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October 8, 2024

Bryan Day, Executive Director
Port of Little Rock
10600 Industrial Harbor Drive
Little Rock, AR 72206

RE: Pedestrian Survey of 515 Acres at the Port of Little Rock in Pulaski County, AR

Mr. Day:

Attached is the report resulting from the pedestrian survey of 515 acres at the Port of Little Rock in Pulaski County, Arkansas (Flat Earth Archeology Project Report 2017-27). The pedestrian survey was conducted in 2017. The purpose of the pedestrian survey was to identify and document aboveground cultural resources in the 515 acres. The scope of the project did not entail subsurface investigation or artifact collection. The report recommended that in the event of a federal undertaking within the 515 acres, an investigation that meets all state and federal standards for archeology and historic preservation and constitutes a “reasonable and good faith effort to carry out appropriate identification efforts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and field survey” as per 36 CFR Part 800.4(b)(1), should be completed.

Also attached is a desktop review conducted in 2023 of the “Supersite” area was completed by Flat Earth Archeology (Flat Earth Archeology Project Report 2023-113). Seven sites are shown in the records to occur within the Supersite including 3PU0015, 3PU0105, 3PU0106, 3PU1001, 3PU1002, 3PU1003, and 3PU1004; representing both pre-Contact sites, post-Contact sites, and multi-component sites. Of note is 3PU0015 located in the northernmost portion of the Supersite area, known as the Isgrig Site, which contained human remains. Additionally, one historic property occurs within the supersite area, the Little Rock VORTAC building.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to assist you with your cultural resources needs.

Sincerely,

Chris Branam, RPA

DESKTOP REVIEW

Historic Properties

Flat Earth Archeology conducted background research and studies of the Supersite prior to fieldwork. Personnel conducted a records check on the AHPP GIS Historic Properties database and AMASDA database to determine if historic properties as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l)(1) occur within or proximal to the Supersite. While there are no historic properties proximal to the Supersite, one historic property occurs within the Supersite (AHPP 2023; AMASDA 2023). The historic property, Little Rock VORTAC building, was identified during the current investigation (Figures 1 through 3).

Little Rock VORTAC Building

The Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate for the building is Zone 15S, 575071 meters (m)E, 3837605mN. The building is situated in the northwest quarter of Section 34 in Township 1 North, Range 11 West. The Little Rock VORTAC building is located about 3.58 miles (mi) (5.77 kilometers [km]) to the southeast of the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Little Rock VORTAC building consists of a single building with an antenna array situated within a level plain.

The Little Rock VORTAC building is associated with the advent of a civilian aircraft navigation system in Arkansas and reflects an early technological usage of the system in the state. Opened in 1917, the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport was originally operated by the U.S. Army Signal Corps as the Little Rock Intermediate Air Depot. In 1926 the Federal Government acquired property to provide support and landing facilities for the 154th Observation Squadron of the Arkansas National Guard at the site. Years later, the city of Little Rock purchased the airfield in 1931. The following year commercial air service by American Airways was implemented. During World War II, the War Department assumed control of the airport. After the war, Little Rock regained responsibility of the airport and re-established daily commercial air service. In the early 1950s, the airport received major runway improvements including the installation of the first Instrument Landing System (ILS) (Bill & Hillary Clinton National Airport 2020; Sherwood 2018).

The Little Rock VORTAC building was constructed using standardized plans developed by the CAA. As-built drawings specific to the Little Rock VORTAC equipment building, site plot, and roof plan date to April 15, 1948. Site plans detail the building was modernized on April 10, 1951. The site plans detail the building as-built again on June 7, 1951. The building was revised for VORTAC on February 20, 1958.

Previously Recorded Archeological Sites

Devin Sorrows, RPA searched the records in the archeological site database, AMASDA Online, maintained by the Arkansas Archeological Survey (ARAS) in Fayetteville to check for previously recorded archeological sites within one mile from the Supersite (AMASDA 2023). There were 22 previously recorded archeological sites within this search area (Table 1). Seven sites occur within the Supersite including 3PU0015, 3PU0105, 3PU0106, 3PU1001, 3PU1002, 3PU1003, and

3PU1004; representing both pre-Contact sites, post-Contact sites, and multi-component sites (Figure 4). Of note is 3PU0015 located in the northernmost portion of the Supersite area, known as the Isgrig Site, which contained human remains.

Table 1. Previously Recorded Archeological Sites within One Mile of Supersite

Site Number	Surface Scatter > 100 sq m	Structure Exists on Site	Site National Register Eligibility	Site Artifact Material	Site Cultural Affiliation	Distance from Supersite
3PU0001	Yes	Yes	1--108663--Eligible--2021-09-28	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal 24--Ceramics, Historic 27--Metal, Historic 29--Human Skeletal Remains, Aboriginal 30--Human Skeletal Remains, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 47--Other Material, Aboriginal 48--Other Material, Historic 49--Glass	1--Archaic Period 54--Mississippian, Late 56--(NA) Quapaw 67--Poverty Point Culture 74--Quapaw (Prehistoric) 85--Woodland Period 98--(AT) Dev Settl, Rural, Agriculture 100--(AT) Pioneer Settlmt 140--Afro-American 197--Protohistoric, 1400-1650 "hamlets" 204--Menard Complex	0.71 km (0.44 mi)
3PU0015	No	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal 24--Ceramics, Historic 27--Metal, Historic 33--Faunal Remains, Historic 44--Building Material, Aboriginal 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	26--Coles Creek (Period/Culture) 54--Mississippian, Late 197--Protohistoric, 1400-1650 "hamlets" 204--Menard Complex	Within Supersite
3PU0022	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal	72--Prehistoric	0.71 km (0.44 mi)
3PU0104	No	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal	26--Coles Creek (Period/Culture) 72--Prehistoric 85--Woodland Period	Over 0.8 km (Over 0.5 mi)
3PU0105	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal	3--Archaic, Early 87--Woodland, Middle	Within Supersite
3PU0106	No	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal 46--Other Material, Indeterminant	7--Archaic, Late 86--Woodland, Early 87--Woodland, Middle 96--Historic Period	Within Supersite
3PU0241	No	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal	72--Prehistoric	Over 0.8 km (Over 0.5 mi)
3PU0802	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 24--Ceramics, Historic 27--Metal, Historic 49--Glass	72--Prehistoric 96--Historic Period	0.4 km (0.25 mi)
3PU0817	Yes	No	-----	24--Ceramics, Historic	72--Prehistoric 96--Historic Period	0.49 km (0. mi)
3PU0828	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 21--Lithics, Historic 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal 27--Metal, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	1--Archaic Period 51--Mississippian 67--Poverty Point Culture 96--Historic Period	0.31 km (0.19 mi)
3PU0839	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal	51--Mississippian 204--Menard Complex	Over 0.8 km (Over 0.5 mi)
3PU0840	Yes	No	-----	24--Ceramics, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	98--(AT) Dev Settl, Rural, Agriculture 204--Menard Complex	0.37 km (0.23 mi)
3PU0841	Yes	No	-----	24--Ceramics, Historic 27--Metal, Historic	51--Mississippian 96--Historic Period	0.47 km (0.29 mi)

Table 1. Previously Recorded Archeological Sites within One Mile of Supersite						
Site Number	Surface Scatter > 100 sq m	Structure Exists on Site	Site National Register Eligibility	Site Artifact Material	Site Cultural Affiliation	Distance from Supersite
				45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	145--(AT) Dev Settl, Rural, Ag-Tenant	
3PU0842	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 24--Ceramics, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	72--Prehistoric 98--(AT) Dev Settl, Rural, Agriculture	0.2 km (0.12 mi)
3PU0843	Yes	No	-----	45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	98--(AT) Dev Settl, Rural, Agriculture	0.16 km (0.1 mi)
3PU1001	Yes	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 24--Ceramics, Historic 27--Metal, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 48--Other Material, Historic 49--Glass	96--Historic Period	Within Supersite
3PU1002	No	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal 24--Ceramics, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	72--Prehistoric 96--Historic Period	Within Supersite
3PU1003	No	No	-----	24--Ceramics, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	96--Historic Period	Within Supersite
3PU1004	No	No	-----	49--Glass	96--Historic Period	Within Supersite
3PU1030	No	No	-----	23--Ceramics, Aboriginal	72--Prehistoric	Over 0.8 km (Over 0.5 mi)
3PU1031	Yes	No	-----	24--Ceramics, Historic 27--Metal, Historic 45--Building Material, Historic 49--Glass	96--Historic Period	Over 0.8 km (Over 0.5 mi)
3PU1099	No	No	-----	20--Lithics, Aboriginal 23--Ceramics, Aboriginal	51--Mississippian 72--Prehistoric	Over 0.8 km (Over 0.5 mi)

Previously Conducted Archeological Projects

Nine previously conducted archeological projects were identified within one mile of the Supersite (Table 2) (AMASDA 2023). AMASDA Numbers 6473, 7838, and 7905 shown in Table 2 occur immediately to the north of the Supersite. AMASDA Number 1313 shown in Table 2 occurs immediately to the east of the Supersite.

Table 2. Previously Conducted Archeological Projects within One Mile of Supersite					
AMASDA Number	Project Name	Year	Investigating Entity	Sponsor	Project Work Type
1313	Arkansas River Navigation Survey, Pools 1 through 9	1987-00-00	Archeological Assessments, Inc.	COE, Little Rock	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
3275	Cultural Resource Survey of 3 Miles of New Pipeline, Pulaski Co.	1995-00-00	GEO-Marine, Inc.	Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
5030	Investigations at Tupelo Gum Pond and Grassy Lake Southwest	2001-00-00	Archeological Assessments, Inc.	Camp Joseph T. Robinson	92--Testing/Limited Excavation

Table 2. Previously Conducted Archeological Projects within One Mile of Supersite					
AMASDA Number	Project Name	Year	Investigating Entity	Sponsor	Project Work Type
6473	Survey of 160 Acre Tract Purchased by the Quapaw Tribe	2013-00-00	Arkansas Archeological Survey - UAPB Station	Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
7531	Zeuber Road Improvement	2019-00-00	Flat Earth Archeology, LLC	Crafton Tull	31--Archeological Overview and Assessment
7748	17.8 Acres Near Thibault Road in Little Rock	2021-00-00	Flat Earth Archeology, LLC	Terracon Consultants, Inc.	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
7838	Project Treehouse East Cultural Resources Survey	2021-00-00	Terracon Consultants, Inc.	Little Rock Port Authority	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
7905	Phase I for Fourche Dam Pike Extension Project	2022-00-00	Flat Earth Archeology, LLC	Crafton Tull, Inc.	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
7925	600 Meter Linear Corridor for Trex Rail Line Extension	2022-00-00	Flat Earth Archeology, LLC	Little Rock Port Authority	41--Field Reconnaissance, Intensive

Historical Improvements

The First Land Patents records and the General Land Office maps were also consulted for information regarding the history of land ownership of the Supersite. The Bureau of Land Management's First Land Patent records contain many of the names of the initial legal landowner for each section of land. These records generally contain other information regarding the first legal landowners such as how the land was obtained (i.e. homestead, cash entry, scrip warrant, etc.), the acreage obtained in the patent, the legal description of the land, and the date of the patent issuance. Moreover, General Land Office Maps usually show areas with historical development, often depicting improvements such as agricultural fields, roads, or structures, along with names of landowners. The General Land Office (GLO) original survey map for Township 1 North, Range 11 West, approved in 1834, details no historical improvements within or proximal to the Supersite (Figure 5) (GLO 2023). The GLO dependent resurvey map of Township 1 North, Range 11 West, approved in 1857, details three agricultural fields within the Supersite (Figure 6) (GLO 2023a). The GLO dependent resurvey map lists "Harman" as the owner of the northeastern agricultural field and "Keatt" as the owner of the southern agricultural field.

Survey maps produced throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries by the USGS were reviewed for historical improvements within or proximal to the Supersite. The 1891 Little Rock, AR Topographic Quadrangle Map and 1893 (1918 edition) Camp Pike, AR Topographic Quadrangle Map detail multiple roadways intersecting the Supersite (Figures 7 and 8) (USGS 2023; USGS 2023a). The 1935 Sweet Home, AR Topographic Quadrangle Map details multiple roadways intersecting the Supersite and multiple structures within and proximal to the Supersite. Two notable structures within the Supersite include the Antioch Church and Browns Store (Figure 9) (USGS 2023b).

Aerial imagery acquired throughout the middle to late twentieth century by the USDA was also reviewed for historical improvements within or proximal to the Supersite. December 1943 Aerial Imagery details the details multiple roadways intersecting the Supersite and multiple structures

within and proximal to the Supersite as illustrated in the 1935 Sweet Home, AR Topographic Quadrangle Map. Additionally, farmland dominates the Supersite well into the late twentieth century. By 1970, a majority of the roadways and structures remain extant (Figures 10 and 11).

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

A review of the Footprints Across Arkansas: Trail of Tears Removal Corridors for the Cherokees, Chickasaws, Choctaws, Creeks & Seminoles by Amber M. Horne indicated that the Supersite lies near a corridor of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (Figure 12). The nearest removal route is situated roughly 0.45 km (0.28 mi) east of the Supersite. Additionally, parties of Cherokees, Chickasaws, Choctaws, Creeks, and Seminoles were removed along this proximal route (Horne 2006).

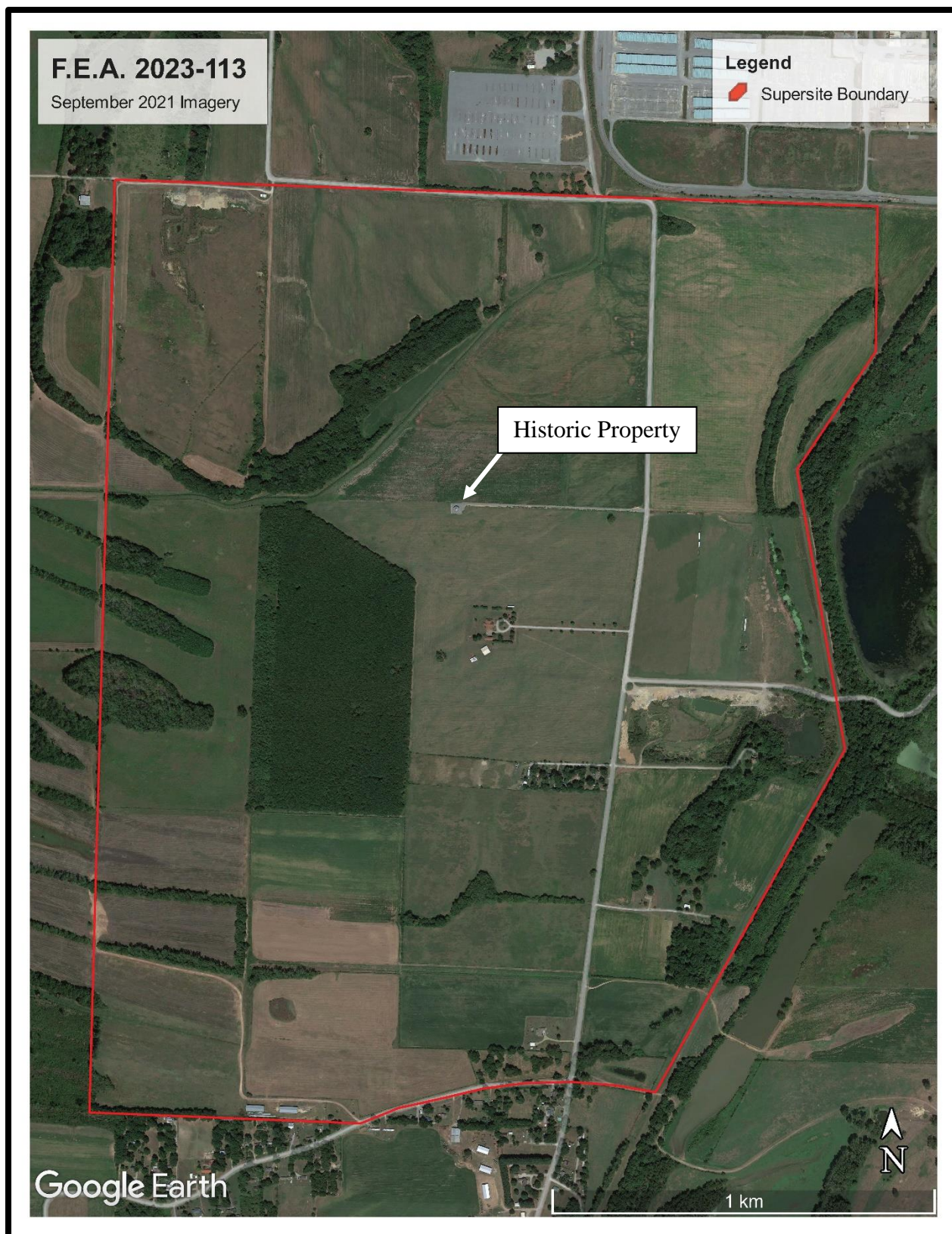


Figure 1. Supersite and Historic Property location detailed on September 2021 Imagery (1 km scale)



Figure 2. View of Little Rock VORTAC building in April 2020 (facing northeast)



Figure 3. View of Little Rock VORTAC building in April 2020 (facing northwest)

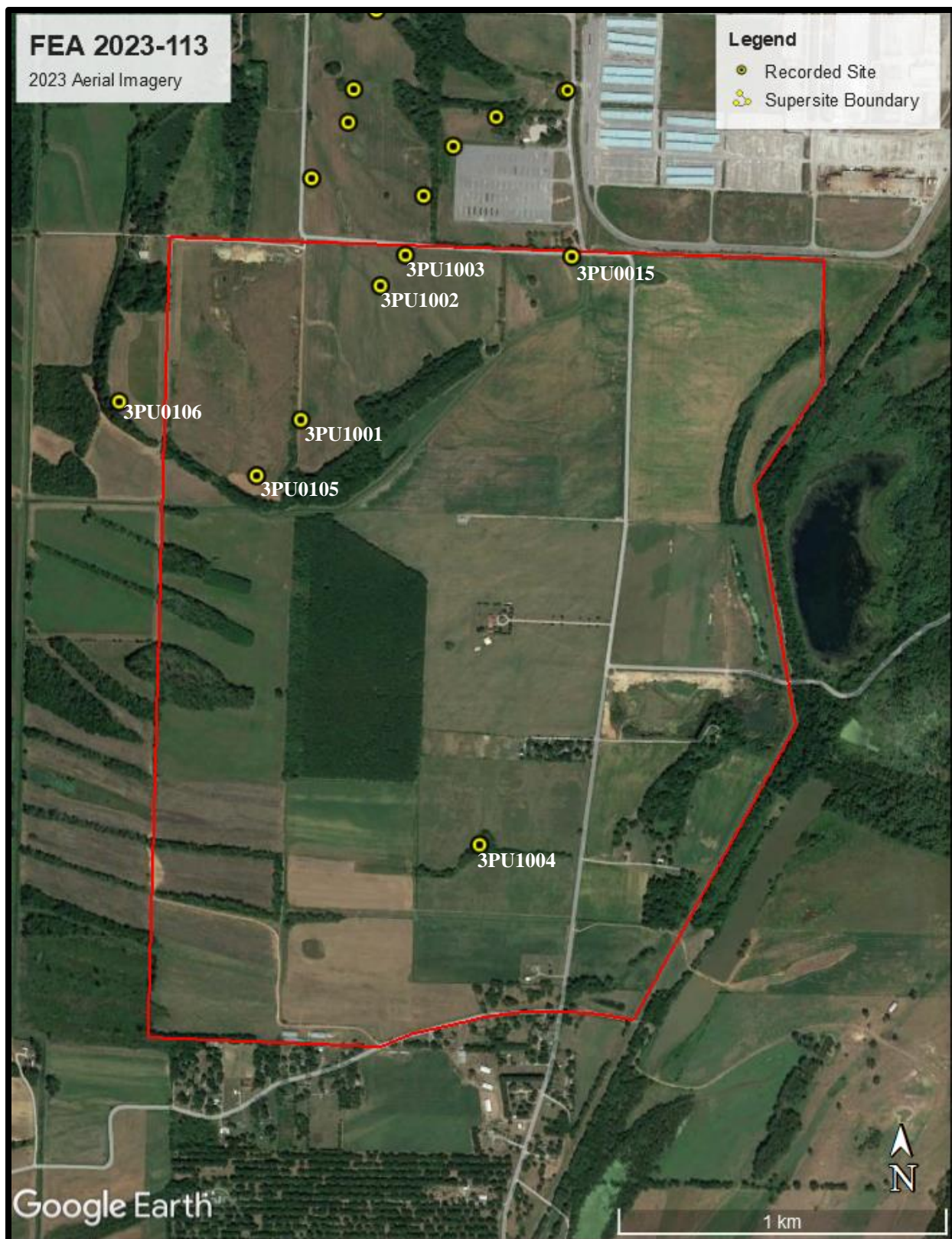


Figure 4. Point Data for Previously Recorded Sites Within or Immediate to the Supersite Area

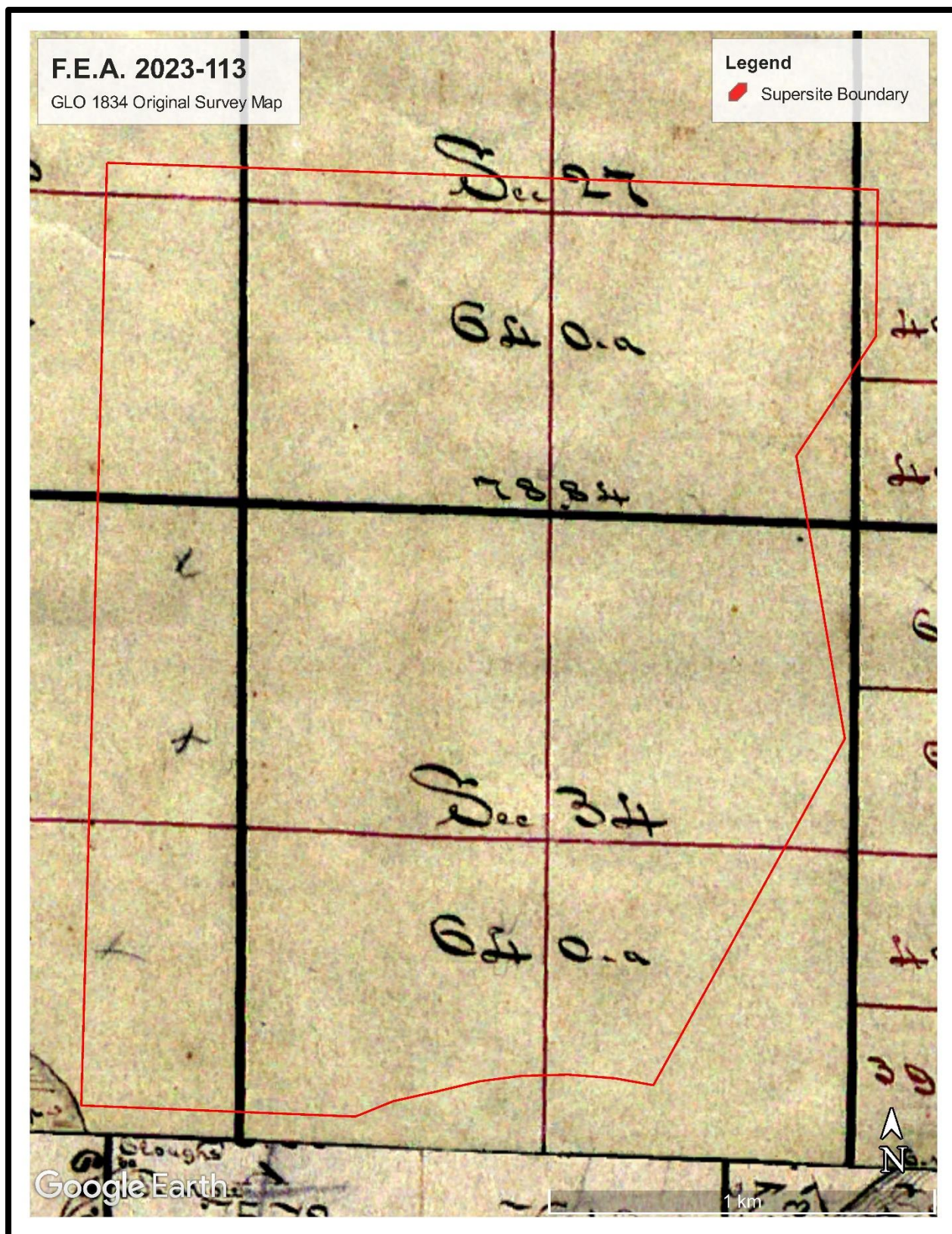


Figure 5. Supersite detailed on GLO 1834 Original Survey Map (1 km scale)

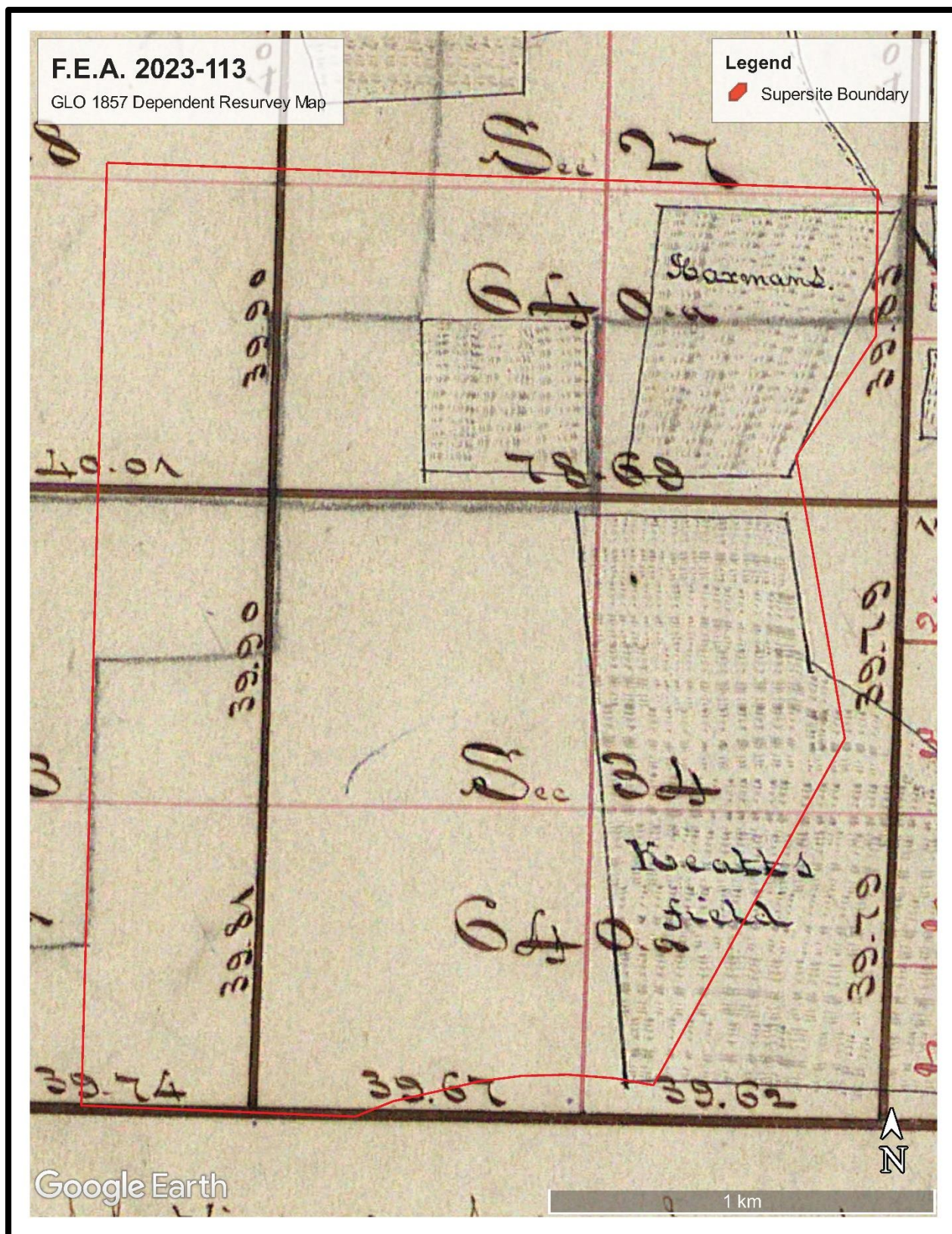


Figure 6. Supersite detailed on GLO 1857 Dependent Resurvey Map (1 km scale)

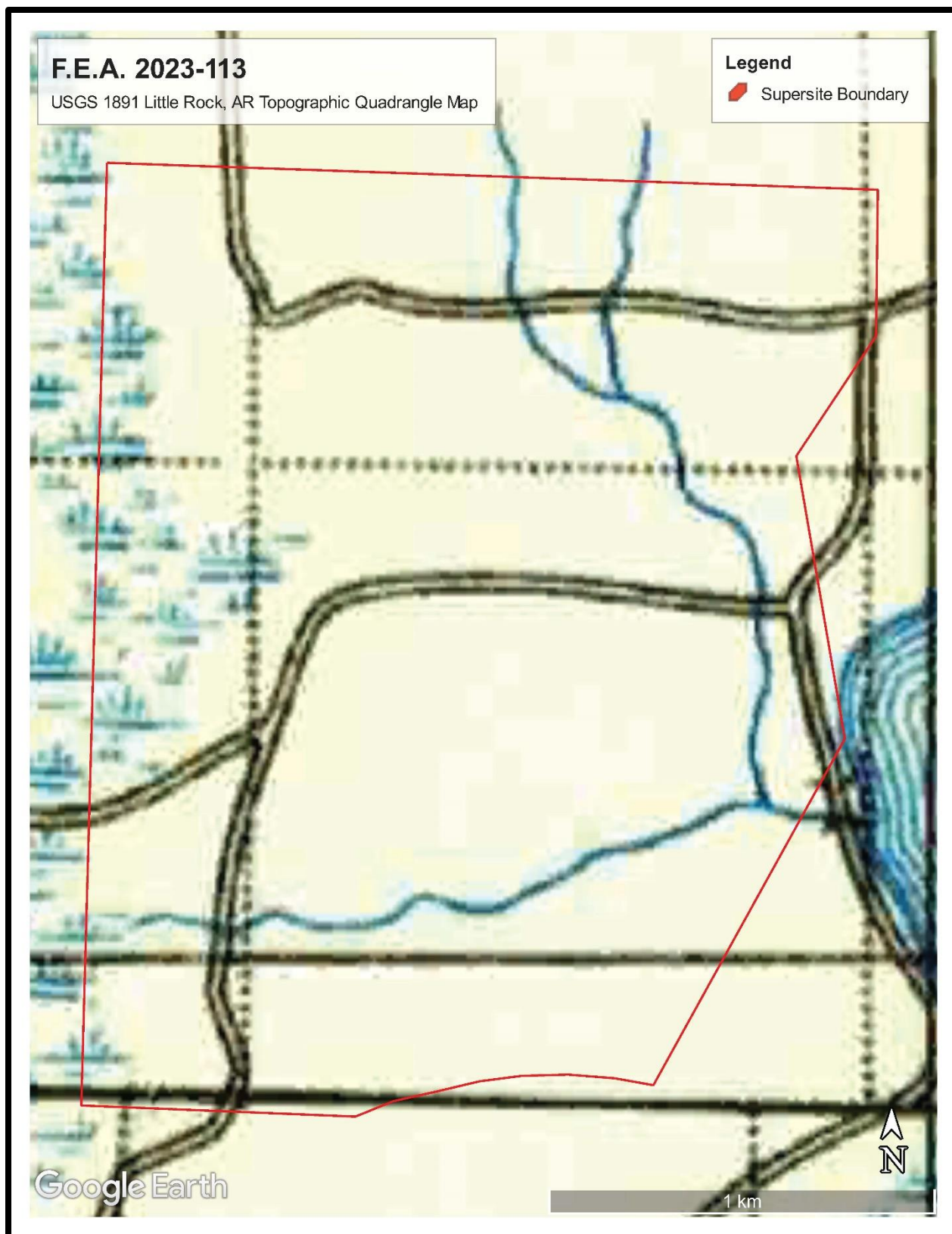


Figure 7. Supersite detailed on USGS 1891 Little Rock, AR Topographic Quadrangle Map (1 km scale)

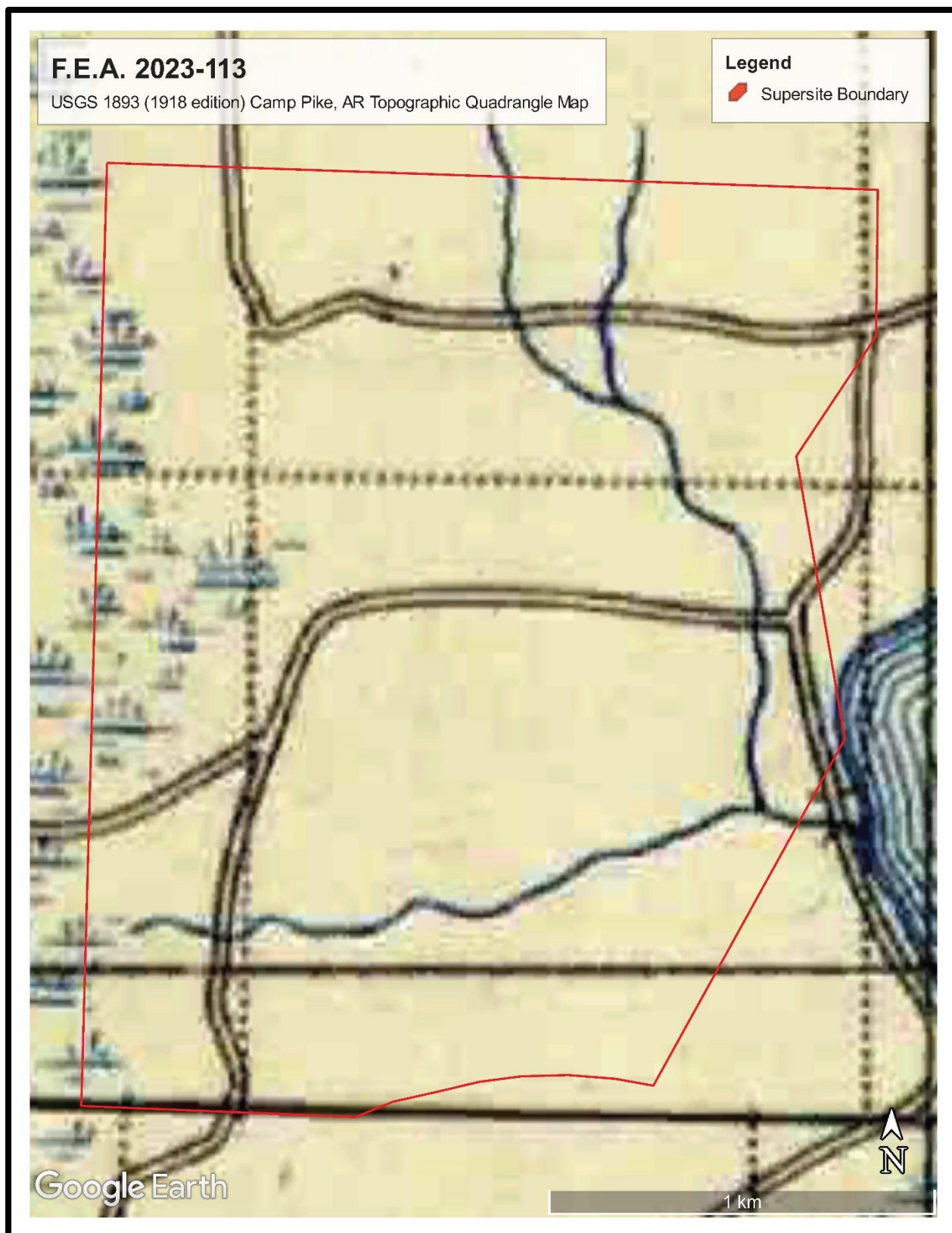


Figure 8. Supersite detailed on USGS 1893 (1918 edition) Camp Pike, AR Topographic Quadrangle Map (1 km scale)



Figure 10. Supersite detailed on December 1943 Aerial Imagery (1 km scale)



Figure 11. Supersite detailed on March 1970 Aerial Imagery (1 km scale)

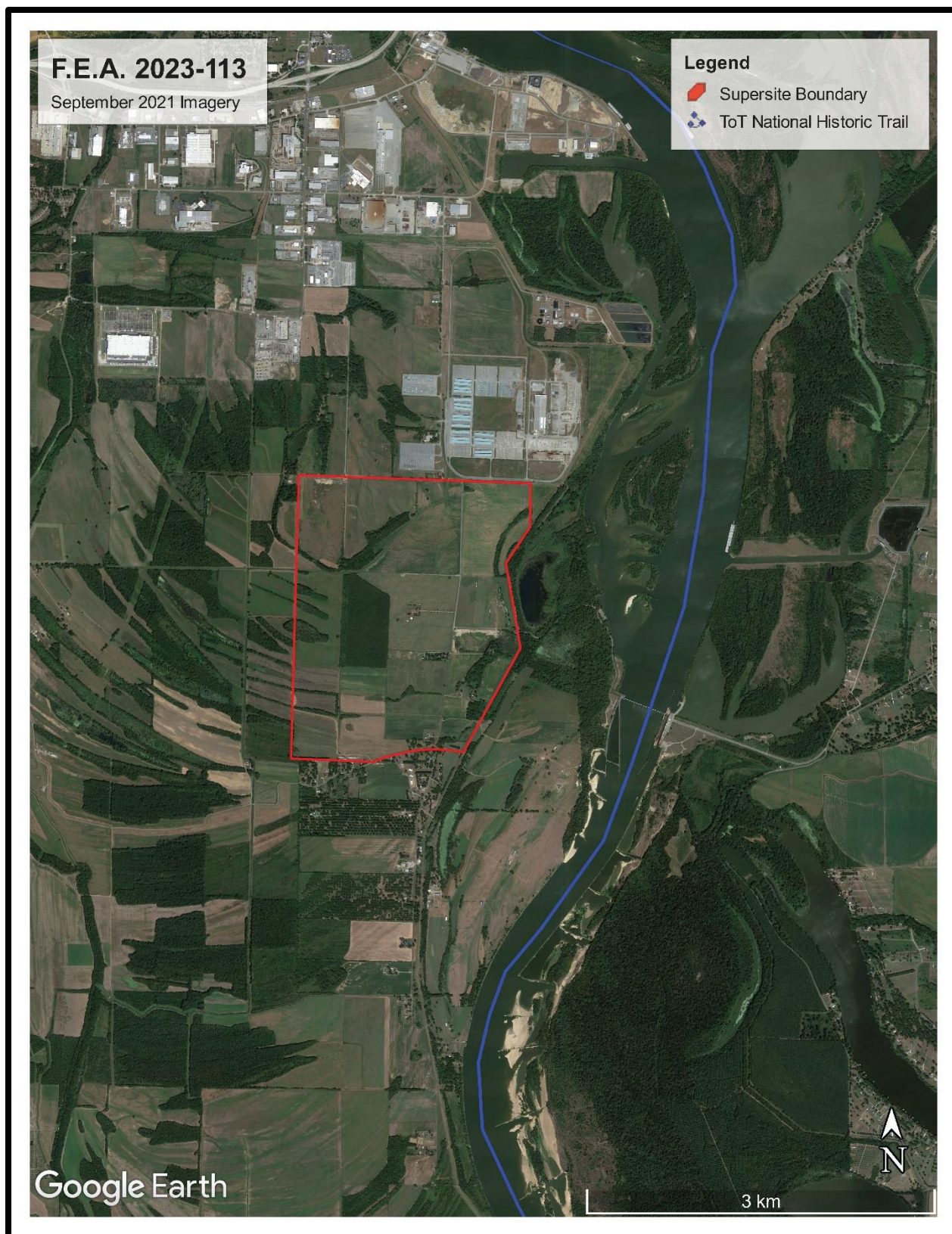


Figure 12. Supersite and Trail of Tears National Historic Trail detailed on September 2021 Imagery (3 km scale)

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