



23 March 2021
TR 21007

Ms. Karen Linares
Mindel Scott
5151 Jefferson Boulevard
Louisville, Kentucky 40219
(502) 485-1508

SUBJECT: Management Summary Letter: Archaeological Delineation of two Cemeteries
Located in Eastern Jefferson County, Kentucky

Dear Ms. Linares:

This Management Summary describes an archaeological investigation conducted to delineate two historic cemeteries (Cemetery 1 and Cemetery 2) on privately owned property at 16907 Aiken Road in eastern Jefferson County, Kentucky (**Figure 1**). Cemetery 1 is known as the Howell Cemetery and contains upright and displaced gravestones with names and epitaphs and a relatively intact dry-laid limestone wall. Cemetery 2 has no known name and is located to the north of the walled cemetery (**Figure 2**). It consists of unmarked field stones, some of which remain in-situ while numerous others have been displaced. This cemetery is believed to be a cemetery used by enslaved people who lived in the area in the nineteenth century. Mindel Scott requested that Corn Island Archeology LLC provide an archaeological investigation to define the boundaries of the cemeteries to allow for use of the surrounding property for development.

The investigation included archival research using data derived from the engraved headstones at the cemetery, excavation of backhoe trenches around the existing, in-situ grave markers and cemetery wall, and preparation of this management summary summarizing the findings of the study.

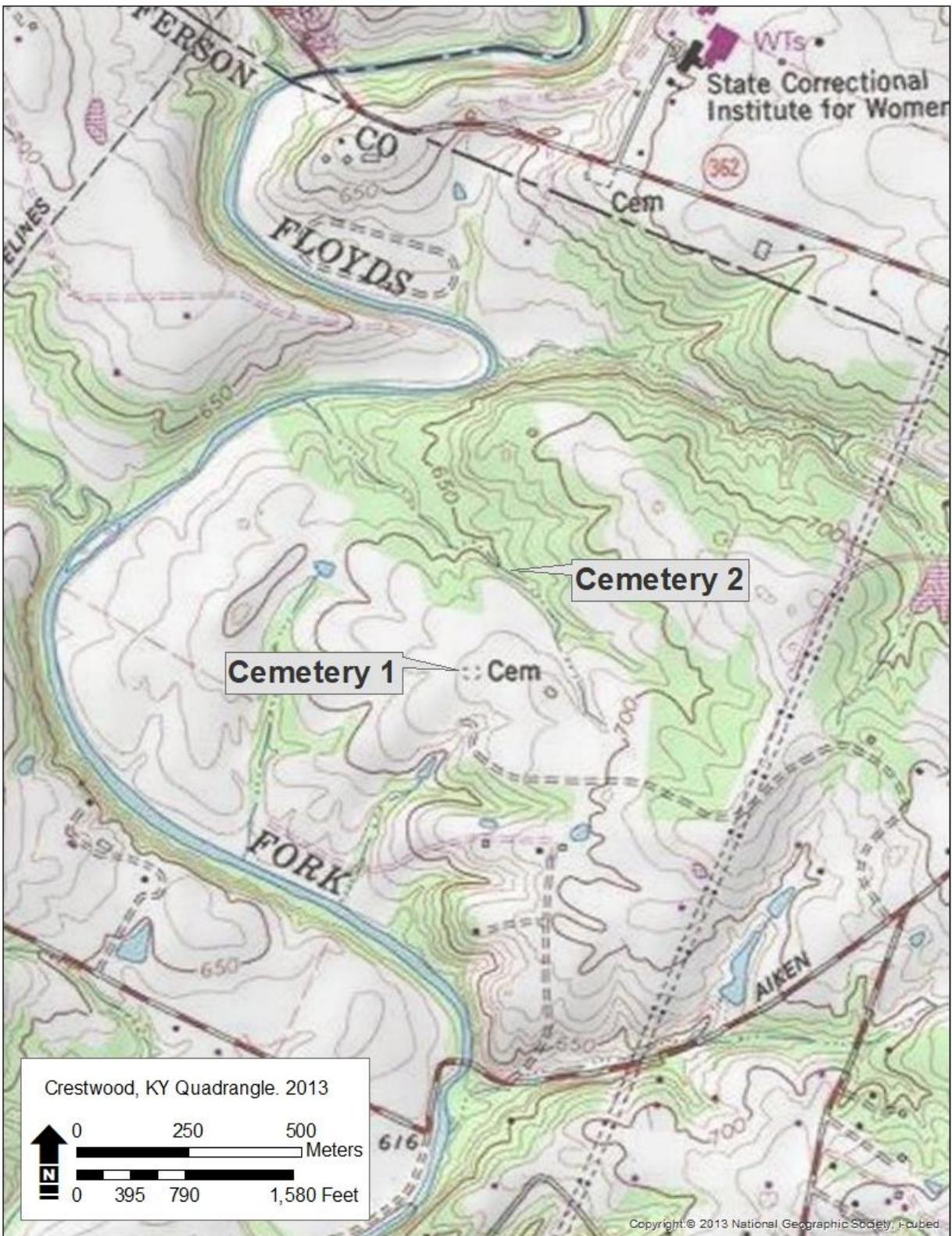


Figure 1. Location of Cemetery 1 and Cemetery 2 on USGS topographic map.

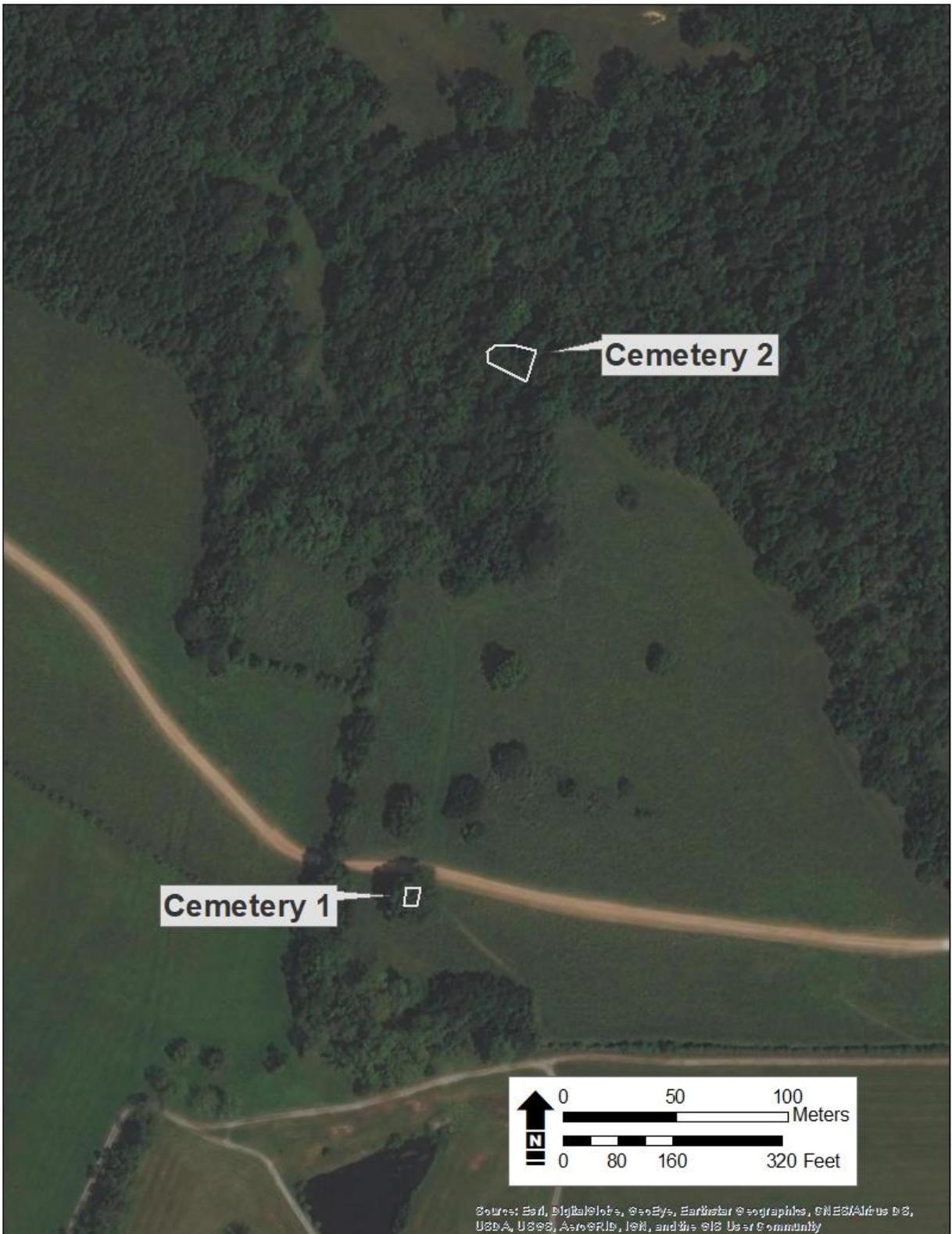


Figure 2. Aerial view of locations of Cemetery 1 and Cemetery 2.

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Isaac Howell, for whom the walled cemetery (Cemetery 1) is named, owned the land that both cemeteries are located on in the 1850s (**Figure 3**). The 1979 Atlas of Jefferson County, Kentucky shows surnames Cardwell, Ward, Runyan and Conn in the area of the cemeteries (**Figure 4**). The earliest mention of cemeteries on the property was found in a deed dating to 1931 which states “This conveyance is made subject to the graveyards located on said property.” (**Figure 5**) The deed includes a map of the property boundary and written within: “Mr. Jefferies, tenant, reports two graveyards within the area shown hereon” though the locations are not depicted on the map (**Figure 6**). Review of these documents was allowed by the current landowners during fieldwork.



Figure 3. Portion of the 1858 Bergmann Map of Jefferson County showing landowners.

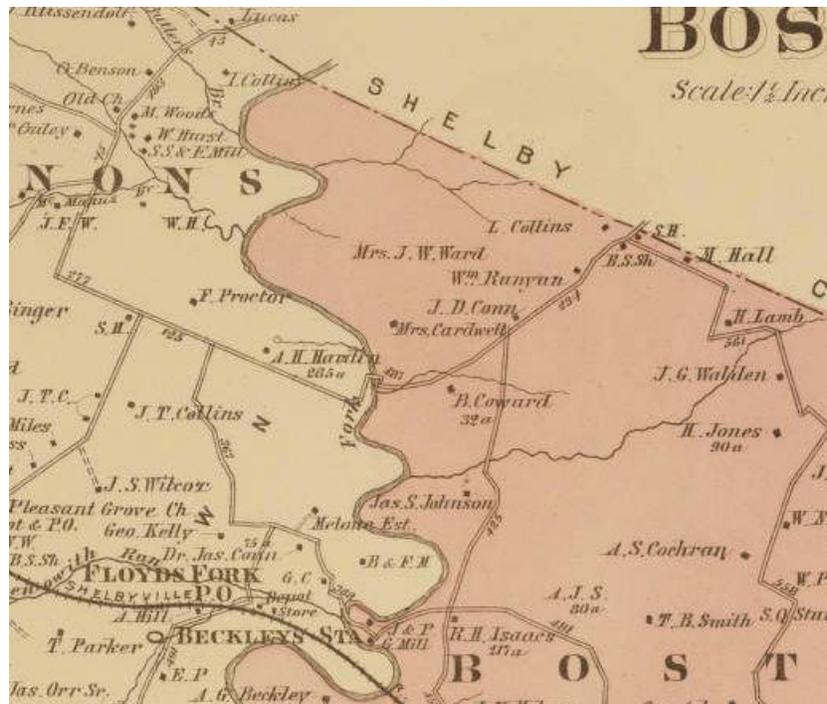


Figure 4. Portion of the 1879 Beers and Lanagan Atlas of Jefferson County, Kentucky.

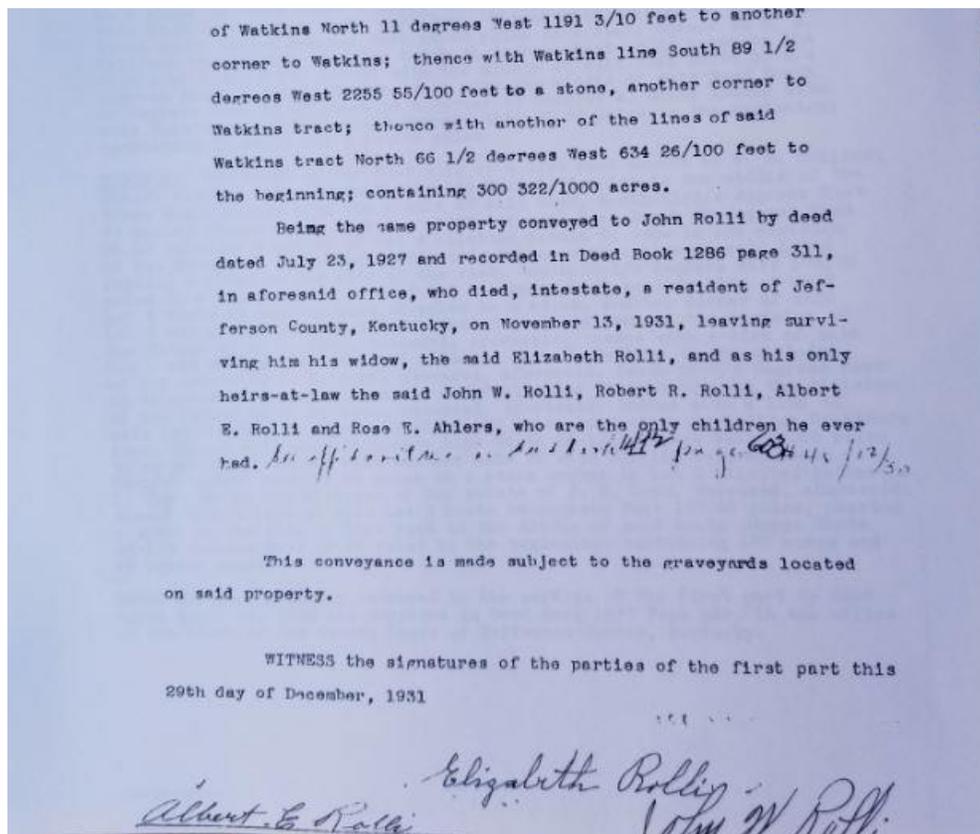


Figure 5. Image of 1931 deed mentioning "graveyards".

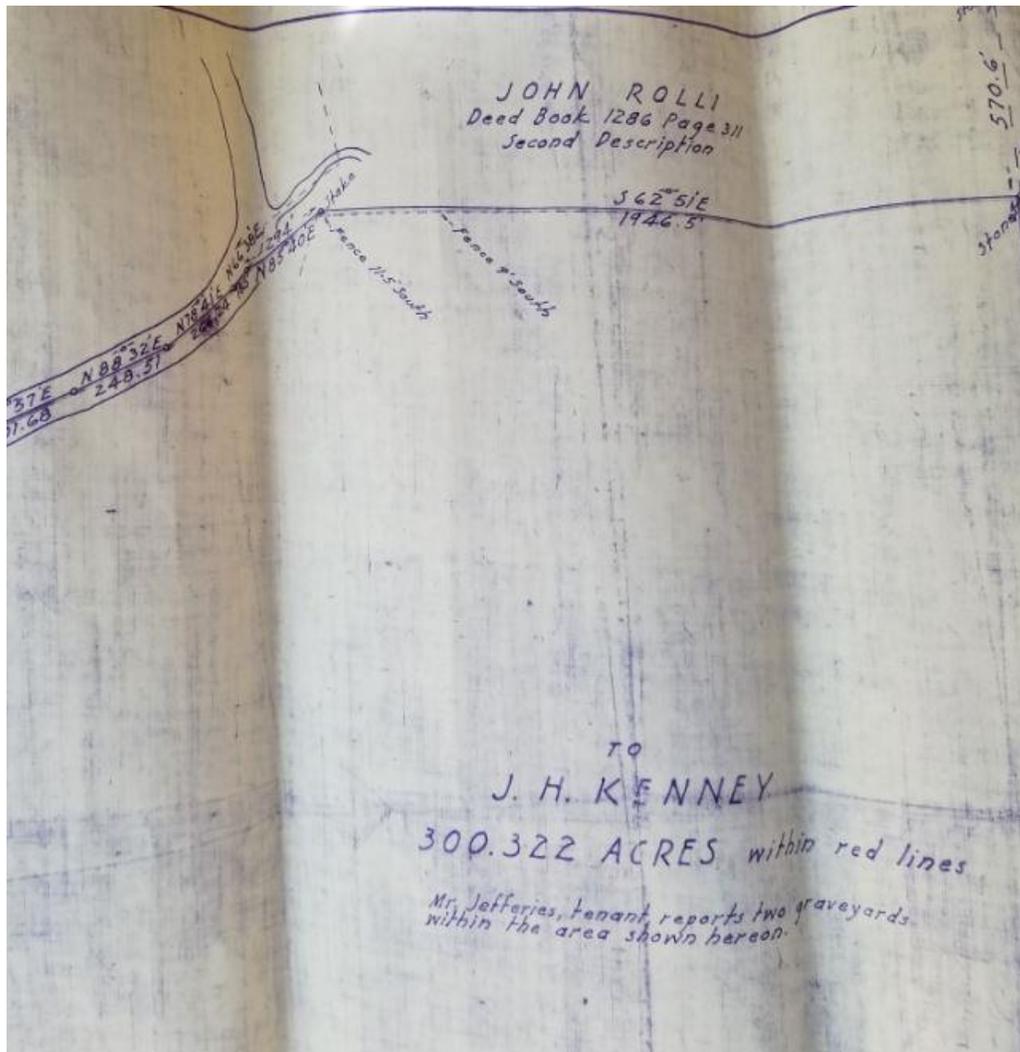


Figure 6. Photo of map associated with 1931 deed of the property.

Twelve headstones are present at Cemetery 1 (Table 1). Eight remain in-situ, three appear to be displaced, and the location of one is questionable. Five of the headstones possess an associated footstone. The headstones place the period of use of the cemetery to between ca. 1853 and 1904.

Table 1. Headstone Summary at the Howell Cemetery

Name	Birth	Death	Inscription	Headstone in Situ [Yes/No]	Footstone Present [Yes/No]
Mahala S Cardwell	12/29/1799	5/22/1855	illegible	yes	yes
Thomas M Cardwell	7/20/1797	3/23/1865	illegible	yes	yes
Juliet Ann Duncan	1/9/1821	5/12/(illegible)	<i>Daughter of...</i> (illegible)	yes	yes
(No Name)	9/23/1846	(illegible)	<i>In Memory of Infant Daughter of Mary Ann Fields</i>	yes	no
Levina Wilson	1/30/1808	11/11/1875	illegible	no	yes
Mary Ann Fields	[?]/26/1822	1/6/1897	<i>Daughter of (illegible) Ann Caldwell</i>	yes	no
Henrietta Kennedy	1854	1904	none	unknown	no
<i>Field</i> (illegible)	(illegible)	(illegible)	(illegible)... <i>Field</i>	no	no
<i>James Thomas</i> (illegible)	7/25/1850	8/17/1853	<i>Son of Charles O ...</i> (illegible)	yes	no
<i>John W Ward</i>	1/(illegible)/1839	4/27/1885	none	yes	no
<i>Emma Bell</i>	5/27/1858	1/28/1890	<i>Daut of (illegible) M J Howell.....Wife of (illegible) Yager</i>	no	no
<i>I. S. Howell</i>	(illegible)	2/25/1865	base of stone embedded in tree	yes	yes

The earliest interment at the cemetery is that of James Thomas, son of Charles O. and Sarah Afflick. Preliminary review of archival data (including the 1858 Bergmann Map of Jefferson County, Kentucky (**Figure 3**) and US Federal Census records shows an Afflick neighbor of Isaac Howell in the 1850s.

HISTORIC MAP REVIEW

A series of historic maps were reviewed for evidence of the cemetery (**Table 2**). The presence of a cemetery is first noted in 1960 on the USGS topographic quadrangle map of Crestwood, though only one is noted.

Table 2. Historic Maps Reviewed

Date	Publisher	Map	Cemetery 1 indicated	Cemetery 2 indicated
1858	G. T. Bergmann	Map of Jefferson County, Kentucky	No	No
1879	Beers & Lanagan	Map of Jefferson County, Boston District	No	No
1913	Louisville Title Company	Atlas of Louisville and Jefferson County, KY	No	No
1932	USGS	Topographic Map of the La Grange Quadrangle	No	No
1951	USGS	Topographic Map of the Crestwood Quadrangle	No	No
1956	USGS	Topographic Map of Louisville, Ky	No	No
1960	USGS	Topographic Map of the Crestwood Quadrangle	Yes	No
1964	USGS	Topographic Map of Louisville, Ky	No	No
1969	USGS	Topographic Map of the Crestwood Quadrangle	Yes	No
1981	USGS	Topographic Map of the Crestwood Quadrangle	Yes	No
1986	USGS	Topographic Map of Louisville, Ky	No	No
1993	USGS	Topographic Map of the Crestwood Quadrangle	Yes	No

EXCAVATIONS

The field excavation and ground surface survey were conducted March 3rd through March 5th, 2021. The field investigation began by selecting excavation areas based upon the locations of the extant wall at Cemetery 1 and the location of fieldstones observable on the ground surface at Cemetery 2, as well as the landscape and topography of each location. A backhoe equipped with a 2-foot (ft) wide, smooth-blade bucket was used to carefully remove overburden soil in shallow passes measuring between 10 and 20 centimeters (cm) (**Figure 7**). The excavations were monitored carefully by Corn Island's bioarchaeologist and a field technicians who closely observed the soil for any indications of burials such as burial shafts, coffin wood, casket hardware, and/or grave markers. The investigation was led by a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) and conducted by personnel who meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards for professional archaeologists.



Figure 7. Excavation in progress at Cemetery 2.

At Cemetery 1, four trenches were excavated around the perimeter of the extant dry-laid stone wall, leaving a space of 1 to 1.5 m away from the wall so as not to undermine its integrity. These trenches were numbered Trench 1 through 4 and upon completion were contiguous (**Figure 8**). The trenches measured between 4 and 5 m wide and 75 and 116 cm deep. Upon identification of one burial in Trench 1, just outside the northwest corner along the west wall, a fifth trench was excavated to the west of Trench 1. No further interments were observed in the excavations at Cemetery 1.

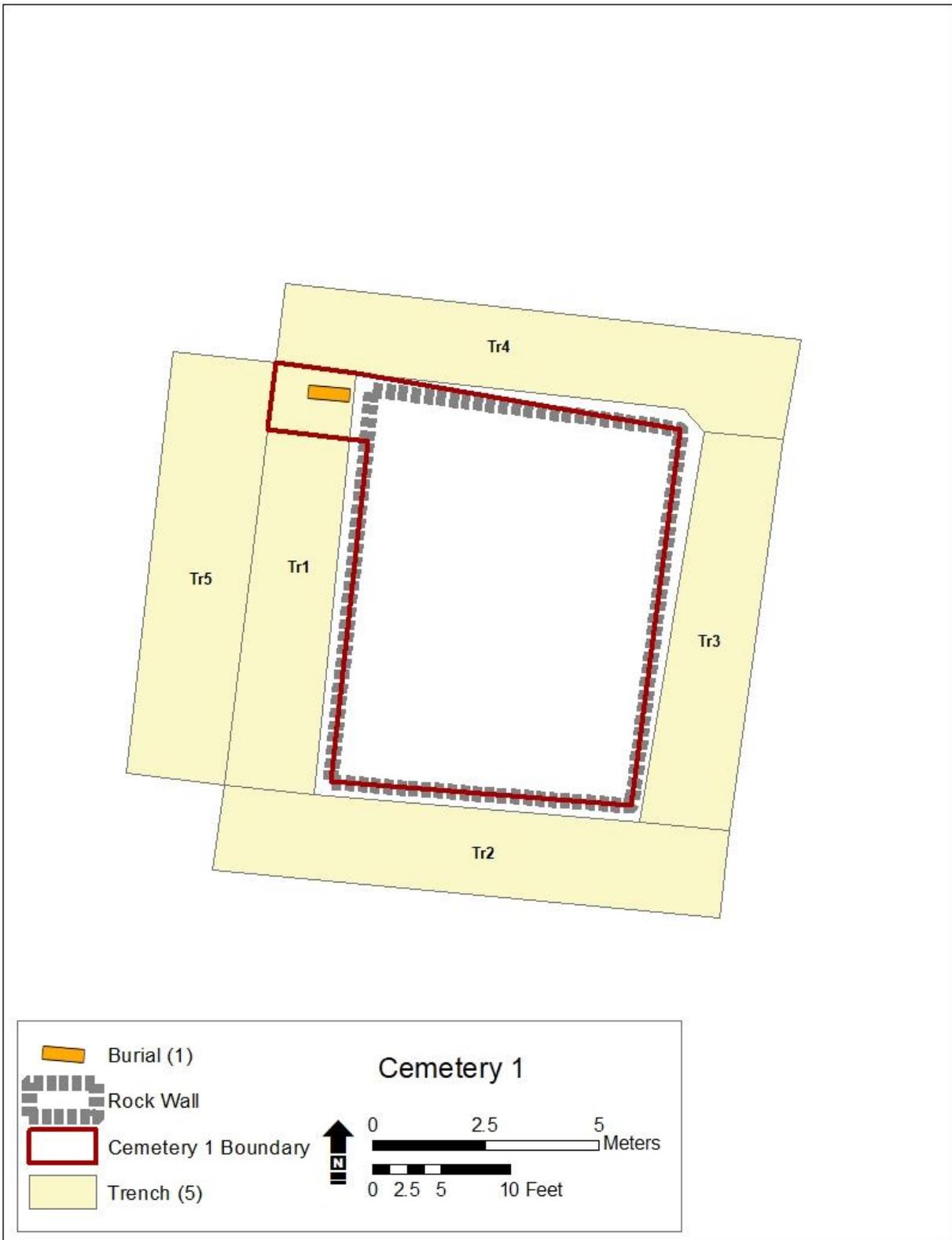


Figure 8. Excavations at Cemetery 1.



Figure 9. Burial shaft located along western cemetery wall in Trench 1, facing west.

Excavations at Cemetery 2 were constrained by its location in a wooded area with numerous trees measuring well above 4 inches in diameter. Prior to excavation, the area was subjected to ground surface survey and near-surface probing with a tile probe to locate fieldstones. Each fieldstone, whether in-situ, displaced, or naturally occurring, was marked with pin flags to aid in determining the boundary of the cemetery (**Figure 10** and **Figure 11**). Excavations then proceeded, with placement of the trenches to avoid intersection with interments and/or in-situ burial markers. A total of 8 trenches were excavated at Cemetery 2: three at the northwest extent of ground surface stones; one along the western extent; three along the southern extent; and one along the eastern extent (**Figure 12**). Two sinkholes were present along these extents as well and were avoided by the heavy machinery. As few stones were present along the northern edge and the presence of a steep slope down to a tributary of Floyds Fork, no excavations were conducted in the northeastern area.



Figure 10. Cemetery 2, each flag marks a location of fieldstones. String marks in-situ headstone and associated foot stone.



Figure 11. Cemetery 2. Pin flags mark fieldstones, strings mark an in-situ headstone and associated footstone.

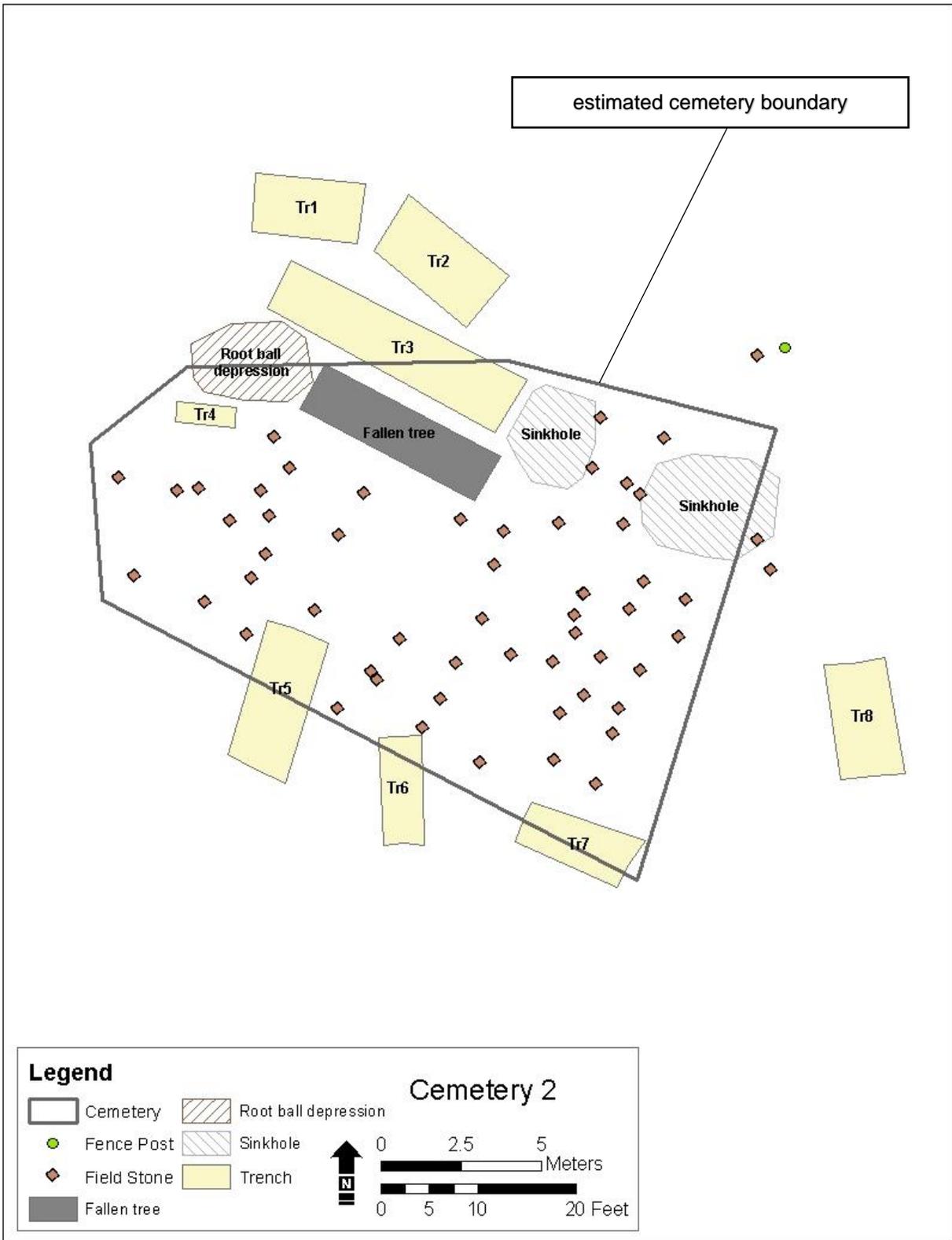


Figure 12. Excavations and surface features at Cemetery 2.

No evidence of burials or sub-surface fieldstones was found in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, or 8. Evidence of a burial (a nail fragment (**Figure 13**) and small bits of coffin wood (**Figure 14**) was observed in the north profile wall of Trench 5. This trench was placed south of a row of in-situ fieldstone grave markers, with the northern end of the trench excavated as near as possible to the in-situ stones without displacing them. Just beneath the ground surface (ca. 3-5 cm), a cluster of fieldstones was uncovered that appear to be present along the length of the burial, between the in-situ headstone and foot stone. The nail and coffin wood observed in the north profile of Trench 5 were found at 68 cm and 74 cm below the surface (cmbs), respectively.



Figure 13. Nail fragment found at 688 cmbs in north wall Trench 5.



Figure 14. Coffin wood fragment found at 74 cmbs in north wall Trench 5.



Figure 15. Trench 5 facing north.

Soil discolorations or other anomalies observed during the mechanical removal of overburden soil were investigated by Corn Island's archaeologists. The areas were cleaned by hand-troweling to clarify boundaries and expose potential evidence of human interments.

SUMMARY AND FINDINGS

One unmarked grave was exposed at Cemetery 1. This presented as a rectangular shaped area of darker soil, oriented east to west just outside the extant dry-laid stone wall in the northwest corner along the west wall. The current landowners recall seeing a headstone "just outside the west wall" and "near the gate" when they were children. All three recall that the name on the headstone was "Kennedy" but do not recall what happened to the stone. One of the only obviously displaced headstones within the wall of Cemetery 1 belongs to Henrietta Kennedy. Its style and material is also inconsistent with all the other grave markers within the stone wall and its date of 1904 is the most recent. It is likely that this stone is the headstone the landowners recall as being outside the wall and belongs to the interment recorded during this investigation.

No burial shafts were identified in the eight trenches excavated at Cemetery 2, though a nail fragment and coffin wood were exposed in the north wall of Trench 5. As no burial shafts were observed during the excavations, the presence of both in-situ and displaced fieldstone grave

markers, the farm access road, and the steep slope along the northern extent of in-situ stones appear to define the boundary of the cemetery quite accurately. Flagging tape was placed on trees around the perimeter of the stones at the completion of the fieldwork to mark the extent of the cemetery.

Based on the findings, the boundary of Cemetery 1 is estimated to be the dry-laid stone wall along the north, east, and south edges. The western boundary of the cemetery should be extended to include the single burial identified in the northwest corner (**Figure 16**).

The extent of Cemetery 2 measures approximately 15 m (49.21 ft) north to south by 20 m (65.62 ft) east to west. The estimated boundary of Cemetery 2 is shown in **Figure 17**.

Both cemeteries should be protected by a 30-ft “no disturbance” buffer. Cemetery 2 should also be enclosed, as should the unmarked grave outside of Cemetery 1. The fencing should be sympathetic to the period of the graves. The fencing is not intended to keep viewers away, but rather to protect the cemetery from future inadvertent damage. Ideally, the fencing should be permanent and require little maintenance. Wrought iron fencing is a recommended choice as it is attractive and was commonly used on historic cemeteries.



Figure 16. Modern aerial showing archaeologically-defined boundary and 30-ft buffer at Cemetery 1.

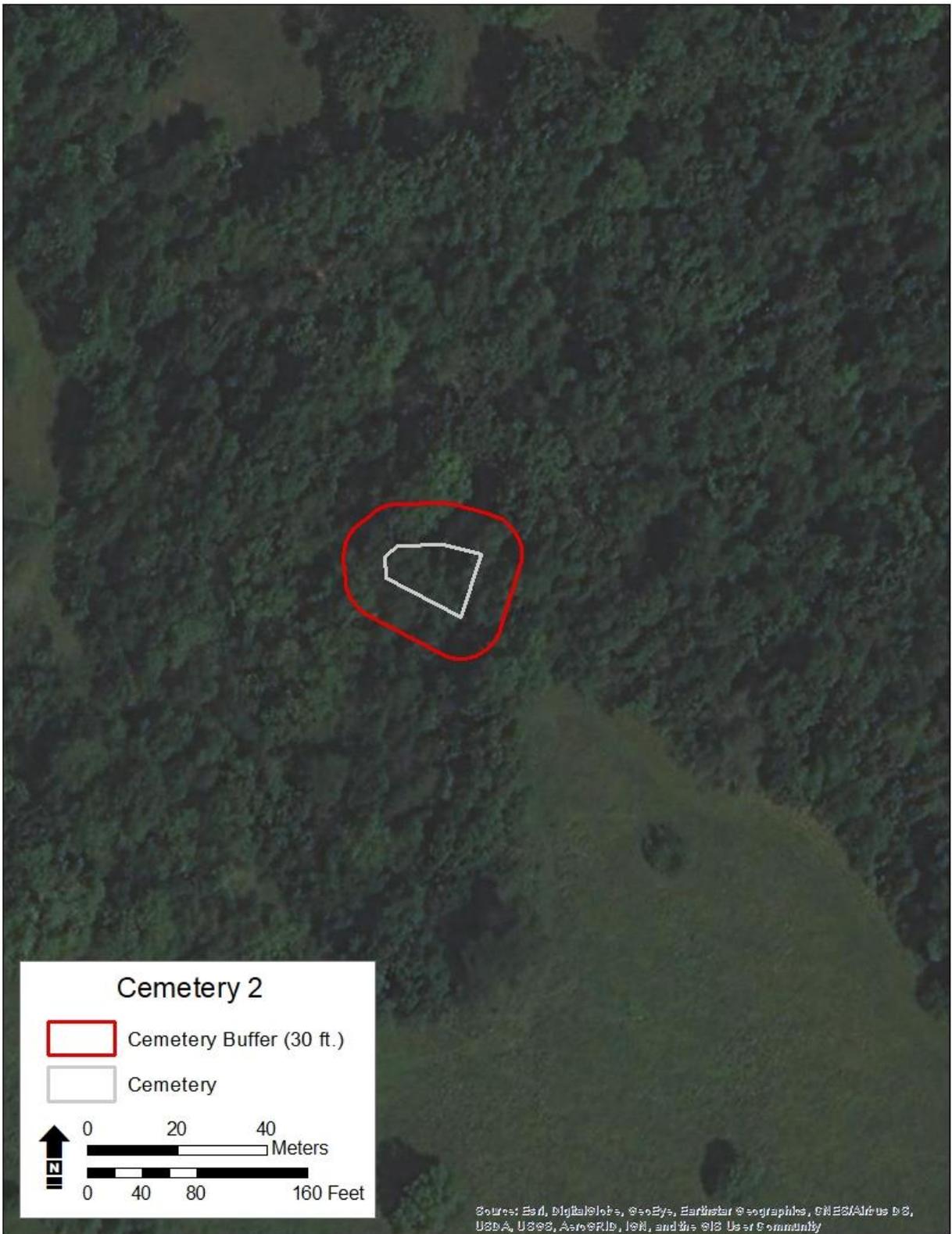
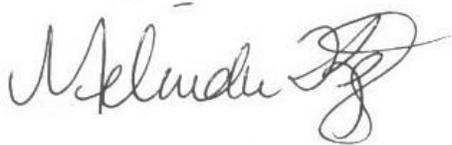


Figure 17. Modern aerial showing archaeologically defined boundary and 30-ft buffer at Cemetery 2.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our archaeological services. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us by phone at (502) 614-8828 or (502) 592-2355 (mobile) or by email at mwetzel@ciarch.com or abader@ciarch.com.

Sincerely,



Melinda J. King Wetzel
Vice President, Archaeology



Anne T. Bader
Principal