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ARCHAEOLOGICAL DOCUMENTARY STUDY
BLOCK 6316, LOT 31
BOROUGH OF RICHMOND
CEQR No. 95-DEP-223R

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Submitted To
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794

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	1
	A. Procedures	1
	B. Site	2
II.	DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OF SENSITIVITY: PREHISTORIC PERIOD	3
	A. Prehistoric Archaeological Sites in Western Staten Island	3
	1. Shoreline Sites	3
	2. Inland Sites	5
	B. Analysis of Sensitivity - Prehistoric Period	9
III.	DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OF SENSITIVITY: HISTORIC PERIOD	11
	A. 17th and 18th Centuries	11
	1. The Project Site in the 18th Century	12
	B. The Bloomingview/Huguenot - Woodrow Communities in the 19th - Early 20th Centuries	12
	C. Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries - Project Site History	13
	D. Assessment of Sensitivity - Historic Period	14
IV.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	15
	REFERENCES CITED	16

FIGURES AND PLATES - FOLLOWING TEXT:

Figures:

Figure 1a -	Project Location Map
Figure 1b -	Block/Lot Map
Figure 2 -	Prehistoric Archaeological Sites in Western Staten Island - Key
Figure 2 -	Prehistoric Archaeological Sites in Western Staten Island
Figure 3 -	Skinner Site Location Map
Figure 4 -	Bolton Site Location Map
Figure 5 -	Davis "Ye Olde Names and Nicknames" Map
Figure 6 -	Skene Map of Staten Island Patents
Figure 7 -	1780-83 "French Map"
Figure 8 -	1781 Taylor and Skinner Map
Figure 9 -	1797 Sprong and Connor Map
Figure 10 -	1844-45 Coastal Survey Map
Figure 11 -	1850 Dripps Map
Figure 12 -	1853 Butler Map
Figure 13 -	1859 Walling Map
Figure 14 -	1874 Beers Map
Figure 15 -	1887 Beers Map
Figure 16 -	1898 Robinson Map
Figure 17 -	1912-1913 Borough of Richmond Topographic Map
Figure 18 -	1917 Bromley Map

Plates:

- Plate 1 - Wooded Area in Western Portion of Site
- Plate 2 - Wooded Area and Soil Mounds in Eastern Portion of Site
- Plate 3 - Soil Mounds in Eastern Portion of Site
- Plate 4 - Delmar Avenue Showing Upgrade North of Site
- Plate 5 - Delmar Avenue Showing Upgrade South of Site

I. INTRODUCTION

The construction of a two-story residential building is being proposed on a parcel of land designated as block 6316, lot 31 in the Borough of Richmond. The site is located on the west side of Delmar Avenue, between Sinclair and Sheldon Avenues in the western portion of the borough (see Figures 1a and 1b). The property has a frontage of 40 feet on Delmar Avenue and extends westward for a distance of 100 feet.

The southwestern portion of the parcel is designated as a wetland area. This archaeological documentary study has been requested by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection in accordance with the requirements of the New York City Environmental Quality Review procedures and the guidelines issued by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. Its objective is to assess the sensitivity of the project area for the presence of possibly significant archaeological remains dating either to the prehistoric or the historic period and to determine the need and possible locations for subsurface testing.

A. Procedures

The approaches taken to the assessment of sensitivity for the presence of prehistoric and historic period archaeological resources necessarily differ. For prehistoric resources, we have first identified known archaeological sites in western Staten Island. These sites have been reported by both professional and avocational archaeologists. Most of the major sites were reported prior to the substantial land modifications which have occurred in this portion of Staten Island in recent years, and many of the sites no longer exist. However, a number of smaller sites, some of them disturbed, have been reported in recent years as a result of cultural resources investigations which have been required under the provisions of Federal, State and City laws and regulations.

Since the identification of known archaeological sites has not resulted from a comprehensive, systematic survey of western Staten Island, the fact that sites have not been reported from a particular location does not necessarily mean that such sites are not present. Thus, to assess the sensitivity of the project area for prehistoric deposits we have also considered the topographic and physiographic characteristics of the locations of the reported sites and compared these characteristics with those of the project area.

To determine the sensitivity of the project area for historic period deposits we have examined maps of the area dating from the 18th through the early 20th century. Many of these maps show both the locations of structures and the names of property owners.

A pedestrian reconnaissance of the project area was conducted by the principal investigator on April 22, 1995.

B. Site Description

Except for its easternmost portion, the project site consists of open woodland. Vegetation consists largely of small trees with little underbrush (Plates 1 and 2). One larger tree, an approximately two foot diameter oak, is located on the site (see Plate 1). The tracts of land immediately west and south of the project site remain undeveloped. A residential building has been constructed on the property immediately to the north.

The ground surface in the easternmost ca. 15-25 feet of the site is largely covered by mounds of soil (Plates 3 and 4) which may derive from grading and construction on the property immediately to the north. Probing of the soil west of these mounds indicated that a thin layer of soil (less than six inches), probably also deriving from this grading episode, overlies the previous ground surface.

A small stream, some two feet in width flows in a northwest-southeast direction, approximately 50 - 60 feet south of the site. This stream apparently is part of the network of streamlets which are shown draining the surrounding higher ground on the 1912-1913 topographic maps (see Figure 17). These streams may be seasonal in nature. Opposite the site, on the eastern side of Delmar Avenue, there is a marshy area with Phragmites vegetation. This is apparently also part of the area of streams and marshes shown on the topographic maps. The ground surface within most of the project site was noted to be quite wet at the time of the site visit.

Observation of the area topography indicates that the land in the area slopes upward to the north, south, and west of the project site, as also indicated on the topographic maps of the area (see Figures 2 and 17). The local height-of-land is approximately four blocks south of the site, in the vicinity of the present Ramona Avenue. The land between the present Sinclair and Sheldon Avenues appears to represent the low point of land (see Plates 4 and 5).

II. DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OF SENSITIVITY: PREHISTORIC PERIOD

A. Prehistoric Archaeological Sites in Western Staten Island

1. Shoreline Sites

The majority of known prehistoric sites in western Staten Island (see Figure 2) are located either along the bluff tops overlooking the Arthur Kill and Princes Bay or in the vicinity of inland streams. The largest of these sites is located north of Ward's Point, at the southwestern tip of the island. With the exception of the Smoking Point site, (discussed below) this is the only site in western Staten Island which appears to represent a permanent or semi-permanent village.

Jacobson's (1980) publication summarizes the information known about the site at Ward's Point. Prehistoric burials of at least 72 individuals have been excavated in the Ward's Point area since the mid-nineteenth century. In addition to the burials, the site includes an extensive shell midden deposit and at least 127 features (e.g. trash pits, hearths) have also been reported (Jacobson 1980). One area of the site has produced material dating to the early Archaic period from a stratum of orange/yellow sand underlying the midden layer. The Ward's Point prehistoric site is located within the boundaries of the Ward's Point Conservation Area (Florance 1982) which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on November 29, 1982 (Figure 2, #1).

In addition to the deposits reported in the above sources, shovel testing for the Oakwood Beach Water Pollution Control project (Pickman and Yamin 1984) led to the recovery of (non-diagnostic) prehistoric material from either side of the Conference House driveway and from the Billop's Ridge area, north of the Conference House. Much of the lithic debitage recovered from these tests was encountered in the yellow/orange sand which underlay buried topsoil and shell layers. Testing adjacent to the Conference House conducted by Baugher-Perlin also recovered prehistoric material from the orange/yellow sand stratum (personal communication cited in Pickman and Yamin 1984; Florance 1982).

The prehistoric occupation in the Ward's Point area appears to be confined to the area atop the bluffs overlooking the Arthur Kill. Shovel testing conducted in the slightly lower-lying area situated east of the bluffs (the tested area is bounded by Hylan Boulevard, Claremont Avenue and Massachusetts and Carteret Streets) encountered only a few lithic flakes and some shell. The latter material was recovered from an area immediately east of the Ward's Point site (Winter 1985 - see Figure 2, #4).

Recent evidence indicates that the prehistoric occupation in the

southwestern portion of Staten Island extends along the bluffs north of the Ward's Point site. The Oakwood Beach project shovel tests encountered prehistoric material on the lawn of the 19th century "Bedell" House, located west of Satterlee Street and just north of Pittsville Avenue. Lithic flakes, a corner notched projectile point, and fire cracked rock were recovered from a buried topsoil layer and from the underlying yellow/orange sand (Pickman and Yamin 1984 - see Figure 2, #2). During the course of the Oakwood Beach project and a more recent survey (Pickman 1988a), local residents mentioned additional finds of prehistoric material on the bluffs south of Amboy Road.

Two areas of lithic scatter have been reported along the bluffs immediately north of Amboy Road (Pickman 1988a - Figure 2, #3). More recent investigations indicate that this area was probably the locus of prehistoric camp sites which have been disturbed to varying degrees during the historic period (Pickman 1988b).

Two additional loci of prehistoric utilization were noted during the Oakwood Beach survey along the bluffs immediately west of Hopping Avenue. Lithic debitage was recovered from a buried topsoil layer on the lawn of #99 Hopping Avenue and additional flakes and a ceramic sherd were recovered from disturbed contexts in the immediate vicinity (Figure 2, #2). Projectile points and other artifacts had previously been reported by a local resident somewhat further to the north in the vicinity of #36 Hopping Avenue (Pickman and Yamin 1978:66).

The pattern of the finds discussed above suggests the possibility that the entire Tottenville bluff-top area may have been the locus of prehistoric camp sites and/or scattered dwellings, with a larger, more permanent occupation at Ward's Point.

The bluffs along the Arthur Kill continue north of Tottenville, with some gaps. A Paleoindian site, known as Port Mobil South (or Port Mobil Hill) was formerly located on the bluffs just north of Ellis Place (Kraft 1977 - see Figure 2, #7). The site, known from collections, was destroyed by the construction of the Mobil tank farm. A second Paleoindian site, Port Mobil North, also known from collections, was apparently located further to the northeast (Kraft 1977). Artifacts, including Paleoindian projectile points, were also recovered along the beach in Charleston (Kraft 1977; Salwen 1968) and excavations resulted in the recovery of artifacts from below beach margin peat deposits (Figure 2, #7). It is not certain whether these artifacts were deposited in situ or whether they washed down from a Paleoindian site atop the bluffs prior to the formation of the marsh.

There have been no specific sites reported along the bluffs between Tottenville and the Port Mobil South site. However, the files of the Metropolitan Area Archaeological Survey and the Archaeological Survey of Staten Island (both compiled in the 1960's) include a listing under "Kreischerville" which describes surface finds of Paleoindian projectile points and other prehistoric artifacts along the beach between Port Mobil and the

Outerbridge Crossing (Anderson 1967 - see Figure 2, #6). It is possible that this material washed down from sites on top of the bluffs.

Further to the northeast, at Smoking Point, a site has been reported at the bluff edge near the mouth of a small stream (Figure 2, #8). This site included a shell midden layer and burials have been reported from the area. Material from the site dates to the Archaic and transitional Archaic/Woodland period. (Rubertone 1974, Silver 1984).

The location of the above sites on the bluffs overlooking the Arthur Kill suggests that a major orientation of the prehistoric occupation of western Staten Island was toward the exploitation of the marine resources of this waterway.

Sites have also been reported along the bluffs overlooking Prince's Bay on the south shore of Staten Island. Skinner (1909) noted the presence of small shell heaps near the Bay (identified as #16 on Skinner's map (see Figure 3). These sites are listed in the files of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences as the Red Bank Site (Figure 2, #18), located on the bluffs on the Mount Loretto property; the Sharrott Avenue Site (Figure 2, #19); and the Wolfe's Pond Site (Figure 2, #22). These may be the same sites as those shown on Bolton's (1922) site map as #92 and #93 (see Figure 4). Bolton (1922) refers to the latter site as Seguine Point. One of the two sites which he indicates as #92 was located at Princes Bay and another "on the shore halfway to the lighthouse." These sites have been described by Skinner (1909) and Bolton (1922) as "fishing camps." The site at Wolfe's Pond was apparently associated with a former tidal creek. Additional finds near Wolfe's Pond were reported more recently (Pickman and Yamin 1984 - see Figure 2, #29). The present Arbutus Lake (formerly known as Latourette's Pond) represents the remains of another former tidal creek. A branch of this creek had its head in the vicinity of the project site (see below). Davis' (1896) map (Figure 5 - see also Figure 2, #23) notes the presence of "Indian implements" on a hill west of Arbutus lake. Other indications of prehistoric activity in the area of Arbutus Lake were noted during 1985 shovel testing for the Oakwood Beach Sewer project (Pickman and Yamin 1984 - see Figure 2, #26, 27 and 28).

2. Inland Sites

A number of sites in western Staten Island were apparently located so as to exploit resources associated with inland streams. Two of these sites, Chemical Lane and Pottery Farm, have been reported between Smoking Point and Arthur Kill Road (Figure 2, #9). The sites are located along the same stream which adjoins the Smoking Point site, but these sites are approximately 0.7 - 1.2 miles south of the latter site and the Arthur Kill shoreline. These sites have been less thoroughly described than the Smoking Point site but appear to have yielded Archaic, Transitional and Woodland material (Rubertone 1974). More recently, the remnants

of a site with primarily Late Woodland affiliations were noted some 750-1000 feet from the Arthur Kill shoreline on the site of the proposed Staten Island Correctional Facility in Rossville (Pickman 1992; Pickman and Boesch 1995 - see Figure 2, #25). The site was located approximately 150 feet west of a small stream which formerly emptied into the Arthur Kill.

Also at Rossville and east of the above sites, a site yielding Middle Woodland artifacts has been reported at the intersection of Huguenot Avenue and Arthur Kill road (Anderson 1964), approximately one mile northwest of the study area. This location is adjacent to another stream which empties into the Arthur Kill (see Figure 2, #24).

Bolton (1922:184) mentions the presence of scattered sites along Sandy Brook (which empties into Lemon Creek and eventually into Princes Bay on the southern shore of Staten Island) in the area of Sandy Ground and Woodrow and "extending over the fields to Rossville and Kreischerville". These sites are indicated as #81 and #82 on Bolton's map (see Figure 4). More recent excavations have provided additional information about the Sandy Brook sites. A large area known as the Wort farm (Figure 2, #11) was excavated by several archaeologists in the 1960's. The site was near the head of Sandy Brook. Early through Late Woodland period ceramics were recovered from the plow zone and Late Archaic material from the underlying sand. The vertical distribution of projectile points suggests the presence of a distinct occupational level within the sand (Williams 1968:46). According to Williams (1968:46-47) "the Wort Farm site, on the evidence of the predominance of weapons, knives, and scrapers, along with traces of hearths, would seem to have served as a hunting camp site, probably recurrently occupied by small numbers of people for relatively short spans of time."

The Harik's Sandy Ground site was located somewhat north of Wort Farm, along the route of the West Shore Expressway (Figure 2, #10). Artifacts from this site were recovered from the yellow/orange sand as well as from what was apparently an overlying plow zone (Lavin 1980). This may be the same site as the one recorded as the Rossville Shell Heap in the files of the Metropolitan Area Archaeological Survey.

The Sandy Brook site (Figure 2, #13) was located further to the south along the west bank of the brook. The site was surface collected by a local avocational archaeologist, Al Hartje (Cotz et al). The site was characterized by Lenik (1987:33) as "a large prehistoric base camp...occupied from late Archaic through Woodland times". A less intensively occupied site, the Sharrott Estates site (Figure 2, #12), approximately 1/4 mile west of the Sandy Brook site has been excavated (Cotz et al. 1985; Lenik 1987). This site was characterized by Lenik as a sporadically occupied, occasional hunting camp which perhaps functioned as a "satellite" camp for the occupants of the Sandy Brook site. The prehistoric material from the site, primarily lithic debitage, was recovered from the topmost 12 inches of the orange sand. The

topsoil at this site had been removed prior to the time of the archaeological excavation.

Another stream, Tappan's Brook, originates in the general area of the Wort farm site and flows westward to the Arthur Kill. In the area which is now included within Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve the brook flows through a fairly deep "valley". A survey of archaeological resources within the Park (Yamin and Pickman 1986a; 1986b) identified a series of what are most likely small, temporary camp sites. Most of these are located on knolls along the bluff tops bordering Tappan's Brook (Figure 2, #14).

The Canada Hill site (Figure 2, #15), was reported by Lorraine Williams (1967) and is included in the files of the Metropolitan Area Archaeological Survey. The site apparently consisted of a surface scatter of shell fragments, quartz and chert chips and historic period artifacts. The 1913 Borough of Richmond topographic map shows a small pond and stream in the vicinity of the reported finds.

A site (see Figure 2, #20) has been reported in Richmond Valley, south of the Canada Hill site (The New Bulletin, 1961). The site was excavated by Joseph Bodnar, an avocational archaeologist, and his sons. Prehistoric pottery and "triangular arrowheads" were among the artifacts recovered. Grossman (1985) notes that this is probably the same site as the prehistoric campsite mentioned by Leng and Davis (1930) at Boiling Spring in Richmond Valley.

The area west of what is now Page Avenue was known locally as "Decker's Swamp" and "Sand Ridges" (Davis 1896, Leng and Davis 1930; Morris 1898). Morris (1898:378) notes that "these ridges were occupied by the Indians in old times". A 1911 Borough of Richmond topographic map shows that the area contained a series of what are apparently spring-fed streams surrounded by marshy ground. Anderson (1965) noted that there were "a series of sites scattered throughout the Woodlands for some distance", in the vicinity of Page Avenue and Hylan Boulevard. Anderson (1965;1966) excavated sites on both sides of Page Avenue north of Hylan Boulevard, including a burial of a child and dog located east of Page Avenue. Anderson dated most of the material from these sites to the Early and Middle Woodland periods. Prehistoric material was also recovered from shovel tests in the area northeast of the Page Avenue/Hylan Boulevard intersection during the Oakwood Beach survey (Pickman and Yamin 1984). Prehistoric sites have also been noted south of Hylan Boulevard on both sides of Page Avenue (Kaeser 1966 - see Figure 2, #5). A surface reconnaissance of a ridge located west of Page Avenue (Grossman 1985) indicated the presence of lithic flakes, a ceramic sherd, a mano, and a hammerstone.

Shovel tests for the Oakwood Beach survey encountered a thin scatter of lithic debitage on the south side of Hylan Boulevard between Bedell and Joline Avenues (see Figure 2, #17). The debitage was recovered from the topsoil and underlying yellow/orange sand strata. Subsequent testing of the area by

Louis Berger and Associates yielded additional prehistoric material (Jay Cohen, personal communication, 1989). During the Oakwood Beach survey, a local resident reported previous finds of artifacts from a somewhat higher area north of Hylan Boulevard and north of the Oakwood Beach find spots. Surface examination of this area indicated the presence of marine shell, as well as apparent excavation by "pot hunters". However two shovel tests in this area failed to yield prehistoric artifacts (Pickman and Yamin 1984). The 1911 topographic map shows a small stream several hundred feet east of the find spots and a pond and adjacent marsh several hundred feet to the south.

A recent survey (Roberts and Stehling 1987) encountered what were probably the remains of a prehistoric campsite located on the west side of Sprague Avenue, some 500 feet south of Hylan Boulevard (see Figure 2, #16). More than 100 pieces of lithic debitage in addition to pieces of fire cracked rock were recovered from a five by five foot square. The 1911 topographic map shows small streams and marshy areas approximately 300 feet east and 300 feet northwest of this site.

Seven of the Oakwood Beach shovel tests were placed between Joline and Sprague Avenues. However, all of these tests were located north of Hylan Boulevard. None of these tests yielded indications of prehistoric occupations. However, local residents were in possession of prehistoric artifacts which may have been found between Joline and Sprague Avenues but further north of Hylan Boulevard than the shovel test locations (Pickman and Yamin 1984).

Shovel testing south of Hylan Boulevard and west of Joline Avenue (Figure 2, #21) yielded a prehistoric ceramic sherd, lithic flakes and fire cracked rock, probably associated with a prehistoric campsite. The finds were made on higher ground adjacent to the former location of a small stream and marshy area (Pickman 1988c).

Skinner reported two sites (see Figure 3 - #11 and #22) near the head of Richmond Creek (approximately 1 - 2 miles northeast of the study area).

In the late 19th century surface finds of prehistoric artifacts were reported at Annadale, north of Amboy Road in the vicinity of Lipsett and Barclay Avenues (Anonymous 1896, cited in Boesch 1994 - see Figure 2, #30). The site was apparently located on a knoll overlooking the east branch of the creek which emptied into what is now Arbutus Lake. As discussed below, the head of this stream was located in the vicinity of the project site.

There are a number of entries in the Museum of the American Indian catalog labelled "Huguenot Park" (see Figure 2, #31). These finds consist of five arrowpoints fragments (Pickman and Yamin 1978:71-72). "Huguenot Park" was apparently another name for the community which developed in the vicinity of Amboy Road and Huguenot Avenue also referenced as "Huguenot" (see Pickman

1991 and below). No further provenience information is available for these finds. It is possible that they derived from the vicinity of the stream which flowed southward into Arbutus Lake.

B. Analysis of Archaeological Sensitivity - Prehistoric Period

The data summarized above indicate that inland sites in western Staten Island are typically located on high ground near streams and marshy areas. The largest of the inland sites were located near the major stream known as Sandy Brook. However sites also appear to be associated with smaller streams and wetland areas as noted above. The latter most likely represent camp sites, possibly associated with larger sites located along the shore. The camp sites were most likely situated to take advantage of the resources of the nearby water sources and marshes. These would have attracted game and waterfowl, and the nearby higher areas would have been advantageous locations for hunting camps.

Several of the late 18th and mid-19th century maps show stream courses. These maps (Figures 8, 10, 12, 13) show a stream east of Huguenot Avenue which flowed into what is now Arbutus Lake. The head of this stream is shown north of Amboy Road but well south of the project site. The 1859 Walling map shows this stream branching south of Amboy Road, with the eastern branch ending near the intersection of Amboy and Annadale Roads. The 1898 Robinson map, shows a small stream with its head some 500 feet south of the project site. The 1851 and 1853 maps although not showing streams near the study area, do show a small pond some 750 feet to the northwest.

The 1912-1913 Borough of Richmond topographic maps (Figure 17) provide a much more detailed view of the topography and physiography of the study area and vicinity. These maps show a network of small streams, with adjacent marshy areas in the vicinity of the project site. One of these small streams was noted immediately south of the project site during the reconnaissance. These small streams joined together to form a larger stream which flowed to the southeast, crossing Amboy road near its intersection with Annadale Road. The early 20th century topographic maps show this stream ending south of Amboy Road. However, it is likely that this is the same stream shown on the earlier maps as the east branch of the brook which flowed southward to Arbutus Lake. The topographic maps also show two ponds north of the study area. One of these appears to be the pond shown on the mid-19th century maps.

The early 20th century topographic maps, as well as the more recent U.S.G.S. map (see Figure 2) and the site reconnaissance indicate that the wetlands, ponds and small streams in the study area provided drainage of the surrounding higher ground.

Examination of the topographic sheets as well as the reconnaissance indicate that the project site consists of lower-lying ground adjacent to the streamlet located some 50 feet to

the south. As noted above hills, knolls and slopes which represent higher and dryer ground near such streamlets could have served as locations of prehistoric hunting camps. Artifacts which could represent this type of site have been recovered from similar environments elsewhere in western Staten Island (e.g. in the vicinity of the present Hylan Boulevard and Joline Avenue - see Pickman 1988c - Figure 2, #21). However, the lower-lying, wetter ground immediately adjacent to the streamlets would not appear to represent advantageous locations for such camps. The higher ground located north and south of the project site would appear to represent more likely hunting camp locations.

III. DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OF SENSITIVITY: HISTORIC PERIOD

A. 17th and 18th Centuries

The initial settlements on Staten Island were established during the 17th century, mostly on the portion of the island closest to New York City. However, grants of land in the southwestern portion of Staten Island were made to various individuals during this period. The largest of these, encompassing the entire southwestern tip of Staten Island, was granted to Christopher Billop in 1676 and 1687. The Billop house, also known as the Conference House, is located just north of Hylan Boulevard in Tottenville.

The Skene map, published in 1907 (see Figure 6) shows the boundaries of the various patents. The study area would appear to be located within the boundaries of the grant made to Thomas Ward in 1685.

In 1688, Richmond County, which had been established in 1683, was divided into four towns: Northfield, Southfield, Westfield, and Castleton (Historical Records Survey 1942). The study area lies within the boundaries of Westfield.

The first maps of Staten Island which show the location of structures with any degree of accuracy date to the latter part of the 18th century (see Figures 7-9). These maps show the roadways which are now known as Amboy Road, Woodrow Road and Huguenot Avenue. According to McMillan (1946:14) the present Huguenot Avenue was opened as early as 1754, at which time it was called Marshall's Lane. The ca. 1780 "French Map" (Figure 7) indicates two structures at the intersection of the present Arthur Kill Road and Huguenot Avenue belonging to the Marshall family, which apparently accounts for the early name of this road.

A comparison of the two ca. 1780's maps (Figures 7-8) with one drawn in 1797 (Figure 9) shows an increase in the number of structures along Amboy Road between what are now Huguenot Road and Annadale Road. Leng and Davis (1930 VI:344) note that an inn called the "Sign of the Ship" was located at the corner of Amboy Road and Annadale Road. The inn is shown on the 1797 map (Figure 9). These structures represent the beginning of the small community which became known in the 19th century as Bloomingview.

The 1797 map also shows a church on the north side of Woodrow Road west of its intersection with Huguenot Avenue. This church was only "the second Methodist Episcopal Church erected in America" (Morris 1900:443).

1. The Project Site in the 18th Century

Three maps dating to the last two decades of the 19th century (Figures 7 - 9) show what is now Woodrow Road extending westward from Huguenot Avenue. It was not extended east of Huguenot Avenue until the 19th century (see Figure 10). The late 18th century maps show 3 - 4 structures located on the east side of the road now known as Huguenot Avenue between its intersections with Woodrow and Amboy Roads. All but one of these are shown immediately adjacent to Huguenot Avenue. One structure appears to be set back several hundred feet east of Huguenot Avenue near its intersection with Woodrow Road. This house is apparently the same one which continues to be shown in this area on maps dating through the early portion of the twentieth century (see below).

One of the late 18th century maps (Figure 7), appears to show this structure as occupied by J. Mersereau. The other two maps do not indicate property ownership. However, mid-19th century maps (see below) show this property as owned by the estate of Joseph Seguire. This may be the same Joseph Seguire whose tombstone was noted by the author in the Old Blazing Star cemetery on the present Arthur Kill Road. He died at the age of 65 on September 25, 1795.

Analysis of recent maps indicate that the project site is located some 600 feet south of the Huguenot Avenue-Woodrow road intersection (as measured along Huguenot Avenue), and some 1400 - 1500 feet east of Huguenot Avenue. This location places the study area more than 1000 feet southeast of the house as shown on the 18th century maps.

B. The Bloomingview/Huguenot - Woodrow Communities in the 19th - Early 20th Centuries.

There are no available detailed maps of the southwestern portion of Staten Island which date to the early part of the 19th century. On maps dating to the 1840's and 1850's (Figures 10-13), the area bounded by Huguenot Avenue, Amboy Road and Annadale Road is labelled as "Bloomingview". These maps indicate increased settlement compared with that shown by the late 18th century maps. By the mid-19th century community institutions had also been developed. A school house is shown on the north side of Amboy Road east of Huguenot Avenue. Further to the east, north of the intersection of Amboy Road and Arbutus Avenue, a structure labelled "Bloomingview House" is shown on the 1850 and 1853 maps (Figures 11 and 12). By 1859 this structure had apparently changed its name to the "Huguenot Institute" (see Figure 13). Leng and Davis (1930 II:652) indicate that this building functioned as a "store."

Clute (1877:261) notes that "in 1850 a number of the members of the Reformed Church in Richmond ... organized a new church at Bloomingview, now known as the Church of the Huguenots." The 1859 map shows the church located on the north side of Amboy Road,

west of Huguenot Avenue. The establishment of the church led to the change in the name of this community from "Bloomingview" to "Huguenot" (Morris 1900:443).

The 19th century maps also show a small community in the vicinity of the Woodrow Church. The area at the intersection of Woodrow Road and Huguenot Avenue was known as Huguenot Heights (Morris 1898:380; Davis 1896 - see Figure 5).

In the 18th century, the economic base of most portions of Staten Island was agriculture. However, during the early-mid 19th century, oyster planting joined agriculture as one of the chief Staten Island industries (Morris 1900:468). Prince's Bay, on the south shore of Staten Island south of the study area, played a leading role in the latter industry. The maps indicate that the immediate vicinity of the project site remained agricultural in nature through the 19th and early portion of the 20th century.

C. Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries - Project Site History

Most of the maps dating to the mid-19th through the early 20th centuries (Figures 10-18) appear to show a house located southeast of the intersection of Woodrow Road and Huguenot Avenue which corresponds to the location of the one shown on the late 18th century maps as noted above. It should be noted that this house is not shown on the 1844 Coastal Survey map (Figure 10). This is most likely due to a map maker's error, although it is possible that the site was unoccupied during a portion of the early 19th century. The more detailed late 19th and early 20th century maps indicate that the house was located some 200 - 250 feet south of the Woodrow Road - Huguenot Avenue intersection and some 250 - 275 feet east of the latter roadway.

The maps dating to 1850 and 1853 (Figures 11 and 12) indicate this house as owned by the estate of Joseph Seguire. These maps also indicate what appears to be an outbuilding on the property. The 1859 map (Figure 13) indicates that the property was then owned by J. Bennet. The 1874 and 1887 Beers maps (Figures 14 and 15) indicate that this property was owned by B. Kreischer in the former year and by his estate in the latter. This owner was most likely Balthasar Kreischer, who owned the Kreischer brick works north of Tottenville (see Pickman and Yamin 1978; 1984). The house is shown on the 1874 map but does not appear on the 1887 map. This is apparently also a map maker's error, as the 1898 Robinson map (Figure 16) shows the house and three outbuildings, owned at this time by Andrew Powell. The house and one outbuilding continue to be shown on the 1913 topographic map (Figure 17) as well as the 1917 Bromley map (Figure 18). The latter map indicates the property as owned by the Realty Business Corporation.

The area which includes the project site was not included in the sets of Sanborn insurance maps dating to 1917, 1937 or 1951. This

suggests that the area was not developed until the second half of the 20th century. This is consistent with the appearance of the houses in the vicinity which suggests relatively recent construction (see Plates 4 and 5).

D. Assessment of Archaeological Sensitivity - Historic Period

The location of the project site would place it within the boundaries of an 18th - 19th century farm located south and east of the intersection of Woodrow Road and Huguenot Avenue. However the location of the site places it some 1200 southeast of the farmhouse and approximately 800 feet southeast of the closest outbuilding as shown on the 1898 map. We have indicated the approximate location of the project site on Figures 11, 16 and 17. The distance from the farmstead buildings indicates that no associated archaeological deposits are likely to be present within the project site.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The documentary research and site reconnaissance indicate that no construction has taken place within the project site. Although it was within the boundaries of a farm which was apparently established in the 18th century, the project site was not in the vicinity of any of the farmstead structures. No structures stood in the immediate vicinity of the site until the latter portion of the twentieth century. Therefore, the site is not sensitive for the presence of archaeological remains dating to the historic period.

The absence of historic period construction suggests that any remains of prehistoric activity on this site could remain intact. Higher ground adjacent to inland streamlets and wetlands, such as exist in the vicinity of the site are possible locations of prehistoric campsites. However, the land within the project site consists of lower-lying ground immediately adjacent to one of these inland streamlet/wetlands areas. The higher ground to the north and south would be more likely locations for such campsites. The project site itself is considered to have a fairly low degree of sensitivity for the presence of prehistoric archaeological deposits. In addition, manual testing of approximately fifteen to twenty percent of the site would not be possible due to the presence of the recently deposited fill and soil mounds. Given these factors, the time and cost involved in the field testing of this property would not appear to be warranted, and such testing is not recommended.

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FIGURES

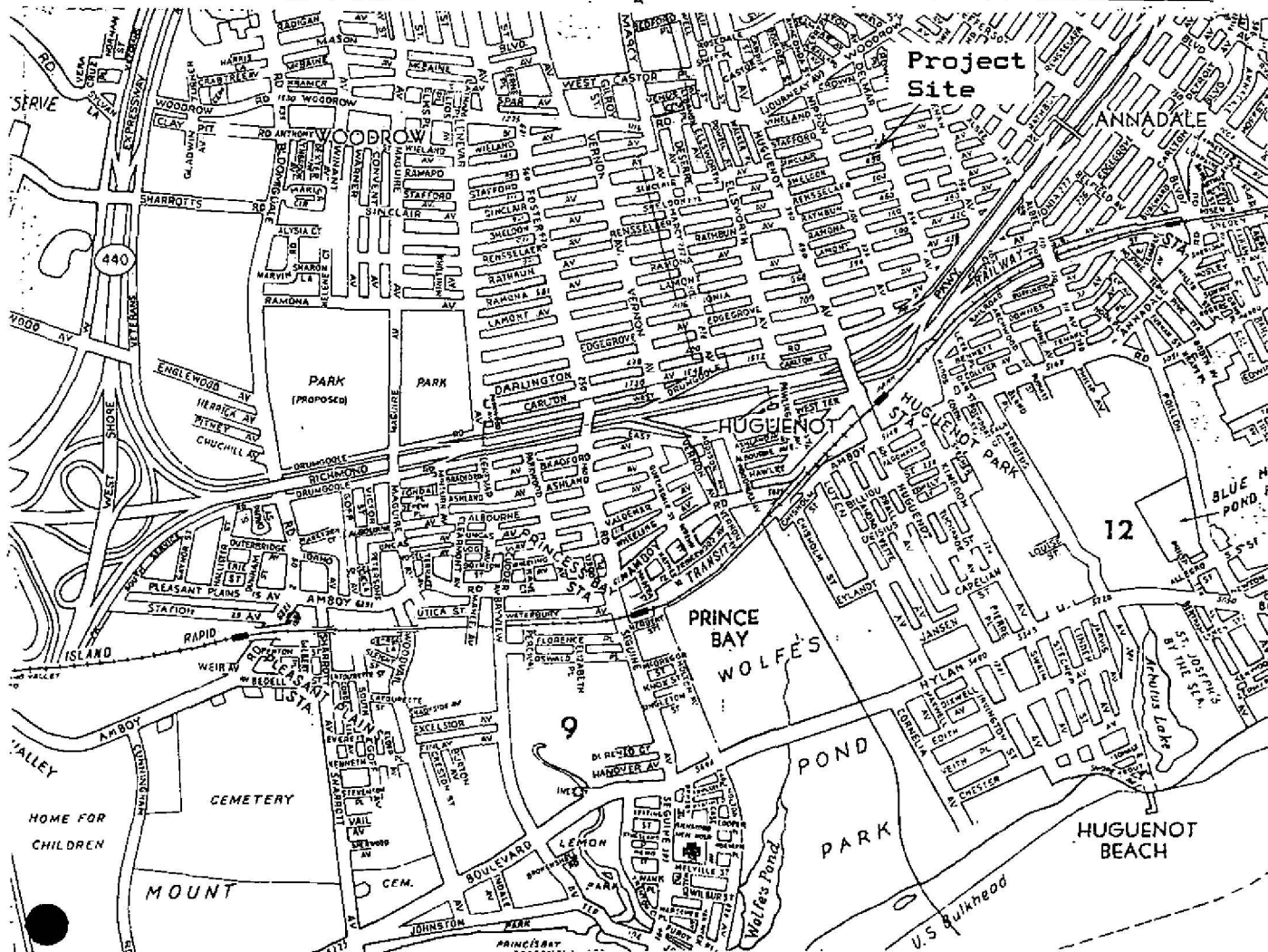
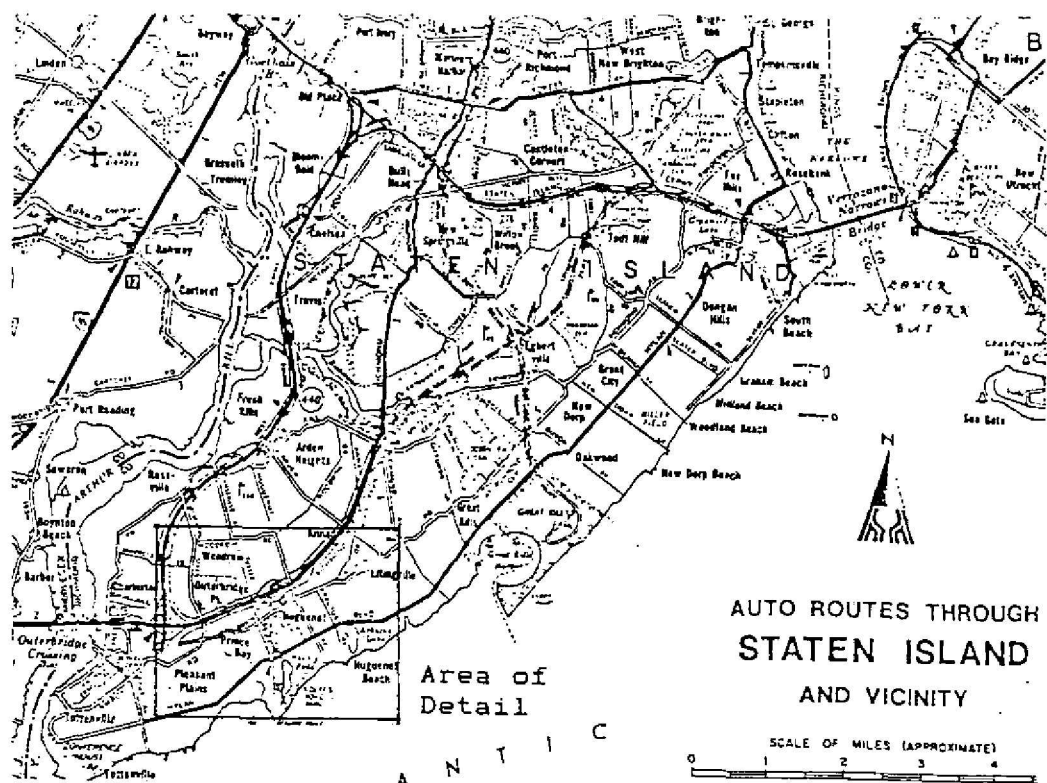
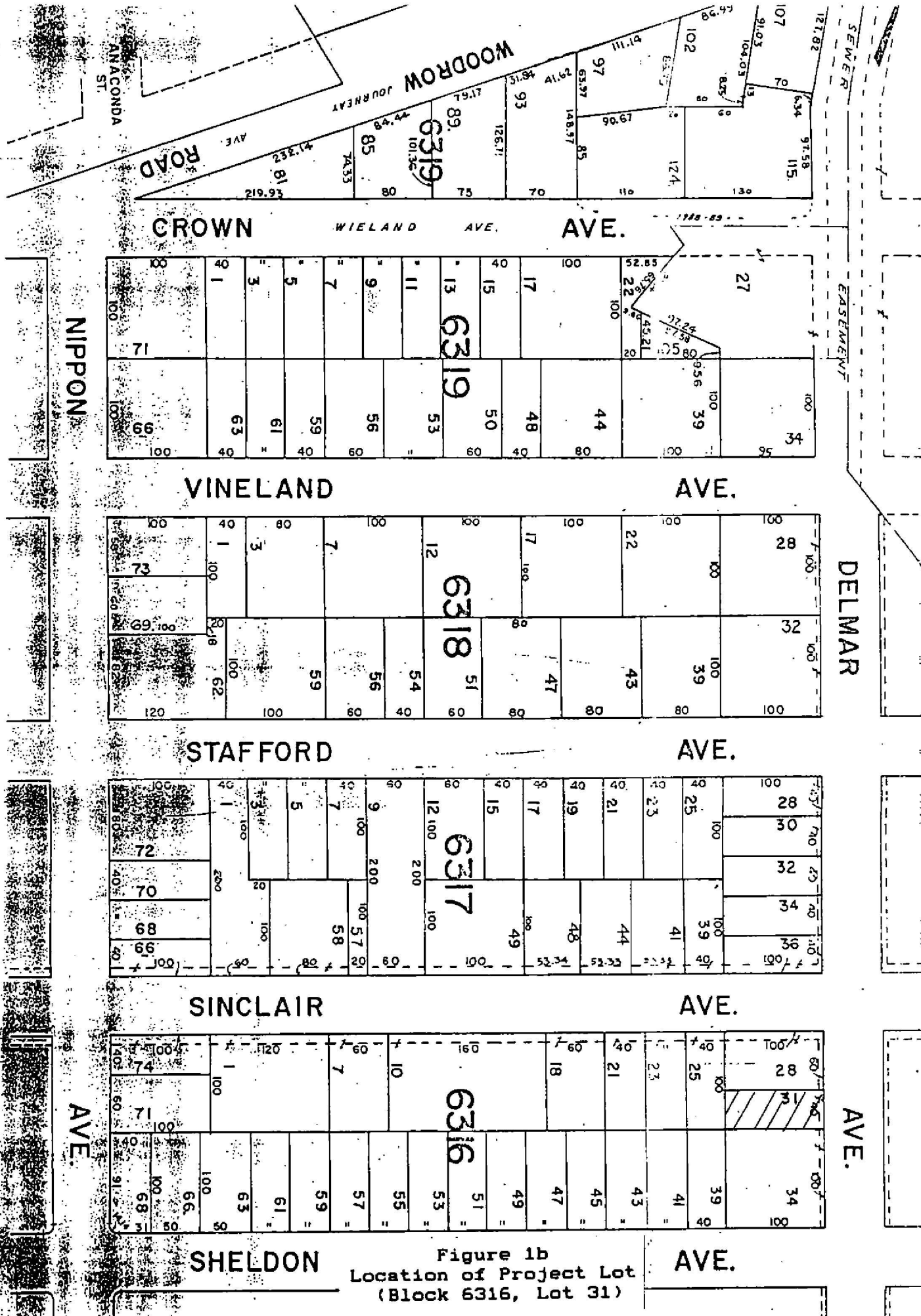


Figure 1a
Project Location
Base Map: Hagstrom 1984
Scale: 1" = 2000'



SEE PAGE

Figure 2 - Key

Prehistoric Sites and Finds - Western Staten Island

- 1 - Wards Point Conservation Zone (Jacobson 1980; Florance 1982)
- 2 - Shovel Test Finds (Pickman and Yamin 1984)
- 3 - Shovel Test Finds (Pickman 1988)
- 4 - Shovel Tests (Winters 1985)
- 5 - Page Avenue Sites (Anderson 1965, 1966; Kaeser 1966)
- 6 - Finds along Kreisherville Beach (Anderson 1967)
- 7 - Port Mobil/Charleston Beach (Kraft 1977; Salwen 1968)
- 8 - Smoking Point (Rubertone 1974; Silver 1984)
- 9 - Chemical Lane/Pottery Farm (Rubertone 1974)
- 10 - Harik's Sandy Ground (Lavin 1980)
- 11 - Wort Farm (Williams 1968)
- 12 - Sharrott Estates (Cotz et al. 1985; Lenik 1987)
- 13 - Sandy Brook (Lenik 1987; Yamin and Pickman 1986a)
- 14 - Sites in Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve (Yamin and Pickman 1986b)
- 15 - Canada Hill (Williams 1967)
- 16 - "Surfside Village" Survey Finds (Roberts and Stehling 1987)
- 17 - Shovel Test Finds (Pickman and Yamin 1984)
- 18 - Red Bank (Skinner 1909)
- 19 - Sharrott Avenue (Skinner 1909)
- 20 - Richmond Valley/Boiling Spring (The New Bulletin 1961; Leng and Davis (1930).
- 21 - Shovel Test Finds (Pickman 1988c)
- 22 - Wolfe's Pond (Skinner 1909, Bolton 1922)
- 23 - Arbutus Lake (Davis 1896)
- 24 - Huguenot Avenue (Anderson 1964)
- 25 - Disturbed Late Woodland Site (Pickman 1992)
- 26 - Shovel Test Finds - Arbutus Lake Locus #1 (Pickman and Yamin 1984)
- 27 - Shovel Test Finds - Arbutus Lake Locus #2 (Pickman and Yamin 1984)
- 28 - Shovel Test Finds - Hylan/Huguenot Locus (Pickman and Yamin 1984)
- 29 - Shovel Test Finds - Wolfe's Pond Locus (Pickman and Yamin 1984)
- 30 - 19th Century Surface Finds (Anonymous 1896)



Figure 2
Western Staten Island
Prehistoric Sites and Finds

(KEYPORT)
6164 NW
SCALE 1:24 000



Figure 3 |
 Staten Island Prehistoric Sites
 Source: Skinner 1909, following p. 62



Figure 4
Source: Bolton 1922, Map # 1

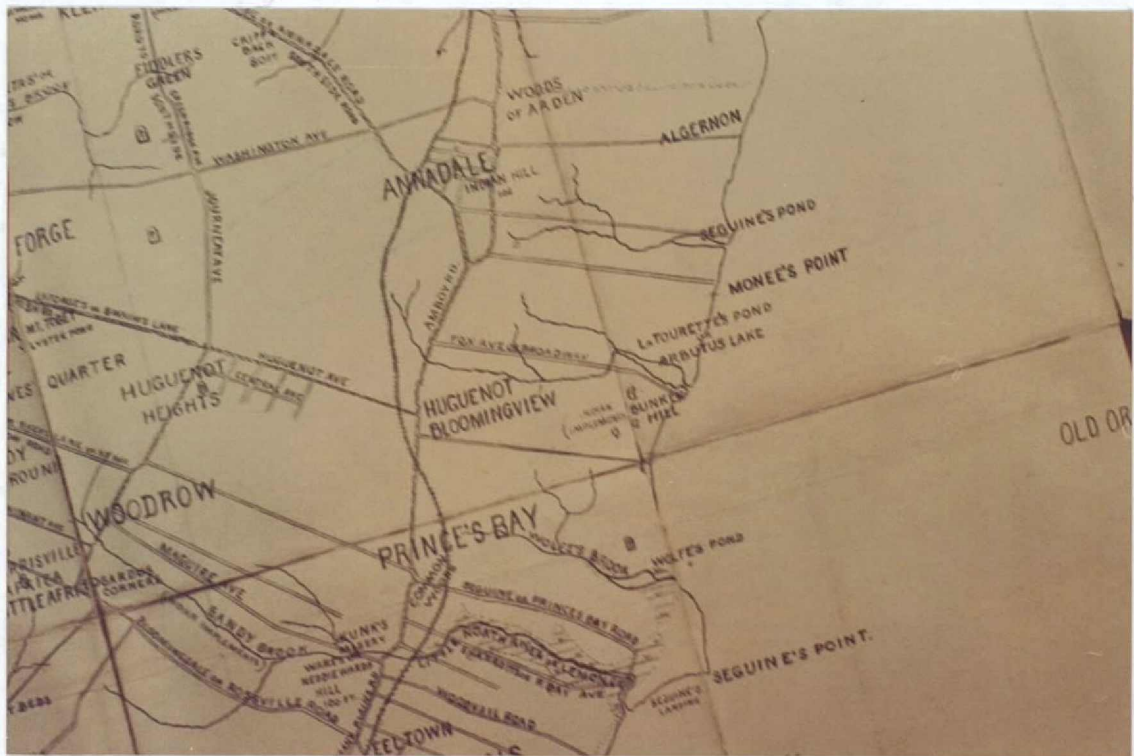


Figure 5
Source: Davis (1896)

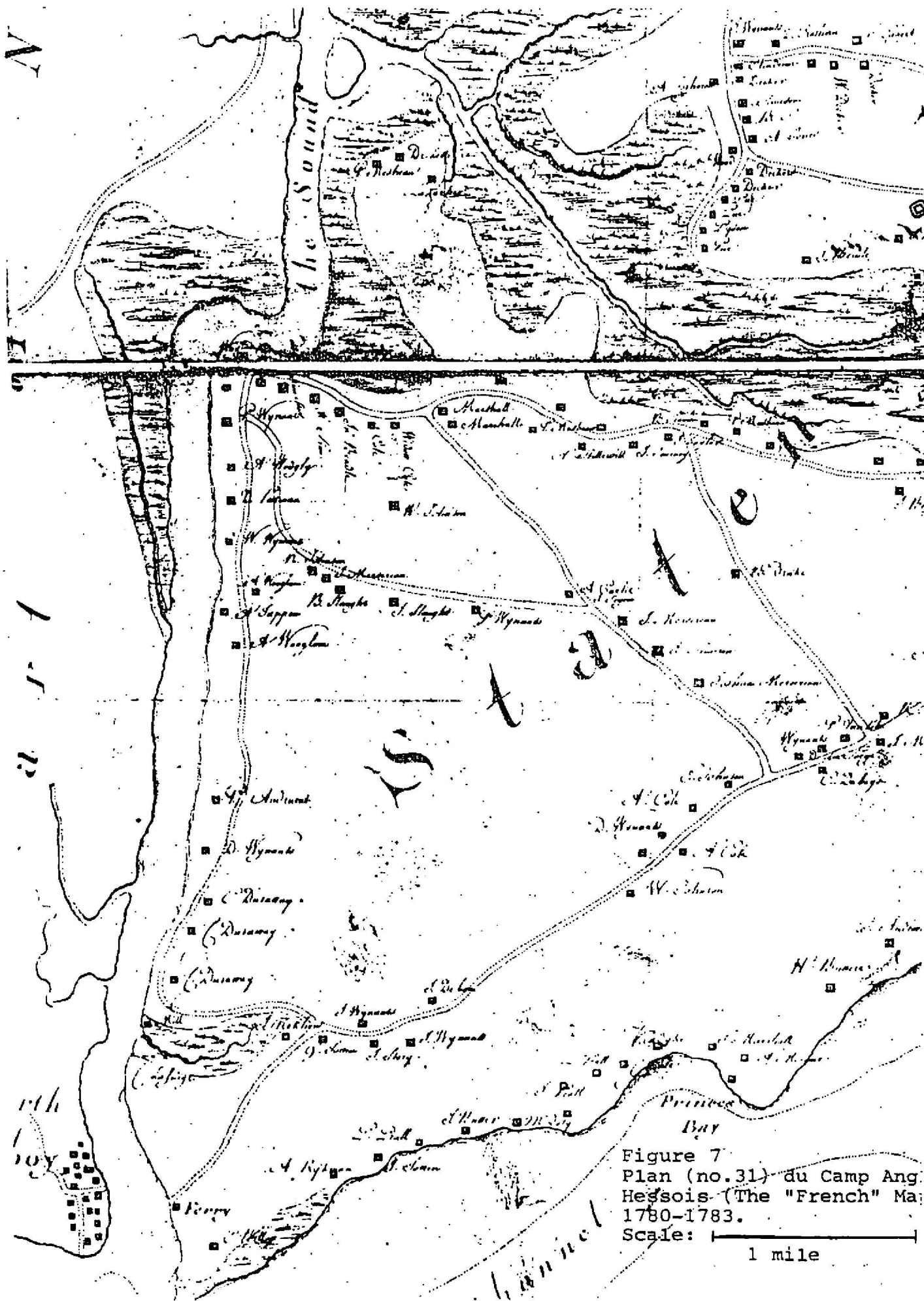


Figure 7
 Plan (no.31) du Camp Ang
 Hessois (The "French" Ma
 1780-1783.
 Scale: 1 mile

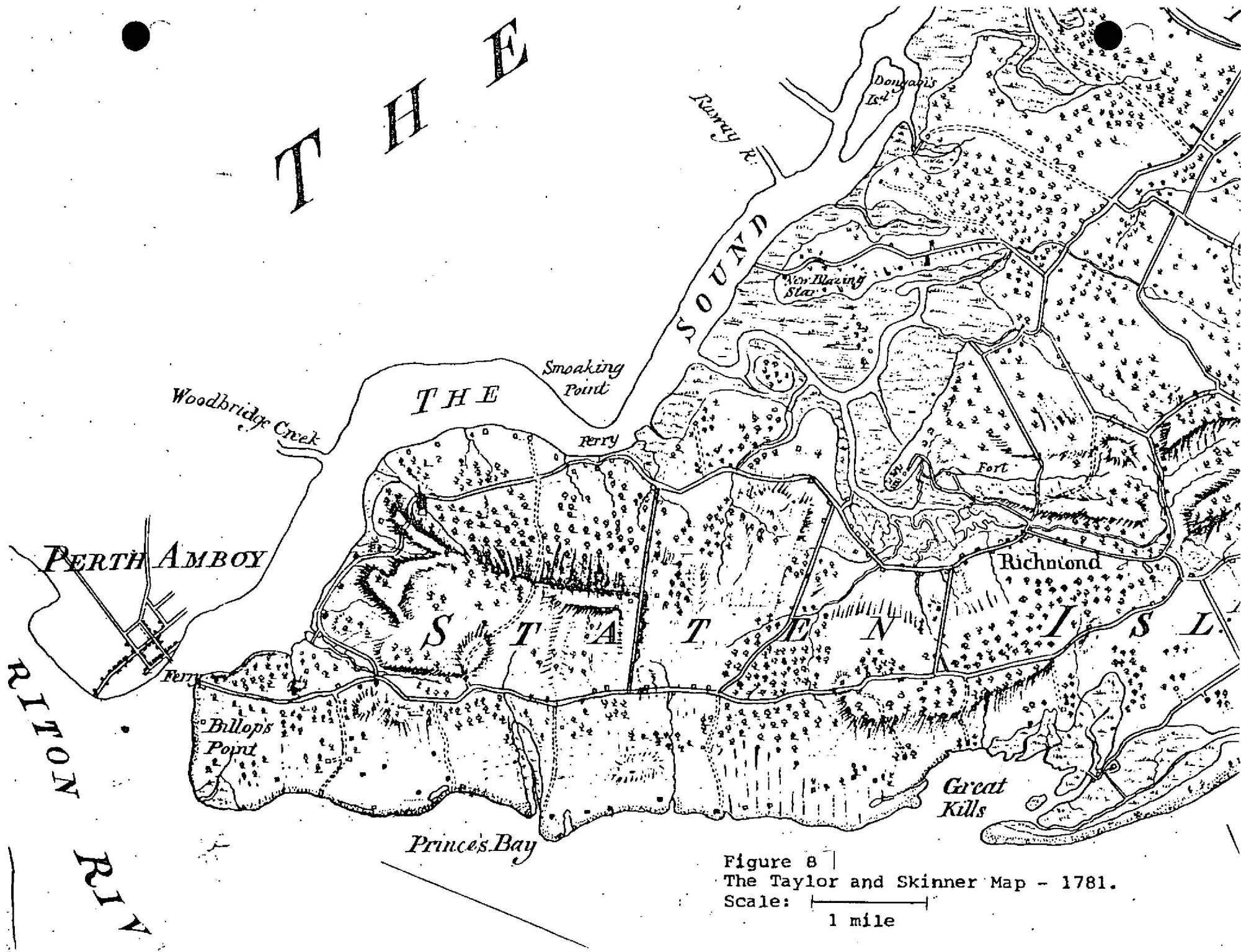
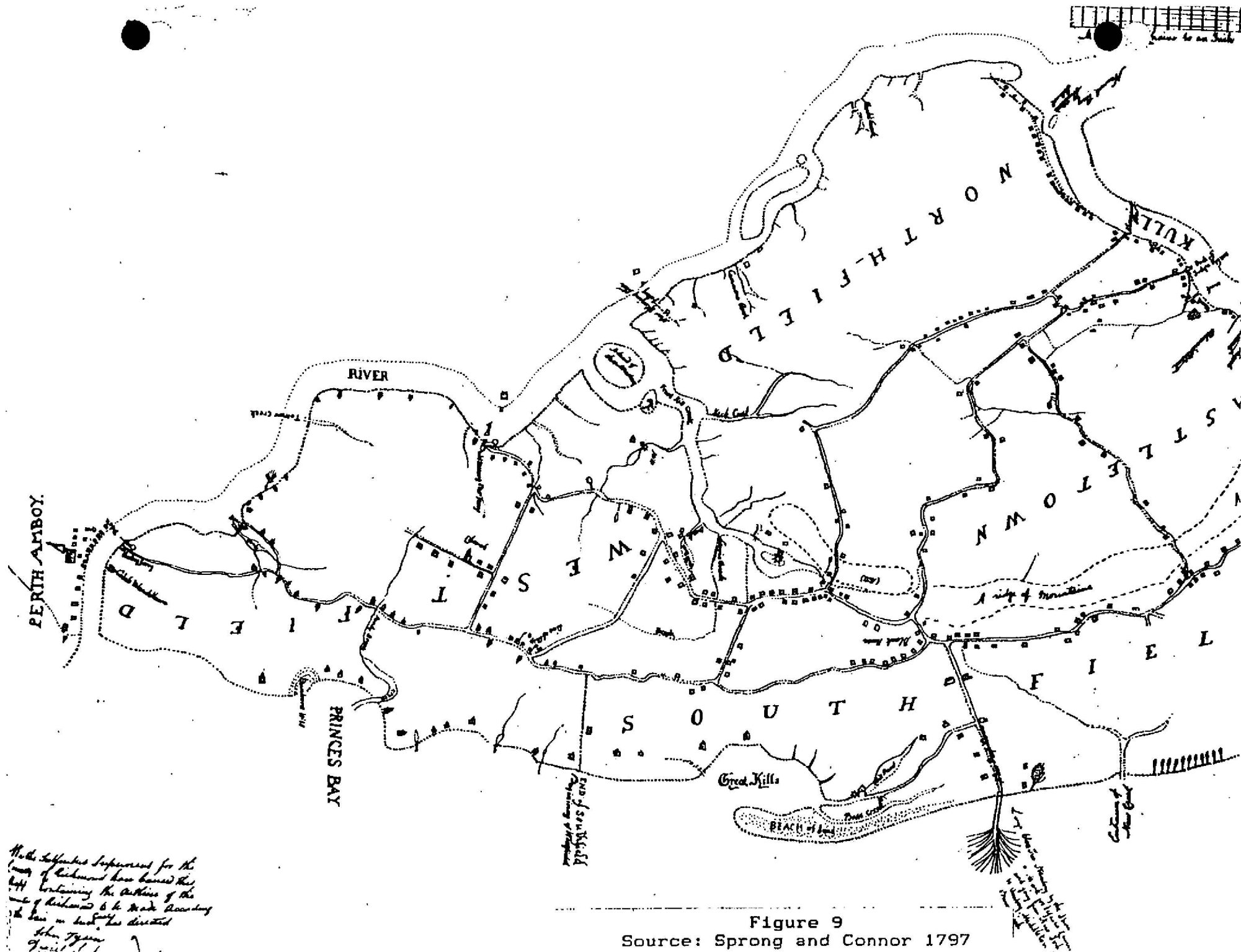


Figure 8 |
The Taylor and Skinner Map - 1781.
Scale: 1 mile



The following information for the
 of Richmond has been the
 containing the outline of the
 of Richmond to be made according
 to the map has directed
 the year
 1797

Figure 9
 Source: Sprong and Connor 1797

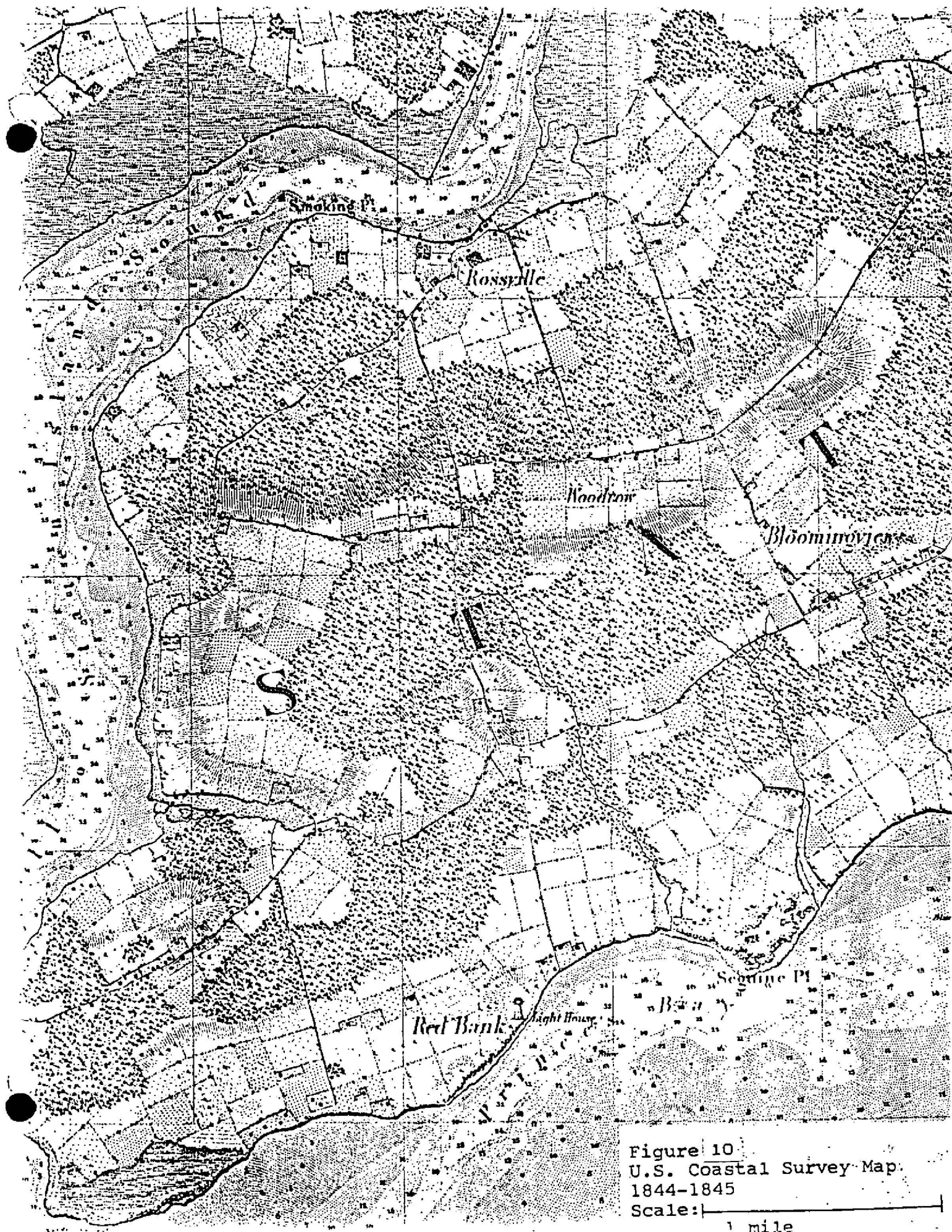
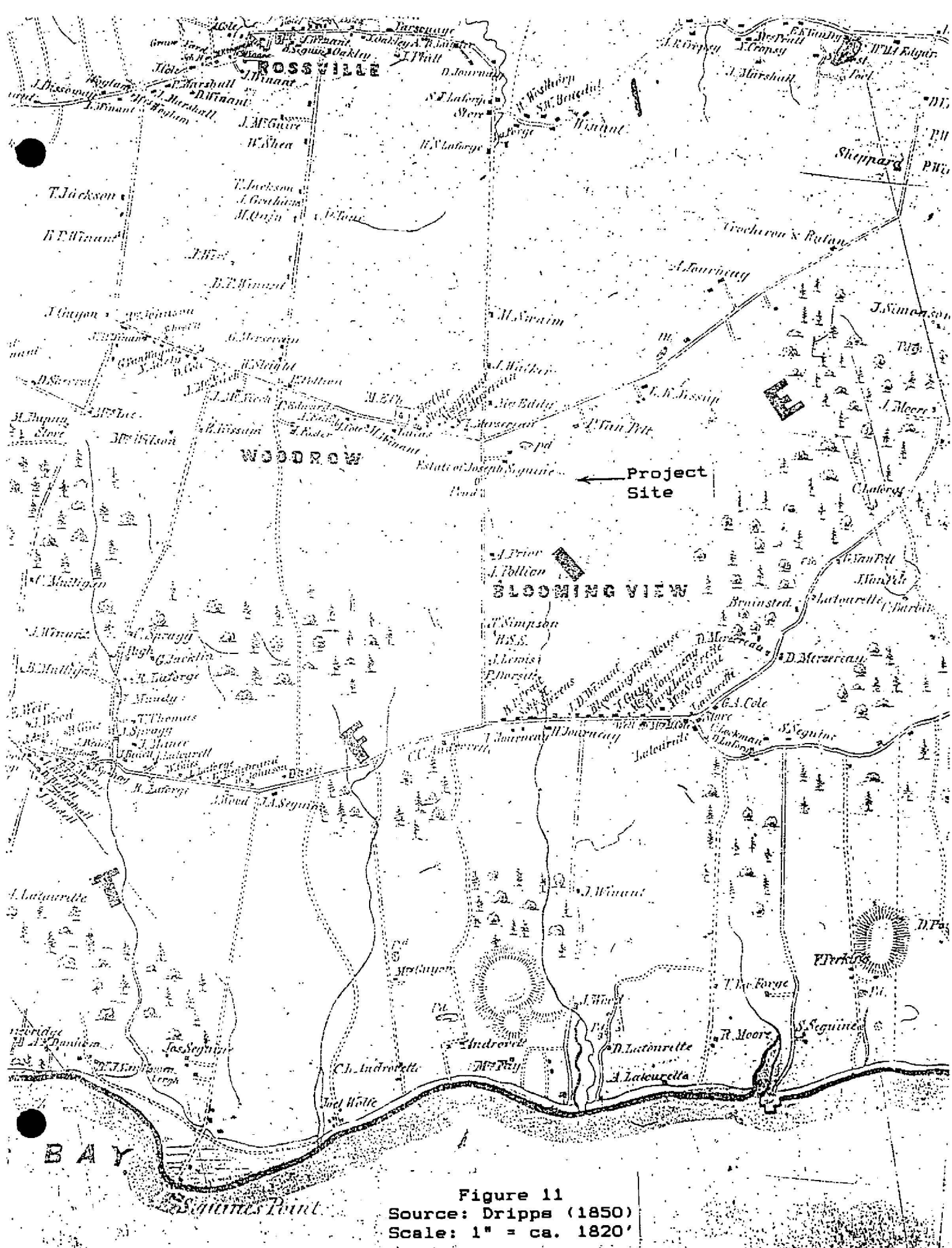


Figure 10
U.S. Coastal Survey Map.
1844-1845
Scale: 1 mile



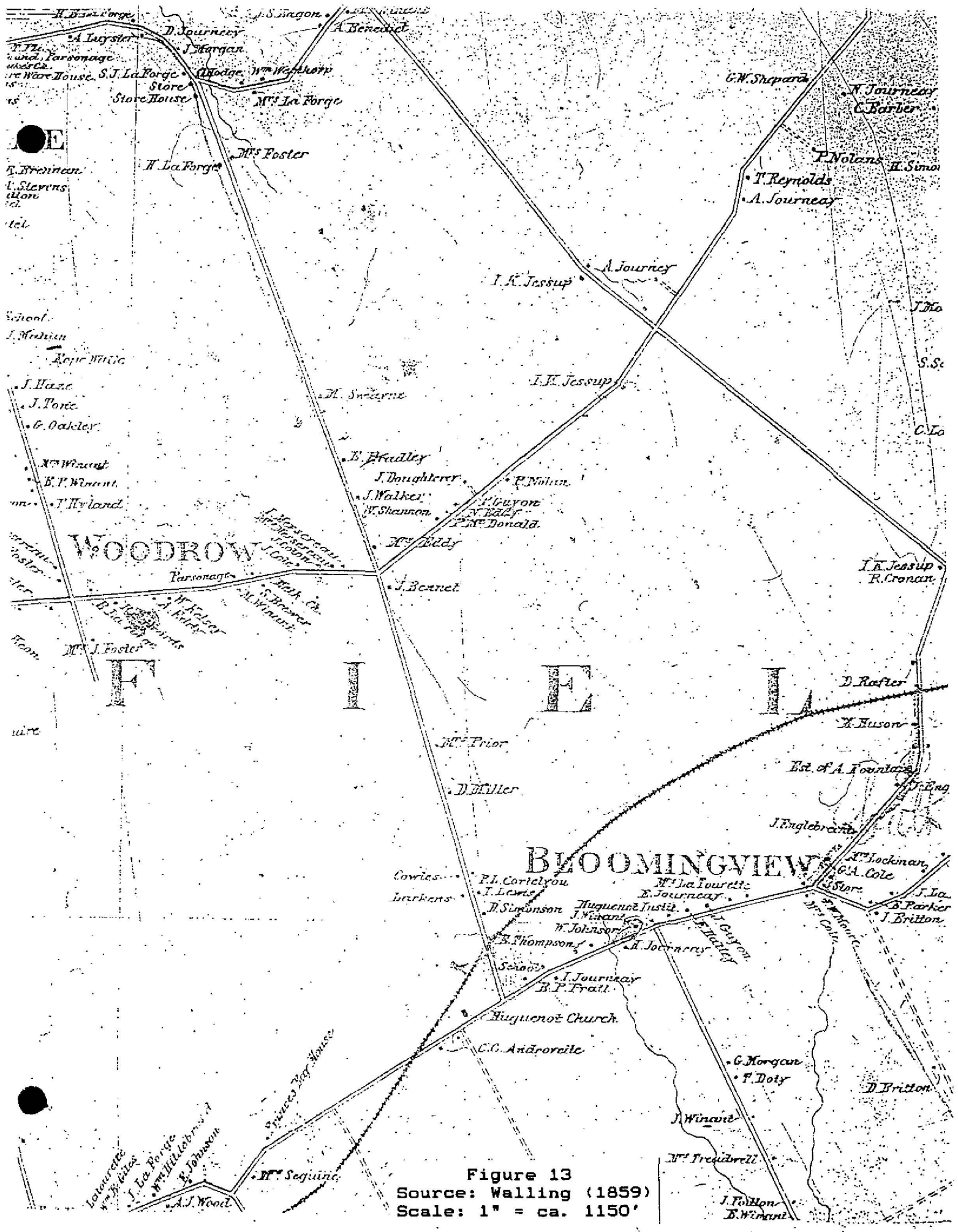
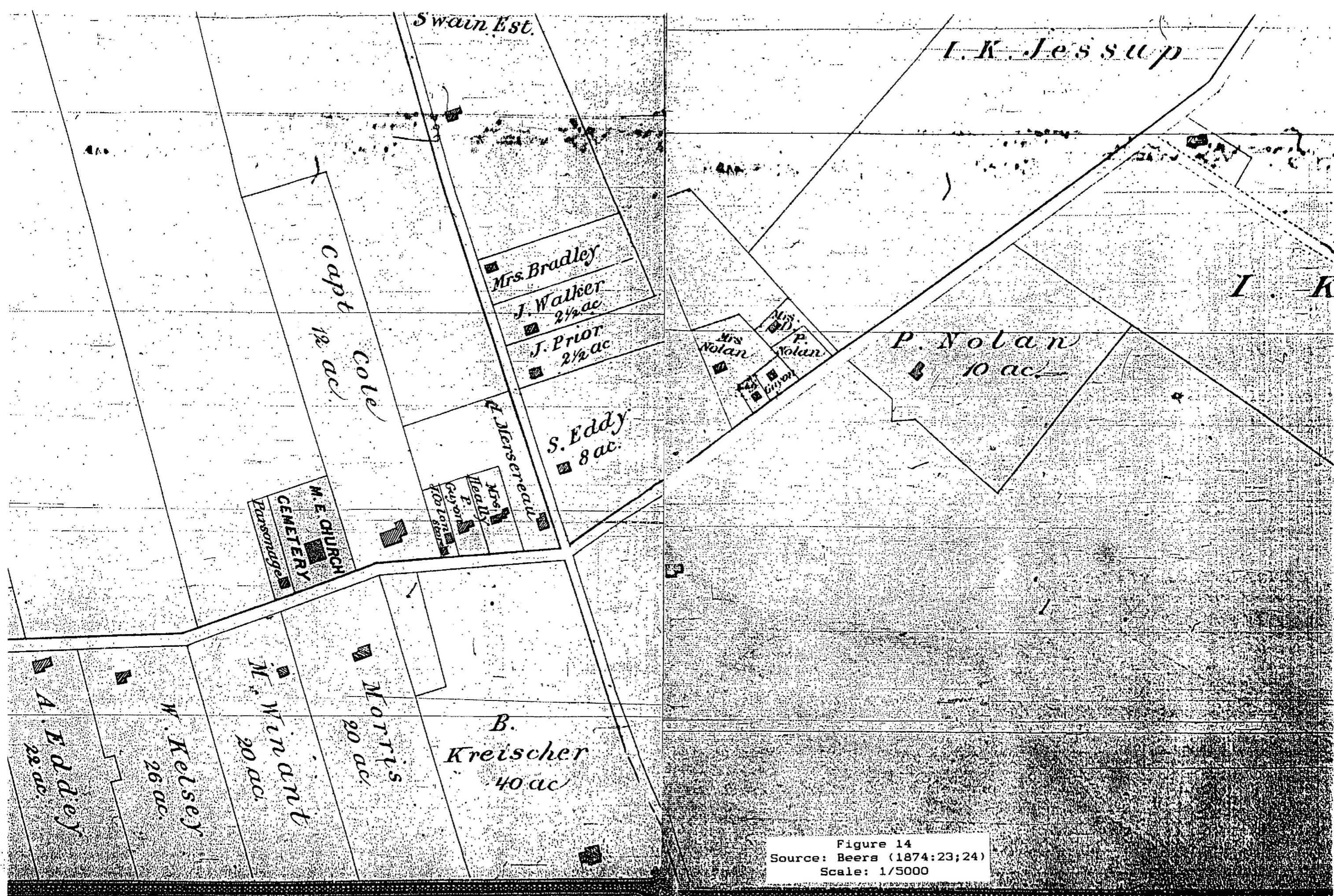


Figure 13
 Source: Walling (1859)
 Scale: 1" = ca. 1150'



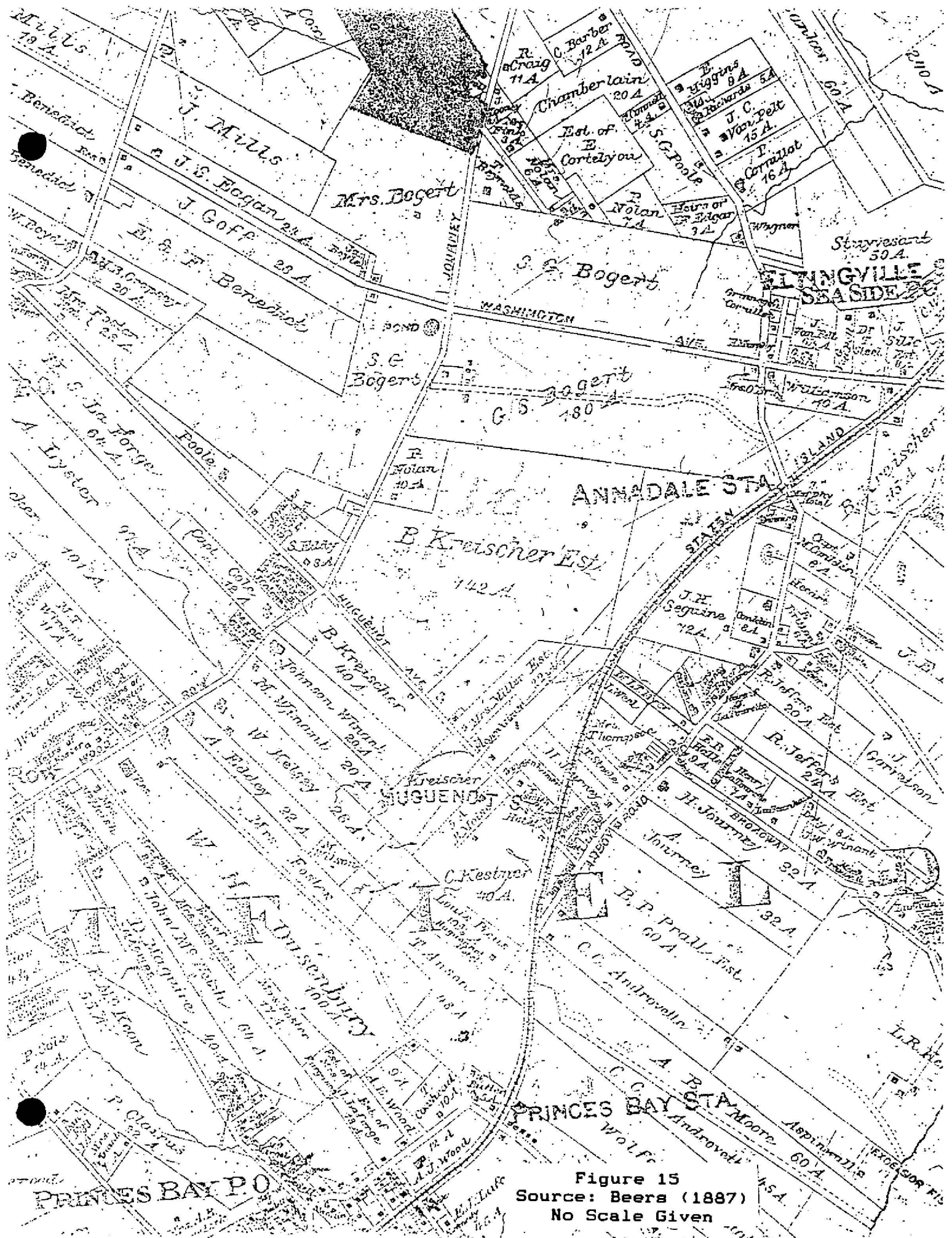
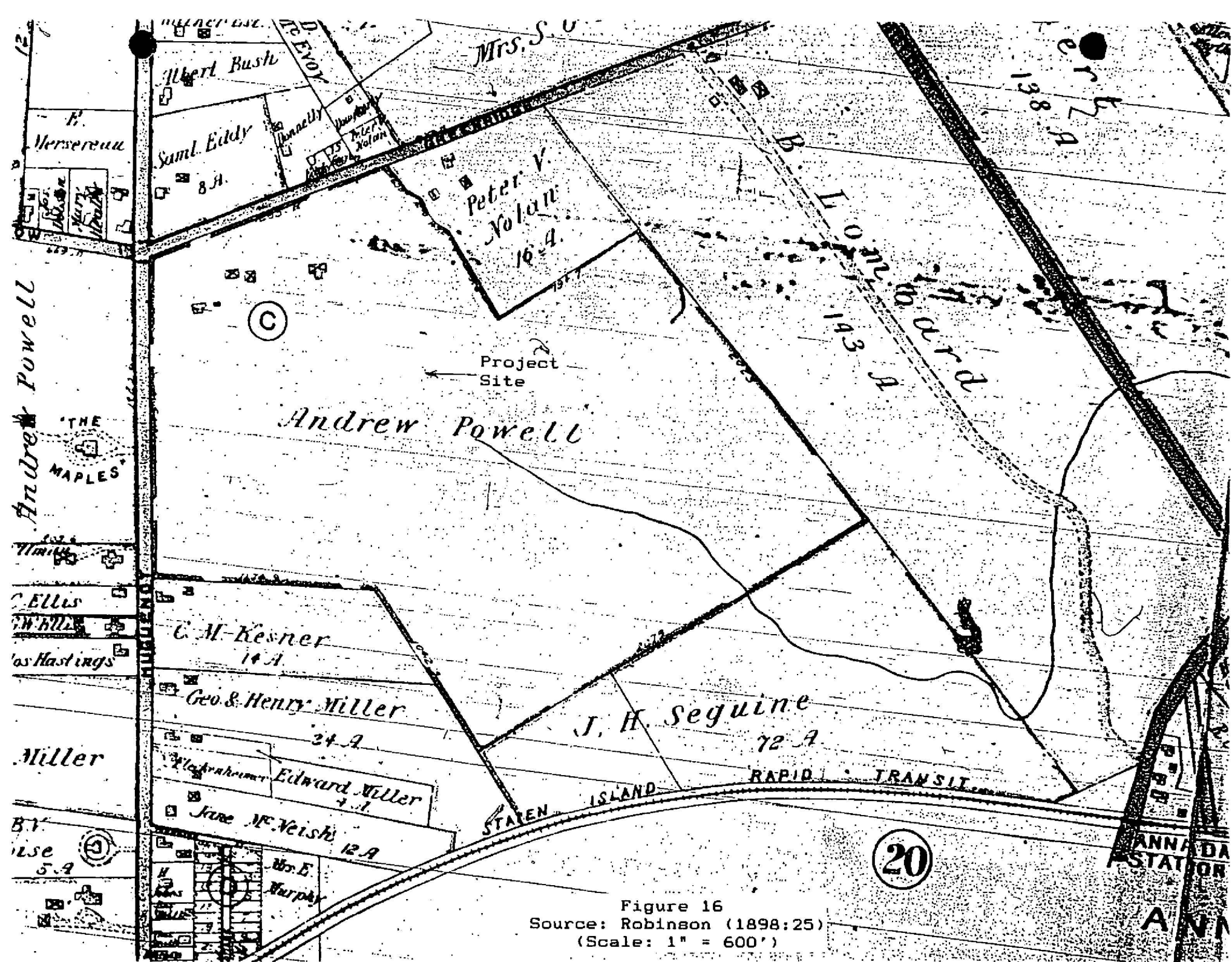


Figure 15
Source: Beers (1887)
No Scale Given



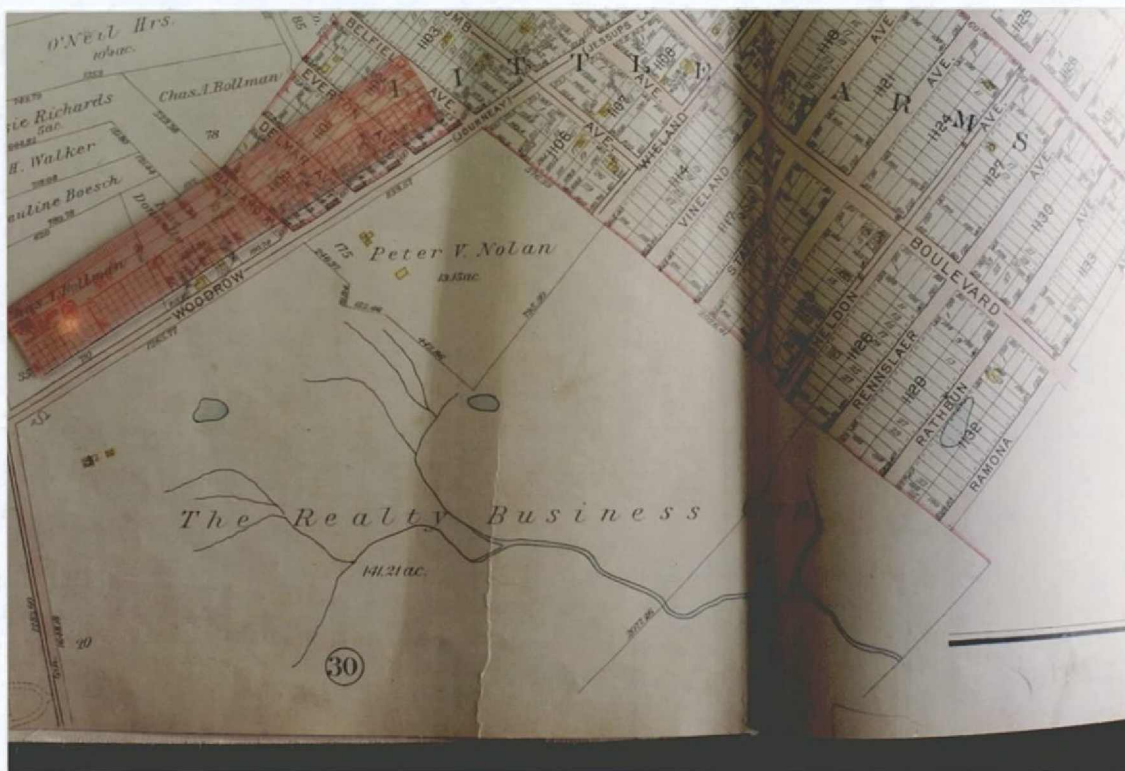


Figure 18
Source: Bromley (1917:39)
Original Scale: 1" = 300'

PLATES



Plate 1
Western Portion of Project Site
View West From Rear of Earth Mounds



Plate 2
Eastern Portion of Project Site
View East Showing Earth Mounds and Delmar Avenue in Background



Plate 3
Eastern Portion of Project Site Showing Earth Mounds
View Southwest from Delmar Avenue



Plate 4
Delmar Avenue Showing Upgrade to North
View North from Pavement East of Project Site



Plate 5
Delmar Avenue Showing Upgrade to South
View South from Pavement East of Project Site