

Addendum Report: Phase I Archaeological Investigations for the Access Corridors Associated with the 21.9 km (13.6 mi) Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV Rebuild Project in Lincoln, Harmony, Chester, and South Bloomfield Townships, Morrow County, Ohio

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August 17, 2016

1395 West Fifth Ave. Columbus, OH 43212 Phone: 614.485.9435 Fax: 614.485.9439 Website: www.wellercrm.com Phase I Archaeological Investigations for the Access Corridors Associated with the 21.9 km (13.6 mi) Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV Rebuild Project in Lincoln, Harmony, Chester, and South Bloomfield Townships, Morrow County, Ohio

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Abstract

In August of 2016, Weller & Associates, Inc. conducted addendum Phase I archaeological investigations for the access corridors associated with the 21.9 km (13.6 mi) Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV Rebuild Project in Lincoln, Harmony, Chester, and South Bloomfield Townships, Morrow County, Ohio. This work was limited to archaeological investigations since it was for access corridors that are at ground level. These investigations were conducted to meet guidelines that were set forth by the Ohio Power Siting Board; the survey was conducted in a manner that is conducive to current state guidelines for archaeological survey and evaluates the resources in a manner that is reflective of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The work involved a brief re-evaluation, update, and verification of the literature review that was conducted for the existing electric line easement. There were no cultural resources identified during these addendum investigations.

These investigations were conducted in the rural, agricultural part of southeastern Morrow County. The corridor crosses Alum Creek, Big Walnut Creek and other hinterland drainages before it meets the eastern terminus at Hedding Road Switch; the eastern part of the corridor is within the Muskingum River watershed. Weller had conducted previous investigations that accounted for the existing Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV electric line corridor (Weller 2016), which was 30.5 m (100 ft) wide and 21.9 km (13.6 mi) long. This survey addressed any necessary ground-disturbing activity regarding the access corridors for this project. The current investigations account for those aspects of the access corridors that extend outside of the existing and previously investigated corridor and extant electric line right-of-way.

The literature review for this project indicated that there are cultural resources identified in the vicinity; these were identified by recent investigations for the electric line corridor (Weller 2016). Mills Atlas (1914) indicates that the project will be near two sites, an enclosure and a mound but neither of these are near the project. There are no National Register of Historic Places/Determination of Eligibility sites in the study area. There were 23 sites (33MW0202-224) identified during the previous investigations for this corridor (Weller 2016). Site 33MW0223 was considered to be a resource that might be significant.

These investigations involved subsurface testing, surface collection, and visual inspection. There were no archaeological sites identified during the survey for the access corridors. However, site 33MW0223, a Late Paleo-Indian component, was recommended for further assessment to determine its significance, if it cannot be avoided. Provided 33MW0223 can be avoided, no further work is recommended for this project.

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Introduction

In August of 2016, Weller & Associates, Inc. conducted addendum Phase I archaeological investigations for the access corridors associated with the 21.9 km (13.6 mi) Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV Rebuild Project in Lincoln, Harmony, Chester, and South Bloomfield Townships, Morrow County, Ohio (Figures 1-5). This is part of a larger electric line considered as the West Mount Vernon -South Kenton 138 kV. The work was completed for American Electric Power Transco (AEP). These investigations were conducted in a manner that is reflective of procedures pertaining to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 [36 CFR 800]). This work was completed to satisfy requirements for the Ohio Power Siting Board. This report summarizes the results of the fieldwork and literature review and the report format and design is similar to that established in *Archaeology Guidelines* (Ohio State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO] 1994).

Chad Porter conducted the original literature review in March of 2016; it was reinspected in August, 2016. Ryan Weller served as the Principal Investigator and Chris Nelson was the Project Manager. The archaeological field crew included Alex Thomas, Matt Sanders, Brittany Vance, Jon Walker, and Craig Schaefer. The report preparation was by Ryan Weller, with Chad Porter and Jon Walker completing the figures.

Overall Project Description

The project will include a rebuild of Section 2 (Hedding Road Switch to Fulton Station portion) of the West Mount Vernon-South Kenton 138 kV transmission line. This corridor has an approximately 21.9 km (13.6 mi) right-of-way extending from Hedding Switch to Fulton Station in Morrow County, Ohio. Wooden poles affiliated with the existing line will be replaced with steel structures. This report accounts for the archaeological component of the access corridors. In particular, the work was conducted for those access corridors that are located outside of the existing and previously investigated electric line right-of-way. These access corridors are typically 7.5 m (25 ft) wide.

Previous Investigations

This work was conducted as an addendum document to the original archaeological survey (Weller 2016). The original survey accounted for the existing electric line corridor that is 30.5 m (100 ft) wide. There were 23 sites (33MW0202-224) identified during the previous investigations for this corridor (Weller 2016). Site 33MW0223 was considered to be a resource that might be significant and further work deemed appropriate if it could not be avoided. The history/architecture component was previously addressed (Lehmann 2016) and additional work for this element of the project was not considered necessary since the work was performed for near surface access corridors.

Research Design

The purpose of this Phase I work is to locate and identify archaeological resources that will be affected by the planned electric structure replacement project, but specifically for this document, the access corridors. This report is being prepared to address only the archaeological concerns regarding this project and regarding the access corridors. If any cultural resources are identified, they are sampled, and evaluated for their eligibility or potential eligibility to the NRHP. The following outlines the field methods that pertain to these investigations. The updated literature review aspect of these investigations is directed to answer or address the following questions:

- 1) Are there any previously identified cultural resources located within or near the proposed access corridors?
- 2) Has there been any new sites or surveys identified in the study area since the original investigations?

Archaeological Field Methods

The survey conducted within the project used four methods of sampling and testing to identify and evaluate cultural resources. These included surface collection, shovel probe excavation, and visual inspection.

Surface Collection. Surface collection was conducted when suitable conditions were encountered. This pertains to agricultural fields that have a minimum of 50 percent bare ground surface visibility. Pedestrian transects were spaced at 7.5 m intervals. Artifacts that are identified in this manner are typically plotted using a Trimble GeoXT global positioning system.

Shovel probe excavation. Shovel probes were excavated during these investigations to document the extent of the disturbance associated with modern construction activities. These probes were excavated similarly to shovel test units. They had the same dimensions of 50 cm on a side, but were not screened. They were excavated at 15-m intervals and to a depth of 15-20 cm or deep enough to establish lack of soil integrity.

Visual inspection. Locations where cultural resources were not expected, such as sloped, wetlands, or disturbed areas were walked over and visually inspected. This method was used to verify the absence or likelihood of any cultural resources being located in these areas. This method was also utilized to document the general terrain and the surrounding area.

The application of the resulting field survey methods was documented in field notes, field maps, and project plan maps.

Curation

There were no cultural resources identified during the survey for the access corridors. Notes and maps affiliated with this project will be maintained at Weller & Associates, Inc. files.

Literature Review

The literature review study area is defined as a 305 m (1,000 ft) study area from the center of the project (Figures 2-5). The literature review was updated to include any new information regarding the access corridors. In conducting the literature review, the following resources were consulted at SHPO and the State Library of Ohio:

- 1) Archeological Atlas of Ohio (Mills 1914);
- 2) SHPO United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' series topographic maps;
- 3) Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) files;
- 4) Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI) files;
- 5) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) files;
- 6) SHPO CRM/contract archaeology files; and
- 7) SHPO consensus determination of eligibility (DOE) files;
- 8) Morrow County atlases, histories, historic USGS 15'series topographic map(s), and current USGS 7.5' series topographic map(s); and
- 9) Genealogical and cemetery resources.

A review of the *Archeological Atlas of Ohio* (Mills 1914) was conducted (Figure 6). There is a square enclosure noted on the east side of Alum Creek that appears to be just south of the project; this is indicated as being excavated. A mound is indicated in the eastern part of the project and in Section 2 of South Bloomfield Township. This is depicted in close proximity to the project area, but is likely to the south of it and opposite a drainage (Mile Run). These resources are not within the project area.

The SHPO topographic maps indicated that there are archaeological sites in the study area. Weller (2016) identified 23 archaeological sites (33MW0202-224) during a cultural resource management survey for the Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station electric line corridor survey. Most of these are isolated find spots and lithic scatters that lack temporally diagnostic materials. Site 33MW0218 contained an Early Archaic component. Site 33MW0223 is an isolated find that dates from the Late Paleoindian period.

Table 1. Previously Recorded OAIs Located in the Study Area.					
Site # (33)	Site Type	Temporal Association	Site Size (sq m)		
MW0202	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	58		
MW0203	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	847		
MW0204	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	495		
MW0205	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1		
MW0206	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1		

Table 1. Previously Recorded OAIs Located in the Study Area.				
Site # (33)	Site Type Temporal Association		Site Size (sq m)	
MW0207	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	66	
MW0208	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	
MW0209	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	1.3	
MW0210	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	
MW0211	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	14	
MW0212	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	11	
MW0213	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	5	
MW0214	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	2	
MW0215	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	
MW0216	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	
MW0217	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	23	
MW0218	Isolated find spot	Early Archaic	1	
MW0219	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	
MW0220	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	
MW0221	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	121	
MW0222	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	8	
MW0223	Isolated find spot	Late Paleoindian	1	
MW0224	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1	

The OHI files did indicate that there is one recorded resource in the study area. This is the Samual P. Brown House (MRW0000813) and is located to the north of the western terminus of the project area by about 0.8 km (0.5 mi). This is between Worthington-New Haven Road and Alum Creek. An architectural/history survey conducted by Weller earlier in the year (Lehmann 2016) identified 19 resources that are 50 years or older within the study area. There were two resources indicated for detailed study, while the remainder were not regarded as being significant. The access corridors do not involve any of these resources.

Table 2. Architectural resources located in the study area.					
Field #	County	Historic Function	Arch. Style	Date	Eligibility/Recom.
S-1	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Not Eligible
S-2	Morrow	Domestic -Duplex	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Not Eligible
S-3	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Not Eligible
S-4	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-5	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-6	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-7	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Craftsman	Ca.1901	Not Eligible
S-8	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-9	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1960	Not Eligible
S-10	Morrow	Agricultural - Barn	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-11	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1960	Not Eligible
S-12	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-13/ MRW0026614	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1860	Detailed Study
S-14	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-15	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible
S-16	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1950	Not Eligible
S-17	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Not Eligible
S-18	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible

S-19/ MRW0026713	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Detailed Study
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A review of the NRHP/DOE files did not indicate any associated resources within the project or its study area.

A review of the CRM surveys was conducted and this indicated that there was one Phase I survey conducted in the study area. This survey was conducted at several interchanges along Interstate 71 (I-71) (Aument and Randall 2001). This survey did not identify any cultural resources in the study area and is not directly involved in the project area. Phase I investigations were conducted from March to May, 2016 for the Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station electric line corridor (Weller 2016). This survey identified the sites listed in Table 1. Lehmann (2016) conducted a history/architecture survey and review for the same electric line segment.

The Atlas of Morrow, Ohio (Lake 1871) indicates buildings/structures are in the vicinity of the project area, but nothing that is definitively within it. The USGS 1915 Marengo and the 1915 Fredericktown, Ohio 15 Minute Series (Topographic) maps indicates that there are some buildings located near the project, but none are within it (Figure 7 and 8). Inspection of the 1988 Marengo and the 1984 Chesterville, Ohio 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic) maps did not indicate any buildings or structures within the project area (Figure 2 and 3).

The study area was inspected for cemeteries. There is one cemetery located within the study area, Bethel. This is not near the project area.

Evaluation of Research Questions 1 and 2

There were two questions presented in the research design that will be addressed at this point. These are:

- 1) Did the literature review reveal anything that suggests the project had been previously surveyed and what is the relationship of previously recorded properties to the project?
- 2) Are cultural resources likely to be identified in the project?

Weller (2016) identified all of the archaeological sites that are in the study area for this project during the survey for electric line corridor. Relatively speaking, there are few areas that extend outside of the previously investigated electric line corridor. Many of the sites that were identified during the previous investigations are small lithic scatters or isolated find spots that were identified, frequently, with near optimal conditions. The identification of cultural materials during survey for the access corridors seems less likely.

Fieldwork Results

The field investigations for this project were completed on August 12, 2016 (Figures 9-36). The weather and conditions were non-factors in the completion of the field investigations; however, it was hot and humid and not uncommon for this time of year. These investigations were conducted to account for the access corridors relative to the Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV electric line. This electric line corridor was previously and recently investigated (Weller 2016). There were 23 archaeological sites identified by this survey (33MW202-224) and none of these sites were relocated during the current investigations. Site 33MW223 is a prehistoric period isolated find spot that was recommended for additional work. There were no new sites identified during these investigations and none of the previously identified sites were relocated.

Most of the planned access corridors are located within the existing electric line easement that was previously investigated. This work was conducted to address the planned access roads that are outside of the electric line 30.5 m (100 ft) wide easement. These investigations were limited to a corridor that is 10 m (about 30 ft) wide. The archaeological investigations for these access corridors did not result in the identification of any archaeological sites. The vast majority of the access corridors associated with this project are located within existing drives, farm lanes, and disturbed areas as well as the previously investigated corridor (Weller 2016; Figures 9-27). The disturbed areas were visually inspected and photographed to demonstrate the conditions.

The field investigations for the access corridors involved surface collection and visual inspection. Surface collection was conducted in one area that was a nearly mature cornfield. The bare ground surface visibility within the cornfield was at 80 percent (Figure 18). Pedestrian transects were paced through the access corridor to the existing and previously surveyed right-of-way. There were no cultural materials identified during the surface collection.

Site 33MW0223 is a prehistoric period isolated find spot that was identified within the electric line corridor. The site was identified during shovel testing, is within an agricultural field, and dates from the late Paleoindian period. There is an access corridor that is planned in the vicinity, but it will not impact the location or depression where this artifact/site was identified. There is no structure planned in the vicinity of the site. This site is being effectively avoided.

Subsurface testing methods were conducted in the areas where disturbance was not visually apparent and where bare ground visibility was lacking/less than 50 percent. There was one shovel probe excavated during these investigations (Figure 36) and is was evident that the soils in that area were severely disturbed. The testing encountered severely mottled soil with driveway gravels. There were no cultural materials identified during the subsurface testing methods.

Fieldwork Summary

These investigations did not result in the identification of any archaeological sites. There were 23 sites identified during the previous survey that addressed the electric line

right-of-way. The majority of the proposed access corridors are located within this previously investigated corridor. The archaeological field investigations were limited to those portions of the access corridors that extended outside of the previously investigated area. There were no cultural resources identified during this survey.

APE Definition and NRHP Determination

The APE is a term that must be applied on an individual project basis. The nature of the project or undertaking is considered in determining the APE. This can include areas that are off the property or outside of the actual project's boundaries to account for possible visual impacts, but not necessarily for underground or near-surface types of projects. This project involves the replacement of structures within an existing electric line corridor and these investigations were for the access corridors. The APE for this project is limited to the footprint of the access corridors. The work was conducted in remote and lowly populated areas that are in central and southeastern Morrow County. The project involves the removal of older H-frame structures that are in a state of disrepair and replacing them with newer structures. These archaeological investigations were conducted for access corridors, especially those that extend outside of the current, existing, and previously investigated electric line corridor.

Previous investigations (Weller 2016) identified 23 archaeological sites, 33MW0202-224. Site 33MW0223 is an isolated find that dates from the Late Paleo-Indian period and was identified in a sub-plowzone context during shovel test unit excavation. This site was recommended for avoidance. None of these sites were relocated. There were no archaeological sites identified during the current investigations. Much of the areas that were subject to survey were contained in disturbed contexts. Provided 33MW0223 can be avoided, no further archaeological work is deemed necessary for this project.

There were no new cultural resources identified during these investigations; no previously identified sites were relocated, either. Since the work will involve access corridors, a near ground level construction or use, the APE is considered to be the footprint of the easement. The archaeological investigations were conducted for the footprint of the planned construction activities for the 7.5 m (25 ft) wide access roads. The use and/or construction of the access corridors will not impact or affect any historic properties; no cultural resources were identified during these investigations.

Recommendations

In August of 2016, Weller & Associates, Inc. conducted addendum Phase I archaeological investigations for the access corridors associated with the 21.9 km (13.6 mi) Hedding Road Switch-Fulton Station 138kV Rebuild Project in Lincoln, Harmony, Chester, and South Bloomfield Townships, Morrow County, Ohio. The archaeological investigations involved surface, subsurface testing, and visual inspection and did not result in the identification of any sites. Site 33MW0223 was identified during the survey for the electric line corridor (Weller 2016) and it was recommended for additional work if it could not be avoided. The current plans depict the access corridor just skirting the site to the south. It is recommended that this corridor shift to the

southernmost extent of the right-of-way easement (Figure 22) to fully avoid the site. Weller considers that this shift would appropriately and sufficiently move the access corridor away from the site and effectively avoid it. Provided this shift is accommodated, it is Weller's opinion that no further archaeological work is necessary for this project.

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Figures

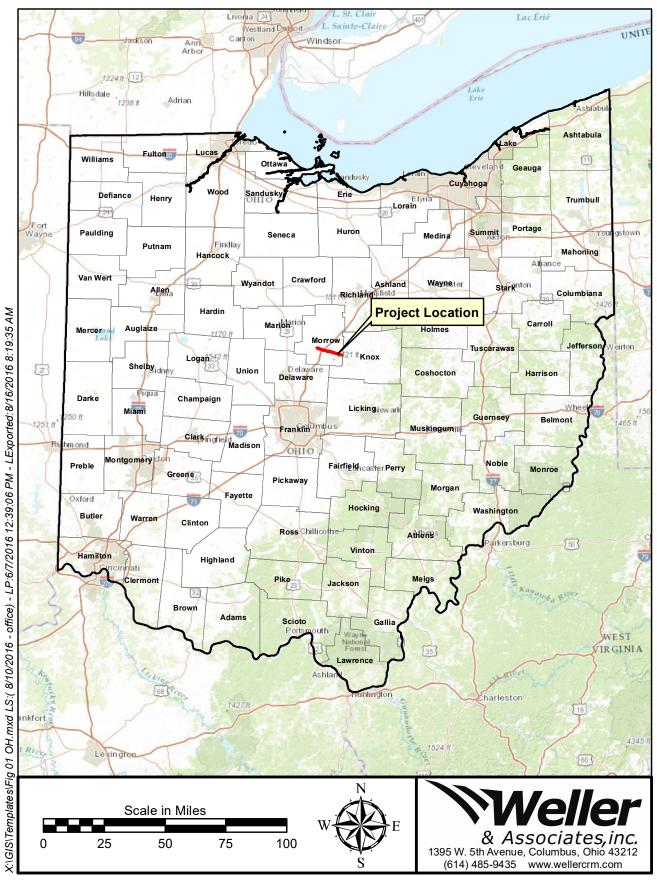


Figure 1. Political map of Ohio showing the approximate location of the project.

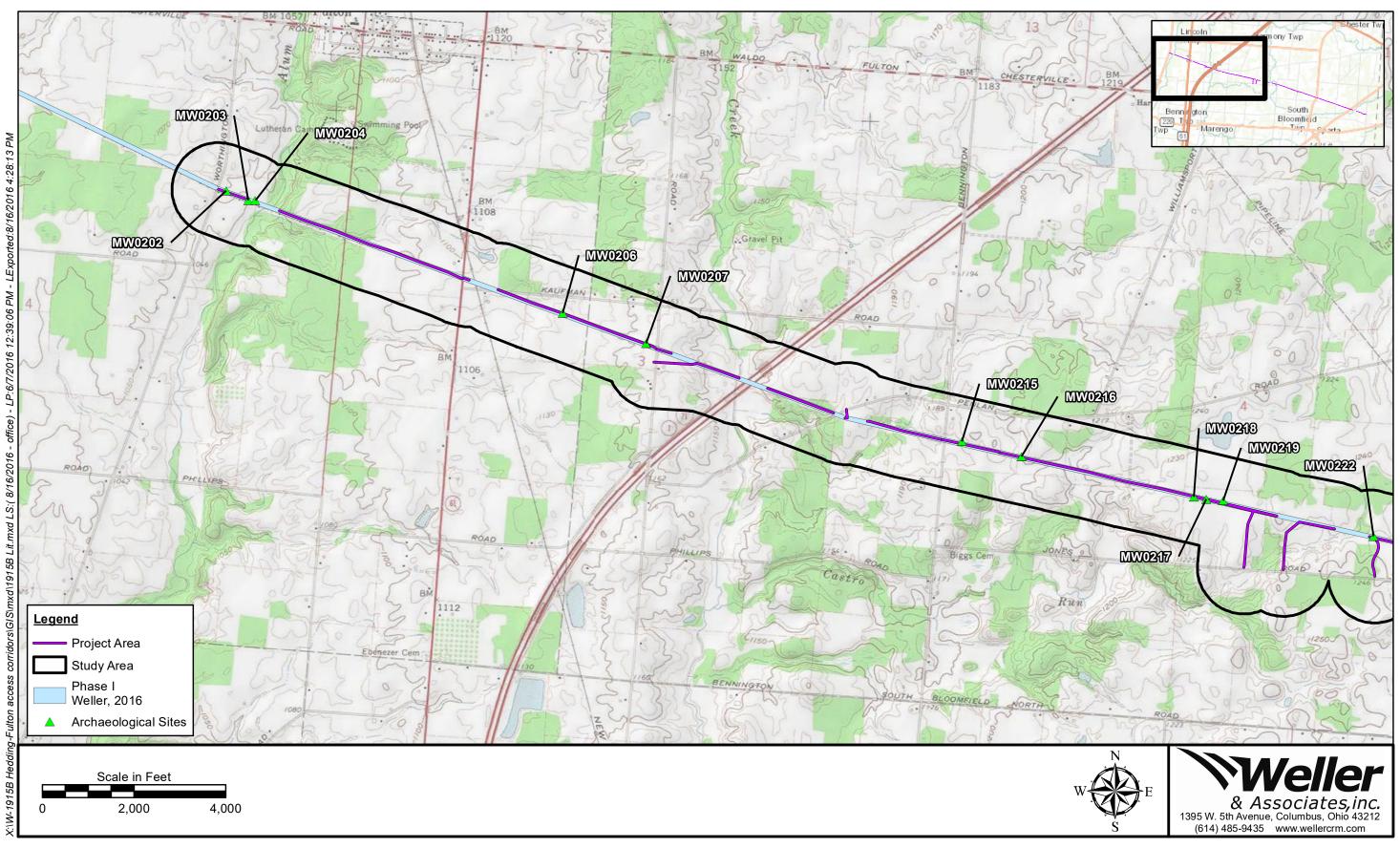


Figure 2. Portion of the USGS 1988 Marengo, Ohio 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic) map indicating the location of the project and previously recorded resources in the study area.

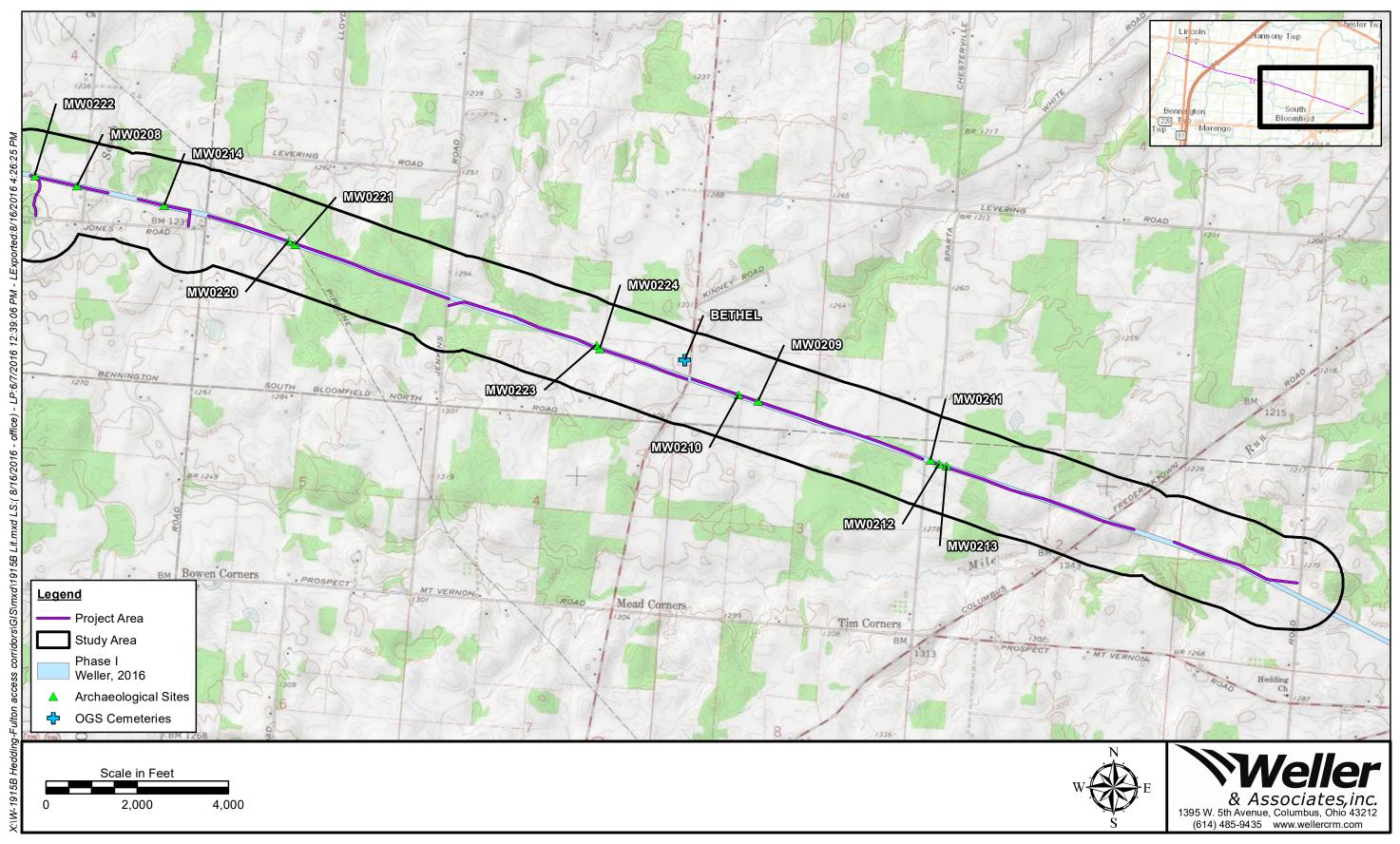


Figure 3. Portion of the USGS 1984 Chesterville, Ohio 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic) map indicating the location of the project and previously recorded resources in the study area.

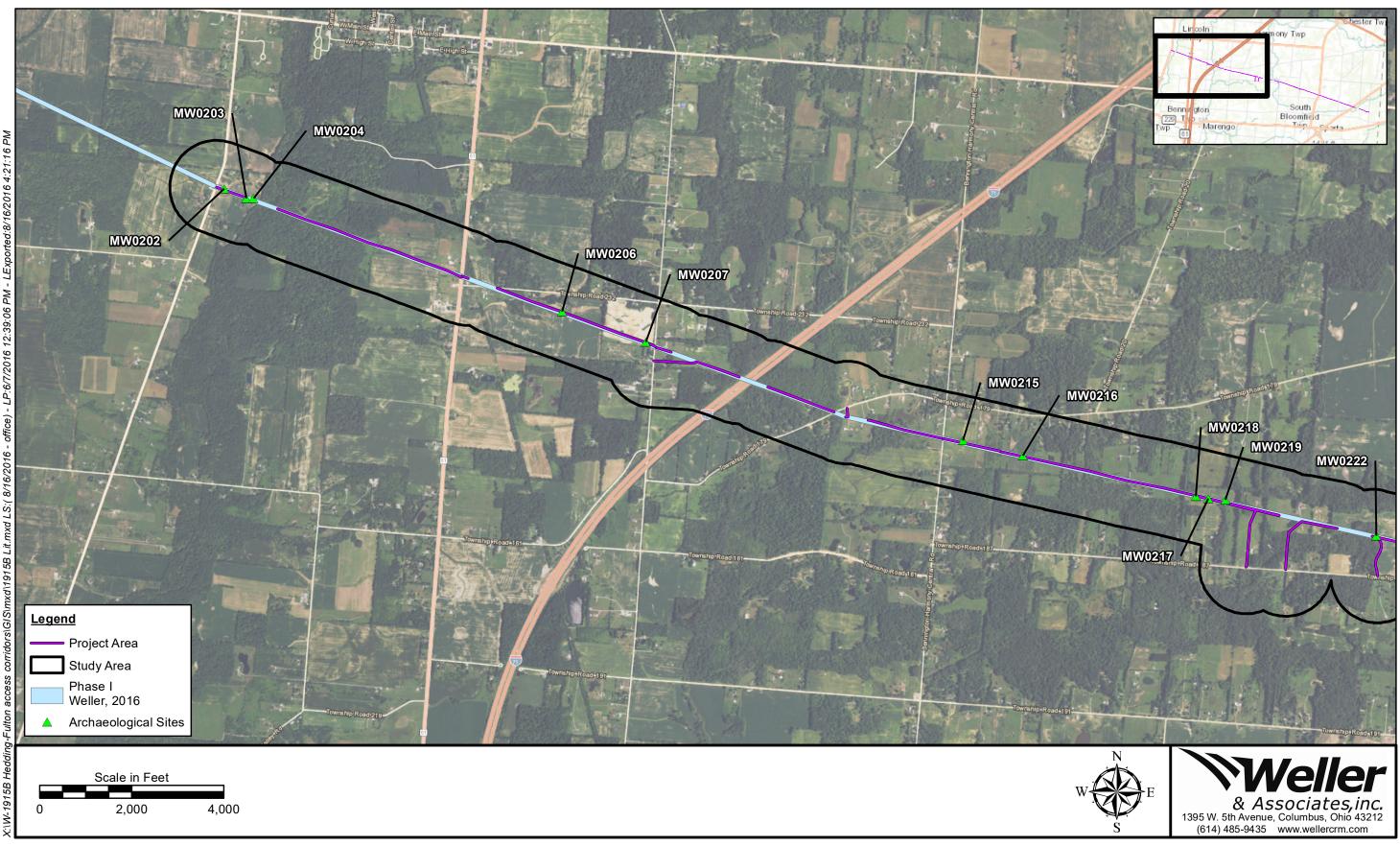


Figure 4. Aerial map indicating the location of the project and previously recorded resources in the study area.

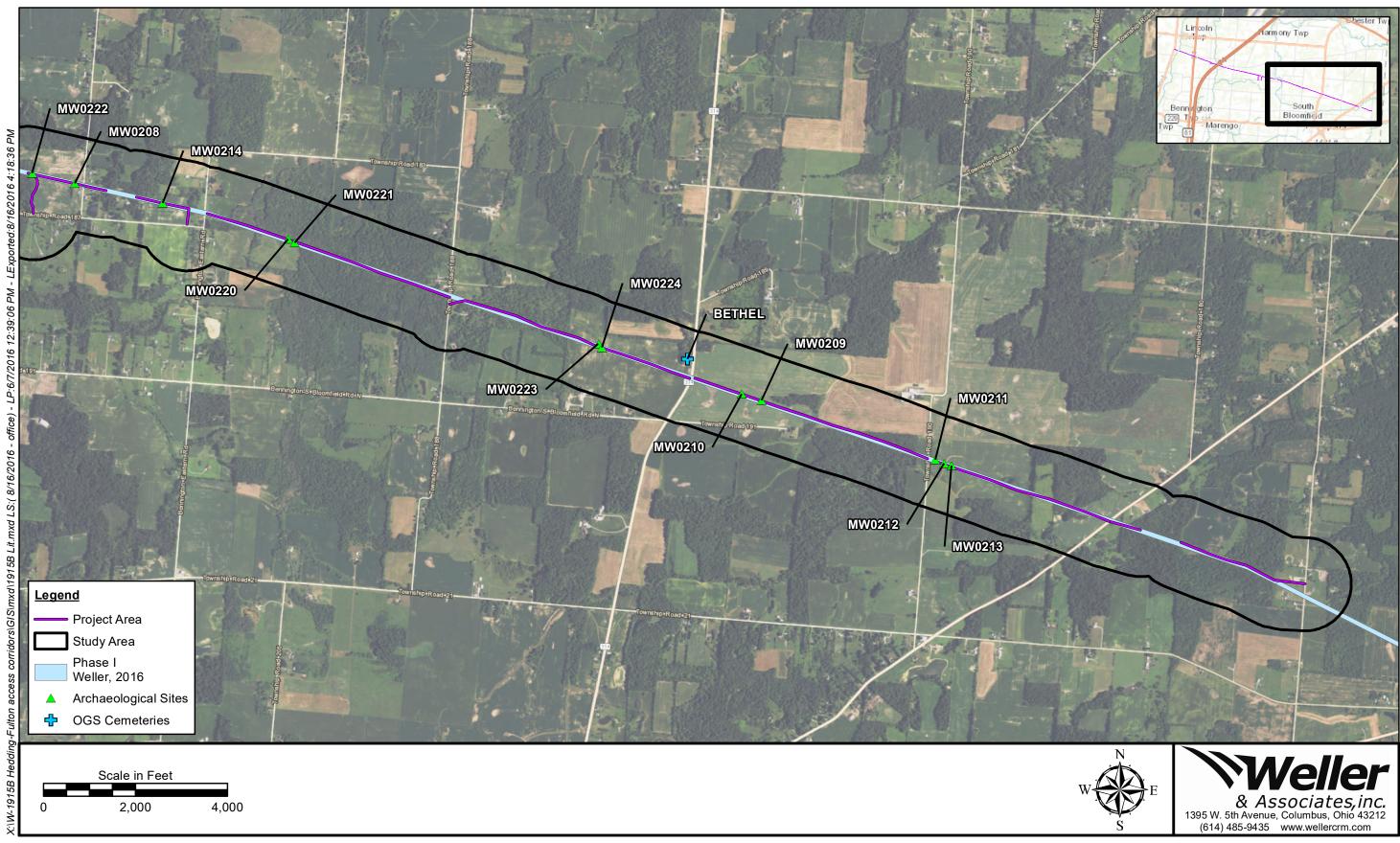


Figure 5. Aerial map indicating the location of the project and previously recorded resources in the study area.

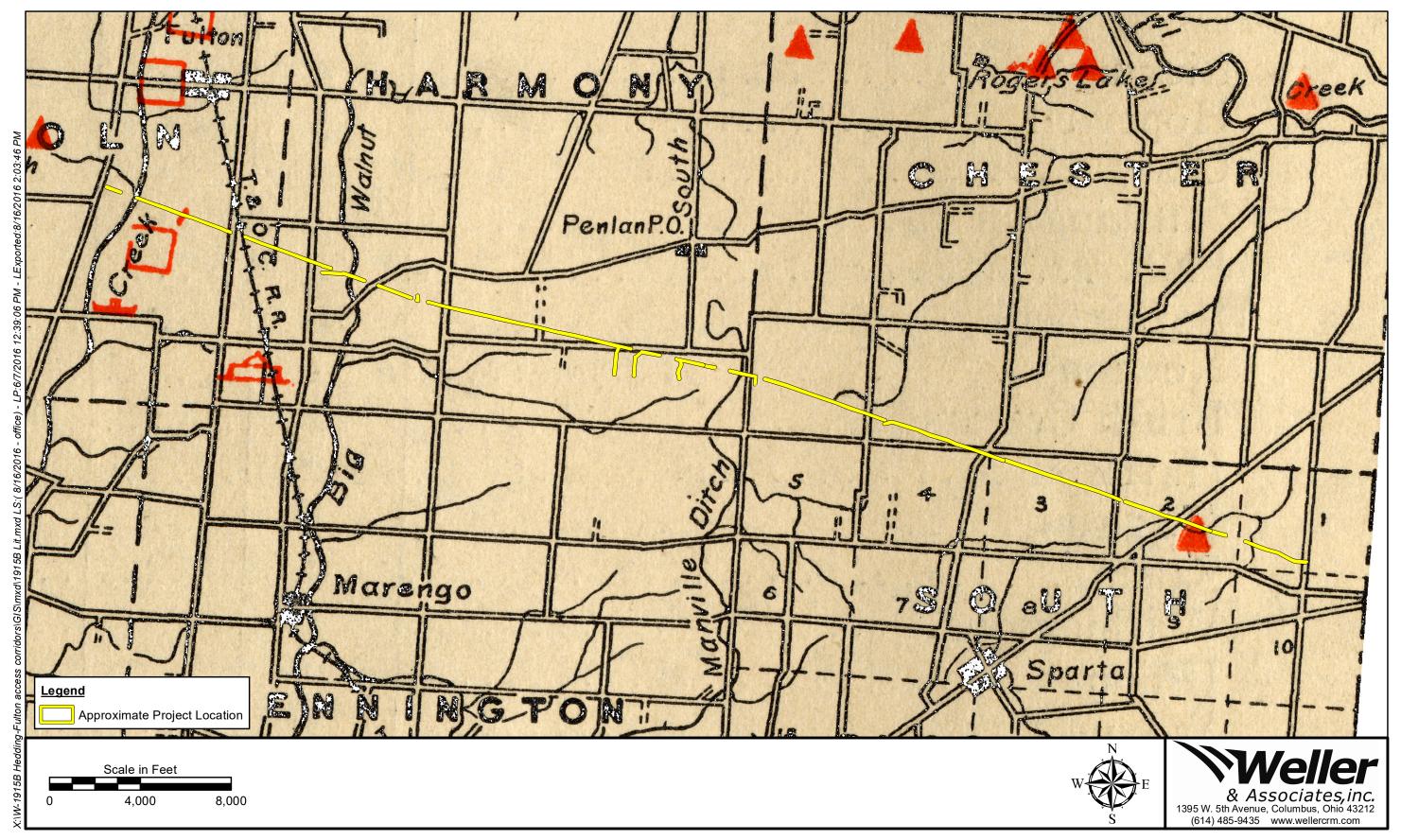


Figure 6. Portion of the Archaological Atlas of Ohio (Mills' 1914) indicating the approximate location of the project.

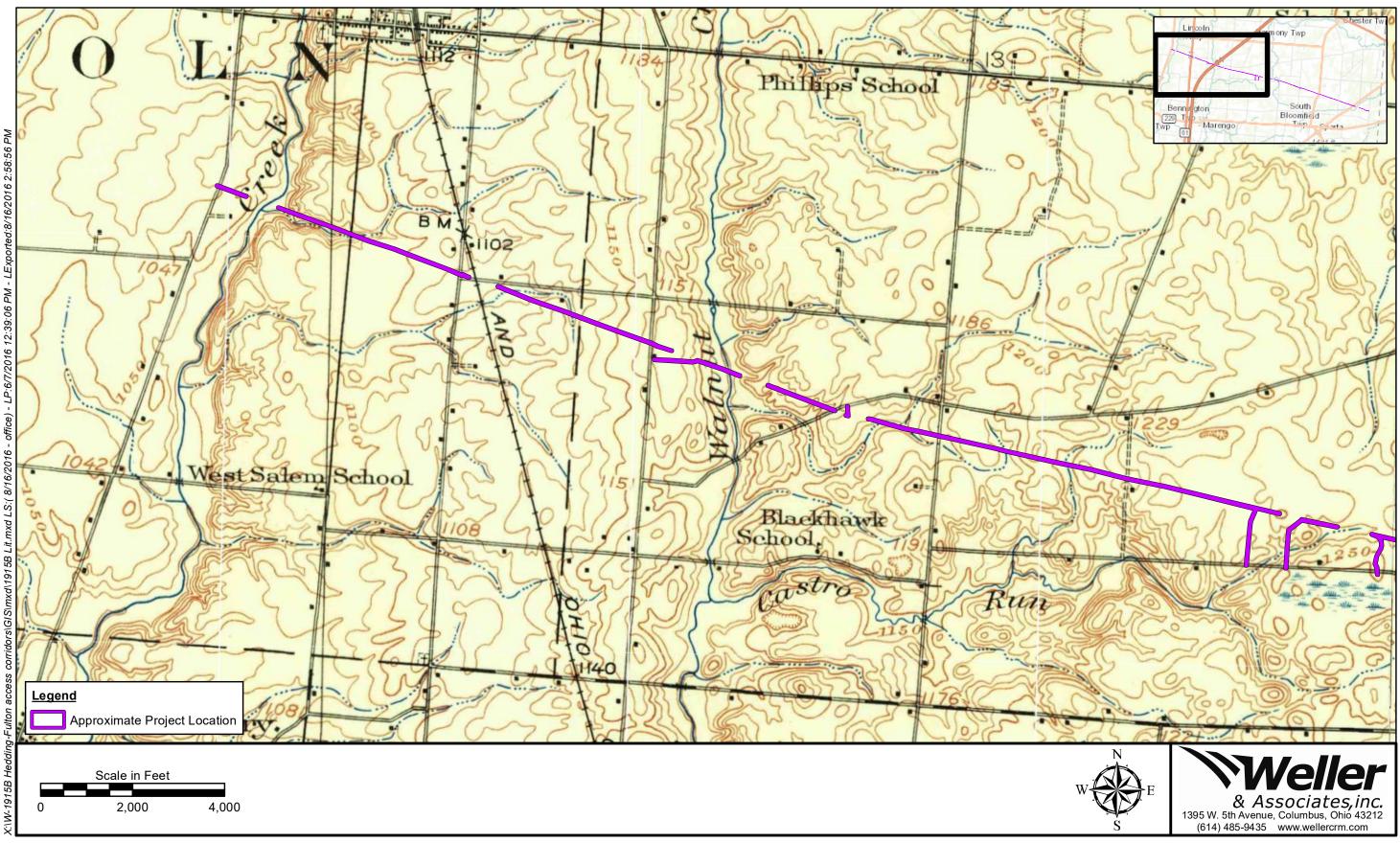


Figure 7. Portion of the USGS 1915 Fredricktown, Ohio 15 Minute Series (Topographic) map indicating the approximate location of the project.

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Case No(s). 16-1531-EL-BLN

Summary: Letter of Notification Part 11 electronically filed by Mr. Hector Garcia on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company