

**Historical Research Conducted
on the Farmer Street Cemetery
Newnan, Georgia**

Submitted to:
City of Newnan

Submitted by:
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INTRODUCTION

In 1961, the City of Newnan acquired land from the Newnan Cotton Mills Foundation in Newnan (Coweta County), Georgia (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book 107:622). The property acquisition included a wooded hill on which the city planned to develop a walking trail (Figure 1). Plans were put on hold, however, when local resident Bob Olmstead pointed out to the City of Newnan that the property included a cemetery. Mr. Olmstead, who had grown up on Murray Street in the Newnan Cotton Mill Village near the property, indicated that oral folklore identified the cemetery as the local resting place of enslaved African-Americans.

In 1999 the City of Newnan contracted with R.S. Webb and Associates, an archeological firm, who found "249 grave depressions" during their survey of the property (R.S. Webb & Associates 1999:11). The abandoned cemetery, known as the Farmer Street Cemetery, is part of Land Lot 25 in the 5th District. It is approximately 4.4 acres, as delineated by the recent archaeological survey, and is located east of the mill village, bounded on the north by C. J. Smith Park, on the east by Farmer Street, on the south by private residences, and on the west by undeveloped land (Figure 2). In addition to the archaeological survey, Newnan resident and Coweta County Genealogical Society volunteer, Ms. Helen Bowles, has researched the cemetery and presented her findings to the Farmer Street Cemetery Commission (Bowles 2001).

In April 2001, Southern Research Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc., contracted with the City of Newnan to research primary and secondary sources dealing with the abandoned cemetery to determine the approximate age of the Farmer Street Cemetery. Dean Wood, Principal, Southern Research, and Tracy Dean, Historic Preservation Consultant to Southern Research, attended Farmer Street Cemetery Commission meetings at City Hall in Newnan in March and April of 2001. The meetings included information and questions. After meeting with the Commission and interested parties, Ms. Dean began documentary research. She was assisted by Priscilla Letourneau, public history intern from University of West Georgia in Carrollton. Ms. Letourneau contributed more than 150 hours to the Farmer Street Cemetery Project by researching related local family history and African-American history.

The Farmer Street Cemetery has attracted media attention because of its possible use as a "slave cemetery". However, the only headstone still visible in the cemetery is that of Charlie Burch, the three month-old son of A.B. and Eliza Burch, who

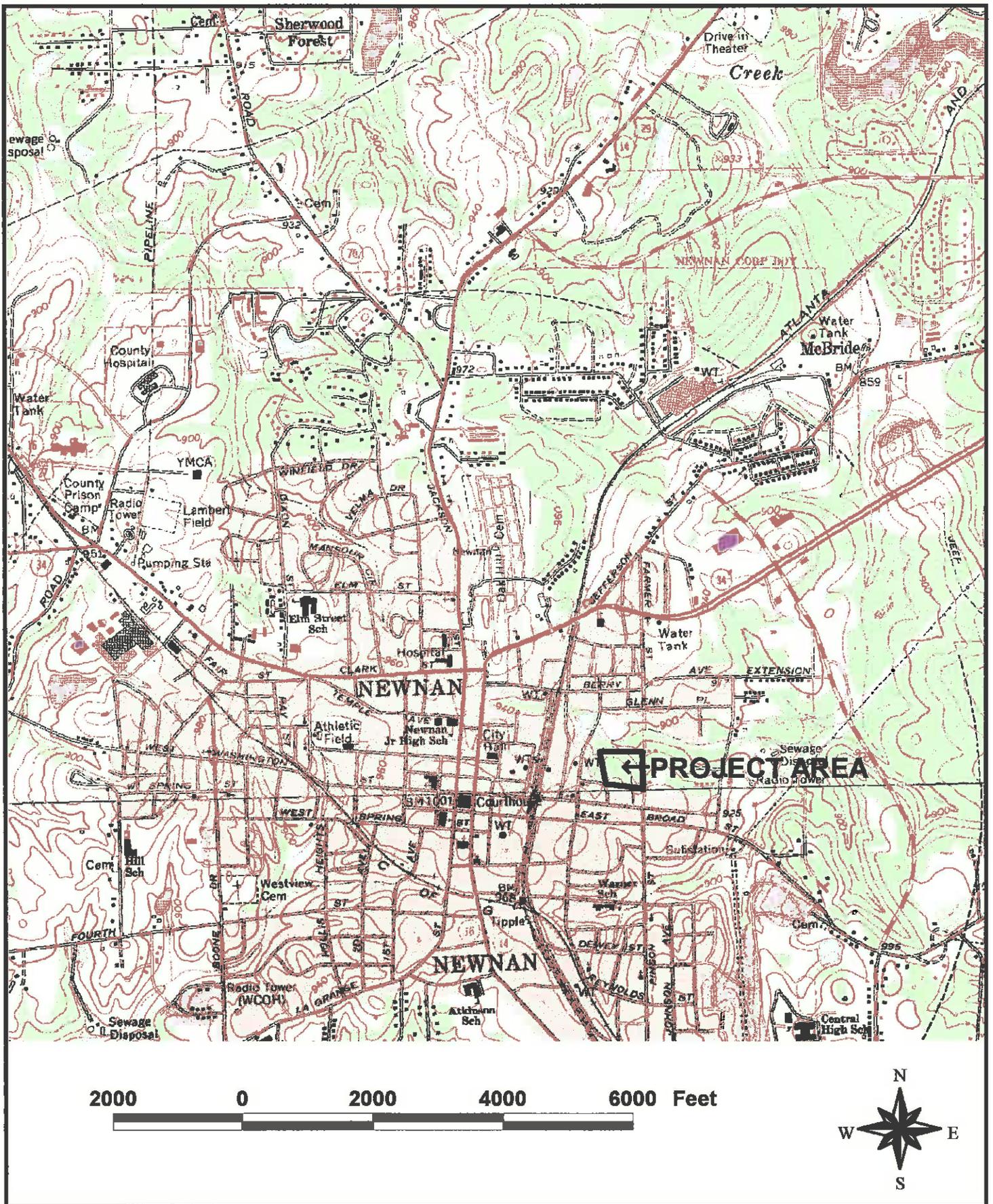


Figure 1. Map Showing Location of Project Area.
 Map Source: Newnan North and Newnan South, Georgia USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangles

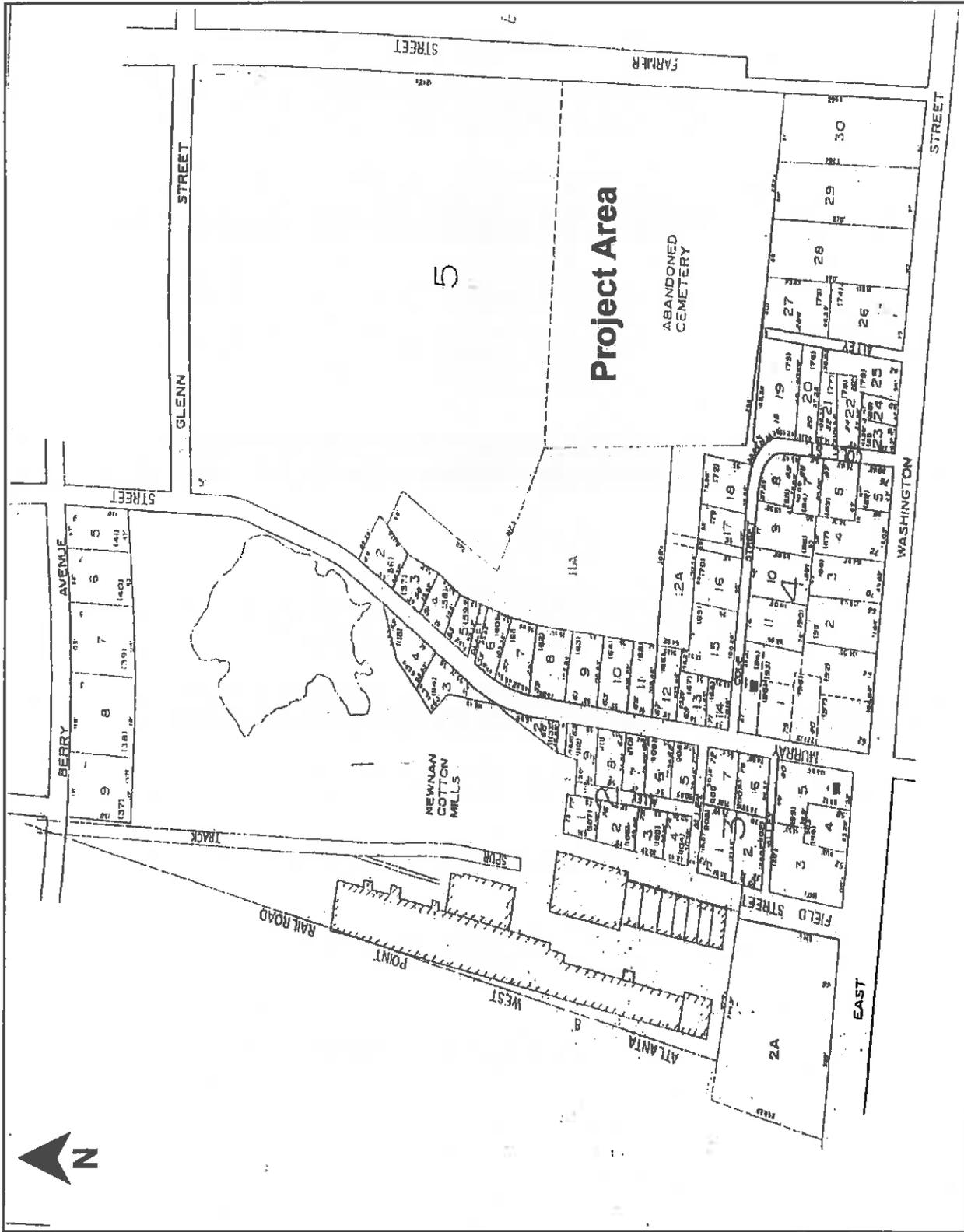


Figure 2. Project Area Closeup on 1961 plat (Coweta County, Superior Court, Plat Book 1, Page 279).

MB-7-6
 7/29/79
 4/14-73
 X1374/011
 X1494/031

3
 11-18-55
 X280/009
 X11-950-100
 X56/076

died November 20, 1869. This headstone is located near Cole Street and does not appear to be on a grave. In addition to the abandoned Farmer Street Cemetery, the City of Newnan contains two marked cemeteries: Oak Hill and Eastview. Oak Hill Cemetery, the oldest marked cemetery in the city, dates to 1833 and is located downtown. Oak Hill is known historically as the cemetery where white citizens were buried. Eastview Cemetery, located off McIntosh Street, is an African-American cemetery where the earliest marked grave dates to 1897 (Coweta County Genealogical Society 1986:251). Churches within the city of Newnan do not have cemeteries.

The purpose of the literature review and historical research undertaken by Southern Research was to: assess gathered archival information, research additional archival resources, develop property chain of title, and conduct personal interviews. It was hoped that research might determine what groups of people might be buried in the cemetery, ascertain the date range of use of the cemetery, and determine ethnicity, if possible, of persons buried within the boundaries of the site. The latter determination was sought in order to answer community questions regarding the cemetery's use as a burial site for slaves.

Following preliminary research which indicated that the site historically has been considered a graveyard for African-Americans, several possibilities arose to account for the high number of unmarked graves in the cemetery and the abandonment of the site. It was surmised that the Farmer Street Cemetery could hold interments of: 1.) slaves, 2.) free blacks (pre- and/or post-Civil War), and/or 3.) victims of an epidemic. It was also possible that individuals from all three groups could be buried in the cemetery. In addition, the possibility of the interments of other ethnic groups could not be ruled out. Intensive research was then undertaken to ascertain the nature of the cemetery.

METHODS

Southern Research historians consulted written sources and oral histories for this project. Deeds, wills and marriage records were reviewed at the Coweta County Courthouse in Newnan. Local history books, cemetery records, newspaper articles, maps and genealogical files were consulted at the Coweta County Genealogical Society in Grantville, Georgia. National Register of Historic Places district nominations and an abstract for oral histories were reviewed at the Newnan-Coweta County Historical Society, in Newnan. The Director of the Newnan-Coweta Historical Society, Ellen Ehrenhard, was also consulted. R. S. Webb & Associates' report and Helen Colquitt Bowles' paper were also referenced. Ms. Bowles' detailed work contained a great deal of documentation on the Farmer Street Cemetery.

It was hypothesized that the cemetery might have been used as a burial site for Freedmen following the Civil War. If so, the Freedmen's Bureau might have records of cemetery locations and names of people interred at various cemeteries. In an effort to determine the validity of this hypothesis, the Freedmen's Bureau records and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) records were checked on-line. Records pertaining to Captain Moses B. Sloan who was stationed in Newnan with the Freedmen's Bureau also were researched, in hopes that documents relating to his position in the bureau and his activities in Newnan might have included cemetery-related items. Several manuscripts, including the papers of Lavender R. Ray (1842-1916), Mr. Robert Burch, and the Atlanta & West Point Railroad Architectural and Engineering Drawings (1882-1950) were consulted at the Georgia Department of Archives and History in Atlanta, Georgia. The railroad maps were consulted with hopes that surveyors might have included the cemetery while mapping in the section of railroad track by the project area. Other maps were reviewed on-line from the University of Georgia, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Collection.

Ms. Letourneau researched the Berry, Robinson, and Pinson families because of their land holdings in and around the project area. She looked for information related to genealogy, land holdings, wills, occupations or any information providing insight into these local families who owned land in the vicinity of the Farmer Street Cemetery. Ms. Letourneau reviewed 1830, 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 Census records, and cemetery records. She looked for African-American obituaries by heavily spot-checking the *Newnan Herald* newspapers dating from 1865-1885 and 1900-1920. Ms.

Letourneau also attended the Newnan-Coweta AA Heritage Project Advisory Committee Workshop. The committee is made up of a diverse group of individuals dedicated to gathering African-American history from the area. She attended the meeting primarily to introduce herself to the community and make connections for potential interviews.

Historians contacted oral informants with hopes of gathering any information or clues related to the Farmer Street Cemetery. Oral history research included, but was not limited to, coroners, funeral home owners and employees, Newnan city cemetery employees, Chalk Level residents, historians (state and local), archivists, and both African- American and white elderly residents.

RESULTS

Chain of Title

The project area falls in Georgia's Land Lot 25, 5th District. The original lottery winner of that property was Charles Connally of Jones County (Coweta County Genealogical Society nd:19). The original deed to Land Lot 25 in the 5th District could not be located in the Coweta County Courthouse. William B. Berry acquired the property from his father, A.J. Berry, in 1883 (Coweta County Probate Court Will Book B:381) and the earliest recorded deed for the property is May 8, 1888 when W. B. Berry sold the land to Newnan Cotton Mills for the sum of \$3,000.00. The deed contains the following description, ". . . lot of land number twenty-five in the fifth district . . . described as follows: begin at a stone corner at the north west corner of the colored cemetery in the city of Newnan and run due west eight hundred and thirty nine and one half feet more or less to a stone corner one hundred feet east of the center of the main track of the Atlanta West Point Rail Road right of way, thence southerly along the line of said right of way four hundred and sixty two feet more or less to the north line of the oil mill property, thence east along the north line of said oil mill property, to the north east corner thereof, thence due south to Washington Street, thence east fifty one feet to A.H. Arnold's line, thence north along Arnold's line to Arnold's north west corner, thence east along the north side of the lots of Arnold, Murray, Mills and Cole to the south west corner of the colored cemetery four hundred and sixty feet more or less to the beginning corner, containing nine acres more or less . . . (2) any right of way of the colored people (?) now existing to and from their cemetery . . ." (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book Y:538).

Unusual deeds of interest include an 1857 deed in which A. J. Berry sold land for the sum of \$1.00 to Providence Church for the purpose of a graveyard (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book K:705) and several deeds in which A. J. Berry and his son, William B. Berry sold cemetery lots to individuals. The lots, located in the Berry Subdivision of Oak Hill Cemetery in Newnan, were sold between 1881 and 1912 (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book L:342, O:307, O:307, P:375, P:562, R:74, R:76, 2:681, 11:50). While these deeds are not for property in the immediate project area, they illustrate the Berry propensity toward cemetery land transactions.

In a deed dated April 20, 1900, W. B. Berry sold to Newnan Cotton Mills for the sum of \$5,000.00 ". . . lot of land number twenty-five (25) in the Fifth District of said

county, lying east of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad and North of the present lot of said Newnan Cotton Mills and the Old Colored Cemetery Lot, containing thirty acres . . .” (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book R:642).

The Newnan Cotton Mills Foundation sold the lot to the City of Newnan, March 29, 1961 for the sum of \$5.00 (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book 107:622).

Berry Family

Andrew Jay Berry (1798-1883) was born in Charleston, South Carolina on September 27, 1798. His mother died at birth and his father died when he was five years old, leaving A. J. Berry to grow up in the Charleston Orphan Asylum. He lived in Greenville from 1812 through 1827 when he moved to Hillsboro, near Newnan, in Coweta County. In 1829, Mr. Berry moved to Newnan when it became the county seat (Jones and Reynolds 1928:252-253). A. J. Berry married Eliza Emily Parks, daughter of Bird and Martha Parks. Eliza Berry was born July 3, 1808 in Oglethorpe County. Together Eliza and Andrew had four children: Edwin T. Berry, (died age 10), Thomas J. Berry (died in 1865), Joel W. Berry (died in 1869) and William B. Berry.

A. J. Berry, incorporator for the Atlanta and West Point Railroad in 1847, applied to the Legislature for a charter to construct and operate a railroad from Atlanta to LaGrange. He was on the railroad's board from 1849 until 1866. (Jones and Reynolds 1928:96-99). Berry was a judge and was nominated as town commissioner in 1856. He was also a member of the Baptist Church of Newnan for 40 years.

William B. Berry (1831-1902), youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Berry, married Hiberia Lawrence Dougherty in 1861. W. B. Berry was president of the First National Bank when it was organized in 1871. He served on the board of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad (1866-1903) and was the president of that railroad from 1880-1881 (Jones and Reynolds 1928:96-99).

Maps

The earliest known map referring to the “Negro Grave Yard” is entitled: “Map of City of Newnan, Georgia from actual survey made in 1828, lots - sold March 25th 1828”. In the upper left hand corner of the map is written “E. M. Cole, 1-10-1923, copy of original map” (Figures 3a and 3b). The original 1828 Map of Newnan could not be located in local or state archives. It is important to note that the Cole version represents a copy made almost one hundred years after the original town map was created.

It is unknown how much of this later version is based on the original map, on deeds, or merely on memory. The "Negro Grave Yard" was inscribed at least by 1923, and may or may not reflect labels from the 1828 map.

The 1867 and 1869 Maps of Coweta County show land lots, but no information on the Farmer Street Cemetery. The 1889 and 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps only show areas with buildings and do not show the Farmer Street Cemetery area. The Atlanta & West Point Railroad Maps and Engineering Drawings are of buildings and rights of way. None of the map collection included the Farmer Street Cemetery or any cemetery.

Freedmen, Epidemics and Captain Sloan

William U. Anderson, compiler of *History of Coweta County From 1825-1880*, noted in 1851 that there had been "more deaths than ever before in one year", in their area (Anderson 1880:100). In an effort to research these deaths and locate where the dead were buried, historians sought the City and County Commissioner Minutes and Records from the early and mid nineteenth century. The City and County Commissioner Minutes and Records earliest extant book dates to 1912. Roxie Clark, County Clerk and Assistant County Administrator, could not locate any older books. She spoke with a former County Clerk who indicated that the books might have been destroyed (2001 Personal Communication). Unfortunately, the lack of city commissioner minutes and records from the nineteenth century limits the likelihood of using city-recorded data concerning epidemics and resultant burials to shed light on the Farmer Street Cemetery.

Another avenue of research involved locating documents associated with freedmen and epidemics in the area, both of which might have created a large urban cemetery such as the Farmer Street Cemetery. In search of epidemics and freedmen, both Alice James, Archivist at the Georgia Department of Archives and History, and Ken Thomas, State Historian with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division in Atlanta, noted that after the Civil War, freedmen moved from farms into the cities where they could find work. Mr. Thomas noted that slave cemeteries are generally associated with plantations rather than urban areas (2001 Personal Communication). This system of burial would have changed after the Civil War when large numbers of freed slaves moved away from the plantations. The freedmen's living conditions were poor and they were often exposed to colds and diseases from which they died. According to Mr. Thomas, living conditions associated

University of Georgia in Athens, to review the *Georgia Palladium* (1835-1836) newspapers in archives. The collection is incomplete and none of the papers had information pertaining to the cemetery or likely references.

Another local obituary was that of Eliza Berry. She was a nurse and attendant for the Berry Family who died at the age of 80 and her obituary was in the newspaper, January 4, 1901. Mr. W. B. Berry went to Atlanta and brought her back to Newnan for burial, but there is no mention of the burial place (*Newnan Herald & Advertiser*). Eliza Berry is not listed in the *Coweta County, Georgia Cemeteries Book*.

Abstracts of oral histories on file at the Newnan-Coweta County Historical Society were researched in hopes that some might reveal cemetery information, but after review, only two sounded possibly relevant for further research. Ms. Ellen Ehrenhard, however, remembered the interviews in question and indicated that they were primarily about education and life in Chalk Level after the turn of the century.

Roscoe Jenkins Funeral Home, an African American owned business established in 1911, and McKoon's Funeral Home, established in 1907, were also contacted. Neither have early burial records. Ace Coggins, the former head of the City of Newnan's Cemeteries stated that there were no blacks buried at Oak Hill Cemetery, although he had heard it rumored that the Wilcoxin family buried their black field hands there (2001 Personal Communication).

Cemetery Comparisons to LaGrange, Carrollton and Newnan

A comparison between cemeteries in LaGrange, Carrollton, and Newnan is important to show historic settlement and planning patterns for cemeteries in this specific area of the state. Clark Johnson, county historian with Troup County Archives, said that LaGrange's Hillview Cemetery was a planned city cemetery that was integrated until the 1880s when it became segregated. Eastview, an African-American cemetery, was created in 1895 when all the black graves were exhumed from Hillview Cemetery and relocated to Eastview. None of the city churches had cemeteries, according to Mr. Johnson, but churches in the county did have their own cemeteries. In 1883, a sexton was hired for the city cemeteries and LaGrange started keeping cemetery records.

Both Newnan and LaGrange were named Confederate Hospital Zones because their location near the railroad allowed wounded soldiers to be brought in by rail for medical treatment. The Confederate cemeteries were established to bury the dead

soldiers and that is why both cities have Confederate cemeteries. The difference between the two cities is that Newnan buried soldiers in Oak Hill Cemetery and LaGrange had a separate cemetery for that purpose (2001 Personal Communication).

John Wright of Carrollton is on the Cemetery Committee for Carroll County and is currently conducting a cemetery survey of that County. Mr. Wright said that the City Cemetery in Carrollton was established in the late 1820s and that slaves are buried in the back of the cemetery. During Reconstruction, blacks wanted their own cemeteries, yet blacks were buried in the City Cemetery during this time. Of particular interest, Mr. Wright found that some plantations or farms shared cemeteries on their borders. The Merrell-Griffin Cemetery, for example, is located on the border of two farms, but according to his research, the two farm families did not intermarry. Both blacks and whites are buried in this cemetery. In other border cemeteries the families may have intermarried, according to Mr. Wright. In addition to being located on the border of the property, the cemeteries were not located near houses or dwellings of the period. The cemetery survey revealed that graves commonly overlapped near the cemetery boundary (2001 Personal Communication).

Coweta County, Georgia Cemeteries notes that Oak Hill Cemetery in Newnan, founded in 1833, was not a city cemetery but a private cemetery with numerous sections owned by individuals: "Individuals purchased their grave plots from proprietors of these private cemeteries" (Coweta County Genealogical Society 1986:278). This statement would account for the Berry Family selling individuals plots between 1881 and 1912 as previously mentioned. The oldest section of Oak Hill is located south of Jefferson Street in the Presbyterian Section, which was the churchyard of the First Presbyterian Church. No African-Americans are recorded as being buried in Oak Hill Cemetery and the oldest known African -American Cemetery in Newnan is the Eastview Cemetery. The earliest headstone in Eastview is dated 1897. The Farmer Street Cemetery, which includes an 1869 headstone and is noted in the 1888 deed as the "colored cemetery", obviously predates the 1897 Eastview Cemetery (Coweta County Superior Court Book Y:538).

Interviews

Southern Research historians interviewed seventeen local informants. Informants were chosen based on recommendations of older local residents, coroners, locally established funeral home owners, Newnan City cemetery employees, Chalk Level residents, mill residents, and state and local historians and archivists. Summaries of some of these interviews are given below.

Although no burial locations were noted in obituaries, Charles Stacy Wilkerson, an 86-year-old African-American and lifelong resident of Newnan remembered his mother saying she had a sister buried in the Farmer Street Cemetery. Mr. Wilkerson did not remember her name or any details regarding her death or burial date. His mother was Maggie Neal (b. 1882) and his father was Henry Wilkerson, a farmer and carpenter from Franklin in Herald County, Georgia. Mr. C. S. Wilkerson was born in Newnan, Coweta County on "Kee Farm" (2001 Personal Communication).

Farmer Street, for which the cemetery is named, was constructed sometime after 1962. Hugh Farmer, Jr., who is 70 years old, said that Farmer Street was named between 1962 and 1964 for his grandfather, C.W. Farmer, who was Mayor Pro-tem and a City Councilman for 25 years (approximately between 1939 and 1964). The Farmer family owned all the land north of Bullsboro, between Jackson Street and the railroad. Mr. Hugh Farmer, Jr., knew the area as the Boy Scout camp, but did not know there was a graveyard there until recently. He played ball there every Sunday in the late 1930s and the 1940s. He mentioned that he did not have a good relationship with the white boys over in the mill village so he and his friends did not cross the hill (2001 Personal Communication).

Mrs. Dorothy Jordan is the daughter-in-law of Dr. Jordan who built the first hospital for African-Americans on Pinson Street. Dr. Jordan died suddenly in 1912. Mrs. Jordan married his son and moved to Dr. Jordan's house on Pinson Street in 1936. She had never heard reference to the cemetery on Farmer Street until recently. Mrs. Jordan's parents and grandparents are buried in Westview Cemetery (2001 Personal Communication).

F.M. "Beau" Barron, who is 94 years old, said that Mr. Forest Walls, a white man who was a machinist at R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company, lived in the corner house on what is now Farmer and E. Washington Streets. In the 1940s Mr. Walls, who was in his 90s at the time, told Mr. Barron that there was a cemetery behind his house. This was the first time Mr. Barron had ever heard this although he worked as the Paymaster at Newnan Cotton Mills (owner of the cemetery property) between 1933-1948. He knew both black and white mill workers, yet no one ever mentioned the cemetery (2001 Personal Communication).

CONCLUSION

Southern Research researched and studied primary and secondary documents, and conducted oral histories in efforts to determine the age of the cemetery, the ethnicity of its population, and any other pertinent details. Documents examined include text, graphic and map sources. Oral informants interviewed included local residents, corners, funeral home owners, Newnan City employees and historians. While no document was located to directly answer the research questions, research has revealed some general information about the Farmer Street Cemetery and validated previous research.

Cemeteries in Newnan:

- Oak Hill Cemetery was established in 1833.
- There are no known African-American burials in Oak Hill Cemetery.
- There are no Freedmen's Bureau records about Freedmen's cemeteries in Newnan or the immediate area.
- There are no extant church cemetery records relating to the Farmer Street Cemetery.
- There have been some instances in Carrollton where neighboring nineteenth century plantation owners had cemeteries extending from their common land boundaries. While it is possible that the Farmer Street Cemetery might have come into existence in this manner, research did not uncover any information to substantiate that possibility.
- The earliest headstone in Eastview Cemetery, an African-American cemetery, dates to 1897.

Farmer Street Gravestone:

- The 1869 headstone of Charlie Burch lies out of context in the project area.
- It is likely that at least one person was buried in the project area in 1869. Charlie Burch's parents were listed in the 1870 census as "mulattos", therefore if Charlie Burch is indeed buried in the Farmer Street Cemetery, at least one grave contains a person of mixed ethnicity.
- Charlie Burch was born in 1869, which means he was not a slave.

R. S. Webb & Associates (1999:11) noted:

- Location of 249 graves or possible grave depressions;
- All the graves are oriented east-west; and

- Seven to eight loose clusters of grave depressions aligned in rows may represent families.

Primary and secondary documents reveal that the earliest recorded documentation on the Farmer Street Cemetery are:

- The 1888 deed from W. B. Berry to Newnan Cotton Mills which references the "colored cemetery", which means the cemetery existed by at least 1888 (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book Y:538).
- The 1900 deed that notes the "Old Colored Cemetery", which means the cemetery had been established for some length of time (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book R:642).
- The E. M. Cole 1923 revised map of the 1828 Claghorn & Haus' map of Newnan with a plot labeled "Negro Grave Yard" is not the same as the 1828 map as evidenced by the railroad which would not have been there in 1828.
- The 1888 deed from W. B. Berry to Newnan Cotton Mills which references the "colored cemetery", indicating the cemetery existed by at least 1888 (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book Y:538).
- The 1900 deed that notes the "Old Colored Cemetery", indicating the cemetery had been established for some length of time (Coweta County Superior Court Deed Book R:642).
- The E. M. Cole 1923 map (revised from 1828 Claghorn and Haus' map) with a plot labeled "Negro Grave Yard"

Interviews:

- Charles Stacy Wilkerson, an 86-year-old Chalk Level resident, remembers his mother saying she had a sister buried in the Farmer Street Cemetery. It is likely the burial took place prior to 1920, if he was old enough to remember her saying that, but did not recall the actual burial event.
- Mrs. Dorothy Jordan, resident of Chalk Level since the 1930s, did not know about the cemetery until recently even though her father-in-law was a prominent African American physician in Newnan.
- F. M. "Beau" Barron, did not know about the cemetery until the 1940s despite being the Paymaster at Newnan Cotton Mills (owner of the cemetery property). This may indicate that the cemetery had fallen out of local knowledge by that time.

From this information, we can surmise that the cemetery pre-dates 1888, there was at least one burial in 1869, this one grave contains a person of mixed ethnicity, and there are no known burials from the 1920s to the present. No evidence was found to either support or negate hypotheses that the Farmer Street Cemetery is a slave or freedmen's cemetery or that it contains victims of epidemics.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite intensive investigation, the documentary record has not revealed evidence of who is buried in the Farmer Street Cemetery or an exact date range of interments. While it is certainly possible that the Farmer Street Cemetery contains the graves of slaves, it is equally possible that the cemetery contains freed African-Americans. It is even conceivable that the earliest graves in the cemetery date to the founding settlement of Newnan and could therefore contain a combination of ethnicities. Therefore, it is recommended that specific titles such as "Slave Cemetery" and "Negro Cemetery" and "Black Cemetery" not be used, since these descriptors may be either wholly incorrect, or may only represent part of the picture. Historical documents in personal papers of families and individuals, or scattered in manuscript collections in other states throughout the country, may one day surface to provide written or graphic information on this enigmatic cemetery.

While no new significant records were located during this project, research validated previous efforts at documenting the Farmer Street Cemetery and may have provided a tighter date range for some interments. The archaeological survey conducted by Webb and Associates has already confirmed that the Farmer Street property is indeed a cemetery which includes a large number of interments. Intensive historical research by Southern Research, Mrs. Helen Colquitt Bowles, and others have uncovered the available documentation, to date, regarding the cemetery. If any further information is deemed necessary, then it is recommended that proper archaeological excavation employing a scientific sampling strategy in consultation with a physical anthropologist be pursued. Archaeological excavation of graves, in consultation with a physical anthropologist, would use physical evidence to shed light on the Farmer Street Cemetery. Such excavation could provide data on ethnicity, gender, age, disease, trauma, physical stature, socio-economic status, and date ranges (based on coffin style and hardware). This procedure, however, can be costly. In efforts to balance cost and obtain the maximum amount of accurate information, it is recommended that a sampling strategy be employed in any cemetery excavation considered. Such a strategy would allow only a portion of the cemetery to be excavated, rather than every interment.

A scientifically designed sampling strategy based on accepted, standard sampling theory would select specific factors or strata to consider. One such factor might include selecting graves to excavate that are adults, since the skeletal remains of sub-adults (children and teens) do not survive as well and contain less information due to fewer physical characteristics that come from bone maturation. Another factor might consist of selecting graves geographically diverse across the cemetery, so those individuals interred at different times would be represented in the sample. The strategy might also sample individuals from various clusters of graves, to gain some insight (such as familial, social, racial, economic, or religious groupings) into those remaining in the cluster without including them in the excavation process. These factors, and others, should be considered in a sampling strategy. While such a sampling strategy can not definitively determine the nature of every single interment in the cemetery, it can give statistically valid results with measurable levels of certainty, as to the nature of the cemetery, its time-span, and details regarding individuals interred within it.

It is recommended that the City of Newnan continue to follow Georgia state law regarding all decisions involving current and future land use activities relating to the Farmer Street Cemetery.

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Wilkerson, Charles Stacy

2001 Personal Communication with Priscilla Letourneau. June 13, 2001.

Wright, John

2001 Personal Communication with Tracy M. Dean. June 14, 2001.

11/16/84

11/16/84

11/16/84

11/16/84

E.M. COLE
 1923
 Copy of original Map

MAP of CITY of NEWNAN GEORGIA
 From actual Survey made in 1828 by Claghorn & Haus Surveyors.
 LOTS-SOLD MARCH 25th 1828

Three Links and Three Chains to the inch

No. 58 2.4-A College Temple	No. 62 5.2A Jas. A. Welch	Female No. 64 1-A Houdarney	Presbyterian Grave Yard No. 104 3-A Tom Poly House Now Pen Brewster	No. 105 3-25-A 3/10	Wm. B. Berry No. 106 3.25-A Wm. B. Berry	No. 107 10-66 A A. J. Berry	No. 108 8-A A. J. Berry
No. 60 3.20-A	J. S. A. Welch No. 61 2.7-A	Wm. Dr. Cooss No. 7 1.82-A	P. Brewster No. 103 2-A Tan Yard	No. 102 2-A	No. 101 2-A Wm. B. Berry	No. 100 5A A. J. Berry	No. 99 5A A. J. Berry
Male No. 59 3.5-A A. J. Berry	No. 58 3.5-A P. M. Tino L. Welling	No. 63 1-A	No. 47 2-A Jans Posey	No. 95 2-A Wm. Posey	No. 96 2-A Wm. B. Berry	No. 97 5A Andrew J. Berry	No. 98 5A A. J. Berry
Presbyterian Church Formerly	Methodist Church No. 56 2-A Wm. Nelsons	Mrs. Martin & Mrs. Simmill No. 66 2-A Hilton	No. 93 2-A Wm. B. Berry	No. 92 1.69-A Wm. B. Berry	No. 91 1.85 A Wm. B. Berry	No. 90 1-24 A A. J. B.	No. 89 1-25 A A. J. B.
			No. 82 1-A	No. 83			

Figure 3a. North Panel, 1923 Reconstruction of 1828 City of Newnan Map (Cole 1923, from Claghorn and Haus Surveyors 1828).

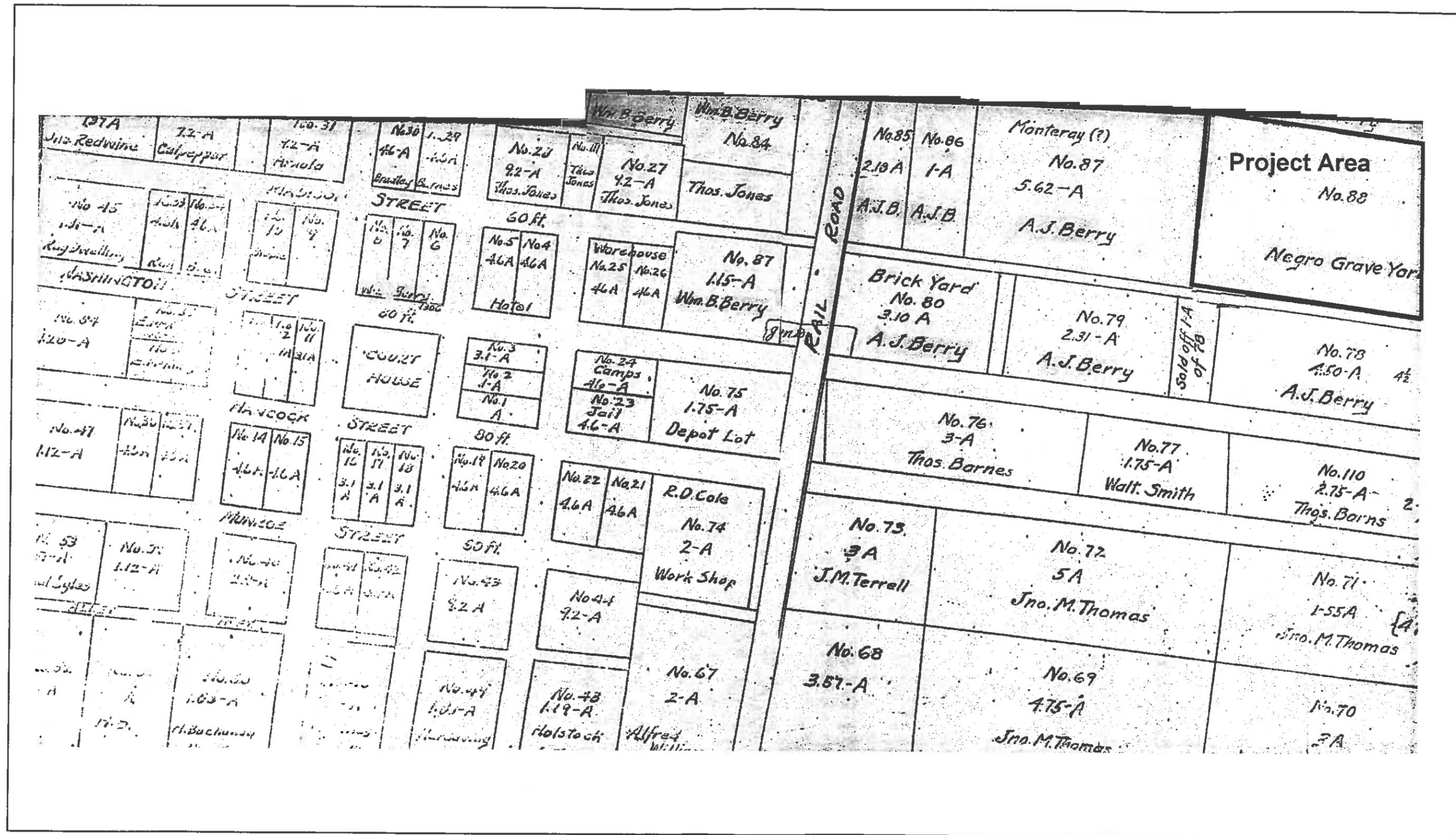


Figure 3b. South Panel, 1923 Reconstruction of 1828 City of Newnan Map (Cole 1923, from Claghorn and Haus Surveyors 1828).