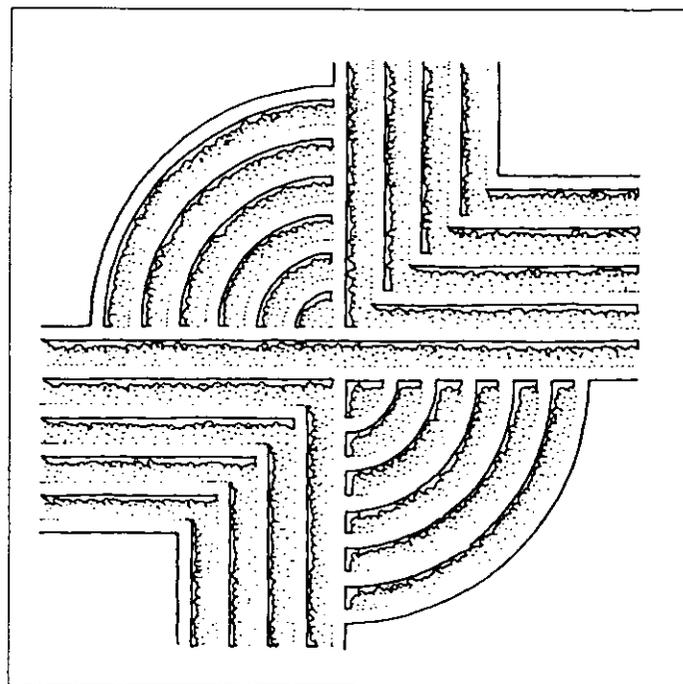


ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF 35 ACRES (PARCEL X),  
ROSE HILL PLANTATION, BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF 35 ACRES (PARCEL X),  
ROSE HILL PLANTATION, BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study presents the results of an intensive archaeological survey of the 35 acre Parcel X on Rose Hill Plantation. The purpose of this investigation was to locate any archaeological sites which may exist on the tract and evaluate them for their eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Examination of the site files housed at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology indicated that there were no previously recorded sites for the tract. No sites were identified during the survey. However, the parcel was believed to have a very low probability of containing archaeological sites since the soils were poorly drained and since the tract is far from a free flowing water source.

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# INTRODUCTION

## Background

This investigation was conducted by Ms. Natalie Adams of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Robert W. Gerhart, developer of an approximately 35 acre tract situated on Rose Hill Plantation, in Beaufort County (Figure 1). The parcel is bounded to the east by U.S. Hwy 278, to the south by privately owned property, to the west by a poweline easement, and to the north by developed portions of Rose Hill Plantation (Figure 2).

The 35 acre parcel is expected to be developed as a business park. This development activity has the potential for damaging or destroying archaeological sites, and this intensive archaeological survey was conducted in order to allow the developer to obtain S.C. Coastal Council certification. This study is intended to provide an overview of the archival research and the archaeological survey of the tract sufficient to allow the S.C. State Historic Preservation Office to determine the eligibility of sites for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition, this study will provide a detailed explanation of the archaeological survey of the parcel, and the findings. The statewide archaeological site files held by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology were examined for information pertinent to the project area. No previously recorded archaeological sites were recorded for the project area. The Beaufort County Cartographic Survey was also consulted for sites in the project area (Hacker and Trinkley 1992). Chicora Foundation has consulted with the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office concerning any National Register buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the project area, as well as the results of any structures surveys on file with that office. The only property listed was the Rose Hill Plantation main house which is located on the opposite side of U.S. Hwy 278 adjacent to Colleton River.

The archaeological survey was conducted by Natalie Adams and Mary Rossi on September 21, 1995. Field work conditions were good and a total of seven person hours were devoted to the study. The report preparation was conducted on September 27, 1995.

## Goals

The primary goals of this study were, first, to identify the archaeological resources of the tract and, second, to assess the ability of these sites to contribute significant archaeological, historical or anthropological data. The second aspect essentially involves the sites' eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, although Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead compliance agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The secondary goals were to examine the relationship between site location, soil type, and topography, expanding the previous work by Brooks and Scurry (1978) and Scurry and Brooks (1980) in the Charleston area, and Trinkley (1987, 1989) on Hilton Head and Daufuskie Islands for prehistoric site location, and South and Hartley (1980) for lowcountry historic site locations.

Work at prehistoric sites in the area has revealed relatively small shell and nonshell middens found almost exclusively adjacent to tidal creeks or sloughs. Few sites have been found in the interior,

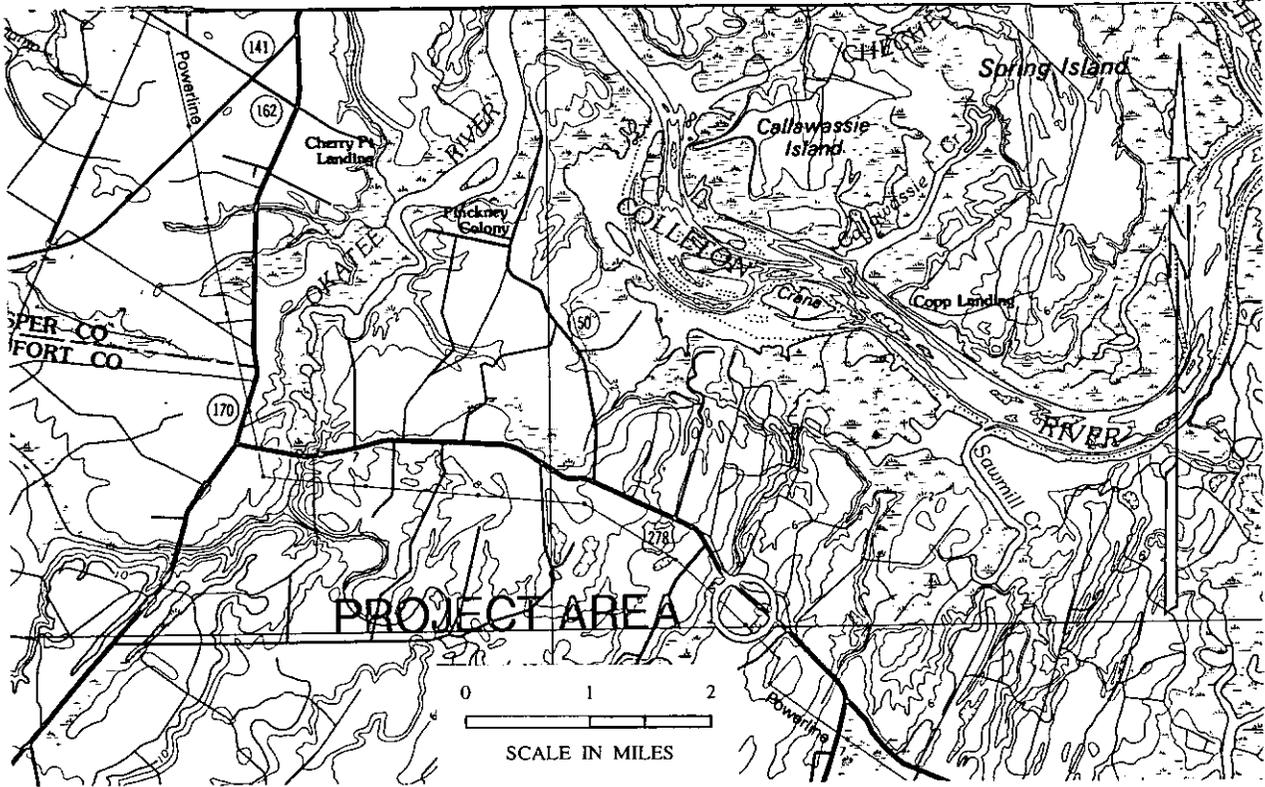


Figure 1. Location of the parcel on the Beaufort 1:100,000 scale topographic map.

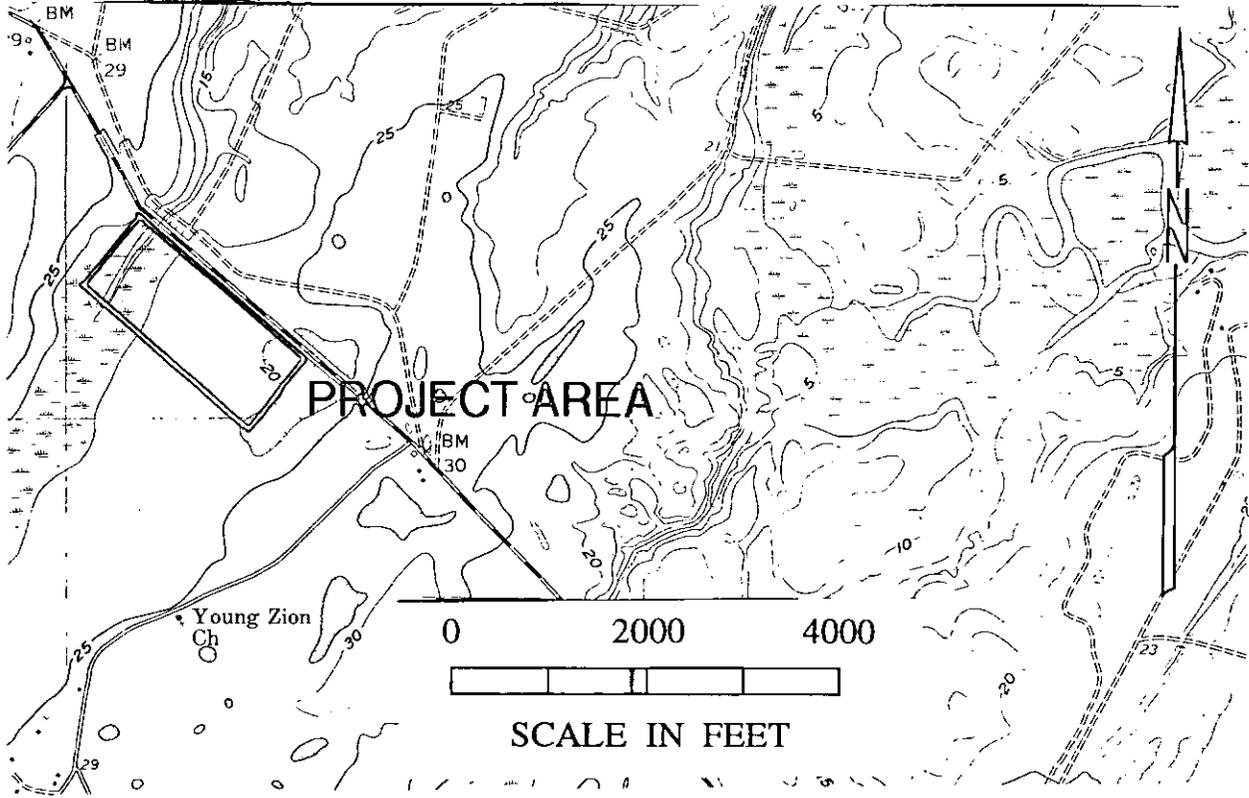


Figure 2. Location of the parcel on the Spring Island USGS topographic map.

away from both present marsh habitats and relic sloughs. Most sites, based on previous studies, are found on excessive to moderately well drained soils, although a few are consistently found in areas which are poorly drained (which suggests that factors other than drainage may occasionally have determined aboriginal settlement location).

Research by South and Hartley (1980) suggests that major historic site complexes will be found on high ground adjacent to a deep water access. Plantation main houses tend to be located on the highest and best drained soils for both health and status reasons. Slave settlements tend to be located for easy access to the fields, although clearly other considerations were involved, and slave rows are often found on low, poorly drained soils.

As previously mentioned, no recorded archaeological sites were found at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site files. Since the tract was located on poorly drained soils and was located a considerable distance from a navigable water source, the archaeological potential was believed to be low.

## EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Beaufort County is located in the lower Atlantic Coastal Plain of South Carolina and is bounded to the south and southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, to the east by St. Helena Sound, to the north and northeast by the Combahee River, to the west by Jasper and Colleton counties and portions of the New and Broad rivers. The mainland primarily consists of nearly level lowlands and low ridges. Elevations in the county range from about sea level to slightly over 100 feet above mean sea level (MSL) (Mathews et al. 1980:134-135). Additional environmental information on the Hilton Head area is available from Trinkley (1986, 1987). Elevations in the survey area vary from about 15 feet mean sea level (MSL) in wetlands to about 20 feet MSL on drier ground.

Robert Mills, discussing Beaufort District in the early nineteenth century, stated:

[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, weat and sour, peach, nectarine, fig, cherry (Mills 1972 [1826]:337).

He also cautions, however, that "[s]ome parts of the district are beginning already to experience a want of timber, even for common purposes" (Mills 1972 [1826]:383) and suggests that at least 25% of a plantation's acreage should be reserved for woods. It is reasonable that those areas of poorest drained soils were never exploited for cultivation, but were left in woods. The study tract contains poorly drained soils which were shown as being wooded on the 1942 Oakatie USGS topographic map.

Vegetation in the tract consists primarily of sparse pine forest (Figure 3) with clear evidence of logging activities (sawed trees, push piles, rutting from heavy equipment). All of the vegetation appears to



Figure 3. View of study tract, showing vegetation.

have been established within the last 100 years, providing clear evidence of the dramatic changes characterizing the lowcountry. It is likely that the tract has been subjected to logging only in the past few decades.

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 the level to gently sloping mainland areas. The island soils are less diverse and less well developed, frequently lacking a well-defined B horizon. Soils in the tract are the somewhat poorly drained Coosaw loamy fine sands, the very poorly drained Deloss fine sandy loam, and the somewhat poorly drained Sewee fine sand (Stuck 1980).

## BACKGROUND RESEARCH

### Previous Research

Several previously published archaeological studies are available for the Hilton Head area to provide background, including the Fish Haul excavation study (Trinkley 1986), Cotton Hope Plantation, located on Skull Creek (Trinkley 1990a), testing at Stoney/Baynard Plantation (Adams and Trinkley 1991; Adams et al. 1995), survey of the a portion of Indigo Run Plantation (Adams and Trinkley 1992), excavation at a Savannah/St. Catherine's site on Hilton Head Plantation (Trinkley et al. 1992), excavation at four Wilmington phase sites (Kennedy and Espenshade 1992), and the reconnaissance level survey of Hilton Head Island for the Town of Hilton Head (Trinkley 1987). Also, considerable survey and excavation work has been conducted on nearby Pinckney Island (Drucker and Anthony 1980; Trinkley 1981), Spring and Callawassie Islands (Trinkley 1990b and 1991), and Daufuskie Island (Trinkley 1989a). These sources should be consulted for additional details.

As stated earlier, an examination of the site files housed at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology revealed that no previously discovered sites were found to be located on the tract.

### Prehistoric Synopsis

Several previously published archaeological studies are available for the Beaufort area that provide additional background, including Brooks et al. (1982), DePratter (1979), and Trinkley (1981, 1986, 1990c). A considerable amount of archaeology has been conducted in the Beaufort area and these works should be consulted for broad overviews.

The Paleoindian 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 Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct megafauna" (Michie 1977:124).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coast. Archaic period assemblages, characterized by corner-notched and broad stemmed projectile points, are rare in the Sea Island region, although the sea level is anticipated to have been within 13 feet of its present stand by the beginning of the succeeding Woodland period (Lepionka et al. 1983:10).

The Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast. 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 the terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) and Thom's Creek (sand or non-tempered) series pottery.

The subsistence economy during this early period on the coast of South Carolina was based primarily on deer hunting 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.

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

The succeeding Refuge phase, which dates from about 1100 to 500 B.C., suggests fragmentation caused by the environmental changes (Lepionka et al. 1983; Williams 1968). Sites are generally small and some coastal sites evidence no shellfish collection at all (Trinkley 1992). Peterson (1971:153) characterizes Refuge as a degeneration of the preceding Thom's Creek series and a bridge to the succeeding Deptford culture.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. Also present are quantities of cord marked, simple stamped, and occasional fabric impressed pottery. During this period there is a blending of the Deptford ceramic tradition of the lower Savannah with the Deep Creek tradition found further north along the South Carolina coast and extending into North Carolina (Trinkley 1983).

The Middle Woodland period (ca. 300 B.C. to A.D. 1000) is characterized by the use of sand burial mounds and ossuaries along the Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina coasts (Brooks et al. 1982; Thomas and Larsen 1979; Wilson 1982). Middle Woodland coastal plain sites continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the fall line, sites are characterized by sparse shell and few artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland period (ca. A.D. 1000 to 1650 in some areas of the coast) may be characterized as a continuum of the previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblage.

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

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

Considerable ethnohistoric data has been collected on the Muskogean Georgia Guale Indians by Jones (1978, 1981). This group extended from the Salila River in southern Georgia northward to suggest 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 principle town of the Orista appears to have been moved to Edisto Island, about 30 miles to the north (Jones 1978:203).

The historic Yemassee Indians of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries pose special problems to historians and archaeologists alike. They are found on the South Carolina coast from only 1685 through 1716, and they appear to represent an amalgamation of a number of different groups (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1990). The history of the Yemassee is briefly recounted by Milling (1969:98-112, 135-164). Recent investigations by Bill Green (1991) and Chester DePratter have suggested that historic Yemassee ceramics, rectilinear stamped and grit tempered, may be a gradual progression from the earlier Altamaha pottery. Since the Yemassee represent a number of different groups, it is also possible that additional archaeological investigations will identify several different "types" of Yemassee pottery reflecting differences in the groups which made up the Yemassee.

### Historic Synopsis

The earliest European settlement in South Carolina consisted of French and Spanish outposts in the sixteenth century. The first attempted permanent settlement of the Carolinas was by Lucks Viscose de Ayllon in 1526. This settlement (Santa Elena) was begun in 1520 and by the winter of 1526 the colony was abandoned (Quattlebaum 1956:27).

The southern coast did not attract serious British 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). Almost chosen for the first English colony in South Carolina, 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). The early economy was based almost exclusively on Indian trade, naval stores, lumber, and cattle. Rice began emerging as a money crop in the late seventeenth century, but did not markedly improved the economic well being 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. 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 (Milling 1969). Consequently, the Beaufort area, known as St. Helena Parish, Granville County, was for the first time relatively safe from both the Spanish and the Indians. The Yemassee, however, continued occasional raids into South Carolina, such as the 1728 destruction of the Passage Fort at Bloody Point on Daufuske Island (Starr 1984:16). In the same year the Spanish hold and the remnant Indian groups made peace with the English. The results for the Beaufort area, however, were mixed. While there was a semblance of peace, frontier settlements were largely deserted, population growth was slow, and the Indian trade was diverted from Beaufort to Savannah.

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 remedy many of the problems. A new naval store law was passed in 1729 with possible advantages accruing to South Carolina. In 1730 the Parliament 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).

The early portion of the history of Devil's Elbow is based almost exclusively on the research on H.A.M. Smith (1988). Smith (1988:86) reports that the earliest owner was Sir John Colleton, who in 1718 was granted the 12,000 acre Devils Elbow barony. This tract, as originally laid out encompassed the area between the Okeetee or Colleton River to the north, the May River to the south, the Chechessee River to the east, and the Duke of Beaufort's Barony to the west. Colleton transferred the property to his son Peter in 1726. Peter died sometime between 1733 and 1748 and Smith suggests that "under the limitations of the deed of gift from his father, the Devils Elbow barony went to his brother, the Honorable John Colleton of Fairlawn barony" (Smith 1988:87).

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. Although rice was grown in the Beaufort area, it did not become a major crop until after the Revolutionary War. Rice was never a significant crop on the Beaufort Sea Islands, where ranch farming was favored because of its economic returns and favorable climate (Star 1984:26-27). It was not until the 1740s that indigo became a major cash crop (Huneycutt 1949). Indigo continued to be the main cash crop of South Carolina until the Revolutionary War fatally disrupted the industry.

Colleton appears to have made elaborate plans for the agricultural development of the baron and Smith quotes a 1750 agreement with Morgan Saab:

for the cultivation & improvement of a certain barony belonging to the said John Colleton situate and being at a place called the Devils Elbow in Port Royal river in Granville County (Quoted in Smith 1988:88).

Colleton was to contribute 61 slaves, Saab 53 slaves. Under the direction of Saab they would be used for seven years to:

clear and cultivate and make plantations and work & labour upon the said Barony by improving and breeding flocks planting rice corn and other grain sawing timber making pitch tar turpentine Indigo & other commercial commodities thereon (Quoted in Smith 1988:88).

Clearly Colleton intended to diversify the plantation, planting provision crops, Indigo as a cash crop, engaging in timber activities, and also using portions for livestock - essentially ensuring that all portions of the land were profitable.

These plans, however, did Colleton little good. He died later that same year, leaving the property to his son, also known as John, who appears to have profited well from the plantation. Smith (1988:88) reports that the plantation produced an abundance of indigo and that livestock was plentiful. Again, however, the Colleton dreams were destroyed - this time by the American Revolution.

During the war the British occupied Charleston for over two and one-half years (1780-1782). A post was established in Beaufort to coordinate forays into the inland waterways after Prevost's retreat from the battle of Stono Ferry (Federal Writer's Project 1938:7; Rowland 1978:288). British earthworks were established around Port Royal and on Ladys Island (Rowland 1978:290). At the end of the Revolution, 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).

Situated in the path of the British advances, the Beaufort area was devastated. Smith reports that

the livestock on the Devils Elbow destroyed by the British was valued over £8,000. He speculates that, "it is probable that it was largely swept clear of its labour in the shape of slaves, and of its provisions and buildings" (Smith 1988:88).

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" (Huneycutt 1949:44). As a consequence the economy shifted to tidewater rice production and cotton agriculture. It was cotton, the Beaufort area, that brought a full establishment of the plantation economy.

Upon John Colleton's death in 1777 the property passes to his daughter, Louisa Carolina Colleton, although he had already sold off over 6000 acres. Marrying Richard Graves, Louisa sold a portion of the barony, apparently that portion containing Pecan Grove, to Benjamin Guerard. She held the remainder of the property until her death, at which time it was divided and sold (Smith 1988:89).

Reference to the 1860 Beaufort District agricultural census reveals that of the 891,228 acres of farmland, 274,0115 (30.7%) were improved. In contrast, only 28% of the State's total farmland was improved, and only 17% of the neighboring Colleton District's farm land was improved. Even in wealthy Charleston District only 17.8% of farm land was improved (Kennedy 1864:128-129). The total 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 (reflecting the more specialized equipment needed for rice production).

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. Hilton Head became the headquarters for the Department of the South and served as a staging area for a number of military campaigns. As a result of the island's early occupation by Union forces, all of the plantations fell to military occupation, and 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). This land policy study shows that blacks slowly came to own a large proportion of the available land. Certificates of possession were eventually issued for a number of sea island plantations (McGuire 1982:36). During the postbellum period previous owners slowly came forward to reclaim, or redeem, and confiscated by the Federal government. By the 1890s a program was established to provide owners unsuccessful at either restoration or redemption with token compensations (McGuire 1982:77).

The title between Guerard's ownership in the late eighteenth century and the Civil War is not entirely clear, with Smith (1988:89) suggesting that the tract passed from Guerard to William Wigg Barnwell. While there is no source cited for this supposition, this study supports the assertion, based on plats and deeds during the postbellum referring to the tract as "Barnwell Plantation." It is possible that additional investigation, much beyond the needs of the current study, might provide additional information about the tract during this period. In particular, it would be useful to know whether slaves and an overseer were housed on the plantation.

Regardless, a court action in 1877 (Beaufort County Court of Common Pleas, William S. Trenholm, Executor of George A. Trenholm, deceased v. Anna Helen Trenholm) caused the property to be put up for sale by the Beaufort County Sheriff (Beaufort County Register of Mense Conveyance, DB 16, p. 24). The 1114 acre property was purchased by H.A.M. Smith for \$505. Included were 864 acres called "Belfair" and bounded to the north by the Oaketee or Colleton River, to the east by lands still belonging to James P. Guerrard, and on the west by land of John W. Kirk.

During the late nineteenth century most of the sea island plantations continued as rural, isolated agrarian communities. The new plantation owners attempted to forge an economic relationship with the free black laborers and found a multitude of problems, including the need to pay higher wages, increasing problems with the cotton boll weevil, and decreasing fertility.

Woofter (1930) provides information on the agricultural practices of the St. Helena blacks in the early twentieth century, noting that the population was largely stable, with most blacks remaining in the vicinity of their parents' "home" plantations (Woofter 1930:265). While islands, such as St. Helena, which were large and easily accessible began to change more rapidly during this period, the smaller, more isolated islands maintained very clear connections with the past which have been repeatedly documented through oral histories.

The property was held by Smith, apparently with little or no activity, until his death in 1924. In 1927 the executors of his estate sold the 733 acre plantation, known as Belfair or Barnwell to W. Moseley Swain of Haverford, Pennsylvania. The property was described as bounded to the north by the Okatee or Colleton River, to the east by lands formerly of James P. Guerard, now of Cram and known as Oak Forest, to the south by Fording Island Road (today the approximate route of U.S. 278), and to the west by lands formerly of John W. Kirk, now owned by Glover (Beaufort County Register of Mense Conveyances, DB 45, p. 46). With this sale was the preparation of the first plat known for the tract. The tract is situated along the southern boundary of the property, although the plat fails to reveal any development on the tract. The 1942 Okatie 15' topographic quadrangle also fails to show any structures on the tract and the entire parcel is shown as being wooded.

The tract was later sold to Walter L. Mingledorf, who in 1951 sold the 733 acres to the Savannah Machine and Foundary Company (Beaufort County Register of Mense Conveyances, DB 70, p. 316). The Savannah Machine and Foundary Company was in the process of accumulating large tracts of land along the Colleton River, eventually amounting to over 1600 acres. In 1969 these parcels, including the 733 acre Belfair or Barnwell tract, were sold to Marine Railway Company, Inc. (Beaufort County Register of Mense Conveyances, DB 163, p. 17). In 1982 these tracts were conveyed to the Welton Corporation, as shown on TMS R600 023 000 0004 (Beaufort County Register of Mense Conveyances, DB a344, p. 1).

The historical study suggests that while Belfair or Barnwell may have seen settlement during the colonial or antebellum periods, its postbellum use was largely limited to phosphate mining, speculation, hunting, or the use of timber resources.

## FIELD METHODS

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 200 foot intervals in the survey tract. All soil would be screened through 1/4-inch mesh. If archaeological remains were encountered, the spacing of the tests would be decreased to no greater than 50 feet in order to determine site boundaries, site integrity, and temporal periods represented.

All shovel tests would measure 1-foot square and would be excavated to sterile B horizon sand. For positive shovel tests, representative soil profiles would be drawn and soil coloration would be described using Munsell soil color charts. All cultural remains, except brick, shell, mortar, and charcoal, would be retained.

The information required for S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected in the field and photographs would be taken as deemed appropriate by the field investigator. A site would be defined as two or more artifacts within a 200 foot area. These plans were put into effect, with no deviations. In addition, areas of good surface visibility, such as bare spots in dirt roads, were examined for remains (and were surface collected). A total of 40 shovel tests were excavated in four transects (Figure 4).

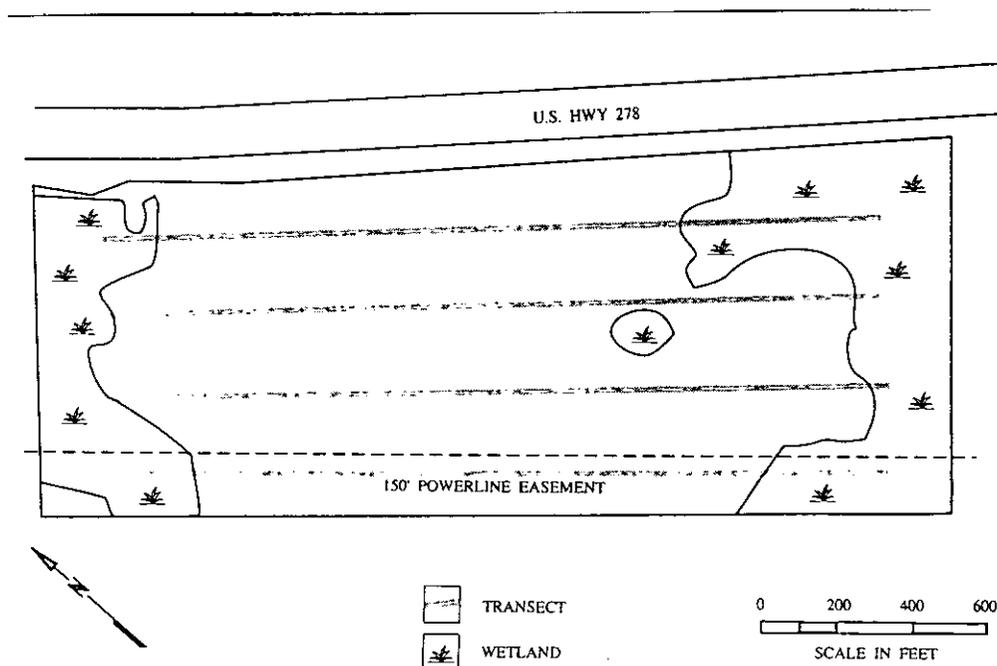


Figure 4. Location of shovel test transects in the project area.

## RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

A total of 40 shovel tests were excavated at 200 foot intervals accross the tract, with each test revealing weepy and reduced soils. As a result of the intensive archaeological survey of the 35 acre parcel no sites were identified. Given the parcel's distance from navigable water and poor soil drainage, the absence of archaeological sites is not surprising. No additional archaeological work is recommended by Chicora Foundation.

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