CURRENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN KENTUCKY

VOLUME EIGHT

Edited
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2007

KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

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Cover: WPA Crew at the Ward Site (Courtesy of the W. S. Webb Museum of Anthropology).

PREFACE

Since its creation in 1966, the Kentucky Heritage Council has taken the lead in preserving and protecting Kentucky's cultural resources. To accomplish its legislative charge, the Heritage Council maintains three program areas: Site Development, Site Identification, and Site Protection and Archaeology. Site Development administers the state and federal Main Street programs, providing technical assistance in downtown revitalization to communities throughout the state. It also runs the Certified Local Government, Investment Tax Credit, and Restoration Grants-in-Aid programs.

The Site Identification staff maintains the inventory of historic buildings and is responsible for working with a Review Board, composed of professional historians, historic architects, archaeologists, and others interested in historic preservation, to nominate sites to the National Register of Historic Places. This program also is actively working to promote rural preservation and to protect Civil War sites.

The Site Protection and Archaeology Program staff works with a variety of federal and state agencies, local governments, and individuals to assist in their compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and to ensure that potential impacts to significant cultural resources are adequately addressed prior to the implementation of federally funded or licensed projects. They also are responsible for administering the Heritage Council's archaeological programs, which include the agency's state and federal archaeological grants; organizing this conference, including the editing and publication of selected papers; and the dissemination of educational materials, such as the Kentucky Before Boone poster. On occasion, the Site Protection and Archaeology Program staff undertakes field and research projects, such as emergency data recovery at threatened sites.

The Site Protection Program Manager also is the Director of the Kentucky Archaeological Survey, which is jointly administered by the Kentucky Heritage Council and the University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology. Its mission is to provide a service to other state agencies, to work with private landowners to protect archaeological sites, and to educate the public about Kentucky's rich archaeological heritage.

This volume contains papers presented at the Seventeenth Annual Kentucky Heritage Council Archaeological Conference. The conference was held at Western Kentucky University, in Bowling Green, Kentucky on March 26-27, 2000. Dr. Darlene Applegate was in charge of conference details and local arrangements for this conference. Her efforts are greatly appreciated. Heritage Council staff that assisted with conference proceedings included Site Protection Program Manager Thomas N. Sanders, as well as Staff Archaeologist Charles D. Hockensmith.

I would like to thank everyone who has participated in the Heritage Council archaeological conferences. Without your support, these conferences would not have been as successful as they have been.

David Pollack
Site Protection Program Manager
Kentucky Heritage Council

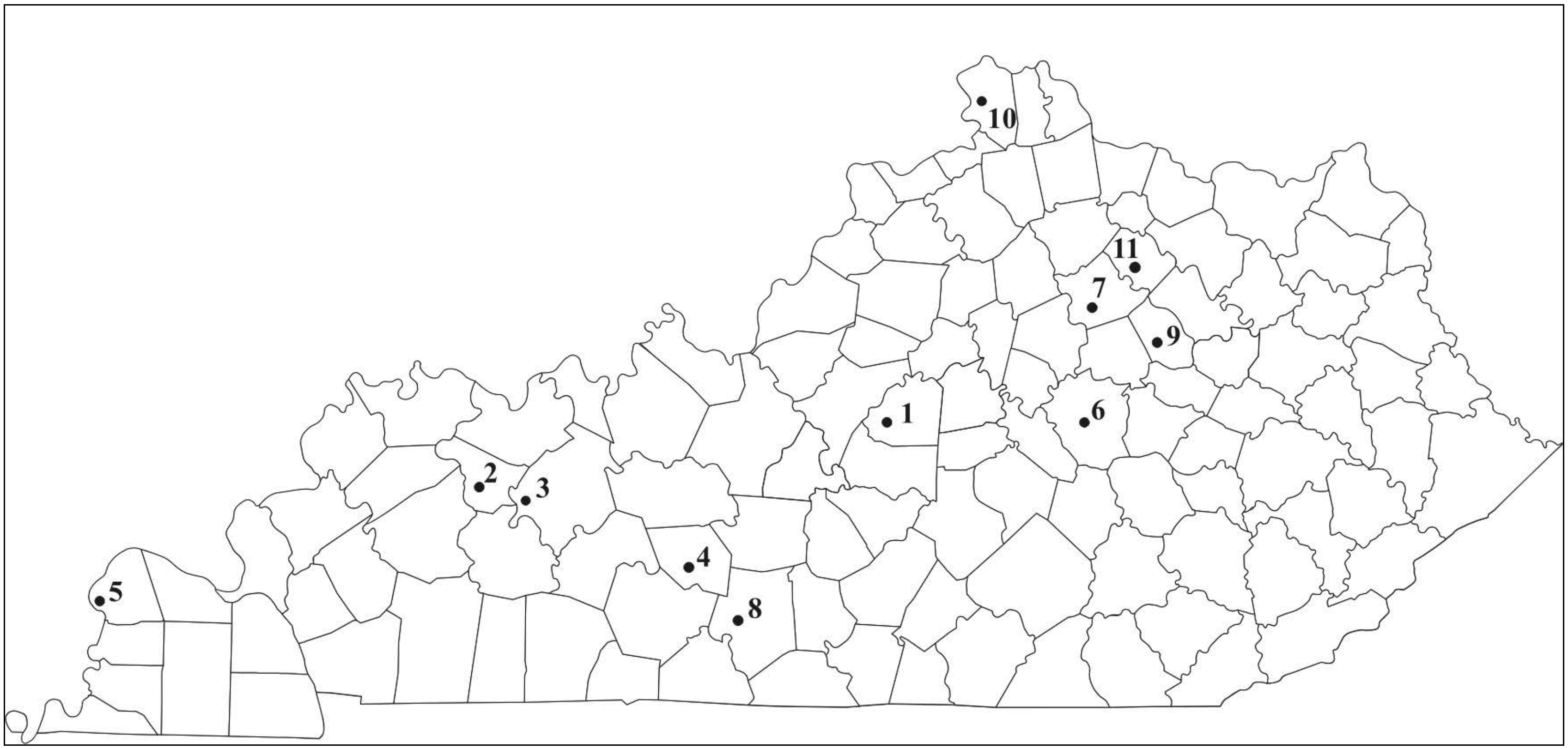

Figure 1. Location of Major Sites and Project Areas in this volume: 1, Upper Rolling Fork and Beech Fork Drainages; 2, Cypress Creek Drainage; 3, Indian Knoll, Ward, and Barrett; 4, Short Cave; 5, Wickcliffe Mound; 6, Broaddus; 7, McConnell's Homestead; 8, Bell's Tavern; 9, 15Mm137; 10, Maplewood; 11, Neal-Rice.

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IN SEARCH OF MARGARET GARNER: PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT MAPLEWOOD, 15BE483, BOONE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

By
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ABSTRACT

Margaret Garner, a slave made famous for her attempt to escape slavery in 1856 lived for several years at Maplewood (15Be483), a nineteenth-century farm developed by the Gaines family. When faced with recapture she attacked her own children and murdered her daughter in an attempt to free them of their fate. Archaeological research conducted at this site confirmed that the two-room standing nineteenth-century frame building was part of the larger mid-nineteenth century Gaines house and that the foundation of this house is preserved just to the west of the standing structure. A concentration of mid-nineteenth century artifacts and structural features located to the north of the main house may be associated with a detached kitchen or slave quarters. Future archaeological research at Maplewood has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the domestic lives of both masters and slaves in Kentucky.

INTRODUCTION

In 1998 the Kentucky Archaeological Survey (KAS) conducted two weeks of fieldwork at Maplewood (15Be483) in Boone County, Kentucky. Maplewood was a nineteenth-century farm developed by the Gaines family in the Richwood community. These investigations were concentrated on the main domestic complex of this farm, which was located on a high ridge east of an unnamed tributary of Mud Lick Creek and about one kilometer west of the Richwood Church on State Road 338.

The story of enslaved Margaret Garner, as made famous by the 1987 Toni Morrison novel *Beloved*, an Oprah Winfrey movie of the same name, and Stephen Weisenberger's (1998) cultural analysis *Modern Medea*, has generated enormous public interest in this property. Although a number of twentieth century structures have been constructed on this property (Figure 1), a two-room frame building is thought to date to the mid-nineteenth century occupation of the Gaines and Garner families (Figure 2). The primary goals of the KAS study were to ascertain the nature of the deposits in and around this building, to confirm the architectural historians' dating of this building, and to evaluate its connection to the main Gaines house and, potentially, to Margaret Garner and other slaves who once lived on this farm. Additional excavations were conducted around the structure in 1999 by Behringer-Crawford Museum field school students from Covington, Kentucky, under the direction of Jeannine Kreinbrink and Rose Pfaff.

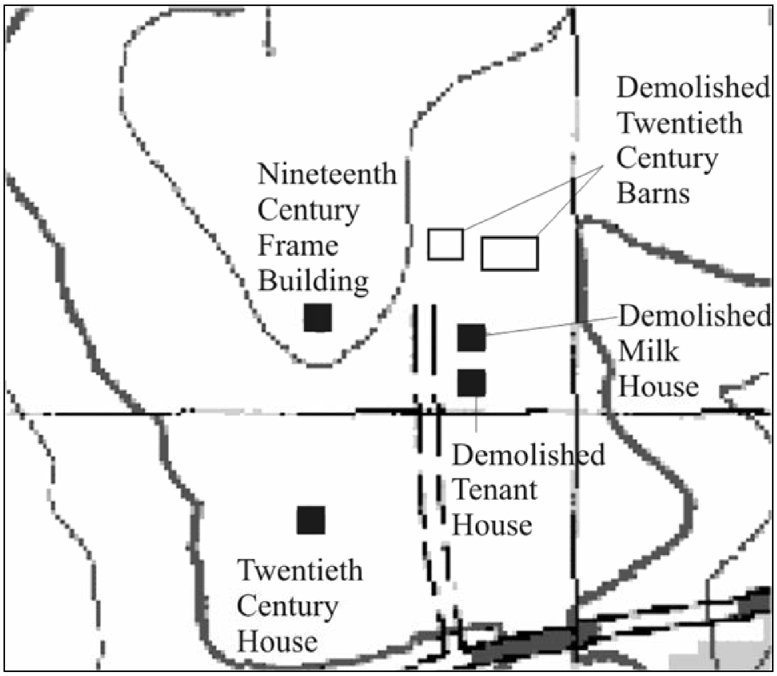


Figure 1. Structures at Maplewood during the Mid-Twentieth Century.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 1998 Steven Weisenberger, a University of Kentucky English professor, published his interpretation and documentation of the Margaret Garner case. His work was based largely on his examination of records related to the Margaret Garner's court case and the Gaines family papers. This work, an article by Julius Yanuck published in 1953, and family tradition provided by Ruth Wade Brunings, a descendent of the neighboring Bedinger family, are the basis of the historical narrative presented below.

The development of the Maplewood farm seems to have begun about 1825 when the land was purchased by John Pollard Gaines. John was a son of Abner and Elizabeth Gaines, who had come to the Walton area of Boone County about 1810 from Virginia. John married Elizabeth Kinkead in 1824, and they built the first house on the property in

1825. They built a new and larger house at Maplewood, containing 14 rooms, in 1842-1843. It is not known if the 1842-43 house was on the exact foundation of the 1825 house. John Gaines rose to prominence in military and political affairs. In 1849 he was appointed Governor of the Oregon territory. Since this appointment required a move to the Oregon Territory, John sold Maplewood to his brother, Archibald Gaines.

Figure 2. Two-Room Nineteenth Century Frame Structure at Maplewood.

Archibald was living in Arkansas at the time but moved back to Kentucky to manage the farm operation at Maplewood. His first wife had died in Arkansas, but he was later remarried to her sister. The new couple, Archibald and Elizabeth, were at some point joined at Maplewood by Archibald and John's widowed mother, also named Elizabeth. Archibald lived at Maplewood only a short time when the main house burned in November 1850. He immediately rebuilt the main house.

Archibald Gaines died in 1872. His widow Elizabeth and some remaining family lived at Maplewood until 1884 when they moved to Texas. Elizabeth's final year of ownership is referenced on an 1883 atlas (Figure 3). The property was sold to Ben Hind Jr., Joseph C. Hughes, and eventually to a neighbor, Samuel Taylor. Since Taylor had his own house nearby, it is unlikely that he would have moved to Maplewood. The property was brought back into the extended Gaines family by its purchase in 1914 by Benjamin Franklin Bedinger and his wife Lucy Harrison Gaines. Lucy was a direct descendent of James Gaines, brother of Archibald and John. The main Gaines house was no longer standing in 1914, except for the two frame rooms that were the focus of this investigation. The Bedingers lived in these two rooms, adding shed additions, until about 1917 when they completed a Sears and Roebuck house approximately 100 m to the south. They also constructed barns to the east of the nineteenth-century frame building. They (or possibly Samuel Taylor before them) constructed a tenant house near the Sears and Roebuck house (Figure 4). Bedinger's heirs sold the property to the present owner, George Budig, in 1998. Mr. Budig removed the barns, a tenant house, a small brick dairy building, and the shed additions from the two-room remnant of the nineteenth-century frame house. He continues to farm the surrounding land.

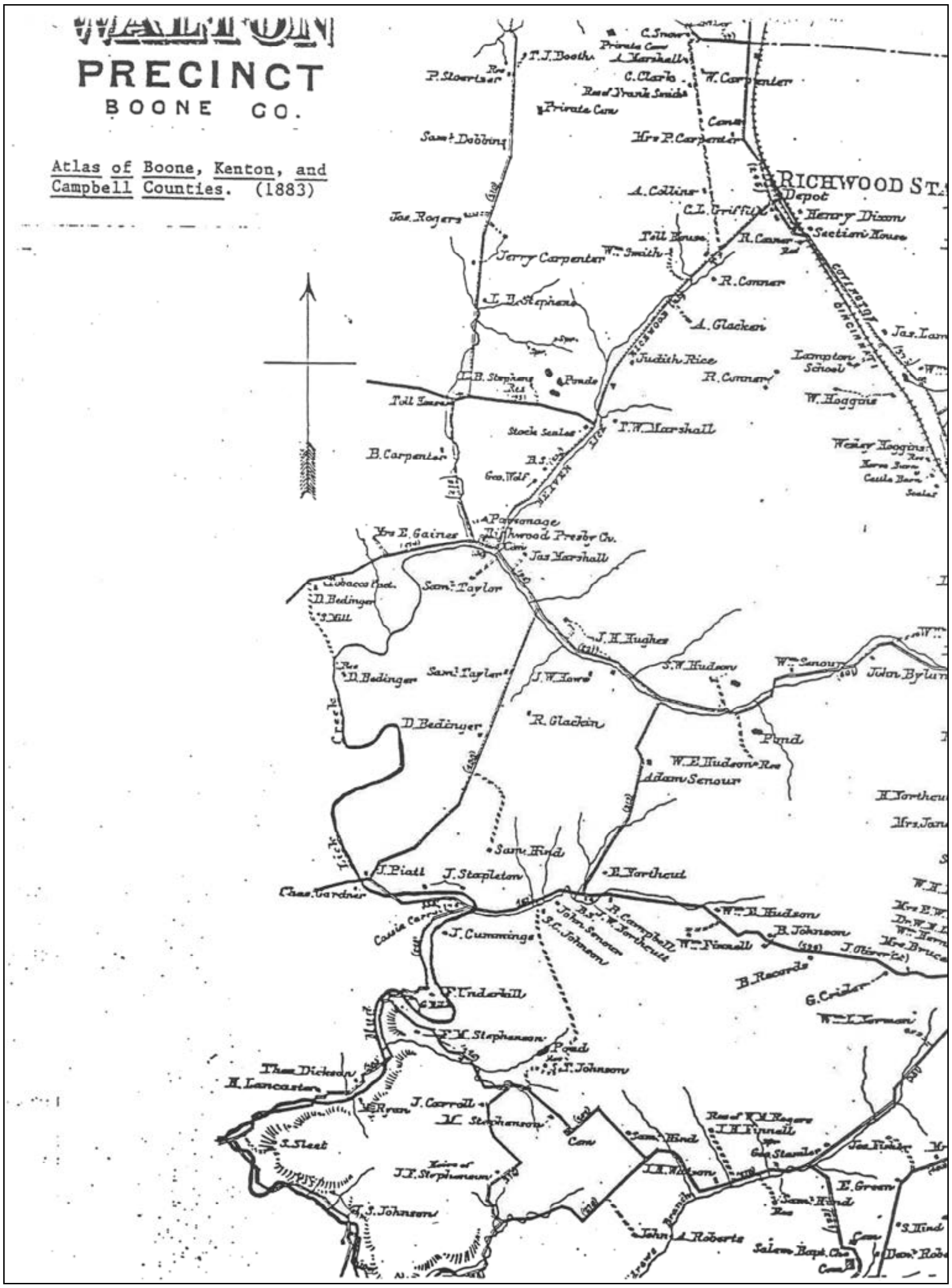
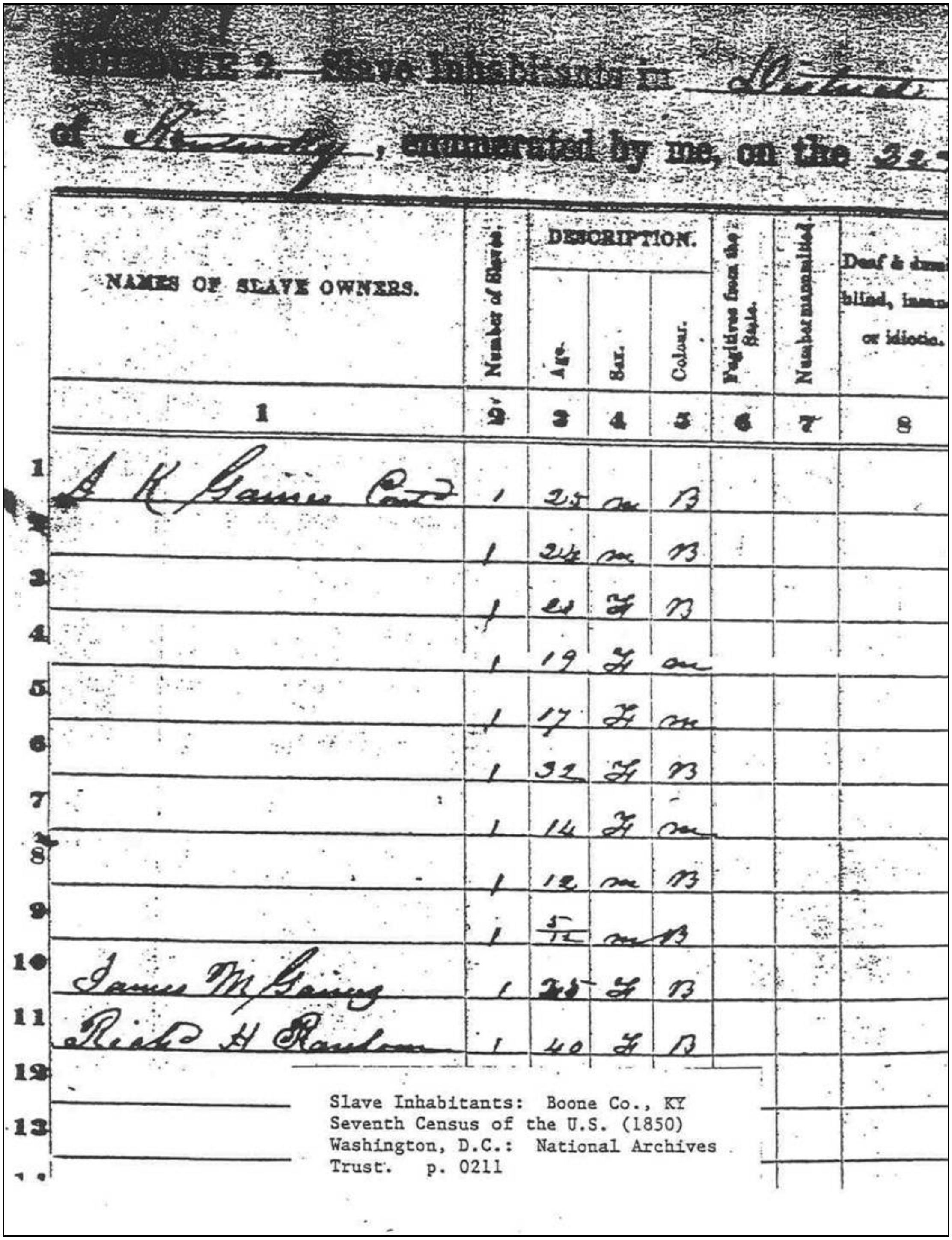


Figure 3. 1883 County Atlas Showing Elizabeth Gaines at Maplewood.

Figure 4. Tenant House Just Before Demolition in 1998.

The nineteenth-century occupants of Maplewood included a number of slaves. In fact, it is the specific history of one Maplewood slave, Margaret Garner, that has gained national attention. Margaret was owned by John Gaines and later Archibald Gaines. John and Archibald also owned her mother, Cilla. In the 1850 census, the first to enumerate slaves individually, Archibald Gaines was listed as owning 12 slaves (Figure 5). One was a woman aged 17, who was most likely Margaret (see Weisenberger 1988:39). Margaret had married Robert Garner, a slave on the neighboring Marshall farm, in 1849. She had four children by the time of her 1856 escape attempt. Court depositions taken during the Margaret Garner case indicate that Margaret spent much of her working time in the main house and caring for Elizabeth, Archibald and John's ailing mother.

In January 1856, the Garner family attempted an escape and fled across the frozen Ohio River. The party included Margaret Garner, her four children, her husband Robert, and his parents—who lived on the neighboring Marshall farm. Their destination was a house occupied by the Kites, free blacks and relatives who lived on the (then) outskirts of Cincinnati. In a matter of hours Margaret's absence was noticed. Archibald Gaines and other neighbors, including Mr. Marshall, caught up with the Garners before they could make the Underground Railroad connections arranged by the Kites. When Margaret realized the presence of the Gaines party and its intention to seize her and the children, she fatally cut the throat of her infant daughter and attempted to kill her other children before she was captured. A key issue addressed at the trial was whether the Ohio courts could claim jurisdiction over Margaret and try her for the crime she committed on Ohio soil, or if Archibald, as owner from a slave state, could reclaim Margaret. The case attracted much attention nationally. The Garners were eventually released to Archibald Gaines. Legal appeals were still in process in 1858 when Margaret died of typhoid on the Mississippi plantation to which Archibald had moved her. According to Weisenberger's research, the case was among the most influential slave-related cases of the 1850s. A painting by Thomas Satterwhite Noble and references in contemporary journalism and literature have perpetuated the case's fame.



SCHEDULE 2.—Slave Inhabitants in District of Kentucky, enumerated by me, on the 22-

	NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	Number of Slaves.	DESCRIPTION. Age.	Sex.	Colour.	Fugitives from the State.	Number manumitted.	Deaf & dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	A K Gaines Cont	1	25	m	B			
2		1	24	m	B			
3		1	21	F	B			
4		1	19	F	m			
5		1	17	F	m			
6		1	32	F	B			
7		1	14	F	m			
8		1	12	m	B			
9		1	5/12	m	B			
10	James M Gaines	1	25	F	B			
11	Richd H [illegible]	1	40	F	B			
12								
13								

Slave Inhabitants: Boone Co., KY
Seventh Census of the U.S. (1850)
Washington, D.C.: National Archives
Trust. p. 0211

Figure 5. Archibald Gaines' Listing in the 1850 Federal Census, Slave Schedule.

Although Margaret's escape ended in failure, four other slaves from Maplewood were successful that same winter in their flight across the river and eventually through the Underground Railroad to freedom. According to the 1860 federal census slave schedule, Maplewood at that time had five slaves and two slave houses (Weisenberger 1998; Anne Butler, personal communication 1998). It is likely that slaves continued to live on the farm until emancipation.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The two-room frame building was examined by architectural historians Bill Macintire and Richard Jett of the Kentucky Heritage Council, who have extensive experience with nineteenth century buildings in Kentucky. This building is shown in Figure 2 and a floor plan drawn by Bill Macintire is presented in Figure 6 (shed additions on the east side of the structure have since been removed but are shown here for the benefit of future researchers, since they may have affected the adjoining wall and deposits under them). Macintire and Jett concluded that architectural features argue for a construction date somewhere between 1845 and 1870, and more likely between 1850 and 1860. These features include the use of late machine-cut nails, sash-weighted windows, criss-cross bracing of the floor joists, nailed rather than joined down braces, butt-joined and nailed rafters, milled plaster laths, and close to balloon framing. The brick nogging exposed on the southern facade is quite interesting. In contrast to the balloon framing, the nogging seems to represent a rather conservative element in the building's construction. Macintire and Jett concluded that due to the small size of the fireplaces and finished nature of the interior, these rooms were not likely originally built as a kitchen (the Bedinger family tradition, according to Gaines and Bedinger descendant Ruth Wade Brunings), and more likely represent the hall and parlor of the original house (Bill Macintire, personal communication 1998, 1999). This does not mean that the building was not used for cooking at some point during its occupation.

The western facade, presently an exterior wall (shown in Figure 2), was originally built as an interior wall, and modified to be an exterior wall in the late nineteenth to early twentieth century. Reused windows were installed, presumably in old door openings, and the wall was sided, probably with reused siding from other parts of the main house. Thus the analysis suggested that this building was once part of the main Archibald Gaines house, built between 1850-1851. The rest of the house was then, for reasons unknown, torn or fell down in the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries after abandonment by the Gaines family in 1884. A depression 15 m west of the structure corresponds to a collapsed cellar remembered by George Gaines Bedinger, a descendent who had made periodic visits to this site as early as the 1930s (Ruth Wade Brunings, personal communication 1998). A humped area located 12 to 15 m to the west of the depression represents the top of a beehive cistern and the edge of the original house on this side (see Figure 7).

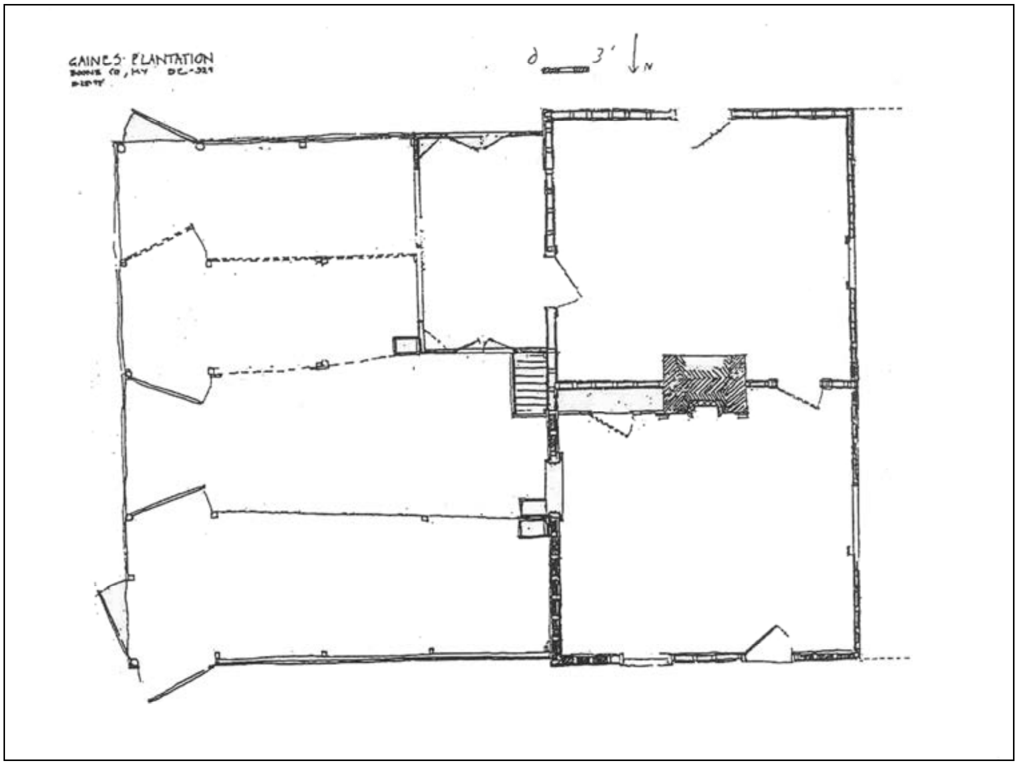


Figure 6. Floor Plan of Two-Room Frame Structure, with Shed Additions.

The 1984 U.S.G.S. topographic map (Figure 1) shows the footprints of four other buildings on the site that are not standing today, having been torn down in the mid-1990s. Among them were two twentieth-century barns that were located to the northwest of the standing nineteenth century frame building. Two additional buildings, a frame tenant house and a brick milk house located directly south of these barns, were standing in the fall of 1998 and were briefly evaluated by Macintire and Jett. They concluded that the tenant house was probably built sometime between the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, although it incorporated a variety of reused materials, such as hand-hewn logs. This point is mentioned since it is likely that the logs came from buildings that were part of the original farm complex, possibly even parts of the original house. The brick milk house was constructed sometime in the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries.

The only other remaining building on the Maplewood farm is a 1917 Sears and Roebuck bungalow located 100 m south of the nineteenth century structure. This structure was vacant in 1998, but was slated for renovation.

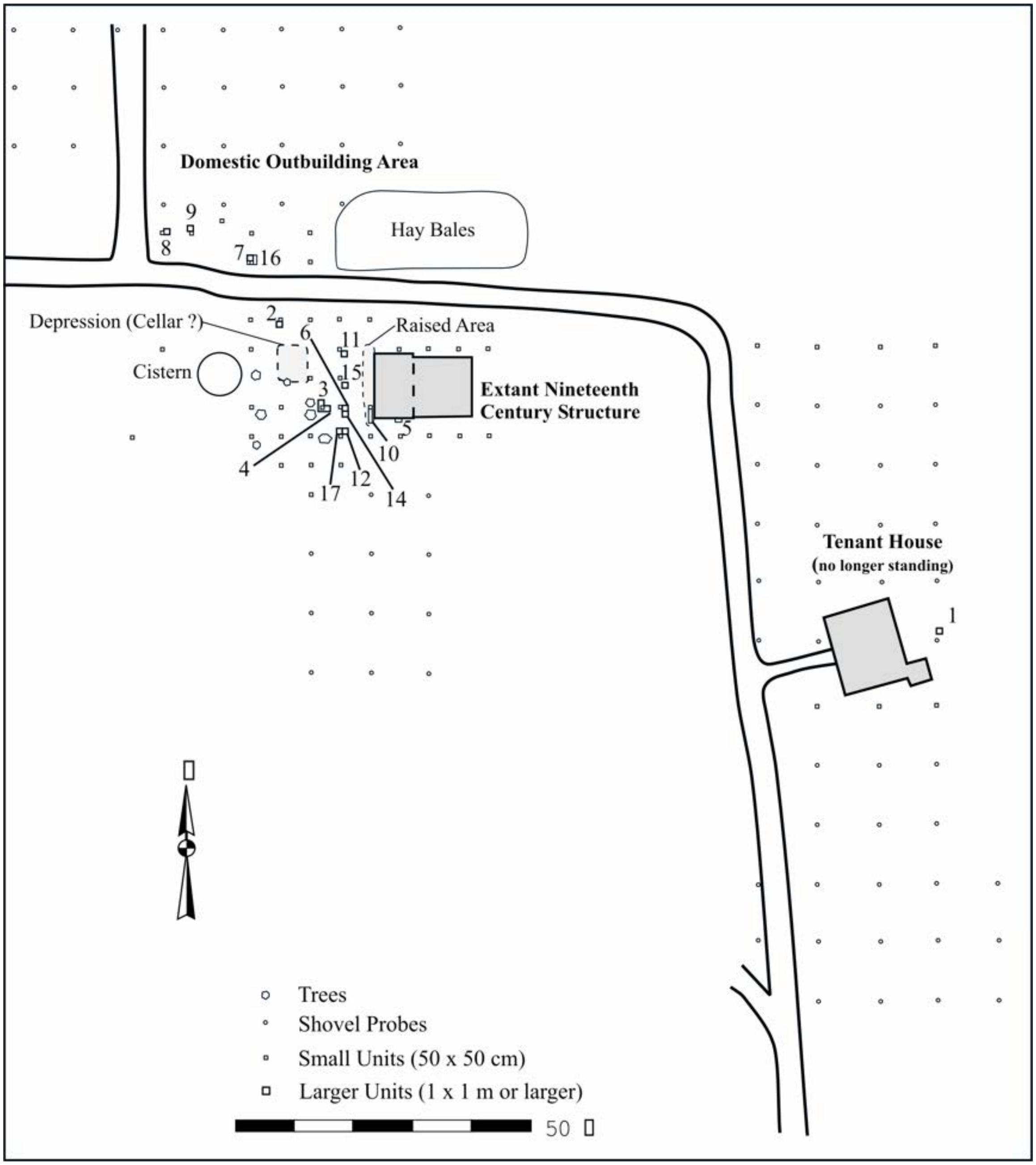


Figure 7. Map of Kentucky Archaeological Survey's Archaeological Investigations.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODS AND FIELD RESULTS

KAS conducted two weeks of fieldwork at Maplewood. This work primarily consisted of the excavation of shovel probes and units in the vicinity of the standing nineteenth century structure (Figure 7). Areas surrounding the structure were investigated with small 50 x 50 cm units (n=47) placed at 5 m intervals. Areas further away from this structure were investigated with 30 x 30 cm screened shovel probes (n=80) at 10 m intervals. Examination of the survey results led to the delineation of three distinct areas (the main house, a domestic outbuilding area, and the twentieth century tenant house), which were targeted for additional investigation. Larger hand excavated units of various sizes (n=18) were then excavated within the three site areas. The results of this fieldwork are described below.

MAIN HOUSE AREA

The field reconnaissance, oral history, and architectural analysis described above suggest that the standing nineteenth century structure likely had some connection to the Gaines occupation. Thus, the area immediately around this building was designated as the main house area and received the bulk of the fieldwork.

Shovel Probes

Screened shovel probes were excavated in a yard area located to the south of the standing nineteenth century structure and to the north of the 1917 house. Shovel probes were excavated on a 10 m grid in three transects, each containing five shovel probes. The soil profile identified in these probes consisted of a 5 to 50 cm thick mottled brown silt loam and clay that largely contained modern artifacts overlying a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. The soil profiles associated with these shovel probes indicated extensive disturbances to this area, with little intact nineteenth century stratigraphy or artifacts.

Small Units

As previously noted, the yard immediately around the standing nineteenth century structure was initially investigated with 50 x 50 cm units. The typical soil profile in the immediate vicinity of the standing nineteenth-century structure consisted of a 10 to 20 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil underlain by a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. A similar profile was identified in the yard to the west between the existing water cistern and the standing nineteenth-century structure, but in this area a 15 to 20 cm thick transition zone was identified between the topsoil and subsoil. In addition just to the south of the east-west farm road, a 5 cm thick mottled yellowish-brown clay with limestone fragments was identified immediately below the topsoil. Numerous pieces of limestone were noted on the surface in this area, and an amorphous pit-like feature containing nineteenth century artifacts was found in this area.

In addition to the soil profiles described above, five areas with distinct profiles were identified in the vicinity of the nineteenth century standing structure. Of these, one consisted of a 15 to 20 cm thick brick rubble stratum, followed by a 5 cm mortar stratum, a 20 to 30 cm thick brown silt loam stratum, and a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil that was identified in several units located immediately to the west of this structure. This stratigraphic profile corresponds to a linear raised area located adjacent to the building. Within this area brick rubble was observed on the present-day ground surface (see Figure 7).

Units excavated to the west of the linear raised area exhibited a 5 to 8 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil, followed by a 15 to 20 cm thick ashy stratum that contained charcoal and some brick fragments, and a silty clay subsoil. One unit excavated near this area contained a line of large limestone fragments that looked as if they had been part of a foundation. The charcoal associated with these units almost certainly represents the 1850 fire mentioned in the previous historical background section.

Near the northwest corner of the standing structure the stratigraphic profile consisted of a 10 to 30 cm thick mottled yellow clay fill situated between the 5 cm thick topsoil and clay subsoil. This area corresponds to a slight rectangular shaped depression that according to family member George Gaines Bedinger was the location of a cellar. A unit excavated near the center of the depression exhibited a similar stratigraphic profile, but under the clay fill, a 10 cm thick dark brown silt loam followed by a 40 cm thick ash deposit was documented. Nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts were recovered from this unit.

Just to the north of the standing nineteenth century structure, but not far from the door, a 5 to 8 cm thick coal, clinker, and ash stratum was documented just below the 10-20 cm thick modern topsoil. This stratum was not documented in most of the other units excavated at this site.

The fifth area that had a distinctly different soil profile was located on the east side of the standing nineteenth century structure. The stratigraphic profile observed in this area consisted of a 20 to 40 cm thick brown silt loam mottled with yellowish clay inclusions, followed by subsoil. Oral history indicates that this area had been the site of twentieth century barns that had recently been bulldozed.

In summary, the 50 x 50 cm units revealed varied stratigraphy throughout the entire main house area. Excavation of these smaller units helped identify three potentially significant features: a filled cellar, a possible trash pit, and a possible limestone foundation. These areas and the area of brick rubble adjacent to the standing nineteenth century structure were investigated further with larger units.

Larger Units

Within the main house area, 12 larger 1 x 1 m units were hand-excavated, mostly to investigate midden deposits and possible architectural features. Neither the cistern nor the cellar were excavated, since oral history suggested they had been filled in the twentieth century.

Foundation and Sidewalk/Patio Paving

Nine 1 x 1 m units (Units 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 17) and one 0.5 x 2.5 m trench (Unit 10), were excavated to the west of the nineteenth century standing structure to sample potential midden deposits and to more fully investigate a possible limestone foundation remnant identified in this area. The stratigraphic profile in this area consisted of a 5 to 14 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil, followed by a 4 to 15 cm thick medium brown ashy silt loam midden (often with extensive root disturbance). Below these two strata were a 6 to 20 cm thick yellowish-brown silt clay loam transitional soil and yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. The ashy silt loam stratum was not present in Units 12 and 17. In some areas a distinct charcoal outline, which is a remnant of the 1850 fire, could be seen along the edges of the limestone foundation.

This work resulted in the exposure of a portion of a dry-laid limestone foundation (Feature 1) that was usually visible after removal of the topsoil and ashy silt loam midden The foundation was most intact in Units 6, 12, 14, and 17. These four units were located about 5 m to the west of the standing structure, suggesting that if the foundation was part of the building at one time, it made for an approximately 6.09 m (or 20 ft) pen out from this structure. The foundation has a width of 55 to 65 cm wide (about 2 ft) and is composed of pieces of roughly-dressed dry-laid limestone (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Feature 1, Main House Foundation in Unit 6.

Intact stones were not present in Units 11 and 15, located in line with but north of Units 6, 12, 14, and 17. Nor were intact stones found in Unit 10, which was excavated adjacent to the west side of the standing structure (Figure 7) to investigate brick rubble exposed on the surface and documented in several 50 x 50 cm units in this area. While intact foundation stones were not found, a distinct imprint of the foundation's trench was documented in these three units. This trench, often called a robber's trench since the building stones had been removed, was filled with yellow brown ashy silt loam soil and stone or brick rubble. A very distinct charcoal stratum, similar to that documented in other units and thought to be a remnant from the 1850 fire, was also present in Unit 10 (Figures 9 and 10). It remains unknown why the foundation was removed in these units. The articulation of Feature 1 with the southwest corner of the standing structure helped clarify that this was the last remaining portion of the original house.

Figure 9. Feature 1, Main House Foundation Robber's Trench in Unit 10.

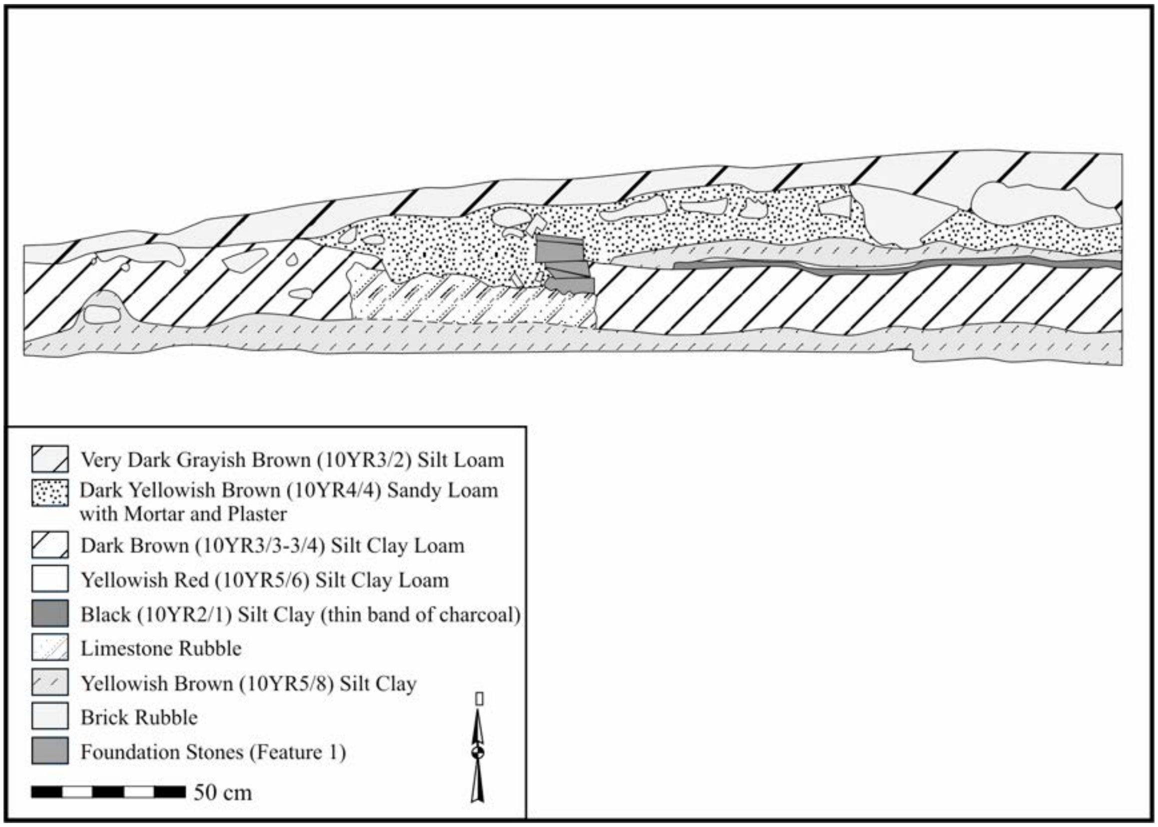


Figure 10. Profile of Unit 10, West Wall, Showing Feature 1 and Thin Band of Charcoal.

Large limestone fragments also were found in Units 3, 4, and 13, which were located just to the east of the base of a large tree about 4 m to the west of Feature 1 (Units 6, 12, 14, and 17). These stones, despite extensive root disturbance, were only one course thick with possible edging stones. This arrangement suggests the stones were a probable walkway or patio/porch rather than a foundation. More work is needed to clarify their relationship to Feature 1.

Foundation of Standing Nineteenth Century Structure

Unit 5 was a 1 x 0.7 m unit excavated adjacent to the south side foundation of the standing nineteenth century structure near the door (Figure 7). This unit was excavated to investigate the building foundation and look for an associated builder's trench. The stratigraphic profile of this unit consisted of three strata, beginning with a 15 to 28 cm dark brown silt loam topsoil/midden, followed by a 4 to 12 cm thick yellow brown silt clay loam transitional soil, and a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. There was no evidence of a builder's trench, indicating that either the foundation had been laid from the inside, or that any builder’s trench was too narrow to detect. The foundation stones ended at a depth of 46 cm below the present ground surface (Figures 11 and 12).

Figure 11. Foundation of Two-Room Frame Structure.

Possible Pit Feature

Unit 2 was a 1 x 1 m unit excavated to investigate a possible nineteenth century pit feature located in a 50 x 50 m unit. Five distinct strata were identified in Unit 2. The first strata consisted of a 5 to 10 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil. It was followed by a 4 to 7 cm thick yellowish-brown clay with limestone, a 2 to 5 cm thick grayish brown silt loam with pea gravel, a 40 to 45 cm thick rodent and root-disturbed yellow brown silty clay loam, and yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. While no evidence of a pit feature was found in this unit, this area was determined to have been heavily disturbed by rodent and root activity.

<u>Artifacts from Main House Area</u>

Although artifact density around the main house was fairly low, most of the materials recovered date from the mid- to late nineteenth century. Among the materials recovered were refined and coarse ceramics. The refined ceramic assemblage consisted almost exclusively of whiteware (n=427), which dates from approximately the late 1820s to the present, with only a few (earlier) creamware (n=4) and pearlware (n=2) sherds, and some porcelain (n=39) sherds. More utilitarian ceramics are represented by nineteenth century yellowware (n=4), redware (n=17) and stoneware (n=72).

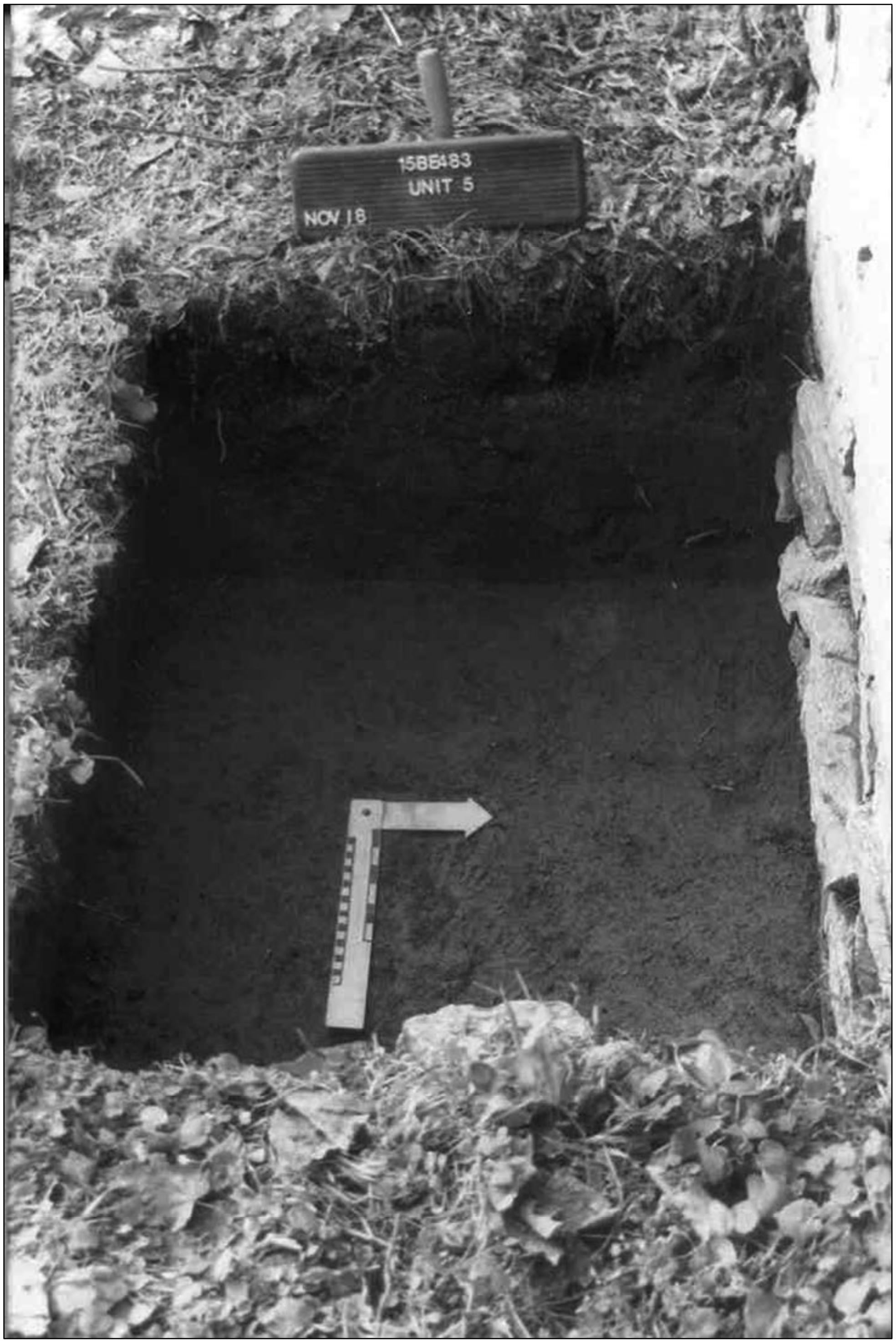


Figure 12. Close-Up of Excavation alongside Foundation.

The 720 bottle glass fragments were too fragmentary to assign to vessel types. Late nineteenth to early twentieth century glass artifacts, such as amethyst colored bottle fragments and machine-made bottle lips and bases were recovered from this area. Personal items were rather sparse, but include one marble, two buttons, one buckle, and one eating utensil (a spoon). An 1845 one-cent coin, found in a small unit located near Feature 1, was the only coin recovered.

Architectural or furniture items include 19 lamp chimney glass fragments, one hinge fragment, one key and a lock fragment, machine cut nails (n=761), wire nails (n=109), and 909 window glass fragments. Brick fragments were noted in most excavation contexts but were usually very fragmentary.

The presence of amethyst bottle glass along the western edge of the standing nineteenth century structure indicates that this building was occupied until at least the late nineteenth century, but the dearth of wire nails relative to machine-cut nails demonstrates that it did not extend into the twentieth century. The absence of early twentieth century artifacts from this portion of the site supports the interpretation provided by the documentary and oral history that indicates the Gaines family left in 1884 and that only part of the house was standing when descendants purchased the property in 1914. A small amount of lithic debitage represents a prehistoric occupation that was heavily disturbed by the historic occupation.

DOMESTIC OUTBUILDING AREA

According to oral tradition, the slave quarters were located in one of two places: north and across the current farm road from the main house or in the vicinity of a twentieth century tenant house (see below). During the archaeological investigation, the area to the north of the main house was being used to wrap hay bales or had been plowed and planted in corn. The plowed portion of this area was surface collected, and a combination of shovel probes, 50 x 50 cm units, and larger units was used to investigate the subsurface deposits (Figure 7).

Surface Collection

The cultivated field north of the main house was surface collected with the help of volunteers. Artifacts were marked with survey flags, mapped, and collected. Numerous nineteenth century artifacts, most notably ceramic sherds, were found widely distributed throughout the southwestern portion of the cultivated field, in closest proximity to the main house. They were most concentrated at the base of a slope in the field just north of the main house.

Shovel Probes

Based on the results of the surface collection, 19 shovel probes were excavated at 10 m intervals in the cultivated field and five were excavated near the stored hay bales (Figure 7). The stratigraphic profile of the shovel probes excavated in the cultivated field consisted of a 15 to 20 cm thick medium brown silty loam plowzone followed a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. In contrast to these probes, those excavated in the vicinity of the hay bales located near the east-west farm road appear not to have been cultivated as intensively as the field to the north of the road. A row of trees just north of the road suggests that an old fence line was located here and it is possible that the area between these trees and the nineteenth century building had not been plowed since this structure was built.

All of the probes contained a moderate density of machine-cut nails and nineteenth century ceramics. The highest density of artifacts was observed in close proximity to the dirt road that bisects the area.

Small Units

The shovel probe data indicated that the highest probability for encountering intact deposits was in the vicinity of the previously mentioned old fence, as this area may never have been plowed. Some of the hay bales located in this area were removed by the landowner to allow for further work.

Of the seven 50 x 50 cm units excavated in this area, the soil profile of two units was characterized by a 20 cm dark brown silt loam topsoil/midden, followed by a 40 cm thick yellow brown silt clay loam transitional soil, and yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. The topsoil/midden in both units contained a high density of nineteenth century artifacts, especially machine-cut nails and window glass. Brick fragments and plaster flecks were associated with only one of the units. It is likely that the topsoil/midden deposits in these two units represent a structure demolition episode and that the walls of this structure had been plastered. The structure was likely domestic rather than agricultural in function. This topsoil/midden was similar to the rich topsoil/midden stratum identified in the extreme western portion of the main house area.

The remaining five units exhibited a 6 to 15 cm thick dark yellow brown mottled silt clay loam topsoil, followed by a 20 cm thick yellow brown silt clay loam transitional soil, and a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. Two of these units, however, exhibited a much thinner topsoil, only 4 cm thick, followed by a 12 cm thick stratum of limestone rubble, a 4 cm thick lens of gravel, and then subsoil.

Larger Units

Five units were hand-excavated in the domestic outbuilding area to further investigate the limestone rubble and the topsoil/midden documented in this area. Units 7 (1 x 1 m), 16 (0.50 x 1.75 m), and 18 (1 m x 75 cm) were grouped to form a small block. The soil profile identified in this block consisted of an 8 to 10 cm thick dark grayish brown silt loam topsoil with brick, rock, and coal inclusions, followed by a 7 to 10 cm thick brown silt loam with dense concentrations of rock, a 3 cm thick lens of pea gravel within a brown silt loam, and a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil.

Feature 3 was identified within this excavation block. It was characterized by a high density of limestone rubble with some larger stones that appear to be intact foundation stones. The foundation appears to have a "C" or "U" shape suggesting that it may be a chimney foundation. More work is needed to clarify the function of Feature 3 and this area of the site.

Units 8 (1 x 1 m) and 9 (1 x 1 m) were excavated to further sample the intact topsoil/midden. The soil profile in Unit 9 consisted of a 14 to 16 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil/midden, followed by a 16 cm thick brown silt loam soil and a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil.

A posthole and postmold (Feature 4) were identified at the base of the topsoil/midden stratum in Unit 8 (Figure 13). The posthole was characterized by mottled yellow brown silt clay loam, with grey ash patches. The total dimensions of the posthole are unknown because the post was bisected by the northwest corner of the unit, but the portion exposed measured 80 x 60 cm. The postmold was characterized by a dark grayish brown silt loam that was consistent with the midden stratum. No evidence of the wooden post remained within the postmold. The circular postmold measured 28 cm in diameter. This feature extended to depth of 75 cm below the surface.

The soil profile documented in Unit 9 consisted of an 18 to 26 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil/midden, followed by a 6 to 20 cm thick yellow brown silt clay loam transitional soil, and a yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. Another posthole and postmold (Feature 2), was identified at the base of the midden stratum in Unit 9 (Figure 14). The posthole was characterized by a mottled yellow and brown clay with gray ash patches. It measured 60 x 40 cm and was rectangular in shape. The postmold contained a very dark brown and loose silt loam, with a considerable portion of the original wooden post intact. The postmold was circular, 20 cm in diameter. Feature 2 extended to a depth of 81 cm below ground surface.

Artifacts from the Domestic Outbuilding Area

The artifact assemblage from the domestic outbuilding area contained a high density of nineteenth century ceramics, with the refined wares consisting almost exclusively of whiteware (n=413). Only five creamware and two pearlware sherds, and a small amount of porcelain (n=42) were recovered from this area. Coarse wares found in this area consisted of yellowware (n=7), redware (n=9), and a moderate amount of stoneware (n =79). The 647 container glass fragments recovered were primarily from a crushed wine bottle lip and neck, which dates before the Civil War. Several fragments from an eagle flask, very popular in the 1820s to 1840s, also were recovered from this area. No postbellum bottle glass was recovered. Among the other artifacts from this area were

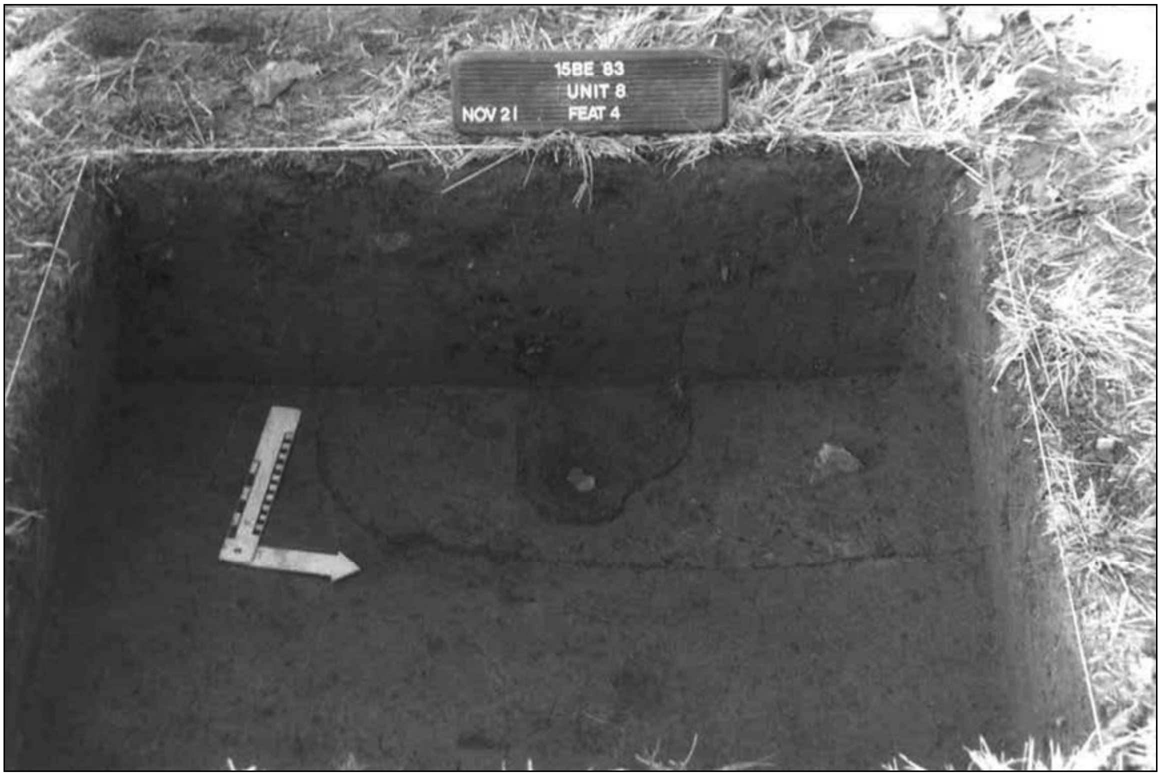


Figure 13. Post, Feature 4 in Unit 8.

Figure 14. Post, Feature 2 in Unit 9.

four buttons, one buckle, eating utensils (one fork and four knife fragments), and 29 lamp chimney fragments. All reflect a domestic occupation.

Among the architectural items recovered were 761 nails (n=613 machine-cut, n=20 wire, and n=128 unidentifiable) and 329 window glass fragments. Inclusions of plaster (especially in Unit 8), and brick fragments were observed but not collected. The presence of nails and window glass, along with the two large structural postmolds/postholes points to the presence of a building at this location. They were situated 4.57 m (15 ft) apart, making the size of the building at about 15 feet, a common size for buildings during the nineteenth century. The postholes contained a few whiteware ceramics and a few machine-cut nails, suggesting a post-1830s construction date.

The artifacts from these units also indicate an earlier end date for the occupation of this building, compared to the adjacent main house foundation. For example, only 3 percent of the nails from this area are wire nails, while 12 percent of the nails from the main house area are wire nails. A line of trees through this area seems to mark an old fence line, which could easily be the origin of these wire nails. The lack of amethyst glass from this area, which was found within the main house area, also supports an earlier ending date for this outbuilding.

TENANT HOUSE AREA

The tenant house area is situated to the south of the standing nineteenth century two-room frame structure where a small frame twentieth century tenant house was located (Figures 1, 4, and 7). The area around the building consisted of a gravel/asphalt road west of the structure and a large bulldozed pit north of the house. This area was targeted for investigation because family tradition suggested it was the possible location of the slave quarters (Ruth Wade Brunings, personal communication 1998). The landowner dismantled the tenant house during our investigations, but Macintire and Jett were able to look at the building before its demolition. As previously noted, they concluded that it had been constructed in the twentieth century from a variety of salvaged materials, some of them likely nineteenth century in origin. This area was investigated with shovel probes and a 1 x 1 m unit.

<u>Shovel Probes</u>

Forty shovel probes were excavated in the tenant house area. These shovel probes exhibited a soil profile that was characterized by a 15 to 30 cm thick brown silt loam topsoil/plowzone followed by yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. A shovel probe located directly behind the tenant house, however, exhibited a more complex soil profile, consisting of a 10 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil followed by a 10 cm thick orange clay fill, a 14 cm thick brown silt loam buried topsoil, and an orange brown clay subsoil. A small amount of mostly twentieth century artifacts were concentrated immediately around the house. Some nineteenth century artifacts were recovered from one shovel probe.

Larger Units

A single 1 x 1 m unit was excavated to sample the possible nineteenth century deposit identified in one shovel probe. Unit 1's soil profile consisted of a 27 to 38 cm thick dark brown silt loam topsoil/midden and a yellowish-brown silt clay subsoil. A pocket of mottled yellow brown silty clay and a 4 to 6 cm thick lens of gravel were identified just under the topsoil in the west half of the unit. Although some nineteenth century artifacts were recovered from Unit 1, most of the artifacts dated from the twentieth century. The unit exhibited signs of significant disturbances to any nineteenth century deposits.

BEHRINGER-CRAWFORD FIELD SCHOOL

During the course of one week, students participating in the Behringer-Crawford Museum archaeological field school excavated shovel probes and small and large units in the vicinity of the standing nineteenth century structure. Of these, three shovel probes and two larger 1 x 1 m units were excavated 34 m east of Unit 9 in an area that in 1998 had been covered with hay bales. While dark midden soil and nineteenth century artifacts were recovered from the shovel probes and larger units, no structural features were documented in these localities. Gravel found in these units may be the remains of an old roadbed that ran east-west to the north of the modern farm road.

The Behringer-Crawford students also were able to excavate shovel probes under the twentieth century stable addition, which had been attached to the east side of the two-room frame structure during earlier KAS fieldwork but had since been removed. Though this area had been heavily disturbed, some intact nineteenth century deposits were documented to northeast of the door on the north side of the two-room frame structure. Stones that were likely part of a pavement was documented in this area. and may be associated with a walkway leading from the doorway.

SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATIONS

The KAS and Behringer-Crawford investigations demonstrated the presence of significant intact early to mid-nineteenth century deposits to the west and north of a standing nineteenth century two-room frame building. Historic topsoil and midden deposits in this area extend 25 to 40 cm below the present ground surface, and there is little evidence of intrusive fill soils brought in from other areas or extensive removal of these deposits following demolition of the main house. Deposits to the immediate east and further south of the nineteenth century building, in the area of a former tenant house and milk house (both now gone), contain mostly twentieth century materials, with some mixing with nineteenth century materials.

One of the more significant findings of the study was documentation of the Gaines family house foundation. The foundation appears to be in good shape in most areas, although in some places it has been damaged by tree roots or the occasional robbing of stone. Even where the foundation is not complete, a clear "robber's trench" allows for delineation of the foundation. Not enough units were excavated to expose the entire main house footprint, but this would be possible with the complete excavation of the house area.

One portion of the robber's trench from the foundation, with a few foundation stones still present, lines up and connects to the foundation of the standing building, offering further support for the architectural historians Macintire and Jett's interpretation that the standing two-room building is a remnant of a larger Gaines house. More work near where the foundation of the standing two rooms and the main house foundation intersect would likely refine our understanding of the site's structure and sequence of construction. In several areas, a thin layer of burning was noted along one edge of the foundation stones. This burning is significant as it ties this foundation to the 1850 burning of the main house (the one built circa 1842-43, and then rebuilt after this fire). The artifacts found around the main house date primarily from the 1830s to the 1890s, which corroborate documentary and oral history accounts that the Gaines family left in 1884 and that only part of the house was standing when they returned in 1914.

The presence of two large posts situated 4.57 m (15 ft) apart and an associated earlier nineteenth century midden located to the north of the main house, points to the presence of the remains of another building. The recovery of late machine-cut nails and whiteware from the postholes suggests a construction date sometime after 1830. Thus, these posts are not likely associated with the original 1825 house, but rather represent an outbuilding contemporary with the 1840s house. The presence of plaster, along with window glass, indicates a fairly finished domestic outbuilding of some sort. A concentration of large limestone fragments, in a C- or U- shape, is suggestive of a hearth area. The interpretation of this building(s) must remain preliminary until further excavations are conducted, but it is likely that these remains are from slave houses or a detached kitchen.

The construction of small buildings, such as slave quarters or kitchens, on supporting posts was not uncommon in Kentucky during the nineteenth century. Recent archaeological examples are the detached kitchen at Riverside, the Farnsely-Moreman Estate, that may have doubled as slave quarters (Stottman and Watts-Roy 2000; Watts-Roy and Stottman 1995), and a nineteenth century Shaker barn excavated at Pleasant Hill in central Kentucky (McBride 1992). Given the history of Maplewood, and the presence of intact archaeological and architectural resources, some of which may represent slave quarters, this site has the potential to significantly contribute to our understanding of slave life in Kentucky.

The archaeology of slavery has become an important specialization within historical archaeology, in which scholars strive to ascertain the ways in which African heritage was used in the construction of African American life and identity, and to understand the daily life of slaves and the ways that slaves survived the rigors of that particular circumstance. Major emphasis within slave studies has been directed toward the study of slave social structure (Mullens-Moore 1985), African survivals and acculturation (Armstrong 1985; Brown and Cooper 1990; Ferguson 1992; Klingelhofer 1987; Lees 1981: Russell 1997; Singleton 1985, 1988, 1990; Wheaton and Garrow 1985; Young 1996, 1997; Young et al. 1998), foodways (McKee 1987; Otto 1984; Reitz et al. 1985; Young 1997), material culture patterning and acquisition (Lange and Carlson 1985; Otto 1984), and spatial organization of sites (Kelso 1984; Lewis 1985).

In Kentucky, Amy Young's research of the slave quarters at Locust Grove, the plantation of William Croghan in Louisville, has highlighted slave subsistence strategies and contributed to our understanding of slave ritual practices (Young 1996, 1997; Young et al. 1998). Young associated the cellars she found with the slaves' needs for food storage and she interpreted the presence of a moderate amount of wild species in the recovered faunal assemblage as indicating that the slaves were partly procuring their own food. Thus, slaves at Locust Grove may have had some responsibility for their own food procurement and preparation.

Young also found several artifacts inscribed with an "X" at Locust Grove. An X engraved on circular artifacts, such as coins or marbles, has been well-documented in association with African American slave occupations (Brown and Cooper 1990; Ferguson 1992; Klingelhofer 1987; Russell 1997; Stottman and Watts-Roy 2000; Watts-Roy and Stottman 1995). African Americans are thought to have carried these ritual artifacts as amulets or charms, and the "X" is generally interpreted as a cosmogram representing a general conception of life, death, and the structure of the cosmos and the flow of life and reincarnation. The documentation of these items at slave sites has contributed to our understanding of ritual practices and the continuation of African influences among African American slaves (Brown and Cooper 1990; Ferguson 1992; Klingelhofer 1987; Russell 1997). Additional work at Maplewood is needed to determine if the Gaines family slaves had the same level of autonomy as those at Locust Grove and if they practiced similar rituals.

Archaeologist Teresa Singleton, a recognized scholar in the field of African American archaeology (see Singleton 1985, 1988, 1990), has noted that while slave archaeology has had a low impact within black communities, it has had a significant impact within the realm of museum exhibits. These exhibits help disseminate important information about archaeology and about slavery. Maplewood has an unusually high potential for enhancing the public interpretation of slavery, given its important history and recent media exposure.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The KAS excavations at Maplewood were funded by a grant from the Kentucky African-American Heritage Commission and by Kentucky State University's Center for Excellence in the Study of Kentucky's African-Americans, directed by Dr. Anne Butler. Students from Kentucky State University and Georgetown College participated in the excavations and subsequent laboratory processing. Local historian JoAnn Caputo, who is conducting research about Margaret Garner, also volunteered on the project. Permission for the excavations was given by landowner George Budig. Mr. Budig allowed us to use the twentieth century house on the property as field headquarters, with the oversight of Ruth Wade Brunings, a descendent of the neighboring Bedinger family into which the Gaines family had intermarried. Ruth Brunings also provided historical information about the family and the twentieth century occupation of the site. Susan Cabot, then of the Boone County Historic Preservation Office, and Anne Butler of Kentucky State University's Center for Excellence for the Study of Kentucky's African Americans clarified several details based upon their research in local primary records.

The Maplewood site's importance has been recognized by the Kentucky African-American Heritage Commission, who supported the archaeological research, along with Kentucky State University, and by the National Register of Historic Places, which recently listed it for its research value. The Maplewood excavations have received recent public exposure, having been included in a Kentucky Educational Television (KET) documentary about the Underground Railroad. Results of the Maplewood excavation were part of a temporary exhibit on slavery at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, which has expressed interest in the long-term use of materials from the Maplewood site.

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