

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF BARNESVILLE, A MUNICIPALITY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, FOR A PERMIT UNDER CHAPTER 72 OF TITLE 36 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ("ABANDONED CEMETERIES AND BURIAL GROUNDS"), O.C.G.A. §§ 36-72-1, ET SEQ,

CASE NO. 18B-138-W

APPLICANT

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**APPLICATION OF THE CITY**

Now comes the City of Barnesville, a municipality of the State of Georgia ("the City") and files its application for a permit under Chapter 72 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia, and respectfully shows to the Court the following:

1. The City is a Georgia municipality, incorporated by Act of the Georgia Legislature (Ga. Laws 1987, Page 3865, et seq., as amended).
2. The City owns a parcel of land located in Lamar County, Georgia, but outside of the municipal limits of the City, and within which is located an abandoned cemetery or burial ground.
3. The City purchased the property, which contains about 126 acres, more or less, in January 1996, intended for purposes of industrial

development of the property; the deed to the City (a copy of which is included in the attached "Application") has no reference or mention of the burial ground or cemetery.

4. The City parcel of industrial zoned property is located on Old Milner Road adjacent to Rayonier (Georgia Chips), a wood products company that has operated at that location since 1996. The City has marketed the property for industrial development for the past 21 years and entertained many prospective projects on the site, to no avail. Recently an international company expressed great interest in the site for a U.S. manufacturing plant. Only after the firm submitted a proposed building design and it was applied to the site drawing, did it become apparent the 500,000 square feet facility could not be developed on the site without encroaching entirely onto the abandoned cemetery. The property is ideally located for wood related companies due to its proximity to Rayonier and Jordan Forest Products. In fact, the synergy created by the close proximity of this property to these wood product companies is its greatest asset. Many companies today are in need of parcels that will accommodate their future growth, with the utility infrastructure in place, rail access, and proper zoning already approved. These attributes are critical in the marketing and promotion of the site. The long

term wellbeing and sustainability of a community requires economic growth.

5. The City seeks a permit, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 36-72-1 et seq (“Abandoned Cemeteries and Burial Grounds”), including but not limited to O.C.G.A. § 36-72-4, for disinterment and relocation of any human remains or burial objects in the burial ground or cemetery within the City’s property.

6. The City of Barnesville, and the local Industrial Development Authority, along with the State of Georgia Department of Economic Development, has marketed this site for many years. It was with the important goal for the long-term well-being and job creation in our community that the City moved forward with the research and public notice process required to re-locate the burials in this long abandoned cemetery. The process has served to highlight the historical and cultural significance of the Wadsworth-Clayton Cemetery in regard to the Wadsworth Family, as early and noteworthy settlers of this area of Pike County (now Lamar County), and the tragic train wreck that occurred on September 2, 1864. It has stirred the emotions of those that are opposed, on personal principle, the concept of relocating any burial. The City understands this and respects their right to voice their feelings. However, we cannot lose sight of the importance of

the need for jobs for families and an increased tax base that provides some relief to homeowners for funding all the local government services.

7. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-72-5, attached hereto and incorporated herein as an Exhibit is the Application for Burial Disturbance Permit, which includes, but is not limited to:
  - A. Evidence of ownership of the City land on which the cemetery or burial ground is located. O.C.G.A. § 36-72-5(1).
  - B. An Archaeological Survey Report. O.C.G.A. § 36-72-5(2).
  - C. A survey showing the location and boundaries of the cemetery or burial ground. O.C.G.A. § 36-72-5(3).
  - D. A genealogist plan for identifying and notifying descendants of those buried or believed to be buried in the cemetery. O.C.G.A. § 36-72-5(4), and
  - E. A proposal for mitigation or avoidance of the effects of the planned activity on the cemetery or burial ground and an approximation of the costs thereof. O.C.G.A. § 36-72-5(5).
8. The City, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-72-6, at the filing of this application with the Court, has begun implementation of its plan for identifying and locating descendants, and the Court should review the plan and find it adequate, or the Court may require additional

reasonable efforts and attempts to identify and locate descendants as the Court deems necessary.

9. The Court, within fifteen (15) days of being satisfied that all reasonable efforts have been made to notify descendants, as provided by O.C.G.A. § 36-72-6 should schedule a public hearing at which any interested party or citizen may appear and be given the opportunity to be heard with notice of the public hearing advertised in The Herald-Gazette newspaper, the legal organ of Lamar County, Georgia, once a week for two consecutive weeks immediately preceding the week in which the public hearing is to be held. O.C.G.A. § 36-72-7(a).
10. This Court is the proper venue and has jurisdiction of this application pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-72-14(a), and no fee is due under O.C.G.A. § 36-72-10.
11. This Court must conduct its investigation and determination of the permit in accordance with the criteria set out in O.C.G.A. § 36-72-6 through 36-72-8. (O.C.G.A. § 36-72-14(a))
12. The City hereby advises the Court that a prior application of the City for the permit sought by the present application was made to the Board of Commissioners of Lamar County, and the Board of Commissioners of Lamar County granted a permit to the City, and that permit was appealed by certain persons objecting, to the

Superior Court of Fulton County, and the Superior Court of Fulton County by an Order of February 9, 2018 (Cases 2017-CV-292911 and 294036) found that the Board of Commissioners of Lamar County did not have jurisdiction to entertain the City's permit application and reversed the issuance of the permit, allowing the City of Barnesville to pursue a subsequent permit in this Court.

13. The persons making objection to the permit issued by the Board of Commissioners of Lamar County subsequently reversed by Fulton Superior Court Order, were Michael D. Ross, and Cynthia H. Wadsworth, and although not required under the statute, will be given notice of the filing of this application.

14. Attached as Exhibit A is a certified copy of the City's Resolution adopted by the City Council on September 5, 2017, to authorize the efforts to relocate the abandoned cemetery subject of this application to this Court.

15. The City has satisfied all statutory, legal, and equitable requirements as a prerequisite to submitting this Application for consideration and respectfully urges the Court to grant its request.

Wherefore, the City of Barnesville prays that:

- a. The Court review the application and when satisfied that all reasonable efforts have been accomplished to notify

descendants schedule a public hearing with the required notice of the hearing; and

- b. Within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the public hearing, grant the permit to the City of Barnesville; and
- c. Provide such further relief to the City as the Court finds equitable and just in the circumstances.

This 18<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL, 2018.

Haygood, Lynch, Harris, Melton & Watson, LLP

C. Robert Melton

C. Robert Melton  
Attorney for the City of Barnesville  
State Bar No. 501500

87 N. Lee Street  
PO Box 657  
Forsyth, GA 31029  
478 994-5171

Troutman Sanders LLP

William M. Droze (by C. Robert Melton w/ express permission)  
William M. Droze  
Attorney for the City of Barnesville

600 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 3000  
Atlanta, GA 30308-2216  
404-885-3468



# City of Barnesville

"Buggytown U.S.A."

109 FORSYTH STREET  
BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA 30204  
PHONE 770-358-0181  
FAX 770-358-0185

**CITY MANAGER**  
DAVID K. ROSE

**CITY CLERK**  
CAROLYN S. PARKER

**MAYOR**  
PETER L. BANKS

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
ANNE H. CLAXTON  
CHRISTOPHER HIGHTOWER  
SAMMIE D. SHROPSHIRE, JR.  
LARRY B. WHITWORTH  
CECIL D. McDANIEL, SR.

## Clerk's Certificate

I, Carolyn S. Parker, City Clerk of the City of Barnesville, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of Resolution R2017-0006 duly adopted by the City Council at a meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017, duly assembled and open to the public and at which a quorum was present and active throughout, the original of which Resolution R2017-0006 has been duly recorded in the Minute Book of said body, which is in my custody and control.

Witness my official hand and seal this 27th day of March 2018.

Carolyn S. Parker, City Clerk

[Seal]

EXHIBIT A



**CITY OF BARNESVILLE**  
**RESOLUTION NO. R2017-0006**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARNESVILLE PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUED EFFORTS TO RELOCATE AN ABANDONED CEMETERY ON CITY OWNED INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Barnesville is the governing authority of the City of Barnesville and is authorized and has the power, functions, rights, and privileges to promote or protect the safety, health, peace, security, good order, comfort, convenience, or general welfare of the City and its inhabitants, and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that there exists an urgent need to develop and promote for the public good and general welfare, trade, commerce, industry, and employment opportunities for the citizens of the City, and

**WHEREAS**, economic development activities that lead to new industry and industry expansion also enhance commercial activity, small business growth and sustainability, and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council found it important and in the best interest of the citizens of Barnesville to plan and act in strategic ways to promote the opportunities for industrial growth and the creation of jobs for our community, and

**WHEREAS**, in furtherance of efforts for economic development, after consulting with experts, the City applied for a Burial Disturbance Permit pursuant to O.C.G.A. 36-72, 1-16 for the relocation of an abandoned cemetery on industrial property owned by the City, known as Meadow Railway Industrial Park, located on Old Milner Road, Barnesville, Georgia and further identified as Tax Parcel ID # 023-011, said abandoned cemetery being in peril of the industrial development of the property on which the cemetery is located, and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on June 20, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lamar County Board of Commissioners' meeting room located at 326 Thomaston Street, Barnesville, Georgia, and at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on July 13, 2017, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the permit as submitted.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Barnesville:

- 1) That the City Council does hereby ratify the application and plan for Burial Disturbance, fully described within the application, and submitted pursuant to O.C.G.A 36-72, 1-16 to the Lamar County Board of Commissioners on June 2, 2017 and approved on July 13, 2017.
- 2) That the City Council does hereby authorize the Mayor and City Manager to engage the City Attorney and other experts necessary to defend the appeal that has been filed in regard to the permit approval.

RESOLUTION NO. R2017-0006

- 3) That the City Council does hereby authorize the expenditure of funds from the Economic Development Fund for the cost to complete the relocation of the abandoned cemetery, as defined in the application for Burial Disturbance submitted to and approved by the Lamar County Board of Commissioners, upon the successful defense of the appeal.

Adopted this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.



Peter L. Banks, Mayor

ATTEST:



Carolyn S. Parker, City Clerk

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF BARNESVILLE, A MUNICIPALITY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, FOR A PERMIT UNDER CHAPTER 72 OF TITLE 36 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ("ABANDONED CEMETERIES AND BURIAL GROUNDS"), O.C.G.A. §§ 36-71-1, ET SEQ,

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT

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**VERIFICATION**

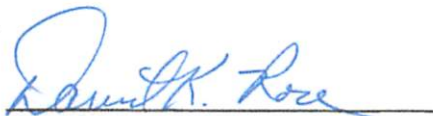
David K. Rose, City Manager of the City of Barnesville, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the City Manager of the City of Barnesville, and is personally acquainted with the facts set out in the Application for Burial Disturbance Permit to Lamar County Superior Court, and the exhibits attached to the application, that he has read all of the foregoing, and knows the contents thereof, and that the facts stated in the application and the exhibits are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

This 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

Sworn to and subscribe before  
Me:



Notary Public  
Comm. Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, Lamar County, Georgia  
My Commission Expires October 4, 2021

  
**DAVID K. ROSE,**  
City Manager

**APPLICATION FOR BURIAL  
DISTURBANCE PERMIT TO  
LAMAR COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT**

## **INSTRUCTION AND REQUIREMENTS FOR A BURIAL DISTURBANCE PERMIT**

- 1. Notarized signatures of Applicant and Owner.**
- 2. A current legal description of the subject property. If the application consists of several tracts of land, a description of each tract is required.**
- 3. A status report providing details of the applicant's efforts to identify and locate descendants.**
- 4. The following documents as required by Georgia Law OCGA 36-72-5:**
  - a. Evidence of Ownership ("(1) Evidence of ownership of the land on which the cemetery or burial ground is located in the form of a legal opinion based upon a title search").**
  - b. Archeologist Report ("(2) A report prepared by an archeologist stating the number of graves believed to be present and their locations as can be determined from the use of minimally invasive investigation techniques, including remote sensing methods and the use of metal probes, which activities shall not require a permit").**
  - c. Survey of property ("(3) A survey prepared by or under the direction of a registered surveyor showing the location and boundaries of the cemetery or burial ground based on an archeologist's report").**
  - d. Genealogist Plan ("(4) A plan prepared by a genealogist for identifying and notifying the descendants of those buried or believed to be buried in such cemetery").**
  - e. Mitigation Proposal ("(5) A proposal for mitigation or avoidance of the effects of the planned activity on the cemetery or burial ground. If the proposal includes relocation of any human remains or burial objects, the proposal shall specify the method of disinterment, the location and method of disposition of the remains, the approximate cost of the process, and the approximate number of graves affected").**
  - f. Disinterment/Reinternment Plan (See above e. Mitigation Proposal).**
- 5. The Lamar County Superior Court shall hold a public hearing to consider the application. The Court shall schedule and advertise the public hearing.**
- 6. The applicant, or his/her agent, shall attend the public hearing.**



Superior Court  
Telephone: 770- 358-5145

## APPLICATION FOR BURIAL DISTURBANCE PERMIT

APPLICANT INFORMATION		OWNER INFORMATION	
NAME: <u>City of Barnesville</u>		NAME: <u>City of Barnesville</u>	
ADDRESS: <u>109 Forsyth Street</u> <u>Barnesville, GA 30204</u>		ADDRESS: <u>109 Forsyth Street</u> <u>Barnesville, GA 30204</u>	
PHONE: <u>770-358-0181</u>		PHONE: <u>770-358-0181</u>	
CONTACT PERSON: <u>David K. Rose</u>			
PHONE: <u>770-358-0181</u>			
APPLICANT IS THE:			
<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER'S AGENT		<input type="checkbox"/> CONTACT PERSON	
<input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY OWNER			
DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION			
NAME OF DEVELOPMENT <u>Meadow Railway Industrial Park</u>			
BURIAL LOCATION <u>Old Milner Road</u>			
NUMBER OF GRAVES <u>103</u>		ACREAGE OF SITE <u>.835</u>	
ESTIMATED COST OF MITIGATION <u>\$250.000</u>			
APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS CHECKLIST			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EVIDENCE OF OWNERSHIP		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGIST REPORT	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GENEALOGIST PLAN		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MITIGATION PROPOSAL	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISINTERMENT/RIENTERMENT PLAN		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SURVEY OF PROPERTY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LEGAL DESCRIPTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION FEE	

\$

APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

The undersigned below certifies that he/she is authorized to submit this application on behalf of the owner:

Signature of Applicant David K. Rose Date 4/17/18

Type or Print Name and Title David K. Rose, City Manager City of Barnesville

Signature of Notary Public Carolyn D. Parker Date 4/17/2018

My Commission Expires: Notary Public, Lower County, Georgia  
My Commission Expires October 4, 2021 Notary Seal

OWNER'S CERTIFICATION

The undersigned below certifies that he/she is the owner of the property considered in the application:

Signature of Owner David K. Rose Date 4/17/18

Type or Print Name and Title David K. Rose, City Manager City of Barnesville

Signature of Notary Public Carolyn D. Parker Date 4/17/2018

My Commission Expires: Notary Public, Lower County, Georgia  
My Commission Expires October 4, 2021 Notary Seal

DECISION BY SUPERIOR COURT

Denial  Approval as Requested  Approved with the following conditions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Action Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Superior Court Action: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Burial Disturbance Permit  
To Lamar County Superior Court**

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**APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO  
RELOCATE THE WADSWORTH - CLAYTON  
CEMETERY  
LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**SUBMITTED TO:**

**Lamar County Superior Court  
326 Thomaston Street,  
Barnesville, Georgia 30204**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**City of Barnesville  
109 Forsyth Street  
Barnesville, Georgia 30204**

**Submitted:**

**April 2018**

## INTRODUCTION

The City of Barnesville proposes to disinter and relocate graves from the Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery in western Lamar County, Georgia. The Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery is an abandoned cemetery that is threatened by proposed industrial development (Figure 1). The cemetery was delineated by archaeologists from Southern Research, Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc. (Southern Research) of Waverly Hall, Georgia in April 2017. The delineation determined that approximately 103 individuals may be buried in the cemetery.

Georgia Code **OCGA Title 36, Chapter 72** requires a permit from the local governing body before any disturbances including disinterment can begin. This permit application follows the guidelines and requirements of **OCGA 36- 72- 5** for a permit application to the Lamar Superior Court.

Members of the Archibald Wadsworth family began to be buried in the cemetery possibly as early as 1839. Archibald Wadsworth was buried there in 1856 and as many as a dozen family members (children and their spouses and grandchildren) may be present. In addition to the Wadsworth family graves, there may be African-American slaves and/or freedmen as well as a mass grave with thirty or so victims of a civil war era train wreck that occurred nearby in 1864.

Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery is located on top of a prominent hill west of the Old Milner Road in a pasture. There are no standing monuments or marked graves across the hilltop but a few fieldstone markers are present in the cemetery. Figures 2 and 5 show the conditions at the cemetery in April 2017.



Figure 1. Location of the Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery.



Figure 2. Google Earth Imagery from April 2017.

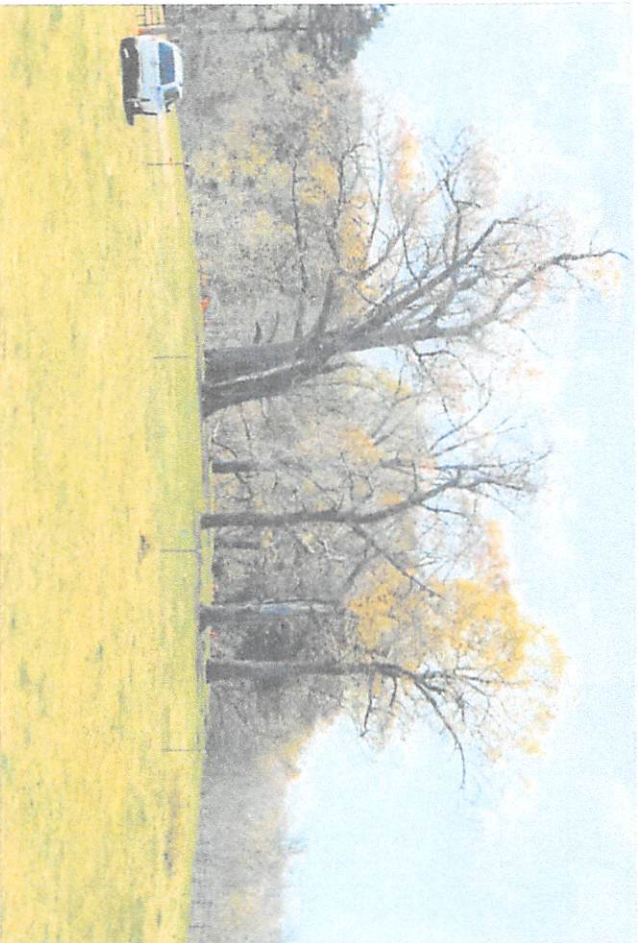


Figure 3. View of Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery Looking West in April 2017.



Figure 4. Example of a Grave Marked with a Quartzite Fieldstone at the Wadsworth – Clayton Cemetery (2017).



Figure 5. Example of a Grave Marked with a Quartzite Ledger at the Wadsworth – Clayton Cemetery (2017).



**LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
Wadsworth Cemetery**

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 7, Eighth Land District, 533<sup>rd</sup> (Barnesville) Georgia Militia District in Lamar County, Georgia, containing 0.833 acres and being more particularly described as follows:

From Point of Reference marked by an iron pin at the northeast corner of 30.50 acre tract shown on plat in Plat Book 8, Page 265 in the Clerk's office of Lamar County Superior Court; Thence a bearing of North 15°17'40" West for a distance of 953.27 feet to a traverse nail at the southeast corner of subject tract and the POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE a bearing of South 70°10'00" West for a distance of 236.13 feet to a traverse nail;

THENCE a bearing of North 48°38'35" West for a distance of 85.02 feet to a traverse nail;

THENCE a bearing of North 0°50'55" East for a distance of 73.75 feet to a traverse nail;

THENCE a bearing of North 73°54'35" East for a distance of 265.64 feet to a traverse nail;

THENCE a bearing of South 14°26'40" East for a distance of 127.45 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Subject property is enclosed by a wire fence that marks the limits of an old cemetery situated within and surrounded by property of the City of Barnesville, Georgia; said cemetery is known as the Wadsworth Cemetery.

# EVIDENCE OF OWNERSHIP

LAMAR COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
JAN 10 1936 4:10 p.m.  
DEED BOOK 181 PAGE 175-176

After recording return to:  
Norman Smith, Attorney  
133 Forsyth Street  
Barnesville, GA 30204

ROBERT F. ARBONIT, CLERK

GEORGIA, LAMAR COUNTY

WARRANTY DEED  
BOOK 181 PAGE 175

This indenture made the 10th day of January in the year one thousand nine hundred ninety-six between 0 73

ZOLLIE S. GRAHAM, JAMES O. GRAHAM, DONALD F. GORDY, MARTHA JANE "JANE", SINGLETON, and DEBORAH STELL SMITH

of the Counties of Fulton, Lamar, Lamar, Pulaski, State of Georgia and Montgomery County, Alabama, respectively, as parties of the first part, hereinafter called the Grantors, and

CITY OF BARNESVILLE, a municipal corporation  
existing under the laws of Georgia

of the County of Lamar, State of Georgia, as party of the second part, hereinafter called the Grantee, (the words "Grantor" and "Grantee" to include their respective heirs, successors and assigns where the context requires or permits)

WITNESSETH that: Grantor for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars, in hand paid at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents does grant, bargain, sell, alien, convey and confirm unto the said Grantee,

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 533rd Militia District, G.M., Lamar County, Georgia, containing one hundred twenty-three (123) acres, more or less, and known as the F.J. Bailey, Sr. Place and bounded now or formerly as follows: North by lands of Charles Fred Brown and Eliza Jackson (now Willie Fred Brown and Rayoner, Inc.); East by the Central of Georgia Railway Company; South by the lands of Mrs. Addie Gladys Trice and F.O. Harrell; and on the West by lands of F.O. Harrell and lands of Mark Berry. This being the same land described in that deed dated May 2, 1959, from G.R. Knight to J.R. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 29 page 110, Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Lamar County, Georgia.

Also, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 533rd District, G.M., Lamar County, Georgia, and being on a public road leading from Milner, Georgia to a paved highway which leads from Barnesville to Zebulon, Georgia, the same being a small strip of land containing ten and thirty one hundredths (10.31) acres, more or less, and described as follows: Beginning at the public road above mentioned where said strip of land corners with lands formerly owned by William Wilkes and then running in a northeastern direction along said road a distance of three hundred twenty seven (327) feet to an iron pin; thence west one thousand four hundred forty two (1442) feet to an iron pin; thence south three hundred (300) feet to a corner with property formerly owned by William Wilkes, R.O. Harrell, and the above described strip of land; thence running east with the line of said William Wilkes to the starting point. This being the same land described in a deed dated August 9, 1954 from Mrs. Addie Gladys Trice

BOOK 181 PAGE 176

to J.R. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 35 page 260 in the Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Lamar County, Georgia.

Also, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Lamar County, Georgia, and further described as follows: One acre of land known from 1937 to the present time as the Stroudville School property and bounded now or formerly as follows: On the east by the Central of Georgia Right-of-Way, south by land of J.R. Smith; and on the west and north by land of the place formerly known as the Stallings place. This is the same one acre of land as described in Deed Book 11 pages 563-564 in deed records of Lamar County, Georgia. This being the same land described in a deed dated November 10, 1955 from Lamar County Board of Education to J.R. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 30 page 399, Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Lamar County, Georgia.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land, with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances thereof, to the same being, belonging, or in anywise appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said Grantee, forever in FEE SIMPLE.

AND THE SAID Grantor will warrant and forever defend the right and title to the above described property unto the said Grantee against the claims of all persons whomsoever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has signed and sealed this deed, the day and year above written.

*Zellie S. Graham* (SEAL)  
Zellie S. Graham  
*James O. Graham* (SEAL)  
James O. Graham  
*Donald F. Gordy* (SEAL)  
Donald F. Gordy  
*Martha Jane "Liquie" Singleton* (SEAL)  
Martha Jane "Liquie" Singleton  
*Deborah Stell Smith* (SEAL)  
Deborah Stell Smith

Sworn to and subscribed before the undersigned this the 10th day of January, 1996.

*Ann Stevens*  
*[Signature]*  
Notary Public

Lamar County, Georgia  
Book 181 Page 176  
Paid \$ - 0 -  
Date JAN 10 1996  
*[Signature]*





**TITLE OPINION (3 PAGES)**

LAW OFFICES  
**HAYGOOD, LYNCH, HARRIS, MELTON & WATSON**

A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

POST OFFICE BOX 637

67 NORTH LEE STREET

FORSYTH, GEORGIA 31029

(478) 884-6371

FAX (478) 890-4383

CHARLES G. HAYGOOD, JR.  
LARRY R. LYNCH  
ROBERT L. HARRIS  
C. ROBERT MELTON  
MOLLY WATSON WATSON

OF COUNSEL  
JERAM V. EL-SHERKAWY

MONTICELLO OFFICE  
1704 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
SUITE 201, CITY HALL COMPLEX  
MONTICELLO, GEORGIA 31084  
(706) 438-4343

March 7, 2018

Mr. Kenneth Roberts  
City Manager  
City of Barnesville  
109 Forsyth Street  
Barnesville, GA 30204

Re: Real Estate Title Opinion  
126.79 Acres, in Land Lots 6 and 7 of the Seventh Land  
District of Lamar County, Georgia, and in Land Lots 6 and  
7 of the Eighth Land District of Lamar County, Georgia/  
Lamar County Tax Parcel 023 011/Old Milner Road

Dear Mr. Roberts:

At your request on behalf of the City of Barnesville, this is to certify that we have had examined the two following described properties for a period of more than fifty years next preceding the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

The description of the property as to which the title has been examined is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

Pursuant to said examination, and presuming that by a deed dated January 10, 1996, from Zolile S. Graham, James O. Graham, Donald F. Gordy, Martha Jane "Jane" Singleton, and Deborah Stell Smith to the City of Barnesville, and recorded in Deed Book 181, Page 175, Lamar County records, the City was conveyed good and valid title, we can certify that the record title to the property is in the City of Barnesville, a municipal corporation of the State of Georgia, subject to the following:

1. Roads, rights of way and easements actually affecting said property.
2. The exact location of boundary lines, unrecorded easements, and other facts or conditions which would be disclosed by an accurate survey and/or inspection of the property; the rights, if any, of parties who may be in possession under claims not appearing of record; any claims for materials, services and/or labor furnished in improvement of said property within the preceding 90 days and not filed for record at the effective date hereof.

3. Any and all matters affecting said property which are not properly indexed, filed or recorded in Lamar County, Georgia; any and all governmental rules, laws, ordinances or regulations, including zoning and environmental, which might affect the use and occupancy of said property; and the presumption that all recitals and all signatures in all instruments in the chain of title are correct.

4. The City is exempt from ad valorem taxes.

5. In the chain of title there is a deed from the "heirs at law of Lewis T. Graham, deceased" to Zollie S. Graham and James O. Graham, but the probate records of Lamar County do not show a probate proceeding on the Estate of Lewis T. Graham.

6. Security Deed dated November 14, 2007, from the City of Barnesville to First National Bank of Barnesville, and recorded in Deed Book 649, Page 178, and by assignment dated February 24, 2014 the FDIC as receiver to First National Bank assigned the Security Deed to United Bank, the assignment being recorded in Deed Book 839, Page 212, said deed records. It is noted that the Security Deed provides that the secured debt is a "promissory note to the Barnesville-Lamar County Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$1,348,800.00 plus fees and interest with a maturity of November 14, 2008."

7. Security Deed dated December 13, 2013, from the City of Barnesville to United Bank, and recorded in Deed Book 841, Page 239, Lamar County deed records. It is noted that the secured debt is a "Note dated December 13, 2013, in the amount of \$658,008.00 accruing at a fixed rate with a maturity date of December 7, 2014. Said loan in the name(s) of Barnesville Lamar County Industrial Development and Authority."

Sincerely,



C. Robert Melton

CRM/cb

**EXHIBIT "A"**

AS that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 533<sup>rd</sup> Milled District, G.M., Lamar County, Georgia, containing one hundred twenty-three (123) acres, more or less, and known as the T.J. Bailey, Sr. Place and bounded now or formerly as follows: North by lands of Charles Fred Brown and Eliza Jackson (now Willie Fred Brown and Rayonier, Inc.); East by the Central of Georgia Railway Company; South by the lands of Mrs. Adèle Gladys Trice and R.O. Harrell; and on the West by lands of R.O. Harrell and lands of Mark Berry. This being the same land described in that deed dated May 2, 1958, from G.R. Knight to J.R. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 29, Page 110, Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Lamar County, Georgia.

Also, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 533<sup>rd</sup> District, G.M., Lamar County, Georgia, and being on a public road leading from Milner, Georgia to a paved highway which leads from Barnesville to Zebulon, Georgia, the same being a small strip of land containing ten and thirty one hundredths (10.31) acres, more or less, and described as follows: Beginning at the public road above mentioned where said strip of land corners with lands formerly owned by William Wilkes and then running in a northeastern direction along said road a distance of three hundred twenty seven (327) feet to an iron pin; thence west one thousand four hundred forty two (1442) feet to an iron pin; thence south three hundred (300) feet to a corner with property formerly owned by William Wilkes, R.O. Harrell, and the above described strip of land; thence running east with the line of said William Wilkes to the starting point. This being the same land described in a deed dated August 9, 1954 from Mrs. Adèle Gladys Trice to J.R. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 35, Page 250 in the Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Lamar County, Georgia.

Also, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Lamar County, Georgia, and further described as follows: One acre of land known from 1937 to the present time as the Stroudville School property and bounded now or formerly as follows: On the east by the Central of Georgia Right-of-Way, south by land of J.R. Smith; and on the west and north by land of the place formerly known as the Stallings place. This is the same one acre of land as described in Deed Book 11, Pages 563-564 in the deed records of Lamar County, Georgia. This being the same land described in a deed dated November 10, 1955 from Lamar County Board of Education to J.R. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 30, Page 399, Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Lamar County, Georgia.



Shallow hand dug excavations confirmed that the GPR Survey discovered graves at the cemetery. Figure 8 shows the faint stains of three graves just below the ground's surface in an area where the GPR indicated over a dozen possible graves.

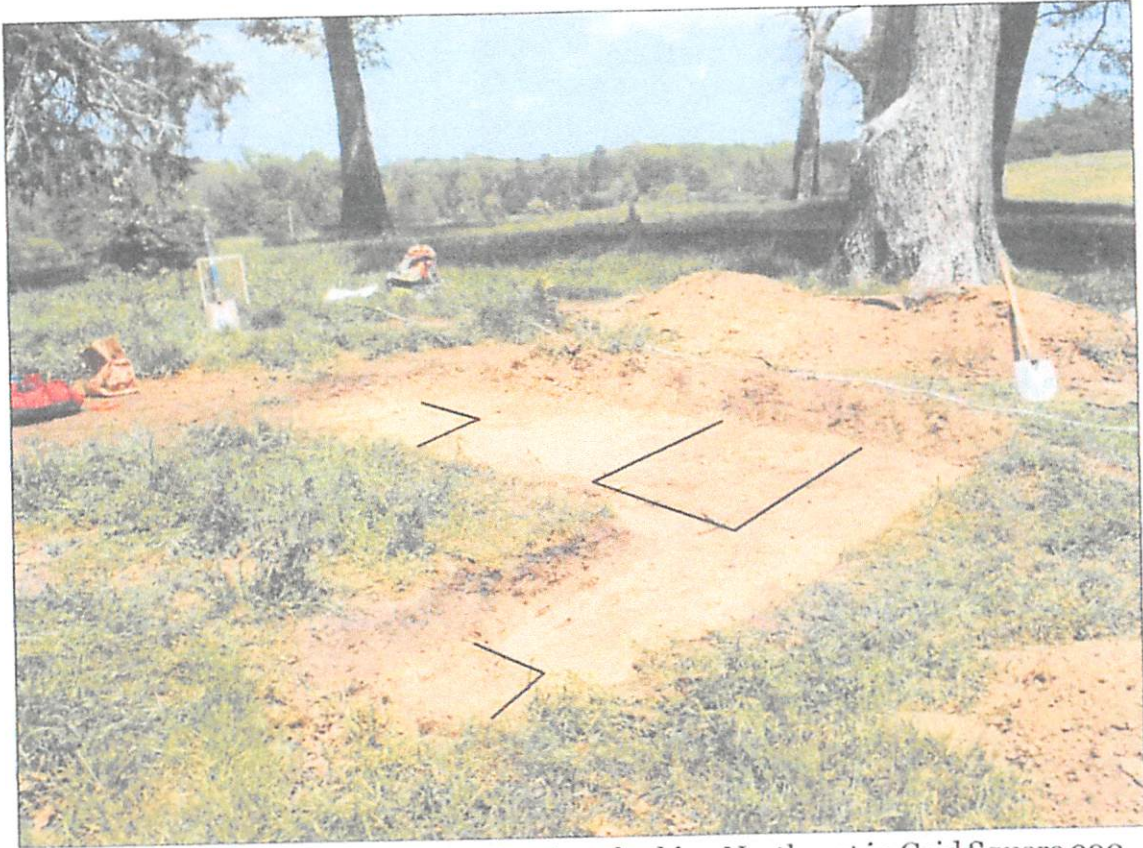


Figure 8. A View of the Shallow Excavations looking Northeast in Grid Square 990-995N, 995-1000E. There are Three Graves Outlined that show up as Faint Stains just below the Ground's Surface.

The full Archaeological Survey Report by Southern Research is appended to this application (Appendix I).

## **DISINTERMENT AND RELOCATION PLAN**

The City of Barnesville proposes to develop the Industrial zoned property where the abandoned cemetery is located for industrial purposes which threatens the abandoned Wadsworth Cemetery. **OCGA 36 - 72 - 15** provides for the relocation of burials and burial objects to an offsite location in such cases. When the cemetery is relocated, all work will be supervised by Southern Research's Principal Archaeologist who is experienced in mortuary studies and is a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA). He will be assisted by a staff of seven professional archaeologists with extensive experience in mortuary archaeology. Based upon the survey, as many as 100 individuals may be disinterred and relocated. The total number will depend upon how many graves are discovered during the process. The effort is estimated to take from five to eight weeks. The plan for disinterment and relocation will involve the following tasks and efforts:

- The disinterment of the burials and burial objects will be off limits to all but Southern Research personnel, representatives of the City of Barnesville and recognized Wadsworth family descendants. No media representatives or onlookers will be present. Security during off hours will be arranged for by the City of Barnesville.

- The process begins by using a smooth bucket on a backhoe to strip the first one foot of top soil from the cemetery. This will not intrude into any graves but will allow the top of the grave shafts to be exposed. A Southern Research archaeologist with extensive heavy equipment experience will do this work.

- Once all the graves, known and newly discovered, are mapped, the backhoe will be used to carefully remove the grave shaft fill to a point just above each coffin. This point is what archaeologists refer to as the shelf or ledge and marks the point where the coffin will be encountered.

- The hand excavation of the contents of the grave will use small tools such as masonry pointing trowels, shovels, brushes and ¼ inch screens.

- The remains of each individual will be recorded on a Burial Form that will describe the skeletal elements and their condition with particular attention to details that may aid in the determination of sex and age at time of death. An example of this form is appended to this application (Appendix 2). The precise location of each grave will be recorded.

- The human remains, essence soil, coffin remains, and coffin hardware will be placed in durable containers.

- Transportation of the burial containers will be in enclosed vans travelling to the Greenwood Cemetery located on Adams Street in Barnesville, Georgia.

- An inventory of graves excavated and taken to the Greenwood Cemetery will be maintained throughout the removal and reinterment process

- The remains will be reburied in the Greenwood Cemetery retaining the same relative location and configuration found in the original cemetery.

## **2017 PLAN FOR NOTIFYING DESCENDENTS**

In 2017 Southern Research, Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc., working for the City of Barnesville, created a plan to identify the descendants of the Archibald Wadsworth - Clayton family members purported to be buried in the Wadsworth cemetery. The firm's Principal Historian, Karen G. Wood, and professional genealogist, Callie McGinnis, researched the Archibald and Clarissa Wadsworth family history to assist in identifying the family's descendants that are possibly interred in the Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery. Local lore also related that there were family slaves buried in the cemetery as well as the possibility of mass grave containing the burials of the remains of Civil War soldiers (and others) who were killed in a nearby train wreck that occurred on September 1, 1864. Sources consulted included:

- US Federal Census--population schedules
  
- Lamar & Pike County Court records:
  - Tax records
  - Probate Court
    - Wills
    - Probates of estates
    - Death and marriage licenses
  - Superior Court
    - Deeds
  
- Archived Newspapers
  - Macon Telegraph, Daily Constitutionalist (Augusta), Barnesville Gazette* and any other pertinent ones reporting on events in the Barnesville area in particular reports on the September 2, 1864 trainwreck
  
- County histories (especially for Pike and Lamar counties)
  
- Family histories (ie. *The Wadsworth Family in America, Book 2*, by Mary Jane Fry 1985)
  
- Local historians: Timothy Turner & Shanna English
  
- Ancestry.com
  - Census
  - Family records
  - Message boards
  
- Miscellaneous Civil War Records
  - Civil War Military Records (Pertinent to the 1864 train wreck near the Wadsworth property)



**-Public Contact/Outreach**

**Run notices in local newspapers in Lamar, Pike, Meriwether,  
Upson, Monroe, and Spalding Counties**

**Message board contacts through Ancestry.com & through contacts listed in  
Find A Grave for the Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery register**

## **RESULTS OF GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH ON THE ARCHIBALD WADSWORTH FAMILY AND NOTIFICATION RESULTS FROM THE 2017 NOTIFICATION PROCESS**

### **Notification of Potential Descendants of Archibald Wadsworth through website Ancestry.com on June 19, 2017**

Genealogist Callie McGinnis searched Ancestry.com's membership for persons who had researched the Wadsworth family and might be descended from Archibald Wadsworth. She came up with a list of 168 usernames. She then went through this list determining those who recently had been active in Ancestry.com, claimed to be a descendant of Archibald Wadsworth and who cited at least 13 sources in their claim of consanguinity to Archibald. From this process a list of 12 individuals were established as potential descendants. The list of 12 were then contacted by Karen G. Wood of Southern Research through the Ancestry.com messaging service. These individuals were contacted through their usernames as listed below:

1. *Nykudzume* (Wadsworth Family Tree – multiple lines of descent – 26 sources)
2. *RBDill* (Ullyot -- descended from daughter Elizabeth – 21 sources)
3. *Amfamhistbuffs* (Jones Family Tree – descended from dau. Elizabeth – 21 sources)
4. *Chipwestbrook1* (Westbrook II Family Tree – descent through Amy – but has through W.S. – 17 sources)
5. *Sinjinpch* (Colleen Davis Family Tree – descended from John – 17 sources)
6. *Joannem* (Martin Family Tree – descended through Nancy, dau. of John – 14 sources)
7. *Mobleydj* (My Family – descended from Amy – 14 sources)
8. *Jeremiah Crow* (Crow-Bowman Family Tree – descended from dau. Amy – 13 sources)
9. *Bpyles47* (Autumn Leaves – descended from John – 13 sources)
10. *Momsdottiebug* (Dickerson Family Tree – descended from John – 13 sources)
11. *Allen Jeffcoat*, Myrtle Beach, SC (JeffcoatCrosby Family Tree – descended from son John – 13 sources)
12. *Ldking423* (King, Ensley, Merriman, Howell Family Tree – descended through Elizabeth – 13 sources)

The following message was sent to each of the 12 individuals that read as follows:

*Dear Wadsworth Researcher,  
The City of Barnesville has identified you as a possible direct descendant of Archibald and Clarissa Wadsworth, both born in North Carolina. Archibald Wadsworth died in Pike County, Georgia in 1856 and Clarissa Wadsworth died at an earlier unspecified date. They are buried in an abandoned cemetery on*

*their former property now in Lamar County, Georgia. The cemetery, which is called the Wadsworth Family Cemetery by various sources, is comprised solely of unmarked graves. Some sources say there are about 18 members of the Wadsworth family buried there.*

*This message is to inform you that the City of Barnesville, Georgia, which has owned the property where the cemetery is located for twenty-one years, now has plans for an industrial development on the property that will require the unknown graves to be moved to a new location. As part of the process for moving an abandoned cemetery to a new location, direct descendants of Archibald and Clarissa Wadsworth have the right to comment on this proposed disinterment and reburial. Please follow the link <http://www.cityofbarnesville.com> to find out more information about the proposed removal and how to contact the City of Barnesville. This proposed removal and re-interment is being conducted and supervised according to Georgia Code 36-72-1 thru 16.*

Of these 12 people notified through the Ancestry.com, two responded through Ancestry.com to Karen G. Wood. They were:

- 1) *Sinjinpch*--Colleen Davis
- 2) *Mobleydj*--Deborah Sheppard

Colleen Davis contacted the City of Barnesville; however, Deborah Sheppard did not. In the last nine months there has been no contact from the other 10 individuals through Ancestry.com.

#### Notification Of Potential Descendants of Archibald Wadsworth through Find A Grave website

*Note that information on the Find A Grave web site ([www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)) is compiled by volunteers who enter interments without being required to cite references. This database is constantly in flux. Since the appearance of the Wadsworth Cemetery newspaper notice to possible descendants in late June 2017, over 20 new entries have appeared on the Wadsworth Cemetery Find A Grave site. The validity of these new entries is questionable.*

In 2017 there were four names listed as interments in the Find A Grave's website for the Wadsworth-Clayton Cemetery of Pike County, Georgia. They were:

- 1) Archibald Wadsworth (posted in Find A Grave in September 2013)
- 2) John Wadsworth (posted in Find A Grave in September 2013)
- 3) Clarissa Wadsworth (posted in Find A Grave in September 2013)
- 4) Mary Susan Wadsworth (died in Jan. 2016 and posted in Find A Grave in Jan. 10, 2016)

The first three Wadsworth names (Archibald, John and Clarissa) had been submitted by Patsy Whitehead with the email link [pitty35903@yahoo.com](mailto:pitty35903@yahoo.com). It was

determined that the fourth listed interment of Mary Susan Wadsworth was in error. The funeral home (MCLeighton) that handled the funeral arrangements for Mary S. Wadsworth was contacted and it was discovered that she had been buried in a private cemetery in Mauk (Taylor County) Georgia . An email message using the exact same verbiage (see above) used in the Ancestry.com notifications was emailed to Ms. Patsy Whitehead on June 21, 2017. The email was returned as undeliverable indicating the yahoo account had been disabled or discontinued.

A Public Message was also sent to a "Mary" through the Find A Grave Wadsworth Cemetery site since she had expressed an interest in the cemetery by posting a memorial to Archibald Wadsworth. The same notice used in Ancestry.com and sent to Patsy Whitehead was sent to Mary. There was no reply.

### Newspaper Notices for the proposed Disinterment and Relocation of the Wadsworth Cemetery

The following notice was published five county newspapers in Lamar County, Meriwether County, Upson County, Pike County, and Monroe County the last week of June and the first week of July. The notices were published in the on-line and print editions of the local newspapers.

#### Newspaper Notice for Descendants of Family Members Buried in the Wadsworth Family Cemetery

The City of Barnesville, Georgia is proposing to move the abandoned Wadsworth Family Cemetery located on the Old Milner Road/Cannafax Road and reinter all of the remains in a designated area of Greenwood Cemetery in Barnesville, Georgia. The City seeks to notify and allow comment from any direct descendants of those interred in the abandoned cemetery on this supervised removal and re-interment project. There are no grave markers in the Wadsworth Family Cemetery, but according to local historians, Archibald and Clarissa Wadsworth along with some of their children and grandchildren are buried there. The cemetery may also include African-American slaves. There is a local tale of unverified burials of Civil War soldiers, who died in a nearby train wreck on September 2, 1864. All inquiries may be addressed to:

Timothy T. Turner  
Assistant City Manager  
City of Barnesville  
City Hall  
109 Forsyth Street  
Barnesville, Georgia 30204  
Office: (770) 358 – 0181  
Fax: (770) 358 – 0185  
[tim.turner@cityofbarnesville.com](mailto:tim.turner@cityofbarnesville.com)

### **Results of Genealogical Research and Public Response**

Since there are no intact grave markers identifying those buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery, researchers have attempted to identify who might be buried based on local legend and generally accepted knowledge of both printed sources and oral history. But it must be remembered that no one living today knows who is actually buried in the cemetery, nor were there any existing written records identifying the burials interred there found during the research. Local legend identifies three groups of people that potentially may be buried in the cemetery:

- 1) Archibald Wadsworth and members of his family
- 2) Possible slaves of the Wadsworth family
- 3) Civil War train wreck victims

**Wadsworth Family.** Edna Lois Patterson Cox-Howell, who was the granddaughter of Missouri Wadsworth, who was a child of John and Nancy Wadsworth, provided the best source for Wadsworth family members that may be buried in the family cemetery. Ms. Patterson related to Mr. Timothy Turner the names of the family members that she recalled buried there. Ms. Patterson was born in 1912 and she visited the cemetery with Mr. Turner in 1988 pointing out the names and places of some of the graves she remembered. Mr. Turner recorded the names and has since shared this information with others and posted the information on Ancestry.com. Over the years Mr. Turner has compiled a detailed ancestry chart for the Wadsworth family starting with Archibald Wadsworth and his wife, Clarissa Wadsworth. The family members that Ms. Patterson remembered as being buried in the cemetery were:

Archibald Wadsworth (1765-1856)

Clarissa Wadsworth (daughter) (1800-exact date unknown)

John Wadsworth (son) 22 June 1802-21 December 1864)

Amy Wadsworth Wadsworth (daughter) (1804-exact date unknown)

William S. Wadsworth (husband of Amy Wadsworth) (exact dates unknown)

Nancy Wadsworth Jones (daughter) (1814-exact date unknown)

Seaborn Jones (husband of Nancy Wadsworth) (exact dates unknown)

Mary Wadsworth McKellar (daughter) (1807-exact date unknown)

Elizabeth Wadsworth Smith (daughter) (1810-1889)

Nancy Wadsworth (wife of John) (15 July 1799-14 October 1869)

Mary Ann Wadsworth Jones (1814-exact date unknown)

Martha Ann Wadsworth 23 November 1828-20 March 1843)

Eli Wadsworth (1 April 1832-exact date unknown)

John Wadsworth (28 May 1834-6 November 1849)

Emily Caroline Wadsworth 14 February-1839-30 July 1839)

Missouri Ellen Wadsworth (24 March 1844-1896)

William Pierce Clayton (1859-1924)

Nancy Wadsworth Jones (1830-exact date unknown)

It is not known when the Wadsworth Cemetery took on the hyphenated name Wadsworth - Clayton Cemetery. A Mrs. Aaron supposedly added William Pierce Clayton to the list of burial names for the cemetery. However, William Pierce Clayton, who was born in 1859, died in Texas in 1903 or 1924 (disagreement on his death date), and it is unlikely that he would have been buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery.

There seems to be a connection between Archibald Wadsworth and Thomas Wadsworth, who possibly were brothers or cousins. Both moved from Moore County North Carolina to Georgia. Thomas was in Hancock County, Georgia by 1820 and we know that by 1826 Archibald is living in Pike County. Archibald Wadsworth is listed in the 1826 Pike County Tax Digest reporting 202.5 acres in District 8 land lot 6. Apparently Thomas joined Archibald in Pike County by sometime in the early 1830s. The 1840 census population schedule for Pike County, a Thomas Wadsworth is enumerated eight households before Archibald Wadsworth's household. In the same population schedule and same page Thomas Wadsworth is listed as the next household after John Wadsworth; other family members are enumerated on the same page of the population schedule as well.

Wadsworth Family Slaves. As far as slaves of the Wadsworth family that possibly could be buried in the cemetery there are no known names. Research of census records indicated that the Wadsworth family owned very few slaves. In the 1840 census there is only one adult female slave listed for Archibald. Seaborn Jones who married Nancy Wadsworth, a daughter of Archibald had two adult male slaves in 1840. In Archibald's will there is mention of one slave, Issac, who possibly was acquired by Seaborn Jones after Archibald's death in 1856; an adult male slave of about Issac's age is listed in the 1860 census for Seaborn Jones. These are the only slaves that could be identified associated with the family and there is no way to know if they are buried in the cemetery. If they lived beyond the end of the Civil War they may have moved elsewhere as free persons.

Civil War Train Wreck Victims. Oral history relates that there is a mass grave in the Wadsworth Cemetery. This grave supposedly contains the remains of those killed in the September 1, 1864 train wreck between a train traveling south on the Macon and Western Railroad from Atlanta with wounded soldiers fleeing Atlanta and a supply train traveling north on the same railroad tracks. No written evidence from the period of time of the train wreck was found that corroborates the story of where the train wreck casualties were buried. The trains reportedly collided near the Wadsworth property and there are a few newspaper articles of the time that recount the wreck but give little detail of who the casualties were or where they were buried. There are varying newspaper accounts that surmise that between 25 and 30 deaths occurred in the wreck. One account mentions a Lt. Bond, a Major

Saunders of Savannah, and a Miss Saffen of Memphis, Tennessee as casualties of the wreck (*Daily Constitutionalist* (Augusta, GA), September 4, 1864, Volume:XXI, Issue 264, page 1). In the book *Last Train from Atlanta* (Hoehling 1958:421), a brief discussion of the wreck mentions a Lt. Vaughan, an unnamed major, and an unnamed woman. Research on these names found that a Lt. Philip Bond is probably the Lt. Bond referred in the *Daily Constitutionalist* account (mentioned above). Phillip Bond was buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Mobile, Alabama. The "Vaughan" referenced in the Hoehling book could possibly be a corruption of "Bond". As for Major Saunders of Savannah, no information could be found on him from searching through Civil War documentation. No nineteenth century records were found that state the victims were buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery. The "Miss Saffen" may be a daughter of John and Matilda Saffarans who lived in Memphis Tennessee. They had three daughters and it was determined that two of the daughters married and lived beyond the date of 1864, but there was a third daughter named Georgiana who was born in 1841 and who no other information could be found on her. It is a possibility this is the woman who died in the wreck but there is no way to corroborate this and in any event she would unlikely have had any descendants.

Aboriginal or Native American Indians. In 2017 there was the suggestion by some locals that there could possibly be Indians buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery especially since Indian artifacts are found locally. However, most of the artifacts found on surrounding farm land belonged to much earlier Native American groups dating back hundreds to several thousand years ago and predating Creek Indians. Research did not uncover any evidence that there were any Native American Indians buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery. In all likelihood there were no Creek Indians in the area by the time the Wadsworth families settled there.

#### Contacts made from 2017 efforts to notify potential Wadsworth Descendants

Thirteen individuals contacted the City of Barnesville as a result of efforts in 2017 to notify descendants of Archibald Wadsworth concerning the City of Barnesville's proposed plans to remove the burials in the Wadsworth Cemetery. Some of these individuals claimed to be descendants of the Archibald Wadsworth Family buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery while others expressed the desire to be recognized as an interested party. There has been no formal verification of claims of descendancy from Archibald Wadsworth and family members potentially buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery. The individuals that made contact were:

- 1. Cynthia Wadsworth** (Cynthia Hardy Wadsworth Thomason) aka Alabama Wadsworth  
[thewadsworth@gmail.com](mailto:thewadsworth@gmail.com)  
The Old Castleberry Place – Georgetown, Georgia  
Descendant of Ignatious Wadsworth
- 2. Vivian Wadsworth Newkirk**  
[Vvnewkirk2@gmail.com](mailto:Vvnewkirk2@gmail.com)

- Date of correspondence: July 4, 2017; July 5, 2017; July 8, 2017
3. **Michael Ross** – Descendant of Archibald Wadsworth  
Date of correspondence: June 22, 2017; June 23, 2017; July 12, 2017
  4. **Brenda Ross** – wife of Michael Ross (descendant of Archibald Wadsworth)  
[brendaross@bellsouth.net](mailto:brendaross@bellsouth.net)
  5. **Ashley Gilles** – designated local “representative” of the Wadsworth Family
  6. **Colleen Niemi** – Claims she is a descendant of Archibald Wadsworth and that she has DNA evidence connecting her to “other Wadsworth descendants”  
Date of correspondence: June 19, 2017; June 20, 2017
  7. **Kyle Basco** – Descendant of Archibald Wadsworth  
[kbasco@abac.edu](mailto:kbasco@abac.edu)  
Date of correspondence: June 22, 2017; June 28, 2017
  8. **Carl Williams** – Friend of the Wadsworth Family (not a direct descendant)  
[carlewms@comcast.net](mailto:carlewms@comcast.net)  
Date of Correspondence: June 29, 2017
  9. **Angie Aldridge** – Not a direct descendant of Archibald Wadsworth  
[Aldridgedallas1@gmail.com](mailto:Aldridgedallas1@gmail.com)  
Date of Correspondence: June 21, 2017; June 22, 2017
  10. **William (Bill) Lindsey** – Not a direct descendant of Archibald Wadsworth  
[williamdlindsey@bellsouth.net](mailto:williamdlindsey@bellsouth.net)  
Date of Correspondence: May 8, 2017
  11. **Jeff Buller** – Not a direct descendant of Archibald Wadsworth  
[Selah.farm.georgia@gmail.com](mailto:Selah.farm.georgia@gmail.com)  
Date of Correspondence: July 11, 2017
  12. **Graquetta Banks** – Not a direct descendant of Archibald Wadsworth  
Date of Correspondence: July, 2017 via Facebook
  13. **Deborah Sheppard** – States she a descendent of Archibald Wadsworth  
727/938-4186 (Upson County, GA)  
Date of Correspondence: June 24, 2017 (through Ancestry.com message center)



## **2018 PLAN FOR NOTIFYING DESCENDENTS**

The City of Barnesville plans on publishing new notices of their intention to submit an application to the Lamar County Superior Court for permission to move and reinter the Wadsworth Cemetery remains. As part of this process as defined in OCG 36-72-6 the City of Barnesville will post new notices in several of the local newspapers in Lamar County and surrounding counties. The City will also notify each of the individuals who has previously contacted the City claiming to be a descendant of Archibald Wadsworth or expressing the desire to be considered an interested party.

Here is the notice that will appear in local newspapers:

### **NOTICE TO POSSIBLE DESCENDANTS OF THOSE BURIED OR BELIEVED TO BE BURIED IN THE WADSWORTH FAMILY CEMETERY IN LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

The City of Barnesville will be making an application to the Superior Court of Lamar County, Georgia for a permit under the "Abandoned Cemeteries and Burial Grounds" law of Georgia (Chapter 72 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia) to include but not be limited to disinterment and relocation of any human remains or burial objects in the burial ground or cemetery sometimes referred to as the Wadsworth Family Cemetery within City property located on Old Milner Road in Lamar County, containing 126 acres, more or less, and being Lamar County Tax Parcel 023 011.

Any possible descendant of those buried or believed to be buried in the burial ground or cemetery may contact the City of Barnesville, Assistant City Manager Timothy T. Turner, at Barnesville City Hall at 109 Forsyth Street in Barnesville, Georgia 30204 (office phone 770-358-0181; and fax 770-358-0185; and e-mail at [tim.turner@cityofbarnesville.com](mailto:tim.turner@cityofbarnesville.com) ). When the application is filed with the Superior Court, any possible descendant may also contact the Clerk's Office of Lamar Superior Court, at 326 Thomaston Street, in the Lamar County Courthouse, Barnesville, Georgia 30204; (770) 358-5145. Under the Georgia Code providing for abandoned cemeteries and burial grounds descendants have certain rights under Title 36, Chapter 72 of the Official Code of Georgia. Those rights include, among other things but not limited to, the opportunity to provide concerns and comments, to be made aware of the terms of any permit issues, to know the time and place of scheduled public hearings, and the right to appeal a decision with regard to the permitting process. See O.C.G.A. Title 36, Chapter 72 for additional information, including but not limited to Section 36-72-6.

The City through the permit process seeks a permit to include but not be limited to disinterment and relocation of any remains or burial objects in the burial ground or cemetery to another site more accessible to any descendants, and will be properly maintained and preserved, and to provide the most respectful treatment of human remains in accord with the equal and innate dignity of every human being and

**consistent with the identifiable ethnic, cultural, and religious affiliation of deceased individuals, as set out in the Georgia Code.**

# Burial Form

**BURIAL FORM**

**WADSWORTH – CLAYTON CEMETERY, LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**SR PROJECT #**

**Burial #**

**Feature #**

**Date Began:**

**Date Ended:**

**Excavator:**

**Excavator:**

**Recorder:**

**Observer:**

**Burial Shaft L-W (cm):**

**Burial Azimuth: Depth Below Surface:**

**Coffin Type:**

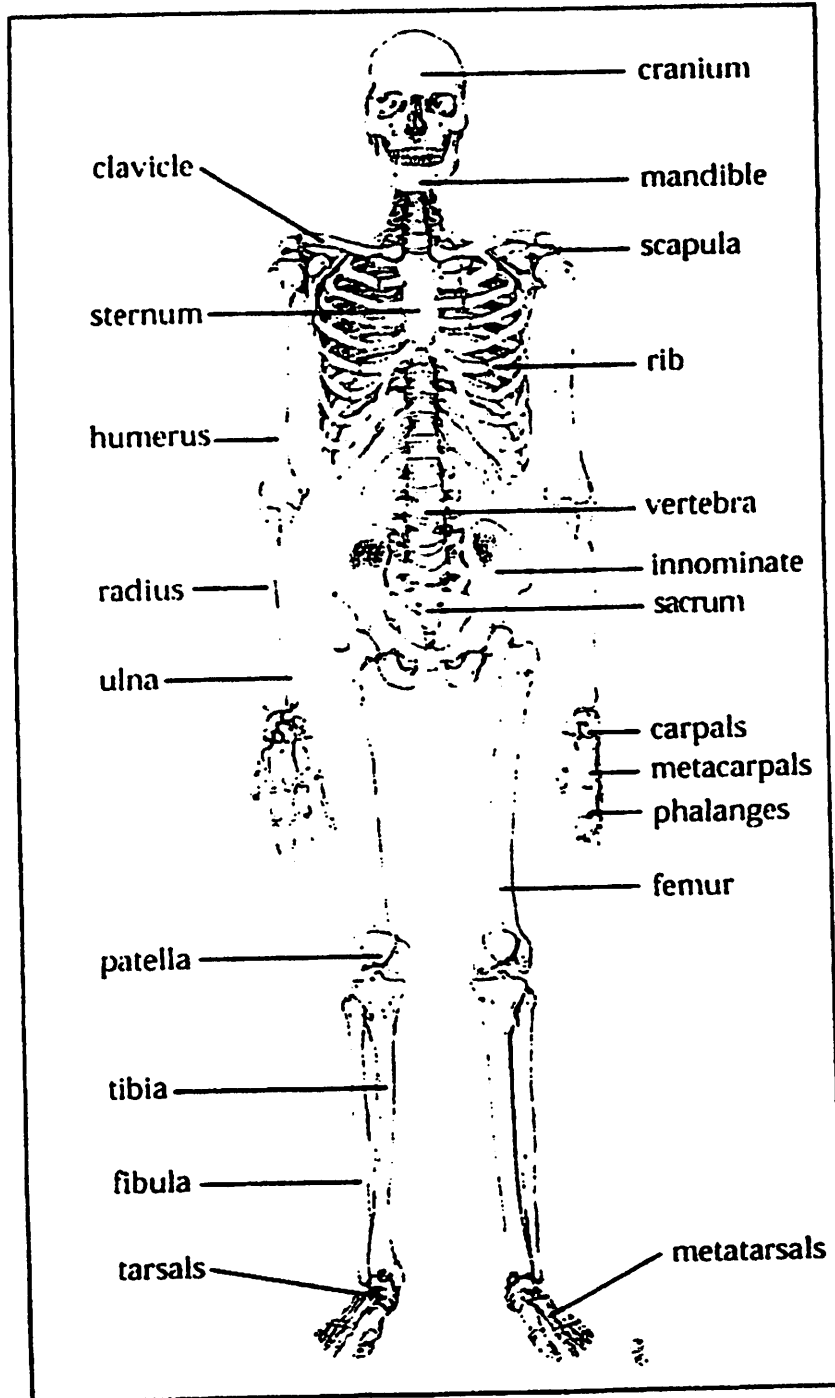
**Funerary Objects:**

**Grave Marker:**

**Photograph References:**

**Description and Comments:**

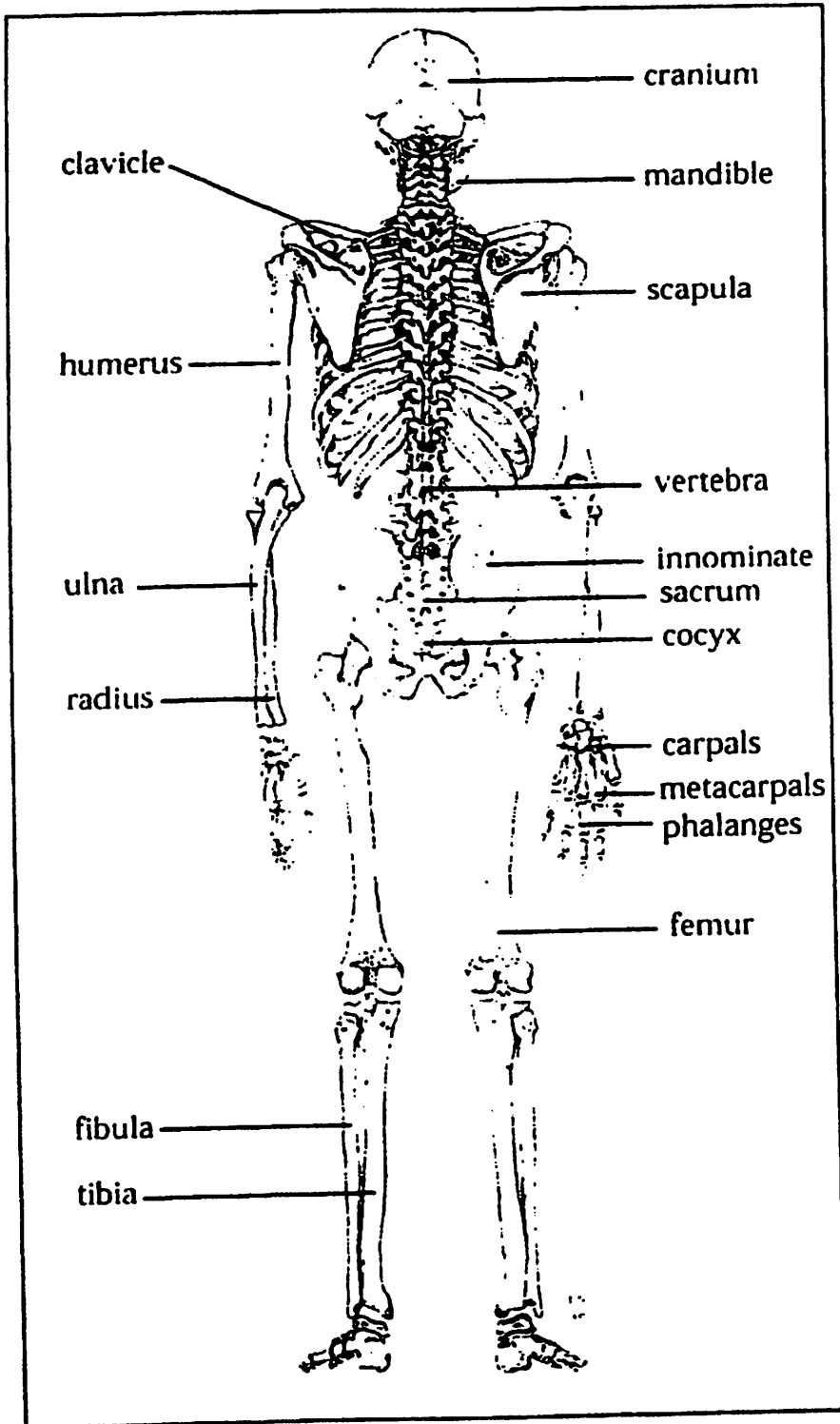
anterior view



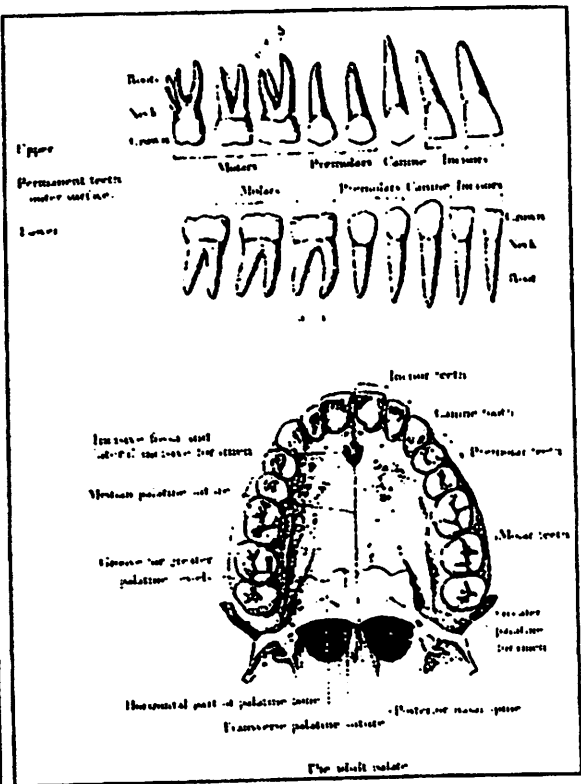
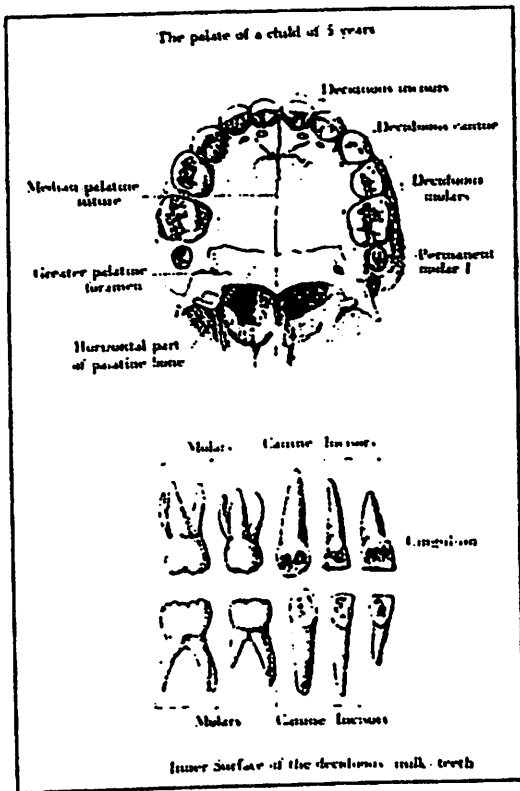
**RECORD ELEMENTS PRESENT ON DIAGRAM ABOVE AND NOTE CONDITIONS**

B

posterior view



RECORD ELEMENTS PRESENT ON DIAGRAM ABOVE AND NOTE CONDITIONS



**DENTITION**

8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

χ = loss a.m.

/ = loss p.m.

E = pulp exposure

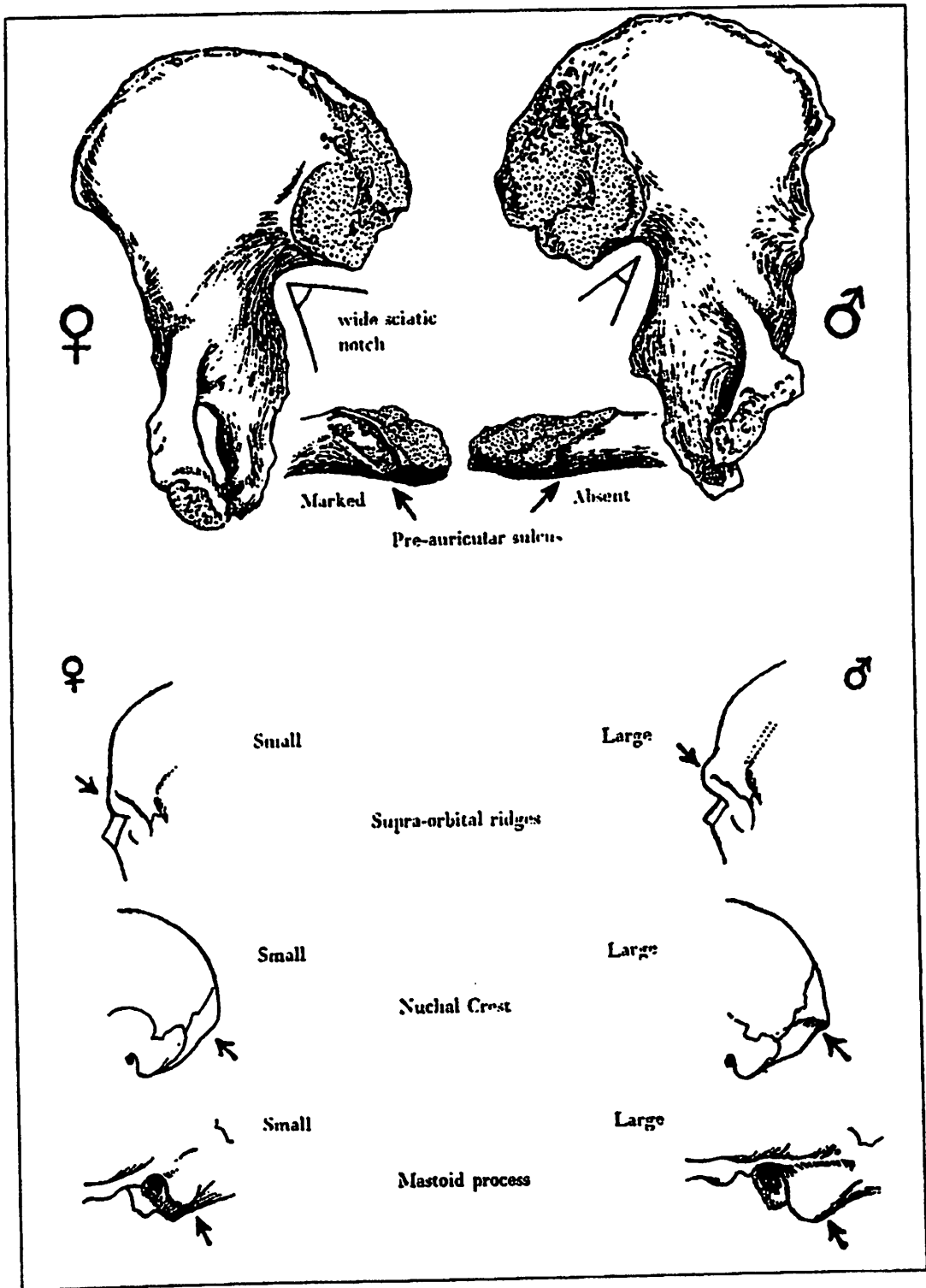
C = caries

A = abscess

∩ = unerupted

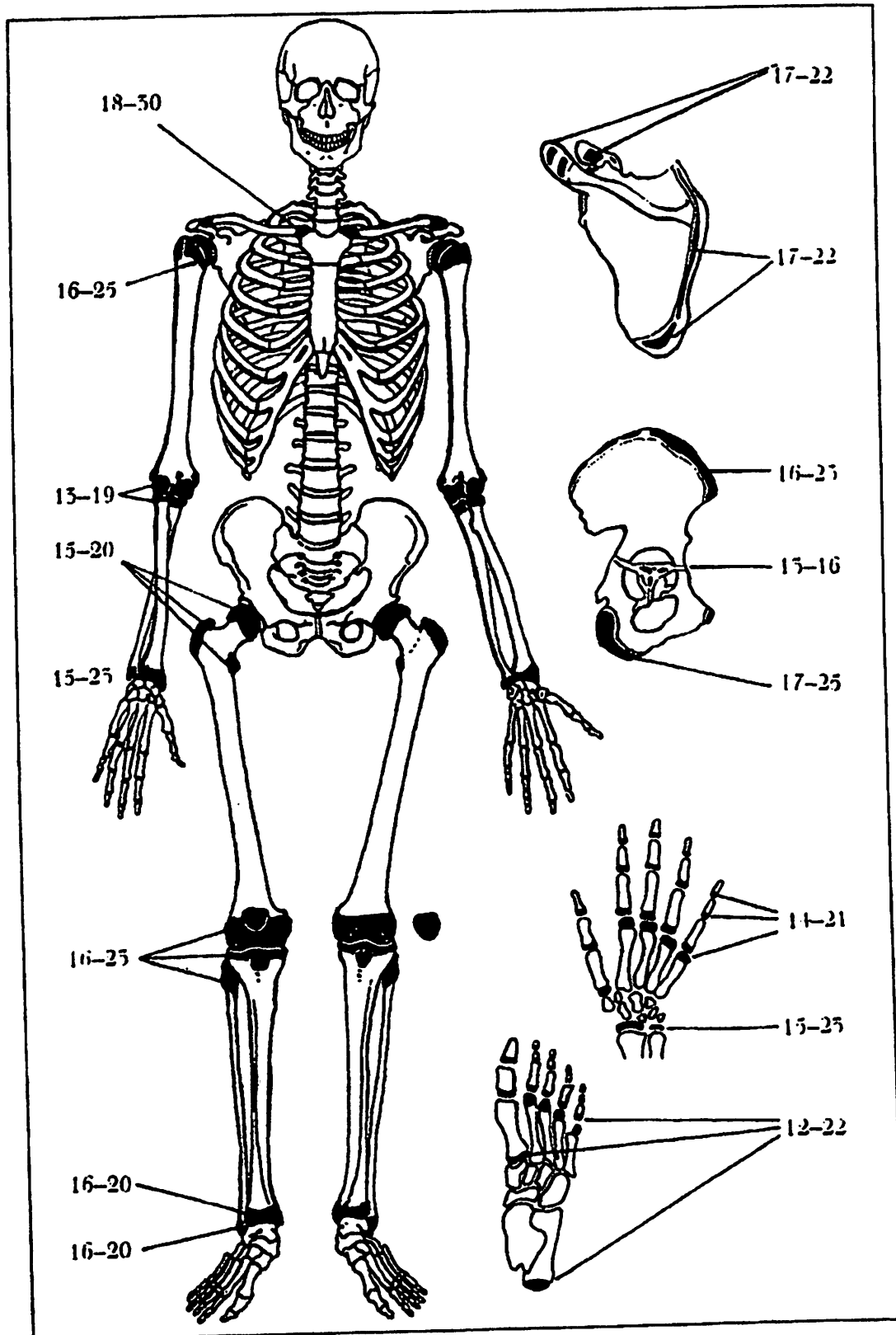
○ = erupting

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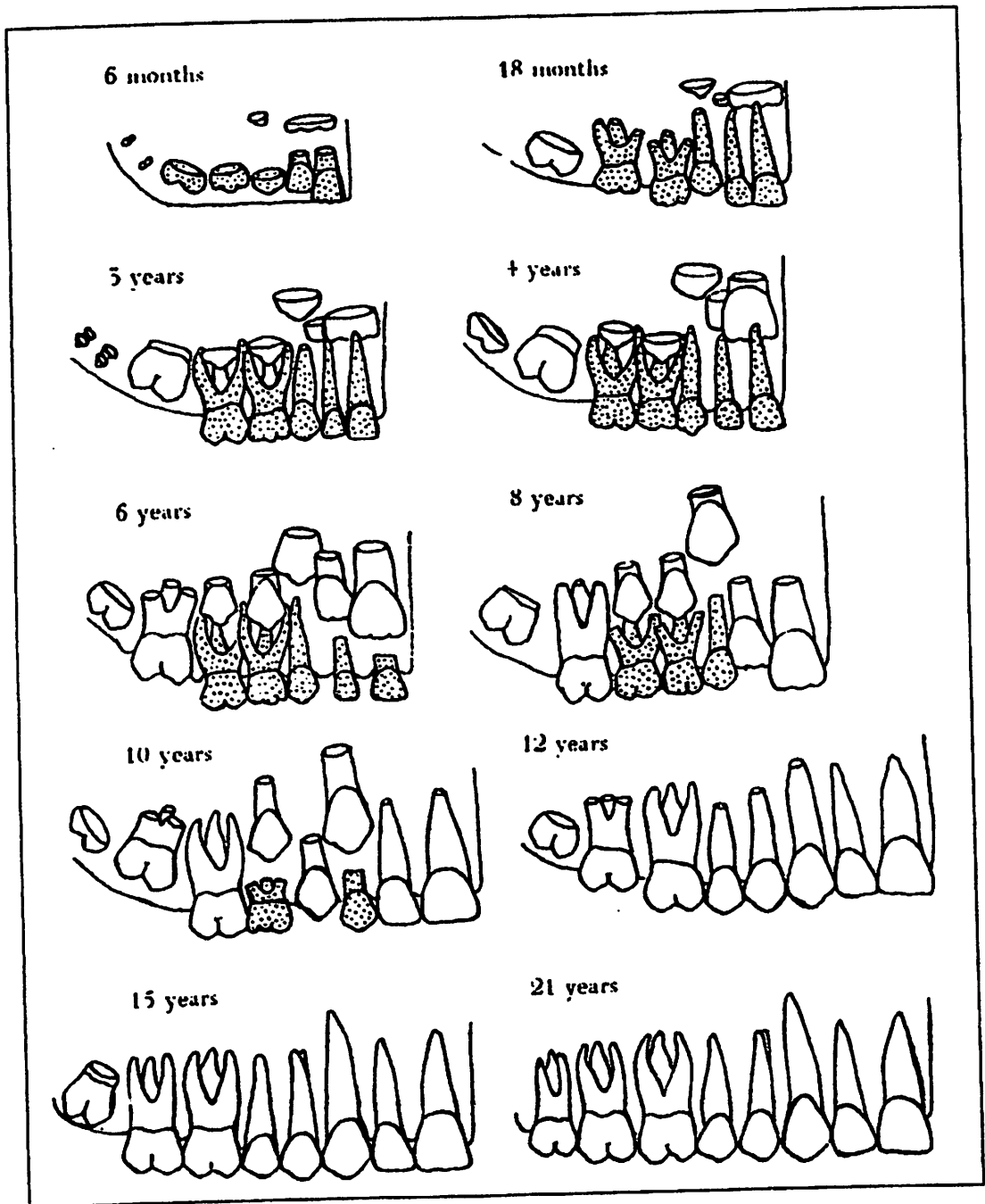


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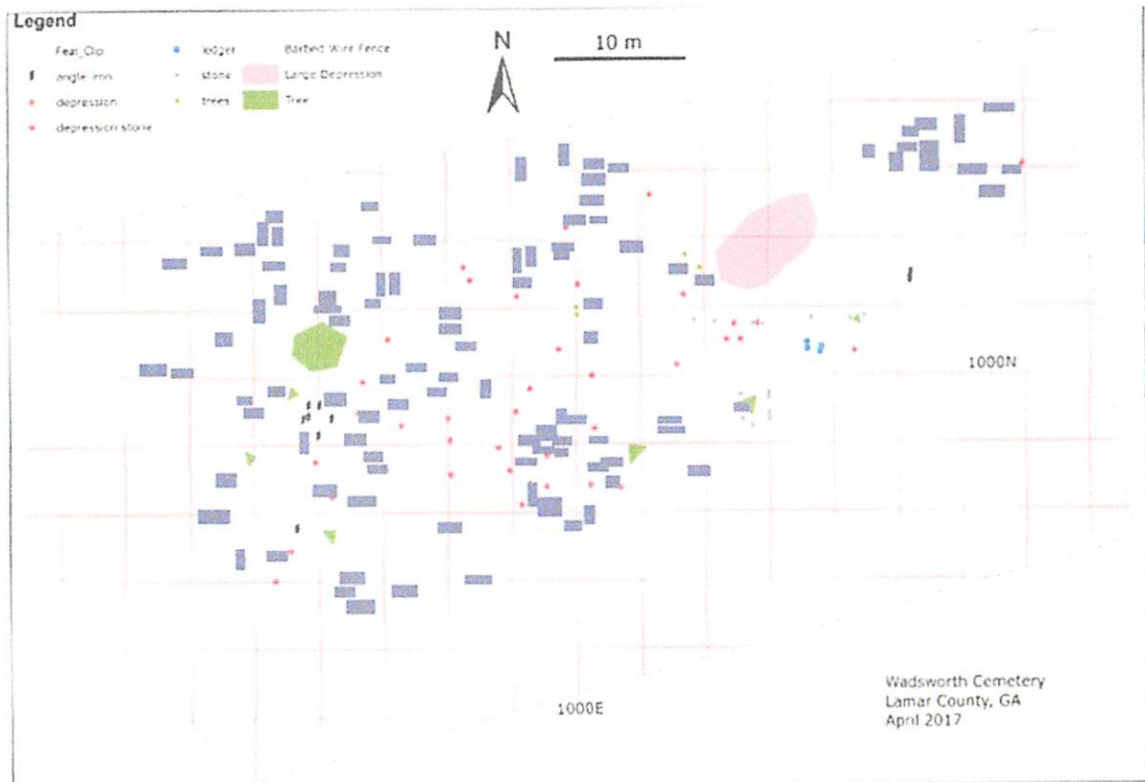
**RECORD AGE:**



**RECORD AGE:**

# Ground Penetrating Radar Survey Report

# Ground Penetrating Radar Survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery, Lamar County, Georgia



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2017

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## I. Introduction

This report presents the findings of a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey by the LAMAR Institute for the Wadsworth Cemetery in Lamar County, Georgia. This work was performed for Southern Research Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc. and the City of Barnesville, Georgia. The GPR survey provides a better understanding of the historic resources in the Wadsworth Cemetery. The present report addresses the methods, findings, and interpretations of the GPR portion of the project. The GPR survey resulted in the identification of at least 103 potential graves.

### *Historical Background*

The Wadsworth Cemetery is located in Lamar County, Georgia (Figure 1). It contains the interments of the Wadsworth family from the nineteenth century and possibly many others. Several families of Wadsworths are recorded in the 1850 census for Pike County, Georgia. The patriarch was Archibald Wadsworth, who was listed in the 1830 census for Pike County and in the 1850 as an 85 year old farmer (Ancestry.com 2017). He died in 1856 and was buried in the family cemetery. Other family members thought to be buried in this cemetery include Clarissa Wadsworth (1800-Unknown) and John Wadsworth (1802-1864) (Whitehead 2003).



Figure 1. Wadsworth Cemetery Location Map (General Location Outlined in Red).

This cemetery may be the site of a mass grave of Confederate soldiers who were killed in a train wreck on September 1, 1864. One newspaper account of September 4 listed 26 men and one woman (Miss Saffen of Memphis) killed. Among the soldiers killed were Major Saunders of Savannah and Lieutenant Bond of Garrett's battery. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Georgia

sent Captain Q. Born's Company on the train and Ben Smith and Joe Johnson, of that company, were killed (*Daily Constitutional* 1864a:1). A newspaper story from September 7 noted that 31 dead bodies were taken from the wreck. That account noted, "the collision occurred in a cut and a curve two miles on the other side of that place [Barnesville]" (*Daily Constitutional* 1864b:3). Contemporary newspaper accounts place the location of the wreck between 2 and 2.5 miles north of Barnesville. The Wadsworth cemetery also may have been used by other families in the community.

### ***Report Organization***

This report is organized into four chapters. Chapter 2 contains the research methods used in this study. Chapter 3 contains the results and interpretation of the GPR survey. Chapter 4 provides a project summary. This is followed by a bibliography of references cited in the report.



## **II. Research Methods**

GPR is an important remote sensing tool used by archaeologists (Conyers 2002, 2004; Conyers and Goodman 1997). The technology is particularly effective in mapping historic cemeteries. The technology uses high frequency electromagnetic waves (microwaves) to acquire subsurface data. The device uses a transmitter antenna and closely spaced receiver antenna to detect changes in electromagnetic properties beneath them. The antennas are suspended just above the ground surface and the antennas are shielded to eliminate interference from sources other than directly beneath the device. The transmitting antenna emits a series of electromagnetic waves, which are distorted by differences in soil conductivity, dielectric permittivity, and magnetic permeability. The receiving antenna records the reflected waves for a specified length of time (in nanoseconds, or ns). The approximate depth of an object can be estimated with GPR by adjusting for electromagnetic propagation conditions.

The GPR sample block in this study area was composed of a series of parallel transects, or traverses, which yielded a two-dimensional cross-section or profile of the radar data. These samples are termed radargrams. This two-dimensional image is constructed from a sequence of thousands of individual radar traces. A succession of radar traces bouncing off a large buried object will produce a hyperbola, when viewed graphically in profile. Multiple large objects that are in close proximity may produce multiple, overlapping hyperbolas, which are more difficult to interpret. For example, an isolated historic grave may produce a clear signal, represented by a well-defined hyperbola. A cluster of graves, however, may produce a more garbled signal that is less apparent.

The GPR signals that are captured by the receiving antenna are recorded as an array of numerals, which can be converted to gray scale (or color) pixel values. The radargrams are essentially a vertical map of the radar reflection off objects and other soil anomalies. It is not an actual map of the objects. The radargram is produced in real time and is viewable on a computer monitor, mounted on the GPR cart.

GPR has been successfully used in Georgia's coastal plain for archaeological and forensic anthropological applications to locate relatively shallow features, although the technique also can probe deeply into the ground. The machine is adjusted to probe to the depth of interest by the use of different frequency range antennas. Higher frequency antennas are more useful at shallow depths, which is most often the case in archaeology. Also, the longer the receiving antenna is set to receive GPR signals the deeper the search. The effectiveness of GPR in various environments on the North American continent is widely variable and depends on solid conductivity, metallic content, and other pedo-chemical factors. Generally, Georgia's coastal soils have moderately good properties for GPR application.

GPR signals cannot penetrate large metal objects and the signals are also significantly affected by the presence of salt water. Although radar does not penetrate metal objects, it does generate a distinctive signal that is usually recognizable, particularly for larger metal objects, such as a cast iron cannon or man-hole cover. The signal beneath these objects is often canceled out, which results in a pattern of horizontal lines on the radargram. For

smaller objects, such as a scatter of nails, the signal may ricochet from the objects and produce a confusing signal. Rebar-reinforced concrete, as another example, generates an unmistakable radar pattern of rippled lines on the radargram.

Using the same RAMAC X3M GPR system as that used in the present study, Elliott has conducted several GPR studies of eighteenth and nineteenth century cemetery sites in Georgia. The first LAMAR Institute cemetery study to employ GPR was at the New Ebenezer town site in Effingham County, Georgia (Elliott 2003). The results of the GPR work at New Ebenezer were quite exciting and included the delineation of a large portion of a British redoubt palisade ditch and the discovery of several dozen previously unidentified human graves (both within and beyond the known limits of the Jerusalem Lutheran Church Cemetery). GPR survey was conducted by Elliott at Sunbury Cemetery (Liberty County), Woodbine Plantation cemetery (Camden County), the Gould-Bethel Cemetery (Chatham County), Bullhead Bluff Cemetery (Camden County), Behavior Cemetery (McIntosh County) and numerous other coastal cemetery sites with satisfactory results (Elliott 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006a-d, 2009, 2010a-d, 2014). This equipment and survey methodology also has proven successful on cemetery sites in the Georgia piedmont and South Carolina foothills.

The equipment used for this study consisted of a RAMAC/X3M Integrated Radar Control Unit, mounted on a wheeled-cart and linked to a RAMAC XV11 Monitor (Firmware, Version 3.2.36). A 500 megahertz (MHz) shielded antenna was used for the data gathering. MALÅ GeoScience's *Ground Vision* (Version 1.4.5) software was used to acquire and record the radar data (MALÅ GeoScience USA 2006). The radar information was displayed as a series of radargrams. Output from the survey was first viewed using *GroundVision*. This provided immediate feedback about the suitability of GPR survey in the area and the effective operation of the equipment. The time window that was selected allowed data gathering to focus on the upper 1.5 meters of soil, which was the zone most likely to yield archaeological deposits. Additional filters were used to refine the radar information during post-processing. These include adjustments to the gain. These alterations to the data are reversible, however, and do not affect the original data that was collected.

Upon arrival at the site, the RAMAC X3M Radar Unit was set up for the operation and calibrated. Several trial runs were made on parts of the site to test the machine's effectiveness in the site's soils. Machinery settings and other pertinent logistical attributes included the following:

**Machine Settings, Block A**

Time Window: 64.6 ns

Number of Stacks: 4

Number of Samples: 512

Sampling Frequency: 7,462 MHz

Antenna: 500 MHz shielded

Antenna Separation: 0.18 m

Trigger: 0.04 m

Radargram orientation: South to North (Magnetic North)

Radargram progress: West to East

Radargram Spacing: 50 cm  
Total Radargrams: 184  
Total Survey Length: 5,020.2 m  
Dimensions: 44 m N-S (maximum) by 76 m E-W  
UTM Location (WGS 84): Keyed to Figure 3. A- 200891.7E 3663624.1N; B- 200900.2E 3663614.5N; C- 200967.5E 3663631.8N

The GPR survey covered an area approximately 76 m East-West by 44 m North-South. The work required no excavation. The survey was accomplished by Daniel Elliott with the able assistance of archaeologist Matthew Newberry. GPR data collection began on April 3 and was completed on April 4, 2017. Surveyors collected 184 radargrams from the cemetery. Figure 3 shows the radargram plan for Block A. Figure 4 contains a key to the UTM locations for the GPR grid.

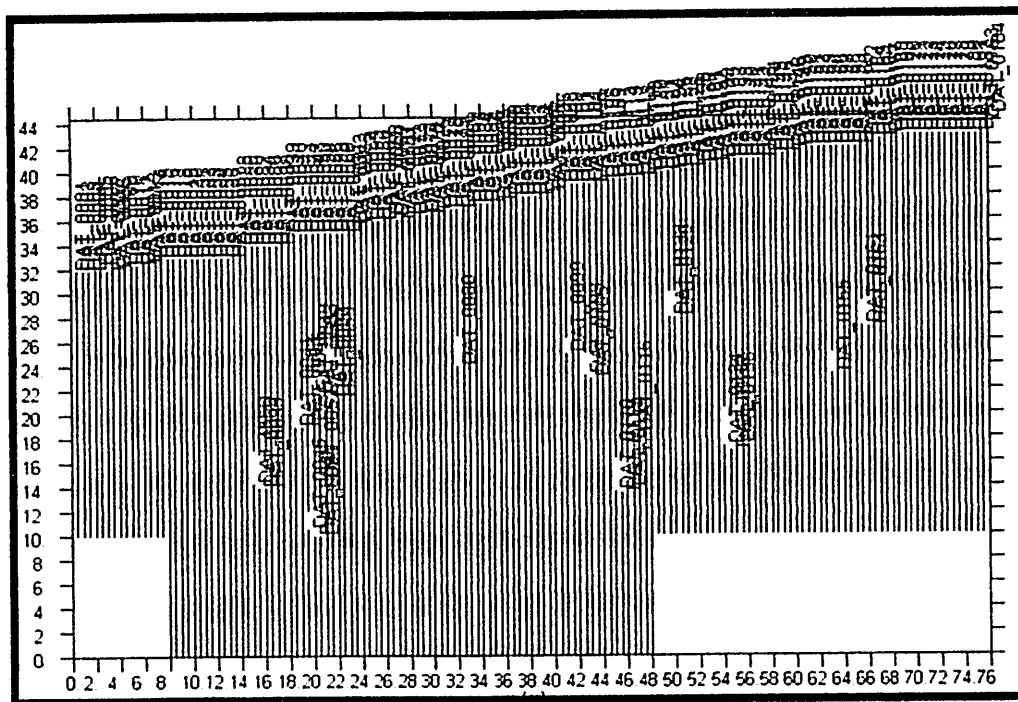


Figure 2. Radargram Plan of GPR Block A, Wadsworth Cemetery.

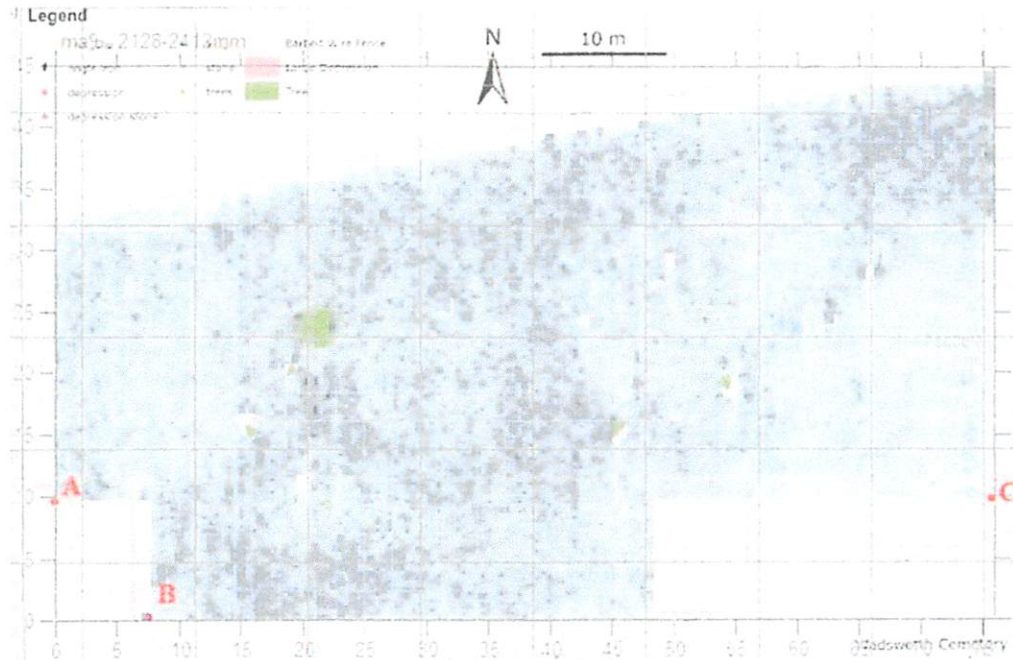


Figure 3. GPS Locations A, B and C, Wadsorth Cemetery.

The GPR data from the present study was processed with *GPR-Slice* (Version 7.0). Dean Goodman's *GPR-Slice* program is recognized as the world leader in GPR imaging and it has proven quite effective in mapping historic cemeteries (Goodman 2010). Mapping in 3D entailed merging the data from the series of radargrams for each block. Once this was accomplished, horizontal slices of the data were examined for important anomalies and patterns of anomalies, which were likely of cultural relevance. These data were displayed as aerial plan maps of the sample areas at varying depths below ground surface. These horizontal views, or time-slices, display the radar information at a set time depth in nanoseconds (ns). Time-depth can be roughly equated to depth below ground. This equivalency relationship can be calculated using a mathematical formula.

### **III. GPR Survey-Results and Interpretation**

As expected, the GPR survey identified many marked graves and unmarked potential graves in the Wadsworth Cemetery. GPR mapping also generated images of known graves except in areas where the tombstones or other obstacles prevented data collection. Quantifying the potential graves in the cemetery from the GPR data is challenging. For many of the graves, their recognition on plan maps is straightforward. In other instances, clusters of graves that are closely spaced generated more amorphous “large blobs” and it is not readily apparent how many individual graves these radar reflections represent. Large trees also confuse the interpretation of the cemetery data by creating large radar reflections that often masked historic graves. In some cases the large reflections generated by tree stumps and tree roots are very difficult to distinguish from clusters of burials or shallow, infant burials. The GPR survey also was hampered by several fieldstone grave markers in the cemetery, which served as minor obstacles for the collection of data.

#### ***GPR Radargrams***

Radargrams provide a profile view of the radar reflections. This class of information is useful when studying cemeteries because graves often create characteristic radar profiles. Depending on the spacing of the graves, a grave may be recognized by the hyperbola that is a reflection from the top of coffin, by the steep slope created by the grave shaft excavation, by the disturbed soil conditions within the grave pit relative to the less disturbed matrix soils, and sometimes by a reverse hyperbola created by the radar pulses reflecting off of the base of the grave excavation pit. Burials with high metal content, typically more massive coffin hardware and not simply coffin nails, may generate distinctive signatures. A grave with a metal vault cover or a metal coffin creates its own distinctive profile. When graves are clustered and closely spaced, however, it becomes more difficult to distinguish individual graves. In these cases, large areas of soil disturbance may be recognized.

Figures 4 through 6 are three examples of radargrams collected by the survey. Figure 4 shows Radargram 30 from the survey. This transect is located along the suspected western margin of the cemetery. Many of the hyperbolas that appear in this diagram likely represent large tree roots. Figure 5 shows Radargram 101, which is located near the suspected center of the cemetery. As compared with Figure 4, this radargram contains many strong radar anomalies, including several that likely represent human burials. This transect also passed over several large metal objects, which may represent grave furniture. Figure 6 shows Radargram 168, which is located near the suspected eastern end of the cemetery. At the eastern end of this transect (right-hand side) a large, deep radar anomaly is represented. It remains to be determined if the strong, massive radar anomalies that appear in the eastern end of the study area represent human burials or not. These may represent some other type of deep cultural feature, such as a buried agricultural terrace. For now, however, our interpretation is that these anomalies may represent human burials.

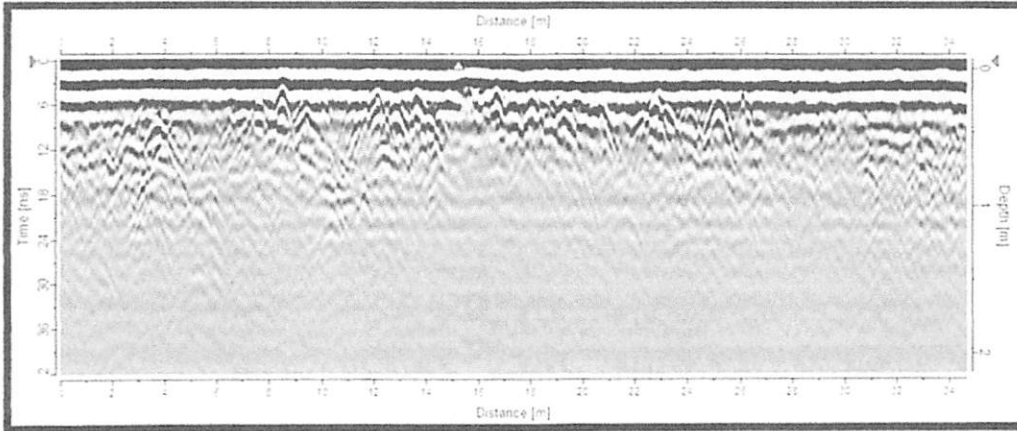


Figure 4. Radargram 30, West End, Wadsworth Cemetery.

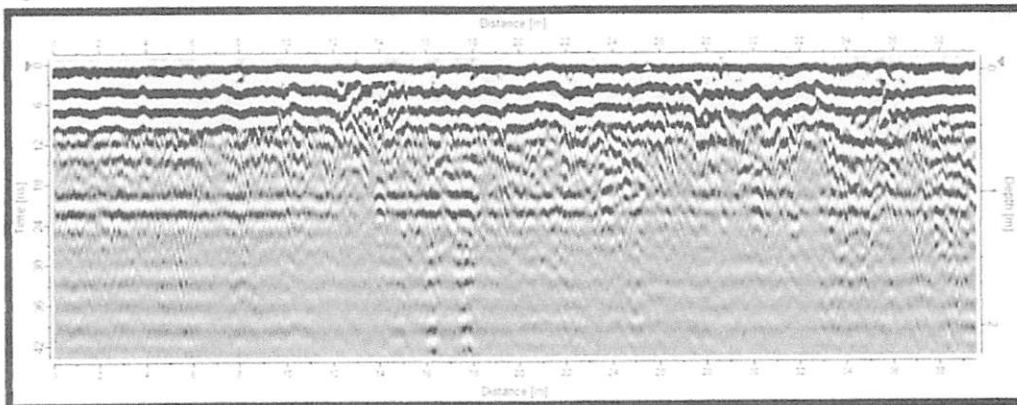


Figure 5. Radargram 101, Cemetery Center, Wadsworth Cemetery.

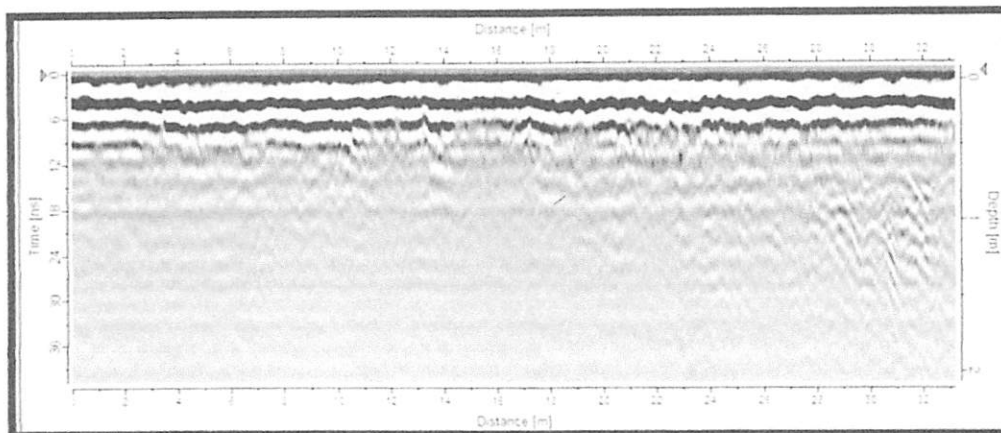
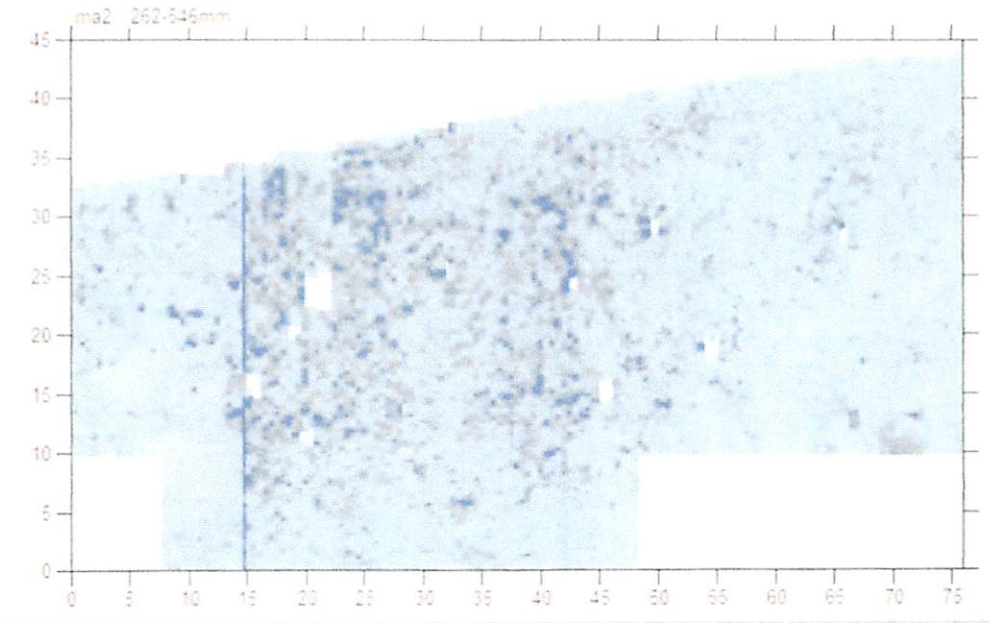


Figure 6. Radargram 168, East End, Wadsworth Cemetery.

### *GPR Time Slice Maps*

The GPR survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery adds another dimension of information about the content and characteristics of the graveyard. We used the combined overlay map for the upper and lower zones to plot potential grave locations from the GPR data. Figures 7 through 12 show a series of time slice plan view maps at increasing depths.



**Figure 7. Composite GPR Plan Map, 262-546 mm Depth, Wadsworth Cemetery.**

Many graves appear as rectangular dark blue shapes. Other isolated strong radar reflections indicate possible graves that are unmarked. Other strong radar reflections in these maps probably represent trails or vehicle ruts and large trees. Many smaller radar reflections are problematic, as it is possible that some represent children's graves, but these cannot be readily distinguished from other small cultural features or natural features.

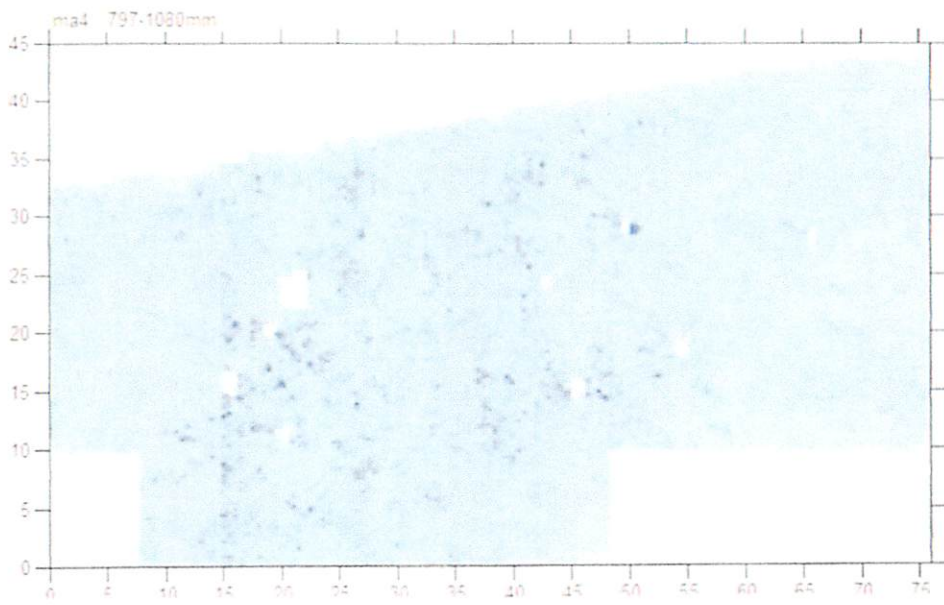


Figure 8. Composite GPR Plan Map, 797-1080 mm Depth, Wadsworth Cemetery.

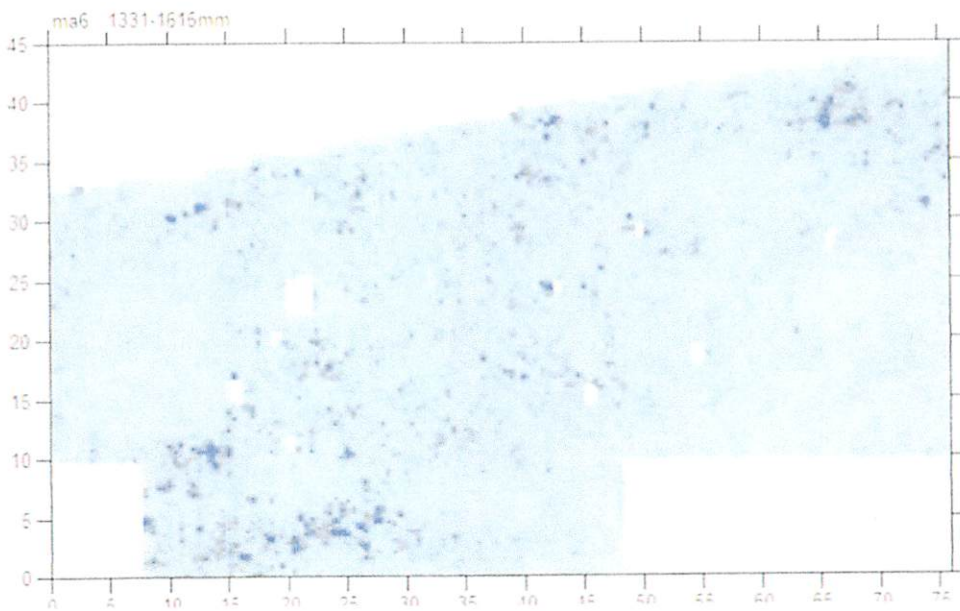


Figure 9. Composite GPR Plan Map, 1331-1615 mm Depth, Wadsworth Cemetery.



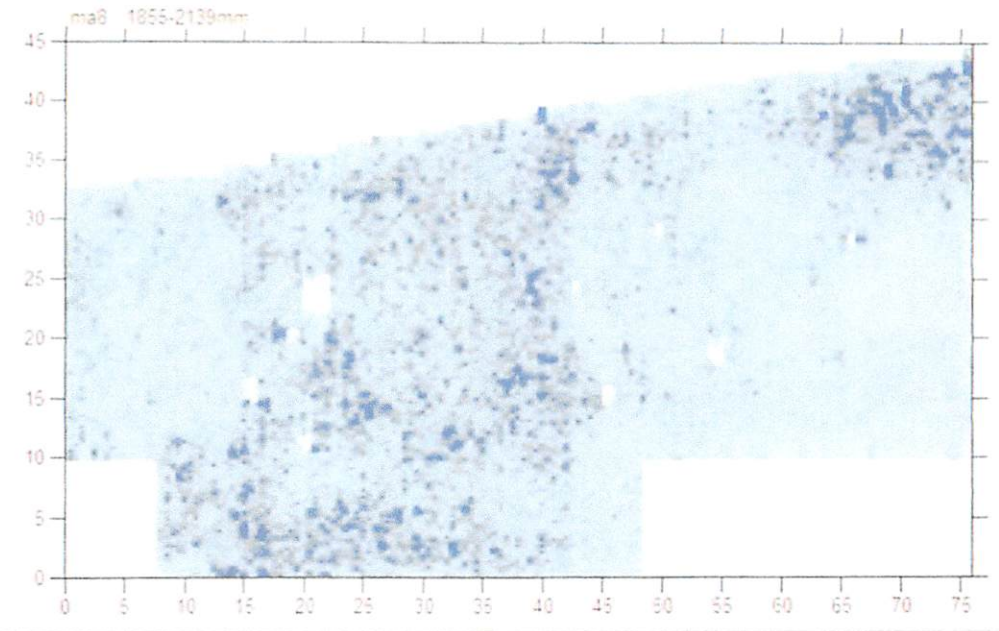


Figure 10. Composite GPR Plan Map, 1855-2139 mm Depth, Wadsworth Cemetery.

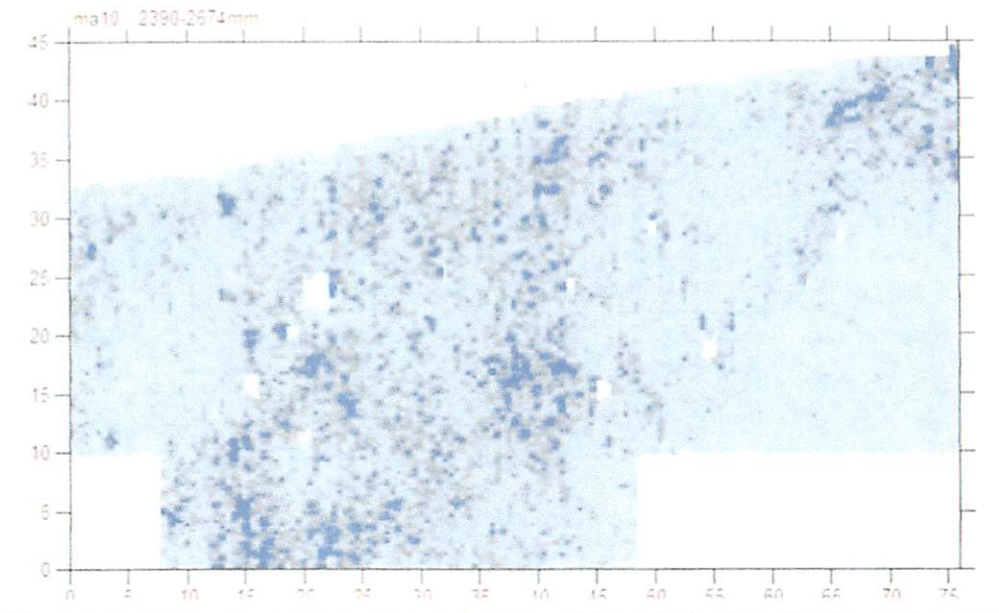


Figure 11. Composite GPR Plan Map, 2390-2674 mm Depth, Wadsworth Cemetery.

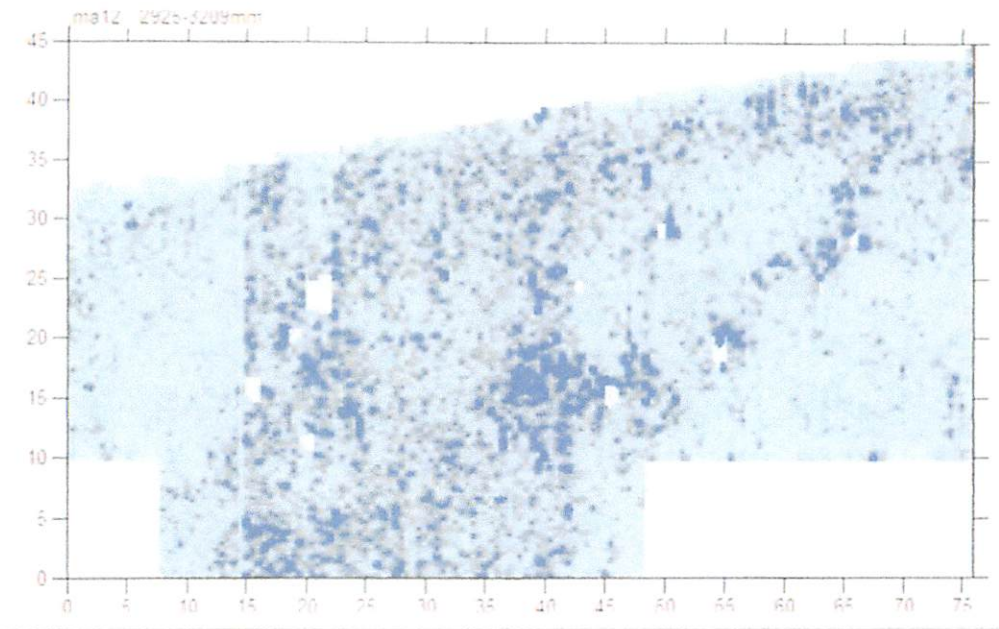


Figure 12. Composite GPR Plan Map, 2925-3209 mm Depth, Wadsworth Cemetery.

Figure 13 is a perspective, isomorphic view of the strongest GPR anomalies from the survey. This is simply another way to view the radar data.

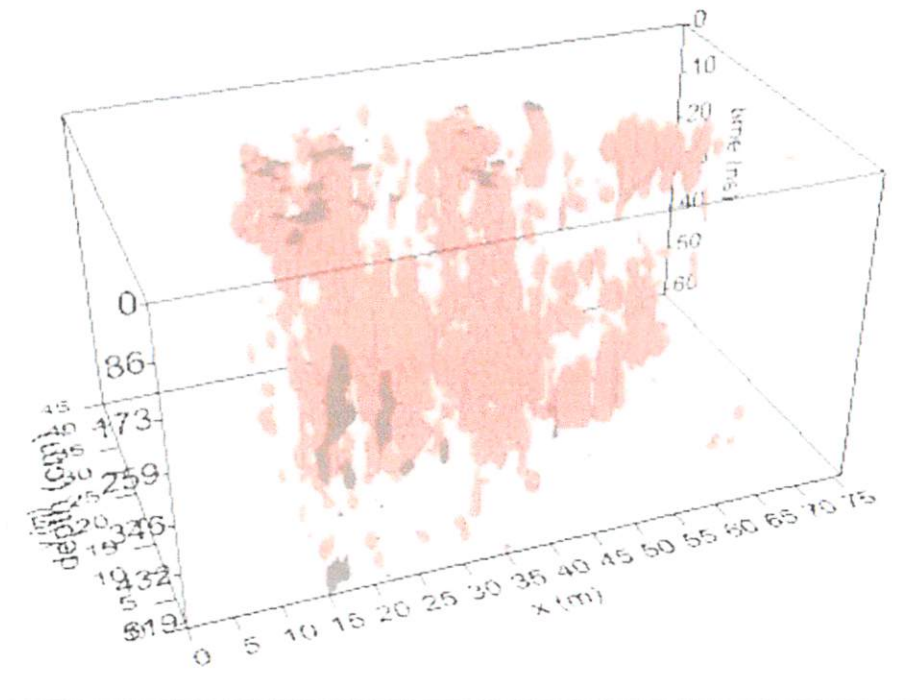
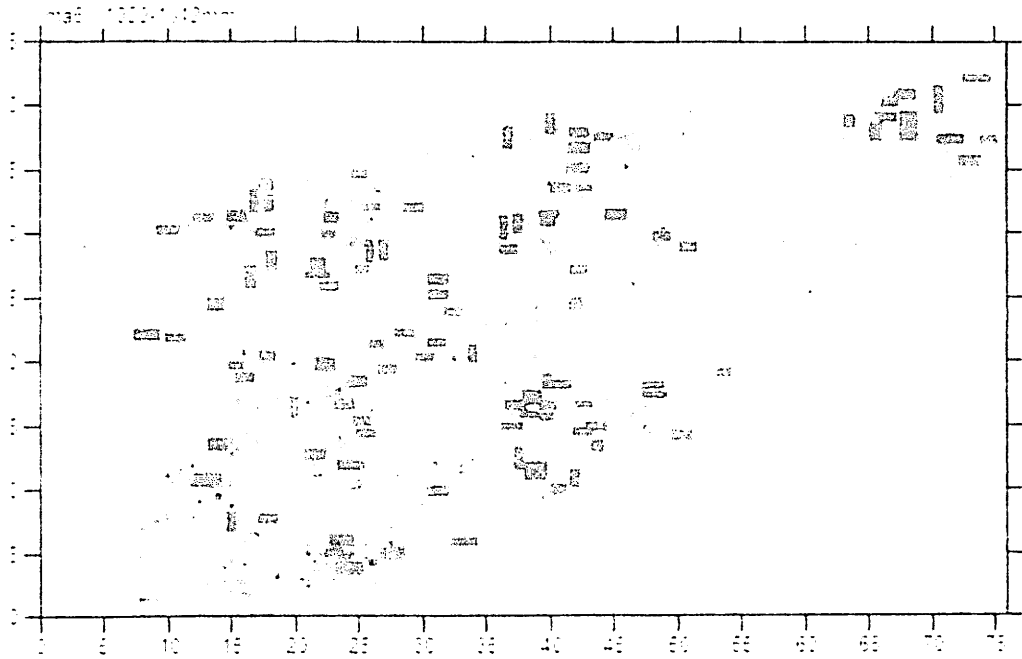


Figure 13. Isomorphic, Perspective View of GPR Anomalies, Wadsworth Cemetery.

The project geophysicist (Elliott) examined the radargrams, sequential time slices, composite time slices and isomorphic views in interpreting the GPR data. Figures 14 and 15 show the suspected human burials as interpreted. Suspected burials are shown as purple rectangles in these two figures. An estimated 103 potential graves were identified with the GPR information. It is also apparent from Figure 15 that several likely burials, which are indicated by surface depressions or fieldstone head or foot stones, were not detected in the GPR data. So, the actual number of interments may be more than 103 persons.



**Figure 14. Potential Burials (Indicated by purple rectangles), Wadsworth Cemetery.**

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# FINAL REPORT

## An Archaeological Survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery, Lamar County, Georgia



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## An Archaeological Survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery, Lamar County, Georgia

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24 April 2017

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<b>Figure 14. View of Two Grave Shafts Looking South</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>Figure 15. View of Two Grave Shafts Looking North</b> .....	<b>16</b>



## INTRODUCTION

The Wadsworth Cemetery is located in Lamar County just northwest of Barnesville, Georgia near the intersection of Cannafax Road and Old Milner Road (Figure 1). It is a nineteenth century family cemetery that is owned by the City of Barnesville. Southern Research, Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc. was asked by the city to delineate the cemetery and provide an estimate of how many individuals might be buried there.

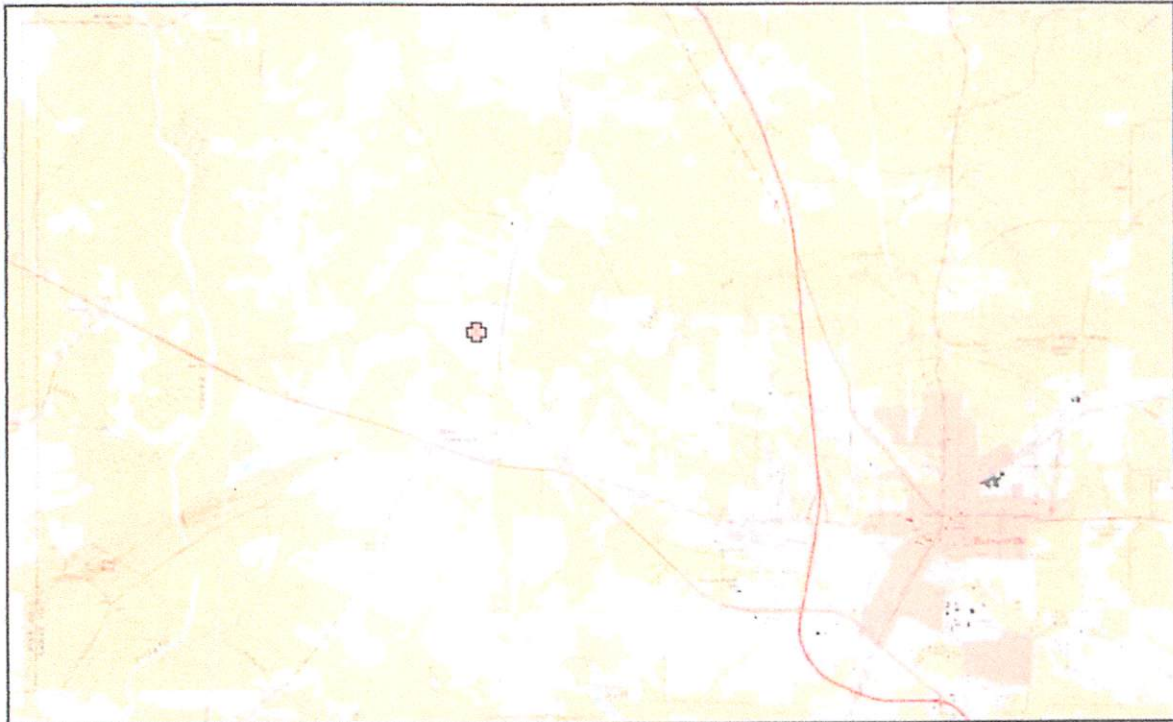


Figure 1. Location of the Wadsworth Cemetery in Lamar County, Georgia. Map Source, Barnesville 1:24,000 Topographic Map, USGS.

The family of Archibald Wadsworth began to be buried in the cemetery as early as the nineteenth century. Archibald Wadsworth was buried there in 1856. There are varying accounts of who may be buried there but as many as a dozen family members may be present. In addition to the Wadsworth family graves, there may be African-American slaves and freedmen as well as a mass grave with thirty or so victims of a civil war era train wreck.

Wadsworth Cemetery has been assigned site number 9LR67 by the Georgia Archaeological Site File. It is located on top of a prominent hill off the highway in a cattle pasture with ancient hardwood trees still standing (Figures 2 and 3). There are no monuments or marked graves across the hilltop although a few fieldstone markers are present (Figures 4 and 5). There are surface undulations all across the hilltop but no clearly aligned rows of depressions. On the west end are six angle iron fence posts lying on the ground presumably from a wire fence that has since collapsed.



Figure 2. Google Earth Imagery from March 2014.



Figure 3. View of Wadsworth Cemetery Looking West.



Figure 4. Example of a Grave Marked with a Quartzite Fieldstone at the Wadsworth Cemetery.



Figure 5. Example of a Grave Marked with a Quartzite Ledger at the Wadsworth Cemetery.

## METHODS

The goal of the archaeological survey at the Wadsworth cemetery was to delineate the boundaries and provide an estimate of how many individuals might be buried there. The Wadsworth Cemetery is an example of an abandoned cemetery where no descendant group is maintaining it and no one has been buried there recently. Its past use as a cattle pasture has obscured the subtle surface indicators such as sunken rows of east-west oriented depressions, stone monuments or other mortuary furniture.

### Surface Survey

The first step in delineating the cemetery was to conduct a surface survey. Archaeologists Matthew Wood and Matthew Newberry from Southern Research, HPC, Inc. spent two days carefully inspecting the hilltop for depressions, fieldstones and any other indicators of graves. Probing was useless for detecting graves due to the extremely gravely condition of the soils. All surface features were flagged and sketched onto a scaled map of the cemetery

### Metal Detector Survey

A systematic metal detector survey was conducted on the hilltop to identify metal artifacts on the cemetery, especially evidence of fences or mortuary furniture. It was carried out by Matthew Wood and Matthew Newberry from Southern Research guided by Patrick Severts, Advanced Metal Detecting for Archaeologists (AMDA) Instructor (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Intensive Metal Detecting at the Wadsworth Cemetery

Two metal detector types were utilized on the metallic survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery; these include a CTX 3030 and a GPZ 7000 both produced by Minelab Corporation. The CTX 3030 is a FBS (Full Band Spectrum) detector that operates on 28 frequencies 1.5KHz-100KHz at the same time. The FBS technology allows the detector to operate in frequencies allowing for better discrimination, coverage, and depth than other traditional single frequency detectors. The detector as used in this survey had the standard 11" coil. The GPZ 7000 is the newest and most sensitive detector on the market with depth capabilities recorded to over 1 meter in optimal condition. The GPZ 7000 technology of Zero Voltage Transmission creates ultra-consistent high-power opposite polarity magnetic fields that greatly increase sensitivity to metallic objects at extreme depths.

The Wadsworth Cemetery metal detectors survey consisted of 100 percent coverage in a single direction with transects spaced every 1.5 meters. This 1.5-meter lane width is the standard average for a comfortable detector swing and is the most commonly used transect for full coverage detecting lanes as set by the AMDA. The CTX 3030 was used to conduct full coverage survey of the fenced in portion of the Wadsworth Cemetery. The GPZ 7000 later targeted the areas void of targets to identify deeply buried objects. Areas covered by the CTX 3030 were ground-truthed by the use of a handheld pin pointer to determine the depth of the objects. Objects that were found near the surface were excavated to determine relationship to the cemetery; all artifacts found were left in place while the modern trash such as pull-tabs and ring pulls were removed from the ground. In the areas where trash was removed, the GPZ 7000 was utilized to identify deeply buried objects. All deeply buried objects were double flagged while single blue flags were used to identify non-ferrous objects and orange flags identified ferrous materials. All targets that were not identified as modern trash were then mapped.

### **Transit Mapping**

All surface features and metal detector hits were mapped with a Topcon Laser Transit. An arbitrary metric grid was established on the hilltop using magnetic North as Grid North. Temporary reference points were established along the 1000 east base line. The UTM point for our grid point 1000 East, 1000 North is Zone 16S, 761,087.13E 3,662,551.47N (WGS84).

### **Ground Penetrating Radar Survey**

A Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Survey of the cemetery was conducted by Dan Elliott of the LAMAR Institute, Inc. assisted by Matthew Newberry from Southern Research (see Appendix 2). The GPR sample block in this study area was composed of a series of parallel transects, or traverses, which yielded a two-dimensional cross-section or profile of the radar data. These samples are termed radargrams. This two-dimensional image is constructed from a sequence of thousands of individual radar traces. A succession of radar traces bouncing off a large buried object will produce a hyperbola, when viewed graphically in profile. Multiple large objects that are in close proximity may produce multiple, overlapping hyperbolas, which are more difficult to interpret. For example, an isolated historic grave may produce a clear signal,

represented by a well-defined hyperbola. A cluster of graves, however, may produce a more garbled signal that is less apparent.

The GPR signals that are captured by the receiving antenna are recorded as an array of numerals, which can be converted to gray scale (or color) pixel values. The radargrams are essentially a vertical map of the radar reflection off objects and other soil anomalies. It is not an actual map of the objects. The radargram is produced in real time and is viewable on a computer monitor, mounted on the GPR cart (Figure 7).



Figure 7. Ground Penetrating Radar Survey at the Wadsworth Cemetery.

The equipment used for this study consisted of a RAMAC/X3M Integrated Radar Control Unit, mounted on a wheeled-cart and linked to a RAMAC XV11 Monitor (Firmware, Version 3.2.36). A 500 megahertz (MHz) shielded antenna was used for the data gathering. MALÅ GeoScience's *Ground Vision* (Version 1.4.5) software was used to acquire and record the radar data (MALÅ GeoScience USA 2006). The radar information was displayed as a series of radargrams. Output from the survey was first viewed using *GroundVision*. This provided immediate feedback about the suitability of GPR survey in the area and the effective operation of the equipment. The time window that was selected allowed data gathering to focus on the upper 1.5 meters of soil, which was the zone most likely to yield archaeological deposits. Additional filters were used to

After the surface survey, systematic metal detecting and GPR survey, we opened a shallow hand dug excavation in grid square 990-995N, 995-1000E to ground truth the preliminary results (Figure 8). The location chosen had surface indicators, deep metal detector hits and several GPR targets to investigate. The shallow excavation measured about four by three meters and was approximately 25 cm deep. The soil was not screened but the excavation was backfilled.

### Test Excavations

The GPR data from the present study was processed with *GPR-Slice* (Version 7.0). Mapping in 3D entailed merging the data from the series of radargrams for each block. Once this was accomplished, horizontal slices of the data were examined for important anomalies and patterns of anomalies, which were likely of cultural relevance. These data were displayed as aerial plan maps of the sample areas at varying depths below ground surface. These horizontal views, or time-slices, display the radar information at a set time depth in nanoseconds (ns). Time-depth can be roughly equated to depth below ground. This equivalency relationship can be calculated using a mathematical formula.

**Machine Settings, Block A**  
 Time Window: 64.6 ns  
 Number of Stacks: 4  
 Number of Samples: 512  
 Sampling Frequency: 7,462 MHz  
 Antenna: 500 MHz shielded  
 Antenna Separation: 0.18 m  
 Trigger: 0.04 m  
 Radargram orientation: South to North (Magnetic North)  
 Radargram progress: West to East  
 Radargram Spacing: 50 cm  
 Total Radargrams: 184  
 Total Survey Length: 5,020.2 m  
 Dimensions: 44 m N-S (maximum) by 76 m E-W

Upon arrival at the site, the RAMAC X3M Radar Unit was set up for the operation and calibrated. Several trial runs were made on parts of the site to test the machine's effectiveness in the site's soils. Machinery settings and other pertinent logistical attributes included the following:

refine the radar information during post-processing. These include adjustments to the gain. These alterations to the data are reversible, however, and do not affect the original data that was collected.



Figure 8. Shallow hand dug excavations were used to ground truth the survey results.



## **RESULTS**

The Wadsworth Cemetery in Lamar County, Georgia was surveyed by careful surface searching, systematic metal detecting, ground penetrating radar and shallow hand dug excavations. The results of these techniques, although not always in agreement, all point to the same conclusion: there may be as many as 100 individuals buried on the hilltop.

### **Preliminary Historical Background**

The Wadsworth Cemetery, also referred to as the Wadsworth-Clayton Cemetery in some online sources, is named for the family patriarch Archibald Wadsworth. These online sources along with an examination of the population schedules for the US Census (Ancestry.com) provide the current historical narrative for the family and cemetery. The following brief history is based primarily on information compiled by Ruth Frances Aaron ([http://www.oocities.org/claytonresearch/archibald\\_wadsworth.html](http://www.oocities.org/claytonresearch/archibald_wadsworth.html)) about the Wadsworth family and cemetery.

Archibald Wadsworth was born in the state of North Carolina around 1765. His name appears in the first US census of 1790 as dwelling in Moore County, North Carolina. Archibald Wadsworth married Clarissa Kenny (born in 1774) around 1792 in Moore County, North Carolina. Ten years later in the 1800 census, Archibald Wadsworth is again listed as living in Moore County, North Carolina. His household includes 3 children all under 10 years of age. In the 1810 census the Wadsworths are still living in Moore, North Carolina but with a household that has grown to include eight children. The 1820 census identifies the Wadsworth household in Moore, North Carolina and lists seven children in the household and one slave (US Census, Population Schedules, 1790 - 1860 Federal Censuses, Ancestry.com; Aaron n.d.).

By 1825 Archibald had moved to Pike County, Georgia where he resided for the rest of his life. In the 1830 census Archibald and Clarissa had three female children living at home and one male slave. The eldest daughter, while not named in the census, was Clarissa who was born around 1796 based on later census age information. There is a female household member shown as being in the age range of 30 to 40 years, which fits Clarissa's age, who would have been around 34 or 35 years of age at that date. In the 1840 census Archibald Wadsworth resides in Pike County with two white females, one is a female in the 60 to 69 age range (probably wife Clarissa) and one female in the age range 40 to 49, which is probably daughter Clarissa. There is also a free black female (age range 26-56) in the household. It should be noted that until the 1850 US census only the head of household's name is given for each census household and the rest of the family is identified by gender and age ranges only with no names (US Census, Population Schedules, 1790 - 1860, Ancestry.com).

By the 1850 census there is only one other person residing in the household with Archibald and that is his daughter, Clarissa Wadsworth, who is listed as being 53 years of age. Archibald's wife Clarissa, who would have been around 76 in 1850 isn't listed in the schedule, which suggests she had already passed away in the decade after the 1840 census. It is surmised that she was buried on the hill nearby, although there is no way to

be certain. Six years after the 1850 census Archibald passed away and was buried in the nearby cemetery (US Census, Population Schedules, 1790 - 1860, Ancestry.com ).

According to one online source (Ruth Frances Aaron n.d.), there are approximately 18 family members buried in the cemetery. Besides Archibald Wadsworth, the cemetery reportedly contains the remains of Archibald and Clarissa's oldest son, John and his wife (Nancy), as well as daughter Clarissa, and at least four other daughters (Amy, Nancy, Mary and Elizabeth and some of their spouses and children) are buried in the cemetery. Aaron's account also notes that there were "many slave graves ... on the outskirts of the cemetery". In Ms. Aaron's account of those buried in the cemetery is also the cryptic note that a Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Moore visited the cemetery sometime during World War II and counted upwards of 140 graves.

A visit to the Find A Grave website for the Wadsworth-Clayton Cemetery lists four graves: Archibald Wadsworth, Clarissa Wadsworth (the daughter), John Wadsworth (son) and a Mary Suzan Wadsworth, who according to the site was born in 1957 and died in 2016. However, there is no evidence of a recent grave at the site and it is likely that the dates for Mary Suzan Wadsworth listed on the website are erroneous.

Aaron notes that there were around twenty Confederate soldiers also buried in the cemetery. These are the remains of wounded soldiers that were being transported south from Atlanta by train on the Macon and Western Railroad to the Confederate Hospital at Milner. A second source (crghenry.org) notes that early on the morning of September 1, 1864 the train of wounded soldiers collided with a Confederate supply train traveling north. The accident occurred near an area on the rail line known as Lavender's Curve, which is near the Wadsworth family property and cemetery. The CRG source notes that there were 31 or more killed in the accident and that the dead were buried near the rail line on a nearby cemetery located on a hill, but does not specify how many dead were buried there.

Ruth Frances Aaron also notes that sometime in the early twentieth century the grave markers in the cemetery were removed and used to "prop up the last old house on the property".

### **Surface Survey**

Surface features have been obscured in large part due to the many years of trampling by cattle. The removal of all formal monuments from the cemetery has confounded the ability to recognize individual graves. The surface indicators include depressions, fieldstone markers, stone ledgers and iron fence posts as shown in Figure 9. In all, 40 possible graves are indicated by surface indicators.

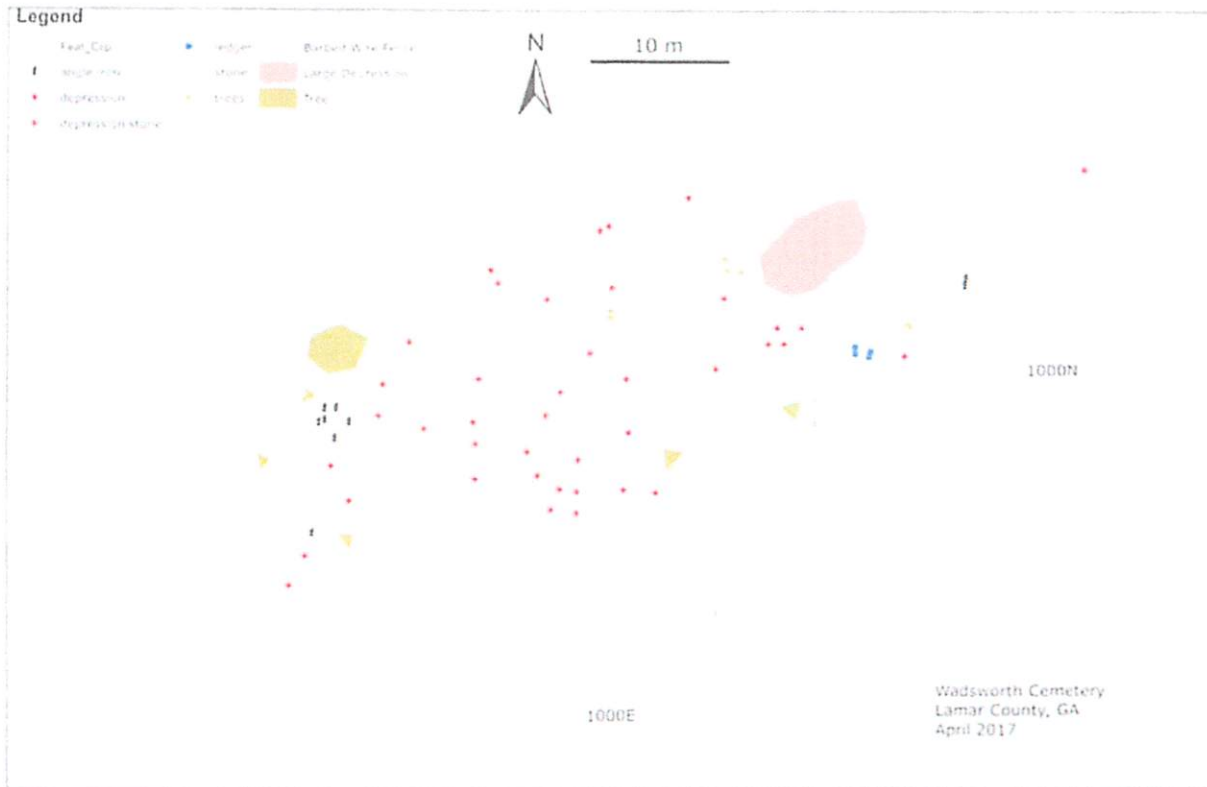


Figure 9. A map of the surface features on the Wadsworth Cemetery.

## Metal Detecting

The systematic metal detecting on the cemetery recorded 77 individual deep metal hits (>30 cm deep). Some of these hits may indicate coffin hardware associated with shallow graves. The hits that were recovered included fence posts, railroad spikes, a rose head wrought nail and an iron ball measuring one inch in diameter and strongly resembling a ball from civil war canister artillery munitions. The map of metal detector hits is presented in Figure 10.



Figure 10. A map of the deep metal detector hits at the Wadsworth Cemetery.

### Ground Penetrating Radar Survey

The ground penetrating radar survey of the cemetery provided the best data regarding the number and locations of graves. There are 103 GPR targets on the hilltop that are possible graves. Some will undoubtedly turn out to be old tree stumps and other natural disturbances but most are expected to be graves. Although there is a general agreement between the GPR data and the surface indicators and deep metal detector hits, there are some confusing discrepancies as well. For example, some of the graves that show up on the surface were not detected by the GPR. Also, in the northeast corner of the cemetery, the GPR picked up at least eleven possible graves when the surface searching found one possible grave and the metal detecting recorded no deep hits here. Figure 11 shows the GPR results superimposed upon the surface features.

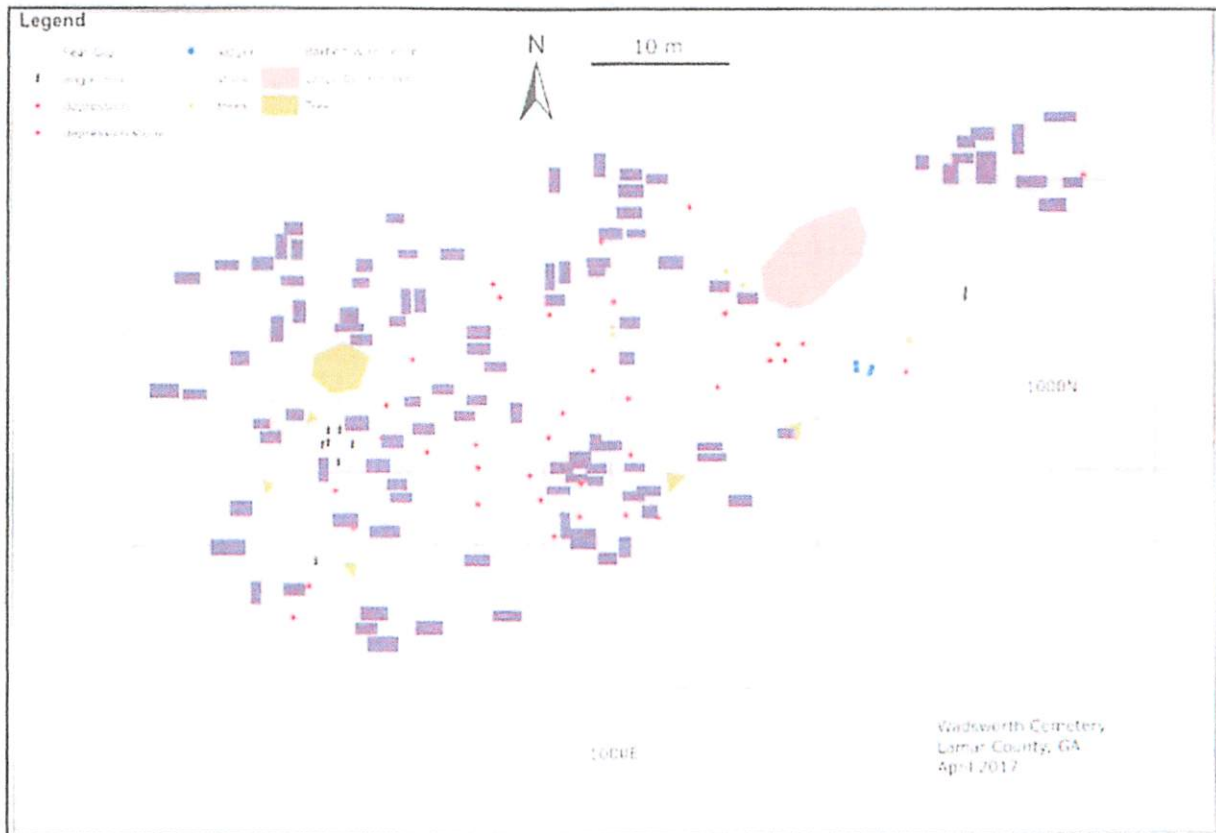


Figure 11. The results of the Ground Penetrating Radar Survey on the Wadsworth Cemetery

### Test Excavation

To better assess the results of the three techniques used to delineate the cemetery we opened a shallow hand dug excavation. The area chosen is in grid square 995 – 1000 East and 990 – 995 North. The grid square contains possible graves identified by surface indicators, deep metal detector hits and GPR targets so it made a good test of what works best on this cemetery. Figure 12 shows the results of the excavations. There are three grave shafts that show up as dark rectangular stains in the light colored subsoil of the hilltop. All run east to west as is typical of nineteenth century Christian burials (Figures 13 - 15).

The northern grave shaft was detected by surface indicators and a GPR target. The middle grave shaft was detected by surface conditions only, as the GPR did not record an anomaly here. The southern grave shaft was detected by surface indications, a deep metal hit and a GPR target.

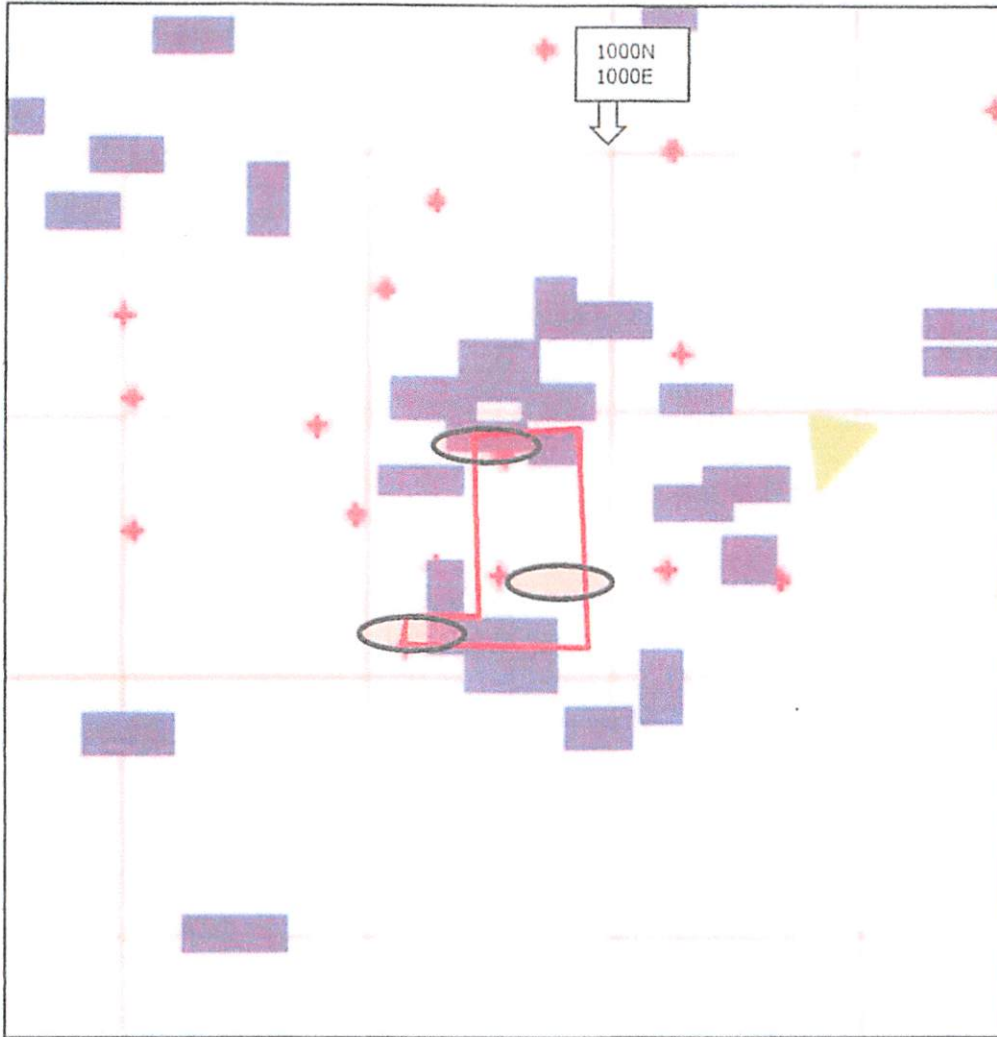


Figure 12. A detail map of the area chosen for test excavations at the Wadsworth Cemetery. The red rectangular polygon is the excavation trench and the east to west ovals are grave shafts.

The photographs in Figures 13, 14 and 15 show the soil stains that represent the tops of the grave shafts as they appeared just below the sod. They have been outlined in black so that the reader can better discern the features.

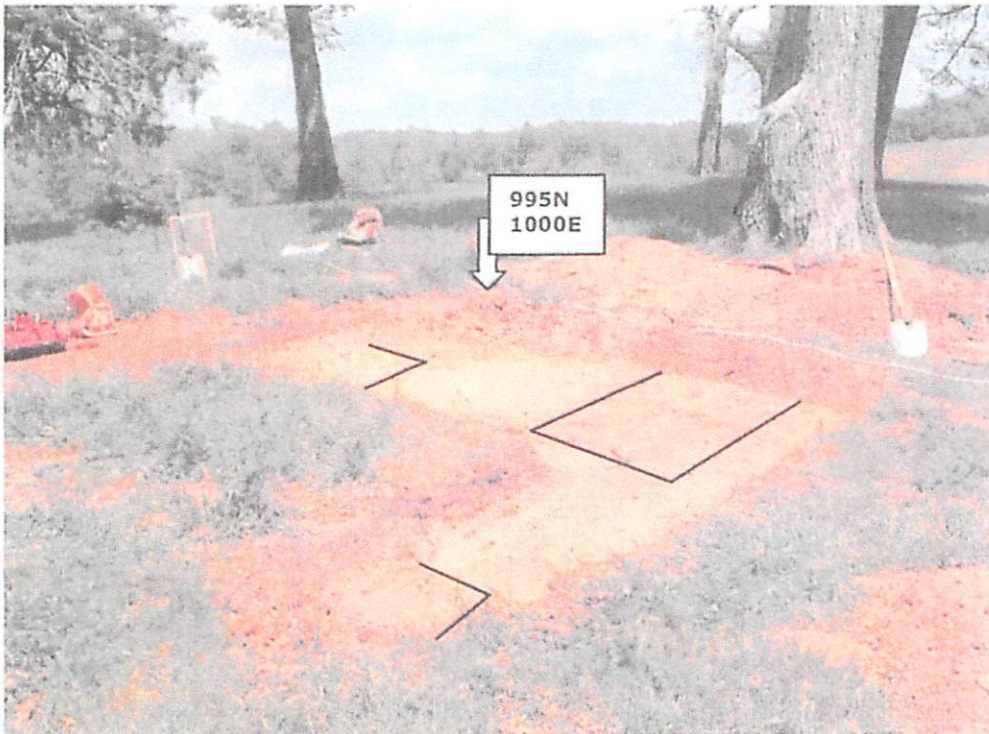


Figure 13. A view of the test excavations looking northeast in grid square 990-995N, 995-1000E.

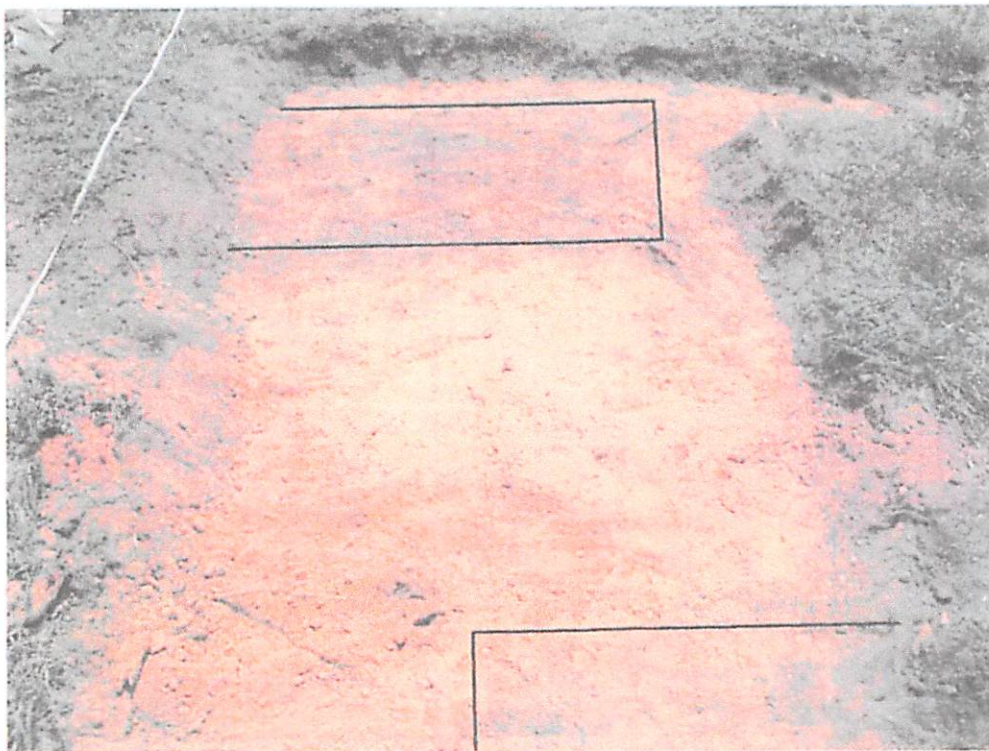


Figure 14. A view of two grave shafts looking south in grid square 990-995N, 995-1000E.

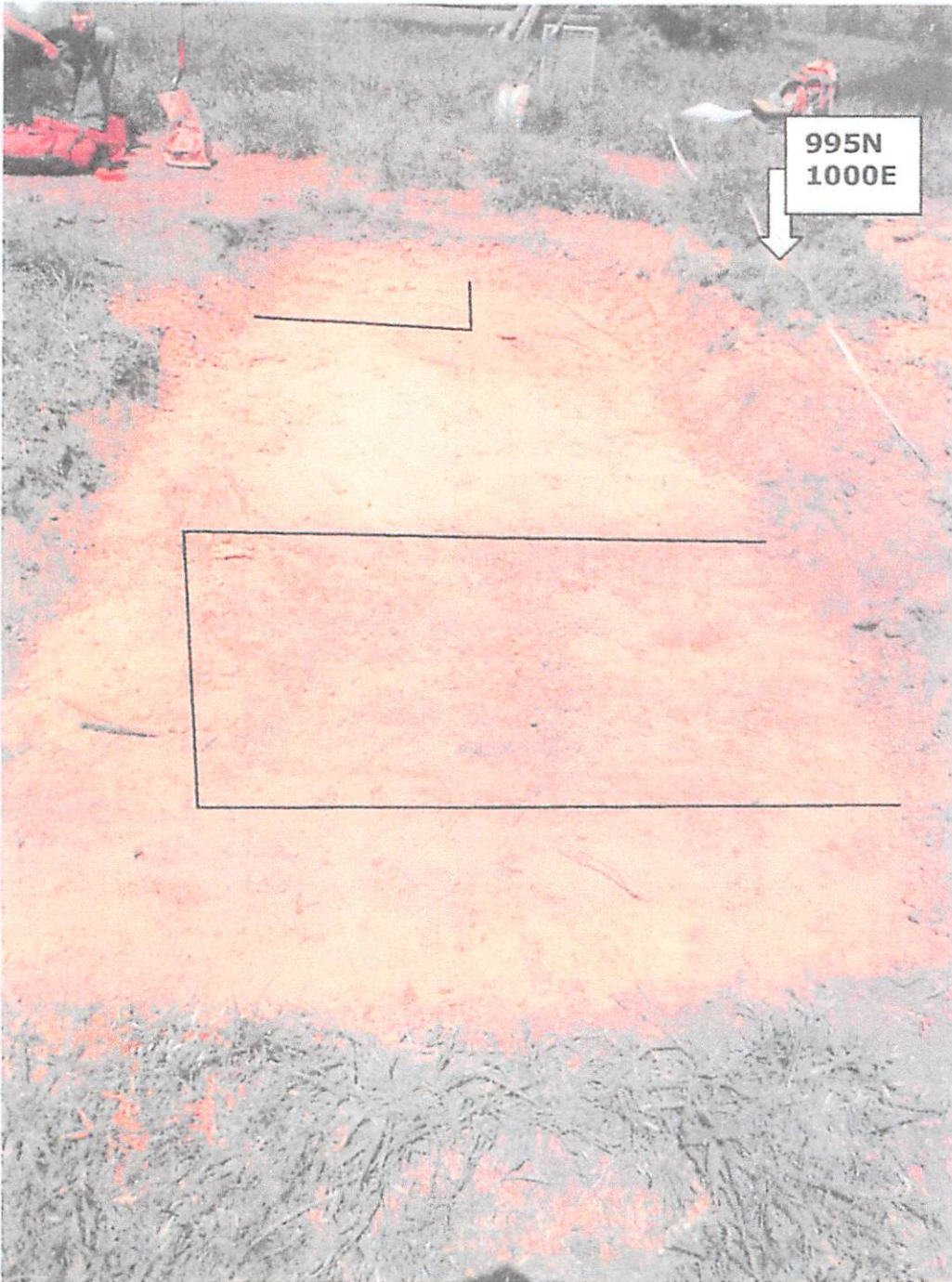


Figure 15. A view of the two grave shafts looking north in grid square 990-995N, 995-1000E.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery in Lamar County, Georgia was conducted using surface searching, systematic metal detecting, Ground Penetrating Radar and hand dug excavations. The results suggest that there may be 100 individuals buried on the hilltop. The exact location of each grave and location of the 1864 mass grave from the train wreck was not determined. The best guess has the mass grave in the northeast part of the cemetery with the Wadsworth family and African American slaves and freedmen covering the middle and western portions.

If the City of Barnesville wishes to relocate the individuals buried in the Wadsworth Cemetery, here are the next steps required to move forward:

Survey by Registered Surveyor \*

Conduct Genealogical Research to identify descendants:

- Consult local historians, historical societies,
- Contact local African American Communities and the Sons of Confederate Veterans
- Research pertinent local, state, federal documents
- Research genealogical sources

Prepare Application for Permit:

- Introduction
- Evidence of Ownership (Deed) \*
- Cemetery Delineation Report
- Legal Description and Surveyors Plat \*
- Plan for Notifying Descendants
- Disinterment and Relocation Plan

Application approved by County

Notify descendants and consult about relocation plan:

- Include local African American Communities and the Sons of Confederate Veterans
- Newspaper Outreach
- World Wide Web requests
- Letters to historical and genealogical groups

Disinter Remains:

- Remove top soil with skilled backhoe operator
- Hand excavate individual graves
- Conduct limited analysis of the remains to identify sex and age
- Place remains in new containers

Arrange Reburial with Greenwood Cemetery:

- Transport remains daily to cemetery

Prepare a Final Report of Project

\* Provided by the City of Barnesville

## **References Cited**

**Aaron, Ruth Frances**

**n.d. Archibald Wadsworth, circa 1765-1856. File accessed April 14, 2017**

**[http://www.oocities.org/claytonresearch/archibald\\_wadsworth.html](http://www.oocities.org/claytonresearch/archibald_wadsworth.html)**

**Ancestry.com**

**2017 Federal Census Population Schedules for 1790 to 1860. Files accessed April 14-18,**

**2017. [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)**

**Find A Grave**

**2017 Wadsworth Cemetery. File accessed April 14, 2017:**

**[http://www.oocities.org/claytonresearch/archibald\\_wadsworth.html](http://www.oocities.org/claytonresearch/archibald_wadsworth.html)**

**Cemetery Research Group (CRG), Henry County, Georgia**

**2007 Milner Train Wreck. File accessed April 14, 2017:**

**<http://www.crghenry.org/milner/milnertrainwreck.html>**

**Appendix A: 9LR67 Site Form**

GEORGIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE FORM

1990

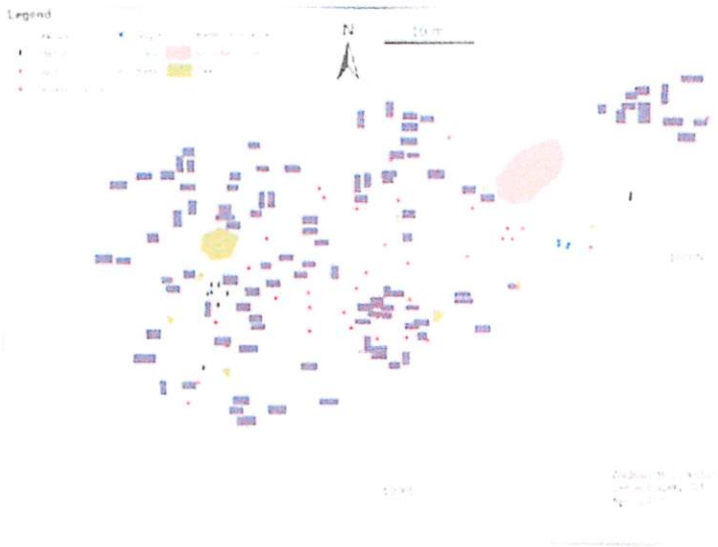
Official Site Number: 9Lr67

Institutional Site Number: 797-1 Site Name: Wadsworth Cemetery  
 County: Lamar Map Name: Barnesville USGS or USNOAA  
 UTM Zone: 16 UTM East: 761 103 UTM North: 3 662 342  
 Owner: City of Barnesville, Ga Address: Barnesville, GA  
 Site Length: 75 meters Width: 45 meters Elevation: + - 244 meters  
 Orientation: 1. N-S 2. E-W 3. NE-SW 4. NW-SE 5. Round 6. Unknown  
 Kind of Investigation: 1. Survey 2. Testing 3. Excavation 4. Documentary  
 5. Hearsay 6. Unknown 7. Amateur  
 Standing Architecture: 1. Present 2. Absent  
 Site Nature: 1. Plowzone 2. Subsurface 3. Both 4. Only Surface Known  
 5. Unknown 6. Underwater  
 Midden: 1. Present 2. Absent 3. Unknown Features: 1. Present 2. Absent 3. Unknown  
 Percent Disturbance: 1. None 2. Greater than 50 3. Less than 50 4. Unknown  
 Type of Site (Mill, Mound, Quarry, Lithic Scatter, etc.) Historic cemetery

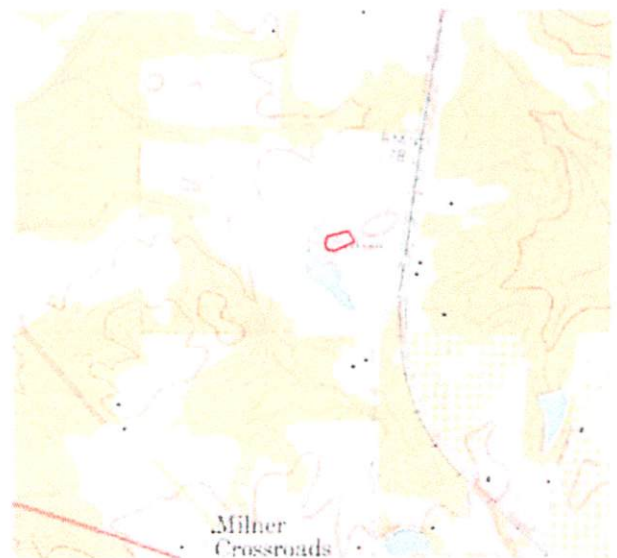
Topography (Ridge, Terrace, etc.): Hill Top

Current Vegetation (Woods, Pasture, etc.): Pasture with large hardwoods

Additional Information: Archibald Wadsworth family cemetery from ca. 1839. Possible mass grave also present from September 1864 train wreck.  
The survey included surface searching, systematic metal detecting, GPR and shallow hand dug test pits.  
The survey indicated that 100 +/- graves are present.



SKETCH MAP  
(Include sites, roads, streams, landmarks)



OFFICIAL MAP  
(Xerox of proper map)

State Site Number: 9L97 Institutional Site Number: 787-1

Public Status: 1. National Historic Landmark 2. National Natural Landmark  
3. Georgia Register 4. Georgia Historic Trust 5. HABS 6. HAER

National Register Standing: 1. Determined Eligible 2. Recommended Ineligible  
3. Recommended Eligible 4. Nominated 5. Listed 6. Unknown 7. Removed

National Register Level of Significance: 1. Local 2. State 3. National

Preservation State (Select up to Two): 1. Undisturbed 2. Cultivated 3. Eroded  
4. Submerged 5. Lake Flooded 6. Vandalized 7. Destroyed 8. Redeposited  
9. Graded 10. Razed

Preservation Prospects: 1. Safe 2. Endangered by: Industrial Development  
3. Unknown

### RECORD OF INVESTIGATIONS

Supervisor: WD Wood Affiliation: Southern Research, HPC, Inc. Date: April 2017  
Report Title: Archaeological Survey of the Archibald Wadsworth Cemetery, Lamar County

Other Reports: \_\_\_\_\_

Artifacts Collected: One one inch diameter iron ball, possible canister shot from civil war artillery munition

Location of Collections: Southern Research Lab, Waverly Hall, GA

Location of Field Notes: Southern Research Lab, Waverly Hall, GA

Private Collections: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### CULTURAL AFFINITY

Cultural Periods: Historic

Phase: Nineteenth Century

### FORM PREPARATION AND REVISION

Date	Name	Institutional Affiliation
<u>14 April 2017</u>	<u>WD Wood</u>	<u>Southern Research, HPC, Inc.</u>

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF  
BARNESVILLE, A MUNICIPALITY OF  
THE STATE OF GEORGIA, FOR A  
PERMIT UNDER CHAPTER 72 OF  
TITLE 36 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE  
OF GEORGIA ("ABANDONED  
CEMETERIES AND BURIAL  
GROUNDS"), O.C.G.A. §§ 36-72-1,  
ET SEQ,

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT

---

**VERIFICATION**

Karen G. Wood, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the CEO of Southern Research Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc., whose principal office is located in Harris, County, Georgia, and that she is personally acquainted with the facts and opinions set out in the archeological survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery in Lamar County, Georgia and the genealogical research on the Archibald Wadsworth Cemetery, which are attachments and exhibits to the Application for Burial Disturbance Permit to Lamar County Superior Court, and that she has read all of the foregoing, participated in the gathering of the facts and formation of the opinions therein and knows the contents thereof, and that the facts stated and the opinions set out in the

exhibits and in the application are true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief.

This 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

Sworn to and subscribed before:

Kimberly Bussey  
Notary Public  
Comm. Expires: Jan. 11, 2020

Karen G. Wood

**KAREN G. WOOD,**  
CEO, Southern Research  
Historic Preservation  
Consultants, Inc.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF  
BARNESVILLE, A MUNICIPALITY OF  
THE STATE OF GEORGIA, FOR A  
PERMIT UNDER CHAPTER 72 OF  
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OF GEORGIA ("ABANDONED  
CEMETERIES AND BURIAL  
GROUNDS"), O.C.G.A. §§ 36-72-1,  
ET SEQ,

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT

---

**VERIFICATION**

W. Dean Wood, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Secretary and Principal Investigator of Southern Research Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc., whose principal office is located in Harris, County, Georgia, and that he is personally acquainted with the facts and opinions set out in the archeological survey of the Wadsworth Cemetery in Lamar County, Georgia, which are attachments and exhibits to the Application for Burial Disturbance Permit to Lamar County Superior Court, and that he has read all of the foregoing, participated in the gathering of the facts and formation of the opinions therein and knows the contents thereof, and that the facts stated and the opinions set out in the exhibits and in the application are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.



This 10 day of April, 2018.

Sworn to and subscribed before:

H. M. Buss  
Notary Public  
Comm. Expires: Jan. 11, 2020

W. Dean Wood  
**W. DEAN WOOD,**  
Secretary and Principal  
Investigator of Southern  
Research Historic  
Preservation Consultants,  
Inc.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA**

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF  
BARNESVILLE, A MUNICIPALITY OF  
THE STATE OF GEORGIA, FOR A  
PERMIT UNDER CHAPTER 72 OF  
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OF GEORGIA. ("ABANDONED  
CEMETERIES AND BURIAL  
GROUNDS"), O.C.G.A. §§ 36-72-1,  
ET SEQ,

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT

---

**VERIFICATION**

Callie McGinnis, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she a genealogist, and is a resident of Columbus, Georgia, and that she is personally acquainted with the facts set out in the Application for Burial Disturbance Permit to Lamar County Superior Court, and the genealogical exhibits attached to that application prepared by Southern Research Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc., that she is familiar with the foregoing, and knows the contents thereof, and that the facts stated and the opinions stated in the application and exhibits with regard to the genealogical findings and opinions are true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief.

This 13 day of April, 2018.

Sworn to and subscribed before:



Notary Public

Comm. Expires: June 17, 2021

  
**CALLIE MCGINNIS**  
Genealogist

