

APPENDIX A - LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS REQUIRED

LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS REQUIRED

A.1 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

This EA has been prepared under the provisions of, and in accordance with the NEPA, the CEQ Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, and VA's regulations for implementing NEPA (38 CFR Part 26). In addition, the EA has been prepared as prescribed in VA's *NEPA Interim Guidance for Projects* (VA 2010). Federal, state, and local laws and regulations specifically applicable to this Proposed Action are identified, where appropriate, within this EA, and include:

Site 1 and Site 2

- Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (7 USC 136; 16 USC 1531 et seq.).
- Energy Independence Security Act Section 438.
- Executive Order 11988, *Floodplain Management* (24 May 1977).
- Executive Order 11990, *Protection of Wetlands* (24 May 1977).
- Executive Order 12898, *Environmental Justice* (11 February 1994).
- Executive Order 13112, *Invasive Species* (8 February 1999).
- Executive Order 13834, *Efficient Federal Operations* (17 May 2018).
- Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 USC 4201, et seq.)
- Federal Clean Air Act of 1970 (42 USC 7401 et seq.), as amended (1990).
- Federal Clean Water Act (Federal Water Pollution Control Act) of 1948, as amended (1972, 1977) (33 USC 1251 et seq.); Sections 401 and 404.
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; 16 USC 703-712, 3 July 1918; as amended 1936, 1960, 1968, 1969, 1974, 1978, 1986, and 1989).
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (36 CFR Part 800).
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, as amended (25 USC 3001 et seq.).
- Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA), Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), Tennessee Division of Archaeology, 11-6-107, Discovery of Sites, Artifacts or Human Remains Notice to Division, Contractors and Authorities.
- TCA, TDEC, Division of Natural Areas, Chapter 0400-06-02 Rare Plant Protection and Conservation Regulations.
- TCA, TDEC, Division of Solid Waste Management, 0400-12-01 Hazardous Waste Management.
- TCA, TDEC, Division of Air Pollution Control, 1200-03-03 Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- TCA, TDEC, Division of Air Pollution Control, 1200-03-09 Construction and Operating Permits.
- TCA, TDEC, Division of Air Pollution Control, 1200-03-11.02 Asbestos.
- TCA, TDEC, Water Resources Division, 0400-40-05 Permits, Effluent Limitations and Standards.
- TCA, TDEC, 0400-40-10 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permits - Tennessee's General NPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities (CGP).

- TCA, TDEC, Division of Water Resources (Ground Water Protection Program), 0400-48-01 Regulations to Govern Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems.
- TCA, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), 1660-01 Wildlife Resources, 1660-01-32 Rules and Regulations for in need of Management, Threatened, and Endangered Species.

Site 1 Only

- TCA, Tennessee Department of Transportation, 1680-10-01 Constructing Driveway Entrances on State Highway rights-of-way.
- TCA, TDEC, Human Remains and Burials, 46-8-103 Construction Buffers Around Perimeter of Graves or Crypts; 46-4-104 Family Members have Right to Visit Graves of Ancestors
- Zoning Resolution for Meigs County, Tennessee.
- Flood Resolution for Meigs County, Tennessee.

Site 2 Only

- None.

A.2 ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS REQUIRED

In addition to the regulatory framework of NEPA, the CEQ Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, VA's NEPA regulations (38 CFR Part 26), and VA's *NEPA Interim Guidance for Projects*, the following federal, state, and/or local environmental permits are required as part of this Proposed Action:

- TDEC DWR NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit
- CWA Section 404/Section 401 permits and/or TDEC DWR Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit for wetland impacts (if necessary)
- TDEC APC Notification of Demolition and/or Asbestos Renovation (Site 2)
- TDEC DWR Septic System Construction Permit
- TDOT Highway Entrance Permit (Site 1)
- Other required environmental permits will be determined during the cemetery design.

APPENDIX B – AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of Construction & Facilities Management
425 I Street, NW
Washington DC 20001

Date: September 2, 2021

To: Valued Stakeholders

Subject: Notice of Scoping and Stakeholder Involvement for the
Proposed Land Acquisition for the Construction and Operation of the
Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area

The US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Construction and Facilities Management is gathering information to assist with the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) as part of the federal decision-making process for the proposed acquisition of no less than 200 acres of land in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area for the construction and operation of a new national cemetery to replace the existing the Chattanooga National Cemetery (Proposed Action). The existing Chattanooga National Cemetery, located at 1200 Bailey Avenue within the City of Chattanooga, has limited remaining space for new interments and is projected to reach its burial capacity within the next 10 years. Land contiguous to the existing Chattanooga National Cemetery is fully developed and not available to acquire for cemetery expansion. The new national cemetery is needed for VA to continue to serve the burial needs of Chattanooga area Veterans and their families.

Two sites are being evaluated for the proposed new national cemetery:

- Site 1 - Approximately 270 acres of land located south of the intersection of Hiwassee Highway and Chickamauga Lake/Tennessee River in an unincorporated area of Meigs County, Tennessee, approximately 29 miles northeast of the Chattanooga city center. Site 1 is located in a rural area consisting of agricultural and low-density residential properties. Site 1 consists of unimproved agricultural land and wooded land. A small overgrown cemetery (Old Browder Cemetery) is located in an area of trees in the east-central portion of Site 1, but is located on a separate, approximately 0.5-acre parcel that is not part of the site. Old Browder Cemetery would remain an independent cemetery located within the national cemetery.
- Site 2 - Approximately 225 acres of land located northeast of the intersection of Bostontown Road and Kelly Cross Road in an unincorporated area of Sequatchie County, Tennessee, approximately 25 miles north of the Chattanooga city center. Site 2 is located in a rural area consisting of agricultural land and low-density residential properties. Site 2 is mostly unimproved agricultural land and wooded land, with a house and associated ancillary buildings located in the west-central portion of the site. The residence and associated structures would likely be removed during initial cemetery development. An intermittent stream is located in the western portion of the site and McWilliams Creek runs along the eastern site boundary.

The locations and general features of Site 1 and Site 2 are shown on Figures 1 through 5.

Site plans for the proposed national cemetery have not been developed; the cemetery master planning and design would be initiated after the selected site is acquired. VA would follow the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) *Facilities Design Guide* in the proposed cemetery

design. The cemetery would include a gated entrance and perimeter fencing, an administration building and public information building, an assembly area, a memorial wall, committal shelters, a loop road through the cemetery, casket gravesites, columbarium niches, and a maintenance building/facility. The cemetery would be developed in phases, with the first phase (approximately 40 to 60 acres) including the buildings and infrastructure needed to support the first 15 years of burial capacity. It is anticipated the first phase of cemetery development would begin approximately 3 years after site acquisition.

As part of the decision-making process, VA will undertake an environmental analysis of the Proposed Action in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). VA is seeking input as part of the scoping process on issues to be addressed during the NEPA analysis, including environmental concerns.

NEPA requires that a federal agency provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the process of analyzing the impact of federal actions on the human environment. The purpose of this letter is to notify members of the community and other stakeholders of this opportunity to assist VA in identifying issues, including environmental concerns that may occur as a result of the proposed federal action. VA will also be initiating consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108 at a future date. VA will be consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office, Tribes, and other consulting parties to identify historic properties that may potentially be affected by the undertaking and to seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate for potential adverse effects.

If you have comments on the scope of issues for analysis, or input on potential alternatives or information/analyses relevant to the Proposed Action, please submit your comments/input via email to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping" by **October 2, 2021**. For additional information or questions, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernández, VA Environmental Engineer, at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or (202) 632-5529. Reference "Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping" in your correspondence.

VA anticipates releasing the Draft EA for a 30-day public review and comment period in Fall 2021. VA will notify stakeholders via email/mail, publish a notice of availability of the Draft EA in the Chattanooga Times Free Press, and solicit comments at that time. The Draft EA will be available for review at a local library and via the VA website: [Environmental Program Office - Office of Construction & Facilities Management \(va.gov\)](#)

Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott,
Director Environmental Program
VA Construction and Facilities Management

FIGURE 1

SITES LOCATION MAP

**Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area**



FIGURE 2

SITE 1 TOPOGRAPHIC LOCATION MAP

**Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area**

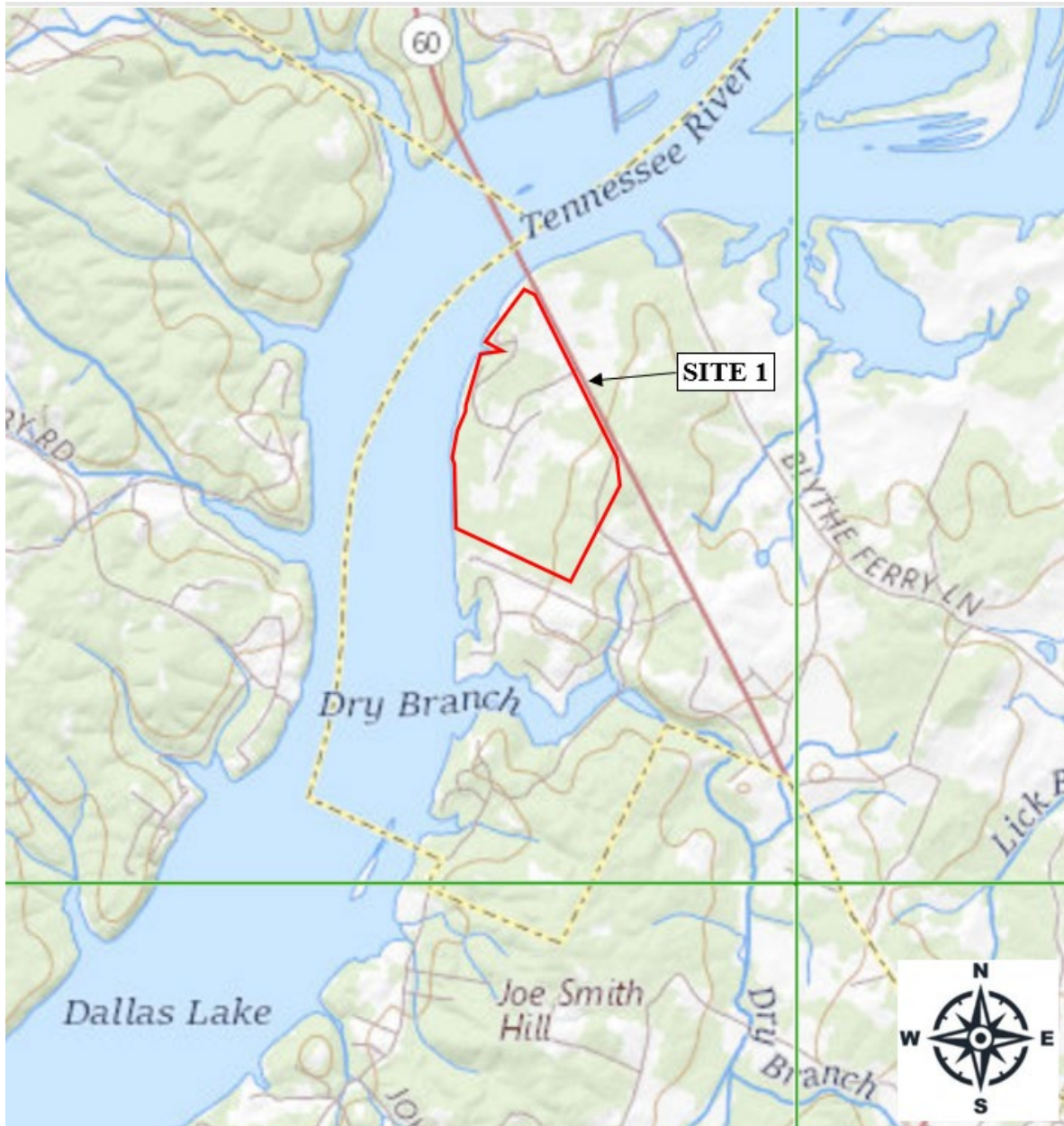


FIGURE 3

SITE 2 TOPOGRAPHIC LOCATION MAP

**Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area**

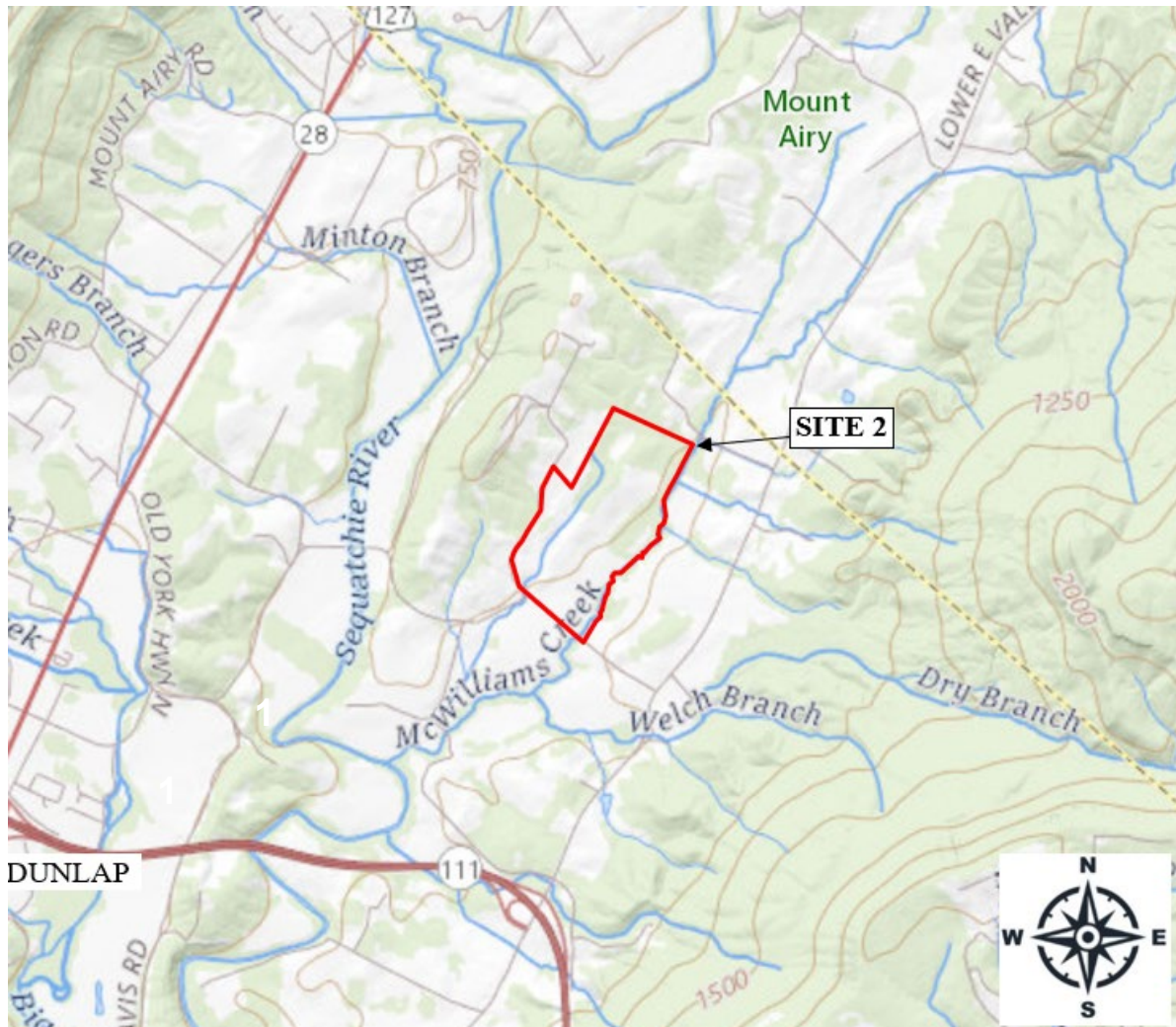


FIGURE 4

SITE 1 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

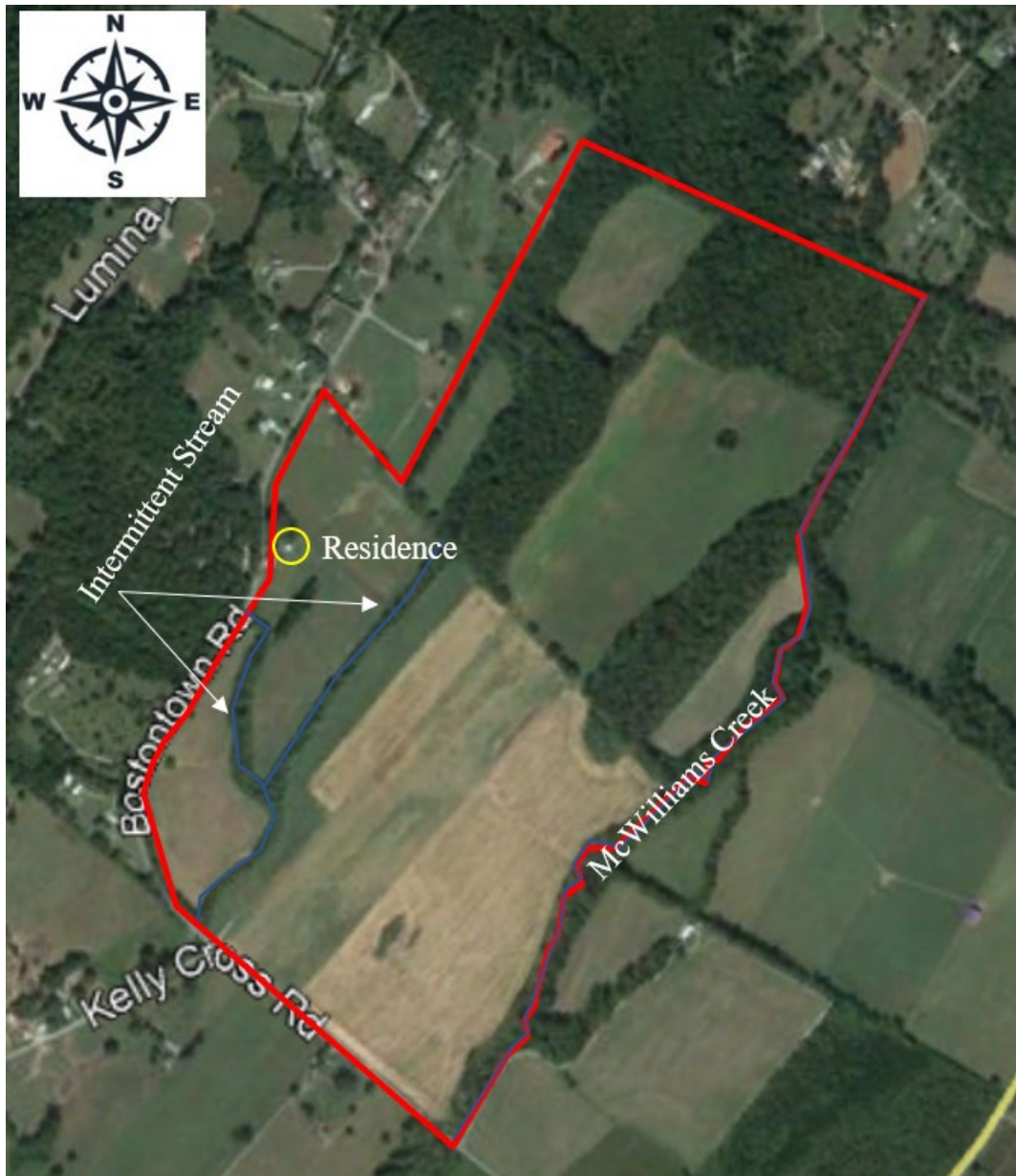
**Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area**



FIGURE 5

SITE 2 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

**Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area**



Name	Position	Organization	Email
William Wilson	Administrative Officer	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office	william_j_wilson@fws.gov
John Blevins	Acting Regional Administrator	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4	Blevins.John@epa.gov
Lt. Col. Sonny B. Avichal	Nashville District Commander	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District	chief.public-affairs@usace.army.mil
Brandon Moore	District Conservationist	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service - Athens Service Center	brandon.moore@usda.gov
Justin Howard	District Conservationist	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service - Pikeville Service Center	justin.howard@usda.gov
Amy Katcher	Regional Director	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Chattanooga Environmental Field Office	Amy.Katcher@tn.gov
Amelia Poe	Manager	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Air Pollution Control	amelia.poe@tn.gov
Troy Keith	Manager	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Remediation, Hazardous Substance Site & Brownfields Cleanup	Troy.Keith@tn.gov
Harry McCann	Manager	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Solid & Hazardous Wastes	Harry.McCann@tn.gov
Randy Slater	Manager	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Facilities	Randy.Slater@tn.gov
Jennifer Innes	Manager	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Resources	Jennifer.Innes@tn.gov
Ron Zurawski	State Geologist	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Geology	Ronald.Zurawski@tn.gov
Roger McCoy	Director	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Natural Resources	roger.mccoy@tn.gov
Mime Barnes	Outreach & Communications Coordinator	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Region 3 District 32	Mime.Barnes@tn.gov
Andy McBride	District Forester	Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Cumberland District	Andy.McBride@tn.gov
Joe Deering, P.E., R.L.S.	Director/Assistant Chief Engineer	Tennessee Department of Transportation, Region 2	Joe.Deering@tn.gov
Denise Smith	TVA FOIA Officer	Tennessee Valley Authority	tvainfo@tva.com
Rebecca C. Tolene	Federal Preservation Office and Vice President	Tennessee Valley Authority	rctolene@tva.gov
Clinton E. Jones	Deputy Federal Preservation Office and Manager	Tennessee Valley Authority	cjones5@tva.gov
Beth Jones	Executive Director	Southeast Tennessee Development District	bjones@sedev.org
Bill James	Mayor	Meigs County	mayor@meigstn.com
Ross Wilson	Meigs County Compliance Coordinator	Meigs County Government	rosswilsonmcpc@yahoo.com
Paulette Jones	President	Meigs County Historical Society	Meigsmuseum@MeigsMuseum.com
Keith Cartwright	County Executive	Sequatchie County	seqexec@bledsoe.net
Jack Baker	President Board of Directors	National Trail of Tears Association	JackDBaker@cox.net

Laura Megill

From: Rob Clark
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 4:29 PM
To: Laura Megill
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping - forward to vendor

Rob Clark
Manager, Environmental Services
TTL Associates, Inc.
Direct: (734) 582-4902

From: Richard Banchoff <rbanchoff@isiwdc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 4:24 PM
To: Rob Clark <rclark@ttlassoc.com>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping - forward to vendor

From: Marinucci, Marianne (CFM) <Marianna.Marinucci@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 4:09 PM
To: Richard Banchoff <rbanchoff@isiwdc.com>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping - forward to vendor

From: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 3:56 PM
To: Fernandez, Fernando L. (CFM) <Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

From: White, Douglas <White.Douglas@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 4:58 PM
To: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>
Cc: Fernandez, Fernando L. (CFM) <Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov>; Kajumba, Ntale <Kajumba.Ntale@epa.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

Re: EPA Comments on the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Land Acquisition for the Construction and Operation of a New National Cemetery to Replace the Existing Chattanooga National Cemetery, Meigs and Sequatchie Counties, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Fernández:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received the referenced document and has reviewed the subject proposal in accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EPA understands that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed construction and operation of a National Cemetery to replace the existing Chattanooga National Cemetery.

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, VA would acquire land and construct and operate a cemetery of no less than 200-acres in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area. Supporting infrastructure to be constructed would include a gated entrance, perimeter fencing, an administration building, a public information building, a maintenance building, an assembly area, a memorial wall, committal shelters, a loop road, casket gravesites, and columbarium niches. The purpose of this EA is for VA to evaluate the impacts of this Proposed Action.

Upon review of the scoping documents, the EPA notes that the Proposed Action is reasonably compatible with current land use near the proposed sites. It appears that this project will not have a significant impact on human health and the environment. The EPA has the following comments:

Land Use and Cultural Resources: Two sites are being evaluated by VA for the location of the replacement National Cemetery. Both sites are situated in rural areas within 29-miles of Chattanooga, TN and are comprised predominantly of agricultural land with limited forests and residential homes. Site 1 is located on 270-acres in Meigs County, TN. Old Browder Cemetery is located on an unmaintained half-acre parcel completely surrounded by Site 1 and will continue to be independently operated. The EPA recommends the VA to coordinate with the owner of Old Browder Cemetery and develop a formal agreement for access to and maintenance within the existing cemetery in accordance with the National Cemetery Administration Facilities Design Guide. Site 2 is located on 225-acres in Sequatchie County, TN and contains a tributary to McWilliams Creek. The scoping document indicates that Section 106 consultation will be initiated for the selected site.

Wetlands and Streams: The Proposed Action would be sited on land adjacent to the Tennessee River or McWilliams Creek and contain tributaries and wetlands identified by National Wetlands Inventory data through the NEPAssist tool (<https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist>). The EPA recommends that design proposals and construction avoid impacting Waters of the United States (WOTUS) to the maximum extent practicable by locating permanent infrastructure and temporary construction measures away from WOTUS and respective buffers. WOTUS should be delineated and coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers should be made where proposed activities might enter or affect WOTUS. Mitigation may be required where impacts to WOTUS cannot be avoided. Flood zone and flood inundation maps should be used to help ensure proposed activities do not take place in floodplains except where alternatives are not practicable.

Water Quality: The Proposed Action would disturb soil during construction and a construction stormwater permit will be required before construction can begin. Best management practices should be implemented to mitigate impacts. Construction of rainwater runoff control structures designed to leave existing stormwater runoff profiles of the area unchanged may be required to mitigate the impacts of land development and construction of impervious surfaces, in accordance with Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Air Quality: The Proposed Action would be located in Meigs or Sequatchie County, TN which are currently in Attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The EPA recommends controlling fugitive dust emissions during construction and implementing measures to reduce diesel emissions from construction equipment, such as switching to cleaner fuels, retrofitting equipment with emission reduction technologies, repowering older engines with cleaner engines, replacing older vehicles, inspecting and maintaining fuel tanks in accordance with regulations, and reducing idling through operator training and contracting policies.

Biological Resources: The EPA principally defers to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) regarding compliance with the Endangered Species Act and recommends early coordination with the FWS. The EPA recommends that conservation measures identified by the FWS be included in the final NEPA document. Assistance is available from the Natural Resource Conservation Service for the selection of native grasses and plants that minimize maintenance requirements (<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/plantmaterials/pmc/southeast/mspmc/>).

Environmental Justice: Consistent with Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice (EJ) in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (<https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-executive-order-12898-federal-actions-address-environmental-justice>), please ensure protected populations are not disproportionately or adversely impacted by the project. We also promote compliance with Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, if applicable. Please use the EJSCREEN tool (<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>) as part of the NEPA analysis process. EJSCREEN combines environmental and demographic data to help determine EJ concerns that are integral to the NEPA process.

Energy Efficiency: The EPA recommends the use of sustainable building practices that maximize energy and water conservation, and the use of renewable energy including solar power for supplemental electricity and lighting for infrastructure and buildings that may be constructed. Please consult appropriate federal agencies (<https://www.energy.gov/eere/femp/sustainable-federal-buildings>) for energy conservation requirements.

Hazardous Materials and Containment: Construction and operation in support of the Proposed Action should ensure that Resource Conservation and Recovery Act-regulated solid wastes generated are disposed of in accordance with federal regulations. If vehicle and equipment maintenance is to be conducted on site, the EPA recommends the use of secondary containment for storage and handling of Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL) to protect surface waters of Tennessee and as required by the Clean Water Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Department of Veterans Affairs' proposed National Cemetery. For effective coordination, please provide this office with an electronic version of the draft EA for further review and keep the local community informed and involved throughout the project process. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the information provided in my email.

V/R
Douglas White
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4 Strategic Programs Office, NEPA Section
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960
Office: 404-562-8586
white.douglas@epa.gov

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Laura Megill

From: Rob Clark
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Laura Megill
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery - Scoping

Rob Clark
Manager, Environmental Services
TTL Associates, Inc.
Direct: (734) 582-4902

From: Richard Banchoff <rbanchoff@isiwdc.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:31 AM
To: Rob Clark <rclark@ttlassoc.com>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery - Scoping

From: Marinucci, Marianne (CFM) <Marianna.Marinucci@va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:28 AM
To: Richard Banchoff <rbanchoff@isiwdc.com>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery - Scoping

Below is a stakeholder notification that must be included in the regulatory report as well as in the EA. Please forward to vendor

From: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:17 AM
To: Fernandez, Fernando L. (CFM) <Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery - Scoping

From: Amelia Poe <Amelia.Poe@tn.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:28 AM
To: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Chattanooga National Cemetery - Scoping

Mr. Elliott,

The Division of Air Pollution Control Chattanooga Field Office received information for the proposed Chattanooga National Cemetery Project.

If this project involves construction and operation of an air contaminate source, any person wishing to construct an air contaminate source or the modify an existing air contaminate source is required to obtain a construction permit from the Division of Air Pollution Control, unless specifically exempted. This link provides information concerning Air Quality

Construction Permits in the State of Tennessee: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/apc-air-pollution-control-home/apc/permits-air/air-quality-construction-permit.html>

If this project involves asbestos removal, please contact Randall Harrison at (615) 594-6828 or Randall.Harrison@tn.gov prior to any asbestos renovation or demolition activity.

Please be advised that the Division of Air Pollution Control Open Burning Regulations do not allow the open burning of many types of demolition waste. Please contact me prior to any open burning.

In addition, reasonable precautions should be made to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne.

After reviewing the project description, the Division of Air Pollution Control does not have any other potential concerns with this project. The Tennessee Division of Air Pollution Control Regulations may be found at this link: <http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1200/1200-03/1200-03.htm>

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Thank you,
Amelia



Amelia Poe | Environmental Manager
Division of Air Pollution Control
Chattanooga Environmental Field Office
1301 Riverfront Parkway, Suite 206
Chattanooga, TN 37402
p. 423-634-5768
amelia.poe@tn.gov
tn.gov/environment

We value your feedback! Please complete our [customer satisfaction survey](#).

From: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>

Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 3:40 PM

To: william_j_wilson@fws.gov; Blevins.John@epa.gov; chief.public-affairs@usace.army.mil; brandon.moore@usda.gov; justin.howard@usda.gov; Amy Katcher <Amy.Katcher@tn.gov>; Amelia Poe <Amelia.Poe@tn.gov>; Troy Keith <Troy.Keith@tn.gov>; Harry McCann <Harry.McCann@tn.gov>; Randy Slater <Randy.Slater@tn.gov>; Jennifer Innes <Jennifer.Innes@tn.gov>; Ronald Zurawski <Ronald.Zurawski@tn.gov>; Roger McCoy <Roger.McCoy@tn.gov>; Mime Barnes <Mime.Barnes@tn.gov>; Andy McBride <Andy.McBride@tn.gov>; Joe Deering <Joe.Deering@tn.gov>; tvainfo@tva.com; rctolene@tva.gov; cjones5@tva.gov; bjones@sedev.org; mayor@meigstn.com; rosswilsonmcpc@yahoo.com; Meigsmuseum@MeigsMuseum.com; seqexec@bledsoe.net; JackDBaker@cox.net

Cc: Fernandez, Fernando L. (CFM) <Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Chattanooga National Cemetery - Scoping

***** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. *****

Dear Valued Stakeholders,

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making process for the proposed acquisition of no less than 200 acres of land in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area for the construction and operation of a new national cemetery to replace the existing the Chattanooga National Cemetery (Proposed Action). The existing Chattanooga National Cemetery, located at 1200 Bailey Avenue within the City of Chattanooga, has limited remaining space for new interments and is projected to reach its burial capacity within the next 10 years. Land contiguous to the existing Chattanooga National Cemetery is fully developed and not available to acquire for cemetery expansion. The new national cemetery is needed for VA to continue to serve the burial needs of Chattanooga area Veterans and their families.

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NEPA requires that a federal agency provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the process of analyzing the impact of federal actions on the human environment. The purpose of this letter is to notify members of the community and other stakeholders of this opportunity to assist VA in identifying issues, including environmental concerns that may occur as a result of the proposed federal action. VA will also be initiating consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108 at a future date. VA will be consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office, Tribes, and other consulting parties to identify historic properties that may potentially be affected by the undertaking and to seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate for potential adverse effects.

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Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott

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Laura Megill

From: Rob Clark
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:36 AM
To: Laura Megill
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

See below. I'm not sure the archaeological site comment is accurate. Row 10 (Katy)/ERG (Jim) will review and provide info.

Rob Clark
Manager, Environmental Services
TTL Associates, Inc.
Direct: (734) 582-4902

From: Richard Banchoff <rbanchoff@isiwdc.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Rob Clark <rclark@ttlassoc.com>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

From: Marinucci, Marianne (CFM) <Marianna.Marinucci@va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:30 AM
To: Richard Banchoff <rbanchoff@isiwdc.com>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

Here's another one...

This response from Stakeholder is to be included in the documentation of the EA. Please send to vendor.

Also - they are stating that there are 3 archaeological sites in Site 1 but I do not recall seeing that in the arch report. Could you please review as this will likely make the S106 consultation that much more intricate and complicated. Please make sure Katy and Jim are aware of this!

From: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:17 AM
To: Fernandez, Fernando L. (CFM) <Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov>
Subject: FW: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

From: Daniel Brock <Daniel.Brock@tn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:50 PM
To: VACO Environment <VACOEnvironment@va.gov>
Cc: Bryan Davidson <Bryan.Davidson@tn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping

I received your NEPA scoping request for the Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement project. This project has been reviewed by our office, and based upon the information provided, has the potential to disturb significant

archaeological resources within the proposed project areas. Site 1 has three previously recorded archaeological sites (40MG172, 40MG173, 40MG174) and the Old Browder Cemetery within its boundaries. Site 2 has not been surveyed and could potentially contain significant cultural remains. We recommend that all locations to be disturbed by earthmoving activity be examined by a qualified professional archaeologist prior to project initiation. The project will also be subject to Section 106 and consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Please note that a court order from Chancery Court must be obtained prior to the removal of any human graves. If human remains are encountered or accidentally uncovered by earthmoving activities, all activity within the immediate area must cease. The county coroner or medical examiner, a local law enforcement agency, and the state archaeologist's office should be notified at once (Tennessee Code Annotated 11-6-107d). This is a state-level review only and cannot be substituted for a federal review response.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information. Thank you.



Daniel Brock | State Programs Archaeologist
Tennessee Division of Archaeology
1216 Foster Avenue
Cole Building #3
Nashville, TN 37243
p. 615-687-4778
Daniel.Brock@tn.gov
<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/arch-archaeology.html>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

 This message was sent with High importance.

Dear Mr. Elliott:

The Division of Underground Storage Tanks (Division) has received the correspondence dated September 2, 2019, regarding the Proposed Land Acquisition for the Construction and Operation of the Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement in Hamilton and Marion Counties.

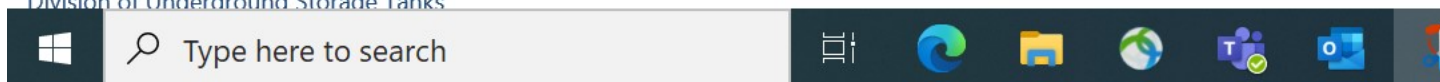
The Division is not aware of any circumstances relative to the UST Program which would adversely affect the "Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Construction and Operation of the Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement Chattanooga, Tennessee" and its attachments.

Should you have additional questions concerning this correspondence, please contact me at (423) 326-7935.

Sincerely,



William Randy Slater (Randy), PG | Environmental Manager 3
Division of Underground Storage Tanks





STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102

September 3, 2021

Mr. Glen Elliot
Department of Veteran Affairs
Office of Construction and Facilities Management
425 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

re: Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement Scoping Letter
Sequatchie or Meigs County, TN

Sent via email to: vacoenvironment@va.gov

Dear Mr. Elliot:

Staff within the Division of Water Resources have reviewed the scoping document for the two potential sites for the replacement of the Chattanooga National Cemetery. Site # 1 is approximately 270 acres located near the intersection of Hiwassee Highway and the Tennessee River/Chickamauga Lake in Meigs County. Site # 2 is approximately 225 acres located northeast of the intersection of Bostontown Road and Kelly Cross Road in Sequatchie County.

The development of either site would disturb well more than one acre of land and require a Construction Stormwater Permit (CGP). Construction activities, including clearing, grading, filling and excavating, or other similar activities, including staging areas, that result in the disturbance of one acre or more of total land area require coverage under Tennessee's [General NPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities](#) (CGP). Owing to the expanse of the sites and site specific conditions, they would need to have a hydrologic determination performed by a certified hydrologic professional to identify what aquatic resources within the project limits of disturbance could be impacted during the construction activities and assess the potential for any alterations to wet weather conveyances, streams, wetlands, or other aquatic resources that would require an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP). Site #2 would likely need stream buffers for McWilliams Creek and the unnamed tributary of McWilliams Creek that runs through the site.

September 3, 2021

Mr. Glen Elliot

Letter

Page 2

Neither area has public sewer available which would mean any restrooms provided at the sites would have to be connected to large capacity septic tanks and be permitted by the Division. I believe public water systems serve the areas, but if the facilities themselves are providing the water, they would fall under the jurisdiction of the Division as a transient non-community water system.

If you have any further questions, I will be glad to try to assist you. You may reach me at (615) 532-0170 or tom.moss@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas A. Moss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas A. Moss, P.G.
Environmental Review Coordinator

cc: Jennifer Innes, DWR Chattanooga Field Office Manager

APPENDIX C – SECTION 106 AND NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE CORRESPONDENCE



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON DC 20420**

December 7, 2021

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
Tennessee Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Office
2941 Lebanon Pike
Nashville, TN 37214

RE: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Acquisition, Construction and Operation of a new National Cemetery in the area of Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dear Mr. McIntyre,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108), Chattanooga National Cemetery of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is initiating Section 106 consultation with your office on implementation of the above-referenced project. VA is considering two properties for this undertaking, one in Meigs County and one in Sequatchie County. This letter presents the findings for both sites.

Meigs County Project Area

Property Description

The 257.92-acre irregularly shaped parcel is located in Meigs County, Tennessee (Figure 1 and 2). The parcel is largely agricultural fields, with no buildings on it. The project area is located to the east of the Chickamauga Lake region of the Tennessee River. It is sited just south and west of the historic site of the Blythe Ferry. See Appendix A for additional maps photos of the parcel and the surrounding area.

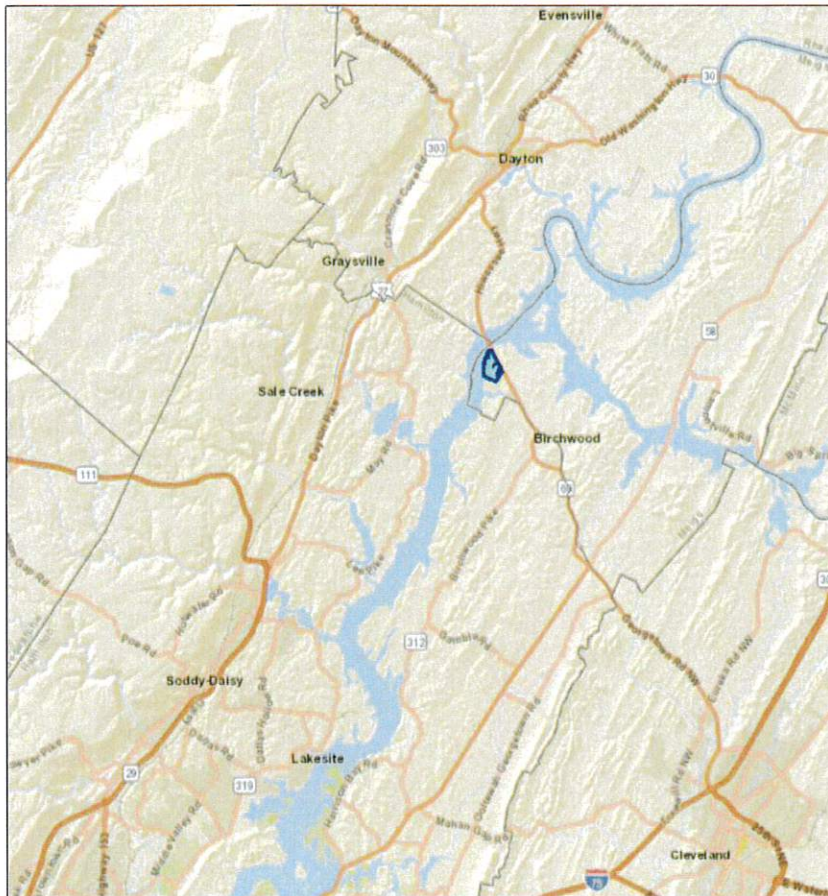
Brief History of Property and Study Area

This parcel is in the Appalachian Plateau, in an agricultural area adjacent to the Tennessee River, and just south of Hiawassee Island. Meigs County was founded in 1836, from lands procured from the Indian removal and the Cherokee cession. It is named after Return Jonathan Meigs, the first Cherokee agent in the area and later a Governor of Ohio. The primary economy in the area during the antebellum period was farming, largely raising hogs, wheat, and corn.

The project parcel is located approximately 0.5 miles south of the historic location of the Blythe Ferry. In 1809, William Blythe began operating a ferry at the confluence of the Tennessee and Hiawassee Rivers. This area was "a significant crossroad for development of Indian culture for

centuries,”¹ and it was an important river crossing on the “Great Road” between Knoxville and Chattanooga.² This ferry was located at the northwest corner of the Cherokee Nation. The Blythe ferry served as an important location in the history of the Trail of Tears. In October of 1838, nine of the thirteen detachments of Cherokee Chief John Ross was forced to shepherd to the Indian Territory left their ancestral lands at Blythe Ferry. The roughly 9,000 Native Americans being forced to march west were required to camp in the area for six weeks, waiting

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: June 2, 2021
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Imagery, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Compromise - OLS

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 1 Project Area, situated in Meigs County, Tennessee, north of Chattanooga.

¹ *Historic Site or Trail, History of Blythe Ferry Site*, available online at <https://tennesseerivervalleygeotourism.org/entries/cherokee-removal-memorial-park-at-historic-blythe-ferry/d2a64d12-f649-427c-b415-26363b2a0df9>. Accessed October 14, 2021.

² “William Blythe Had Early Ferry,” Tennessee GenWeb, https://www.tngenweb.org/meigs/blythe_ferry.html, accessed October 14, 2021.

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: November 11, 2020
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Comptroller - OLG
State of Tennessee, Comptroller of the Treasury, Office of Local Government

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 2 Site in Meigs County, located just south of the Hiwassee Highway-Tennessee River intersection.

for the Tennessee River to rise from extreme drought conditions.³ William Blythe, the ferry proprietor, traveled west with his wife, Nancy Fields, who was Cherokee. The site remained a ferry until 1994, when the Highway 60 bridge was built. The site is now part of the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park at Historic Blythe Ferry, along the northern shore just east of Blythe Ferry Road. The area was largely spared the devastation of the Civil War. However, the most notable event of the conflict in the county took place on November 13, 1863, when Union troops stationed at the mouth of the Hiawassee River skirmished with Confederate artillery forces to defend the grain supplies on the island.⁴ The postbellum period saw the expansion of the economy with the dawn of the steamboat era. Landings along the Tennessee River became local economic sites, centers of trade. According to historic USGS quadrangle maps and aerial photography, the project parcel has been dedicated to agriculture throughout the twentieth century.

Undertaking

The proposed project is the acquisition and subsequent development of a new National Cemetery. Specific plans for the development are not available at this time, however, it is assumed development will be typical of other National Cemeteries, including in-ground burials with standard NCA markers, columbaria, chapel, and/or the construction of support buildings that do not exceed a single story in height. Additional utilities are also anticipated.

Area of Potential Effects

The recommended APE for this undertaking encompasses the proposed acquisition parcel plus an additional 150 feet around the proposed acquisition parcel, to account for potential indirect effects due to the construction of above-ground features (Figure 3). Ground disturbance is anticipated to be limited to the boundaries of the parcel. The entire area is shielded from adjacent properties by thick vegetation to the north, west and the south, and by Highway 60 to the east; the entirety of the western boundary is also bordered by the Tennessee River.

Historic Properties

In June 2021, an architectural historian who meets the *Professional Qualification Standards* for History and Architectural History established by the Secretary of Interior conducted a survey and historic research to identify properties within the APE that are more than fifty years of age and that retain sufficient integrity to warrant listing in the NRHP.

Identification efforts for this study included a walking survey of the identified acquisition parcel and limited walking survey and windshield survey of the APE and surrounding area.

Images of the following built resources are available in Appendix A.

Historic Buildings

There are no listed or eligible historic buildings in the APE. There are three residences in the APE, as well as a few sheds. None of the buildings in the APE are fifty years old or older. This area does not appear to include a potential historic district, to which any buildings could contribute. None of these homes possess the qualities of significance to be individually eligible.

³ Ibid.

⁴ History of Meigs County, online at <https://meigstn.com/history-of-meigs-county/>, accessed July 2, 2021.

Similarly, none of the outbuildings appear to be individually eligible in their own right, nor do any appear to be eligible farmsteads.

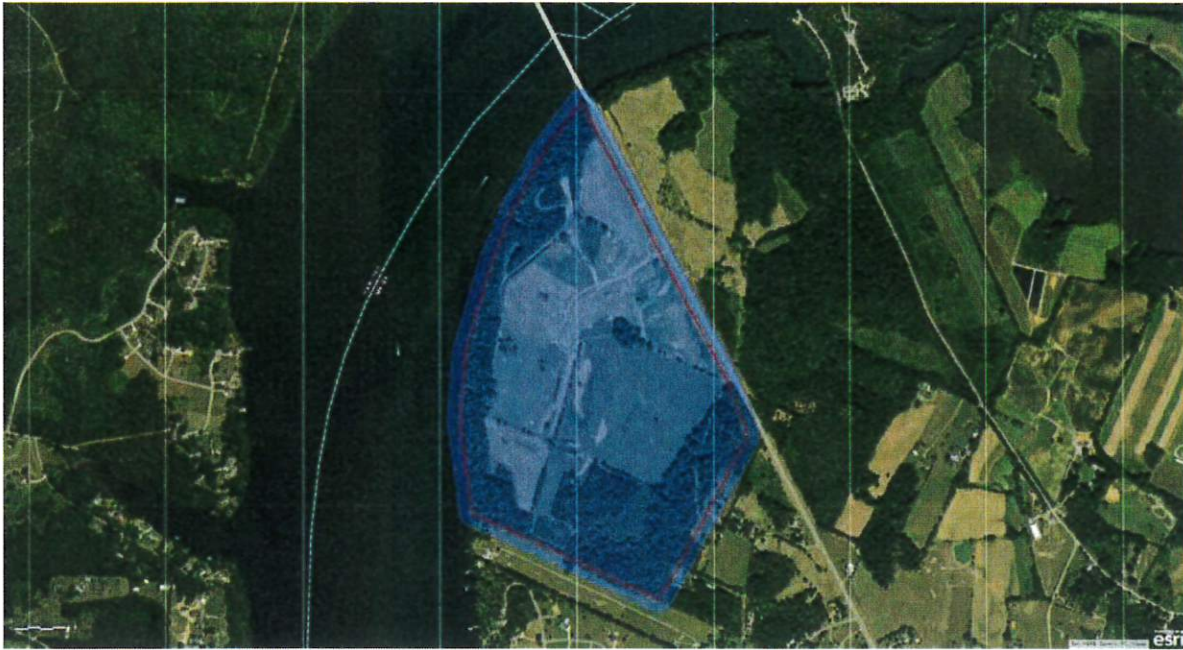


Figure 3 Project Area, outlined in red, Area of Potential Effect, shaded in blue.

338 Burton Lane is barely visible from the public right-of-way. It is a modest ranch, built ca. 1973. It is rectangular in plan, with both stone and wood exterior cladding. The property includes one shed outbuilding and a patio. It is a single-family structure, measuring 1,248 sq-ft.⁵

341 Burton Lane is a small creole cottage type building. It is side-gabled with a standing seam metal roof, and fronted by a wide, full-width porch. It was built ca. 1989, and measures 1080 sq-ft in a rectangular plan. There is a small shed outbuilding associated with this single-family residence.⁶

182 Shahan Lane includes a number of late-twentieth century buildings, including this main structure. It was constructed ca. 1996, with a stone foundation, and vertical wood exterior planking. This structure appears to be more than one structure combined, and it includes a large open porch. There are also a shed, a detached garage, and three mobile homes on the property.⁷

⁵ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

⁶ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

⁷ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

Cemeteries

There is an unmarked cemetery located in the project area. It is identified on USGS topographic maps as the Old Browder Cemetery. The cemetery is derelict and wooded with mixed hardwoods and dense scrub vegetation. There is limited surface visibility within the area of the cemetery due to the dense vegetation. No written records of the Old Browder Cemetery have been identified.

There is no fence delineating the cemetery, however, some wooden fence posts were identified in the field, suggesting there was a fence in place at some point. This survey identified only one marked headstone which was propped against a tree, suggesting it was not in its original location. The headstone is mostly illegible, however, the surname of the individual appeared to be Todd, with a death date of August 11, 1856 (See Figure 16, Appendix A). During survey, several possible field stone markers were identified, however, these also did not appear in their original location as they are broken and scattered, with some partially buried. A few possible grave depressions were also observed, some of which are not associated with any visible stone markers. The Old Browder Cemetery is identified on historic USGS Quadrangle maps at least as early as 1942.

In general, “cemeteries and graves are among those properties that ordinarily are not considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places unless they meet special requirements.”⁸ This cemetery is not eligible under its association with historic events (Criterion A), people (Criterion B), or design (Criterion C). Moreover, it does not meet the Criteria Considerations C or D, and the resource as a whole lacks integrity. For these reasons, the Old Browder Cemetery is not eligible for listing in the NRHP. The lack of any named headstones makes definitive identification of interments and possible descendants infeasible. NCA intends to avoid the cemetery, preserving it in place.

Table 1 List of built resources in the APE

Address	Date	Type	Outbuildings
338 Burton	1973	Single Residence	1
341 Burton	1989	Single Residence	1
182 Shahan	1996	Mobile	4
Old Browder Cemetery	Ca. 1900	1 marked grave	N/A

Archaeological Sites Previously Identified

A review of archaeological site files at the Tennessee Division of Archaeology (TDOA) revealed three known archaeological sites identified within the survey area (40MG172, 40MG174, and 40MG176), and one site likely falling within the survey area (40MG46). Site 40MG172 is a light scatter of lithic artifacts from a slightly elevated area. Artifacts included 21 lithic flakes and three biface fragments. One biface fragment was identified as Benton Stemmed, which dates to the Late Archaic. Site 40MG174 was documented as five non-diagnostic lithic artifacts recovered from a small ridge. The previous surveys note the artifacts were found on the surface or within

⁸ National Register Bulletin 41, National Park Service, Elisabeth Walton Potter and Beth M. Boland, 1992. Available online at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB41-Complete.pdf>.

the plowzone. Due to agricultural practices in the area and the deflated nature of soils, there is little potential for archaeological site preservation. Site 40MG176 consists of a surface deposition of historic artifacts 15 meters west of Bramer Road. The site report states there is a structure depicted on the 1919 soil survey map. Site 40MG176 is most likely associated with a late nineteenth century farmstead. Site 40MG46 either falls within the survey boundary or abuts it very closely. Site 40MG46 is classified as a shell bank and open habitation with prehistoric ceramics dating to Woodland and Mississippian Periods. ERG did not relocate any previously identified sites during the current investigation. This is most likely due to a combination of imprecise mapping of the sites at the time of their original recording, post-identification ground disturbance, and limitations of the survey sampling strategy.

Table 2 List of previously identified sites located within in or adjacent to the APE

Site Number	Temporal Affiliation	Type	NRHP Eligibility	Relocated
40MG46	Pre-Contact (Woodland/ Mississippian)	Shell bank ;Open habitation	Not recorded in available documentation	No
40MG172	Pre-Contact (Late Archaic) Post Contact	Open habitation; Artifact scatter; Domestic House	Unassessed	No
40MG174	Pre- Contact(undetermined)	Open habitation	Unassessed	No
40MG176	Post Contact (1866-1932)	Rural Domestic House	Unassessed	No

Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Environmental Research Group, LLC (ERG) of Baltimore, Maryland has performed a Phase I archaeological survey to locate all archaeological sites, pre-contact, contact, and post-contact that may be located within the 267-acre project area. The current land use is agricultural with several hardwood stands and an area of dense young growth scrub vegetation. Pedestrian survey of recently planted agricultural fields was accomplished between June 28 and 30, 2021. Shovel test survey was accomplished between August 12 and September 7, 2021. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 30-meter (m) intervals, 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter. Two pre-contact and eleven post-contact artifacts were recovered by ERG during the current investigations. These deposits do not represent significant archaeological resources and are not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. A full technical report is attached hereto as Appendix B.

Historic Landscapes

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no historic landscapes in the recommended APE.

Traditional Cultural Properties

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no traditional cultural properties in the recommended APE.

Effects on Historic Properties

Based on the pedestrian building survey and the Phase I archaeological survey that found there are no historic properties present within the APE, NCA recommends a finding of no historic

properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the proposed undertaking. NCA requests the SHPOs concurrence on the agency's finding per 36 CFR Part 800. NCA is also contacting the federally recognized Native American Tribes and other interested parties listed in Table 3 below, to determine if any organizations have any additional information about potential historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking and presenting the results of the archaeological survey. If the parties do submit additional information, NCA will review the provided documentation to determine if the resource (1) meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP and (2) would be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking. All parties have been invited to consult.

Table 3 Invited Consulting Parties Meigs County

Agency / Organization	Contact, Title	Address	Phone	Email
Tennessee Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office	E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr., Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer	2941 Lebanon Pike Nashville, TN 37214	(615) 532-1550	Patrick.mcintyre@tn.gov
The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO)	Dr. Valerie J. Grussing, President	P.O. Box 19189 Washington, DC 20036-9189	202-628-8476	info@nathpo.org
United South and Eastern Tribes	Quahna Mars, Narragansett Indian Tribe, Chairperson, Culture and Heritage Committee, Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 350, Wyoming, RI 02898	401-364-1100 ext. 203	qmars@ntribe.org
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Bryant Celestine Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, TX, 77351	(936) 563-1181	Celestine.Bryant@actribe.org
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Nita Battise, Chairperson	571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, TX, 77351	(936) 563-1100	tnbattise@actribe.org
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 554-6851	russtown@nc-chokeee.com
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Richard Sneed, Principal Chief	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 359-7002	paxtmyer@nc-chokeee.com
Cherokee Nation	Bill John Baker, Principal Chief	PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK, 74465	(918) 453-5000	bill-baker@cherokee.org
Cherokee Nation	Chuck Hoskin, Principal Chief, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK, 74465	(800) 256-0671	chuck-hoskin@cherokee.org
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	Eric Oosahwee-Vos, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 1425 Tahlequah, OK 74465	(918) 458-6717	Eosahwee-voss@ukb-nsn.gov
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	Joe Bunch, Chief	PO Box 746 Tahlequah, OK, 74465	(918) 431-1148	jbunch@ukb-nsn.gov
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	David Sickey, Chairman	PO Box 818, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1401	dsickey@coushatta.org
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 10, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1560	llangley@mcneese.edu

Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Corain Lowe-Zepeda, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(918) 732-7835	section106@mcn-nsn.gov
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	David Hill, Principal Chief	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(800) 482-1979	dhill@mcn-nsn.gov
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	William Quackenbush, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	W9814 Airport Road Black River Falls WI 54615	(715) 284-7181	BQuackenbush@ho-chunk.com
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	Jon Greendeer, President	W9814 Airport Road Black River Falls WI 54615	(715) 284-9343	Jon.Greendeer@Ho-Chunk.com
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Coly Brown, Chairperson	PO Box 687 Winnebago, NE	(402) 878-2272	coly.brown@winnebagotribe.com
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Sunshine Thomas-Bear, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 687 Winnebago, NE 68071	(402) 922-2631	sunshine.bear@winnebagotribe.com
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Liana Hesler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	20 White Eagle Dr. Ponca City, OK 74601	(580) 762-8104	Liana.hesler@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Oliver Littlecook, Chairman	20 White Eagle Dr. Ponca City, OK 74601	(580) 762-8104	oliver.littlecook@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Staci Hesler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760	402-857-3519	staci.hesler@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Larry Wright, Chairman	PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760	(402) 857-3391	N/A
Chickasaw Nation	Bill Anoatubby, Governor	PO Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821	(580) 436-2603	tammy.gray@chickasaw.net
Chickasaw Nation	Kirk Perry, Historic Preservation Executive Officer	PO Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821	(580) 272-5323	hpo@chickasaw.net
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Ian Thompson, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 1210 Durant, OK	(800) 522-6170, ext. 2216	ithompson@choctawnation.com
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Gary Batton, Chief	PO Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702	(580) 924-8280	gbatton@choctawnation.com
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	Alina Shively Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-1205	ashively@jenachoctaw.org
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	B. Cheryl Smith, Principal Chief	PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-2717	Chief@jenachoctaw.org
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Cyrus Ben, Chief	PO Box 6010 Choctaw, MS 39350	(601) 656-5251	info@choctaw.org
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	(405) 257-7200	chief.prin@sno-nsn.gov
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	David Frank, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	(405) 257-7200	Franks.D@sno-nsn.gov
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Paul N. Backhouse, PhD, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	30290 Josie Billie Highway, PMB 1004 Clewiston, FL 33440	(863) 938-6549, ext 12244	paulbackhouse@semtribe.com
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Marcus Oseola, Jr., Chairman	6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, FL 33024	(800) 683-7800	Chairman@semtribe.com
Cherokee Removal National Park (owned by the TVA)		6800 Blyth Ferry Lane Birchwood, TN 37308	423 339 2769	N/A
Tennessee Valley Authority	Rebecca C. Tolene, Federal Preservation Officer, Vice President, Environment, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)	400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11C-K Knoxville, TN 37902	865-632-4433	rctolene@tva.gov
Tennessee Valley Authority	Clinton E. Jones, Deputy Federal	400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11C-K	865-632-3404	cjones5@tva.gov

	Preservation Officer; Manager, Cultural Compliance	Knoxville, TN 37902		
National Trail of Tears Association	Jack Baker, President Board of Directors	412 N. Hwy 100 Suite B, Webbers Falls, OK	(918) 464.2258	JackDBaker@cox.net
Meigs County Government	Ross Wilson, Meigs County Compliance Coordinator	345 N. Main Street, Decatur, TN 37322	(423) 334-2565	rosswilsonmcpc@yahoo.com
Meigs County Historical Society	Paulette Jones, President	200 Smith Avenue Decatur, Tennessee 37322	423.334.4424	Meigsmuseum@MeigsMuseum.com

Sequatchie County Project Area

Property Description

The 225-acre irregularly shaped parcel is located in Sequatchie County, Tennessee (Appendix C has maps and photographs of the project area). The parcel is largely agricultural fields, with a single residential building, dating from 2002. The parcel is located outside of the town of Dunlap. The parcel is located in the Sequatchie Valley on the Cumberland Plateau. See Appendix C for additional photos of the parcel and the surrounding area.

Brief History of Property and Study Area

Sequatchie County was formed in 1853, although the first settlers of European descent arrived in the area shortly after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. The economy of the county consisted primarily of subsistence agriculture and livestock. The first road in the area was constructed in 1853, connecting to the Western and Atlantic Railroad in Georgia, allowing for the expansion into market agriculture.⁹ The construction of the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway through the Sequatchie Valley in 1880 sparked the coal industry. The town of Dunlap, just adjacent to the project area, became a center for coal mining, and the beehive coke ovens can still be seen in the area.

Undertaking

The proposed project is the acquisition and subsequent development of a new National Cemetery. Specific plans for the development were not provided; for the purposes of this study, it was assumed development typical of other National Cemeteries, including in-ground burials with standard NCA markers, columbaria, and/or the construction of support buildings that do not exceed a single story in height. Additional utilities are also anticipated.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

The recommended APE for this undertaking encompasses the proposed acquisition parcel plus an additional 150 feet around the proposed acquisition parcel, to account for potential indirect effects due to the construction of above-ground features. Ground disturbance is anticipated to be limited to the boundaries of the parcel.

Historic Properties

In June 2021, an architectural historian who meets the *Professional Qualification Standards* for History and Architectural History established by the Secretary of Interior conducted a survey and

⁹ *Tennessee Encyclopedia*, "Sequatchie County," Holly Anne Rine, available online at <https://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entries/sequatchie-county/>

historic research to identify properties within the APE that are more than fifty years of age and that retain sufficient integrity to warrant listing in the NRHP.

Identification efforts for this study included a walking survey of the identified acquisition parcel and limited walking survey and windshield survey of the APE and surrounding area.

Images of the following properties are available in Appendix C.

Historic Buildings

There are no listed or eligible historic buildings in the APE. There are nine residences and several outbuildings in the APE. This area does not appear to include a potential historic district, to which any buildings could contribute. Only four of the residences are more than fifty years old. None of these residences possess the qualities of significance to be individually eligible. Similarly, none of the outbuildings appear to be individually eligible in their own right, nor do any appear to be eligible farmsteads. See Appendix C for photographs of the buildings that are at least 50 years old.

Table 4 List of buildings in the APE

Address	Date	Type	Outbuildings
2320 Kelly Cross Road	1954	Single Family	9
163 Boston Town Road	1940	Mobile	2
409 Boston Town Road	1991	Mobile	6
442 Boston Town Road	2002	Single Family	0
497 Boston Town Road	1983	Single Family	2
551 Boston Town Road	1962	Single Family	6
606 Boston Town Road	1983	Single Family	4
686 Boston Town Road	1930	Single Family	
(No number) Ike Boston Road	No date	No Residence	Barn only
(No number) Boston Town Road	1998	No Residence	Horse barn
379 Jack Smith Road	1999 and 2003	Two Single Family	6

2320 Kelly Cross Road – This L-shaped residence was initially constructed in 1954.¹⁰ There have been at least two additions. The building rests on piers and is cross gabled with a wide front porch. The original building is a modest structure, clad in wood siding. One addition meets the center of the original building, on the west side. Attached to that is another add-on that appears to be constructed of cement blocks. There is a large, wide brick chimney fronting that section. There are several outbuildings, including a utility shed, several barns, and a derelict house that was recently bulldozed.¹¹ None of the buildings appear to be notable construction types, nor does

¹⁰ Parcel data from Tennessee Property Viewer GIS, 2021. Available online at <https://tnmap.tn.gov/assessment/> (Accessed 28-30 June 2021).

¹¹ Personal communication, Sue Ann Lockhart, June 16, 2021.

preliminary research suggest it is tied to a particular historic event or significant trend; it lacks the significance necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

163 Boston Town Road – The modest shotgun is front-gabled, with five bays. The building is set on piers, and has windows in the front, and in each original bay. It has a center gable brick chimney. According to the tax records, it was constructed in 1940, and is clad in wood siding. There are two mobile homes and a utility building on the property. The building lacks the significance necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

551 Boston Town Road – This residence is a modest rectangular ranch. It is clad in brick, and the roof is hipped, covered in asphalt shingles. There is an attached garage on the right side, and all windows on the front façade are one-over-one half-height. It is a typical construction type, and preliminary research did not identify any connection to a notable historic event, person, or significant trend. The building is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

686 Boston Town Road – This building is a side gable residence with a square plan. It is a single story, with a roof clad in corrugated metal. The building is set back from the road and is partially shielded from view by outbuildings. According to the tax parcel data, the residence is set only on the immediate land surrounding it, while the several outbuildings, including a shed and a barn, are part of a separately owned parcel. It was constructed in 1930. Windows and doors appear to be modern replacements. The building lacks the significance and integrity necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

(No number) Ike Boston Road – This property has no residence or associated primary building. It is a typical cow barn, clad in vertical wood siding. The extended gable roof is constructed of corrugated metal. The tax records do not indicate a construction date, nor could survey effectively determine age from the public right-of-way. However, a review of historic aerial photographs indicates it dates to at least 1981.¹² It appears to be a typical barn construction type, and preliminary research did not identify any connection to a notable historic event, person, or significant trend. The barn is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Archaeological Sites

GIS data representing previously recorded archaeological sites within the current survey area were obtained from the TDOA. The parcel owner's agent similarly indicated that no archaeological surveys had been done on the property.¹³ Per the GIS data provided, four previously recorded archaeological sites are located within a 1-mile buffer of the current survey area (Table 2). These studies were completed between the years 1973 and 2004, and were conducted by various archaeological consultants, as well as the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. An overview of previously recorded sites is provided below.

Table 5 Previously Recorded Sites within a 1-mile buffer

Site	Temporal Affiliation	Site Type	Landform	NRHP Eligibility
------	----------------------	-----------	----------	------------------

¹² Historic Aerials by Netronline website, available online at <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>. Accessed July 2, 2021.

¹³ Personal communication, Sue Ann Lockhart, June 16, 2021.

40SQ9	Pre-contact (Woodland)	Mound		Unknown/not recorded in available documentation
40SQ99	Post-contact (1866-1932)	Elm Hill School (now Community Center)	Stone filled privy	Unknown/not recorded in available documentation
40SQ109	Pre-contact (undetermined)	Open habitation	Level terrace and floodplain	Recommended not eligible
40SQ110	Pre-contact (Woodland)	Open habitation	Knoll	Recommended not eligible

Previous Surveys and Documented Archaeological Sites

Site 40SQ9 was recorded in 1973 as a prehistoric site with a mound complex dating to the Woodland period. At one time, the mound was reported to have been very large, but at the time of investigation, it was virtually destroyed by agricultural activity. NRHP recommendations are not included in the data research for this site.

Site 40SQ99 was recorded in 1976 and 1978. Site 40SQ99 is a historic site dating to the Appalachian time period (late nineteenth century – early twentieth century). It is a stone filled privy located behind Elm Hill School/Community Center. Excavation was recommended prior to any road construction in the area. NRHP recommendations are not included in the data research for this site.

Site 40SQ109 was recorded in 2004 by TRC Solutions. This site represents an open habitation with unknown prehistoric cultural affiliation characterized by a low-density lithic scatter. Five positive shovel tests were excavated at the site that produced a total of eight pieces of lithic debitage. Deposits appeared to be shallow extending on average to 25 cmbs. No features were noted, and the site was recommended not eligible for NRHP inclusions.

Site 40SQ110 was recorded in 2004 by TRC Solutions. The site represents an open habitation containing Late Woodland Hamilton component (ca. 1500-1000 B.P.) based on the recovery of a Hamilton Incurvate projectile point, from a shovel test excavated at the site. As a whole, artifact content at the site was characterized by a low-density lithic scatter. Three positive shovel tests were excavated at the site that produced a total of seven pieces of lithic debitage in addition to the Hamilton Incurvate arrow point. Deposits appeared to be shallow extending on average to 25 cmbs. No features were noted, and the site was recommended not eligible for NRHP inclusion.

Phase I Archaeological Survey

Environmental Research Group, LLC (ERG) of Baltimore, Maryland has performed a Phase I archaeological survey to locate all archaeological sites, pre-contact, contact, and post-contact that may be located within the project area. This survey was conducted between July 26 and August 11, 2021. Fieldwork was conducted according to Tennessee SHPO Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Resource Management Studies (TDEC 2018). The Phase I archaeological survey methods employed during this investigation primarily involved the excavation of shovel tests on a 30-m grid within designated survey areas. ERG also employed visual surface inspections in areas of good surface visibility (greater than 25 percent soil exposure), and in areas suspected to

contain evidence of cultural features at ground surface (e.g., historic features, such as foundations and cisterns). The only shovel test locations not excavated by ERG (n=15) occurred at slopes exceeding 15 percent, deeply incised drainages, poorly drained wetland areas, water bodies, modern constructed surfaces such as roads, and intrusive modern disturbances such as large push/dump piles. ERG subjected these areas to surface inspection at a minimum. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 30-meter (m) intervals, 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter. During survey, four STPs contained cultural material, including both pre-contact (n=1) and post-contact (n=6). ERG recovered the post-contact artifacts from Isolated Find (ISO) 001, which is defined by three positive STPs as well as four remnant architectural features. The pre-contact artifact is an isolated find. None of these sites possess the qualities of significance for inclusion in the NRHP. A full Phase I Archaeological Survey and Inventory is attached as Appendix D.

Historic Landscapes

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no historic landscapes in the recommended APE.

Traditional Cultural Properties

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no traditional cultural properties in the recommended APE.

Effects on Historic Properties

Based on the pedestrian building survey and the Phase I archaeological survey that found there are no historic properties present within the APE, NCA recommends a finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the proposed undertaking. NCA requests the SHPOs concurrence on the agency's finding per 36 CFR Part 800. NCA is also contacting federally recognized Native American Tribes and other interested parties listed in Table 5 below, to determine if any organizations have any additional information about potential historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking and presenting the results of the archaeological survey. All parties have been invited to participate. If the parties do submit additional information, NCA will review the provided documentation to determine if the resource (1) meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP and (2) would be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking.

Table 6 List of Consulting Parties for Sequatchie County

Agency / Organization	Contact, Title	Address	Phone	Email
Tennessee Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office	E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr. Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer	2941 Lebanon Pike Nashville, TN 37214	(615) 532-1550	Patrick.mcintyre@tn.gov
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 554-6851	russtown@nc- cherokee.com

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Richard Sneed, Principal Chief	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 359-7002	paxtmyer@nc-choerokee.com
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	David Sickey Chairman	PO Box 818, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1401	dsickey@coushatta.org
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Corain Lowe-Zepeda THPO	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(918) 732-7835	section106@mcn-nsn.gov
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	David Hill Principal Chief	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(800) 482-1979	dhill@mcn-nsn.gov
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Linda Langley THPO	PO Box 10, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1560	llangley@mcneese.edu
SEIDA Regional Economic Development Agency	Beth Jones, Executive Director	1000 Riverfront Parkway, P.O. Box 4757 Chattanooga, TN 37405-0757	(423) 424-4241	bjones@sedev.org
Sequatchie County Government	Keith Cartwright, County Executive	22 Cherry Street Dunlap, TN 37327	(423) 949-3479	seqexec@bledsoe.net
Sequatchie County Historical Association	Edward R. Brown, President	350 Mountain View Road Dunlap, Tennessee 37327	(423) 949-2294	nominerals@bledsoe.net

NCA will notify your office and proceed in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.5-800.6 should any consulting parties provide additional information concerning unidentified historic properties potentially affected by this undertaking. If you have any questions contact Mr. William Edward Hooker at William.hooker@va.gov, 202-632-6631.

Sincerely,

**WILLIAM E.
HOOKER
911259**

Digitally signed by
WILLIAM E. HOOKER
911259
Date: 2021.12.08 12:01:38
-05'00'

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/Cultural Resources Manager
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

CC: Doug Pulak

Appendix A: Maps and Photographs of the Project Area

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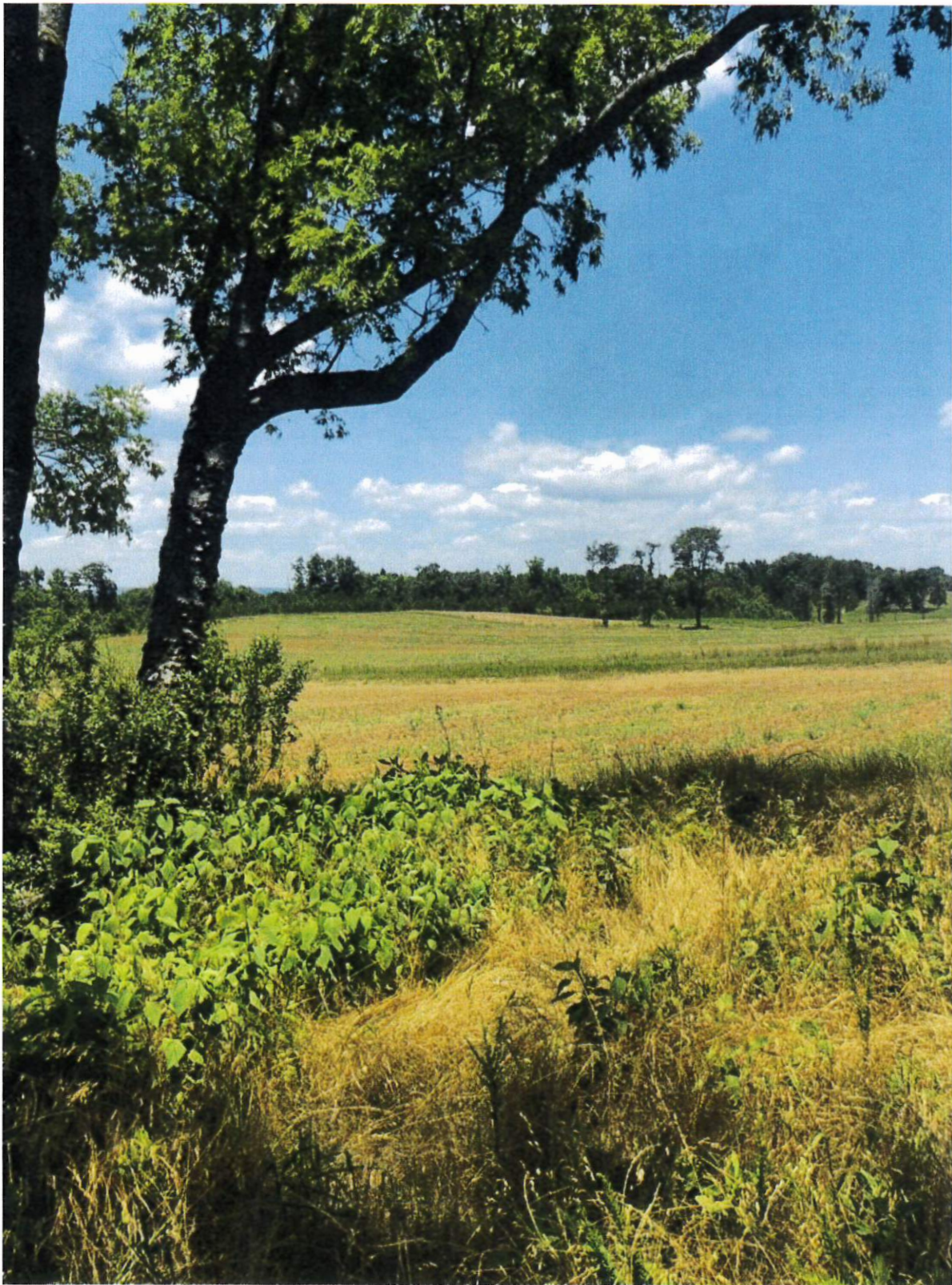


Figure 1 Overview of APE looking west.



Figure 2 Overview of APE looking north.



Figure 3 Overview of APE looking south.



Figure 4 Overview of APE looking southwest.



Figure 5 Overview of APE looking north.



Figure 6 Overview of APE looking northeast.



Figure 7 Overview of APE looking northeast.



Figure 8 Overview of APE looking west.



Figure 9 Overview of APE looking southwest.



Figure 10 Overview of APE looking east.



Figure 11 Overview of APE looking northwest.



Figure 12 Overview of APE looking west.



Figure 13 Overview of APE looking northwest.



Figure 14 Overview of APE looking northeast, toward SR 60, the Hiwassee Highway (note tractor trailer in the background).



Figure 15 View from the Hiwassee Bridge looking southwest into the project area.



Figure 16 338 Burton Lane, looking east.



Figure 17 341 Burton Lane, facing west.



Figure 18 182 Shahan Lane, facing south.



Figure 19 Single extant headstone leaning against a tree in the Old Browder Cemetery.

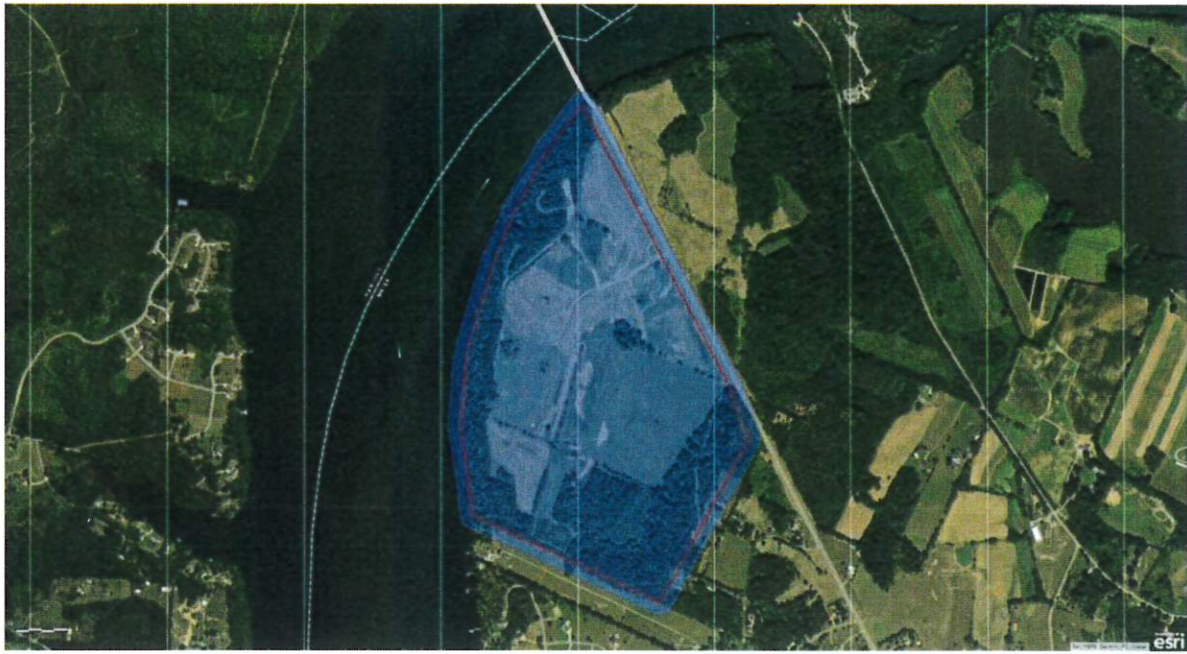
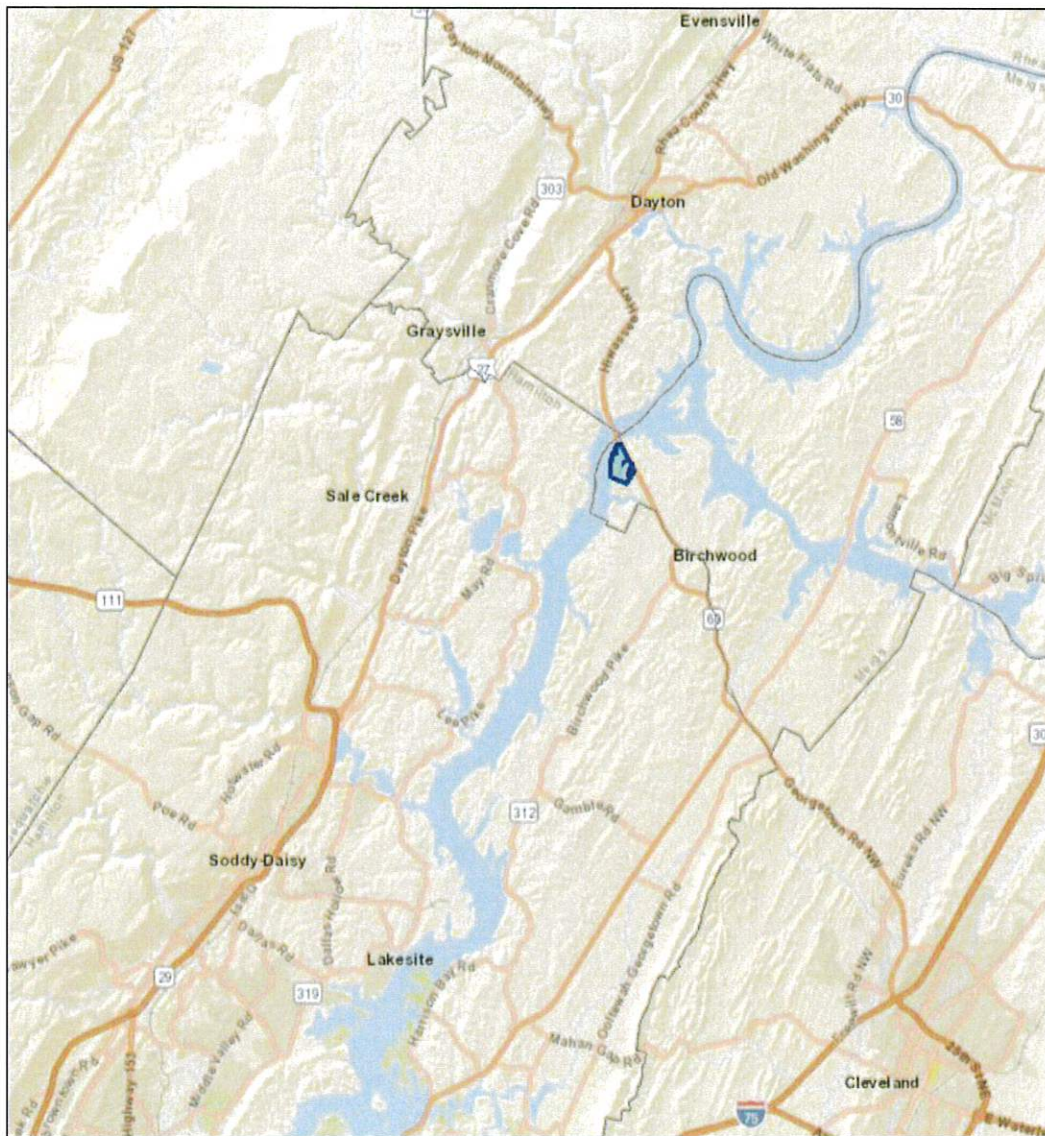


Figure 20 Project Area, outlined in red, Area of Potential Effect, shaded in blue.

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



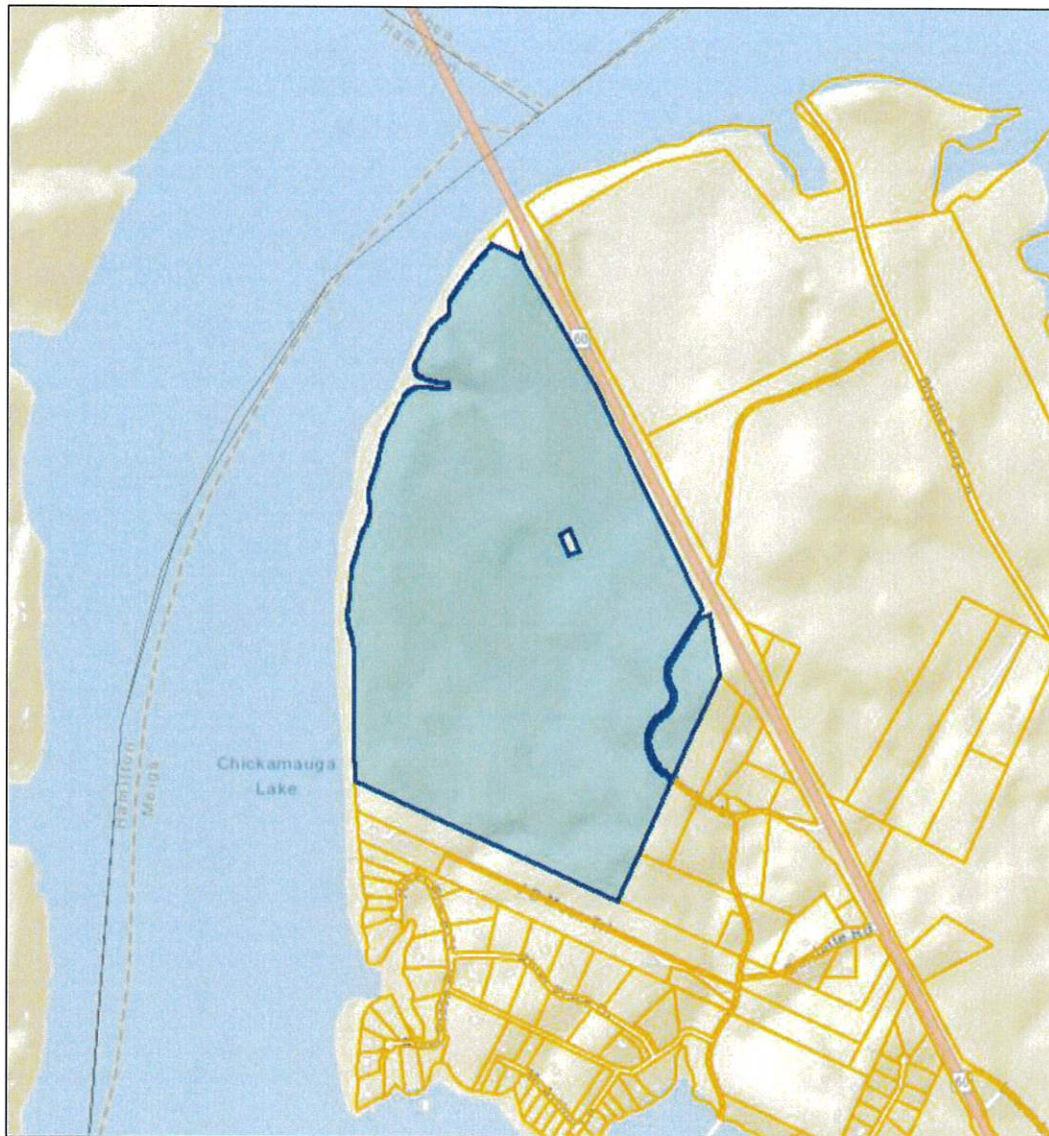
Date: June 2, 2021
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Comptroller - OLG

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 21 Project Area, situated in Meigs County, Tennessee, north of Chattanooga.

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: November 11, 2020
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan,
Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand),
NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Comptroller - OLG
State of Tennessee, Comptroller of the Treasury, Office of Local Government

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 22 Site in Meigs County, located just south of the Hiwassee Highway-Tennessee River intersection.

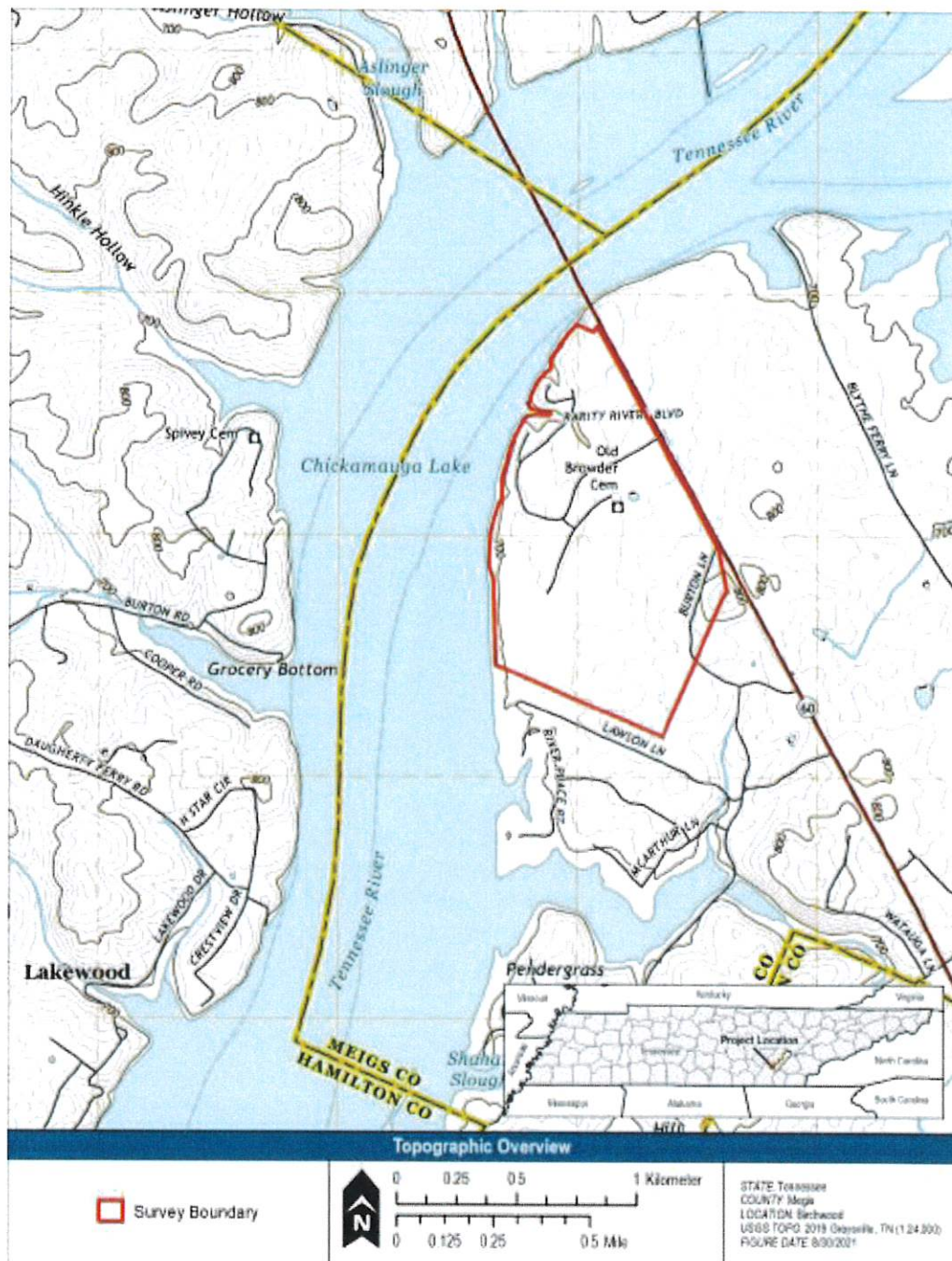


Figure 23 Project Area with Old Browder Cemetery identified. Note Blythe Ferry Road to the north, the approximate former location of the Blythe Ferry.

Appendix C: Maps and Photographs of the Project Area

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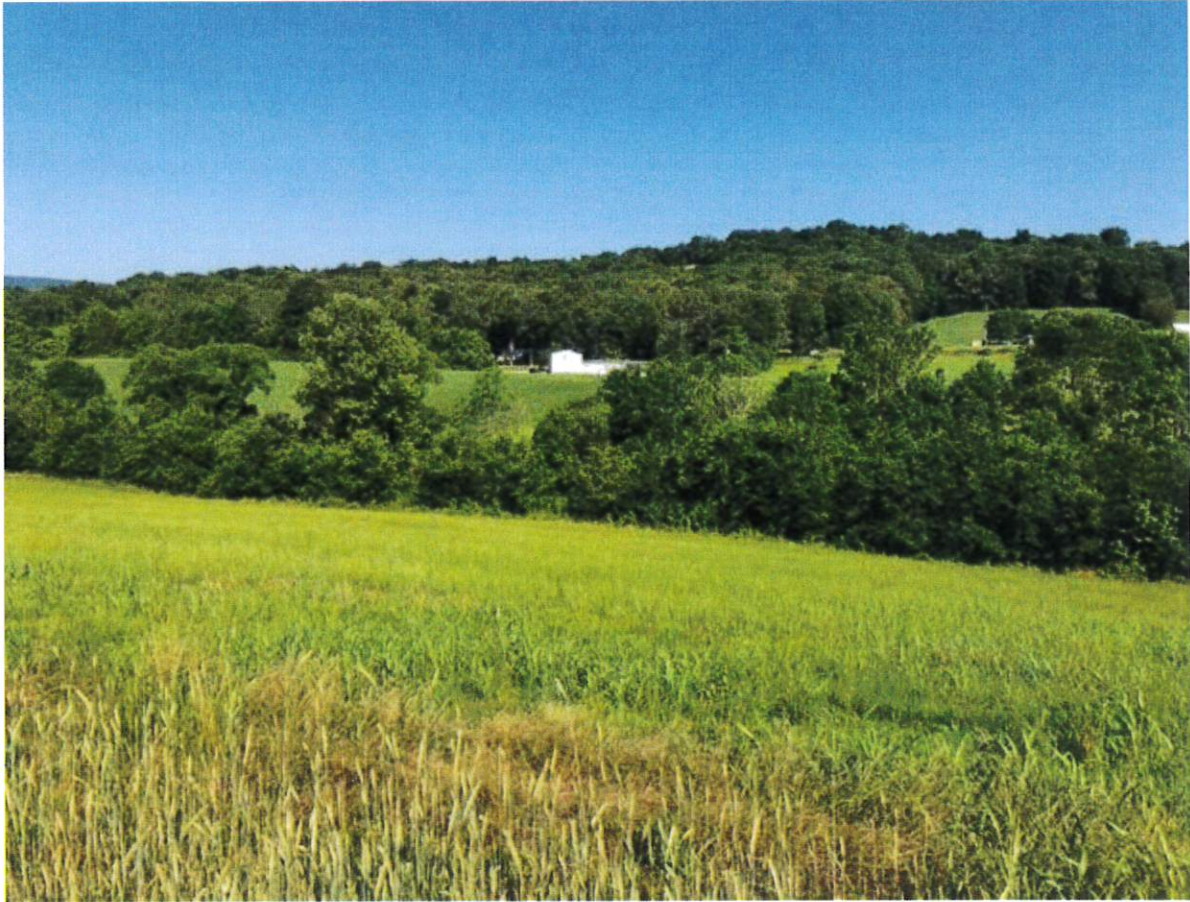


Figure 1 Looking west, an overview of the only building on the parcel, a home built in 2002, belonging to the seller



Figure 2 Overview looking northwest, roofs of 442 and 409 Boston Town Road visible in the distance.



Figure 3 Overview of property looking north from Kelly Cross Road.



Figure 4 Overview looking north of barn and home adjacent to the APE.



Figure 5 Overview looking east across the APE.



Figure 6 Overview looking east across the APE.



Figure 7 Overview looking northeast across the APE.



Figure 8 Overview looking northwest across the APE.



Figure 9 Overview looking north across the APE.



Figure 10 Overview looking northeast across the APE.



Figure 11 Overview looking south across the APE.



Figure 12 Overview looking north across the APE.



Figure 13 686 Boston Town Road, from the public right-of-way (looking east).



Figure 14 2320 Kelly Cross Road, from the public right-of-way (looking southeast).



Figure 15 163 Boston Town Road looking west.



Figure 16 551 Boston Town Road ranch house (ca. 1962) in the APE, looking north.



Figure 17 Barn on Boston Town Road (no street number) dating to at least 1981 (looking northeast).

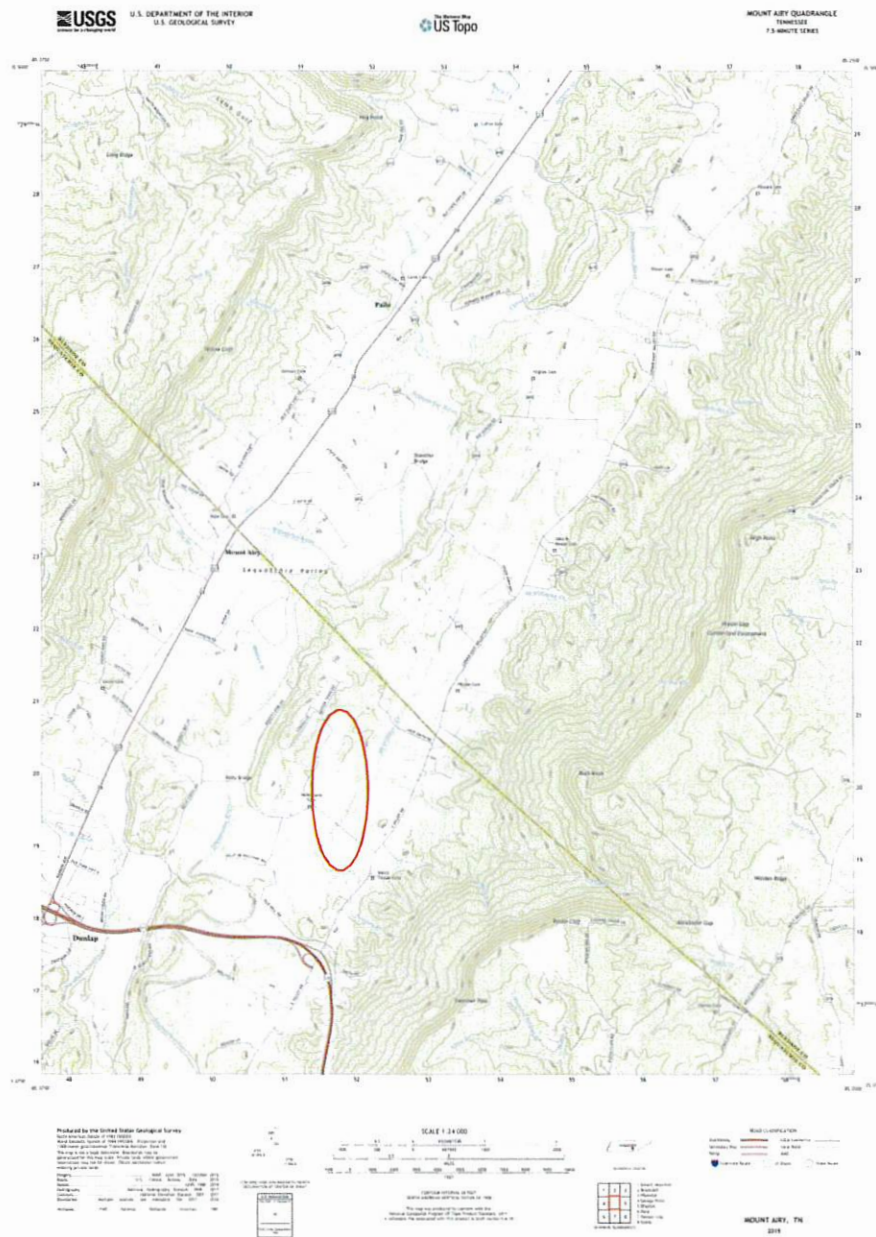


Figure 18 Sequatchie County project area general vicinity.

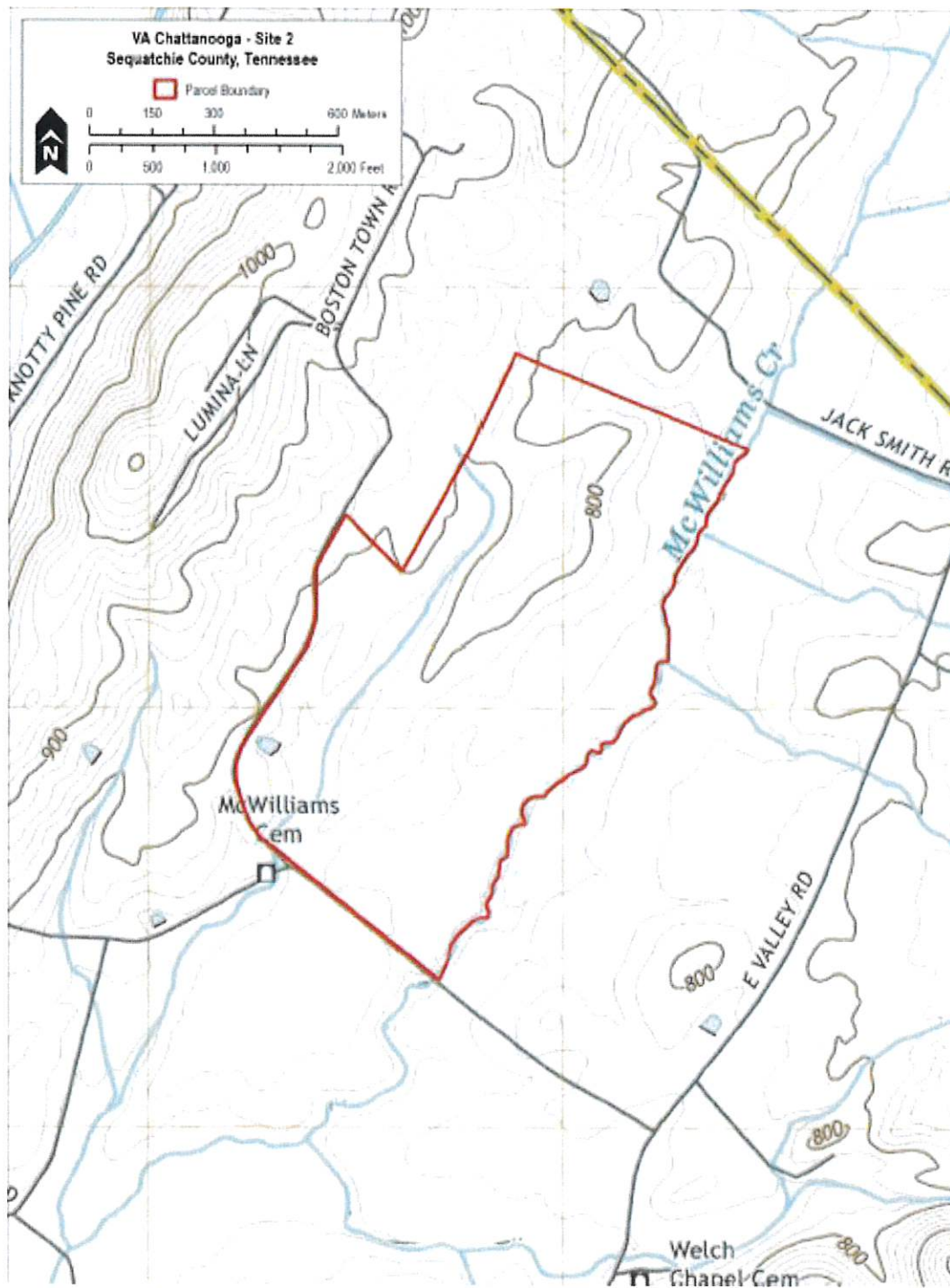


Figure 19 Sequatchie County project parcel, approximately 225 acres.

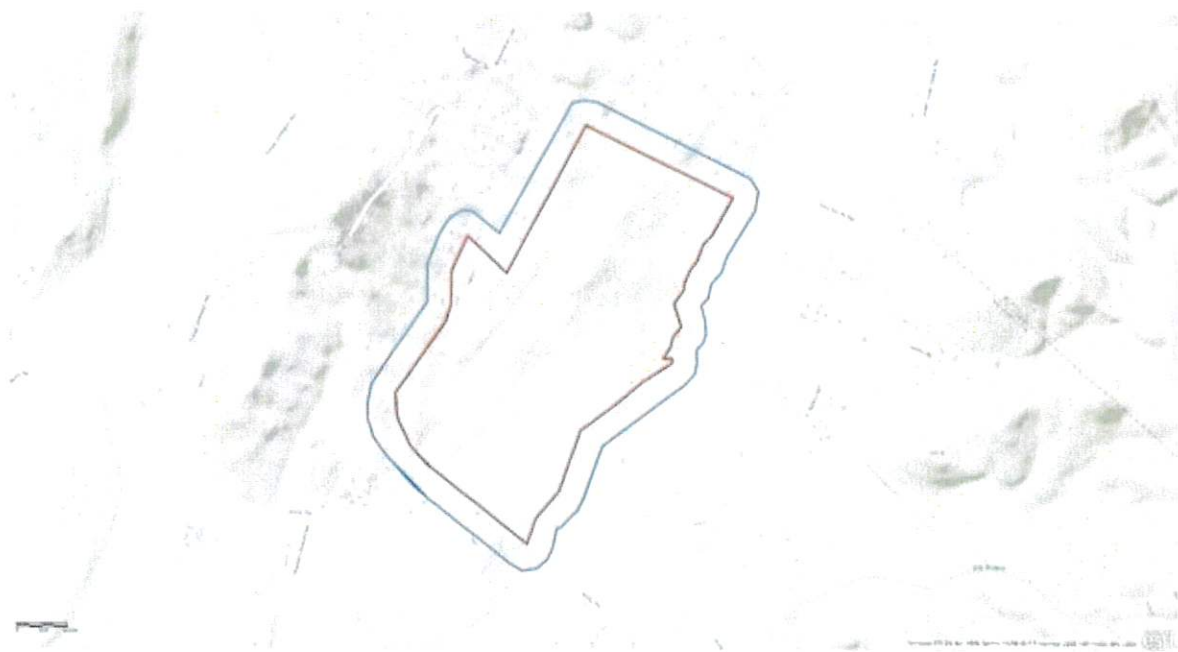


Figure 20 Project area outlined in red, Area of Potential Effects outlined in blue. Aerial photograph (ESRI) base map.



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON DC 20420**

December 7, 2021

Ms. Nita Battise
Alabama -Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Chairperson
571 State Park Road 56
Livingston, TX 77351

RE: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Acquisition, Construction and Operation of a new National Cemetery in the area of Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dear Ms. Battise,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108), Chattanooga National Cemetery of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is initiating Section 106 consultation with your office on implementation of the above-referenced project. VA is considering two properties for this undertaking, one in Meigs County and one in Sequatchie County. This letter presents the findings for both sites.

Meigs County Project Area

Property Description

The 257.92-acre irregularly shaped parcel is located in Meigs County, Tennessee (Figure 1 and 2). The parcel is largely agricultural fields, with no buildings on it. The project area is located to the east of the Chickamauga Lake region of the Tennessee River. It is sited just south and west of the historic site of the Blythe Ferry. See Appendix A for additional maps photos of the parcel and the surrounding area.

Brief History of Property and Study Area

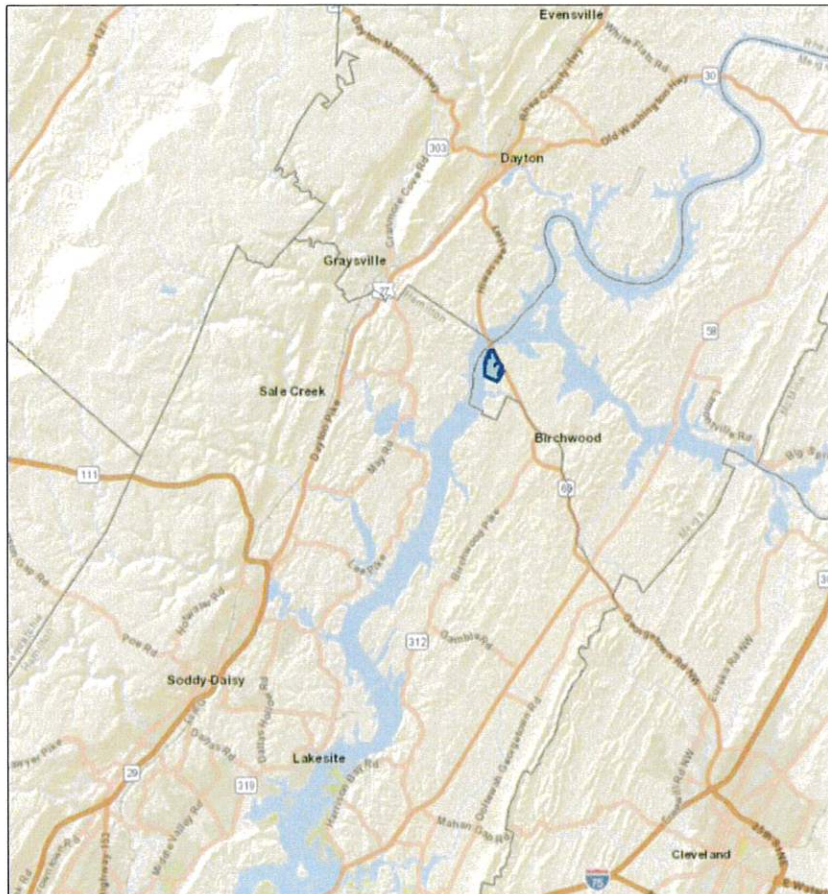
This parcel is in the Appalachian Plateau, in an agricultural area adjacent to the Tennessee River, and just south of Hiawassee Island. Meigs County was founded in 1836, from lands procured from the Indian removal and the Cherokee cession. It is named after Return Jonathan Meigs, the first Cherokee agent in the area and later a Governor of Ohio. The primary economy in the area during the antebellum period was farming, largely raising hogs, wheat, and corn.

The project parcel is located approximately 0.5 miles south of the historic location of the Blythe Ferry. In 1809, William Blythe began operating a ferry at the confluence of the Tennessee and Hiawassee Rivers. This area was "a significant crossroad for development of Indian culture for centuries,"¹ and it was an important river crossing on the "Great Road" between Knoxville and

¹ *Historic Site or Trail, History of Blythe Ferry Site*, available online at

Chattanooga.² This ferry was located at the northwest corner of the Cherokee Nation. The Blythe ferry served as an important location in the history of the Trail of Tears. In October of 1838, nine of the thirteen detachments of Cherokee Chief John Ross was forced to shepherd to the Indian Territory left their ancestral lands at Blythe Ferry. The roughly 9,000 Native Americans being forced to march west were required to camp in the area for six weeks, waiting

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: June 2, 2021
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
IN Composite - CIG

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 1 Project Area, situated in Meigs County, Tennessee, north of Chattanooga.

<https://tennesseerivervalleygeotourism.org/entries/cherokee-removal-memorial-park-at-historic-blythe-ferry/d2a64d12-f649-427c-b415-26363b2a0df9>. Accessed October 14, 2021.

² "William Blythe Had Early Ferry," Tennessee GenWeb, https://www.tngenweb.org/meigs/blythe_ferry.html, accessed October 14, 2021.

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: November 11, 2020
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Comptroller - OLG
State of Tennessee, Comptroller of the Treasury, Office of Local Government

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 2 Site in Meigs County, located just south of the Hiwassee Highway-Tennessee River intersection.

for the Tennessee River to rise from extreme drought conditions.³ William Blythe, the ferry proprietor, traveled west with his wife, Nancy Fields, who was Cherokee. The site remained a ferry until 1994, when the Highway 60 bridge was built. The site is now part of the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park at Historic Blythe Ferry, along the northern shore just east of Blythe Ferry Road. The area was largely spared the devastation of the Civil War. However, the most notable event of the conflict in the county took place on November 13, 1863, when Union troops stationed at the mouth of the Hiawassee River skirmished with Confederate artillery forces to defend the grain supplies on the island.⁴ The postbellum period saw the expansion of the economy with the dawn of the steamboat era. Landings along the Tennessee River became local economic sites, centers of trade. According to historic USGS quadrangle maps and aerial photography, the project parcel has been dedicated to agriculture throughout the twentieth century.

Undertaking

The proposed project is the acquisition and subsequent development of a new National Cemetery. Specific plans for the development are not available at this time, however, it is assumed development will be typical of other National Cemeteries, including in-ground burials with standard NCA markers, columbaria, chapel, and/or the construction of support buildings that do not exceed a single story in height. Additional utilities are also anticipated.

Area of Potential Effects

The recommended APE for this undertaking encompasses the proposed acquisition parcel plus an additional 150 feet around the proposed acquisition parcel, to account for potential indirect effects due to the construction of above-ground features (Figure 3). Ground disturbance is anticipated to be limited to the boundaries of the parcel. The entire area is shielded from adjacent properties by thick vegetation to the north, west and the south, and by Highway 60 to the east; the entirety of the western boundary is also bordered by the Tennessee River.

Historic Properties

In June 2021, an architectural historian who meets the *Professional Qualification Standards* for History and Architectural History established by the Secretary of Interior conducted a survey and historic research to identify properties within the APE that are more than fifty years of age and that retain sufficient integrity to warrant listing in the NRHP.

Identification efforts for this study included a walking survey of the identified acquisition parcel and limited walking survey and windshield survey of the APE and surrounding area.

Images of the following built resources are available in Appendix A.

Historic Buildings

There are no listed or eligible historic buildings in the APE. There are three residences in the APE, as well as a few sheds. None of the buildings in the APE are fifty years old or older. This area does not appear to include a potential historic district, to which any buildings could contribute. None of these homes possess the qualities of significance to be individually eligible.

³ Ibid.

⁴ History of Meigs County, online at <https://meigstn.com/history-of-meigs-county/>, accessed July 2, 2021.

Similarly, none of the outbuildings appear to be individually eligible in their own right, nor do any appear to be eligible farmsteads.

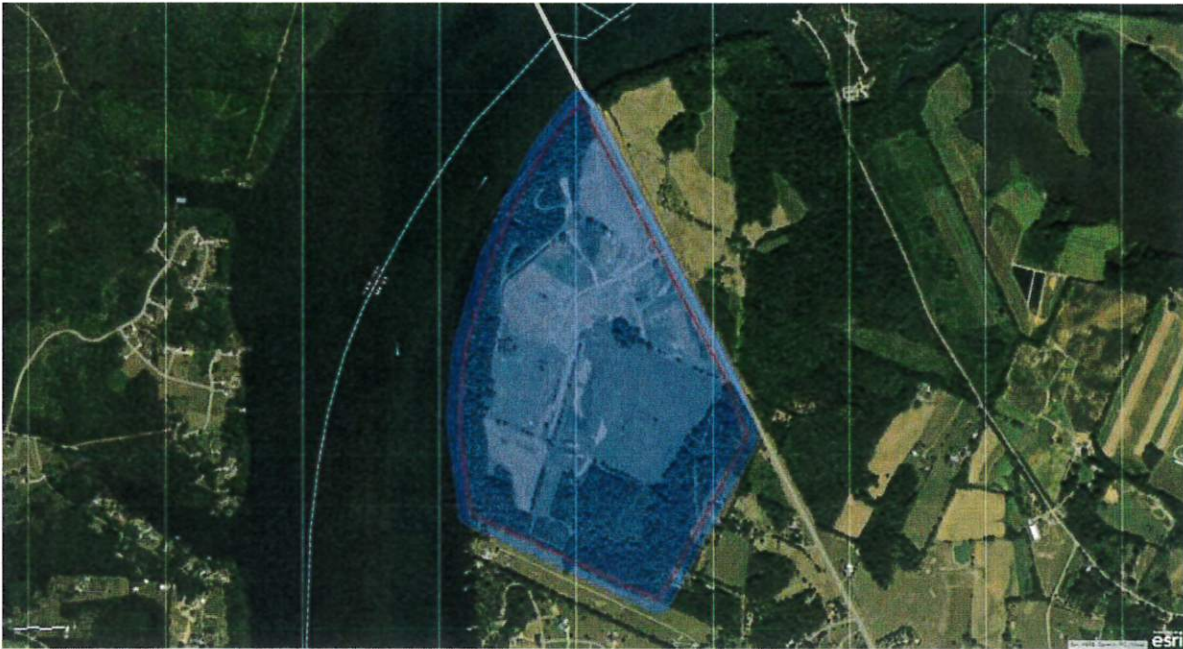


Figure 3 Project Area, outlined in red, Area of Potential Effect, shaded in blue.

338 Burton Lane is barely visible from the public right-of-way. It is a modest ranch, built ca. 1973. It is rectangular in plan, with both stone and wood exterior cladding. The property includes one shed outbuilding and a patio. It is a single-family structure, measuring 1,248 sq-ft.⁵

341 Burton Lane is a small creole cottage type building. It is side-gabled with a standing seam metal roof, and fronted by a wide, full-width porch. It was built ca. 1989, and measures 1080 sq-ft in a rectangular plan. There is a small shed outbuilding associated with this single-family residence.⁶

182 Shahan Lane includes a number of late-twentieth century buildings, including this main structure. It was constructed ca. 1996, with a stone foundation, and vertical wood exterior planking. This structure appears to be more than one structure combined, and it includes a large open porch. There are also a shed, a detached garage, and three mobile homes on the property.⁷

⁵ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

⁶ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

⁷ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

Cemeteries

There is an unmarked cemetery located in the project area. It is identified on USGS topographic maps as the Old Browder Cemetery. The cemetery is derelict and wooded with mixed hardwoods and dense scrub vegetation. There is limited surface visibility within the area of the cemetery due to the dense vegetation. No written records of the Old Browder Cemetery have been identified.

There is no fence delineating the cemetery, however, some wooden fence posts were identified in the field, suggesting there was a fence in place at some point. This survey identified only one marked headstone which was propped against a tree, suggesting it was not in its original location. The headstone is mostly illegible, however, the surname of the individual appeared to be Todd, with a death date of August 11, 1856 (See Figure 16, Appendix A). During survey, several possible field stone markers were identified, however, these also did not appear in their original location as they are broken and scattered, with some partially buried. A few possible grave depressions were also observed, some of which are not associated with any visible stone markers. The Old Browder Cemetery is identified on historic USGS Quadrangle maps at least as early as 1942.

In general, “cemeteries and graves are among those properties that ordinarily are not considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places unless they meet special requirements.”⁸ This cemetery is not eligible under its association with historic events (Criterion A), people (Criterion B), or design (Criterion C). Moreover, it does not meet the Criteria Considerations C or D, and the resource as a whole lacks integrity. For these reasons, the Old Browder Cemetery is not eligible for listing in the NRHP. The lack of any named headstones makes definitive identification of interments and possible descendants infeasible. NCA intends to avoid the cemetery, preserving it in place.

Table 1 List of built resources in the APE

Address	Date	Type	Outbuildings
338 Burton	1973	Single Residence	1
341 Burton	1989	Single Residence	1
182 Shahan	1996	Mobile	4
Old Browder Cemetery	Ca. 1900	1 marked grave	N/A

Archaeological Sites Previously Identified

A review of archaeological site files at the Tennessee Division of Archaeology (TDOA) revealed three known archaeological sites identified within the survey area (40MG172, 40MG174, and 40MG176), and one site likely falling within the survey area (40MG46). Site 40MG172 is a light scatter of lithic artifacts from a slightly elevated area. Artifacts included 21 lithic flakes and three biface fragments. One biface fragment was identified as Benton Stemmed, which dates to the Late Archaic. Site 40MG174 was documented as five non-diagnostic lithic artifacts recovered from a small ridge. The previous surveys note the artifacts were found on the surface or within

⁸ National Register Bulletin 41, National Park Service, Elisabeth Walton Potter and Beth M. Boland, 1992. Available online at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB41-Complete.pdf>.

the plowzone. Due to agricultural practices in the area and the deflated nature of soils, there is little potential for archaeological site preservation. Site 40MG176 consists of a surface deposition of historic artifacts 15 meters west of Bramer Road. The site report states there is a structure depicted on the 1919 soil survey map. Site 40MG176 is most likely associated with a late nineteenth century farmstead. Site 40MG46 either falls within the survey boundary or abuts it very closely. Site 40MG46 is classified as a shell bank and open habitation with prehistoric ceramics dating to Woodland and Mississippian Periods. ERG did not relocate any previously identified sites during the current investigation. This is most likely due to a combination of imprecise mapping of the sites at the time of their original recording, post-identification ground disturbance, and limitations of the survey sampling strategy.

Table 2 List of previously identified sites located within in or adjacent to the APE

Site Number	Temporal Affiliation	Type	NRHP Eligibility	Relocated
40MG46	Pre-Contact (Woodland/ Mississippian)	Shell bank ;Open habitation	Not recorded in available documentation	No
40MG172	Pre-Contact (Late Archaic) Post Contact	Open habitation; Artifact scatter; Domestic House	Unassessed	No
40MG174	Pre- Contact(undetermined)	Open habitation	Unassessed	No
40MG176	Post Contact (1866-1932)	Rural Domestic House	Unassessed	No

Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Environmental Research Group, LLC (ERG) of Baltimore, Maryland has performed a Phase I archaeological survey to locate all archaeological sites, pre-contact, contact, and post-contact that may be located within the 267-acre project area. The current land use is agricultural with several hardwood stands and an area of dense young growth scrub vegetation. Pedestrian survey of recently planted agricultural fields was accomplished between June 28 and 30, 2021. Shovel test survey was accomplished between August 12 and September 7, 2021. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 30-meter (m) intervals, 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter. Two pre-contact and eleven post-contact artifacts were recovered by ERG during the current investigations. These deposits do not represent significant archaeological resources and are not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. A full technical report is attached hereto as Appendix B.

Historic Landscapes

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no historic landscapes in the recommended APE.

Traditional Cultural Properties

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no traditional cultural properties in the recommended APE.

Effects on Historic Properties

Based on the pedestrian building survey and the Phase I archaeological survey that found there are no historic properties present within the APE, NCA recommends a finding of no historic

properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the proposed undertaking. NCA requests the SHPOs concurrence on the agency's finding per 36 CFR Part 800. NCA is also contacting the federally recognized Native American Tribes and other interested parties listed in Table 3 below, to determine if any organizations have any additional information about potential historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking and presenting the results of the archaeological survey. If the parties do submit additional information, NCA will review the provided documentation to determine if the resource (1) meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP and (2) would be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking. All parties have been invited to consult.

Table 3 Invited Consulting Parties Meigs County

Agency / Organization	Contact, Title	Address	Phone	Email
Tennessee Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office	E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr., Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer	2941 Lebanon Pike Nashville, TN 37214	(615) 532-1550	Patrick.mcintyre@tn.gov
The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO)	Dr. Valerie J. Grussing, President	P.O. Box 19189 Washington, DC 20036-9189	202-628-8476	info@nathpo.org
United South and Eastern Tribes	Quahna Mars, Narragansett Indian Tribe, Chairperson, Culture and Heritage Committee, Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 350, Wyoming, RI 02898	401-364-1100 ext. 203	qmars@ntribe.org
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Bryant Celestine Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, TX, 77351	(936) 563-1181	Celestine.Bryant@actribe.org
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Nita Battise, Chairperson	571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, TX, 77351	(936) 563-1100	tcnbattise@actribe.org
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 554-6851	russtown@nc-chokeee.com
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Richard Sneed, Principal Chief	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 359-7002	paxtmyer@nc-chokeee.com
Cherokee Nation	Bill John Baker, Principal Chief	PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK, 74465	(918) 453-5000	bill-baker@cherokee.org
Cherokee Nation	Chuck Hoskin, Principal Chief, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK, 74465	(800) 256-0671	chuck-hoskin@cherokee.org
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	Eric Oosahwee-Vos, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 1425 Tahlequah, OK 74465	(918) 458-6717	Eosahwee-voss@ukb-nsn.gov
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	Joe Bunch, Chief	PO Box 746 Tahlequah, OK, 74465	(918) 431-1148	jbunch@ukb-nsn.gov
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	David Sickey, Chairman	PO Box 818, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1401	dsickey@coushatta.org
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 10, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1560	llangley@mcneese.edu

Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Corain Lowe-Zepeda, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(918) 732-7835	section106@mcn-nsn.gov
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	David Hill, Principal Chief	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(800) 482-1979	dhill@mcn-nsn.gov
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	William Quackenbush, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	W9814 Airport Road Black River Falls WI 54615	(715) 284-7181	BQuackenbush@ho-chunk.com
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	Jon Greendeer, President	W9814 Airport Road Black River Falls WI 54615	(715) 284-9343	Jon.Greendeer@Ho-Chunk.com
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Coly Brown, Chairperson	PO Box 687 Winnebago, NE	(402) 878-2272	coly.brown@winnebagoTribe.com
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Sunshine Thomas-Bear, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 687 Winnebago, NE 68071	(402) 922-2631	sunshine.bear@winnebagoTribe.com
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Liana Hesler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	20 White Eagle Dr. Ponca City, OK 74601	(580) 762-8104	Liana.hesler@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Oliver Littlecook, Chairman	20 White Eagle Dr. Ponca City, OK 74601	(580) 762-8104	oliver.littlecook@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Staci Hesler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760	402-857-3519	staci.hesler@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Larry Wright, Chairman	PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760	(402) 857-3391	N/A
Chickasaw Nation	Bill Anoatubby, Governor	PO Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821	(580) 436-2603	tammy.gray@chickasaw.net
Chickasaw Nation	Kirk Perry, Historic Preservation Executive Officer	PO Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821	(580) 272-5323	hpo@chickasaw.net
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Ian Thompson, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 1210 Durant, OK	(800) 522-6170, ext. 2216	ithompson@choctawnation.com
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Gary Batton, Chief	PO Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702	(580) 924-8280	gbatton@choctawnation.com
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	Alina Shively Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-1205	ashively@jenachoctaw.org
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	B. Cheryl Smith, Principal Chief	PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-2717	Chief@jenachoctaw.org
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Cyrus Ben, Chief	PO Box 6010 Choctaw, MS 39350	(601) 656-5251	info@choctaw.org
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	(405) 257-7200	chief.prin@sno-nsn.gov
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	David Frank, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	(405) 257-7200	Franks.D@sno-nsn.gov
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Paul N. Backhouse, PhD, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	30290 Josie Billie Highway, PMB 1004 Clewiston, FL 33440	(863) 938-6549, ext 12244	paulbackhouse@semtribe.com
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Marcus Oseola, Jr., Chairman	6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, FL 33024	(800) 683-7800	Chairman@semtribe.com
Cherokee Removal National Park (owned by the TVA)		6800 Blyth Ferry Lane Birchwood, TN 37308	423 339 2769	N/A
Tennessee Valley Authority	Rebecca C. Tolene, Federal Preservation Officer, Vice President, Environment, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)	400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11C-K Knoxville, TN 37902	865-632-4433	retolene@tva.gov
Tennessee Valley Authority	Clinton E. Jones, Deputy Federal	400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11C-K	865-632-3404	cjones5@tva.gov

	Preservation Officer; Manager, Cultural Compliance	Knoxville, TN 37902		
National Trail of Tears Association	Jack Baker, President Board of Directors	412 N. Hwy 100 Suite B, Webbers Falls, OK	(918) 464.2258	JackDBaker@cox.net
Meigs County Government	Ross Wilson, Meigs County Compliance Coordinator	345 N. Main Street, Decatur, TN 37322	(423) 334-2565	rosswilsonmcpc@yahoo.com
Meigs County Historical Society	Paulette Jones, President	200 Smith Avenue Decatur, Tennessee 37322	423.334.4424	Meigsmuseum@MeigsMuseum.com

Sequatchie County Project Area

Property Description

The 225-acre irregularly shaped parcel is located in Sequatchie County, Tennessee (Appendix C has maps and photographs of the project area). The parcel is largely agricultural fields, with a single residential building, dating from 2002. The parcel is located outside of the town of Dunlap. The parcel is located in the Sequatchie Valley on the Cumberland Plateau. See Appendix C for additional photos of the parcel and the surrounding area.

Brief History of Property and Study Area

Sequatchie County was formed in 1853, although the first settlers of European descent arrived in the area shortly after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. The economy of the county consisted primarily of subsistence agriculture and livestock. The first road in the area was constructed in 1853, connecting to the Western and Atlantic Railroad in Georgia, allowing for the expansion into market agriculture.⁹ The construction of the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway through the Sequatchie Valley in 1880 sparked the coal industry. The town of Dunlap, just adjacent to the project area, became a center for coal mining, and the beehive coke ovens can still be seen in the area.

Undertaking

The proposed project is the acquisition and subsequent development of a new National Cemetery. Specific plans for the development were not provided; for the purposes of this study, it was assumed development typical of other National Cemeteries, including in-ground burials with standard NCA markers, columbaria, and/or the construction of support buildings that do not exceed a single story in height. Additional utilities are also anticipated.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

The recommended APE for this undertaking encompasses the proposed acquisition parcel plus an additional 150 feet around the proposed acquisition parcel, to account for potential indirect effects due to the construction of above-ground features. Ground disturbance is anticipated to be limited to the boundaries of the parcel.

Historic Properties

In June 2021, an architectural historian who meets the *Professional Qualification Standards* for History and Architectural History established by the Secretary of Interior conducted a survey and

⁹ *Tennessee Encyclopedia*, "Sequatchie County," Holly Anne Rine, available online at <https://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entries/sequatchie-county/>

historic research to identify properties within the APE that are more than fifty years of age and that retain sufficient integrity to warrant listing in the NRHP.

Identification efforts for this study included a walking survey of the identified acquisition parcel and limited walking survey and windshield survey of the APE and surrounding area.

Images of the following properties are available in Appendix C.

Historic Buildings

There are no listed or eligible historic buildings in the APE. There are nine residences and several outbuildings in the APE. This area does not appear to include a potential historic district, to which any buildings could contribute. Only four of the residences are more than fifty years old. None of these residences possess the qualities of significance to be individually eligible. Similarly, none of the outbuildings appear to be individually eligible in their own right, nor do any appear to be eligible farmsteads. See Appendix C for photographs of the buildings that are at least 50 years old.

Table 4 List of buildings in the APE

Address	Date	Type	Outbuildings
2320 Kelly Cross Road	1954	Single Family	9
163 Boston Town Road	1940	Mobile	2
409 Boston Town Road	1991	Mobile	6
442 Boston Town Road	2002	Single Family	0
497 Boston Town Road	1983	Single Family	2
551 Boston Town Road	1962	Single Family	6
606 Boston Town Road	1983	Single Family	4
686 Boston Town Road	1930	Single Family	
(No number) Ike Boston Road	No date	No Residence	Barn only
(No number) Boston Town Road	1998	No Residence	Horse barn
379 Jack Smith Road	1999 and 2003	Two Single Family	6

2320 Kelly Cross Road – This L-shaped residence was initially constructed in 1954.¹⁰ There have been at least two additions. The building rests on piers and is cross gabled with a wide front porch. The original building is a modest structure, clad in wood siding. One addition meets the center of the original building, on the west side. Attached to that is another add-on that appears to be constructed of cement blocks. There is a large, wide brick chimney fronting that section. There are several outbuildings, including a utility shed, several barns, and a derelict house that was recently bulldozed.¹¹ None of the buildings appear to be notable construction types, nor does

¹⁰ Parcel data from Tennessee Property Viewer GIS, 2021. Available online at <https://tnmap.tn.gov/assessment/> (Accessed 28-30 June 2021).

¹¹ Personal communication, Sue Ann Lockhart, June 16, 2021.

preliminary research suggest it is tied to a particular historic event or significant trend; it lacks the significance necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

163 Boston Town Road – The modest shotgun is front-gabled, with five bays. The building is set on piers, and has windows in the front, and in each original bay. It has a center gable brick chimney. According to the tax records, it was constructed in 1940, and is clad in wood siding. There are two mobile homes and a utility building on the property. The building lacks the significance necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

551 Boston Town Road – This residence is a modest rectangular ranch. It is clad in brick, and the roof is hipped, covered in asphalt shingles. There is an attached garage on the right side, and all windows on the front façade are one-over-one half-height. It is a typical construction type, and preliminary research did not identify any connection to a notable historic event, person, or significant trend. The building is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

686 Boston Town Road – This building is a side gable residence with a square plan. It is a single story, with a roof clad in corrugated metal. The building is set back from the road and is partially shielded from view by outbuildings. According to the tax parcel data, the residence is set only on the immediate land surrounding it, while the several outbuildings, including a shed and a barn, are part of a separately owned parcel. It was constructed in 1930. Windows and doors appear to be modern replacements. The building lacks the significance and integrity necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

(No number) Ike Boston Road – This property has no residence or associated primary building. It is a typical cow barn, clad in vertical wood siding. The extended gable roof is constructed of corrugated metal. The tax records do not indicate a construction date, nor could survey effectively determine age from the public right-of-way. However, a review of historic aerial photographs indicates it dates to at least 1981.¹² It appears to be a typical barn construction type, and preliminary research did not identify any connection to a notable historic event, person, or significant trend. The barn is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Archaeological Sites

GIS data representing previously recorded archaeological sites within the current survey area were obtained from the TDOA. The parcel owner's agent similarly indicated that no archaeological surveys had been done on the property.¹³ Per the GIS data provided, four previously recorded archaeological sites are located within a 1-mile buffer of the current survey area (Table 2). These studies were completed between the years 1973 and 2004, and were conducted by various archaeological consultants, as well as the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. An overview of previously recorded sites is provided below.

Table 5 Previously Recorded Sites within a 1-mile buffer

Site	Temporal Affiliation	Site Type	Landform	NRHP Eligibility
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¹² Historic Aerials by Netronline website, available online at <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>. Accessed July 2, 2021.

¹³ Personal communication, Sue Ann Lockhart, June 16, 2021.

40SQ9	Pre-contact (Woodland)	Mound		Unknown/not recorded in available documentation
40SQ99	Post-contact (1866-1932)	Elm Hill School (now Community Center)	Stone filled privy	Unknown/not recorded in available documentation
40SQ109	Pre-contact (undetermined)	Open habitation	Level terrace and floodplain	Recommended not eligible
40SQ110	Pre-contact (Woodland)	Open habitation	Knoll	Recommended not eligible

Previous Surveys and Documented Archaeological Sites

Site 40SQ9 was recorded in 1973 as a prehistoric site with a mound complex dating to the Woodland period. At one time, the mound was reported to have been very large, but at the time of investigation, it was virtually destroyed by agricultural activity. NRHP recommendations are not included in the data research for this site.

Site 40SQ99 was recorded in 1976 and 1978. Site 40SQ99 is a historic site dating to the Appalachian time period (late nineteenth century – early twentieth century). It is a stone filled privy located behind Elm Hill School/Community Center. Excavation was recommended prior to any road construction in the area. NRHP recommendations are not included in the data research for this site.

Site 40SQ109 was recorded in 2004 by TRC Solutions. This site represents an open habitation with unknown prehistoric cultural affiliation characterized by a low-density lithic scatter. Five positive shovel tests were excavated at the site that produced a total of eight pieces of lithic debitage. Deposits appeared to be shallow extending on average to 25 cmbs. No features were noted, and the site was recommended not eligible for NRHP inclusions.

Site 40SQ110 was recorded in 2004 by TRC Solutions. The site represents an open habitation containing Late Woodland Hamilton component (ca. 1500-1000 B.P.) based on the recovery of a Hamilton Incurvate projectile point, from a shovel test excavated at the site. As a whole, artifact content at the site was characterized by a low- density lithic scatter. Three positive shovel tests were excavated at the site that produced a total of seven pieces of lithic debitage in addition to the Hamilton Incurvate arrow point. Deposits appeared to be shallow extending on average to 25 cmbs. No features were noted, and the site was recommended not eligible for NRHP inclusion.

Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Environmental Research Group, LLC (ERG) of Baltimore, Maryland has performed a Phase I archaeological survey to locate all archaeological sites, pre-contact, contact, and post-contact that may be located within the project area. This survey was conducted between July 26 and August 11, 2021. Fieldwork was conducted according to Tennessee SHPO Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Resource Management Studies (TDEC 2018). The Phase I archaeological survey methods employed during this investigation primarily involved the excavation of shovel tests on a 30-m grid within designated survey areas. ERG also employed visual surface inspections in areas of good surface visibility (greater than 25 percent soil exposure), and in areas suspected to

contain evidence of cultural features at ground surface (e.g., historic features, such as foundations and cisterns). The only shovel test locations not excavated by ERG (n=15) occurred at slopes exceeding 15 percent, deeply incised drainages, poorly drained wetland areas, water bodies, modern constructed surfaces such as roads, and intrusive modern disturbances such as large push/dump piles. ERG subjected these areas to surface inspection at a minimum. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 30-meter (m) intervals, 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter. During survey, four STPs contained cultural material, including both pre-contact (n=1) and post-contact (n=6). ERG recovered the post-contact artifacts from Isolated Find (ISO) 001, which is defined by three positive STPs as well as four remnant architectural features. The pre-contact artifact is an isolated find. None of these sites possess the qualities of significance for inclusion in the NRHP. A full Phase I Archaeological Survey and Inventory is attached as Appendix D.

Historic Landscapes

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no historic landscapes in the recommended APE.

Traditional Cultural Properties

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no traditional cultural properties in the recommended APE.

Effects on Historic Properties

Based on the pedestrian building survey and the Phase I archaeological survey that found there are no historic properties present within the APE, NCA recommends a finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the proposed undertaking. NCA requests the SHPOs concurrence on the agency's finding per 36 CFR Part 800. NCA is also contacting federally recognized Native American Tribes and other interested parties listed in Table 5 below, to determine if any organizations have any additional information about potential historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking and presenting the results of the archaeological survey. All parties have been invited to participate. If the parties do submit additional information, NCA will review the provided documentation to determine if the resource (1) meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP and (2) would be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking.

Table 6 List of Consulting Parties for Sequatchie County

Agency / Organization	Contact, Title	Address	Phone	Email
Tennessee Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office	E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr. Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer	2941 Lebanon Pike Nashville, TN 37214	(615) 532-1550	Patrick.mcintyre@tn.gov
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 554-6851	russtown@nc- cherokee.com

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Richard Sneed, Principal Chief	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 359-7002	paxtmyer@nc-chokeee.com
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	David Sickey Chairman	PO Box 818, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1401	dsickey@coushatta.org
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Corain Lowe-Zepeda THPO	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(918) 732-7835	section106@mcn-nsn.gov
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	David Hill Principal Chief	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(800) 482-1979	dhill@mcn-nsn.gov
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Linda Langley THPO	PO Box 10, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1560	llangley@mcneese.edu
SEIDA Regional Economic Development Agency	Beth Jones, Executive Director	1000 Riverfront Parkway, P.O. Box 4757 Chattanooga, TN 37405-0757	(423) 424-4241	bjones@sedev.org
Sequatchie County Government	Keith Cartwright, County Executive	22 Cherry Street Dunlap, TN 37327	(423) 949-3479	seqexec@bledsoe.net
Sequatchie County Historical Association	Edward R. Brown, President	350 Mountain View Road Dunlap, Tennessee 37327	(423) 949-2294	nominerals@bledsoe.net

NCA will notify your office and proceed in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.5-800.6 should any consulting parties provide additional information concerning unidentified historic properties potentially affected by this undertaking. If you have any questions contact Mr. William Edward Hooker at William.hooker@va.gov, 202-632-6631.

Sincerely,

**WILLIAM E.
HOOKER
911259**

Digitally signed by
WILLIAM E. HOOKER
911259
Date: 2021.12.08
11:50:02 -05'00'

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/Cultural Resources Manager
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

CC: Doug Pulak



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON DC 20420**

December 8, 2021

Keith Cartwright
Sequatchie County Government
County Executive
22 Cherry Street
Dunlap, TN 37327

RE: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Acquisition, Construction and Operation of a new National Cemetery in the area of Chattanooga, Tennessee

Mr. Cartwright,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108), Chattanooga National Cemetery of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is initiating Section 106 consultation with your office on implementation of the above-referenced project. VA is considering two properties for this undertaking, one in Meigs County and one in Sequatchie County. This letter presents the findings for both sites.

Meigs County Project Area

Property Description

The 257.92-acre irregularly shaped parcel is located in Meigs County, Tennessee (Figure 1 and 2). The parcel is largely agricultural fields, with no buildings on it. The project area is located to the east of the Chickamauga Lake region of the Tennessee River. It is sited just south and west of the historic site of the Blythe Ferry. See Appendix A for additional maps photos of the parcel and the surrounding area.

Brief History of Property and Study Area

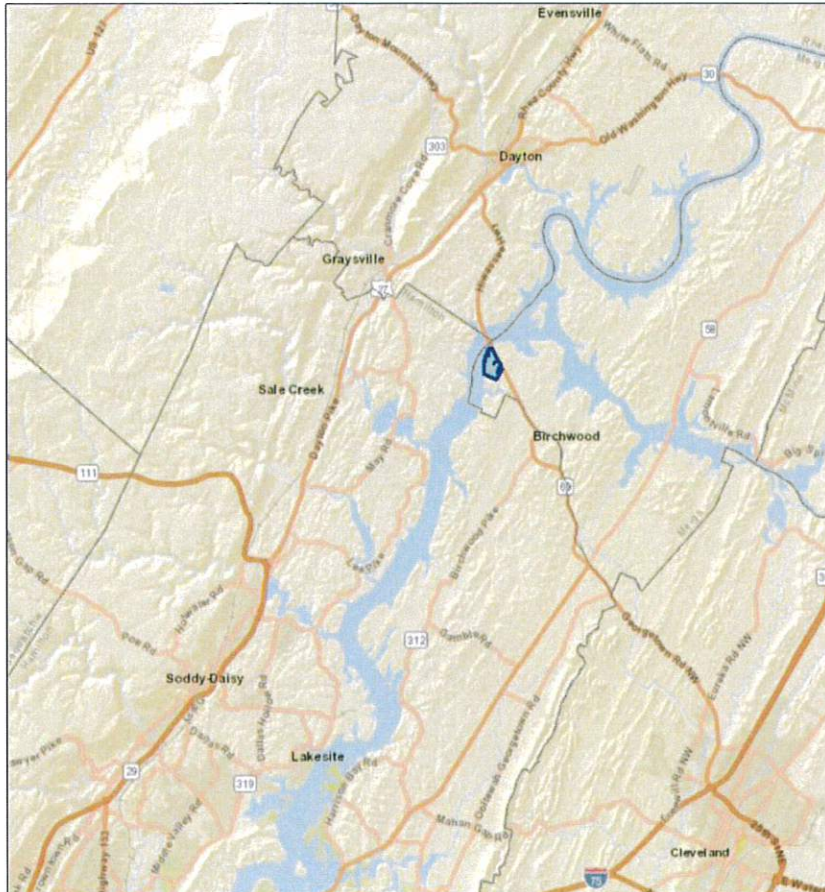
This parcel is in the Appalachian Plateau, in an agricultural area adjacent to the Tennessee River, and just south of Hiawassee Island. Meigs County was founded in 1836, from lands procured from the Indian removal and the Cherokee cession. It is named after Return Jonathan Meigs, the first Cherokee agent in the area and later a Governor of Ohio. The primary economy in the area during the antebellum period was farming, largely raising hogs, wheat, and corn.

The project parcel is located approximately 0.5 miles south of the historic location of the Blythe Ferry. In 1809, William Blythe began operating a ferry at the confluence of the Tennessee and Hiawassee Rivers. This area was "a significant crossroad for development of Indian culture for centuries,"¹ and it was an important river crossing on the "Great Road" between Knoxville and

¹ *Historic Site or Trail, History of Blythe Ferry Site*, available online at

Chattanooga.² This ferry was located at the northwest corner of the Cherokee Nation. The Blythe ferry served as an important location in the history of the Trail of Tears. In October of 1838, nine of the thirteen detachments of Cherokee Chief John Ross was forced to shepherd to the Indian Territory left their ancestral lands at Blythe Ferry. The roughly 9,000 Native Americans being forced to march west were required to camp in the area for six weeks, waiting

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: June 2, 2021
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Geoplotter - QGIS

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 1 Project Area, situated in Meigs County, Tennessee, north of Chattanooga.

<https://tennesseerivervalleygeotourism.org/entries/cherokee-removal-memorial-park-at-historic-blythe-ferry/d2a64d12-f649-427c-b415-26363b2a0df9>. Accessed October 14, 2021.

² "William Blythe Had Early Ferry," Tennessee GenWeb, https://www.tngenweb.org/meigs/blythe_ferry.html, accessed October 14, 2021.

Meigs County - Parcel: 064 003.00



Date: November 11, 2020
County: Meigs
Owner: VITAL-BLYTHE FERRY
Address: STATE HWY 60
Parcel Number: 064 003.00
Deeded Acreage: 270
Calculated Acreage: 0
Date of Imagery: 2018

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
TN Comptroller - CLG
State of Tennessee, Comptroller of the Treasury, Office of Local Government

The property lines are compiled from information maintained by your local county Assessor's office but are not conclusive evidence of property ownership in any court of law.

Figure 2 Site in Meigs County, located just south of the Hiwassee Highway-Tennessee River intersection.

for the Tennessee River to rise from extreme drought conditions.³ William Blythe, the ferry proprietor, traveled west with his wife, Nancy Fields, who was Cherokee. The site remained a ferry until 1994, when the Highway 60 bridge was built. The site is now part of the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park at Historic Blythe Ferry, along the northern shore just east of Blythe Ferry Road. The area was largely spared the devastation of the Civil War. However, the most notable event of the conflict in the county took place on November 13, 1863, when Union troops stationed at the mouth of the Hiawassee River skirmished with Confederate artillery forces to defend the grain supplies on the island.⁴ The postbellum period saw the expansion of the economy with the dawn of the steamboat era. Landings along the Tennessee River became local economic sites, centers of trade. According to historic USGS quadrangle maps and aerial photography, the project parcel has been dedicated to agriculture throughout the twentieth century.

Undertaking

The proposed project is the acquisition and subsequent development of a new National Cemetery. Specific plans for the development are not available at this time, however, it is assumed development will be typical of other National Cemeteries, including in-ground burials with standard NCA markers, columbaria, chapel, and/or the construction of support buildings that do not exceed a single story in height. Additional utilities are also anticipated.

Area of Potential Effects

The recommended APE for this undertaking encompasses the proposed acquisition parcel plus an additional 150 feet around the proposed acquisition parcel, to account for potential indirect effects due to the construction of above-ground features (Figure 3). Ground disturbance is anticipated to be limited to the boundaries of the parcel. The entire area is shielded from adjacent properties by thick vegetation to the north, west and the south, and by Highway 60 to the east; the entirety of the western boundary is also bordered by the Tennessee River.

Historic Properties

In June 2021, an architectural historian who meets the *Professional Qualification Standards* for History and Architectural History established by the Secretary of Interior conducted a survey and historic research to identify properties within the APE that are more than fifty years of age and that retain sufficient integrity to warrant listing in the NRHP.

Identification efforts for this study included a walking survey of the identified acquisition parcel and limited walking survey and windshield survey of the APE and surrounding area.

Images of the following built resources are available in Appendix A.

Historic Buildings

There are no listed or eligible historic buildings in the APE. There are three residences in the APE, as well as a few sheds. None of the buildings in the APE are fifty years old or older. This area does not appear to include a potential historic district, to which any buildings could contribute. None of these homes possess the qualities of significance to be individually eligible.

³ Ibid.

⁴ History of Meigs County, online at <https://meigstn.com/history-of-meigs-county/>, accessed July 2, 2021.

Similarly, none of the outbuildings appear to be individually eligible in their own right, nor do any appear to be eligible farmsteads.

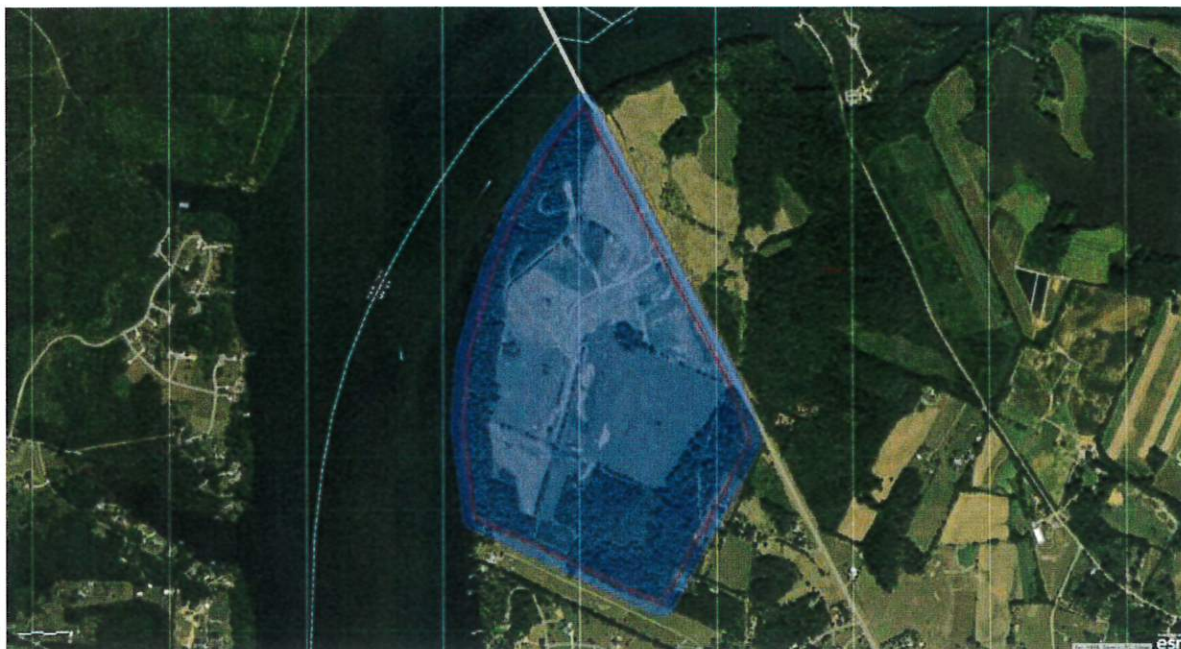


Figure 3 Project Area, outlined in red, Area of Potential Effect, shaded in blue.

338 Burton Lane is barely visible from the public right-of-way. It is a modest ranch, built ca. 1973. It is rectangular in plan, with both stone and wood exterior cladding. The property includes one shed outbuilding and a patio. It is a single-family structure, measuring 1,248 sq-ft.⁵

341 Burton Lane is a small creole cottage type building. It is side-gabled with a standing seam metal roof, and fronted by a wide, full-width porch. It was built ca. 1989, and measures 1080 sq-ft in a rectangular plan. There is a small shed outbuilding associated with this single-family residence.⁶

182 Shahan Lane includes a number of late-twentieth century buildings, including this main structure. It was constructed ca. 1996, with a stone foundation, and vertical wood exterior planking. This structure appears to be more than one structure combined, and it includes a large open porch. There are also a shed, a detached garage, and three mobile homes on the property.⁷

⁵ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

⁶ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

⁷ Meigs County Property Assessor, available online at https://assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/ParcelDetailIMPACT.aspx.

Cemeteries

There is an unmarked cemetery located in the project area. It is identified on USGS topographic maps as the Old Browder Cemetery. The cemetery is derelict and wooded with mixed hardwoods and dense scrub vegetation. There is limited surface visibility within the area of the cemetery due to the dense vegetation. No written records of the Old Browder Cemetery have been identified.

There is no fence delineating the cemetery, however, some wooden fence posts were identified in the field, suggesting there was a fence in place at some point. This survey identified only one marked headstone which was propped against a tree, suggesting it was not in its original location. The headstone is mostly illegible, however, the surname of the individual appeared to be Todd, with a death date of August 11, 1856 (See Figure 16, Appendix A). During survey, several possible field stone markers were identified, however, these also did not appear in their original location as they are broken and scattered, with some partially buried. A few possible grave depressions were also observed, some of which are not associated with any visible stone markers. The Old Browder Cemetery is identified on historic USGS Quadrangle maps at least as early as 1942.

In general, “cemeteries and graves are among those properties that ordinarily are not considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places unless they meet special requirements.”⁸ This cemetery is not eligible under its association with historic events (Criterion A), people (Criterion B), or design (Criterion C). Moreover, it does not meet the Criteria Considerations C or D, and the resource as a whole lacks integrity. For these reasons, the Old Browder Cemetery is not eligible for listing in the NRHP. The lack of any named headstones makes definitive identification of interments and possible descendants infeasible. NCA intends to avoid the cemetery, preserving it in place.

Table 1 List of built resources in the APE

Address	Date	Type	Outbuildings
338 Burton	1973	Single Residence	1
341 Burton	1989	Single Residence	1
182 Shahan	1996	Mobile	4
Old Browder Cemetery	Ca. 1900	1 marked grave	N/A

Archaeological Sites Previously Identified

A review of archaeological site files at the Tennessee Division of Archaeology (TDOA) revealed three known archaeological sites identified within the survey area (40MG172, 40MG174, and 40MG176), and one site likely falling within the survey area (40MG46). Site 40MG172 is a light scatter of lithic artifacts from a slightly elevated area. Artifacts included 21 lithic flakes and three biface fragments. One biface fragment was identified as Benton Stemmed, which dates to the Late Archaic. Site 40MG174 was documented as five non-diagnostic lithic artifacts recovered from a small ridge. The previous surveys note the artifacts were found on the surface or within

⁸ National Register Bulletin 41, National Park Service, Elisabeth Walton Potter and Beth M. Boland, 1992. Available online at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB41-Complete.pdf>.

the plowzone. Due to agricultural practices in the area and the deflated nature of soils, there is little potential for archaeological site preservation. Site 40MG176 consists of a surface deposition of historic artifacts 15 meters west of Bramer Road. The site report states there is a structure depicted on the 1919 soil survey map. Site 40MG176 is most likely associated with a late nineteenth century farmstead. Site 40MG46 either falls within the survey boundary or abuts it very closely. Site 40MG46 is classified as a shell bank and open habitation with prehistoric ceramics dating to Woodland and Mississippian Periods. ERG did not relocate any previously identified sites during the current investigation. This is most likely due to a combination of imprecise mapping of the sites at the time of their original recording, post-identification ground disturbance, and limitations of the survey sampling strategy.

Table 2 List of previously identified sites located within in or adjacent to the APE

Site Number	Temporal Affiliation	Type	NRHP Eligibility	Relocated
40MG46	Pre-Contact (Woodland/ Mississippian)	Shell bank ;Open habitation	Not recorded in available documentation	No
40MG172	Pre-Contact (Late Archaic) Post Contact	Open habitation; Artifact scatter; Domestic House	Unassessed	No
40MG174	Pre- Contact(undetermined)	Open habitation	Unassessed	No
40MG176	Post Contact (1866-1932)	Rural Domestic House	Unassessed	No

Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Environmental Research Group, LLC (ERG) of Baltimore, Maryland has performed a Phase I archaeological survey to locate all archaeological sites, pre-contact, contact, and post-contact that may be located within the 267-acre project area. The current land use is agricultural with several hardwood stands and an area of dense young growth scrub vegetation. Pedestrian survey of recently planted agricultural fields was accomplished between June 28 and 30, 2021. Shovel test survey was accomplished between August 12 and September 7, 2021. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 30-meter (m) intervals, 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter. Two pre-contact and eleven post-contact artifacts were recovered by ERG during the current investigations. These deposits do not represent significant archaeological resources and are not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. A full technical report is attached hereto as Appendix B.

Historic Landscapes

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no historic landscapes in the recommended APE.

Traditional Cultural Properties

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no traditional cultural properties in the recommended APE.

Effects on Historic Properties

Based on the pedestrian building survey and the Phase I archaeological survey that found there are no historic properties present within the APE, NCA recommends a finding of no historic

properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the proposed undertaking. NCA requests the SHPOs concurrence on the agency's finding per 36 CFR Part 800. NCA is also contacting the federally recognized Native American Tribes and other interested parties listed in Table 3 below, to determine if any organizations have any additional information about potential historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking and presenting the results of the archaeological survey. If the parties do submit additional information, NCA will review the provided documentation to determine if the resource (1) meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP and (2) would be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking. All parties have been invited to consult.

Table 3 Invited Consulting Parties Meigs County

Agency / Organization	Contact, Title	Address	Phone	Email
Tennessee Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office	E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr., Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer	2941 Lebanon Pike Nashville, TN 37214	(615) 532-1550	Patrick.mcintyre@tn.gov
The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO)	Dr. Valerie J. Grussing, President	P.O. Box 19189 Washington, DC 20036-9189	202-628-8476	info@nathpo.org
United South and Eastern Tribes	Quahna Mars, Narragansett Indian Tribe, Chairperson, Culture and Heritage Committee, Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 350, Wyoming, RI 02898	401-364-1100 ext. 203	qmars@ntribe.org
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Bryant Celestine Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, TX, 77351	(936) 563-1181	Celestine.Bryant@actribe.org
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Nita Battise, Chairperson	571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, TX, 77351	(936) 563-1100	tcnbattise@actribe.org
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 554-6851	russtown@nc-chokeee.com
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Richard Sneed, Principal Chief	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 359-7002	paxtmyer@nc-chokeee.com
Cherokee Nation	Bill John Baker, Principal Chief	PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465	(918) 453-5000	bill-baker@cherokee.org
Cherokee Nation	Chuck Hoskin, Principal Chief, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465	(800) 256-0671	chuck-hoskin@cherokee.org
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	Eric Oosahwee-Vos, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 1425 Tahlequah, OK 74465	(918) 458-6717	Eosahwee-voss@ukb-nsn.gov
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	Joe Bunch, Chief	PO Box 746 Tahlequah, OK 74465	(918) 431-1148	jbunch@ukb-nsn.gov
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	David Sickey, Chairman	PO Box 818, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1401	dsickey@coushatta.org
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 10, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1560	llangley@mcneese.edu

Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Corain Lowe-Zepeda, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(918) 732-7835	section106@mcn-nsn.gov
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	David Hill, Principal Chief	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(800) 482-1979	dhill@mcn-nsn.gov
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	William Quackenbush, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	W9814 Airport Road Black River Falls WI 54615	(715) 284-7181	BQuackenbush@ho-chunk.com
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	Jon Greendeer, President	W9814 Airport Road Black River Falls WI 54615	(715) 284-9343	Jon.Greendeer@Ho-Chunk.com
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Coly Brown, Chairperson	PO Box 687 Winnebago, NE	(402) 878-2272	coly.brown@winnebagoTribe.com
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Sunshine Thomas-Bear, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 687 Winnebago, NE 68071	(402) 922-2631	sunshine.bear@winnebagoTribe.com
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Liana Hesler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	20 White Eagle Dr. Ponca City, OK 74601	(580) 762-8104	Liana.hesler@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Oliver Littlecook, Chairman	20 White Eagle Dr. Ponca City, OK 74601	(580) 762-8104	oliver.littlecook@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Staci Hesler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760	402-857-3519	staci.hesler@ponca.com
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Larry Wright, Chairman	PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760	(402) 857-3391	N/A
Chickasaw Nation	Bill Anoatubby, Governor	PO Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821	(580) 436-2603	tammy.gray@chickasaw.net
Chickasaw Nation	Kirk Perry, Historic Preservation Executive Officer	PO Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821	(580) 272-5323	hpo@chickasaw.net
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Ian Thompson, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 1210 Durant, OK	(800) 522-6170, ext. 2216	ithompson@choctawnation.com
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Gary Batton, Chief	PO Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702	(580) 924-8280	gbatton@choctawnation.com
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	Alina Shively Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-1205	ashively@jenachoctaw.org
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	B. Cheryl Smith, Principal Chief	PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-2717	Chief@jenachoctaw.org
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Cyrus Ben, Chief	PO Box 6010 Choctaw, MS 39350	(601) 656-5251	info@choctaw.org
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	(405) 257-7200	chief.prin@sno-nsn.gov
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	David Frank, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	(405) 257-7200	Franks.D@sno-nsn.gov
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Paul N. Backhouse, PhD, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	30290 Josie Billie Highway, PMB 1004 Clewiston, FL 33440	(863) 938-6549, ext 12244	paulbackhouse@semtribe.com
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Marcus Oseola, Jr., Chairman	6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, FL 33024	(800) 683-7800	Chairman@semtribe.com
Cherokee Removal National Park (owned by the TVA)		6800 Blyth Ferry Lane Birchwood, TN 37308	423 339 2769	N/A
Tennessee Valley Authority	Rebecca C. Tolene, Federal Preservation Officer, Vice President, Environment, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)	400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11C-K Knoxville, TN 37902	865-632-4433	retolene@tva.gov
Tennessee Valley Authority	Clinton E. Jones, Deputy Federal	400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11C-K	865-632-3404	cjones5@tva.gov

	Preservation Officer; Manager, Cultural Compliance	Knoxville, TN 37902		
National Trail of Tears Association	Jack Baker, President Board of Directors	412 N. Hwy 100 Suite B, Webbers Falls, OK	(918) 464.2258	JackDBaker@cox.net
Meigs County Government	Ross Wilson, Meigs County Compliance Coordinator	345 N. Main Street, Decatur, TN 37322	(423) 334-2565	rosswilsonmcpc@yahoo.com
Meigs County Historical Society	Paulette Jones, President	200 Smith Avenue Decatur, Tennessee 37322	423.334.4424	Meigsmuseum@MeigsMuseum.com

Sequatchie County Project Area

Property Description

The 225-acre irregularly shaped parcel is located in Sequatchie County, Tennessee (Appendix C has maps and photographs of the project area). The parcel is largely agricultural fields, with a single residential building, dating from 2002. The parcel is located outside of the town of Dunlap. The parcel is located in the Sequatchie Valley on the Cumberland Plateau. See Appendix C for additional photos of the parcel and the surrounding area.

Brief History of Property and Study Area

Sequatchie County was formed in 1853, although the first settlers of European descent arrived in the area shortly after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. The economy of the county consisted primarily of subsistence agriculture and livestock. The first road in the area was constructed in 1853, connecting to the Western and Atlantic Railroad in Georgia, allowing for the expansion into market agriculture.⁹ The construction of the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway through the Sequatchie Valley in 1880 sparked the coal industry. The town of Dunlap, just adjacent to the project area, became a center for coal mining, and the beehive coke ovens can still be seen in the area.

Undertaking

The proposed project is the acquisition and subsequent development of a new National Cemetery. Specific plans for the development were not provided; for the purposes of this study, it was assumed development typical of other National Cemeteries, including in-ground burials with standard NCA markers, columbaria, and/or the construction of support buildings that do not exceed a single story in height. Additional utilities are also anticipated.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

The recommended APE for this undertaking encompasses the proposed acquisition parcel plus an additional 150 feet around the proposed acquisition parcel, to account for potential indirect effects due to the construction of above-ground features. Ground disturbance is anticipated to be limited to the boundaries of the parcel.

Historic Properties

In June 2021, an architectural historian who meets the *Professional Qualification Standards* for History and Architectural History established by the Secretary of Interior conducted a survey and

⁹ *Tennessee Encyclopedia*, "Sequatchie County," Holly Anne Rine, available online at <https://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entries/sequatchie-county/>

historic research to identify properties within the APE that are more than fifty years of age and that retain sufficient integrity to warrant listing in the NRHP.

Identification efforts for this study included a walking survey of the identified acquisition parcel and limited walking survey and windshield survey of the APE and surrounding area.

Images of the following properties are available in Appendix C.

Historic Buildings

There are no listed or eligible historic buildings in the APE. There are nine residences and several outbuildings in the APE. This area does not appear to include a potential historic district, to which any buildings could contribute. Only four of the residences are more than fifty years old. None of these residences possess the qualities of significance to be individually eligible. Similarly, none of the outbuildings appear to be individually eligible in their own right, nor do any appear to be eligible farmsteads. See Appendix C for photographs of the buildings that are at least 50 years old.

Table 4 List of buildings in the APE

Address	Date	Type	Outbuildings
2320 Kelly Cross Road	1954	Single Family	9
163 Boston Town Road	1940	Mobile	2
409 Boston Town Road	1991	Mobile	6
442 Boston Town Road	2002	Single Family	0
497 Boston Town Road	1983	Single Family	2
551 Boston Town Road	1962	Single Family	6
606 Boston Town Road	1983	Single Family	4
686 Boston Town Road	1930	Single Family	
(No number) Ike Boston Road	No date	No Residence	Barn only
(No number) Boston Town Road	1998	No Residence	Horse barn
379 Jack Smith Road	1999 and 2003	Two Single Family	6

2320 Kelly Cross Road – This L-shaped residence was initially constructed in 1954.¹⁰ There have been at least two additions. The building rests on piers and is cross gabled with a wide front porch. The original building is a modest structure, clad in wood siding. One addition meets the center of the original building, on the west side. Attached to that is another add-on that appears to be constructed of cement blocks. There is a large, wide brick chimney fronting that section. There are several outbuildings, including a utility shed, several barns, and a derelict house that was recently bulldozed.¹¹ None of the buildings appear to be notable construction types, nor does

¹⁰ Parcel data from Tennessee Property Viewer GIS, 2021. Available online at <https://tnmap.tn.gov/assessment/> (Accessed 28-30 June 2021).

¹¹ Personal communication, Sue Ann Lockhart, June 16, 2021.

preliminary research suggest it is tied to a particular historic event or significant trend; it lacks the significance necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

163 Boston Town Road – The modest shotgun is front-gabled, with five bays. The building is set on piers, and has windows in the front, and in each original bay. It has a center gable brick chimney. According to the tax records, it was constructed in 1940, and is clad in wood siding. There are two mobile homes and a utility building on the property. The building lacks the significance necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

551 Boston Town Road – This residence is a modest rectangular ranch. It is clad in brick, and the roof is hipped, covered in asphalt shingles. There is an attached garage on the right side, and all windows on the front façade are one-over-one half-height. It is a typical construction type, and preliminary research did not identify any connection to a notable historic event, person, or significant trend. The building is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

686 Boston Town Road – This building is a side gable residence with a square plan. It is a single story, with a roof clad in corrugated metal. The building is set back from the road and is partially shielded from view by outbuildings. According to the tax parcel data, the residence is set only on the immediate land surrounding it, while the several outbuildings, including a shed and a barn, are part of a separately owned parcel. It was constructed in 1930. Windows and doors appear to be modern replacements. The building lacks the significance and integrity necessary for inclusion in the NRHP.

(No number) Ike Boston Road – This property has no residence or associated primary building. It is a typical cow barn, clad in vertical wood siding. The extended gable roof is constructed of corrugated metal. The tax records do not indicate a construction date, nor could survey effectively determine age from the public right-of-way. However, a review of historic aerial photographs indicates it dates to at least 1981.¹² It appears to be a typical barn construction type, and preliminary research did not identify any connection to a notable historic event, person, or significant trend. The barn is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Archaeological Sites

GIS data representing previously recorded archaeological sites within the current survey area were obtained from the TDOA. The parcel owner's agent similarly indicated that no archaeological surveys had been done on the property.¹³ Per the GIS data provided, four previously recorded archaeological sites are located within a 1-mile buffer of the current survey area (Table 2). These studies were completed between the years 1973 and 2004, and were conducted by various archaeological consultants, as well as the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. An overview of previously recorded sites is provided below.

Table 5 Previously Recorded Sites within a 1-mile buffer

Site	Temporal Affiliation	Site Type	Landform	NRHP Eligibility
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¹² Historic Aerials by Netronline website, available online at <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>. Accessed July 2, 2021.

¹³ Personal communication, Sue Ann Lockhart, June 16, 2021.

40SQ9	Pre-contact (Woodland)	Mound		Unknown/not recorded in available documentation
40SQ99	Post-contact (1866-1932)	Elm Hill School (now Community Center)	Stone filled privy	Unknown/not recorded in available documentation
40SQ109	Pre-contact (undetermined)	Open habitation	Level terrace and floodplain	Recommended not eligible
40SQ110	Pre-contact (Woodland)	Open habitation	Knoll	Recommended not eligible

Previous Surveys and Documented Archaeological Sites

Site 40SQ9 was recorded in 1973 as a prehistoric site with a mound complex dating to the Woodland period. At one time, the mound was reported to have been very large, but at the time of investigation, it was virtually destroyed by agricultural activity. NRHP recommendations are not included in the data research for this site.

Site 40SQ99 was recorded in 1976 and 1978. Site 40SQ99 is a historic site dating to the Appalachian time period (late nineteenth century – early twentieth century). It is a stone filled privy located behind Elm Hill School/Community Center. Excavation was recommended prior to any road construction in the area. NRHP recommendations are not included in the data research for this site.

Site 40SQ109 was recorded in 2004 by TRC Solutions. This site represents an open habitation with unknown prehistoric cultural affiliation characterized by a low-density lithic scatter. Five positive shovel tests were excavated at the site that produced a total of eight pieces of lithic debitage. Deposits appeared to be shallow extending on average to 25 cmbs. No features were noted, and the site was recommended not eligible for NRHP inclusions.

Site 40SQ110 was recorded in 2004 by TRC Solutions. The site represents an open habitation containing Late Woodland Hamilton component (ca. 1500-1000 B.P.) based on the recovery of a Hamilton Incurvate projectile point, from a shovel test excavated at the site. As a whole, artifact content at the site was characterized by a low- density lithic scatter. Three positive shovel tests were excavated at the site that produced a total of seven pieces of lithic debitage in addition to the Hamilton Incurvate arrow point. Deposits appeared to be shallow extending on average to 25 cmbs. No features were noted, and the site was recommended not eligible for NRHP inclusion.

Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Environmental Research Group, LLC (ERG) of Baltimore, Maryland has performed a Phase I archaeological survey to locate all archaeological sites, pre-contact, contact, and post-contact that may be located within the project area. This survey was conducted between July 26 and August 11, 2021. Fieldwork was conducted according to Tennessee SHPO Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Resource Management Studies (TDEC 2018). The Phase I archaeological survey methods employed during this investigation primarily involved the excavation of shovel tests on a 30-m grid within designated survey areas. ERG also employed visual surface inspections in areas of good surface visibility (greater than 25 percent soil exposure), and in areas suspected to

contain evidence of cultural features at ground surface (e.g., historic features, such as foundations and cisterns). The only shovel test locations not excavated by ERG (n=15) occurred at slopes exceeding 15 percent, deeply incised drainages, poorly drained wetland areas, water bodies, modern constructed surfaces such as roads, and intrusive modern disturbances such as large push/dump piles. ERG subjected these areas to surface inspection at a minimum. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 30-meter (m) intervals, 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter. During survey, four STPs contained cultural material, including both pre-contact (n=1) and post-contact (n=6). ERG recovered the post-contact artifacts from Isolated Find (ISO) 001, which is defined by three positive STPs as well as four remnant architectural features. The pre-contact artifact is an isolated find. None of these sites possess the qualities of significance for inclusion in the NRHP. A full Phase I Archaeological Survey and Inventory is attached as Appendix D.

Historic Landscapes

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no historic landscapes in the recommended APE.

Traditional Cultural Properties

The records of the TN SHPO indicate there are no traditional cultural properties in the recommended APE.

Effects on Historic Properties

Based on the pedestrian building survey and the Phase I archaeological survey that found there are no historic properties present within the APE, NCA recommends a finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the proposed undertaking. NCA requests the SHPOs concurrence on the agency's finding per 36 CFR Part 800. NCA is also contacting federally recognized Native American Tribes and other interested parties listed in Table 5 below, to determine if any organizations have any additional information about potential historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking and presenting the results of the archaeological survey. All parties have been invited to participate. If the parties do submit additional information, NCA will review the provided documentation to determine if the resource (1) meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP and (2) would be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking.

Table 6 List of Consulting Parties for Sequatchie County

Agency / Organization	Contact, Title	Address	Phone	Email
Tennessee Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office	E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr. Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer	2941 Lebanon Pike Nashville, TN 37214	(615) 532-1550	Patrick.mcintyre@tn.gov
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 554-6851	russtown@nc-chokeee.com

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Richard Sneed, Principal Chief	PO Box 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719	(828) 359-7002	paxtmyer@nc-choerokee.com
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	David Sickey Chairman	PO Box 818, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1401	dsickey@coushatta.org
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Corain Lowe-Zepeda THPO	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(918) 732-7835	section106@mcn-nsn.gov
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	David Hill Principal Chief	PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447	(800) 482-1979	dhill@mcn-nsn.gov
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Linda Langley THPO	PO Box 10, Elton, LA, 70532	(337) 584-1560	llangley@mcneese.edu
SEIDA Regional Economic Development Agency	Beth Jones, Executive Director	1000 Riverfront Parkway, P.O. Box 4757 Chattanooga, TN 37405-0757	(423) 424-4241	bjones@sedev.org
Sequatchie County Government	Keith Cartwright, County Executive	22 Cherry Street Dunlap, TN 37327	(423) 949-3479	seqexec@bledsoe.net
Sequatchie County Historical Association	Edward R. Brown, President	350 Mountain View Road Dunlap, Tennessee 37327	(423) 949-2294	nominerals@bledsoe.net

NCA will notify your office and proceed in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.5-800.6 should any consulting parties provide additional information concerning unidentified historic properties potentially affected by this undertaking. If you have any questions contact Mr. William Edward Hooker at William.hooker@va.gov, 202-632-6631.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM E.

HOOKE 911259

Digitally signed by WILLIAM
E. HOOKE 911259
Date: 2021.12.12 20:44:34
-05'00'

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/Cultural Resources Manager
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

CC: Doug Pulak



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON PIKE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0442
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
www.tnhistoricalcommission.org

December 27, 2021

Mr. W. Edward Hooker III
National Cemetery Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Washington, DC 20420

RE: VA / Department of Veteran's Affairs, Acquisition, Construction and Operation of a new National Cemetery, Birchwood, Meigs County, TN

Dear Mr. Hooker:

In response to your request, we have reviewed the archaeological resources survey report and accompanying documentation submitted by you regarding the above-referenced undertaking. Our review of and comment on your proposed undertaking are among the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This Act requires federal agencies or applicants for federal assistance to consult with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office before they carry out their proposed undertakings. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has codified procedures for carrying out Section 106 review in 36 CFR 800 (Federal Register, December 12, 2000, 77698-77739).

In the final report, please include the date that background research was conducted with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology (TDOA). Additionally, updated site records for previously identified, but not relocated, sites 40MG46, 40MG172, 40MG174, and 40MG176 must be submitted to the TDOA.

Considering the information provided, we concur that no historic properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this undertaking. If project plans are changed or archaeological remains are discovered during project construction, please contact this office to determine what further action, if any, will be necessary to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Questions or comments may be directed to Jennifer Barnett (615) 687-4780, Jennifer.Barnett@tn.gov.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

EPM/jmb



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON PIKE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0442
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
www.tnhistoricalcommission.org

December 27, 2021

Mr. W. Edward Hooker III
National Cemetery Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Washington, DC 20420

RE: VA / Department of Veteran's Affairs, Acquisition, Construction and Operation of a new National Cemetery, Dunlap, Sequatchie County, TN

Dear Mr. Hooker:

In response to your request, we have reviewed the archaeological resources survey report and accompanying documentation submitted by you regarding the above-referenced undertaking. Our review of and comment on your proposed undertaking are among the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This Act requires federal agencies or applicants for federal assistance to consult with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office before they carry out their proposed undertakings. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has codified procedures for carrying out Section 106 review in 36 CFR 800 (Federal Register, December 12, 2000, 77698-77739).

In the final report, please include the date that background research was conducted with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology.

Considering the information provided, we concur that no historic properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this undertaking. If project plans are changed or archaeological remains are discovered during project construction, please contact this office to determine what further action, if any, will be necessary to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Questions or comments may be directed to Jennifer Barnett (615) 687-4780, Jennifer.Barnett@tn.gov.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

EPM/jmb

APPENDIX D – SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

SITE 1 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #1: Looking northwest across Site 1 from the southeast corner.



Photo #2: Looking southwest across the southern portion of Site 1 and vacated road.



Photo #3: Looking southeast across the eastern Site 1 boundary and detention pond from the central access road.



Photo #4: Looking northeast across the eastern portion of Site 1.



Photo #5: Looking southeast across the eastern portion of Site 1.



Photo #6: Looking northeast at the wooded area in the north-central portion of Site 1 that contains Old Browder Cemetery.

SITE 1 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #7: Looking west along the access road located in the central portion of Site 1.



Photo #8: Looking northwest across the eastern Site 1 boundary and detention pond from the central access road.



Photo #9: Looking southwest across the northern portion of Site 1.



Photo #10: Looking south across the southwestern portion of Site 1.



Photo #11: Wooded area along the western portion of Site 1.



Photo #12: Stormwater drainage located in the northern portion of Site 1.

SITE 1 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #13: Concrete and corrugated piping next to stormwater drainage ditch in northern portion of Site 1.



Photo #14: Agricultural lime pile remnant located in the southern portion of Site 1.



Photo #15: Typical farming implements/attachments located in various locations at Site 1.



Photo #16: Packaged hay bales located in the central portion of Site 1.

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS ADJOINING PROPERTIES



Photo #17: West adjoining Chickamauga Lake.



Photo #18: Northeast adjoining Hiwassee Highway.



Photo #19: East adjoining agricultural, residential, and wooded land located beyond Hiwassee Highway.



Photo #20: South adjoining wooded land and residences.

SITE 2 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #1: Looking east across the southeastern portion of Site 2.



Photo #2: Looking northeast across the south-central portion of Site 2.



Photo #3: Intermittent stream located along the tree line in the central portion of Site 2.



Photo #4: Looking north across the east-central portion of Site 2.



Photo #5: McWilliams Creek located along the eastern Site 2 boundary.



Photo #6: Looking north across the southwestern portion of Site 2.

SITE 2 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #7: Intermittent stream in the southwestern portion of Site 2 from Bostontown Road.



Photo #8: Looking northeast across the northeastern portion of Site 2.



Photo #9: Hunting blind located in a thicket of trees in the northeastern portion of Site 2.



Photo #10: Looking northeast across the northern portion of Site 2.



Photo #11: Debris pile containing corroded metal drums and various wood pieces located in the north-central portion of Site 2.



Photo #12: Wooded area located in the northern portion of Site 2.

SITE 2 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #13: Looking east across the west side of the residence located in the west-central portion of Site 2.



Photo #14: Looking northeast at the south side of the Site 2 residence.



Photo #15: Looking northwest across the east side of the Site 2 residence and associated 250-gallon propane tank (left).



Photo #16: Shed located east of the Site 2 residence and single pole-mounted transformer beyond.



Photo #17: Looking southwest across the north side of the Site 2 residence and shed located to the north.

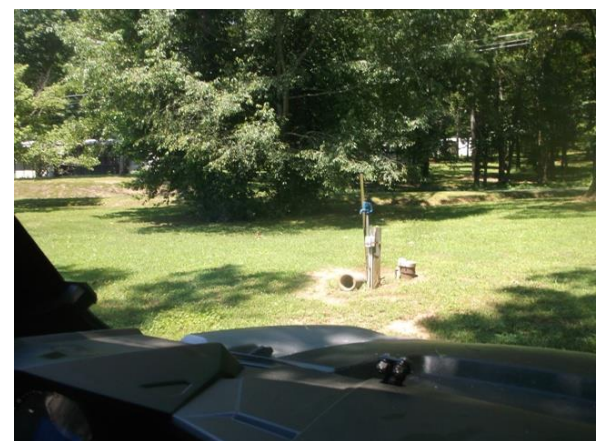


Photo #18: Potable water well located northwest of the Site 2 residence.

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS ADJOINING PROPERTIES



Photo #19: Off-site residence located north of Site 2.



Photo #20: Agricultural field located east of Site 2.



Photo #21: Residences and agricultural fields located south of Site 2 beyond Kelly Cross Road.



Photo #22: South adjoining City of Dunlap water pump station located near the intersection of Kelly Cross Road and Bostontown Road.



Photo #23: West adjoining residence located beyond Bostontown Road.



Photo #24: Northwest adjoining residence and pasture land.

APPENDIX E – OTHER RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

- **Soil Survey Maps**
- **IPaC Reports**
- **NWI Wetlands Maps**
- **Floodplain Maps**
- **EJSCREEN Reports**

Soil Map—Meigs County, Tennessee
(Site 1)



MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

Water Features



Streams and Canals

Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

Background



Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Meigs County, Tennessee

Survey Area Data: Version 16, Sep 10, 2021

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Oct 20, 2012—Oct 26, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
DeC2	Dewey silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	8.7	3.1%
EsB2	Etowah silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, eroded	36.3	13.1%
EsC2	Etowah silt loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	4.9	1.8%
FcC	Fullerton gravelly silt loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	30.7	11.1%
FcD	Fullerton gravelly silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	19.3	6.9%
FcF	Fullerton gravelly silt loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes	4.6	1.7%
Ha	Hamblen-Tupelo complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	13.4	4.8%
Re	Rockdell-Ennis complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	8.3	3.0%
Sh	Shady-Hamblen complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	20.8	7.5%
TmC	Tasso-Minvale complex, 5 to 12 percent slopes	1.3	0.5%
W	Water	3.1	1.1%
WaB2	Waynesboro clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	11.3	4.1%
WaC	Waynesboro loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	6.3	2.3%
WaC2	Waynesboro clay loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	39.8	14.3%
WaD	Waynesboro loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	5.0	1.8%
WaD2	Waynesboro clay loam, 12 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	16.7	6.0%
WrC	Waynesboro gravelly loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	20.2	7.3%
WrD	Waynesboro gravelly loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes	18.9	6.8%
WrF	Waynesboro gravelly loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes	8.0	2.9%
Totals for Area of Interest		277.6	100.0%

Soil Map—Sequatchie County, Tennessee



MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

Water Features



Streams and Canals

Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

Background



Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Sequatchie County, Tennessee

Survey Area Data: Version 14, Jun 1, 2020

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Oct 23, 2011—Oct 20, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BoE	Bodine and Pailo gravelly loams, 20 to 50 percent slopes	5.4	2.4%
CtC2	Colbert-Talbot-Braxton complex, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	26.6	11.5%
FnC2	Fullerton gravelly silt loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	5.6	2.4%
FnE	Fullerton gravelly loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes	0.1	0.1%
HoB	Holston loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	3.2	1.4%
HoC2	Holston loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	8.5	3.7%
Mn	Melvin and Newark silt loams, depressional	8.1	3.5%
MvC	Minvale gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	35.0	15.1%
MvD	Minvale gravelly loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes	6.1	2.7%
SeA	Sequatchie loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	5.1	2.2%
SeB	Sequatchie loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	0.4	0.2%
Su	Sullivan loam, occasionally flooded	8.6	3.7%
Sw	Swafford loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	34.2	14.8%
WaC2	Waynesboro loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	47.3	20.5%
WaD2	Waynesboro loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	31.5	13.7%
WaD3	Waynesboro clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	4.8	2.1%
Totals for Area of Interest		230.7	100.0%



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
446 Neal Street
Cookeville, TN 38501-4027
Phone: (931) 528-6481 Fax: (931) 528-7075



In Reply Refer To:

August 08, 2021

Consultation Code: 04ET1000-2021-SLI-1065

Event Code: 04ET1000-2021-E-02296

Project Name: Proposed Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement (Site 1)

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2))

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>;

<http://www.towerkill.com>; and

www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

[http://](http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html)

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
 - USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
 - Migratory Birds
 - Wetlands
-

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office

446 Neal Street

Cookeville, TN 38501-4027

(931) 528-6481

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04ET1000-2021-SLI-1065

Event Code: 04ET1000-2021-E-02296

Project Name: Proposed Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement (Site 1)

Project Type: LAND - ACQUISITION

Project Description: Approximately 270-acre parcel of unimproved agricultural land and wooded land.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: [https://](https://www.google.com/maps/@35.3984545,-85.01724913867687,14z)

www.google.com/maps/@35.3984545,-85.01724913867687,14z



Counties: Meigs County, Tennessee

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 10 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Gray Bat <i>Myotis grisescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329	Endangered
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Laurel Dace <i>Chrosomus saylori</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1194	Endangered
Snail Darter <i>Percina tanasi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5603	Threatened

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Dromedary Pearlymussel <i>Dromus dromas</i> Population: Wherever found; Except where listed as Experimental Populations No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6377	Endangered
Fanshell <i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4822	Endangered
Orangefoot Pimpleback (pearlymussel) <i>Plethobasus cooperianus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1132	Endangered
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829	Endangered
Rough Pigtoe <i>Pleurobema plenum</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6894	Endangered

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

Migratory Birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds elsewhere

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere

Probability Of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

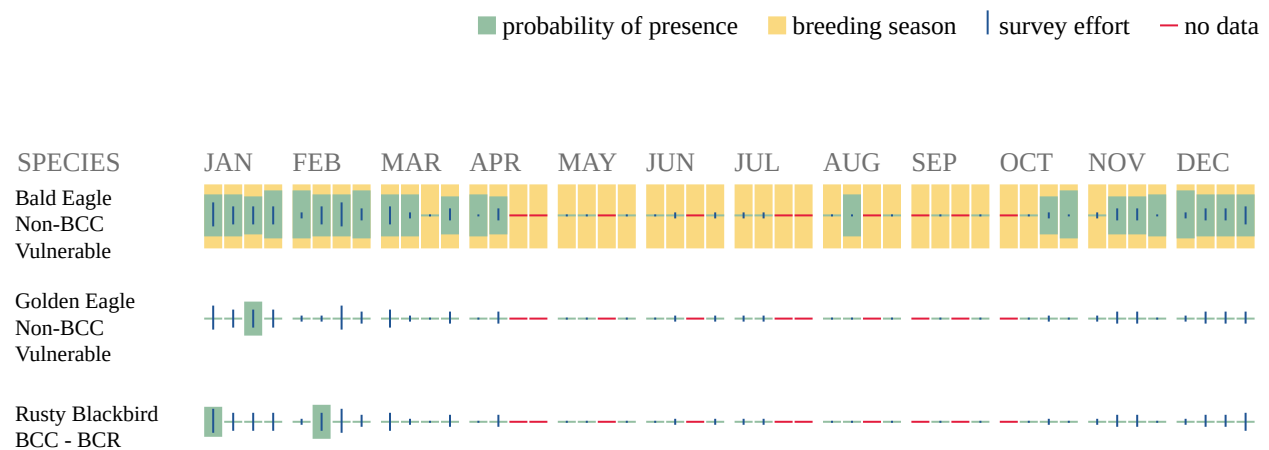
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

Migratory Birds FAQ

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
 2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
-

3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell

me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Wetlands

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

LAKE

- [L1UBHh](#)
- [L2AB3Fh](#)

FRESHWATER POND

- [PUBHh](#)
 - [PUBHx](#)
-



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
446 Neal Street
Cookeville, TN 38501-4027
Phone: (931) 528-6481 Fax: (931) 528-7075



In Reply Refer To:

August 08, 2021

Consultation Code: 04ET1000-2021-SLI-1066

Event Code: 04ET1000-2021-E-02298

Project Name: Proposed Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement (Site 2)

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2))

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>;

<http://www.towerkill.com>; and

www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

[http://](http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html)

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
 - USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
 - Migratory Birds
 - Wetlands
-

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office

446 Neal Street

Cookeville, TN 38501-4027

(931) 528-6481

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04ET1000-2021-SLI-1066

Event Code: 04ET1000-2021-E-02298

Project Name: Proposed Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement (Site 2)

Project Type: LAND - ACQUISITION

Project Description: Approximately 225 acres of unimproved agricultural and wooded land.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@35.412708550000005,-85.3281855705544,14z>



Counties: Sequatchie County, Tennessee

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 8 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Gray Bat <i>Myotis grisescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329	Endangered
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Oyster Mussel <i>Epioblasma capsaeformis</i> Population: Wherever found; Except where listed as Experimental Populations There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2099	Endangered
Slabside Pearlymussel <i>Pleuroaia dolabelloides</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1518	Endangered

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Large-flowered Skullcap <i>Scutellaria montana</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4721	Threatened
Virginia Spiraea <i>Spiraea virginiana</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1728	Threatened
White Fringeless Orchid <i>Platanthera integrilabia</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1889	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

Migratory Birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere

Probability Of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

■ probability of presence ■ breeding season | survey effort — no data

SPECIES JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

Rusty Blackbird
BCC - BCR



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

Migratory Birds FAQ

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

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Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

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What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

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3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

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If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Wetlands

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- [PFO1A](#)

RIVERINE

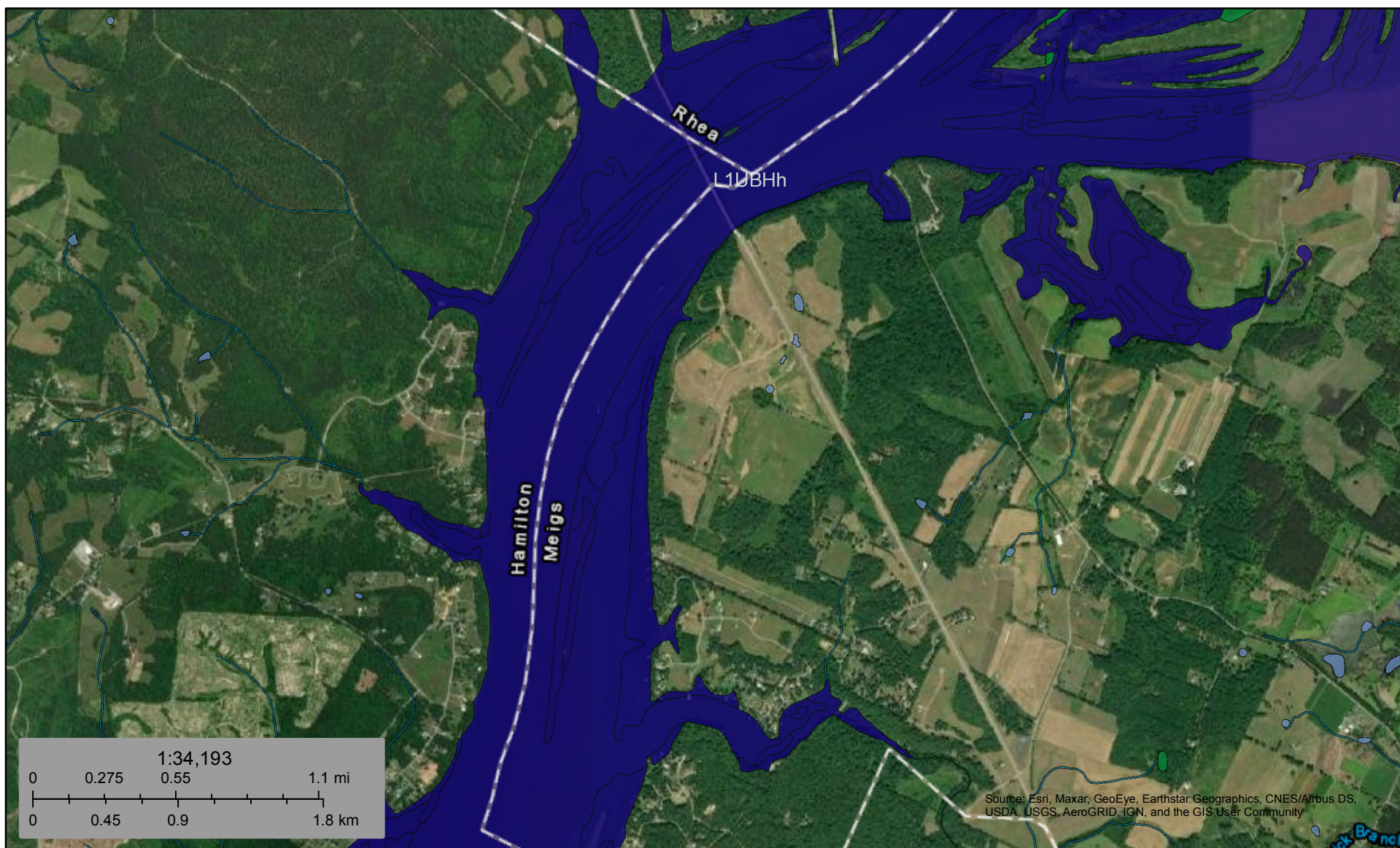
- [R5UBH](#)
-



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

Meigs County (Site 1)



August 9, 2021

Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond

- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service





National Wetlands Inventory

Sequatchie County (Site 2)



August 9, 2021

Wetlands

	Estuarine and Marine Deepwater		Freshwater Emergent Wetland		Lake
	Estuarine and Marine Wetland		Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland		Other
			Freshwater Pond		Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

NOTES TO USERS

This map is for use in administering the National Flood Insurance Program. It does not necessarily identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. The **community map repository** should be consulted for possible updated or additional flood hazard information.

To obtain more detailed information in areas where **Base Flood Elevations** (BFEs) and/or **floodways** have been determined, users are encouraged to consult the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data and/or Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables contained within the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report that accompanies this FIRM. Users should be aware that BFEs shown on the FIRM represent rounded whole-foot elevations. These BFEs are intended for flood insurance rating purposes only and should not be used as the sole source of flood elevation information. Accordingly, flood elevation data presented in the FIS report should be utilized in conjunction with the FIRM for purposes of construction and/or floodplain management.

Coastal Base Flood Elevations shown on this map apply only landward of 0.0' North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). Users of this FIRM should be aware that coastal flood elevations are also provided in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction. Elevations shown in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table should be used for construction and/or floodplain management purposes when they are higher than the elevations shown on this FIRM.

Boundaries of the **floodways** were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The floodways were based on hydraulic considerations with regard to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertinent floodway data are provided in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

Certain areas not in Special Flood Hazard Areas may be protected by **flood control structures**. Refer to Section 2.4 "Flood Protection Measures" of the Flood Insurance Study report for information on flood control structures for this jurisdiction.

The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was State Plane Tennessee FIPS 4100. The **horizontal datum** was NAD83, GRS1980 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or State Plane zones used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

Flood elevations on this map are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same **vertical datum**. For information regarding conversion between the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/> or contact the National Geodetic Survey at the following address:

NGS Information Services
NOAA, NNGS12
National Geodetic Survey
SSMC-3, #9202
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282
(301) 713-3242

To obtain current elevation, description, and/or location information for **bench marks** shown on this map, please contact the Information Services Branch of the National Geodetic Survey at (301) 713-3242 or visit its website at <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/>.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by the State of Tennessee. This information was photogrammetrically compiled at scales of 1"=100' and 1"=400' from aerial photography.

This map reflects more detailed and up-to-date **stream channel configurations** than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. The floodplains and floodways that were transferred from the previous FIRM may have been adjusted to conform to these new stream channel configurations. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data tables in the *Flood Insurance Study report* (which contains *authoritative hydraulic data*) may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on this map.

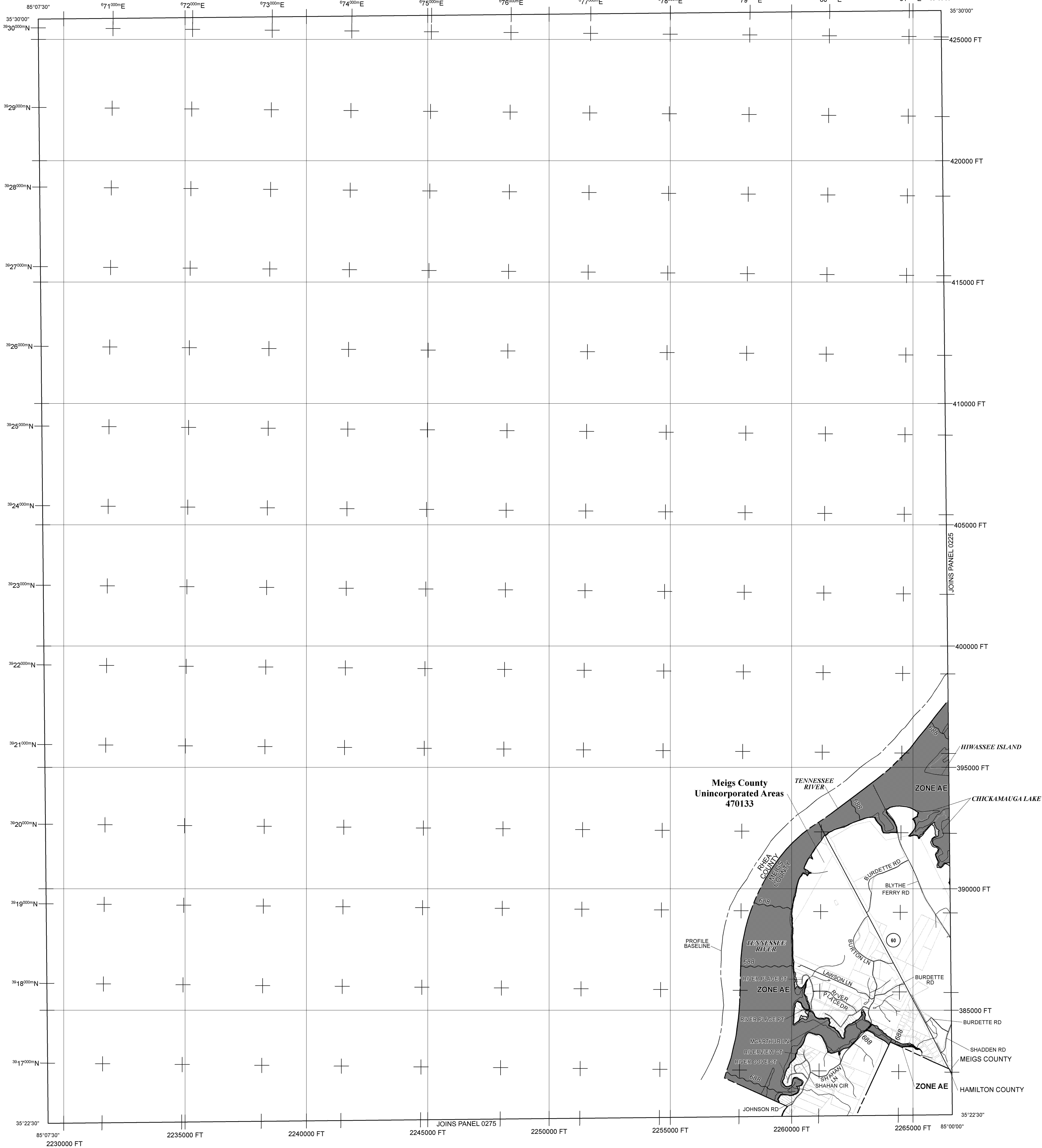
Corporate limits shown on this map are based on the best data available at the time of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occurred after this map was published, map users should contact appropriate community officials to verify current corporate limit locations.

Please refer to the separately printed **Map Index** for an overview map of the county showing the layout of map panels; community map repository addresses; and a Listing of Communities table containing National Flood Insurance Program dates for each community as well as a listing of the panels on which each community is located.

Contact the **FEMA Map Service Center** at 1-800-358-9616 for information on available products associated with this FIRM. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a *Flood Insurance Study report*, and/or digital versions of this map. The FEMA Map Service Center may also be reached by Fax at 1-800-358-9620 and its website at <http://www.msc.fema.gov/>.

If you have **questions about this map** or questions concerning the National Flood Insurance Program in general, please call 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/rfp/>.

The "profile base lines" depicted on this map represent the hydraulic modeling baselines that match the flood profiles in the FIS report. As a result of improved topographic data, the "profile base line", in some cases, may deviate significantly from the channel centerline or appear outside the SFHA.



LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD

The 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The Special Flood Hazard Area is the area subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood. Areas of Special Flood Hazard include Zones A, AE, AH, AO, AR, A99, V, and VE. The Base Flood Elevation is the water-surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood.

ZONE A No Base Flood Elevations determined.
ZONE AE Base Flood Elevations determined.
ZONE AH Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); Base Flood Elevations determined.
ZONE AO Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.

ZONE AR Special Flood Hazard Area formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.

ZONE A99 Areas to be protected from 1% annual chance flood event by a Federal flood protection system under construction; no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE V Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE VE Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.
ZONE D Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

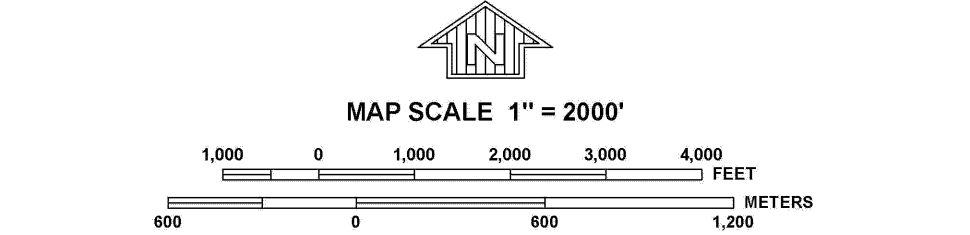
Floodplain boundary
Floodway boundary
Zone D boundary
CBRS and OPA boundary
Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Area Zones and boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths, or flood velocities
Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*
*** Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988**

Cross section line
Transect line
Geographic coordinates referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), Western Hemisphere
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16
5000-foot grid values: Tennessee State Plane coordinate system (FIPSZONE = 4100), Lambert projection
Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
River Mile
MAP REPOSITORIES
Refer to Map Repositories list on Map Index
EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
September 17, 2010
EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL

DX5510
M1.5

For community map revision history prior to countywide mapping, refer to the Community Map History table located in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.



PANEL 0200F

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
MEIGS COUNTY,
TENNESSEE
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 200 OF 325
(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:
COMMUNITY MEIGS COUNTY
NUMBER 470133
PANEL 0200
SUFFIX F

Notice to User: The Map Number shown below should be used when placing map orders; the Community Number shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
47121C0200F
EFFECTIVE DATE
SEPTEMBER 17, 2010

Federal Emergency Management Agency

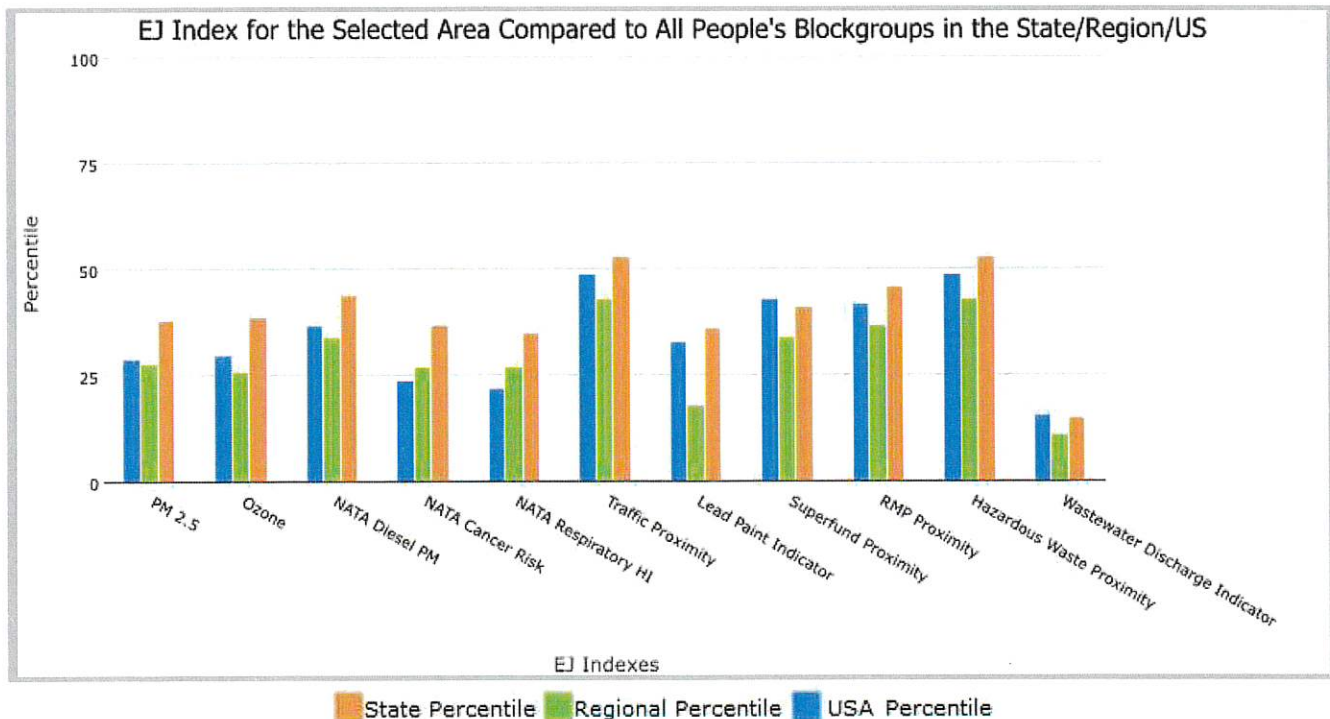
2 miles Ring Centered at 35.398797,-85.017697, TENNESSEE, EPA Region 4

Approximate Population: 585

Input Area (sq. miles): 12.56

Site 1

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	38	28	29
EJ Index for Ozone	39	26	30
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	44	34	37
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	37	27	24
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	35	27	22
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	53	43	49
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	36	18	33
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	41	34	43
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	46	37	42
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	53	43	49
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	15	11	16



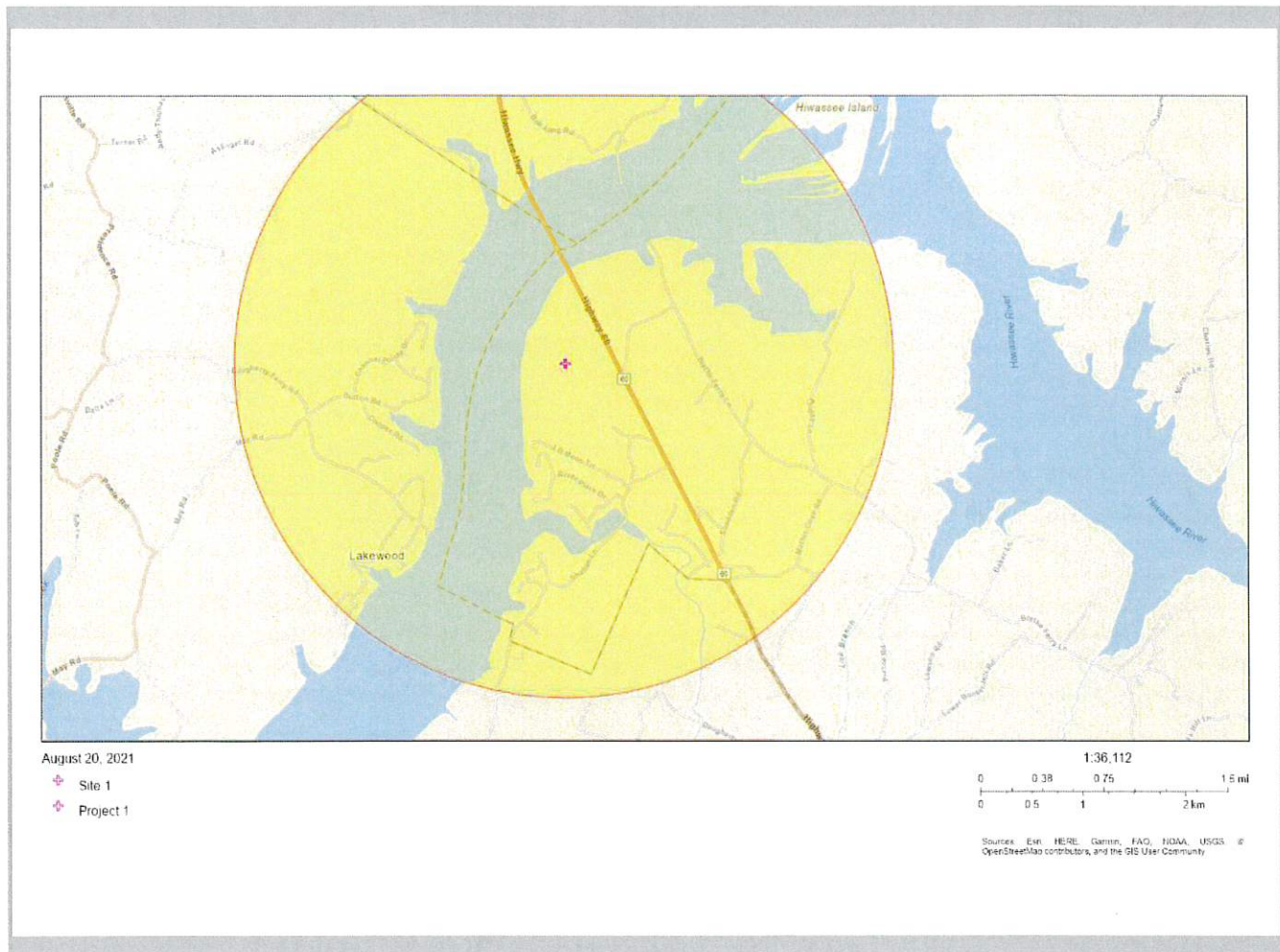
This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

2 miles Ring Centered at 35.398797,-85.017697, TENNESSEE, EPA Region 4

Approximate Population: 585

Input Area (sq. miles): 12.56

Site 1



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2020)



2 miles Ring Centered at 35.398797,-85.017697, TENNESSEE, EPA Region 4

Approximate Population: 585

Input Area (sq. miles): 12.56

Site 1

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	8.45	8.5	45	8.57	46	8.55	45
Ozone (ppb)	42.1	42.9	28	38	68	42.9	44
NATA* Diesel PM ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.216	0.395	24	0.417	<50th	0.478	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	35	35	50	36	<50th	32	60-70th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	0.49	0.48	57	0.52	<50th	0.44	60-70th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	9.5	260	18	350	15	750	11
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.091	0.2	41	0.15	54	0.28	37
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.021	0.069	46	0.083	33	0.13	19
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.11	0.53	31	0.6	24	0.74	19
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.071	0.63	13	0.91	11	5	9
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0021	0.043	78	0.65	79	9.4	70
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	22%	31%	39	37%	27	36%	34
People of Color Population	4%	26%	16	39%	7	39%	8
Low Income Population	40%	36%	59	36%	59	33%	67
Linguistically Isolated Population	0%	2%	67	3%	51	4%	45
Population With Less Than High School Education	9%	13%	38	13%	41	13%	48
Population Under 5 years of age	5%	6%	40	6%	42	6%	40
Population over 64 years of age	15%	16%	48	17%	50	15%	54

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment>.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJSCREEN is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJSCREEN outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

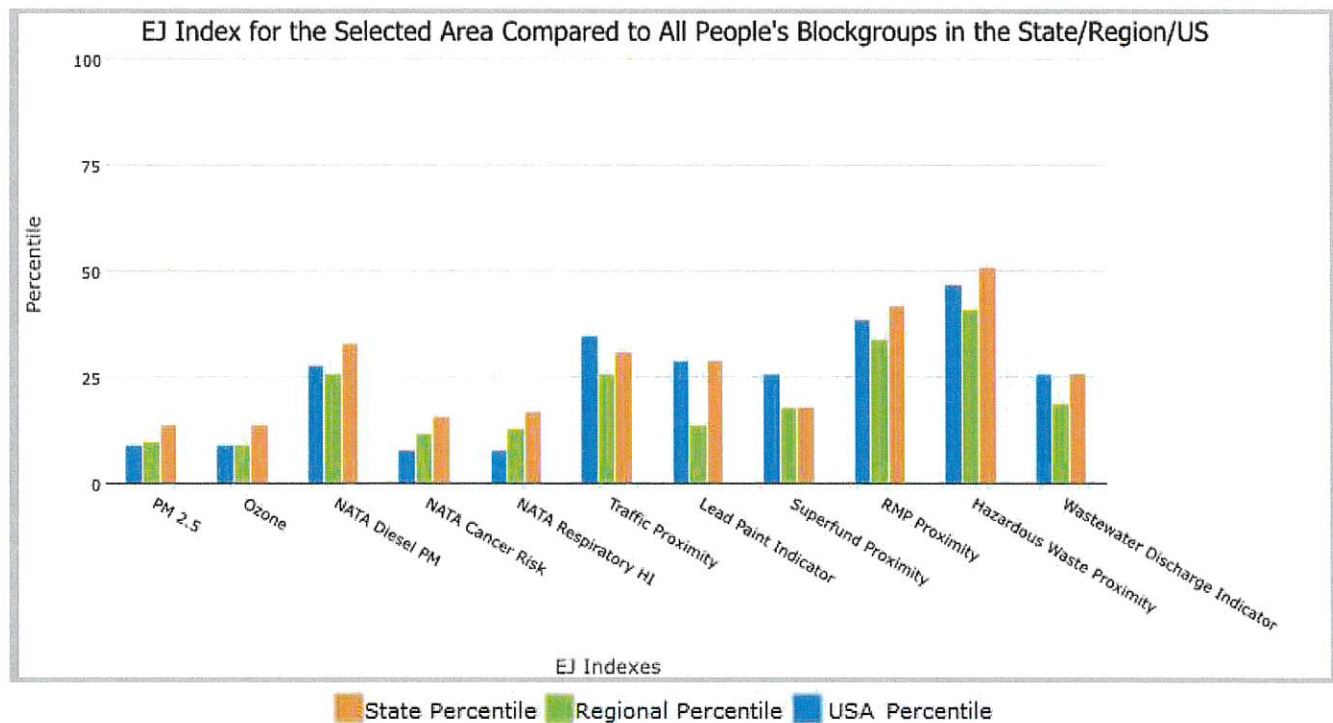
2 miles Ring Centered at 35.411430,-85.330129, TENNESSEE, EPA Region 4

Approximate Population: 516

Input Area (sq. miles): 12.56

Site 2

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	14	10	9
EJ Index for Ozone	14	9	9
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	33	26	28
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	16	12	8
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	17	13	8
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	31	26	35
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	29	14	29
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	18	18	26
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	42	34	39
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	51	41	47
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	26	19	26



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

2 miles Ring Centered at 35.411430,-85.330129, TENNESSEE, EPA Region 4

Approximate Population: 516

Input Area (sq. miles): 12.56

Site 2



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2020)



2 miles Ring Centered at 35.411430,-85.330129, TENNESSEE, EPA Region 4

Approximate Population: 516

Input Area (sq. miles): 12.56

Site 2

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	8.21	8.5	32	8.57	31	8.55	37
Ozone (ppb)	41.3	42.9	19	38	63	42.9	38
NATA* Diesel PM ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.156	0.395	8	0.417	<50th	0.478	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	31	35	19	36	<50th	32	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	0.42	0.48	21	0.52	<50th	0.44	<50th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	46	260	38	350	33	750	23
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.051	0.2	28	0.15	41	0.28	28
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.027	0.069	57	0.083	41	0.13	24
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.055	0.53	9	0.6	6	0.74	5
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.037	0.63	2	0.91	2	5	3
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	7.7E-05	0.043	56	0.65	62	9.4	52
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	16%	31%	21	37%	14	36%	21
People of Color Population	3%	26%	12	39%	5	39%	6
Low Income Population	29%	36%	38	36%	40	33%	51
Linguistically Isolated Population	0%	2%	67	3%	51	4%	45
Population With Less Than High School Education	12%	13%	49	13%	52	13%	59
Population Under 5 years of age	6%	6%	58	6%	59	6%	56
Population over 64 years of age	19%	16%	67	17%	68	15%	71

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment>.

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APPENDIX F – PUBLIC NOTICES AND COMMENTS



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

**NOTICE OF SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
UNDER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
FOR THE PROPOSED
CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY REPLACEMENT**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Construction and Facilities Management is gathering information to assist with the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) as part of the federal decision-making process for the proposed acquisition of land in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area for the construction and operation of a new national cemetery to replace the existing the Chattanooga National Cemetery, which is projected to reach its burial capacity within the next 10 years. Two sites are being considered for the new national cemetery: Site 1 - approximately 270 acres of land located south of the intersection of Hiwassee Highway and Chickamauga Lake/Tennessee River in Meigs County, Tennessee. Site 2 - approximately 225 acres of land located northeast of the intersection of Bostontown Road and Kelly Cross Road in Sequatchie County, Tennessee.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), VA is seeking the public's input on issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, including environmental concerns that may occur as a result of the proposed federal action.

A public scoping period is open through **October 2, 2021**. During this time, the public is invited to submit comments on the proposed action and identify potential issues or concerns for consideration in the NEPA process. All submissions should be sent/made via email to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement NEPA EA Scoping."

If including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifiable information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personally identifiable information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.



Account #: 23827
Company: TTL ASSOCIATES
Client:
Ad number: 217612
PO#:
Note:

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Before me personally appeared Jim Stevens, who being duly sworn that he is the Legal Sales Representative of the CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS, and that the Legal Ad of which the attached is a true copy, has been published in the above named newspaper and on the corresponding newspaper website on the following dates, to-wit:

Chattanooga Times Free Press: 09/08/21, 09/12/21; TimesFreePress.com: 09/08/21, 09/12/21.

And that there is due or has been paid the CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS for publication the sum of \$416.70. (Includes \$10.00 Affidavit Charge).



Sworn to and subscribed before me this date: 09/15/2021



My Commission Expires 02/28/2023



Chattanooga
Times Free Press

400 EAST 11TH ST
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37403

**NOTICE OF SCOPING AND PUBLIC
INVOLVEMENT
UNDER THE NATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
FOR THE PROPOSED
CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL
CEMETERY REPLACEMENT**

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If including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifiable information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personally identifiable information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.



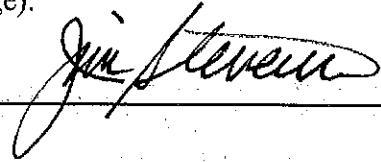
Account #: 31837
Company: TTL ASSOCIATES, INC.
Client:
Ad number: 229834
PO#:
Note:

AFFIDAVIT • STATE OF TENNESSEE • HAMILTON COUNTY

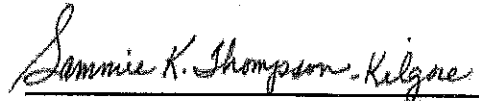
Before me personally appeared Jim Stevens, who being duly sworn that he is the Legal Sales Representative of the CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS, and that the Legal Ad of which the attached is a true copy, has been published in the above named newspaper and on the corresponding newspaper website on the following dates, to-wit:

Chattanooga Times Free Press: 03/20/22, 03/23/22; TimesFreePress.com: 03/20/22, 03/23/22.

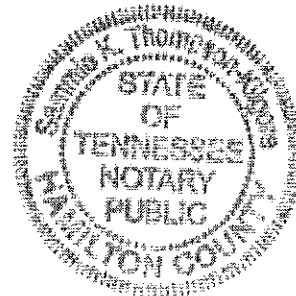
And that there is due or has been paid the CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS for publication the sum of \$368.30. (Includes \$0.00 Affidavit Charge).



Sworn to and subscribed before me this date: 03/24/2022



My Commission Expires 02/28/2023



Chattanooga
Times Free Press

400 EAST 11TH ST
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37403

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT****U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS****Proposed Chattanooga National
Cemetery Replacement
Chattanooga, Tennessee Area**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment. The Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed acquisition of land, initial development, and maintenance of new national cemetery in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area to replace the existing the Chattanooga National Cemetery, which is projected to reach its burial capacity within the next 10 years. Two sites are being considered for the new national cemetery: Site 1 - approximately 270 acres of land located south of the intersection of Hiwassee Highway and Chickamauga Lake/Tennessee River in Meigs County, Tennessee. Site 2 - approximately 225 acres of land located northeast of the intersection of Bostontown Road and Kelly Cross Road in Sequatchie County, Tennessee.

VA prepared the Draft EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and regulations implementing the Act. Comments will be addressed in the Final EA. The public comment period ends on April 19, 2022.

The Draft EA is available for review online at:

<https://www.cf.m.va.gov/environmental/index.asp>

Please email comments by April 19, 2022 to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "Chattanooga National Cemetery Replacement Draft EA". If you have any questions or are unable to submit your comments by email, please contact Fernando Fernandez at (202) 632-6529.