

**PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE HO-CHUNK FEE
TO TRUST APPLICATION FOR THE WAZEE SOUTH PARCEL IN
SECTION 6, T21N, R3W, IN JACKSON COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

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Introduction

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Ho-Chunk Nation conducted a Phase I archaeological survey for the proposed fee to trust application of the Wazee South parcel. The Wazee South Parcel is located in the N½ of the N½, the SE¼ of the NW¼, and the SE¼ of the NE¼ of Section 6, T21N, R3W, in Jackson County, Wisconsin (Figures 1 and Appendix). The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project is the 240 acre parcel. The Ho-Chunk Nation requested the Midwest Regional Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to complete the compliance for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Therefore, the purpose of the Phase I Archaeological Survey was to determine if this undertaking has an effect on any historic properties located in the Area of Potential Effect.

Environmental Setting

The Wazee North Parcel is situated 1000 ft. east, and 1.2 mile south of the Black River. The mean annual precipitation is 28-33 inches. The present vegetation of this parcel is a pine plantation. Most of the soils (90%) in this parcel consist of Tarr Sand, which consist of 62 inches of sand; and also Gosil Loamy Sand and Mahtomedi Loamy Sand (10%) which consists of 5-23 inches of sandy loam over sand (websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov).

Archaeological Context

Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, William Quackenbush provided the BIA a list and maps of historic properties/cultural resources as found on the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (WHPD) (Figure 2). There are 14 recorded sites within one mile of this project. These include 3 lithic scatters, 5 campsite/village sites, 3 historic context materials sites, 1 cemetery, 1 foundation/depression site, and 1 isolated find. Of these 14 sites, one campsite/village site (JA-37) is proposed to be in the project area. This site was described by Charles Brown in 1912 as being on the bank of the Black River (Quackenbush 2014).

“Ho Chunk Elders say that history begins with the creation of all things on earth. They say that Ho Chunk means "People of the Big Voice," or "People of the Sacred Language." Ho Chunks have always occupied lands in Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, South Dakota and Minnesota. They have hunted, fished, and gathered plants to provide their food source. The land was sacred because through it the Creator provided all their needs: Food, Clothing, Lodging and the means for their culture to thrive in its existence” (<http://www.ho-chunknation.com/AboutUs.aspx>).

The Gottschall Rockshelter in Southeast Wisconsin contains a painted panel called the “Red Horn Composition” which is the product of the ancestors of the Ho-Chunk peoples (Salzer and Rajnovich 2001:3). The data from the Gottschall Site demonstrate that the artist were part of the Effigy Mound Culture (Salzer and Rajnovich 2001:3). After AD 600 the shape of mounds, which were restricted to round conical form, began to include linear forms and those in the shape of animals. Pottery and other artifacts also changed with the emergence of the Effigy Mound

Culture (Theler and Boszhardt (2001:127). Anthropologists and Archaeologist have proposed for a long time that the Ho-Chunk ancestors were the builders of the effigy mounds. One of the strongest proponents was Paul Radin, who believed the effigies were related to Ho-Chunk clans (Radin 1923:32). A constant theme in Ho-Chunk society was the renewal of order and the maintenance of the balance of social power between the upper worlds and lower worlds, as represented by the Thunderbird and Bear Clans (Birmingham and Eisenberg (2000). The lower world water spirits also played a significant role.

The Oneota culture was born of the marriage between Late Woodland people and Middle Mississippian ideas (Theler and Boszhardt 2003:157). The Ho-Chunk and other peoples speaking the Chiwere dialect of the Siouan language family are identified as the modern descendants of the Oneota archaeological culture (Salzer and Rajnovich 2001:3). Basic subsistence economies focused on corn agriculture, although the western Oneota were more reliant on Plains resources (bison). Villages tend to be larger at this time. The Oneota culture dates to 1150 AD to 1700 AD.

The first historical documentation of the Ho-Chunk was in 1634 when Jean Nicolet visited them as an agent for Governor Champlain (Radin 1923:5). It is believed this was in the Green Bay area.

Methodology

A Phase I Archaeological Survey was conducted on April 22-23, 2014 by BIA Archaeologist William Kurtz; and William Quackenbush and James Blackdeer of the Ho-Chunk Tribal Historic Preservation Office. Pedestrian transects spaced approximately 15 m. apart were conducted over the entire 240 acre parcel. All of the Wazee South project area parcel consists of pine plantation and is disturbed. Since it was disturbed no shovel tests were conducted.

Field Investigations Results

Two trash dumps and one earthen mound were located during the Phase I Archaeological Survey. The first trash dump is located in the SE¹/₄ of the NE¹/₄ of Section 6, T21N, R3W, with a UTM of 675755/4910993. This trash dump consisted of a fan, bike wheels, tackle box, fishing pole, Folger coffee cans, and glass bottles. The second trash dump is located in the NE¹/₄ of the NW¹/₄ of Section 6, with a UTM of 676883/4910690. This dump consisted of bucket seats and a windshield. Both of these sites are less than 50 years old and are not significant, therefore they do not qualify as a historic property as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act. The third site was a small earthen mound. The mound is located in the SE¹/₄ of the NE¹/₄ of Section 6 with a UTM location of 676715/4911059. This feature is believed to be modern and not prehistoric in origin. The Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) will do a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) test of this feature to verify this. Campsite/village 47JA37 was described by Charles Brown in 1912 as being on the bank of the Black River. Therefore, this site is probably located west of the project. If this site is located in the project area, it was disturbed by the pine plantation. No evidence of site 47JA37 was found in the project area.

Summary and Recommendations

A Phase I Archaeological Survey was conducted for the 240 acre Wazee South parcel in the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 6, T21N, R3W (Figure 1). Two trash dump sites and one small earthen mound were located. These sites are less than 50 years old and not significant, therefore they do not qualify as a historic property as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act. The Bureau of Indian Affairs recommends a *No Historic Properties Affected* determination for this project. It should be noted that despite the present survey, the possibility of undiscovered archaeological sites exists within the project area. Upon earth moving activities, if such discoveries are made, please notify the tribal government who, in turn, should notify the BIA and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office. If human remains are uncovered, suspend activities immediately and notify the tribal government, BIA, and local law enforcement agency.

Figure 1. Wazee South Parcel in the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 6, T21N, R3W.

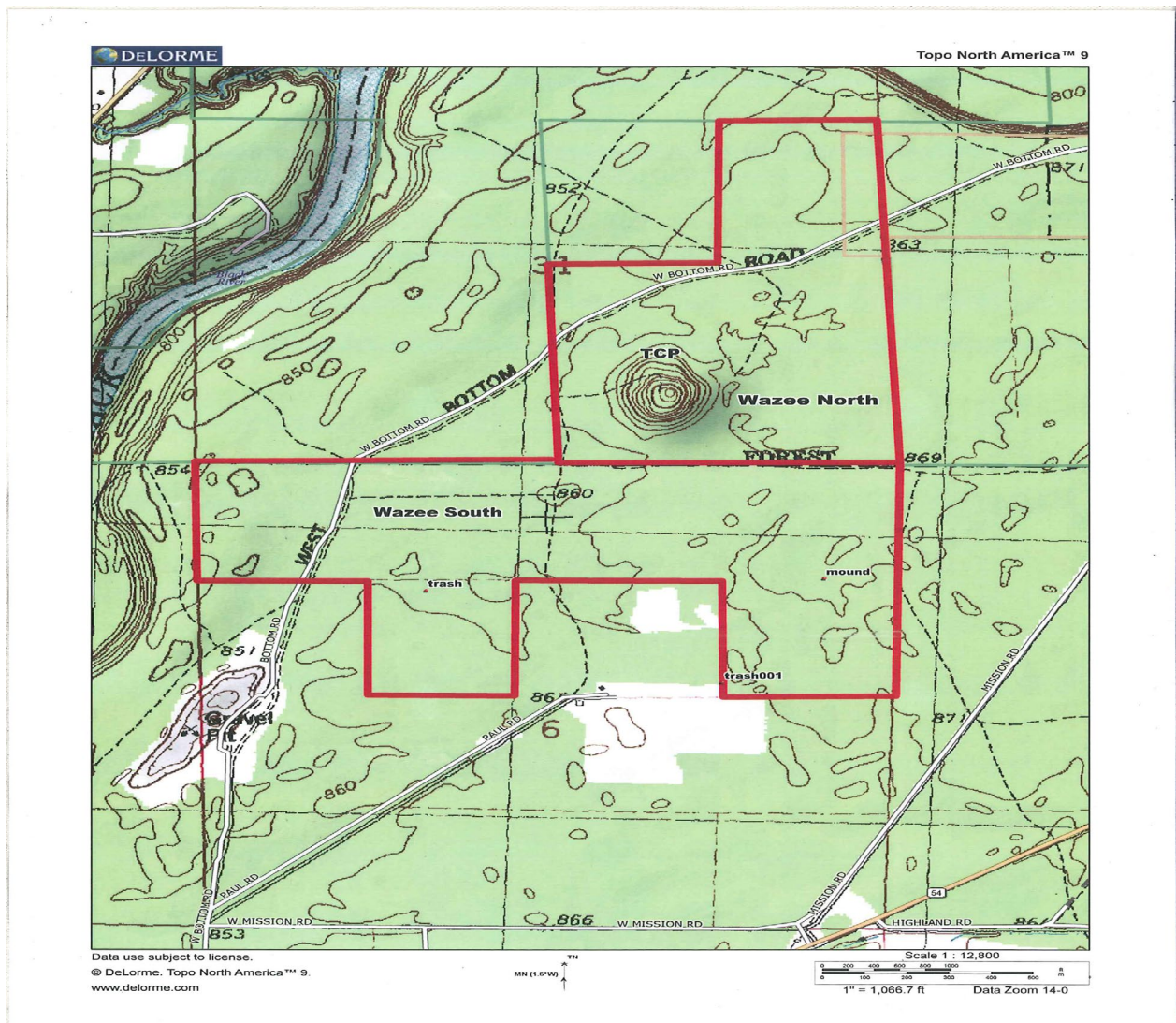
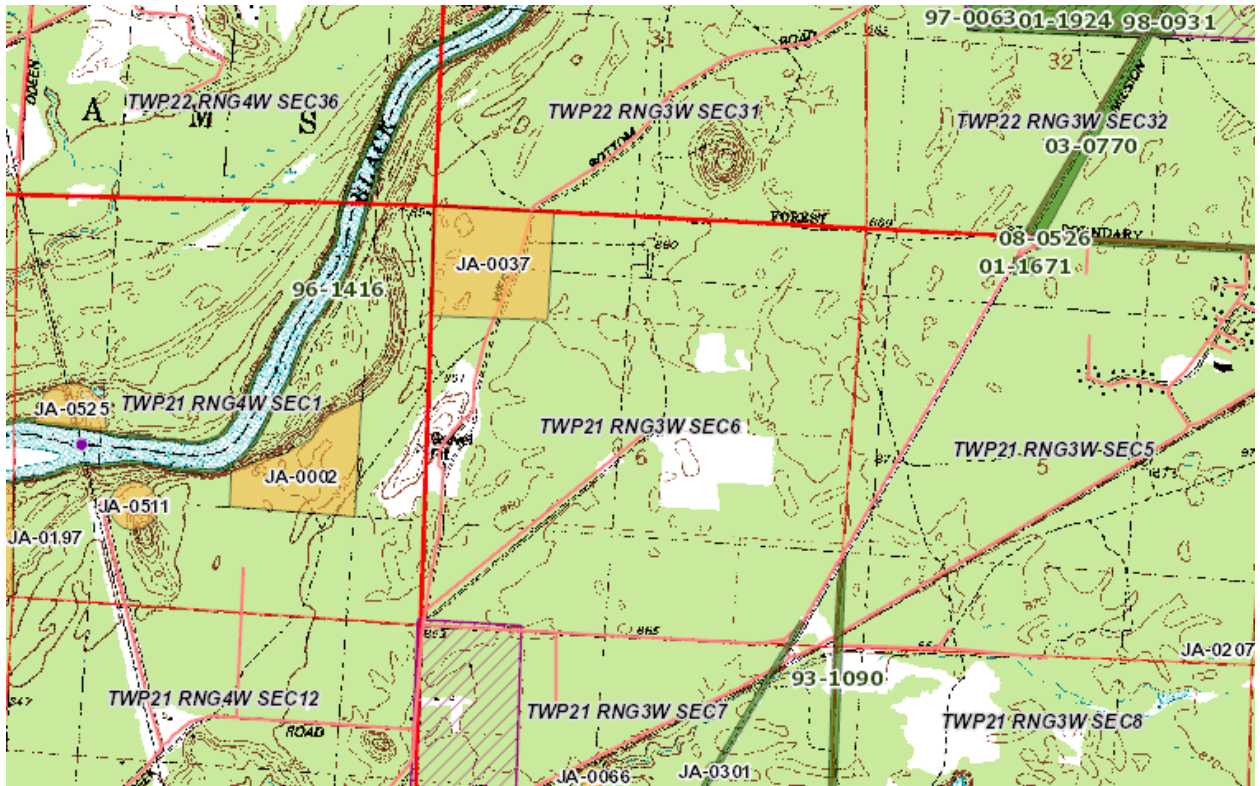
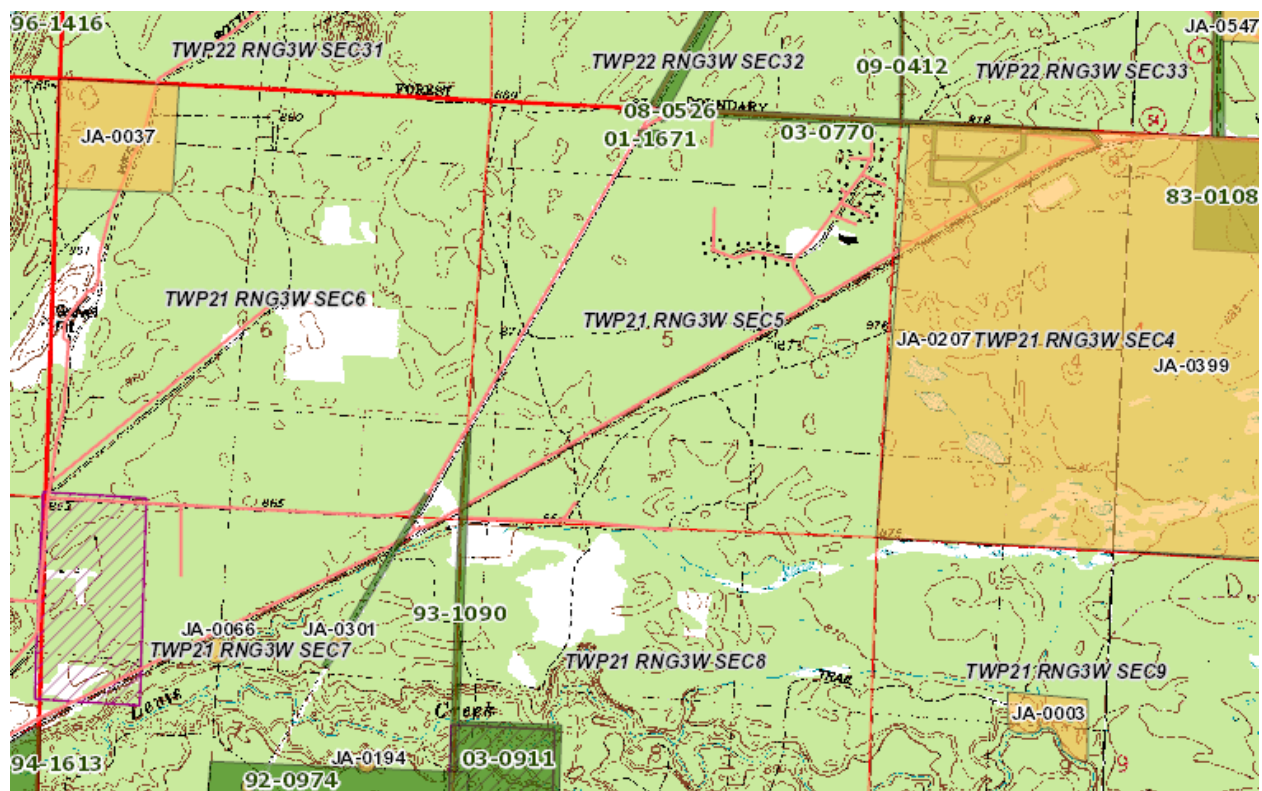


Figure 2 (set of three maps and table). HCN Wazee South Fee-to-Trust Archaeological Field Survey WHS ASI sites within a mile radius:

JA-0037	Campsite/Village
JA-0002	Campsite/Village
JA-0036	Campsite/Village
JA-0301	Isolated Finds
JA-0207	Campsite/Village
JA-0511	Lithic Scatter
JA-0302	Campsite/Village
JA-0444	HCM Concentration
JA-0569	Lithic Scatter – Campsite/Village
JA-0491	HCM Concentration
JA-0445	Foundation/Depression
JA-0446	HCM Concentration
JA-0490	Whitegull Family Burials
JA-0525	Lithic Scatter





Theiler, James and Robert F. Boszhardt

2003 Twelve Millennia: Archaeology of the Upper Mississippi River Valley. The University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, Iowa.

Websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov

2013 Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Appendix. Aerial Map of Wazee South.