



## CHICORA FOUNDATION, INC.

*PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE*

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May 23, 2006

Mr. Mark Larocque  
PES LLC  
PO Box 261  
Parkesburg, PA 19365

Re: SC 1230, Fire Station #4 Tower, Evaluation of Archaeological Potential

Dear Mr. Larocque,

I understand the at the background investigation for this location revealed no previously recorded archaeological or historic sites in the APE, although this may simply mean that the area has not been the subject of any past investigations that might produce such findings.

The topographic map for the proposed site reveals no topographic elevation that would be indicative of high archaeological potential. However, the Georgetown County soil survey (Stuckey 1982:Map 3) reveals that the tower is to be location on Eulonia Series soils that are largely surrounded by Bladen soils to the west and south. The Eulonia soils are classified as moderately well drained, while the Bladen soils are poorly drained, exhibiting seasonal high water tables at the surface of the soil. The 1975 aerial photographs for the area reveal that the tower site was under cultivation, further enhancing the observation concerning the difference in soils and drainage. The location of well drained soil in close proximity to poorly drained soils is a characteristic of prehistoric sites in this area of the South Carolina coastal plain and falls within the settlement pattern proposed by Brooks and Scurry in 1978.

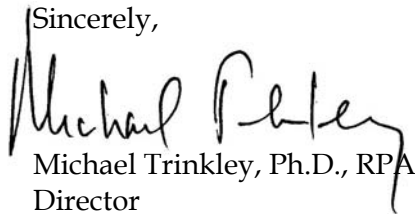
Chicora's Cartographic Survey of Historic Sites in Georgetown County, South Carolina (Hacker and Trinkley 1993) reveals two site clusters about 0.6 mile from the tower site. These site clusters - on the north and south sides of SC 513 in the vicinity of Pleasant Hill - are documented on the CCC Georgetown Timber Maps, dating from 1938-1939 and the 1939 Georgetown County Highway Map. Shown are a church, school, two farm units, a tenant unit, and a business, suggesting that at the time of the Depression Pleasant Hill was a small farming

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community that probably included a commissary or general store. The only statewide R.G. Dunn & Co. book we have on file is for 1912 and there is no listing for Pleasant Hill, so either the community was too small to be listed, or the one business began after 1912. Additional historical research would be needed to resolve this issue. Nevertheless, these sites are found on Yauhannah soils – representing another series that is moderately well drained. This suggests that the soils are capable of supporting historic settlement.

The photographs supplied by your firm reveal that the tract has been developed and is no longer under cultivation. The closest building, however, appears to be an engineered metal structure built on grade. This construction technique is likely to impact only the area within the immediate footprint. If there are cultural remains on the property, it is possible that they would survive the construction of the building.

Consequently, the soils are suitable for both prehistoric and historic settlement; the site is in proximity to a series of known historic sites. Although tower sites impact relatively small areas, it is nevertheless impossible to rule out the presence of archaeological sites on the tower site.

Sincerely,  
  
Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA  
Director

#### Citations

Brooks, Mark J. and James D. Scurry

- 1978 *An Intensive Archaeological Survey of Amoco Realty Property in Berkeley County, S.C. with a Test of Two Subsistence-Settlement Hypotheses for the Prehistoric Period.* Research Manuscript Series 147. S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Hacker, Debi and Michael Trinkley

- 1993 *Cartographic Survey of Historic Sites in Georgetown County, South Carolina.* Research Contribution 110. Chicora Foundation, Inc., Columbia.

Stuckey, Benjamin N.

- 1982 *Soil Survey of Georgetown County, South Carolina.* U.S.D.A., Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.