

**Chapter 5**  
**Block 8, Lots 1-2**  
**Searching for the African-American School House**

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In the early decades of New Philadelphia, Illinois law did not provide for the education of the children of African-American residents of the state. To overcome this racial bias in the state law and related public funding, Frank McWorter and residents of New Philadelphia worked to provide a school house for educating the African-American children of the town in the 1850s and 1860s. They may have done so by subverting the existing laws and channeling the resources for a township-supported school house facility for this unauthorized purpose.

For many small towns in the nineteenth century, the school house served as an important focus of community life. The neighborhood's children would gather there for lessons, to be sure, but the building could also serve as a public space for meetings and social gatherings, particularly in a town without its own church. However, in a community like New Philadelphia, with residents of different races, the school house *could* be a site where segregation and internal divisions were more clearly manifested.

The laws of the state of Illinois specified that school funds be apportioned according to the number of "white" school-age children in a given district. Over the years there were several attempts to divert taxes paid by African-American residents of the state to the schooling of "black" children, but these were largely unsuccessful (McCaul 1987). Educational historian Robert McCaul estimates that only 10% of black children were in public school at mid-century, whereas the figure for white children was closer to 80% (McCaul 1987:46).

In 1847, "sundry" citizens of Pike County petitioned that the free-schools law be amended so that "the black and colored children of our State may have an equal benefit of the money appropriated by law to school purposes, or so amend the law as to exempt the property of blacks" (McCaul 1987:37). The Illinois General Assembly was not moved. Given these circumstances, it is no surprise that Frank McWorter together with other members of his family attempted to establish a school that would serve the African-American children of New Philadelphia. As historian Juliet Walker notes, in 1848 Frank McWorter was arranging for the development of the Free Will Baptist Seminary to serve as a school and church for the town. The decision seems prescient on his part, as a year later the Illinois General Assembly affirmed the exclusion of black children from state-sponsored schools (Walker 1983:136). Court records from 1851 suggest that McWorter rented an existing school house for the education of New Philadelphia's black children (Walker 1983:145; *Frank McWorter vs. C.S. Luce and D. C. Topping* (1851) case no. 3787). Such private efforts by free people of color to provide schooling opportunities for themselves and their children were typical of mid-century educational activism (Agbe-Davies 2002).

As for evidence of the location of a school used by the African Americans of New Philadelphia, former resident Larry Burdick (1992) described a square within the town site bounded by Broad Way, Main, Ann, and King Streets (i.e., Block 8), further stating that “it originally had two schools, one black school and one white school.” Note that Burdick’s (1992) account does not specify whether the “two schools” were facing the square (possibly in Block 9) or within it (in Block 8). Several other sources placed a school on the east side of the town’s square or park (i.e., in Block 9). These factors led archaeologists to believe that perhaps Matteson’s (1964) analysis placed the nineteenth century school house slightly south of its actual location, and that the search should commence with Block 9, Lot 4, which was a parcel associated with the Kimbrew family.

We had previously followed such oral history accounts and searched for remains of this school house in the area of Block 9, Lot 4, in our 2005 field work (Shackel et al. 2006, chap. 3E). The earliest records associated with Block 9, Lot 4, indicated that Anson Grey owned the parcel and had no improvements on the lot in 1867. In 1884 Grey sold the lot to George Kimbrew and M. Kimbrew, who then held the parcel until 1909. Oral history accounts of the town indicate that the “negro schoolhouse” was located on this lot until about 1872 (Burdick 1992; Matteson 1964). When the Kimbrews acquired the lot and the school house, they reportedly partitioned the building, creating a duplex house, with each brother living in one section. Martin “Kinebra” appears in the Hadley County Tax Records of 1888 for Block 9, Lot 4, but nowhere else in the town.

Surveys and excavations in 2005 located the remains of a stone footer, or “pier,” for a structural support in Lot 4, which archaeologists labeled as Feature 6. However, this limited foundation fragment provided inconclusive proof of a possible location of such a school house. A wood frame structure, recalled by Burdick (1992) as located on Block 9, was sketched by him and is not dissimilar in appearance from many school buildings of the period, with a gable-ended entrance. Such a structure might have sat lightly on the landscape and its presence easily erased by demolition and later disturbance of the archaeological record. The only trace might be a large number of nails in the plow zone. Interestingly, an abundance of nails were recovered during the surface collection survey of 2002 in the southern portion of Block 9, Lot 4 (Shackel et al. 2006:3E:2).

Another line of evidence that provided some indications of where the school house may have been located was uncovered in deed provisions. Survey and excavations in 2008 focused on the southern half of Block 8, Lots 1 and 2, for which a number of deed references indicate a school house for African-American families may have been located in the 1850s and 1860s. For example, on December 15, 1860, Elizabeth Kellum sold Lots 1 and 2 of Block 8 to Sarah McWorter for \$200, “with the exception of Twenty (20) feet East and (21) Twenty one feet within the South west corner of lot No One (1) in Block No Eight (8)” (Pike County Deed Records, Deed Books [PCDR], Vol. 59, p. 237). Figure 5.1 provides an excerpt of a deed recording an earlier sale in 1858 by John and Agnes Kellum of the same land and repeats this reservation of the parcel for use as a school house location (PCDR, Vol. 55, p. 49). This line of documentary evidence is discussed further below.

The work of investigating the possible location of school house remains in Block 8 was undertaken in our 2008 field season by a group of geophysicists and archaeologists affiliated with the “Time Team America” documentary program. PBS and Oregon Public Broadcasting announced in early 2008 the start of this program of archaeological investigations reported to broad audiences through documentary film episodes. Based on a long-running and highly successful program in the United Kingdom, the Time Team America approach challenges a collaborative group of historians, geophysicists, and archaeologists to spend three working days to answer some puzzle concerning a specific archaeology site. The Time Team group will often work with a long-term archaeology project, like New Philadelphia, and apply the same protocols and standards of practice as the academic archaeologists in addressing such a particular question at the site (PBS 2008).

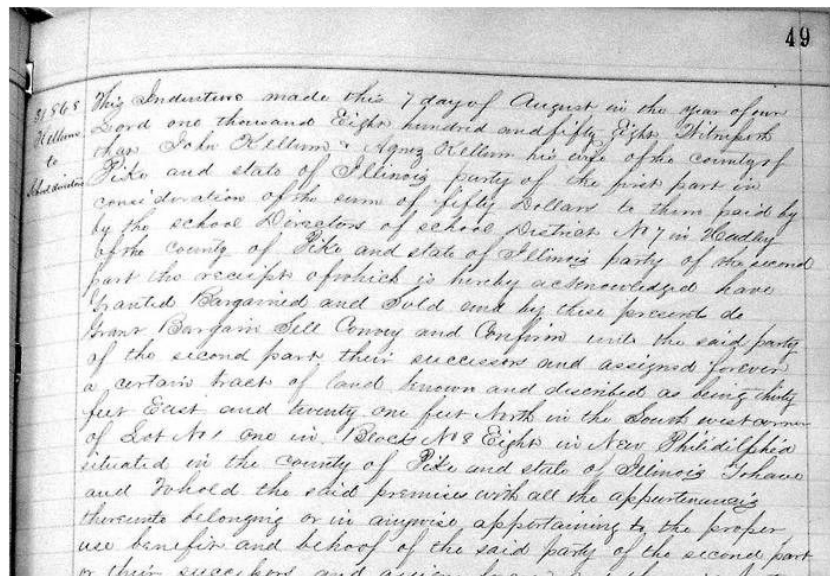


Figure 5.1. Excerpt of 1858 Deed (PCDR, Vol. 55, p. 49).

In early 2008, Dr. Anna Agbe-Davies reported to the New Philadelphia Association and others on the New Philadelphia research team that the Time Team program had expressed an interest in undertaking archaeological research and filming an episode at the site of the town founded by Frank McWorter. Members of the local and descendant communities and our research team were very enthusiastic about this opportunity. The Time Team program in the United Kingdom has an excellent reputation for employing rigorous, scientific methods, and in educating large-scale, public audiences in the techniques and results of archaeological and historical research.

We communicated to the producers of Time Team, including director Graham Dixon, that such a project by their organization at New Philadelphia would greatly benefit from taking an approach consistent with the context of our past work and the status of the town site on the National Register of Historic Places. We wanted to see Time Team approach any archaeology project at New Philadelphia in a way that maintained the archaeological integrity of the town site. When conducting excavations under the NSF-REU program, for example, we have limited excavations to the bisecting of cultural features, so that we always leave one half of each cultural

feature intact in order to maintain the archaeological integrity of the town site. The Illinois State Museum (ISM) is the designated organization for curating all archaeological, faunal, and floral remains from the New Philadelphia town site, and we communicated that all data obtained by a Time Team project should also be curated by ISM. The Time Team organizers agreed entirely with all these recommendations, which were consistent with the overall approaches the program had taken at other sites as well.

As researchers for the NSF-REU supported project, we had also approached the New Philadelphia Archaeology Project in a process of civic engagement, and we consulted regularly with members of the descendant and local communities on their views for the goals of the archaeological and historical research. We have been as transparent as possible in formulating and communicating our research questions and we have made our archaeological and historical data readily available to the public through our public archaeology internet sites. We expressed to the Time Team producers that we wished to see their project take a similar approach, with a commitment to making any data publicly available in the same manner. They again agreed whole-heartedly, and the results of their research will be disseminated both through their internet publications and their television program.

The next section of this chapter discusses the evidence available from documentary sources related to Block 8, Lots 1 and 2, followed by a discussion of the archaeological investigations in the area of those parcels in the 2008 field season.

### **Block 8, Lots 1-2 History**

As partially summarized in our 2006 report (Shackel et al. 2006), the following data concerning past property owners and potential residents or other occupants of Block 8, Lots 1 and 2, can be ascertained from documentary records, including deeds, tax ledgers, and census lists.

Frank McWorter sold Block 8, Lots 1-2 to Christopher S. Luce in 1840. C. S. Luce was listed in the 1850 Federal Census as a Baptist preacher born in Maine. His wife Sally was born in New Hampshire. His oldest son is listed as 15 years old and a farmer who was born in Maine. Their youngest son, Moses, is listed as 8 years of age, and was born in Illinois, most probably in New Philadelphia. All of the family members are listed as white.

After 1857, the land was sold about a dozen times to people that included the Kellums, Sarah McWorter, A. B. Cobb, Judith Armistead, James McKinney, William Butler and Irene Butler Brown. Clarissa Arnold owned the property in 1857. The household of Calvin Arnold is listed in the 1855 State Census for New Philadelphia, with 6 people in the household and Calvin listed as white. Clarissa may have been a member of that household. John Kellum, who purchased the property in 1857 from Clarissa Arnold, is also listed in the 1855 State Census for the town, with 3 people in his household, and he is listed as white. John conveyed the property to Elizabeth Kellum in 1859, and Elizabeth conveyed the property to Sarah McWorter the next year. Sarah conveyed some form of interest in the property to A.B. Cobb in 1860, but Sarah remained responsible for tax payments on the property listed for 1867 and 1868, according to the Hadley Township Tax Assessments. A. B. Cobb owned the property in 1870, when he conveyed

it to Alexander Baird, and Cobb was listed as responsible for taxes on the property during that same year.

In the 1860 census, Cobb was listed as a white Physician from New York. His wife Emily was from Illinois and was listed with the occupation of keeping house. The entire Cobb family of 5 is listed in the census as white. In the 1865 State Census, Cobb is listed as white with 6 family members. The 1870 Federal Census lists Arden Cobb at 38 years of age with his wife Laura, who is 35 years old. There were 5 children in the household.

The Hadley Township Tax Assessments indicate that during Sarah McWorter's ownership of the property it was assessed for \$8 in 1867. A structure was built on the land the following year as evident in the fact that McWorter was assessed for \$100 of improvements for Lots 1 and 2. A. B. Cobb was assessed the same amount for the property in 1869, and then assessed only \$35 in 1870. From 1871 through 1878 Alexander Baird was assessed for improvements. In the 1880s, the McKinneys owned the property. The value of the property was generally constant and increased somewhat in the 1870s. By 1888 the assessed value decreased to \$75. Based on this information, it appears that a structure stood on either Lot 1 or Lot 2 by 1868. A geophysical survey conducted by Michael Hargrave in 2005 indicated that anomaly A43 located on the northern edge of Block 8, Lot 2, likely represents the remains of the structure. Based on the archeological evidence it was probably built in the 1850s and dismantled by the early 1870s.

The deed, census, and tax data related to Block 8, Lots 1-2 follow. The names italicized are those who may have occupied some portion of these lots since they appear in both the deed and the census data.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1840	Frank McWorter	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	54, 1
1857	Clarissa Arnold	John Kellum	54, 4
1857	Clarissa Arnold	<i>John Kellum</i>	54, 4
1859	<i>John Kellum</i>	Elizabeth Kellum	54, 6
1860	Elizabeth Kellum	<i>Sarah McWorter</i>	54, 7
1860	<i>Sarah McWorter</i>	<i>A. B. Cobb</i>	54, 12
1870	<i>A. B. Cobb</i>	Alex Baird	54, 13
1874	Alexander Baird	Cordelia Racy	54, 11
1876	Judith Armstead	Solomon McWorter	54, 14
1881	N. V. Hadsell	William McKinney	54, 21
1887	William McKinney	James McKinney	54, 23
1902	James McKinney	William Butler	54, 25
1911	William Butler	Alonzo Leonard	54, 26
1919	William Butler	John Siegle	54, 33
1924	William Butler	John Siegle	54, 34
1927	Irene B. Brown	John Siegle	54, 36
1928	John Siegle	William Butler	54, 37
1930	Emma Siegle	Virgil Burdick	54, 39

HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>	<i>Total</i>
1867	Sarah McWorter	\$3.00	\$5.00	8.00
1868	Sarah McWorter (Lots 1 & 2)	10.00	100.00	110.00
1869	A. B. Cobb (Lots 1 & 2)	10.00	100.00	110.00
1870	A. B. Cobb (Lots 1 & 2)	00.00	35.00	35.00
1871	Alexander Baird (Lots 1 & 2)	00.00	100.00	100.00
1872	Alexander Baird (Lots 1 & 2)	10.00	90.00	100.00
1875	Alexander Baird (Lots 1 & 2)	00.00	blank	200.00
1878	Alexander Baird & Cordelia Racy (Lots 1 & 2)	00.00	150.00	150.00
1883	W.D. McKinney (Lots 1 & 2)	00.00	125.00	125.00
1888	James McKinney (Lots 1 & 2)	00.00	75.00	75.00

1850 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION	ORIGIN
Luce	C. S.	45	M	W	Bapt. Preacher	ME
	Sally P.	41	F	W	Blank	NH
	George D.B.	15	M	W	Farmer	ME
	Moses A.	8	M	W	Blank	IL

1855 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
Kellum	John	W	3
Arnold	Calvin	W	6

1860 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION	ORIGIN
Cobb	Arden	31	M	W	Physician	NY
	Emily	20	F	W	Housework	IL
	Wilbur	6	M	W	Blank	IL
	David	3	M	W	Blank	IL
	Albert	1	M	W	Blank	IL

1865 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
Kellum	E.	W	3
Cobb	A. B.	W	6
McWorter	S.	B	5

1870 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION	ORIGIN
Cobb	A. B.	38	M	W	Physician	NY
	Laura	35	F	W	Keeping house	IL
	Wilber	15	M	W	At home	IL

Laura	13	F	W	Blank	IL
Albert	9	M	W	Blank	IL
Francis	6	F	W	Blank	IL

Evidence supporting a plan to look for the school house remains on Block 8 came from such documentary sources, particularly the deeds. In 1858, John and Agnes Kellum sold a 30 ft. (E-W) by 21 ft. (N-S) portion in the southwest corner of Block 8, Lot 1 to “the school Directors of school District No. 7 in Hadley of the county of Pike.” A series of deed records concerning transfers of these lots over a number of decades includes such descriptions of a portion of the land being reserved for use as a school house location. John and Agnes Kellum had purchased Lots 1 and 2 from Clarissa Arnold in February, 1857. Their 1858 deed of transfer (PCDR, Vol. 55, p. 49) provided in part as follows:

This Indenture made this 7 day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and fifty Eight, Witnessst that John Kellum & Agnez [sic] Kellum his wife of the county of Pike and state of Illinois, party of the first part in consideration of the sum of fifty Dollars to them paid by the school Directors of school District No. 7 in Hadley of the county of Pike and state of Illinois party of the second part the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged have Granted Bargained and Sold and by these presents do Grant Bargain Sell Convey and Confirm unto the said party of the second part, their successors and assigned forever a certain tract of land known and described as being thirty feet East and twenty one feet North in the South west corner of Lot No 1 one in Block No 8 Eight in New Philadelphia situated in the county of Pike and state of Illinois.

Historian Claire Martin compiled the following account of the subsequent transactions concerning Block 8, Lots 1 and 2 during the nineteenth century, most of which reserved portions of the land for use in hosting a school house. None of these deed provisions expressly stated that a school house had been constructed on either of those lots; the deed entries instead make references to a portion of the land as a “school house lot” or dedicated “for school house” use.

On October 12, 1859, the Kellum family sold Lots 1 and 2 to John Kellum’s mother Elizabeth for \$325, making no mention of reserving any portion for the location of a school house (PCDR, Vol. 57, p. 363). On December 15, 1860, Elizabeth Kellum sold Lots 1 and 2 to Sarah McWorter for \$200, “with the exception of Twenty (20) feet East and (21) Twenty one feet within the South west corner of lot No One (1) in Block No Eight (8)” (PCDR, Vol. 59, p. 237). On October 15, 1860, Sarah McWorter sold Lots 1 and 2 to A. B. Cobb for \$200, and the deed made no mention of a school tract (PCDR, Vol. 89, p. 223). These deed records were not filed until 1874, which likely accounts for the chronological discrepancies between transactions. A. B. and Laura Cobb sold the lots to Alexander Beard/Baird for \$250 on November 7, 1870; there was no mention in the deed record concerning a school tract (PCDR, Vol. 89, p. 224). On October 12, 1874, Alexander and Mary Beard sold the lots to Cordelia Racy, “except twenty one (21) feet by thirty (30) out of the South West corner for School house” (PCDR, Vol. 87, p. 130).

On November 21, 1881, the executor of Cordelia Racy's estate sold the lots for \$125 to William D. McKinney, "excepting a school House lot in the South West Corner 21 by 30 feet" (PCDR, Vol. 101, p. 299). On May 10, 1887, William McKinney sold Lots 1 and 2 to James McKinney for \$75, "excepting a School House lot in the South West corner 21 by 30 feet" (PCDR, Vol. 113, p. 266). On October 22, 1902, James McKinney sold Lots 1, 2, 7 and 8 in Block 8 to William Butler for \$80, but the deed of transfer made no mention of a school house portion (PCDR, Vol. 147, p. 123).

One can combine these points of evidence from deed entries with additional data from census and tax records. The first owner of Block 8, Lots 1 and 2 following the patenting of the town was Christopher Luce. He purchased these lots in 1840 and was shown living in Hadley Township in 1850 with his wife Sally and two sons, one a farmer of 15. The three elder Luces were born in New England, the youngest (age 8) in Illinois. All were designated "white" on the U.S. census. Luce was a Baptist preacher and had contracted with Frank McWorter to build the Baptist seminary that the latter envisioned for the town. Luce did not fulfill his contract, leading to a lawsuit in 1851 (Walker 1983:138-139). No subsequent censuses include Luces in Hadley Township.

William Kellum was the next seller/purchaser to appear in the census. He, his wife Elizabeth, their two adult daughters and three young sons (17-5) are all classed as "white." He and his eldest son are listed as farmers. William and Elizabeth had moved at least twice, having been born in the northeast, their older children born in Ohio, and their youngest born in Illinois. By 1860, Elizabeth appeared to be a widow, as she headed the household that included an adult daughter, three sons of farming age, and two smaller boys born since the last census. Elizabeth Kellum sold the lot back to the McWorter family in that year, to another female head of household, Sarah McWorter. Sarah, a "mulatto" woman well into her thirties, appeared in the 1850 census in a household that included her father and mother and at least two of her children, an adult daughter and a young girl. Likewise in 1860, her mother was the head of the household that included Sarah. In 1870 she appeared have taken over the household at age 60.

Andrew Cobb purchased the lot from Sarah McWorter in 1860, the same year in which she purchased it, suggesting it was an investment rather than a residence for her. The Cobb family was headed by Andrew, a physician from the Northeast. His wife Emily, along with their three small boys, was born in Illinois. They appeared in the 1860 census as "white." In 1870, the year Andrew Cobb sold the lot, the family included two of the previously-listed children as well as an older girl (13) and a little boy. The new Mrs. Cobb (Laura) apparently brought at least one child to the marriage.

Alexander Baird, who purchased the lot from Andrew Cobb in 1870 does not appear in the census for that year. However, given his age and birthplace as listed in the 1880 census, it is likely he was the son of other Bairds who resided in Hadley Township in 1860. In 1870, he would have been 31. His son listed in 1880 would have been five in 1870, but it is not clear to whom Alexander was married when he purchased the land, or sold it in 1874 -- to his son's mother or to the woman who was his wife in 1880, Mary Baird. All of the members of the Baird family were listed as "white." Alexander was a painter.



Cordelia Racy purchased the lot from Alexander Baird. Several Racys appeared in the 1850 census. Cordelia appeared only in the census of 1880, when she was a middle-aged widow, and the head of a household that included only her disabled adult son. They were both listed as “white.” She was born in the northeast, he was a native Illinoisan. She bought the lot six years prior to that census.

Immediately south of Block 8, Lots 1 and 2, lies Lot 8 of that block (Fig. 5.2). One can also examine evidence concerning this neighboring parcel for further contextual leads on the precise history of Lots 1 and 2. The following table provides the history of land transactions concerning that neighboring tract, followed by a discussion of additional data from census and tax records.

<i>Block</i>	<i>Lot</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
8	8	1853	Sarah Hull	David Green	54, 2
8	8	1871	James Vokes	Solomon McWorter	54, 9
8	8	1872	Lucy McWorter	Solomon McWorter	54, 8
8	8	1876	Sarah McWorter	Solomon McWorter	54, 10
8	8	1876	Judith Armstead	Solomon McWorter	54, 14
8	8	1876	Lucy Vond	Solomon McWorter	54, 17
8	8	1876	John Johnson	Solomon McWorter	54, 18
8	8	1878	Solomon McWorter	William Bower	54, 16
8	8	1879	James Bower	Frederick Shipman	54, 19
8	8	1886	Marcus Kellum	James McKinney	54, 24
8	8	1902	James McKinney	William Butler	54, 25
8	8	1911	William Butler	Alonzo Leonard	54, 26
8	8	1919	William Butler	John Siegle	54, 33
8	8	1924	William Butler	John Siegle	54, 34
8	8	1927	Irene Butler Brown	John Siegle	54, 36
8	8	1928	John Siegle	William Butler	54, 37
8	8	1930	Emma Siegle	Virgil Burdick	54, 40

Sarah Hull sold Block 8, Lot 8 in 1853. The only Hulls listed in the census records for Hadley Township were members of the household of David and Lydia Hull, who appeared in the 1860 roll. None of these was named Sarah. David Green appeared on the 1850 census, however, and so appeared to have been in the area prior to purchasing the lot. He and his wife Jerusia were in their 60s then. Their household included two adults who shared their surname, and two very young girls (5 and 8 months). Presumably Joseph, was their son and Lovinia was his wife. All members of the household were listed as “white.” The adults were born in New York, the girls in Illinois. Both David and Joseph were farmers. Ten years later, David and Gerusha appeared as members of a household headed by Joseph that includes Lovinia as well as the older of the two girls, a boy born since the last census. Also new to the household were two employees in their 20s: a male laborer and a female housekeeper, immigrants from Ireland.

None of these Greens were left in the township by the time of the 1870 census. In 1871 a deed lists James Vokes as the seller of Block 8, Lot 8. He did not appear in the census, either, but the purchaser, Solomon McWorter, did. He purchased the lot five more times over the

course of the 1870s. Several of those purchases were from other McWorters. Sarah McWorter's transactions are described above. Lucy McWorter, the mother of both Sarah and Solomon -- and wife of Frank McWorter -- probably lived elsewhere at that time. The same was probably true for Solomon. It is possible that the "Lucy" from whom Solomon purchased the parcel was a different family member, named for the matriarch. In 1850 there was a Lucy A., aged 23, born in Kentucky and living in Frank and the elder Lucy's household. There was also a Lucy J., aged 5, and a Lucy, aged 5 months, both born in Illinois and both in the household of Squire McWorter. The elder girl was his daughter and the younger was Frank McWorter, Jr.'s daughter. All of these Lucys would have been of age in 1872, the year Solomon purchased part of Lot 8 from one "Lucy McWorter." All of the McWorters are listed as "mulatto" in the pertinent census years. Solomon was described as a farmer, and he had a hand in land transactions on many of the blocks in New Philadelphia.

Lucy Vond, another person from whom a portion of Block 8, Lot 8 was purchased, was Solomon's sister. She was born in Kentucky and in 1870 was 44 years old. Lucy's husband Ansel is listed as "black" in the 1860 census. The other members of the Vond family are listed as "mulatto" in 1860 and 1880, and all are labeled "white" on the 1870 census. The family included three daughters and two sons, all under 12, with the older ones listed as being in school. Throughout the census records, Lucy Vond is described as someone keeping house.

No Judith Armstead appeared in the census records, nor does anyone else with that surname. Several John Johnsons appear over the years, but the only one in Hadley Township in 1870 was John Johnson, 32, born in Illinois, married to Anna, 27. He was a farmer and she kept house. They are both described as "white."

William Bower purchased Block 8, Lot 8 from Solomon McWorter in 1879. In 1850 James W. Bower, born in Ohio, was a teenager in the household of Anson Gray. There are no Bowers in the 1860 census. In the 1870 census his household included "Will," wife "Rebeca," two daughters and a son. Rebeca was born in Indiana, the older girl in Missouri and the two younger children in Illinois. The same members appeared in the 1880 census, at which time the elder Bowers were in their early 40s, their oldest child was 20, and the youngest 11. All were listed as "white." William was described as a farmer, and Rebecka as keeping house. William's age and birthplace confirm that William and "James," who sold the lot to Frederick Shipman, are the same man.

Frederick Shipman first appeared in the 1870 census in the household of his father. He was described as a farmhand of 21, born in Illinois. In 1880, he was the head of his own household, married to Lucy, 26, with three children five and under. He was described as a farmer, and Lucy kept house. She and their three children were also native Illinoisans, and all of them were described as "white."

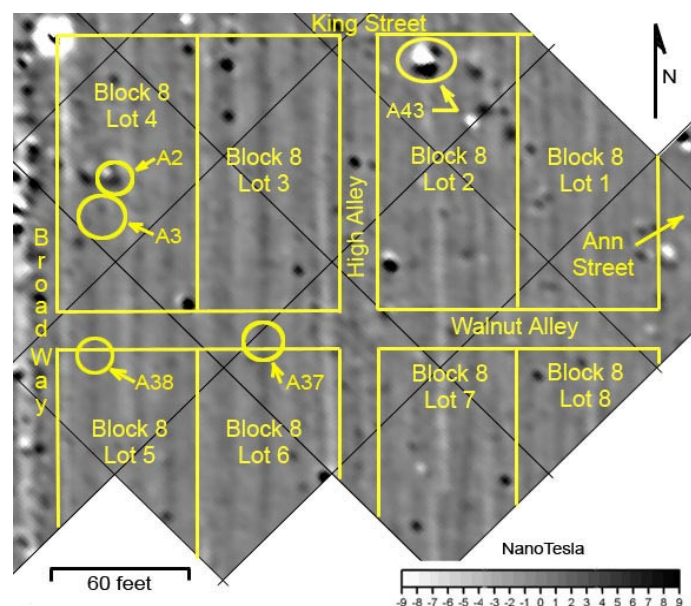
By 1886, the next time Lot 8 was sold, the owner was Marcus Kellum. Note that several other Kellums were involved in the ownership of Lots 1 and 2 on Block 8. Marcus was the oldest son of John and Elizabeth Kellum. He was born in Ohio, and in 1870 he was 33. In that year, his household included his wife Sarah, 23, and a toddler son, as well as his brother and mother. In 1880, closer to the time of purchasing Lot 8, the family consisted of Marcus and

Sarah, three children under the age of six, and a 30 year old boarder. All were listed as “white” in the census.

James McKinney was the next owner of Lot 8. The only McKinneys or McKinnys that appear in the census are members of the household of Charles F. McKinney. William Butler purchased the lot from McKinney in 1902. A William Butler appeared in the 1880 census as a farm laborer of 27. He and his wife Katie, 22, were born in Missouri. Their infant daughter was born in Illinois. He was listed as “black” on the census, and she and the child were listed as “mulatto.” Katie was keeping house. William was involved in several more transactions with Lot 8 (1911-1924), each time as a seller. The last two transactions were with John Siegle, who also purchased a portion of Lot 8 from Irene Butler Brown in 1927.

### Block 8, Lots 1-2 Archaeology

Archaeological work on Lots 1 and 2 of Block 8 had previously focused on a residential structure with a large cellar feature located on the northern edge of Lot 2. An electric resistivity survey undertaken in 2005 by Michael Hargrave had shown a strong indication of cultural remains, labeled as anomaly A43 in Figure 5.2. Soil conditions in those years were relatively dry, and such strong geophysical contrasts did not appear in the area of the southern portions of Lots 1 and 2 in that survey (Fig. 5.2). Anomaly A43 was excavated in the 2006 field season and proved to be the remains of a residential site. The history and archaeological investigations of



*Figure 5.2. Resistivity Survey of Block 8, Lots 1 and 2 in 2005 and 2006 (Image by Michael Hargrave; overlay by Christopher Fennell).*

that residence are discussed in detail in our 2006 report. Christopher Luce, a Baptist preacher, originally owned the property. The cellar feature measured about 18.6 ft. by 16 ft., and had underlain a house with plaster walls, dating from the 1850s. The house was dismantled and the

cellar filled beginning with Sarah McWorter's ownership of the property in the 1860s, and final filling with a collapsed stone foundation and chimney remains occurred in the early 1870s (Shackel et al. 2006, chaps. 3E, 4).

The Time Team America archaeological investigations were conducted over the course of three working days in June 2008, during which the process and results were filmed for inclusion in an episode of their television program (Figs. 5.3, 5.4). Archaeologists for Time Team America, including Eric Deetz, Rochelle Lurie, Catherine Bird, and Julie Schablitsky, among others, and they undertook their research according to standard excavation and recording procedures utilized by the New Philadelphia Archaeology Project.



*Figure 5.3. Time Team America archaeologists and film crew working on Block 8, Lots 1-2, June, 2008 (Photograph by Joe Conover).*



*Figure 5.4. Time Team America's helicopter crew obtained aerial views of the town site and surrounding landscape (Photograph by Joe Conover).*

Geophysical prospection played a large role in selection of excavation areas. Archaeologists knew that the southwest corner of Block 8, Lot 1 was an important target area, but units were also placed nearby in order to follow-up on information obtained via geophysical survey techniques. Margaret Watters Wilkes (University of Birmingham) and Bryan Haley (University of Mississippi) conducted the geophysical surveys for Time Team, in consultation with Michael Hargrave.

Ground penetrating radar (GPR) identified an anomaly at the southern edge of Block 8, Lot 1, and archaeologists identified a second anomaly in the southern section of Block 8, Lot 1, using an electric resistivity survey. In turn, a magnetic gradiometry survey suggested the location of a potential anomaly in the area platted as Ann Street, just to the east of Block 8, Lot 1. On Block 8, Lot 2, geophysics experts identified another anomaly using part of the data obtained through the Thermal Infra Red (TIR) photography survey discussed in Chapter 2 of this

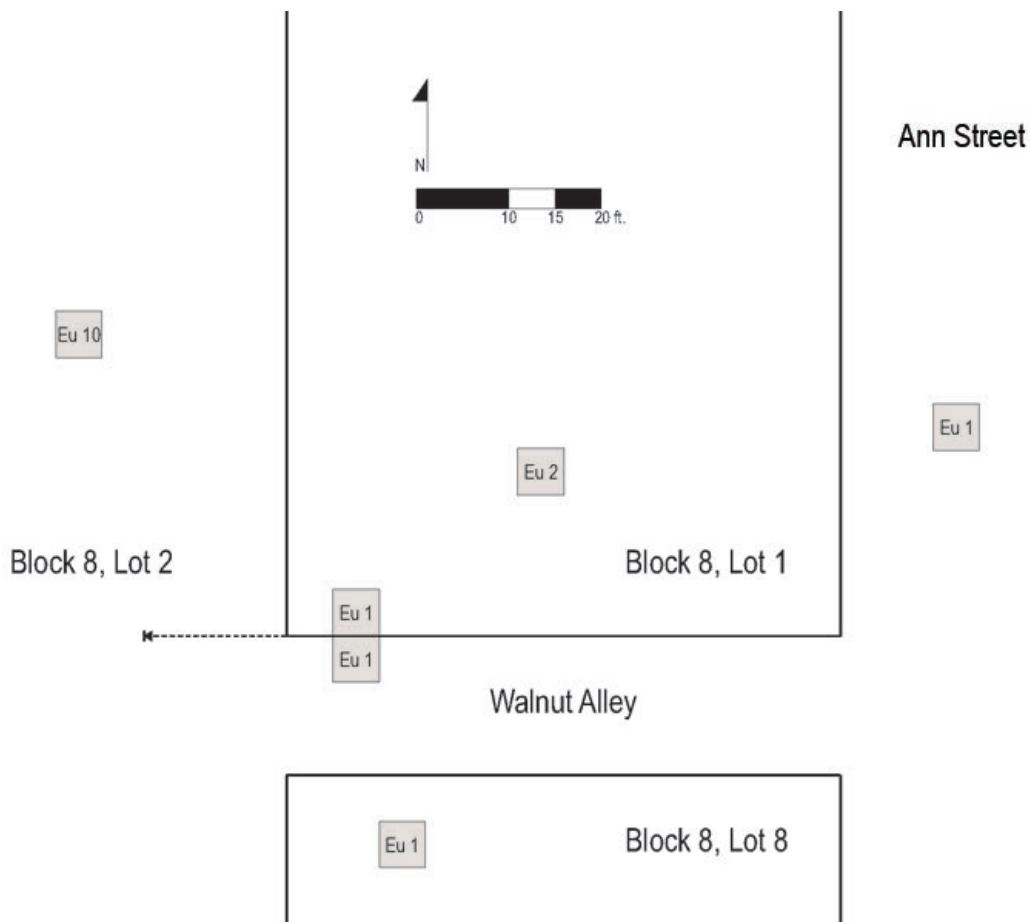


*Figure 5.5. TIR image map of part of Block 8, with locations of excavation units indicated (Image by Margaret Watters Wilkes; label overlay by Christopher Fennell).*



report. Figure 5.5 provides one version of such geophysical survey data maps, depicting the results obtained in the TIR survey in this area, and also indicates the locations of excavation units placed by Time Team to investigate anomalies observed in the data results of the TIR, GPR, electric resistivity, and magnetic gradiometry surveys.

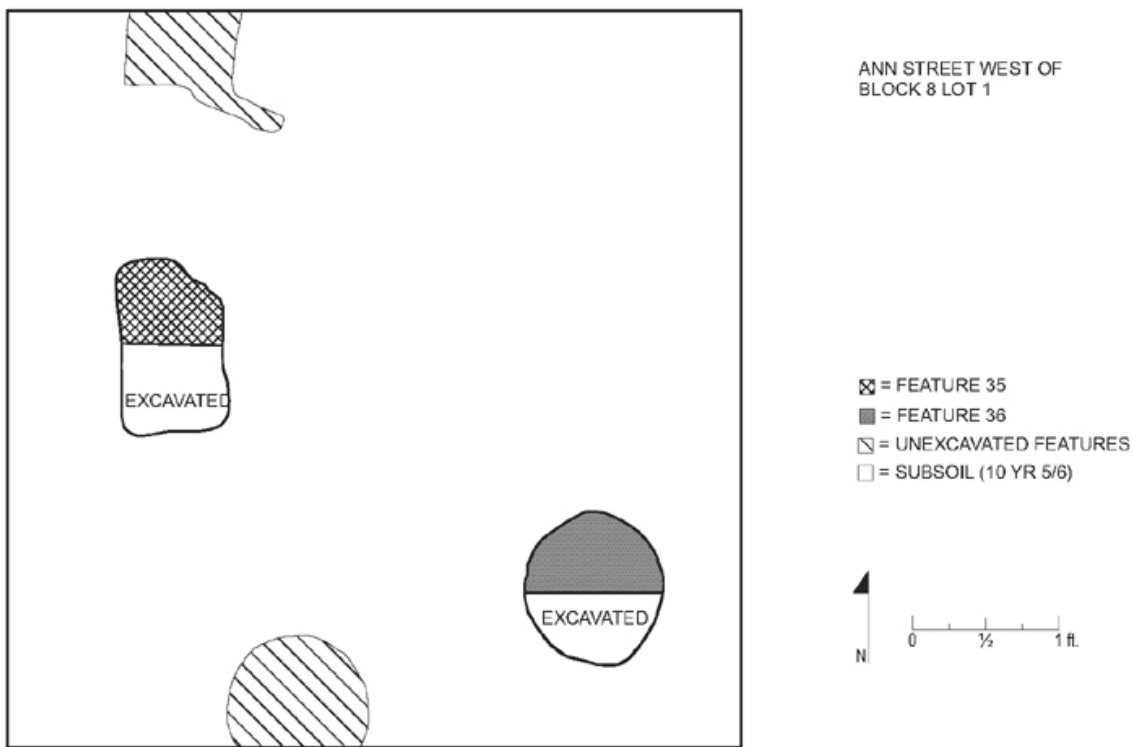
Ground penetrating radar identified an anomaly at the southern edge of Block 8, Lot 1, which archaeologists tested with two adjacent 5 ft. x 5 ft. units, one within the lot, and the second to the south, in Walnut Alley (Fig. 5.6). The plow zone was removed in two arbitrary levels of 0.5 ft. until subsoil was reached. Flat glass, brick fragments, and cut nails suggested a structure from the appropriate time period, but archaeologists did not uncover any structural features below the plow zone. Underneath level A2, which extended to 1.0 ft. below the ground surface, archaeologists identified several plow scars running north-south through the two units.



*Figure 5.6. Map of excavation units placed by Time Team in the area of Lots 1 and 2 on Block 8 and surrounding vicinity. Following protocols used by the New Philadelphia Archaeology Project, Time Team labeled these units in consecutive order within each Lot or within the space of a platted alley or street. Thus “EU 1” in Walnut Alley was the first unit placed within the space of that alley, and the contiguous “EU 1” in Block 8, Lot 1, was the first unit placed within the space of that adjacent Lot (Image by Anna Agbe-Davies and Christopher Fennell).*

Archaeologists identified a second anomaly in the southern section of Block 8, Lot 1, using a resistivity survey. No artifacts came from the first 0.5 ft. arbitrary level of the 5 ft. x 5 ft. excavation unit placed in that location (EU 2 in Block 8, Lot 1 in Fig. 5.6). Level A2 in this unit included unidentified nail fragments and brick fragments in the silty loam matrix, in addition to lamp chimney and flat glass. There was no feature present to account for the resistivity anomaly.

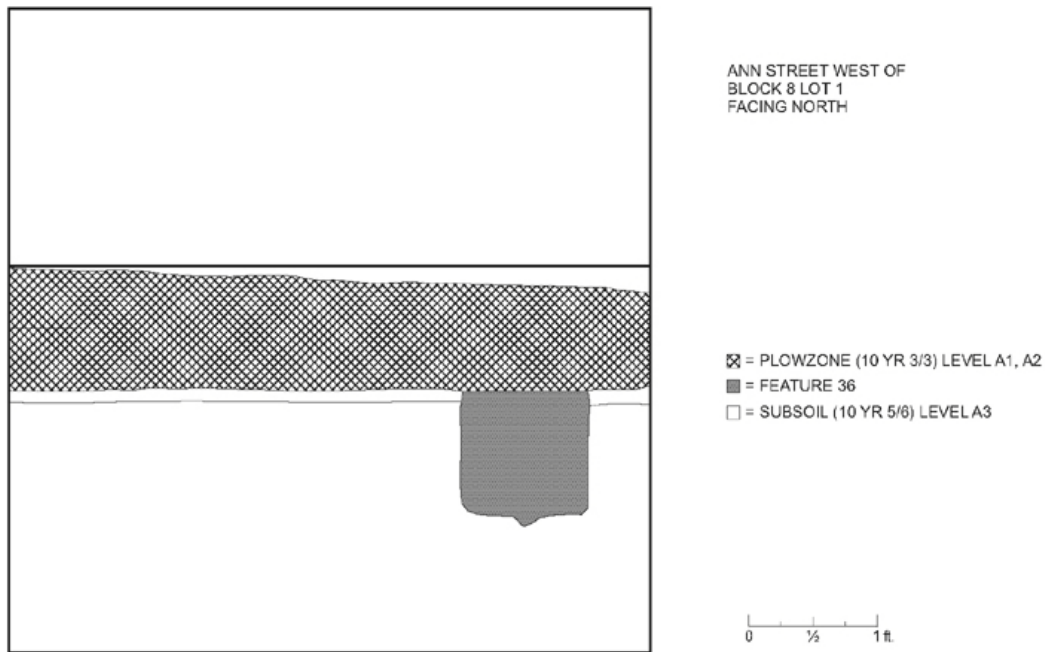
Magnetic gradiometry suggested the location of a 5 ft. x 5 ft. excavation unit in the space platted as Ann Street, just to the east of Block 8, Lot 1 (Fig. 5.6). The plow zone was removed in two arbitrary levels of 0.5 ft. each, and a third level that terminated on the top of subsoil, identified by the appearance of several features in the yellowish brown silty clay, two of which archaeologists labeled as Features 35 and 36 (Fig. 5.7).



*Figure 5.7. Plan view of Features 35 (on left) and 36 (on right) (Image by Anna Agbe-Davies).*

**Feature 35.** Feature 35 appeared initially to be a small post hole or post mold, 0.7 ft. x 1.2 ft. in size (Fig. 5.7). However, once archaeologists bisected it, the deposit was revealed to be less than 0.1 ft. deep. Excavators did not remove any artifacts from the feature fill, and their final interpretation was that Feature 35 was a segment of a plow scar that had been distorted through animal burrowing or other non-cultural activity. A second similar feature (shown on the upper edge of Figure 5.7) did not receive an identifying number, nor was it excavated.

**Feature 36.** Excavators described Feature 36 as near perfectly round, and exactly 1.0 ft. in diameter in plan view (Fig. 5.7). When bisected, they revealed that the feature had very straight sides and extended 1.0 ft. into the surrounding subsoil (Figs. 5.8, 5.9). No artifacts or inclusions were removed from the feature fill. The most reasonable interpretation of this feature identifies it as a post hole dug in the late 1900s with a mechanical post hole digger. A second, similar feature (shown on the lower edge of Figure 5.7) was not given an identification number or excavated, given its probable similarity with Feature 36.



*Figure 5.8. Profile view of Feature 36 (Image by Anna Agbe-Davies).*



*Figure 5.9. Feature 36 bisected in Excavation Unit 1 in the area of Ann Street east of Block 8, Lot 1 (Photograph by J. Eric Deetz).*



On Block 8, Lot 2, geophysics experts identified an anomaly using Thermal Infra Red photography. Such an anomaly might indicate a large feature like a foundation that is composed of material different enough from the surrounding sediment that it warms or cools at a different rate than the matrix by which it is surrounded. Excavation Unit 10 was a 5 ft. x 5 ft. unit sited to test that anomaly (Figs. 5.5, 5.6). Archaeologists removed the plow zone in arbitrary levels of 0.5 ft. The first level (A1) included some architectural fragments. However, there were no artifacts or inclusions in the second level, and upon their removal, no features appeared in the subsoil beneath.

The final unit excavated by the Time Team America archaeologists was located in the northern portion of Block 8, Lot 8 (Figs. 5.5, 5.6). The decision to place a unit there was based on the magnetic gradient survey which identified an anomaly in that area. Excavation Unit 1 was a 5 ft. x 5 ft. square from which excavators removed the plow zone in two arbitrary levels of 0.5 ft. each. Level A1 included some whiteware and yellowware fragments as well as some architectural fragments. However, no finds came from the lower layer, and when it was removed, no features appeared in the subsoil beneath.

This collaborative effort by Time Team America allowed the New Philadelphia Archaeology Project to obtain highly valuable data from a new portion of the town site, and to pursue evidentiary leads suggesting the location of a school house for the town's African-American children. Given the brevity of Time Team's research time, which was made more challenging by unusually rainy weather in June, 2008, we obtained very useful data about the landscape on the eastern half of Block 8 that will help guide further investigations. Likewise, the geophysical data collected will be very useful in planning for additional research. In future field seasons, our archaeologists will continue this search for the remains of the African-American school house. This is a highly challenging undertaking, because the foundation supports for such a structure were likely very limited in size and spatial spread, and there was likely no cellar feature to accompany that building. In addition to our team of collaborating researchers, members of the descendant and local communities are very grateful for the efforts of Time Team to contribute to this search for an important element of African-American history in the Midwest.