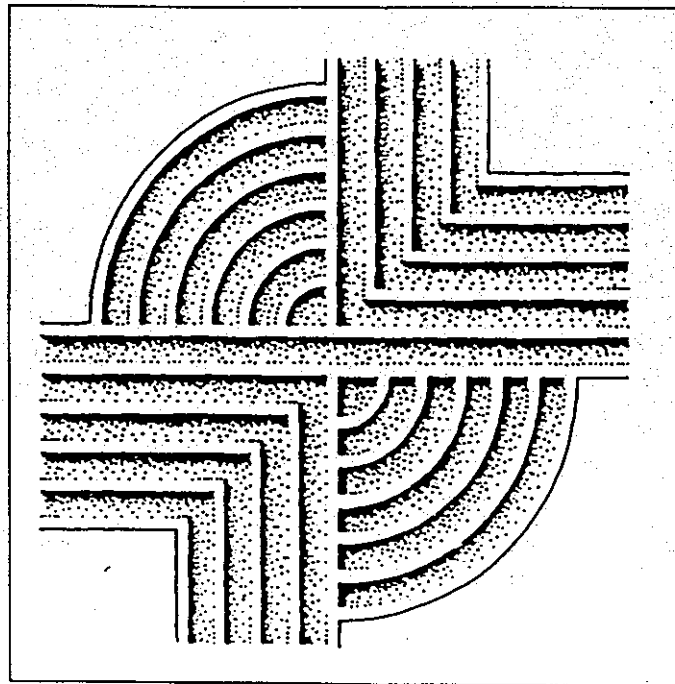


CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A
50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON,
VANCE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA



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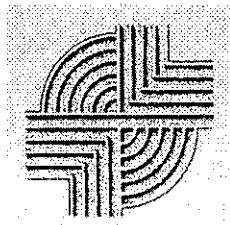
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CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A
50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON, VANCE COUNTY,
NORTH CAROLINA

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive cultural resources survey of a 50 acre tract on the southern outskirts of the town of Henderson in south central Vance County, North Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Carter Burgess comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The tract is being considered, along with an adjacent previously surveyed parcel of about 200 acres, to be used by a confidential client for the construction of a major distribution center. The proposed tract is roughly rectangular in shape, and situated on the northeastern edge of what has been called the Wesvenco Tract. The current survey parcel is bounded to the northeast by SR 1148 (Old Epsom Road). It consists of primarily fallow fields, although stands of dense pine and mixed hardwood forest are found in one upland area and in several bottomland or depressional areas.

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) 0.5 mile around the proposed tract was assumed. The proposed undertaking will require clearing, grubbing, and grading, along with the construction of both underground utilities as well as industrial structures. There will likely be short-term construction impacts, including increased noise and dust levels, and increased construction related traffic. The long-term effects will primarily be limited to the study tract itself, although there is potential for visual intrusion of nearby historic properties.

Consultation with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Architectural Branch, revealed no previously identified architectural resources within the 0.5 mile APE. Nor were there any previously recorded National Register buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the study area. Consultation with the Office of State Archaeology revealed no previously identified archaeological sites in the study tract, or within

the proposed APE, other than those previously identified by Chicora Foundation on the adjacent 200 acre parcel (31VN258, 31VN259**, and 31VN260**).

The archaeological study of the tract incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on a series of 18 transects. 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 254 shovel tests were excavated in the survey tract.

Two sites were found as a result of the investigation. 31VN261** represents a twentieth century domestic scatter associated with a standing barn and a modern well. Data sets are limited and site integrity has been damaged by demolition. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register and no additional management activities are recommended. Site 31VN262** is a modern trash dump found in the woods on the tract. The materials at this site include plastics and styrofoam. Because the site is less than 50 years old, we recommend it not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. No other sites were identified on the survey tract.

A survey of public roads within a half mile of the proposed undertaking was conducted in an effort to identify any architectural sites over 50 years old which also retained their integrity. The survey revealed a variety of modern structures, a mixture of commercial and industrial facilities, and several trailer parks. Only one structure potentially over 50 years was identified. This building, a hall-and-parlor plan, has been extensively modified. The front porch has been reworked with replacement piers, the foundation has been replaced with CMU, although the original stone chimney is still standing. Overall the structure is in dilapidated condition. We do not believe that it retains sufficient integrity to be included in the statewide survey. Regardless, the proposed undertaking will not affect this structure, which is already surrounded by modern houses.

There is also a dilapidated metal sided barn on the survey tract. This barn, while incorporated into archaeological sites 31VN261**, does not appear to be 50 years old and is not recommended eligible.

Finally, it is possible that more 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).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures		iv
Introduction		1
Natural Environment		5
<i>Physiography</i>	5	
<i>Geology and Soils</i>	5	
<i>Climate</i>	6	
<i>Floristics</i>	7	
Prehistoric and Historic Synopsis		9
<i>Previous Research</i>	9	
<i>Prehistoric Overview</i>	9	
<i>Historic Overview</i>	17	
Methods		21
<i>Archaeological Field Methods</i>	21	
<i>Architectural Survey</i>	22	
<i>Site Evaluation</i>	22	
<i>Laboratory Analysis</i>	23	
Results of Survey		25
<i>Introduction</i>	25	
<i>Identified Archaeological Sites</i>	25	
<i>Historic and Architectural Resources</i>	31	
Summary and Recommendations		33
Sources Cited		35

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure

1. Project vicinity in Vance County	2
2. Project tract and previously identified archaeological sites	3
3. View of open areas on the project tract	6
4. View of open area showing evidence of plowing	7
5. Wooded area on the periphery of the project	7
6. Generalized cultural periods for North Carolina	10
7. Portion of Collet's <i>A Compleat Map of North-Carolina</i> showing the project area	17
8. Portion of the 1865 U.S. Coast Survey map of the project area	18
9. Plan of the study tract showing transects and identified sites	26
10. Sketch map of 31VN261**	27
11. View of 31VN261**	28
12. View of the barn at 31VN261**	28
13. View of 31VN262**	29
14. Sketch map of 31VN262**	30
15. Historic Resource 1	31
16. Historic Resource 1	31

INTRODUCTION

This intensive archaeological survey of a 50 acre tract south of Henderson in south central Vance County, North Carolina was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Tim Campbell of Carter Burgess in Greenville, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Carter Burgess comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project area is located east of the US 1 Bypass of Henderson, west of NC 39 and north of Martin Creek (Figure 1). The project site consists of a roughly rectangular parcel measuring about 1,800 feet on its northeast edge, which borders SR 1148 (Old Epsom Road), 1,400 feet along its southeastern boundary, 1,100 feet along a drainage on the southwest border, and 1,500 feet along the northwestern edge (Figure 2). The parcel is adjacent to the previously surveyed 200 acre Wesvanco tract (Campo and Trinkley 1999).

The corridor consists of a generally level tract which has been under cultivation. Within the past several years it has been allowed to go fallow and at the time of this study much of the parcel was in 3-foot high grass. There is a slope to a drainage on the southeast and south sides of the tract. While situated about 2.5 miles south of downtown Henderson, the project area is marked by a number of industrial tracts and commercial parcels interspersed among modest subdivisions and trailer parks. This once rural section of Vance County has been extensively developed.

The parcel, as previously mentioned, is intended to be used along with an additional 200 acre tract as a distribution center. The 200 acres to the west and southwest have been previously surveyed, but no construction has begun. The proposed work will involve extensive clearing of the property, grubbing out of trees, cutting and filling associated with grading, construction of underground utilities (such as storm water drainage),

and the construction of large parking areas and major warehouse facilities. The work will cause extensive damage to any archaeological remains which may be present — necessitating this survey.

Construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility may also have an impact on historic resources in the project area. The project will remove only one structure, a barn which is not yet 50 years old, the completed facility may detract from the visual integrity of historic properties, creating what many consider discordant surroundings. As a result, this architectural survey uses an area of potential effect (APE) about 0.5 mile radius around the proposed survey tract. We believe that this APE is adequate, considering the extensive commercial and industrial development which has already taken place in the immediate area.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded commercial, industrial, or residential development of this section of the North Carolina Piedmont. Again, given the extensive pre-existing development in the immediate area, it would be difficult to determine if any future developments were directly linked to this project.

We were requested by Mr. Tim Campbell of Carter Burgess to provide a proposal for the survey of this tract on January 20, 2001 and we submitted a proposal on January 23. Authorization to conduct the survey was provided shortly thereafter. These investigations incorporated a review of the site files at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Architectural Survey, as well as at the State Office of Archaeology.

The only previously recorded archaeological sites in the project area are those which were identified by Chicora Foundation on the original 200 acre survey (Campo and Trinkley 1999). Site 31VN258 consisted

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A 50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON

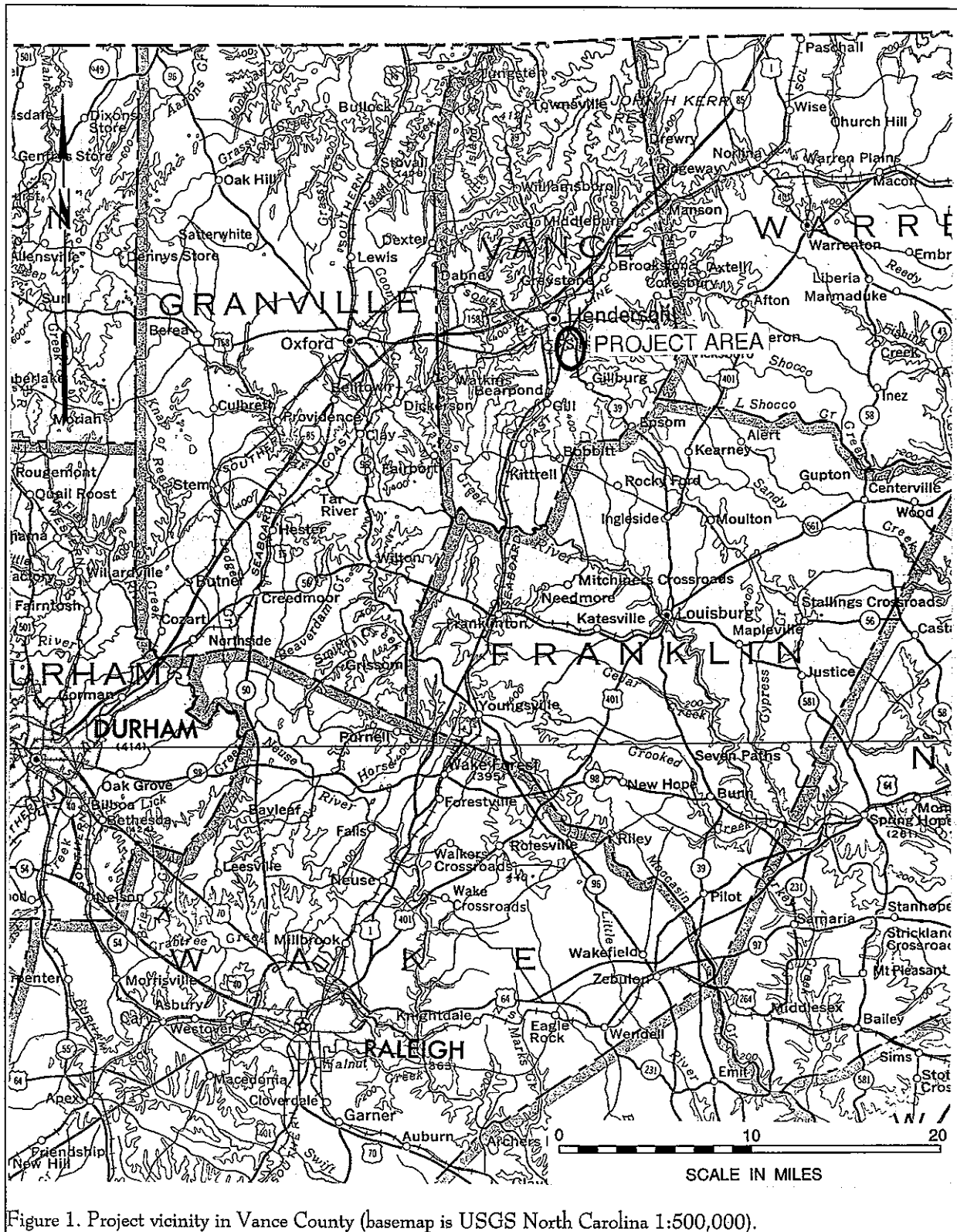


Figure 1. Project vicinity in Vance County (basemap is USGS North Carolina 1:500,000).

INTRODUCTION

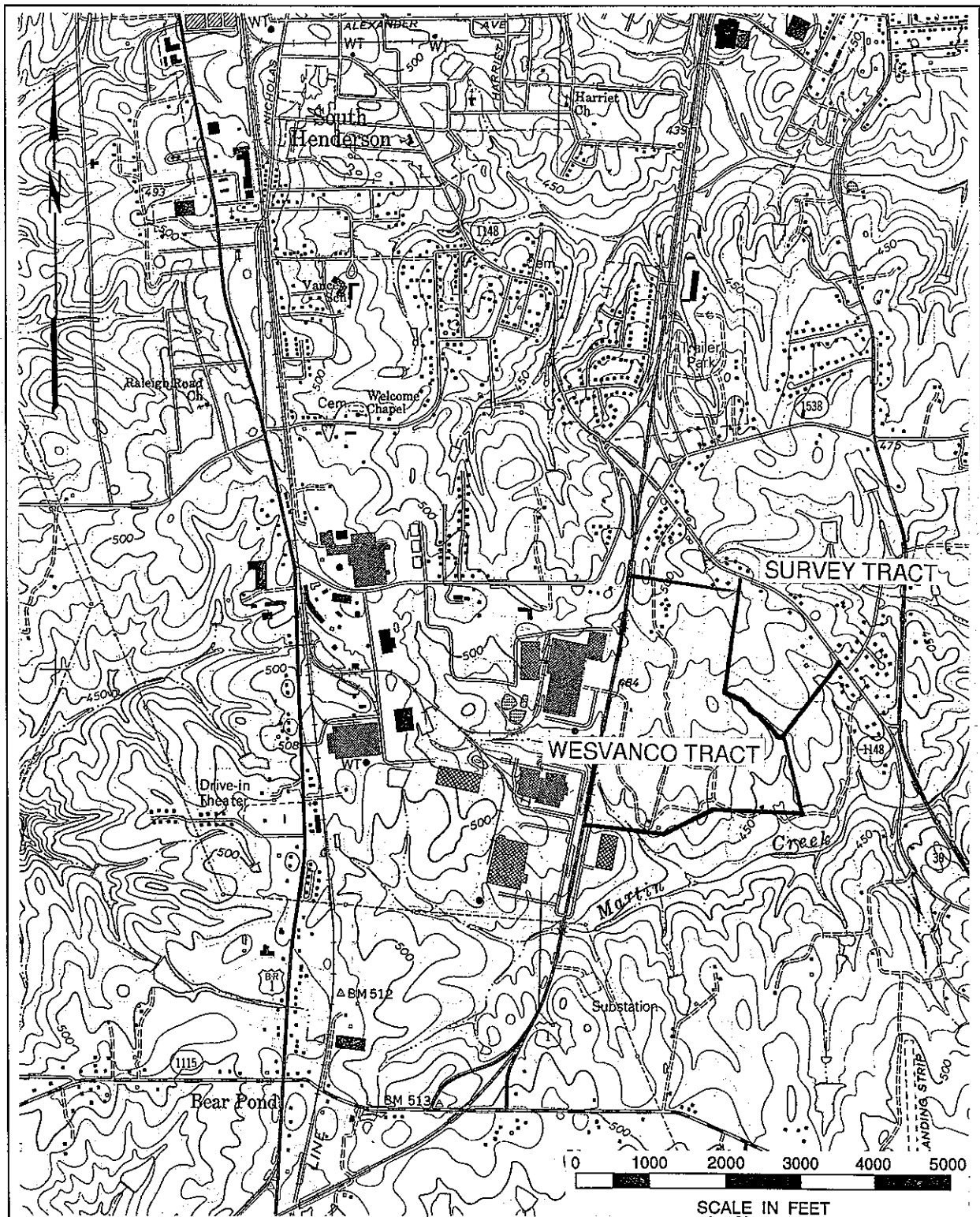


Figure 2. Project tract and previously identified archaeological sites (basemap is USGS Henderson 7.5').

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A 50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON

of two isolated hammerstones and the site was recommended not eligible. Site 31VN259** was identified as a historic cemetery which was recommended potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Prior to any ground disturbing activities, we recommended that further work be undertaken at this site to determine the possibility of unmarked graves and the true extent of the cemetery. In particular we recommended careful buffering of the site to prevent any potential damage to the graves, especially since there was a high likelihood of unmarked graves. The final site, 31VN260**, was a historic site associated with abundant trash. It was recommended not eligible based on the lack of integrity and modern age.

Three dilapidated historic structures were also identified during the original survey. The buildings, however, were not associated with archaeological remains and lacked the integrity necessary for eligibility as architectural sites. They were recommended not eligible. Our review of the architectural site files failed to identify any other previously recorded architectural sites in the project's 0.5 mile APE.

This background work suggests that prehistoric sites are not likely to be common in the immediate survey area. The only major drainage is Martin Creek, outside of the immediate survey area. Historic sites seem to be limited to relatively modern (post-1940) farm and tenant complexes.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files, as well as research at the Office of State Archaeology.

The archaeological survey was conducted on February 6 and 7, 2001 by Ms. Nicole Southerland and Mr. Tom Covington. The survey revealed two previously unrecorded archaeological sites, both of which are recommended not eligible for the National Register.

The architectural survey of the APE, designed to determine if there were historic sites in the APE, was conducted on February 8. This only one potentially historic structure in the APE. The one building clearly evidences a basic through-hall plan, as well as an

interior stone chimney. It has, however, undergone extensive modifications and no longer possesses architectural integrity. As a result we recommend the structure not eligible.

Report production was conducted at Chicora's laboratories in Columbia, South Carolina from February 9 and 12.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Physiography

The 50 acre addition to the 200 acre Wesvanco tract is situated in Vance County, southeast of Henderson. It is bordered to the west by the 200 acre tract and to the south by a small intermittent drainage. To the northwest is SR 1148 (Old Epsom Road). Opposite the tract, on the west side of US 1, is existing industrial development, while the surrounding area is mixed agricultural and residential with pockets of commercial development.

Vance County is situated entirely within the piedmont. It is rectangular in shape, oriented north-south, and is situated in the north-central part of North Carolina, on the Virginia border. Vance contains 249 square miles and is bordered to the west by Granville County, to the east by Warren, and to the south and southeast by Franklin County. One of the major drainages in the county was dammed for the creation of John H. Kerr Reservoir (originally the Buggs Island Reservoir) in 1944. The Tar River forms the boundary between Vance and Franklin counties.

The piedmont, located between the mountain and coastal plain regions, is an area of dendritic drainage and red clay. Robertson (1960:61) identifies the area as a peneplain, dissected by moderately swift streams flowing south or southwest. The name "piedmont" means "foot of the mountains," which describes the general topography: a rolling eroded plateau with rounded hills and low ridges (Gade et al. 1986:146). Vance County is gently sloping to rolling and, in many areas, has fairly broad ridges. The original Wesvanco tract, to the west of this additional 50 acres, is steeply sloped, tending southward toward Martin Creek. Elevations ranging from 500 feet AMSL at the northern edge to about 450 feet AMSL at the southern end. The 50 acre addition is very similar in topography. There is a small drainage running southeast along the eastern edge of the parcel. In addition, there is an intermittent drainage along the southwestern edge.

Elevations in the tract range from about 460 to 495 feet AMSL.

Vance is classified by Gades and his colleagues as within the Piedmont Lowlands — "an area of down-faulted basins filled with younger, unaltered sedimentary rocks and displaying more fully dissected surface terrain than the Piedmont Uplands" (Gade et al. 1986:146). The area, geologically, exhibits greater diversity, but includes part of the Carolina Slate Belt and the range of lithic materials attractive to early occupants of the region.

Geology and Soils

As previously mentioned, the piedmont's landscape has a rolling surface of gentle to steep slopes. Each peneplain is cut or bounded by valleys of even steeper slopes which often have a depth of several hundred feet. This landscape is most noticeable in the interior, away from the Fall Line edge, where the effects of increased erosion are clearer. As you move toward the mountainous Blue Ridge peneplain development becomes more incomplete and monadnocks more abundant.

Perhaps the most significant feature of the piedmont's geology is its effect on prehistoric lithic technology. Quartz is the most abundant material, being found in the Kings Mountain formation and also readily available as veins in the crystalline gneisses and schists which underlie (and yield through decomposition) the red clays of the nearby piedmont uplands. The quartz, however, is harder than the associated rocks and decomposes more slowly than the surrounding matrix. As a result, vein quartz often appears on the surface or very near to the surface. The metavolcanics, such as argillite and rhyolite, are widely available from localized outcroppings of the Carolina Slate Belt, west of the project area. Of particular importance are the cryptocrystalline deposits which supply the best materials for knapping. Although other



Figure 3. View of open area comprising the majority of the survey tract.

materials, such as chalcedony and even chert, are occasionally found as tools in this section of the North Carolina Piedmont, these materials are extra-local, coming from either nearby counties or, in the case of chert, from either Tennessee or western North Carolina.

The 50 acre addition to the Wesvanco project area consists of only one defined soil series, Appling sandy loam with 2-8% slopes. The Appling soils have a brown (10YR5/3) sandy loam Ap horizon about 0.9 foot in depth resting on a yellowish-brown (10YR5/8) clay loam B horizon (Stimpson et al. 1980:41-42).

Taking into consideration the entire project area, about 13% of the soils are classified by the Soil Conservation Service as eroded, with the loss of all of the original A horizon and, in many cases, some of the underlying B horizon. The causes can be traced to poor farming practices, such as shallow plowing and limited crop rotation, and the conversion of rural areas to residential subdivisions, shopping malls, industrial complexes and highway systems (Gade et al. 1986:149). Areas of exposed red clay or gullies were noted in several areas of the study tract, demonstrating the fragile nature of the piedmont.

Vance County is part of what Trimble (1974) calls the New Tobacco Planting Area. He observes that the area generally had a fairly high erosive land use history which peaked in the late nineteenth century. In spite of this he projects that soil loss was likely 0.5 foot or less.

By the time of Great Depression, the Soil Conservation Service characterized much of southeastern Vance County, including the survey

area, as exhibiting "moderate sheet erosion." To the northwest, where slopes were steeper, erosion was significantly worse (Lee 1934).

This suggests that the archaeological potential of the tract, most especially in those areas of steeper slopes, may be affected by previous erosional damage. This situation is consistent with the findings of the shovel tests — as well as the findings of the previous survey (Campo and Trinkley 1999). Although some areas were identified lacking an A horizon, it was intact (albeit deflated) over most of the 50 acre study parcel.

Climate

Elevation and geography both affect the climate of the three study areas. The Appalachian Mountains to the west of the county block cold air masses from the northwest, and elevations in the piedmont area, ranging from 650 feet to 1,500 feet AMSL, help maintain relatively mild temperatures, with mild, short winters and warm summers. Moving to the coastal plain the winters still tend to be mild, but the summers are typically hot and humid because of moist maritime air.

In the piedmont, in the vicinity of the vicinity



Figure 4. View of open area showing old plow ridges, characteristic of deep plowing.

of Vance County, July temperatures, generally the warmest of the year, average between 66 and 89° F, while January temperatures, generally the coldest of the year, average about 28-51°F. The area is also characterized by a humid climate with abundant rainfall, averaging about 45 inches annually. The growing season for most crops is during the months of April through September, when 54% of the annual rainfall occurs.

Floristics

The piedmont is characterized by the dominance of a pine forest cover, due primarily to three centuries of human land use in the region (Gade et al. 1986:8). Oaks, hickories, and dogwoods also characterize the forests of the piedmont (State Board of Agriculture 1896:37).

Oak-pine forests account for most of the forest acreage in the area, although the vegetation has been dramatically altered from the original or natural potential vegetation prior to the intervention of European settlers. Today, loblolly-shortleaf pine forests are abundant and include red oak, white oak, gum, hickory and yellow-poplar trees.

The bulk of the original Wesvaco survey tract was forested, with pine and oak

dominating. These same forests are found along the western and southwestern edges of the 50 acre tract, as well as in the drainage on the southeastern edge. Elsewhere, however, the tract had been under cultivation and was characterized by fallow, weedy growth.

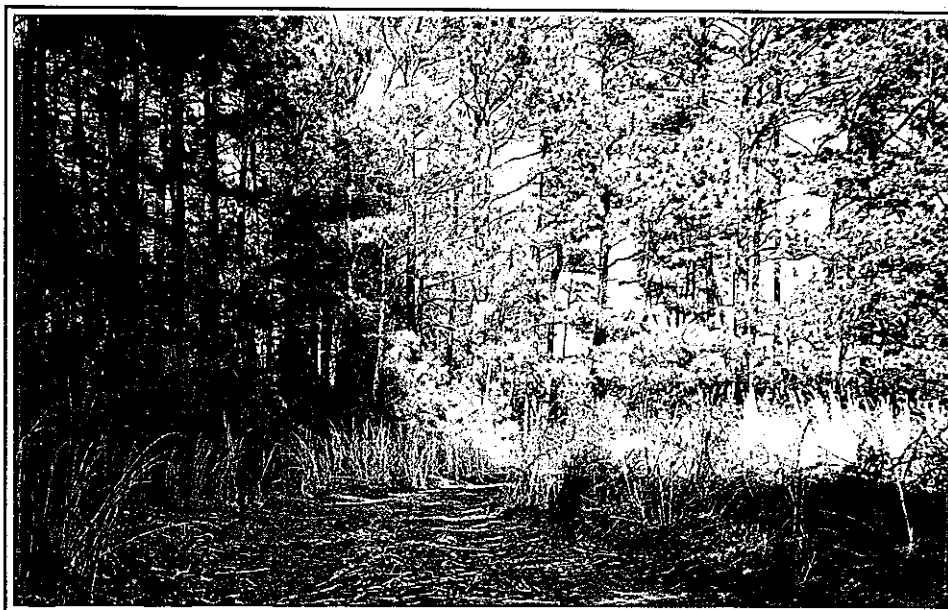


Figure 5. Wooded area on the periphery of the cultivated fields.

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A 50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON

Where the oak-pine or oak-hickory forests are developed, such as on midslopes and even several of the ridgetops, the understory is not dramatic.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNOPSIS

Previous Research

There are several previous cultural resource management reports for the Vance County area (such as our original study of the 200 acre Wesvenco Tract, Campo and Trinkley 1999, and a study of facilities around Kerr Lake in Vance County, Lautzenheiser et al. 1996). Like elsewhere in North Carolina there has been a mix of compliance studies, covering relatively small areas, and longer-term research. In fact, research in this northeastern corner of North Carolina, while begun by Joffre Coe and his student, Stanley South, on the basis of the Roanoke Rapids research in the 1950s (South 1959 and Coe 1964), for many years afterward was dominated by David Phelps and his students at East Carolina University (for a synopsis see Phelps 1983).

Perhaps the most significant research in Vance County, certainly the most extensive, was undertaken in anticipation of the John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir. A range of Archaic and Woodland sites were found in both North Carolina and Virginia with the bulk easily fitting into the pre-existing chronology established by Coe and his colleagues for the piedmont region (White 1979).

These investigations incorporated a review of the files at the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology. No previously recorded sites were found within or immediately adjacent to any of the project boundaries.

Prehistoric Overview

Overviews for North Carolina's prehistory, while of differing lengths and complexity, are available in virtually every compliance report prepared. There are, in addition, some "classic" sources well worth attention, such as Joffre Coe's *Formative Cultures* (Coe 1964), as well as some general overviews (perhaps the best is that provided by Ward and Davis 1999). These can be supplemented with a broad range of theses and dissertations produced by students of North Carolina's colleges and universities. Also extremely helpful, perhaps even essential, are a handful of

recent local synthetic statements, such as that offered by Sassaman and Anderson (1994) for the Middle and Late Archaic. Only a few of the many sources are included in this study, but they should be adequate to give the reader a "feel" for the area and help establish a context for the various sites identified in the study area. Figure 10 offers a generalized view of North Carolina's cultural periods.

In the Carolina Piedmont, lithic scatters are the most common type of prehistoric site encountered. Goodyear et al. (1979:131-145) found that sites containing lithic scatters located in the inter-riverine Piedmont were geographically extensive and exhibited little artifact diversity. These sites have been interpreted as:

limited or specialized activity sites which represent resource exploitation or other distinct functions. Nearly all investigators working in the Piedmont have related these sites to activities involving hunting, nut gathering, and procuring of lithic raw materials (Canouts and Goodyear 1985:185).

Although the vast majority of these sites are located in eroded areas and exhibit little to no subsurface integrity, Canouts and Goodyear (1985) argue that they have analytical value. This value lies in their horizontal rather than vertical dimensions. They argue that:

future investigators of upland sites must effect broad-scale spatial analyses comparable to the temporal analyses effected through excavation of deeply stratified sites. Both endeavors are necessary, and neither is sufficient for the total understanding of Piedmont prehistory" (Canouts and Goodyear 1985: 193).

One observation that Canouts and Goodyear

Dates	Period	Sub-Period	Regional Phases					
			NORTH COASTAL	SOUTH COASTAL	CENTRAL PIEDMONT	MOUNTAIN		
1715	HIST.	EARLY	Tide Water Carolina Algonkians	Inner Coastal Plain Meherrin Tuscarora	Waccamaw ?	Caraway	Qualla	
1650			WOODLAND	LATE	Collington	Cashie	Oak Island	Dan River
800	MIDDLE	Mount Pleasant			Cape Fear Hanover	Uwharrie	Conestee	
A.D. B.C.		EARLY		Deep Creek		New River	Yadkin	Pigeon
300						Badin	Swannanoa	
1000	ARCHAIC	LATE		Thom's Creek Stallings				
2000			Savannah River Halifax					
3000		MIDDLE	Gullford Morrow Mountain Stanly					
5000	EARLY							
8000		Kirk						
		Palmer						
10,000	PALEO INDIAN	Hardaway						
12,000		Hardaway - Dalton						
		Clovis						

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A 50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON

Figure 6. A generalized cultural sequence for North Carolina.

(1985) made is that lithic raw material ratios change through time. For instance, at the Gregg Shoals site in Elbert County, Georgia, the Early Archaic assemblage reflects greater use of non-local cryptocrystalline materials and the Late Archaic, greater use of non-quartz local material (see Tippitt and Marquardt 1982).

Paleoindian Period

The Paleoindian Period, most commonly dated from about 12,000 to 10,000 B.P., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notch projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1965). Oliver (1981, 1985) has proposed to extend the Paleoindian dating in the North Carolina Piedmont to perhaps as early as 14,000 B.P., incorporating the Hardaway Side-Notched and Palmer Corner-Notched types, usually accepted as Early Archaic, as representatives of the terminal phase. This view, verbally suggested by Coe for a number of years, has considerable technological appeal.¹ Oliver suggests a continuity from the Hardaway Blade through the Hardaway-Dalton to the Hardaway Side-Notched, eventually to the Palmer Side-Notched (Oliver 1985:199-200). While convincingly argued, this approach is not universally accepted.

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 toward the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124). Survey data for Paleoindian tools, most notably fluted points, is rather dated for North Carolina (Brennan 1982; Peck 1988; Perkinson 1971, 1973; cf. Anderson 1990). In

¹ While never discussed by Coe at length, he did observe that many of the Hardaway points, especially from the lowest contexts, had facial fluting or thinning which, "in cases where the side-notches or basal portions were missing, . . . could be mistaken for fluted points of the Paleo-Indian period" (Coe 1964:64). While not an especially strong statement, it does reveal the formation of the concept. Further insight is offered by Ward's (1983:63) all too brief comments on the more recent investigations at the Hardaway site (see also Daniel 1992).

spite of this, the distribution offered by Anderson (1992b:Figure 5.1) reveals a rather general, and widespread, occurrence throughout the region.

Distinctive projectile points may include lanceolates such as Clovis, Dalton, perhaps the Hardaway, and Big Sandy (Coe 1964; Phelps 1983; Oliver 1985). A temporal sequence of Paleoindian projectile points was proposed by Williams (1965:24-51), but according to Phelps (1983:18) there is little stratigraphic or chronometric evidence for it. While this is certainly true, a number of authors, such as Anderson (1992a) and Oliver (1985) have assembled impressive data sets. We are inclined to believe that while often not conclusively proven by stratigraphic excavations (and such proof may be an unreasonable expectation), there is a large body of circumstantial evidence. The weight of this evidence tends to provide considerable support.

Unfortunately, relatively little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization (see, however, Anderson 1992b for an excellent overview and synthesis of what is known). Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on 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).

Archaic Period

The Archaic Period, which dates from 10,000 to 3,000 B.P.,² does not form a sharp break with the

² The terminal point for the Archaic is no clearer than that for the Paleoindian and many researchers suggest a terminal date of 4,000 B.P. rather than 3,000 B.P. There is also the question of whether ceramics, such as the fiber-tempered Stallings ware, will be included as Archaic, or will be included with the Woodland. Oliver, for example, argues that the inclusion of ceramics with Late Archaic attributes "complicates and confuses classification and interpretation needlessly" (Oliver 1981:20). He comments that according to the original definition of the Archaic, it "represents a

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. Archaic period assemblages, exemplified by corner-notched and broad-stemmed projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

Some researchers (see for example, Ward 1983:65) suggest that there was a noticeable population increase from the Paleoindian into the Early Archaic. This has tentatively been associated with a greater emphasis on foraging. Diagnostic Early Archaic artifacts include the Kirk Corner Notched point. As previously discussed, Palmer points may be included with either the Paleoindian or Archaic period, depending on theoretical perspective. As the climate became hotter and drier than the previous Paleoindian period, resulting in vegetational changes, it also affected settlement patterning as evidenced by a long-term Kirk phase midden deposit at the Hardaway site (Coe 1964:60). This is believed to have been the result of a change in subsistence strategies.

Settlements during the Early Archaic suggest the presence of a few, very large, and apparently intensively occupied, sites which can best be considered base camps. Hardaway might be one such site. In addition, there were numerous small sites which produced only a few artifacts — these are the "network of tracks" mentioned by Ward (1983:65). The base camps produce a wide range of artifact types and raw materials which has suggested to many researchers long-

preceramic horizon" and that "the presence of ceramics provides a convenient marker for separation of the Archaic and Woodland periods (Oliver 1981:21). Others would counter that such an approach ignores cultural continuity and forces an artificial, and perhaps unrealistic, separation. Sassaman and Anderson (1994:38-44), for example, include Stallings and Thom's Creek wares in their discussion of "Late Archaic Pottery." While this issue has been of considerable importance along the Carolina and Georgia coasts, it has never affected the Piedmont, which seems to have embraced pottery far later, well into the conventional Woodland period.

term, perhaps seasonal or multi-seasonal, occupation. In contrast, the smaller sites are thought of as special purpose or foraging sites (see Ward 1983:67).

Middle Archaic (8,000 to 6,000 B.P.) diagnostic artifacts include Morrow Mountain, Guilford, Stanly and Halifax projectile points. Phelps (1983:25) also notes that the gradual increase from Paleoindian to Archaic in the Coastal Plain seems to peak during the Middle Archaic Morrow Mountain phase. Much of our best information on the Middle Archaic comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work by Jeff Chapman and his students in the Little Tennessee River Valley (for a general overview see Chapman 1977, 1985a, 1985b). There is good evidence that Middle Archaic lithic technologies changed dramatically. End scrapers, at times associated with Paleoindian traditions, are discontinued, raw materials tend to reflect the greater use of locally available materials, and mortars are initially introduced. Associated with these technological changes there seem to also be some significant cultural modifications. Prepared burials begin to more commonly occur and storage pits are identified. 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 the Carolinas, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare.

The available information has resulted in a variety of competing settlement models. Some argue for increased sedentism and a reduction of mobility (see Goodyear et al. 1979:111). Ward argues that the most appropriate model is one which includes relatively stable and sedentary hunters and gatherers "primarily adapted to the varied and rich resource base offered by the major alluvial valleys" (Ward 1983:69). While he recognizes the presence of "inter-riverine" sites, he discounts explanations which focus on seasonal rounds, suggesting "alternative explanations . . . [including] a wide range of adaptive responses." Most importantly, he notes that:

the seasonal transhumance model and the sedentary model are opposite ends of a continuum, and in all likelihood variations on these two

themes probably existed in different regions at different times throughout the Archaic period (Ward 1983:69).

Others suggest increased mobility during the Archaic (see Cable 1982), Sassaman (1983) has suggested that the Morrow Mountain phase people had a great deal of residential mobility, based on the variety of environmental zones they are found in and the lack of site diversity. The high level of mobility, coupled with the rapid replacement of these points, may help explain the seemingly large numbers of sites with Middle Archaic assemblages. Curiously, the later Guilford phase sites are not as widely distributed, perhaps suggesting that only certain micro-environments were used (cf. Ward [1983:68-69] who would likely reject the notion that substantially different environmental zones are, in fact, represented).

Recently Abbott et al. (1995) argue for a combination of these models, noting that the almost certain increase in population levels probably resulted in a contraction of local territories. With small territories there would have been significantly greater pressure to successfully exploit the limited resources by more frequent movement of camps. They discount the idea that these territories could have been exploited from a single base camp without horticultural technology. Abbott and his colleagues conclude, "increased residential mobility under such conditions may in fact represent a common stage in the development of sedentism" (Abbott et al. 1995:9).

From excavations at a Sandhills site in Chesterfield County, South Carolina, Gunn and his colleague (Gunn and Wilson 1993) offer an alternative model for Middle Archaic settlement. He accepts that the uplands were desiccated from global warming, but rather than limiting occupation, this environmental change made the area more attractive for residential base camps. Gunn and Wilson suggest that the open, or fringe, habitat of the upland margins would have been attractive to a wide variety of plant and animal species.

Another point of some controversy is the idea that the groups responsible for the Middle Archaic Morrow Mountain and Guilford points were intrusive ("without any background" in Coe's words) into the

North Carolina Piedmont, from the west, and were contemporaneous with the groups producing Stanly points (Coe 1964:122-123; Phelps 1983:23). Phelps, building on Coe, refers to the Morrow Mountain and Guilford as the "Western Intrusive horizon." Sassaman (1995) has recently proposed a scenario for the Morrow Mountain groups which would support this west-to-east time-transgressive process. Abbott and his colleagues, perhaps unaware of Sassaman's data, dismiss the concept, commenting that the shear distribution and number of these points "makes this position wholly untenable" (Abbott et al. 1995:9).

The Late Archaic, usually dated from 6,000 to 3,000 or 4,000 B.P., is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued to intensively exploit the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups within North Carolina, the bulk of our data for this period comes from the Uwharrie region.

One of the more debated issues of the Late Archaic is the typology of the Savannah River Stemmed and its various diminutive forms. Oliver, refining Coe's (1964) original Savannah River Stemmed type and a small variant from Gaston (South 1959:153-157), developed a complete sequence of stemmed points that decrease uniformly in size through time (Oliver 1981, 1985). Specifically, he sees the progression from Savannah River Stemmed to Small Savannah River Stemmed to Gypsy Stemmed to Swannanoa from about 5,000 B.P. to about 1,500 B.P. He also notes that the latter two forms are associated with Woodland pottery.

This reconstruction is still debated with a number of archaeologists expressing concern with what they see as typological overlap and ambiguity. They point to a dearth of radiocarbon dates and good excavation contexts yet, at the same time they express concern with the application of this typology outside the North Carolina Piedmont (see, for a synopsis, Sassaman and Anderson 1990:158-162, 1994:35).

In addition to the presence of Savannah River points, the Late Archaic also witnessed the introduction of steatite vessels (see Coe 1964:112-113; Sassaman 1993), polished and pecked stone artifacts, and grinding stones. Some also include the introduction of fiber-

tempered pottery about 4000 B.P. in the Late Archaic (for a discussion see Sassaman and Anderson 1994:38-44). This innovation is of special importance along the Georgia and South Carolina coasts, but seems to have had only minimal impact in North Carolina.

There is evidence that during the Late Archaic the climate began to approximate modern climatic conditions. Rainfall increased resulting in a more lush vegetation pattern. The pollen record indicates an increase in pine which reduced the oak-hickory nut masts which previously were so widespread. This change probably affected settlement patterning since nut masts were now more isolated and concentrated. From research in the Savannah River valley near Aiken, South Carolina, Sassaman has found considerable diversity in Late Archaic site types with sites occurring in virtually every upland environmental zone. He suggests that this more complex settlement pattern evolved from an increasingly complex socio-economic system. While it is unlikely that this model can be simply transferred to the Piedmont of North Carolina without an extensive review of site data and micro-environmental data, it does demonstrate one approach to understanding the transition from Archaic to Woodland.

Woodland Period

As previously discussed, there are those who see the Woodland beginning with the introduction of pottery suggestive of influences from northern cultures. In the Piedmont, the Early Woodland is marked by a pottery type defined by Coe (1964:27-29) as Badin.³ This pottery is identified as having very fine sand in the paste with an occasional pebble.⁴ Coe identified cord-marked, fabric-marked, net-impressed, and plain surface

finishes. Beyond this pottery little more is known about the makers of the Badin wares than is known about those who made New River wares.

The dominant Middle Woodland ceramic type is typically identified as the Yadkin series. Characterized by a crushed quartz temper, the pottery includes surface treatments of cord-marked, fabric-marked, and a very few linear check-stamped sherds (Coe 1964:30-32). Although seemingly very different from Badin, Coe has recently commented that there was "a long period of gradual change" (Coe 1995:154), suggesting that we should be expecting a number of intermediate Badin/Yadkin sherds in the Piedmont. It is regrettable that several of the seemingly "best" Yadkin sites, such as the Trestle site (31An19) explored by Peter Cooper (Ward 1983:72-73), have never been published.

In some respects the Late Woodland (1,200 B.P. to 400 B.P.) 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 500-700 years. From the vantage point of the Middle Savannah Valley Sassaman and his colleagues note that, "the Late Woodland is difficult to delineate typologically from its antecedent or from the subsequent Mississippian period" (Sassaman et al. 1990:14). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

The Late Woodland is typically associated with small triangular points such as Uwharrie, Caraway, Pee Dee, and Clarksville (Coe n.d., 1964:49; Oliver 1985; South 1959:144-146). The characteristic pottery is the Uwharrie series which contains crushed quartz (one characteristic of which is its tendency to protrude through the wall of the pottery). This series included cord-marked and net-impressed surface treatments, but in the Uwharrie the stamping was frequently overscraped. Lips were frequently notched or pinched and the rim was often decorated with incised hatch marks. Coe also comments that a consistent characteristic was the use of soft, thick cords for both

³ The ceramics suggest clear regional differences during the Woodland which seem to only be magnified during the later phases. Ward (1983:71), for example, notes that there "marked distinctions" between the pottery from the Buggs Island and Gaston Reservoirs and that from the south-central Piedmont.

⁴ Coe, in fact, notes that the Badin paste is very similar to that which characterizes Thom's Creek (Coe 1995:154).

the cordage and nets which were used to stamp the pottery (Coe 1995:157). The ware was described by Coe in the unpublished Poole site report (Coe n.d.).⁵ This pottery appears to represent an evolution from the earlier Yadkin wares (Coe 1995:156) and, like with the transition from Badin to Yadkin, Coe suggests that the evolution of the Uwharrie was also gradual — again suggesting that we should be seeing a variety of intermediate “types.”

Of equal interest is a radiocarbon date of A.D. 1610, suggesting that this pottery lasted well into the protohistoric. Coe also notes that “Town Creek and other villages situated along the fall line between the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain seem to have formed a southern boundary for the production and use of Uwharrie ware,” which he suggests was made by the ancestors of the Sara, Tutelo, Occaneechi, Saponi, and Keyauwee (Coe 1995:158).

Mississippian

The Mississippian in the North Carolina is intimately tied to the Pee Dee. In spite of this Ward only briefly mentions the culture in his synthesis of the North Carolina Piedmont (Ward 1983:63) and until recently one had to piece together ideas and concepts largely from Reid’s (1967) typology of the pottery (which does provide a little background) or Ferguson’s (1971) examination of what he called the South Appalachian Mississippian, which included central and northern Georgia, the Middle Chattahoochee River Valley, and the Atlantic Coastal Plain. More recently Coe (1995) has filled in at least some of the blanks in Pee Dee research, although much still remains to be explored.

Coe’s earliest discussion of Pee Dee focused on Town Creek and he commented that the occupation was “one of the best archaeological records of the movement of a people in the southeast” (Coe 1952:309). The

⁵This study was intended to be published under a monograph series entitled, *University of North Carolina Laboratory of American Archaeology Publications*, but was never completed. The work was conducted in 1936, although the ensuing report is undated.

people bearing the Pee Dee culture moved into the Carolina Piedmont from the south, displacing the native Uwharrie culture, and after a relatively brief period of time retreated to the south in the face of the advancing Siouans. Pee Dee has received many dates since first discussed and, through time, has gradually been pushed earlier — first to about A.D. 1450 and most recently, by Oliver (1992) to occupy the span from about A.D. 1100 to 1500.

The most complete information concerning the extensive work at Town Creek comes from Coe (1995) and his co-authors that review lithics, faunal remains, plant materials, human remains, and of course the Pee Dee pottery. Still to be resolved, however, is the relationship of Pee Dee to the range of other complicated stamped materials found in the Carolinas.

Protohistoric and Historic Native American

Whatever simplicity the Carolina Piedmont exhibits during the Woodland or even Mississippian, is shattered in the Proto-Historic and early Historic. Coe observes that:

Sara and Tutelo pottery evolved into a new style named Dan River; what was thought to be early Occaneechi is presently termed Hillsboro; the Saponi style was named Linwood; and the Keyauwee pottery of this period is called Caraway (Coe 1995:159).

Coe explains that what was previously called Linwood is today classified as Caraway. In spite of this, he distinguishes the two, commenting that the Saponi wares have a different rim treatment and the paddles were carved with steel knives rather than stone tools (Coe 1995:161).

In spite of Coe’s desire to “wrap up” everything in the Piedmont in this neat package, the more detailed research of his students suggests the situation is far from clear. For those willing to carefully explore Wilson’s 600+ pages on the Carolina and Virginia Siouan groups, there is the tantalizing suggestion that the Hillsboro wares may not even represent a Siouan

group. More over he explains, by way of a summary:

Because of the numerous shortcomings in the ceramic record for the Carolina and Virginia Piedmont, and the lack of precise dates for most of the assemblages, a true synthesis cannot be attempted (Wilson 1983:483).

He does, however, offer some generalizations which help us complete a picture or "snapshot" of the Piedmont during the Historic Period.

For example, Wilson observes that the distribution of Pee Dee and supposedly Siouan forms suggests that the two groups were interacting along the upper Wateree/lower Catawba, as well as the upper Pee Dee and lower Yadkin drainages, although why there is a gap between the two regions is far less clear. Nevertheless, the Pee Dee probably introduced such traits as burnishing and complicated stamping, cazuela bowl forms, and rim applique strips. He goes on to observe that, "it now seems probable that there was a development during the early part of the Late Prehistoric period of ceramics along the Catawba and Yadkin Rivers that came later to be called by the generic name 'Catawba'" (Wilson 1983:484). In contrast, the more northern Dan River assemblages suggest little contact with the Pee Dee.

During the Protohistoric Period there is far less known. The Hillsboro wares, which Coe identifies with the Occaneechi, seem to have a strong resemblance to the ceramics along the Roanoke River at the Fall Line to the northeast. Caraway's abundant complicated stamped pottery suggests a connection with the lower Yadkin, but little else can be observed concerning this far too poorly documented assemblage. Wilson remarks that the "enigmatic" Linwood series is even more poorly understood. Going back to much earlier efforts to identify the ancestral home of Linwood in Virginia, he notes that the issue has never been resolved. Even more importantly, he comments, "identification of the Linwood Series with the Saponi of 1701 should not be taken as a given, especially with the revisions that have been necessary for the other ceramic-ethnic group relationships proposed by earlier researchers" (Wilson

1983:487).

Moving into the Historic Period, Wilson points out that the only information available for the lower Catawba is the fleeting mention of Elkin, mentioned by Coe as being associated with the Catawba Indians of 1700. Yet nothing has ever been published on this assemblage and the only available information is that provided by Wilson from the analysis of a very small collection. Not unexpectedly, it is dominated by smoothing, burnishing, complicated stamping, and corncob impressing. He suggests that complicated stamping and perhaps some other Lamar-like characteristics continued at least into the late seventeenth century. The shift from this to what is recognized today as "Catawba," cannot be explained.

The only other information for the Piedmont is that from the upper Dan River drainage. There, excavation at two sites has produced the late seventeenth century version of the Dan River ware, which Wilson calls the Oldtown Series (Wilson 1983:615-618). He found that rim folds, present in the earlier Oldtown wares (and frequently associated with the Occaneechi), drop out in the later Oldtown pottery. He admits this disappearance of rim folds may relate to the Occaneechi's loss of power and control over trade routes at the hands of Nathaniel Bacon in 1676. But he notes an equally plausible explanation. It may be that the folded rim originated far to the south, with the Catawba, and that as their focus turned from the north to the south with the establishment of a English settlement in Charleston in 1670, their influence on the northern Piedmont waned.

Although the ceramic sequence for the Dan drainage is pretty well understood, he comments that similar patterns cannot be found in other areas — simply because too little research has been done. Moreover, much of what is available is poorly reported. In summary, Wilson offers a synthesis of Piedmont Siouan ceramics:

Prior to the Late Prehistoric period, the ceramics of a region probably manifests characteristics derived from the cultures located within discrete river

drainages. Interactions would be linear, and the general pattern of change and exchange of ceramic attributes, traits, and modes would follow a general Coastal Plain-Piedmont-Mountain direction. This linear orientation would be tied to communication and information flow up and down river systems, and not between drainages.

With the expansion of the Pee Dee culture up the Wateree and Pee Dee Rivers, the same general pattern of interaction is followed during the Late Prehistoric period for the lower Catawba and lower Yadkin drainages. Information and interaction is most intense up and down the rivers. But, as illustrated by the presence of Pee Dee sherds in Pisgah assemblages of western North Carolina (Dickens 1976:198) and on the Dan River, these influences are also felt across the drainages. In the Piedmont this is manifest by the beginnings of a north-south, and a decline of the east-west, orientation in the ceramics. Contact with the Spaniards in the 1540s and 1560s probably provided an impetus to the changing interaction pattern. Certainly, with the establishment of English colonies in Virginia and South Carolina, the focus for Piedmont Indian interaction shifted decidedly north-

south, an orientation which was tied to the Great Trading Path, the Occaneechi Trail, that cut across river drainages as it ran from the Falls of the Appomattox River in Virginia, to the Fall Line at Augusta, Georgia. This change is clearly evident in the increase of "southern" traits in the ceramics along the Dan River (Wilson 1983:491-492).

In spite of decades of research, the implications of this scenario is far from clear.

Historic Overview

Northeastern North Carolina became "safe" for expansion of colonial settlement with the

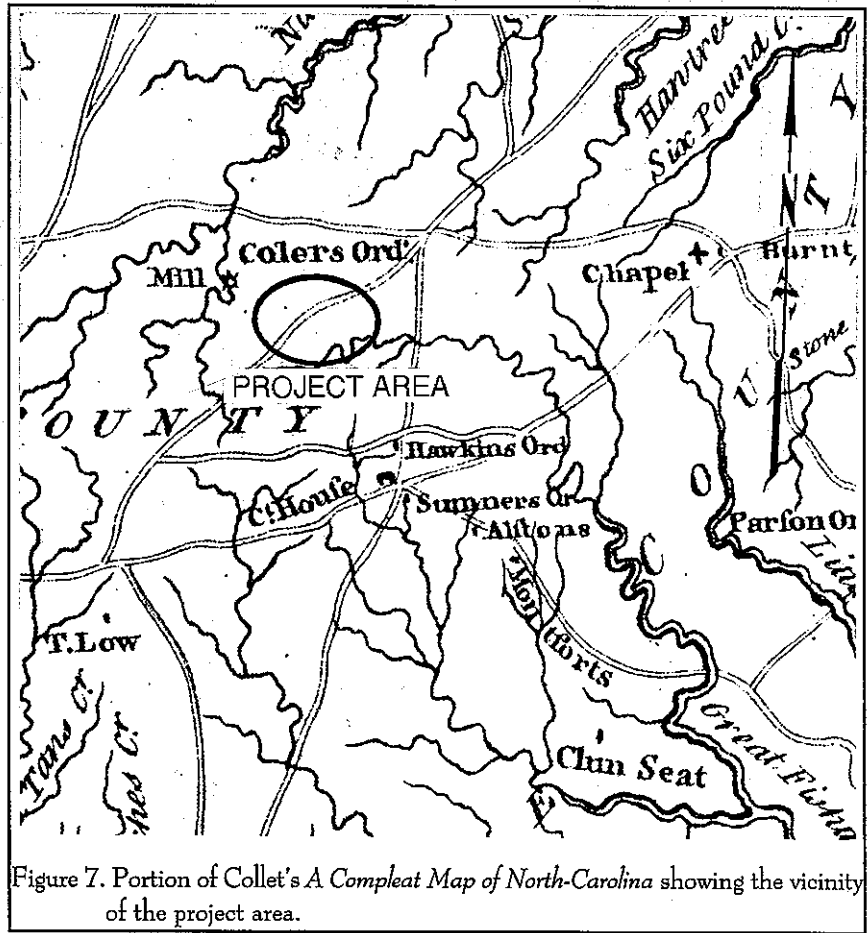


Figure 7. Portion of Collet's A Compleat Map of North-Carolina showing the vicinity of the project area.

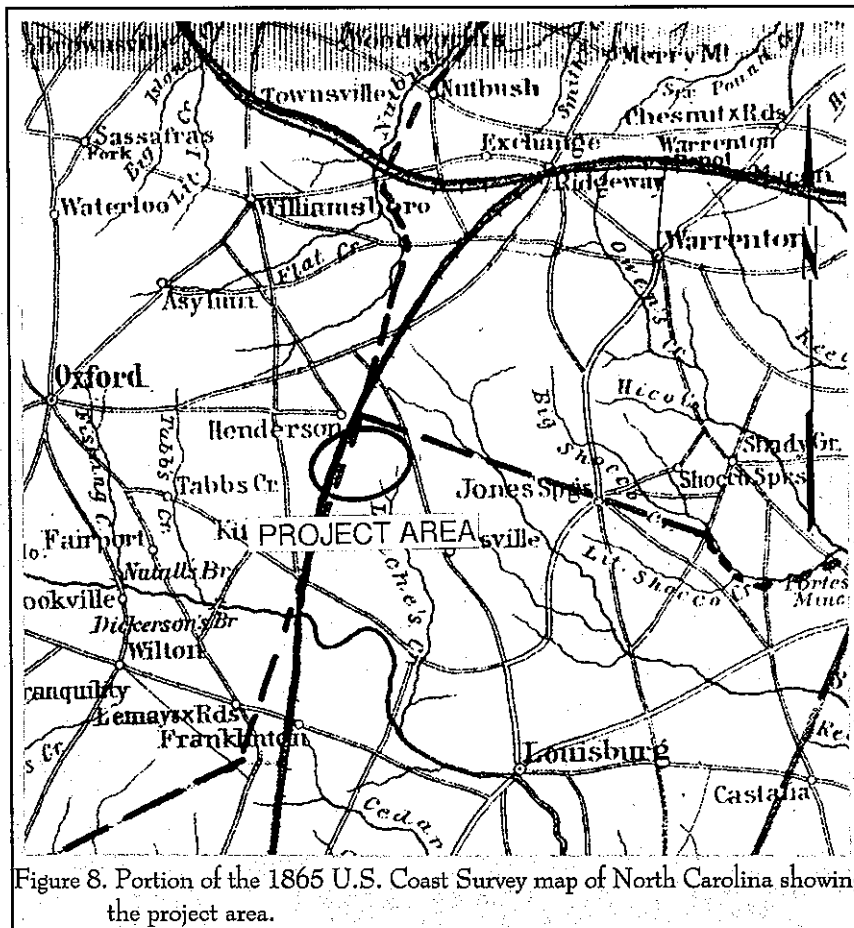


Figure 8. Portion of the 1865 U.S. Coast Survey map of North Carolina showing the project area.

elimination of the Tuscarora in 1713. It was also about this time that the Proprietary government, always suffering under inefficient governors and neglect, collapsed. In 1729 the Crown purchased the interests of all but one of the proprietors. Lord Carteret, the sole holdout, maintained his share, known as the Granville District, embracing the upper third of North Carolina. Significantly, this area included about two-thirds of the people in the Colony at the site — and the study tract. As might be imagined, this district caused considerable confusion up until the American Revolution, when it was seized by the people living in the area.

Collet's 1770 *A Compleat Map of North-Carolina* (Figure 7) reveals that the study tract is situated in the vicinity of a major trading path serving to connect the area with Virginia to the north and various points to the west.

In the piedmont, Bute County (no longer in existence) was formed from Granville in 1764 and was then further subdivided to form Franklin and Warren counties in 1779. Vance County was not created from Granville, Warren, and Franklin counties until 1881 (Corbitt 1950).

Bute sent delegates to the Continental Congress in New Bern in 1774 and when the Revolution broke out in April 1775 the Royal government broke down and a provisional government was established. In 1776 the Fourth Provisional Congress met at Halifax, authorizing North Carolina representatives to the Continental Congress to declare independence.

Revolutionary War battles in the project areas was limited. There were no major activities in Vance County, although Lord Cornwallis did travel through nearby Edgecombe

County on his way north in 1781. Holm (1999:12) reports that Cornwallis camped near the present Rocky Mount-Wilson airport and engaged local militia at several creek crossings.

In the area of piedmont Vance County the early settlers were primarily from Virginia and tobacco became the main cash crop by the late eighteenth century. With tobacco came slaves and as early as 1790 the trend toward large slave populations in the tobacco counties along the Virginia border was already very clear (Lefler and Newsom 1954:129). In fact, Warren County, which included part of Vance, was the only county in North Carolina with a larger slave population than free population.

During the antebellum Vance participated in the meteoric rise of bright leaf tobacco, which

encouraged the construction of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad and later the Townsville Railroad. To the southeast agriculture also encouraged the development of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad, completed by 1840 and encouraging additional development. Much of this transportation improvement is clearly visible on the 1865 U.S. Coast Survey of North Carolina (Figure 8).

The study area was largely shielded from direct conflict during the Civil War. After the Civil War the local communities returned to agriculture, at various times casting their fortunes with either cotton or tobacco. By the end of the nineteenth century, however, the region was heavily invested in tobacco. Vance, being a relatively new county, and smaller than its neighbors, was producing only 2,000,000 pounds of tobacco annually, as well as about 3,000 bales of cotton (State Board of Agriculture 1896:335, 371, 403). Nevertheless, the new county had a very large black population — 63.4% — reflecting its early reliance on slavery.

The ascendancy of tobacco held through much of the early twentieth century. In 1939, for example, Rocky Mount, in nearby Nash County, was listed as the third largest tobacco market in the state, behind Wilson and Greenville.

METHODS

Archaeological Field Methods

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 100 foot intervals along transects laid out at 100 foot intervals. All soil would be screened through ¼ inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially by transect. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1.5 to 2 feet or until subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

Should sites (defined by the presence of two or more artifacts from either surface survey or shovel tests within a 25 feet area) be identified, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. These tests would be placed at 25 to 50 feet intervals in a simple cruciform pattern until two consecutive negative shovel tests were encountered. The information required for completion of North Carolina archaeological site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

These proposed techniques were implemented with no significant modifications. As previously reported, we found much of the tract fallow. Although this did not provide adequate surface visibility for surface survey, it did make access for shovel testing relatively easy.

A series of 18 transects were laid out running south from SR 1148. A total of 254 shovel tests were excavated in the project area. Most of these tests in the cultivated area revealed a plowzone of brown (10YR5/3) sandy loam ranging from 0.5 to 1.0 foot in depth. This generally overlaid a yellowish brown (10YR5/8) clay loam subsoil. In areas of erosion the subsoil was more

often a strong brown (7.5YR5/6) clay.

The GPS positions were taken with a Garmin GPS 12XL rover and a Garmin GBR 21 Beacon Receiver. The Garmin 12XL tracks up to twelve satellites, each with a separate channel that is continuously being read. The benefit of parallel channel receivers is their improved sensitivity and ability to obtain and hold a satellite lock in difficult situations, such as in forests or urban environments where signal obstruction is a frequent problem. This was a vital consideration for the study area.

GPS accuracy is generally affected by a number of sources of potential error, including errors with satellite clocks, multipathing, and selective availability. Satellite clock errors can occur when the satellite's clock is off by as little as a millisecond, or when a slightly-askew orbit results in a distance error. Multipathing occurs when the signal bounces off trees, chainlink fences, or bodies of water. Multipathing was probably not a significant source of error for this study since the corridor was cleared and our readings were taken in the center of each site. The source of most extreme GPS errors is selective availability (SA), the deliberate mistiming of satellite signals by the Department of Defense. This degradation results in horizontal errors of up to 100 m 95% of the time, although the error may be as much as 300 m. Nevertheless, selective availability has been turned off by the DOD. We have previously determined that 3D¹ and DGPS readings with the Garmin 12XL were identical. Therefore, we relied on 3D navigation mode, with expected potential horizontal errors of 6 m or less.

¹ A basic requirement for GPS position accuracy is having a lock on at least four satellites, which places the receiver in 3D mode. This is critical — as an example, positions calculated with less than four satellites can have horizontal errors in excess of a mile, or over 1,600 m.

Architectural Survey

As previously discussed, we elected to use a 0.5 mile area of potential effect (APE). The architectural survey recorded buildings, sites, structures, and objects which appeared to have been constructed before 1950. Typical of such projects, this survey recorded only those which have maintained their integrity. Those which have undergone such extensive modifications to preclude their eligibility were not recorded.

For each identified resource an architectural survey form would be completed and at least two representative photographs would be taken. Permanent control numbers would be assigned by the Architectural Branch at the conclusion of the study. The site forms for the resources identified during this study would then be submitted to the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.

The survey was conducted by driving the public roads (typically county or state secondary roads) in the APE. These roads included NC 39, SR 1148, SR1591, and SR1577, as well as several county roads without numbers.

As previously discussed, Vance County has no comprehensive architectural survey, and there were no sites previously recorded in this APE.

Site Evaluation

Archaeological sites will be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the North Carolina Division of Archives and History.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and

culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and

- a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

National Register Bulletin 36 (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;
- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;
- identification of the important

research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;

- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and
- identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized, but we have tried to focus on each archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

For architectural sites the evaluative process would be somewhat different. Given the relatively limited architectural data available for most of the properties, we anticipated on evaluating these sites using National Register Criterion C, focusing on the site's "distinctive characteristics." Key to this concept is the issue of integrity. This means that the property needs to have retained, essentially intact, its physical identity from the historic period.

Particular attention would be given to the integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Design includes the organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials. As *National Register Bulletin* 36 observes, "Recognizability of a property, or the ability of a property to convey its significance, depends largely upon the degree to which the design of the property is intact" (Townsend et al. 1993:18). Workmanship is evidence of the artisan's labor and skill and can apply to either the entire property or to specific features of the property. Finally,

materials — the physical items used on and in the property — are "of paramount importance under Criterion C" (Townsend et al. 1993:19). Integrity here is reflected by maintenance of the original material and avoidance of replacement materials.

Laboratory Analysis

The cleaning and analysis of artifacts was conducted in Columbia, South Carolina at the Chicora Foundation laboratories. These materials have been catalogued and accessioned for curation at the Office of State Archaeology, the closest regional repository. Site 31VN261** is curated as accession number 210004, while 31VN262** is curated as accession number 210005. The site forms for the identified archaeological sites have been filed with the Office of State Archaeology. Field notes and photographic materials have been prepared for curation using archival standards and will be transferred to that agency as soon as the project is complete.

Analysis methods focused on occupation spans, likely functions of the various sites, and changes in raw material or ceramic preferences.

Analysis of the historic collections follow professionally accepted standards with a level of suitability to the quantity and quality of the remains. In general, the temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of historic remains follow such authors as Price (1970) and South (1977). Glass artifacts are identified using sources such as Jones (1986), and Jones and Sullivan (1985). Sutton and Arkush (1996) provide an excellent overview of a broad range of other historic material, although primary sources will typically be provided in the text if the remains require a more detailed analysis.

RESULTS

Introduction

The intensive shovel testing at the 50 acre addition to the Wesvanco tract identified two historic archaeological sites, 31VN261 and 31VN262 (Figure 9). Both are diffuse scatters of historic remains and neither is recommended eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural survey identified one structure in the 0.5 mile APE which was clearly over 50 years in age. Unfortunately, this structure no longer possesses sufficient integrity to be considered for the National Register. No additional management activities are recommended for this structure.

Identified Archaeological Sites

31VN261**

This site is a scatter of historic remains identified about 150 feet south of SR 1148 (Old Epsom Road; today known as Vanco Mill Road) and southeast of an existing dirt farm road. The site was initially identified on the basis of a large surface scatter found in an area which has been subjected to recent ground disturbance, but was subsequently also identified in shovel testing. Moreover, there are some above ground remains which we believe are associated with the historic scatter. The central UTM coordinates are N4019611 E734857 and the site is found on a broad interior ridge overlooking a small drainage off the study tract to the northeast. Elevations in the site area are about 490 feet AMSL.

The core of the site was open, characterized by light grass or broom straw. Along the west and east edges of the site there were dense pine and mixed hardwoods. At the north edge of the site, close to SR 1148 there is a very large oak tree that dominates the site area. Based on both shovel testing and surface scatters, the site measures about 250 feet northeast-southwest by 100 feet northwest-southeast (Figures 10

and 11).

Transect 4 was placed immediately north of the dirt farm road, which runs off SR 1148 to the southwest. Shovel Test 3 (designated N100E100) on this transect was positive, producing one undecorated whiteware and one clear container glass fragment. The profile revealed an Ap horizon of brown (10YR5/3) sand to a depth of about 1 foot, overlying a yellowish brown (10YR5/8) sandy clay subsoil. The profiles are consistent with Appling soils. All of the materials were recovered from the plowzone. The site was further tested on a cruciform pattern with eight tests at 50 foot intervals. Test N150E100 was also positive, producing two fragments of window glass. The other shovel tests were all negative.

To the north of N200E100, toward SR 1148, there was a surface scatter of historic remains, situated in the disturbed area. The materials were all modern, suggestive of either a dump or possibly a demolished structure. A grab collection produced 8 fragments of undecorated whiteware, three fragments of white porcelain, five clear container glass fragments, two manganese bottle fragments, one green bottle glass fragment, two porcelain tile fragments, one metal doorknob, three animal bones fragments, and one piece of coal (discarded in the field).

The site area also contains a relatively modern barn at the south edge and a well at the northeastern edge. The barn (Figure 12) is of frame construction using modern lumber and is covered with v-crimp tin siding. The gable ends are weatherboard and the roof is also v-crimp tin. The well consists of a concrete pad and CMU enclosure — suggesting a modern, probably drilled, well.

The archaeological remains present at the site are typical of those expected from an early to mid-twentieth century site. Manganese glass, for example, was most popular from the last quarter of the

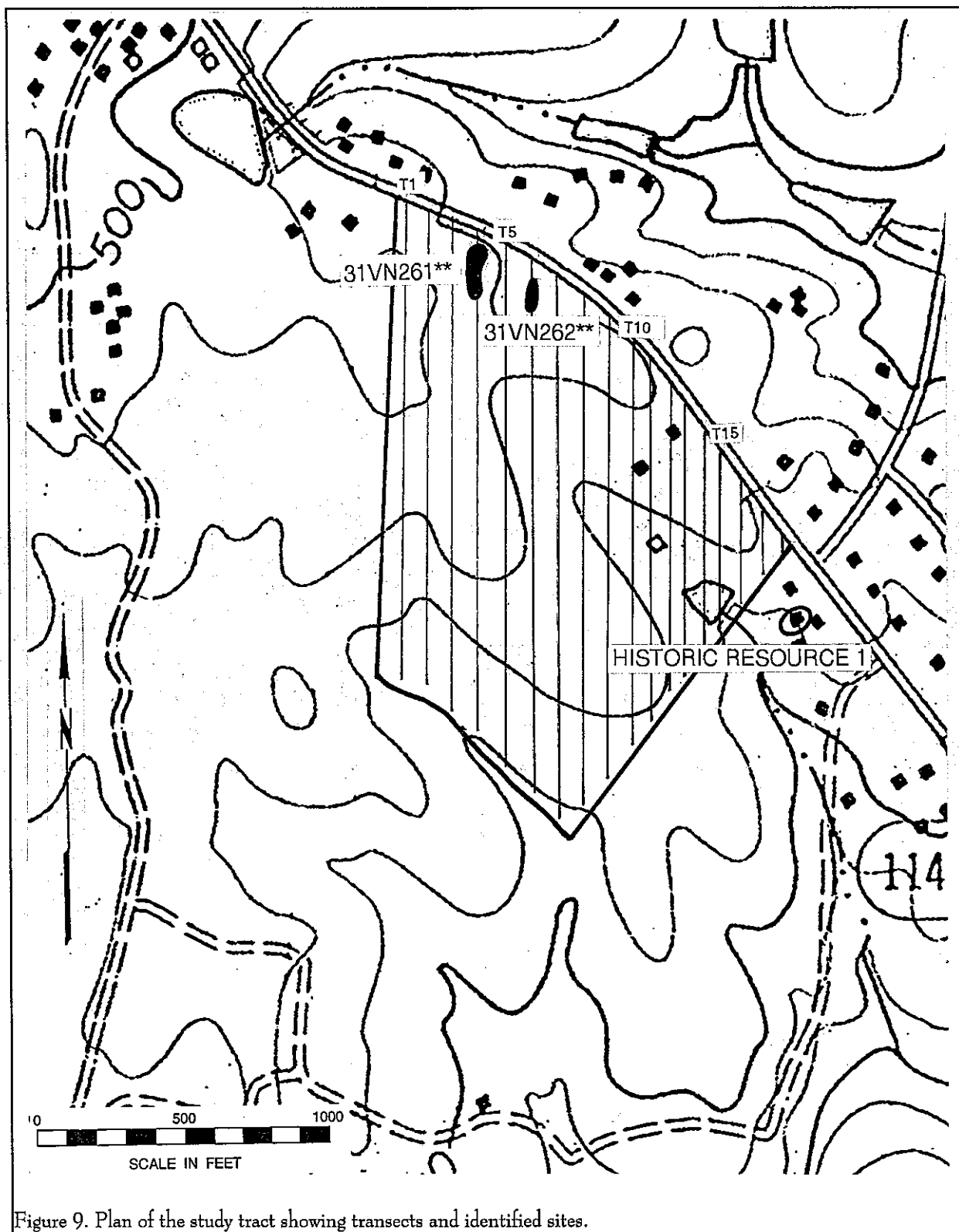


Figure 9. Plan of the study tract showing transects and identified sites.

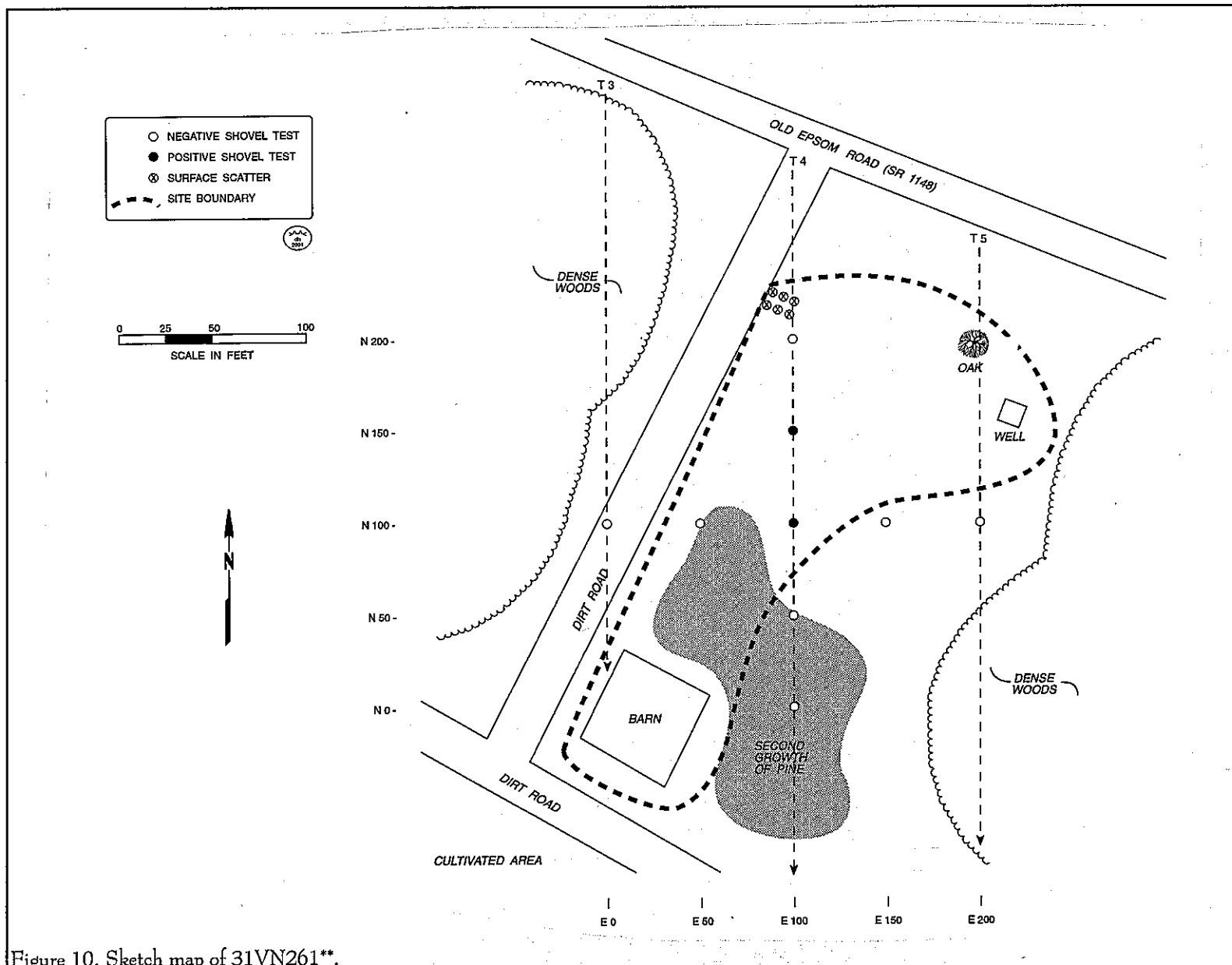


Figure 10. Sketch map of 31VN261**.



Figure 11. View of 31VN261** looking south from SR 1148.

little evidence of other artifact groups. There are two standing buildings, but both are relatively modern and neither is likely to contribute significant information concerning the lifeways of early to mid-twentieth century farmers.

In addition, these remains appear disturbed — possibly from farming activities or possibly from the removal of a structure from the site area. The context of the materials is uncertain and their integrity is questionable.

nineteenth century though the first quarter of the twentieth century (Jones and Sullivan 1985:13). The porcelain tile and doorknob, however, are more likely from a mid-twentieth century structure. The existing architectural remains are also characteristic of a farm complex from the mid (or even late) twentieth century.

The data sets at this site are minimal. There is no evidence of the original house (it may have been present in the heavily disturbed area near the road, but there are no foundation or brick pier remains). There were no features suggested by the surface inspection or the shovel testing. The archaeological remains are limited to primarily kitchen remains, with

It seems unlikely that the archaeological remains (even with the remaining architecture) are capable of addressing significant research questions.

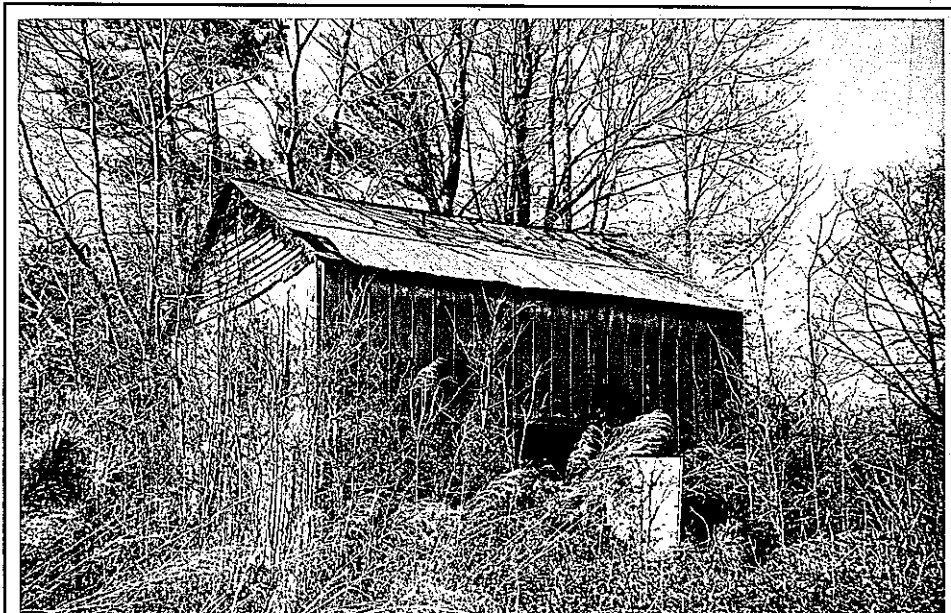


Figure 12. View of the barn at the south edge of 31VN261** looking to the north-northwest.

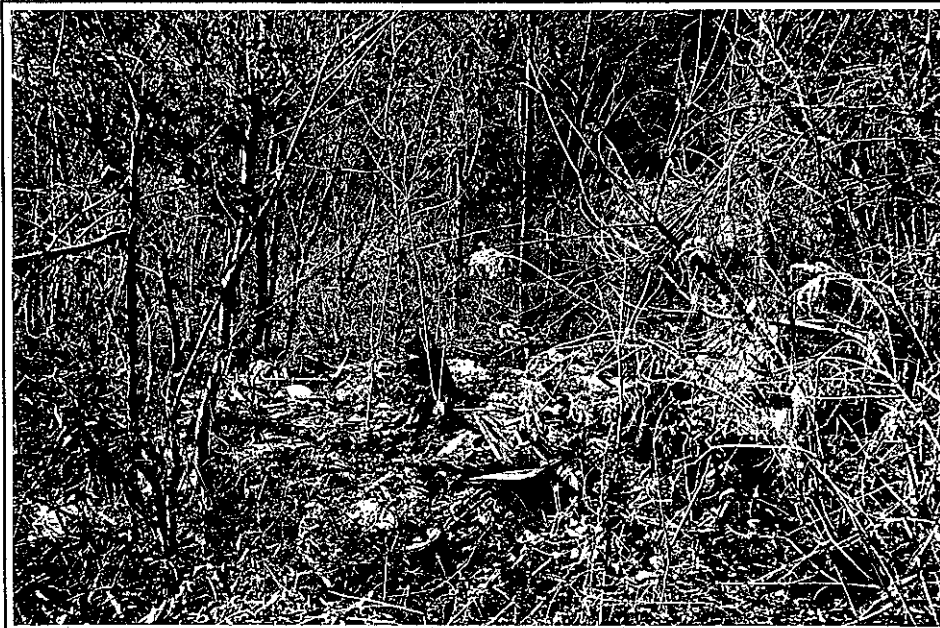


Figure 13. View of 31VN262** looking northwest.

Consequently, we recommend the site not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. No additional management activities are recommended, pending the review and concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office.

31VN262**

This site is situated about 300 feet to the southeast of 31VA261** and represents a dense area of trash refuse in the woods (Figures 13 and 14). The central UTM coordinates are N4019580 E734930. The site was first encountered as surface remains in an area of dense pines and mixed hardwoods on Transect 6. Shovel Tests 3 through 6 produced evidence of the trash deposit, although the materials in STs 3, 5, and 6 were plastics and styrofoam and were not retained. For each the profile revealed about a foot of brown (10YR5/3) loam mixed with trash that was especially dense in the upper 0.5 foot. A yellowish brown (10YR5/8) sandy clay subsoil was encountered at about 1.0 foot and there was no evidence of trash in this subsoil. The encountered soil profiles are consistent with the Appling Series.

Shovel Test 4 yielded, in addition to other clearly modern material, one wire nail, one cut nail, one

fragment of wire, one green bottle glass fragment, one manganese glass fragment, and one milk glass fragment (a canning jar lid liner).

Additional shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals from ST 4 on Transect 6, but none were positive (although there were surface remains). Materials were not identified in Transect 5 to the west, but were present in the vicinity of Shovel Test 4 on

Transect 7. Consequently, the site is estimated to cover an area about 375 feet north-south by 175 feet east-west.

It appears that this site represents an area of off-site trash disposal. We suspect that it was associated with 31VN261**, although most of the remains appear to be from the late twentieth century.

The data sets at the site are, to say the least, varied. A wide range of plastic, modern metal, and styrofoam remains are present. Some are still partially contained within decomposing plastic trash bags. There are piles of broken bottles or condiment containers, associated with "tin" cans. Most of the materials, however, appear to be kitchen-related. Moreover, these materials appear to be associated with one or more sites and the deposit was used over a number of years, most recently we believe into the 1990s.

While it is possible for sites less than 50 years old to be eligible for the National Register, if they are of "exceptional importance" or parts of districts which are otherwise eligible for listing. Neither seems to be the case at 31VN262**. Dumps of this sort are common in the rural South. While they may provide information, perhaps even important information, concerning

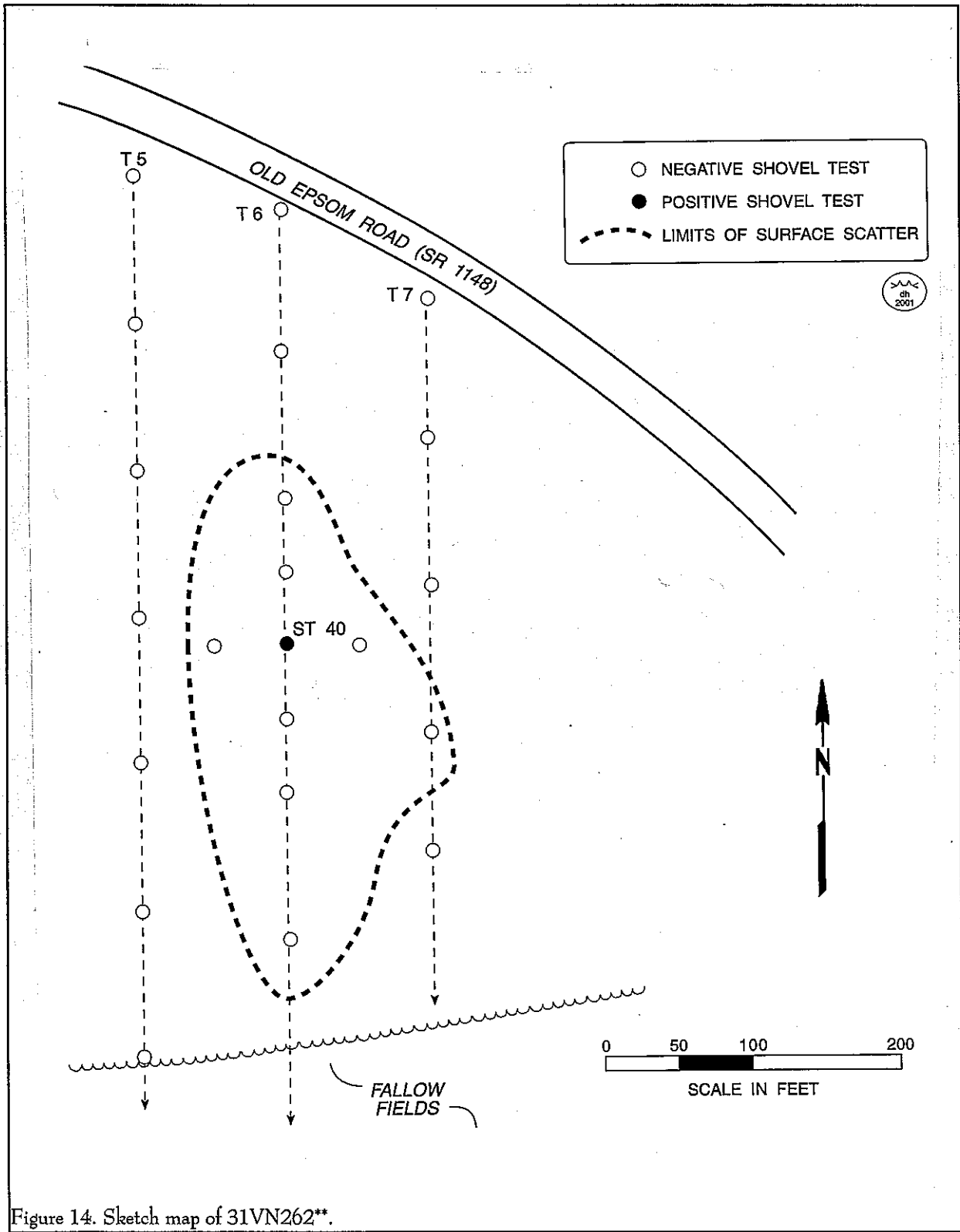


Figure 14. Sketch map of 31VN262**.

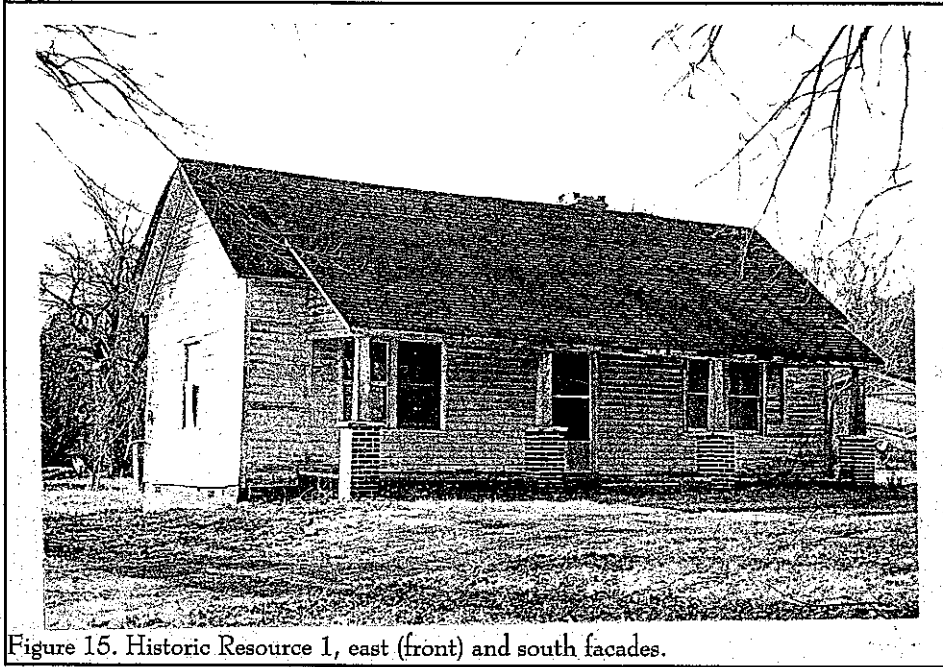


Figure 15. Historic Resource 1, east (front) and south facades.

consumer choice, rural dietary patterns, and evidence of gradual changes in rural lifeways, we do not believe the data sets are of "exceptional importance." Moreover, it seems likely that the questions might be as easily studied using other avenues, such as census studies and consumer polls. Consequently, we do not believe that this site is eligible for inclusion on the National Register. No additional management activities are recommended, pending the review and compliance of the State Historic Preservation Office.

Historic and Architectural Resources

As previously discussed, there were no previously recorded architectural sites in the

0.5 mile APE. Our survey did identify one structure (Historic Resource 1) which appeared to have been constructed over 50 years ago. Situated south of the project tract and immediately south of the intersection of SR 1148 and SR1591 the structure is a hall-and-parlor style. One story and of frame construction with painted weatherboards, the structure has a lateral gable roof now in asphalt shingles on the front elevation and v-crimp metal elsewhere.

There is a porch covering less than the full facade with a shed roof supported by a wooden support on a brick pedestal. The porch itself is a concrete slab raised above grade. Overall, it appears that the porch has been extensively reworked. The building is situated on a continuous

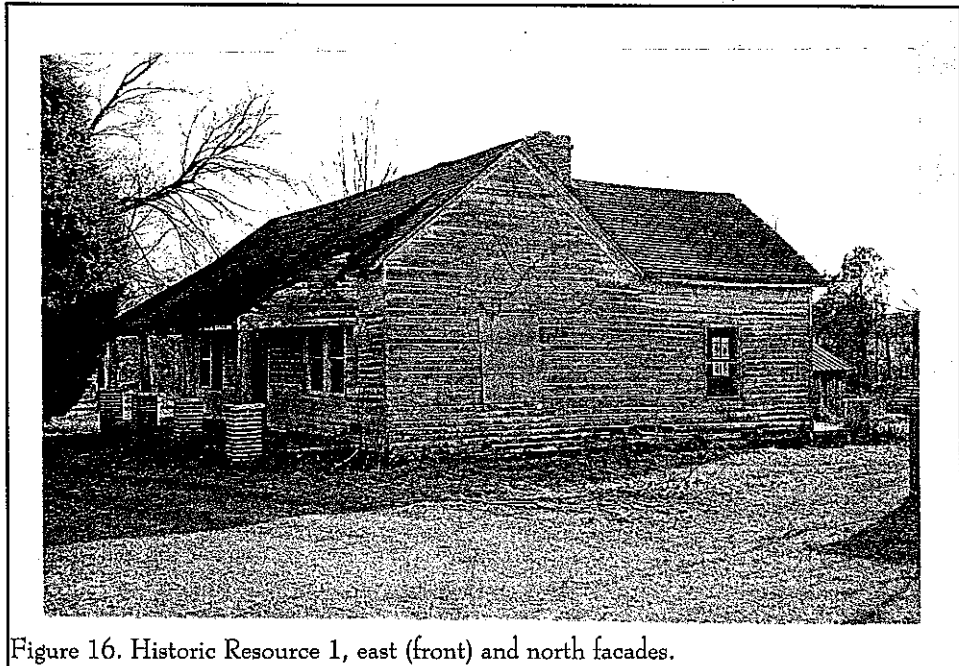


Figure 16. Historic Resource 1, east (front) and north facades.

CMU foundation. Double windows on the front elevation are 3/1; elsewhere they have been boarded up, suggesting loss of window details. There are at least two rear additions which have incorporated what appears to be an original stone chimney.

The structure is on the edge of the study tract, in close proximity to the proposed undertaking. It is likely that it will be affected by the project, both through short-term increases in noise, vibration, and dust, as well as through long-term changes in the surroundings.

The house is in the process of being "renovated" although it has already lost much integrity through the rear additions, the introduction of a storm door, the loss of window details, and the reworking of the porch. Based on these modifications, we do not believe that the structure possesses sufficient integrity to warrant recordation; nor is the structure eligible for inclusion on the National Register. Consequently, we do not believe that either the short or long-term changes to the property are significant.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study involved the examination of an 50 acre tract situated to the east of the previously surveyed Wesvanco Tract in south central Vance County, North Carolina. The tract, along with the 200 acres to the west, is proposed for use as a distribution center for a confidential client. This work, conducted for Carter Burgess, is intended to examine the archaeological sites found on the proposed tract, as well as historic sites which are within a 0.5-mile area of potential effects (APE). This report is intended to assist Carter Burgess and its clients comply with their historic preservation responsibilities.

The proposed work will result in extensive clearing, grubbing, grading, as well as construction activities. It is likely to destroy any archaeological sites which may be present on the survey tract. The work may also modify the visual surroundings of any historic properties in the APE, although the area has been heavily impacted by existing industrial developments.

While surrounding areas had been under cultivation in the past, much of the area is today either industrial or a mixture of commercial and residential. The survey tract itself is fallow, probably not having been cultivated since at least 1999. There are several areas of dense woods, primarily on the southern and southeast edges of the tract. The fallow fields which comprise the bulk of the tract allow easy access, but the surface visibility was sufficiently limited that shovel testing was necessary. The shovel tests, conducted at 100 foot intervals on transects spaced 100 feet apart, revealed some erosion in the steeper areas, but otherwise a fairly consistent plowzone overlying a clay subsoil.

As a result of this investigation, two sites were identified within the study tract. Site 31VN261** represents the probable remains of a mid-twentieth century farm unit. Remaining structures include a modern well and barn. The house site itself appears heavily disturbed. Shovel testing revealed few artifacts and those present offer limited data sets. We

recommend the site not eligible for inclusion on the National Register and recommend no additional management activities, pending the review and concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office.

The other site, 31VN262** represents a scatter of domestic trash, primarily from the late twentieth century. While a few materials potentially older than 50 years were identified, the vast majority of the remains clearly date from the last quarter of the twentieth century. This site appears to represent a rural trash dump, perhaps associated with 31VN261**. While there are a variety of data sets, this site is less than 50 years in age and we do not believe that it represents materials of "exceptional importance." Consequently, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. Like 31VN261**, no additional management activities are recommended, pending the review and concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office.

In addition to the archaeological investigations, a survey of historic sites was also conducted within the 0.5-mile APE. There has been no survey for Vance County and this study failed to identify any structures within the APE which were over 50 years in age and which retained their integrity. The one historic resource identified had been extensively modified and can no longer be considered an important architectural resource. It is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

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

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF A 50 ACRE TRACT IN HENDERSON

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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