

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED  
KY 9009 (MOUNTAIN PARKWAY) MAJOR WIDENING  
IN MAGOFFIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY  
(ITEM NO. 10-126.12)



by  
James Heideman and  
Tanya A. Faberson, Ph.D., RPA

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Prepared for



Architecture Engineering Planning



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by

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# ABSTRACT

On April 21 and 22, 2015, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., personnel completed an archaeological survey for the proposed major widening of KY 9009 (Mountain Parkway) in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Item No. 10-126.12). The survey was conducted at the request of Tom Springer of Qk4, Inc., on behalf of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. The project consisted of an archaeological survey for the proposed widening of the Mountain Parkway to four lanes from approximately .6 km (.4 mi) east of the KY 3050 Overpass at mile point 71.0 to 1.8 km (1.1 mi) west of the bridge over the Licking River at mile point 73.4. The current portion of the project includes nine separate parcels at and around the KY 30 interchange and encompasses 22.8 ha (56.4 acres) of land.

The majority of the project area is located on steep sloping terrain dissected by steep drainage draws. Bottomlands associated with various unnamed drainages also dissected the project area. The majority of the project area was subjected to pedestrian survey, and several areas were subjected to screened shovel testing. A number of disturbances associated with logging activities, highway/road construction, and strip mining were noted throughout the project area. The effects of a recent tornado in 2012 could also be seen in the form of fallen trees scattered across the project area.

Prior to initiating field investigations, a records review was conducted at the Office of State Archaeology for a 2.0 km (1.2 mi) radius around the entire 22.8 ha project area. The review indicated that 11 previous professional archaeological surveys had been conducted within a 2 km radius of the project area. Fourteen archaeological sites had been recorded in this area also. None of the previously recorded archaeological sites in the records review area were located within the current project area, and no new archaeological sites were recorded as a result of this survey. However, one prehistoric isolated find was discovered in a rockshelter located in a steep drainage draw. The isolated find (IF 1) consisted of a single flake, and no other prehistoric materials were found in association with the rockshelter. No archaeological sites listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by the proposed construction activities. Therefore, archaeological clearance is recommended.



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# I. INTRODUCTION

On April 21 and 22, 2014, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA), personnel completed an archaeological survey for the proposed major widening of KY 9009 (Mountain Parkway) in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Item No. 10-126.12) (Figures 1 and 2). The survey was conducted at the request of Tom Springer of Qk4, Inc., on behalf of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) and was only performed once landowner permission was obtained. James Heideman and William Goodman conducted the survey, which required approximately 16 hours to complete. Office of State Archaeology (OSA) Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data requested by CRA on April 20, 2015, was returned the same day. The results were research by Heather Barras of CRA at the OSA on April 21 and 27, 2015. The OSA project registration number is FY15\_8424.

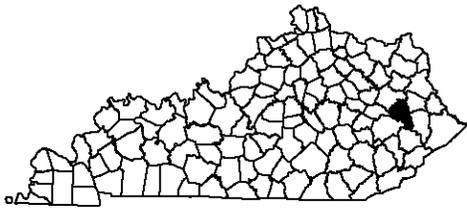


Figure 1. Map of Kentucky showing the location of Magoffin County.

## Project Description

The project consisted of an archaeological survey of previously unsurveyed areas for the proposed widening of the Mountain Parkway to four lanes from approximately .6 km (.4 mi) east of the KY 3050 Overpass at mile point 71.0 to 1.8 km (1.1 mi) west of the bridge over the Licking River at mile point 73.4 (Figure 3). The current portion of the project includes nine separate parcels at and around the KY 30 interchange and encompasses 22.8 ha (56.4 acres) of land.

The majority of the project area is located on steep sloping terrain dissected by steep drainage draws. Bottomlands associated with various unnamed drainages also dissected the project area. Vegetation consisted primarily of mixed grass and weeds with a mixed deciduous tree overstory and an understory of mixed brush and briars.

## Purpose of Study

The study was conducted to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This transportation project is federally funded and is therefore considered an undertaking subject to 106 review.

The purpose of this survey was to locate, describe, evaluate, and make appropriate recommendations for the future treatment of any historic properties or sites that may be affected by the project. For the purposes of this assessment, a site was defined as “any location where human behavior has resulted in the deposition of artifacts, or other evidence of purposive behavior at least 50 years of age” (Sanders 2006:2). Cultural deposits less than 50 years of age were not considered sites in accordance with “Archeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines” (National Park Service 1983).

A description of the project area, the field methods used, and the results of this investigation follow. The investigation is intended to conform to the *Specifications for Conducting Fieldwork and Preparing Cultural Resource Assessment Reports* (Sanders 2006).

## Summary of Findings

Prior to initiating field investigations, a records review was conducted at the OSA for a 2.0 km (1.2 mi) radius around the entire 22.8 ha project area. The review indicated that 11 previous professional archaeological surveys had been conducted within a 2 km radius of the project area. Fourteen archaeological sites had been recorded in this area also. None of the previously recorded archaeological sites in the records review area were located within the current project area, and no new

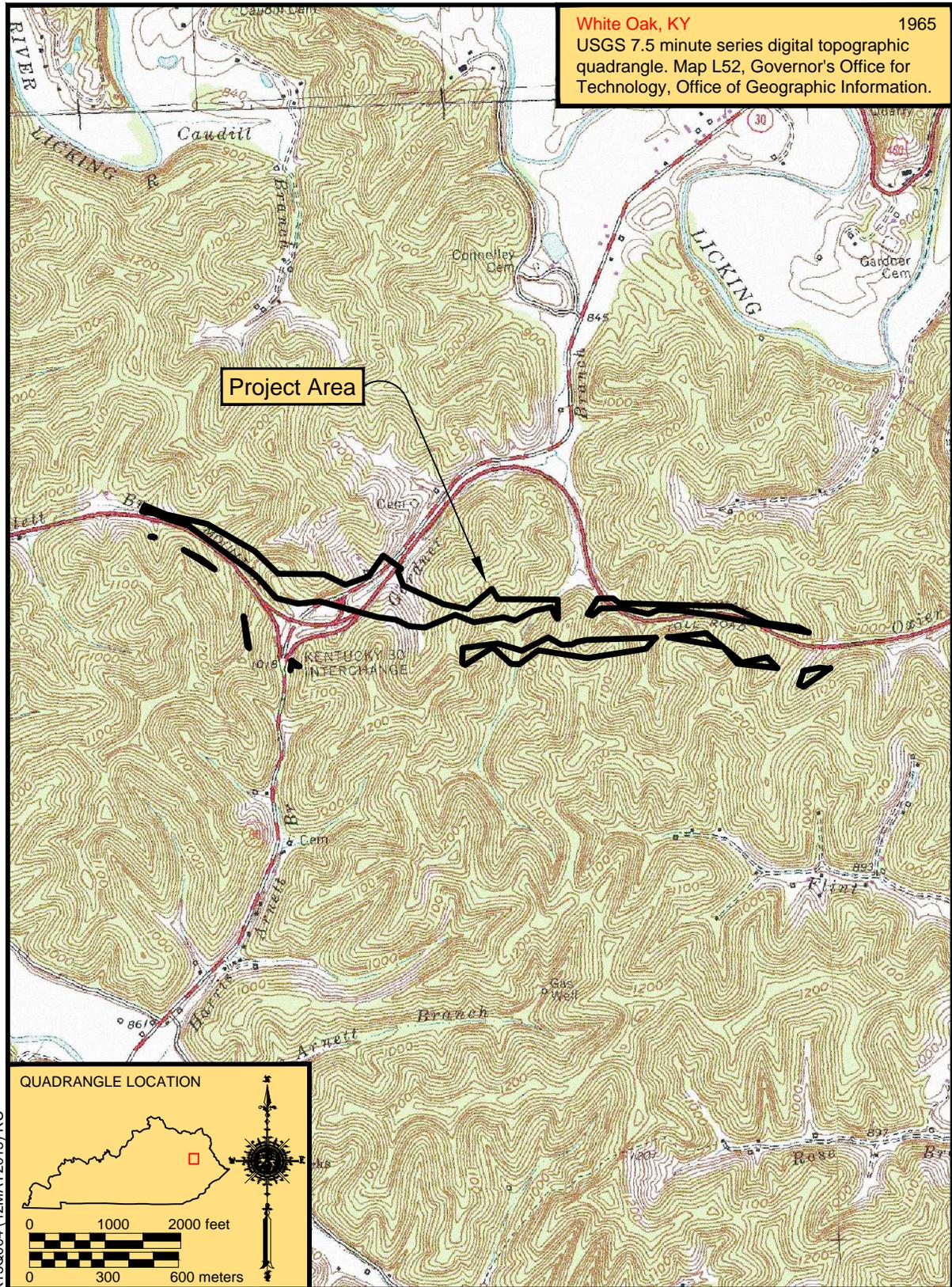


Figure 2. Location of project area on topographic quadrangle.

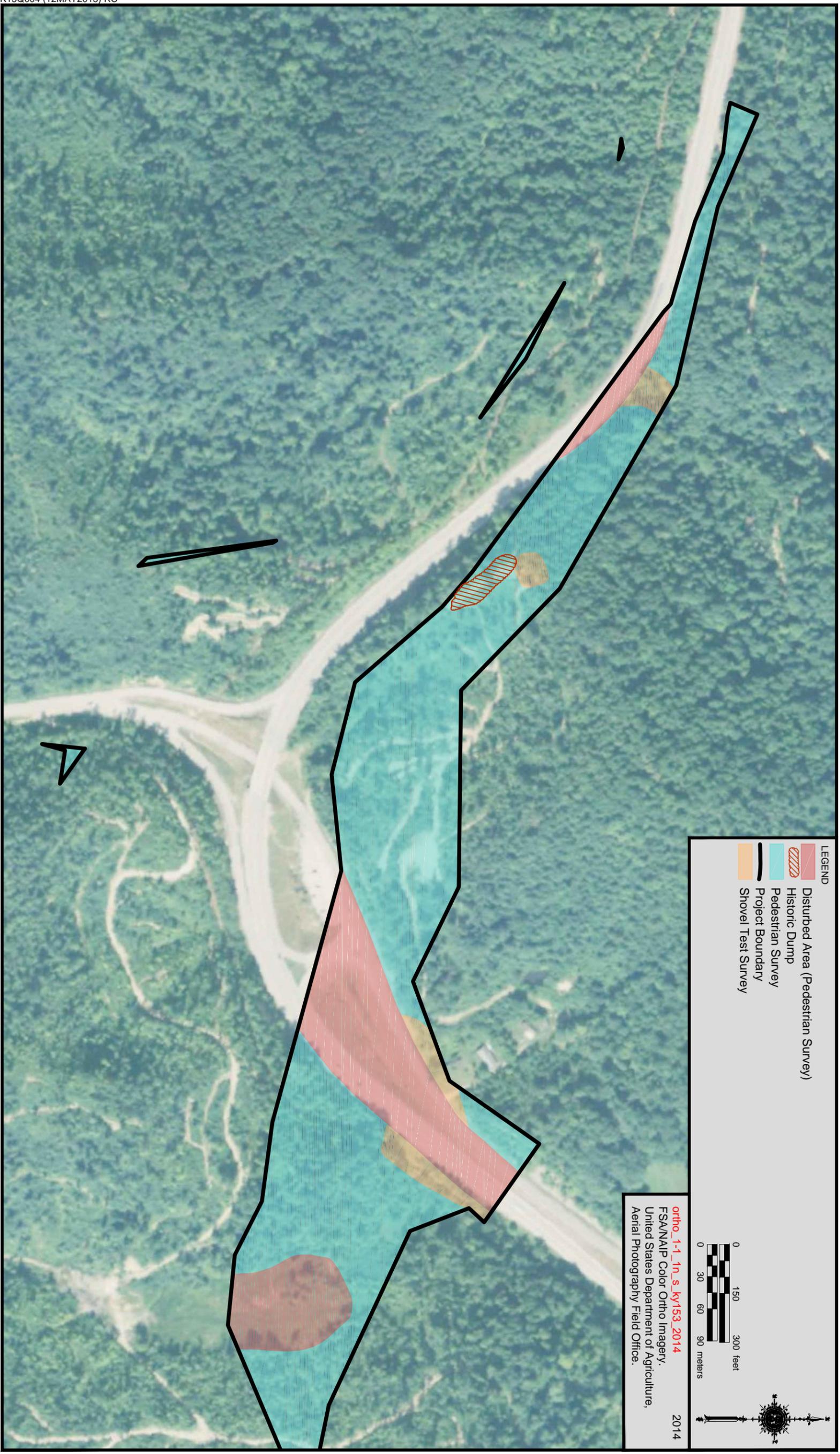


Figure 3a. Project area plan map.



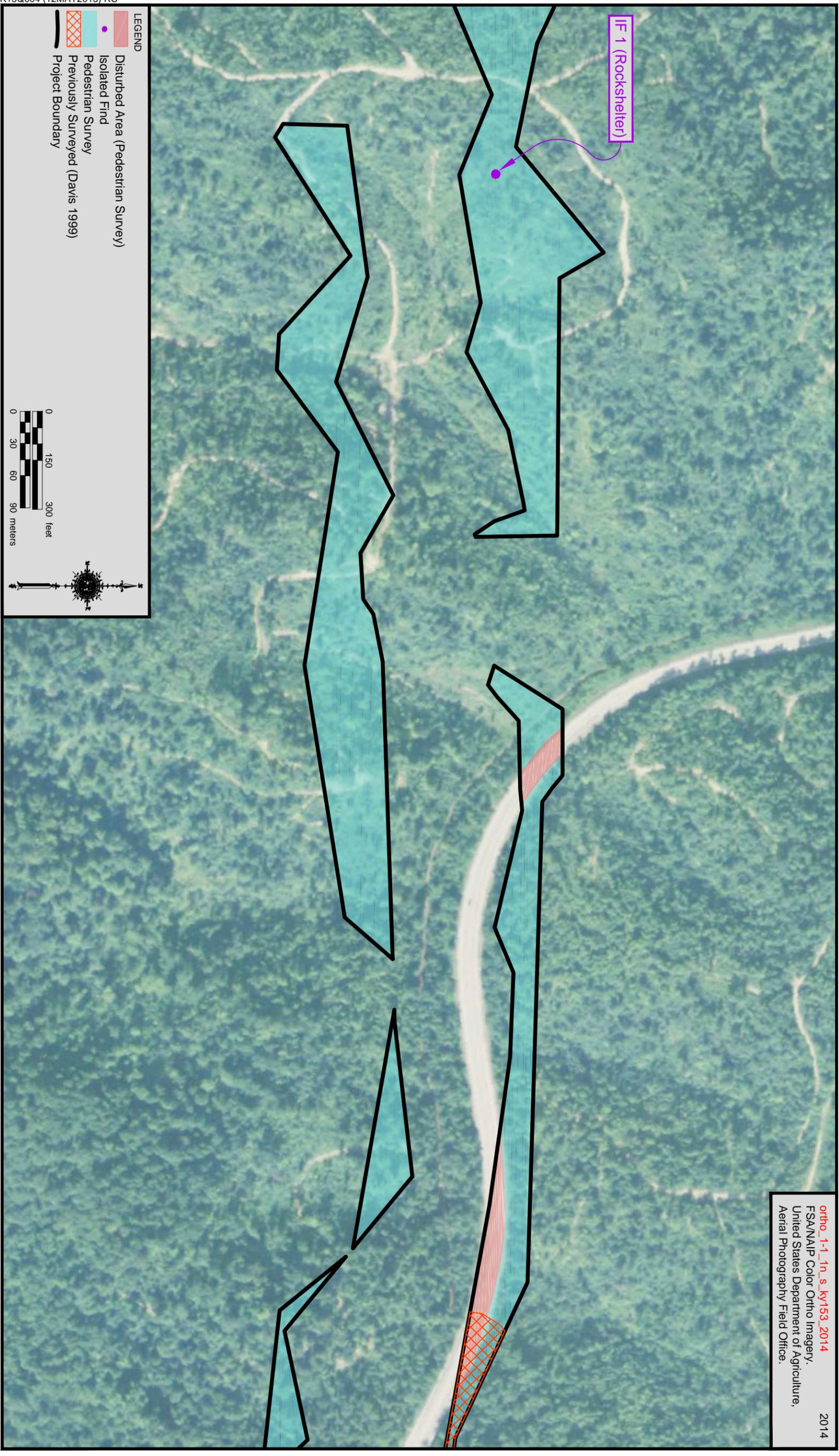


Figure 3b. Project area plan map.



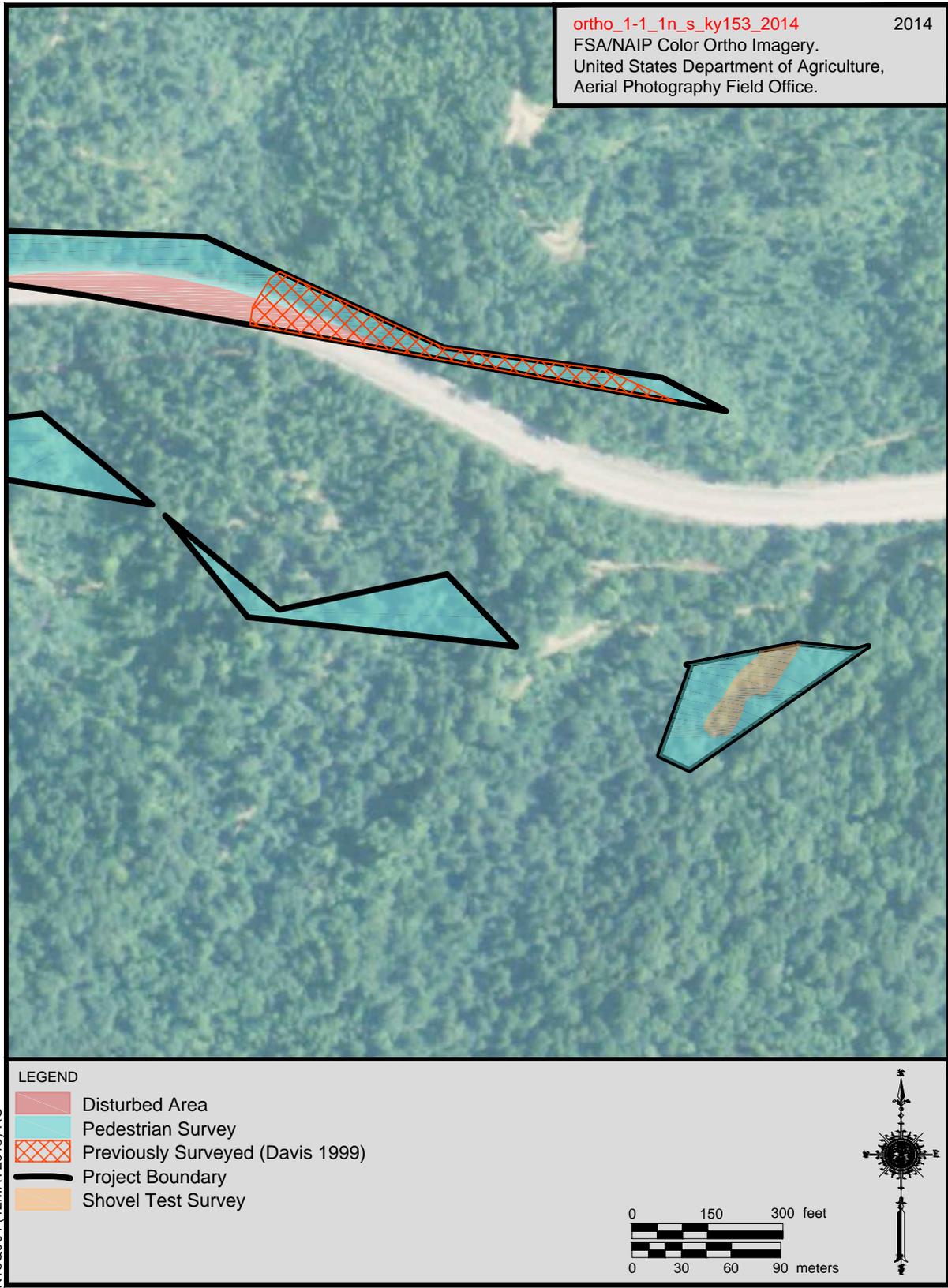


Figure 3c. Project area plan map.

archaeological sites were recorded as a result of this survey. However, one prehistoric isolated find was located in a rockshelter in a steep drainage draw. The isolated find (IF 1) consisted of a single flake, and no other prehistoric materials were found in association with the rockshelter. No archaeological sites listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) will be affected by the proposed construction activities. Therefore, archaeological clearance is recommended.

## II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AREA

The project area was located along the Mountain Parkway near the KY 30 interchange to the southwest of the town of Salyersville (see Figures 2 and 3). In total, the project area encompasses 22.8 ha of land.

Elevations in the project area ranged from approximately 280 m (920 ft) above mean sea level (AMSL) along Gardner Branch and

Gullett Branch to approximately 360 m (1,180 ft) AMSL on the steep slopes and ridges to the southwest of the KY 30 interchange. Various tributaries of the Licking River drain the project area.

The majority of the project area was comprised of steep sloping terrain that supports an overstory of mixed deciduous trees and an understory of mixed brush and briars (Figure 4). Several bottomlands along intermittent drainages were also present throughout the project area (Figure 5). Steep sloping drainage draws dissecting the uplands were also common (Figure 6). One geological overhang was also identified during field investigations along a steep sloping drainage draw between approximately 311 and 317 m (1,020 and 1,040 ft) AMSL (Figure 7). A single prehistoric lithic artifact (IF 1) was recovered from shovel testing conducted in the rockshelter. A more detailed description of IF 1 is presented in the *Results* section for this report.



Figure 4. Example of steep sloping terrain within the project area, facing west.



Figure 5. Example of creek bottoms within the project area, facing southwest.

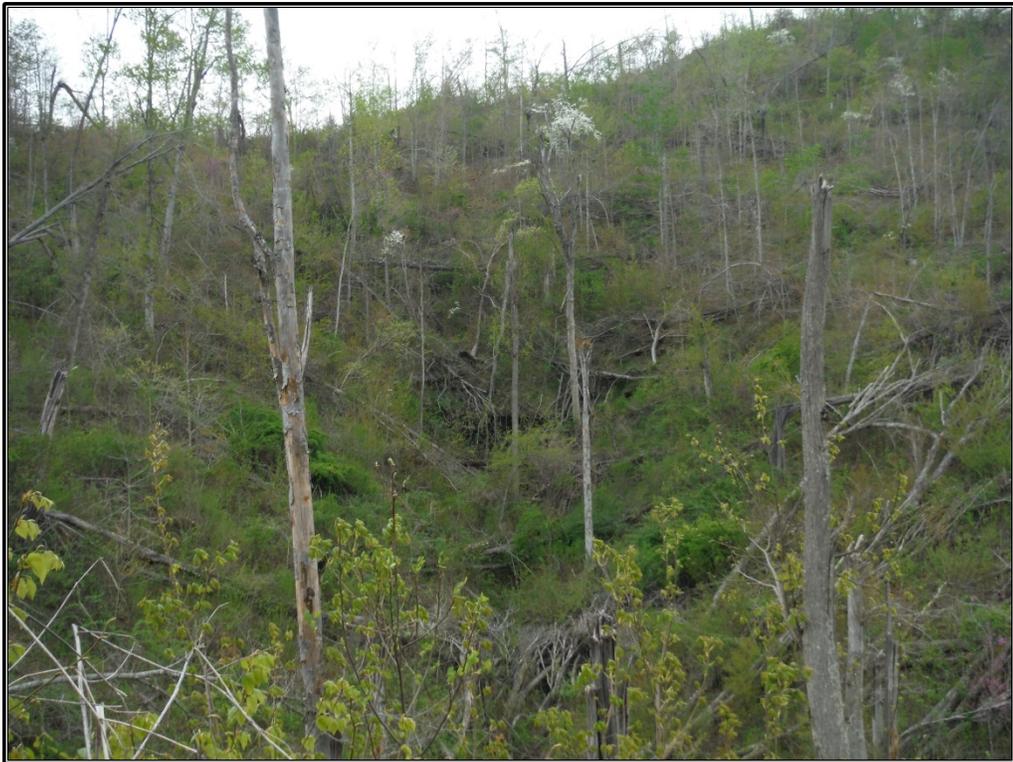


Figure 6. Example of a drainage draw within the project area, facing northwest.



Figure 7. Interior view of geological overhang/rockshelter associated with IF 1, facing southwest.

Ground surface visibility throughout the majority of the project area was obscured by grass, weeds, brush, and/or leaf litter (Figure 8). A significant portion of the project area, specifically at the location of the KY 30 interchange, was disturbed by the construction of the Mountain Parkway as well as upgrades to KY 30. To the southeast of the Mountain Parkway, a relatively large area appeared to have been subjected to strip mining activities (Figure 9). The area had relatively high ground surface visibility with vegetation consisting of patchy grass and weeds. Exposed gravel and rock fragments littered the area and the soils were noted to be very rocky and highly disturbed with no topsoil present. On topographic maps the area was depicted as containing terrain that sloped much more than what was noted in the field. Dirt logging roads also were common throughout the project area (Figure 10). Disturbances associated with a 2012 tornado in the area were prominent throughout much of the project area. A large number of fallen trees were encountered, which greatly reduced ground surface

visibility and often made navigation difficult. Other disturbances noted in the project area were overhead power lines and power line poles.

The collapsed remains of a modern barn/outbuilding were noted within the project area in the same general location as a residential structure depicted as a photographic revision on the 1962 (Photorevised 1978) Salyersville South topographic quadrangle map (Figure 11). The structure was likely destroyed during the 2012 tornado that struck the area. Wood debris and posts were concentrated in an area that measured roughly 10-x-10 m (33-x-33 ft), and some debris was located approximately 18 m (60 ft) to the southeast of the main concentration. A number of poured concrete supports for wood post foundation piers were noted in the area of the main concentration of structural debris (Figure 12). Shovel testing around the structural remains did not yield any cultural materials.



Figure 8. Example of vegetation and ground surface visibility within the project area, facing northwest.



Figure 9. Overview of potential strip mining area, facing northwest.



Figure 10. Example of an old logging road within the project area, facing southeast.



Figure 11. Overview of the collapse remains of a modern barn/outbuilding in the project area, facing northwest.



Figure 12. Example of a poured concrete support for wood post foundation piers.

A historic dump site was located along a dirt road, likely an old logging road, to the northeast of the Mountain Parkway (Figure 13). The dump was scattered across a steep sloping hillside between 329 and 347 m (1,080 ft and 1,140 ft) AMSL with some artifacts noted on the hilltop. The hilltop had been highly disturbed by bulldozing and a push pile was present, containing mainly forest debris and dirt. Artifacts observed at the dump site mostly consisted of domestic artifacts, such as container glass, with a lower density of ceramics and miscellaneous glass tableware. The container glass appeared to date mostly to the mid-twentieth century and included household containers, such as amber glass Clorox bleach bottles dating between the 1940s and early 1960s, and extract and personal grooming bottles dating between the 1930s and 1940s. The ceramics consisted of modern majolica dating to the mid-twentieth century and Bristol-glazed stoneware. Architectural items, such as plate glass and safety glass, also were observed, as well as

porcelain bathroom fixture fragments. Overall, these items are consistent with what one would expect to find at a mid-twentieth-century dump site, wherein mostly household trash was discarded, and occasionally, larger structural or other activity items.

Six soil series have been defined in the project area. They consist of Gilpin, Hazleton, Helechawa, Latham, Morrowbone, and Shelocta. The soil series are classified by the amount of time it has taken them to form and the landscape position they are found on (Birkeland 1984; Soil Survey Staff 1999). This information can provide a relative age of the soils and can express the potential for buried archaeological deposits within them (Stafford 2004). The soil order and group classifications for each soil series are used to assist with determining this potential. The above mentioned soil series occur in two soil complexes within the project area, the Gilpin-Latham-Morrowbone complex and the Shelocta-Helechawa-Hazleton complex.



Figure 13. Overview of historic dump site, facing north.

The Gilpin (Typic Hapludults), Latham (Aquic Hapludults), and Shelocta (Typic Hapludults) soil series are classified as Ultisols, which are found on landforms that formed during the late Pleistocene or earlier (Soil Survey Staff 1999:721–726). Archaeological deposits would only be found on or very near the ground surface on landforms mapped with these soils.

The Hazleton (Typic Dystrochrepts), Helechawa (Typic Dystrochrepts), and Morrowbone (Typic Dystrochrepts) soil series are classified as Inceptisols. These soils are found on landforms that formed during the late Pleistocene or Holocene time periods (Soil Survey Staff 1999:489–493). These may have deeply buried and intact archaeological deposits, depending upon the landform on which they formed (e.g., sideslope vs. alluvial terrace). For the most part only sideslopes and narrow bottomlands had these soils, so the

likelihood for buried archaeological deposits was very low.

Soils observed in shovel probes conducted in upland settings generally conformed to the expected Gilpin-Latham-Morrowbone complex. Typically, the profiles resembled the Latham Series, though they were often found to be sandier. A representative profile from a ridgetop overlooking the Mountain Parkway yielded a surface layer reached a depth of approximately 4.0 cm (1.6 in) below ground surface (bgs). This was followed by a layer of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt loam to a depth of 8 cm (3 in) bgs. Next, a layer of brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) mottled with dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt loam was encountered to a depth of approximately 25 cm (10 in) bgs. This was followed by a yellow (10YR 7/6) sandy clay loam subsoil.

In shovel probes conducted on bottomlands the soils generally conformed to the expected Shelocta-Helechawa-Hazleton complex soil descriptions. Many of the soils found on bottomlands were very rocky. Along Auxier Branch a representative soil profile contained a surface layer of very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam to a depth of approximately 6 cm (2 in) bgs, followed by a layer of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay loam to an approximate depth of 15 cm (6 in) bgs. The subsoil consisted of a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silt loam with many gravels present.

### III. RESULTS OF THE FILE AND RECORDS SEARCH AND SURVEY PREDICTIONS

#### Previous Research in Magoffin County

Prior to initiating fieldwork, a search of records maintained by the NRHP (available online at: <http://nrhp.focus.nps.gov/natreghome.do?searchtype=natreghome>) and the OSA (FY15\_8424) was conducted to: 1) determine if the project area had been previously surveyed for archaeological resources; 2) identify any previously recorded archaeological sites that were situated within the project area; 3) provide information concerning what archaeological resources could be expected within the project area; and 4) provide a context for any archaeological resources recovered within the project area. A search of the NRHP records indicated that no archaeological sites listed on the NRHP were situated within the current project area or within a 2 km radius of the project area. The OSA file search was conducted on April 21 and 27, 2015. The work at OSA consisted of a review of professional survey reports and records of archaeological sites for an area encompassing a 2 km radius of the project

footprint. To further characterize the archaeological resources in the general area, the OSA archaeological site database for the county was reviewed and synthesized. The review of professional survey reports and archaeological site data in the county provided basic information on the types of archaeological resources that were likely to occur within the project area and the landforms that were most likely to contain these resources. The results are discussed below.

OSA records revealed that 11 previous professional archaeological surveys have been conducted within a 2 km radius of the project area. Fourteen archaeological sites have been recorded in this area also. Two of the surveys completed within the 2 km area have not yet been entered in the OSA GIS (Webb and Funkhouser 1932; Faberson and Heideman 2014).

The records search revealed that 7 of the 14 sites in the file search area (15Mg11, 15Mg26–15Mg29, 15Mg45, and 15Mg78) are historic farm/residences. One site (15Mg79) is a multicomponent historic farm/residence and prehistoric open habitation. Five sites in the 2 km area (15Mg12 and 15Mg22–15Mg25) are prehistoric open habitations without mounds. The remaining site (15Mg6) is an earth mound. The 2 km radius included areas within the Salyersville South quadrangle (United States Geological Survey [USGS] 1962 [Photorevised 1978]).

#### Previous Archaeological Investigations

##### *Heather Barras*

In 1931, archaeologists from the University of Kentucky compiled a list of known archaeological sites in 68 Kentucky counties (Webb and Funkhouser 1932). During this documentation, Site 15Mg6 was recorded as an earth mound site. The site was reported by W.C. Connelley as 12.2 m (40.0 ft) long and 6.1 m (20.0 ft) high with large trees growing on it (Webb and Funkhouser

1932:266). The NRHP status was not assessed for the site.

On December 22 and 23, 1980, Arrow Enterprises personnel conducted an archaeological survey for a proposed industrial park and waterline system improvements in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Schock 1980). At the request of Mayes, Sudderth and Etheredge, Inc., 62.7 ha (155.0 acres) and 4.0 km (2.5 mi) were investigated with a pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel testing. No archaeological sites were documented, and no further work was recommended.

On June 14, 1983, University of Kentucky's Department of Anthropology conducted an archaeological survey of two water storage tank sites and an industrial park site in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Jobe 1983). At the request of Mayes, Sudderth and Etheredge, Inc., two tank sites measuring 30-x-30 m (100-x-100 ft) and approximately 6 ha (15 acres) for the proposed industrial park were investigated with a pedestrian survey and backhoe trenching. No archaeological sites were encountered, and project clearance was recommended.

Between March 28 and 30, 1984, United States Army Corps of Engineers personnel conducted an archaeological survey for a proposed flood control project along the Licking River in and downstream of Salyersville, Kentucky (Ball 1984). An area of unspecified size was investigated with a pedestrian survey and vehicular reconnaissance. One archaeological site (15Mg6) was revisited, and two new archaeological sites (15Mg11 and 15Mg12) were documented during the survey.

The revisit of Site 15Mg6 revealed that the earth mound initially documented by Webb and Funkhouser (1932) was situated approximately 4.6 m (15.1 ft) east of a paved subdivision street and to the right of a mobile home. The southern terminus had been removed to accommodate a property line fence, but the majority of the mound appeared to remain intact. No evidence of looting was observed (Ball 1984).

Site 15Mg11 was documented as a potentially significant homestead complex, which may have been occupied as early as 1794 by one of the county's earliest Euro-American pioneers, Archibald Prather. The site consists of a log "I"-house that according to family history was built circa 1830, a single story log smokehouse, and various modern (twentieth-century) frame structures (barn, garage, etc.). Site 15Mg12 is a prehistoric open habitation without mounds of indeterminate temporal affiliation. Site 15Mg12 was not considered eligible for NRHP inclusion. The NRHP status of Sites 15Mg6 and 15Mg11 were not assessed. None of the sites were located within the current project area, and no further work was recommended (Ball 1984).

On October 12, 1988, United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service archaeologists completed an archaeological survey of a proposed exchange tract located on the Stearns Ranger District in McCreary County, Kentucky (Ison 1989). A total of 3.6 ha (8.8 acres) were investigated with a pedestrian survey supplemented by shovel testing. No archaeological sites were encountered, and project clearance was recommended.

On April 2, 1989, Janzen, Inc., personnel conducted an archaeological survey for a proposed water tank and pumping station site in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Janzen 1989). At the request of Kenvirons, Inc., of Frankfort, Kentucky, 12.1 sq m (130.0 sq ft) were investigated with a pedestrian survey. No archaeological sites were identified, and project clearance was recommended.

Between December 7, 1994 and January 5, 1995, Gray & Pape, Inc., personnel completed an archaeological survey of two proposed channel cuts, a proposed diversion dike, two proposed spoil areas, and proposed channel widening on the Licking River in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Voigt et al. 1995). At the request of Gulf Engineering & Consultants, Inc., of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 28.0 ha (69.2 acres) were investigated with a pedestrian survey, controlled surface collections, shovel

testing, excavation of backhoe trenches, and remote sensing. One historic non-site locality, two isolated finds, one previously recorded archaeological site (15Mg11) and eight previously unrecorded archaeological sites (15Mg22–15Mg29) were documented during the survey.

During the revisit of Site 15Mg11, The Benjamin Gardner House, a number of historic features were identified, and the boundaries were expanded to include the farm lot and much of the remainder of the ridge and bottomlands of the Gardner property. The site was considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, and additional archaeological and archival investigations were recommended (Voigt et al. 1995).

Sites 15Mg22–15Mg25 were all prehistoric archaeological sites. Sites 15Mg23 and 15Mg25 were prehistoric open habitations with sparse lithic scatters. Neither site was considered eligible for NRHP inclusion; no further work was recommended. Site 15Mg22 consisted of a prehistoric feature of fire-cracked rock and charcoal in a trench profile. The site may represent a Late Archaic or Early Woodland occupation and phase II evaluation was recommended. Site 15Mg24 was a Late Archaic open habitation with possible sub-plow zone deposits. Avoidance or phase II evaluations were recommended (Voigt et al. 1995).

Sites 15Mg26–15Mg29 appeared to be associated with the Gardner Farmstead. Site 15Mg26 consisted of a brick feature identified during the excavation of a backhoe trench. The feature may represent the remains of a burned "flax house" that dates to the mid-nineteenth century. Additional archaeological and archival investigations were recommended to determine the NRHP eligibility. Site 15Mg27 consisted of native rock foundation stones, which informants described as the remnants of a foundation for a nineteenth-century structure. Archival research and detailed mapping was recommended to determine whether the site was associated with the Gardner Farmstead. Site 15Mg28 consisted of bridge abutments

and a portion of the old state road from Pound Gap to Mount Sterling, appearing on a map dating to 1851. Portions of the site were located within the boundary of the proposed Gardner Farmstead. Archival research and detailed mapping was recommended. Site 15Mg29 was an early- to mid-twentieth-century historic trash dump possibly associated with the Gardner Farmstead. Due to this possible association, additional archaeological investigations were recommended (Voigt et al. 1995).

In April, June, July, September, and October of 1998, the University of Kentucky's Program for Archaeological Research (PAR) personnel conducted an archaeological survey for a proposed alternate route for the re-alignment of a section of KY 114 in Floyd and Magoffin Counties, Kentucky (Davis 1999). The survey was conducted at the request of Bernardin, Lochmueller and Associates, Inc, on behalf of the KYTC. Thirty-one sites were documented during this survey, but only one of these sites was located within the 2 km file search area (15Mg45).

Site 15Mg45, the Oxier Branch Homestead, was a small historic farm/residence with a light scatter of historic materials and a hand-dug well. Due to disturbances to the site and the limited nature of subsurface deposits, the site was considered ineligible for NRHP inclusion, and no further work was recommended (Davis 1999).

Between December 6 and 28, 1999, CRA personnel conducted an archaeological survey for the proposed Mountain Parkway extension project from Helechawa to Salyersville (Item No. 10-126.00) in Morgan and Magoffin Counties, Kentucky (Hand 2000). The survey was conducted at the request of Craig Kowalski of Balke Engineers on behalf of KYTC. The project area consisted of 275.65 ha (689.12 acres), all of which were surveyed by an intensive pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel testing and screened auger testing. No archaeological sites were identified, and no further work was recommended.

On April 5, 2006, CRA personnel completed an archaeological survey for the proposed Salyersville water tank site and waterlines in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Hand 2006). The survey was conducted at the request of Franklin Vaughn of Summit Engineering, Inc., on behalf of the City of Salyersville. Approximately 1.32 ha (3.28 acres) were investigated with a pedestrian survey supplemented by screened shovel tests. No archaeological sites were identified during the survey, and no further work was recommended.

Between May 19 and 21, and on June 11, 2014, CRA personnel conducted an archaeological survey of the proposed KY 9009 (Mountain Parkway) widening and safety improvements project and two excess fill material areas in Magoffin County, Kentucky (Faberson and Heideman 2014). The survey was conducted at the request of Tom Springer of Qk4, Inc., on behalf of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (Item No. 10-140.00). The project area totaled approximately 28 ha (69 acres) and was investigated via pedestrian survey supplemented with screened shovel testing. Two previously undocumented archaeological sites (15Mg77 and 15Mg78) were identified during the survey. One of these sites (15Mg78) is located within the 2 km radius of the current project.

Site 15Mg78 is a historic farm/residence dating to the early twentieth century that consists of a sparse scatter of cultural materials. The site exhibited a high level of disturbance and had poor integrity. It was not considered eligible for NRHP inclusion, and no further work was recommended (Faberson and Heideman 2014).

Site 15Mg79 did not have an associated report, but the preliminary site form on file in OSA records indicated it was a multicomponent historic farm/residence dating from 1951 to 2000 and prehistoric open habitation without mounds of indeterminate temporal affiliation. The site was recorded by Ann Wilkinson of CDM Smith on October 22,

2014. Its NRHP status was not assessed at the time.

## Archaeological Site Data

According to available data, 75 archaeological sites have been recorded in Magoffin County (Table 1). The site data indicates that the majority of the archaeological sites recorded in Magoffin County consist of historic farms/residences (n = 28; 37 percent), historic cemeteries (n = 20; 27 percent), and prehistoric open habitations without mounds (n = 16; 21 percent). Additional site types in the county include caves, earth mounds, rockshelters, and other undetermined site types.

The majority of sites in Magoffin County are located on dissected upland (n = 21; 28 percent), terrace (n = 19; 25 percent), and floodplain (n = 13; 17 percent) landforms. Most of the sites situated on dissected uplands are cemeteries (n = 14; 66.67 percent) and

Table 1. Summary of Selected Information for Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites in Magoffin County, Kentucky. Data Obtained from OSA and May Contain Coding Errors.

| Site Type:                     | N          | %          |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Cave                           | 1          | 1.33       |
| Cemetery                       | 20         | 26.67      |
| Earth Mound                    | 1          | 1.33       |
| Historic Farm/Residence        | 28         | 37.33      |
| Open Habitation without Mounds | 16         | 21.33      |
| Other                          | 4          | 5.33       |
| Rockshelter                    | 4          | 5.33       |
| Undetermined                   | 1          | 1.33       |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>75</b>  | <b>100</b> |
| Time Periods Represented       | N          | %          |
| Paleoindian                    | 1          | 1.23       |
| Archaic                        | 2          | 2.47       |
| Woodland                       | 2          | 2.47       |
| Indeterminate Prehistoric      | 17         | 20.99      |
| Historic                       | 56         | 69.14      |
| Unspecified                    | 3          | 3.7        |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>81*</b> | <b>100</b> |
| Landform                       | N          | %          |
| Dissected Uplands              | 21         | 28         |
| Floodplain                     | 13         | 17.33      |
| Hillside                       | 4          | 5.33       |
| Other                          | 9          | 12         |
| Terrace                        | 19         | 25.33      |
| Undissected Uplands            | 2          | 2.67       |
| Unspecified                    | 7          | 9.33       |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>75</b>  | <b>100</b> |

\*One site may represent more than one time period.

historic farms/residences (n = 4; 19.05 percent). Sites situated on terraces are mainly historic farms/residences (n = 8; 44.11 percent) and prehistoric open habitations without mounds (n = 8; 44.11 percent). The majority of the sites situated on floodplains are open habitations without mounds (n = 5; 38.46 percent) and historic farms/residences (n = 4; 30.77 percent). Hillside provided rockshelters (n = 2; 50 percent), open habitations without mounds (n = 1; 25 percent) and historic farm/residences (n = 1; 25 percent).

## Map Data

In addition to the file search, a review of available maps at the private collection at CRA was initiated to help identify any historic structures that may have been located within the project area. The following maps were reviewed.

1899 (Reprinted 1910) Salyersville, Kentucky, 30-minute series topographic quadrangle (USGS)

1937 General Highway Map of Magoffin County, Kentucky (Kentucky Department of Highways [KDOH])

1951 Salyersville South, Kentucky, 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangle (USGS)

1951 General Highway Map of Magoffin County, Kentucky (KDOH)

1962 (Photorevised 1978) Salyersville South, Kentucky, 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangle (USGS)

The historic maps indicated that seven map structures (MS) were located within or directly adjacent to the current project area. The earliest map that depicts historic structures in the immediate vicinity of the project area is the 1899 Salyersville topographic quadrangle. This map depicts one residential structure (MS 1) to the west of KY 30 along Gardner Branch that is directly adjacent to the current project area (Figure 14).

The next map reviewed for the presence of historic structures was the 1937 highway map of Magoffin County. This map depicts two residential structures (MS 1 and MS 2) in the vicinity of the current project area (Figure 15).

MS 1 is again depicted on the west side of KY 30 and MS 2 is located to the north of an unnamed gravel road along Gullett Branch.

Next, the 1951 Salyersville South topographic quadrangle map was examined for the presence of historic structures. This map depicted six structures (MS 1–MS 6) in, and directly adjacent to, the current project area (Figure 16). MS 1 and MS 2 are both residential structures that are depicted in the same locations as on early maps. MS 3 and MS 4 are depicted to the west of MS 2 on the same unnamed gravel road along Gullett Branch. MS 3 is a residential structure and it is difficult to tell whether or not it is actually the structure defined as MS 2 on the 1937 highway map. This uncertainty is based on the inconsistency in scale on the highway maps relative to the topographic quadrangle maps. MS 4 is a barn/outbuilding that is likely associated with MS 3. MS 5 is depicted as a residential structure that is located on the northwest side of KY 30. MS 6 is located adjacent to the north of MS 5, and is depicted as a barn/outbuilding that is located just outside of the current project area.

The 1951 highway map of Magoffin County was the next map examined for the presence of historic structures. This map depicts four historic structures (MS 1–MS 3 and MS 5) within the vicinity of the current project area (Figure 17). All of the structures are depicted in the same general location as on the 1951 Salyersville South topographic quadrangle map.

Finally, the 1962 (Photorevised 1978) Salyersville South topographic quadrangle map was reviewed for the presence of historic structures in and around the current project area. This map was found to depict two historic structures (MS 6 and MS 7) (Figure 18). MS 6 is again depicted as a barn/outbuilding directly adjacent to the project area on the northwest side of KY 30. MS 7 was a photographic revision added to the map in 1978 and is depicted as a residential structure to the west of the Mountain Parkway. The collapsed remains of a modern barn/outbuilding were located in the general vicinity of MS 7.

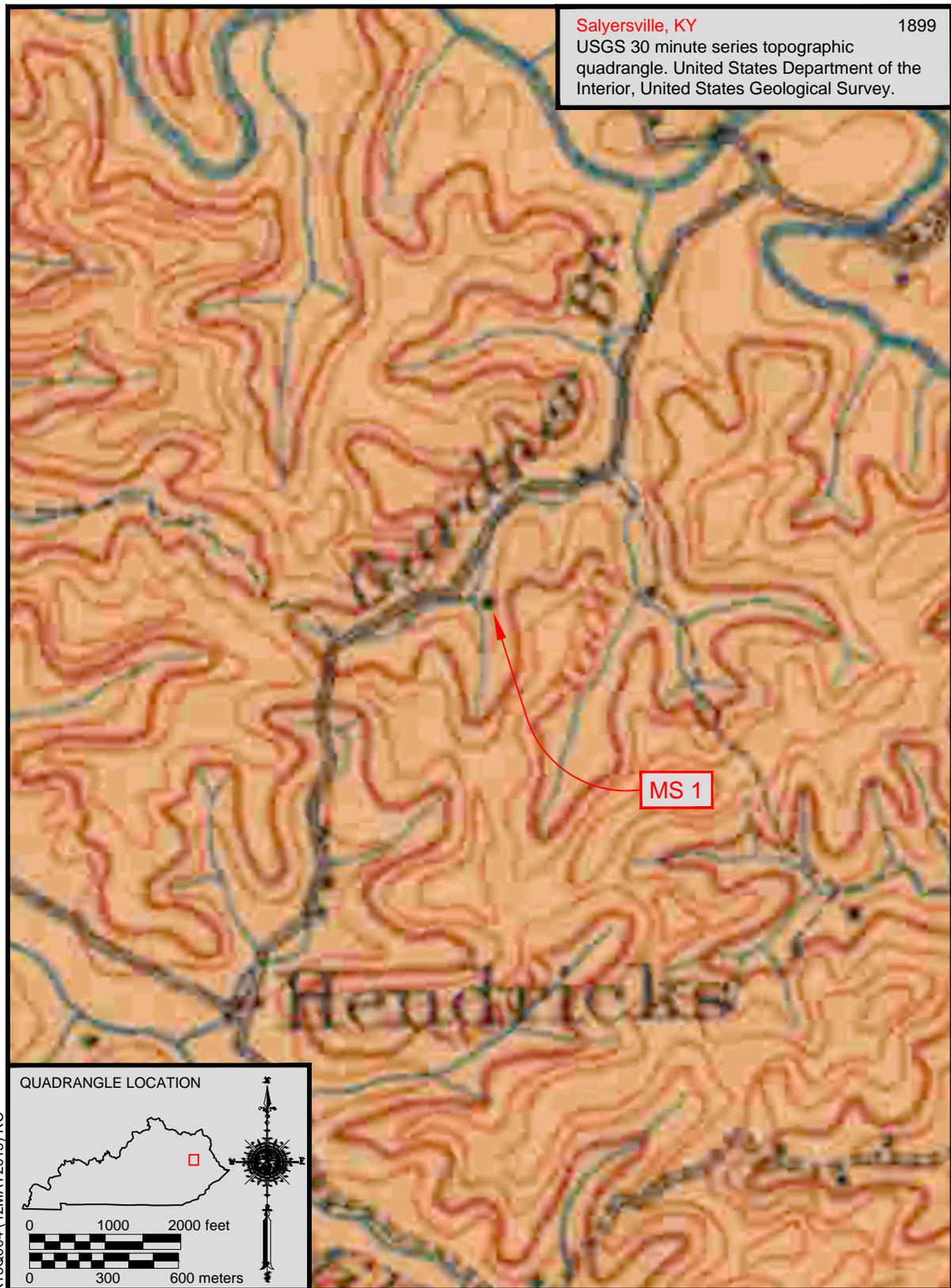


Figure 14. Section of 1899 USGS 30-minute series Salyersville quadrangle map showing MS 1.

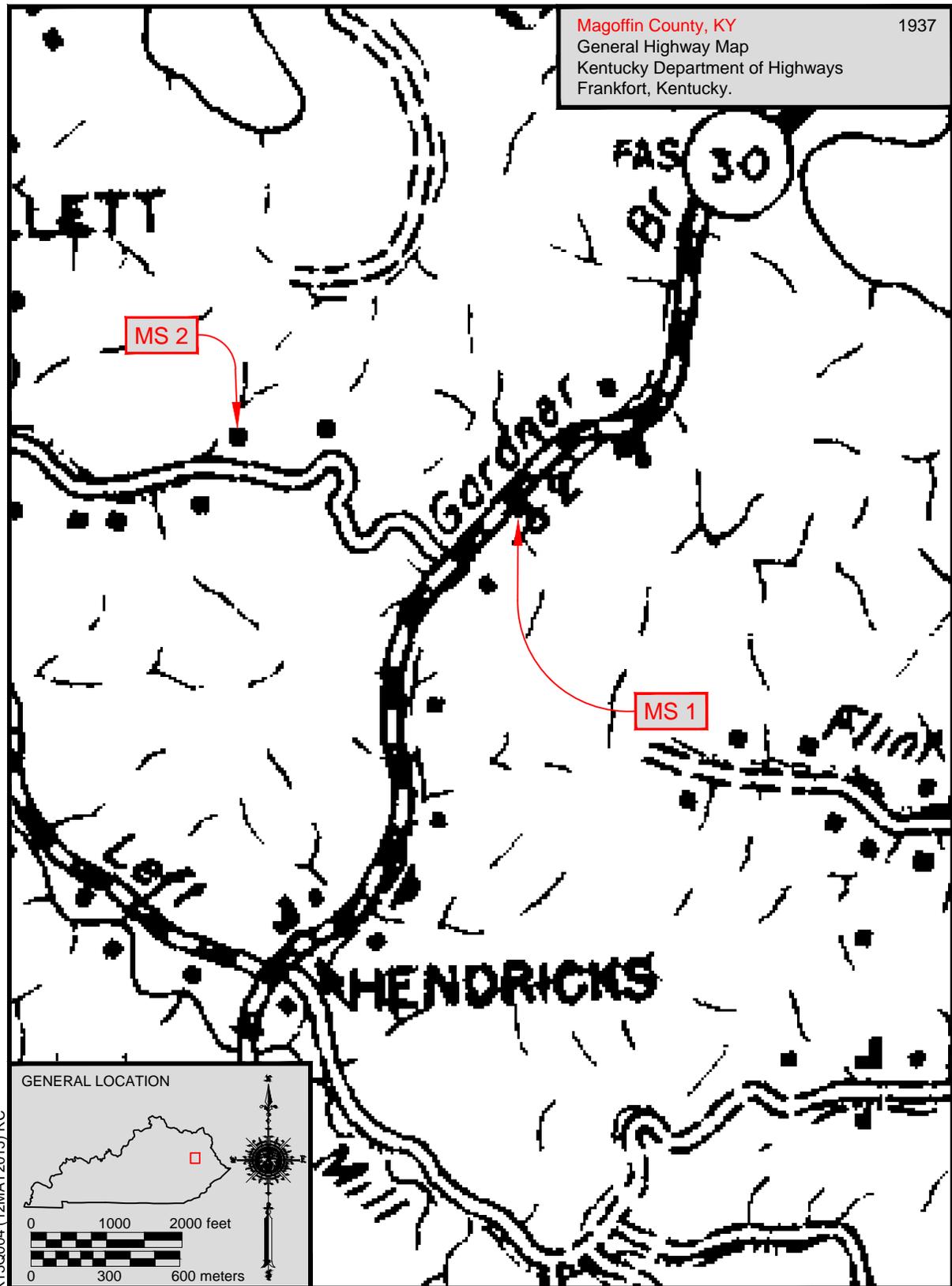


Figure 15. Section of 1937 Magoffin County highway map showing MS 1 and MS 2.

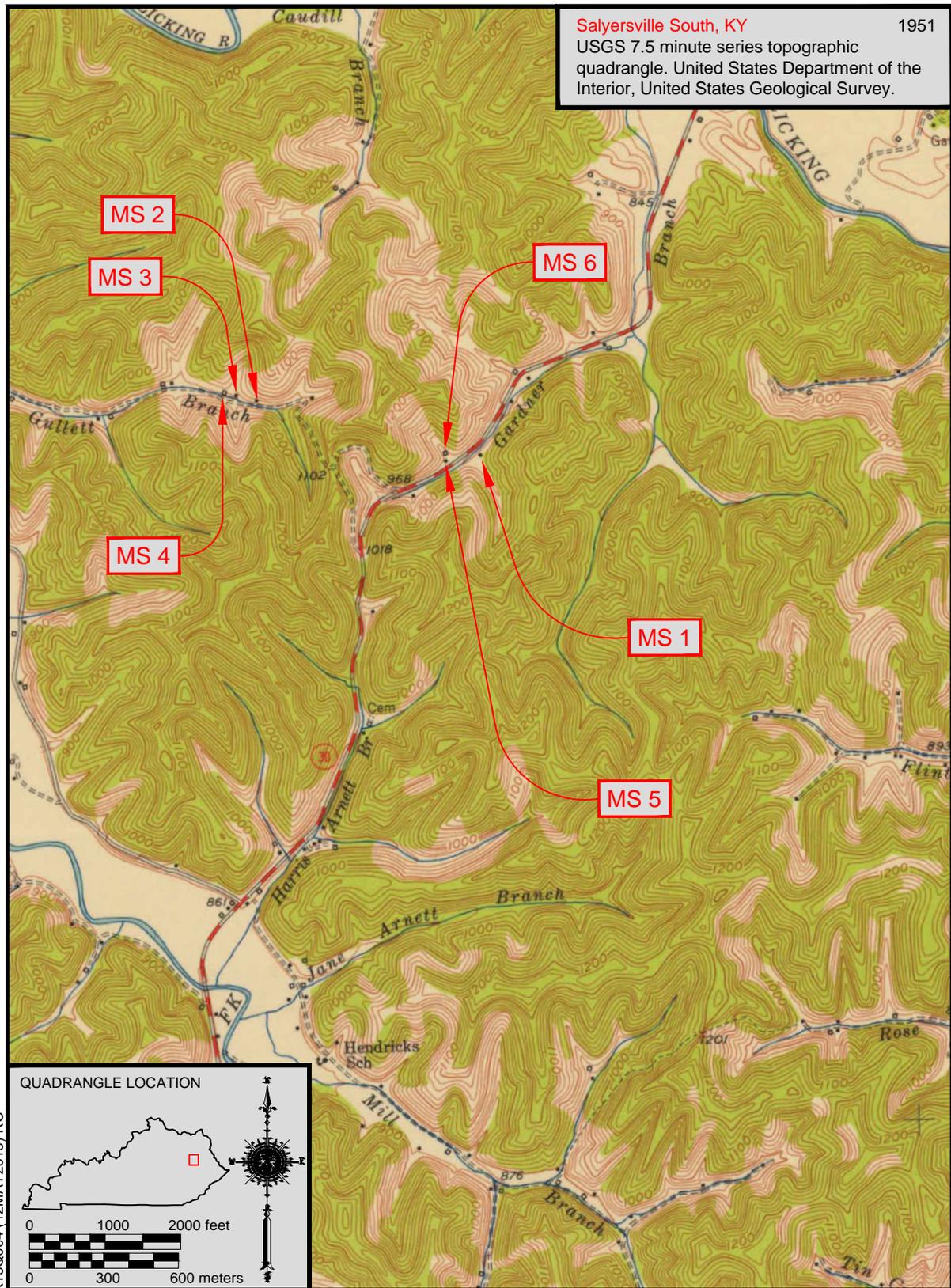


Figure 16. Section of 1951 Salyersville South quadrangle map showing MS 1--MS 6.

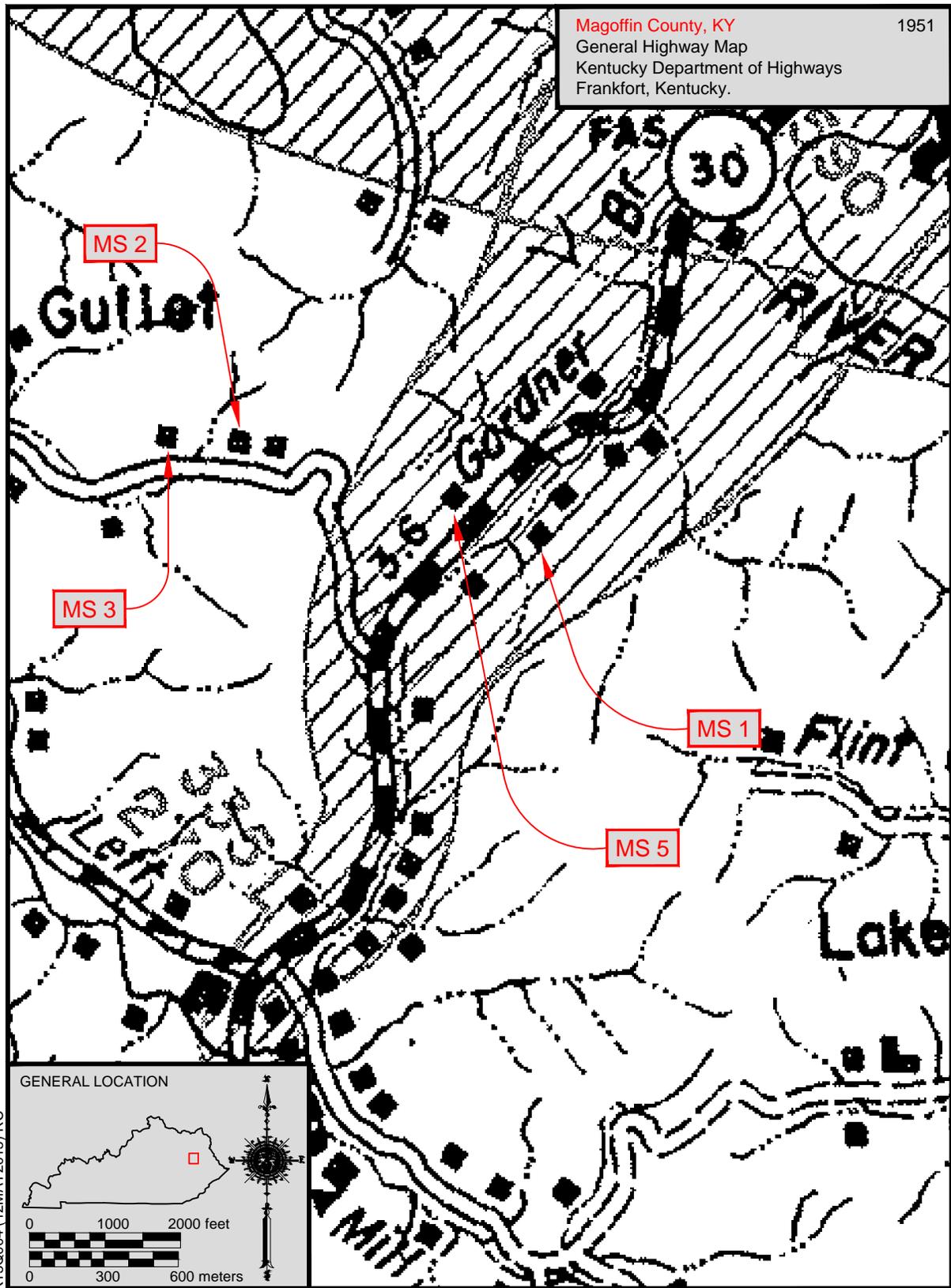


Figure 17. Section of 1951 Magoffin County highway map showing MS 1--MS 3, and MS 5.

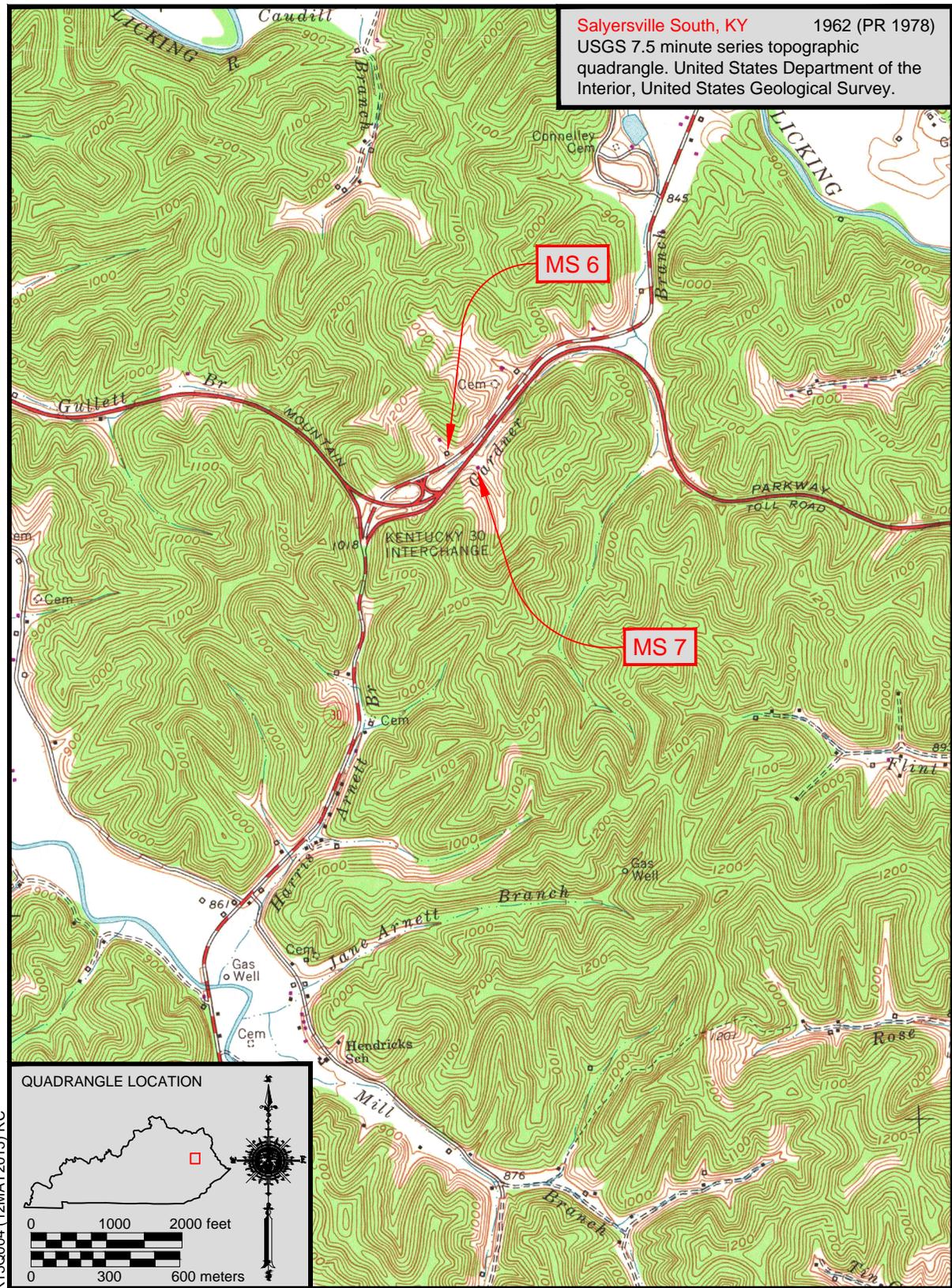


Figure 18. Section of 1962 (Photorevised 1978) Salyersville South quadrangle map showing MS 6 and MS 7.

In summary, seven historic structures were found to be located in, or directly adjacent to, the current project area. None of the structures were noted to be extant at the time of the current survey, and no archaeological deposits were found in association with any of the structures. It is likely that most, if not all, of the structures were destroyed as a result of road construction activities.

## Survey Predictions

Considering the known distribution of sites in the county, the available information on site types recorded, and the nature of the present project area, certain predictions were possible regarding the kinds of sites that might be encountered within the project area. Prehistoric open habitations without mounds, historic farms/residences, and cemeteries were considered the most likely site types to be encountered. Rockshelters were also considered a possibility due to their occurrence in the county.

## IV. METHODS

This section describes the methods used during the survey. Specific field methods for investigations at IF 1 are discussed in further detail in the *Isolated Artifact Find* section of this report. Laboratory methods specific to the artifact analyses are discussed in the analysis sections of this report.

### Field Methods

The proposed project area was determined by maps provided by the client and by a Magellan Triton 2000 global positioning system (GPS) handheld unit in the field. Portions of the project area appeared to be flagged during the time of the inventory. Landowner permission was requested prior to initiating fieldwork for all of the parcels of privately owned land.

The entire project area was subject to intensive pedestrian survey supplemented by systematic screened shovel testing (see Figure 3). Pedestrian survey was conducted by

walking parallel transects spaced at 20 m intervals along natural contours. Steep sideslopes were inspected for natural benches and overhangs. Dirt roads and all exposed areas were walked and visually examined for indications of cultural material and features. Areas that were subjected to pedestrian survey were those that were on steep sloping terrain (greater than 15 percent slope), and/or were found to be highly disturbed. In addition, a small amount of the west portion of the project area was previously surveyed (Davis 1999). This area was also subjected to pedestrian survey.

Shovel testing at 20 m (66 ft) intervals was conducted in portions of the project area that were on landforms with slope less than 15 percent and/or had ground surface visibility below 50 percent. In all cases, shovel tests measured not less than 35 cm in diameter and extended well into subsoil. All fill removed from the tests was screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and the sidewalls and bottoms were examined for cultural material and features. All artifacts recovered from shovel tests were bagged by shovel test number and level.

One geological overhang was also inspected for culturally derived bedrock mortars, pitted stones, petroglyphs, and pictographs that have been known to be associated with such features, which would make it a site; however, none were found.

### Laboratory Methods

All cultural material recovered from the project was transported to CRA for processing and analysis. Initial processing of the recovered artifact (a single flake) involved washing. Since the artifact was a non-diagnostic material, it was cataloged by provenience lot.

The methods, specifics, and results of subsequent analysis are discussed in each of the specific analysis sections of this report. All cultural materials, field notes, records, and photographs of the isolated find will be curated at the University of Kentucky's William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology.

## V. MATERIALS RECOVERED

Prehistoric materials were recovered from one isolated find (IF 1). A brief description of the recovered artifact is described below.

### Lithic Analysis

*Brian G. DelCastello*

Lithic remains recovered from IF 1 consisted of a single nondiagnostic flake weighing approximately .3 g.

The analysis of flake debris involved the recording of several attributes, including flake size, weight, raw material type, presence of cortex, and probable stage of lithic reduction during which the flake was produced. Reduction stage follows Magne's (1985) definitions and was determined by the number of facets on the platform or the number of flake scars on the dorsal surface. Early stage reduction is defined as core reduction, middle stage as the first half of tool production, and late stage as the second half of tool production and subsequent maintenance. For flakes that retain platforms, zero to one facet on the platform indicates early stage, two facets indicate middle stage, and three or more facets indicate late stage. Biface thinning is a specialized form of late stage reduction. A biface thinning flake is defined as a flake with a lipped platform having three or more facets. For non-platform bearing flakes, dorsal flake scars were counted instead of platform facets; zero to one dorsal flake scars indicate early stage, two scars middle stage, and three or more flake scars late stage. Stage of reduction was not determined for blocky debris or flakes smaller than .25 inch.

Raw material identification or reduction stage (i.e., Magne 1985) could not be determined given the flake's small size.

Beyond the fact that activities involving the reduction of lithic materials occurred in this rockshelter, little else can be stated with any degree of certainty. It is likely that these activities were either sporadic or ephemeral in

nature. The lack of temporal artifacts precludes either cultural or temporal determination. Little more can be inferred from this single flake.

## VI. RESULTS

During the course of the current survey, one prehistoric isolated find (IF 1) was documented. A description for IF 1 is presented below, and its location is depicted on Figure 3.

### Isolated Artifact Find

This class of cultural resources consisted of isolated pieces of lithic debris that occurred as singular items with no other evidence of prehistoric activity associated with the artifact (e.g., FCR or charcoal). For the isolated find (IF 1) located during current field investigations, shovel testing and/or surface reconnaissance was conducted to locate any possible associated artifacts.

#### Isolated Find 1

KYSP-Single NAD83: N478103 E315022

Elevation: 311 m (1,020 ft) AMSL

Distance to nearest water: 216 m (710 ft)

Direction to nearest water: east

Type and extent of previous disturbance: unknown

Topography: Rockshelter

Vegetation: mixed weeds and minimal grass

Ground Surface Visibility: 90–100 percent

Aspect: Level

Description: IF 1 is a single nondiagnostic lithic artifact that weighed approximately .3 g. It was located through shovel testing conducted in a rockshelter located near in a steep drainage draw between approximately 311 and 317 m AMSL (see Figure 7). The shelter measured roughly 20 m east–west by 5 m (16 ft) north–south. The ceiling heights in the shelter ranged from approximately .5 m (1.6 ft) in the back to approximately 4 m (13

ft) near the drip line. A substantial stream of water was flowing over the top of the shelter into the drainage draw below at the time of the current survey.

A total of five shovel tests were conducted in the rockshelter. Most of the west half of the rockshelter was covered by rock fall and attempts to clear away the rock and conduct shovel testing revealed that much of the ground surface below consisted of bedrock. Four of the shovel tests were conducted in the east half of the rockshelter, and one was placed just outside of the shelter's west half (Figure 19).

The terrain outside of the rockshelter was steep sloping and had extremely dense vegetation. A number of fallen trees associated with a 2012 tornado in the area were leaning against the overhang as well as being scattered throughout the drainage draw below (Figure 20).

Since the flake recovered from IF 1 was smaller than .25 inches it could not be classified by reduction stage. Little can be said

beyond the fact that activities involving the reduction of lithic materials occurred in this rockshelter. The lithic reduction activities were likely sporadic and/or brief in nature, and based on the lack of diagnostic artifacts, cultural and/or temporal affiliations cannot be made.

## VII. CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND TREATMENT

Note that a principal investigator or field archaeologist cannot grant clearance to a project. Although the decision to grant or withhold clearance is based, at least in part, on the recommendations made by the field investigator, clearance may be obtained only through an administrative decision made by the lead federal agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (the Kentucky Heritage Council [KHC]).



Figure 19. Overview of portion of rockshelter shovel tested at IF 1, facing northeast.



Figure 20. Overview from outside rockshelter showing fallen trees and dense vegetation, facing northwest.

The project consisted of an archaeological survey of previously unsurveyed areas for the proposed widening of the Mountain Parkway in Magoffin County. In total, 22.8 ha of land were subject to pedestrian survey for this project.

Prior to initiating field investigations, a records review was conducted at the OSA for a 2 km radius around the entire 22.8 ha project area. The review indicated that 11 previous professional archaeological surveys had been conducted within a 2 km radius of the project area. Fourteen archaeological sites had been recorded in this area also. None of the previously recorded archaeological sites in the records review area were located within the current project area, and no new archaeological sites were recorded as a result of this survey. However, one prehistoric isolated find was located in a rockshelter in a

steep drainage draw. The isolated find (IF 1) consisted of a single flake, and no other prehistoric materials were found in association with the rockshelter. No archaeological sites listed in, or eligible for, the NRHP will be affected by the proposed construction activities. Therefore, archaeological clearance is recommended.

If any previously unrecorded archaeological materials are encountered during construction activities, the KHC should be notified immediately at (502) 564-6662. Furthermore, if human skeletal material is discovered, construction activities should cease and the KHC, the local coroner, and the local law enforcement agency must be notified, as described in KRS 72.020.

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