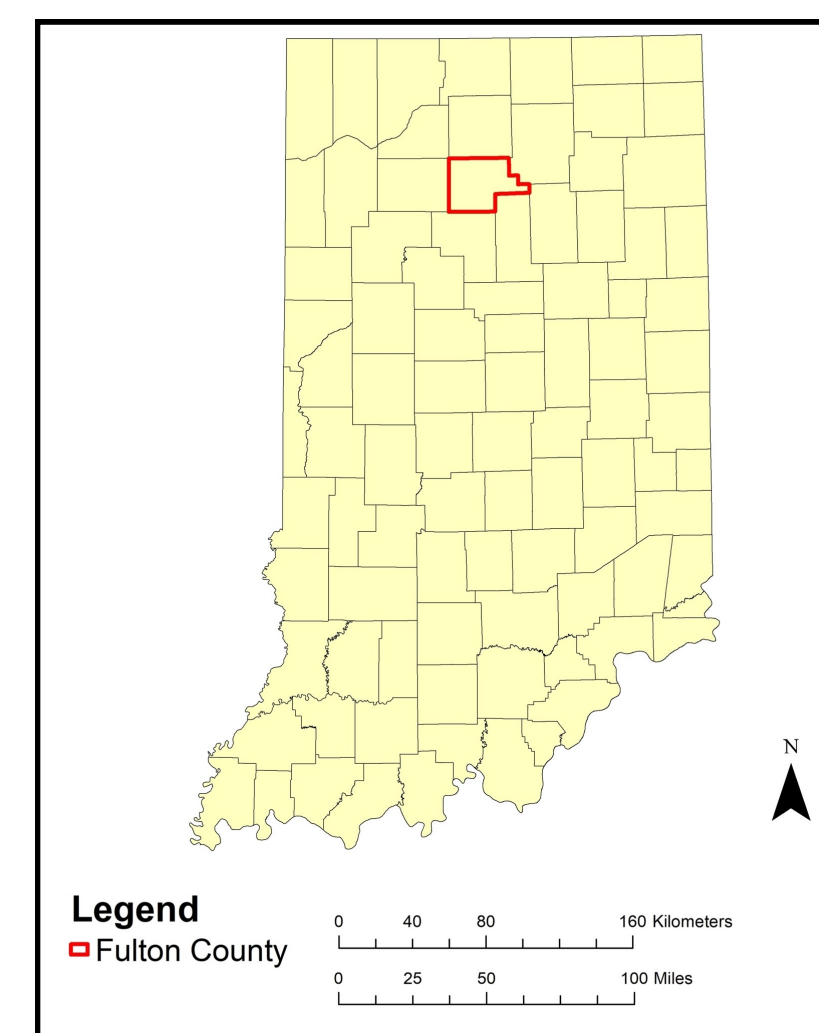


# Archaeological Survey of a Data Deficient Region: Survey of >900 acres in Southern Fulton County, Indiana

Cecilia Szmuto, Lindsey Cron, Christine Thompson, and Kevin C. Nolan

## Abstract

The Applied Anthropology Laboratories (AAL) conducted a data enhancement project for archaeological resources in Fulton County, Indiana funded by a FY2017 Historic Preservation Fund Grant. This project focused on four south-central townships (Henry, Liberty, Union, and Wayne), and General Land Office (GLO) sites in Rochester Township. A total of 924 acres of agricultural land was surveyed, identifying 108 new archaeological sites. The survey recovered 94 prehistoric artifacts and 1,806 historic artifacts. Cultural periods represented in the artifact assemblage include precontact era Early Archaic and Late Woodland components, in addition to 65 Historic components. Six sites were recommended for additional research and are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

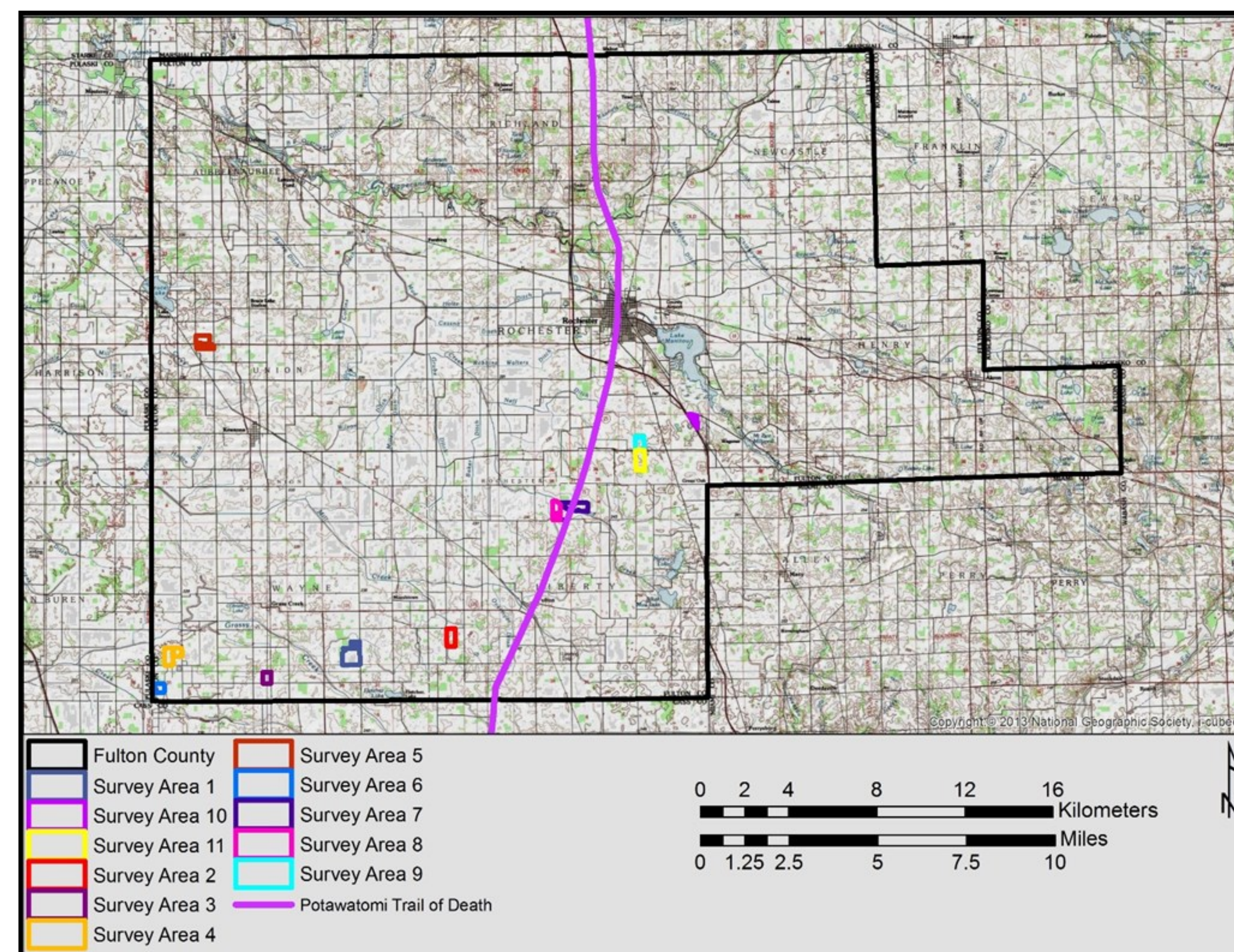


## Introduction

The main goals of the project were to increase the number of sites listed in the State Historic Architecture and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD), refine the cultural chronology for the county, examine evidence for early Euro-American settlement, explore potential Potawatomi settlements, resolve inconsistencies in the SHAARD database, and investigate up to 10 sites recorded in the General Land Office (GLO) survey records. The project area was selected due to the identification of Fulton County as a data-deficient county. Fulton County had 58 archaeological sites recorded in the SHAARD database prior to the start of this survey (Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology 2007). The 924 acres of surveyed land included 4.36 acres of resurveyed area.

## Methods

Eleven different parcels within the south and central townships of Fulton County were surveyed between August 26 and November 26, 2017 with pedestrian transects spaced 10 meters apart. In addition, three GLO sites (12-Fu-22, 12-Fu-36, 12-Fu-37), originally recorded in 1834, were reinvestigated to better determine their location. When a site was located, a closer interval pedestrian survey was conducted within a 5 meter radius of the initial find. Dense artifact scatters over large areas were plotted with a GPS every 5 meters and artifacts in the site were grouped together as such. Significant Historic sites were compared to various nineteenth century atlases to determine whether historic structures may be associated with them.



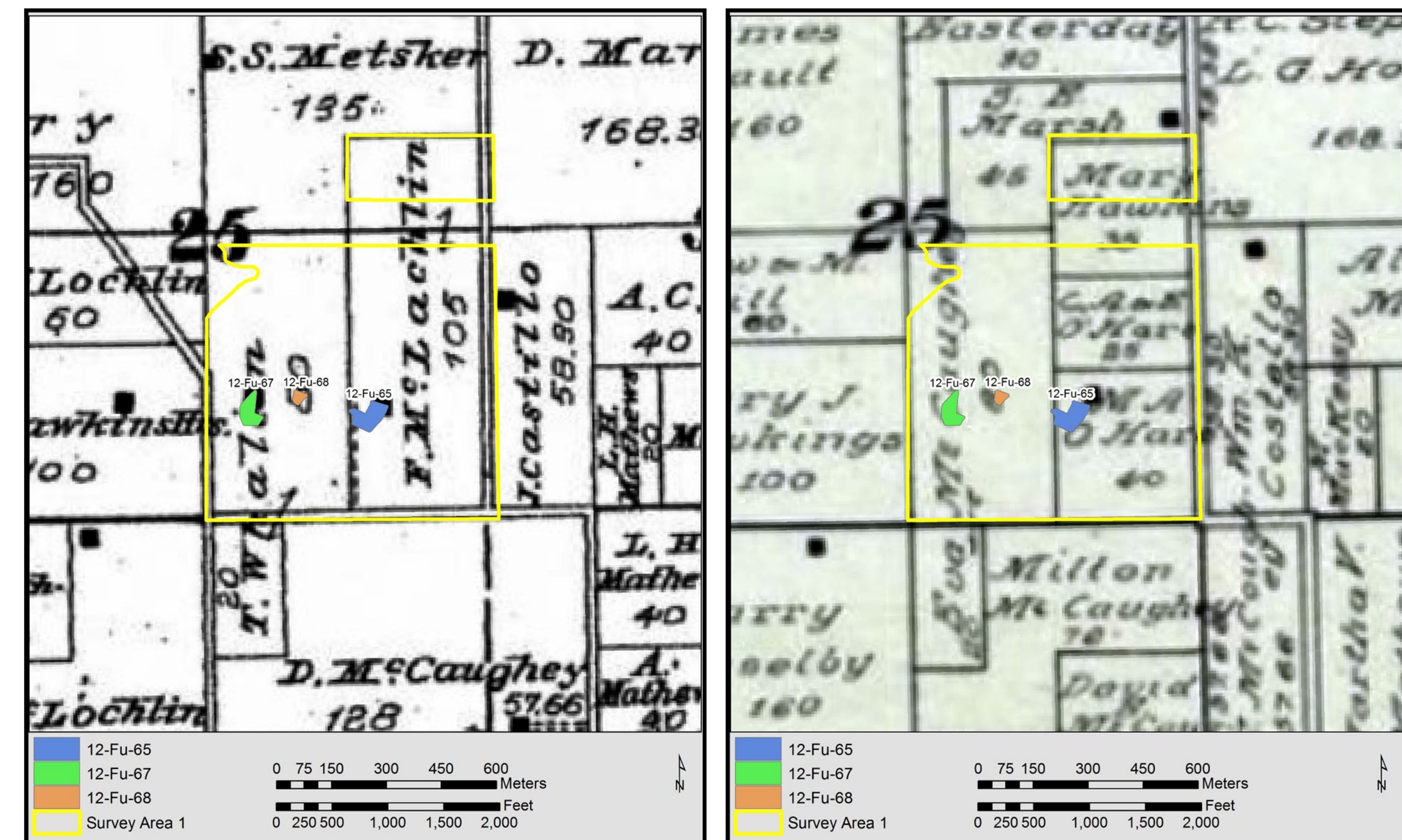
## Case Study

A total of 160.76 acres was surveyed in Survey Area 1. Survey Area 1 consists of moraine and till plain landforms and Riddles fine sandy loam (RIA) soils. Twenty-nine sites (12-Fu-60 to 12-Fu-88) and 1,144 artifacts were located on this parcel. Among these sites are two of the largest historic scatters (12-Fu-65 and 12-Fu-67) recorded during our FY17 survey. The landowner explained prior to survey that these areas correspond with two “Civil War era” houses and farmsteads. A 1883 historic atlas (Kingman 1975) verified the landowner's description as the atlas showed two historic structures in the same area as 12-Fu-65 and 12-Fu-67 (left map). However, a 1907 historic atlas (Geo. A Ogle & Co. 1907) shows the western most parcel had changed ownership and one of the structures was no longer standing (right map). The manufacturing ranges of the majority of artifacts recovered also fell within the mid to late nineteenth century. The majority of artifacts at these sites were historic ceramics (n=152) and (n=181) respectively. Both sites 12-Fu-65 and 12-Fu-67 also have an unidentified prehistoric component. Site 12-Fu-65 contained one flake and 12-Fu-67 had two flakes.

Based on density and diversity of artifacts and the variety of activities represented, sites 12-Fu-65 and 12-Fu-67 have the potential to yield additional information beyond the Phase I level of early settlement and economic activity of late-19<sup>th</sup> through early 20<sup>th</sup> century Fulton County. Therefore, these sites are considered potentially eligible for inclusion to National Register of Historic Places under criteria A for the period of Euro-American expansion into the Great Lakes region and criteria D for its potential to yield information on settlement during the historic period in Fulton County.

## Results

As a result of this survey, 108 new archaeological sites were recorded. Ninety-four prehistoric artifacts and 1,806 historic artifacts were recovered. The average site density encountered was one site per 11.6 acres. Of the 108 archaeological sites identified during the FY2017 project, 46 are classified as Unidentified Prehistoric and 65 sites have a Historic component dating primarily from the early 18th century to present. The identified precontact components consisted of one Early Archaic site, one Late Archaic site, and two Late Woodland/Mississippian sites. Diagnostic projectile points collected from these sites include 1 St. Charles Dovetail, 1 Brewerton Side-Notched, and 2 Madison points respectively. Two of the most intriguing sites encountered (12-Fu-65 and 12-Fu-67) yielded hundreds of diagnostic Historic artifacts along with a few flakes. A consultation of historic atlases dating to 1876 (Andreas 1968) showed two structures that once stood where each site was found.



## Discussion/Conclusion

This project has added to the cultural chronology of the county with the addition of 108 new archaeological sites, making the total 166 sites in Fulton County. In addition, two of the four projectile points recovered from the survey were previously unrecorded in the county, thus refining our knowledge of Prehistoric occupation and chronology within the county. Six high density sites (12-Fu-65, 12-Fu-67, 12-Fu-68, 12-Fu-98, 12-Fu-126, and 12-Fu-139) which yielded numerous diagnostic materials were considered potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Three of these sites, (12-Fu-65, 12-Fu-67, and 12-Fu-139) were likely associated with Historic structures dating between 1883 to 1907 (Andreas 1968; Geo. A. Ogle & Co. 1907; Kingman 1975). In sum, 119 site components were added to the archaeological record of Fulton County as a result of our survey, of which there were only 56 prior.

## References

- Andreas, Alfred T  
1968 *Maps of Indiana Counties in 1876*. Baskin, Forester & Co., Chicago, Illinois.  
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology  
2007 State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD). <https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/shaard/welcome.html>, accessed November 2017 to March 2018.  
Geo. A. Ogle & Co  
1907 *Standard Atlas of Fulton County, Indiana: Including a Plat Book*. Geo. A. Ogle & Co. Chicago, Illinois.  
Kingman, A.L.  
1975 *Combination Atlas Map of Fulton County, Indiana: compiled, drawn and published from personal examinations and surveys by A.L. Kingman*. Fulton County Historical Society, Fulton County, Rochester, Indiana.  
Szmuto, Cecilia, Lindsey Cron, Tyler Reinholt, Matthew P. Purtil, Kevin C. Nolan, and Christine Thompson  
2017 *An Archaeological Survey of Fulton County: Enhancement of a Data Deficient Region*.

## Acknowledgements

This project has been funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. The project received federal financial assistance for the identification, protection, and/or rehabilitation of historic properties and cultural resources in the State of Indiana. However, the contents and opinions contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the U.S. Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability in its federally assisted programs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-2740, Washington, D.C. 20240.



Points from L to R: Brewerton Side-Notched, two Madison, St. Charles Dovetail

