

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE ROLESVILLE 230 kV AND
KNIGHTDALE SQUARE D TAP LINES IN WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

by

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

During March and April 1989, The Research Laboratories of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill spent eight person-days in the field surveying and documenting archaeological sites and structures along three segments of the Rolesville 230 kV and Knightdale Square D 230 kV Transmission Line corridors (Clearinghouse Number ER 88-7922). The proposed project is located in eastern Wake County between the towns of Knightdale to the south and Rolesville to the north. The project was initiated at the request of Carolina Power and Light Company and resulted in the recording of one new prehistoric archaeological site, an historic farmstead, and an unmarked historic cemetery. The prehistoric site contained evidence of components dating from the Early Archaic through the Late Archaic periods with the Middle Archaic being best represented. The main components of the farmstead date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; however, ceramic evidence suggests the presence of an earlier occupation during the first third of the nineteenth century. The prehistoric site and the unmarked cemetery will not be adversely affected by the construction of the corridor. Potential archaeological deposits associated with the farmstead also will not be adversely affected if ground disturbing activities are minimized in the immediate vicinity of the structural remains.

INTRODUCTION

At the request of Carolina Power and Light Company, personnel from the Research Laboratories of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina spent eight person-days during March and April conducting an archaeological survey and assessment of approximately 1.8 mi of the proposed Rolesville 230 kV Tap Line and the Knightdale Square D 230 kV Tap Line (Figure 1). These transmission line corridors extend from the Southern Railroad east of Knightdale to a point just south of the intersection of SR 2217 and SR 1003, south of Rolesville. The main Rolesville 230 kV corridor is joined to the proposed Square D substation, located northeast of Knightdale, by the Knightdale Square D 230 kv corridor. The total length of the project is 6.6 mi and the width of the corridor is 100 ft except where it parallels existing transmission lines. Here the width is 70 ft.

The 1.8 miles of proposed transmission line corridor subjected to intensive survey consists of three segments. The southernmost segment (Section 1) extends from the Square D Substation site, east-west, to SR 2234. The next segment (Section 2) runs northward from SR 2227, near Bethany Church, to an unknown branch almost one mile to the north. The final section (Section 3) begins on the north side of this branch and doglegs to the east to intersect with the proposed Rolesville substation. All of the surveyed segments are 100 ft wide.

The objectives of the survey were to locate and evaluate the research potential of as many archaeological sites as possible within the corridor. A *site*, as defined here, refers to at least two spatially related artifacts or features that are indicative of prehistoric or historic activities. This somewhat broad definition only excludes the isolated *spot-find* which could result from an almost infinite variety of idiosyncratic or fortuitous events.

Sites were located by surface inspection and limited shovel testing in areas lacking surface visibility. The evaluation of a site's potential or significance was guided by criteria of the National Register which state that archaeological resources are considered significant or potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places if they have "yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history" (36 CFR Part 800.1). Although this guideline is vague, it seems that, minimally, a site should have spatial or depositional context sufficiently preserved to allow some level of behavioral inference beyond simple chronological placement.

As a result of the survey, three new archaeological sites were recorded. One of these consists of a large scatter of prehistoric lithic artifacts indicating sporadic occupations during the entire span of the Archaic period. The other two sites date to the historic period. One of these is a large cemetery that probably was used from the middle to late 19th century. The other site represents an historic farmstead with standing structures that date to the early 20th century. Ceramic evidence also indicates an earlier occupation during the first third of the 19th century.

The prehistoric site (31Wa672) lacks intact deposits and will not be adversely affected by construction of the transmission line. The large cemetery (31Wa673) lies outside the proposed corridor and, as a consequence, will not be impacted by construction activities. The early 20th century house site (31Wa674) lies in the middle of the transmission line corridor and, although the structure itself does not appear to be historically significant, there is a high potential for the presence of buried archaeological remains dating to the early 20th century as well as the early 19th century. Given this likelihood, we recommend that ground disturbing activities be kept to a minimum in the vicinity of the standing structure.

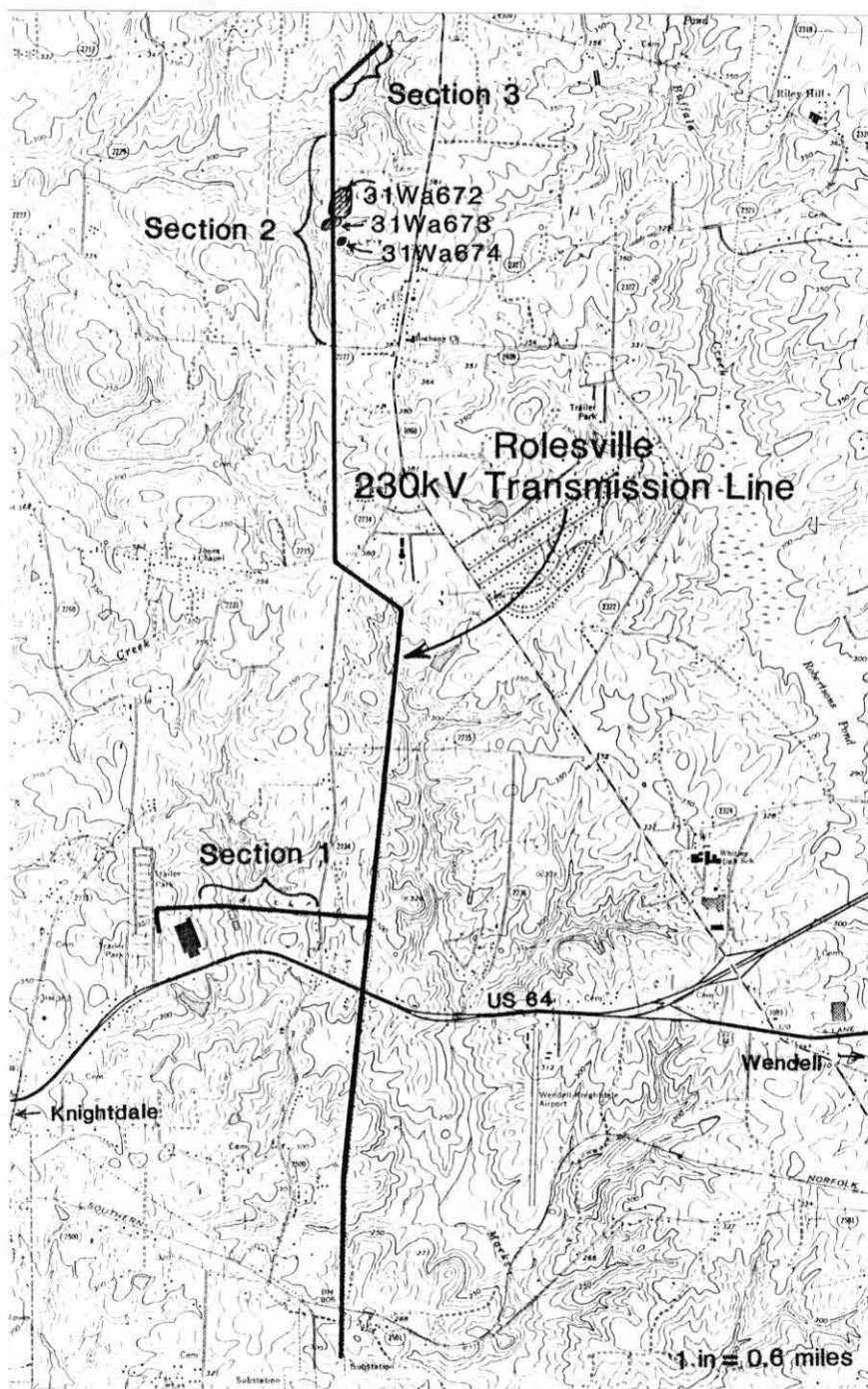


Figure 1. Map Locating the Rolesville 230 kV Transmission Line.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Archaeologists usually divide the cultures of North Carolina into four periods: Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, and Historic. The Archaic period is further broken down into three subperiods--Early, Middle, and Late--which are based on the forms and methods of manufacturing chipped-stone tools, particularly projectile points. Archaic peoples lived on the Piedmont between 8000 BC and 1000 BC. The Woodland period which began with the introduction of pottery ca. 500 BC is divided into several phases. Along the northern Fall Line, the Vincent, Clements, Dan River, and Gaston phases have been defined (Coe 1964). These are related to the Deep Creek, Mt. Pleasant, and Cashie phases of the northeast Coastal Plain (Phelps 1983). In the central and southern Piedmont, the Badin, Yadkin, Uwharrie, Dan River and Pee Dee phases have been identified (Coe 1952, 1964). The Historic period is represented in the northern Piedmont by the Early, Middle, and Late Saratown phases while in the central Piedmont, the Hillsboro, Mitchum, and Fredricks phases describe the archaeological remains of the late prehistoric and historic Siouan tribes.

The first glimpse we have of the native inhabitants of the survey area was provided by John Lawson during his epic journey from Charleston to Pamlico Sound in 1700-1701. After leaving Occaneechi Town, near Hillsborough, Lawson and his trusted guide, Eno Will, traveled over "a sad stony way" to the town of Adshusheer, Eno Will's home. Here Lawson and his party rested and were fed and entertained by their hosts. The next day they set out for the Lower Quarter some 40 miles to the southeast. Lawson does not appear to have been very impressed by the land nor its inhabitants in the area of eastern Wake County. He described "several tracts of rich Land, but mix'd with Pines and other indifferent Soil." Later Lawson observed an Indian town "which was a Parcel of nasty smoaky Holes. . .having a Swamp running directly through the Middle thereof" (Lefler 1967:63). The Indians living here were distinguished by the fact that most of them had but one eye and their food supply was scarce (Lefler 1967:63)!

Wake County lagged behind its neighbors to the north and south in attracting a permanent population. The early settlers were also torn by the Regulator movement to the west and the seat of the Royal Government to the east. As a consequence, many families left Wake County and moved to Tennessee. James Robertson was one of the leaders in this move to Tennessee territory. Robertson had journeyed with his family from Virginia to Wake County in 1750 when he was only eight years old. In 1768, he married Charlotte Reeves and in 1770 moved to Tennessee. The following year he returned to Wake and convinced several of his neighbors to join him in Tennessee at the Watauga settlement which formed the first North American self-government, independent of the British Crown (Murray 1983:55).

Wake County was carved from portions of Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange counties in 1771 and was named after Margaret Wake, the wife of Governor Tryon who, with his family, had made annual trips through the area on the way to the "summer capital" in Hillsborough. Wake was formed in an attempt to subdivide and weaken the counties where the Regulator movement was strongest. The formation of a new county seat also made access to the government easier for the scattered settlers isolated from Hillsborough (Murray 1983:38-48).

After the Revolutionary War, a site for a new state capital, more centrally located than New Bern, was sought. Wake County vied for this honor along with Fayetteville, Smithfield,

Tarborough, and Hillsborough. In 1788, the General Assembly met in Hillsborough and decided to choose a location for the new capital within a 10-mile radius of Isaac Hunter's plantation and tavern in Wake County. However, it was not until 1792 that action was taken to locate a specific site for the new capital. The location that was settled upon consisted of 1000 acres just east of the old county courthouse. This tract was situated on the property of Joel Lane, between Crabtree and Walnut creeks (Murray 1983:77-80).

After the city of Raleigh was founded as the state capital, it took four decades before another town was incorporated in Wake County. In 1837 Rolesville was chartered. Being located at the intersection of two main stage routes, the Oxford-to-Smithfield and Raleigh-to-Louisburg roads had made Rolesville a commercial center before it was officially incorporated. As early as 1822, William Roles had built an Inn to accomodate stage travelers (Murray 1983:417).

During the first third of the 19th century out-migration characterized the Wake County population. Families continued to move west into Tennessee territory, seeking new land for that depleted by poor agricultural practices. A severe drought in 1826 exacerbated agricultural problems and contributed to the abandonment of the county. The advent of rail transportation finally reversed this trend between 1830 and the start of the Civil War. With the railroads, markets opened for the farmers' cotton and tobacco in Virginia and South Carolina (Murray 1983:240).

By and large, the 19th century farms in Wake County were small, subsistence-based family operations run without slaves. There were, however, a few "moderately rich" farmers who owned 10-20 slaves and "whose 'manor houses' were surrounded by such numbers of outbuilding as to resemble small villages" (Murray 1983:140).

An excellent description of one such plantation is provided by a newspaper advertisement of the 1830's. This particular farm was located east of Raleigh, near the current study area. It was offered for sale after the owner, Bolling Dunn, decided to seek his fortune to the west.

There are on the premises a Dwelling House, 64 feet long and 18 feet wide, with a T 28 feet long and 18 feet wide containing 8 rooms below Stairs, with 2 porches. . .commodious fire places, a kitchen 20 feet, a Smoke House and Dairy, four Negro Houses, 13 feet square, all with excellent stone chimneys. Also, three Granaries, 20 by 38 feet, a Well of excellent water, within 10 yards of the Dwelling House. . .Also, a Store House, within 200 yards of the Dwelling House, 20 by 38 feet, with two partitions, making a Counting and Store Room, with a piazza 8 feet in front, a Blacksmith Shop with a new set of Tools; also, a Gin House 30 feet square and two stories high, fixed to run 2 gins. . .I have also on the premises, two excellent Grist Mills. . .These Mills have the advantage of four tributary streams of Little river, which enable them to grind throughout the summer, except [when] it is unusually dry. . .(Murray 1983:140).

Obviously Mr. Dunn had prospered in Wake County, and we can only wonder why he decided to leave his farm and journey to the relative wilderness further west.

After the Civil War, farming, Wake County's main occupation, was drastically changed. Without slaves, many landowners turned to a system of tenant farming or sharecropping. And although the number of farms increased immediately after the war, the total acreage under

cultivation decreased. In 1860 most farms were between 100 and 500 acres, whereas after the war, most were between 20 and 50 acres. There were 52 farms larger than 500 acres in Wake County prior to the Civil War; in 1870 there were only eight. This diminution in individual farm size, however, did not adversely affect productivity. Cotton production increased from 7,000 bales in 1869 to 46,000 bales in 1879. Truck farming also became important as Raleigh continued to grow and provide an expanding market for fresh fruits and vegetables. By the turn of the century, the county's economy was diversifying and the capitol was rapidly becoming a leading city in North Carolina's commercial and industrial development (Murray 1983:558).

SURVEY METHODS, CONDITIONS, AND RESULTS

Archaeological survey of the proposed transmission line corridor was limited to three sections designated by the Office of State Archaeology as having a potential for containing significant cultural resources (Figure 1). These sections comprise 1.8 miles, or approximately 27%, of the 6.6-mile proposed corridor. The entire length of each section was carefully inspected for both prehistoric and historic archaeological resources. This was accomplished by pedestrian survey accompanied by both auger and shovel testing at potential site locations where surface visibility was poor. Subsurface testing also was conducted at each of the three sites discovered during the study in order to gain additional insights into the potential for intact subsurface archaeological deposits.

Field conditions and survey results in each of the three corridor sections are discussed below.

Section 1 (Figure 2)

This section is located just north of U.S. 64 along an east-west transmission line corridor that will connect to the Knightdale Square D 230kV Substation. Section 1 is 0.53 miles long and includes the adjacent valley slopes and upland margins where the corridor crosses Marks Creek. No prehistoric or historic sites were identified in this section.

Section 1a

Length: 550 ft.

Surface Visibility: 80-90%.

Location: West from SR 2234 toward Marks Creek, along a level to gradually sloping upland surface.

Conditions: Very good. This section cut through an old field that contained only minimal vegetation.

Comments: Nothing found.

Section 1b

Length: 350 ft.

Surface Visibility: 0%

Location: Along a gradually sloping upland surface.

Conditions: Heavily wooded.

Comments: Nothing found.

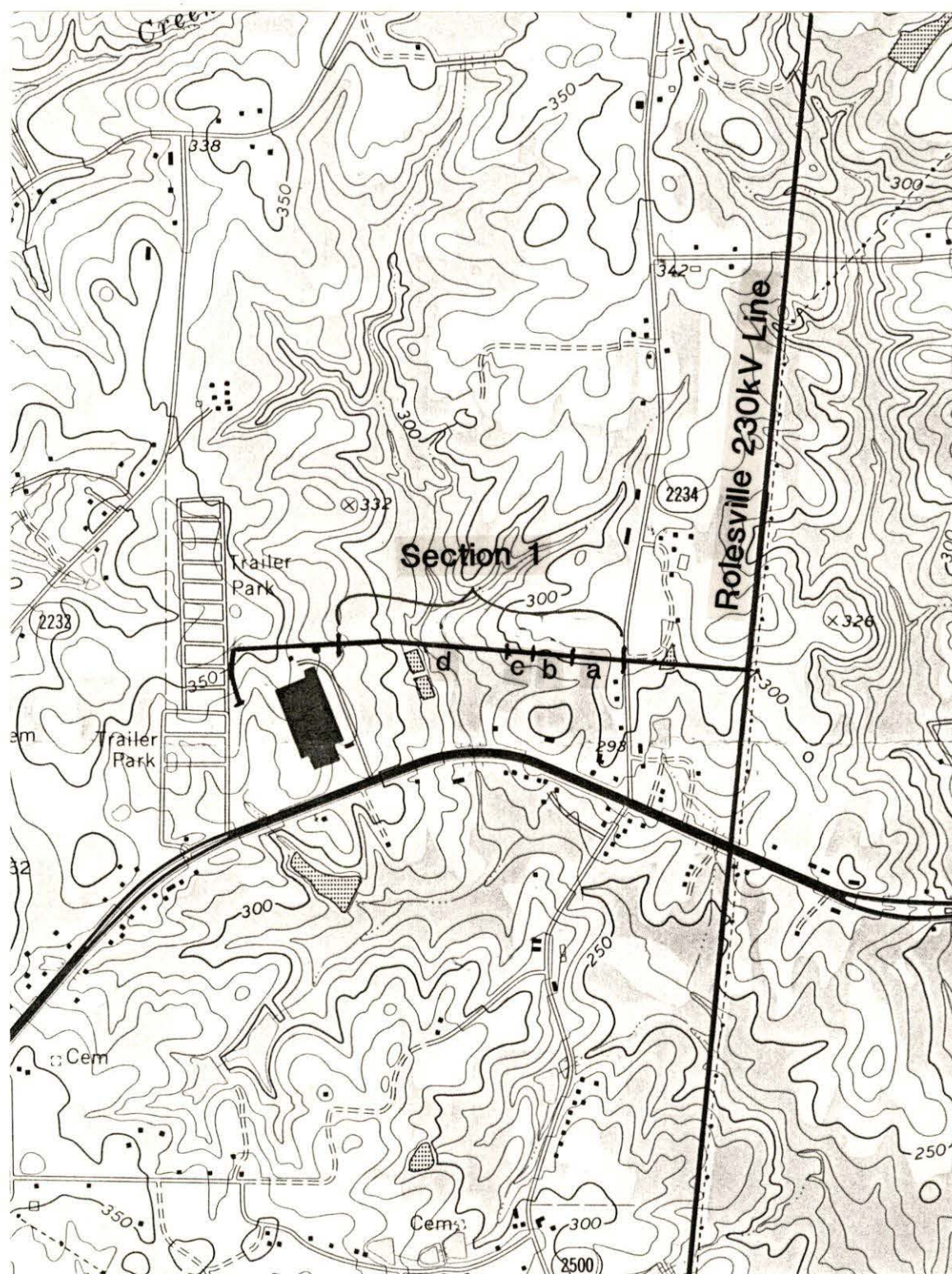


Figure 2. Map of Areas Surveyed in Section 1.

Section 1c

Length: 200 ft.
 Surface Visibility: 90-100%
 Location: Along a gradually sloping upland surface.
 Conditions: Plowed field.
 Comments: Nothing found.

Section 1d

Length: 1700 ft.
 Surface Visibility: 0%
 Location: Along the moderately steep (10-15%) valley slopes of Marks Creek.
 Conditions: Heavily wooded.
 Comments: Nothing found.

Section 2 (Figure 3)

This section is located west of SR 1003 near Bethany Church, between SR 2227 and an unnamed stream located 0.93 miles to the north. Much of this section lies along the eastern edge of an unnamed stream valley. One prehistoric site and two historic sites were recorded within this section.

Section 2a

Length: 2950 ft.
 Surface Visibility: 0%
 Location: Along an undulating upland surface flanking the eastern valley edge of a small stream that flows northwestward into Harris Creek.
 Conditions: Heavily wooded.
 Comments: Two historic archaeological sites were identified within this section. The most conspicuous was 31Wa673 (RLA-Wa302), a small farmstead complex containing an extant 2-story frame house as well as archaeological evidence for an earlier house dating to the early nineteenth century. This site was located near a spring at the northern end of this corridor section and at the edge of a cultivated field. The centerline of the proposed transmission line lies within five feet of the standing structure. A second historic site, 31Wa674 (RLA-Wa303), lies approximately 500 ft south of this structure and about 70 ft east of the eastern edge of the 100-ft wide transmission line corridor. This site is an unmarked cemetery, measuring about 150 x 150 ft in dimension (0.5 acres), that contains clear evidence of at least 70 graves and may contain as many as 200 graves. Because of the cemetery's location in close proximity to the proposed transmission line corridor, extensive auger testing (ca. 100 tests) was conducted within a 200-ft section of the corridor adjacent to the cemetery. Based on this testing, it was concluded that the cemetery does not extend into the corridor, nor are there any other archaeologically significant resources present within this section of the corridor. Shovel testing was conducted in other areas of this corridor section with negative results.

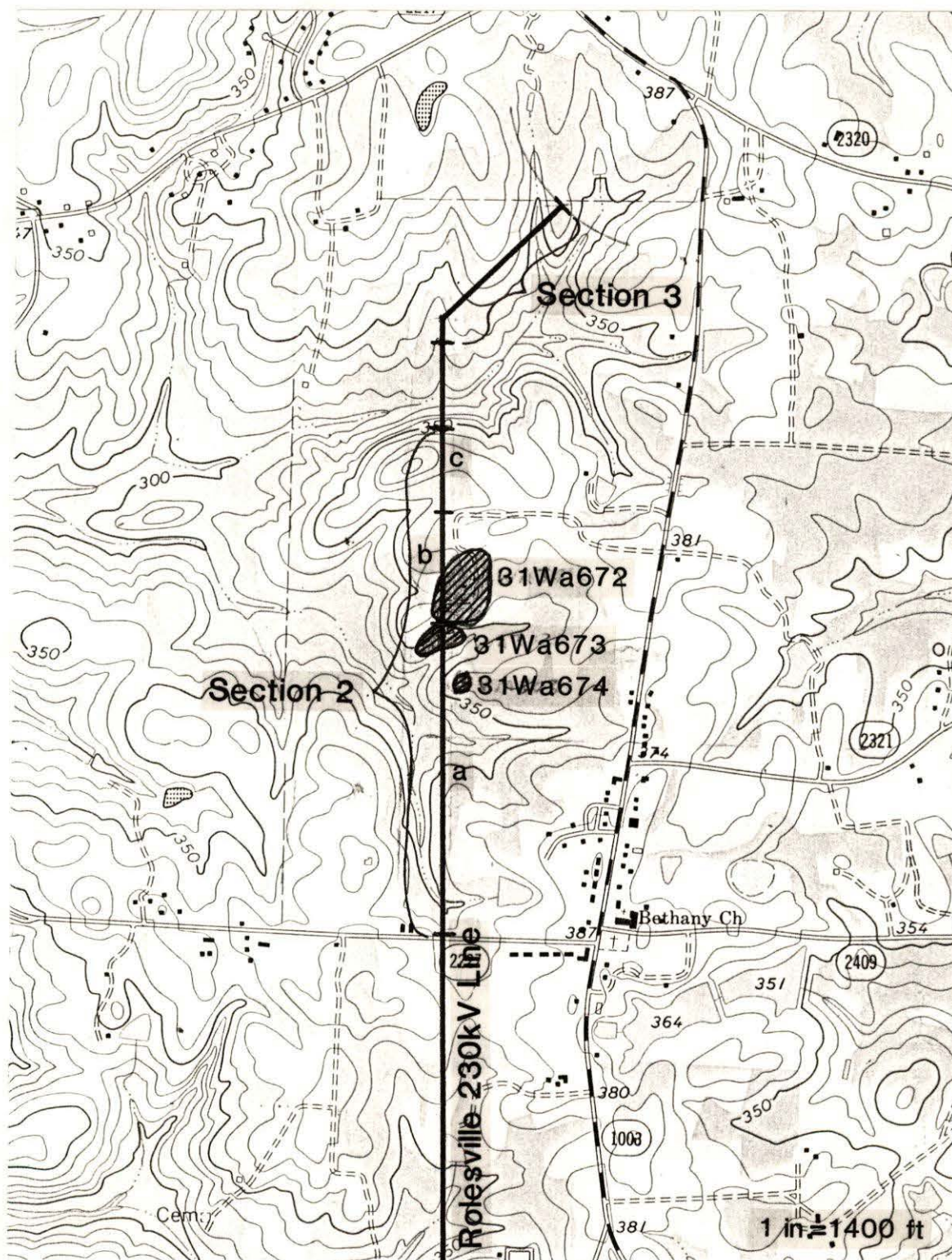


Figure 3. Map of Areas Surveyed in Sections 2 and 3.

Section 2b

Length: 1050 ft.

Surface Visibility: 90-100%

Location: Along a gradually sloping upland surface between two unnamed tributaries.

Conditions: Plowed and planted in cover crop.

Comments: One prehistoric archaeological site was recorded adjacent to 31Wa673. This site, 31Wa672 (RLA-Wa301), is defined by a light scatter of lithic artifacts over a 400 x 700 ft area and lies within the proposed transmission line corridor. Several auger tests were dug to determine soil depth. All indicated a very shallow plowed soil underlain by granitic saprolite or bedrock.

Section 2c

Length: 900 ft.

Surface Visibility: 0%

Location: Along a level upland surface adjacent to an unnamed tributary of Harris Creek.

Conditions: Heavily wooded.

Comments: Nothing found.

Section 3 (Figure 3)

This section is located southwest of the intersection of SR 1003 and SR 2320, between the proposed Rolesville 230kV Substation site and the north edge of an unnamed stream valley 0.35 mi (ca. 1850 ft) to the southwest. This entire section was heavily wooded (0% visibility) and situated along a moderately sloping (10-15%) surface. No prehistoric or historic sites were identified in this section.

The adjacent Rolesville 230kV substation site and access corridor also were surveyed since they had experienced extensive surface disturbance and thus afforded excellent surface-collecting conditions. No artifacts were found despite the fact that the substation site was situated on a low knoll adjacent to two small streams and thus appeared to be a likely prehistoric campsite location.

SITE DESCRIPTIONS**31Wa672 (RLA-Wa301) (Figure 3)**

This prehistoric site is located 0.6 miles north-northwest of Bethany Church on an undulating upland surface that flanks the eastern valley edge of an unnamed tributary of Harris Creek (UTM: 17/730050/3970400; Elev: 365 ft.). The site is defined by a light scatter of lithic artifacts over a 400 x 700 ft area and lies within the proposed Rolesville 230kV transmission line corridor. At the time of survey, the site had been plowed and sparsely planted in cover crop, and surface-collecting conditions were excellent with 90-100% visibility. Surface collections were made on three separate occasions with all visible artifacts (including debitage) being collected. The site also is regularly collected by the landowner and apparently is a favorite collecting spot for other local collectors as well.

An inventory of prehistoric artifacts collected by the RLA and the landowners--Sarah

Robertson and Sam Blanton--is presented in Table 1. These artifacts indicate site use throughout the Archaic period. Early Archaic (8000-6000 BC) site use is evidenced by the recovery of one Palmer Corner-Notched point, 11 Kirk Corner-Notched points, three Kirk Stemmed points, and one LeCroy point. Middle Archaic (6000-4000 BC) site use appears to have been heaviest, as reflected by the occurrence of four Stanly Stemmed points, 27 Morrow Mountain II points, and 32 Guilford Lanceolate points. Late Archaic (4000-1000 BC) occupations, identified by the occurrence of only five Halifax Side-Notched points and six Savannah River points, appear to have been less frequent. Finally, subsequent Woodland period site use is evidenced by a single sand-tempered fabric marked potsherd. Other lithic artifacts collected from the site include: 23 unidentifiable projectile points or point fragments, one drill, 58 bifaces one end scraper, one graver, 8 worked flakes, and 147 unmodified flakes. The general lack of stone tools other than projectile points suggests that this site probably did not serve as an extended base camp where a variety of tasks were performed but rather was occupied for brief periods as a hunting camp where a primary activity was to repair weapons. Consequently, archaeological features other than hearths (which would have long since been eradicated by plowing and soil erosion) are not expected at this site.

Despite this expectation, several auger tests were dug to determine soil depth, stratigraphy, and the potential for buried archaeological deposits. All tests indicated a very shallow (ca. <1.0 ft) plowed soil underlain by granitic saprolite or bedrock. Therefore, the potential for intact archaeological features is extremely low.

Given these observations, it is recommended that no further archaeological work be undertaken at this site.

31Wa673 (RLA-Wa302) (Figures 3-10)

This historic site is located 0.58 miles north-northwest of Bethany Church along the valley edge of a small stream that flows into Harris Creek (UTM: 17/730000/3970290; Elev: 350 ft.). The site defines a small farmstead that includes a two-story frame house, a partially collapsed log tobacco barn, three recent (probably post-World War II) tobacco barns of frame construction, and archaeological remains of a springhouse, ordering room, and a small house or cabin (as evidenced by chimney fall). Although this latter archaeological feature has been interpreted by the current landowners as a detached kitchen for the standing dwelling, it more likely represents an earlier house that possibly dates to the first third of the 19th century. This interpretation is based on the fact that stone (granite) similar to that of the chimney fall was used as piers for the frame house. The chimney and fireplace of the latter were constructed of fired brick, suggesting material from the earlier chimney may have been used in the later construction.

In addition, several historic potsherds that date to the early 19th century were found on the nearby ground surface (Table 2). These include 3 creamware pieces, 8 plain pearlware sherds, and 2 fragments of blue shell-edged pearlware. One fragment of salt-glazed stoneware probably also dates to this time period.

The frame house measures 36.5 ft by 16.4 ft. It is supported by four granite piers on the east side and five granite piers on the west side. Five-by-eight-inch sills support 2 x 8 inch floor joists placed 16 inches on center. All construction lumber is saw-cut with true dimensions and nailed together with modern wire nails. The walls are framed with 2 x 4 inch studs with 24 inch

Table 1. Prehistoric Artifacts from 31Wa672.

Category	Artifact Counts		Total
	Blanton/Robertson Collection	UNC-RLA Collection	
Projectile Points			
Palmer	1	-	1
Kirk Corner-Notched	8	3	11
Kirk Stemmed	3	-	3
LeCroy	1	-	1
Stanly	3	1	4
Morrow Mountain II	22	5	27
Guilford	29	3	32
Halifax	6	-	6
Savannah River	5	-	5
Unidentified Stemmed	6	-	6
Unidentified PPt. Frag.	10	7	17
Other Lithic Artifacts			
Drill	-	1	1
Biface	40	18	58
End Scraper	1	-	1
Graver	-	1	1
Retouched Flake	-	6	6
Utilized Flake	-	2	2
Unmodified Flake	17	130	147
Ceramic Artifact			
Sand Tempered Fabric Marked	-	1	1
Total	152	178	330

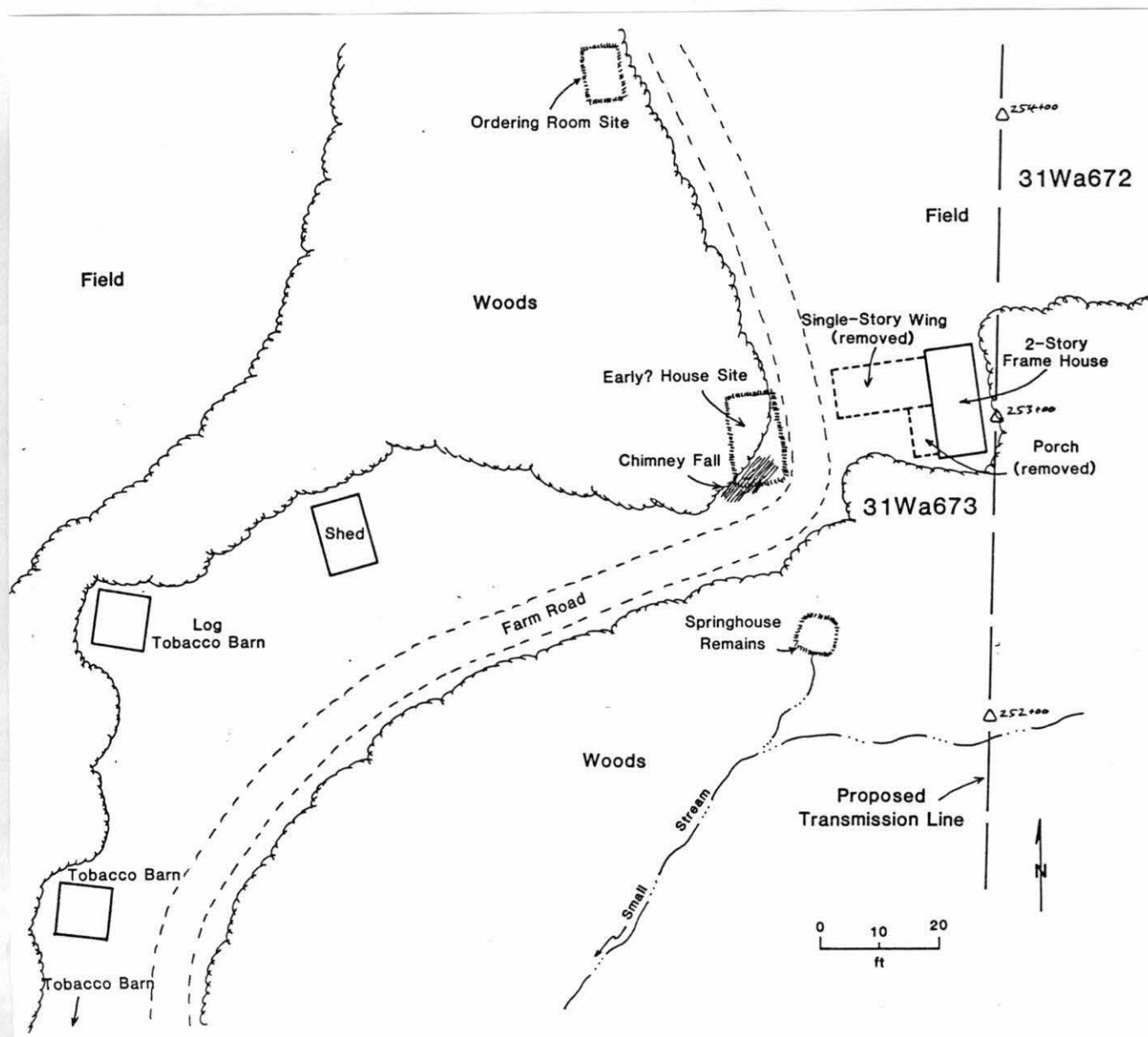


Figure 4. Map of Farmstead, 31Wa673.



Figure 5. General View of Frame House at 31Wa673 (to Southwest).



Figure 6. View of Frame House at 31Wa673 (to Southwest).



Figure 7. View of Frame House at 31Wa673 (to East).



Figure 8. View of Frame House at 31Wa673 (to Northwest).



Figure 9. View of Frame House at 31Wa673 (to North).



Figure 10. Close-up View of Frame House at 31Wa673, Showing Detail of Siding and Boxed Soffit.

Table 2. Historic Artifacts from 31Wa673.

Category	Count
Pottery	
Creamware	3
Pearlware (undecorated)	8
Pearlware (blue shell-edged)	2
Salt-glazed Stoneware	1
Whiteware (undecorated)	7
Speckled Blue Stoneware (mold-made)	3
Glass	
Bottle Glass (green)	6
Bottle Glass (amber)	4
Bottle Glass (blue)	5
Milk Glass Canning Jar Lid	1
Window Glass	1
Unidentified Fragment	2
Metal	
"M&N" Coverall Button	1
Iron Fragment	2
Total	46

nailed together with modern wire nails. The walls are framed with 2 x 4 inch studs with 24 inch centers and covered by 1 x 4 inch siding inside and out. The ground floor consists of 1 x 4 inch tongue-and-groove planks, whereas the second story floor is comprised of 1 x 6 inch tongue-and-groove stock. All the observed construction lumber is yellow pine. The two downstairs rooms are separated by an entry foyer on the east side, adjacent to a double fireplace in the middle, and a staircase on the west side which together form a five-foot wide partition. The two upstairs rooms coincide with the downstairs room arrangement and are accessed by the staircase on the west side of the structure.

At some point after the construction of the initial rectangular structure, a 16 x 32 ft wing was added off the northern half of the west wall. A 36.25 x 8 ft porch also was added adjacent to this wing along the southern half of the west wall. Both were supported by pointed brick piers placed on 8-ft centers. The larger addition may represent a kitchen. Today the piers represent the only structural evidence of these additions.

An area of granite chimney rubble lies 39 ft southwest of the northwest corner of the kitchen (?) addition. The chimney had been recently pulled down by the landowner, who thought it might be part of a detached kitchen associated with the frame structure. For reasons outlined above, we feel there is the possibility that the chimney may have been associated with an earlier house or cabin. A half dozen shovel tests in the overgrown area adjacent to the rubble failed to produce any additional evidence to support either interpretation. Fifty-one feet south of the collapsed chimney is an active spring with an earth-covered embankment surrounding it on three sides. The artificial nature of the embankment suggests the remains of a springhouse used to preserve dairy products and other foodstuffs.

Other buildings associated with the structure include a pit depression that represents the remains of a tobacco ordering room, located approximately 100 ft to the north. A 16 x 24 ft storage shed is located west of the chimney rubble and appears to date to the same construction period as the house. A partially collapsed log and batten tobacco barn, measuring 18 ft square, is located 60 ft southwest of the storage shed. The structure also appears to date to the same general time period as the house. South of the collapsed tobacco barn are two more recent tobacco barns that probably date to the second half of the twentieth century.

The only component of the farmstead that may be adversely impacted by the construction of the powerline corridor is the frame house and surrounding yard area. Buried artifacts and features may be present in the yard area within the corridor. If present, such deposits have the potential for informing on various activity patterns characteristic of early twentieth century farmsteads (eg., Trinkley et al. 1985). The presence of early 19th-century ceramics further indicates the possibility of archaeological deposits associated with this time period. Although subsurface tests in the area of the chimney rubble failed to uncover any archaeological evidence here, the yard surrounding the frame structure, as well as the area beneath it, may contain deposits with the potential for informing on this period in our history. Because historical documents generally describe the lifestyles of the more affluent and notable players in our past, archaeological research can be useful in fleshing out the lives of the common people who, in their own silent way, also charted the course of history.

Given the potential for historic archaeological remains around or underneath the frame

house, we recommend that ground disturbing activities be kept to a minimum along the corridor from the edge of the field immediately north of the structure to the small stream intersecting the powerline just south of the 252+00 survey stake. The cutting and clearing of trees and vegetation should not have an adverse impact if stumps are not bulldozed but rather are cut flush with the ground and allowed to rot in place.

31Wa674 (RLA-Wa303) (Figures 3 and 11)

This historic site is an unmarked cemetery located approximately 500 ft south of 31Wa673 and about 70 ft east of the eastern edge of the 100-ft wide transmission line corridor (UTM: 17/730050/3970150; Elev: 360 ft.). The site, presently in woods, was once surrounded by plowed fields as evidenced by remnant plow ridges and furrows along the site's margins. The cemetery measures about 150 x 150 ft (0.5 acres) and is defined by a continuous ground cover of periwinkle. Within this area are at least 70 clearly visible graves with small granite markers and/or sunken rectangular depressions. None of these roughly cut markers bear any inscriptions. The internal structure of the cemetery is best defined along the eastern edge where at least three north-south rows of graves, each containing 20 or more graves oriented east-west, are visible. Ten to fifteen more graves were observed in the center of the cemetery. These graves also represent north-south grave rows. Given the presence of some graves with stone markers but without a visible depression, and others without markers, it is likely that additional graves are present. If the distribution of graves is as dense as that observed along the cemetery's eastern edge, there may be as many as 200 graves at the site; however, an estimate of 100-150 graves probably is more realistic.

Although a search of historical records and early maps for Wake County, as well as interviews with local informants, failed to provide any specific information as to the age and cultural/ethnic affinity of this cemetery, there is circumstantial evidence to suggest that it probably was a nineteenth century (ca. 1850-1900) black cemetery that may have originated as a slave cemetery (Mr. Jim Sumner, personal communication 1989; see Exhibit #1). This evidence consists of: 1) the lack of an oral tradition or written record regarding the cemetery; 2) the cemetery's lack of association with a church; 3) the presence of a moderately large slave and subsequent free black population in the area; and 4) similarities with Littler's Cemetery, a late nineteenth century black cemetery excavated by the Research Laboratories of Anthropology within the Mayo Creek Reservoir in Person County, North Carolina (Ward and Graham 1978).

Because this site lies well beyond the limits of the proposed transmission line corridor, it should not be adversely impacted; however, it is recommended that special care be taken when the corridor is cleared of vegetation to minimize ground disturbances in this area and avoid operating any machinery outside the corridor.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Archaeological survey and assessment along three segments of the proposed Rolesville 230 kV Tap Line and Knightdale Square D 230 kV Tap Line corridors recorded three new archaeological sites. All three sites are located in close proximity to one another near the northern end of the Rolesville 230 kV line.

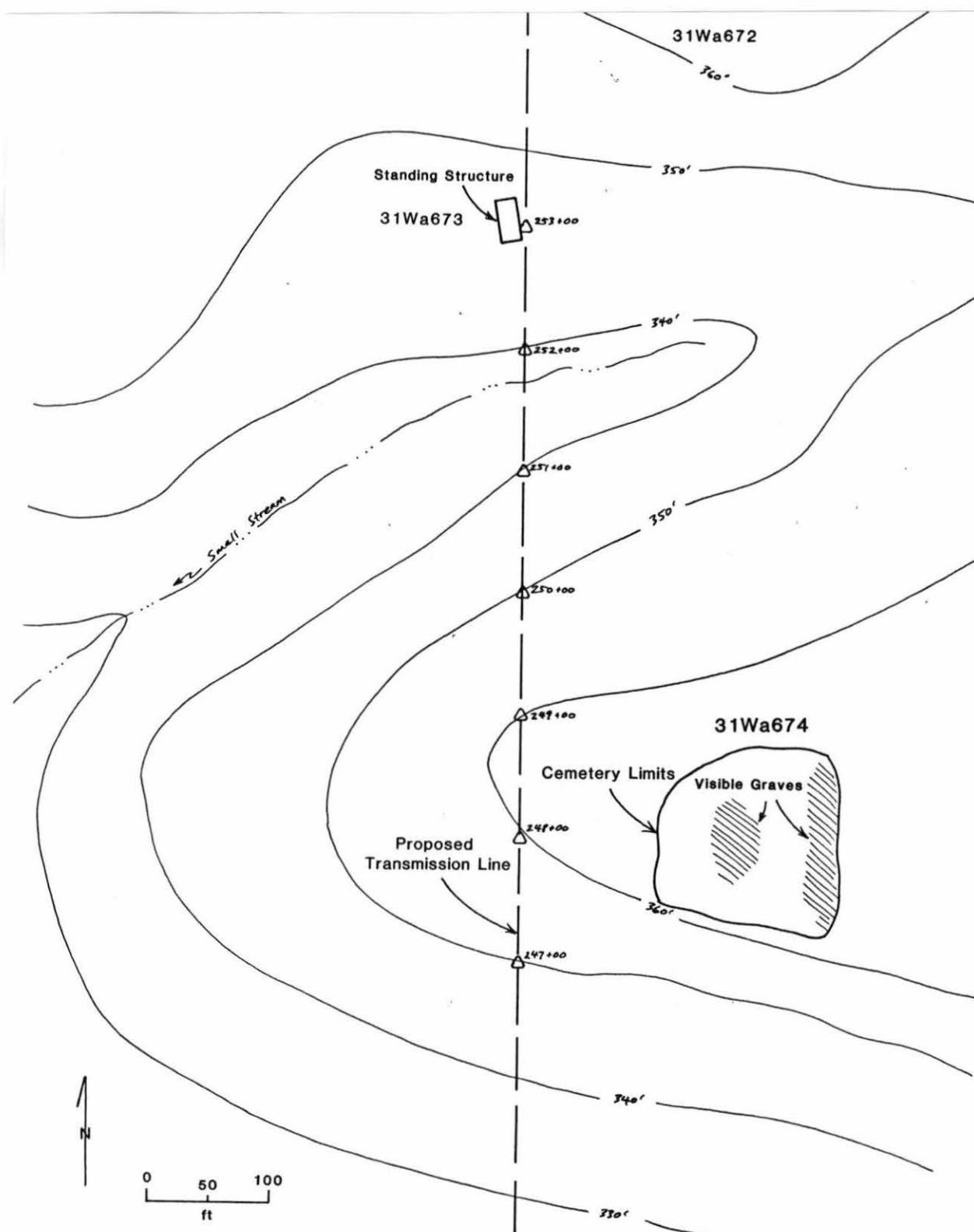


Figure 11. Map Locating Unmarked Cemetery, 31Wa674.

One of these sites (31Wa672) is a prehistoric campsite situated within the corridor. Because this site has been previously impacted by plowing and soil erosion, and therefore lacks intact cultural deposits, it will not be adversely impacted by transmission line construction.

A second site, representing a large, historic cemetery (31Wa674), is located just outside the corridor and thus will not be adversely impacted by proposed construction. However, given the proximity of the corridor (from the 247+00 stake to the 249+00 stake) to this unmarked cemetery, it is recommended that special care be taken when the corridor is cleared of vegetation in order to minimize ground disturbance in this area. Also, no machinery should be operated outside the corridor here. Approximate cemetery limits are shown in Figure 11 and have been flagged (in red) in the field.

The third recorded site (31Wa673) represents a farmstead and contains various archaeological and architectural components, some of which may be significant. The potentially significant components of this site include possible archaeological remains related to early 19th-century and early 20th-century farmstead life. Therefore, it is recommended that ground-disturbing activities be kept to a minimum within this section of the proposed corridor (from the 252+00 stake to the 254+00 stake) and that all construction-related and clearing activities be confined to the corridor itself. To help minimize ground disturbance, stumps of felled trees should be cut flush with the ground rather than pushed out with heavy machinery. These measures should insure that any buried archaeological resources within the corridor are not adversely impacted. As for the standing structures at the site, the two-story frame house is the only building that is located within the corridor. It is our opinion that this structure is not a significant cultural resource, and that the potentially important aspects of this site will not be adversely affected by its removal.

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