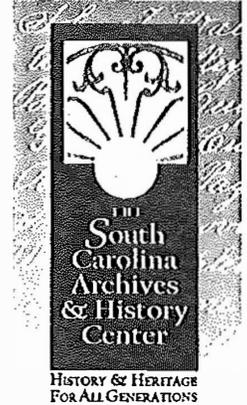


December 13, 2011



Re: Cultural Resource Identification Survey of the Coastal Technology Park Site
Georgetown County, South Carolina
SHPO Project No. 11JB0104

Our office has received the documentation dated November 14 that TRC submitted under the Department of Commerce Site Certification program for the tract referenced above. This letter is for informational purposes only and constitutes our office's coordination under the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the South Carolina Department of Commerce. This letter is not a result of consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act or under any pertinent state law.

On November 29, I wrote a letter commenting on the cultural resources identification survey of 217 acres at the Coastal Technology Park Site conducted by TRC. The letter indicated that the cultural resources identification survey provided met the requirements of the MOU and that one archaeological site was identified. The site 38GE651 is a multi-component Middle Woodland and Colonial Period site. Our office believes that this site requires additional research and/or testing to determine whether it meets the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If the Coastal Technology Park Site were to require state permits or federal permits, licenses, funds, loans, grants, or assistance for development, we would recommend to the federal or state agency or agencies that additional work be conducted at 38GE651 and the 30 acres of well drained soils in the vicinity of the site since the site and surrounding area has potential to generate information on the Colonial Period in Georgetown County.

Project Review Forms and additional guidance regarding our office's role in the federal and state compliance process and historic preservation can be found on our website at <http://shpo.sc.gov/revcomp>.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (803) 896-6181 or at jbarnes@scdah.state.sc.us.

Sincerely,

Jodi Barnes, PhD
Staff Archaeologist/GIS Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office

cc. Sean Norris, TRC
Keith Derting, SCIAA

CULTURAL RESOUCE IDENTIFICATION SURVEY OF APPROXIMATELY 217 ACRES AT THE COASTAL TECHNOLOGY PARK SITE

GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Summary Report



November 2011

**CULTURAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION SURVEY OF
APPROXIMATELY 217 ACRES AT THE COASTAL TECHNOLOGY
PARK SITE
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
SUMMARY REPORT**

Submitted by:
TRC
621 CHATHAM AVENUE
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29205



Sean Norris, Principal Investigator, Author

November 2011

INTRODUCTION

On November 3 and 4, 2011, TRC conducted an archaeological survey of approximately 217 acres approximately 6.0 miles south of the city Georgetown in Georgetown 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 217 acres in the Lower Coastal Plain physiographic province. The tract is situated between Turkey Creek to the west and White Oak Bay to the east. The tract is bound on the east by SC Highway 17 (Lucas Avenue), on the north by a transmission line and East CCC Road, on the west by Turkey Creek and on the south by private property (Figure 1). Approximately 86 acres of the tract are delineated wetlands. Topography is generally flat with slight slopes leading to poorly drained wetlands. The elevation of the project area is between 20 and 25 feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL).

Soils in the tract include well drained Centenary fine sand and Echaw sand in the centrally portion of the tract. Very poorly drained Leon sand is found in the northwest section of the sites and somewhat poorly drained Yemassee loamy fine sand in the south.

The area surrounding the tract consists of forest and swampland. Vegetation includes pine and hardwood forest with the eastern portion of the tract being clear cut and disturbed (Figure 2). Wetlands associated with Turkey Creek dominate the eastern portion of the tract (Figure 3).

A 2009 Memorandum of Agreement 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. The 2005 survey of the Hunter Industrial Park does not meet these criteria, consequently additional work was needed. Based on DOC standards, 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. An archaeological reconnaissance survey was conducted within the tract to meet the current standards. 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. Four Archaeological sites were identified within the tract and five structures over 40 years old were found adjacent to the project area (see Figures 1 and 2).

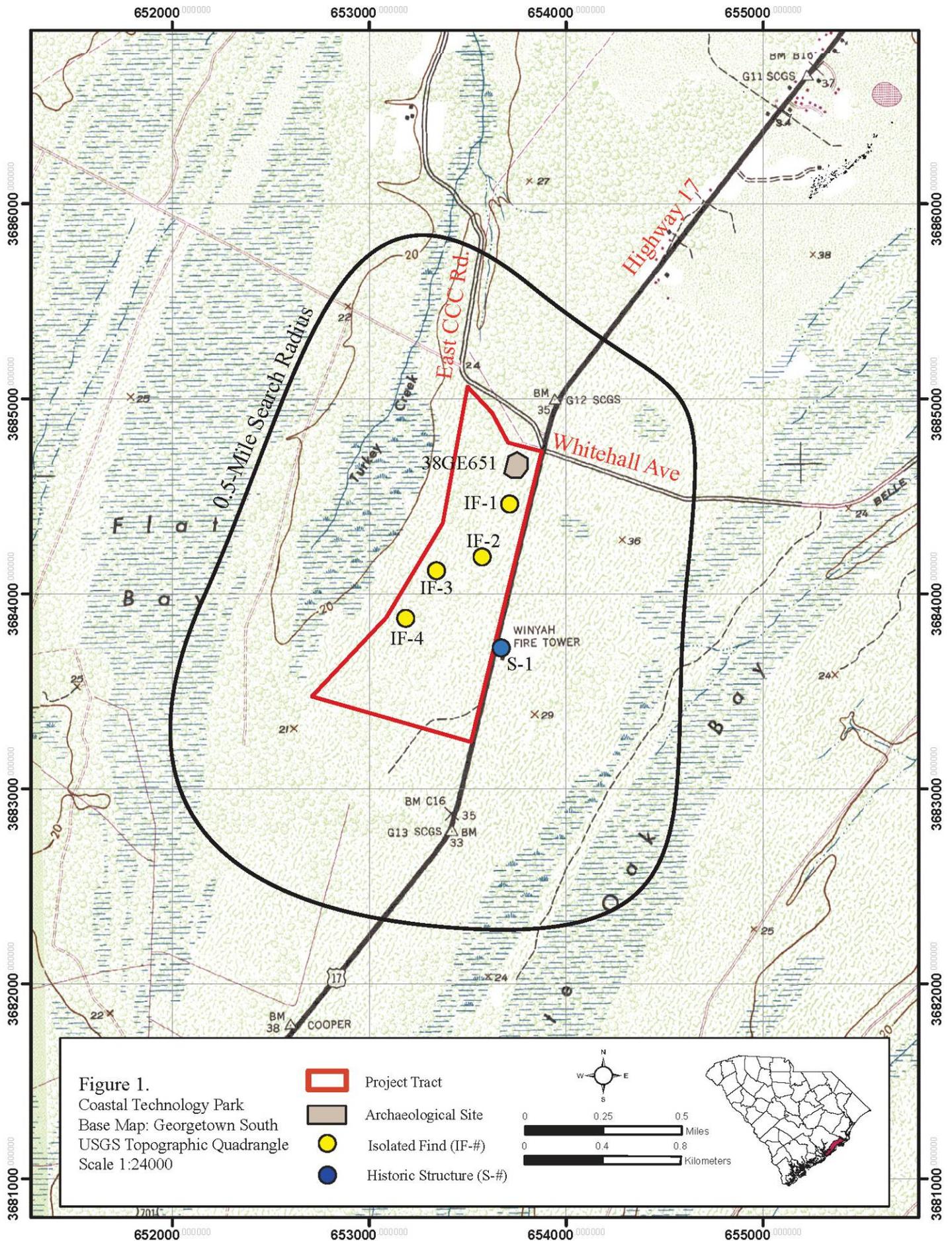




Figure 2. Mixed pine and hardwood forest encountered on a majority of the tract.



Figure 2. Wetlands associated with Turkey Creek.

CONTEXT

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Spanish and French exploration of the Southeastern coast of the United States began in the early sixteenth century. The Spanish first came ashore in the vicinity of present-day Beaufort around 1520 at a place they would later name Santa Elena. Despite their exploration of this area, it was not until 1526 that they would attempt a permanent settlement on the South Carolina coast. The initial attempt was called San Miguel de Gualdape, with a postulated location anywhere from the Cape Fear area of North Carolina to Sapelo Island on the Georgia coast (DePratter 1994; Quattlebaum 1956). The French attempted a settlement in the Port Royal area in 1562, establishing Charlesfort, which lasted less than a year. The Spanish had more success in 1566 with the settlement of Santa Elena, which survived for 20 years (South 1981:1).

British interest in coastal South Carolina began in 1629 when Sir Robert Heath, attorney general to Charles I, obtained a royal charter to settle “Carolana”—a region that stretched from present day Virginia to Spanish Florida. However, his Carolina-bound expedition landed him in Virginia. In 1632, a Captain Henry Taverner explored the coast of South Carolina looking for a suitable place to found a colony. About that time, exploration began to slow and it was not until 1663 that nine wealthy aristocrats, who had supported Charles’ reinstatement to the throne in 1660, acquired a charter to the lands originally patented by Sir Robert Heath (Rowland et al. 1996:58–59). The new colony was intended to serve two purposes—it would prevent Spanish incursion into the already established colonies farther to the north, and it would provide income to a badly depleted British treasury. Ignoring Spain’s prior claims to the area around present-day Beaufort, Charles II granted a charter to the men in 1663. The new colony, named Carolina, included both present-day North and South Carolina, as well as the island of Barbados.

Early explorers encountered little resistance from the small bands of Indians living along the coast, and with a few exceptions, friendly relations were maintained throughout the exploration and early settlement period. The British founded Charles Towne at its initial location at the invitation of a Kiawah leader in 1670 (Edgar 1998:48). While trying to turn Carolina into a self-sustaining colony, the settlers began a very lucrative trade with local and more distant groups. In less than a year, the first Indian War took place (Edgar 1998:86). Conflict with the Spanish and virtually every Native American group in the Southeast marked the first 50 years of settlement. The Waccamaw, Winyah, and Pee Dee are the primary groups known to have been in the Georgetown area after contact. The Waccamaw and Winyah together totaled approximately 900 inhabitants. The colonists established a trading post on the Pee Dee River in 1716 to trade with the Winyah, residing on the west bank of the river, and the Waccamaw, on the east side of the river. The Waccamaw had a village at what is now Wachesaw Landing, between Myrtle Beach and Georgetown (Trinkley et al. 1983). As settlement intruded further up the coast and inland from Charleston, the native inhabitants either joined the Catawba or became absorbed into European settlements.

Charleston entrepreneurs and planters began to receive land grants in the northeastern part of the state during the early eighteenth century. By 1720, the early emphasis on the trade with Indians had given way to the establishment of plantations. The lands were usually arranged in long, narrow blocks extending inland from the riverfront. This allowed access to the river and the tidal swamps

that were used to grow rice, as well as the adjacent uplands where row crops and pasturage were developed. The main houses were usually constructed on the bluffs overlooking the rivers. Farther inland, forests provided naval stores and timber for shipbuilding, houses, and fuel. Until the mid 1730s, timber products were the largest export from the Georgetown area (Bailey and Wolf 1998). Prince George Winyah Parish was created in 1721 and served as an election district and local branch of the Anglican Church in the Winyah Bay area, but most legal and governmental business was carried out in Charleston.

The land on which the town of Georgetown now stands was originally granted in 1705 to John Perry, from the island of Antigua. Perry acquired six grants in the area totaling 3,300 acres. By 1708 he had willed the lands to his daughter, Mary, and apparently died without having set foot in Carolina. Mary Perry married John Cleland, a native of London. When they arrived in Carolina in 1735, they discovered that the land she inherited was in the possession of others (Rodgers 1970:31–33). In 1729, Elisha and Hannah Commander Screven had founded the city of Georgetown. The port quickly became alive with activity as planters who had established plantations along the rivers that emptied into Winyah Bay arrived at Georgetown to trade. The planters traded lumber, naval stores, and rice from their plantations for manufactured goods from England, sugar from the West Indies, and slaves from Africa. The five rivers that meet the Atlantic Ocean at Georgetown, provided an abundance of fresh water and wildlife, and became the backbone of the successful tidal rice culture in Georgetown County. After the formal transition of South Carolina from proprietorship to royal colony in 1729, a customs collector arrived at Georgetown in 1732 to oversee the prosperous trade and collect taxes for the crown.

Indigo became a lucrative crop during a brief period before the Revolutionary War. The plant, used to produce dyes, was also grown in the West Indies, but during the period from 1730 to 1763 when the French and Spanish controlled much of the trade in the Caribbean, prices were high for the product. Many Lowcountry planters scaled back rice production to make room for indigo. Although the trade declined when British bounties were lifted after the American Revolution and overproduction led to lower prices, many Georgetown area planters reaped considerable profit during the eighteenth century (Bailey and Wolf 1998:20).

Although the indigo boom was relatively short-lived, rice cultivation enjoyed a long reign as the major component of the South Carolina Lowcountry agricultural regime. Rice was introduced to Carolina soon after the initial settlement as a result of agricultural experiments encouraged by the lord's proprietors. First grown in inland swamps fed by freshwater streams, rice soon became a major cash crop in the lowcountry (Gray 1933:277–280). Around 1750, a new technique was introduced for flooding the rice fields. They used gates that opened into the fields during the high tides, which pushed river water up into the marshes. The system required a complicated and expensive system of canals, dikes, retaining ponds and gates, and could only be used in a small area of the Sea Islands. Extensive labor in unpleasant conditions was required to build and maintain the fields, making slave labor extremely important to the region's economy.

Slaves imported from West Africa brought with them valuable experience with rice cultivation in their native lands (Bailey and Wolf 1998:21). Rice cultivation required complex skills that were not necessary for the growth of cotton. Rice planting was an exact science that required strict attention to details and adaptability to changing conditions on the part of the planter as well as the overseer, driver, and field hands. Each part of the planting and growing process was crucial to the

success of the crop. Slavery provided the much-needed labor for the vast plantations, and the growth of the rice culture precipitated a dramatic increase in the numbers of slaves brought into South Carolina before the American Revolution (Rodgers 1970:342–343; Wood 1974:34–62).

Although the rise of the upcountry cotton plantations in the early part of the nineteenth century would eventually eclipse it, the Lowcountry rice culture continued to have considerable impact on the landscape, economy, and society until the Civil War. During the nearly 200 years that South Carolina led the nation in rice production, the area that is now Georgetown County was the most successful and most prolific area of the state (Gray 1933:277–280).

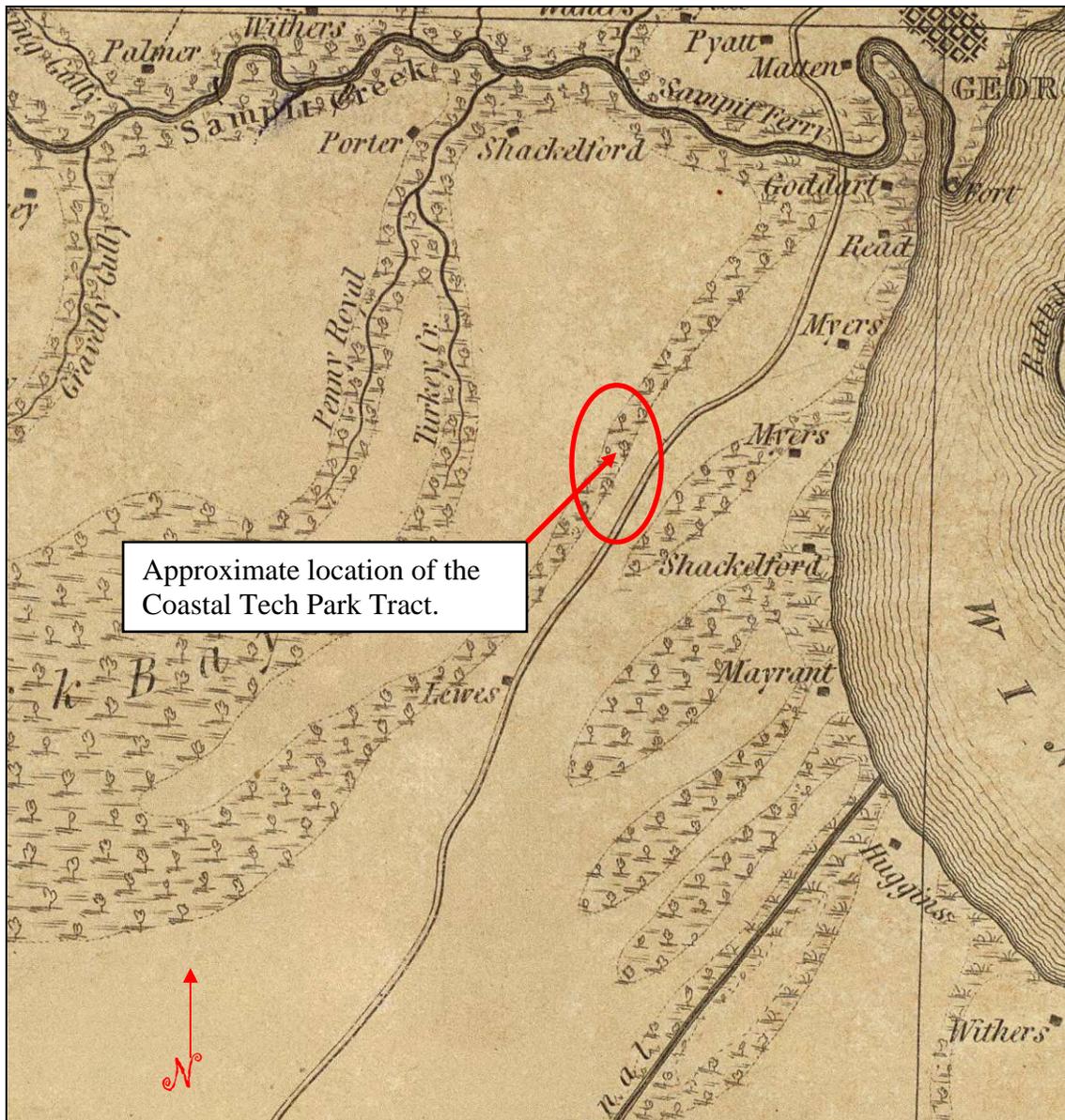


Figure 4. 1825 Mills Atlas Map of the Georgetown District showing approximate project location.

Livestock was also an important part of the local economy. In the early years of the colony, cattle and hogs were allowed to roam freely in the forests to search for food and required little capital investment to keep. The vast sugar plantations of the West Indies required large quantities of meat, and South Carolina plantations were one of the chief suppliers during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

After the American Revolution, the slave population of the coastal districts continued to rise, while the white population dwindled. Wealthy planters relocated to Charleston or to inland towns to escape summer diseases in the Lowcountry, as well as to participate in “cultured” society. Overseers or slave managers were put in charge of the plantations, which operated on a well-established routine by the beginning of the nineteenth century. Between 1790 and 1850, the white population of Georgetown County decreased by more than 50 percent, while the slave population more than doubled, leaving 2,394 whites representing only 11.6 percent of the total population (Bailey and Wolf 1998:21). The 1825 Mills Atlas identifies prominent landowners in the Georgetown District (Figure 4).

Although the timber products industry shifted south during the nineteenth century and Georgia moved to the forefront, the pine forests of the uplands around Georgetown were still important before the Civil War for producing railroad ties, building materials, and pulpwood for paper manufacture. Even more significant was the shift from pitch and tar products used in the shipbuilding business to distilled turpentine products used as paint thinner, wood preservative, lamp fuel, and solvent. The collection and distillation of pine rosin to turpentine and other spirits was a hot and arduous task and was performed almost exclusively by African-American males. Before the Civil War, slave gangs were used to cut the bark, collect the sap, operate the stills, and put the product in barrels. As was found on the Sea Island cotton plantations, the slaves worked under a task system, whereby they were required to complete certain predetermined tasks each day, and then had the remainder of the day free. This system was preferred by the slaves, even though the tasks might require them to work from sunup to sundown. After the war, black work crews were often conscripted to work in the turpentine camps, which moved from place to place and kept men away from their families for months at a time (Bailey and Wolf 1998:23).

Although there were no significant military actions in Georgetown County during the Civil War, the effects of the war and its aftermath completely changed the social and economic structure of the Lowcountry. Wealthy planters who had vociferously supported secession were prime targets for the Union armies, and many were forced to flee their plantations, leaving large slave populations behind to fend for themselves. After the war, a lack of capital and the disruption of the slave labor system kept many planters from being able to recover. Portions of the great plantations were sold to pay taxes, and efforts at wage labor in the rice fields generally met with failure. The former slaves looked upon their freedom as an opportunity to finally pursue their own way of living, growing subsistence crops on family plots rather than laboring all day for an overseer or gang leader. Lands that were foreclosed on were purchased by families or small groups of freedmen that pooled their money. Other African Americans migrated toward the urban areas of the South in hopes of finding greater opportunity.

As a result of these factors, the rice culture never recovered from the Civil War, and most of the fields that lined the rivers of Georgetown County were abandoned. The arrival of a railroad in Georgetown in 1883 spurred hope of a revival of the area’s fortunes. A few planters pooled their

resources and operated as corporations, continuing to produce rice crops through the late nineteenth century. The rice production was supplemented by cattle and timber that utilized the uplands. However, a series of devastating storms beginning in 1893, and competition from India and Egypt, finally put an end to rice cultivation in Georgetown County. In 1900, there were only 38 plantations still in operation, most of them operated by locals. By the 1930s, only about half were locally owned, and none produced rice. The last commercial rice crop in the county was harvested in 1919.

With land values greatly reduced by the 1890s, Northern capitalists began to show an interest in the Lowcountry lands, many of which had reverted to wilderness. Wealthy industrialists, financiers, and real estate speculators purchased land in the area for hunting preserves and recreational areas, sometimes building elaborate summer homes or large but simple hunting lodges, where they would bring family or business associates for seasonal activities.

Timber companies also became interested in the land in Georgetown County as prices went down and fields returned to a natural state. In 1903 the Atlantic Coast Lumber Company set up shop in Georgetown and processed timber products until the 1930s. During World War I, Georgetown had begun to take on a semblance of its former self. Other mills opened, and banks, retail stores, and other services opened to meet the needs of the mill workers (Drucker and Zierden 1981:22).

The county suffered more setbacks as a result of the Depression. Mills closed and the agricultural sector suffered from lack of markets. However, New Deal programs and industrial growth spurred by World War II revived the economy. International Paper Company opened a paper mill in the late 1930s, and improved railroad connections and the establishment of the Intracoastal Waterway brought more diversified industry including mining, clothing mills, metal works and machinery fabrication, and small specialized manufacturing of laboratory equipment, perfume, and candles. Georgetown Steel Corporation was established in the late 1960s, but is currently under auction. In addition to this industrial growth, in the past 30 years Georgetown County has benefited from an increase in tourists, recreational enthusiasts, and retirees, who enjoy the scenic rivers, beaches, and historical sites (Drucker and Zierden 1981:22–23).

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 Arcsite 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. 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 10-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

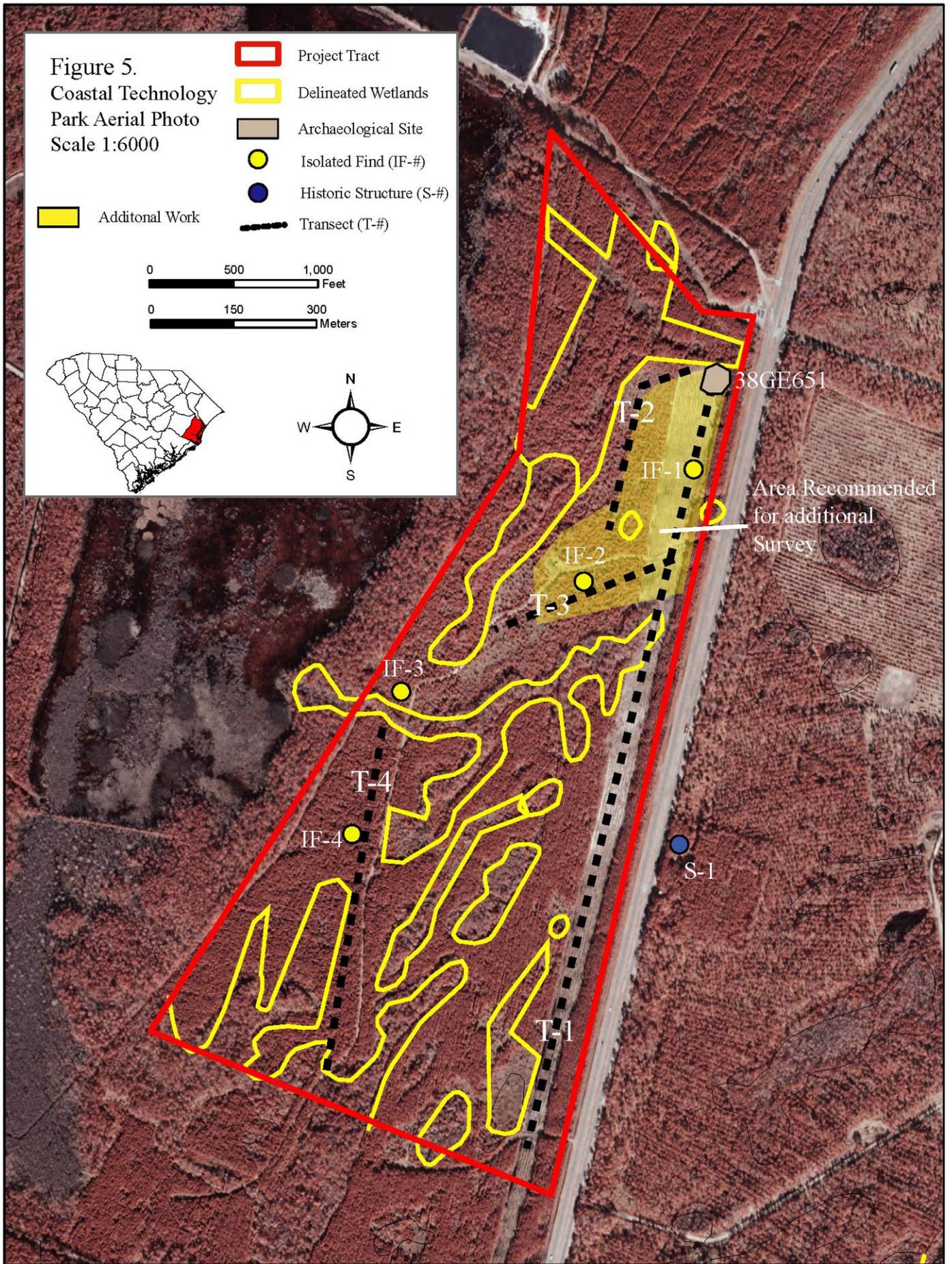
Background research at the SCIAA and on ArcSite indicates that there are no previously record cultural resources or architectural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the project tract.

Field Survey

On November 3 and 4, 2011 a reconnaissance survey was conducted of the 217-acre project tract. A total of 58 shovel tests were excavated along high and low probability areas within the project area (Table 1, Figure 5). This is equal to one shovel test per every 3.7 acres.

Table 1. Shovel tests excavated at the Coastal Technology Park Tract.

Transect	Description	#of STPs/# of Positive STPs
1	30 meter intervals-High and low Probability	30/2
2	30 and 60 meter intervals	8/0
3	30 and 60 meter intervals	10/2
4	30 meter intervals	10/



Coastal Technology Park Site Cultural Resource Identification Survey

One archaeological site and four isolated find were recorded during the survey. No standing structures over 40 years old are present adjacent to the project tract.

38GE651

Site Number: 38GE651	NRHP Recommendation: Additional Work
Site Type: Prehistoric and historic artifact scatter	Elevation: 20 feet AMSL
Components: Woodland and Colonial Period	Landform: Ridge Top
UTM Coordinates: E653810, N3684662	Soil Type: Echaw Sand
Site Dimensions: 50 × 40 m	Vegetation: Mixed Pine and Hardwoods

Site 38GE651 is a multi-component Middle Woodland and Colonial Period site. It was identified in the northeast corner of the project area (see Figures 1 and 5). Two prehistoric sherds recovered during transect shovel testing. Fourteen additional shovel tests were excavated on a 10-meter interval, cruciform style testing pattern (Figure 6). Seven of these shovel tests were positive for cultural artifacts.

Fourteen artifacts were recovered from the site. Prehistoric artifacts consist of one fabric impressed coarse sand and girt tempered Deptford sherd four plain sherds and two metavolcanic flakes. Historic artifacts include two Colonoware sherds, one kaolin clay pipe bowl fragment, one fragment of Albany slip stoneware, one shard of porcelain one mule shoe fragment and one unidentified iron object. The Deptford sherd suggests a Middle Woodland component while the Colonoware, pipe bowl and stoneware indicate a possible Colonial Period occupation

Soils at the site consisted of 20 cm of very dark brown (7.5YR 2/2) sand followed by 20 to 30 cm of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sand atop the strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) clayey sand. The soil profile indicates plowing activities have taken place in this area. Topographically the site is on a slight sand ridge overlooking wetlands to the north and west.

Additional work is recommended for this site. The lack of nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts suggests an intact early historic period site. While plowing has taken place over the years the presence of well drained soils, the proximity to a water source and the presence of Colonoware are intriguing. This site has the potential to contain data on low status Colonial Period occupations in Georgetown County.

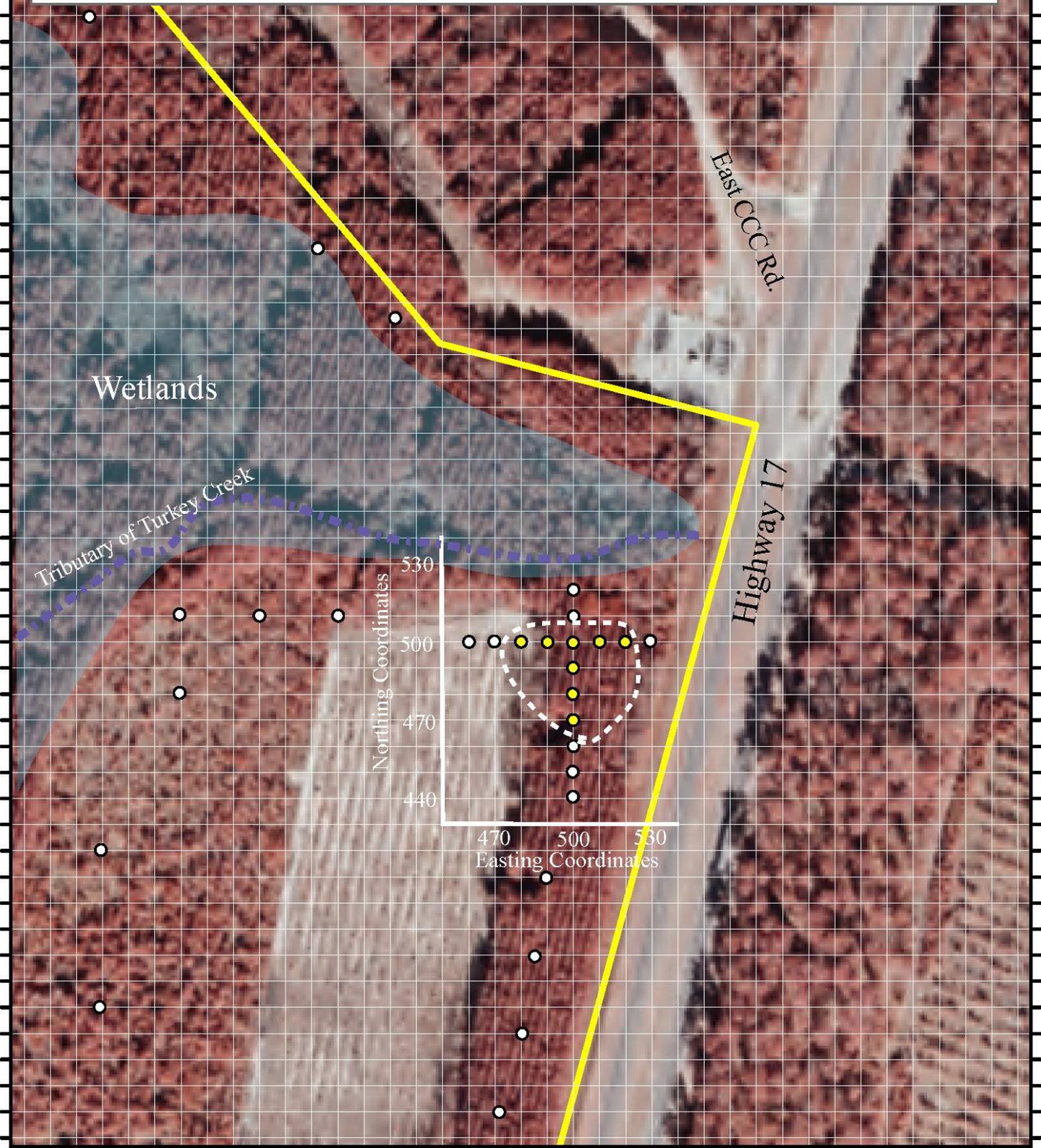
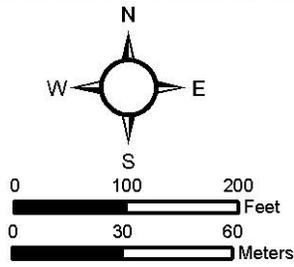
ISOLATED FINDS

IF-1 was identified on the west side of Highway 17 approximately 90 meters south of 38GE651(see Figures 1 and 5). A fragment of a whiteware jug was recovered from the surface. Eight additional shovel tests were excavated on a 5-meter interval, cruciform system. No additional artifacts were recovered.

IF-2 was recovered from a cleared area on the south side of a dirt road (see Figures 1 and 5). A fragment of red clay pottery was recovered from the surface. Eight additional shovel tests were excavated on a 5-meter interval, cruciform system. No additional artifacts were recovered. It is believed that this ceramic is a fragment of a Herty Cup used in turpentine collection. Soils were shallow and poorly drained. No additional work is recommended for this isolated find.

Figure 6.
Site 38GE651
Plan Map
Scale 1:2000

-  Topo Line
-  Archaeological Site
-  Positive Shovel Test
-  Negative Shovel Test



IF-3 is located near the western boundary of the site overlooking wetlands to the west (see Figures 1 and 5). Two fragments of red clay ceramic were recovered from the plowzone. These ceramic fragments are thought to be pieces of a Herty Cup. The area was known to be active in turpentine collection in the early twentieth century. Eight additional shovel tests were excavated on a 5-meter interval, cruciform system. No additional artifacts were recovered.

IF-4 is also a fragment of red clay that was recovered from the surface along a dirt road (see Figures 1 and 5). The sherd is likely a fragment from a Herty Cup. Shovel tests were excavated in a cruciform pattern to determine if any additional artifacts were present. Soils were poorly drained consisting of very dark gray sand over very pale brown/white sand. No other artifacts were recovered. This isolated find was in what was considered a low probability area



Figure 7. Structure 1 Fire Tower.

Newly Recorded Structures

One structure over 40 years old was identified within a .25-radius of the project tract.

Structure 1 is the Winyah fire tower. The tower is on the east side of Highway 17 directly across from the Coastal Technology Park site. According to the South Carolina Forestry Commission website (www.state.sc.us/forest) the earliest fire towers in the state were erected in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Eventually 130 towers were erected throughout the state.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

One archaeological site was encountered during the course of the reconnaissance survey. The site is recommended for additional work based on its potential to generate information on the Colonial Period in Georgetown County. In addition to the

archaeological site four isolated finds were identified. Isolated Find 1 consists of historic ceramics. This find's proximity to Site 38GE615 has led to the recommendation that 30 acres of well drained soils in the vicinity of 38GE651 and Isolated Find 1 be subjected to an intensive archaeological survey. It is felt that this area represents the most likely location for any significant cultural resources based on its location overlooking wetlands and the identification of historic and prehistoric artifacts in the area. Figure 5 indicates the location of the area to be avoided or

intensively examined. The remaining portion of the tract was found to have a low potential for cultural resources. No further work is recommended for 187 acres of the 217 acre tract.

The three remaining isolated finds appear to be remnants of the turpentine collection industry. The fragments of historic red clay ceramics likely are pieces of broken Herty Cups that were used to gather resin from pine trees. These isolated finds were found in areas of poorly drained soils and do not appear to represent occupations

The historic structure identified in the vicinity of the project area may require the submittal of state historic structure survey card, should this project require federal permits. The fire tower appears to be of unremarkable design and use of materials. It is recommended ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 803-933-9991 or via e-mail at snorris@trcsolutions.com.

