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Executive Summary  
Archaeological Assessment of the Venable Lane Site  
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## A Preliminary Archaeological Assessment of the Venable Lane Site

Introduction  
This study is based on archaeological field research and archival research undertaken on an emergency basis by the Department of Anthropology at UVA. The archaeological project was directed by Amy E. Grey, M. Drake Patten directed the archival research. Jeffrey L. Hantman, Associate Professor of Anthropology, served as the principal investigator for the study.

by  
Amy E. Grey,  
M. Drake Patten  
and  
Mark S. Warner

### Background

On May 12, 1993 the Department of Facilities Management of the University of Virginia identified a grave during the construction of a parking lot along the eastern side of Venable Lane, just south of Jefferson Park Avenue, and immediately behind the Carter Woodson Institute. The site inspector stopped construction when the grave was identified, and Jeffrey L. Hantman, Associate Professor of Anthropology, was called to the site, as were University Police. The burial was determined to be an historic burial (i.e. older than 50 years), and thus subject to Virginia state law regarding the protection of human remains and cemeteries, as well as the protection of records and archaeological properties on state lands.

The Department of Facilities Management will stop construction immediately, and took steps necessary to protect the site until further assistance.

Submitted by:

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Submitted to:

Facilities Planning and  
Construction Department  
Facilities Management  
University of Virginia  
June 4, 1993

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## **Executive Summary**

### **Archaeological Assessment of the Venable Lane Site**

#### Introduction

The following is an executive summary detailing the field and archival research methods and conclusions, and recommendations relating to the archaeological and historical assessment of the Venable Lane site. The full technical report follows this summary.

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#### Background

On May 12, 1993 the Department of Facilities Management of the University of Virginia identified a grave during the construction of a parking lot along the eastern side of Venable Lane, just south of Jefferson Park Avenue, and immediately behind the Carter Woodson Institute. The site inspector stopped construction when the grave was identified, and Jeffrey L. Hantman, Associate Professor of Anthropology, was called to the site, as were University Police. The burial was determined to be an historic burial (i.e. older than 50 years), and thus subject to Virginia state law regarding the protection of human remains and cemeteries, as well as the protection of historic and archaeological properties on state lands.

The Department of Facilities Management staff stopped construction immediately, and took steps necessary to protect the identified grave site from further disturbance.

The Department of Anthropology was asked to prepare a proposal for an emergency assessment of the historic and archaeological resources of the site, with particular attention given to the possible presence of additional graves at the site, and to the possible identification of the individual (s) who was buried there. The possible presence of other archaeological resources was also to be assessed.



Although the University sometimes conducts archaeological and historical studies prior to construction projects as part of the pre-construction planning process, such studies were not conducted in this case. An assumption was apparently made within Facilities Management that there would be no historical or archaeological potential in a developed urban area such as the Venable Lane site. As this study demonstrates, this assumption is incorrect. Important and unique archaeological and historical resources dating to the early nineteenth century were destroyed by construction. A family cemetery which was noted in deeds and wills relating to the property was uncovered, and could have been disturbed except for the alert reaction of the site inspector. Following the identification of the grave and the recognition that a cemetery and an archaeological/historical site may be in the area of proposed construction, the necessary steps were taken to preserve the site, and treat the burials according to the ethical and legal considerations stipulated by state law.

#### Archaeological Investigation

The archaeological study began around the single grave, and expanded out from there. Careful identification of the boundaries of the grave was completed. According to state law, no excavation of the grave itself was done.

Continued archaeological study in the area immediately surrounding the grave identified in construction resulted in the demarcation of 11 additional graves. Estimating by the size of the burials we can state that of the twelve graves identified eight were either children or infants and four were adults. This area appeared to be a family cemetery located in the back of a house lot--a conclusion supported by subsequent archival research. The graves were identified and mapped, but no disturbance occurred to them. Coffin hardware which was visible on the surface was drawn and documented to aid in the dating of the graves. Other surface artifacts were noted, but not collected.

Only one grave marker, an apparent footstone, was identified. Much of the area that the cemetery was in was covered by a cinder block house which stood in the lot for the past fifty years, and which was removed as part of the recent construction project. Some of the burials would have been below the foundation of that house.



Additional archaeological study of the remaining area of the construction site was conducted in the northern half of the project area, where grading had not removed all soil. The entire southern half of the project area had been graded to subsoil before archaeologists were brought to the site. The study in the north half of the project area revealed a brick foundation at the northern edge of the project area, which probably dates to the mid- or late nineteenth century. In addition, a detailed soil profile of the earthen bank left standing under the remaining house at the site was drawn. This profile revealed a complex history of occupation at the site, as well as the presence of abundant architectural and archaeological remains dating from the early nineteenth century to the present. Had the opportunity existed to collect and study these remains systematically, they could potentially have revealed a great deal about the occupants of the property and the history of the community surrounding the University. In lieu of that, we note in our final report simply the kinds of artifacts which were recovered and the date ranges they cover.

#### Archival Research

Archival research included a review of census records and Albemarle County property, tax, and court records, among many other documents, in an effort to determine who lived at, and who was buried at, the Venable Lane site.

This research yielded some fascinating results, which also address the historic importance of the property. The Venable Lane property had initially been one part of a larger landholding which included James Monroe, John Nicholas, John Perry, William Wertenbaker, and John and Mary Winn as landowners at various times. In 1833, Catherine (Kitty) Foster, a free Black woman, purchased the Venable Lane property from John and Mary Winn. The property remained in the Foster Family for three generations, passing from Catherine Foster to her daughter (Ann Foster) and granddaughter (Susan Catherine Foster). In 1906, the property was sold to C.H. Walker and E.L. Carroll (on the board of the Charlottesville and Albemarle Railway Company), who later sold it to Albert and Bessie Walker. After many short-term owners in the middle and late twentieth century, the land was purchased by UVA in 1976.



These archival records indicate with little doubt that the family cemetery at the Venable Lane site is that of the Foster family, who occupied the property for seventy-three years. One of the burials is likely that of Catherine (Kitty) Foster who died in 1862 or 1863. Others are likely those of her relatives and descendants. The household(s) that were maintained at Venable Lane are an important yet poorly known part of local and national history, especially with respect to African American history, and particularly the history of African-American women, in the nineteenth century. Three generations of African-American families, with women as heads of households (as identified in census records), resided at the Venable Lane Property. The property was passed from mother to daughter in each generation, although male heirs were present. The first two generations of the Foster family at Venable Lane were among the few free Black families who lived in Charlottesville in the early nineteenth century.

The brief study reported here can only identify their presence and their importance to a full understanding of local, state, and national history. Additional historical and archaeological research is warranted on the Foster family in the nineteenth century, and the circumstances under which they purchased and sold the land. Much more detail derived from the archival research is included in the report which follows. Additional archaeological research has the potential to offer insights into conditions of daily life. As the family has been identified, however, first priority must be to identify descendants, if at all possible, to determine their wishes as to the future treatment of the cemetery and the remains of those buried there. (Note that the extent of preservation of human remains in the graves is necessarily unknown at present). If no direct descendants can be found, the African American community of Charlottesville should be involved in decisions regarding the future treatment of the site, including human remains.

#### Options and Recommendations

A number of options for the future treatment of the Venable Lane site exist at present. The cemetery area has been documented, and the immediate protection of the graves will be insured through the back-filling of the cemetery/excavation area to grade.



The next immediate step that needs to be taken is for every effort to be made to contact descendants of the Foster Family, through public notice and contact with the African-American community in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. If found, the descendants should determine the future disposition of human remains at the site.

The potential directions for future treatment of the site include, but are not limited to, at least four options. They are listed below, with Option 1 being least desirable.

Option 1:

Preserve the burial area in place without further disturbance to the cemetery, and proceed with parking lot construction, with the knowledge that some minimal documentation of the individuals buried there has been accomplished. This would essentially be paving over the cemetery.

Option 2:

Preserve the burial area in place without further disturbance to the cemetery and proceed with parking lot construction in all areas except where the cemetery is located. A planted area could be maintained above the graves, with some sort of appropriate memorial to the individuals buried there. Additional research would be needed to confirm and expand the Foster family history outlined here.

Option 3:

Disinter the remains from the grave sites and re-bury in an appropriate cemetery (to be determined). No archaeological study of the remains is conducted, and no additional historical research is conducted. A court order is necessary for the removal of the human remains. The parking lot is constructed according to original plans.

Option 4:

Disinter the remains from the grave sites and re-bury in an appropriate cemetery (to be determined) following appropriate and respectful scientific study of the human remains. Such studies would be completed quickly, and can reveal otherwise unrecoverable information about diet, status, health and demography, as well as potentially providing individual identity. Such studies could be conducted as an educational process, perhaps headed by the Carter Woodson Institute and the Department of Anthropology, and involving the Charlottesville and University community.



Provide support for additional historical research of the free Black community in Charlottesville, and the Foster family in particular, and produce a final report and public exhibition detailing the results of the study. A court order and permit from the State Archaeologist would be needed for the removal and study of human remains. The parking lot is constructed according to original plans.

Pending input from the family and community, Option 4 would appear to us to be the preferred option.

Combinations of aspects of Options 2 through 4 are possible and will require further discussion. Proceeding with one of the options identified, or some combination, must include the descendants of the Foster family (if located). If they are not located, representatives from the Charlottesville African American community, the Carter Woodson Institute and scholars at the University who have a particular interest in African American history in Virginia and local history, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources should be consulted at the earliest date. To facilitate this input a press release should be issued as soon as possible, describing what has been found and inviting public comment and opinion regarding the future disposition of the human remains.

Finally, the remainder of the property at Venable Lane which has not yet been impacted by construction contains important archaeological resources and should be studied appropriately before any future construction is undertaken.

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## Introduction

On May 12, 1993 the Department of Facilities Management of the University of Virginia contacted the Department of Anthropology regarding a human burial which had been unearthed during construction of a parking lot along the eastern side of Venable Lane in Charlottesville, Virginia. (Figure 1) In accordance with state law concerning the treatment of human remains and unmarked cemeteries (Code of Virginia, Title 10.1, Chapter 23; Title 18.2, Chapter 5; Title 57, Chapter 3), further construction activity was halted in order that archaeological testing and archival research could be conducted. The purpose of this archaeological and archival study was to determine the historical context for this burial and to identify any additional burials and/or domestic features and deposits associated with it.

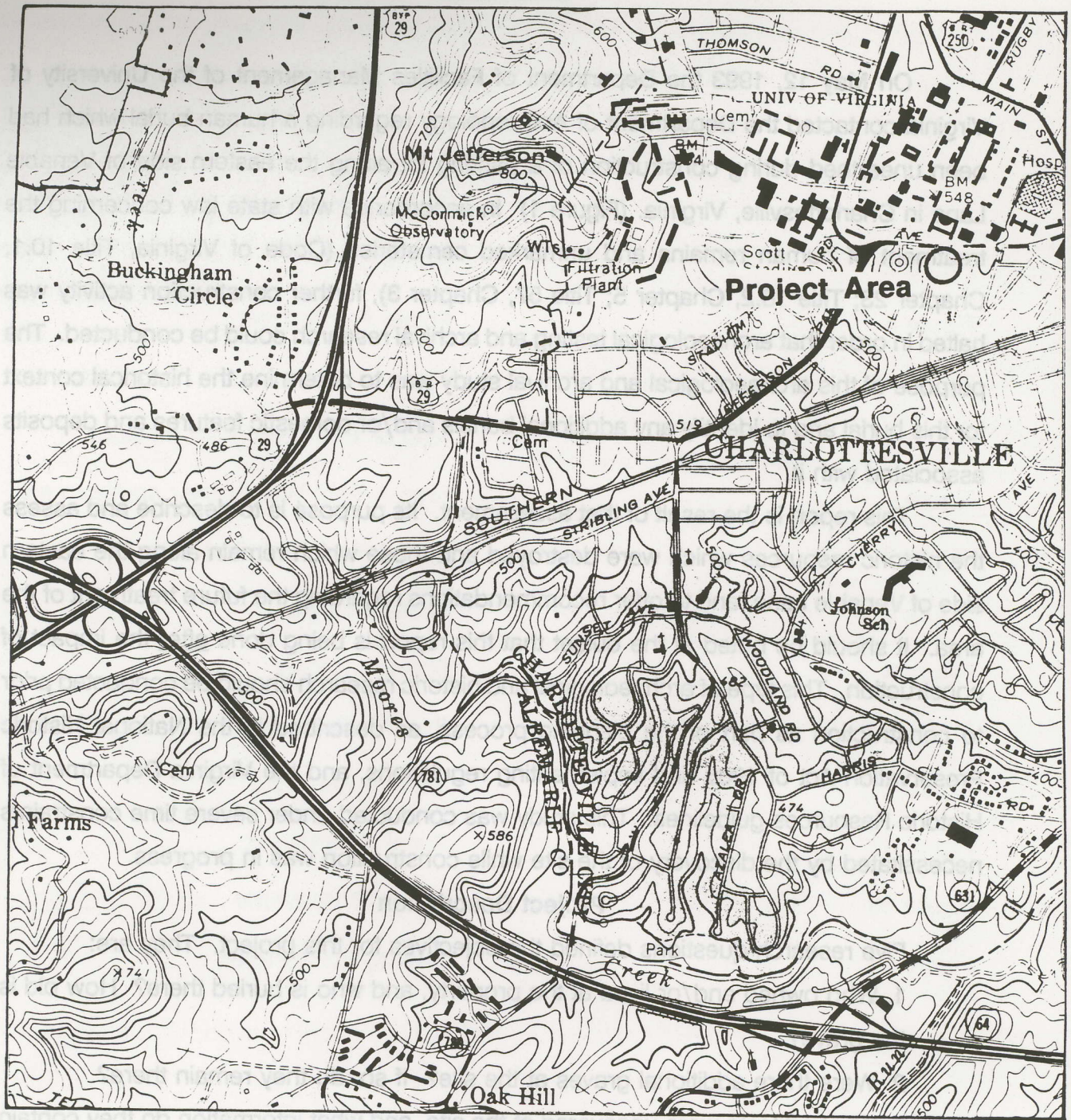
This report is the result of that assessment. Its purpose is to describe and assess the historic resources which were destroyed and those which remain along the eastern side of Venable Lane, and to offer recommendations regarding the future treatment of the area. It should be noted at the outset that this report is being done after the impact of construction. This type of archaeological and historic research should be conducted prior to construction as part of the planning process, as described in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and implementing regulations, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources guidelines. This study was conducted under severe time constraints necessitated by the discovery of the site while construction was in progress.

### Project Description

Five research questions defined the objectives for this project. They are:

1. Who owned and/or lived at the property, and who is buried there? How old is the grave?
2. Were there additional graves at the site? If so, do they remain there?
3. What artifacts were uncovered at the site, and what information do they contain with respect to 19th and early 20th century history in Charlottesville?
4. What is the integrity of the historic resources remaining, including architectural and artifactual remains?
5. What is the importance of the site in the context of local, state or national history?





(United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey Map, 1978,  
Charlottesville West Quadrangle, Virginia)

Figure 1



To address these questions project archaeologists relied on a combination of archaeological and archival research.

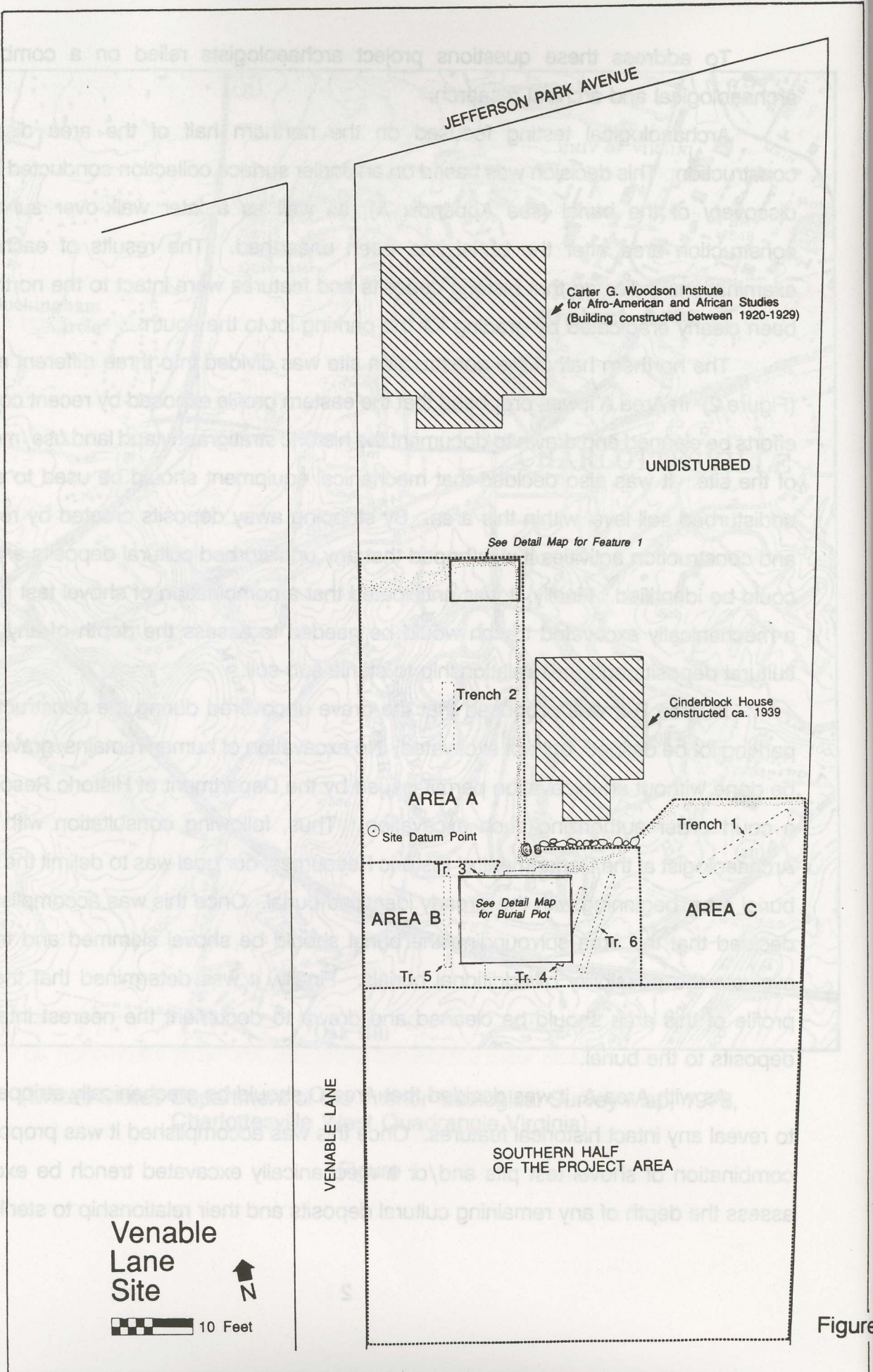
Archaeological testing focused on the northern half of the area disturbed by construction. This decision was based on an earlier surface collection conducted before the discovery of the burial (see Appendix A), as well as a later walk-over survey of the construction area after the burial had been unearthed. The results of each of these examinations indicated that historic deposits and features were intact to the north, but had been clearly eradicated by grading for the parking lot to the south.

The northern half of the construction site was divided into three different areas. (Figure 2) In Area A it was proposed that the eastern profile exposed by recent construction efforts be cleaned and drawn to document the historic stratigraphy and land use/modification of the site. It was also decided that mechanical equipment should be used to expose an undisturbed soil level within this area. By stripping away deposits created by recent rains and construction activities it was hoped that any undisturbed cultural deposits and features could be identified. Finally, it was anticipated that a combination of shovel test pits and/or a mechanically excavated trench would be needed to assess the depth of any remaining cultural deposits and their relationship to sterile sub-soil.

In Area B it was proposed that the grave uncovered during the construction of the parking lot be defined, but not excavated. No excavation of human remains/grave sites may be done without an excavation permit issued by the Department of Historic Resources and a court order authorizing such excavation. Thus, following consultation with the State Archaeologist at the Department of Historic Resources, our goal was to delimit the size of the burial area, beginning with the already identified burial. Once this was accomplished it was decided that the area surrounding the burial should be shovel skimmed and troweled to evaluate the possibility of additional burials. Finally, it was determined that the northern profile of this area should be cleaned and drawn to document the nearest intact historic deposits to the burial.

As with Area A, it was decided that Area C should be mechanically stripped in order to reveal any intact historical features. Once this was accomplished it was proposed that a combination of shovel test pits and/or a mechanically excavated trench be excavated to assess the depth of any remaining cultural deposits and their relationship to sterile sub-soil.





Figure



Archival research accompanied the archaeological testing. In addition to the deed search conducted by the Department of Facilities Management, project archaeologists suggested that several other categories of historic documents be studied with a focus on records dating to the period coinciding with the burial. It was decided that research would be conducted on documents contained in Alderman Library, the Albemarle County Historical Society, Monticello Research Center, and in the City and County Court records.

Documentary research should be conducted prior to field research. However, due to the constraints of this project, archival research was done coincident with and following the archaeological testing.

### **Archival Research**

The only information known to archaeologists at the time of excavation was various names and dates associated with the ownership of the Venable Lane property as they appear in the Albemarle County Deed Books spanning the years 1796 to 1976. (Appendix B) Property owners (but not necessarily residents) included James Monroe and John Nicholas, who deeded the area immediately north of the Venable Lane property to the Central College (University of Virginia). Other early landowners include William Wertenbaker and John Winn. In 1833, Winn sold the property to Catherine Foster, in whose family the property remained for 73 years.

Tentative dates assigned to the burials and archaeological deposits identified during the fieldwork phase of this project coincided with the 1833-1906 occupation of the site by the Foster family. Given the specific nature of this assessment, it was decided to focus archival research on the Foster family.

The primary records consulted to trace the Foster family include but were not limited to:

- \*U.S. Census Records: 1830-1900 (not including 1840-1890)
- \*Albemarle County Deed Books
- \*Albemarle County Will Books
- \*Albemarle County Land Books
- \*Albemarle County Fiduciary Books
- \*Albemarle County Chancery Court Records
- \*Albemarle County Inventories and Appraisals
- \*Albemarle County Ended Causes
- \*Personal Property Tax Records
- \*Land Tax Records
- \*Birth and Death Records for Albemarle County



\*Charlottesville City Directories

\*Church Records for Christ Episcopal Church in Charlottesville

These records were chosen to develop an historical context for the Foster family occupancy of Venable Lane and to determine the identity of the twelve unidentified burials uncovered during archaeological testing. It was also hoped that these documents might aid in reconstructing the nineteenth century built environment along Venable Lane, particularly in identifying two architectural features discovered during excavation.

*The Foster Family of Venable Lane (1833-1906)*

On December 13, 1833, Catherine (Kitty) Foster purchased a parcel of land "on the South side of Wheeler's road, near the University (County Deed Book 31:208)." The recorded price for this land was four hundred and fifty dollars, which Kitty Foster paid in cash to John and Mary Winn. The County Land Book for 1834 lists Kitty Foster as owning 2 1/8 acres of land, but in 1853 and after, her property is recorded as consisting of 2 1/2 acres (County Land Book 1834,1853: Reel 9).<sup>1</sup> Documentary research has not yielded any description of structures on the property other than the Winn to Foster deed (1833) which makes reference to "houses buildings enclosures, pastures, fieldings (?)"...<sup>2</sup>

Although some elements of Kitty Foster's life have become clear in the process of research, her whereabouts prior to the purchase of the Venable Lane property remains uncertain. Kitty Foster is not listed in the U.S. Census records for Albemarle County until 1850, although her prior occupation of the Venable Lane property is verified by her presence in the Land books and Land tax records since 1833. In the 1850 census<sup>3</sup> Kitty Foster is listed as head of household and categorized as a sixty year old mulatto woman born in

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<sup>1</sup>All future reference to the land is as 2 1/2 acres, and since there is no record of any additional purchase or grant to Kitty Foster's original land, all reference to land quantity in this document will assume the 2 1/2 acres to be correct.

<sup>2</sup>Land Tax records and Personal Property Tax records were equally unhelpful although future research will necessitate an extended search of Albemarle County Personal Property Tax records. According to the U.S. Census of 1860, Kitty Foster was assessed for \$300 in personal property. As of the writing of this report, Personal Property records have been consulted only up to 1851.

<sup>3</sup>The U.S. census of 1840 was missing from Alderman Library, and was not available for consultation. A search of the census index indicated that Catherine (Kitty) Foster was not listed. An actual examination of the original must be conducted to verify the index.



Virginia. The value of her estate is placed at four hundred and fifty dollars, the same sum she paid for it eighteen years previous. The subsequent census record, that of 1860, lists Kitty Foster as being sixty-five, making her date of birth either 1790 or 1795. Records suggest that she remained single. She died in 1863 at the age of 68 or 73.

An attempt was made to locate Kitty Foster prior to her purchase of the Venable Lane property, but there are no definitive conclusions to date. Although there are multiple Fosters listed in the local census records, there was only one other Catherine (spelled Catharine), who appears in the 1830 census as a head of household and is categorized as white, no age listed. It is possible that the census category of mulatto was not applied to Kitty Foster until after 1850.<sup>4</sup> It is certainly possible that she was freed, or bought her own freedom, from a white family whose last name was also Foster. It is frequently seen that ex-slaves take on or are given the names of their former masters. A brief search of white-categorized Foster family records yielded at least one possibility for this. In 1795, one Henry Foster's estate appraisal lists the value of his slaves, including "the girl Cate" (Inventory and Appraisals for Albemarle County: 1795). The low monetary value attached to Cate verifies that she was fairly young. The name Cate is, however, extremely common during this period, making such connection purely speculative.

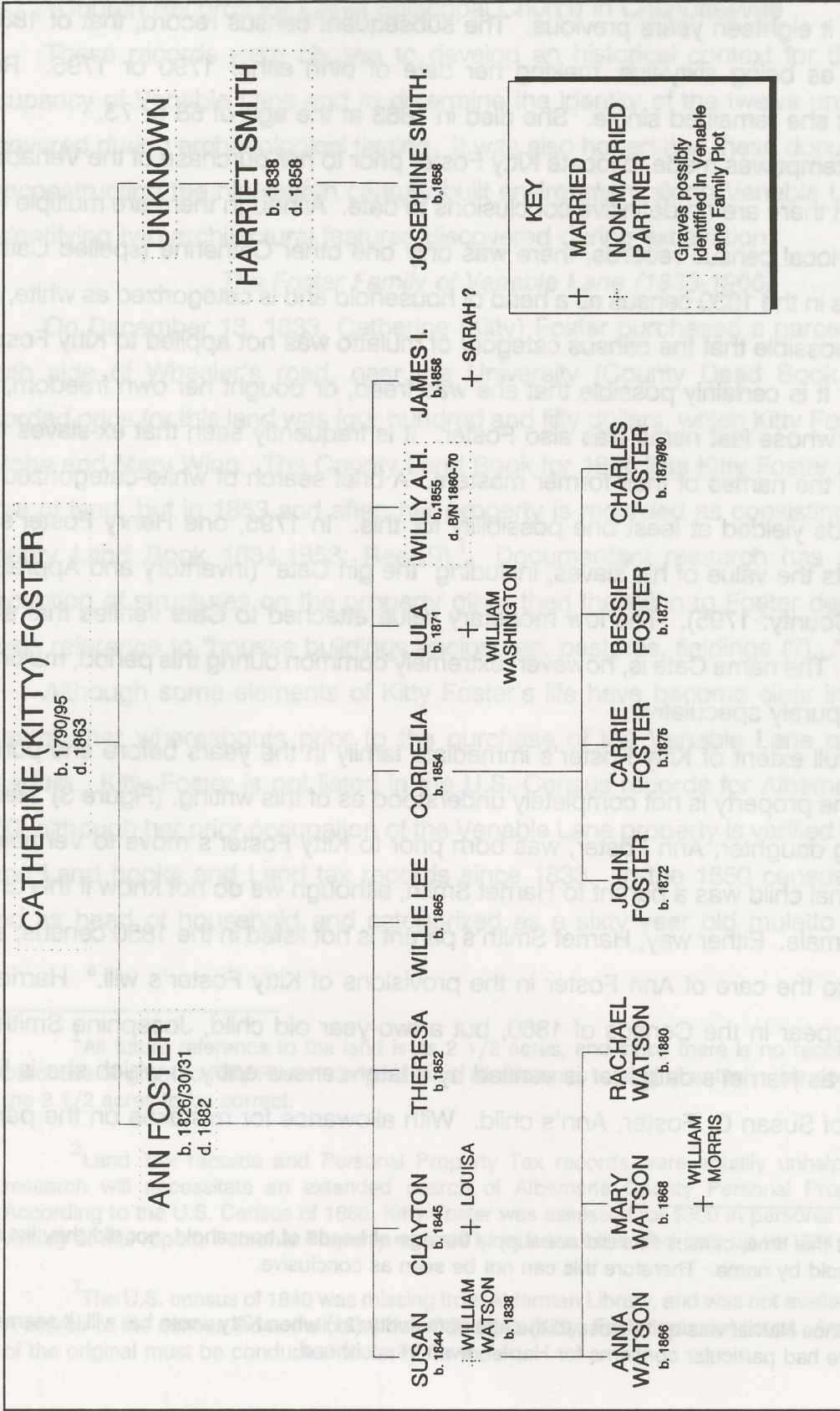
The full extent of Kitty Foster's immediate family in the years before she purchased Venable Lane property is not completely understood as of this writing. (Figure 3) Her oldest known living daughter, Ann Foster, was born prior to Kitty Foster's move to Venable Lane. One additional child was a parent to Harriet Smith, although we do not know if this child was a male or female. Either way, Harriet Smith's parent is not listed in the 1850 census, and she is directed to the care of Ann Foster in the provisions of Kitty Foster's will.<sup>5</sup> Harriet Smith does not appear in the Census of 1860, but a two-year old child, Josephine Smith, does. Her identity as Harriet's daughter is verified by a later census entry in which she is listed as the cousin of Susan C. Foster, Ann's child. With allowance for mistakes on the part of the

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<sup>4</sup>At this time, census lists did not supply the age of heads of household, nor did they list members of household by name. Therefore this can not be seen as conclusive.

<sup>5</sup>Since Harriet was quite close to the age of majority (21) when Kitty wrote her will, it seems that she might have had particular concerns for Harriet, even in adulthood.





**THE FOSTER FAMILY OF VENABLE LANE**



census takers, it appears that Harriet either died in childbirth with Josephine or died within a year of her birth.<sup>6</sup> It is entirely possible that Harriet Smith is one of the adult burials identified in Area B.

Kitty Foster's will (County Will Book 27, Appendix C) provides that the initial inheritance of the Venable Lane property passes to Ann (or Anne) Foster, her daughter. Secondary inheritance was directed to go to Harriet Smith and Susan Foster, Kitty's grand-daughters. Kitty Foster's personal property was to be divided equally among the three. According to the census records, Ann Foster was born in 1830/31 or 1826. The Census of 1850, in which she first appears as a member of Kitty Foster's household, lists Ann Foster as a 24 year old mulatto woman, Virginia born. The 1870 census is the first to list occupations for women, and Ann Foster is listed as "Keeping House" (U.S. Census, 1870, Appendix C). Ann Foster is also listed as being unable to read or write. By 1880, Ann Foster's occupation is listed as "seamstress," and her marital status is given as single (U.S. Census, 1880, Appendix C). Ann Foster is listed "in estate" in 1882. The cause of her death is unknown.

Ann Foster left the Venable Lane household sometime between 1870 and 1880 and set up a separate household. The location of Ann's second household in the census records suggests a location in close proximity to her daughter Susan's household, and it is also possible that both remained on the Venable Lane property in separate structures.

Ann Foster raised a large family while living at Venable Lane. Records give evidence of seven children who lived to adulthood, and one who died before his tenth birthday and is likely buried in the Venable Lane plot (Figure 3). Evidence of additional pregnancies and births of Ann Foster have not been found through documentary research, although notable gaps in steady periods of childbearing during Ann Foster's lifetime may be an indication of additional children who did not survive long enough to be included in any census or other documentary record (Figure 4). It is possible, then, that some of the infants and small children buried in the graveyard are Ann's.

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<sup>6</sup>Although there is no way to verify that Harriet died, and did not simply move away, the nature of the family demographics and the provisions made in Kitty Foster's will suggest that Harriet died while living at Venable Lane.



**Summary of Offspring and Potential Pregnancies and Births  
for Select Female Members of the Foster Household**

From Kitty Foster (born 1790/95):

\*\*\*\*

Pre-1826	Unknown Child (Parent of Harriet Smith)
1826	Ann

From Ann Foster (born 1826/1830-31)

1844	Susan C.
1845	Clayton
****	
1852	Theresa
1854	Cordelia Henry
1855	Willy Henry
1858	James L.

\*\*\*\*

1865	Willie Lee
1871	Lula

From Susan Foster (born 1844):

\*\*\*\*

1866	Anna Watson
1868	Mary Watson

\*\*\*\*

1879	Rachael Watson
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From Cordelia Henry Foster (born 1854):

1872	John Foster
1875	Carrie Foster
1877	Bessie Foster
1879/80	Charles Foster

\*\*\*\*

Periods of possible  
miscarriages, stillbirths or  
infant deaths.

Figure 4



Susan, the eldest of Ann Foster's surviving children was born in 1844. Susan Foster is recorded in the U.S. Census records beginning in 1850. Like her mother and grandmother, Susan Foster is classified as a mulatto female born in Virginia. When listed, her occupation is given as "At Home" (1870) and "Seamstress" (1880) (U.S. Census for 1870, 1880, Appendix C). Her marital status is given as single. According to the census, she could not read or write.

Susan Catherine Foster, Ann Foster's daughter, and Josephine Smith, Harriet Smith's daughter, are the subsequent owners of the Venable Lane property. The acreage initially bought by Kitty Foster in 1833 was split between Susan Foster and her siblings and this cousin, Josephine Smith (Chancery Court Book 13: 163). The court order for this division was made in October of 1882, a month in which the court heard numerous claims of the Foster and Smith families (Appendix C). The result of these court cases, which were argued over the perceived unequal division of the original lot owned by Kitty Foster, created two long narrow lots of 1 1/4 acres each. (Figure 5) According to the Chancery Court records, Susan Foster was to receive 5/7ths of the initial division between the Foster's and Smith's.<sup>7</sup> The remaining two 1/7ths were to go equally to both Willie Lee Foster and Lula Foster.<sup>8</sup> The result was the creation of the Venable Lane property boundaries as they remain today.<sup>9</sup>

We know very little about Josephine Smith. She was raised, as requested by her grandmother, in her aunt Ann's household.<sup>10</sup> Josephine Smith continued to live in the main

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<sup>7</sup>The Land Book for 1885 still lists the Venable property as "Ann Foster, Est." so there is some indication that official title was not conveyed in the 1882 case.

<sup>8</sup>N.B. The court also reserved the right to decide if such division of the property would not be suited to the vested interests of the Fosters and could have made the decision that all or part of the land should be Sold. This opinion was made on October 19, 1882, and resolved one week later with land division remaining as recommended. (Chancery Court, Book 13: 162 and 189)

<sup>9</sup>In 1900, Josephine Smith attempted to sell her Venable Lane property to P.B. Barringer, S.C. Chancellor and W.M. Fontaine. Apparently the confusion over land division which occurred in 1881 had also left Josephine Smith without a proper deed to her eastern side of what had once been Kitty Foster's land. Resolution involved all living participants in the initial land division (County Deed 116: 395). Both Willie Lee Foster and Josephine Smith sold their land to the trio of Barringer, Chancellor and Fontaine. Susan Foster remained the sole proprietor of the balance of Kitty Foster's estate in 1900. Her siblings had transferred their rights to the land in 1881, as previously discussed.

<sup>10</sup>Although Susan Foster and her siblings continue to be in court decisions regarding the land ownership and division with Josephine Smith, it does not seem to have broken down familial relations.



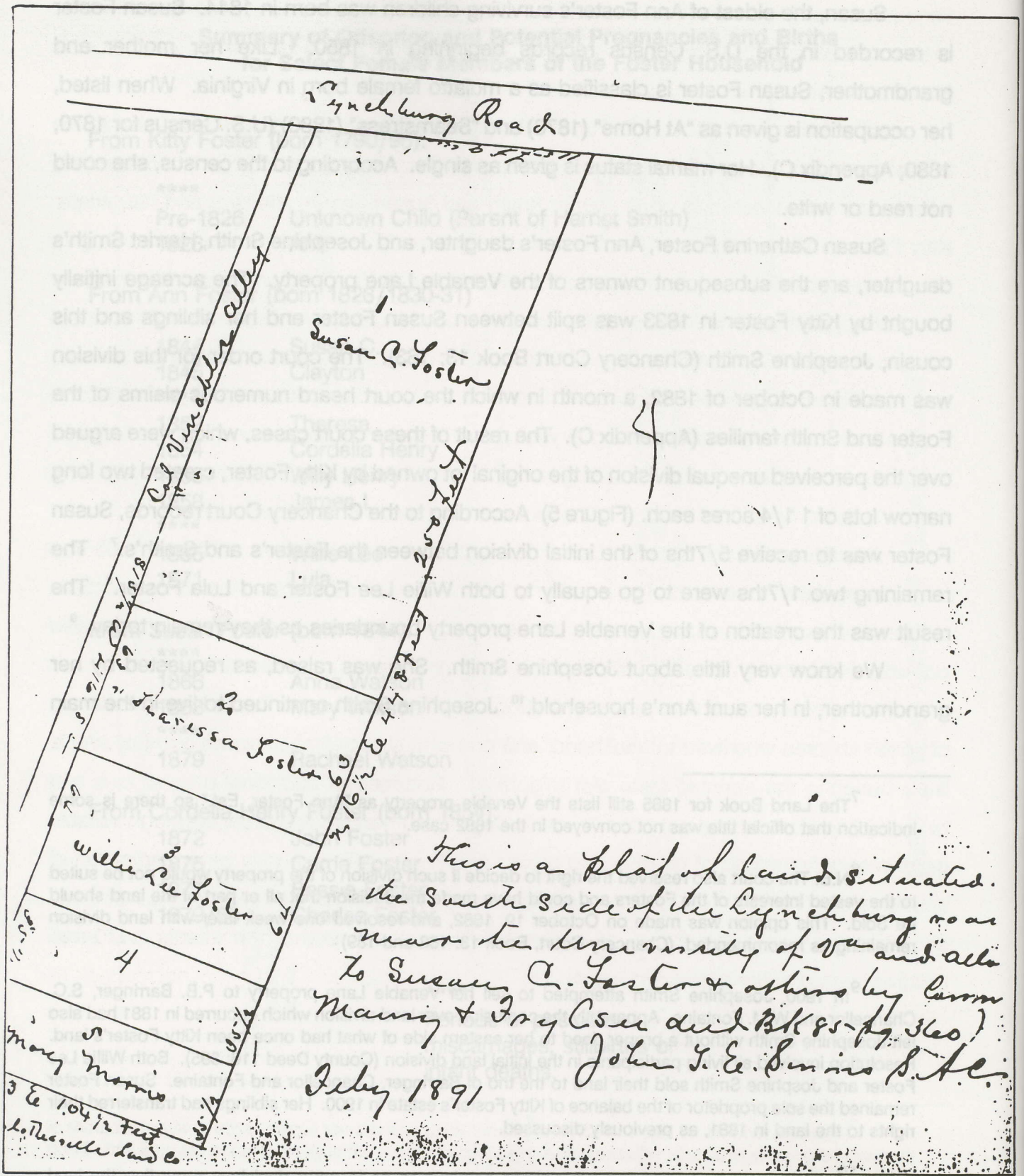


Figure 5



Foster household, even after Susan became its head, at least until Ann died. The last records of Josephine Smith found to date place her living in Albemarle County in 1900, probably with Lula Foster, now married.<sup>11</sup>

Of Ann Foster's children other than Susan, a varying amount of information is available thus far. Clayton Foster (C.R. or C.H. Foster), Ann Foster's second oldest surviving child was born in 1845. He is first listed as having an occupation in the Census of 1870, where he is registered as a painter. At some point, Clayton marries a woman named Louisa (maiden name unknown). The census of 1880 locates Clayton Foster as head of his own household, separate from his sister Susan. From the County Land Book of 1884 we know that he purchased 1/4 acre "near University." In the 1880 census, Clayton Foster is listed as married, but there is no listing for Louisa, and it is possible that Louisa was his second wife. Together they moved to Iowa where they are on record as residents of Mahuska in 1900 (County Deed Book 116: 395).

Theresa Foster, born in 1852, disappears from the census records after 1870; she is granted a portion of the Venable Lane property and is listed as an owner in 1891 (County Deed Book 95: 197). She has not been traced beyond 1891.

Willie Lee Foster, born in 1865, is also part owner of the Venable Lane property in 1891, but does not appear in the census records beyond 1870. Both she and Lula, Ann Foster's last surviving adult child, are conveyed 1/7th of the land Susan initially inherited from Kitty. Willie transfers her land to Susan in 1891 and may leave the county. By 1900, Willie Lee Foster is living in Washington, D.C. She remained single.

Cordelia Foster, born in 1854, is listed in 1880 as living in her brother Clayton's house, along with her own children: John, Carrie, Bessie, and Charles. Cordelia is further identified in this census as a single seamstress (U.S. Census, 1880).

Lula Foster, born in 1871, remains in Ann's household sometime between 1870 and 1880. Like her sister Willie Lee Foster, Lula transfers her land to Susan. At some point

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<sup>11</sup>Also on record is Josephine Smith's sale of the Venable Lane property in 1900 (Deed Book 116: 395) and a yet unidentified sale of land made in 1906 and 1908, both of which should be pursued. (Deed Book 133: 256 and 138: 155).



before 1900, she marries William Washington and moves (along with Josephine Smith) out of the city into Albemarle County.

James L. Foster, Ann's fifth oldest surviving child marries a woman named Sarah (maiden name unknown) sometime before 1900. They left Charlottesville sometime in the 1870's and by 1900 he and Sarah are listed as residents of Fayette, West Virginia (County Deed Book 116: 395).

In addition to immediate relations, there are other people living in the Foster households over the seventy-three years of Foster occupation. In 1870, Ann Foster's household is listed as including a twenty-five year old mulatto woman named Elizabeth Morris (a seamstress), as well as a boy also categorized as mulatto, named William Morris. It is unknown who these two people are and whether there is a familial connection between them and the Fosters. In 1891, during the above mentioned reapportioning of Susan's lot, a section of the property is conveyed to a Mrs. William Morris, also listed as Mary Morris on the plat (County Deed Book 95:197). Since the conveyance is done as a grant and not as a sale<sup>12</sup>, there is the suggestion that Mary Morris is seen as family. Susan Foster's daughter Mary Watson may have married William Morris.

In addition to Elizabeth and William Morris, a thirty-year-old white house painter named William Watson also lived at Venable Lane. By 1880, two of Susan's children, Anna and Mary Foster, take the name Watson, as does their new sister, Rachael, who is less than one year old. Presumably Watson is the father to Susan's three children. Susan's last recorded Watson child, Rachael, was born in June of 1879. William Watson is no longer listed as a member of the household in the 1880 Census. It is possible that William Watson died while living at Venable Lane, no sooner than September of 1878 and no later than May of 1880.<sup>13</sup> It is also possible that William Watson left Susan Foster's household during that period, or that the census taker did not record his presence in the household.

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<sup>12</sup>The reapportioning of the Venable Lane property between known Fosters is undertaken as grants and not sales, to wit: "for the consideration of \$1.00." Mary (Mrs. William) Morris is likewise transferred a section for the same consideration (Deed Book 95:197)

<sup>13</sup>Assuming that William Watson is Rachael's father, she had to have been conceived around September of 1878. This is based on the knowledge provided by the census that Rachael Watson was born in June of 1879.



On the 19th of September, 1906, Susan Catherine Foster, the last of the Fosters to retain a portion of Kitty Foster's estate, sold her part for nineteen hundred dollars to C.H. Walker and E.L. Carroll, both on the Board of Directors of the Charlottesville and Albemarle Railway Company. In the deed of sale to Walker and Carroll, Susan Foster reserved the right "to remove from the graveyard on the said lot all the bodies of her own family buried thereon which she hereby agrees to do within the next sixty days." (Deed Book 134:274) (Appendix C). For reasons unknown, this removal did not occur.

### **Archaeological Field Research**

The goals of the archaeological testing conducted within the project area were to assess the extent and integrity of historic resources, emphasizing the area surrounding the burial unearthed by construction crews. The methodology we employed within the field reflected both these goals as well as the time restraints associated with the project. Any features identified were defined, but no excavation occurred at this stage. Whenever possible mechanical equipment would be used in stripping and testing procedures. In instances where this was impossible (i.e. in the proximity of burials, previously identified features) shovel skimming and troweling would occur. Two-dimensional mapping of features were plotted in reference to the house located in the northern half of the project area, while all elevations were tied into a cover for a water main located along the eastern side of Venable Lane. Any artifacts uncovered in the process of defining features would be retained and processed, but no formal attempt would be made to collect artifacts beyond that which had already occurred in the earlier surface survey (Appendix A).

Four days of archaeological testing were completed between May 20-24, 1993. In addition to the Project/Field Director this testing was conducted by a crew of four paid graduate students and two volunteer graduate students all from the University of Virginia. The Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation assisted by allowing M. Drake Patten, Laboratory Director at Monticello's Archaeology Laboratory, to participate in this field work, as well as to direct the archival research. The results of this field testing are detailed below.

#### Area A

The project archaeologists' first task in this area was to clean, draw and photograph the 71-foot stratigraphic profile created by grading for the parking lot. Defining the eastern



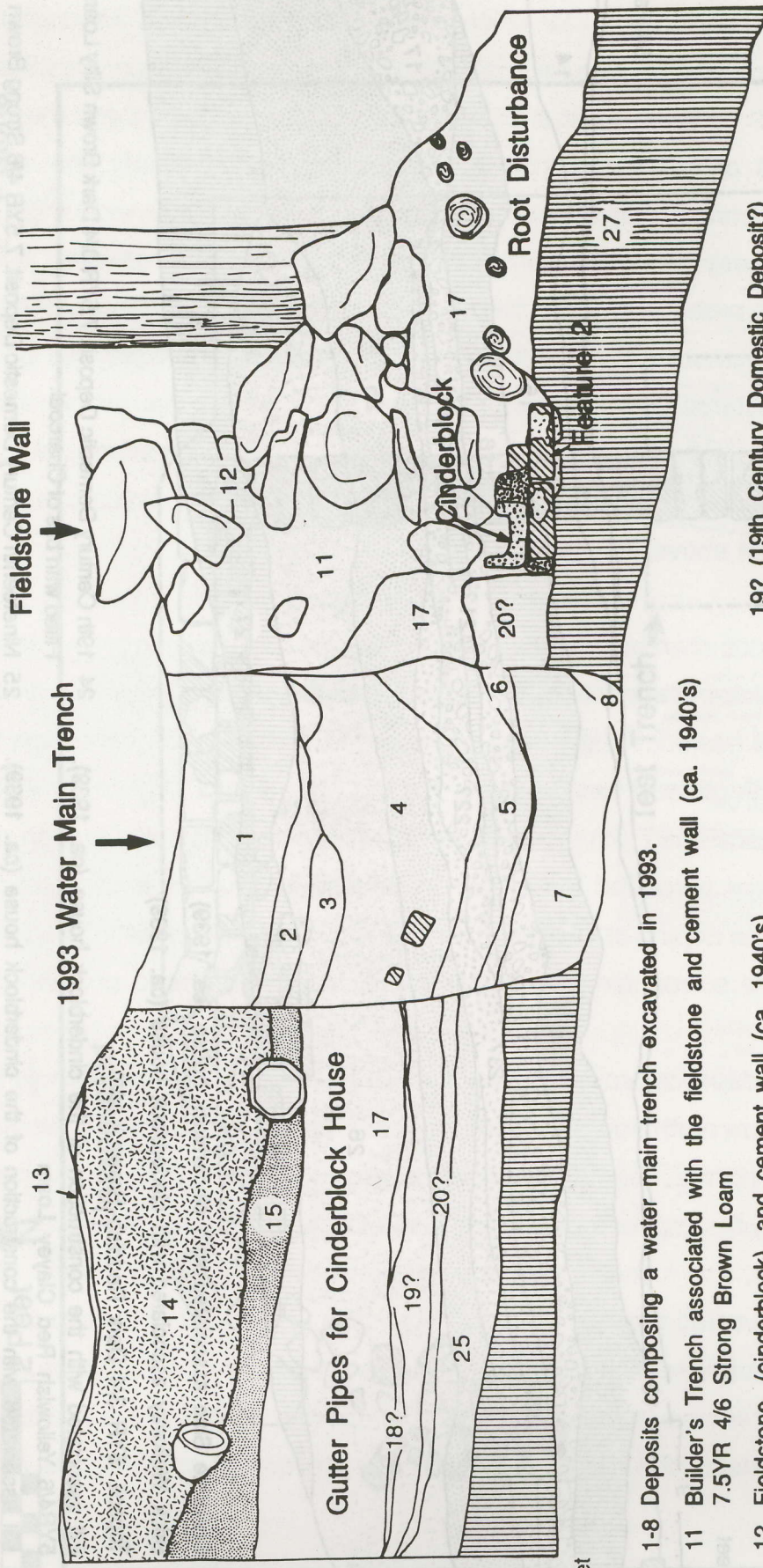
edge of Area A, this profile reveals an uninterrupted sequence of building and occupational episodes occurring on this site from the early nineteenth century to the present day (Figure 6). Located immediately on top of sub-soil, the earliest cultural deposit contains domestic artifacts which date to the first half of the nineteenth century. Bits of mortar, brick, and slate roofing tile which appear within this deposit suggest that building construction may have occurred at this time. Indeed, as mentioned in the section above, the earliest mention of buildings on this lot is found within an 1833 deed. Above this earliest layer of cultural deposits is a series of domestic deposits interspersed with layers of fill. These domestic deposits seem to date from the mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century. Along with ceramic and glass sherds from broken plates, bottles, etc., these layers include other evidence of domestic habitation including buttons, children's toys and coal fragments. Finally, covering this series of mid-nineteenth-early twentieth century domestic and fill deposits are two layers of fill which can be associated with the ca. 1940 construction of the cinder-block house which remains standing on the site. (Figure 7)

In addition to this profile, two features which had been impacted by recent construction were identified within this area. Feature 1 is a portion of a small, square brick foundation extending along the northern edge of the area, 3.46' above the site datum. (Figure 8) The walls are composed of five courses of brick set with a sandy yellowish mortar. The age and function of the building represented by the foundation remain uncertain. It is known from the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps (Appendix D) that it was standing as early as 1920, was added on to or built over by 1929, and was demolished by ca. 1939. Judging from its composition and the artifacts discovered between its bricks, this foundation may date to the late nineteenth century and possibly earlier. This would place the construction of this building as occurring sometime during the Foster occupation of the property. Given this context and its size, it may represent a small dairy or other utilitarian building. In an attempt to confirm this date and possible function, a shallow test unit was placed at the southern end of the foundation in the hopes of revealing a builder's trench associated with the construction of the walls. No trench was found and any attempt at dating this structure must remain tentative.

The second architectural feature discovered in Area A consists of the remains of a brick wall running east-west along the current property line. Located on the southern end of the eastern profile (Figure 7), Feature 2 was built on sterile sub-soil and is composed of



Venable Lane Site  
 Area A  
 Eastern Profile  
 Detail of Twentieth Century Deposits  
 and Feature 2



57 Feet

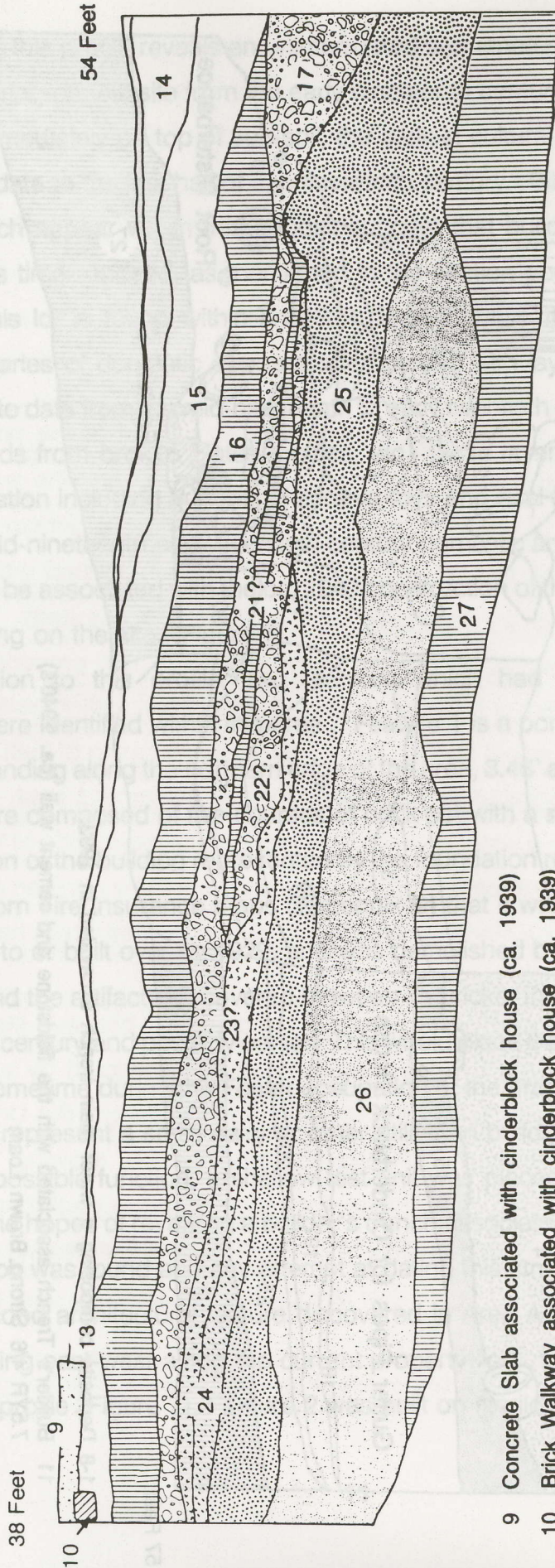
71 Feet

- 1-8 Deposits composing a water main trench excavated in 1993.
- 11 Builder's Trench associated with the fieldstone and cement wall (ca. 1940's)  
7.5YR 4/6 Strong Brown Loam
- 12 Fieldstone, (cinderblock), and cement wall (ca. 1940's)
- 13 Topsoil. 5YR 3/4 Dark Reddish Brown Loam
- 14 Fill associated with the construction of the cinderblock house (ca. 1939).  
5YR4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam
- 15 Fill associated with the construction of the cinderblock house (ca. 1939).  
7.5YR5/6 Strong Brown Silty Loam
- 17 Late Nineteenth/Early Twentieth Century Domestic Deposit.  
5YR 3/4 Dark Reddish Brown Clayey Loam filled with charcoal fragments.
- 18? (Fill?) 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam
- 19? (19th Century Domestic Deposit?)  
7.5YR 3/4 Dark Brown Loam
- 20? (Fill?) 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam
- 25 Nineteenth Century Domestic Deposit. 7.5YR 4/6 Strong Brown Clayey Loam filled with charcoal and coal fragments.
- 27 Sterile Sub-soil. 2.5YR 4/8 Red clay filled with decomposing shale.

Figure 6



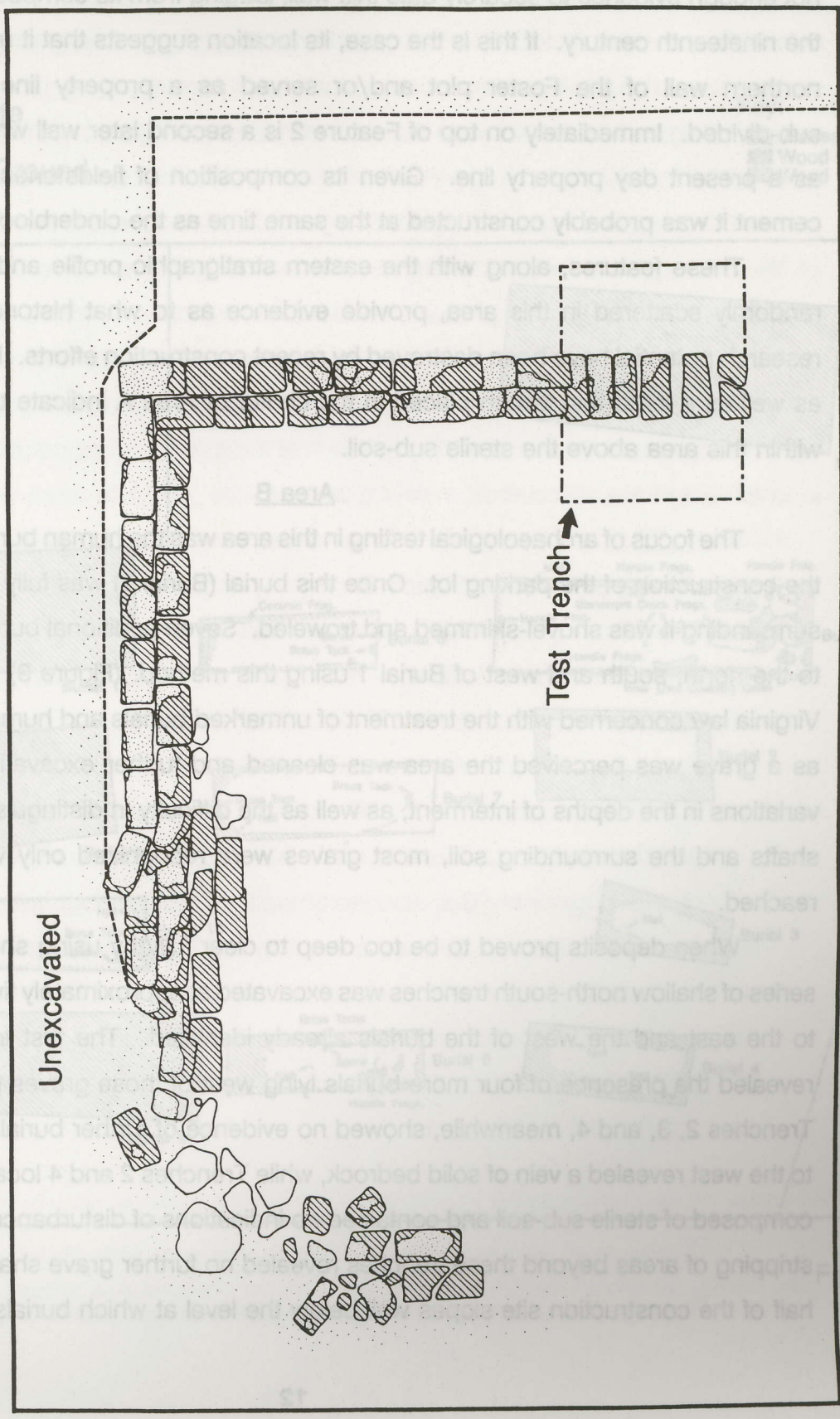
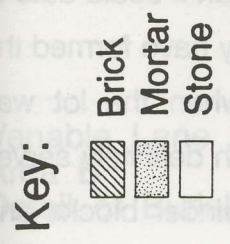
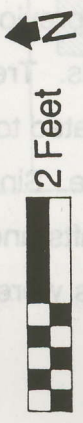
Venable Lane Site  
 Area A  
 Eastern Profile  
 Detail of Nineteenth Century Deposits



- 9 Concrete Slab associated with cinderblock house (ca. 1939)
- 10 Brick Walkway associated with cinderblock house (ca. 1939)
- 13 Topsoil. 5YR 3/4 Dark Reddish Brown Loam
- 14 Fill associated with the construction of the cinderblock house (ca. 1939). 5YR4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam
- 15 Fill associated with the construction of the cinderblock house (ca. 1939). 7.5YR5/6 Strong Brown Silty Loam
- 16 Fill (Early 20th Century?). 2.5YR 4/6 Red Clay filled with Decomposing Shale
- 17 Late Nineteenth/Early Twentieth Century Domestic Deposit. 5YR 3/4 Dark Reddish Brown Clayey Loam filled with charcoal fragments.
- 21? Fill. 2.5YR 4/8 Red Clay filled with decomposing shale
- 22? Nineteenth Century Domestic Deposit. 5YR 3/4 Dark Reddish Brown Loam
- 24 19th Century Domestic Deposit. 7.5YR 3/4 Dark Brown Silty Loam Filled with bits of Charcoal.
- 25 Nineteenth Century Domestic Deposit. 7.5YR 4/6 Strong Brown Clayey Loam filled with
- 26 Mid-Nineteenth Century Domestic/Construction Deposit. 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam filled with flecks of charcoal, brick, mortar and fragments of slate roofing tiles.
- 27 Sterile Sub-soil. 2.5 YR 4/8 Red clay filled with decomposing shale.



# Venable Lane Site Area A Detail of Feature 1





at least two bricks set in mortar which extend back into the balk. Although there is currently not enough evidence to securely date this wall, judging from its composition it could date to the nineteenth century. If this is the case, its location suggests that it may have formed the northern wall of the Foster plot and/or served as a property line when the lot was sub-divided. Immediately on top of Feature 2 is a second later wall which definitely serves as a present day property line. Given its composition of fieldstones, cinder blocks and cement it was probably constructed at the same time as the cinderblock house (ca. 1939).

These features, along with the eastern stratigraphic profile and dozens of artifacts randomly scattered in this area, provide evidence as to what historic features and their research potential have been destroyed by recent construction efforts. Mechanical scraping as well as a large test trench placed in the center of Area A indicate that nothing remains within this area above the sterile sub-soil.

#### Area B

The focus of archaeological testing in this area was the human burial uncovered during the construction of the parking lot. Once this burial (Burial 1) was fully delineated, the area surrounding it was shovel-skimmed and troweled. Seven additional burials were discovered to the north, south and west of Burial 1 using this method. (Figure 9) In accordance with Virginia law concerned with the treatment of unmarked burials and human remains, as soon as a grave was perceived the area was cleaned and further excavation ceased. Due to variations in the depths of interment, as well as the difficulty in distinguishing between grave shafts and the surrounding soil, most graves were recognized only when the coffin was reached.

When deposits proved to be too deep to clear fully by using shovels and trowels, a series of shallow north-south trenches was excavated at approximately five-foot intervals both to the east and the west of the burials already identified. The first trench we excavated revealed the presence of four more burials lying west of those graves previously identified. Trenches 2, 3, and 4, meanwhile, showed no evidence of further burials. Trench 3 located to the west revealed a vein of solid bedrock, while Trenches 2 and 4 located to the east were composed of sterile sub-soil and contained no indications of disturbance. Since mechanical stripping of areas beyond these trenches revealed no further grave shafts and the southern half of the construction site slopes well below the level at which burials were encountered,



Venable Lane Site  
 Area B  
 Detail of Burial Ground

Key:  
 ▨ Graveshaft  
 ■ Wood Stain  
 ▩ Wood Fragments

2 Feet

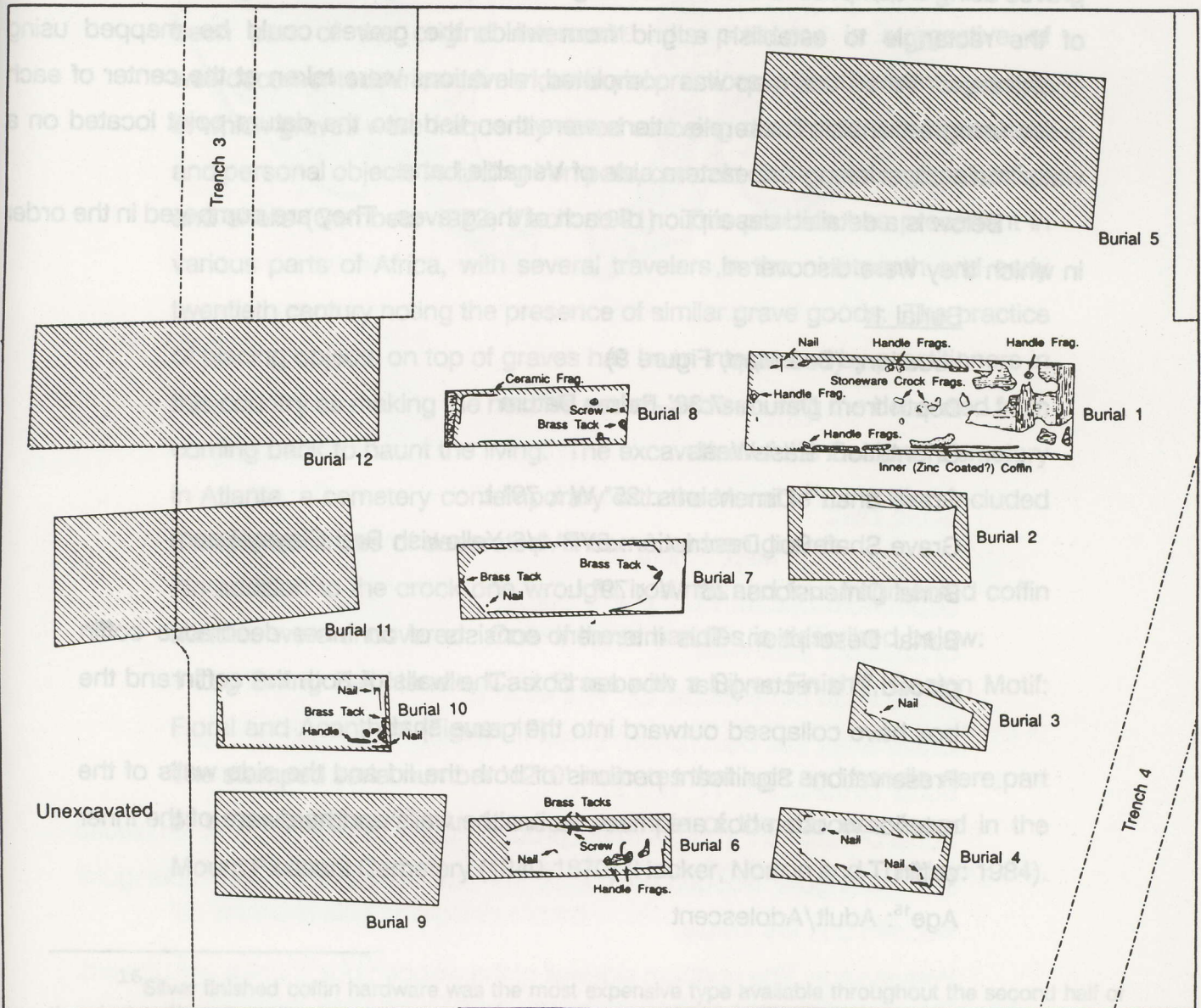


Figure 9



no further exploration was deemed necessary, the graveyard was considered fully delineated.

Having fully exposed the graveyard, each grave was photographed using both black and white print and color slide film. Once photographs had been taken each grave was drawn, plotted and its elevations were recorded. The method used for mapping the graves was to triangulate in a point with a compass, tape and line level in line with the axis of the house (20 W of Magnetic North) From this point a 21' x 25' rectangle was strung around the graves using a compass to establish 90 angles. One-foot-intervals were marked on each leg of the rectangle to establish a grid from which the graves could be mapped using coordinates. When this map was completed, elevations were taken at the center of each grave using a transit. These elevations were then tied into the datum point located on a water main cover along the eastern side of Venable Lane.

Below is a detailed description of each of the graves. They are numbered in the order in which they were discovered.

Burial 1:

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 7.38' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft<sup>14</sup> Dimensions: 25" W x 79" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam

Burial Dimensions: 25" W x 79" L

Burial Description: This interment consists of an inner decorative coffin placed in a rectangular wooden box. The walls of both the coffin and the box have collapsed outward into the grave shaft.

Preservation: Significant portions of both the lid and the side walls of the exterior wooden box are intact, as are the walls and hardware of the inner coffin.

Age<sup>15</sup>: Adult/Adolescent

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<sup>14</sup>"Grave Shaft" refers to the hole excavated into the earth, while "Burial" refers to the coffin.

<sup>15</sup>The age of these individuals has been estimated based on the size of the grave shaft and/or coffin.



#### Associated Artifacts:

\*A white marble footstone was discovered by the construction crew within the burial shaft. Approximately 10"W x 10"H x 3"D, this footstone had a carved triangular tympanum and a carved maker's mark, a "V".

\*A stoneware crock dating to the last half of the nineteenth century was also found associated with this burial. In this case, it was discovered resting immediately on top of the wooden box. This crock appears to have been part of the original interment. Its presence is suggestive of well-documented African-American burial practices in the 19th century south in which graves were frequently noted as being decorated with household and personal objects including iron pots, ceramic dishes, pots, glass bottles and shells (Combes: 1972; Vlach: 1991). This practice has precedent in various parts of Africa, with several travelers in the nineteenth and early twentieth century noting the presence of similar grave goods. The practice of placing objects on top of graves has been interpreted by practitioners in this country as making the next life easier--and securing the deceased from coming back to haunt the living. The excavation of the Oakland Cemetery in Atlanta, a cemetery contemporary with the Venable Lane Plot, included multiple instances of decorated African-American graves.

\*In addition to the crock one wrought iron nail and four fragmented coffin handles were uncovered. One of these handles is described below:

1 Lug Swing Bail Handle, Cast Brass with a Silver Finish<sup>16</sup>, Design Motif: Floral and Acanthus (Figure 10)

The stamped serial number '1210' indicates that lugs and handle were part of a 'matched set'<sup>17</sup>. An identical example of the bar was found in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery (1840-1870) (Hacker, Norton and Trinkley: 1984).

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<sup>16</sup>Silver finished coffin hardware was the most expensive type available throughout the second half of the nineteenth century.

<sup>17</sup>Lugs and handles were frequently mis-matched: different composite handles being made with identical lugs but different bails, and vice versa.



Based on their work, hardware for Burial 1 has a date range of 1870-1900.

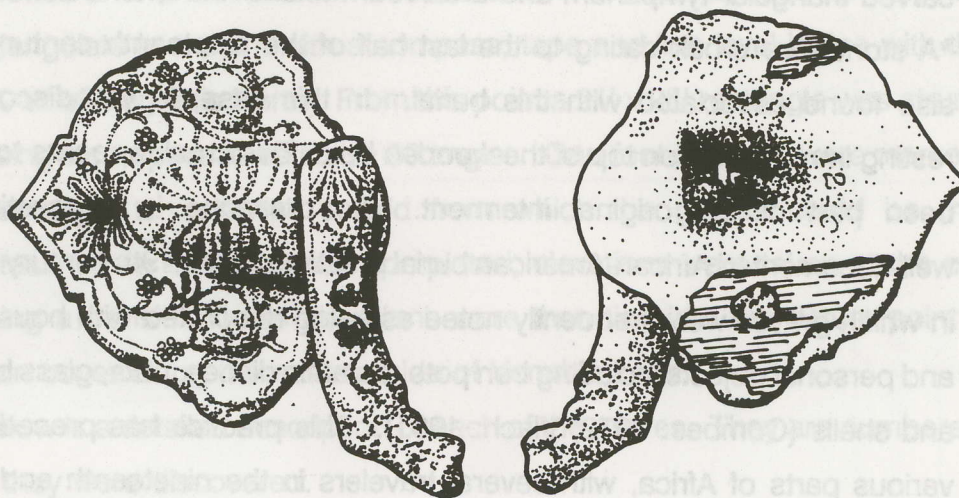


Figure 10

Dates: Post-1870

Burial Two:

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 7.06' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 22" W x 44.5" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR4/6 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam

Burial Dimensions: 11" W x 37" L

Burial Description: This interment probably consists of an inner coffin placed in a rectangular wooden box. Only the side walls of the outer rectangular wooden box are visible.

Preservation: The northern sidewall of the wooden box is collapsing inward.

Age: Infant/Child?

Associated Artifacts: None

Dates: Unknown



Burial Three:

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 7.35' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 18" W x 36" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 4/8 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam

Burial Dimensions: 6" W x 28" L

Burial Description: This interment consists of a single hexagonal wooden coffin.

Preservation: The north-western sides and lid of the coffin are not visible and may have decayed.

Age: Infant

Associated Artifacts: A heavily corroded wrought iron nail was discovered in situ extending down into the area where the coffin lid should be located.

Dates: Unknown

Burial 4

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 7.88' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 18" W x 45" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 5/8 Yellowish Red Clayey Loam

Burial Dimensions: 14" W x 36" L

Burial Description: This interment may consist of an inner coffin placed in a rectangular wooden box. Only the side walls of the outer rectangular wooden box are visible.

Preservation: All four of the walls of the wooden box are fragmentary with the northern side collapsing inward.

Age: Infant/Child?

Associated Artifacts: Three badly corroded wrought iron nails were discovered between the sidewalls of the wooden box.

Dates: Unknown



### Burial 5

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 6.07' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 33.5" W x 86" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Loamy Clay

Burial Dimensions: Not Available (only the burial shaft was exposed)

Burial Description: Not Available

Preservation: Not Available

Age: Adult/Adolescent?

Associated Artifacts: None

Dates: Unknown

### Burial 6

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 7.32' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 14" W x 55.5" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 2.5YR 4/8 Red Clayey Loam

Burial Dimensions:

Outer Coffin: 11" W x 44" L

Inner Coffin: 11" W x 26" L

Burial Description: This interment consists of an outer coffin which was probably covered in cloth held in place by brass tacks and an inner coffin embellished with decorative screws and handles.

Preservation: The walls of both the exterior and interior coffins are fragmentary with the northern wall of the exterior wooden box collapsing outward into the grave shaft.

Age: Infant

Associated Artifacts: Two brass tacks were discovered in situ along the top edge of the exterior wooden box. This suggests that at least the interior of the box was covered with cloth (probably satin or velvet). A badly corroded



nail was also found in association with this outer coffin. Meanwhile a fragmented handle and a screw were discovered in relation to the inner coffin. The handle was temporarily removed from the site in order to be drawn and analyzed. It is described below:

1 Lug Swing Bail Handle, Cast White Metal with Silver Finish (Figure 11).

A Similar but not identical example of this handle is found in the Wholesale Russell and Erwin Hardware Catalogue From 1865 (Russell and Erwin: 1980) See Plate 333, No. 116: "Plain with Fancy Sockets."

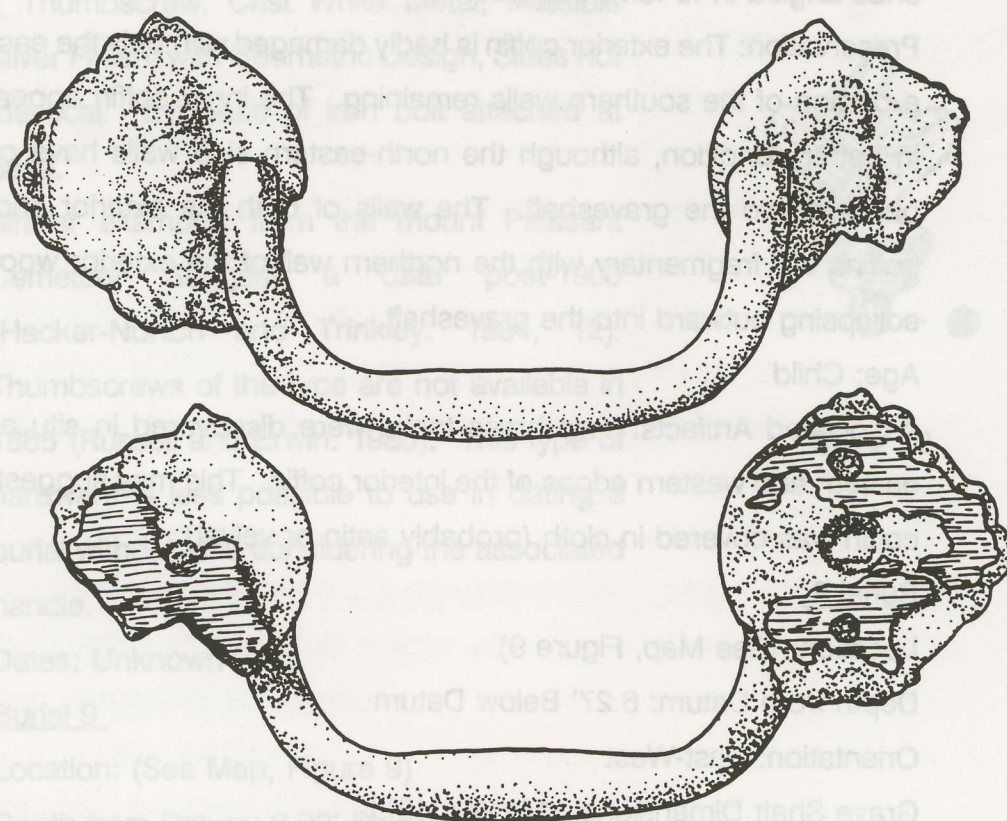


Figure 11

Dates (Range): 1860-1900

Burial 7

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 6.96' Below Datum



Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 16" W x 58" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Loamy Clay

Burial Dimensions:

Outer Coffin: 16" W x (Unidentifiable)" L

Inner Coffin: 14" W x 41" L

Burial Description: This interment consists of an exterior wooden box and an inner coffin probably covered in cloth and held in place by brass tacks. The shape of the inner coffin is irregular with both the eastern and western ends angled in to form triangles.

Preservation: The exterior coffin is badly damaged with only the eastern and a portion of the southern walls remaining. The inner coffin appears to be in better condition, although the north-eastern side walls have collapsed outward into the graveshaft. The walls of both the exterior and interior coffins are fragmentary with the northern wall of the exterior wooden box collapsing outward into the graveshaft.

Age: Child

Associated Artifacts: Two brass tacks were discovered in situ along the eastern and western edges of the interior coffin. This may suggest that the coffin was covered in cloth (probably satin or velvet).

#### Burial 8

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 6.27' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 15" W x 42" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 2.5 YR 3/6 Dark Red Loamy Clay

Burial Dimensions: 9" W x 40" L

Burial Description: This interment consists of a rectangular coffin decorated with hardware. Rather than place this coffin into an exterior wooden box, a wooden board was placed at the western end of the burial shaft in order to protect the coffin from collapse.



Preservation: The wooden board placed along the western end of the grave shaft is completely intact. The side walls of the coffin, however, are fragmentary

Age: Child/Infant

Associated Artifacts: A small piece of hand-painted whiteware was discovered within the burial shaft. Meanwhile, a brass tack and a molded screw were found in association with the coffin (Figure 12). The screw was temporarily removed from the site so that it could be drawn and analyzed.

It is described below:

1 Thumbscrew, Cast White Metal, Possible Silver Finish, with Geometric Design, Sides not Identical. Evidence of iron bolt attached at base.

Similar examples from the Mount Pleasant Cemetery suggest a date post-1900 (Hacker-Norton and Trinkley: 1984, 12).

Thumbscrews of the type are not available in 1865 (Russell and Erwin: 1980). This type of hardware is less possible to use in dating a burial without also considering the associated handle.

Dates: Unknown

#### Burial 9

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 6.92' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 27" W x 56" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Clay

Burial Dimensions: Not Available (only the grave shaft was exposed).

Burial Description: Not Available

Preservation: Not Available



Figure 12



Age: Child?

Associated Artifacts: None

Dates: Unknown

Burial 10

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 6.56' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 15" W x 44" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 2.5YR 3/6 Dark Red Silty Clay

Burial Dimensions:

Outer Coffin: 14" W x 40" L

Inner Coffin: ?

Burial Description: This interment consists of an exterior wooden box and an inner coffin decorated with molded hardware.

Preservation: The exterior box is badly damaged. The wooden lid has collapsed onto the inner coffin and only the eastern and western sides of it remain. While only a small portion of the inner coffin is visible, it appears to be in better condition with a molded handle remaining in its original position along the southern wall.

Age: Infant/Child?

Associated Artifacts: A wrought iron nail and a brass tack were found in association with the outer coffin, while a highly ornate molded handle was associated with the inner coffin. This handle was temporarily removed so that it could be drawn and analyzed. It is described below:

1 Escutcheon Lug Bail Handle, Cast Brass with Iron Wire Hinge Rod; Silver finish. Design motif includes Lamb, Tassels, Leaves (Figure 13)

The stamped serial numbers "261" on both the escutcheon and the bar suggest this is a matched set. No similar example has been found, but tassel motifs on burial hardware suggests a date post-1840 (Hacker-Norton and Trinkley: 1984). Tassels are not seen in the design motifs of the standard 1865 Russell and Erwin catalogue.



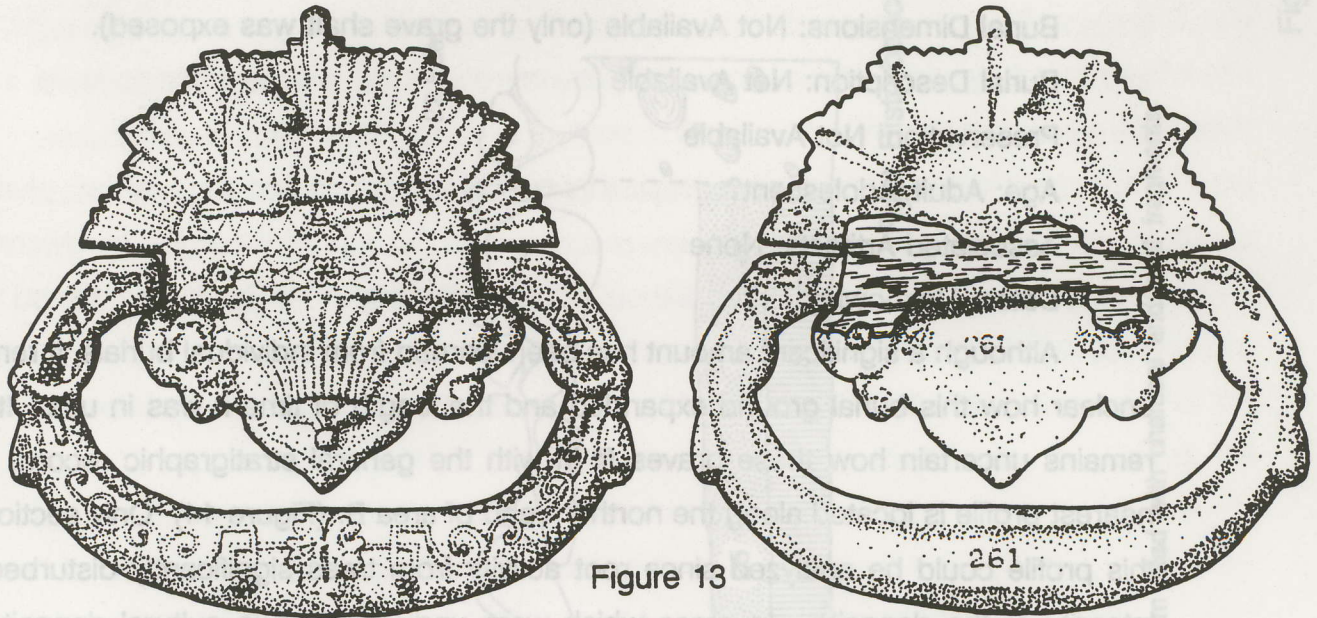


Figure 13

Dates: Post-1860

Burial 11

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 5.91' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 33" W x 78" L

Grave Shaft Soil Description: 5YR 4/6 Yellowish Red Sandy Clay

Burial Dimensions: Not Available (only the grave shaft was exposed).

Burial Description: Not Available

Preservation: Not Available

Age: Adult/Adolescent?

Associated Artifacts: None

Dates: Unknown

Burial 12

Location: (See Map, Figure 9)

Depth from Datum: 6.13' Below Datum

Orientation: East-West

Grave Shaft Dimensions: 31" W x 84" L



Grave Shaft Soil Description: 2.5YR 4/8 5YR 4/6 Red Sandy Clay

Burial Dimensions: Not Available (only the grave shaft was exposed).

Burial Description: Not Available

Preservation: Not Available

Age: Adult/Adolescent?

Associated Artifacts: None

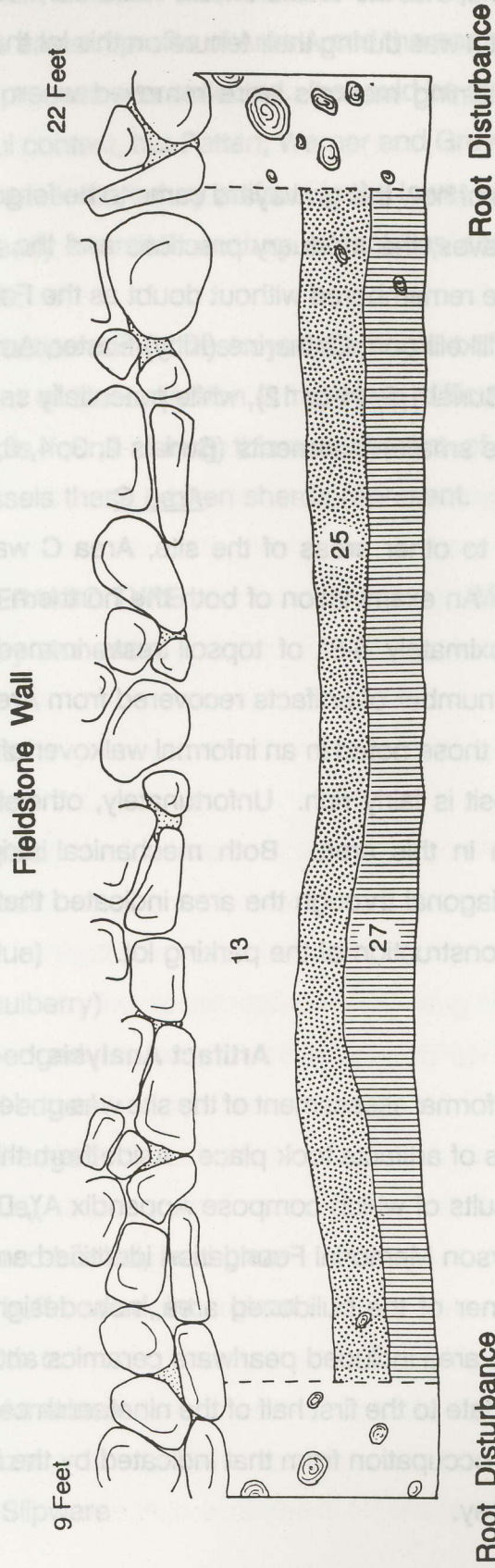
Dates: Unknown

Although a significant amount has been learned from individual burials, it remains unclear how this burial ground expanded and the length of time it was in use. It also remains uncertain how these graves fit in with the general stratigraphic record. The nearest profile is located along the northern end of area B. (Figure 14) Only sections of this profile could be analyzed since root activity from trees significantly disturbed the integrity of the deposits. In areas which were undisturbed two cultural deposits are visible. The first of these is located immediately on top of sterile soil and appears to be the same mid- nineteenth century domestic deposit found in the eastern profile of Area A. Above this layer is the reddish fill associated with the construction of the cinderblock house ca. 1939. The lack of the series of late nineteenth century-early 20th century domestic deposits like those found in the eastern profile of Area A may suggest that the first interments within the graveyard took place in the second half of the nineteenth century and that the graveyard was intact up into the early twentieth century.

Information from the 1906 deed correlates with the above interpretation of the profile. Yet, the deed offers no clue as to what became of the graveyard in the years to come. All that is written is that Susan Foster was to have 60 days to remove the burials. It is clear from the archaeological record that she did not do this. The material record also suggests the ultimate fate of the Foster family plot. The construction crew which uncovered the initial burial noted that concrete slabs which formed parts of a second cinderblock house (which was built ca. 1939 when A.E. Walker owned the land) were immediately above the grave, as was a carved marble footstone which had been pushed into the shaft. From maps included in recent deed exchanges it is clear that this second cinderblock house was, indeed, located over a substantial portion of the graveyard. It is also clear from both the 1906 deed, as well as from references to the graveyard in deeds



Venable Lane Site  
 Area B  
 Northern Profile  
 Detail of Nineteenth Century Deposit



- 13 Topsoil. 5YR 3/4 Dark Reddish Brown Loam
- 25 Nineteenth Century Domestic Deposit. 7.5YR 4/6 Strong Brown Clayey Loam filled with charcoal and coal fragments.
- 27 Sterile Sub-soil. 2.5YR 4/8 Red clay filled with decomposing shale.

Figure 14



dating to the 1940's, that the Walkers were well aware of the presence of the graveyard. It seems likely that it was during their tenure on this lot that the cemetery fell into disrepair and that any remaining markers were removed when it was decided to build in that portion of the lot.

Regardless of how this graveyard came to be forgotten and disregarded, given the location of the graves, the mortuary practices and the age of the coffin hardware, this graveyard must be remembered without doubt as the Foster family plot mentioned in the 1906 Deed. In all likelihood, Catherine (Kitty) Foster, Ann Foster and Harriet Smith lie in the adult burials (Burial 1,5, 11 or 12), while potentially several of Ann and Susan Foster's children rest in the smaller interments (Burials 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and/or 10).

#### Area C

Compared to other areas of the site, Area C was once composed of relatively shallow deposits. An examination of both the northern and eastern profiles of the area reveal that approximately 6-8" of topsoil rests immediately above a sterile deposit. Judging from the number of artifacts recovered from Area C during the May 9 collection survey, as well as those noted in an informal walkover of the area to the north of Area C, this shallow deposit is fairly rich. Unfortunately, other than these profiles no historical resources remain in this area. Both mechanical stripping and a large test trench excavated on a diagonal through the area indicated that only sterile sub-soil remains in the wake of the construction of the parking lot.

#### **Artifact Analysis**

Before this formal assessment of the site was undertaken, a series of more informal surface collections of artifacts took place. Aside from the survey undertaken by Warner and Grey (the results of which compose Appendix A), Drake Patten and Susan Kern of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation identified an additional scatter of artifacts in the northeast corner of the bulldozed area, now designated as Area C. The artifacts identified from this area included pearlware ceramics and green wine bottle glass--types of artifacts which date to the first half of the nineteenth century. Their presence suggests a separate earlier occupation from that indicated by the late nineteenth scatter collected by Warner and Grey.



As mentioned earlier, no effort was made to collect additional artifacts; however, during the cleaning of the eastern profile of Area A and the northern profile of Area B, any artifact disturbed by this process was collected. It should be stressed that none of these artifacts retain meaningful context, but Patten, Warner and Grey all identified a consistent concentration of early nineteenth century artifacts in the lower levels of the profile and the mid-nineteenth century-early twentieth century artifacts as coming from the middle to upper levels of the profile.

Since prior construction activity destroyed the context of most artifactual remains, a meaningful assessment of the collection is rendered difficult. Below is a list of the different types of artifacts found during this assessment of the site, as well as the minimum number of vessels these broken sherds represent.

FRAGMENT COUNT/CERAMIC TYPE	MINIMUM VESSEL
6 American blue and grey stoneware	5
1 Yellowware	1
11 Ironstone, undecorated	NA
2 Ironstone, printed (blue)	2
18 Whiteware, undecorated	NA
2 Whiteware, blue painted?	1
6 Whiteware, printed (blue)	6
1 Whiteware, printed (mulberry)	1
2 Whiteware, blue shell-edged	2
4 Whiteware green shell-edged	4
2 Pearlware, green shell-edged	2
5 Pearlware, printed (blue)	4
1 Coarse earthenware, red-bodied, lead glaze	1
1 Coarse earthenware, buff-bodied, int... glaze	1
2 American redware, 20th c.	1
4 Porcelain, European/American	4
2 Stoneware, Bristol glaze	1
1 Whiteware, Industrial Slipware	1



**OTHER:**

- 1 Frag. flowerpot, green painted
- 1 Doorknob, marbled clay
- 2 Frags. green wine bottle glass
- 1 Frag. flat glass, safety, 20th c.
- 1 Frag. window glass
- 1 Frag. bottle glass, seltzer
- 1 Frag. glass, tumbler, press mold
- 1 Frag. glass, bottle, molded (type unknown)
- 1 Iron object, possible door escutcheons
- 1 Alloy object, possible small scissors, inlaid with bone
- 3 Iron Nails, cut
- 1 iron RR spike, wrought
- 1 iron long hinge, wrought
- 1 quartzite frag
- 1 point, Native American, quartz

**Conclusions**

The first two research questions concerned the extent of the cemetery area and the identity of the individuals interred there. Through archaeological testing a mid- to-late nineteenth century graveyard composed of twelve interments was delineated. From archival research we believe that this graveyard was the Foster family plot and that Catherine (Kitty) Foster along with her daughter Ann, her grand-daughter Harriet and several of her great-grandchildren are probably buried there.

The third research objective, to comment upon 19th and early 20th century history in Charlottesville by examining the artifacts uncovered at the site, we have not been able to answer through this assessment. Quite simply, the artifacts discovered within the project area were so disturbed by the construction of the parking lot that it is impossible to offer a meaningful commentary beyond approximate dates of the occupation of the property. If they had been recovered in an undisturbed archaeological context, we may



have been able to explore a variety of broader questions related to nineteenth and early twentieth century history concerning race, class, gender and ethnicity.

The fourth objective of this project involved assessing the integrity of the historic resources remaining within the project area, including architectural and artifactual remains. The results of archaeological testing suggest that, except for the twelve burials, the project area has been so disturbed by recent construction that virtually nothing is left of historic or archaeological value. However, the soil profiles from Areas A and C have clearly identified the presence of undisturbed 19th century deposits and architectural features which lie on the edge or outside of the current project area. An informal walkover of this area to the north of the proposed parking lot confirms this contention that historic resources from the Foster family occupation remain extant. Not only is the area strewn with late nineteenth and early twentieth century artifactual remains, but depressions and aligned stones and bricks suggest the presence of subterranean architectural features. Indeed, it is possible that the central dwelling on the Foster property was constructed on the northern end of the original lot, near the conjunction of Venable Lane and the Old Lynchburg Road (now Jefferson-Park Avenue), where the Carter Woodson Institute is today.

The final objective of this assessment was to discover if and how this site is important in the context of local, state and/or national history. To explore this issue, Kitty Foster and her extended family must be considered both in the context of their experience as free Blacks in the American South and in the context of their experience as members of female-headed households. The rich archaeological deposits and the burial plot which remain along the eastern side of Venable Lane represent the Fosters' account of the ways in which they chose to negotiate their everyday existence as African-Americans and as women, within both the Antebellum and Reconstruction South.

### **Recommendations**

A number of options for the future treatment of the Venable Lane site exist at present. The cemetery area has been documented, and the immediate protection of the graves will be insured through the back-filling of the cemetery/excavation area to grade. The next immediate step that needs to be taken is for every effort to be made to contact



descendants of the Foster Family, through public notice and contact with the African-American community in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. If found, the descendants should determine the future disposition of human remains at the site.

The potential directions for future treatment of the site include, but are not limited to, at least four options. They are listed below, with Option 1 being least desirable.

Option 1:

Preserve the burial area in place without further disturbance to the cemetery, and proceed with parking lot construction, with the knowledge that some minimal documentation of the individuals buried there has been accomplished. This would essentially be paving over the cemetery.

Option 2:

Preserve the burial area in place without further disturbance to the cemetery, and proceed with parking lot construction in all areas except where the cemetery is located. A planted area could be maintained above the graves, with some sort of appropriate memorial to the individuals buried there. Additional research would be needed to confirm and expand the Foster family history outlined here.

Option 3:

Disinter the remains from the grave sites and re-bury in an appropriate cemetery (to be determined). No archaeological study of the remains is conducted, and no additional historical research is conducted. A court order is necessary for the removal of the human remains. The parking lot is constructed according to original plans.

Option 4:

Disinter the remains from the grave sites and re-bury in an appropriate cemetery (to be determined) following appropriate and respectful scientific study of the human remains. Such studies would be completed quickly, and can reveal otherwise unrecoverable information about diet, status, health and demography, as well as potentially providing individual identity. Such studies could be conducted as an educational process, perhaps headed by the Carter Woodson Institute and the Department of Anthropology, and involving the Charlottesville and University community. Provide support for additional historical research of the free Black community in Charlottesville, and the Foster family in particular, and produce a final report and public



exhibition detailing the results of the study. A court order and permit from the State Archaeologist would be needed for the removal and study of human remains. The parking lot is constructed according to original plans.

Pending input from the family and community, Option 4 would appear to us to be the preferred option.

Combinations of aspects of Options 2 through 4 are possible and will require further discussion. Proceeding with one of the options identified, or some combination, must include the descendants of the Foster family (if located). If they are not located, representatives from the Charlottesville African American community, the Carter Woodson Institute and scholars at the University who have a particular interest in African American history in Virginia and local history, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources should be consulted at the earliest date. To facilitate this input a press release should be issued as soon as possible, describing what has been found, and inviting public comment and opinion regarding the future disposition of the human remains.

Finally, the remainder of the property at Venable Lane which has not yet been impacted by construction contains important archaeological resources and should be studied appropriately before any future construction is undertaken.



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RESULTS OF SURFACE SURVEY OF THE  
PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION ON VENABLE LANE

May 9, 1993

Mark S. Warner  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Virginia

On May 6, 1993 Mark Warner and Amy Gray spent about 45 minutes conducting a surface survey of the area that had been recently bulldozed on Venable Lane. The results of the survey indicate that the construction destroyed what appeared to be relatively undisturbed archaeological contexts dating to at least the mid-19th century, a point which was corroborated in discussion with one of the workmen who said that they had found a coin dating to 1852 on the site. No distinct features were identified in the exposed soil but the artifacts that were collected from a typical household refuse collection resulted in the collection of 221 ceramic fragments and 37 glass fragments as well as a marble, pipe, doll fragments, horseshoes, a button, metal clasp and three bone fragments (which were not kept). At least 12 different ceramic types were identified and are listed below. These artifacts were predominantly collected in the northern half of the construction site.

APPENDIX A

CERAMIC TYPES

- Chinese Porcelain
- Brown Stoneware (From a Bottle)
- American Blue and Gray Stoneware
- Annular Whiteware
- Hand-painted Polychrome Whiteware
- Blue and Green Sherd-Edged Whiteware
- Common Cable
- Molded Whiteware
- Undecorated Whiteware
- Blue and Green Transfer-printed Whiteware
- Ironstone
- Yellowware



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The surface collection resulted in the collection of 221 ceramic fragments and 37 glass fragments as well as a marble, bisque doll fragments, horseshoes, a button, metal clasps and three bone fragments (which were not kept). At least 12 different ceramic types were identified and are listed below.

These artifacts were predominantly collected in the northern half of the construction site.

### CERAMIC TYPES

- Chinese Porcelain
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- Undecorated Whiteware
- Blue and Green Transfer-printed Whiteware
- Ironstone
- Yellowware







## AN OUTLINE OF VENABLE LANE LAND TRANSFERS

1796	Alex Gordon and Phillip Mazzie to Kemp Catlett (farmer) (County 12:59, 140)
1803	Kemp Catlett to James Monroe (County 14: 191)
1/10/1810	James Monroe to John Nicholas (county 17: 325)
2/28/1814	John Nicholas <sup>1</sup> to John M. Perry
2/24/1815	" (County 19:17, 250)
5/28/1819	John M. Perry to James Widderfield <sup>2</sup> (County 21: 436)
10/9/1819	James Widderfield to Abner B. Hawkins (County 21: 513)
3/1/1821	Abner B. Hawkins to Walker and Wertenbaker <sup>3</sup> (Defaulted)
11/30/1822	William Wertenbaker to John Winn <sup>4</sup> (County 23:230)
12/13/1833	John Winn to Catherine (Kitty) Foster (County 31:208)
1863	By Will from Catherine Foster to Ann Foster

<sup>1</sup>According to Jeff Tillman, who conducted the initial research, "James Monroe sold John Nicholas several tracts of land through his proxies. Nicholas then subdivided the parcels, so that those properties north of Wheeler Road were deeded to Central College, the remainder was sold to Perry (In House Document: UVA "Chronology of Ownership")."

<sup>2</sup>John M. Perry and James Widderfield were both carpenters. Perry sold land to the university and was also contracted to work on its construction (O'Neal, W.B. "The Workmen at the University of Virginia, 1817-1826." 17 Albemarle County Historical Society: 1958-59, page 12.) Prior to that, Perry worked for Jefferson. Widderfield likewise worked at the university as a carpenter under Dinsmore (also O'Neal, 38).

<sup>3</sup> William Wertenbaker was originally from Albemarle County. He served in a number of posts in Charlottesville during the early 19th century, including librarian to the University of Virginia until 1881. He also served at various times in his life as deputy clerk, deputy sheriff, and postmaster. His federal style house, "Wertland" is a National Register building and still stands near the university today. (See 'Wertenbaker' file in the hanging files of the Monticello Research Center) Wertenbaker's connection to Walker may be connected to an early nineteenth century marriage between the two families. Both families had connections to Jefferson.

<sup>4</sup>John Winn was both Postmaster and merchant in early 19th century Charlottesville. Prior to the Winn purchase, the land seems to have served as investment for its non-occupant owners.



1882	By Will of Catherine Foster, passes to secondary assigns at the death of Ann Foster (see Foster Family History)
9/19/1906	Susan C. Foster to C.H. Walker and E.L. Carroll (County 134: 274)
1908	Transfer of all rights to C.H. Walker from E.L. Carroll <sup>5</sup>
06/07/1916	C.H. Walker to A.E. Walker
04/11/1946	Bessie Walker (from A.E. by will) to Frances Norris
9/11/1947	Frances Norris to Sebastian Hafer
1/23/1948	Sebastian Hafer to Joel M. Cochran
7/15/1948	Joel M. Cochran to Nanti B. McGuigan
10/22/1949	Nanti B. Mcguigan to Helen P. Ely
10/28/1949	Helen P. Ely to Wood and Hamlet
10/03/1968	Sold at Public auction to Virginia Townhouse
1/27/1976	Virginia Townhouse to Hurt Investment Group
2/13/1976	Hurt Investment Group to UVA Investment Group
5/25/1976	UVA Investment Group (Alumni Association) to UVA

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<sup>5</sup>Both men were involved with the C & A Railway at the turn of the century. E.L. Carroll was president and C.H. Walker served on the board of directors. Walker was involved in real estate, as was Carroll who also dealt in insurance.



Entry 1685-1783

Name	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation	Real Estate	Birthplace	Entry 1551-1552
Name	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation	Real Estate	Birthplace	Entry 1551-1552
Foster, Ann	40	F	M	Keeping house	\$2000	VA	x
Foster, Susan	23	F	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Clayton	22	M	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Theresa	19	F	M	At Home		VA	x
Foster, Cordelia	16	F	M	At Home		VA	x
Foster, James L.	10	M	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Willie Lee	5	M	M	At Home		VA	
Smith, Josephine	11	F	M	At Home		VA	Attended school within Year

APPENDIX C

1881 FO SUBNSZ

Name	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation	Real Estate	Birthplace	Entry 180-188
Foster, Catherine	65	F	M	Seamstress	\$4000	VA	
Foster, Ann	29	F	M	At Home	\$3000	VA	
Foster, Susan	12	F	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Clayton	8	M	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Theresa	8	F	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Cordelia	8	F	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Willie A.	8	M	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Josephine	8	F	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, James L.	8	M	M	At Home		VA	
Foster, Mary J.	18	F	M	At Home		VA	

Entry 90-90

Foster, Ann	Mu	F	50	Single	Seamstress	x	x
Foster, Lula	Mu	F	5	Daughter			
Ward, Marshall	B	M	25		Labourer		

Entry 57-57

Name	Age	Sex	Color	Marital	Occupation	# of Months Unemployed
Foster, Clayton H.	43?	M	Mu	Married	Housepainter	x
Foster, Cordelia H.	24	F	Mu	Single/Sister	Seamstress	
Foster, John	8	M	Mu	Nephew		
Foster, Carrie(?)	5	F	Mu	Niece		
Foster, Bessie	3	F	Mu	Niece		
Foster, Charles	10/12	M	Mu			



## CENSUS OF 1850

Entry 1551-1552

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Value of Real Estate Owned</u>
Catherine Foster	60	F	M	VA	\$450
Ann "	24	F	M	"	
Harriet "	12	F	M	"	
Susan "	6	F	M	"	
Clayton "	5	M	M	"	

## CENSUS OF 1860

Entry 180-186

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Personal Property</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Catherine Foster	65	F	M	\$4000	\$300	VA
Ann "	29	"	"			
Susan C. "	15	"	"			
Clayton "	12	M	M			
Theresa "	8	F	"			
Cordelia Henry	6	"	"			
Willy A. Henry	5	"	"			
Josephine Henry	2	"	"			
James L. Henry	2	M	"			
Mary J. Martin	16	F	B			



## CENSUS OF 1870

### Entry 1685-1793

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Cannot Read</u>	<u>Cannot Write</u>
Foster, Ann	40	F	M	Keeping House	\$2,000	VA	x	x
Foster, Susan	23	F	M	At Home		VA	x	x
Foster, Clayton	22		M	Painter		VA		
Foster, Theresa	19	F	M	At Home		VA	x	x
Foster, Cordelia	16	F	M	At Home		VA	x	x
Foster, James L.	10	M	M	At Home		VA		
Foster, Willie Lee	5	M	M	At Home		VA		
Smith, Josephine	11	F	M	At Home		VA	Attended School within the Year	
Foster, Anna	4	F	M	At Home		VA		
Foster, Mary	2	F	M	At Home		VA		
Morris, Elizabeth	25	F	M	Seamstress		VA		
Morris, William	10	M	M	At Home		VA		
Watson, William	32	M	W	Painter		VA		

## CENSUS OF 1880

### Entry 94-94

<u>Name</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Cannot Read</u>	<u>Cannot Write</u>
Foster, Susan	Mu	F	34	Single	Seamstress	x	x
Watson, Anna	Mu	F	13	Daughter	At Home		
Watson, Mary	Mu	F	11	Daughter	At Home		
Watson, Rachael	Mu	F	11/12	Daughter	At Home		
Smith, Josephine	Mu	F	23	Cousin	Seamstress		

### Entry 90-90

Foster, Ann	Mu	F	50	Single	Seamstress	x	x
Foster, Lula	Mu	F	9	Daughter			
Ward, Marshall	B	M	25		Labourer		

### Entry 57-57

<u>Name</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u># of Months Unemployed</u>
Foster, Clayton H.	Mu	M	43?	Married	Housepainter	x
Foster, Cordelia H.	Mu	F	24	Single/Sister	Seamstress	
Foster, John	Mu	M	8	Nephew		
Foster, Carrie(?)	Mu	F	5	Niece		
Foster, Bessie	Mu	F	3	Niece		
Foster, Charles	Mu	M	10/12			



Catherine I direct that all my just debts and funeral Expenses  
x be paid as soon after my decease as possible out of the part  
money that shall come into the hands of my daughter  
Anne Foster, from any portion of my Estate.

2<sup>d</sup> I direct that my personal Estate be equally divided  
between my daughter Ann Foster, my Grand daughter,  
Harriet Smith, and my Grand daughter ~~Harriet Smith~~  
and my Grand daughter Susan Catherine Foster. My Grand  
daughter Harriet Smith I commend to my daughter Ann  
Foster, until she shall arrive at the age of Twenty, or  
years of age.

Third I direct that my daughter Anne Foster shall at  
my death have possession of my entire estate, real, and  
that she shall continue to possess the same, with all the  
profits arising therefrom during her natural life, and  
in the event of her dying and leaving children, shall  
have one half of the said real Estate, but in the event  
of her dying and leaving no issue, then I direct that  
the moiety nowed shall go to my Grand daughter  
Harriet Smith, should she be living, but should she  
be dead then to her child or children.

Fourth I direct that at the death of my daughter  
Anne Foster, that one moiety of my real Estate shall  
go into the possession of my Grand daughter Harriet  
Smith who shall possess the same, with all the profits  
arising therefrom, during her natural life, and at her  
death the same shall go to her child or children, in the  
event, however, of her dying or leaving no child or children  
then this moiety to be equally divided between the issue  
of my daughter Anne Foster.

Fifth I hereby constitute and appoint my daughter  
Anne Foster, my executrix of this my last Will & Testa-  
ment, and I furthermore direct that she shall be allowed to  
qualify as my executrix without giving any security whatever in said  
qualification, and in acknowledging and declaring this my last  
Will and Testament, I hereby revoke all former Wills by me made  
at any time. In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
& seal this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred  
and fifty nine.

Catherine Foster  
Geo M. Spencer

Catherine Foster  
Geo M. Spencer



This deed, Made this 19th day of September in the year one thousand nine hundred and six (1906) between Susan C. Foster (unmarried) party of the first part, and C.H. Walker and E.L. Carroll parties of the second part Witnesseth: that in consideration of the sum of Nineteen Hundred Dollars (\$1900.00) in hand paid by the said Walker and Carroll to the said Foster the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged she the said Susan C. Foster doth grant unto the said C.H. Walker and E.L. Carroll with General Warranty that certain lot or parcel of land in Albemarle County near the University of Virginia, fronting 115 feet on the Lynchburg Road and extending back on the East side thereof 250 feet and on the West side on Col Venable's alley 213 feet and the rear boundary thereof being 110 feet long A plat and survey of the same is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the said County in Deed Book 95 page 197-8 as a part of a certain deed of May 2nd. 1891 between the said Susan C. Foster and Willie Lee Foster & others which plat and survey were made by J.T.E. Simms & A.C. as of Feby. 1891 and in said plat the lot herein conveyed is marked as Lot No. 1, it being the same in which the interest of Lula Foster was subsequently released to said Susan C. Foster by deed of May 30, 1892 recorded as aforesaid in Deed Book 97 page 288. but the said Susan C. Foster reserves the right to remove from the graveyard on said lot all the bodies of her own family buried thereon which she hereby agrees to do within the next 60 days. Possession of said lot is to be delivered to the purchase within the next 30 days unless conveyance is made subject to such right of way if any as may exist under the said deed of May 2nd. 1891 it not being intended ~~in any manner~~ however to in any manner hereby revive or reaffirm said right of way reserved it be held to have now of hereafter lapsed or become of no effect. The said Susan C. Foster Covenants that she has the right to convey the said land to the grantee that she has done no act to encumber the said land; that the grantee shall have quiet possession of the said land; free from all encumbrances and that she the said party of the first part, will execute such further assurances of the said land as may be requisite. WITNESS the following signatures and seal  
Witness Annie A. Belt.  
Susan C. X. Foster (SEAL)

S. M. Foster  
Lo 3 Bts  
C. H. Walker  
E. L. Carroll  
Jan 1  
Feb 1  
Trans. 1  
Paid  
W. L. M.  
Delivered  
me Jan 1:  
C. H. Walker

9

State of Virginia, County of Albemarle to-wit:  
B. L. Maupin, a Notary Public for the County aforesaid in the State of Virginia, do certify that Susan C. Foster whose name is signed to the foregoing writing, bearing date on the 19th day of September 1906, has acknowledged the same before me in my County aforesaid.  
Given under my hand this 19th day of September 1906.  
My Commission expires Moh. 28, 1906.

Bessie L. Maupin N.P.

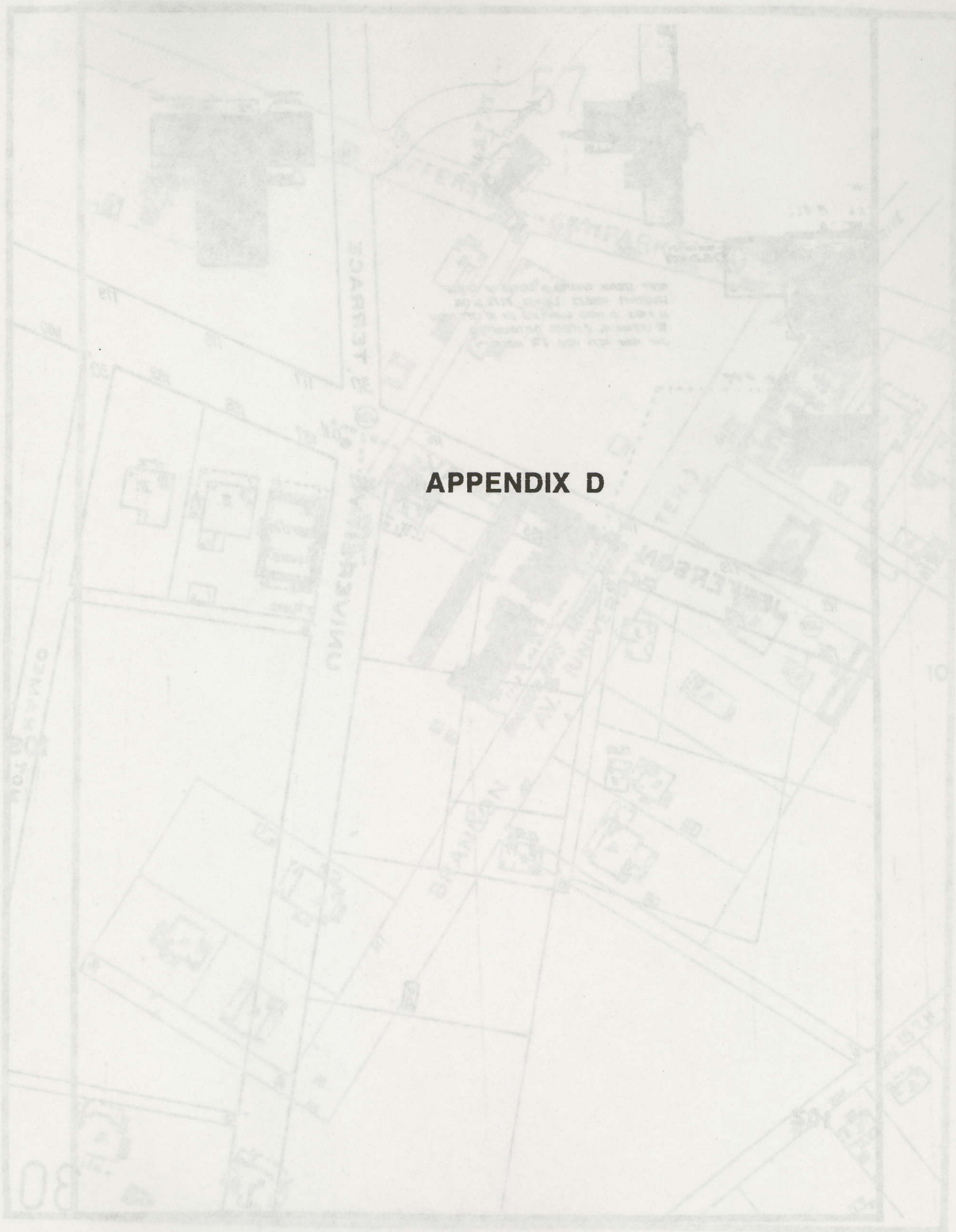
In the Clerk's Office of Albemarle Circuit Court, Dec. 20, 1906.  
This deed was presented to me in said Office and with certificate annexed admitted to re-

Teste:

W. L. Maupin Clerk.

1906 Deed Transfer between Susan C. Foster and C.H. Walker and E.L. Carroll

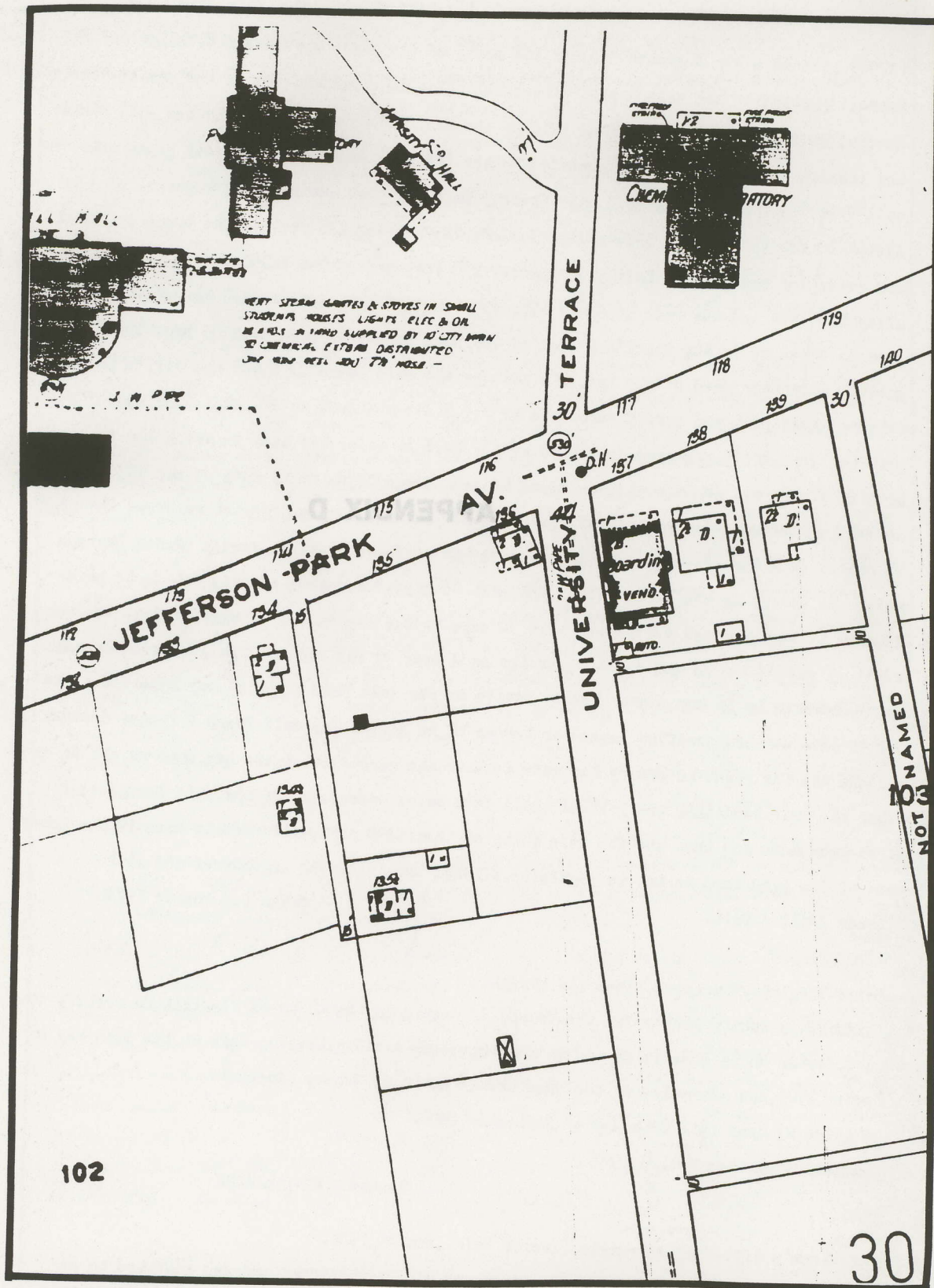




**APPENDIX D**

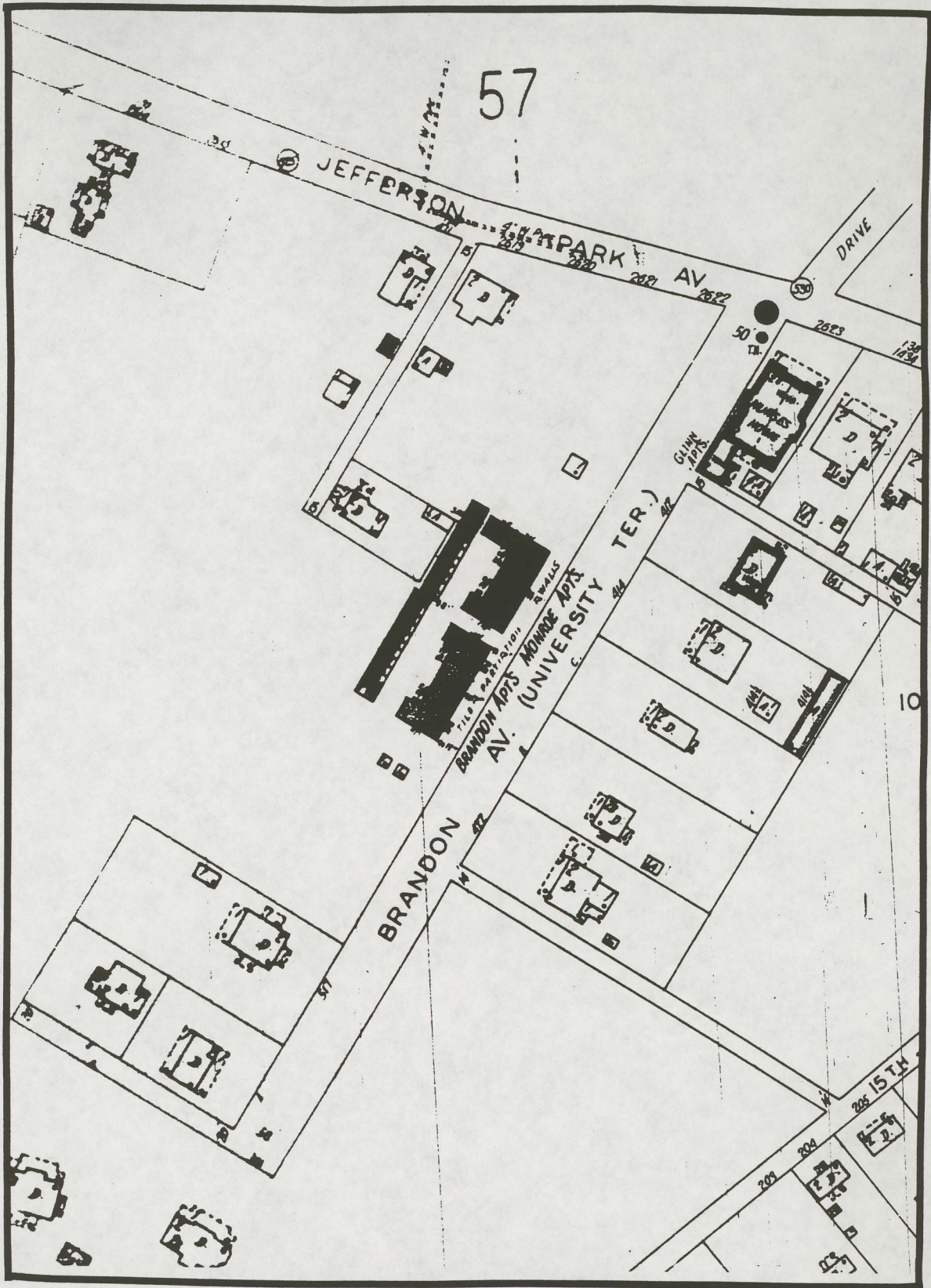
1929. Fire Insurance Map of Detroit, Michigan





Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1920





Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1929



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