

**SPRING VALLEY**  
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**Geophysical Meeting**  
**Federal Property, Spring Valley**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

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**PURPOSE OF MEETING:** Geophysical Partnering Meeting

**LOCATION:** Spring Valley Operations Trailer

**DATE:** April 19, 2001

**TIME:** 09:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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Action items are highlighted in red, underlined, and italicized.

### **Introductions**

Captain Michael Peloquin made introduction and summarized the status of this future work.

### **Canine Capabilities**

The use of agent and explosive sniffing dogs is being looked at by the CENAB. At the current time it would not be cost effect using the dogs. However, if a sufficient amount of properties need surveying dogs may be used.

### **Prove-Out Considerations**

Sherri started the topic with a discussion of the different areas that were looked at the previous day. The ball field at the AU has too much fill to accurately conduct a geophysical survey. An additional problem associated with the ball fields is the close proximity to the radio tower. Capt. Peloquin suggested that he will talk to the guys at the Aqueduct to see if there is a better location on that side of the Fed. Property.

The ceramic pieces found during the excavation of Pit #2 or a similar type (Sherri has found the company which made the ceramic pots in the late 1800s and is still in business) will be procured and buried in the test plot. The GPR did pick up one of the Pits at 4801 Glenbrook but was not able to pick up the other pit.

Chris Evans is concerned that when the test plot is seeded it will not have the same electrical conductivity signature as items that had been buried for the last 90 years.

Bill Abadie made the suggestion that there are a couple of empty lots that may be used for the test plot. *Captain Peloquin is going to investigate if this is an option and if these lots are available.*

Bob Selfridge – the approach to the testing of the instruments will be to conduct a surface test (surface seed only) to determine how close the various instruments can work within the radio tower. The test plot at the Federal Property will be modified to include glass debris, clay pots, and ceramic debris. The test plot will also have a trench excavated ranging from 2 feet to a maximum depth of 10 feet. Ideally two trenches would be placed into the test plot. One test plot would be unknown to the geophysical contractors and one test plot known for calibrating their instruments.

Seed Items;

5-gallon ceramic pots (Carboys),

3-inch Stokes,

8” Livens projectiles,

75mm projectiles,

4.7” projectiles,

cast iron pipes various sizes. *Parsons to provide USAESCH (Selfridge) the list of items found in Pit 1 and Pit 2.*

Geophysical Instruments to be Tested:

GEM-3

EM-31

EM-61

GPR

Flux-Gate Magnetometers

Cesium Vapor Magnetometers

MTADS (Man-Portable)

### **Prove-Out Methodology**

The seed items will be placed into the ground at various orientations to allow the various geophysical instruments to see the different lines of magnetic flux. Bob Selfridge explained that the various orientations are important to determine how the different magnetic lines affect some instruments and not others. Most of the items will be placed into the ground in the horizontal position.

The geophysical instruments being used are capable of detecting the ferrous items whether single items and/or burial pits. However, to date there are not geophysical instruments capable of detecting non-ferrous items (i.e., ceramic, glass debris, pottery, etc...).

Rich Albright believes there is a pit at the Sedgwick Trenches that an old photograph shows a soldier placing some scrap at the top of the trench. Although previous investigation in the Sedgwick Trench area did not recover any ordnance related scrap. He believes that there should be some frag lying around. Therefore, he reasons that the frag may have been picked-up and buried on-site somewhere.

### **Investigate Anomalies @ 5054 and 5058 Sedgwick Road**

Rich Albright stated that there is a large anomaly at 5054 that may either be rebar or possibly a munition burial pit. The old circular trench (outer ring) runs through the anomaly. It appears that the cut/fill level shows the anomaly is below the 1918 level.

Captain Peloquin asked DC Health and EPA what additional areas of investigation are coming in the future. Rich Albright state a large ceramic lined steel tank filled with CWM may have been buried on AUES. Also there is historical evidence that Adamsite candles may have been manufactured and possibly buried on-site somewhere on the former AUES. Rich stated that at the end of WWI approximately 3 to 4 million candles were produced and there is no evidence of the items being moved or destroyed.

### **Geophysics**

The objective is for individual items and pits/trenches. Mr. Selfridge explained that the EM 61 can locate a drum at 3 meters, but this depth decreases to ~ 4 feet for a 105 mm or 2.5 feet for a 75 mm item. The EM 31 can see a drum at 6 meters. For smaller, shallower objects, Mr. Selfridge recommended the EM 61. Mr. Selfridge indicated that GPR is ineffective in high clay soils. Ken Shuster indicated that the USGS would conduct a GPR at the prove-out.

The meeting concluded at approximately 12:00 pm. The next partnering meeting is May 3, 2001. It may be held at the DC Health's conference room.

We visited 5058 Sedgwick Street to reacquire anomaly 42M. This anomaly could not be required with the Schonstedt magnetometer, but Chris E. and Bob S. considered it to be a big and deep-seated object based on the EM-31 ground conductivity response. It also appears that we don't have EM-61 coverage at this location. It was decided that this anomaly should be reacquired after the new Prove-out tests, before any decision is made about excavation.

At 5054 the anomaly in the driveway (1) was reacquired. It was decided that this anomaly needs further investigation - intrusive. Also, in the backyard, anomaly 10 was reacquired. This anomaly turned out to be the response to a cluster of nails in the railroad ties.

There were comments from Rich Albright. He noted that;

- ? There is a pit around the Sedgwick area, with shrapnel that has not been found.
- ? The wide-mouth 5 gal jugs with adamsite smoke candles may be buried at AUES.
- ? Satellite imagery could help identify possible burial locations.
- ? They are waiting for the results from Kreeger and Watson to figure out if there is a burial pit in that area.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization/Address</u>
Mike Winningham	Parsons ES
Lan Reeser	CENAB
Capt. Peloquin	CENAB
Sherri Anderson-Hudgins	USAESCH
Bob Selfridge	USAESCH
Greg Hope	DCEHA
Rich Albright	DCEHA
Chris Evans	CENAB-EH-GG
Mr. Harry Harbold	USEPA
Ken Shuster	USEPA
Patience Nwanna	CENAB
Bill Abadie	CENAB
James Taylor	Parsons