

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT  
THE FORT DAVIS PARK COMMUNITY  
PLAYGROUND  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**DRAFT REPORT**

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PREPARED FOR:

STUDIO 39

PREPARED BY:



THE LOUIS BERGER GROUP, INC.  
1250 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037

JULY 2014

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PREPARED FOR:

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Greg Katz, Mary Patton and John Bedell  
THE LOUIS BERGER GROUP, INC.  
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## ABSTRACT

On behalf of Studio 39 and the DC Department of General Services, The Louis Berger Group, Inc., completed a Phase I archeological survey for proposed improvements to the playground at the Fort Davis Community Center. The survey covered the entire Community Center property. The Community Center is located in Southeast Washington, D.C., near both Fort Dupont to the east and Fort Davis to the west. The investigation consisted of shovel testing (Phase IB) covering the entirety of the park grounds, along with auger testing by a geoarchaeologist. The survey was conducted on June 9 and 10, 2014. In all, 50 shovel tests and three auger tests were dug.

The survey showed that most of the park had been heavily disturbed when the park was constructed. Intact soils were found only in the northwestern corner of the park. A buried paleosol dating to early Holocene times was identified in this area; it was within 2.0 feet of the modern surface, so it was reached by shovel testing and no prehistoric artifacts were found. A few historic artifacts – nails, whiteware ceramics and bottle glass – were found, likely dating to 1890 to 1940. This material probably derives from a house shown on maps from 1913 on in a highly disturbed portion of the park. These remains were defined as Site 51SE073. The site lacks the integrity to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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# I. INTRODUCTION

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

On behalf of Studio 39 Architects and the DC Department of General Services, The Louis Berger Group, Inc. (Louis Berger), has conducted a Phase I archaeological survey ahead of proposed playground construction at the Fort Davis Community Center in Southeast Washington. While the project was associated with proposed improvements to the Fort Davis play areas, the survey actually covered the entire community center property.

Fort Davis Community Park is located in Southeast Washington, D.C., at the corner of 41<sup>st</sup> St, SE and Alabama Avenue, with Fort Dupont to the east and Fort Davis to the west (Figure 1). The forts were part of a larger system that was designed to protect the city from Confederate attack, and they are now managed as historic properties by the NPS. The DC Historic Preservation Office recommended archaeological survey of the property based on its potential for prehistoric resources, Civil War resources, and historic occupation associated with a colonial road now known as Alabama Avenue.

The Phase I fieldwork was carried out from June 9 to 10, 2014. The project manager was John Bedell, the Principal Investigator was Gregory Katz, the field supervisor was Mary Patton, and the field technician was Emily Walter. Dr. Daniel Wagner carried out the geomorphological study.

## PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Reconnaissance level (Phase IA) archaeological survey has been conducted on Reservation 713, Fort Davis Park (formerly Fairfax Park), but the study was insufficient to determine if archaeological resources are present on the property (LeeDecker & Friedlander 1984). No other archaeological investigations had been previously conducted in the project area. Numerous historical and archaeological projects have been carried out in and around the Civil War forts, but none of these studies included the current project area (Bedell 1913).

## ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project area is currently a mixed-use park with large areas paved for walking paths, basketball courts, tennis courts and baseball field dugouts (Figures 2 and 3). There are also buildings on the property, all quite recent. The surrounding area is residential.



# Aerial Map Fort Davis Community Center 1400 41st St., SE

Ward 7



		<p>Map: ORTHO_Fort Davis Date: Jan 26, 2011 Data Source: OCTO GIS DPR Photo Imagery: 2010 Orthophoto Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane MD Prepared by: DC Dept of Parks and Recreation</p> <p><small>Information on this map is for illustration only. The user acknowledges and agrees that the use of this information is at the sole risk of the user. No endorsement, liability, or responsibility for information or opinions expressed are assumed or accepted by any agency of the District of Columbia Government.</small></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Recreation Centers</li> <li> Public Schools</li> <li> DC Parks</li> </ul>		

Figure 1. Fort Davis Community Center



Figure 2. Baseball Field at the Fort Davis Center, Facing North



Figure 3. Existing Play Area at the Fort Davis Community Center



## II. RESEARCH DESIGN

### SCOPE OF WORK

The primary goals of this investigation were to identify, document, and evaluate any significant archaeological resources located in the project area ahead of proposed development at the Fort Davis Community Center at 1400 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Washington, D.C. The work plan was developed in coordination with the DC HPO and according to professional cultural resource management standards, such as the DC HPO's current guidelines, *Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations in the District of Columbia* (District of Columbia Preservation League 1998, as amended) and *Archeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines* (*Federal Register* 48:190:44716-44742).

### RESEARCH METHODS

#### *Background Research*

Work began with a review of documentary material on the property and the surrounding area. The DC HPO provided information on nearby archaeological sites and projects. A review was carried out of historic maps of the vicinity (Boschke 1857, 1861, USCGS 1888-1892, Baist 1893, 1913), and available reports were consulted to develop historic and prehistoric backgrounds for the area.

To determine how extensively the site has been modified by modern grading and construction, a cut and fill analysis was made using GIS to compare a contemporary contour map with the USCGS map of 1888-1992.

#### *Field Excavations*

The archeological fieldwork consisted of shovel testing and surface inspection within the boundaries of the park as outlined in the Scope of Work. The shovel tests measured approximately 1.5 feet in diameter and were excavated by hand following natural stratigraphy. Information on each soil stratum, including Munsell color, soil type, and artifacts, was recorded on standardized field forms. All soils were screened through 0.25-inch mesh for systematic recovery of artifacts. All shovel tests were backfilled by hand upon completion, with an attempt to restore the original landscape contours. All shovel tests were mapped using a Trimble GPS device.

#### *Artifact Processing and Analysis*

Artifacts were cleaned, identified, and photographed in LBG's archaeological laboratory. Treatment of the artifacts followed the DC HPO standards (District of Columbia Preservation League 1998, as amended). An electronic catalog was prepared, identifying each artifact according to cultural and temporal affiliation, material, style, and function. Artifacts were classified according to commonly used typologies for the Middle Atlantic region. No archaeological site was defined during the project, and therefore, after consultation with the DC HPO, the artifacts were discarded after cataloging and photo documentation. Field notes and photographs have been prepared for long-term curation according to DC HPO standards and will be submitted to them for curation.

### III. HISTORIC CONTEXT

#### PREHISTORY OF WASHINGTON

The prehistory of the Middle Atlantic region is commonly divided into three chronological periods: Paleoindian (ca. 11,500 to 9500 BC); Archaic (9500 to 1400 BC); and Woodland (1400 BC to AD 1600). These periods are also commonly subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late subperiods: Early Archaic (9500 to 7500 BC); Middle Archaic (7500 to 3800 BC); Late Archaic (3800 to 1400 BC); Early Woodland (1400 to 600 BC); Middle Woodland (600 BC to AD 1000); and Late Woodland (AD 1000 to 1607) periods. The periods mark cultural development from largely nomadic hunter-gatherers during the Paleoindian period to fairly sedentary villagers in the Late Woodland period.

The earliest occupation of Washington, D.C., was by Paleoindians groups who had certainly entered the region by 11,000 BC. A few sites suggest the remote possibility of a much earlier pre-Clovis human presence in this area, but these finds are controversial. Paleoindians arrived at a time of abrupt climate change toward the end of the last ice age, as spruce-dominated boreal vegetation was replaced by the northward expansion of deciduous forests, and large mammals migrated to new ranges or were driven to extinction. Some Paleoindian sites in the region have been sealed over by windblown silts deposited during the cold interval known as the Younger Dryas. Two Paleoindian “Clovis” points have been reported from Washington, and hundreds from Virginia and Maryland.

In the subsequent Early and Middle Archaic periods, populations gradually increased as people mastered the woodland environment of the Holocene period (Dent 1995). Stray artifacts of these periods are found throughout the region, and numerous small camp sites have been found around Washington. These sites consist mostly of waste flakes from making stone tools, along with a few spear points, knives, and scrapers. These sites seem to represent small, highly mobile bands of hunter-gatherers who lived dispersed across the landscape. Early and Middle Archaic sites with large numbers of artifacts are rare in the area.

The situation changed dramatically after 2200 BC, in the Late Archaic period. Numerous large sites from this period have been found in and around Washington, concentrated along the Potomac and Anacostia rivers and Rock Creek. During that time people made large projectile points known as broadspears, generally out of quartzite. They also shaped bowls from steatite (soapstone), which was dug from quarries along Rock Creek and elsewhere. This great increase in the number and size of sites probably results from a great increase in population. People were also becoming more sedentary, spending months at a time at these large sites on the rivers. Political organization probably increased in complexity, and tribes may have formed. However, this surge in population did not endure. The number and size of sites around Washington seems to have declined after 1800 BC, although the basic archeological pattern continues (Fiedel et al. 2008).

Around 1400 BC people of the region began making pottery, which is used to mark the beginning of the Woodland period. Life during the Early and Middle Woodland periods seems to have been much like life in the Late Archaic, and large sites are found in the same locations along the rivers. Major Early Woodland sites have recently been explored at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, just a few miles south of the current project (Bedell et al. 2013). Large sites of the Middle Woodland period have

also been documented, especially around the falls of the Potomac and along the Anacostia. Toward the end of the Middle Woodland period, populations in the coastal plain began to grow again, reaching the levels that had been seen in the Late Archaic. Historic-period Indians of the Chesapeake region spoke Algonquian languages related to those spoken around the Great Lakes, and some archeologists think Algonquian speakers migrated to the coast during the Middle Woodland period. One piece of evidence is a spectacular burial unearthed near the mouth of Rock Creek. This dated to around AD 750 and contained artifacts identical to those found in western New York from the same period (Knepper et al. 2006).

Around AD 1000, maize horticulture was adopted by many people in the region. Agriculture may have been introduced into the mountainous part of the Middle Atlantic by immigrants from the Ohio Valley, but populations in the coastal plain resisted these incursions. They had already built up a dense population based on exploiting the resources of the Chesapeake Bay, and they gradually adopted agriculture as a supplement to their old ways. There is a dramatic increase in the number of sites that coincides with the onset of agriculture. Late Woodland sites include small permanent hamlets and villages of varying sizes, all of which are typically located in floodplains of higher-order streams and adjacent to high-yield agricultural soils. During the Late Woodland period ranked societies emerged, which developed into the complex tribes and chiefdoms encountered by the Europeans in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries (Potter 1993).

## HISTORIC CONTEXT

### *Contact*

When John Smith explored the lower Potomac in 1608, he encountered Algonquian-speaking Indian tribes that had either been absorbed into or were still resisting one of two recently created chiefdoms: the Powhatan chiefdom of Coastal Plain/Tidewater Virginia, and the Piscataway or Conoy chiefdom of Maryland (Potter 1993). Each chiefdom was ruled by a paramount chief: the mamatanowick of the Powhatans and the tayac of the Conoys. The Nacotchtanck (or Necostins or Necostans) belonged to the Conoy chiefdom, and their chief (or werowance) was subordinate to the tayac. He lived in a village on the east side of the river at Nacotchtanck, located near Giesboro Point. Other Nacotchtancks inhabited a village on the west bank of the Potomac at Namoraughquend, in Arlington. The precise locations of both villages are not certain.

The indigenous communities were completely disrupted and uprooted in most of the Washington area after European colonization began. Diseases brought by the Europeans ravaged Indian settlements. Warfare and eviction from lands destroyed many other Indian communities. Major Indian uprisings occurred in Virginia in 1622 and 1644. The colonists emerged from the uprisings with tighter control of the remaining Indian communities (Potter 1993). The Piscataways fled westward, first to Fauquier County in 1697 and to Heaters Island in 1699. By 1700 only a few native people still lived east of the Fall Line.

### *European Settlement*

Maryland was founded as an English colony in the 1630s. The population, originally centered around St. Mary's City on the lower Potomac, slowly spread west over the following decades. The first land claims along the Anacostia River were made in the 1660s, and in the 1690s a fort was built

near the falls of the Potomac to protect the settlers from attacks by Indians allied with the French. The settlers focused on growing tobacco for export, along with corn, pigs, and cattle for food. A few large plantations, such as Oxon Hill and Giesboro, were established along the rivers, mixed with the smaller farms of lesser planters. Toward the end of the 1600s, the larger planters began to employ enslaved Africans as their work force, and during the eighteenth century the area came to have a large African population.

### *Anacostia in the Nineteenth Century*

When the Civil War broke out, this part of Washington was still a rural district with some farms and fields but also much woodland. During the Civil War a line of forts was built along the high ground east of the city, to defend the Anacostia crossings and to keep Confederate raiders from placing artillery on the heights and shelling the city. Two forts stood near the project area, Fort Davis to the west and Fort Dupont to the east. These forts were surrounded by other bits of military infrastructure, such as camps, barracks, hospitals, and subsidiary earthworks, turning the whole area into a military zone. The forts east of the Anacostia had a low priority compared to those south and west of the city and they were never completely finished. After the war they were dismantled, and the wood and other reusable parts were sold (Bedell 2013).

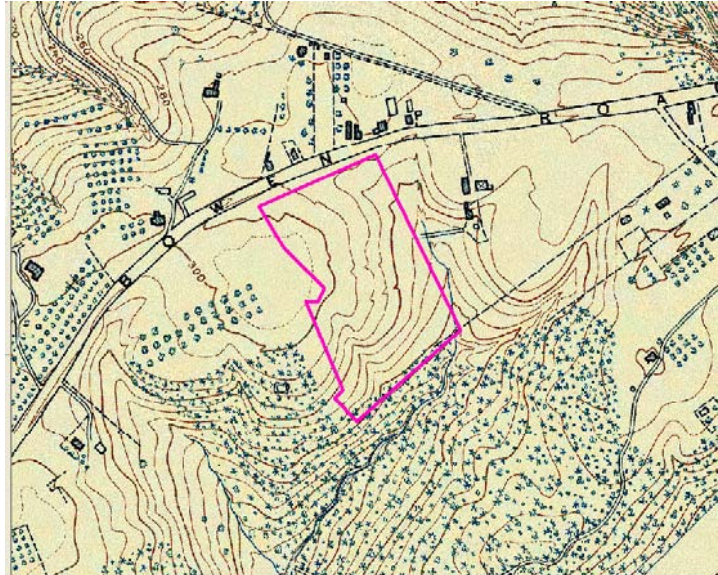


Figure 4. The Project Area Mapped onto the 1888 USCGS Map

Several maps of the District were made in the second half of the nineteenth century, and they show that most of Anacostia remained rural until around 1900. What is now known as Alabama Avenue, then Bowen or Ridge Road, was present by the early 1800s and probably dates to colonial days. A number of houses and businesses were built along it after the war. The 1888 USCGS Map of the District (Figure 4) shows no development within the project area. The first inspected map that does show structures in the project area is the Baist Real Estate Atlas of 1913, which shows a residence ascribed to E Tabert in the approximate center of the park (Figure 5). Urban development of the surrounding area took place in the early twentieth century.

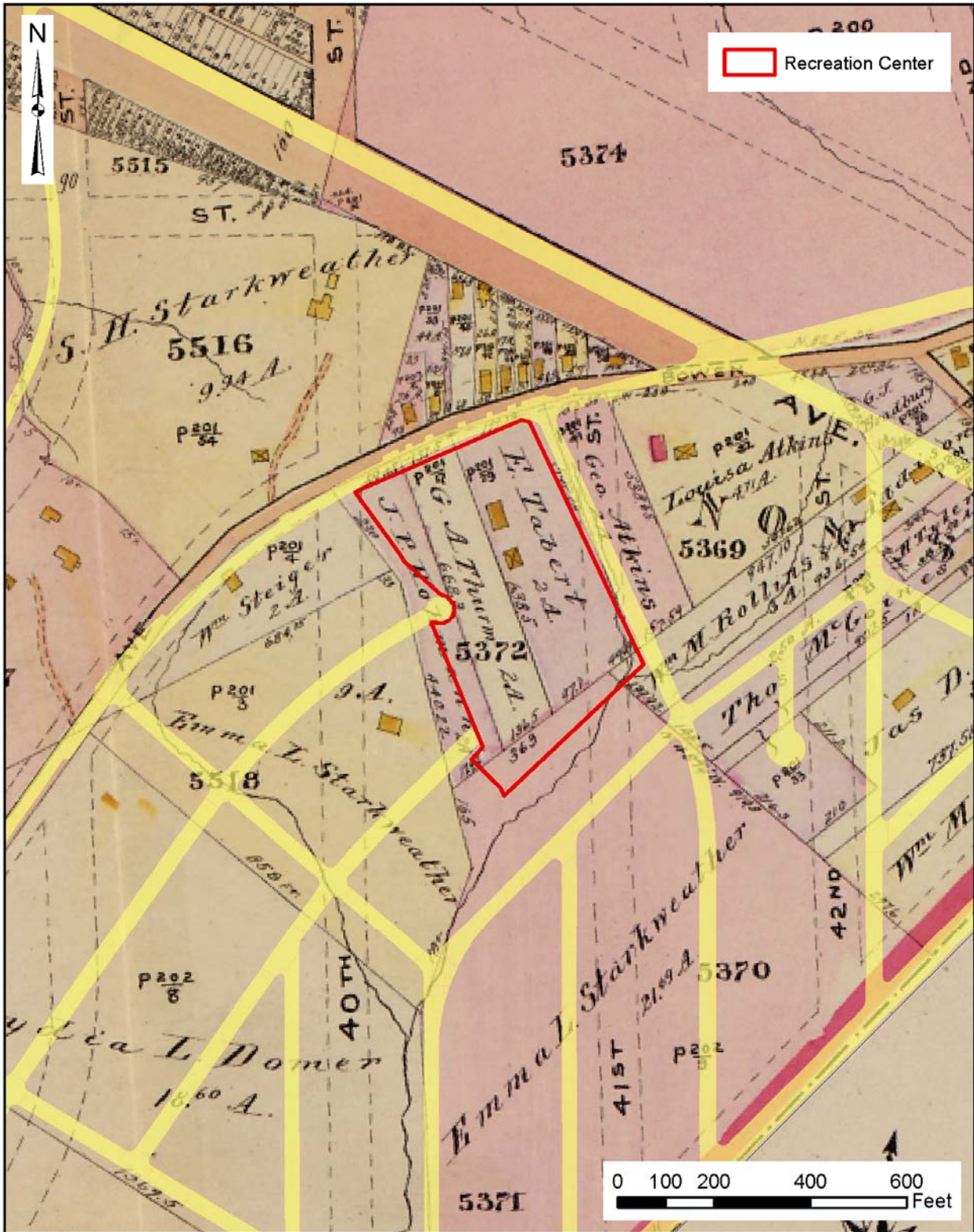


Figure 5. Project Area in 1913.

Source: Baist 1913

## IV. RESULTS

### A. GIS CUT AND FILL ANALYSIS

A GIS cut and fill analysis was carried out by comparing contemporary contours with those shown on the 1888 USCGS Map of the District. This comparison revealed extensive changes made to the natural topography (Figure 6). In the western area of the park, as much as 10 feet of natural soil was removed in grading for the park. The eastern side of the park shows less grading but shovel testing revealed substantial disturbance and no natural soils were identified in that area of the park.

### B. GEOARCHAEOLOGY

The park is in a part of DC where silty soils often contain ancient ground surfaces or paleosols buried by loess (wind-blown silt) during the Younger Dryas interlude (c. 12,800 – 11,500 BP) or even later. This can result in evidence of ancient Native Americans being buried under up to several feet of sediment. Prehistoric or early historic soils can also be buried under modern fill. To investigate these possibilities, and generally to evaluate the integrity and history of the park's landscape, Dr. Daniel Wagner of Geo-Sci Consultants carried out a geoarchaeological study of the park. After visual inspection of the park, Dr. Wagner made three auger tests (Figure 7). Two of these showed only modern fill over deeply truncated soils, indicating severe disturbance. However, Auger Test 2, in the northwestern corner of the park, encountered an intact soil profile that included a buried paleosol. This intact soil was confined to a narrow strip along the western edge of the park. The stratigraphy consisted of a shallow plowzone with a partially intact E horizon, overlying a B horizon of heavy silt loam. A buried paleosol of dark yellowish brown gravelly loam was encountered at a depth of 41 cm (1.35 feet); this appeared to be the early Holocene ground surface (Figure 8; Table 1). Dr. Wagner's complete report is included as Appendix A.

Table 1. Soil Stratigraphy, Auger Test 2, Fort Davis Community Park

<b>Horizon</b>	<b>Depth (cm)</b>	<b>Properties</b>
Ap	0-10	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt loam; friable consistence
E	10-16	Brown (10YR 5/4) silt loam; friable consistence
Bt1	16-33	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) heavy silt loam; friable consistence
Bt2	33-41	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) heavy silt loam; common, medium distinct mottles of brown (10YR 5/3); friable consistence
2BCEb	41-54+	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4 and 4/6) gravelly loam; friable consistence; auger refusal on gravel at 54 cm

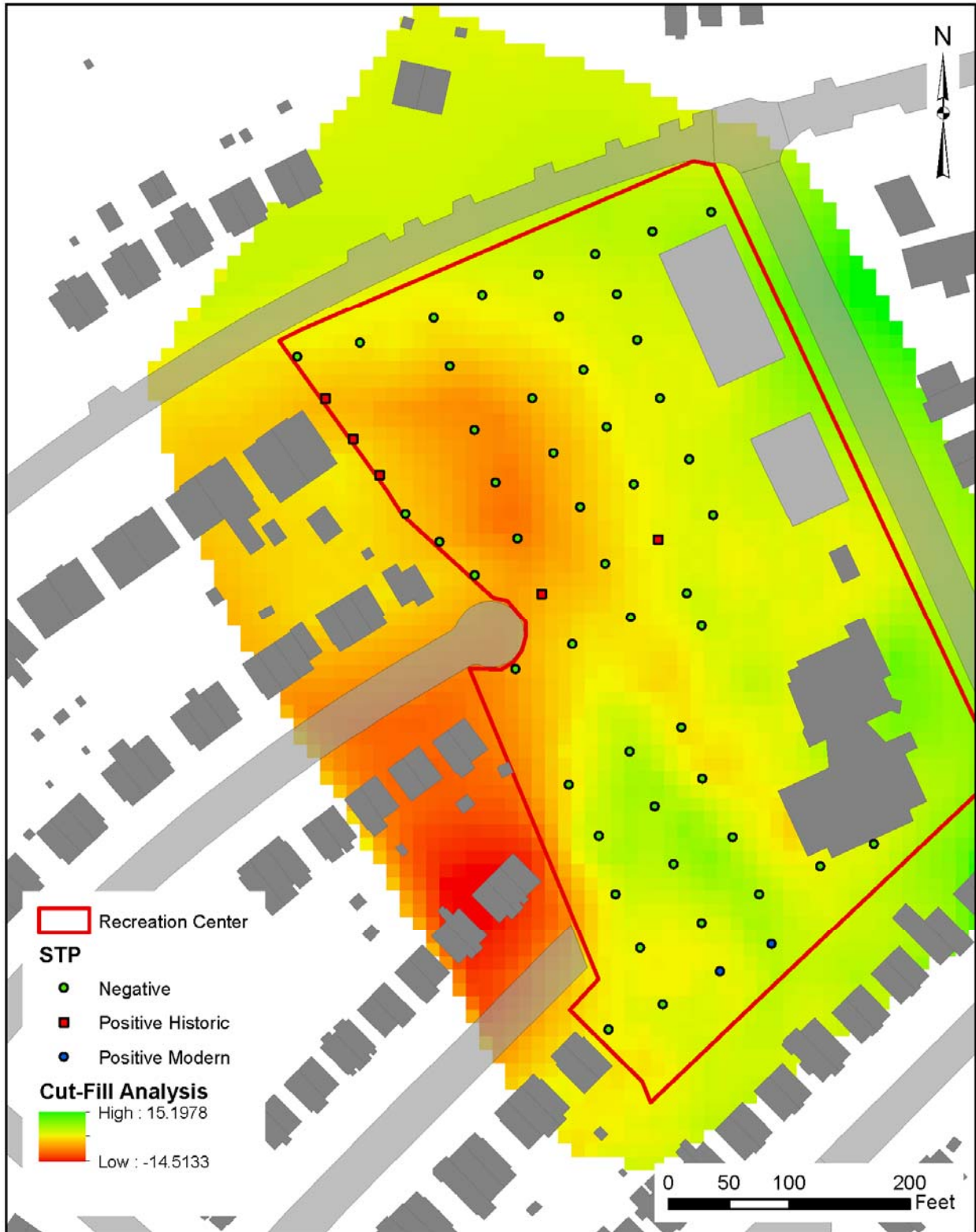


Figure 6. Cut and Fill Analysis of the Fort Davis Community Center

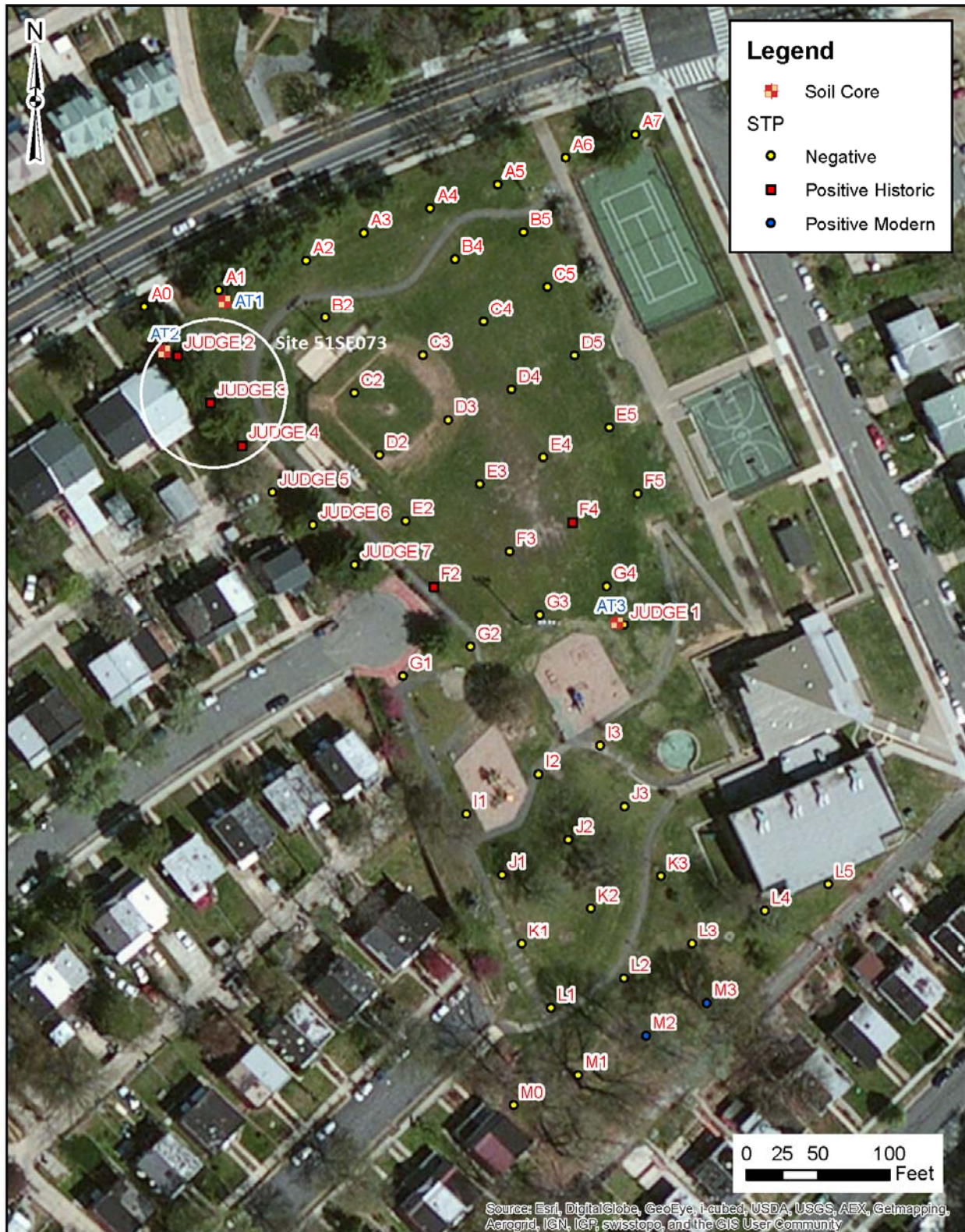


Figure 7. Plan of Archaeological Testing at the Fort Davis Community Center





Figure 8. Soil Profile from Auger Test 2 at the Fort Davis Community Center, showing an Old Ground Surface (Paleosol) 41 Centimeters (16 inches) Below the Current Ground Surface

### C. SHOVEL TESTING

The project area consisted of maintained grassy areas including a baseball field, play surfaces such as tennis and basketball courts and other paved areas for walking paths. Shovel tests were not placed in areas with hard surfaces (concrete or asphalt). The remaining grass surfaces were covered with a grid of shovel tests at 50 foot intervals, resulting in the excavation of fifty shovel tests across the site (see Figure 7). Most of the tests contained a fill layer which yielded modern materials such as aluminum cans, bottle tops and plastic. This fill appears to have been deposited during the construction of the park and in most cases sits directly above culturally sterile subsoil. This stratigraphy indicates substantial grading of the property. Possible historic artifacts (two nails, one sherd of plain whiteware and two pieces of clear bottle glass) were found in the fill in two shovel tests (Table 2).

Table 2: Artifacts Recovered from Mixed Contexts

SHOVEL TEST	SOILS	ARTIFACTS
F2	Mixed fill, 0.8 foot, over subsoil	1 whiteware, 2 bottle glass
F4	Mixed fill, 1.2 feet, over subsoil	2 nails

### D. SITE 51SE073

On the recommendation of Dr. Wagner, a line of six shovel tests was excavated along the western boundary of the park to investigate an area where natural soils appeared intact (see Figure 7). The area has the western boundary of the park on one side and a steep, graded slope on the other (Figure 9). At the northern end of the park it is a few feet wide, gradually widening to 25 feet as the landform continues to the south. The stratigraphy in this area consists of dark olive brown silt loam (2.5Y 3/3) topsoil overlying a paler yellow (2.5Y 7/6) silty clay loam E horizon; beneath that is a culturally sterile stratum of olive yellow (2.5Y 6/6) silty clay loam. These shovel tests were excavated to a depth of 2.0 feet and therefore through the paleosol identified in auger test AT 2, which was included within the lowest stratum (see Figure 8). No prehistoric artifacts were recovered from these tests. Three of the shovel tests yielded a small number of historic artifacts: one sherd of feather edged whiteware (1820-1900), two sherds of plain whiteware (1820-present), one piece of a stoneware bottle (1835-1910), five nails of undetermined type and one piece of brown bottle glass (Table 3). A few small fragments of brick and coal were discarded. These were found in context with modern materials such as asbestos tile and plastic. This material probably relates to the residence shown on the 1913 Baist Map, or perhaps another residence outside the park to the west (Figure 10). The 1913 residence was likely within the heavily graded part of the park, and therefore has been destroyed. The small number of surviving artifacts along a narrow strip of ungraded land do not appear to represent a potentially significant resource, and the site is not recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Table 3: Positive Shovel Tests at Site 51SE073

SHOVEL TEST	SOILS	ARTIFACTS
Judge3a	Olive brown loam, 0.5, over sterile soil	1 whiteware (plain)
Judge3b	Yellow silt loam, 1.6, over sterile soil	2 nails
Judge4	Yellow silt loam, 1.6, over sterile soil	3 whiteware (plain), 1 whiteware (feather-edged), 1 stoneware, 3 nails



Figure 9. View of Site 51SE073, Showing the Narrow Strip of Intact Soil Bounded by a Graded Slope

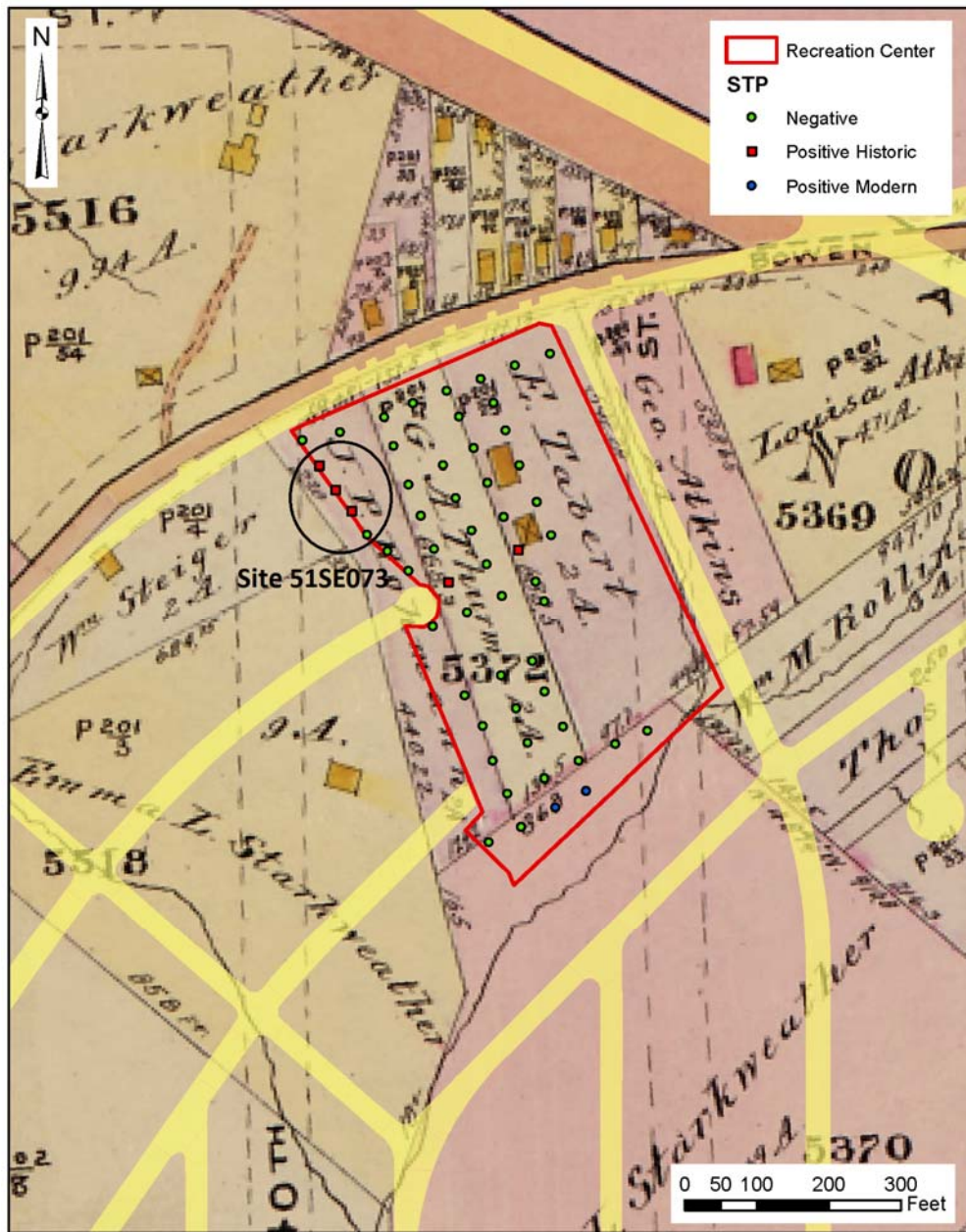


Figure 10. Shovel Testing Grid at the Fort Davis Community Center Superimposed on the 1913 Baist Map of the Project Area.

## V. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Louis Berger conducted a Phase I archeological survey for proposed improvements to Fort Davis park in the Anacostia neighborhood of Washington, D.C. During the course of the project, 50 shovel tests were excavated across the survey area. Three auger tests were also excavated by the geoarchaeologist. Most of the project area was heavily disturbed by grading when the park was constructed. Intact soils were found only in one small part of the park, along the western edge near the northwest corner. A buried paleosol was found to survive in this small area of the park; since this was within 2.0 feet of the modern surface, it was reached by the shovel testing, and no prehistoric artifacts were found. A handful of artifacts dating to the early twentieth century or very late nineteenth were found, probably representing a residence either outside the park or within the graded area. These artifacts were defined as Site 51SE073. Very little remains of the site after the development of the park and no further archaeological work is recommended.

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**APPENDIX A**

**GEOARCHAEOLOGIST'S REPORT**



# Geo-Sci Consultants, LLC

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fax: 301 277 2147

**GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATIONS  
OF THE FORT DAVIS COMMUNITY CENTER  
IN SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Submitted to  
The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

By  
Daniel P. Wagner, Ph.D.  
Pedologist

June 18, 2014

## **Introduction and Methods**

The following is a discussion of observations and interpretations regarding the nature of soil materials examined at the Fort Davis Community Center at Alabama Avenue and 41<sup>st</sup> Street in Southeast Washington, D.C. Investigations were directed toward the characterization of deposit types as well as the identification of any original land surfaces or other intact natural soils that might once have been available for occupation and now potentially persist in either surficial or buried contexts.

Efforts entailed soil examinations by means of hand auger borings made on June 9, 2014. Since landscapes over most of the grounds were obviously severely disturbed, borings were made at three locations where there appeared to be some potential for intact conditions. This was found to be the case at only a single location, and the examined soil profile there was described in accordance with standard pedological techniques and nomenclature for the field characterization of soil. The compiled description as well as a map of approximate boring locations are attached at the end of the report.

## **Geomorphic Setting**

As with all of southeastern Washington, D.C., the study location is situated within the Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. Geologically, this province is characterized by unconsolidated sediments that can range widely both in composition as well as age. Sediments of the Lower Cretaceous age Potomac Group are predominant throughout the broader region, and form the bulk of the upland terrain in the vicinity of the project area. These ancient sediments are commonly capped by younger deposits of Quaternary age, many of which were derived by fluvial processes and tend to have mixed compositions characterized by sandy and gravelly strata interbedded with layers of loamy, silty or even clayey sediments. Additionally, across gently sloping interfluvial positions relatively thin (<1 m) surficial deposits of eolian silt or sand are also often present. Lower Cretaceous strata underlying the various Quaternary deposits can also be of mixed composition, but the most common textures are usually quite fine, typically clustering in the clay loam, silty clay loam, and clay classes.

Independent of the deposit types, all of the regional upland landscapes are very old, and most of the original site soils would have had very prolonged histories of weathering usually greatly predating even the earliest human presence in the region. This has important implications for both prehistoric and early historic cultural resources since, as would be the case for all landscapes of such antiquity, most cultural materials should occur only at or near the level of original surfaces. Hence, integrity of the original surfaces is of paramount importance, and disturbances or destruction of surfaces also translate to comparable impacts on archaeological deposits. A notable exception to this general rule is where land surfaces formerly available to Paleoindians have been

protectively buried at levels below those of modern disturbance by eolian deposits of late Pleistocene origin. Such deposits, usually consisting of loess (wind-blown silt) are sporadically but widely distributed throughout the Coastal Plain portion of Washington, D.C. and appear to correlate with the Younger Dryas cold reversal period which closely coincided with the interval between Clovis and Early Archaic occupations.

## **Results and Conclusions**

The topography for the Fort Davis Community Center is that of a variably sloping Coastal Plain upland. The highest position is a nearly level summit close to Alabama Avenue. From this location the landscape then originally fell generally southward toward what was the local valley of an unnamed, probably intermittent tributary to Oxon Run. Fort Dupont Street is now centered on this valley which is bordered by slopes that were either undesirably or even prohibitively steep for prehistoric occupation. Roughly the southern half for the community center property is contained on such a slope, and it is this condition that necessitated the severe grading and filling that characterizes most of the grounds.

Indications of extensive landscape modifications abound. Deep grading is evinced by a steep scarp along the west side of the ball field that ranges in height from about 1.5 in the north to as much as 2.5 m in the south near the end of Fort Davis Street. Similarly, all landscapes south and east of the ball field and encompassing the building itself are the product of pronounced terracing achieved by extensive cutting and filling. Even at one location (Boring 3) thought to be a potential inflection point between grading to the north and filling to the south the soil was found to be deeply graded with only gravelly subsoil remaining. The degree of soil truncation here is likely on the order of 1 m or more. An almost identical condition was encountered at another location near Alabama Avenue (Boring 1) where a slight rise above the graded ball field was potentially suggestive of the original surface height. Given the destructive degree of grading across higher more level positions and cut-and-fill-actions over the southern slope that is unlikely to have been occupied in any case, there are essentially no prospects for intact cultural resources over the great majority of the property.

Only a narrow sliver of the original, mostly undisturbed landscape remains. No more than a few meters in width, this strip occurs above the scarp along the west side of the ball field between Alabama Avenue and Fort Davis Street. Lying well above the ball field, it is on the same nearly level grade as adjacent residential yard areas and lies just within the fence marking the perimeter of the center's grounds. It is possibly outside of areas to ever be impacted by future improvements, but because the landscape appeared largely unmodified the soil was examined.

Consistent with surface indications, a soil examination (Boring 2) encountered a nearly intact soil for which the principal modification can be attributed to a past history of

tillage. Interestingly, the surface plow zone is only 10 cm thick, which indicates that it was either never mechanically tilled or was possibly subject to minor surface grading that removed the upper part of the surface horizon. The first possibility is probably the more likely given the presence of an E horizon immediately beneath the plow zone. These upper subsoil horizons are nearly always destroyed by mechanical tillage, to the extent that although they would originally have existed in most of the regional upland soils, they are now relatively rare. Due to natural processes of bioturbation these upper subsoil horizons also often contain cultural materials. Hence, good prospects for cultural deposits exist for both the plow zone and underlying E horizon.

An additional cultural potential also exists lower in the subsoil. As is typical of many nearly level landscapes throughout the Washington, D.C. Coastal Plain, the upper part of the soil is formed in a silty loess cap that likely postdates Paleoindian occupations (Figure 1). Hence, there is some prospect for very early cultural material in the surface of the paleosol underlying the loess. Although a morphologically distinctive dark coloration typical of surface horizons is barely discernible in the buried paleosol, the light colored horizon (2BCEb) immediately beneath the loess at the depth of 41 cm is interpreted to be the former paleosol surface that lost its dark coloration subsequent to burial. This horizon therefore retains some potential for Paleoindian materials.



**Figure 1. At the location of Boring 2 a nearly intact soil is formed in a mantle of loess atop a buried paleosol surface at the depth of 41 cm.**

## Soil Profile Description

### Boring 3

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Horizon	Depth (cm)	Properties
Ap	0-10	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt loam; friable consistence
E	10-16	Brown (10YR 5/4) silt loam; friable consistence
Bt1	16-33	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) heavy silt loam; friable consistence
Bt2	33-41	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) heavy silt loam; common, medium distinct mottles of brown (10YR 5/3); friable consistence
2BCEb	41-54+	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4 and 4/6) gravelly loam; friable consistence

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**Other comments:** Coastal Plain upland position; 1% slope; moderately well drained; upper 41 cm are interpreted to be Younger Dryas loess, but with a minor gravel content throughout; auger refusal on gravel at 54 cm; described 7/9/14



**Approximate Locations of Soil Borings**

## **APPENDIX B**

### **METHODS OF ARTIFACT CATALOGING AND ANALYSIS ARTIFACT INVENTORY**

## METHODS OF ARTIFACT CATALOGING AND ANALYSIS

### A. LABORATORY PROCESSING

In the laboratory, provenience information on each artifact card was checked against a master list of Field Numbers with their proveniences. Any discrepancies were corrected at that time, and a Lot Number was assigned to each provenience, according to DC HPO guidelines.

Most historic artifacts were washed in water with a soft toothbrush. Metal objects were cleaned using a dry toothbrush or stainless steel wire brush. All artifacts were laid out to air-dry in preparation for analysis. During analysis, individual Specimen Numbers were assigned to artifacts within each Lot Number. After analysis, the artifacts were re-bagged into clean, perforated 4-mil resealable polyethylene bags. Artifacts are organized sequentially first by Site Number, then by Lot Number, and finally by Specimen Number within each Lot Number. An acid-free artifact card listing full provenience information and analytical class was included in each bag.

Artifacts were marked with provenience information following the below format, using black waterproof India ink on a base of 25 percent Acryloid B-72 in acetone. The label was then sealed with a top coat of 10 percent Acryloid B-72 in acetone.

<u>(State Site Number)</u>	Ex.
	<u>51NW</u>
	<u>061</u>
(Lot #) . (Specimen #)	001.002

### B. ANALYTICAL METHODS

LBG has developed a flexible analytical database system that fully integrates all artifacts in one database for use in data manipulation and interpretation. The computerized data management system is written using Microsoft Access.

Each class of artifacts (historic ceramics and small finds/architectural) has a series of attributes, sometimes unique to that class, that are recorded to describe each artifact under analysis. Artifact information (characteristics), recorded on the data entry forms by the analysts, was entered into the system. The system was then used to enhance the artifact records with the addition of provenience information. LBG maintains a complete type and attribute coding book for each material class.

The artifact coding system employs a Type/SubType system developed by LBG's Cultural Resources division. The format for the historic artifacts is based on the South/Noël Hume typology (South 1977), as modified for use in a computerized system (LBG 2006).

## REFERENCES CITED

The Louis Berger Group, Inc. [LBG]

2006 *Analytical Coding System for Historic and Prehistoric Artifacts*. Prepared by Susan E. Butler and Todd D. Hejlik, the Cultural Resource Group, The Louis Berger Group, Inc., Morristown, New Jersey.

South, Stanley

1977 *Method and Theory in Historical Archaeology*. Academic Press, New York.



**ARTIFACT CATALOG  
FORT DAVIS COMMUNITY CENTER 2014**

Site No.	STP	Stratum	Field #	Specimen	Class	Artifact Description	Count	Beg. Date	End Date	Comments
51SE073	Judge 3a	A	103	1	Historic Ceramics	Whiteware, plain	1	1820	present	
51SE073	Judge 3b	A	104	1	Architectural	Nails, unidentified	2			Probably cut, post 1830
51SE073	Judge 4	A	105	1	Historic Ceramics	Whiteware, blue featheredge	1	1820	1900	
51SE073	Judge 4	A	105	2	Historic Ceramics	Whiteware, plain	2	1820	present	
51SE073	Judge 4	A	105	3	Historic Ceramics	Stoneware bottles	1	1835	1910	
51SE073	Judge 4	A	105	4	Architectural	Nails, unidentified	3			Probably cut, post 1830
-	F-2	A	101	1	Historic Ceramics	Whiteware, plain	1	1820	present	
-	F-2	A	101	2	Glass	Bottle/jar glass, clear	2			
-	F-4	A	102	1	Architectural	Nails, unidentified	2			Probably cut, post 1830

**APPENDIX C**

**NADB REPORTS CITATION FORM**

NADB – REPORTS CITATION FORM

Complete items 3 and 5-14. The State Historic Preservation Office will record information for items 1 through 4.

- 1. DOCUMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. SOURCE \_\_\_\_\_ AND SHPO – ID \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. FILED AT  
District of Columbia, Historic Preservation Office. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. UTM COORDINATES

Zone	18	N	Easting	331261.3	Northing	4304184.8
Zone	18	N	Easting	331145.9	Northing	4304149.0
Zone	18	N	Easting	331250.7	Northing	4303972.0
Zone	18	N	Easting	331326.1	Northing	4304025.9
Zone			Easting		Northing	
Zone			Easting		Northing	

Continuation, see 14.

- 5. AUTHORS Greg Katz, Marry Patton, and John Bedell

- 6. YEAR 2014

Year published.

- 7. TITLE Archaeological Investigations at the Fort Davis Park Community Playground Washington, D.C.

- 7. PUBLICATION TYPE (circle one)
  - 1. Monograph or Book
  - 2. Chapter in a Book or Report Series
  - 3. Journal Article
  - 4. Report Series
  - 5. Dissertation or Thesis
  - 6. Paper presented at a Meeting
  - 7. Unpublished or Limited Distribution Report**
  - 8. Other

9. INFORMATION ABOUT PUBLISHER/PUBLICATOIN

Follow the American Antiquity style guide for the type of publication circled.

Katz, Greg, Mary Patton and John Bedell

2014 *Archaeological Investigations at the Fort Davis Park Community Playground Washington, D.C.* Prepared for Studio 39 and the DC Department of General Services by The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

10. STATE/COUNTY (Referenced by report. Enter as many states, counties, or towns, as necessary. Enter all, if appropriate. Only enter Town if the resources considered are within the town boundaries.)

STATE 1 <u>DC</u> COUNTY _____	TOWN <u>Washington</u> _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

STATE 2 _____ COUNTY _____	TOWN _____
_____	_____

STATE 3 _____ COUNTY _____	TOWN _____
_____	_____

Continuation, see 14.

11. WORKTYPE (circle all code numbers that are appropriate)

- 0 General Management Plan/Environmental Document
- 1 Cultural Resources Research Plan
- 2 Statement for Management
- 3 Outline of Planning Requirements
- 4 Cultural Resources Preservation Guide
- 5 Development Concept Plan
- 6 New Area Study/Reconnaissance Study
- 7 Boundary Study
- 8 Interpretive Prospectus
- 9 Special Planning/Management Study
- 10 Historical Study
- 11 Primary Document – Original
- 12 Primary Document – Translation
- 13 Advertisement
- 14 Popular Culture/History Document
- 15 Journal/Periodical
- 20 Historical Resource Study
- 21 Historical Base Map
- 22 Historical Handbook Text
- 23 Park Administrative History

- 24 Special History Study
- 30 Archeological General Considerations
- 31 Archeological Overview and Assessment
- 32 Archeological Identification Study (Phase I)**
- 33 Archeological Evaluation Study (Phase II)
- 34 Archeological Data Recovery (Phase III)
- 35 Archeological Collections and Non-Field Studies
- 36 Socio-Cultural Anthropology Study
- 37 Social Impact Statement
- 38 Ethnohistory Study
- 39 Special Archeology/Anthropology Study
- 40 Field Reconnaissance, Sampling
- 41 Field Reconnaissance, Intensive
- 42 Paleo-environmental Research
- 43 Archeometrics
- 44 Archeoastronomical Study
- 46 Remote Sensing
- 47 Archeozoological Study
- 48 Archeobotanical Study
- 49 Bioarcheological Study
- 50 Historic Buildings Report-Beginning February 1956
- 51 Historic Buildings Report After February 1957-Part I
- 52 Historic Buildings Report-Part II
- 54 Historic Buildings Report-After March 1960-Part III
- 56 HSR-Administrative Data-After December 1971
- 57 HSR-Historical Data
- 58 HSR-Archeological Data
- 59 HSR-Architectural Data
- 61 Historic Structures Preservation Guide-After December 1971
- 62 Historic Structures Report-After October 1980
- 63 Cultural Landscape Report (Historic Grounds Report)
- 64 Ruins Stabilization and Maintenance Report
- 70 Scope of Collection Statement
- 71 Historic Furnishings Report-After October 1980
- 72 Collection Condition Survey
- 73 Collection Storage Plan
- 82 Collection Management Plan (Collection Preservation Guide)
- 83 Special Curatorial Study
- 84 Archeological Field Work, Indeterminant
- 85 Archeological Survey, Indeterminant
- 86 Field Reconnaissance, Minimal
- 87 Underwater Survey
- 88 Resource/Site Based Work, Indeterminant
- 89 Minimal/Informal Site Visitation
- 90 Oral History
- 91 Subsurface Activity, Indeterminant
- 92 Testing/Limited Excavation
- 93 Major Excavation

- 94 Underwater Resource/Site Based Work
- 95 Artifact/Collection Based Study/Report
- 96 Literature Synthesis/Review/Research Design
- 97 Intensive Determination of Surface Characteristics
- 98 Environmental Research
- 99 Geomorphological Study**
- 100 Geological Study
- 101 Paleontological Study
- 102 Population Reconstruction
- 103 Rock Art Study
- 104 Architectural Photography
- 105 Architecture Site Plan
- 106 Architectural Floor Plan
- 107 HABS Drawing
- 108 Physical Anthropology Study
- 109 Boat Survey
- 110 Other (Furnish a Keyword in Keyword Category 1 to identify the nature of this study.)

12. KEYWORDS and KEYWORD CATEGORIES

- 0 Types of Resources (or “no resources”)
- 1 Generic Terms/Research Questions/Specialized Studies
- 2 Archeological Taxonomic Names
- 3 Defined Artifact Types/Material Classes
- 4 Geographic Names or Locations
- 5 Time
- 6 Project Name/Project Area
- 7 Other keywords

Enter as many keywords (with the appropriate keyword category number) as you think will help a person (1) who is trying to understand what the report contains or (2) who is searching the database for specific information. Whenever appropriate, record the number of acres studied in a document.

Washington, DC	[ 4 ]	City Parks	[ 6 ]	Phase I Survey	[ 6 ]
Geoarchaeology	[ 6 ]		[ ]		[ ]
	[ ]		[ ]		[ ]
	[ ]		[ ]		[ ]
	[ ]		[ ]		[ ]
	[ ]		[ ]		[ ]
	[ ]		[ ]		[ ]
	[ ]		[ ]		[ ]

Continuation, see 14.

13. FEDERAL AGENCY None

14. CONTINUATION/COMMENTS (include item no.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

FORM COMPLETED BY

Name John Bedell Date 7/6/2014

Address 1250 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City Washington State DC

Zip 20037

Telephone Number 202-303-2664

[Contractor’s Letterhead]

[Insert Date]

Ms. Brenda Allen  
Chief Contracting Officer  
District of Columbia Department of General Services  
2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20009

Reference: Request for Proposal DCAM-17-CS-0085  
Fort Davis Playground and Splash Pad

Dear Ms. Allen:

On behalf of [INSERT NAME OF BIDDER] (the “Bidder”), I am pleased to submit this bid in response to the Department of General Services’ (the “Department” or “DGS”) Request for Proposal (the “RFP”) for the Fort Davis Playground and Splash Pad. The Bidder has reviewed the RFP and the attachments thereto, any addenda thereto, and the proposed Form of Contract (collectively, the “Bid Documents” or “Contract Documents”) and has conducted such due diligence and analysis as the Bidder, in its sole judgment, has deemed necessary in order to submit its bid in response to the RFP. The Bidder’s bid and the Lump Sum Price are based on the Bid Documents as issued and assume no material alteration of the terms of the Bid Documents. (Collectively, the bid and the Lump Sum Price are referred to as the “Bidder’s Bid”.)

The Bidder’s Bid is as follows:

CLIN	DESCRIPTION	Lump Sum Price
001	Contractor shall provide all labor, tools, equipment and materials necessary to perform the Design-Build for the Fort Davis Playground and Splash Pad.	
001A	<b>Design Fee</b> - The Design Fee should cover all design and engineering costs/fees necessary to complete design documents and/or performance specifications necessary for required permits and bidding.	\$ _____
001B	<b>Preconstruction Fee</b> - The Preconstruction Fee should cover all costs/fees necessary to develop the lump sum price, including, but not limited to, working with the Department as the design is finalized; and bidding the design documents with trade subcontractors to develop the lump sum price.	\$ _____
001C	<b>Design-Build Fee</b> - The Design-Build Fee should cover all costs/fees necessary to oversee and manage the construction of the work and should include the cost of overhead, profit and general conditions.	\$ _____
001D	<b>Construction Fee</b> - The Construction Fee should cover all cost/fees necessary to fully complete the construction of the project.	\$ _____
	<b>Lump Sum Price</b>	\$ _____
001E	<b>Add Alternate</b> – Walkway using Asphalt.	\$ _____
001F	<b>Add Alternate</b> – Jets with flow controlled valves	\$ _____



**LUMP SUM PRICE IN WORDS:**

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The Bidder shall submit a completed Price Breakdown Form (Exhibit 1) for each package, providing the price for each Division Component. The sum of all the prices for each Division Component must equal the Lump Sum Price above. In the event of discrepancies between or among the Lump Sum Price and the Price Breakdown of each Division Component, the Lump Sum Price shall control.

The Bidder's Bid is based on and subject to the following conditions:

1. The Bidder agrees to hold its bid open for a period of at least one hundred twenty (120) days after the RFP closing date.
2. Assuming the Bidder is selected by the Department and subject only to the changes requested in paragraph 5, the Bidder agrees to enter into a contract with the Department on the terms and conditions described in the Bid Documents within ten (10) days of the notice of the award.
3. Both the Bidder and the undersigned represent and warrant that the undersigned has the full legal authority to submit this bid form and bind the Bidder to the terms of the Bidder's bid. The Bidder further represents and warrants that no further action or approval must be obtained by the Bidder in order to authorize the terms of the Bidder's bid.
4. The Bidder and its principal team members hereby represent and warrant that they have not: (i) colluded with any other group or person that is submitting a bid in response to the RFP in order to fix or set prices; (ii) acted in such a manner so as to discourage any other group or person from submitting a bid in response to the RFP; or (iii) otherwise engaged in conduct that would violate applicable anti-trust law.
5. The Bidder hereby certifies that neither it nor any of its team members have entered into any agreement (written or oral) that would prohibit any contractor, subcontractor or subconsultant that is certified by the District of Columbia Office of Department of Small and Local Business Enterprises as a Local, Small, Resident Owned or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (collectively, "LSDBE Certified Companies") from participating in the work if another company is awarded the contract.
6. This Form of Offer Letter and Bid Form are being submitted on behalf of [INSERT FULL LEGAL NAME, TYPE OF ORGANIZATION, AND STATE OF FORMATION FOR THE BIDDER].

Sincerely,

Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhibit 1 - Price Breakdown Form**

<b>Fort Davis Playground and Splash Pad</b>		
<b>DIVISION NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DIVISION COST</b>
Div. 01	General Requirements	
Div. 02	Existing Conditions (incl. abatement/demo)	
Div. 03	Concrete	
Div. 04	Masonry	
Div. 05	Metals	
Div. 06	Woods and Plastics	
Div. 07	Thermal and Moisture Protection	
Div. 08	Openings	
Div. 09	Finishes	
Div. 10	Specialties	
Div. 11	Equipment	
Div. 12	Furnishings	
Div. 13	Special Construction	
Div. 14	Conveying Systems	
Div. 21	Fire Suppressions	
Div. 22	Plumbing	
Div. 23	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning	
Div. 26	Electrical	
Div. 27	Communications	
Div. 28	Electronic Safety and Security	
Div. 31	Earthwork	
Div. 32	Exterior Improvements	
Div. 33	Utilities	
	<b>Lump Sum Price:</b>	\$ _____