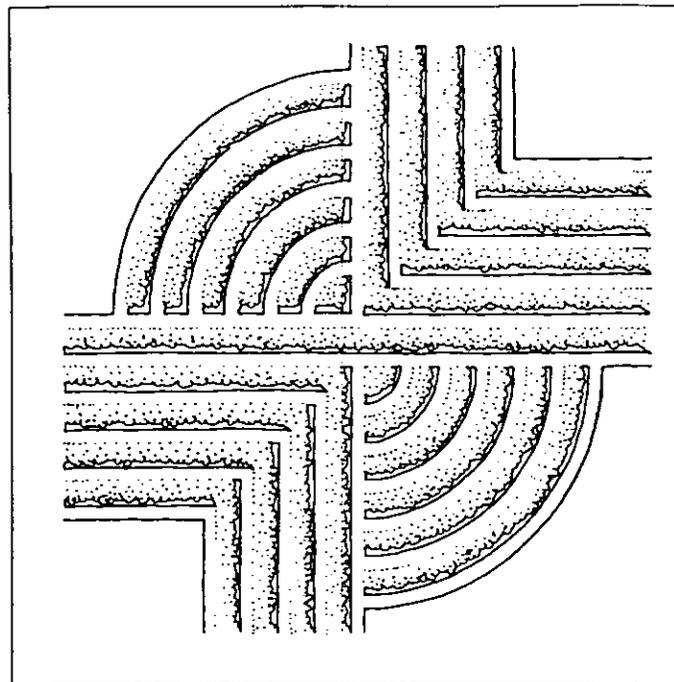


ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF  
THE PROPOSED SANTEE COOPER BLACK  
RIVER 69 KV SERVICE TRANSMISSION LINE,  
SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED  
SANTEE COOPER BLACK RIVER 69 KV SERVICE TRANSMISSION  
LINE, SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Prepared for:  
Mr. Ken Smoak  
Sabine and Waters, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1071  
Summerville, South Carolina 29483

Prepared By  
William B. Barr

**Chicora Research Contribution 202**

Chicora Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 8664 ■ 861 Arbutus Drive  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202  
803/787-6910  
Email: [chicora1@aol.com](mailto:chicora1@aol.com)

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## ABSTRACT

This study presents the results of an intensive archaeological survey of the proposed Santee Cooper Black River 69 KV service transmission line corridor approximately 4 miles east of Shaw Air Force Base and northwest of the city of Sumter in Sumter County, South Carolina. The purpose of this investigations was to locate any archaeological sites which may exist in the corridor and evaluate them for their eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Examination of the site files housed at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology indicated that there were no sites for the corridor. An inquiry was made to the South Carolina Department of Archives and History for any previous architectural surveys or the presence of an National Register properties, sites, districts, or objects.

An intensive archaeological survey of the 12,520 foot long corridor failed to identify any archaeological sites or standing structures within the presumed project area.

The survey, however, was hindered by a substantial regrowth of understory, as well as the failure to encounter a completely cut line on Section 2, 4, and 5 of the survey line. The majority of the survey was conducted using the available plan sheet (Drawing Number 5155-F02-5001) and running transects by compass. As a result, Santee Cooper and their contractors should be especially alert for unrecorded archaeological remains, such as concentrations of bricks, historic ceramics, pottery, or arrowheads, and immediately report any of their discoveries to either their project archaeologist or the State Historic Preservation Office.

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## INTRODUCTION

This survey was conducted by Mr. William B. Barr of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Ken Smoak of Sabine and Waters. The proposed 12,520-foot long Black River 69 KV service transmission line corridor is located in northwestern Sumter County, along the northeast edge of the town of Sumter and 4 miles east of Shaw Air Force Base (Figure 1). Section 1 of the transmission line is intended to run from a proposed substation located on Jefferson Road northwest for approximately 1,700 feet. At this point it turns west where Section 2 runs for approximately 3,600 feet. A turn to the southwest begins Section 3 where it crosses U.S. Highway 521 and runs for approximately 2,600 feet. Section 4 turns north, running just east of a recently installed sewer line for 4,400 feet. The last 200 feet of this section lies north of S.C. Highway 673. Section 5 then turns west for approximately 220 feet where it terminates at the extant Black River Electrical Cooperative power station. Throughout its length the proposed corridor is no wider than 70 feet (Figure 2).

Topography in the corridor consists of gentle to moderately rolling hills (Figure 3), with a steep slope adjacent to low lying marsh land associated with the Green Swamp drainage (Figure 4). The vast majority of the corridor was covered in dense 3 to 5 year old oak understory. The proposed undertaking will require the clearing and grubbing of the project corridor. Further impact to any archaeological resources will include the actual installation of the metal towers or wood poles, as well as subsequent maintenance. Combined, these activities have the potential to destroy archaeological resources if such resources are within the affected portion of the survey tract.

This study was initiated to provide a detailed explanation of the archaeological survey of the proposed Santee Cooper Black River 69 KV service transmission line proposed by Santee Cooper. Chicora received a request for a budgetary proposal for an intensive survey on

November 1, 1996. Our proposal, dated November 1, 1996, was accepted on November 19, 1996.

Ms. Rachel Brinson-Marrs examined the site files of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and no sites have been previously identified on the tract. A project area map was faxed to Dr. Tracy Powers of the S.C. Historic Preservation Office on November 19, 1996, with a request for information on any previous architectural surveys or the presence of any National Register sites, districts, properties, or objects in the project area. We were informed that no previously identified cultural resources had been discovered with the project boundaries.

The field investigations were undertaken by Chicora Research Archaeologist Mr. William B. Barr and archaeologist technician John D. Hamer on December 11, 1996. The report preparation took place at Chicora Foundation's offices in Columbia on December 17, 1996.

BLACK RIVER TRANSMISSION LINE SURVEY



Figure 1. Location of the project area on the 1:100,000 scale Sumter topographic map.

INTRODUCTION

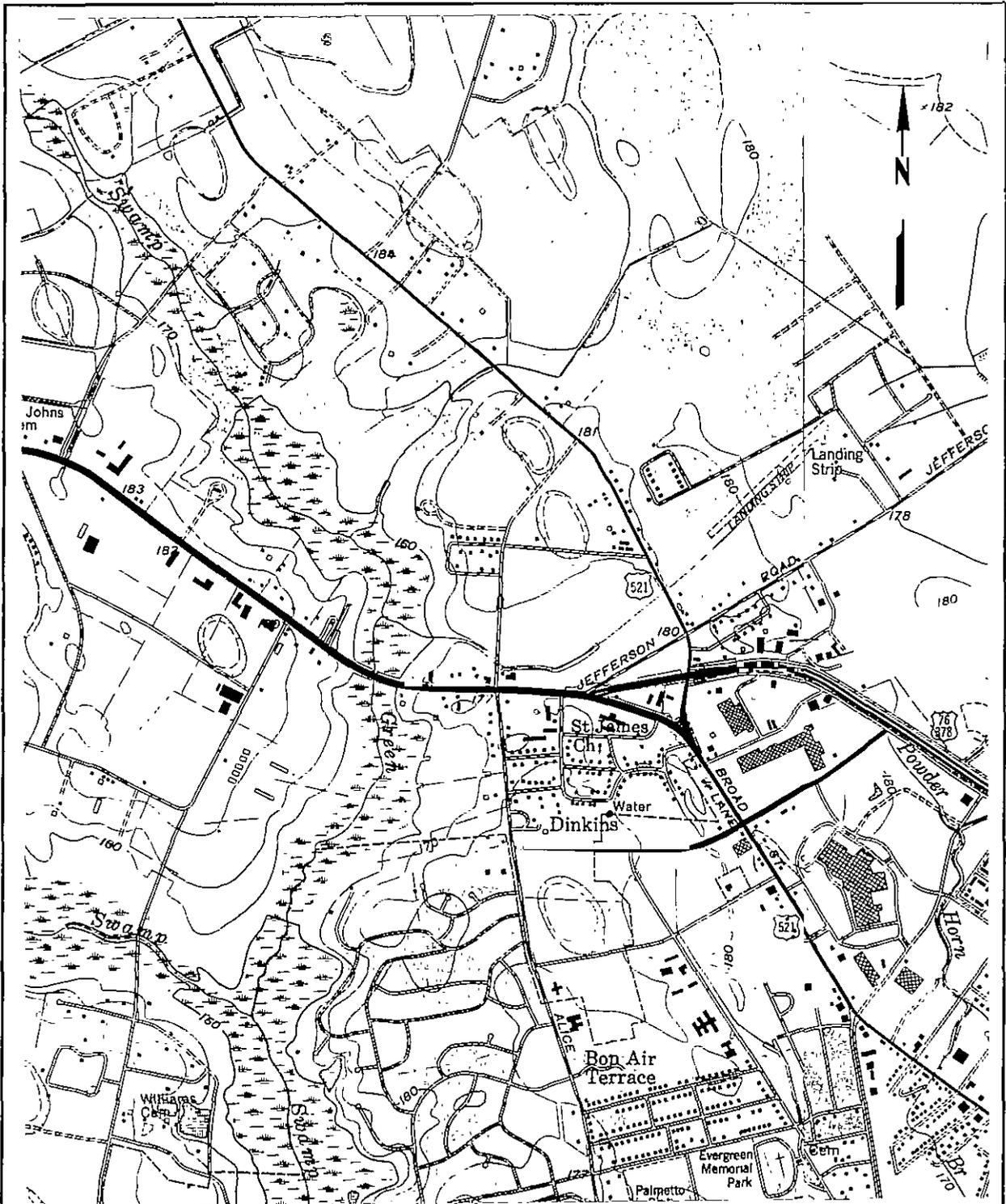


Figure 2. Location of the project area on the 1982 Sumter East/West 7.5' USGS topographic map.



Figure 3. General view of topography and vegetation on Section 4, looking to the north.

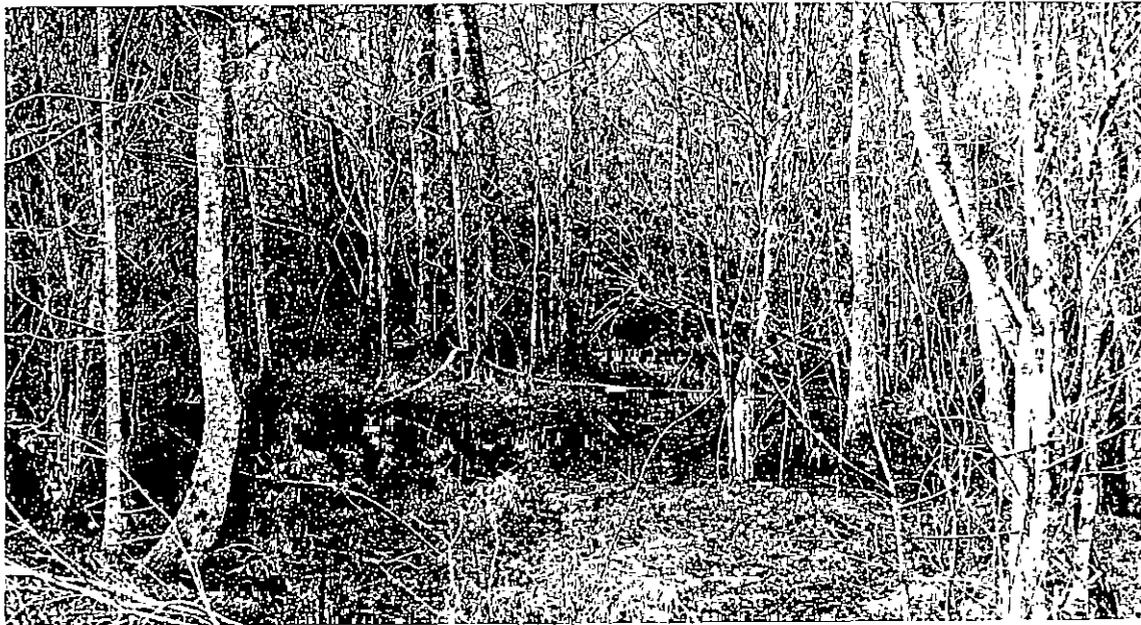


Figure 4. General view of topography and vegetation on Section 5, looking to the north.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Sumter County is situated in the central portion of South Carolina in the Coastal Plain, just east of the Sandhills region. It is bounded to the north by Kershaw County, to the northeast by Florence County, to the south by Clarendon County, to the southwest by Calhoun County, to the west by Richland County, and to the northwest by Kershaw County. The western half of the county is drained by the Wateree River, while the eastern half of the county is drained by the Black River and Lynches River. The project area itself is drained by Green Swamp which flows southwest into the Pocotaligo River.

The inner coastal plain is very similar in many aspects to the middle coastal plain, though, because of extensive weathering, the relief is quite different (Barry 1980:133). Topography varies from nearly level to moderately sloping, and four divisions have been recognized by Burke et al. (1943:2-3), including river bottoms and terraces of the Wateree and Santee Rivers, the sandhills, the middle coastal plain, and the flatwoods. The river bottoms are found east of and parallel to the Santee and Wateree Rivers. In the northern portion of the county these bottoms are narrow and well defined, as they are flanked by high river terraces. In south Sumter County the floodplains extend back to the uplands, often up to 2 miles in distance. The areas of frequent flooding are characterized by hardwood and bottom forests (see Barry 1980:154-158). The adjacent terraces are infrequently flooded and support a willow-alder forest. The sandhills follow a northward course from the lower reaches of the Wateree River to the upper part of the Santee drainage where they swing northeast.

Vegetation in the Sumter County area varies from xeric to mesic mixed hardwoods and pines in the sandhills and uplands to cypress-tupelo swamps and hardwood bottoms in the lower elevations. The xeric communities include loblolly pine, post oak, southern red oak, mockernut, and pignut hickories.

The mesic plants include loblolly pine, as well as white oak, sweetgum, beech, southern sugar maple, dogwood and hickories. The wetland vegetation includes bald cypress, water tupelo, water ash, red maple, black willow, sycamore, and cottonwood (see Shelford 1963; Barry 1980). Pitts (1974:1) notes that about 36% of the county is cultivated, 2% in pasture, and 53% is wooded. Within the proposed Santee Cooper corridor, however, approximately 97% is wooded and less than 3% is cultivated.

Elevations in the county range from slightly above 100 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in the bottoms to above 250 feet above sea level (AMSL) in the sandhills region (Bennet et al 1909:300). The survey corridor is characterized by elevations ranging from 180 to 160 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). There is a slight to moderate rolling topography throughout the area, but in general elevations drop from east to west. Within the survey corridor, Section 1 is fairly level, as is the western portion of Section 2. The eastern portion of Section 2 begins to slope slightly to the east and Section 3 slopes strongly from U.S. Highway 521 east toward the Green Swamp drainage. Section 4 is fairly level until it reaches S.C. Highway 673 where it drops rapidly into the creek bed of the Green Swamp. Section 5 is completely contained within the Green Swamp, rising just before the extant Black River Electrical Cooperative substation.

The soils in Sumter County are characterized by unconsolidated water-laid beds of sand, silt and clay. These soils were deposited at different periods during alternating transgression and recession of the ocean. Mills describes the soils as being poor for cultivation. He states:

[t]here is a number of what are called savannahs, bays, and cypress ponds in the flat parts of the country. The first are a kind of meadow, without a tree or a

shrub, delightfully green, and having generally a good looking soil; yet after all this spacious appearance, the planters deem them not worth cultivating or enclosing (Mills 1972 [1826]:744)

The soils in the project area are part of the Wagram-Troup-Vaucluse association. This association is characterized by well drained soils that have a sandy surface layer and a loamy subsoil. The soils in the project area consist primarily of poorly drained sandy loam. Section 1 exclusively contains poorly drained Rembert loam whereas Section 2 contains a mix of poorly drained Rains sandy loam, poorly drained Coxville fine sandy loam, moderately well drained Goldsboro loamy sand and somewhat poorly drained Lynchburg sandy loam. Section 3 contains well drained Wagram sand, poorly drained McColl fine sandy loam, well drained Orangeburg loamy sand and somewhat poorly drained Lynchburg sandy loam. Section 4 contains somewhat poorly drained Lynchburg sandy loam, well drained Norfolk loamy sand, well drained Troup sand, and very poorly drained Rutlege sand. Section 5 exclusively contains very poorly drained Rutlege sand.

## BACKGROUND RESEARCH

### Previous Archeology

Very little archaeological research has been performed in Sumter County. Most of this work has been conducted at the survey level and consists of work associated with highway projects (Trinkley and Caballero 1983; Roberts 1987). Other projects consist of power transmission line surveys (Canouts 1980; Drucker 1986), and cultural resource management studies (Brown et al. 1983). Presently there are over 190 sites recorded in the county. This is in sharp contrast to counties like Beaufort where there are approximately 1600 sites recorded.

Of primary interest was the relocation survey of S.C. Highway 521, conducted in 1982 by the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation (Trinkley and Caballero 1983) and the resulting investigations from that survey (Trinkley et al. 1985). As a result of these investigations 15 archaeological and historical sites were located. Eleven of these sites were mid-nineteenth century to twentieth century domestic occupations or middens, three contained multiple prehistoric (Early Woodland) and historic components, and one site "was a lithic scatter of probable Woodland origin" (Trinkley and Caballero 1983:32).

Testing was conducted in 1985 at four (38SU81, 38SU82, 38SU83, and 38SU86) of the 15 sites where cultural materials were recovered (Trinkley et al. 1985). Site 38SU81 represented a "late nineteenth to early twentieth century tenant dwelling" (Trinkley et al. 1985:40), where as 38SU82 and the historic component of 38SU83 may "represent scattered slave dwellings" (Trinkley et al. 1985:65). The prehistoric component of 38SU83 presented a Yadkin period occupation (Trinkley et al. 1985:66). Site 38SU86 is suspected of being the site of the Woodland Academy, an early nineteenth century school. A prehistoric component was recovered as well, similar in nature to that found at site 38SU83.

As well, Cultural Heritage Research Services of Shaw Air Force Base and Poinsette Range (Brown et al. 1983) conducted a survey of that facility in 1983. Fifteen sites (11 prehistoric and four historic) were identified from these surveys. This work proposed that historic sites would occur "along roads since the roads served a major transportation route through the historic period" with the results that "historic sites found in the high probability areas (i.e., adjacent to old roads which) [should provide] positive evidence for the predicted relationship" (Brown et al. 1983:105). Brown et al. (1983) also proposed that high probability areas for prehistoric sites (based on soil productivity and proximity to water) would occur in high probability environmental zones which support oak and hickory forests used as "food resource procurement" areas. As a result of these studies, however, archaeological sites were more commonly found in those areas designated as having moderate probability.

The presence of these sites so near the present survey location would indicate a high possibility of cultural resources being present in the survey corridor. It would seem reasonable to suggest that Middle Woodland sites, as well as early historic period sites (i.e., nineteenth and twentieth century sites), will be found in similar settings, at least in central Sumter County.

### Prehistoric Synopsis

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 about 1000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited animal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with relatively little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and Piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, characterized by corner-notched and broad stemmed projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanley and Halifax complexes, identified by Coe are rarely encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare. Recent work by Gunn and Wilson (1993) identified a Middle Woodland site in Chesterfield County on an upland margin which appears to have been occupied during the fall of the year.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our information for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

To some 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). To

others, the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. falls into the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of the terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery (see Figure 5 for a synopsis of Woodland phases and pottery designations). The subsistence economy during this early period on the coast of South Carolina was based primarily on deer hunting, fishing, and shellfish collection, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, and reptiles.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stalling Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens; small sparse shell midden; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a checked stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland sites, such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson et al. 1979; Trinkley 1978, 1980). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge,

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

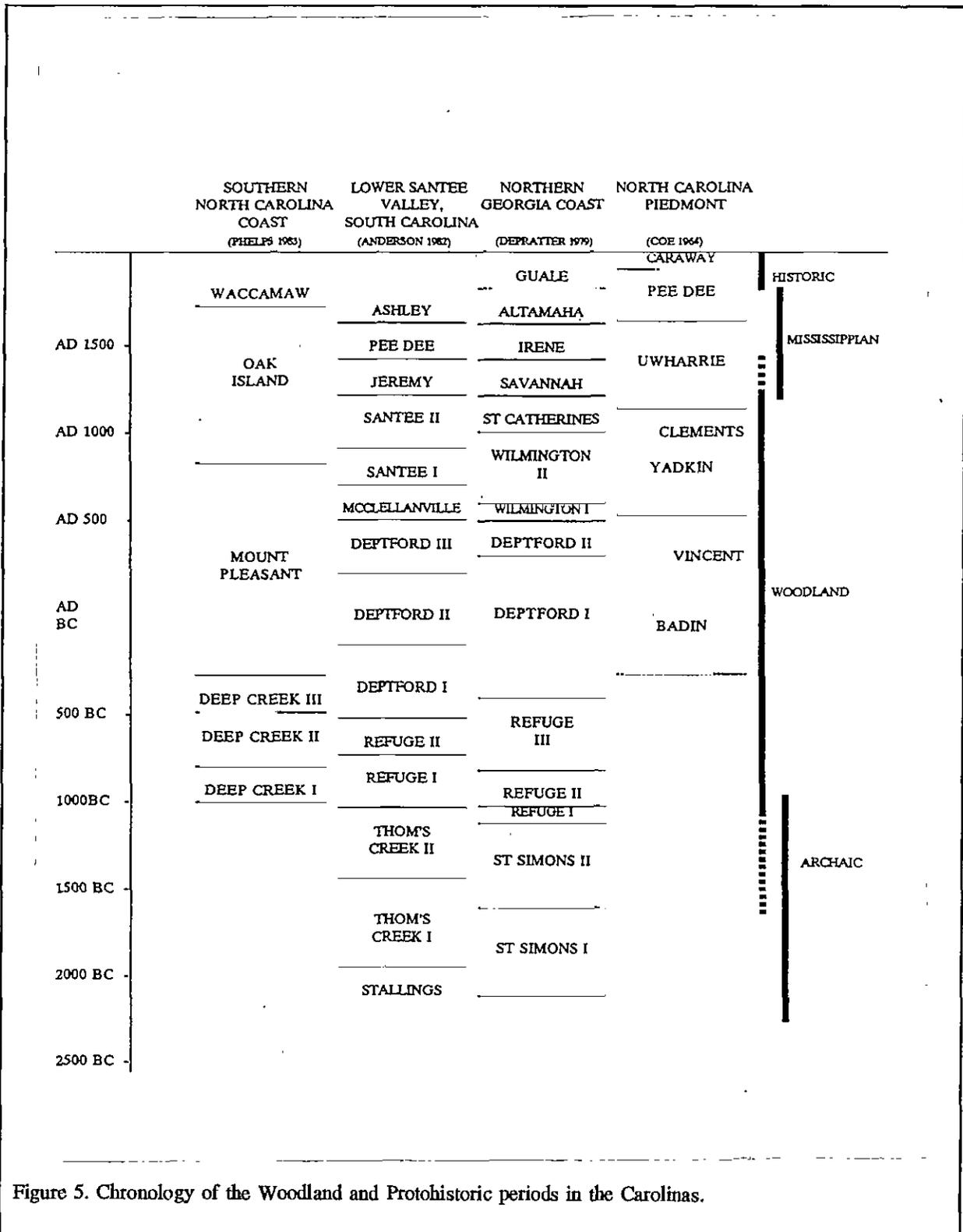


Figure 5. Chronology of the Woodland and Protohistoric periods in the Carolinas.

and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98)

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing. Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1960). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time some groups continued making only the older carved paddle-stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupations. On the southern coast they are associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a

small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumations and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, researchers are finding evidence of a Middle Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) have excavated a small Yadkin site (38SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

These Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases 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 evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland 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 (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

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 phases are include the Savannah and the Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550)

### Historic Synopsis

The early history of Sumter County is only briefly presented by Mills (1972 [1826]:740):

[T]he first permanent settlement in this district took place about the year 1750, at which time Samuel and James Bradley located themselves in the eastern portion of the district, now called Salem. Previous to this, however, the country had been occupied by herdsmen, who raised great number of cattle, and who moved about from place to place, a the range suited them.

As a result of the 1706 Church Act, which divided the province of South Carolina into parishes, Sumter County was originally within the area known as Prince Frederick's Parish. Originally part of Craven County, the Sumter County was not settled until sometime around 1740. The first permanent settlements were along the Santee River and consisted of both local people moving inland from Williamsburg and Scotch-Irish from the northern colonies (Revill 1968:2). By 1757, this area was separated from Prince Frederick's Parish and was renamed Saint Mark's Parish. In spite of this, no church was built by 1772 because of "late distress in the back parts,

[and] the present high taxes" (Journals of the House of Commons 35:50). The Catawba Path, which ran down the east side of the Wateree River was not made a public road until 1753. At the same time, work was begun to improve river navigation (Gregorie 1954:8-9).

The early agriculture was of a subsistence base with emphasis on corn, wheat, and some rice which was grown in lowland areas. There were a few staple vegetables such as flax, used for spinning, and tobacco for home use. Indigo was grown in the early days and exported to England, primarily because of the English bounty for its production (Gregorie 1954:17).

During the late eighteenth century, the area of Saint Mark's went through a series of administrative boundary changes. In 1769, the colony was divided into court districts and Saint Mark's parish became part of the Camden District (Figure 6). In 1785, the state legislature created counties and the Camden district was divided into Clarendon and Claremont counties. The Sumter Judicial District was created in 1798 (Figure 7) by the combination of Clarendon, Claremont, and Salem Counties (Gregorie 1954:3) and in 1800 the Sumter District courthouse was established in Sumterville (present day Sumter, South Carolina).

These legal changes did little to alter the basic framework of frontier life. Perhaps the most significant political and economic event, which brought about the creation of counties, was the Revolutionary War. The community of Willow Grove is where in 1781 Francis Marion's men engaged in a skirmish with British forces stationed in Camden under Lord Rawdon. Marion's troops were able to use an old log building as a fort and defeated the British contingent who retreated back to Camden (Nichols 1975:130).

Indigo was no longer produced, since the bounty for this crop was longer available, and a new cash crop was found. Cotton, introduced in 1785, was not common in the up country until 1793 and the invention of the cotton gin. A cotton factory was constructed near Statesburg on the plantation of Benjamin Waring in 1789. Due to poor public support, the mill was abandoned and

BLACK RIVER TRANSMISSION LINE SURVEY

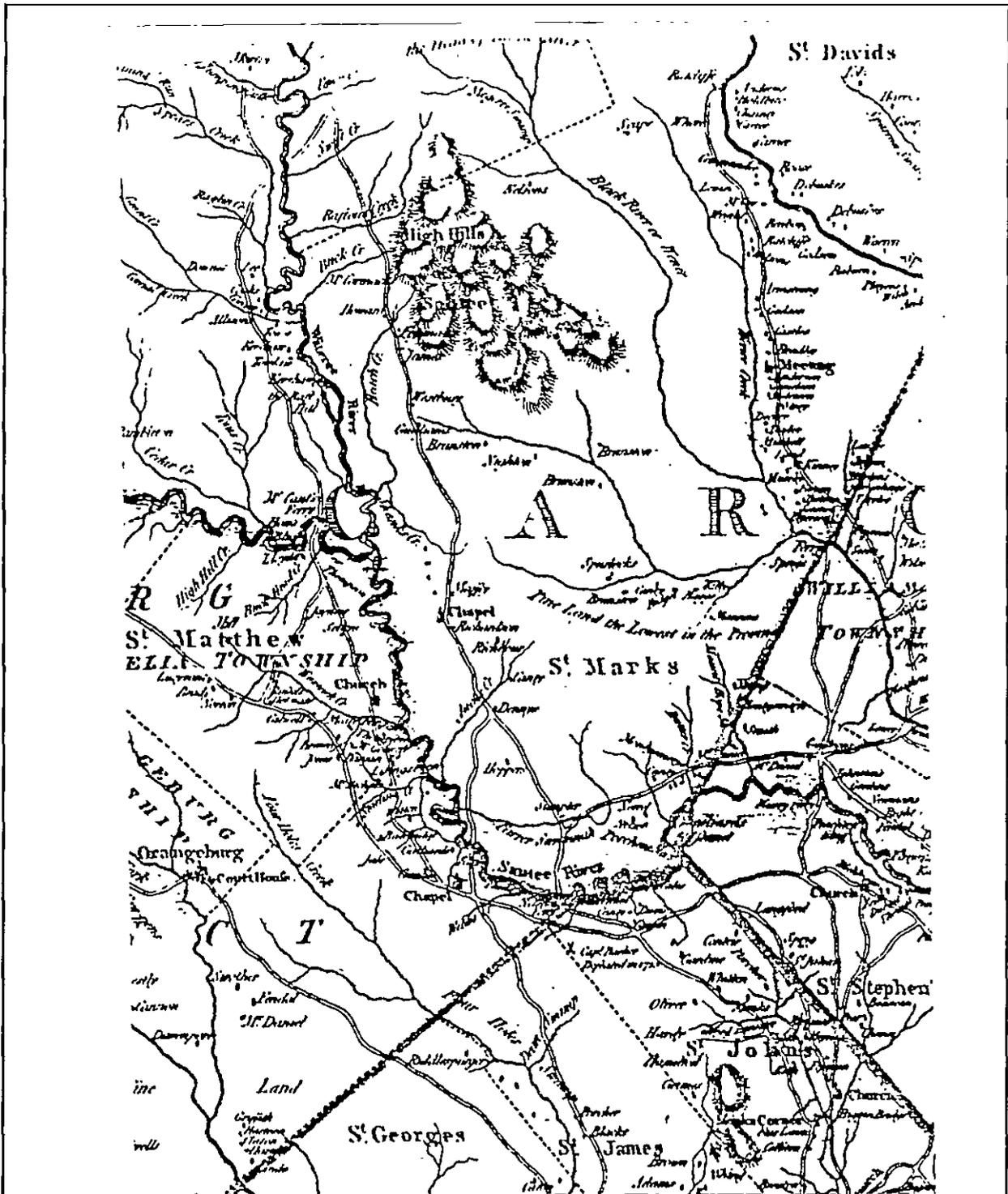


Figure 6. A portion of "An Accurate Map of North and South Carolina" by Mouzon (1775), showing the project corridor at a scale of approximately 1 inch to 10 miles.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

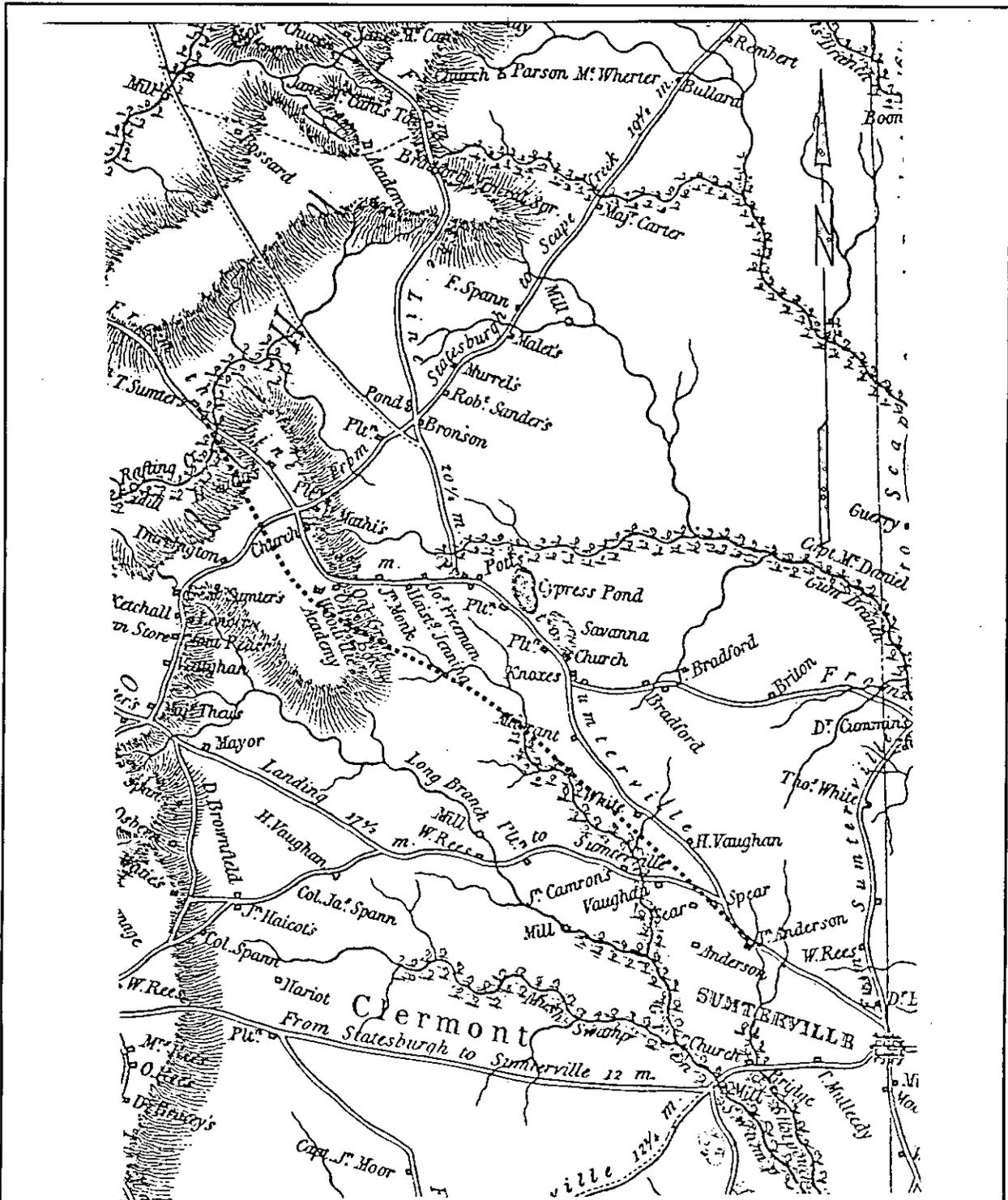


Figure 7. A portion of the Sumter District from Mill's Atlas of 1826 showing the project corridor at a scale of 1 inch to 2 miles.

sold in 1791 (Gregorie 1954:108-109).

The early slave density was about three to five slaves per white family. The 1790 census for both Claremont and Clarendon counties numerated 2,910 slaves. By 1800, that number had increased to 653, and by 1820 there were 16,143 slave in the Sumter District (Mills 1972 [1826]:748).

Mills provides an interesting view of the project area during the early nineteenth century, noting that the "soil is well adapted to the cultivation of cotton, maize or Indian corn, cow pease, sweet potatoes, wheat, rye, oats, rice, etc." (Mills 1972 [1826]:741-742). His comments on settlement within the area has considerable bearing on the prehistoric and historic archaeology of the region.

There is a number of what are called savannahs, bays, and cypress ponds in the flat parts of the county. The first are a kind of meadows, without a tree or shrub, delightfully green, and having generally a good looking soil; yet afterall this spacious appearance, the planters deem them not worth cultivating or enclosing" (Mills 1972 [1826]:744).

Mills found very little to say about Sumter, noting that the slaves were "great pilferers," taverns were common and "public nuisances," the roads "exceedingly bad," and the amusements of cards and billiards "carried to an extreme" (Mills 1972 [1826]:746-749). By 1850, Sumter District was the fourth largest producer of cotton, the seventh largest producer of rice, and the third largest producer of peas and potatoes (DeBow 1854:304-305).

The Civil War had reactively little impact on Sumter County until 1865. On April 5, 1865 Union General Edward Potter left Georgetown to march overland to the town of Sumter, and by April 9, had routed the Confederate forces defending the approach to Sumter, at Dingle's Mill. Potter occupied Sumter that same day and

the town was partially burned. Military occupation of Sumter continued through out the spring and into the summer of 1865.

Sumter was chosen as a location for the establishment of on of the ten statewide Freedmen's Bureaus established in South Carolina shortly after the conclusion of the war (Gregorie 1954:260-273). The Black Codes created a low wage system under which blacks were forced to work in a modified form of slavery (Gregorie 1954:274). Burke et al. (1943:6) note that once farms began using hired labor, the lack of capital "forced many planters into the one-crop system and initiated the tenant system". The renting or sharecropping which emerged in place of slavery limited all small farmers and encouraged the excessive production of cotton. The tenant farmers were unable to escape the monopoly of the rural merchants, who had risen to replace the destroyed antebellum credit system, and became subservient to the production of cotton.

The maximum cotton prices occurred in Sumter County in 1889, although they declined to about half their previous levels by 1934. Bennett et al. (1909:304) suggest that low prices in 1897 are primarily responsible for the diversification of crops after the 1890s, although Burke et al. (1943:6-7) writing a number of years later, implied that it was not until the advent of the boll weevil in 1922 that farm policy actually changed.

## FIELD METHODS

The initially proposed field investigations involved essentially two techniques. We would conduct a visual inspection of plowed fields evidencing good surface visibility with opportunistic shovel tests to verify surface indications and soil conditions. We would also excavate shovel tests at 100 foot intervals in those areas where visible inspection is not possible. Given the length of the corridor, we anticipated treating the entire project as a high probability area for archaeological resources and did not anticipate conducting any tests at 200 foot intervals.

Should sites be identified either by shovel testing or surface inspection, 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 by the field director. For this survey, an archaeological site was defined as three or more artifacts within a 200 foot area. Modern garbage (dating to the past fifty years) would be disregarded unless associated with earlier remains.

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 subsoil. All cultural remains would be collected, except for shell, mortar, and brick, and would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Note would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

These field methods were put into effect with only one minor deviation (Figure 8). The majority of the survey corridor provided no areas of cleared ground, so no pedestrian survey was conducted. The entire corridor was subjected to shovel testing. One other factor, however, is that although we were able to identify both the origin and terminus of the project transmission line, we were unable to identify any centerline stakes in Sections 3, 4, and 5. Section 1

contained some stakes along the line, whereas Section 2 contained stakes only on the western end of the corridor. Nor were we able to identify any cut lines from the middle of Section 2 through Section 5. Consequently, we used the available design engineering plan sheet (drawing number 5155-F02-5001) as a guide and attempted to survey the project area by compass and its relationship to the existing Black River Cooperative transmission line which paralleled a majority of the Santee Cooper survey line.

Field notes 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.

BLACK RIVER TRANSMISSION LINE SURVEY

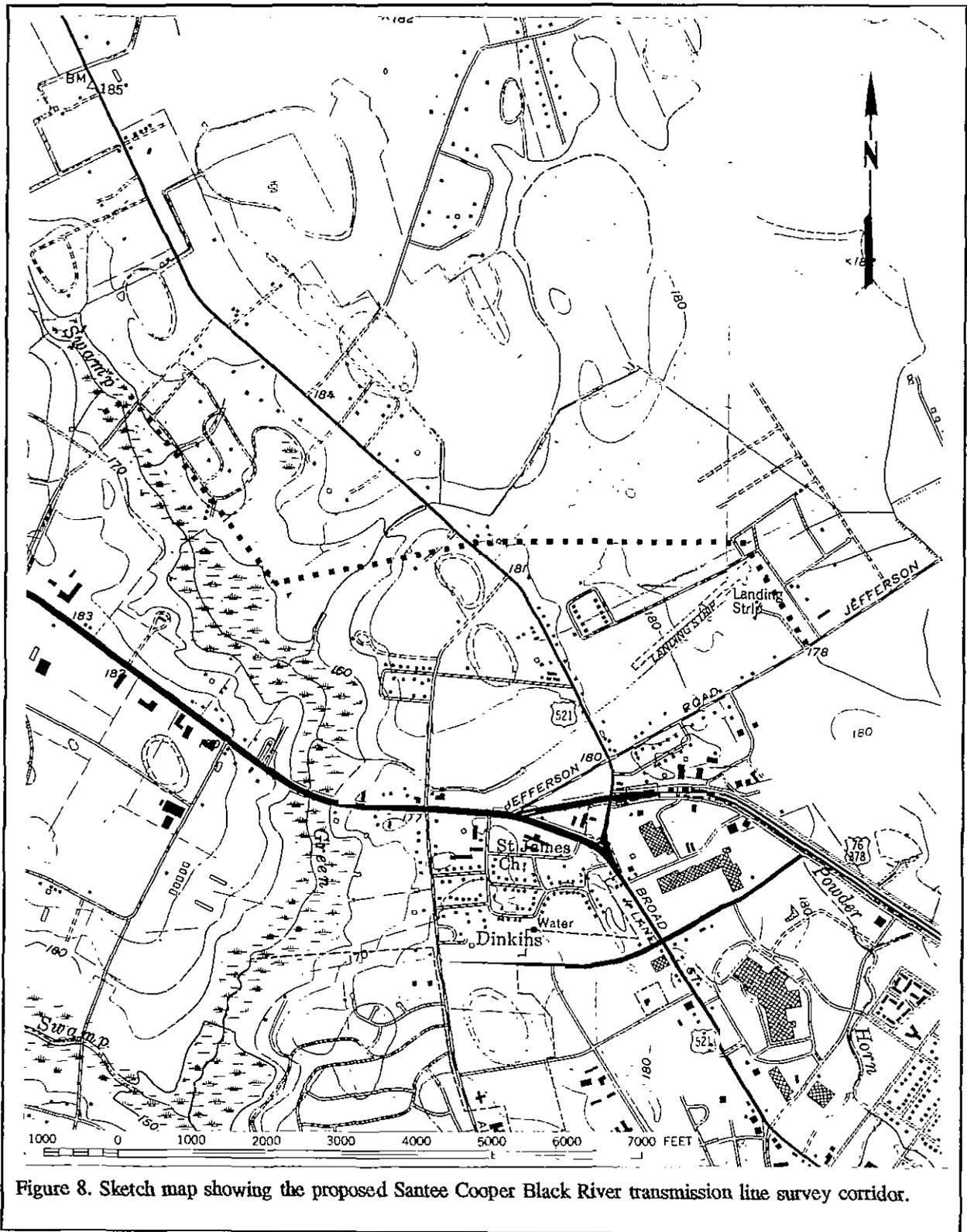


Figure 8. Sketch map showing the proposed Santee Cooper Black River transmission line survey corridor.

## RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

No cultural resources were encountered in the survey corridor. Much of the area was found to be gently to strongly sloping and elsewhere (Sections 4 and 5) standing water or marsh like environments were encountered.

It is likely that while some prehistoric occupation of the tract might be expected in the form of small lithic scatters, particularly on knolls and ridge noses, apparently these landforms were too far away from the intermittent stream or the stream was too small to attract occupation. Historic occupation was undoubtedly limited by the steep slopes and absence of nearby water. Industrial sites, such as mills, would have been limited by the small size of Horse Pen Creek just southwest of the project area, as well as the low swampy margins of the Green Swamp.

Of equal importance to our understanding of occupation in the survey area is the evidence we encountered of significant erosion, deflation, and overall turbation of the soil. Section 1 exhibits a very deflated soil profile. Normally Rembert soils contain 0.6 inches of A horizon. The soils in Section 1 contain no A horizon and begin with the B horizon, a dark gray (10YR 4/1) sandy clay loam. Numerous drainage ditches, approximately 6 to 8 feet wide and 6 feet deep, have been excavated horizontally to this line. Section 2, although stratigraphically sound in most places, was very disturbed in certain areas. As well, these poorly drained soils retained a great deal of water. Wet soils were typically encountered at 1.2 to 1.4 feet in depth. Section 3 contained the most complete soil stratigraphy encountered in the survey corridor. This section strongly slopes to the southwest towards the Green Swamp drainage and north from approximately midway down the line to its intersection with Section 4. The last 300 feet of Section 3 contains standing water, as well as subsurface water 0.1 to 0.2 foot below surface. Section 4 is highly disturbed with surface water and just below surface water along its entire length. Numerous drainage ditches have been excavated in an

effort to drain this portion of the corridor. Also, heavy disturbance of the soils is evident approximately 20 to 30 feet on either side of the existing sewer line. The elevation along the sewer line right of way is approximately level with a line of private parcels to the east. Its construction left a low lying area in between, approximately 1 foot in depth, and hindered water flow in the area thus allowing standing water to be retained. Section 5 contains only standing water with pockets of marsh land.

While we see no reason to conduct any further investigations in the surveyed corridor, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the survey corridor during construction, especially if the final corridor is appreciably different from that examined during this study. 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.

**BLACK RIVER TRANSMISSION LINE SURVEY**

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