

APPENDIX

R.S. Webb & Associates

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October 2, 2020

Ms. Bonnie L. Bynum
Arcadis U.S., Inc.
2839 Paces Ferry Road, Suite 900
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

**Subject: Search for Human Graves Associated with Settlers Memorial Cemetery
Canton Road at Shallowford Road East, Intersection Improvements
Cobb County SPLOST Projects X2304/X2602
Cobb County, Georgia
R.S. Webb & Associates No. 20-074-025**

Dear Ms. Bynum:

BACKGROUND

On August 26, 2020, Mr. Steve Webb, Senior Archeologist with R.S. Webb & Associates (RSWA) and Mr. Randy Brennan [Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Specialist] with Omega Mapping, Inc. conducted a search for human graves within a corridor between Settlers Memorial Cemetery (hereafter referred to as the Cemetery) and Canton Road/State Route 5 (Figures 1 and 2). The Cobb County Department of Transportation (CDOT) plans to make improvements to the intersection of Canton Road and Shallowford Road East that would include ground disturbing impacts within a 165-foot-long (approximate) corridor of variable width between the Cemetery and Canton Road (Figure 2). The study corridor is in lawn grasses that were mowed prior to the field session to ensure surface contact specifications for the GPR unit.

When Canton Road was improved many years ago, as much as six feet of borrow material could have been removed from the current study corridor to provide fill for the road. The goal of the current study was to determine if the remains of human graves are present within the study corridor.

METHODS

Mr. Brennan conducted the GPR survey using a GSSI GPR unit (4000mHz antenna) with depth set to 10 feet below surface. Mr. Brennan guided the GPR unit along east-west transects spaced four feet apart (GPR unit center to center) to cover the study corridor (Photo 1). When the GPR unit detected a subsurface anomaly that might be a human grave, Mr. Brennan marked the center of the anomaly (or both ends depending on the size of the anomaly) with pink pin flags. Mr. Webb inspected each anomaly location for surface indications of a grave, and probed each area for the subsurface extent of the anomaly, based on soil resistance/depth of refusal. When a potential human grave location was detected, Mr. Webb marked the head and foot of the anomaly with color-coded red and yellow pin flags (Photo 2). Southeastern Engineering, Inc. then recorded the location of each pin flag (or pair of pin flags) and provided RSWA with a plan showing the locations of the GPR anomalies (Figure 2).

RESULTS

A total of 16 GPR anomalies were recorded within the study corridor (Figure 2; A1-A16). Anomalies A3 through A14 are in the southern half of the study corridor where gravel was laid down as a parking area for the Cemetery. While these 14 anomalies registered more as points than elongated areas of disturbances similar to grave shafts, their depths and extent could not be confirmed through probing due to the surface gravel cap. The remaining two anomalies, A1 and A2, are located along the current eastern edge of the Cemetery; probing confirmed that these features are elongated and that rocks are present within each anomaly at depths of at least 1.0-foot below the existing graded/borrowed surface. If these features are grave remnants, then they would have probably been more than 6.0 feet deep. However, based on their shapes and sizes, Anomalies A1 and A2 are considered potential graves.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sixteen GPR anomalies were recorded within the study corridor, none of which could be confidently identified as human graves. Anomalies A1 and A2 are located along the western edge of the study corridor adjacent to the eastern edge of the Cemetery and were identified as potential graves. The easternmost ends of these features are at least 5.0 feet away from the proposed limits of project-related impacts and it is recommended that these two features be avoided and protected during future project-related activities. If it is not feasible to avoid these features, it is recommended that the surface of at each location be carefully stripped with a mini-excavator to determine presence/absence of human graves.

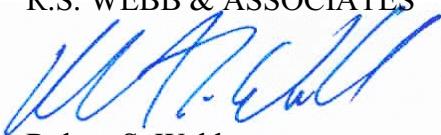
GPR Anomalies A3 through A16 are located in the southern part of the study corridor under areas of gravel. Based on the limits of disturbance shown on Figure 2, it is recommended that Anomalies A3, A7, A14 and A16 be avoided and protected since they are at least 10.0 feet from the limits of proposed project-related disturbance. If it is not feasible to avoid these features, it is recommended that the surface at each location be carefully stripped with a mini-excavator to determine presence/absence of human graves.

Ten GPR anomalies (A4-A6, A8-A12, A13 and A15) of unknown origin are located within 1.5 to 5.0 feet of the proposed limits of disturbance. Because of their proximity to the proposed limits of disturbance, it recommended that the surfaces at these ten anomaly locations be carefully stripped with a mini-excavator to determine presence/absence of human graves.

CLOSING COMMENTS

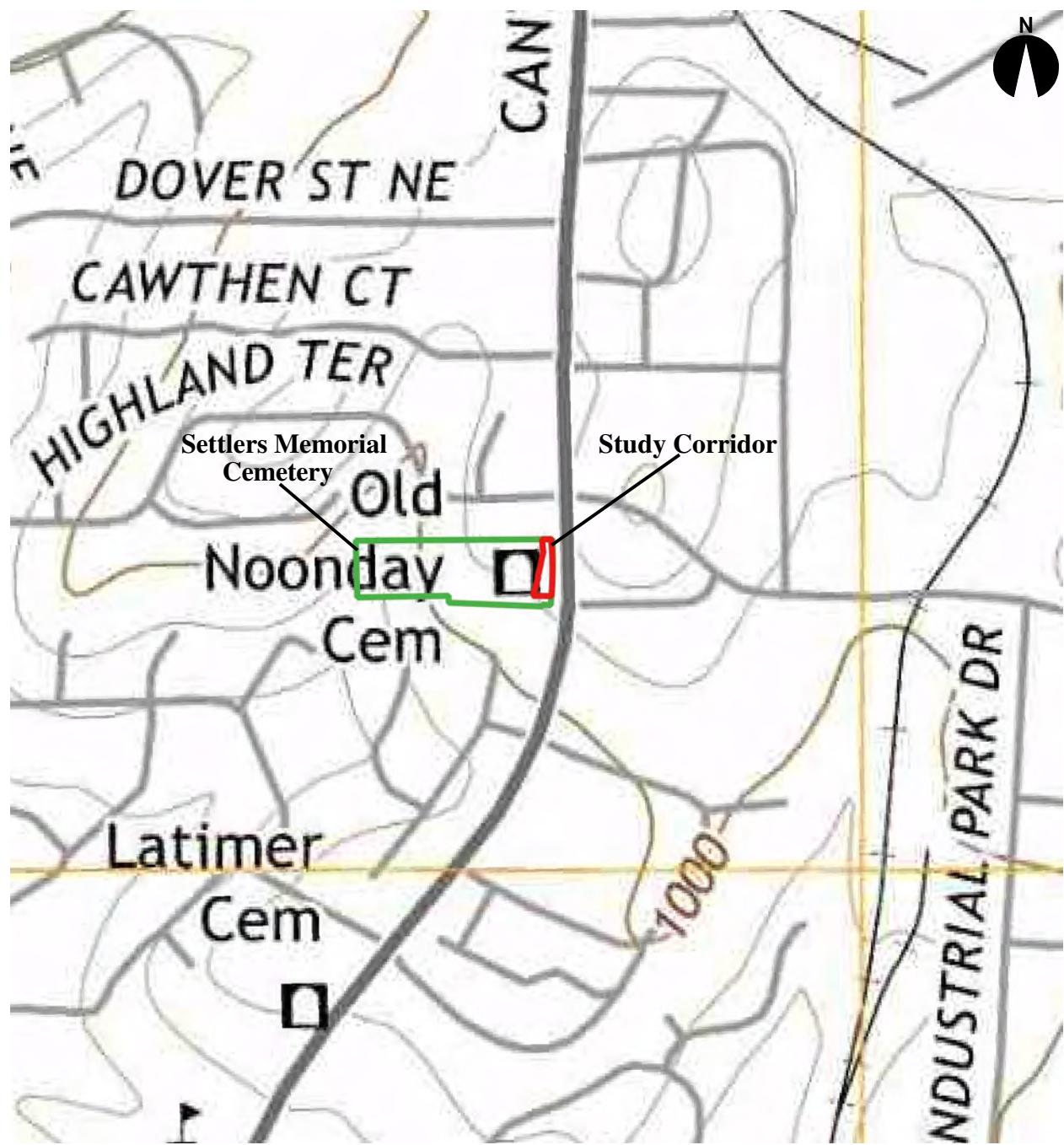
Ms. Bynum, we appreciate the opportunity to work with Arcadis U.S. on this project. If you have questions or comments regarding our proposal, please contact me at 770-345-0706 or rswebb.rswa@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
R.S. WEBB & ASSOCIATES



Robert S. Webb
President and Senior Principal Archeologist

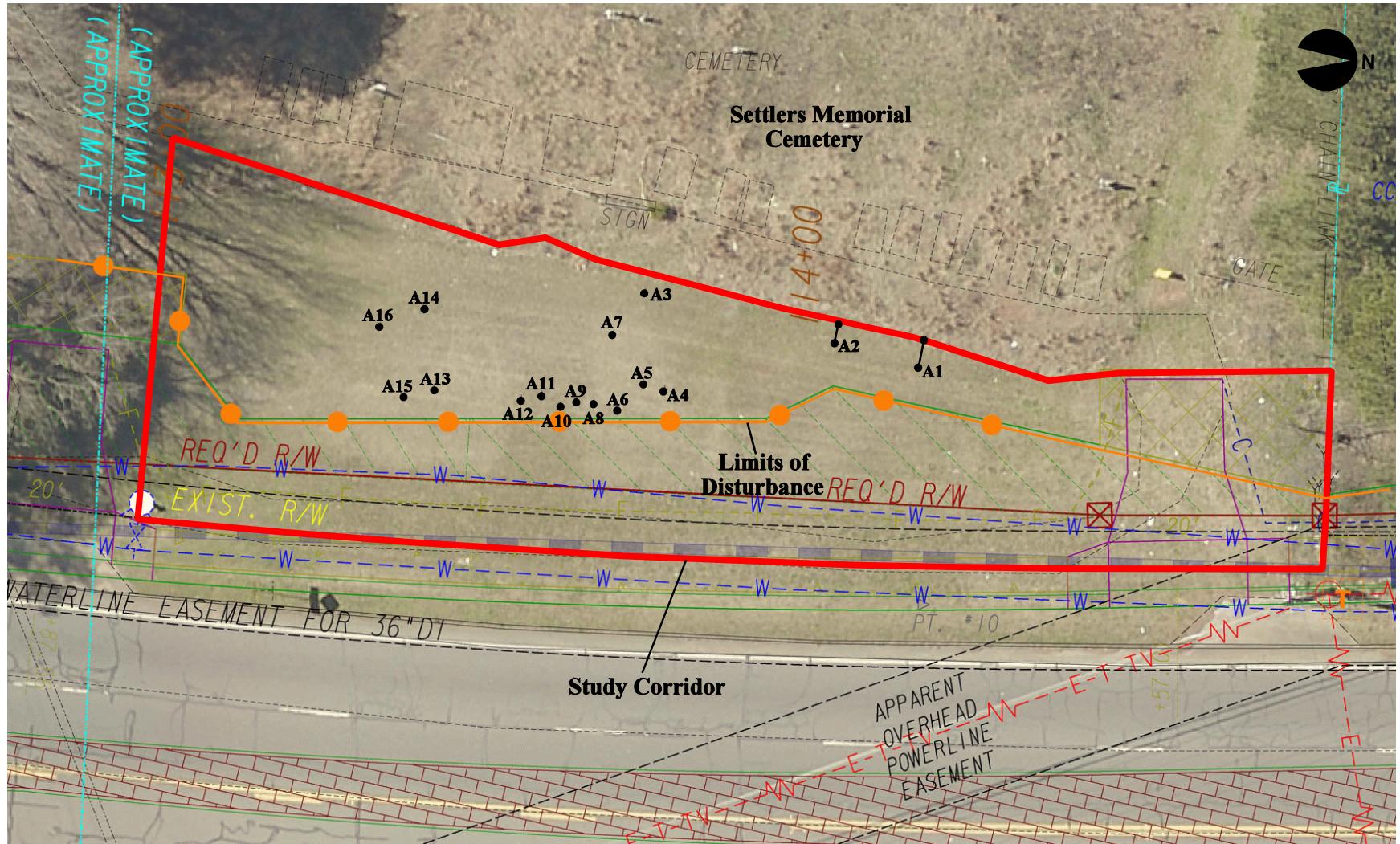
Attachments: Figures 1 and 2
Photos 1 and 2



Map Reference: 7.5-Minute USGS Quadrangle
Kennesaw (2017), Georgia

Scale
0 152 meters
0 500 feet

Figure 1 Location of Settlers Memorial Cemetery and Study Corridor



Map Reference: Southeastern Engineering, Inc. (2020)

Scale
0 6.7 meters
0 22 feet

Figure 2 Project Study Corridor and Locations of GPR Anomalies



Photo 1 - GPR Survey in Progress, Facing Northeast



Photo 2 - Flagged GPR Anomalies, Facing South