A Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of
7.5± Acres of Land in the Blackwell County Forest Preserve, DuPage County, Illinois

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Cultural Resource Management Report No. 1602
**Introduction**

On a hot, sunny June 24th Midwest Archaeological Research Services, Inc. (MARS, Inc.) staff members Jay Martinez and Kenton Geier under the direction of Rochelle Lurie conducted a Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey of approximately 7.5 acres of land in the Blackwell County Forest Preserve. The survey area in the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 26, in Township 39 North, Range 9 East (Winfield Township) of the Third Principal Meridian in DuPage County, Illinois. The project area is north of the Butterfield Road (IL Route 56) and Batavia Road and south of a parking lot for a capped landfill that is used for snow sledding.

This survey fulfills a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirement for the development of this area as an urban stream research center, "a laboratory environment where the [DuPage County] Forest Preserve can study the affects of the river on mussel and fish species in northeastern Illinois in order to help restore the natural function of the river" (Sarah Ruthko, email dated 7/2/09). Reconnaissance surveys are conducted to identify possible prehistoric or historic cultural resources allowing land managers to plan adequate preservation or mitigation measures. As a result of the survey one small prehistoric site 11-Du-523 and one prehistoric Isolated Find IF 1 were identified. The site is at most 4m2 and contains three very small flakes or flake fragments and a very small blocky chert fragment. The isolated find is a chert flake. Neither the site nor the isolated find are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and project clearance is recommended.

**Physical Environment**

The grass and tree covered fan-shaped survey area comprises a terrace above a small stream, Spring Brook, flowing to the DuPage River less than ¼ mile to the south, the floodplain of that stream and part of the stream itself. A parking lot and capped landfill lie to the north. A bike path and fence line traverse the northern part of the survey area south of the parking lot. Two man-made ponds are present to the southeast. (see Figure 3 below). The project area sits on sand and gravel glacial outwash of the Batavia and Mackinaw members of the Henry formation deposited primarily during the Michigan Subepisode of the Wisconsin Episode between 26,000 and 11,000 radiocarbon years BC (Hansel & Johnson 1997: 58). Holocene alluvium is present within the flood plain of Spring Brook.

These glacial deposits and alluvium provide the parent material for natural soils in the area; these include Fox silt loam (327B), which formed under mixed hardwood forest and Sawmill silty clay loam-undrained, which formed under swamp grasses (Figure 2). Man-made land (Orthents, 802B and D) is present in the northernmost part of the survey area (Caslyn 1999). The Government Land Office map drawn in 1842 shows the survey area in timber however Spring Creek is shown to the east of its position on later historic plats and modern maps (Appendix A: Figure 1). While a forested area near a creek would have been a favorable location for prehistoric sites, most of the project area was too wet for settlement. The site found
during the survey is what might be expected in this location--a small temporary site where limited activities took place.

Figure 1. Portion of the 7.5 min. USGS Naperville Quadrangle showing the project area and site 11-Du-523.
Background Research

Before the reconnaissance survey is conducted, MARS, Inc. consulted the state site files maintained by the Illinois State Museum for information on the location of sites that have been found previously within or near the project area. Examination of the site files indicates that there are no reported sites within the project area. Nine sites (11-Du-19, 11-Du-28, 11-Du-48, 11-Du-162, 11-Du-298, 11-Du-309, 11-Du-310, 11-Du-478, 11-Du-501 and 11-Du-513) are located within 1.6 kilometers (1.0 miles) of the proposed project areas. Site 11-Du-513 is a potentially significant historic structure complex, the Warrenville Grove Dam and millrace, located in Section 35. The dam is a low-rise dam constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), on or immediately down river of an earlier dam and millstream. The millrace was part of a large flour mill in operation from 1847 to 1897, and is probably associated with an earlier sawmill, built in 1834 (Tolmie and Bird 2008).

Additional files maintained by the Illinois State Museum indicate that while no previous archaeological surveys have been conducted within the project area, at least 17 surveys (ASSR#s 612, 4045, 4046, 4304, 4878, 5158, 7610, 7743, 7876, 8306, 10223, 11929, 13759, 14530,
15004, 15649 and 99999) have been completed within 1.6 kilometers of the proposed undertaking.

Historical plats and atlases of the area were reviewed also to assess the potential for historic sites. Plats from 1862, 1874, 1897, and 1904 show no historic structure within the survey area (Appendix A: Figures 2-5).

**Field Methods**

Field methods employed during the survey will be in accordance with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency’s *Protecting Illinois Cultural Resources - An Introduction to Archaeological Surveys* Cultural Resources guidelines and the *Survey and Reporting Requirements Addendum* memorandum dated May 6, 2008.

The 7.5± acre survey area is covered in turf grass and woods with 0% ground surface visibility; therefore, the most appropriate survey method is shovel probing. Shovel probes are small subsurface sampling units approximately 35 cm in diameter and 35 to 50 cm deep. Soils from shovel probes are screened through 1/4" hardware mesh and all cultural material is collected by probe unit. Shovel probes were excavated at 15-meter (50 ft.) intervals. When cultural material was found in a probe at this interval, additional probes (hot probes) were excavated at 2-meter intervals in the cardinal directions to determine site size. The 7.5 acres was divided into four areas (Areas A through D for the purposes of this survey (Figure 3).

**AREA A**

Shovel probe survey in this area started south of bike path within the fence line. Area A includes the terrace above the Spring Brook and the Spring Brook floodplain and is covered in grass/scrubs with open areas mixed with scattered trees. Area A is widest at eastern edge of project area and tapers in toward the western edge (Appendix B: Plates 1). Shovel probe Transects 1 and 2 ran east to west. Transect 1 started 5 m south of fence line; it contained ten probes before reaching slope down to floodplain (Appendix B: Plate 2). Transect 2 contained eight probes before running into slope down to flood plain. Transect 3 ran west to east and contained four probes. Transect 4 ran east to west and contained three probes before running into floodplain slope. Average soil change on the Area A terrace is between 15-20 cm. The top 15-20 cm is a brown light brown silty clay loam, which lies above yellow brown silty clay with gravels.
One isolated find, a chert flake, was recovered in probe T2, P4. Eight additional probes were excavated around this probe, but no additional artifacts were recovered. (UTM: 4631310N 401805E). A small prehistoric site 11-Du-523 was found around T2, P7 near the drop off to the floodplain (Appendix B: Plate 3). One flake was recovered in T2, P7 (UTM: 4631344N, 401778E). Twenty-five hot probes were excavated around this probe, but only three yielded artifacts (Figure 4). One flake was recovered from probe T2, P7, 1N2W; one flake and a blocky fragment were found in T2, P7 1S; and 1 flake was found in T2, P7 1S2W. Site scatter measured at most 4m². All of the artifacts recovered are very small--four tertiary flakes or flake fragments and one very small blocky chert fragment. The flakes were probably produced in the final stage of stone tool manufacture or by resharpening.
A concrete culvert, which drains the terrace into the floodplain, is located approximately 2 m southeast of T2, P8 within clump of trees (Appendix B: Plate 4). The drainage is 3 meters wide north to south and 50 cm at its mid point and tapers to the edges.

The floodplain north of Spring Brook was also considered part of Area A. This area was delineated by Wetland flags and very contains dark black and wet soil. Two modern gravelly mounds are present along creek near the western edge of the survey area (Appendix B: Plate 5). The floodplain was not shovel probed.

**AREA B**

Area B is triangular piece of dense tree and shrub covered land in northwest corner of project area. The bike trail is the northern boundary and the fence line the southern boundary of this area. Two transects running west to east were excavated here. Most shovel probes only had 5 cm of topsoil or none at all. This portion of the survey area is obviously disturbed.

**AREA C**

Area C is located between the bike path and parking lot (Appendix B: 6). On the northern edge adjacent to the parking lot the soil seems to be trenched out for water drainage. The crew excavated 5 shovel probes. The top 10 cm of soil was a dark black soil over a yellow soil with gravel. This area contains the man-made soils.
AREA D

Area D is a small area southwest of Spring Brook (Appendix B: Plate 7). The crew excavated three shovel probes. The majority of area D was underwater at the time of survey and the field crew was unable to survey. The three probes contained dark black floodplain soil.

Summary and Recommendations

On June 24th Midwest Archaeological Research Services, Inc. (MARS, Inc.) conducted a Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey of approximately 7.5 acres of land in the southwest ¼ of Section 26 of Winfield Township. As a result of the survey one small prehistoric site 11-Du-523 was recorded. The site is at most 4m² and contains three very small flakes or flake fragments and a very small blocky chert fragment. One chert flake (Isolated Find 1) was also found approximately 45 meters to the east of the site. Neither the site nor the isolated find are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. No further work is necessary and project clearance is recommended.

References
Bennett, L. G., E. A. Lyon, and Horace Brooks, Compilers

Caslyn, Dale, E.,

Hansel, Ardith K., and W. Hilton Johnson

Illinois State Museum
2009 State Site and Survey files accessed on line at http://arch.museum.state.il.us/archsites/

Middle-West Publishing

Russell, A. T. and C. A. Prout, Compilers

Thompson Bro’s & Burr, Publisher

Tolmie, Clare and M. Catherine Bird

USDA
Appendix A

Historical Maps
Figure 1. 1842 Government Land Office map showing the general location of the project area outlined in red.
Figure 2. Portion of the 1862 plat of Winfield Township showing the general location of the project area in Section 26 outlined in black.
Figure 3. Portion of the 1874 plat of Winfield Township showing the general location of the project area in Section 26 outlined in black.
Figure 4. Portion of the 1897 plat of Winfield Township showing the general location of the project area in Section 26 outlined in black.
Figure 5. Portion of the 1904 plat of Winfield Township showing the general location of the project area in Section 26 outlined in black.
Appendix B

Project Area Photographs
Plate 1. Area A looking east.

Plate 2. Area A looking southwest down to the floodplain.
Plate 3. Looking south at the site area marked with flagging tape. The floodplain is in the middle ground.

Plate 4. Concrete culvert draining the terrace into the floodplain.
Plate 5. Looking at recent mounds in the floodplain portion of Area A.

Plate 6. Area C looking west.
Plate 7. Area D looking west.
Appendix C

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Archaeological Survey Short Report Form
Illinois State Site Forms
Correspondence
Locational Information and Survey Conditions

County: DuPage

Project Type/Title: Urban Stream Research Center

Funding Agency: NEPA

Section: SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 26, in T 39 N, R 9 E

Natural Division (No.): 3a

U.T.M.: To center of the project area: 4631344N, 40179E

Project Description: Phase I archaeological reconnaissance survey of 7.5 acres of land

Topography: terrace and bottomlands northeast of Spring Brook and the DuPage River.

Soils: 327B (Fox silt loam) 1107A Sawmill silty clay loam-undrained; 802B and D Orthents

Drainage: Spring Brook to the DuPage River thence to the Des Plaines River

Land Use/Ground Cover (Include % Visibility): grass and woods (0% visibility)

Survey Limitations: Active floodplain/wetlands

Archaeological and Historical Information:

Historic Plats/Altases/Sources: 1842 GLO map, 1862; 1874, 1887, 1904 historic plats; ISM site and survey files.

Previously Reported Sites: none in the project area; nine sites (11-Du-19, 11-Du-28, 11-Du-48, 11-Du-162, 11-Du-298, 11-Du-309, 11-Du-310, 11-Du-478, 11-Du-501 and 11-Du-513) are located within 1.6 kilometers (1.0 miles) of the proposed project areas.

Previous Surveys: None in the project area. ASSR#s 427, 1856, 4889, 6419, 6978, 7484, 7760, 9538, 9638, 10087, 11460, 16743, and 93491 within 1 mile.

Regional Archaeologist Contacted: Rochelle Lurie

Investigation Techniques: Shovel probes at 15 meter intervals. All positive probes hot-probed at 2 meter intervals.

Time Expended: 2 person/days

Sites/Find Spots Located: 11-Du-523. IF 1

Cultural Material: 11Du-523-four flakes and one blocky fragment; IF 1 one flake

Curated At: ISM

Collection Techniques: All material collected by shovel probe unit.

Area Surveyed (Acres $ Square Meters): 7.5 acres/ 30,352.5 square meters
MARS # 1602

**Results of Investigation and Recommendations:**

Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance located no archaeological material; Project clearance Recommended.

**xx** Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance located archaeological material; Project clearance Recommended.

Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance located archaeological material; Phase II Testing Recommended.

**Comments:** Site contains only four small flakes and one small blocky chert fragment.

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**Archaeological Contractor Information:**

Archaeological Contractor: Midwest Archaeological Research Services Inc.

Address/Phone: 505 N. State Street, Marengo, Illinois 60152/ (815) 568-0680

Surveyed by: Johnson, Martinez, Geier and Lurie

Survey Date(s): 6/24/09

Report Completed by: Rochelle Lurie and Jay Martinez

Date: 7/6/09

Submitted by (Signature and Title): Rochelle Lurie, President

**Attachment Check List: (#1 through #4 are MANDITORY)**

**xx** 1) Portion of USGS 7.5’ Topographic Map(s) Showing Project Location and Any Recorded Sites.

**xx** 2) Project Maps(s) Depicting Survey Limits, Site Limits and Isolated Finds.

**xx** 3) Site Form(s): Two Copies of Each Form.

**xx** 4) All Relevant Project Correspondence

**xx** 5) Additional Sheets As Necessary.

**Address of Owner/Agent To Whom SHPO Comment Should Be Mailed:**

Address: DuPage County

Stormwater Management Division

421 N. County Farm Road

Wheaton, IL 60187

Contact Person: Sarah Ruthko  Phone Number: 815 633-5097

**Reviewers Comments:**
ILLINOIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORDING FORM

County: Du Page
Site Name: 
Field Number: MARS 1602-1
Quadrangle (7.5'): Naperville

LEGAL DESCRIPTION (to quarter quarter quarter section)
Align: SW 1/4s: SWNESWSW Section: 26 Township: 39 N Range: 9 E
Align: 1/4s: Section: 0 Township: 0 Range: 0
Align: 1/4s: Section: 0 Township: 0 Range: 0
Align: 1/4s: Section: 0 Township: 0 Range: 0

UTM Coordinates (by ISM) UTM Zone: 16 UTM North: 4631344 UTM East: 401778 NAD27
Ownership: Public

ENVIRONMENT
Topography: Terrace Elevation (in meters) 213
Nearest Water Supply: West Branch DuPage River Drainage: Des Plaines
Soil Association: Casco-Fox-Ockley
Description: Site is on a low terrace slope above the West Branch of the DuPage River.

SURVEY
Project Name: 7.5 acres survey Site Area (square meters): 16
Ground Cover (List up to 3) Grass Visibility (%): 0
Survey Methods (List up to 2) Shovel Test Standing Structures: N
Site Type (List up to 2): Unknown

SITE CONDITION
Extent of Damage: None
Main Cause of Damage:

MATERIAL OBSERVED
Number of Prehistoric Artifacts (count or estimate) 5 Number of Historic Artifacts (count or estimate) 0
Prehistoric Diagnostic Artifacts: N Historic Diagnostic Artifacts: N
Prehistoric Surface Features: N Historic Surface Features: N
Description: 4 very small flakes or flake fragments and one small blocky fragment recovered from 4 shovel probes.

TEMPORAL AFFILIATION (check all that apply)
Prehistoric Unknown: Y Late Archaic: Mississippian: Colonial (1673-1780):
Archaic: Early Woodland: Protohistoric: Frontier (1841-1870):
Early Archaic: Middle Woodland: Historic Native American: Early Industrial (1871-1900):
Middle Archaic: Late Woodland: Historic (generic): Urban Industrial (1901-1945):
Description: No diagnostics recovered Post-War (1946-present):

Surveyor: Martinez, Geier Survey Date: 6/24/09 Curation Facility: ISM
Site Report by: Rochelle Lurie Date: 6/30/09
IHPA Log No.: IHPA First Sur. Doc. No.: NRHP Listing: N
Compliance Status:
July 6, 2009

Sarah Ruthko
DuPage County
Stormwater management Division
421 N. County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

Dear Ms Ruthko:

Enclosed are three paper copies and one electronic copy (on CD) of the Midwest Archaeological Research Services, Inc.’s report entitled *A Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of 7.5± Acres of Land in the Blackwell County Forest Preserve, DuPage County, Illinois*. The survey documents the presence of one small prehistoric site 11-Du-523 and one prehistoric isolated. Neither of these resources is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and project clearance is recommended. Two paper copies of the report (including the one with an original signature on the ASSR form in Appendix C) and the CD should be sent to Mr. David Halpin at the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency for review. The agency’s address is 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512. The third paper copy is for you files.

I have also enclosed an invoice for the project. If you have any questions about the report or invoice, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,
Midwest Archaeological Research Services, Inc.

Rochelle Lurie
President
Enclosures: report (3 paper copies, one CD) invoice