according to the census of 1810.

The number of known descendants of Benjamin Brown, Sr., including parts of the third and fourth generations, totals 76 and is certainly an incomplete count of the possible number of descendants for the period 1760-1840. The dates of death of most of these 76 individuals range from the 1760s to the 1830s. When other unnamed family members listed in the census schedules and free blacks and slaves listed in the census data are included, the partial list of all household members is 94. Only two of the 94 are known to be buried outside this cemetery: Jackson Lafferty I and II are buried in a churchyard in Dover (Tatnall Tombstone Index, Hall of Records, Dover).

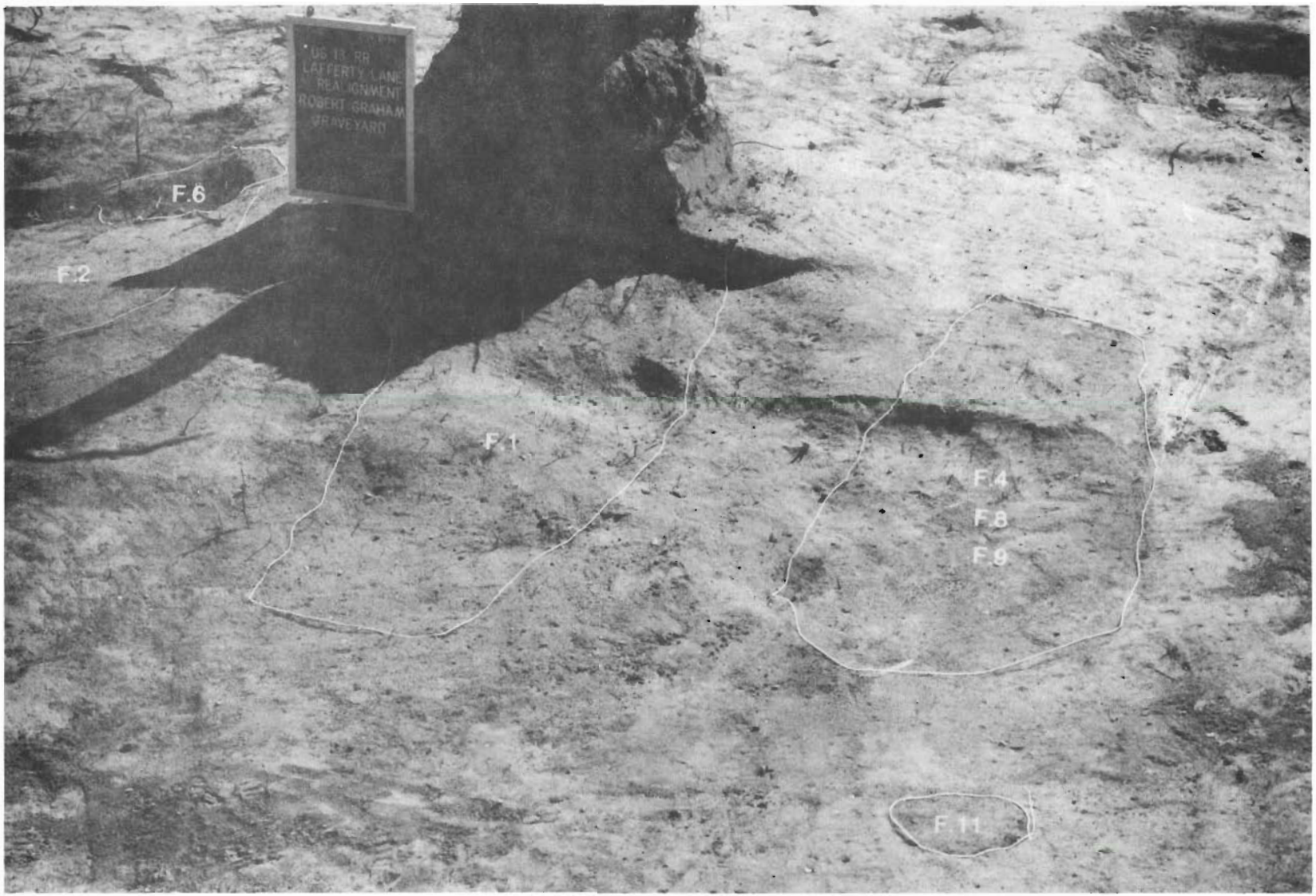
EXCAVATION METHODS

The initial task was to locate the approximate position of the plot on the modern landscape using the 1948 aerial photograph and past and present land surveys. Fortunately, the property lines and angles dividing Dyer's from Lafferty's farms in 1878 (Figure 4) is identical to current lines, and in September 1988, the corner was marked with an iron angle. The ground surrounding the property corner was heavily overgrown with vines, shrubs, and 30' trees and nothing could be seen on the surface. A spring steel probe was employed to penetrate the brush and topsoil to locate any fallen tombstones in the vicinity of the property corner. Although numerous buried angle irons, discarded steel pipe, and concrete chunks were found in this manner, no gravestones were located. A pedestrian survey of the ground around the corner also revealed no gravestones.

Hand excavation was commenced at the property corner to verify the grave of Robert Graham, presumed to be buried here according to the 1878 survey map. Flat shovels were used to strip the topsoil and record any features encountered in the subsoil. In this fashion, Features 1, 2, 4-6, and 8-14 (Figure 9 [see pocket] and Plate 2) were exposed and delineated. After the exposure of the first graveshafts, the State Historic Preservation Officer was notified and a Discovery of Human Remains Form was submitted to his office (Appendix II). At that point, it became apparent that the true size of the cemetery may not be discerned by hand shoveling, and a DelDOT backhoe fitted with a "gradeall-like" bucket on the rear arm was employed to strip the topsoil and expose the full extent of the cemetery. This work was accomplished over a period of three weeks in October, 1988. All suspected or confirmed cultural features were mapped and photographed with cameras and a camcorder using standard archaeological techniques. Simultaneously, test excavations were conducted on Features 1 and 2 to verify that the apparent graveshafts did in fact contain skeletal remains. This testing was necessary because of the possibilities that the remains had been disinterred and headstones removed or that the normally acidic soil of the region had caused the disintegration and disappearance of the skeletal remains. The goal of the grave excavations was to expose and verify the presence of skeletal remains and to record them in situ using standard archaeological techniques. At the conclusion of the recording of all features, Features 1 and 2 were backfilled and the topsoil was replaced over the site. Subsequently, the Delaware Department of

PLATE 2

Features 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 After Topsoil Stripping



Transportation purchased the site and permanently marked the four corners so that it will be preserved.

RESULTS OF FIELDWORK

A total of 154 cultural features were uncovered at the site by a combination of hand and mechanical stripping of the topsoil (Figure 9 [see pocket], Plate 3): 116 burial features, 29 postholes and postmolds, four boundary ditches, one builder's trench for a brick vault-burial, one intrusive twentieth century trash pit, one cut granite block resting upon the subsoil, and two rodent disturbances (Table 1). Of the 116 burial feature

TABLE 1

FEATURE TYPES AT LAFFERTY LANE CEMETERY

Feature Type	Feature Numbers Assigned
Burials	116
Postholes and Postmolds	29
Boundary Ditches	4
Builder's Trench	1
20th Century Trash Dump	1
Cut Granite Block	1
Rodent Disturbances	2
Total	154

numbers, several were assigned to clusters of overlapping graves where the actual number of interments could not be clearly defined (Figure 9 [see pocket]). For example, Feature 14 measures 14' in length and 4.5' maximum width and contains at least four and possibly five overlapping graves. The organic brown feature fill contained bone fragments at the top of the fill, suggesting disturbance by later interments. The feature outline is generally angular and somewhat irregular. Barely