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B. P. BARBER & ASSOCIATES
COLUMBIA, S.C.

November 25, 2009

Ms. Caroline Wilson
Review and Compliance Coordinator
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223

Reference: **Cultural Resources Identification Survey of Approximately
113 Acres at the Thomason II Industrial Site**
Laurens County, South Carolina
S&ME Project No. 1616-09-434

Dear Caroline:

S&ME, Inc. (S&ME), on behalf of B.P. Barber & Associates, Inc., has completed a Cultural Resources Identification Survey (CRIS) of a 113-acre tract located west of Charlotte's Road (State Route 46) and south of a CSX railroad line, approximately 1.1 miles southwest of the Town of Clinton in Laurens County, South Carolina (Figures 1 and 2). The purpose of the survey was to assess the 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 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 1616-7181-09, dated November 19, 2009, and the guidelines for conducting a CRIS (Memorandum of Understanding between the DOC and South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO], dated August, 3, 2009).

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 Charlotte's Road to the east, a CSX railroad line to the north, and an intermittent stream to the west. Topography in the project area is gently sloping, with elevations ranging from approximately 590 ft above mean sea level (AMSL) along the stream at the western boundary to 640 ft AMSL along the eastern boundary at Charlotte's Road. Vegetation consists almost entirely of planted pines with a light to moderate understory (Figure 3). The nearest water source is an intermittent tributary of North Creek that forms the property's western boundary (Figure 4). Soils in the project area consist of well-drained Appling, Cecil, Durham, Enon, and Wilkes sandy loams and loamy sands (Figure 5). The area surrounding the tract is a mix of commercial, agricultural, residential, and forested properties.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

On November 23, 2009, a background literature review and records search was conducted 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 area examined was a 0.5-mile radius around the project area (Figure 1). The records examined at SCDAH 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 0.5-mile search radius, then additional reports and site forms contained at SCIAA and SCDAH were consulted.

A review of ArchSite indicated there are four previously recorded structures within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area (Figure 1; Table 1). None of these resources are within the current project area and none are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP (Revels 2003).

Table 1. Cultural Resources within approximately 0.5 mile of the Project Area.

Structure No.	Description	NRHP Eligibility	Reference
100-2220	Unnamed House, ca. 1930	Not Eligible	Revels (2003)
100-2223	Griffin House, ca. 1845	Not Eligible	Revels (2003)
100-2224	Unnamed House, ca. 1925	Not Eligible	Revels (2003)
100-2225	Unnamed House, ca. 1920	Not Eligible	Revels (2003)

As part of the background research, Henry Mouzon's (1775) map of North and South Carolina and Mills Atlas (1825) were examined. Early twentieth century soil and topographic maps were not examined as they were not readily available for the project area. Mouzon's map indicates that the project area was part of Ninety-Six District in 1775 and shows no individual landowners in the vicinity of the project area in the eighteenth century. Mill's Atlas of Laurens District also shows no individual landowners near the project tract.

In addition, the 1971 Clinton USGS topographic map depicts one structure located in southeast corner of the project area. The location of this former structure was revisited during the current survey.

FIELD METHODS

On November 23–24, 2009, Principal Archaeologist William Green 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. Additional shovel tests were excavated in areas believed to have a low potential for containing significant cultural resources to eliminate these areas from future consideration. In addition, a pedestrian survey was undertaken along dirt roads and other areas with good ground surface exposure.

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 all ridge tops, noses, saddles, and crests, and all 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 20 percent of the project area (the western portion adjacent to the stream) had a high potential for containing archaeological sites; the remaining portions of the property had a low to moderate potential (Figure 1).

In addition to the archaeological survey, a limited architectural survey was conducted. Photographs were taken of aboveground structures 40 years old or older that were within or adjacent to the project area.

RESULTS

Archaeological Survey

A total of 24 shovel tests, ranging from 15–62 cm deep, was excavated across the project tract. Three shovel tests were excavated near the location of the structure depicted on the 1971 USGS topographic map, five shovel tests were excavated adjacent to the stream in the western portion of the property, and the remaining 16 shovel tests were randomly scattered around the rest of the property. A typical soil profile in the northern and eastern portions of the tract consisted of approximately 18 cm of reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy clay loam, overlying 7+ cm (18–25+ cm below surface [cmbs]) of red (2.5YR 4/6) sandy clay subsoil. Soils in the central portion of the tract consisted of 26 cm of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) loamy sand, overlying 10+ cm (26–36+ cmbs) of reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8) sandy clay subsoil. Soils in the western portion of the property near the stream consisted of 58 cm of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) loamy sand, overlying 4+ cm (58–62+ cmbs) of reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8) sandy clay subsoil and the top of the water table.

As a result of the survey no archaeological sites or isolated finds were recorded. The location of the structure depicted on the 1971 USGS topographic map was revisited; however, the structure has been demolished and only a chimney base and house mound are currently present at this location (Figure 6). Shovel testing and pedestrian survey in the area found modern debris such as clear and amber bottle glass, plastic, and metal (Figure 7), but none of this material appeared to be at least 50 years old and it was discarded in the field.

Architectural Survey

A limited architectural survey was conducted to determine whether the proposed project would affect any aboveground historic properties. Accessible public roads within and adjacent to the project area were driven, and existing structures greater than 40 years old that were not previously recorded were examined for National Register eligibility. As a result of the survey, no historic structures were noted within or adjacent to the project area.

CONCLUSION

A CRIS of the 113-acre project tract found no archaeological sites or aboveground historic resources within or adjacent to the project area. In addition, archaeological fieldwork indicated that much of the eastern half of the project area is heavily eroded, and that the western portion of the property near the stream contains a high water table and had no indication of archaeological resources. Based on these factors, there is little likelihood that the project area contains significant archaeological sites and we recommend no additional archaeological investigations for the project tract. In addition, the architectural survey did not record any new historic structures, and the nine previously recorded structures have all been determined ineligible for the NRHP. As a result, it is S&ME's opinion that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed undertaking and that no additional cultural resource investigations should be necessary.

CLOSING

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

Sincerely,
S&ME, Inc.



William Green, M.A., RPA
Principal Archaeologist

cc: Brad Sanderson, B.P. Barber
States Clawson, South Carolina Department of Commerce

Peer Reviewer: Heather Jones, M.A. *HJ*

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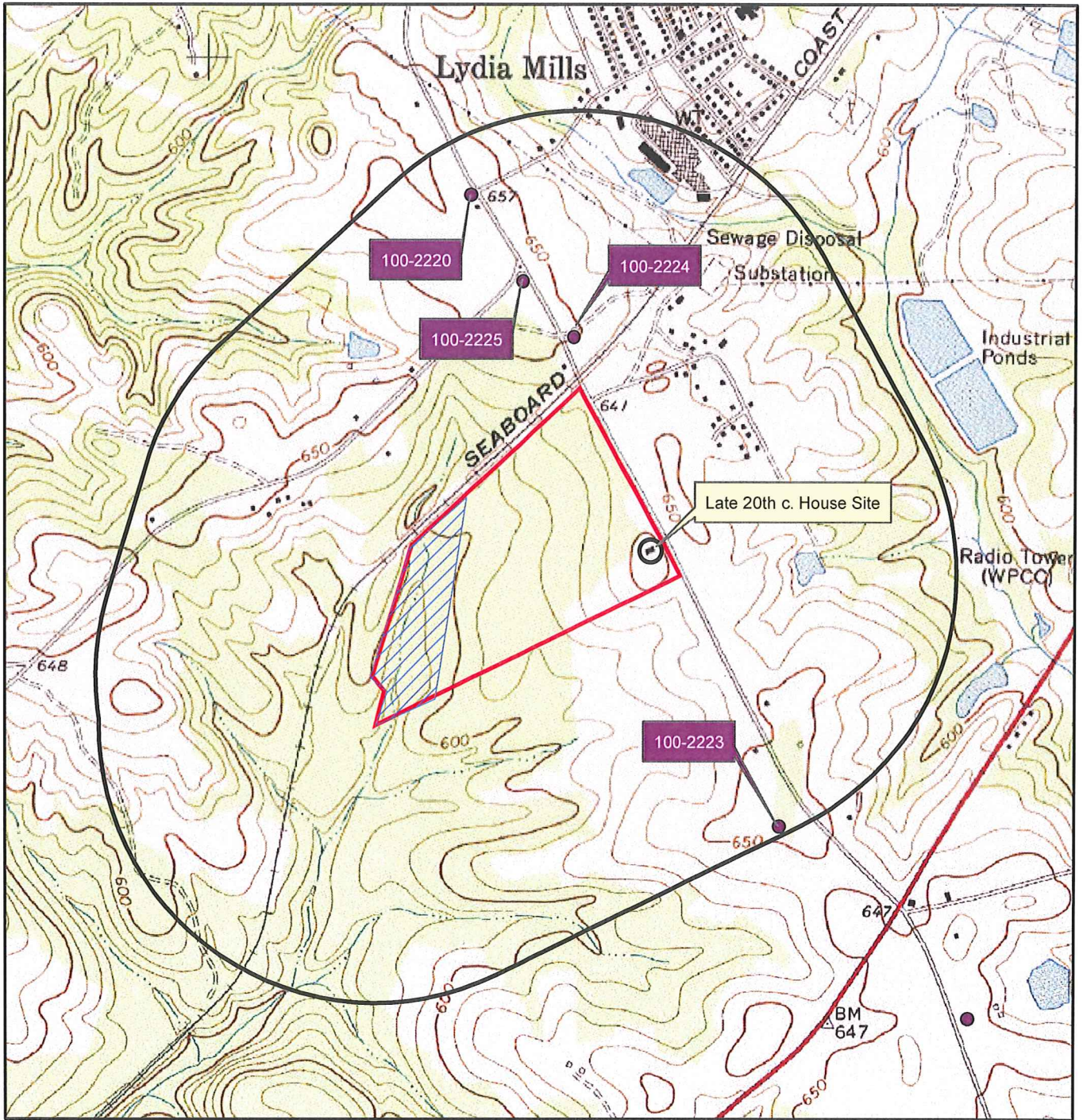
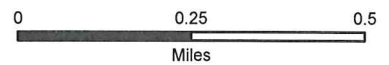
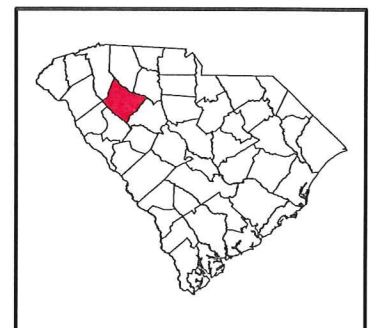


Figure 1. Project area and previously recorded cultural resources within a 0.5-mile search radius.

Base Map: Clinton (1971) 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.



- Previously Surveyed Structure
- 0.5-mile search radius
- ▭ Thomason II Project Area
- ▨ High Probability Area



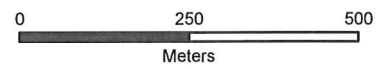
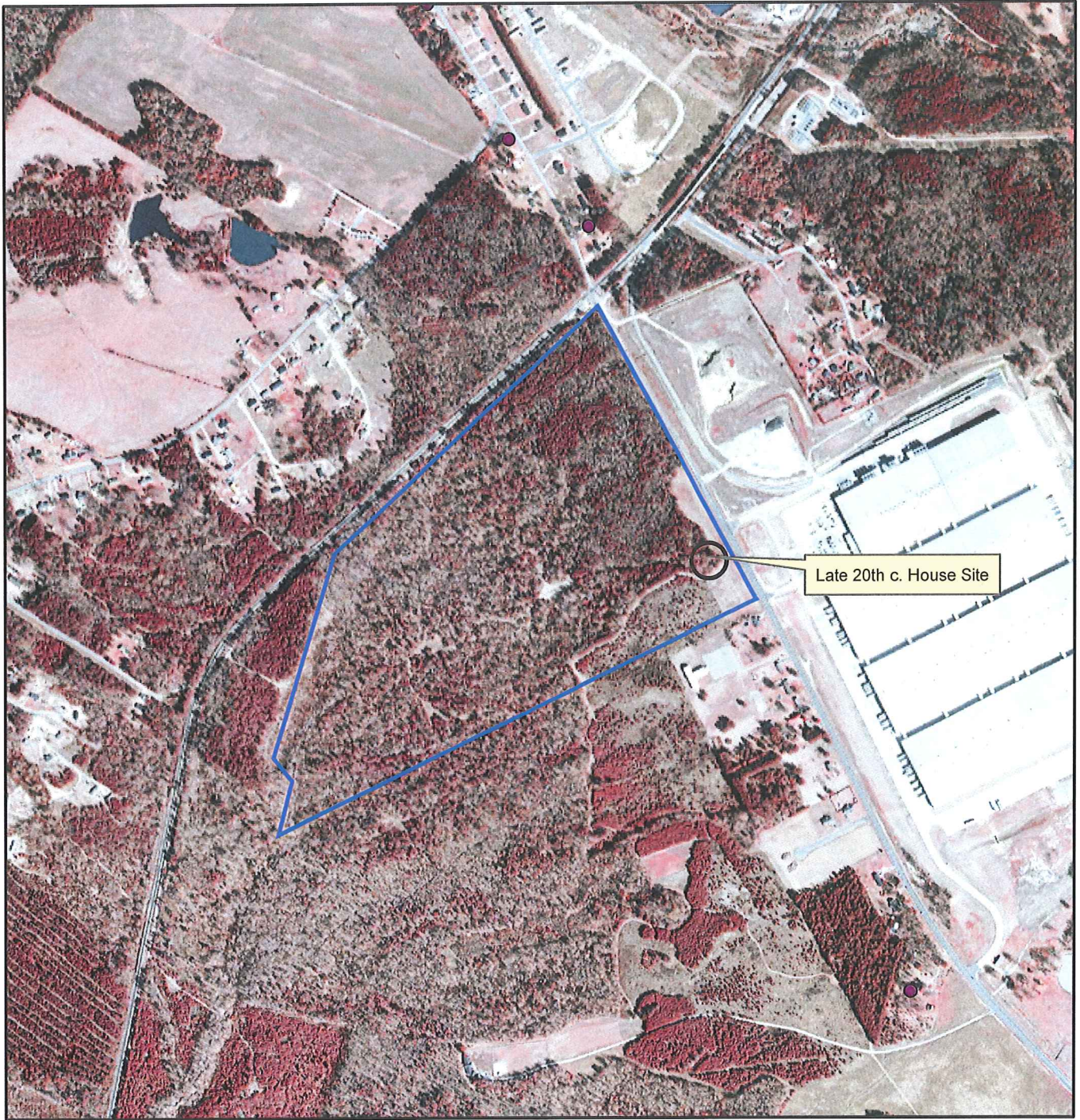
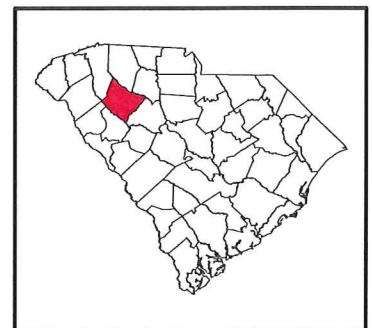


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the project area and surrounding vicinity.

Base Map: Clinton NE (2006) DOQQ.




 Thomason II Project Area





Figure 3. Typical vegetation in the project area, facing north.



Figure 4. Intermittent stream, facing south.

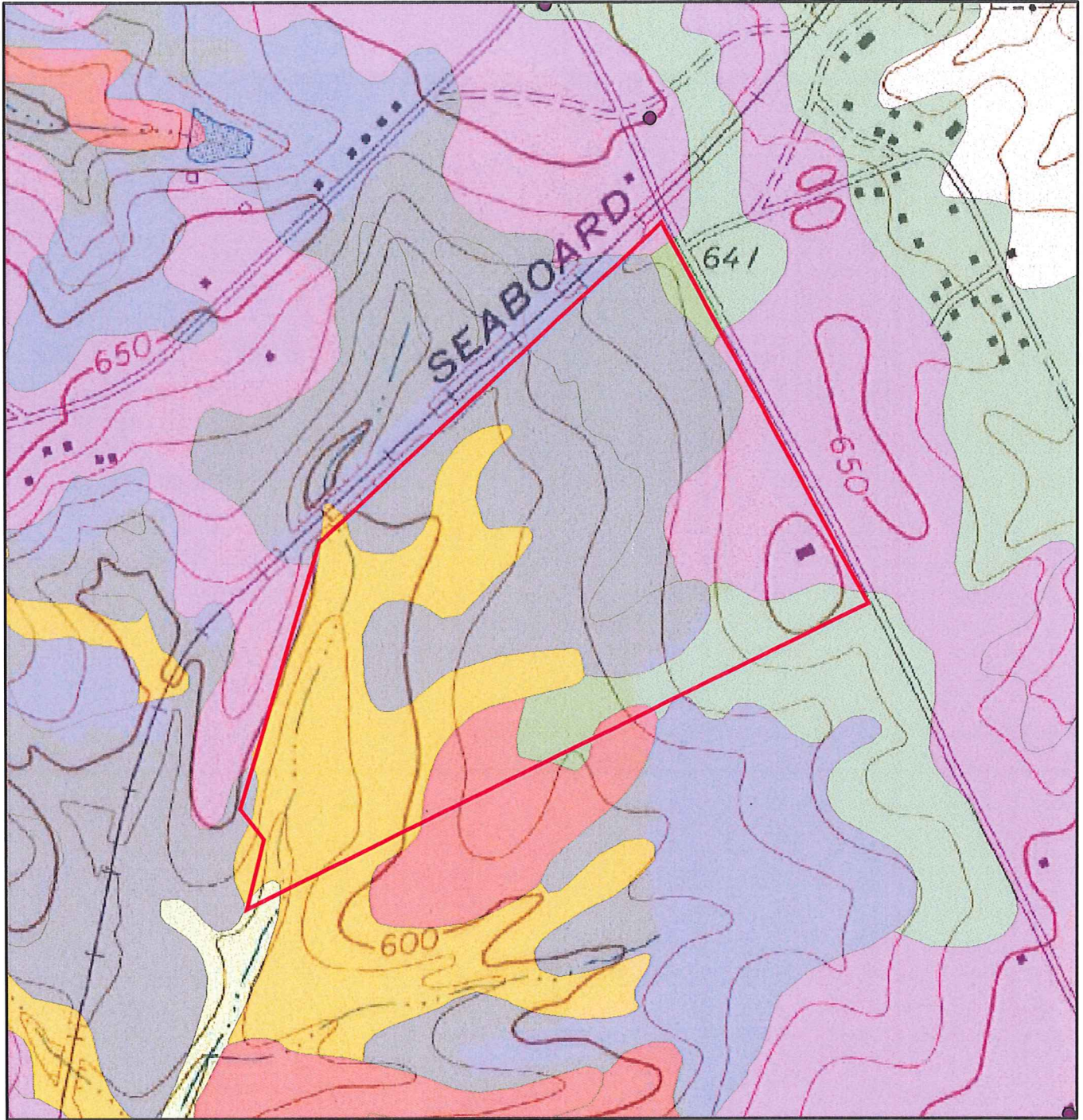


Figure 5. Soil types in the project area.

Base Maps: Digital soil map (SCDNR) and Clinton (1971) 7.5' USGS topographic map.

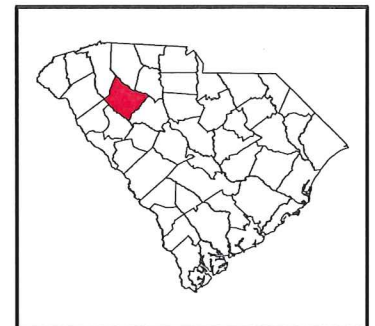




Figure 6. Chimney base and house mound in the southwest corner of the project area, facing southwest.



Figure 7. Modern debris near the house mound.