

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum

4:00 PM

Meeting may be viewed at: Live Stream on City of College Place, Washington YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3qrqzLDL_05NusReSI-g/featured

Or you may call this number to listen: 1-669-900-9128 ID# 825 4452 7367 Phone controls: *6 - toggle munt/un-mute and *9 - raise hand

Attendee Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82544527367>

1. Opening Items

Subject :	1.01 Discussion Protocol for Virtual Meetings
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Virtual Meeting Discussion Protocol:

- After staff presentation of an item, the Chair will request comments from each Member
- After each member has had an opportunity, the Chair will then speak if so desired and Members will use the raise hand feature to notify the Chair of their desire to speak again. However, they will not enter the conversation without first being recognized by the Chair. This should allow for a thorough discussion with everyone having opportunity to express their views while maintaining order.

Subject :	1.02 Call to Order
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	
Subject :	1.03 Roll Call
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Position 1 - Stanley Green, Chairperson - term expires 12/31/2021

Position 2 - Gary Petersen, Vice Chair - term expires 12/31/2022

Position 3 - Mike Denny - term expires 12/31/2022

Position 4 -Edward Kontz- term expires 12/31/2023

Position 5 -Terrell Gottschall- term expires 12/31/2021

Staff

Jon Rickard, Community Development Director

Kristi Scherger, Community Development Administrative Assistant

2. Consent Agenda

Subject :	2.01 Approve Agenda for September 16, 2021
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)
Subject :	2.02 Approve Minutes from July 15, 2021
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)

File Attachments

[HPC MINUTES JULY 15 21.pdf \(37 KB\)](#)

Subject :	2.03 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Commission by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Commission members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Commission member.
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum

Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	Motion to approve consent agenda items 2.01 through 2.03

3. Public Comment

Subject :	3.01 Public Comment Procedure for Virtual Meetings - Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the Commission.
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	3. Public Comment
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the Commission.

COVID-19 Virtual Meeting Protocol for Public Comment:

When submitting public comments, include the following regardless of the manner you are using: - Note that there are deadlines for each method of commenting.

- Your Name
- Your Address

Public comments may be provided in writing (If typewritten, no less than 11 pt font). Submit to Clerk@cpwa.us no later than 4:30PM on the meeting date to be included in the record.

Public Comments in person may be made by telephone or virtually during the meeting:

- Telephone comment - Call 1-669-900-9128, entering the meeting ID (provided at beginning of agenda) and raising your hand (*9 to raise hand, *6 to mute/un-mute) when comments are requested.
- Virtual comment - Join using the Zoom Attendee link (provided at beginning of agenda) and raise your hand when comments are requested.

Once recognized, you will have five minutes to speak on any subject that is under the control of the Commission.

4. Regular Agenda

Subject :	4.01 Ground Penetrating Radar Survey - Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission

Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum

Category :

4. Regular Agenda

Access :

Public

Type :

Public Content

The GPR survey of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site provided high-quality GPR data, which indicates a great number of subsurface radar reflections that are consistent with burials known to have been associated with this site. GPR targets confirm multiple depths of burial, likely from multiple interments within single cemetery burial locations. Many of the GPR targets were small, or difficult to discern. This is also consistent with the large number of infant burials at the location, and of the age and condition of the remains. Maps of the GPR data did indicate a large number (~118) of individual burial sites were imaged and can be located on the site. While this is far fewer than the number of known burials, these most likely represent burials associated with bodies in coffins or caskets, and are better preserved due to a combination of burial practice and possibly age of the burials. Several larger GPR anomalies are also present- these have similar characteristics to the anomalies associated with smaller burials- so these may represent mass burials, or the interment of many smaller cremated remains that may not be resolvable as well-defined individual burial sites.

File Attachments

[!Walla-Walla-County-Poor-Farm-Cemetery-GPR-Report.pdf \(2.788 KB\)](#)

Subject :

4.02 Historic Cemetery Grant Program

Meeting :

Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission
Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum

Category :

4. Regular Agenda

Access :

Public

Type :

Action

Recommended Action :

Authorize staff to apply for a grant through the DAHP Historic Cemetery Grant Program to erect a stone monument that will commemorate those buried at the Walla Walla Poor Farm Site.

Public Content

The Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, together with the Governors Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation and the Historic Cemetery Advisory Committee, are pleased to announce the first round of grant funds through the Historic Cemetery Preservation Capital Grant Program.

The Historic Cemetery Preservation Capital Grant Program is a program of the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP). Management of the grant portion of the program is provided by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation under contract with DAHP. The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is Washington's only statewide non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to historic preservation.

Approximately \$300,000 in grant funds is available in the 2021-2023 Biennium.

Staff's proposal is to have a granite monument set at the site, listing all known people buried at the site. There is signage at the site that lists those buried there, but the proposal would be a more permanent recognition.

5. Closing Items

Subject :	5.01 Meeting Schedule
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	5. Closing Items
Access :	Public
Type :	

Public Content

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 2021.

Subject :	5.02 Adjourn
Meeting :	Sep 16, 2021 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-Cancelled for lack of quorum
Category :	5. Closing Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda (Thursday, July 15, 2021)

Generated by Kristi Scherger on Thursday, July 15, 2021

1. Opening Items

Information: 1.01 Discussion Protocol for Virtual Meetings

1.02 Roll Call

Chair, Commissioner Gottschall called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Present	Commissioners	Gary Petersen - Chair Terrell Gottschall - Vice Chair Mike Denny Stanley Green
	Guest Speaker	Bernard Houssen
Excused	Staff	Jon Rickard, Community Development Director Kristi Scherger, Community Development Administrative Assistant Lisa Neissl, City Clerk Edward Kontz

2. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 2.01 Approve Agenda for July 15, 2021

Action (Consent): Minutes: 2.02 Approve Minutes from June 17, 2021

Action (Consent): 2.03 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Commission by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Commission members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Commission member. Recommended Action: Motion to approve consent agenda items 2.01 through 2.02

Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Second by Commissioner Gottschall and the motion passed 4-0.

3. Public Comment

Information: 3.01 Public Comment Procedure for Virtual Meetings - Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the Commission.

No public comments.

4. Regular Agenda

Discussion: 4.01 Poor Farm Cemetery-Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Project - 2nd Public Presentation

Mr. Houssen presented a Power Point presentation of the findings of the GPR data found.

5. Reports

Mr. Rickard discussed status of 75th Anniversary book photos.

6. Closing Items

Procedural: 6.01 Adjourn

**Commissioner Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:31PM.
Second by Commissioner Gotschall and the motion passed 4-0.**

Approved:

Chairman / Vice Chairman

Date

Attest:

Jon Rickard – CD Director

Date

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting that occurred on July 15, 2021. Audio and/or Video recordings are available upon request.

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Survey of Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site, City of College Place, WA

Bernard A Housen*, Olivia L Housen

Geology Dept, Western Washington University, Bellingham WA, 98225

*contact: bernieh@wwu.edu

Summary

A Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of the site of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery was conducted, to determine possible locations of gravesite on the property. The Cemetery was in use from the 1870s until the late 1940s. The grave markers and other elements of the cemetery site were removed and the ground used as pasture and parkland, so little in-situ evidence for the locations of gravesites currently exists. For the survey, the site was divided into three areas, and GPR lines were spaced every 2 feet to completely cover the area. Line locations were established with both measuring tapes and GPS. A total of 124 GPR lines were collected. From these data, a large number (>3000) of subsurface targets, corresponding to discontinuous objects in the ground, were identified. Many of these targets are at depths, and have spatial characteristics, that are consistent with burials. Other targets, typically with higher contrast reflections, are attributed to possible pipes, and/or to small cylindrical grave plot markers known to be present. The large number of GPR targets confirms a large number of burials at the site. Identification of individual gravesites was difficult, due to the low reflectivity of the targets. This is consistent with most of the burials being smaller (infants), the possibility of many of the burials being cremated remains, and the age of the burials at the site. The GPR data were compiled into a 3D set of data, allowing the radar reflectivity to be examined in map view. This resulted in a number of rectilinear shapes to be resolved, which correspond to burial sites in the Poor Farm Cemetery. Using new survey data, air imagery, and the 3D-GPR data, a preliminary overlay of the original cemetery plat map is presented.

Introduction and Methods

For the GPR survey, a GSSI SIR-4000 GPR unit, with a 350 MHz antenna mounted to a wheeled cart, with a GPS unit, were used. A map of the site, with the outline of the property survey conducted for the City of College Place (2021), as well as an estimated location of the cemetery site provided by previous plats, maps, and surveys. To provide a robust link between the GPR survey and the 2021 Property Survey, the SE corner marker of the 2021 survey was used as the reference datum (see survey location map). The largest portion of the site, the elevated, open field, was designated as Area A. Two other locations were also surveyed. Area B is the portion of Sandpiper Lane immediately to the West of Area A (see survey location map). Area C is located immediately to the South of Area A, and corresponds to all or part of a former railway right-of-way (see Figure 1, survey location map).



Figure 1: Cemetery Site, with 2021 Survey boundary, and interpreted historic site boundary

For each area, a grid of GPR lines was established using measuring tapes, with the origin (0 N and 0 W) defined by the SE corner marker of the survey (see GPR area map).



Figure 2: GPR survey Areas

In areas A and B, the GPR lines were run ~ N-S. In Area C, the GPR lines were run ~E-W. The spacing between lines was 2 feet. The direction of travel for each GPR line was noted and a line number assigned.

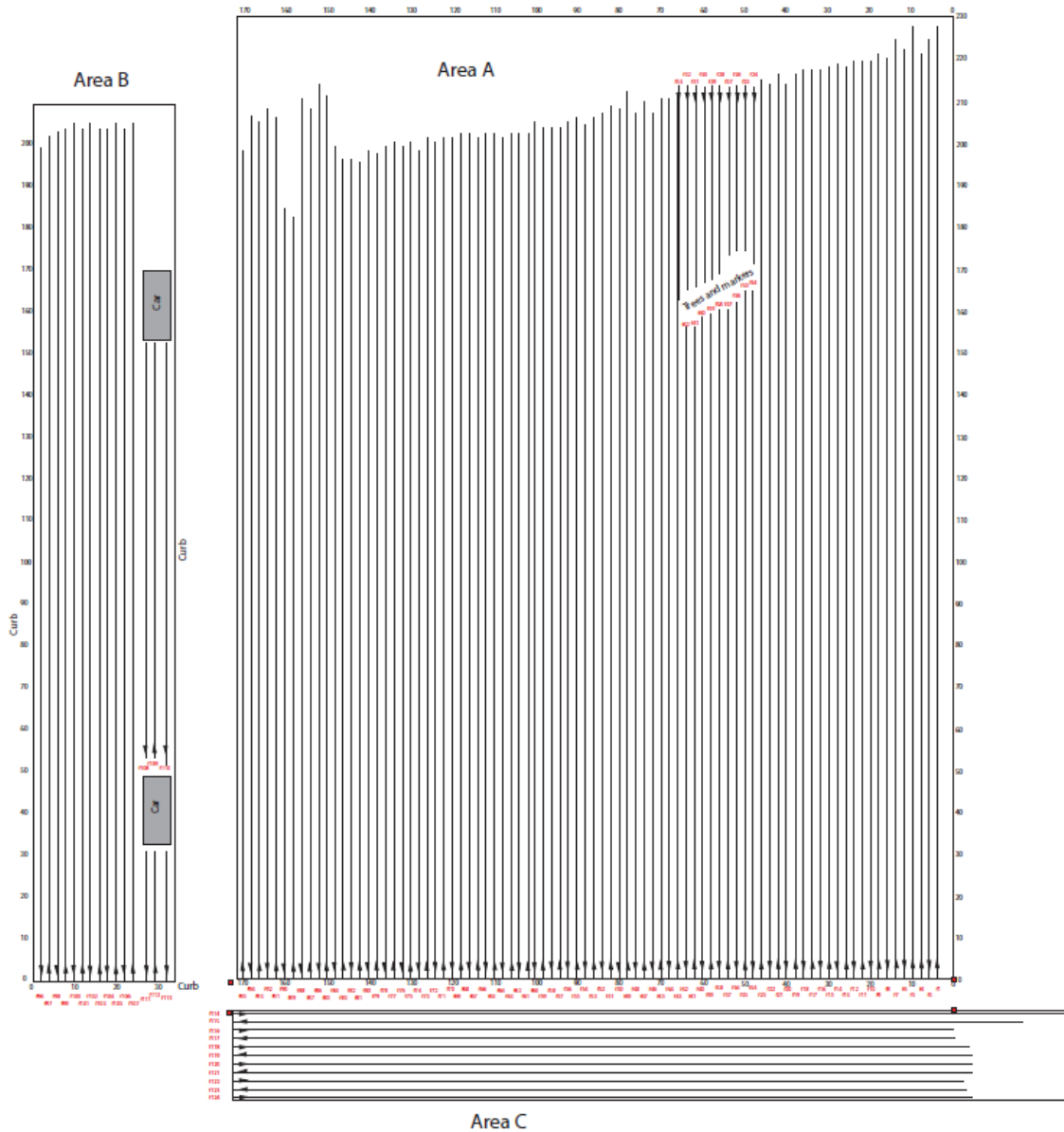


Figure 3. Map depicting GPR survey lines for Areas A-C. A larger version of this figure will be available in the appendix

An appendix listing each line number, its length, and location on an index map will be provided. For the first 12 GPR lines, the GPS data logger did not sync with the GPR unit, so those locations have been manually determined using the measured coordinates. For all of the other GPR data (Lines 13-124), GPS data was also recorded, providing this additional spatial information. The data collection was routine, and the data collected was of good quality.

The GPR data were processed and analyzed using standard methods with the GSSI RADAN-7 software package. Data filtering to remove background and high-frequency noise was applied. For each GPR line, a set of radar scatterers, hyperbola-shaped reflections, was noted. The location (depth and spatial position) of each target was picked, and these coordinates are saved and tabulated (see data appendix). Each GPR line was also used to produce a Google Earth KMZ file, and an image of the radargram for each GPR line was saved (as a .jpg file). The locations of the GPR targets were then plotted on site maps, and in GIS maps with an air photo overlay.

Results

A representative GPR radargram (line 21, Area A) is provided as an example. The uninterpreted data (Figure 4a) and the interpreted data (Figure 4b) are shown.

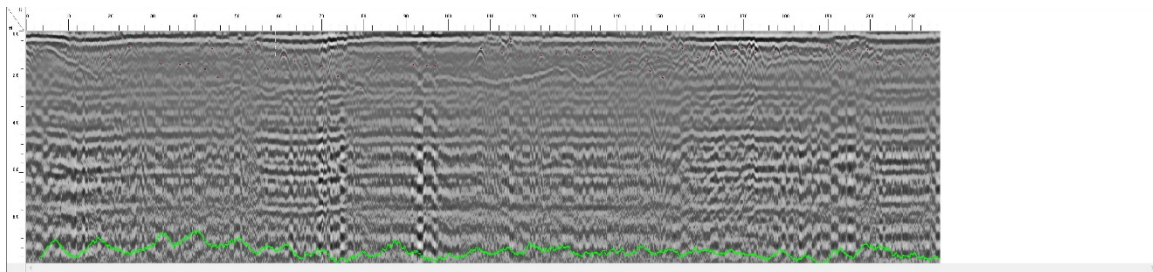


Figure 4a. Radargram for GPR line 24. Distance (ft) is provided at the top of the figure (S on left, N on right), with approximate depth below surface (ft) also provided. This depth is provisional. The greyscale provides a measure of the radar reflection amplitude (darker black/white are higher-amplitude reflections). Green line indicates estimated depth at which signal is too attenuated to provide useful information.

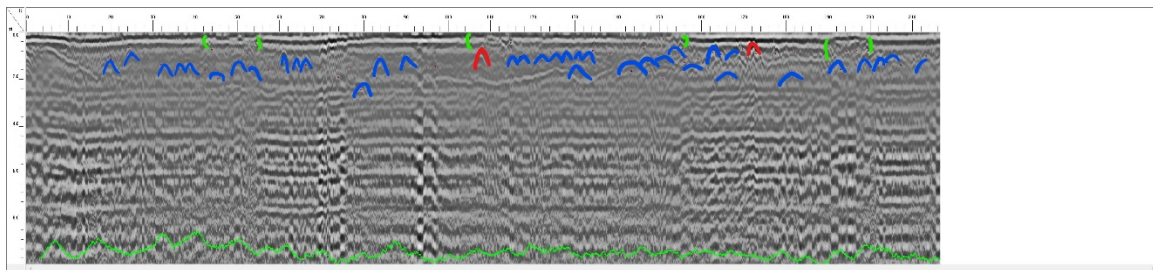


Figure 4b. Interpreted Radargram for GPR line 24. Blue lines note hyperbola-shaped reflections that are picked as GPR targets that are likely associated with burials. Red lines mark high-amplitude GPR reflectors- these can be either subsurface utilities (water pipes), or else cylindrical grave plot markers. The green lines at surface note areas of ground subsidence or disturbance.

The majority of the radar targets were found between 1 and 4 ft depth, with some targets being near the surface. In addition, areas of ground disturbance or subsidence were also noted. This analysis was applied to all 124 GPR lines, with over 3000 GPR targets identified. The locations of these GPR targets are tabulated (see data appendix).

Using the spatial coordinates of the GPR targets, their locations on the GPR lines were mapped (Figure 5). Few targets were found in either Area B or Area C.

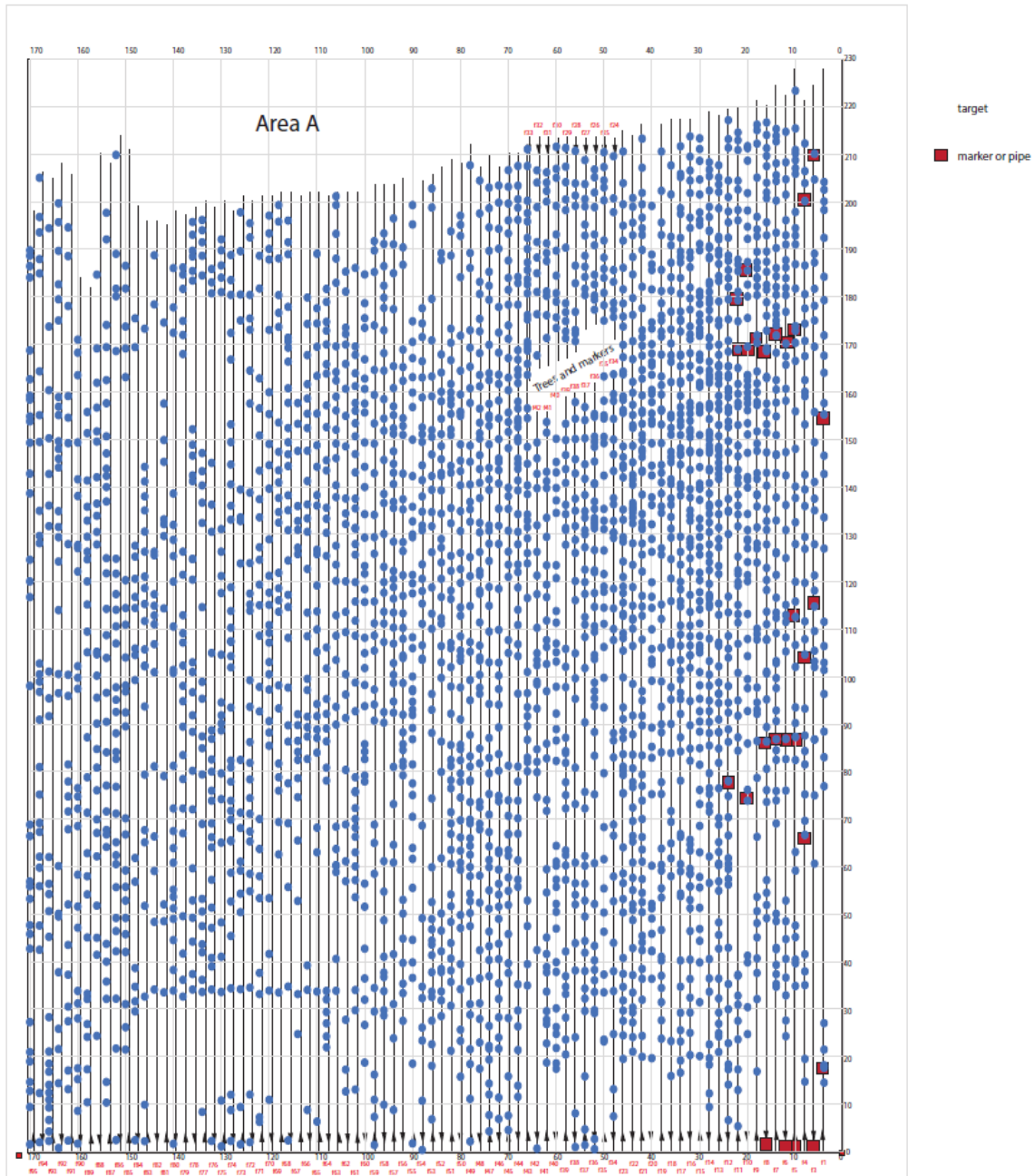


Figure 5. GPR lines and GPR targets for Area A. Higher-amplitude targets are plotted in red. Targets that may be associated with burials are marked in blue.

From examination of the GPR target map, it is clear that there is abundant evidence of the past burials at this site. It is somewhat less clear whether sets of targets can be used to identify unique burials or burial plots. The same GPR targets were plotted on the GIS-based photo map of the site (Figure 6).



Figure 6. GPR targets plotted on air photo map in GIS database. Darker blue targets on East side were interpolated without GPS data. All other targets located using GPS coordinates from the collected GPR data.

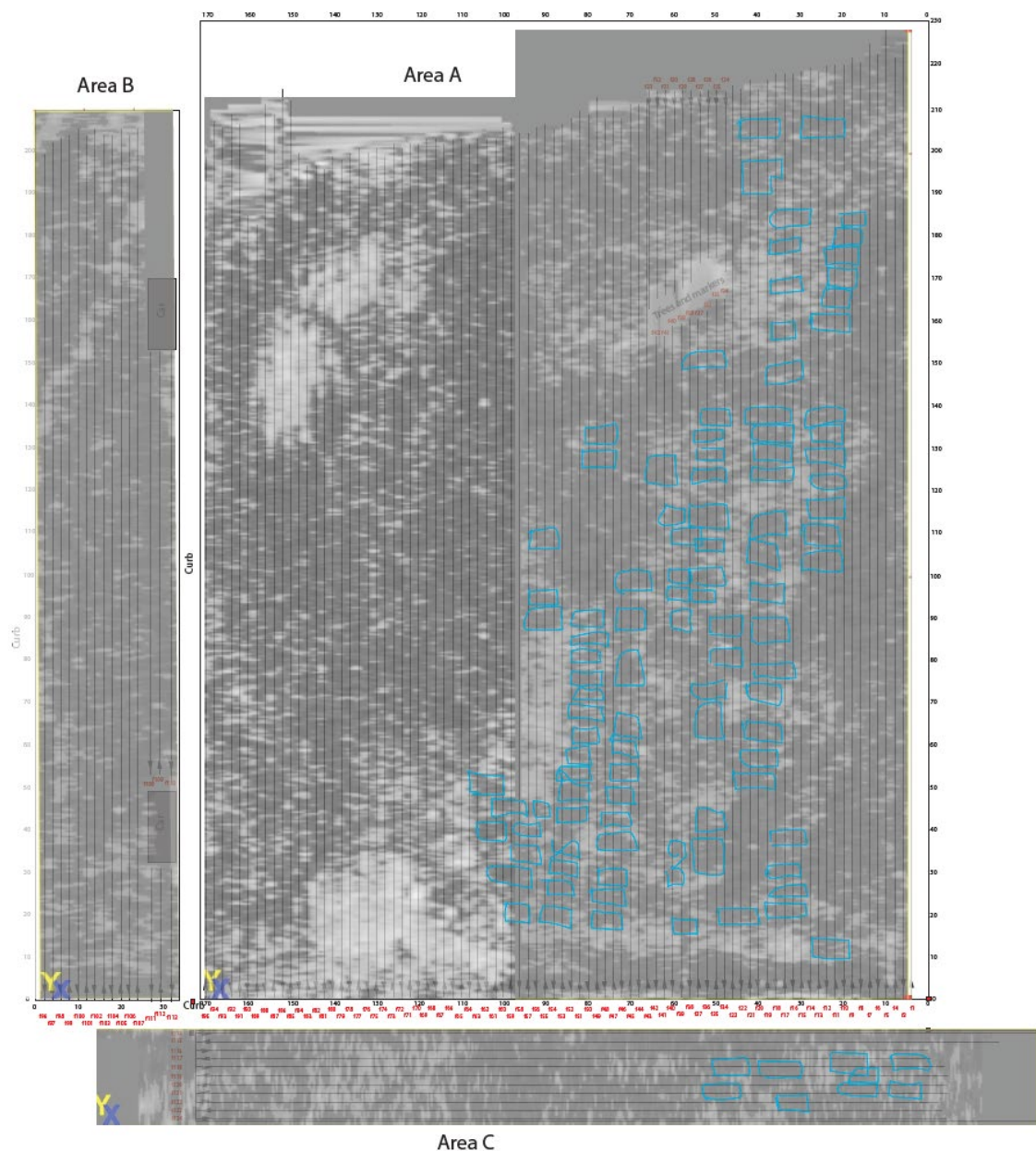


Figure 8. Annotated version of GPR map from Figure 7, probable burial locations are outlined in blue. The lengths and widths of the rectangular patterns of the radar reflections is consistent with dimensions of typical burial plots. From this image, ~118 burial plots are interpreted.

From the map view of the 3D GPR data, a number (~118) of rectangular shaped radar reflectors is apparent (Figures 7 and 8). The sizes (2-3 feet x 4-8 feet) are typical of burial plots. These rectangular GPR reflectors are arrayed in ~north-south rows, mainly visible in the eastern portion of the site. Larger, more continuous GPR reflectors are present, some of which are ~ in line with the better-defined sets of rectangular reflectors- these may be larger, group burials, or locations where cremated remains were buried.

On the cemetery site, it is also apparent that numerous rectilinear impressions in the ground surface are present. These are clearly visible in air photos (Figure 9), and somewhat apparent in LIDAR images (from the WA DNR LIDAR portal- Figure 10).



Figure 9. Air photo (Google Earth Pro) of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site. Sets of E-W oriented, rectilinear ground depressions are visible, primarily in the eastern half of the site.

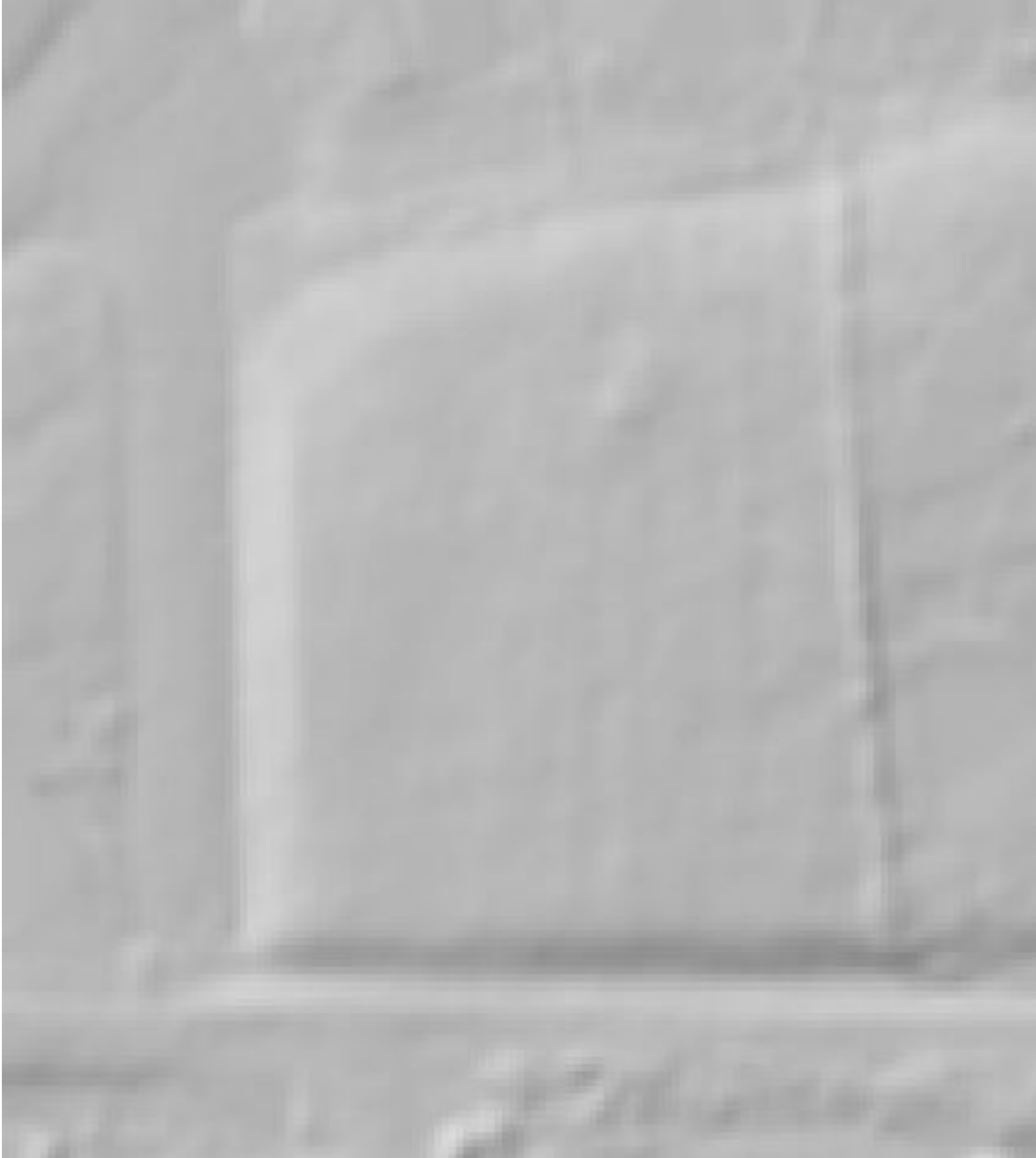


Figure 10. Shaded relief image of WA-DNR Lidar data for the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site. The resolution of the LIDAR data is too poor to resolve the depressions evident in Figure 9, however surface features are present, noting that a more detailed LIDAR survey of the site may provide additional information.

A comparison between the GPR map and the ground surface photos was also made (Figure 11). Examination of the GPR data that was overlain on the air photo demonstrates a very close correspondence between the location of ground surface depressions and the subsurface GPR features.



Figure 11A. Surface depressions



Figure 11B. GPR map

Figure 11. Comparison between surface depressions visible on air photos (A) and rectangular subsurface GPR reflections (B) for the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery Site. There is good agreement between the locations, sizes, and shapes of these features.

GPR targets were used to attempt to constrain the location of the original 1920s plat map of the Cemetery Site (Figure 12). The dimensions of the cemetery lots, spaces between the lots, their lot numbers were drafted to scale. Using the GPR map image with interpreted burial plot locations, an attempt was made to overlay the Plat map information on the present site. Attempts to use the GPR targets to help constrain the overall location of the Poor Farm Cemetery plots from the Plat map are non-unique. The largest uncertainty is in the location of the railway right-of-way indicated on the Plat map (Figure 12), and the relationship between the more modern locations of the SE corner of the cemetery plat and this Plat map. The chosen location is favored as the density of GPR targets is somewhat less in the areas between cemetery plots, as well as the general footprint of the older Plat map, the current site, and the locations of probable burial-related GPR targets. The preferred interpretation (Figure 13) provides a good correlation between GPR-defined burial plots and the dimensions of the set of cemetery lots on the plat map. The correlation is imperfect- with many burial locations apparent in areas that are not defined as lots on the original plat map. This is likely the product of burials being made in locations that did not strictly adhere to the site plan as shown on the plat map, which is a common practice in older cemeteries in the region.

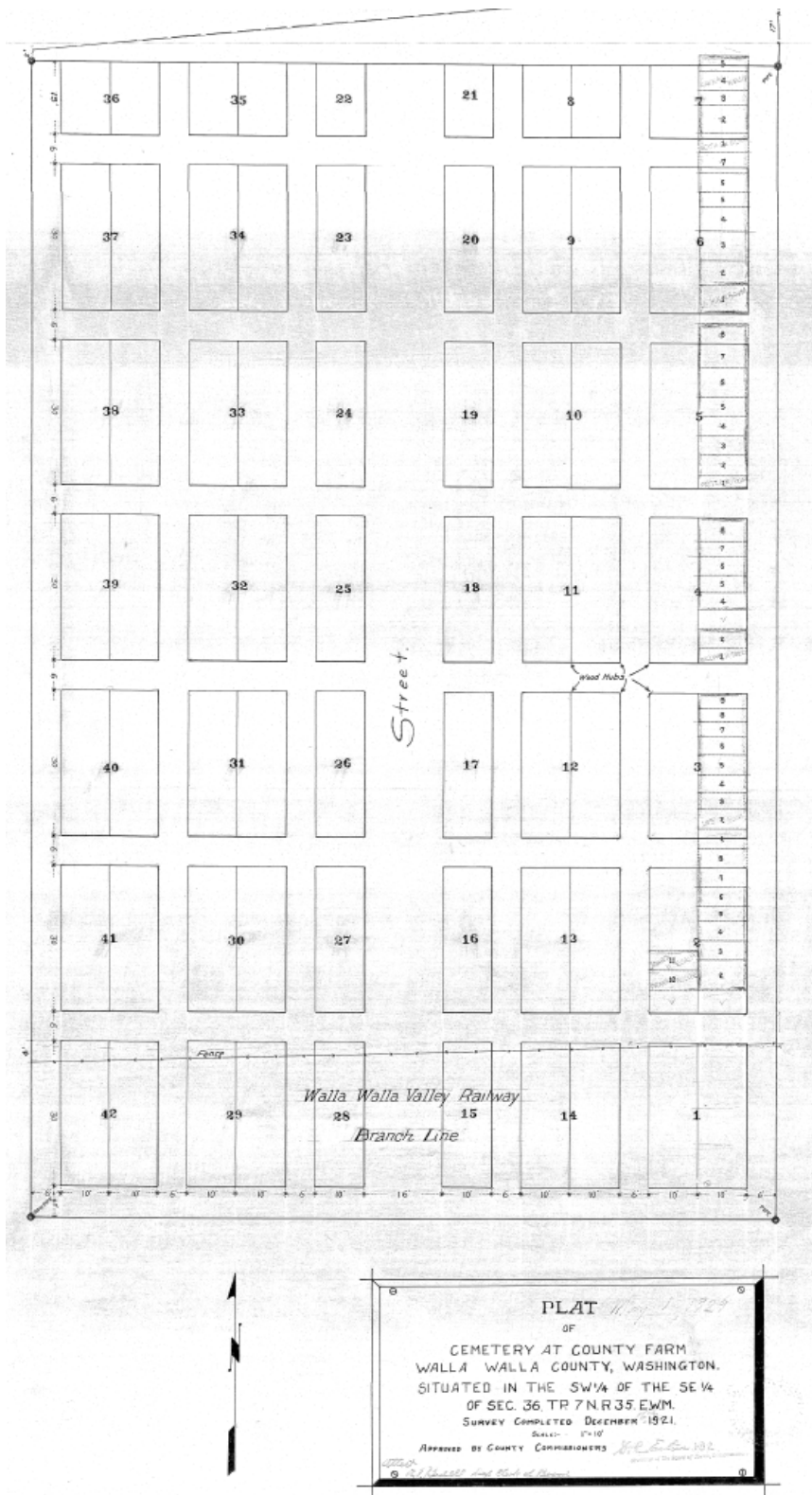


Figure 12. 1921 Plat map of Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery

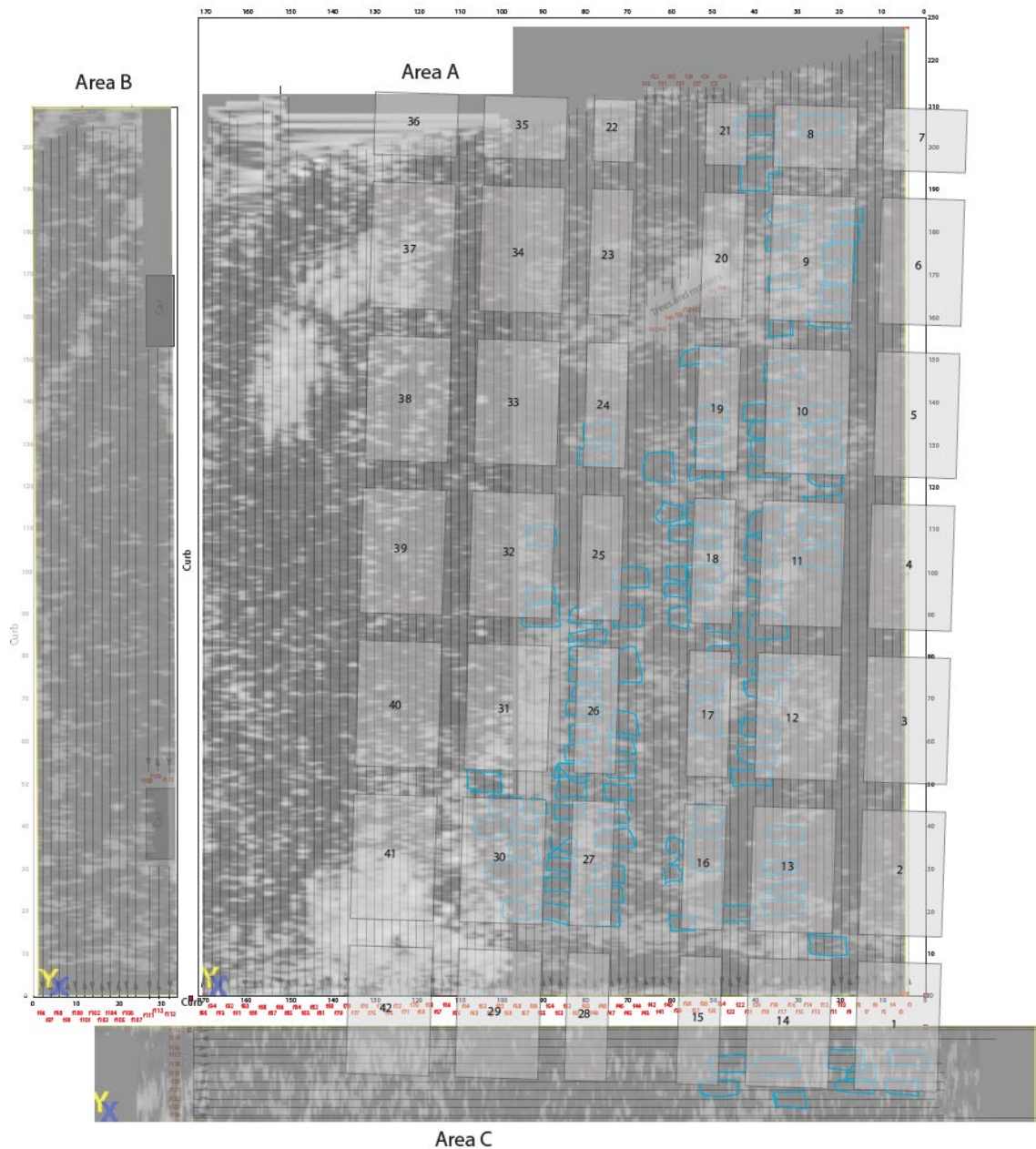


Figure 13. Attempted overlay of drafted dimensions and relative locations of burial lots as indicated on the cemetery plat map (Figure 12). The agreement between GPR-located burials, and cemetery lots sizes (and spacing between the lots) is not perfect. Note also that Area C is located on the older railway right of way, and that several possible burials are located in the SE corner of the site.

Other Locations:

This report has focused on the main area of the cemetery site (Area A in Figure 2). The results from Area B and C are described here. For area B, located on SE Sandpiper Ln, did not show any GPR evidence for burials located there. A representative radargram (Figure 14) is

provided. These do show clear evidence of the substrate for the street, and subsurface utilities can be inferred from the map-view GPR data (Figure 15).

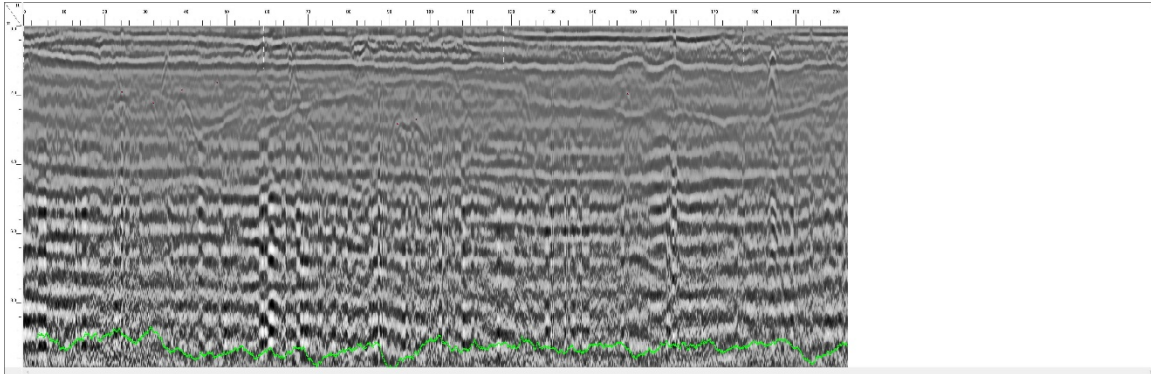


Figure 14. GPR radargram for Area B, under SE Sandpiper Ln.

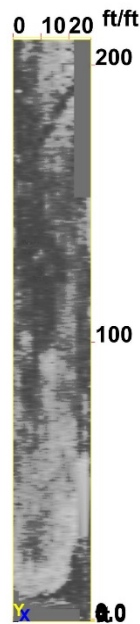


Figure 15. GPR map of Area B. Linear feature traversing north end of area is a subsurface utility.

For Area C, located along the railroad right of way on the southern portion of the study area, the GPR data revealed several interesting features. As noted above, some evidence for several burial sites may be present on the eastern portion of area C (see Figure 13). Other features include possible remnants of the railway (Figure 16). In this image, narrow GPR reflections

can be found that are oriented in an E-W direction. These two linear features are spaced 3.75 feet apart. This is narrower than standard-gauge for railroads (4.67 feet), however.

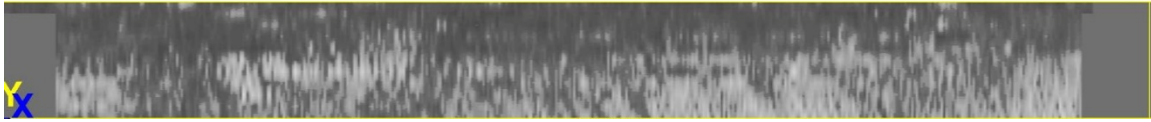


Figure 16. GPR map of Area C. Linear features running E-W are spaced 3.7 feet apart and could be associated with the former railroad trackway.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The GPR survey of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site provided high-quality GPR data, which indicates a great number of subsurface radar reflections that are consistent with burials known to have been associated with this site. GPR targets confirm multiple depths of burial, likely from multiple interments within single cemetery burial locations. Many of the GPR targets were small, or difficult to discern. This is also consistent with the large number of infant burials at the location, and of the age and condition of the remains. Maps of the GPR data did indicate a large number (~118) of individual burial sites were imaged and can be located on the site. While this is far fewer than the number of known burials, these most likely represent burials associated with bodies in coffins or caskets, and are better preserved due to a combination of burial practice and possibly age of the burials. Several larger GPR anomalies are also present- these have similar characteristics to the anomalies associated with smaller burials- so these may represent mass burials, or the interment of many smaller cremated remains that may not be resolvable as well-defined individual burial sites.

Additional research, which may allow for individual burials to be identified, would be to tabulate and map burial locations for specific cemetery plots that can be obtained from burial records. A set of these records (appearing to date from the 1920s-1930s) was reviewed- knowing the number of infant versus adult burials may help refine GPR target interpretation. Finally, older air photos of the site that include the cemetery and the railroad (or the cemetery and adjacent highways or roads) may also aid a more precise location of the cemetery plots.

A data appendix, with copies of all GPR data, GPR images, original versions of figures in this report, and GIS data, will be provided on a portable flash drive. All data will be preserved at Western Washington University's Geology Department.