

PW Parkway ES

Prince William County, Virginia

WSSI #21315.03

Cultural Resources Site Assessment

November 2015

Prepared for:

Prince William County Public Schools

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**Cultural Resources Site Assessment
PW Parkway ES (25± acres)
WSSI #21315.03**

INTRODUCTION

This transmittal presents an evaluation of the potential for locating cultural resources on the ±25-acre study area on the PW Parkway ES study area located southeast of the intersection of Prince William Parkway and Old Bridge Road and immediately south of Chinn Park Drive in Prince William County, Virginia (Exhibit 1 and 2) .

The study area is located within a ±77-acre parcel and contains a previously undeveloped forest. The area is drained to the east by Crooked Run and an unnamed tributary, which flows into Crooked Run. The study area vicinity includes Chinn Park Recreation Center to the northwest, residential development to the north and south, and playing fields and forests to the east and west.

KNOWN CULTURAL RESOURCES IN OR NEAR THE PROJECT AREA

The following inventory of previously recorded cultural resources within and near the project area was established by using the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' (DHRs) online Virginia Cultural Resource Information System (V-CRIS), as well as examining cultural resource files and reports at the Thunderbird Archeology office in Gainesville, Virginia.

No archeological sites or architectural resources have been recorded within the current study area. One archeological site and seven architectural resources have been identified within a one-mile radius of the project area (Tables 1 and 2). Exhibit 3 shows the locations of these cultural resources.

Archeological Site 44PW1989 is located within Chinn Park immediately north of the study area. The prehistoric site contained quartz debris found in three shovel test pits, two of which showed signs of ground disturbance. No cultural features, flakes, flake tools, or shaped tools were found. The site lacked diagnostic artifacts and could not be dated to a specific time period. It was recommended that the site is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). No additional archaeological work was recommended.

Three of the seven previously recorded architectural resources within a one mile radius of the study area are no longer extant. Three cemeteries were recorded over one-quarter of a mile from the project area. These are not recommended eligible to the NRHP and have not been evaluated by DHR. One circa 1967 house was recorded and recommended not eligible because it does not meet the NRHP 50-years of age requirement and is not exceptional.

TABLE 1: Previously Recorded Archeological Sites within a One Mile Radius of the Study Area

| DHR Site Number | Site Type | Temporal Affiliation | National Register Eligibility |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 44PW1989 | Lithic Scatter | Prehistoric/Unknown | Not Evaluated |

TABLE 2: Previously Recorded Architectural Resources within a One Mile Radius of the Study Area

| DHR Resource Number | Resource Name | Resource Type | Temporal Affiliation | National Register Eligibility |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 076-0261 | Fairview School | School/Dwelling | ca. 1877 | Destroyed |
| 076-0296 | Reed Cemetery, Reid Cemetery | Cemetery | ca. 1860 | Not Evaluated |
| 076-5133 | Marshall Cemetery | Cemetery | 1898-1931 | Not Evaluated |
| 076-5201 | House, 13401 Haversack Lane | Dwelling | ca. 1955 | Destroyed |
| 076-5202 | House, 13431 Haversack Lane | Dwelling | ca. 1967 | Not Evaluated |
| 076-5203 | Farmstead, 13450 Haversack Lane | Dwelling and Outbuildings | ca. 1925 | Destroyed |
| 076-5204 | Holland Family Cemetery | Cemetery | 1897-1973 | Not Evaluated |

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE PROBABILITY

The following presents an assessment of the probability that archeological sites will occur within the study area based on topography, drainage, the presence of roads and historic map projection. This has not been field verified.

The probability for locating prehistoric sites generally depends on the variables of topography, proximity to water, and internal drainage. Sites are more likely on well-drained landforms of low relief in proximity to water. The probability for the occurrence of historic period sites largely depends upon the historic map search, the history of settlement in the area, the topography and the proximity of a particular property to historic roads. However, the absence of structures on historic maps does not eliminate the possibility of an archeological site being present within the property as it was common for tenant, slave, and African-American properties to be excluded from these maps.

There is a moderate to high probability of locating prehistoric period archeological resources within the study area due to the presence of low-relief, well-drained topography within the study area and sources of fresh water in the vicinity, and the previous

recordation of one prehistoric period archeological resource within the park.

Historic maps and aerial photographs show no buildings in the study area; however, land adjacent to the project area to the southwest was occupied and farmed by a “Hothkiss” before or during the Civil War (McDowell 1862). According to USGS quadrangle topographic maps, the dwelling was destroyed between 1940 and 1948. Based on our review of available historic maps, several roads, farms and dwellings were present in the study area vicinity by the time of the Civil War; one dwelling appears near the project area during this period. As such, and due to the presence of arable land within study area; there is a moderate to high probability of locating historic period archeological resources within its boundaries.

Exhibit 4 shows the locations within the study area assessed with medium and high probability for the presence of archeological sites. Based on a review of recent topographic maps and aerial photography, we have assumed that some locations that might otherwise have a moderate to high probability for the occurrence of archeological sites have been disturbed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to the moderate to high probability for locating archeological resources within portions of the study area, we recommend that a Phase I cultural resources (archeological) investigation be conducted. If prehistoric sites are present in the upland portions of the study area, deposits will likely to be confined to plowed strata and are not likely to require work beyond the recordation done at the Phase I level. Plowing disturbs the context of the Native American artifacts, thus reducing the information potential of a particular site.

Historic period archeological sites dating to the 19th century or earlier, if present within the study area, will likely require additional archeological work. This is particularly true of enslaved African American or tenant occupation sites, as these site types have been less intensively studied. Archeological sites dating to the 20th century are not likely to be considered significant unless they contain unique, intact cultural materials that would contribute new research information.

Sincerely,

THUNDERBIRD ARCHEOLOGY
A Division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.



Boyd Sipe, M.A., RPA
Manager - Archeology

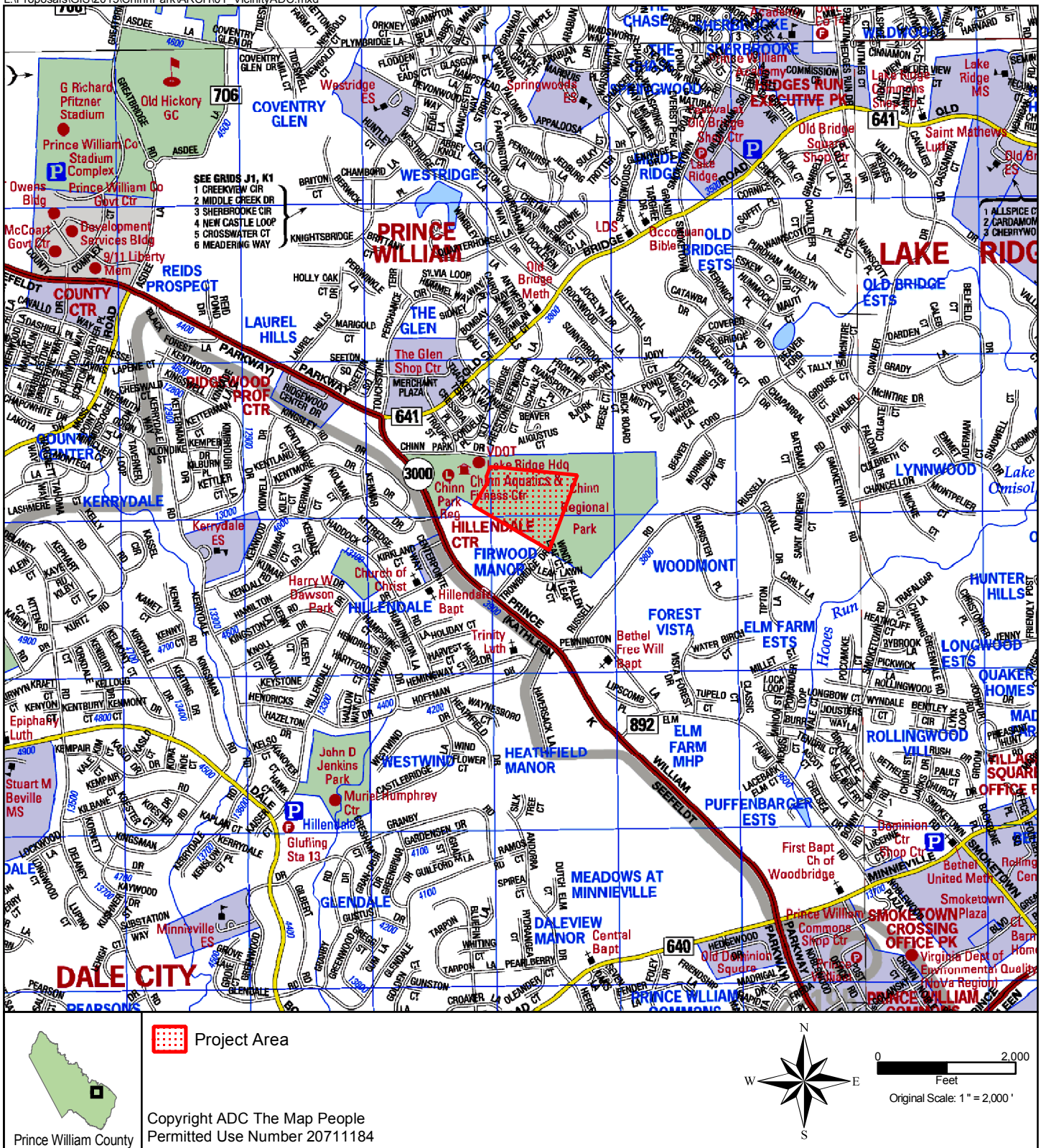


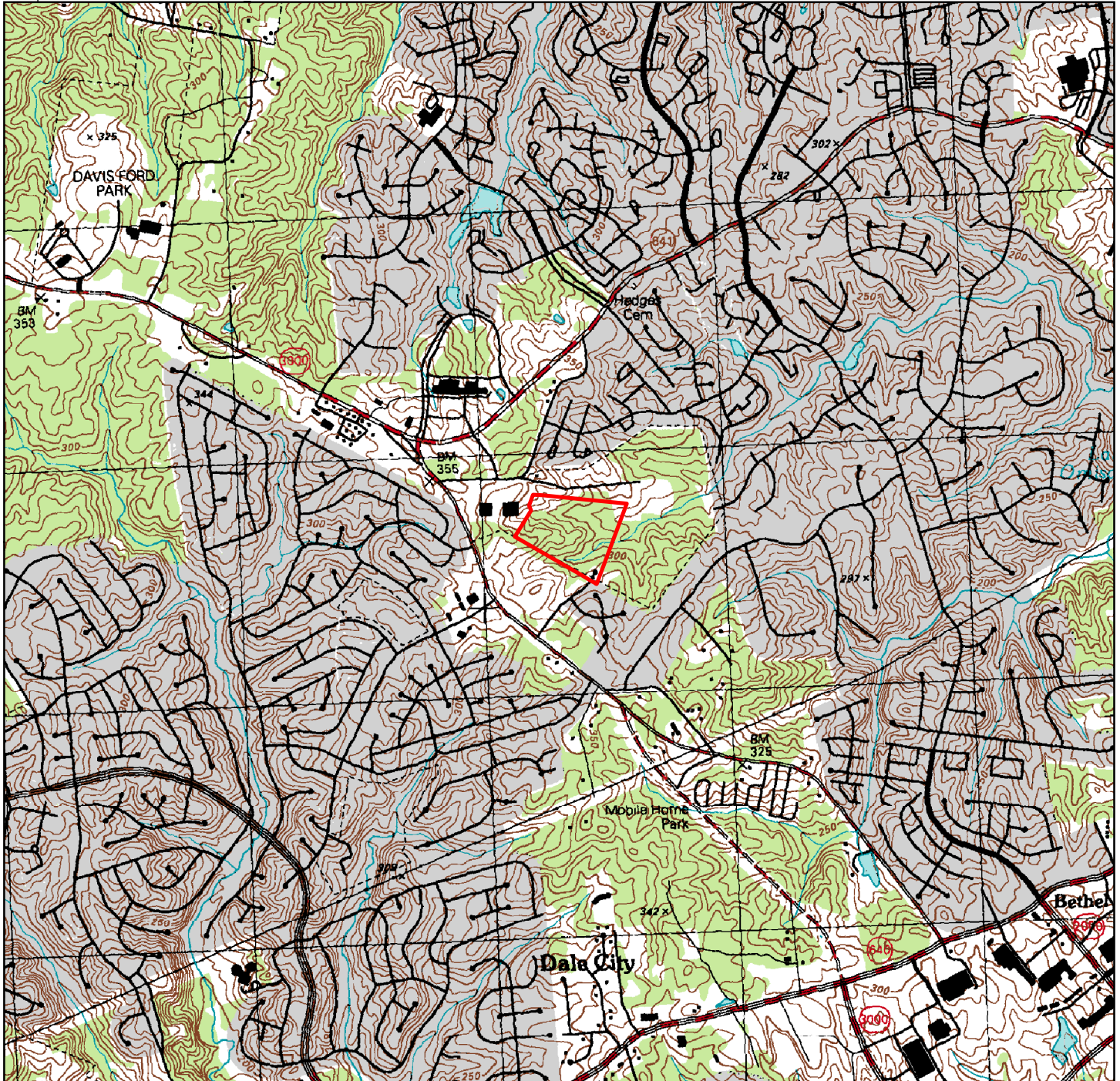
Exhibit 1 Vicinity Map

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 Project Area

Latitude: 38°40'09" N
Longitude: 77°19'46" W

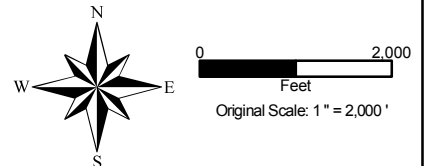


Exhibit 2
USGS Quad Map
Occoquan, VA 1994

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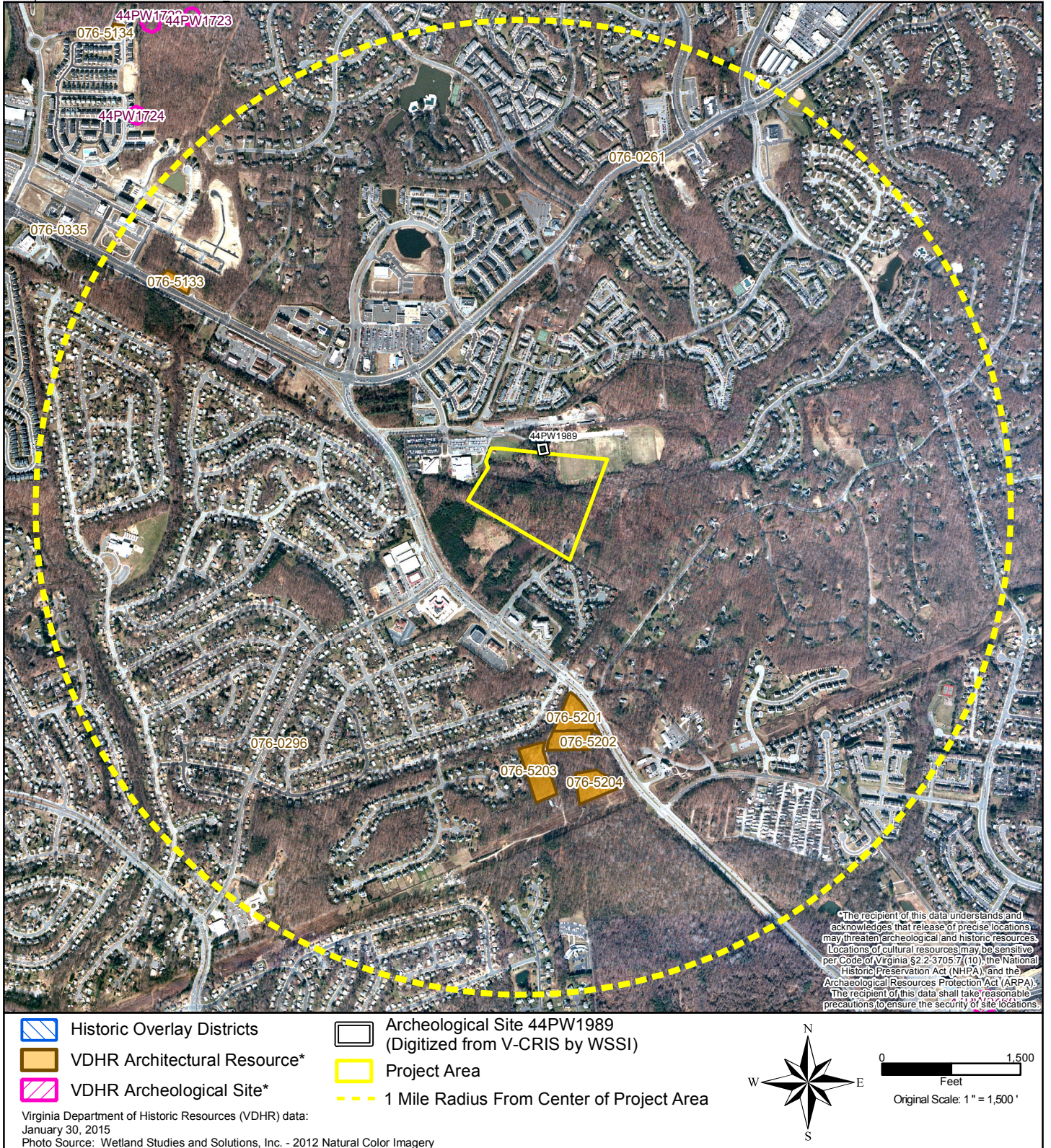


Exhibit ' DHR Architectural Resources and Archeological Sites Map

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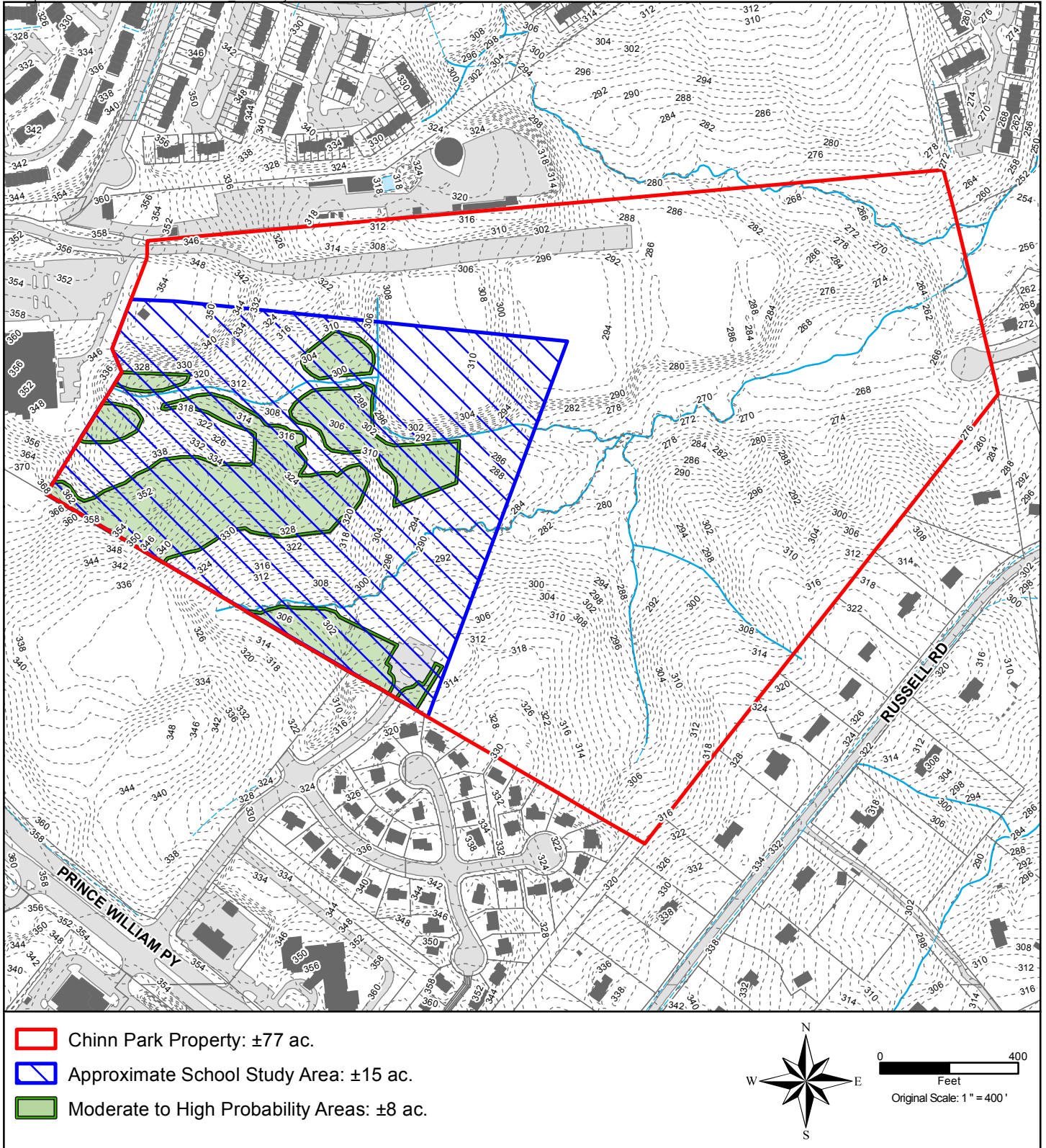


Exhibit 4 Moderate to High Probability Areas for Cultural Resources

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