

BRITTINGHAM FARM CEMETERY RELOCATION

Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland

For Princess Anne LLC, 112 Montchan Drive, Wilmington Delaware 19807



November 11, 2020

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Abstract

Princess Anne, LLC contacted Edward Otter, Inc. in September 2019 regarding an unmarked cemetery within Tax Parcel 0015-0005-0012, Princess Anne, Somerset County Maryland. As commercial development was planned on a portion of this parcel, Maryland State Highway Administration concurrently planned an extension of UMES Boulevard, to be constructed on the west side of US Route 13. A cemetery was indicated on a 1957 plat map which seemed to be within the planned road work. Ground penetrating radar resulted in the discovery of subsurface anomalies within the area that would be impacted by the roadwork. Edward Otter, Inc. was subsequently engaged to perform a cemetery delineation in which twelve human burials were identified and mapped. As impacts to the cemetery were unavoidable, a cemetery relocation was requested. Twelve graves were recorded, photographed, and excavated following standard archaeological recovery methods. Archival research revealed the cemetery was located on the historic period Wainwright-Brittingham Farm.

Generally, skeletal preservation was poor and this condition was prohibitive in the analysis of the remains. Three adults were identifiable as Euro-American 19th century burials. Two of these exhibited male characteristics while one appeared to be female. The sex of the fourth adult burial could not be determined. The remaining eight graves contained children ranging in age from infant to six to twelve years old at the time of death. The sex of the children could not be determined due to the lack of skeletal preservation. The remains along with grave goods were reinterred at Beechwood Memorial Cemetery, Princess Anne, Maryland. A marker will be placed at the site.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
Scope of Work	1
Project Location.....	2
Environmental Setting	2
BACKGROUND RESEARCH	2
DELINEATION AND EXHUMATION.....	7
Burial Descriptions.....	10
Summary of Burials.....	50
CONCLUSION.....	51
REFERENCES.....	53
APPENDIX I: QUALIFICATIONS OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR.....	AI-1

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Project Location	3
Figure 2. Project Setting	4
Figure 3. Lake, Griffing & Stevenson Atlas. 1877	6
Figure 4. Cemetery Map Showing Burial Locations.....	9
Figure 5. Top of Burial One Vault Construction Detail	12
Figure 6. Burial One Drawing of Hexagonal Crypt.....	15
Figure 7. Burial One Plan Drawing of Crypt Floor.....	16
Figure 8. Burial One Nail Pattern, Hinges, and Fasteners	17
Figure 9. Burial One Drawing	18
Figure 10. Burial Two Plan View of Arched Vault.....	22
Figure 11. Plan View of Crypt. Profile of Vault and Crypt	24
Figure 12. Burial Two Nail Pattern, Coffin Hardware, Buttons and Buckles	25
Figure 13. Burial Two Disposition of Skeletal Remains.....	26
Figure 14. Burial Three Grave Shaft and Coffin Outline	28
Figure 15. Location of Nails and Hinges.....	29
Figure 16. Plan View of Burial Four Vault Top.....	32
Figure 17. Burial Four Hexagonal Crypt	32
Figure 18. Burial Four Coffin Nail Pattern	33
Figure 19. Burial Five Plan Drawing of Grave Shaft and Coffin Nail Pattern.....	37
Figure 20. Burials Six, Seven and Eight Plan Drawing	39
Figure 21. Burial Nine Plan Drawing	41
Figure 22. Burial Ten Grave Shaft, Coffin Stain, and Nail Pattern	43
Figure 23. Burial Ten Profile. Location of Tooth Crown Cluster	45
Figure 24. Burial Eleven Plan Drawing with Nail Pattern	47
Figure 25. Burial Twelve Plan Drawing	48

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1. Limits of the Cemetery were Established.....	8
Plate 2. Marble Gravestone	8
Plate 3. Burial One	11
Plate 4. Burial One Brick Vault	13
Plate 5. Burial One Hexagonal Crypt.....	14
Plate 6. Burial One Crypt Floor.....	16
Plate 7. Burial One Coffin Hinges	17
Plate 8. Burial One Skeletal Remains.....	18
Plate 9. Burial One Prosser Buttons	19
Plate 10. Burial One Tortoise Shell Decorative Hair Comb	20
Plate 11. Burial One Tortoise Shell Decorative Hair Comb	20
Plate 12. Burial Two.....	21
Plate 13. Burial Two Brick Vault	22
Plate 14. Burial Two Crypt and Vault Profile.....	23
Plate 15. Burial Two Crypt.....	24
Plate 16. Burial Two Skeletal Remains.....	26
Plate 17. Burial Two Artifacts.....	27
Plate 18. Burial Three	29
Plate 19. Burial Three Skeletal Remains	30
Plate 20. Burial Four Brick Vault.....	31
Plate 21. The Vault Collapsed into the Crypt	33
Plate 22. Burial Four Skeletal Remains	34
Plate 23. Burial Four Artifacts	35
Plate 24. Burial Five	36
Plate 25. Burial Five Staining.....	37
Plate 26. Burial Six, Seven and Eight.....	40
Plate 27. Burial Nine	42
Plate 28. Burial Ten Coffin Stain.....	44
Plate 29. Burial Eleven Grave Shaft Stain.....	46
Plate 30. Burial Eleven	47
Plate 31. Burial Twelve Skeletal Remains	49

INTRODUCTION

In September 2019 Edward Otter, Inc was contacted by Princess Anne LLC in reference to an unmarked cemetery within Somerset County Tax Parcel 0015-0005-0012 in Princess Anne, Maryland. As commercial development was planned on a portion of this parcel, Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) concurrently planned an extension of UMES Boulevard, to be constructed on the west side of US Route 13.

A cemetery, indicated on a 1957 plat produced by MDOT SHA, was shown within the planned UMES Boulevard extension. Subsequently, a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of the approximate cemetery location was conducted by Trinity Subsurface Engineering, a subsurface-utilities locating company. Trinity discovered three subsurface anomalies that seemed to be consistent with burials. Since MDOT SHA engineering plans were immutable, mitigation options were limited to cemetery relocation. The Maryland State's Attorney authorized the relocation in a letter dated October 8, 2019. Permits for disinterment, transit, and reinterment were issued October 25, 2019 by the Somerset County State's Attorney and the county health department.

Scope of Work

The scope of work for this project included background research, cemetery delineation, exhumation, and reinterment. Edward Otter, Inc. was contracted not only to exhume the human remains, but to make arrangements for any studies that might be performed and reburial. Anthropological study was conducted to establish age, sex, and ancestry of individuals if skeletal preservation was favorable to this analysis. Reburial details were not firmly prearranged although the Town of Princess Anne was to be involved. Reburial was to be respectful and in an established cemetery in town. All work conducted for this project was supervised by archaeologist, Dr. Edward Otter.

Background research consisted of a search of previous literature involving the study of the historic Brittingham Farm and its owners and occupants. Historical maps and aerial photographs were consulted. These resources, in addition to archived newspapers and Ancestry.com, were utilized in an attempt to understand familial relationships of those who occupied the farm during the period when the cemetery was active. The goal of these research pursuits was to ascertain who might be interred within the cemetery.

The fieldwork consisted of two components—cemetery delineation and exhumation. Delineation is accomplished using a mini excavator with a clean out bucket to carefully remove topsoil across the project area to a depth where grave features can be observed. During this process, a team of experienced archaeologists was on site to identify features and to continue definition of these features using hand tools such as flat shovels, trowels, and brushes. This delineation work continued on all sides until no graves were found and the limits of the cemetery were established. The site was mapped using a total station theodolite and data collector. Exhumation was accomplished by the team using archaeological methods. Each burial was recorded, mapped and photographed as excavation progressed and removal of human remains was complete.

Project Location

The Brittingham Farm Cemetery is located between US Route 13 and Brittingham Lane, north of the Town of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland (Figure 1). The cemetery location is more precisely defined by points in Latitude 38.219977 and Longitude -75.698475. This location is within the MDOT SHA US Route 13 right of way. The surface is covered in grasses (Figure 2). The area is surrounded by agricultural fields and a no longer extant farm complex known as the Brittingham Farm.

Environmental Setting

The project is in the Coastal Plain physiographic province with an elevation of 18 feet above mean sea level. The closest surface water is Loretta Branch, located 1,950 feet to the east. Loretta Branch is a headwater of Manokin River which flows into Tangier Sound as part of Chesapeake Bay. Soils are Ingleside-Runclint complex with 5 to 10 percent slopes (IkC). This soil is excessively drained and is parented on sandy eolian deposits and/or fluvio-marine sediments. This is a roadside location about one mile north of Princess Anne town center.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

The cemetery was located on Tax Parcel 0015-0005-0012, Princess Anne, Somerset County Maryland and was known historically as the Brittingham Farm. A house and outbuildings existed to the west of the cemetery until they were razed recently. The house was surveyed and listed on the Maryland state register of historic structures (S-11) in 1987 at which time the history of its ownership was researched and reported (Touart 1987).

The house dated to circa 1815 and was constructed after Jesse H. Wainwright (born c. 1785 – died 1822) purchased a three hundred-acre tract from John Teakle of Accomac (Touart 1987). Jesse's earliest known ancestor to America was Edward Cannon who came to Virginia in 1636 from Yorkshire, England (Roberts 1942). The second son of Cannon Wainwright, Jesse H. Wainwright, was an Elder in the Manokin Presbyterian Church at Princess Anne from 1810 through 1820 (Ford 1923).

Jesse H. Wainwright first married Eleanor Heath in 1804 (Maryland Church Records; Coventry Parish Rehobeth, Somerset, Maryland). Eleanor died before 1817 since Jesse married Rosanna Adams Williams Bennett on June 30, 1817 (Maryland County Marriages, database, FamilySearch). Rosanna (born 1801 – died c. 1851) gave birth to at least three children—Ann Wainwright (born 1818 – died after 1857; married William Crockett 1835), Edward Jesse Wainwright (born 1819 - died 1865; married Olivia Riggan), and Rosanna Wainwright (born 1821 – died 1847; married John Boston). The 1820 census enumerates a household of thirty persons, including twenty-one enslaved individuals and one free man of color. Jesse Wainwright resided at the farm until his death in 1822.

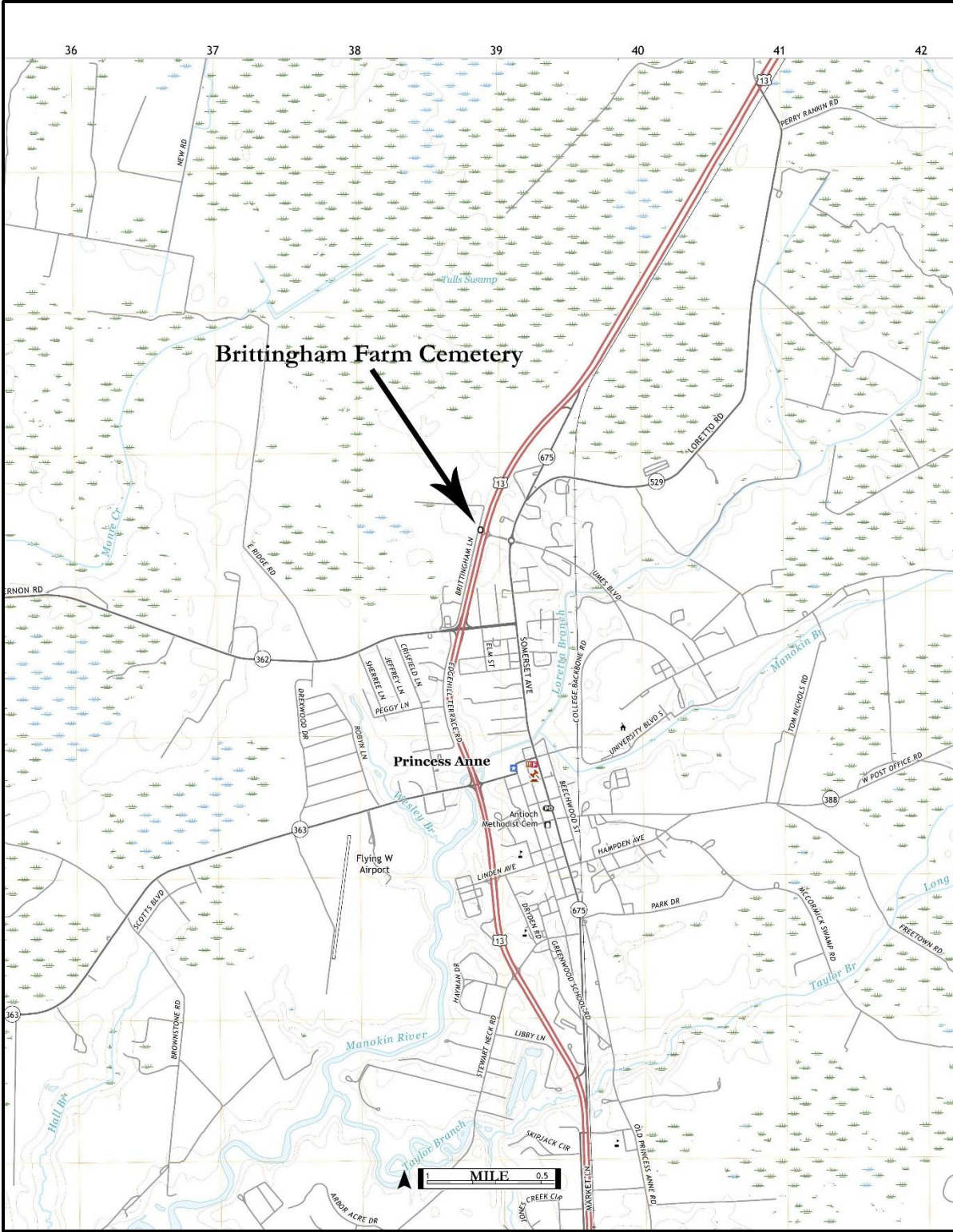


Figure 1. Project Location



Figure 2. Project Setting

Jesse's widow, Rosanna, married James F. Brittingham (born 1797 – died 1857) on July 4, 1833 in Somerset County, Maryland (Ancestry.com; Maryland Marriage Records). The Circuit Court of Somerset County transferred ownership of the farm to Rosanna Wainwright in 1834. It is unknown whether Rosanna and James Brittingham had children together—no record of any children between them could be found although Rosanna would have been only thirty-one years of age when they were married and their lives together spanned over twenty years.

The Federal Census of 1850 enumerates the household of James Brittingham who was described as a 53-year-old white male Farmer with \$6,000 worth of real estate. His wife, Rosana was a 49-year-old white female. Three children resided in their household—nine-year-old John Boston, seven-year-old Alexene Boston, and three-year-old Rosana Boston. James Walston, described as a 46-year-old black male laborer, was also counted within the household. All of the members of this family and household were born in Maryland. The three children were Rosanna's grandchildren, daughters and son of Rosanna E. Wainwright (born 1821 – died 1847) and her husband John Boston (born 1806 – unknown death). Rosanna E. Wainwright married John Boston in Worcester County Maryland on 6 Feb 1839 (FamilySearch). It would seem that after their mother died in 1847, the three children resided with their grandmother, Rosanna Brittingham.

When Rosanna Brittingham died in 1851 (Federal Census 1850; James Brittingham Will probated 1857) her husband James gained ownership of the farm. When James F. Brittingham died in 1857 he left the land to his infant son, James Wallace Brittingham and to this child's mother Sarah, he provided widow's rights. If the infant son James did not survive to adulthood, the farm, referred to as the Chaney Farm, would go to James Brittingham's eldest son, William J. Brittingham (Born 1823-Died 1900). In an exception, James left "the house and land where Ann Crockett resides and containing about one hundred acres to Anne Crockett during her lifetime". After her death the land would revert from Ann Wainwright Crockett—the daughter of Jesse and Rosanna—to William J. Brittingham. James made provision for Alexene and Rosanna Boston, directing that they should continue to reside in his home free of any charge until they reached the age of 18. Further, William was to pay off notes in the amounts of \$60 to Rosanna and \$70 to Alexene. There was no mention of their brother John Boston, Jr. who would have not yet reached the age of majority at the time of James Brittingham's death.

In 1858, Sarah Brittingham, James Brittingham's widow, leased the farm to William J. Brittingham (lw5 694). Thirty-two-year-old Sarah was head of her household in 1860, enumerated along with her son James W. in Seaford, Northwest Fork Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware. (US Federal Census 1860). Sixteen-year-old Alexine Boston is shown residing with Sarah and her son in Seaford, Delaware. Sarah Brittingham could not be found on the 1870 census. She may have remarried. In that case, her name would have changed. James Wallace Brittingham could not be found in records after the 1860 census.

If James Wallace Brittingham did not survive to adulthood or died without heirs, William J. Brittingham would inherit the entire farm, as directed by their father's will. The Lake, Griffing & Stevenson Map shows the land belonging to William J. Brittingham in 1877 (Figure 3).

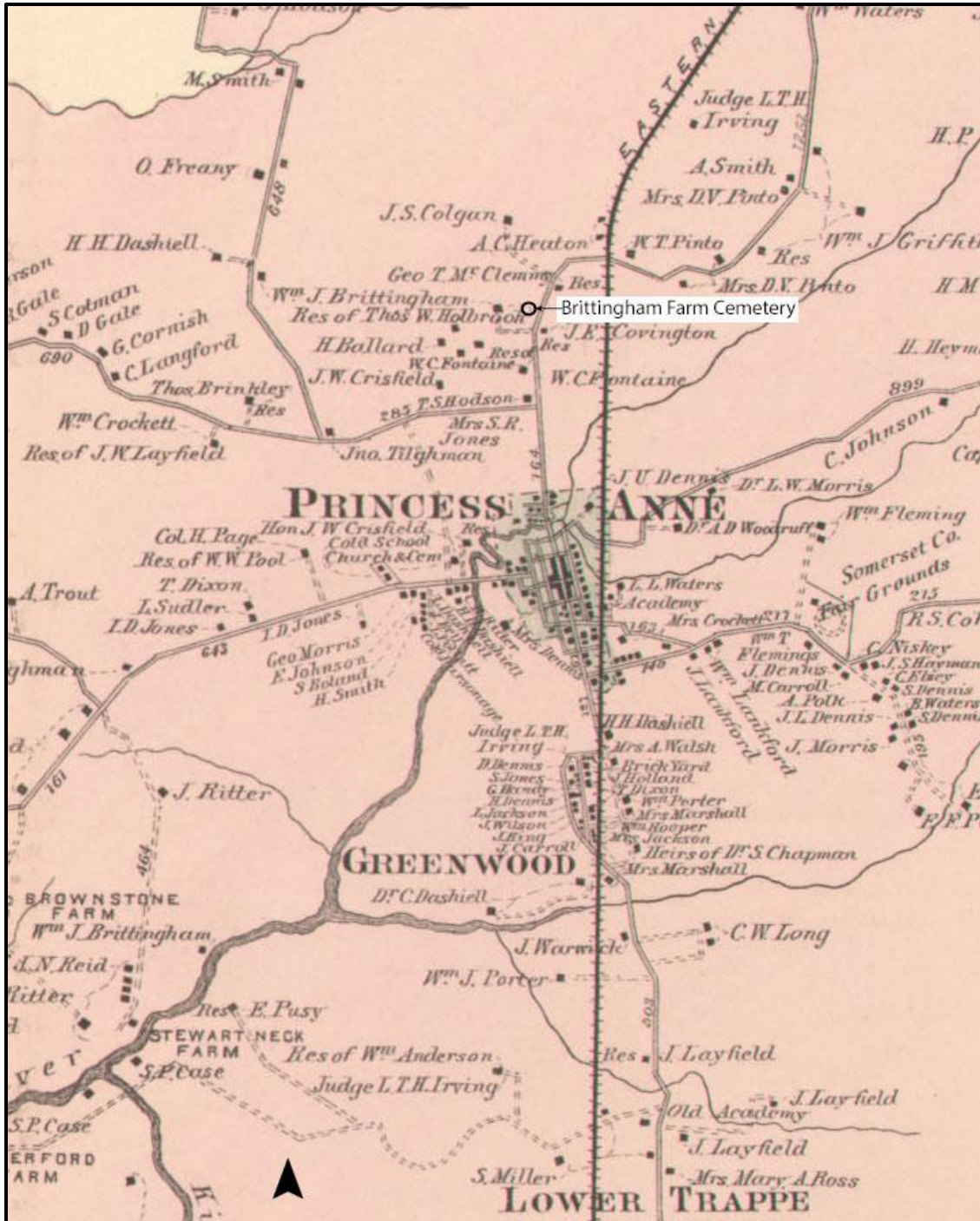


Figure 3. Lake, Griffing & Stevenson Atlas. 1877

William J. Brittingham lived his life in Princess Anne, working for the local newspaper. His wife Henrietta (born 1825 – died 1864) was buried at Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Churchyard in Princess Anne after her death. William Brittingham died in 1900 and was also buried at Saint Andrew’s.

It would seem the cemetery at Brittingham Farm was active beginning near the time of Jesse Wainwright’s death and burial in 1822 until the death and burial of James F. Brittingham in 1857.

DELINEATION AND EXHUMATION

Prior to work conducted by Edward Otter, Inc., Trinity Subsurface Engineering was hired to perform ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey across the project area. GPR survey was used initially in an attempt to identify subsurface features such as burials, burial structures, and covered markers. Three burials and a utility trench were identified during the GPR survey and these were mapped. This formed the baseline for investigation and provided a starting point for excavation.

Edward Otter, Inc. began work November 4, 2019. A manual delineation of the cemetery was performed by first mechanically stripping the upper soil layers across the project area, using a small backhoe equipped with a cleanout bucket. Topsoil was carefully scraped to a depth where burial features could first be identified, approximately one foot below surface (Plate 1). Dirt was piled to the sides and out of the way. Features were then more carefully defined using hand (flat) shovels, trowels and sometimes brushes. This method of manual delineation was utilized to extend outward until graves were no longer found and the limits of the cemetery were established.

In all, twelve human burial features were identified during the Edward Otter, Inc. delineation. One marble gravestone, fractured and in horizontal position, was identified during topsoil-stripping at a depth of one-half foot below surface (Plate 2). The gravestone was engraved “F. Brittingham Born 1797”. The cemetery and its burial features were mapped using a total station theodolite and data collector (Figure 4). A rebar vertical datum was placed at 1 foot below surface.

Archaeological methodology was employed during the exhumation phase of this work. Burial features were measured and recorded, drawn, and photographed before and during excavation. Soils were carefully removed using trowels. Grave shaft fill was not screened. Soil within the burial was screened to recover any bits of tooth enamel and bone that could be missed. Excavation work continued using smaller bone and bamboo tools and soft brushes. Human remains were removed and placed in containers along with any artifacts buried with the individuals. The burial floors were scraped and the base soils were screened to ensure all human remains were recovered. Exhumation was completed November 14, 2019.



Plate 1. Limits of the Cemetery were Established



Plate 2. Marble Gravestone

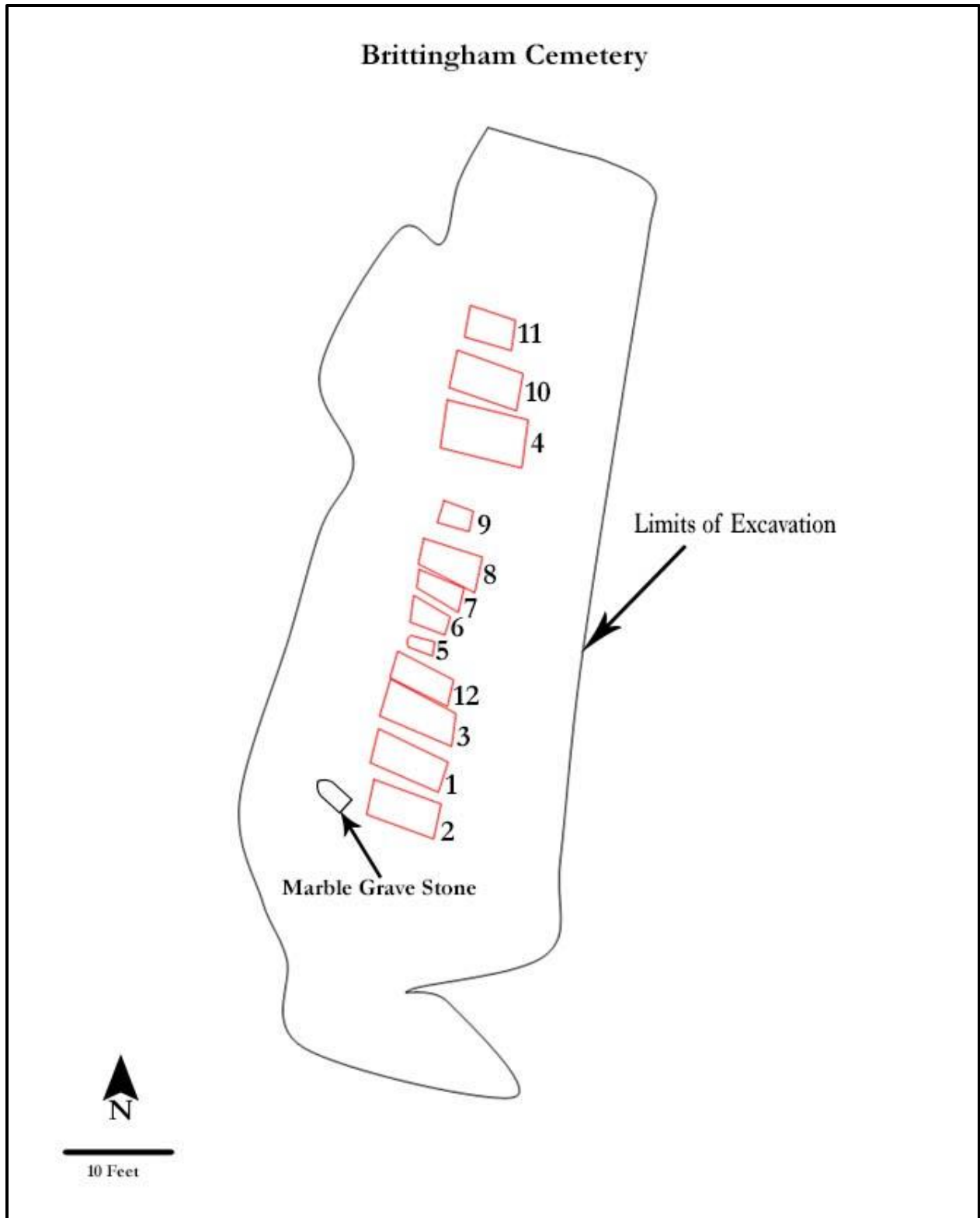


Figure 4. Cemetery Map Showing Burial Locations

Burial Descriptions

A total of twelve burial features were first identified at approximately one foot below surface. (Figure 4). All of the graves were oriented west to east arranged in a single row. Three of the burials, Burials 1, 2, and 10, were composed of brick burial structures that consisted of arch-constructed vaults and crypts. Nine of the burials were coffin in ground type burials.

Overall, organic preservation was poor within the coffin in ground type burials. Some coffin in ground burials lacked organic preservation and contained only iron nails. Others had bits of enamel tooth crowns and organic staining. In contrast, organic preservation within the brick structure burials was fairly good.

Burial One

Burial One, oriented west to east, was located between Burial Two to the south and Burial Three to the north (Figure 4). The top of a brick burial structure was identified at 0.15 below the rebar datum. The top of the structure was rectangular-shaped and measured 2.8 feet wide by 7.2 feet long (Plate 3; Figure 5). The northeast corner of this element had been disturbed by agricultural plowing. The structure had a collapsed but still articulated arch vault (Plate 4). The vault was constructed using eleven columns of brick times nine rows of brick (Figure 5). Bricks were positioned stringer side up. Below the vaulted portion of the structure was a hexagonal shaped brick crypt (Plate 5). The crypt measured 1.1 feet wide at the head, two feet wide at the shoulders, and 1.1 feet wide at the feet (Figure 6). The length of the crypt measured 6.5 feet. The floor of the crypt was finished in brick (Plate 6; Figure 7).

Based on the nail pattern, the coffin was hexagonal shaped with a gabled lid which was hinged across the coffin-shoulder area to enable face and bust viewing (Figure 8). Twenty-five coffin nails were recovered as well as three copper alloy hinges and two nickel-plate coffin lid fasteners (Plate 7). Very little preserved coffin wood was found. Skeletal remains were fairly well preserved (Plate 8). The individual was buried with the head positioned in the west, in supine position with legs straight (figure 9). The left arm was extended at the side and the right arm was semi-flexed across the pelvis. Hands and feet were disturbed. Based on the width and shape of the intact sciatic notch, it was determined the interred individual was female. Based on dentition, the individual was likely 40 or older at the time of death. Only three teeth remained and bone remodeling in the tooth socket areas of the maxilla and mandible was complete. Three small white Prosser porcelain buttons were located medially and posterior to the neck, spine, and pelvis indicating the individual was dressed (Figure 9). Prosser buttons (Plate 9) were first produced circa 1840, dating this burial to after 1840. A poorly preserved tortoise shell decorative hair comb was located superior to the head (Plate 10; Plate 11).



Plate 3. Burial One

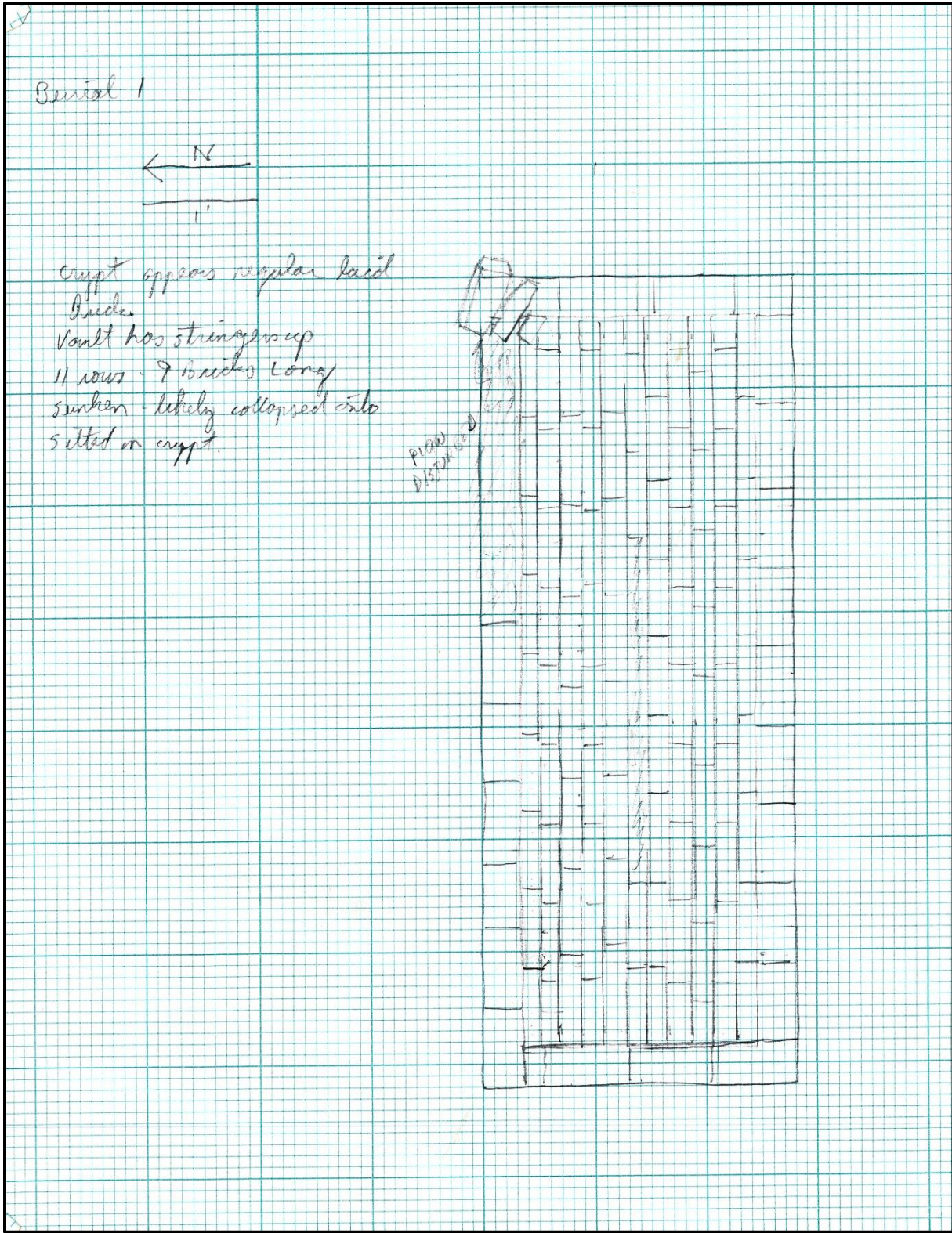


Figure 5. Top of Burial One Vault Construction Detail



Plate 4. Burial One Brick Vault



Plate 5. Burial One Hexagonal Crypt

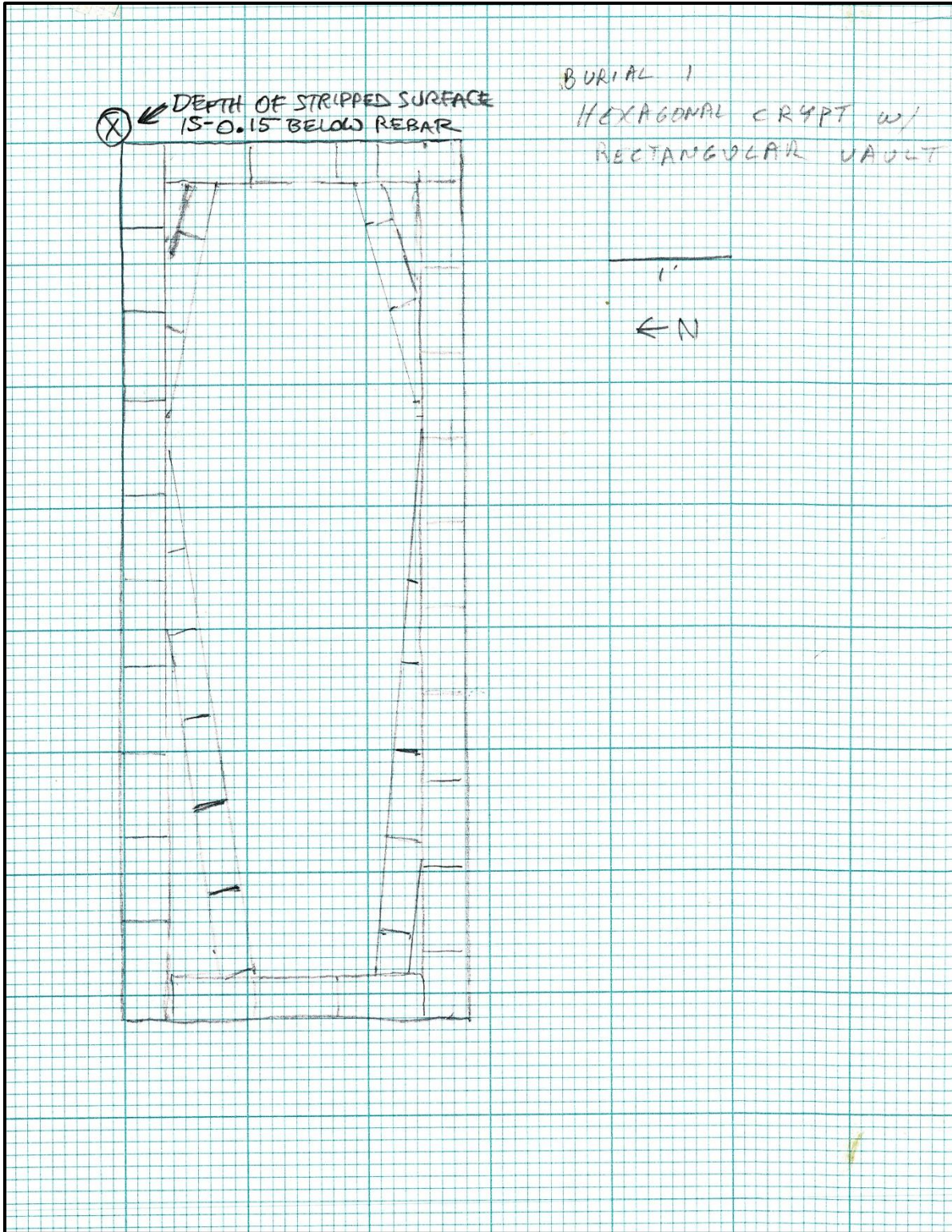


Figure 6. Burial One Drawing of Hexagonal Crypt



BRITTINGHAM CEM.
BURIAL I
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ED OTTER
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Plate 6. Burial One Crypt Floor

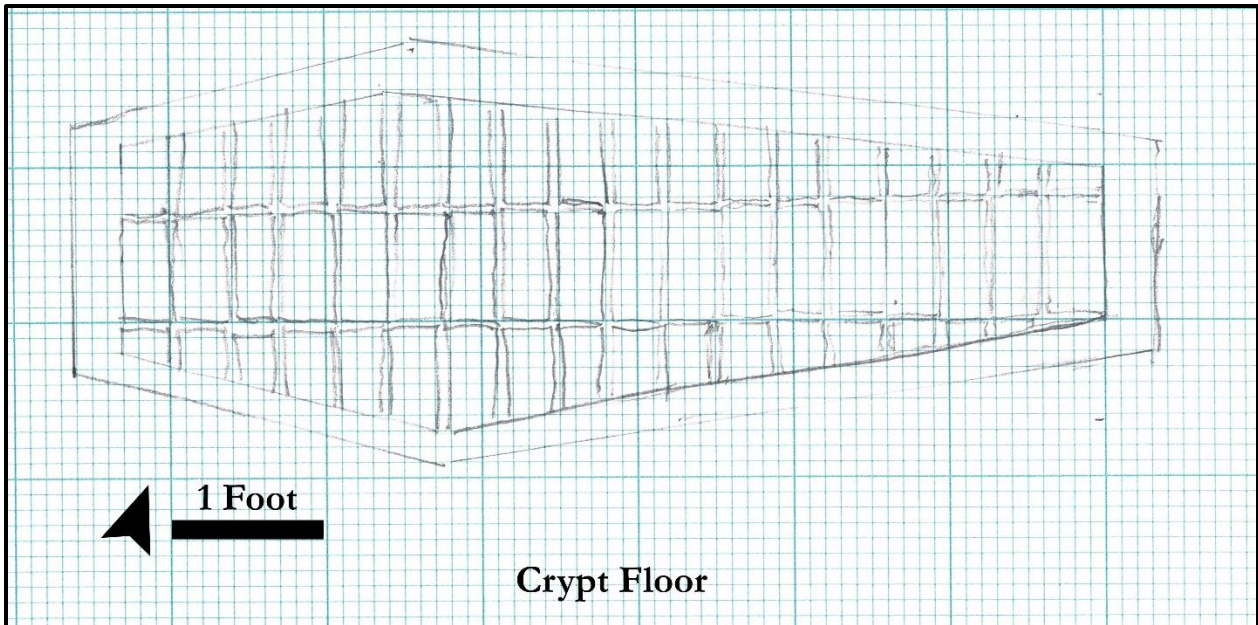


Figure 7. Burial One Plan Drawing of Crypt Floor

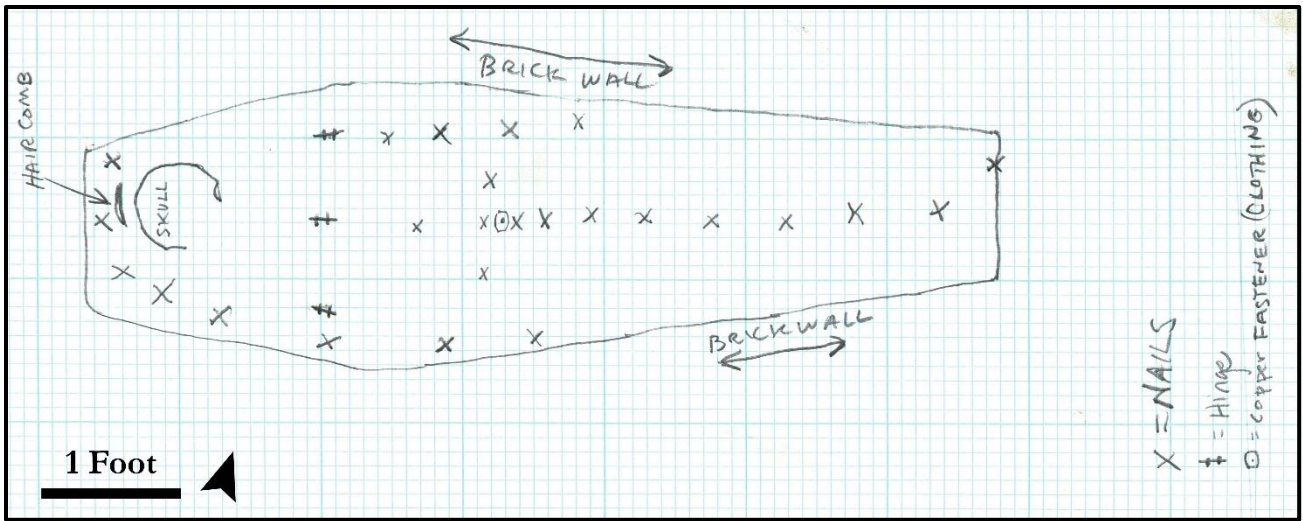


Figure 8. Burial One Nail Pattern, Hinges, and Fasteners



Plate 7. Burial One Coffin Hinges



Plate 8. Burial One Skeletal Remains

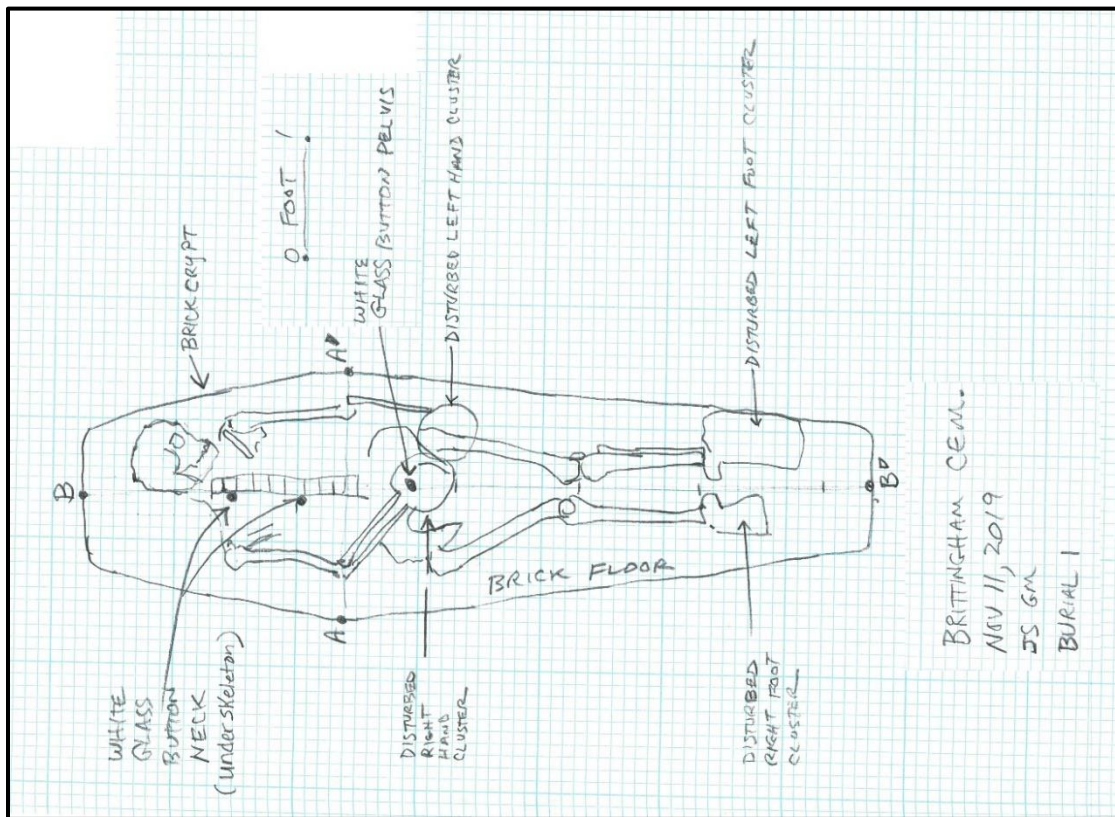


Figure 9. Burial One Drawing

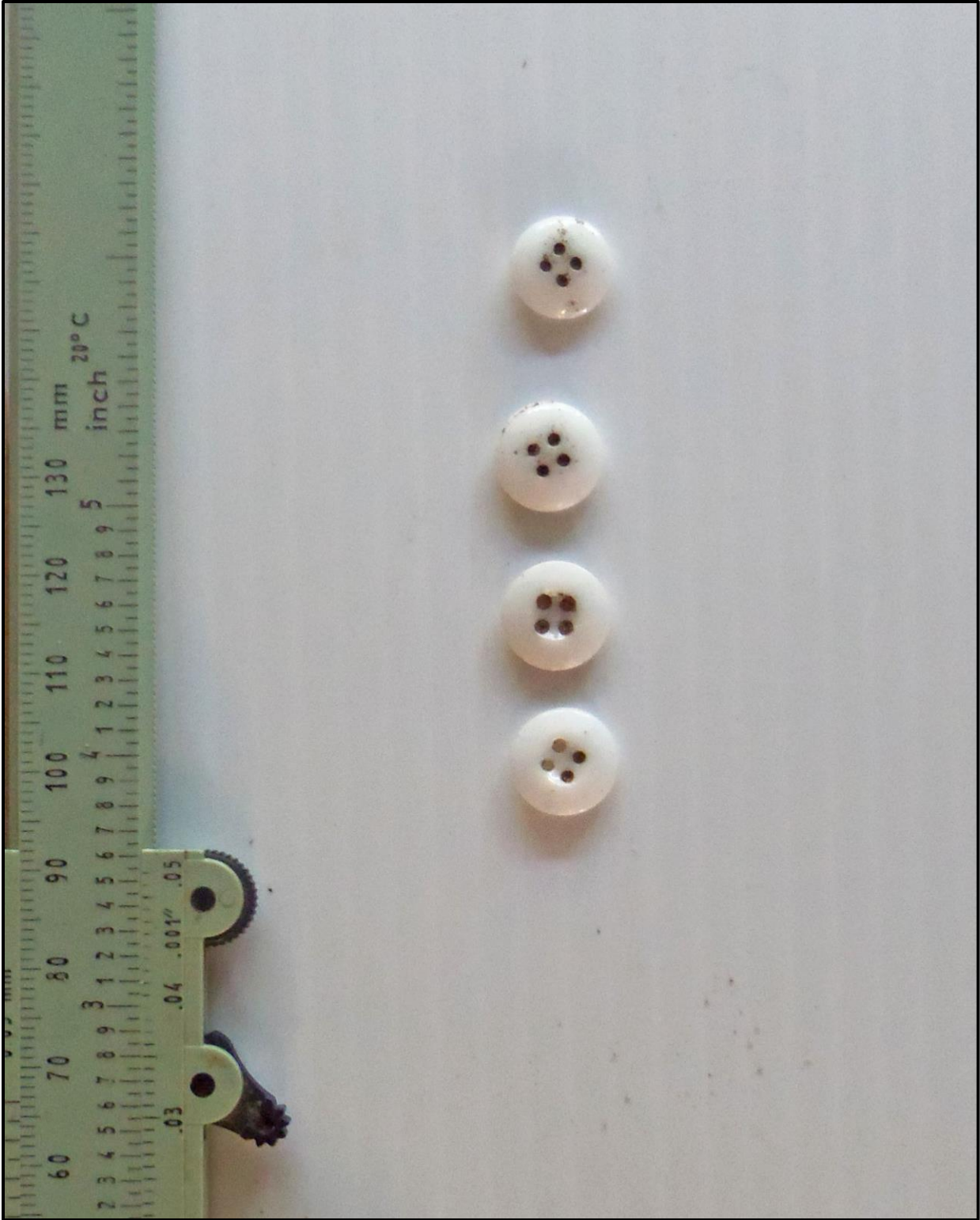


Plate 9. Burial One Prosser Buttons



Plate 10. Burial One Tortoise Shell Decorative Hair Comb



Plate 11. Burial One Tortoise Shell Decorative Hair Comb

Burial Two

Burial Two, oriented west to east was located south of Burial One and was the furthest burial to the south (Figure 4). A brick burial structure was found intact at 1 foot below surface (Plate 12). This structure consisted of a vault and crypt. The arched vault was rectangular shaped and constructed using eleven columns of brick times nine rows of brick. This measured 3 feet wide by 7.2 feet long. A line of bricks was positioned over the arch at the centerline (Figure 10; Plate 13; Plate 14). The brick crypt was rectangular shaped and measured 3 feet wide, 7.1 feet long (Figure 13; Plate 14). The floor of the crypt was dirt; not finished with brick. Based on the nail pattern, the coffin was rectangular shaped with a gabled lid (Figure 12). Very little wood from the coffin remained. Thirty-one coffin nails were recovered as well as six decorative capped screws (Figure 12). The presence of small upholstery-type tacks was considered indicative of a lined coffin interior.

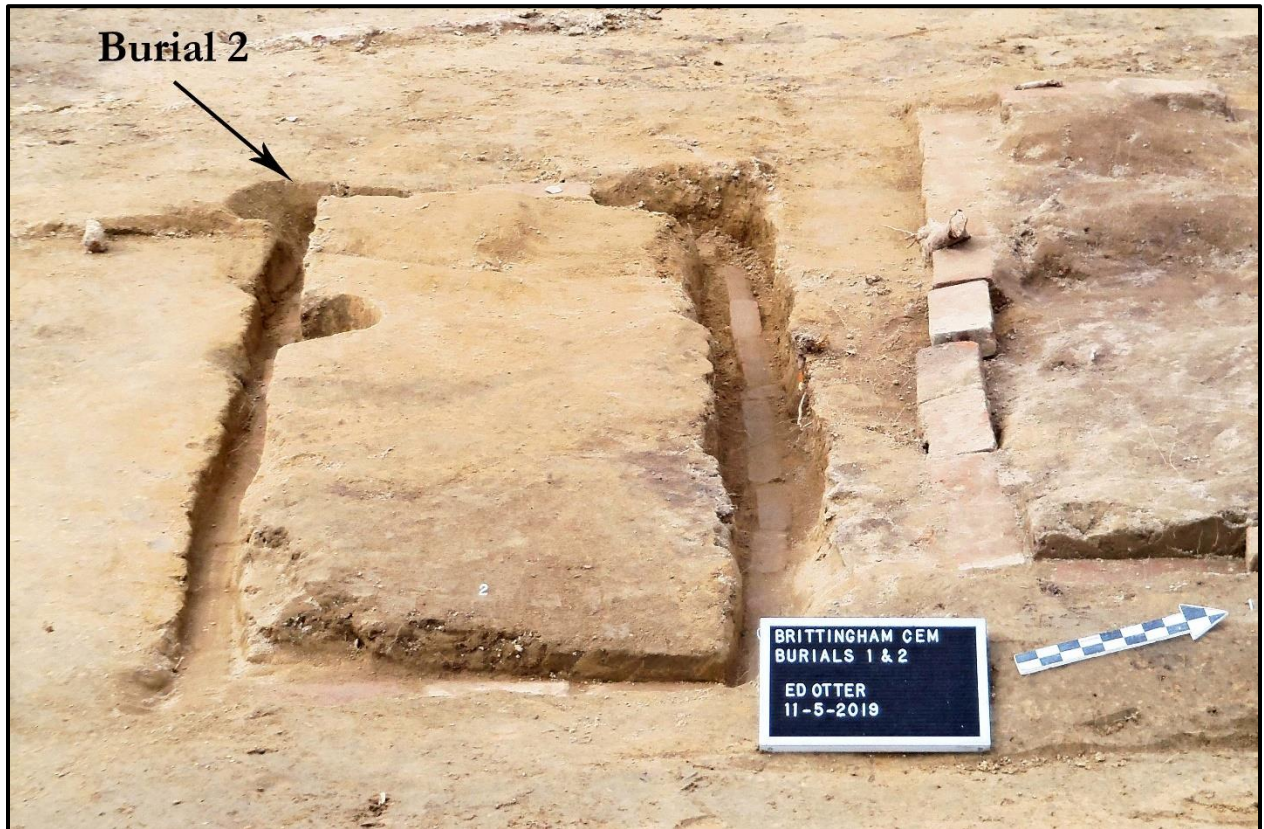


Plate 12. Burial Two

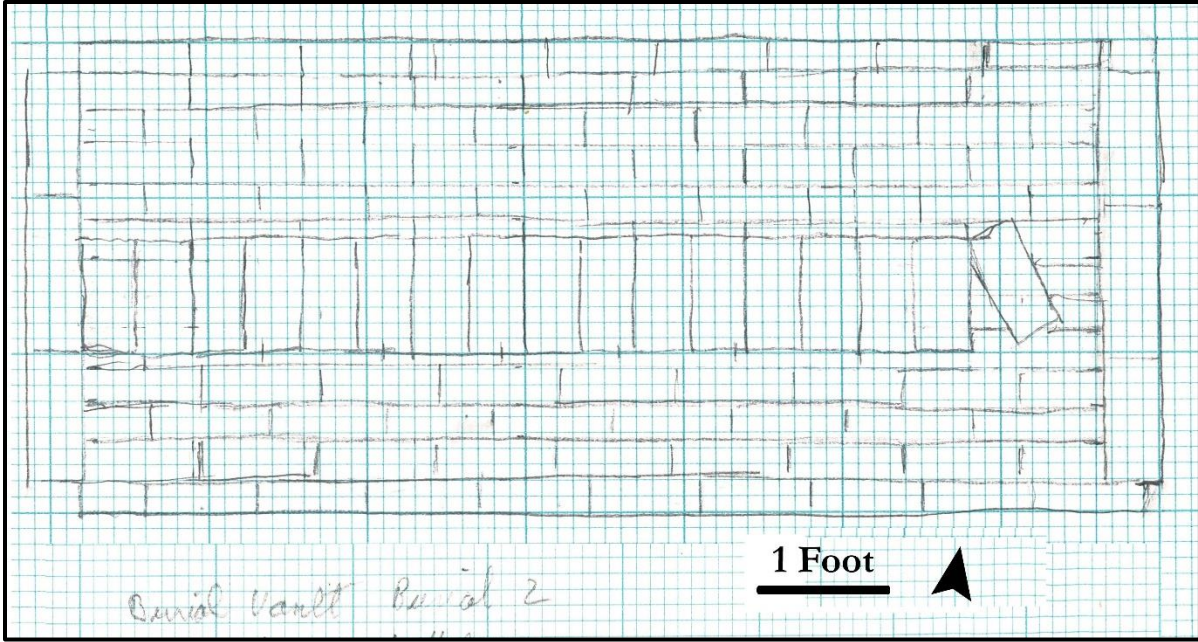


Figure 10. Burial Two Plan View of Arched Vault



Plate 13. Burial Two Brick Vault



Plate 14. Burial Two Crypt and Vault Profile

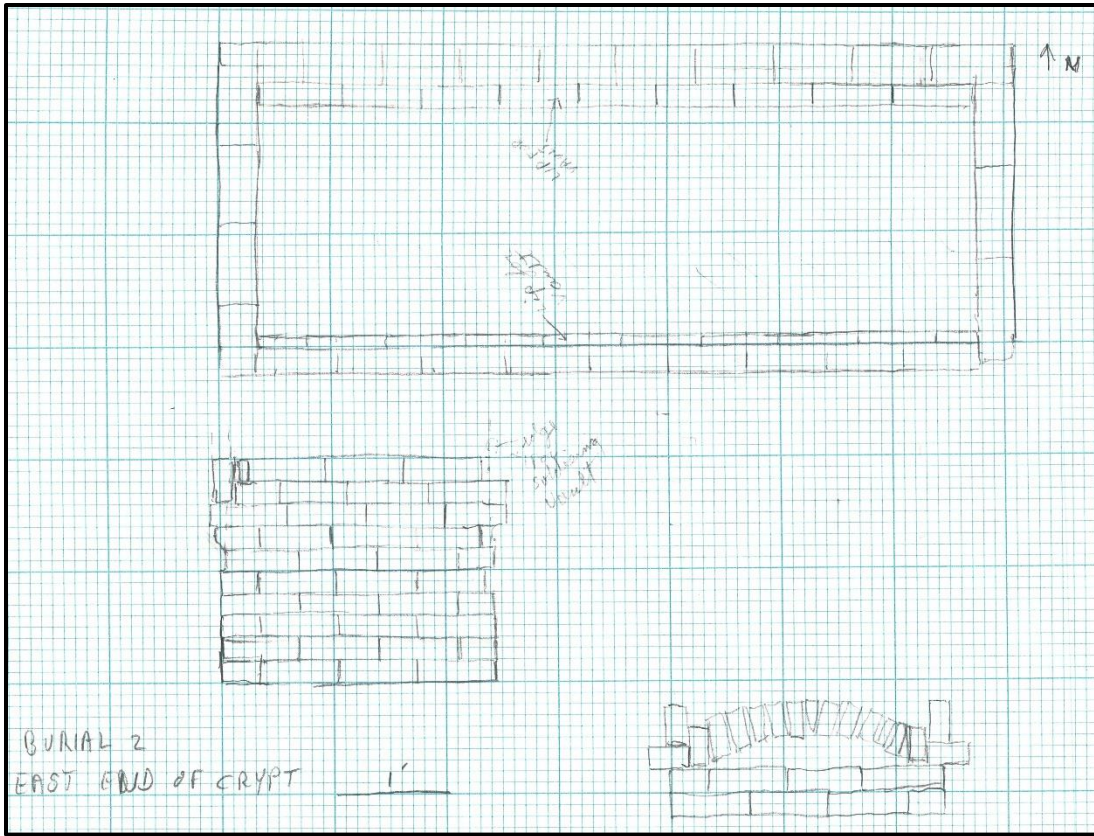


Figure 11. Plan View of Crypt. Profile of Vault and Crypt



Plate 15. Burial Two Crypt

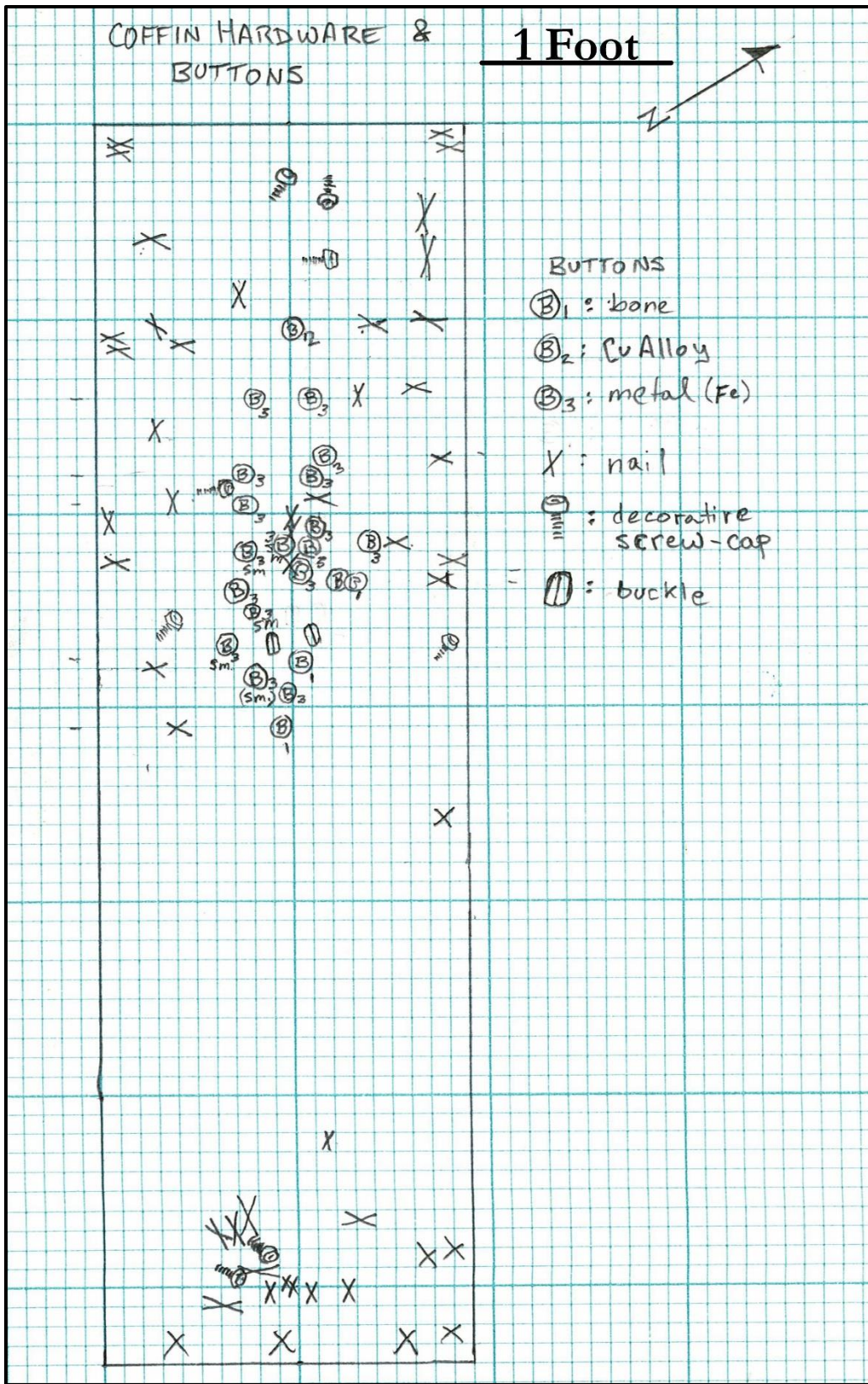


Figure 12. Burial Two Nail Pattern, Coffin Hardware, Buttons and Buckles

Skeletal remains were well preserved. The individual was buried with the head west, in supine position with legs straight (Figure 13). Both arms were semi-flexed. The cranium rolled out of place and was found upside down, while the mandible remained in place (Plate 16). Patellae, feet, ankle and wrist bones were displaced possibly due to water intrusion into the crypt. Based on the width and shape of the intact sciatic notch, it was determined the interred individual was male. The individual was likely 40 or older at the time of death, based on dentition. A number of bone and copper alloy clothing buttons were recovered as well as one glass button. Two copper alloy vest tightening belts were also found (Plate 17).

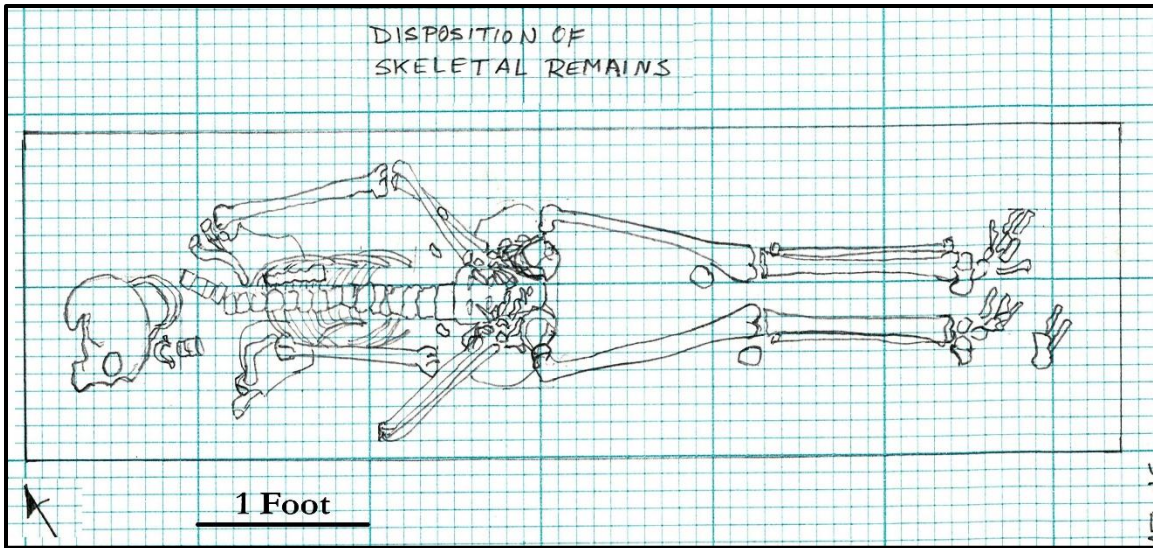


Figure 13. Burial Two Disposition of Skeletal Remains



Plate 16. Burial Two Skeletal Remains



Plate 17. Burial Two Artifacts

Burial Three

Burial Three, oriented west to east, was located between Burials One and Twelve (Figure 4). The grave shaft appeared amorphous at one foot below surface. This shaft distortion was likely caused by a tree that once existed over the burial. As excavation continued to a depth of one foot below datum, the grave shaft was very clearly defined (Figure 14). The shaft measured 2.7 feet wide by 6.2 feet long. Shaft fill consisted of 10YR 5/4 loamy sand with a surrounding matrix of 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil.

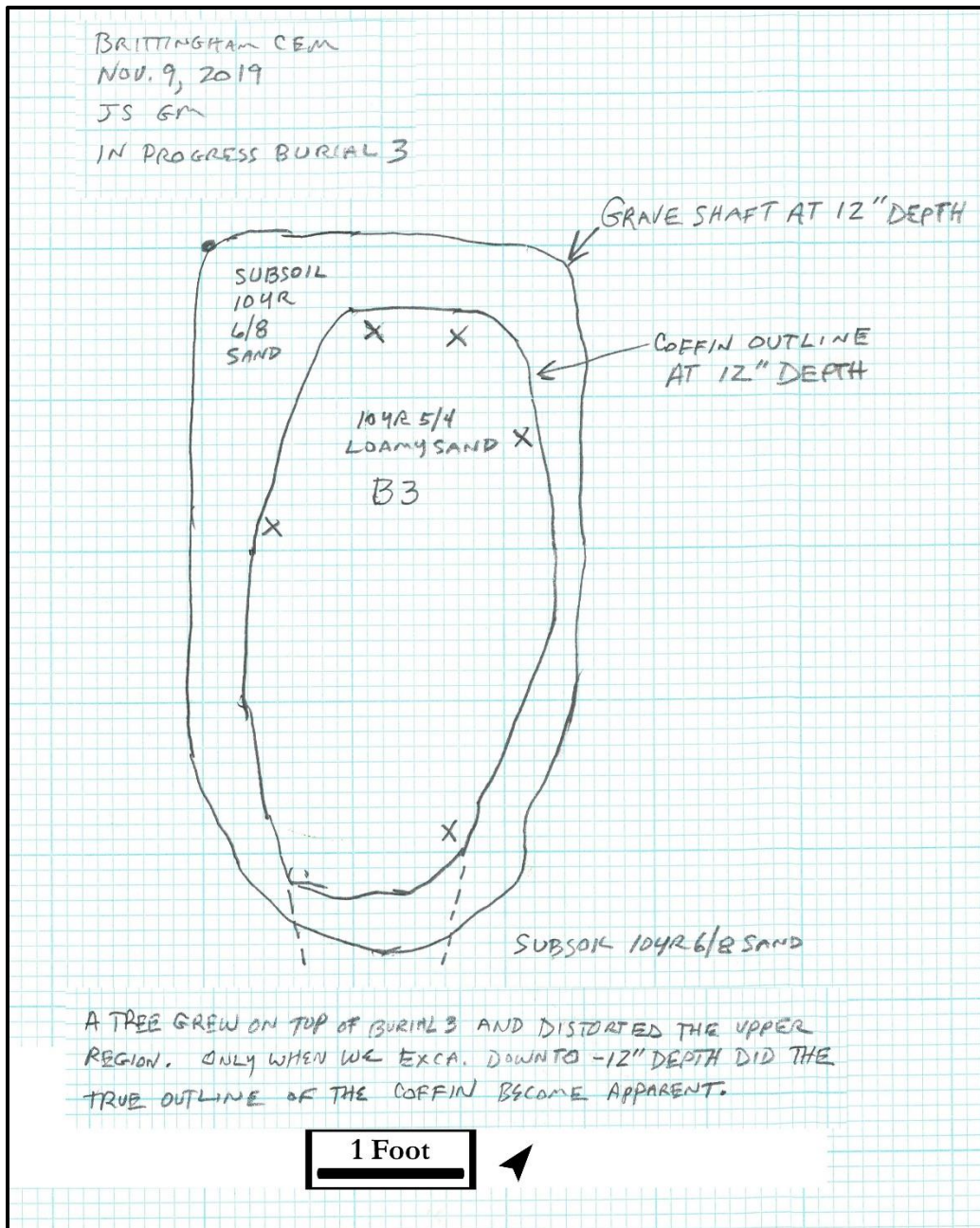


Figure 14. Burial Three Grave Shaft and Coffin Outline

Based on the nail pattern and remaining coffin wood, the coffin's hexagonal shape was apparent (Plate 18). Based on nail pattern and hinges the lid would have been flat (Figure 15). Four hinges were positioned across the lid at the shoulder line, allowing for viewing of the face and bust. A total of seventeen nails were recovered from Burial Three.



Plate 18. Burial Three

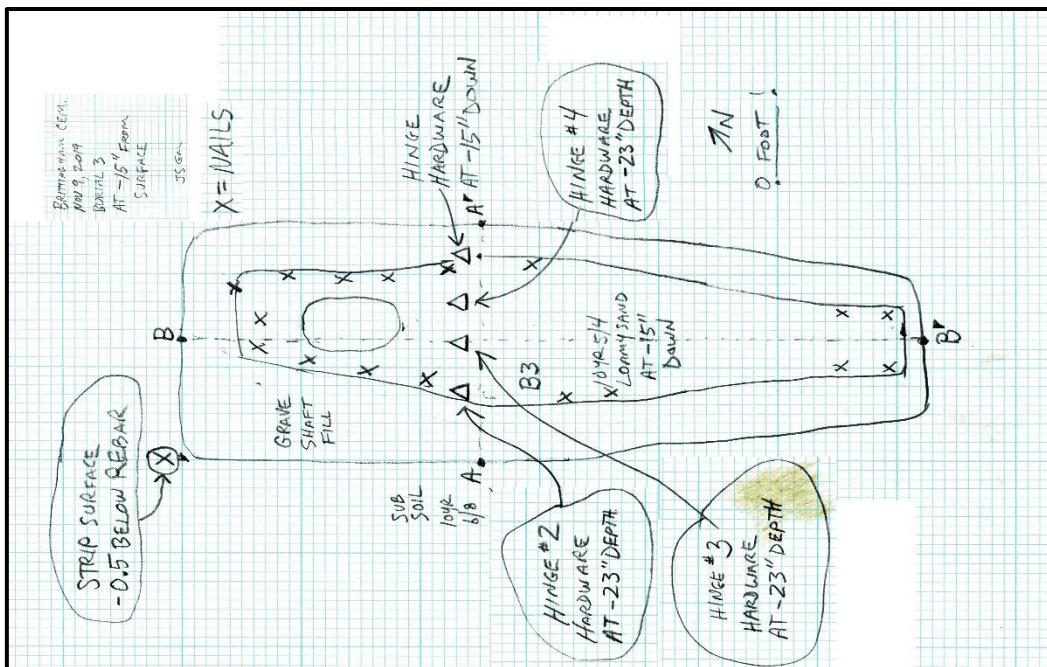


Figure 15. Location of Nails and Hinges

The coffin measured 0.9 feet wide at the head, 1.4 feet wide at the shoulders, and 0.6 feet wide at the foot. The coffin measured 5.5 feet in length (figure 15). Skeletal remains were poorly preserved (less than 25% preservation). Incomplete parts of a skull, humerus, radius, femur and both tibia bones were recovered (Plate 19). The sex of the individual was undeterminable, but mixed dentition indicates this individual was between six and twelve years old at the time of death.



Plate 19. Burial Three Skeletal Remains

Burial Four

Burial Four, oriented west to east was located between Burials Nine and Ten (Figure 4). A brick burial structure was found and consisted of an arched vault and a crypt. The vault was rectangular shaped (Plate 20). The arch was found partially collapsed into the crypt. The vault was arch constructed using fifteen columns of brick with stringers facing up (Figure 16). This measured 3.7 wide by 8.2 foot long. The brick crypt was hexagonal shaped and measured 2 feet wide at the head, 3 feet wide at the shoulders, and 1.8 feet at the feet (Figure 17; Plate 21). The crypt was 7.6 feet long. The floor of the crypt was brick finished.

Based on the nail pattern, the coffin was hexagonal shaped with a flat lid (Figure 18). The coffin measured 1.4 feet wide at the head, 2.4 feet wide at the elbows, and 1.2 feet wide at the foot. The coffin was 6.9 feet long. Some wood from the coffin remained and it measured one inch thick. Nails, Pins, and disc buttons made of bone were recovered from this burial.



Plate 20. Burial Four Brick Vault

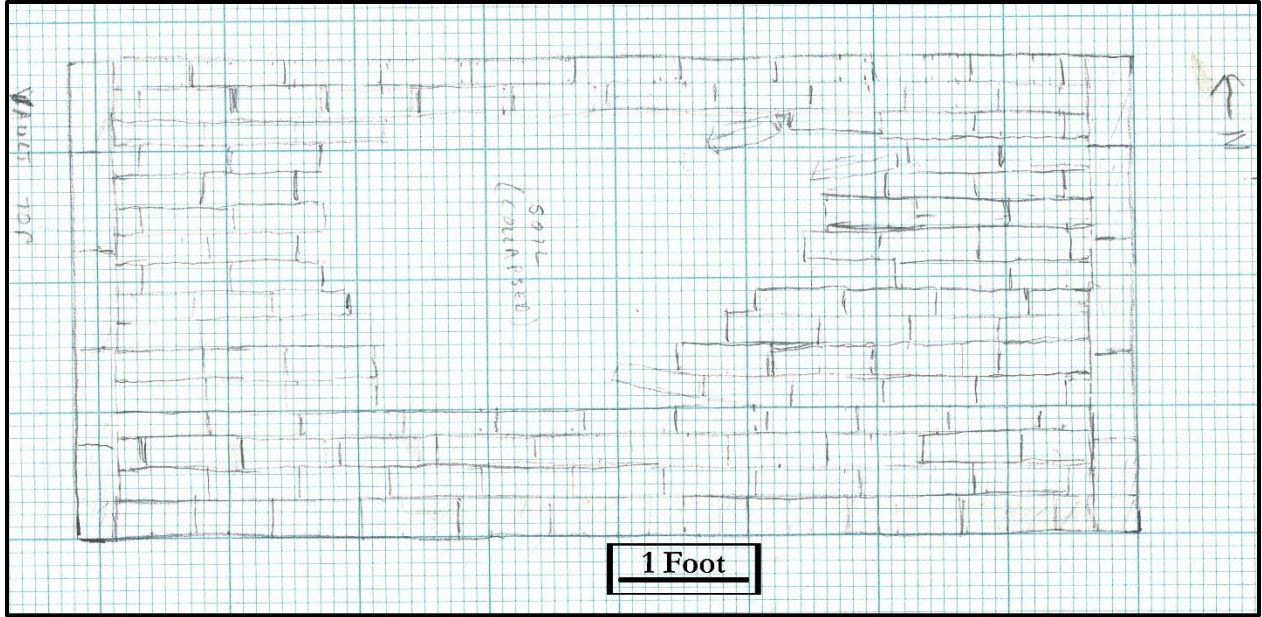


Figure 16. Plan View of Burial Four Vault Top

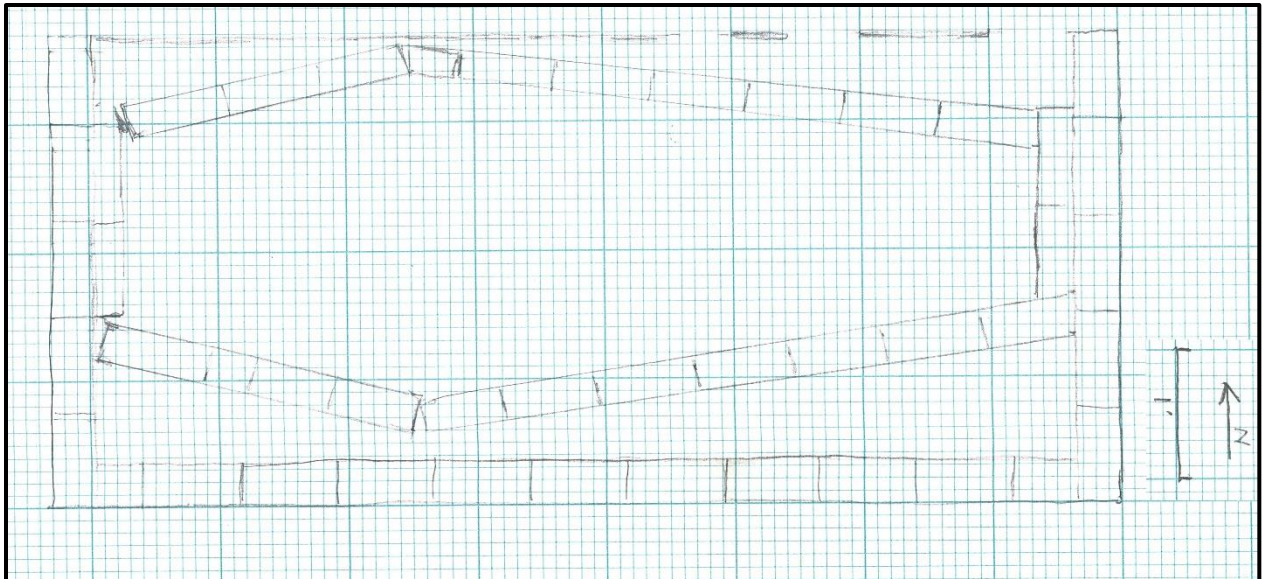


Figure 17. Burial Four Hexagonal Crypt



Plate 21. The Vault Collapsed into the Crypt

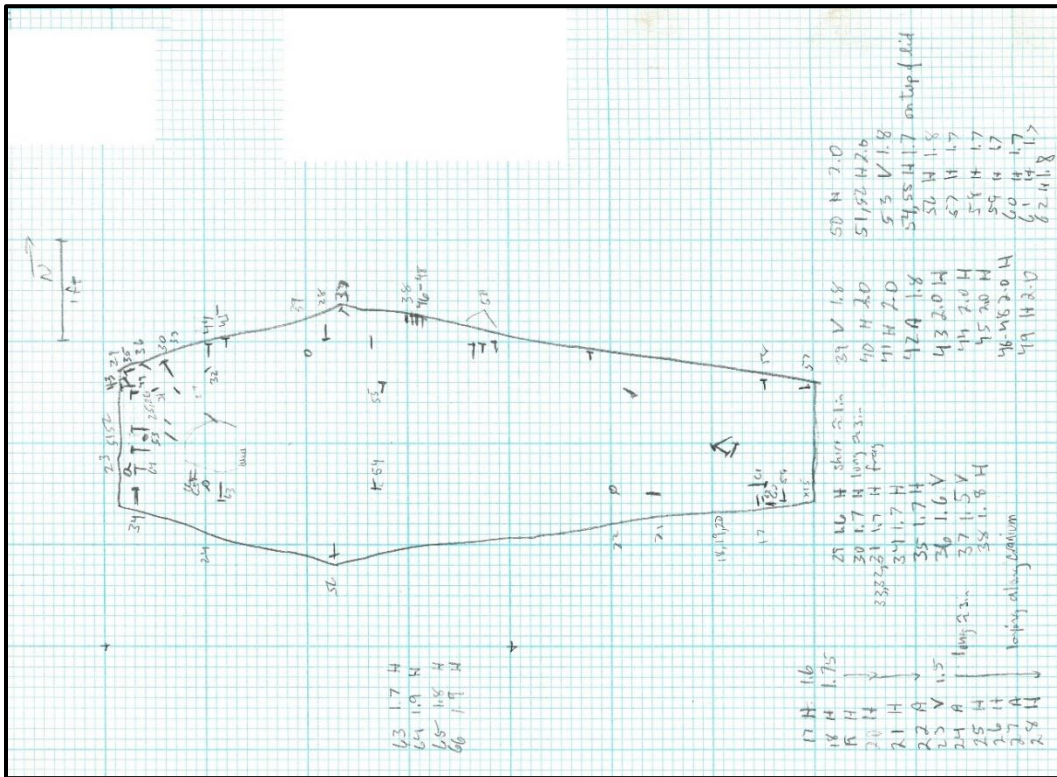


Figure 18. Burial Four Coffin Nail Pattern

Skeletal remains were well preserved (Plate 22). The individual was buried with the head to the west, in supine position with legs straight. Both arms were semi-flexed. Based on the width and shape of the intact sciatic notch, it was determined the interred individual was male. The individual was over 20 years old at the time of death, based on dentition. Bone buttons and a pin were recovered with Burial Four (Plate 23).



Plate 22. Burial Four Skeletal Remains



Plate 23. Burial Four Artifacts

Burial Five

Burial Five, oriented west to east, was located between Burials Twelve and Six (Figure 4; Plate 24). The grave shaft measured 1.5 feet wide by 2.8 feet long (Figure 19). Grave fill consisted of 10YR 5/4 loamy sand and was surrounded by 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil. Nails and nail stains were first observed at 0.6 feet below datum. Based on the nail pattern, the coffin was rectangular with a flat lid and measured 0.8 feet wide by 2.2 feet long. The coffin measured 0.6 feet in height. Based on grave size, the interred was an infant. Preservation was poor. Some staining was observed but no skeletal remains or teeth were recovered (Plate 25). Sixteen nails were recovered within this burial. No other artifacts were present within Burial Five.

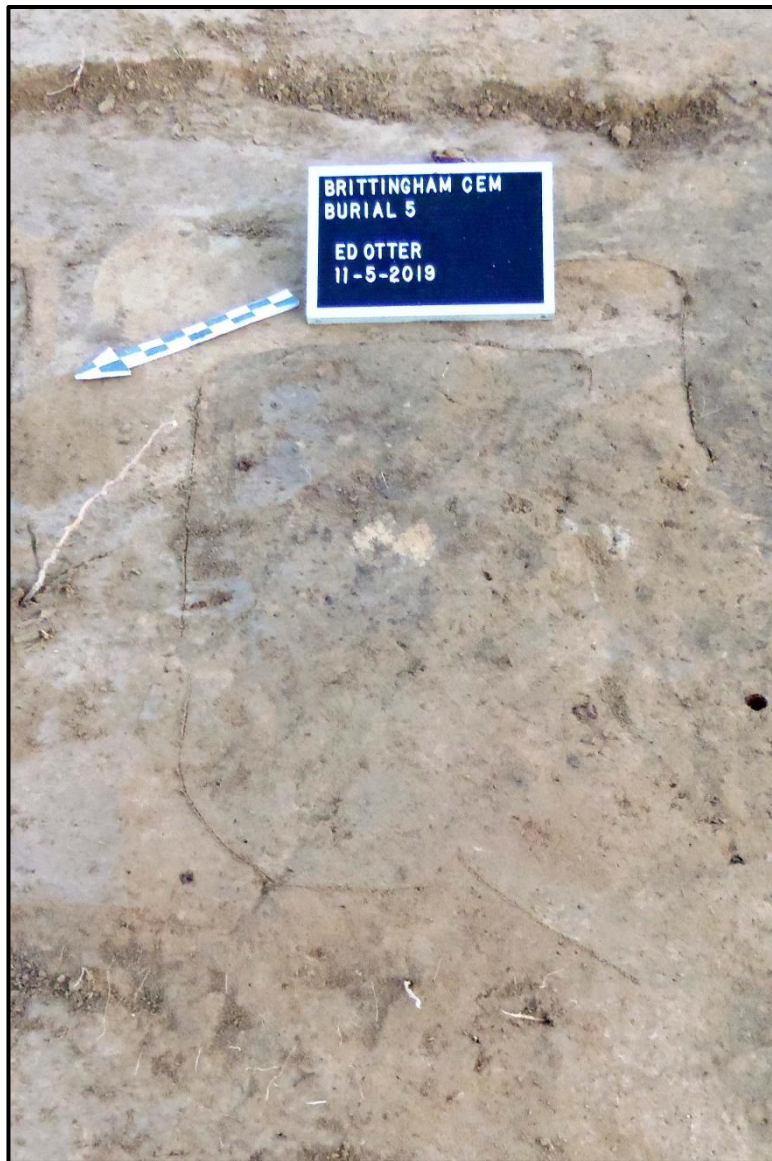


Plate 24. Burial Five

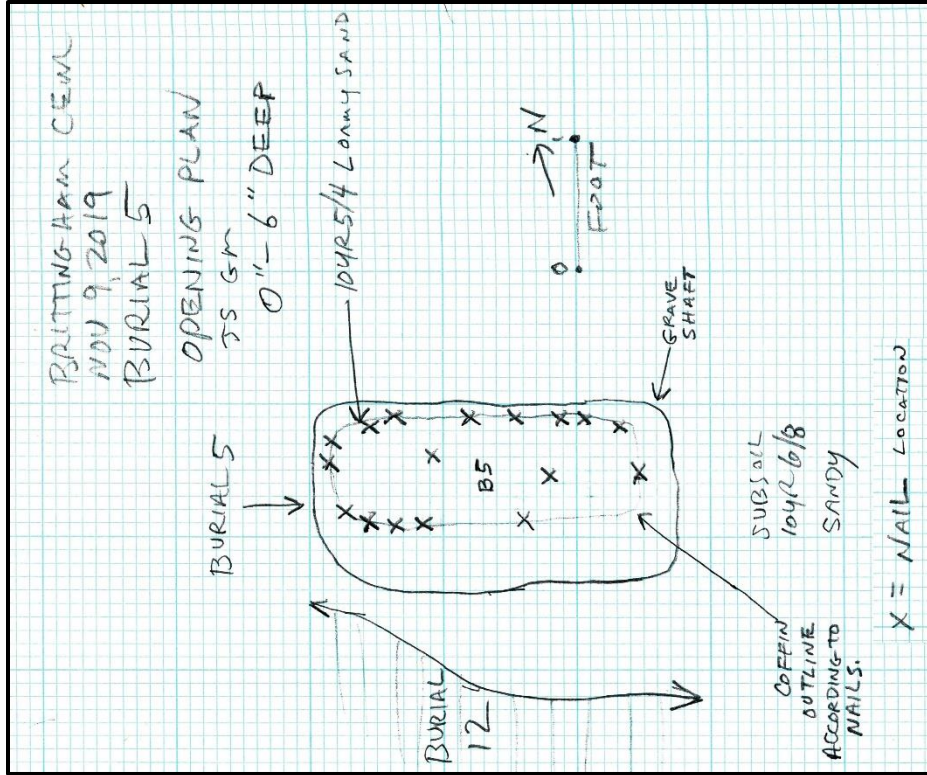


Figure 19. Burial Five Plan Drawing of Grave Shaft and Coffin Nail Pattern



Plate 25. Burial Five Staining

Burial Six

Burial Six, oriented west to east, was located between Burials Seven and Five (Figure 4). The grave shaft measured 2.5 feet wide by 3 feet long (Plate 26). Grave fill consisted of 10YR 5/4 loamy sand and was surrounded by 10YR 6/8 loamy sand subsoil. Based on the nail pattern, the coffin was rectangular with a flat lid and measured 1 foot wide by 2.7 feet long (Figure 20; Plate 26). The coffin was 0.9 foot high. Therefore, the interred was a small child. Preservation was poor. No human remains were recovered from this burial. Eighteen iron nails were recovered within this burial.

Burial Seven

Burial Seven, oriented west to east was located between Burials Six and Eight (Figure 4). The grave shaft measured 1.3 feet wide by 2.8 feet long. Grave fill consisted of 10YR 5/4 loamy sand and was surrounded by 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil. Based on the coffin stain and nail pattern, the coffin was rectangular with a flat lid and measured 1 foot wide by 2.6 feet long (Figure 20; Plate 26). The coffin was 0.8 foot high. Based on the coffin dimensions, the interred was a small child. Nineteen nails were recovered within this burial. Preservation was poor. No human remains were recovered.

Burial Eight

Burial eight, oriented west to east was located between Burials Seven and Nine (Figure 4). The grave shaft feature measured 1.3 feet wide by 4.7 feet long. Grave fill was a 10YR 5/4 loamy sand and was surrounded by 10YR 7/2 sand subsoil. The coffin was rectangular shaped with a flat lid. The coffin measured 1.2 feet wide by 4.5 feet long by 0.9 feet high (Figure 20; Plate 26). Based on coffin dimensions Burial Eight is a child burial. Preservation was poor and no human remains were recovered. Nineteen coffin nails were recovered from this burial.

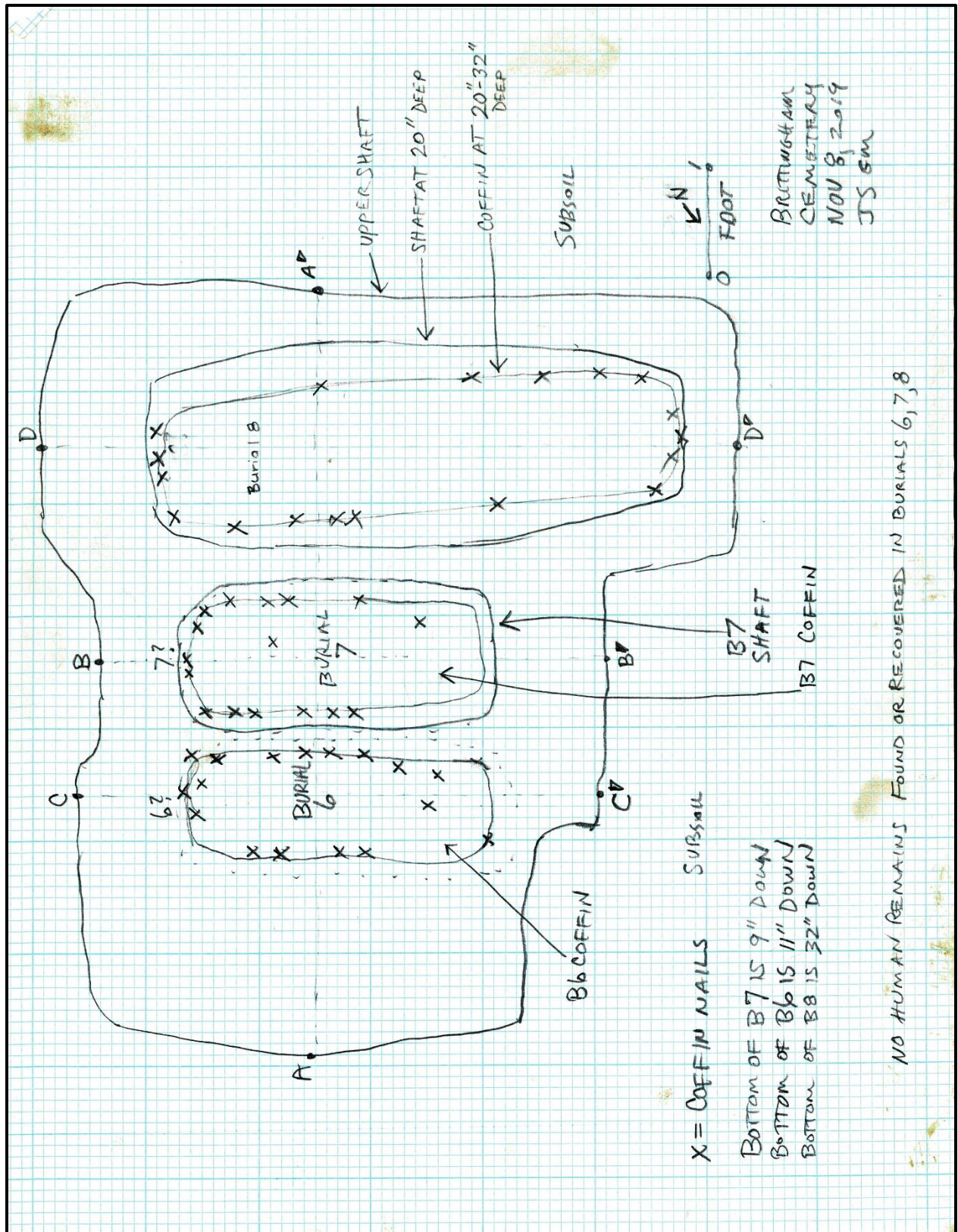


Figure 20. Burials Six, Seven and Eight Plan Drawing



Plate 26. Burial Six, Seven and Eight

Burial Nine

Burial Nine, oriented west to east was located between Burials Eight and Four (Figure 4). The shaft measured 2.4 feet wide by 3.9 feet long (Figure 21). Shaft fill was a 10YR 5/4 loamy sand surrounded by 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil. The top of the coffin was defined at 1 foot below datum where nails were first observed. The coffin was rectangular shaped with a flat lid based on the nail pattern. Feature fill in the coffin as well as above the coffin area appears to have been disturbed by rodents. The coffin measured 1.7 feet wide by 3.3 feet long and 0.6 feet high (Plate 27). Based on coffin dimensions, Burial Nine is a child. Nineteen nails were recovered from this burial. Preservation was poor. No human remains were recovered from this burial.

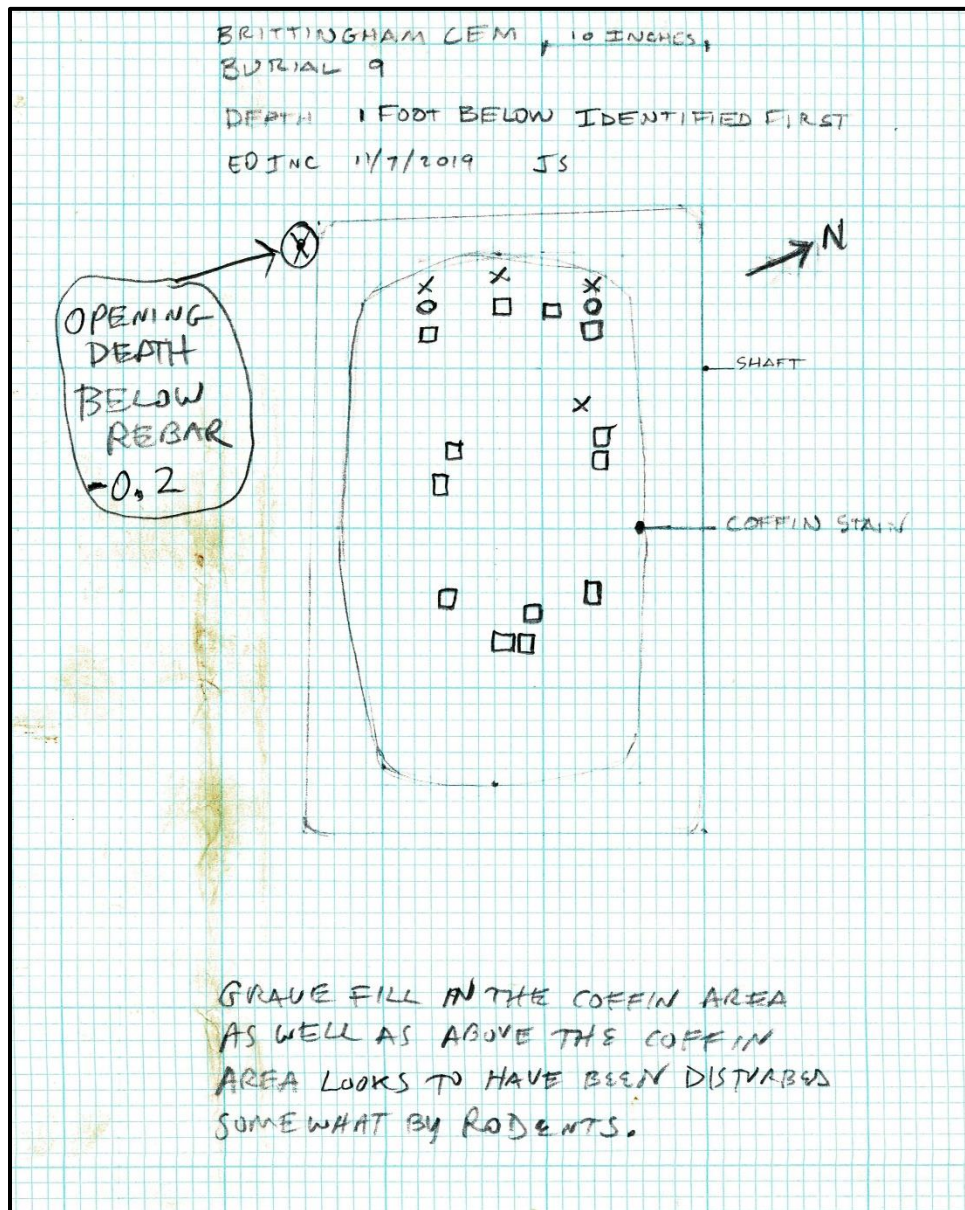


Figure 21. Burial Nine Plan Drawing



Plate 27. Burial Nine

Burial Ten

Burial Ten, oriented west to east was located between Burials Four and Eleven (Figure 4). The grave shaft feature was identified at a depth level with rebar datum and at this depth, coffin nails were first observed. The shaft measured 2.6 feet wide by 7.4 feet long (Figure 22). Shaft fill was a 10YR 5/4 loamy sand surrounded by 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil. The coffin was hexagonal shaped. It measured 1.1 feet wide at the head, 2 feet wide at the shoulders, and 0.8 feet wide at the feet (Plate 28). The coffin was 6.8 feet long. The lid was flat, based on the nail pattern. Twenty-four nails were recovered from the burial. Preservation was poor. No human remains were recovered other than a cluster of enamel tooth crowns. The tooth crown cluster was located about 2 feet below datum at the western head-end of the coffin (Figure 23). The burial seems to be an adult of undeterminable sex.

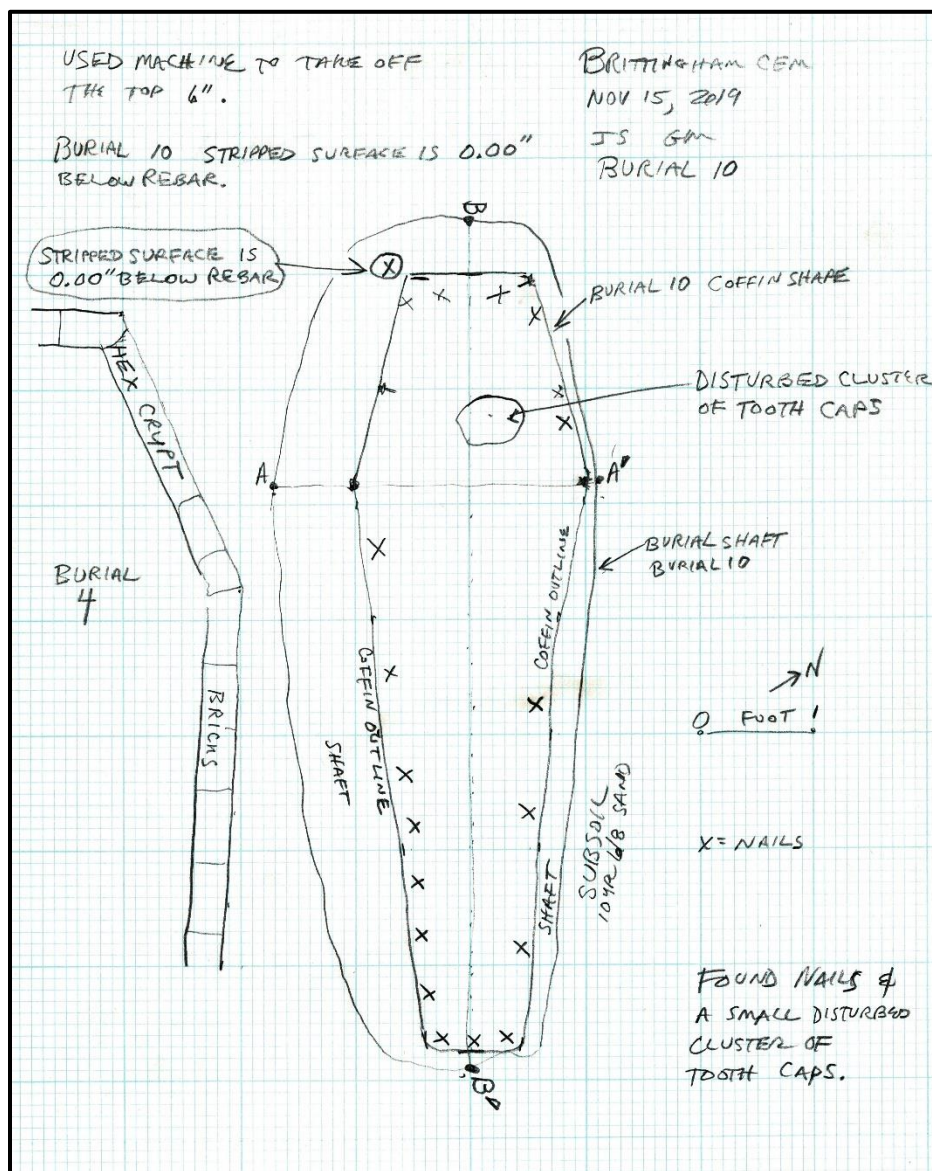


Figure 22. Burial Ten Grave Shaft, Coffin Stain, and Nail Pattern



Plate 28. Burial Ten Coffin Stain

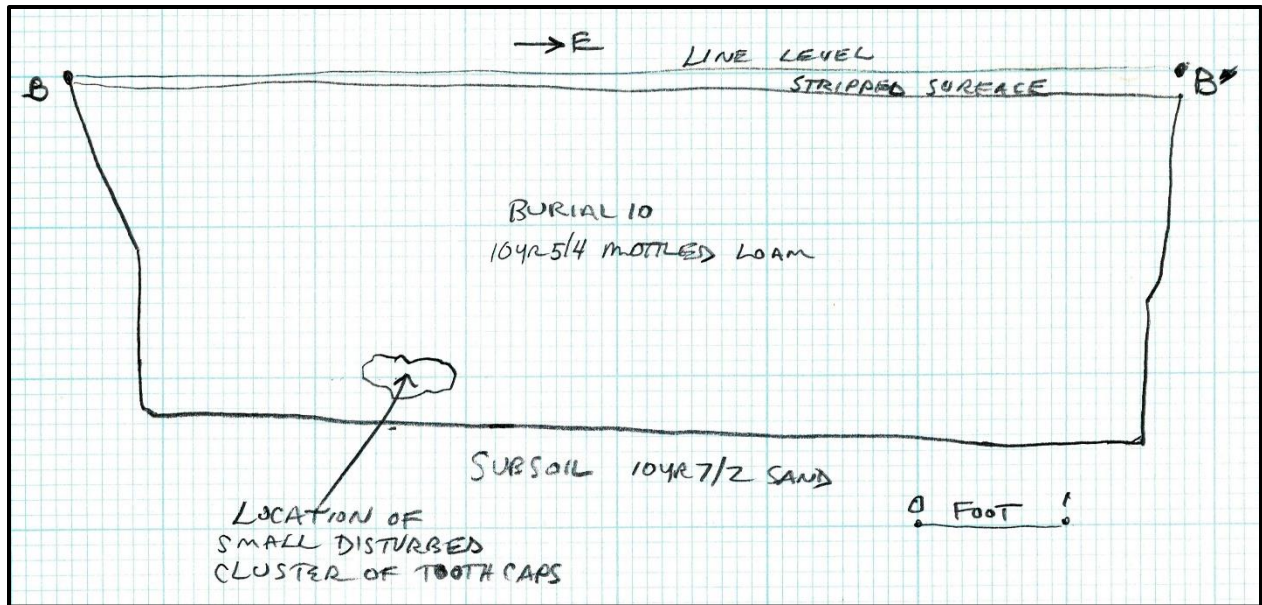


Figure 23. Burial Ten Profile. Location of Tooth Crown Cluster

Burial Eleven

Burial Eleven, oriented west to east, was located north of Burial Ten and was the northern most grave within the cemetery (Figure 4). The grave shaft feature was first identifiable at one-half foot below the rebar datum (Plate 29). The grave shaft was rectangular shaped and measured 2.4 feet wide by 4.5 feet long. The shaft fill was 10YR 5/4 loamy sand surrounded by 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil. The coffin was rectangular shaped and the lid was flat based on nail patterns (Figure 24; Plate 30). It measured 0.85 feet wide by 3.35 feet long by 1 foot high. Thirty-two nails and one pin were recovered. Traces of bone were recovered but preservation was so poor the skeletal elements were unidentifiable. Four deciduous teeth were recovered as well as three additional unidentifiable teeth. The recovery of deciduous teeth and the coffin dimensions indicate the individual interred within Burial Eleven was a child.



Plate 29. Burial Eleven Grave Shaft Stain

Burial Twelve

Burial Twelve, oriented west to east, was located between Burials Three and Five (Figure 4). The shaft stain was observable at 0.4 feet below datum. The grave shaft measured 2 feet wide by 4.5 feet long (Figure 25). Grave fill was 10YR 5/4 loamy sand surrounded by 10YR 6/8 sand subsoil. The coffin was hexagonal shaped with a gabled lid, based on the nail pattern. It measured 0.8 feet at the head, 1.3 feet wide at the shoulder, and 0.75 feet at the foot. The height was 0.8 feet. The Length of the coffin was 3.7 feet. Forty-six nails were recovered from the burial. Preservation was poor. A portion of an unfused cranium was recovered as well as mandible parts and some teeth (Plate 31). No other intact bones were recovered. Burial Twelve was a child.

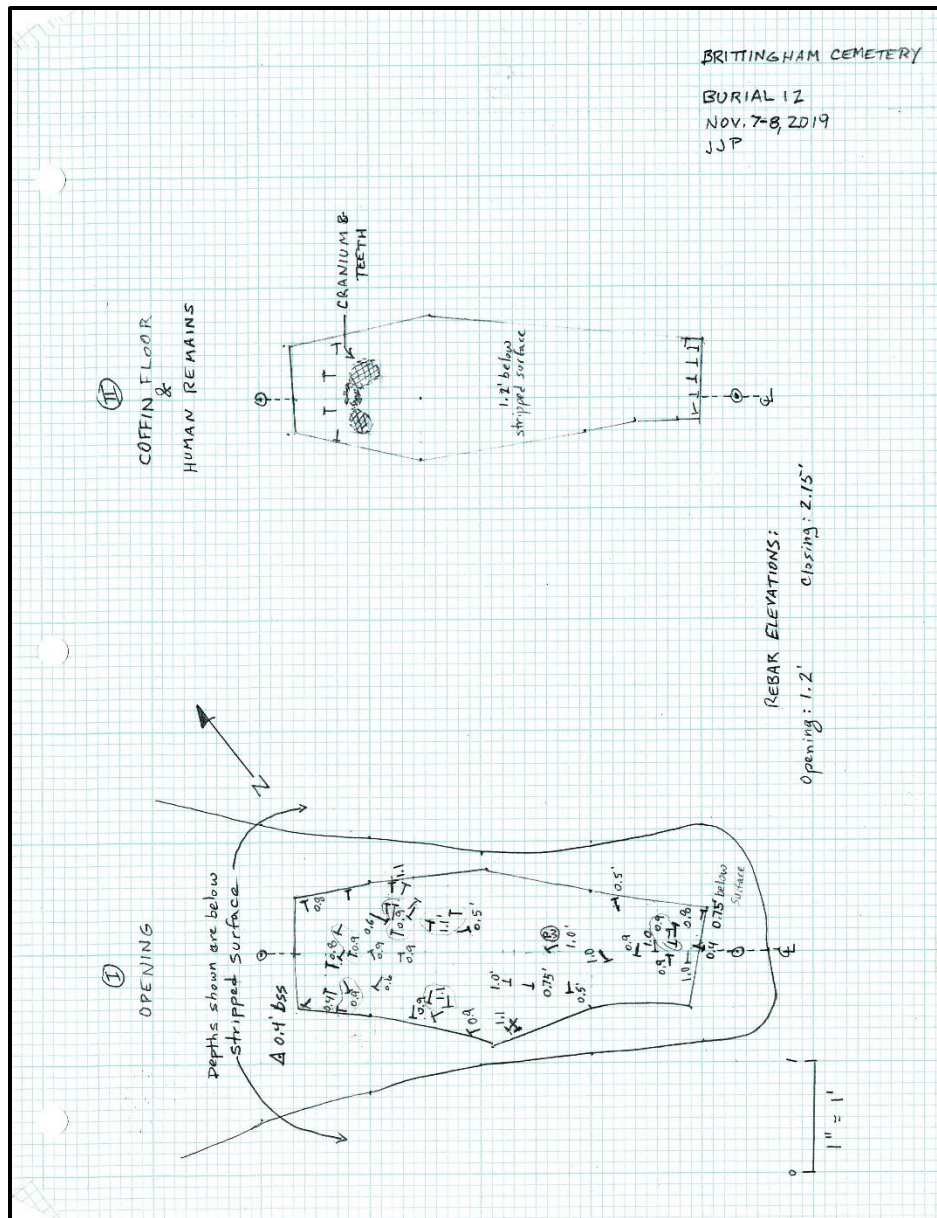


Figure 25. Burial Twelve Plan Drawing



Plate 31. Burial Twelve Skeletal Remains

Summary of Burials

The Brittingham Family Cemetery contained a total of twelve burials (Table 1). Three burials consisted of in-ground brick crypts with arched brick vaults while the other nine were coffin in ground burials. Skeletal preservation was good within the brick structured burials. Preservation was poor in burials without brick crypts and vaults.

There were three hexagonal coffins with gabled lids—two of the lids were hinged. There were two additional hexagonal coffins and these two were covered with flat lids. There was one rectangular coffin with a gabled lid and six rectangular coffins with flat lids. All of the coffins were constructed of wood. Though iron nails were recovered from all of the burials, they lacked the integrity necessary to determine type (cut nail vs. wrought nail).

Four of the burials were adults—two with male physical characteristics, one with female characteristics, and one unidentifiable. There were eight child burials. None of the children could be sexed.

BURIAL	VAULT	CRYPT	FLOOR	COFFIN	LID	PRESERVATION	SEX	AGE
1	Rectangular	Hexagonal	Brick	Hexagonal	Gabled; Hinged	Good	Female	40+/-
2	Rectangular	Rectangular	Dirt	Rectangular	Gabled	Good	Male	40+/-
3				Hexagonal	Gabled; Hinged	Poor	IND	6 to 12
4	Rectangular	Hexagonal	Brick	Hexagonal	Flat	Good	Male	40+/-
5				Rectangular	Flat	Poor	IND	Infant
6				Rectangular	Flat	Poor	IND	Child
7				Rectangular	Flat	Poor	IND	Child
8				Rectangular	Flat	Poor	IND	Child
9				Rectangular	Flat	Poor	IND	Child
10				Hexagonal	Flat	Poor	IND	Adult
11				Rectangular	Flat	Poor	IND	Child
12				Hexagonal	Gabled	Poor	IND	Child

CONCLUSION

The Brittingham Farm cemetery contained twelve burials. Of these, nine were coffin in ground type burials with poor skeletal preservation. In most instances, nothing more than coffin wood staining and iron nails could be observed, but in some, small bone fragments and tooth crowns survived. Of the nine coffin-in-ground burials, eight were identified as child burials based on burial dimensions, the presence of deciduous teeth, and absence of bone preservation. One of the nine was an adult with some skeletal preservation but lacking diagnostic components necessary to determine ancestry or sex. Three adult individuals were interred within brick crypts with brick constructed arch vaults—two of these had brick finished floors. Good preservation of the skeletal remains in the bricked burials enabled analysis which determined the individuals exhibited characteristics consistent with European ancestry. Two exhibited male features while one possessed female attributes. All three appeared to be the age of 40 years plus or minus at the time of death.

Background research indicated Jesse H. Wainwright (born 1785 – died 1822) purchased the farm and built a house on the land circa 1815. His first wife Eleanor Heath Wainwright died sometime before 1817 since Jesse married Rosanna A. W. Bennett Wainwright (born 1801 – died 1851) in 1817. Jesse and Rosanna resided on the farm after their marriage and had three children who lived into their adulthoods—Ann Wainwright (born 1818 – died after 1857), Edward Jesse Wainwright (born 1819 - died 1865), and Rosanna Wainwright (born 1821 – died 1847). Jesse Wainwright died intestate in 1822 at the age of 37 years and was likely interred within the cemetery. It is possible Jesse’s first wife, Eleanor Heath, was buried in the cemetery before him.

Jesse’s widow Rosanna, married James F. Brittingham (born 1797 – died 1857) in 1833. The Circuit Court of Somerset County transferred ownership of the farm to Rosanna Wainwright in 1834. It is unknown whether Rosanna and James Brittingham had children together—no record of any children between them could be found. The 1850 census includes Rosanna’s three grandchildren within the household—nine-year-old John Boston, seven-year-old Alexene Boston, and three-year-old Rosana Boston. These are the children of Rosanna’s daughter, Rosanna Wainwright Boston, who died in 1847 at the age of 26. It is possible Rosanna Wainwright Boston may have been interred within the family cemetery.

James F. Brittingham inherited the farm when Rosanna, aged 50, died in 1851. James remarried (Sarah Wallace) but died in 1857 at the age of 60 years old. By his last will, James F. left the farm to his infant son (born of Sarah) James Wallace Brittingham, but in the case the child should not live to adulthood, the eldest son of James F., William J. Brittingham, would inherit the land. A provision was made in James Brittingham’s will for Rosanna’s granddaughters Alexene and Rosana Boston as well. There was no mention of John Boston, who would have been no more than sixteen years old when the will was written and shortly thereafter probated.

Records indicated William J. Brittingham rented the farm from Sarah Brittingham in 1857. The census of 1860 shows thirty-two-year-old Sarah Brittingham living in Northwest Fork, Delaware with her three-year-old son James W., her younger brother, Lewes Wallace, and sixteen-year-old Alexene Boston. William J. Brittingham seems to have eventually inherited the land from his father, James F. Brittingham. The Lake, Griffing & Stevenson Atlas suggests William J. Brittingham, son of James F. Brittingham and his first wife, owned the Brittingham Farm by 1877. William J. Brittingham, his wife, and their children are all interred at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Churchyard in Princess Anne, Maryland.

A marble grave stone remnant was recovered near the head of Burial Two during delineation of the cemetery. This fragment was inscribed "F. Brittingham Born 1797". Burial Two contained a male of European ancestry, aged 40 years plus or minus at death. Burial One, next to Burial Two, contained a female of European ancestry, aged 40 years plus or minus at the time of death. Burial Four contained a male of European ancestry, aged 40 years plus or minus at the time of death. The individual in Burial Four was more robust and the teeth had less wear, indicating he was likely younger than the male individual in Burial Two. The bricked graves of Burials One and Four were similarly constructed with hexagonal shaped crypts, arched vaults, and brick finished floors while the bricked structure of Burial 2 had a rectangular shaped crypt and unfinished dirt floor. It is believed that James F. Brittingham and Rosanna Brittingham were buried side by side in Burials One and Two. It is believed that Jesse H. Wainwright was buried in Burial Four.

The identities of the eight children could not be ascertained. No definitive record could be found for John Boston after 1850 when he was nine years of age, yet records were found indicating his sisters Alexene and Rosana Boston lived into adulthood. No records could be found for the infant James Wallace Brittingham, other than the (James F. Brittingham) 1857 last will that named him heir to his father's farm and an 1860 census enumerating him in his mother's household in Northwest Fork, Delaware. It is possible John Boston and James Wallace may not have lived to adulthood and were buried at the farm.

In conclusion, it seems the cemetery was active for over thirty years, from at least the time of Jesse H. Wainwright's burial circa 1822 through circa 1857 when James F. Brittingham was buried within the family plot. The remains of the individuals recovered from the Brittingham Farm cemetery were respectfully placed with their personal effects into corrugated plastic boxes and sealed. A religious ceremony was performed graveside by Presbyterian Reverend David Parke before reinterment at Beechwood Memorial Cemetery in Princess Anne, Maryland. A marker will be placed at the gravesite. The marker will read "Here lie the earthly remains of James F. Brittingham (1797 - 1857), his wife Rosanna A. W. Wainwright (1801 - 1851), and Rosanna's first husband Jesse Wainwright (1785 - 1822). These and nine other unidentified individuals were reinterred here from the Brittingham Farm located along the west side of Ocean Highway near Princess Anne. Lat 38.220056 Long -75.698533".

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APPENDIX I: QUALIFICATIONS OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Edward Otter, Ph.D. President and Principal of Edward Otter, Inc.

Education

- 2002 Ph.D Anthropology/Archaeology
Catholic University of America, Washington D.C.
- 1989 Master of Arts in Anthropology/Archaeology
Catholic University of America, Washington D.C.
- 1980 Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology
University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware

Capabilities

Over 40 years-experience in archaeology in the Middle Atlantic United States. Work during this period has involved prehistoric and historic sites at all levels of expertise from Field Crewmember to Principal Investigator. Responsibilities have included project design and implementation, field and laboratory supervision, artifact analysis, archival research, report writing, site interpretation to the public, field and classroom instruction, and faunal analysis.

Select Recent Projects

- 2019 Private C.S. Hall, U.S.C.T. Cemetery Delineation. Sussex County, Delaware
- 2019 Carlisle AME Church and Cemetery Study at Casson's Corner. Kent County, Delaware
- 2018 Vessels Family Cemetery Delineation. Robinsonville Road, Sussex County, Delaware
- 2017 New Ebenezer Church Cemetery Delineation and Study. Sussex County, Delaware
- 2017 Hastings Family Cemetery Delineation. Delmar, Sussex County, Delaware
- 2017 Hitch Family Cemetery Delineation. Fenwick Island, Sussex County, Delaware
- 2017 Hudson Family Cemetery Delineation. Baltimore HD, Sussex County, Delaware
- 2016 Cemetery Delineation. Pirates Wharf, Wicomico County, Maryland
- 2016 Baylis Cemetery on Burton Farm. Long Neck, Sussex County, Delaware
- 2015 Wolfe Family Cemetery Study and Excavation. Lewes, Sussex County, Delaware.