

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

VLR 6/8/06
NRHP 9/6/06

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District (Amendment and Boundary Adjustment)
other names/site number VDHR Site No. #060-0202

2. Location

street & number W. terminus Whitethorne Rd (SR 623) not for publication N/A
city or town Blacksburg vicinity X
state Virginia code VA county Montgomery code 121 zip code 24060

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

M. Carter 7/24/06
Signature of certifying official Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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historic name Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District (Amendment and Boundary Adjustment)
other names/site number VDHR Site No. #060-0202

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Signature of certifying official Virginia Department of Historic Resources Date _____
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

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 See continuation sheet.
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 See continuation sheet.
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 other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____
Date of Action _____

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1*	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

*Addition of one contributing site.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 23

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Prehistoric and Historic Resources of Montgomery County, Virginia

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling
DOMESTIC secondary structure
DOMESTIC other: camp or village site

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling
DOMESTIC secondary structure
EDUCATION research facility

=====
7. Description
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Federal
Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone
roof METAL
walls BRICK
other see continuation sheet

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
ARCHAEOLOGY: PREHISTORIC	INDUSTRY
ARCHAEOLOGY: HISTORIC – NON-ABORIGINAL	TRANSPORTATION
AGRICULTURE	

Period of Significance 800 A.D. – 1940 A.D.

Significant Dates 1745, 1834-35

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Harmon, Adam (ca. 1700-ca. 1765); Kent, James Randal (1792-1867); Cowan, John Thomas (1840-1929)

Cultural Affiliation Euro-American, African-American; Native American

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property 350 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing				
1	17	538694	4117155	2	17	538318	4116967	3	17	537945	4116665	4	17	538016	4116584

X See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Thomas Klatka, Regional Archaeologist

organization Virginia Department of Historic Resources date April, 2006

street & number 1030 Penmar Ave., SE telephone (540) 857-6047

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24013

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 41 (continuation page following original 1991 form)

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7. Continuation to Archaeological Description

Thirteen contributing archaeological sites were originally included in the 1991 documentation of the Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District. Five of these sites date to the Late Woodland period (A.D. 900-1600), one dates to the 18th century, and seven date to the 19th century. Most of the 19th-century sites relate to the Kentland plantation established by James Randall and Mary Cloyd Kent.

Archaeological research conducted since 2001 has increased our understanding of the archaeological record at the Kentland domestic complex (44MY260), the Kentland slave quarters (44MY431) and the Orchard Drive Slave Cemetery (44MY432), and identified a previously unrecorded slave cemetery (44MY527). Identification of the slave cemetery requires an adjustment of the district boundaries. This research does not alter the periods of significance for the Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District; nonetheless, it exemplifies the archaeological potential of the property for increasing our understanding of Late Woodland period settlement patterns and 19th-century plantation life and land use in Southwest Virginia. This amendment to the 1991 documentation of the property describes the methods and results of archaeological research at the Kentland domestic complex (44MY260), the Kentland slave quarters (44MY431), the Orchard Drive slave cemetery (44MY432) and the recently identified slave cemetery (44MY527), and reports adjustment of the historic district boundaries.

Kentland Domestic Site (44MY260) and Slave Quarters (44MY431)

44MY260 was never explored archaeologically when included in the 1991 nomination of the historic district. Site definition was based on surface evidence of structural remains associated with the Kentland farmhouse, the principal feature of the historic district. Architectural features on the site included the mid-1830s farmhouse and a brick meat house directly west of the farmhouse, and structural remains included a concrete-capped stone foundation in the southwest yard and a depression in the southeast yard. Oral tradition identified the stone foundation as the remains of an icehouse or cistern, and the depression as the site of James R. Kent's business office.

A limited amount of archaeological work was completed at site 44MY431 in 1991, but its definition was based primarily on surface evidence. The site features 12 grass covered mounds visible on the landscape to the northwest of the Kentland farmhouse. These low mounds are regularly spaced in two rows covering an area of about 165 by 295 feet (50 by 90 meters). Two shovel tests excavated in this area revealed intact structural remains and domestic artifacts. According to oral tradition, these mounds represent the remains of brick structures used as slave quarters at Kentland. Tradition also indicates some of these buildings housed tenant farmers through the early 1940s.

In 2004, the College of William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research completed an archaeological assessment of two acres surrounding the Kentland farmhouse (Moore 2005). This research was performed through a cost-share agreement between the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The intent of this assessment was to provide Virginia Tech with specific information concerning the nature and distribution of archaeological resources, and thereby enable effective

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 42

=====

management of Kentland’s historic resources during routine maintenance and planned renovation of the farmhouse and its grounds.

The archaeological assessment around the Kentland farmhouse included a surface inspection of the project area and controlled shovel testing systematically aligned at intervals of no more than 50 feet (15 meters). These investigations isolated four discrete concentrations of domestic and structural artifacts (designated as loci 1 through 4) within a variable pattern of artifact density distribution over the entire project area. Formal test units were also excavated in two of the discrete artifact concentrations (see pages 42, 43 and 44 of this section). The excavation of larger test units (measuring 3.3 by 6.6 feet or 1 by 2 meters) enhanced functional interpretations, and permitted evaluation of subsurface integrity and depositional processes. This research identified the remains of two structures and one domestic activity area associated with site 44MY260, and the remains of another structure associated with site 44MY431. A previously unknown prehistoric domestic site was also identified. The prehistoric site dates to the Late Woodland period, and it rests primarily in the northern part of the project area where it forms components of sites 44MY260 and 44MY431.

Locus 1 is located in the north and west yards adjacent to the farmhouse and it contains both prehistoric and historic cultural deposits. Prehistoric artifacts include fragments of broken ceramic vessels, lithic debitage from stone tool maintenance and hearth stones. These artifacts reflect discarded items associated with domestic activities. Historic period artifacts in this area mostly reflect domestic activities, but one shovel test revealed a brick foundation at the base of excavation. This foundation was further investigated with one formal excavation unit. A series of features associated with a structure were encountered in the excavation unit (see pages 45 and 46 of this section). The features represent a chimney base, brick floor, cellar fill beneath the floor, a brick foundation and a builder’s trench adjacent to the foundation. Recovered artifacts include structural, domestic and personal items. Oral tradition and photographic evidence support the interpretation of this structural material as the remains of a 19th-century kitchen (see page 49 of this section). Photographs indicate the detached kitchen was a substantial building with four rooms in two stories (Virginia Tech ImageBase 2006). The size and configuration of the building suggests it served multiple functions.

Locus 2 is about 15 meters east of the house and it coincides with a ground surface depression identified by oral tradition as the site of James R. Kent’s office. Structural and construction artifacts from this area are indicative of a building. However, the presence of other artifact classes, such as ceramic and glass tableware and storage vessels, and animal bone, are not common to a business office. Diagnostic artifacts date to the late 18th to early 19th centuries, so this site may represent one of the earlier occupations of the property by Colonel John Buchanan or the Abram Trigg family. Additional excavations were not conducted in this area because a former tenant reported this part of the property contains a septic tank.

Locus 3 is a concentration of domestic artifacts, animal bone and some structural artifacts immediately south of the meat house and west of the archaeological remains of the detached kitchen. Given its location adjacent to two of the main support structures associated with the farmhouse, this area likely represents a primary activity area associated with domestic life at Kentland.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 43

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Locus 4 contains large quantities of prehistoric and historic artifacts in the northwest corner of the project area. The historic artifacts include structural, domestic and personal artifacts. One formal excavation unit placed in this area revealed evidence for another structure, and the vast majority of the artifacts recovered from this area originated in the context of three subsurface features associated with the structure. Two of these features are post molds, and the third appears to represent a subfloor pit. The superimposed nature of the two post molds suggests an episode of structural maintenance. Artifacts recovered from these features suggest the structure was occupied from the mid-19th century through the early 20th century, when it was abandoned. The color and friable nature of soils immediately overlying the features in the western part of the excavation unit appear to represent intact deposits associated with the destruction of the structure, probably by burning. Oral tradition suggests this structure is the southern most slave quarter of site 44MY431 (see page 49 of this section), and recovered artifacts suggest it also functioned as a tenant house.

A distribution of prehistoric artifacts covers most of the project area, but density levels are highest in loci 1 and 4 in the northern part of the project area. Recovered classes of artifacts reflect a domestic site dating to the Late Woodland period. This prehistoric artifact distribution bridges sites 44MY260 and 44MY431 to form a previously unknown prehistoric component at each of the sites. The presence of New River Ware ceramics suggests this occupation is associated temporally and culturally with one of the large Late Woodland sites documented on the extensive floodplain to the south. The location of this domestic site on the bluffs overlooking the river means it represents a poorly understood component of regional settlement systems focused on the bottomlands of major rivers (Egloff 1992).

In summary, the archaeological assessment at Kentland heightens understanding of the horizontal and vertical nature of sites 44MY260 and 44MY341, and demonstrates that both sites retain archaeological deposits with sufficient subsurface integrity to permit functional, temporal and processual interpretations. Although artifacts are spread across the entire project area, subsurface investigations isolated artifact concentrations and identified structural remains. Buried remains of a 19th-century detached kitchen were identified west of the farmhouse at site 44MY260, and late 18th or early 19th-century structural remains in the east yard may represent James R. Kent's office or an earlier occupation of the property. A third structure in the northwest part of the project area is part of site 44MY431. This structure appears to be a domicile that housed slaves and subsequent tenant farmers at Kentland. The assessment also documented a previously unknown prehistoric domestic occupation that bridges site 44MY260 and 44MY431 in the northern part of the project area.

Orchard Drive Slave Cemetery (44MY432)

44MY432 was originally defined on the basis of local oral tradition, which reported a small slave cemetery located in a valley between two bluffs. The site was located on a triangular-shaped piece of land bounded by a spring channel and two gravel roads. This site was field inspected, but never investigated archaeologically. Modern land clearing reportedly displaced and removed a number of river cobbles, which served as grave markers. Although the site area was capped with fill dirt and reseeded, a number of river cobbles were identified on the surface during a site inspection. Oral tradition and surface evidence was used to define a maximum site size of 25 by 45 meters.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 44

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In 2001, the Virginia Department of Transportation conducted limited archaeological investigation in the vicinity of site 44MY432 during the early planning stages of a road improvement project (Lukezic 2001). Four manually excavated shovel tests, and four mechanically excavated trenches with an aggregate length of about 225 feet (68.6 meters), were placed in areas to be affected by road improvements. These subsurface tests were placed in the southeast and southwest parts of the triangular-shaped landform that holds the cemetery. Evidence of human graves was not identified in any of the subsurface tests. These investigations limit the area of the landform that holds the cemetery and suggests the cemetery is located in the northwest part of the landform.

Kentland Slave Cemetery (44MY527)

Archaeological documentation of site 44MY527 was completed in 2004 and 2005 as the product of a collective effort. The principle partner in this effort was the Wake Forest community, whose members are largely descended from people who were enslaved at Kentland. (The inset on page 41 of this section depicts the location of Wake Forest in relation to Kentland.) The project grew from their oral history and progressed with their permission, support and guidance. The project was conceived and organized by an interdisciplinary group of Virginia Tech faculty, who encourage use of Kentland for historic interpretation and actively record local oral histories. Virginia Tech administers the property and its College of Agriculture and Life Sciences continues to operate Kentland as the College Farm. Virginia Tech granted project permission and supported the field research. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources directed the field research with assistance from students at Radford University and Virginia Tech.

Existence of the slave cemetery was only recorded by local oral tradition. Wake Forest community members Frank Bannister, Oscar Sherman and Alexander Jones related their oral histories of the cemetery as received through their grandparents who were Kentland slaves. Frank Bannister's oral history was recorded during a videotaped interview conducted by Jimmie L. Price. Mr. Price also completed a sketch map of Kentland based on the interview and a site inspection he completed with Mr. Bannister prior to Mr. Bannister's 1991 death (see page 49 of this section). Oscar Sherman (deceased in 2004) and Alexander Jones shared their family histories of the cemetery during a field inspection in 2003. Elbert O. Sheppard, whose family worked at Kentland, also field inspected the site and shared his memory of mowing the cemetery as a young boy in the early 1940s. These men located the cemetery on a level ridge top northeast of the Kentland farmhouse. Their reports indicate the cemetery contained uninscribed grave markers enclosed by a post and wire enclosure, and fenced agricultural fields bounded its west side (see page 49 of this section). This area is now used for hay cultivation, and there is no surface evidence of a cemetery.

A series of aerial photographs dated 1953, 1962, 1975 and 1982 (USDA-NRC) provide supporting evidence. Photographic scales prohibit visual identification of a cemetery, but the photographs indicate the cemetery location, as provided by oral tradition, was covered by a small grove of trees, and a fence line formed its west boundary. The fence line no longer exists, but it is still depicted on the 1998 edition of the Radford North quadrangle map.

Archaeological investigations were conducted in two phases. The project initiated in 2004 at the request of the Wake Forest community and its scale was limited to determine the presence or absence of a cemetery. Following successful

**United States Department of the Interior
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 45

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verification of the cemetery, Virginia Tech requested site size information to enhance long-term protection. The Wake Forest community agreed, but requested a limit on the amount of excavation necessary to estimate site boundaries. Archaeological research resumed in 2005 and was structured to meet these requests.

Archaeological investigations included a series of five exploratory trenches (see page 50 of this section). Oral tradition, aerial photographs, topography and the goal of estimating site bounds primarily structured the placement of trenches. Aerial photographs and oral tradition provide a western boundary marked by a previous fence line, and topographic changes to sloping terrain of 20% limit the possible extent of the cemetery to the east and north. Trenches 1, 2, 6 and 7 addressed these considerations. Trench 5 was located beyond the fence that formed the west boundary of the cemetery, but was excavated at the request of project partners. Likewise, trench 2 was extended to the north at the request of project partners.

Mechanical excavation of the trenches extended into subsoil because soil stratigraphy on the site lacked evidence of a plow zone. Excavation depth never exceeded 1.5 feet (46 cm.), and was carefully monitored to enable grave shaft identification and prevent disturbance of human remains. Trench floors were leveled and smoothed with hand tools, and inspected for soil anomalies. Identified anomalies were investigated to determine if their origins were pedogenic or cultural. Soil anomalies attributed to cultural practices were identified in three trenches (see pages 50 and 51 of this section).

Research revealed three circular anomalies of small size that represent post molds (features 9, 15 and 16), and 24 rectangular anomalies that represent grave shafts. Two post molds (features 15 and 16) are located outside of the cemetery, and may mark an agricultural fence or a cemetery enclosure. One post mold (feature 9) is located inside the cemetery and could represent a post used as a grave marker. Indirect evidence that graves were marked includes oral accounts of stone markers, the lack of overlapping grave shafts and the recovery of three roughly shaped limestone slabs from the cemetery. Shale of the Rome Formation underlies the cemetery area and the closest natural occurrence of limestone is beyond Kentland in Brush Mountain to the north (see the inset on page 41). The distribution of observed grave shafts suggests a minimum site size of 82 by 105 feet (25 by 32 meters).

Grave shafts were defined by rectangular stains filled with a mixture of three types of soil produced when the grave shafts were originally dug and backfilled. Most of the identified grave shafts for which width could be determined (n = 22) vary from 1.4 to 3.5 feet (43-107 cm.). However, most of these graves (n = 17) exceed 2.5 feet (76 cm.) feet in width. The graves were aligned in a parallel fashion, and follow Christian tradition with a celestial orientation to the eastern sky. The pairing and clustering of identified grave shafts may reflect bonds of kinship or friendship. The exceptions to these patterns are features 8 and 26. Feature 8 diverges from all other features due to its orientation on a bearing of 350 degrees northwest by 170 degrees southeast. Feature 8 is also located in proximity to a post (feature 9) that may represent a grave marker. Feature 26 is anomalous due to its more oval shape. A fragment of a sheep mandible identified in the top of the grave shaft suggests it represents a livestock, perhaps a pet, burial.

Recorded oral histories from Wake Forest and other local communities do not contain any account of the continued

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 46

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In summary, the existence of a 19th-century slave cemetery is recorded in four known local oral histories. Three of the oral histories are from the Wake Forest descendant community and another is from a former farm employee. Although the cemetery location contains no observable surface evidence for a cemetery, archaeological investigations documented subsurface evidence for 23 human graves, one probable animal grave and 3 posts. Evidence from oral histories, 20th-century aerial photographs, topography and archaeology permit an estimated minimum site size of 82 by 105 feet. This research also indicates the site area retains excellent subsurface integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property **Kentland Farm Historic & Archaeological District**
county and State **Montgomery County, VA**

Section 7 Page 47

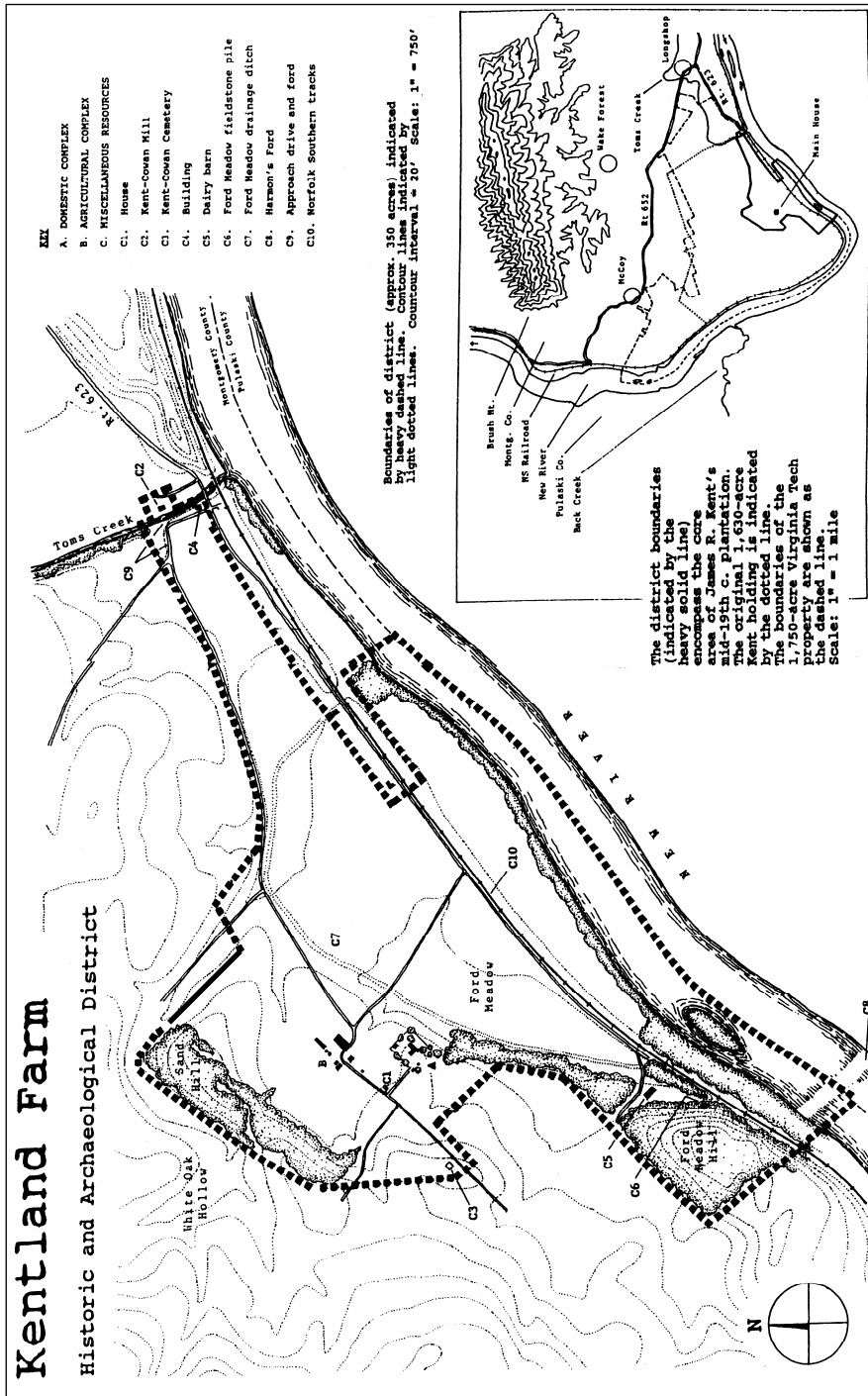


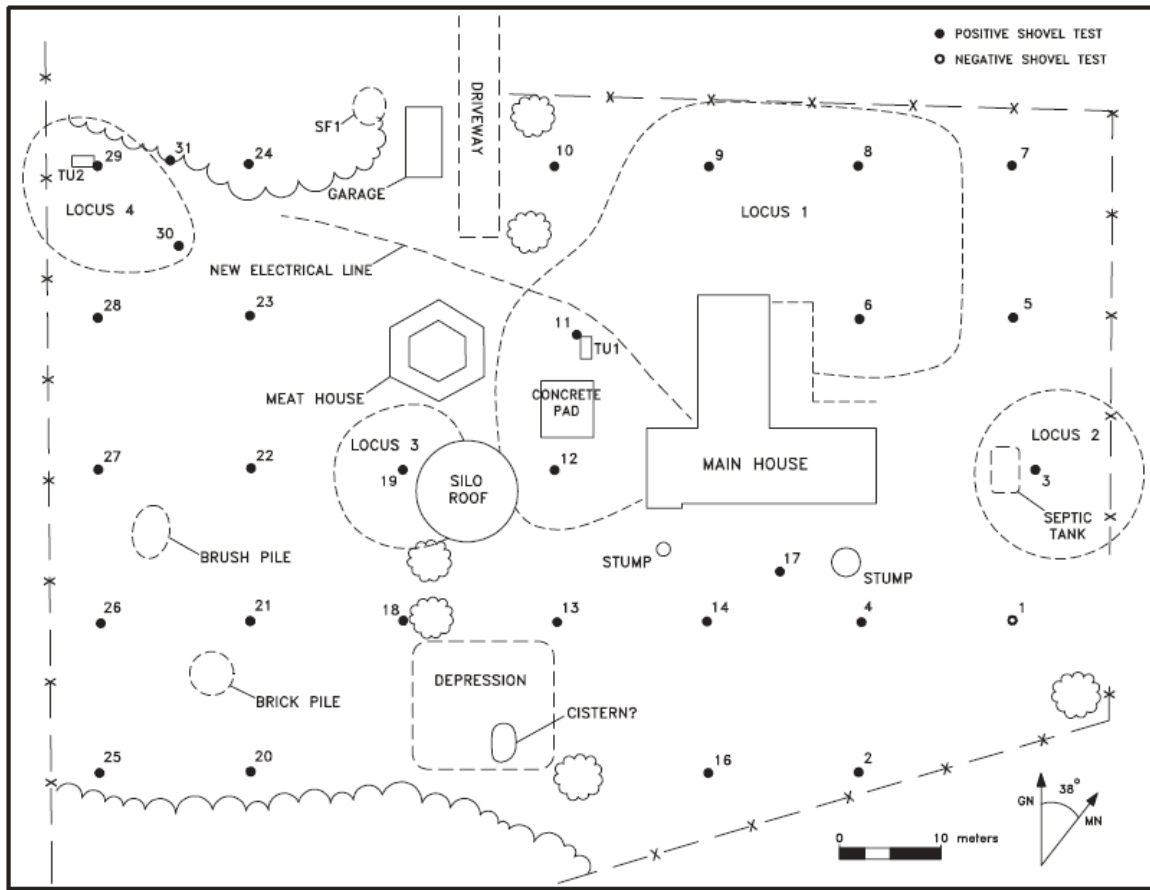
Illustration of district boundaries adapted from the 1991 nomination. District boundaries indicated by heavy dashed line. Adjusted district boundaries indicated by heavy solid line.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic & Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 48



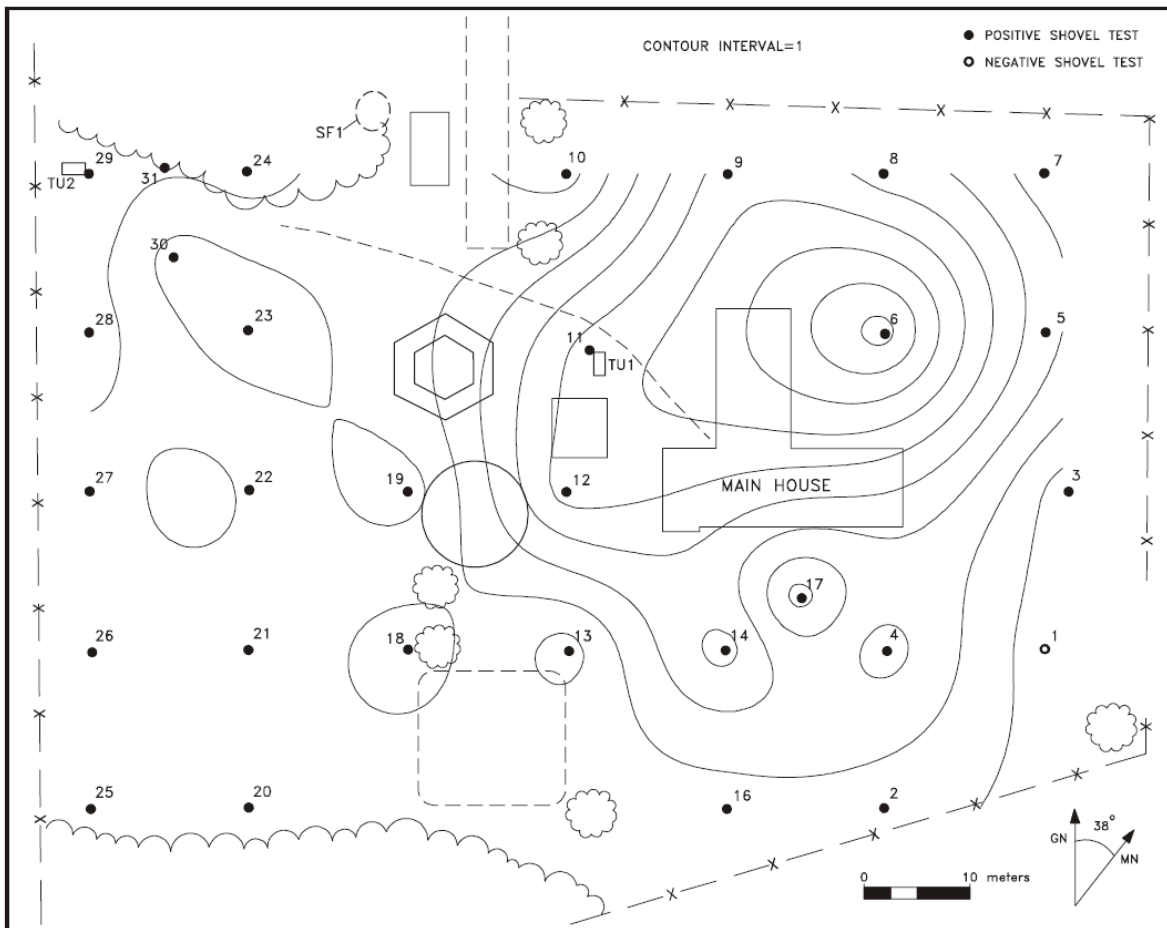
Plan map of site 44MY260 with locations of shovel tests and test units (Moore 2005; illustration by Eric Agin.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 49



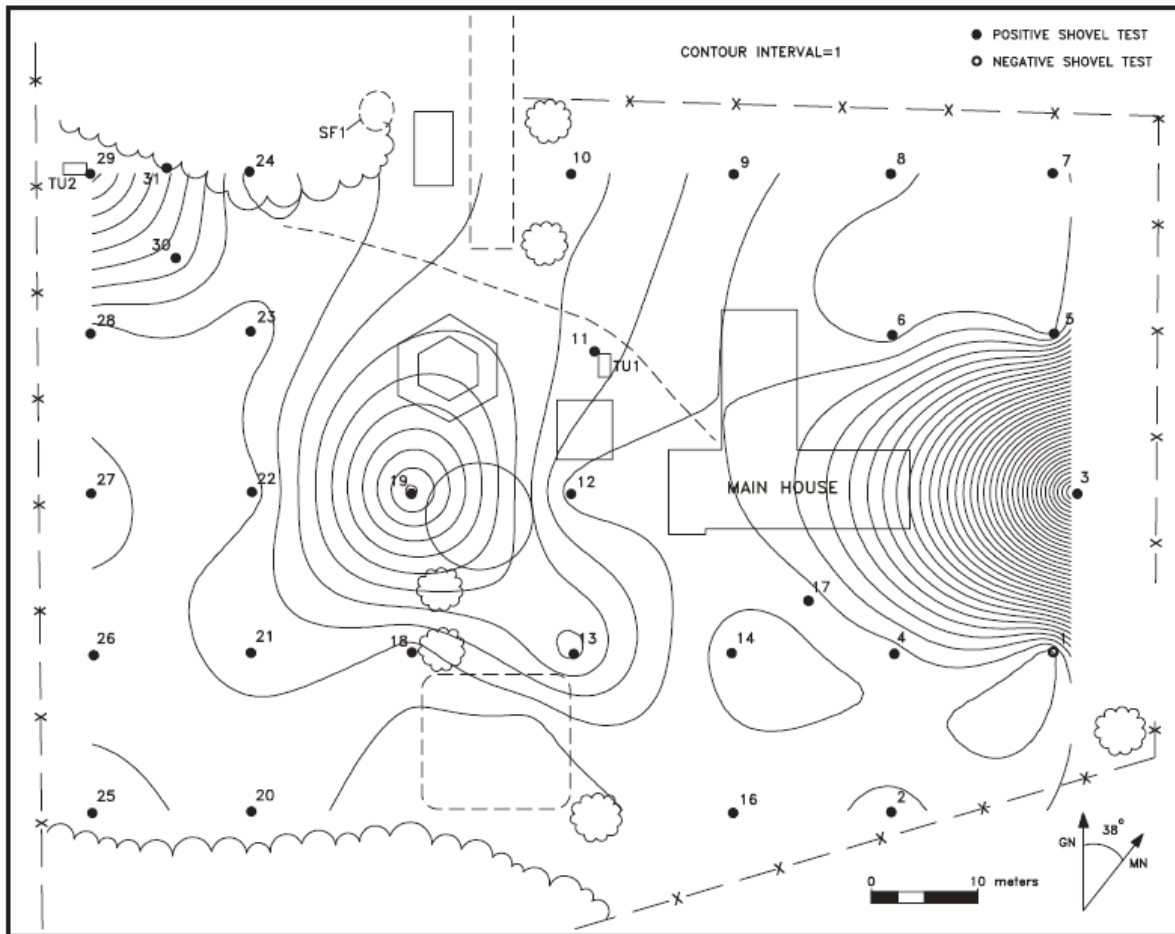
Distribution of prehistoric artifacts recovered during the shovel test survey at site 44MY260 (Moore 2005; illustration by Eric Agin).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 50



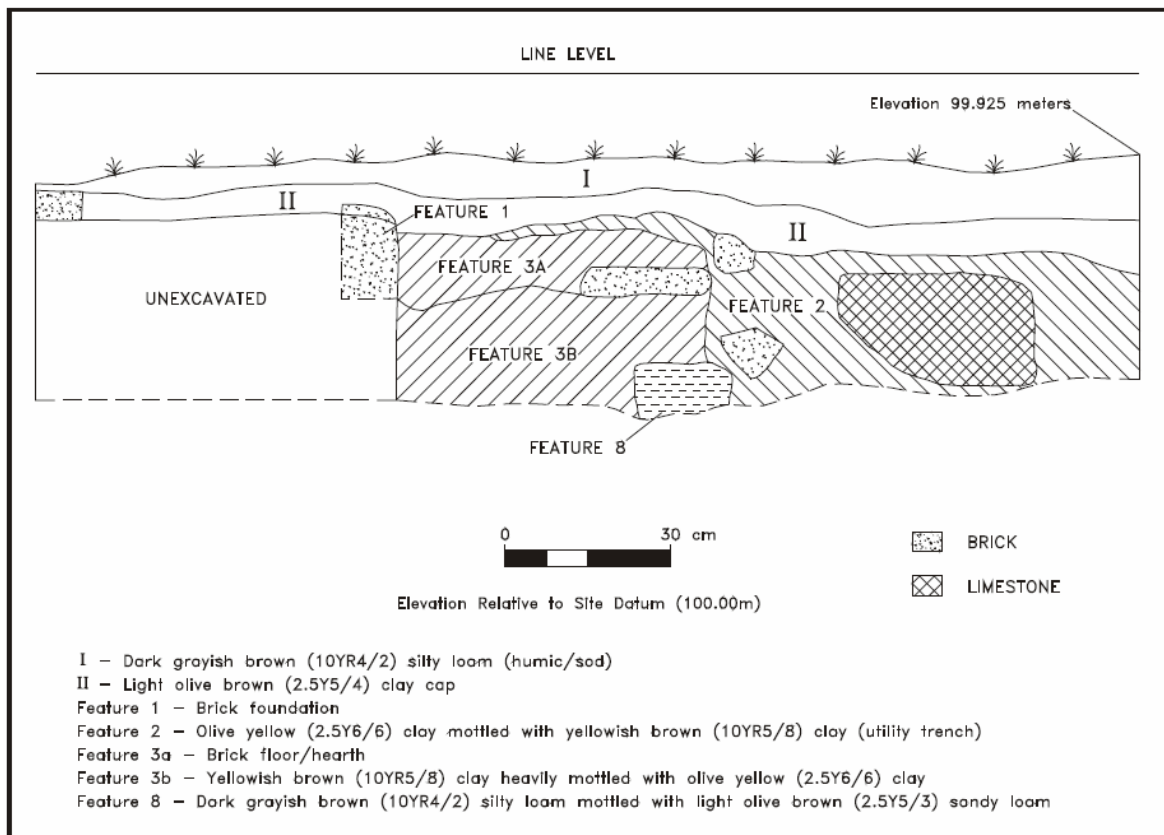
Distribution of historic artifacts recovered during the shovel test survey at site 44MY260
(Moore 2005; illustration by Eric Agin.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 51



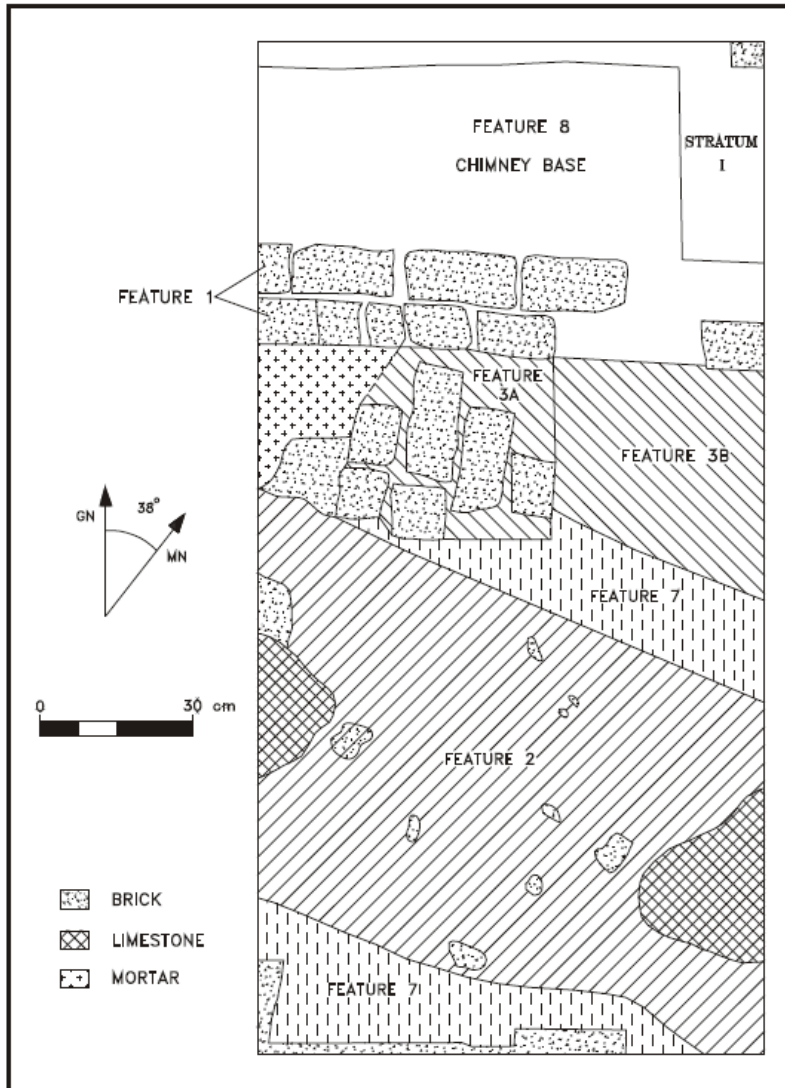
Test Unit 1 (TU1), east profile, at site 44MY260 (Moore 2005, illustration by Eric Agin).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 52



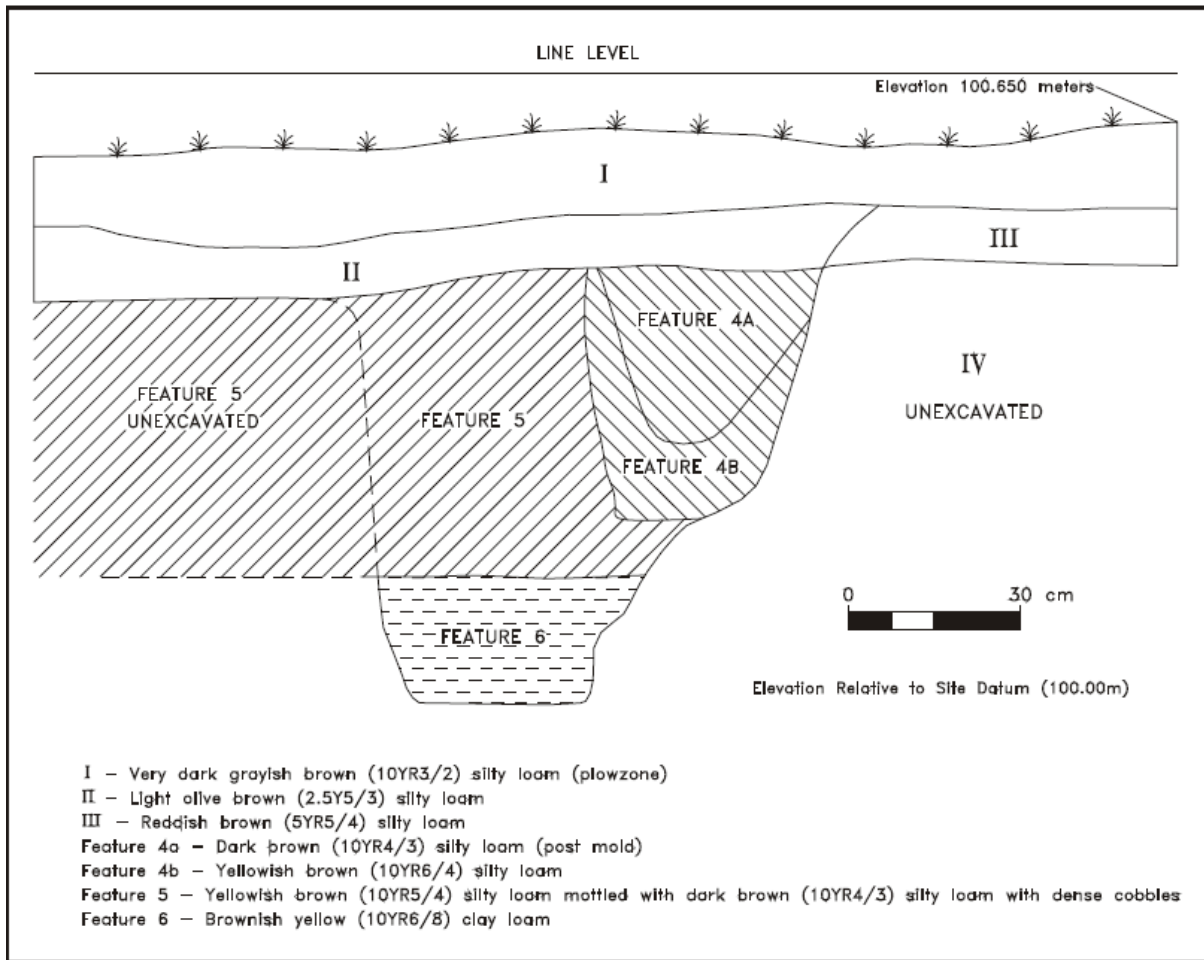
Test Unit 1 (TU1), plan at base of excavation, at site 44MY260 (Moore 2005; illustration by Eric Agin).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 53



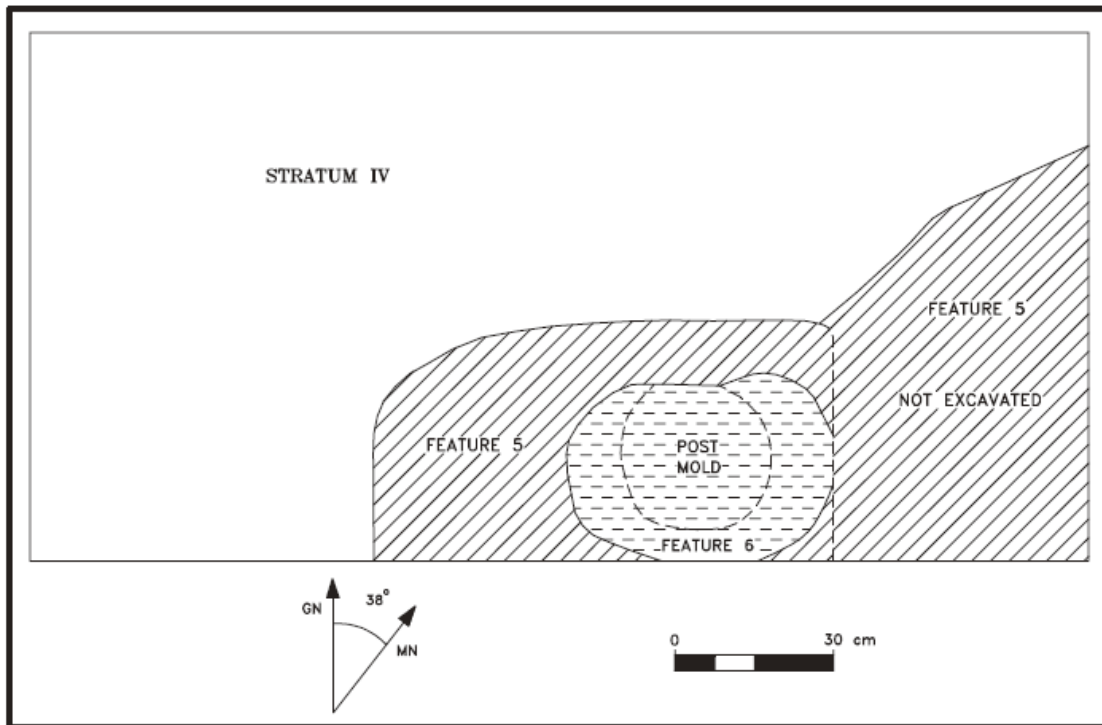
Test Unit 2 (TU2), south profile, at site 44MY260 (Moore 2005; illustration by Eric Agin.)

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 54



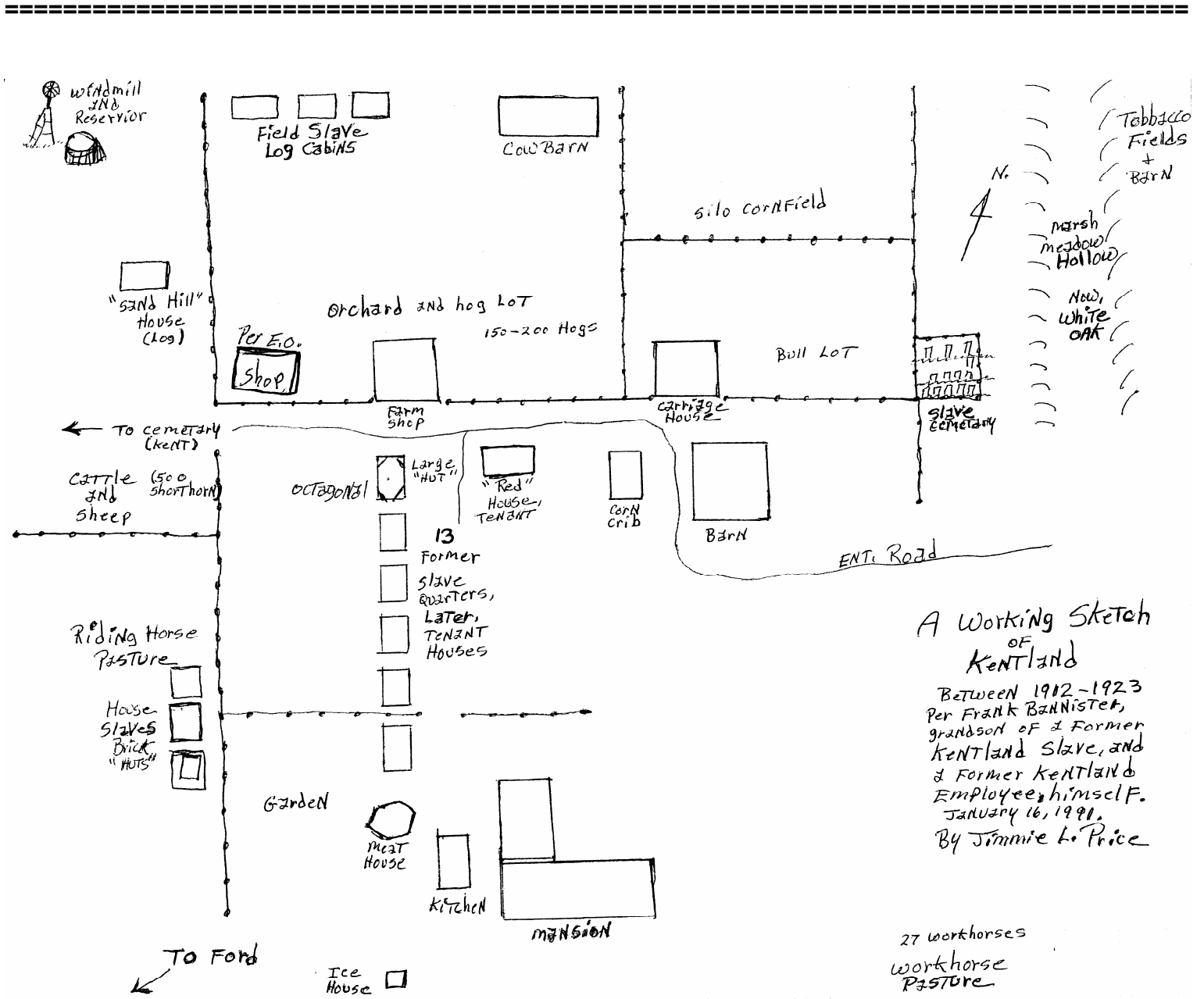
Test Unit 2 (TU2), plan at base of excavation, at site 44MY260 (Moore 2005; illustration by Eric Agin).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 55



A Working Sketch
OF
Kentland
Between 1912-1923
Per Frank Bannister,
grandson of a former
Kentland slave, and
a former Kentland
employee, himself.
January 16, 1991.
By Jimmie L. Price

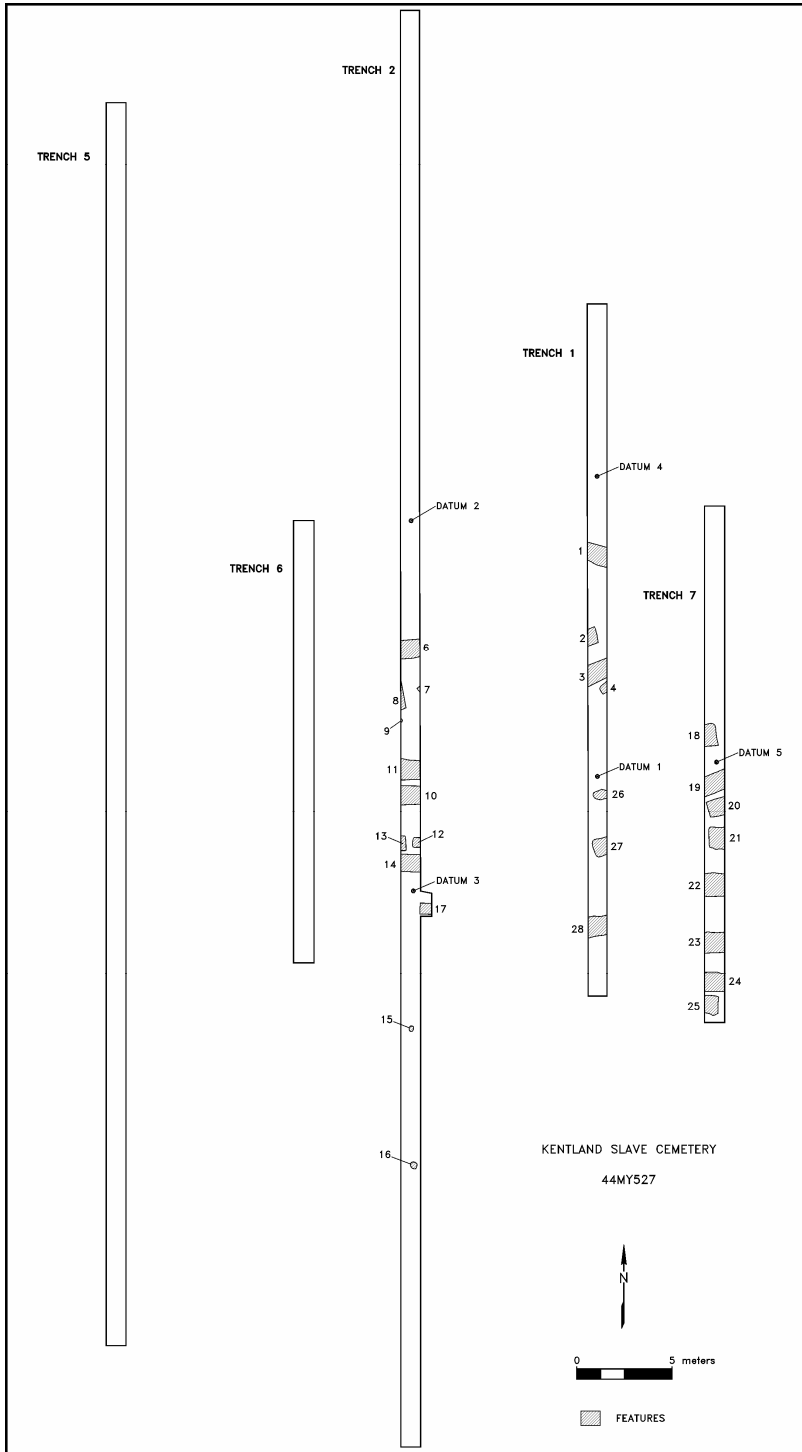
Plan map of Kentland prepared by Jimmie L. Price based on his 1991 videotaped interview of Frank Bannister.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 56



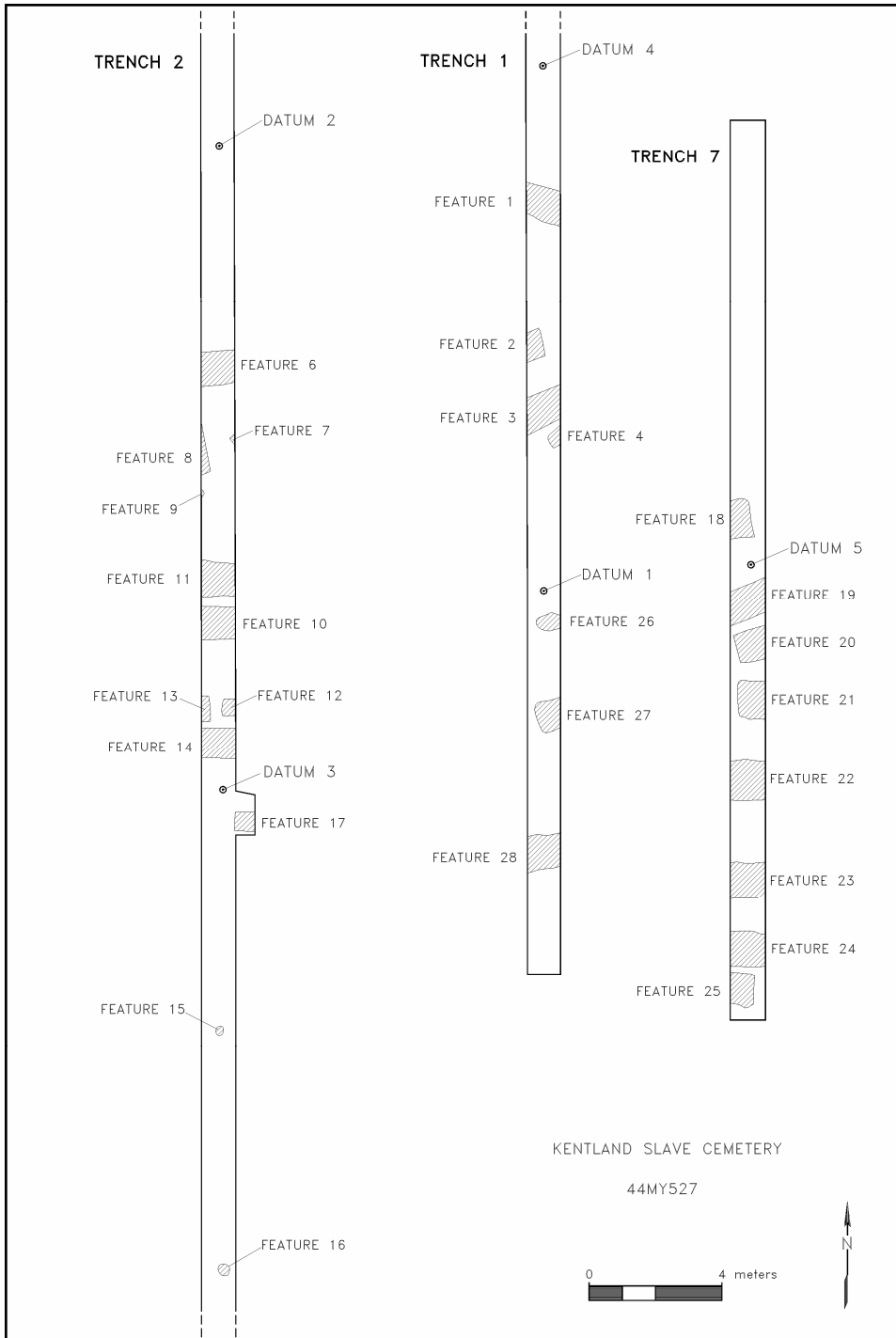
Plan map of site 44MY527 with locations of
exploratory trenches and identified features
(illustration by Eric Agin).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 57



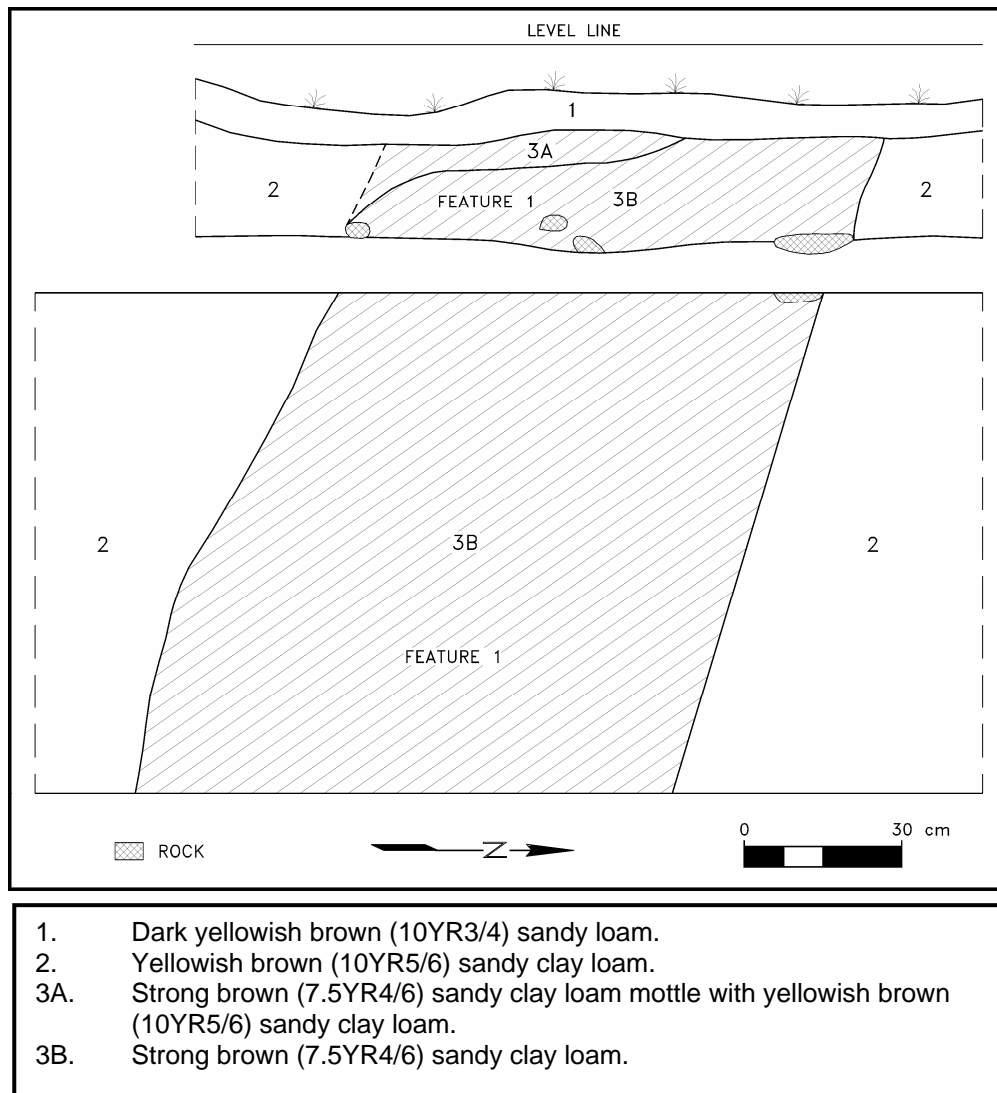
Plan map of site 44MY527, detail of identified features in excavated trenches (illustration by Eric Agin).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 58



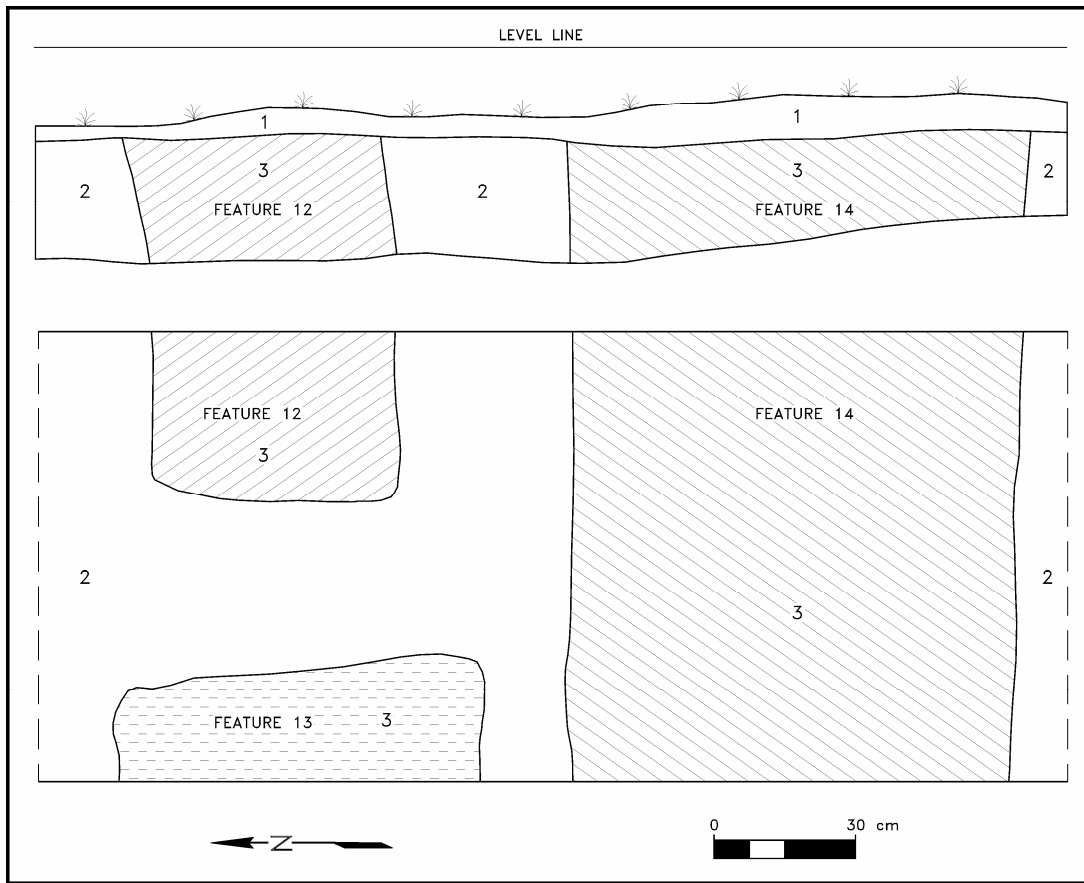
Composite illustration of feature 1 at site 44MY527, with west profile (upper) and plan at base of excavation (lower) (illustration by Eric Agin).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 7 Page 59



- 1. Dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) sandy loam.
- 2. Yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay loam.
- 3. Strong brown (7.5YR4/6) sandy clay loam.

Composite illustration of Features 12, 13 and 14 at site 44MY527 with east profile (upper) and plan at base of excavation (lower) (illustration by Eric Agin).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 8 Page 14 (continuation page following original 1991 form)



8. Continuation to Statement of Significance

Archaeological Background

The archaeological assessment of two acres surrounding the Kentland farmhouse identified a prehistoric domestic site which forms a component of site 44MY260 and site 44MY431. The presence of New River Ware ceramics at this site suggests the occupation is associated temporally and culturally with one of the large Late Woodland sites documented on the extensive floodplain to the south. As a Late Woodland site situated on the bluffs overlooking the New River Valley, it is an example of a poorly understood upland facet of a regional Late Woodland period settlement system focused on the bottomlands adjacent to major watercourses. The presence of lithic artifacts made of nonlocal material, such as metavolcanic lithic material, provides evidence of the exchange networks that connected Native American communities in separate regions.

The site represents a little known facet of a broad regional settlement system, in which Native American communities of the Late Woodland period were connected by alliances perpetuated and transformed by cultural spheres of interaction such as exchange relations. Future research of this prehistoric component will increase an understanding of the local pattern of community organization, its function in a larger settlement system and the cultural mechanisms that structured cohesion of the system.

The archaeological assessment around the Kentland farmhouse heightened our substantive understanding of Kentland's core area in general, and the horizontal complexity of its component sites, 44MY260 and 44MY431, in particular. Subsurface testing demonstrated that both sites retain archaeological deposits with sufficient vertical integrity to permit functional, temporal and processual interpretations. Retention of the core area of the Kentland plantation as a single landholding, and its uninterrupted use as an agrarian landscape, presents a rare opportunity to develop a case study in agricultural, economic and social history in Southwest Virginia.

Continued research will enable an understanding of the tempo and development of a 19th-century plantation supported by the institution of slavery, and its position in a regional system of plantations interspersed among smaller farms and commercial centers in Southwest Virginia. Research of this property will also enable a single-property study of the transformation of this antebellum system during the social and economic reconstruction following the Civil War.

Our understanding of the number, nature and form of slave cemeteries in Southwest Virginia is poor. Few slave cemeteries have been documented, and no others have been assessed archaeologically in this area. Continued assessment of site 44MY527 will provide formal data on size, design and internal site structure to develop a greater understanding of 19th-century slave cemeteries in Southwest Virginia. Continued research using methods that do not intrude graves can directly address questions including: site size and location; the presence, form and size of enclosure types and grave markers; and the internal structure of a cemetery. Palynological studies can address the presence and use of ornamental plants in the cemetery as decorative features or as markers for graves. Comparative studies with coeval cemeteries for free and other slave populations should reveal similarities and variation in mortuary patterns.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 8 Page 15

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While the state of bone preservation at site 44MY527 is not known, the graves potentially hold significant information for mortuary and physical anthropological studies. The graves likely hold mortuary information including grave shaft design, presence or absence of subfloor vaults, and preparation of the deceased for burial. With sufficient levels of bone preservation, site 44MY527 will have the potential to provide information relating to the demographic conditions, nutritional health, physical stress and physical trauma of enslaved men, women and children poorly documented in written records. Furthermore, preserved skeletal material provides a means to study the possible linkage of nutrition level with diet, disease, medical practices, and economic and social rank in the 19th century.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 9 **Page** 7 (continuation page following original 1991 form)



9. Continuation to Major Bibliographic References

Egloff, Keith

1992 The Late Woodland Period in Southwestern Virginia. In *Middle and Late Woodland Research in Virginia: A Synthesis*, edited by T.R. Rinehart and M.E.N. Hodges, pp. 187-223. Special Publication No. 29. Archeological of Virginia, Richmond.

Lukezic, Craig

2001 Orchard Drive Project. Letter report submitted by the Virginia Department of Transportation to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Filed with documentation of project #97-1595 at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

Moore, William H.

2005 *Archaeological Survey and Limited Evaluation, Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District (060-0202), Montgomery County, Virginia*. Report prepared by the William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

Virginia Tech ImageBase.

2006 Kitchen and Smokehouse at Kentland Farm, in *Elizabeth Kent Adams Collection* (Ms 90-045), and Kentland Kitchen (center) and Smokehouse in *James Randall Kent Collection* (Ms 87-031). Special Collections, Digital Library and Archives, University Libraries, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. <http://imagebase.lib.vt.edu/>

United State Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

- 1982 Montgomery County, Virginia Aerial Photographs. Christiansburg Service Center.
- 1975 Montgomery County, Virginia Aerial Photographs. Christiansburg Service Center.
- 1962 Montgomery County, Virginia Aerial Photographs. Christiansburg Service Center.
- 1953 Montgomery County, Virginia Aerial Photographs. Christiansburg Service Center.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section 10 Page 3 (continuation page following original 1991 form)

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UTM continued

	Zone	Easting	Northing
5	17	538255	4116805
6	17	538377	4116688
7	17	537222	4115464
8	17	536917	4115812
9	17	537260	4116170
10	17	537293	4116345
11	17	537125	4116535
12	17	537036	4116441
13	17	537000	4116474
14	17	536977	4116878
15	17	537320	4117251
16	17	537589	4117017
17	17	537721	4117086
18	17	537856	4117000
19	17	538339	4117117
20	17	538605	4117317
21	17	538615	4117292
22	17	538648	4117302
23	17	538653	4117277
24	17	538623	4117267

Amended Verbal Boundary Description

This amendment to the 1991 documentation for the Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District includes an adjustment of the property boundary. The original Boundary map has been completely redrawn with the UTM points recalculated by way of the Topozone mapping system available online. The boundaries of the entire district are as documented by the UTM points listed above and marked on the Radford North Quadrangle map. Each corner or change of direction has been noted by a UTM point.

Boundary Justification for Amendment

The adjustment to the boundaries of the Kentland Farm Historic and Archaeological District was made so as to include site 44MY527, the site of the Kentland slave cemetery.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

name of property Kentland Farm Historic &
Archaeological District
county and State Montgomery County, VA

Section Photo Page 2 (continuation page following original 1991 form)

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Photographic Documentation for Amendment

- Photo 1 Location of Kentland Slave Cemetery (44MY527), view to the northeast
- Photo 2 Feature 20 at Kentland Slave Cemetery (44MY527), view to the east
- Photo 3 Feature 28 at Kentland Slave Cemetery (44MY527), view to the east
- Photo 4 Feature 2 at Kentland Slave Cemetery (44MY527), view to the west

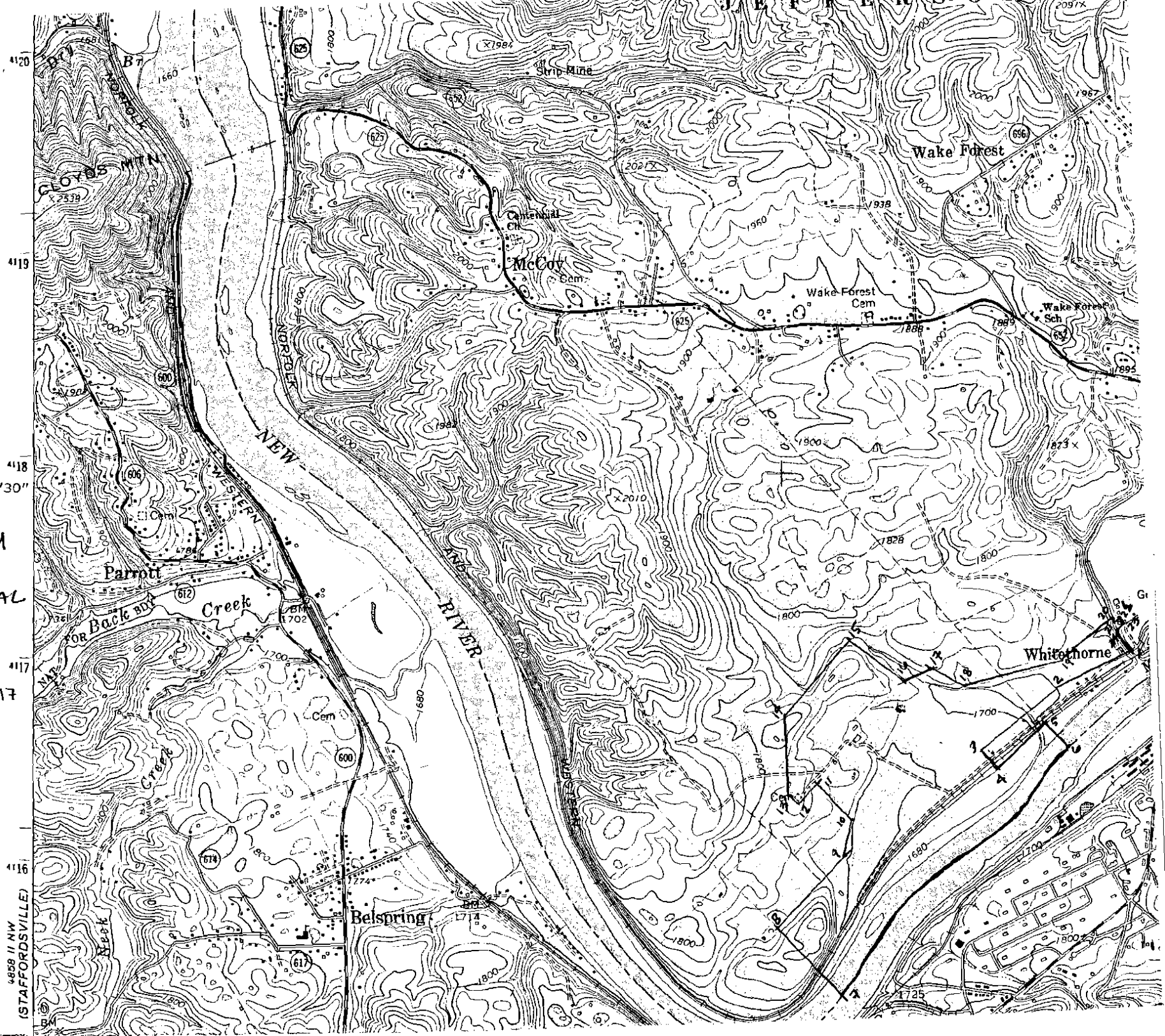
RADFORD NORTH
QUAD

KENTLAND FARM
HISTORIC AND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DISTRICT

066-0202

UTM ZONE 17

538694E
411715N
538310E
4116967N
537945E
4116665N
538016E
4116584N
538255E
4116805N
538377E
4116688N
537222E
4115464N
538917E
4115812N



4458 11 NW
(STAFFORDSVILLE)