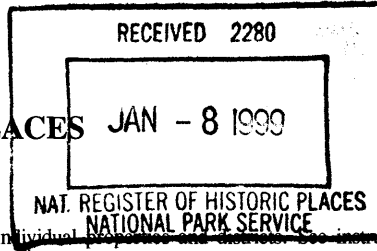


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



Result  
97001550

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Parker's Crossroads Battlefield

other names/site number 40HE118

2. Location

street & number State Route 22 not for publication N/A

city or town Parker's Crossroads vicinity X

state Tennessee code TN county Henderson code 077 zip code 38061

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally      statewide X locally.  
(     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert L. Hays Date 12/7/98  
Signature of certifying official

     Deputy SHPO, Tennessee Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

     Signature of commenting or other official      Date

     State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register      See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register      See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

     other (explain):     

     Signature of     

Mary M. Way 2/22/99

### 5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)    Category of Property (Check only one box)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local       | <input type="checkbox"/> district        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal     | <input type="checkbox"/> structure       |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> object          |

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count).

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>  0  </u>	<u> 67 </u>	buildings
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  4 </u>	sites
<u>  0  </u>	<u> 17 </u>	structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0 </u>	objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u> 88 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register  0 

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic and Historic Archaeological Resources of the American Civil War in Tennessee

### 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <u>DEFENSE</u>                          | Battle Site <u>                                </u>                   |
| <u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>          | <u>Agricultural Field</u> <u>                                </u>     |
| <u>LANDSCAPE</u>                        | <u>Forest</u> <u>  </u> |
| <u>TRANSPORTATION</u>                   | <u>Road-Related</u> <u>                                </u>           |
| <u>                                </u> | <u>  </u>               |
| <u>                                </u> | <u>  </u>               |

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>          | <u>Agricultural Field</u> <u>                                </u>       |
| <u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>          | <u>Agricultural Outbuilding</u> <u>                                </u> |
| <u>LANDSCAPE</u>                        | <u>Forest</u> <u>  </u>   |
| <u>TRANSPORTATION</u>                   | <u>Road-Related</u> <u>                                </u>             |
| <u>                                </u> | <u>  </u>                 |
| <u>                                </u> | <u>  </u>                 |

### 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

- N/A
- 
- 

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation   N/A
- roof   N/A
- walls   N/A
- 
- other   N/A
- 
- 

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions).

MILITARY  
HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY

#### Period of Significance

December 31, 1862

#### Significant Dates

December 31, 1862

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

#### Architect/Builder

N/A

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) N/A

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Tennessee Historical Commission

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

Henderson County, TN \_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** \_Approx. 1,305 acres\_

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Clarksburg 10SW

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 16 375560 3963100 3 16 372420 3960150

2 16 375510 3960100 4 16 372500 3963210

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title \_Philip Thomason/Doug Cubbison\_

organization \_Thomason and Associates\_ date \_2/27/97\_

street & number \_P.O. Box 121225\_ telephone \_(615) 385-4960\_

city or town \_Nashville\_ state \_TN\_ zip code \_37212\_

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## Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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## Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_ See Continuation Sheet \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
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county and State

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DESCRIPTION

The Parker's Crossroads Battlefield is located at the small community of Parker's Crossroads in Henderson County, Tennessee. Henderson County is located in West Tennessee and Parker's Crossroads is approximately 26 miles east of Jackson. Parker's Crossroads is the site of a significant cavalry engagement on December 31, 1862 between the forces of Confederate Brigadier General Nathan Bedford Forrest, and Union forces under the command of Colonel Cyrus L. Dunham and Colonel John W. Fuller. The battlefield is composed primarily of cultivated fields and woodlands and a semi-rural area of the county. The topography around Parker's Crossroads is relatively level with elevations ranging from 520' to 560' above sea level. The majority of the fighting took place in two separate locations which are now separated by the right-of-way of Interstate 40. Around the Interstate 40/State Route (SR) 22 interchange is a cluster of post-1970 commercial buildings and residences which are included as a non-contributing landscape. With the exception of the interchange area and development along SR 22, the battlefield retains much of its rural character consistent with its appearance in 1862.

The first soldiers on the battlefield were the Union brigade under Colonel Cyrus L. Dunham. He moved south to Parker's Crossroads and deployed two regiments to guard the crossroads while he advanced two other regiments and his artillery northwest to block Forrest's advance. Dunham spread his men out along the top of a slight ridge across the McLemoresville Road from which Forrest's advance was expected. This ridge was composed of open fields and was known as "Hicks Field." On the early morning of December 31st, Forrest's command encountered Dunham's brigade on McLemoresville Road and the battle was engaged. Dunham's brigade was flanked by Forrest's larger force and he retreated southwest to a new position south of Parker's Crossroads.

The area which encompasses the fighting around Hicks Field continues to retain much of its character from the Civil War era. In 1862, this area consisted of cultivated fields and patches of woodlands. Today, the Hicks Field site and its environs continue to remain in open fields and woodlands (Photo 1). Dunham's brigade retreated southeast through cultivated fields west of the crossroads and this historic landscape character remains intact (Photo 2). The original roadbed of McLemoresville Road also exists and this historic route is now known as Cecil Walls Road. Only a few post-1945 brick and frame dwellings are located along this road in the Hicks Field area and the overall appearance of this section of the battlefield retains its historic landscape character.

The boundary is drawn to include a section of the original roadbed north of the historic crossroads location. It was down this road that Dunham's brigade advanced to the battle followed by Fuller's brigade later in the day. Known as the Huntingdon-Lexington Road, this historic roadbed is visible at several locations including through land now utilized as a city park (Photo 3). The historic roadbed is located approximately thirty to forty yards east of the present right-of-way of State Route 22.

Following the action at Hicks Field, Dunham's brigade retreated south through Parker's Crossroads before establishing a new line. This crossroads was named for the house of Rev. John A. Parker which stood at the northeast corner of the McLemoresville and Huntingdon-Lexington Roads. This house no longer stands and there are no buildings or structures from the Civil War era which are associated with the battlefield. Parker's Crossroads now consists of a series of post-1945 commercial buildings and this area is included in the battlefield boundary as a non-contributing landscape (Photo 4).

By late morning, Dunham's brigade had fallen back to a position southeast of the crossroads on the east side of the Huntingdon-Lexington Road. Forrest moved his forces against Dunham's new line and fighting took place along this road. This area is presently southeast of the I-40/SR 22 interchange and continues to be composed of open fields and woodlands. Through this area the original sunken roadbed of the Huntingdon-Lexington Road remains visible. Fearing he would be flanked, Dunham moved his men to the north in an east/west line just south of the present I-40 right-of-way. Forrest's men in turn were deployed in a battle line in fields to the north. With the exception of the I-40 right-of-way, these areas remain in open fields and woodlands (Photo 5 and 6). Dunham's

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brigade then came under severe artillery fire and retreated southward to a new position along a split rail fence. It was here that the Union line came under heavy attack as Forrest hit Dunham's brigade from the front and rear. In the course of this fighting, Dunham's brigade split in two and fought in separate pockets. This fighting took place in an area of open fields and woodlands to the north of the present Expressway Church Road and this area continues to retain its historic landscape character (Photo 7).

As segments of Dunham's brigade began to surrender, Forrest was surprised by the arrival of Colonel John W. Fuller's Union brigade which advanced south from Parker's Crossroads. Forrest managed to assemble a small force which attacked Fuller's left flank in the fields just north of the present I-40 right-of-way (Photo 8). This attack pushed Fuller's brigade back and gave Forrest time to regroup and retreat south on the Huntington-Lexington Road. With Forrest's withdrawal from the field, the Battle of Parker's Crossroads came to an end.

With the exception of the Interstate 40 right-of-way and interchange area, the Parker's Crossroad's Battlefield retains much of its historic landscape character. The historic roadbeds which were integral to the battle's troop movements remain visible and/or in use. The McLemoresville Road is now paved and continues to follow its route from the Civil War era. The historic roadbed of the Huntington-Lexington Road remains visible at several locations such as the sunken roadbed section south of I-40. The present Expressway Church Road follows much of the original wagon trail which ran through this area during 1862.

The boundary includes approximately twenty non-contributing buildings constructed after the Civil War. These are primarily 20th century dwellings and associated agricultural outbuildings. Also within the boundary is the interchange commercial area which is included as a non-contributing landscape. The Parker's Crossroads Cemetery and Jones Cemetery are also included as non-contributing sites to the battlefield.

The heaviest fighting took place at Hicks Field and in the attacks against Dunham's brigade south of I-40 and southeast of the interchange. These areas continue to be comprised of open fields, cultivated fields, and woodlands. In a wooded area directly south of I-40, archaeological excavations in 1993 uncovered the grave of a Union soldier. Four other empty graves were found nearby suggesting reburial of the remains after the battle. It is possible that this area will yield further gravesites in future testing.

A variety of artifacts have been found at the Parker's Crossroads site. Minie balls, shell fragments, artillery shells, cannon balls and a rifle were found by collectors over the years. A historic house site and burial site location are known. Buttons and a dining plate were also located on the battlefield. These objects and sites are spread throughout most of the battlefield, including the area along the major roads and intrusions. Artifacts such as these continue to be found. See map.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

The Parker's Crossroads Battlefield is significant under National Register Criterion A for its role in the military history of the Civil War. The battle was the final engagement of Forrest's West Tennessee raid of December, 1862 which resulted in the disruption of Major General Ulysses S. Grant's supply lines as his army advanced towards Vicksburg. Forrest's raid and the simultaneous destruction of Grant's supply depot at Holly Springs, Mississippi, caused Grant to end his overland campaign against Vicksburg. Since the battle, the area has remained largely in agricultural fields and forests and the site retains a high degree of integrity. The I-40 right-of-way and interchange built in the early 1970s intrudes through the battlefield. However, the heaviest fighting took place in areas which retain their historic landscape character.

The Parker's Crossroads Battlefield is also significant under National Register Criterion D for its archaeological potential to yield information concerning the battle. It is likely that the site contains physical remnants of the battle which can provide information concerning troop movements and areas where the primary fighting occurred. Recent studies of other battlefields suggest that objects left during an engagement were deposited in recognizable and interpretable patterns. The site is known to contain the remains of soldiers who were killed during the fighting and other burials may also be present on the property.

The property meets the registration requirements set forth in the multiple property documentation form, the "Historic and Historic Archaeological Resources of the American Civil War in Tennessee."

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The important rail junction of Corinth, Mississippi fell to Union forces on May 30, 1862. Federal commanders established a series of garrisons along the Memphis and Charleston Railroad in northern Mississippi, from Memphis to Corinth. From northern Mississippi, Union Major General Ulysses Simpson Grant planned to move south to capture the Confederate stronghold of Vicksburg, thus opening the Mississippi River to northern commerce. Grant intended to move south in two columns. Major General William T. Sherman would take one corps south from Memphis, following the Mississippi River. Grant himself would lead the remainder of his army south from Oxford, Mississippi upon the line of the Mississippi Central Railroad.

The weak point of this operational plan was logistics. Grant had to draw all of his supplies from Columbus, Kentucky using a single-track railroad line, the Mobile and Ohio Railroad running from Columbus, Kentucky through Union City, Tennessee to Jackson, Tennessee. At Jackson it joined the Mississippi Central Railroad, which ran through Grand Junction, Tennessee to Holly Springs, Mississippi. Here, Grant established the supply depot that would enable him to continue his advance into the center of Mississippi from Oxford. Thus, Grant's logistical lifeline was 180 miles long, from Columbus, Kentucky to Holly Springs, Mississippi.

Recognizing the vulnerability of Grant's supply system, Confederate General Braxton Bragg ordered Confederate Brigadier General Nathan Bedford Forrest to launch a raid into western Tennessee on November 21, 1862. Forrest left Columbia, Tennessee with 1,800 cavalymen and artillery on December 11, 1862. He used two rafts to cross the Tennessee River at Clifton, Tennessee, and reached Jackson, Tennessee on December 19, 1862. From here, Forrest's command proceeded north along the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, spending five days effectively destroying this railroad as far north as Moscow, Kentucky. On December 24th, Forrest turned southeast along the Nashville and Northeastern Railroad, giving it similar treatment as he had dished out to the Mobile and Ohio. Forrest received some small reinforcements from local forces en route, and his command would swell to 2,200 by this date.

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The Federal response to this raid was spirited and rapid, but suffered from disorganization and confusion. Beginning to feel the pressure of the Union pursuit and with his mission accomplished, on the morning of December 28th Forrest turned away from the railroad at McKenzie, Tennessee to make good his escape. His intention was to ride to Clifton, to re-cross the Tennessee River utilizing the same rafts which he had used to cross, and that he had sunk on the western bank of the river for this contingency.<sup>1</sup>

The night of December 30, 1862 found Forrest and his command camped at Union Church, Tennessee about eleven miles south and west of a crossroads located by a local landmark of Parker's Store, or Parker's Crossroads as the road junction was locally known. The Huntingdon-Lexington Road ran to Lexington twelve miles to the south, and to Huntingdon seventeen miles to the north. The east-west road was known as the McLemoresville and Pleasant Exchange Road. Two Federal brigades were within striking range. The 1,500 man brigade commanded by Colonel Cyrus L. Dunham was at Clarksburg, five miles north of Parker's Crossroads. That of Colonel John W. Fuller's three infantry regiments under the immediate command of Brigadier General Jeremiah Sullivan, was camped at Huntingdon, twelve miles north of Clarksburg.

A brief skirmish at Clarksburg had alerted Forrest of the situation, and he determined to defeat Dunham before Sullivan with Fuller's brigade could close up. Both Dunham and Forrest moved early on December 31, but Dunham was closer to Parker's Crossroads, and arrived ahead of Forrest. Dunham posted the 39th Iowa Infantry astride the Clarksburg Road to the north, and positioned the 122nd Illinois Infantry at the road junction. He then advanced the 18th Illinois Infantry (mounted), 50th Indiana Infantry, and three guns of the 7th Wisconsin northwest of the crossroads, where he established a defensive position overlooking Hicks Field. Meanwhile, Fuller's Brigade broke camp at Huntingdon, and moved to close on Forrest from the north.

Discovering Dunham's advance position, Forrest advanced first one, then an additional seven artillery pieces to a ridge 400 yards to the north.<sup>2</sup> The first shot, fired from Sergeant Nat Baxter's howitzer, dismounted a Federal gun. The Confederate superiority in artillery was overwhelming, and at about 9:00 a.m. Dunham withdrew in good order, but under heavy pressure, to establish a new position south of the crossroads. Here, the 39th Iowa commanded the road to the south (leading to Lexington, Tennessee), and the 122nd Illinois and the 18th Illinois continued the line to the east where the 50th Indiana faced east to protect the brigade's right flank.

Forrest arrayed his forces parallel to Dunham and along the east-west road, about 600 yards to the north of the Federals. Forrest started the battle with his artillery, which soon suppressed the two remaining guns of the 7th Wisconsin. With Dunham's guns silenced, he ordered his battle line to advance. Heavy, determined, close quarters fighting followed. Forrest was able to use his

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<sup>1</sup> For details on the military situation in Mississippi in the fall of 1862, and Forrest's western Tennessee Raid of December, 1862, refer to the following sources: Bruce Catton, *Grant Moves South* (Boston: Little Brown and Company, 1960); Ulysses S. Grant, *Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant* (New York: Charles L. Webster & Company, 1885), Volume I; Edwin C. Bearss, *The Campaign for Vicksburg, Volume I, Vicksburg is the Key* (Dayton, Ohio: Morningside Press, 1985); and Francis Vinton Greene, *Campaigns of the Civil War: The Mississippi* (New York: 1882; paperback reprint, New York: The Blue and Gray Press). Hereinafter cited as Catton, *Grant Moves South*; Greene, *The Mississippi*; and Bearss, *Vicksburg is the Key*.

<sup>2</sup> This account of the battle of Parker's Crossroads is primarily derived from Bearss, *Vicksburg is the Key*, pp. 257-274. The most accurate maps of this engagement are in Dan Kennerly, "The Dawn of Lightning War, General Forrest and Parker's Crossroads" (Houston, Texas: privately printed, Fourth Edition, June 1982).



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superior mobility and numbers to move around both flanks, and the rear, of Dunham's line.

Under attack from four directions, Dunham's men generally held firm, although the teamsters of his eighteen wagons panicked and drove their teams into Confederate lines. On the Federal left the 39th Ohio misunderstood a command to change its facing, and withdrew to the rear in confusion. When this regiment retreated, its two right companies (D and F) joined the 122nd Illinois. With their left flank exposed, the 122nd Illinois and these two companies turned about face, and drove the rebel attackers away. Forrest's men, fighting dismounted in many cases, were putting heavy pressure on Dunham's outnumbered men. Although they had experienced some local successes, by approximately 11:00 a.m. Dunham's brigade was fighting in two separated, and completely surrounded groups.

Colonel Dunham was with the southern force, and was surprised when an emissary from Forest rode up under a white flag to accept Dunham's surrender. Apparently, according to Confederate accounts, white flags had been displayed by some of Dunham's northern command. Dunham, who had been forced to surrender once already at Munfordville, Kentucky, had no intentions of repeating this performance. Dunham told Forrest's aide:

...we have never thought of surrendering... You will get away with that flag quick and bring me no more such messages. Give my compliments to the general and tell him I never surrender. If he thinks he can take me, he can come and try.<sup>3</sup>

While this drama was being played out, Fuller's fresh brigade of Federal infantry was approaching the battlefield. To ensure that his rear was protected when he launched his attack on Dunham's brigade, Forrest had dispatched a battalion of three companies of cavalry under the command of Captain William McLemore to the north. However, through a misunderstanding caused by poorly worded orders, McLemore had not fulfilled his assignment.<sup>4</sup> Forrest was surprised when Colonel Charles Carroll, one of his staff officers, hastily brought word that a Yankee force was deploying to attack them from their rear.

Forrest, riding north to ascertain the situation, rode close enough to Fuller's lines to be accosted by a northern officer, "Halt and surrender!" Forrest replied calmly, "I have already done so" and promised to "bring up what remained of my command for a formal surrender." His Federal captors let him go, but Forrest had no intention of surrendering, formally or otherwise.

Fuller's regiments swarmed south, the 27th and 63rd Ohio Infantry on the left (east) of the road, and the 39th Ohio to the right (west). The other three guns of the 7th Wisconsin Battery unlimbered on the road. The Confederate resistance centered around saving their artillery pieces, but was soon shattered. Dunham led an assault column out to recapture his lost eighteen wagons. An angry Forrest gathered a scratch force around his escort, and this show of resistance bought enough time to enable most of his command to escape around Dunham's command to the south, in the direction of Lexington.

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<sup>3</sup> Bearss, *Vicksburg is the Key*, pp. 263-264.

<sup>4</sup> Many historians, and Forrest himself, have attributed his tactical acumen to a natural talent, and the absence of a formal military education. Incidents like this one, however, suggest that this lack of military training was not always a benefit.

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That evening, Forrest's command reorganized at Lexington, twelve miles south of Parker's Crossroads. As reports were received at his headquarters, it became apparent that he had suffered a serious tactical reverse. Forrest recorded his losses as 25 killed, 75 wounded, and 250 captured, for a total of 350 casualties. In addition he lost three artillery pieces, four caissons, and eight limbers to Fuller's charge, along with 300 horses, two ambulances, and five wagons containing 75,000 rounds of small arms ammunition. Northern casualties were 27 killed, 140 wounded, and 70 missing for a total of 237, the vast majority sustained by Dunham's brigade in their long and brutal morning's fight.

Although Forrest had suffered a battlefield defeat, his command was intact, and he continued his withdrawal to the Tennessee River, which he successfully crossed on January 1, 1863. His raid had been an overwhelming, and complete, success. As the famed historian Bruce Catton noted of this raid:

As the Federal columns converged on him he dodged, fought when he had to, outguessed and outmarched his foes, and got back to safety east of the Tennessee, at last, with a prodigious achievement purchased by insignificant losses. He had broken the all-important Mobile and Ohio at various places over a sixty-mile stretch, running nearly to the Kentucky line, had completely cut off Grant's telegraphic communications with the outside world, had put at least twenty-five hundred Federal troops out of action and had left Grant's army isolated, its supply line broken so badly that it would be many weeks before it could be restored. For nearly a fortnight Grant would not even be able to get or send telegrams.<sup>5</sup>

Forrest's ride took place simultaneously with a nearly identical raid by Confederate Major General Earl Van Dorn on Grant's supply depot at Holly Springs. A contemporary historian found that:

These two simultaneous raids of Forrest and Van Dorn had a most decisive effect upon the issue of the campaign. Van Dorn destroyed the depot of accumulated supplies, and Forrest destroyed the only road by which fresh supplies could be brought up. The country had been exhausted by the support of two armies subsisting on it in part for several months. There was no alternative for Grant but to fall back...<sup>6</sup>

Grant's first movement on Vicksburg had been crushed by the actions of Forrest, Van Dorn, and their able cavalymen.

Additional information is located in the accompanying multiple property cover document, the "Historic and Historic Archaeological Resources of the American Civil War in Tennessee."

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<sup>5</sup> Catton, *Grant Moves South*, p. 337.

<sup>6</sup> Greene, *The Mississippi*, p. 71.

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**Bibliography:**

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- Grant, Ulysses S. *Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant*. New York: Charles L. Webster & Company, 1885.
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Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary for the Parker's Crossroads Battlefield is shown as the black line on the accompanying Henderson County tax maps. This boundary includes all or parts of the following parcels: Map 11, parcels 26, 27, 28, 30, 30.01, 31, 37, 38, 38.01, 39, and 40. Map 22, parcels, 3, 4, 4.02, 5, 5.01, 5.05, 6, 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 6.04, 7, 7.09, 8, 8.01, 8.02, 9, 9.01, 9.02, 10, 10.01, 11, 11.01, 12, 13, 33.07, 39, 40, 40.01, 40.03, 40.04, 40.06, 40.07, 40.09, 40.10, 40.11, 40.12, 40.13, 41.06, 41.07, and 47.11. Altogether these parcels contain approximately 1,305 acres.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundary for the Parker's Crossroads Battlefield includes all of the property retaining integrity which is historically associated with the major troop movements and battle. This includes the historic approaches to the battle along the original route of the Huntingdon-Lexington Road and the McLemoresville Road north and northwest of Parker's Crossroads. Since shell fragments and minie balls have been found in the NPS study approach area, this area has been included in the battlefield nomination. The approach area may be able to provide information on the engagement at Parker's Crossroads. The boundary includes the site of Hicks Field which was the location of the initial fighting between the Union and Confederate forces. The boundary extends to encompass areas south of Parker's Crossroads which were the site of late morning and early afternoon engagements between the two forces. Areas outside of the nominated boundary, even if they were included in a study area, were excluded because they do not appear to retain integrity under criterion A or D or there is insufficient information to justify their inclusion.

The acreage included within the boundary is primarily composed of cultivated fields, open fields, and woodlands. Bisecting the battlefield is the right-of-way of Interstate 40 which was completed in the early 1970s and at the junction with SR 22 is an interchange and adjacent commercial development. The area containing commercial development comprises approximately fifty acres, or less than five per-cent of the total battlefield area. SR 22 has also been widened to four lanes within much of its corridor within the boundary. Together, these modern road systems and adjacent development encompasses less than ten per-cent of the total battlefield area. The historic roadbed lies adjacent to this development area and artifacts have been found in much of this area. Although the area is visually intrusive, the overall battlefield area retains a good sense of time and place. The presence of artifacts found along the roadsides suggests that the potential for archaeological significance is feasible. The modern properties in the road corridor areas are primarily one story commercial buildings set close to the road and some single family houses. Development outside of the road corridors is scattered small farm houses. The majority of the development is concentrated in this road corridor and outside of these areas the historic qualities of the battlefield site are retained and the battle readily interpreted. The interchange is included within the boundary since it connects the major areas of fighting to the north and south and encompasses the continuity of action.

The tax map for this nomination has a scale of 1" = 800'. This scale map was prepared by the Henderson County Tax Assessor for the rural areas of this county. The Tennessee Historical Commission has found that this scale adequately meets its office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 9

Photographs

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

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Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
Photo by: Thomason and Associates  
Date: November 4, 1996  
Location of Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

- Photograph No. 1: Hicks Field, view to the northeast.
- Photograph No. 2: Cultivated area south of Hicks Field and north of the McClemoresville Road, view to the northeast.
- Photograph No. 3: Original roadbed of the Huntingdon-Lexington Road, north of the crossroads, view to the south.
- Photograph No. 4: Non-contributing landscape in the area north of the interchange, view to the south.
- Photograph No. 5: Field west of Wildersville Road where fighting took place between Forrest's command and Dunham's Brigade.
- Photograph No. 6: Fields east of SR 22 where troop movements occurred, view to the northwest.
- Photograph No. 7: Woods north of Wildersville Road where Dunham's Brigade fought in two sections.
- Photograph No. 8: Field southeast of the crossroads which was the site of Forrest's counterattack.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 10

Property Owners

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

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Map	Parcel #	Name & Address
11	26.00	Alene W. Derryberry 1150 Cecil Walls Road Yuma TN 38390
11	27.00	Leon Charles Collins etux Diana R. Box 3 Clarksburg, TN 38324
11	28.00	John Simonton etal. etux Rt. 1 Box 64 Yuma, TN 38390
11	30.00	Jerry Neisler etux 60 Cecil Walls Road Yuma, TN 38390
11	30.01	Jerry Neal Neisler III P.O. Box 87 Wildersville, TN 38388
11	31.00	Pat Carnal P.O. Box 680 Lexington, TN 38351
11	37.00	Ennis Fesmire c/o Raymond Fesmire Rt. 1 Box 85 Wildersville, TN 38388
11	38.00	Billy Olive etal. Rita Owen etal Neal Rumpfelt P.O. Box 115 Wildersville, TN 38388
11	38.01	Ronnie Owns etux Rita Olive 21990 Rt. 1 Hwy 22N Wildersville, TN 38388

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 11

Property Owners

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

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Map Parcel # Name & Address

11	39.00	David Deere etux Nancy Deere etal 21805 Highway 22 N Wildersville, TN 38388
11	40.00	Cemetery Rt. 1 Yuma, TN
22	3.00	John Simonton etux etal John T. etal Rt. 1 Box 64 Yuma, TN 38390
22	4.00	Donal Rush Rt. 1 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	4.02	West Tennessee Public Utility District P.O. Box 568 Huntingdon, TN 38344
22	5.00	Roberta B. Scott c/o James William Scott 6101 Spring Creek Drive Olive Branch, MS 38654
22	5.01	Myrtle Parker Rt. 1 Box 51 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	5.05	Mary Jo Smith P.O. Box 5 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	6.00	J Paul Moore etal Jackie Pemberton P.O. Box 132 Wildersville, TN 38388

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 12

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

Property Owners

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Map	Parcel #	Name & Address
22	6.01	Pemberton etux etal Epsey etux etal Moore etux P.O. Box 103 Huntingdon, TN 38344
22	6.02	James Paul Moore etux Barbara D. Moore P.O. Box 132 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	6.03	Pemberton etux etal Epsey etux etal Moore etux 583 East Main Street Huntingdon, TN 38344
22	6.04	Dimitrious (Bill) Vavouris 15795 Hwy 104 North Lexington, TN 38351
22	7.00	James G. Lewis etux Pauline Lewis Rt. 1 Yuma, TN 38390
22	7.09	Ramesh N. Patel etux Interstate I-40 & Hwy 22N Wildersville, TN 38388
22	8.00	Billy Olive etal P.O. Box 115 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	8.01	Darla L. Olive Rt. 1 Box 123 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	8.02	Billy Olive etal P.O. Box 115 Wildersville, TN 38388



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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 13

Property Owners

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

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Map	Parcel #	Name & Address
22	9.00	G. T. Parker etal Rt. 1 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	9.01	First Bank P.O. Box 388 Lexington, TN 38351
22	9.02	City of Parkers Cross Road c/o The Honorable Kenneth Kiser 21120 Highway 22 North Wildersville, TN 38388
22	10.00	William Scott etal c/o Darla Olive 497 Deerwood Lane Lexington, TN 38351
22	10.01	Paul Meier 5050 Popular Avenue Suite 2418 Memphis, TN 38117
22	11.00	Charles Boone 8585 Hwy 64 at I-40 Memphis, TN 38134
22	11.01	Paul Fisher P.O. Box 268 Selmer, TN 38375
22	12.00	Ray T. Britt 121 Scott Street Lexington, TN 38351
22	13.00	Jones Cemetery c/o Billy Olive P.O. Box 115 Parkers Crossroads, TN 38388

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 14

Property Owners

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

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Map	Parcel #	Name & Address
22	33.07	Ralph Moore P.O. Box 263 Dandridge, TN 37725
22	39.00	James William Scott 6101 Spring Creek Drive Olive Branch, MS 38654
22	40.00	Elizabeth Hill etal Robert Hill Jr. 20855 Hwy 22 N Wildersville, TN 38388
22	40.01	Cotton Patch, Inc P.O. Box 128 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	40.03	Ray T. Britt etux 121 Scott Street Lexington, TN 38351
22	40.04	Jerry B. Holmes etux Rt. 1 Box 241 Huntingdon, TN 38344
22	40.06	Icmag, Inc. I-40 & Hwy 22 N Wildersville, TN 38388
22	40.07	James J. Kizer Rt. 1 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	40.09	Kenneth Kizer etux Rt.1 Wildersville, TN 38388
22	40.10	Judy Kizer Owens 345 Expressway Church Road Wildersville, TN 38388

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Page 15

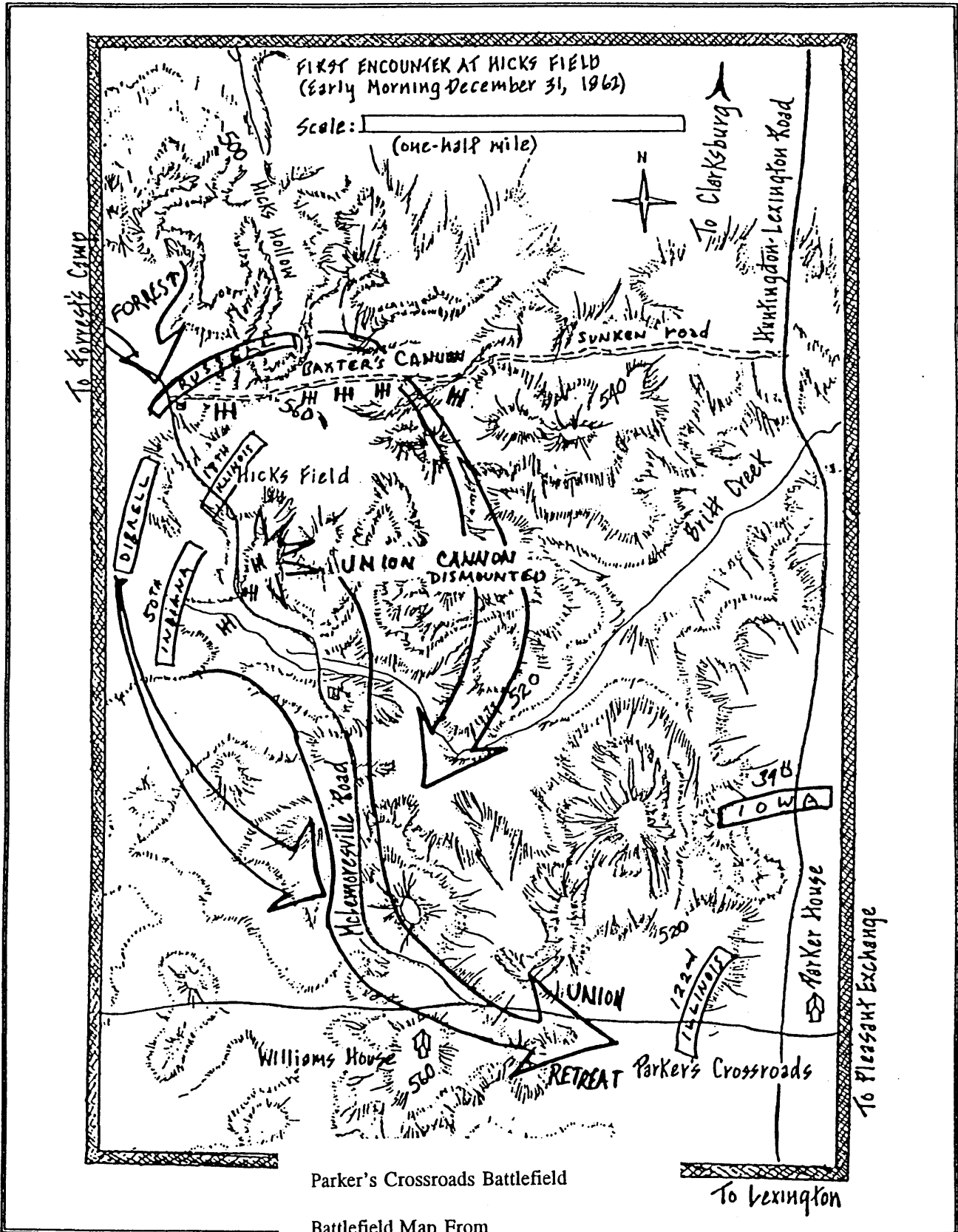
Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
name of property  
Henderson County, Tennessee  
county and State

Property Owners

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Map	Parcel #	Name & Address
22	40.11	William N. Ozier Jr. 834 Ste Rt. 181 South Greenville, KY 42345
22	40.12	Elizabeth Hill etal Neal Ozier Jr. 20855 Hwy 22 North Wildersville, TN 38388
22	40.13	Larry Dale Ozier etal c/o Ruth Ozier 6335 Northhampton Drive Bartlett, TN 38134
22	41.06	Itemag Inc. I-40 & Hwy 22 S Wildersville, TN 38388
22	41.07	Ray T. Britt 121 Scott Street Lexington, TN 38351
22	47.11	Randy Crowe etux 375 Expressway Church Road Wildersville, TN 38388

Dawn of Lightning War

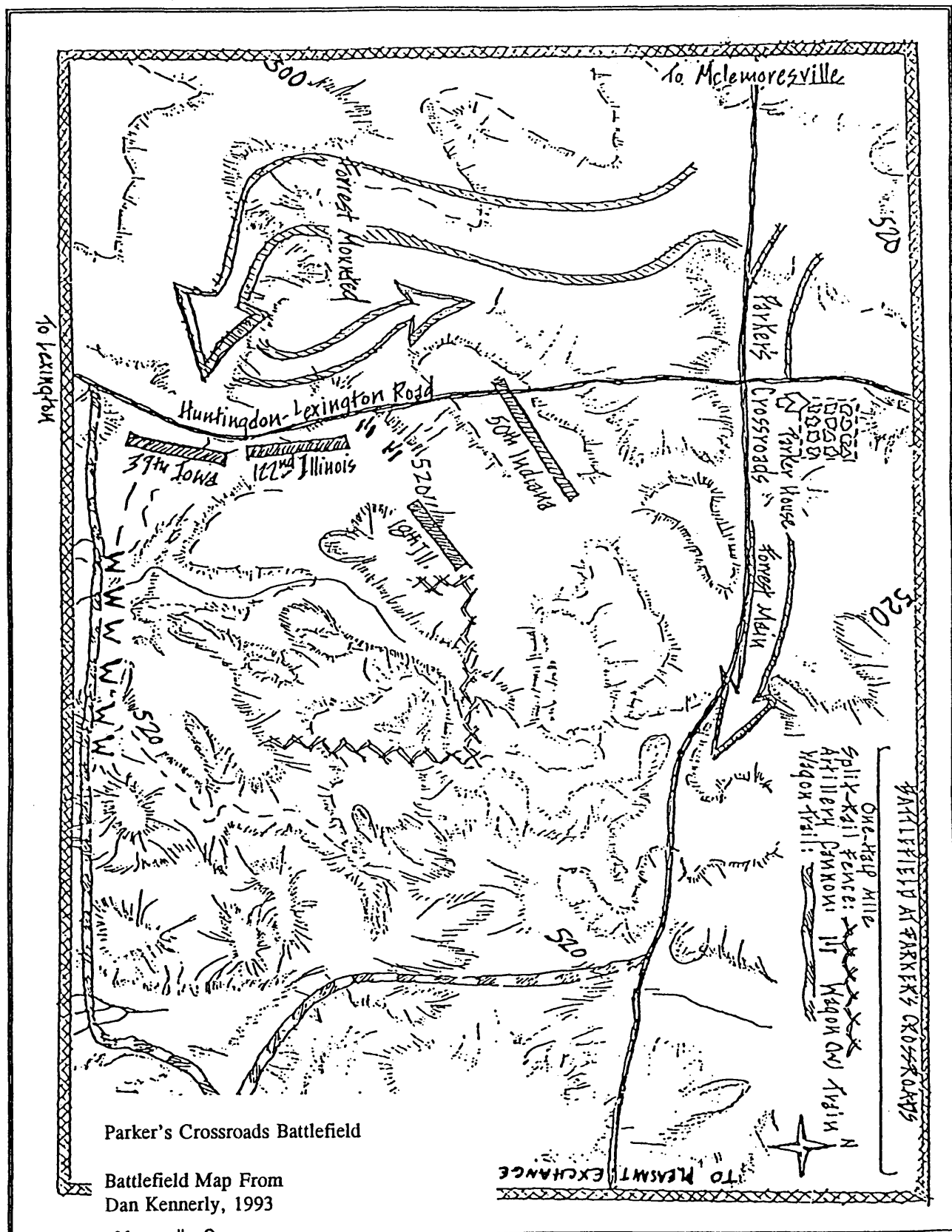


Parker's Crossroads Battlefield

Battlefield Map From  
Dan Kennerly, 1993

Map # 1

Dawn of Lightning War

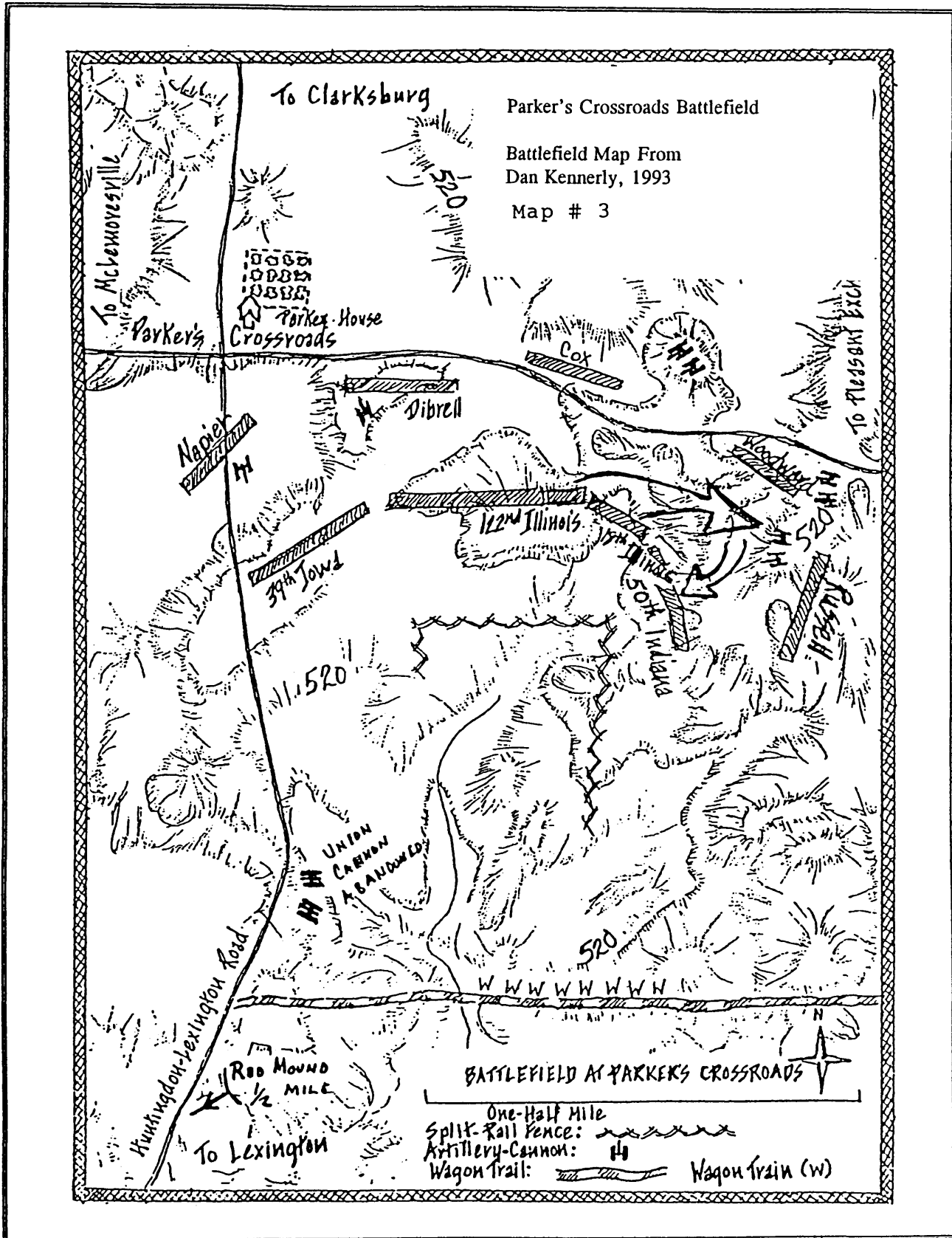


Parker's Crossroads Battlefield

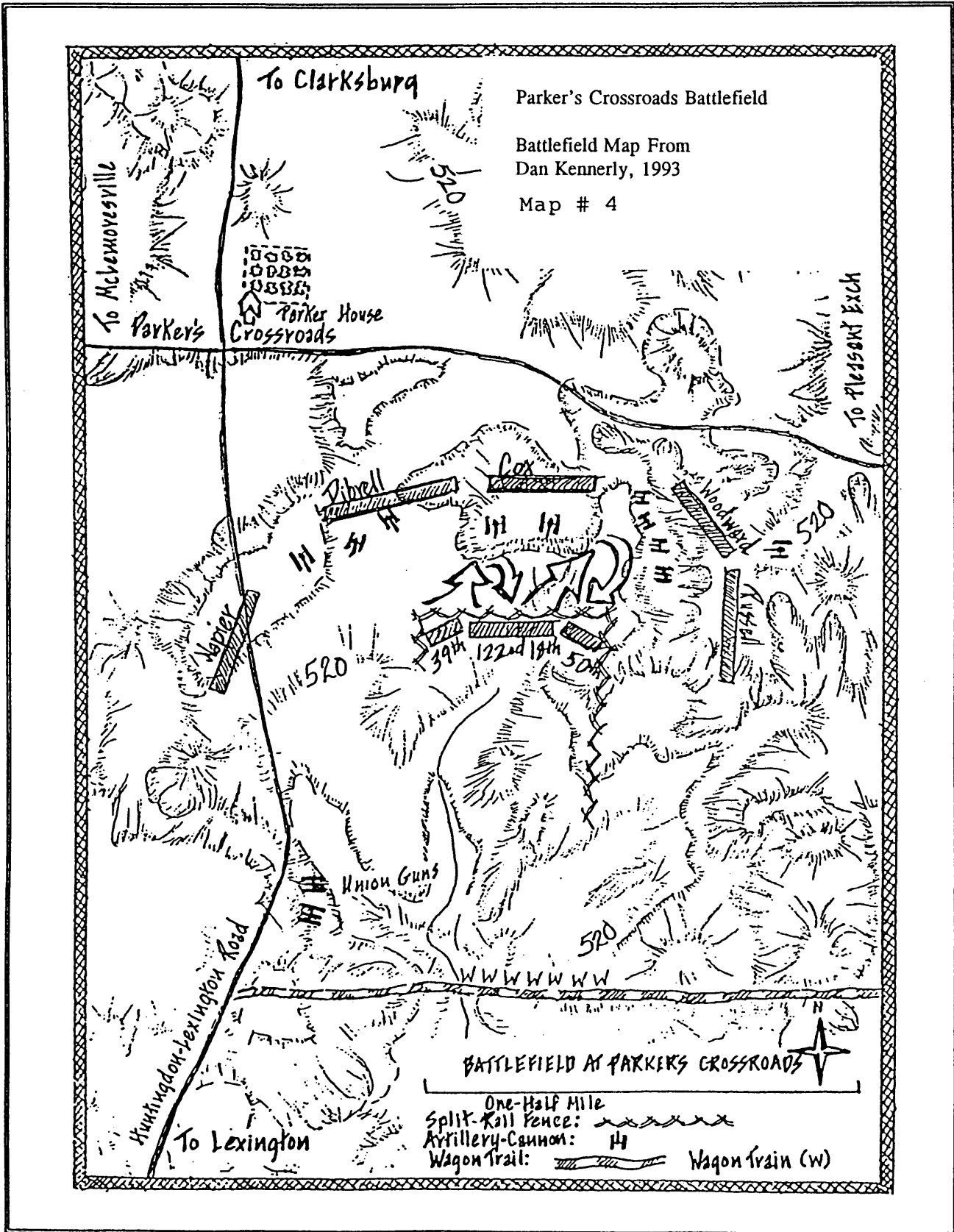
Battlefield Map From  
Dan Kennerly, 1993

Map # 2

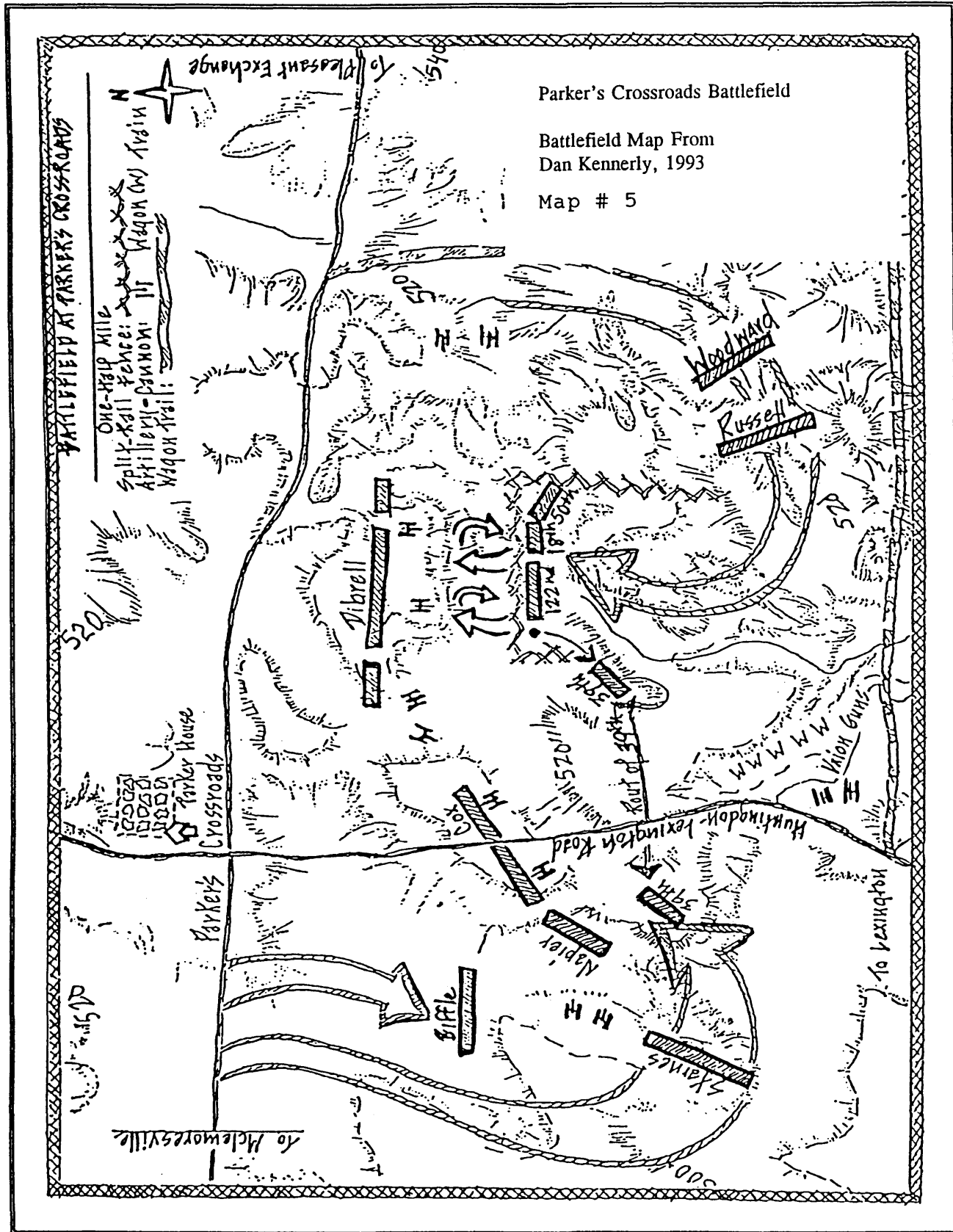
Dawn of Lightning War



Dawn of Lightning War

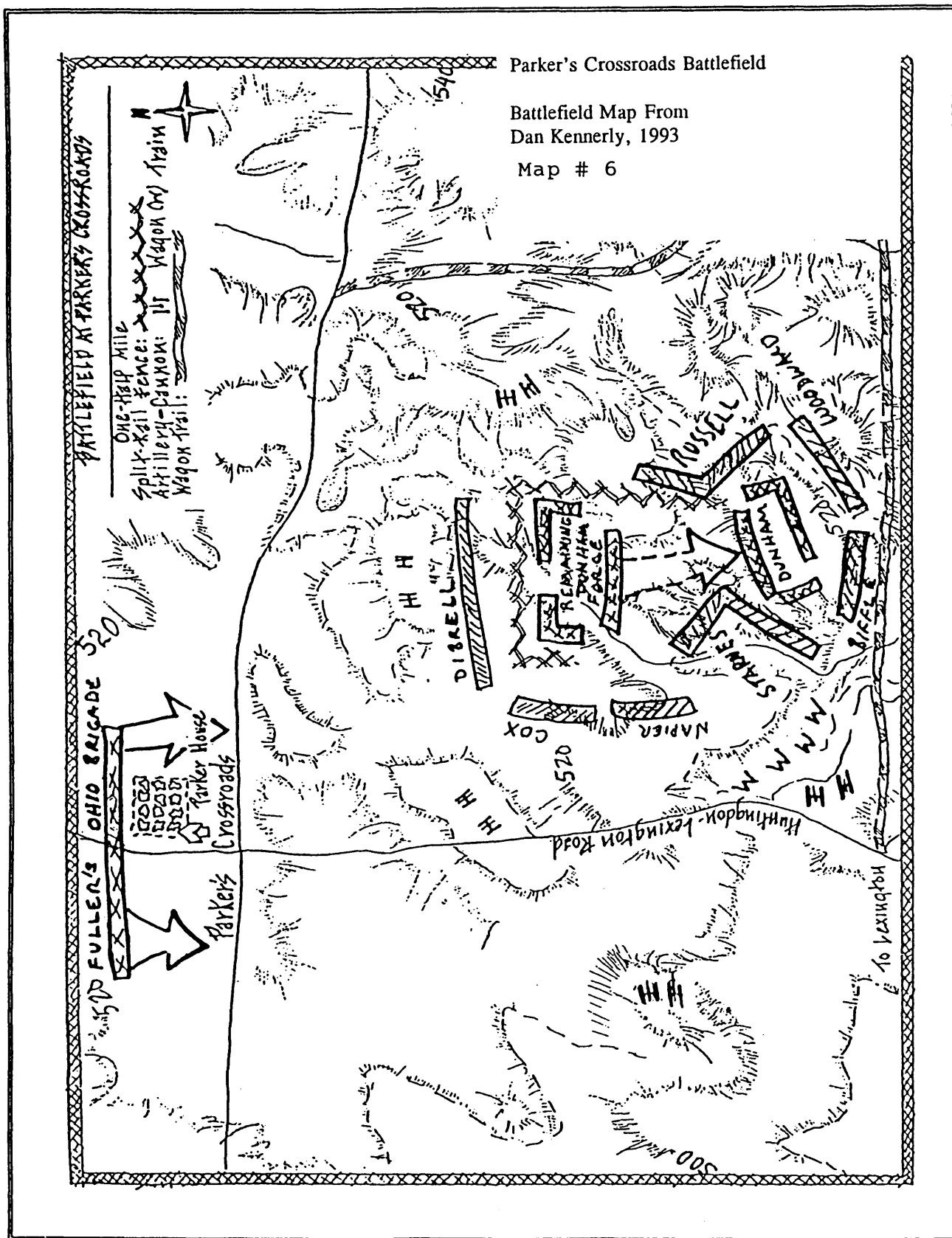


Dawn of Lightning War

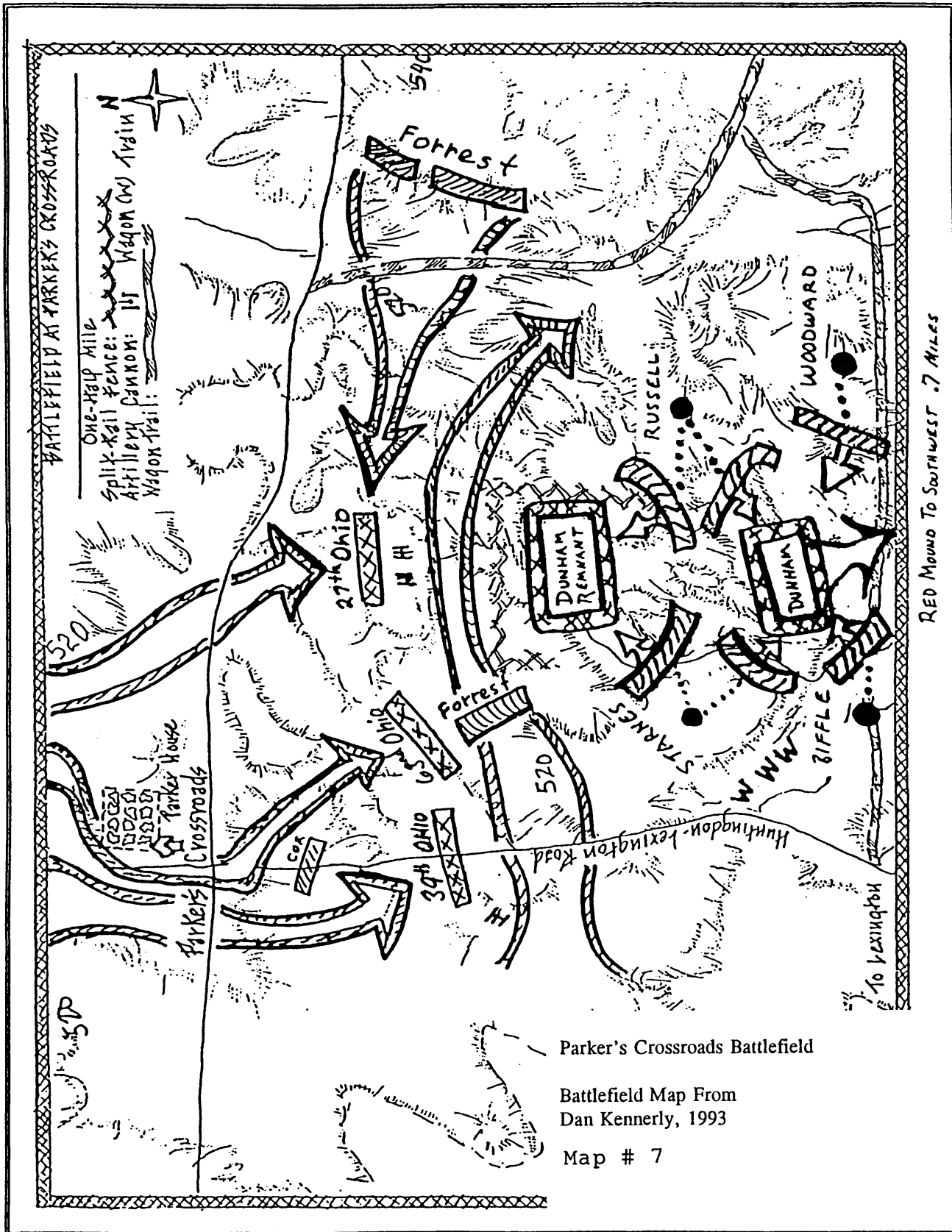




Dawn of Lightning War

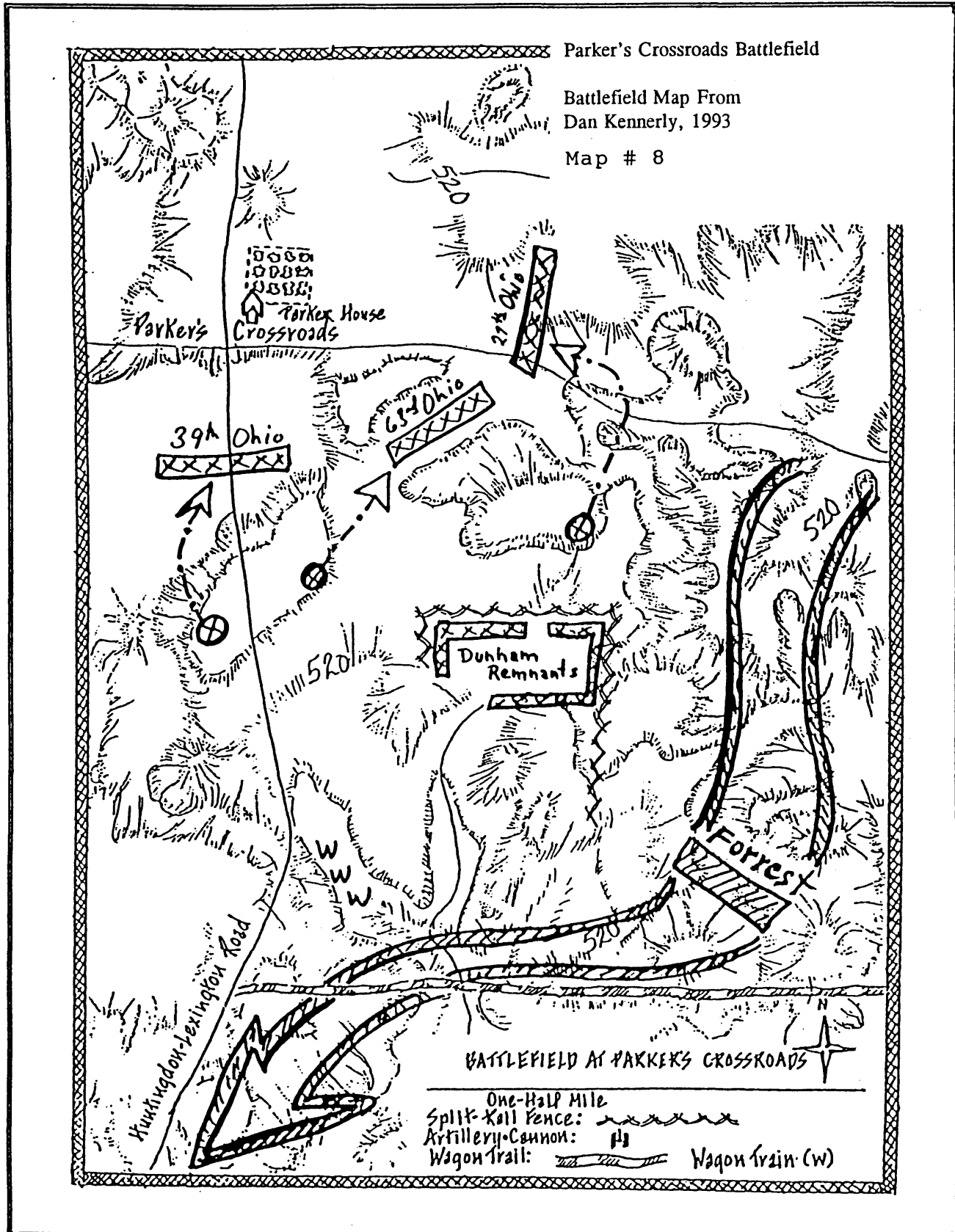


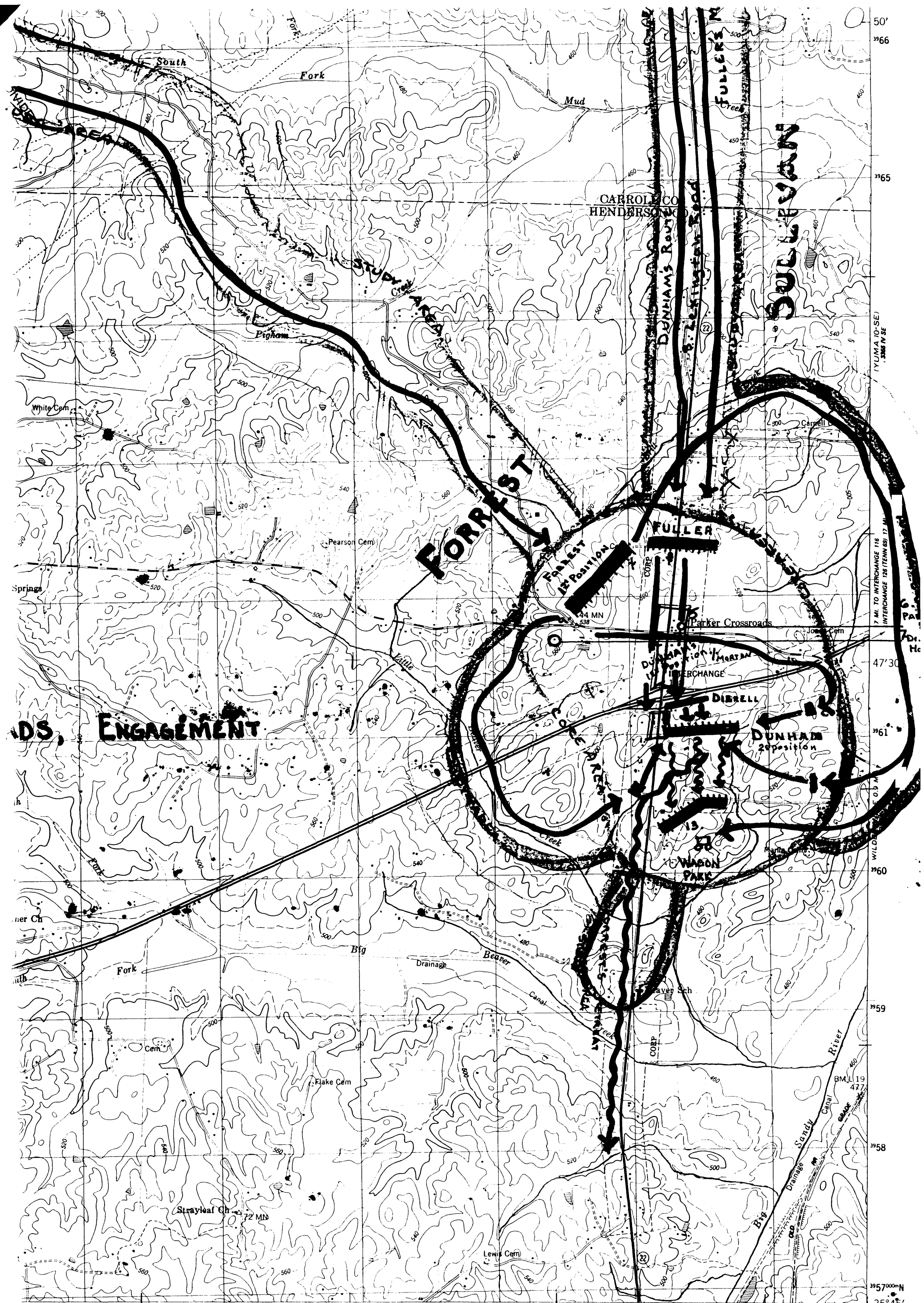
Dawn of Lightning War



Parker's Crossroads Battlefield  
Battlefield Map From  
Dan Kennerly, 1993  
Map # 7

Dawn of Lightning War





**DS, ENGAGEMENT**

**FORREST**

**BULLHEAD CANYON**

CARROLL CO  
HENDERSON CO

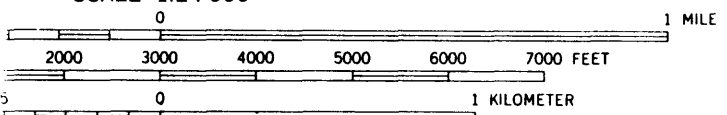
**FULLER**

**DUNHAM Zeposition**

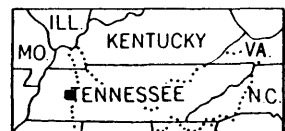
**WAGON PARK**

(LEXINGTON 11-NW)  
3366 11 NW

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DASHED LINES REPRESENT HALF INTERVAL CONTOURS  
ELEVATIONS IN FEET  
VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



LEXINGTON 7 MI. INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1987

ROAD CLASSIFICATION (TVA 10-SW)

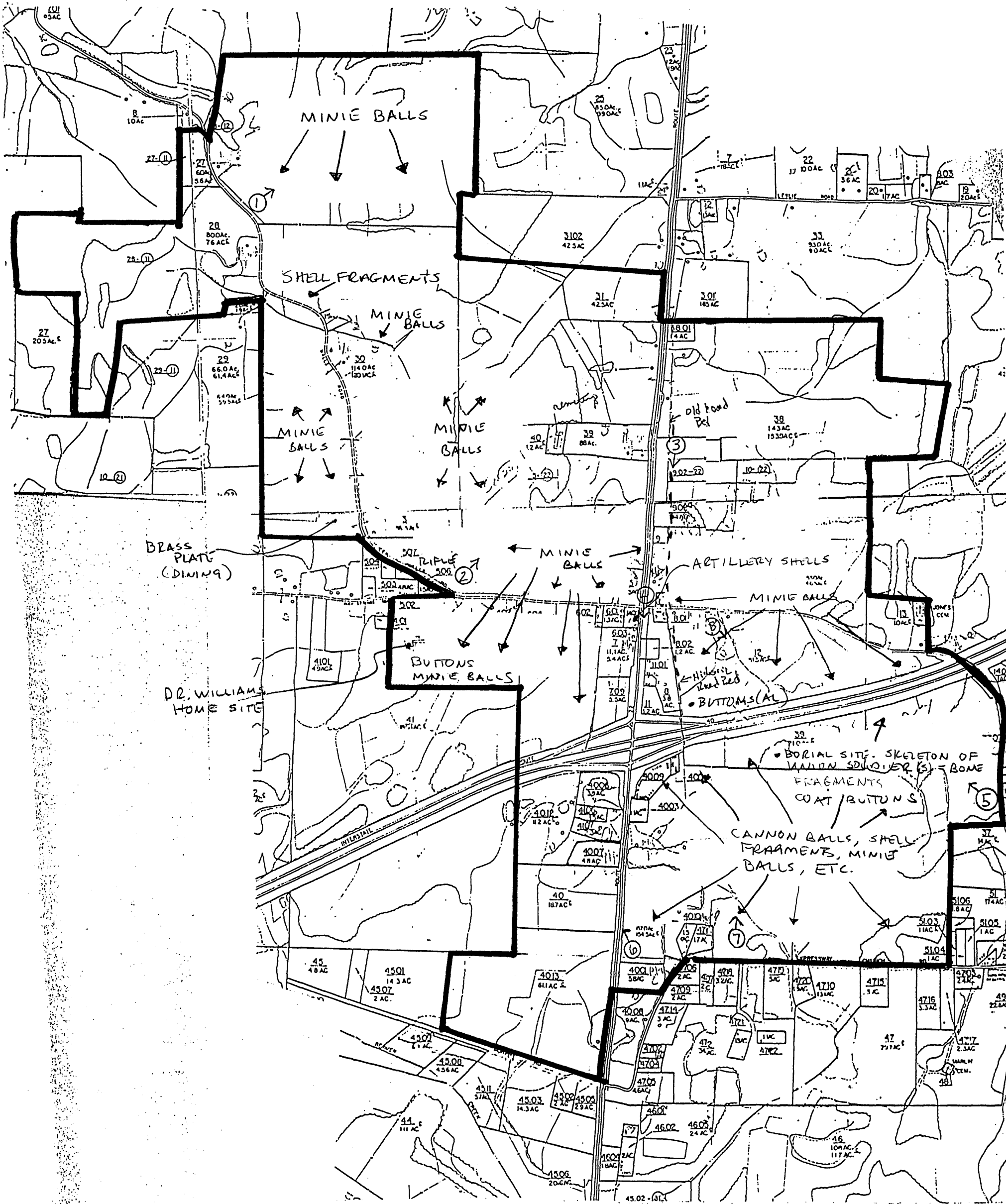
- Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
- Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
- Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
- Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route

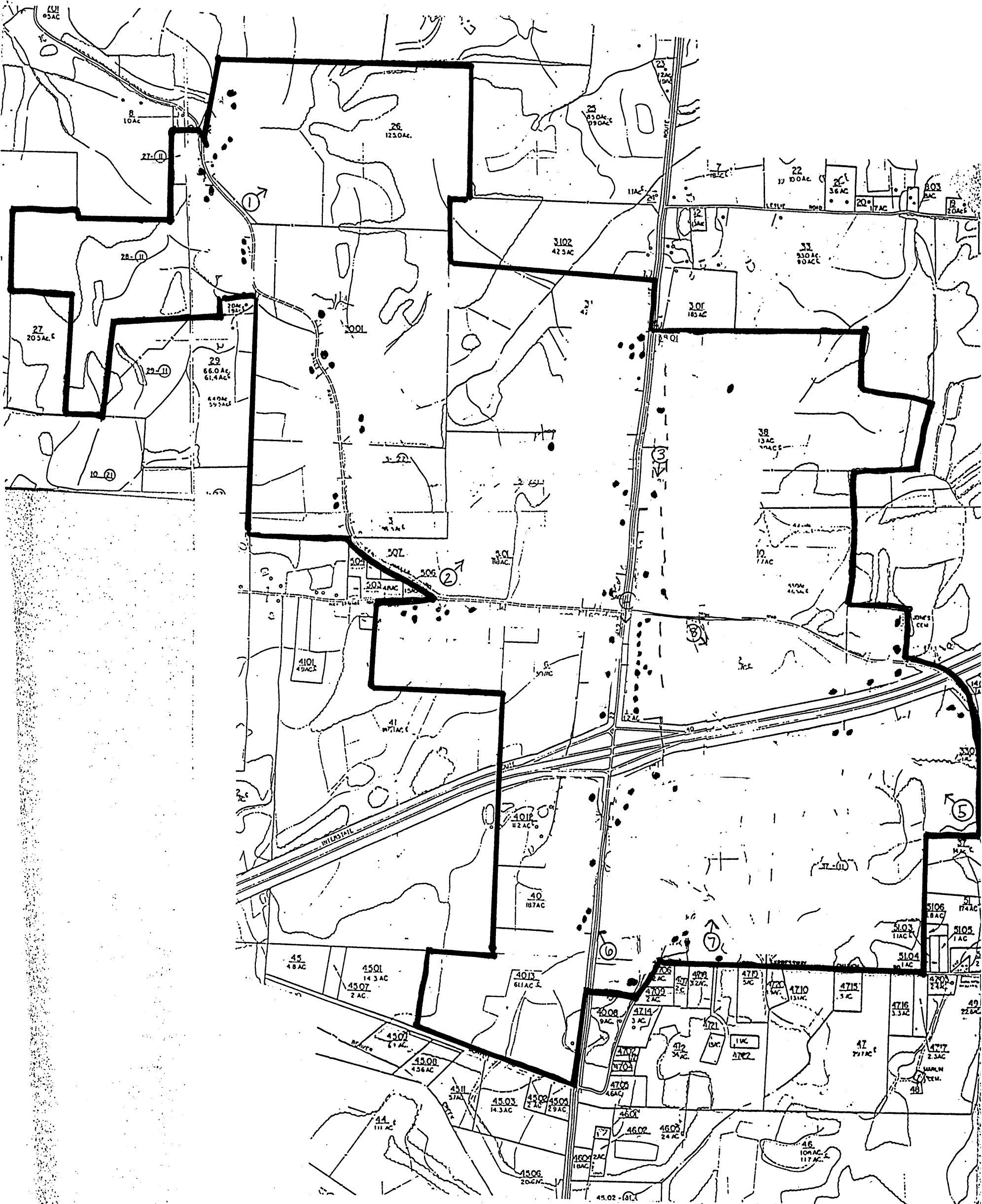
50'  
3966  
3965  
3961  
3960  
3959  
3958  
3957000mN  
35°45'  
88°22'30"

CHESTER 3366

PARKER'S CROSSROADS BATTLEFIELD  
HENRISON CO. TN  
ABPP STUDY AREA MAP



PARKER'S CROSS ROADS BATTLEFIELD  
 HENDERSON CO. TN  
 NOT TO SCALE - MAP SHOWS ARTIFACTS  
 FOUND ON SITE



PARKER'S CROSSROADS BATTLEFIELD, HENDERSON CO, TN

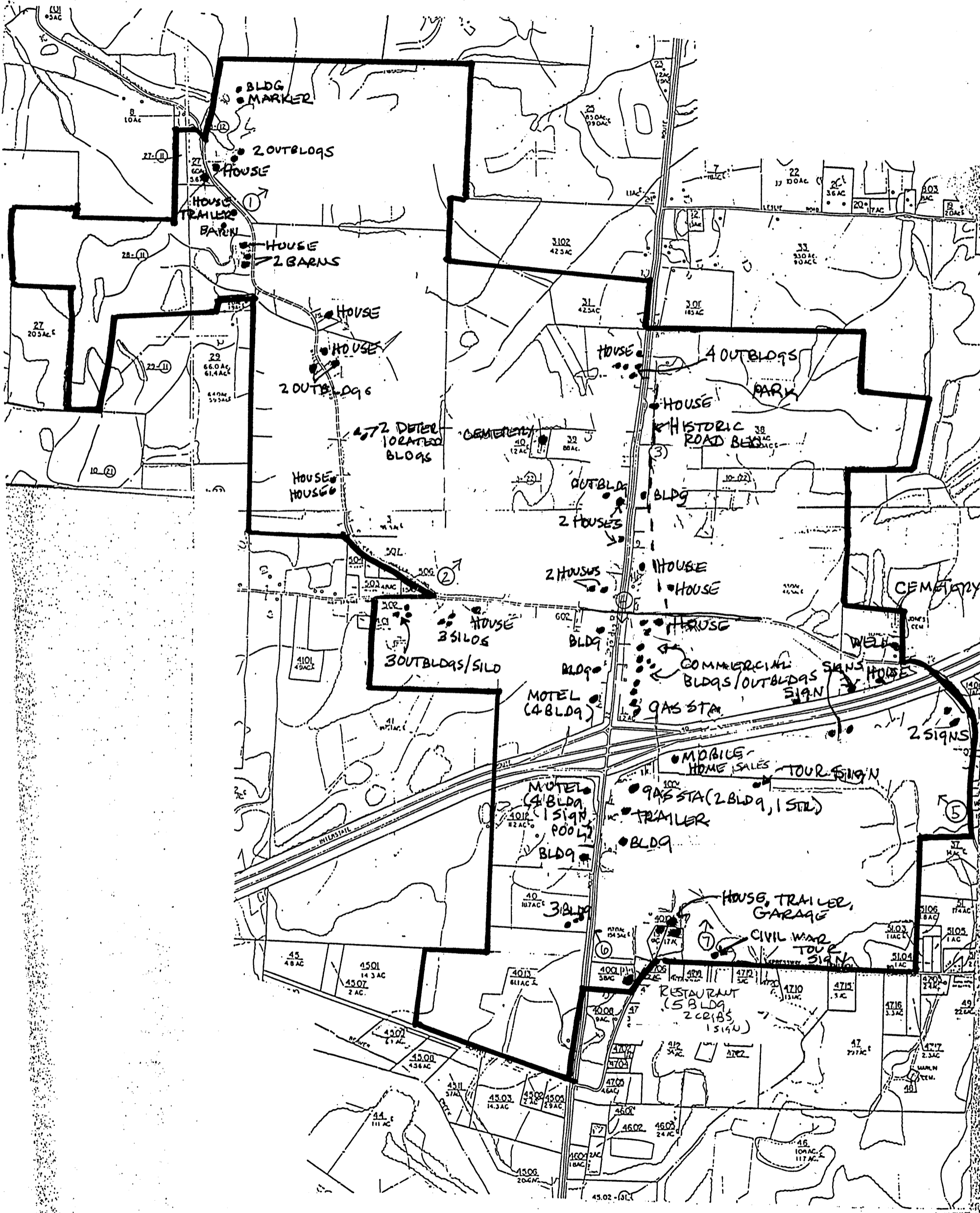
NOT TO SCALE (REDUCED SCALE MAP)

SHOWS DISTRIBUTION OF MODERN NON CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

(ONLY THE HISTORIC ROAD BED IS CONTRIBUTING)





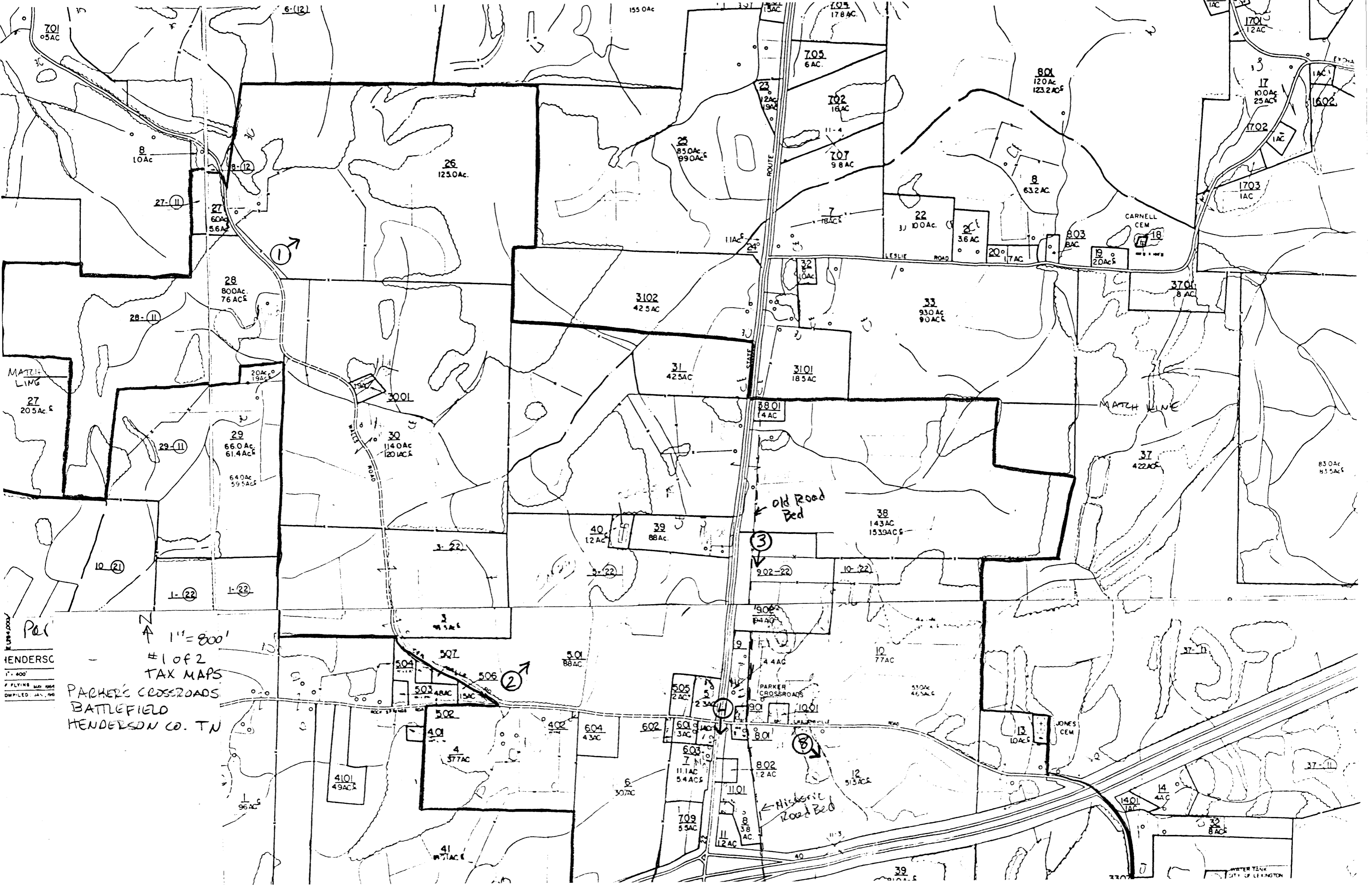


PARKER'S CROSSROADS BATTLE FIELD, HENDERSON CO, TN

NOT TO SCALE (REDUCED SCALE MAP)

1 A SHOWS TYPES OF NC RESOURCES. HISTORIC ROADBED IS CONTRIBUTING





701  
05 AC

705  
6 AC

801  
120 AC  
123.2 AC

1701  
12 AC

17  
10.0 AC  
25 AC

1602  
1 AC

1702  
1 AC

1703  
1 AC

CARNELL  
CEM

18

19  
20 AC

3701  
8 AC

3102  
42.5 AC

33  
93.0 AC  
90 AC

31  
42.5 AC

3101  
18.5 AC

3801  
14 AC

37  
422 AC

83.0 AC  
83.5 AC

40  
12 AC

39  
88 AC

38  
143 AC  
153.9 AC

3  
9.02-22

10-22

902  
84 AC

9  
4.4 AC

10  
77 AC

505  
2 AC

5  
2.3 AC

501  
3 AC

7  
11.1 AC  
5.4 AC

603  
7 AC

8  
3.8 AC

709  
5.3 AC

11  
12 AC

1101  
12 AC

11-3

HISTORIC  
ROAD BED

JONES  
CEM

13  
10 AC

14  
4 AC

1401  
1 AC

33  
8 AC

37-11

WATER TANK  
CITY OF LEXINGTON

6-12

8  
10 AC

27  
60 AC  
5.6 AC

26  
125.0 AC

25  
85.0 AC  
99.0 AC

702  
16 AC

707  
9.8 AC

8  
63.2 AC

22  
100 AC

21  
36 AC

803  
8 AC

20  
17 AC

28  
800 AC  
76 AC

28-11

20 AC  
19 AC

3001

30  
114.0 AC  
120.1 AC

29  
66.0 AC  
61.4 AC

64.0 AC  
59.5 AC

MATCH  
LINE

27  
20.5 AC

29-11

10-21

1-22

1-22

3-22

3-22

PAC

N  
1" = 800'

#1 of 2  
TAX MAPS

PARKER CROSSROADS  
BATTLEFIELD  
HENDERSON CO. TN

HENDERSON

1" = 800'

FLYING MAY 1964

COMPILED JAN. 1966

1  
96 AC

4101  
49 AC

401  
4  
57.7 AC

402

604  
43 AC

602

601  
3 AC

1001

801  
12 AC

12  
513 AC

6  
307 AC

39  
10 AC

N  
↑ 1" = 800'  
#2 OF 2  
TAX MAPS  
PARKER CROSSROADS  
BATTLEFIELD  
HENRY CO. TN

