

# **CULTURAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION SURVEY OF APPROXIMATELY 302 ACRES AT THE McLENDON YOUNG INDUSTRIAL PARK SITE**

*FLORENCE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA*

*Summary Report*



December 2013

**CULTURAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION SURVEY OF  
APPROXIMATELY 302 ACRES AT THE McLENDON YOUNG  
INDUSTRIAL PARK SITE  
FLORENCE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA  
SUMMARY REPORT**

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# INTRODUCTION

From November 20-21, 2013, TRC conducted an archaeological survey of approximately 302 acres approximately one mile south of the Town of Timmonsville in Florence County, South Carolina (Figure 1). This work was done on behalf of Alliance Engineering, Inc. for the South Carolina Department of Commerce Industrial Site Certification Program.

The project area consists of approximately 302 acres in the Lower Coastal Plain physiographic province. The tract is situated on an upland flat between Lake Swamp to the west and Sparrow Swamp to the east. A north to south running, man-made irrigation ditch bisects the tract. Carolina Bays are located in the southeast corner of the tract. The tract is bound on the north and south by forested land, on the east by Young Road and on the west by Interstate 95 (Figure 1). The elevation of the project area is between 40 feet and 45 feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL).

The tract contains planted corn and soy bean fields well-drained upland areas. Mixed pine and hardwood forest characterize the low-lying, poorly drained areas and also mark the field boundaries (Figures 2 and 3). A list of the soils identified on the tract is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Soils in the project area.**

Soil Name	Type	Drainage	Location
Coxville	Fine sandy loam	Poorly drained	Flats, bays
Duplin	Fine sandy loam	Moderately well drained	Terraces
Goldsboro	Loamy Sand	Moderately well drained	Terraces
Lynchburg	Sandy loam	Somewhat poorly drained	Terraces, flats
Norfolk	Loamy sand	Well drained	Terraces, uplands
Rains	Sandy loam	Poorly drained	Terraces
Varina	Loamy fine sand	Well drained	Uplands
Wehadkee and Johnston	Complex	Very poorly drained	Floodplains

The area surrounding the tract consists of the Honda Plant and forested land to the west. Forested land and agricultural fields surround the tract in all other directions.

A 2011 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the South Carolina Department of Commerce (DOC) and the SHPO concerning the certification of industrial parks has established minimum criteria for cultural resources surveys on any tract applying for certification. An

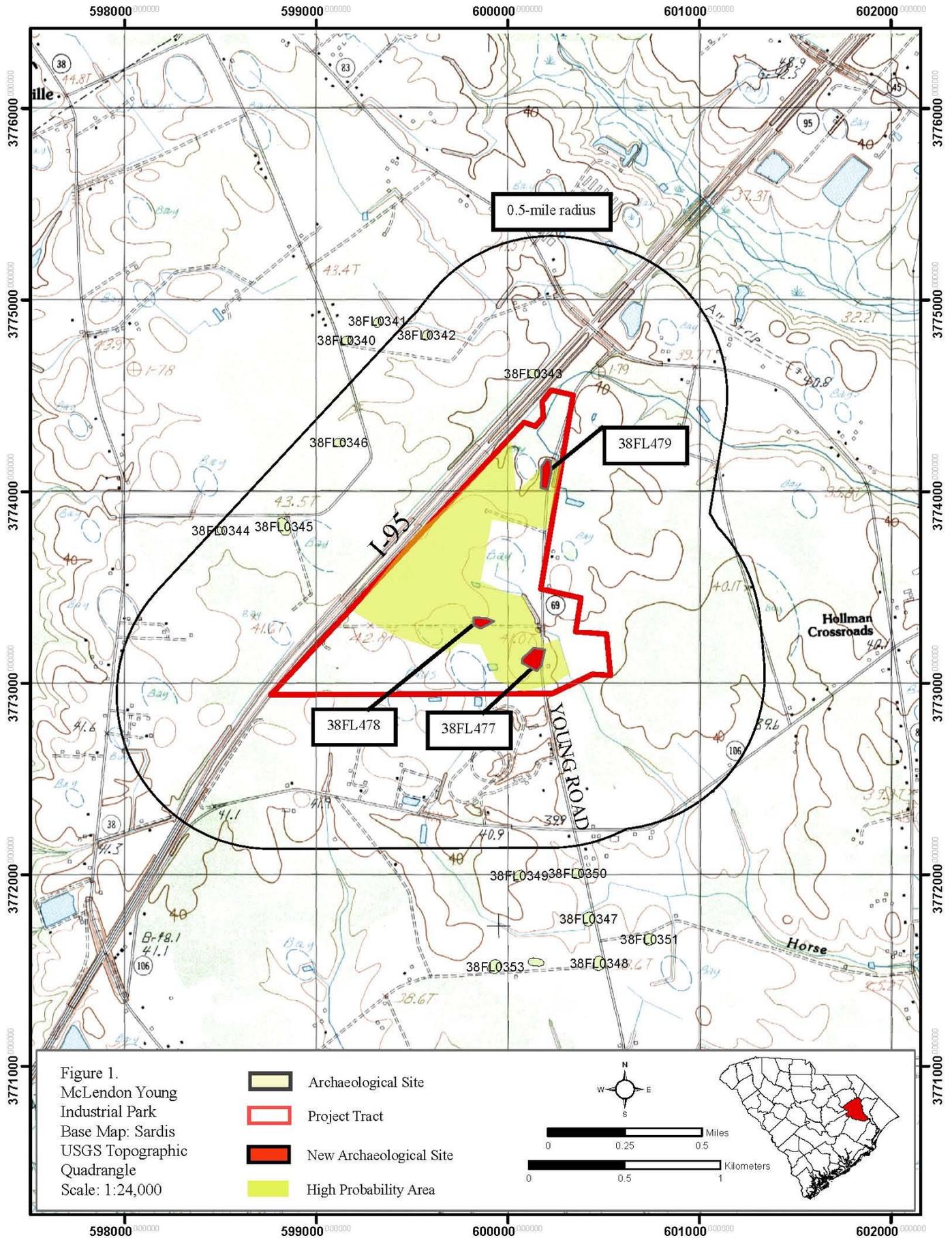




Figure 2. Wooded area in the northern portion of the tract.



Figure 3. Fields typical of a majority of the tract.

archaeological reconnaissance survey was conducted within the tract to meet the current standards outlined in the MOA. Based on topography, vegetation, and the nature of the undertaking, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is considered to be a 0.25-mile radius around the project area. Additionally an historic structure survey was carried out to photograph structures over 40 years old within or adjacent to the tract in order to assess potential effects.

Three archaeological sites (38FL477-38FL479) were identified within the tract. These sites represent early to mid-twentieth century structures that are visible on the Sardis USGS topographic quadrangle but have been razed to create more farmland.

## **CONTEXT**

The archaeological sites identified during the course of the survey consisted of one nineteenth to twentieth century site. A brief context of the history of Florence County and the general project area follows as a background for the interpretation of the identified sites.

## **HISTORIC OVERVIEW**

The first settlements in what is now Florence County date to 1710, when dissenters from the Church of England took up land along the current border between Williamsburg and Georgetown counties. In 1730, the governor of South Carolina, Robert Johnson, ordered the creation of 11 townships along the rivers of the state to encourage settlement of this area. One of these, Queensborough, straddled the Pee Dee River near its junction with what was then known as Lynches Creek.

The introduction of indigo to the area around 1750 brought the interior regions out of subsistence farming and into the realm of market agriculture. The need for laborers also led to an increase in the number of slaves. Profits from the sale of the indigo crop were invested in more slaves, who in turn were able to bring more land under cultivation. By the 1760s, many in the region had amassed considerable fortunes. Nevertheless, large numbers of slaves were not required for growing indigo and raising cattle, and the Scots-Irish settlers were not enamored of gentility and ostentation, so these farms did not feature the grand mansions of the tobacco plantations on the James River in Virginia or the rice plantations of the Lowcountry (Boddie 1980).

Settlement was concentrated along the major rivers, which served as supply lines for transporting goods to market and getting manufactured goods to the inhabitants. The area remained largely outside of the political and social structure of colonial South Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War. Communication was slow along the roads and rivers of the backcountry, and the dissenters from the Church of England and other government-sanctioned churches were content to remain outside of the fold. However, the population of the district was willing and was expected to defend the colony from outside attacks in exchange for their land grants (Boddie 1980).

While not involved in colonial politics, the residents of the area were generally left to their own devices by the Crown, and thus enjoyed a genial relationship with the “Mother Country.” News of the Boston Tea Party and the objections to the Stamp Act were met with indifference, since tea was grown in the area and paperwork often was handled by the involved parties, without using

colonial officials. Still, their ties with England were loose ones, and they had little in common with the well-connected Tories who were exploiting the colonies for the interest of the British aristocracy. When word came that a Declaration of Independence had been signed, the local citizens responded with a full compliment of soldiers for the Continental Army (Boddie 1980).

With the end of the war in late 1781, citizens had to go about the difficult task of rebuilding a shattered economy. Its major export, indigo, was no longer viable, since exports went primarily to England and were supported by protective tariffs. Its rich cattle herds had been decimated in feeding the Continental army and by the depredations of the British. Drawing on the resourcefulness and perseverance that had been required in clearing the wilderness in the colonial era, the farmers of the parish set about rebuilding their herds. Tobacco emerged as important crop to replace indigo, and cotton and rice to some extent were grown for market (Boddie 1980).

The cattle and corn agricultural regime gave way to a more plantation-oriented economy. The number of slaves in the area increased after 1800, as cotton and tobacco production increased. Tobacco and cotton crops were shipped to Charleston or Georgetown where they were sold to factors (merchants) who supplied the plantations with manufactured goods and luxuries. The money from the crops often went to cover the customers' yearly accounts, which were sometimes carried over for more than one year. This practice discouraged investment in commercial and industrial development, but the planters saw no need for such diversification as long as the existing system continued to bring general prosperity. The 1825 Mills Atlas map of the Darlington District shows the project area being largely uninhabited (Figure 4).

Many of the district's residents, including wealthy planters, were opposed to secession in the years leading up to the Civil War, and as the tension increased over slavery and states' rights issues, The region found itself torn nearly in half by the debate. Still, the consequences of slave manumission were not lost on non-slaveholders in a region where slaves greatly outnumbered whites. The election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 proved to be the breaking point of those who pleaded for unity. The tide quickly shifted to secession in South Carolina, which became the first state to secede from the union.

The Civil War officially began on April 12, 1861 when U.S. troops occupying Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor refused to evacuate and Confederate batteries on the shore opened fire on the fort. Although the plantations were organized in such a way as to provide most of their own food and other needs, the lack of manpower and shortage of commodities left most of the plantations decimated.

Owing to the large number of former slaves in the county who owned no property and the efforts of the white landowners to prevent the blacks from acquiring their former plantations, a tenant system based on small family-operated plots came to dominate the agricultural economy of the region. Unlike many areas of the South where a share system was employed, in 1880, the vast majority of tenants (91.6 percent) paid a fixed rent for their farms. The large percentage of landowners (63.6 percent) in the predominately black area suggests that a gang system or wage labor were still employed to some extent. Statistics indicate that the farm economy was still lagging behind the antebellum period, however. The percentage of land under cultivation decreased by 25 percent between 1860 and 1880, and the value of all farms fell by more than half, from \$2.4 million to just over \$1 million.

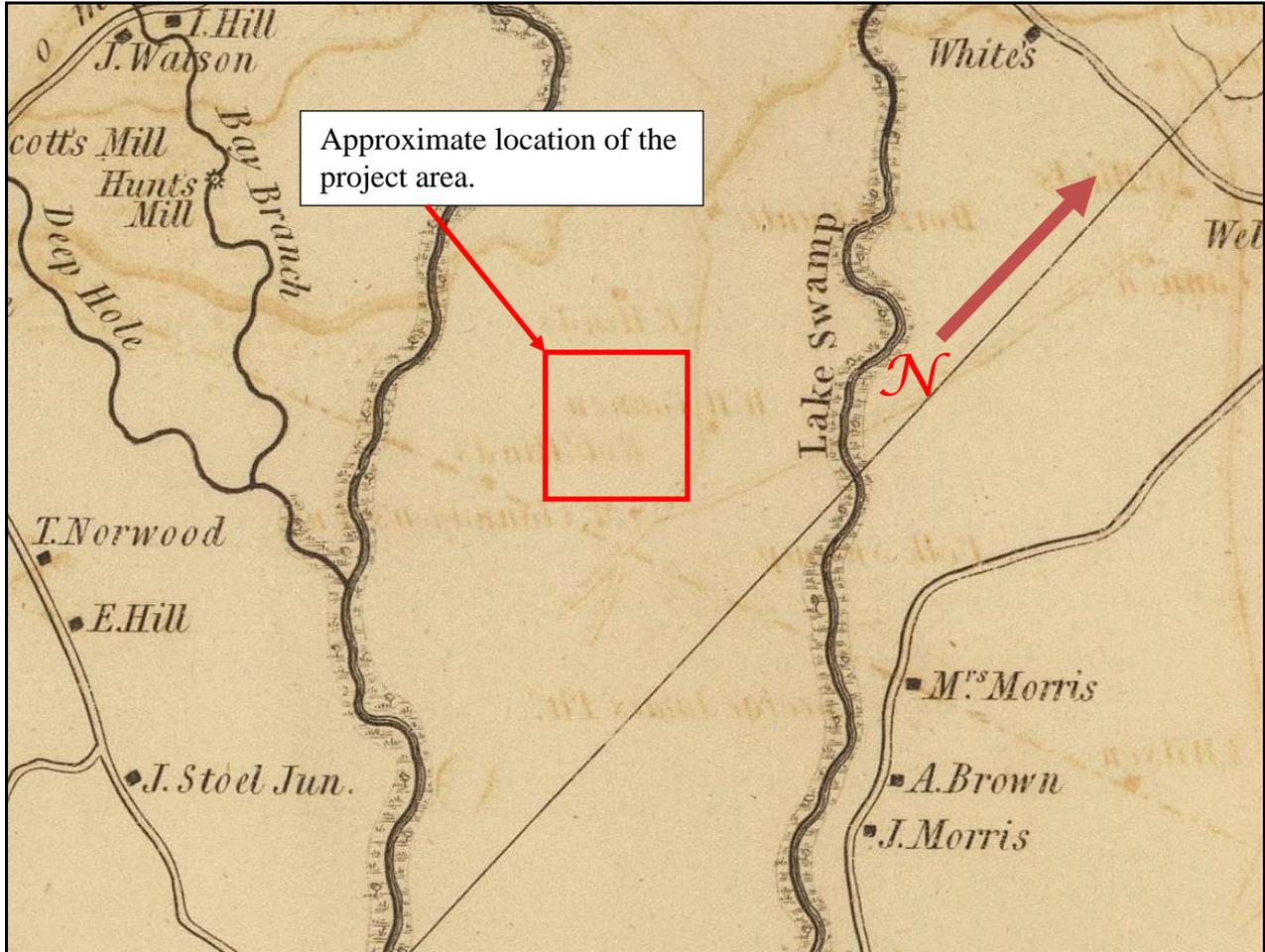


Figure 4. Mills Atlas (1825) Darlington District showing the approximately location of the project area.

Cotton and corn became the agricultural staples of the Antebellum period. Cowpeas, used as a soil nutrient, forage, and food, were grown, as were oats, rice, sweet potatoes, and tobacco. There was no significant industry in the area. In 1888 Florence County was formed from parts of Williamsburg, Marion, and Darlington Counties.

After 1900, tobacco began to challenge cotton as the principal market crop in the region. In 1900, the Pee Dee region (defined as Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Horry, Marion, and Williamsburg Counties) produced almost all (95 percent) of the state's tobacco (Boddie 1980). High cotton prices prior to World War I encouraged farmers to continue to pursue the crop, but a series of bad weather years, the arrival of the boll weevil, and a nationwide drop in agricultural prices led to widespread changes in the agricultural regime. In one year, between 1920 and 1921, the boll weevil and bad weather combined to cause a 92 percent drop in cotton production. The boll weevil was attacked on a number of fronts and eventually brought under control, preserving the cotton economy for another two decades. Tobacco continued to flourish as well, however, and the region led the state in tobacco production. The boll weevil encouraged more farmers to

diversify, and by the end of the 1920s, there was considerably more truck farming done in the region. Despite the general prosperity in the first two decades of the twentieth century, tenancy continued to increase while farm size decreased, and by 1920, most farmers did not own their land (Boddie 1980, Forstall 1995).

The agricultural depression of the 1920s was followed by the nationwide bank Depression of the 1930s, further eroding farm markets and stalling economic growth. Florence County farmers had the advantage of being able to produce much of what they needed on the farm, but the period was characterized by stifling poverty for many, particularly black residents. Farming has steadily declined as an occupation since the Depression, although the area remains overwhelmingly rural. The county now has a mixed economy based on production, transportation, professional services, services, sales, and construction (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2004).

## **METHODS**

### **Literature Review**

Prior to fieldwork, TRC conducted background research at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) in Columbia, and at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) in Columbia. The records examined at SCDAH included a review of ArchSite the GIS-based Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) for sites listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and a review of the SCDAH Finding Aid for previous architectural surveys near the project area. The records examined at SCIAA include the master archaeological site maps, state archaeological site files, and any associated archaeological reports.

### **Field Survey**

According to DOC standards a minimum of one shovel test per five acres is required. The Francis Marion National Forest has developed a probability or predictive model for cultural resources on the Coastal Plain (O'Donoghue 2008). This model identifies the areas near the interface between standing water sources and moderately well to well-drained soils as high probability areas for prehistoric archaeological sites. Areas at a distance of 0 to 90 m from the interface of poorly drained to somewhat poorly drained soils, areas at a distance of 0 to 150 m from the interface of moderate to excessively drained soils and poorly drained soils and areas within 70 m of ponds, bays of sink holes, are considered High Site Potential Zones. Historic house sites are generally found in the same areas as well as adjacent to old road beds. TRC utilized this predictive model to conduct a reconnaissance level survey of McLendon Young Industrial Site.

Shovel tests were excavated at 30 to 60 meter (m) intervals across areas of well drained soils, areas within 100 meters of a water source and in selected high probability and low probability areas (Figure 5). All shovel tests were approximately 30 centimeters (cm) in diameter and excavated to sterile subsoil. Soil was screened through 0.25-inch hardware mesh, and artifacts, if encountered, were bagged according to provenience. Notes were kept in a field journal and on standard TRC site forms.

When an artifact was recovered from a shovel test, that test was considered "positive." For each positive additional shovel tests were excavated in cardinal directions on a 15-m interval to delineate the site. Shovel testing was continued until two negative STPs were excavated in each direction; the first negative test in each direction was considered to be the site boundary. An archaeological site was identified by the recovery of three or more historic or prehistoric artifacts within a 30-m diameter. Field notes were maintained for transects and shovel tests, documenting soil profiles, cultural remains, and any other pertinent information.

For each site a map was drawn depicting the location of all shovel tests, site boundaries, and prominent natural and cultural features. UTM coordinates for each site were recorded with a Trimble hand-held GeoXT GPS receiver capable of sub-m accuracy. All artifacts recovered were bagged and labeled according to shovel test and depth below surface. Photographs were taken at each site to document vegetation and the general site conditions.

In addition to the archaeological survey, a windshield reconnaissance of the APE was conducted to determine whether the proposed project would affect any above ground National Register listed or eligible properties. Photographs illustrating the landscape were taken, and when line-of-site permitted it, photos were also taken from the historic property to the project area.

## RESULTS

### Literature Review

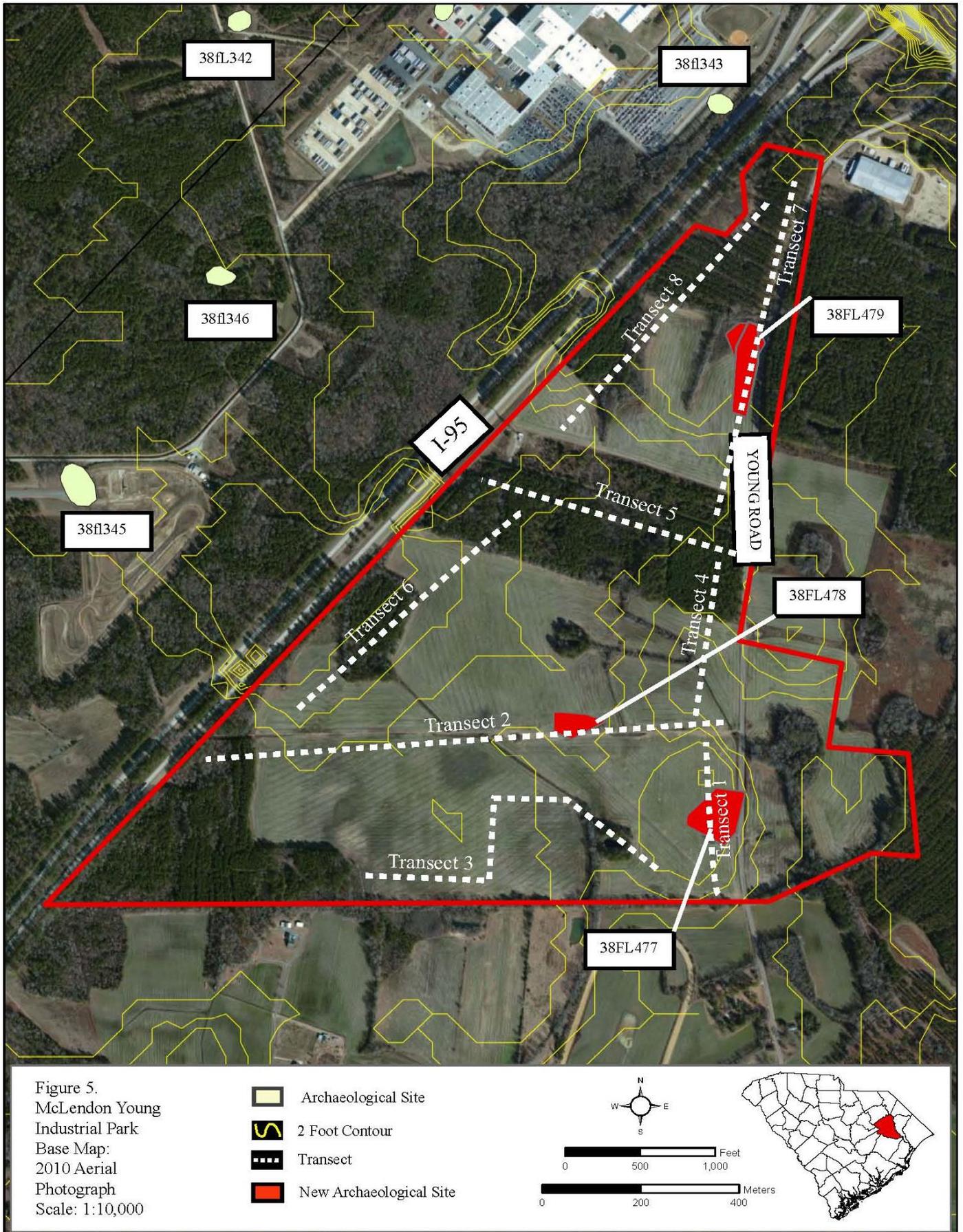
Background research at the SCIAA and on ArcSite indicates that there are five previously recorded archaeological resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the project tract (Table 2). There are no previously recorded above ground resources adjacent to the project tract. Sites 38FL342-345 were identified in 1997 during a survey of what is now the Honda Plant immediately west of the McLendon Young tract (Trinkley 1997). The five sites are all early to mid-twentieth century tenant homes and out buildings (Table 2). The sites have all been recommended as not eligible for the National Register.

**Table 2. Archaeological sites within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area.**

Site Number	Type	Description	NRHP Eligibility
38FL342	House Site	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Not Eligible
38FL343	House Site	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Not Eligible
38FL344	House Site	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Not Eligible
38FL345	House Site	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Not Eligible
38FL346	House Site	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Not Eligible

### Field Survey

From November 19-20, 2013 a reconnaissance survey was conducted of the 302-acre project tract. A total of 98 shovel tests were excavated along high and low probability areas within the project area (Table 3, Figure 5). This is equal to one shovel test per every 3.1 acres. A majority of the tract are active agricultural fields. A stand of planted pine is in the central portion of the tract. The northern section of the tract are wooded and associated with poorly drained soils.



**Table 3. Shovel tests excavated at the McLendon Young Industrial Park Tract.**

<b>Transect</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>#of STPs/# of Positive STPs</b>
1	30 and 60 meter intervals	11/2
2	30 and 60 meter intervals	16/1
3	30 and 60 meter intervals	12/0
4	30 and 60 meter intervals	12/0
5	30 and 60 meter intervals	12/0
6	30 and 60 meter intervals	13/0
7	30 and 60 meter intervals	13/2
8	30 and 60 meter intervals	9/0

Three archaeological sites were recorded during the survey.

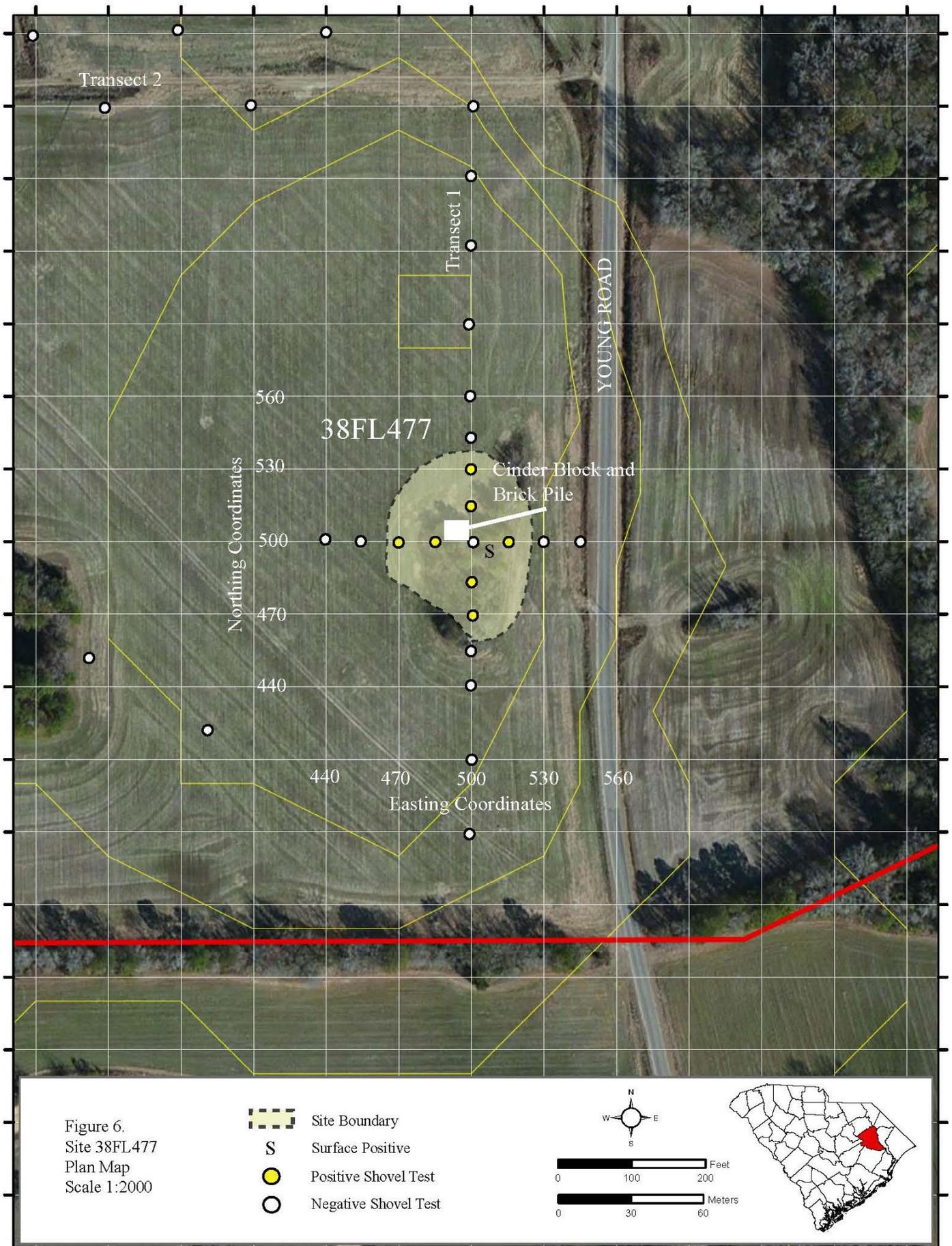
### 38FL477

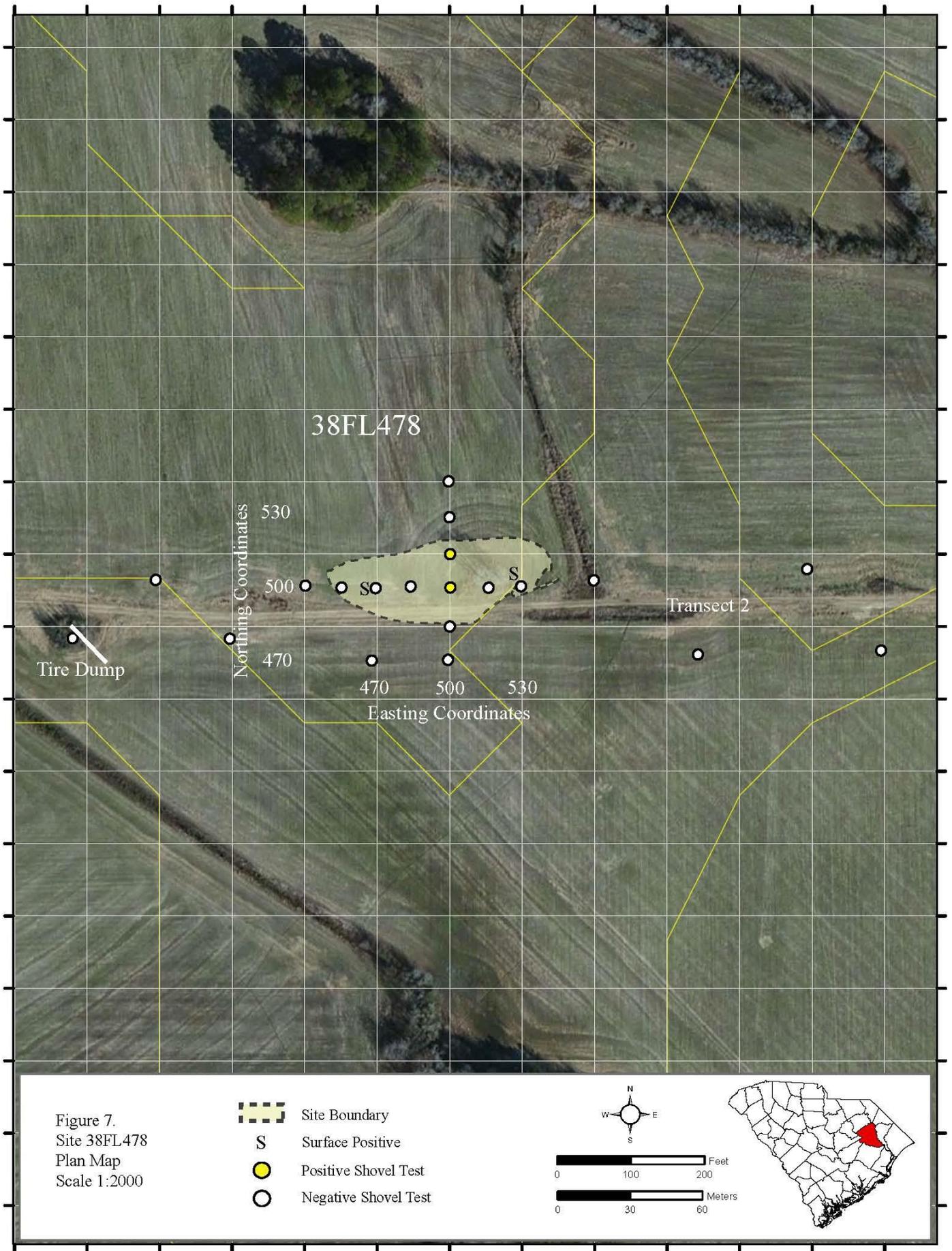
<b>Site Number:</b> 38FL477	<b>NRHP Recommendation:</b> Not Eligible
<b>Site Type:</b> House Site	<b>Elevation:</b> 40 feet AMSL
<b>Components:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	<b>Landform:</b> Upland Flat
<b>UTM Coordinates:</b> E600129, N3773124	<b>Soil Type:</b> Norfolk Loamy Sand
<b>Site Dimensions:</b> 70 × 60 m	<b>Vegetation:</b> Agricultural Field

Site 38FL477 is an historic house site located in the southeast corner of the project tract (see Figures 1 and 5). The 1986 USGS Sardis topographic map indicates two structures, one house and one outbuilding, in this location. The site is located in small stand of hard woods and new undergrowth surrounded by a cornfield. Brick fragments modern glass, cinder block stairs and whiteware were observed on the ground surface of a dirt field road. Sixteen shovel tests were excavated on a 15-meter interval, cruciform style testing pattern (Figure 6) in the vicinity of the house site. Seven shovel tests contained artifacts within the disturbed plowzone. The boundaries of the site are based on shovel testing, the extent of the surface scatter and the structures depicted on the topographic quadrangle.

Soils were shallow. A typical soil profile consisted of 20 centimeters (cm) of plowzone containing brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sandy loam, overlying mottled brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sandy clay. Six whiteware fragments, five brick fragments 15 shards of clear container glass, eight wire nails and one fragment of brown glass was collected. Cinder blocks, brick and a molded cement bird bath were observed but not collected.

The site consists of a scatter of household artifacts. Brick, glass and historic ceramics suggest a house site. A review of historic maps indicates an early to mid twentieth century occupation. The structures that were once in this area have been destroyed and removed. Plowing and demolition have disturbed the integrity of this site and scattered the artifacts over a wide area. The structures have been razed and no structural features are present. This site offers limited information potential is therefore recommended not eligible for the NRHP





### 38FL478

<b>Site Number:</b> 38FL478	<b>NRHP Recommendation:</b> Not Eligible
<b>Site Type:</b> Historic Scatter	<b>Elevation:</b> 40 feet AMSL
<b>Components:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	<b>Landform:</b> Upland Flat
<b>UTM Coordinates:</b> E599875, N3773312	<b>Soil Type:</b> Duplin Sandy Loam
<b>Site Dimensions:</b> 30 × 85 m	<b>Vegetation:</b> Agricultural Field

The Sardis USGS topographic quadrangle indicates three outbuildings at the location of 38FL478. Brick fragments were observed on the ground surface of a plowed field during transect shovel testing. No structure remnants were present, the out buildings have been removed. Ten shovel tests were excavated on a 15-meter interval, cruciform style testing pattern (Figure 7). Two contained artifacts. Based on shovel testing, the extent of the surface scatter and the structures depicted on the USGS topographic quadrangle the site measures 85 meters east to west by 30 meters north to south (Figure 7).

The site is located in a corn field adjacent to a dirt field road. A small sand of young hardwood trees marks the area where the structures once stood. The generally flat with a man-made drainage ditch adjacent to the west edge of the site. Soils were similar to those found throughout the project tract. A typical soil profile consisted of 20 centimeters (cm) of plowzone containing brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sandy loam, overlying mottled brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sandy clay. Two wire nails and one brick fragment were recovered from the plowzone. Clear glass and brick fragments found on the surface were not collected.

This site consists of a sparse scatter of historic artifacts. The artifacts and map reference indicates out buildings at this site. The structures that were once in this area have been destroyed and removed. Plowing has significantly disturbed the integrity of this site. This site offers limited information potential is therefore recommended not eligible for the NRHP

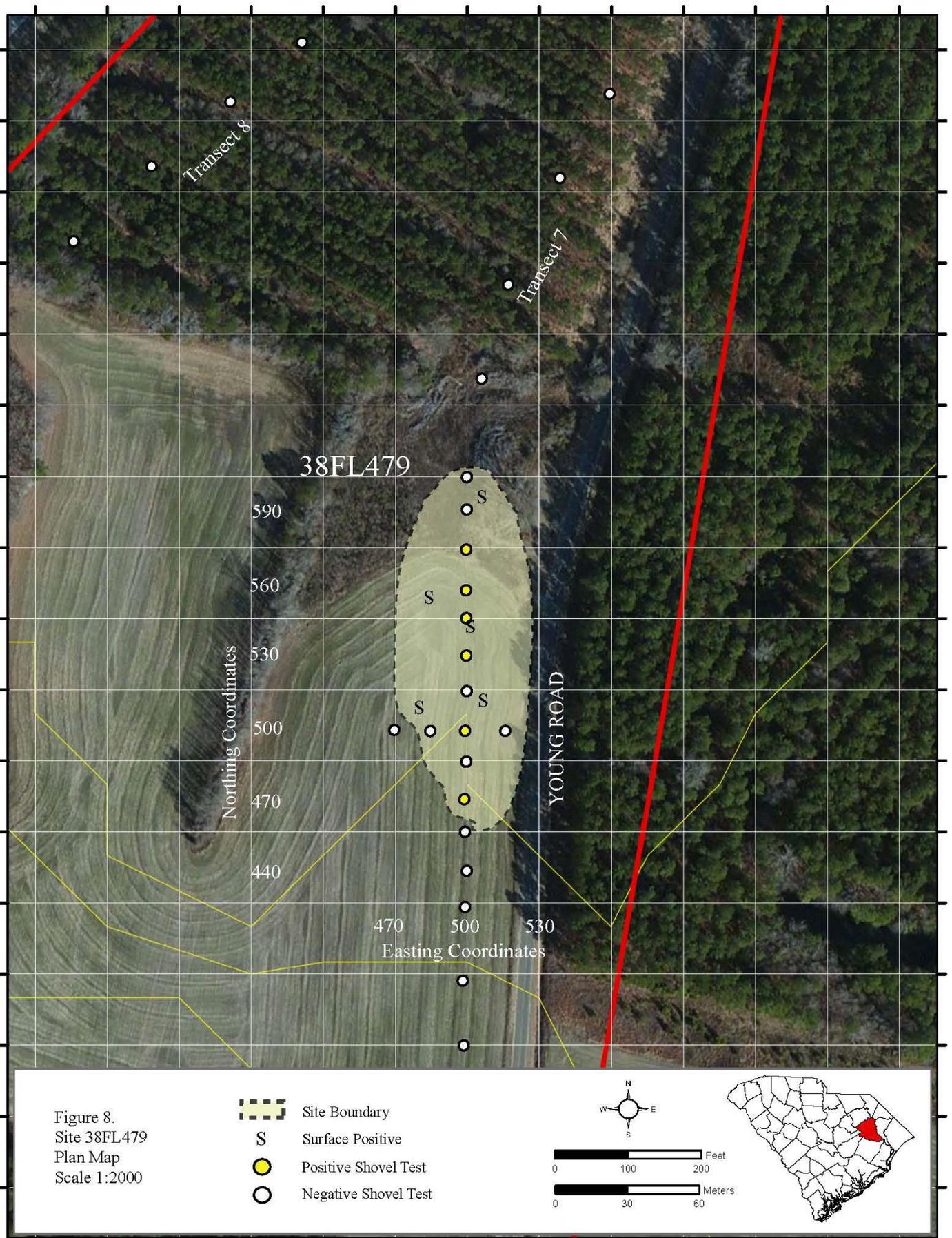
### 38FL479

<b>Site Number:</b> 38FL479	<b>NRHP Recommendation:</b> Not Eligible
<b>Site Type:</b> Historic Scatter	<b>Elevation:</b> 40 feet AMSL
<b>Components:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	<b>Landform:</b> Upland Flat
<b>UTM Coordinates:</b> E600182, N3774115	<b>Soil Type:</b> Goldsboro Sandy Loam
<b>Site Dimensions:</b> 160 × 60 m	<b>Vegetation:</b> Agricultural Field

Located adjacent to Young Road on the eastern boundary of the project tract site 38FL479 is another scatter of historic artifacts. The Sardis USGS topographic quadrangle indicates two buildings were present at this site. A driveway is still present leading to the site. During transect shovel testing historic ceramics, modern glass, furniture and plastic were observed on the ground surface. No structure remnants were observed. Fifteen shovel tests were excavated to determine the boundaries of the site. Six of the shovel tests were positive for cultural material. Based on the extent of the surface scatter and the structures depicted on the USGS topographic quadrangle the site measures 60 meters east to west by 160 meters north to south (Figure 8).

Soils in the northern part of the site were poorly drained. A typical soil profile consisted of 30 centimeters (cm) of plowzone containing brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sandy loam, overlying strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) sandy clay. One fragment of whiteware, three wire nails, one fragment of unidentified iron and three shards of clear container glass were collected. Brick fragments found on the surface of the dirt road and in the tilled field were not collected. No foundations, chimney falls or other structural features were observed.

The site is a mid-twentieth century house site. Modern household items such as a plastic sprinkler and a sofa are present (although the sofa was likely dumped at this location). The house has been completely razed and removed. Demolition and subsequent plowing has significantly disturbed the integrity of this site. This site offers limited information potential is therefore recommended not eligible for the NRHP



## **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Three archaeological sites are located within the boundaries of the McLendon Young tract. Archaeological site 38FL477, 38FL478 and 38FL479 are heavily disturbed, early to mid-twentieth century house sites. The structures associated with these sites have been razed in order to plant corn and soy beans. The artifacts from these sites have been scattered by plowing activities. No structural features remain. They do not possess the criteria required for inclusion on the NRHP

There is one telecommunications tower and substation present within the proposed industrial park. No structures over 40 years of age are within or adjacent to the tract. The maybe artifacts associated with out buildings depicted on the USGS topographic quadrangle that were not identified as sites during this Cultural Resource Identification Survey. The areas where maps indicate structures were visited. No standing structures are present. There is little likelihood that the proposed industrial site will affect significant cultural resources.

No additional cultural resource work is recommended for the McLendon Young Industrial Park tract. Soils within the project area were found to be deflated with clay encountered below the disturbed plowzone. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 803-933-9991 or via e-mail at [snorris@trcsolutions.com](mailto:snorris@trcsolutions.com).

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