



September 13, 2011

Mr. Brad Sanderson, P.E.
Project Engineer II
URS / BP Barber
P.O. Box 1116
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-1116

Reference: **Cultural Resources Identification Survey of Approximately
227 Acres at the Powers South Industrial Site**
Laurens County, South Carolina
S&ME Project No. 1265-11-362

Dear Mr. Sanderson:

S&ME, Inc. (S&ME), on behalf of URS/BP Barber, has completed a Cultural Resources Identification Survey (CRIS) of approximately 227 acres at the proposed Powers South Industrial Site located south of the intersection of I-385 and SC Highway 14, 0.5-mile west of the Town of Owings in Laurens County, South Carolina (Figures 1 and 2). The purpose of the survey was to assess the project area's potential for containing significant cultural resources and to make recommendations regarding additional work that may be required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and other pertinent federal, state, or local laws. This work was done in anticipation of Site Certification by the South Carolina Department of Commerce (DOC) and was carried out in general accordance with S&ME Proposal Number 11690, dated August 4, 2011, and the revised guidelines for conducting a CRIS (Memorandum of Understanding between the DOC and South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO], dated March 2011).

The project area is located within the Piedmont physiographic province, which consists of gently to steeply sloping ridges underlain by soils weathered in place from the parent crystalline bedrock material. Rocks found in the Piedmont are generally metamorphic with igneous granite intrusions (Kovacik and Winberry 1989). The project tract is bounded by Old Laurens Road and railroad tracks to the northeast, Dogwood Road to the southeast, and private property to the east and west. There is a transmission line corridor that runs along the boundaries of the property, except for the portion adjacent to Old Laurens Road, and there are numerous unpaved roads within the project area. Topography consists of nearly level ridge tops and gently to moderately sloping ridges. Elevations range from approximately 225 ft above mean sea level (AMSL) along North Rabon Creek in the southwestern portion of the project area to 245 ft AMSL at the northern edge of the tract (Figure 1).

Vegetation in the project area consists of agricultural fields, planted pine, mixed pine/hardwood forests, and wetlands (Figures 3 and 4). The largest water source in the project area is North Rabon Creek located in the southeastern portion of the tract. North Rabon Creek is part of the Reedy River watershed. Soils within the project area consist of well drained Appling loamy sand, Cecil sandy loam, and Cecil sandy

clay loam; well drained to poorly drained Cartecay-Toccoa Complex; and poorly drained Colfax loamy sand (Figure 5). The area surrounding the tract is a mix of residential, forested, and agricultural properties.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

On September 1, 2011, a background literature review and records search was conducted at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) in Columbia. The area examined was a 0.25-mile radius around the project area (Figure 1). The records examined at SCIAA include a review of ArchSite, a GIS-based program containing information about archaeological and historic resources in South Carolina. If cultural resources were noted within the 0.25-mile search radius, then additional reports and site forms contained at SCIAA and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) were consulted.

A review of ArchSite indicated there are three previously recorded archaeological sites and two previously recorded historic structures within a 0.25-mile radius of the project area (Figure 1, Table 1). One of the previously recorded sites, 38LU301, and both structures are located within the project tract. Site 38LU301 consists of a late nineteenth to early twentieth century farmstead and a Middle Archaic lithic scatter that was determined potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The remaining two sites, 38LU299 and 38LU300, are both located outside the boundaries of the project area. Both area late nineteenth to early twentieth century house sites and have been determined ineligible for the NRHP. Structure 177-0135 is a two-story frame I-house that dates to the early twentieth century. The Power House, 177-0428, is a two-story frame structure that dates from the late nineteenth century. Both structures are located within site 31LU301 and both have been determined ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Table 1. Cultural Resources within approximately 0.25 mile of the Project Area.

Site No.	Description	NRHP Eligibility	Reference
38LU299	Late 19 th /20 th c. house site	Not Eligible	Styer (1992a, 1992b)
38LU300	Late 19 th /20 th c. house site	Not Eligible	Styer (1992a, 1992b)
38LU301	Middle Archaic lithic scatter	Potentially Eligible	Styer (1992a, 1992b)
177-0135	Unnamed House, ca. 1905	Not Eligible	Sherrer and Revels (2002)
177-0428	Power House, ca. 1890	Not Eligible	Sherrer and Revels (2002)

As part of the background research, Henry Mouzon's (1775) map of North and South Carolina, Mills Atlas (1825), and a United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map from 1957 were examined. Mouzon's map indicates that the project area was located within Camden Precinct, near the border of Cherokee Territory, but shows now landowners near the project area (Figure 6). Mill's Atlas of Laurens District shows the "Road to Greenville", which is Old Laurens Road, and a landowner named Curry north of the project tract (Figure 7). The 1958 topographic map shows five structures within the project area (Figure 8). The 1982 USGS topographic maps depicts only two structures within the project area, which correspond to previously recorded structures 177-0135 and 177-0428, indicating that the other structures were torn down during the mid-twentieth century.

FIELD METHODS

From September 7–8, 2011, Field Director Jean-Marie Carta conducted a CRIS of the project area. The archaeological survey was conducted primarily with shovel tests in areas deemed likely to contain archaeological sites based on landform type, soil drainage, distance to water, and the results of the background research. Shovel tests were approximately 30 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. Soil color was determined through comparison with Munsell Soil Color charts.

In general, shovel tests were excavated at 30-m intervals along transects in high probability areas within the project tract. Shovel testing was supplemented by the surface collection of artifacts in areas with good ground surface exposure. If artifacts were found, additional shovel tests were excavated at 15-m intervals to help delineate site boundaries. Sites were located using a Garmin GPSMAP 76 receiver (capable of 3–5 m accuracy with WAAS correction) and plotted on USGS 7.5 minute topographic maps. Notes were kept in a field journal and on standard S&ME site forms.

The most commonly used model of archaeological site location for the Piedmont is the one used by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) for the Sumter National Forest (Benson 2006:225-226). The USFS classifies areas into high, moderate, and low probability based on factors such as slope, landform type, and distance to water. Areas of high probability include ridge tops, noses, saddles, and crests, and well-drained, low-slope areas within 150 m of the nearest water source. High probability areas also include areas within 50 m of old roadbeds or lithic raw material sources. Moderate probability areas include areas with less than 10 percent slope and more than 150 m from a water source. Low probability areas include ridge side slopes with more than 10 percent slope, erosional gullies, and severely eroded areas. Based on these parameters, approximately 131 acres of the project area had a high potential for containing archaeological sites and the remaining 96 acres of the tract had a moderate or low potential.

In addition to the archaeological survey, a limited architectural survey was conducted to document structures older than 40 years old within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Historic structures, if encountered, were photographed using high quality (i.e., six megapixel or higher resolution) digital images.

RESULTS

Archaeological Survey

Forty-five shovel tests, ranging from 15–45 cm deep, were excavated in six areas within the project Tract (Figure 9, Table 2). Three soil profiles are representative of most of the tract. The agricultural fields typically contained approximately 10 cm of reddish brown (5YR 4/4) loamy sand (Ap horizon), overlying 10+ cm (10–20+ cmbs) of yellowish red (10YR 4/6) clay loam subsoil. The wooded areas of the tract typically contained approximately 15 cm of very dark gray brown (10YR 3/2) sandy loam, followed by 10 cm (15–35 cmbs) of very pale brown (10YR 7/4) loamy sand, overlying 10+ cm (35–45+ cmbs) of pale brown (10YR 4/1) clay loam subsoil. The northern portion of the project area along Old Laurens Road contained approximately 10 cm of dark brown (7.5YR 3/4) loamy sand (Ap horizon), overlying 10+ cm (10–20+ cmbs) of strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) clay loam subsoil. As a result of the survey, one late twentieth century historic scatter was noted but was not recorded as an archaeological site due to its

recent age (Figure 1). Previously recorded site 38LU301 was not investigated as part of the CRIS since it has previously been determined potentially eligible for the NRHP and required additional testing to determine its final NRHP status.

Table 2. Number of shovel tests and sites recorded in each survey area.

Area	No. of Shovel Tests	Landform	Results
Area 1	14	Ridge	No Sites
Area 2	16	Ridge top and slope	No Sites
Area 3	5	Ridge slope	No Sites
Area 4	4	Ridge side slope	No Sites
Area 5	3	Ridge	No Sites
Area 6	3	Ridge side slope	No Sites

Architectural Survey

A limited architectural survey was conducted to determine whether the proposed project would affect any aboveground historic properties. Accessible public roads within the project area were driven and existing structures greater than 40 years old located within or adjacent to the project area were photographed. No previously unrecorded structures greater than 40 years old were found. Structure 177-0135, which was located along Old Laurens Road, was within the right-of-way for the widening of Old Laurens Road and is no longer extant (Bartley 2007). Structure 177-0428, the Power House, is located within the project tract and was identified and photographed (Figure 10). It has previously been determined ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP (Styer 1992a, 1992b).

CONCLUSION

A CRIS of approximately 227 acres at the proposed Powers South Industrial Site identified one late twentieth century historic scatter and one previously recorded historic structure, the Power House. The Power House, 177-0428, has been determined ineligible for the NRHP. Previously recorded archaeological site 38LU301 is also located within the project tract; however, it was not reexamined as it was already determined potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP (Styer 1992a, 1992b). S&ME recommends avoiding ground disturbing activities within the boundaries of the site. If site 38LU301 cannot be avoided, then Phase II evaluative testing should take place to determine the site's final NRHP status (i.e., eligible or not eligible).

There entire project area has been plowed and timbered resulting in heavy ground disturbance and erosion. Except for the 16 acres that contain site 38LU301, S&ME recommends that no additional cultural resource investigations are warranted for the remaining 211 acres at the Powers South Industrial Site.

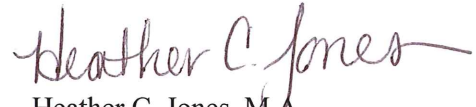
CLOSING

S&ME appreciates the opportunity to provide you with this report. If you have questions about the report or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Bill Green at (803) 561-9024 or via e-mail at bgreen@smeinc.com.

Sincerely,
S&ME, Inc.



Jean-Marie Carta, B.A.
Field Director



Heather C. Jones, M.A.
Architectural Historian

Senior Reviewer: William Green

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United States Geological Survey (USGS)

1921 *Fountain Inn Quadrangle.* 15' map series. Topographical Maps of South Carolina, 1888–1975 Digital Collection. Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia. Available at: <<http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/u/?/topo,252>>

1983 *Fountain Inn.* 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle.

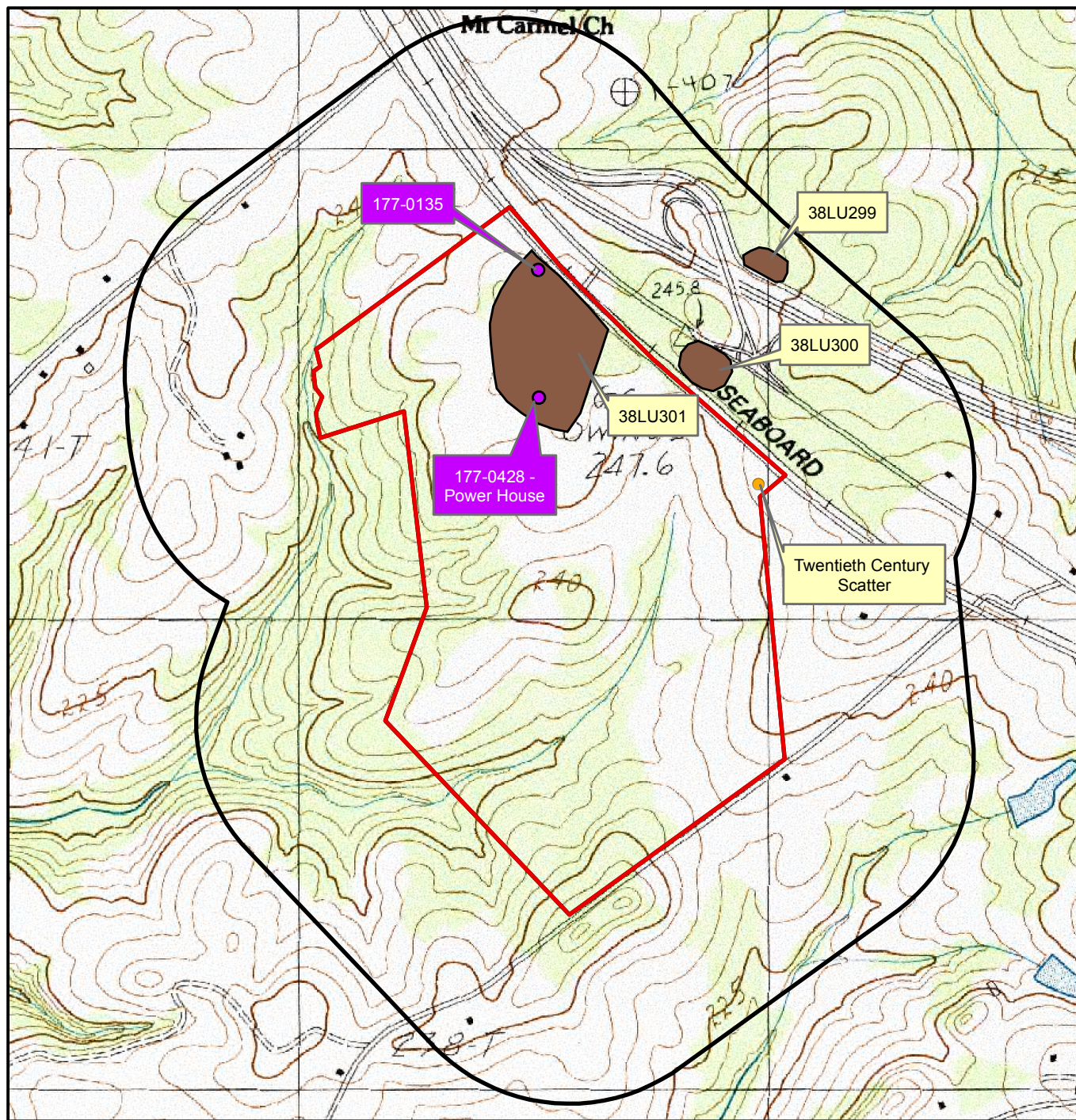
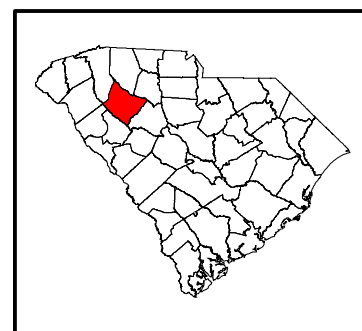
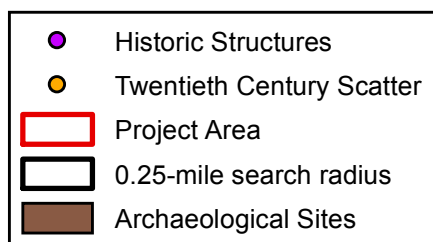
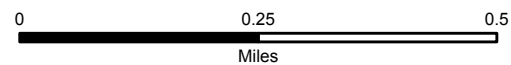


Figure 1. Project area and 0.25-mile search radius.

Base Map: Fountain Inn (1983) 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.



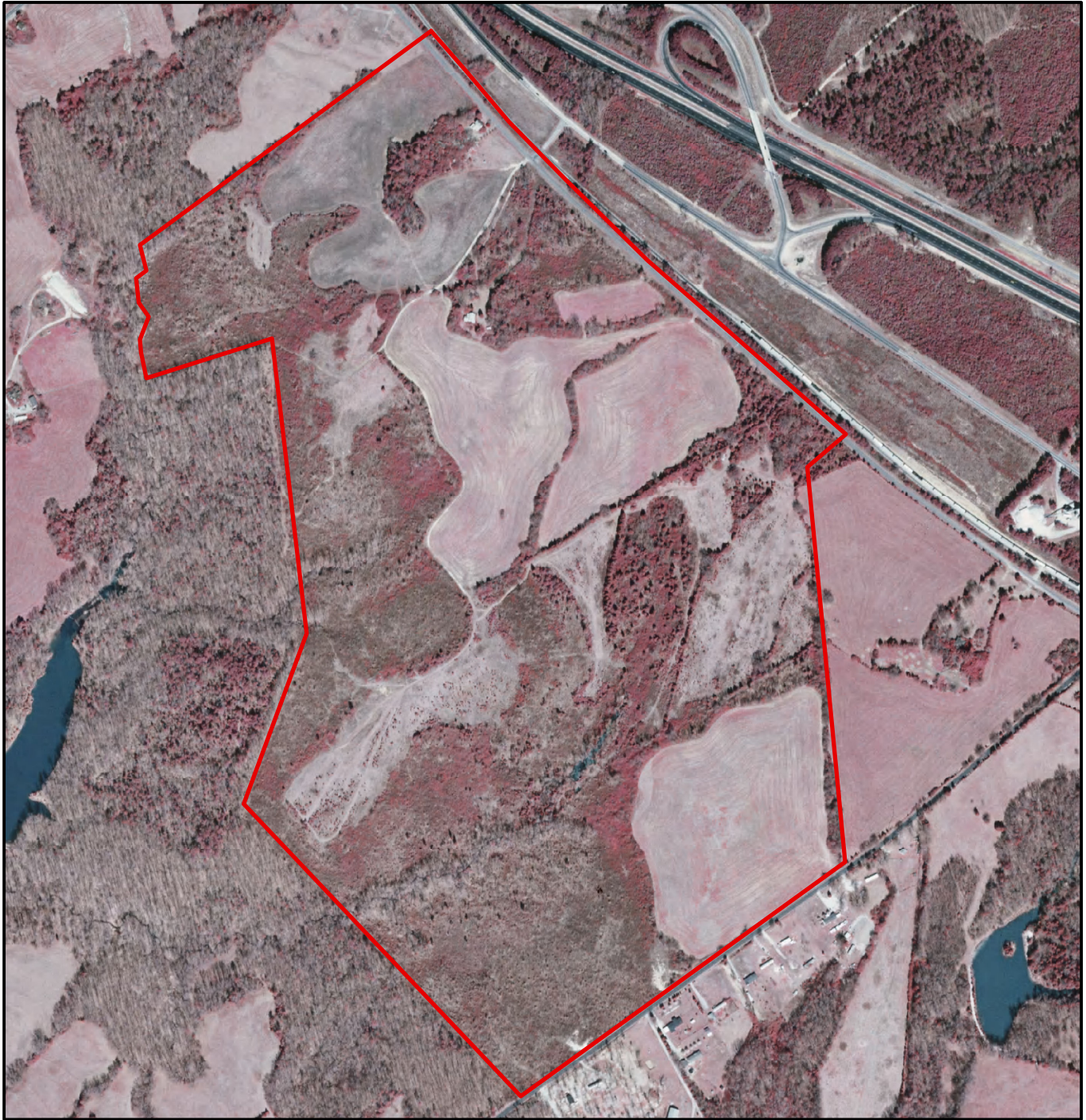


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the project area.
Base Map: Fountain Inn (2006) DOQQ.

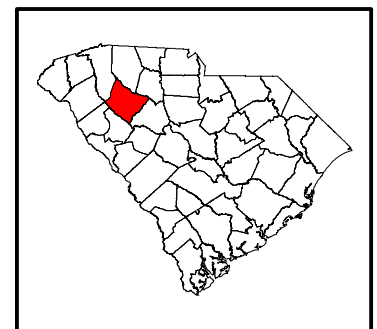
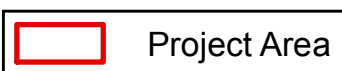
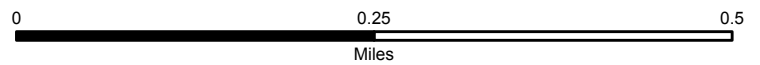




Figure 3. Typical vegetation within the project area, facing northeast.



Figure 4. Grassy field and dirt road in the project area, facing northeast.

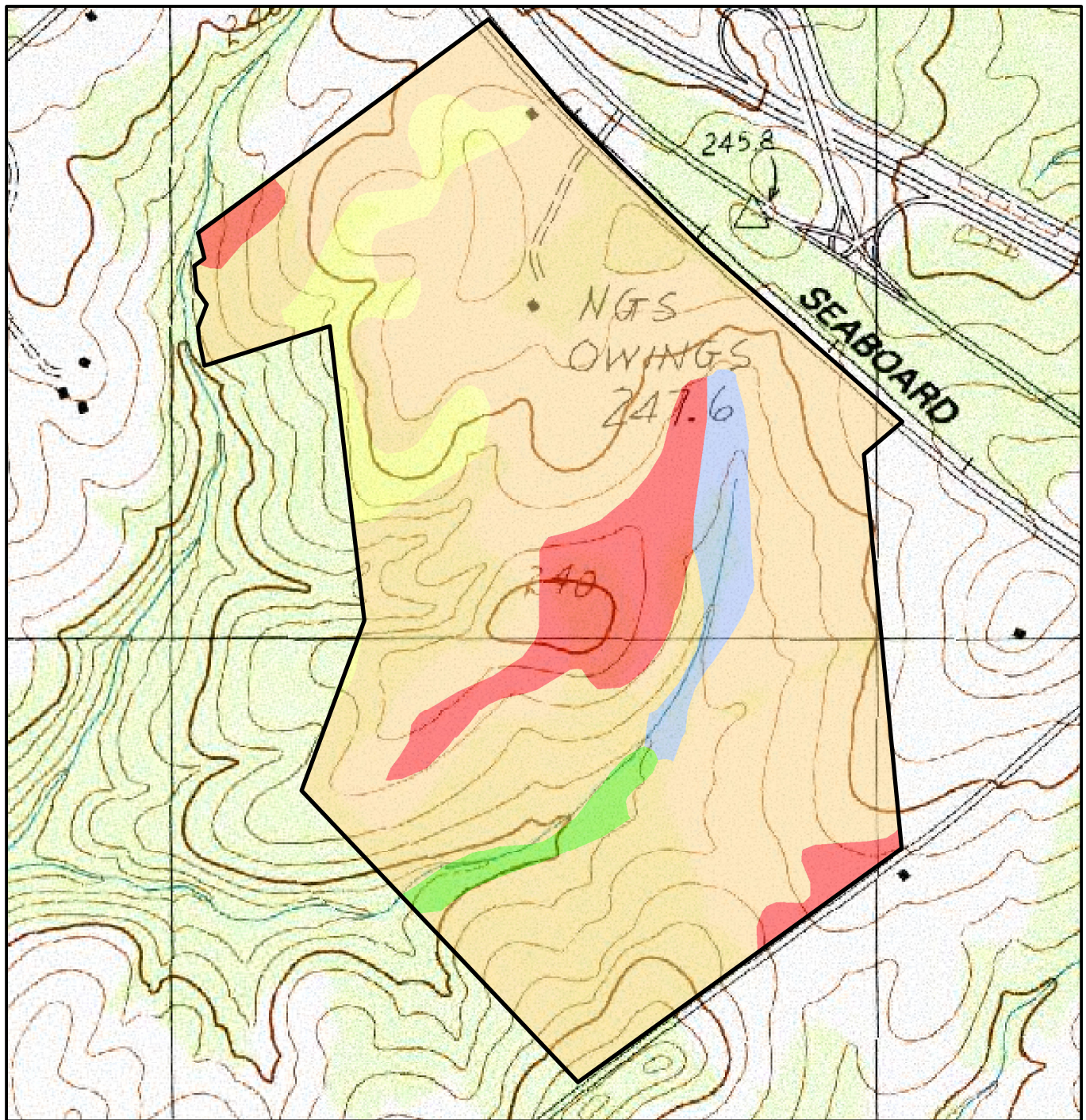


Figure 5. Soils within the project area.

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

Base Map: Fountain Inn (1983) 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.

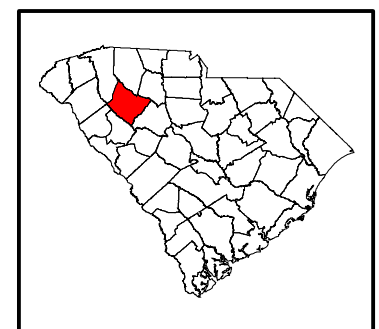
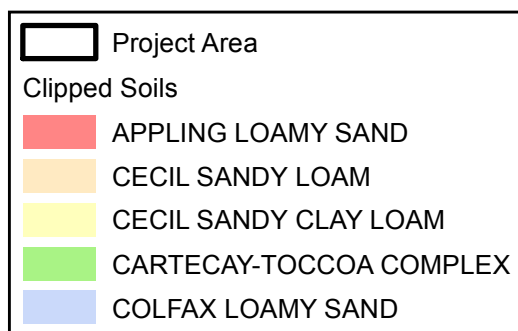




Figure 6. Mouzon Map of Laurens District, showing approximate location of the project area.

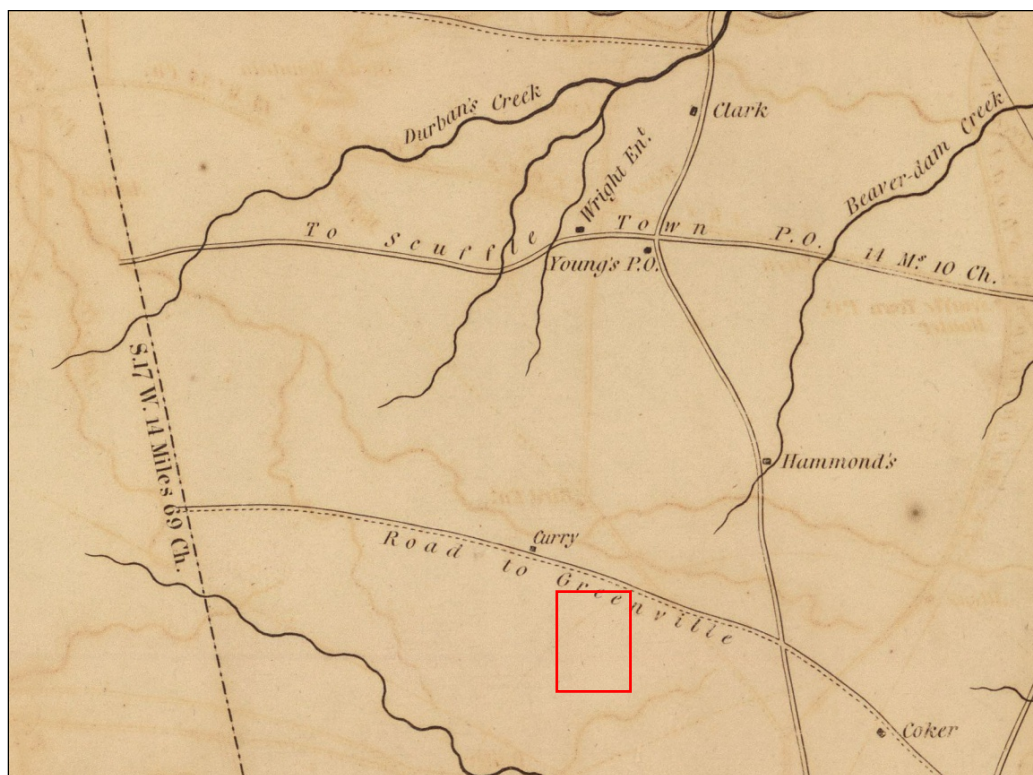


Figure 7. Mills' Atlas Map of Laurens District, showing approximate location of the project area.

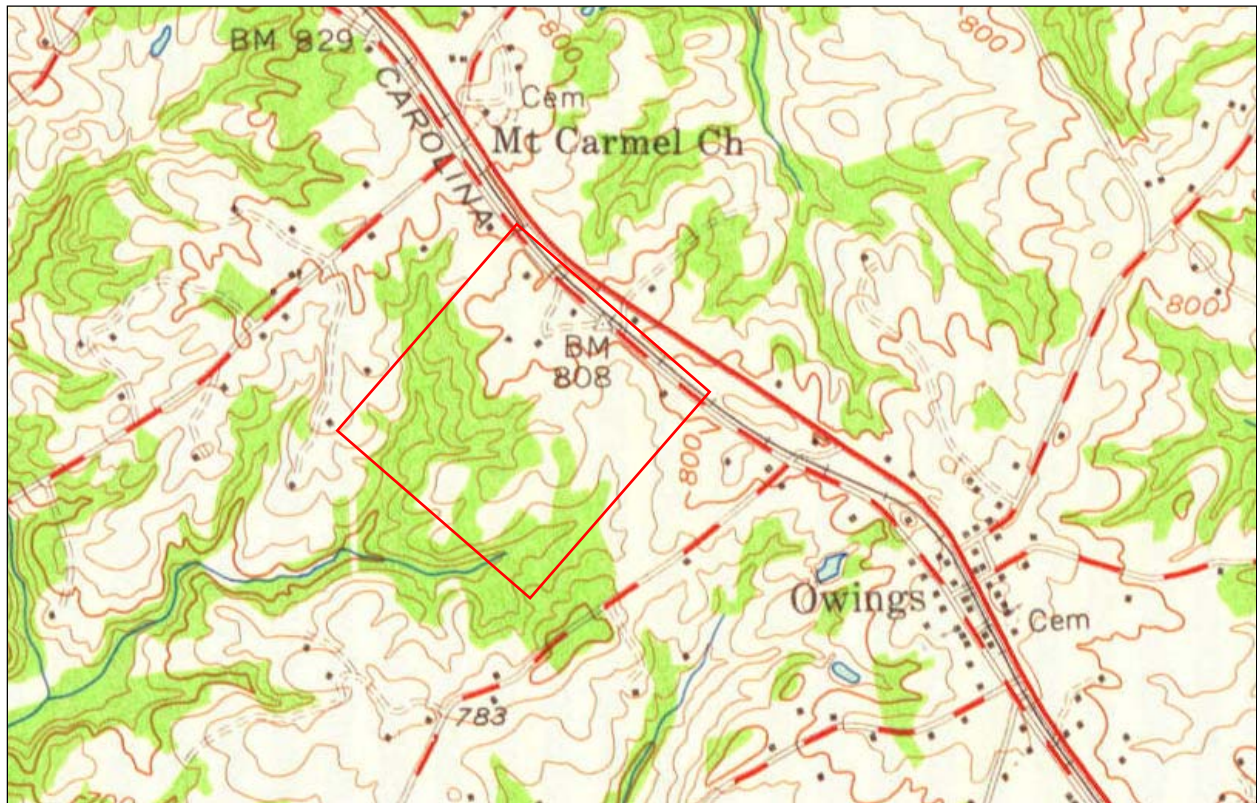


Figure 8. USGS topographic map (1958) showing approximate location of the project area.

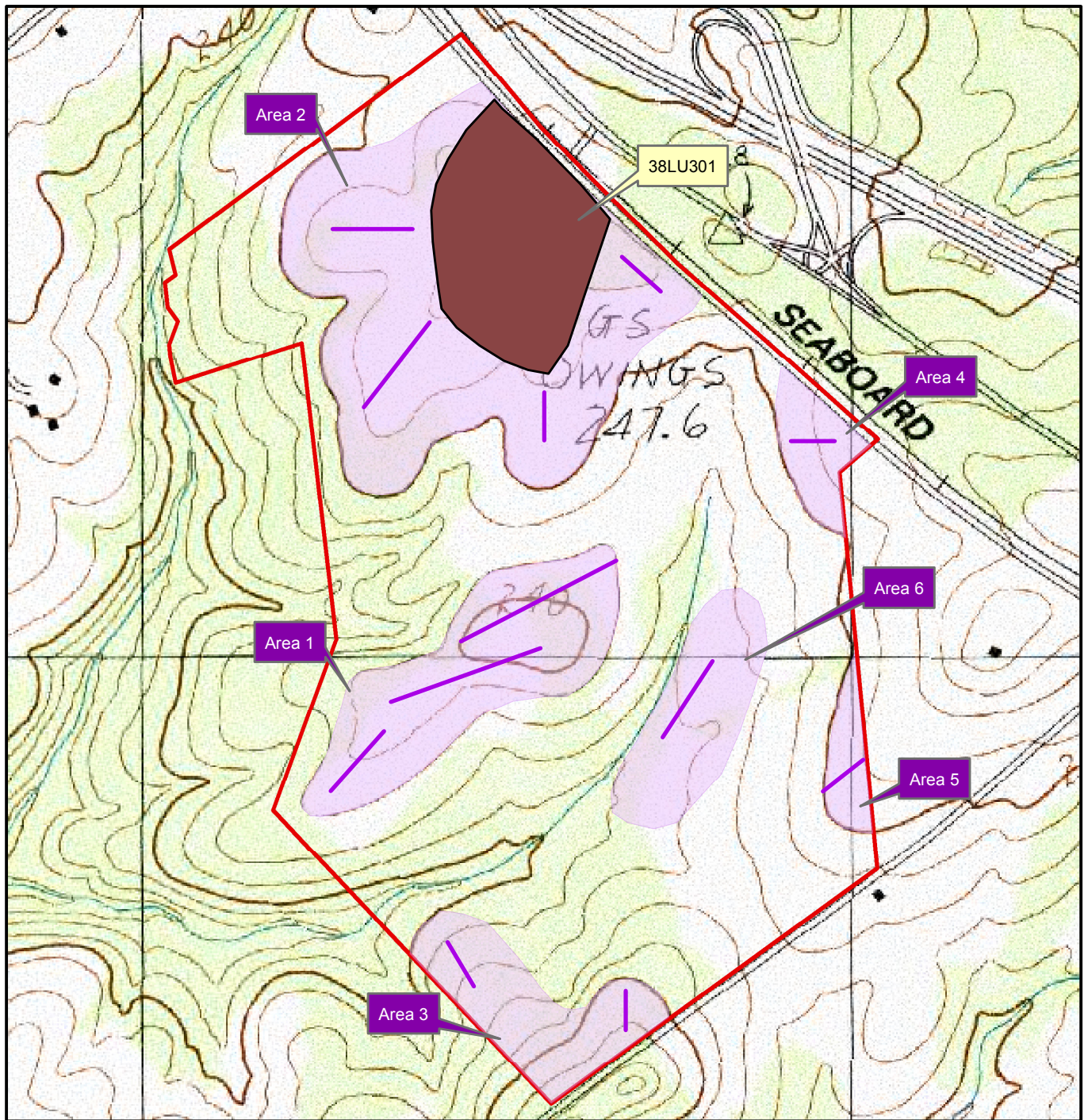


Figure 9. Areas shovel tested within the project area.

Base Map: Fountain Inn (1983) 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.

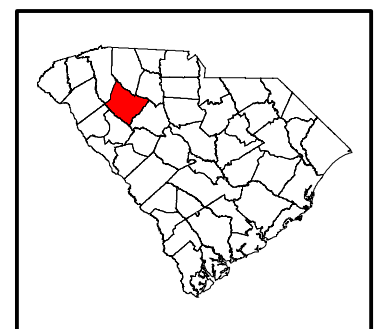
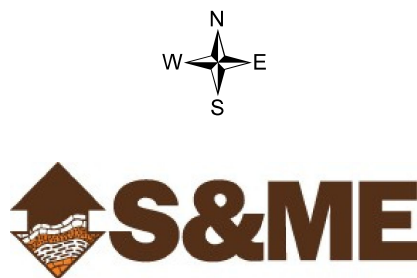
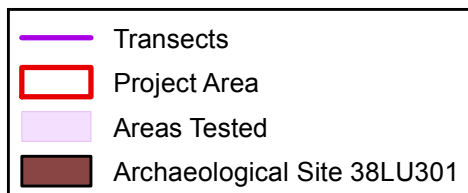




Figure 10. The Power House, 177-0428, facing northwest.