University of Alabama Museums
Office of Archaeological Research

April 30, 2012

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
MUSEUMS

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

OAR PROJECT NUMBER: 12-178

Dear Mr. Williams:

Please find enclosed for your company a copy of our recent report entitled "A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb 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 Engineering Management, Inc. Please feel free to call for further information or services.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Gage/Director
The University of Alabama
Office of Archaeological Research

MDG:tkw
FILE:2010-11SURVEY.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
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A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb 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 2012

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

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Office of Archaeological Research

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April 30, 2012

A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED SEVEN OAKS LAND AND MINERAL'S THUNDER OAKS MINE IN DEKALB COUNTY, ALABAMA

OAR PROJECT NUMBER: 12-178

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

PERFORMED BY: Brandon S. Thompson RPA, Cultural Resources Specialist
Daryll R. Berryman, Cultural Resources Assistant
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DATE PERFORMED: April 9-13, 18-20, 2012

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A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb County, Alabama

Brandon S. Thompson

Management Summary

The University of Alabama, Office of Archaeological Research (OAR) was contracted by Task Engineering Management, Inc. to perform a Phase I cultural resources survey for the proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb County, Alabama. The proposed project areas consist of two irregularly shaped tracts totaling approximately 214 ha (530 acres). Field investigations for the project were conducted on April 9-20, 2012. Brandon S. Thompson RPA, Cultural Resources Specialist, serves as the project director and Matthew D. Gage RPA, Director of OAR, serves as the Principal Investigator. The lead agency for the proposed project activity is the Alabama Surface Mining Commission.

As a result of the cultural resources survey, one new archaeological site was identified, documented, and added to the Alabama State Site File (ASSF) (Table 1). Site 1Dk161 consists of a sparse surface lithic scatter of Early Archaic origin and is recommended as ineligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Additionally, one historic architectural resource (HAR) was recorded within the proposed project boundaries. HAR 1 is a ca. 1940 wood-frame bungalow in dilapidated condition and is not considered eligible for listing to the NRHP. It is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will not have an adverse effect on any significant historic properties.

Table 1. Summary of Historic Properties Identified**.**

Historic Property/Historic Architectural Resource (HAR)	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation or Historic Property Type	Recommendation for Listing to the NRHP (Y/N/Listed)
Site 1Dk161	Early Archaic	N
HAR 1	Ca. 1940 Bungalow	N

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A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb County, Alabama

Brandon S. Thompson

Introduction

The University of Alabama, Office of Archaeological Research (OAR) was contracted by Task Engineering Management, Inc. to perform a Phase I cultural resources survey for the proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb County, Alabama. Field investigations for the project were conducted on April 9-20, 2012. Brandon S. Thompson RPA, Cultural Resources Specialist, serves as the project director. The field crew consisted of Daryll R. Berryman, Cultural Resources Assistant, and Donald L. Brown, Cultural Resources Assistant. Matthew D. Gage RPA, Director of OAR, serves as the Principal Investigator. The lead agency for the proposed project activity is the Alabama Surface Mining Commission.

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 Park Service for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility criteria. Included in this report is a discussion of the environmental setting of the survey area, a literature search of any previously recorded sites or previously conducted surveys within or near the survey area, a description of field and laboratory methods, the results of the cultural resources survey, and conclusions and recommendations based on the findings of this survey.

Environmental Setting

The proposed project areas consist of two irregularly shaped tracts totaling approximately 27.8 ha (530 acres) near the town of Rainsville in DeKalb County, Alabama. The two proposed project areas are referred to hereafter as Project Area A and Project Area B. Project Area A totals approximately 182 ha (450 acres) and Project Area B totals approximately 32 ha (80 acres). The proposed project areas can be seen in the majority of Section 3, the SE 1/4 of Section 4, and the N 1/2 of Section 10, T6S, R8E on the USGS 1947 (photorevised 1983) Sylvania, AL topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

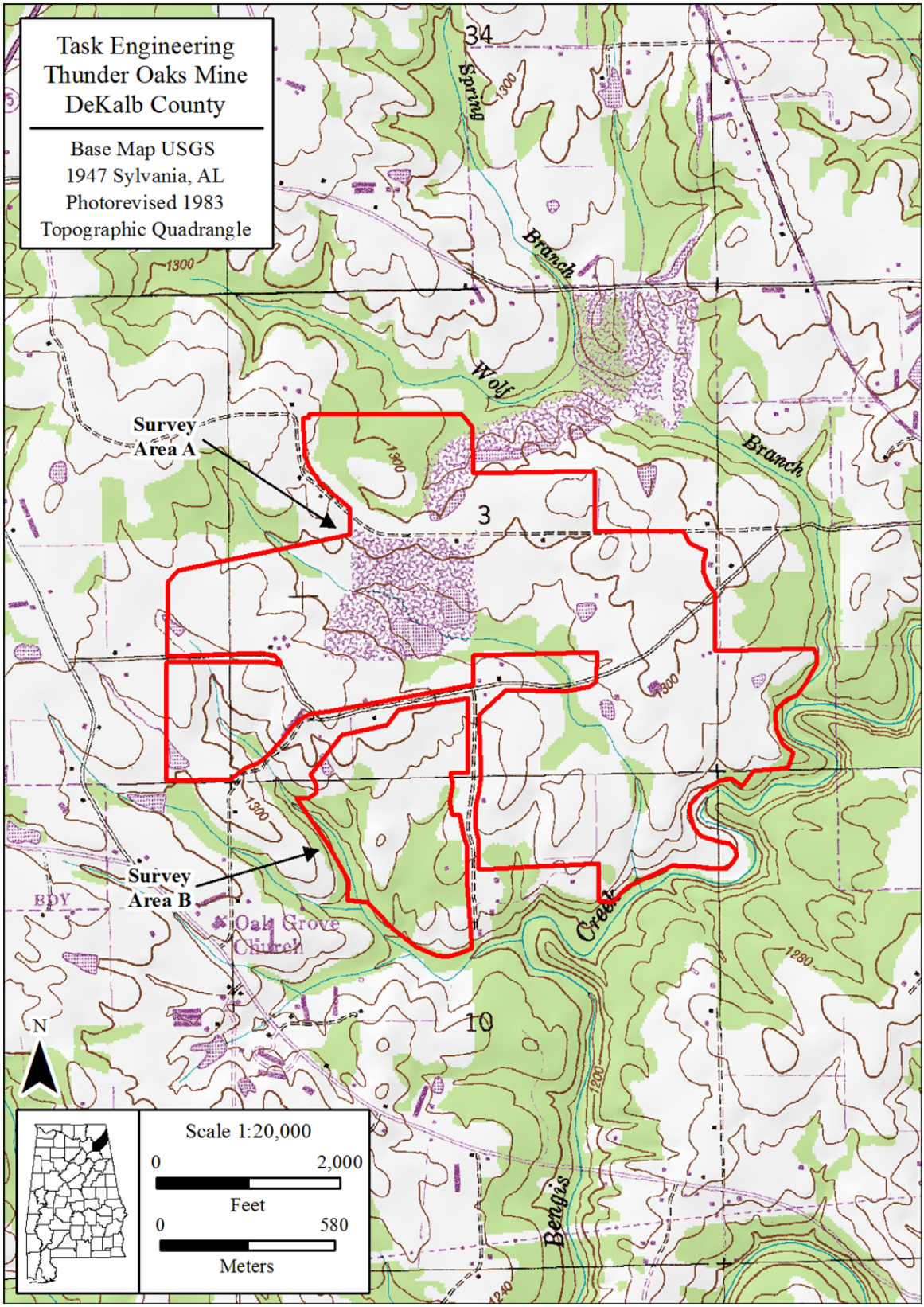

Figure 1. Project areas for the proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine.

The proposed project area is located within the Sand Mountain district of the Alabama Valley and Ridge physiographic section. Sapp and Emplaincourt (1975) characterize the Sand Mountain district as a "submaturely dissected sandstone and shale synclinal plateau of moderate relief." The soil survey of DeKalb County (Swenson et al. 1954) and the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Web Soil Survey 2.0 (USDA 2008) indicate that 9 soil types and complexes, totaling 20 map units, occur within the survey area (Figure 2):

Apison: The following map units are included in this soil type: Apison loam, eroded, rolling (Am), Apison loam, eroded, undulating (An), and Apison loam, rolling (Ao). The Apison series consists of well drained, moderately permeable soils that are moderately deep to soft shale. These soils formed in residuum of interbedded shale, siltstone, and fine-grained sandstone or in a layer of colluvium and the residuum. Colluvial and soil creep influences are more pronounced on steep and very steep slopes. They are on the crests, side slopes, foot slopes, and back slopes of uplands. Slopes range from 2 to 75 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of brown loam 0 to 7 inches below surface underlain by yellowish brown clay loam 7 to 14 inches below surface. About half of the acreage is cleared and used for growing pasture, small grains, corn, and hay. The remainder is used for woodland.

Atkins silt loam (Au): The Atkins series consists of very deep, poorly drained soils formed in acid alluvium washed from upland soils that formed in shale and sandstone. Permeability is slow to moderate. Slope ranges from 0 to 3 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of slightly decomposed loose hardwood leaf litter 0 to 1 inches, moderately decomposed organic matter 1 to 1.5 inches, dark grayish brown loam 1.5 to 5 inches, and dark grayish brown loam 5 to 8 inches. Most areas are wooded or pastured.

Cotaco-Barbourville loams (Cl): The Cotaco series consists of very deep, moderately well or somewhat poorly drained, moderately permeable soils formed in loamy sediments of acid sandstone, siltstone, and shale origin. These soils are on foot slopes, colluvial fans, and low stream terraces. Slopes range from 0 to 20 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of dark grayish brown loam 0 to 10 inches underlain by yellowish brown sandy clay loam 10 to 16 inches. Soils are typically used for crops, principally corn, burley, tobacco, small grains, truck, fruit, sorghum, and hay or pasture. The Barbourville series consists of deep and very deep, well drained soils formed in colluvial and/or alluvial material weathered from acid sandstones and shales. Permeability is moderately rapid. These nearly level to strongly sloping soils are on alluvial fans, footslopes, and low stream terraces. Slopes range from 0 to 20 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of dark brown loam 0 to 7 inches underlain by dark brown loam 7 to 16 inches. Nearly all accessible areas have been cleared and are being used for growing crops and as pasture.

Crossville: The following map units are included in this soil type: Crossville loam, rolling (Cm), Crossville loam, undulating (Cn), Crossville rocky loam, rolling (Co), and Crossville rocky loam, undulating (Cp). The Crossville series consists of moderately deep, well drained soils on mountain tops weathered from loamy residuum. Slopes range from 2 to 20 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of dark brown loam 0 to 7 inches underlain by dark yellowish brown loam 7 to 11 inches. The few cleared areas are used for growing vegetables, corn, hay, and pasture.

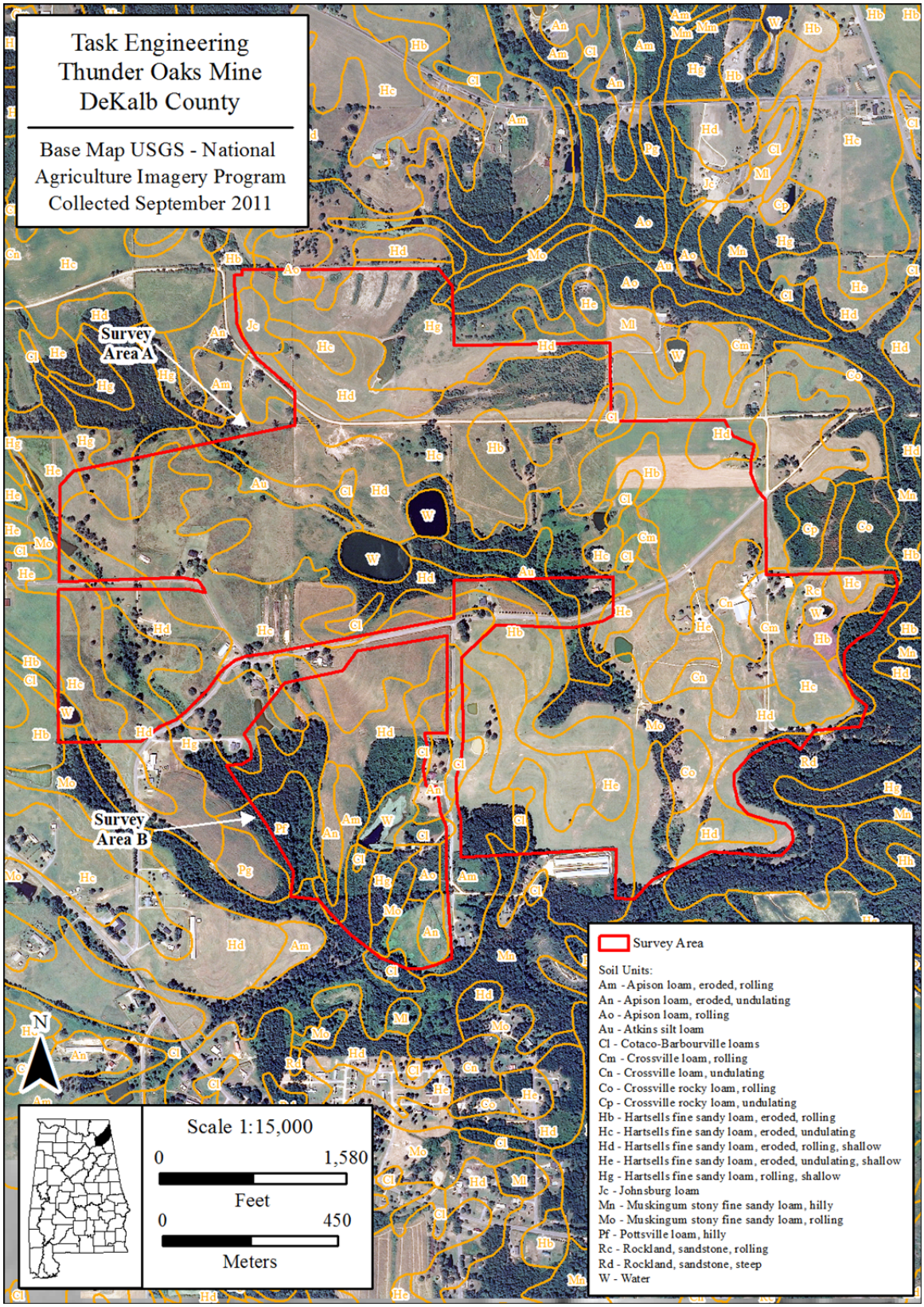

Figure 2. Soil map and aerial view of the project area.

Hartsells: The following map units are included in this soil type: Hartsells fine sandy loam, eroded, rolling (Hb), Hartsells fine sandy loam, eroded, undulating (Hc), Hartsells fine sandy loam, eroded, rolling, shallow (Hd), Hartsells fine sandy loam, eroded, undulating, shallow (He), and Hartsells fine sandy loam, rolling, shallow (Hg). The Hartsells series consists of moderately deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in loamy residuum weathered from acid sandstone containing thin strata of shale or siltstone. These soils are on nearly level to moderately steep ridges and upper slopes of hills and mountains. Typical soil profiles consist of dark grayish brown fine sandy loam 0 to 5 inches underlain by 5 to 9 inches brown fine sandy loam. Some acreage is in pasture. More than one-fourth of the soil is forested.

Johnsburg loam (Jc): The Johnsburg series consists of very deep, somewhat poorly drained, soils that formed in loess or silty material and the underlying loamy residuum weathered from interbedded sandstone, siltstone, and shale. These soils are on hills, and have slopes ranging from 0 to 6 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of dark grayish brown silt loam 0 to 10 inches underlain by light yellowish brown silt loam 10 to 14 inches. Most of this soil is used for growing corn, soybeans, or hay. Some areas are used for pasture, and a few areas are in woodland.

Muskingum: The following map units are included in this soil type: Muskingum stony fine sandy loam, hilly (Mn) and Muskingum stony fine sandy loam, rolling (Mo). The Muskingum series consists of moderately deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils formed in residuum weathered from interbedded siltstone, sandstone and shale. Slopes range from 2 to 75 percent. Typical soil profiles consist of dark grayish brown channery silt loam 0 to 4 inches underlain by yellowish brown channery silt loam 4 to 12 inches. Gentle slopes are used for growing corn, wheat and hay. Most areas are in mixed forest of oaks, yellow poplar, hickory and maple.

Pottsville loam, hilly (Pf): This phase occupies hilly to steeply sloping areas on the sandstone plateau. It occurs largely on the northern half of Sand Mountain where material weathered from acid shale is dominant or nearly dominant. Slopes range from 10 to 20 percent. Typical soil profiles pale grayish-yellow sandy loam 0 to 9 inches underlain by grayish-yellow very fine sandy clay 9 to 24 inches. A small part is used for crops and pasture.

Rockland: The following map units are included in this soil type: Rockland, sandstone, rolling (Rc) and Rockland, sandstone, steep (Rd). The Rockland series consists of well drained soils formed in loamy colluvium from rotational landslides on slopes of stream valleys and dissections of ground moraines. Saturated hydraulic conductivity is moderate in the upper part of the profile and moderately slow in the lower part. Slopes range from 18 to 70 percent. Typical soil profiles consists of slightly decomposed plant material 0 to 2 cm, dark brown silt loam 2 to 13 cm, and dark reddish brown silt loam 13 to 58 cm. Most areas are forested. The major species are sugar maple, white pine, green ash, quaking aspen, eastern hemlock, yellow birch, white birch, ironwood, northern white cedar and balsam fir.

Topographically, the proposed project areas predominantly consist of undulating upland crests and slopes with terraces adjacent to permanent and intermittent water sources (Figures 3-4). Elevations range from 365.76 m (1200 ft) AMSL along sloping terrain adjacent to Bengis Creek

in the southern extent of Project Area A to 402.3 m (1320 ft) AMSL along the upland crests throughout Project Area A. The majority of the terrain has been previously altered. Prior disturbances and alterations include: pastoral and agricultural activity, primary and access road construction, and strip mining (Figures 3-11). Indeed the greater part of the terrain within Project Areas A and B is within open pasture with lesser parts being used for agriculture or residential purposes and/or in low-lying wet areas. These ground disturbing activities, in combination with sloping terrain, left many eroded and open surfaces throughout the proposed project areas. Water sources include holding ponds, intermittent drainages, and 2 first-order streams (Figures 3-4, 12-14). Vegetation consists primarily of grasslands within pastures and immature deciduous growth in low-lying wet terrain (Figures 3-4, 15-16).

Literature and Document Research

The literature and document research included an inspection of the Alabama State Site File (ASSF) (OAR 2002), the National Archaeological Database Bibliography (housed at OAR), the Alabama Online Cultural Resources Database, and the Alabama Phase I Surveys Website (OAR 2011) for previously listed archaeological sites and previously conducted archaeological surveys within or directly adjacent to the proposed project areas. Research indicates that no archaeological sites or cultural resources surveys have been recorded or conducted inside the boundaries or within a one-mile radius of the proposed project areas. A review of the 1952 DeKalb County Soil Map shows no structures within the proposed project areas. However, the 1937 DeKalb County Highway Map shows a structure within Section 3 of Project Area A. Investigation into this structure can be found in the *Results* section of this report. Finally, Remington's (1999) Historical Atlas of Alabama, Vol. 2 lists no cemeteries within the proposed project areas.

Field Methods

Field investigations consisted of a pedestrian walkover of Project Areas A and B employing visual inspection of exposed ground surface and subsurface testing. Per AHC guidelines, all shovel tests had a minimum diameter of 30 cm and were excavated to recognizable, culturally sterile subsoil. All excavated soil was sieved through 6.35 mm (1/4 in) hardware cloth in an effort to recover cultural materials. Soil profiles were recorded for each shovel test noting soil colors, textures, and depths of soil texture/color changes and horizon boundaries. All shovel test locations were documented using global positioning systems units rated for 1-3 m accuracy. A total of 84 shovel tests, all negative for cultural materials, was excavated in the course of these field investigations (Figures 3-4). The extensive impact from prior agricultural and pastoral activity has greatly reduced or even negated the potential for subsurface or even surficial evidence of prior aboriginal or historic occupation for the majority of the project area.

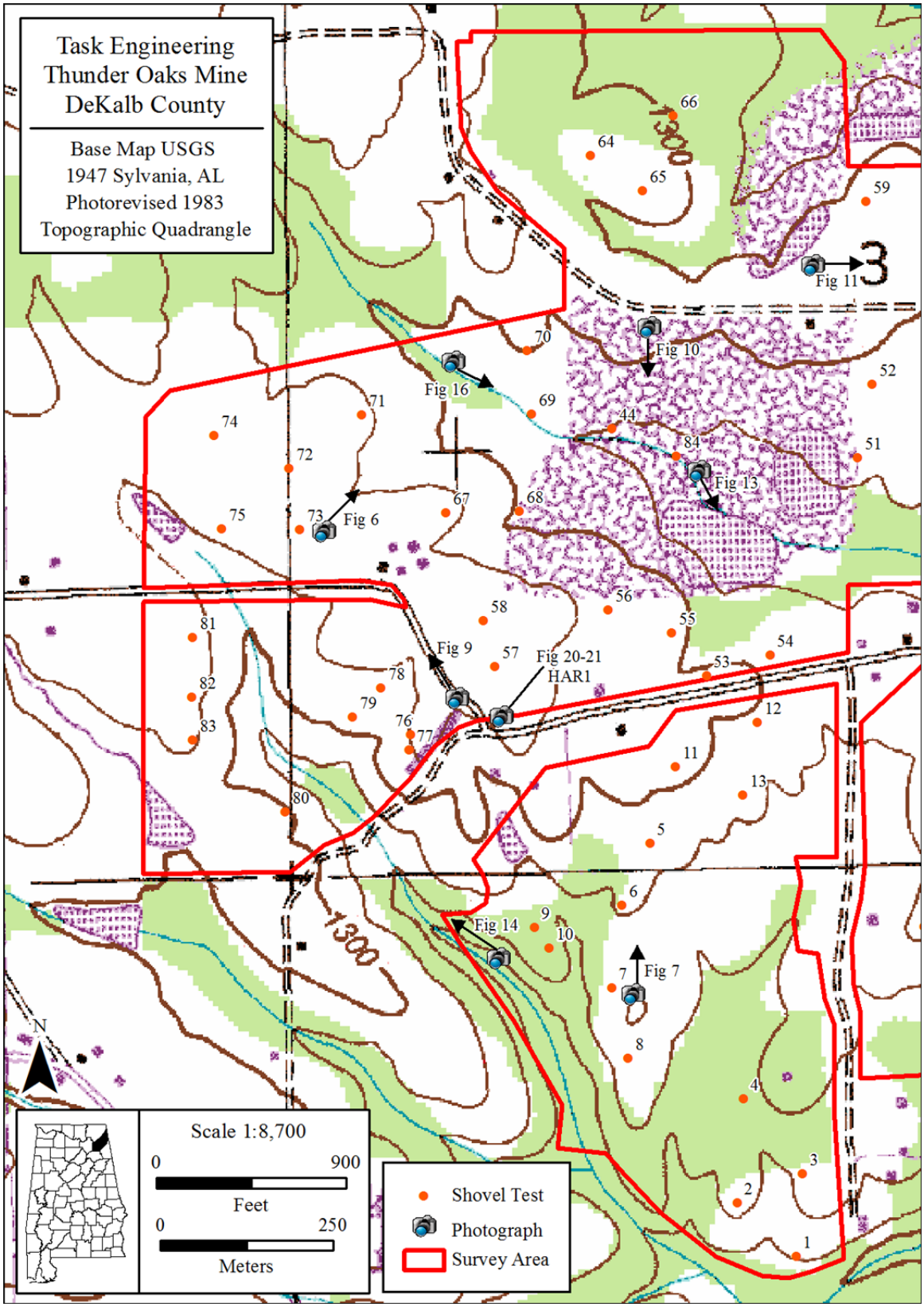

Figure 3. Location of photographs and details about the proposed project areas. Map 1 of 2.

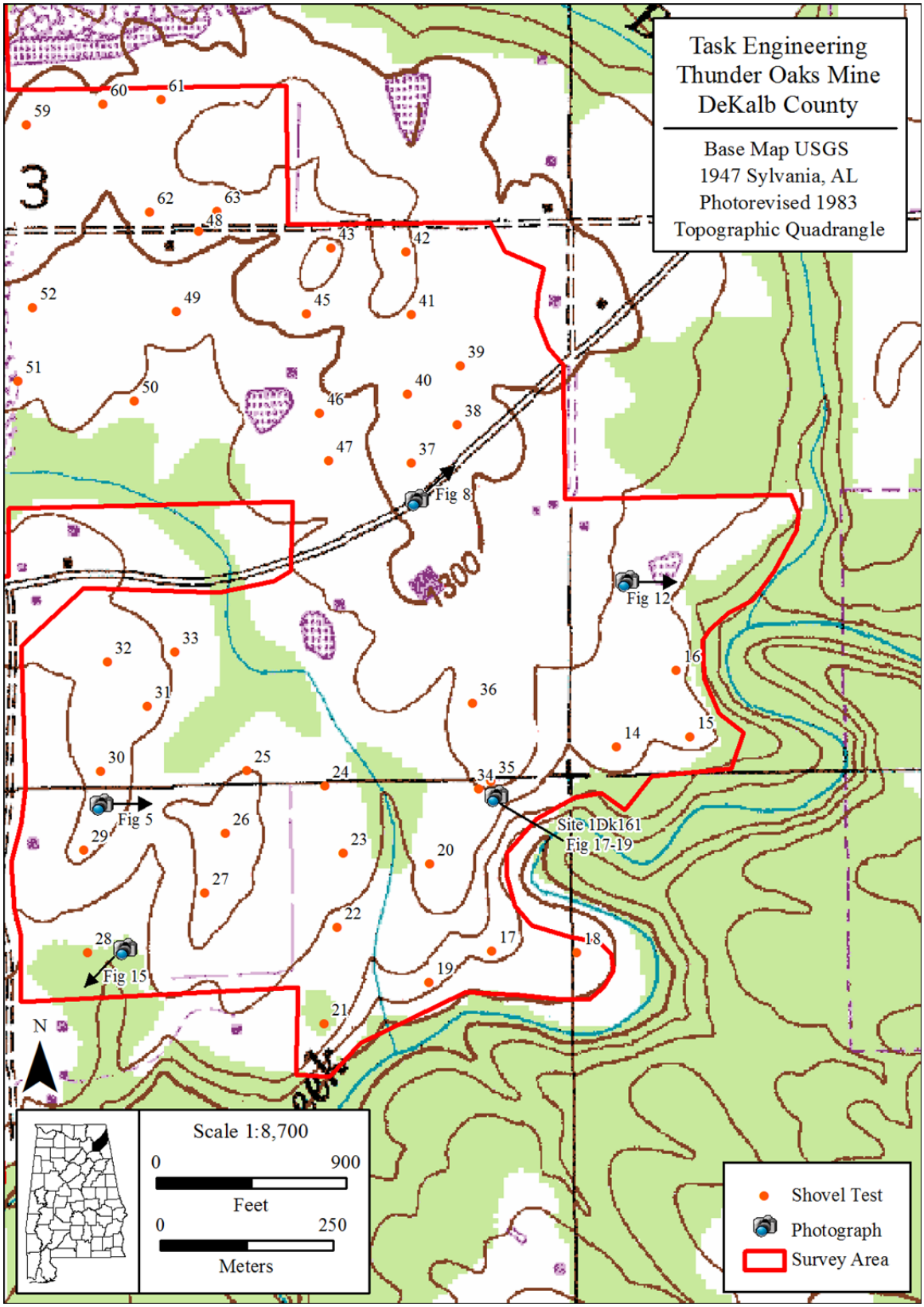

Figure 4. Location of photographs and details about the proposed project areas. Map 2 of 2.

Figure 5. Open pasture in the southern portion of Project Area A. View east.

Figure 6. Open pasture in the western portion of Project Area A. View northeast.

Figure 7. Fallow field in the center of Project Area B. View north.

Figure 8. DeKalb County Road 681 in the center of Project Area A. View northeast.

Figure 9. DeKalb County Road 682 in the western portion of Project Area B. View northwest.

Figure 10. Spoil pile in previously strip mined portion of Project Area A. View south.

Figure 11. Low-lying wet area in previously strip-mined portion of Project Area A. View east.

Figure 12. Holding pond in the eastern portion of Project Area A. View east.

Figure 13. Holding pond in previously strip-mined portion of Project Area A. View southeast.

Figure 14. First-order stream along the western boundary of Project Area B. View northwest.

Figure 15. Immature deciduous growth in low-lying wet area in Project Area A. View southwest.

Figure 16. Immature deciduous growth in low-lying wet portion of Project Area A. View southeast.

Photographic documentation was undertaken to provide evidence of the varying environments and disposition of the proposed project area. These photographs (Figures 5-16) are keyed to the topographic maps (Figures 3-4) showing their locations and orientation.

Where exposed ground surface was present, initial investigations consisted of visual surface inspection. The locations included bare soil exposures along natural slopes, road cutbanks, road surfaces, and erosional surfaces. Where visibility was limited, shovel tests were excavated at 30 m intervals. Such areas were very limited in extent and consisted of landforms with relatively level settings (areas of less than 15 percent slope) and terraces adjacent to water sources. The 30 m interval subsurface testing method was also limited to those settings exhibiting an absence of disturbance from prior pastoral and agricultural activity where subsequent erosion has removed near surface soil horizons. Lower probability areas were sampled at greater intervals ranging from 60 m to 100 m and included gently sloped and disturbed settings. Slopes greater than 15 percent were visually inspected. Shovel test intervals in these areas exceeded the 60 m spacing and in some cases shovel testing was curtailed altogether due to the lack of intact near surface soil horizons. Areas disturbed by late-twentieth century farm infrastructure development, particularly in the eastern portion of Project Area A, were also visually inspected for cultural materials. Low-lying areas that exhibit frequent inundation and habitually wet areas with hydric soils were not shovel tested, but were walked over and examined for cultural resources. Upon the discovery of an archaeological site, which is defined by the recovery of three or more artifacts, a temporary site number was assigned. Photographs, field notes, UTM coordinates and sketch maps were recorded for each site.

Shovel Test 34, excavated adjacent to Site 1Dk161, can be seen in Figure 17. It is an example of a typical shovel test excavated within pasture on upland crests found throughout the proposed project areas. It was excavated to 40 cm below surface (cmbs) and revealed a profile of 10YR 4/2 dark grayish-brown fine sandy loam 0-7 cmbs, 10YR 5/6 yellowish-brown fine sandy loam 7-30 cmbs, and 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown sandy clay 30-40 cmbs. The profile is consistent with the Hartsells series (Hb) (Soil Survey Staff 2008).

Laboratory Methods and Collection Curation

All cultural materials recovered during the project were transported to the David L. DeJarnette Laboratory at Moundville Archaeological Park in Moundville, Alabama for processing and analysis. Laboratory analysis followed accepted standard procedures involving washing of all recovered materials, sorting by artifact class, and tabulation of all artifacts. During the analysis process, artifacts were placed into archival bags with permanent provenience information and prepared for curation. All debitage was sorted by raw material type and size graded using a system of Humboldt USA Standard Sieve nested screens with graduated square hole sizes of 1 inch, 0.5 inch, and 0.25 inch.

Figure 17. Shovel Test 34.

All artifacts, 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 and required by Chapter 460-X-9 of the Administrative Code of Alabama. A letter of agreement for curation has been included as Appendix A.

Results

As a result of the field investigations, one new archaeological site and one historic architectural resource (HAR) were identified and documented. These include 1Dk161 and HAR 1. A copy of the ASSF form for Site 1Dk161 has been included as Appendix B. This section includes a description of Site 1Dk161, the procedures used during investigation, the results of the site examination, and an evaluation with regard to the site's eligibility for the NRHP. No structure was present in the area where the 1937 DeKalb County Highway Map indicated in Section 3 within Project Area A. Given the accuracy and scale of the 1937 map, the structure may be located outside the proposed project boundaries or may have been demolished sometime in the past.

Site 1Dk161

Topographic Map: 1983 Sylvania, AL
Easting: 612139.9 *Northing:* 3822089.1
Section: NW ¼, NE ¼, NE ¼ of Section 10
Site Size: 18.9 m by 6.1 m
Maximum Depth: 0 cmbs
Degree of Disturbance: 99%
Ground Cover: Open and Eroded
Soil Texture: Fine Sandy Loam
Components: Early Archaic

Datum: NAD1927 *Zone*: 16N
Township: 6S *Range*: 8E
Elevation: 1280 ft AMSL
Surface Area: 54.2 sq m
Natural Setting: Upland Crest
NRHP Status: Considered Ineligible
SoilType: Hartsells
Artifact Density: Sparse

Comments: This site consists of a sparse density surface scatter of lithic materials of Early Archaic origin (Figures 4, 18-19). The site is located on an upland crest within the exposed surface of an access road. It is bordered on all sides by open pasture. Vegetation in the area consists of grassland. During the course of the field investigations, two shovel tests, both negative for cultural materials, were excavated to determine if any subsurface deposits were present. However all lithic materials were recovered from eroded and exposed ground surfaces. Additional subsurface testing was not warranted given the degree of soil disturbance from pastoral activity. Shovel Test 34, seen in Figure 17, was excavated to a depth of 40 cmbs and revealed a profile of 10YR 4/2 dark grayish-brown silt loam 0-7 cmbs, 10YR 5/6 yellowish-brown silt loam 7-30 cmbs, and 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown sandy clay 30-40 cmbs..

Recovery Technique: Surface Collection
Materials Recovered:

Provenience	Group	Category	Sub Category	Count	Wt (g)
Surface	Debitage	0.25" without cortex	Ft. Payne	1	0.6
Surface	Chipped Stone	Biface fragment, medial	Ft. Payne	1	4.2
Surface	Chipped Stone	Kirk-like PP/K fragment	Ft. Payne	1	3.0

Temporal/Cultural Affiliation: Early Archaic, Kirk Horizon

Evaluation/Recommendation: Site 1Dk161 is a sparse density surface lithic scatter of Early Archaic origin. The site likely represents a short-term camp or butchering site with a single projectile point, a biface, and one flake recovered. It lies on a high, relic terrace above Bengis Creek. The site has been severely impacted by pastoral activity, access road construction, and erosion resulting in a lack of intact cultural deposits. The projectile point fragment is classified as a Kirk Corner Notched based on its size, biconvex cross-section, serrated and bevel blade edges, and a ground stem base (Cambron and Hulse 1975). Site 1Dk161 is not considered eligible for nomination to the NRHP due to a paucity of cultural materials recovered in a very disturbed context.

Figure 18. Site 1Dk161 as seen from the site's eastern boundary. View west.

Historic Architectural Resources

Gene A. Ford

One HAR (1) was identified within the survey area. HAR 1 is located near the communities of Rainsville and Sylvania, Alabama (Figures 3, 20-21). HAR 1 is identified as a dilapidated bungalow. Due to its deteriorated condition, the bungalow is not considered to meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the NRHP. An architectural description and NRHP eligibility evaluation of HAR 1 follows.

HAR 1

Location: USGS 7.5' Sylvania, AL Quadrangle. Rainsville and Sylvania Vicinities. DeKalb County Road 681.

Name: Bungalow. Ca. 1940.

Description: Circa 1940, one-story, wood-frame bungalow with front-oriented gable roof of standing seam metal, asbestos over weatherboard siding, off center single leaf door opening (door no longer in place), flanking window openings (sashes missing), partial width partially screened porch with metal roof, wood posts, and concrete block walls, block and stone pier foundation for the house and concrete slab foundation for the porch (Figures 3, 20-21).

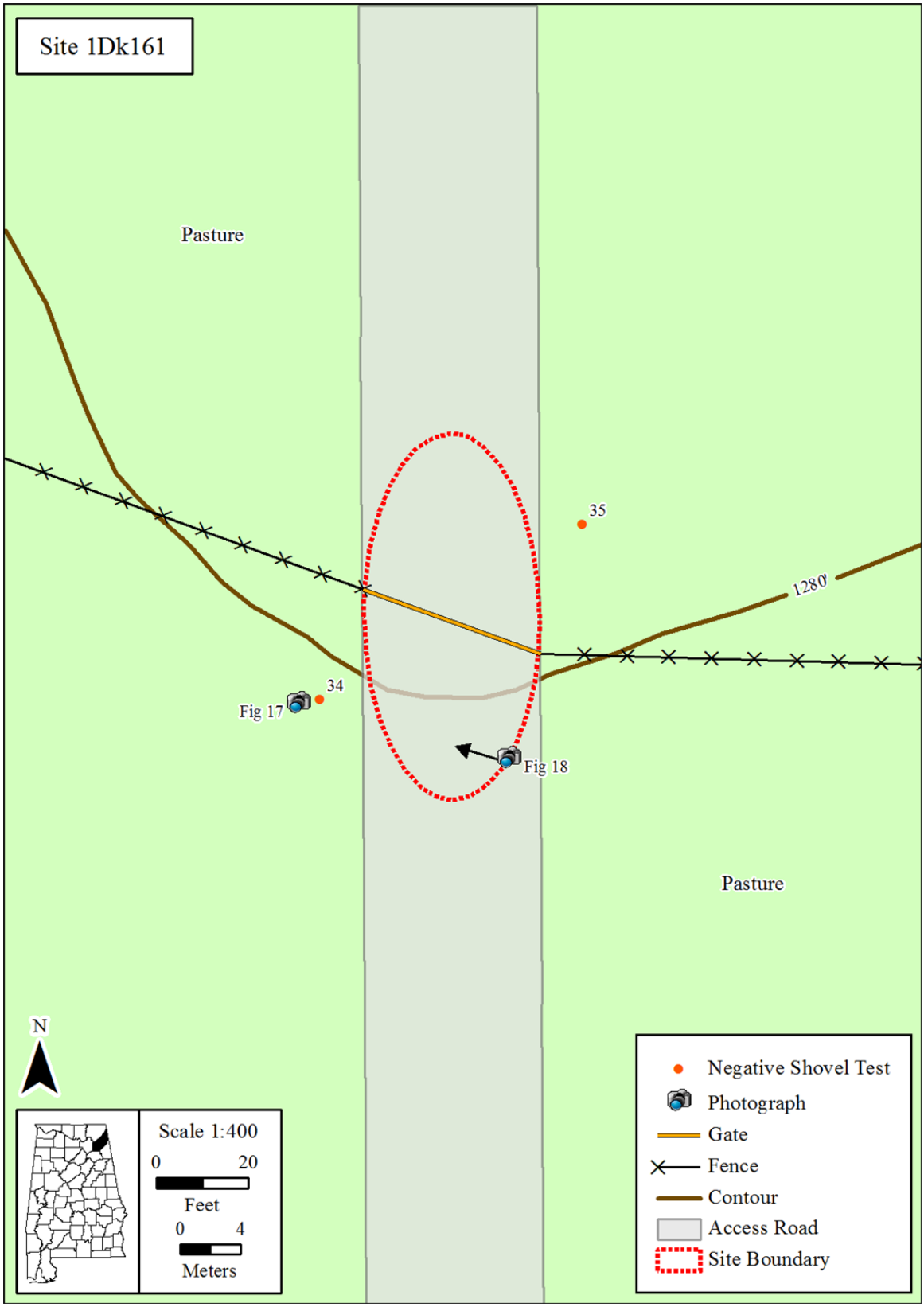

Figure 19. Sketch map of Site 1Dk161.

Figure 20. HAR 1. View west.

Figure 21. HAR 1. View southeast.

Evaluation/Recommendation: The dilapidated bungalow does not retain three of the seven characteristics of integrity. These include materials, design, and workmanship. The bungalow no longer features its historic windows and exterior and interior doors. Water infiltration via sections of missing roofing and siding has damaged interior and exterior walls as well as floors. Given the loss of this level of integrity, the bungalow is not considered to meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the NRHP.

Summary and Evaluation

During the course of the Phase I cultural resources survey, Project Areas A and B were found to be heavily disturbed as a result of agricultural and pastoral practices, prior strip-mining, farm infrastructure development, and erosion. Furthermore, much of the proposed project areas were strongly sloping and considered unlikely to be conducive to occupation. Due to its disturbed nature, only one site, 1Dk161, and one historic architectural resource, HAR 1, were located and recorded within the proposed project boundaries. Given the degree of alterations and disturbance to the landscape, the scarcity of cultural material recovery is not surprising.

Recommendations

The University of Alabama, Office of Archaeological Research, under contract with Task Engineering Management, Inc. performed a Phase I cultural resources survey for the proposed Seven Oaks Land and Mineral's Thunder Oaks Mine in DeKalb County, Alabama. As a result of the survey, a single new archaeological site, Site 1Dk161, and one historic standing structure, HAR 1, were recorded. Site 1Dk161 is a sparse surface lithic scatter of Early Archaic origin representing an ephemeral occupation assigned to the Kirk Horizon. The site likely represents a short-term camp or butchering site with a single projectile point, a biface, and one flake recovered. It lies on a high, relic terrace above Bengis Creek where long-term use for agricultural purposes and pasturage have compacted and deflated the tospoil. The site is not considered eligible for listing into the NRHP based on a low research potential due to deep soil disturbances and limited artifact recovery.

HAR 1 is a ca. 1940 wood-frame bungalow in a dilapidated state. Given the bungalow's poor integrity, it is not considered to meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the NRHP. It is the opinion of OAR that the proposed project activities will have no impact on any significant cultural resources.

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APPENDIX A

University of Alabama Museums

Office of Archaeological Research

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
MUSEUMS

October 31, 2011

Matthew D. Gage, Director
Office of Archaeological Research
University of Alabama Museums
13075 Mound State Parkway
Moundville, AL 35474

Dear Matt:

This letter is to confirm our agreement to provide curation services for all the materials generated by this project. As you know, we are recognized by a variety of Federal agencies as a repository meeting the standards in 36 CFR Part 79 and have formal agreements to provide curation under these guidelines to agencies such as the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tennessee Valley Authority, National Forest Service, etc.

We appreciate having the opportunity to assist you with curation services in the past and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Eugene Futato

Eugene M. Futato RPA
Deputy Director

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

APPENDIX B

Site: DK161 Retrieve Site

Site Name: UNNAMED

Location and Size

Easting: 612139 Northing: 3822089 Elevation: 1280

Township: 06S Range: 08E Section: 10

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

Major Axis: 0 Minor Axis: 0 Max Depth: 0

Location and Size

Preservation State: EROSION

Immediate Destruction Pending: ? Looting/Vandalism: N % Destroyed: 99

National Register Status: NO

Archaeological Information

Level of Investigation: RECONNAISSANCE

Excavation Status: SURFACE & SHOVEL

Topographic Association: UPLAND CRES

Physiographic District: SAND

Physiographic Section: CUMBERLAND

Nearest Water Source: THIRD

Direction To: E Distance To: 120 At Confluence: N

Drainage Basin: TENNESSEE

Ground Cover: OPEN

Soil Type: HARTSELLS

Soil Texture Class: FINE SANDY LOAM

County Soil Survey: null

Degree of Disturbance: ENTIRE

Characteristics

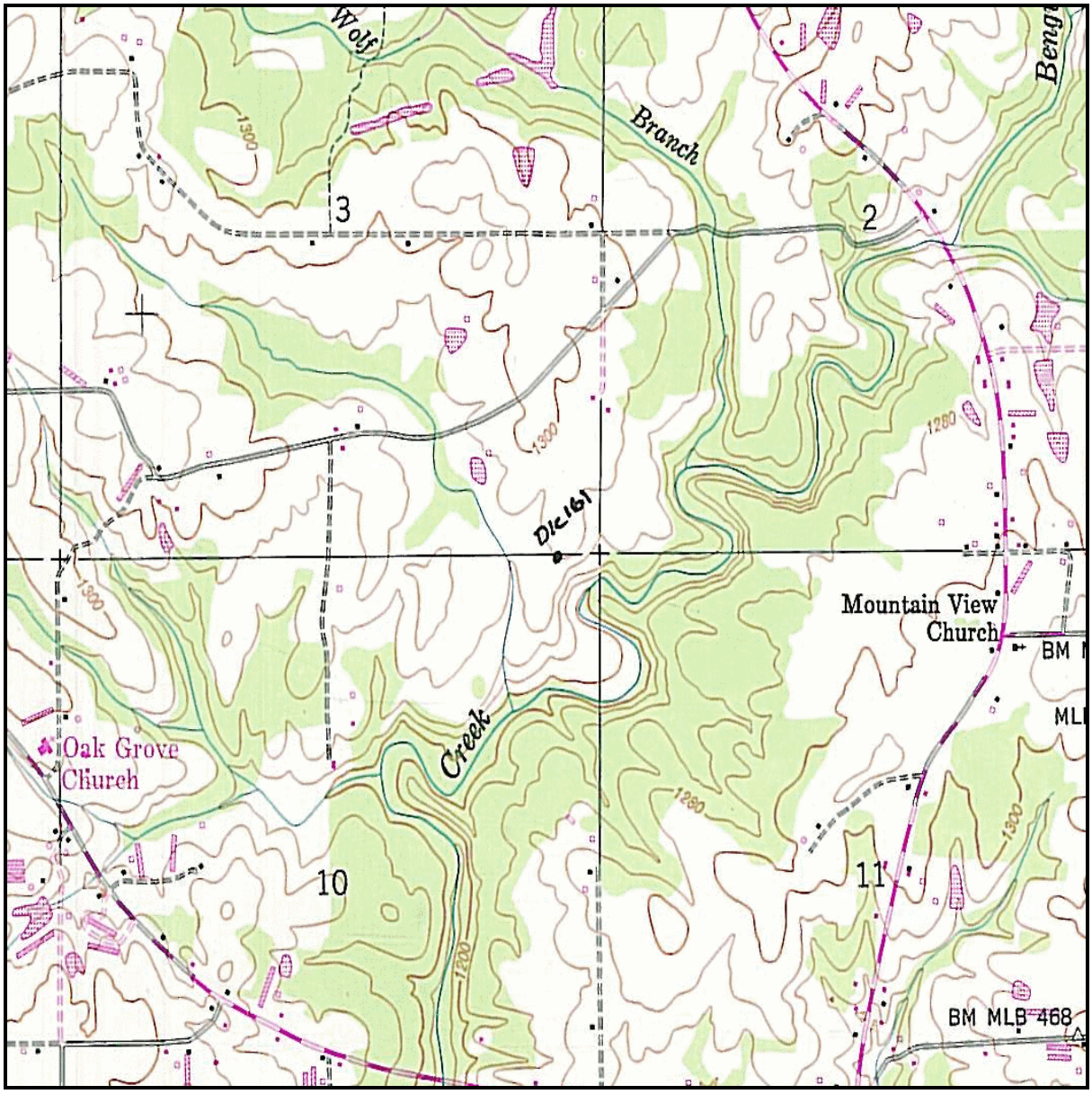
☐ Human Remains	☐ Stone Mound(s)
☐ Features	☐ Weir
☐ Petroglyph/Pictrograph	☐ Quarry
☐ Rockshelter	☐ Standing Historic Structure
☐ Cave	☐ Historic Structure Site
☑ Artifact Scatter	☐ Historic Cemetery
☐ Midden	☐ Still
☐ Shell Midden	☐ Mill
☐ Single Earthen Mound	☐ Engineering
☐ Multiple Earthen Mound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

Components

EARLY ARCHAIC, KIRK CORNER NOTCHED UNVERIFIED

Comments

1DK161 CONSISTS OF A SPARSE DENSITY SURFACE SCATTER OF LITHIC MATERIALS OF EARLY ARCHAIC ORIGIN. THE SITE IS LOCATED ON AN UPLAND CREST WITHIN THE EXPOSED SURFACE OF AN ACCESS ROAD. IT IS BORDERED ON ALL SIDES BY OPEN PASTURE. VEGETATION IN THE AREA CONSISTS OF GRASSLAND. DURING THE COURSE OF THE FIELD INVESTIGATIONS, TWO SHOVEL TESTS, BOTH NEGATIVE FOR CULTURAL MATERIALS, WERE EXCAVATED TO DETERMINE IF ANY SUBSURFACE DEPOSITS WERE PRESENT. HOWEVER ALL LITHIC MATERIALS WERE RECOVERED FROM ERODED AND EXPOSED GROUND SURFACES. ADDITIONAL SUBSURFACE TESTING WAS NOT WARRANTED GIVEN THE DEGREE OF SOIL DISTURBANCE FROM PASTORAL ACTIVITY. SHOVEL TEST 34 WAS EXCAVATED



USGS 7.5' Topographic Map: SYLVANIA

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: 2012-04-23 Date Revised: 2012-05-01

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