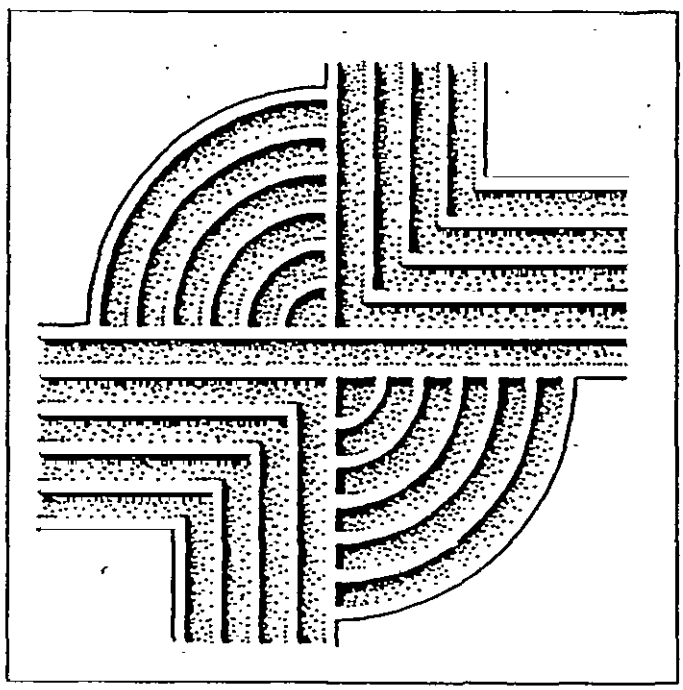
# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE SANTEE COOPER LUGOFF-ALLIED SIGNAL TRANSMISSION LINE, KERSHAW COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



## RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 65

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Chicora Research Contribution 65

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May 16, 1991

## Introduction

This investigation was conducted by Ms. Natalie Adams of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Fredrick E. Sanford of Santee-Cooper. The 50 and 70 feet wide 5.5 mile long corridor is located near Camden in Kershaw County. The corridor follows the Seaboard Rail Line for approximately 1.5 miles and the remainder of the corridor follows an existing transmission line on the west side of the Wateree River. It begins at the Allied Signal substation and parallels the Seaboard Railway to the north. It crosses the Wateree River, then follows the river about 1000 feet from its western shore for approximately 4 miles. The corridor ends where the transmission line from the Lugoff substation feeds in from the west (Figure 1).

The corridor is made up of recently cleared and grubbed mixed pine/hardwood with a thick understory of vegetation, alternating with agricultural fields and grazing land. Twenty Five Mile creek bisects the corridor as well as several small intermittent streams.

The corridor is intended to be used as a power line right of way. Some landscape alteration has already occurred through clearing and grubbing of the wooded areas. This has caused considerable damage to the ground surface. Planned improvements consist of the placement of triple wooden power line poles through the corridor at variable distances. Each pole will require an excavation of about 2 feet in diameter.

The proposed project was reviewed by the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and an intensive archaeological survey was recommended. Chicora was requested to submit a budgetary proposal for such a survey by Mr. Fredrick E. Sanford of Santee-Cooper. A proposal was submitted on May 1, 1991 and the work was approved on May 3, 1991.

This study is intended to provide a detailed explanation of the archaeological survey of the Santee-Cooper powerline corridor and the findings. The project included one person day of historical research at the South Caroliniana and Thomas Cooper libraries. In addition, the statewide archaeological site files held by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology were examined for information pertinent to the project area. The field investigations were conducted May 6 through May 8, 1991 by Ms. Mona Grunden and Ms. Natalie Adams. This field work involved 48 person hours. Laboratory and report production were conducted at Chicora's laboratories in Columbia, South Carolina on May 9 and 10, 1991.


Figure 1. Vicinity of the survey corridor west of Camden, South Carolina.

Effective Environment

Kershaw County is bounded to the north by Lancaster County, to the east by Chesterfield and Darlington Counties, to the south by Sumter and Lee Counties, and to the west by Fairfield and Richland Counties.

The county contains three physiographic regions: the Piedmont, the Sandhills and the Coastal Plain. The Coastal Plain extends in from the Atlantic Ocean for about 150 miles to the Fall Line, a term used to identify the transition zone between the soft sediments of the Coastal Plain and the igneous and metamorphic rocks of the Piedmont. The sandhills region is characterized by gently rolling hills formed by their having once been the Atlantic coastline (Robertson 1974:29). The Piedmont gradually slopes eastward, dropping in elevation about 10 feet per mile and is characterized by gently rolling hills (Johnson 1951). In the vicinity of the Fall Line, dividing the Piedmont and Coastal Plain, major physiographic and geologic subdivisions occur which likely influenced human occupation. On major drainages, such as the Wateree, the occurrence of rapids could interfere with water travel and the location of early historic occupation on the Fall Line reflects this concern (Jones 1971; Mills 1826:157). The Fall Line also strongly influenced prehistoric occupation since its location between two major ecotones could allow exploitation of a greater diversity of materials (Goodyear and Anderson n.d.:8).

The Wateree River drains the western portion of the county, and Lynches and Little Lynches Rivers, tributaries of the Pee Dee River, drain the eastern portion. Numerous smaller streams (such as Twenty Five Mile Creek) are found throughout the county. The vegetation consists of pine or mixed hardwoods and pine. Within the Piedmont, forest populations currently consist of large percentages of loblolly and short leaf pines, although during the prehistoric period it appears to have been characterized by mixed pine/hardwoods. In the Inner Coastal Plain, including the Sandhills, the region is characterized by two major forest types: the longleaf and loblolly pine communities (Frothingham and Nelson 1944:19-21). These communities consist primarily of pine with several species of hardwoods including gum and oak (Braun 1950: 285-286). Currently, the vegetation in the surrounding area consists of mixed pine/hardwood with a thick understory of vegetation. The corridor itself consists of grazing land, agricultural fields, or recently cleared and grubbed mixed pine/hardwood forest.

The geology of the county is characterized by unconsolidated water-laid beds of sand, silt, and clay. In the piedmont area, the soils are formed in saprolite that weathered from "Carolina Slates". Soils from the river floodplains formed in sediment that washed from the uplands of the Piedmont province. Coastal Plain material consists of marine-deposited sediments made dominantly of

quartz sand and kaolinitic clays (Mitchell 1989: 101). The project corridor is characterized by six soil series: Chewacla loams, located on flood plains, which are somewhat poorly drained; Congaree loams, located on broad river flood plains, which are moderately well drained; Georgeville loams, located on narrow ridge tops and side slopes adjacent to drainage ways, which are well drained; Nason loams, found on side slopes and ridges, which are well drained; Toccoa sandy loams, located on flood plains, which are moderately well drained; and Wickham fine sandy loams, located on side slopes of terraces, which are well drained (Mitchell 1989: Maps 43 and 49). According to a United States Department of Agriculture soil erosion map (1934), erosion is light in the majority of the corridor, except in the northern portion where there is severe sheet erosion with occasional gullies.

The corridor crosses all three geographic regions. The majority of the corridor is located in the sandhills region with approximately 1 mile at the northern end being located in the piedmont and 1 1/2 miles at the southern end, near Allied Signal, in the upper coastal plain. The topography of the corridor is gently rolling in the southern portion of the corridor with slopes becoming sharper in the piedmont region. Elevations range from 140 to 220 feet MSL.

Background Research

General accounts of Kershaw County history are presented by Kirkland and Kennedy (1905, 1926) and Lewis (1976). However, these sources concentrate primarily on the city of Camden. Kirkland and Kennedy (1905) provide a somewhat detailed map of initial settlement of the Camden area (Figure 2). Also, Mills (1825) shows the location of prominent settlements and localities in the early 19th century (Figure 3) and gives a brief physical and economic description of the Kershaw district in the 1820s (1826:585-594).

Kershaw County was originally part of Craven County, and later became part of the Cheraw District. In 1800, the present county limits were established. The area was settled as early as the 1730s (Kirkland and Kennedy 1905:68) and in the 1750s was settled near Camden by a colony of Quakers from Ireland. About 1760 Colonel Joseph Kershaw opened a store in Camden and the town was laid out in lots (Mills 1826:585-586).

Products raised in the district consisted of corn, cotton, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes, and "all the esculent vegetables" (Mills 1826:588). Considerable quantities of wheat were raised before the American Revolution, but the manufacture of flour was suspended during the war. Several flour mills were erected after the war, but the demand and value of cotton eventually superseded that of wheat. For the most part, wheat cultivation was abandoned. The value of riverland was considered superior to even the best

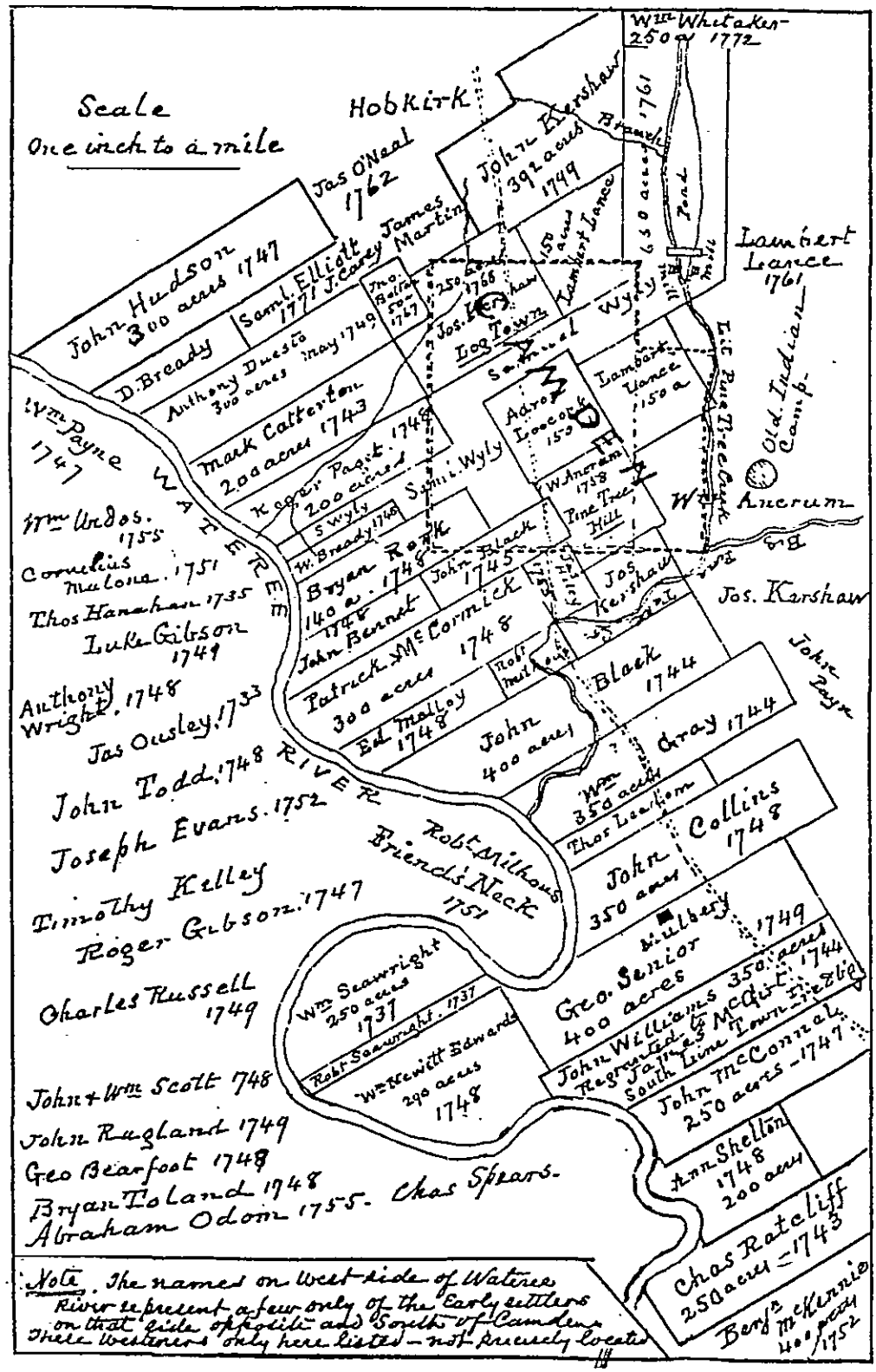


Figure 2. Grants to earliest settlers in Camden and vicinity (Kirkland and Kennedy 1905:68).

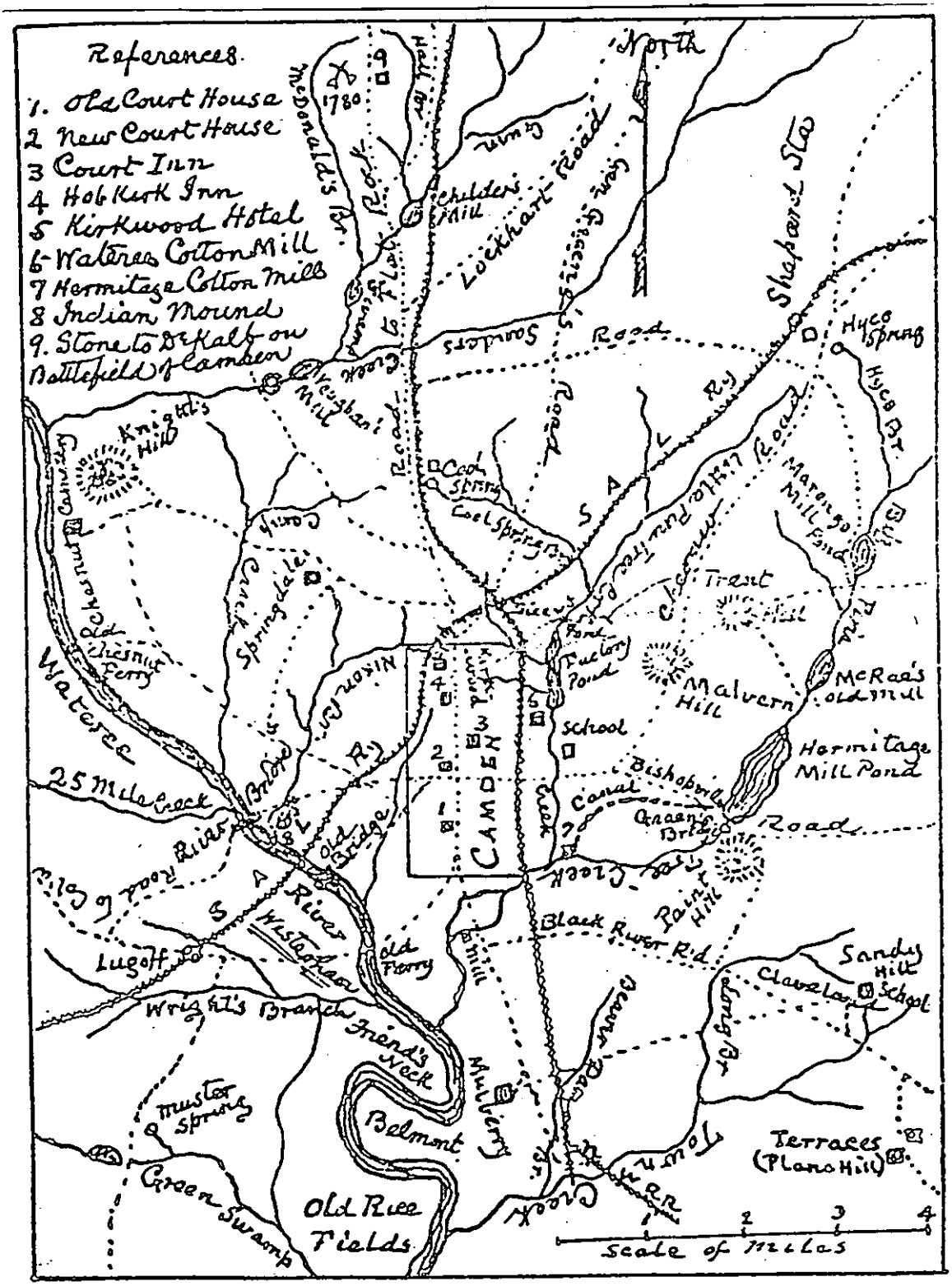


Figure 3. The John Boykin map of the Kershaw District, compiled in 1820 (Mills 1825).

uplands for agriculture (Mills 1826:588-589).

Camden became an important trade center since its geographic location along the Fall Line gave it great advantages. It carried on considerable trade with Charleston. All cotton was sent there in return for dry goods and groceries that was need in the western region (Mills 1826:590). Because of its location, Camden was used as the center of the British southern army during the American Revolution (Mills 1826:592). Camden remained an important trading center until it was eclipsed by Columbia, located approximately 30 miles to the west (Kirkland and Kennedy 1905).

Previous archaeological investigations in Kershaw County are presented in Ferguson (1971), Goodyear and Anderson (n.d.), and Lewis (1976). In the 1820s Dr. William Blanding visited a number of sites in the area and some of his findings were published in 1848 in Squire and Davis' Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley. Also, George Stuart (1975) has presented a fairly detailed description of middle Wateree post-archaic occupation. These latter two studies concentrate on a number of late prehistoric mounds (such as Adamson, Boykin, and Mulberry) and settlements located in the Camden vicinity.

The project area contained two known sites listed in the Institute's files as well as the possibility that an outlying site may continue into the corridor.

Site 38KE18, otherwise known as the Ferry Landing site, was first described by George Stuart (1975). The site was inadvertently uncovered in December of 1990 during the construction of a planned subdivision. State archaeologists excavated the remains of five individuals associated with the prehistoric occupation of the vicinity (The Chronicle-Independent, December 24, 1990). No state site form has been filed at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, so the size of the site is unknown. Although map locations indicate that the burials were found about 500 feet to the east of the project corridor, we believed there was the possibility of the site continuing in this vicinity.

Site 38KE28 was identified in 1977 during survey of the Camp Creek interceptor and force main. It consists of Archaic and a 19th century components located on an eroded slope in the vicinity of the Allied Signal plant. The artifacts were found only on the ground surface and were sparse, but continuous. The boundaries of the site were not identified, but it was believed that artifacts might be more dense up slope outside of the study area. The site was recommended as not eligible for the National Register. Central UTM coordinates are E533170 N3789100.

Site 38KE155 was identified in 1984 during a sewer line survey. It consists of an Archaic Period lithic scatter located in

a plowed field south of a dirt farm road. The site was surface collected and four test pits were excavated to determine site integrity. It was found to be highly eroded and is known to have been visited by local collectors. The site was recommended as not eligible for the National Register. Central UTM coordinates are E530800 N3789720.

Because of the presence of well drained soils and the large quantity of prominent sites in the Camden region, it was believed that the project corridor had a high potential for containing archaeological sites.

Field Methods

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 100 foot intervals, following South Carolina Department of Archives and History's suggestions, along the centerline of the corridor, with all fill being screened through 1/4 inch mesh. One transect was used since the corridor is only 50 feet wide, the centerline was staked, and the impact will be limited to the placement of triple powerline poles with excavations measuring about 2 feet in diameter. This emphasis on shovel testing is required by the presence of well drained soils throughout the survey tract and the presence of prominent prehistoric sites in the region.

Should sites be identified by shovel testing, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

All soil would be screened through 1/4 inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1 foot. All cultural remains would be collected, except for shell, mortar, and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

In the field it was noted that the entire corridor had been greatly disturbed by the clearing and grubbing activities of Santee-Cooper in the wooded areas of the power line corridor, by plowing, or by erosion. In the grubbed areas, clayey subsoils had been upturned and tire ruts were standing in water since the removal of topsoils did not allow rain water to percolate. In the remaining areas, clay subsoil appeared on the surface in patches. As a result, areas with exposed clay subsoils were visually examined for artifacts at shovel test locations and the clay was upturned to expose any unseen deposits. Because of the excellent

surface visibility in the entire corridor, areas between shovel tests were visually examined for artifactual remains. When sites were discovered, areas around them were examined to understand site dynamics, such as erosion. For instance, areas outside the corridor, such as hilltops, were examined when sites were encountered on slopes in the corridor right of way. This was done to help determine site boundaries and site integrity. Otherwise, the original plans were put into effect. A total of 260 shovel tests in 10 transects along the centerline were excavated within the study corridor.

Transect 1 was approximately 1200 feet long and located between the Allied Signal substation and an area of wetlands. Transect 2 was approximately 4000 feet long and located south of U.S. Hwy 601 along the river and north of the Seaboard railroad. Transect 3 was located north of a drainage ditch and south of the dirt farm road in the vicinity of 38KE155. This transect was approximately 2100 feet long. Transect 4 was located south of the drainage ditch and north of Twenty Five Mile Creek. It was approximately 1600 feet long. Transect 5 was located just north of the dirt farm road and extended north for approximately 3800 feet. Transect 6 was located at the north end of the corridor and extended south to transect 5 for approximately 9000 feet. Transect 7 consisted of 15 shovel tests at 25 foot intervals for the purpose of testing site 38KE198. Transect 8 was located on the north bank of the Wateree River and followed the Seaboard railroad for approximately 1000 feet north to an area of wetlands. Transect 9 was located in the area between transects 2 and 4 where the corridor crosses Hwy. 601 to Twenty Five Mile Creek. Transect 10 consisted of 15 shovel tests at 25 foot intervals for the purpose of testing site 28KE195.

## Laboratory Analysis

The cleaning and analysis of artifacts was conducted in Columbia at the Chicora Foundation laboratories on May 9, 1991. It is anticipated that these materials will be catalogued and accessioned for curation at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, the closest regional repository. Site forms have been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Field notes and photographic materials have been prepared for curation using archival standards and will be transferred to the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology as soon as the project is complete.

Analysis of the collections followed professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains.

## Results

The shovel tests and pedestrian survey identified six new

sites along the Santee-Cooper corridor and two sites were revisited (Figure 4). 38KE18, the Ferry Landing site located approximately 500 feet to the east, was not encountered in the project corridor.

Site 38KE28, first reported by Mark Brooks in 1977, does not appear to extend into the powerline transect. Pedestrian survey indicated that the area is badly eroded with red clay subsoil exposed throughout. Also, construction activities by Allied Signal may have damaged, if not destroyed, portions of the site. This site was not relocated and it may have been destroyed in the 14 years since it was identified.

Site 38KE155, first reported by Mr. Tommy Charles in 1984, was revisited. However, there was a discrepancy between his description of the site location and the map location. He describes the site as being located on a low hill "bordered on west by a large tract of wooded land and on the north and south by more cultivated fields. High voltage power line runs north and south over a portion of site and a dirt farm road borders the north side". The USGS Lugoff Quadrangle locates the site as being bordered to the south by a dirt farm road.

Upon revisiting the site area shown on the topographic map, no site matching the 38HE155 description was found. However, a site that clearly resembles Charles' written description was found 1000 feet northwest of his map location, and was bordered to the north by a dirt farm road. This spot is located on the Rabon Crossroads 7.5 minute Quadrangle map which has only been recently available. Mr. Charles only had a 15 minute Camden Quadrangle map at the time of his survey which shows no dirt farm road in the vicinity of the site we found. It is probable that Mr. Charles designated the site location as being on the closest dirt road, which is found on the Lugoff Quadrangle. Upon consultation with Mr. Keith Derting, site files manager at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, it was decided that we had indeed revisited the site and that we had not located a new site.

Site 38KE155 is located in a plowed field to the west of and partially extending into an existing transmission line, but does not appear to extend into the proposed power line corridor and, therefore, will not be disturbed by the placement of the powerline. Surface collection indicated that the site is about 200 by 200 feet in size. The central UTM coordinates are E530680 N3789880 and the soils are classified as well drained Wickham fine sandy loams. Artifacts recovered consist of three quartz flakes, one quartz biface, and one rhyolite biface midsection.

Areas of the site contain exposed red clay subsoil, and the site has been heavily disturbed by plowing. Our recent investigation reaffirms the previous recommendation that the site is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

38KE195 is located in a plowed field and in a cleared and grubbed area about 1000 feet north of the dirt farm road which bounds site 38KE155. The western portion of the site runs underneath the existing transmission line. A series of 15 shovel tests did not yield any cultural remains. However, 12 artifacts were surface collected from the site. They consist of one Palmer Corner-Notched quartz projectile point (Coe 1964), two unifacially worked quartz flakes, one quartz thinning flake, two fragmented quartz bifaces, two unifacially worked rhyolite flakes, and four rhyolite thinning flakes. These surface findings indicated that the site is approximately 125 by 100 feet in size. Visual inspection failed to indicate any dense/discrete concentrations of materials which might be indicative of subsurface remains being plowed out. The central UTM coordinates are E530510 N3790090 and the soils are well drained Wickham fine sandy loams.

Site 38KE195 is not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The lack of subsurface artifacts, and extensive plowing and grubbing suggests that the site has no integrity.

38KE196 is located in a plowed field about 1500 feet north of the dirt farm road which bounds site 38KE155. The site straddles the transmission line and the project corridor. Surface collection recovered four prehistoric artifacts although the shovel tests yielded no subsurface cultural material. Artifacts consist of one quartz flake and three rhyolite flakes confined to a 50 by 50 foot area. The central UTM coordinates are E530360 N3790250 and the soils are well drained Wickham fine sandy loams.

Site 38KE196 is not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The small quantity of artifacts and the lack of subsurface remains indicates that the site is small and lacks integrity.

38KE197 is located in a plowed field about 2000 feet north of the dirt farm road which bounds 38KE155. Surface collection yielded one Palmer Corner-Notched quartz projectile point (Coe 1964). Shovel tests in the vicinity located no subsurface remains. Since the site consists of one collected artifact, no size is given for the site. The central UTM coordinates are E530320 N3790290 and the soils are well drained Wickham fine sandy loams.

Site 38KE197 is not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. This site consists of an isolated artifact in a plowed field. In spite of both subsurface investigations and intensive pedestrian survey no additional remains were identified.

38KE198 is located in a plowed field approximately 3000 feet north of the dirt farm road which bounds the northern edge of 38KE155. A series of 15 shovel tests recovered a single rhyolite

flake. Surface collects yielded 24 artifacts: eight quartz flakes, 11 rhyolite flakes, one unifacially worked rhyolite flake, one rhyolite scraper preform, one broken quartz biface, one quartz biface, and one cordmarked sherd of an indeterminate type. The artifacts were scattered throughout a 200 by 250 foot area, and visual inspection did not reveal any dense/discrete concentrations of artifacts. The central UTM coordinates are E530060 N3790530 and the soils are well drained Wickham fine sandy loams.

Site 38KE198 is not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The site is heavily damaged by plowing and subsurface testing suggests that the site has no integrity.

38KE199 is located on the slope of a hill about 300 feet south of where the existing transmission line turns north. The site is in an area cleared and grubbed by Santee-Cooper. Shovel testing recovered no subsurface remains and surface collection yielded two prehistoric artifacts: one quartz biface and one rhyolite flake. The site is approximately 25 by 25 feet in size based on surface remains. The central UTM coordinates are E528810 N3791740 and the soils are well drained Georgeville loams.

Site 38KE199 is not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The site is heavily disturbed by clearing and grubbing and is highly eroded. The area around the site had exposed red clay subsoils and large amounts of Carolina slate which is a naturally occurring material in the region (Mitchell 1988:101). The site exhibits no integrity.

38KE200 is located about 200 feet north of the dirt farm road which bounds the northern edge of 38KE155. Shovel testing yielded no subsurface artifacts and surface collection recovered one fragmented broken rhyolite biface and one scratch blue white salt glazed stoneware sherd located in a 25 by 25 foot area. The mean ceramic date for the stoneware 1760 (South 1977:210). This ceramic date is entirely consistent with the period of early European occupation of the Kershaw District (Kirkland and Kennedy 1905). However, since no other historic artifacts were found in the vicinity, it is not clearly associated with any domestic occupation. The central UTM coordinates are E530670 N3789970 and the soils are well drained Wickham fine sandy loams.

Site 38KE200 is not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The site has been disturbed by plowing and only two unrelated artifacts were recovered from the site.


38KE196
38KE198
38KE197
38KE194
38KE195
38KE200
38KE199
WATERPIPE
TRANSECTS
SITES

## Summary and Recommendations

As a result of the archaeological survey of the Santee-Cooper powerline corridor, six new sites (38KE195, 38KE196, 38KE197, 38KE198, 38KE199, and 38KE200) were discovered. These sites are not recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. No further investigations are recommended for these sites by Chicora Foundation.

Although site 38KE18, the Ferry Landing Site, was not recorded as being located in the project area, site boundaries had not been previously determined, therefore we were sensitive to the fact that it might be encountered. This site was not encountered in the survey corridor.

Site 38KE28 was not relocated. The site was not encountered in the survey corridor. The area where the site was previously located was badly eroded, and may have been damaged or destroyed by erosion or construction activities of the Allied Signal Plant in the 14 years since it was originally identified.

Site 38KE155 was revisited. As explained earlier, the site was apparently mislocated on the USGS map on file at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. However, during our revisit correct UTM coordinates for the site were obtained. Upon consultation with Mr. Keith Derting of the Institute, it was decided that we had indeed revisited 38KE155 and had not located a new site. This site does not appear to extend into the project corridor. Our current investigation concurs with the previous recommendation that the site is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Although the sites found are not considered eligible for the National Register, the survey still contributes to our understanding of past human occupation. These sites contribute information about site/population densities and use of the area by Archaic period groups. While the Camden area is known for its late prehistoric period mounds, little is known about other prehistoric occupations.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the survey tract during construction. Construction crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office or to the client's archaeologist. No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist.

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