

DOMINION OLD CHURCH PHASE I CHARLES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Project Team Members:
Cultural Resources, Inc.

Key Project Personnel:
Ellen Brady
Joshua Lay
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Firm's Responsibilities:
Phase I Cultural Resources
Survey

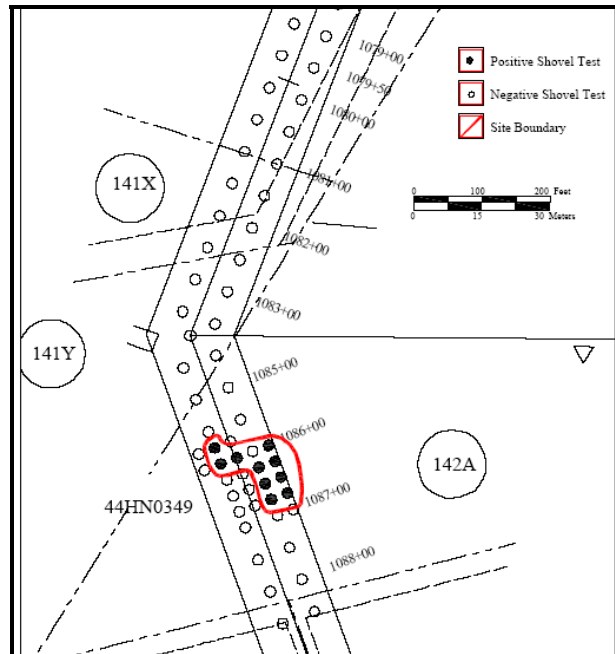
Client Contact:
Dominion Virginia Power
Richmond, VA

Completion Date:
November 16, 2004

Total Project Costs:
\$22,275

Between August 23, 2004 and September 24, 2004 Cultural Resources Inc. conducted a Phase I cultural resources survey of the Elmont-Chickahominy 230kV power line corridor in Hanover, Henrico, and Charles City counties. The survey line consisted of a 16-mile corridor; of which, the easternmost eight-mile segment is located to the north of an existing right-of-way, and the westernmost eight-mile segment is a new 120-foot wide corridor terminating at the Old Church substation.

The Phase I archaeological investigation of the 16-mile corridor resulted in the excavation of 1001 shovel tests; 67 of which were positive for cultural material. Despite heavy saturation and disturbance along nearly half of the Old Church to Chickahominy substation power line project area, the archaeological survey resulted in the identification of nine previously unidentified archaeological sites, three archaeological locations, and three isolated finds.



Although no new architectural resources were identified during the survey, the proposed corridor crossed two resources including an old railroad grade (042-0725) and the Cold Harbor Battlefield (042-5017). The railroad bed was related to the Richmond & Rappahannock Railway and was built ca. 1914. A portion of the Cold Harbor Battlefield was within National Park Service land and registered on the NRHP. No actual troop movements or engagements were documented within the proposed corridor and no visual impact from the power line corridor on the Battlefield or the railroad was anticipated.

Nine archaeological sites, three artifact locations, and three isolated finds were recorded during the survey. Two of these sites 44HN0347 and 44CC0390 were recommended potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The remainder of the sites, locations, and isolated finds were determined not eligible for the NRHP and no further work was recommended. Site 44CC0390 was identified as a Native American temporary camp dating to the Middle Woodland period and Site 44HN0347 was a domestic house site with intact structural remains dating to the mid-nineteenth century. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources concurred with CRI's recommendations and requested that the sites be avoided during planned construction.