



MEMO

TO	Lynn Bark Energy Center, LLC
FROM	Environmental Resources Management, Inc. (ERM) Kara Wallace, MA, RPA, Senior Consultant, Archaeologist Danna Allen, Principal Consultant, Architectural Historian
DATE	02 October 2026
REFERENCE	0787742
SUBJECT	Lynn Bark Transmission Line, Martin County, Kentucky - Cultural Resources Desktop Review

1. INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Lynn Bark Energy Center, LLC (Lynn Bark), Environmental Resources Management, Inc. (ERM) completed a cultural desktop review of previously recorded cultural resources for the Lynn Bark Transmission Line (Project). The Project is approximately 6.33 miles (10.19 km, 116.2 acres, 47 hectares) in Martin County, Kentucky (Project Area) (**Attachment A, Figures 1 and 2**). This desktop review is intended to aid Lynn Bark's site planning activities. ERM did not conduct supplemental cultural resources field investigations.

2. CULTURAL RESOURCES

On June 25, 2026, ERM conducted a desktop review of cultural resources by consulting Kentucky's Office of State Archaeology (OSA), maintained by the Kentucky Heritage Council's State Historic Preservation Office (KHC), historic aerials, and historical mapping. The review encompassed the Project Area plus a 1-mile buffer (Study Area) (**Attachment A, Figure 1**). This desktop review is intended to aid in planning purposes, and no cultural resources field investigations were conducted in support of the Project.

Research was conducted to determine if any portion of the Study Area has been subject to past cultural resources surveys or investigations. The National Park Service's (NPS) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), National Historic Landmark (NHL), and American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) databases were also consulted. ERM conducted the records review to determine the number, nature, and location of known archaeological sites, cemeteries, and architectural resources within the Study Area. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological sites, none of the previously recorded archaeological site locations are provided in the attached figures.

2.1 PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEYS

According to OSA, 13 previous cultural resources surveys were conducted within the Study Area, and five surveys overlap with the Project Area boundaries. Information on these previous surveys – including their survey number, year, title, and authors – is provided in **Table 1 (Attachment A, Figure 3)**. These surveys were associated with infrastructural development for energy operations such as a pipeline, coal mines, and a creek restoration project. Each of the overlapping surveys was conducted over 10 years ago and may not be up to date with current KHC regulations (Kentucky Heritage Council [KHC] 1991, rev. 2017).

TABLE 1 PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS CONDUCTED WITHIN THE STUDY AREA*

Survey Number	Year	Title	Author(s)	Within the Project Area?
8914	1991	Phase I Archeological Survey of the Martin County Coal Corporation Coal Permit Area Martin County, Kentucky	McGraw, Betty J.	No
8919	1992	Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Martin County Coal Corporation Lynn Bark Fork Coal Permit Area, Martin County, Kentucky	McGraw, Betty J.	Yes
8921	1992	A Coal Mine Survey of Maynard and Sycamore Hollows, Martin County, Kentucky	Logsdon, Phil	Yes
8922	1994	A Coal Mine Survey Along Hurricane Branch, Martin County, Kentucky	Hand, Robert B.	No
8927	1994	A Coal Mine Survey Along Wolf Creek in Martin County, Kentucky	Hand, Robert B.	No
8929	1995	A Coal Mine Survey Along Hurricane Branch and Coldwater Fork in Martin County, Kentucky	Hand, Robert B.	No
8935	1997	A Coal Mine Survey along Blacklog Fork and Little Crooked Branch in Martin County, Kentucky	Hand, Robert B.	No

Survey Number	Year	Title	Author(s)	Within the Project Area?
8939	1999	A Coal Mine Survey Along the Road Fork of Coldwater Fork in Southwest Martin County, Kentucky	Reynolds, Matthew D.	No
8955	2001	A Coal Mine Survey Along Old Road Fork in Martin County, Kentucky	Hand, Robert B.	Yes
8976	2004	Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Lower Coldwater Fork Stream Restoration and Enhancement Project, Martin County, Kentucky	Baltz, Christopher	No
8977	2004	Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Wolf Creek Restoration and Enhancement Project, Martin County, Kentucky	Baltz, Christopher	Yes
3668	2009	Phase I Cultural Resources Survey: Ranger Pipeline Project, Floyd, Martin, and Pike Counties, Kentucky	Scuoteguazza, Eric P.	Yes
8991	2014	An Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Wayland Land Company, Inc. Mine Project Located Along Messer Branch in Martin County, Kentucky	Winterhoff, E. Quent	No

Kentucky's Office of State Archaeology (OSA), 2026

*Shaded entries overlap the Project Area.

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGY

According to OSA, no previously recorded archaeological sites are located within either the Project Area or the Study Area (OSA 2026).

2.3 ASSESSMENT OF BURIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE POTENTIAL WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA

ERM reviewed historic topographic maps dating back to 1886 and found one small cluster of historic structures within the Project Area associated with coal mining activities at the southeast portion of the Project Area south of Wolf Creek, including coal silos, a conveyor, and coal tipples (USGS 1886, 1887, 1954, 1963, 1992a, 1992b). The 1992 topographic maps are the last maps that have available structure information. Additionally, historic aerial photographs dating back to 1983 also show the

previous coal mining historic structures within the southeast portion of the Project Area that were depicted in the historic topographic maps through 1992 were demolished by 2020 (NETROnline 2026). Therefore, the Project Area has a low potential for historic archaeological sites relating to standing or demolished historic architectural resources.

Most of the Project Area has not been previously surveyed for cultural resources; therefore, sites could be present within its boundaries. Potential for the presence of buried pre-contact archaeological sites is dependent on the depositional history, environment, and relative age of a landform. The majority of the Project Area is mapped on soils that formed on mountain slopes: including Fiveblock, Fairpoint, and Kaymine soils (FiB, FiF, FiD), Rayne-Marrowbone-Dekalb complex (RaF), Shelocta-Grigsby-Orrville complex (SgC), Anthroptic Udorthents-Urban land complex (uAdoC), Cloverlick-Shelocta-Kimper complex (uCskF), Handshoe-Feds creek-Shelocta complex (uHfsF), and dumps, mine and tailings (uDuty) (**Attachment A, Figures 4.1 – 4.3**). These colluvial, residual, and mine spoil soils are generally stony and form on mountains, ridges and upland hillslopes, often on reclaimed mine land, which have low potential for the presence of buried pre-contact archaeological sites. Therefore, the Project Area has low potential for potentially eligible buried pre-contact archaeological sites.

2.4 SACRED PLACES AND TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTIES

The Project Area does not overlap any present-day reservations. Historically, Native American Tribes, Nations, or Pueblos who have interest in the areas within and surrounding the Project Area are: Cherokee Nation and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (TDAT 2026; Bureau of Indian Affairs 2026).

Additional agency consultations could be required to satisfy NHPA Section 106, where the lead federal agency would be required and responsible for tribal consultation. If no federal permit is required, formal tribal consultation is not warranted under Section 106; however, voluntary coordination may be considered. Informal coordination may be conducted by sending a letter to federally recognized tribes with historical/religious interest in the area.

2.5 CEMETERIES

There are 19 known cemeteries located within the Study Area, and none are located within the Project Area (KHC 2026; Find A Grave 2026) (**Table 2; Attachment A, Figure 3**).

Among the 19 cemeteries within the Study Area, two are active and maintained cemeteries. The Petercave Memorial Cemetery dates to the early-mid 20th century and the Upper Moore Cemetery dates to the mid-19th century (Find a Grave 2026). The remaining 14 cemeteries have no additional information available regarding their

statuses. All of the cemeteries in the Study Area are not evaluated for inclusion on the NRHP.

While there are no recorded cemeteries within the Project Area, unmarked rural cemeteries and graves do occur in Kentucky. If human remains or unmarked graves are encountered, stop work immediately and contact law enforcement. Under Kentucky Code, all marked and unmarked cemeteries are protected from disturbance, which prohibit unauthorized excavation or damage to graves, including historic and abandoned burial sites. Upon discovery of human remains outside a known cemetery, individuals must immediately notify the coroner and refrain from disturbance. Unauthorized excavation for commercial gain or artifact removal constitutes first-degree desecration under Kentucky state law (Kentucky Revised Statutes 381.695-381.697, 72.020, 524.120).

TABLE 2 CEMETERIES WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

Cemetery Name	Time Period	Location	Condition/Status	NRHP Eligibility	Within the Project Area?
Petercave Memorial Cemetery	1935–2023	37°45'52.14"N 82°27'17.32"W	Active/Maintained	Unevaluated	No
Upper Moore Cemetery	1862–2023	37°45'31.75"N 82°29'52.97"W	Active/Maintained	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°45'47.52"N 82°27'28.27"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°48'18.36"N 82°33'0.33"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°48'17.88"N 82°33'12.31"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°47'57.11"N 82°31'31.58"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°47'51.27"N 82°31'8.92"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°47'29.50"N 82°31'12.41"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'9.07"N 82°29'18.43"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°47'5.46"N 82°31'18.70"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No

Cemetery Name	Time Period	Location	Condition/Status	NRHP Eligibility	Within the Project Area?
N/A	N/A	37°45'17.83"N 82°28'42.04"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'22.44"N 82°28'8.92"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'30.53"N 82°28'5.82"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'48.14"N 82°28'5.55"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'3.73"N 82°29'13.02"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°45'58.31"N 82°29'16.61"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°47'48.13"N 82°31'14.62"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'34.67"N 82°28'11.03"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No
N/A	N/A	37°46'9.52"N 82°28'47.29"W	N/A	Unevaluated	No

Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), 2026; Find A Grave (2026); USGS (1954, 1963, 1992a, 1992b)

2.6 HISTORIC DISTRICTS, BATTLEFIELDS, AND VISUAL IMPACTS

There are no historic districts or battlefields that overlap the Study Area.

2.7 HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND VISUAL IMPACTS

Historic resources constitute any building, site, or structure 50 years or older which has been identified as significant or potentially significant to the state of Kentucky. No previously recorded architectural resources are located within either the Project Area or the Study Area (KHC 2026).

Unrecorded and unevaluated resources within the Project Area and in close proximity of the Project Area could be visually impacted due to Project Area development and potential vegetation removal. Evaluation of these resources would be needed to determine Project impacts.

A map review indicates that there are also no existing private residential structures in the Project Area. A review of historic topographic maps and aeriels show approximately 77 potential historic resources 45 years of age or older in the Study Area; however,

due to steep topography and the intervening vegetation shown on the 1983 aerial onward, the Project is unlikely to visually impact any potential resources (USGS 1954, 1963; NETROnline 2026). Evaluation of these resources would be needed to determine Project impacts.

2.8 SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

This desktop review is for planning purposes only, and no cultural resource field investigations have been conducted. Such investigations may be warranted to satisfy Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, if it is determined that one or more federal permits (such as a Section 404 permit under the Clean Water Act, requiring U.S. Army Corps of Engineers involvement), federal licensing, is subject to another federal nexus, or approval are required. These investigations could include archaeological survey to identify NRHP-eligible sites that could be directly affected by the Project and/or an architectural survey to identify any NRHP-eligible architectural resources that could be directly or indirectly (visually) affected by the Project. Should the Project be subject to federal, state, or county permitting requiring consideration of cultural resources, evaluation of these resources inclusive of NRHP eligibility could be needed to determine Project impacts.

The cultural resources within the Lynn Bark Study Area that were discussed above are summarized in **Table 3**:

TABLE 3 SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

Resource/ Survey Type	Number	Within the Study Area	Within the Project Area?
Cultural Resources Survey	13	8	5
Archaeology Sites	0	0	0
Cemeteries	19	19	0
Historic Districts	0	0	0
Historic Architecture Resources	0	0	0

The NRHP eligibility of cultural resources within the Study Area that were discussed above are summarized in **Table 4**:

TABLE 4 SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES AND THEIR NRHP ELIGIBILITY WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

Resource/ Survey Type	Listed	Eligible	Ineligible	Undetermined	Demolished
Archaeological Sites	0	0	0	0	0
Cemeteries	0	0	0	19	0
Historic Districts	0	0	0	0	0
Historic Architecture Resources	0	0	0	0	0

2.9 UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY PLAN

As a best practice, ERM recommends that Lynn Bark have an Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) be prepared prior to construction and in place for all earth-moving activities, so that a cultural resource inadvertently encountered can be appropriately managed. The purpose of the UDP is to make field personnel aware that, although there is currently no federal nexus to require a formal survey, cultural resources could still be present, and that construction should cease if any cultural resources are encountered. Further, the UDP guides steps that should be taken following any unanticipated discovery. A UDP is not intended to allow any short-cuts or reduction of effort in any part of the Section 106 consultation process should NHPA pertain to the Project. The UDP should be followed during Project construction to minimize potential impacts to any unknown intact archaeological resources. If previously unrecorded cultural resources, human remains, or unmarked graves are encountered within the Lynn Bark Energy Center Project Area, work should stop immediately, and law enforcement contacted along with the KHC.

3. REFERENCES

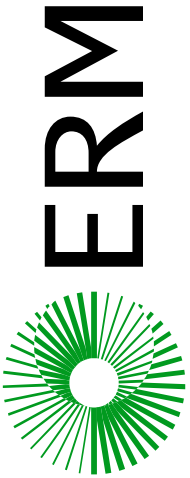
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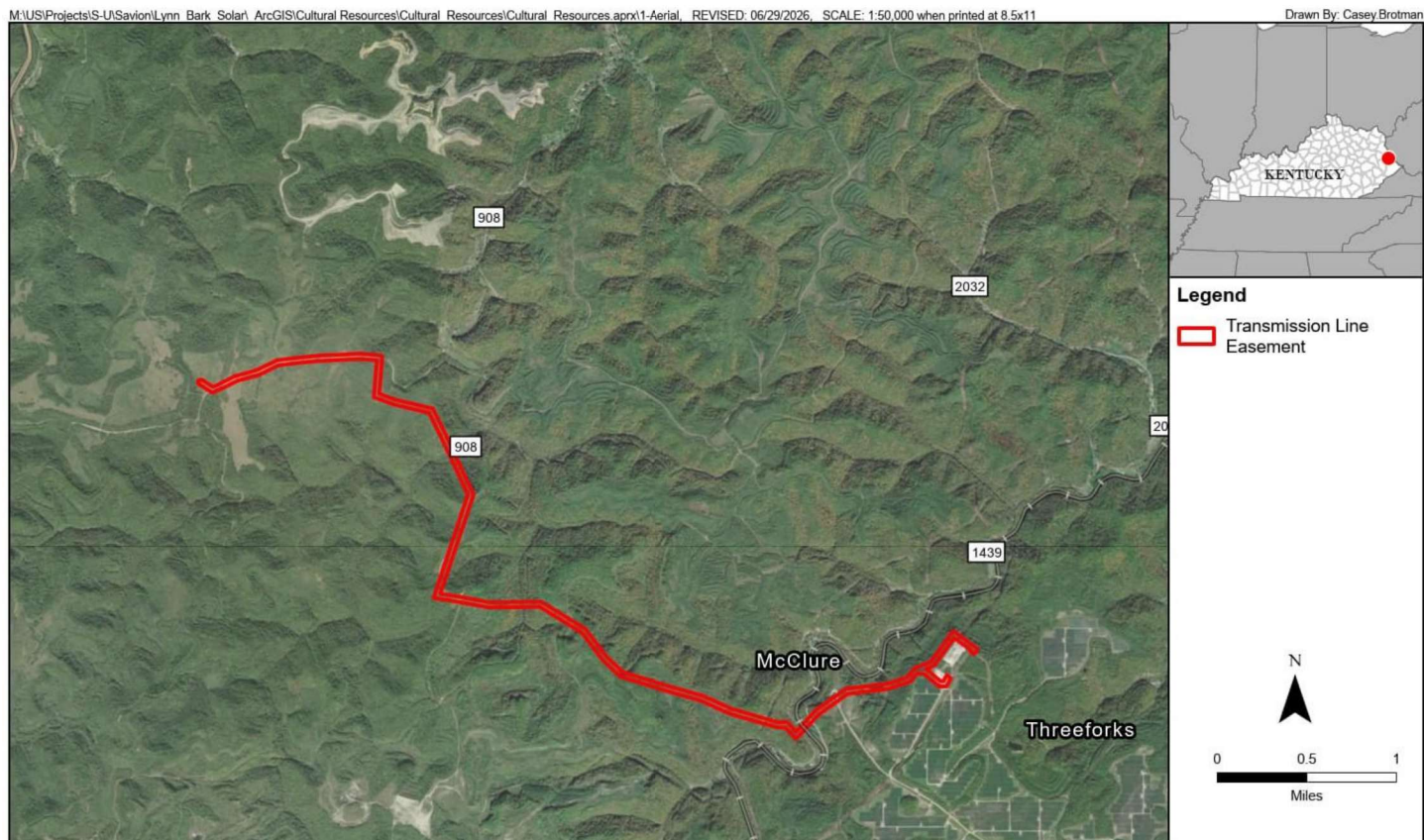
ATTACHMENT A FIGURES



DATE
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FIGURE 1 PROJECT AREA OVERVIEW, AERIAL VIEW

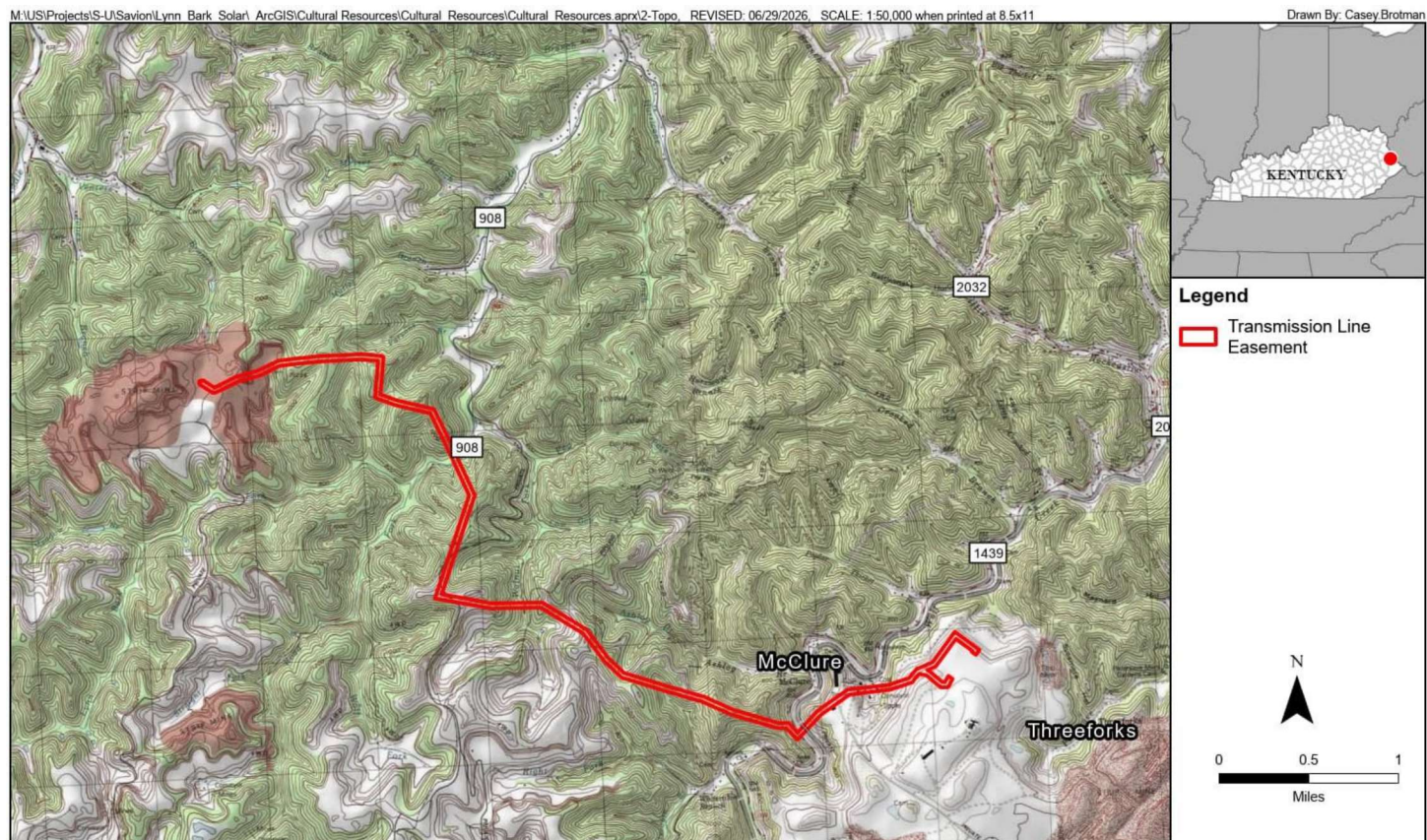




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FIGURE 2 PROJECT AREA OVERVIEW, TOPOGRAPHIC VIEW

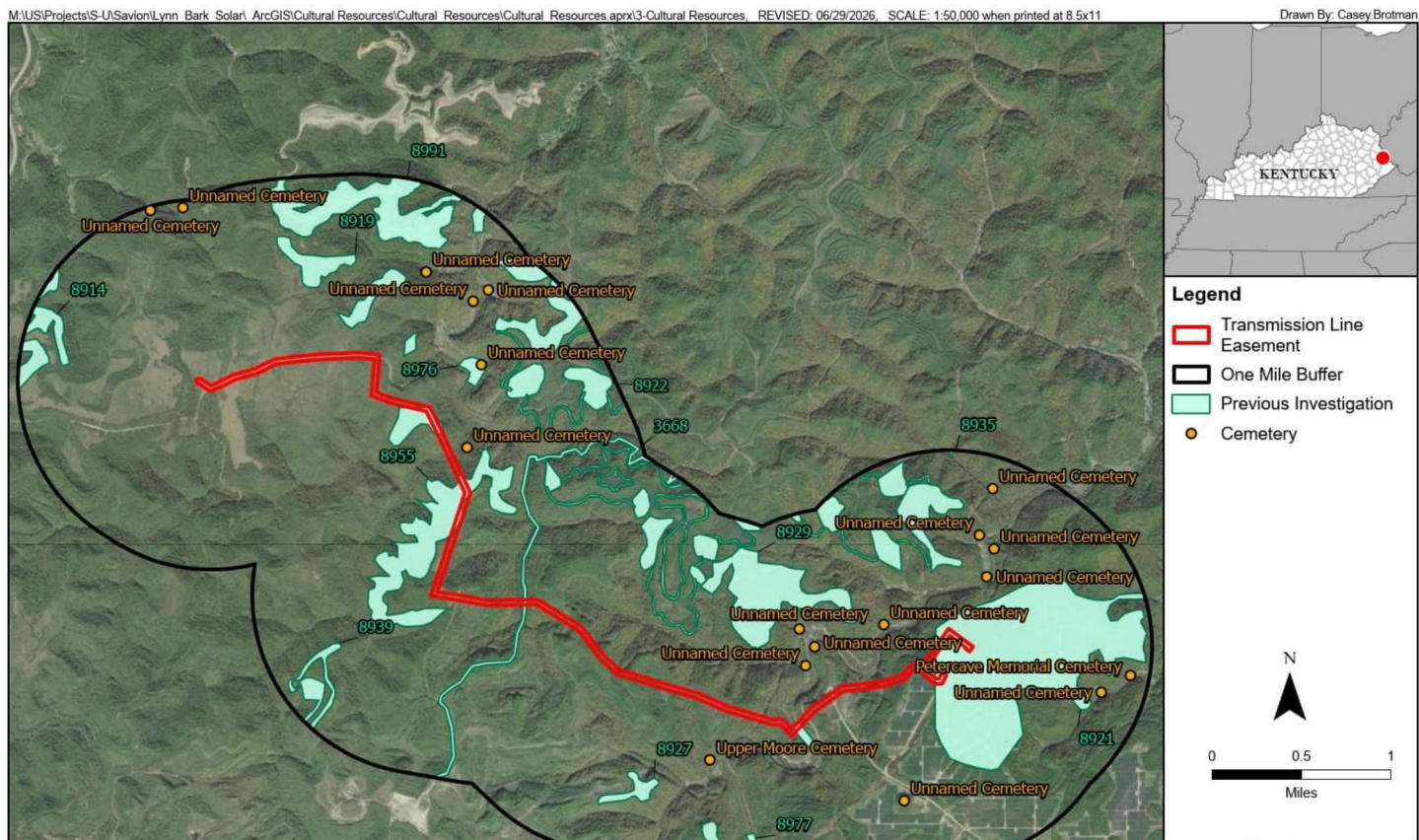




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FIGURE 3 PREVIOUS SURVEYS AND RECORDED RESOURCES WITHIN STUDY AREA

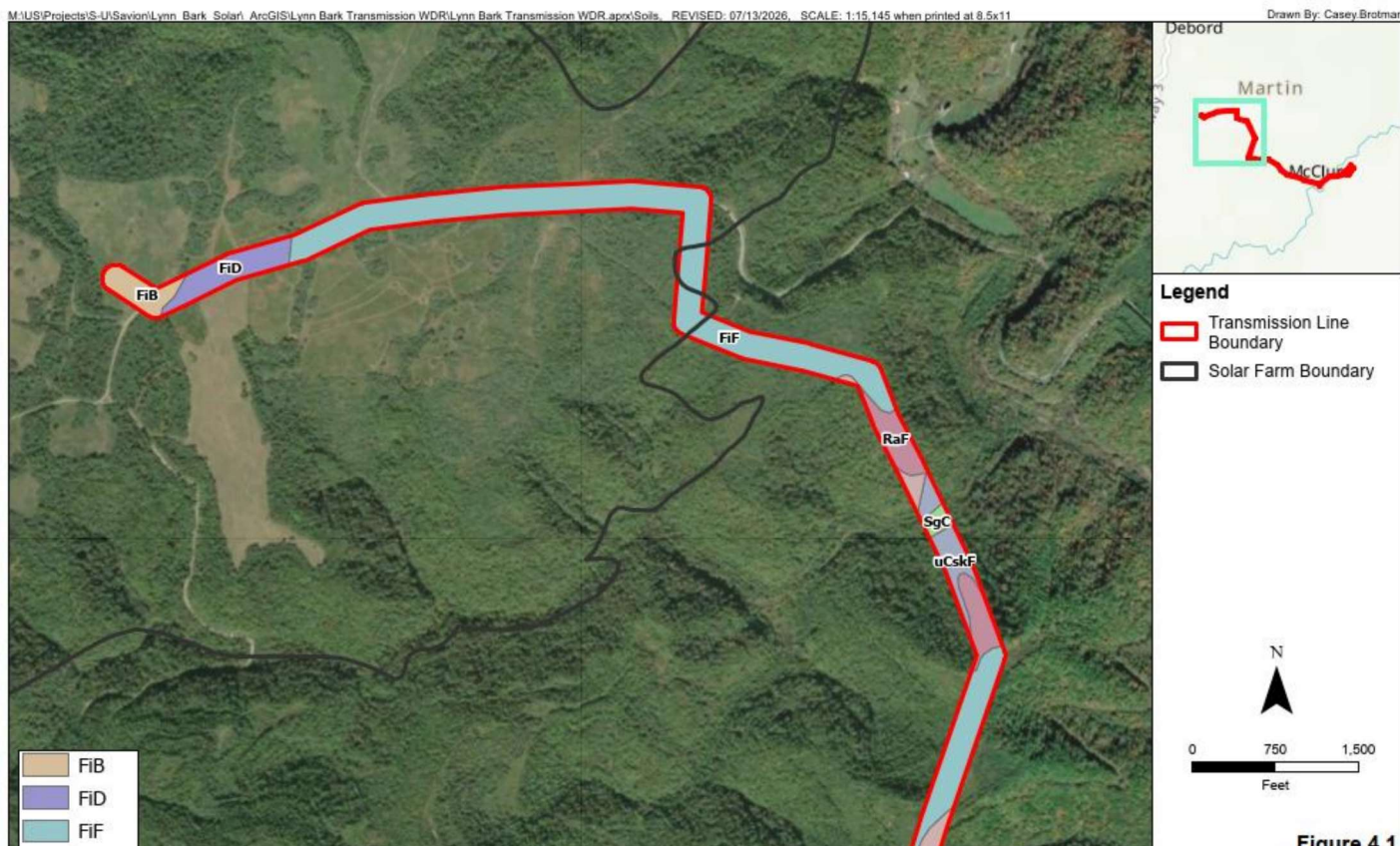




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FIGURE 4.1 SOILS WITHIN PROJECT AREA (WESTERN PORTION)

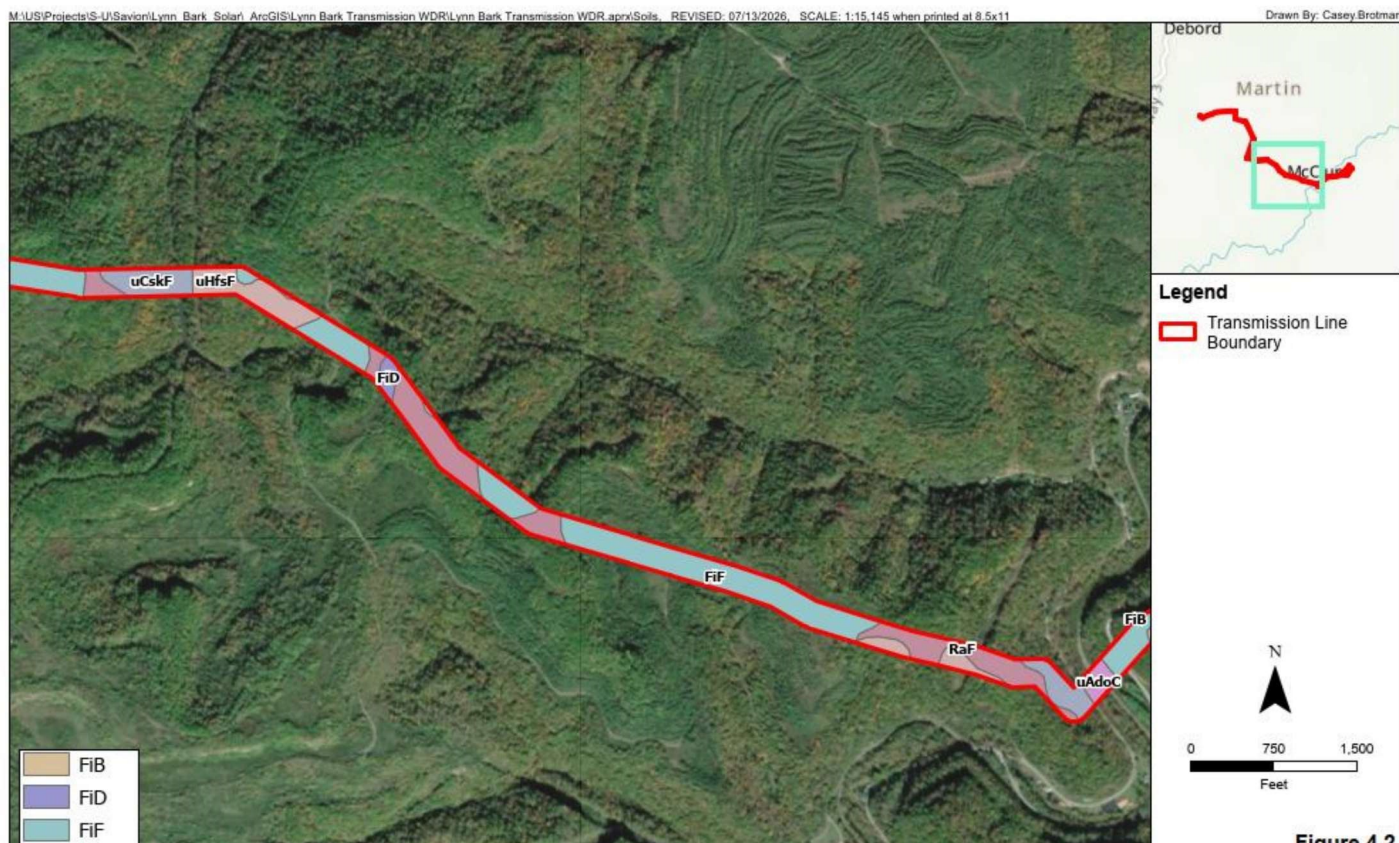




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FIGURE 4.2 SOILS WITHIN PROJECT AREA (CENTRAL PORTION)





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FIGURE 4.3 SOILS WITHIN PROJECT AREA (EASTERN PORTION)

