

On May 4th, 1864, after positioning his forces in and around Ringgold, Georgia, Sherman telegraphed General Ulysses S. Grant: “All move tomorrow, but I hardly expect serious battle till the 7th. Everything very quiet with the enemy. Johnston evidently awaits my initiative.” (US War Department 1880-1905:38(4):25). True to his word, Sherman began troop movements the following morning.

Despite minor skirmishes, the first significant fighting of the Atlanta Campaign did not take place until May 8th, 1864 at Rocky Face Ridge. Here, a division of the Federal army’s Twentieth Corps made it to the top of the ridge only to be pushed back by two regiments of Arkansas mounted rifles and one of Kentucky cavalry (McMurry 2000:63). Even though the Union attack failed to take the position, it served its main goal of keeping the Confederates focused on the Dalton area while portions of the Federal army took control of nearby Snake Creek Gap. Unable to retake the position at Snake Creek Gap, Johnston had no other option but to fall back to Resaca (Casteel 1992:137).

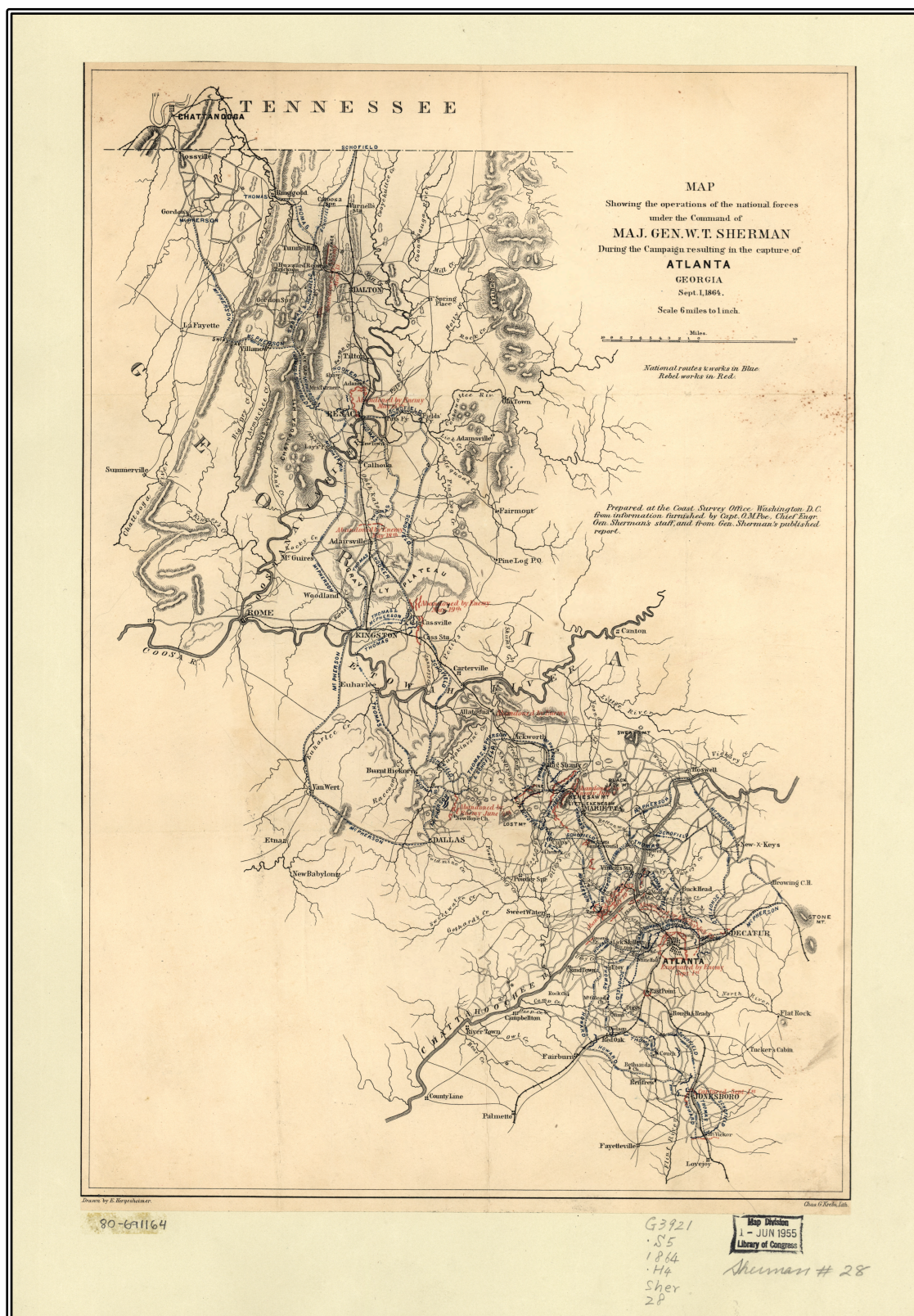


Figure 4.4: Period map of the military engagements of the Atlanta Campaign (LC, CWM, S28)

The Battle of Resaca (Figure 4.5) took place May 14th and 15th, 1864. It is considered the first major battle of the Atlanta Campaign (Secrist 2006:8). The first day saw very little change in the positions of troops from either side (McMurry 2000:70). Sherman intended to cross the Oostenaula River and ordered General McPherson to “send one division immediately with the necessary artillery to effect a lodgment on the other side” (US War Department 1880-1905:38(4):184). Brigadier General Thomas W. Sweeny’s division was chosen for the task and succeeded at crossing the river. Due to the danger placed on the rail line from Sweeny’s troops, the Confederates had no choice other than retreat. From Resaca, Sherman and his troops were only ninety miles from Atlanta by rail (Casteel 1992:150).

Following the Federal victory at Resaca, the campaign continued to the south and the Federals took control of Rome, Calhoun, and Adairsville. The Confederate army reached Cassville, just north of the Etowah River, on May 17th, 1864. After a failed attempt at attacking the Federal army, combined with the knowledge that Federal troops had acquired Wooley’s Bridge across the Etowah a few miles downstream (McMurry 2000:82), Johnston was forced to retreat across the Etowah River on May 19, 1864. These events led both armies to the small town of New Hope, Georgia.

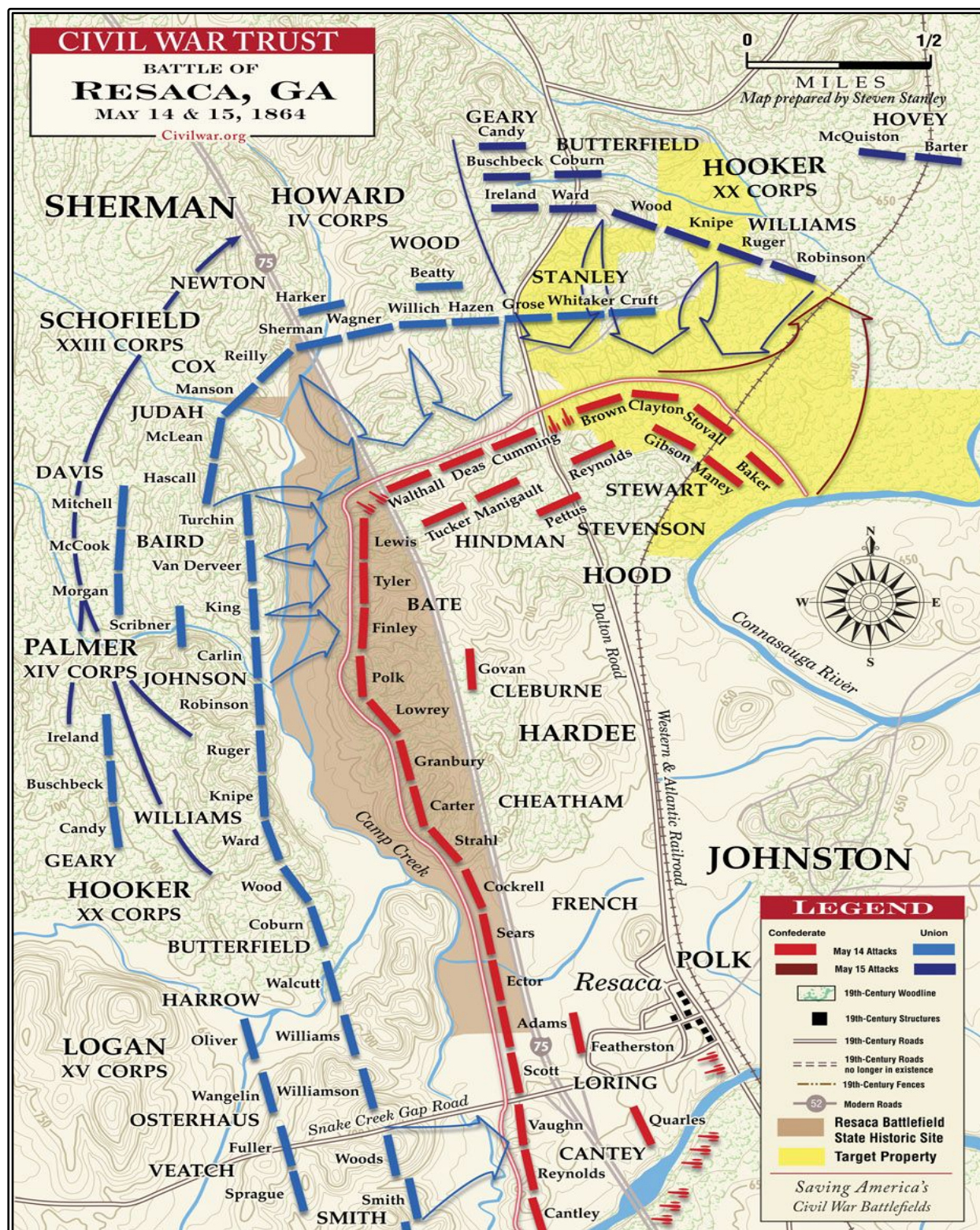


Figure 4.5: Map of the battle of Resaca (after civilwartrust.org)

After retreating across the Etowah River, the Confederate army pulled back to Allatoona Pass, which was a man-made cut that carried the railroad through the Allatoona Hills (McMurry 2000:85; Figure 4.6). This position offered the Confederate forces a strong defensive position along the railroad, which Johnston hoped Sherman would continue to follow and attempt a frontal assault on the position. However, Sherman had traveled through the area some twenty years earlier (Casteel 1992:213; McMurry 2000:85). He wrote that the “railroad passes through a range of hills at Allatoona, which is doubtless being prepared for us; but I have no intention of going through it” (US War Department 1880-1905:38(4):248). And he did not.

Instead of moving on the Confederate position at Allatoona Pass, Sherman issued orders for his troops to move south to Dallas to lure the Confederates away from Allatoona Pass and to push them back across the Chattahoochee River (Blount 2010:26; Casteel 1992:218; McMurry 2000:85-86). The move dislodged the Confederates from Allatoona Pass, but they did not fall back across the Chattahoochee. Instead, Johnston ordered his troops to Dallas before the Federals could gain control of the roads leading to Marietta.



Figure 4.6: Railroad leading into Allatoona Pass (The National Archives, College Park [NA], Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs [RWDGSS], 165-SC-29).

4.2 Battle of New Hope Church

By May 24th, 1864, Hardee's Confederate corps was positioned east of Dallas. Hood's corps was positioned approximately 3 miles east at the New Hope Church crossroads. Polk's corps was still in route to the area. A participant in the battle later described the location by writing:

In front of New Hope Church was a valley wooded along the road, but with open fields a little further to the north, and the stream, which is a branch of Pumpkinvine Creek, flows northwesterly at that place, parallel to Hood's front. The banks sloped easily on either side, and were some fifty feet in height. The whole of Johnston's line was admirably chosen for defense, occupying as it did a series of ridges covered with wood on their summits, but having open valleys in front, over which attacking forces must advance without shelter. It covered the roads leading from Dallas to Atlanta, to Marietta, and to Ackworth [sic], as well as those passing near New Hope Church in the same directions [Secrist 2006:68].

General Joseph Hooker's Twentieth Corps was the federal force engaged in the Battle of New Hope Church. The corps was comprised of three divisions, led by Brigadier General Alpheus S. Williams, Brigadier General John W. Geary, and Major General Daniel Butterfield.

The Twentieth corps began moving into the area around 7 a.m. (US War Department 1880-1905:38(2):122) on the morning of May 25th. Geary's division led the way along the Cartersville Road, which still retains this name. As they marched toward the New Hope Crossroads, Geary's division "proceeded to the bridge at Owen's Mill, which we found burning, having just been fired" (US War Department 1880-1905:38(2):122). In the process of extinguishing the bridge, Confederate cavalry fired upon them "proving that the enemy were here in our front" (US War Department 1880-1905:38(2):122).

After repelling the opposing Confederate force, the Twentieth Corps continued to advance until a fork in the road was reached, which was not on the Union maps (Blount 2010:42, Casteel 1992:221). Assuming that both roads led to Dallas, Hooker took Geary and his division down the fork and ordered Butterfield and Williams to continue on the main road. However, that assumption was incorrect. The main road continued on to Dallas, but the fork led to the New Hope Crossroads. A map of the army positions can be seen in Figure 4.7.

Geary's division traveled approximately two miles before they ran into Confederate skirmishers. Led by Colonel Bushrod Jones, they numbered 250 men (US War Department 1880-1905:38(3):843). The Federals forced Jones' troops to retreat. Confederate prisoners taken during the skirmish indicated Hood's entire corps was located ahead (US War Department 1880-1905:38(3):843).

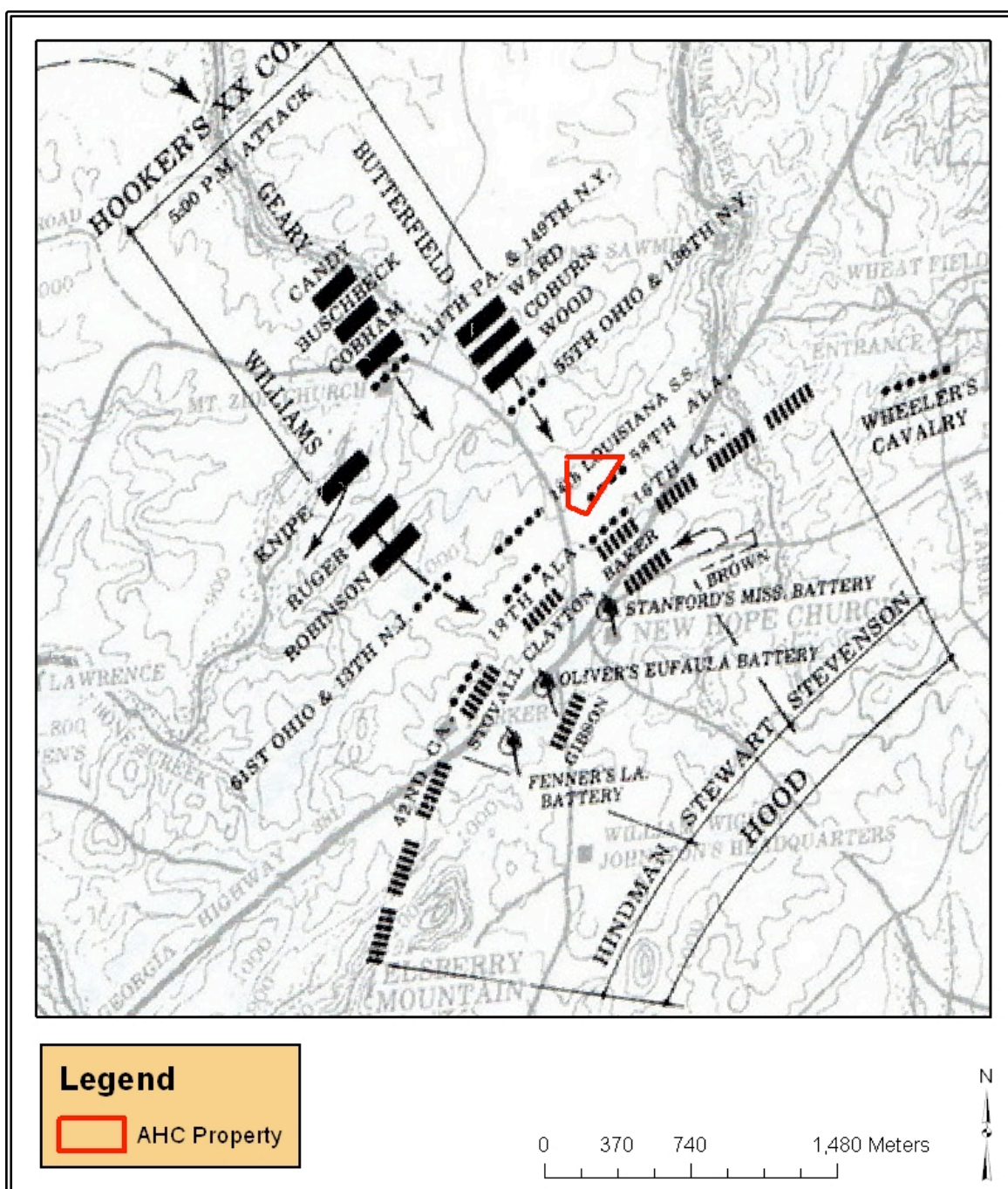


Figure 4.7: Map of battle positions at New Hope Church

Due to the fact that Geary's division was now completely isolated from the nearest supporting troops, located at least five miles away, and had been engaged in a continuous conflict with the enemy for four hours (US War Department 1880-1905:38(2):123), Hooker ordered them to halt and await the other two divisions of the XX corps, which had been ordered

to rejoin with Geary's Division. Acting on the orders of Sherman, who was convinced that "there haven't been twenty rebels there today" (Casteel 1992:223), Hooker ordered the three divisions of the Twentieth corps into three columns of brigades. This formation, one brigade behind another, gave the attacking Federal force the greatest opportunity to exploit any breakthrough in the Confederate line (McMurry 2000:89). Once in formation the Twentieth Corps began marching toward New Hope Church.

At New Hope Church, Hood's corps, comprised of divisions led by Major General Thomas C. Hindman, Major General Carter L. Stevenson, and Major General Alexander P. Stewart, awaited the attack by Hooker. The line was formed with Hindman to the west, Stewart in the center, and Stevenson to the east. Colonel Bushrod Jones reported that Stewart's division was directly in the path of the oncoming Federals. Having received this information, Stewart deployed the brigades, from west to east, of Brigadier General Stovall, Brigadier General Clayton, and Brigadier General Baker. Brigadier General Gibson's brigade was lined up in a reserve position. All of the brigades were entrenched except for Stovall's, which was located in the cemetery at New Hope Church.

New Hope Church, the Methodist church that served as the namesake for the battle, was dismantled and used in the construction of the Confederate breastworks (The Galveston Daily News [GDN], 14 February 1887:4). The trenches were described as the most extensive and formidable lines of fortification seen since leaving Chattanooga (New York Times [NYT], 17 June 1864:2). The lines constructed by the Confederates measured 10 to 12 feet thick in many places and also contained rifle pits, cross-works, enfilading embankments, look-outs, and signal stations (NYT, 17 June 1864:2). Abattises and palisades (Figure 4.8) protected the outerworks. (NYT, 17 June 1864:2).



Figure 4.8: Example of Confederate defenses located on the north side of Atlanta (pointed stakes in front of the trench) (after Library of Congress, Washington DC [LC] Civil War Photographs [CWP], number 0693)

The federal advance on New Hope Church began at approximately 5 p.m. (Figure 4.9). They were immediately hit with a barrage of bullets, shrapnel, and canister (Casteel 1992:223). One participant described how “all about us was the shriek of shot and shell and vicious song of the minie bullet, accompanied too often by the sickening thud which told that it had found its mark in the body of a man in blue” (Secrist 2006:75). The fighting was so heavy that one brigade fired off all of its ammunition, sixty rounds per man, within a half an hour (Casteel 1992:223), an extremely high rate during the Civil War.

The Battle of New Hope Church resulted in the Confederates successfully defending the roads leading to Marietta and Atlanta. It also provided a morale boost for the Confederate troops: one 4,000 man Confederate division repelled the entire XX Corps, numbering around 16,000 men (Casteel 1992:225). The Battle of New Hope Church along with the other battles along the Dallas Line were successful in delaying Sherman's eventual march into Atlanta, which occurred on September 3rd, 1864.

4.3 Life After the Civil War

Following the Civil War the residents of New Hope were left to assess the damage and rebuild both their property and their way of life. The congregation of New Hope Church gathered at the location where their church had once stood (Daily Arkansas Gazette [DAG], 22 October 1882). It was said that, following a prayer, the church members got up from their knees and "built a house out of oak limbs and cedar branches, and under the arbor they met for years" (DAG, 22 October 1882).

It took the congregation 18 years to fully recover from the damage inflicted upon the area during the battle (DAG, 22 October 1882). However, there was still evidence of the battle even then as rifle pits could still be seen within a few paces of the new church building (DAG, 22 October 1882). Children reported that they "picked up bullets, found a shell, examined a rusty canteen, and visited a dark corner of black-jack woods, where the skeleton toes of a soldier stick from the sod" (DAG, 22 October 1882). These are sights that are not commonly found in New Hope today.

4.4 Today's New Hope

In the time between the end of the Civil War and the late 1990s, New Hope remained a small rural town, and a large amount of the New Hope Church battlefield was still intact. In fact, the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) listed New Hope Church as a second tier site in 1993 (United States Department of the Interior, National Parks Service [USDI, NPS] 2010:Table 2). This meant that in 1993 the New Hope Church battlefield was considered to have comprehensive preservation possibilities.

Although the area was still largely rural at that time, the population of Paulding County increased substantially during the 1990s. Between 1990 and 2000, the population of the county increased by approximately 96 percent making it the third fastest growing county in Georgia during that time (Tinsley and Cude 2003:Table II.1). This increase has continued into the 2000s with the county becoming the second fastest growing county in Georgia and the eighth fastest growing county in the United States (Barker 2010). This massive increase in population has brought with it a substantial increase in development for places like New Hope.

The increased development drastically altered the landscape in New Hope and decimated the New Hope Church battlefield. Between 1993 and 2010 the New Hope Church battlefield has gone from having the possibility of being comprehensively preserved to having lost all semblance of its historic appearance (USDI, NPS 2010:7). Only 18.9 acres of the original battlefield are protected at the present time. These protected portions include the 14.2 acres gifted to the Atlanta History Center by the DuBose family. It is important to note that this 14.2 acres was “hunted” extensively by the Dubose family prior to being gifted to the Atlanta History Center. In addition, 4.7 acres is also owed and protected by the Georgia Battlefields Association (USDI, NPS 2010:91). In addition to these 18.9 acres, the cemetery is still present in its original

location.

4.5 Conclusions

The information found through research into the historical record was utilized to help make sense of the action that occurred at New Hope Church. The events of the campaign leading up to this battle suggested that Johnston favored the defensive position, as opposed to the offensive position favored by Sherman, although his troops were certainly capable of taking up defensive positions. At this point in the campaign both sides would have been well versed in the construction of defensive structures due to the fact that they had been doing it for the majority of the campaign. New Hope Church was no different in that the two armies ultimately were engaged in a static warfare that had become the norm for the battles fought as part of the Atlanta Campaign up to that point.

5 ARTIFACT AND FEATURE TYPES

Several artifact types should have been present on the New Hope Church site, especially artillery, small arms projectiles, and items associated with camping. Figure 5.1 shows the expected distribution of confederate artillery ordinance at New Hope Church. The effective range of the confederate artillery would have been approximately 400 yards with the majority of artillery falling between 100 and 200 yards from the confederate batteries (Silliman 2011). The red zone in the figure indicates the location where the highest concentration of artillery is expected. Figure 5.2 shows the expected distribution of small arms projectiles at New Hope Church. Most of the small arms fire was received at approximately 50-100 yards from the confederate line (Silliman 2011), which is indicated by the red zone in the figure. However, the rifles in use had a maximum range of 1,000 yards meaning that any projectiles that missed the intended target could have been deposited at any distance within this range.

The expectations of recovering projectiles at the site were based on the known ranges and direction of fire related to Confederate weaponry utilized during the battle. Figure 5.1 shows that the study site was within the highest probability zone in terms of artillery fire. Figure 5.2 shows that, while not located within the highest probability zone, the study site was still located in a zone that has significant potential for producing small arms projectiles. However, the artifacts recovered were limited to landscape features, historic-era nails, modern materials, two Civil War era bullets, and various other unidentifiable metal artifacts (see Appendix B). This apparent lack of archaeological data is related to the fact that former landowners had previously conducted intensive metal detecting at the site. A description of the artifacts and features found during the current project, as well as those recovered by the DuBose family is given in this chapter.

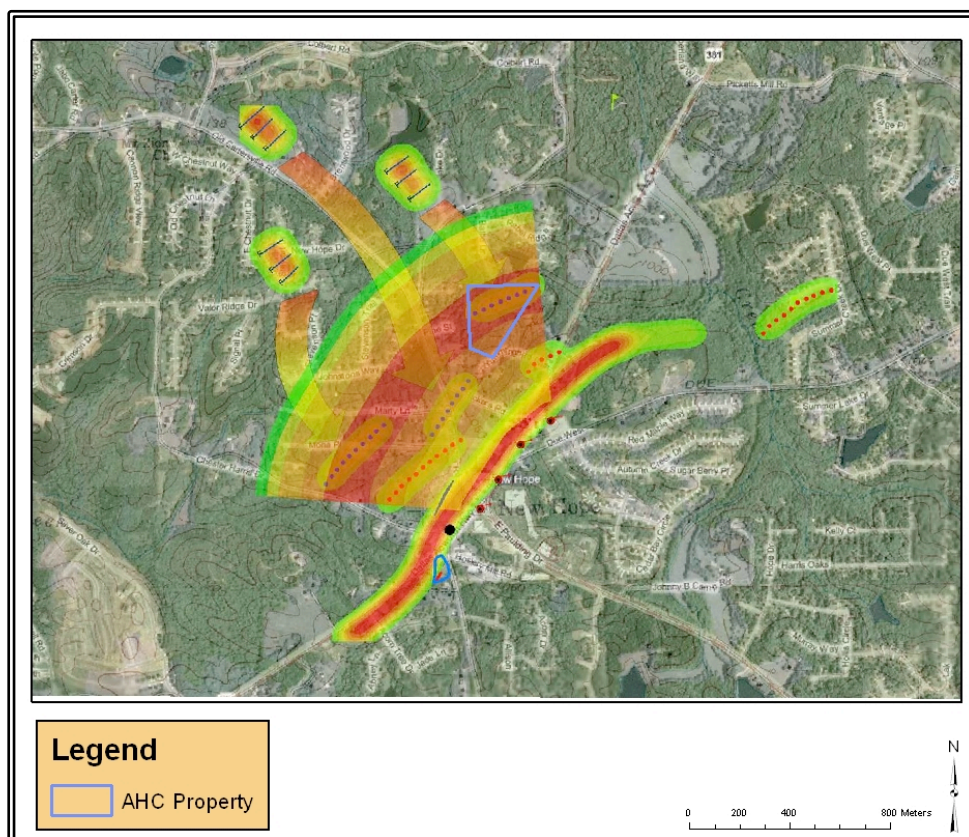


Figure 5.1: Map displaying potential artillery ordnance dispersal from Stewart's Batteries (Highest probability denoted in red; Silliman 2011:Figure 5).

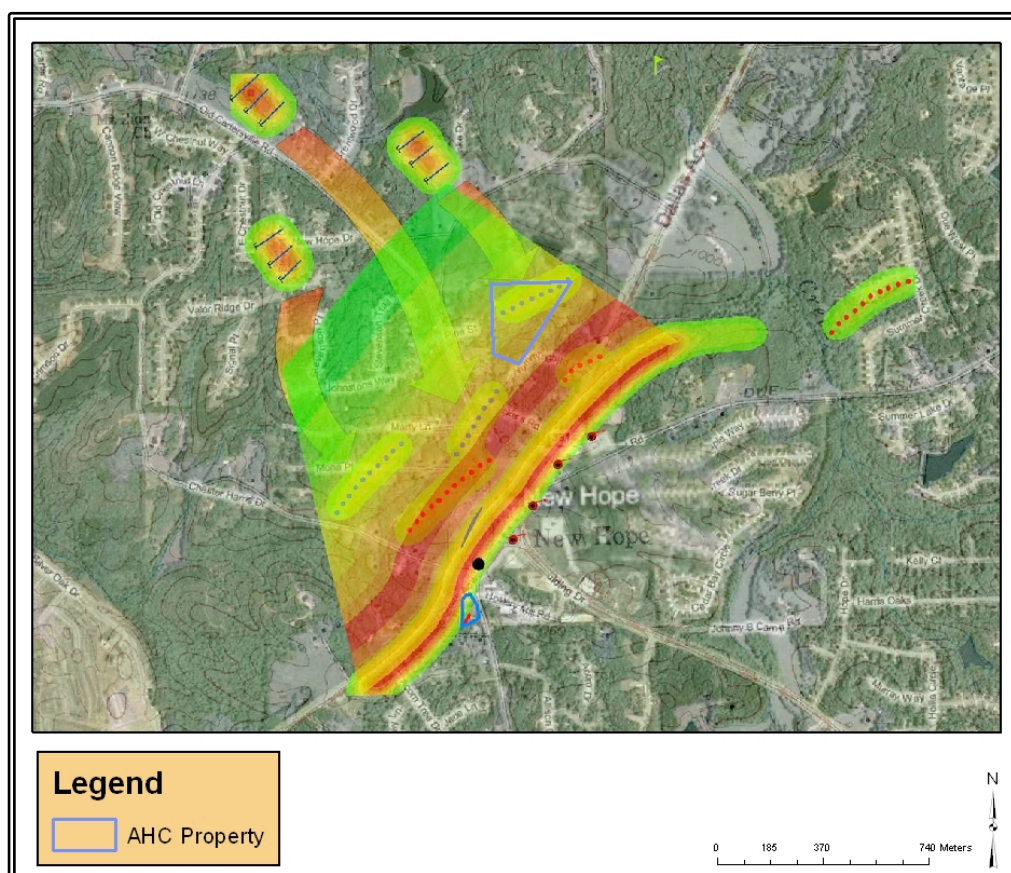


Figure 5.2: Potential small arms related artifacts at New Hope Church (Highest probability indicated in red; Silliman 2011:Figure6).

5.1 Entrenchments

Trenches should have been constructed according to the proper military teaching, which would have corresponded to the regulations set forth by Mahan (2010 [1846]). The main requirements for a trench is that it should protect the troops from enemy fire (Mahan 2010 [1846]:9-10). A proper trench should consist of a covering mass or embankment, termed the parapet, and a ditch (Mahan 2010 [1846]:10). The purpose of the parapet is to intercept incoming enemy fire, enable the assailed the opportunity to use their weapons effectively, and to present an obstacle to any incoming enemy troops (Mahan 2010 [1864]:10). The ditch serves as an additional obstacle to incoming enemy troops and as the source of the materials that form the parapet (Mahan 2010 [1846]:10). In many cases there are revetments, often constructed using

wood, present on the interior slope of the parapet in order to keep the parapet from collapsing back into the ditch.

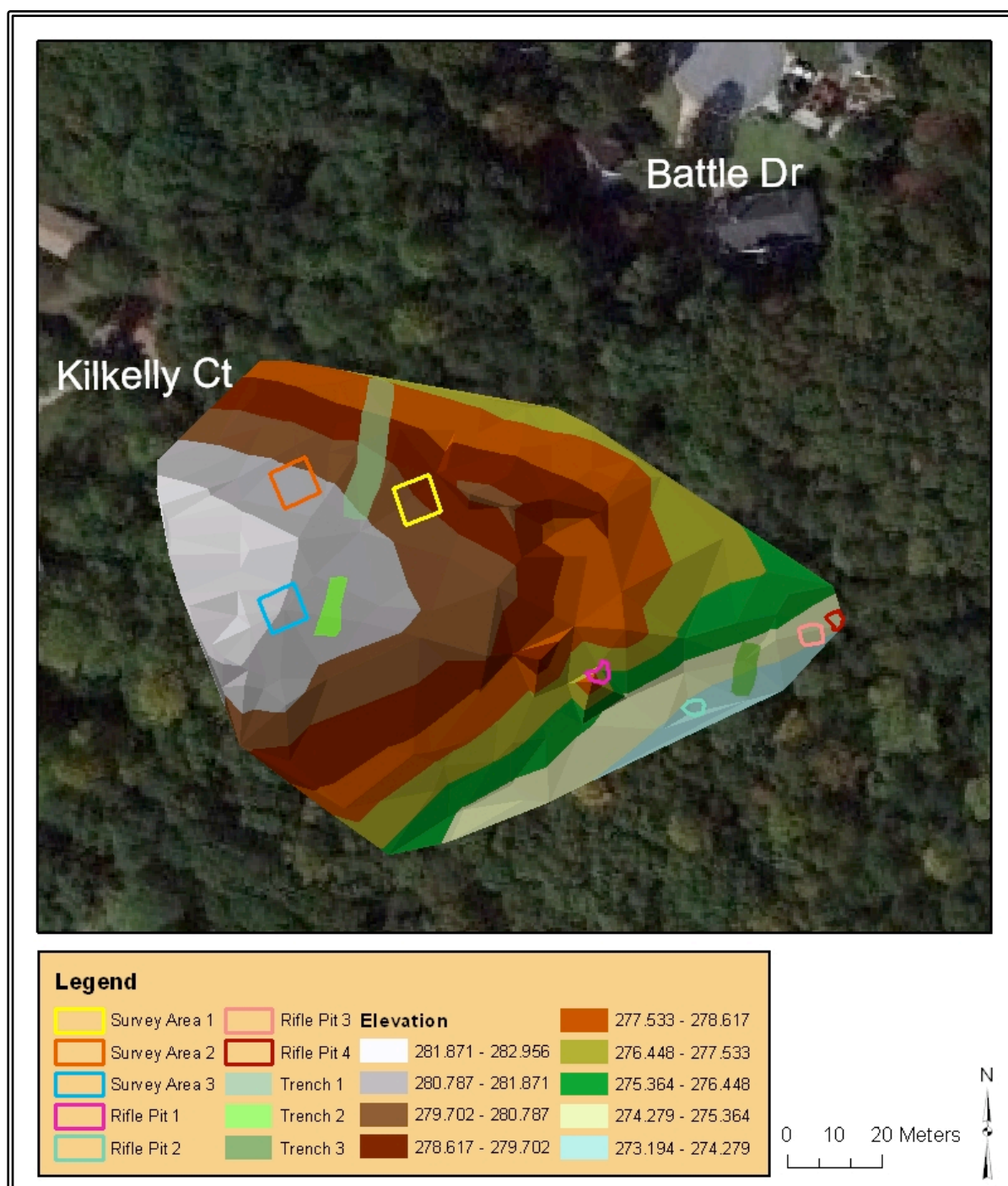


Figure 5.3: Map of trench and rifle pit locations at New Hope Church Site

There are several types of trenches utilized during the Civil War, each having a different layout. The types of fortifications consist of the right line, the redan, the lunette, the indented line, the priest cap, the redoubt, the star fort, and the bastion fort (Fryman 2000:45-46). An illustration of each type can be found below in Figure 5.4.

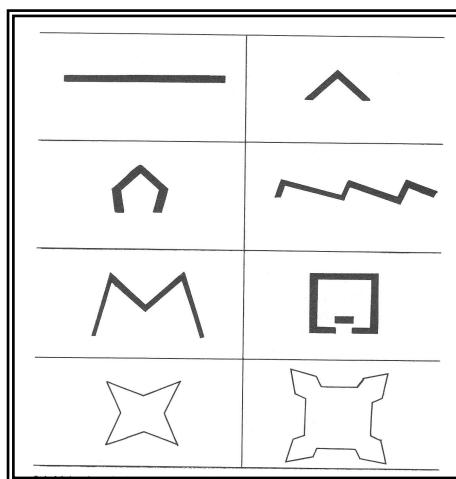


Figure 5.4: Mahan's basic types of fortifications from left to right: right line, redan, lunette, indented line, priest cap, redoubt, star fort, and bastion fort. (after Fryman 2000:Figure 3.1)

I was able to locate three trenches on the New Hope Church site, of which an example can be seen in Figure 5.5. Two of these trenches were located at the crest of the landform on the western side of the study area and one was located near the lower extreme of the landform on the eastern side of the study area (see Figure 5.1). Each of these trenches was constructed in the right line style. Also present in one of the trenches is what may be the remains of a revetment (Figure 5.6). However, this may not be the case due to the post-depositional environment, which would not be amenable to preservation of wooden artifacts (Garrett Silliman, personal communication 2012).



Figure 5.5: Trench 1; located between Survey Areas 1 and 2



Figure 5.6: Possible remains of a revetment in Trench 1

In addition to trenches, I was able to locate four rifle pits on the New Hope Church site. Skirmishers placed in front of the main trenches would have constructed these defensive structures in order to protect themselves from enemy fire. The Rifle pits here seem to have been constructed in a similar way to the trench, except on a much smaller scale as they were only intended to be utilized by one or two troops at a time.

5.2 Metal Artifacts

Metal artifacts are common on archaeological sites dating to the historical period. They cover a wide range of types including hardware, kitchen utensils, machinery, and ornaments (Sutton and Arkush 2006:160). Each of these artifacts types can possibly be found on battlefield sites such as that at New Hope Church.

The artifact assemblage associated with the current research at the site consists mainly of nails and ammunition. However, past collecting on the site yielded several other types in addition to those just mentioned. Artifacts types associated with each of these projects will be discussed below.

5.2.1 Nails

Nails are commonly found at historical sites (Wells 1998). There are three basic types of nails that when found in archaeological contexts have chronological significance: hand-forged (AD 1600-1800), cut: early machine-cut with hand-made head (AD 1790-1825), early machine-headed cut (AD 1815-1840), modern machine cut (AD 1835-present), and modern wire nails (1850-present) (Sutton and Arkush 2006:161). Each of these nail types have diagnostic characteristics that distinguish it from the others.

Hand-forged nails are “generally square in cross section and have evidence of hammering on all sides and the head” (Wells 1998:81). Cut nails “taper on two sides, the cut faces, and have uniform thickness on the opposite faces below the pinched area” (Wells 1998:83). Wire nails are constructed from a roll of wire, have a series of lateral scores immediately beneath the head and end in a point (Wells 1998:86).

Further classification of square-cut and wire nails can be achieved through the use of the pennyweight system. The pennyweight system is based on the length of the nail, beginning at 1" and increasing every $\frac{1}{4}$ " (Sutton and Arkush 2006:164). Each of these lengths corresponds with the nail's presumed primary function as seen in Table 5.1:

Pennyweight Length	Function	Count at New Hope
2d-5d (1-1.75")	Final stages of carpentry	11
6d-16d (2-3.5")	Medium construction	7
20d+ (4" & up)	Large construction	0

Table 5.1: Presumed primary function of nails based on length using the pennyweight system (Sutton and Arkush 2006:164)



Figure 5.7: Nails recovered at New Hope Church site

At New Hope Church, 58 nails were recovered (Figure 5.7): one in Survey Area 1, 52 in Survey Area 2 (14 were found in the excavation unit located in this Survey Area), and five in Survey Area 3. The majority consisted of partial nails, which were not able to be measured using the pennyweight system. Only 18 nails were able to be measured and classified utilizing

the pennyweight system. The results of the measurements were as follows: 11 2d-5d nails and seven 6d-16d nails. Of the 58 nails recovered 43 are either early machine-headed or modern machine-cut nails, which correlates to a time period beginning AD 1815 and extending into the present. These dates correlate with the known occupation of the site in 1864 by Union soldiers during the battle of New Hope Church.

5.2.2 Ammunition

Ammunition found during the current project at New Hope Church was minimal. Only two bullets were recovered from the study site during the current project (see Appendix A). One was a Williams Cleaner bullet found in the southwest corner of Survey Area 2 (Figures 5.8 and 5.9). The second was a fired bullet that was recovered from Rifle Pit 1 (Figure 5.10).

The Williams Cleaner bullet was developed and patented by Elijah Williams in Philadelphia on May 13, 1862. The bullets were designed with a flat, solid base and have a protruding pin that held one or two zinc disks (Sterling and Slaughter 2000:328). Under normal conditions, the Williams Cleaner was to be fired at specified intervals in order to cleanse the inside of the rifle barrel of debris (Elliot 2007:123). At least one of these bullets was packaged with every ten standard .58 caliber Minié balls (Sterling and Slaughter 2000:328).

There are three types of Williams Cleaner bullets. Type I was first used by the military in early 1862, Type II was first issued in December of 1862, and Type III was first used in 1863 (Smith 1994:71). By 1864, when the Battle of New Hope church occurred, Type III would have been the only one of the three in use. The Williams Cleaner recovered at the New Hope Church site is a .58 caliber type III (Figure 5.8). The top of the bullet has a small hole with threads on the interior (Figure 5.9), which indicates that the bullet was pulled from a rifle after becoming

stuck inside the barrel. This would have been done by a Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) due to the fact that the necessary tool to perform the extraction was only issued to NCOs. There could be several reasons for the bullet becoming lodged, but the most likely reason would be that the main charge did not ignite causing the rifle not to fire (Garrett Silliman, Personal Communication 2012).



Figure 5.8: Williams Cleaner recovered at New Hope Church.



Figure 5.9: Top of Williams Cleaner recovered at New Hope Church



Figure 5.10: Fired bullet recovered at New Hope Church site.

5.3 Materials Collected by DuBose Family

The current project at New Hope Church is the first formal archaeological project undertaken at the site. However, the site has been relic hunted in the past. The DuBose family, who once owned the property, collected artifacts from the site during the 1970s. I was able to personally view the collection, which is housed at the personal residence of Bo DuBose. The collection was well organized and cataloged nicely. However, there is no indication that the proveniences of the artifacts were not recorded at the time of their recovery, aside from the site where the materials came from. Among the artifacts found at New Hope Church by the DuBose family are rifle ammunition, buckles, canteens, an assortment of gun components, artillery shells, and items associated with camping.

The rifle ammunition collected from the New Hope Church site by the DuBose family consists largely of minié balls (Figure 5.11). I did not have the opportunity to count or measure the ammunition, but I would estimate that the total count is well into the hundreds. I was informed that in addition to the minié balls, ammunition from the Enfield and Austrian Lorenz rifles were also found at the site (Bo DuBose, personal communication 2012).



Figure 5.11: Rifle Ammunition found by DuBose family at New Hope Church (Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Glover)

Artillery shells were also collected by the DuBose family. Artillery types present in the DuBose collection from New Hope Church include 12-pound spherical shells (Figure 5.12) and grape shot (Figure 5.13). Mr. DuBose indicated that each of these were Confederate artillery, which is extremely likely given that they were all fired and recovered from the site occupied by Federal troops.



Figure 5.12: 12-pound shells recovered by the DuBose family



Figure 5.13: Grape shot recovered by DuBose family

Related to the ammunition in the DuBose family collection are the various rifle components recovered from the New Hope Church site (Figure 5.14). The locks shown in Figure 5.14 are part of a Pattern 1853 Enfield rifle. The Pattern 1853 Enfield was standard long arm of the Confederacy, but was also used by the Union infantry (Elliot 2007:117-118).



Figure 5.14: Various artifacts recovered by the DuBose family

Also present in the DuBose collection are several personal accoutrements. Included here are several US belt buckles, cooking and eating utensils, and a canteen. Each of these items can be seen above in Figure 5.14.

Each of the artifacts recovered during the current project provides information concerning the events that occurred at the New Hope Church site and insight into the behaviors of the soldiers that occupied the site. Even though the artifacts associated with the DuBose collection lack their original provenience information, they still provide useful information. The information provided by each of these sources has become the basis for the following analysis of the New Hope Church site.

6 ANALYSIS

This chapter focuses on the analysis of the various artifacts found during the current project at the New Hope Church site. I examine and interpret the battlefield landscape from the standpoint of terrain analysis and behavioral cartography. I also attempt to identify any behavioral patterns evidenced through the analysis of the artifacts recovered from the site.

6.1 Landscape Analysis

Based on the information obtained from the Official Records, the trenches constructed within the study area would likely have been just a small sample of the total trenches constructed in the surrounding areas by Butterfield's division. Unfortunately, I was unable to locate any additional earthworks due to the residential development surrounding the study site. By this point in the campaign, Federal troops would have been able to construct these types of trenches efficiently and quickly, probably within a few hours (Garrett Silliman, personal communication 2012).

There are two aims of the project at New Hope Church as it relates to analyzing the battlefield landscape. One of the aims is to examine the ways in which troops conceptualized the existing landscape and then utilized these perceptions to modify their portion of the battlefield landscape. The second aim is to then determine how this section of the battlefield relates back to other sections, and vice-versa, in order to create a more complete picture of the overall battlefield landscape. In order to achieve these aims, I utilize behavioral cartography, which allows for a better understanding of how the various sections of the battlefield relate to one another forming a sort of systemic view of the overall battlefield landscape, and the application of KOCO A principles, which provides information necessary. The landscape of the New Hope Church site

is one that was modified during a time of great distress. Terrain analysis in some form has been taught at the US Military Academy since the mid-19th century. This training in analyzing the terrain should have allowed the soldiers to conceptualize their surrounding landscape in a predictable manner. It bears mentioning that General Hooker was the only officer in the XX Corps that attended the Military Academy. Williams, Geary, and Butterfield were civilians prior to the war and did not receive formal training in terrain analysis, but by this point in the campaign each would likely have become proficient in this type of analysis.

An interesting question, and one that will be examined here, is whether or not the soldiers' training held up under the strain placed on them by the intense fighting that took place at New Hope Church. In attempting to discern whether this was the case at New Hope Church I decided to utilize the KOCOAs principles, discussed in Chapter 2. Through the utilization of these principles I was able to think about the landscape in much the same way the soldiers would have been trained to do. Assuming that the soldiers adhered to their military training during the battle, this should have allowed me to apply this knowledge to the natural landscape and easily discern the reasons for the officer's decision to place their defenses at this location.

The site itself is located on a portion of the landscape that consists of a series of landforms that are raised approximately ten meters above the ground surface in front of them (see Figure 3.16), which would have been considered key terrain. It is likely that each of these raised landforms would have been occupied during the engagement at New Hope Church, but I was unable to locate any evidence of this due to the development that has taken place in the area. This landform would have also provided the soldiers with the necessary advantage of being able to easily observe the surrounding landscape. The ravines between these landforms would have also provided some cover and concealment from the Confederate sharpshooters and artillery fire.

Also present on the site were two streams that bordered either side of the landform that would have served as obstacles, even if minor, to any Confederate forces that might have attempted an assault on the position. The position was also strong in that aside from approaching the position from the front by way of marching through the wooded area, the site would not have been easily accessible to the enemy force.

The trenches and rifle pits located at the study site were constructed in ideal locations, with the exception of Trench 3 (see Figure 5.3). Trench 3 was constructed on a fairly steep slope in the western portion of the study site. This slope does not constitute an ideal location for the construction of a trench. The reasoning behind this trench being placed in this location was not explicitly discussed in the Official Records, but I offer two possibilities for the location of this trench. First, the trench could be a product of needing to construct some sort of protection in a hasty manner, regardless of location. Second, the trench was constructed within close proximity to Rifle Pits 2, 3, and 4, would may indicate its utilization as a resting point for soldiers stationed in the rifle pits. Neither of these scenarios could be confirmed through the research into the site history, but both are entirely possible.

The fact that the site meets all of the above principles, aside from the location of Trench 3, indicates that the soldiers that occupied the New Hope Church site, or at least their commanding officer, were indeed able to maintain enough composure to analyze their surroundings in the manner in which they were trained. The site would be considered an ideal location to place defenses even in its current state being that the development of the surrounding areas has had a minimal impact on the ability to apply KOCOA principles to the site. Therefore, it stands to reason that the site would have also been considered ideal at the time of its occupation by Union troops.

As suggested in Chapter 2, the landscape can be approached as a system of interrelated points. This is especially true of a battlefield landscape due to the fact that each separate section of a battlefield served a unique purpose that functioned in relation to the other sections to create the overall battlefield system. For the research at hand, a place-bound approach (Zendeño 2000) was selected due to its applicability to the battlefield system.

In this approach, it becomes necessary to discuss the three dimensions of the landscape as set forth by Zedeño (2000) and Whittlesey (1998), the formal, relational, and historical. The formal dimension consists of the physical dimensions of the landscape, both natural and manmade. The formal dimension of the New Hope Church site consists of the raised landform, small streams, vegetation, trenches, and rifle pits (see Figure 3.16).

In performing this analysis it also becomes necessary to determine the links between the New Hope Church site and the rest of the New Hope Church battlefield. The New Hope Church site was not likely heavily engaged in the initial fighting of the battle, which occurred in the vicinity of the cemetery. Instead, the soldiers likely came to occupy this location, following that initial confrontation, after the XX Corps fell back. The location of the site and the direction the man-made features face, indicate that this position likely functioned as a defensive position by the Union army aimed at protecting the eastern flank of the forces engaged near the cemetery (Figure 6.1).



Figure 6.1: Location of New Hope Cemetery

In addition to the function discussed above, the site also functioned as an active target for the Confederate forces situated in its front. In the view of the Confederates, the site was likely

seen as an objective for reasons related to its likely function of defending the flank of the Union forces occupying New Hope Church. If this position were to have been obtained by the Confederates, it would have given them an unobstructed path to the eastern flank and, essentially, a means of surrounding the Union forces.

It also bears discussing the ways in which the New Hope Church battlefield, in general, related to the other events that took place in the area in the following days. Because the Union army could not defeat the Confederates at New Hope Church, Sherman kept pushing further to the east in an attempt to overtake the western flank of the Confederate army. This action would eventually lead to another battle in the area, the battle of Pickett's Mill.

6.2 Artifact Analysis

Artifacts found at New Hope Church were very limited due to the previous collecting that took place on the site. A goal of this project was to attempt to discern an artifact pattern that might aid in understanding the types of behavior or activities that were taking place on site. However, the archaeological remains recovered during the current project were very limited, perhaps due to the prior collecting that took place on the site and the ephemeral nature of the encampment.

It is thought that Stewart's Confederate division expended approximately 300,000 rounds of ammunition in the direction of the advancing Federal troops (Silliman 2011). Based on these numbers, it was expected that there would be significant amounts of artillery and small arm ammunition recovered from the survey site (see Figure 5.1 and 5.2). In order to test this expectation, three formal survey areas were placed on the site and an informal metal detection survey was performed throughout the site as a whole (see Figure 3.1). Survey Area 1 yielded

two artifacts, which were modern and not related to the occupation of interest (see Appendix A). However, activity related to the battle cannot be fully ruled out in this area due to the previously discussed collecting that took place on the site.

It stands to reason that if activity was not taking place in front of the trenches, then it was likely taking place behind them, where you would expect it to take place. This was the reasoning behind placing the remaining two survey areas in the rear of Trenches 1 and 2. This proved to be the correct approach in that these two survey areas produced the highest densities of artifacts throughout the entire site. Neither area, during the current project, produced the amount of ammunition that was expected. However, the ammunition present in the DuBose collection should be taken into account when assessing the predictions shown in figures 5.1 and 5.2. The amount of ammunition in the Dubose collection confirms that the predictions were accurate.

Survey Area 2 proved to be the most productive of the survey areas by producing 61, out of the 74 total, artifacts recovered from the site. Of the 61 artifacts found in Survey Area 2, 58 were nails. Each of the nails that could be identified, were identified as cut nails corresponding to the mid 19th century (see Figure 5.7). All of the nails fall in the range of being 2d-16d making their likely purpose either for carpentry or medium construction; none would have been used in the construction of a structure.

The nails recovered here could be indicative of any number of activities. However, since the soldiers occupying the site were far removed from their main supply lines, which were located at the railroad. Because the troops were going to be far removed from their supply lines, additional supplies were necessary. These supplies would likely have been transported in crates or boxes. It is my assessment that the nails found in Survey Area 2 could have been the remains of one or more of these storage containers. The density of nails recovered from the northeast

corner of the survey area could indicate that this area was utilized as a storage location or that some of the boxes used to transport supplies to the site were left behind to deteriorate in this location. (Bo DuBose, personal communication 2012)

Another intriguing artifact recovered from Survey Area 2 was the Williams Cleaner Bullet mentioned in Chapter 5. Some accounts have suggested that soldiers were distrustful of the Williams Cleaner because they feared its odd construction would cause the gun to jam (Sterling and Slaughter 2000:328-329). The Williams Cleaner recovered at the New Hope Church site indicates that one soldier may have had this fear become a reality. This idea is evidenced by the fact that the Williams Cleaner recovered had a threaded borehole in its top signifying that it had to be pulled from a rifle by an NCO after becoming stuck inside (see Figure 5.9).

This Williams Cleaner provides a glimpse into the mindset of the individual that used it. Given the fact that the Williams Cleaners were present in one out of every ten bullets fired (Smith 1994:71), it seems likely that this individual had already managed to fire the nine standard miniés and was utilizing the Williams Cleaner, as was required by military standards, to clean the rifle barrel. This scenario suggests that the soldier was engaged in a bout of fighting at some point on the battlefield.

It is known, by the fact that it was recovered, that the bullet was eventually pulled from the rifle. However, it is not known whether the soldier that actually experienced the jamming incident pulled the bullet or by a second soldier that scavenged the rifle from one of his fallen comrades. Following the notion that it was indeed pulled by the original owner of the rifle, it opens the question of whether this incident impacted the soldier's perception of the Williams Cleaner and whether or not he utilized the bullet in future battles.

Survey Area 3 produced 12 artifacts. However, unlike those recovered in survey area 2,

the artifacts from Survey Area 3 were all modern (see Appendix A). This lack of artifacts relating to the occupation of interest is a bit surprising. Survey Area 3 was located in much the position as Survey Area 2 except for being behind Trench 2 instead of Trench 1. It was expected to produce similar results to those of Survey Area 2, but failed to do so. This could be a product of the previous collection of the site.

Only one artifact was recovered from metal detection performed in the vicinity of the rifle pits located on site. The artifact recovered was what seems to be a Civil War era fired bullet located within Rifle Pit 1 (see Figure 5.10). The bullet was fired, though from which direction is not clear. This fired bullet does not provide any information concerning the activities taking place in the study area indicates is that at some point during the occupation of the New Hope Church site the Union army was engaged in a firefight with the opposing Confederate army.

As stated above, this lack of ammunition at study site can be explained by the collecting of the site by the DuBose family. Materials housed as part of the Dubose collection provides evidence that the expectations related to artifact potential were likely correct. However, the material had been removed prior to the current project.

Due to the previous collecting of the site, I was unable to discern any artifact pattern, on a large scale, from the study site. I was, however, able to determine, that the nail scatter recovered in Survey Area 2 likely resulted from the deterioration of boxes left in the area following the Civil War-era occupation. I was also able to determine that the occupants of the study site had been engaged with the Confederate army during the occupation, evidenced by the Civil War-era fired bullet recovered in Rifle Pit 2, and that at least one individual experienced the misfortune of having a bullet lodged in his rifle during the engagement.

7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The aims of this project were to understand the actions that took place at the New Hope Church and to determine whether the soldiers adhered to their training in the creation of a battlefield landscape through the modification of the landscape. The material remains and landscape features at the New Hope Church site reveal that the site was occupied during the Civil War, thereby achieving both of these aims.

The Official Records provided insight into the function of this site in the overall battlefield system. It is likely that the position was not directly involved in the initial confrontation at New Hope Church, but instead became occupied as a result of the failed attempt at defeating the Confederates during that initial confrontation. It became evident that this site likely functioned as a defensive position with the goal being to protect the east flank of the Union forces situated within the area of the initial battle based upon its location and orientation on the battlefield landscape.

Many officers engaged in this battle would have been trained in methods of terrain analysis at the US Military Academy. This training should have allowed the soldiers to perceive the landscape in a certain way and construct their defenses accordingly. The results obtained during this project have provided evidence that the soldiers behaved in a manner that coincides with their strict military training, even under constant threat from enemy fire. The use of the KOCO A principles proved to be extremely useful in the study of these processes.

The artifact patterning found during the current project at the New Hope Church site did not indicate any concrete evidence of the types of behavior that might have occurred there, aside from the one instance of the Williams Cleaner bullet. This could possibly be due to the previous collecting that took place on the site. The artifacts recovered did, however, point to certain areas

of activity, such as the northeast corner of Survey Area 2 possibly being used as a location for storage.

It is safe to say that the previous collecting on the site greatly limited the potential to recover any significant amount of material remains in a controlled manner from the site. However, the artifacts that were recovered pointed to the possible functions that Survey Area 2 may have served during the occupation. The abundance of Civil War period nails, likely from boxes or crates, recovered in the northeast corner of the survey area leads me to believe that this area was used as a storage location and that perhaps broken boxes had been left behind to deteriorate.

Although the only artifacts able to be directly tied to the violence that took place on the New Hope Church battlefield was the Williams Cleaner bullet and the fired bullet, they were still significant finds. The significance of these two artifacts is tied to the fact that it provides an access point into the thoughts and actions of an individual soldier on the battlefield, as well as the events that took place. The William's Cleaner speaks to the state of mind of this individual at the precise moment the bullet became lodged in his rifle barrel. Even though it is not feasible, I think it would be interesting to understand how this single bullet impacted the decision making process of this soldier throughout the rest of the war.

Within a period of a few days, the New Hope Church site underwent a drastic change. The site began as part of a small rural town. On May 26th, 1864, it became part of an intense bout of conflict between two opposing armies. At this point, it ceased being thought of as a quiet wooded area and instead was perceived as (1) a place of suffering and death for both armies and (2) a place of victory worthy of celebration for the Confederate soldiers. Following the battle, New Hope Church reverted back to a small rural town, but the landscape still showed the scars

that were left behind by trenches and exploded artillery. Today, the majority of scars left behind following the battle have vanished, replaced on the landscape by residential and commercial developments.

7.1 Recommendations

There is still the potential for future research to be carried out on the site. The magnetometer results in survey area 1 indicated a rectangular anomaly, measuring approximately 6m x 4m, that was not unearthed during the current project due to time limitations. It would be interesting to know whether or not this anomaly was due to the magnetometer not being used with a base station. If not, it becomes a very curious anomaly due to the fact that, to the best of my knowledge, there was never a structure built on this site.

Also of interest in any future projects, would be the extension of survey area 2 in each direction, except for east due to the trench in that direction. The artifacts recovered in this area lead to the belief that further evidence might be located in the areas around it. These additional areas could provide further insight into the behavioral dynamics that took place on the site.

As noted earlier in this document, the New Hope Church battlefield, as a whole, has been altered beyond recognition. The site is surrounded on every side by residential neighborhoods and has no direct access. The site has also been utilized for trash dumping and socializing in the recent past. In spite of these conditions, the site retains its integrity in terms of the Civil War era landscape features.

Due to this, I argue for future preservation of the site by the Atlanta History Center. If this is not an option then other possibilities might include approaching organizations such as the Georgia Battlefield Association, which owns a separate portion of the battlefield. Another

option may be found a short distance away. This option would involve the possibility of incorporating the site into the existing state park that encompasses the Pickett's Mill battlefield, which is directly related to the site.

The New Hope Church site provided the opportunity to investigate the actions of individuals constrained by the rigidly structured military apparatus as it relates to the modification of the landscape. The site still retains the majority of these modifications making it an ideal place in which to test whether or not the soldiers adhered to their military training when modifying the landscape. In this case, the soldiers involved in this modification behaved in a manner that adhered to their strict military training.

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Appendix A: Artifact Distribution Maps

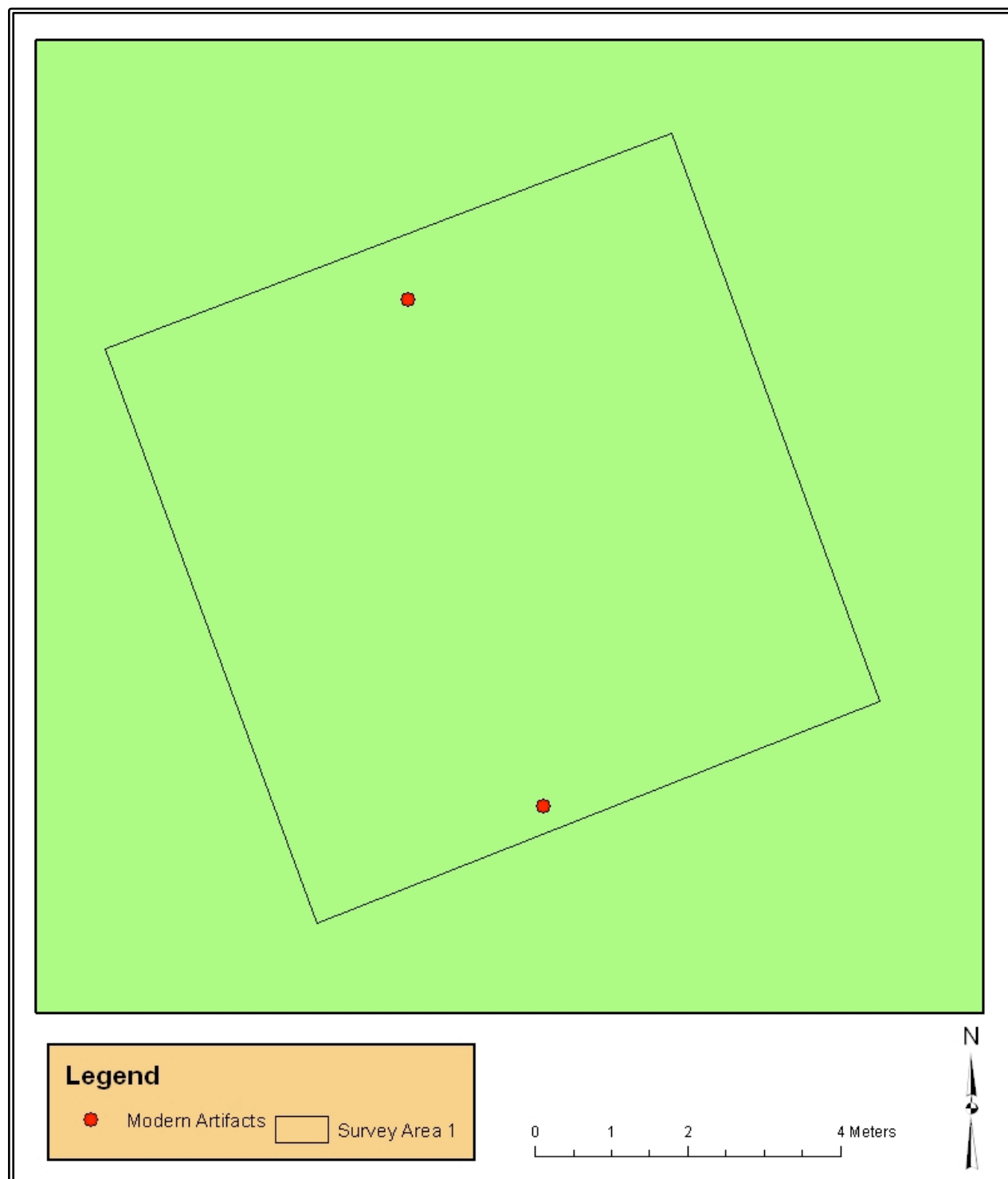


Figure A.1: Map of artifact distribution in Survey Area 1



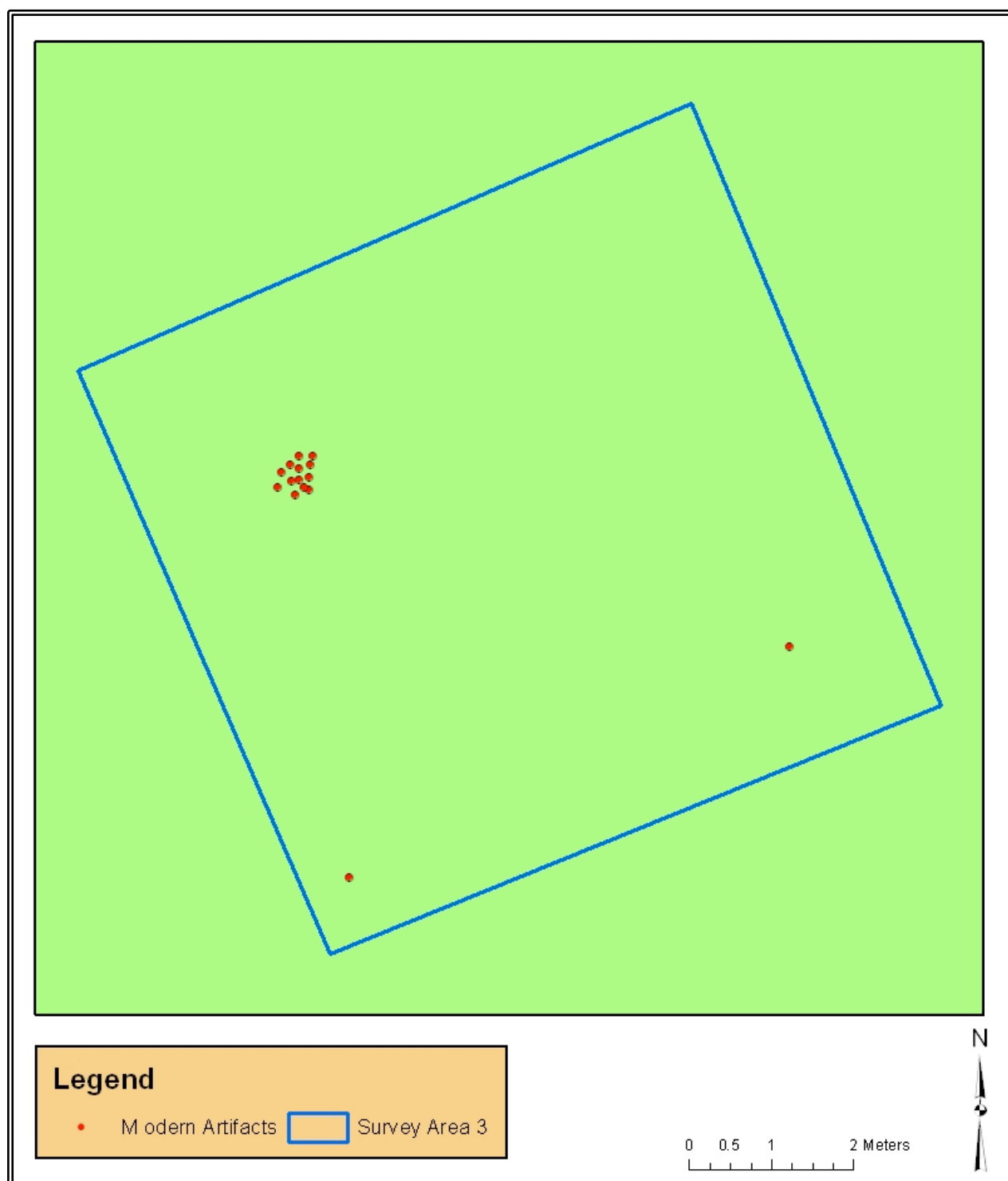


Figure A.3: Map of artifact distribution in Survey Area 3

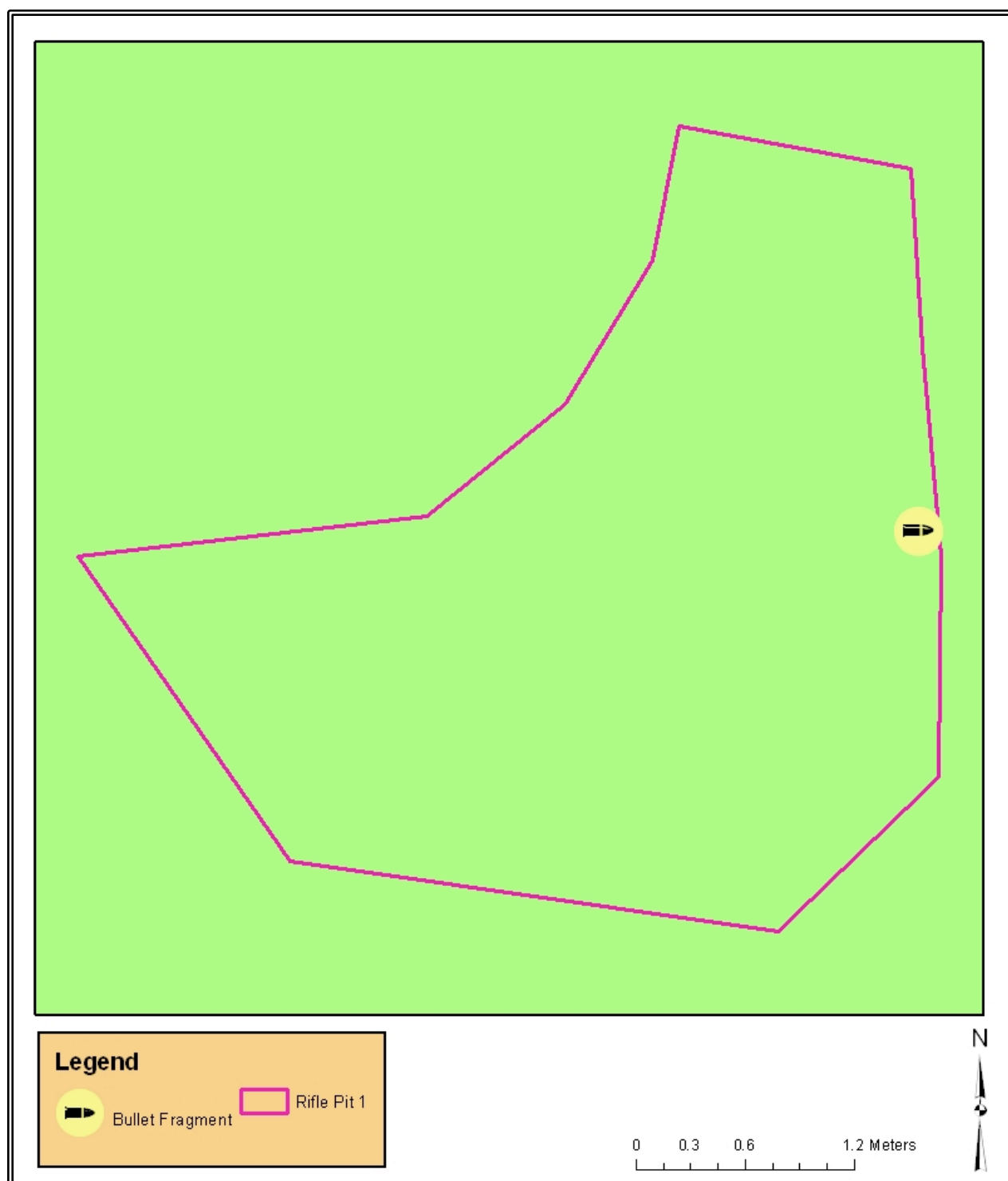


Figure A.4: Map of artifact distribution in Rifle Pit 1