

**PERMIT PROPOSAL FOR UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST
2012 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL
AT W.E.B. DU BOIS BOYHOOD HOMESITE, GREAT BARRINGTON**

1. Purpose

This permit application is requesting an extension of Permit # 2575 to continue the intensive survey at the W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite. The site is located west of Great Barrington center (Fig. 1) on the north side of Routes 23 and 41 (South Egremont Road). The previous fieldwork concentrated on an intensive survey aimed at identifying outbuildings and trash deposits behind and to the west of the house structure with some preliminary studies of the house area. A series of hypothetical landscapes for the Du Bois Homesite were developed from fieldwork and documentary research occurring in 1983 and 1984 (Paynter et al. 1994). In the summer of 2003, an archaeological field school continued a consideration of the extent and integrity of the site by 1) Studying the depth and structure of two extensive middens discovered in 1983 and 1984; 2) Restudying the area of the presumed barn with more advanced geophysical survey methods and subsurface tests of any anomalies; 3) Assessing the age and extent of the house foundation; and 4) Surface collecting, geophysical surveying, and testing any identified anomalies in the side and front yards. This information was then used to evaluate the hypothetical landscapes developed on the basis of the 1983-1984 field work and further the intensive survey stage work in the area of the house. The proposed archaeological work to be conducted at the site in 2012 will continue the intensive survey of the house area based on an assessment of the results from the 2003 season.

This study will be accomplished with the 2012 University of Massachusetts Amherst Summer Field School in Heritage Archaeology (see Pedagogical Goals below), occurring between the dates of July 11, 2012 and August 14, 2012. The field work component of the field school is scheduled to begin on Monday, July 23 and is scheduled to conclude on Friday August 10. During the field program, 8 - 10 undergraduates will be supervised and taught archaeological field methodologies and procedures by the PIs, and three experienced anthropology graduate students.

In addition to archaeological field procedures and methods, the full field school will focus on what we are calling Heritage Archaeology. We discuss this topic in the section marked Pedagogical Goals below. In a nutshell, the field school will also introduce students to methods and practices of collaborating with communities by working with grassroots, regional, and national history institutions. They will also be introduced to aspects of compliance archaeology. The overall goal is to introduce them to the various ways that archaeologists do archaeology in the 21st century.

Dr. William Edward Burghardt (W.E.B.) Du Bois (1868 - 1963) lived at the Homesite when he was a child in the late nineteenth century; he later received this property in 1928 as a gift. He planned to renovate the house for use as a vacation home, however lack of funds prevented this from happening. Importantly, his maternal relatives, the Burghardts, continuously owned and resided on this property from possibly as early as the late eighteenth century until Du Bois sold the house in 1954. The University of the Massachusetts Amherst assumed stewardship of the property in 1987, and archaeological study and attempts to publicly interpret the site have occurred sporadically in the subsequent decades. This is an important time for such a study to take place. A design for advancing the interpretation of the Homesite is gradually taking shape and results of this summer's work will assist in realizing some of the interpretive plans. In

addition, 2013 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of Du Bois's death as well as coincide with the launch of "Du Bois In Our Time," an interdisciplinary project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and based at the University of Massachusetts Amherst that will explore the intersection of art and the major issues championed by Du Bois during his lifetime. Thus, the field school and its three related goals of advancing our knowledge of the Homesite, educating undergraduate students in heritage archaeology, and engaging multiple communities in the interpretation of western Massachusetts African American history combine with both institutional and grassroots efforts to commemorate this important Massachusetts citizen.

Research Goals

The W.E.B. Du Bois Boyhood Homesite is a National Landmark property in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. In 1983, 1984, and 2003, the UMass Amherst Summer Field School in Archaeology spent 4 to 5 weeks each summer conducting intensive survey on the property. The overall goal was to assess the extent and integrity of the archaeological remains. For the 2012 field season, we hope to conclude the intensive survey by conducting geophysics within the footprint of the house, along with excavation in the house's western ell and the midden, located to the north/northwest of the cellar hole.

The work conducted during the 1983 and 1984 field schools focused on the area behind the house, seeking evidence of outbuildings, privies, agricultural spaces, and middens. The 2003 field school continued examining the areas behind the house, but also sought to determine the extent and integrity of the house itself and side yard (Paynter et al. n.d.). In brief, these studies identified (see Fig. 2) a) what appeared to be two large surface middens, hypothesized to be the remains of the barn and the remains of the superstructure and contents of the house, b) three trash pits behind the house, c) evidence of plowing in areas to the rear of the house. The surface scatter for the two middens was quite evident. It was collected during the 1983 and 1984 seasons (Fig. 4), and they were submitted to additional and excavation during the 2003 field season. See the field report for detailed analyses of these previous works (Paynter et al. n.d.).

For the summer of 2012, the archaeological work conducted at the site will further the intensive survey. The 2003 field season altered our fundamental understandings of land use at the Homesite that began with our search for a barn. Previous work had hypothesized that a collapsed barn had resulted in a midden near the House foundation and that the destruction of the House pushed its superstructure to the location of a midden further to the north. Excavation units (Figs. 7 and 8) in the area of the 'hump' (PI 11, see Figs. 10 and 11) hypothesized to be the foundation of the barn turned up no evidence of structural remains. Two units investigating the two separate middens uncovered very little evidence of these middens being separate depositional events. In addition, newly uncovered documentation (see Fig. 11) indicated that the property, post-1820, likely ranged in size from 1/3 to 1 acre (Paynter et al. n.d.). These findings taken all together led us to reject the hypothesis that a collapsed barn was responsible for the formation of both the hump and the more southerly midden. The hump, instead of being a foundation, was the result of trash deposits along the original Homesite north property line. The originally hypothesized two middens were really only one, resulting from the pushing of the House off its foundation during its destruction in the mid-1950s. And finally, the size of the Burghardt Homesite was clearly much smaller than the 5 acres that comprise the Homesite today (Paynter et al. n.d.).

Another surprise was disclosed from the excavation units placed in the area located under the western end of the house (Paynter et al. n.d.). The units were placed to look for the remnants of a chimney in blueprints drawn up by J. McA. Vance, the architect hired by Du Bois to update

the home instead found two stone features, one trending north-south and comprised of dressed stones, which overlay an east-west trending undressed stone feature. Directly beneath these was a perplexing feature, with a piece of limestone, a river cobble, and a brick stacked on top of each other in a pit of indeterminate size (Paynter et al. n.d.). We have no understanding of why all this stone was placed under what was a non-weight bearing partition in the shed ell.

Two units located along the eastern wall of the cellar hole, were placed to determine the integrity of the cellar and the main block of the house (Paynter et al. n.d.). These units uncovered that the cellar appears to have been built in two different construction events. A unit was opened to examine the construction of the western wall of the cellar. Its upper soils contained an interesting artifact assemblage relating to the daily lives of the house occupants. All these suggested good integrity for the soil of the House, despite the superstructure having been bulldozed to the rear of the site.

These findings left us with even more questions about the extent of the resources at the site. The following four questions will drive the work in 2012.

1. What is the extent and integrity of the Western section of the house? While geophysical surveys have been conducted at the site in the 1980s and in 2003, none focused on the area inside the footprint of the house. Completing a resistivity survey here will allow for a better understanding of the boundaries of the structure, and aid in determining the presence of potential subsurface features, such as a flagged kitchen floor that Du Bois mentions in his House of the Black Burghardts (1928). This survey could also point to any foundation stones that are not visible on the site's surface. The resistivity survey will consist of 16 south-north transects between E35 and E50. These transects will begin on the N04 line, and will each contain 24 probes spaced in .5m intervals (see Fig. 5).

2. What is the extent of the stone features and their associated stratigraphy? Work on the western end of the house area in 2003 brought attention to three enigmatic features: a dressed-stone feature trending north-south, an undressed-stone feature trending east-west, and a pit feature containing a piece of limestone, a river cobble, and a brick. In a nearby unit to the east of these features, an interesting series of fills was found containing both 19th and 20th century artifacts. Currently, we are unsure if this relates to some unfinished construction, the demolition of the house after 1954, or some other, as yet undiscovered phenomena. Following the conduct of the resistivity survey, excavation in and around these features could provide some insights into the history of the House that are unrecorded in the documentary record (See Fig. 5). We will place two .5m x 1m units, one to the north, another to the south, of the intersection of these features in an attempt to better understand them and their associated stratigraphy.

3. What is the extent of the Northern and Southern midden areas? Prior to 2003, the middens on the site were conceptualized as evidence of isolated events (See Fig. 2). Following the 2003 field season, our thinking changed, and we are considering these middens (Midden A, now the Southern end, and Midden B, the Northern end) as both representative of the structural remains of the house. As our understanding of the midden has shifted dramatically, we would like to refocus and expand the extent and integrity questions we have regarding the midden. Additionally, comparisons of the artifact counts from the surface collections of the midden in 1983 with those from 1984 and 2003, have led to estimates of subsurface counts ranging from 150,000 to as high as 700,000 sherds (Paynter et al. n.d.). While we would like to further address the highly productive ends of the midden feature, we need to develop a better understanding of what the approximately 30 meter space in between these ends looks like. Such an examination will help understand the scope of the midden, and allow us to refine these sherd estimates. To do

this, we will place a series of three .5 x 1m units across this space. They will be determined in the week prior to the start of the field season, as we will do a walk through looking for any surface scatter prior to their placement.

4. How does the house relate to the interpretive space? The Homesite was mapped during the field seasons in the 1980s, and again in 2003 using updated equipment. Since 2003, the entirety of the property has undergone extensive changes to accommodate the inclusion of interpretive spaces. These changes include the addition of roadside signage, a parking area, an interpretive trail that begins at the parking lot and ends at the cellar hole, and interpretive signage along the trail. We view the mapping of these new features into the site grid as part of doing an archaeology of the contemporary world. In maintaining a precise record of the shifting landscape, we can track the transformation of the Homesite as Du Bois's public profile is raised. It will also be a useful map for any future analysis relating to how visitors interact with any and all of these features. (see Fig. 3 to get a sense of the space)

The field work will occur in two stages. The first will be a 1 week period in which all 8 assist as the resistivity survey is conducted, the survey for making the map of the larger interpretive space is completed, and initial units are excavated to assess the low density surface midden area. The second stage will involve about 4 of the students who will investigate the anomalies that emerge from the resistivity survey, evaluate the western stone features, and finish assessing the area of low density midden.

Addressing these issues will provide us with a more nuanced understanding of the site's available resources. This will allow us to better frame questions regarding the Burghardt family's use of both the property, generally, and the more immediate space around the home. The results will provide interpretive frameworks for future archaeology on the property and help facilitate the ongoing interpretive projects at the Homesite.

Public Interpretation Goals

A major goal of the 2012 field school will be to publicly interpret the archaeological heritage of the Homesite to multiple communities across local, regional, national, and international contexts who are interested in Du Bois. In 2003, public interpretation was an increasingly important component of the project. Field school staff and students conducted tours of the Homesite and laboratory, and provided interpretive materials to the public at the field laboratory in the Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church, a more accessible location in Great Barrington's town center. The Homesite did not have a parking lot in 2003 and so we attempted to dissuade visitors from visiting the Homesite by having the lab and interpretation happen at the Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church in downtown Great Barrington. Now that there is a parking lot and interpretive trails, we anticipate a greater number of visitors at the Homesite. Accordingly we will have a field lab and an interpretive program operating at the Homesite.

The goal of meaningful public interpretation is important not just to this particular project, but is of growing concern within the discipline. Principle number four of the Principles of Archaeological Ethics published by the Society for American Archaeology in 1995 emphasizes public education and outreach. It states that archaeologists shall reach out to the public to: (1) Enlist its support for the stewardship of the archaeological record; (2) Explain and promote the use of methods and techniques of archaeology in understanding human behavior and culture; and (3) Explain archaeological interpretations of the past (Lynott and Wylie 1995). Public interpretation, therefore, is a necessary and vital component of the field school's research design.

To meet these ends, and as part of the curriculum, the students will engage the public who

visits the Homesite during the 3 weeks we will be at the Homesite, and by presenting the results of their studies to the general public during the last sessions of the Field School.

Pedagogical Goals: Heritage Archaeology

For 2012 we are piloting a project that we are calling a Field School in Heritage Archaeology. Heritage archaeology is a new name for a set of practices that have been coalescing in the field of archaeology over the last 30 years (cf. LaRoche and Blakey 1997; Saitta 2005; Potter 1994). These include the increasing importance of cultural resource management as the funding base for American archaeology, the decline in public funding of research and education based archaeology, and the shift from a conservation ethic that seeks to protect sites by isolating them from the public to one which sees archaeology as an opportunity to build relations with the communities interested in and impacted by archaeology (Altschul and Patterson 2010).

To address these trends we are developing a wider set of educational opportunities beyond the traditional use of a site to conduct research and teach field methods and procedures. We want to expose students to heritage projects aimed at developing a collaborative history of African American life in western Massachusetts. One element in this is introducing all the students to field methods, emphasizing those more useful in solving assessment problems, like geophysics, ground truthing of anomalies, and site mapping. We will also use the Du Bois Homesite as an example of a heritage project that has a long history of community collaboration and an interpretation plan that includes highlighting the results from archaeology. We look to build on successes in Berkshire County, at the Homesite, at the Ashley/Elizabeth Freeman House, and with the Upper Housatonic Valley African American Heritage Trail, to work on the African American history of Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties. To do so, we will also be partnering with the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association (PVMA) in Deerfield and the Pan African History Museum (PAHMUSA) in Springfield. We will also include previous and current archaeological lab projects at UMass Amherst, to give students a broader set of experiences.

Indeed, public interpretation at the Homesite is a crucial component of the field school's pedagogical goals as well. The students who engage in public interpretation of the Homesite must understand the site in a more meaningful, nuanced manner. Moreover, students wishing to pursue archaeology in academic and professional contexts must be introduced to these concepts if they are to meet the discipline's guidelines for stewardship (Saitta 2007). In the first and second weeks of the program, students will get a chance to engage with professionals practicing heritage archaeology with a focus on African American history, both in Massachusetts and via Skype (www.skype.com) from other areas of the U.S. We will also teach the students how to "do" public interpretation with didactic presentations by field school faculty. At the Homesite, much of the learning in public interpretation will take place "on the job," as students learn to interpret the site for visitors from the general public, as well as to prepare individual projects interpreting the Homesite. These projects will be publicly presented to the general public and interested scholars at the conclusion of the field school.

The result will be a field school that spends less time excavating and more time interacting with the various segments of the community interested in African American history and bringing an archaeological perspective to this work. As this a pilot project, we will assess the outcomes, and readjust the balance between the various pedagogical goals when planning future field schools.

2. Documentary Research.

A great deal of literature exists by and about Du Bois. His papers are archived at the W.E.B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. As of 2011, the Du Bois papers have been digitally archived and are accessible through the UMass Special Collections Credo project (<http://credo.library.umass.edu>). They have been crucial for the site, containing, among other items, the blueprints drawn up by J. McA. Vance of Pittsfield in the late 1920s or early 1930s under Du Bois's direction to renovate the house to become a cottage. The archives also have 2 photographs of the house, one from the 1920s (a version of which was published in the New York Times May 16, 1969) and one from the 1930s). Muller's (2001) dissertation is a careful reading of primary documents from the Archives and other public depositories on the deeds and genealogy of the Burghardt family (the B. in W.E.B.). Du Bois wrote two autobiographies that have sections discussing life in Great Barrington in the 1800s (Du Bois 1968, Du Bois 1984); he also wrote a description of the house (Du Bois 1928) on the event of receiving it for his 60th birthday. Numerous authors have written about Du Bois, the most prominent being the two-volume Pulitzer Prize winning biography by David Levering Lewis (Lewis 1993, Lewis 2000). Though Charles Taylor, the 19th century historian of Great Barrington, omitted any mention of Du Bois, the Black Burghardts, and the Black population of the town generally (Taylor 1882), the comprehensive 20th century history of Great Barrington by Bernard Drew (1999) makes considerable note of Du Bois and his family. Drew, a board member of the Great Barrington Historical Society, has furnished access to the historical society's archives. These archives contain a great deal of documentation, and working through them will be a part of future research on the site. We have also consulted at great length with Du Bois's son, David Graham Du Bois, now deceased (and sorely missed), about his parents' use of the property and about Du Bois's life in general. These discussions have been used to guide previous work at the site.

3. Field Methods and Strategies

Previous Archaeological Work

The goals of the 1983, 1984, and 2003 field seasons were to assess the extent and integrity of the resources at the Homesite. In 1983 and 1984, priority was given to identifying resources behind the cellar hole that would relate to the previous agricultural uses of the site. The basic strategy was to map the site, conduct resistivity and magnetometry surveys to identify subsurface anomalies, and test the anomalies with .5x.5 and 1x.5m units. Because the middens were highly visible, we collected the surface to discourage bottle hunters from being attracted to the site and disturbing the resource. In 2003, the extent and integrity questions were extended to the house and side yard. Geophysics and excavation were used to try and pinpoint the location of the barn and assess the stratigraphy in the western-most portion of the midden. Again, both .5x.5m and 1x.5m excavation units were placed to address these questions.

The following is an abstract of a fuller description of the previous work, including the results from the 2003 field season that is available in draft form online at http://scholarworks.umass.edu/du_bois_boyhood_survey/

The current Homesite property is approximately 5 acres in extent with the cellar hole located in the southwest corner. A walkover survey in the 1980s indicated that any surface features were in the area near the cellar hole. Accordingly, a meter grid was established in the southwest corner of the site with a baseline roughly paralleling Route 23 and set at North 74°30'

East from the site datum (Fig. 6). The site datum is a buried concrete plug located on the edge of highway Route 23. A second concrete plug is located at E43N0 on the baseline. Each is approximately 25cm in diameter with a nickel-sized hole in the center marking the precise grid coordinate. A secondary baseline was established parallel to this primary baseline on the N13 line. Transects were established at right angles towards the north of the secondary baseline at 5m intervals. The 1983 and 1984 testing took place north of this secondary (N13) baseline, while the work in 2003 occurred both above and below this line. A topographic map was also constructed from elevations taken in 1983 (Fig 6).

The fieldwork in 1983 was comprised almost entirely of geophysical survey (Figs. 7 and 8) and surface collection from two visible sheet middens (Fig. 4). For detailed descriptions of the findings of the resistivity and magnetometer surveys from the 1980s, please see the draft report (Paynter et al. n.d.). Resistivity was used again during the 2003 field season, both to determine the extent and integrity of the side yard area (Figs. 9a and 9b), which was previously unexplored, and to once again try and determine the location of the barn in the area of 'the Hump' (see Fig 11 for location). In the side yard, we were looking for evidence of activities related to household reproduction such as gardening, landscaping, privies, and spaces exhibiting children's activities or food processing. In order to detect these smaller cultural features, transects along one meter intervals were used. As for the suspected barn area around the Hump, despite having conducted geophysical survey there before, it was our hope that a newer, more sophisticated instrument would be able to better detect any subsurface anomalies. To do this, a grid was constructed that ran perpendicular to the long, linear Hump, which ran more or less east to west, which we believed to be the southern wall foundation. Due to time constraints, which were generated by uncooperative weather and challenging soil conditions, we could only gather data from three transects on this grid.

The total area surveyed in 2003 was two hundred and fifty square meters. In both the side yard and the barn area, resistivity probes were spaced every half-meter using double-dipole switch probe configuration. In double-dipole configurations, probes alternated between current or potential measurements; so for one measurement a probe would measure current, then potential would be measured in the following configuration. This pattern was repeated down the line of 24 probes attached to the machine at any given time. The *Iris Instrument's Syscal Kid* resistivity meter collected data at two different depths alternating between arrays of probes at half meter spacing or probes at one meter spacing along the same transect. This configuration combined with rolling along data along individual transects allowed for maximum data collection at two depths, which could be internally averaged within the Syscal Kid for our relatively small area (*Syscal Kid & Syscal Kid Switch-24, Operating Manual, 2001*). We collected data between each half meter, as well as between each meter along all transects, allowing data for a total of about .5m in depth.

The areas subjected to resistivity survey in 2003 can be seen in Figure 2. For the side yard data, an initial analysis indicated several overall trends: Route 23 construction to the south, a few anomalies, and a general higher resistivity toward the west. On every single transect at the southern edge near the road there was a significant drop in the soil's resistivity due to the loose, sandy composition of the soil from road construction. A high resistivity anomaly along the E29 transect led us to place two adjacent .5x.5m test pits, PI7 and PI12, in the side yard. Excavations suggested that the anomaly was geological and natural compacted soil, not cultural. High resistivity was also present at E30N6.5. Areas of low resistivity were found along the E26 & E24 transects, both around N6, and E27 around N8. These patches corresponded to trees and were

likely the results of extensive root systems. A gradual shift in resistivity can also be seen as one moves closer to the stream to the west.

The suspected barn area was a relatively flat portion of the site to the north and west of the house. The east-west 'Hump' did contain areas of high resistivity, though these are not representative of the fallen remnants of a barn or other structure. The east-west line that this feature follows does align with one property map, suggesting either the presence of a fence, or, is possibly representative of a refuse area along the edge of the property. In this survey area, the depression registered lower resistivity in comparison to the hump due to either looser soil or higher moisture content. Finally toward the northern edge of the survey an area of even lower resistivity illustrates the approach of a slight drop-off, which either was the extent of this use area, or perhaps a lower spot on the other side of the property boundary that feeds into the stream.

The natural soils at the site are identified in the *Soil Survey of Berkshire County, Massachusetts* (1988) as the Hoosic Series. This is a fine sandy loam. A typical pedon taken from quite near the Du Bois Homesite is described as follows (109-110):

- Oi - 1.5"-1" White pine needles and twigs.
- Oa - 1"-0 Humus mat.
- A - 0"-4" Very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) gravelly fine sandy loam; weak fine granular structure; very friable; many fine, medium, and large roots; 20% fine slate fragments; strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary.
- Bw1 - 4"-10" Dark brown (7.5YR 4/4) gravelly sandy loam; weak fine granular structure very friable; common fine, medium, and large roots; 25% fine slaty fragments; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary.
- Bw2 - 10"-17" Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) gravelly sandy loam; weak fine and medium granular structure; friable; common fine and medium roots; 25% fine slaty fragments; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary.
- Bw3 - 17"-20" Olive brown (2.5Y 4/4) gravelly loamy sand; very weak fine granular structure; very friable; few fine roots; 30% fine slaty fragments; strongly acid; abrupt wavy boundary.
- 2C - 20"-60" Dark grayish brown (2.5Y 4/2) stratified very gravelly sand; single grain; loose; 60% fine slaty fragments; strongly acid.

The test units were remarkably similar to this profile, with the exception of a plow zone in some units and artifacts in trash pits. The brownish fine sandy gravelly loams of the A horizons overlie a more yellowish brown (identified as orange in the field) and olive gravelly sandy loams of the B horizon, which overlie the dark grayish sands of the C horizon. For instance, E45N13 approximates the natural soil:

- | | | | |
|----|---------|---------|--|
| A1 | Horizon | 0-13 cm | Very dark brown loam. |
| A2 | " | 14-33 | Brown gravelly sandy loam. |
| B | " | 34-69 | Orange brown loamy gravelly sand. |
| C | " | 70-80 | Black gray gravelly clayey silty sand. |

From a different part of the site, E25N32.5 displayed some remarkable blackened stones in the B horizon:

Duff	0-2cm	
A Horizon	3-20	Brown silty loam.
B1 "	21-27	Yellow brown very fine sandy silty loam
B2 "	28-48	Gray gravelly sandy loam with blackened stones
C "	49-60	Dark gray gravelly sandy loam with blackened stones

From yet another part of the site, E50N22.5 displayed a plow zone with the progression to coarser soils at greater depth:

Duff	0-11cm	
A Plow Zone	12-26	Brown gravelly loam
B Horizon	27-41	Dark orange sandy gravelly loam
C "	42-50	Black gray sandy gravel

More complete profiles are included in the report for the 1984 and 2003 seasons.

In 2003, the areas of study at the site were based on questions raised by the results of the work on the site in the 1980s and 1990s. In total, 15,495 sherds were recovered from twelve excavation units in 2003. These units were laid in on the site grid established in 1983. These units were placed directly within major cultural features on the site with the hopes of determining their extent and integrity.

Five units in total were placed within the house area: PI 4, PI 6, and PI 10 (eastern units) were placed within and immediately adjacent to the dressed stone-lined cellar hole; PI 5 and PI 9 were located in the western portion of the house area, within the boundaries of the presumed footing stones. The Eastern units were placed to study the history of the House. These eastern units tell related but interestingly different stories. PIs 4 and 6 are about the cellar: digging a builder's trench, laying the limestone blocks, and filling the trench with re-deposited soil from at least two sources, one with and one without significant amounts of heating byproducts. PI 10 is somewhat about the cellar but mostly about the daily use of the House as told by its in situ artifact assemblage of the stuff of domestic life and a moment of significant remodeling that deposited mortar and building debris in the House's crawl space.

As for the units in the western portion of the house (PIs 5 and 9), it is clear that the two .5x1m units were much too small to make sense of these stone features they uncovered. What we can say is that a pit was dug into the C horizon into which was placed a piece of limestone, a river cobble, and a brick, in that order. It was not possible to identify the surface from which this pit was dug. The original A and AB horizons were stripped from both PI 5 and PI 9 leaving a stratum of destruction between the B and the fill horizons. The east-west undressed stone feature generally overlay the B and C horizons, but it is impossible to tell at this time if it was placed at the time of the stripping of the A and AB horizons, or at a later date. The north-south dressed-stone feature directly overlies the undressed stone. Its relationship to the deposit of the fills is unclear because so little of the stratigraphy could be observed in these small units. Both PIs were capped by these fills which can be differentiated by soil color and texture, but aside from more than twice the number of artifacts being recovered from PI 9 as from PI 5, the overall structure and date (post-1875) of their assemblages seem identical. Most perplexing of all is this all occurred in an area that was either prepared for a new chimney hearth or is the area under what at most would have been a non-weight bearing wall in the western ell marking the difference between the garage and the shed. Clearly, this area demands further attention.

Two units (PIs 7 and 12) were located in the side yard. The resistivity anomaly that led us to investigate the side yard (PIs 7 and 12) had no cultural feature that explained the readings. The most likely explanation of the anomaly is a natural feature, a very hard sand mottle (H330) at the base of the B horizon in PI 12. When PI 7 produced no evidence of the anomaly, PI 12 was opened to the north because a trash pit (PI 181 E30N13), observable as a surface feature and partially tested in 1984, lay in that direction. To date, no crossmends have been identified between the artifacts in PIs 7 and 12 and the 1930s trashpit at E30N13 (nor given the condition of the PI 7 and 12 artifacts are any likely) suggesting that the Side Yard A/Fill horizon and Plow Zone are not related to the trashpit. While at this time it is difficult to assign direct temporal frames to the stratigraphy of these PIs, we can state that for a period in the mid 19th into the early 20th century, this part of the site was put into productive cultivation and saw some depositional use.

One unit was placed in each of the two major areas of the midden. PI 8 was placed along the western edge of the midden, while PI 3 was placed towards the northeastern edge. The artifacts and stratigraphy from the surface collections and excavations aimed at testing the middens present a fairly straightforward picture. Most of the artifacts in the midden units are within the top 25 cm and seem to come from one depositional event. The artifacts are overwhelmingly from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Absent are earlier artifacts from the 18th and early 19th centuries and more recent artifacts from the second quarter of the 20th century to the present. Any noted soil differences seem more related to post-depositional soil formation than suggestive of separate deposition events. And this material interpretation is consistent with the oral reports that the House was pushed off its foundations to the north.

PI 11 was placed very close to the center of the 'Hump'. The goal was to determine an area within the bounds of the hump most likely to provide evidence of a barn or other secondary structure. However, the geophysical survey of the area pointed to no highly differentiated spaces, so the central location within the Hump was chosen to maximize the potential of the unit. This unit produced evidence of light household trash associated with the kitchen, with little evidence of structural debris or heating byproducts. There is contrast between PI 11 and the nearby units from the 1984 excavations. The biggest difference is that PI 11 was certainly a trash pit, PIs 177 and 179 are likely a trash pit, and PI 194 is a surface deposit, since buried by the formation of the A horizon. Most importantly for the reigning hypothesis, none of these units provided evidence of the foundations for a barn. When combined with the newly discovered documentary evidence suggesting that the property was indeed much smaller (between 1/3 and 1 acre in total) than the originally estimated 5 acres, it became clear that this was not the remains of a structure, but of a sheet midden or a series of trash pits. See Figure 2 for PI locations.

Field Methods and Strategies

The planned work for the summer of 2012 is constrained, yet tightly focused by both the pedagogical goals of the field school and the potential for future expansion of the on-site interpretive trail. As opposed to a typical field school schedule of five weeks on site, we will only be working at the Du Bois Homesite for three weeks this summer. While geophysics and excavation will occur throughout that all to brief period, only during the third week are all of the students scheduled to be on site. During weeks four and five, the students will split into project groups. The crew size for weeks four and five will range between two and four, in addition to at least one graduate assistant and one faculty member. To the second point, though any expansion of the interpretive trail at the site has not yet been planned, this summer provides an opportunity to address research questions that relate to areas of potentially high impact. With

these factors in mind, the work this summer will address three areas:

1. Geophysics in the footprint of the house.

Over the course of the three previous field seasons, geophysical surveys have been conducted across most of the southwestern portion of the Du Bois Homesite property. In the 1980s, both resistivity and magnetometry surveys were conducted to the north and northwest of the cellar hole and house area (Figs. 12 and 13). In 2003, the side yard, located directly west of the house, and the area hypothesized to be the barn (Fig. 6) were submitted to resistivity survey.

Prior to further excavation in the area of the western section of the house, we will conduct a resistivity survey with the hope of determining the extent of the several features the field crew encountered in 2003. We are also interested in looking for additional footing stones for the ell that may have gotten shifted when the house was pushed off its foundation, or that have been buried with time. The survey will consist of 16 South-North transects placed between E35 and E50, with each transect beginning along the N04 line. The probes will be placed at .5m intervals, and data will be collected in a rolling configuration, both along each transect, and between transects to account for area. Such a survey ahead of excavation will allow us to minimize unnecessary destruction of the subsurface resources, while assessing potential impacts of the interpretive expansion.

2. The western section of the house.

Stone Features

The 2003 excavation units (PIs 5 and 9, see Fig. 2) uncovered a series of stone features, a north-south dressed stone feature, which overlay an east-west stone feature (Fig. 5). Beneath these features was a pit containing a piece of limestone, a river cobble, and a brick, placed in that order. Based on the stratigraphy, and the location of the features within the excavated pit, it is unclear as to what surface this pit was dug from. We will place units totaling up to a 1x1m unit in the area of these features, most likely one .5x1m unit to the north or south and another .5x1m unit to the east or west of the 2003 provenience indexes. Such a configuration will allow us to better understand of the extent of these features, and the stratigraphy they are located within.

3. Main section of the house.

Flagged Kitchen

In writing his last autobiography, Du Bois shares some vivid memories of his ancestral home, including the presence of a kitchen with a flagged floor, just off the great room located over the cellar hole, and of a woodshed, ostensibly connected to, or located in the vicinity of the western house area. Should the resistivity survey provide evidence of an anomaly representative of such features, we will shift our attention away from the stone features. The documentary work from the 2003 field season turned up the blueprint that outlines renovations that Du Bois commissioned from the architect Vance after receiving the house in 1928. In the fall following the field season, an overlay map was created (Fig. 2) which aligns the blueprint with the topographic survey from that summer. This overlay provides a great deal of information about Du Bois's re-envisioning of the house, and details the general location of this kitchen floor. His fondness for the home of his ancestors potentially stayed him from altering the location or the materiality of the kitchen. If this is the case, we should be able to interpret the presence of such a feature with minimal ground truthing. We would place the equivalent of a 1x1m unit in a configuration that would best allow for an understanding of the extent and integrity of the

feature, to best direct future data recovery in the area.

There is however, the potential for this feature to have been pushed back by the bulldozer with the rest of the superstructure of the house. Should that be the case, there may be some evidence of flagged fieldstone that eventually turns up in a future survey of the midden containing the superstructure of the house.

4. Northern and Southern sections of the Midden.

With the realization that these seemingly disparate spaces of the site were more than likely part of the same depositional event, we have recognized the need to alter our approach to this incredibly rich resource. Across the three units where subsurface testing occurred, there seems to be some correlation between subsurface artifact counts, with 5,436 sherds for PI 3 (E43N63, 1 x 1m), 732 sherds for PI 39 (E15N23, .5 x .5m), and a mere 72 sherds for PI 8 (E15N25, .5 x .5m), and the number of artifacts collected from the surface with 356 sherds coming from the area over PI 3 (PI 147, 1 x 1m), 103 sherds collected from the area over PI 39 (PI 257, 1 x 1m), and 4 collected from the area over PI 8 (PI 41, 1 x 1m). A notably crude value was employed to generate estimates of the number of subsurface artifacts that remain in the midden area. These estimates range from 150,000 to 700,000 sherds (Paynter et al. n.d.).

This year, our excavation units in the midden area will help clarify two questions. First, we would like to refine our estimates regarding the correlation between surface collection and subsurface artifact counts. Second, as our overall interpretation of the midden has shifted (one depositional event instead of two), we have come to realize that we lack data regarding the approximately 30m space between the northern and southern ends. We will place 3 .5 x 1m subsurface units over corresponding surface collection units from the 1983 field season to answer these questions (Fig 4).

5. Mapping the interpretive spaces

The Homesite was mapped during the 1980s field seasons, and again in 2003 using updated equipment. Since the 2003 field season, the entirety of the property has undergone extensive changes to accommodate the inclusion of interpretive spaces. A large portion of the 5 acre Homesite property has been developed as an interpretive space, detailing both Du Bois's history as an activist and scholar, as well as some detail regarding his family's presence on the Egremont Plain, where the site is located. Located approximately 250ft to the Northeast of the cellar hole along South Egremont Road is a large red sign that was installed by UMass Amherst. The sign, which is quite clear to passing motorists, denotes not only the presence of the Homesite, but also marks the entrance to a parking lot allowing access to the site for visitors. From the gravel parking lot, which has room for 7 to 10 cars, there is an entrance to a cleared trail. The trail is approximately 10 feet wide, is clearly marked with signage at the entrance, and follows the U-shape of the current property. There is additional signage at various points on the trail, with stone benches for resting along the path. Currently, the trail ends at the site of the boulder, a monument placed to commemorate Du Bois ahead of the 1969 site dedication ceremony. Near the boulder, there is a smaller sign, outlining the commemoration events. The boulder is approximately 600 feet north of the cellar hole. The interpretive trail is being extended this summer; it will lead visitors south from the boulder to the location of the cellar hole. Some clearing of this future trail has already occurred, though the clearing has had no to minimal impact on any of the subsurface resources at the site (Fig. 7).

We would like to map these new features into the site grid, increasing our understanding

of the potential impacts of the interpretive spaces on the archaeological resources. We could then better direct future excavation and interpretation at the site, and have a frame for any future analysis relating to how visitors interact with any and all of these features.

4. Laboratory Procedures

During the three weeks of excavation, (July 23 – August 10, 2012), artifacts will be processed at a field lab at the Homesite. This processing includes cleaning, sorting, coding, and cataloging the artifacts to be supervised by graduate teaching assistants. The remaining analyses will be completed over the fall semester by field school students in the Material Culture Analysis class (Anthro 325), under the supervision of the PI and a graduate teaching assistant. Any remaining materials will be cleaned, identified, and cataloged (completing the process begun during the fieldwork phase of the research). Soil profiles and plans of key features will be drawn, and maps of any geophysical survey information will be produced to aid in analysis.

5. Results

The overall goal is to, through continued intensive survey, better understand the breadth of available archaeological resources at the Du Bois site in an effort to guide future research directions, and refine current interpretations. The results of further excavation on the midden will help estimate the volume of artifacts likely to be recovered in any future work. These midden units will also provide perspective to the interpretation of the midden as a single depositional event. The work in the western portion of the house should shed some light on the enigmatic stone features, along with the pit these features overlay. As these dressed and undressed stones were found under what would've been a non-load bearing wall, we are currently not sure why they are there. The exposure of subsurface contexts to the north and south of these features will hopefully provide us with some stratigraphic clarity. The results from the resistivity survey, in addition to serving the pedagogical needs of a rapidly changing archaeology, should allow us to get a better sense of any anomalies present in the western area of the house, guiding this summer's excavation, along with any future archaeological investigation at the Homesite.

6. Report

The report will include a statement of the problem, summary of the documentary research, descriptions of the fieldwork, catalogs of the material culture, plans and profiles of features and soil stratigraphy, an assessment of the depth of the middens, the location of the barn, the age of the house and the age of any noted renovations, and a discussion of the use of the side and front yards.

7. Justification

This proposed work continues the intensive survey at the Homesite, with the ultimate aim of better guiding future excavation, and, any further development of the interpretive components of the site. Additionally, any study of the Homesite will provide a better understanding of both its archaeological resources, the Burghardt family, and of Du Bois himself.

Du Bois was one of the most influential scholars and activists of the twentieth century. He was a prolific author of seminal studies in the social sciences (see Du Bois 1899) and history (Du Bois 1986, 1935, 1939). His most famous book, *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903, 1969) set the agenda for the Civil Rights struggle of the twentieth century. He co-founded the National

Association for the Advancement of Colored People and produced its journal, *The Crisis*. He was an important proponent of the Pan-African movement, a major force behind the decolonization of Africa in the mid-twentieth century. To our knowledge, this site is the only nationally recognized memorial to Du Bois's legacy in the United States, and the archaeology of the Homesite should play a role in the commemoration of Du Bois at this place.

Even if the Homesite had not been the homeplace of such a distinguished person as Du Bois, it would no doubt merit careful archaeological study and interpretation. The property was continuously occupied by members of Du Bois's maternal line between the late eighteenth and early twentieth centuries. There is a rich documentary trail (Muller 2001) to parallel the archaeological evidence, providing us with unique insight into the lived experience of this single African American family. Indeed, the archaeology of African Americans in the northeastern United States is increasingly being recognized as an important and often overlooked dimension within the field of post-contact archaeology. One of the projects most responsible for raising the profession and the general public's awareness of African American archaeology in the Northeast is the New York African Burial Ground project with its multi-volume studies of the Burial Ground's history, biological anthropology and archaeology (Blakey and Hill 2004; Medford 2004; Perry et al. 2006).

Deetz (1977) began this work with his identification of the cultural differences characteristic of a Black community in southeastern Massachusetts. Baker (1978, 1980) investigated the intersection between race and class at "Black Lucy's Garden" in Andover, Massachusetts. Bower and Rushing (nd, 1980, 1991) investigated the material world of an African American caterer in upper class White society in 19th century Boston. More recently, Fitts (1996), Lewis (1998), and Garman (1992, 1994, 1998) have studied African American life in southern Rhode Island and Newport, and Chan (2007) has investigated captivity at the Royall Estate in Medford, Massachusetts. Mrozowski is investigating a plantation on the eastern end of Long Island, and Perry and Sawyer (2003) are studying an 18th century plantation in New Salem, Connecticut.

The work at the Du Bois Homesite has also been making its way into publication. Paynter et al. (1994) presented the hypothetical landscapes that emerged from the 1983 and 1984 field schools. Paynter et al. (2006) and Paynter et al. (n.d.) reconsider these findings in light of the results of the 2003 field school. And Paynter and Glassberg (2010) present the history of commemoration and plans for the future for the interpretation of Du Bois at the Homesite and in downtown Great Barrington. Whitney Battle-Baptiste (2011) has offered Black Feminist interpretations of Du Bois's childhood that will guide research and interpretive strategies in the future.

Furthermore, Geismar (1982), Askins (1988), and Cantwell and Wall (2001) have explored aspects of African American life and material culture in New York City, and the African Burial Ground Project has produced reports on an 18th century cemetery for African descent peoples in New York City (see LaRoche and Blakey 1997, Perry 1997a, Perry 1997b). Additionally, this archaeological study fits within a growing interest in African American New England in historical literature. Greene's (1942) and Litwak's (1961) surveys remain important wide-ranging general treatments of the area, and Pierson (1988) has produced a more recent survey of 18th and early 19th Black New England. The history of Boston's Black community in the 18th and 19th centuries has been surveyed (e.g., Cromwell 1994, Horton and Horton 1979, Pleck 1979). The Kaplans (1989) have surveyed the Black experience during the Revolution. Among those prominent in this period is Paul Cuffee of southeastern Massachusetts (Thomas

1988) The unique circumstances of judicial emancipation in Massachusetts have received attention (e.g., MacEacheren 1970, Zilversmit 1967, Zilversmit 1968). Melish (1998) surveys emancipation more widely, considering its effects on the construction of the color line in the early 19th century. Smedley has summarized the development of the concept of race in North America (1993) and Berlin (1998) has traced the marked variation in the African American experience in the Atlantic economy of the 17th and 18th centuries; both place the New England experience in its broader context. Importantly, Du Bois's autobiographical writings on his upbringing in Great Barrington, along with archaeological study of the Homesite, have helped situate the lives of rural African Americans within these growing disciplinary appreciation of the lived experiences of African American individuals and communities.

Finally, there is management justification for the proposed work at the W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite. When we began working at the site in the 1980s, visitors would regularly stop by the Homesite and be chagrined to find nothing commemorating Du Bois. Today, an interpretive path and associated signage tell the story of Du Bois's distinguished life, but we would like to see a great deal more interpretive attention given to the story of the Burghardts and their nearly two centuries of continuous occupation at the Homesite. And with renewed individual, community, and institutional attention being paid to Du Bois and the Homesite, it is of great importance to further our understanding of these unique archaeological resources.

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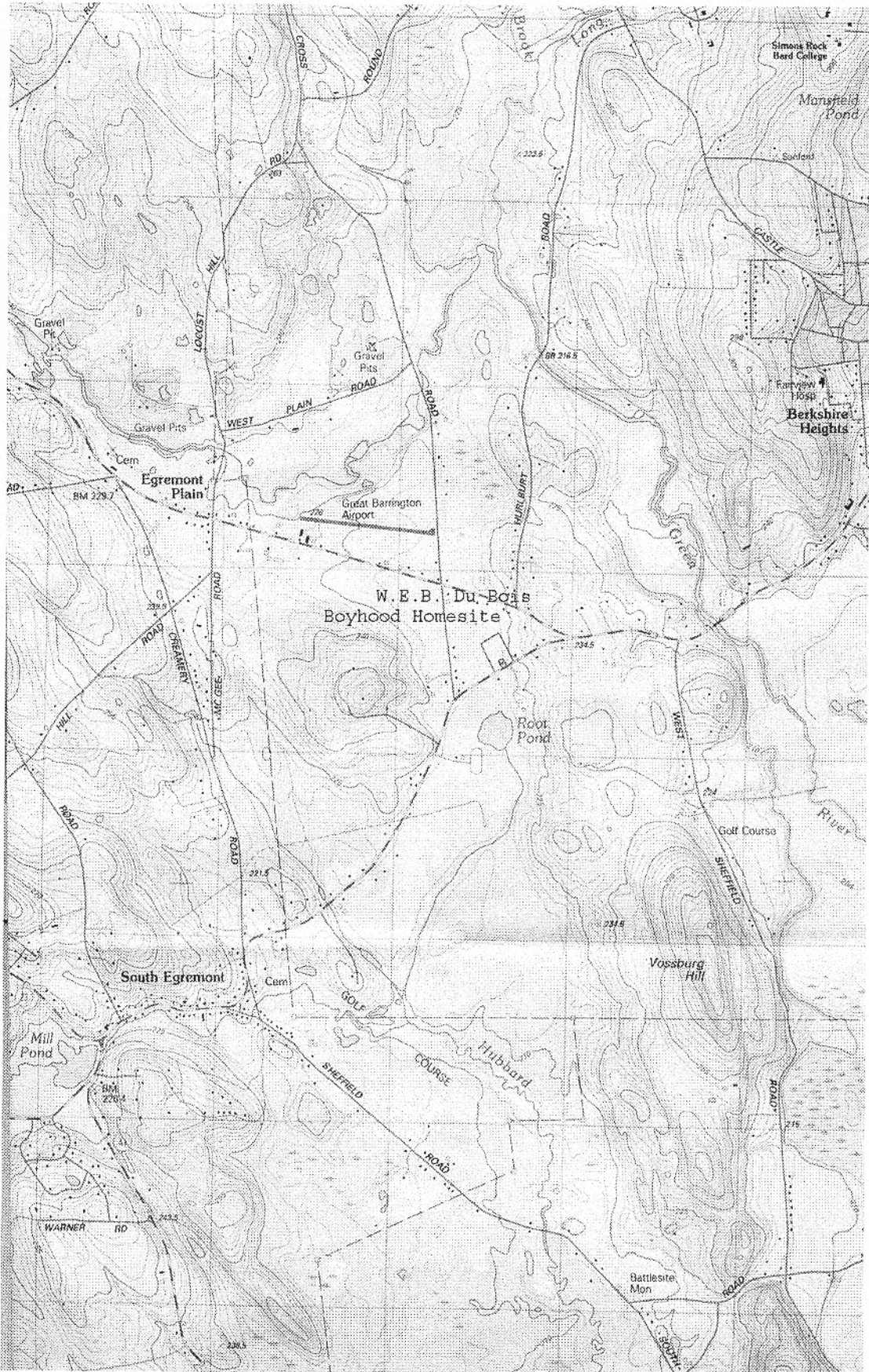
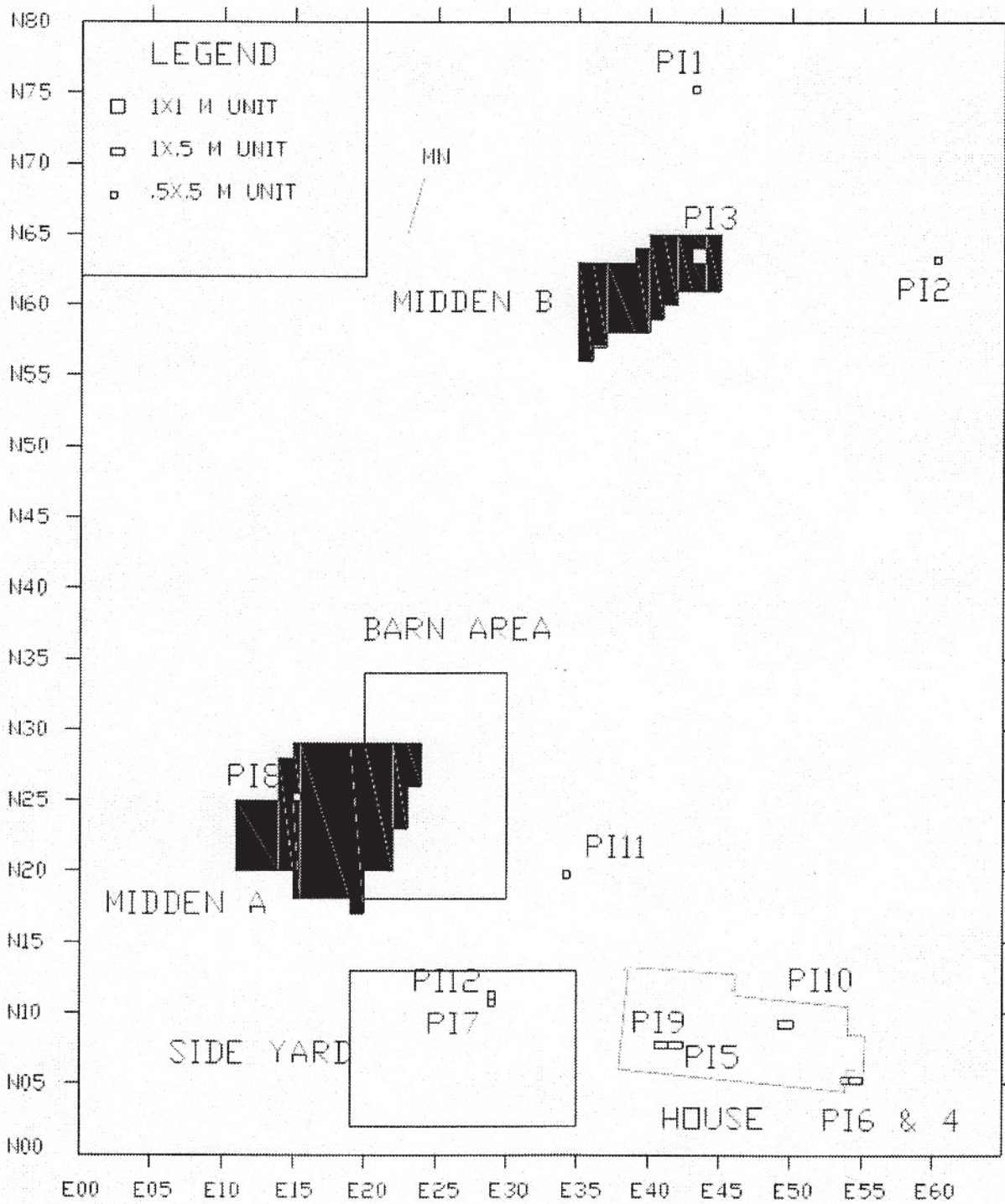


Figure 1: USGS Quad Egremont MA-N.Y.



**Figure 2: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
2003 Excavation Units**

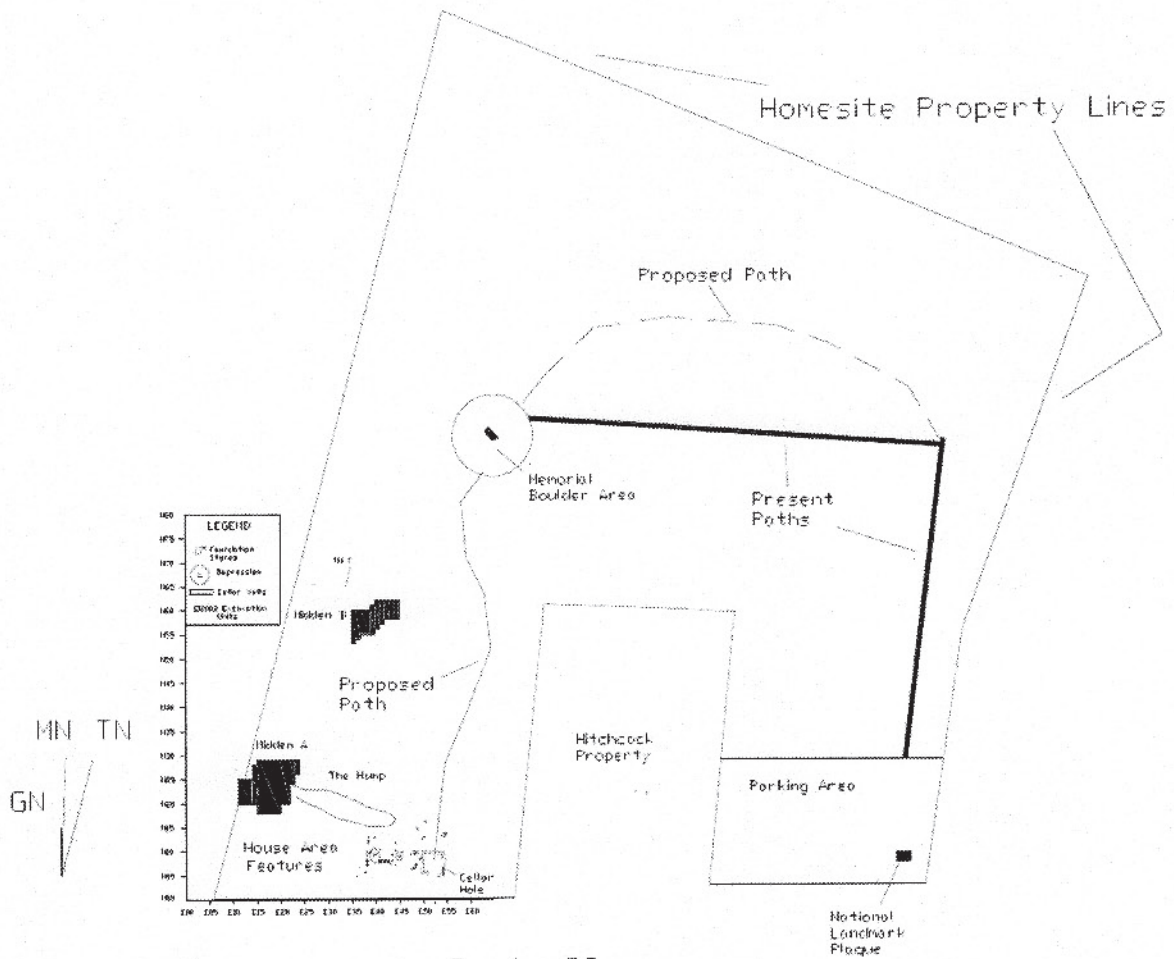


Figure 3: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
Homesite Property with overlaid Site Grid and Interpretive Trail

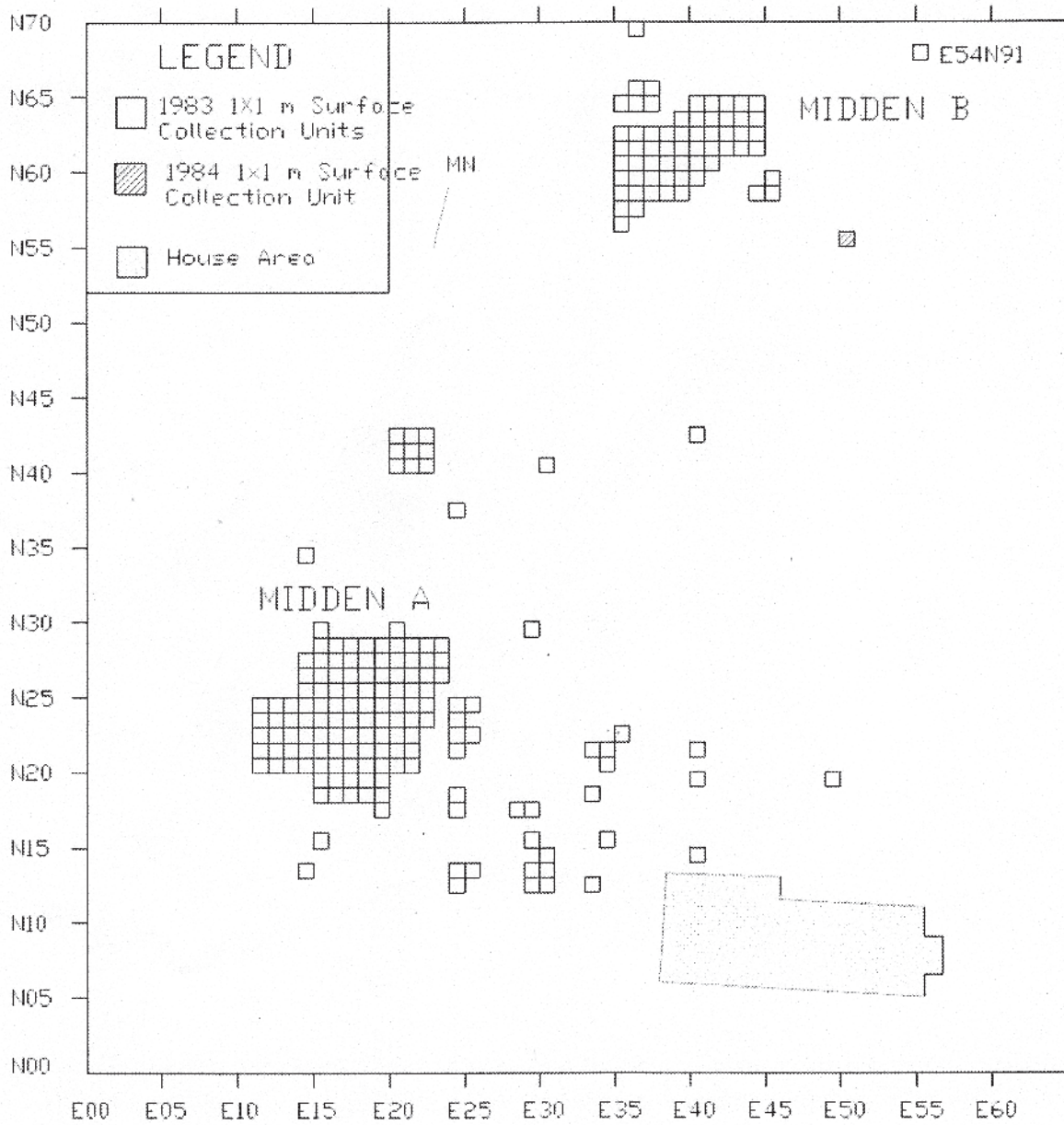
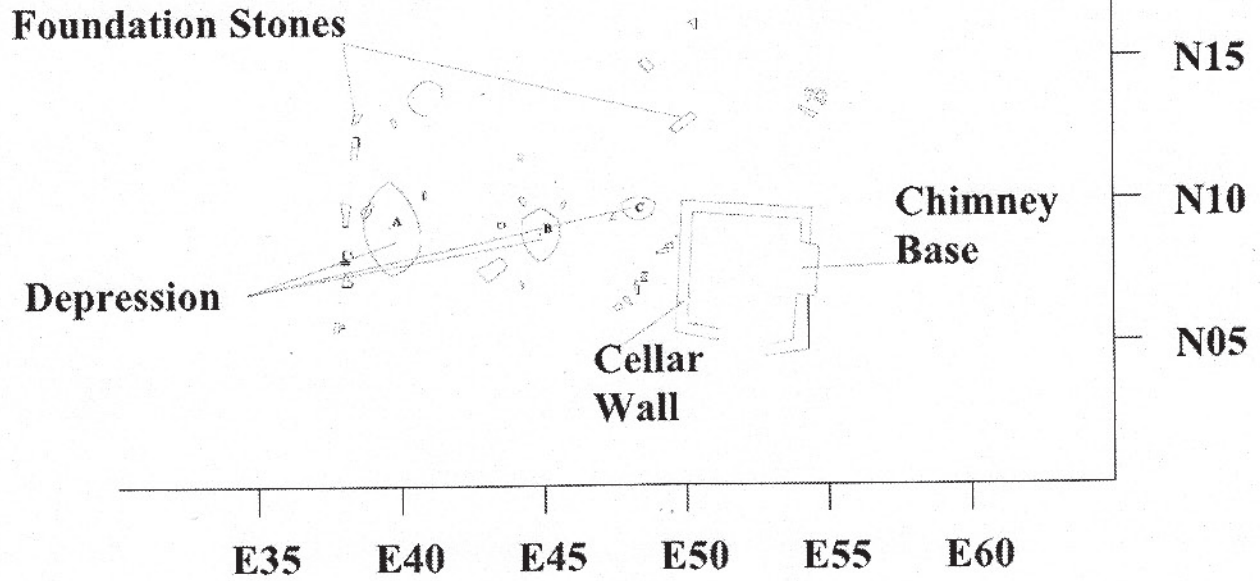
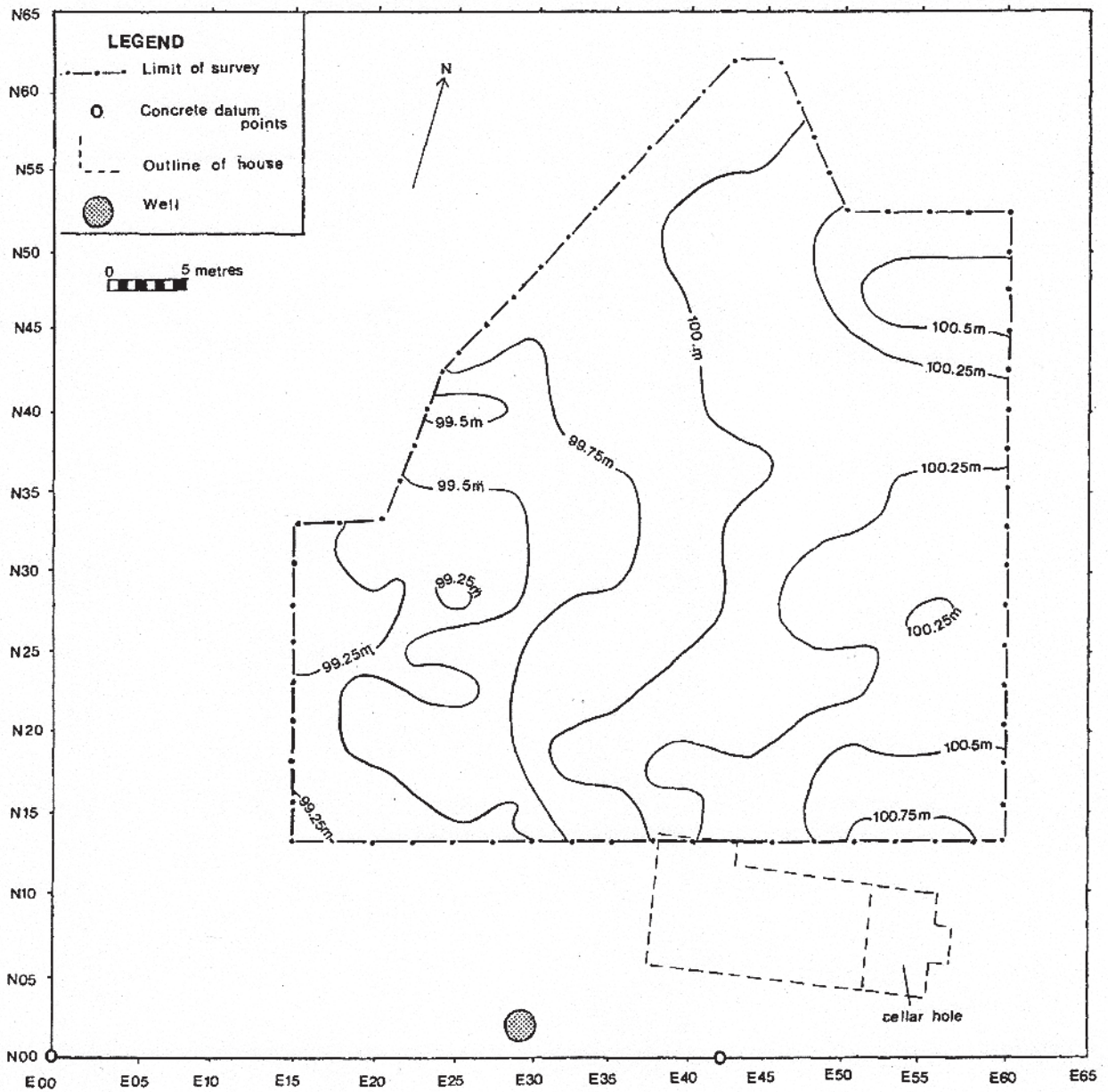


Figure 4: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
1983 and 1984 areas of Surface Collection

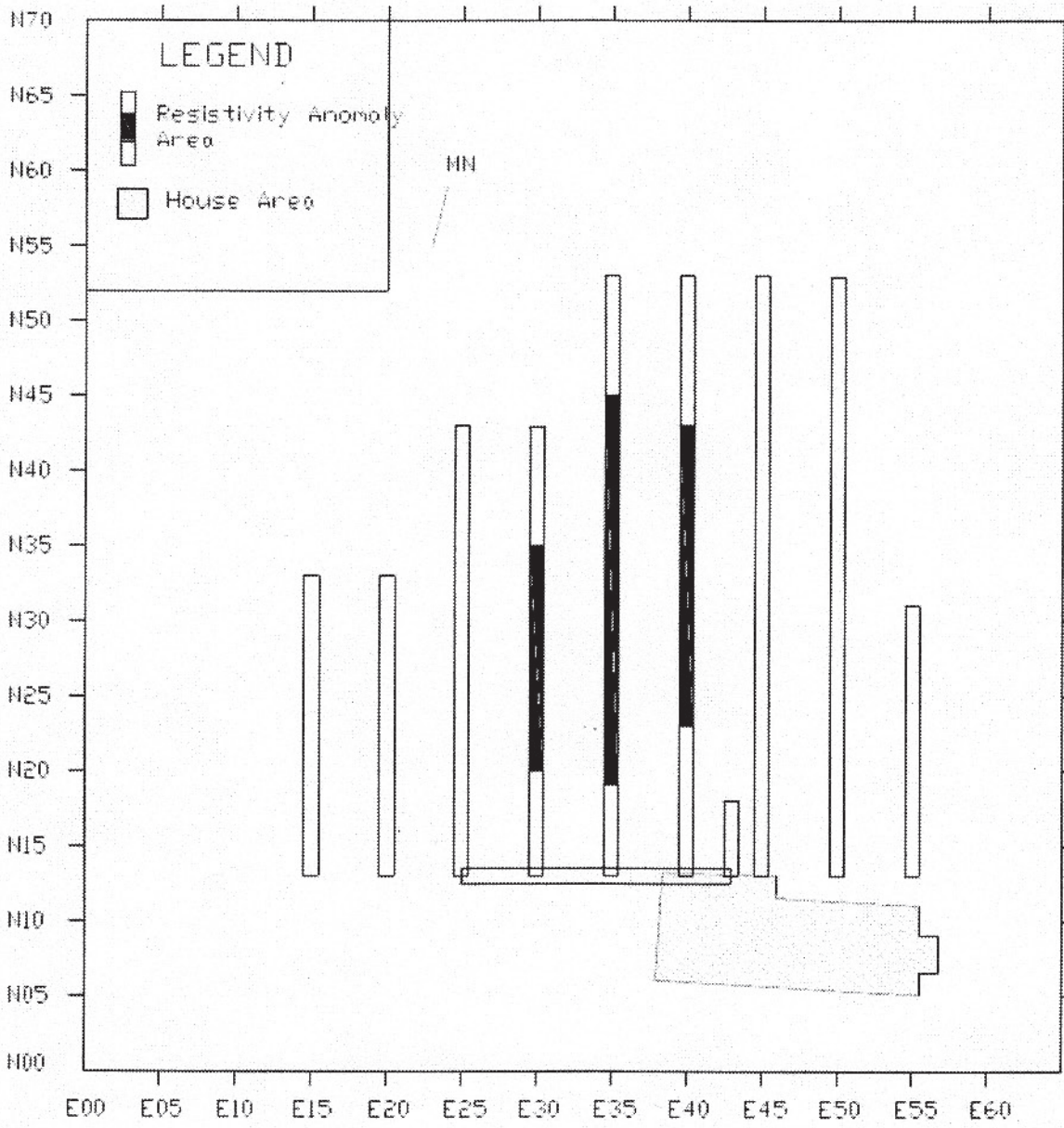
House Features



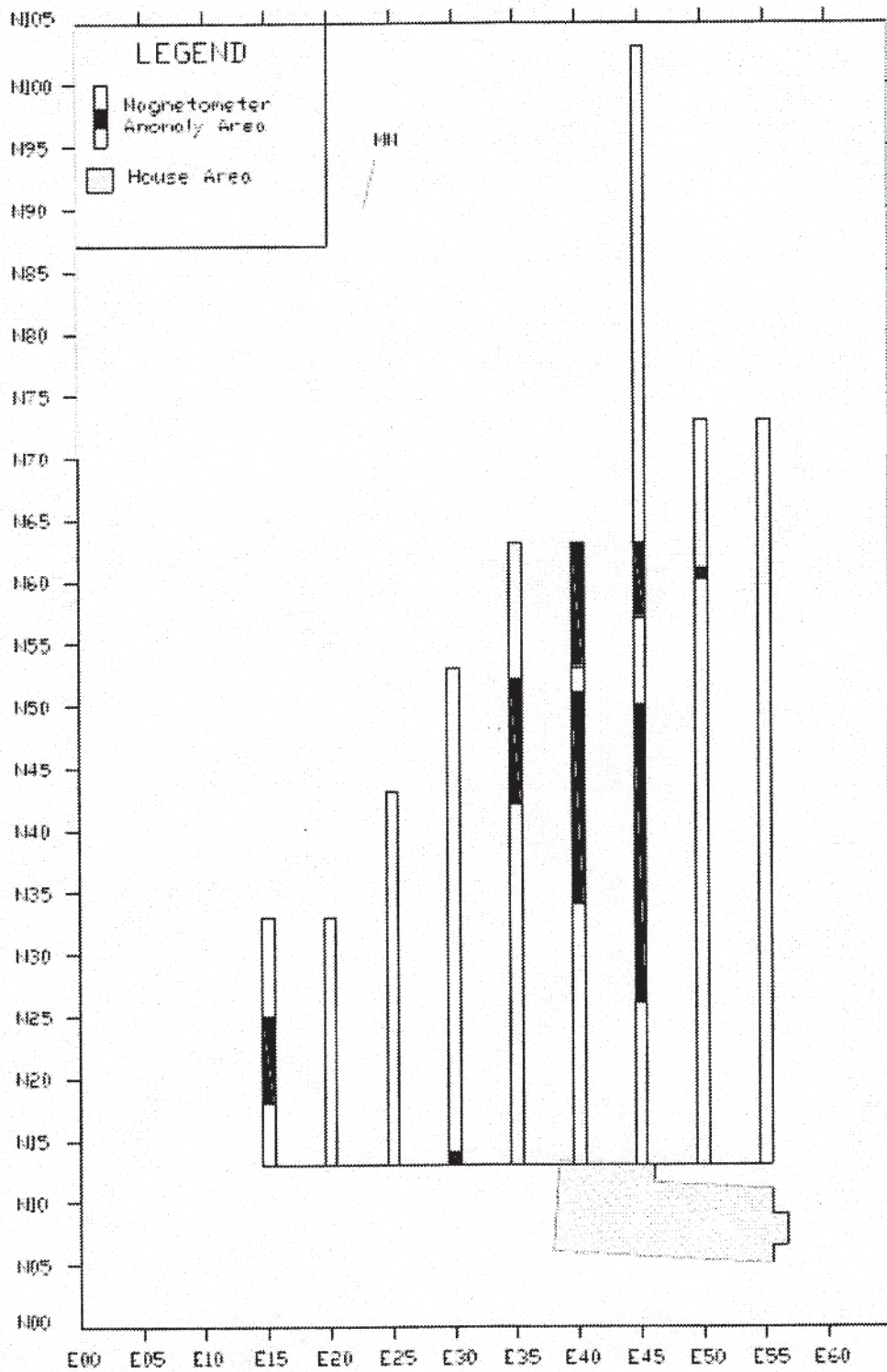
*Figure 5: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
Stone Features to the West of the Cellar Hole*



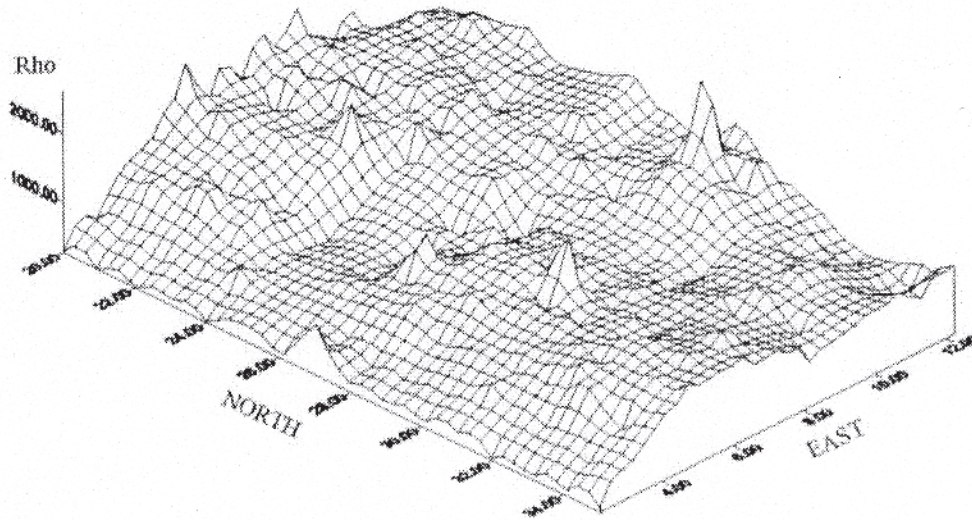
*Figure 6: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
Topography and Grid Base Line*



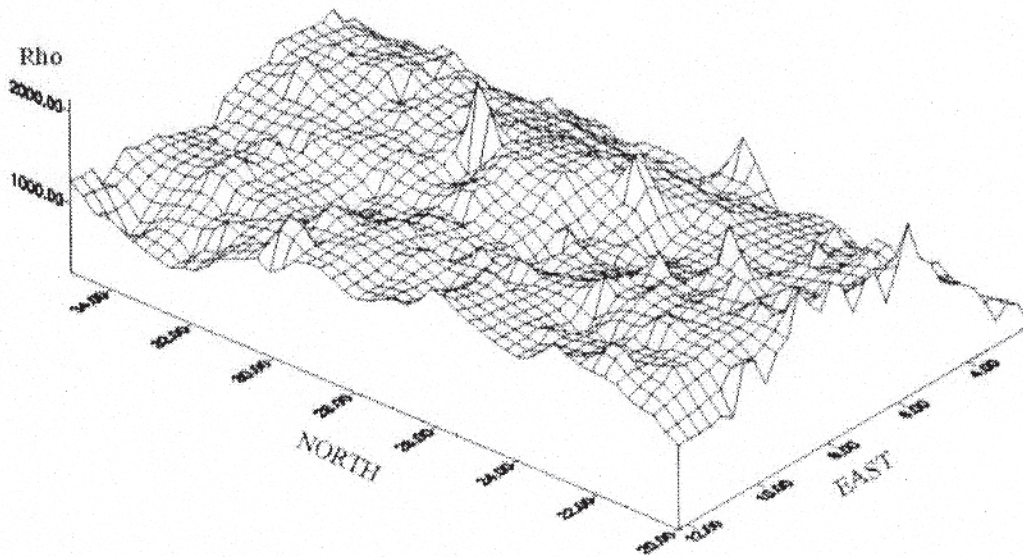
*Figure 7: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
1983 Resistivity Survey with Anomalies*



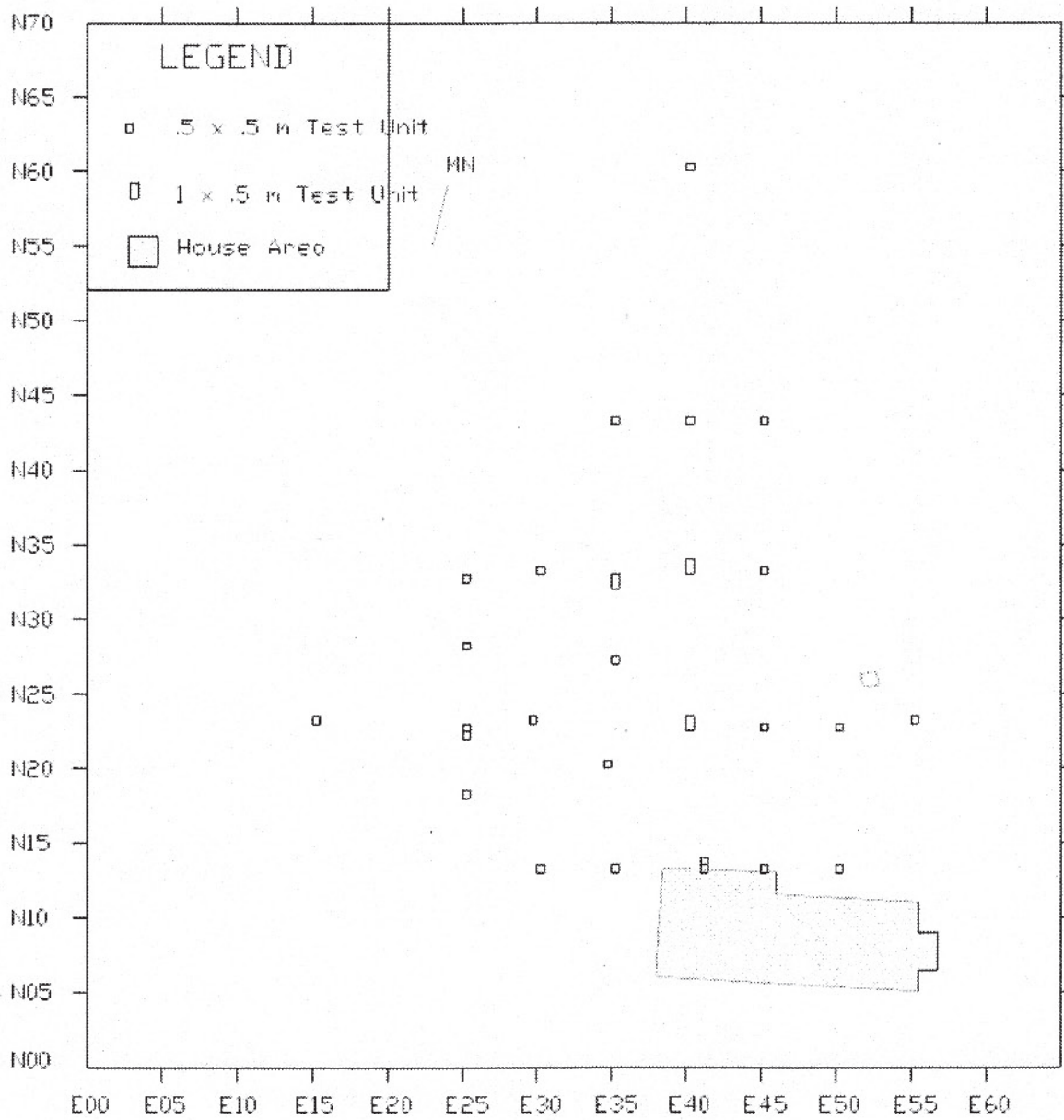
*Figure 8: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
1983 Magnetometer Survey with Anomalies*



*Figure 9a: 2003 W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
Side Yard Resistivity: Shallow Data*



*Figure 9b: 2003 W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
Side Yard Resistivity: Deep Data*



*Figure 10: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
1983 and 1984 Test Units*

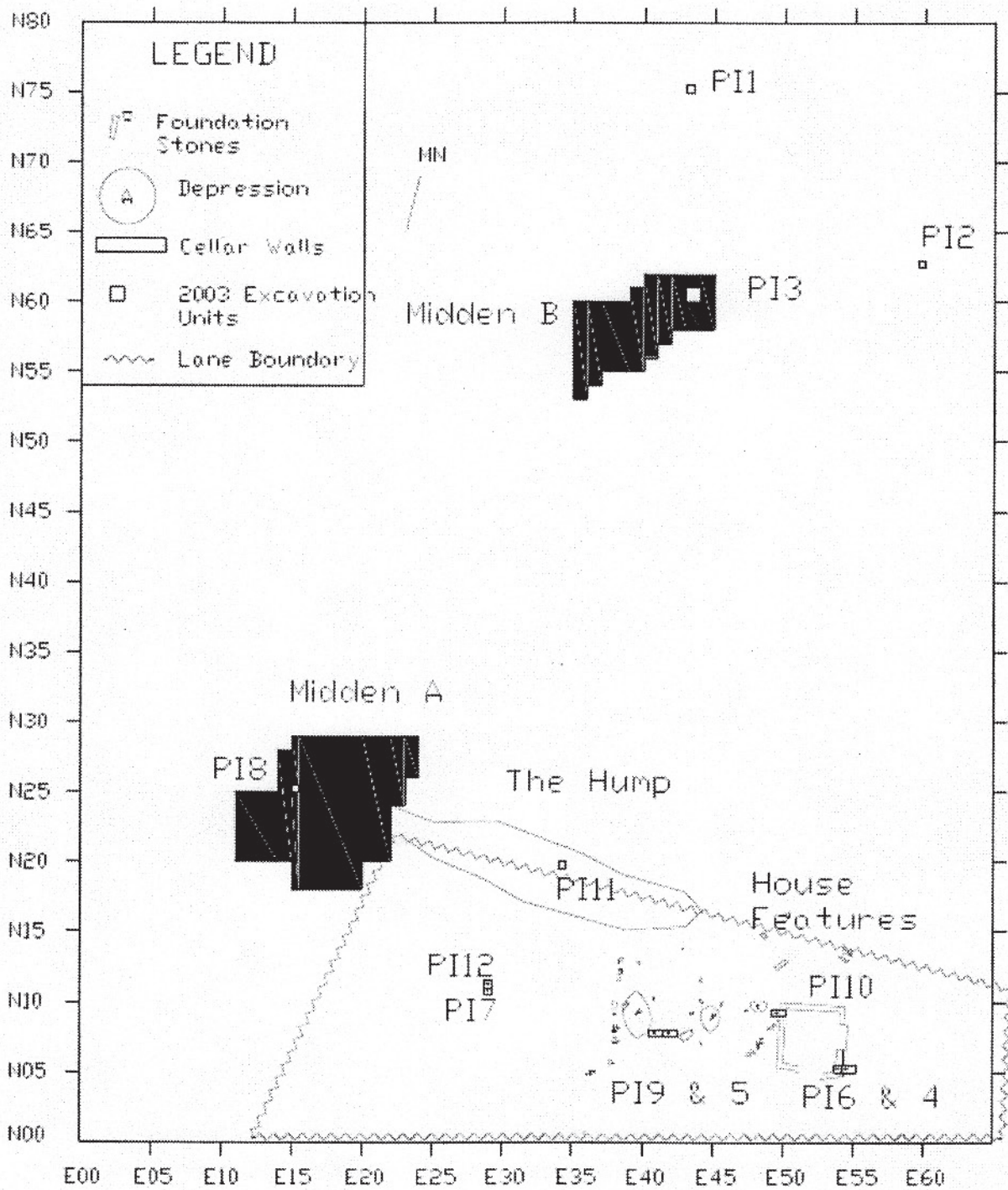


Figure 11: W.E.B. Du Bois Homesite
2003 Site Grid with Vance Property Boundary Overlay