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STATUS OF DATA CENTERS PROJECT, SOUTHWEST INDIANA

Four years of intensive reconnaissance in 21 "Data Centers," which comprise a systematic, geographic sample of 16 southwest Indiana counties, has documented 1,971 new sites. Each center consists of approximately 5 square miles. Within each 1,000 acres a sample of major topographic features are being surveyed in 15-foot pedestrian paths. Some 19,390 acres (30.3 square miles) have been examined to date. When the initial phase of this long-range project is complete in 1988, it is anticipated that more than 2,200 sites will have been recorded, at the frequency of approximately 1 site per 9 acres. Centers, named after nearby towns, include Bowling Green, Dugger, East Mt. Carmel, Elberfeld, Francisco, Grandview, Hudsonville, Huntingburg, Hutton, Lewis, Mineral City, Montezuma, Petersburg, Plainville, St. Meinrad, Shoals, Staunton, Tennyson, Wheatland, Winslow, and Worthington. Each center provides a systematically produced data base that can be used to predict frequencies and types of sites in adjacent, unexamined areas. The data base also is being used to generate and test hypotheses, and to construct theoretical models of prehistoric cultures throughout the several cultural-historical periods in the region. As a consequence, both scientific research and management of cultural resources in the region has been served by this project.
