PART D

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW AND FILE SEARCH

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.

January 10, 2005

Contract Publication Series 04-220

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW AND FILE SEARCH FOR THE PROPOSED SOUTHSIDE DRIVE WIDENING IN JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY (ITEM NO. 04-041.00)

By Jessica L. Allgood, RPA

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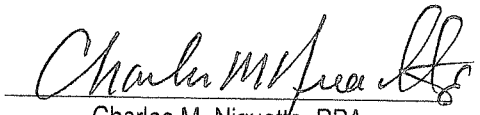
by

Jessica L. Allgood. RPA

Prepared for:
Mr. Richard Clausen
Redwing Ecological Services, Inc.
129 South Sixth Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 625-3009

Prepared by:

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.
151 Walton Avenue
Lexington, Kentucky 40508
(859) 252-4737
CRAI Project No. K04R006



Charles M. Niquette, RPA
Principal Investigator
January 10, 2005

Lead Agency: Federal Highway Administration Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

ABSTRACT

During December, 2004 Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., personnel completed an archaeological overview and file search for the proposed widening of the Southside Drive, in Jefferson County, Kentucky. The overview was initiated at the request of Mr. Richard Clausen of Redwing Ecological Services, Inc., on behalf of the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government, Department of Public Works. The overview and file search included reviews of both the Office of State Archaeology (OSA), the National Register online database site files, analysis of historic maps, and the review of previous archaeological research near the study area. The purpose of this study was to determine if the proposed construction would have an effect on previously documented cultural resources listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It was to determine the potential for archaeological sites eligible for the National Register to be located within the study area. A review of archaeological site files maintained by the Office of State Archaeology and the Kentucky Heritage Council indicated that no previously recorded archaeological sites or historic properties were located within the study area. Seven previously recorded archaeological sites have been recorded within 2 km of the study area. Five potential historic (PH) sites were identified during the review of historic maps. Residential and commercial development in the area has likely destroyed the archaeological integrity of these sites. Based on a review of sites in the region and historic maps, the study area has low potential to contain archaeological sites eligible for listing on the National Register. Due to the extent of recent development in the area, it is not likely that any existing archaeological sites remain undisturbed. If archaeological sites are encountered it is likely that they will be prehistoric open habitations without mounds or historic farms and residences.

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I. INTRODUCTION

During December 2004 Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRAI), personnel completed an archaeological overview and file search for the proposed widening of Southside Drive in Jefferson County, Kentucky (Figure 1). The overview was initiated at the request of Mr. Richard Clausen of Redwing Ecological Services, Inc., on behalf of the Louisville/Jefferson Metro Government Department of Public Works.

The overview and file search included reviews of both the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) and the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC) site files, analysis of historic maps, and the review of previous archaeological research near the study area. The purpose of this study was to determine if the proposed reconstruction would have an effect on previously documented cultural resources listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and to determine the potential for archaeological sites eligible for the National Register to be located within the study area.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

The project area lies within Jefferson County in central Kentucky (Figure 1). The county is located within the Outer Bluegrass physiographic province. The topography of the Outer Bluegrass is characterized by rolling highgrade limestone uplands that are slightly to moderately dissected (McGrain and Currens 1978). The majority of soils in the area developed mainly from residuum weathered from underlying beds of sedimentary rocks. The balance of the soils developed from local alluvium and loess (Zimmerman 1966).

The soils in the project area are represented by the Memphis-Loring-Zanesville soil association. This soil association, which makes up less than 10 percent of the county, is characterized by sloping to steep soils. They are found on loess capped hills comprised of sandstone and shale. One specific soil series, Captina silt loam, is mapped in the study area (Zimmerman 1966).

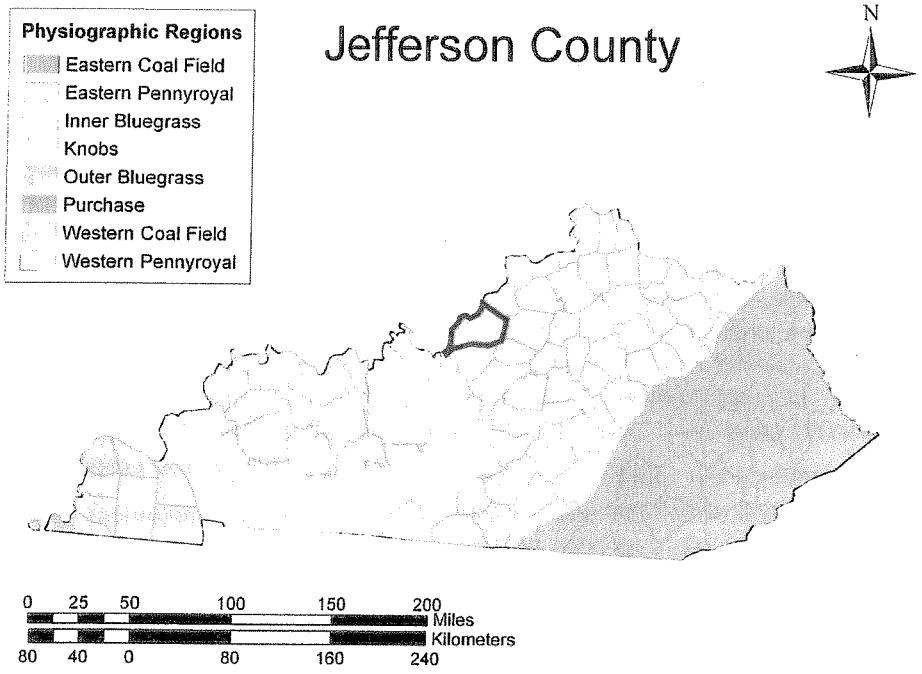

Figure 1. Map of Kentucky showing the location of Jefferson County.

Captina Series. Captina Series soils are moderately well drained and formed primarily in old alluvium washed from soils of limestone origin. These soils are level to gently sloping, and are found on low terraces. Captina soils have a fragipan at 45.7 to 66 centimeters (18 to 26 inches) in depth, and are strongly acidic.

The climate in this area of Kentucky is continental in character and temperature and precipitation levels fluctuate widely, but the range is within limits suitable for varied plant and animal life. Temperatures range from just below zero to just over one hundred degrees Fahrenheit and the average annual rainfall is 41.32 inches (104.95 centimeters)(Anderson 1975).

The prevailing winds are westerly; therefore, most of the storms cross the state in a west to east pattern, However, some lowpressure storms, originating in the Gulf of Mexico move in a northeasterly direction across Kentucky and contribute the greatest amount of precipitation received to the state. These warm, moist, tropical air masses from the Gulf are most common during the summer months when humidity levels are already quite high. As these storms move through the state, occasional hot and cold periods of short duration may be experienced. During the spring and fall, however, storm systems tend to be less severe and occur less frequently, resulting in less radical extremes in temperature and rainfall (Anderson 1975).

The current study area is located in the southern Louisville. The portion of Southside Drive that will be impacted by widening lies between New Cut Road and Strawberry Lane for a distance of approximately 6,000 feet (1828.8 meters) (Figure 2).

The topography in the study area is fairly level with an elevation of 460 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). The area has been heavily impacted by urban development, suburban subdivisions, and historic and modern agricultural practices.

The modern, or built, environment may have played a role in the lack of preservation of cultural resources. It is likely that historic land use patterns were destructive to prehistoric cultural resources; in turn, modern land use patterns have been destructive to historic sites. Much of the land surface within the study area has been altered to some degree. The area around the intersection of New Cut Road and Southside Drive contains commercial development. The area east of New Cut Road contains apartment complexes and residences. The area east of the National Turnpike contains both commercial and residential structures. Modern subdivision development and commercial development has probably been the most destructive. The realignment of existing and historic roads has probably also contributed to the disturbance of the cultural landscape. Other construction related land disturbance has been caused by buried pipelines and above ground power lines that cross the study corridor.

III. RESULTS OF THE FILE SEARCH

Prior to initiating the fieldwork, a search of records maintained by the NRHP (available online at http://www.nr.nps.gov/nrloc1.htm) and the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) was conducted to determine if previously recorded archaeological sites were situated within or near the project area for this study. This inquiry indicated that five previous archaeological surveys and seven previously recorded archaeological sites (15Jf6, 15Jf402, 15Jf403, 15Jf404, 15Jf405, 15Jf577, and 15Jf590) were located within approximately 2 km (1.2 mi) of the proposed project area.

The archaeological surveys and sites are described below. The survey and site descriptions are followed by discussions of countywide archaeological site data, the results of an historic map review, and predictions regarding the potential of the project area to contain archaeological sites.

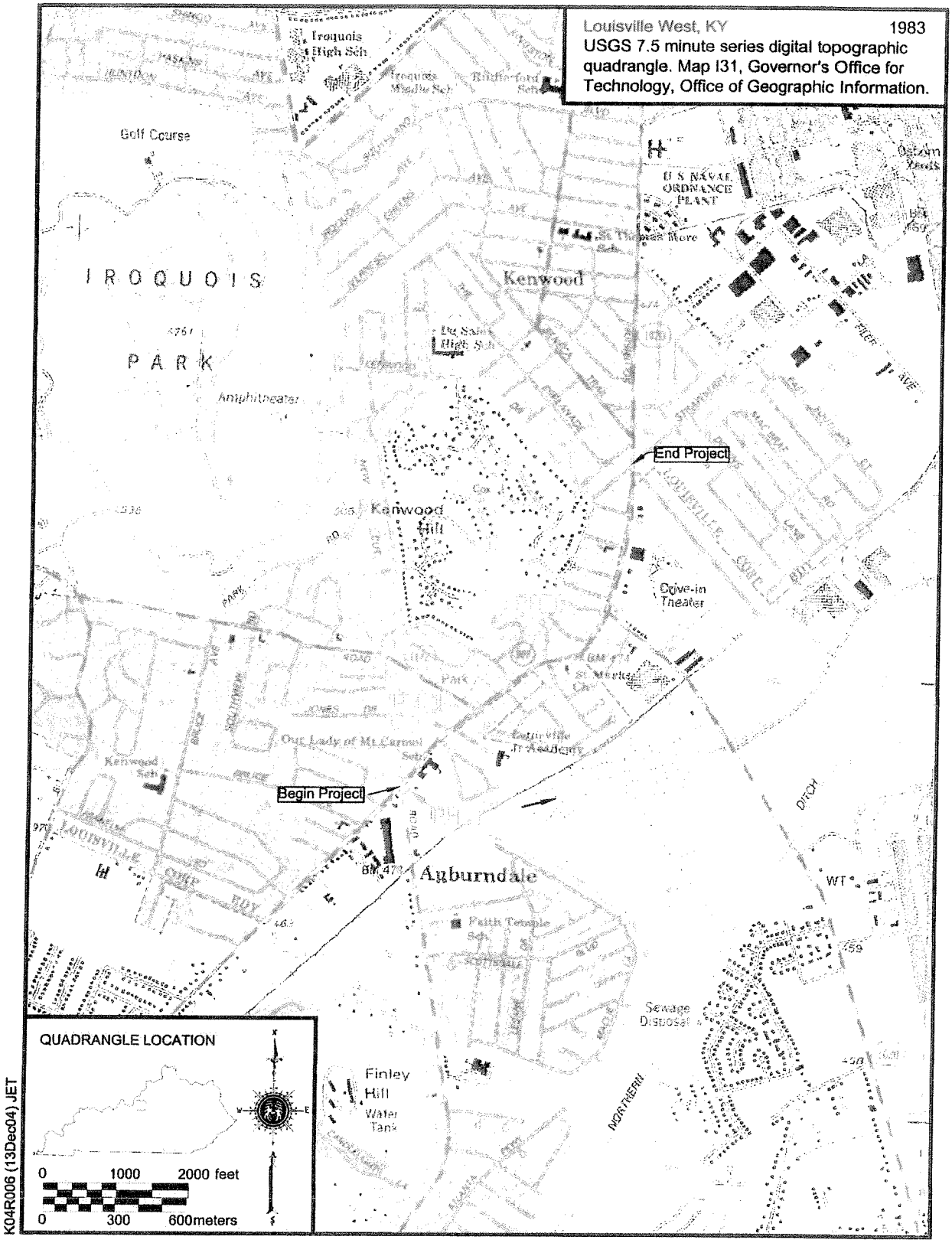

Figure 2. Location of project area on topographic quadrangle.

Previous Surveys

In 1990, the University of Louisville's Program of Archaeology conducted an archaeological survey for a proposed jet fuel pipeline east of the current study area. The survey was conducted for Hayden Engineering Associates on behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The project area measured 14.7 ha (36.3 acres) and field methods included pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel testing. No sites were recorded, and no further work was recommended (DiBlasi 1990).

South Winter Research conducted a phase I archaeological survey of the proposed Yorktown Baptist Church, Inc., senior citizen's housing project southeast of the study area. The survey included approximately 3.2 ha (8 acres). Field methods included pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel testing. One archaeological site, the Slackwater Swamp Farmstead (15Jf577), was identified. The site contained both prehistoric and historic components. Further work was recommended to determine the eligibility of the site (Fiegel 1991).

In 1977, Archaeological Services, Inc., conducted an archaeological survey and phase II assessment for the West County Pond Creek Sewer Expansion Program southeast of the current study area. The survey area was approximately 26.82 km (16.6 miles) in length and field methods consisted of pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel testing (Turnbow and Allen 1977a). The survey resulted in the identification of eight archaeological sites, four of which are within 2 km of the study area (15Jf402405). Sites 15Jf402 and 15Jf403 were indeterminate prehistoric sites. Site 15Jf404 contained prehistoric and historic components, and 15Jf405 was an indeterminate prehistoric site with modern refuse. No further work was recommended for sites 15Jf404 and 15Jf405. If 15Jf402 and 15Jf403 were impacted by construction, further work was recommended (Turnbow and Allen 1977a).

In an additional survey for modifications to the alignment of the West County-Pond Creek Sewer Expansion Program, no sites were recorded and no further work was recommended (Turnbow and Allen 1977b).

An archaeological survey for the proposed New Cut Road widening from Southside Drive to Third Street was conducted by the University of Louisville's Program of Archaeology south of the current study area at the request of Presnell Associates (DiBlasi and Kohl 1994). The survey area was estimated between 2.4 and 5.2 hectares (5.9 and 12.8 acres). One historic farmstead/residence (15Jf636) was recorded during the survey. The portion within the right of way (ROW) consisted of burned and bulldozed debris, and was not considered eligible. If the project impacted the portion of the site outside the ROW, further work was recommended to determine the integrity of the site outside the ROW (DiBlasi and Kohl 1994).

In 1995, Beth Brammer conducted a phase I survey for the proposed improvement of KY 1020 (National Turnpike) just south of the study area. The project area consisted of 10.5 ha (25.9 acres). Field methods were not specified in the report. No sites were recorded, and no further work was recommended (Brammer 1995).

In addition to the archaeological sites recorded during the above surveys, two additional sites were within two kilometers of the study area. Site 15Jf6 is an indeterminate prehistoric site located southeast of the study area. It has been extensively surface collected by amateurs and the University of Louisville (OSA Site Form 1973). No extensive subsurface testing has been undertaken at the site; therefore its significance remains unclear. Further testing is necessary to determine the site's eligibility.

Site 15Jf590 is a prehistoric open habitation without mounds. It contains materials dating to the Middle and Late Archaic and Woodland periods. The National Register status of the site has not been assessed (OSA Site Files 1930).

Archaeological Site Data

There were 629 previously recorded archaeological sites for Jefferson County on file with the OSA, and Table 1 provides a summary of selected information for these sites. The majority of sites were prehistoric open habitations without mounds (N=497; 79.01percent). Other site types recorded in the county include historic farm/residences (N=67), prehistoric workshops (N=9), historic cemeteries (N=7), industrial sites (N=7), rockshelters (N=4), prehistoric caves (N=2), prehistoric cemeteries (N=2), prehistoric earth mounds (N=2); prehistoric open habitations with mounds (N=2), historic special activity areas (N=2), prehistoric quarries (N=1), prehistoric mound complexes (N=1), prehistoric isolated finds (N=1), and other, undetermined, and unspecified prehistoric and historic site types (N=25).

The temporal period most frequently identified at sites in Jefferson County is Archaic (27.81percent), followed by Woodland (14.69percent), Historic (11.88percent), Late Prehistoric (5.83percent), and Paleoindian (0.67percent). The majority of sites, however, have indeterminate or unspecified prehistoric components (39.12percent).

Sites recorded in Jefferson County are located on a variety of landforms, most notably of which is floodplains (55.01percent). Other landforms containing sites include terraces (12.56percent), dissected uplands (11.13percent), hillsides (6.36percent), and undissected uplands (6.36percent). Unspecified landforms comprise the remainder (8.59percent).

Sixty-two sites have been recorded on the same topographic quadrangle for which the current project area is located (Louisville West).

Table 1. Summary of selected information for previously recorded sites in Jefferson County.

Site Type:	N	%
Cave	2	0.32
Cemetery	9	1.43
Earth Mound	2	0.32
Historic Farm/Residence	67	10.65
Industrial	7	1.11
Isolated Find	1	0.16
Mound Complex	1	0.16
Open Habitation With Mounds	2	0.32
Open Habitation Without Mounds	497	79.01
Other	4	0.64
Other Special Activity Area	2	0.32
Quarry	1	0.16
Rockshelter	4	0.64
Undetermined	17	2.69
Unspecified	4	0.64
Workshop	9	1.43
Total	629	100
Time Periods Represented:	N	%
Paleo Indian	6	0.67
Archaic	248	27.81
Woodland	131	14.69
Late Prehistoric	52	5.83
Historic	106	11.88
Indeterminate	154	17.26
Unspecified	195	21.86
Total	892*	100
* One site may represent more than one time period.		
Landform:	N	%
Dissected Uplands	70	11.13
Floodplain	346	55.01
Hillside	40	6.36
Terrace	79	12.55
Undissected Uplands	40	6.36
Unspecified	54	8.59
Total	629	100
Reporting Institution:	N	%
Arrow Enterprises	7	1.11
ASC Group, Inc.	4	0.64
Cultural Horizons, Inc.	1	0.16
Cultural Resource Analysts	17	2.70
Granger Associates	27	4.29
Janzen, Inc.	3	0.48
Kentucky Archaeological Survey	5	0.79
Kentucky Heritage Council	4	0.64
KYDOT	5	0.79
Office of State Archaeology	1	0.16
Private Individual	12	1.91
Southwest Missouri State	1	0.16
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	5	0.79
UK	47	7.47
University of Louisville	392	62.33
University of Southern Mississippi	1	0.16
University of Tennessee	1	0.16
Unspecified	86	13.68
Wapora	5	0.79
Wilbur Smith	5	0.79
Total	629	100

Historic Maps

In addition to the OSA site files search, a review of available maps was initiated. This map examination was performed to help identify potential historic archaeological sites that may have been located within or near the proposed project area. The following maps were examined:

1858 Map of Jefferson County, Kentucky (Bergman).

1879 Atlas of Jefferson and Oldham Counties, Kentucky (Beers and Lanagan).

1937 General Highway Map, Jefferson County, Kentucky.

1950 Kosmodale, Ky/Ind USGS 15 minute topographic quadrangle.

1953 General Highway Map, Jefferson County, Kentucky.

1983 Louisville West, Kentucky USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle.

The maps provided useful information about the general location of former structures that could indicate potential for historic archaeological remains.

According to the 1858 map of Jefferson County, the land containing the study area was owned by Murray Phillips, Joseph Brooks, and Isaac H. Fenley (Figure 3). A plank road is depicted just east of Cox Hill (Kenwood Hill on the 1965 7.5 minute quadrangle). This possibly represents an earlier alignment of the National Turnpike. A single residence denoted as Remacher (PH Site 1) is depicted south of Cox Hill. Though it is difficult to approximate the location of this residence on the modern maps, it is likely near the area of the Louisville Junior Academy.

The 1879 map illustrates some change in the development of the land containing the study area (Figure 4). Louisville and Nashville Great Southern Railroad is depicted traveling north-south to the east of the project area. The plank road depicted on the 1858 map is no longer present. The alignments of New Cut Road, Southside Drive, and Third Street are depicted on the 1879 map, and appear to be relatively consistent with modern alignments. Three residences are depicted on the map within the study area. The residence of G. Drew (PH Site 2) is shown southeast of the intersection of New Cut Road and Southside Drive. The Raymaker residence (PH Site 3) is shown near the area of the Louisville Junior Academy. This may be the same residence shown as Remacher on the 1858 map with an altered spelling. Finally, the residence of Mrs. Brooks (PH Site 4) is depicted near the intersection of Southside Drive and KY 1020.

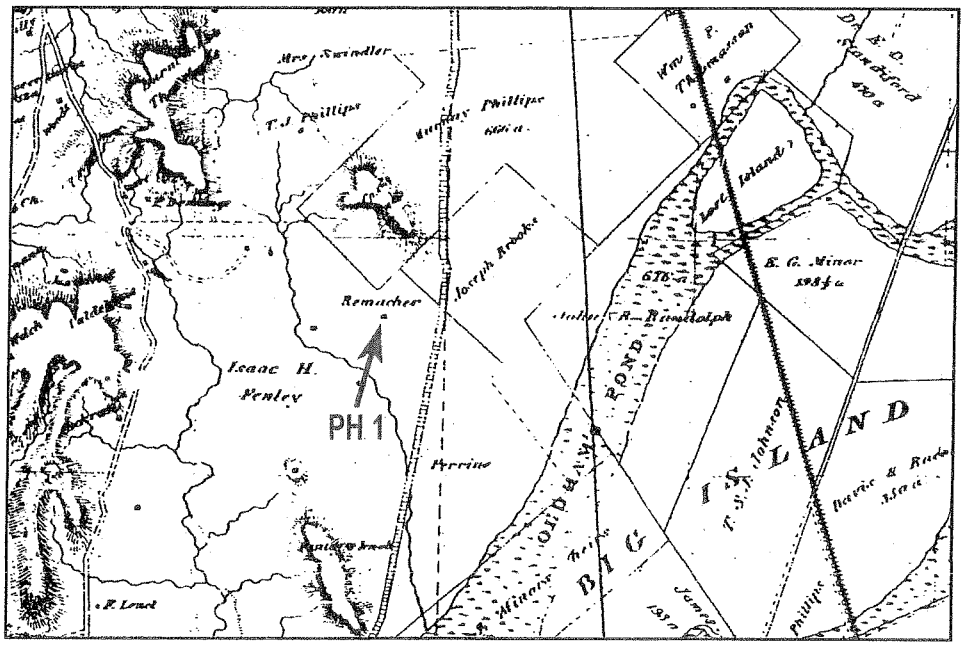

Figure 3. Segment of 1858 Jefferson County, Kentucky near study area.

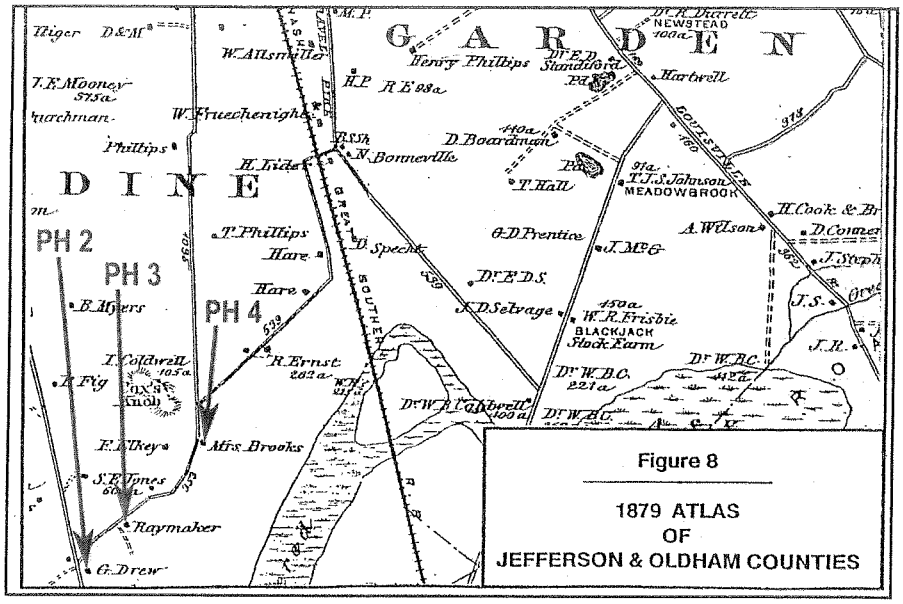

Figure 4. Segment of 1879 Jefferson County, Kentucky near study area.

The 1937 Jefferson County. Kentucky highway map shows further development of the area (Figure 5). The alignments are the same as depicted on the 1879 map. Fifteen residences are depicted, along with one church and a school.

The 1950 Kosmodale, Ky/Ind map (Figure 6) indicates an increase in the number of residences in the area. At least 32 residences are depicted. The school is identified as the Auburndale School, and the Church is labeled St. Mark's Church.

The 1953 general highway map does not show the structures in the area adequately due to the limitations imposed by the small scale of the map. There are dozens of structures depicted along the roads, but they are impossible to distinguish.

The 1983 Louisville West 7.5 minute quadrangle illustrates the extent of commercial and suburban sprawl in the area. Two schools are depicted, the Louisville Junior Academy and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School. St. Mark's Church is still present. In addition, a drive-in theater appears just north of the National Turnpike.

Based on the presence of structures depicted on historic maps, particularly adjacent to roads, it is possible that historic archaeological sites are in the project area. Unfortunately, the degree of residential and commercial development severely limits the possibility of intact deposits. No standing structures corresponding to any of the potential historic sites were noted during the culture historic survey (Rapier 2004). It is likely that archaeological remains are absent as well.

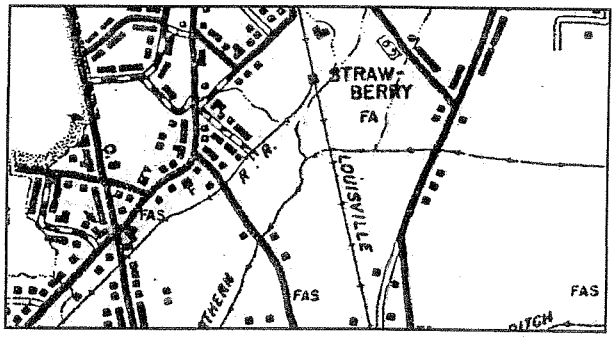

Figure 5. Segment of 1937 Jefferson County, KY Highway Map.

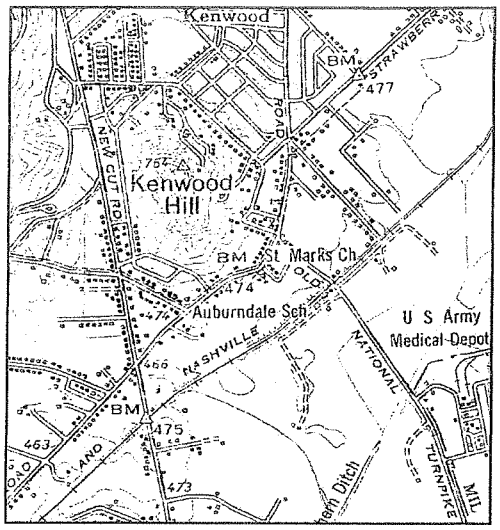

Figure 6. Segment of the 1950 Kosmodale, Ky/Ind. 7.5 minute series topographic quadrangle near study area

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Personnel from CRAI conducted an archaeological overview and file search for the proposed widening of Southside Drive in Jefferson County, Kentucky. This study included reviews of archaeological survey and site records at the OSA and the KHC. This was done to determine if previously documented archaeological sites or historic properties listed in, or eligible for, the NRHP were located within the study area. Regional site data and historic maps were reviewed to assess the potential for archaeological sites and historic properties to be located in the study area.

No previously recorded archaeological sites were located within the study area or within the immediate vicinity. Based on a review of historic maps, and site types in Jefferson County, unrecorded sites would most likely be prehistoric open habitations sites without mounds or historic farms or residences.

Although the study area has been extensively developed, the review of historic maps identified four potential historic sites. PH Site 1, the residence of Remacher would be located near the Louisville Junior Academy. PH Site 2, the G. Drew residence would be located southeast of the intersection of New Cut Road and Southside Drive. A residence belonging to Raymaker (PH Site 3) may be located near the Louisville Junior Academy. It should be noted that this is likely the same structure as PH Site 1 with an altered spelling of the name. Finally, PH Site 4, the residence of Mrs. Brooks, is located near the intersection of Southside Drive and KY 1020.

The results of the overview suggest that although there are a few areas that contain the potential for archaeological remains, it is not likely that sites significant to the NRHP will be found due to the extensive disturbance of the study area. There is moderate potential for historic archaeological sites to be located within the study area once a preferred alignment is chosen and it is subject to intensive archaeological survey.

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