

3240 CYRUS ROAD (COMPLEX)
Cyrus
Wayne County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-268

HABS
WVA
50-CYRUS,
3-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

3240 CYRUS ROAD (COMPLEX)

HABS No. WV-268

HABS
WVA
50-CYRUS,
3-

- Location: 3240 Cyrus Road (County Road 1/6), at Cyrus, Wayne County, West Virginia
- UTM Coordinates: 17. 362495. 4241035
USGS Quadrangle: Burnaugh, West Virginia/ Kentucky
- Present Owner: Cyrus Dock Company, Inc., Belle, West Virginia
- Present Occupant: None
- Present Use: Unoccupied
- Significance: The buildings at 3240 Cyrus Road consist of a house, built between 1892 and 1901, and its four more recent outbuildings. The property is considered to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The House (WV-268-A) probably was built as a rental residential property in anticipation of population increase or commercial development thought likely to result from completion in 1904 of the Kenova and Big Sandy Railroad. Adult residents of the house, predominantly renters, were employed in non-farm work, commercial and domestic. The Privy (WV-268-B), a contributing structure, was built by W.P.A. workers in 1936, and was brought to the lot in 1962. The Tool Room Shed (WV-268-C), a minor structure, was moved to its site from a nearby Norfolk and Western section maintenance yard. The Wash House (WV-268-D), a minor structure, was built around 1968.
- Project Information: This documentation was undertaken by the Cyrus Dock Co., Inc., in June of 1992, in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement of October, 1991, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District, as a mitigative measure prior to construction of the Cyrus Dock Company's coal loading facility on the Big Sandy River.

Douglas L. Bailey, Consulting Archaeologist
618 Grant Street, Fairborn, Ohio 45324

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Location and Setting The historic property at 3240 Cyrus Road (Complex) (HABS No. WV-268) consists of five buildings: the House (268-A), the Privy (268-B), the Tool Room Shed (268-C), the Wash House (268-D), and a small metal shed. The five buildings are located on Lot 21 in the small, unincorporated village of White's Creek, in Ceredo Township, Wayne County, West Virginia. The locale today is known as Cyrus, the name of the village's former train stop on the Norfolk and Western's Big Sandy line.

The five buildings face the road and are square with the lot lines, and are arranged along the north third of the lot. The site of the house has not been changed as far as can be determined, but the original and former arrangements of most former outbuildings are unknown. However, the site of an early privy (pre-1916) is still apparent, and, sometime after World War Two, a sweet-potato bin sat to the northwest rear of the lot. Presently, four outbuildings occur in a loose cluster to the rear of the house, an arrangement achieved over recent decades. The Tool Room Shed (268-C) and Privy (268-B) were moved to the lot in 1962 and have been re-sited on the lot at least once each. The Wash House (268-D) was built around 1968. These buildings were sited in the manner described, not merely for convenience, but to leave enough room for a house trailer (sited ca. 1965-1975) at the back of the lot, then along its south side, 1975-1986), and for a house garden.

Date of House Construction The house at 3240 Cyrus Road was built between 1892 and 1901. County land books record no buildings on Lot 21 until 1892, when the lot was owned by John Lockwood (1836-1899). Between 1892-1898 the value in buildings was \$200, but no buildings are indicated for the years 1899-1900. In 1901 the new owner, merchant William A. Connally, was taxed for buildings worth \$100, a house newly built or perhaps moved (an outcome of a suit in chancery) from the now-vacant adjacent lot, No. 22, where Connally may have had the house built as early as 1892.

The house probably was built as a rental residential property in anticipation of local population increase or commercial development thought likely to be caused by the construction of the Kenova and Big Sandy Railroad, which opened for rail traffic in 1904. Adult residents of the house, who were predominantly renters, were employed in non-farm work, commercial and domestic.

For its first 60 years or so, the house and lot were rented out by a succession of owners, the first of whom was William A. Connally, a merchant from Portsmouth, Ohio. After 1904 the house was owned locally, in succession by members of the Johnson (1904-1941), Piles-Brown (1941-1948), and Chadwick (after 1948) families, who often rented the house to relatives. Several of its owners – George W.

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Johnson, Herman Johnson, Jesse R. Piles, and Frank Chadwick -- owned many of the lots in the village of White's Creek (Cyrus). For the last 30 years (1962-1991), the house was owned by Eustace Chadwick (b. 1922) -- its only resident-owner -- who lived there with wife Maxine Chadwick (1925-1984) and son Alvin.

Mack Fraley. The house's most memorable renter was M.C. "Mack" Fraley (pronounced "Friley"), who lived in the house with wife Kate and daughter Helen. Until his death Fraley (1846-1922) ran the last johnboat ferry across the Big Sandy River between Lockwood Station, Kentucky, and the public landing at White's Creek. Fraley also helped run the White's Creek Post Office [HABS No. WV-270] when George B. Dixon was postmaster, and met the mail trains at Cyrus Station.

Cyrus Dock Company. The Cyrus Dock Company purchased the buildings and Lot 21 in 1991. The company intends to raze the buildings in the near future.

Sources:

Wayne County Clerk's Office, Wayne, West Virginia
Birth, Death, and Marriage Records
Deeds
Land Books [Tax Assessments]
Wills

Eustace A. "Buck" Chadwick
Interview by D.L. Bailey, 1-2 P.M., August 10, 1992

Miss Caroline Cyrus
Interview by D.L. Bailey, 6: 30-8:30 P.M., February 2, 1993

Clifford Smith
Interview by D.L. Bailey, 2: 30-4:30 P.M., February 15, 1993

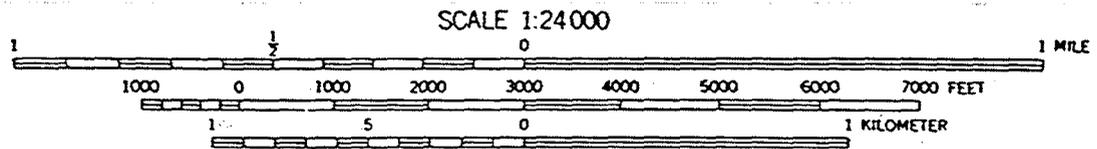
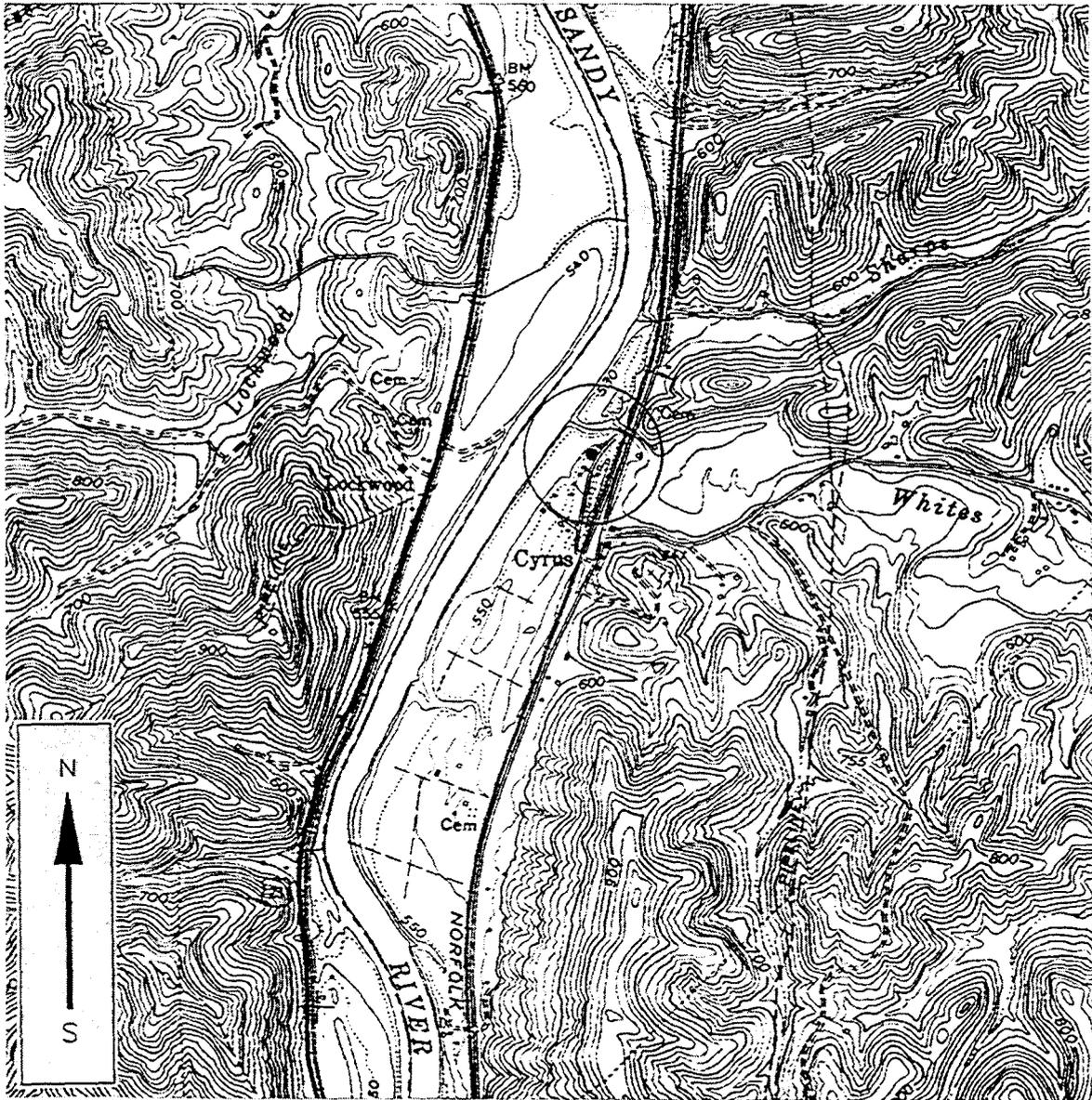
Historian:

Douglas L. Bailey, Consulting Archaeologist
618 Grant Street, Fairborn, Ohio 45324
May 31, 1994

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LOCATION MAP

Portion of USGS Topographic Quadrangle: Burnaugh, Kentucky/ West Virginia
Scale of 1:24,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL - 20 FEET

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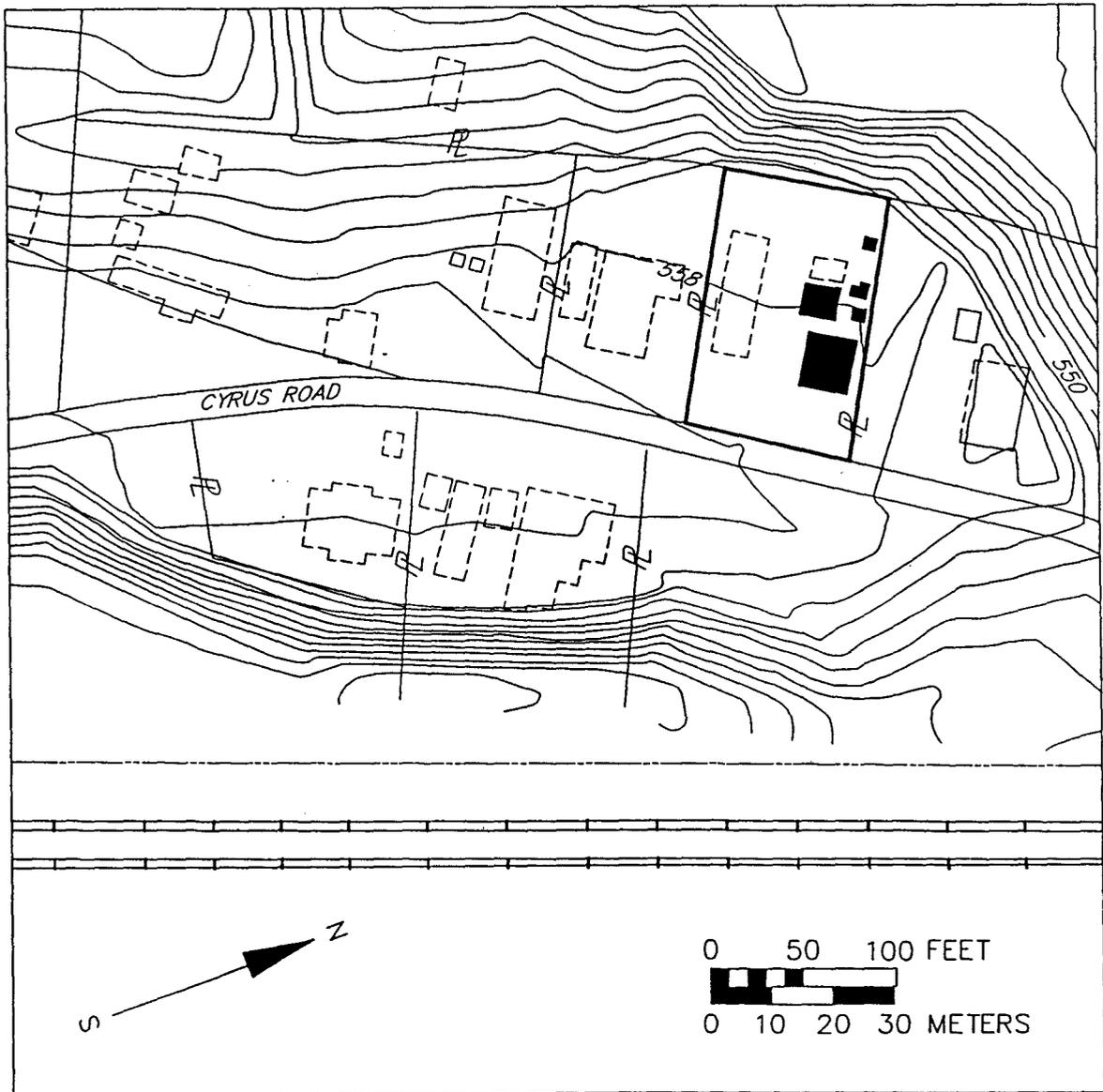
LOCALE MAP

Annotated portion of:

Cyrus Dock Company, Inc.

1992 Supplemental Map: Modification No. 1, DEP Permit No. 0-5003-91,
NPDES Permit No. WV 1010808, MSHA I.D. No. 46-07946. April, 1992.

Scale 1 inch: 100 feet, or 1: 1200.



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SITE MAP
(Based on field data collected by D. Bailey, 1992)

