University of Alabama Museums

Office of Archaeological Research

April 21, 2010

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
MUSEUMS

Mr. Jerry Williams
Task Management, Inc.
2832 Monte Deste Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35216

OAR PROJECT NUMBER: 10-138

Dear Mr. Williams:

Please find enclosed for your company a copy of our recent report entitled "A Phase I Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed 1,100 Acre Little Springs Creek Mine, in Walker County, Alabama", by Brandon S. Thompson of our staff. Please note that SHPO has 30 days to comment on our findings.

It has been a pleasure to be of service to Task Management, Inc. Please feel free to call for further information or services.

Sincerely,

Eugene M. Futato RPA/Deputy Director
The University of Alabama
Office of Archaeological Research

EMF:tkw
FILE:2009-10SURVEY.FCL/1

Enclosures: Survey Report
Invoice for Professional Services

Copy of Survey Report to:

Alabama Historical Commission
Attn: Stacye Hathorn

13075 Moundville
Archaeological Park
Moundville, Alabama 35474
(205) 371-2266
FAX (205) 371-2494

A Phase I Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed 1,100 Acre Little Springs Creek Mine, in Walker County, Alabama

Brandon S. Thompson

PERFORMED FOR:
Task Engineering Management, Inc.
2832 Monte Deste Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35216

PERFORMED BY:
The University of Alabama
Office of Archaeological Research
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
Moundville, Alabama 35474

APRIL 2010

OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH
The University of Alabama
University of Alabama Museums
13075 Mound State Parkway
Moundville, Alabama 35474

University of Alabama Museums

Office of Archaeological Research

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ALABAMA
MUSEUMS

April 21, 2010

A Phase I Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed 1,100 Acre Little Springs Creek Mine, in Walker County, Alabama

OAR PROJECT NUMBER: 10-138

PERFORMED FOR: Task Management, Inc.
2832 Monte Deste Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35216
Attn: Mr. Jerry Williams

PERFORMED BY: Brandon S. Thompson, Cultural Resources Specialist
Donald L. Brown, Cultural Resources Assistant
John F. Lieb, Cultural Resources Assistant
Ronald Stallworth, Cultural Resources Aide
The University of Alabama
Office of Archaeological Research
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
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DATE PERFORMED: March 29 to April 7, 2010

Brandon S. Thompson
Cultural Resources Specialist
Office of Archaeological Research

Eugene M. Futato RPA/Deputy Director
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A Phase I Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of the proposed 1,100 acre Little Springs Creek Mine, in Walker County, Alabama

Brandon S. Thompson

Introduction

The University of Alabama, Office of Archaeological Research (OAR) was contracted by Task Engineering, to conduct a Phase I cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed 1,100 acre Little Springs Creek Mine, in north central Walker County, Alabama. Brandon S. Thompson (Cultural Resources Specialist), assisted by Donald L. Brown (Cultural Resources Assistant), John F. Lieb (Cultural Resources Assistant), and Ronald Stallworth (Cultural Resources Aide) conducted the survey from March 29 to April 7, 2010. The Principal Investigator for the project is Eugene M. Futato RPA, Deputy Director of OAR.

The research design of the Phase I survey is to locate and identify any archaeological sites or historic standing structures within the survey boundaries, assess their significance and provide recommendation with regard to guidelines set forth by the *National Register of Historic Places* (NRHP). Included in this report is a discussion of the environmental setting of the survey area, a literature search of any sites within or near the survey area, a description of field and laboratory methods, the results of the cultural resources reconnaissance, and conclusions and recommendations based on the findings of this survey.

Environmental Setting

The survey area consists of an approximate 1,100 acres (1.72 mi²) irregular shaped tract located in north central Walker County, Alabama. The survey area can be seen in the SW ¼ of Section 27, the SE ¼ of Section 28, the majority of Section 34, T12S, R7W, the majority of Section 3, and the NE ¼ of Section 4, T13S, R7W, on the 1949 (photo revised 1981) USGS 7.5' Manchester, Alabama topographic quadrangle, and the SW ¼ of Section 35, T12S, R7W, and the W ½ of Section 2, T13S, R7W, on the 1949 (photo revised 1978) USGS 7.5' Sunlight, Alabama topographic quadrangle (Figures 1-2).

The survey area is located within the Warrior Basin district of the Cumberland Plateau physiographic section. The State of Alabama Geological Survey (Sapp and Emplaincort 1975) characterizes the Warrior Basin as a "synclinal submaturely to maturely dissected sandstone and shale plateau of moderate relief."

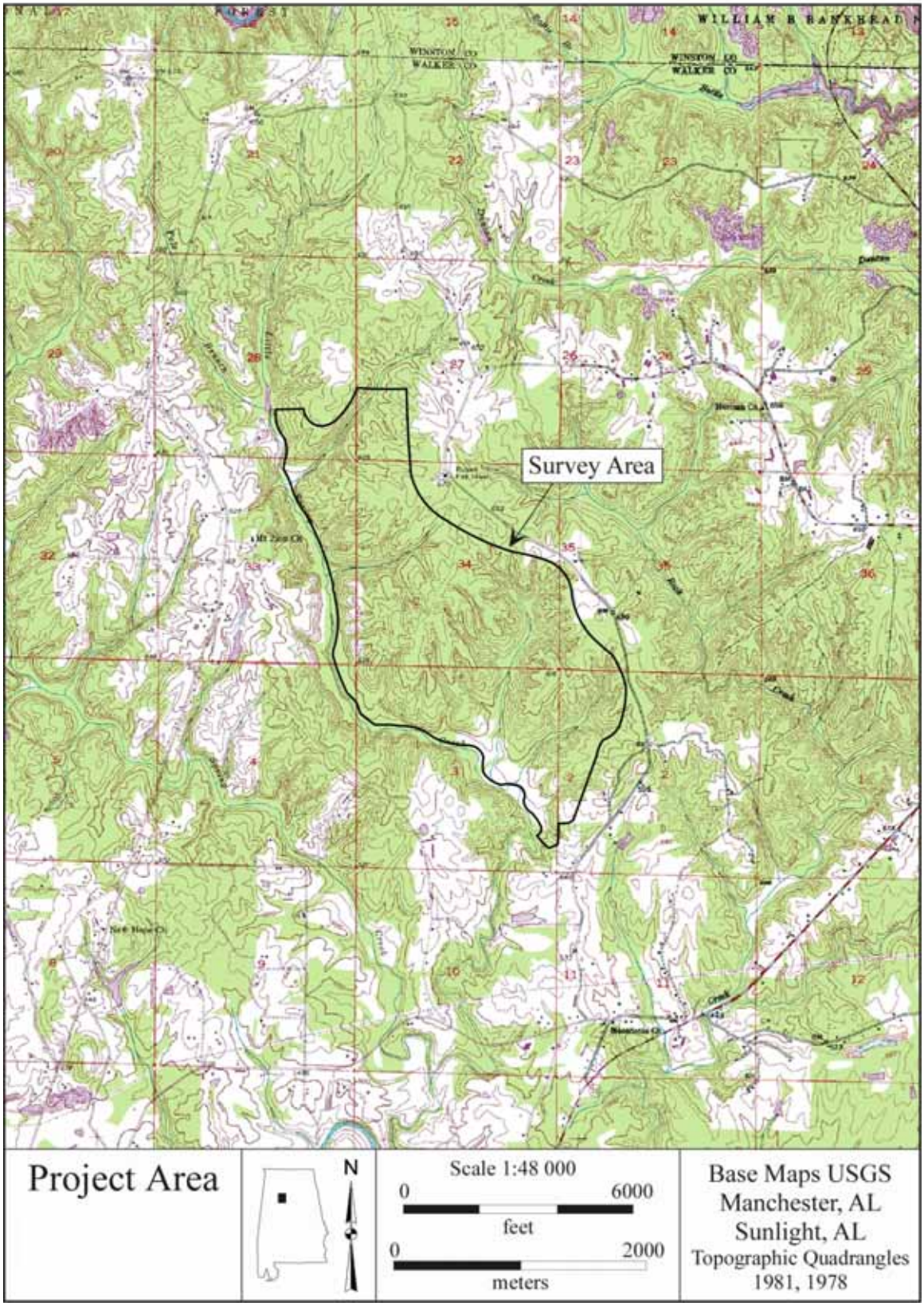

Figure 1. Project area as seen on the USGS 7.5' 1949 (photo revised 1981) Manchester and the USGS 7.5' 1949 (photo revised 1978) topographic quadrangles.

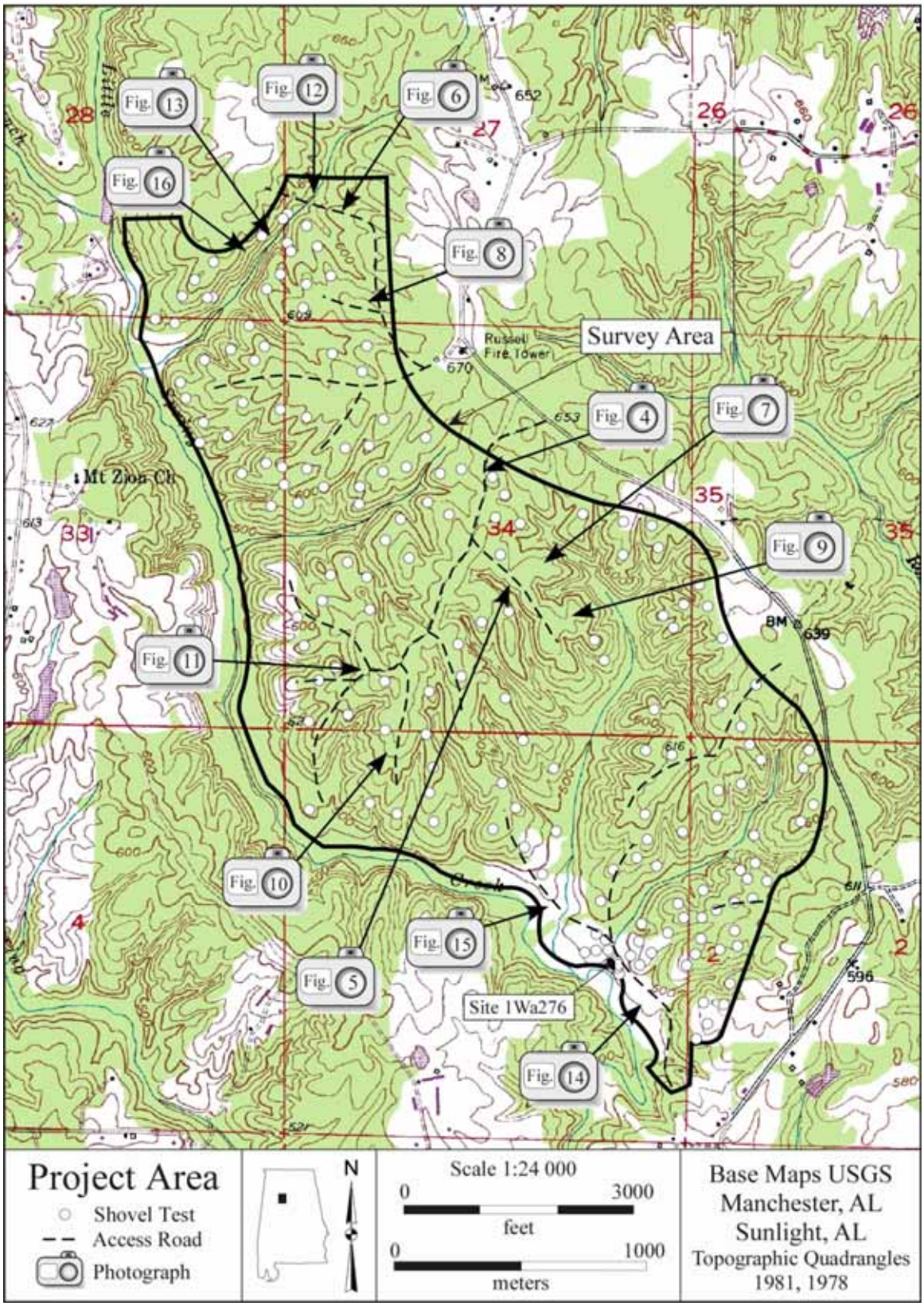

Figure 2. Map of the survey area showing shovel test locations, Site 1Wa276, access roads, wetlands, and previous disturbances.

The *Soil Survey of Walker County, Alabama* (Stevens 1992) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Web Soil Survey 2.0 (USDA 2008) indicates that 8 soil types and complexes occur within the survey area (Figure 3). The description of these soils and complexes is as follows:

Bankhead-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 60 percent slopes: This map unit occurs as areas of a moderately deep, well drained, and moderately steep to very steep soil on narrow, winding ridgetops and highly dissected side slopes. It is also present at areas of rock outcrops and rock bluffs on the steep side slopes above the major drainage ways or at the head of large ravines. Typically, the soil has a surface layer of very dark grayish brown sandy loam about 4 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is brownish yellow channery sandy loam. It extends to a depth of 13 inches. The lower part is yellowish brown cobbly sandy loam. It extends to a depth of 26 inches. It is underlain by fractured, hard, level-bedded sandstone. Nearly all of the acreage is wooded with mixed hardwoods and pine. This map unit is unsuited to cultivated crops and pasture because of the slope and rock outcrop.

Mooreville silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded: This deep, moderately well drained, nearly level soil is on flood plains. Slopes are smooth and slightly convex. Individual areas are mostly long and narrow and parallel the streams. They range from 10 to 60 acres in size. Typically, the surface layer is dark grayish brown silt loam about 8 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is mottled yellowish brown loam about 9 inches thick. The lower part is loam mottled in shades of gray and brown. It extends to a depth of 45 inches. It is underlain to a depth of 60 inches by mottled gray and yellowish brown clay loam. Most of the acreage in this map unit is woodland. Scattered small areas are used as pasture or cropland.

Nauvoo-Townley complex, 4 to 20 percent slopes: These deep and moderately deep, well drained, gently sloping to moderately steep soils are on narrow ridgetops and on side slopes. The Nauvoo soil is generally on the higher, less sloping ridgetops and upper side slopes, and the Townley soil is on the lower ridges and side slopes. Slopes are short and are complex and generally convex. Individual areas are irregular in shape, generally conforming to the shape of the ridge, and range from 20 to 60 acres in size. They are about 50 percent Nauvoo soil and 45 percent Townley soil. Typically, the Nauvoo soil has a surface layer of dark yellowish brown fine sandy loam about 4 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is red and yellowish red clay loam and sandy clay loam. It extends to a depth of 33 inches. The lower part is mottled yellowish red and strong brown fine sandy loam. It extends to a depth of 40 inches. It is underlain by level-bedded, weathered sandstone. Typically, the Townley soil has a surface layer of dark grayish brown silt loam about 5 inches thick. The subsoil is yellowish red silty clay. It extends to a depth of 31 inches. It is underlain by weathered siltstone or fine grain sandstone. Most areas are wooded. A few areas are used for pasture or homesite development.

Nauvoo and Sipsey soils, 6 to 12 percent slopes: These deep and moderately deep, well drained, gently sloping and sloping soils are on ridgetops. Slopes are smooth and convex. Individual areas are irregular in shape and range from 40 to 200 acres in size. Typically, the Nauvoo soil has a surface layer of dark yellowish brown fine sandy loam about 4 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is red clay loam. It extends to a depth of 25 inches. The lower part is yellowish red sandy clay loam and mottled fine sandy

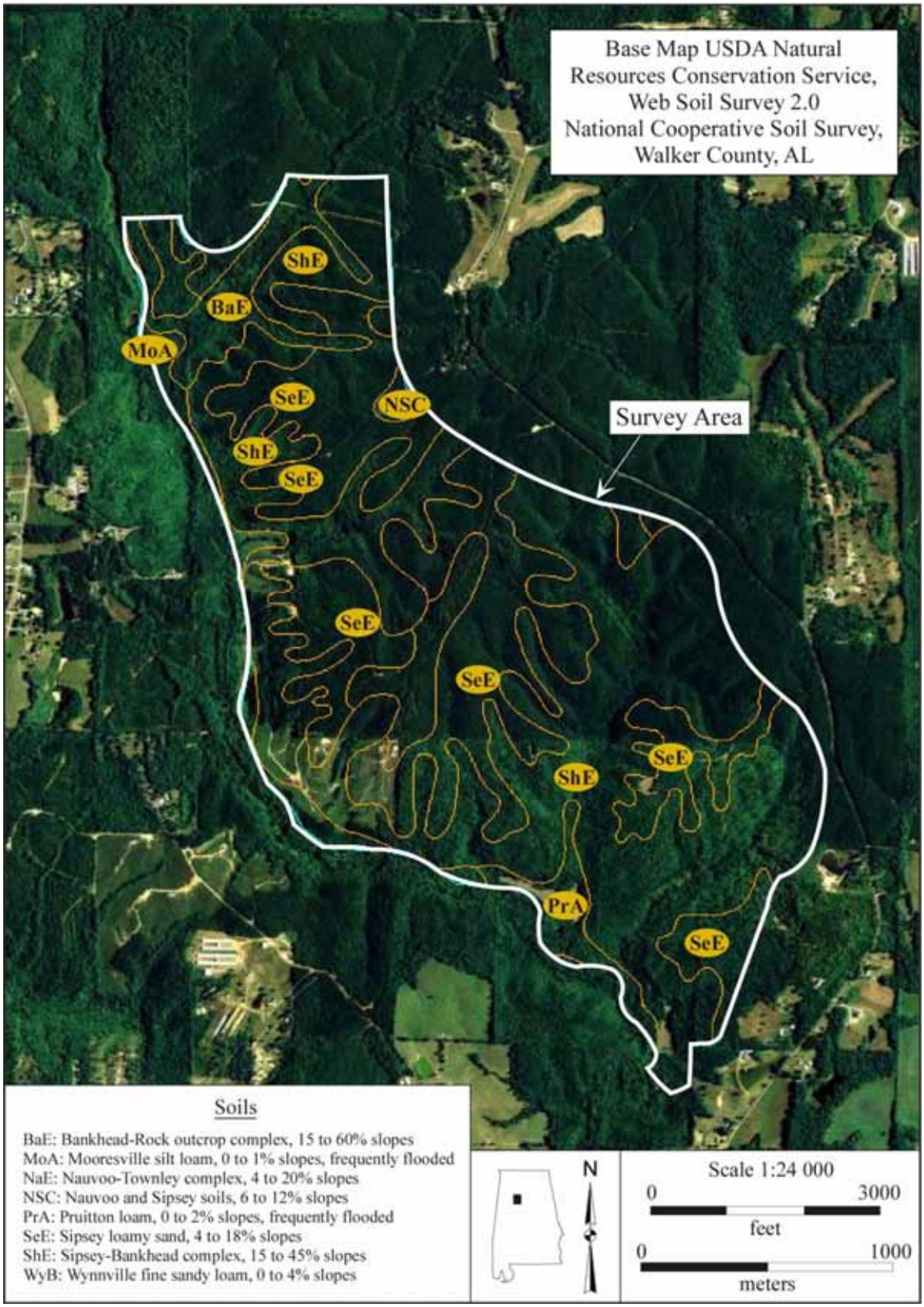

Figure 3. Survey area soil map.

loam. It extends to a depth of 40 inches. It is underlain by level-bedded, weathered sandstone. Typically, the Sipsey soil has a surface layer of brown loamy sand about 4 inches thick. The subsurface layer is yellowish brown sandy loam. It extends to a depth of 16 inches. The subsoil is strong brown sandy clay loam. It extends to a depth of 31 inches. It is underlain by weathered sandstone. Most areas are used as woodland or pasture. A few areas are used for homesite development.

Pruitton loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded: This deep, well drained, level and nearly level soil is on flood plains along the larger streams in the country. Slopes are smooth and slightly concave. Individual areas are generally long and narrow and are parallel to the streams. They range from 10 to 100 acres in size. Typically, the surface layer is yellowish brown loam about 7 inches thick. The subsoil is yellowish brown loam. It extends to a depth of 41 inches. It is underlain to a depth of 64 inches by mottled yellowish brown, very pale brown, dark yellowish brown, and strong brown sandy loam. Most of the acreage is wooded. Some areas have been cleared and are used for cultivated crops or for pasture and hay.

Sipsey loamy sand, 4 to 18 percent slopes: This moderately deep, well drained, gently sloping to moderately steep soil is on narrow ridgetops and the upper side slopes. Slopes are complex and convex. Individual areas are irregular in shape and range from 15 to 120 acres in size. Typically, the surface layer is brown loamy sand about 4 inches thick. The subsurface layer is yellowish brown sandy loam about 12 inches thick. The subsoil is strong brown sandy clay loam. It extends to a depth of 31 inches. It is underlain by level-bedded, weathered sandstone. Most areas are used as woodland or pasture. A few small areas are used for cultivated crops or homesite development.

Sipsey-Bankhead complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes: These moderately deep, well drained, moderately steep to very steep soils are on side slopes. Slopes are short and are concave and convex. Individual areas are irregular in shape and range from 50 to 300 acres in size. Typically, the Sipsey soil has a surface layer of brown loamy sand about 4 inches thick. The subsurface layer is yellowish brown sandy loam about 12 inches thick. The subsoil is strong brown sandy clay loam. It extends to a depth of 31 inches. It is underlain by level-bedded, weathered sandstone. Typically, the Bankhead soil has a surface layer of very dark grayish brown sandy loam about 4 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is brownish yellow channery sandy loam about 9 inches thick. The lower part is yellowish brown cobbly sandy loam. It extends to a depth of 26 inches. It is underlain by fractured, hard, level-bedded sandstone. Almost all of the acreage is wooded. A few areas are used as pasture.

Wynnville fine sandy loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes: This deep, moderately well drained, level to gently sloping soils is on old, high stream terraces. Slopes are smooth and slightly convex. Individual areas are irregular in shape and range from 10 to 75 acres in size. Typically, the surface layer is brown fine sandy loam about 10 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is strong brown loam. It extends to a depth of 22 inches. The next part is a slightly brittle, compact fragipan of yellowish brown loam and strong brown sandy clay loam with tongues and pockets of light gray sandy loam. It extends to a depth of 56 inches. The lower part to a depth of 64 inches is strong brown sandy clay loam that has yellowish red and light brownish gray mottles. Most areas are used for pasture, cultivated crops, or woodland. A few areas are used for homesite development.

The survey area is situated between Little Springs Creek to the west and Bird Farm Road to east. In general, the entire survey area has been previously impacted by timber harvesting activities. After speaking with a local resident, anecdotal evidence suggests timber thinning occurred as recently as 2009. Indeed, there were several access roads, timber loading decks, and clear-cut sections, all suffering subsequent erosion, as well as, secondary growth and immature pines through the survey area (Figures 4-8). Due to timber harvesting and the erosion associated with its activities, the majority of the soils in the area were disturbed and several areas lacked topsoil altogether (Figures 9-11). Four first-order streams were identified within the survey area and sloped terrain was present throughout the project boundaries (Figures 12-13). Furthermore, wetlands were observed, especially in the southern section and along the western boundary, in the survey area (Figures 14-15).

Literature and Document Search

The literature and document search included an inspection of the Alabama State Site File (ASSF), the National Archaeological Database Bibliography (NADB), housed at OAR and the Alabama Online Cultural Resources Database (AOCRD 2010) for previously listed archaeological sites and previously conducted archaeological surveys within the survey boundaries and the APE. Background research indicates that no sites are located within the project boundaries or within a one mile radius of the survey area. Additionally, no archaeological surveys have been conducted within a one mile radius of the survey area. Furthermore, the *Historical Atlas of Alabama, Vol. 2* lists no cemeteries located within close proximity to or within the survey area (Remington 1999).

Field Methods

The field survey implemented standard Phase I survey techniques. Field investigations consisted of a pedestrian reconnaissance implementing visual inspection of exposed surface areas and subsurface testing, resulting in the excavation of 181 shovel tests in the survey area (Figure 2). Field investigations were conducted by 2 two-person crews. As required in the state of Alabama, shovel tests had a minimum diameter of 30 cm and were excavated to sterile subsoil. All excavated soils were screened through 6 mm (¼ in) mesh screen in an effort to recover cultural materials. Soil profiles were recorded in each shovel test noting soil stratigraphy, including soil colors, textures, and depths. Depths of artifact recovery in shovel tests were also recorded when determinable. Where soil was visible at the surface, initial investigations consisted of ground surface inspection. These locations included bare soil exposures along natural slopes, drainages, access road cutbanks, access road surfaces, recently plowed greenfields, cleared timber areas, and erosional surfaces (Figures 3-13). Additionally, wetland areas and locations with standing water were only visually inspected for cultural materials (Figures 14- 15).

Figure 4. Access road in the east central survey area. View southwest.

Figure 5. Access road in the central survey area. View northwest.

Figure 6. Access road in the north survey area. View west.

Figure 7. Timber loading deck in the east central survey area suffering heavy erosion. View west.

Figure 8. Timber loading deck and push pile in the north survey area. View west.

Figure 9. Area in the east central survey area with a complete lack of topsoil due to timber harvesting activities. View east.

Figure 10. Area in the south central survey area recently timber harvested suffering erosion and a complete lack of topsoil. View southwest.

Figure 11. Area in the central survey area with no topsoil due to erosion. View northwest.

Figure 12. First order stream in the north section of the survey area. View southwest.

Figure 13. Typical slope adjacent to the northern first order stream. View southwest.

Figure 14. Wetland in the southern section of the survey area. View north.

Figure 15. Wetland in the south central section of the survey area. View northeast.

Where visibility of the soil surface was limited, shovel tests were excavated at 30 m intervals in those areas with a high probability of containing cultural materials and archaeological sites. Such high probability areas were limited in extent and consisted of landforms with relatively level surfaces (areas of <10% slope) and terraces adjacent to intermittent and permanent water sources. These 30 m interval methods were also limited to those settings showing an absence of disturbance from timber harvesting activities and erosion that has removed soil surface horizons. Areas deemed to have a low probability of intact cultural deposits were sampled at a greater interval of 60 m. Areas impacted by access road construction or on slopes greater than 20° were only visually inspected for cultural materials.

The terrain of the survey area consists of relatively flat ridgetops, sloping ridgelines, steep, sloping terrain adjacent to the first-order streams and Little Spring Creek, and wetlands in the southern section and western boundary of the survey area. Generally, shovel tests in these areas were placed at 60 m intervals and in some cases only visual inspection was implemented due to the lack of surface soil horizons. Additionally, steep sloping terrain was inspected in an attempt to locate rock bluffs they may have been used as shelters by prehistoric people. Although no large rock bluffs were noted, when rock formations along steep terrain were encountered, especially in the northern section of the survey, they were visually inspected and shovel tested in an attempt to locate cultural materials (Figure 16).

The majority of terrain in the survey area has been and is currently being used for timber harvesting purposes, resulting in highly disturbed and eroded soil. First-order streams, erosional surfaces, sloping terrain, access roads, and timber loading decks are also present throughout the survey area. Furthermore, wetlands are present in the southern section and along the western boundary of the survey area. Based on the disturbances and modification to the terrain, there is a low probably of intact cultural deposits in the entire survey area.

When cultural materials were recovered from a shovel test excavation, additional shovel tests were excavated using an adaptive sampling regimen, with shovel tests spaced at 10 m intervals in the cardinal directions or following the natural terrain of the area, until negative tests, usually two, terrain and survey boundaries permitting, indicated investigations were beyond the limits of cultural material concentrations. If cultural materials were found on the surface, shovel testing was used to determine if additional material culture existed at the location in a subsurface context.

Upon the discovery of an archaeological site, which is defined by the recovery of three or more artifacts, a temporary site number was assigned to each individual site. Photographs, field notes, UTM coordinates and sketch maps were recorded for the site. Upon returning to OAR, the site was then assigned a permanent ASSF number and recorded on ASSF maps.

Figure 16. Small rock bluff along the northern most first order stream tested for cultural materials. View southwest.

Shovel Test 148 can be seen in Figure 17 and it displays the typical soil stratigraphy encountered during subsurface testing throughout the survey area. It was excavated to a depth of 20 cmbs. There was no intact O horizon. A 10 YR 6/8 brownish yellow sandy silt clay mottled with a 10 YR 4/3 brown silt loam level was observed from 0 to 15 cmbs. A 2.5 Y 6/6 olive yellow sandy clay was observed from 15 to 20+ cmbs.

Laboratory Methods and Collection Curation

All cultural materials recovered during the project were returned to the David L. DeJarnette Laboratory at Moundville Archaeological Park. All photographs, field notes, maps, and documentation pertinent to the survey will be curated at the Erskine Ramsay Archaeological Repository located at Moundville Archaeological Park. This repository meets Department of the Interior curation standards as defined under 36 CFR Part 79. All debitage was sorted by raw material type and size graded by using a system of Humboldt U.S.A. Standard Sieve nested screens with graduated square hole sizes of 1 inch, .5 inch, and .25 inch and was analyzed using the mass analysis technique as outlined by Ahler (1989).

Figure 17. Shovel Test 148. A shovel test showing the typical soil stratigraphy from the survey area.

Results

During the course of this Phase I survey, one new archaeological site (1Wa276) was located, recorded and added to the ASSF. The following is a brief description of Site 1Wa276, the procedures used during testing, the results of these investigations, and an evaluation with regard to its eligibility for the NRHP. ASSF forms for Site 1Wa276 are provided in Appendix A.

Site 1Wa276

Topographic Map: Manchester
Township: 13S Range: 7W
Elevation: 480 ft
Maximum Depth: 20 cm
Percentage Disturbed: 95 %
Topographic Association: Floodplain
Direction to Water: W
Ground Cover: Grassland
Soil Texture: Loam

Easting: 476427 *Northing*: 3755803
Section: NW¼, NE¼, SE¼ of Section 3
Site Size: 30 m by 20 m
Preservation State: Logged, Clear Cut
NRHP Status: Ineligible
Nearest Water Source: First-order Stream
Distance to Water: 20 m
Soil Types: Pruitton Loam
Components: Middle and Late Archaic to Early Woodland, and Late 18th to Early 19th Century

Comments: Site 1Wa276 is located on a small rise in a floodplain at the confluence of a first-order stream and Little Springs Creek in the southern section of the survey area (Figure 18). A total of 19 shovel tests, 4 positive for cultural materials, was excavated to determine the extent of cultural deposits (Figure 19). The site currently lies within a recently plowed field with pushpiles to the north and west, wetlands and a first-order stream to the north and west, and an access road and secondary pine growth to the east (Figures 20-22). Due to the first-order stream, wetlands, and project boundary, only one negative shovel test transect was attempted to the west of Site 1Wa276.

Diagnostic cultural materials recovered during these investigations include a Cotaco Creek and Sykes White Springs projectile point fragment and 4 unidentifiable projectile point fragments. The Cotaco Creek projectile point (Figure 23A) has a Late Archaic to Early Woodland cultural association and the Sykes-White Springs (Figure 23B) projectile point is assigned a Middle to Late Archaic cultural association (Figure 23). Four additional projectile points and fragments with Middle and Late Archaic characteristics were also recovered, however, due to resharpening a definitive type could not be assigned (Figure 24). Additionally, a pearlware saucer sherd was also recovered. The pearlware sherd, with distinctive blue puddling, was manufactured between 1780 and 1830 and was used as everyday kitchenware. However, no evidence of a historic structure was observed in the vicinity. The recovered artifacts give the site a Middle to Late Archaic and Early Woodland association, with a late 18th and early 19th century component.

It should be noted; however, all diagnostic artifacts, and the majority of all cultural materials recovered, were located on exposed ground surfaces and not in subsurface contexts. Indeed, due to the site being located within a field that appears to be periodically plowed, there was no intact A horizon. Shovel Test 12 can be seen in Figure 25. It is an example of a positive shovel test at Site 1Wa276 and exhibited the deepest and most intact soil stratigraphy. From 0 to 20 cmbs the soil was a 10 YR 3/4 dark yellowish brown silt loam mottled with a 7.5 YR 5/8 strong brown clay. From 20 to 30+ cmbs, a sterile 7.5 YR 5/8 strong brown clay subsoil was present and the shovel test was stopped at 30 cmbs. Further evidence of disturbance to the site includes the access road and pushpiles.

Although dix diagnostic projectile points and one historic pearlware sherd were recovered at Site 1Wa276, the lack of intact soil stratigraphy, the shallowness of deposits, exposed ground surfaces, and previous disturbances from plowing and the access road's construction, leaves a low probability for intact cultural deposits anywhere in the area. Therefore, Site 1Wa276 does not meet the criteria for eligibility into the NRHP and further testing is not warranted.

Figure 18. Site 1Wa276 from the northern boundary. View south.

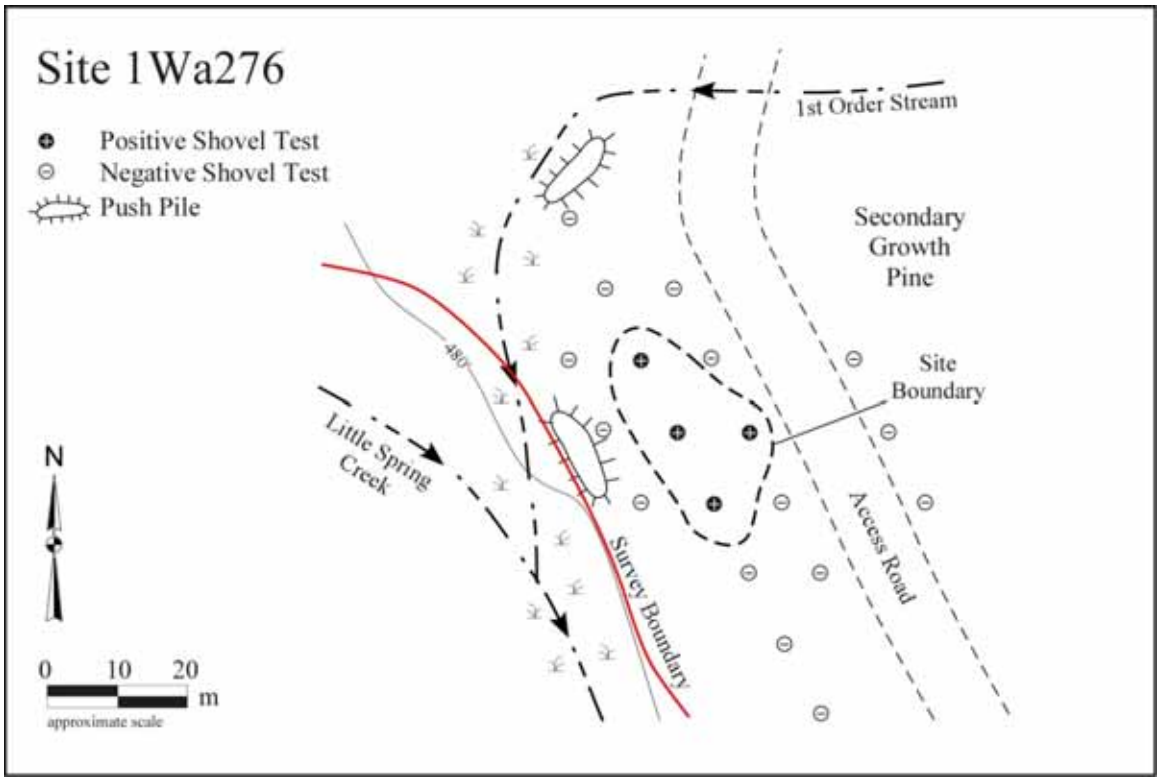

Figure 19. Sketch map of Site 1Wa276.

Figure 20. Pushpile in the northern section of the field in which Site 1Wa276 is located. View west.

Figure 21. First-order stream and wetland vegetation to the west of Site 1Wa276. View southwest.

Figure 22. Access road with exposed ground surfaces and secondary pine growth to the east of Site 1Wa276. View northwest.

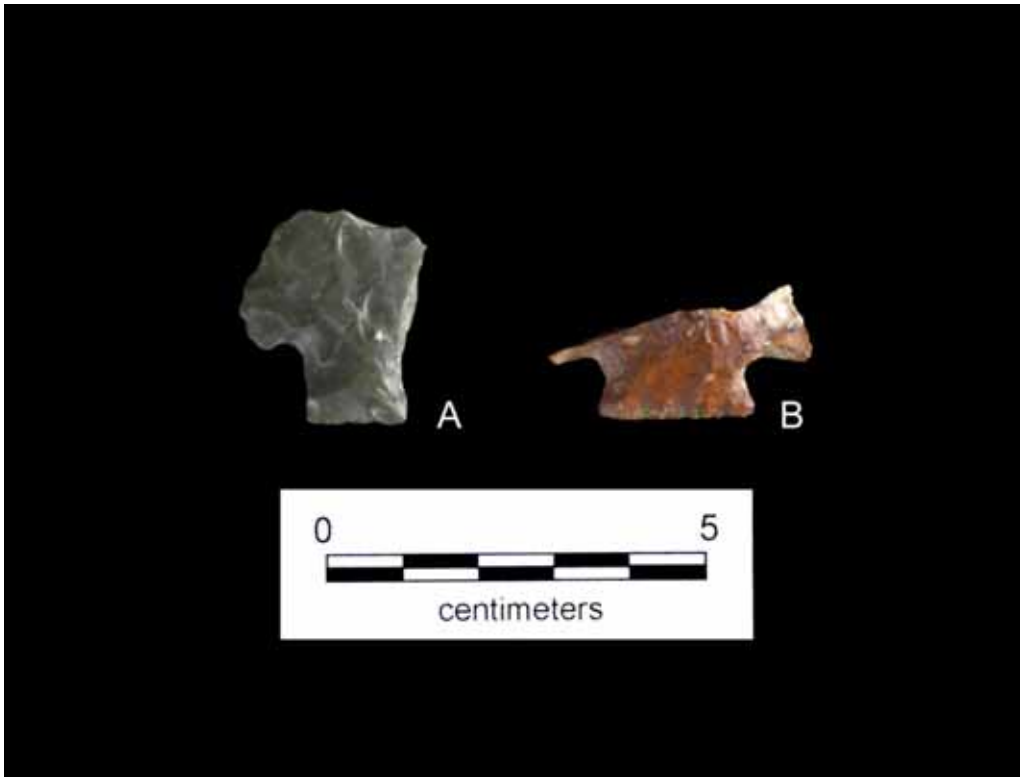

Figure 23. (A) Cotaco and Sykes-White Springs (B) projectile points recovered from Site 1Wa276.

Figure 24. Unidentifiable projectile points recovered from Site 1Wa276 with Middle and Late Archaic characteristics.

Figure 25. Shovel Test 012 from Site 1Wa276

Materials Recovered:

Site	Surface/ST#	Group	Category	Subcategory	Comments	Count	Weight (g)
1Wa276	Surface	Historic Ceramic	Sherd	Rim	Pearlware	1	1.0
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Sykes White Springs, proximal fragment	Tuscaloosa Gravel	1	3.8
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Cotaco Creek, fragment	Bangor	1	4.2
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Unidentifiable Archaic point	Ft. Payne	1	6.2
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Unidentifiable Archaic point	Tusacloosa Gravel	1	3.5
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Unidentifiable Archaic point	Bangor	1	16.7
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Unidentifiable Archaic point	Bangor	1	7.2
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Biface	Proximal fragment	Ft. Payne	1	3.7
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Debitage	.5” with cortex	Bangor	13	35.1
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Debitage	.5” without cortex	Bangor	2	6.0
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Debitage	.25” with cortex	Bangor	26	18.6
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Debitage	.25” without cortex	Bangor	26	6.7
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Debitage	.5” with cortex	Ft. Payne	1	1.7
1Wa276	Surface	Lithic	Debitage	.25” without cortex	Ft. Payne	2	1.3
1Wa276	ST 12	Lithic	Debitage	.5” with cortex	Bangor	2	9.3
1Wa276	ST 12	Lithic	Debitage	.5” with cortex	Tuscaloosa Gravel	1	4.2
1Wa276	ST 12	Lithic	Debitage	.25” with cortex	Bangor	18	6.5
1Wa276	ST 16	Lithic	Debitage	.25” with cortex	Bangor	1	0.5
1Wa276	ST 16	Lithic	Debitage	.25” without cortex	Bangor	2	0.7
1Wa276	ST 17	Lithic	Debitage	.25” without cortex	Bangor	2	0.7
1Wa276	ST 23	Lithic	Debitage	.5” with cortex	Bangor	1	6.3

Conclusions and Recommendations

The University of Alabama, Office of Archaeological Research conducted a Phase I cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed 1,100 acre (1.72 mi²) Little Springs Creek Mine in north central Walker County, Alabama. As stated in the introduction, the cultural resources survey focused on locating and identifying any archaeological sites or historic standing structures within the survey boundaries, assessing their archaeological significance, and providing recommendations with regard to guidelines set forth by the National Historic Preservation Act.

The majority of the survey area would have been an ideal location for prehistoric and historic peoples due to the desirable land in the form of terraces along the first-order streams, the close proximity to water sources including Little Springs Creek, and the plentiful food resources that the land would have provided. This is confirmed in the existence of Site 1Wa276. However, because most of the survey area has been severely impacted and altered by timber harvesting

activities, the construction of access roads, and erosion resulting from these activities, the likelihood that intact cultural remains exist in the entire survey area is extremely low.

During the course of the survey, one new archaeological site (Site 1Wa276) was located, recorded, and added to the ASSF. Site 1Wa276 consists of a multicomponent Middle to Late Archaic and Early Woodland, and late 18th to early 19th century surface and subsurface artifact scatter. Given the previous disturbances to the site through periodic plowing, the construction of an access road, erosion resulting from these activities, and the lack of intact soils, the integrity of the site has been severely adversely impacted. Therefore, Site 1Wa276 does not meet the criteria for eligibility into the NRHP. Therefore, this office recommends a finding of no properties for the entire survey area.

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APPENDIX A

Site: WA276 Retrieve Site

Site Name: UNNAMED

Location and Size

Easting: 476427 Northing: 3755803 Elevation: 480

Township: 13S Range: 07W Section: 3

NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4

Major Axis: 30 Minor Axis: 20 Max Depth: 20

Location and Size

Preservation State: ?

Immediate Destruction Pending: Y Looting/Vandalism: N % Destroyed: 95

National Register Status: NO

Archaeological Information

Level of Investigation: RECONNAISSANCE

Excavation Status: SURFACE & SHOVEL

Topographic Association: FLOOD PLAIN

Physiographic District: WARRIOR

Physiographic Section: CUMBERLAND

Nearest Water Source: FIRST

Direction To: W Distance To: 20 At Confluence: ?

Drainage Basin: WARRIOR

Ground Cover: GRASSLAND

Soil Type: PRUITTON

Soil Texture Class: LOAM

County Soil Survey:

Degree of Disturbance: ENTIRE

Characteristics

☐ Human Remains	☐ Stone Mound(s)
☐ Features	☐ Weir
☐ Petroglyph/Pictrograph	☐ Quarry
☐ Rockshelter	☐ Standing Historic Structure
☐ Cave	☐ Historic Structure Site
☑ Artifact Scatter	☐ Historic Cemetery
☐ Midden	☐ Still
☐ Shell Midden	☐ Mill
☐ Single Earthen Mound	☐ Engineering
☐ Multiple Earthen Mound	☐ Other

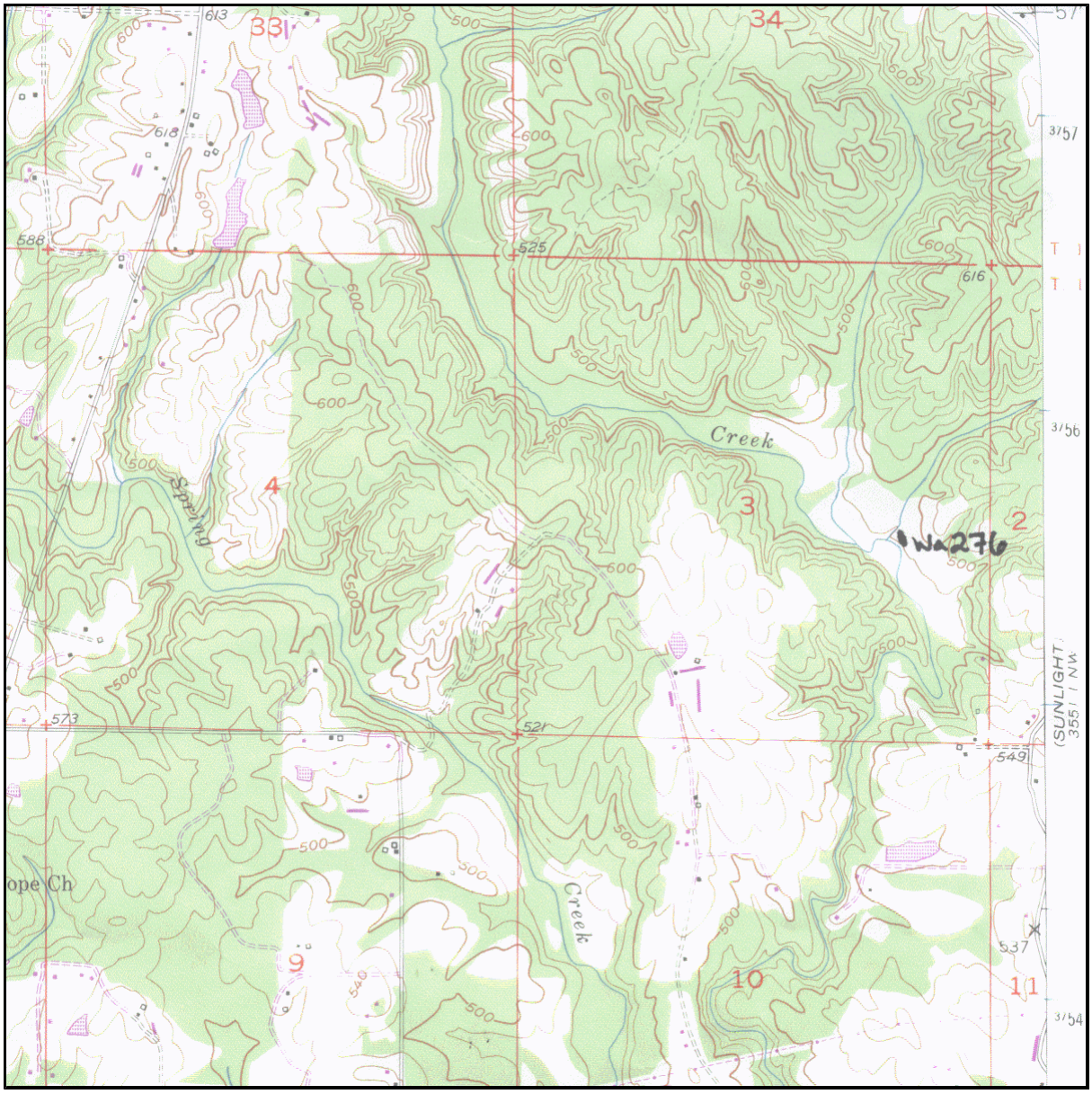
Components

MIDDLE AND LATE ARCHAIC, EARLY WOODLAND, 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY NONABORIGINAL, 1780-1830

UNVERIFIED

Comments

SITE 1WA276 IS LOCATED ON A SMALL RISE IN A FLOODPLAIN AT THE CONFLUENCE OF A FIRST-ORDER STREAM AND LITTLE SPRINGS CREEK IN THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE SURVEY AREA. A TOTAL OF 19 SHOVEL TESTS, 4 POSITIVE FOR CULTURAL MATERIALS, WAS EXCAVATED TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF CULTURAL DEPOSITS. THE SITE CURRENTLY LIES WITHIN A RECENTLY PLOWED FIELD WITH PUSHPILES TO THE NORTH AND WEST, WETLANDS AND A FIRST-ORDER STREAM TO THE NORTH AND WEST, AND AN ACCESS ROAD AND SECONDARY PINE GROWTH TO THE EAST. DUE TO THE FIRST-ORDER STREAM, WETLANDS, AND PROJECT BOUNDARY, ONLY ONE NEGATIVE SHOVEL TEST TRANSECT WAS ATTEMPTED TO THE WEST OF SITE 1WA276.



USGS 7.5' Topographic Map: MANCHESTER

Record Type: ☐ Clear ☐ Master ☐ Synonym

Form Status: ☐ Final ☐ Verified ☑ New

Form Completion: ☐ Final ☐ Map Search ☐ Literature Search

Sponsor Type:	?	Sponsored By:	?
Recorder Type:	ACA	Recorded By:	UAL
Date Submitted:	2010-04-09	Date Revised:	2010-04-15

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