# Table of Contents

List of Tables and Figuresiv
Abstract and Acknowledgmentsv
Introduction1
Environmental Setting
Geomorphology and Surface Hydrology
Historic Overview4
Charles Johnston 1808-1819
Results of Excavation
TheWestern Units
The Eastern Units
Judgmental Units
Analysis42
Artifact Distributions, West Side
Chapter 6: Conclusions and Recommendations49
References Cited
Appendices Appendix 1: Northings, Eastings and Elevations of Key Points

## Abstract and Acknowledgments

The following report presents the results of a preliminary phase I testing project at Historic Sandusky. The project was designed to test areas along the eastern and western property boundaries of Sandusky that will be impacted by a proposed tree screen and visitor parking area. Archaeologists initiated fieldwork in March of 2002 and completed testing in May of 2002. In addition to excavating test units along the boundaries, staff also excavated a trench on the west side of the property associated with a concentration of stones hypothesized to be grave markers, and excavated four judgmental units in areas along the east side of the property where there appeared to be a high likelihood of encountering subsurface features.

Archaeologists first established a series of parallel transects running north-south at 25 ft. intervals across the property, and then excavated test units measuring 1.5 ft. square at 25 ft. intervals along transects that fell in the path of proposed planting/parking. Test units were excavated stratigraphically to undisturbed subsoil.

Results of testing along the western boundary revealed a light scatter of artifacts in the southwest portion of the project area (SD 1/1-1/4; SD 2/1-2/6, SD3/1-3/6, SD4/3-4/4). No significant deposits were discovered. Test units SD 2/7-2/9 and SD3/7-3/9 fell in an area heavily impacted by the installation of modern septic lines. To the north of this area, artifact densities increased, with concentrations of late nineteenth and twentieth-century materials associated with three areas: a brick filled feature uncovered in the northern portion of trench SD100-102; test unit SD 3/13; and the frame tenant house that sits in the northwest corner of the property. Further testing is recommended to establish the size and function of the feature found in the trench excavations and to establish the boundaries of artifact concentrations associated with the tenant house.

Testing in Transects 16-20 along the eastern property boundary revealed no intact stratigraphy. However, greater numbers of early and mid-nineteenth century artifacts were recovered along the entire boundary, with earlier-dating materials clustering at the northern and southern ends of the transects. Judgmental units SD 103 and SD 104, placed to the east of the main house, revealed areas of intact stratigraphy. In unit SD 105, archaeologists uncovered the top layers of a large feature, filled after 1885. Recommendations include monitoring any disturbance north of the septic field along the western boundary and along the entire eastern boundary to allow for the recovery of artifacts and the identification of potentially significant soil changes. In addition, it is our recommendation that parking be restricted to the west side of the property until further testing is completed. Any necessary earth-moving should be restricted to the area south of the septic lines in the immediate future.

The authors undertook the project with other members of staff from the Department of Archaeology and Landscapes at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest. These included Keith Adams, Michael Jennings, Michelle McClenny, Evan Miller and Kelly Ormond. Mark Freeman also assisted in the field. Staff and volunteers at Poplar Forest processed all artifacts in the laboratory. Heather Olson catalogued the collection; Evan Miller drafted all maps associated with the report. The authors would like to thank Greg Starbuck of Historic Sandusky Foundation, Inc. and Gail Pond of Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest for their help with this project.

List of Tables	
Table 1: Tax Assessments for Charles Johnston, 1809-1819	8
Table 2: Tax Assessment for Charles Johnston, 1815.	8
Table 3: Layer Associations, Western Test Units Within and South of Septic Field	23
Table 4: Layers in Trench.	
Table 5: Features in Trench.	30
Table 6: Layer Associations, Eastern Test Units	33
Table 7: Artifact Dates, Eastern Test Units	33
List of Figures	
Figure 1: Topographic map of Sandusky	2
Figure 2: 1813 plat, Mutual Assurance Policy for Sandusky	6
Figure 3: 1817 plat, Mutual Assurance Policy for Sandusky	7
Figure 4: 1864 map showing location of Maj. Hutter's house, outbuilding and road	16
Figure 5: 1864 map not showing Hutter's house and road	17
Figure 6: Staff excavating units on western boundary of site	19
Figure 7: Master map of the site	20
Figure 8: Map of units on western boundary of site	22
Figure 9: Photograph of "William" stone	27
Figure 10: Map of trench units	28
Figure 11: Trench on west side of property	29
Figure 12: Artifacts associated with SD 101B and SD 102A	31
Figure 13: Trench on west side of property showing SD101B and SD 102A	32
Figure 14: Map of units on eastern boundary of site	34
Figure 15: Button, Sandusky East	35
Figure 16: Horse bit and hook, Sandusky East	36
Figure 17: Ceramics, Sandusky East	
Figure 18: Map of judgmental units SD 103 and SD 104	39
Figure 19: Burial feature, SD 103	40
Figure 20: Distribution of counted artifacts, Sandusky West	44
Figure 21: Distribution of wire nails, Sandusky West	45
Figure 22: Distribution of counted artifacts, Sandusky East	46
Figure 23: Distribution of bricks, Sandusky East	47
Figure 24: Distribution of wrought and cut nails, Sandusky East	48

## Introduction

Sandusky, the historic home of several prominent area families, including the Johnstons and Hutters, is located on Sandusky Drive, approximately four miles southwest of downtown Lynchburg, Virginia. Acquired by Historic Sandusky Foundation, Inc. in 2000, the property is currently undergoing transformation from a private residence to an historic site promoting the history of Lynchburg. Consisting of approximately four acres, the site includes a Federal-style house, a brick outhouse, two twentieth-century tenant houses, extensive ornamental plantings and the potential of rich archaeological resources (Figure 1).

During the fall of 2001, Historic Sandusky board member Mr. Travis McDonald contacted the principal author seeking a proposal for archaeological testing along Sandusky's modern boundary lines. At that time, Historic Sandusky staff planned a tree-screen planting along the eastern and western boundaries of the current property to meet requirements imposed by the City of Lynchburg for making the site accessible to the public. As described, the tree screen would consist of dense plantings set back from the boundary by a minimum of 25 ft. The proposal also encompassed an area on the west side of the property earmarked for off-street parking. Craddock-Cunningham Architectural Partners produced a map, "Diagramatic Layout Sandusky House," delineating the planting plan and proposed parking area (Craddock-Cunningham Architectural Partners 2001). Subsurface testing was designed to identify archaeological deposits located within the areas of potential impact and to assess their significance.

At the same time, Mr. McDonald asked for a second proposal to cover systematic testing of the entire Historic Sandusky Foundation, Inc. property, with the understanding that initial work would focus on the tree screen and parking areas. This proposal was submitted to Mr. Tom Ledford, also of the board, on March 22, 2001. A revised proposal covering the same scope of work has recently been submitted to Mr. Greg Starbuck, Director of Historic Sandusky.

To meet these short- and longer-term archaeological testing goals, project archaeologists on contract from Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest (hereafter referred to as "staff") designed a north-south grid consisting of 21 transects spaced 25 ft. apart. They numbered transects sequentially from west to east. In all, staff plotted some 260 test pit locations on the master map. Only those transects that overlay the tree screen and parking areas were established in the field. Testing took place in March and April of 2002, and archaeologists completed excavations of four additional judgmental units and a test trench in May.

## **Environmental Setting**

#### Geomorphology and Surface Hydrology

Sandusky is located in the Piedmont uplands of Virginia. Lying as it does between the Appalachian Mountain Chain and the Virginia Coastal Plain, the Piedmont topography is best described as rolling hills dissected by dendritic drainages feeding into the several major eastward flowing rivers of the region. Upland areas, away from the major river valleys, are characterized by a fine dendritic pattern of ephemeral drainages and third and fourth order streams. Exposed rocks in the region are generally partially

metamorphosed sandstones, micaceous schists and greenstone. Soils throughout the Southern Piedmont have developed on micaceous parent materials or on redeposited sands and silts in either alluvial or colluvial deposits.

Geologists working for the United States Department of Agriculture mapped soils surrounding the main house and neighborhood at Sandusky as part of the "Urban land-Cullen complex" (USDA 1973). This designation attests to the massive amount of modern development that has taken place just outside of the current site boundaries. The Soil Conservation Service defines "Urban land" as "altered, reworked, or removed soil material" in areas where "commercial, industrial, and residential developments cover much of the surface" (USDA 1973:44). In order to acknowledge the fact that

some pockets of intact original soils remain, *e.g.*, the Sandusky property, land in the "Urban land-Cullen complex" designation contains about fifty percent Cullen soil. Cullen Loams are very deep, well drained soils that develop on narrow to broad convex rises in the upland Piedmont. They are typically reddish brown loams about 5 in. thick with deep subsoil of dark red clay and parent material of weathered hornblende gneiss. Cullen Loams exhibit rapid surface runoff and are highly susceptible to erosion (USDA 1973).

Sandusky is situated on a broad ridgetop that runs northwest to southeast for a distance of approximately 0.5 miles (USGS 1984). Perennial streams surround the base of the ridge on three sides. Burton Creek, a second order tributary of Blackwater Creek, flows in a northwesterly direction along the southwest flank of the ridge. Burton Creek joins Blackwater Creek to the northwest of the property. Blackwater Creek in turn flows northeasterly across the northern base of the ridge toward the James River. An unnamed northward flowing first order tributary of Blackwater Creek flanks the ridge on the northeast. This last stream lies approximately 1300 ft. away from the main house and represents the closest current natural water source. This suggests that Sandusky residents historically obtained water from a well or spring closer to the main house.

#### Flora and Fauna

Vegetative cover at Sandusky consists almost entirely of grassy lawn, ornamental shrubbery and mature trees. Although the specific cultivation history of the area surrounding the main house is unknown, it is likely that landowners took this area out of agricultural production before or shortly after construction of the house. To modern observers, Sandusky and its dependencies now compose an island of relatively undeveloped land in a modern neighborhood, however, the same structures were likely once an island of development in a sea of agricultural fields.

Several formal landscape features survive at Sandusky, including a boxwood circle surrounding the carriage turn-around, another boxwood planting enclosed within it and several boxwood-lined paths and terraces. These features suggest that for some time residents of the property used the area surrounding the main house as formal pleasure grounds similar to the 10-acre core area at nearby Poplar Forest. The fact that portions of the current property were probably removed from active cultivation at an early date has profound consequences for the presence and preservation of archaeological evidence. Historical evidence suggests that Sandusky has been continuously occupied since its construction. Therefore, areas near the main house and dependencies are likely to contain intact multi-component historic sites.

Tree species identified during a recent pedestrian survey of the property include black walnut, tulip poplar, pine, cedar, holly, privet, oak, crepe myrtle, dogwood, magnolia, birch, lilac, cherry and mulberry. Ornamental shrubs consisting of forsythia and boxwood (English and American) grow near the house. An old fruit tree stands on the far southwest corner of the property, perhaps indicating that an orchard once flanked the house. Much of the existing flora appears to be relatively modern although some may be descended from nineteenth-century plantings.

The boxwood-lined carriage turn-around is reminiscent of the one currently found at Poplar Forest. American Boxwood line the outside of the turn-around and the inner circle contains a circular planting of English Boxwood. This arrangement strongly suggests that the Hutter brothers copied one another's land-scape design to some extent. Another similarity to Poplar Forest is the presence of magnolias flanking the front of the house. At Poplar Forest, however, the magnolias are a twentieth-century addition.

Extensive development surrounding the property limits the diversity of fauna in the project area. Neighborhood pets roam the grounds, but with the exception of burrowing rodents, birds and insects, few native species inhabit Sandusky today. In the historic past, however, a diverse group of fauna lived within the plantation boundaries. Species common to eastern deciduous forests, including deer, squirrel, fox, turkey, opossum, eastern cottontail rabbit, ground hog, snakes (poisonous and non-poisonous), mice and raccoons certainly inhabited the project vicinity.

## Historical Overview

Sandusky was established in 1808 when Charles Johnston (1769-1833) purchased land in Campbell County and oversaw the construction of the Federal brick house that stands on the property today. The site is best known, however, for later owners' involvement in the Battle of Lynchburg during the summer of 1864. Held in private hands until 2000, the house and four surrounding acres now belong to Historic Sandusky Foundation, Inc., a non-profit historic site.

#### Charles Johnston, 1808-1819

Charles Johnston named the property in memory of his brief period of captivity in the hands of Shawnees at Sandusky, Ohio. In 1790, as a young man, he was captured while travelling to Kentucky. A French Canadian trader ransomed him, and following his release, he returned to Virginia. Four years later, he met the Duke de la Rochefoucault-Liancourt while returning to America from a trip to Europe. The Duke published an account of Johnston's capture, but, displeased with the inaccuracy of the narrative, Johnston published his own version in 1827 (La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt 1799; Johnston 1827; Reed 1950:94-95).

In 1802, Johnston resided in Richmond, Virginia, where he married Letitia Pickett and fathered a son and a daughter prior to Letitia's death. He left Richmond for Campbell County and in 1808 married Elizabeth Steptoe, the daughter of Bedford County clerk James Steptoe. That year he oversaw the construction of a two-story brick "I" house at Sandusky. By 1810, he had acquired acreage on the Blackwater Creek, on Rock Castle Creek (later Burton's Creek) and adjacent to the Quaker Meeting House. Charles and Elizabeth had two sons, James and Frederick, and two daughters, Mary and Fanny (Early 1927: 439; Reed 1950:95; Chambers 1982; Shaffer 1991:32; Chambers 1993: 58; Historic Sandusky n.d.:6).

Johnston insured his new house in 1813 and 1817 with policies from the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia. The initial policy described the house as a two-story brick structure, 48 ft. by 20 ft., with wooden shingles, and a rear two-story wing measuring 19 ft. by 18 ft. The accompanying plat shows two outbuildings, a one-story brick kitchen measuring 32 ft. by 16 ft. and a brick smokehouse measuring 16 ft. square, in a line at an undetermined distance northeast of the dwelling house (Figure 2). Together, the structures were valued at \$6550 (Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia [MASV] 1813). The policy enumerates surrounding landowners as John Lynch (to the south), Edward Terrell (to the west), Samuel Scott (to the north) and Mrs. Bullock (to the east).

Four years later, Johnston extended his policy, having added a one-story brick room, roofed with wooden shingles and measuring 24 ft. by 18 ft., to the north side of the house. This room may have served as a nursery for Johnston's children (MASV 1817; Chambers 1982). In addition to making improvements to the house, Johnston also added a building that he described as an office/school room. It was the same size and materials as the kitchen, and according to the plat that accompanied the new policy, sat opposite it on the west side of the house (Figure 3). The new policy valued the buildings, including the kitchen and smokehouse, at \$8000 (MASV 1817). It also noted that no building insured stood within 20 ft. of another, an important safeguard against the spread of fire. By 1817, Scott remained as Johnston's neighbor to the north and Terrell had acquired ownership of the remainder of the land surrounding Sandusky, except along a portion of the east, where "Tate's heirs" held some property (MASV 1817).

The 1813 plat depicted the kitchen lying north of the smokehouse with a notation of "distance 130 feet at least" written between them, and another notation of "distance at least 180 Feet" between the outbuildings and the main house. It is unlikely that Johnston would have constructed dependencies, especially a kitchen, so far from the main house, making the placement of the structures as shown in 1817 more prob-

## able. The orientation of the main house is also incorrect in the 1813 policy.

Johnston's standing within the community is hinted at by the value of his property and by an examination of his relationship with his most famous neighbor, Thomas Jefferson of nearby Poplar Forest. Tax assessments recorded for Campbell County between 1809 and 1819 indicate that Johnston owned an average of 14 slaves (most over the age of 16) and 7 horses, mules or asses. In 1815 he kept 22 head of cattle on the plantation (Tables 1 and 2). He also owned two and four wheel carriages, and a variety of furnishings that were subject to tax in 1815. Surviving correspondence from the period indicates that Johnston and Jefferson engaged in business transactions and met socially. In 1810, Johnston purchased 21 hogsheads of tobacco from Jefferson's 1809 crop for \$2005.11 (Chambers 1993:65; Bear and Stanton 1997:1254). Two years later, Jefferson

Year	Whites 16+	Blacks 16+	Blacks 12-16	Hors- es	Carriages	Tax
1809	1	10	1	5	1 (2-wheeled)	\$6.30
1810	1	11	1	6		
1811	1	10	2	6		\$11.00
1812	1	10	2	8	1 (2-wheeled)	\$11.24
1813	1	12	2	6	1 (4-wheel carriage valued at \$400)	\$16.26
1814	1	12		6	1(4-wheel carriage valued at \$300)	\$20.74
1815	See detail	•	•	•	,	•
1816	No listing					
1817	1	21	1	8	1 valued at \$200	\$21.84
1818	1	13	1	9	1 valued at \$100; 1 valued at \$500	\$23.42
1819	2	10	2 Property Tax Books	7	1 valued at \$200; 1 valued at \$850	\$25.16

Source: Auditor of Public Accounts, Personal Property Tax Books, Campbell County 1785-1814, VHS Reel 66; 1815-1829, VHS Reel 67

Table 1, Tax Assessments for Charles Johnston, 1809-1819

Year	Whites 16+	Blacks 16+	Blacks 12- 16	Blacks 9-12	Hors- es etc.	Cattle	Carriages	Tax
1015	1			1	es etc.	22	1.0	0.41.0
1815		13	4	1	<i>'</i>	22	1 2- wheeled valued at \$100; 1 4- wheeled valued at \$200	\$41.2 7

Furnishings: 1 Sideboard \$75, 3 tables, 1 Secretary, 1 bookcase, 4 bedsteds, 1 ch. Drawers, 1 ditto ornamented, 24 Gilt Chairs, 1 carpet \$40, 1 portrait in crayon, 12 pictures 9 Inches, gilt frames, 1 Mirror, 3 feet, 4 pr. G. Csticks [gilt candlesticks?]; 2 cut glass decanters

Source: Auditor of Public Accounts, Personal Property Tax Books, Campbell County 1815-1829, VHS Reel 67

Table 2, Tax Assessment for Charles Johnston, 1815

wrote to his neighbor requesting the loan of five bushels of plaster of Paris. "I am the more in hope this will not be inconvenient to you as the plaister is not usually put on the farm till spring, and there will therefore be abundant time to have it replaced. The plaistering of a house being a permanent thing, I am unwilling to have a permanent eyesore in it, occasioned by this small failure" (Chambers 1993:74-75).

Johnston's response to this request has been lost. However, the two men remained on good terms, and in November 1815, when Andrew Jackson made an unexpected visit to Lynchburg on his way to Washington, D.C., they attended a dinner in his honor. Following the meal, a number of toasts were proposed, including one from Johnston in honor of "our illustrious guest, Mr. Jefferson" (Richmond Enquirer, November 15, 1815; Chambers 1993:97). Two years later, Johnston's sister-in-law, Francis Steptoe Langhorne, reported that "Mr. Johnston intends having a big dinner tomorrow Mr Jefferson is to be of the party and to dine on venson at least that is a dish they seem to admire most" (Francis Steptoe Langhorne to Sarah T. Massie, December 5, 1817, VHS, spelling as in original).

The last recorded exchange between the two men occurred in the spring of 1819, when Johnston recommended David White to Jefferson as a plasterer for work at the University of Virginia. He had experienced White's work firsthand, explaining that "I have engaged him to do the plaistering of a House I am about building in Botetourt for my future & permanent residence (Charles Johnston to Thomas Jefferson, March 4, 1819, DLC). By this time, Johnston lived in Lynchburg, having sold Sandusky the previous year to Christopher Clark, Jr. Shortly after, he removed with is family to Botetourt, where he resided in 1827 (Early 1927: 440-441).

## Christopher Clark to John Otey, 1818-1841

Clark apparently spent little time at Sandusky, and the house and grounds fell into disrepair. An 1822 Mutual Assurance policy for property on Second Street in Lynchburg lists George Whitlocke as residing at Sandusky, apparently renting the house from Clark (MASV 1822). By1823, the main portion of the dwelling appears to have been unoccupied, with a tenant living in the rear one-story addition. That spring, Francis Langhorne reported to her sister that

Ruth Early reported that "Between 1831-1842 John M. and Lucy Otey conveyed 512 acres and a small tract of 92 acres (upon which last, widow Timberlake resided for life) to George C. Hutter..." (Early 1927:440). Historic Sandusky notes that "The property changed several times before George C. Hutter bought it, along with 700 surrounding acres" (Historic Sandusky, n.d.:8). As neither publication cites a source for these data, it is unclear to the author how much land remained in the Sandusky holdings at the time that the Hutters acquired the property.

...the day before yesterday I proposed riding to Sandusky. It is going or has gone I may with truth say to ruin; there is not one pane of glass in the Kitchen windows the ice house fallen in the house going rapidly to decay, the yard quite grown up in weeds, scarcely any gravel to be seen and in fact the whole even the tress bear a gloomy aspect. When we drove up to the front door it was some time before any one made their appearance at last Mrs. Randolph came out unlocked the front door and asked us in, the only peice of furniture I saw until I arrived in the nursery where she stays; were two rakes in the dining room, you can scarecely tell my feelings after witnessing such a total change (Francis Steptoe Langhorne to Sarah T. Massie, June 13, 1823, VHS, spelling as in original).

The icehouse mentioned by Mrs. Langhorne was most likely another feature of the Johnston-period landscape that occupied a space relatively close to the house. Other uninsured outbuildings, including slave quarters, stables and barns undoubtedly stood on the property in the early nineteenth century.

According to Ruth Early in <u>Campbell Chronicles and Family Sketches</u>, Clark sold the property to William Radford, Isaac Otey, Edward Watts and Thomas Moore in 1823, and three years later, Otey acquired the portion of the property containing the house. In 1831, acting on behalf of Otey's widow, Thomas Holcombe and Chiswell Dabney sold the property to her son John. The Campbell County census for 1830 indicates that his household consisted of one boy and two girls under five years of age, a woman between the ages of 20 and 30, and a man between the ages of 30 and 40. In addition to Otey's family, the census records three enslaved boys and two girls under the age of ten, a woman between 10 and 24 years old, and another between the ages of 24 and 36 (Census 1830). Otey and his wife Lucy owned Sandusky until 1841, when they sold it along with 600-700 acres to George Christian Hutter. This chain of land transfer should be verified through further research at the Campbell County Courthouse (Early 1927:440; Shaffer 1991:32; Historic Sandusky n.d.:8.).

## The First Generation of Hutters, 1841-1898

George C. Hutter (1793-1879) was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the son of Christian Jacob and Maria Magdalene Huber Hutter. He attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and pursued a military career that spanned nearly 50 years. It began with service as Lieutenant of Volunteers in the War of 1812 and ended in April 1861, when he resigned his commission as Paymaster of the United States Army and retired to Virginia. He served as a lieutenant in the regular army in the Seminole and Black Hawk Wars, and was promoted to Captain in the Sixth United States Infantry in the Mexican War. At the conclusion of that conflict, he had attained the rank of Major. Hutter married Harriet James Risque (1806-1898) in St. Louis, Missouri in 1830. Miss Risque was the daughter of a prominent Lynchburg lawyer, James Beverly Risque, who had also served in the War of 1812. The couple returned to Virginia and settled at Sandusky by 1841 (The News, October 11, 1898; Reeder 1999:4-5, 12; Dunn and Hobbs 1984:108).

George Hutter's younger half-brother, Edward Sixtus Hutter, attended the Naval Academy and traveled widely in the navy as a young man. With George's encouragement, he sought and found a wife among the eli-

Circular plantings of boxwood are prominent features in front of both houses. Research at Poplar Forest has not yet established a firm date for that planting. A recent dendrochronological study yielded a date range of 1810-1860 for the outer ring of box (Grissino-Mayer and Mann 2001).

gible young women of the neighborhood. In 1840, Edward Sixtus Hutter married Emma Cobbs, the only child of William Cobbs and Marian Stannard Scott Cobbs of Poplar Forest (Reeder 1999:22; Chambers 1993:177). In the following years, the relationship between the Sandusky Hutters and those at Poplar Forest remained close. Visits by Christian Jacob Hutter record interactions between the two families. In 1843 he stayed at Sandusky, writing to his son Edward that:

Harriet is sending a cart to Poplar Forest for Raspberries. . . and requested me to write a line to you . . . Thus far have I written when Harriet informs me that she is not going to write herself and therefore wishes me to inform you that by Rhoda she sends to you 2 bushels of Walnuts which you requested to get and that she sends her best respects to Mrs. Cobbs and requests her to send by the cart the promised Rasberries (sic) and Currents (sic) - to which Emma who is also saluted by her in the best and friendliest manner Rosebushes and any other flower shrubs or plants she has to (give?). I forgot to say that she thinks Mrs. Cobbs has also promised her some Box, which she would be now happy to get. . . . (Christian Jacob Hutter to Edward Sixtus Hutter, February 22, 1843, Hutter Family Papers).

The following year, having just returned to Pennsylvania from a trip to visit his sons, the elder Hutter reminisced:

Not a day passes that I am not spiritually in Poplar Forest...and then I walk along the Turnpike to Sandusky, find fault with the Captain for working too hard - rejoice with Harriett over the birth of a dear and much desired daughter - look at the sports of the boys in their yard and look at the neighbor's boys taking their grists to the mill. Not a spot on either of the plantations with which I became acquainted while in Virginia exists which I have not repeatedly visited again since I am returned to the old hearthstone. . . (Christian Jacob Hutter to Edward Sixtus Hutter, Dec. 31, 1844, Hutter Family Papers)

George and Harriet Hutter had six children: Ferdinand (1831-1885), George Christian, Jr. (1833-1837), Lawrence Taliafero (1836-1917), Edward Sixtus (1839-1904), James Risque, (1841-1923) and Adeline (Ada) Lawrence (1846-1926). The three Hutter sons that survived to adulthood all served in the Confederate Army. Union forces captured the youngest son, known to the family as Risque, and imprisoned him at a camp in Sandusky, Ohio, from the summer of 1863 through January of 1865. Following his release, he was again captured by the Union and spent the remainder of the war in prison (Ada Hutter Journal, July 15, 1864; Reeder 1999:13-15).

Property tax records from 1848-1850 record George Hutter's taxable wealth consisted of slaves (11 in 1848, seven in 1849 and ten in 1850), horses (four), watches (two were taxed in 1848), plate (valued at \$150) and in 1850, a four-wheeled pleasure carriage valued at \$250. His yearly tax for this three-year period averaged \$5.86, significantly less than Charles Johnston's annual bill (Campbell County Personal Property Tax 1847-1850).

Ada Hutter kept a journal, of which a portion dating to the summer of 1864 has survived and been transcribed. In it, the 18-year-old woman described her aspirations for the future and details of her daily life. These included a few interesting comments about her home, such as a reference to her mother's flock of turkeys (which she counted one Sunday beneath Ada's bedroom window), and mention of the family garden, where Ada picked plums for dinner one summer's day. She also recorded a visit to Poplar Forest, and a visit from her aunt and a Miss Edwards to Sandusky a few weeks later (Ada Hutter Journal 1864: July 24, July 29, August 4).

Perhaps more importantly, Ada described the effects of the Civil War on her world. From June 17 to June 19, 1864, Union troops under the command of General Hunter occupied Sandusky as they attempted to take control of Lynchburg. Their raid failed when local citizens tricked them into thinking that massive Confederate reinforcements were entering the city by train. Fighting around the city during the two-day occupation

resulted in numerous casualties. On June 21, the <u>Lynchburg Virginian</u> reported on the action, describing fighting near the

Old Quaker Church just south of Sandusky and recording the dead.

On the left of the Salem turnpike, near the Quaker Meeting House, we saw five graves. On the wooden boards placed at their head was Geo. Straup, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Co. D, 91 Ohio Vol, In.; Wm. Randall, Co. F, 91<sup>st</sup> O.V.I.; Sam'l McKee, Co. I, 91<sup>st</sup> O.V.I.; Wm. Emmons, Co. K, 91<sup>st</sup> O.V.I.; Lewis Graham, Co. C, 91<sup>st</sup> O.V.I. The record stated that these were all killed on Friday, the 17<sup>th</sup>. On the other side of the road a man was laid out in a blanket with a piece of white paper pinned on his breast, marked Ro. J. Simpson,Co. I, 1<sup>st</sup> Va. Light infantry. These memorials show the States from which these troops come...

The account went on to relate that:

Gens. Hunter, Crook, Averill and Sullivan put up with Major Hutter, about four miles from town, whose beautiful home was used as headquarters. In their suite were the notorious Dr. Rucker and David H. Strother (Porte Crayon), the former attached to Crook's staff....Some 90 odd wounded Yankees were left in Major Hutter's barn. Four or five of them died on Sunday. These wounded were rather the best looking Yankees we have seen yet, being mostly Western men. Other wounded were left at different points amongst the families of people they had robbed, whilst many of the slightly wounded were doubtless carried off (Dunn and Gibson 1984:112,114).

Ada Hutter recorded her own impressions of the battle a month later. "The Yankees have left Sandusky in desolation," she wrote on July 21.

The front fields of waving grain, the lowlands covered with rich looking clover blossoms that (filled) the eye with joy and filled the heart with thankfulness, are destroyed. Nothing but dusty fields are seen in the place, and here and there, the remains of dead horses' bodies. Mounds telling the sad tale of the horrors of war. Down the grove just back of the barn, there are a dozen mounds, not but one of them has any head stone. A small piece of board is placed over that one bearing this inscription: Lieut. J.W. Gordon, 10<sup>th</sup> Va Cavalry. Who is he-I wonder, resting quietly in the shade of the fine old oaks? I am sorry to see that he was a Virginian. He has only reaped the fate he deserved for being a traitor to his state, altho perhaps he was from Ohio, he deserved his fate. Still, when I look at his grave, imagination sees a fond mother watching with loving, tearful eyes for any mention of J.W. Gordon. She does not know that all that is earthly of her darling lies buried here in an enemy country, with no loving hand to care for his grave, no eye to shed a tear over his resting place (Ada Hutter Journal 1864: July 21).

Sixty-two years later, as an old woman of eighty, Ada Hutter Long recalled the events of that summer in a letter to the Lynchburg News.

Major Hutter was at home when General Hunter made his headquarters at Sandusky. General Hunter recognized Major Hutter as an army officer and was courteous to him and protected his

family and his home. When General Hunter said "Major Hutter, you can not go against the old flag," his reply was "Yes my home is here." A Confederate flag floated from the front porch and the band played "Dixie" and "The Bonnie Blue Flag" as they marched into the yard.

Generals Averill, of the cavalry, Crook and Sullivan and staffs were with General Hunter in the Sandusky house. McKinley and Hayes were there too, but I do not remember them. When General Hunter and his army retreated they took all of the horses and mules from Sandusky.

The large brick barn was cleared to use as a hospital for the wounded soldiers of the Northern army. When General Hunter retreated a great many wounded were left in this barn. Though Major Hutter did all he could for them many died and sleep beneath the oaks in the grove at Sandusky (Lynchburg News, February 4, 1926).

The location of the barn that served as a field hospital and the oak grove behind it that became a cemetery is not currently known. A Civil War-era map of the area shows "Maj Hutter's" house lying just east of a north-south plantation road running between the Salem Turnpike and the Blackwater Creek (Figure 4). The map includes an unlabeled building one eighth of a mile due west of the house, on the edge of a north-south trending wood. This appears to be an outbuilding on Hutter's plantation. Whether it denotes the location of the barn is unclear. Other barns on the map are labeled, and the symbol for their location is not the same as the symbol that designates the building on the Hutter property. Another map of the same period shows only the house site with a road running to the west (Figure 5). The fact that the oak grove survived into the twentieth century, and that its location was reported in the newspaper as late as 1926, argues against the destruction of the graves when the property was subdivided some twenty to thirty years later.

In 1877, Risque Hutter married his cousin Charlotte ("Lottie") Stannard Hutter at Poplar Forest. The couple lived at Sandusky with their children, with Risque eventually attaining ownership of the property (Reeder 1999:15). George Christian Hutter died at Sandusky in 1879 while taking a customary morning nap in the parlor. He was 87 (Lynchburg News, August 1, 1879). His wife Harriet survived for another nineteen years, one of the last remaining pensioners of the War of 1812. She died in October of 1898, at the age of 92 (The News, October 11, 1898).

Much remains to be learned about Sandusky during the second half of the nineteenth century. This includes the number and location of outbuildings and landscape features associated with the property, the economic history of the plantation, and the impact of the Civil War on its residents. One important area for further research involves the enslaved community and overseers who lived and worked on the property throughout the antebellum period. A quick review of correspondence suggests that slaves were exchanged between the Sandusky and Poplar Forest plantations. In 1842, Christian Jacob Hutter, visiting his son and daughter-in-law at Sandusky, wrote to his son Edward:

In order that you may make your arrangements accordingly, she [Harriet] requests me to tell you that she will take Roda for a field hand agreeable to Capt. Hutter's ideas - and we also depend upon your buying one [] good men - such as You Know will suit this place at Wm. Cobbs sale. We are sorry that Peter refuses moving here; because we had much confidence in him, but since it is so, we suppose it best to wait the return of your brother before we hire any other (Christian Jacob Hutter to Edward Sixtus Hutter, December 31, 1842, Hutter Family Papers).

Ada Hutter's journal notes that on Sunday, July 31, 1864 "...all the servants went to hear the funeral sermon of Uncle Lewis, one of Grandpa's old family servants," suggesting that some enslaved men and women remained on the property during the War.

The effects of the War on Sandusky remain to be studied. At neighboring Poplar Forest, the emancipa-

tion of African-Americans resulted in the hiring of white laborers as tenant farmers, and an ever-increasing spiral of debt (Chambers 1993:194). Doubtless similar economic conditions were experienced on plantations across Virginia as freedmen left in search of family and the opportunities for prosperity that freedom briefly promised.

## 1898 to the present

Risque Hutter's son Ferdinand (1885-1950) owned Sandusky at the time of his death in 1950. Sometime in the early twentieth century, two tenant houses were built on the property to the west of the house. Archaeological evidence (see below) suggests that an outbuilding located in the area between the tenant houses was torn down in the first half of the century.

In 1952, Neville and Louise Atkinson purchased the house and four acres (Chambers 1982; Dunn and Hobbs 1984:108; Historic Sandusky n.d.:9). Six years later, the City of Lynchburg annexed this land and the surrounding neighborhood (Loyd and Mundy 1975). A 1963 topographic map of the area shows the early stages of subdivision of the land around the house (USGS 1985) (Figure 1).

In 2000, Mrs Atkinson decided to sell the property. In response to her desire to find a group to purchase the house and land and open it to the public, the Historic Sandusky Foundation was incorporated in December of 2000 (Historic Sandusky n.d.:9-10).

Further research into the twentieth-century history of Sandusky should include a search for surviving topographic maps that may indicate the location of surviving nineteenth-century outbuildings prior to the subdivision of the property, and for extant aerial photographs. Surviving aerials of Poplar Forest from 1949 show the location of tenant houses, roads, field and property boundaries that have since been lost to decay and development. Photographs from the first half of the twentieth-century should prove equally valuable in discerning remnant landscape features at Sandusky. Will and deed research will also more clearly establish the line of ownership from George Hutter through Neville Atkinson, while a search of real estate advertisements from the 1952 sale and tax records may shed light on buildings or landscape features present at that time that have since disappeared.

## Field Methods

Archaeological survey and field work was carried out on the property from March through May of 2002 (Figure 6). Staff used a Nikon DTM-500 Electronic Total Station to establish points at 25 ft. intervals along transects. These points marked the northwest corners of 1.5 ft. square test units (Appendices 1-3). Staff recorded the location of each excavation unit on the master map and all opening elevations using the Electronic Total Station (Figure 7).

For the purposes of this project, staff used the prefix SD (for Sandusky) followed by the transect number and the unit number within each transect to label each test unit. This system can be modified in the future by applying to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for a unique site number, at which time the state -designated number would replace the SD prefix.

Staff numbered each test unit sequentially within each transect, starting with "1" at the southernmost point and working northward. Because the boundaries of Sandusky do not fall in straight north-south lines, several of the transects are truncated. To the west, Transect 1 consisted of only four units (SD 1/1-SD 1/4), while Transect 2 contained eleven units. Excavators modified the spacing of three units (SD3 /1, SD 3/14 and SD 3/16) along the western boundary to avoid tree roots or other obstructions. Three others fell too close to the modern property boundary (SD 1/5, SD 2/12) or to an existing structure (SD 3/15), and consequently were not excavated. To the east, Transects 19-21 are truncated to the south, and vary in length. Given the proximity of test units in Transect 21 to trees and shrubbery, staff did not excavate units in this line. A single unit, SD 22/14, fell in Transect 22. It too was not excavated due to its proximity to the property boundary.

Project archaeologists excavated all units by natural strata to the depth of culturally sterile subsoil, and screened the soil through ¼ in. wire mesh. They then bagged all recovered artifacts and labeled the bags by provenience. Staff assigned a sequential letter designation to each layer or feature they encountered. In some cases, topsoil received the letter A, while in other cases, excavators designated topsoil by the SD number only.

Excavators saved all cultural material except obviously modern objects (cellophane, modern plastic and aluminum foil) and charcoal. In cases where quantities of architectural artifacts such as brick, mortar, concrete and/or plaster were encountered, staff only collected a representative sample. In units that contained isolated fragments of these materials, they saved each fragment.

Archaeologists also recorded pedological attributes of soil color using Munsell Soil Color Charts, and soil texture using standard soils nomenclature. As appropriate, they drew plan and profile views of features. Individual features and the excavations as a whole were photographed using 35 mm. color slide film, print film and a Sony Mavica digital camera.

The initial testing strategy consisted of excavating a total of 32 test units along the western boundary and 18 on the east. Three contiguous units, one measuring 5 ft. x 1.5 ft. and two measuring 10 ft. x 1.5 ft., were excavated on the west side of the property in an area believed to contain one or more graves. Staff numbered these sequentially from south to north as SD 100, SD 101 and SD 102. Large stones associated with this area were numbered sequentially from one through five and mapped on the master map.

Artifacts uncovered in the process of exposing the stones were bagged separately and labeled with the number of the stone they overlay.

Archaeologists placed four additional units judgmentally on the east side of the property in line with the south side of the house at intervals suggested by the 1817 Mutual Assurance plat to contain structures (SD 103 and SD 104) or overlying areas of apparent disturbance (SD 105 and 106). Each of these units fell outside of the initial project area. They received sequential designations ranging from SD103-SD106. Staff recorded their location in the field notes by grid co-ordinates and placed them on the master map for the site.

## Laboratory Methods

Staff processed all artifacts according to the standard laboratory procedures outlined in the Poplar Forest Lab and Field Manual (Heath et al. 2002). Staff members and volunteers washed and labeled all non-fragile materials. The laboratory supervisor catalogued each artifact in the Access database program. They weighed window glass, brick, mortar, cement, slag, limestone and charcoal and counted all other types of artifacts. Staff temporarily removed all ceramic vessels, vessel glass and other likely candidates from their context bags following their cataloguing for crossmending. All of the artifacts, field notes, photographs and electronic files from this phase of testing will be returned to Historic Sandusky Foundation, Inc. for permanent curation.

## Results of Excavation

Excavations took place within 25 ft. of the western and eastern property boundaries. The following section presents the results of excavation beginning with a discussion of soil stratigraphy across the western test area and trench, and concludes with a discussion of the eastern test area and four eastern judgmental units.

#### The Western Units

Disturbance associated with a modern septic field divided Transects 1-4 into three spatially distinct areas: units south of the septic field, units contained within it, and units lying to the north (Figure 8). The southernmost units contained the most straightforward stratigraphy and the fewest artifacts, while those that lay north of the septic field contained relatively high quantities of artifacts and more complex stratigraphy. Each area will be discussed separately below.

Due to some inconsistencies in field recording, archaeologists sometimes labeled turf separately from topsoil, and sometimes combined the two layers. They also sometimes designated a separate transition between plowzone and subsoil, while other times did not distinguish between these subtle soil changes. Table 3 associates stratigraphy across the site's western boundary within and south of the modern septic field. Stratigraphy north of the septic field is described in detail later in this chapter.

Unit Number	Topsoil	Plowzone	Septic Disturbance
SD 1/1	SD 1/1	SD 1/1A	
SD 1/2	SD 1/2	SD 1/2A	
SD 1/3	SD 1/3	SD 1/3A	
SD 1/4	SD 1/4	SD 1/4A	
SD 2/1	SD2/1	SD 2/1A	
SD 2/2	SD 2/2	SD 2/2A	
SD 2/3	SD 2/3A	SD 2/3B	
SD 2/4	SD 2/4	SD 2/4A	
SD 2/5	SD 2/5A	SD 2/5B	
SD 2/6	SD 2/6	SD 2/6A	
SD 2/7	SD 2/7		SD 2/7A
SD 2/8	SD 2/8		SD2/8A
SD 2/9	SD 2/9A		SD 2/9B
SD 3/1		SD3/1	
SD 3/2	SD3/2A	SD3/2B	
SD 3/3		SD3/3	
SD 3/4	SD3/4	SD3/4A	
SD 3/5		SD3/5A	
SD3/6		SD3/6A	
SD 3/7			SD 3/7A and 3/7B
SD 3/8			SD3/8A
SD 3/9			SD 3/9
SD4/3		SD4/3A	
SD 4/4		SD4/4A	

Table 3: Layer Associations, Western Test Units Within and South of Septic Field

#### Southwest Units

Units SD 1/1-SD 1/4 in Transect 1, SD 2/1-SD 2/5 within Transect 2, SD3/1-SD 3/6 in Transect 3, and SD 4/3 and 4/4 in Transect 4 shared similar stratigraphy. This consisted of little or no topsoil and a plowzone sealing undisturbed natural subsoil. Plowscars trending southeast to northwest cut into subsoil in SD1/2, SD 2/1 and SD 2/3, but contained no artifacts.

In Transects 1 and 2, topsoil was characterized by brown loam (7.5YR4/3) averaging 0.25 ft. in depth. A single brick fragment was found in SD 2/1; the remaining southwest units contained no artifacts in topsoil. With the exception of SD 3/2, SD 3/4 and SD 4/4, project archaeologists working in Transects 3 and 4 did not describe a distinct topsoil. In those cases where topsoil was recorded, excavators described it as a thin layer of yellow red silty loam (2.5YR4/6). SD 3/2 contained a single fragment of coal in topsoil, while 4/4 yielded a creamware fragment, a piece of clear bottle glass, a brick and a coal fragment, and a single cut nail.

In Transects 1 and 2, plowzone consisted of a strong brown clay loam (7.5YR4.6) that sealed red clay subsoil at an average depth of 0.99 ft. Archaeologists recovered one fragment of brick (SD2/3B), a fragment of slag (SD 2/5B) and a single piece of coal (SD 2/5B) from plowzone layers in these units. The presence of a clear plowzone and plowscars in this area suggests that it fell outside of the area designated for pleasure grounds during the Johnston and/or Hutter periods of ownership. The lack of artifacts in this area makes it impossible to date the last episode of plowing.

Somewhere between Transects 2 and 3, soil color and consistency changed. Plowzone in the southern units of Transects 3 and 4 consisted of yellowish red silty clay (2.5YR4/6 to 2.5YR4/8) sealing subsoil. It averaged 0.93 ft. in depth. In SD 4/3 and 4/4, located closest to a modern gravel road, small quantities of gravel were mixed into the plowzone, suggesting that road materials had been deposited in disturbed soils fairly recently. Artifact densities increased slightly, with units in Transects 3 and 4 yielding two cut nail fragments (SD 3/4A and SD 4/3A), a piece of lead (SD 3/5A) and a fragment of coal slag (SD 3/4A).

#### Septic Field

Located approximately 140 ft. north and 20 ft. east of Sandusky's southern and western boundaries, a modern septic field services an adjacent brick tenant house contained within the lot. The field measures approximately 27 ft. east-west by 67 ft. north-south. The concrete vault for the system has been recently located and mapped alongside units excavated on the western boundary (Figure 3). A series of parallel depressions, visible on the ground surface, indicates the location of field lines throughout this area. The installation of the lines interrupted stratigraphy in units SD 2/7-2/9 and SD 3/7-3/9.

A mixture of mottled loam and red clay overlay the area, suggesting the redeposition of disturbed soils on the ground surface once the lines were in place. Soil associated with the lines ranged from dark red clay (2.5YR3/6) to brown silty clay (7.5YR4/4). These deposits cut through existing plowzone of yellowish red silty clay (most commonly recorded as 2.5YR4/6). Subsoil was reached at a depth from 1.0-1.2 ft. below grade, with drain lines extending deeper into natural soils. When staff encountered individual lines, they did not excavate them.

Artifact densities began to increase in this area, especially in units associated with Transect 3. While some artifacts, such as the bottle glass and unidentified metal recovered from SD 2/9, or the cement recovered from SD 3/9, may be associated with the installation of the lines themselves, other artifacts appear to predate the septic system. These include bone, salt glazed stoneware and burned glass recovered from SD 3/7 and a salt glazed stoneware fragment in SD 3/8.

#### Area North of the Septic Lines, Shovel Test Pits

Archaeologists excavated two test pits in Transect 2 (SD 2/10 and SD 2/11) and six pits in Transect 3 (SD 3/10- 3/14 and SD 3/16) north of the septic lines. SD 3/15 lay within the footprint of a second tenant house in the northeast corner of the lot and was not excavated. In general, this area was characterized by significantly higher densities of domestic and architectural artifacts and appears to have been heavily used by late nineteenth- and twentieth-century occupants of the property. While some of the artifacts no doubt are associated with the nearby frame tenant house, others appear to mark the location of at least one dismantled building.

Unit SD 2/10 contained a thin layer of topsoil that contained cut and wire nails, whiteware, porcelain, clear glass, brick and coal. It sealed layer A, a 0.8 ft. thick deposit of strong brown clay loam (7.5YR 4/6). Excavators collected nails, whiteware, clear glass, a brick fragment and a piece of coal from this layer.

Unit SD 2/11 fell close to the property boundary, and marked the last excavated unit in Transect 2. Beneath a 0.4 ft. thick topsoil of dark reddish gray silty loam, excavators uncovered a deposit of red silty loam mottled with dark grey loam (2.5YR5/8 and 2/5YR4/2). The unit contained wire, fence staples, wire nails, horseshoe nails, bolts, screws, files, cutter bar blades, cast iron, and rubber. Pieces of synthetic material associated with electrical insulators provide a date of 1907 or later for both layers. The quantity and forms of iron objects recovered in this unit suggests that a barn or workshop may have stood in close proximity to this area.

Unit SD 3/10 consisted of a layer of topsoil 0.35 ft. in thickness which contained window glass, light bulb glass, decal-decorated whiteware, brick fragments, a machine-made screw, a cut nail fragment and an uni-

dentified fragment of iron. Due to the presence of aluminum foil, the layer dates to post-1947. Topsoil sealed SD 3/10A, a layer of dark reddish brown silty loam (2.5YR3/4) that contained an abundance of domestic artifacts. These included vessel and container glass, window glass, another probable light bulb fragment, numerous sherds of decal-decorated whiteware (one piece of which mended with a fragment recovered from topsoil), slag, a copper alloy tack, a piece of pencil slate, cut nails and nail fragments. The layer post-dates 1870 due to the presence of a wire nail. It was 0.4 ft. in thickness, and sealed SD 3/10B, a thinner layer of red clay (2.5YR4/6) transitioning to undisturbed sterile subsoil, which was reached at a depth of 1.0 ft. below grade. No artifacts were recovered from this lower layer.

Unit SD 3/11 was characterized by a shallow topsoil of 0.2 ft. sealing SD 3/11A, a thick layer of yellowish brown silty clay with brick flecking. It measured 0.8 ft. in thickness before transitioning to subsoil. SD 3/11A contained a variety of domestic artifacts including window and vessel glass, coal slag, an iron bolt, a single whiteware sherd and a copper alloy object, as well as architectural and landscape-related artifacts such as an iron fence staple, brick fragments, and wire nails. The presence of these nails dates the layer to post-1870.

Twenty-five feet to the north, SD 3/12 contained quite distinctive soil and evidence of heavy disturbance. Topsoil, 0.3 ft. in thickness, consisted of black loam (7.5YR2.5/1). It contained a single fragment of clear bottle glass. Beneath this layer, SD 3/12A was characterized by a mixed layer of dark brown loam (7.5YR3/2) containing mottles of red clay subsoil (2.5 YR4/6). This layer was 0.7 ft. in thickness and sealed subsoil. Artifacts associated with the layer included aqua glass and cut nails, both likely dating to the nineteenth century, mixed with brick fragments, mortar, industrial stoneware tile, limestone and a wire nail. Clear plastic sheeting, also present, confirms a date of post-1940 for the layer.

Evidence for twentieth-century disturbance of this area continued in SD 3/13. There, topsoil sealed a 0.8 ft. thick layer of yellowish brown silty loam and clay, with charcoal and rocks mixed throughout. This deposit, SD 3/13A, contained limestone and flat pieces of slate or schist, perhaps associated with roofing material. It sealed a layer of modern destruction debris extending to a depth of 1.65 ft. below grade. Initially, excavators divided this layer into two parts, SD 3/13 B and SD3/13C, but upon excavation, it became clear that the two soils represented one episode of deposition, and the artifacts and notes were combined. The layer consisted of a mix of yellowish brown sandy loam (10YR5/4) and red clay subsoil (2.5YR5/8). It contained numerous cinders and fragments of coal slag, limestone, Portland cement, four wire nails, an iron strap and three large pieces of modern cinder block. While the presence of Portland cement indicates a date for the layer of 1899 or later, the cinder block most likely dates to the twentieth century.

SD 3/14 was located due south of the frame tenant house that sits in the northwest corner of the Sandusky property. It was offset from the grid by 1.5 ft. to the south to avoid a flower garden associated with the house. The unit consisted of a 1.0 ft. thick deposit of brown loam (7.5YR4/3) that contained clear, brown and aqua bottle glass, cut and wire nails, iron wire and an unidentified fragment of iron. In addition, a white plastic bead set the date for the layer at 1940 or later. Beneath SD 3/14A, excavators began to explore SD 3/14B. However, less than 0.1 ft. into the layer they encountered a large quartzite stone along the south wall of the unit surrounded by small stones in a matrix of soil. A single wrought nail was found in the fill sealing the stones. This feature was not excavated further.

Just to the north of the frame house, archaeologists completed Transect 3 with unit 3/16. Under a shallow topsoil, the unit contained a yellowish brown (5YR4/6) silty clay plowzone that extended to subsoil reached at 0.9 ft. below grade. SD 3 /16A contained a variety of domestic artifacts, including glass lid liners for preserving food in glass jars, a clear medicine bottle labelled "KNOXALL", lamp or light bulb glass, a variety of ceramics including whiteware, yellowware, Chinese porcelain and porcelain sherds, a piece of cast iron hardware, coal slag and what appears to be roofing felt, perhaps associated with the roof of the nearby frame structure. This set the date for the layer at 1890 or later; however, ceramics and glass found associated with it may date to earlier in the nineteenth century.

Area North of the Septic Lines, Trench

In addition to the test units excavated in this area, approximately 260 ft. north of Sandusky's south boundary and 25 ft. east of the western property line, excavators encountered a series of six flat stones resting on or just beneath the surface. In the process of exposing the stones for mapping, archaeologists uncovered a variety of artifacts lying on or near them. For recording purposes, they assigned a number between one and six to each stone, and bagged associated artifacts by the number of the stone in closest proximity to them. Stone number five, aligned roughly east-west, has the word "William" carved into its surface with the letters facing north, suggesting its possible association with a grave (Figure 9).

In order to test the hypothesis that this and other stones represented grave markers, archaeologists excavated a 25 ft. x 1.5 ft. trench divided into three segments, running diagonally between the stones with a roughly northeast to southwest orientation (Figures 10 and 11). SD100, at the southern end of the trench, measured 5 ft. x 1.5 ft., while SD101, in the middle, and SD102, at the northern end, each measured 10 ft. x 1.5 ft. Excavators aligned the trench so that it would intersect possible grave shafts associated with four of the six stones.

Stratigraphically, each unit was sealed by a thin topsoil layer characterized by dark brown loam. Topsoil contained a dense concentration of artifacts, with a *terminus post quem* of 1950 based on the presence of a light green Dr. Pepper bottle fragment. A high concentration of iron objects, including a nut, a screw, fence staples, a washer, wire,

bolts, a file, a hammer head and numerous unidentifiable fragments were recovered from topsoil in units 101 and 102 over the feature (Figure 12).

In SD102, topsoil sealed a deposit of rubble fill (SD102A) that was not excavated. The rubble extended approximately 1.0 ft. south into SD101, where it was removed as SD 101B (Figure 13). The soil and artifacts contained within the fill sloped sharply to the north and contained several thin lenses that were all removed together. The feature's slope and lensing suggests that it is the upper layer of deposition for a deeper depression under SD102 that was created by several fill episodes (Table 4). In the small section of the feature removed as SD101B, fragments of Dr. Pepper bottle again set the date for filling as post-1950. In addition, staff recovered animal bone, Bristol-glazed stoneware; clear, light blue and amber bottle glass, a blue fruit jar fragment, the alloy section of a lightbulb, a fragment of rubber and numerous pieces of iron, including wire, fence staples, bolts, bar iron, a washer and unidentified fragments. Architectural materials consisted of brick fragments, pieces of Portland cement and a number of cut and wire nails. This layer contained concentrated brick, mortar, and cement as it extended into unit SD102, and appears to represent trash mixed with building rubble used to fill in a depression. Its proximity to SD 2/11 and SD 3/13, which contained concentrations of iron and building rubble, suggests that one or more buildings were dismantled in this area. Given the dates of the artifacts in the top layers of fill, these deposits appear to correspond with the period when the property passed from the Hutter family to the Atkinsons.

The feature cut through a layer of brown clay loam (SD101C and SD100A) that extended southward throughout the trench. Both units contained wire nails in this layer, indicating a deposition date of post-1870. In SD100, the layer was disturbed by a shallow feature that appears to represent tree root activity. It contained no artifacts. The 1870s layer sealed a thin layer of reddish brown clay loam (SD100C, SD101D) that, in turn, sealed subsoil (Table 4) at a depth varying from 0.77 feet in SD101 to 0.81 ft. in SD100. In SD101D, a wire nail was recovered, providing a post-1870 date for this layer as well. However, staff found a number of earlier artifacts, including dark green wine bottle glass, cut nails, and a possible wrought nail in this layer.

Unit Num- ber	Munsell Value	Thickness	Layer Sequence
SD100	7.5YR3/3	0.17 ft.	Topsoil
S 101A	7.5YR3/3	0.16 ft.	Topsoil
SD102	7.5YR3/2	0.16 ft.	Topsoil
SD100A	7.5YR4/3	0.43 ft.	Layer 1; same as 101C
SD101C	7.5YR4/4	0.26 ft.	Layer 1; same as 100A
SD100C	2.5YR4/3	0.21 ft.	Layer 2; same as 101D
SD101D	2.5YR4/6	0.34 ft.	Layer 2; same as 100C

Table 4: Layers in Trench

Unit Number	Munsell Value	Thickness	Layer Sequence
SD102A	7.5YR3/3	Not excavated	Under topsoil, same as 101B
SD101B	7.5YR3/3	No closing elevations taken	Under topsoil, cuts 101C; same as 102A
SD100B	7.5YR3/3	0.1 ft.	Root disturbance, cuts 100C

Table 5: Features in Trench

#### The Eastern Units

Archaeologists excavated eighteen shovel test pits on Transects 16 through 20 along the eastern property boundary (Figure 14). Unlike the western boundary area, which appears to have been subjected to significant disturbance in the twentieth century, the eastern area contained less evidence of modern activity. Table 6 associates stratigraphy across the site's eastern boundary.

Unit Number	Topsoil	Plowzone	Transition to Subsoil	Features
SD 16/1	16/1A	16/1B		
SD 17/1	17/1	17/1A		
SD 17/2	17/2A	17/2B		
SD 17/3		17/3A		
SD 17/4	17/4	17/4A	17/4B	
SD 17/5	17/5A	17/5B		17/5C
SD 18/5	18/5A	18/5B		
SD 18/6		18/6A, 18/6B		
SD 18/7	18/7, 18/7A	18/7B	18/7C	
SD 18/8	18/8, 18/8A	18/8B	18/8C	
SD 18/9	18/9A	18/9B		
SD 19/9	19/9A	19/9B	19/9C	
SD 19/10	19/10A	19/10B		19/10C
SD 19/11	19/11, 19/11A	19/11B		
SD 19/12	19/12A	19/12B		
SD 20/12	20/12A	20/12B		20/12C
SD 20/13	20/13, 20/13A	20/13B	20/13C	
SD 20/14	20/14A	20/14B		

Table 6: Layer Associations, Eastern Test Units

The stratigraphy on the property's east side was very simple, consisting of a topsoil layer sealing plowzone. Topsoil consisted of loam ranging in color from 7.5YR4/4 (brown) to 5YR4/3 (dark reddish brown) and averaging 0.3 ft. in depth. In two units, SD18/9 and SD19/12, topsoil extended some 0.5 ft. below modern grade, suggesting that previous owners of Sandusky had filled depressions in this area with soil rich in organic content. Plowzone was characterized by a silty clay with mottles of clay subsoil distributed throughout it. It ranged in color from 5YR4/3 (reddish brown) to 5YR4/6 (yellowish red) and averaged 0.96 ft. in depth. In some units, excavators distinguished a transitional layer of slightly more clayey soil between the interface of plowzone and subsoil.

East-west trending plow scars appeared beneath plow zone in SD 17/5 and SD 20/12 (Features C). Neither contained any artifacts. In unit SD 19/10, a feature sealed beneath plowzone consisted of two shallow trenches, approximately 0.7 ft. wide and 0.2-0.3 ft. deep, running north-south. They contained a lead bullet, coal and coal slag, bottle glass, whiteware, stoneware, bone, iron fragments, a wrought or cut nail and window glass, with a terminus post quem of 1875 based on the presence of a solarized glass bottle fragment. The original function of this feature has not been determined.

Archaeologists recovered a wide variety of artifacts from units in this area, including an alloy button that may date to the War of 1812, a horse bit and iron hook, and a variety of nineteenth-century ceramic sherds (Figures 15-17).

## Judgmental Units

Staff placed four 1.5 ft. by 1.5 ft. units off-grid to investigate areas on the east side of the property. Units SD 103 and 104 were excavated in an attempt to locate the kitchen building (32 ft. north-south x 16 ft. east-west) documented in the 1817 Mutual Assurance Policy for the property (Figure 18). The plat depicts the

southwest corner of the kitchen building as falling 33 ft. east of the southeast wall of the main house. Given the discrepancy between the reported size and the actual drawn size of the rear ell addition to the house, staff projected a margin of error of approximately 10 ft., suggesting its southwest corner lay somewhere between 28 and 38 ft. from the house. They placed SD 103 45 ft. east and 3 ft. north of the southeast corner of the house in an area that was predicted to be within the foundations of the kitchen or directly adjacent to them. SD 104 was placed 35 ft. further east in the same north-south line to investigate an area that appeared to be artificially flattened.

Excavators did not find evidence of intact masonry or high artifact densities associated with the kitchen in either unit. Instead, SD103 consisted of reddish brown (5YR4/3) clay loam that transitioned to natural subsoil at a depth of 1.0 ft. below modern grade. The unit contained bone fragments, a sherd of English black glazed redware, a blue bottle base fragment, a clear hollow glass vessel fragment, window glass, three cut nails, a wire nail, coal, charcoal, brick fragments, a piece of unidentified iron, and a pencil eraser and round lead. Round lead pencils were introduced after 1875, confirming a late nineteenth century date for the layer.

Staff originally excavated SD104 as a standard 1.5 ft. square test unit, but expanded it to a 3 ft. by 3 ft. unit when they encountered the edge of a feature at the interface between layers A and B. The original test unit fell in the southeast corner of the expanded unit. SD 104 contained a dark brown organic topsoil that extended 0.4 ft. below modern grade. Archaeologists recovered numerous artifacts from this layer in the expanded unit. These included domestic artifacts such as bone and shell two-holed button fragments and a metal alloy button dating from the early nineteenth century, bird and mammal bone, blue transfer-printed porcelain, undecorated porcelain, a flowerpot fragment, brown lead glazed redware from a hollow vessel, a whiteware cup fragment with gold gilding around the rim, blue transfer-printed and undecorated whiteware, yellowware, a fragment of industrial household tile, clear, clear molded and aqua bottle glass and an opaque white cosmetic jar with screw threads. Staff also identified a copper alloy rim fire pistol cartridge, a paper clip, an iron bolt and unidentified iron fragments. Architectural artifacts consisted of brick fragments, window glass, 28 cut nails, 52 wire nails, mortar, stone and a piece of asphalt tile. The layer post-dated 1920 based on a maker's mark on the cosmetic jar. The high concentration of nails and other architectural materials in the layer suggests proximity to a building site.

SD 104A contained the same reddish brown soil that was found in SD 103. At a depth of 0.75 ft. below grade, excavators found the edge of a dark brown feature in the northeast corner of the test unit (Figure 19). Numerous small bones protruded from the soil matrix. Staff decided to expand the unit to investigate this feature, and opened a 3 ft. by 3 ft. unit with the original test unit falling in the southeast corner. The feature, measuring approximately 1 ft. north-south and 0.5 ft. to 1.0 ft. east-west, lay within the southern half of the expanded unit, and contained the skeleton of an immature small mammal. Once the burial was excavated, archaeologists removed a further 0.2 ft. of soil

from the original 1.5 ft. unit (SD 104B) to reach undisturbed subsoil at a depth of 0.95 ft. below modern grade.

Excavators did not find any artifacts in layer B; however layer A contained numerous domestic and architectural artifacts across the expanded unit. These included small mammal bones, eggshell, Chinese porcelain with a green over-glaze decoration, green decal-decorated whiteware, undecorated whiteware, yellowware, burned aqua bottle glass, clear bottle glass, small amounts of window glass, brick fragments, a copper alloy rim fire pistol cartridge, nine cut nails, eight wire nails and one wrought nail, two unidentified nails, unidentified iron fragments, coal, charcoal, mortar and a slate pencil. The layer dates to post-1892 based on the presence of a crown bottle cap. Although the feature containing the animal skeleton did not become clear until after the removal of A layer, the presence of well-preserved bones in topsoil, layer A and the feature suggests that the burial is fairly modern.

Archaeologists placed SD105, located approximately 42 ft. north and 177 ft. east of the house, over a large depression (Figure 14). The unit contained three distinct layers. Layer A contained reddish brown (5YR4/4) clay loam mixed with mottles of red clay subsoil. It extended 1.2 ft. below grade, and sealed a deposit of sterile, redeposited subsoil that excavators labeled layer B. Approximately 0.6 ft. in depth, layer B sealed a second deposit of reddish brown clay loam. This deposit, layer C, was excavated an additional 1.8 ft.

At 3.6 ft. below grade, excavation of the unit stopped due to the difficulty of removing additional soil at that depth. Given the depth of cultural deposits and the size of the depression as seen from the surface—approximately 10 ft. in diameter—it is hypothesized that a deep pit associated with an icehouse or well might be located here.

SD104. Animal bone, a fragment of creamware, a fragment of pearlware, numerous sherds of undecorated, blue-edged, molded, transfer-printed and hand-painted whiteware, yellowware and porcelain fragments were found in the layer, as well as dark green wine bottle glass fragments, clear and aqua bottle glass, solarized bottle glass. Clothing-related artifacts included a grommet, a pin and a rivet with a small fragment of leather still intact. Excavators also found twelve cut nails, a single wrought nail, unidentified iron fragments, coal, lime and mortar in this layer, which post-dated 1875 based on the presence of solarized glass.

SD105C contained a nearly identical assemblage of artifacts, with the addition of two wire nails and a milk bottle post-dating 1885. It appears then, that the feature was filled in sometime in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, but incorporated a variety of artifacts dating to the middle of the century and a few (creamware, pearlware, wrought nails, green bottle glass) that are potentially from as early as the Johnston occupation of Sandusky.

Archaeologists placed SD106 30 ft. north of SD105 (Figure 14). The unit consisted of two layers. SD106A was a brown (10YR4/3) topsoil layer extending 0.4 ft. below grade. It contained a few fragments of brick, limestone, mortar and window glass, as well as amber and clear bottle glass, a single cut nail, a cigarette filter and two pieces of nylon plastic. These suggest a date of post-1940 for the layer. SD106B was characterized by strong brown (7.5YR4/6) silty clay that sealed subsoil at a depth of 0.8 ft. below modern grade. Archaeologists collected bone, whiteware plate fragments, yellowware, clear bottle glass, window glass, a fragment of lime, and a piece of white nylon plastic from the layer. The presence of plastic suggests that this area was disturbed sometime after 1940. Given the depth of the unit and the relatively low number of artifacts in comparison with SD105, it seems clear that the feature beneath SD105 did not extend this far to the north.

## **Analysis**

#### Artifact Distributions, West Side

Staff used Golden Software's Surfer mapping software to graphically illustrate the location of artifact concentrations in the east and west survey areas. On the west, they plotted distributions of all counted artifacts and of wire nails. Not enough cut or wrought nails were uncovered on the west boundary to create a meaningful distribution map (Figures 20 and 21).

The map of all counted artifacts demonstrates that few artifacts were discovered in test units located in the southern third of the area surveyed on the west side of the property. Concentrations peaked in the area just to the north of the septic disturbance (units SD 2/11 and SD 3/10 contained 71 and 50 counted artifacts respectively) and then declined in units to the northwest (Figure 9). The distribution of wire nails shows a peak in the vicinity of SD 2/11 as well (Figure 10). Essentially, both distribution maps reflect the presence of one or more major features in this area. Artifacts associated with 2/11 were predominantly iron objects typically associated with a barn or workshop, and appear to be associated with the building rubble uncovered in the trench which lay to the northeast.

A second concentration of artifacts was associated with SD 3/16, located just north of the wood frame tenant house, where 57 counted artifacts were recovered. This concentration is comprised primarily of late nineteenth or twentieth-century material and is consistent with activities associated with occupants of that structure.

## Artifact Distributions, East Side

An analysis of plowzone and transitional zone dates assigned to test units along the east boundary shows three temporally discrete clusters of artifacts. The southern-most units contain only artifacts dating to the early period of Sandusky's occupation, c.1780-1830. Units in the middle of the survey area contain a more

mixed assemblage of nineteenth-century artifacts dating from the 1780s through the 1870s or later, while those in the northernmost units date to the period from 1800 through 1840.

Although the dataset for this area is also small and based on very limited excavations, some interesting clustering of artifacts can be observed along the eastern boundary. A distribution map of all counted artifacts shows a peak in the vicinity of SD 18/9 and SD 19/9 (Figure 22). Distributions of brick fragments, and wrought and cut nails (dating to the first three quarters of the nineteenth century) also peak in this area, suggesting that structural remains may be in close proximity to these units (Figures 23 and 24).

Unit Number	Location	TPQ of layer
SD 16/1B	South	1780
SD 17/1A	South	1780
SD 17/2B	South	1812
SD 17/3A	South	1830
SD 17/4A	South	1820
SD 17/4B	South	NDA
SD 17/5B	Middle	1870
SD 18/5B	Middle	1875
SD 18/6A	Middle	1820
SD 18/6B	Middle	NDA
SD 18/7B	Middle	1870
SD 18/7C	Middle	NDA
SD 18/8B	Middle	1870
SD 18/8C	Middle	NDA
SD 18/9B	Middle	1875
SD 19/9B	Middle	1875
SD 19/9C	Middle	1820
SD 19/10B	Middle	1875
SD 19/10C	Middle	1875
SD 19/11B	North	1805
SD 19/12B	North	1839
SD 20/12B	North	1839
SD 20/13B	North	1820
SD 20/14B	North	1800

Table 7: Artifact Dates, Eastern Test Units

## Conclusions and Recommendations

Testing on the western boundary revealed no intact stratigraphy or artifact concentrations that merit further study in the area encompassed by Transects 1, Transect 2 units 2/1-2/6, Transect 3 units 3/1-3/6, and Transect 4 units 4/3 and 4/4. No further testing is recommended in this area. Similarly, the area encompassed

by SD 2/7-2/9 and SD 3/6- 3/9 has been extensively disturbed by modern septic lines associated with tenant houses on the property. While excavations might uncover additional artifacts dating to the historic period at Sandusky or fragmentary remains of features, it is likely that the amount of disturbance in this area had destroyed most useful archaeological information.

The area north of the septic lines contains well-preserved features and stratigraphy relating to twentieth-century changes to the property. A large deposit of fill uncovered in SD 101 and SD 102 may mark the site of a structure dismantled circa 1950. High concentrations of iron tools and hardware associated with the trench and adjoining test units suggests that a barn or work shed may have stood in this area.

While the exact nature of this feature remains to be discovered with future testing, it is clear that none of the large rocks present in the area represent head or foot stones associated with graves. No evidence of disturbances associated with grave shafts was present in the area, and the large amount of architectural and domestic debris recovered from the soils surrounding the stones argues for their association with the foundations of a dismantled building. Why one stone retains the name WILLIAM remains a mystery. Perhaps it has been moved from elsewhere on the property and redeposited in this area. This area merits more attention in order to define the extent of the disturbance associated with SD 101B/102A and to ascertain if any intact stratigraphy survives from the period prior to 1870.

Roughly 50 ft. to the north, SD 3/13 also uncovered an area that likely relates to destruction of another twentieth-century structure. This area should also be tested further to better understand the size and nature of disturbance prior to planting or any grading associated with parking facilities. Similarly, high artifact frequencies in the vicinity of SD 2/11 and SD 3/16 merit further study to define the boundaries of deposition.

The eastern boundary area was far less disturbed by modern utilities and shows greater potential for intact nineteenth- and early twentieth-century features. High artifact concentrations in general, and of bricks, wrought and cut nails specifically, suggest that the area centering on SD 18/9 and SD 19/9 is particularly sensitive. Further testing should reveal the cause of this artifact clustering.

Judgmental units placed on the east side of the property failed to uncover the remains of the kitchen, but did hint at areas of high-artifact concentration and intact stratigraphy near the house. SD 105 clearly demonstrates the presence of a deep, stratified pit whose upper layers were deposited sometime after 1885. Further work in this area is recommended to define the edges of this feature and determine its original function.

Based on the data uncovered to date, we recommend that any planting north of the septic field along the western boundary and along the entire eastern boundary be monitored to allow for the recovery of artifacts and the identification of potentially significant soil changes. In addition, it is our recommendation that parking be restricted to the west side of the property, with any necessary earth-moving restricted to the area south of the septic lines in the immediate future.

It is also recommended that additional historical research be undertaken. While specific suggestions are made in the text, basic questions that take priority and should be easily answered include:

- Deed research to establish the size and location of tracts of land acquired by Johnston, the transfer of title from 1818-1841, and the amount of and boundaries of land acquired by George Christian Hutter.
- Census research to establish the total number of people resident at Sandusky. The years 1810, 1830 and 1850 have been researched for this report.
- Research to establish the transfer of ownership from George Christian Hutter to Risque Hutter to Ferdinand Hutter to Neville and Louise Atkinson.
- Research into insurance policies from the Hutter and Atkinson-periods that locate, describe and value outbuildings.
- Map and photographic research for the first half of the twentieth-century that might establish the location of important landscape features, including the oak grove and barn described by Ada Hutter and others as the burial ground for soldiers left behind after Hunter's raid.
- Research in the Campbell County and Lynchburg City tax records. Preliminary research for the period from 1809-1819 and 1848-1850 has been undertaken for this report.

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# **Appendix 1: Northings, Eastings and Elevations of Key Points**

## 1. Base Stations

Point	Northing	Easting	Elevation
1 (southeast corner of property)	0	0	?
2 (survey point set by Hurt & Proffitt)	138	104	492.26
3	0	100	487.76
4	10	70	486.07
5	374.51	107.05	485.88
6	309.97	405.03	480.54
7	310	495	480.54
8	136.62	175.95	491.65
9	162.62	303.81	492.30

## 2. Monument Points

Location	Northing	Easting
SE corner of brick tenant house	193.13	138.26
NE corner of brick tenant house	231.20	142.25
NW corner of Sandusky house	210.38	228.96
SW corner of Sandusky house	189.79	226.84
SE corner of Sandusky house	185.07	275.24

# Appendix 2, Unit Locations, West

Unit Locations, West (Note, all excavation unit location records are for the northwest corner)

SD Number	Northing	Easting	Elevation
1/1	10	20	482.66
1/2	35	20	482.49
1/3	60	20	482.54
1/4	85	20	482.17
2/1	10	45	484.24
2/2	35	45	484.46
2/3	60	45	483.99
2/4	85	45	484.04
2/5	110	45	484.05
2/6	135	45	484.37
2/7	160	45	484.55
2/8	185	45	484.8
2/9	210	45	485.14
2/10	235	45	486.24
2/11	260	45	486.32
3/1	10	70	485.95
3/2	35	70	485.74
3/3	60	70	485.54
3/4	85	70	485.4
3/5	110	70	485.36
3/6	135	70	485.75
3/7	160	70	485.98
3/8	185	70	486.43
3/9	210	70	486.42
3/10	235	70	487.29
3/11	260	70	487.21
3/12	285	70	486.7
3/13	310	70	486.27
3/14	333.5	70	486.06
3/15	360	70	Not excavated
3/16	385	67.7	483.14
4/3	60	95	487.71
4/4	85	95	487.31

SD3/1 coordinates correspond to the SW corner of the unit.
SD3/14 offset 1.5 ft. to the south from original coordinates of 335 north 70 east to avoid a flower bed.
SD3/16 offset 2.3 ft. to the west from original coordinates of 385 north 70 east to avoid large roots.
Trench Coordinates

## Trench

SD Number	Location	Northing	Easting	Elevation
100	NW corner	255.84	63.05	487.07
100	NE corner	254.88	64.26	487.12
100	SW corner	252.16	60.03	486.98
100	SE corner	251.09	61.01	486.96
101	NW corner	263.41	69.59	486.92
101	NE corner	262.53	70.74	486.96
101	SW corner	255.84	63.05	487.07
101	SE corner	254.88	64.26	487.12
102	NW corner	270.99	76.05	487.09
102	NE corner	270.09	77.32	487.08
102	SW corner	263.41	69.59	486.92
102	SE corner	262.53	70.74	486.96

## Tax Table

	Blacks 16+	Blacks 12-16	Horses	Carriages	Tax
1 1111	10 .,	1	5	l (2-wheeled)	\$6.30
1	11	1	6		
1	10	2	6	#1	\$11.00
1	10	2	8	l (2-wheeled)	\$11.24
1	12	2	6	1 (4-wheel carriage valued at \$400)	\$16.26
1	12		6	1(4-wheel carriage valued at \$300)	\$20.74
See detail	•	<u> </u>	•		
No listing		* 1:11	1111	41	
1	21	1	8	l valued at \$200	\$21.84
1	13	1	9	l valued at \$100; l valued at \$500	\$23.42
2	10	2	7	l valued at \$200; l valued at \$850	\$25.16
		1	1	1	1

Table 1, Tax Assessments for Charles Johnston, 1809-1819

Year	Whites 16+	Blacks	Blacks 12-16	Blacks 9-12	Horses	Cattle	Carriages	Tax
		16+			etc.			
1815	1	13	4	1	7	22	12- wheeled valued at \$100; 14- wheeled valued at \$200	\$4127
Furnis	hings: 1 Sidebo	and \$75,3 ta	oles 1 Secretary	1 bookcase 4	hedsteds	1 ch Dr	awers I ditto	

Furnishings: 1 Sideboard \$75, 3 tables, 1 Secretary, 1 bookcase, 4 hedsteds, 1 ch. Drawers, 1 ditto ornamented, 24 Gilt Chairs, 1 carpet \$40, 1 portrait in crayon, 12 pictures 9 Inches, gilt frames, 1 Mirror, 3 feet, 4 pr. G. Csticks [gilt candlesticks?]; 2 cut glass decanters

Source: Auditor of Public Accounts, Personal Property Tax Books, Campbell County 1815-1829, VHS

Reel 67

Table 2, Tax Assessment for Charles Johnston, 1815