

**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF DATA RECOVERY
EXCAVATIONS AT 38CH932,
YOUGHAL PLANTATION, CHARLESTON COUNTY,
SOUTH CAROLINA**



CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 398

**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF DATA RECOVERY EXCAVATIONS
AT 38CH932, YOUGHAL PLANTATION, CHARLESTON COUNTY,
SOUTH CAROLINA**

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ABSTRACT

This document provides a brief summary of data recovery excavations conducted by Chicora Foundation for Sintra Homes at archaeological site 38CH932, Youghal Plantation, under an existing Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management (OCRM) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The work was based on a data recovery plan submitted with the National Register assessment of the site conducted by Chicora archaeologists during the summer of 2003.

Historic research conducted prior to the data recovery plan revealed that the plantation's earlier ownership can be traced to the Barksdale family, although activities on the tract were poorly documented. By the early nineteenth century the property was in the hands of Dr. Anthony Vanderhorst Toomer, who held the tract until 1853. In 1856 it was acquired by an Edisto planter, Edward N. Fuller, who held the 876-acre plantation for less than a year and a half before selling it for twice the purchase price. We believe it was under Fuller's ownership when the Youghal house was built on the property and there was extensive renovation or development of the parcel. The property passed through a variety of hands prior to its acquisition by the Auld family in 1905.

The data recovery included close interval shovel testing at three site locations. Two were thought to be slave settlements based on the one available historic plan of the site, dating from 1875 (although the plantation layout is believed to be from much earlier antebellum surveys). The third location was southwest of the main house, where the initial shovel testing (at 50-foot intervals) suggested some previously undocumented occupation. The nature of this

area was not fully recognized, but we felt that it might represent a previously unrecognized structural area.

Following the shovel testing, excavations were proposed in each of these three areas. A fourth area – a posited icehouse – was also included in the data excavation proposal. Also proposed was limited mechanical stripping to open additional areas.

The data recovery plan recognized extensive plowing across the site – much of which had been cultivated historically – and our goal was not the recovery of architectural remains as much as the recovery of material culture from several site areas to allow intrasite variability study. Our focus on material culture was also the result the damage to the site by the burning, salvage, and subsequent bulldozing of the Fuller or Auld house.

In addition to the field investigations the data recovery plan also proposed limited oral history research to focus on the twentieth century dairying operations under the direction of the Auld family. We felt that the failure to collect this information now would result in the loss of valuable period information as both blacks and whites aged and passed on.

The close interval testing was conducted, revealing areas worthy of additional research. We found that the testing block to the southwest of the main house could not be as large as proposed and was slightly reduced in size. Nevertheless, it revealed an area of dense, and seemingly early, remains that proved upon excavation to represent a previously undocumented colonial occupation at the site. A series of three formal units, combined with

stripping, revealed a colonial structure. The excavations also revealed a single burial of a child in an extended position.

Excavations to west of the Fuller/Auld house revealed several aspects of the main slave settlement, although no structural remains were encountered.

Excavations at the small structure thought to represent an icehouse revealed this assessment to be correct. While the structure appears to date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, it provides information on a form of architecture not previously documented.

Our efforts to identify the slave settlement shown on the 1875 plan near the Fuller/Auld house were not entirely successful. Much of the proposed area had been heavily impacted by twentieth century activities - including the icehouse, the concrete floor of the dairy, and the subsequent demolition episodes. Our excavations found remains of the ca. 1919 tenant row, as well as further evidence of colonial occupation on the site - but did not provide any especially intact antebellum remains. One interesting colonial find appears to be garden feature built of tabby bricks.

Stripping was likewise of limited use - although one cut did reveal the foundation of an eighteenth century structure. Intensive cultivation - coupled with shallow footings - prevented any architectural documentation of the slave settlements. In the main plantation area the extensive demolition efforts at the Fuller/Auld house prevented the recovery of architectural features.

The oral history is still in progress, but we have been able to identify two African Americans who worked at the Auld dairy and they are providing information on working conditions, dairy layout, and the plantation. While there are no Auld family members still alive who were directly associated with the dairy operations, there is local white who is still able to provide information on similar activities

in the Mount Pleasant area. This provides an owner/operator, as well as worker, perspective.

The recovery of abundant colonial materials - combined with clear evidence of an earlier and rather impressive colonial plantation development - has pointed out the need for additional historical research. We are therefore in the process of examining additional primary documents from the pre-1811 period (these records were initially ignored since the testing program failed to document any significant colonial occupation).

All aspects of the field investigation are complete - as documented by this management summary - and we believe it is now appropriate to release the site area to the project sponsor for development activities.

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INTRODUCTION

Background

The data recovery investigations were conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Ben Harrison of The Sintra Corporation/Hamlin Plantation, LLC of Charleston, South Carolina. The field studies were conducted from October 27 through November 21, 2003 with a crew of four archaeologists (Tom Covington, Virginia Moore, Doug Sain, and Nicole Southerland), plus the Principal Investigator (who was on-site throughout the project). A total of 751 person hours were spent on the project. The oral history and additional eighteenth century documentary research is being conducted by Charleston

historian, Sarah Fick.

In 1987 Brockington and Associates (Brockington et al. 1987) had been retained to conduct an archaeological survey of a 1,000-acre development known then as the Charleston National Golf Course tract (this initial survey excluded the 3-acre Auld house site). This survey parcel, situated in Charleston County just north of Mount Pleasant, is in an area historically known as Christ Church Parish (Figure 1). The original archaeological survey identified or revisited 27 archaeological sites. Site 38CH932 - a large scatter of eighteenth and nineteenth century plantation remains on the north edge of the tract - was identified and

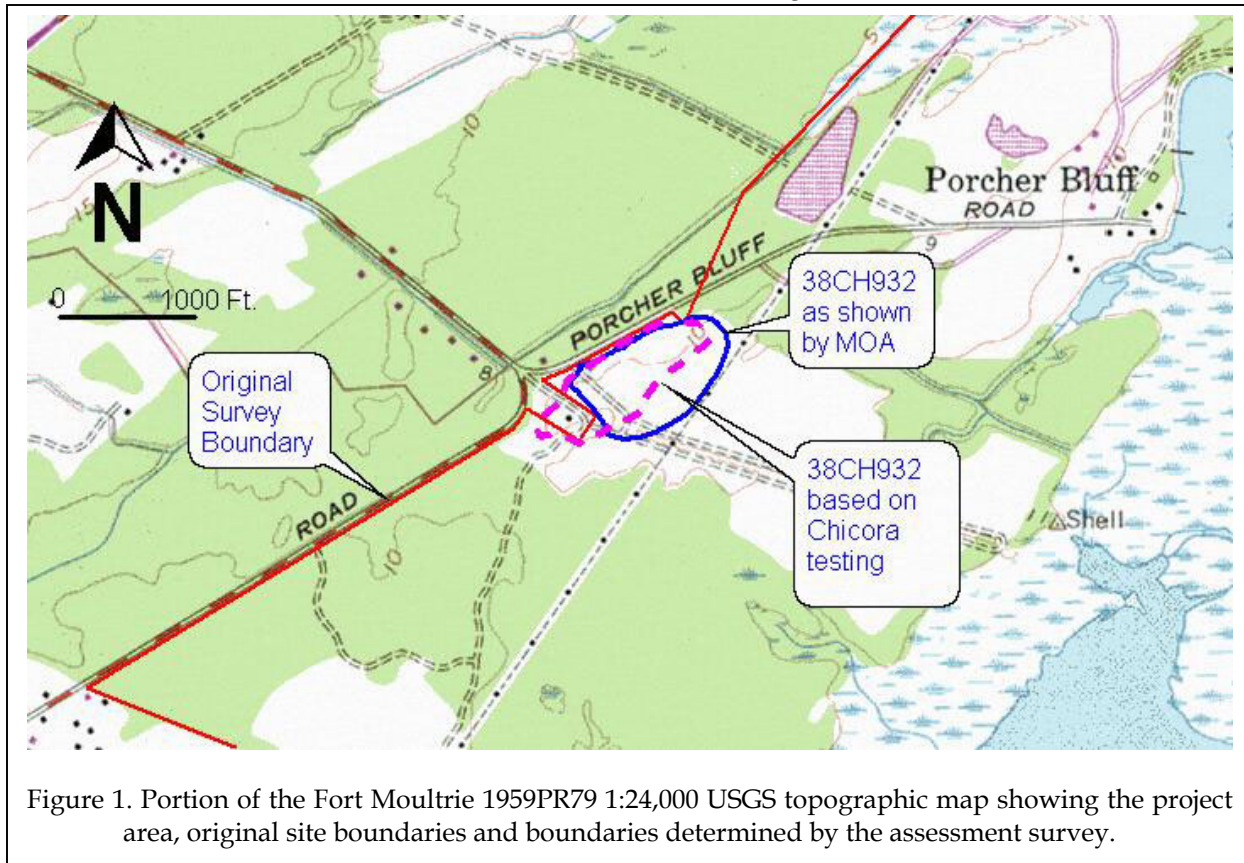


Figure 1. Portion of the Fort Moultrie 1959PR79 1:24,000 USGS topographic map showing the project area, original site boundaries and boundaries determined by the assessment survey.

determined potentially eligible and requiring additional testing. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with this finding but it was not until the tract was acquired by Hamlin Plantation in 1998 that it was incorporated into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), dated October 2001.

The Auld house site was acquired by Hamlin Plantation in 1998, although no survey was conducted prior to the 2003 Chicora assessment of 38CH932. Perhaps the most notable change since the original 1987 study is the loss of the Auld house to fire in 1991.

In April 2003 Hamlin Plantation, LLC retained Chicora Foundation to conduct a National Register assessment of 38CH932. Our work on the site was based on the level of investigations conducted in 1987. At that time no shovel testing or sub-surface investigations were conducted; hence, our work involved the excavation of both close interval shovel tests and the placement of several more formal test units. The original investigations provided only a very basic historic overview for a tract encompassing several historic parcels; as a result, our work involved more detailed historic research. And finally, the original study provided only broad research issues; the assessment sought to focus research, looking at topics of concern today.

Survey Assessment

The assessment work (168 person hours of field investigation) resulted in the bush hogging of much of the site area, followed by shovel testing at 50-foot intervals on transects spaced every 50 feet (Figure 2).

Combined with the extensive oral history conducted during the original survey (approximately 10 person hours), we were able to develop a far more complete picture of activities taking place on the site during the twentieth century. As previously mentioned, our historical research (approximately 40 person hours) focused on nineteenth century activities since the field investigations failed to identify any concentrations of eighteenth century

material (although there was a thin smear across much of the site).

As the historical research progressed additional research topics became clear. In the late antebellum the plantation was owned by an individual who did not live there – but rather spent his time between a far larger plantation in the winter and a summer retreat in Charleston. Youghal, as a result, was a modest working plantation – lacking in the refinements that typified plantations where the owner was a regular resident. This would result in a slave settlement even more representative of how most African Americans lived during the antebellum.

The historical research also revealed that the antebellum slave population was around 17 – the average holding in Christ Church Parish was 21.5, meaning that this plantation came very close to being an “average” small settlement. Figuring about four per structure, the map showing five slave houses seems just about perfect.

In terms of the site itself, the artifacts are found spread over an area measuring about 1,700 feet northeast-southwest by 600 feet northwest-southeast, although this includes a portion of the property which has been previously surveyed and released for development – apparently the dense remains west and southwest of the Youghal house were not noticed during the initial survey. Consequently, for the area currently under investigation, the site area is estimated to incorporate about 1,300 by 600 feet, or 17.9 acres.

Artifacts are not, however, spread evenly over this very large area. While the original survey identified six different loci, we found only two site areas – and even these blur together. The first area incorporated the site of the Fuller/Auld house, together with a distribution to the east. In terms of the historic documents, this would include the main house and the associated utility buildings and slave houses seen on the 1875 map of the property. The second area incorporates what was

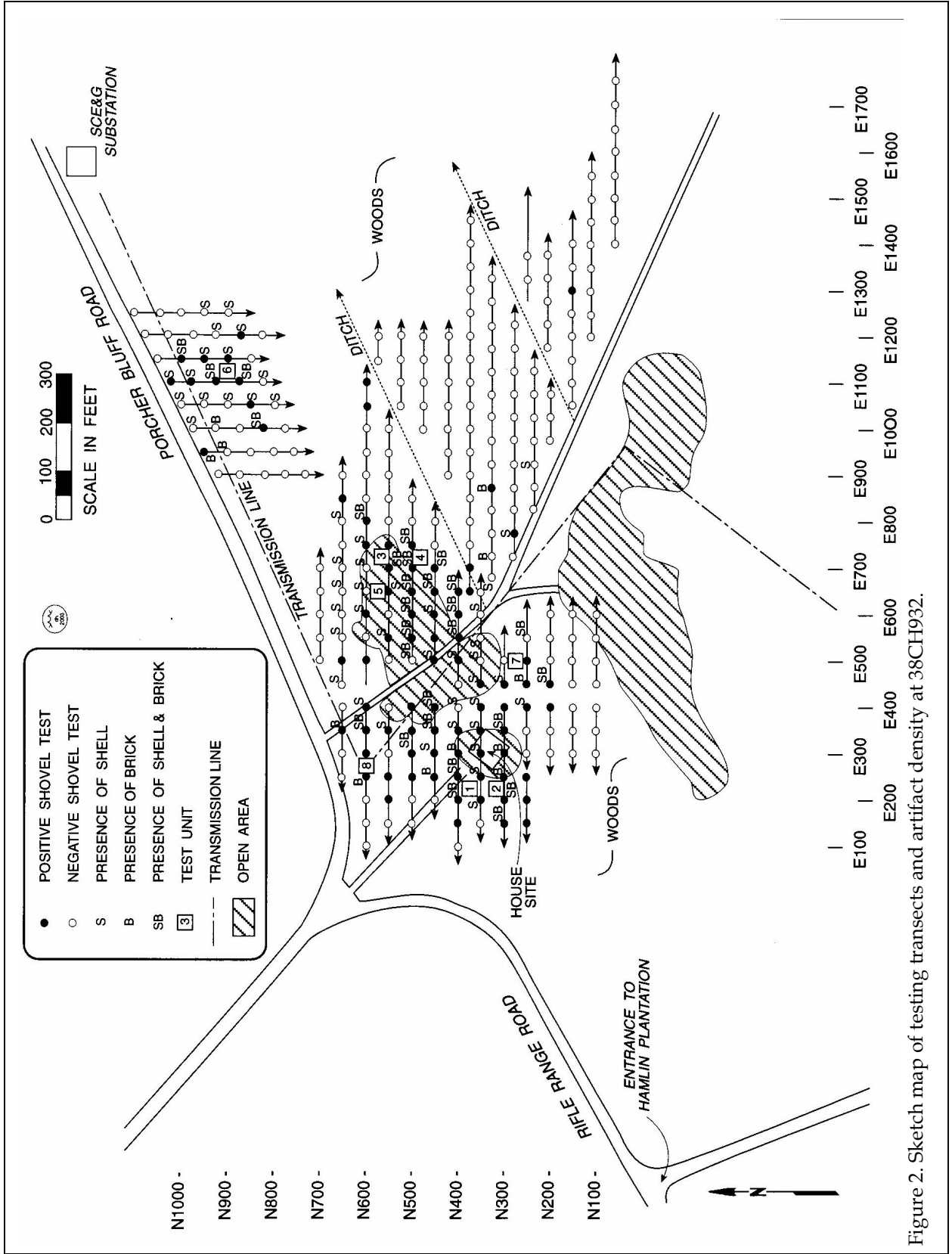


Figure 2. Sketch map of testing transects and artifact density at 38CH1932.

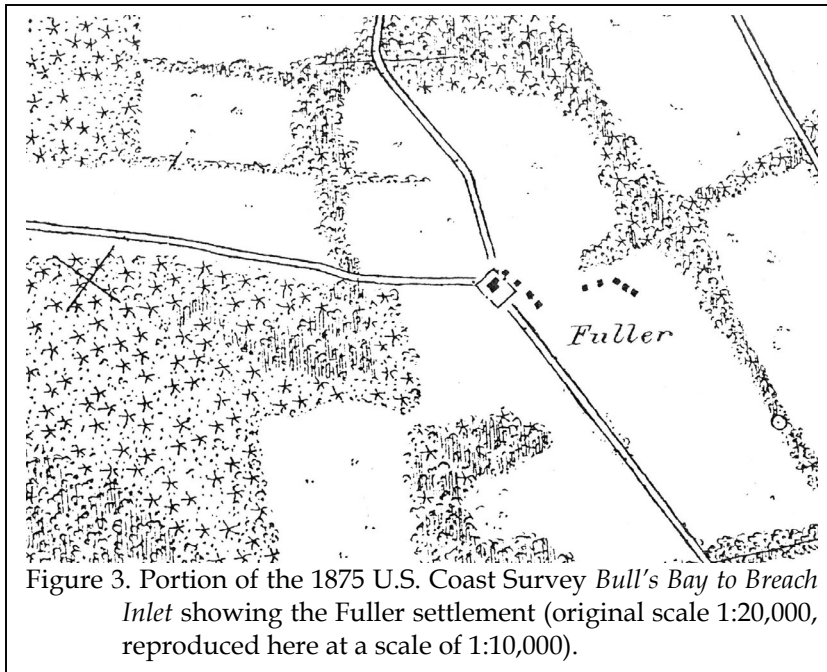


Figure 3. Portion of the 1875 U.S. Coast Survey *Bull's Bay to Breach Inlet* showing the Fuller settlement (original scale 1:20,000, reproduced here at a scale of 1:10,000).

originally identified as Area C by Brockington and Associates and this appears to be a slave settlement, again shown on the 1875 map.

The remainder of the original loci was incorporated into the main site core since there are no clear distinctions from area to area. This is at least partially the result of plowing, although we believe that the compact nature of the plantation setting is also responsible. When the 1875 map is examined (Figure 3) it shows, in fact, only the two areas defined during this archaeological survey.

As a result of the survey we proposed research to focus on four main areas:

- The icehouse, where an examination should provide information on its origin and function, providing important comparative information for future studies.
- The slave row at the east edge of the site, where an examination should provide information on its date range and the life ways of those living there. Research there should also address why the site has such a low archaeological visibility.

- The slave row situated immediately east of the main house, where research will provide comparative data for the more eastern slave settlement.
- The area immediately southwest of the main house, where testing has revealed concentrations of artifacts, shell, and brick. Research in this area may provide information on additional, unrecorded structures.

Turning to historic documentation, including additional oral history, we recommended this research focus on two topics:

- The collection of additional oral history from the Auld family and neighbors. This information will provide the perspective of relatively wealthy white landowners during the first half of the twentieth century in Christ Church Parish.
- The collection of additional oral history from African Americans in the vicinity of the Hamlin community. Their perspective will provide a different dimension to the history of Youghal and will likely provide information not available from the owners and operators of the farms.

Proposed Data Recovery

Our archaeological investigations focused on four distinct plantation areas. Each is briefly discussed below, providing a broad overview of the research conducted at 38CH932.

The Ice House

Research at the icehouse would include two 5-foot units, one on the interior of the structure and another on the outside, abutting the foundation at the doorway. These units will accomplish several goals. Most fundamentally they will provide information on the brickwork and how the structure was built, including the depth and nature of the foundation, how the brick laid up, and what type of mortar is present. The excavations will also contribute an artifact assemblage from within the structure and also from the immediate doorway (which may represent items tossed out of the building). These artifacts will help address questions regarding not only the structure's function, but also when it was constructed.

These excavations – and the resulting artifacts – can be readily compared to those recovered by Chicora excavations at a very similar structure on the Sanders Plantation, also in Christ Church Parish (see Trinkley 1985:37, 40-41, 59 for a discussion of the excavation of the interior and doorway of this structure). The investigations at Youghal would double our excavated sample and improve our understanding of this building style.

Area Southwest of the Youghal House

Our shovel testing revealed a concentration of artifacts, shell, and brick southwest of the Fuller/Auld house. While the remains in this area do include specimens clearly relating to the twentieth century occupation of the structure, there are other items that appear to pre-date the house. We believe that this area may represent the location of an antebellum structure, perhaps a kitchen or other, unrecognized outbuilding.

Investigations here were to include the excavation of up to three 10-foot units to expose a larger area in a search for recognizable features, as well as provide a larger sample of artifacts. These units will be placed based on additional shovel testing of an area measuring 150 by 150 feet, to be conducted at 25-foot intervals.

Slave Houses Close to the Main Dwelling

The 1875 map reveals four structure 100 to 300 feet east and southeast of the main house. We believe that several of these (perhaps all) are slave structures based on the shovel testing. Photographs suggest that one survived into the twentieth century and that the structures were of the "Edisto style."

We doubted that archaeological investigations at this site will be able to address significant architectural issues because of the extensive damage caused by the removal of the burned Fuller/Auld house, but we did believe that additional study could provide a range of artifacts for comparison and contrast to the slave settlement further to the east, perhaps revealing a difference in status. To accomplish this we wanted to avoid the structure that is known to be occupied into the twentieth century and, instead, explore one which was more quickly abandoned in the postbellum.

Investigations here will begin with shovel or auger testing at 20 foot intervals over an area measuring 100 by 200 feet – incorporating most of the slave settlement area. We hope that these tests will better allow us to identify specific structure areas, thereby guiding the placement of two to three 10-foot units (placed based on artifact density that excludes twentieth century remains).

At the conclusion of this work, we propose to mechanically strip at least one small area associated with the settlement to determine if architectural features can be identified.

Slave Houses East of the Main House

The final phase of investigations will involve a combination of hand excavation and mechanical stripping in the area of the slave settlement shown on the 1875 map about 600 to 1,000 feet to the east.

A close interval grid (testing at 20-foot intervals) would be established over an area measuring 100 by 200 feet to encompass a high-

density area previously identified in the 50-foot interval shovel testing.

The recovery of architectural remains would be a bonus, but the goal of these units was to collect larger assemblages of artifacts from several probable structure areas. Afterwards we anticipate mechanically stripping several areas to look for architectural evidence.

Curation

An updated site form reflecting this work has already been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). The field notes and artifacts from Chicora's data recovery at 38CH932 will be curated at SCIAA. The artifacts have been cleaned and are currently in the process of being cataloged following that institution's provenience system. All original records and duplicate records will be provided to the curatorial facility on pH neutral, alkaline buffered paper. Photographic materials include B/W negatives and color transparencies - both of which are being processed to archival standards.

ORAL HISTORY AND ADDITIONAL COLONIAL HISTORY

Oral History

Ms. Sarah Fick is conducting the oral history research in the Charleston area. The work was begun about two weeks ago and is ongoing. I am providing additional background research support, focusing on Columbia resources.

As of this time two African American workers at the Auld dairy have been located. One, Frederick Horlbeck, has been interviewed and has provided considerable background information on the operation of the dairy and working conditions on the farm. He began working at the dairy at age 10, later working at the Boone Hall dairy, at Dennis Auld's operation, and eventually at J.C. Long's Seaside Farm. By the 1940s he joined the military. He provided details concerning life on the plantation, as well as milking activities. In terms of storage, for example, he recalled that the Auld's purchased ice for use in their ice house. While the milk was driven to the processing dairy Monday through Friday, the weekend milkings were stored in the icehouse until Monday. He is highly credible in his memories, although there are some discrepancies that we are still attempting to resolve.

A second African American, Shy Manigault, has been identified and Ms. Fick is attempting to set up a time to speak to him.

There is, of course, no white who managed the Auld dairy still alive. We have spoken at length to Ms. Judy Byrd, the daughter of Seabrook Auld. While very familiar with the plantation and its general operations, as a "girl" she had only marginal contact with the dairy operations. Ms. Fick intends to speak to her brother (who was never involved in the dairy,

but who may have some knowledge being a male), but has not yet done so.

Ms. Fick has spoken with Osgood (Ozzie) Hamlin, who is 89 years old but has a sound memory of many activities in this part of Christ Church Parish. He recalls the Auld dairy selling milk to Repham's Dairy in Charleston, while others insist that the milk was sold to Coburg. There are also some disagreements concerning the retail market available to milk in Mount Pleasant. One issue explored was why whites engaged in the dairy business at all - it is generally agreed to have been a bad business. It seems that the best reason may have been that it, provided year-round cash, unlike conventional agricultural pursuits that only provided cash once the crop was in. This helps explain why Auld - and others - left dairying when they were able to get military or government jobs in Charleston at the start of World War II.

Historical research is only beginning, but I have reviewed Hager (1927), finding surprising little about dairying activities. He notes only that, "most of the dairy products consumed in this region [the Southeast] move from the northern dairy States, but recently there has been some increase in dairying in certain counties around the larger cities" (Hager 1927:66). The earlier 1915 account of South Carolina milk cows (Watson 1916:63) notes only that the quantity increased from 181,000 in 1910 to 189,000 in 1916 - a 4.4% increase. In comparison, the number of mules over the same time period increased by 9.6% and horses increased by 5%. On the other hand, while the herd growth wasn't great, the increase in value per head was significant, up 19.4% from \$28.90 per head in 1910 to \$34.50 in 1916. The value of mules increased by only 1.9% and the value of horses increased by only 6.2%.

The growth in herd size can be taken back to 1902, when it was only 109,715; the 1916 figures represent a 72.2% increase (Watson 1907:373). Of course these figures are state-wide and must still be examined for the Mount Pleasant area. Nevertheless, they suggest a wider context for dairying operations in Christ Church Parish during the first few decades of the twentieth century.

While a history of the United States dairy industry (through the early 1920s) is provided by Pirtle (1926), we have identified several sources that provide more useful South Carolina research, including Schwartz (1984) and Sturgis (1968). Additional research is ongoing.

Colonial History

The survey study (Trinkley et al. 2003) provided a historic context only for the period from ca. 1811 on. Prior to that date we relied on secondary sources since neither the original survey nor our assessment survey revealed any clear indications of colonial settlement on the site.

With the recovery of several significant colonial features and the very high probability that 38CH932 was the location of a major eighteenth century plantation. Although artifact analysis has not yet begun, our field observations suggest that the colonial remains likely date from ca. 1750. As a result, we are attempting to focus our research on mid-eighteenth century developments. At the present time we do not have a comprehensive chain of title and we will need to conduct considerable additional research in an effort to identify not only owners (and the circumstances of their ownership), but also the presence of any plats for the property.

CONCLUSIONS

Compliance with the Data Recovery Plan

As revealed by the preceding discussions, the data recovery excavations conducted at 38CH932 not only meet the stipulations of the data recovery proposal, but exceed those minimal requirements. In addition to the close interval testing, formal excavations, and mechanical stripping, this work also included the development of a Burial Treatment Plan and the excavation of a plantation outbuilding thought to date from the colonial period.

While the data recovery excavations are complete, some aspects of the investigations are still on-going. Naturally the processing and analysis of collections has only recently begun and that work is anticipated to require several months. There are also remains that will need to be sent to specialists for analysis, including the faunal remains and soil samples intended for pollen study. Flotation samples are currently waiting processing.

We are also hopeful of having simple mortar analysis completed on several mortar samples from the plantation. We note that this work is either not being done - or is not published. We believe that having a database of mortar studies might help develop a better key for the temporal placement of archaeological plantation structures.

The recovery of suspected pigmented whitewash is also apparently a rarity at archaeological sites since the only other example we can point to is our own work at Broom Hall Plantation in Goose Creek. There we found a sizing over the plaster. Over this sizing were applied multiple coats of a distemper wash. The coloring agent in those washes was a dark, organic material (perhaps burned bone, which

tends to yield a slight blue to gray color) (Trinkley et al. 1995: 249). We hope to have a similar analysis conducted of the material from 38CH932.

Likewise the cleaning of Burial 1 has begun, but the remains will require both detailed analysis and DNA testing by Dr. Bert Ely at the University of South Carolina.

Other activities currently in-progress include the oral history project and the examination of additional information on the colonial history of the plantation. We are hopeful, however, that both will be completed in December.

We anticipate that it will require approximately six months to complete these studies and prepare a final report on the investigations. However, with all field investigations documented, we request that the client, Sintra Homes, be allowed to proceed with ground disturbing activities associated with the development.

General Findings

One primary goal of the investigations was to focus on a comparison of slave settlements - comparing and contrasting those in an arc-shape east of the main house to those closer to the main settlement. While we were successful in obtaining several very good samples of material culture from the eastern slave settlement, we were not particularly successful in obtaining samples from those structures near the settlement. What we found, instead, was that the structures had been heavily impacted by twentieth century activities, including the construction of the icehouse and dairy, as well as the demolition of the Fuller/Auld house. We also found antebellum

remains well mixed with earlier colonial artifacts. Consequently, it will not be possible to compare the two settlements.

We will, however, be able to compare at least two slave settlement areas to view intrasite variations. While not originally proposed, this is a valuable goal since it will help to document the range of variation found on middling status Christ Church plantations during the late antebellum.

We did not anticipate – given the level of plowing at the site – to identify in situ architectural features. Unfortunately, our concerns were justified and while we recovered scattered architectural features, none are sufficient to make a significant contribution to our knowledge of late antebellum slave structures.

Our work at the icehouse was successful, allowing us to collect significant architectural data to document the construction and use of this specific type of plantation outbuilding.

Likewise, our work to identify the amorphous scatter of materials southwest of the Fuller/Auld house was successful. In fact, it was far more successful than we had a right to anticipate, allowing for the recovery of a very sizable eighteenth century assemblage and, eventually, a significant eighteenth century outbuilding.

These remains are significant for several reasons. Most fundamentally, we did not believe that this particular plantation had a major and intact eighteenth century component, so the work dramatically expanded our understanding of Youghal and its place in Christ Church's history.

Beyond that, the recovery of these remains makes a major contribution to our understanding of colonial settlement in the Christ Church Parish area. The recovered artifacts – including faunal remains – will provide an opportunity to develop a clearer

understanding of colonial life outside of the Charleston core. The materials will help us characterize the individuals who lived at Youghal and, hopefully, their daily activities.

In addition, we have a very valuable architectural assemblage. One of the best sources for comparison is Shelley Smith's (1999) examination of colonial South Carolina architecture. Although we would have liked to recover the main house for the colonial settlement, we suspect that it was incorporated into, or replaced by, the Fuller/Auld house in the late antebellum. Assuming a construction date of ca. 1750 (which is reasonable given what we know about the artifact assemblage at this early stage of analysis), this first Youghal house would have been over 100 years old by the time Fuller acquired the property. This alone may help explain his building campaign. In addition, Smith (1999:140) suggests that plantation houses built in the mid-eighteenth century tended to be less elaborate and more vernacular in appearance, at least partially because the owners no longer relied on them to express their wealth and power. So, Fuller – recently moving to Charleston -- may have desired something more impressive by the late antebellum.

And while the recovery of an outbuilding may not seem particularly exciting, it provides information that is not otherwise available since outbuildings have received very little architectural or archaeological examination (for example, Smith barely mentions them in her study and archaeologists seem far more intrigued with slave structures than main houses).

The reliance on tabby brick is of special interest. While tabby itself has been the subject of considerable research (although one can question how successful that work has been), tabby brick is often a forgotten building element. Even Smith gives it only passing mention, lumping it in with more conventional cast tabby. She mentions, however, her belief that tabby was an unfamiliar material and, when used, it was manipulated to look like something more familiar, generally by scoring it to resemble

stone (Smith 1999:201). Curiously, the same appears true when we consider the bricks. Rather than cast tabby walls, the combination of lime, crushed shell, and water at Youghal was made into something more familiar – bricks. We believe that Smith is correct when she notes that, “tabby was found more acceptable for foundations and service buildings than for a primary walling material” (Smith 1999:201). At Youghal the tabby brick foundation – based on the high density of nails – likely extended only a foot or so above grade and above it was a conventional frame structure. A question not so easily answered is why tabby was being used at all – there is ample evidence that bricks would have been readily available by the mid-1700s and, in fact, commercial bricks were common by the mid-1730s (Smith 1999:194).

Although not specified as a research goal at Youghal, we find ourselves in possession of a small collection most likely from the ca. 1919 tenant row at the north edge of the site. While we lack the depth of data to provide definitive analysis or studies, this information may help to round out the oral history and provides a sample of data for future researchers. It may also provide an opportunity to compare and contrast the lives of slaves and tenants at Youghal.

A final area where the archaeological research at this site will make a significant contribution is through the recovery and analysis of the human remains. While the condition of the remains may preclude detailed lifeway conclusions, the very presence of unmarked human burials on a plantation is poorly documented. In fact, the only other occurrence with which we are familiar is the recovery of five clustered burials at the Lesesne Plantation on Daniels Island (Rathbun 1986).

There is no doubt that the Daniel’s Island burials are representative of a small family burial plot, while the one at Youghal appears isolated. Other differences include evidence of coffins at Daniel’s Island and the apparent absence of a container at Youghal. In addition, the remains at Youghal were far better

preserved than those at Daniel’s Island. Nevertheless, there are significant similarities. For example, all were deposited in a supine extended position with the arms and hands parallel with the torso (i.e., arms were not extended across the chest). None had any buttons or other clothing elements, suggesting that all were wrapped in a winding sheet or shroud.

Consequently, regardless of the osteometric data the remains contribute, their recovery provides another dimension to plantation activities, documenting the burial of early occupants in what appears to be a rather haphazard manner. The research will also provide a unique opportunity to explore the recovery and analysis of DNA from archaeological bone.

Turning to the oral history, we are fortunate to have identified several African American workers at the Auld dairy. As a result, we are gathering information that will almost certainly be lost within a decade. While some of the information is contradictory, it provides at least a broad overview of a lifeway and occupation that has not been previously examined by either historians or anthropologists.

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**Archaeological
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