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## 45-Archaeological Survey of the Three Oaks Manor Project, Berrien County, Michigan

Elizabeth B. Garland  
*Western Michigan University*

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ELIZABETH B. GARLAND

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE THREE OAKS  
MANOR PROJECT, BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

1980

REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS, NO. 45

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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DEPT. OF ANTHROPOLOGY

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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6  
FBS  
Aug.  
1980

Archaeological Survey of a 5-Acre Parcel  
Owned by Birney W. Crosby in the Village  
of Three Oaks, Berrien County, Michigan  
aka Three Oaks Manor Project,

## Introduction

This project was undertaken in response to a telephone request by Mr. Jeff A. Gardner of Lakewood Management Company, Kalamazoo, on July 22, 1980, following some preliminary telephone conversations and correspondence during June-July.

The field work was carried out on Saturday, July 26, 1980.

## Project Personnel

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth B. Garland, Ph.D.  
Field Supervisor: William Mangold, M.A. candidate  
Field Assistant: Deborah Rhead, M.A. candidate

## Description of the Survey Area

The parcel surveyed is located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ -MW $\frac{1}{4}$ -NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 10 of Three Oaks Township (USGS Three Oaks 7.5' Quadrangle). The parcel comprises about 5 acres owned by Birney W. Crosby on the south side of West Locust Street in the village of Three Oaks (see sketch map). The parcel had been staked by land surveyors prior to our survey so that the boundaries were readily identifiable. Most of the parcel was planted in soybeans which were 12" to 24" high at the time of survey. Ground visibility was excellent. The northern section of the parcel adjacent to West Locust Street has been filled, as evidenced by the presence of broken asphalt, broken sewer tile and modern household debris.

## Previous Archaeological Research in the Area

William Mangold, field supervisor on this project and a life-long resident of Three Oaks, states that isolated finds of prehistoric artifacts are frequently found in the fields surrounding Three Oaks. Mr. Mangold has conducted an archaeological survey of the Galien River Basin which is in press in The Michigan Archaeologist. He reports that woodland sites are uncommon in the Galien Basin, which includes this project area. Almost all of the sites he has recorded may be placed somewhere in the Archaic period.

There are twenty-four known prehistoric sites in Three Oaks Township, many of which are not yet recorded in the state site files (William Mangold, personal communication). There are three sites within approximately 1 mile of the project area 20BE226 (undetermined), 20BE271 (Archaic), and a recently discovered site in Section 15, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , which is probably Archaic.

## Field Methods

Archaeological survey was carried out by two surveyors walking across the parcel and closely examining the surface, separated by four rows of soybeans. The parcel was crossed and recrossed in this manner until the entire cultivated area was surveyed. Good surface visibility obviated the need for shovel testing. Surveyors could note objects two rows to each side which means that a very high percentage of the ground surface of the parcel was actually observed.

## Survey Results

Two prehistoric artifacts were recovered in the course of the survey. These must be regarded as isolated finds since no fire-cracked rock or chippage was encountered anywhere within the parcel. In an effort to locate context for these artifacts, the surveyors examined the ridge which lies on the southern edge of the parcel (sketch map). The ridge is also under cultivation and visibility was excellent. No cultural material of any kind was found on the ridge.

The two artifacts are illustrated in Figure 1. One tool is a broken biface whose original form and function are somewhat uncertain. It may be a fragmentary projectile point. It was made on a fine grained blue-grey speckled chert. The margin exhibits fine, regular bifacial pressure retouch of a kind most commonly seen on Archaic tools.

The second artifact is a retouched flake of buff colored chert which exhibits a non-abraded striking platform and a bulb of percussion. The ventral lateral margin exhibits pressure flaking. It is non-diagnostic as to cultural period.

## Recommendations

Our survey did not produce evidence of a site of prehistoric or historic significance. In the absence of any context indicating an encampment, the two prehistoric artifacts recovered should be regarded as isolated finds. It is therefore recommended that planned development on this parcel will have no adverse impact on cultural resources and should proceed as scheduled.

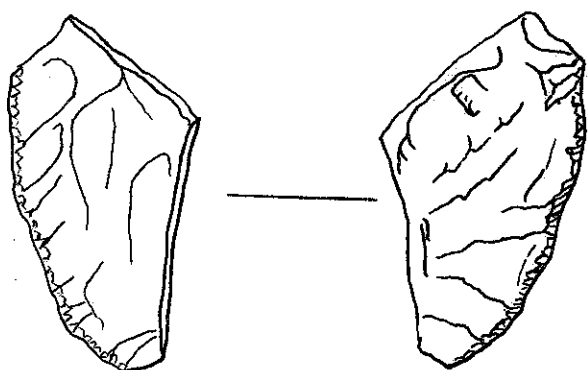
Report prepared and submitted by

Elizabeth B. Garland, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator

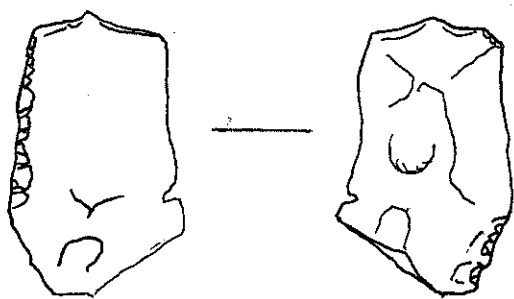
August 1, 1980

Figure 1

bitace



retouched flake

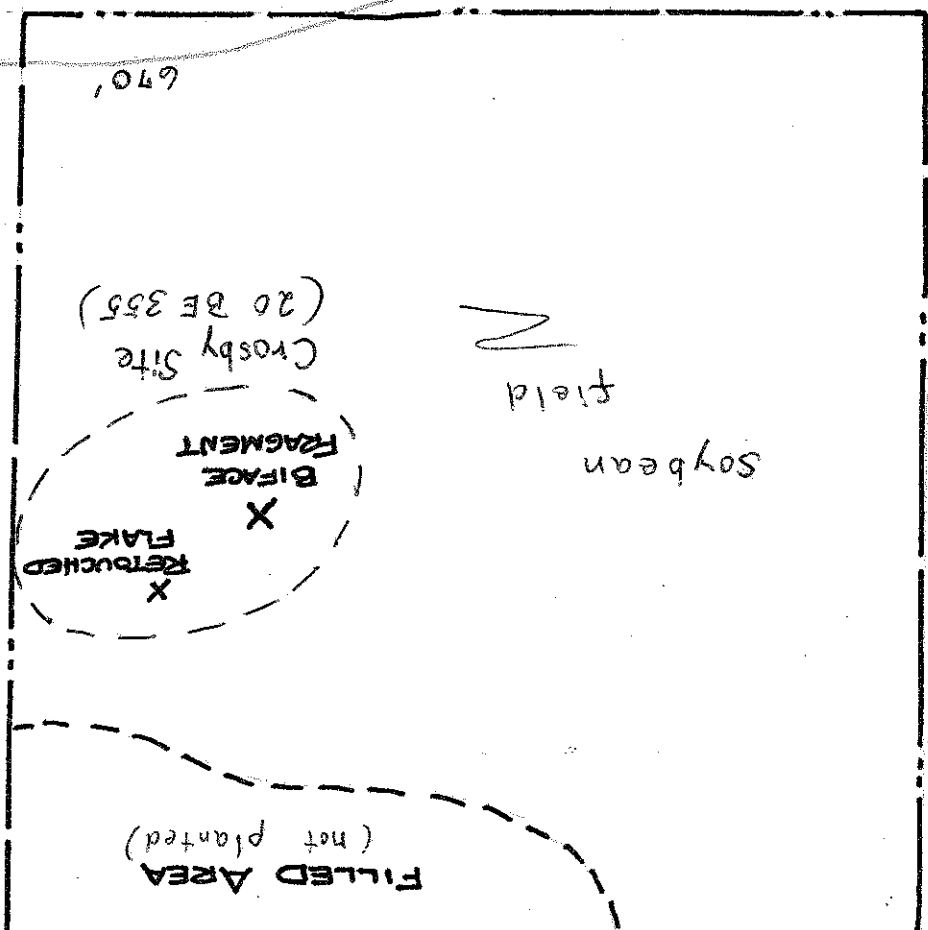




1" = APPROX. 100'

JIM HALL FORD, INC.

WEST LOCUST STREET

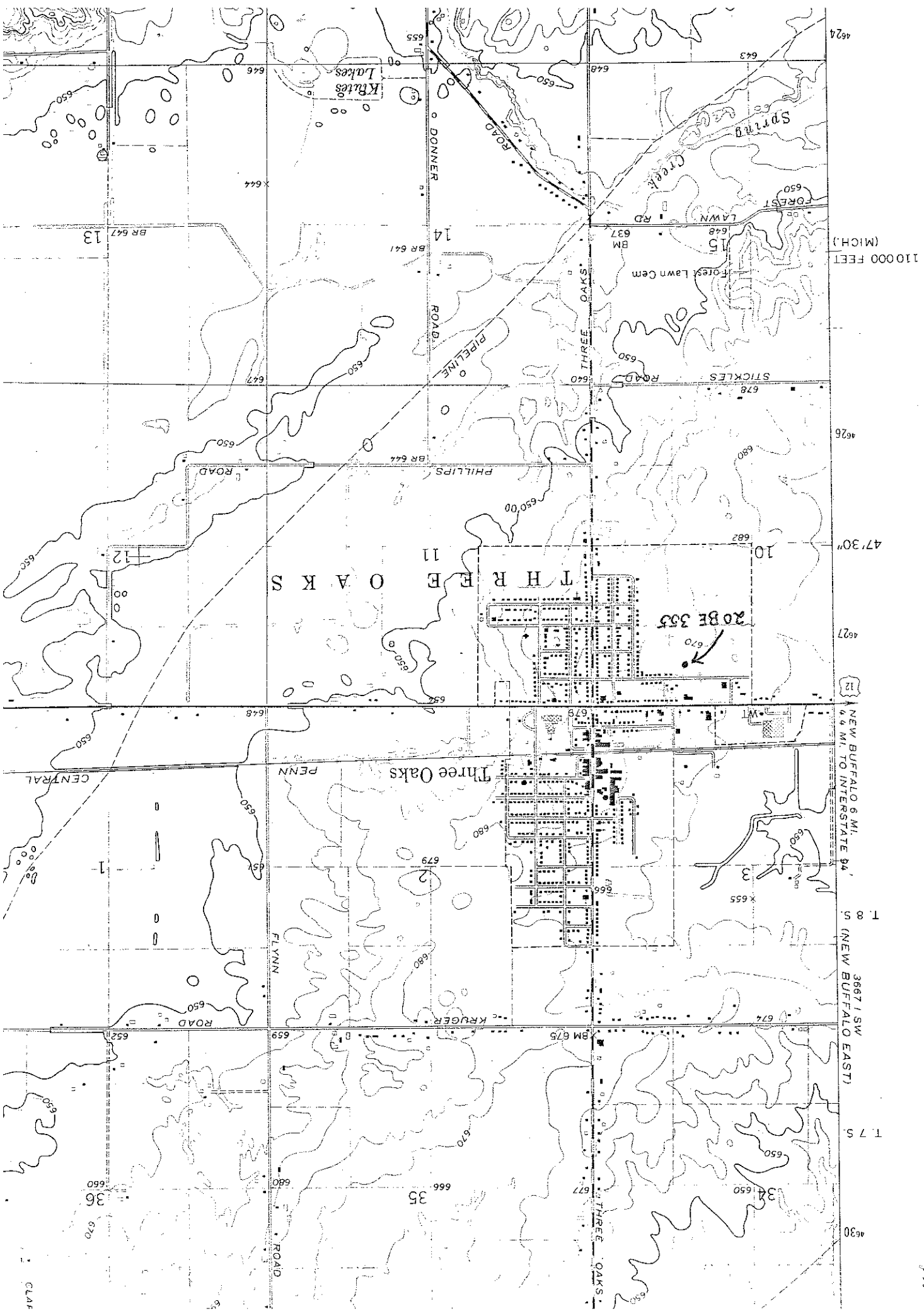


RIDGE

PROPERTY OF BIRNEY W. & MARJORIE  
CROSBY  
Three Oaks, MI.



WLM 80



110000 FEET (MICH.)

47° 30'

12

NEW BUFFALO 6 MI. TO INTERSTATE 94

1.8 S. (NEW BUFFALO EAST)

36671 SW

1.7 S.

4630



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
FIELD SHEET - ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE SURVEY

Site number 20 BF 355

County Berrien Township Three Oaks Name Crosby  
Quarter Sec. NE - NW - NE Town 8 - S Range 30 - W USGS Quadrangle Three Oaks 7.5'  
Owner Birney Crosby Address R #2, Box 5, Three Oaks Cultural Classification  
Occupant Address  
Archae

Attitude toward excavation Possibility of destruction

Type of site find spot Approximate size

Topography flat, ridge to south Elevation 666 - 670'

Surface features Kind of soil sandy clay

Vegetation cultivated

Type of artifacts from site

1 bifacial fragment no debris or fire-cracked rock

1 retouched flake

Location of collections: Surface collections ✓

Western Mich. Univ.

Catalog numbers Excavated Material no

Published references

Unpublished references (Manuscripts, notes)

WMU public archaeology files

Photographic record

Source of this information:

Actual visit to site ✓ Contract survey correspondence

Publications

Conversation

Unpublished accounts

This record by Elizabeth Garland Date Aug. 5, 1980

Remarks

# NOTICE OF INTENT REVIEW

This form is for the use of state Departments communicating to the state clearinghouse the results of their review of proposed federally-assisted projects, as provided in the Project Notification and Review Procedures as revised. Each Department should keep a supply of this form on hand for such use. Each part of the form must be completed as indicated to insure appropriate clearinghouse action.

Date		5/28/80
2. Applicant		Three Oaks Manor
3. SCH File No.		10.415
6. Respondent's Phone No.		517/373-0510
5. Name & Signature of Respondent		Martha M Bigelow <i>Martha M. Bigelow</i>
Department		
State		

With respect to the above referenced Notice of Intent, the Department named above:

☒ (COMMENT) wishes the comments written below forwarded to the applicant.

☐ (CONFERENCE) requests a conference with the applicant (indicate below the issues to be discussed at such a possible conference).

☐ (APPLICATION) requests a copy of the complete application for review (indicate below the issues prompting such request).

Based on the project's topographic situation and presence of other nearby sites, Dr. John R. Halsey, State Archaeologist, believes that there is a significant chance that the project area may contain archaeological sites. He recommends that an archaeological survey of the property be conducted. Should you have any questions, please contact Dr. Halsey or his assistant, Barbara Mead at the above number.

Michigan History Division  
Department of State  
208 North Capitol Avenue  
Lansing, Michigan 48916