

EXHIBIT 15
PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
(Full Report)

PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE
ENGLAND SITE W2, ALEXANDRIA,
RAPIDES PARISH, LOUISIANA
(Draft Report)



for

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Since 1986

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**PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
OF THE ENGLAND SITE W2,
ALEXANDRIA, RAPIDES PARISH,
LOUISIANA**

DRAFT REPORT

by

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ABSTRACT

From January 19 to February 20, 2015, SURA, Inc. conducted a Phase I cultural resources survey of an 865 acre (350 hectare) tract between Bayou Rapides and Big Bayou, just west of England Industrial Airpark (formerly England Air Force Base), Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana. A total of 3,690 shovel tests were excavated. Three archaeological sites were recorded (16RA1534, 16RA1535, and 16R1536). The first was a surface scatter of prehistoric artifacts on the south natural levee of Big Bayou, in the northeast of the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The second, located in the northwest part of the APE, was a scatter of prehistoric and historic materials on the south natural levees of Big Bayou and an unnamed drain. The third site was located on the north natural levee of Bayou Rapides. It consisted of historic materials and a few prehistoric lithics and sherds. None of these sites possessed the quality of integrity necessary for their nomination to the NRHP. Therefore, SURA, Inc., recommends that the project be allowed to proceed as planned.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTIONS

From January 19 to February 20, 2015, SURA archaeologists conducted a Phase I cultural resources survey of an 865 acre (ac) (350 hectare [ha]) tract on the north side of Bayou Rapides and on the west side of England Industrial Airpark, formerly England Air Force Base, Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana. The project area, also called the Area of Potential Effects (APE), lies in portions of Sections 71, 72, 73, 10, 11 and 13, T4N, R2W and is shown in Figure 1.

The present work was performed to satisfy the requirements of federal legislation as follows: PL 89-665 (1966), PL 91-190 (1969), and EO 11593 (1971). The work done conforms to the archaeological survey procedures detailed in the Cultural Resources Code of the State of Louisiana. The purpose of the survey was to allow the tract to be certified as a possible industrial location under the Sites Certification Program of the Louisiana Department of Economic Development.

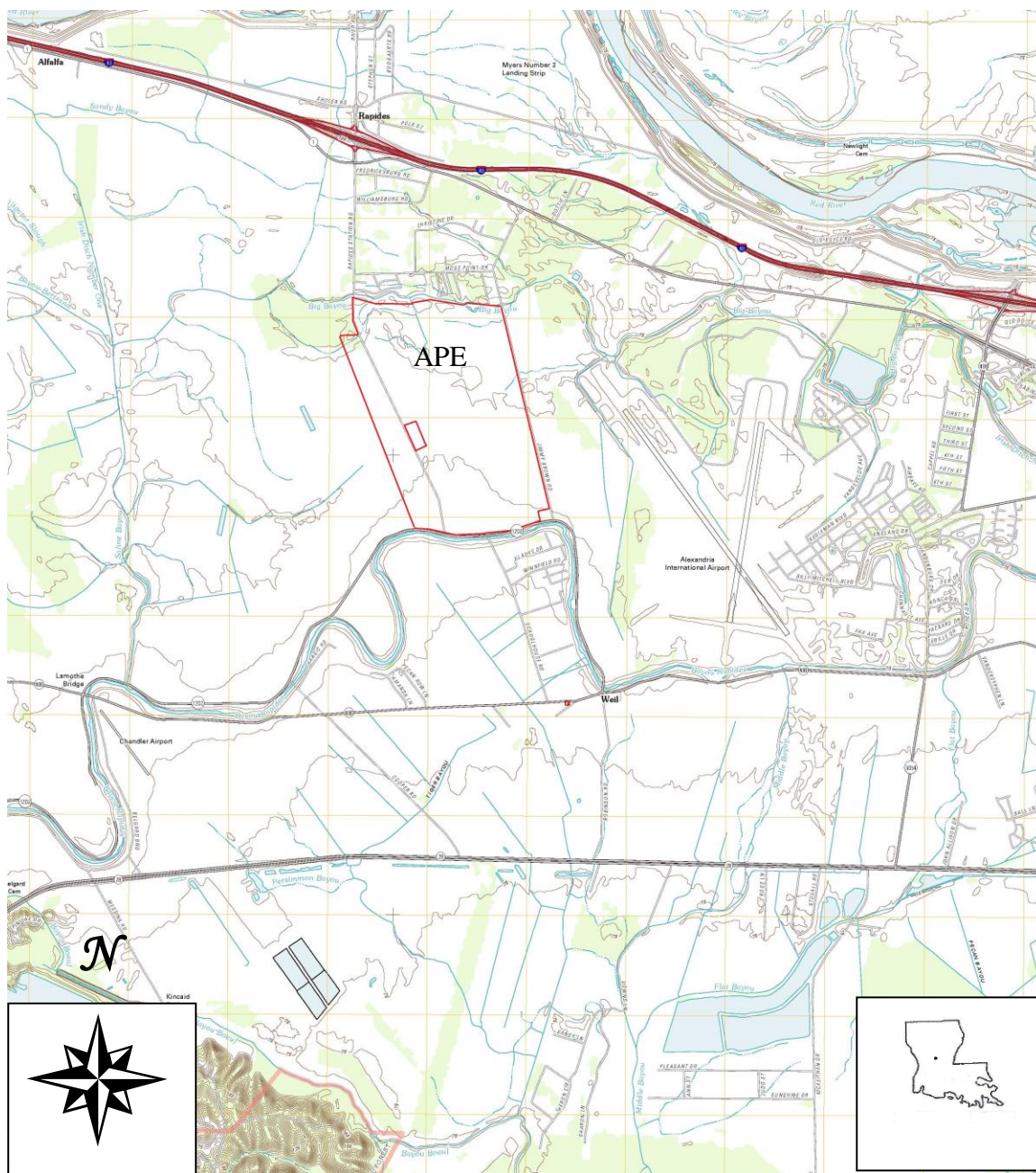


Figure 1. Portion of Rapides, Louisiana, 5012 7.5-minute topographic map showing project area.

CHAPTER TWO: ENVIRONMENT

SOILS

The project area is found along the north bank of Bayou Rapides, on the right descending side of the Red River (USDA 1971) (Figure 2). The soils pertain to the Norwood Association and the Moreland-Latanier Association (Nos. 1 and 3 in Table 1). The former are nearly level, well-drained, alkaline, loamy soils. In a representative profile, the surface layer is usually a reddish brown silt loam, with under layers being reddish brown, calcareous, stratified very fine sandy loam, silty loam and silt clay loam (USDA 1971). These soils are utilized mainly for the cultivation of cotton, soybeans and sugarcane. Moreland-Latanier soils are level to nearly-level, somewhat poorly drained, alkaline and clayey. The surface layer is a dark reddish brown clay and the subsoil is brown, calcarious and silty; in Latanier soils, the subsoil is a light reddish brown loamy layer. These soils are utilized as woodland, pasture and cropland (USDA 1971).

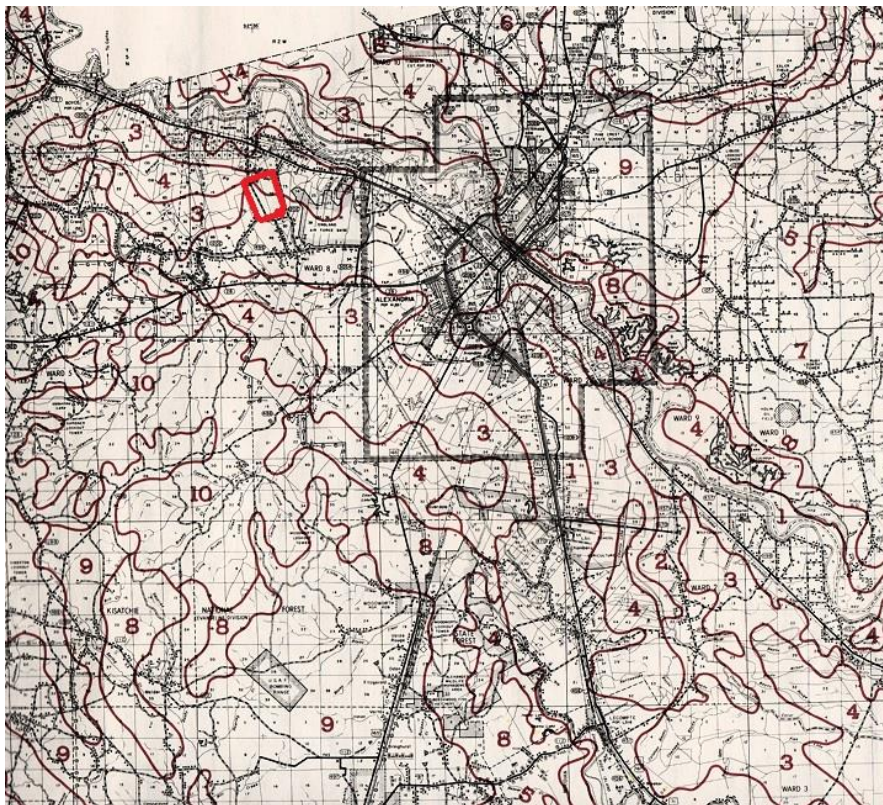


Figure 2. Soils in the APE and environs (Source: USDA 1971).

Table 1. Key to Rapides Parish soil associations (Source: USDA 1971)

No.	Soil Association	Traits
1	Norwood Association	Nearly level, well-drained, alkaline, loamy soils.
2	Gallion Association	Nearly level, well-drained, acid, loamy soils.
3	Moreland-Latanier Association	Level to nearly level, somewhat poorly-drained, alkaline, clayey soils.
4	Moreland Association	Nearly level, somewhat poorly-drained, alkaline, clayey soils.
5	Guyton Association	Level to depressed, poorly-drained, alkaline clayey soils.
6	Beauregard-Caddo Association	Nearly level to very gently sloping, loamy soils.
7	Acadia-Kolin Association	Nearly level to gently sloping soils with clayey subsoils.
8	Gore Association	Gently sloping soils with clayey subsoils.
9	Ruston-Malbis Association	Gently sloping to moderately steep loamy soils.
10	Smithdale Association	Gently sloping to moderately steep well-drained loamy soils.
11	Vaiden-Watsonia Association	Gently sloping to rolling clayey soils.
12	Kisatchie-Cadeville Association	Strongly sloping to hilly, clayey soils.

FAUNA

The faunal assemblage is represented by a wide variety of mammals, reptiles and birds, to say nothing of insects. Common mammals are the opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), red fox (*Vulpes fulva*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), beaver (*Castor Canadensis*) and the white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*). In precontact times there were certainly black bear (*Euarctos americanus*), red wolf (*Canis rufus*) and cougar (*Felis concolor*), while the armadillo was absent. The reader desiring a more complete description of the mammalian inventory is referred to Lowery (1974).

Reptiles include three types of pit vipers, in the genera *Crotalus* and *Agkistrodon*, the Coral Snake (*Micrurus fulvius*), and a number of innocuous species (Dundee and Rossman 1989).

Birds include the crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), hawks (*Buteo spp.*), various songbirds and a number of game birds. A fuller inventory may be found in Lowery (1955).

FLORA

This is an area of predominantly hardwood vegetation, the most frequent species being sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), oak (*Quercus spp.*), and hickory (*Carya spp.*). Understory vegetation consists of a wide assortment of vines and briars, including poison oak and ivy (*Rhus spp.*) (Brown 1945).

CHAPTER THREE: PRECONTACT CULTURE HISTORY OF THE PROJECT AREA

Information presented in this section may be found in several sources. These sources are Anderson et al. (1988); Haag (1961, 1971); Kniffen et al. (1987); Neuman (1984); Neuman and Hawkins (1993); Webb and Gregory (1986); and Rees (2010a). Figure 3 presents a general precontact culture history for Louisiana.

At the close of the Ice Age or Pleistocene Epoch, the whole of Louisiana was inhabited by Paleoindian peoples who hunted now extinct megafauna. In woodland areas, one of the more significant beasts was the mastodon while on the prairies, game included the mammoth and the giant bison.

The change of climate that marked the end of the Pleistocene era led to an eventual change in the flora and fauna of North America, including Louisiana and the Lower Mississippi Valley. This, in turn, caused a change in the lifeways of the inhabitants of the area. With the extinction of megafauna, hunting smaller game and the gathering of seeds and nuts became the chief subsistence of precontact American Indians during the Archaic or Mesoindian stage. Sites of *in situ* remains from this period are relatively rare in floodplain settings and are more numerous in upland areas. This disparity is probably the product of alluvial deposition over Archaic sites, rather than an indication that such areas were avoided during this period (Haag 1961).

The appearance of the atlatl or dart thrower as a technology for launching projectiles is a widely recognized diagnostic artifact of the Archaic period (Neuman 1984). In addition to the dart points themselves, clay, stone, and even shell objects known as boatstones or bannerstones are thought to be possible weights added to the atlatl to increase the force of the dart launched by the throwing stick (Neuman 1984:79). The picture of Archaic peoples as mere hunter-gatherers has been challenged in recent years, however, by a large body of evidence suggesting that Archaic people began constructing earthen mounds as early as the fourth millennium B.C. (Fogleman 2000; Gibson 1994; Russo 1994; Saunders 1994; Saunders et al. 1994; Saunders et al. 1997; Saunders et al. 2000).

The second millennium before Christ saw a new development in the Lower Mississippi Valley, the Poverty Point culture. These people, named for the type site in West Carroll Parish (16WC5), constructed gigantic earthworks; certainly gathered wild foods; and may possibly also have been agriculturists. In the study area, which is peripheral to the Lower Mississippi Valley, evidence of this culture is largely absent.

Time Frame	Period	Sub-periods		Cultures		
A.D. 1700	Historic	American Colonial		Multicultural & Multiethnic		
A.D. 1500	Mississippi	Late Mississippi - Protohistoric		Mississippian	Caddo	
A.D. 1200		Middle Mississippi		Plaquemine		
A.D. 1000	Woodland	Late Woodland	Coles Creek	Coles Creek	Fourche Maline	
A.D. 700			Baytown	Troyville		
A.D. 400		Middle Woodland	Marksville	Marksville		
A.D. 1		Early Woodland	Tchula	Tchefuncte		
800 B.C.						
1700 B.C.	Archaic	Late Archaic	Poverty Point	Poverty Point		
2000 B.C.						
		Middle Archaic		Evans		
6000 B.C.				(poorly defined)		
8000 B.C.		Early Archaic		San Patrice var. Keithville		
8800 B.C.	Paleoindian	Late Paleoindian		San Patrice		
9500 B.C.		Middle Paleoindian		Clovis		
10,500 B.C.		Early Paleoindian		Pre-Clovis		
11,500 B.C.						

Figure 3. Precontact Culture History of Louisiana (from Rees 2010b:12)

Around 500 B.C., the Poverty Point culture had been supplanted in the Lower Mississippi Valley by an adaptation called Tchefuncte. These folk were largely fishers and gatherers in marshlands and alluvial valley environments. Today, their sites are frequently identifiable as shell midden deposits along bodies of brackish water near the coast and by middens with distinctive pottery at sites in the interior (e.g. Gregory et al. 1989).

By A.D. 100, however, a new culture takes center stage in Louisiana, probably as an outgrowth of Hopewellian cultural influences from the Ohio River valley. This is the Marksville culture, a local variation of Hopewell. Like their cousins to the north, the Marksville people constructed earth mounds for mortuary purposes. This culture produced distinctive forms of ceramics, such as Marksville Stamped and Marksville Incised pottery.

Following the Marksville period there is a time of relatively poor definition in our present understanding of the cultural history of Louisiana. This period, loosely labeled Baytown, is often regarded as a transitional time, leading to the cultural florescence of the Coles Creek development around A.D. 900 (Belmont 1982; Gibson 1982). The Coles Creek period is one of the most widespread and clearly defined archaeological horizons in Louisiana. It is recognizable by several pottery types, such as Coles Creek Incised, Avoyelles Punctated, and Pontchartrain Check Stamped. Another important trait is the introduction of the so-called Temple Mound, a characteristic of possibly Meso-American derivation.

Late in the Coles Creek period in the Lower Mississippi Valley, cultural ties were formed with Caddoans of northeastern Texas, southern Arkansas, southeastern Oklahoma and northwestern Louisiana. The Caddoan flowering in northwestern Louisiana resulted in new pottery, much of it polished to a glossy color; saw the introduction of beans as a food crop; and involved the burial of the elite dead in shafts sunk into earthen mounds. Neuman and Hawkins (1993:29) tell us that Caddoan ceremonialism underwent devolution between A.D. 1100 and 1400, but that there was a religious renaissance after A.D. 1400. At this time, the houses of the chiefs began to be placed atop the mounds and a wide variety of nonutilitarian ceramic objects appear. Europeans found the Caddoans divided into several groups, among them the Adaes, Doustoni, Natchitoches, Ouachita, and Yatasi.

Around the same time, other cultural developments occurred in other parts of the state. After A.D. 1000 in the Lower Mississippi Valley, we see the Plaquemine phenomenon, which shows the continuation of many Coles Creek era traits with hints of Mississippian influence coming from the Central Mississippi valley and other portions of the Southeast. Common ceramic types are Plaquemine Brushed, L'eau Noire Incised, and Harrison Bayou Incised.

In the extreme northeast of Louisiana, and roughly coeval with Plaquemine, the Mississippian influence may be a bit more direct. Mississippian culture, distinguished by giant, truncated pyramidal mounds and highly developed shell tempered ceramics are present in this area and across the Mississippi area in the Yazoo River Basin and other areas of Mississippi. .

CHAPTER IV: HISTORY OF THE REGION

EARLY HISTORIC PERIOD

European explorers, lured by prospects of gold, began exploring the Southeast United States within decades after Columbus' arrival in the New World. The Spaniard Hernando de Soto became the first European interloper, traversing the area in 1542, although his exact route is disputed. In 1682, the Frenchman Robert Cavelier Sieur de La Salle explored the Mississippi River in North Louisiana, but he did not explore the Red River Valley, where the study area is located. In 1700, Jean Baptiste Le Moyne Sieur d' Bienville and Louis Juchereau St. Denis explored the Ouachita River and some of the nearby hill country of Louisiana and named Bayou D'Arbonne. The French established settlements along the Mississippi River during this period to maintain their claim to Louisiana. By 1740, settlers were living along the Red and Ouachita Rivers. In 1762, France ceded Louisiana to Spain (Williamson and Goodman 1939:9-28).

President Thomas Jefferson, in the interest of exploration, settlement, and natural science, sent two expeditions into Louisiana to report on the natural flora, fauna, and physical geography of the Red River. Additionally, he was interested in the Red River because it was believed to be a good route to Santa Fe. Having sent his best naturalist-explorers on the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Jefferson relied on his friend William Dunbar to lead a short expedition to Louisiana. Dunbar was familiar with the Mississippi River area, having established plantations near Natchez and Baton Rouge in the late 1700s. In the fall and winter of 1804-1805, Dunbar and Dr. George Hunter led a short expedition up the Red and Ouachita Rivers. Then, in April of 1806, the Thomas Freeman and Peter Custis Expedition left Fort Adams to explore the Red River to its source (Flores 1984:3-45,99). This later expedition noted several Indian groups in the vicinity of the project area.

Later, some Indian groups who lived in the vicinity of Mobile resettled on the Red River following the Treaty of Paris (1763), but most of these sold out and moved even further west as the valley was settled by Europeans. For the present study, the most significant of these groups were the Pascagoula and the Apalachee. Both groups migrated into central Louisiana from the Gulf coast during the late eighteenth century. At least one village of the Apalachee has been identified through archaeological investigation near the former mill town of Zimmerman, about three kilometers northwest of Boyce (Whelan and Pearson 1983).

EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

During the seventeenth century, the French began exploring the major waterways. Robert Cavelier Sieur de La Salle explored the Red and Mississippi Rivers in the 1680s and named Louisiana for the French King. France quickly recognized the potential of Louisiana, and established settlements along the Mississippi and Red Rivers during the early eighteenth century in order to maintain their claim to the territory. The Mississippi and Red Rivers quickly became important highways into the interior of central Louisiana. Gradually, settlers moved into central Louisiana along the Red River and its major tributaries (Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43, 300).

While the Red River provided an important transportation corridor into central Louisiana, it was not without obstacles for travelers during the colonial era. The Great Raft, above what became Natchitoches, was a natural mass of lumber and debris blocking the river. Downriver from the raft, at what is now Alexandria and Pineville, were the large rapids for which Rapides Parish was named. These rapids usually forced travelers to portage around them by long established Indian paths. The portage became an important trading area, but also left travelers vulnerable to attack. The French recognized the strategic importance of the portage area and established a small post at the great rapids in 1724 to protect French settlers (Eakin 1987:9-12; Flores 1984:111).

Spain gained control of Louisiana in 1765 and subsequently encouraged colonization by granting land and provisions to settlers. To protect settlers, the Spanish established a post, El Rapido, on the north bank of the Red River and Spanish settlers began to trickle into central Louisiana. Within a few years, British settlers began moving into the area to establish plantations. Irishman Edward Murphy settled near Bayou Rapides, a waterway used in favorable conditions to avoid the rapids, and set up a trading post. Pennsylvanians Alexander Fulton and William Miller came to central Louisiana with the permission of the Spanish and established a trading post near Murphy's. The partners speculated in land and eventually laid out the plans for the town of Alexandria on the south bank of the Red River (Eakin 1987:16-17).

After the United States purchased Louisiana from France in 1803, Thomas Jefferson recognized the need to scientifically explore the area west of the Mississippi River. In 1806, Thomas Jefferson sent Thomas Freeman and Peter Custis to explore the Red River. Freeman described the rapids near where Alexandria is now located:

The rapids, or falls, are occasioned by a stratum of indurated clay, which crosses the river in two places, about three fourths of a mile apart. The river is here about 300 yards wide. At the lower fall the current is very rapid, for about 100 yards, in 50 of which there is a fall of 10 feet, when the river was a perpendicular pitch. The second fall is in every respect

similar to the first; with a very swift water for 100 rods above the fall (Flores 1984:xv-xvi, 110).

FOUNDING OF RAPIDES PARISH

While under the Spanish, most of southern Rapides Parish was in what was called the old Southwest District or the District of Opelousas, but northern Rapides Parish was located in the Ouachita District. After the United States purchased Louisiana from the French, the areas retained the old district names. In 1807, the Louisiana Territorial Legislature created Rapides Parish, but failed to delineate the boundaries until after statehood in 1812. Eventually, Avoyelles, Calcasieu, Catahoula, LaSalle, Caldwell, and Grant Parishes were created from Rapides Parish (Southern Publishing Company 1890:528).

Although settlers moved into Rapides Parish during the French and Spanish occupations of Louisiana, most of the early settlements were along the Red River and Bayou Boeuf. Much of Rapides Parish relied on plantation staple crops, especially cotton, to support the economy.

HISTORY OF ALEXANDRIA

Alexandria, on the right descending bank of the Red River, developed at the site of the portage around the rapids on the Red River, which was the site of an early eighteenth century trading post established by Edward Murphy (Brister 1968:43).

As the Red River became an important transportation corridor, the site of the great rapids became a significant trading center. After the United States acquired Louisiana, American settlers poured into the area, bringing slaves and mixing with the British, French, and Spanish populations (Hardin 1937:421; Flores 1984:111; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:240-242).

The arrival of steamboats in Pineville and Alexandria in the early nineteenth century improved the local economy and helped the area grow. During the 1850s, the federal government began efforts to deepen the channel of the Red River to eliminate the rapids, but the efforts were not very successful. Despite the navigation problems, Pineville and Alexandria continued to grow. On the eve of the Civil War, the two towns had about 2,000 residents. J. W. Dorr traveled through central Louisiana in 1860 and reported on his travels to the New Orleans *Crescent*. He noted that Pineville had about 500 residents, two stores, a tavern, and an Episcopal Church. Across the river, Alexandria had about three times as many people (Brister 1968:49-50; Whittington 1935:74-75; Louisiana Works Projects Administration 1941:240-242; Eakin 1976:41).

THE CIVIL WAR

Early in the Civil War, Alexandria was an important supply center, but in 1863 General Nathaniel Banks invaded the Red River Valley and captured Alexandria. Banks retreated temporarily due to orders, but returned in 1864 with invading troops and the Union Navy, under the command of Rear Admiral David Porter.

In 1864, as Union forces moved north on the Red River, it was rumored that there were large stores of cotton along the waterway. These cotton reserves were quite valuable to both the Confederates and the Union, so control of the stores was an important goal. The water level was low and dropping as the Union gunboats moved upriver. Porter noted the falling water level in early 1864 at the outset of the campaign. As it was, Porter could only move 12 gunboats and 30 transports north toward Shreveport. General Nathaniel Banks and his troops had to move additional supplies by land (Smith and Castille 1986:1-5).

The advance to Shreveport continued to encounter problems. Both Banks and Porter had to leave some forces at Alexandria to protect the fleet that was left behind. The delays helped the Confederate army, which attacked the Union forces at Mansfield, Louisiana on April 8, 1864. The water level of the Red River was even lower when Banks, Porter, and their forces retreated down the Red River after they were defeated at Mansfield. Most of the boats required at least 7 ft (2.1 m) of water, but the level had dropped to 3 ft (91 cm) at the rapids. When the boats reached Alexandria, it was clear that they were trapped by the rapids (Smith and Castille 1986:1-9).

General Banks faced a difficult dilemma. If he couldn't get the boats downriver, then he would have to destroy them to keep them out of Confederate hands. Yet even the latter decision might yield enough scrap for Confederates to rebuild the boats. Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Bailey, an engineer and officer in the Union Army, suggested that he could get the boats over the rapids in a manner similar to the way he floated two steamers out of low water on Thompson Creek, near Port Hudson, the previous year. Bailey suggested that he could construct a dam, back up enough water, then break part of the dam and float the stranded boats over the falls (Smith and Castille 1986:7-8; Eskew and Eskew 1954:222-228).

Banks approved of Bailey's plan, in part because there were no other options. Bailey had worked on the construction of dams, mills, and bridges in Wisconsin before the Civil War and his engineering skills proved valuable to the Union Army during the war. Most people who heard of the scheme to float the boats over the rapids did not believe it would work. But the forces were ordered to cooperate with Bailey, who soon had the troops chopping down trees and gathering stones and bricks. The materials were dragged to the river, where they were used in the construction of the dam. The dam was made by building cribs and filling them with rocks and other debris, and by stacking trees in the flow of the river. The latter method used the flow to its advantage to hold the dam in place, but also used heavy debris to anchor the trees in the river (Smith and Castille 1986:8-20).

There was little optimism about the dam project, so most were surprised to find the dam working and backing up the water. On May 9, two barges that had been sunk as part of the dam loosened, and Admiral Porter ordered the boats that were ready to run the opening gap. The four gunboats that were ready made it through the gap, but six remained trapped (Smith and Castille 1986:20-22).

Under the circumstances, Bailey decided to leave the original dam with the gap as it was and to build a second dam above the first at the site of the other rapids. The second dam, like the first with its gap, channeled water to make it easier to run the rapids. By May 13, 1864 all the remaining boats made it over the rapids. The fleet then successfully retreated down the Red River (Smith and Castille 1986:22-25).

Bailey's Dam (16RA90), located in the Red River adjacent to Pineville and Alexandria, was built in 1864 and is historically significant because it allowed the Union fleet to pass by the rapids that trapped them in Confederate territory. Contemporary sources gave further evidence of the historical significance of Bailey's Dam. Rear Admiral Porter, in his report to Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles, stated that the loss of the Union's Red River fleet would have prolonged the war for another year or more and cost the Union money and lives (National Register of Historic Places 1976). For his efforts at saving the fleet and keeping it out of Confederate hands, Congress awarded Bailey a gold medal.

The escape of the Union fleet notwithstanding, Confederate forces in central Louisiana believed that the Union forces of General Banks would return. In a desperate effort, the Confederate forces under Captain Christian Meyer Randolph began construction in 1864 on two forts to guard the Red River against Union fleets. A third fort was planned, but not built. Captain David Boyd had originally made the plans for the forts, but was replaced by Randolph (Howell n.d.: 2-3).

Construction began on Fort Randolph (16RA76) in September 1864, and progressed slowly, with only 280 men working. In November, construction began on Fort Buhlow (16RA89) on nearby Rocky Point under the direction of Lieutenant Alfonso Buhlow. The latter fort had 200 soldiers and 244 slaves working on its construction. By February 1865, Fort Randolph was completed; a month later Fort Buhlow was finished (Howell n.d.:2-3). By that time, however, the war was nearly over and the forts never saw action.

RECONSTRUCTION AND THE MODERN ERA

The railroad boom came to the area during the last two decades of the nineteenth century. Alexandria was centrally located in the state and consequently was served by several railroads. In the 1880s, the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company built a railroad from Shreveport to New Orleans through Alexandria. From Shreveport, the railroad went into Texas linking Alexandria with other rail hubs. Shortly thereafter, the Missouri Pacific

completed a line from Monroe to Alexandria. The latter railroad, built by entrepreneur Jay Gould who had lumber interests in central Louisiana linked Pineville and Alexandria with the hub in St. Louis (Eakin 1987:55; Brister 1968:64).

Jabez B. Watkins (1845-1921), a developer and owner of a large farm mortgage business in Kansas City, recognized the agricultural value of Louisiana and in 1883 purchased 1.5 million ac of land, making plans to build a railroad to develop the land for both industry and agriculture. By 1892, Watkins completed the railroad from Lake Charles to Alexandria and was pushing toward Shreveport and Kansas City. The Kansas City, Watkins, and Gulf Railway came through Alexandria in 1892. The Missouri Pacific eventually purchased the Kansas City, Watkins, and Gulf Railroad. Within a decade the Louisiana Arkansas Railroad line was finished, adding yet another rail link to the Alexandria area. The many railroads coming through the area made Pineville and Alexandria a rail hub for Louisiana. This further boosted the cotton and lumber based economy of Rapides Parish by assuring transportation to various markets. Cotton and lumber remained important to the local economy throughout part of the twentieth century as well (Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:609; Eakin 1987:55; Brister 1968:64).

CHAPTER FIVE: PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Most of the archaeological investigations in this portion of Rapides Parish have occurred in connection with the development of the Red River Waterway (e.g., Hunter 1990 and Hinks et al. 1991). However, other nearby projects have involved proposed highway corridors and bridges (HPG 1981 and Baudoin 1991). One exemplary exception, though almost 14 miles (mi) (22.6 kilometers [km]) to the northwest of the current APE, is John House's salvage project in Lake Rodemacher Basin, which yielded evidence of almost every cultural period in Louisiana from the Late Archaic forward (House 1972).

One of the earliest projects near the present APE was NLU's survey of one of the proposed alignments for I-49. They passed about 1 mi (1.62 km) north of the present project area. Though they recorded some insignificant sites during their survey, none of these sites were in the area within 1 mi (1.62 km) of the present APE (Heartfield et al. 1978; NLU 1978).

Geo-Marine conducted an assessment of properties to be used by the Joint Readiness Training Center at England Air Force Base. Of the buildings to be affected, however, none were considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (Winchell 1993). The second investigation was CEI/ET/TT's survey of portions of England Air Force Base. The project, involving survey of 65 acres, resulted in the identification of three archaeological sites: McNutt Plantation (16RA692), Oak Isle Plantation (16RA704), and Weil Property (16RA703). All were considered potentially eligible for the NRHP (CEI/ET/TT 1994). A 2011 pipeline study by Southwestern Resource Analysts (SWCA) passed about 1 mi (1.62 southwest of the current APE; no sites were recorded in that area (King et al. 2011). In 2012, SURA, Inc., conducted a survey of a 31 ac (12.6 ha) proposed heavy industrial site within England Air Park. The survey recorded no cultural properties (Shuman and Taylor 2012). The same year, Coastal Environments, Inc. (CEI) carried out a 1,249.9 ac (502.4 ha) survey about 1 mi (1.6 km) northwest of the present survey area. Seven new archaeological sites, all non-significant surface scatters, were recorded (Hunter 2012).

In 2013, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA) surveyed a proposed 700 ac (282.8) ha tract on the west side of England Airpark. They updated two previously recorded sites (16RA692 and 16RA703) and recorded three new sites (16RA1504, 16RA1605 and 16RA1606). While they concluded that the two previously recorded sites should be avoided, they felt that the three newly recorded sites were likely to be ineligible for the NRHP (Gray et al. 2013). All five sites, it should be mentioned, were historic in nature, dating to the 19th and 20th centuries. Finally, in 2014, Gulf South Research Corporation (GSRC) surveyed 53 ac (21.4 ha) within England Airpark. Two archaeological sites and two standing structures were recorded, but none were considered eligible for the NRHP (Lindemuth 2014).

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CHAPTER SIX: METHODOLOGY

Methodology for the survey included archival research and fieldwork. Archival research included review of relevant archaeological reports and an examination of site files in the Division of Archaeology. Historic maps in the Louisiana State University Cartographic Information Center (CIC) were also consulted. Fieldwork consisted of pedestrian survey and systematic shovel testing. Pedestrian survey consisted of lining up five abreast, at the southern end of the survey area, and proceeding north, along transects spaced 98.4 ft (30 m) apart, with each crew person excavating a shovel test pit every 98.4 ft (30 m). All excavated material was screened using .25 inch hardware cloth. Shovel tests were taken to 50 cm or clay, whichever came first. When archaeological sites are discovered, they are defined using the protocol described in the Louisiana Division of Archaeology Guidelines.

Each cultural resource site found is assessed according to current National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria, as given below.

Eligibility for the *National Register of Historic Places*

According to the *National Register of Historic Places Bulletin* 15 (1995:2), “The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association are potentially eligible for the *National Register of Historic Places*.” In order to evaluate this significance, four criteria have been developed. Eligible properties...

- “A. ...are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. ... are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. ... embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. ... have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory” (NRHP 1995:2).

Curation Statement

Collected material and associated records are curated by the Louisiana Division of Archaeology (DOA). Upon completion of the project, the artifacts will be delivered to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, Central Plant North Building 2nd Floor, 1835 North Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

CHAPTER SEVEN: RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

A review of site files at the LDOA showed that 15 archaeological sites have been recorded within ca. 1 mi (1.62 km) of the current APE. Of these all are historic in nature and only three were deemed to have the potential for nomination to the NRHP (Table 2).

**Table 2. Recorded Archaeological Sites within ca. 1 mi (1.62 km) of the APE
(Source: LDOA)**

Site No	Name	Type	NRHP eligibility
16RA692	McNutt Plantation	Historic	Possibly
16RA703	Weill	Historic	Possibly
16RA768	Tyrone Plantation	Historic	Possibly
16RA1457	Sundrop Fuels Site 1	Historic	No
16RA1458	Sundrop Fuels Site 2	Historic	No
16RA1459	Sundrop Fuels Site 3	Historic	No
16RA1460	Sundrop Fuels Site 4	Historic	No
16RA1461	Sundrop Fuels Site 5	Historic	No
16RA1462	Sundrop Fuels Site 6	Historic	No
16RA1463	Sundrop Fuels Site 7	Historic	No
16RA1504	No Name	Historic	No
16RA1505	No Name	Historic	No
16RA1506	No Name	Historic	No
16RA1523	AEX1	Historic	No
16RA1524	AEX2	Historic	No

Background research also involved the examination of historic topographic maps from the Louisiana State University Department of Geography & Anthropology Cartographic Information Center (CIC). The earliest map is from 1941 and shows the project area as being bounded on the north by Big Bayou and on the south by Bayou Rapides (Figure 4).

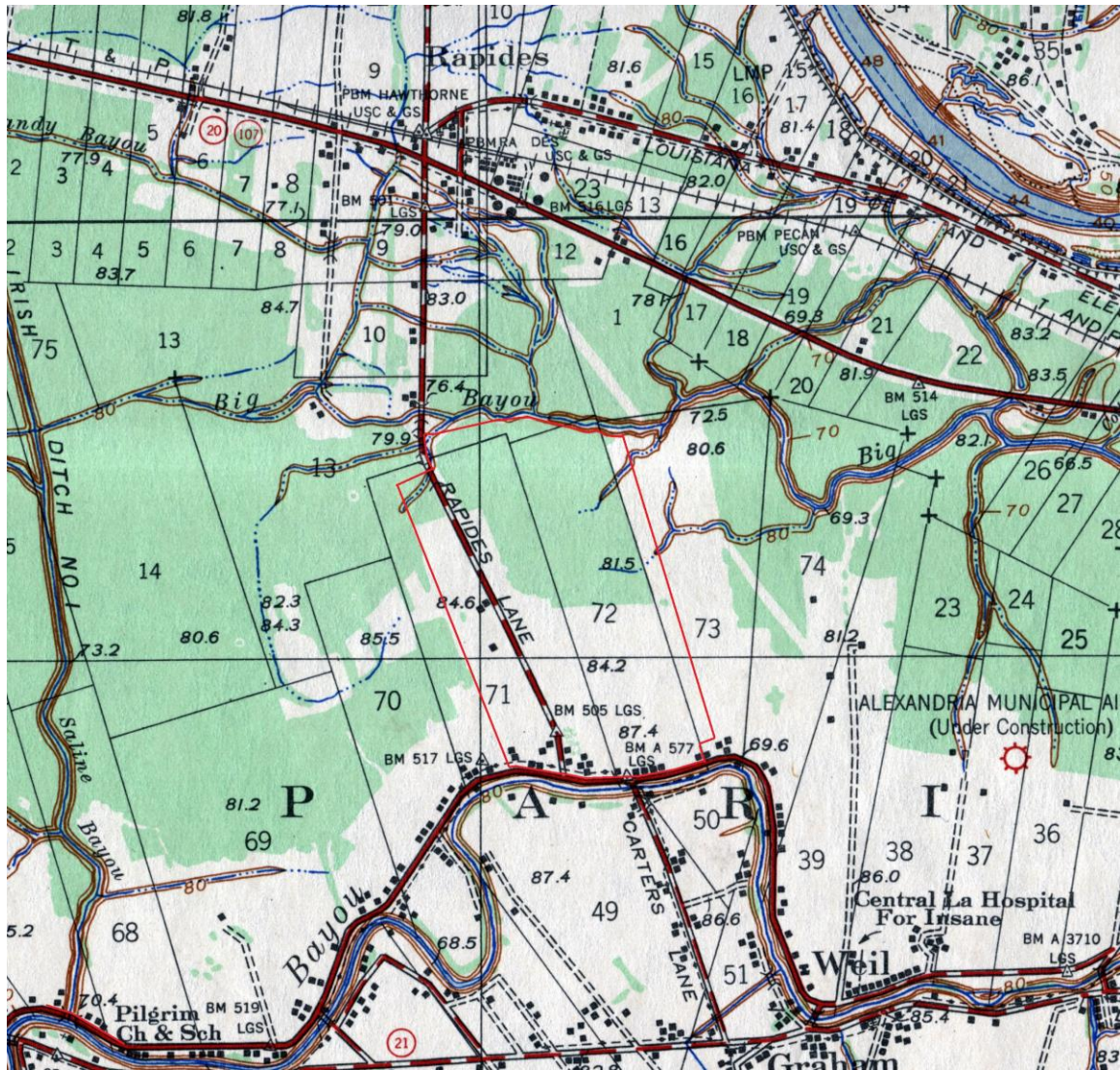


Figure 4. Portion of Boyce, La. 1941 15-minute topographic map showing APE (Source: LSUCIC).

This map shows a few houses, presumably farm dwellings, in the APE. The next available historic topographic map is the 1956 Boyce 15-minute quad (Figure 5).

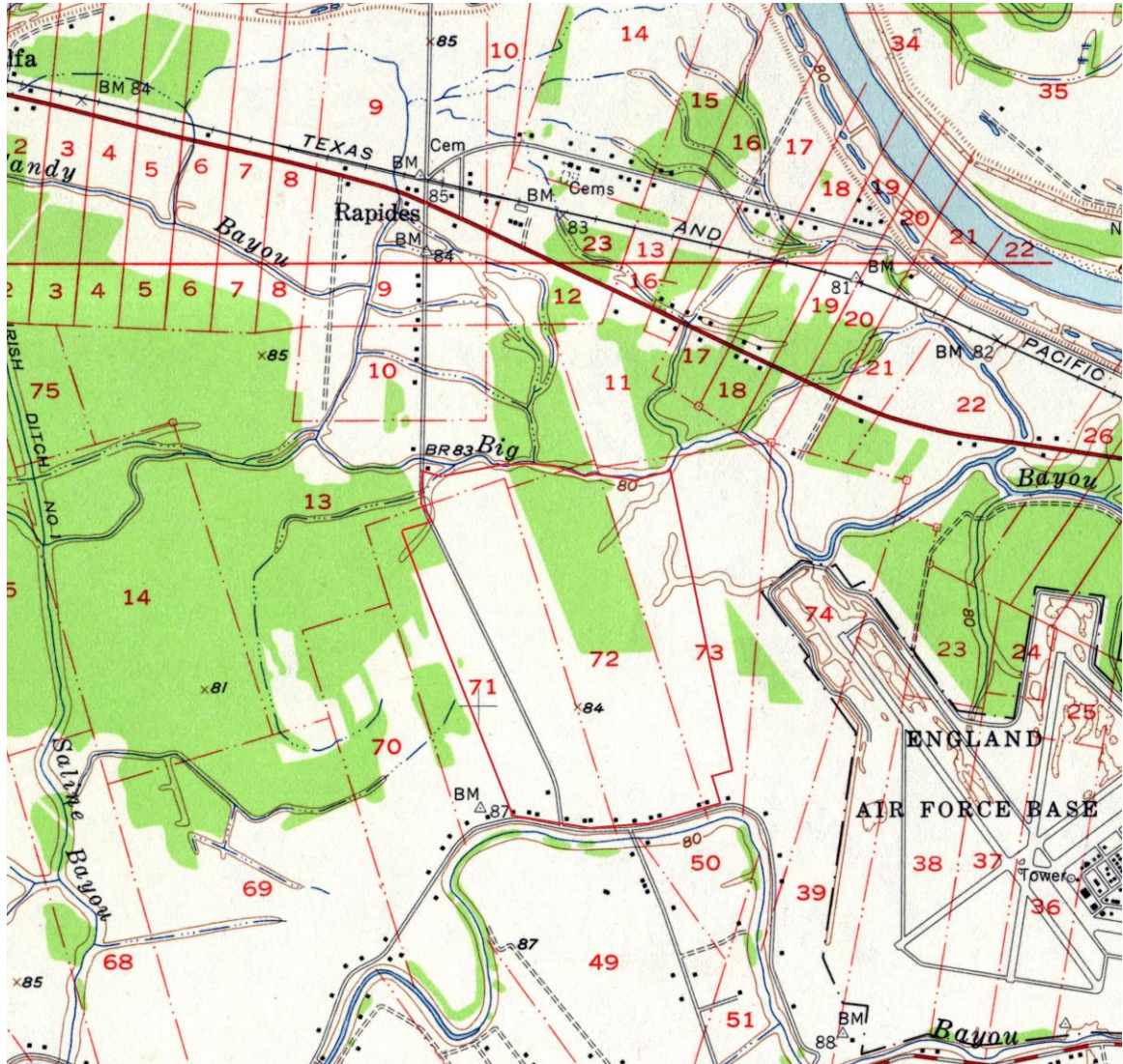


Figure 5. Portion of Boyce, La. 1956 15-minute topographic map showing APE (Source: LSUCIC).

In this map, there are still houses along the north side of Bayou Rapides but at least three structures in Section 71 are now gone.

The earliest 7.5-minute map of this area is the Rapides, La. 1972 sheet (Figure 6).

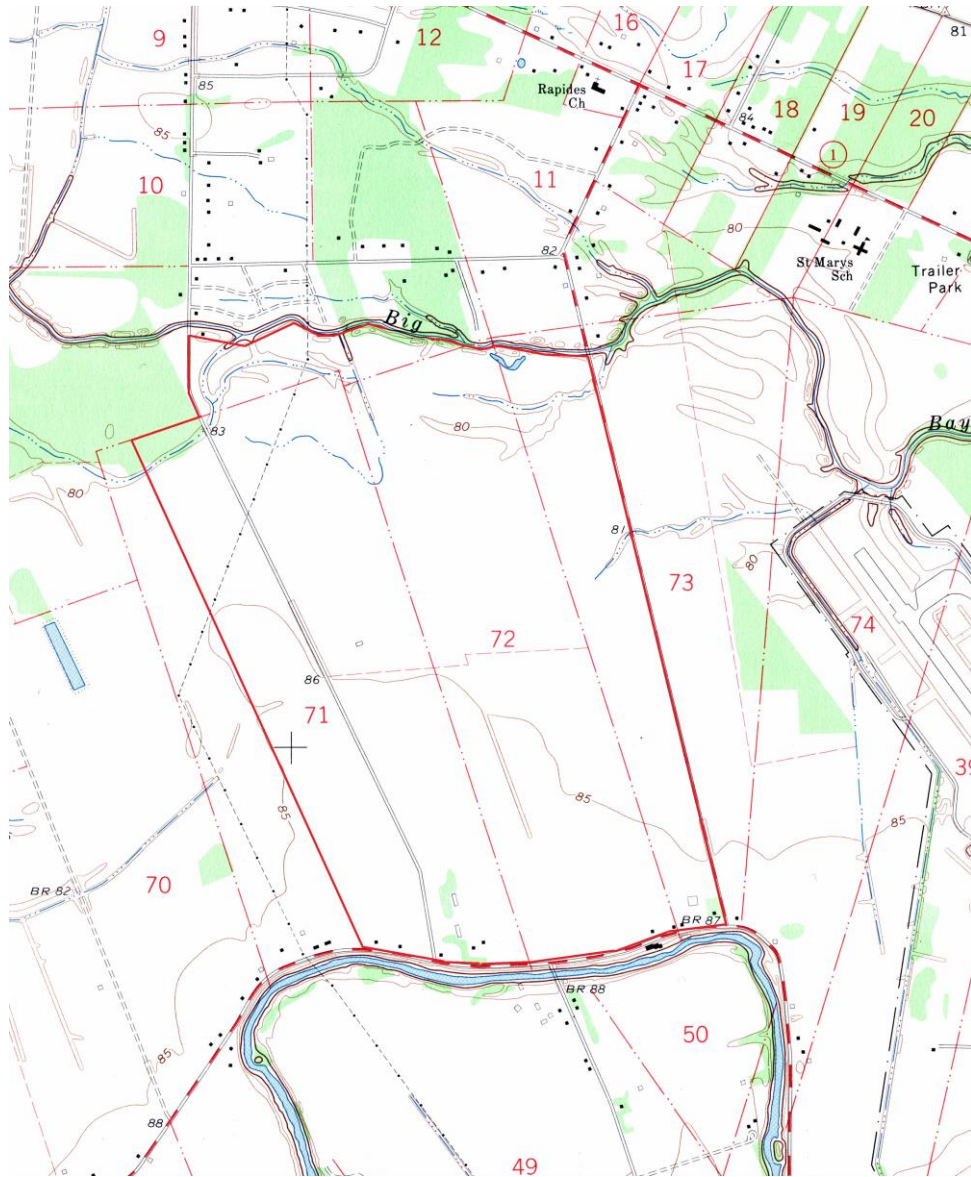


Figure 6. Portion of Rapides, La. 1956 7.5-minute topographic map showing APE (Source: LSUCIC).

This map shows very little change since 1956 other than the construction of a road in Section 73.

The 1992 photorevised edition of this map shows that most of the structures along the north side of Bayou Rapides have disappeared but there are several new structures in Section 71, as well as a new transmission line in the northwest part of that section (Figure 7).

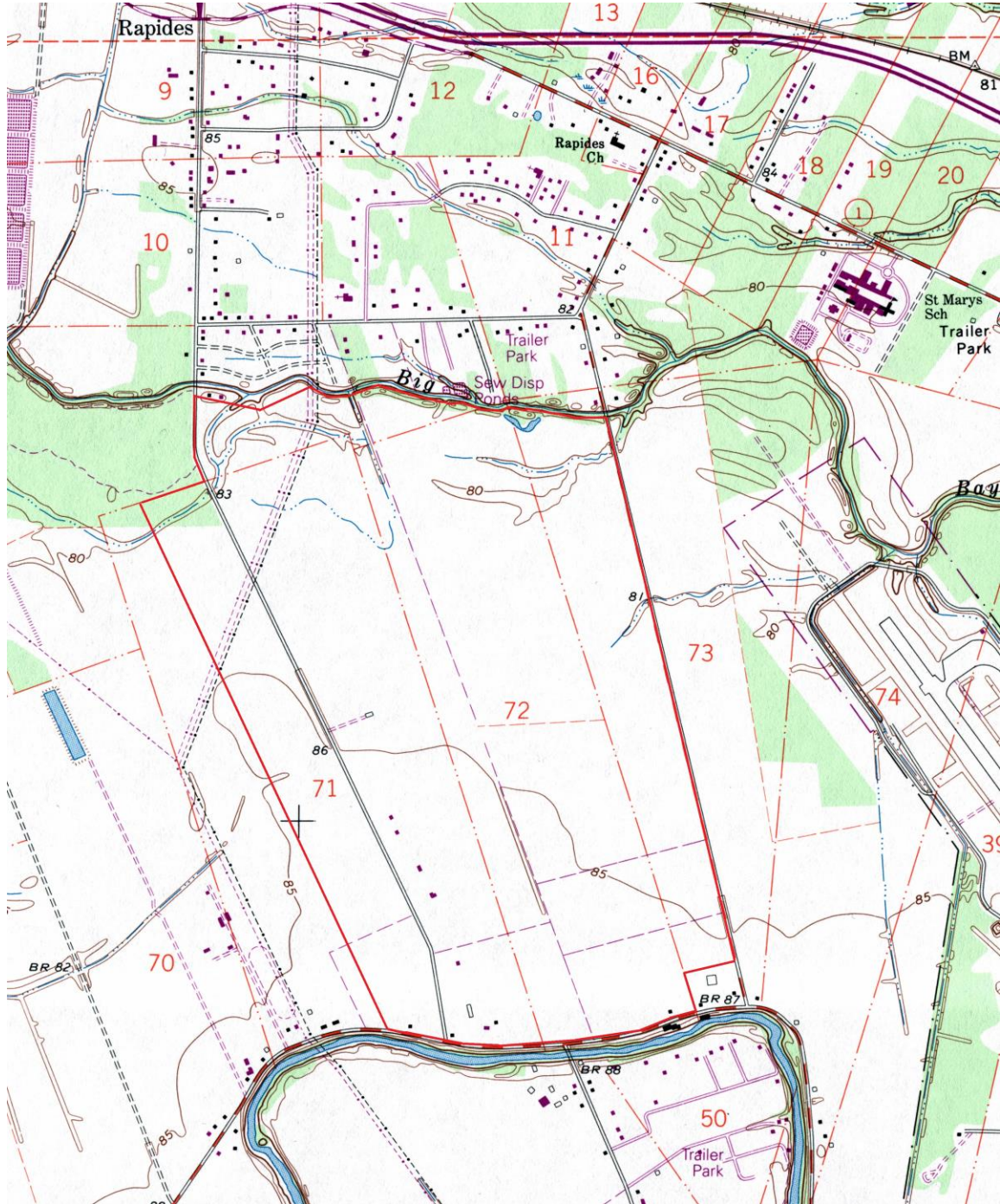


Figure 7. Portion of Rapides, La. 1992 photorevised 7.5-minute topographic map showing APE (Source: LSUCIC).

FIELDWORK

This area is bounded by Big Bayou on the north, Bayou Rapides on the south, Jimmy Brown Road on the east, and Rapides Station Road on the west. A total of 3690 shovel tests were dug, with no intact surface or subsurface features encountered. The entire survey area has been extensively plowed and tilled and heavily disturbed, so artifact concentration is questionable as to context or location (Figure 8).

Surface visibility in the entire area was excellent at the time of the survey, estimated at 90 to 100 percent. The area was surveyed using surface visibility and shovel tests were excavated at 20 m (65.6 ft) intervals throughout the survey area. All surface artifacts were collected and recorded and any subsurface artifacts were collected and recorded as to depth and level.



Figure 8. Survey area looking south shortly after sunrise.

Figure 9 depicts the transects walked. The designation system was alphabetical (A-Z, AA-AZ, etc.), starting at the NE corner of the APE and moving west.



Figure 9. Aerial photograph showing transects walked.

SITES LOCATED

A total of three sites were recorded during this survey. One (16RA1534) was a prehistoric site with surface artifacts exclusively; one (16RA1535) was a surface manifestation of prehistoric and historic materials; and the third, 16RA1536, was a large historic site with dense surface artifacts with a small surface scatter of prehistoric lithic material. The first two sites (16RA1534 and 16RA1535) were on the NW and NE terminus of the survey area, on Big Bayou, while the historic site and associated prehistoric scatter (16RA1536) was located on the natural levee of Bayou Rapides on the south terminus between Jimmy Brown Road and Rapides Station Road.

Site 16RA1534 (FS-1)
540654E, 3468074N

This site is comprised entirely of a surface lithic scatter and a cord marked sherd in a fallow cotton field immediately south of Big Bayou on the west side of Jimmy Brown Road (Figures 10 and 11).



Figure 10. View of site 16RA1534 (FS-1), looking south.



Figure 11. Big Bayou, just north of site, looking north.

Figure 12 is an aerial map of the site area.

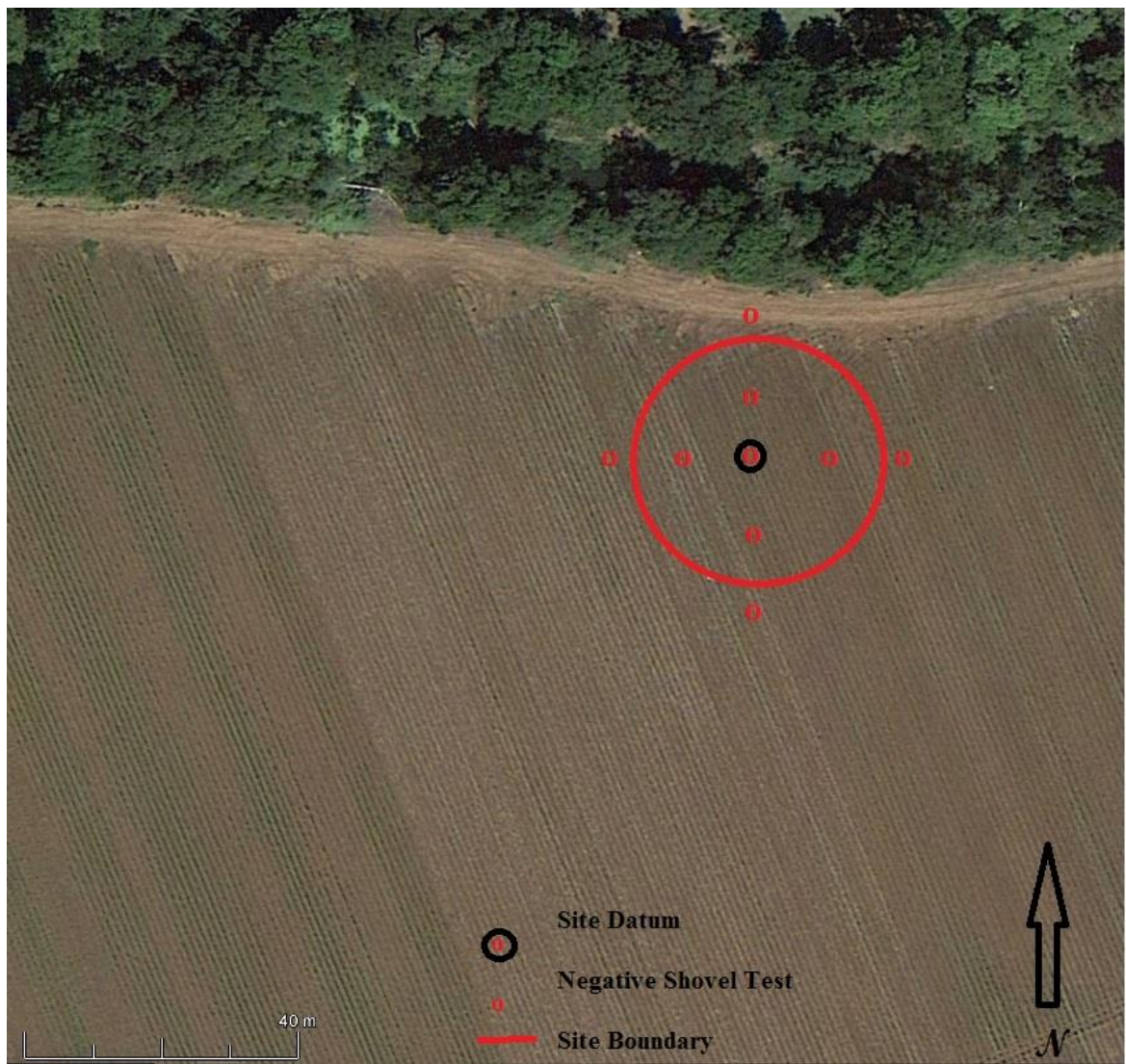


Figure 12. Aerial map of 16RA1534 (FS-1) site (Source: Google Earth).

The lithic artifacts recovered from this site consist of three partial points, a biface, four scrapers, and a blade, most of light brown or gray chert (Figure 13).



Figure 13. Biface and two partial points, 16RA1534

The fact that the biface and the points are all pressure-flaked along the edges argues for a relatively late (Neoindian) origin. Unfortunately, the bases of the points are lacking, as well as their extreme distal portions, making a precise assignment as to type impossible.

The single sherd recovered appeared to be cord-marked (Figure 14). For the Lower Mississippi Valley, including the Red River region, the primary cord-marked type is Mulberry Creek Cord Marked. This type is described as grog-tempered, and while that is certainly the case with the present specimen, the paste also contains a high percentage of sand. Mulberry Creek Cord Marked is characteristic of the late Marksville and Baytown periods (Phillips 1970:136-138).



Figure 14. Cord marked sherd from surface, 16RA1534 (FS-1).

Table 3. Artifacts from 16RA1534 (FS-1)

Artifact	No.
Prehistoric Ceramics	
Mulberry Ck Cord-Mked	1
Prehistoric Lithics	
Points (Partial)	3
Bifaces (Generic)	1
Scrapers	4
Blades	1
TOTAL ARTIFACTS	10

The recovered materials suggest a possible aboriginal Baytown-period campsite consistent with the crude point type and cord-marked sherd recovered.

Stratigraphy consists of 5YR4/4 silty clay to 40 cmbs, underlain by 5YR5/6 yellow brown silty sandy clay (40-? cmbs).

Artifact recovery was from surface contexts and the surface and plow zone had been extensively compromised by plowing and other agricultural practices. No previously recorded sites were observed in the immediate area. This site and recovered artifacts suggest that it has limited research potential due to the ongoing and previous disturbances, and a definite locus for the surface artifacts cannot be easily determined.

Site 16RA1535 (FS-2)
540654E, 3468074N

This site is comprised of a lithic surface scatter and modern bricks in the drainage and to a very minimal degree in a fallow cotton field on the east side of Rapides Station Road (Figures 15-17). Surface visibility was excellent at the time of the survey (90-100%) and provided easy delineation using walkover and additional shovel testing off the positive. Shovel tests were excavated at 65.6 ft (20 m) intervals throughout the site area (Figure 18).



Figure 15. View of site 16RA1535 (FS-2), facing west. Flags mark locations of surface prehistoric flakes.



Figure 16. Brick scatter in drainage, looking west (16RA1535).



Figure 17. Flakes in erosion area of drainage.

Figure 18 is a map of the site area.

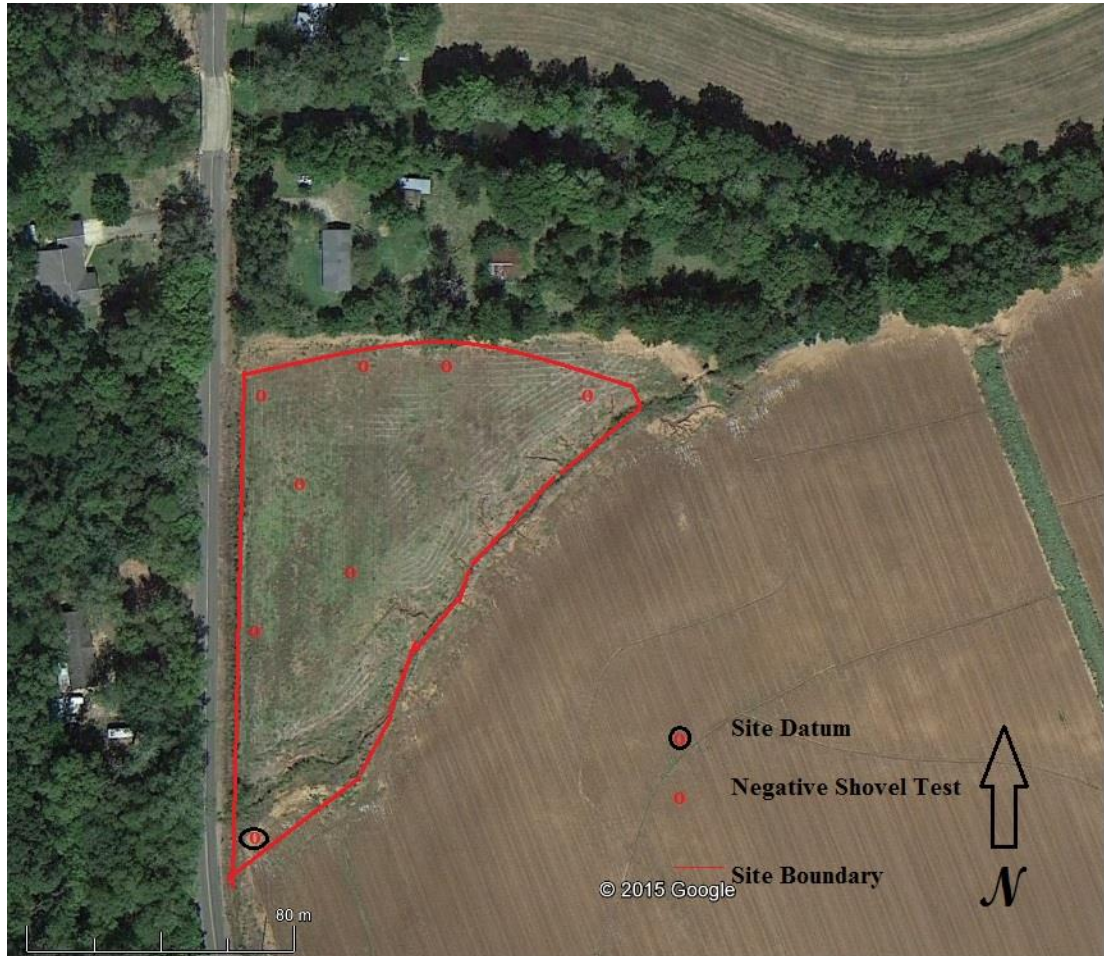


Figure 18. Aerial map of site 16RA1535 (FS-2) (Source: Google Earth).

The 14 prehistoric lithics included a Gary Stemmed Point and the medial section of a possible Pontchartrain point, judging by the precise edge pressure flaking (McGahey 2000:165). Gary Stemmed points (*var. Maybon*), according to McGahey, date from Early to Late Woodland times (McGahey 2000:192-193). Pontchartrain points chronologically overlap with Gary stemmed (*var. Maybon*) points, covering early Poverty Point into very early ceramic times (McGahey 2000:165).



Figure 19. Points from surface, 16RA1535 (FS-2). Left, Gary Stemmed; right possible Pontchartrain fragment.

Table 4. Artifacts from 16RA1535 (FS-2).

Artifact	No.
Prehistoric Lithics	
Points (Partial)	2
Flakes	
Primary	
Secondary	5
Tertiary	5
Cores	1
Misc. Debitage	1
TOTAL ARTIFACTS	14

The prehistoric artifacts suggest a non-permanent camp or seasonal habitation due to the small number of artifacts recovered and no other aboriginal artifacts recovered in subsequent delineations in the area. The historic material (i.e., bricks) was scattered and without context.

No historic structures are depicted on the Rapides LA 1941 USGS quadrangle map at the approximate location of the historic remains in the drainage. The brick fragments, in any case, were not collected, as they may well have been dumped in that location.

The stratigraphy is essentially identical to that of 16RA1534 (FS-1), consisting of 5YR4/4 reddish brown silty clay from 0-40 cmbs, under which lies 5YR5/6 silty sandy clay.

No intact surface or subsurface features or midden areas were located during investigations at this site, and the entire site area has been extensively plowed and overturned for many years. The site is not considered to be eligible for listing in the NRHP and no additional archaeological work is recommended.

Site 16RA1536 (FS-3)
540654E, 3468074N

This site consists of surface and subsurface artifacts relating to several structures that were present on the 1941 Rapides, La USGS quadrangle map, and several prehistoric artifacts, found on the surface in the western part of the site. The site is continuous from Jimmy Brown Rd on the east boundary 328 ft (100 m) to the west of Rapides Station Road on the west, with Highway 1202 being the southern boundary at Bayou Rapides. For the most part, this line of structures is aligned along the natural levee of Bayou Rapides to the south 164 ft (50 m). Surface visibility in the entire area is 90-100% and the ground is currently plowed and tilled. Shovel tests were excavated throughout the entire area, and pedestrian survey was also done (Figure 20).

The majority of artifacts collected were from the surface along the entire length, with the subsurface artifacts from shovel tests being less than 10 cmbs in most instances. No definite determination could be ascertained as to which structure the artifacts were from due to the high disturbance and plowing ongoing for the last several years. Given the location of these structures from the map, and the type of artifacts collected, the site indicates domestic functions with possible tenant farming dwellings. The surface lithic artifacts, which were found on the west end of the site, of course reflect an earlier habitation on the natural levee of Bayou Rapides.



Figure 20. Crew delineating site 16RA1536 (FS-3), looking north from Bayou Rapides.

The site map is presented in Figure 21. Negative, transect shovel tests are not depicted, as this would clutter the map. It suffices to say that the site was primarily a surface scatter and some transect shovel tests, as shown below, were positive.

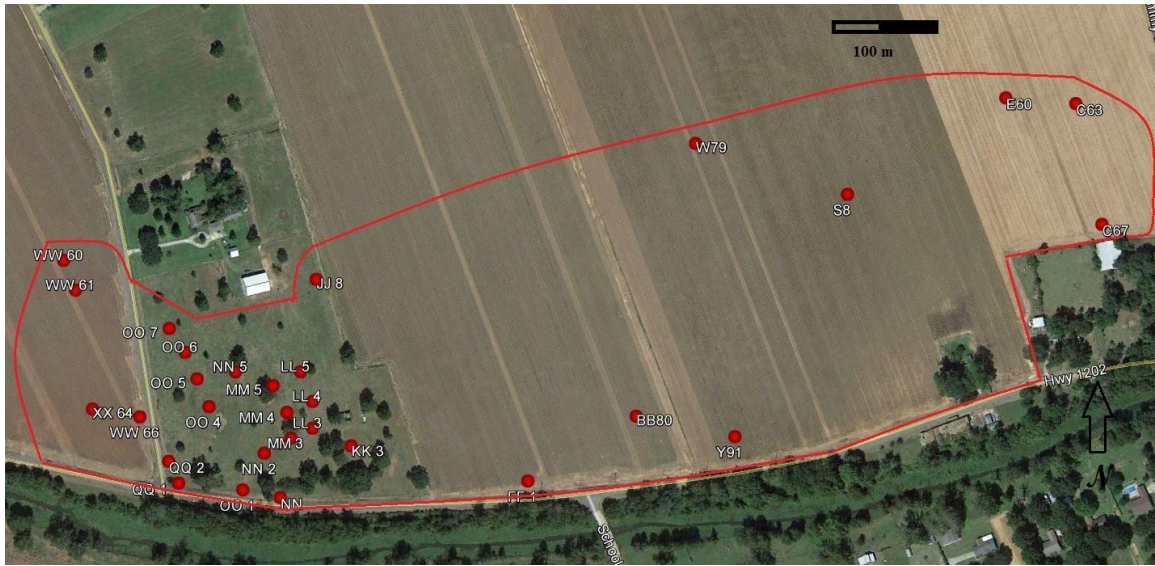


Figure 21. Aerial map showing site 16RA1536 (FS-3) and positive shovel tests (Source: Google Earth).

A total of 595 artifacts were recovered from this site, the vast majority coming from the surface (Table 3).

Table 5. Artifacts from 16RA1536 (FS-3) [Page A1].

	TC ST63	TC ST67	TE ST60 (In Hole)	TS ST8 (In Hole)	TW ST79 (In Hole)	TY ST91 (In Hole)	TBB ST80 (In Hole)	TFF ST1 (In Hole)	TJJ ST8 (In Hole)	TKK ST3 (In Hole)	TLL ST3 (In Hole)
Ceramics											
Prehistoric											
Whiteware											
Plain		2	2	2		2		1		1	1
Decorated											
Banded											
Transfer											
Hand-painted											
Shell edge											
Other											
Stoneware											
Salt Glaze							1				
Lead Glaze											
Slipped		1									
Manganese Glaze											
Bristol Slipped											
Unglazed											
Unknown											
Maker's Mark											
Ironstone ware											
Plain								1			
Maker's Mark											
Other											

Table 9 (continued). Artifacts from 16RA1536 (FS-3) [Page B1].

	TLL ST4 (In Hole)	TLL ST5 (In Hole)	TMM ST3 (In Hole)	TMM ST4 (In Hole)	TMM ST5 (In Hole)	TNN ST1	TNN ST2	TNN ST5	TOO ST1 (In Hole)	TOO ST4 (In Hole)	TOO ST5 (In Hole)
Ceramics											
Prehistoric											
Whiteware											
Plain					1						
Decorated											
Banded											
Transfer											
Hand-painted											
Shell edge											
Other											
Stoneware											
Salt Glaze											
Lead Glaze											
Slipped											
Manganese Glaze											
Bristol Slipped											
Unglazed											
Unknown											
Maker's Mark											
Ironstone ware											
Plain											1
Maker's Mark											
Other											

Table 13 (continued). Artifacts from 16RA1536 (FS-3) [Page C1].

	TOO ST6 (In Hole)	TOO ST7 (In Hole)	TQQ ST1 (In Hole)	TQQ ST2 (In Hole)	TWW ST60 (In Hole)	TWW ST61 (In Hole)	TWW ST66 (In Hole)	TXX ST64 (In Hole)	General Surface Collection
Ceramics									
Prehistoric									3
Whiteware									
Plain		2		3			1		32
Decorated									
Banded									4
Transfer									7
Hand-painted									10
Shell edge									12
Other									11
Stoneware									
Salt Glaze	1	1		1					25
Lead Glaze									1
Slipped									1
Manganese Glaze									6
Bristol Slipped									1
Unglazed									2
Unknown									1
Maker's Mark									1
Ironstone ware									
Plain								1	81
Maker's Mark									6
Other									9

Slag																			
Slate																			2
Asbestos																			4

Table 16 (continued). Artifacts from 16RA1536 (FS-3) [Page C4].

Plastic																			
Screw Top																			1
Unknown																			2
Bone																			
Mammal										1									9
Shell																			
Abalone																			1
Other																			2
Prehistoric Lithics																			
Points (whole & part)																			3
Secondary Flakes																			1
TOTAL	4	7	2	10	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	480						

The prehistoric lithic materials consisted of four chert artifacts. Two are projectile points (Figure 22).



Figure 22. Edwards Stemmed (?) point fragment and Gary Stemmed Point from 16RA1536

If the specimen on the left is, indeed, an Edwards Stemmed point, it would date to from about 100 B.C. to A.D. 600 (McGahey 2000:196). As mentioned earlier, Gary Stemmed (*var. Maybon*) points date from Middle to Late Woodland times (McGahey 2000:192).

A third lithic artifact is the body of a chert point from which the distal end and base have been removed and the fourth artifact is a small chert secondary flake.

Three prehistoric sherds were also recovered from the surface. These items were thin and poorly fired, with grog temper. No type assignment was made to them. The largest example is shown in figure 23.



Figure 23. Prehistoric plain sherd from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).

Selected historic artifacts are illustrated in figures 24-30.



Figure 24. Red transfer printed whiteware (left, blue shell-edged whiteware (center), and yellowware (right), from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).



Figure 25. Ironstone with partial maker's mark (left) and plain porcelain (right), from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).

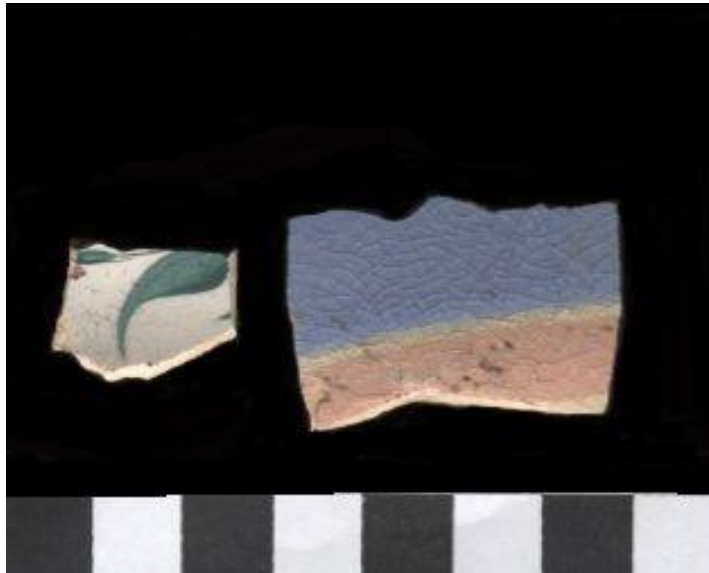


Figure 26. Hand painted whiteware (left) and glazed stoneware (right), from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).



Figure 27. Porcelain figurine arm from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).



Figure 28. Molded glass bottle neck (left) and milk glass fragment (right), from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).



Figure 29. Porcelain buttons from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).



Figure 30. Cut nails from surface, 16RA1536 (FS-3).

The ceramics are indicative of a mid-19th to 20th century occupation (Hahn et al. 2003), although the eight fragments of pearlware suggest a slightly earlier date. The cut nails indicate a 19th century habitation, though limited numbers of cut nails continued to be made into the 20th century (Edwards and Wells 1993).

Site stratigraphy consists of 5YR4/4 reddish brown silty clay to a depth of 40 cmbs, underlain by 5YR5/6 yellow brown silty sandy clay.

No intact surface or subsurface features were encountered during survey and the entire area has been extensively plowed and tilled. The subsurface artifacts have no definitive locus as they are very shallow and probably have been exposed and reburied continually over the years. Due to the ongoing and past disturbance of the area by agriculture, the site is not recommended for further archaeological work nor eligible for NRHP inclusion.

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CHAPTER EIGHT: RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From January 19 to February 20, 2015, SURA, Inc., conducted a Phase I cultural resources survey of an 865 ac (350 ha) tract between Bayou Rapides and Big Bayou, and west of England Air Park, Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana. Three archaeological sites were recorded (16RA1534, 16RA1535, and 16R1536). The first was a surface scatter of prehistoric artifacts on the south natural levee of Big Bayou, in the northeast of the APE. The second, located in the northwest part of the APE, was a scatter of prehistoric and historic materials on the south natural levees of Big Bayou and an unnamed drainage. The third site was located on the north natural levee of Bayou Rapides. It consisted of historic materials and a few prehistoric lithics and sherds. None of these sites possessed the quality of integrity necessary for their nomination to the NRHP. Therefore, SURA, Inc., recommends that the project be allowed to proceed as planned. A total of 3,690 transect shovel tests were excavated.

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