



CHICORA FOUNDATION, INC.

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

P.O. Box 8664
861 ARBUTUS DRIVE
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29202
803-787-6910
WWW.CHICORA.ORG

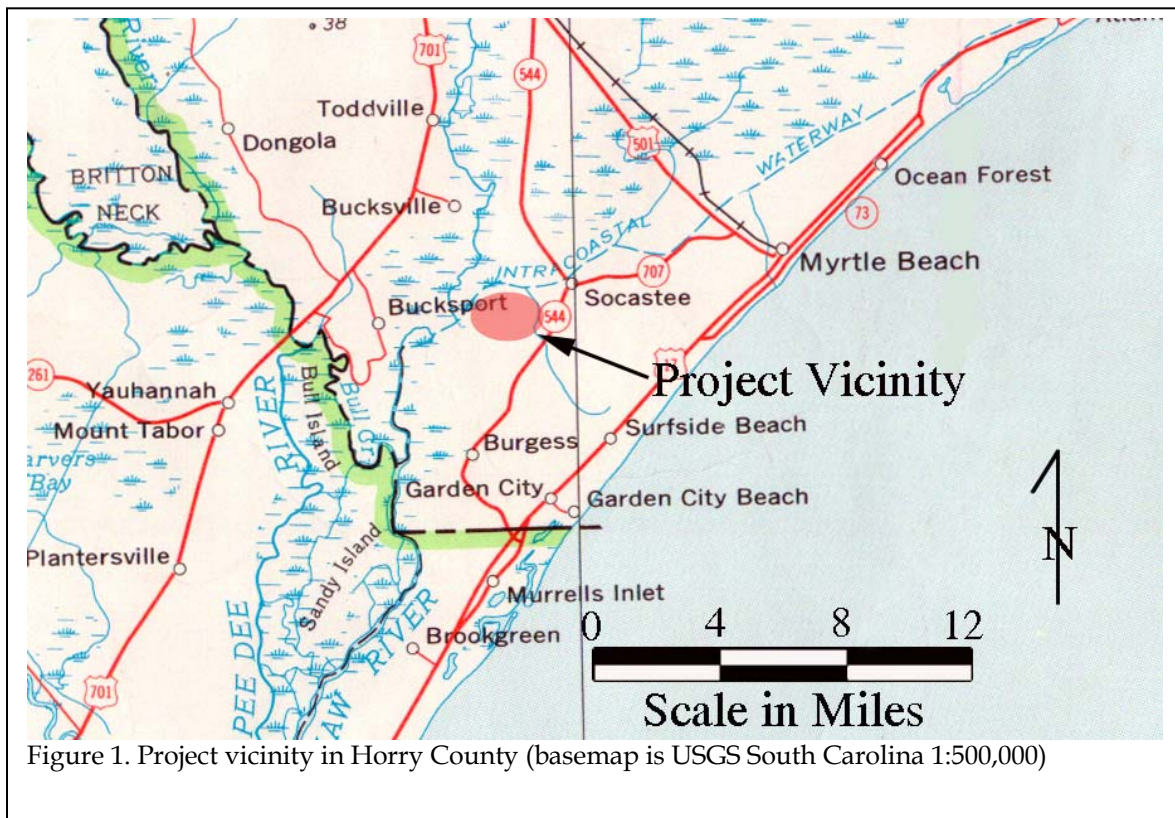
Project Name: Raccoon Run Tract

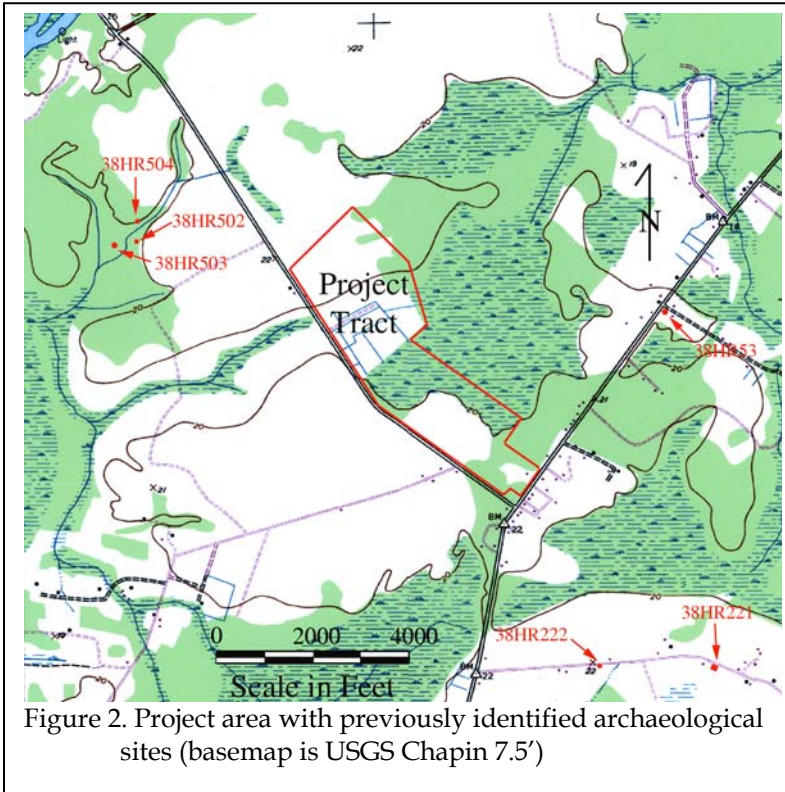
Project Sponsor: The Brigman Company, Inc.

Project Location: South of Socastee, South Carolina, off SC 707 between Surfside Beach and the Intracoastal Waterway (Figure 1).

Field Personnel: Julie Poppell, Kim Igou, and Alyson Herbert

Date of Survey: May 29, 2006





Objective: To obtain initial historic research that will assist in better understanding the types of historic sites present on the tract; to evaluate land use activities and their potential affects on possible archaeological sites; and to identify the areas of the tract that have the highest probability of producing archaeological and/or historical sites.

Survey Description: The project area is south of Socastee, South Carolina, off of SC 707, along Bay Road. The tract consists of 214.61 acres. The tract consists of an abandoned golf course, wetland, and cleared forest. Land altering

activities had already begun at the time of this assessment.

Evidence of the tract's history as a golf course can be seen in the remaining paved golf cart path, sand traps, water features, an overgrown fairway, and a tee. A structure sits in the southeastern portion of the tract. This may have been the clubhouse for the former golf course. It is still being used and is not a historic structure.



Figure 3. Photograph taken at northwestern portion of tract facing southeast, showing overgrown fairway, water feature, and golf cart path.

The wetland portion of the tract makes up only 2.61 acres. As mentioned above, the previously forested portions of the tract have already been cleared.

The Soil Survey of Horry County (Dudley 1986) shows four soil types found on the tract (Figure 4). These include Bladen fine sandy loam, Ogeechee loamy fine sand, Wahee fine sandy loam, and Yorges fine sandy loam. Roughly 60% of the tract is comprised of somewhat poorly drained Wahee fine sandy loam. Bladen fine sandy loam, which is poorly drained makes up the next largest percentage and covers most of the southeastern portion. Ogeechee loamy fine sand is found in the wetland portion of the tract, and Yorges is found along the western edge of the property.

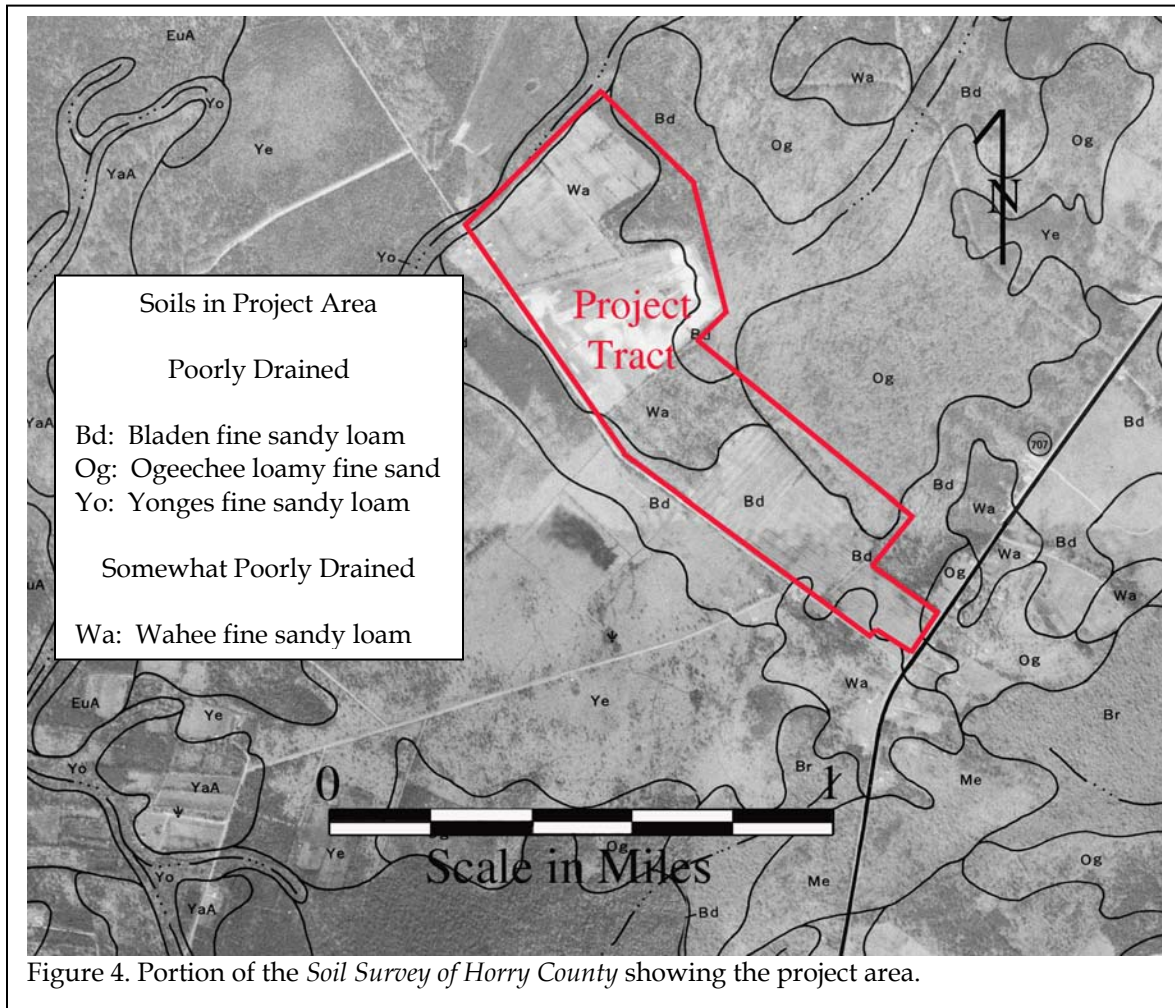


Figure 4. Portion of the Soil Survey of Horry County showing the project area.

A background investigation of historic maps was performed to see if any structures or sites are located in or around the project area. These maps include:

1. Mills' Atlas of 1825 (Figure 5)
2. *The Coast of South Carolina from Little River to St. Helena Sound*. Morris Peters Co. 1865
3. *Horry County Soil Map*. USDA. 1918
4. *Horry County Rural Mail Service Map*. U.S. Post Office Department. 1923
5. *General Highway and Transportation Map of Horry County*. 1939 (Figure 6)

In addition, the S. C. Department of Archives and History GIS and site files at the S. C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology were consulted to check for any previously identified structures or sites in the project area.

Results: The background check at the S.C. Department of Archives and History GIS revealed no structures or sites within the tract boundaries, nor did it reveal any sites within a 1-mile Area of Potential Effects (APE). It did reveal two previous archaeological surveys in the area. In 1999, Brockington and Associates conducted a cultural resources survey of the Salvey-Suggs tract, which is located north of the Raccoon Run tract along Butler Road. This survey did not produce any sites. In 2003,

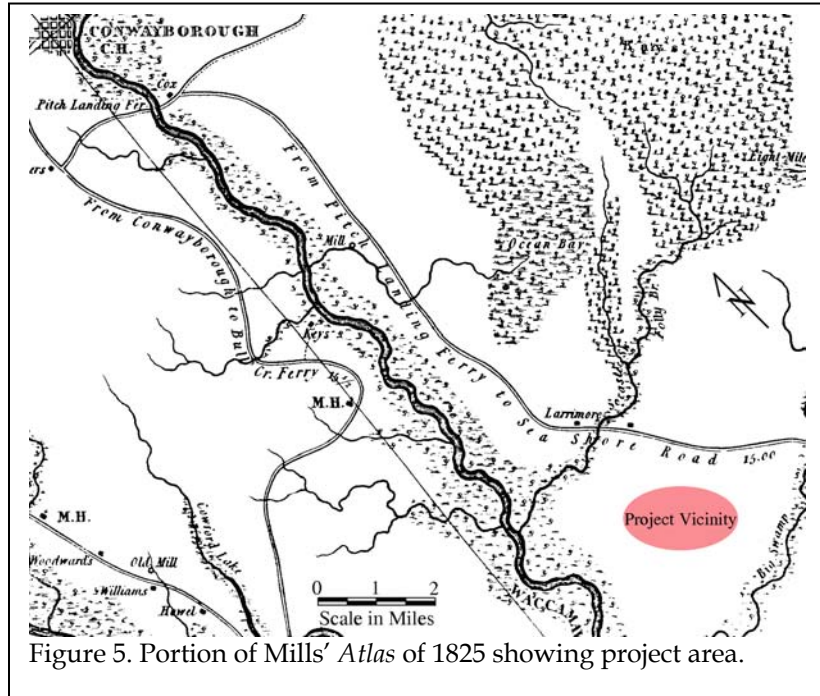


Figure 5. Portion of Mills' Atlas of 1825 showing project area.

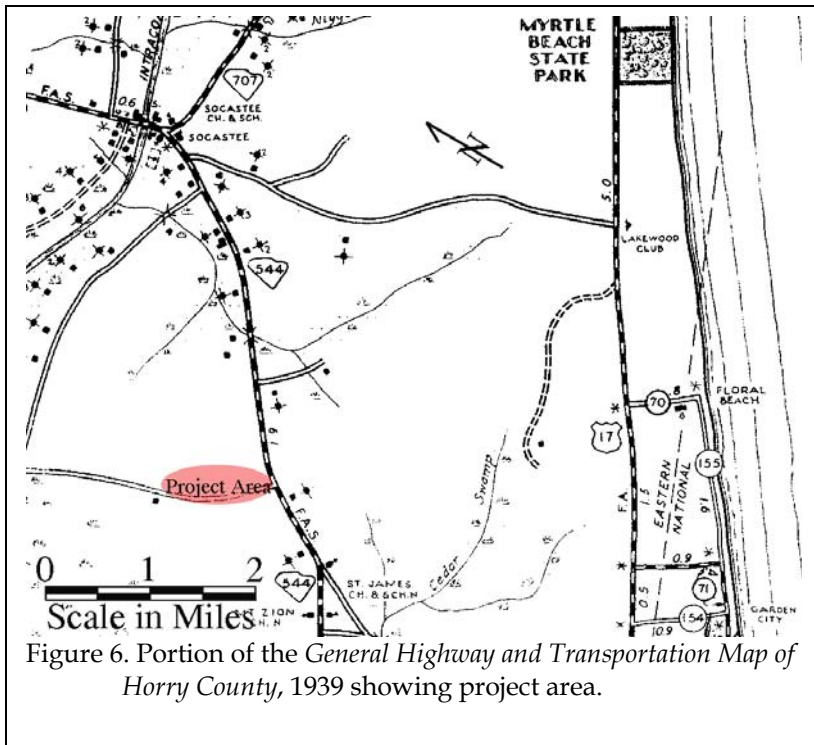


Figure 6. Portion of the General Highway and Transportation Map of Horry County, 1939 showing project area.

Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas (ACC) conducted an archaeological survey and testing at the Cypress River Plantation tract, which is northwest of the Raccoon Run tract between Wisteria Drive and Socastee Creek. This project found three archaeological sites.

Investigations at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology revealed six previously recorded archaeological sites, including the three found by ACC, within a 1-mile APE of the project (See figure 2). Sites 38HR502, 38HR503, and 38HR504 were found by ACC on the

Cypress River Plantation tract. Site 38HR502 was described as a prehistoric scatter of late Archaic

to middle Woodland period artifacts. 38HR503 was a late Archaic scatter consisting of only two potsherds. 38HR504 was a middle Woodland scatter of lithic flakes and ceramics. Only six artifacts were recovered at that site. All three were recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and warranted no further work. All three sites are found on moderately well-drained Yauhannah Series soils adjacent to a well-defined drainage. None of these conditions are found at Raccoon Run.

Site 38HR53 is located northeast of the Raccoon Run tract at the southeast corner of SC 707 and Moss Creek Road, although this location is noted as “questionable.” The only information provided for this site is that it is prehistoric. Reinhold J. Engelmayer, PhD, reported it in 1976 as part of his *Report on an Archaeological Survey in Regard with Prehistoric and Historic Sites Located in Horry and Georgetown Counties of South Carolina to be Affected by the Construction of the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant*.

Site 38HR222 is located southeast of the Raccoon Run tract at 3086 Holmestown Road. This site consisted of a low-density historic scatter of early twentieth century artifacts. Wayne Roberts of the S.C. Department of Transportation found the site in 1987 during a survey of road S-1240. He stated that at that time a thirty-year-old house sat on the location of a previous structure constructed between 1915 and 1940. Wayne Roberts also reported site 38HR221, which is located further east along Holmestown Road, about 2200 feet east of 38HR222. 38HR221 was also found during the survey of road S-1240 and consisted of a low-density late nineteenth to early twentieth century scatter. Neither of these sites was recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The pedestrian survey, which involved walking the tract and observing the visible ground surface for sites, revealed excellent surface visibility, 80 to 100%. Only modern trash and golf balls were found. No prehistoric or historic artifacts were seen throughout the tract.

Summary: Land altering activities have occurred on the property recently and in the past, which may reduce the tract’s potential to produce intact archaeological sites or site features. The geography of the tract also gives it a low potential for producing prehistoric sites, especially when compared to nearby site locations. The soils on the property are poorly drained to somewhat poorly drained. There are no high, well-drained areas or defined creeks on the tract. The western edge of the tract is approximately 1.5 miles from Socastee Creek. The pedestrian survey, in spite of the excellent visibility, failed to produce any artifacts. The background research did not reveal any historic sites on the property. Considering these factors, Raccoon Run has low potential to produce an intact archaeological site that would contribute significantly to historic or prehistoric research.

Sources:

Dudley, Travis A.

1986 *Survey of Horry County, South Carolina*. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Engelmayer, Reinhold J.

1976 *Report on an Archaeological Survey in Regard with Prehistoric and Historic Sites Located in Horry and Georgetown Counties of South Carolina to be Affected by the Construction of the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant. Phase I. Interpretation based on the Final Plan of Black, Crow, and Eidness, Inc. Research Paper 5*. Anthropology Department, Coastal Carolina College, Conway.

Reid, Dawn; Rachel Tibbetts; and Aaron Brummitt

2004 *Archaeological Survey and Testing at the Cypress River Plantation Tract, Horry County, South Carolina*. Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc.

Roberts, Wayne

1987 Memo to Robert B. Ferrell, Environmental Program Administrator, South Carolina Department of Transportation. Re: Archaeological survey of Road S-1240, Horry County, F.A. No. RS-1368 (70). Ms. on file, SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia.



Figure 7. View of northwestern portion of tract showing equipment and disturbed land



Figure 8. Closer view of disturbed land behind equipment (photo taken facing northeast).



Figure 9. View of southeastern portion of tract showing a water feature and cleared woods behind the feature (photo taken facing northwest).



Figure 10. View of southeastern portion of tract showing the existing structure and an old sand trap (photo taken facing northeast).