

**Alternatives Study for KY 163 in Metcalfe County  
from KY 90 to the Louie B. Nunn (Cumberland) Parkway  
Edmonton, Kentucky  
KYTC ITEM NO. 3-129.00**

**Report of Cultural Resources**

**Prepared for:**

**KENUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
DIVISION OF PLANNING**

**Prepared by:**

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## **1.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

### **1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Wilbur Smith Associates (WSA) is providing transportation planning services to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for an alternatives study for transportation improvements in the vicinity of KY 163 in Metcalfe County from KY 90 to the Louie B. Nunn (Cumberland) Parkway.

### **1.2 OBJECTIVES**

The goal of this study was to provide a cultural resources overview that documents existing data on known archaeological and cultural historic sites within the project study area. This study is not an environmental base study nor is it intended to replace any such study.

### **1.3 METHODOLOGY**

#### **a. Project Study Area**

The project study area extends from the Louie B. Nunn Parkway to the north to KY 90 to the south. From east to west, the project area extends from where KY 2399 passes under the Louie B. Nunn Parkway to just past the intersection of the Louie B. Nunn Parkway and KY 80. At this time, no alternative routes have been established, but approximately ten (10) to twelve (12) potential routes will be identified during the initial phase of the project.

#### **b. Archival Research**

A literature review of the Kentucky Heritage Council and the Kentucky Office of State Archaeologist files was conducted to identify previously recorded sites and any properties or sites already listed on or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This review resulted in the identification of:

1. Two structures listed on the NRHP that are located within the project study area: the Stockton-Ray House and the Metcalfe County Court House
2. Eleven (11) previously surveyed archaeological sites and 59 previously surveyed cultural historic sites within the study area. The National Register eligibility of these sites have not been determined at this time. Additional investigation of these sites is recommended if they fall within the limits of the alternative routes to be developed later.

3. One known cave is within the study area, locally known as Harvey Cave. It has been reported that local residents claim that there are hieroglyphs somewhere in the cave on its walls.

### **c. Field Check**

Robert Ball, an archaeologist and architectural historian from WSA, made a field visit in early November 2006 to the project area. During his field visit, he photographed the landscape and topographical features of the project area.

The majority of the previously recorded archaeological sites are located near the town of Edmonton. The two historic properties already listed on the NRHP are located in the northern portion of the study area; one in downtown Edmonton and the other just west of town on John Ray Road. The other documented cultural historic properties are mainly concentrated in downtown Edmonton and along Goodluck-Beaumont Road to the south.

### **1.4. Locational aspects to site data**

Each of the previously surveyed archaeological and cultural historic sites and the two properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places have been plotted on the map at the end of this report.

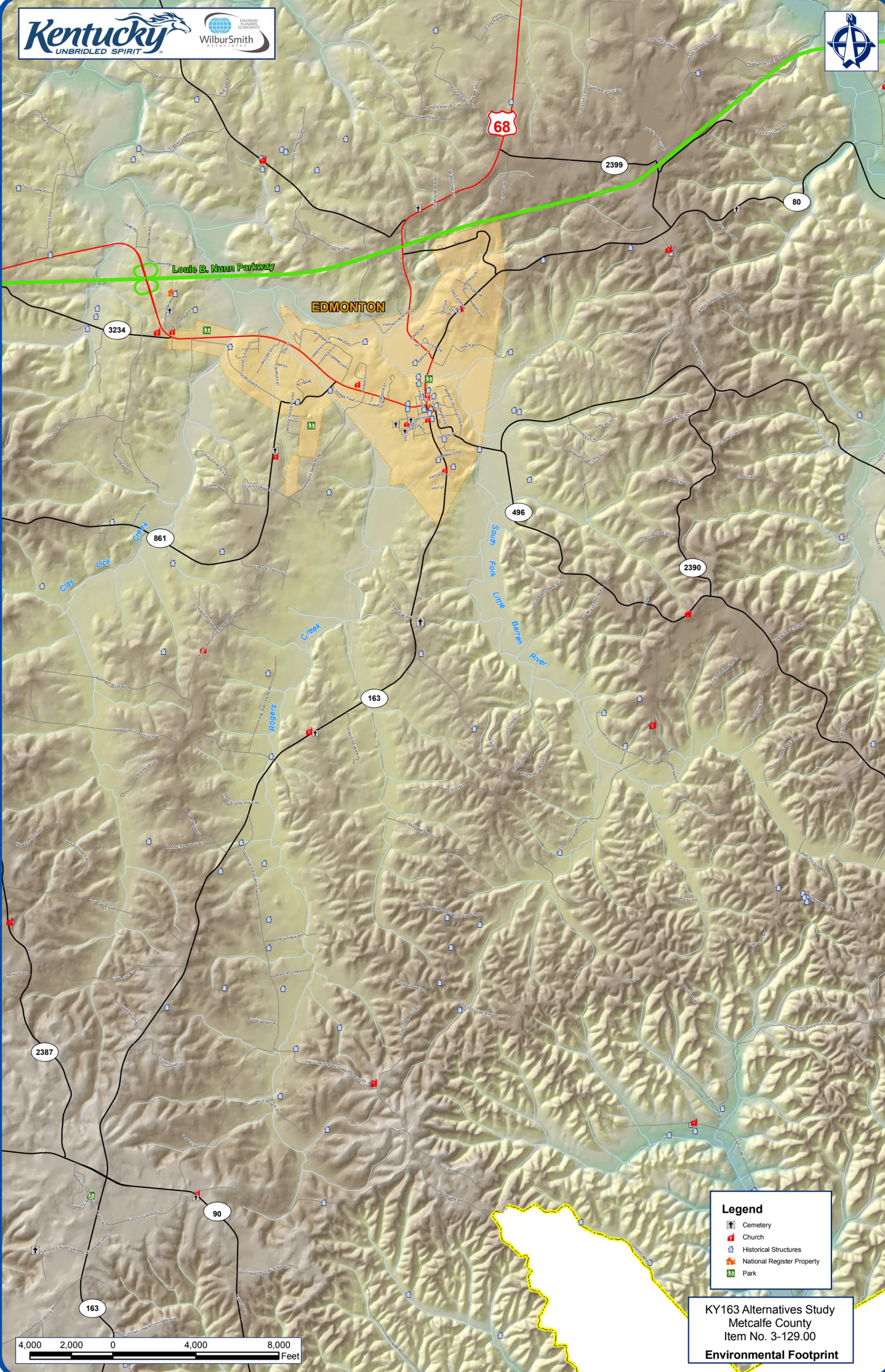
## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that reasonable attempts be made during the development of the project alternatives to avoid the sites already listed on the NRHP. Specific transportation related impacts on known cultural resources may be determined as potential alternatives are being established. This more detailed analysis could be conducted to determine what, if any, transportation related impacts exist and which particular alternatives will have the greatest impact on those cultural resources.

In addition to the 61 historic structures previously surveyed and documented, numerous undocumented/surveyed structures older than 50 years were observed within the project study area. These undocumented properties are scattered throughout the study area; although there is a concentration of older structures along KY 2399 north of Louie B. Nunn Parkway. If any of the previously documented structures fall within the potential limits of the alternative corridors, additional investigations will have to be conducted to document any changes that may have

occurred since they were originally documented in order to determine their National Register eligibility.

The potential for additional archaeological sites within the project area is high due to the numerous drainages and ridge tops that are found throughout the study area. The areas with the most likelihood to contain archaeological sites, prehistoric and historic, will be near these waterways and along the ridge tops that run roughly north-south through the project study area. In addition the existence of one known cave, Harvey Cave, within the study area also raises the potential for archaeological sites as it may contain additional cave or rockshelter formations. During the creation of the initial alternates, a predictive model could be developed in relation to archaeological sites to aid in the avoidance of hitting a major site. Once a preferred alternate is selected, then a complete Phase I archaeological survey would have to be completed in the next phase of project development.



**Legend**

- Cemetery
- Church
- Historical Structures
- National Register Property
- Park

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**Environmental Footprint**

