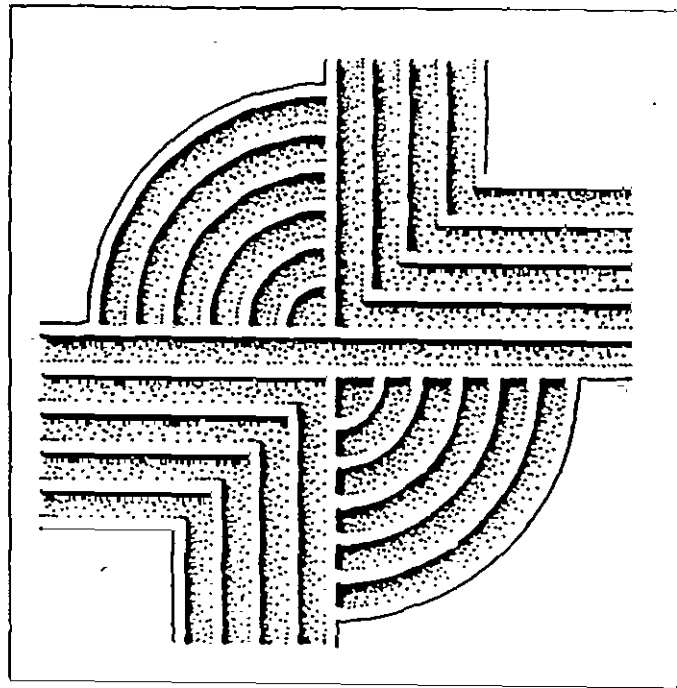


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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE  
PROPOSED ST. MATHEWS 115kV TAP LINE,  
CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED  
ST. MATHEWS 115kV TAP LINE,  
CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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## ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive archaeological and architectural survey of a 0.2 mile transmission line and 3.4 acre substation in south central Calhoun County, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The corridor is 1160 feet in length and 75 feet in width throughout. It will run from the existing 69kV line adjacent to an unnumbered county road south and west to the new substation, located on Moorer Road South (S-255). The survey corridor is on gently sloping wooded terrain, while the substation is in a level, fallow field.

The proposed transmission line will require the clearing and grubbing of the corridor, followed by placement of the single poles, each about 80 feet in height. The substation will require grading and excavation for the construction of concrete tower footers. These activities have the potential to affect archaeological and historical sites and this survey was conducted to identify and assess archaeological and historical sites which may be in the project corridor. For this study an area of potential effect (APE) 0.25 mile around the substation was assumed.

Consultation with the S.C. Department of Archives and History revealed no previously identified archaeological or architectural sites in the project's APE. No National Register properties were present. An investigation of the archaeological site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology likewise identified no known archaeological sites within the APE, although the corridor did run through well drained soils which were previously cultivated.

The archaeological survey incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on the center line of the

proposed corridor, which had been surveyed at the time of this investigation. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and the shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the study. A total of 12 shovel tests were excavated in the survey corridor. The substation was surveyed using shovel tests placed at 100 foot intervals. No archaeological sites were identified as a result of these investigations.

The investigations also incorporated a windshield survey in an effort to identify any architectural sites within 0.25 mile of the corridor. None were found.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the corridor 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 State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We appreciate the support and assistance of Central Electric Power Cooperative, as well as their commitment and concern for South Carolina's cultural resources. I also want to thank Mr. Robert Kidd and Mr. Tommy Jackson of Central Electric, for their continued support and confidence in Chicora Foundation.

I want to thank Mr. Tom Covington and Ms. Autumn Perkins of our staff who were responsible for assembling the background information for this project. Mr. Tom Covington also assisted in the field survey. I appreciate their dedication and thoroughness.



## INTRODUCTION

This intensive archaeological survey of the proposed 115kV transmission line in Calhoun County was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Tommy L. Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of a corridor about 1160 feet in length, with a consistent width of 75 feet, situated on the south central edge of Calhoun County about 4 miles south of St. Matthews (Figure 1). It is designed to tie an existing 69kV line with a new Tri County substation, currently under construction on Moorer Road South (S-255).

The corridor, which runs from generally south from the existing transmission line, is in an area of very gentle slopes on the south side of a ridge slope, with elevations ranging from 280 to 290 feet above mean sea level. The area, which had been previously cultivated, is now in planted pines about 20 years old. The substation at the southwestern terminus is in a fallow field and is incorporated in this survey. The tract measures about 400 feet southwest-northeast and 300 feet northwest-south (2.8 acres).

The corridor, as previously mentioned, is intended to be used to connect the existing 115kV line to the new substation. Landscape alteration, primarily clearing and perhaps grubbing, as well as subsequent placement of single poles, will cause some damage to the ground surface and any archaeological resources which may be present in the survey area. Future maintenance of the line and its easement may also have an impact on historic resources in the project area. The substation itself will include grading and construction of the metal poles and associated support structures.

Although the project will not remove any structures, power line corridors may detract from the

visual integrity of historic properties, creating what many consider discordant surroundings. Given the small size of the poles to be used (80 feet or less) and their proximity to an existing powerline corridor, this impact is anticipated to be modest. Nevertheless, this architectural survey uses an area of potential effect (APE) about 0.25 mile around the proposed facility.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded commercial or industrial development of this currently rural section of the South Carolina Upper Coastal Plain.

We were requested by Mr. Robert Kidd of Central Electric Power Cooperative to conduct a cultural resources survey of the tract on March 21, 2000. These investigations incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. No archaeological sites were identified in the defined APE.

In addition, the master topographic maps at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History were checked to locate any NRHP buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects, or structures surveys in the study area. There are no NRHP properties in the APE. Nor are there any previously surveyed architectural sites.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files, as well as research at the South Caroliniana Library and the Thomas Cooper Map Repository.

The archaeological survey was conducted on March 28, 2000 by Dr. Michael Trinkley and Mr. Tom Covington. The architectural survey of the corridor, designed to determine if there were any historic sites in the APE, was also conducted on March 28. These investigations required a total of 9 person hours.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED ST. MATTHEWS 115kV TAP LINE

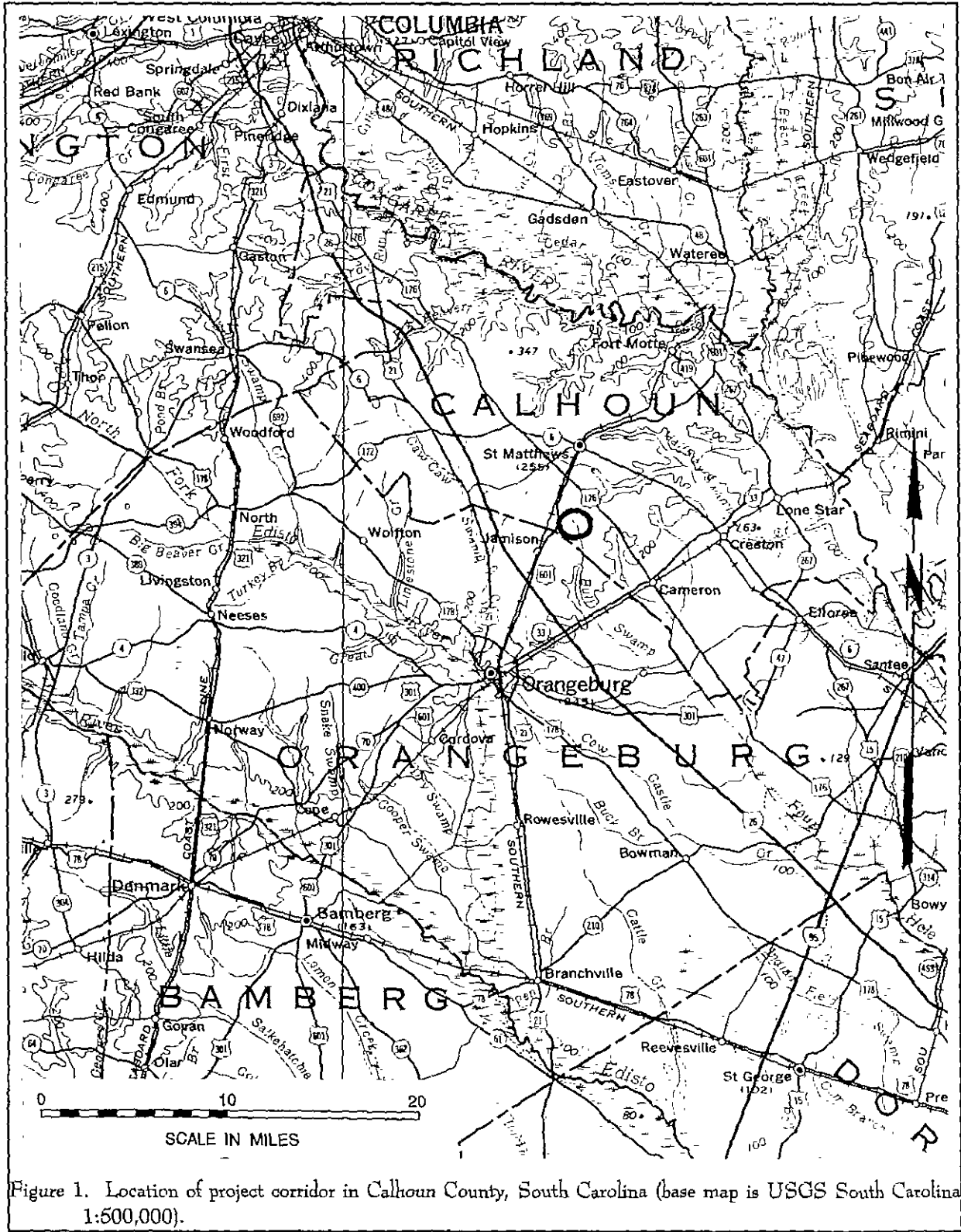


Figure 1. Location of project corridor in Calhoun County, South Carolina (base map is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

## NATURAL SETTING

### Physiography and Geology

The survey tract is situated in the Upper Coastal Plain, south of the Fall Line and the Sand Hills found along the northern and western edges of the County. Elevations in the Upper Coastal Plain range from 100 to 270 feet above mean sea level, with the topography being gently rolling. As Kovacik and Winberry (1987:20) observe, it can be very difficult to distinguish the Upper Coastal Plain from that of the Sand Hills or even the lower Piedmont. You find the flatter, and almost featureless, Coastal Plain topography further to the southeast, south of the Citronelle Escarpment (Orange-burg Scarp).

Calhoun County is drained primarily by the Congaree River, which flows southeastwardly along its northern border with Richland County. Other significant drainages include the Caw Caw Swamp, which flows southeastwardly into the North Fork of the Edisto River, and Halfway Swamp Creek which drains much of the southern portion of the county, eventually flowing into the Congaree River. Just to the east of the survey area is Four Hole Swamp, which eventually joins the Edisto River in Dorchester County to the southeast. At the headwaters, in the survey area, the swamp is small and is dammed in

several areas.

Mills also comments on the numerous creeks and rivers of the Orangeburg District (of which Calhoun County was a part at that time). He notes that many were navigable (Mills 1972 [1826]: 664-665) and the highest quality lands are situated along the Edisto. Since the area was subject to flooding, however,

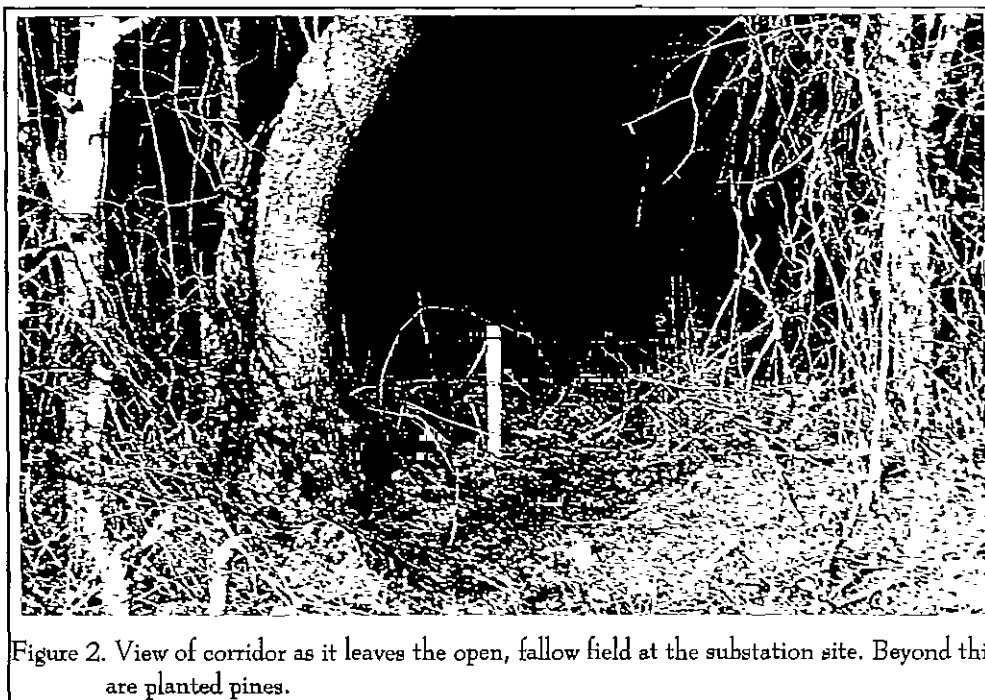


Figure 2. View of corridor as it leaves the open, fallow field at the substation site. Beyond this are planted pines.

relatively little of the land was in active cultivation. He remarks that, "owing to their being so narrow, they would require expensive embankments, which would probably not be repaid in the value of the land thus reclaimed" (Mills 1972 [1826]:659).

Mills also comments that "Orangeburg lies within the alluvial region entirely; the upper edge just dipping into the primitive or granite region" (Mills 1972 [1826]:657). Today we recognize that this "upper

region" lies outside the boundaries of Calhoun County, which includes only the Upper Coastal Plain and a small portion of the Sand Hills. We also recognize the complex geology of the Upper Coastal Plain where there are bedded sands overlaying kaolinitic clays and clayey, quartzose sands (Murphy 1995:93).

In this stone poor section of the state the nearest source of lithic materials for Native Americans would be the metamorphic and volcanic rocks of the Carolina Slate Belt which outcrop to the north of the survey area in Anson County, North Carolina and west along the fall line in southeastern Lancaster, northern Chesterfield, and Kershaw counties in South Carolina. Far closer are occasional deposits or outcrops of cherts and orthoquartzites (see Anderson et al 1973:11-12 for additional information).

### Soils

Mills commented that the Orangeburg distinct included a variety of soils. Most were described as having "a light, sandy nature, thin soil, but bottomed on clay" (Mills 1972 [1826]:658). This clay bottom helps minimize the droughty nature of the sandy soils, many of which are characterized as excessively well drained. Along the Congaree and Santee rivers he observed a very different soil, described as "a stiff, red clay" found on rolling hills — a description of a small area of the piedmont.

While a small portion of Calhoun County, forming a wedge along the Lexington County line, is within the Sand Hills, most of the region is within the Coastal Plain. These soils are primarily the Norfolk-Ruston-Lakeland soils and, in the survey vicinity, the Magnolia-Faceville-Ruston association. These latter soils are termed the "red soils" of the Coastal Plain and are found on gently to moderately sloping areas. In general these soils consist of sandy upper horizons on top of yellowish-brown or yellowish-red subsoils with a fair quantity of clay.

The survey area includes primarily Norfolk loamy sands (Lawrence 1963: Map 29). These are deep, well-drained, friable soils found in upland areas. They are formed in thick beds of unconsolidated sand, often resting on sand clays. A typical profile reveals about 1.1

foot of grayish brown (10YR5/2) loamy sand overlying a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) friable sandy clay loam or sandy loam, often to a depth of 3.5 feet. Below this is the C horizon — a somewhat darker clay loam (Lawrence 1963:100).

There is also a very small localized area of what is classified as "Local Alluvial Land." These are moderately well drained soils that are found in small depressions. Profiles are variable but are often similar to the surrounding soils. This was certainly the case in this survey, where the soils are found in the substation tract. The soils were recognizable only as being slightly darker and slightly deeper than the surrounding Norfolk soils.

Historically these sandy soils have been recognized to have low fertility. During the early nineteenth century, Mills commented that local farmers were beginning to more aggressively deal with the nutritional deficiencies of the soil:

The planters now improve their lands by manuring the corn hills either with cotton seed or swamp mud, throwing up in pens in the fall season, to remain during the winter. By mixing with it cotton seed, stable manure, or decayed vegetables, its fertilizing qualities are greatly increased (Mills 1972 [1826]:660).

### Floristics

In the early nineteenth century Mills comments that the river lands — especially those adjacent to the Edisto — were dominated by "the magnolia, beech, willow, ash, elm, oak, birch, walnut, and hickory" while in the deeper swamp were "large groups of cypress, loblolly, bay, sweet bay, maple, tupelo, and poplar trees of an immense height and circumference" (Mills 1972 [1826]:658). In contrast, the uplands were dominated by pines. This situation is largely unchanged today. On the bluffs overlooking the rivers there is a pine-hardwood community dominated by loblolly pine, hickory, and various oaks. On the lower slopes the vegetation is dominated by species tolerant of the wetter conditions, such as white oak, sweet gum, willow oak, and black gum. In the river floodplains there

are sweet gum, laurel oak, water hickory, and tupelo (Kovacik and Winberry 1987:45).

The survey area, however, has been extensively altered by modern land-use activities. Up to the 1970s the area was under cultivation, with only narrow strips of vegetation along drainageways and field edges. Today the fields are out of cultivation and have been replaced by planted pines (Figure 2).

### Climate

Like elsewhere in the state, Mills distinguished between the swamp lands and the sand lands in his assessment of Orangeburg's health:

the sandhill section of this district presents as fine and healthy a climate as any country can boast of. Diseases are rare here . . . Along the margins of the creeks and rivers, and within the influence of swamps, bays, and stagnant ponds, fevers and agues, bilious remittents, typhus, and other inflammatory diseases prevail" (Mills 1972 [1826]:664).

This portion of South Carolina is dominated by the movement of systems across the country, but there are relatively few complete exchanges of air masses in the summer. This results in few breaks in the midsummer heat, with temperatures ranging from the high 80s to the low-90s. In contrast, winters are mild and relatively short. There are 45 inches of annual precipitation, with nearly 27 inches falling in the growing season (Lawrence 1963:127).



## PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

### Previous Research

Calhoun may be one of the least well studied counties in South Carolina. There are, for example, only six reports for the county listed by Derting et al. (1991). Of these, two are surveys or plans by the Lower Savannah Council of Governments which contain virtually no substantive archaeological information. Two other reports both concern site 38CL4, a site at which the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology conducted brief test excavations in the early 1970s, and the two remaining reports involve brief archaeological surveys — with only one of these reports identifying any archaeological resources (Smith 1977).

### Prehistoric Overview

The Paleo-Indian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977). The Paleo-Indian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Points usually associated with this period include the Clovis and several variants, Suwannee, Simpson, and Dalton (Goodyear et al. 1989:36-38).

At least one Paleo-Indian point has been found in the Calhoun area, reportedly from the Little Bull Swamp Creek drainage (Goodyear et al. 1989:33). This pattern of artifacts found along major river drainages has been interpreted by Michie to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleo-Indian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleo-Indian groups were at a band level of society, were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward

the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 1000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleo-Indian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the Calhoun County area. Archaic period assemblages, characterized by corner-notched, side-notched, and broad stemmed projectile points, are common in the vicinity, although they rarely are found in good, well-preserved contexts.

The Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast, about 1000 B.C. in the Upper Coastal Plain, and much later in the Carolina Piedmont, perhaps 500 B.C. It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2000 to 500 B.C. was a period of tremendous change.

The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish. Various calculations of the probable yield of deer, fish, and other food sources identified from some coastal sites indicate that sedentary life was not only possible, but probable. Further inland it seems likely that many Native American groups continued the previous established patterns of band mobility. These frequent moves would allow the groups to take advantage of various seasonal resources, such as shad and sturgeon in the spring, nut masts in the fall, and turkeys during the winter.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED ST. MATTHEWS 115kV TAP LINE

			Regional Phases		
Dates	Period	Sub-Period	COASTAL	MIDDLE SAVANNAH VALLEY	CENTRAL CAROLINA PIEDMONT
1715	HIST.	EARLY	Altamaha		Caraway
1650		LATE	Irene / Pee Dee	Rembert Hollywood	Dan River
1100	MISS.	EARLY	Savannah	Lawton Savannah	
800		LATE	St. Catherines / Swift Creek		Uwharrie
A.D.		WOODLAND	MIDDLE	Wilmington Deptford	Sand Tempered Wilmington?  Deptford
B.C.	EARLY		Refuge		Badin
1000	ARCHAIC	LATE	Thom's Creek Stallings  Savannah River Halifax		
2000		MIDDLE	Gulford Morrow Mountain Stanly		
3000		EARLY	Kirk Palmer Hardaway		
5000	PALEOINDIAN		Hardaway - Dalton		
8000			Cumberland	Clovis	Simpson
10,000					
12,000					

Figure 3. Generalized cultural periods for South Carolina.



The South Appalachian Mississippian period, from about A.D. 1100 to A.D. 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 the Savannah and Irene (known as Pee Dee further inland) (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

However little we know about the various small coastal tribes, considerably less is known about the protohistoric and historic tribes in the Upper Coastal Plain. Mooney (1894:80) devotes a modest two paragraphs to the Congarees — thought to be the primary tribe in the study area. He notes that in 1701, Lawson found them “on the northeastern bank of the river below the junction of the Wateree” (Mooney 1894:80). In fact, Lawson’s account (Lefler 1967:33-35) is the most detailed available for the tribe. He describes their town as consisting “not of above a dozen Houses, they having other stragling Plantations up and down the Country.” He reported that they had lost much of their population to smallpox and other European diseases; in spite of this the Congarees were reported to be “kind and affable to the English, the Queen being very kind, giving us what rarities her Cabin afforded, as Loblolly [a thick gruel] made with Indian Corn, and dry’d Peaches” (Lefler 1967:35). He also commented that when visiting the village in early January there was a “good store of Chinkapin-Nuts, which they gather in Winter great Quantities of, drying them; so keep these Nuts in great Baskets for their Use; likewise Hickerie-Nuts, which they beat betwixt two great Stones, then sift them, so thicken their Venison-Broath therewith” (Lefler 1967:34-35). Taukchiray suggests that this village was located on Pinetree Creek, although no archaeological effort has been made to locate the settlement (Hicks 1998:48).

Mooney reports that by 1715 their settlements had shifted to the south bank of the Congaree, perhaps on Big Beaver Creek (Mooney 1894:80). Taukchiray expands on this, suggesting “in 1712-1715, the Congaree lived on Congaree River — first on the west side (now Calhoun County), then on the east side (now

Richland County)” with some “on the north/northeastern side of upper Congaree River around Gills and Mill Creeks, on the outskirts of present-day Columbia” (Hicks 1998:50).

The 1715 Yemassee War further reduced their numbers and destabilized their society. Taukchiray suggests that they left their Congaree heartland in late 1716 and moved to the “northwest side of the Waccamaw River in what is now Horry County” (Hicks 1998:50). They stayed in this area until joining the Catawba about 1736. Although largely amalgamated by the Catawba, Taukchiray reports that at late as 1760 one of the Catawba headmen was known to the English as “Congaree Jimmy” (Hicks 1998:50).

Although the site of the Congaree trading post has been identified (Michie n.d.), the fort wasn’t built until 1718 — after the Congaree had left the area. Consequently, while the fort is an exceptionally important part of the region’s history, it was not help us understand the ceramics or lifeways of the early Congaree. For this it will be necessary to search for the early villages.

### Historic Synopsis

The earliest settlement in the area which is today Calhoun County appears to have begun with the 1704 grant to Robert Sterling of 570 acres on Lyons Creek. Situated about 4 miles south of St. Matthews on the Charleston Road, this seems to have served as a focus for additional settlement, largely by English and French Huguenots, who came to the area between 1735 and 1737 (Lawrence 1963:128; Mills 1972 [1826]:656-657).

Settlement in the area was also spurred by the township plan of Governor Robert Johnson in the 1730s. The Amelia Township was situated on the west bank of the Congaree and Santee rivers, with the town site situated at the mouth of the Congaree. Settlement was particularly attracted to the areas of Buckhead, Lyons, and Halfway Swamp Creek (Smith 1977:9). It wasn’t until the late 1740s that Amelia began to grow, but it quickly became a planters’ parish and by 1757 the population had grown to 700 (Meriwether 1940:49-50). With the end of the Cherokee threat in 1761 the

area attracted a second round of growth, with many small planters and farmers coming to the Wateree's west bank, below the shoals (Central Midlands Regional Planning Council 1974:142).

Further to the south the Orangeburg Township was located on the east bank of the North Fork of the Edisto River, bordering Amelia to the north. The middle and upper sections, notably along the rivers, provided excellent agricultural land and this settlement attracted a variety of German and Swiss settlers. By 1740 the population had reached 500 (Meriwether 1940:45-46).

Originally part of Orangeburg District, the 1785 act divided the district into Lewisburg (along the river), Orange, Lexington (to the north), and Winton (an early version of Barnwell along the Savannah). These counties, however, were abolished in 1791 and the Orangeburg District was reinstated. By 1804, however, the district was again subdivided, this time into Lexington (1804), Orangeburg, and Barnwell (1800). Consequently, by the time Mills discussed the region in 1820, Orangeburg was an elongated district and Mills observed that, "its figure is very irregular, having a kind of peninsula, or long narrow strip, running between two rivers, upwards of twenty-six miles from the main body of the district" (Mills 1972 [1826]:657).

During the Colonial period Orangeburg was at best a small village, containing several taverns and stores, a courthouse, a jail, both a Lutheran and an Anglican church, and a few small residences (Edgar 1998:163). The jail, built in 1770, was the one which General Sumter:

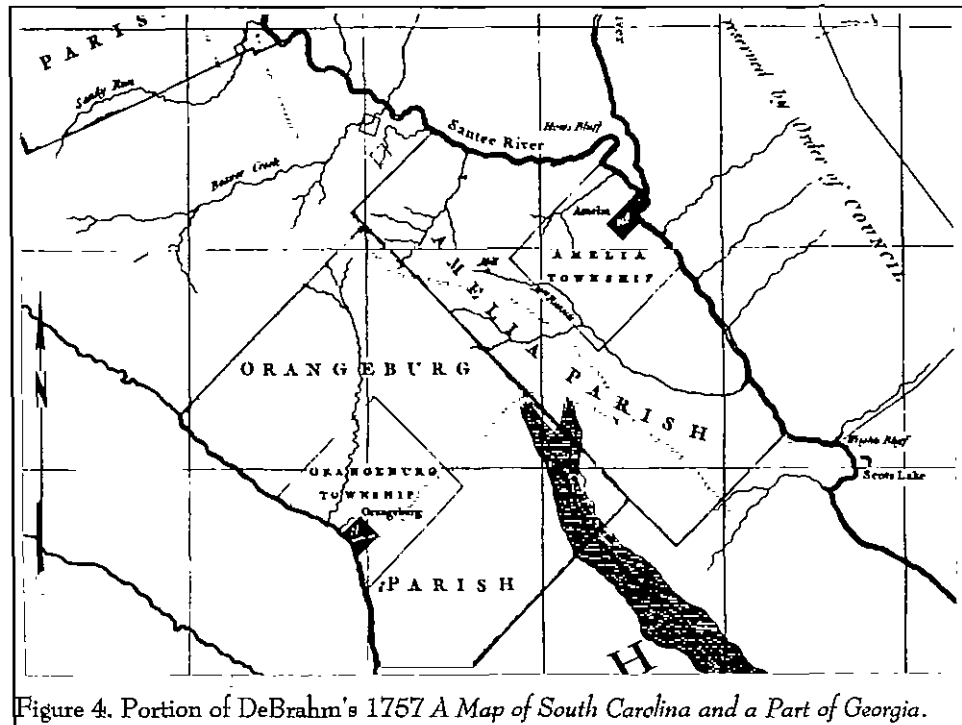


Figure 4. Portion of DeBrahm's 1757 A Map of South Carolina and a Part of Georgia.

besieged and took, during the revolutionary war. The British had a garrison there consisting of 70 militia and 12 regulars. This village was for some time the seat of war. After Lord Rawdon had retreated from Camden, he took up his quarters here, whither he was pursued by Gen. Green, who offering him battle; but his lordship, secure in his strong hold, would not venture out; and Gen. Green was too weak to attack him in his works, with any prospect of success (Mills 1972 [1826]:662-663).

It was also during this same campaign that General Green and his partisans attacked and took over Fort Motte (in what is today Calhoun County) (Edgar 1998:237).

By the second quarter of the nineteenth century there were only three settlements in Orangeburg. The village of Orangeburg was "not favorably situated for health" according to Mills,

although it was "tolerably central to the district." The second was the village of Poplar Spring, about 4.5 miles west of Orangeburg and used primarily as a summer residence. The third settlement was the village of Totness, on the north side of High Hill Creek, about 3 miles from the Congaree River. It, too, was primarily a summer village for the planters, which Mills described as "pleasant . . . and much frequented" (Mills 1972 [1826]:663).

Between 1800 and 1820 the population of the Orangeburg District had increased by over a third, from 10,155 to 15653. But the proportion of white increase was modest, from 5,957 in 1800 to 6,760 in 1820. The African American slave population, however, had more than doubled, from 4,110 to 8,829. This clearly documents the rise of plantations in the region, primarily along the rivers where the best lands were situated. Although Mills comments that there was a lively timber export trade from the district and that the German settlers "made a decent living" from growing corn, "cotton engrosses most attention" (Mills 1972 [1826]:660). It was certainly cotton which supported the increase in African American bondage in the region.

By 1850 the population had increased to 18,519, with 15,384 (83%) of these being African American slaves. Orangeburg had 1,206 farms, with an average of 150 improved acres. The district produced 614,418 bushels of Indian corn, ranking it 13th (out of 29). Also produced were 1,299,379 pounds of rice, ranking Orangeburg fifth in the state, behind fourth

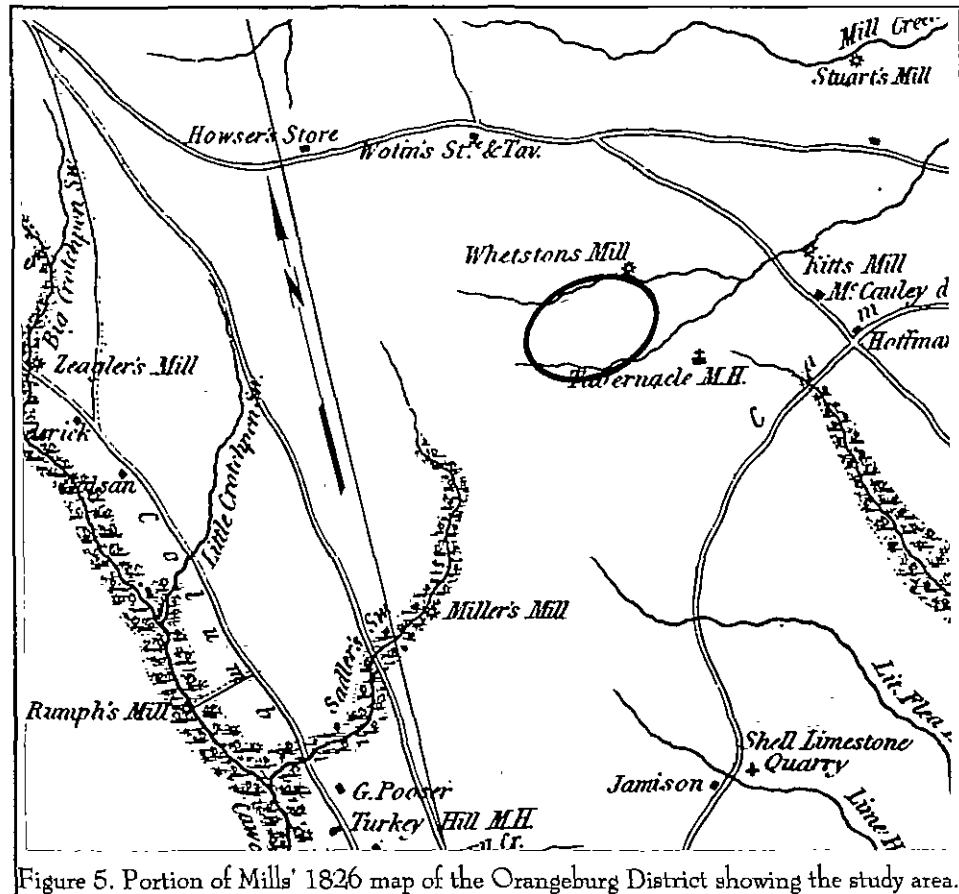


Figure 5. Portion of Mills' 1826 map of the Orangeburg District showing the study area.

ranked Charleston with 16,906,273 pounds, but ahead of sixth ranked Anderson District (with 956,940 pounds). In spite of the slave population, Orangeburg District produced only 10,024 bales of cotton, ranking it thirteenth (DeBow 1854). Lawrence observed that while wheat was grown, it was affected by rust in the late antebellum and stopped being produced until rust-resistant varieties were introduced after the Civil War. He, too, reports that the region's attention was focused on cotton, which remained the area's primary crop until the mid-twentieth century when its prominence was shattered by soybeans (Lawrence 1963:128).

Orangeburg saw little impact from the Civil War until the end, when Sherman's troops came up the north side of the Edisto, followed the North Fork in the city of Orangeburg, which was burned, and then continued north into what is today Calhoun County, crossing over the Santee River (Glatthaar 1985).

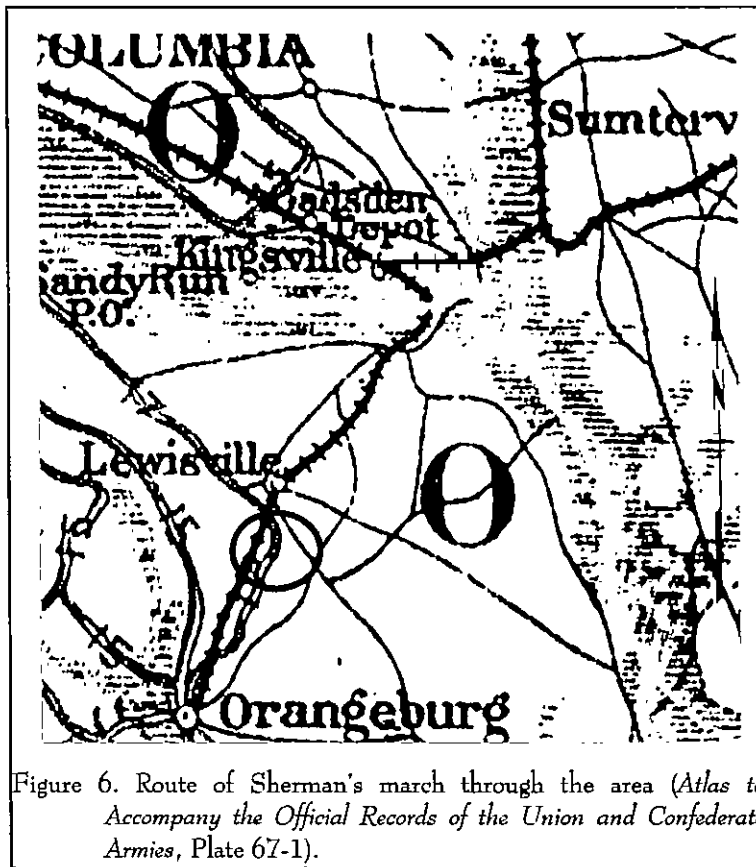


Figure 6. Route of Sherman's march through the area (*Atlas to Accompany the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Plate 67-1).

After the Civil War, with slaves no longer providing easy labor for the cotton plantations, the economy was stagnant and a slow period of rebuilding began. The remaining decades of the nineteenth century were focused on the dual goals of restoring the economy and ensuring that African Americans remained in a state as closely as possible resembling bondage.

The hiring of freedmen began immediately after the war, with variable results. The Freedmen's Bureau attempted to establish a system of wage labor, but the effort was largely tempered by the enactment of the Black Codes by the South Carolina Legislature in September 1865. These Codes allowed nominal freedom, while establishing a new kind of slavery, severely restricting the rights and freedoms of the black majority. Added to the Codes were oppressive contracts which reinforced the power of the plantation owner and degraded the freedom of the Blacks. Many white planters formed "Democratic Clubs," designed to

counter the "radical" influence. Members of these clubs resolved not to hire "radicals," or blacks associated with radical politics.

While cash labor was initially used, gradually owners turned away from wage labor contracts, at least partially because of the scarcity of money, but also because of the prevailing belief among whites that blacks were so lazy that with money in their pockets they would not work. In its place two kinds of tenancy — sharecropping and renting — developed. While very different, both succeeded in making land ownership very difficult, if not impossible, for the vast majority of Blacks.

Sharecropping required the tenant to pay his landlord part of the crop produced, while renting required that he pay a fixed rent in either crops or money. In sharecropping the tenant supplied the labor and one-half of the fertilizer, the landlord supplied everything else — land, house, tools, work animals, animal feed, wood for fuel, and the other half of the needed fertilizer. In return the landlord received half of the crop at harvest. This system became known as "working on halves," and the tenants as "half hands," or "half tenants."

In share-renting, the landlord supplied the land, housing, and either one-quarter or one-third of the fertilizer costs. The tenant supplied the labor, animals, animal feed, tools, seed, and the remainder of the fertilizer. At harvest the crop was divided in proportion to the amount of fertilizer that each party supplied. A number of variations on this occurred, one of the most common being "third and fourth," where the landlord received one-fourth of the cotton crop and one-third of all other crops. In cash-renting the landlord provided the land and housing, with the renter providing everything else and paying a fixed per-acre rent in cash.

An 1884 account of the county revealed that while there was only one textile mill (in the town of Orangeburg), there were 112 grist mills scattered across

the countryside, along with 31 flour mills. All were using water power. As a vestige of the area's rice cultivation there was also one rice mill. Cash wages, when paid, were \$4 to \$6 a month, with rations, a house, and a small garden spot. The county had 322 cotton gins, each turning out about 4 bales a day. One of the most interesting observations was that South Carolina prohibition law was not observed and not enforced — apparently liquor flowed freely in Orangeburg (Anonymous 1884).

By 1900 the population of Orangeburg County was 59,663, with African Americans still dominating the population (41,442 or nearly 70%). By this time tenancy had become firmly established — there were 8,408 farms in the county, with an average size of just under 80 acres. Nearly 55% of the farms (n=4,613) were operated by cash tenants.

Nevertheless, Orangeburg recovered with a vengeance. By 1900 the county produced 1,172,520 bushels of corn, ranking it first in corn production. It's nearest competitor was Sumter with 762,120 bushels. Orangeburg also ranked first in cotton, producing 65,433 bales or 0.55 bale per acre (again its closest competitor was Sumter County, which produced 48,485 bales or 0.52 bale per acre). While a certain amount of Orangeburg's success was related to its size, it seems clear that the farms were generally profitably operated.

Calhoun County emerged in 1908, created from parts of Orangeburg and Lexington counties. It was small however, accounting for only 377 square miles. The population in 1910 was only 16,663.

By 1920 there were 2,901 farms in Calhoun County, most of which (n=1,401 or 48%) were between 20 and 49 acres in size. Over three-quarters of those farms were operated by African Americans. Of the 2,901 farms, 2,110 (72%) were operated by tenants and 43% of these were croppers, with an additional 26% being sharecroppers. Calhoun County was

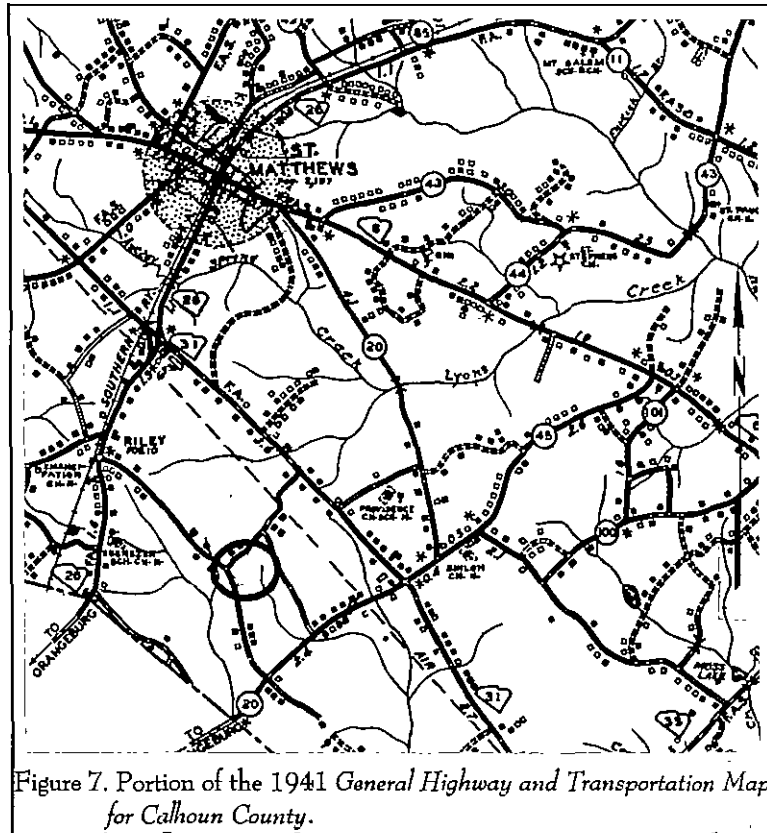


Figure 7. Portion of the 1941 General Highway and Transportation Map for Calhoun County.

dominated by an agriculture focused solely on cotton and designed to maximize profits to owners while minimizing any hope for small farmers — black or white — to ever own land.

The 1920s, however, were the beginning of the end for cotton. Cotton and tobacco prices both collapsed in 1920. This was followed by both droughts and the boll weevil. Edgar observes that in 1930, "after nearly a decade of difficulties, South Carolina agriculture was about to go under. Farmland and buildings had lost more than one-half of their value. One third of the state's farms were mortgaged, and 70 percent of the state's farmers survived on borrowed money" (Edgar 1998:485).

In 1930 nearly 74% of all farms were operated by tenants. About 39% of these were operated by cash tenants, with the bulk operated by other forms, primarily sharecropping. The mortgage problem was worse in Calhoun than statewide — 48% of the farms

were mortgaged, with the average mortgage representing more than a third of the farm's value.

The 1941 General Highway and Transportation Map for Calhoun County (Figure 7), fails to reveal any farms or other structures in the general project area.

Cotton production continued to fall, with only a brief upswing during the 1940s as a result of the war effort. By 1954 cotton production was down to 18,474 acres, from 23,800 acres in 1939. By 1959 it had declined to 12,851 acres. The number of farms also declined dramatically — from 1,749 in 1940 to 832 in 1959 (Lawrence 1963:129). Lawrence also notes that:

a planned land-use program began in 1937 in Calhoun County, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture set up its demonstration project for erosion control. But for several years before 1937 a program for reduction of crops had been in effect (Lawrence 1963:129).

Some of the cotton acreage was taken over by soybeans, while other was converted into pasture. Much was placed in timber, so that today Calhoun County has far less of an agricultural appearance than it did in the early twentieth century.

# RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

## Introduction

As previously indicated, the primary goals of this survey are to identify, record, and assess the significance of archaeological sites within the proposed substation footprint. No major analytical hypotheses were created prior to the field work and data analysis. This research design proposed for this study is fundamentally explorative and explicative.

## Field Survey

The corridor survey area was wooded, but was clearly marked in the field with survey stakes and a cut line. In addition, the corridor had been surveyed and we were provided with a plan sheet of the proposed line. The substation lot had been located in a fallow field, slightly larger than the proposed substation (Figure 8). Although not staked at the time of the survey, the boundaries were sufficiently clear to allow an accurate survey.

The 0.25 mile corridor extends from an existing transmission line roughly paralleling a county road running southwest for about 400 feet, then turning southeast and continuing for an additional 600 feet. It then turns southwest again and enters the rear of the proposed substation, which fronts on Moorer Road (S-255). The substation itself measures about 500 feet southwest-northeast by about 300 feet southeast-northwest

(Figure 9).

The survey corridor was examined using a systematic intensive survey methodology that examined the corridor for archaeological and historical resources. An archaeological survey was conducted using shovel tests placed at 100 foot intervals on the center-line of the corridor (which was 75 feet in width). A total of 12 shovel tests were excavated in the corridor. At the substation lot a series of five southeast-northwest transects were established along the southeastern edge, with the initial transect about 50 feet northeast of the road edge. Each transect consisted of four shovel tests, excavated at 100 foot intervals, beginning at the southeastern edge and terminating at the northwest edge of the tract. A total of 20 shovel tests were excavated in the proposed substation.

All shovel tests were approximately one-foot square and were excavated to subsoil, usually about 1.5 feet below the surface. All soils were screened through

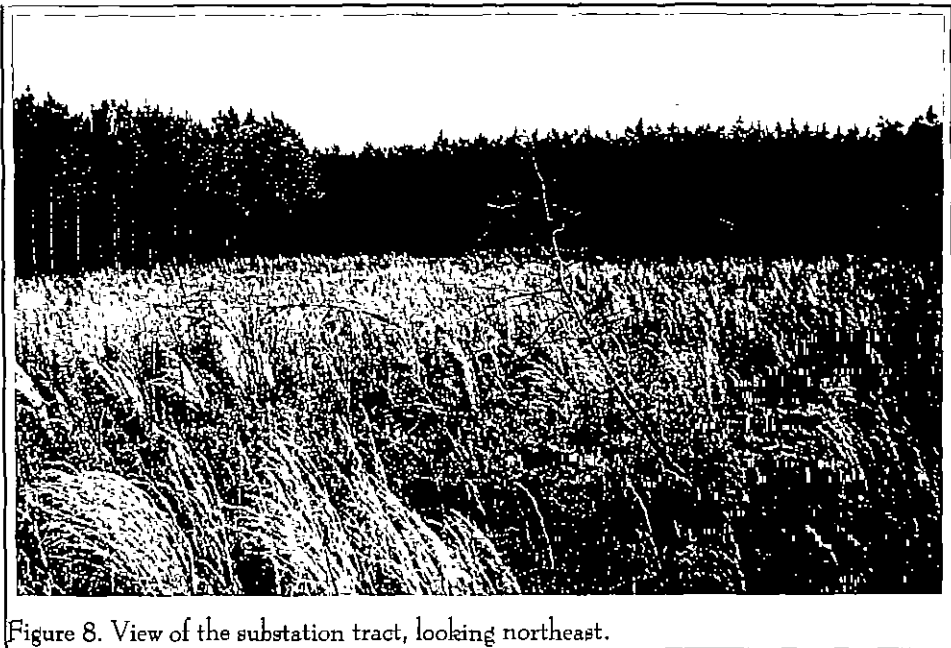


Figure 8. View of the substation tract, looking northeast.

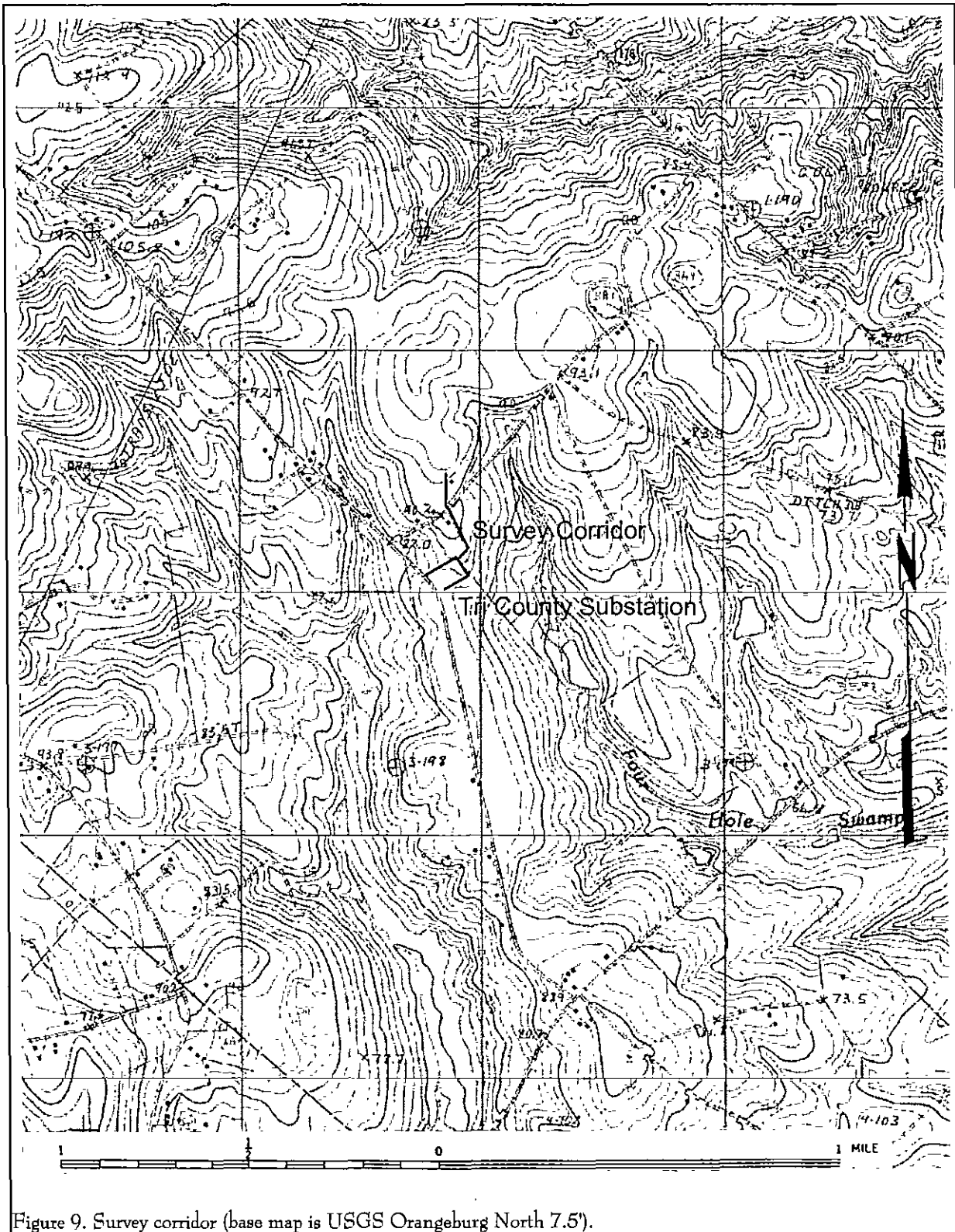


Figure 9. Survey corridor (base map is USGS Orangeburg North 7.5').



## RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

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¼-inch mesh and soil profiles were recorded as appropriate, using Munsell soil colors. All shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the work.

### Results of the Archaeological Survey

The investigation revealed that the proposed corridor begins at a ridge edge, so that elevations drop slightly as the corridor runs off the ridge. Once it turns into the substation, the topography becomes general level.

The shovel tests confirmed that the area — including the ridge slope — had been under cultivation. We found a fairly consistent plowzone of about 1.0 to 1.2 foot of grayish brown (10YR5/2) sand overlaying a subsoil which varied from a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay to very pale brown (10YR8/4) sand. Once in the substation lot the subsoil became more consistent — revealing a light red (10R5/8) clay.

All of the shovel tests were negative and no archaeological deposits were encountered in the survey corridor.

### Results of the Architectural Survey

The architectural survey consisted of driving the accessible roads within 0.25 mile of the corridor, looking for any standing structures which were clearly 50 years or older. None were identified.



## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study involved the examination of a 0.25 mile corridor and 3.4 acre substation lot situated in south central Calhoun County, South Carolina. The corridor, 75 feet in width, is proposed for the construction of an electrical transmission line, connecting an existing 69kV line to a new substation, proposed for Moorer Road (S-255), at the terminus of the survey corridor. This report, conducted for Central Electric Power Cooperative, provides the results of that investigation and is intended to assist that organization comply with their historic preservation responsibilities.

While the survey area was previously under cultivation, it and much of the surrounding area has been placed in planted pines. The shovel tests revealed little evidence of erosion along the survey line or in the substation lot, which was a fallow field at the time of the survey. The archaeological survey included close interval shovel testing, which revealed no evidence of cultural remains on the study corridor.

The ridge on which the corridor and substation have been placed is consistent with other areas where Archaic Period sites may be found. Its close proximity to the headwaters of Four Hole Swamp to the east and Little Bull Swamp to the west also places fresh water within easy reach. While the absence of prehistoric materials may be the result of many factors, it seems most likely that our failure to recover Native American materials is associated with the very limited area surveyed.

Similarly, the failure to identify historic remains is again most likely the result of the very short and narrow survey corridor coupled with a relatively small substation. The study area, however, appears to have had little late nineteenth or early twentieth century occupation based on our limited documentary research. It seems likely that any farm units present in the general area will be located to the north of the survey tract. Earlier historic occupation seems unlikely since this was not a historic roadway.

No standing architectural sites 50 years or older were identified during the survey. Again, it appears that this particular area of Calhoun County was simply not densely populated in the recent historic past. Given the timber planted in the area, it is unlikely that the proposed line will be visible beyond the 0.25 mile APE.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the corridor during construction activities. As always, the utility's contractors 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 State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).



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