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7. Abstract

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**Preliminary Geophysical Investigation of Burial Ground
218-W-4C,
Trenches #1 and #4, 200 West.**

Objective

The objective of these surveys was to determine the effectiveness of Ground-Penetrating Radar (GPR) for defining the depth and location of barrels in Burial Ground 218-W-4C, 200 West area (Figure 1). GPR data were collected in a portion of trench #1-module 3 and trench #4.

Ground-Penetrating Radar Methodology

The Ground-Penetrating Radar (GPR) system used for this work utilized a 300-megahertz (MHz) antenna to transmit the electromagnetic (EM) energy into the ground. A percentage of the transmitted energy is reflected back to a receiving antenna where variations in the return signal are recorded. Common reflectors include natural geologic conditions such as bedding, cementation, moisture and clay, or man-made objects such as pipes, barrels, foundations and buried wires.

Depth of penetration, which varies with changes in geology, ranged from 10 to 15 feet for this survey. The method is limited in depth by transmit power, receiver sensitivity and attenuation of the transmitted energy. Depth of investigation is also limited by highly conductive materials, such as metal drums, which reflect all the transmitted energy, preventing investigation below such objects.

Display and interpretation of the data are similar to that of seismic reflection data. In some areas interpretations can be straight forward, however, unknown parameters within a highly variable subsurface often yield complex data.

Data for these surveys were collected with a Geophysical Survey Systems Inc. (GSSI) Subsurface Interface Radar (SIR)[™] System 8, model 4800 and digitally stored on a GSSI DT6000A tape drive. A recording window of 100 nanoseconds, two-way travel time, was used.

Grid Location

The survey boundaries are rectangular, measuring 20 feet by 40 feet and 35 feet by 60 feet for trenches #1 and #4 respectively. Green stakes mark the corners of the grid. The long axis of each

[™] A trademark of Geophysical Survey Systems Inc. (GSSI).

survey strikes approximately east-west and all distances were measured and posted in feet. The southwestern corner of the grids are designated E100/N100 and serve as the "origins" for the survey locations. The letters "N" or "E" refer to a direction that trends generally north or east respectively. The number refers to a distance in feet. For example, grid point E135/N120 lies 35 feet "east" and 20 feet "north" of grid point E100/N100.

Data were collected along two sets of profiles perpendicular to each other. Spacing between profiles was 5 feet .

Quality Control

These data were collected using procedures in WHC-CM-7-7 EII 11.2, Rev. 3, Environmental Investigations and Site Characterization Manual, Westinghouse Hanford Company. The data and records are stored in the Geophysics files. Figure 2 summarizes survey parameters.

Results

TRENCH #1, MODULE 3

The GPR data depicted three areas that are dominated by a strong reflective horizon 3-4 feet below the surface (Figure 3). The reflectors are interpreted to be the top of the uppermost barrels. GPR cannot see below this reflector. Two anomalies, seven and nine feet below the surface, were identified at N104/E133 and N118/E133. They appear to be isolated from the interpreted stack of barrels, but have a signature similar in character to that expected from an isolated barrel.

TRENCH #4

The western most edge of the buried barrels appears to be approximately E145 between N107 and N125, approaching E150 north of N125 (Figure 4). A north-south trending linear was detected about 4 feet below the surface near E142 between N110 and N135. The source of the linear is unknown but appears to be a result of localized soil conditions. Two additional disturbed zones were detected that may represent localized soil conditions, however, the possibility of the linear and disturbed zones being from buried man-made debris should not be eliminated without further investigation.

Recommendations

Locations and depths could be refined by using a 500-MHz antenna and by leveling the site prior to data collection. A 500-MHz

antenna will increase resolution but by itself would limit the depth of investigation to around 5 feet rather than the 10-15 feet achieved with the 300-MHz antenna. Collecting data with both 300-MHz and 500-MHz antennas would provide information from 5-15 feet and increase the resolution from 0-5 feet.

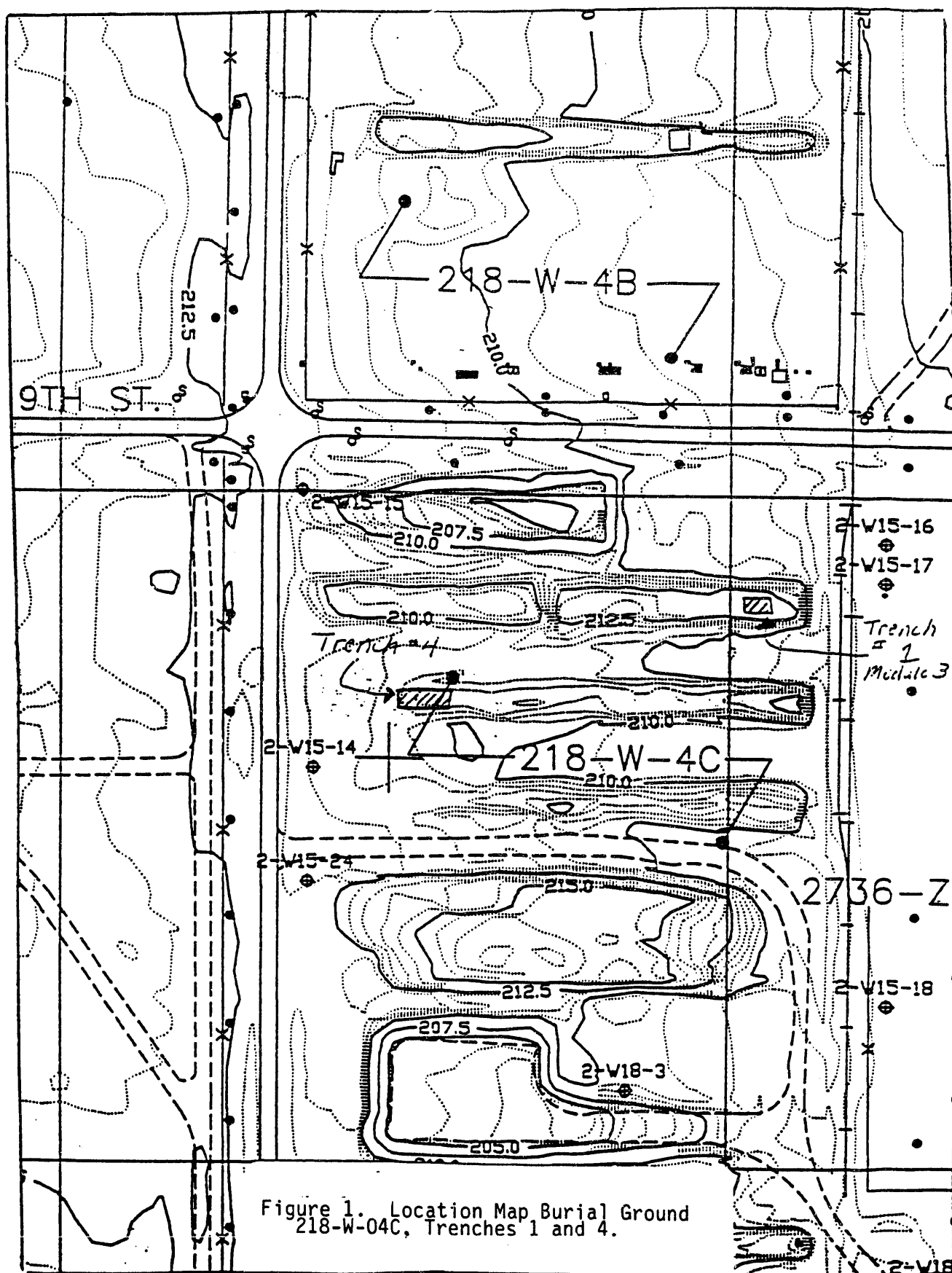


Figure 1. Location Map Burial Ground 218-W-04C, Trenches 1 and 4.

GROUND PENETRATING RADAR (GPR) SURVEY

Team Geophysics, Westinghouse Hanford Operations

TITLE: 218-W-4C TRENCHES 1 & 4		DATE: 5-25-93
LOCATION: 200 West Area, West of PFP		
CLIENT: Mark Kerns	DATA COLLECTED BY K.A. Bergstrom & T.H. Mitchell	
EQUIPMENT USED: GSSI System 8, model 4800 Calibrator Model P731 Digital Tape Recoder DT6000A	ANTENNA(S) USED: 100 _____ 300 <u>XX</u> 100 BISTATIC _____	
	LOG BOOK: EFL 1052	
	TIME WINDOW (NS): 100	
PROCEDURES FOLLOWED: WHC-CM-7-7 EII 11.2, REV. 3		
GRID : <u>35x60(4)</u> NO. OF PROFILES: <u>33</u> TOTAL FOOTAGE COLLECTED: <u>1200</u> <u>20x40(1)</u>		
PARAMETERS: Both sites had Two sets of perpendicular profiles; five feet between profiles.		
DATA TAPE NO.: <u>93-14</u> RECORDS LOCATION: <u>Geophysical files</u>		
TAPE ADDRESS : <u>0-12588</u> CALIBRATION ADDRESS: <u>16858-17307</u> <u>12588-17307</u>		
INTERPRETED BY : <u>K. A. Bergstrom</u> REVIEWED BY : <u>T.H. Mitchell</u>		
INTERPRETATION DELIVERED TO <u>Mark Kerns</u> DATE : _____		
OBJECTIVE(S): To determine the effectiveness of GPR in the 200 burial grounds.		
NOTES: Antenna pulled by hand at 1-2 mph. 50-meter cable. Pulled on south and east side of survey marks.		

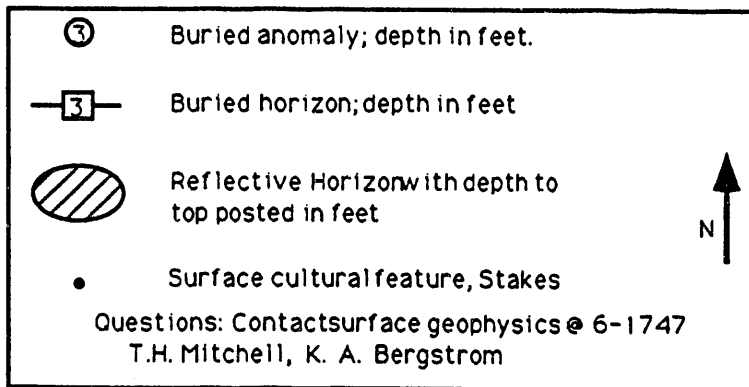
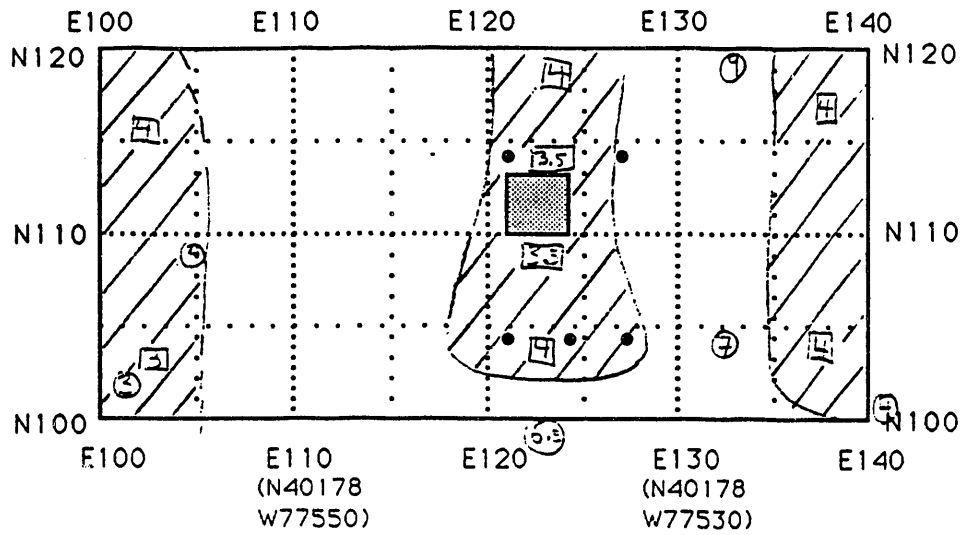


Figure 3 Geophysical survey interpretation map of 218-W-4C, trench #1.

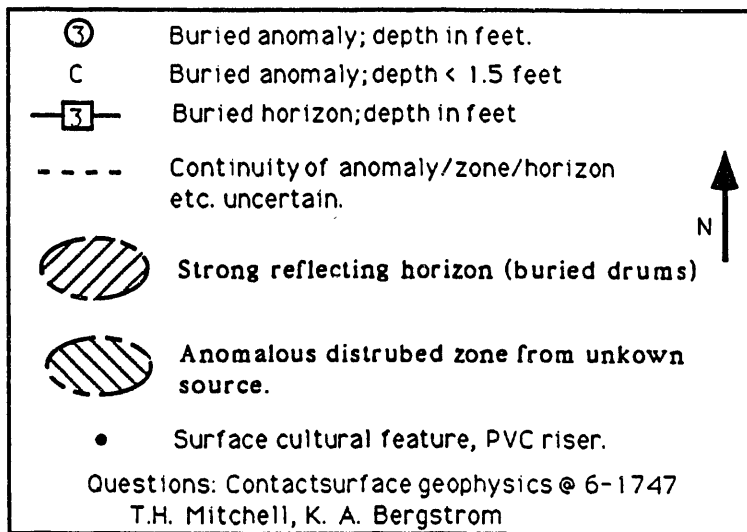
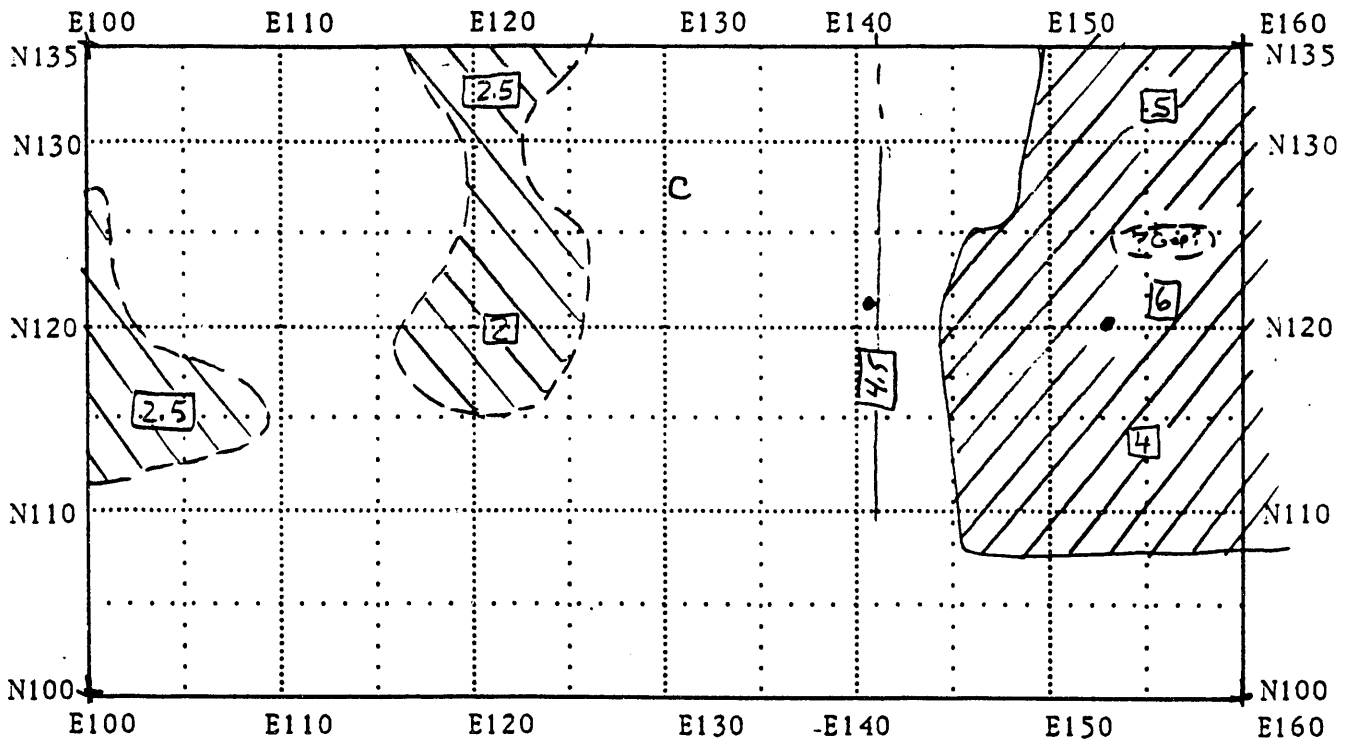


Figure 4 . Interpretation Map. 218-W-4C, Trench #4, 200 West.

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