

CULTURAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION SURVEY OF APPROXIMATELY 130 ACRES AT THE WESTGATE INDUSTRIAL PARK SITE

YORK COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Summary Report



August 2012

**CULTURAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION SURVEY OF
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PARK SITE
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SUMMARY REPORT

Submitted to:
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August 2012

INTRODUCTION

On August 7, 2012 TRC conducted an archaeological survey of approximately 130 acres approximately 0.3 miles north of the town of Clover in York County, South Carolina (Figure 1). This work was done on behalf of Alliance Consulting Engineers, Inc. for the South Carolina Department of Commerce Industrial Site Certification Program. One isolated find of a prehistoric projectile was identified during the survey. No archaeological sites or historic structures were found within or adjacent to the project tract.

The project area consists of a mixed pine and hardwood forest in the Piedmont physiographic province. The tract is situated on ridges that are bisected by an unnamed tributary of Beaverdam Creek. The tract is bound by private property on to the north, west and south, and by existing industrial facilities and Old Main Street to the east (Figure 1, cover photo). Topographically the tract ranges in elevation from 720 feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL) along the creek bed to 780 feet AMSL along the eastern and western boundaries.

The tract contains a mixed pine and hardwood forest with areas of gullied land and severe erosion (Figure 2 and Figure 3). The area surrounding the tract consists of agricultural field to the north and west and the outskirts of Clover to the south and east. Poorly drained Worsham silty loam is found along the creek bed. West of the creek are well drained Nason and Tatum silt loams. East of the creek are well drained Durahm and Appling sandy loams. The soils are deflated with erosional gullies present and subsoil visible in areas.

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. 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.

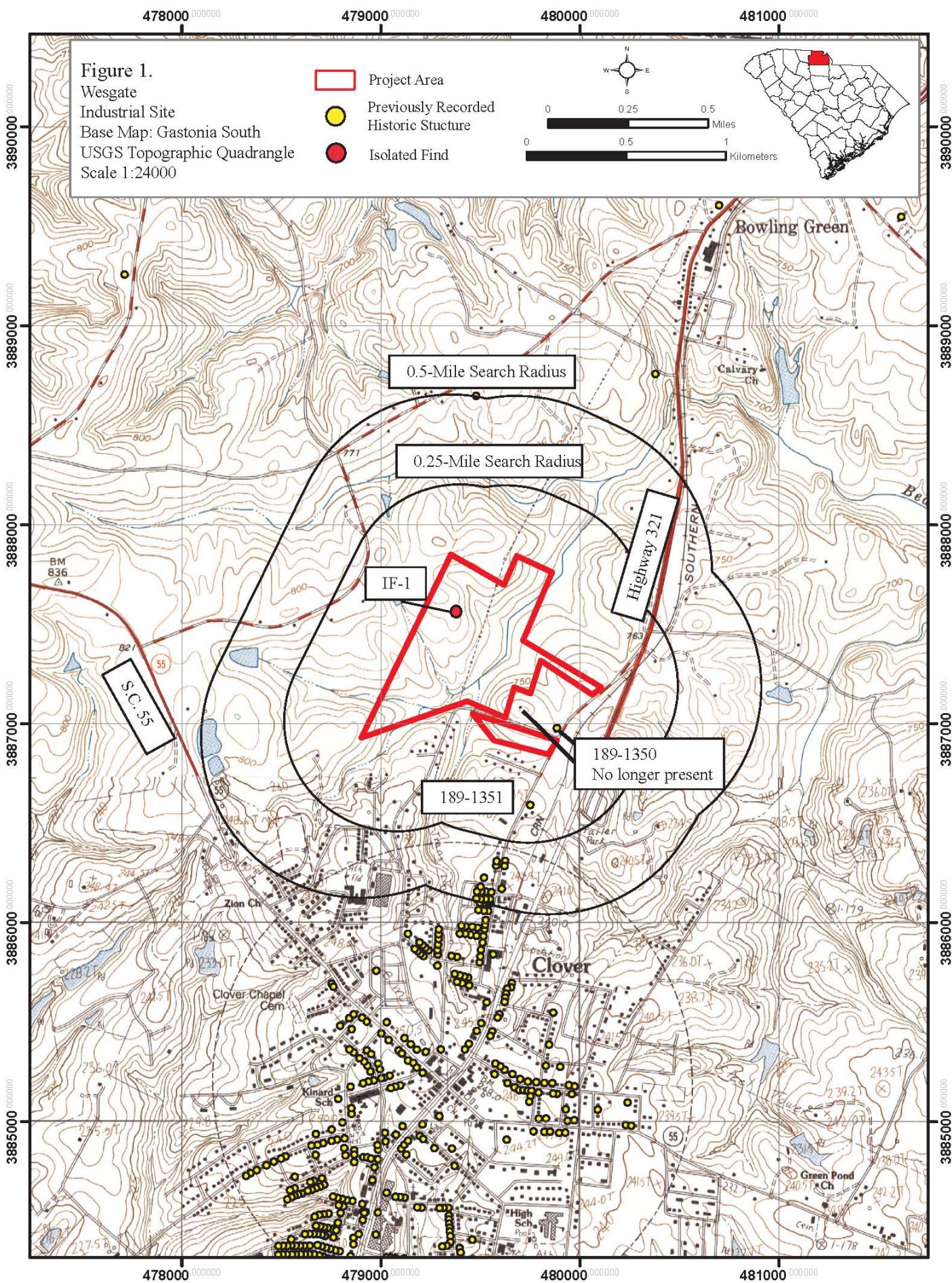




Figure 2. Woodlands and transmission line in the project tract.



Figure 3. Erosion present in the project tract.

CONTEXT

CULTURAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT VICINITY

The Archaic period is characterized by exploitation of fauna, including large animals, and wild plant resources, which became increasingly stabilized and broad based during the Holocene. Settlement patterns are presumed to reflect a fairly high degree of mobility, making use of seasonally available resources in different areas of the Southeast. Caldwell (1958) termed this scheduled hunter-forager adaptation to the environment “Primary Forest Efficiency.” Group size gradually increased during this period, culminating in a fairly complex and populous society in the Late Archaic. Each of the Archaic periods appears to have been lengthy and successful in adapting contemporary technology to prevailing climatic and environmental conditions of the time.

Diagnostic markers of the Archaic period include a variety of side and corner notched projectile point types such as Dalton, Kirk/Palmer, bifurcates (i.e., LeCroy, St. Albans), and later, stemmed projectile point types such as Stanly, Morrow Mountain, Guilford, and Savannah River (Coe 1964). By the Middle Archaic, groundstone items such as axes, atlatl weights, and grinding stones become more commonplace. In parts of the Southeast, certain changes occurred during the Terminal Archaic, including an increased focus on riverine resources, and the introduction of ceramic (fiber-tempered wares) and soapstone vessels.

The Catawba River in York County, South Carolina, retains a tradition of intense human settlement and traffic. Several different Siouan-speaking groups had occupied the area at least since A.D. 1000, attracted by the area’s rich soil and access to transportation along and across the Catawba River. As Euro- and African-American settlers moved into the South Carolina Lowcountry in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, other Indian groups congregated on the Catawba River where they collectively became known as the Catawba Nation. Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the Catawba have negotiated with the South Carolina and federal governments for continued access and rights to these lands near the river.

In 1701, when Englishman John Lawson set out to explore what is now the North and South Carolina Piedmont, Charleston had only existed for 20 years in its current location. Charleston was the capital of the province, not yet a royal colony but still under the control of Lords Proprietors. Lawson traveled along the Santee and Wateree rivers, and along the Catawba River where he encountered Waxhaw, Esaw, and Sugaree villages (Hudson 1970; Merrell 1989).

The people of these villages may have been descendants of Siouan-speaking groups who migrated to the Piedmont sometime after A.D. 1000. Historian James Merrell argues that groups divided and settled along the rivers and streams of South Carolina, creating diverse communities with a common cultural background. By 1715, these communities were collectively referred to as Catawba, and by 1750, the Catawba Nation.

In the early eighteenth century, villages remained concentrated around the Sugar Creek and Catawba River junction, and in the colony’s eyes, continued to be an important northwestern barrier that protected Charleston and the lower settlements. However, disease and war decreased the Catawba population and made the villages more reliant on traders for food, ammunition, and clothing. By several estimates, smallpox killed nearly two thirds of the Catawba population

between 1740 and 1760, leaving a population of around 500 persons (Merrell 1989). Increasing English and Scots-Irish settlement also threatened the Catawba's traditional hunting grounds (Merrell 1987). In 1760, the Catawba allied with the colony of South Carolina in the Cherokee War, and suffered further casualties (Hudson 1970). Their continued diplomacy with the colonial government won them a fort, erected at Twelve Mile Creek, to use for protection. But as support from the colonial government dwindled after the end of the Cherokee War, the Catawba began leasing their land to settlers to raise money (Merrell 1989).

Settlers began moving into present-day York County as early as the 1730s and 1740s when colonial Governor Robert Johnson's township scheme lured thousands to the western lands of the colony. South Carolina used the settlers as a buffer between Charleston and the Cherokee, Spanish, and French, and to increase the free population. No townships were established in the York area, which was still in Catawba lands and near Cherokee hunting areas. Nevertheless, there may have been 500 settler families living within 30 miles of the Catawba Nation by 1755. Areas around and on the tributaries of Allison Creek, Buckhorn Creek, Crowder's Creek, and Fishing Creek were popular spots for early settlement. A majority of the settlers came from Virginia or Pennsylvania

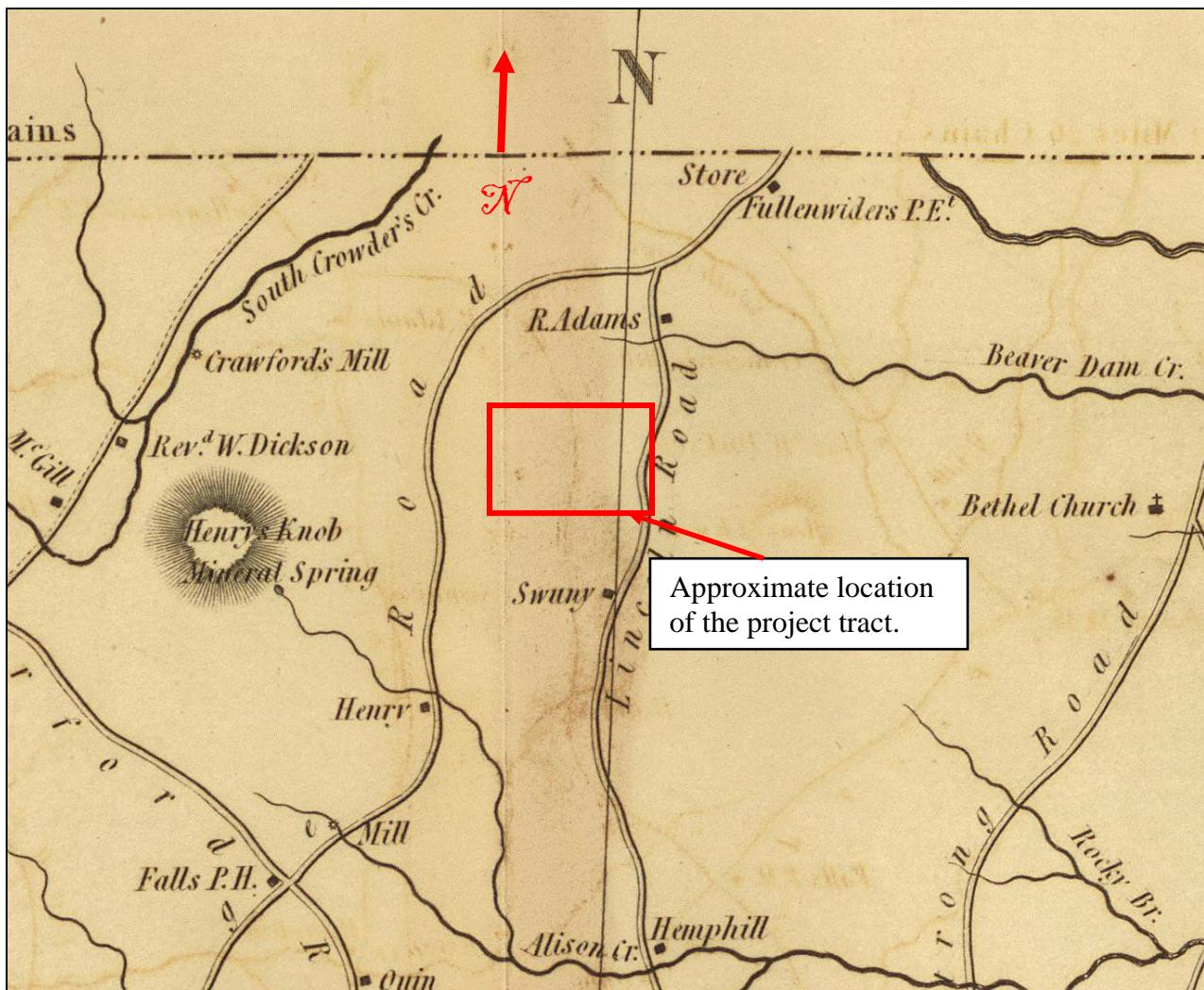


Figure 4. Mills Atlas depicting general location of the project area.

and were of English or Scots-Irish decent; they probably named the area for their home in York, Pennsylvania. They constructed mostly small farms, but their houses, livestock pens, mills, outbuildings, cleared fields and wagon roads changed the former landscape of palisaded villages, narrow paths, and wooded hunting areas (Merrell 1989, Shankman et al. 1983).

Settlement increased to such a degree that it became necessary in 1764 to delineate a boundary between North and South Carolina. In the same year, at the Catawba's request, Samuel Wyly surveyed the boundaries of traditional Catawba lands still in their control to use as proof of ownership against squatters. The 15-mile square area, though a fraction of their original territory, included 144,000 acres along the Catawba River from Twelve Mile Creek to beyond Steel Creek. At that time, the York area was a distant extension of the Lowcountry's St. Mark's Parish. Increased settlement in the backcountry also necessitated the creation of judicial districts beyond Charleston, and in 1769, the area became part of the Camden District. York County, later York District, was created in 1785, and Yorkville (now York) was named as the county seat (Kovacik and Winberry 1987, Merrell 1989, Shankman et al. 1983).

As throughout much of the South, there were few towns in the area in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. These small communities usually offered a tavern or stagecoach stop, a house of worship, a store or two, perhaps a cotton gin or saw mill, and a post office.

During the Revolutionary War, the Catawba and colonial settlers' experience was much the same. Just west of the project tract is the site of the battle at Kings Mountain, a significant colonial victory that served as a step toward the British surrender at Yorktown. The intense level of fighting temporarily destroyed the agricultural and merchant economy in the Piedmont, but infrastructure development and cotton farming encouraged further growth (Edgar 1998, Merrell 1989, Shankman et al. 1983).

From the late eighteenth century to the mid-nineteenth century, cotton agriculture dramatically changed the landscape of York District and its population. In 1790, at the time of the first federal census, York District contained over 4,600 free whites, 923 slaves, and 29 "other free persons" for a total population of 6,604. After the invention of the cotton gin in 1793, York planters joined the growing number of short-staple cotton producers in the Piedmont. Restrictions on slave importations were relaxed to provide labor for the cotton fields, and by 1810 the district's slave population had more than tripled in twenty years to 3,164, and doubled again to 6,633 in 1830. In that year, slaves comprised just over 35 percent of the population, a relatively small percentage when compared with Lowcountry districts. Road improvements and the construction of canals promoted cotton growing by providing easier routes to Charleston markets.

Railroad construction that began in Charleston reached York District in 1852 when the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad extended through the county to Chester, and in 1855 when the King's Mountain Railroad was constructed as a spur line to York (Kovacik and Winberry 1987). As throughout the state, railroad construction encouraged the development of towns around its depots including Clover.

The region's transportation routes connecting to North Carolina and Virginia made it an important area during the Civil War. Refugees from the Lowcountry fled to the town of York for safety from Union troops. After the Civil War, many residents of the Catawba River area returned to cotton

farming. Despite low cotton prices between the 1870s and World War I, farmers in the Piedmont increasingly narrowed their production to corn and cotton.

While cotton production remained important, industrial development increased in York County as it did throughout the South Carolina Piedmont in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Northern and local investors built textile mills in the South, bringing production near the source of the raw material. Improved rail lines and the increased number of depot towns with cotton gins linked more rural farms to the mills and northern markets (Kovacik and Winberry 1987).

By 1910, York County was part of a network of textile mills that spanned the South Carolina Piedmont to Anderson County. Although the textile mills provided jobs for struggling cotton farmers, they did not hire black workers for other than the most menial jobs. Following a regional trend, African Americans migrated from York County to northeastern and Midwestern cities in search of better opportunities. Like the rest of the northern Piedmont, York's loss was not as great as in other areas of the state, perhaps because its concentration of industry and railroads continued to offer some opportunity to blacks.

The Catawba River valley landscape changed in the twentieth century, not only from mill and railway expansion, but also from alterations to the river itself. In 1900, brothers Walker Gill Wylie and Robert H. Wylie incorporated the Catawba Power Company and in 1904 began operation of a hydroelectric power station on the Catawba River at India Hook. The station provided electrical power to Rock Hill area textile mills and was the first generating station of a network owned by the Catawba, later Southern, Power Company, which merged with Duke Power Company in 1927. The dam and power station were destroyed in a 1916 flood, which also destroyed the Nation Ford railroad trestle. Both were rebuilt, the Catawba Hydro Station and Catawba Lake in 1925, and they were renamed Wylie Hydro Station and Lake in 1960 for Walker Gill Wylie. In 1985, Duke Power Company opened the Catawba Nuclear Station for operation on Lake Wylie (Shankman et al. 1983).

After World War II, York County's population increased as textile and other industrial production continued and expanded. The area's major products included rayon, poplins, printed and finished cottons, hosiery, textile chemicals, truck and bus bodies, soft drinks and dairy products. In twenty years, the York County's population grew from 53,418 in 1930 to 71,596 in 1950.

The Catawba River area continued to expand in the late twentieth century. The construction of Interstate 77, which opened in December 1983, contributed significantly to this growth and strengthened the connection between the Catawba River area and Charlotte, North Carolina to the northeast (Moore 1987). Located in the midst of this growth, the Catawba Indian Nation also expanded and changed. Many members of the Nation took jobs in the textile industry or joined the military during World War II, traveling and settling beyond the Nation's traditions and lands. At the same time, the Catawba have revived and maintained some traditions, such as pottery production. By 1980, the Catawba numbered approximately 1,300, the majority of these living away from the 630-acre reservation. In 1980, the Catawba Nation filed suit against the state of South Carolina and local landowners, claiming that their treaty with the state in 1840s had never been ratified by the United States Senate, and was therefore invalid. The Catawba claimed that they had legal right to the 144,000 acres that comprised their original reservation established in 1760 (Kovacik and Winberry 1987). In 1993, the two sides reached an agreement that allowed

local land owners to keep their property, and awarded the Catawba Nation \$50 million, paid by the federal government, the state of South Carolina, York and Lancaster counties, and private sources. The Catawba Nation also gained federal recognition as part of the settlement (Lee and Beard 1999). In 2000, 164,614 people lived in York County, 1,403 of whom identified themselves as "American Indian or Alaska Native." In the same year, 494 persons lived on the Catawba Indian Reservation (U.S. Department of Commerce 2001).

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. Also examined were the survey materials, maps, photographs, and survey cards, submitted by The Jaeger Company in their 1991-1993 report, *York County Historic and Architectural Inventory Survey Report*.

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 15-m interval to delineate the site. Shovel testing was continued until two negative tests were found 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 related 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 archaeological sites in the vicinity of the project area. There are two historic structures within a 0.25-mile radius of the project tract (Table 1). One of these houses, 189-1350, has been destroyed and replaced by a modern building within the Westgate Industrial Park site (Figure 5). There is a cluster of historic structures identified in the town of Clover approximately 0.5 mile south of the project tract. The historic structures are considered not eligible for the NRHP (Jaeger Company 1991-1993)

Table 1. Cultural Resources within a 0.25-mile radius of the project area.

Site	Resource	Location	NRHP Status
189-1350	House circa 1850	Guinn Street and Old Main Street	Not Eligible
189-1351	House circa 1910	1021 Old Main Street	Not Eligible

Field Survey

On August 7, 2012 a reconnaissance survey was conducted of the 130-acre project tract. A total of 45 shovel tests were excavated along high and low probability areas within the project area (Table 2, Figure 5). This is equal to one shovel test per every 2.88 acres. Due to the erosion and deflated soils encountered throughout the tract shovel tests generally consisted of 5-20 cm of sandy loam or silty loam above strong brown clay subsoil. No archaeological sites were recorded. One isolated find was identified.

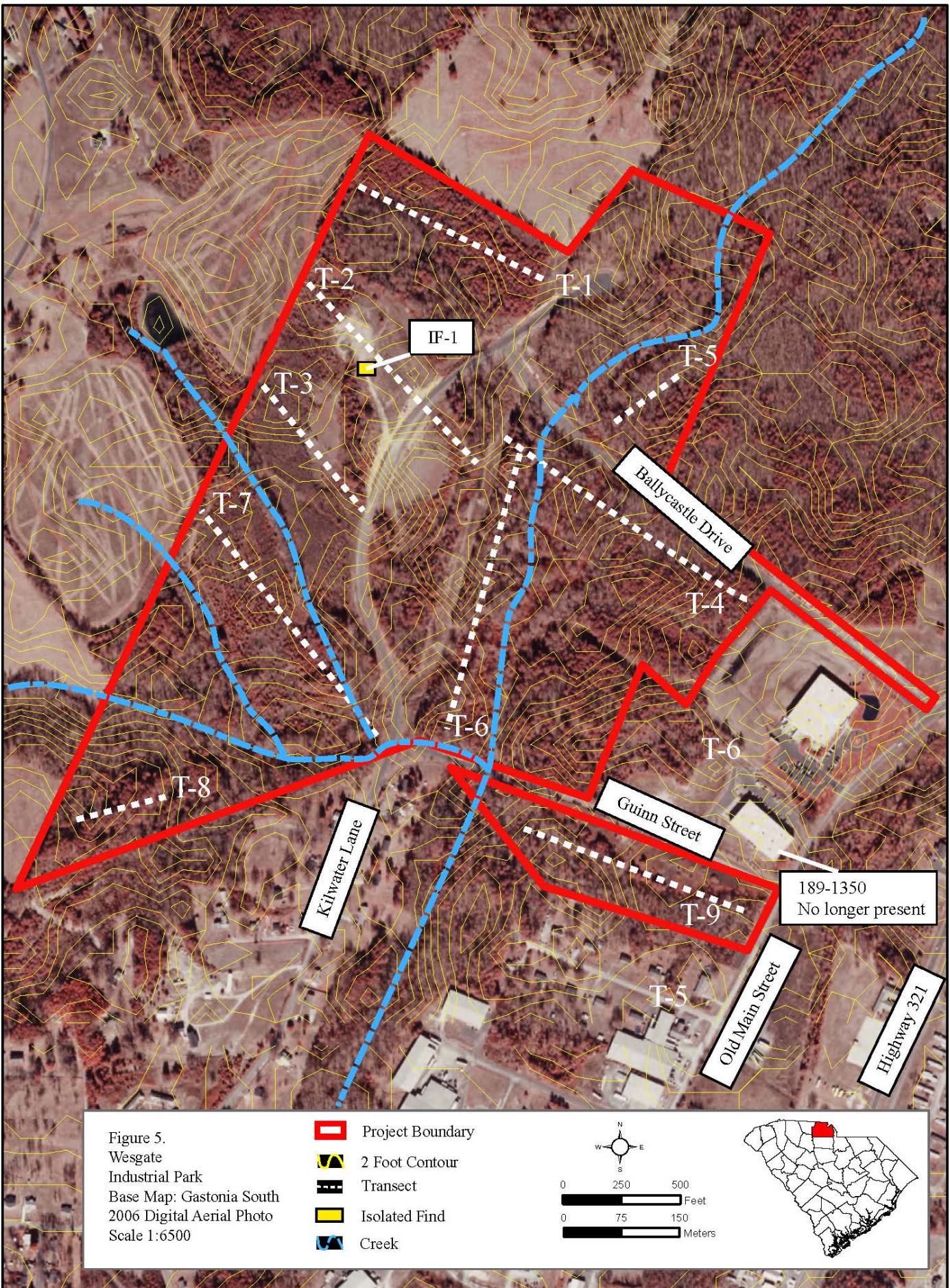
Table 2. Shovel tests excavated at the Westgate Industrial Park Site.

Transect	Description	#of STPs/# of Positive STPs
1	30 and 60 meter intervals	10/0
2	30 and 60 meter intervals	5/1
3	30 and 60 meter intervals	5/0
4	60 meter intervals	4/0
5	60 meter intervals	5/0
6	60 meter intervals	3/0
7	60 meter intervals	4/0
8	60 meter intervals	6/0
9	30 and 60 meter intervals	3/0

Isolate Find 1 – was located when an Archaic Period Dalton style projectile point was recovered from the surface of an eroded sided slope. Shovel tests were excavated in a 10-meter interval grid radiating from the location of the point. Soils in the area were highly eroded with approximately 5 cm of strong brown clay loam above clay subsoil. Transect shovel tests on the ridgetop above the isolated find were similarly eroded and did not produce any cultural material.

Historic Resources Assessment

There are no historic resources within or adjacent to the survey tract. Historic resource 189-1350 was recorded in 1991 by the Jaeger Company it was recommended not eligible for the NRHP. The house has since been demolished and been replaced by an industrial facility that is part of the Westgate Industrial Park (see figure 5).



SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No archaeological sites and no historic structures were identified within or adjacent to the project area. One isolated find of an Archaic Period projectile point indicates that there may have been prehistoric occupations in the area. However, the eroded and deflated soils are unlikely to contain significant cultural deposits. There is little potential for intact archaeological sites on the property. No further work is recommended for the 130-acre Westgate Industrial Park tract. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 803-933-9991 or via e-mail at snorris@trcsolutions.com.

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