

**NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF  
38CH1278 AND 38CH1282 AT  
BELLE HALL PLANTATION,  
CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**



**CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 397**

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SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282 AT  
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CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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## ABSTRACT

This study provides the results of testing at 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 designed to assess the sites' eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The sites were initially recorded in 1991 and at that time were identified as potentially eligible. Site boundaries were designated by surface collections and limited shovel testing. In addition, no detailed title search or historical evaluation was conducted.

This current work incorporated a historical review, cartographic and aerial photographic research, shovel testing, and the excavation of formal test units to assess the sites' potential to contribute to significant research topics.

Our historic research found that the plantation began, in 1682, under the ownership of John Stephenson and was then passed to Joshua Wilkes (1692, 1698), who devised it to his son, and then, in 1744, to John Daniel. Daniel is the first owner for which there is good evidence of the plantation's development and cultivation. Daniel's inventory identifies a number of slaves, subsistence crops, and stock on the tract. The property passes through a number of different hands after Daniel, but it doesn't appear that a dwelling was constructed on the plantation until the late eighteenth century - and then it was far east of the study parcel. It wasn't until the early twentieth century that the plantation took on the name "Egypt."

An investigation of the archaeological site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology produced site forms for the two sites. One report was found that briefly mentioned 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 as previously identified sites, however, no in depth analysis was given for the sites (Rust and Poplin 1996). The

resources at the S.C. Department of Archives and History were also consulted, but failed to turn up any other written report for the two sites, which were recorded in 1991.

A February 16, 2004 meeting with Tim Fraylick of Plantation Partners, LP, however, produced a copy of the 1991 report, which had never been submitted to the SHPO (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991). In the report, each site was discussed and artifact catalogs were included.

Archaeological investigations of site 38CH1278 incorporated shovel testing at 50-foot intervals on transects which were placed at 50-foot intervals along the road to the south. Once the site was identified, additional 25-foot shovel tests and transects were added for a total of 123 shovel tests along 13 transects (labeled Transects 1-7 for the initial 50-foot testing and 1.5-6.5 for the additional 25-foot transects).

Testing at 38CH1282 included shovel tests at 50-foot intervals along 77 transects placed at 50-foot intervals. Two areas were tested at 25-foot intervals - between Transects 14 and 18 and between Transect 85 and 88. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh. A total of 392 shovel tests were excavated at site 38CH1282.

After completion of shovel testing, seven five by five foot units were excavated (three at site 38CH1278 and four at 38CH1282).

Site 38CH1278 is found to exhibit a wide range of archaeological data sets even though no features were located. The identified remains appear to represent an early eighteenth century overseer's dwelling - a site type with few representatives in the coastal area. While the site has been plowed, the plow zone is shallow and

exhibits no indications of deep plowing or subsoiling, giving this site a high to moderate degree of integrity. The site is recommended eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D, information potential.

Site 38CH1282 is a bit more difficult to assess. The original 1991 survey identified an area approximately 20 acres in size. The current assessment identified four areas or loci within the 20 acres that had they been originally tested, would have received separate site numbers (since they are not spatially connected to one another). However, since the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology (SCIAA) opted to keep the original site number, we are faced with either assessing the site as a whole or assessing the individual loci. If we included the whole area, the site would have large areas with negative tests, so we opted to assess individual loci (labeled A-D).

Locus A is prehistoric and recommended not eligible for its lack of data sets and inability to address significant research questions; Locus B is prehistoric and historic and is recommended eligible for its range of data sets and high site integrity, which includes the recovery of a feature; Locus C is prehistoric and historic and while the prehistoric component is recommended not eligible for its lack of data sets and inability to address significant research questions, the historic component may represent an old slave structure and is recommended eligible; Locus D is prehistoric and historic with both components recommended not eligible for lack of data sets and inability to address significant research questions.

If the areas recommended eligible cannot be green spaced from building activities, we recommend that additional research activities – including data recovery – be performed.

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## INTRODUCTION

In 1991, Brockington and Associates (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991) conducted an archaeological survey of a 300 acre development known then as the Belle Hall Tract. This parcel, situated in Charleston County, north of Mount Pleasant, is in an area historically known as Christ Church Parish. The tract was being prepared for the development. The anticipated activities, which have already been completed elsewhere in the original 300 acres, had the potential to damage archaeological sites through clearing, grubbing, road construction, utility construction, construction of houses, and installation of amenities.

Two of the identified sites, 38CH1278 and 38CH1282, were recommended potentially eligible. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with these findings and, in June 1992, the involved parties signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

These two sites, described as Native American Woodland Period and eighteenth century historic sites, were green spaced, but would need to be further assessed if development were to occur. Now, 12 years later, Plantation Partners, LP is in the process of expanding their existing single family development into the area of these archaeological sites and it has become necessary to determine the eligibility of 38CH1278 and 38CH1282.

In December 2003, Mr. Gregorie Forthofer of Seamon, Whiteside & Associates retained Chicora Foundation to review documentation regarding the two sites. At that time, very little information was found concerning the earlier 1991 work - only two vaguely worded site forms. We were unable to find a formal report discussing the two sites at either the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology or the S.C. Department of

Archives and History, except for a 1996 report that mentions the sites as having been previously recorded.

A cost estimate was provided to Mr. Sloan Wright of Plantation Partners, LP and on January 23, 2004, Chicora Foundation was given notice to proceed with the evaluation. On February 16, 2004, we met with Mr. Tim Fraylick of Plantation Partners, LP to further discuss the investigation. At that time, additional information on the original survey, including a copy of the 1991 report discussing 38CH1278 and 38CH1282, was provided.

While the report provided the details of the 1991 survey, few shovel tests were performed and only a scant historic overview was provided. The current study attempts to clarify the function, location, size, and significance of the two sites by intensive testing and more detailed historic research to better understand the historic context.

Before the work could be conducted the site area required extensive bush hogging in an effort to reduce the vegetation and make the site area more workable. These clearing operations occurred before archaeological investigations began on April 5, 2004. The field work took two and a half weeks, ending on April 16, then resuming again for April 21 and 22. The field crew consisted of Ms. Nicole Southerland and Mr. Tom Covington, under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley. At the completion of the work, an updated archaeological site form for each site was submitted to the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology.

### Goals

The primary goal of this study was to determine the eligibility of 38CH1278 and



NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

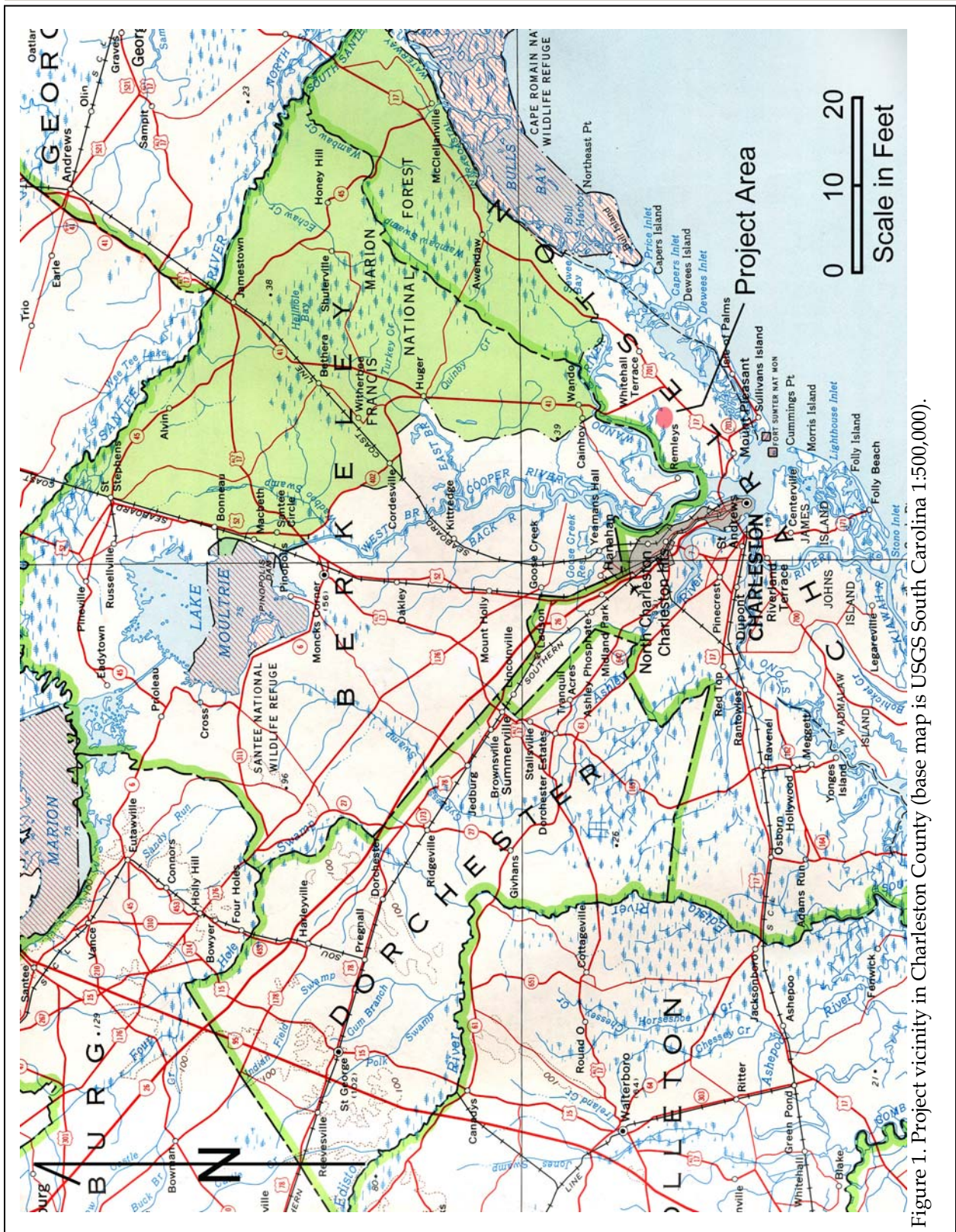


Figure 1. Project vicinity in Charleston County (base map is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

## INTRODUCTION

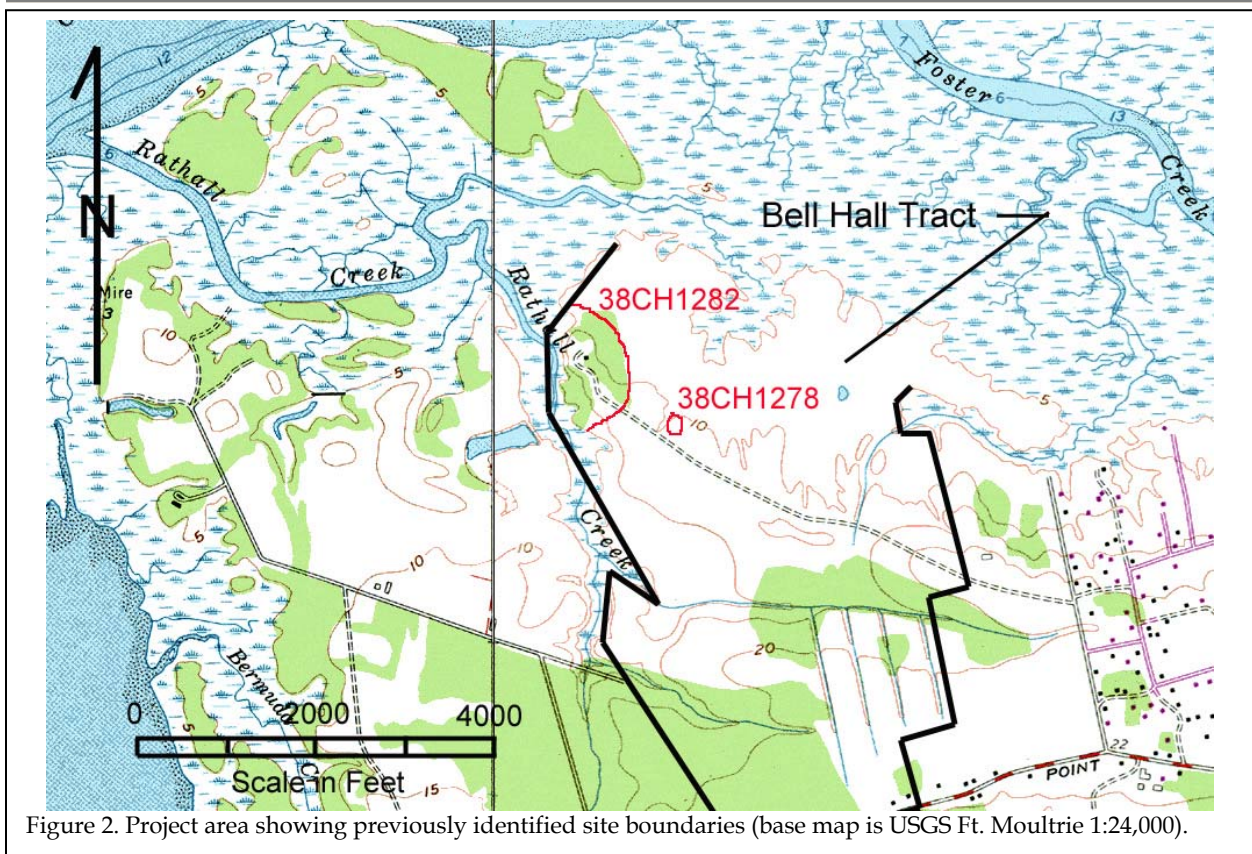


Figure 2. Project area showing previously identified site boundaries (base map is USGS Ft. Moultrie 1:24,000).

38CH1282 for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. As will be discussed in more detail in a later section, these sites were briefly examined in 1991 (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991) and have been recommended potentially eligible for the National Register. Both sites were described as mixed components of eighteenth century plantation and prehistoric, in particular Woodland period, remains.

The original survey provided sketchy shovel testing, identifying the site based on these few tests and surface finds. From this, a recommendation of potentially eligible was made. The sketch map for each site is inconsistent in size to what was written in the description (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991). In addition, the conditions during the initial survey, 13 years ago, have changed – so we were uncertain even where the different site areas were located.

Consequently, we sought to better understand the time period of the Native

American remains present, the distribution of these remains, and the quantity and quality of the various data sets. Similarly, we sought to examine the historic data sets, attempting to attribute them to either master or slave, as well as to determine the types of information that might be present on the sites. In conjunction with the field research, we sought additional historical documentation – filling in the title search and attempting to learn more about the early owners of the property.

We felt that what was needed was a basic level investigation – shovel tests at 50-foot intervals, filled with 25-foot intervals in select areas to provide base level knowledge of the site. We intended to supplement that with the excavation of several 5-foot units at each site in the hope of acquiring larger collections for dating and perhaps to even document features. At the least, however, these units would provide meaningful data on the depth of the plowzone and the potential for feature preservation.

Investigations at other Christ Church slave settlements (see, for example, Trinkley and Hacker 1996) have revealed that architectural remains may be limited, especially at lower middling status plantations. In spite of this, the presence of refuse features, sheet midden, and artifact clusters, have provided the ability to make substantive contributions concerning the lifeways of enslaved African Americans and their owners in a modest plantation setting.

While there are numerous possible research questions, all revolve to some degree or another on the integrity of the sites, or their ability to address these questions.

### **Curation**

The field notes and artifacts from Chicora's testing at 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 have been curated at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). The artifacts have been cleaned and have been cataloged following that institution's provenience system. All original records and duplicate records were provided to the curatorial facility on pH neutral alkaline buffered paper. The only photographic materials taken during these investigations were color prints. Since that processing is not archivally stable, these materials are retained by Chicora Foundation.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

### Physiography

Charleston County is located in the lower Atlantic Coastal Plain of South Carolina and is bounded to the east by the Atlantic Ocean and a series of marsh, barrier, and Sea Islands (Mathews et al. 1980:133). Elevations in the County range from sea level to about 70 feet above mean sea level (AMSL).

Seven major drainages are found in Charleston County. Four of these, the Wando, Ashley, Stono, and North Edisto, are dominated by tidal flows and are saline. The Wando forms a portion of the County's interior boundary northeast of Charleston, while the Ashley flows west of the peninsular city of Charleston. The three with significant freshwater flow are the Santee, which forms the northern boundary of the County; the South Edisto, which forms the southern boundary; and the Cooper, which bisects the County.

Because of the low topography, many broad, low gradient interior drains are present as either extensions of the tidal rivers or as flooded bays and swales. Extensions included Hobcaw, Rathall, Foster, Horlbeck, Boone Hall, Wagner, Toomer, and Allston creeks that flow west, north, or northeast into the Wando.

Elevations in the project area range from about 5 to 12 feet AMSL. In general, the topography slopes to the west toward Rathall Creek. Several wetlands border the sites to the west (Rathall Creek) and to the north (Wando River).

### Geology and Soils

Coastal Plain geological formations are unconsolidated sedimentary deposits of very recent age (Pleistocene and Holocene) lying

unconformably on ancient crystalline rocks (Cooke 1936; Miller 1971:74). The Pleistocene sediments are organized into topographically distinct, but lithologically similar, geomorphic units, or terraces, parallel to the coast. The sites are located in an area identified by Cooke (1936) as part of the Pamlico terrace, which includes the land between the recent shore and an abandoned shore line about 25 feet AMSL. Cooke (1936:7) notes that evidence of ancient beaches and swales can still be seen in the Pamlico formation and this likely contributed to the ridge and trough topography present in some areas.

Within the coastal zone the soils are Holocene and Pleistocene in age and were formed from materials that were deposited during the various stages of coastal submergence. The formation of soils is affected by this parent material (primarily sands and clays), the temperate climate, the various soil organisms, topography, and time.

The mainland soils are Pleistocene in age and tend to have more distinct horizon development and diversity than the younger soils of the sea and barrier islands. Sandy to loamy soils predominate in the level to gently sloping mainland areas. Organic matter is low and the soils tend to be acidic. Tidal marsh soils are Holocene in age and consist of fine sands, clay, and organic matter deposited over older Pleistocene sands. The soils are frequently covered by up to 2 feet of saltwater during high tides. Historically, marsh soils have been used as compost or fertilizer for a variety of crops, including cotton (Hammond 1884:510) and Allston mentions that the sandy soil of the coastal region "bears well the admixture of salt and marsh mud with the compost" (Allston 1854:13).

As the colony was being settled and promoted, the soils were described simply. John

Norris told his readers in 1712:

the Soil is generally Sandy, but of differing Colours, under which, Two or Three Foot Deep, is Clay of which good Bricks are made (Greene 1989:89).

In the last quarter of the eighteenth century, William DeBrahm's *Report* provides little more information, stating only that, "the Land near the Sea Coast is in general of a very sandy Soil" and noting that this soil "along the Coast has as yet not been able to invite the industrious to reap Benefit of its Capacity" (DeVorse 1971:72).

By the nineteenth century, Robert Mills in his *Statistics of South Carolina* provides slightly more information concerning the current understanding of the soils:

Lands here [in Charleston District] may be viewed under six divisions in respect to quality; 1<sup>st</sup>, Tide swamp, 2d, Inland swamp; 3d, High river swamp (or low ground commonly called second low grounds); 4<sup>th</sup>, Salt Marsh; 5<sup>th</sup>, Oak and hickory high lands; and 6<sup>th</sup>, Pine barren. The tide and inland swamps are peculiarly adapted to the culture of rice and hemp; they are very valuable, and will frequently sell for \$100 an acre; in some instances for more. The high river swamps are well calculated for raising hemp, indigo, corn, and cotton; and where secured from freshets, are equally valuable with the tide lands. The oak and hickory highlands are well suited for corn and provisions, also for indigo and cotton. The value of these may be stated at from ten to twenty dollars per acre. The pine barrens are not worth more than one dollar an acre (Mills

1972:442-443[1826]).

Even the detail of this account, however, fails to provide a very clear picture of the soils in Christ Church where the sands were low and commonly interspersed with galls or small inland swamps. Here the property, even the supposedly good hickory and oak lands, was poorly drained.

A number of period accounts discuss the importance of soil drainage. Seabrook, for example, explained in 1848:

Subsoil so close as to be impervious to water; so that the excess of the rains of winter cannot sink. Nor can it flow off, because of the level surface . . . . The land thereby is kept thoroughly water-soaked until late in the spring. The long continued wetness is favorable only to growth of coarse and sour grasses and broom sedge . . . acid and antiseptic qualities of the soil . . . sponge-like power to absorb and retain water . . . is barren, (for useful crops) from two causes - excessive wetness and great acidity. The remedies required are also two; and neither alone will be of the least useful effect, with the other also. Draining must remove the wetness - calcareous manures the acidity (Seabrook 1848:37).

A somewhat similar account would still be provided by Hammond in the postbellum:

Drainage . . . has of necessity always been practiced to some extent. The remarkably high beds on which cotton is planted here, being from 18 inches to 2 feet high, subserve this purpose. The best planters have long had open drains through their fields.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

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These were generally made by running two furrows with a plow and afterward hauling out the loose dirt with a hoe, thus leaving an open ditch, if it be so termed, a foot or more in depth (Hammond 1884:509).

The number of drainages still found on the Belle Hall tract offers mute testimony to the problems planters encountered on these soils and their efforts to make the land productive. These problems have also been briefly mentioned by Hilliard, who comments that soils in the region were, "seldom well enough drained for most crops" (Hilliard 1984:11).

Only one soil type is found at the two sites: Charleston loamy fine sand. The Charleston Series are moderately well-drained to somewhat poorly drained soils with an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR3/3) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 1.3 feet in depth.

The areas to the north and just east of the sites contain Yonges soils. Yonges soils have an Ap horizon of dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.8 foot over a light brownish gray (10YR6/2) loamy fine sand to a depth of 1.2 feet. This series of soils are poorly drained and mostly woodland, but if cleared, may yield crops of potatoes, soybeans, and corn.

The marsh area to the west of 38CH1282 is considered soft tidal marsh (Miller 1971:28). At high tide, this area is covered by 6 to 24 inches of salt water. Testing of the sites did not extend into this area.

Prior to the late 1970s, cultivation consisted of fairly shallow plowing and discing. From about 1978 through the mid-1980s (after which time much cultivation began to cease) farmers in the area routinely used what they called a "rip-hipper," or special subsoiler that "rips" into the soil zone underlying that zone created by discing, and "hips" or mounds the soil

behind the plow to facilitate adequate drainage. This cultivation technique has the potential to cause disturbance as deep as 1.5 feet (see, for example, Trinkley and Tippet 1980:26). We were pleasantly surprised deep plowing and disturbance does not characterize the project tract.

### Climate

The weather was all important in Colonial society, affecting the crops that in turn affected trade and wealth. Just as importantly, the Carolina climate affected, usually for the worse, the planter's health. Greene notes that:

the prospects of obtaining wealth with ease . . . meant little in a menacing environment, and both Nairne and Norris took pains to minimize the unpleasant and dangerous features that already had combined to give South Carolina an ambiguous reputation. They had to admit that throughout the summer temperatures were "indeed troublesome to Strangers." But they contended that settlers had quickly found satisfactory remedies in the form of "open airy Rooms, Arbours and Summer-houses" constructed in shady groves and frequent cool baths and insisted the discomfitures of the summers were more than offset by the agreeableness of the rest of the seasons. [They also suggested] that ill-health was largely limited to newcomers before they were seasoned to the climate, to people who insisted in living in low marshy ground, and to those who were excessive and careless in their eating, drinking, and personal habits. "If temperate," they asserted, those who lived on "dry healthy Land," were

“generally very healthful”  
(Greene 1989:16).

While making for good public relations, the reality was far different. Roy Merrens and George Terry (1989) found that in Christ Church Parish, 86% of all those whose births and deaths are recorded in the parish register, died before the age of twenty. Equally frightening statistics have been compiled by John Duffy (1952), who found that the average European could expect to live to the age of about 30 in South Carolina during the first quarter of the eighteenth century. Yellow fever, smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, malaria, dysentery all were at home in Carolina. Using the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG) records, Duffy found that from 1700 to 1750, 38% of the missionaries either died or were compelled to resign because of serious illness within the first five years of their arrival. Within 10 years of their arrival, 52% had died or resigned because of their health. After 15 years in the colony, the combined death toll and resignations from sickness reached 68% -- two out of every three missionaries.

African Americans fared no better. Frank Klingberg (1941:154), using SPG records found that in a single four month period over 400 slaves died of “distemper.” William Dusinberre, exploring rice plantations along the Carolina coast, entitled one of his chapters “The Charnel House” - a reference to the extraordinary morbidity of African Americans on rice plantations. He reports that on some plantations the child mortality rate (to age sixteen) was a horrific 90% (Dusinberre 1996:51), while the probable average for rice plantations was around 60% (Dusinberre 1996:239). Cotton plantations - that were probably most numerous in Christ Church - were healthier, but even there fully a third of all slave children did not live to see their sixteenth birthday.

Beginning in the last third of the eighteenth century the life expectancy began to increase. Merrens and Terry suggest that this was the result of the occupants beginning to

understand the cause of malaria:

During the middle of the eighteenth century South Carolinian’s perception of the wholesome environment of the lowcountry swamps began to change. People no longer preferred these areas on the score of health as a place of summer residence. Instead, residents began to view the lowcountry as fostering both mosquitoes and death (Merrens and Terry 1989:547).

Perhaps most importantly it is about this time when we also see the planter move his residence from the swamp edge (where he could easily oversee both slaves and crops) to higher, sandier locations. Slave settlements, too, appear to move to somewhat drier and healthier environs.

The Charleston climate, with its moderate winters and long, hot summers, affected not only the health of the populations and the crops grown, it also influenced the politics of Carolina. The summer climate of Carolina, while causing the Barbadian immigrants to feel that they had resettled in the tropics, also convinced most that slavery was inevitable. Not only was slavery the accepted order to the planters from Barbados, Jamaica, Antique, and St. Kitts, it seemed impossible for white Englishmen to work in the torrid heat - making African American slaves that much more essential (Donnan 1928). Even in the Christ Church parish, which in 1720 had a very low settlement compared to other parishes, slaves comprised 85.6% of the populations.

### Floristics

The area of the two sites exhibits two major ecosystems: the maritime forest ecosystem, which consists of the upland forest areas and the riverine ecosystem, which is derived from salt water and is characterized by a tidal influence (Sandifer et al. 1980:7-9).

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



Figure 3. Second growth pine and scrub hardwood at 38CH1278.

The maritime forest ecosystem has been found to consist of five principal forest types, including the Oak-Pine forests, the Mixed Oak Hardwood forests, the Palmetto forests, the Oak thickets, and other miscellaneous wooded areas (such as salt marsh thickets and wax myrtle thickets).

Of these, the Oak-Pine forests are most common, constituting large areas of Charleston's original forest community. In some areas palmetto becomes an important sub-dominant. Typically these forests are dominated by the laurel oak with pine (primarily loblolly with minor amounts of longleaf pine) as the major canopy co-dominant. Hickory is present, although uncommon. Other trees found are the sweet gum and magnolia, with sassafras, red bay, American holly, and wax myrtle and palmetto found in the understory.

Mills, in the early nineteenth century, remarked that:

South Carolina is rich in native and exotic productions; the varieties of its soil, climate, and geological positions, afford plants of rare, valuable, and medicinal qualities; fruits of a luscious,

refreshing, and nourishing nature; vines and shrubs of exquisite beauty, fragrance, and luxuriance, and forest trees of noble growth, in great variety (Mills 1972:66).

The loblolly pine was called the "pitch or Frankincense Pine" and was used to produce tar and turpentine; the longleaf pine was "much used in building and for all other domestic purposes;" trees such as the red bay and red cedar were often used in furniture making and cedar was a favorite for posts; and live oaks were

recognized as yielding "the best of timber for ship building;" (Mills 1972:66-85). Mills also observed that:

in former years cypress was much used in building, but the difficulty of obtaining it now, compared with the pine, occasions little of it to be cut for sale, except in the shape of shingles; the cypress is a most valuable wood for durability and lightness. Besides the two names we have cedar, poplar, beech, oak, and locust, which are or may be also used in building (Mills 1972:460).

The "Oak and hickory high lands" according to Mills were, "well suited for corn and provisions, also for indigo and cotton" (Mills 1972:443). The value of these lands in the mid-1820s was from \$10 to \$20 per acre, less expensive than the tidal swamp or inland swamp lands (where rice and, with drainage, cotton could be grown).

Today, virtually all of the site area's high ground evidences some form or another of disturbance. Most of the trees on the tract are



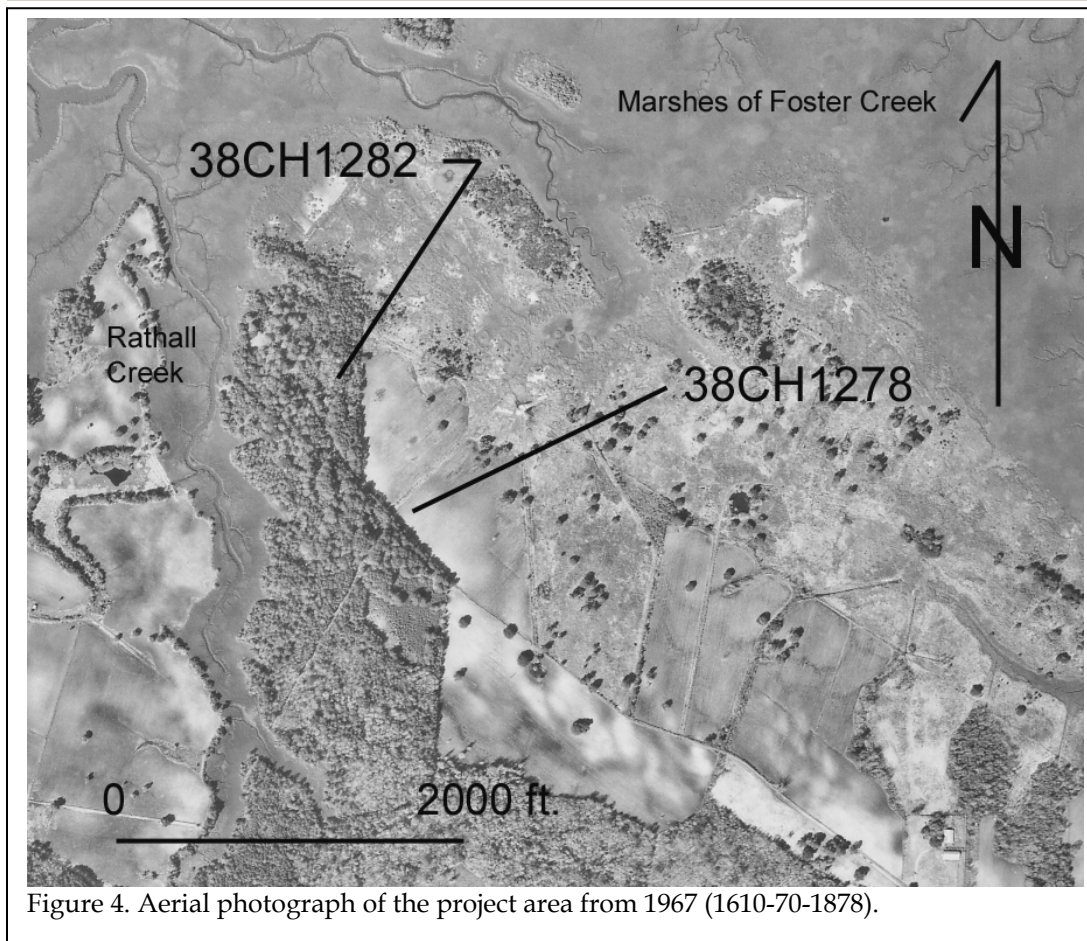


Figure 4. Aerial photograph of the project area from 1967 (1610-70-1878).

pinus and hardwoods and we know that as of 1991, when the first survey was performed (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991) the location of 38CH1278 was a fallow field with no tree growth. Site 38CH1282, however, had already grown up in a pine and hardwood forest “with dense second growth vegetation” (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991:43).

An aerial photo from 1967 (Figure 4) shows similar evidence. The vicinity of site 38CH1278, is open and being cultivated. Site 38CH1282 is in dense maritime woods.

## PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

### Previous Research

As previously mentioned, the original survey that identified 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 was conducted in 1991 by Brockington and Associates (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991). These sites will be discussed in greater detail in a following section.

### Prehistoric Synopsis

Several previously published archaeological studies are available for the Charleston area that provide additional background, including those previously mentioned. A considerable amount of archaeology has been conducted in the Charleston area and these works should be consulted for broad overviews.

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to perhaps 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1968). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to about 1000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with relatively little modification to the South Carolina coast. Archaic period assemblages, characterized

by corner-notched and broad stemmed projectile points, are rare in the Sea Island region, although the sea level is anticipated to have been within 13 feet of its present stand by the beginning of the succeeding Woodland period (Lepionka et al. 1983:10).

To some the Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast. To others, the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. falls into the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of the terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) and Thom's Creek (sand or non-tempered) series pottery.

The subsistence economy during this early period on the coast of South Carolina was based primarily on deer hunting, fishing, and shellfish collection, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, and reptiles. Various calculations of the probable yield of deer, fish, and other food sources identified from shell ring sites such as Lighthouse Point on James Island to the west, also in Charleston County on James Island, indicate that sedentary life was not only possible, but probable.

Toward the end of the Thom's Creek phase there is evidence of sea level change, and a number of small, non-shell midden sites are found along the coast. Apparently the rising sea level inundated the tide marshes on which the Thom's Creek people relied.

The succeeding Refuge phase, which dates from about 1100 to 500 B.C., suggests fragmentation caused by the environmental

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Dates	Period	Sub-Period	Regional Phases		
			COASTAL	MIDDLE SAVANNAH VALLEY	CENTRAL CAROLINA PIEDMONT
1715	HIST.	EARLY	Altamaha		Caraway
1650		LATE	Irene / Pee Dee	Rembert Hollywood	Dan River
1100	MISS.	EARLY	Savannah	Lawton Savannah	Pee Dee
800		LATE	St. Catherines / Swift Creek		Uwharrie
A.D.	WOODLAND	MIDDLE	Wilmington	Sand Tempered Wilmington?	Yadkin
B.C.			Deptford	Deptford	
300	WOODLAND	EARLY	Refuge		Badin
1000					
2000	ARCHAIC	LATE	Thom's Creek Stallings		
3000			Savannah River Halifax		
5000	ARCHAIC	MIDDLE	Guilford Morrow Mountain Stanly		
8000		EARLY	Kirk Palmer		
10,000	PALEOINDIAN		Hardaway		
12,000	PALEOINDIAN		Hardaway - Dalton		
			Cumberland	Clovis	Simpson

Figure 5. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

changes (Lepionka et al. 1983; Williams 1968). Sites are generally small and some coastal sites evidence no shellfish collection at all (Trinkley 1982). Peterson (1971:153) characterizes Refuge as a degeneration of the preceding Thom's Creek series and a bridge to the succeeding Deptford culture.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check

stamped surface treatment. Also present are quantities of cord marked, simple stamped, and occasional fabric impressed pottery. During this period there is a blending of the Deptford ceramic tradition of the lower Savannah with the Deep Creek tradition found further north along the South Carolina coast and extending into North Carolina (Trinkley 1983).

The Middle Woodland period (ca. 300 B.C. to A.D. 1000) is characterized by the use of

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sand burial mounds and ossuaries along the Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina coasts (Brooks et al. 1982; Thomas and Larsen 1979; Wilson 1982). Middle Woodland coastal plain sites continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the fall line, sites are characterized by sparse shell and few artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland period (ca. A.D. 1000 to 1650 in some areas of the coast) may be characterized as a continuum of the previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblage.

The Middle and Late Woodland occupations in South Carolina are characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupations. On the southern coast they are associated with the Wilmington and St. Catherines phases, which date from about A.D. 500 to at least A.D. 1150, although there is evidence that the St. Catherines pottery continued to be produced much later in time (Trinkley 1981). On the northern coast there are very similar ceramics called Hanover and Santee.

The South Appalachian Mississippian period (ca. A.D. 1100 to 1640) is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest coastal phases are named Savannah and Irene (A.D. 1200 to 1550). Sometime after the arrival of Europeans on the Georgia coast in A.D. 1519, the Irene phase is replaced by the Altamaha phase. Altamaha pottery tends to be heavily grit tempered, the complicated stamped motifs tend to be rectilinear and poorly applied, and check stamping occurs as a minority ware. Further north, in the Charleston area, the Pee Dee or Irene ware is replaced by pottery with bolder designs, thought to be representative of the protohistoric and historic periods (South 1971).

Although there has been very little archaeological exploration of historic period Native American groups in the Charleston area, South has compiled a detailed overview of the ethnohistoric sources (South 1972).

### Historic Synthesis

#### **Early Settlement and Economic Development**

The English established the first permanent settlement in what is today South Carolina in 1670 on the west bank of the Ashley River. Like other European powers, the English were lured to the New World for reasons other than the acquisition of land and promotion of agriculture. The Lord Proprietors, who owned the colony until 1719-1720, intended to discover a staple crop which would provide great wealth through its distribution in the mercantile system.

By 1680 the settlers of Albemarle Point had moved their village across the bay to the tip of the peninsula formed by the Ashley and Cooper rivers. This new settlement at Oyster Point would become modern-day Charleston. The move provided not only a more healthful climate and an area of better defense, but:

[t]he situation of this Town is so convenient for public Commerce that it rather seems to be the design of some skillful Artist than the accidental position of nature (Mathews 1954:153).

Early settlers came from the English West Indies, other mainland colonies, England, and the European continent. It has been argued that those from the English West Indies were the most critical to the future of the colony, as they brought with them a strong agrarian concept, involving both staple crops and, especially, slave labor (Sirmans 1966).

Early agriculture experiments which involved olives, grapes, silkworms, and oranges were less than successful. Ironically, it was often

the climate which precluded successful results. While the Indian trade was profitable to many of the Carolina colonists, it did not provide the proprietors with the wealth they were expecting from the new colony. Ranching offered quick, and relatively easy, cash, but again the proprietors resisted such efforts, realizing that the profits they would reap were far smaller than possible from the mercantile system. Consequently, the cultivation of cotton, rice, tobacco, and flax were stressed as these were staple crops whose marketing the proprietors could easily monopolize.

Although introduced at least by the 1690s, rice did not become a significant staple crop until the early eighteenth century. At that time it not only provided the proprietors with an economic base the mercantile system required, but it was also to form the basis of South Carolina's plantation system (Carpenter 1973). Over production soon followed, with a severe decline in prices during the 1740s. This economic down swing encouraged at least some planters to diversify and indigo was introduced (Huneycutt 1949:33). Indigo complemented rice production since they were grown in mutually exclusive areas. Both, however, were labor intensive and encouraged the large scale introduction of slaves.

Although four counties, Berkeley, Craven, Colleton, and Granville, were created by the Proprietors between 1682 and 1685, the Anglican parishes, established in 1706, became the local unit of political administration. Christ Church, situated immediately east of Charleston and confined by the sea shore on one side and the Wando River on the other, was closely aligned with Charleston throughout its history. While Charleston County was created toward the end of the colonial period in 1768, the division of Christ Church remained a significant social, as well as political, unit into the late nineteenth century (see Gregorie 1961 for further information on the social and religious influence of the parish).

South Carolina's economic development during the pre-Revolutionary War period

involved a complex web of interactions between slaves, planters, and merchants. By 1710 slaves outnumbered free people in South Carolina. While Christ Church Parish was sparsely populated, it, too, was dominated by African American slaves. By the 1730s slaves were beginning to be concentrated on a few, large slave-holding plantations. At the close of the eighteenth century some South Carolina plantations had a ratio of slaves to whites that was 27:1 (Morgan 1977). While over half of eastern South Carolina's white population held slaves, few held very large numbers. The Charleston area had a slave population greater than 50% of the total population by 1790. This imbalance between the races, particularly on remote plantations, may have led to greater "freedom" and mobility (Friedlander in Wheaton et al. 1983:34). By the antebellum period this trend was less extreme.

Christ Church was the scene of relatively little economic development during the late colonial period. Zierden and Calhoun note that:

Charleston was the economic, institutional and social center of the surrounding region. The necessity of transacting business in Charleston drew planters eager to transform their crops into cash or goods . . . it [was] virtually imperative for a planter interested in society to reside in Charleston at least occasionally (Zierden and Calhoun 1984:36).

They argue that Charleston provided an opportunity for conspicuous consumption, a mechanism which allowed the display of wealth accumulated from the plantation system (with this mechanism continuing through the antebellum period). Scardaville (in Brockington et al. 1985:45) notes that the plantation system which brought prosperity through the export of staple crops also "made the colony . . . highly vulnerable to outside market and political forces."

The most obvious example of this is the

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economic hardship brought on by the American Revolution. Not only was the Charleston area the scene of many military actions, but Charleston itself was occupied by the British for over 22 years between 1780 and 1782. The loss of royal bounties on rice, indigo, and naval stores caused considerable economic chaos with the eventual "restructuring of the state's agricultural and commercial base" (Brockington et al. 1985:34).

### **Antebellum Charleston, Cotton Production, and the Civil War**

One means of "restructuring" was the emergence of cotton as the principal cash crop. Although "upland" cotton was available as early as 1733, its ascendancy was ensured by the industrial revolution, the invention of the cotton gin in 1794, and the availability of slave labor. While "Sea Island" cotton was already being efficiently cleaned, the spread of cotton was primarily in the South Carolina interior. Consequently, Charleston benefited primarily through its role as a commercial center.

Cotton provided about 20 years of economic success for South Carolina. During this period South Carolina monopolized cotton production with a number of planters growing wealthy (Mason 1976). The price of cotton fell in 1819 and remained low through the 1820s, primarily because of competition from planters in Alabama and Mississippi. Friedlander, in Wheaton et al. (1983:28-29) notes that cotton production in the inland coastal parishes fell by 25% in the years from 1821 to 1839, although national production increased by 123%. Production improved dramatically in the 1840s in spite of depressed prices and in the 1850s the price of cotton rose.

The Charleston area did not participate directly in the agricultural activity of the state. Scardaville (in Brockington et al. 1985:35) notes that "the Charleston area, as a result of a large urban market and a far-reaching trade and commercial network, had carved out its own niche in the state's economic system." Zierden and

Calhoun remark that:

[c]ountry merchants, planters, and strangers "on a visit of pleasure" flocked to Charleston. Planters continued to establish residences in Charleston throughout the antebellum era and "great" planters began to spend increasing amount of time in Charleston (Zierden and Calhoun 1984:44).

In spite of this appearance of grandeur, Charleston's dependence on cotton and ties to an international market created an economy vulnerable to fluctuation over which the merchants and planters had no control.

While the wealthiest farms were those on the sea islands producing cotton (such as Edisto Island where the value of the average plantation was over \$44,000), plantations in Christ Church (as well as other inland, non-cotton producing areas) had an average value of around \$7,300. Christ Church Parish grew only 1.7% of the district's cotton, although it formed 10.1% of the improved acreage. An examination of the agricultural schedules for the Charleston area in 1850 and 1860 provides evidence for this economic slump. Scardaville (in Brockington et al. 1985:39-40) notes that produce, farm, and livestock values for Christ Church Parish were below what would be expected and outputs of many crops had decreased over time. But most significantly, rice was no longer an economically significant crop, production dropping by over 81% from 1850 to 1860.

The Christ Church Parish response to the reduction in rice was a shift to ranching and livestock production as a substitute. Between 1850 and 1860 the value of livestock increased by 120%, corn increased by 44%, and wool production increased by 126% (Scardaville in Brockington et al. 1985:41). It seems clear that Christ Church was engaged in a gradual shift from monocropping to truck farming. Its unique location at the doorstep

of Mount Pleasant and Charleston allowed Christ Church to focus its agricultural pursuits on the needs of an expanding urban market.

An appropriate summary is provided by Zierden and Calhoun:

[t]he economic decline of Charleston occurred as the city was growing increasingly defensive of its "peculiar institution." The city sullenly withdrew into itself, eschewing the present and glorifying its past. The great fire of 1861 devastated much of downtown Charleston. The War between the States . . . set the seal on a social and economic era (Zierden and Calhoun 1984:54).

#### **Postbellum Period**

After the Civil War Charleston and the surrounding countryside lay in waste. Plantation houses were destroyed, the city was in near ruins, the agricultural base of slavery was destroyed, and the economic system was in chaos. Rebuilding after the war involved two primary tasks: forging a new relationship between white land owners and black freedmen, and creating a new economic order through credit merchants. General sources discussing the changes in South Carolina include Williamson (1975), Goldenwieser and Truesdell (1924), and more recently, Zuczek (1996). Scardaville (Brockington et al. 1985:43-48), however, provides information on the changing labor patterns specifically in the study area.

The Christ Church Agricultural Society, organized in 1882. The Society's membership, like that of other organizations of the period, consisted of the remnants of the Southern planting aristocracy. The organizations, founded to encourage and promote the return of the "agrarian south," were concerned with a vast range of issues, including planting practices, the prices offered for various crops, the transportation of crops at

reasonable prices on the new railroads, and resolving what were considered constant labor problems, i.e., the control of "Negroes."

For example, as late as 1909 the members of the Christ Church Agricultural Society agreed to a list of labor rules closely resembling antebellum slavery, including:

- no laborer shall be taken who is in debt, without payment of such debt.
- no laborer who has been discharged for insubordination shall be taken during the current year or within six months.
- that all tenants shall agree to give there [sic] spare time to their landlords when called on (South Carolina Historical Society, Christ Church Agricultural Society Minute Book, 34-197).

The society's constant interest in agricultural prices and conditions is shown by a 1902 report:

unusually fine corn crops planted in the parish, and also find the acreage a large one, which gives promise of a large yield. Peas and potatoes have not been neglected and, on the whole, the crops generally are up to the standard. The committee found the asparagus crops in good condition and some of the crops of young asparagus above the average. No complaints were made of rust . . . . Labor is abundant, but getting more and more inefficient each year . . . . Until we cease employing labor that has been discharged for cause, inefficiency, etc. . . . so long will we make the labor more and more worthless. We pay

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from 40 to 50 cents per day for our labor and I doubt if, under the best management, we receive 20 to 25 cents value for it . . . . The prices obtained for truck, during the past year have not been remunerative, more stuff being shipped and less money realized; in some instances the falling off amounting to 30 percent (South Carolina Historical Society, Christ Church Agricultural Society Minute Book, 34-197).

As Scardaville notes (Brockington et al. 1985:52), it is very difficult to use the agricultural schedules for economic analyses after 1870. The 1880 schedule seriously under-represents Charleston District, the 1890 schedules were destroyed by fire, all subsequent schedules are provided only on a county level (the individual parish and farm level information being destroyed under authority of Congress), and vital information is missing from the 1900 census. At a county-wide level, however, it is clear that between 1870 and 1910 Charleston's agricultural production gradually increased, the labor system stabilized, and prosperity returned.

In terms of relative importance, cotton and livestock were the two most important agricultural activities in Charleston County, followed by truck farming and grain production. During the early postbellum period there is also evidence of some land consolidation. The four tracts in excess of 1,000 acres in 1870 had increased to 151 tracts by 1880. Probably caused by high property taxes, foreclosures, and low selling prices this trend continued only for a decade (Scardaville in Brockington et al. 1985:57). During the late postbellum tenancy increased dramatically throughout South Carolina, except for several coastal areas where Scardaville suggests black farmers were able to purchase small tracts. Where tenancy did exist, it was largely cash rental, not sharecropping, and Scardaville argues that this formed the vital link allowing black ownership (Scardaville in Brockington et al. 1985:62).

Beginning shortly after the Civil War, truck farming became one of the primary agricultural activities of Christ Church farmers. The combination of soil fertility, climate, and proximity gave truck farming an edge in the effort to supply Charleston with produce. As early as 1873 it was noted:

the cultivation of garden produce for export in the neighborhood of Charleston, was not pursued as an occupation previously to the years 1865 or 1866. [Recently,] there are a large class of farmers & planters in St. Andrew's and Christ Church Parishes . . . who, in connection with a crop of Sea Island cotton, grow vegetables for export (Charleston Chamber of Commerce 1873:32-33).

As a result many blacks were employed as wage laborers. Produce increased from about one-quarter of the county's agricultural production in 1890 to over three-quarters by 1930 (Scardaville in Brockington et al. 1985:74). Much of this prosperity, however, disappeared during the Great Depression, when trucking in Charleston County declined by 75%.

### Tract Specific History

#### **Introduction**

A deed filed in Charleston in 1744 (Charleston County RMC, DB Z, pp. 294-297) recites several early grants that made up an early plantation north of Rathall (formerly Rowser's) Creek. Much of this plantation became the property known at least since the early twentieth century as Egypt Plantation.

The land conveyed in 1744 was a composite plantation, totaling 837 acres. It was sold again in 1757, with the boundaries unchanged. In 1769 the plantation was divided into a 663-acre portion alongside the marshes and creeks of Wando River, and a smaller tract lying



south of a path or roadway leading east to west (today Long Point Road). The subsequent history of the southern remainder is not part of this study.

To the 663-acre Wando River plantation a separate tract of 255 acres was added in 1801. This property, which also included "about three hundred and eighty acres of hard and soft marsh," lay east of the Rowser's/Rat Hall Creek plantation. With a landing on an unnamed creek (shown on the modern USGS map as Foster Creek) and its established settlement, this addition became an integral part of the antebellum plantation owned by members of the Hibben family. Its description as both 938 acres and 960 acres at the time of an intrafamily conveyance in 1826 (no plat was found) indicates some uncertainty about the extent of the land within the boundaries.

During the later antebellum period, the subject property was among Andrew Hibben's large holdings. He reported ownership of 1550 acres in 1850, and 1497 in 1860.

We have not determined the location of Hibben's other property. In 1904 the subject tract along the south side of the marshes of Wando River was described as seven hundred acres of high land and 104 acres of marsh. A conveyance of 1906, which took the subject property out of the Hibben family, described a "plantation or tract of land in Christ Church Parish known as a part of 'Egypt' Plantation. About 800 acres of high land and marsh land, more or less" (Charleston County RMC, DB T24, pg. 165).

### Early History

In April 1744 John Daniel paid "£2400 good and lawful money of the Province of South Carolina" to Joshua Wilks and his wife Joan, for three adjoining tracts on Wando River. Wilks had inherited the 837-acre combined plantation from his father, also Joshua Wilks.

One parcel, 600 acres between a "great marsh on Wando River" and Rowser's (today Rat Hall) Creek, had been first granted (1682) to John

Stephenson, and sold in two conveyances (1692 and 1698) by Stephenson's widow Mary and her subsequent husband, brick maker John Bell, to the elder Wilks. Although there are no plats and the metes and bounds are frustratingly vague, this may be the parcel on which the archaeological studies are being conducted.

The adjacent plantation south of the Stephenson grant was originally granted in 1677 to Mary McMervill, and described as being "at the head of Rowsers Creek." McMervill held the land for a decade, then sold it in 1688 to Nathaniel Law, who conveyed it to Joshua Wilks in 1692. Finally, there was a small tract of 67 acres, which had been granted to Wilks himself (Charleston County RMC, DB Z, pp. 294-297).

Described as a planter, the younger Joshua Wilks seems to have resided in Christ Church Parish for most, if not all, of his life. The parish church registry recorded the births and deaths of Joshua and Joan Wilks' children between 1728 and 1748, and their own deaths, both in 1748 (Webber 1917, 1919). However, we have found little information about the occupations or residences of Wilks, Sr. or Jr. We cannot be certain whether they settled their tract on Rowsers Creek, and if so, where Wilks lived after his 1744 sale of the property.

John Daniel, purchaser of the 837-acre plantation in 1744, was a Charleston merchant and shipwright. In his will (Charleston County Wills and Miscellaneous Records, Book 90, p. 74), written and proved in 1747, Daniel left his house in Broad Street to his widow Mary (Heskett) for life, then to his surviving children. He further directed that his executors should divide all his real estate among his children when Adam and John (twins born April 8, 1734) had attained the age of 21 years (Edgar and Bailey 1977:179).

The inventory of goods and chattels belonging to John Daniel of Charles Town (Charleston County Inventories Book 74, pp. 303-304) includes a great deal of cloth (osnaburg, duck, linen, calico, dimity, chintz, lawn), threads,

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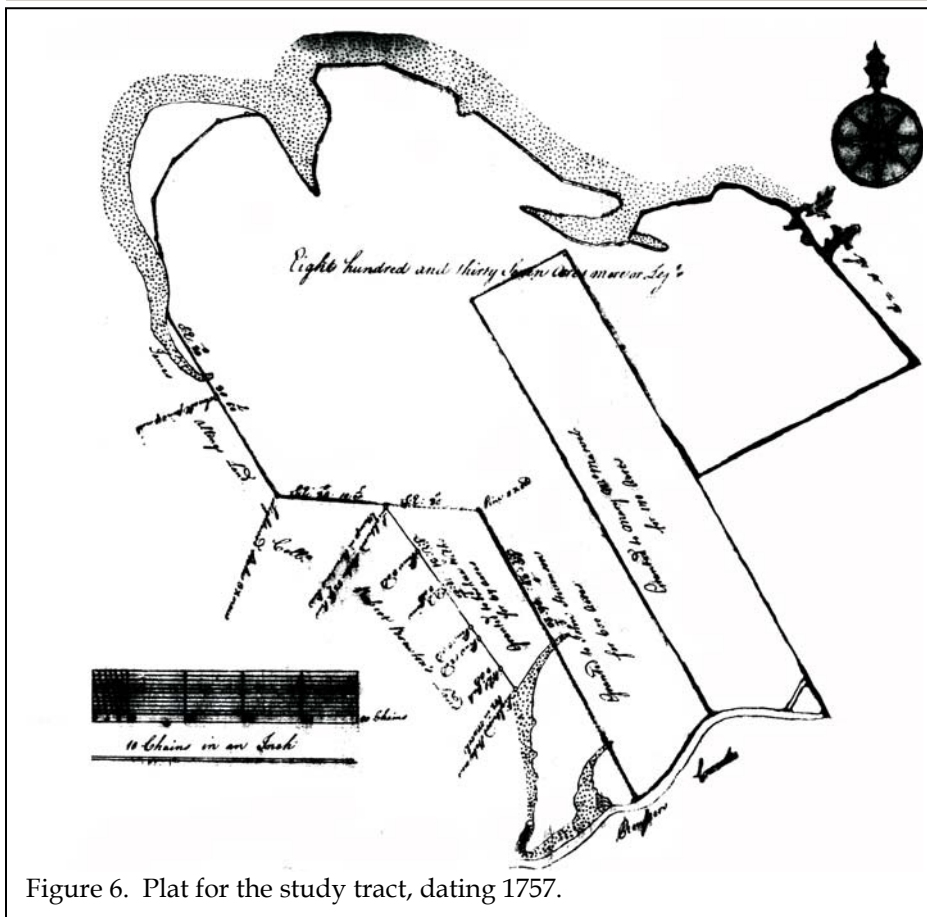


Figure 6. Plat for the study tract, dating 1757.

ribbons and lace, suggesting ownership of a dry goods business. There were also adzes (carpenter's and cooper's), axes, claw hammers, augers, pit saws and a cross-cut saw, and eight slaves itemized as carpenters. The occupations of forty-one other slaves, including 20 children, were not specified. The inventory listed plantation tools, 200 bushels of potatoes, nineteen hogs and pigs, eleven horses, 29 cattle, 36 sheep, and an assortment of fowl, indicating that Daniel's plantation was settled and in production. However, the itemized list does not suggest that there was a dwelling house on the property in 1747. Like other prospering merchants, John Daniel may have acquired plantation land in order to establish his sons as planters.

John and Mary Daniel's son Adam (who spelled his surname Daniell) became a planter in St. George, Dorchester, Parish, near the village of Dorchester (Charleston County WPA Wills 11:130;

Edgar and Bailey 1977:179). The younger John Daniel made his home in Christ Church Parish with his wife Mary, a daughter of Algernon Ash.

When John Daniel the younger wrote his will (Charleston County WPA Wills 8:80) in May 1757, he was only 23 years old. He directed his executors (his brother Adam Daniell, George Barksdale, Richard Cochran Ash, and Joseph Ash) to sell all his lands and real estate in order to make a division between his wife Ann and his young daughters Mary and Elizabeth. Daniel had died by August 1757, when his will was probated. In November two of his executors,

Joseph Ash and Richard Cochran Ash, conveyed the Daniel plantation to John Rose, ship carpenter of Christ Church Parish (Charleston County RMC, DB SS, pp. 224-226). On December 12, 1757, less than a month after the sale to Rose was complete, John Daniel's widow Ann married her cousin Richard Cochran Ash of Toogoodoo (Holcomb 1983:6).

John Rose was a prominent shipbuilder, one of several operating at Hobcaw Point, which faces the Wando River south of Hobcaw Creek. Henry Laurens had commented favorably upon John Rose as "an honest and sensible man" in April 1757, when the ship Cowper River was being repaired at Rose's yard (Hamer 1970:532). Through his 1754 marriage to Hester Bond, a daughter of Jacob Bond of Hobcaw Point, Rose was connected to Richard l'On and Clement

Lempriere, and a member of the early elite in Christ Church Parish (Rogers 1969:15, 24-25).

The plantation for which Rose paid £4000 in 1757 was described as 837 acres between the creeks and marshes of Wando River to the north and Rouser's Creek to the south. A plat filed with the deed shows the three tracts of which the plantation was composed, but does not indicate any cultural or geographical features other than the waterways (Figure 6; Charleston County RMC, DB SS, pp. 224-226).

In February 1769 John Rose, now described as a shipwright "of Charles Towne," sold most of the Daniel plantation to merchant Sims White, also of Charles Towne. White paid £3800 for the 663-acre north portion of the tract, lying at the south side of the marshes and creeks of Wando River. Rose retained for himself the portion of the plantation [about 174 acres] south of "a straight line run across the said 837 acres from east to west following the path leading from Mrs. Crofts to Christ Church" (Charleston County RMC, DB F7, pp.196-202). This path appears to lie along the route of today's Long Point Road. We have not traced the subsequent history of the land retained by John Rose in 1769.

Three years after Sims White's purchase of the property, he was arrested for non-payment of debts, and assigned Charles Pinckney, John Rose, and Andrew Lord to sell his real and personal property. The legal notice described two plantations: one of 1060 acres on the Pee Dee River, "whereon the said Sims White lately planted," and the other in Christ Church Parish. This Christ Church tract of 663 acres was described as "well wooded, on a good landing, and not above 10 or 12 miles from Charles Towne, . . . lately the property of Mr. John Rose . . . and said to be valuable." To be sold for the benefit of White's creditors were also a small stock of cattle and hogs on each plantation, about 35 slaves, a pew in St. Philip's Church, and the plate and household furniture at the dwelling house at the north end of the Bay in Charleston (*South Carolina Gazette*, February 28, 1771).

Stephen Townsend, planter "of the Province of South Carolina," paid £2020 for the 663 acres in Christ Church Parish at auction in May 1772 (Charleston County RMC, DB F7, pp. 203-205). After a brief ownership, in 1775 Townsend and his wife Ann conveyed the plantation to Andrew Hibben, Esq., who paid them £2750 (Charleston County RMC, DB F7, pp. 208-210).

### The Hibben Ownership

Among the early residents of Christ Church Parish were one or more named Andrew Hibben. In 1720 an Andrew Hibben "of Christ Church Parish, Esq.," paid £2000 to Wm. Gerard DeBrahm of Charles Towne, formerly of St. Augustine, for a town lot in St. Augustine, three tracts to the south totaling 1155 acres, and two vessels, the Eagle and the Wren, with five negro slaves (Charleston County Miscellaneous Records, Book 91B, p. 765), and in 1771 Andrew Hibben advertised the town lot (with a "new well-built house") and plantation lands for sale (*South Carolina Gazette* February 28, 1771). The 1720 buyer of the land in Florida may have been the Andrew Hibben "late of Charles Town, watchmaker, merchant or planter," who seems to have died before payment of a 1768 debt to John Morecock and Thomas Pittney of London for "a case containing sundry goods, including several dozen watches, chains, silver spoons, thimbles, buckles, and necklaces (Charleston County Miscellaneous Records, Book 91A, p. 436).

The Andrew Hibben who acquired a 663-acre plantation from Stephen Townsend in 1775 was already settled on his own plantation, married since 1766 (Holcomb 1983:119) to Elizabeth Barksdale (who was a daughter of George Barksdale and the widow of John S. Wingood), and the father of several children (Webber 1920). His acquisition of the Wando River plantation must have been motivated by the desire to provide legacies to his children as well as by its perceived value as investment or income-producing property (Hibben's use of the land, however, has not been determined).

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At his death in September 1784 (Webber 1918), Andrew Hibben owned the important ferry tract at Haddrell's Point (and 14 slaves employed there), his residence plantation "commonly called the Sea Side near Copahee Sound," where there were an additional 16 slaves, and the Stephenson plantation on Wando River. His wife having died in 1781 (Barksdale 1940), Hibben devised his home plantation to his son James. To his two daughters Elizabeth and Hannah, he left the 663-acre Wando River plantation, to be equally divided between them when they married or attained the age of eighteen (Charleston County WPA Wills 21:468; Charleston County Inventories Book A, p. 278).

Hannah and Elizabeth Hibben, heirs to the subject property, were quite young when their father died. Management of their property probably fell to their brother James for the next decade. In March 1797 Hannah married Arnold Wells, son of Samuel and Sarah Margaret Wells of St. Thomas and St. Denis Parish (Webber 1923; Bailey 1984:593). Wells was a close relative, probably a brother, of Sarah Margaret Wells, who married had James Hibben in 1788 (Bailey 1986:722-723), and became prosperous at a young age. At his death in 1805, he was 26 years old, the father of five, and a large landowner who had already served in the General Assembly (Bailey 1984:593).

In September 1797, soon after Hannah Hibben married Arnold Wells, her sister Elizabeth (who married John Williams Allan in 1807) released to Wells "of St. Thomas Parish" all her right in the tract on Wando River. He paid her £500 (Charleston County RMC, DB F7, p. 166) much less than half what Andrew Hibben had paid for the tract in 1775. There, of course, may have been other considerations not mentioned in the deed, so this cannot be taken to assume any significant decrease in the value of the property or an otherwise inappropriate transaction. By 1799, Wells owned 1,891 acres in Christ Church Parish (Bailey 1984:593).

A few years later, in November 1801, Wells "of Christ Church Parish" acquired a 255-acre plantation at the east side of the Hibben tract. Charles Snowden of the City of Charleston conveyed the property to him for £250. The plat attached to this deed (Charleston County RMC, DB F7, p. 166-168) indicates that the plantation also included "about three hundred and eighty acres of hard and soft marsh," and depicts a clearing with several buildings. Today this settlement would be located in the vicinity of the Snowden community, to the east of the study tract (Figures 7 and 8).

Arnold Wells was in poor health in July 1805 when he wrote his will. He devised the "tract of land whereon I now live including the tract I purchased of Charles Snowden, which is to be considered as one tract" to his wife and children, and expressed the wish that his wife, during her widowhood and the minority of the children, should reside on the plantation and keep the family together. Further he directed that the "business of the plantation be continued as heretofore for the mutual benefit and advantage of my wife and children" (Charleston County WPA Wills 30:896). The inventory of his personal estate in Christ Church Parish included the typical furnishings of a well-off planter: queensware, Japan ware, China ware, Windsor chairs, mahogany tables, silver spoons, looking glasses, etc. There were also 72 volumes of books, a fowling piece and a pair of pocket pistols, a sloop, a flat, and two cotton gins. Wells had evidently carried on a mixed agriculture: on hand were 7,000 tons hay, 600 bushels of potatoes, 30 bushels of corn, and six bushels of peas. He owned 28 head of sheep, 26 hogs, two horses, 35 cattle, and 11 oxen. The inventory also lists the names of his 43 slaves (Charleston County Inventories, Book D, p. 377).

After Arnold Wells' death, his widow Hannah Hibben married Henry Bennett, a deputy collector with the Custom House in Charleston (Hagy 1995), and moved to the city with her five children. Under the marriage settlement, recorded in December 1807, she put into trust with James

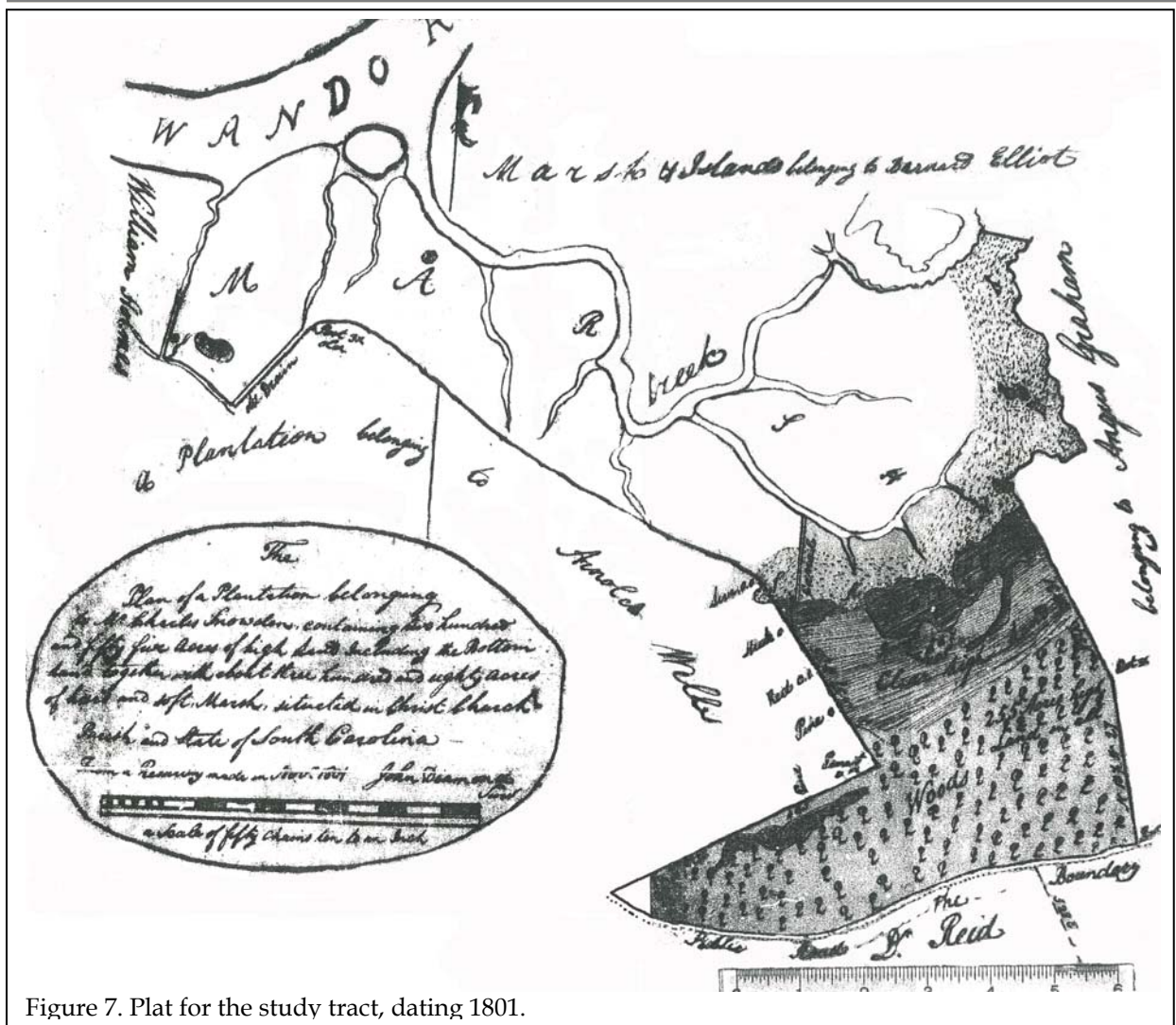


Figure 7. Plat for the study tract, dating 1801.

Hibben all the real estate to which she was entitled under Arnold Wells' will (Charleston County RMC, DB W7, p. 312). James Hibben, a politician, planter, real estate developer, and father of nine children (Bailey 1986:722-723), again managed his sister's property. The income seems not to have been enough for Henry Bennett, who was supporting his own children (both with his first wife and with Hannah Hibben), along with the Wells children. In 1819 when Bennett wrote his will, he cited money he had advanced to "the Estate of Arnold Wells in paying the debts, supporting and bringing up the Children of Wells," which his records showed amounted to nearly \$10,000 (Charleston County WPA Wills 34:223).

Henry Bennett died in Charleston in November 1819 (Wilson and Grimes 1984:56). On January 19, 1826, acting on a petition from Hannah Bennett as executrix of Arnold Wells' estate, the Charleston District master-in-equity sold the 938-acre Wells tract on Wando River at auction. It was then described as:

"that plantation or tract of land, in Christ Church Parish, now, and for some time, occupied by Mrs. Bennett, being part of the estate of Arnold Wells . . . about eighth miles from Hibben's Ferry, and two miles from Milton Ferry.

## PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

A part of this land touches on Wando River, and the settlement is located on a bold and navigable creek, leading into the same [Wando River] and about half a mile distant from it; bounded on the north by an island owned by Mr. Holmes, on the west by lands of Mr. Venning, east by lands of States Rutledge, and south by lands of Quentin Smith, containing

about nine hundred and sixty acres, more or less, a small proportion of which is marsh, convenient for manuring. The greater portion of this tract is prime Cotton and provision land, and the wood on the place convenient for market. Taking into consideration its proximity to the city, and the character of the soil, it is one of the most valuable places that has been offered for sale for a long time, or indeed one of the most so in the state." At the same time as the land auction, 19 slaves ("a large portion of workers, among them an excellent driver, five boat hands and two house servants") and a sloop. The week before the land and slaves were sold, there

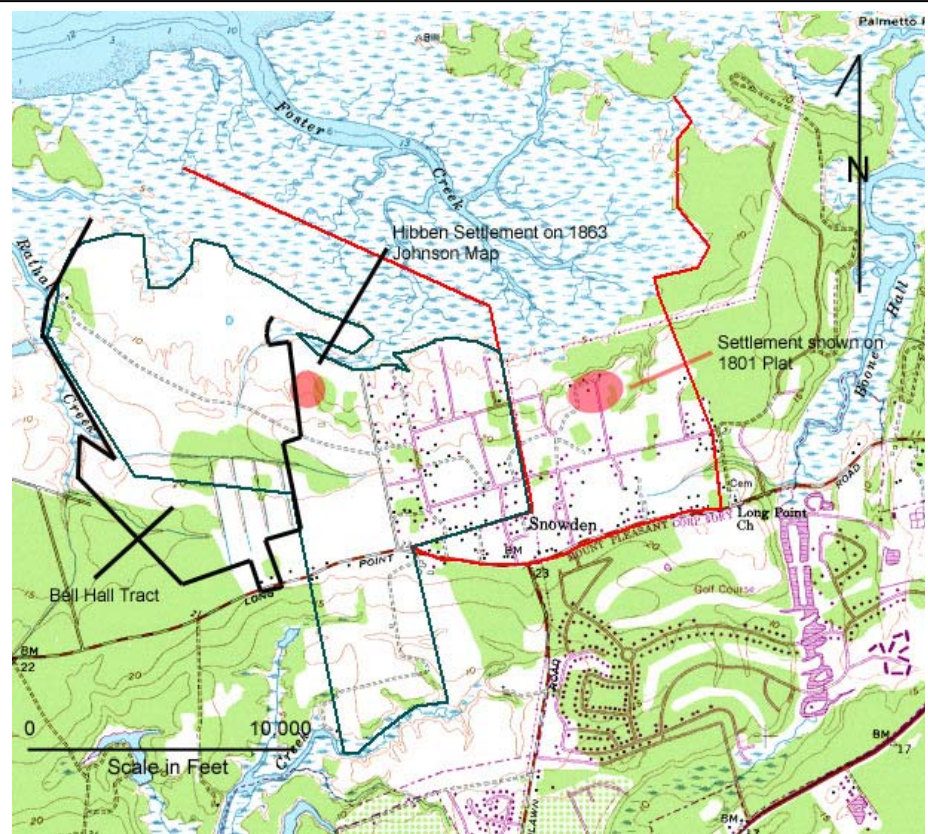


Figure 8. 1757 and 1801 plats overlaid modern topographic map.

would be a sale of the crop, stock, and equipment at the plantation.

Included in this auction were the present year's crop of cotton, corn, potatoes, blades, etc.; two saw gins, a barrel gin, ten pair horsepower rollers [gins], cart and dray wheels, a canoe; and two horses, one mule, 35 cows and steers, and 20 hogs. (Charleston Mercury 12/29/1825)

This advertisement indicates that, whether or not it produced income sufficient for the Bennett family, the Wells plantation had been kept in production. James Hibben, who had probably managed the plantation during his sister's tenure, bought it at the auction for \$7335. Despite being advertised as 960 acres, the property was described in the deed as 938 acres (Charleston County RMC, DB T9, p. 94).

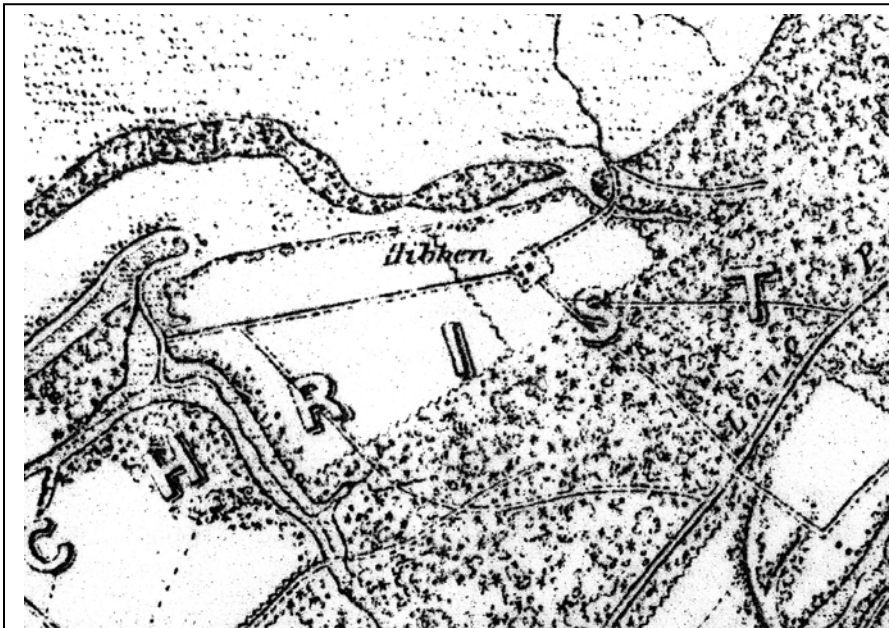


Figure 9. Portion of the Johnson 1863 Map of Charleston and Its Defences showing the Hibben settlement.

Although we did not find the deed, James Hibben (1766-1835) must have conveyed the Wells tract to his son Andrew (1808-1872). Andrew Hibben never married, and occupied a house in Mount Pleasant near his sisters. He spent much of his life in the South Carolina General Assembly and Senate (Bailey 1986:721-722), and planted on a moderate scale. His census return for 1850 shows only 75 of his 1550 acres being improved land. He kept two horses, 10 milk cows, 12 working oxen, 50 stock cattle, 50 sheep, and 60 swine, and in 1849 had produced 400 bushels of corn, 200 of oats, 100 of peas/beans, and 900 bushels of sweet potatoes, and claimed ownership of 23 slaves.

By 1860 Hibben, a bachelor at age 55, had put more land into cultivation, reporting 300 acres as improved. The total acreage had decreased to 1497 acres although we did not research his real estate transactions, if any, for this period. Described by the census enumerator as a "farmer," Andrew Hibben owned two horses, 12 oxen, 13 milk cows, 60 stock cattle, and 35 swine. With 28 slaves he had increased production to 1000 bushels of corn, 200 of peas, and 1500 of sweet potatoes. As in 1850, he reported no rice and no cotton.

Andrew Hibben's will, written in 1867 and probated in 1872 (recited in Charleston County RMC, DB F24, p.426), devised the "rest and residue" of his property, including the Wando River plantation, to his nephew Andrew Hibben DuPre and the children of his niece Mrs. Ann Alston Leland. Warren A. Leland bought the rights of the other heirs in 1904 (Charleston County RMC, DB F24, pp.426-431). The property was then described as seven hundred acres of high land and 104 acres of marsh, butting and bounding north by Dock Landing Creek and the

marshes of Wando River, east by lands of Ann A. Kennedy, south by lands of Amanda Switzer and the Lesesne Tract, west by lands of T. G. Main, Rat Hall Creek, and the marshes of Wando River. At some point, the tract became known as Andrew Hibben's "Egypt Plantation."

### Egypt Plantation

The plat of "a portion of Egypt Plantation, formerly the property of Major A. Hibben" made in 1904 (Charleston County RMC, PB D, p. 98) shows 550 acres of high land and about 250 acres of marsh. The surveyor indicated that the cleared space, about 310 acres, was mostly under cultivation. No buildings are shown on the plantation, but the surveyor marked stands of virgin pine, a "fringe of live oak" near the landing on Rathall Creek, and an "old avenue" leading north from Long Point Road. Evidently the Snowden plantation purchased by Arnold Wells in 1801, on which the "Hibben" settlement was shown on the 1863 map (Johnson 1863; Figure 9), had previously passed out of the Hibben family. It is indicated as the "Kennedy Tract" on the 1904 plat. This area was soon subdivided and became

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

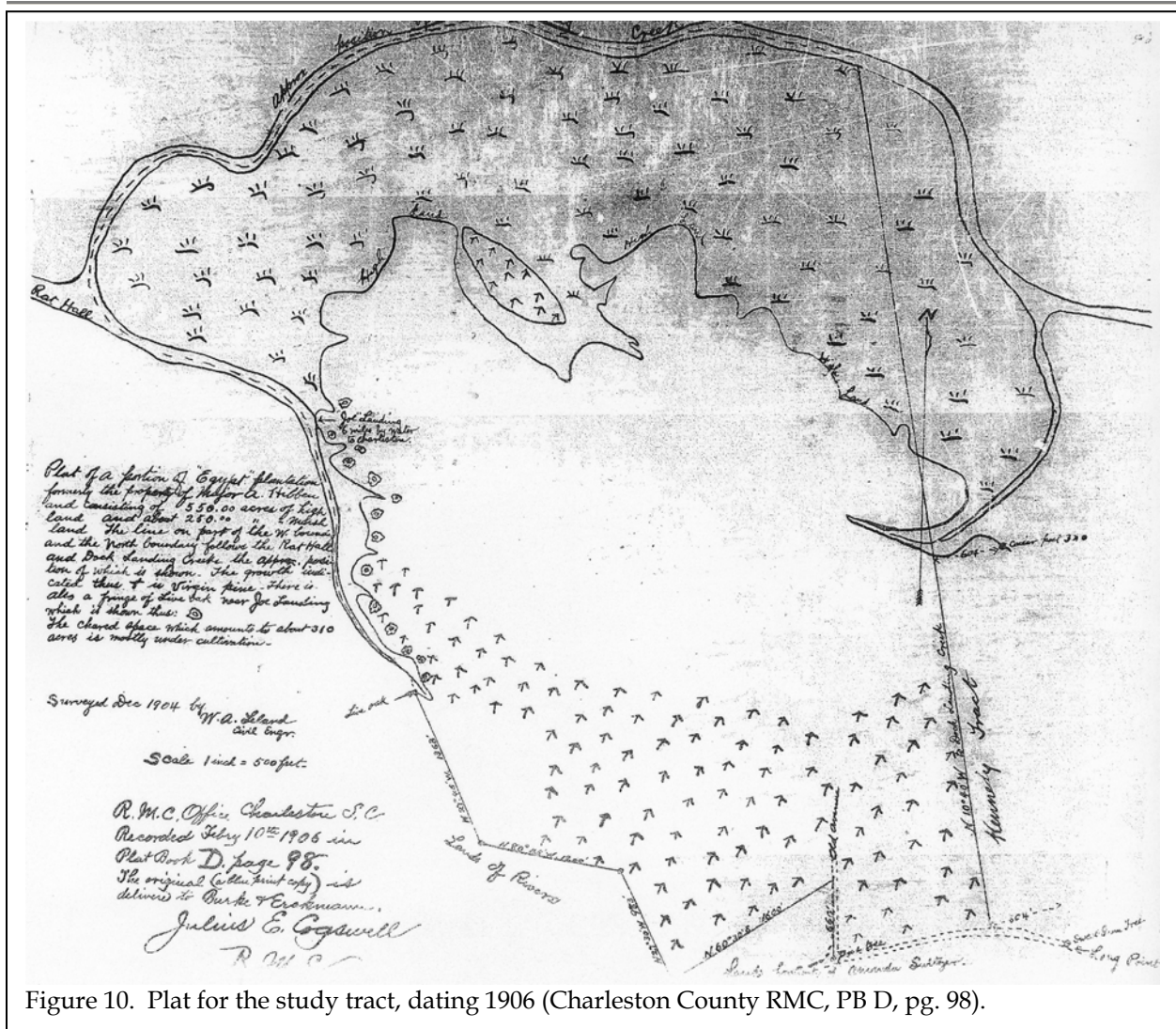


Figure 10. Plat for the study tract, dating 1906 (Charleston County RMC, PB D, pg. 98).

part of the Snowden Community (Schneider 1988:11).

This plat is the first reference we have found to this tract as Egypt Plantation. The place name was again used in 1906 when Warren A. Leland conveyed the land to James P. Allen. It was then described as a "plantation or tract of land in Christ Church Parish known as a part of 'Egypt' Plantation. About 800 acres of high land and marsh land, more or less" (Charleston County RMC, DB T24, p. 165). The plat from this purchase (Figure 10) reveals what is called "Joe Landing," at the same location as the landing shown on the 1863 Johnson map. The plat also shows the

remnant "old avenue" leading to the Hibben residence, also shown on the Johnson map. Even the vegetation of the parcel does not seem to have been altered much since the antebellum.

Deeds recorded after 1906 consistently refer to "Egypt" plantation. In 1920 James P. Allen sold a small (0.9 acre) parcel at the north side of Long Point Road to James Alston, Geoffrey Alston and Geoffrey Simmons, trustees of Shiloh Mission AME Church. The boundaries of the church lot were lands of J. P. Allen to the north and east, Long Point Road to the south, and "an old Avenue" to the west (Charleston County RMC, DB Z29, pg. 115). Allen conveyed the rest of the tract



to Ashmead F. Pringle in June 1920 (Charleston County RMC, DB Z29, pg. 206).

Ashmead Pringle, a prominent Charleston businessman, was adjudicated bankrupt in 1932, and his real estate was order sold. For \$2000, the parcel known as a part of Egypt Plantation was conveyed to the South Carolina Security Company, which assigned its bid and the title to the South Carolina National Bank of Charleston (Charleston County RMC, DB Q37, p.334). In 1938, again for \$2000, the South Carolina National Bank of Charleston conveyed title to Robert C. MacNeal (Charleston County RMC, DB E40, p.188).

### **Summary**

The historical research suggests that all of the nineteenth century settlement of the tract took place to the east of the study parcels - either on Belle Hall property previously reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office, or on property that is off the Belle Hall parcels. As will be clearly identified in a following section, the historic settlements on the study tract date from the very earliest ownership of the parcel - probably by absentee owners.

## PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

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## METHODS

### Archaeological Field Methods

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 50-foot intervals along transects placed at 50-foot intervals at site 38CH1278 and then adding shovel tests at 25-foot intervals across the site area. After the shovel testing, three 5-foot units were proposed to be excavated and examined for features, depth of cultivation, artifact density, and other factors that might affect the significance of the site. The testing of 38CH1282 was similar. Shovel tests were placed at 50-foot intervals along transects placed at 50-foot intervals. Selective 25-foot testing was to be used in certain areas and again, three 5-foot units were to be excavated.

We felt it was necessary to conduct this extensive level of testing since the original work was very limited, resulting in poorly defined site boundaries, little information on site content or context, and no information on artifact dispersion or density.

All soil would be screened through ¼-inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially by transect. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1.0 foot or until subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology revisit site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

A total of 12 transects (T1-12) were set up at 50-foot intervals along the roadway at

38CH1278. Shovel tests worked north at 50 foot intervals until two consecutive negative tests were encountered. After the site was located, six additional transects (T1.5-6.5) were placed at 25-foot intervals and shovel testing was performed at 25-foot intervals. Three test units were placed next to the shovel tests with the densest amount of artifacts.

For 38CH1282, 76 transects (T13-89) were set up at 50-foot intervals in the area originally noted by the site forms. Transects 12-28 were set up from north to south along the southern portion of the site area with shovel tests working east; Transects 29-41 were set up from the south to the north of the southern portion of the site area with shovel tests working west to the marsh; Transects 42-60 were set up from south to north in the north/central portion of the site area with shovel tests working west to the marsh; Transects 61-75 were set up from the east to the west in the northern portion of the site area with shovel tests working to the north; and Transects 76-89 were set up from the south to the north in the eastern portion of the site area with shovel tests working east. Shovel tests were performed at 50-foot intervals. Additional shovel testing at 25-foot intervals was performed on Transects 14-18 and additional 25-foot transects (T85.5-87.5) and shovel tests were performed from Transects 85-88. Four tests units were excavated in the areas of highest artifact density.

The GPS positions were taken with a Garmin GPS 76 rover that tracks up to twelve satellites, each with a separate channel that is continuously being read. The benefit of parallel channel receivers is their improved sensitivity and ability to obtain and hold a satellite lock in difficult situations, such as in forests or urban environments where signal obstruction is a frequent problem. This was a vital concern for the

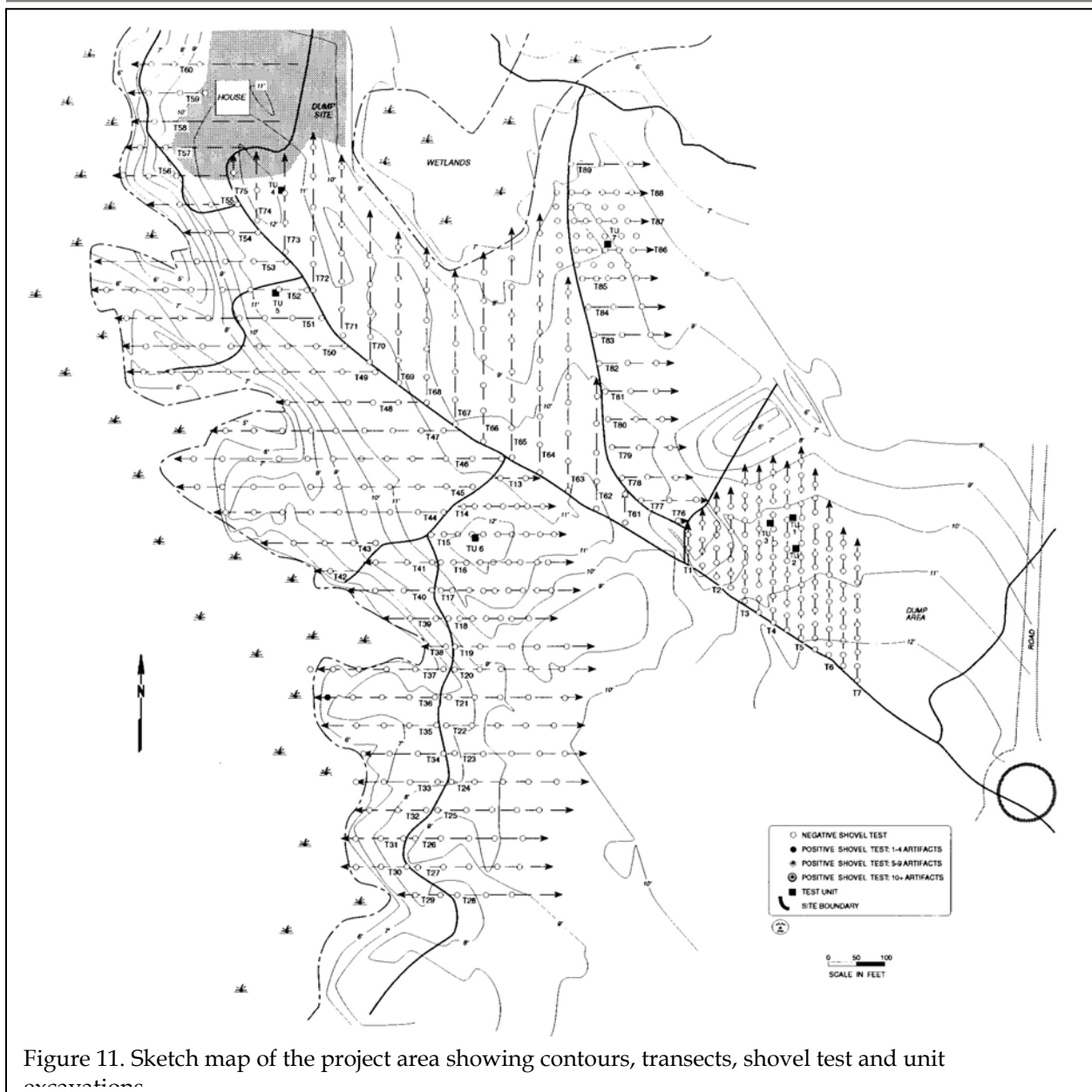


Figure 11. Sketch map of the project area showing contours, transects, shovel test and unit excavations

study area.

GPS accuracy is generally affected by a number of sources of potential error, including errors with satellite clocks, multipathing, and selective availability. Satellite clock errors can occur when the satellites' clock is off by as little as a millisecond, or when a slightly-askew orbit results in a distance error. Multipathing occurs when the signal bounces off trees, chain-link

fences, or bodies of water. Multipathing was probably a significant source of error for this study because of the trees and the marsh/creek area. The source of most extreme GPS errors is selective availability (SA), the deliberate mistiming of satellite signals by the Department of Defense. This degradation results in horizontal errors of up to 100 m 95% of the time, although the error may be as much as 300 m. Nevertheless, selective availability has been turned off by the DOD. We

## METHODS

have previously determined the 3D<sup>1</sup> and DGPS readings with the Garmin 76 were identical. Therefore, we relied on 3D navigation mode, with expected potential horizontal errors of 10 m or less.

After completion of shovel testing, it was found that site 38CH1282 produced four different areas that we felt warranted different site numbers. The S.C. Institute of Archaeology, however, preferred to keep the original site number and refer to the different areas by Loci A-D. Therefore, evaluation of the site will be performed as though each loci was a different site number. This is necessary to identify contributing and non-contributing resources within the site.

### Site Evaluation

Archaeological sites are evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

the quality of significance in  
American history, architecture,

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<sup>1</sup>A basic requirement for GPS position accuracy is having a lock on at least four satellites, which places the receiver in 3D mode. This is critical B as an example, positions calculated with less than four satellites can have horizontal errors in excess of a mile, or over 1,600 m.



Figure 12. Shovel testing in the study tract.

archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and

a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

*National Register Bulletin 36* (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;
- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;
- identification of the important research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;
- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and
- identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized,

but we have tried to focus on an archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

#### **Laboratory Analysis**

The cleaning and analysis of artifacts was conducted in Columbia at the Chicora Foundation laboratories. These materials have been catalogued and accessioned for curation at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, the closest regional repository. Revisit forms for the identified archaeological sites have been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Field notes and photographic materials have been prepared for curation using archival standards and will be transferred to that agency as soon as the project is complete.

Analysis of the collections followed professionally accepted standard with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains. In general, the temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of prehistoric materials were defined by such authors as Yohe (1996), Blanton et al. (1986), and Oliver et al. (1986). In general, the temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of historic remains follow such authors as Price (1979) and South (1977).

## RESULTS OF EVALUATION

### Introduction

As previously mentioned, sites 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 were initially recorded as a result of a 1991 survey (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991). The current survey relocated 38CH1278 where it was plotted in 1991. Site 38CH1282, however, is more problematic. The original site encompassed approximately 20 acres, yet very little shovel testing was performed to establish these boundaries (70 shovel tests were completed in 1991, while 389 shovel tests were completed in

to keep the original site number, but assign the separate clusters Loci A-D.

Of course, each locus within the site must be evaluated for both prehistoric and historic significance – and individual loci will be considered either contributing or non-contributing for prehistoric and historic research significance.

To minimize the confusion to the reader we have tried to make the discussions as simple as possible. We initially discuss the previous work at each site, then provide a brief overview of the work from the current project. Then, for each loci within a site (if more than one), each component will be discussed separately, including information on shovel testing, test units, and surface finds. After discussing each component, we will offer a National Register recommendation, specific to that locus and that particular temporal component. Table 1 provides a summary of each recommendation. Figure 13 shows the final location of the two sites.

Table 1. Eligibility Recommendations for 38CH1278 and 38CH1282		
Site	Prehistoric	Historic
38CH1278	n/a	Eligible
38CH1282		
Locus A	Not Eligible	n/a
Locus B	Eligible	Eligible
Locus C	Not Eligible	Eligible
Locus D	Not Eligible	Not Eligible

the current survey in the same area).

The current survey used the amorphous boundary to properly complete the shovel testing. At the completion of our shovel testing, we identified four distinct clusters or loci of artifacts, which if identified by the original 1991 survey, would have warranted the assigning of four separate site numbers.

Given this new information, we contacted the S.C. Institute of Archaeology through both written (letter to Keith Derting on May 26, 2004) and phone calls to attempt to break this large 20 acre area, which included predominately negative shovel tests, into four sites – what we felt was a reasonable management decision. This idea, however, was rejected and instead SCIAA opted

### Archaeological Resources

#### 38CH1278

Site 38CH1278 was originally identified at the northeast corner of a drainage ditch and roadway in an old field (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991:36-40). A site size of 20 meters (65 feet) by 90 meters (290 feet) was proposed (0.4 acre); based on 19 shovel tests, 15 of which were positive (the published map reveals 16 positive tests). The site form indicates that the shovel tests revealed an “18<sup>th</sup> century habitation area with intact midden and potential for intact features” and that both Euro-American and African-American artifacts were encountered, all apparently within the upper 1.3 feet of soil. Although the artifacts are not available, the site

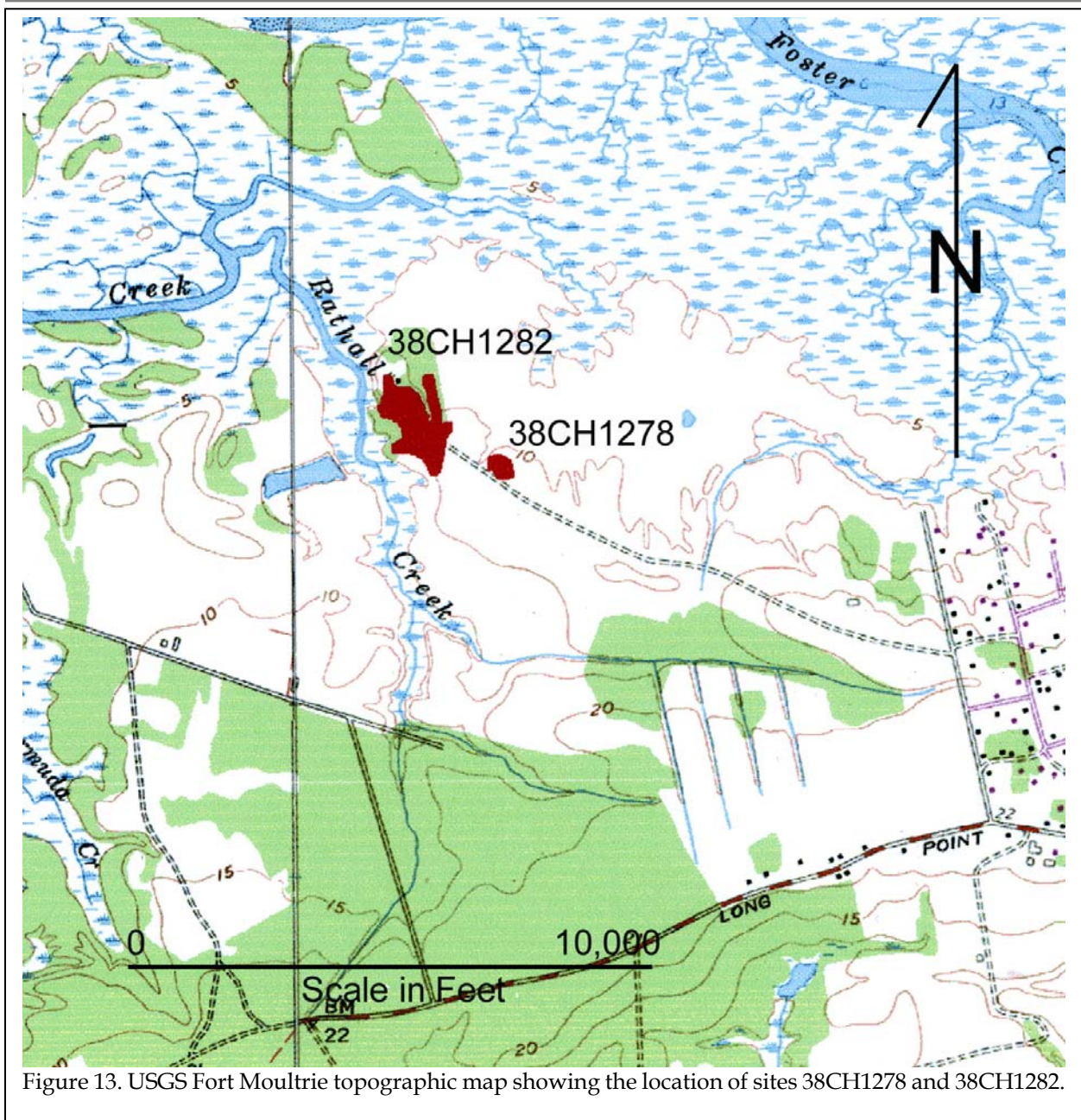


Figure 13. USGS Fort Moultrie topographic map showing the location of sites 38CH1278 and 38CH1282.

form does indicate that the recovered materials included “shell, bone, colono ware, brick frags, kaolin pipe frags, nail frags, slipware, [and] white salt-glazed stoneware” (38CH1278 site form, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology). In the report the site is identified as a “limited activity prehistoric occupation and domestic slave/overseer occupation with intact midden” (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991:36).

Unfortunately, there are no UTM coordinates listed for the site and the sketch map of the site identifies only a drainage ditch and old field to the west, field to the north, and woods to the south (Figure 14). The access road – which is the most salient feature of the site area – is not identified. Consequently, the site location was problematic.



## RESULTS OF SURVEY

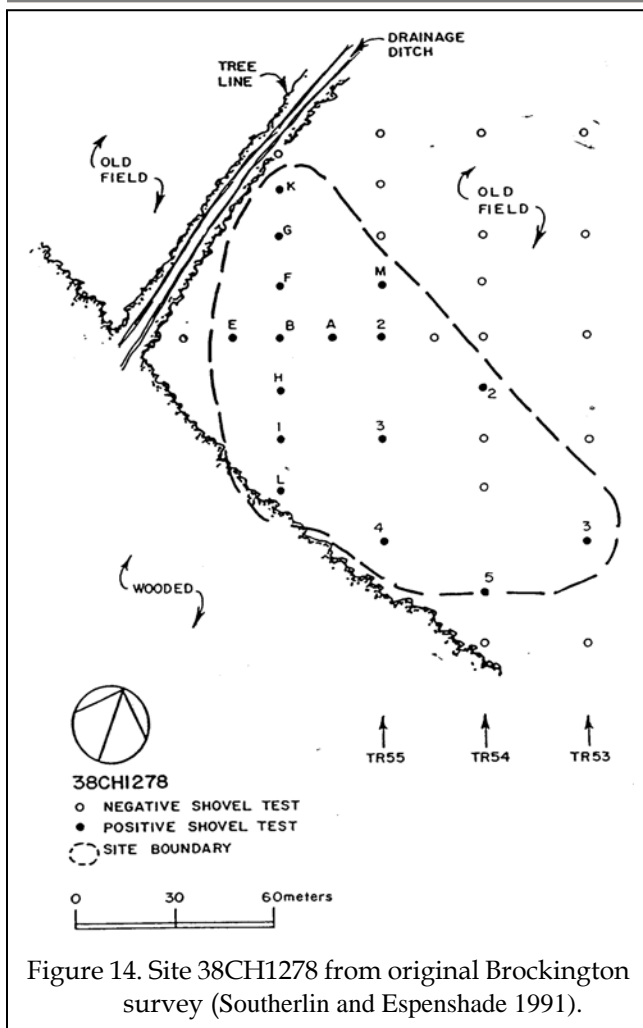


Figure 14. Site 38CH1278 from original Brockington survey (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991).

The closest location resembling the map was found at an intersection of a drainage ditch with the dirt road bisecting the cultivated fields. The current survey conducted shovel tests at 50-foot intervals in this area to first locate the site; then added shovel tests at 25-foot intervals were excavated to provide a more complete assessment. A total of 54 positive shovel tests make up the site area of about 250 by 275 feet (1.7 acres), considerably larger than originally identified by Brockington and Associates (Figure 14). In addition, today there is an area just to the east of the site that has been used for a construction dump and could not be tested – so the site may have been even larger. On the other hand, the 1991 survey shows only one positive shovel test in this general area, so it is possible that cultivation

has dispersed some artifacts in that direction, but the core of the site has been preserved.

The central UTM for this site is 605850E 3635190N (NAD29 datum). The core of the site, noted by a cluster of 13 positive shovel tests with five or more artifacts, is located between Transect 4 and 5.5, Shovel tests 3 to 5.5. Generally, shovel tests that radiated away from this nucleus contained four or fewer artifacts.

Three test units were then placed within the core of the site at the tests with the most artifacts. These shovel tests include Transect 4, Shovel test 4.5; between Transect 4.5, Shovel test 5 and Transect 5, Shovel test 5.5; and Transect 5, Shovel test 5.

The soil profiles at the shovel tests and test units resembled the Charleston Series. This series generally has an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR3/3) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 1.3 feet in depth. The Ap horizon at 38CH1278, however, tended to be more of a dark gray (10YR4/1) sand. The plow zone, however, was generally 1.0 foot in depth.

Specifically, Unit 1 had a dark gray (10YR4/1) sand to 0.9 foot in depth over a light yellowish brown (2.5Y6/4) sand. The base of the excavated unit contained plowscars (running northwest to southeast) and evidence of tree disturbances.

Unit 2 had a dark gray (10YR4/1) sand to a depth of about 1.0 foot over a light yellowish brown (2.5Y6/4) sand. The original shovel test can be seen in the base of excavations as well as two trees.

Unit 3 had a dark gray (10YR4/1) sand to about 1.0 foot in depth over a light yellowish brown (2.5Y6/4) sand. Three tree stains were found in the base. A dark yellowish brown (10YR3/6) sandy clay area was found in the northeast corner of the unit.

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

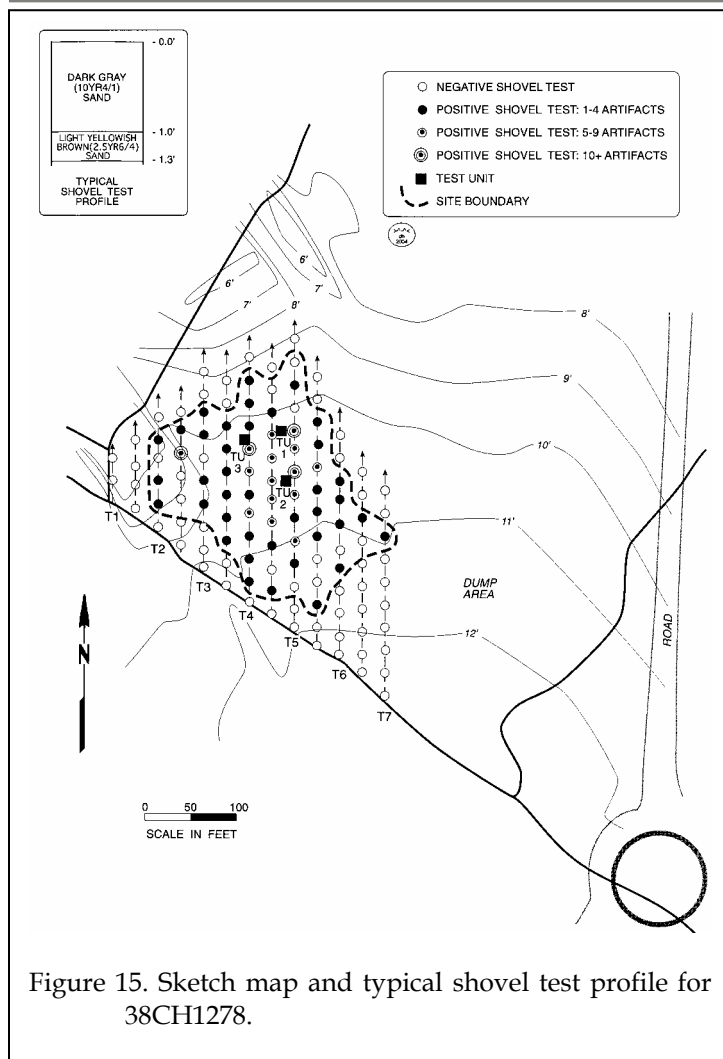


Figure 15. Sketch map and typical shovel test profile for 38CH1278.

artifact catalog from the 1991 survey (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991) actually shows that no prehistoric specimens were collected, although the site form indicates a prehistoric component (the artifacts are still retained by Brockington and Associates and are not available for analysis).

The current assessment collected historic artifacts from the eighteenth and nineteenth century, like those from the 1991 survey. The different archaeological data sets include Kitchen, Architecture, Furniture, Arms, Tobacco, Clothing, Personal, and Activities groups. The collection is shown in Table 2, where it is also compared to the Carolina Slave Artifact Pattern (Garrow 1982) – the closest similar published pattern. While the Kitchen and Architectural groups are very close to what would be expected from an eighteenth century slave settlement, the variation in Tobacco, Arms, and several other groups – coupled with the historic documentation, its isolated location, and an understanding of the overall site -- suggests that this site may represent either a slave or overseer dwelling, rather than a slave structure.

Supporting this assessment is the artifact assemblage identified from Area B at 38BK1900 – identified as an eighteenth century overseer’s structure at the Mazyck plantation (Trinkley et al. 2003:Table 13). At that site we find an increased density of architectural remains – suggesting a structure better than that of a slave, but far less than typical of planters. We also find elevated proportions of tobacco, arms, and activity artifacts – perhaps suggesting a combination of higher status and greater responsibility.

The site produced a range of data sets, however, one thing that it did not produce were prehistoric artifacts. A closer inspection of the

plantation (Trinkley et al. 2003:Table 13). At that site we find an increased density of architectural remains – suggesting a structure better than that

Table 2.  
Previously published Artifact Patterns compared to 38CH1278

	38CH1278	Carolina Slave Artifact Pattern	38BK1900 Area B 18 <sup>th</sup> c. overseer	38CH1471 Late 18 <sup>th</sup> c. small planter
Kitchen	74.9	70.9-84.2	65.2	77.4
Architecture	9.9	11.8-24.8	21.2	17.9
Furniture	0.1	0-0.1	0	0.1
Arms	1.1	0.1-0.3	0.3	0.1
Tobacco	9.1	2.4-5.4	10.2	1.4
Clothing	0.3	0.3-0.8	0.1	1.4
Personal	0.3	0-0.1	0.1	0.3
Activities	4.3	0.2-0.9	2.9	1.4

The most common artifacts of the Kitchen Group were the ceramics, which made up 70% of the Kitchen Group. Colono ware (37% of total Kitchen Group) and

RESULTS OF SURVEY

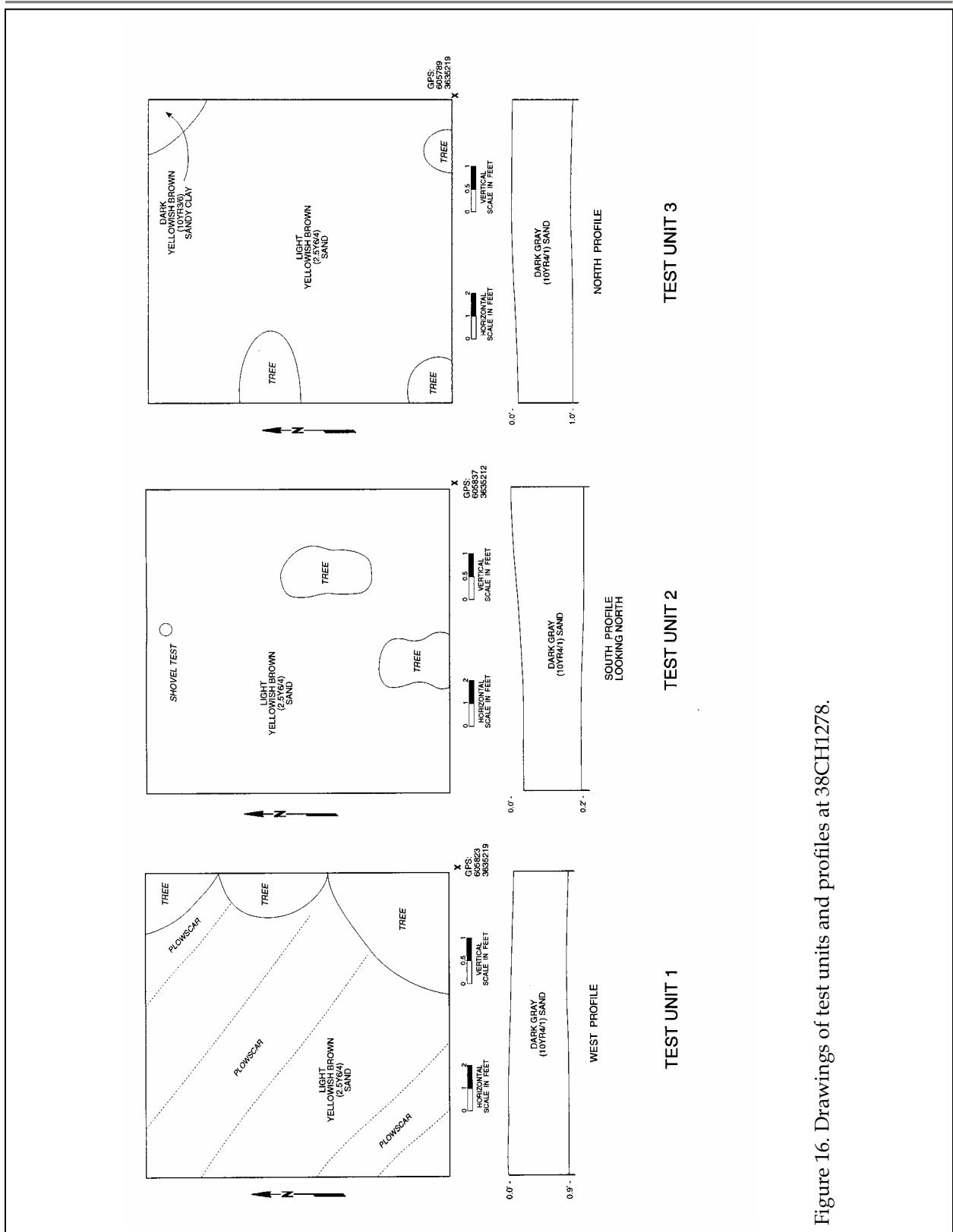


Figure 16. Drawings of test units and profiles at 38CH1278.

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

lead glazed slipware (19% of the total Kitchen Group) were the most common ceramics. Other ceramics include stoneware, delft, and red earthenware. Porcelains, creamwares, and hand painted wares, while found, occur in small numbers. Taken together these again are not characteristic of a planter's table, but are similar to the materials found at 38BK1900 (although similar materials have been found at what is thought to be a low status planter in Christ Church, see Trinkley and Hacker 1996).

A white metal utensil handle and two kettle fragments were also among the Kitchen Group artifacts. Both were found in Test Unit 3.

The Architecture Group comprises 10% of the total artifact assemblage. Only one identifiable nail was found – a hand wrought nail, which was commonly used before the 1800s (Howard 1989:54). The other nails (n=72) are all unidentifiable fragments. Only five pieces of window glass were found (6% of the Architecture Group), all within the three test units. The low incidence of glass suggests that the structure at this location lacked glass windows. Little mortar or brick was found, suggesting ground-fast construction and perhaps that a wattle and daub chimney was used.

One Furniture Group artifact was found, a brass tack.

The Arms Group produced nine gun flints, but no other evidence of guns, such as parts or ammunition. While these flints may be indicative of weapons, they might also have been used for strike-a-lites.

The Tobacco Group consisted of 9.1% of the total artifact assemblage. These include 38 pipe stem fragments and 35 pipe bowl fragments.

The Clothing Group had one button insert and one brass buckle fragment. Both artifacts were found in Test Unit 3.

The Personal Group contained one bead and one cut glass jewelry setting.

Finally, the Activities Group contained a toy marble fragment, a lead fishing weight, a lead ball, UID iron and lead, a river-smoothed pebble, chert flakes, and faunal material.

Table 3.  
Mean Ceramic Date for 38CH1278

Ceramic	Date Range	Mean Date (xi)	(fi)	fi x xi
Overglazed enamelled porc	1660-1800	1730	3	5190
White salt glazed stoneware	1740-1775	1758	6	10548
Lead glazed slipware	1670-1795	1733	116	201028
Decorated delft	1600-1802	1750	6	10500
Plain delft	1640-1800	1720	13	22360
Creamware, undecorated	1762-1820	1791	13	23283
Pearlware, poly hand painted	1795-1815	1805	1	1805
Pearlware, undecorated	1780-1830	1805	1	1805
Whiteware, undecorated	1813-1900	1860	2	3720
Total			161	280239
Mean Ceramic Date	1740.6			

The mean ceramic date (MCD) for this site is about 1741, however the collection of two pieces of whiteware, which was not produced until 1813, shows that the site may extend into the nineteenth century, although it is more likely that these are intrusive and should be discounted (resulting in a mean ceramic date of 1739).

Glass is the next most common Kitchen Group artifact with 175 specimens (29%). "Black" glass, or dark green in transmitted light, comprises 78% of all the glass found. While often called "wine" bottles, Jones (1986) notes that these may also have been used for cider, distilled liquors, vinegar, and mineral waters.

Other glass found includes clear, manganese, light green, green, and aqua.



## NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

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Site 38CH1278 produced a wide range of archaeological data sets, including a very complete artifact assemblage that while generally low status appears most representative of an overseer. Dating from the first half of the eighteenth century, this is a site type for which we have few examples. In fact, the only one we are familiar with is the recent Chicora study at Liberty Hall (Trinkley et al. 2003). The data sets also include faunal remains, identified from all three test units and from 11 of the shovel tests. While features have not been identified in the test units, these do indicate that cultivation is not unreasonably deep. As far as dispersion, the site core appears to be confined to an area of about 3,600 square feet.

Given the rarity of these sites – coupled with the very limited historical data that our research reveals will be present for the early eighteenth century occupants – site 38CH1278 poses a number of significant research questions. Many are admittedly exploratory in nature – What does an early eighteenth century overseer’s site look like in the archaeological record? What physical remains are likely to be present and how are these arranged spatially? What diet might an early overseer’s site evidence? Beyond the obvious difference of white and black, free and slave, how did an early overseer’s life differ from that of the slave’s? Will additional investigation help refine the overseer’s artifact assemblage and provide a better pattern analysis? The reason for this emphasis on exploratory research is that we have so few similar sites on which to evaluate other research realms.

In spite of their simplicity these questions are worthy of research since the period of occupation represents the very early settlement of South Carolina. This was a time when the English, many from the previously slave-holding West Indies colonies, were beginning to establish slavery as a common practice in Carolina. Short of very generalized economic and social histories, there is little archaeological research for this time period.

Moreover, while such site types were

presumably common, many have been culturally “swamped” by late eighteenth and early nineteenth century settlements. The development of the plantations, taking place on top of the very early, and very ephemeral, earlier settlements has made them impossible to study with any precision. In this case, our historical research reveals that later eighteenth and nineteenth century settlements took place to the east of this site – ensuring that it has been “frozen” in time. It is also possible that sites of this size are often overlooked in archaeological projects or are “written off” because of their low artifact density. Consequently, 38CH1278 assumes even greater importance as a representative of a site type for which there are very few examples.

The site’s integrity is good, with plowing taking place to only about 1.0 foot in depth. The site’s core, or original local, is still apparent with 13 shovel tests containing five or more artifacts and three shovel tests with ten or more artifacts. This suggests that the site has the ability to address these exploratory research questions.

For these reasons, 38CH1278 is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. If green spacing is not an option for the developer, then a data recovery needs to be implemented to accurately address research questions for the site.

### 38CH1282

This site was originally recorded in 1991 (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991) as measuring 150 meters (490 feet) east-west by 180 meters (590 feet) north-south. Their Figure 10, however, showed the site with shovel testing covering an area closer to 975 feet by 1,560 feet or about 34.9 acres (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991:45; see Figure 17). These dimensions, however, were based on only 70 tests or about one test per half acre. In addition, tests were limited to two small areas of the site area and did not cover the bulk of the area eventually included in the site boundaries. Essentially, what Southerlin and Espenshade (1991) refer to as 38CH1282, is a

## RESULTS OF SURVEY

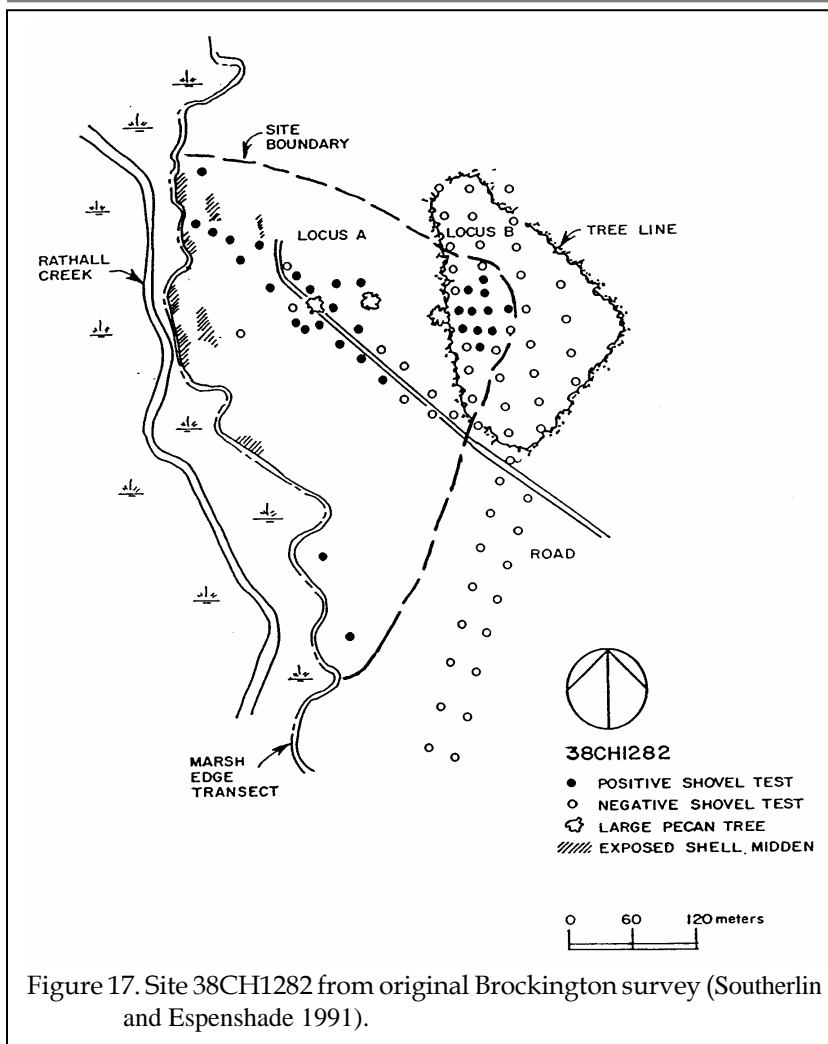


Figure 17. Site 38CH1282 from original Brockington survey (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991).

speculation of what *might* be there. The site was described as having a “fairly intensive prehistoric occupation with multiple intact shell middens” and “a historic component” that “probably represents a slave/overseer domestic occupation with intact midden deposits” (Southerlin and Espenshade 1991:43).

The current survey shovel tested the site at 50-foot intervals, finding not one large site, but four distinct clusters or loci of artifacts (labeled A-D). Additional close-interval testing at 25 feet was assumed for Loci C and D to gain a better understanding of artifact patterning. In addition, four 5-foot units were placed at the site, two in Locus B, one in Locus C, and one in Locus D. As a result, our boundaries and recommendations are

based on 389 shovel tests and four 5-foot units.

Each locus will be discussed and evaluated individually below as if each were a separate site. The location and dimensions of these loci are shown in Figures 18 and 19.

### Locus A

Locus A is located at Transect 57 and 58, along the edge of the marsh between the elevations of 7 and 10 feet AMSL. A central UTM is 605510E 3635450N (NAD27 datum). Only three shovel tests (T57, ST0.5 and ST1 and T58, ST1) were positive. Each of these tests contained one small prehistoric sherd.

This area was identified as a locus and not an isolated find because the South Carolina Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations (State Historic Preservation Office 2000) describes a site as “yielding three or more . . . artifacts within a 30-meter [100-foot] radius.”

Nonetheless, Locus A, measuring about 50 square feet did not contain any diagnostic artifacts that would date the area. The site produced a very small amount of shell, but nothing to indicate that the site was part of a midden.

The shovel tests revealed Charleston Series soils, which are moderately well-drained to somewhat poorly drained soils with an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR3/3) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 1.3 feet in depth.

The locus has been impacted by the roadway, which runs through the site. A

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

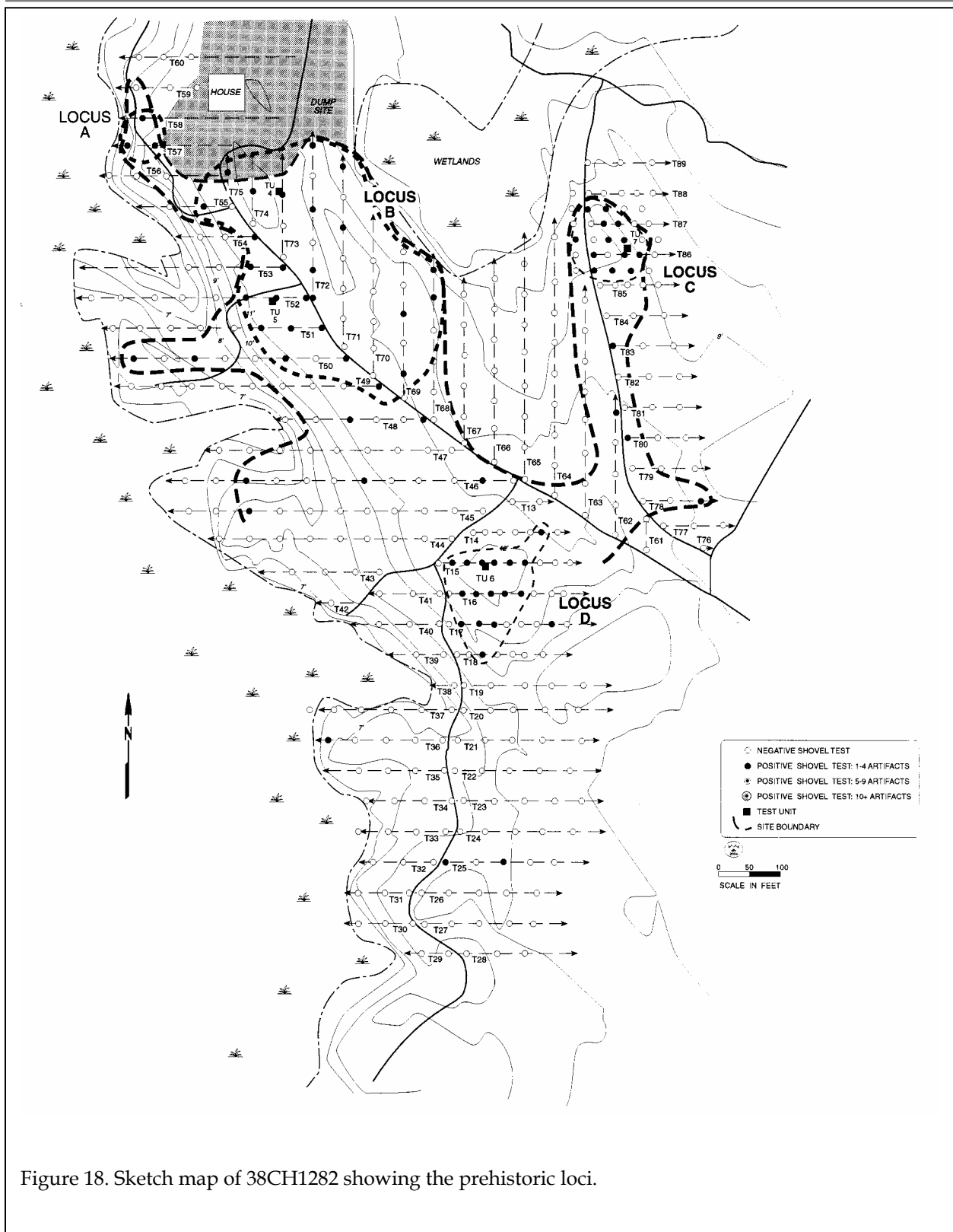


Figure 18. Sketch map of 38CH1282 showing the prehistoric loci.



# RESULTS OF SURVEY

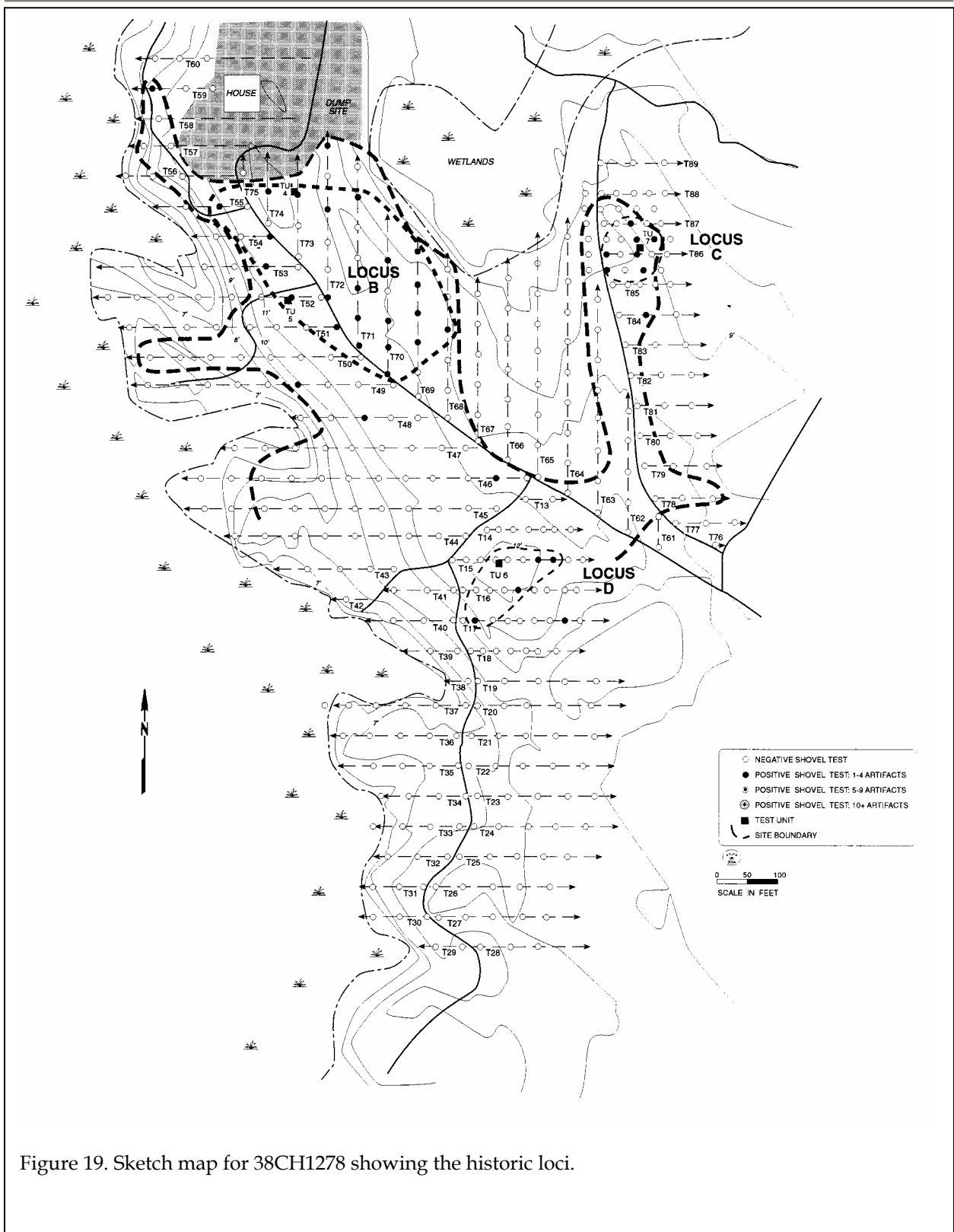


Figure 19. Sketch map for 38CH1278 showing the historic loci.

## NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

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twentieth century house and various piles of debris are located from the edge of the site to about 100 feet northeast of the site. The site may have, at one time, extended into this area; however, the integrity appears to be severely damaged.

Locus A of 38CH1282 is recommended not eligible for the National Register due to its poor integrity and lack of diagnostic artifacts that would aide in addressing significant research questions.

### Locus B

Locus B is located at the northern edge of 38CH1282. It was tested at 50-foot intervals. Two test units were excavated at this locus. The site is situated at about 10 feet AMSL and contains a historic and prehistoric component. A central UTM is 605620E 3635425N (NAD27 datum).

#### *Prehistoric Component*

The prehistoric component of Locus B consists of 26 positive shovel tests and two test units incorporating an area about 400 feet north-south by 450 feet east-west. A core area appears to be between Transects 51 and 53, Shovel tests 1 to 3, which includes Test Unit 5, in the southwest portion of the locus.

Soil profiles resemble Charleston soils, which have an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR3/3) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 1.3 feet in depth. Specific profiles for Test units 4 and 5 are discussed in the historic component section of Locus B.

A total of 753 prehistoric artifacts were found, all sherds. However, some of the bone and recorded for the historic component may in fact be prehistoric.

Small sherds are the most abundant accounting for 87% of all the sherds (n=653). The larger, diagnostic sherds include Thom's Creek

plain, finger pinched, and reed punctate; Refuge simple stamp; Deptford plain and simple stamp; and Irene plain and complicated stamp. These sherds date from the Late Archaic-Early Woodland (Thom's Creek) to the Mississippian (Irene) period. Of these the Thom's Creek is most common, accounting for 81 (or 81%) of the large specimens and 77 or 95% of these came from one unit - Test Unit 5. That unit produced 180 sherds in Level 1 and 413 sherds in Level 2.

When Unit 2 is examined for stratigraphic separation of these wares, some indication is found. All of the Thom's Creek pottery is found in Level 2, while Level 1 included Irene and Deptford (although one Irene was found in Level 2).

The data sets at Locus B are very sparse, with only pottery being recovered. We found no evidence of lithics, only the merest speculation that some of the faunal remains might be associated with the prehistoric remains (although none were encountered in Level 2 of Unit 5), and no features. While we can note that some stratigraphic separation is present, the site core appears to be very small - limited to the vicinity of this fortuitously placed 5-foot unit. The shovel tests fail to suggest any other area of dense remains where data sets might be more varied.

There are a number of Late Archaic/Early Woodland sites identified in the coastal plain, many of which are briefly summarized by Sassaman and Anderson (1994:77-90). Most are far larger than 38CH1282, Locus B and exhibit a much longer occupation, typically including stratified or nonstratified remains from at least the Middle Archaic through Early Woodland (or later). One consistent theme in the Upper Coastal Plain, however, is the presence of these sites on terrace edges, often in close proximity to a spring or drainage, while on the Lower Coastal Plain the sites are commonly associated with a marsh environment. Many of the sites also exhibit an ecotone setting and there is a strong swamp margin orientation (Sassaman and Anderson 1994:150-151).

RESULTS OF SURVEY

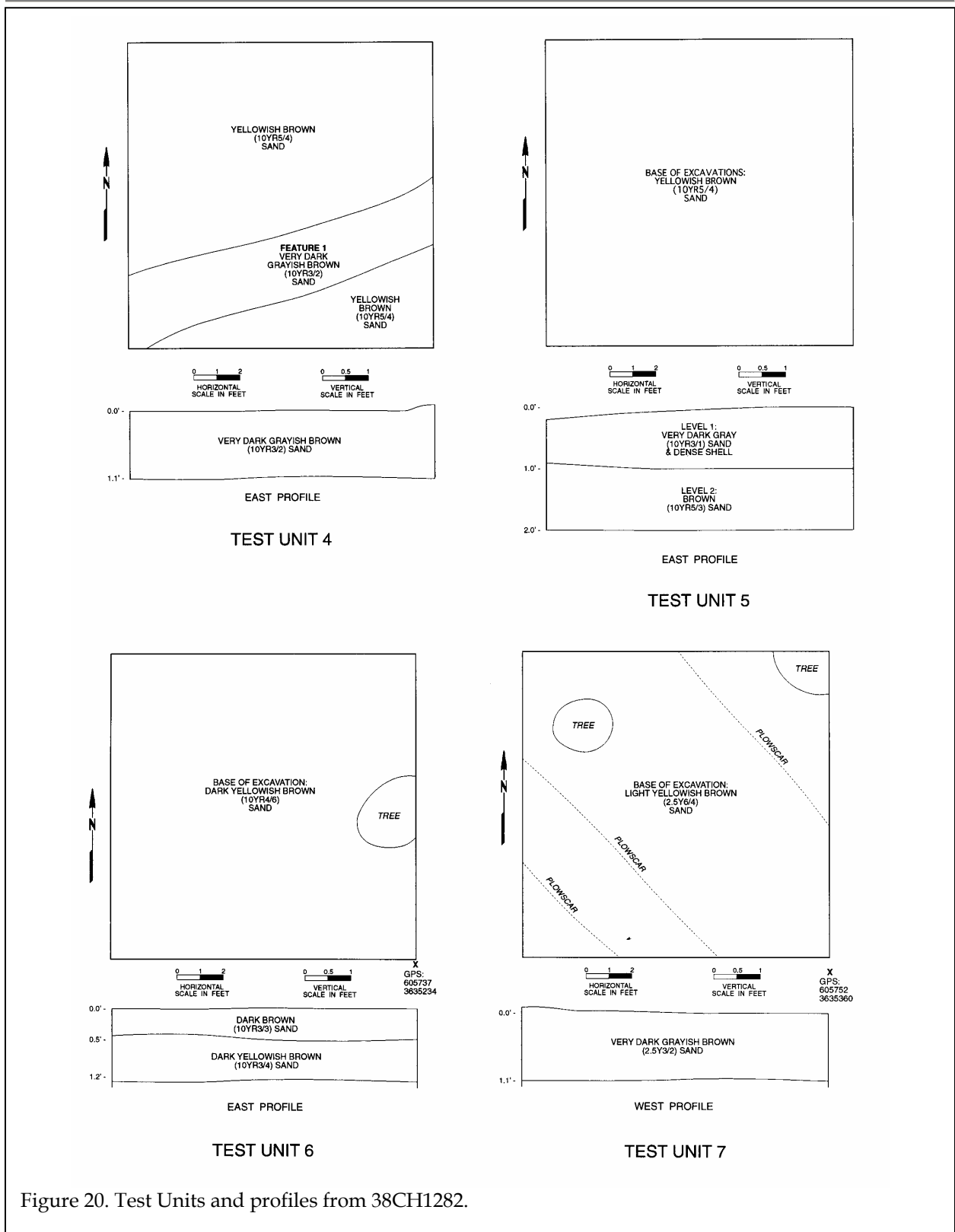


Figure 20. Test Units and profiles from 38CH1282.

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

As a result of their 1994 synthesis (which has been little modified since), Sassaman and Anderson proposed four Late Archaic site types that would be “automatically eligible” for inclusion on the National Register:

- Intact buried deposits, especially if features, floral, or faunal remains were found;
- Stratified deposits;
- Sites with evidence of structural remains; or
- Areally extensive sites (Sassaman and Anderson 1994:199).

Only one of these criteria – the site is intact and buried – can be applied to 38CH1282, although it lacks clear evidence of floral or faunal remains and features are not indicated, except perhaps by the

or at least previously studied.

Second, we believe that the very nature of this site makes its recovery problematic and that we risk the loss of an opportunity to study an exceptionally well preserved (because of its deep burial) representative of a small, short-term, possibly specialized settlement. We envision that this is precisely the kind of site that researchers such as Anderson and Sassaman might argue in favor of studying.

The problem, of course, is that the site is areally small, data sets are sparse, and consequently, the site may be able to address a very narrow range of questions. Nevertheless, we believe that the site can address questions focused on intrasite variability and the distribution of remains. Excavation using a 5-foot grid, for example, should reveal the dispersion of these remains, perhaps allowing them to be associated with a structure or activity area. Further

Table 5.  
Prehistoric Artifacts from 38CH1282, Locus B

	T49	T50	T51	T51	T51	T52	T52	T52	T53	T53	T54	T55	T68	T69	T69	T71	T71	T72	T72	T72	T72	T73	T74	T75	Surface	TU	Fea.	TU5	TU5	Totals	
	ST1	ST1	ST3	ST1	ST2	ST3	ST1	ST2	ST3	ST1	ST2	ST1	ST2	ST5	ST2	ST4	ST5	ST7	ST1	ST2	ST4	ST6	ST3	ST2	T52ST2	4	1	Lv 1	Lv 2		
Thom's Creek Plain																									4				70	74	
Thom's Creek Finger Pinched																														4	4
Thom's Creek Reed Punctate																														3	3
Deptford Plain																											4	1			5
Deptford Simple Stamped							1											1									3	1			6
Irene Plain											1																			1	2
Irene Complicated Stamped															1												2	1			5
Unidentifiable											1																				1
Small Sherds	4	1	1	1	5	1	2	4	1	5	3	2	2		1	2	3	1	1	2	1	2	6	2	1	1	82	4	177	335	653
Totals	4	1	1	1	5	1	2	5	1	7	4	2	2	1	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	6	2	1	5	91	4	180	413	753

locally dense remains.

It can be argued that since all four criteria are not applicable, the site is of little consequence. We reject this view not only as far too narrow, but also as ignoring the unique – and largely unexamined – nature of sites such as this.

First, it seems to us that Sassaman and Anderson’s criteria are too narrow, especially for a region where, by their own admission, there is still much uncertainty surrounding settlement pattern models. It seems that sites such as 38CH1282 provide a unique opportunity to examine a site type that has not been either previously identified

examination of the site may also reveal other data sets not yet identified, such as lithics, ethnobotanical remains, or zooarchaeological specimens.

Consequently, the prehistoric component of Locus B is recommended eligible for the National Register under Criterion D, information potential. This area should be avoided by construction by green spacing or if this is not viable, data recovery should ensue to properly excavate the remains.

RESULTS OF SURVEY

Historic Component

Twenty-two positive shovel tests and two test units make up the historic component of this locus, which measures about 350 feet east-west by 300 feet north-south.

The site core is in the southeast quadrant of the site – an area where tests reveal a cluster of 15 positive tests. However, Test Unit 4, to the north of the locus, produced a comparatively large number of historic artifacts, which makes it somewhat of an anomaly. Much like Locus A, the site of a twentieth century structure and its piles of trash prohibited testing further to the north. It is possible that the northern portion of Locus B that contains Test Unit 4 is actually a separate area from the southern portion of this locus. This, however, cannot be substantiated without the removal of the debris and performing additional

tests. Even with this action, it is likely that the modern activity have so compromised the earlier components that little would be accomplished.

Soil profiles resembled Charleston soils, which have an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR3/3) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 1.3 feet in depth. Test Unit 4 had an Ap horizon of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sand to about 1.0 foot in depth over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) sand. One trench-like feature of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sand was found. Test Unit 5 had an Ap horizon of very dark gray (10YR3/1) sand mixed with very dense shell to 1.0 foot in depth over a brown (10YR5/3) sand. The subsoil was a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) sand. No evidence of plowscars were found in either unit.

Table 6.  
Historic Artifacts from 38CH1282, Locus B

	T51	T52	T53	T54	T55	T68	T68	T69	T69	T69	T69	T70	T70	T70	T70	T71	T71	T71	T71	T72	T72	T72	T73	T74	TU	Fea.	TU5	TU5	Totals	
	SI1	SI2	SI2	SI1	SI2	SI4	SI6	SI3	SI4	SI5	SI6	SI1	SI2	SI3	SI5	SI1	SI2	SI3	SI6	SI1	SI4	SI6	SI3	SI2	4	1	Lv1	Lv2		
<b>Kitchen Group</b>																													<b>62</b>	
Chinese porcelain, blue HP		2																											2	
Chinese porcelain, undecorated																						1							1	
Stoneware, brown salt glazed																									1				1	
Stoneware, white salt glazed						1																			1				2	
Slipware, lead glazed			1										1												2				4	
Red EW, clear lead glaze												1																	1	
Coarse red EW, clear lead glaze																									1				1	
Coarse red EW, black lead glaze																											1	1	2	
Creamware, undecorated										1	1				1														3	
Colono ware												2												2	10	3			17	
Glass, "black"	7										1														6				15	
Glass, clear																									1				1	
Glass, light green															1										1	1			3	
Glass, green				1																									1	
Glass, aqua								1	1				4			1													7	
Kettle fragment																									1				1	
<b>Architecture Group</b>																													<b>23</b>	
UID nail fragment		2								1	1					3		1	1					1	4		1		15	
Nail, hand wrought			1													1	1							1	2	1	1		8	
<b>Arms Group</b>																													<b>1</b>	
Flint fragment						1																							1	
<b>Tobacco Group</b>																													<b>7</b>	
Pipe stem																								1	1	1	2	2	7	
<b>Activities Group</b>																													<b>1</b>	
River smoothed pebble																									1				1	
<b>Historic Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>94</b>

T=Transsect; SI=Shovel Test; TU=Test Unit; Fea=Feature; HP=Hand Painted; EW=Earthenware

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

A total of 94 historic artifacts were collected from this locus (Table 6). The representative groups included Kitchen (66%), Architectural (24%), Arms (1%), Tobacco (7%), and Activities (1%). This collection does not precisely match any previous pattern, although it vaguely resembles both the Carolina Slave Artifact Pattern, typical of eighteenth century slave assemblages, and the overseer’s assemblage from 38BK1900. In this case the kitchen group is far lower than would be anticipated for a slave settlement, but approximately what we have found for an overseer. The activities group is not especially reflective of either, being more appropriate for an owner’s settlement. We cannot resolve the differences at this level of investigation – the assemblage can only be described as anomalous.

Within the Kitchen Group, the most prevalent ceramic was Colono ware accounting for 50% of the collection and 27% of the group. No other ware – either high or low status – stands out as particularly common. Chinese porcelains, for example account for only three specimens, while only four slipwares are present.

The MCD for this locus, based on only six

Table 7.  
Mean Ceramic Date for 38CH1282, Locus B

Ceramic	Date Range	Mean Date (xi)	(fi)	fi x xi
Underglazed blue porc	1660-1800	1730	3	5190
Creamware, undecorated	1762-1820	1791	3	5373
Total			6	10563
Mean Ceramic Date	1760.5			

specimens, is 1760 (Table 7). This is about 20 years more recent than the date for nearby 38CH1278, but is close enough to suggest that the two sites were probably contemporaneous.

The Architecture Group produced mainly nails. While the majority of nails were unidentified (n=15), eight nails were identified as hand wrought, popular before 1800 (Howard 1989:54). No window glass was found anywhere

on 38CH1282. Brick levels are also low across the site.

The Arms Group produced one flint fragment, thought to represent a fragment of either a gun flint or strike-a-lite.

The Tobacco Group produced only pipe stems (n=7) with bowls being absent.

The Activities Group produced faunal material from a single shovel test and both test units, although as previously mentioned, its association with prehistoric or historic remains is uncertain. A single river smoothed pebble, thought to be associated with the manufacture of Colono ware was also recovered.

The historic data sets at Locus B include a broad range of artifacts that are suitable for pattern studies, mean ceramic dating, and examination of status and lifeways. Faunal remains may be present and one test unit produced a historic feature.

Like 38CH1278, this site contains eighteenth century remains unmixed with latter materials. This allows the research questions to be more easily addressed, since it is unnecessary to attempt to tweeze apart multiple occupations.

One of the most significant questions to be posed at Locus B is whether the site – as we suspect – represents a slave settlement. The recovery of structural remains would assist in this endeavor, although the scarcity of brick, the low incidence of nails, and absence of window glass, are all suggestive of ephemeral, probably ground-fast structures. The one feature recovered appears to be a wall-trench, characteristic of eighteenth century African American slave structures.

Additional investigation will also add to the reliability of the collection and allow a better reconstruction of lifeways. A larger assemblage will allow a more accurate assessment of the site pattern and help refine the site’s period of occupation.

RESULTS OF SURVEY

Table 8.  
Prehistoric artifacts from 38CH1282, Locus C

	T85.5 ST 1	T85.5 ST1.5	T85.5 ST2	T86 ST1	T86 ST2	T86 ST2.5	T86.5 ST0.5	T86.5 ST1.5	T86.5 ST2	T87 ST1.5	T87 ST2	T87.5 ST1	T87.5 ST1.5	TU 7
Sherds, small	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	29

able to address significant research questions and we recommend the prehistoric locus as not eligible for the National Register of Historic

With few plantations in Christ Church still extant and very little of the previous investigations in the parish focusing on eighteenth century remains, this locus provides an opportunity to preserve and study a part of history that is not well understood. The historic component of Locus B is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D, information potential.

Places.

*Historic Component*

The historic locus is comprised of seven positive shovel tests and Test Unit 7, extending over an area about 75 feet in diameter. In the field, the site is marked by two large pecan trees, one 30 inches in diameter and the other 34 inches in diameter.

Locus C

Locus C is located at the northeastern edge of 38CH1282 and represents one of the areas originally examined by the Brockington survey. During this work it was tested at 50 and 25-foot intervals. One test unit was excavated at this locus. The site is situated at about 10 feet AMSL and contains a historic and prehistoric component. A central UTM is 605700E 3635475N (NAD27 datum).

Shovel tests were originally performed at 50-foot intervals with three shovel tests on Transects 86 and 87 positive. Close interval testing at 25 feet was added to better understand the makeup of the site. Four more positive shovel tests were found on Transects 85.5 and 86.5.

*Prehistoric Component*

The prehistoric component of Locus C consists of thirteen positive shovel tests and Test Unit 7 in an area measuring about 100 feet in diameter.

A total of 44 artifacts were recovered, all small sherds. These sherds cannot be identified by type, so dating this component is not possible.

Prehistoric data sets at Locus C are limited to these non-diagnostic sherds. No lithics, features, or other remains are present. As a result, we do not believe the site is

Table 9  
Historic Artifacts from 38CH1282, Locus C

	T85.5 ST 1	T85.5 ST2	T86 ST1	T86 ST2	T86.5 ST2	T86.5 ST2.5	T87 ST2	TU7	TOTALS
<b>Kitchen Group</b>									<b>62</b>
Stoneware, Brn SG								1	1
Slipware, lead glazed					1				1
Coarse red EW, lead glazed					1				1
Colono ware								44	44
Glass, "black"	1	1	1			1		5	9
Glass, clear								4	4
Glass, aqua							1	1	2
<b>Architecture Group</b>									<b>2</b>
UID nails				1				1	2
<b>Tobacco Group</b>									<b>6</b>
Pipe stems								4	4
Pipe bowls								2	2
Totals	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	62	70

had an Ap horizon of very dark grayish brown (2.5Y3/2) sand to a depth of 1.3 feet over a light yellowish brown (2.5Y6/4) sand at the base of

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excavation. Plowscars were noted at the base of excavations as well as two tree stains.

A total of 70 historic artifacts were found in this locus. Kitchen Group artifacts account for 89% of the total assemblage, followed by Tobacco Group with 9%, and Architecture Group with 3%. This assemblage does not match any previously established pattern, although the dominance of the Kitchen Group suggests the Carolina Slave Artifact Pattern – representative of eighteenth century slave sites along the Carolina coast. A “better” match is probably not present given the small collection available from this survey.

Within the Kitchen Group, Colono ware was found most often, accounting for 71% of all the Kitchen Group and 94% of all the ceramics. All of the other ceramics present are both utilitarian and generally considered to be low status – supporting our assessment of these remains as representing a slave structure.



Figure 21. Test Unit 7, view to the east.

Unfortunately it is not possible with this assemblage to provide a mean ceramic date, although the one European ware present has a date range of 1670 through 1795, with a mean date of 1733. Given this ceramic and the abundance of Colono, there is little doubt that this locus also

dates to the early eighteenth century.

Fifteen glass fragments were found, dominated by “black” glass (n=9). Glass accounts for 24% of the total Kitchen Group Assemblage.

Artifacts from the Architecture Group were sparse with only two specimens (3% of the total artifact assemblage). Both specimens were unidentifiable nail fragments. A small amount of brick was noted from the site, identified from four shovel tests, but always in very low quantities. While fragmentation has certainly taken place from cultivation, the low incidence of brick suggests that the structure here was not constructed on piers and did not have a brick chimney (although brick might, for example, have been used in a hearth). This earth-fast construction technique is also suggestive of a slave settlement.

The final group, Tobacco, accounts for 9% of the total artifact assemblage. This is above the norm for the Carolina Slave Artifact Pattern, but may again be explained by the small sample size available for analysis.

While this site appears to be sparse, the artifacts point to the locus being a very early slave structure. While late eighteenth and nineteenth century slave settlements are relatively well documented (see for example Trinkley et al. 2003; Trinkley et al. 1995), most of these studies are in areas outside of Christ Church – and few of them

are also found in association with an posited overseer’s settlement, allowing intrasite comparisons. Often these very early sites are covered up by more recent slave activity or, as seen by the few positive shovel tests, are missed altogether.



RESULTS OF SURVEY

The data sets are limited – but they are limited by the posited nature of the site, not by the failure of the site to exhibit the usual, or anticipated, range of materials. We have a cultural assemblage typical of slave settlements. Although no features were found, there are no unusual agricultural activities and the plow zone is within the range that would allow wall trench structures, if present, to be preserved.

This locus provides the opportunity to examine a part of an early plantation settlement representative, we believe, of a slave settlement. It also allows us to compare the remains to both another posited slave settlement – at locus B – as well as an overseer at 38CH1278. Research could productively focus on developing a larger collection for lifestyle, dating, and pattern analysis; identification and analysis of structural

is situated at about 10 feet AMSL and contains a historic and prehistoric component. A central UTM is 605650E 3635260N (NAD27 datum).

*Prehistoric Component*

Sixteen positive shovel tests and Test Unit 6 make up the prehistoric component of Locus D. The site area is about 150 feet east-west by 150 feet north-south.

A total of 209 artifacts were recovered from this site. While this number appears to be substantial, 203 (97%) were small sherds, and therefore not diagnostic. The remaining artifacts include one Irene complicated stamp sherd (dating to the Late Mississippian), four Refuge simple stamp sherds (dating to the Early Woodland), and one unidentifiable large sherd.

Table 10.  
Prehistoric artifacts from 38CH1282, Locus D

	T15 ST1.5	T15 ST2	T15 ST2.5	T15 ST3	T15 ST3.5	T15 ST4	T16 ST1.5	T16 ST2	T16 ST2.5	T16 ST3	T16 ST3.5	T17 ST1.5	T17 ST2	T17 ST2.5	T18 ST2	TU 6	Totals
Sherds, small	1	1	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	1	179	203
Refuge Simple Stamped																4	4
Irene Complicated Stamped																1	1
UID																1	1
Totals	1	1	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	1	185	209

remains; and examination of the immediate site area for evidence of yard deposits or features.

The integrity of the site, even after years of cultivation, appears to be good. This is revealed by the clear concentration of remains in a rather tight spatial boundary.

The historic component of Locus C is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its information potential.

Locus D

Locus D is located at the southern edge of 38CH1282 and is in an area that was not examined during the original Brockington survey. During this work it was tested at 50 and 25-foot intervals. One test unit was excavated at this locus. The site

While this site does have some diagnostic artifacts, too few were found to provide any sort of research value. In order to study sherds, for example, the typology of the vessel, a larger sample of sherds would be necessary.

This site does not contain the data sets necessary to address significant research questions on Woodland and Mississippian life. The prehistoric component of Locus D is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

*Historic Component*

The historic component of Locus D produced only four positive shovel tests and Test unit 6 for an area about 75 feet east-west by 100

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF SITES 38CH1278 AND 38CH1282

feet north-south.

Soil profiles resemble Charleston soils that

**Table 11.**  
Historic artifacts from 38CH1282, Locus D

	T15 ST3	T15 ST4	T16 ST3	T17 ST1.5	TU 6	Totals
<b>Kitchen Group</b>						11
Stoneware, Brn SG	1					
Stoneware, White SG					1	
Colono ware		1				
Glass, "black"					7	
Glass, clear				1		
<b>Activities Group</b>						1
UID iron			1			
<b>Totals</b>	1	1	1	1	8	12

have an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR3/3) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 1.3 feet in depth. **Test unit 6** had a surface layer of dark brown (10YR3/3) sand to a depth of 0.5 foot over a layer of dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) sand to 1.2 feet in depth. The base of excavations was a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) sand. One tree stain was found in the base of excavations.

A total of 12 artifacts were found, 11 accounting for Kitchen Group specimens. Only three ceramics were found; of these only one can be dated, the white salt glaze stoneware has a mean date of 1758.

Glass makes up 73% of the total, with "black" glass found most abundant (n=7). One piece of clear glass was also found.

No architectural remains were identified in the assemblage. While ground-fast structures produce only small assemblages of architectural debris, usually some remains are present. At this locus, no brick, nails, window glass, or other architectural materials were found. The data sets are very scarce - amounting to little more than a thin smear of ceramics.

Of course the presence of these remains is of interest. We can speculate that the site might represent an isolated herd-tender's cabin, or perhaps a location where indigo was processed.

**Table 12.**  
Isolated Artifacts Identified at 38CH1282

	T17 ST4.5	T25 ST1	T25 ST3	T36 ST5	T45 ST9	T46 ST2	T46 ST6	T46 ST10	T48 ST1	T48 ST4	T49 ST4	T50 ST6	T50 ST8	T59 ST1	T62 ST5	T78 ST3	T80 ST1	T83 ST1	T84 ST2	TOTALS
<b>Kitchen Group</b>																				3
Delft, blue HP											1									
Glass, "black"									1										1	
<b>Architecture Group</b>																				1
UID nail fragment														1						
Brick		L							L											
<b>Tobacco Group</b>																				2
Pipe stem									1											
Pipe bowl						1														
<b>Activities Group</b>																				1
Shell		L							M	L							L			
UID iron	1																			
<b>Prehistoric</b>																				24
Sherd, small	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	2		1	2		1	1	1	1	1	
UID sherd								1	1			1								
<b>Totals</b>	2	1	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	5	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	31

T=Transect; ST=Shovel Test; TU=Test Unit; Fea=Feature; HP=Hand Painted; EW=Earthenware  
L=Low/Light; M=Medium; H=High/Dense

## RESULTS OF SURVEY

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There are any number of possible explanations to account for this scatter of material – and all of them are worthy of study and better understanding. However, we must evaluate whether the data sets present will be adequate to address the research questions – and in this case we do not believe they are. The site will remain a mystery and that is unfortunate, but we do not believe that additional archaeological study in this area has a reasonably high probability of amassing the data necessary to make the investigations productive.

tests.

As a result, we recommend the historic component of Locus D not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

### **Isolated Artifacts**

In a study this large, where cultivation and plowing have been occurring for many years, it is almost inevitable that isolated finds will be found.

Nineteen shovel tests were found scattered throughout 38CH1282, not belonging to any of the identified four loci. While this might seem like a substantial number of shovel tests, the total number of artifacts found is 31, a mere 8% of all the artifacts found in 38CH1282.

The isolated finds include a mixture of historic (n=7 or 23%) and prehistoric artifacts (n=24 or 77%). Each of the specimens found are similar to those found in the loci.

The prehistoric specimens are largely small, unidentifiable sherds and would not have any research value even if they were identified in a cluster or loci.

Each of the historic specimens is located within 100 feet of one of the loci, so could be included in the loci. However, this would have added a large number of negative shovel tests to the loci and we felt that this would skew the actual size of the site. As mentioned, plowing and cultivation have likely dispersed much of these



## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In the previous section we recommended 38CH1278 and specific portions of 38CH1282 eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D, information potential. Those portions of 38CH1282 which we have identified as significant include the prehistoric component of Locus B, and the historic components of Loci B and C. In other words, from a management perspective there are four areas for which we recommend either green spacing (which serves to protect the site in perpetuity) or data recovery (which serves to remove, study, and publish on the components of significance). These areas are briefly outlined in Table 13 below.

many additional historical sources are likely to be found that will help us interpret either the social or economic history of the plantation. The plantation began, in 1682, under the ownership of John Stephenson and was then passed to Joshua Wilkes (1692, 1698), who devised it to his son, and then, in 1744, to John Daniel. Daniel is the first owner for which there is good evidence of the plantation’s development and cultivation. Daniel’s inventory identifies a number of slaves, subsistence crops, and stock on the tract. The property passes through a number of different hands after Daniel, but it doesn’t appear that a dwelling was constructed on the plantation until the late eighteenth century – and then it was far east of the study parcel. Consequently, we believe that the early owners of the parcel housed only slaves and an overseer on the tract – consistent with the results of this study.

Table 13.  
Summary of Eligible Components

Site & Component	Site Type	Size (in feet)
38CH1278	18 <sup>th</sup> c. overseer	250x275; core 60x60
38CH1282, B	Prehistoric	400x450; core 100x100
38CH1282, B	18 <sup>th</sup> c. slave	350x300; core 150x150
38CH1282, C	18 <sup>th</sup> c. slave	75x75

Nevertheless, there may be additional sources that become apparent during the archaeological study, so we do recommend a modest amount of

In each case the loci dimensions – the portion of the site over which materials are spread – are larger, often considerably larger, than what we describe as the site core. It is the site core (plus a reasonable buffer) for which we recommend either green spacing or data recovery.

additional historical research – perhaps eight days. This would provide the opportunity to follow-up on leads that present themselves.

In the following section, we will outline a suggested data recovery plan to accomplish these recommendations.

### 38CH1278

### Archaeological Data Recovery

As explained, the artifact assemblage at this site is similar to at least one eighteenth century overseer’s site and this type of site has not been well studied anywhere in South Carolina. Consequently, we have recommended it eligible for inclusion on the National Register. If green spacing is not feasible, then the site should be subjected to data recovery.

#### Historical Research

After the historical research conducted for this survey and assessment, we do not believe that

Data recovery excavations should strive to achieve two primary goals – the recovery of a

larger sample of artifacts and the identification of structural remains.

To achieve these goals we propose very close interval auger testing in order to identify areas where artifact density is the greatest. The core area, with a buffer, should be investigated using 1-foot auger tests every 10-feet. This series of about 121 tests (over an area measuring 100 feet by 100 feet) will provide a very clear view of where additional tests are most likely to provide large samples of cultural remains, as well as where structural remains are most likely to be located. This auger testing will require about 5 days.

Using these auger tests, several 10-foot units can be placed to gather a larger sample of artifacts. This sample will be suitable for mean ceramic dating, bracket dating, and dating using Bartovic's method. It will also allow better pattern analysis, and will provide a more sophisticated examination of artifacts representative of lifeways. Faunal remains may also be recovered that will be suitable for zooarchaeological analysis.

In addition to excavation with the purpose of artifact recovery, we also believe that excavation should seek to identify structural remains, such as foundations, piers, chimney falls, or even wall trench remains. The area is rather heavily wooded and proposed for very expensive construction, so mechanical stripping is not a particularly viable option. Consequently, we believe that excavation should be focused on 10-foot units. This excavation will require 10 days.

#### **38CH1282 - Prehistoric Component**

There is only one prehistoric component recommended for green spacing or data recovery - an area of 0.2 acre identified as Locus B. If green spacing is not practical, data recovery should focus on the area around the one 5-foot unit (Test Unit5) which produced very heavy remains in Level 2.

In this area we believe the 100-foot square core area should be gridded into 5-foot tests and a

sample of 5% (20 units) be excavated in order to better understand site density and dispersion. This sample will also provide a collection of additional remains from which the site function may be better understood. This work will require about 7 days.

The original collection produced primarily Thom's Creek wares. One significant consideration should be the collection of materials suitable for radiometric dating. While a number of Thom's Creek shell ring sites have been dated, there are a dearth of dates associated with non-shell midden sites. It would be helpful to better place this - and similar sites - in a firmer temporal framework. Since faunal remains have been found in Level 2 and are likely associated with the Thom's Creek materials, zooarchaeological studies may be appropriate, depending on the quantity and quality of the remains. While similar studies of ethnobotanical remains are of critical importance, we are doubtful that well preserved features will be encountered.

The limited work proposed, coupled with radiometric dates, will provide an opportunity to typologically examine a tightly dated Thom's Creek assemblage. In particular, it will be useful to evaluate the decorative types present and compare that information to the synthesis proposed by Sassaman (1993) for the Upper Coastal Plain.

#### **38CH1282 - Historic Components**

There are two historic components recommended for green spacing or data recovery - a very small area at Locus C and a somewhat larger area at Locus B. Both are believed, based on the current material remains, to represent slave settlements.

We consider the two together because we believe that they may represent a dispersed slave settlement. In general we are used to viewing slave settlements as relatively well organized rows or arcs - typical of the nineteenth century slave street or village. There is, however, evidence that eighteenth century slave settlements were far less

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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well organized. Research at the Crowfield slave settlement in Berkeley County, for example, reveals a more dispersed settlement with houses organized very loosely around a low area, but lacking any consistent orientation, spacing, or patterning (Trinkley et al. 2003).

Eighteenth century slave settlements are not well studied and most of the studies are from Berkeley County, not near the coast and not from Christ Church Parish. This research provides an opportunity to expand research into a new geographic area to determine if there are recognizable differences that may relate to either the location, the crops, or the economy of the area.

Research in these two areas should, as with the overseer's settlement, focus on the recovery of a larger and more representative artifact collection as well as the identification of structural remains. And like the overseer's area at 38CH1278, we believe the surest way to accomplish this is to very intensively test the two core areas. At one about 256 auger tests will be necessary, while at the other 81 tests will be sufficient. At a 10-foot interval it should be possible to clearly identify clusters of artifacts and lay out 10-foot hand excavation areas where there is the greatest potential to meet the goals. This work will require about 20 days.

With the anticipated abundance of Colono ware, one research goal that is worthy of attention is the further lipid analysis of charred food remains on the interiors of Colono pottery (see Trinkley et al. 2003). Coupled with more traditional ethnobotanical and zooarchaeological studies we have the potential to better understand early eighteenth century slave foodways.

Structural remains are admittedly more difficult to discover – and correctly interpret – in sandy, cultivated soils. Nevertheless, we have found that structures tend to be associated with concentrations of artifacts (again, see Trinkley et al. 2003). This approach is more feasible in a densely wooded area than broad scale mechanical stripping.

### Combination of Research

We believe that, in terms of the historic sites and components, the sum of the whole is far greater than any one area. That is, the research potential of 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 Loci B and C are tightly bound together. The two slave settlements, each likely representative of one or more individual structures, offers an opportunity to compare and contrast, examining the range of materials present on a very early slave settlement site. It may be that the range is more important than what any one site contains, or lacks. In addition, the ability to compare and contrast the slave settlement with an equally early overseer's site is also of extraordinary importance. By this comparison we may more convincingly understand the lifeways of black and white in early colonial society.

### Summary

Should data recovery of 38CH1278 and 38CH1282 be necessary, we have laid out a data recovery plan that would include approximately two months of field time (assuming no green spacing is possible and all areas must be examined). Once the field work is completed, a management summary could be produced within two weeks of the project's completion. The SHPO should be expected to require four weeks for review and comment. From initiation of the project to when development activities can commence within the bounds of the archaeological sites, therefore, will require approximately 14 weeks.

If the decision is made to green space some components of the two sites, then it will be necessary to identify those areas on both the ground (through construction fencing) and on all construction documents. Green spacing also requires that the property be managed for the long-term preservation of the archaeological site and no development or construction activities may take place on the sites.





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