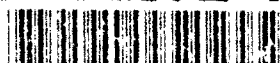


REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF
PORTIONS OF THE HATCHIE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
LAUDERDALE COUNTY, RIPLEY, TENNESSEE
A NEGATIVE FINDING REPORT

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September 1989

ABSTRACT

On 30 August 1989, an intensive cultural resources survey was conducted by the Environmental Analysis Branch of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District in a portion of the Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge in Lauderdale County, Tennessee.

A records search and a pedestrian survey failed to locate any archeological, historical or architectural sites within the proposed project area. Thus, it is concluded that the proposed work will not have any impact on cultural resources.

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MAPS

Map 1	Location Map
Map 2	Project area

Introduction

An intensive cultural resources survey was conducted on August 30, 1989. The length and width of the proposed borrow area was walked over and shovel test units dug where required. The in-house records search indicated no sites in the proposed area.

Study and Project Description

A series of low levees will be constructed around fields, ditches and existing levees to compartmentalize approximately 900 acres of agricultural lands. These levees will range in height from two feet to six feet, with the large majority being three feet. The project areas are shown on Maps 1 and 2. The width of the levees will be approximately six feet, with the exception of the hatched line. This denotes a proposed road which will also serve as a levee and it will be approximately five feet high and 16 feet wide. This project will also include installation of water control structures at various locations which will allow flooding of the 900 acres to depths ranging from two to 48 inches. All internal ditches will be cleaned and sloped to prevent erosion and facilitate maintenance.

Environmental Setting

The project area is swamp that has been drained. It lies at the foot of heavily eroded sand and gravel deposits. Natural drainage has been replaced by man-made ditches. The entire project right-of-way is in fallow fields. Vegetation consists of wild millet (Echinochloa spp.), smart weed (Polygonum spp.) cuckel bur (Xanthium strumarium), and black willow (Salix nigra).

Various species of fauna were observed. Avifauna observed in the impact area included Carolina chickadee (Parus carolinensis), American crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos), American robin (Turdus migratorius), and Blue jay (Cyanocitta cristata).

Mammal signs observed in the area included raccoon (Procyon lotor), white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus), eastern cottontail (Sylvilagus florida).

Results of the Records Search

The Memphis District Corps of Engineers' Archeological Records were searched, and no prehistoric or historic cultural remains were recorded within the project area.

Survey Methodology and Results

The proposed project area is approximately 900 acres in size. However, the area of survey was where the levee and road will be placed (Map 2). This area includes 30 acres. Approximately 95% of the area was in fallow field, 10-30% of the ground surface was visible. Shovel cuts were placed along the length of the right-of-way where the ground surface could not be seen. Each shovel test was approximately 50 cm deep. The soil profile showed only compact clay (swamp soils) with a high organic composition. No artifacts or feature indicators were found in the shovel tests, or on the exposed surface.

Recommendations

Based on an infield cultural resources survey and an in-house records search, no evidence of prehistoric, historic or architectural resources exist within the direct impact zone of the proposed project area. It is, therefore, concluded that the proposed project will not have any impact on cultural resources.

The survey methodology used does not eliminate the possibility of encountering deeply buried sites. Therefore, it is recommended that any site encountered during construction be protected from further damage until its significance can be determined by the Fish and Wildlife Service, Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge, in conjunction with the Tennessee Historical Commission.

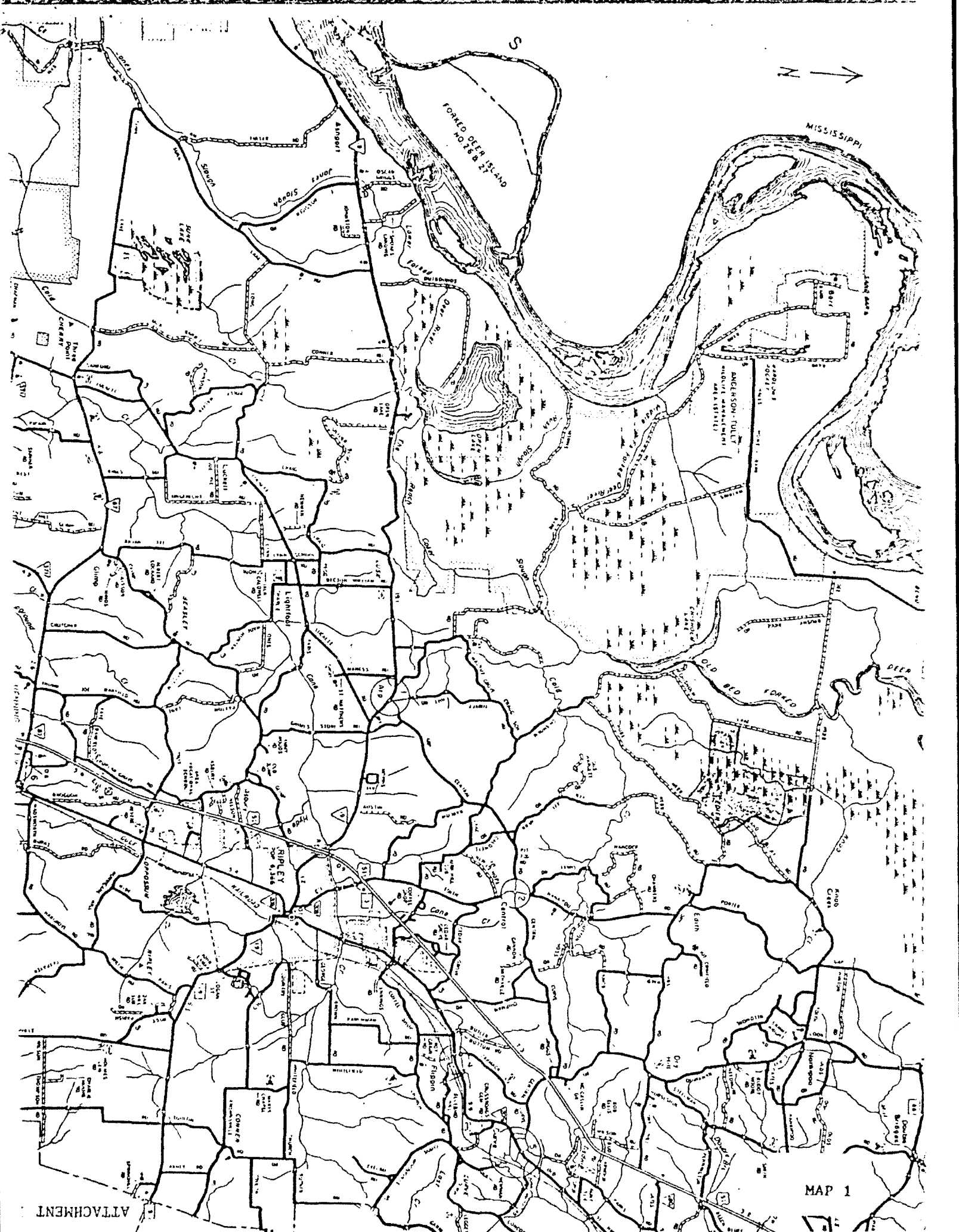
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MAP 1

ATTACHMENT

