

# An Archaeological Investigation of the Locus 38 Farm Site (36AL0586)

*South Fayette Township, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*

This interactive eDocument is provided as a public service by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC), in association with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The document was produced in 2019 by CHRS, Inc. for the PTC as mitigation for the effects of the PTC's Southern Beltway Project on the Locus 38 Farm Site (36AL0586), a historic archaeological site determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



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## About this Archaeological Investigation

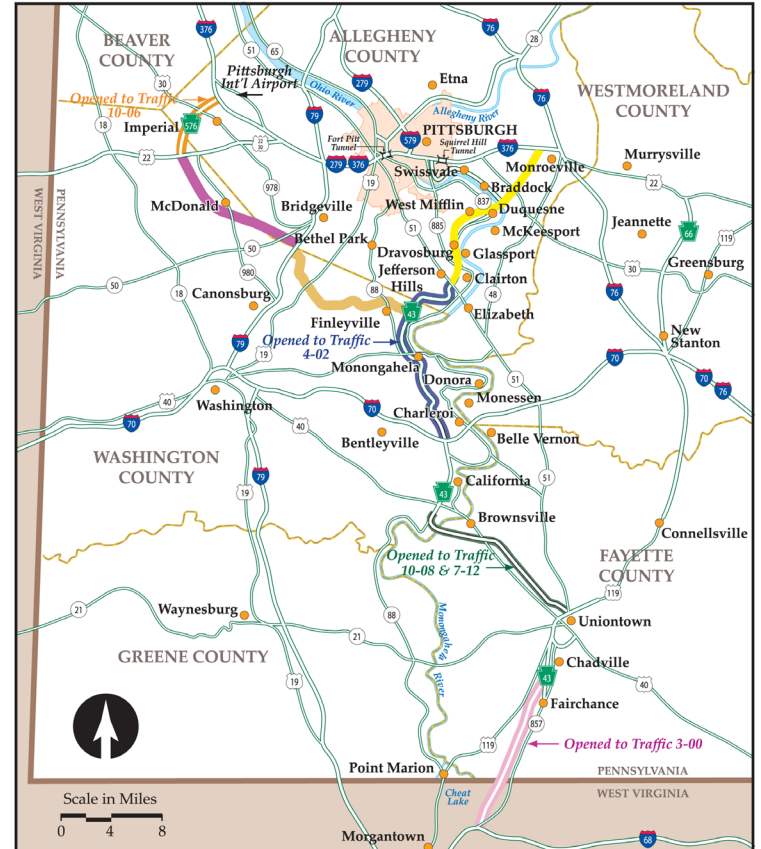
The Locus 38 Farm Site (36AL0586) was identified and investigated in the course of archaeological surveys conducted for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's Southern Beltway Project. As reported in a "[Project Background](#)" posted online by the Commission, planning for the Southern Beltway and connected Mon/Fayette Expressway in southwestern Pennsylvania had begun during the 1960s in an effort "to serve the Mon Valley's world-ranked industries of steel, coal and coke production. With the economic decline of the Mon Valley in the late 1970s and 1980s, the planning efforts were refocused with the intent that better highway access and mobility would help redevelopment efforts in the area. PA Act 61 of 1985 and Act 26 of 1991 elevated the priority of developing the Southern Beltway and Mon/Fayette Expressway projects."

The Southern Beltway was designed to be a "30-mile, limited-access highway located between Interstate 376 near the Pittsburgh International Airport and the Mon/Fayette Expressway (Turnpike 43) near Finleyville, PA." As further described in a [2014 brochure](#), "the Southern Beltway—a tolled, four-lane facility—consists of three independent but interconnected projects that have different project needs, schedules and funding opportunities. The three project areas extend from Interstate 376 to U.S. Route 22; from Route 22 to Interstate 79; and from I-79 to the Mon/Fayette Expressway."

The 6-mile section extending from I-376 to U.S. Route 22—known as "[the Findlay Connector \(Toll 576\)](#)"—was designed and constructed first. The project kicked off in the spring of 1991, and was completed at a cost of \$238 million in October 2006.

### MON/FAYETTE EXPRESSWAY AND SOUTHERN BELTWAY PROJECTS

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission  
Western Regional Office  
2200 North Center Avenue  
New Stanton, PA 15672-9602

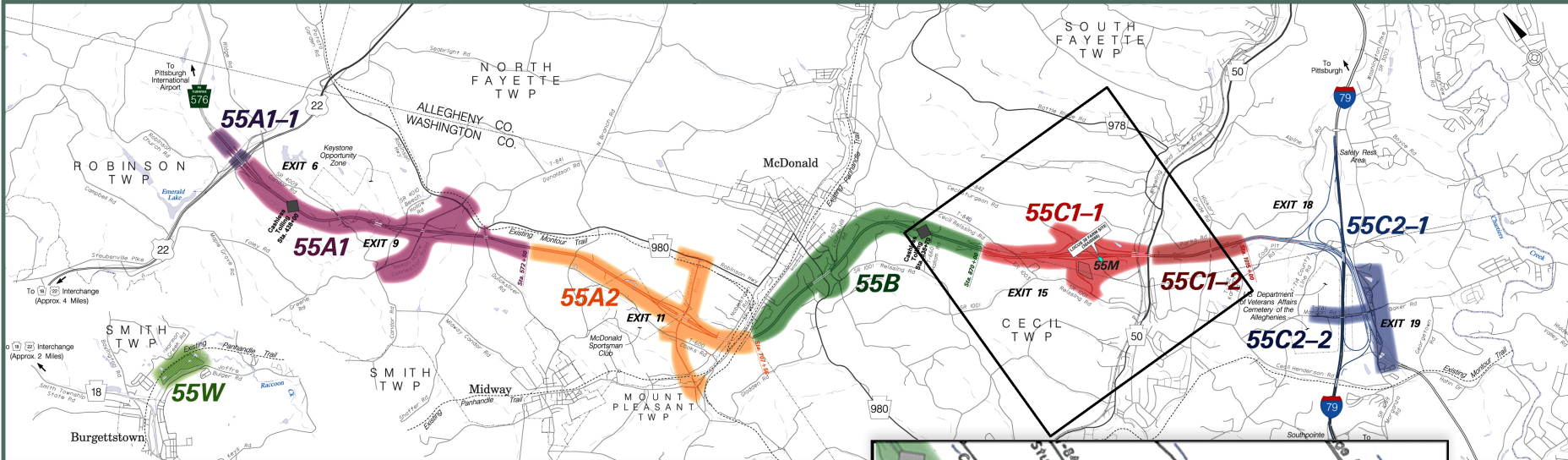


MON/FAYETTE EXPRESSWAY		Project Status:		SOUTHERN BELTWAY		Project Status:	
	I-68 to Route 43 (*ROD 9/94)		Open to Traffic		I-376 to US 22 (*ROD 5/98)		Open to Traffic
	Uniontown to Brownsville (*ROD 10/00)		Open to Traffic		US 22 to I-79 (*ROD 9/08)		Final Design
	I-70 to PA-51 (*ROD 5/94)		Open to Traffic		I-79 to Mon/Fayette (*ROD 5/09)		Environmental Study Complete
	PA-51 to Pittsburgh (*ROD 12/04)		Final Design				

Prepared By: McCormick Taylor, Inc.  
REVISED: 9-12

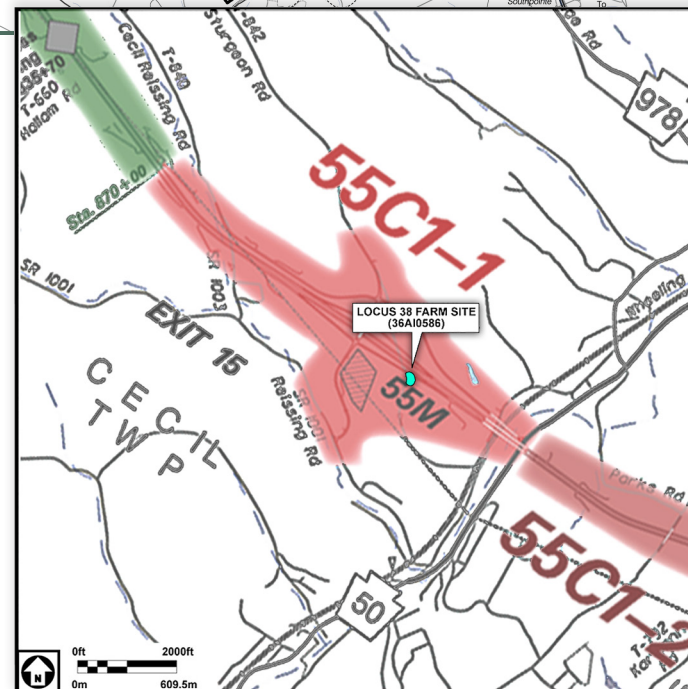
\*Record of Decision





*A map of the Southern Beltway Project's central portion (U.S. Route 22 to I-79) shows 13 miles of proposed highway winding through the Allegheny County townships of South Fayette and North Fayette, and the Washington County townships of Cecil, Mount Pleasant, and Robinson. To simplify the contracting and construction process, the alignment was divided into nine "construction sections."*

While construction of the Findlay Connector was underway, plans were developed for the Southern Beltway's [13-mile central section](#), extending from the Connector's southern terminus southeastward to an interchange with I-79 and a local connection at Morganza Road near the Allegheny-Washington County border. As with all of its construction projects, the PTC [followed](#) "environmental and planning regulations established under the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act, and other federal and state laws. These regulations mandate that major transportation projects be developed in an environmentally sensitive manner that addresses input from the public and environmental resource agencies."



*The Locus 38 Farm Site was identified in the 55C1-1 construction section, in southwestern South Fayette Township.*

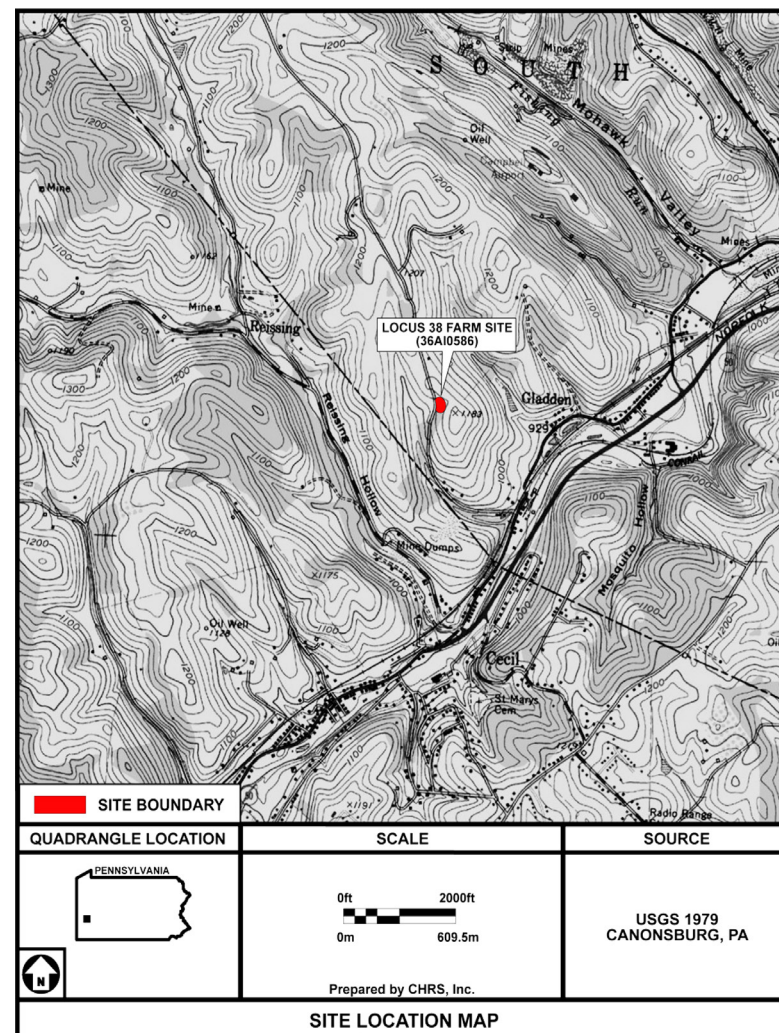


## The National Preservation Act of 1966

Predating the [National Environmental Policy Act](#) (NEPA), the [National Preservation Act of 1966](#) is the cornerstone of the nation's cultural resource preservation policy. Amended and strengthened several times since 1966, this law established the National Register of Historic Places, the office and duties of state historic preservation officers (SHPOs), a program of grants-in-aid to enable SHPOs to conduct their work, the Certified Local Government program to identify communities that meet certain preservation standards, federal agency responsibilities concerning historic preservation activities, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. This legislation was followed in 1969 by passage of NEPA, requiring federal agencies to prepare impact statements for undertakings that might have an effect on environmental quality (cultural resources being a principal contributor to environmental quality). Yet another law with far-reaching implications—the [Archaeological and Historical Preservation Act](#)—was passed in 1974. This legislation extended the protections established by the Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960 to all federally funded, licensed, or aided undertakings where scientific, historical, or archaeological data might be impacted.

### The “Section 106 Process”

The unofficial but commonly used term “[Section 106 Process](#)” derives from the section of the National Historic Preservation Act requiring federal agencies “to consider the effects on historic properties of projects they carry out, assist, fund, permit, license, or approve throughout the country. If a federal or federally-assisted project has the potential to affect historic properties, a Section 106 review will take place.” The [Advisory Council on Historic Preservation](#) (ACHP)—“an independent federal agency



The Locus 38 Farm Site is denoted on a detail of the 1979 edition of the USGS Canonsburg, PA topographic quadrangle. This graphic was included in the Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey (PASS) form filed for the Site in March 2018.



that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy”—has defined the procedure for satisfying Section 106 requirements in a set of regulations titled “[Protection of Historic Properties](#).”

Pennsylvania's Legislature has enacted laws aimed at further protecting the Commonwealth's cultural resources, whether they are threatened by federally funded, licensed, or aided undertakings. The linchpin of this regulatory effort is Act No. 1978-273, amended as Act No. 1988-72, which requires that Commonwealth-funded undertakings be subjected to the same Section 106 process as federally-funded projects. Pennsylvania's SHPO—the [Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation](#)—has also published guidelines designed to promote consistency and efficiency in the treatment of cultural resources across the Commonwealth. These directives include [Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations in Pennsylvania](#), most recently revised in 2017. As stated in that document, the guidelines “are intended to ensure consistency in survey methodology, analysis, report writing, evaluations of significance, and comparability of data. To this end, a phased approach to resource identification and evaluation is outlined. The phases correspond to the required tasks of identification and inventory (Phase I), evaluation (Phase II), and mitigation through data recovery or alternative mitigation (Phase III).”

### ***Identifying the Locus 38 Farm Site***

In keeping with federal and state guidelines, the PTC engaged a cultural resource management firm—CHRS, Inc., based in Lansdale, Pennsylvania—to conduct a phased survey of archaeological resources within the project area for six proposed alternatives for

*The Locus 38 Farm Site is delineated on a Google Earth aerial image recorded on April 17, 2016, a few months before commencement of the stripping phase of the Phase II archaeological survey.*



the Southern Beltway's central section. CHRS conducted a Phase IA survey (research and field views) in 1999-2000, identifying 47 locations (loci) that appeared to contain archaeological resources (artifacts and features) at least 50 years of age (by Section 106 standards, a structure or archaeological site at least 50 years old is considered “historic”). CHRS submitted a Phase IA report to the PTC in August 2000. Over the course of the next few years, the PTC selected an alternative for the Southern Beltway's central sec-



tion, and refined that selected alignment. Fourteen of the historic archaeological loci identified through the Phase IA survey fell at least partly within the bounds of the revised project corridor, and four additional historic archaeological loci were identified following modifications to the required right-of-way. CHRS conducted a Phase IB survey (further identification and evaluation) of those 18 historic archaeological loci in two installments spanning the years 2007-2011. Through field work and more intensive research, the Phase IB survey identified four of the historic loci as archaeological sites that appeared to have enough integrity and potential historical significance to warrant further investigation. Among those four sites was the Locus 38 Farm Site (36AL0586). From June 2015 through January 2016, CHRS archaeologists performed a Phase II survey of each of the four sites, with the primary purpose of determining each site's eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In a Phase II report submitted by CHRS in April 2016, the authors concluded that only the Locus 38 Farm Site and neighboring R. Clarke Farm Site (36AL0587) appeared to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, based on the likelihood that additional archaeological investigation of the sites was "likely to provide information important to our understanding of local and regional history." A Phase III survey (mitigation through data recovery) was warranted for both sites "if disturbance of this area cannot be avoided."

As explained in a subsequent CHRS report, the Southern Beltway Project's "construction timeline required that Phase III fieldwork be fast-tracked, and, anticipating concurrence from the SHPO [PHMC], fieldwork at the scope of Phase III Data Recovery was initiated [at the Locus 38 Farm Site and the R. Clarke Farm Site] in early June 2016. However, the SHPO concurrence letter, received after Phase III fieldwork had begun, required that additional Phase II fieldwork be performed before the SHPO was able to render a decision on the National Register eligibility of the Lo-

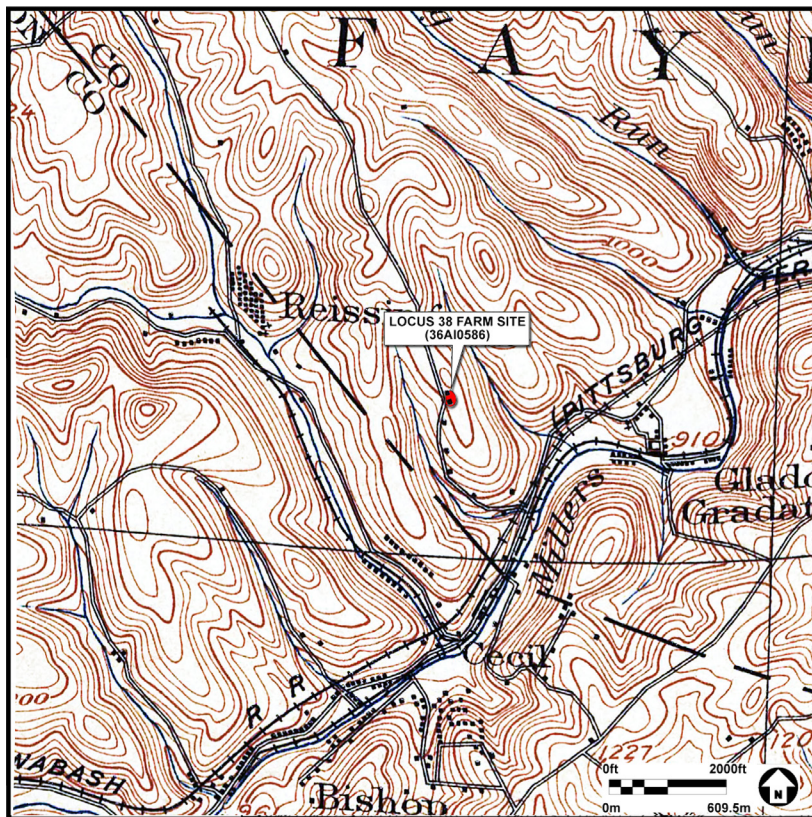
cus 38 Farm Site and the R. Clarke Farm Site. The current [*Phase II Addendum* report, completed in April 2018] presents the combined results of the initial and extended Phase II archaeological investigations of [the two sites]."

A final recommendation in the *Phase II Addendum* report was that the results of the investigations of the Locus 38 Farm Site and the R. Clarke Farm Site be made available to the public, as mitigation for the anticipated impacts of the PTC's Southern Beltway Project on the two sites. The PTC and PHMC agreed with this approach, which has resulted in this eDocument. A separate eDocument is available for the R. Clarke Farm Site.

The following chapters present condensed versions of the various sections of the *Phase II Addendum* report pertaining to the Locus 38 Farm Site, beginning with the Site's recorded history.



## A History of the Locus 38 Farm Site

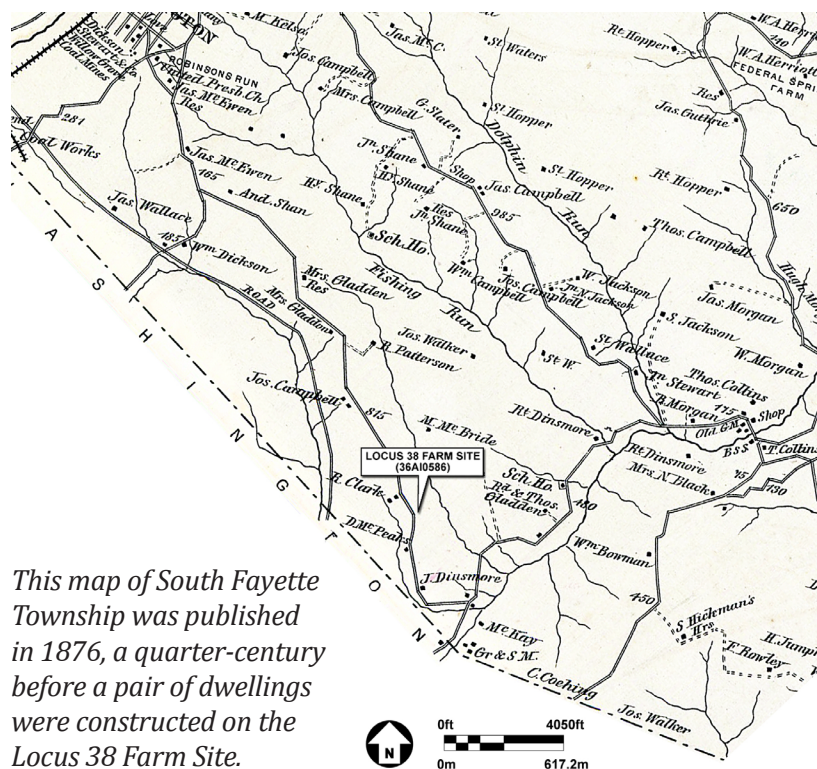


*Two dwellings are denoted on the Locus 38 Farm Site on a 1906 USGS map. The northern dwelling—on the portion of the Site designated Locus 38N—was owned and occupied at this time by Truman and Arabella Cheesebrough, while the southern dwelling (part of Locus 38N) was home to Samuel and Sarah Hulings. The Hulingses' daughter Martha Anna lived with husband James Hastings on the Hastings homestead one-half mile to the north (just above the call-out box).*

Located on a wooded 1.5-acre triangle of land abutting the east side of Cecil-Sturgeon Road, approximately 0.4 miles northwest of the road's intersection with Millers Run Road in South Fayette Township, the Locus 38 Farm Site initially appeared to archaeologists to contain remnants of a single farmstead. Documentary research later revealed that the Site had been occupied not by a farmstead but by two residential parcels, each equipped with a dwelling and one or more outbuildings from the turn of the twentieth century through the late 1940s. The dwelling on the northern, half-acre parcel was dismantled between April 1947 and April 1949, as reported by descendants of the then-resident Wauthier family, and as reflected on aerial photographs taken during those months. The dwelling on the southern, one-acre parcel was reportedly heavily damaged in a wind storm during the 1950s or 60s, and was vacated soon thereafter by members of the resident Ainscough family. The residence was no longer standing by May 26, 1967, as documented by a photograph taken on that date. As a means of distinguishing between the two sections of the Locus 38 Farm Site in the historical discussion below, the southern parcel is most often referenced as "Locus 38S," while the northern parcel is referenced as "Locus 38N."

Prior to 1892, the Locus 38 Farm Site lay within the southern tip of a 218-acre farm extending nearly a mile northward along the east side of Cecil-Sturgeon Road. The farm had been owned by Ebenezer Hastings from March 1879 through his death in May 1884, and thereafter by his sons Gabriel and James Hastings. The Hastings farmhouse (no longer extant) stood approximately one-half mile north of the future Locus 38 Farm Site. In the spring of 1892, the future Locus 38 Farm Site was either under cultivation, lying fallow, or serving as a woodlot when Gabriel and James Hastings





This map of South Fayette Township was published in 1876, a quarter-century before a pair of dwellings were constructed on the Locus 38 Farm Site.

agreed to sever the southernmost acre from their farm and sell it to Washington County farmer Charles Carey Cheesebrough for \$70. The parcel acquired by Cheesebrough on April 1, 1892 was described in the associated deed as “being triangular in shape and containing one acre,” with a boundary “beginning at a point 9.5 feet from a white oak near a public road” (Cecil-Sturgeon Road), and continuing “by lands of E[benezer] Hastings heirs [southeastward] 286.4 feet to line of land of James Dinsmore; thence by the said line [southwestward] 269 feet to a point; thence [southwest-

ward] 49.5 feet to a point; thence by land of James Clark [northwestward] 402.6 feet; to the place of beginning” beside Cecil-Sturgeon Road. This conveyance marked the inception of Locus 38S.

Eighteen months after that conveyance, Gabriel Hastings and his wife conveyed a half-acre strip of farmland running the length of the north side of Charles Cheesebrough’s parcel to Charles’ father, Truman Cheesebrough, in consideration of \$60. As described in the October 4, 1893 deed, the boundary of the “lot or piece of ground [embracing] 80 perches [began] in line of land of James R. Dinsmore, at the northeast corner of lot of Charles C. Cheesebrough,” and continued “by the said lot [northwestward] 286.4 feet to land of James E. Clark; thence by the same [northwestward] 87.5 feet; thence by land now or formerly of Hastings heirs [southeastward] 351 feet to land of Dinsmore; thence by said land [southwestward] 69 feet to the place of beginning.” This conveyance marked the inception of Locus 38N.

As reported in an obituary for Locus 38N originator Truman Adelbert Cheesebrough, published in *The McDonald Record*, the “Civil War veteran [had been] born on July 18, 1844, in Madison County, New York, where he was married and from where he enlisted in the Union army subsequent to his marriage. He served his country throughout the [Civil War], and after it was over, he returned home and quietly took up the duties of citizenship. Some years afterward [around 1868] the Cheesebrough family moved into [southwestern Allegheny County’s Robinson Run valley]. For a time they lived in [the North Fayette Township portion of] Noblestown.” According to an obituary for Truman’s wife Arabella Margaret Carey, also published in *The McDonald Record*, she had been born in 1845 in Pittsburgh, where she reportedly met her future husband shortly before “his departure” for a term of military service in January 1864. “They corresponded and at the close of hostilities in 1865 [Truman] returned to Pittsburgh to make [Ara-



bella] his wife.” During the Cheesebroughs’ first years of marriage in Madison County, New York, Arabella bore son Charles Carey, on December 5, 1866. A year or two later, the Cheesebroughs moved 300 miles southwestward to North Fayette Township, where Truman found work as a dairyman in the Noblestown vicinity. A second son, Marcus Wallace, was born there on July 6, 1869. Three more children joined the Cheesebrough family in their home along Robinson Run over the course of the next 13 years: William Adelbert (September 1875), Jane Chess (December 1879), and Mary Arabella (February 1882).

On April 5, 1889, Truman and Arabella Cheesebrough’s eldest child, 22-year-old Charles, married Eleanor (“Nellie”) Bell Hulings, the 19-year-old daughter of Allegheny River boatman Samuel B. Hulings and his wife Sarah Nancy Bell. The newlyweds set up housekeeping in Cecil Township, Washington County within the next ten months. Their first child, Samuel Ross, was born there in February 1890. Nellie Cheesebrough gave birth to four more children during the remaining years of the nineteenth century—all reportedly born in Washington County. It follows that Charles was identified as a resident of Washington County in April 1892 when he acquired the Locus 38S parcel in South Fayette Township from Gabriel and James Hastings. It has not been determined if Charles was still a resident of Cecil Township at that time, or if he had already moved his family 8 miles westward to a farm in Cross Creek Township, Washington County, where it would be enumerated in the 1900 federal census. In any case, Charles does not appear to have been an Allegheny County resident during the latter years of the nineteenth century when he oversaw the erection of a “5-roomed frame dwelling” on Locus 38S, approximately 60 feet east of Cecil-Sturgeon Road. A dwelling would be denoted in that location on a USGS map surveyed in 1903-04, and the dwelling’s composition would be described in subsequent deeds for the property.



*The boundaries of the one-acre parcel acquired by Charles Cheesebrough in April 1892 (orange), and the half-acre parcel acquired by his father Truman Cheesebrough the following year (yellow) are superimposed on a USDA aerial photograph taken in November 1938.*

The frame dwelling appears to have been built for the use of Charles Cheesebrough’s in-laws, inasmuch as the residence at Locus 38S was rented and occupied as of June 13, 1900 by Nellie Cheesebrough’s parents, Samuel and Sarah Hulings, with three unmarried children. A Cheesebrough-Hulings-Hastings connection had been forged five years earlier, on October 15, 1895, when South Fayette Township farmer James Hastings married Nellie Cheesebrough’s younger sister, Martha Anna Hulings. The Cheesebroughs may have introduced James to Martha Anna, who was still living at the time of the October 1895 wedding with her

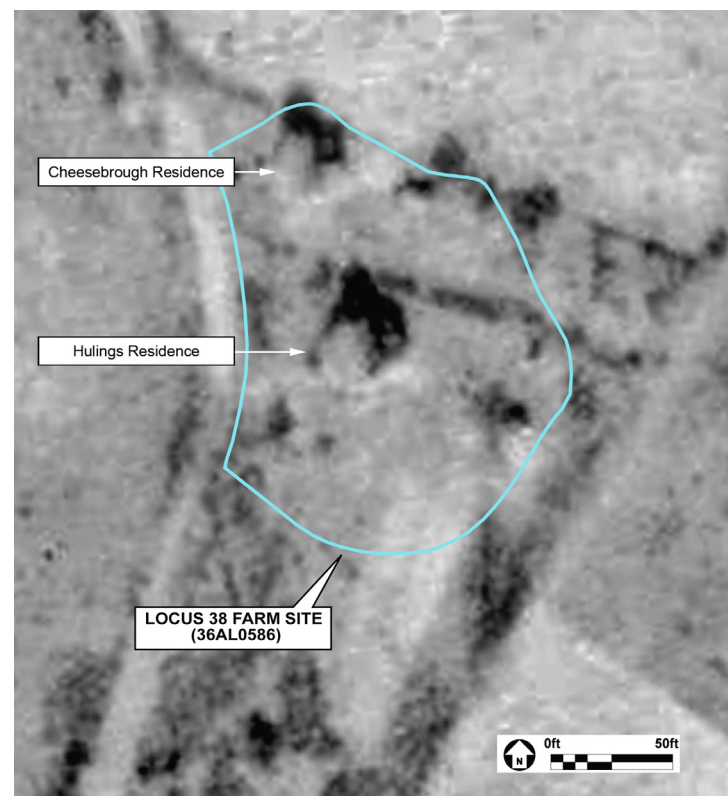


parents along the Allegheny River in O'Hara Township, 20 miles northeast of Locus 38S. Following that wedding, Martha Anna and James set up housekeeping in the Hastings homestead a half-mile up Cecil-Sturgeon Road from Locus 38S. That move likely figured in the subsequent relocation of her parents and unmarried siblings from O'Hara Township to the "5-roomed frame dwelling" at Locus 38S, likely constructed for that purpose under the auspices of Charles and Nellie Cheesebrough.

The head of the charter household at Locus 38S—Samuel Buchanan Hulings—had been born in Indiana Township, Allegheny County, in 1842 to Allegheny River boatman Samuel D. Hulings and Martha Buchanan. The junior Samuel had followed his father into the boating trade, from which he diverted at least several months during the Civil War to serve in the Union Army. Upon returning from military service in 1864, he married Sarah Nancy Bell, and began raising with her a family that came to include children Clara (born in 1866), Nellie (1869), Mary (1872), twins Martha Anna and James (1875), Samuel (circa 1878), and William Ross ("Willie"; 1883). At least three of those children—Mary, James, and Willie—joined their parents in moving from O'Hara Township to the new house at Locus 38S in the last years of the nineteenth century. A census enumerator visiting the house on June 13, 1900 found it rented and occupied by 58-year-old Samuel Hulings, his 56-year-old wife Sarah, and unmarried children Mary (28), James (25), and Willie (17). All males in the household were then employed as farm laborers.

No household was enumerated along the east side of Cecil-Sturgeon Road between the Hulings' residence and the Hastings homestead a half-mile to the north, suggesting that Locus 38N was still undeveloped as of June 13, 1900. The half-acre parcel's owner since October 1893—55-year-old farm laborer Truman Cheesebrough—was then living with his wife Arabella and

youngest daughter Mary in a mining community on the northern edge of South Fayette Township. Sometime within the next four years, Truman oversaw construction of a modest dwelling on Locus 38N, approximately 40 feet east of Cecil-Sturgeon Road and 70 feet northwest of the residence owned by his son Charles (but occupied by the Hulings family). The neighboring dwellings were denoted on a USGS map surveyed in 1903-04 (published in 1906), and their locations within their respective lots and in relation to Cecil-Sturgeon Road were recorded on an aerial photograph taken in November 1938 (below).



Cartographic and census data thus indicate that, by the close of 1904, the household of Samuel and Sarah Hulings occupied the dwelling at Locus 38S, while the household of Truman and Arabella Cheesebrough occupied the dwelling at Locus 38N. No other dwellings were located within a quarter-mile of the Locus 38 Farm Site. Linked through the marriage of the Cheesebroughs' son Charles to the Hulings' daughter Nellie, the neighboring households were similar in that their senior members were in their late 50s or early 60s, and their junior members were unmarried children in their 20s (James Hulings at Locus 38S; Mary Cheesebrough at Locus 38N). The Hulingses likely benefited from the relative proximity of their daughter Martha Anna (Mrs. James Hastings) on the Hastings homestead one-half mile to the north, and both households no doubt enjoyed visits from the family of Charles and Nellie Cheesebrough.

The Hulings household lost more than half of its members during the following decade. Mary Hulings moved to Pittsburgh sometime prior to November 28, 1903, on which date she was married there to Philadelphia-born "railroader" John R. Thompson. Samuel and Sarah's youngest child, coal miner Willie, married Elizabeth McCardle on July 4, 1906, and moved with her to a rented house north of the Hastings homestead. Then, on September 1, 1909, 65-year-old Sarah Hulings died. Her funeral was held a week later "at the residence of her son-in-law, James Hastings, near Cecil, Pa." (as noted in a *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* obituary). By May 2, 1910, the Hulings residence at Locus 38S was occupied only by 66-year-old widower Samuel B. Hulings and his 35-year-old bachelor son James. Samuel had retired, while James continued his work in a local coal mine.

The neighboring Cheesebrough household was also smaller by May 1910. Truman and Arabella's daughter Mary had married John Zefirn Descutner, a Belgian immigrant and McDonald

Borough salesman, on October 29, 1907, and the newlyweds had settled in McDonald, across the county line from South Fayette Township. Mary's departure left the house at Locus 38N occupied in the spring of 1910 only by 65-year-old farm laborer Truman Cheesebrough and 64-year-old Arabella (identified by the census enumerator as "Margaret").

Sometime during the next two years, Samuel Hulings moved back to O'Hara Township, into the household of his daughter Clara (married to John Wallace). The other occupant of the house at Locus 38S—bachelor James Hulings—moved a few miles eastward into company housing at the Maud Mine of the McClane Coal Company. By a deed dated May 23, 1912, Charles and Nellie Cheesebrough—now living in Avella, Washington County, where Charles worked as a clerk for a lumber company—conveyed the one-acre triangular parcel with its "5-roomed frame dwelling" to 30-year-old farmer Thomas D. Gladden of McDonald, in consideration of \$1. Gladden does not appear to have occupied the property during his six years of ownership (1912-1918). He and his wife Philipine were identified as McDonald residents on 1910 and 1920 census schedules, as well as in 1918 military registration and deed records. The Gladdens may have rented the residence at Locus 38S to its future owners, George and Ellen Ainscough, months or even years before conveying the house and its one-acre parcel to the Ainscoughs by a deed dated October 30, 1918. The new owners paid \$700 for the property (approximately \$11,000 in 2019 dollars).

A biographical sketch of George Ainscough posted on an "Ainscough Families" website asserts that he "was born in [the Lancashire, England, village of] Blackrod on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1869 and was the son of James Ainscough (1843) and Mary Ann Waring. . . . He married Ellen [Church] Hart in 1895 and, in 1901, was living at 48 Dicconson Lane in Aspull. He was then aged 31 and was a coal miner. George emigrated to America on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1905, sail-



ing with his brother-in-law James Hart, on the *S.S. Baltic* from Liverpool. His occupation was given as a miner, and his destination in America was the house of James' brother [Francis Hart] in Bulger, [Smith Township, Washington County,] Pennsylvania." George's wife Ellen and the couple's four eldest children—Mary, Thomas, Helen, and Francis—followed George to southwestern Pennsylvania within a year or two. By April 1910, the Ainscough family (expanded through the births of Charlotte in March 1907, and Doris in August 1909) lived in the National Mine #2 village along Millers Run Road in South Fayette Township.

The likelihood that the Ainscoughs moved into the former Hulings "5-roomed frame dwelling" at Locus 38S months before purchasing the property in the fall of 1918 is supported by records indicating that Ellen Ainscough's younger brother, miner Francis Hart, and his wife Luella purchased the adjoining half-acre parcel (Locus 38N) from Truman Cheesebrough in the summer of 1914. Truman's wife Arabella Margaret had died in the small house on that parcel on October 11, 1913, and, according to an obituary in the *McDonald Record*, the "funeral services [had been] held [the following] Sunday afternoon at the Cheesebrough home, two miles south of McDonald" (i.e., at Locus 38N). Eight months later, by a deed dated June 22, 1914, Truman conveyed the half-acre property to the Harts, in consideration of \$600.

Francis Hart had emigrated from the Blackrod mining district in Lancashire, England in 1903, then made his way to Washington County's Smith Township, where he was able to receive his brother James and brother-in-law George Ainscough upon their arrival in 1905. Four years later, Francis married Susan Luella Yeats, a Pennsylvania-born daughter of English immigrant and Cecil-area mine boss Anthony Yeats. As of May 1910, Francis and Luella were living with their 3-month-old son Thomas Alex and 6-year-old adopted son Peter beside Luella's parents and siblings along Millers

*Judging from the apparent ages of the youngest children, this photograph of the Ainscough family was taken in 1917, just prior to the family's move from a rental property in the National Mine #2 village near Cuddy to the southern house on the Locus 38 Farm Site. Front row, left to right: Ellen ("Nellie"), Charlotte, Jane Ann, father George, Leonora, mother Ellen, Doris, Mary Alice ("Polly"); rear: James, Thomas (third son Francis ["Frank"] is missing).*



Photo courtesy of Thomas L. Ainscough.

Run Road in Gladden, a half-mile east of the Locus 38 Farm Site. By the time the Harts acquired Truman Cheesebrough's half-acre property along Cecil-Sturgeon Road in June 1914, a third child had joined the family: Gordon, born in January 1912. After the Harts settled into the former Cheesebrough residence, the family continued to grow through the births of daughter Grace (ca. 1915)

and son Richard (1918). The household was further enlarged later that decade through the addition of Francis' nephew: English-born coal miner Thomas Shairock.

The Harts' relatives in the dwelling at Locus 38S were identified on January 1920 census schedules as 50-year-old miner George Ainscough, his 45-year-old wife Ellen, and children James (24, a laborer in an auto tire factory), Mary (23, also employed in an auto tire factory), Thomas (19, coal miner), Helen (17), Francis (15), Charlotte (12), Doris (10), Jane A. (8), and Leonora (7). As families headed by European immigrants drawn to work in the region's mining industry, the Ainscoughs and Harts fit a common profile for South Fayette Township residents in 1920. Even as a subset of families with English origins and Pennsylvania-born children, the Ainscoughs and Harts were hardly unique along the Allegheny-Washington County border. They were atypical only in becoming homeowners (rather than renters) so soon after resettling in southwestern Pennsylvania, and in their residential remoteness from valley-based population centers and industrial corridors. The neighboring Ainscough and Hart houses at the Locus 38 Farm Site—surrounded by farm fields—represented the northernmost of half-a-dozen non-farm residential properties strung out along Cecil-Sturgeon Road over its climbing and curving course northwestward from Millers Run and the bustling village of Gladden (as documented on a 1906 USGS map and a 1938 aerial photograph). Proceeding southward from the Ainscough and Hart residences in January 1920, a census enumerator visited homes along Cecil-Sturgeon Road presided over by the following heads-of-household:



*Above: Two photos taken moments apart on a sunny day in the early 1920s record the Ainscough family on the porch of their home in Locus 38S. Parents Ellen and George sit beside the front door, while the five daughters still at home—Helen, Charlotte, Doris, Jane, and Leonora—pose on the front steps.*



*Ellen Ainscough (left) and daughters Leonora, Doris, and Jane (right) were photographed around the Ainscough home on another occasion in the early 1920s.*



Photos courtesy of  
Thomas L. Ainscough.

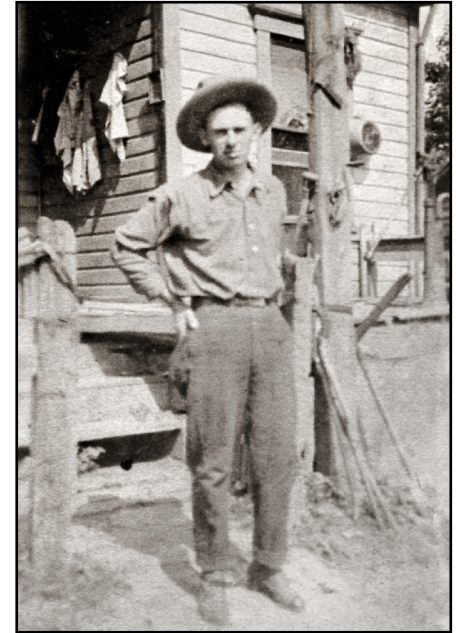


- David McClymont, 57, born in Scotland, immigrated in 1887, naturalized in 1901, employed as a miner in a coal mine, lives in a rented house with his Scottish-born wife and four Pennsylvania-born children
- Frank Miller, 38, born in Pennsylvania, employed as a tanks and stacks constructor, lives in his own house with his Belgium-born wife and invalid Belgium-born brother-in-law Nestor Thilmont
- Charles E. Moss, 42, born in Pennsylvania, employed as a wood chopper in a forest, lives in a rented house with his wife, son, brother (employed as a miner), and niece (all Pennsylvania natives)
- Charles Kelley Sr., 29, born in Pennsylvania to Irish parents, employed as a miner in a coal mine, lives in a rented house with his Belgium-born wife and three Pennsylvania-born sons
- Olevo Scavaniri, 34, born in Italy, immigrated in 1910, still an alien, employed as a laborer on a general farm, lives in a rented house with his Italian-born wife and three Pennsylvania-born daughters

Francis and Luella Hart owned Locus 38N only a few months beyond the January 1920 census enumeration. By a deed dated April 10, 1920 they conveyed the half-acre property to Luella's unmarried younger sister, 23-year-old schoolteacher Mabel Yeats (whose surname was sometimes recorded as "Yates" or "Yeates"), in consideration of \$650. Mabel would hold the parcel as a rental property for nearly four years, while maintaining her residence with her widowed father Anthony in a house along Millers Run Road in South Fayette Township. Her final renters may have been Victor and Anna Marguerite Wauthier, who acquired the property from Mabel Yeats by a deed dated November 10, 1924. The Wau-

thiers paid \$1,800 for the Locus 38N property—almost three times what Yeats had paid for it in April 1920—suggesting that substantial improvements had been made during Yeats' ownership, and/or some rental payments were factored into the purchase price.

Victor Joseph Wauthier had been born in Belgium in January 1896, the eldest son of coal miner Emile Joseph Wauthier and his second wife, Élodie Zoé Polomé. The large Wauthier family sailed to America during the winter of 1904-05, and made its way to southwestern Allegheny County by January 1906. As of May 1910, the Wauthiers occupied a rented house in a coal-mining community along "Noblestown Road" (Cecil-Sturgeon Road) in South Fayette Township, north of the Locus 38 Farm Site. Within a year or two, the Wauthiers moved onto a tenant farm on "Belgium Hill," just over a mile south of the Locus 38 Farm Site, in Washington County's Cecil Township. Father Emile continued to work as a miner, and his eldest sons—including Vic—followed him into that vocation. When they weren't mining, the male Wauthiers worked on their tenant farm and did custom farm work for neighbors.



*Vic Wauthier behind the Wauthier farmhouse on Belgium Hill, ca. 1913.*  
Photo courtesy of Gisèle O'Neill.



*Left: Two woman on the rear porch of the Wauthiers' Belgium Hill farmhouse around 1913 are probably mother Élodie Zoé and one of her two daughters (Josephine, Eva).*



*Right: Vic Wauthier married Marguerite Meyrath in her native Luxembourg in April 1919.*

Photos courtesy of Gisèle O'Neill.

Vic Wauthier put his mining-farming career on hold in October 1917 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army and then served 20 months as a private in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Military Police. A month before the end of his military service, he married Marguerite (a.k.a. Margaret) Anna Meyrath in her native Luxembourg (April 1919), then brought her back to the Cecil vicinity. According to a family historian, Vic was naturalized soon thereafter “as recognition of merit (special naturalization program for foreigners who fought with the US Army).” By February 1920, Vic had resumed mining, and he and wife Margaret had moved into a rented house in Cecil Township. The couple’s first child, Alvina, was born in Cecil Township on March 19, 1920. Margaret gave birth to a second daughter, Lillian, on May 14, 1922, and a first son, Ernest Emil, on February 2, 1924. The family thus numbered five when Vic and Margaret purchased

the Locus 38N property from Mabel Yeats in November 1924. If the Wauthiers had occupied the property prior to that purchase, Ernest or even his older sister Lillian might have been born there.

The Wauthier family continued to grow in its new home through the birth of a fourth child—John Nicholas—in February 1926. All six Wauthiers were at home when a census enumerator visited the Locus 38N residence along “Sturgeon Road” on April 2, 1930. By that date, Vic Wauthier was part of a local road maintenance crew, and the three oldest Wauthier children attended a South Fayette Township elementary school. They had new neighbors in the house at Locus 38S. George and Ellen Ainscough had recently moved with daughter Leonora to Akron, Ohio, where George found work as a “helper” on a house construction crew. The Ainscoughs’



former residence was now occupied by 26-year-old Pennsylvania-born mine loader James William Cummings, his 22-year-old wife Ruth Emogene (née McCray; a native of West Virginia), and sons Charles (2) and Richard (9 months). The Cummings family rented the “5-roomed frame dwelling” at Locus 38S for \$15 per month.

The census district in which the Cummings and Wauthier families were enumerated comprised the hilly and mostly rural southwestern section of South Fayette Township along the Allegheny-Washington County border, extending from the village of Gladden along Millers Run northwestward to the edge of Sturgeon, along Robinson Run. With a relatively sparse population of 532 inhabitants grouped into 116 households, the district contained a mix of general farms owned and occupied by white, English-speaking families mostly native to the region, interspersed with houses rented and occupied by white, working class households, most of whose heads spoke English and worked in the local mining industry. Some of latter were clustered in “coal company blocks” and “coal company shanties” associated with the National Mine and the Maude Mine along the district’s eastern edge. About half of the rental units were occupied by U.S. natives, the other half being occupied by the families of European immigrants. The percentage of immigrant households was higher along edges of the enumeration district abutting more-heavily populated, industrialized, and commercialized corridors occupying creek valleys. The populations of those intensively-developed corridors (enumerated as parts of other districts) largely comprised European immigrant families who were less likely to speak English fluently, and more likely to rent than own their homes. Most adult males within those corridors worked in local mines.

The Cummingses moved out, and George and Ellen Ainscough moved back into the Locus 38S residence sometime prior to 1935 (as reflected on census schedules compiled in April 1940). The roof

of the Ainscoughs’ “5-roomed frame dwelling” was apparent—approximately 60 feet east of Cecil-Sturgeon Road—on an aerial photograph taken in November 1938. At least two small, one-story outbuildings stood approximately 70 feet east and southeast of the Ainscough residence, and a 50-foot-wide swath of garden occupied the southern point of the family’s one-acre property. The L-shaped roof and shadow cast by the neighboring two-story Wauthier residence were apparent in the 1938 photograph approximately 70 feet northwest of the Ainscough dwelling, and approximately 40 feet east of Cecil-Sturgeon Road. A one-story outbuilding stood approximately 20 feet southeast of the Wauthier residence.

The Wauthier family had continued to grow during the 1930s through the births of Raymond in 1931, Elizabeth (“Betty”) in 1936, and Mildred in 1938. As of April 26, 1940, the Wauthier household comprised nine persons: 46-year-old Vic (working intermittently as a carpenter in the American Cyanamid Company’s



*With the birth of Mildred in 1938, Margaret Wauthier (holding Mildred) and husband Vic were parents of seven children: Alvina, Lillian, Ernest, John, Raymond, Betty, and Mildred.*

Photo courtesy of Gisèle O’Neill.

Bridgeville plant, 3.5 miles to the east), wife Margaret, and children Alvina, Lillian, Ernest, John, Raymond, Betty, and Mildred. Vic's neighbor and nephew, Barry Lee Wauthier (born in 1946), would report in a 2015 interview that Vic "could build just about anything," that he "never learned to drive," and that he "walked everywhere," including to and from work in the American Cyanamid plant. Vic and Margaret's household was the largest and northernmost in a succession of four households along Cecil-Sturgeon Road headed by members of the extended Wauthier family. Insofar as the Wauthiers were the only Belgium-originated residents enumerated in the district, they appear to have transformed the Cecil-Sturgeon Road corridor immediately north of Gladden into a new "Belgium Hill."

The Ainscough residence across the yard from Vic and Margaret Wauthier's house was occupied in April 1940 only by 70-year-old George Ainscough and his 65-year-old wife Ellen. Even at his advanced age, George was employed as a laborer on local Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects. A future owner of the Ainscough property—John Kosky Jr.—recalled in a 2015 interview that when he was 16 (circa 1943) he delivered coal from his father's mine to the Ainscough residence. Because the house had no electrical wiring, clothes were laundered using "a gasoline-engine-powered Maytag clothes washer with a kick-starter, like a motorcycle." The Ainscoughs' "daughter from Ohio" (presumably Leonora) happened to be visiting when Kosky made his coal delivery.

The Ainscough and Wauthier households were among the most economically disadvantaged of 212 households enumerated in the spring of 1940 within census district 2-511, a relatively sparsely-developed, rural, nine-square-mile section of western South Fayette Township. Included in the majority of foreign-born heads-of-household employed in local industries (mining, steel production, chemical manufacture, bolt fabrication, tire manufac-



*Seventy-four-year-old retired miner George Ainscough (right) poses with son Tom and grandson Thomas Lee in a backyard in the village of Cuddy in 1943.*

Photo courtesy of  
Thomas L. Ainscough.

ture, etc.), Vic Wauthier had worked at the American Cyanamid plant only 26 of the preceding 52 weeks, his annual earnings totaling a meager \$379. He was the sole income generator in his nine-person household, which was one of the largest in the district. Next-door neighbor George Ainscough worked as a WPA laborer even fewer weeks (20) and earned even less (\$300). His income had to support only a two-person household, however. In working fewer than 52 weeks during the previous year, George Ainscough and Vic Wauthier had plenty of company in the enumeration district: roughly half of the heads-of-household reported intermittent employment, principally in local industries. Most heads-of-household reporting year-round employment were farmers, virtually all of whom earned at least \$850 in annual income. The remainder largely comprised shopkeepers, business owners, clergymen, teachers, contractors, and clerks.



In the late summer of 1944, Ellen Ainscough began experiencing symptoms associated with bladder cancer. Her health deteriorated over the next four months, and she finally died at home shortly after midnight on December 30, 1944. She was further identified on her death certificate as a 70-year-old “housewife” married to 75-year-old George Ainscough (who reported her vital statistics to the coroner). George outlived his wife by 18 months. As noted in an obituary published in a local newspaper, the 77-year-old retired miner “died suddenly [on August 21, 1946] of a heart attack. In apparent good health at the time of his death, Mr. Ainscough was in Pittsburgh at the dentist. . . . He is survived by the following sons and daughters: Thomas of Houston, James, Mary Nehlson, Ellen Nehlson, Charlotte Fuller, Leonora Lucas of Akron, Ohio, Francis of Cecil, Doris Kenneweg of Heidelberg, and Jane Ann Pyle of Mercer[, as well as] twenty-three grandchildren.”

An aerial photograph taken eight months after George Ainscough’s death (April 12, 1947) recorded intact dwellings on both Locus 38S and Locus 38N. The Wauthier dwelling at Locus 38N was removed during the next two years, as reflected on an aerial photograph taken on April 28, 1949. Barry Lee Wauthier remembers that his carpenter “Uncle Vic” dismantled the house and hauled the materials about two miles eastward to use in constructing a new residence in Morgan. By a deed dated August 19, 1950, Vic and his wife Margaret conveyed the house-less Wauthier parcel to South Fayette Township miner Frank L. Clymire and his wife Jessie, for a nominal consideration of \$100. Just shy of two years later (May 10, 1952), the Clymires conveyed the Locus 38N parcel to neighboring farmer and Cuddy store proprietor Pete Quarture and his wife Lena, for the same nominal consideration. Structural remnants were still discernible scattered across the former Wauthier parcel on an aerial photograph taken on April 9, 1952.

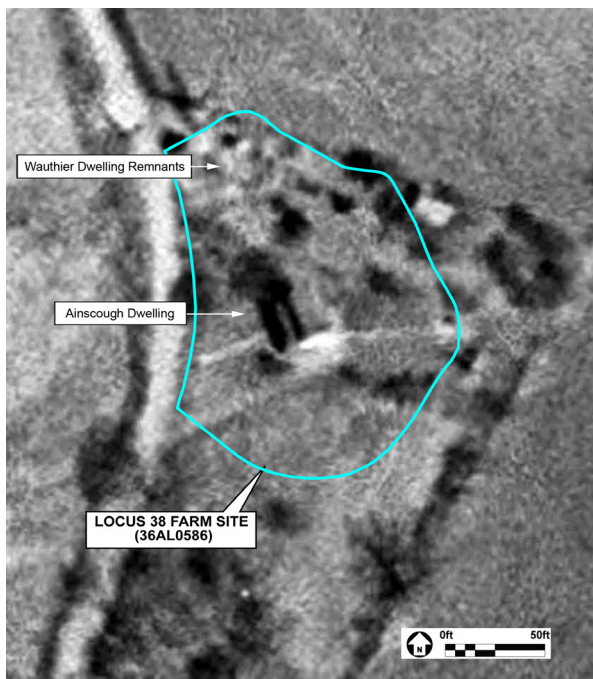
*Margaret Wauthier (left), her children Ernest and Lilly, and her granddaughter Janet Horcick are photographed in the western side yard of the Wauthier property (Locus 38N) in November 1945.*



Photo courtesy of Janet Kosky.

The Ainscough dwelling on Locus 38S was still standing as of April 1952. Following the death of George Ainscough in the summer of 1946, school taxes due on the property had gone unpaid. The School District of South Fayette Township eventually filed suit “against George Ainscough and Ellen Ainscough or whoever may be owner or reputed owner” of the Ainscough property, in pursuance of which the Allegheny County sheriff seized the real estate in the spring of 1949. At a public sale held on April 4, 1949, the sheriff sold the property for \$1,015 to North Braddock Borough resident Joseph Balla. A deed reflecting the property’s conveyance to Balla was drafted and signed five days later. In purchasing the property, Balla may have been acting on behalf of Francis (“Frank”) Ainscough, George and Ellen Ainscough’s 45-year-old son, who had lived in the “5-roomed frame dwelling” with his

*A USGS aerial photo taken on April 9, 1952 recorded scattered vestiges of the Wauthier homestead on Locus 38N, while the Ainscough dwelling remained intact on Locus 38S.*



parents and siblings during his teen years. By a deed dated August 31, 1949, Balla and his wife Virginia conveyed the one-acre Ainscough parcel to “Frank Ainscough, of South Fayette Township,” in consideration of \$1,024.15.

By some accounts, various members of the Ainscough family occupied the dwelling on the Ainscough parcel through the late 1950s, and possibly into the early 1960s. Robert Sparber, who acquired a 10-acre parcel adjoining the north side of the Locus 38 Farm Site in 1966, informed CHRS, Inc. staff that he recalled a Gerry Ainscough living on the Ainscough property with two of his children. Gerry Ainscough was a son of Frank Ainscough and Flor-

ence Cusprini, who had been married in Florence’s native New York State around 1928. By the time Frank purchased his late parents’ property along Cecil-Sturgeon Road in August 1949, he and Florence were parents of six children: Frank Jr. (born on May 20, 1928); Barbara (circa 1931); Jane Anne (circa 1933); Gerald (January 28, 1935); Brenda (circa 1940); and David (after 1940). The family appears to have lived in the Cecil vicinity—possibly at Locus 38S—during the early 1950s, as Gerry attended the South Fayette High School, and graduated around 1953. At some point during the late 1950s, Frank and Florence moved with their youngest children to Pittsburgh, where 40-year-old Florence died from pelvic cancer on February 14, 1958. Widower Frank Ainscough “retired from the American Cyanamide Co.” the following year, as reported in a local newspaper. He was living in the house at Locus 38S with his youngest son David in “the late 1950s or early 1960s” when the house was extensively damaged during a wind storm. “I remember when the [storm] came through,” Barry Wauthier recalled in an interview. “The wind went straight through the Ainscough house and blew both sides of it apart. It blew Davey Ainscough down in the basement. The old man [Frank] was up on the second floor, in bed. He ended up outside the house, going to the cellar steps. Davey Ainscough hid in a closet in the kitchen, and his sister went in too, and the wall just went! It was gone!”

The date of this reported semi-demolition of the Ainscough residence has not been firmly established. If it occurred in the early 1960s, the property was no longer owned by the Ainscoughs. In April 1957 the School District of South Fayette Township had filed suit “against Frank Ainscough owner or reputed owner” of the Ainscough property, citing unpaid taxes totaling a mere \$0.55. The Allegheny County sheriff seized the property shortly thereafter, and sold it on May 6, 1957 to the School District for \$231.86. In a deed of conveyance drafted and signed 12 days later, the Locus 38S property was described as “being triangular in shape, con-



taining 1 acre, [and] having thereon a two story frame dwelling." Whether or not that dwelling was still intact and inhabitable is not clear. Certainly, the property's apparent worth had declined considerably since Frank Ainscough paid \$1,024.15 for it eight years earlier. When Pete Quarture, owner of the abutting Wauthier parcel, purchased the former Ainscough parcel from representatives of Allegheny County, South Fayette Township, and the South Fayette Township School District on June 5, 1958, the price was only \$500. A roofed structure with a footprint matching the footprint of the Ainscough dwelling as recorded on aerial photographs taken in 1938 and 1952 was still in place as of August 2, 1959, as documented by an aerial photograph taken on that date. By May 26, 1967, only a few structural remnants were apparent at Locus 38S.

Pete Quarture owned the former Ainscough and Wauthier parcels until his death on November 2, 1961. Because he did not leave a viable will, an Orphans' Court appointed his widow Lena and the Union National Bank of Pittsburgh to administer and settle his estate, which included several farms and dozens of residential and commercial properties in and around Cuddy. The settlement took years to accomplish. A major step was taken on Saturday, May 23, 1964, when 19 Quarture lots and farm properties were sold through a series of auctions held at various locations throughout the day. Among the pieces of real estate auctioned off on that day, according to advertisements placed in local newspapers, was the Ainscough property:



*The Daily Notes*  
(Canonsburg, PA)  
May 22, 1964

At the final auction held on May 23, 1964, the winning bid of \$875 for the Ainscough property was tendered by life-long area residents John Kosky Jr. (founder of John Kosky Coal and Excavating Company) and Francis (Frank) W. Chebatoris (President of Cheb Drywall, Inc.). As recently reported by John Kosky Jr., the two men were in an early phase of collaboratively acquiring coal and farm land in the vicinity. When they and their wives received a deed for the Ainscough property on October 20, 1964, John and Madeline Kosky obtained one undivided half-interest, while Francis and Irene Helen Chebatoris obtained the other. The couples would own the property together, along with surrounding land on either side of Cecil-Sturgeon Road, for the next quarter-century. They came to believe that they also owned the half-acre former Wauthier parcel abutting the north side of the Ainscough parcel (including Locus 38N), despite the now-apparent fact that the most recent deed recorded for the Wauthier parcel (including Locus 38S) was the May 10, 1952 deed conveying the property to Pete and Lena Quarture. It appears that the administrators of Pete Quarture's estate overlooked his ownership of the Wauthier parcel, perhaps because it was so small, had been vacated, and could easily be regarded as a northern portion of the Ainscough property.

By a deed dated October 29, 1966, the owner of the former Hastings farm (from which the two Cheesebrough parcels had been subdivided in the early 1890s) conveyed a parcel containing "10 acres more or less" along the east side of Cecil-

Sturgeon Road—abutting the north side of the Locus 38 Farm Site—to Robert L. Sparber and his wife Kathleen. The southern boundary of the Sparber parcel was described in the deed as extending “along line of land now or formerly of P. Quarture [northwestward] 350.56 feet.” That “line of land,” in fact, doubled as the northern boundary of the Wauthier parcel, which had been described in the 1893 conveyance to Truman Cheesebrough as being 351 feet in length. It thus appears that as of October 1966 the former Wauthier parcel was regarded as belonging either to Pete Quarture—who had purchased it from the Clymires on May 10, 1952—or to some unidentified subsequent owner. Ownership of the former Wauthier parcel would remain uncertain through the following half-century. When Robert Sparber conveyed his property (Tax Parcel 486-G-1, containing “10 acres more or less”) to the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission by a deed dated December 2, 2015, the metes and bounds description was repeated from the October 29, 1966 deed, again identifying the southern boundary of the parcel as extending “along line of land now or formerly of P. Quarture [northwestward] 350.56 feet” (matching the northern boundary of the former Wauthier parcel). While that description excluded the former Wauthier parcel from the Sparber property, tax parcel boundaries delineated on the Allegheny County GIS Data Viewer in January 2016 depicted the “10.176-acre” former Sparber parcel (486-G-1) as including the former Wauthier parcel (with the southern boundary of parcel 486-G-1 delineated as the northern boundary of the former Ainscough parcel, which is only 286.4 feet in length). The incongruity appears to be an example of “tax parcel mapping discrepancies” for which “South Fayette Township is notorious,” as a staff member of the Allegheny County GIS unit warned a CHRS researcher attempting to sort out parcel ownership in the vicinity of Locus 38.

Discrepancies in tax parcel boundaries and attribution also created confusion regarding the state of the former Ainscough

parcel. As recently as August 2015, the parcel was depicted on the Allegheny County GIS Data Viewer as part of Tax Parcel 486-G-2, which largely comprised farmland on the west side of Cecil-Sturgeon Road. After CHRS, Inc. researchers requested a review of deed-based boundaries for tax parcels in that area, Allegheny County GIS unit staff conducted a review, and then revised mapping on the online GIS Data Viewer to indicate that the triangular, one-acre, former Ainscough parcel was now a non-contiguous part of the 133.139-acre Tax Parcel 487-R-1, which largely comprised the former Hastings farm. In so doing, the revisers apparently failed to recognize that the former Ainscough parcel (like the former Wauthier parcel) had been excluded from the former Hastings farm for over a century. If the Ainscough parcel had been assigned its own tax parcel identifier after its acquisition by the Koskys and Chebatorises in 1964, confusion might have been avoided. As matters stood, the former Ainscough and Wauthier parcels came to be regarded as a single, increasingly-wooded triangle of land jointly owned (along with hundreds of surrounding acres) by the Koskys and the Chebatorises through the early 1990s.

In or around 1992, John Kosky Jr. and Frank Chebatoris decided to divvy up their jointly-owned properties in such a way that the owners would hold full interests rather than half interests. They reached an agreement that would give John and Madeline Kosky Jr. undivided title to the land on the east side of Cecil-Sturgeon Road, while Frank and Irene Helen Chebatoris would assume full ownership of property on the west side of the road. Deeds effecting that division were completed in the summer of 1992 and possibly a year or two thereafter.

Through a series of conveyances effected in 2009-10, John and Madeline Kosky Jr. consolidated their ownership of multiple parcels in South Fayette and surrounding townships, then con-



veyed them to Cuddy Partners, LP. The 133.14-acre tract comprising the former Hastings farm, identified in the associated deeds as Tax Parcel 487-R-1, was included in that conveyance. As delineated in the metes and bounds description prepared “in accordance with a survey of Paul C. Swiech, Registered Engineer No. 5243 dated February 1957,” the tract did not include any portion of the former Ainscough and Wauthier parcels. Nor should it have, considering that those parcels were owned as of February 1957 by Frank Ainscough and Pete and Lena Quarture, respectively. It thus appears that adjustments to tax parcel boundaries and ownership attributions effected by Allegheny County GIS unit staff members in 2015—under the assumption that the Swiech survey of 1957 was faulty—were based on a misunderstanding. As noted above, those revisions depicted the former Ainscough parcel as a non-contiguous part of 133.14-acre Tax Parcel 487-R-1, owned by Cuddy Partners, LP. In fact, the former Ainscough parcel appears not to have been included in any conveyances since the October 20, 1964 conveyance to the Koskys and the Chebatorises. The

adjoining Wauthier parcel, meanwhile, had not changed hands by a recorded deed of conveyance since May 10, 1952, when the Clymires conveyed it to Pete and Lena Quarture.

Further revisions to tax parcel boundaries and attributions on the Allegheny County GIS Data Viewer were made in 2016 and/or early 2017, as confirmed during a visit to the online database on June 27, 2017. The changes still do not comport with metes and bounds descriptions in the most recent recorded deeds for the associated properties. The southern tip of the former Wauthier parcel (with Locus 38S) was depicted in 2017 as a non-contiguous part of 119.13-acre Tax Parcel 487-R-1, owned by Cuddy Partners, LP. The northern majority of the Locus 38 Farm Site was depicted as part of a large tract on the east side of Cecil-Sturgeon road for which “No information [is] available.” It is possible that the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission’s recent acquisition of properties in the vicinity—as preparation for Southern Beltway construction—were not yet reflected in online databases.



Miner’s checks and scrip unearthed on the Ainscough property.

## Archaeological Excavations on the Locus 38 Farm Site

In 2008, when CHRS archaeologists arrived at Archaeological Locus 38 to perform a Phase IB investigation (which would lead to the identification of the Locus 38 Farm Site), they found a domed well or cistern and two foundations of stone, concrete, and brick on the surface. The ruins were laid out in a linear fashion parallel to Cecil-Sturgeon Road. The landscape sloped gently to the west and was heavily overgrown with trees and dense underbrush. A 20-foot-wide transmission line crossed Cecil-Sturgeon Road and passed through the western portion of the locus in a south-south-easterly direction. Two large mounds of relocated soil were noted near the locus' eastern boundary.

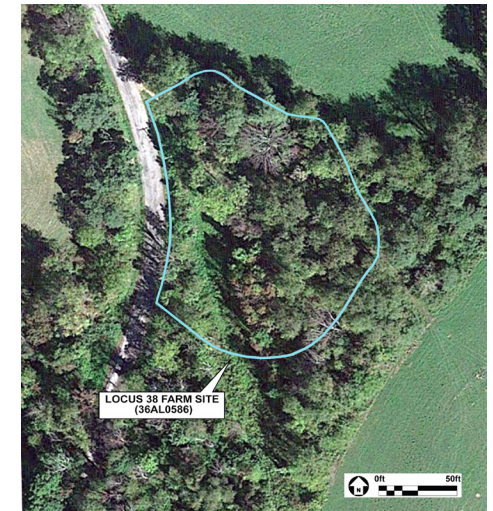
Over the next few weeks, the archaeologists used hand tools to excavate 23 shovel test pits (STPs) placed at 20-foot intervals

in a grid pattern across the area containing the ruins. In doing so, they recovered more than 330 artifacts. Just over half of the artifacts were kitchen-related items (whole or fragmented bottles, jars, etc.). Slightly fewer than 40% of the artifacts were architecturally-related items (nails, window glass, furniture fragments, etc.). Only a small number of personal items, clothing items, and activity items were recovered. Most of the artifacts appeared to date to the first half of the twentieth century. The locus clearly retained archaeological integrity, and was thus identified as a historic archaeological site—Locus 38 Farm Site (36AL0586)—potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

CHRS archaeologists returned to the Locus 38 Farm Site seven years later to begin Phase II testing. That work, conducted from



*When archaeologists arrived to conduct a Phase II investigation of the Locus 38 Farm Site in June 2015, they turned off of Cecil-Sturgeon Road onto a little-used dirt lane leading into a densely wooded area strewn with structural remains (left). The overgrown state of the Site was recorded on a Google Earth aerial a few weeks after the archaeologists' arrival (right).*

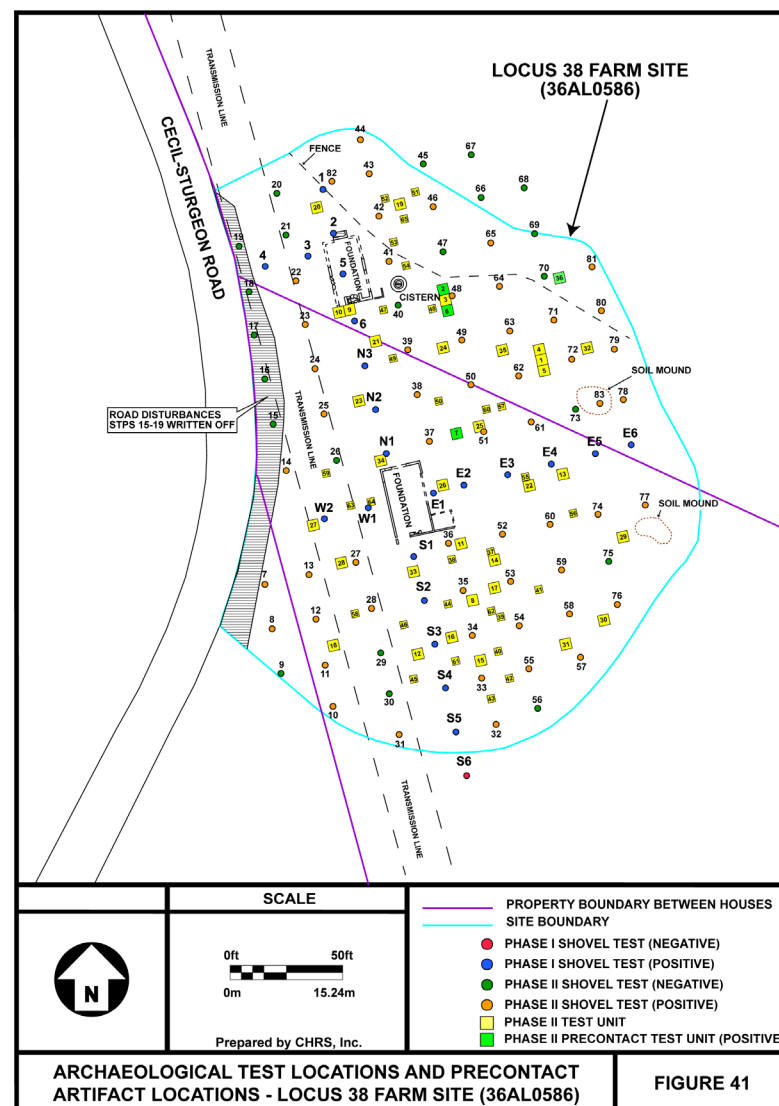




June 2015 through January 2016, entailed the excavation of 77 STPs and 36 five-foot-square test units (TUs) placed in a grid based on the Phase IB STP locations. An additional round of Phase II testing, conducted from June 2016 through February 2017, involved the excavation of 29 one-meter-square TUs positioned in order to supplement the data recovered during the prior rounds of testing. After the excavations using hand-tools were complete, a Caterpillar hydraulic excavator was used to strip top soil from approximately 60% of the Site in order to expose additional features and further expose features partially uncovered during earlier excavations. Through all of the methods employed during the Phase II investigation, nearly 33,000 artifacts were recovered and processed, and 122 subsurface features were identified and investigated. Selected features were sectioned or fully excavated in an effort to identify their function and temporal (chronologic) associations.



*Southeastward view of the lane passing through the mid-section of the Locus 38 Farm Site, January 27, 2016.*



*Phase IB and II test locations, Figure 41, Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum report, April 2018.*





*Above: Measuring a level in Feature 19 (privy shaft), September 22, 2016.*



*Above, center: First day of mechanical stripping, October 11, 2016.*



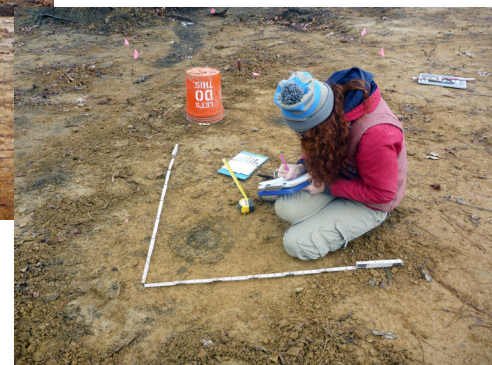
*Above: Mechanical strip-ping continues, October 13, 2016.*

*Below: Excavating a feature, and screening for artifacts, November 29, 2016.*



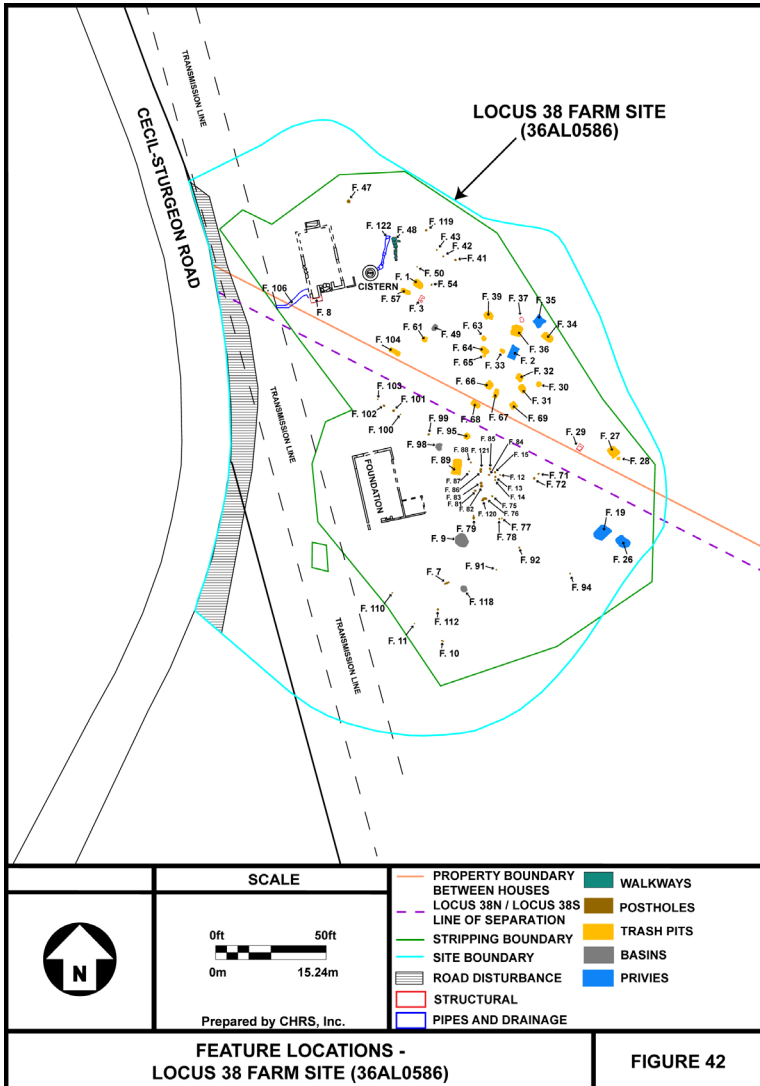
*Left: Excavating and screening, November 29, 2016.*

*Below: Recording measurements of a small feature, November 29, 2016.*





## Archaeological Features on the Locus 38 Farm Site



Through the multi-round Phase II testing, archaeologists identified 122 subsurface features on the Locus 38 Farm Site. All features were numbered, documented, mapped, and photographed, and their locations were recorded with GPS. The Site's few surface features—predominantly foundation remnants—were documented, mapped, and photographed, but were not assigned feature numbers.

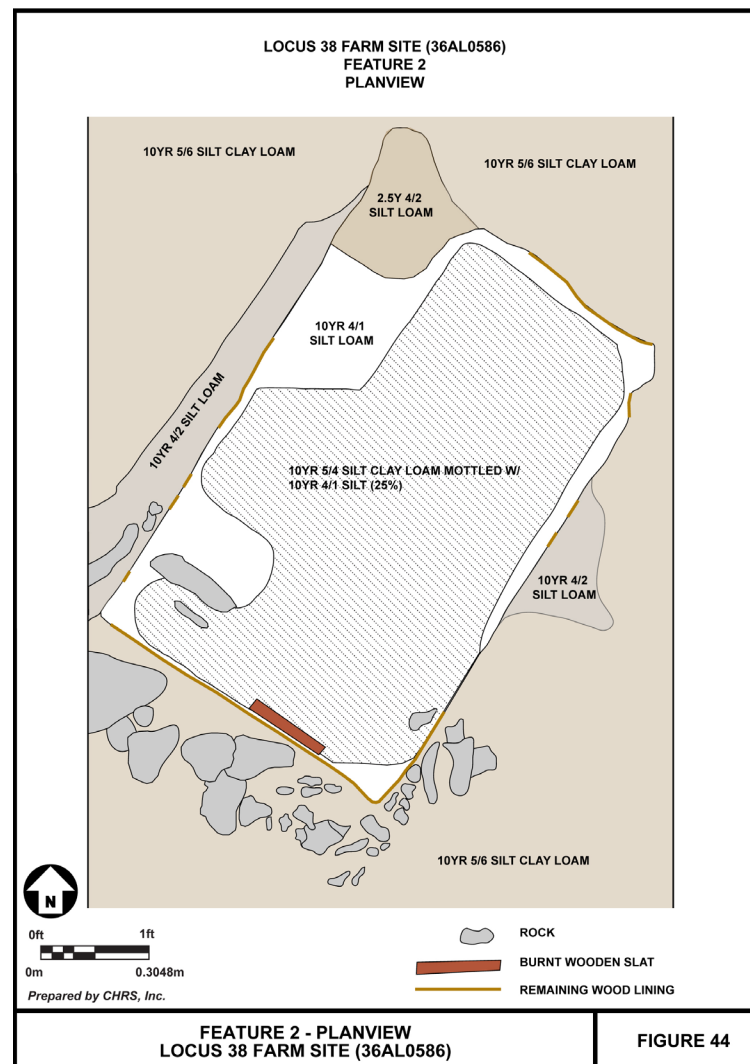
As explained in the *Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum* report, “for the purpose of analysis, the dual-parcel, multi-household Locus 38 Farm Site was divided into two sections: a northern section (Locus 38N) and a southern section (Locus 38S). The line of separation was established based on historic use patterns, but also closely follows the official metes-and-bounds parcel boundary. This line of division, or functional boundary, runs parallel to the official parcel boundary. It passes through the center of an approximately 10-foot-wide buffer zone, devoid of any cultural features, that was likely observed by the individual households as the dividing line between their respective properties.”

The Phase II testing uncovered 58 subsurface features in the Locus 38N section of the Site (last occupied by the Wauthiers), and 64 subsurface features in the Locus 38S section (last occupied by the Ainscoughs). Features that appeared to hold the most

*Left: Feature locations, Figure 42, Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*

potential for shedding light on historic activities on the Site included the following:

- An articulated brick and cinder block
- Articulated pieces of concrete
- 5 circular basins (possibly fire pits)
- A circular trash pit
- 2 amorphous trash pits
- 2 rectangular privy (outhouse) pits
- 14 rectangular trash pits
- A rectangular wood-lined privy shaft
- A small concrete pad
- A square privy shaft
- A square trash/burn pit
- A stone walkway
- Structural demolition debris



*Features were numbered, documented, mapped, and photographed, as exemplified in these views of Feature 2, a rectangular privy (outhouse) pit excavated on Locus 38N in June 2016.*





*Northward view of house foundation remnants on Locus 38N, January 27, 2016.*

As described in the *Phase II Addendum* report, “The northern parcel contained the remains of an approximately 28-foot by 16-foot structure oriented north-northwest/south-southeast, more or less parallel to Cecil-Sturgeon Road. The east side of the structure abutted a small hill. Walls were composed of stone, concrete, and brick. Wall thickness of the west and east walls was approximately 1 foot. No portion of the north wall remained. The south wall was composed of thicker stone and compartmentalized into three sections. The central portion, infilled with large stones, may have been a fireplace. The western portion extended further from the rest of the south wall and was likely an entranceway. A U-shaped concrete appendage was built into the bank along the suspected location of the north wall. The interior of the appendage was filled with stacked stone to an unknown depth. The concrete construction of the appendage did not match the concrete found elsewhere

on the site. This box may have been an exterior fireplace that was a later addition to the structure. Two single-coursed rows of brick formed an ‘L’ near the exterior of southeast corner of the foundation. Each row of bricks stretched approximately 4 feet in length. A domed cistern or well was located approximately 8 feet east of the foundation. . . .

Remnants of what was likely an entranceway were uncovered in Test Units 9 and 10, approximately 10 feet south from the house foundation. The remains were designated as Feature 8 because, at the time, no definitive link between Feature 8 and the house foundation could be established. Mechanical stripping later revealed a structural connection to the house. The entranceway remains consisted of three rows of mortared brick meeting at right angles to form a half-rectangle. The feature measured 5.4 feet from western exterior edge to eastern exterior edge. The interior east-west measurement was 3.5 feet. These remains were uncovered 0.48 feet below ground surface.”

*Feature 8 (entranceway remnants), September 15, 2015.*







*Southeastward view of house foundation remnants on Locus 38S, June 23, 2015.*

As described in the *Phase II Addendum* report, “The southern parcel contained the remains of an approximately 32-foot by 16-foot structure oriented north-northwest/south-southeast, more or less parallel to Cecil-Sturgeon Road. Subsequent research and fieldwork revealed this structure to be the dwelling erected by Charles Cheesebrough prior to June 13, 1900 and destroyed or dismantled sometime between August 2, 1959 and May 26, 1967. The structure had been banked on the east side and sat at the base of a hill on the north, which had been partially graded to aid passage around the north side of the house. Significant portions of the north, east, and south walls remained. The 1-foot-wide walls were composed entirely of concrete and formed using a colorful cinder and coal ash aggregate. The walls were covered in smooth plaster on the interior and exterior sides. Fireplaces were once present

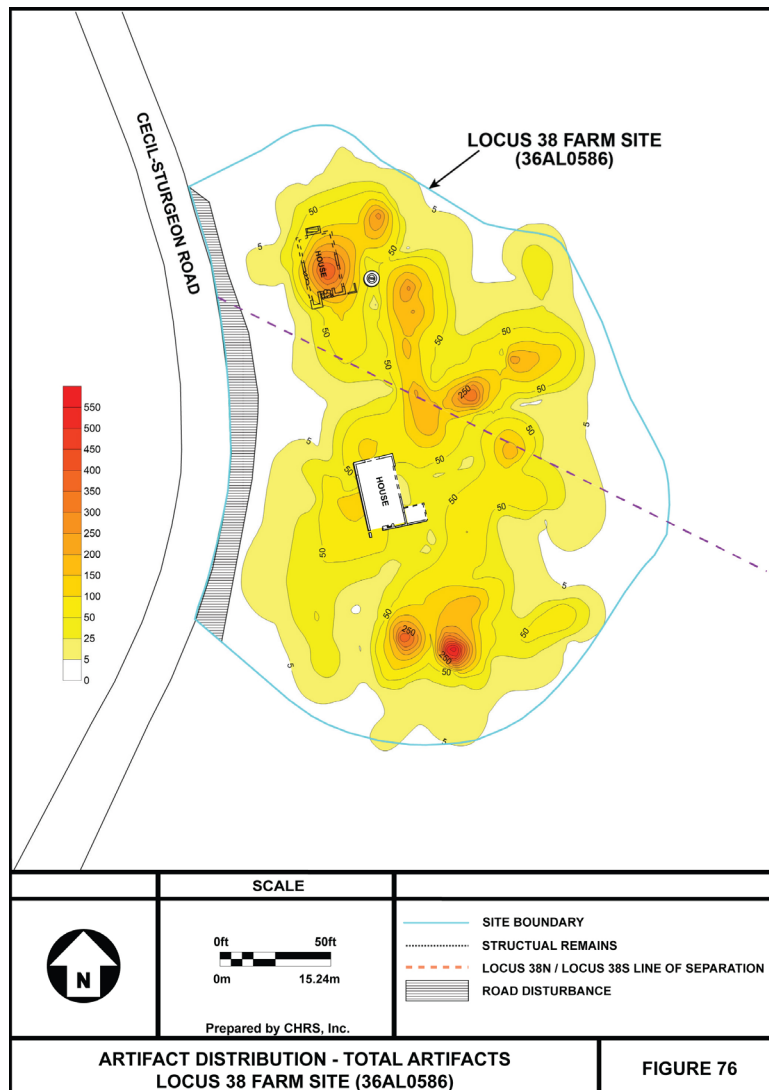
centered along the north and south walls. The fireplace along the south wall was still relatively intact, but the opposing fireplace along the north wall had collapsed inward. Window openings were also present on the north and south walls. A roughly 9-foot-square brick appendage of unknown function was attached to the east wall of the foundation near the southeast corner. No other structural features directly associated with the Locus 38S dwelling were encountered at or below the surface. . . . Two privy pits were identified on Locus 38S: Features 19 and 26. . . .”



*Eleven levels were discovered in excavating the 5-foot-deep privy shafted designated Feature 19. Resting on the bedrock floor were four deteriorated wood planks, presumed to be the remains of a privy vault. Excavation of Feature 19 was completed on September 22, 2016.*



## Artifacts Unearthed on the Locus 38 Farm Site



Nearly 33,000 artifacts were recovered and processed during the Phase II archaeological survey of the Locus 38 Farm Site. Two-thirds of the assemblage was unearthed on the smaller, northern section of the Site (Locus 38N). Only four of the artifacts predated the arrival of Europeans in America: three pieces of chert and a single piece of jasper cast off during the manufacture of stone points. Most of the artifacts were deposited either intentionally or unintentionally by the Site's residents and visitors during the first half of the twentieth century.

As explained in the *Phase II Addendum* report, the historic-era artifacts were "categorized according to functional categories established by Stanley South (1977). This provides a means of comparing the nature of the total artifact assemblages. Artifacts may be categorized as kitchen related (ceramics, bottle glass, vessel glass, tableware, etc.), architectural (window glass, nails, architectural hardware, etc.), furniture related (knobs, pulls, lighting components, etc.), personal (combs, coins, jewelry, eyeglass lenses, etc.), clothing, arms related (ammunition, gunflints, gun components, etc.), tobacco related, and activity related (tools, toys, etc.). Items omitted from the functional analysis include brick, mortar, plaster, ash, cinder, coal, bone, shell, and other biological items. Artifacts collected from uncertain proveniences during mechanical stripping were also not included in the functional analysis. Of the nearly 33,000 artifacts recovered from the Site during the Phase II archaeological survey, 31,886 were suitable for functional analysis. Artifact distribution maps were generated using Golden

*Left: Artifact distribution map, from Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*

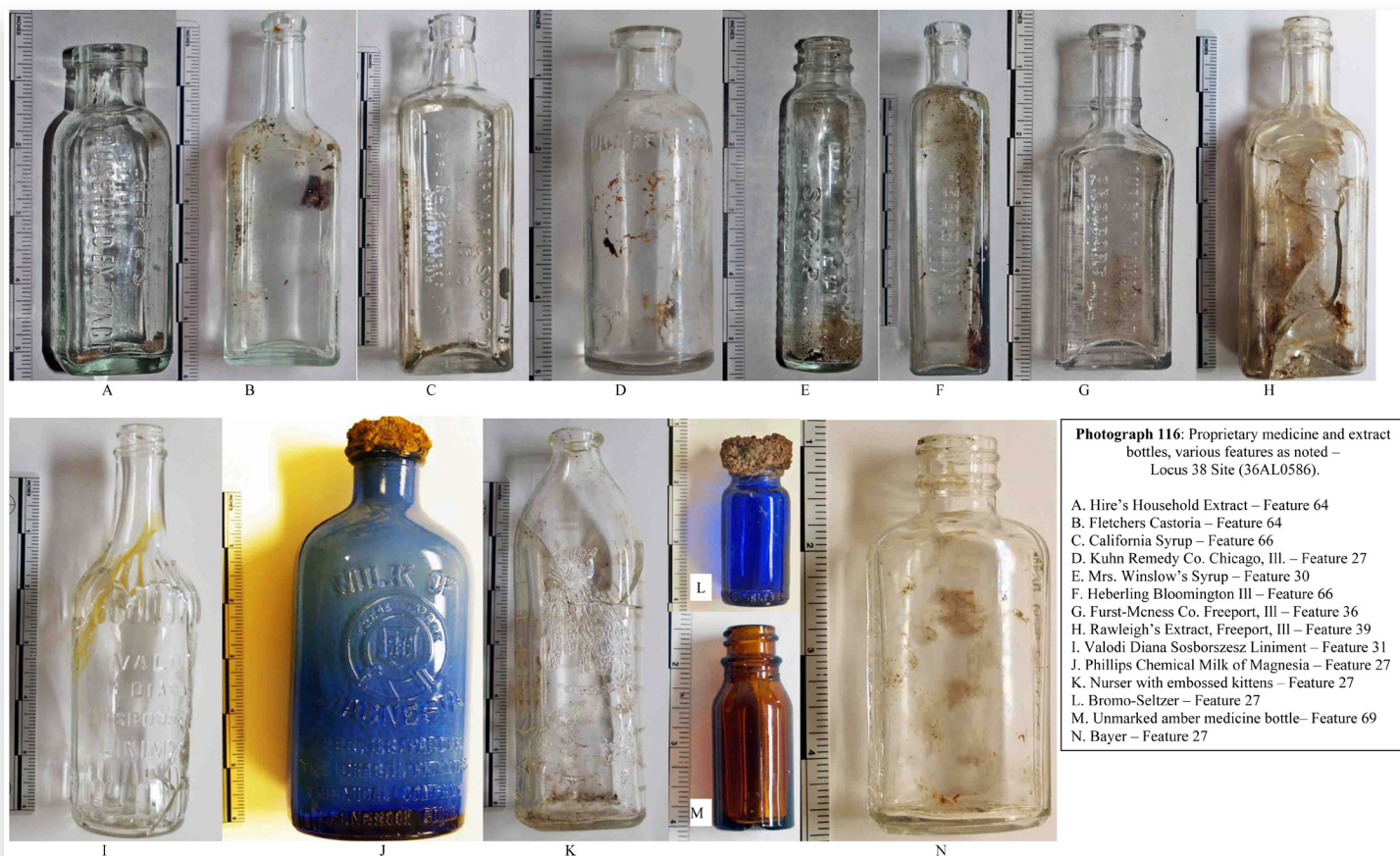
Software's Surfer® to analyze and identify any intrasite spatial distribution patterns. The maps were generated on the basis of the number of artifacts recovered from shovel test pits and test units."

Kitchen related items (associated with food preparation, storage, and serving) were the most common artifact group recovered from the Locus 38 Farm Site, comprising 40% of Locus 38N artifacts, and 50% of Locus 38S artifacts. The preponderance of kitchen related artifacts reflects the domestic nature of the dual-

residence Site. Within the kitchen group assemblage, bottle glass accounted for the largest percentage by far, followed by ceramics, vessel glass, and miscellaneous cooking and tableware.

Bottle glass constituted about two-thirds of the kitchen related artifacts. Bottle morphology (shape and finish), manufacturing techniques, mold markings, labeling, embossed dates, and patent dates can provide clues to function and period of manufacture. Both panel and round bottles artifacts were recovered from the

*Proprietary medicine and extract bottles, as presented and identified in the composite Photograph 116, Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*







*Beverage and food bottles and jars, as presented and identified in the composite Photograph 117, Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*



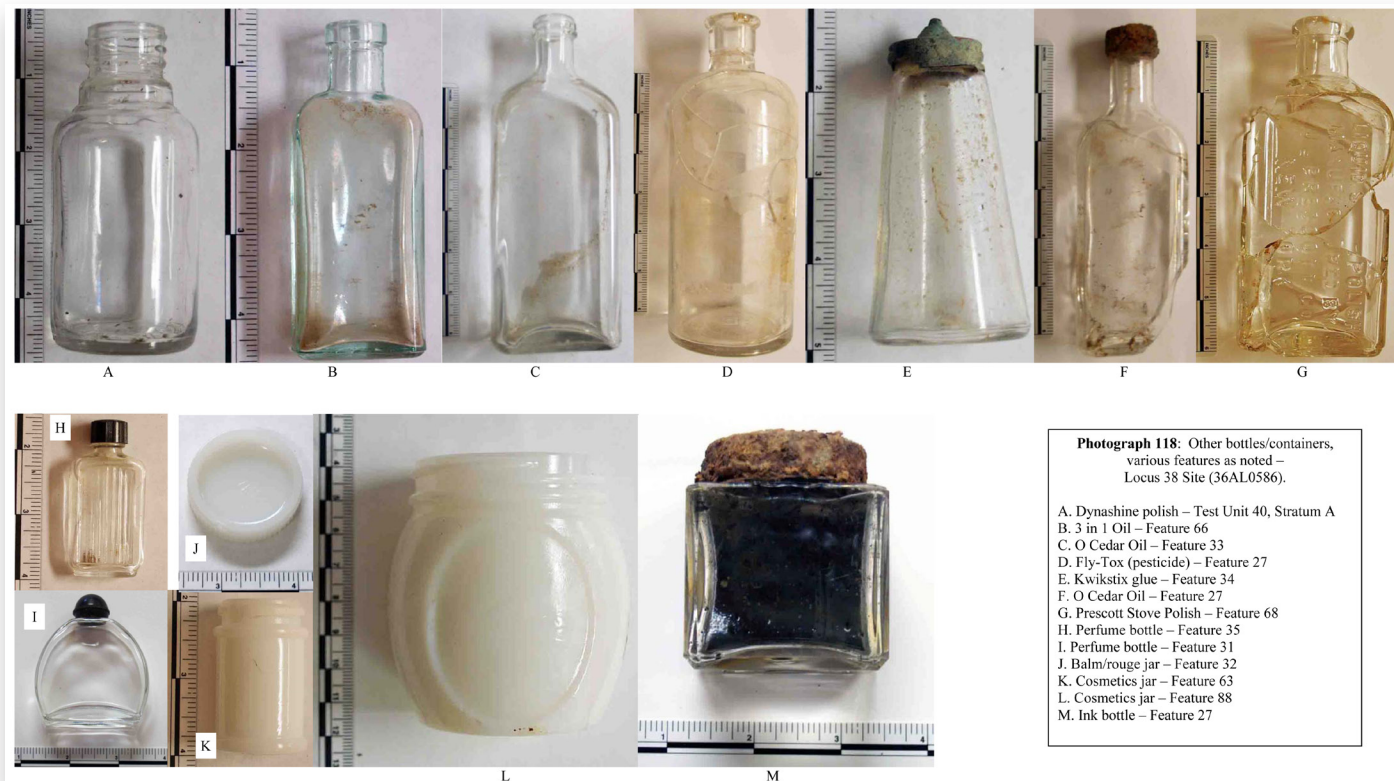
**Photograph 117:** Beverage and food bottles/jars, various features as noted – Locus 38 Site (36AL0586).

- A. J. Panizza & Bro., Soda – Feature 68
- B. Otto Milk Company – Feature 27
- C. Unmarked flask – Feature 64
- D. Atlas Mason Jar – Feature 19
- E. Unmarked condiment bottle – Feature 66
- F. Food Bottle – Feature 31
- G. Oil bottle – Feature 34
- H. Condiment bottle (with bluing) – Feature 64
- I. Syrup bottle – Feature 67
- J. Unmarked sauce bottle – Feature 104
- K. Sauce bottle (with bluing) – Feature 27
- L. Unmarked sauce bottle – Feature 27
- M. Jar – Feature 27
- N. Jar – Feature 27

Locus 38 Farm Site. A variety of finishes were employed, including bead, double bead, and collared bead; beer; brandy; crown, collared crown, and threaded crown; extract and prescription-like extract; internal groove; oil (hand-tooled); collared lightning; lug; patent; prescription (including hand-tooled); straight, collared straight, and wide mouth straight; and screw top (with and without sand ground finish), brandy-like screw top, crown-like screw top, lug screw top, shaker screw top, and single thread screw top (with and without ground edges) finishes. Both machine made and blown-in-mold bottles were recovered. Bottle morphology allowed for the identification of a variety of func-

tions, including beverage bottles (beer, tonic, alcohol, soda), milk bottles, nurser bottles, flasks, fruit/canning jars, jelly jars, a mustard jar, a candy jar, sauce bottles, an olive jar, a spice jar, extract bottles, vinegar bottles, medicine bottles, balm jars, cologne/perfume bottles, a cosmetic bottle, a nail polish bottle, a shoe polish bottle, vials, an ink bottle, a glue bottle, a paint jar, and an oil lubricant bottle. Also recovered were glass lids/lid liners and bottle stoppers. A variety of diagnostic bottle mold markings provide a wide range of manufacture dates. The majority of mold markings indicate manufacture during the early to mid-twentieth century. Embossed and applied labels also

*Other bottles and containers, as presented and identified in the composite Photograph 118, Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*



allowed for identification of former container contents and periods of manufacture.

Ceramics constituted slightly less than one-third of the kitchen group artifact assemblage. A variety of artifacts can be made of ceramic, including kitchen related items, architectural items, clothing items, tobacco pipes, jewelry, and toys. Most of the recovered ceramic artifacts were associated with the production or consumption of food and drink. Refined paste ceramics, generally used for domestic food-related functions, far outnumber typically utilitarian coarse paste ceramics often associated with food preparation, food

storage, and agricultural activities. The predominant components of the assemblage are whiteware and, to a substantially lesser degree, ironstone. The overwhelming majority of whiteware and ironstone sherds are either molded, decal decorated, or undecorated. Other decorative styles include edged (blue, brown, green, red, and gilt), glazed (cream, green, and yellow), and transferprinted (black, blue, green, and red), overglaze painted, blue line, and flow blue). Whiteware and ironstone wares are generally associated with the serving and consumption of food and drink, and a variety of these types of vessels were encountered. Whiteware vessel types include cups, tea cups, saucers, dishes, plates (including soup plates and a bread



plate), platters, bowls, serving bowls, basins, pitchers, and gravy boats. Ironstone vessel types include cups, tea cups, and bowls.

The small number of miscellaneous kitchen related artifacts recovered included table utensils (spoons, forks, knives); unidentifiable utensil handles made of Bakelite, enamel, or wood; metal pot, pan, and basin fragments (some enameled); an enameled cup; and an enamel coffee pot.

Architectural items constituted just over one-quarter of the artifact assemblage. These items include nails, window glass, and other items associated with the construction and decoration of the dwelling and any outbuildings. On Locus 38N, nails accounted for the majority of this artifact grouping, followed by window glass and other architectural items. On Locus 38S, window glass predominated, followed by nails and other architectural items.



Feature 68



Feature 104



Feature 68



Feature 67

### *Specimen plates*



Feature 27



Feature 69



Feature 31



Feature 69



Other recovered architectural items included shingles (asphalt and slate), gutter hooks, window, pane caulk, door hardware (hinges, a door box lock fragment, a slide bolt lock fragment, an agate door knob, a door lock latch, a small lock escutcheon), a porcelain insulator, an earthenware chimney pipe, a shutter hook, strap hinges, and earthenware sewer pipe fragments.

Furniture, personal, clothing, arms, tobacco, activities, and miscellaneous artifact groups make up the remainder of the assemblage. The majority of furniture items recovered are related to lighting. They include lamp burners, lamp chimney glass, light

bulb components (bases, filaments, and glass), lamp bases, and a painted milk glass lamp globe.

Nearly 6,000 activity related artifacts were recovered from the Locus 38 Farm Site. Miscellaneous hardware, such as bolts, nuts, washers, wire, and chain, constituted the majority of items within this group. Among the many toys unearthed were glass and clay marbles, gaming jacks, a plastic gaming disc, various balls (baseball, painted leather ball, rubber ball fragments), a copper toy zeppelin, toy vehicle wheels, porcelain, plastic, and leather doll fragments, toy serving wares (cups,



saucers, teapots, utensils, pots, pans), and harmonica fragments. A large number of household and vehicular batteries were collected, most of them from Locus 38N. Other tools included pick ax heads, wrenches, triangular file fragments, rake

fragments, paint brushes, headlight and tail light glass, chrome vehicle stripping, and a chrome hubcap. Of particular interest were five miner's checks and two company scrip tokens recovered from Locus 38S.



Revolver – Feature 57



Scissors – Feature 68



Miner's checks and scrip

**Photograph 121:** Miscellaneous metal items, various features as noted – Locus 38 Site (36AL0586).



Porcelain Doll Head – Feature 89



Novelty skull jaw – Test Unit 46, Stratum B



Kaolin Pipe Bowl with Eagle motif – Feature 19

*Miscellaneous items presented and identified in the composite Photographs 121 and 122, Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*



**Photograph 110:** Painted glass cup and saucer (Feature 27).

**Photograph 111:** Painted glass creamer (Feature 69).



**Photograph 112:** Polychrome over glazed Japanese porcelain tea set (Feature 31).



**Photograph 113:** Blue glazed Japanese ceramic vessel (teapot?) (Feature 27).



Measuring Cup – Feature 31

Mixing Bowl – Feature 27

Salt/Pepper Shaker – Feature 57



Cruet – Feature 104

Candlestick – Feature 27

*Composite photographs 120, 110-113 (left), and 109b (bowls, below), Phase II Archaeological Survey Addendum, April 2018.*



Feature 95

Feature 31

Feature 68

Feature 27



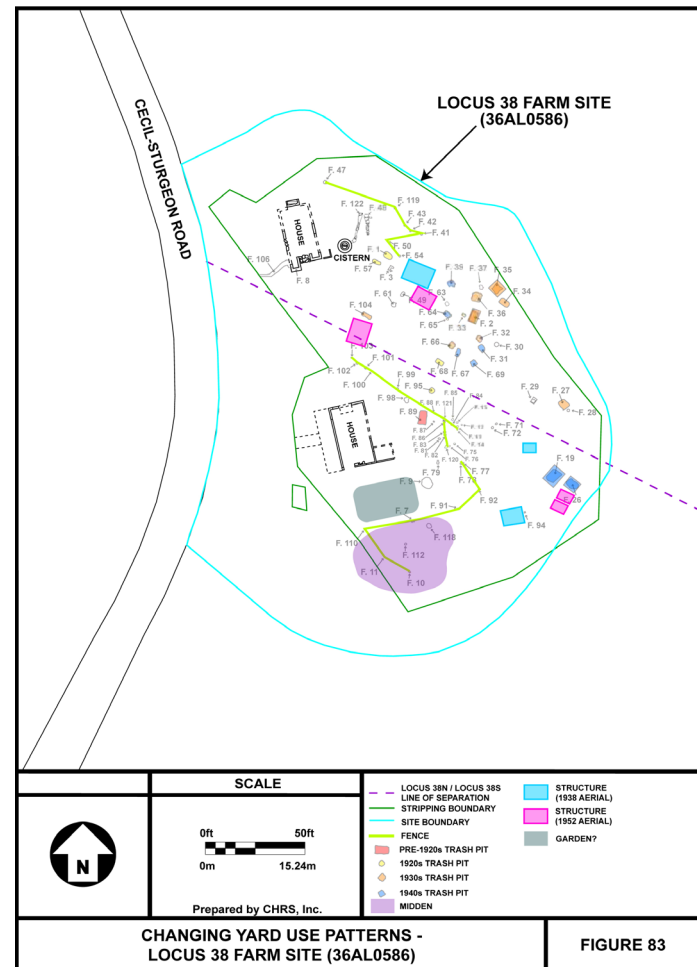
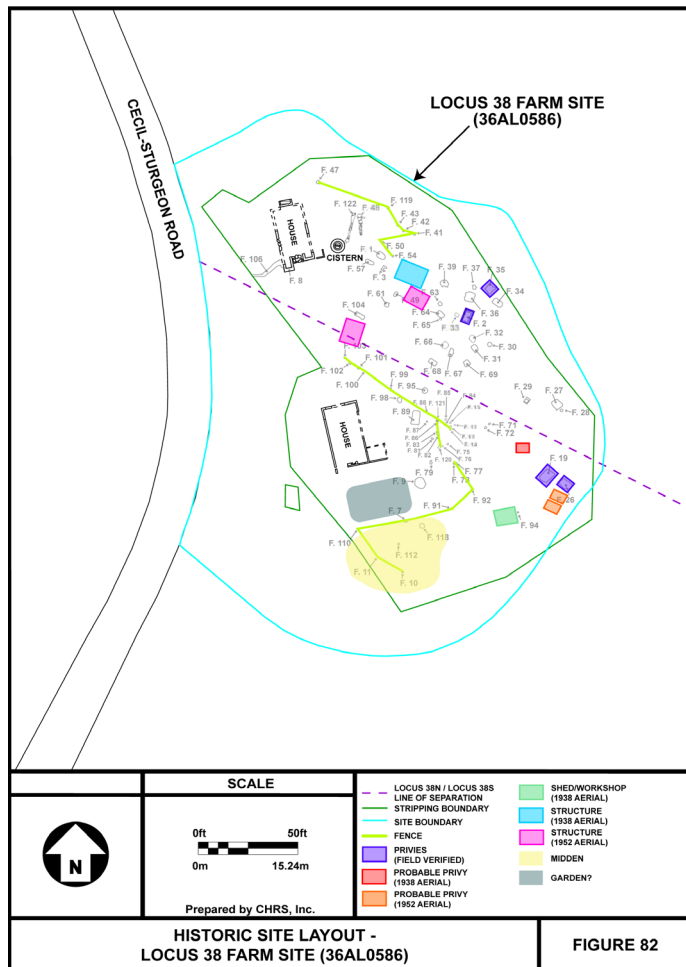
Feature 27

Feature 27

Feature 31

Delta





The artifacts recovered from Locus 38N and Locus 38S were described and analyzed separately in the *Phase II Addendum* report, because they reflected activities from separate households. When the artifactual data was subjected to spatial distribution analysis (examining where and in what density and proportion the artifacts were found), then combined with information gleaned from the

excavated features and historic aerial photographs, archaeologists were able to posit how both sections of the Locus 38 Farm Site were laid out and utilized over the course of their twentieth-century occupations. Lengthy discussions of “historic layout and usage” in the report were accompanied by illustrations showing the Site’s “Historic Site Layout” and “Changing Yard Use Patterns.”

## The Locus 38 Farm Site in Context

Following their analyses of archaeological data retrieved from Locus 38N and Locus 38S, the authors of the *Phase II Addendum* report attempted to find broader meaning by comparing the two sections of the Locus 38 Farm Site to each other through an “Intrasite Comparative Analysis,” then by comparing the Site to other historic archaeological sites in the vicinity and the wider region through an “Intersite Comparative Analysis.” Those extended considerations of historical and geographical context set the stage for a concluding “Discussion” in which the authors reflected on the “bigger picture” significance of the Site as a whole, and Locus 38N and Locus 38S individually. In this work they integrated data derived from archaeological field work with historical information collected from documents and informants.

Of the Site as a whole, the authors wrote (in-text citations have been removed for readability): The Locus 38 Farm Site is an example of rural domestic site occupied primarily by families employed in the bituminous mining industry that came to dominate the southwestern Pennsylvania landscape and economy beginning in the late nineteenth century. During the twentieth century, the families occupying Locus 38 found other employment that was, at times, sporadic. The Site consisted of two parcels initially occupied by two families related through marriage. Familial relations between the residents of the neighboring parcels ended in 1920. The assemblages of Locus 38N and Locus 38S primarily reflect the post-1920 occupations of each respective section.

The Locus 38 Farm Site is significant in its rarity as a residential archaeological site associated with mining families

living outside of a mining village. Most archaeological work concerning mining families has focused on mining villages. Additional historical studies and contextual documents have also focused on the mining village as the unit of study. While the archaeological and historical studies may characterize a majority of the mining population (a 1923 study showed that more than half of all Pennsylvania bituminous miners lived in company housing), it likely does not accurately reflect the lives of a significant portion of the population living outside of mining villages.

Corporate economic and social control penetrated into all aspects of mining village life, leading one contemporary author to refer to company towns as “a great anomaly in the midst of a free country.” While many companies self-described their paternalistic attitude as a form of welfare capitalism beneficial to the workers, critics argued that it was simply a way of masking growing inequalities in the distribution of wealth and resources and keeping a tight grasp on an oftentimes transient workforce. Archaeological studies of mining villages may offer great insight into life within this company-sponsored vacuum. However, it could be argued that they do not accurately depict the “mining family” and instead depict the subset of mining families living within this vacuum. Much of the archaeological evidence from within the mining village, including landscape usage patterns and artifact assemblages, would be expected to be tinged with the strictly regimented, paternalistic oversight of the company and not reflective of the free choice afforded to those miners who owned or rented homes outside of the village. The residences at Locus 38 provide a glimpse into the lives of this subset of mining families.



The residential occupations of the two parcels comprising the Locus 38 Farm Site fall into three general eras. During the initial era (ca. 1900 through May 1914) the parcels were concurrently occupied by English-speaking Pennsylvania-born members of the intermarried Cheesebrough and Hulings families. That occupation was characterized by cultural homogeneity. The occupation of the second era (June 1914 through 1920) was also characterized by cultural homogeneity, but not of local origin. During that era, the parcels were primarily occupied by the intermarried Hart and Ainscough families, recent immigrants from a coal-mining district in northwestern England. During the third and longest era (1920 through the late 1940s) the parcels were concurrently occupied by families that were neither intermarried, native to the United States, nor sharing of a mother tongue. While the families of the latter period shared experiences of recent emigration from coal-mining communities in Europe, they were products of different cultures (the Ainscoughs were originally English, while the Wauthiers were of Belgian-Luxembourgian extraction). Cultural distinctions manifested in living conditions on opposing sides of the boundary separating the southern (Ainscough) and northern (Wauthier) properties may have blurred over the course of several decades, as the neighboring households were further Americanized, assimilated into southern Allegheny County society, and subjected to the vicissitudes of the Great Depression and World War II. While some archaeological evidence may reflect the earlier periods of settlement, the recovered artifact assemblage is associated primarily with this third era of occupation. The following discussion focuses on distinctive characteristics of the resident households during the third and final period of occupation.

### ***Wauthier Occupation (Locus 38N) (ca. 1924-ca. 1948)***

Victor and Margaret Wauthier acquired the Locus 38N property from non-resident owner Mabel Yeats by a deed dated November 10, 1924. The Wauthiers paid nearly three times what Yeats had paid for it four years earlier, suggesting that substantial improvements had been effected while Yeats was the owner, and/or that rental payments were factored into the purchase price. It is possible that the Wauthiers had been Yeats' tenants on the property prior to the November 1924 conveyance.

By that time, 30-year-old miner-farmer Vic Wauthier had been an Allegheny County resident nearly two decades, having migrated there from Belgium with his parents and siblings in 1905. All of the French-speaking Wauthiers had learned to speak English within a few years of immigrating to America, as noted on census schedules compiled in 1910. At the same time, they were able to maintain connections with their culture of origin, as they settled first in a northern South Fayette Township community comprising families of Belgian-immigrant miners, and then in a rural section of Cecil Township, Washington County, called "Belgium Hill" in reference to a predominance of Belgian-immigrant mining families. During Vic's 20-month deployment as a private in the 33rd Military Police (October 1917 through May 1919), he met and married German-speaking Marguerite (Margaret) Anna Meyrath in her native Luxembourg in April 1919 (as both German and French were widely used across Luxembourg, Margaret may have been fluent in both languages; her native tongue was identified as German on 1920 census schedules, and as French on 1930 schedules).

The house the Wauthiers had moved into was constructed approximately 20 years prior (ca. 1900-1904) by the Cheesebroughs, a family of American-born farmers and farm laborers. Prior to the arrival of the Wauthiers, the house was inhabited by the Hart household for a period of approximately six years. The Harts were a mining family, with both adult males (Francis Hart and nephew Thomas Shairock) employed in local mines. Archaeological evidence suggests the house, at the time it was dismantled, was an approximately 28-foot by 16-foot structure oriented roughly parallel to Cecil-Sturgeon Road. The east side of the house was built into a sloping landscape. Based on the archaeological remains, the house was likely flanked by two gable-end chimneys, one on the exterior (north side) and one on the interior (south side). A small square, brick addition may have been built on to the southeast corner of the house. One family photograph, believed to have been taken in 1945, was located. The photograph, facing east and taken from between the house and Cecil-Sturgeon Road, shows a small porch at the right of the photograph which appears to correspond to Feature 8. This would indicate that the entrance to the house was on the southern end rather than the western side which faced Cecil-Sturgeon Road. A southern exposure is not unusual; however, the building located on Locus 38S was constructed prior to the Locus 38N residence and is oriented to the road. It is likely that the southern entrance to the house was chosen, in part, to face the house on Locus 38S to whom the original occupants of the Locus 38N dwelling were related. The photograph also suggests that the residence was originally constructed as a smaller structure and later expanded. The original portion of the house was constructed with shiplapped wooden siding that appears to extend approximately 10 to 12 feet from the front of the house. The photograph shows an addition to the north of shiplapped boards that has vertical board siding. Based on the remnants of the house foundation at Locus 38N, the northern addition doubled the

size of the original structure. The date of the house expansion is unknown. While the smaller house would have easily met the needs of the elderly Cheesebroughs and the slightly larger Hart family, it would not have suited the large Wauthier family. Given the carpentry skills of Vic Wauthier, it is tempting to associate the expansion of the building with the Wauthier occupation.

Vic and Margaret Wauthier were parents of three young children when they took title to the Locus 38N property. The Wauthiers were enumerated in April 1930 as part of a district comprising the mostly rural, steeply-sloped southwestern swath of South Fayette Township along the Allegheny-Washington County border, between the more-populated Robinson Run and Millers Run valleys, though including the northwestern portion of the village of Gladden along Millers Run Road. The area within 1.5 miles of the Wauthier residence comprised a mix of general farms owned and occupied by English-speaking families, mostly native to the region, interspersed with houses on small lots occupied by working class households, most of whose heads spoke English and worked in the local mining industry. Some of the latter were clustered in “coal company blocks” and “coal company shanties” associated with the National Mine and the Maude Mine along the district’s eastern edge. About half of the working-class houses were rental properties, divided fairly evenly between U.S. native families and European immigrant families.

Judging from those data, the Wauthiers enumerated on the Locus 38N property in April 1930 were different in several ways. They were the only family of Belgian or Luxembourgian heritage living along Cecil-Sturgeon Road between Gladden and Sturgeon, and were one of very few families of mixed nationalities. Immigrant populations, in general, tended to concentrate in the industrialized and commercialized valleys flanking Robinsons Run and Millers Run (including the village of Gladden)



and were less represented in the rural areas of the district. Their nearest neighbors were natives of Pennsylvania, South Carolina, West Virginia, England, Russia, and Scotland. Interestingly, very few objects were recovered that reflect the Wauthier's ethnic household. Most of the ceramics recovered from Locus 38N were manufactured in southeastern Ohio or northwestern West Virginia, and nearly all of the medicinal and household products recovered were national brands. The only traces of the Wauthiers' ethnic identity are reflected in a small number of porcelain teawares and a lice comb manufactured in Germany, and whiteware from Limoges, France. Even these objects, however, may not be ethnic indicators. The artifact assemblage from Locus 38N also included ceramics, a doll, and a figurine that were made in Japan. The lack of ethnic markers at Locus 38N is in contrast to many of southwestern Pennsylvania mining communities, where ethnic identities were maintained. It is possible that there was less of a need to maintain the sense of self in the rural, less populated setting of Locus 38. On the other hand, Vic Wauthier was nine years old when he came to America. By the time he relocated to Locus 38N, he had lived in America for nearly twenty years and had likely assimilated to the dominant cultural norms suggested by the family's adherence to the concept of the Cult of Domesticity.

A Victorian-period perspective, the Cult of Domesticity views the home as an oasis of virtue, comfort and perfection in an otherwise rough world. Wives, as keepers of the home, were supposed to reflect this perfection. The view was embraced in early nineteenth-century urban centers in New York City, and expanded into rural areas as the nineteenth century progressed. This was reflected in the geographic separation of male and female work spheres, the ritualization of meals, and a middle-class ethos incorporating a lower birth rate. The Cult of Domesticity emerged due to several interplaying factors. One of these was

the industrialization of the American economy, when economic ideals shifted from self-reliant subsistence-type farming to the accumulation of wealth in an expanding capitalist market. The Cult of Domesticity largely represents aspiration to a higher social class, or a struggle to define a new type of social class.

Vic Wauthier's family was part of a distinct minority of home-owning immigrant-headed families. According to 1930 census data, more than half of immigrant families were renters. Home ownership was particularly valued by immigrant families. In addition to its tangible benefits, home ownership provided immigrants with a sense of contentment and acceptance into a community that may have been lacking after moving to a foreign country. Vic was also one of the few heads-of-household in 1930, immigrant or otherwise, who was not employed in the local mines. Although Vic was described as a miner-farmer in the 1920 census, he apparently left behind the mining industry for employment with a local road maintenance crew by the time the following census was enumerated. Seemingly, the Wauthiers had climbed partway up the socioeconomic ladder. They ranked above their near neighbors who had immigrated more recently and were only able to afford rented residences, but they stood several rungs below those of longer residency who owned large properties and/or held steady, well-paying jobs. In addition to home ownership, this slightly higher status is reflected in the archaeological record through a large amount of curated, highly decorated "status wares" (teawares, serving wares, etc.) and more "socially acceptable" pattern of trash disposal.

Four additional children joined the Wauthier family prior to 1940. Now numbering nine members, the Wauthier household ranked among the largest in the vicinity as of April 1940. The Wauthiers constituted the largest household of 52 households recorded on a sample of five successive census schedule sheets,

with the Wauthier data recorded on the third sheet in that sequence. Those 52 households comprised 200 persons (all white), roughly one quarter of the entire enumeration district. Thirty-one of the households (60%) had Pennsylvania-born heads, and the great majority of their household members were Pennsylvania natives. One head-of-household had been born in West Virginia. The other 20 households were headed by men born in the following countries (from largest to smaller number of representatives): Belgium (4), England (3), Austria, Italy, France (all 2), Scotland, Germany, Poland, North Wales, Northern Ireland, Czechoslovakia, Lithuania (all 1; one country is illegible). The majority of foreign-born heads of households worked in local industries (mining, steel production, chemical factory, etc.). That employment was typically less steady, and earned less income. Forty-six-year-old Vic Wauthier was counted in that number; as a carpenter employed in the American Cyanamid Company's Bridgeville plant, he had only worked 26 weeks during the previous year, and had earned only \$379 in wages. To make matters worse, he was the only income generator in the large Wauthier household (though eldest daughter Almira, age 20, had recently graduated from high school, and was entering adulthood as a "new worker"). Despite the reduced income, the Wauthiers appear to be financially better off than the Ainscoughs on Locus 38S. Based on the archaeological evidence, the Wauthier household had electricity and plumbing, which indicated a fairly high status in the rural area where they lived. In comparison, by 1950, only 30% of Pennsylvania's farms had indoor flush toilets, and only 33% had hot and cold running water. The artifactual assemblage indicates that the Wauthiers retained a greater quantity and quality of dishwares, and even managed to obtain replacements during the tumultuous economy of the 1930s. Additionally, more clothing items were recovered from Locus 38N which are believed to be indicative of a greater ability to replace worn or damaged clothing. Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, the ar-

tifact assemblage and chosen method of trash disposal suggests that the Wauthiers were concerned with outward appearances. This effort to maintain a reputable appearance may be reflected in the use of trash pits to hide their refuse rather than discard it in a surface midden.

The Wauthier clan along Cecil-Sturgeon Road increased even further when a few members of Vic's family (including his widowed mother) built and occupied houses stretching a quarter-mile south of Locus 38N. Members of the Belgian-immigrant Desmet family (who had been the Wauthiers' neighbors in northern South Fayette a quarter-century earlier) quickly followed suit and joined them. Census schedules compiled in April 1940 reflect the Wauthier and Desmet families' creation of a second-generation (and presumably more Americanized) "Belgium Hill" along Cecil-Sturgeon Road. The data also appears to reflect a downturn in the Wauthiers' economic standing during the Great Depression. Vic and Margaret were able to retain ownership of their home (unlike many homeowners during the worst economic conditions), but they experienced financial strains stemming from under-employment (like many of their neighbors), exacerbated by pressures of raising an unusually large brood of children. Anecdotal evidence suggests that they "scraped by" partly through Vic's proficiency as a carpenter ("he could build just about anything") and thrift ("he never learned to drive"; "he walked everywhere"). Vic Wauthier had plenty of company in the enumeration district: roughly half of the heads-of-household reported intermittent employment, principally in local industries (mining, steel production, chemical manufacture, bolt fabrication, tire manufacture, etc.). Most heads-of-household reporting year-round employment were farmers, virtually all of whom earned at least \$850 in annual income. The remainder largely comprised shopkeepers, business owners, clergymen, teachers, contractors, and clerk.



### ***Ainscough Property (Locus 38S) (ca. 1918 through 1956)***

George and Ellen Ainscough acquired the Locus 38S property with its “5-roomed frame dwelling” from non-resident farmer Thomas Gladden and his wife Phillipine by a deed dated October 30, 1918. The Ainscoughs paid a modest \$700 for the property, approximately \$11,000 in 2015 dollars. As discussed in greater detail below, the Ainscoughs may have rented the property from the Gladdens for some weeks or months before taking title. They would own the property for over a quarter-century (until George’s death in August 1946), and they would be its occupants throughout that period, except for several years on either side of 1930. A photograph of the house taken in 1925 shows a two-story frame building built into a sloping landscape. The house was three bays wide. Archaeological evidence suggests the house was approximately 30 feet by 16 feet and oriented roughly parallel to Cecil-Sturgeon Road. In the photograph, the house is clad in shiplapped wooden siding. The upper story of the front façade has three evenly spaced, double hung 6-over-6 windows. On the lower floor, there are two seemingly fixed windows flanking a door that is centered on the building. The doorway has a three pane transom. The front of the house has a raised, one-story, full-width, shed-roofed, porch with turned posts and a shingled railing. The porch is accessed by what appears to be a 6-foot wide, 6-step stairway.

By October 1918, 49-year-old coal miner George Ainscough and his 44-year-old wife Ellen (nee Hart) had been Allegheny County residents for just over a decade, having migrated there from their native Lancashire, northwestern England, in 1905. A veteran coal miner, George had traveled to America first with Ellen’s brother James Hart, and Ellen had followed some months later with the couple’s five children. George’s initial destination was the house of Ellen and James’ recently-immigrated brother Francis Hart, in the coal-mining village of Bulger, Smith Township,

Washington County. Within a few months of his wife and children’s arrival, however, the Ainscoughs settled in rented quarters in National Mine No. 2 housing along Miller Run Road in South Fayette Township (near the village of Treveskyn; a.k.a. “Cuddy P.O.”). There the family expanded through the births of four more children. The ninth and final child (Leonora) was born “in Treveskyn” in January 1915. The Ainscoughs moved to Thomas and Phillipine Gladden’s rental property on Locus 38S sometime prior to September 12, 1918, when George and Ellen’s 18-year-old son, Tom, was registered for military service. He gave his address as “RD #3 McDonald” (rather than Cuddy), reflecting his new residence along Cecil-Sturgeon Road southeast of McDonald. Thomas was then employed as an “Extra Roll Man” at the Universal Rolling Mill in Bridgeville. In the “Description of Registrant” section of his military registration card, it was noted that Tom was eligible for physical disqualification from service because he had “half of [his] foot off.” Tom’s son—Thomas Lee Ainscough—recently explained to a CHRS, Inc. researcher that the front part of one of his father’s feet had been crushed by a railroad car on the tracks paralleling Millers Run Road.

On January 28, 1920, just over a year after George and Ellen Ainscough received a deed to the Locus 38S property, their eleven-member family was visited by a census enumerator. The Ainscough household was recorded on that occasion as comprising 50-year-old coal miner George, his 45-year-old wife Ellen, and their nine children, ranging in age from 7 to 24. The two oldest children worked in a tire factory, while the third oldest (19-year-old Tom) had joined father George in coal mine employment. While the Ainscoughs and Harts were the only English-immigrant households enumerated along Cecil-Sturgeon Road between Gladden and Sturgeon, most neighboring households included a European husband and/or wife. George Ainscough and his son Tom were part of an overwhelming majority of South Fayette

Township men engaged in coal mining. At the same time, they and several of their Hart relatives next-door (Locus 38N) were among the very few (approximately one dozen) English-born coal miners identified in an enumeration district that was home to 3,900 persons. About three-fifths of the miners in the district were Pennsylvania natives, while the remainder were largely of Austrian, Hungarian, Italian, or Polish extraction. While George Ainscough had been one in many thousands of European coal miners who had migrated to booming mine communities in southwestern Pennsylvania during the early years of the twentieth century, he found few countrymen where he settled. Moreover, his path to the Locus 38S property was highly idiosyncratic. He appears to have made his way to the Allegheny-Washington County coal region upon the urging of a brother-in-law (English miner Francis Hart) who had already made that journey, and George ended up acquiring the unusually isolated Locus 38S property—at least a half-mile removed from the nearest mines—through the offices of that same brother-in-law, who then became his next-door neighbor. There were few, if any, indications of the Ainscough’s ethnicity in the artifact assemblage. Unlike at Locus 38N, several ceramic vessels manufactured in Great Britain were recovered, and artifacts from Germany, France, and Japan were entirely absent. It is possible that these items were heirloom items brought to the site. It is just as likely, however, that the British ceramics are indicative of older stock pottery and reflect the acquisition of lower cost ceramics compared to those recovered from Locus 38N.

The abutting Locus 38S and Locus 38N properties constituted an island of Lancashirean culture on South Fayette Township’s hilly landscape for only a few years, from some point during World War I through the spring of 1920. In April 1920, the Harts sold the Locus 38N property to Luella Hart’s younger sister, unmarried schoolteacher Mabel Yeats. As Mabel continued her residency in the Millers Run valley, it is possible that the Harts

remained residents of the Locus 38N property for a year or more longer, briefly extending the period of Lancashirean culture on the abutting properties. That period ended sometime in the early 1920s, and certainly by November 10, 1924, when Mabel Yeats conveyed the Locus 38N property to the Belgian Wauthiers.

In the late 1920s, George and Ellen Ainscough moved with their youngest daughters to Akron, Ohio, where they rented a home, and George found work as a “helper” on a residential construction crew. Their reasons for relocating have not been fully ascertained. It is unclear when exactly the relocation took place, but by April 9, 1930, George and Ellen Ainscough, along with their unmarried teenage daughters Charlotte and Leonora, were enumerated in a rented house on Akron’s Chittenden Street. The Ainscoughs’ return to their home on Locus 38S in the early 1930s is also not fully explicated. George resumed mining along Millers Run sometime prior to January 10, 1935, when a “loading car pinned him against the [coal] face” while he was working in the Gilmore Coal Company’s Morris Mine, two miles southwest of his home. The serious injury he suffered might have put an end to his mining career. He and Ellen were probably living alone by 1935. A census enumerator visiting the Ainscough residence on Locus 38S in April 1940 found only 70-year-old George and 65-year-old Ellen at home. Even at his advanced age, George was employed as a laborer on local WPA projects. That work was neither steady nor highly-paid. Indeed, George worked fewer weeks than his next-door neighbor, carpenter Vic Wauthier (20 vs. 26), and he earned an even less annually (\$300 vs. \$379). By those accounts, the Ainscoughs and the Wauthiers were among the poorest residents of western South Fayette Township. Anecdotal evidence of George and Ellen’s limited means has been offered by a future owner of the Ainscough property who recalled delivering coal from his father’s mine to the Ainscough residence in or around 1943. Because the house had no electrical wiring, clothes were laundered



using “a gasoline-engine-powered Maytag clothes washer with a kick-starter, like a motorcycle.” One of George and Ellen’s grandsons recalled in a recent telephone interview that aging George had a practice of urinating in the kitchen sink when he didn’t feel like visiting the outhouse. Ellen objected vociferously (“Ye gads, George!”) when confronted with evidence of that conduct. A household of limited means is reflected in the archaeological record as well, even in comparison to Locus 38N. Ceramics are generally undecorated, and some appear to be seconds. As a whole, the number and variety of artifacts is less than was recovered from surrounding archaeological sites.

Domestic conditions on the Locus 38S property likely deteriorated more rapidly following Ellen Ainscough’s death from bladder cancer in December 1944. George’s fatal heart attack 18 months later left the property temporarily unoccupied. It is unclear when it was re-occupied by the family of George and Ellen’s son Frank, who acquired a deed to the property on August 31, 1949. Some informants have reported that members of Frank and Florence (Cusprini) Ainscough’s family occupied the dwelling through the late 1950s, and possibly into the early 1960s. Details of that occupation are scarce, though it is firmly documented that Frank and Florence moved to Pittsburgh sometime prior to February 14, 1958, when 40-year-old Florence died in that city from pelvic cancer. Widower Frank Ainscough “retired from the American Cyanamide Co.” the following year. He was reportedly back living in the house on Locus 38S with his youngest son David in “the late 1950s or early 1960s” when the house was extensively damaged during a wind storm. “I remember when the [storm] came through,” former neighbor Barry Wauthier recalled in a 2015 interview. “The wind went straight through the Ainscough house and blew both sides of it apart. It blew Davey Ainscough down in the basement. The old man [Frank] was up on the second floor, in bed. He ended up

outside the house, going to the cellar steps. Davey Ainscough hid in a closet in the kitchen, and his sister went in too, and the wall just went! It was gone!”

### ***Summary and Recommendations***

In a final section of the *Phase II Addendum* report headed “Summary and Recommendations,” the authors concluded:

Archaeological testing at Locus 38 Farm Site identified archaeological remains associated with two early twentieth-century houses that are no longer extant. Additional historical research indicated that the two houses were non-farm residences that were established on two separate parcels. Archaeological investigations encountered structural features, a large localized sheet midden deposit, and more than 100 archaeological features. The two historic properties were contemporaneous, but exhibit different patterns of yard use and trash disposal. A wide range of artifact types were recovered that relate to the Site’s occupants and their procurement and use of ceramic, glass, clothing, and personal items in the early to mid-twentieth century. Most occupants of the Site were involved with the coal mining industry. Investigation of residential properties have primarily focused on company towns, coal patch communities, or mining villages. The data collected from these studies has seldom been able to be associated with a specific family group. The data from the Locus 38 Farm Site has provided an opportunity to examine a non-coal village site that was occupied during a limited period time in the first half of the twentieth century. The archaeological information has provided insights on the local economy, commercial consumption, and socioeconomic behavior that can be compared with the nearby R. Clarke Farm Site (36AL0587) and other sites in the region.



The historic archaeological component of the Locus 38 Farm Site has provided information important to our understanding of local and regional history. The Site is recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. However, the Phase II Archaeological Survey has collected the majority of data available from the Site, and no additional archaeological testing is recommended.





## For Further Reading and Research

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