

FEB 26 1981



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PRINCE WILLIAM FOREST PARK
TRIANGLE, VIRGINIA 22172

IN REPLY REFER TO:

K14(NCR)PRWI

February 25, 1981

Ms. Frances Jones
Northern Virginia Planning
District Commission
7309 Arlington Blvd.
Falls Church, VA 22042

Dear Ms. Jones,

Requested information has been enclosed for your use. We hope that the literature will be of help to you.

If you should have further questions after reviewing this material, please contact the park by calling (703) 221-7181 or writing. We will be more than happy to be of help to you.

Sincerely,

ROBERT L. HARNEY
Superintendent

Enclosure(s)



INT:1764-7F

PRINCE WILLIAM FOREST PARK

The land that is now Prince William Forest Park has been used by man for a long time. American Indians are thought to have had two village sites along the South Branch of Quantico Creek and to have used the land for hunting and farming. Shortly after the first European colonists arrived in North America, people began moving into the Dumfries-Triangle-Quantico area in what is now the Commonwealth of Virginia. Primary settlement occurred around the mouth of Quantico Creek where it emptied into the Potomac. Until the mid-1700's, Dumfries was a thriving port, rivaling many others on the East Coast.

In the meantime, the land west of Dumfries was rapidly cleared and planted with crops such as cotton and tobacco. These crops were harvested and shipped out through the port at Dumfries. Over the years, the land in this area was farmed intensively. As happened in so many other parts of the country, poor farming practices depleted the soil and caused extensive soil erosion. Soil from the farmland west of Dumfries washed down Quantico Creek and gradually silted up the harbor. By the late 1700's, the harbor at Dumfries had become useless because of siltation, and farm products had to be transported to other nearby ports or markets.

Over the next 200 years, the land in the Dumfries area was farmed and re-farmed. By the early 1900's, the old farmland was badly depleted and eroded. Farmers still remaining on the land were barely able to eke out

a living. In 1933 the Resettlement Administration, under the authority of the National Industrial Recovery Act, acquired 17,000 acres of this depleted farmland in Prince William County, Virginia, and established the Chopawamsic Recreation Demonstration Area. In 1936, the area was transferred by Executive Order to the Department of the Interior for administration. In 1940 Congress directed that the area be administered as a part of the National Capital Park system. A major stated purpose of the park was to provide recreational opportunities for residents of and visitors to the Washington metropolitan area.

During World War II parts of the park were utilized for military training purposes, and over 4,500 acres of land south of Virginia State Rt. 619 are still under special use permit to the Department of Navy for Marine training purposes. Shortly after the war, the name Chopawamsic Recreation Demonstration Area was changed to Prince William Forest Park.

Most of the buildings in the park, including the five cabin camps, were built during the early days of the Chopawamsic RDA by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Work Projects Administration. The CCC and WPA provided work to people unemployed during the early 1930's. Other facilities, such as the two campgrounds, the picnic grounds, the road system, and the trails, have been developed gradually over the years.

When the old farmland was first acquired in 1933, most of it was cut over and barren. In the forty years since then, most of the old farm sites have become overgrown with vegetation. It is still possible, though, to tell

where old fields were by the presence of blocks of pine trees. The pines are the first trees to come into a cleared area, to be followed later by the shade tolerant hardwoods such as oak and hickory. In this area, the hardwood forest is the climax stage in the gradual change from open fields to dense forest.

The park as it is today contains numerous plant and animal species. Pines and hardwoods are both present, along with many other plants and shrubs. Raspberries, blackberries, and blueberries can be found growing wild in the park, many of them marking old home sites and farm plots. The park also supports populations of white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and beaver, as well as numerous smaller animals such as raccoons and gray squirrels.

Prince William Forest Park has a short history as a formal park, but the land here tells a story from the early days of man's use of the land to the present. The park provides recreational opportunities for people from the Washington metropolitan area, yet it is one of the few natural areas with wild flora and fauna populations within a half-hour drive of Washington, D. C. It is the hope of the park staff that you will enjoy the park and learn more about yourself. Welcome!!

CEMETERIES FOUND IN AND ABOUT PRINCE WILLIAM FOREST PARK

Sept. 1973

1st Revision

In this project, the park has been divided into four sections, I, II, III, and IV, as noted on the accompanying map. The locations of cemeteries, designated by letters on the map, are approximate locations only. Use the map in conjunction with the directions in the text.

SECTION I

CEMETERY A

Directions: Located off of Rte. 619. Cemetery is found approximately 1½ - 2 miles down abandoned, overgrown dirt road which starts directly across from entrance to County School Board Building, (near Independent Hill.)

Description: Stones unmarked.

CEMETERY B (Tolson cemetery)

Directions: Follow Park Central Drive 400 yards west of intersection with Trail 7. Turn right, look for overgrown farm road heading in northwesterly direction. Follow road for 650 yards. Cemetery is on left of road.

Description: Cemetery is overgrown with vines, is surrounded by iron fence. Five graves in cemetery. Buried here are: Mary J. Tolson, (1838 - 1926), L.U.T., (- 1862), J.A.R., (- 1848), D.L.R., (- 1866), and S.A.R., (no date).

CEMETERY C (Florence cemetery) west

Directions: Approximately 40 yards ~~east~~ west of intersection of Park Central Drive and Trail 7, turn right on old farm road, follow for 300 yards. Cemetery is 5 yards to the right of the road.

Description: Cemetery has broken down wooden fence surrounding it. Five marked graves have been located. Buried here are: Lucy K. Florence, (1867-1867), Benjamin F. Florence, (1836-1885), Alice L. Florence, (1883-1884), and Ralph A. Florence, (1918-1918).

SECTION II

CEMETERY A (May not be on park land.)

Directions: 100 yards on Park road from main entrance sign, turn right. Follow trail for 25 yards.

Description: Located in clearing. 8 graves. Buried here are: May Butler, (1888-1961), Preston Williams, (1890-1948), Lila Williams, (1899-1972), Wilson Williams, (no date), Elwood Johnson, (1916-1956), Laura Rain, (no date), Addie B. Bates, (1892-1959), and Harvey Williams, (1892-1960).

CEMETERY B

Directions: Located along ridge approximately 250 yards from North East corner (center field) of ballfield at Pine Grove picnic area.

not found
Description: Many graves here. Only two headstones inscribed. Buried here are: George H. Muschett, (1821-1822), and Dr. Alexander M. Muschett, (1794-1825). *dd*

CEMETERY C

not found
Directions: Follow stone road from Park Headquarters parking lot for 450 yards to bend in road. From road go through small pines and up a small bank for 25 yards.

Description: Cemetery is located on ridge, approximately 30 graves, only two stones have inscriptions. Buried here are: Euriel Reed, (1884-1918), and M. Cannon, (1796-1873).

CEMETERY D

Directions: Follow Cable Bridge Rd. approximately 1/2 mile from Park Central Drive. Cemetery is located on left side of road.

Description: Metal gate at entrance to cemetery. At least 20 graves here. Only two stones inscribed. Buried here are: Jane Lewis, (-1824), and Catherine Johnson, (1891-1931).

CEMETERY E (Davis cemetery)

Directions: From center of Parking Lot near Cable Bridge Rd., proceed West along path for 20 yards.

Description: At least 11 graves. Only three stones inscribed. Buried here are: Marion Francis Davis, (1903-1941), John Davis, (1844-1922), and Lizzie Davis, (1839-1919).

CEMETERY F

Directions: West of Council Ring at Camp # 4

Description: Several rocks, no names or dates. (Believed to be Union graves from Civil War).

CEMETERY G

Directions: From Parking Lot near Cable Bridge Road, proceed 20 yards south. Located 15 yards from Park Central Dr.

Description: Two graves. Only one stone inscribed. Buried here is Morse Reid, (1902-1926).

CEMETERY H

Directions: Proceed North on Trail 3 from old Army road 450 yards. Turn right on old road (concrete NPS marker next to road). Cemetery is located 80 yards down the road and 10 yards to the left of it.

Description: 5 stones with no inscription.

SECTION III

CEMETERY A

Directions: From gate on Liming Lane, proceed 450 yards . Old oak should be on right side of road. Turn left at oak tree. 100 yards in, the farm road begins. Follow the farm road for 450 yards, where the road ends at the cemetery.

Description: Cemetery is in cleared area on a hillside. Many graves. Only two stones have inscriptions. Buried here are: Benjamin F. Liming, (1863-1931), and Otto R. Milky, (1864-1933).

CEMETERY B (Taylor cemetery)

Directions: Follow Trail #10 west from Nature Center for .6 miles. Cemetery is on left side of trail in clearing.

Description: Iron fence. At least 5 graves here. Only 3 stones inscribed. Buried here are: Manda Taylor, (1870-1900), Marie T.C. Taylor, (1841-1900), and Robert A. Taylor, (1867-1937).

CEMETERY C

Directions: On ridge north of Taylor Cemetery.

Description: Do not have information.

CEMETERY D

Directions: 150 yards on road from Overlook Cabin. 5 yards east of road.

Description: At least 15 graves, all marked with rough stones, no inscriptions.

CEMETERY E (Believed to be Reynolds cemetery)

Directions: Just off road across from Camp #2 Playfield (near gate on road).

Description: At least 16 graves marked with plain rocks, no inscriptions.

CEMETERY F

Directions: Approximately 100 yards west of dirt road running from Park Central Drive to Camp #2. Near Park Central Dr.

Description: At least 13 graves, only 1 inscribed. Buried here is Maj. Henry Everett Carter, CSA, (1829-1882).

located & identified

CEMETERY G

Directions: Old road on left of Park Central Drive begins about 100 yards from intersection of road from Piney Forks and Park Central Drive. Follow old road about 1 mile. Turn right and follow another old road for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.

Description: At least 8 graves, only one stone inscribed. Buried here is William R. Gardner, Co. B, 48th Pa. Inf.

CEMETERY H

Directions: Located right off south side of Oak Ridge road, approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from Park Central Drive.

Descriptions: There are 26 graves here. Buried here are: Henry Jones, (187- -1951), Ada Jilcott, (1921-1944), Julia Jones, (1921-1925), Napoleon Watson, (1869-1937), Annie Watson, (1872-1929), Shirley Jones, Co. B, 49th Va. Inf. CSA, Melvin L. Carney, (1920-1929), Infant Son of G.A. and Laura Jones, (-1914), Lucy S. Meyer, (1905-1956), Mary S. Cornwell, (1874-1932), William H. Cornwell, (1861-1940), John L. Florence, (1900-1937), George H. Florence, (1865-1927), Emma Florence, (1869--), Champ L. Jones, (1890-1918), George A. Jones, (1867-1932), and Elsie Clark, (1927-1971).

CEMETERY I

Directions: Go down Rte. 619 3 miles south of Independent Hill. The cemetery is right on the left hand side of the road.

Description: At least 8 graves, 2 inscribed. Buried here are: Betty Jean Smith, (1929-1929), and John Slingerland, H. Co., 15th Reg., Va. Cav. CSA.

CEMETERY J

Directions: Approximately 60 yards south of mile post 6 on Park Central Dr. , an old farm road goes off in an easterly direction. Follow this road for approximately one mile. The road ends in an old farmsite, the cemetery is located on the south side of the farmsite.

Description: Cemetery is surrounded by barbed-wire fence. Buried here are: William M. Payne (1822-1879), Julia Carolyn Payne (1858-1866), John Moses Payne (1820-1888), Annie E. T. Payne (1829-1915), George Weedon (1787-1872), Julia Weedon (1806-1882). This cemetery is referred to on page 97 in Prince William, Its Places and Its People.

SECTION IV

C CEMETERY A

Directions: Turn left from Main Entrance road onto Park Central Drive. Go approximately .7 miles down the road along curve just past rock wall on left. Cemetery is located on a high ridge to the left of the road, about 100 yards into the woods.

Description: In a large clearing bounded by park property. About 30 graves. Still in use. Buried here are: Annie Virginia Amidon, (1859-1897), James M. Amidon, (1849-1916), Jesse Williams, (1907-1939), Kyle Williams, (1886-1939), John F. Anderson, (1880-1948), Eva B. Anderson, (1878-19--), Frank M. Williams, (1874-1967), Mary Williams, (1855-1909), William C. Williams, (1848-1913), Nora V. Davis, (1874-1954), Henry H. Davis, (1872-1908), Gordon L. Davis, (1903-1957), Margaret L. Davis, (1926-1926), Frederick D. Abel, (1847-1926), and Sarah E. Abel, (1878-1948).

CEMETERY B

Directions: Take dirt road by Nature Center parking lot, (north of Nature Center), go approximately 3/4 miles down to an old farm road which goes off to the left. Follow for approximately 250 yds. Turn left. The cemetery is 50 yds. from the road.

Description: On a hill, bounded by wooden posts. Three graves, no inscriptions.

CEMETERY C

Directions: At approximately .6 miles down Park Central Drive from Park Entrance road, turn left (south) into the woods. Cemetery located about 300 yards off road. (Near Joe Hebidas home, inside park property).

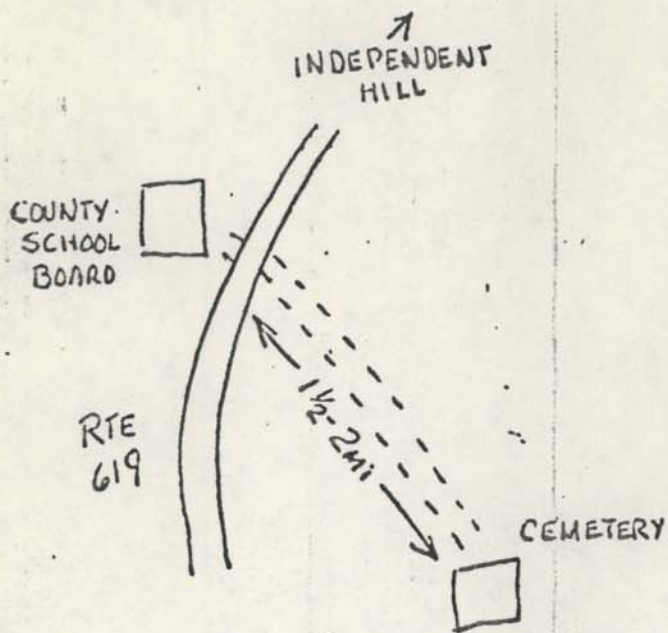
Description: Seven graves, only three inscribed. Buried here are: Benjamin Loyd, (1849-1925), S.T. Loyd, (1848-1904), and Arbelia V. Loyd, (1846-1920).

CEMETERY D

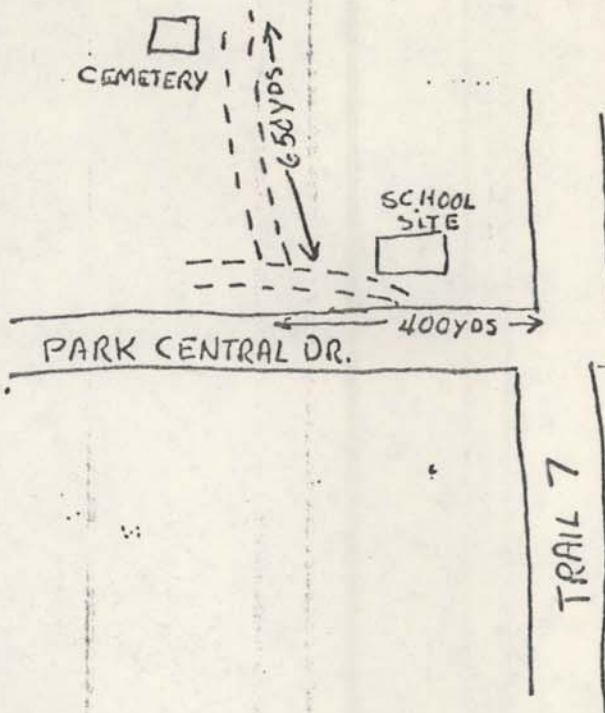
Directions: At entrance to Park range and munitions dump. Approximately 4 yds. north of road to dump.

Description: One headstone lying face up under lilac bushes.

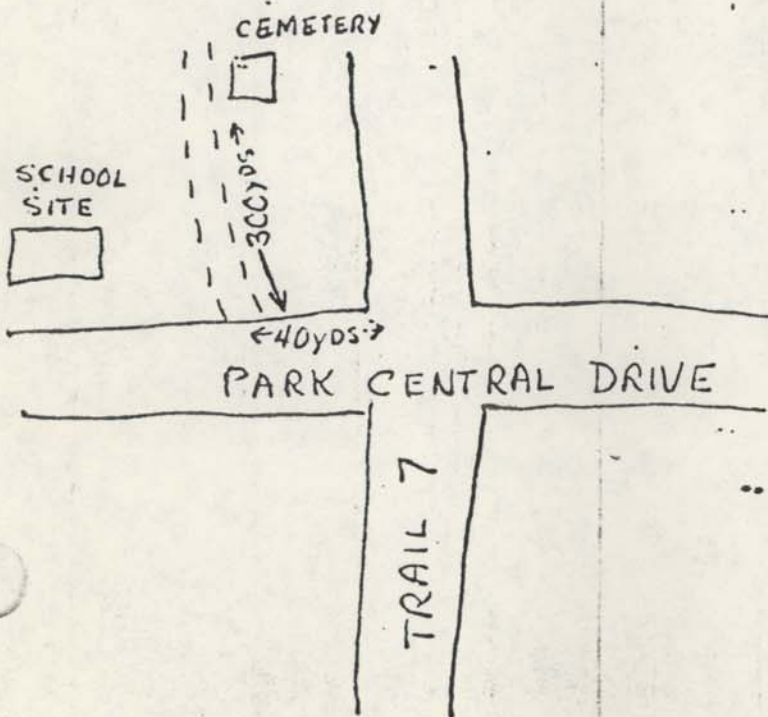
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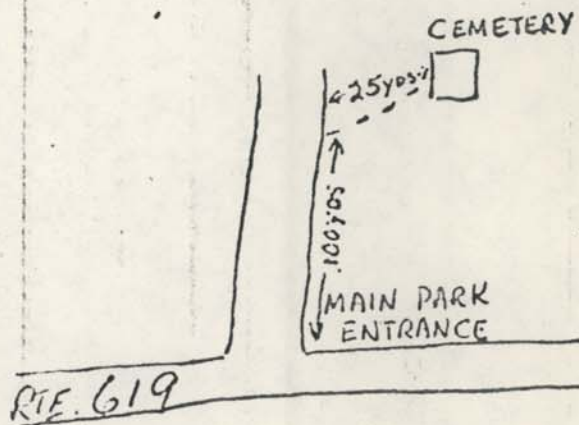
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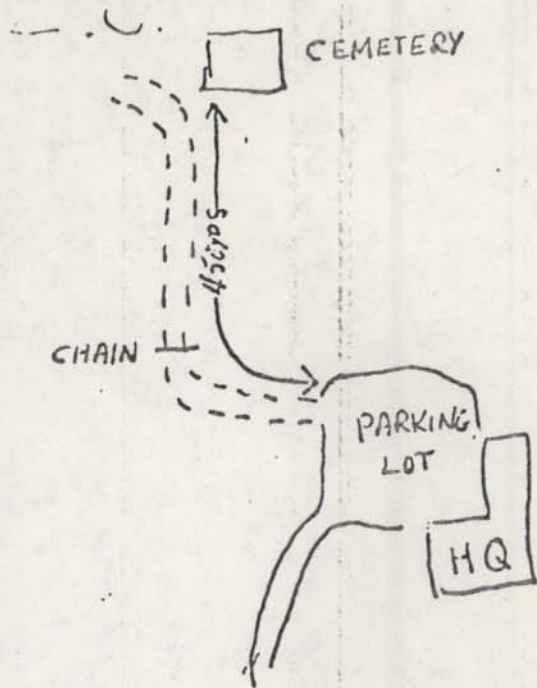
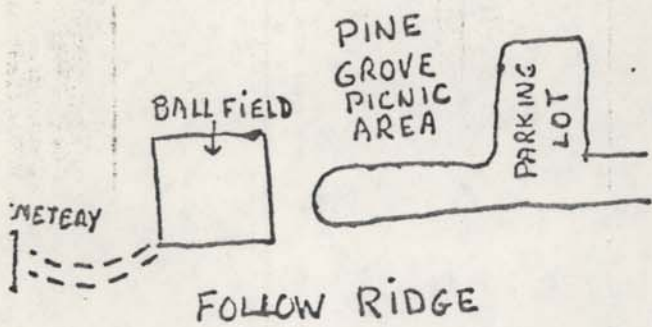


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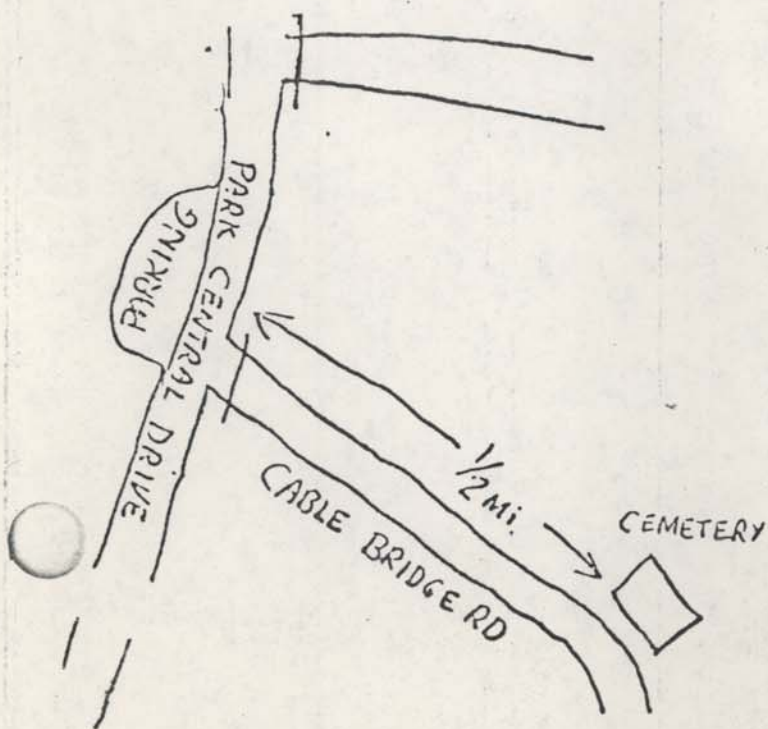


II (A)

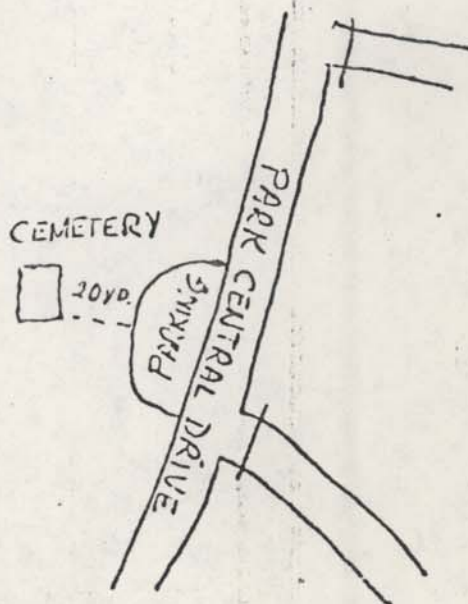




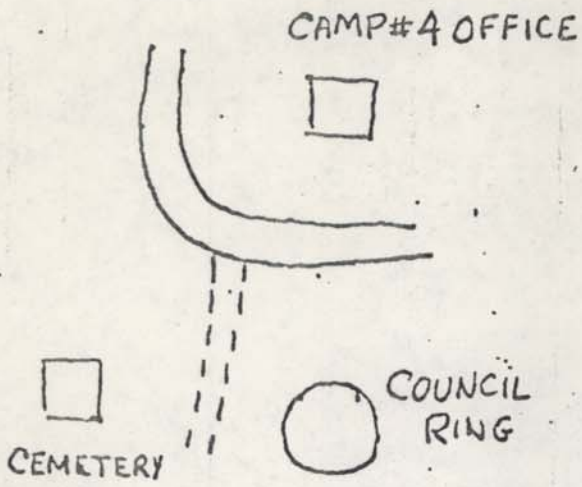
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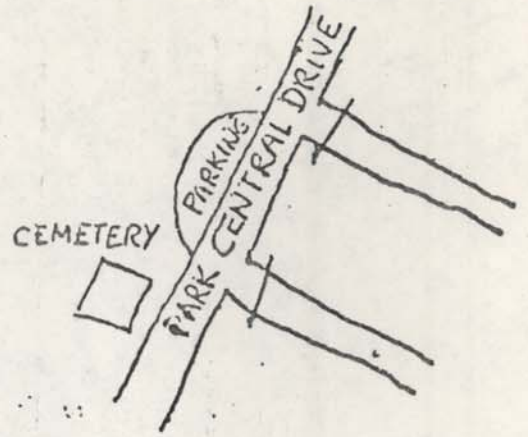
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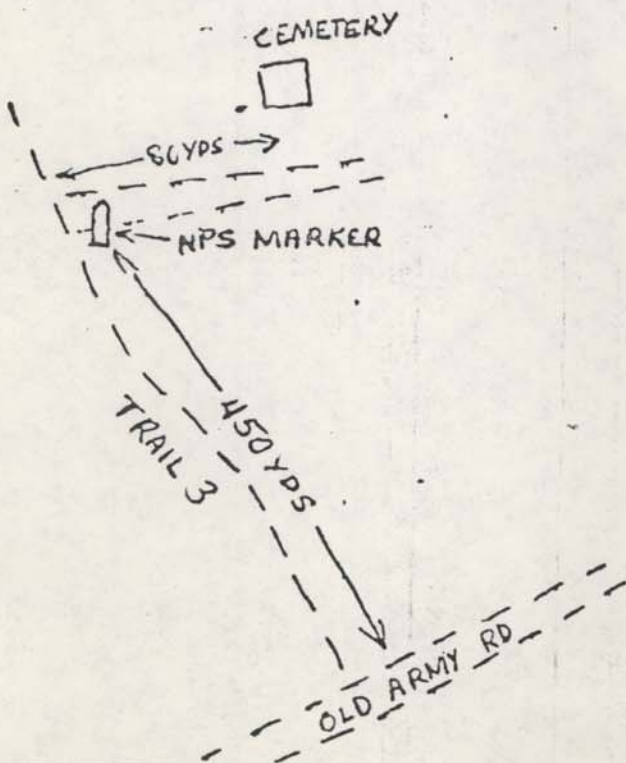
II F



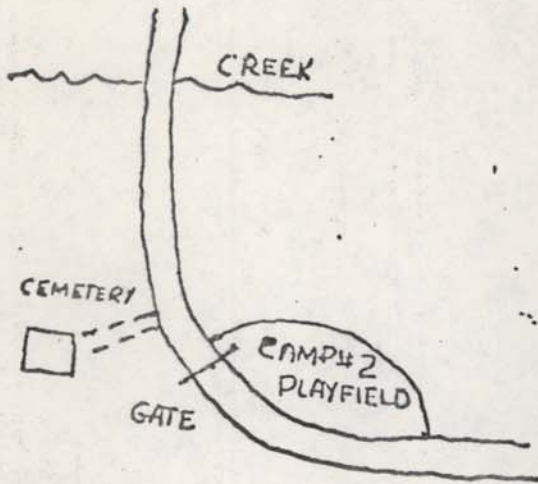
II G.



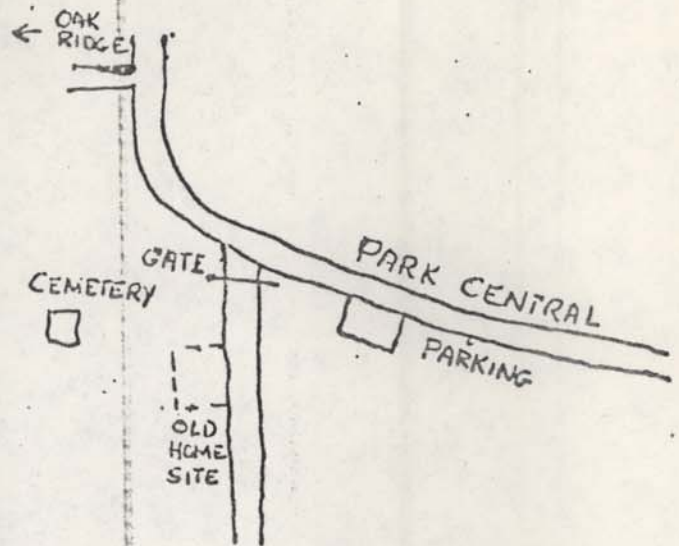
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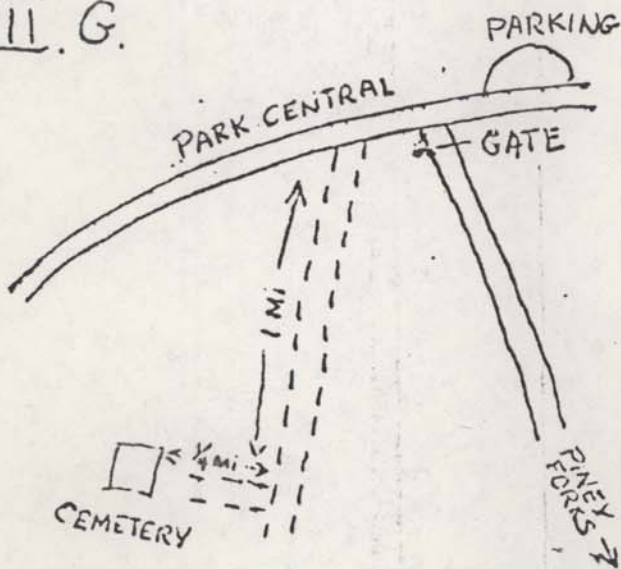
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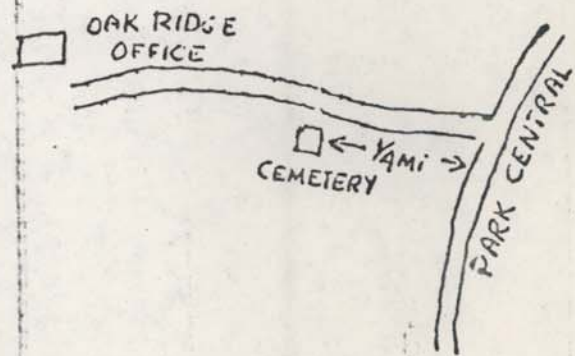
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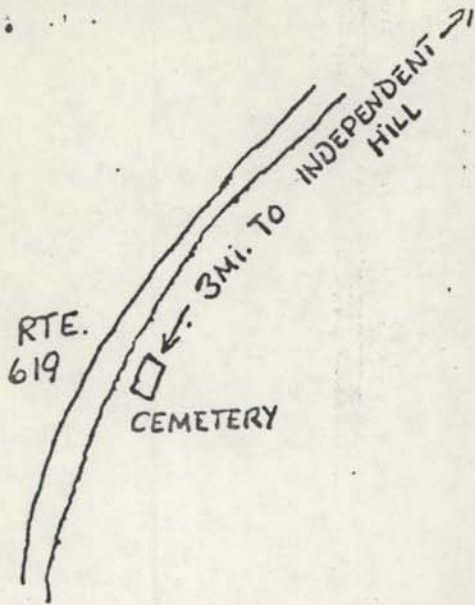
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III. H.

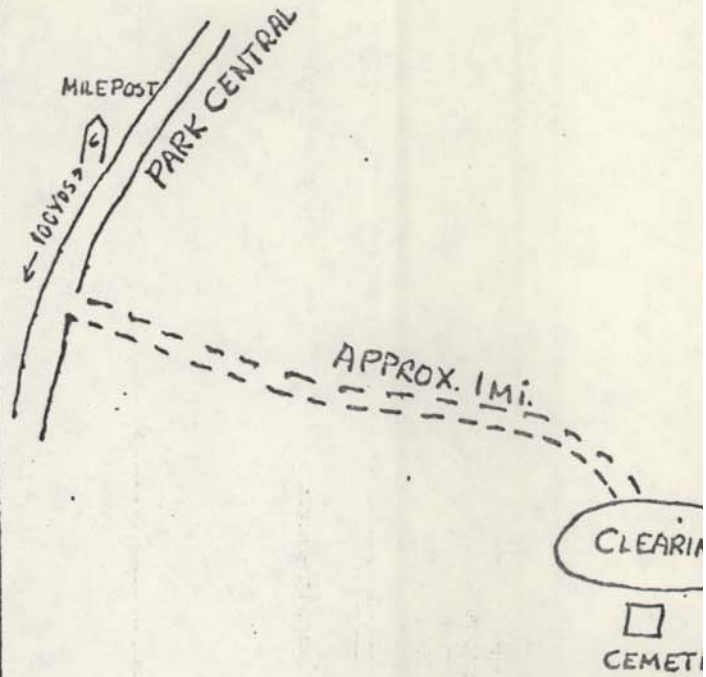


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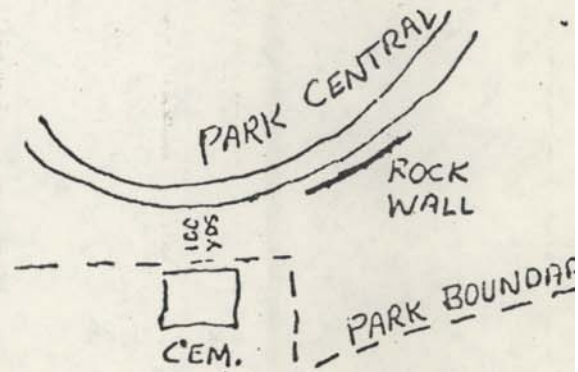


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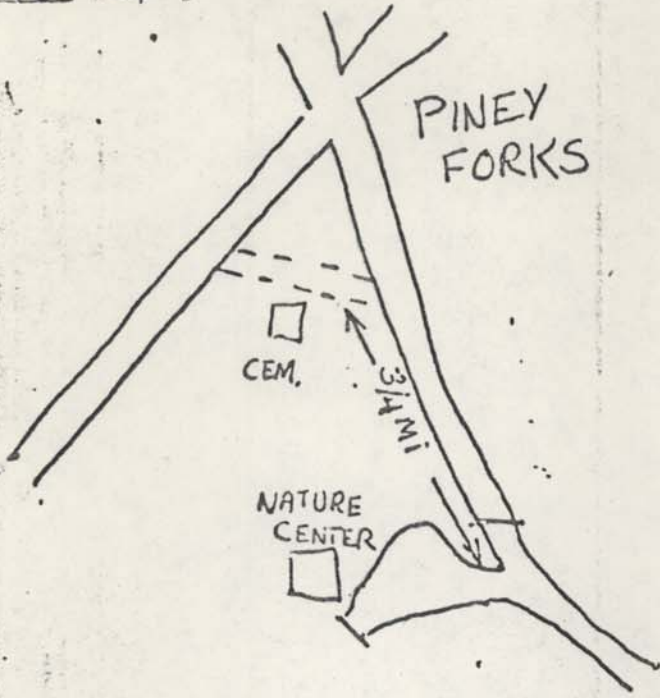
COLE HILL CEMETERY



IV. A.



IV B



IV C



IV D

