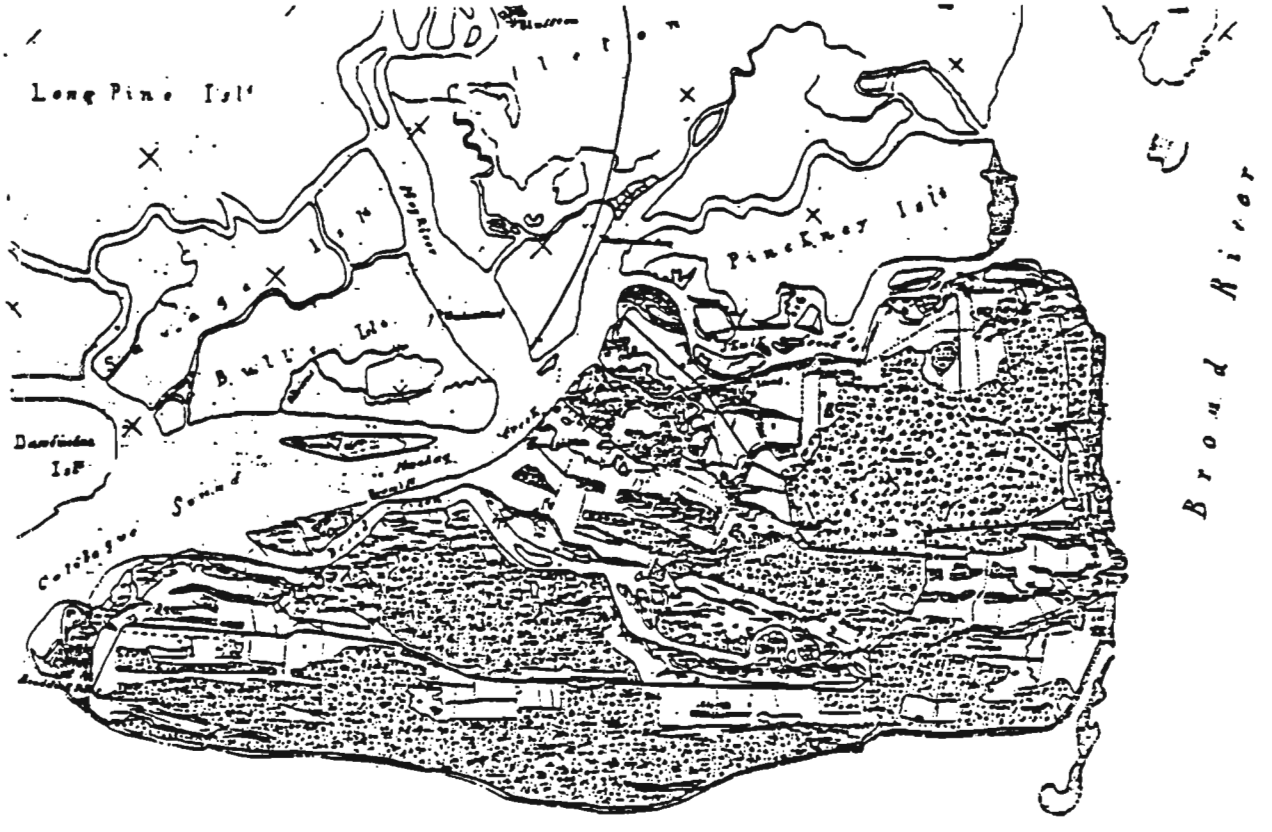
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



CHICORA FOUNATION RESEARCH SERIES 9

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

RESEARCH SERIES 9

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and the
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The sound of the bulldozer is loud in the land, and from Florida to Hawaii hardly a day passes without the earth's being torn and scarred by the jaws and wheels of progress. The carpet of the past is being rolled up behind us as we advance into the future, and before long when we look over our shoulders we shall see nothing but the mirror of ourselves.

-- Ivor Noel Hume

ABSTRACT

This study represents a preliminary historical study and a reconnaissance level archaeological survey of Hilton Head Island, situated on the coast of Beaufort County in South Carolina. The work, conducted by Chicora Foundation during the month of December 1986, was partially funded by a National Park Service Historic Preservation Planning Grant administered by the S.C. Department of Archives and History, with matching funds from the Town of Hilton Head Island.

The survey incorporated the examination of the shoreline along Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad creeks with a brief review of pertinent historical sources and previous archaeological studies on the island. To date, over 130 archaeological sites have been identified and recorded on the island. Of these, three are presently on the National Register of Historic Places, 27 appear to be clearly eligible, and at least 95 require further study to assess their integrity and potential significance. This additional study will involve subsurface testing at some sites, recordation of cemetery data, and archival research at other sites. The current survey reveals that in spite of extensive development, Hilton Head Island has the potential to make significant contributions to our understanding of low country archaeology.

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As is the case with all archaeological research projects, much of the credit for this work belongs to the field crew and the laboratory personnel. I wish especially to thank Homes Hogue Wilson and Debi Hacker for their interest, participation, and professionalism.

A number of colleagues assisted this study by providing access to their own research or by offering other assistance. Larry Babits, Lesley Drucker, and Larry Lepionka all provided information on Hilton Head sites or on the archaeology of the region. Keith Derting, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, spent several hours assisting me in updating and correcting previously recorded Hilton Head sites, as well as handling the quantity of paperwork which resulted from this survey. I would also like to thank Patricia Cridlebaugh, Debi Hacker, and Jack H. Wilson, Jr., for reviewing a draft of this study.

Finally, I wish to thank the many pleasant and cooperative landowners on Hilton Head Island that I met during this survey. Most of the residents were interested in our work and supported the need to preserve the Island's rich and diverse cultural heritage.

INTRODUCTION

Background

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for the Town of Hilton Head Island. The work was partially funded by a $2700 National Park Service Historic Preservation Planning Grant administered by the S.C. Department of Archives and History, matched by $2700 in funds from the Town. Additional funding in the amount of $1200 was provided by Chicora to ensure the necessary professional curation of fieldnotes and artifacts. The project involved a reconnaissance level archaeological survey (with related historical and background studies) of four creek shorelines on Hilton Head Island: the Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad. This study incorporated over 15 linear miles (24 kilometers) of shoreline.

The background, document review, and archival research phase of this project were begun the week of December 1, 1986 and were continued intermittently during the month of March 1987. This work was conducted by the author of this report. The archaeological studies, which involved the reconnaissance survey, were conducted from December 8-19, 1986 by Ms. Homes H. Wilson and the author. Laboratory studies, including washing, cataloging, and the analysis of the collections, were conducted by Ms. Debi Hacker from April 6-17, 1987. Conservation was conducted in Chicora's laboratories during the months of April and May 1987.

Goals

The goals of this study were six-fold: first, to examine the previous site data and files of the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) and others; second, to conduct a preliminary historical and archival reconnaissance for Hilton Head; third, to conduct a reconnaissance level shoreline survey of Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad creeks; fourth, to assess the National Register eligibility of the identified sites; fifth, to ensure the professional analysis, conservation, and curation of the resulting fieldnotes, site forms, and artifacts; and sixth, to develop a preliminary model of site locations based on the existing site files and the results of the current study. These goals were rather broadly

defined in the Town's Scope of Work and Request for Proposals dated September 6, 1986 and modified September 29, 1986.

Because of Chicora's recent study of the Fish Haul site (38 BUB05) on Hilton Head Island (Trinkley 1986) and the author's previous investigations in the area (e.g., Trinkley 1981), much of the necessary background and archival research was either already gathered or was readily accessible. The examination of the SCIAA survey statewide files, scheduled for a single day, actually required four days. Derting, with SCIAA, explained that because of poor record management in the past, many sites were poorly recorded, lacked maps, were duplicated, and a few even lacked site forms (Keith Derting, personal communication 1987). All of these problems were found for the Hilton Head sites. As a result, a major component of this study became the correcting, updating, and proper recording of existing site data. In a number of cases previously recorded sites were revisited to verify (or identify) locations, topographic map locations were corrected, and a number of problems with the SCIAA site files were corrected. In addition, many of the studies known to have been conducted on Hilton Head could not be found in the SCIAA library. Several could be located in the Chicora library, while others were obtained from the authors. Chicora, however, was never able to obtain either site forms or a survey report for the recently completed "Cross Island Corridor Study" by Coastal Zone Resources (no detailed information on this study has been provided to either SCIAA or the S.C. Department of Archives and History). This represents the only known archaeological study on the island not represented in this report.

The reconnaissance survey was conducted by a crew of two over a period of two weeks. The methodology involved a pedestrian survey of the relatively undeveloped high ground edge adjacent to the marshes or water of Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad Creeks. The exact limits of the study, determined by the Town of Hilton Head Island, are shown on Figure 1. Intensity varied from very thorough along Skull Creek where it is estimated that up to 90% of the sites have been identified to moderately thorough along Broad Creek where up to 60% of the sites have probably been recorded. While shovel testing was originally proposed in wooded areas of high archaeological potential up to 300 feet inland from the marsh or water edge, sufficient time was not available to conduct these subsurface investigations.

Once identified, the sites were evaluated for their potential eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. It is generally accepted that "the significance of an archaeological site is based on the potential of the site to contribute to the scientific or

humanistic understanding of the past" (Bense et al. 1986:60). Site significance in this study was evaluated on the basis of three major archaeological properties: site integrity, artifactual variety, and artifactual quantity (Glassow 1977). While these properties are best evaluated on a site using at least intensive shovel testing, this survey was able to identify many sites as clearly eligible and recommends additional work at others in order to determine eligibility. Thus, further work would involve more intensive surface collections, shovel tests, and possibly the excavation of one or more 5 foot squares.

As a result of this survey 90 additional archaeological sites were recorded on Hilton Head, bringing to 134 the number of sites identified on the island. While the previous surveys were largely opportunistic, and the current survey is certainly biased toward marsh or water edge sites, these data provide us with the opportunity to develop a preliminary or tentative model of aboriginal settlement and site locations on the island. This study begins to correlate site locations on the island with environmental variables such as topography and soil type. A number of studies in the Charleston area (e.g., Brooks and Scurry 1978; Scurry and Brooks 1980; Trinkley 1987) have successfully offered site-soil correlations. Given the extensive development taking place on Hilton Head, this research could make a significant contribution to future studies.

Curation

The original site forms for the sites discussed in this report are filed in the statewide survey files at SCIAA. In addition, a copy has been provided the S.C. Department of Archives and History. County tax maps at a scale of 1:2400 or 1:4800 which show the boundaries of all known sites on Hilton Head are on file at the Town as a result of this survey.

The fieldnotes, photographic materials, and artifacts resulting from this study have been curated at The Environmental and Historical Museum of Hilton Head Island as Accession Number 1987.2. The artifacts are cataloged on ARCH-437 through ARCH-503 (using lot provenance system). All original records were provided to the Museum in archival condition and will be maintained by that institution in perpetuity. The artifacts have been cleaned and/or conserved as necessary and further information on conservation practices may be found in the Research Strategy and Methods section of this report.

NATURAL SETTING

Physiographic Province

Hilton Head is a sea island located between Port Royal Sound to the north and Daufuskie Island to the south. The island is separated from Daufuskie by Calibogue Sound and from the mainland by a narrow band of tidal marsh and Skull Creek. Between Hilton Head Island and the mainland are several smaller islands, including Pinckney and Jenkins islands. Hilton Head is about 11.5 miles (18.5 kilometers) in length and has a maximum width of 6.8 miles (10.9 kilometers), yielding 19,460 acres (7,876 hectares) of highland and 2400 acres (971 hectares) of marsh (Figure 1).

Hilton Head is situated in the Sea Island section of South Carolina's Coastal Plain province. The coastal plain consists of the unconsolidated sands, clays, and soft limestones found from the fall line eastward to the Atlantic Ocean, an area of more than 20,000 square miles or about two-thirds of the State (Cooke 1936:1-3). Elevations range from just above sea level on the coast and up to 21 feet (6.4 meters) at the top of the highest beach ridges on the island, to about 600 feet mean sea level (MSL) adjacent to the Piedmont province. The coastal plain is drained by three large through-flowing rivers -- the Pee Dee, Santee, and Savannah -- as well as by numerous smaller rivers and streams. On Hilton Head Island, there are two major drainages, Broad Creek which flows almost due west into Calibogue Sound, and Jarvis Creek which empties into Mackay Creek just north of Broad Creek.

From Bull Bay southward, South Carolina's coast presents a picture different from elsewhere on the coast. The area is characterized by low-lying, sandy islands bordered by salt marsh. Brown (1975) classes these islands as either Beach Ridge or Transgressive, with the Transgressive barrier islands being straight, thin pockets of sand which are rapidly retreating landward with erosion rates of up to 1600 feet (492 meters) since 1939. The Beach Ridge barrier islands, however, are more common and consist of islands such as Kiawah and Hilton Head. They are characterized by a bulbous updrift (or northern) end.

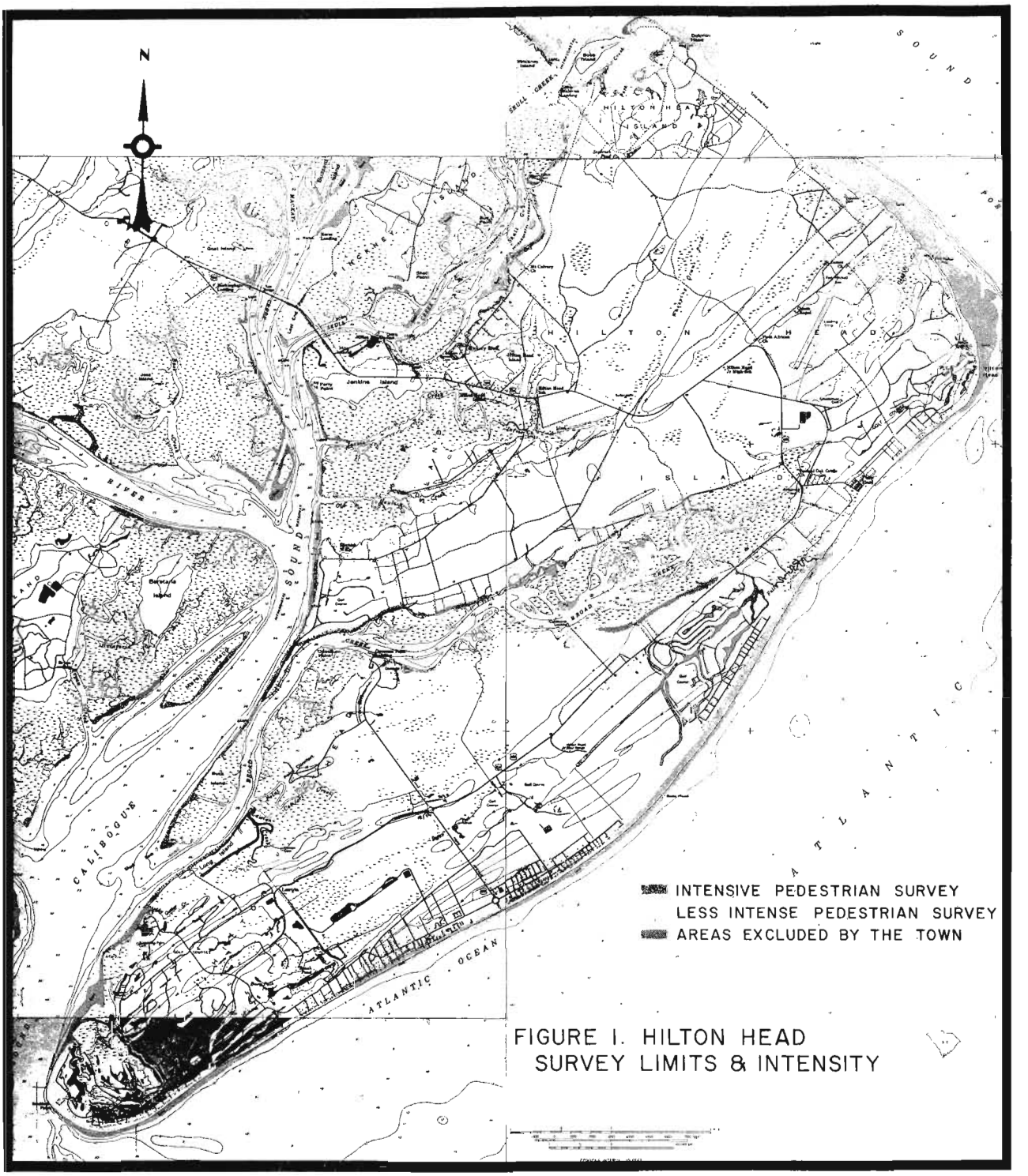

Figure 1. Hilton Head Island, showing survey limits and intensity.

Kana (1984) discusses the coastal processes which result in the formation of barrier islands, noting that the barrier island system includes tidal inlets at each end of the barrier with the central part of the island tending to be arcuate in shape while the ends of the island tend to be broken. Sand transport tends to be southward, producing a characteristic curved spit growing in a downdrift or southeast direction. The inlets at either end of the barrier influence the shape of the island through the development of offshore deltas. These deltas produce shoals, which cause waves to bend or break before reaching the shore and thereby creating sheltered areas. Hilton Head Island, however, is slightly different from other islands, partially because of its proximity to the very large Port Royal tidal inlet. The tidal delta extends further offshore than usual and the nearby islands tend to be more irregular in shape. Hilton Head has the typical central bulge caused by sand wrapping around the tidal delta and then depositing midway down the island. Further, the south end has an accreting spit where sand is building out the shoreline. The central part of the island, however, has experienced a 25-year erosion trend averaging 3 to 10 feet (0.9 to 3 meters) a year (Kana 1984:11-12). During the period from 1952 to 1970, the most serious erosion occurred at the north end of the island where about 17 feet (5.2 meter) a year were lost (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1971). The National Ocean Service, in cooperation with the Costal Engineering Research and Statistical Services of the State of South Carolina complied maps showing coastal erosion between 1859 and 1983 (Shoreline Movement Maps, Folder 1, S.C. Department of Archives and History). This study indicates that erosion in the vicinity north of Coggins Creek during this period was about 900 feet (277 meters), while to the south the erosion has been as much as 400 feet (123 meters). More recent work by Kana et al. (1986) reaffirms considerable shoreline reorientation.

Hilton Head Island, however, is also a different shape than most other islands since it has a Pleistocene core with a Holocene beach ridge fringe. To understand fully the significance of this situation, it is important to realize that technically the sea islands and the barrier islands are quite different from a historical perspective. The classic sea islands of colonial and antebellum fame (such as James, St. Helena, and Sapelo islands) are erosional remnants of coastal sand bodies deposited during the Pleistocene high sea level stands. They are crudely elongate, parallel to the present day shoreline, and rectangular in outline. Their topography is characterized by gentle slopes, and poorly defined ridges and swales. Maximum elevations typically range from 5 to 35 feet (1.5 to 10.7 meters) MSL. Typical barrier islands include Pawleys, Kiawah, and Hunting islands. There are, in addition, marsh islands, such as Morris and St. Phillips islands,

composed of isolated or widely spaced Holocene sand ridges surrounded by Holocene salt marsh (Mathews et al. 1980).

Some islands, such as Hilton Head (S.C.), Daufuskie (S.C.), and St. Catherines (Ga.), however, have an oceanward fringe of beach dune ridges which were constructed during the Holocene high sea level stands (Mathews et al. 1980:65-71; Ziegler 1959). Ziegler (1959: Figure 6) suggests that Hilton Head Island is composed of several sea or erosion remnant islands, joined together by recent Holocene deposits.

Soils

Within the Sea Island section of South Carolina 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 in the study area is affected by this parent material (primarily sands and clays), the temperate climate (to be discussed later), 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 Islands. Sandy to loamy soils predominate in the level to gently sloping mainland areas. The island soils are less diverse and less well developed, frequently lacking a well-defined B horizon. Organic matter is low and the soils tend to be acidic. The Holocene deposits typical of barrier islands and found as a fringe on some sea islands, consist almost entirely of quartz sand which exhibits little organic matter. 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 (0.6 meter) of salt water during high tide. These organic soils usually have two distinct layers. The top few inches are subject to aeration as well as leaching and therefore are a dark brown color. The lower levels, however, consist of reduced compounds resulting from decomposition of organic compounds and are black. The pH of these marsh soils is neutral to slightly alkaline (Mathews et al. 1980:39-44).

Nine soil series account for the bulk of the soil types found adjacent to the Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad creek drainages on Hilton Head Island. Three, the Bertie, Seabrook, and Wando series, are excessively to moderately well drained sands found on nearly level to gently sloping topography. Although the seasonal water table is within 2 feet (0.6 meter) of the surface in the Bertie soils, all of these series have permeability rates of 6 to 20 inches (15 to 51 centimeters) per hour. Although data are not available exclusively for Hilton Head, these three series comprise 14.7% of the acreage in

Beaufort County (Stuck 1980). An examination of the soil maps for the island, however, reveal that about 68% of the soils bordering the survey creeks (Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad) are either Seabrook or Wando.

Four series, Coosaw, Ridgeland, Seewee, and Yemasee, are somewhat poorly drained sands which occur on fairly level topography. These soils all evidence seasonal water tables within 25 feet (0.8 meter) of the surface, although during dry seasons they have permeability rates comparable to the Seabrook and Wando soils and may be profitably cultivated using simple ditching techniques. Finally, two soil series, the Rosedhu and Williman, are poorly to very poorly drained and have water tables within the upper foot of the soil. The Rosedhu soils are commonly flooded from December through May and are not generally suited to either prehistoric or historic occupation (Stuck 1980).

Considerable research along the coast has employed soil types as an indication of site probability. The late Tucker Littleton found that North Carolina prehistoric sites in the vicinity of Onslow County had a near perfect correlation with high, excessively drained, sandy Wando series soils (Tucker Littleton, personal communication 1978). Moving southward to the Bulls Bay area of coastal Charleston County, Trinkley (1980:445-446) found a preference for the high, sandy Seewee and Lakeland soils. The Seewee soils, not as excessively drained and droughty as the Lakeland Series, were preferred. Work by Brooks and Scurry (1978) and Scurry and Brooks (1980) found that sites in the Charleston area are generally found on well drained soils, although slightly over 20% of the sites in one survey were found on poorly drained soils, leading to the conclusion that "although soil type seems to be a good general predictor for the presence of prehistoric sites, other variables," at present unrecognized, are also significant (Brooks and Scurry 1978:69; see also Trinkley 1981). In a recent Mount Pleasant survey, Trinkley (1987:87) found all of the prehistoric sites on well drained soils, which accounted for only 44% of the soils in the study area.

For historic period sites, one settlement feature in addition to soil type, is access to deep water suitable for transportation. South and Hartley (1980) and Hartley (1984) have demonstrated that major colonial plantation settlements were located in areas where both deep water access and high ground are found. Another clear concern for historic period settlement would have been the suitability of the adjacent lands for agricultural activity. It has been previously suggested that soils may provide an indication of plantation economic worth and agricultural productivity, although clearly management is as significant as the inherent fertility and drainage (Trinkley 1987:10). In addition, studies in the

Charleston area suggest that while deep water access continued to be important for transportation at antebellum plantations, other factors such as elevation and topography were also major considerations and might have more significance for the location of the main house (Trinkley 1987:89).

Geology

The Sea Island coastal region is covered with sands, silts, and clays originally derived from the Appalachian Mountains and which are organized into coastal, fluvial, and aeolian deposits. These deposits were transported to the coast during the Quaternary period (which is composed of the million years B.P. to the present) and were deposited on bedrock of the Mesozoic Era and Tertiary period (dating from about 225 million years B.P. to 2 million years B.P.). These sedimentary bedrock formations are only occasionally exposed on the coast, although they frequently outcrop along the Fall Line (Mathews et al. 1980:2). The crystaline basement rocks are very deeply buried in the Beaufort area, not being reached by test wells dug to a depth of 1640 feet (504 meters). The crystaline rocks were not reached by a Charleston well excavated to a depth of 2050 feet (631 meters) (Smith 1933:21).

The Pleistocene sediments are organized into topographically distinct, but lithologically similar, terraces parallel to the coast. The terraces have elevations ranging from 215 feet (65.5 meters) down to sea level. These terraces, representing previous sea floors, were apparently formed at high stands of the fluctuating, although falling, Atlantic Ocean and consist chiefly of sand and clay (Cooke 1936; Smith 1933:29). More recently, research by Colquhoun (1969) has refined the theory of formation processes, suggesting a more complex origin involving both erosional and depositional processes operating during marine transgressions and regression.

Cooke (1936) found that most of Hilton Head is part of the Pamplico terrace and formation, with a sea level about 25 feet (7:7 meters) above the present sea level. Portions of the island represent a recent terrace, formed during the past 10,000 years. More recently Colquhoun (1969) suggested that Hilton Head is more complex and represents the Princess Anne and Silver Bluff Pleistocene terraces with corresponding sea levels of from 20 to 3 feet (6.2 to 0.9 meters) above the present level.

Another aspect of Sea Island geology to be considered in these discussions is the fluctuation of sea level during the late Pleistocene and Holocene epochs. Prior to 15,000 B.C. there is evidence that a warming trend resulted in the gradual increase in Pleistocene sea levels (DePratter and Howard 1980).

Recent work by Colquhoun et al. (1980) clearly indicates that there were a number of fluctuations during the Holocene. High stands are recorded at about 2050 B.C. (-3.6 feet [1.1 meters] MSL), 1650 B.C. (-1.9 feet [0.6 meter] MSL), 950 B.C. (-2.6 feet [0.8 meter] MSL), and 500 B.C. (-2.3 feet [0.7 meter] MSL). Low stands are recorded at 1860 B.C. (-10.4 feet [3.2 meters] MSL), 1250 B.C. (-10.1 feet [3.1 meters] MSL), 700 B.C. (-6.5 feet [2.0 meters] MSL), and 300 B.C. (-7.5 feet [2.3 meters] MSL). By A.D. 1650 the sea level was about 2.6 feet (0.8 meter) lower than present.

These data suggest that as the first Stallings phase sites along the South Carolina coast were occupied about 2100 B.C. the sea level was about 3.9 feet (1.2 meters) lower than present. However, by 1600 B.C., when a number of Thom's Creek shell rings were occupied, the sea level had fallen to a level of about 7.2 feet (2.2 meters) lower than present levels. By the end of the Thom's Creek phase, about 900 B.C., the sea level had risen to a level 2.6 feet (0.8 meter) lower than present, but over 4.5 feet (1.4 meters) higher than when the shell rings were first occupied. Quitmyer (1985b) does not believe that the lower sea levels at 2100 B.C. would have greatly altered the estuarine environment, although drops of 10 feet (3 meters) would have greatly reduced available tidal resources.

Data from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries suggest that the level is continuing to rise. Kurz and Wagner (1957:8) report a 0.8 foot (0.2 meter) rise in Charleston, South Carolina sea levels from 1833 to 1903. Between 1940 and 1950 a sea level rise of 0.34 foot (0.1 meter) was again recorded at Charleston. These data, however, do not distinguish between sea level rise and land surface submergence.

Biophysical Environment

An understanding of the biophysical environment of the Sea Island region is necessary to an adequate appreciation of the resources available to the aboriginal and historic occupants on Hilton Head Island. It is also necessary, however, to recognize and, where possible to delineate, the changes which have taken place during the Holocene. It is inappropriate to reconstruct settlement and subsistence systems using synchronic data. The review of the biophysical environment on the island will concentrate on the plant communities typical of the region.

Hilton Head Island today exhibits four major ecosystems: the coastal marine ecosystem where land has unobstructed access to ocean, the maritime ecosystem which consists of the upland forest area of the island, the estuarine ecosystem of deep water tidal habitats, and the palustrine ecosystem which

consists of essentially fresh water, non-tidal wetlands (Sandifer et al. 1980:7-9).

The coastal marine ecosystem consists of that area from the dunes extending seaward to the level of extreme low spring tide so that there are both intertidal and subtidal components. Salinity consistently exceeds 30 ppt. This ecosystem shelters a number of food resources, such as sea turtles, resident and migrational species of fish, marine and pelagic birds, and several sea mammals, including dolphins, whales, and the manatee. While many of these resources are occasionally found in the archaeological record, there is little indication that the beach strand was a significant ecosystem during the prehistoric period. Even during the nineteenth century this zone provided little to interest the inhabitants of Hilton Head. McKee (1903:166), in his history of the 144th Regiment, does describe the "capture" of a 200 pound (91 kilogram) turtle which brought $5.00 on the Hilton Head market.

While not a "resource" in the conventional sense, there are several insects which have been noted into the nineteenth century as playing a significant role on the coastal beaches. Tourtellotte descriptively asserts that "[s]and fleas and mosquitoes [are] fully on par with the 'Plague of Egypt'" (Tourtellotte 1910:41).

Mathews et al. (1980:155) note that the most significant ecosystem on Hilton Head Island is the maritime forest community. This maritime ecosystem is defined most simply as all upland areas located on barrier islands, limited on the ocean side by the extreme high spring tide mark and on the mainland side by tidal marshes. On sea islands the distinction between the maritime forest community and an upland ecosystem (essentially found on the mainland) becomes blurred. Sandifer et al. (1980:108-109) defines four subsystems, including the sand spits and bars, dunes, transition shrub, and maritime forest. Of these, only the maritime forest subsystem is likely to have been significant to either the prehistoric or historic occupants and only it will be further discussed. While this subsystem is frequently characterized by the dominance of live oak and the presence of salt spray, these are less noticeable on the sea islands than they are on the narrower barrier islands (Sandifer et al. 1980:120).

The barrier islands may contain communities of oak-pine, oak-palmetto-pine, oak-magnolia, palmetto, or low oak woods. The sea islands, being more mesic or xeric, tend to evidence old field communities, pine-mixed hardwood communities, pine forest communities, or mixed hardwood communities (Sandifer et al. 1980:120-121, 437).

Several areas of Hilton Head evidence upland mesic hardwoods, also known as "oak-hickory forests" (Braun 1950). These forests contain significant quantities of mockernut hickory (Carya tomentosa) as well as pignut hickory, both economically significant to the aboriginal inhabitants. Other areas are more likely to be classified as Braun's (1950:284-289) pine or pine-oak forest communities. Wenger (1968) notes that the presence of loblolly and shortleaf pines is common on coastal plain sites where they are a significant sub-climax aspect of the plant succession toward a hardwood climax. Longleaf pine forests were likewise a common sight (Croker 1979).

Mills, discussing Beaufort District in the early nineteenth century, states,

> [b]esides a fine growth of pine, we have the cypress, red cedar, and live oak . . . white oak, red oak, and several other oaks, hickory, plum, palmetto, magnolia, poplar, beech, birch, ash, dogwood, black mulberry, etc. Of fruit trees we have the orange, sweet and sour, peach, nectarine, fig, cherry (Mills 1826:377).

He also cautions, however, "[s]ome parts of the district are beginning already to experience a want of timber, even for common purposes" (Mills 1826:383) and suggests that at least 25% of a plantation's acreage should be reserved for woods.

A mid-nineteenth century map shows areas of the island as "cultivated," "Old Fields," "Swamp Ground," "Thick Wood Pine Tree and Live Oak," "Pines, Live Oaks and a few other kind," and "Very Thick Woods" (National Archives RG77, Map I52), giving a clear impression of the diversity caused by over a century of intensive agriculture. The "Swamp Ground" forest is clearly indicative of the bottomland forests to be discussed with the palustrine ecosystem. Other trees mentioned on the map show the mingling of needle evergreen and broadleaf evergreen species. Pine was apparently a common species. A description of the island, based on a visit from March through May 1863, states,

> [t]he characteristic trees are the live oak . . . . Besides these, are the pine, the red and white oak, the cedar, the bay, the gum, the maple, and the ash. The soil is luxuriant with an undergrowth of impenetrable vines (Anonymous 1863:294-295).

A letter written from Hilton Head Island in November 1861 describes the view as seen by a northern soldier,

> [h]ere we are, surrounded by cotton, sweet potatoes, corn, beans, mules, oranges, palmetto trees, Southern pines, niggers, palm and peanuts, with here and there a live oak . . . the island is one great pine plain, interrupted only by an occasional swampy run (quoted in Eldridge 1893:69).

These accounts would seem to suggest that the vegetation on Hilton Head was already intensively affected by intensive farming and logging as early as the nineteenth century.

The estuarine ecosystem in the Hilton Head vicinity includes those areas of deep-water tidal habitats and adjacent tidal wetlands. Salinity may range from 0.5 ppt at the head of an estuary to 30 ppt where it comes in contact with the ocean. Estuarine systems are influenced by ocean tides, precipitation, fresh water runoff from the upland areas, evaporation, and wind. The tidal range for Hilton Head is 6.6 to 7.8 feet (2.0 to 2.4 meters), indicative of an area swept by moderately strong tidal currents. The system may be subdivided into two major components: subtidal and intertidal (Sandifer et al. 1980: 158-159). These estuarine systems are extremely important to our understanding of both prehistoric and historic occupation because they naturally contain such high biomass (Thompson 1972:9). The estuarine area contributes vascular flora used for basket making, mammals, birds, fish (over 107 species), shellfish, crabs and shrimp.

The last environment to be briefly discussed is the freshwater palustrine ecosystem, which includes all wetland systems, such as swamps, bays, savannahs, pocusins and creeks, where the salinities measure less than 0.5 ppt. The palustrine ecosystem is diverse, although not well studied (Sandifer et al. 1980:295). A number of forest types are found in the palustrine areas, which attract a variety of terrestrial mammals. Also found are wading birds and reptiles.

Climate

Depending upon whose authority may be trusted, the nineteenth century Beaufort climate was "one of the healthiest" (Mills 1826:377), "salubrious" (Mills 1826:372), and "equable" (S.C. Department of Agriculture 1883:20), or it had "malaria arising from the Southern swamps" (Copp 1911:94) and "excessive heat" (Copp 1911:169). Linehan felt that "[m]alaria was the greatest curse of the sea coast, as all know who served there and who feel its evil affects to this day" (Linehan 1895:211). Forten wrote that "yellow fever prevailed to an alarming extent, and that, indeed the manufacture of coffins was the only business that was at all flourishing at present" (Forten 1864:588).

The major climatic controls of the area are the latitude, elevation, distance from the ocean, and location with respect to the average tracks of migratory cyclones. Hilton Head's latitude of about 32°N places it on the edge of the balmy subtropical climate typical of Florida. As a result there are relatively short, mild winters and long, warm, humid summers. The large amount of nearby warm ocean water surface produces a marine climate, which tends to moderate both the cold and hot weather. The Appalachian Mountains, about 220 miles to the northwest, block shallow cold air masses from the northwest, moderating them before they reach the sea islands. Distance from the ocean is also significant because of the sea breeze phenomenon, which normally begins before noon and continues until late afternoon (Landers 1970:2-3; Mathews et al. 1980:46).

Maximum daily temperatures in the summer tend to be near or above 90° F (32°C) and the minimum daily temperatures tend to be about 68° F (20°C). The summer water temperatures average 83 F (28°C). The abundant supply of warm, moist and relatively unstable air produces frequent scattered showers and thunderstorms in the summer. Winter has average daily maximum and minimum temperatures of 63° F (17°C) and 38° F (3°C) respectively. The average winter water temperature is 53°F (12 C). Precipitation is in the forms of rain associated with fronts and cyclones; snow is uncommon (Janiskee and Bell 1980:1-2).

The average yearly precipitation is 49.4 inches (125.6 centimeters), with 34 inches (86.5 centimeters) occurring from April through October, the growing season for most sea island crops. Hilton Head has approximately 285 frost free days (Janiskee and Bell 1980:1; Landers 1970).

While the temperatures on the Sea Islands are not extreme, the relative humidity is frequently high enough to produce muggy conditions in the summer and dank conditions in the winter. Relative humidity ranges from about 63-89% in the summer to 58-83% in the winter. The highest relative humidity occurs in the morning and as the temperature increases, the humidity tends to decline (Landers 1970:11; Mathews et. al. 1980:46).

Along the Sea Islands severe weather usually means tropical storms and hurricanes; tornados are infrequent and waterspouts tend to remain over the ocean. The tropical storm season is in late summer and early fall, although they may occur as early as May or as late as October. The coastal area is a moderately high risk zone for tropical storms, with 169 hurricanes being documented from 1686 to 1972 (0.59 per year) (Mathews et. al. 1980:56).

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Previous Archaeology

There is sufficient coastal research to develop a sequence of occupation and at least some information on how the prehistoric occupants in the Hilton Head area lived. This section is intended to provide only a brief review of the temporal periods. Several previously published archaeological studies are available for the Beaufort area to provide additional background, including Brooks et. al. (1982), DePratter (1979), and Trinkley (1981, 1986). A considerable amount of work has been conducted in the Beaufort area and these works should be consulted for broad overviews. Table 1 lists all of the presently known studies conducted within the boundaries of the Town of Hilton Head and provides information on the disposition of the resulting collections and field notes. In addition to these studies which have some form of published record, at least four additional studies, for which there are no known records, have been conducted on the island. Waring, sometime in the 1950s, apparently excavated two trenches at the Sea Pines Shell Ring (38BU7), and Lepionka extensively shovel tested and trenched the site in 1979. Alan Calmes tested the Baynard (38BU58) and Spanish Wells (38BU59) sites sometime in the late 1960s but no field notes or written accounts have been found. It is clear that this previous work on the island is of highly variable quality and much of the work has never been adequately reported. In addition, while there had been 43 sites previously recorded on the island, most were opportunistic discoveries and no organized survey, even at a reconnaissance level, had ever been attempted.

The Paleo-Indian period, lasting from 12,000 to 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 Paleo-Indian 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).

Waring (1961) reported the discovery of three Paleo-Indian points in the vicinity of Bluffton in 1961 and Michie (1977:105) reports that two additional points have been found

Site or Study	Source	Sites Identified	Curation
Jenkins Island & Green's Shell Enclosure	Calmes 1967a	38BU64, 38BU63	Not specified; copies of field notes at SCIAA
Sea Pines & Ford's Skull Creek Shell Ring Sites	Calmes 1967b	38BU7, 38BU8	Not specified; copies of field notes at SCIAA
Black Burial Sites	Combes 1972	38BU35, 38BU58	SCIAA
Indian Springs Site	South 1973	38BU24	SCIAA
Jenkins Island Survey	South 1973	38BU64, 38BU97-99	SCIAA
Jenkins Island Site	Trinkley 1976	38BU97	UNC-CH; copies of field notes at SCIAA
Hilton Head Airport Survey	Lepionka 1978	no sites identified	Not specified; copy of report at Chicora
Dolphin Head Survey	Lepionka 1979	no sites recorded; limited material recovered	Not specified; copy of report at Chicora
Skull Creek Village Dock Survey	Lepionka 1982a	Site present, but not identified by SCIAA number; probably 38BU62	Not specified; copy of report at Chicora
Tabby Structure Survey	Lepionka 1982b	5 locations reported on HHI, but none identified by SCIAA numbers	Not specified
Tailbird Subdivision Survey	Cridlebaugh 1986	14 loci reported, but not identified by SCIAA site numbers; subsequently identified as 38BU827-831	SCIAA; report on file at SCDAH and Chicora
Elliott Point Survey	Lepionka 1986	Many loci reported, but not identified by SCIAA site numbers; subsequently identified as 38BU790, 801, 818, 819, and 820, several sites tested	Not specified; copy of report at SCIAA, Chicora
Fish Haul Site	Trinkley 1986	38BU805	Environmental and Historical Museum of Hilton Head Island; copy of report at SCIAA, Chicora, SCDAH
Cross Island Highway	Anonymous 1986 (conducted by Robert E. Johnson, CZR, Jupiter, FL)	22 sites reported, but not identified by permanent SCIAA site numbers	Not specified

Table 1. Previous archaeological studies on Hilton Head Island.

on Daws Island, also in Beaufort County. Although there has been considerable natural and artificial resculpturing of the Hilton Head area, it is possible that early Paleo-Indian remains may be found on the Pleistocene portions of the island.

Sea level during much of this period is expected to have been as much as 65 feet (20 meters) lower than present, so many sites may be inundated (Flint 1971).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleo-Indian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleo-Indian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleo-Indian 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 little modification to the South Carolina coast. Archaic period assemblages are rare in the Sea Island region, although the sea level is anticipated to have been within 13 feet (4 meters) of its present stand by the beginning of the succeeding Woodland period (Lepionka et. al. 1983:10). Brooks and Scurry note that,

> Archaic period sites, when contrasted with the subsequent Woodland period, are typically small, relatively few in number and contain low densities of archaeological material. This data may indicate that the inter-riverine zone was utilized by Archaic populations characterized by small group size, high mobility, and wide ranging exploitative patterns (Brooks and Scurry 1978:44).

Alternatively, the general sparsity of Archaic sites in the coastal zone may be the result of a more attractive environment inland adjacent to the floodplain swamps and major drainages. Of course, this is not necessarily an alternative explanation, since coastal Archaic sites may represent only a small segment in the total settlement system.

The Woodland period begins by definition with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence

the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of 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 series pottery (see Figure 2 for a synopsis of Woodland phases and pottery designations).

The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish. Various calculations of the probable yield of deer, fish, and other food sources identified from shell ring sites indicate that sedentary life was not only possible, but probable. Recent work at sites characterized by fiber-tempered pottery on the southern Georgia coast has led Quitmyer to note that there was,

> a specialized economy heavily dependent on marine resources. Marine invertebrates, primarily oyster, were the most significant of the zoological resources. Marine vertebrates, primarily drum, accounted for another important aspect of the diet. To a lesser extent sea catfishes (Ariidae) and mullet were part of the diet. Terrestrial animals, like deer, represented only an occasional resource (Quitmyer 1985a:90).

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. Apparently the increasing sea level drowned the tidal marshes (and sites) 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 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. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites. The coastal sites, which always appear to be situated adjacent to tidal creeks, evidence a diffuse subsistence system and are

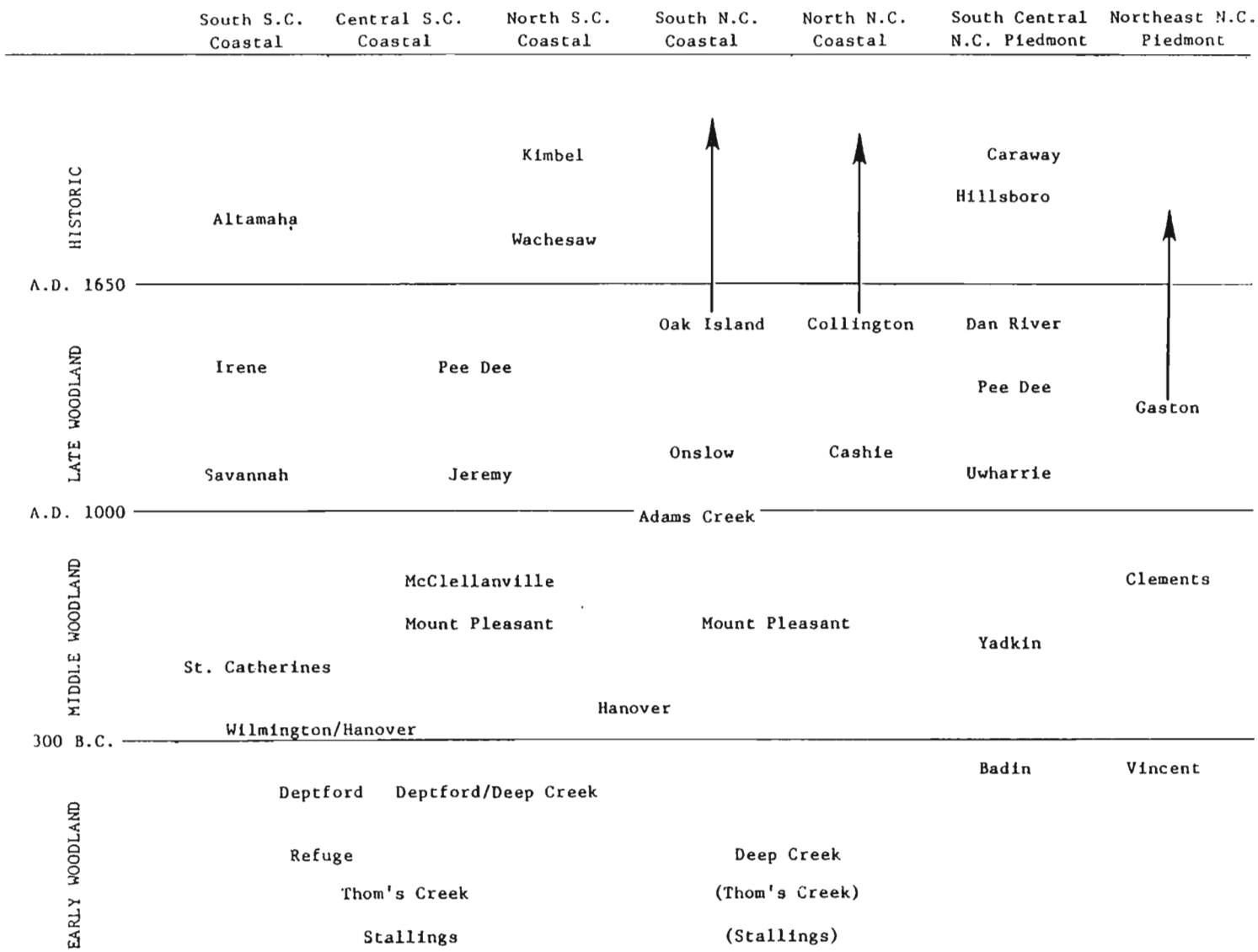

Figure 2. Chronology of the Woodland and Protohistoric periods in the Carolinas.

frequently small. The inland sites are also small, lack shell, and are situated on the edge of swamp terraces. This "dual distribution" has suggested to Milanich (1971:194) a transhumant subsistence pattern. While such may be the case, it has yet to be documented on the coast. The Pinckney Island midden, north of Hilton Head, evidences a reliance on shellfish and was occupied in the late winter (Trinkley 1981). The Minim Island midden, on the coast of Georgetown County, indicates a greater reliance on fish but was also apparently occupied in the fall or winter (Drucker and Jackson 1984).

The Middle and Late Woodland occupations in South Carolina are characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. 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). The tenacity of this simple lifestyle suggests that the Guale intrusion was relatively minor in many areas, or at least co-existed with the native inhabitants whose lifestyles were generally unchanged (Trinkley 1981). In addition, there are small quantities of pottery which resemble the more northern Middle Woodland Mount Pleasant Series (Phelps 1984:41-44; Trinkley 1983) which were classified as "Untyped" by Trinkley (1981) at the Pinckney Island midden.

The Middle Woodland Period (ca. 300 B.C. to A.D. 1000) is characterized by the use of 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, shell midden 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 continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years. This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex.

The South Appalachian Mississippian Period (ca. A.D. 1100 to 1650) 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 phases include the Savannah and Irene (A.D. 1200 to 1550). Sometime after the arrival of Europeans on the Georgia coast in 1519 A.D., the Irene phase is replaced by the Altamaha phase. The ceramics associated with this period were made,

> at least through the end of the Spanish Mission period in the 1680s, when the various Guale groups were either relocated to the St. Augustine vicinity or dispersed by the English (DePratter and Howard 1980:31).

The history of the numerous small coastal Indian tribes is poorly known. As Mooney noted, the coastal tribes,

> were of but small importance politically; no sustained mission work was ever attempted among them, and there were but few literary men to take an interest in them. War, pestilence, whiskey and systematic slave hunts had nearly exterminated the aboriginal occupants of the Carolinas before anybody had thought them of sufficient importance to ask who they were, how they lived, or what were their beliefs and opinions (Mooney 1894:6).

Considerable ethnohistoric data has been collected on the Muskhogean Georgia Guale Indians by Jones (1978, 1981). This group extended from the Salilla River in southern Georgia northward to the North Edisto River in South Carolina (Jones 1981:215). Jones suggests that the Guale may have been divided into chiefdoms, with two, the Orista and the Escaumacu-Ahoya, being found in South Carolina (Jones 1978:203). During the period from 1526 to 1586, Jones places the Escaumacu-Ahoya in the vicinity of the Broad River in Beaufort County, while the Orista are placed on the Beaufort River, north of Parris Island. By the late seventeenth century the principal town of the Orista appears to have been moved to Edisto Island, about 30 miles to the north (Jones 1978:203).

Waddell considers Orista a variant of Edisto (Waddell 1980:126-168) and places them on Edisto Island by 1666. Prior to that time they were situated in the Port Royal/Santa Elena area. The Escamacu are noted to also have lived in the Port Royal area, between the Broad and Savannah rivers (Waddell 1980:3, 168-198). Nearby were the Yoya, Touppa, Mayon, Stalame, and Kussah (Waddell 1980:3). Many of these tribes (such as the Kussah and Edisto) shifted northward as a result of the Escamacu War (1576-1579) when the Spanish sent out major expeditions. Waddell believes that the Escamacu War "probably

left the area between the Broad and the Savannah rivers deserted" (Waddell 1980:3). He notes that in 1684,

> the Proprietors decided to clear their title to the coast between the Savannah and the Stono rivers . . ., so they had eight separate cessions and one general cession made to give them a paper claim to all of this territory. The Witcheaught (previously unknown), St. Helena (Escamacu), Wimbee, Combahee, Kussah, Ashepoo, Edisto, and Stono surrendered all their claims (Waddell 1980:4).

Historical Overview

Aboriginal groups and culture persisted in the low country into the eighteenth century, although their population declined from at least 1750 in A.D. 1562 to about 660 in A.D. 1682 (Waddell 1980:8-13). It is therefore difficult to separate discussions of Native Americans from the period of early Spanish, English and French exploration and settlement (1521-1670 A.D.).

The conflict between the various powers (particularly the English and Spanish) resulted in the Indian populations being alternately wooed and then attacked with the ultimate result being cultural disintegration and fragmentation. While the Guale were present on the South Carolina coast into the middle seventeenth century, they were probably destroyed by the early eighteenth century. Both Jones (1978) and Waddell (1980) provide information on nearby Indian towns. Covington (1968:10) discusses the presence of Indian villages in 1685 on Hilton Head Island, where they were seeking the protection of the nearby Scottish colony of Stuarts Town at Port Royal from the Spanish. In 1696 Dickinson (Andrews and Andrews 1981:74-75) reports the presence of palmetto "wigwams" perhaps on the southern tip of Hilton Head Island. Apparently Yemassee groups were found in the Beaufort area until the 1715 Yemassee War (Covington 1968:12).

The Spanish Period

The first Spanish explorations in the Carolina low country were conducted in the 1520s under the direction of Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon. Quattlebaum notes that,

> Ayllon's captain, Gordillo, spent many months exploring the Atlantic coast . . . . Unfortunately we have little record of the extent of this expedition (Quattlebaum 1956:7).

One of the few areas explored by Gordillo which can be identified with any certainty is Santa Elena (St. Helena). Apparently Port Royal Sound was entered and land fall made at Santa Elena on Santa Elena's Day, August 18, 1520. "Cape Santa Elena," according to Quattlebaum (1956:8) was probably Hilton Head (Hoffman 1984:423).

Gordillo's accounts spurred Ayllon to seek a royal commission both to explore further the land and to establish a settlement in the land called Chicora (Quattlebaum 1956:12-17). In July 1526 Ayllon set sail for Chicora with a fleet of six vessels and has been thought to have established the settlement of San Miguel del Galdape in the vicinity of Winyah Bay (Quattlebaum 1956:23). Hoffman (1984:425) has more recently suggested that the settlement was at the mouth of the Santee River (Ayllon's Jordan River). Ferguson (n.d.:1) has suggested that San Miguel was established at Santa Elena in the Port Royal area. Regardless, the colony was abandoned in the winter of 1526 with the survivors reaching Hispaniola in 1527 (Quattlebaum 1956:27).

The French, in response to increasing Spanish activity in the New World, undertook a settlement in the land of Chicora in 1562. Charlesfort was established in May 1562 under the direction of Jean Ribaut. This settlement fared no better than the earlier Spanish fort of San Miguel and was abandoned within the year (Qauttlebaum 1956:42-56). Ribaut was convinced that his settlement was on the Jordan River in the vicinity of Ayllon's Chicora (Hoffman 1984:432). Recent historical and archaeological studies suggest that Charlesfort was situated on Port Royal Island, probably in the vicinity of the Town of Port Royal (South 1982a). The deserted Charlesfort was burned by the Spanish in 1564 (South 1982a:1-2). A year later France's second attempt to establish their claim in the New World was thwarted by the Spanish destruction of the French Fort Caroline on the St. John's River. The massacre at Fort Caroline ended French attempts at colonization on the southeast Atlantic coast.

To protect against any future French intrusion such as Charlesfort, the Spanish proceeded to establish a major outpost in the Beaufort area. The town of Santa Elena was built in 1566, a year after a fort was built in St. Augustine. Three sequential forts were constructed: Fort San Salvador (1566-1570), Fort San Felipe (1570-1576), and Fort San Marcos (1577-1587). In spite of Indian hostilities and periodic burning of the town and forts, the Spanish maintained this settlement until 1587 when it was finally abandoned (South 1979, 1982a, 1982b). Spanish influence, however, continued through a chain of missions spreading up the Atlantic coast from St. Augustine into Georgia. That mission activity, however, declined noticeably during the eighteenth century, primarily because of

the 1702 and 1704 attacks on St. Augustine and outlying missions by South Carolina Governor James Moore (Deagan 1983:25-26, 40).

The British Proprietory Period

British influence in the New World began in the fifteenth century with the Cabot voyages, but the southern coast did not attract serious attention until King Charles II granted Carolina to the Lords Proprietors in 1663. In August 1663 William Hilton sailed from Barbados to explore the Carolina territory, spending a great deal of time in the Port Royal area (Holmgren 1959). Hilton viewed the headland, which now bears his name noting,

> [t]he lands are laden with large, tall trees, oaks, walnuts, and bayes, except facing the sea it is most pines, tall and good. The land generally, except where the Pines grow, is good soyl covered with black mold . . . . The Indians plant in the worst land because they cannot cut down the timber in the best, and yet have plenty of corn, pompions, water-mellons, musk-mellons (William Hilton 1664; quoted in Holmgren 1959:35).

Almost chosen for the first English colony, Hilton Head Island was passed over by Sir John Yeamans in favor of the more protected Charles Town site on the west bank of the Ashley River in 1670 (Clowse 1971:23-24; Holmgren 1959:39). 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 Lords Proprietors, who owned the colony until 1719-1720, intended to discover a staple crop whose marketing would provide great wealth through the mercantile system, which was designed to profit the mother country by providing raw materials unavailable in England (Clowse 1971). Charleston was settled by English citizens, including a number from Barbados, and by French Huguenot refugees. Black slaves were brought directly from Africa.

The Charleston settlement was moved from the mouth of the Ashley River to the junction of the Ashley and Cooper Rivers in 1680, but the colony was a thorough disappointment to the Proprietors. It failed to grow as expected, did not return the anticipated profit, and failed to evidence workable local government (Ferris 1968:124-125). The early economy was based almost exclusively on Indian trade, navel stores, lumber, and cattle. Rice began emerging as a money crop in the late seventeenth century, but did not markedly improve the economic wellbeing of the colony until the eighteenth century (Clowse 1971).

Meanwhile, Scottish Covenanters under Lord Cardross established Stuart's Town on Scot's Island (Port Royal) in 1684, where it existed for four years until destroyed by the Spanish. It was not until 1698 that the area was again occupied by the English. Both John Stuart and Major Robert Daniell took possession of lands on St. Helena and Port Royal islands, and on August 16, 1698 Hilton Head was included as part of a 48,000 acre barony granted to John Bayley (Holmgren 1959:42). The town of Beaufort was founded in 1711 although it was not immediately settled. While most of the Beaufort Indian groups were persuaded to move to Polawana Island in 1712, the Yemassee, part of the Creek Confederacy, revolted in 1715. By 1718 the Yemassee were defeated and forced southward to Spanish protection. Consequently, the Beaufort area, known as St. Helena Parish, Granville County, was for the first time safe from both the Spanish and the Indians. On December 10, 1717, Colonel John Barnwell claimed a grant of 500 acres on the northwest corner of Hilton Head (Royal Grants, volume 39, page 225). About the same time, Alexander Trench, as agent for John Bayley, son and heir of Landgrave John Bayley, began to dispose of the 48,000 acre inheritance. Holmgren notes that Trench "must have been his own best customer," for he begins to either acquire title or use much of the Bayley property (Holmgren 1959:46-47). Hilton Head eventually became known as "Trench's Island" in the mid to late eighteenth century.

In 1728 a survey of the Port Royal area was conducted by Captain John Gascoigne and Lieutenant James Cook. Gascoigne's 1729 map ("A True Copy of A Draught of the Harbour of Port Royal") based on this survey identifies "Hilton Head Island," while Francis Swaine, using the same survey, identifies Hilton Head as "Trench Island" on his 1729 "Port Royal" map. By 1777 J.F.W. Des Barres produced a map entitled "Port Royal in South Carolina," still using the 1728 Gascoigne-Cook survey, which identifies Hilton Head as "Trench's Island" (Cumming 1974).

The British Colonial Period

Although peace marked the Carolina colony, the Proprietors continued to have disputes with the populace, primarily over the colony's economic stagnation and deterioration. In 1727 the colony's government virtually broke down when the Council and the Commons were unable to agree on legislation to provide more bills of credit (Clowse 1971:238). This, coupled with the disastrous depression of 1728, brought the colony to the brink of mob violence. Clowse notes that the "initial step toward aiding South Carolina came when the proprietors were eliminated" in 1729 (Clowse 1971:241).

While South Carolina's economic woes were far from solved by this transfer, the Crown's Board of Trade began taking steps to solve many of the problems. A new naval store law was

passed in 1729 with possible advantages accruing to South Carolina. In 1730 the Parliment opened Carolina rice trade with markets in Spain and Portugal. The Board of Trade also dealt with the problem of the colony's financial solvency (Clowse 1971:245-247). Clowse notes that these changes, coupled with new land policies, "allowed the colony to go into an era of unprecedented expansion" (Clowse 1971:249). South Carolina's position was buttressed by the settlement of Georgia in 1733.

By 1730 the colony's population had risen to about 30,000 individuals, 20,000 of whom were black slaves (Clowse 1971: Table 1). The majority of these slaves were used in South Carolina's expanding rice industry. In the 1730 harvest year 48,155 barrels of rice were reported, up 15,771 barrels or 68% from the previous year (Clowse 1971: Table 3). Although rice was grown in the Beaufort area it did not become a major crop until after the Revolutionary War and it was never a significant crop on Hilton Head (Hilliard 1975). Elsewhere, however, rice monoculture shaped the social, political, and economic systems which produced and perpetuated the coastal plantation system prior to the rise of cotton culture.

Although indigo was known in the Carolina colony as early as 1669 and was being planted the following year, it was not until the 1740s that it became a major cash crop (Honeycutt 1949). While indigo was difficult to process, its success was partially due to it being complementary to rice. Honeycutt notes that planters were "able to 'dovetail' the work season of the two crops so that a single gang of slaves could cultivate both staples" (Honeycutt 1949:18). Indigo continued to be the main cash crop of South Carolina until the Revolutionary War fatally disrupted the industry.

A decade prior to the Revolutionary War, James Cook produced "A Draught of Port Royal Harbour in South Carolina" (1766) which identified 25 families on Hilton Head Island. This is significant in understanding the Colonial ownership of the island, since most property records were destroyed either in 1864 (by the Civil War) or in 1883 (by a fire).

Scholars have estimated that at the end of the colonial period, over half of eastern South Carolina's white population held slaves, although few held a very large number. Hilliard (1984:36-37) indicates that more than 60% of the Charleston slaveholders by 1860 owned fewer than 10 slaves, while the average number of slaves per slaveholding was less than five. In Beaufort, however, the average number of slaves per slaveholding was greater than 20 and slaves accounted for over 70% of the Beaufort population in 1860 (Hilliard 1984:34).

The Revolutionary War brought considerable economic hardships to the planters. During the war the British occupied Charleston for over two and one-half years (1780-1782) and a post was established in Beaufort to coordinate forays into the inland waterways (Federal Writer's Project 1938:7). Holmgren (1959:55-59) notes only that skirmishes took place on Hilton Head between the island's Whigs and Tories from neighboring Daufuskie Island. During one skirmish, the Talbird house, on Skull Creek, was burned. The removal of the 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).

The Antebellum Period

While freed of Britain and her mercantilism, the new United States found its economy thoroughly disrupted. There was no longer a bounty on indigo, and in fact Britain encouraged competition from the British and French West Indies and India "to embarrass her former colonies" (Honeycutt 1949:44). As a consequence the economy shifted to tidewater rice production and cotton agriculture. Lepionka notes that "long staple cotton of the Sea Islands was of far higher value than the common variety (60 cents a pound compared to 15 cents a pound in 1830s) and this became the major cash crop of the coastal islands" (Lepionka et al. 1983:20). It was cotton, in the Beaufort area, that brought a full establishment of the plantation economy. Lepionka concisely states,

> [t]he cities of Charlestown and Savannah and numerous smaller towns such as Beaufort and Georgetown were supported in their considerable splendor on this wealth . . . . An aristocratic planter class was created, but was based on the essential labor of black slavery without which the plantation economy could not function. Consequently, the demographic pattern of a black majority first established in colonial times was reinforced (Lepionka et al. 1983:21).

Mills, in 1826, provides a thorough commentary on the Beaufort District noting that,

> Beaufort is admirably situated for commerce, possessing one of the finest ports and spacious harbors in the world . . . . There is no district in the state, either better watered, of more extended navigation, or possessing a larger portion of rich land, than Beaufort: more than one half of the territory is rich swamp land, capable of being improved so as to yield abundantly (Mills 1826:367).

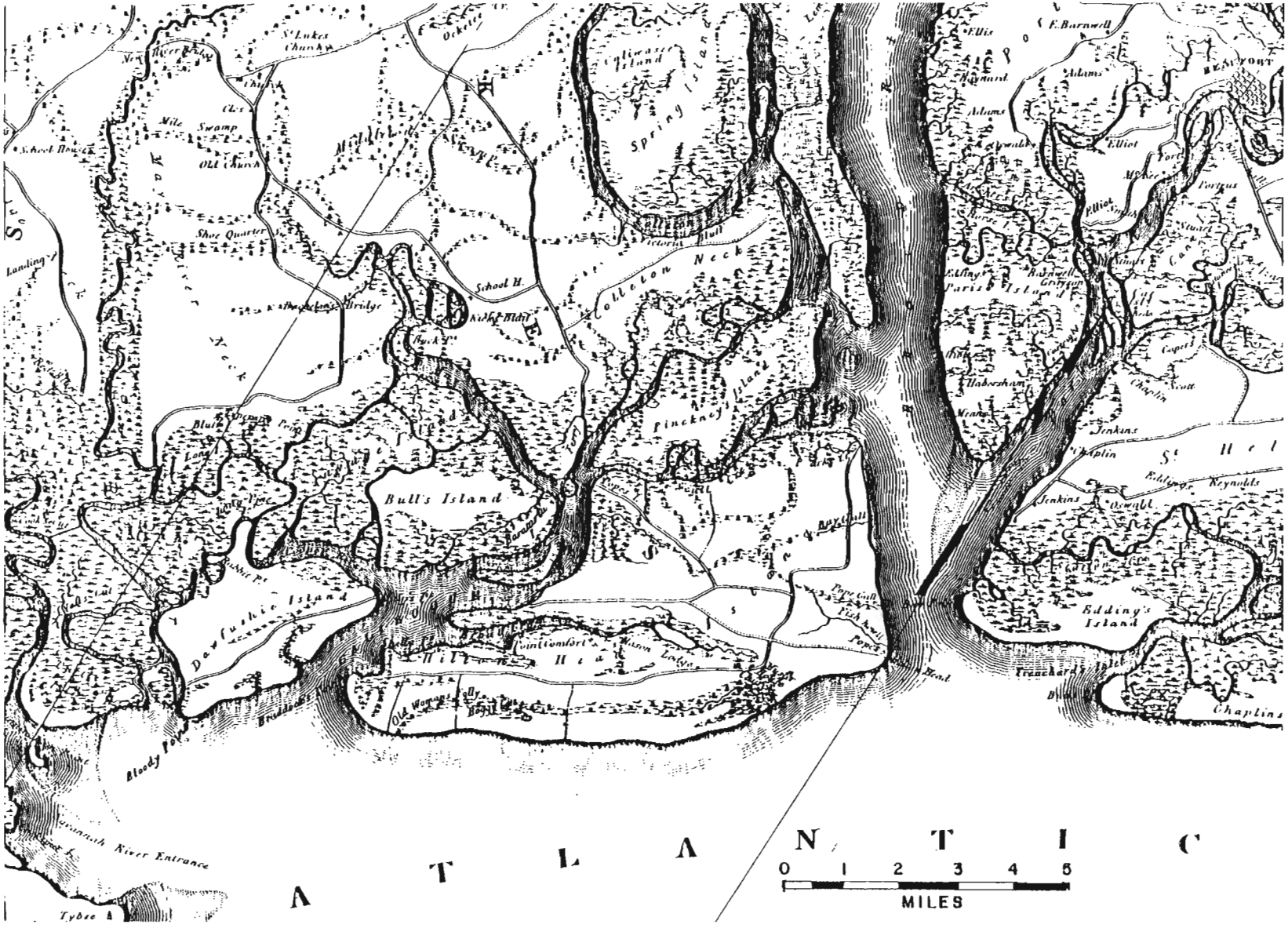

Figure 3. A portion of the Beaufort District in 1825 (from Mills' Atlas of 1825).

Describing the Beaufort islands, Mills comments that they were "beautiful to the eye, rich in production, and withal salubrious" (Mills 1826:372; see Figure 3). Land prices ranged from $60 an acre for the best, $30 for "second quality," and as low as 25 cents for the "inferior" lands. Grain and sugarcane were cultivated in small quantities for home use while,

> [t]he principal attention of the planter is . . . devoted to the cultivation of cotton and rice, especially the former. The sea islands, or salt water lands, yield cotton of the finest staple, which commands the highest price in market; it has been no uncommon circumstance for such cotton to bring $1 a pound. In favorable seasons, or particular spots, nearly 300 weight has been raised from an acre, and an active field hand can cultivate upwards of four acres, exclusive of one acre and half of corn and ground provisions (Mills 1826:368).

The emphasis of Beaufort District's agriculture can be easily observed by reference to Hilliard (1984). During the antebellum period Beaufort's wheat production remained below one bushel per capita and less than 15 bushels per square mile. Corn production fell 20 to 30 bushels per capita in 1840, although corn production remained about 250 bushels per square mile for most of the district throughout the period. Less than 10,000 pounds of tobacco were grown in the District in 1860 and less than 100 hogsheads of sugar cane were produced. Sweet potatoes were the largest non-cash crop grown.

Reference to the 1860 agricultural census reveals that of the 891,228 acres of farmland, 274,015 (30.7%) were improved. In contrast, only 28% of the State's total farmland was improved, and only 17% of neighboring Colleton District's farm land was improved. Even in wealthy Charleston District only 17.8% of the farm land was improved (Kennedy 1864:128-129). The cash value of Beaufort farms was $9,900,652, while the state average by county was only $4,655,083. The value of Beaufort farms was greater than any other district in the state for that year, and only Georgetown listed a greater cash value of farming implements and machinery ($616,774 compared to Beaufort's $559,934).

Beaufort ranked thirteenth in the number of horses (3,169), eighth in the number of asses and mules (2,405), first in number of milk cows (12,317), first in the number of working oxen (2,330), third in the number of other cattle (19,496), fourth in the number of sheep (14,139), but twentieth in the number of swine (25,369). Overall, Beaufort ranked fourth in total value of livestock ($1,254,608). Beaufort produced only 1.3% of the State's wheat crop, 2.1% of the rye crop, 4.1% of

the corn crop, 1.1% of the oat crop, 6.0% of the pea and bean crop, and 12.9% of the sweet potato crop. It did, however, produce 19,121 (400 pound) bales of cotton, virtually all long staple, in 1860 (5.4% of the state's total of all cotton), 18,790,918 pounds of rice (16.6% of the state's total) and 6,767 gallons of cane molasses (44.7% of the state's total). It also ranked eighth in the value of its orchard products (Kennedy 1864:346347).

This record of wealth and prosperity is tempered by the realization that it was based on the racial imbalance typical of Southern slavery. In 1820 there were 32,199 people enumerated in Beaufort, 84.9% of which were black (Mills 1826:372). While the 1850 population had risen to 38,805, the racial breakdown had changed little, with 84.7% being black (83.2% were slaves). Thus, while the statewide ratio of free white to black slave was 1:1.4, the Beaufort ratio was 1:5.4 (DeBow 1853:338).

Hilton Head Island fell to Union forces on November 7, 1861 and was occupied by the Expeditionary Corps under the direction of General T. W. Sherman. Beaufort, deserted by the Confederate troops and the white townspeople, was occupied by Union forces several weeks later. Hilton Head became the Headquarters for the Department of the South and served as the staging area for variety of military campaigns. As a result, the island is rich in military sites dating from about 1861 through 1867 (when the Department of the South was transferred to Charleston). A brief sketch of this period, generally accurate, is offered by Holmgren (1959), while a similarly popular account is provided by Carse (1981). As a result of the Island's early fall to Union forces all of the plantations fell to military occupation, a large number of blacks flocked to the island, and a "Department of experiments" was born. An excellent account of the "Port Royal Experiment" is provided by Rose (1964), while the land policies on St. Helena are explored by McGuire (1985). Recently, Trinkley (1986) has examined the freedmen village of Mitchelville on Hilton Head Island. One result of the Mitchelville work was to document how little is actually known about the black heritage on Hilton Head and the island's postbellum history. Even the social research spearheaded by the University of North Carolina's Institute for Research in Social Science at Chapel Hill in the early twentieth century (e.g. Johnson 1969) failed to record much of the activities on Hilton Head.

Rose clearly reveals the failures of the "Port Royal Experiment," noting that Northerners felt that "in granting the franchise the national obligation to the freemen had been fulfilled" (Rose 1964:389). Money and Northern support for the freemen quickly dried up after the war, leaving most blacks with little beyond their small plots of land (obtained from the

previous slave plantations) which they carefully guarded, for "they well understood the basis of their security" (Rose 1964:396). The black yeomenry, however, was largely disfranchised by the 1895 South Carolina constitutional convention. Rose notes that Sea Island blacks became, as a result, increasingly self-governing with the Baptist church being the greatest force in their lives. While the "secular law was the 'unjust' law, the church law was the 'just' law" (Rose 1964:407). This sense of community, churches, and order (seen at Mitchelville), may represent one of the strongest aspects of black heritage on the sea islands.

Secondary sources such as Holmgren (1959) and Peeples (1970) provide antebellum accounts of the island which emphasize the geneology and land ownership of the period. Holmgren (1959) reproduces a map "compiled by the Hilton Head Company in 1958 from old surveys, maps and other available sources of information" which purports to show Hilton Head "before 1861," while Peeples (1970) provides a similar map titled "Ante Bellum Hilton Head Island - Reconstructed from Ancient Authorities - 19th C." Both maps are largely correct and indicate that by the Civil War the island's 26 plantations were owned by 15 prominent families -- the Baynards, Chaplins, Draytons, Elliots, Ficklings, Gardners, Grahams, Jenkins, Kirks, Lawtons, Mathews, Seabrooks, Scotts, Stoneys, and Stuarts (Holmgren 1959:67). One aspect of the military occupation of the island was the creation of a series of maps (by the War Department, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and the Tax Commission) which show in varying degrees of accuracy and detail the various late antebellum plantations. This is fortunate since Mills' Atlas (Figure 3) illustrates only the Pope residence of Hilton Head "Point."

An 1861 Confederate map of the ill-fated defense of Hilton Head (National Archives, RG109, S. Car.-1) reveals the location of two temporary hospital buildings, neither of which were plantations, and the Pope (Coggins Point) house. The Confederate encampment was placed midway between the Pope house and Fort Walker and the entire Union encampment expanded to fill what, in 1861, was an "old field."

As soon as Hilton Head fell, the Union forces produced a map entitled, "Map of the Country Surrounding Port Royal" (National Archives, RG 77, Map I 28-1). This map, at a scale of 1 inch to 5000 feet, was drawn with only a knowledge of Hilton Head topography and plantations, so the "country surrounding" is largely blank. The map, shown as Figure 4, locates the Baynard (Braddock Point), Lawton (Calibogue), Wills (Possum Point), Spanish Wells, Stoney (Fairfield), Graham (Pope?; Cotton Hope) Seabrook (Seabrook), Drayton (Fish Haul) and Pope (apparently misnamed, but in the vicinity of Grasslawn) plantations. Unnamed, but recognizable locations

include a slave row for Shipyard, a plantation complex for Lemmington, a plantation complex for Marshlands, a complex for Otter Hole, a complex for Jenkins Island, a complex for Elliott's Myrtle Bank, a slave row for Cherry Hill, and a second slave row for Cotton Hope.

A U.S. Coast Survey map of Hilton Head and vicinity in December 1861 (reproduced in Trinkley 1986:65) shows the Graham, Seabrook, Elliot (sic), Drayton, Lawton, and Baynard plantations, as well as seven additional, unnamed plantations, Opposum Point (Landing), Fort Walker, and a battery at Braddocks Point. Using the names provided by Holmgren (1959) and Peeples (1970) this 1861 map, at a scale of 1 inch to 16,666 feet, illustrates the locations of the Fairfield (identified as Graham, but should be Stoney), Seabrook (Seabrook), Myrtle Bank (Elliott), Fish Hall (Drayton), Calibogue (Lawton), and Braddocks Point (Baynard) plantations. The unnamed plantations include Cotton Hope, Spanish Wells, Otter Hole, Gardner, Honey Horn (?), Marshlands (?) and Cherry Hill (?).

A hand drawn map "accompanying Annual report S.9662" entitled "Map of the Entrenchments of Hilton Head Island" (National Archives, RG77, Drawer 146, Sheet 16) shows the Fish Hall and Cherry Hill plantations, in addition to another, unidentified cluster.

A ca. 1860s map of Hilton Head (National Archives, RG 77, Map I52) which illustrates Mitchelville in considerable detail (see Trinkley 1986:85), carefully details the layout of the Fish Hall, Folly Fields, and possibly Chaplin plantations, although the latter is identified as "Graham Plantation." Cherry Hill Plantation appears to be shown as a series of structures on individual lots, perhaps reflecting the tract's sale to individual black farmers. This map provides considerable detail for the northeastern tip of the island, including the military encampments (although other maps, such as National Archives, RG 77, Drawer 146, Sheet 14 or RG 92, Map 103-C, provide better detail for the Hilton Head post). The main house of Coggins Point (Pope) Plantation was incorporated into this encampment and expanded to house the Chief Quartermaster and the Signal Office.

An undated map of the northeastern portion of the island from the office of the Chief of Engineers (National Archives, RG 77, Map I28-2) illustrates the probable Grass Lawn Plantation complex.

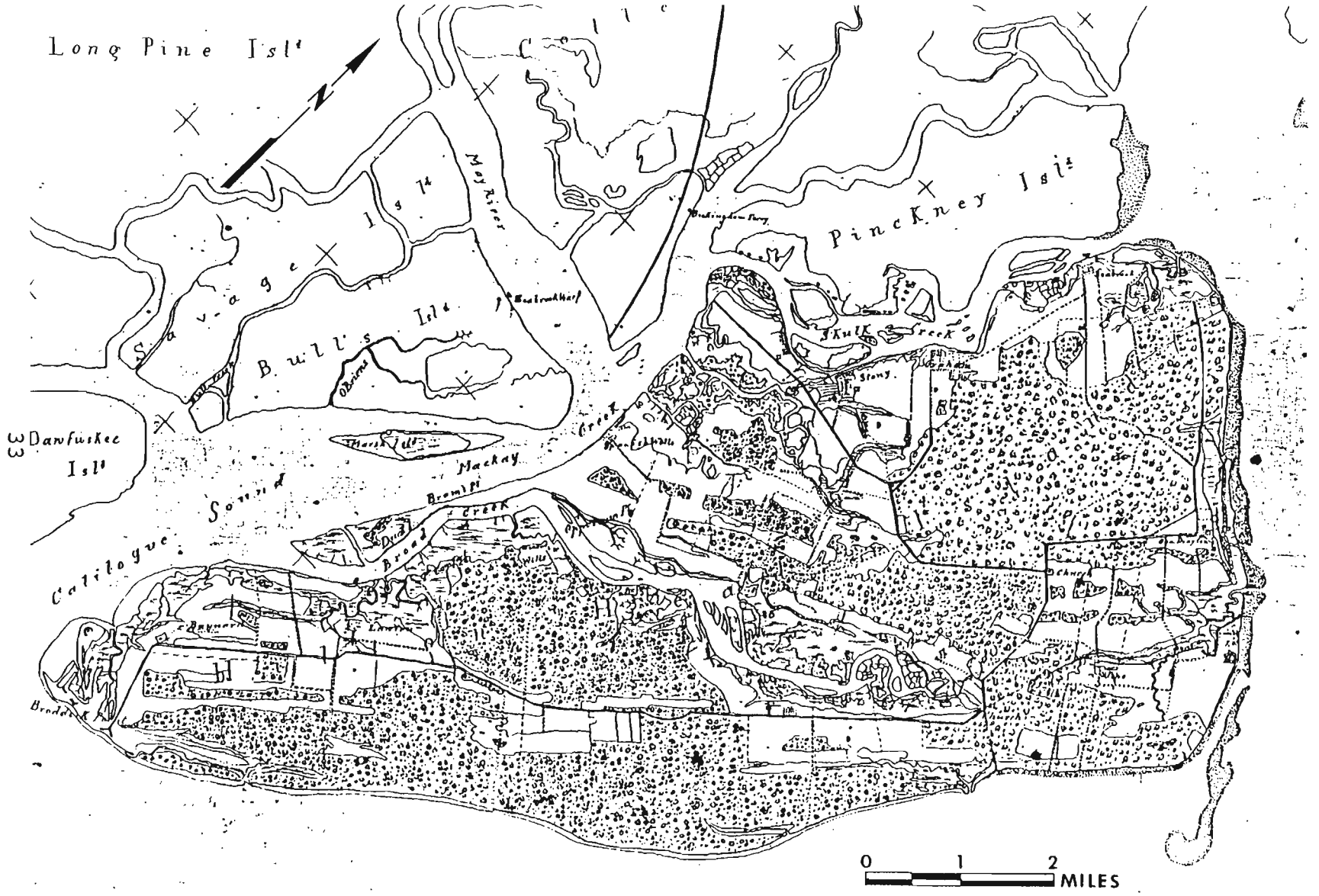

Figure 4. November 1861 map of Hilton Head Island (National Archives, RG 77, Map I28-1).

The Tax Commission Maps of Hilton Head (National Archives, RG 58, Item 15; see Trinkley 1986:76) provided general locations of 24 plantations. Names different from those offered by Holmgren (1959) or Peeples (1970) include Lawton Place (Calibogue), Brickyard (Shipyard), Hill Place (parts of Shipyard and Lemmington), Matthews (Folly Field), and the Point Place (Myrtle Bank).

One of the most detailed maps is a "Preliminary Chart of Calibogue Sound and Skull Creek" dated 1862 and published in 1864 as part of the Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey. This map, a portion of which is shown as Figure 5, identifies the plantation complexes of Jenkins Island (main house, outbuildings, slave row, and fences), Fairfield (main houses, outbuildings, slave row, orchard, fences), Cotton Hope (main house, a number of outbuildings, roads, slave row), Seabrook (main house outbuildings, two possible slave rows, one removed from the plantation complex by about a mile, and roads).

The Union maps of Hilton Head were all drawn absent any in depth knowledge of the island, its residents, or its plantations. The assigned plantation names, locations, and boundaries must largely have come from the blacks found on the different tracts. The locations given for the different plantations are largely identical and appear to be correct. Figure 6 represents an attempt to place these plantations against the island's current topography. The names used are those most commonly associated with the tract in antebellum and Civil War records. A total of 20 plantations are currently recognized for the island, based on available maps: Baynard, Chaplin, Cherry Hill, Coggins Point, Cotton Hope, Fairfield, Fish Hall, Folly Field, Gardner/Devant, Grass Lawn, Honey Horn, Jenkins Island, Lawton, Leamington, Myrtle Grove, Otter Hole, Seabrook, Shipyard, Spanish Wells, and Wills. Of these, six are thought to have been completely destroyed by twentieth century development, including Chaplin (Hilton Head Beach and Tennis Club), Cherry Hill (airport construction), Coggins Point (Port Royal Plantation), Folly Field (Fiddler Coves and Folly Field), Grass Lawn (small developments), and Leamington (Shelter Cove). In addition, at least four other plantations have been damaged to varying degrees by development, including Baynard (Sea Pines), Myrtle Grove (Hilton Head Plantation), Spanish Wells (Spanish Well development), and Wills (Sea Pines).

By the late 1890s much of the island had been bought by Northerners and Holmgren (1959:118ff) again provides a relatively accurate account. Rather matter-of-factly, she states that,

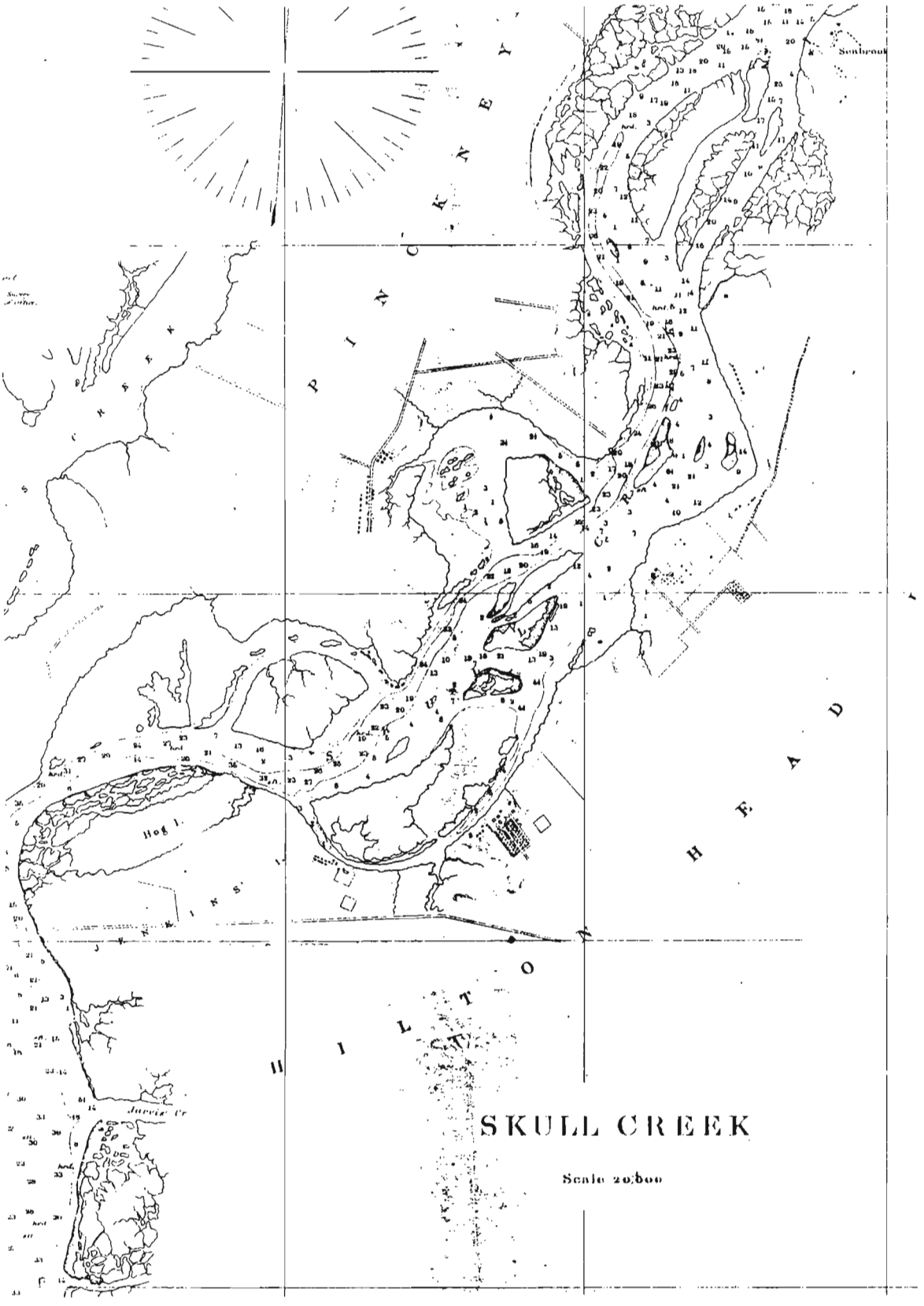

Figure 5. Skull Creek plantations in 1862 (from Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, 1862, Plate 27).

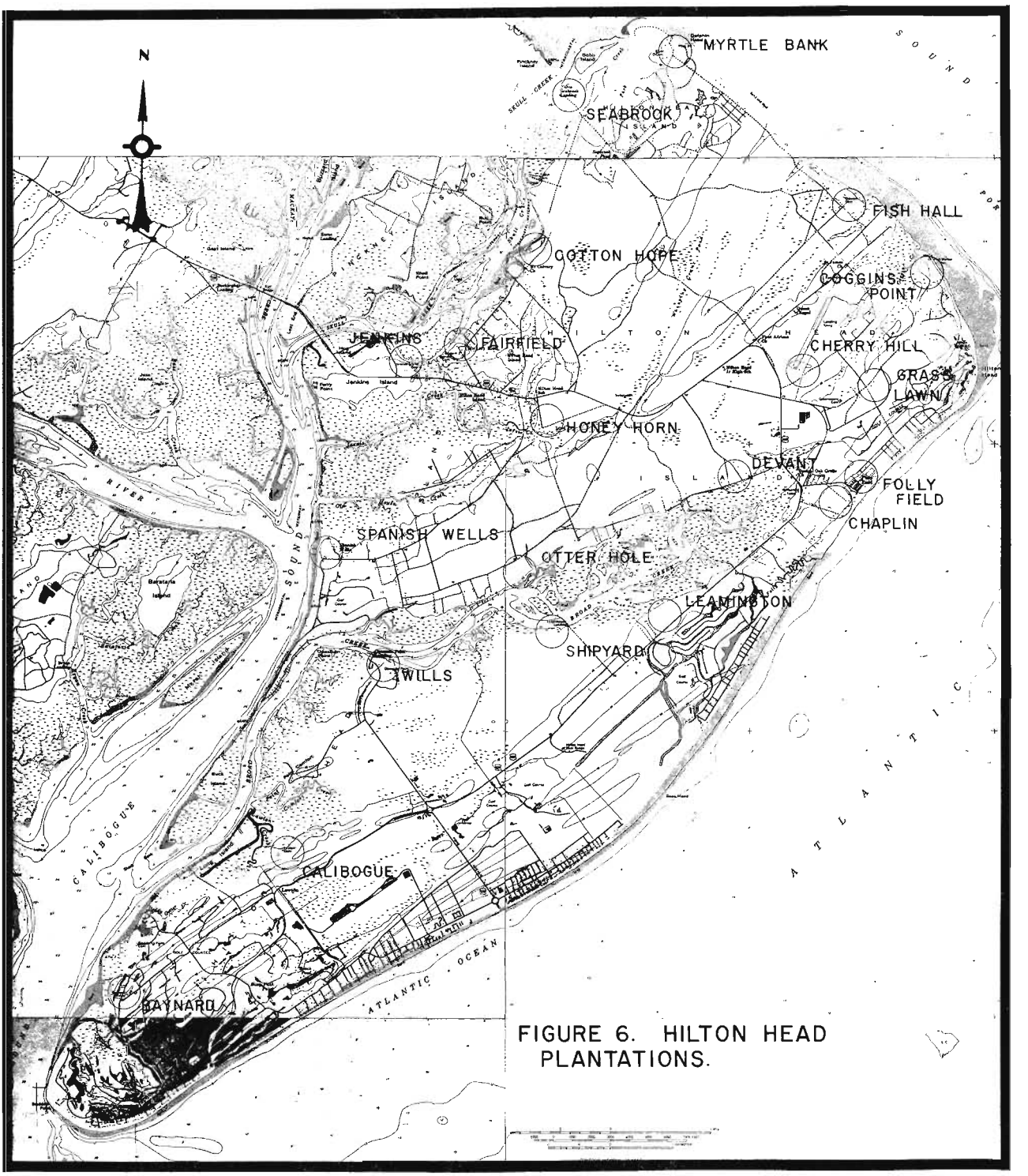

FIGURE 6. HILTON HEAD PLANTATIONS.

Figure 6. Hilton Head Island plantations, plotted according to a variety of antebellum and Civil War maps.

> Thorne and Loomis [both Northerners] also began buying land from any Negroes willing to sell, and by 1936 there were only 300 Negroes on the island instead of the 3,000 of forty years before (Holmgren 1959:123).

It is appropriate to conclude the discussions with the words of Uncle Smart Washington, an ex-slave on St. Helena Island, who, angered by Northern speculators among the Sea Island blacks, said,

> [w]e born here; we parents' graves here; we donne oder country; dis here our home. De Nort folks hab house, antee? What a pity dat dey don't love der home like we love we home, for den dey would neber come here to buy all away from we (quoted in Gutman 1976:471).

RESEARCH STRATEGY AND METHODS

Introduction

The primary goal of this project was to identify, record, and assess the significance of as many archaeological sites as possible along the Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad creeks on Hilton Head Island. A secondary goal included an examination of the effects of soil type and drainage on site location. Fundamentally, this project involved an exploratory or explicative survey design intended to discover things about a topic (such as prehistoric and historic settlement types on Hilton Head Island) in order to be able to characterize it more accurately. The study, therefore, was oriented toward collecting data on site locations, temporal periods of occupation, and site boundaries -- the basic building blocks of archaeological research. While the site information generated from this survey was desired by the Town of Hilton Head Island and the S. C. Department of Archives and History so that these resources might be better managed, the site data will also contribute to a more complete understanding of prehistoric and historic occupation on the sea islands.

The previous discussions regarding soils and drainage lead to the conclusion that prehistoric sites will be found in areas of well drained soils. Previous coastal research has suggested that some Early Woodland Stallings and Thom's Creek phase sites are large and probably representative of permanent coastal occupation based on the abundance of locally available resources (e.g. Trinkley 1986; see also DePratter 1978:70, 1979b). The succeeding late Early Woodland, Middle and Late Woodland phases, however, are represented by a number of sites which are smaller and which exhibit low artifact diversity. These sites are thought to be extractive in nature and were probably occupied for only a short period by a small group (Brooks and Scurry 1978; DePratter 1978:72-74; Trinkley 1981). Previous research has also clearly exhibited a non-random pattern to prehistoric site settlement. Even when vast areas of well drained soils are available for settlement, the sites have been found clustered around tidal creeks and along marsh areas (Brooks and Scurry 1980:77; DePratter 1978; Trinkley 1981). DePratter (1978:73-74) suggests that beginning with the Wilmington phase, occupation gradually moved inland, perhaps to take advantage of land suitable for horticulture (see also

Stoltman 1974), although marsh edge shell middens continued as a dominant site type.

Savannah, Irene, and Altamaha phase settlements densities are variable on the Georgia coast, although work on nearby Pinckney Island has revealed little evidence of these late period sites (Braley 1982:60-68; Trinkley 1981) except at 38BU66 (Charles 1984). Michie's (1980) shoreline survey of Port Royal Sound also found that less than 5% of the sites in the Beaufort area had a Mississippian component. Previous authors have suggested that this absence of Irene and Altamaha occupation may provide evidence of a sociopolitical boundary between the Guale to the south and the smaller Muskhogean groups to the north (see Braley 1982:68).

Based on these data, prehistoric sites on Hilton Head were expected on the better drained Bertie, Seabrook and Wando soils, but were not anticipated on the more poorly drained soils. Prehistoric sites were expected to be closely tied to the marsh edge and to contain evidence of shell midden, although both interior and non-shell midden sites are known to exist (see, for example, Trinkley 1986). In fact, Robert Johnson, archaeologist for Coastal Zone Resources, reports interior sites without shell midden deposits on Hilton Head Island (Robert Johnson, personal communication 1987). It was expected that the bulk of the recorded sites would date from the Middle and Late Woodland, with few examples of Early Woodland or Mississippian sites being found.

Turning to historic site locations, previous research has suggested that plantations will be situated on high, well-drained ground that is suitable for agriculture. Additionally, while access to deep water was important, the main plantation settlement might not be at the landing, particularly if the landing failed to offer a high, well-drained, healthful location. While the health and well-being of the owner's slave chattle was of considerable concern, slave rows were not commonly situated on the best land, and in some cases were located on very poorly drained soils (Singleton 1980; Zierden and Calhoun 1983).

The historic documentation, previously discussed, revealed the location of 20 antebellum plantation complexes (main house, out buildings, and slave row) and an isolated slave row probably associated with one of the nearby plantations. In addition, a number of cemeteries, military posts, roads, and landings were also indicated. The sites within the survey boundaries of this study were examined for the choice of site location, specifically, topography and soils.

Archival Research

This study incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, as well as correspondence with other researchers active in this area of the coast. In addition, archival and historical research was used from the previous Chicora study at the Fish Haul site (38BU805) on Hilton Head, which incorporated such local sources as the South Carolina Historical Society and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, as well as the library of Congress and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. While secondary sources were largely used for the overview of Hilton Head Island's historical development, a variety of period maps and charts were used to obtain information on plantation settlements. Because the island fell to the Union army in 1861, there are a variety of nineteenth century Cartographic sources for the island. While the historical study is not exhaustive, it does provide a clear background and is a sufficient base for future work on the island. The historical and archival research used for this study was conducted by the author.

Field Survey

Based on the sizeable percentage of sites found in less than well-drained soils in other surveys, it seemed inappropriate to include only well drained soils within the survey universe. Such an approach would leave the south bank of Broad Creek largely unexamined and would not allow site locations to be correlated with soil types. A second common approach, appropriate for reconnaissance surveys, is to develop a sampling scheme which would allow all soils, in all four drainages (Skull, Jarvis, Old Town and Broad creeks) to be examined. This approach, however, was rejected because of the potential problems associated with the actual identification of survey tracts selected for study in the field. In addition, discussions with the Town of Hilton Head indicated that not all private property was going to be accessible and thus some selected survey tracts, or portions of tracts, would be unavailable for study. Such an approach requires considerable project and field time be devoted to establishing the survey scheme, selecting units, identifying the boundaries of these units, substituting units, and so forth. This approach was not deemed cost-effective for this project.

A multi-stage plan was determined most feasible and most likely to produce as thorough a survey as possible within the available levels of time and funding.

Stage I would involve a pedestrian peripheral edge survey of the four drainages. While a boat survey undoubtedly would have been faster, such an approach allows identification of

only large, obvious sites eroding into the water or onto a beach. Typically, such sites are prehistoric Woodland period shell middens. Instead, the proposed survey would involve walking the edge of the high ground where it borders the marsh and examining the area for visible remains. Such an approach will yield information on smaller sites and a greater range of site types than a boat survey. Survey would extend inland up to 300 feet in areas of open ground, making effective use of areas exhibiting a high degree of surface visibility.

Stage II would involve the use of a sub-surface testing technique in wooded areas of (1) suspected historic occupation based on previously discussed period maps or other identified accounts and (2) high ground immediately bordering deep water.

Stage III would involve the use of a sub-surface testing technique, as time allowed, in wooded areas of high archaeological probability, defined primarily on the basis of well-drained soils (up to a 3% sample).

During the course of the field work several constraints were encountered which resulted in a departure from the proposed research design. First, work was hampered on four of the 10 field days by heavy rains. Although survey work continued, it was at a slower pace than expected. Second, the only mapping available from the Town were one inch to 200 or 400 foot scale tax property maps which failed to show landforms, topography, structures, or at times even an accurate shoreline. The maps were very difficult to use during the shoreline survey and, being white prints, could not be exposed to the rain. The 7.5 U.S.G.S topographic maps for the island have not been revised in 16 years and are equally difficult to use. Third, while the Town was to have notified affected property owners of the survey, few appeared to have been informed and the survey was slowed by the need for constant introductions and explanations. In addition, access to several tracts was denied by the property owners. Finally, the survey identified many more sites than anticipated by either the Town or the researchers, so progress was very slow.

As a result, the Stage III investigations were not conducted and the Stage II studies were modified to eliminate shovel testing. Areas of suspected high probability were still intensively examined, but the creek bank and interior disturbed areas were relied on for soil exposure. The Stage I investigations, however, were instituted with no changes and the shorelines were intensively examined along most of the creek banks. Figure 1 illustrates the survey areas and the levels of intensity. This survey incorporated about 20.5 miles of shoreline, about 5.5 miles more than originally required by the Town's Request for Proposals.

At each identified site, the researchers (which included the author and Ms. Homes Wilson at all times) attempted to obtain a surface collection to allow the temporal and functional identification of the site. Information necessary for the completion of S. C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site survey forms was collected (these forms were routinely completed in the field to ensure that all pertinent information was available). The site location was recorded on the 7.5 U.S.G.S. topographic maps (Bluffton, Hilton Head, Parris Island, and Savannah Beach North quad sheets) as well as the Beaufort County Property Tax Maps. Black and white and color photographs were taken of occasional sites to illustrate variations in topography, vegetation, erosion, stratigraphy and types of archaeological remains.

Laboratory and Analysis Methods

The cleaning and cataloging of artifacts was conducted at the Chicora laboratories in Columbia during March and April, 1987. All artifacts except brass and lead specimens were wet cleaned. Brass and lead were dry brushed and evaluated for further conservation. Brass items, if they exhibited active bronze disease, were subjected to electrolytic reduction in a sodium carbonate solution with up to 4.5 volts for periods of up to 72 hours. Hand cleaning with soft brass brushes or fine-grade bronze wool followed the electrolysis. Afterwards, the surface chlorides were removed with deionized water baths and the items were dried in a series of alcohol baths. The conserved cuprous items were coated with a 50% solution of Incrolac in toluene. Ferrous objects were treated in one of two ways. After the mechanical removal of gross excrustations the artifact was tested for sound metal by the use of magnet. Items lacking sound metal were subjected to multiple baths of deionized water to remove chlorides. The baths were continued until a conductivity meter indicated a level of chlorides no greater than 1.0 ppm. This technique also was used on a single fragile tin can fragment. These items were eventually given a micro-crystaline wax coat, not only to seal out moisture, but also to provide some additional strength. Items which contained sound metal were subjected to electroytic reduction in a bath of sodium carbonate solution in currents no greater than 5 volts for a period of 5 to 20 days. When all visible corrosion was removed, the artifacts were wire brushed and placed in a series of deionized water soaks, identical to those described above, for the removal of chlorides. When the artifacts tested free of chlorides, they were air dried and a series of phosphoric (10%) and tannic (20%) acid solutions were applied. The artifacts were oven dried at a temperature of 200° F (93 °C) for 20 minutes, then dipped in a molten micro-crystaline wax solution and then placed back in a heated oven for 5 minutes to allow the excess wax to drip off.

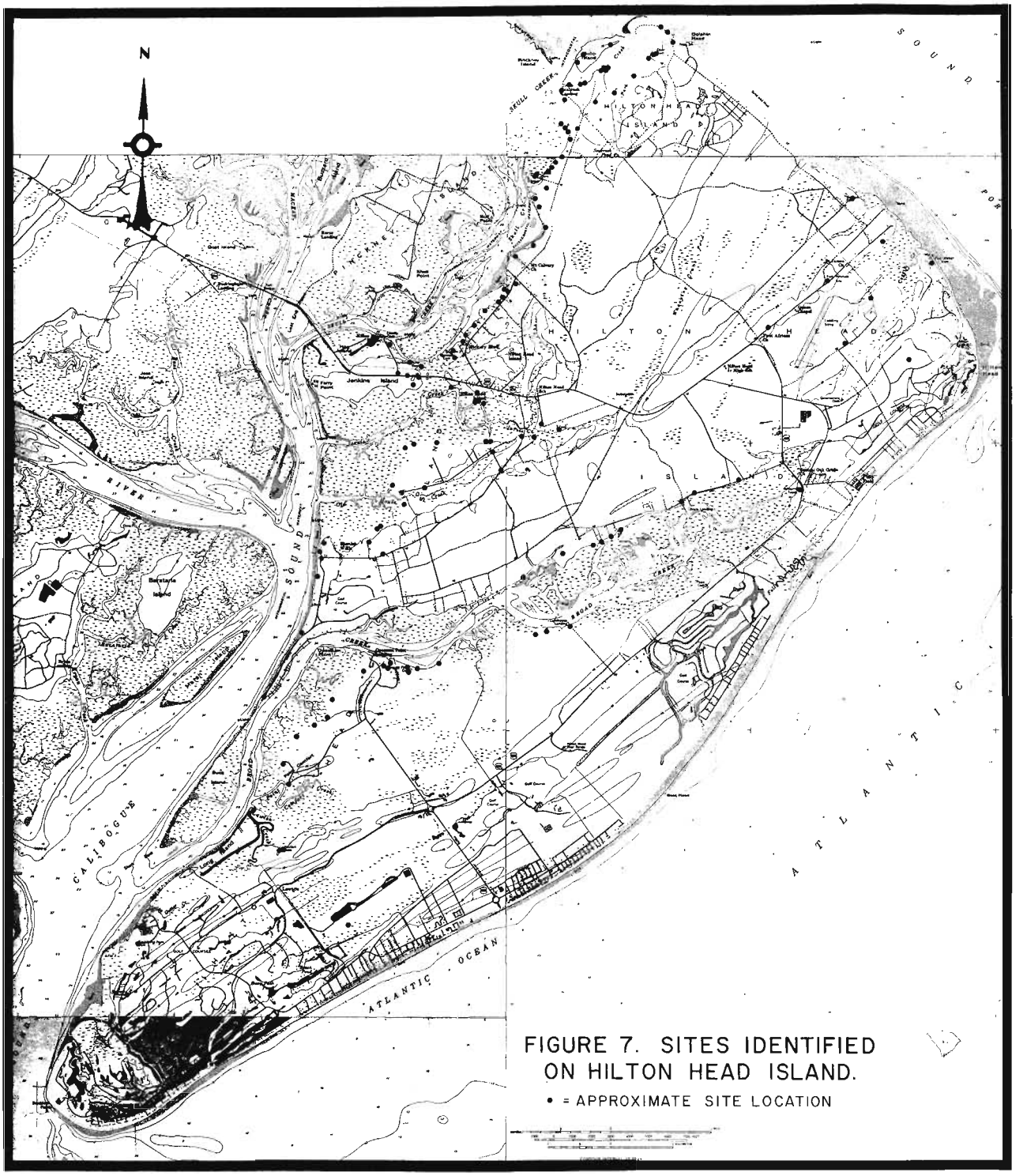

Figure 7. Sites identified on Hilton Head Island.

As previously discussed, the materials have been accepted for curation by The Environmental and Historical Museum of Hilton Head Island and have been lot catalogued using that institution's accessioning practices. Specimens were packed in plastic bags and boxes. Insect control is maintained through the use of vapona, which is not allowed to come into direct contact with the specimens. Because the artifacts are expected to be stored in a controlled environment, no items were packed with silica gel; periodic inspection of the conserved artifacts, however, is advisable.

Analysis of the collections followed professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains. Prehistoric ceramics were classified using common coastal South Carolina types (Trinkley 1983). The temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of the historic remains follow Noel Hume (1970), Miller (1980), Price (1979), and South (1977).

OVERVIEW OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND SITES

Introduction

Prior to the 1986 survey by Chicora, 43 sites were recorded for Hilton Head in the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology statewide site survey. These sites reflect sporadic research on the island, primarily in the early 1970s, but no systematic survey efforts were undertaken until this current project. The previously identified prehistoric sites include two Early Woodland shell rings, eight shell middens representing Middle Woodland occupation, and a single Mississippian occupation. The known historic sites included nine plantation loci (including Baynard's Braddock Point Plantation, Spanish Wells Plantation, two tabby structures perhaps related to colonial plantations, Cotton Hope Plantation, two areas of Seabrook Plantation, Fish Hall Plantation, and Coggins Point Plantation), seven military sites and fortifications, four cemeteries, three small middens, one agricultural dike, and one fish weir. In addition, there were seven sites that were identified only as having evidence of both prehistoric and historic occupation.

During the review of the statewide files it was discovered that a number of sites were incorrectly recorded on the topographic maps, had incorrect UTM coordinates, failed to have pertinent information recorded, or were duplicated in the site files. These problems, left uncorrected, would have largely compromised the usefulness of these files to both this project and to future researchers on the island. After considerable review of the site files, field checks of locations, and evaluation of site descriptions, only one site (38BU100) could not be even approximately located and most sites were securely identified. Updated information on these previously identified sites is found as Table 2. Some sites will be noted to have several site numbers. This occurs in cases were two or more numbers were assigned to the same site and the numbers were subsequently published. Rather than attempting to correct the published record, the site information is duplicated under both numbers. While this is not an ideal solution, it does guarantee the integrity of the site numbering system. Of particular trouble were the four digit site numbers assigned to historic sites by the Lowcountry Council of Governments (1979), and repeated by John Rahenkamp and Associates (1986), for which no site forms were ever filed at the S.C. Institute of

Archaeology and Anthropology. Unfortunately, no detailed files, notes, or maps for these sites have been found at the Lowcountry Council of Governments office (Keith Derting, personal communication 1987). This present work by Chicora was able to provide some documentation for most of these sites.

Newly Recorded Sites

As a result of this survey 103 archaeological sites were visited -- 91 were previously unreported and 12 were previously recorded sites (38BU35, 59, 62, 63, 64, 90, 91, 96, 141, 323, 329, and 1167) which were revisited. Of the newly recorded sites, 20 (21.9%) are prehistoric middens, 12 (13.2%) are shell middens which contain both prehistoric and historic remains, and 32 (35.2%) are shell middens which lacked temporally sensitive artifacts. The historic sites include nine (9.9%) plantation loci (including Fairfield, Gardner or Devant, Honey Horn, Jenkins Island, Lawton, Myrtle Bank, Otter Hole, a possible part of Talbot, and Wills), 12 (13.2%) middens (many of which may represent brief Civil War military encampments), and six (6.6%) cemeteries which probably date from the early antebellum. These sites are briefly described in Table 3.

Overview of Hilton Head Island Sites

Prehistoric Middens

While the bulk of the prehistoric sites on Hilton Head are evidenced by shell midden deposits of varying density, not all aboriginal occupations on the island will be characterized by shell accumulations. For example, the Fish Haul site (38BU805) has revealed evidence of Early through Middle Woodland occupation associated with extremely sparse shell deposits (Trinkley 1986). In addition, Robert Johnson, with Coastal Zone Resources, has apparently identified prehistoric sites on the island that have little or no associated shell middens.

The Hilton Head sites have yielded evidence of prehistoric occupation dating from about 1800 B.C. (Early Woodland) through about A.D. 1450 (South Appalachian Mississippian). Although the current work has failed to yield Altamaha or other contact period Indian occupations it is possible that future work may find evidence of these late groups.

Of the 91 sites recorded during the survey, 37 or 40.2% produced evidence of prehistoric pottery and 33 sites yielded pottery which could be placed in a typological category (see Table 4). Stallings pottery was rare from the survey, being found at only one of the 37 sites (2.7%). Thom's Creek pottery is found at only three sites (8.1%). Examining the previously recorded sites, it is apparent that Stallings and Thom's Creek

Site #	Name/Description	UTM	Type	Soil	Status
38BU7	Sea Pines Shell Ring	E521100N3555660	PH	Ba	NR
38BU8	Ford's Skull Creek Shell Ring	E523470N3565700	PH	Sk	NR
38BU24	Indian Spring	E524140N3567540	PH/H	Sk	PE
38BU35	Talbert Cemetery	E524040N3567670	H	Sk	E
38BU47	Braddocks Point Cemetery	E517630N3555340	H	Rd	E
38BU58/ 1161	Baynard Plantation	E517475N3554560	H	Wd	E
38BU59/ 869/1163	Spanish Wells	E520600N3561720	PH/H	Wd	E
38BU60	Broad Creek	E519000N3556850	PH/H	Wd	PE
38BU61	Swimming Pool	E517370N3553820	PH	Fb	NE
38BU62	Talbot Midden/Plantation	E524000N3567300	PH	Wd	PE
38BU63	Green's Shell Enclosure	E522650N3564850	PH	Sk	NR
38BU64	Jenkins Island Shell Pit	E521775N3564640	PH	Wd	E
38BU65	Myrtle Bank	E525860N3570200	H	Fb	PE
38BU78/ 1156	Fort Sherman	E530000N3564820	H	Wd	PE
38BU79/ 1151	Fort Howell	E528700N3568000	H	Wd	PE
38BU80/ 1153/1154	Fort Walker	E530450N3566100	H	Ba	PE
38BU89/ 1164	Battery Holbrook	E520540N3561570	H	Wd	PE
38BU90	Tabby Structure	E523690N3565960	H	Sk	E
38BU91/ 1158	Baynard's Cemetery	E528230N3562640	H	Sk	E
38BU96	Cotton Hope Plantation	E524000N3566550	H	Wd	E
38BU97	Jenkins Island Midden	E522170N3564370	PH	Sk	PE
38BU98	Shell Midden	E522080N3564350	PH	Sk	PE
38BU99	Shell Midden	E522000N3564490	PH	Sk	PE
38BU100	Shell Midden	Unknown	PH	Unk	PE
38BU141	Jenkins Island Cemetery	E522180N3564620	H	Wd	E
38BY323/ 1149	Seabrook Plantation	E524500N3569050	H	Sk	E
38BU326	Tabby Structure	E524640N3569500	H	Cs	E
38BU327	Midden	E524750N3569650	PH/H	Cs	PE
38BU328	Eroded Midden	E525300N3569850	PH/H	Cs	PE
38BU329	Pine Island	E526000N3570140	PH/H	Fb	NE
38BU337/ 1149	Seabrook Tabby Structure	E524550N3569190	H	Sk	PE
38BU790	Midden	E525051N3569213	H	Sk	NE
38BU801	Dike	E525040N3568972	H	Sk	NE
38BU805	Fish Haul	E529450N3566440	PH/H	Wd	E
38BU806/ 1152	Fish Hall Plantation	E529050N3567250	H	Wd	E
38BU807	Midden	E528980N3565000	H	Rd	PE
38BU808	Military Camp	E529340N3565720	H	Wd	PE
38BU818	Midden	E525250N3569038	H	Sk	PE
38BU819	Shell Midden	E52426N3569186	PH/H	Sk	PE
38BU820	Shell Midden	E525000N3569306	PH	Sk	PE
38BU1155	Coggins Point Plantation	E530400N3566250	H	Unk	PE
38BU1160	Braddock Point	E516150N3552800	H	Unk	PE
38BU1167	Fort Mitchell	E524040N3567180	H	Wd	E

Type: PH = prehistoric; H = historic; PH/H = prehistoric and historic
Soil: Ba = Baratari; Cs = Coosaw; Fb = Fripp-Baratari; Rd = Ridgeland; Sk = Seabrook; Unk = unknown; Wd = Wando
Status: NE = not eligible; PE = possible eligible; E = eligible; NR = National Register

Table 2. Previously recorded Hilton Head sites.

Site #	Name/Description	UTM	Type	Soil	Status
38BU811	Shell Midden	ES27780N3567260	PH	Wd	PE
38BU812	Elliott Cemetery	ES25950N3569680	H	Wd	E
38BU813	Shell Midden	ES25880N3569680	UID	Wd	PE
38BU814	Shell Midden	ES25820N3569600	PH	Sk	PE
38BU815	Bear Island	ES25600N3569310	UID	Rd	PE
38BU816	Shell Midden	ES25180N3569440	H	Sk	PE
38BU817	Non-Shell Midden	ES25140N3569370	PH	Sk	PE
38BU818	Shell Midden	ES25280N3569070	UID	Sk	PE
38BU819	Shell Midden	ES24970N3569250	UID	Sk	PE
38BU820	Shell Midden	ES25050N3569420	UID	Sk	PE
38BU821	Shell Midden	ES24680N3569150	UID	Sk	PE
38BU822	Shell Midden	ES24680N3569160	H	Sk	PE
38BU823	Shell Midden	ES24520N3568880	H	Wn	PE
38BU824	Shell Midden	ES24560N3568550	PH/H	Sk	PE
38BU825	Shell Midden	ES24450N3568650	UID	Ca	PE
38BU826	Shell Midden	ES24700N3569500	PH/H	Sk	NE
38BU827	Shell Midden	ES24550N3569270	PH	Sk	PE
38BU828	Shell Midden	ES24350N3568030	PH	Sk	PE
38BU829	Shell Midden	ES24320N3567900	UID	Sk	PE
38BU830	Poss. Plantation	ES24270N3567850	H	Sk	PE
38BU831	Shell Midden	ES24200N3567780	UID	Sk	PE
38BU832	Shell Midden	ES24050N3567700	PH	Sk	E
38BU833	Shell Midden	ES24140N3566850	UID	Wd	PE
38BU834	Shell Midden	ES23670N3566400	H	Sk	PE
38BU835	Shell Midden	ES23020N3565280	PH/H	Sk	PE
38BU836	Shell Midden	ES23150N3565540	PH	Wn	PE
38BU837	Shell Midden	ES23370N3565670	UID	Sk	PE
38BU838	Shell Midden	ES23450N3565710	UID	Sk	PE
38BU839	Shell Midden	ES23470N3565890	UID	Sk	PE
38BU840	Shell Midden	ES22870N3565130	PH	Sk	PE
38BU841	Stoney Cemetery	ES22700N3564770	H	Sk	E
38BU842	Shell Midden	ES22650N3564320	PH	Sk	PE
38BU843	Shell Midden	ES23030N3564050	PH	Sk	PE
38BU844	Shell Midden	ES23070N3564100	H	Sk	PE
38BU845	Shell Midden	ES23140N3564500	UID	Sk	PE
38BU846	Shell Midden	ES23050N3564250	PH/H	Sk	PE
38BU847	Shell Midden	ES23900N3563500	PH/H	Wd	PE
38BU848	Shell Midden	ES23750N3563500	PH	Wd	PE
38BU849	Shell Midden	ES23250N3563400	PH	Wd	PE
38BU850	Shell Midden	ES23180N3563380	PH/H	Wd	PE
38BU851	Shell Midden	ES22400N3563460	UID	Sk	PE
38BU852	Shell Midden	ES22020N3563360	PH	Sk	PE
38BU853	Shell Midden	ES21850N3563300	PH	Sk	PE
38BU854	Shell Midden	ES22220N3562650	PH/H	Wd	PE
38BU855	Shell Midden	ES21850N3562600	UID	Wd	PE
38BU856	Shell Midden	ES21700N3562730	PH	Ce	PE
38BU857	Shell Midden	ES23320N3563240	PH	Wd	PE
38BU858	Shell Midden	ES23440N3562960	UID	Sk	PE
38BU859	Shell Midden	ES21900N3562350	PH/H	Wd	PE
38BU860	Cemetery	ES21500N3562050	H	Wd	E
38BU861	Shell Midden	ES21440N3562020	UID	Wd	PE
38BU862	Shell Midden	ES21560N3561600	PH/H	Rd	PE
38BU863	Shell Midden	ES21340N3561800	UID	Wd	PE
38BU864	Shell Midden	ES19670N3559340	PH	Wd	NE
38bU865	Shell Midden	ES20120N3560120	PH	Wd	PE
38BU866	Shell Midden	ES20230N3560340	UID	Wd	PE
38BU867	Shell Midden	ES20500N3561200	UID	Wd	PE
38BU868	Shell Midden	ES20580N3561500	PH	Wd	PE
38BU870	Honey Horn Church Cemetery	ES24340N3563600	H	Wd	E
38BU871	Jenkins Island Plantation	ES21950N3564660	H	Wd	PE
38BU872	Shell Midden	ES21670N3564980	H	Bb	PE
38BU873/ 1157	Devant Plantation	ES27220N3562760	H	Sk	PE
38BU874	Shell Midden	ES26560N3562570	H	Sk	PE
38BU875	Shell Midden	ES26300N3562400	PH/H	Sk	PE
38BU876	Shell Midden	ES24940N3561760	UID	Sk	NE
38BU877	Shell Midden	ES24040N3561800	H	Sk	PE
38BU878	Shell Midden	ES25220N3561880	H	Sk	PE
38BU879	Shell Midden	ES25360N3561980	PH/H	Sk	NE
38BU880	Otter Hole Plantation	ES23050N3561330	H	Sk	E
38BU881	Otter Hole Cemetery	ES24380N3561600	H	Sk	E
38BU882	Shell Midden	ES22520N3569900	UID	Sw	PE
38BU883	Shell Midden	ES22200N3559730	UID	Sw	PE
38BU884	Shell Midden	ES21990N3559790	UID	Sw	PE
38BU885	Shell Midden	ES21990N3559720	H	Sw	PE
38BU886	Shell Midden	ES24150N3560370	PH/H	Sw	E
38BU887	Shell Midden	ES23950N3560300	UID	Sw	NE
38BU888	Lighthouse Landing	ES24500N3560400	H	Sw	PE
38BU889	Shell Midden	ES21680N3559840	H	Sw	PE
38BU890	Wills Plantation	ES21650N3559800	H	Sw	E
38BU891	Shell Midden	ES21250N3559750	UID	Sw	PE
38BU892	Shell Midden	ES20720N3559260	PH	Sw	PE
38BU893	Shell Midden	ES20700N3559000	UID	Sw	PE
38BU894	Shell Midden	ES19980N3558220	UID	Wd	PE
38BU895	Shell Midden	ES28050N3557900	UID	Wd	PE
38BU896	Shell Midden	ES28200N3558650	UID	Sw	PE
38BU897	Shell Midden	ES20480N3558860	UID	Sw	PE
38BU898	Lawton Cemetery	ES19980N3556840	H	Rd	E
38BU1150	Myrtle Banx Plantation	ES26300N3569840	H	Wd	E
38BU1162	Lawton Plantation	ES19900N3556840	H	Rd	E
38BU1165	Honey Horn Plantation	ES24000N3563620	H	Wd	PE
38BU1166	Fairfield Plantation	ES22840N3565040	H	Sk	E

Type: PH = prehistoric; H = historic; PH/H = prehistoric and historic; UID = unknown
Soil: Bb = Bertie; CE = Capers Association; Rd = Ridgeland; Sk = Seabrook; Sw = Seewee; Wd = Wando; Wn = Williman
Status: NE = not eligible; PE = possibly eligible; E = eligible

Table 3. Newly recorded Hilton Head sites.

are found as components on very few sites and these cultures are significant at only three known sites on the island: Sea Pines Shell Ring (38BU7), Ford's Skull Creek Shell Ring (38BU8), and the Fish Haul site (38BU805).

Deptford is found as a component of 17 sites (45.9%) and is found on more sites than any other cultural manifestation. Some Deptford sites, such as 38BU853 and 38BU856, represent large shell midden accumulations, although most sites are characterized by a thin zone of primarily oyster shell. The relatively uncommon Mount Pleasant ware is found as single sherds at only four sites (10.8%). Wilmington pottery, while found as a component of 10 sites (27.0%), does not appear to represent a major development in the Hilton Head area. St. Catherines pottery is found as a component of nine sites (24.3%), but again none of these sites appear to represent a major occupation. Savannah ware pottery is found at a single site (2.7%). Although previous surveys of surrounding islands have failed to reveal any strong Irene occupation, this survey identified Irene wares as a component of 13 sites (35.1%), several of which may prove to represent fairly intensive occupations. Previous work on the island has revealed 38BU63 to be a major Irene shell midden, while this work suggests similarly large sites may exist at 38BU329, 868, and 1166.

A single prehistoric midden, 38BU827, is characterized by a quartz hammerstone and a single flake of white coastal plain chert. Although no diagnostic materials were recovered from the site, which is situated south of Seabrook Landing on Skull Creek, the collected remains are similar to those recovered from the Stallings occupation at the Fish Haul site (38BU805). These are the only lithic specimens collected during the survey, although local collectors reported projectile points washing from the largely destroyed Pine Island site (38BU329). Lithic specimens have also been recovered from the Sea Pines (38BU7) and Ford's Skull Creek (38BU8) Shell Rings and several flakes have previously been collected from 38BU96. It will be noticed that the bulk of these remains are associated with Early Woodland Stallings or Thom's Creek sites and the recovered projectile points date from about 3000 to 1300 B.C.

Historic Middens

Twelve sites were identified from this survey which are best described as "historic middens." While some may be associated with larger, more complex sites situated further inland (such as a slave row), many appear to represent a mid-nineteenth century occupation and contain relatively few artifacts. Middens of this type are typically under a foot (0.3 meter) in thickness and are often circular in shape, perhaps 15 to 20 feet (4.6 to 6 meters) in diameter. Recovered artifacts may include "black" bottle glass, undecorated whiteware, and metal

Site	Stallings	Thom's Creek	Deptford	Mount Pleasant	Wilmington	St. Catherines	Savannah	Irene	Eroded/ UID
38BU62			1	1					1
38BU63			1	1		1		4	8
38BU96			1						2
38BU323			1		1	4			
38BU329			1		2			9	15
38BU814								1	
38BU817		6							
38BU824	1	3				1			1
38BU826				1					1
38BU828								1	2
38BU832					1				
38BU835			1		1				1
38BU836									
38BU840			7			3			
38BU842								2	2
38BU843			1			1			
38BU847									2
38BU848									1
38BU849					1				
38BU850									1
38BU852									1
38BU853		1	2						1
38BU854									4
38BU856			8		2				3
38BU857							2		2
38BU859			2			2			2
38BU862									3
38BU864									6
38BU865			1					1	
38BU868								13	
38BU870					2				
38BU875			3			1		1	11
38BU879								1	
38BU806			3	1	2				1
38BU892			2		1				
38BU1150			3		1	1		10	
38BU1166			2			1		7	9

Table 4. Hilton Head sites with prehistoric pottery.

scrap. These sites are most common along Skull Creek and are tentatively identified as Union military encampments or sentinel posts. The historic record is replete with references to such posts where a small number of soldiers would be stationed for a period of several weeks. During these episodes the soldiers spent much time engaged in leisure activities since there were few exchanges with the Confederate forces on the mainland. Some of the larger sites may also represent small postbellum freedmen sites and may be more archaeologically similar to Singleton's findings on Colonels Island, Georgia (Singleton 1985) than to the Mitchelville findings (Trinkley 1986).

Historic Cemeteries

The 1956 U.S.G.S. topographic maps for Hilton Head Island show the location of 12 cemeteries, all but two of which are associated with antebellum plantations and are still used by the local black population. The two exceptions are the "Government Cemetery," which was the Union burial ground during the Civil War and the Zion Chapel of Ease cemetery, often referred to as Baynard's Tomb after the most impressive crypt in the cemetery. This site has been recorded as 38BU91 and 38BU1158, and incorporates the cemetery, used by the island's planters prior to the Civil War, and the associated Chapel which was destroyed in 1868 (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:86). The burials in the Government Cemetery on Hilton Head were largely removed to the Beaufort National Cemetery, although Eldridge (1893:1005) notes that apparently not all were recovered. To further complicate matters there were a number of small cemeteries scattered across the island which contained small numbers of graves (National Archives, RG 92, Office of the Quartermaster General Consolidated Correspondence File, Box 402; National Archives, RG 217, Records of the Beaufort, S.C. Tax District, Tax Maps). It seems unlikely that all of these graves were located, since most cemeteries lacked fencing and contained only wooden headboards.

The remaining 10 cemeteries on the island, shown by the 1956 topographic maps, are not shown by the 1945 topographic maps and only three are shown on the 1937 General Highway and Transportation Map of Beaufort County. While these cemeteries are still actively used by the island's black population, Orion Hack (personal communication 1986) indicates that most were not "found" by the land developers until surveys were made in the 1940s and 1950s, which may account for their late appearance on the topographic maps.

Of the 10 black cemeteries shown on the topographic maps, nine have been located in the field (seven have been recorded) and one (the Opossum Point Cemetery on Wexford Plantation) could not be found and has possibly been destroyed by

development (see Table 5). In addition, this survey revealed two additional black cemeteries not shown on current topographic maps. One (38BU881) is associated with Otter Hole Plantation and the other (38BU860) possibly with Spanish Wells Plantation.

Cemetery	Site #	Comments
Braddocks Point	38BU47	originally studied by Combes
Drayton		intact, north of 38BU806
Elliott	38BU812	
Honey Horn	38BU870	associated with clapboard church
Jenkins Island	38BU141	
Lawton	38BU898	
Opossum Point		could not be located, possibly destroyed
Otter Hole	38BU881	
Pope		not recorded by this survey, but intact
Spanish Wells	38BU860	
Stoney	38BU841	
Talbot	38BU35	originally studied by Combes

Table 5. Historic black cemeteries on Hilton Head Island.

The earliest work on these cemeteries was conducted by Combes (1972) and his photographs are on file at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. This work emphasized the association of grave goods with the burial, in addition to the varied grave marking practices. More recent discussions include those by Fenn (1985), Thompson (1983), and Vlach (1978). These studies describe the black practice of placing items on the graves and attribute the practice to African beliefs. Significantly, most of the grave decorations noted by Combes in 1972 from the Braddocks Point and Talbot cemeteries can no longer be found and it appears that the black traditions are not beginning to break down, but the encroaching development has given rise to the removal of grave offerings by the curious and by collectors.

Historic Plantations

The previous historic research suggested that there were at least 20 antebellum plantations on the island and these loci

were targeted for identification by the survey (Figure 6; Table 6). Of the 20 known sites, 11 were within the survey corridor (Cotton Hope, Devant, Fairfield, Honey Horn, Jenkins Island, Myrtle Bank, Otter Hole, Seabrook, Shipyard, Spanish Wells and Wills). Of the 11 within the corridor, several had been previously recorded (such as Cotton Hope and Seabrook), but had not been recognized as plantations. One, Spanish Wells, had been the subject of brief testing, but its location had essentially been lost. As a result of this project, 14 of the 20 historically documented antebellum plantations on Hilton Head have been recorded and accurately located. The remaining six plantations are thought to have been completely destroyed by development activity (Table 6).

Plantation Name	Site #	Comments
Braddock's Point (Baynard)	38BU58/1161	
Chaplin	-	site probably destroyed
Cherry Hill	-	site probably destroyed
Coggins Point (Pope)	38BU1155	site completely destroyed
Cotton Hope	38BU96	
Devant (Gardner)	38BU873/1157	
Fairfield	38BU1166	
Fish Hall (Drayton)	38BU806/1149	
Folly Field	-	site probably destroyed
Grass Lawn	-	site probably destroyed
Honey Horn	38BU1165	
Jenkins Island	38BU871	
Lawton	38BU1162	
Leamington	-	site probably destroyed
Myrtle Bank (Elliott)	38BU1150	
Otter Hole	38BU880	
Seabrook	38BU323/337/1149	
Shipyard	38BU886	
Spanish Wells	38BU59/869/1163	
Wills	38BU890	

Table 6. Antebellum plantation sites on Hilton Head Island.

The condition and integrity of the remaining 14 plantations varies greatly, but most are intact, well preserved, and capable of providing significant information. Fairly large collections have been recovered from a number of the Skull Creek plantations because of extensive erosion, while

only limited collections are available for many of the others. Archival research has revealed that while most antebellum plats have been destroyed, there are a number of military tax maps which provide information on plantation layout and the location of various structures. Some plantations, such as Drayton's Fish Hall, had been extensively photographed during the 1860s. These photographs are available from the Still Pictures Branch of the National Archives, the U.S. Army Military History Institute, and The Western Reserve Historical Society.

In addition to the antebellum plantations, it is likely that at least two colonial plantations have been recorded on the island. One is the Talbot or Tailbird Plantation perhaps evidenced by site 38BU24 and 38BU62, both of which have produced colonial wares. The second may be represented by the tabby structure recorded as 38BU90. At the present time, however, the island's colonial history is not well represented by the archaeological collections.

Current Conditions

Prior to conducting this survey, it is probable that many archaeologists had written Hilton Head Island off as having been too developed to allow site preservation. To support that supposition, of course, is the fact that over 70% of the island's acreage had been developed by 1976 and that marsh lots were selling for $70,000 (Mathews et al. 1980:155). In spite of the tremendous development pressure felt on the island, this survey clearly documents that significant archaeological resources are still present. These archaeological resources face both natural and man-made forces which tend to damage or destroy their usefulness for controlled, scientific study.

Of all the natural causes of damage to archaeological sites, only one is of serious concern on the island today--erosion. While considerable attention has been directed to the erosion of beach front property (and indeed some archaeological sites, such as 38BU805, have been affected by this erosion), the most significant erosion of archaeological sites is actually taking place along Skull Creek. In this area, the erosion is being promoted by the continued operation and maintenance of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway by the Army Corps of Engineers. The erosion is directly attributable to propeller wash and in several cases the extent of this erosion is severe. Immediate action is needed to either salvage the significant archaeological sites or to moderate the erosive action of the waterway.

Of the various man-made or man-induced causes of damage to the island's archaeological resources, two are of particular concern and probably account for the greatest amount of destruction. The first, and most obvious, is development.

Previous development has destroyed entire plantation complexes (such as Leamington and Folly Field) and prehistoric middens (such as 38BU24 and 38BU61). Current development is threatening to destroy many of the sites recorded during this study. For example, of the 14 extant, recorded plantations, Cotton Hope, Fairfield, Fish Hall, Honey Horn, Seabrook, Shipyard, and Wills may face development in the near future and only portions of Baynard, Lawton, Myrtle Bank, and Spanish Wells still exist. It is uncommon for developers, regardless of the potential profits, to be concerned about the historical or cultural significance of sites within the development. Sites are also destroyed by other activities, such as highway construction. The most notable examples are the numbers of sites destroyed by the widening of U.S. 278 on Hilton Head Island. Through the use of state monies all federal environmental requirements, including those mandating archaeological studies, were avoided. The resultant loss of the island's cultural heritage is incalculable.

A second source of considerable site destruction is site vandalism, "pot hunting," or treasure hunting. There are a number of Civil War sites on the island which are being systematically "ruined" by individuals who use sophisticated metal detectors. These individuals effectively destroy the site, making it useless for any legitimate scientific study. These relic collectors destroy the cultural heritage which should belong to all people in their search for items which either can be displayed or which can be sold for a profit. A number of the large, more obvious military sites are common targets, although it is apparent that even small encampments such as 38BU808 are attractive to these individuals.

Site Locations

One goal of this study was to examine the possible influence of different soil types, specifically drainage, on aboriginal and historical settlement choices. Of the 134 sites currently recorded for the island, soil information is available for 131; see Tables 2 (page 47) and 3 (page 48) provide site specific information. All of the sites are found on 10 soil series and 98 sites (74.8%) are found on two soils: the well drained Seabrook and Wando series. Another 14 sites (10.7%) are found on the less well drained Seewee soils. Viewed entirely from the perspective of drainage 77.9% of the sites (N = 102) are found on excessively to well drained soils, 17.5% (N = 23) are found on somewhat poorly drained soils, and six sites or 4.6% are found on poorly to very poorly soils.

The six sites found on poorly drained soil include two historic sites, three prehistoric sites, and one which contained no diagnostic remains. The prehistoric sites include the Sea Pines Shell Ring, and two shell middens. The position

of these sites on relatively poorly drained soils may be explained by the rise in sea level which is expected to have flooded some sites (in fact, most shell rings are on poorly drained soils and some are found in the marshes). The historic sites include a shell midden which appears to represent a small, temporary military sentry post and Fort Walker. It is probable that both locations were chosen for reasons other than the comfort provided by well drained soils. In the case of Fort Walker the post incorporates a number of acres and there is considerable variability in soil drainage.

The Hilton Head data suggest that both historic and prehistoric sites will be found on the better drained soils, at least adjacent to the island's drainages. Additional work is necessary to determine if interior sites will also be largely confined to the better drained soils, although based on work conducted elsewhere on the coast this is a reasonable expectation. Two additional determinants of site location were also briefly examined by the study: the proximity of major plantation settlements to deep water and the landform location of prehistoric marsh edge shell middens.

Recent research in mainland Charleston County has suggested that while antebellum plantation access to deep water was important in transportation (primarily of plantation crops, stock, and other goods), there might be no need to locate the settlement at the landing and, in fact, other considerations, such as healthfulness, access to road transportation, a central location, or avoidance of floods, might be more important (Trinkley 1987:89). Of the 13 plantation settlements recorded on the island (disregarding Shipyard for which only a slave row is recorded), eight (62%) have the classic "high ground and deep water" location where the settlement is on a high bluff edge overlooking deep water. Five plantations, however, exhibit different solutions. Myrtle Bank and Fish Hall were located to take advantage of the cool Port Royal Sound breeze, but the beach and associated shallow waters were not conducive to the establishment of a landing. It is likely that nearby creeks (Elliott and Fish Haul Creeks) served to provide a landing on the plantation property. The Devant Plantation was situated on high ground, but was separated from the deep water by 1500 feet (460 meters) of marsh. Apparently, the plantation used Bram Landing, about 0.5 mile (0.8 kilometer) to the southwest. Why the plantation settlement did not grow up at the landing is not known. Honey Horn is located in an interior section of the island, adjacent to the headwaters of Jarvis Creek. While there is an absence of both "high ground" and "deep water," it appears that Jarvis Creek could have been used at high tide. The Baynard Plantation is situated in an area with no adjacent deep water creeks and, at present, there is no information on areas which might have been used as the plantation landing. The Hilton Head data support the

Charleston findings that the antebellum plantation owner's desire for deep water access was tempered by other considerations.

The influence of land form on prehistoric midden locations, based on the Hilton Head survey, is locally variable. Along Skull Creek, where there is little intervening marsh and the bank edges are defined, prehistoric middens are abundant and nearly continuous. Elsewhere, middens are more scattered, although there continued to be a preference for locations where high ground abruptly meets the marsh, forming a distinct bank. No prehistoric sites were found in areas where there is a gradual transition from low or high marsh to forested ground. Of particular interest was a 2 mile (3.2 kilometer) stretch of bank beginning at Opossum Point landing and continuing southwestward to Point Comfort. Along this shore the high ground, less than 10 feet (3 meters) MSL in elevation, is separated from Broad Creek by up to 2000 feet (615 meters) of open tidal marsh. The topography in this area includes a number of small (about 0.5 acres [0.2 hectare]) points or peninsulas which are bordered on three sides by the marsh. These points, almost without exception, exhibited evidence of prehistoric shell middens, while the intervening areas of straight or incurvate shore failed to exhibit shell midden deposits. Why these points were favored locations is unknown, but the "model" appears valid and worthy of further investigation.

SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section of the report, in conjunction with the previous discussions, fulfills the goals of the Hilton Head Island survey to identify and access the archaeological resources of the Skull, Jarvis, Old Town, and Broad creek drainages, at a reconnaissance level. The 134 archaeological sites recorded on the island are briefly listed in Tables 2 (page 47) and 3 (page 48). Included with those descriptions is a category termed "status," which deals with the site's eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. A three tiered division was used, including not eligible, possibly eligible, and eligible. The category "not eligible" includes those sites which are definitely not eligible. The category "possibly eligible" includes those which are possibly eligible, but for which there is presently insufficient documentation. Possibly eligible means that a site's eligibility cannot be ruled out due to insufficient information. Finally, the category "eligible" includes both sites which are probably eligible, but which require further documentation and those sites for which there is currently sufficient documentation to demonstrate eligibility.

I have previously noted that identified sites would be assessed in terms of Glassow's (1977) five archaeological properties: site integrity, site clarity, artifactual variety, artifactual quantity, and site environmental context. Integrity refers to the degree of preservation or potential to identify in situ remains. Integrity relates to the site's condition and the likelihood that midden and features will be recovered. Clarity indicates how well strata or subsurface features may be distinguished. Variety refers to the quantitative variability in the archaeological remains found at a site. Quantity refers to the frequency or density of the artifacts and/or features. While this is the easiest to quantify, it is the most difficult to interpret since the quantity of artifacts is closely tied to site function, temporal period, site exposure, and survey technique. Finally, environmental context is useful when sites are found in a variety of ecological zones. Even in this reconnaissance survey, several different environmental or ecological microzones were recognized.

Also considered in the determination of site significance were preliminary indications of archival resources in the cases of historic sites. Because of the extensive development taking place on the island redundancy of data was not considered to be significant concern. More significant was that an undetermined number of sites on the island have already been destroyed and those that remain are vested with even greater significance. In addition, Hilton Head's antebellum and postbellum sites achieve even greater significance because of the island's role during the Civil War. John Rahenkamp and Associates clearly note that "little attention has been given . . . to the history of the Black people brought to this area as slaves, and to their descendants who populated, and continue to reside on, the modern Hilton Head Island" (John Rahenkamp and Associates 1986:np). The significance of the Civil War to Hilton Head's population is discussed by Trinkley (1986).

The determinations of significance offered by this study also clearly depart from those offered by other archaeologists who have worked on the island. I have previously mentioned that I do not consider redundancy of data to be a serious concern because so many sites have been destroyed and we have no way to know what has been lost. In other words, faced with a thorough survey of the entire island prior to development, it might be that some site types, perhaps Middle Woodland shell middens, would be so common that studying a sample would provide adequate understanding of that aspect of the subsistence and settlement system. But now, with over 70% of the island developed, we can no longer accept the principle of redundancy so easily. Each site becomes more significant since we do not know how many similar sites have been destroyed. Further, unlike endangered biological resources, archaeological sites are not renewable. The total population of archaeological resources will never increase, only decrease.

Of the 134 archaeological sites on Hilton Head Island, three are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At least 27 sites (21.6%) are considered to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, while nine (6.7%) are clearly ineligible because of the extent of damage they have received from development or erosion. That leaves 95 sites (69.4%) in the "possibly eligible" category, awaiting further examination and study. Some, in addition, require further archival research and, at some sites, considerable research may be needed.

Most of the plantation sites, although not all, are assessed as eligible, based on the size of the sites, the quantity of materials, the expectation that considerable subsurface remains will be found, and the realization that these are complex sites which are an extremely significant aspect of the island's archaeological and historical heritage. Each of the 14

plantations should be thoroughly examined and documented, in preparation for nomination to the National Register. Each site is anticipated to require at least eight days of archival research by a professional historian or archaeologist familiar with the area. In addition, each site will require at least a week of field investigation by a crew of two and some, such as Seabrook (38BU323/1149), may require two weeks of testing because of their size and expected complexity. At the conclusion of this work each site will require at least two weeks for the processing and conservation of specimens, analysis, and the preparation of a brief, descriptive report. This work will serve to document the site's significance and allow a clear assessment of the need for further work.

The plantation cemeteries on Hilton Head Island are a significant anthropological resource and they represent a significant aspect of black heritage on the island. While cemeteries are not generally considered eligible for the National Register, when they "will produce important information not available elsewhere, they may be eligible" (Keel 1985:215). Rathbun details the position in more depth, noting that,

> cemetery data are extremely important above and beyond the usual categories associated with distinctive persons, design features, and association with historic events. This narrow definition of historic importance fails to recognize that human remains provide data of considerable historic importance. Not only are many segments of the population omitted from typical historical sources, but the skeletal remains provide empirical evidence directly relevant to broad historical issues in health, nutrition and social customs. The biological history of our nation has received insufficient attention . . . . Even if some of the information inferred from bioarchaeological analysis is available from other sources, validity and accuracy of other records can be evaluated through comparison with the physical evidence (Rathbun 1985:208).

This is not to imply that the cemeteries should be excavated, although if any are ever required to be moved, a bioarchaeological study should be conducted. Rather, these sites should be completely mapped to show the number of known graves, the number of suspected graves (or unmarked depressions), the markers should be recorded and photographed, and grave offerings should be recorded. This work, at each cemetery, would require from 2 to 5 days using a crew of four archaeologists. This work is urgently needed since development

is encroaching on these sites and they are being unavoidably altered. Once recorded, these cemeteries should be more aggressively protected by the Town of Hilton Head, since they are not only significant archaeological sites, but also represent burials and stones protected by state law.

The bulk of the small shell middens (historic, prehistoric, mixed or indeterminant) all require the same treatment. Each site will require up to two days of archaeological testing by a crew of two to determine site boundaries, content, and integrity. Afterwards, at least one day per site should be allowed for processing of the collections and completion of site form addendums. While in many cases the site tests may require only a day to complete, the site's location will require several hours of pedestrian travel.

Finally, if the archaeological resources of the island are to be preserved then not only must the South Carolina Coastal Council permitting process consistently and thoroughly consider cultural resources, but the Town should advance a strong cultural resource protection section in its own Land Management Ordinance.

APPENDIX 1. ELIGIBLE AND NOT ELIGIBLE SITES

38BU35, Talbert Cemetery, is a nineteenth and twentieth century black cemetery which may date from the antebellum period. It is situated just north of the Skull Creek Marina and, although seemingly unkempt, is still used by local blacks. The site was first examined by John Combes in 1972 and a number of grave goods were photographed; this investigation revealed a few still in existence. The site is estimated to contain about 1.8 acres (0.7 hectare). The site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this site is considered eligible for the National Register as an archaeological resource.

38BU47, Braddocks Point Cemetery, is a probable nineteenth and twentieth century black cemetery which may date from the antebellum period. It is situated east of Braddock's Point Harbour and southwest of an adjacent golf course. The site was first examined by John Combes in 1972. At that time Combes remarked that grave goods were being stolen and that the cemetery should be protected. The site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this site is considered eligible.

38BU58/1161, Baynard Plantation, is an eighteenth and nineteenth century plantation complex, encompassing about 2 acres (0.8 hectare), situated in a residential area on the southwest end of the island. The site includes the partially standing tabby walls of the main house and adjacent tabby slave row foundations contained within a green area. The site was briefly tested by Calmes in the late 1960s, although no notes have been found. The presence of intact architectural remains coupled with known archaeological remains (anticipated to have integrity because no development has taken place in the area) suggest that this site could make a major contribution to our understanding of antebellum plantation activity on the island; the site is considered eligible.

38BU59/869/1163, Spanish Wells Plantation, is a nineteenth century plantation complex which has been partially impacted by the gradual spread of a subdivision by the same name. Portions of the plantation and a Civil War fortification, however, are still found intact in the woods north of the development and are believed to cover an area of about 2.3 acres (0.9 hectare). The site was tested by Calmes in the late 1960s and while the artifacts have been cataloged, no notes have been located. The site area is currently in woods largely undisturbed, and shell midden piles probably associated with a slave row have been identified. Site integrity is anticipated to be high; the site is considered eligible.

38BU61, Swimming Pool Site, was originally reported by Hemmings and Ryan in 1971 when it was uncovered during the construction of a swimming pool at a lot on Sea Pines Plantation. Subsurface shell pits were observed, several up to the 3 feet [0.9 meter] in depth. No excavation was conducted and only a single "complicated stamped" sherd was collected. According to the site form on file at SCIAA this site was destroyed by the construction; it is, therefore, considered not eligible.

38BU64, Jenkins Island Shell Pit, was subjected to test excavations by Calmes in the late 1960s and a report is available. The site is represented by an extensive shell midden on a sand rise bisected by a secondary road on Jenkins Island. The site size is estimated to be about 0.9 acre (0.4 hectare) based on the observed surface distribution of the shell. Material recovered from the site by Calmes suggests a Middle Woodland affiliation and a single radiocarbon date from charcoal yielded a date of A.D. 580±100 on "Wilmington" pottery (I-2851). Based on the presence of features and an apparently high degree of site integrity, it is recommended that this site is eligible (see Calmes 1967a for additional information).

38BU90, Tabby Structure, is situated at the north end of the island in a pasture east of Skull Creek. The site consists of a standing tabby structure measuring about 30 feet (9 meters) square with door and window openings. The structural remains are well preserved and appear to be stable. Because of heavy ground cover no associated archaeological remains were identified, although they are expected to be present and site size has nominally been defined as about 160 feet (50 meters) in diameter or about 0.5 acre (0.2 hectare). It seems likely that this site represents the remains of the early antebellum Skull Creek Plantation of Thomas Henry Barksdale and was later the main house for William Pope, Jr.'s Cotton Hope Plantation (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:88; Peeples 1970:9). Because the structural remains are well preserved and the area does not appear to have been subjected to ground disturbing activities, this site is judged to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU91/1158, Baynard's Cemetery, is also known as "Baynard's Tomb" or the Zion Chapel of Ease Cemetery. It is located in a wooded area at the intersection of U.S. 278 and S-245, and covers about 0.5 acre (0.2 hectare). This Episcopal Chapel of Ease was built in 1786, consecrated in 1833, and was destroyed in 1868 (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:86). Although the exact location of the church is not known, the cemetery is well cared for and contains the burials of a number of Hilton Head's prestigious planters. The stones, which are in good to fair condition, represent a significant source of demographic and community data. The skeletal population represents the wealthy elite on the island and has considerable time depth. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this site is considered eligible for the National Register.

38BU96, Cotton Hope Plantation, is situated in a large clearing adjacent to Skull Creek and is evidenced by a dense scatter of shells and artifacts over an area of 13 acres (5.2 hectares). The plantation, originally built by Thomas Henry Barksdale about 1815, was purchased by William Pope, Jr. after 1832. Pope retained the plantation, with its two-story clapboard mainhouse on tabby foundations (38BU90), until the Civil War. The structure was used as a black school after the war (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:88). This site represents an intact, significant nineteenth century plantation complex with a dense artifact scatter. This site is recommended as eligible for the National Register.

38BU141, Jenkins Island Cemetery, is a nineteenth and twentieth century black cemetery which may date from the antebellum period based on local accounts. It is situated on the northeast shore of Jenkins Island and is still being used by the local black population today. The cemetery appears to encompass about 1.2 acres (0.5 hectare). No grave goods were encountered during this brief examination, but portions of the cemetery are very overgrown. This site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this site is recommended eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU323/1149, Seabrook Plantation, was purchased by William Seabrook of Edisto Island in 1832 (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:84). At that time it may have contained an earlier slave row, but most of the plantation complex post-dates 1832. The site is on Skull Creek and is estimated, based primarily on excellent documentary sources, to have covered about 30 acres (12 hectares). During the Civil War the main

house was used as an army post, troops were stationed on the plantation, and a major dry dock facility was constructed at the landing. The Seabrook slave row continued to be occupied throughout the war and in the later years of the conflict, school was taught at the Seabrook house. Seabrook Landing continued to be the major landing for the island into the twentieth century. Because of the variety of activities which took place at this plantation, its fairly complete historical record, and its undeveloped status (with associated high degree of site integrity), this site is recommended to be eligible for the National Register.

38BU326, Tabby Structure, is situated on Bobb Island and consists of portions of tabby architectural remains eroding into Skull Creek. Also at the site is a scatter of bricks. Although little is currently known about the site, the presence of tabby foundations is suggestive of a significant eighteenth or early nineteenth century plantation development. This site is recommended eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU329, Pine Island, is situated at the northeast end of the island and is being actively eroded by Port Royal Sound. The "site" consists of prehistoric pottery and lithic specimens which have eroded onto the beach and which periodically are uncovered. Specimens are usually heavily eroded. Observed items include Deptford and possible Early Woodland ceramics. While the original site size is not known, materials are today gathered from 200 linear feet (600 meters) along the beach. The site is heavily eroded and has probably been completely destroyed (no evidence of the site could be found above the mean high tide mark. As a consequence this site is not eligible for the National Register.

38BU790, is a probable early twentieth century house site evidenced by a scatter of domestic refuse and brick rubble about 0.2 acre (0.1 hectare) in size. The site is situated on Elliott Point west of Elliott Creek at the north end of the island. The excavation of two 3-foot (0.9 meter) squares led Lepionka (1986) to evaluate this site as "thoroughly disturbed" and hence, not eligible.

38BU801, Dike, consists of an earth dike situated at the eastern edge of Elliott Point, probably as part of nineteenth century cotton agriculture practices on the island. The dike measured about 650 feet (200 meters) in length and was about two feet higher than the surrounding ground level. Identified by Lepionka (1986), this feature was evaluated as not eligible because it is a "simple and common earthwork form." Apparently, the feature has been destroyed by construction activity.

38BU805, Fish Haul, is a multicomponent site representing a series of Late Archaic or Early Woodland Stallings middens (also identified are several Thom's Creek and Deptford occupations) and the remnants of the nineteenth century freedmen's village of Mitchelville (Trinkley 1986). The site, which is located at the north end of the island, is estimated to cover about 50 acres. Archaeological studies at the site have revealed that both the prehistoric and historic components exhibit excellent integrity, and considerable artifactual quantity and quality. The Stallings component is significant for the information it contains concerning seasonality and subsistence. Mitchelville is significant on a national level for its importance as an example of black self-government and the "Port Royal Experiment." The site is recommended as eligible for the National Register (the SHPO has concurred).

38BU806/1152, Fish Hall Plantation, is a plantation complex which consists of the main house, an associated black cemetery, and a slave row with visible tabby chimney ruins. The site is situated on the north end of the island and covers an area of about 20 acres (8 hectares). The area is largely undeveloped and the complex occurs in a wooded area, a pasture, and in property owned by Beaufort County. The site has recently been marked by a South Carolina State Historical Marker. Fish Hall, although generally representative of the large, wealthy antebellum plantations, is somewhat distinct since it did not participate in the cotton monoculture of the island. After the island fell in 1861 the plantation was farmed by a black collective and was the location of a freedmen's school. The plantation is considered eligible for the National Register.

38BU812, Elliott Cemetery, is a nineteenth and twentieth century black cemetery which may date from the antebellum period. It is situated east of Elliott Creek at the north end of Hilton Head Island and is still used by local blacks. During this brief reconnaissance grave goods were observed. The cemetery incorporates about 1.6 acres (0.6 hectare) of heavily overgrown live oak and palmetto forest. There were at least 30 gravestones observed during the survey. The site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this site is considered eligible for the National Register.

38BU826, is a sparse Early Woodland shell scatter bisected by a recently constructed development road at Hilton Head Plantation on the north end of the island. The site was scattered over an area of about 0.1 acre and was originally situated on a sand ridge just inland from a tidal marsh. The site has been impacted by cultivation and more recently (and with greater damage) by road construction. Artifact density and site

integrity are low. This site does not appear to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU832, is an extensive shell midden previously eroding from the bank into the Skull Creek marsh, but now protected by a bulkhead. The site is situated east of Talbert Cemetery and covers about 0.4 acre (0.2 hectare). Although only a single Middle Woodland ceramic was recovered, the site evidences abundant shell and is in a wooded area, so site integrity is expected to be high. This site is recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU841, Stoney Cemetery, consists of two black cemetery clusters containing at least 50 graves from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The site, which encompasses about 0.7 acre (0.3 hectare), is still being used and is situated adjacent to Skull Creek in the Hickory Bluff area of the island. The site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this cemetery is considered eligible for the National Register as an archaeological site.

38BU860, is a nineteenth and twentieth century black cemetery which may date from the antebellum period. It is situated on Old House Creek and contains about 100 marked graves. The cemetery is fenced and encompasses about 1.5 acres (0.6 hectare). The cemetery was located on an artificial rise created by a probable aboriginal shell midden. This cemetery evidenced no grave goods except for plates placed into concrete gravestones. There are apparently many unmarked graves, a human metatarsal was found on the surface of a freshly dug grave. The site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this cemetery is considered eligible for the National Register as an archaeological site.

38BU864, is a shell midden at the top of Bram's Point. This spit of land has been subjected to heavy erosion and the site appears to have been redeposited on the beach. Shells and a small quantity of heavily worn pottery were recovered from 600 feet (185 meters) of beach. The bluff was examined and no remnant pockets of shell could be found. Because of this extensive erosion and lack of site integrity this midden does not appear to be eligible for the National Register.

38BU870, Honey Horn Church and Cemetery, is situated at the headwaters of Jarvis Creek on Honey Horn Plantation. The site includes an early twentieth century black church (or "praise

house") and an associated black cemetery, both of which are surrounded by a relatively recent chain link fence. The site area is estimated to encompass about 0.4 acre (0.2 hectare). The structure is in good condition and is constructed of horizontal clapboards painted white and is on brick piers. Two stones are present, in addition to additional sunken, unmarked graves. This structure is unique on the island, based on this survey, and its association with the cemetery increases its significance. The cemetery contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this site is considered eligible to the National Register for the archaeological data it contains.

38BU876, consists of a small remnant shell midden held in the bank of Broad Creek by the roots of a palmetto tree. The remainder of the midden has completely eroded away and very little shell is present on the beach. No specimens were identified during this study. Based on the lack of site integrity and the absence of artifacts, this site does not appear eligible for the National Register.

38BU879, consists of a thin shell midden found in a bank on the north shore of Broad Creek. Shell is found scattered along the beach for about 100 feet (30 meters) and a small quantity of nineteenth century ceramics and a single Irene Complicated Stamped sherd were recovered from the erosional remnants. The site has been extensively eroded and it is unlikely that it continues to possess significant integrity. The site does not appear eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU880, Otter Hole Plantation, is situated in an old field on the north shore of Broad Creek. Although surface visibility was poor at the time of the survey, the plantation complex is believed to be contained in a 5.0 acre (2.0 hectare) tract. A small collection of early nineteenth century glass and ceramics were recovered from the site, although most of the area is in either heavy grass or a mixed pine-hardwood forest. The site represents a major antebellum plantation and is situated in an area which has been subjected to little disturbance. Site integrity is anticipated to be high and the site is therefore recommended as eligible to the National Register.

38BU881, Otter Hold Cemetery, is a nineteenth and twentieth century black cemetery with at least 30 markers, most handmade of concrete. The cemetery, which is located on the north shore of Broad Creek is still being used by the local blacks and contains about 1.1 acres (0.4 hectare). The site is in an area of live oak and palmetto forest with a moderate groundcover. The cemetery contains the skeletal population of black

individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this cemetery is considered eligible for the National Register as an archaeological resource.

38BU886, is an extensive shell midden, or series of middens, found along 700 feet (215 meters) of the Broad Creek shore in Long Cove development on the island. The shell midden represents both an Early and Middle Woodland aboriginal camp and a probable slave site. The site has been exposed by minor erosion along the bank edge and by lot clearing in preparation for development. A slave row in this location has been documented by nineteenth century cartographic sources and it is likely that the site consists of a series of loci over an area of about 3 acres (1.2 hectares). This site is recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU887, consists of a series of shell middens in Long Cove development which have been considered one site in this study. These thin shell scatters are found over 2.5 acres (1 hectare). The area, however, has been extensively disturbed by golf course development, construction of roads, and house lot grading. No artifacts were observed and no intact shell zones were encountered. This site does not appear to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU890, Wills Plantation, is a large site, estimated to encompass about 3.5 acres (1.4 hectares) on Broad Creek just east of Palmetto Bay Marina. Above ground remains include at least two chimney footings (one tabby, one brick), a probable well or privy depression, and a series of middens along a small slough. These remains represent the remaining half of the Wills Plantation and may include the slave row. The site is in an area of hardwoods which has not been developed; site integrity appears high. The site is recommended eligible for the National Register.

38BU898, Lawton Cemetery, is a nineteenth and early twentieth century black cemetery which may date from the antebellum period. It is located in Sea Pines Plantation on a tributary of Lawton Creek and is on a lot in a residential neighborhood. The cemetery is estimated to incorporate about 0.3 acre (0.1 hectare) although this size and the boundaries appear artificial. The area is grown up and there is no evidence of continued use by local blacks. The site contains the skeletal population of black individuals with considerable time depth and probable kinship affiliation. The information which could be obtained through bio-archaeological and osteological studies can be obtained from no other source; this cemetery is considered eligible for the National Register as an archaeological site.

38BU1150, Myrtle Bank Plantation, is situated at the north end of the island in modern day Hilton Head Plantation. Myrtle Bank Plantation was brought into the Elliott family through the 1787 marriage of William Elliott to Phebe Waight, who inherited the operating plantation from her father (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:84). Today the plantation has been damaged by severe erosion (the ruins of the main house are about 200 feet offshore and visible only at low tide) and the continuing development of Dolphin Head. In spite of these problems, abundant archaeological remains were found contained within a 4 acre (1.6 hectare) area. Much of the remaining site is found within the Dolphin Head Park complex. Included at this site are several intact prehistoric (Middle Woodland) middens. Both the prehistoric and historic components of this site are recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

38BU1162, Lawton Plantation, is situated on Lawton Creek in the modern day Sea Pines Plantation. The Lawton's Calibogia Plantation was apparently constructed about 1836 by the Reverend Joseph Alexander Lawton. The site is observed as a scatter of shells along the bank edge of the creek. The area is characterized by life oak and palmetto vegetation, much of which has been cleared for development. The several lots not yet developed seem to represent the site core, although it is unlikely that the total plantation complex is represented by this 0.7 acre (0.3 hectare) remnant tract. In spite of the surrounding development, at least a part of this antebellum plantation is still intact and capable of producing significant archaeological data. The site is recommended as eligible for the National Register.

38BU1166, Fairfield Plantation, is also known as "Stoney Plantation" and is situated in the Hickory Bluff area of the island on Skull Creek. The site is observed eroding from the bank and inland the site is largely in subsistence cultivation, old field, or second growth forest. Tabby foundations for the main house have been reported, but were not identified during this reconnaissance. The site represents a major nineteenth century plantation which, despite erosion, is considered intact with high site integrity. The site, which encompasses about 15 acres (6 hectares), is considered eligible for the National Register.

38BU1167, Fort Mitchell, is an earthen fortification erected by the Union forces in 1862 on Skull Creek (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:88). The site has been incorporated into a green space and boardwalks have been constructed to reduce erosion from site-seers. Historical documentation indicates that there was a major campground to the east of this fortification; portions have been destroyed by development, although some areas appear intact. The remaining site area

measures about 2.5 acres (1 hectare). The fortification is in good condition and represents a significant military site on the island; it is recommended as eligible for the National Register.

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