dark reddish brown (2.5YR 3/4); upon exposure to air, the aggregate color changed to yellowish brown (10YR 5/4). Stratum F was a very dark grey (10YR 3/1) fine clayey silt that reached from 88 to 100 inches below the surface. It smelled of organic material. Beneath it was Stratum G, a dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty sand that smelled only slightly of organic material.

The organic material preserved within Stratum D may be remnants of swamp vegetation in the vicinity. This material may, however, be in disturbed context. The only definitely undisturbed natural deposits revealed in this trench are Strata F and G.

Trenches 3A and 3B. Trench 3 was placed on the west side of Taylor Run. The first few attempts at excavating this trench revealed that *in situ* railroad tracks ran all the way to the edge of the Taylor Run culvert in the northern part of the project area. Excavation of Trench 3A was halted when the railroad tracks were uncovered immediately below the surface. The tracks were cleaned off and photographed. Trench 3B is the designation given to the fully excavated trench, which was eventually placed where there were no existing railroad tracks.

Stratum A in Trench 3B was the brown earthy surface. At a depth of 2 inches below the surface Stratum B, a pale yellowish orange sandy silt, was encountered. It extended to 8 inches below the surface. Beneath it was Stratum C, a brown silty fill that reached from 8 inches to 15 inches below the surface. Stratum D was a bed of orangish brown gravels that reached to 27 inches below the surface and rested on a thin (2 inches) layer of black grit, Stratum E. Stratum F, reaching from 29 to 41 inches below the surface, was a yellowish orange clay fill. Stratum G, beneath it, was distinguished from it by being somewhat greyer. It extended from 41 to 54 inches below the surface. Stratum H was a compact grey silt that reached to 64 inches below the surface.

At 64 inches below the surface, there was a sharp break in the stratigraphic profile. Stratum H was easily and cleanly removed from the top of the underlying Stratum I. The surface of Stratum I was formed from a compacted lawn surface. The grass on the surface was still green in color. This grass surface and the 2 inch rootmat beneath it were designated Stratum I. The soil color was very dark grey (10YR 3/1) and the texture was loamy. Some clods appeared burnt. Immediately beneath Stratum I was Stratum J, a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy clay with some gravels. The pebbles within it were mostly sub-rounded. Stratum J reached from 66 inches to 86 inches below the surface. Beneath it was Stratum K, a light olive brown (2.5Y 5/3) pebbly sand. The pebbles were sub-angular to rounded and the deposit extended to 100 inches below the surface. Stratum L was a brown to dark brown (10YR 4/3) sandy, gravelly clay with sub-angular to rounded pebbles

and cobbles. Some boulders were included in this very poorly sorted deposit. It was excavated down to 126 inches below the surface.

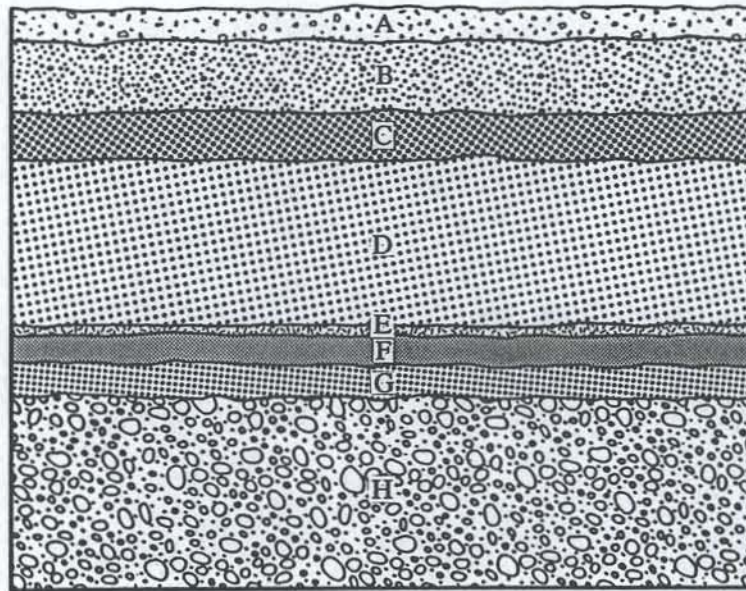
The deposits below the preserved grass surface in this trench were not disturbed when the overlying 5 ft of fill was laid down. Historic and prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the grass surface and root mat. None of the prehistoric artifacts was diagnostic. Among the historic artifacts were pieces of hand-painted pearlware, flow blue, banded and undecorated pieces of whiteware, along with both machine cut and wire nails, suggesting that the surface dates to the late nineteenth century. No fill episodes are historically documented before that time and the pebbly strata beneath the grass are best interpreted as undisturbed flood plain and stream channel deposits.

Trench 4. (Figure 12) This trench, dug south of Trench 3B on the west side of Taylor Run, revealed a sequence similar to that in Trench 3B. Stratum A, extending to 7 inches below the surface, was greyish brown gravelly surface fill. Beneath it was a 21-inch band of orange sandy and gravelly clay fill labelled Stratum B. Stratum C was a gritty and somewhat tarry black fill that reached from 21 inches to 31 inches below the surface. Stratum D was a mottled orange and grey silty clay fill extending from 31 inches to 66 inches below the surface. Near the bottom of this fill layer, historic artifacts were encountered. These artifacts included a French's mustard bottle with the legend, "DESIGN PAT'D FEB. 23-15" embossed on the bottom. A small amount of the underlying Stratum E material was observed mixed into the lowest part of Stratum D.

Stratum E represented the lawn surface previously described as Stratum I in Trench 3B. This surface, with well-preserved green grass and rootmat, was approximately 2 inches thick. It rested on an olive silty clay, Stratum F, that contained both historic and prehistoric artifacts. At a depth of 74 inches below the surface, Stratum G, an intact clay layer mottled orange and grey, was encountered. It extended to a depth of 80 inches below the surface, where it gave way to Stratum H, a sandy orange clay with large cobbles.

Trench 8. (Figure 13) Stratum A in this trench was a brown earthy fill containing gravel and a variety of modern construction debris. Beneath it, at 8 inches below the surface, was Stratum B, a slightly sandy orange clay. Stratum C was a dark greyish brown gritty fill containing modern construction debris, toilet bowl fragments, tile, insulation, flat glass, large chunks of concrete and a manhole cover. At the base of Stratum C was a lense of orange clay that was designated Stratum D. The presence of the larger concrete slabs and the manhole cover, which appeared at first to be *in situ*, made it necessary to extend the trench farther south.

There was some indication that the upper stratigraphy in the abandoned northern part of the trench differed from that in the southern part. A yellowish orange sandy fill that was encountered beneath Stratum C (at 26 inches below the surface) in the northern part of the trench was not observed in the southern part of



Key:

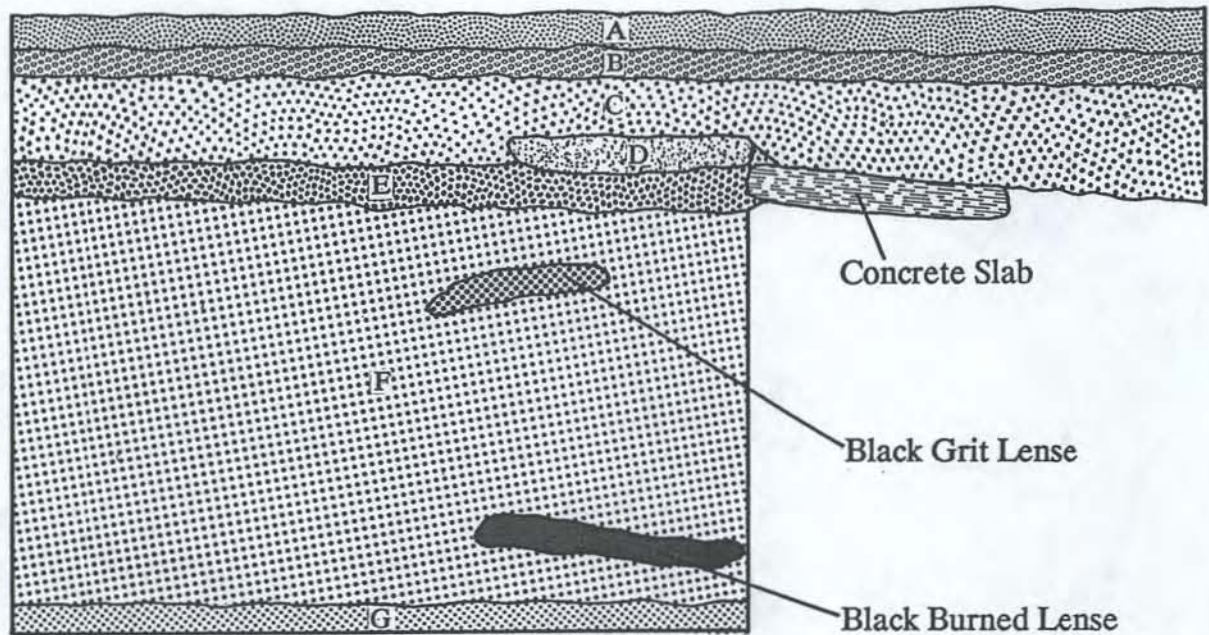
- A. Grey Gravelly Fill
- B. Orange Sandy Grey Gravelly Fill
- C. Black Gritty Sandy Oil/Tar Stained Fill
- D. Mottled Orange and Grey Silty Clay Fill
- E. Thin Intact Grass Level/Root Mat
- F. Olive Silty Clay
- G. Orange and Grey Silty Intact Clay
- H. Orange Sandy Clay with Large Cobbles

0 1 2 3
Scale in Feet

Source: Engineering-Science

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Figure 12
Trench 4
South Profile



Key:

- A. Medium Brown Silt
- B. Orange Slightly Sandy Clay
- C. Dark Greyish Brown Gritty Sand Fill
- D. Yellowish Orange Sand
- E. Grey Black Gritty Fill
- F. Mottled Packed Orange and Grey Clay
- G. Orange Sandy Mottled with Grey Silty Clay

0 1 2 3
Scale in Feet

Source: Engineering-Science

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Figure 13
Trench 8
West Profile

the trench. Its place was instead taken by Stratum E, a clearly burnt layer of black gritty fill. Fragments of metal debris, tile, nails, and burnt timbers with nails in them were encountered. Beneath this layer, at approximately 46 inches below the surface, lay Stratum F. A loosely packed deposit of orange and grey clay, Stratum F extended to a depth of 126 inches below the surface. Within it were several lenses of burnt black gritty material. Tile, nails, metal, and glass were observed. Beneath Stratum F was Stratum G, a mixture of orange sandy clay and grey silty clay that appeared to be intact natural subsoil.

Trench 2. This trench, dug 100 ft west of Trench 8 on the opposite side of the presumed course of Taylor Run, revealed at least 7 ft of fill resting on what appeared to be natural stream channel deposits. The stratigraphic units were observed to slope slightly to the east in this trench, which was dug in an east-west orientation. The depth measurements given in the following description were recorded 5 ft from the eastern edge of the trench.

Stratum A, extending to 16 inches below the surface, was a gravelly greyish brown fill containing a variety of modern construction debris. Stratum B, slightly browner, finer, and more compact than Stratum A, reached to 32 inches below the surface and contained similar material, including fragments of industrial iron. Stratum C was a deposit, 20 inches thick, of tarry black gritty fill. It contained fragments of metal debris. Beneath it was Stratum D, a mottled grey and yellowish brown clay fill that extended to a depth of approximately 92 inches below the surface and contained fragments of glass, nails, bolts, metal hardware, and large fragments of heavy iron that might have been associated with a railroad car or engine.

Beneath Stratum D lay a series of gravelly and cobbly deposits. They included Stratum E, a medium brown sandy silt that extended from 92 inches to 104 inches below the surface and contained a lense of black gritty fill, Stratum F, a very cobbly yellowish orange silt that reached to 132 inches below the surface, and Stratum G, a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) pebbly sand with numerous cobbles. The gravels and cobbles in Stratum G were angular to rounded and very poorly sorted. These coarse deposits resemble a stream channel bed.

d. Trenches in Bloxham Family Cemetery

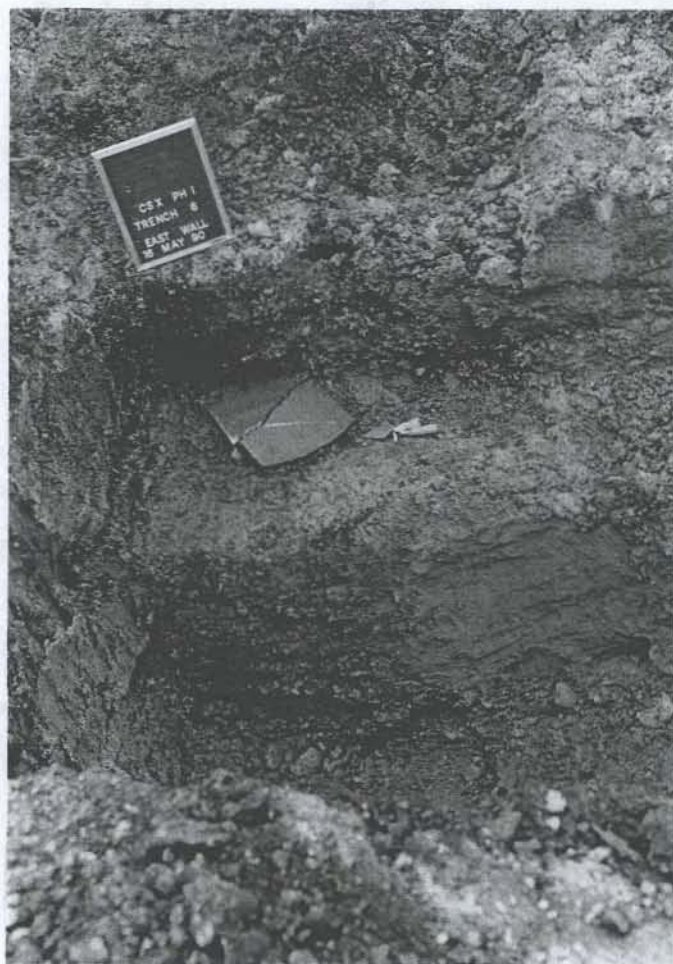
Trenches 5, 6, and 7 were located within the surveyed boundaries of a family cemetery. This cemetery, discussed more fully in the *Historical Background* section above, is believed to have been a family plot associated with the Bloxhams and located on their property. Its location is shown on a number of historic maps, the most recent of which being a plat drawn shortly after the turn of the twentieth century. Working from this plat, surveyors from the City of Alexandria's Surveyor's Office staked the probable location of the cemetery.

Trench 6. This trench was the first dug in the cemetery area. It was excavated in a north-south orientation with the edge of a concrete platform at the northern edge of the trench. An earlier exploratory trench was dug at right angles to this trench near its northern end. This earlier trench was apparently dug by a mortician about a year earlier. The mortician's trench was dug to a depth of about 6 ft and failed to identify any burials. The description that follows is based on the exposed western wall of the trench. Most of the eastern wall of Trench 6 was cut away by the excavation of Trench 7 perpendicular to it.

Stratum A was a surface deposit of yellowish brown gravelly clay. It extended to 10 inches below the surface. Stratum B, which sloped away to the south, was composed of loose gritty black fill and debris with gravel and cobbles. It reached a depth of 46 inches below the surface 6 ft from the northern end of the trench. Beneath Stratum B lay Stratum D, a yellowish brown and grey pebbly clay. In the east wall of the trench, the earlier exploratory trench could be clearly seen cutting into Stratum D. Although disturbances were observed in Stratum D in the western wall, they could not be positively identified as part of the same trench. A lense of orange clay within Stratum D in the northern part of the trench was designated Stratum C.

Beneath Stratum D, at a depth of 63 inches below the surface, Trench 6 revealed an apparently intact surface. Covered with burnt nails and imbedded cobbles in the trench's northwest corner, the surface had apparently once been a grassy lawn. Clumps of well-preserved, still green grass were found, and the surface was bound together by rootmat. The grassy surface, which was designated Stratum E, was very dark grey (10YR 3/1). Beneath it was Stratum F, a dark greyish brown (2.5Y 4/2) loam. This stratum appeared to be a natural soil horizon, but was disturbed by cultural features in several places within the trench. These features are discussed in the description of Trench 7. Beneath Stratum F, at a depth of 80 inches below the surface, lay Stratum G, a dark yellowish brown fine sandy clay. Stratum G was excavated to a depth of approximately 96 inches below the surface. A slight color difference was noted in the floor of the trench between the north and south halves: the southern half of the trench appeared somewhat orange and the northern half more grey. At this point excavation in Trench 6 was halted in order to excavate Trench 7 and more fully explore the features found in Stratum F, among them a grave stone with the letters "W.H.W." carved into it (*Plate 3*).

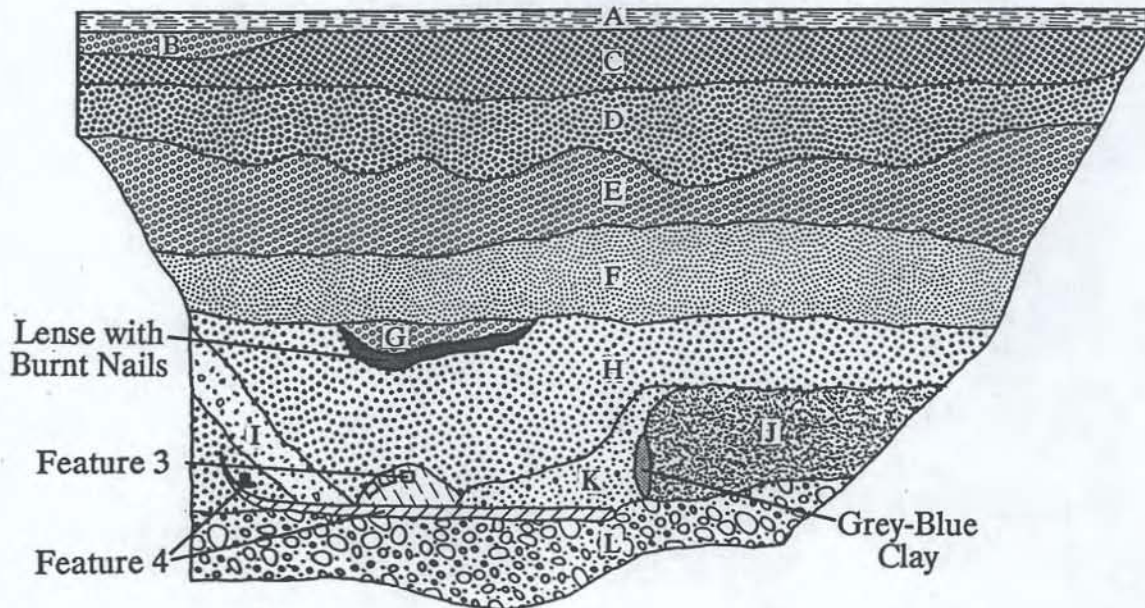
Trench 7. (*Figure 14*) This trench was dug in an east-west alignment, with its western end intersecting the northern end of Trench 6. It was dug immediately south of a concrete platform. This platform, approximately 5 inches thick, formed Stratum A. A small (4 inch thick) patch of orange clay fill, presumably associated with the platform, was found immediately beneath it at the western end of the trench. It was designated Stratum B. Stratum C lay beneath the concrete and was composed of very loose black gritty fill and debris. It extended to approximately 14 inches below the surface and then gave way to a slightly finer, slightly more compact fill that was otherwise difficult to differentiate from Stratum C. This lower stratum,



Source: Engineering-Science

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Plate 3
Trench 6, W.H.W. Gravestone
and Graveshaft



Key:

- A. Concrete
- B. Orange Clay Fill
- C. Black Gritty Fill
- D. Black Gravel and Gritty Fill
- E. Orange Clay Fill
- F. Greyish Yellow-Brown Silty Clay Fill
- G. Orange Clay Lense
- H. Dark Grey Silty Clay Fill
- I. Light Grey Fill with Cobbles
- J. Dark Yellowish Brown Silt Loam
- K. Dark Brown Sticky Sandy Clay with Pebbles
- L. Orange Clay with Pebbles, Gravel and Cobbles
- Feature 3. Loose Bricks
- Feature 4. Wood with Handle

0 1 2 3
Scale in Feet

Source: Engineering-Science

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Figure 14
Trench 7
North Profile

Stratum D, formed an undulating contact with the fill beneath it. Regularly-spaced depressions in this contact suggested the presence of railroad crossties. Beneath Stratum E, at an average depth of 30 inches below the surface, lay Stratum E, a mottled yellow and greyish orange clay fill. At a depth of approximately 45 inches below the surface, Stratum E gave way to Stratum F, a less orange, slightly siltier fill. Stratum F extended to a depth of 62 - 64 inches below the surface.

Stratum F was easily and cleanly removed from the compact lawn surface that had also been observed in Trench 6. Near the west end of Trench 7, a lense of orange clay was observed at the base of Stratum F. Labelled Stratum G, this lense was approximately 36 inches long and 5 inches thick. Immediately beneath it was a concentration of burnt nails. The same deposit of burnt nails, somewhat more thinly spread, was observed throughout the area where Trenches 6 and 7 intersected.

The stratigraphy encountered beneath the historic lawn horizon includes several intersecting features. The outline of a recent exploratory trench was visible in Trenches 6 and 7. It was aligned east-west and cut into Stratum F of Trench 7 (corresponding to Stratum D in Trench 6), reaching down to approximately 12 inches above the layer of the lawn and burnt nails. Beneath this layer lay the subsoil deposits identified as Strata F and G in Trench 6. These deposits were cut in Trench 7 by a pit designated Feature 1. This feature was filled with medium grey clay or silt and contained a marble grave stone with the initials "W.H.W." on it (Plate 3).

Several inches below the grave stone was a pocket of darker grey material that extended down to the grave itself. The grave, designated Feature 2, contained the remains of a wooden coffin and the larger bones of a human skeleton. The skeleton was extended, with the head at the west. The coffin appeared to have collapsed onto the skeleton, but no other evidence of disturbance was observed.

Two other features were observed in the north wall of Trench 7. One of these, labelled Feature 3, was a pit located in the north western part of Trench 7. Cut into the base of Stratum H, it contained a jumble of loose bricks with cavities among them. Some of the bricks had sandy mortar adhering to them. Below Feature 3, a long piece of wood planking could be seen in the wall of the trench. Designated Feature 4, this piece of wood appeared to rest of the surface of Stratum L. It curved up slightly at the western end, where a possible handle was also observed in the wall. Feature 4 was over 6 ft long.

Feature 2, a coffin and human burial, was visible as a dark stain at a depth of nearly 10 ft below the surface in Trench 7. (Plates 4 and 5; Figure 15) It was immediately adjacent to the north wall of Trench 7 and its western end was approximately 30 inches from the west wall of Trench 6. The layer of dark material that made up the feature was no more than 3 or 4 inches thick. Partially preserved wood formed the base of the feature. A small (5 inch diameter) round stain was present in the wall immediately above the western end of Feature 2. Cut into

yellowish grey clay and silt, this stain was composed of dark brown charred cinders and pieces of iron and slag.

Trench 5. This trench was excavated in the southwest corner of the cemetery area. The intention was to excavate only as far as the level of the lawn surface, so as to confirm the presence or absence of this marker stratum outside of Trenches 6 and 7. The lawn horizon was not encountered.

Stratum A was a layer of clean grey road gravel that extended to a depth of 8 inches below the surface. Stratum B, a dark gritty fill, was unusually deep and contained unusually large amounts of heavy iron debris. It reached to a depth of 70 inches below the surface. Stratum C was a sticky dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay that reached to a depth of 88 inches below the surface. Beneath it was Stratum D, a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay that contained a few small pebbles. This deposit was excavated to a maximum depth of 124 inches below the surface.

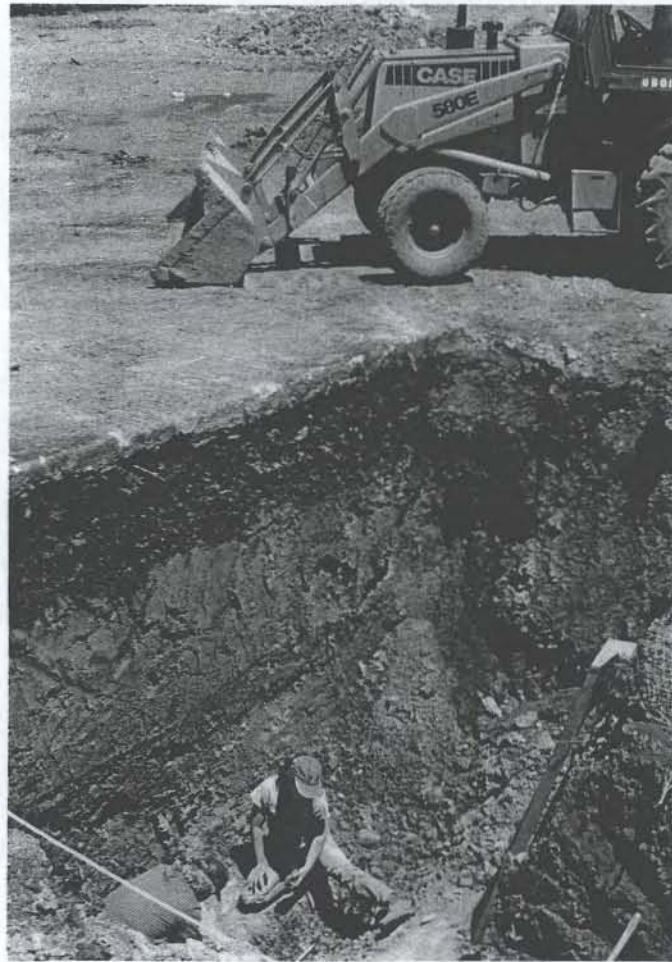
B. Artifacts Recovered

All the artifacts that were collected came from the preserved lawn surface and the deposits below it in Trenches 3B, 4, 6, and 7. Only artifacts that appeared to be in primary or pre-modern context were collected. A sample of the earth from Trenches 3B and 4 was screened and the exposed portion of Feature 2 was carefully examined by hand, as was the soil associated with the marker lawn horizon. Artifacts observed in the fill are noted in the descriptions of trenches, above.

1. Prehistoric

Prehistoric artifacts were found at or below the lawn horizon in Trenches 3B, 4, and 6. The artifacts consisted of quartz and quartzite debitage and heated stone. No diagnostic material was recovered. The presence of prehistoric artifacts in the upper parts of the natural soil sequence suggests that the pre-existing ground surface was not extensively disturbed before the area was filled in the 1920s. The banks of Taylor Run above its confluence with Cameron Run would be a favorable location for aboriginal activity.

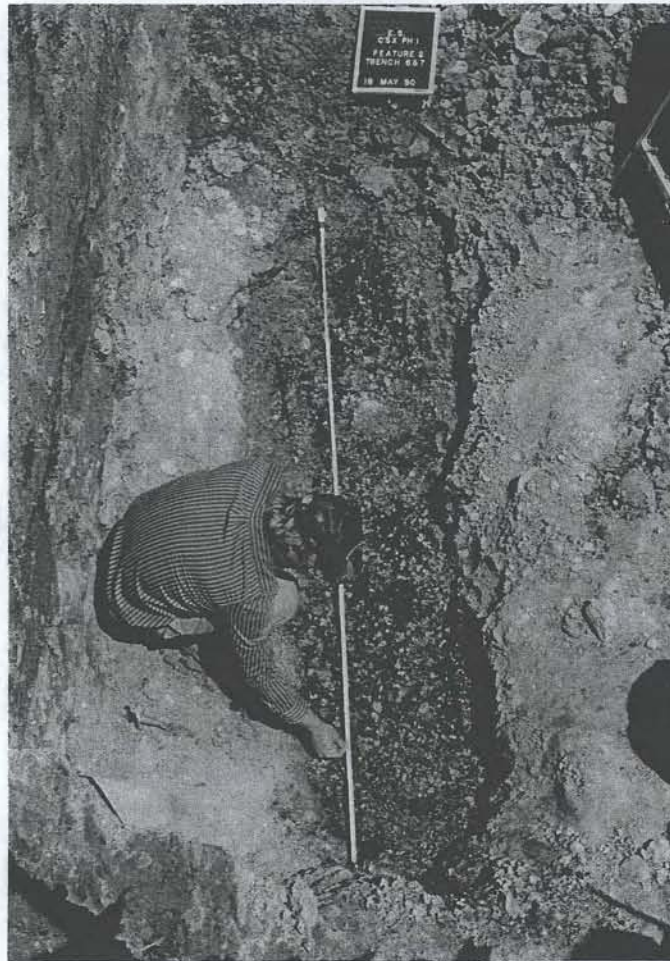
Eighteen flake fragments, one possible flake fragment, and two chips were recovered along with nineteen pieces of heated stone. Two of the flake fragments, including the possible flake fragment, were quartzite; the remainder were quartz. Among the quartz flake fragments, 9 had no cortex remaining on them. One of these had been heated. Both chips retained cortex. Nineteen pieces of heated stone were recovered, eight of which were quartzite.



Source: Engineering-Science

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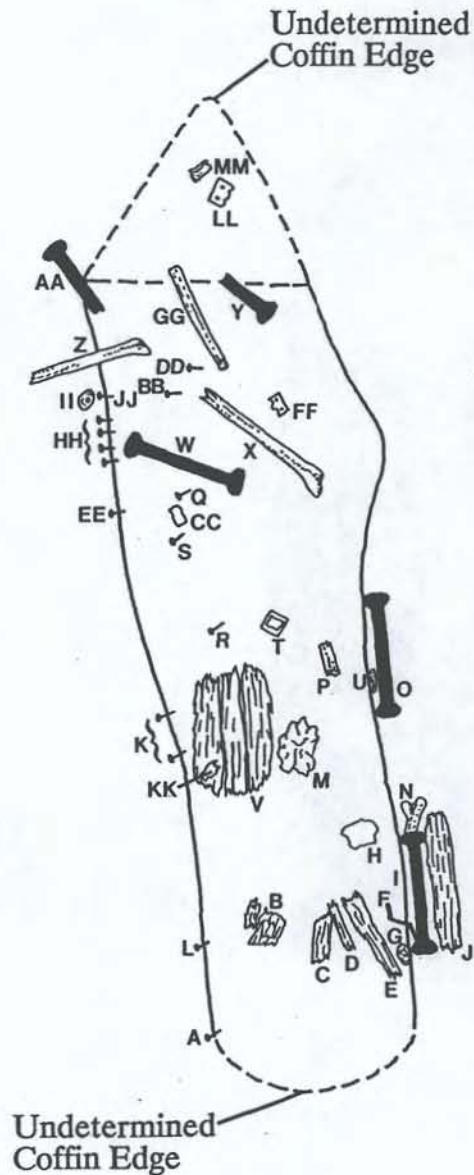
Plate 4
Trench 7, North Wall and
Excavation of Feature 2



Source: Engineering-Science
Alexandria Business Center

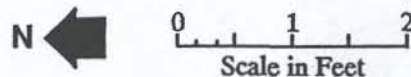
Plate 5
Trenches 6 and 7,
Excavation of Feature 2

North Wall of Trench 7



Key:

- A. Wire Coffin Nail
- B. 2 Wood Fragments
- C. Painted Wood Fragment
- D. Cut and Painted Wood Fragment
- E. 2 Wood Fragments
- F. Piece of Wire
- G. Wood Knot
- H. Soil Clump with Fabric Impression
- I. Whole Coffin Handle with Wood Fragments Attached
- J. Painted Wood Fragments
- K. 2 Wire Coffin Nails
- L. Machine Cut Coffin Box Nail
- M. Fabric Fragment
- N. Human Bone
- O. Whole Coffin Handle with Wood Fragments Attached
- P. Human Bone
- Q. Wire Coffin Nail
- R. Wire Coffin Nail
- S. Wire Coffin Nail
- T. Metal Coffin Furniture
- U. Human Bone
- V. Wood Fragments
- W. Coffin Handle
- X. Human Bone
- Y. Coffin Handle Fragment with Wood Fragments
- Z. Human Bone
- AA. Coffin Handle Fragment
- BB. Wire Coffin Nail
- CC. Brick Fragment
- DD. Wire Coffin Nail
- EE. 2 Wire Coffin Nails
- FF. Coffin Handle Hinge
- GG. 3 Human Bone Fragments
- HH. 4 Wire Coffin Nails
- II. Wood Knot
- JJ. Wire Coffin Nail
- KK. Fabric Fragment
- LL. Coffin Handle Hinge
- MM. Human Bone



Source: Engineering-Science

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Figure 15
Feature 2
Plan View

2. Historic

Historic artifacts were recovered from the lawn surface in Trenches 3B, 4, 6, and 7 and from Feature 2 in Trenches 6 and 7. Chronologically diagnostic material included several pieces of nineteenth-century pottery.

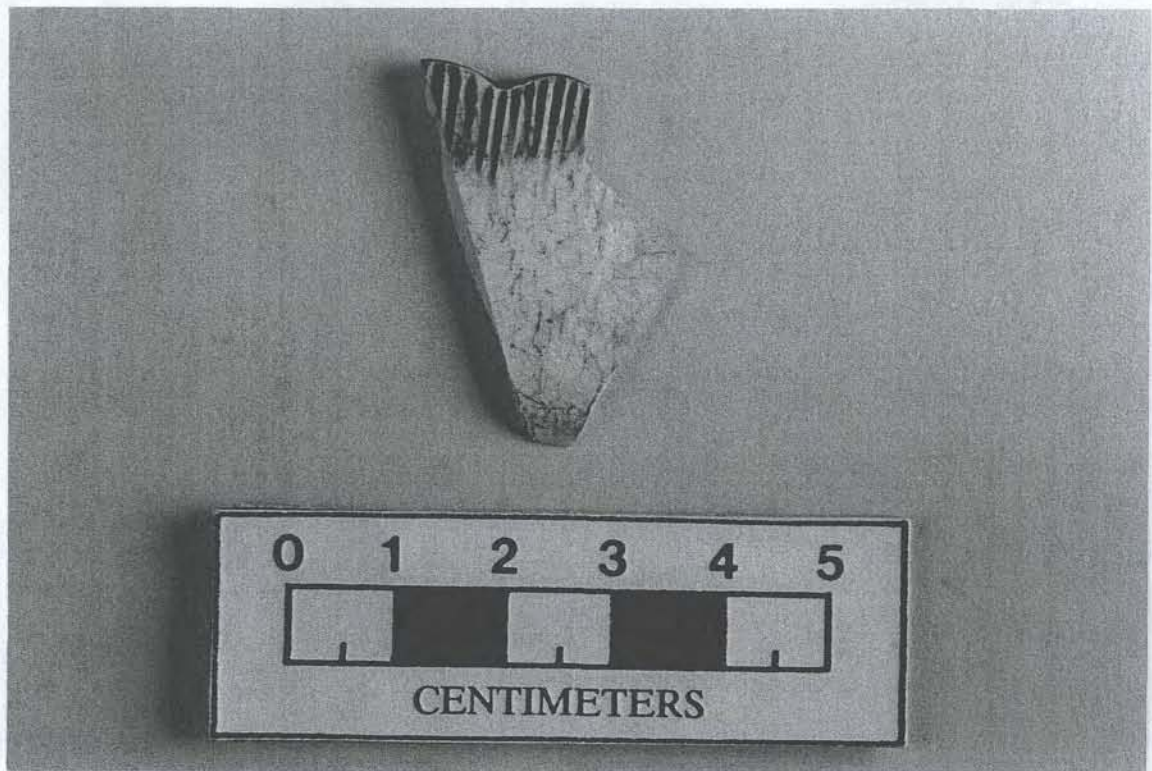
Twenty-two pieces of historic pottery were recovered. Among these were 4 pieces of pearlware, 6 pieces of ironstone, 4 pieces of whiteware, 6 pieces of other refined earthenwares, and one piece each of porcelain and grey stoneware. One of the pearlware sherds was the base and side of a bowl hand-painted orange. The ironstone sherds were all undecorated. One purple banded and one blue shell-edged whiteware sherd (Plate 6) were recovered. The other refined earthenwares included a piece of flow blue and a possible blue shell-edged piece.

Other historic material found outside the grave included bottle glass (5 pieces), vessel glass (2 pieces), a mustard jar, lamp and window glass, nails (both wire and machine cut) (Plates 7, 8), screws, slag, wood, and coal. The mustard jar, which was whole, was embossed on the shoulder with the words "IT'S FRENCH'S" and on the base with "DESIGN PAT'D FEB. 23-15" (Plate 9). The bricks found in Feature 3 had sandy mortar (as opposed to Portland Cement) adhering to them and so had probably been used at some time before the turn of the twentieth century.

Artifacts removed from the feature in the course of its initial discovery included a coffin handle (Plate 10), a cranium, and mandible, a metal coffin plate embossed "AT REST" (Plate 11), a gilded coffin hinge (Plate 12), and several pieces of wood. Each artifact recovered *in situ* from Feature 2 in Trenches 6 and 7 was assigned an individual item label and drawn on a plan of the feature (Figure 15).

A great deal of the coffin furniture was likewise *in situ*. The south side wall of the coffin had collapsed inward and one handle lay on top of the right arm bone. Around the perimeter of the feature were coffin nails, many evenly spaced at 2 inches apart (e.g., Item HH in Figure 15). The coffin was made of wood and at least partly painted. It apparently had four identical gilt handles, two on each long side (Plate 10). The earth in the feature was damp, and some clods bore visible impressions of fabric. Several different varieties of fabric, not all of which could be identified, were present. Some very light canvas and a piece of coarse cloth similar to Hessian were recovered.

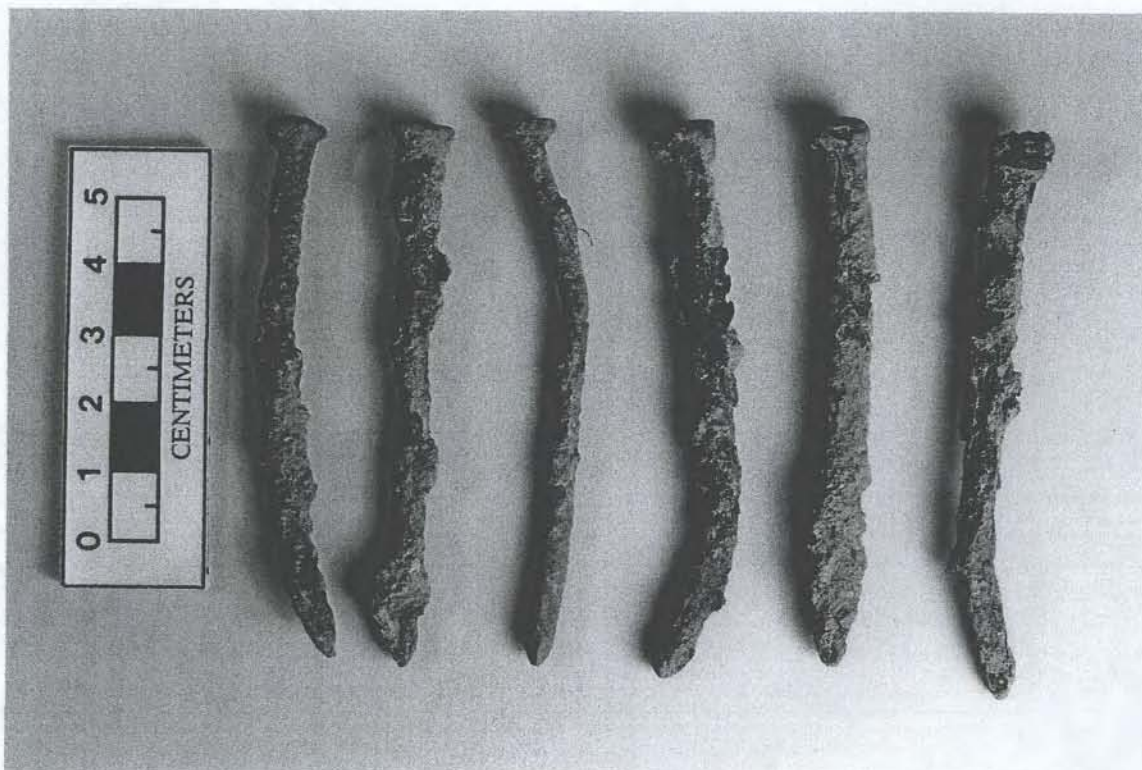
The artifacts were typical of mass-produced casket hardware of the nineteenth century. The presence of mass-produced casket hardware attests to the fact that the Bloxham family and the residents of Alexandria were participating in a national trend. Decorative casket hardware was part of a trend for "beautification of death" (Bell 1991). Improvements in communication and transportation in the nineteenth century allowed for the popularity nationally of certain styles of material culture.



Source: Engineering-Science

Alexandria Business Center

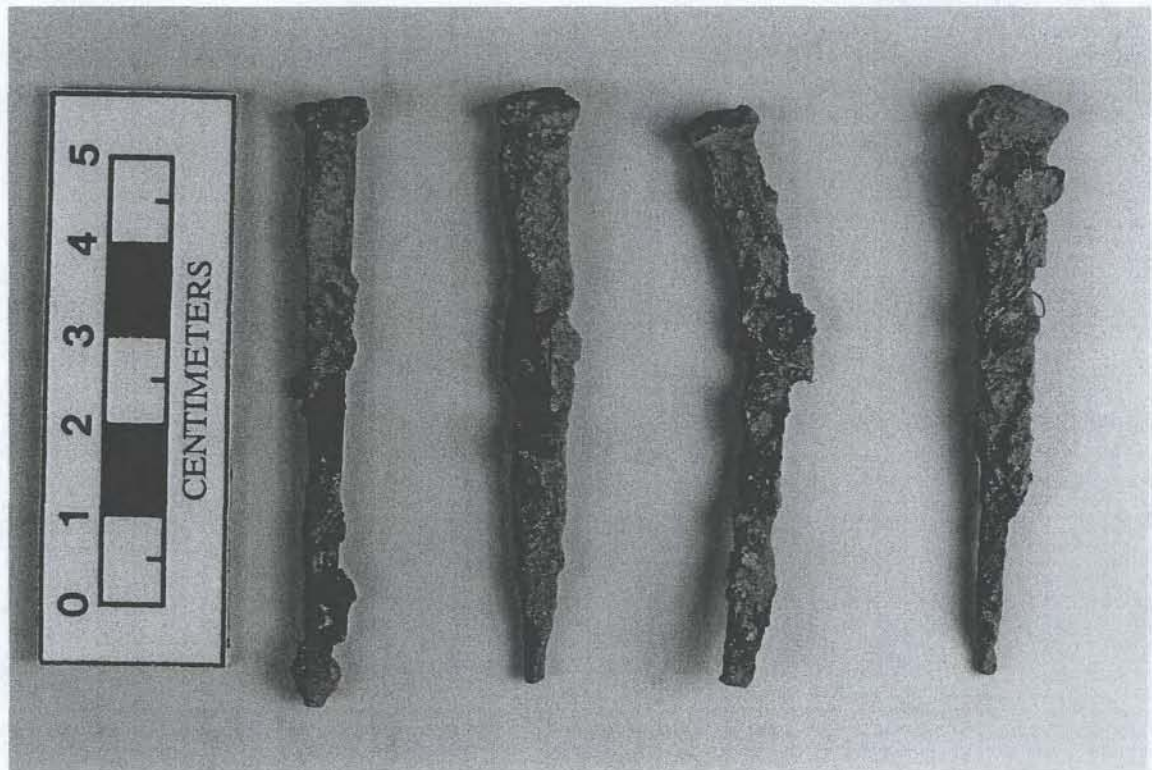
Plate 6
Blue Shell-Edged Whiteware
Plate Rim Sherd, Trench 6
at Level of Gravestone



Source: Engineering-Science

Alexandria Business Center

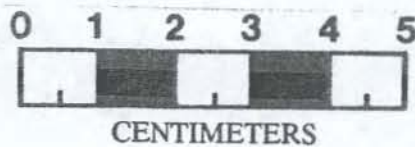
Plate 7
Wire Nails, Trench 6
Straum F, Below Fill



Source: Engineering-Science

Alexandria Business Center

Plate 8
Machine Cut Nails, Trench 6
Stratum F, Below Fill



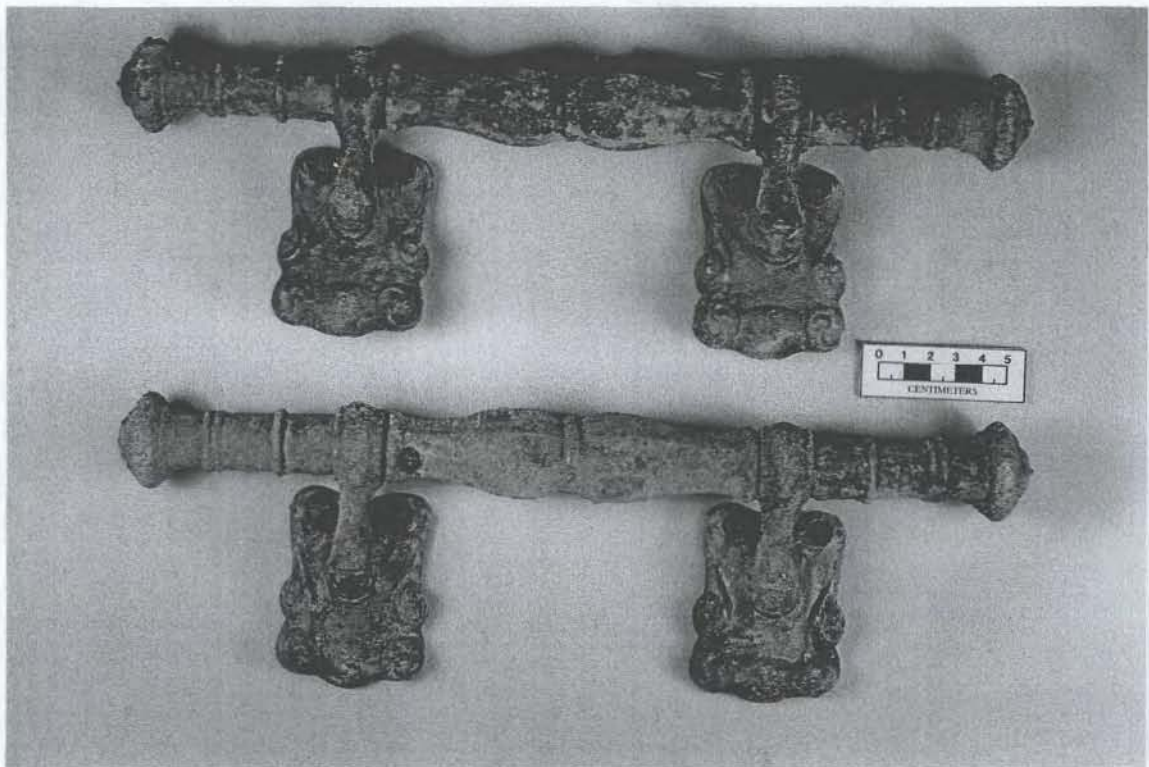
Source: Engineering-Science
Alexandria Business Center

Plate 9
"It's French's" Mustard Jar
Embossed "Design Pat'd Feb. 23-15"
Trench 4, Level D, Above Grass

The body in Feature 2 had been laid out extended with the head to the west. This adheres to the common custom of burying the dead in an east-west configuration. This custom originated with sun-worshipping cultures of the Old World, and was adopted by Christianity. Long-bones from the arms and legs were found apparently *in situ* in the western and eastern parts of the feature, respectively. The exposed skeletal remains were identified and removed, but excavation of the remainder of the more deeply buried human and coffin remains was halted for future investigation. Thus, it is difficult to determine whether the retrieved skeletal part representation is due to the fact that more bones remain in the burial, or whether this is due to poor skeletal preservation, common for nineteenth century wooden coffin interments.

In accordance with the instructions of the Alexandria City Archaeologist, Dr. Pamela Cressey, the excavated human skeletal remains were analyzed by physical anthropologists Douglas W. Owsley, Ph.D., and Robert W. Mann, M.A. (*Appendix E*). The osteological examination supported the conclusion that the burial was that of William H. Whaley. Based on comparative skeletal evidence the skeleton is suggested to be that of a male (i.e., large size of the cranial vault and mandible, the well-developed browridges and mastoid processes, the blunt superior margin of the left eye orbit, the length and large circumference of the right femur, and the extremely narrow greater sciatic notch), and who was of the Caucasian race (i.e., overall shape of cranial vault, degree of femoral curvature, and size and features of the teeth). The individual appears to have died when he was more than 50 years old (based upon epiphyseal union, suture obliteration, dental wear).

Osteological support for the fact that William Whaley was a stage coach owner was the fact that there was a cortical defect on the upper portion of the left humerus, suggesting that he engaged in prolonged and strenuous physical activity involving the upper arm. Handling reins would have resulted in pulling stresses on the upper arms, thus causing the cortical defect found in the humerus that was preserved.



Source: Engineering-Science
Alexandria Business Center

Plate 10
Coffin Handles
Feature 2



Source: Engineering-Science

Alexandria Business Center

Plate 11
Coffin Plate
Embossed "At Rest"
Feature 2



Source: Engineering-Science

Alexandria Business Center

Plate 12
Gilded Coffin Hinge
Feature 1

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Alexandria Business Center project area falls into Area 8 of the City of Alexandria's Archaeological Resource Areas. The following recommendations concern the western and eastern portions of the project area, consisting of approximately 22 acres of land. There are no immediate plans for construction in the western or eastern portions of the project area.

A. Western Project Area

No further work is recommended in the western portion of the project area. Two of the three trenches (nos. 14 and 15) showed evidence for historic disturbance, and as a result, there were no intact archaeological deposits. One trench (No. 16) in the western sector contained a possible intact stratigraphic sequence, but no early historic or prehistoric deposits were found. No further work is recommended in this area given the lack of historic activity recorded on maps and in documents, and the lack of important documented archaeological deposits. It is therefore recommended that construction in this area proceed.

B. Eastern Project Area

1. Westernmost Section

No further archaeological work is recommended in the eastern portion of the project area where Trenches 9 - 13 were located. Although intact stratigraphic sequences were encountered, the archaeological deposits are of early to late twentieth century age and associated with railroad activity. No earlier historic or prehistoric artifacts were recovered. No further work is recommended in this area given the lack of historic activity recorded on maps and in documents, and the lack of important archaeological deposits. It is therefore recommended that construction in this area proceed.

2. Bloxham Family Cemetery (44AX128)

At this time, there are no immediate plans for development of the area in which the Bloxham Family Cemetery is contained. If there is to be future construction, however, further archaeological work is recommended.

3. Prehistoric and Historic Site Area (44AX127)

The area in the vicinity of Trenches 3b and 4 identified the presence of historic and prehistoric archaeological deposits. Two relative boundaries of the prehistoric site have been identified, and are confined to the northern boundary of the project area, and the Bloxham cemetery to the west. The historic and prehistoric deposits should be tested to determine vertical and horizontal boundaries, depositional integrity, precise temporal and cultural affiliation, if possible, and significance.

4. Easternmost Section

During the current field work, the easternmost section, on the east side of Taylor Run, could not be tested due to the presence of a large dirt pile. Prior to subsurface disturbance, it is recommended that the dirt pile be removed, and the area beneath it be trenched to identify any potential archaeological deposits or graves associated with the purported Trisler cemetery. It is also recommended that a trench be placed on the east bank of Taylor Run to determine the eastern boundary of the prehistoric site.

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APPENDIX A ARTIFACT INVENTORY

TRENCH 3B STRATUM I GRASS SURFACE (Bag 8)

- 1 orange hand painted pearlware base and side of bowl sherd
- 1 flow blue refined earthenware, bowl rim sherd
- 1 purple rim painted and banded whiteware bowl rim sherd
- 2 undecorated pearlware sherd
- 1 undecorated whiteware sherd
- 1 undecorated whiteware base sherd
- 1 spalled and worn undecorated refined earthenware, possible salt-cellar
- 1 burned, undecorated refined earthenware base sherd
- 1 worn, refined earthenware sherd
- 2 aqua bottle glass body fragments
- 1 olive green bottle glass body fragment
- 1 clear vessel glass rim fragment
- 1 clear vessel glass base fragment
- 2 aqua window glass fragments
- 2 clear tapered plate glass
- 1 lamp chimney or light bulb glass
- 1 whole machine cut finishing nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
- 1 headless machine cut nail
- 2 whole wire nails
 - 1 x 2" (6d penny weight)
 - 1 x 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
- 5 red brick fragments
- 2 pieces of coal
- 3 pieces of slag
- 2 piece of extremely heated natural material - possibly slag
- 6 oyster shell fragments
- 4 quartz flake fragments, without cortex
- 5 quartz flake fragments, with cortex
- 1 quartz flake fragment, without cortex, heated
- 1 quartz chip, with cortex
- 6 heated rocks
- 4 quartzite heated rocks

TRENCH 4
LEVEL D
ABOVE GRASS LEVEL
(Bag 13)

- 1 clear glass mustard jar, 2 piece mold with screw closure
embossed on shoulder "IT'S FRENCH'S"
embossed on base "DESIGN PAT'D FEB. 23-15"
"11" in center of above
- contents of jar: 3 pieces of coal
2 pieces of ash
- 5 undecorated ironstone sherds
- 3 whole screws - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
- 2 whole wire nails - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
- 1 unrecognizable nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
- 1 red brick fragment
- 2 pieces of slag
- 1 piece of ash
- 1 heated quartzite rock

STRATUM E AND F
GRASS LEVEL AND BELOW
(Bag 14)

- 1 blue, edged (possibly shell edged) refined earthenware rim sherd
- 1 undecorated possible worn pearlware sherd
- 1 spalled, worn undecorated refined earthenware sherd
- 1 undecorated grey stoneware
- 1 aqua window glass
- 2 machine cut nails
 - 1 headless
 - 1 x 1 1/4" (3d penny weight)
- 2 red brick fragments
- 5 pieces of charcoal
- 4 quartz flake fragments, without cortex
- 2 quartz flake fragments, with cortex
- 1 quartzite flake fragment, without cortex
- 1 quartz chip, with cortex
- 5 quartz heated rocks
- 3 quartzite heated rocks

TRENCH 6
STRATUM F
BELOW FILL
(Bag 35)

- 6 whole machine cut nails:
 - 1 headless
 - 4 box nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny inch))
 - 1 unrecognizable type
- 45 whole wire nails:
 - 4 x 2" (6d penny inch)
 - 21 x 2 1/2" (8d penny inch)
 - 16 x 3" (10d penny inch)
 - 2 x 3 1/2" (16d penny inch)
 - 1 x 4" (20d penny inch)
 - 1 x 4 1/2" (30d penny inch)
- 1 whole wire spike - 5 1/2" (50d penny inch)
- 1 unrecognizable nail fragment
- 2 oyster shell fragments
- 1 wood fragment

AT LEVEL OF GRAVESTONE, FROM TROWELLING
(Bag 36)

- 1 blue shell edged whiteware plate rim sherd
- 1 whole bolt with screw end - probable railroad hardware
- 1 small unrecognizable bone
- 1 possible quartzite flake fragment

ADJACENT TO GRAVESTONE
IN FILL WEST OF AND 2 FEET BELOW GRAVESTONE
(Bag 37)

- 1 undecorated ironstone plate base sherd
- 1 olive wine bottle body fragment
- 1 whole wire nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
- 1 wire nail fragment
- 1 unrecognizable nail
- 1 large mammal bone
- 1 piece of coal
- 1 wood fragment
- 3 pieces of corroded iron

FEATURE 2**ITEM A**

(Bag 20)

1 whole wire coffin nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

ITEM B

(Bag 21)

2 wood fragments, one with tack

ITEM C

(Bag 22)

1 painted wood fragment

ITEM D

(Bag 23)

1 cut and painted wood fragment

ITEM E

(Bag 24)

2 wood fragments

ITEM F

(Bag 25)

1 piece of wire (possibly part of handle)

ITEM G

(Bag 26)

1 wood knot

ITEM H

(Bag 27)

1 soil clump with fabric impression

ITEM I
(Bag 28)

1 whole coffin handle with fragments of wood attached

ITEM J
(Bag 29)

fragments of wood, some of which painted

ITEM K
(Bag 30)

1 whole wire coffin nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)
1 headless wire coffin nail

ITEM L
(Bag 31)

1 whole machine cut coffin box nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

ITEM M
(Bag 32)

1 fabric fragment - Hessian like material

ITEM N
(Bag 33)

1 human bone

TRENCH 6/7
FEATURE 1
(Bag 93)

2 fragments of whole marble gravestone/footstone
engraved "W.H.W."

TRENCH 7
FEATURE 1
(Bag 38)

1 gilded coffin hinge
1 undecorated porcelain sherd
1 clear glass base, embossed "..TOR..", ""..50.."
1 wire screw - 1 1/2" (4d penny weight)
1 textile fragment
1 tip of screw
1 whole red brick
wood fragments
1 human bone

FEATURE 2
(Bag 5)

human bones
1 two piece cap lifter
4 wire nails
2 cut nails
1 fragment slag
1 iron bracket
1 brown coarse textile fragment
unidentifiable leather fragments
painted wood fragments

(Bag 39)

wood fragments

(Bag 40)

1 red brick fragment

(Bag 45)

1 whole coffin handle

(Bag 46)

1 coffin handle, 1 hinge and 1 end piece missing
1 coffin handle hinge
1 coffin plate, embossed "At Rest"
wood fragments associated with coffin parts

(Bag 92)

1 human bone

FEATURE 2

ITEM AA

(Bag 47)

1 coffin handle fragment

ITEM BB

1 whole wire coffin nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

ITEM CC

1 brick fragment

ITEM DD

(Bag 44)

1 whole wire coffin nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

ITEM EE

(Bag 49)

2 whole wire coffin nails - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

ITEM FF

(Bag 50)

1 coffin handle hinge

ITEM GG

(Bag 51)

3 human bone fragments

ITEM HH

(Bag 52)

1 whole wire coffin nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

3 coffin nail fragments

ITEM II

(Bag 53)

1 piece of slag

1 wood knot

ITEM JJ

(Bag 54)

1 wire coffin nail fragment

ITEM KK

(Bag 55)

1 fabric fragment - very light canvas material

ITEM LL

(Bag 56)

1 coffin handle hinge

ITEM MM

(Bag 57)

1 human bone

ITEM O

(Bag 58)

Alexandria Business Center

1 whole coffin handle with wood attached,
8 pieces of wood painted
1 piece of ash

ITEM P
(Bag 59)

1 human bone

ITEM Q
(Bag 60)

1 whole wire coffin nail - 3" (10d penny weight)

ITEM R
(Bag 61)

1 wire coffin nail - 2 1/2" (8d penny weight)

ITEM S
(Bag 62)

1 broken wire coffin nail

ITEM T
(Bag 63)

1 metal coffin furniture, probable latch

ITEM U
(Bag 64)

1 human bone

ITEM V
(Bag 65)

wood fragments

ITEM W
(Bag 66)

1 coffin handle, 1 hinge missing

ITEM X
(Bag 67)

1 human bone

ITEM Y
(Bag 68)

1 coffin handle fragment with wood fragments

ITEM Z
(Bag 69)

1 human bone

**APPENDIX B
LIST OF PERSONNEL**

Principal Investigator:	Michael D. Petraglia, Ph.D.
Field Supervisor:	Catharine B. Toulmin, M.Sc.
Historian:	Madeleine Pappas, M.A.
Technical Advisors:	Janice G. Artemel, M.A. Elizabeth Crowell, Ph.D.
Laboratory Supervisors	K. Anne Turner Ketz, M.A. Carter Shields
Laboratory Archaeologist:	Edith Baird
Field Archaeologists:	Jesse Daugherty John Rutherford
Backhoe Operator:	Bob Anderson
Photographer:	Patrice Gilbert
Graphic Artist:	Robert Chase
Technical Editor:	Mary Pickens
Human Osteologists:	Douglas W. Owsley, Ph.D. Robert W. Mann, M.A.

APPENDIX C
Virginia State
Site Forms



VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS
RESEARCH CENTER FOR ARCHAEOLOGY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

44AX128

County Alexandria

Map Sheet

Site Number

44AX128

Name of Site: Alexandria Business Center
Bloxxham Family Cemetery

Site Number: _____

Type of Site: Cemetery

Cultural Affiliation: 19th Century

State/National Register Status:

USGS Map Reference: Alexandria USGS Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series

U.T.M. Zone 18 Easting 319, 690 Northing 4, 297, 030

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

Owner/Address/Telephone: CSX Realty
Tenant/Address/Telephone: One James Center
Site Informant/Address/Telephone: 901 East Cary Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Surveyed By (name, address, affiliation, date): Engineering-Science, Inc.
1133 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

General Environment and Nearest Water Source: The cemetery exists under historic fill, used to construct a railroad and structures. The site exists approximately 200 feet west of Taylor Run, now a box culvert.

Dimensions of Site: Approximately 50 feet by 50 feet

Site Description and Survey Techniques: Preliminary archaeological investigations have identified the presence of the Bloxxham family cemetery. Three trenches were placed in the cemetery using a backhoe. One grave was exposed and identified. A tombstone identified the person as W.H.W. Historic search revealed this was William H. Whaley married to Jane Eliza Bloxxham.

Condition and Present Land Use: The cemetery is intact but the area is to be developed.

Specimens Obtained and Depository: One grave was identified.

Specimens Reported and Owners/Addresses:

Other Documentation (field notes, survey/excavation reports, historical accounts and maps, etc.) and Depository:

Preliminary Archaeological Assessment, Alexandria Business Center, Alexandria, Va.
C. Pfanstiehl, E. Otter and M. Harper, Engineering-Science, Inc., 1989

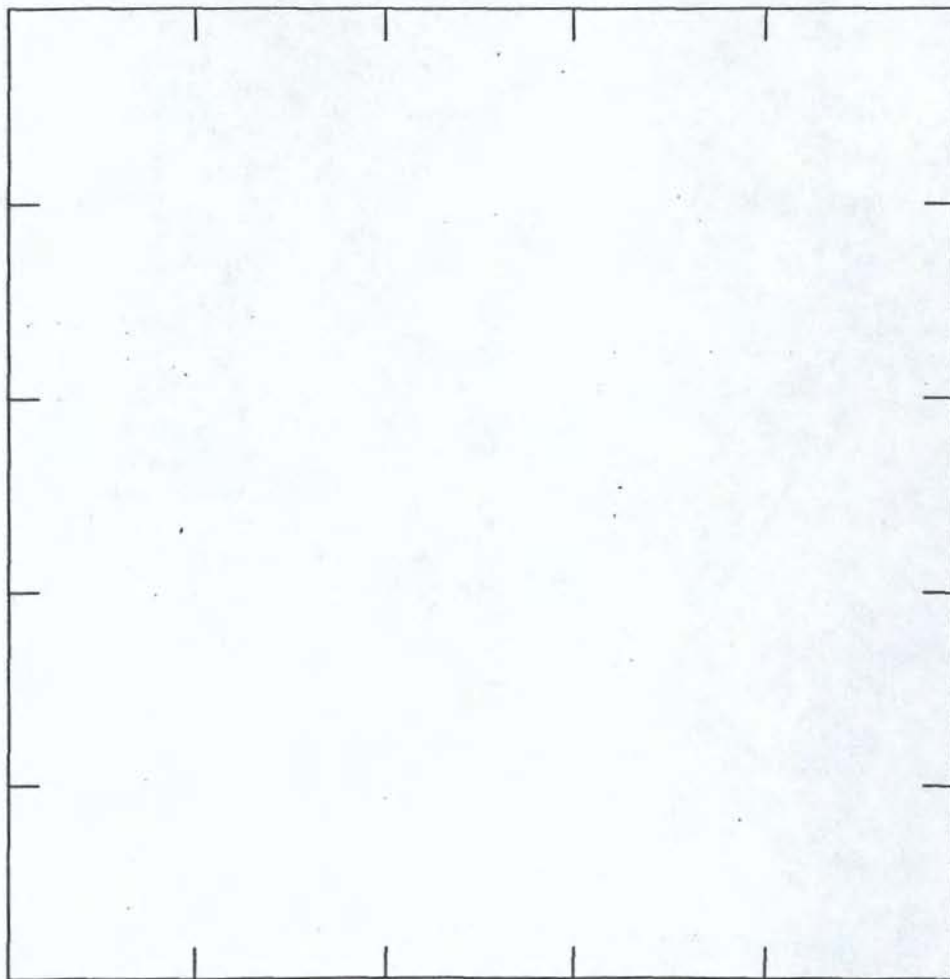
CSX REalty Phase II Archaeological Survey at Area A, Alexandria Business Center, Alexandria, Va.

C. Pfanstiehl, M. Heston, E.A. Crowell, Engineering-Science, Inc. 1989.

Alexandria Business District Survey, C. Toulmin, M. Petraglia and M. Pappas, Engineering-
Photographic Documentation and Depository: Science, Inc. in prep.

Recommendations: Excavation has been recommended

Additional Comments:



Scale:

Form Completed By (name, address, affiliation, date): Michael Petraglia, Catharine Toulmin
Cultural Resources Division
Engineering-Science, Inc.
1133 15th St., NW

DHL Number Assigned By: Wash., D.C. 20560 Date: June 1, 1990



VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS
RESEARCH CENTER FOR ARCHAEOLOGY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

County

Alexandria

Map Sheet

Site Number

44AX127

Name of Site: Alexandria Business Center

Site Number: 44AX127

Type of Site: Prehistoric & Historic

Cultural Affiliation: Unknown prehistoric late
19th, early 20th century historic.

State/National Register Status:

USGS Map Reference: Alexandria USGS Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series

U.T.M. Zone 18 Easting 319, 770 Northing 4, 297, 040

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

Owner/Address/Telephone: CSX Realty

Tenant/Address/Telephone: One James Center

Site Informant/Address/Telephone: 901 East Cary Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Surveyed By (name, address, affiliation, date): Engineering-Science, Inc.
1133 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20560

General Environment and Nearest Water Source: Prehistoric and historic artifacts exist under historic fill, used to construct a railroad and structures. The site exists within 100 ft. west of Taylor Run, now a box culvert.

Dimensions of Site: Exact boundaries are not known thru preliminary survey.

Site Description and Survey Techniques: Two trenches were excavated during preliminary archaeological investigations. An intact level which contains late 19th and early 20th century artifacts on a green lawn was identified. Under the lawn level are prehistoric quartz artifacts, mainly consisting of debitage and FCR.

Condition and Present Land Use: In an area to be developed, under historic fill.

Specimens Obtained and Depository: Quartz flakes, chips, heated rocks, historic ceramics include earthenwares, white wares, pearlwares, ironstone sherds, glass, nails (machine cut, wire), screws, brick frags, slags, coal, ash, whole bottle, oyster shell, wood fragments.

Specimens Reported and Owners/Addresses:

Other Documentation (field notes, survey/excavation reports, historical accounts and maps, etc.) and Depository:

Preliminary Archaeological Assessment, Alexandria Business Center, Alexandria, Va.

C. Pfanstiehl, E. Otter and M. Harper, Engineering-Science, Inc. 1989

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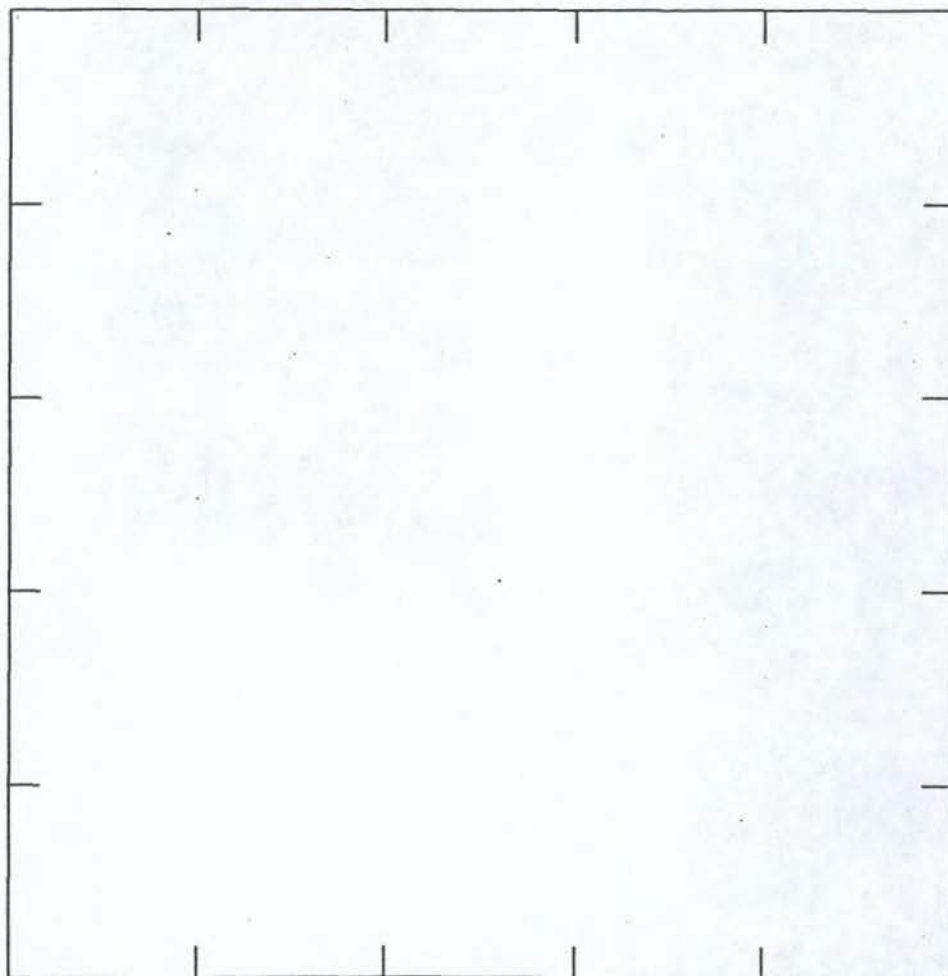
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Photographic Documentation and Depository:

Recommendations: Excavation has been recommended.

Additional Comments:



Scale:

Form Completed By (name, address, affiliation, date):

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Washington, D.C. Date: June 1, 1990

APPENDIX D

Glossary

- artifact** any material which has been altered by humans.
- chip** a by product of stone tool manufacture, a form of debitage not possessing flake attributes such as a bulb of percussion or striking platform.
- cortex** the outer worn or weathered surface of a stone, usually exhibiting a difference in color and texture from the interior material. The presence of cortex on a lithic fragment is an indicator of the early stages of manufacture when initial flake removal is accomplished.
- debitage**
the residual products of stone tool manufacture, including cores, flakes, chips and incomplete tool forms.
- feature**
an artifact which cannot be moved without causing its alteration or destruction.
- firecracked rock**
This category includes pebbles or cobbles which have been reddened or cracked due to heating or their exposure to fire.
- flake** the product of controlled application of force on stone, usually in the form of percussion or pressure, producing specifically identifiable attributes such as a striking platform and bulb of percussion.
- flow blue** a decorative technique applied most frequently to ironstone. Blue coloring in transfer printed design runs and flows outside the confines of the design. Most common in the period 1840 - 1860.
- heated stone** includes rock which has been reddened and/or cracked due to heating or the exposure of fire. Color is reddened with inconsistent shades throughout. Sometimes referred to as firecracked rock. Usually used in fore hearths.
- ironstone** a hard, refined earthenware with a white body under a clear glaze. First introduced in 1813, it is often grouped with whiteware under terms such as "Stone China" or "White Granite." Ironstone is still manufactured today.
- nails** *hand wrought* nails were the only nails available through the seventeenth and most of the eighteenth centuries. *Cut* nails were first produced around 1790.

Wire nails were first produced in the 1850's and came into wide popularity in the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

pearlware a refined earthenware, considered a technological improvement over the yellow-hued creamwares. A small amount of crushed flint was added to the paste for a whiter body, and cobalt was added to the glaze to produce a white, if slightly blue-tinted, surface. The generally accepted date range for pearlware is 1780 to 1820. A variety of decorative techniques were applied to the ware: shell edging, annular decoration, transfer printing among others. Each has a specific date range within the overall pearlware range.

prehistoric

the time period prior to the appearance of written records. In the Middle Atlantic region, this would represent the period prior to European contact (ca. 1600 A.D.).

whiteware hard bodied refined earthenware seen as having evolved technologically from pearlware, as the paste, or body, was made harder and whiter, and the amount of cobalt subsequently reduced. Researchers often consider whiteware as part of a continuum begun with the introduction of cream-colored wares in the eighteenth century and developing through pearlware to whiteware. The accepted date for the introduction of whiteware is between 1820 to 1830, and like ironstone, it is still produced today.

APPENDIX E
Osteological Report

**OSTEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF HUMAN REMAINS
EXCAVATED FROM THE BLOXHAM FAMILY CEMETERY
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

Report prepared by
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January 24, 1992

The skeletal and dental remains of one individual were recovered from a coffin burial from the Bloxham Family Cemetery (44AX128; Trench 7), Alexandria, Virginia. The burial was located during test trenching and has not been completely removed. The remains were inventoried, radiographed (i.e., x-rayed), and examined with the unaided eye. No invasive or destructive techniques were used. The purpose of the physical anthropological examination was to establish age at death, racial affiliation, sex, stature, any evidence of trauma or skeletal and dental disease, and personal identity for comparison with historical records. Prior to the physical anthropological examination, it was suggested that the remains were those of William H. Whaley, a white male who died between 1860 and 1870. As Mr. Whaley was thought to have been a stagecoach driver for many years, the remains were examined for evidence of occupational or habitual stress that could alter the bones. The following information resulted from examination of the human skeletal and dental remains.

CONDITION OF THE SKELETON

The skeleton is in a poor state of preservation. It consists of a partial cranium and mandible (i.e., lower jaw), right femur, left humerus, left and right ulnae, left and right radii, and left clavicle (Figs. 1 & 2). Also present are small portions of the distal left humerus, left scapula, and left os coxae (i.e., hip bone). The combined effects of contact with a wooden coffin and soil with a low pH resulted in erosion and flaking of the cortices

(i.e., thick outer layer of bone) and "smaller," more gracile bones. The surfaces of the bones are darkly discolored and fragile. The spongy portions of the long bones (e.g., femoral heads) have disintegrated, as have the entire spine and sacrum, ribs, sternomanubrium (i.e., breast bone), left femur, tibiae and fibulae (i.e., lower leg bones), right os coxae, and all of the hand and foot bones. Some of the missing elements may be recovered when the burial is completely excavated. This pattern of differential preservation of portions of the skeleton frequently characterizes North American historic coffin burials.

AGE AT DEATH

Estimated age at death was based on characteristics of the skeleton and teeth. The following skeletal indicators suggest an age of more than 50 years at death (Steward 1979; Bass 1987).

1. All long bone epiphyses (i.e., "growth caps") are fully united, suggesting an age of more than about 22 years.
2. The vault sutures are obliterated endocranially (i.e., inside the skull), indicating an age of more than 34 years.
3. Erosion of the ectocranial (i.e., outer) plate of the vault has resulted in thin cranial bones and partially visible sutures that might not have been apparent had the bone not been eroded. Consequently, because of erosion the ectocranial sutures are an unreliable indicator of age in this instance.

4. The moderate to advanced degree of dental wear (i.e., attrition), combined with the advanced angle (i.e., "sloping") of the chin, suggests an age of more than 50 years.

It is difficult to provide a narrow the age range for individuals older than 50-55 years. All skeletal and dental indicators suggest that this individual's age at death was more than 50 years.

RACIAL AFFILIATION

The overall shape of the cranial vault, degree of femoral curvature, and size and features of the teeth are consistent with identification of the individual as white (Caucasoid). Only if the facial bones were present could a more reliable assessment be made.

SEX DETERMINATION

The large size of the cranial vault and mandible, the well-developed browridges and mastoid processes, the blunt superior margin of the left eye orbit, the length and large circumference of the right femur, and the extremely narrow greater sciatic notch all strongly indicate that the individual was male.

STATURE

The absence of a complete long bone on which to obtain a measurement of length precludes an accurate assessment of stature (i.e., standing height). However, comparison of the incomplete right femur with a femur comparable size belonging to an adult, white male yields a maximum length of 445 mm, thus an approximate

height of 5 feet 5-3/4 inches (Trotter and Gleser 1958). The overall size of the long bones suggests that the individual was of slight build and stature.

DENTITION

The mandible is fragmentary and represented by the symphysis and left ramus. The alveolar sockets for the left lateral incisor, canine, premolars, and molars are present. The roots of the second premolar and the three molars are in their sockets. The crowns of the first and second molars had broken away but were recovered. In addition, the right(?) maxillary second premolar and left first and second maxillary molars are present. The cusps of the occlusal surfaces are flattened from wear, and small areas of dentin are exposed, especially on the left mandibular molars. Well-defined interproximal wear facets are present. No dental pathology was noted (e.g., alveolar abscessing, antemortem tooth loss, or caries).

TRAUMA AND SKELETAL DISEASE

The skeleton does not show any gross or radiographic evidence of trauma or bone disease. The femur, however, displays an unusual characteristic. The upper half of most "normal" femoral shafts is roughly circular (i.e., tubular) in cross-section, resulting in antero-posterior (AP) and mediolateral (ML) dimensions of approximately equal size (e.g., AP = 30 mm and ML = 31 mm). The subtrochanteric dimensions of the upper third of this individual's

right femur, in contrast, measure 27 mm (AP) and 33 mm (ML). Thus this femur is unusually flat from front to back (a condition called platymeria).

All bone exhibits plastic properties that allow it to adapt in shape and size to the effects of dietary, metabolic, and mechanical (i.e., loading) stress. Other than the flattened appearance of the femur, the other features of this bone are of normal size and shape. Although it is not possible to determine, with certainty, the cause(s) of the femoral flattening, it probably reflects the effect of habitual activity. A more precise interpretation might be possible if the opposing femur were also present for examination.

INDICATORS OF SKELETAL STRESS

Examination of the skeleton revealed the presence of a cortical defect (Brower 1977; Caffey 1973) in the form of a groove on the upper portion of the shaft (i.e., diaphysis) of the humerus at the point of insertion of the teres major muscle. This muscle adducts, extends, and medially rotates the arm (an action consistent with pulling on reins). The groove measures 17 mm x 5 mm x 2 mm (maximum length, breadth, and depth) and is situated on the antero-medial surface of the humerus. Similar grooves have been noted in individuals engaged in repeated, strenuous activities involving the muscles of the arms (e.g., tennis). These lesions result from the pulling stress of the teres major muscle and are common in subadults but rare in adults (Mann and Murphy 1991). The

opposing arm (not present in this case) probably had a similar lesion reflecting bilateral stress on the upper arms. Researchers have reported a high incidence of humeral cortical defects in archers who died aboard the British ship Mary Rose (Stirland Pers. Comm. 1989) and in U.S. infantry soldiers killed during the War of 1812 (Owsley et al. 1991). Historical accounts report that soldiers in the War of 1812 engaged in prolonged and intense fatigue duties, including the construction of fortifications. It is probable that the humeral cortical defect in this male also resulted from prolonged, intense mechanical stress of the upper arm, probably related to his occupation as a stagecoach driver.

CONCLUSION

Although the skeleton from the Bloxham Family Cemetery, Alexandria, Virginia, was incomplete and in a poor state of preservation because of many decades of contact with a wooden coffin and soil of low pH content, it was possible to determine the following:

1. The bones were of one individual, a small, probably white male who was more than 50 years old at death.

2. A cortical defect in the upper portion of the left humerus suggested that he engaged in prolonged and strenuous physical activity involving the upper arm [or arms]. His presumed occupation as a stagecoach driver handing reins would have resulted in pulling stresses on the upper arms, thus causing the cortical defect found in the one humerus that was preserved.

The skeletal evidence in this case, therefore, supports the historical record.

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Figure 1. Bones present for examination (crosshatching indicates bones present).

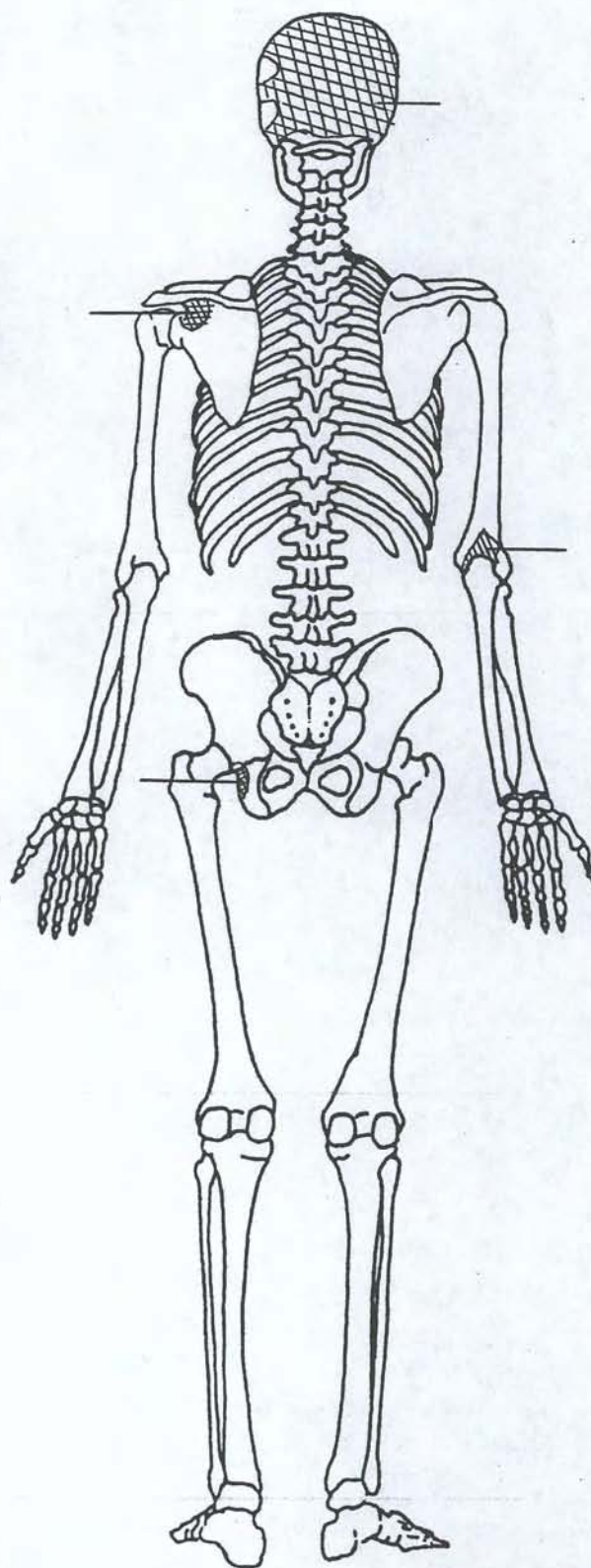
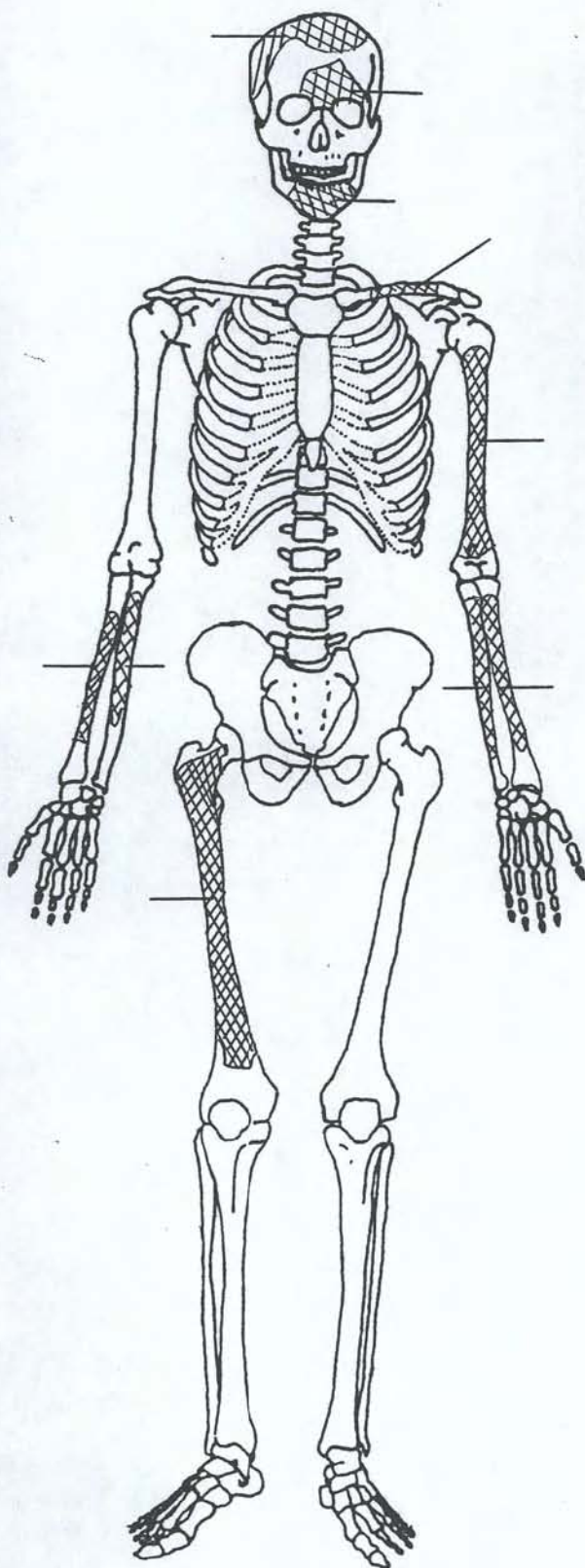
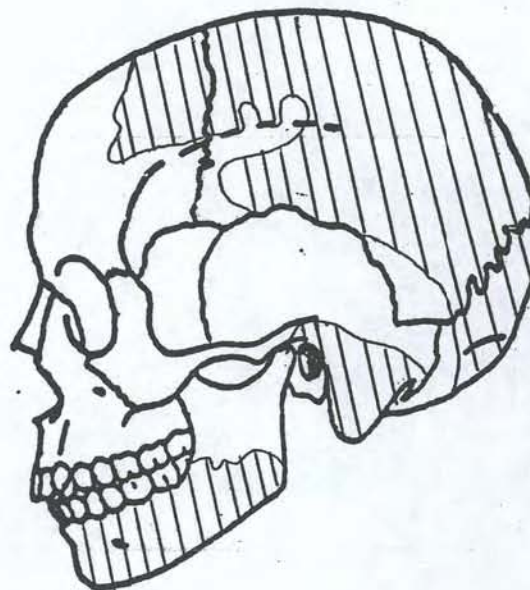
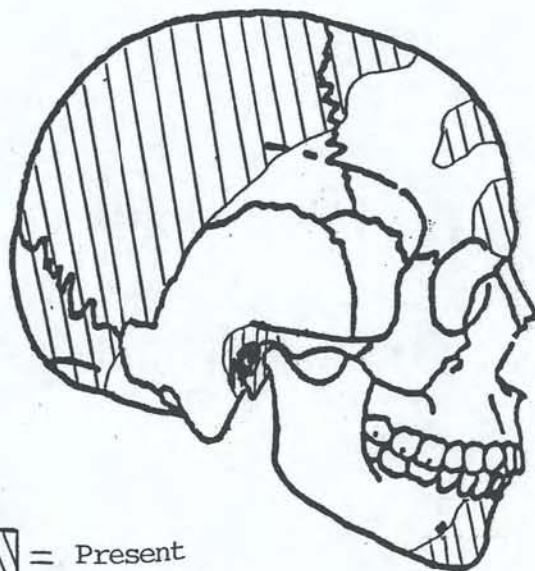
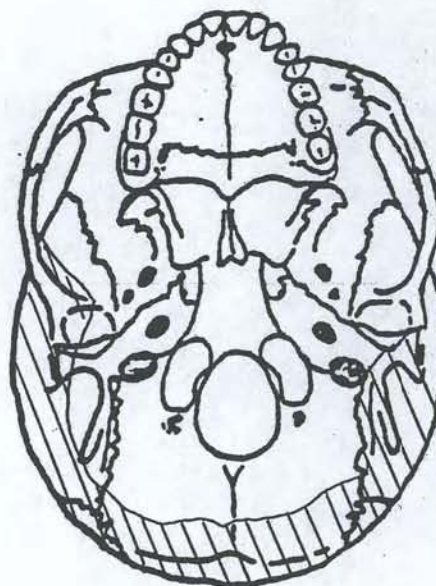
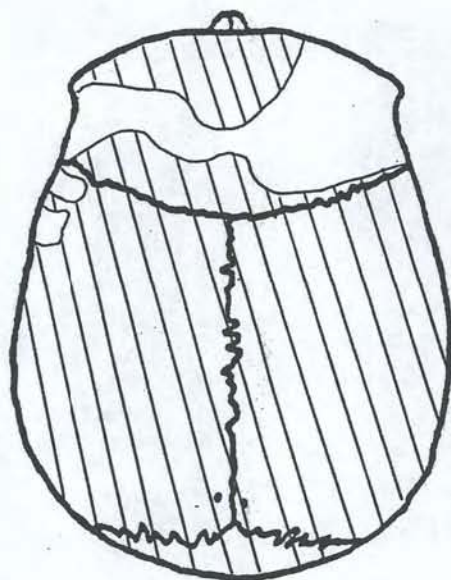
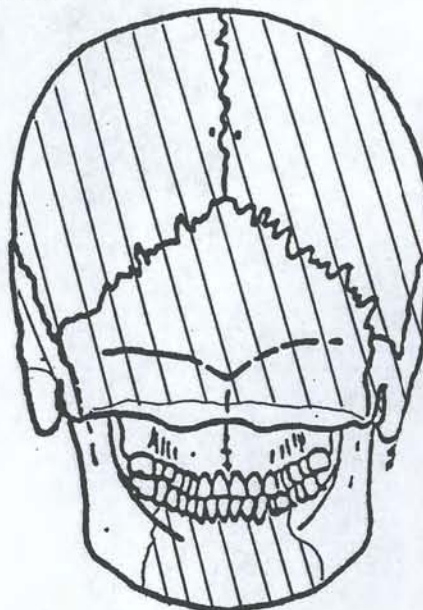



Figure 2. Portions of the skull and mandible present for examination (hatched areas).



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