

## PHASE I

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INTERSECTION OF KY 211 & US 60, BATH COUNTY, KENTUCKY (KYTC ITEM # 9-8813.00)

**By:**

*Dona R. Daugherty*

**Submitted by:**

*CDM Smith  
2525 Harrodsburg Road  
Suite 200  
Lexington, Kentucky 40504*

**Prepared for:**

*Kentucky Transportation  
Cabinet.  
200 Mero Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622*

**Kentucky Office of State  
Archaeology Project****Number:**

*FY16-8654*

**CDM  
Smith**

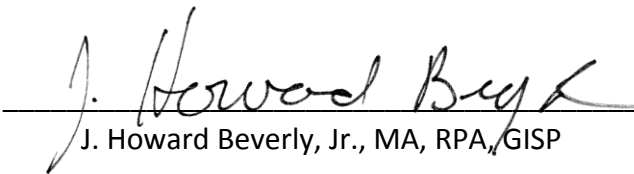


**Phase I Archaeological Survey of Proposed Improvements at the KY 211 & US 60  
Intersection, Bath County, Kentucky (KYTC Item # 9-8813.00)**

Authored by:  
Dona R. Daugherty

Submitted by:  
CDM Smith  
2525 Harrodsburg Rd., Suite 200  
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

Prepared for Client:  
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
200 Mero Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622  
Phone: (502) 564-4890



J. Howard Beverly, Jr., MA, RPA, GISP

**Principal Investigator:** CDM Smith  
Contact: (859) 254-5759 Ext. 106 or [beverlyjh@cdmsmith.com](mailto:beverlyjh@cdmsmith.com)

**Lead Federal Agency:** Federal Highways Administration

Kentucky Office of State Archaeology  
Archaeological Project Number: FY16-8654

Archaeology Report

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## Abstract

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At the request of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), archaeologists from CDM Smith (CDMS) conducted a Phase I archaeological survey for proposed road improvements at the KY 211 and US 60 intersection, Bath County, Kentucky (Item Number 9-8813.00). Field work was conducted on October 21, 2015. The proposed right-of-way (ROW) extension and proposed temporary and permanent easements to be surveyed totaled approximately 1.12 acre (0.45 ha).

Most of the APE offered disturbed soils, but not all of these areas were obvious and required systematic shovel probing along with visual inspection. Additionally, a portion of the APE was not disturbed and these areas were also subjected to systematic shovel probing along with visual inspection. Approximately, 43 percent of the project area was found to be disturbed due to previous road, commercial, and residential construction activities.

Nineteen shovel probes were excavated in total. Archaeological resources and archaeological sites were absent from the APE.

No further archaeological work is recommended within the APE.



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## Acknowledgements

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The Principal Investigator for the archaeological survey was Mr. J. Howard Beverly, Jr., MA, RPA. Robert Ball served as the Field Director. Field crew consisted of Chris Rankin. Howard Beverly generated maps and formatted the report. Robert Ball provided support in Lexington.



# Section 1 -

## Introduction

In accordance with the Kentucky Heritage Council's *Specifications for Conducting Fieldwork and Preparing Cultural Resource Assessment* (Sanders 2006), this is an abbreviated technical report describing a no-find Phase I archaeological survey.

CDM Smith was asked by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), to conduct a Phase I archaeological survey of proposed road improvements at the intersection of KY 211 and US 60 in Bath County, Kentucky (Item Number 9-8813.00). Field work was conducted on October 21, 2015.

### 1.1 Project Sponsor and Regulatory Authority

The state agency sponsoring this survey is the KYTC; the lead federal agency is the Federal Highway Administration. The survey was conducted in compliance with the guidelines established by the Kentucky Heritage Council Guidelines (Sanders 2006) and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-655; 80 Stat. 915, 16 U.S.C. 470 et seq), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 910190; 83 Stat. 852, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq), Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36CFR800), Executive Order 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (16 U.S.C. 470; supp. 1, 1971).

### 1.2 Purpose and Scope of Work

The Phase I archaeological survey was conducted for proposed improvements at the intersection of KY 211 and US 60 in Bath County, Kentucky. The archaeological surveyors were prepared to shovel probe areas of less than 15% slope, auger deeper soil deposits, and to visually inspect the entire area. The purpose of this work was to identify any archaeological resources which might have existed within the APE and to record their extent and significance, while analyzing the potential impact of the proposed project on these potential cultural resources.

### 1.3 Project Area Description

This project is located at the intersection of KY 211 and US 60, west southwest of the confluence of Salt Lick Creek and the Licking River in Bath County, which is located in the Kentucky Department of Highways District 6, and can be found on the Salt Lick, KY, USGS 7.5' topographical map (Figure 1-1 through Figure 1-3). The western terminus of the APE begins at the intersection of KY 211 and US 60 and extends approximately 231 m (757 ft.) to the eastern terminus, encompassing both sides of US 60. In addition, at about 100 m (330 ft.) from the KY 211 and US 60 intersection, a portion of the APE extends from US 60 to KY 211, creating a new intersection.

The area of potential effect (APE) is defined as the limits of the proposed right-of-way and proposed temporary and permanent easements. These areas were identified on design sheets provided by KYTC to CDM Smith and total approximately 1.12 acre (0.45 ha). The project area is located in the Bluegrass physiographic region of Kentucky. The area is situated from 664 to 666 ft. above mean sea level (AMSL).

1-2

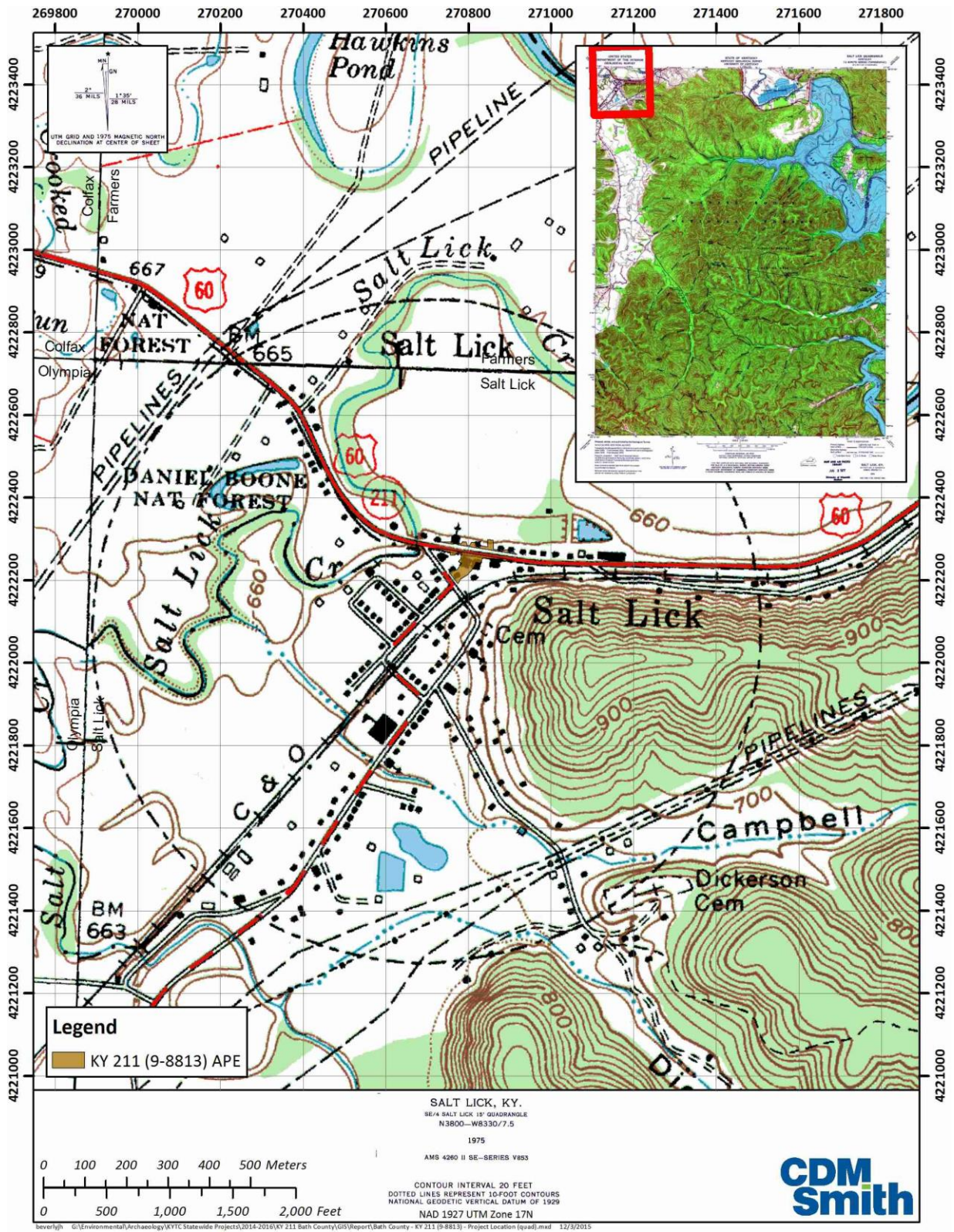


Figure 1-2. USGS Topographical Map showing Project Location.

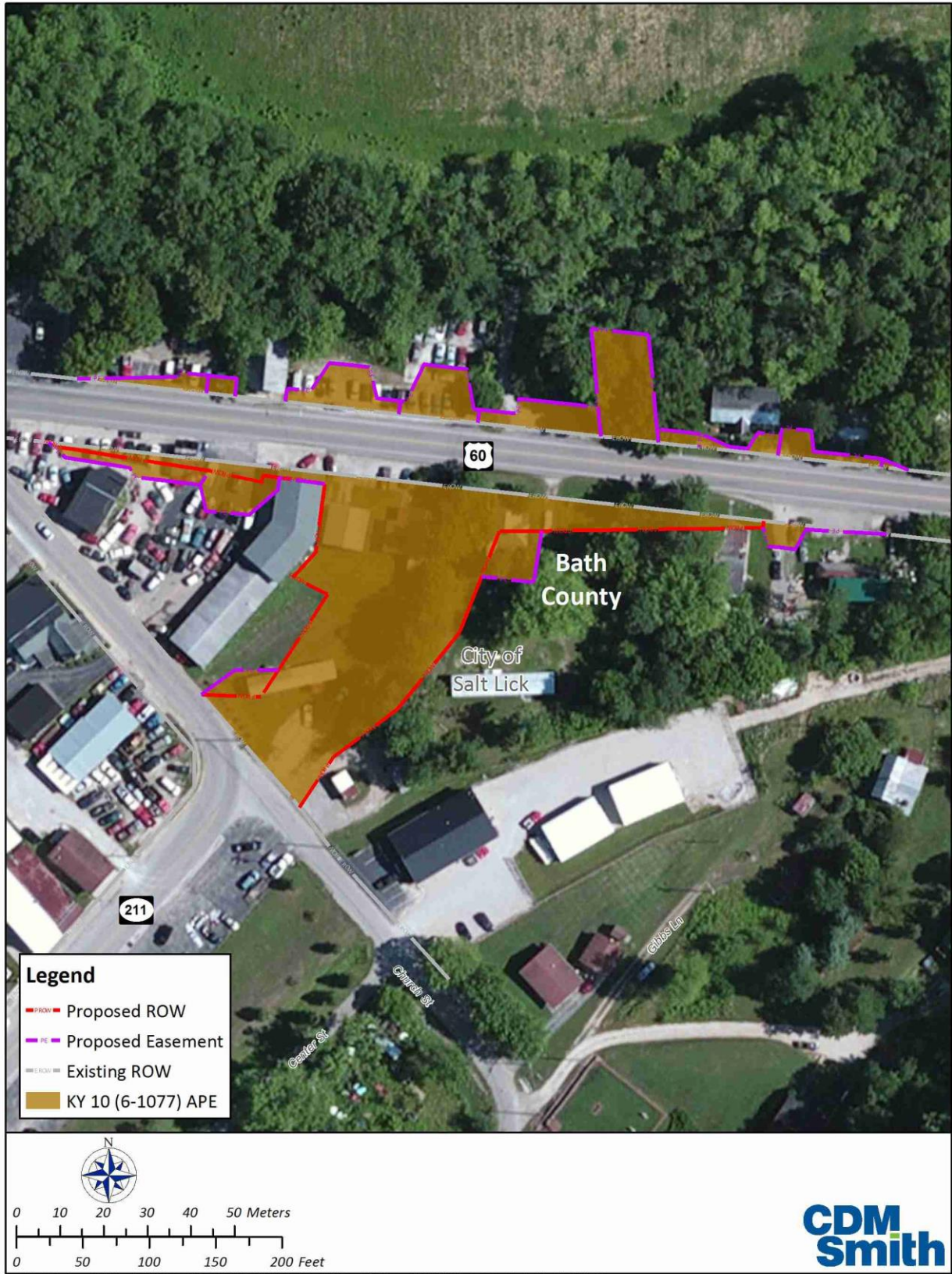


Figure 1-3. Aerial Map showing Project Location.

Vegetation within the APE consisted of mown, grassy lawn and secondary growth with brush and briars (Figure 1-4 through Figure 1-5).

## 1.4 OSA Records Research

A summary of previously recorded sites and surveys was received, by request, from the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) on October 28, 2015. On November 9, 2015, the site files and survey records at the OSA were accessed and researched.

## 1.5 Principal Investigator

The principal investigator for the project was J. Howard Beverly, MA, RPA.

## 1.6 Field and Laboratory Crew

The field crew consisted of Robert Ball and Chris Rankin. Mr. Ball served as the field director and planned, coordinated, and supervised all field activities. The total number of hours expended during fieldwork was 10 hours. Field work for the project was conducted on October 21, 2015. Dona Daugherty prepared the final report, and J. Howard Beverly, Jr. prepared the maps and formatted the report.

## 1.7 Curation

A copy of this report will be curated at the William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology, University of Kentucky, in Lexington.

## 1.8 Summary of Investigations

At the request of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, archaeologists from CDM Smith conducted a Phase I archaeological survey for the proposed road improvements at the intersection of KY 211 and US 60 in Boone County, Kentucky (KYTC Item Number 9-8813.00).

The archaeological survey involved a visual inspection of the entire APE and shovel probing in areas of less than 15 percent slope. Most of the APE offered disturbed soils, but not all of these areas were obvious and required systematic shovel probing along with visual inspection. A portion of the APE was not disturbed and these areas were also subjected to systematic shovel probing along with visual inspection.

Approximately, 43 percent of the project area was found to be disturbed due to previous road, commercial, and residential construction activities. Nineteen shovel probes were excavated in total, but none produced archaeological material.

Archaeological resources were absent from the APE. No further archaeological work is recommended within the APE.



**Figure 1-4. General Project Area, Showing Grassy Lawn, North side of US 60, Looking West.**



**Figure 1-5. General Project Area, Secondary Growth, Briars, and Brush, North Side of US 60, Looking South.**

## Section 2 -

# Previous Investigations and Summary of Known Sites

In this chapter a summary is provided of all previous archaeological investigations in the area and all previously recorded archaeological sites are described. The research methodology involved archival research at the Office of State Archaeology and research of previous studies of archaeological sites.

## 2.1 Historical Documentation

A review of historic maps was conducted online and at the University of Kentucky's Geological Sciences Library and Map Collection. Available were the 1937 Highway and Transportation Map of Bath County, Kentucky (KDH 1937); the 1954 Rural Highway Series, Bath County, Kentucky (KDH 1955); the 1953 and 1975 7.5-minute Salt Lick, Kentucky, USGS topographical maps; the 1929 and 1934 15-minute Salt Lick, Kentucky, USGS topographical maps. No indication of historic property use within the APE, other than roadway, was indicated by these historic resources. Thus, the potential for encountering historic surface or archaeological remains was considered low.

## 2.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

The survey reports at the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) were consulted on November 13, 2015. Within a two kilometer buffer of the current survey area, ten previously conducted surveys were identified: Knudsen 1983, Bodkin (1991, 1994, 1995, 1997, and 1999), Uecker (2003), Crider (2009), Bader et al. (2010), and Bader (2010) (Figure 2-1). The Knudsen (1983) was not available at time of research.

Over the winter of 1990 and 1991, archaeologists working for the Daniel Boone National Forest conducted a 334.4 acre survey in preparation for a proposed wildlife project and roads in Bath, Morgan, and Menifee Counties in Kentucky. Intensive pedestrian survey supplemented with screened shovel testing was utilized. Ten newly recorded sites were identified and recorded. In addition, three previously recorded sites were revisited. Four of the thirteen sites (15Mf388, 15Bh130, 15Bh162, and 15Mo114) were heavily disturbed or destroyed by construction and were not recommended for further work. The remaining nine sites (15Mf23, 15Mf387, 15Mf389-393, 15Bh160, 15Bh169) were considered potentially significant and avoidance was recommended (Bodkin 1991).

In 1994, archaeologists working in the Morehead Ranger District conducted a 2011.9 acre Phase I archaeological survey of the Daniel Boone National Forest in Bath, Menifee, Morgan, and Rowan Counties. The survey was conducted prior to logging projects proposed to start in 1995 and 1996. The survey methods were not specified, but resulted in the identification of thirty-eight new archaeological sites, 15Bh188—193, 15Mf522-531, 15Mo122-132, and 15Ro133-142. One previously recorded site, 15Mf357, was revisited during the survey and expanded in size by 4.6 acres. Several isolated historic and prehistoric finds, a primitive wooden animal corral, rock piles, and several prospect trenches for iron ore were also noted. With the exception of 15Bh188, all sites were recommended for avoidance (Bodkin 1994).

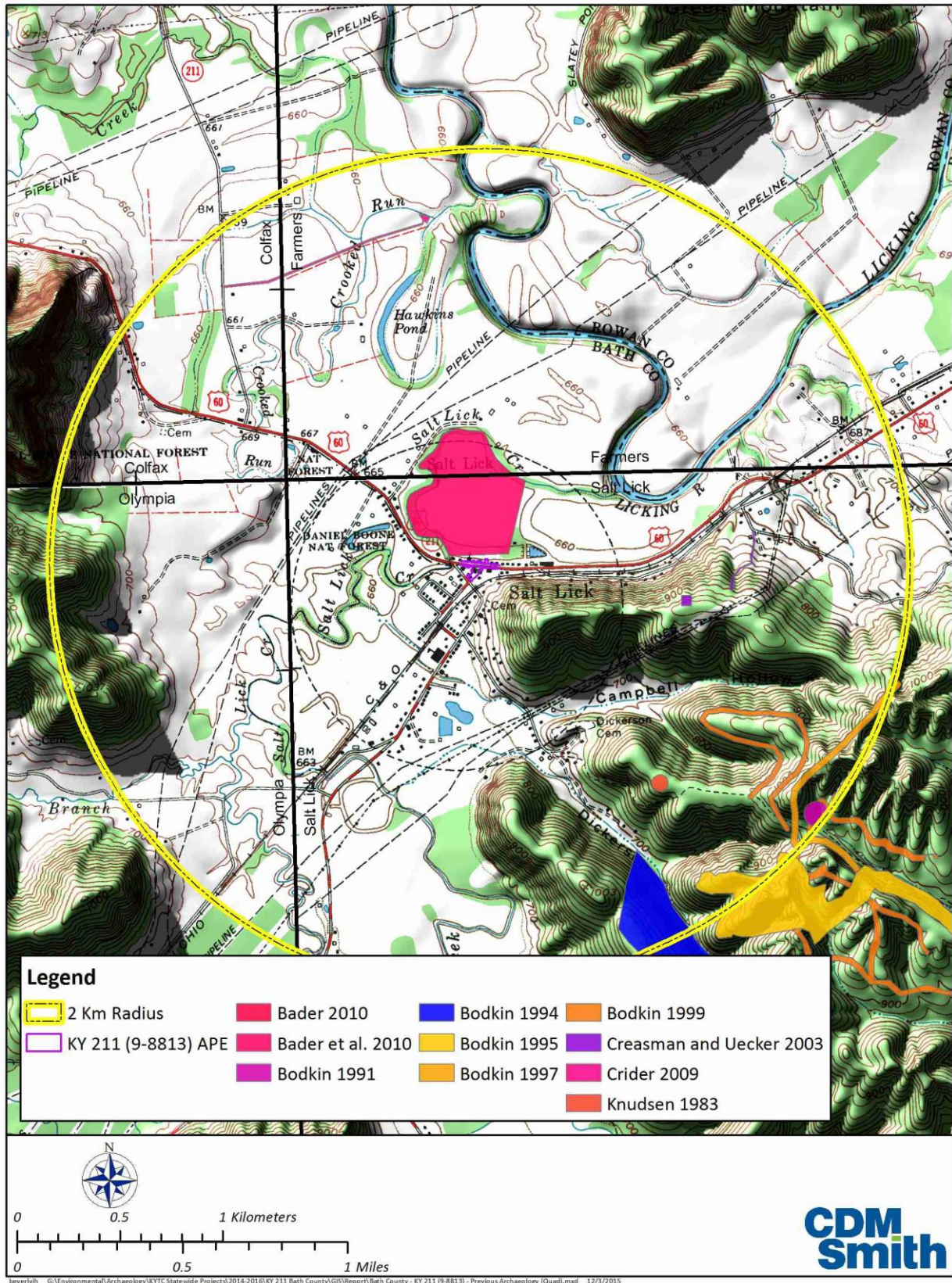


Figure 2-1. Previous Archaeological Surveys within 2km of Project Area.

In May of 1995, a severe storm caused considerable damage to over 60,000 acres in eastern Kentucky. A timber salvage project was proposed in the Morehead Ranger District of the Daniel Boone National Forest in Bath and Rowan counties. The project area consisted of haul roads and salvage units, totaling 1,020.3 acres. This area was subjected to a Phase I archaeological survey undertaken by Frank Bodkin. No previously recorded archaeological sites were located within the project area. Twelve previously unrecorded archaeological sites were identified during the survey. Six of the twelve were prehistoric rockshelters and were recommended for further testing. Of the remaining six sites, two were prehistoric rockshelters, two were open prehistoric scatters, and two were historic farmsteads. These remaining six sites were considered inventory sites and not recommended for further testing (Bodkin 1995).

In 1997, archaeologists working for the Daniel Boone National Forest conducted a 351.5 acre Phase I archaeological survey in Bath, Menifee, and Rowan Counties, Kentucky. The survey was completed at the request of the National Forest to determine cultural value of a project area prior to the construction of 57.9 miles of new trails throughout the forest. The area was inspected with intensive pedestrian survey supplemented with screened shovel testing, which resulted in the identification of twenty-three new archaeological sites. One previously recorded site, 15Bh148, was revisited and the boundaries were expanded during the survey. None of these sites fell within the boundaries of the proposed project area, but trail markers were recommended to encourage users to stay clear of archaeological sites. In addition, a biannual inspection of these sites was also recommended to prevent future disturbances to the sites (Bodkin 1997).

In 1999, archaeologists working for the Daniel Boone National Forest conducted a survey spanning a proposed 9.6 mile trail and a .5 acre parking lot. The area was inspected with intensive pedestrian survey supplemented with screened shovel testing. No new sites were identified during the survey, but one previously recorded site, 15Bh191, was revisited. This site consists of a charcoal kiln and was recommended for avoidance during the proposed construction. In addition, a biannual inspection of these sites was also recommended to prevent future disturbances to the sites. A newly recorded site, 15Bh259, was also identified during the survey but was outside the project area. It consisted of a second charcoal kiln. Signs and interpretive materials describing the historic importance and cultural value of charcoal production sites will be placed at the trailhead (Bodkin 1999).

In April of 2003, archaeologists from Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. conducted a .71 acre survey in Bath County, Kentucky. The survey was completed at the request of Bath County Water District as a precursor to the construction of a water supply pump and tank. The survey did not result in the discovery of any new archaeological sites and no previously recorded archaeological sites were known to be located within the project area. No further work was recommended (Creasman and Uecker 2003).

In February of 2009, archaeologists from Environment & Archaeology, LLC completed a 1.7 acre Phase I archaeological survey in Bath County, Kentucky. The survey was requested by Tower Access group in preparation for the construction of a communications tower. The entirety of the project area was subject to shovel testing and pedestrian survey, which resulted in the identification of one new archaeological site. 15Bh272 consisted of a small scatter of both prehistoric and historic components. Lack of diagnostic artifacts, features, and intact deposits led archaeologists not to recommend any further work (Crider 2009).

In March and April of 2010, archaeologists from Corn Island Archaeology, LLC conducted a 60 acre Phase I archaeological survey along the Salt Lick Creek in Bath County, Kentucky. The survey was

requested by The US Department of Agriculture and was completed with surface survey, shovel testing, and backhoe trenching. Two new archaeological sites, one field site, and seven isolated finds were discovered. The two new archaeological sites included 15Bh274 and 15Bh275. Site 15Bh274 was described as a Fort Ancient site that yielded one triangular projectile point, debitage, and fire cracked rock. A small thermal pit and further intact cultural deposits were revealed during backhoe trenching, and the site was recommended for further investigation. Site 15Bh275 is a small historic artifact scatter that was not recommended for any further work (Bader et al. 2010).

In June of 2010, archaeologists from Corn Island Archaeology, LLC, reported on the radiometric findings from the carbon collected from Site 15Bh274 during the Bader et al. (2010) survey discussed above. A Fort Ancient projectile point was originally used to give the site its cultural association, but carbon collected from the thermal pit found in a backhoe trench also indicated an Early Woodland Occupation. Further investigation was recommended for the site (Bader 2010).

## 2.3 Known Archaeological Sites

The archaeological site files at the OSA were consulted on November 3, 2015. At the time of research, nine archaeological sites and one unconfirmed archaeological site had been previously recorded within a two-kilometer buffer of the current project area and are described below. No previously recorded sites are located within the current project boundaries.

Site 15Bh11 is possibly the same mound as 15Bh90. It was originally recorded by Funkhouser and Webb in 1923 and no specific location was listed for the site. The site was documented as “the largest graveyard in the state,” but not noted as a mound. However, other mounds from the same time period are noted as such, and no burials have been documented within 15Bh90. Local informant, Robert Carter, claimed to have collected a large number and variety of prehistoric artifacts from Site 15Bh11. Barnes and Lewis Cemetery, a pioneer cemetery, is located less than 300 m from Site 15Bh90. It is situated on a small rise that locals claim to also be a mound, and local informant, Randy Helton, said the area of the mound and cemetery yielded prehistoric lithic material. Therefore, Site 15Bh11 is possible this mound instead of 15Bh90, but either way, these sites are most likely related (Site form 15Bh11 and 15Bh90).

Site 15Bh58 was first recorded as a small lithic scatter on a terrace within a pasture at about 680 ft. AMSL. It was later documented as part of Site 15Bh90 (Site form 15Bh58 and 15Bh90).

Site 15Bh89 was first recorded as a small lithic scatter on a terrace within a pasture at about 680 ft. AMSL. It was later documented as part of Site 15Bh90 (Site form 15Bh89 and 15Bh90).

Site 15Bh90 was first visited by Eversole, a Morehead State University biology professor, in 1966. Eversole photographed and documented the large flat top oval mound associated with the site. The mound measures 48 by 64 meters and 2.4 meters in height. The mound is documented in both a one page site form (originally recorded by D.R. Maynard with the Kentucky Heritage Counsel) and a revisit site form (recorded by the Morehead Ranger District in 1997). The site, which may stretch up to five acres surrounding the mound, sits at about 680 ft. AMSL on a terrace in a mowed pasture. The mound itself is scattered with looter trenches and pits, some dug by local informants Randy and Jeff Kahn. The Kahn brothers told archaeologists they had collected multiple five gallon buckets of points, drills, and blanks from the site, including multiple Pine Tree point fragments, triangular Fort Ancient points, other corner and side notched points, a drill, and a possible spade. The spade, the flat top of the mound, and the Fort Ancient Points suggest that the site is likely Mississippian, but many Archaic

points were also recovered. The site has not been assessed for eligibility for the NRHP. Sites 15Bh58, 15Bh89, 15Bh91, and 15Bh101 are all small lithic scatters located within the five acre area surrounding the mound, and were first recorded as independent sites. However, in the 1997 site form for 15Bh90, these sites are now considered part of 15Bh90. Site 15Bh11 is also related to Site 15Bh90 (Site form for 15Bh90).

Site 15Bh91 was first recorded as a small lithic scatter on a terrace within a pasture at about 680 ft. AMSL. It was later documented as part of Site 15Bh90 (Site form for 15Bh91 and 15Bh90).

Site 15Bh101 was first recorded as a small lithic scatter on a terrace within a pasture at about 680 ft. AMSL. It was later documented as part of Site 15Bh90 (Site form for 15Bh101 and 15Bh90).

Site 15Bh272 is a historic and indeterminate, prehistoric scatter first documented by Andrea D. Crider in 2009, and is situated at 660 ft. AMSL along a terrace in a pasture field. The prehistoric component consisted of four Boyle flakes, representing multiple stages in the production process, suggesting stone tool processing. The historic component consisted of glass and an unidentified nail and was likely the result of trash dumping. No further work was recommended (Crider 2009; Site Form for 15Bh272).

15Bh274 is a prehistoric site first documented by Anne Bader in 2010 as part of a phase I survey for the US Department of Agriculture. The site is situated at 660 ft. AMSL along a low floodplain within an agricultural field. Backhoe trenching during the Phase I investigation revealed intact deposits and a thermal pit feature, containing hundreds of thermally treated flakes. A triangular Fort Ancient point, pitted rock, and burned rock were collected from the surface of the site. Shovel testing yielded thirteen lithic flakes (Bader et al. 2010). Further radiometric testing of carbon collected from the pit suggested an Early Woodland component in addition to the Fort Ancient component (Bader 2010). (Site Form for 15Bh274).

15Bh275 is a historic site first documented by Anne Bader in 2010 as part of a Phase I investigation for the US Department of Agriculture. The site is situated at 660 ft. AMSL along a low floodplain in an agricultural field. Although a house appears on topographic maps from 1953, only a few historic artifacts, including whiteware, brick, stoneware, and glass were recovered. No further work was recommended (Bader et al. 2010; Site Form for 15Bh275).

The unconfirmed site, ID 000600000, is listed as a stone mound. No form was located during research, and nothing further is known.



## Section 3 -

### Field Methods

In this section, the field methods employed during the course of this study is described. These methods include the fieldwork activities, their application in different portions of the project area reflecting conditions encountered, and an evaluation of their effectiveness.

#### 3.1 Implemented Field Methods

The field methods implemented for the Phase I investigations conform to the Kentucky Heritage Council's specifications for conducting a Phase I survey (Sanders 2006). Systematic shovel test probes (STPs) were to be excavated where possible with judgmental placement of bucket auger tests near wetland areas and creeks. Areas of 15 percent or greater slope were visually inspected for surface remains and potential rock shelters. Systematic surface collection was to be utilized in areas with a high surface visibility.

The APE involves the 1.12 acre (0.45 ha) area within the proposed ROW extensions and temporary and permanent construction easements for the reconstruction starting at the intersection of KY 211 and US 60 and extending east along US 60 for approximately 210 m (693 ft.). The APE elevations range between 664 and 666 ft. AMSL. The location of the STPS is shown on a topographic map, aerial photography, and on design mapping in Figure 3-1 through Figure 3-3. The physical setting of the APE is shown in Figure 3-4 through Figure 3-7.

##### 3.1.1 Investigations

Visual inspection supported by shovel probes determined that a large portion of the APE was previously disturbed due to road, residential, and commercial construction. The remaining APE was systematically shovel probed with nineteen shovel probes excavated in total. The general stratigraphic profile for the APE is described below using STP 18 as the representative.

STP 18 revealed a 37 centimeter-thick layer of 10YR 4/4 dark yellowish brown silt overlaying a 10YR 6/8 brownish yellow clay that extended to at least the depth of 45 cm below surface (cmbs). No archaeological material was recovered. Figure 3-8 illustrates STP 18, the representative profile for the survey.

STP 7 produced two artifacts, a machine made nonspecific bottle/jar base shard, and a small machine made brick fragment. The stratigraphy for STP 7 revealed it to be disturbed. The two artifacts are not identified as an archaeological site because they were recovered from a disturbed context.

#### 3.2 Evaluation of Field Methods

Visual inspection successfully ruled out the possibility of rockshelters and historic surface features within the APE. The APE was shovel probed at 20 m intervals except for areas of disturbance. Disturbances were recorded for about 43 percent of the APE. No intact prehistoric or historic cultural deposits were encountered. No further work is recommended within the APE.

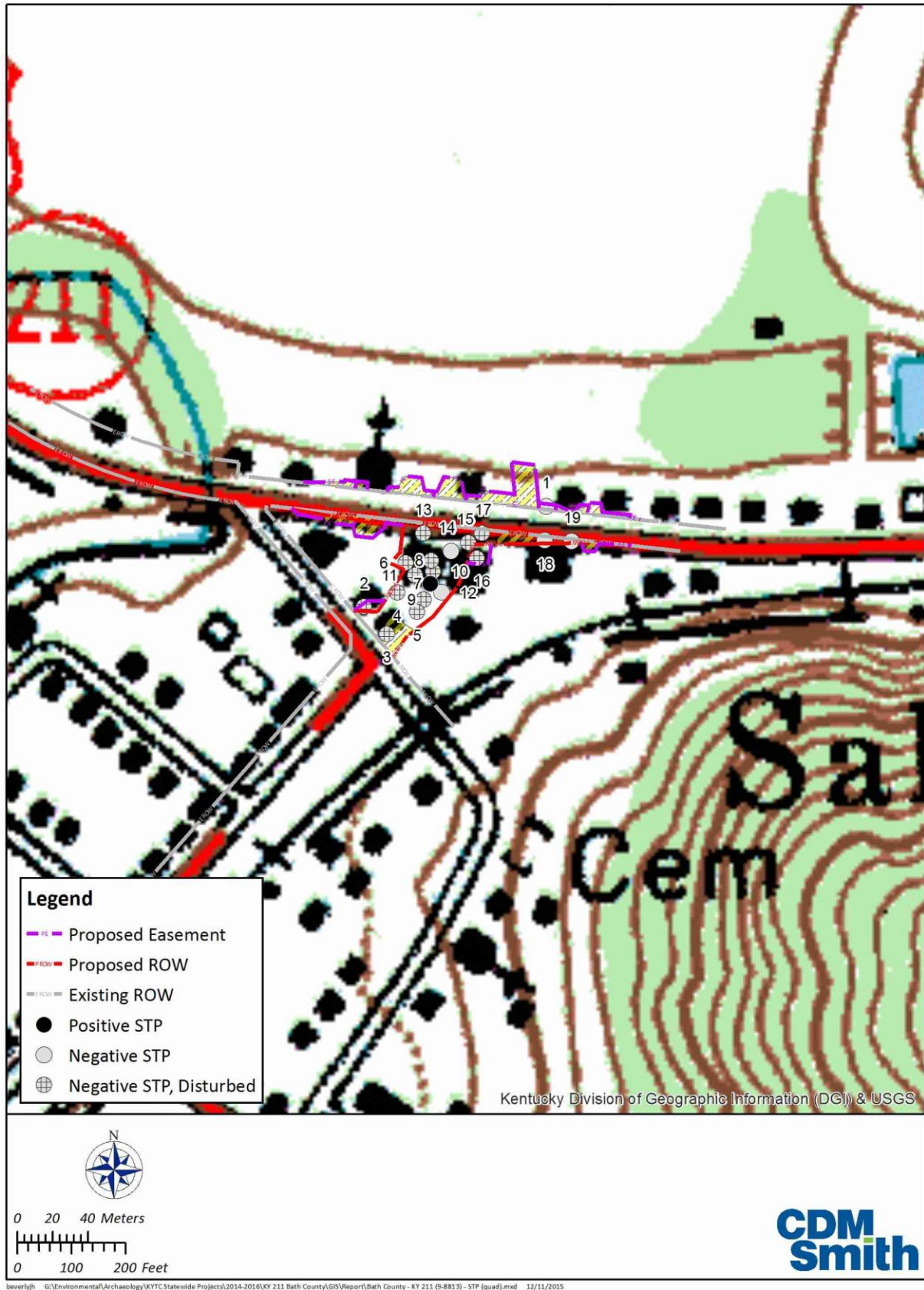


Figure 3-1. USGS Topographical Map Showing Shovel Test Probes and Disturbed Areas.

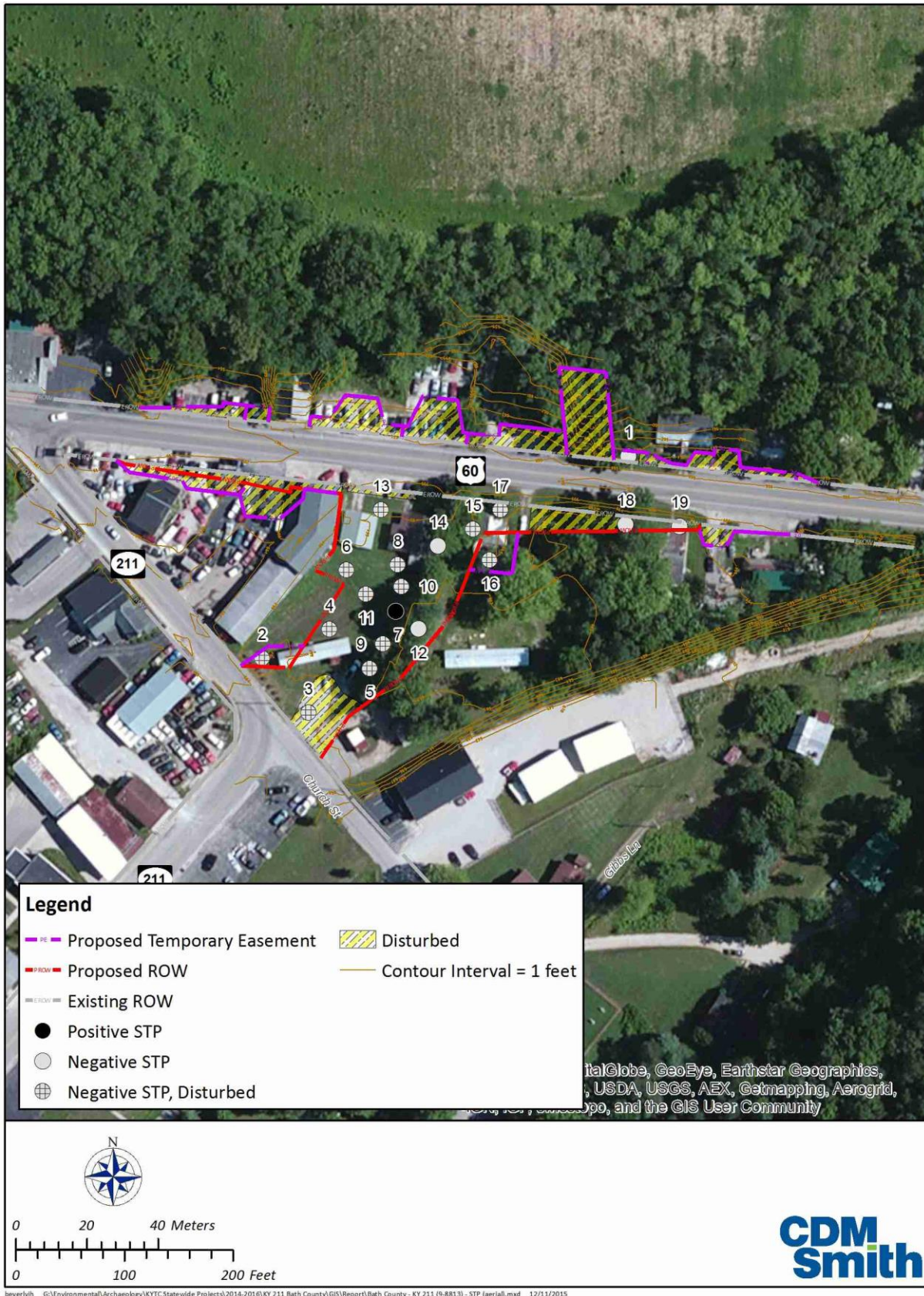


Figure 3-2. Aerial Map Showing Shovel Test Probes and Disturbed Areas.









**Figure 3-4. General Project Area, Showing Grassy Lawn, Residential and Road Disturbances, North Side of US 60, Looking West.**



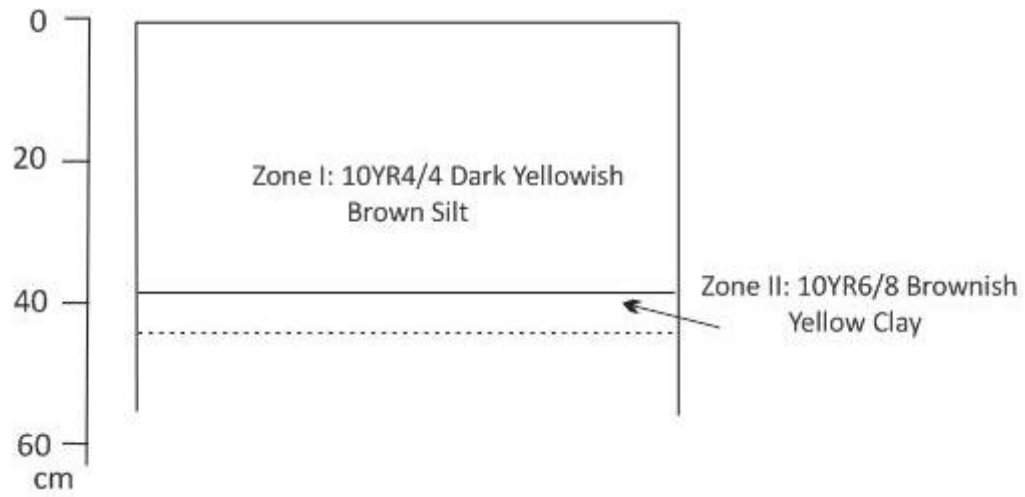
**Figure 3-5. General Project Area, Secondary Growth, Briars, and Brush, North Side of US 60, Looking South.**



**Figure 3-6. General Project Area, Showing Road and Commercial Disturbance, South Side of US 60, Looking East.**



**Figure 3-7. General Project Area, Showing Residential and Road Disturbance, North Side of US 60, Looking East.**



**Figure 3-8. Representative Profile, STP 18.**



## Section 4 -

# Summary and Recommendations

### 4.1 Summary

At the request of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, archaeologists from CDM Smith conducted a Phase I archaeological survey for proposed road improvements at the KY 211 and US 60 intersection, Bath County, Kentucky (Item Number 9-8813.00). Field work was conducted on October 21, 2015. The proposed right-of-way (ROW) extension and proposed temporary and permanent easements to be surveyed totaled approximately 1.12 acre (0.45 ha).

Nineteen shovel test probes were excavated in total, and no archaeological material was recovered.

### 4.2 Recommendations

No further archaeological work is recommended within the APE.



## Section 5 -

### References

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1954 *Rural Highway Series, Bath County, Kentucky.*

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Site Forms

15Bh11  
15Bh58  
15Bh89  
15Bh90  
15Bh91  
15Bh101  
15Bh272  
15Bh274  
15Bh275

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

1953 Salt Lick, Kentucky 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Map.  
1975 Salt Lick, Kentucky 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Map.  
1929 Salt Lick, Kentucky 15 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Map.  
1934 Salt Lick, Kentucky 15 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Map.