

## **GENERAL NOTES ON THE SURVEY AREA OF THE BELLE W. BARUCH PROPERTY, GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **Introduction**

The Belle W. Baruch property is bounded on the north by Highway 17, on the east by DeBordieu Resort, on the south by Mud Bay, and on the west by Winyah Bay. The area is composed of thousands of acres that are undergoing a transition from fallow fields to mature forests. Some forests were planted in pines as research projects by Clemson University, other pine forests appear to be emerging from fallow fields, while others have seemingly made a transition from pines to hardwoods. Although the forests have an appearance of maritime forests, sabal palmetto is nearly absent, and when seen the palmetto has an isolated existence.

The overall terrain is variable, ranging from broad flat uplands to undulating hills that rise upwards to more than 30 feet about sea level. Peripheral areas overlooking Winyah Bay have mixed forests and are either lowlying and relatively flat or rise to an undulating topography with variable elevations.

Streams are small and few; they originate in the sandy uplands and flow towards the west and enter Winyah Bay. Freshwater swamps and low areas with damp soils tend to exist along the peripheral areas as either drainage collections from the undulating uplands or as extensions of Winyah Bay that penetrate deeply into the interior.

### **Wildlife**

While the diversity of wildlife is surely much greater than we observed, white-tailed deer and wild hogs were seen daily as we drove through the forests, and wild hogs were occasionally encountered during the survey. Raccoons and squirrels were also seen from time to time, but a diversity of avifauna was seldom noted except for buzzards, hawks, and water birds. The wild hogs do not appear to have traits common to domestic pigs, but rather have massive shoulders, short rear legs, and long, narrow snouts. Perhaps they are mixed descendants of some European breed introduced into the area.

## **Notes on Oryzantia**

Oryzantia is a former rice plantation that lies north northeast of Hobcaw. All of the plantation structures have disappeared and the area is totally forested in what appears to be an emerging mature forest of hardwoods with few pines. Oryzantia became a center of attention because Quattlebaum says that it received its former name, Armorsdale, because of Spanish armor found on the property.

The area is characterized by an undulating sandy topography that rises high above the surrounding marshes overlooking Winyah Bay. The soil is typically a well-drained and highly permeable sand with an A horizon of dark brown sandy loam extending to a depth of about 6 to 8 inches. The B horizon is a yellowish to golden brown sand with numerous indications of bioturbation.

## **Notes on North Hobcaw**

### **Environment**

The area termed North Hobcaw denotes that area for a distance of some 1000 feet north of the Hobcaw house fence towards Strawberry. This area is also a sandy upland terrain composed of undulating Lakeland fine sands which are well-drained and highly permeable.

The forests appear to be approaching maturity. There are large laurel oaks, hickories, and loblolly pines with dense understories of the same species in addition to wax myrtle, yaupon holly, dwarf palmetto, and sparkleberry. Not too far from the fence around the Hobcaw house there is a pile of bricks that may have been related to the construction of the house or an earlier structure; the bricks are not typically those seen in a 19th century context. Other garbage, like wine bottles, presumably from the Baruch occupation, was noted in the forest.

The sandy soils have a dark brown A horizon some 8 to 10 inches deep which rests on a light brown to yellowish B horizon. Extensive evidence of bioturbation in the B horizon was noted in all of the soil profiles.

## Notes on Rock Road

### Environment

Rock Road and the surrounding environment received its name from filming portions of the PBS series, *Roanoke*. Because the area is flat and lowlying, the dirt road had to be stabilized with crushed coquina to prevent the film crew's vehicles from getting bogged in wet soils.

The area of Rock Road is located northeast of Frazier's Point and south by southwest of Hobcaw plantation and situated between two small creeks. The environment is lowlying, elevated perhaps no more than four to five feet above Winyah Bay. The soils are named Johnston loam because of a high content of organic matter. Often ponded by rainfall, the soils are very poorly drained. According to Stuckey (1982), permeability is rapid. The A horizon ranges from black to dark brown and is somewhat deeper than Frazier's Point, extending some 8 to 10 inches below the surface. It rests on a B horizon of damp grayish sands. Bioturbation is also seen in soil profiles which suggests the soils are relatively old.

The vegetation at Rock Road is mainly an open pine forest with an understory of wax myrtle, youpon holly, and dwarf palmetto. Live oaks occur sporadically and are not especially large but have diameters in the range of 18 to 24 inches. A few larger live oaks occur in an older and more densely vegetated area centered between the two small creeks. Sparkleberry is absent.

Hurricane damage is only minimal in this area, compared with the rest of the property.



## Notes on Frazier's Point

### Environment

Frazier's Point is that point of land extending west into Winyah Bay and identified by a USGS marker SUB 5 USE. For our purposes we are calling Frazier's Point that piece of land extending 800 feet northeast of the USGS marker and 3,600 feet south by south-east of the USGS marker towards Barnes Ridge.

The land in this area overlooking Winyah Bay represents an undulating terrain rising from about 10 feet ASL to about 25 feet ASL. Excepting low marshy areas associated with small swamps, the upland soils are represented by Lakeland fine sands which are predominately well-drained and highly permeable. These soils exhibit a relatively shallow A horizon about 6 to 8 inches thick and a variable B horizon which shows either a light gray or medium brown sand. Evidence of extensive bioturbation is present everywhere in soil profiles.

Vegetation throughout this area may be characterized as a maturing hardwood forest. Large laurel oaks and hickories are dominate species while magnolias (Magnolia grandiflora) occur infrequently. Pines are present but their numbers are low. Live oaks are also present but no relicts were noted. Sparkleberry and dwarf palmetto are present everywhere. Beech was never seen. Laurel oaks occur from seedlings to maturity. Cedar also occurs sporadically.

The freshwater swamps which intrude from Winyah Bay are full of tupelo but cypress is infrequent. Lower areas associated with these swamps support hydric species such as sweet gum (Liquidambar styraciflua), canes, greenbriers, and sweet bay (Magnolia virginiana).

Hurricane damage is severe in this area. At Frazier's Point damage is moderate, but with increasing distance towards Barnes Ridge wind damage to trees is significant. There are many large magnolias, oaks, and hickories either uprooted or snapped, which makes it difficult for one to pass through the forest.

## Notes on Barnes Ridge

### Environment

Barnes Ridge is located southeast of Frazier's Point and situated between the USGS markers termed FRAZIERS USE and HARVEST. This section of land is bounded on the north, east, and west by large expanses of freshwater marsh, and on the south by Winyah Bay and Mud Bay to the east.

The ridge is long and narrow and composed mainly of Chipley fine sands that appear to be well-drained and permeable. Although somewhat flat, the ridge does have distinct undulations that rise and fall several feet but are not noted the USGS topographic map (Georgetown South, S.C.). The A horizon is relatively shallow being some 5 to 7 inches thick and covered occasionally with 2 to 3 inches of sand deposited by the hurricane.

The forests of Barnes Ridge seem to be in transition from pine to oak. The higher areas support a mixed pine and hardwood forest that does not appear to be too old, while the lower areas are damp and have stands of sweetgum, briers, and other species common to damp soils. Wild hogs are present almost everywhere, and on two separate occasions they challenged the presence of Harold Chandler and Joe Easley.

Hurricane damage was noted, but was not severe. The bridge which led to the causeway had been washed out and was being repaired. Debris brought in from the flood waters was also noted.

## **Notes on Denny's Corner**

### **Environment**

Denny's Corner is located on the southern most part of the Belle W. Baruch property and overlooks the western part of Mud Bay and the large Marsh Islands. For purposes of spatial identification, the western point of land extending into the old rice fields has been designated as Denny's Point.

The forests of Denny's Corner may be characterized as a hardwoods succeeding from pines. The dominate trees are laurel oaks and exist from emerging seedlings to mature species with diameters in the range of 24 to 30 inches. The majority of laurel oaks, however, are in the range of 5 to 9 inches. Pines are few and those that exist are relatively large. Live oaks occur sporadically and tend to have diameters in the range of 24 to 30 inches, although a few are somewhat larger. Only one large live oak was noted. In some areas the canopy is so thick with laurel oaks that there is little or no seedlings because sunlight cannot penetrate the overstory. Dwarf palmettos and cedars are sporadic but wax myrtle, yaupon holly, youthful laurel oaks, and occasional sparkleberry constitute most of the understory. Towards the east of Denny's Corner the forest takes on an appearance of being somewhat older. There are larger trees and magnolia begins to appear with stands of larger sparkleberry.

The area of Denny's Corner is relatively flat and is elevated only four or five feet above sea level. Evidence of its low elevation is easily noted with the presence of trash brought in by the hurricane - limbs, marsh reeds, plastic cups and bottles, small bouys, lumber, and other debris. Trees, too, have been felled by the hurricane, but not to the extent at Frazier's Point. The soils are named Chipley fine sands and exhibit a 6 to 7 inch dark brown A horizon which overlies a deep B horizon of light yellowish brown sand. Given the flat terrain the soils are moderately well-drained and permeable. Soil profiles in the excavation units show extensive bioturbation and therefore argue for topographic antiquity.

## **Caines Point**

### **Environment**

Caines Point is located on the extreme southeastern portion of the Belle W. Baruch property overlooking Mud Bay and No Man's Friend Creek. The point is bounded on the east by a broad expanse of marsh, on the south by an expanse of marsh and Mud Bay, and on the west by a marshy finger of Mud Bay that extends several thousand feet into the interior. The northern portion of Caines is bounded by another finger of marsh that enters from the east. The area is not desirable for extended habitation.

Caines is a lowlying, poorly-drained section of land with areas of standing water. The predominate soil type is Leon sand which is poorly drained and nearly level. According to Stuckey (1982) the soil has rapid permeability. Immediately associated are Centenary and Rutledge sands, both of which are poorly drained, although permeable.

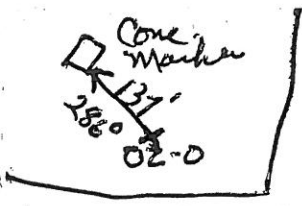
The vegetation of Caines is represented by an open savannah of slash and loblolly pines with understories of wax myrtles, yaupon holly, and dwarf palmetto. Communities of oaks cluster near the southern extent of Caines, but the area is generally a lowlying savannah of pines.

### **Associated areas**

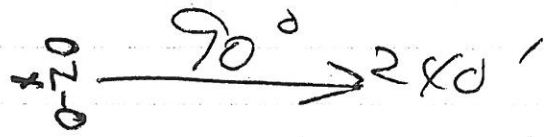
To the west of Caines are two linear peninsulas of land separated by fingers of marsh that extend from Mud Bay towards the north. These peninsulas of land are quite similar to Caines and are undesirable places because of low land and frequent stands of water and poorly drained soils. They, too, have the poorly drained soils mentioned above.

### **Survey**

None of these areas were subjected to survey because of the lowlying and poorly drained conditions. Harold Chandler and I drove through the area one morning and found that the roads were wet and boggy and nearly impassable.

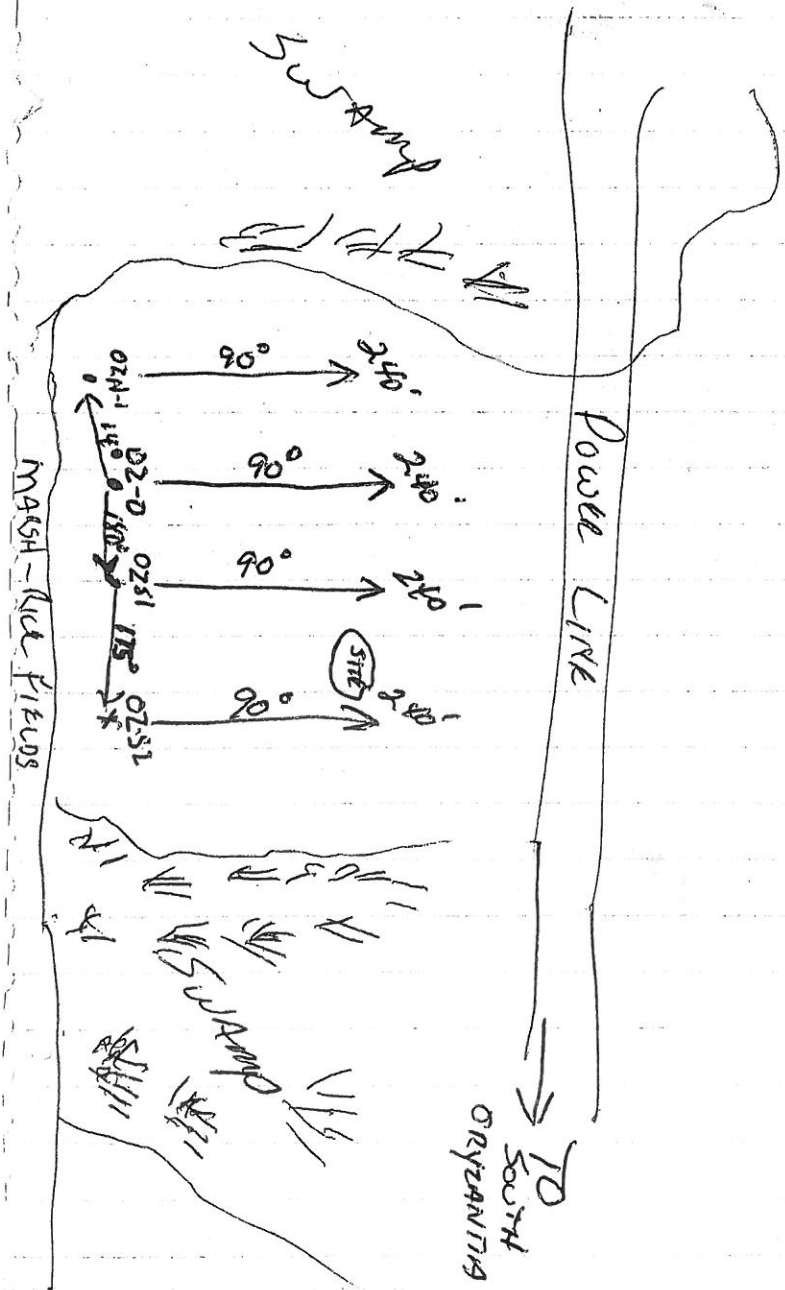


Alderly Landing



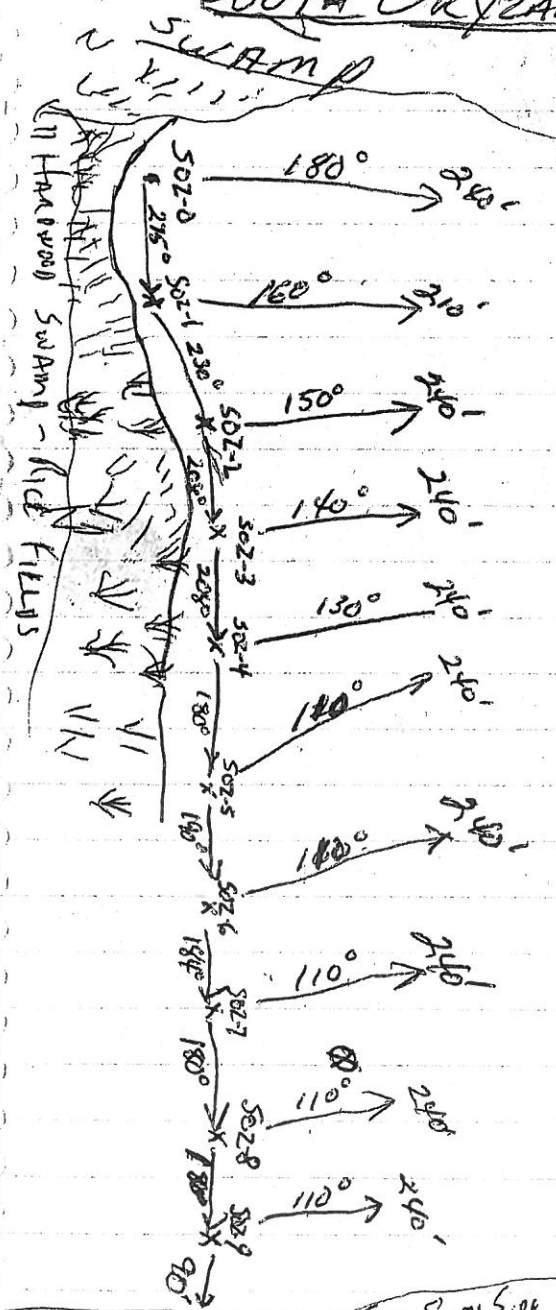
ORYZANTIA

NO PERMANENT  
DATA AVAILABLE



SITE 30' NORTH OF OZ-2  
AT APPROX 150' MASH-  
LATE RICE + GRASS - FINE  
BRICK?

# SOUTH OLYMPIA



NO PERMANENT DATUM AVAILABLE

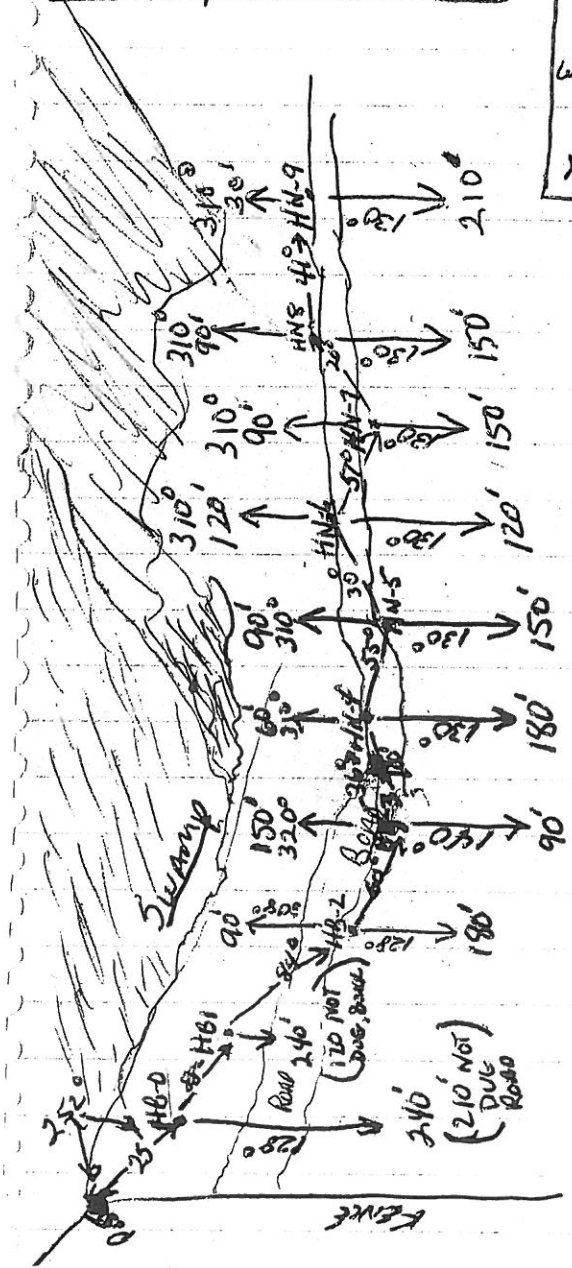
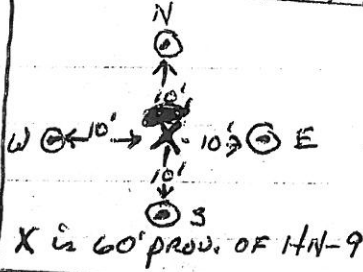
⊗ Point due North of PMS, 150' on S02-8 in a separate line 5' wide & 1/2" deep with text with markers in circles with no circles.

BERM PROPERTY LINE FOR SOUTH SIDE OF OLYMPIA

# NORTH HOBOKEN

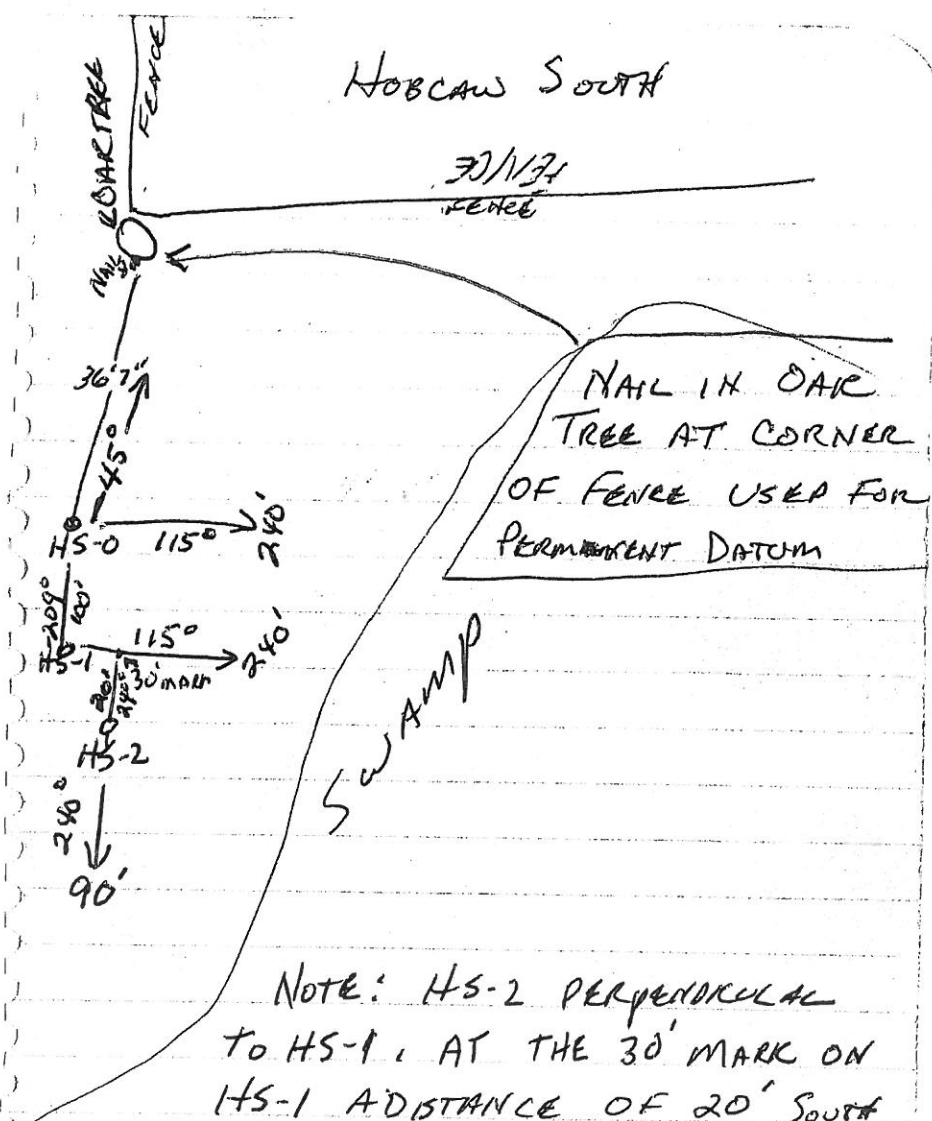
CORNER POST WHERE FENCE ANGLES BACK TOWARDS BAY USED AS PERMANENT DATUM

ADDITIONAL UNITS HN-9





HOBCAW SOUTH



NAIL IN OAK TREE AT CORNER OF FENCE USED FOR PERMANENT DATUM

NOTE: HS-2 PERPENDICULAR TO HS-1, AT THE 30' MARK ON HS-1 A DISTANCE OF 20' SOUTH (240°) IS THE BASE STAKE FOR HS-2. HS-2 runs 90 ft. at 240°

RRN-4 → Rock Road Site  
140° 90'

NO PERMANENT DATUM

RRN-3 → 140° 120'

RRN-2 → 140° 210'

RRN-1 → 140° 240'

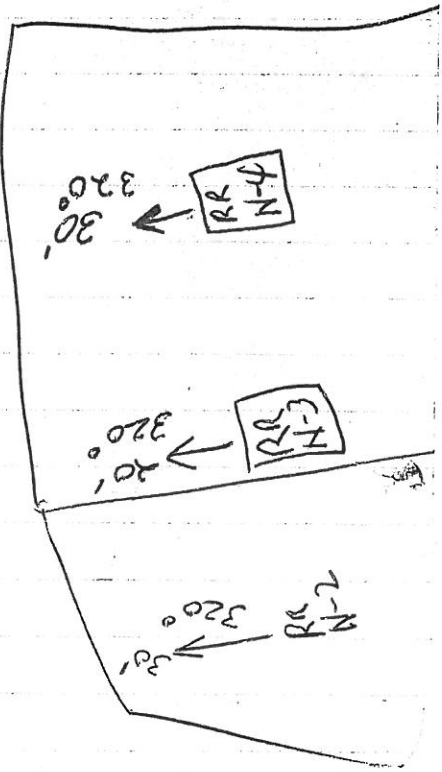
RR-0 → 140° 210'

RR-5-1 → 180°

RR-5-2

RR-5-3

RR-5-4



FRAZIER'S POINT

30' INTERVALS 240' TLH 125°

30' INTERVALS 240' TLH 116°

30' INTERVALS 240' T.L.H. 116°

TRANSECT LINE 116°

TRANSECT LINE 116°

TRANSECT LINE 116°

TRANSECT LINE 116°

30' INTERVALS NO VARIATION 240' T.L.H. 116°

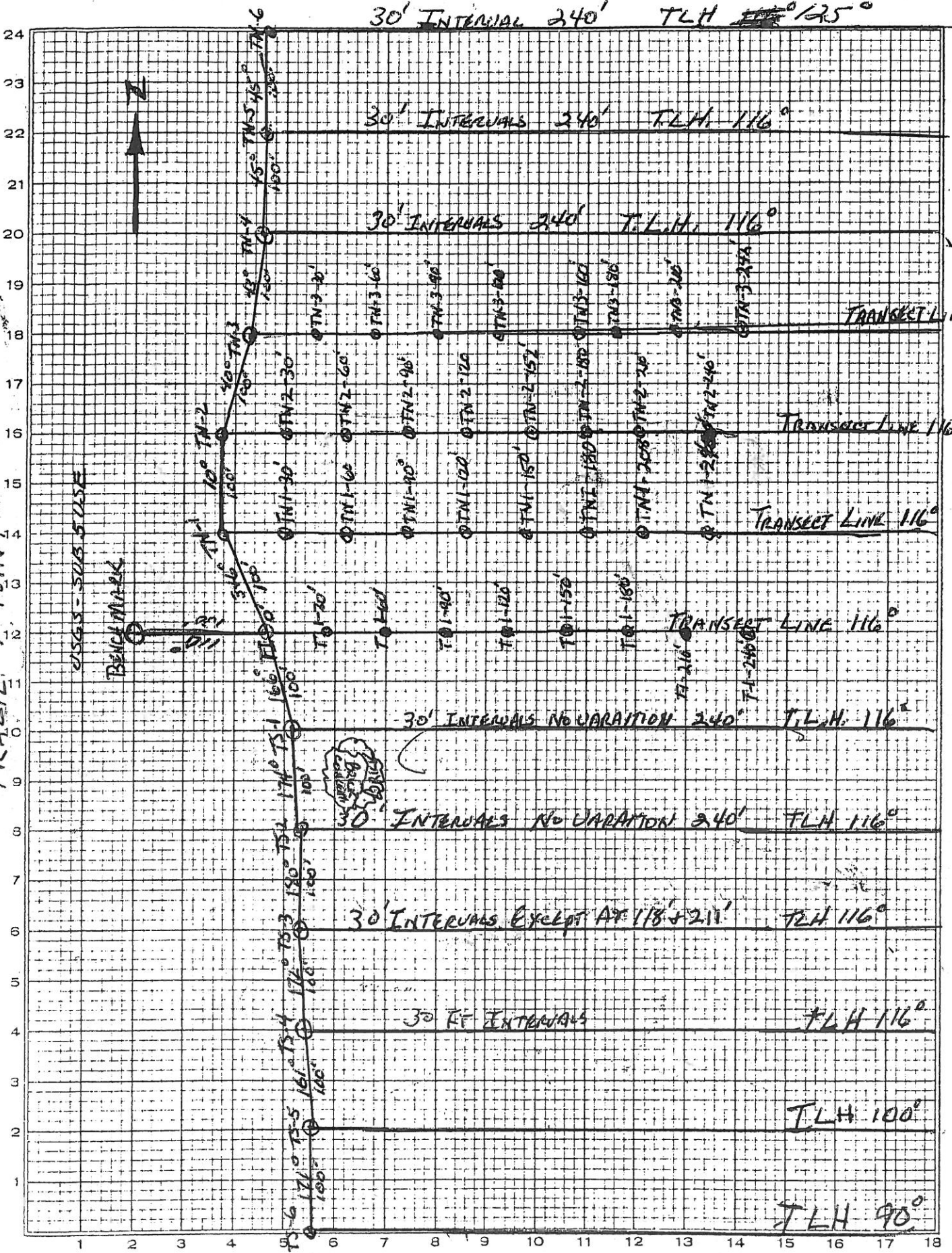
30' INTERVALS NO VARIATION 240' TLH 116°

30' INTERVALS EXCEPT AT 118' + 211' TLH 116°

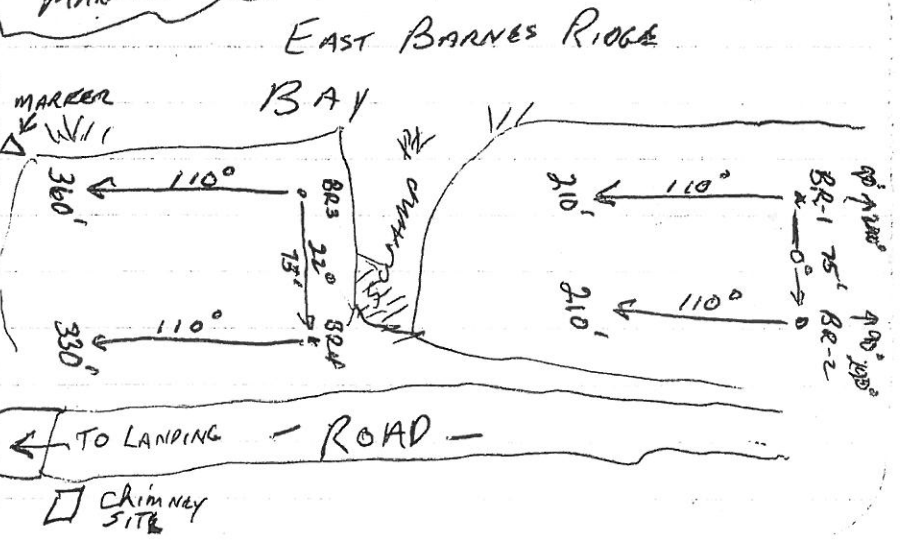
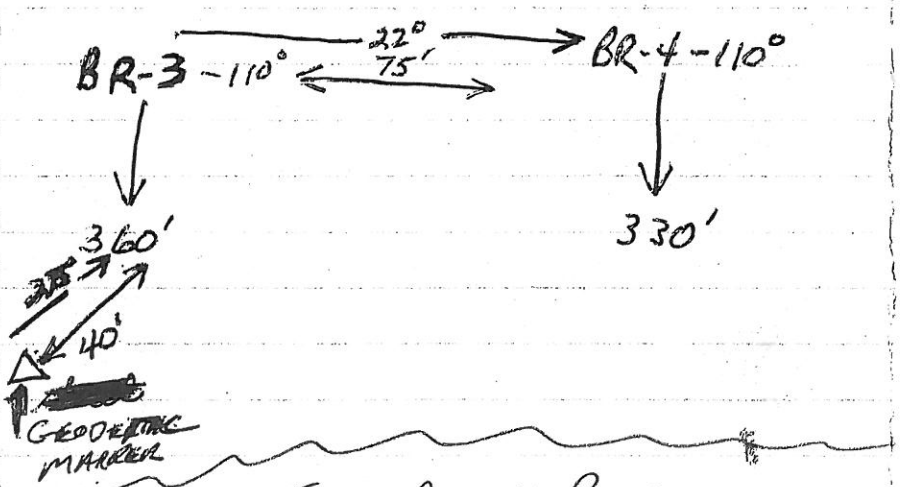
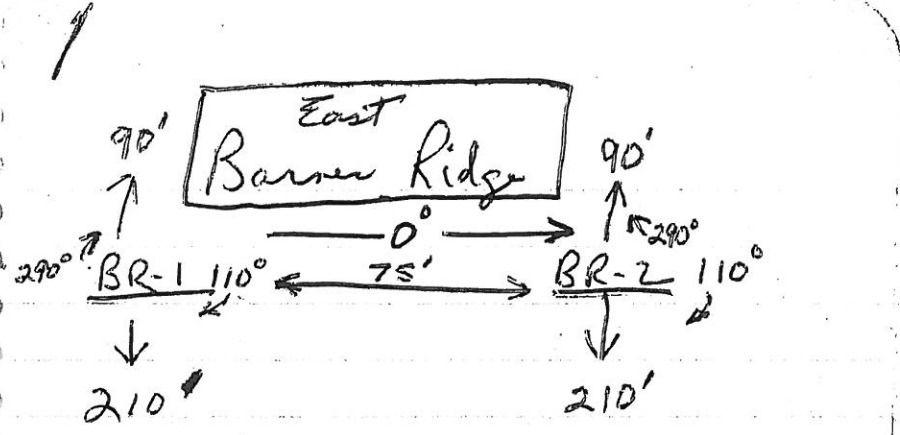
30' AT INTERVALS TLH 116°

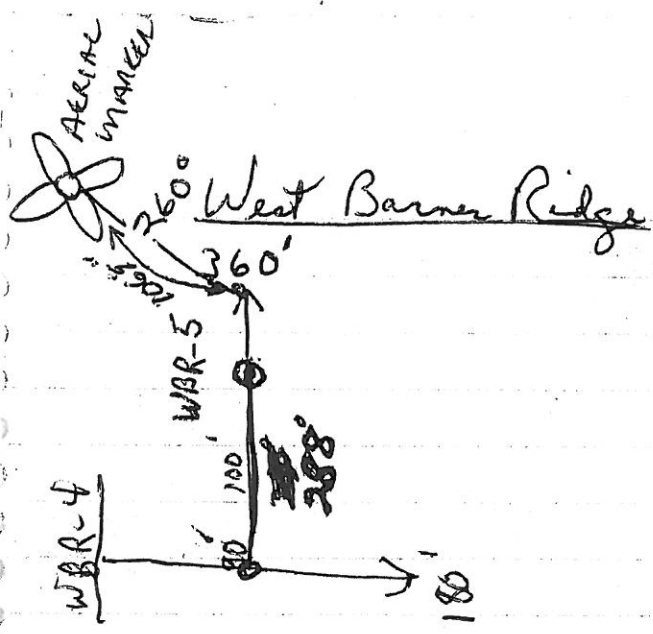
TLH 100°

TLH 90°



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18





WBR-3  
 ↓  
 150'  
 swamp

WBR-2  
 ↓  
 180'  
 swamp

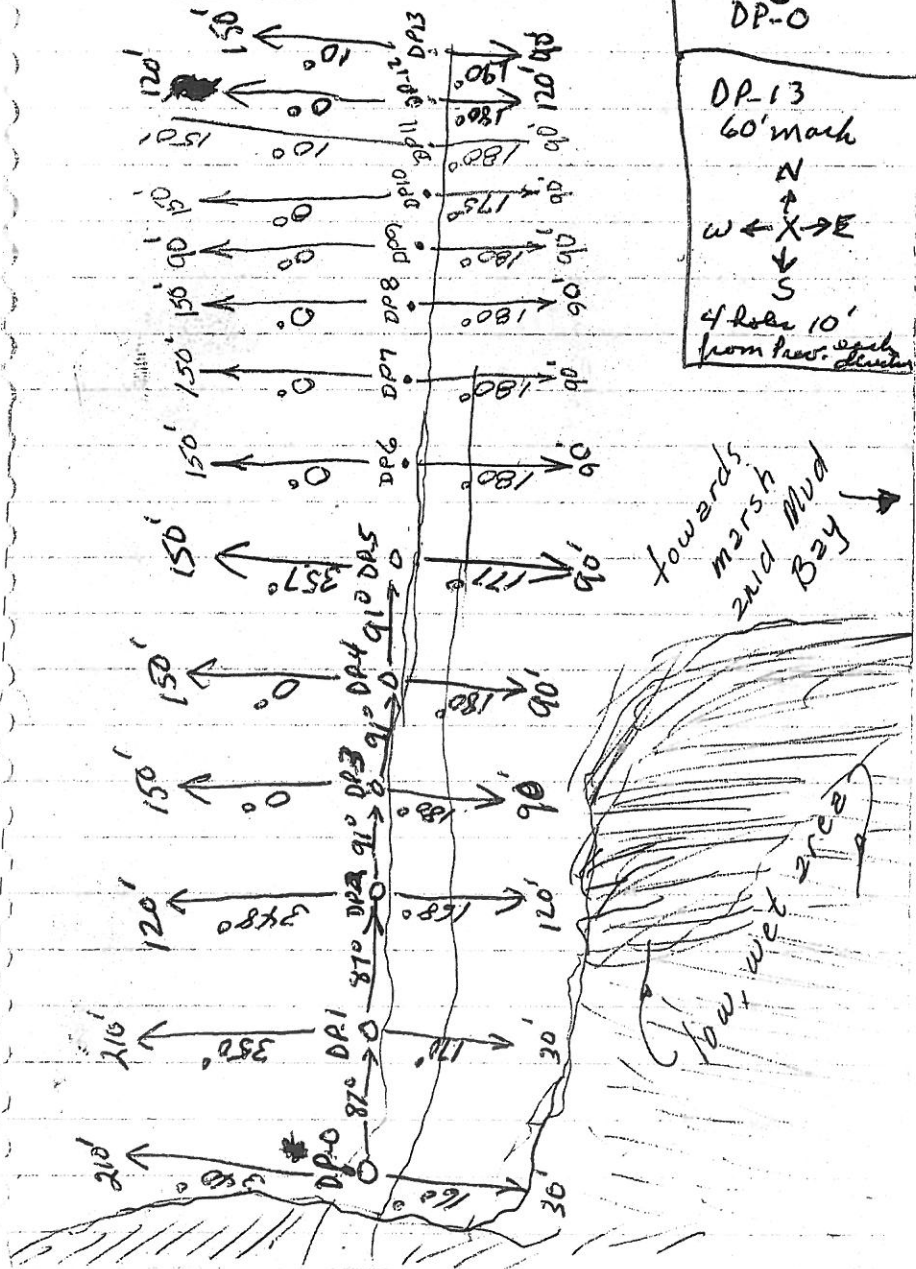
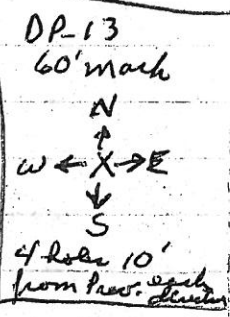
WBR-1  
 ↓  
 240'

WBR-0  
 ↓  
 240'

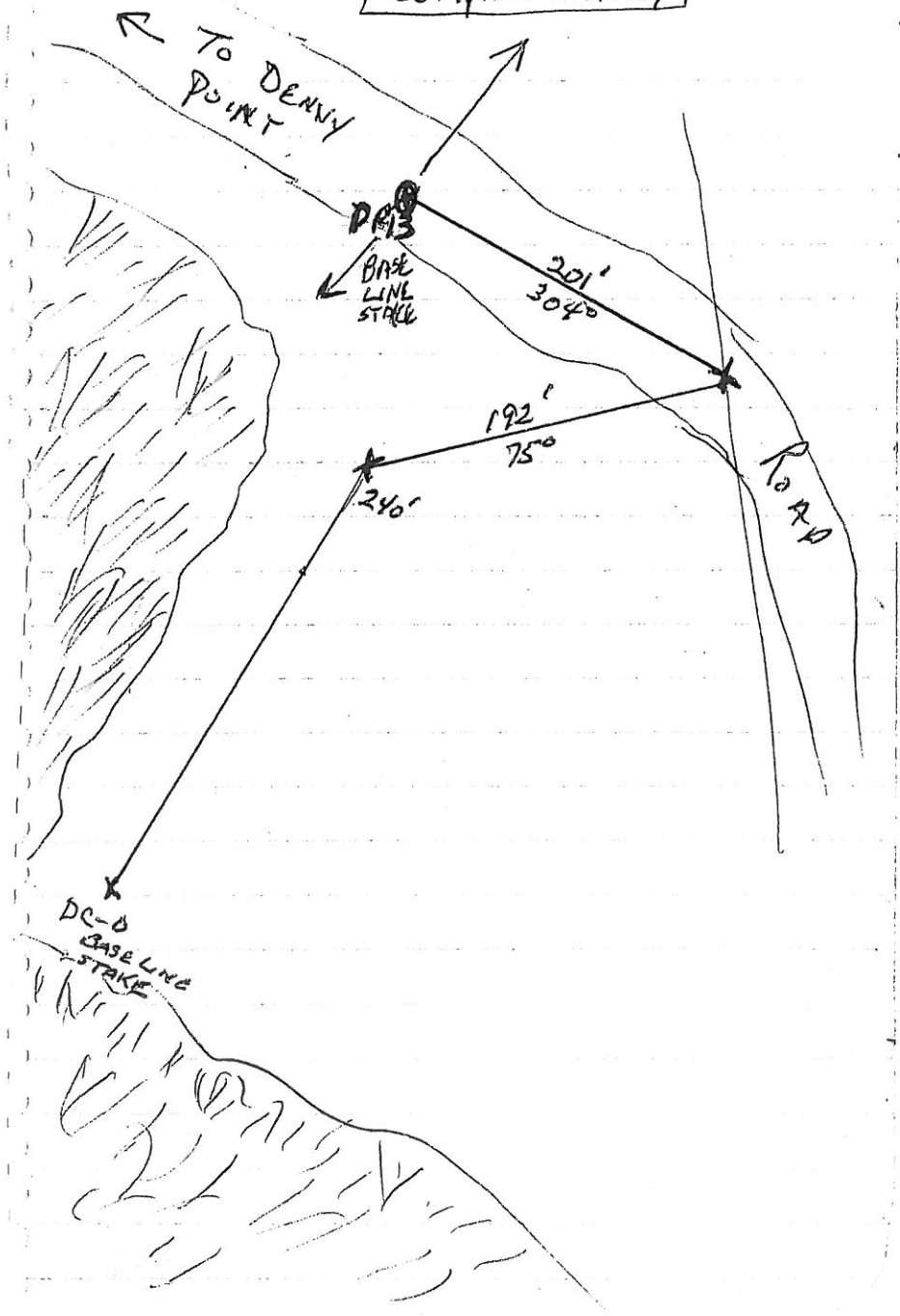


# Denny Point

CONCRETE MARKER AT  
END OF ROAD USED AS A  
PERMANENT DATUM



~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ DENNY POINT TO DENNY CORN,  
[ COMPASS SURVEY ]





Denny Corner Tied INTO  
 DENNY POINT SURVEY - SEE  
 NEXT SHEET FOR THE IN  
 INFORMATION

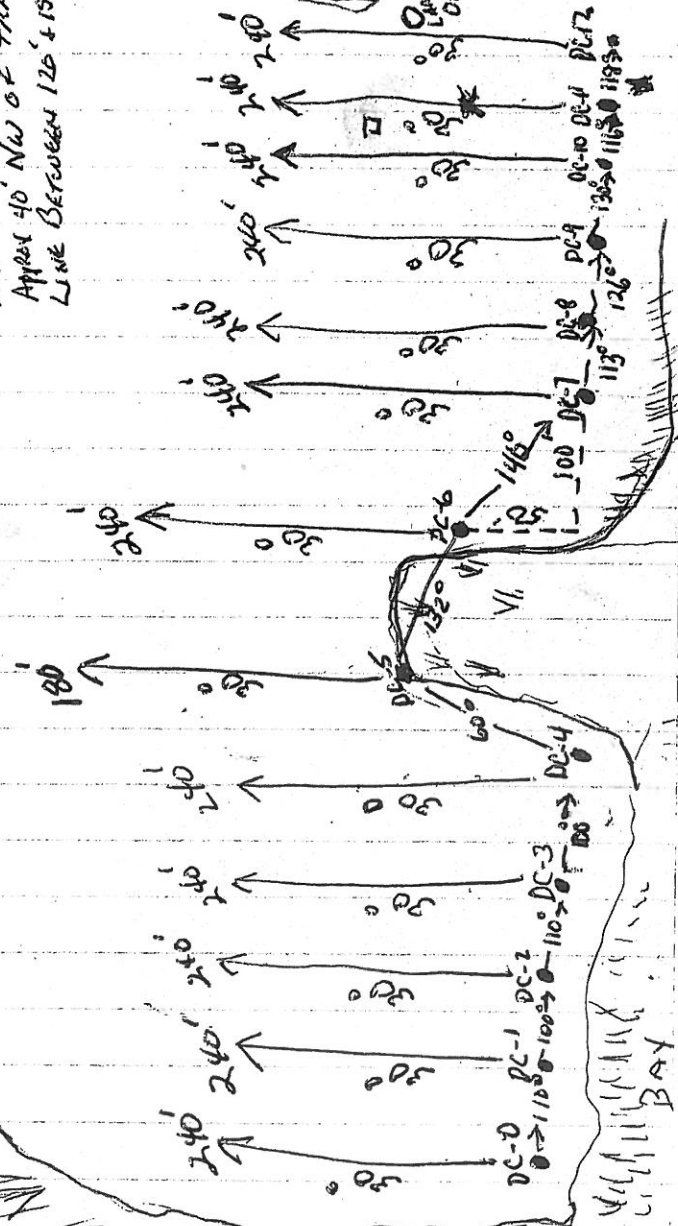
\* BRICK CONE.  
 AT DC-11 BETWEEN  
 60 & 90'. ALSO AT  
 BASE LINE CHIMNEY  
 □ FALLEN CHIMNEY  
 APPROX 40' NW OF TRANSECT  
 LINE BETWEEN 125 & 150'

Denny's Corner

Sheet 1/16 (CONT.)

TO POINT ROAD

WILLIAMS BAY



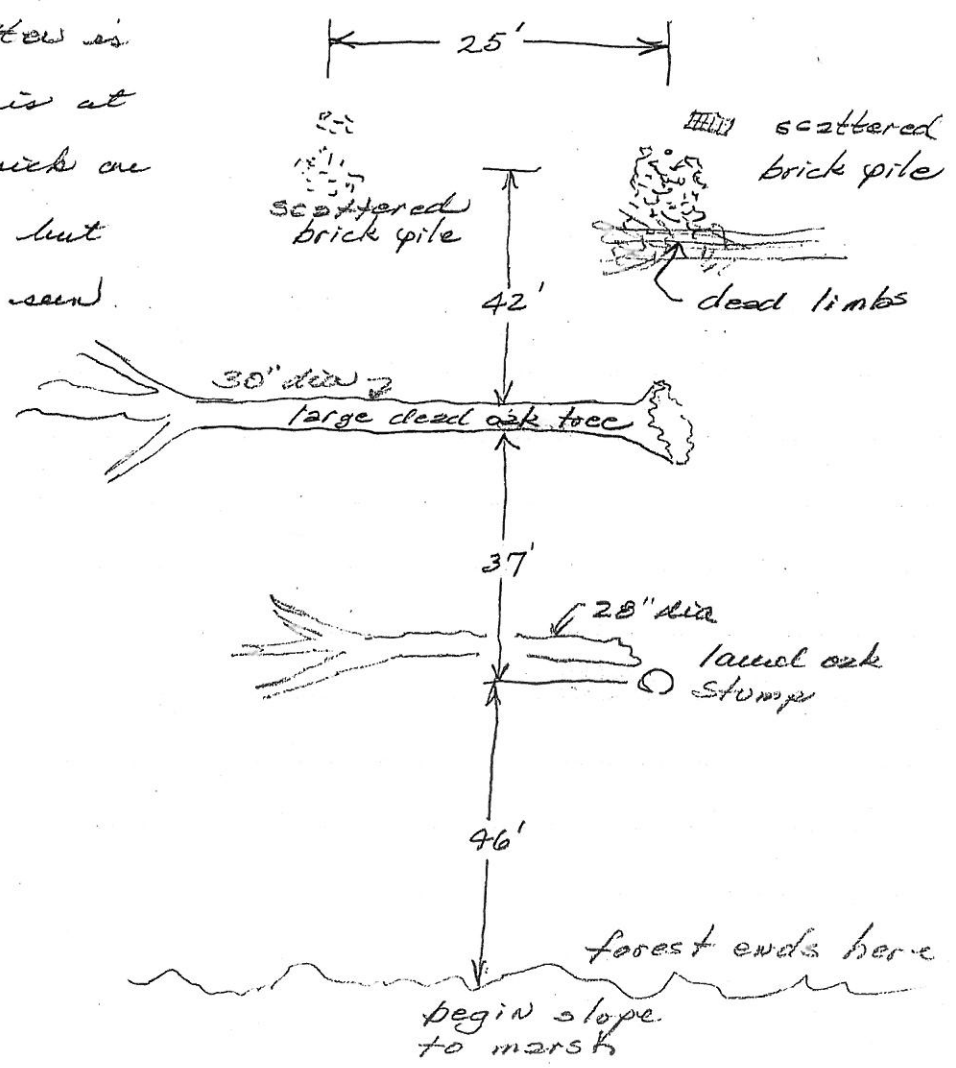


42  
 37  
 79  
 11  
 125  
 79  
 46

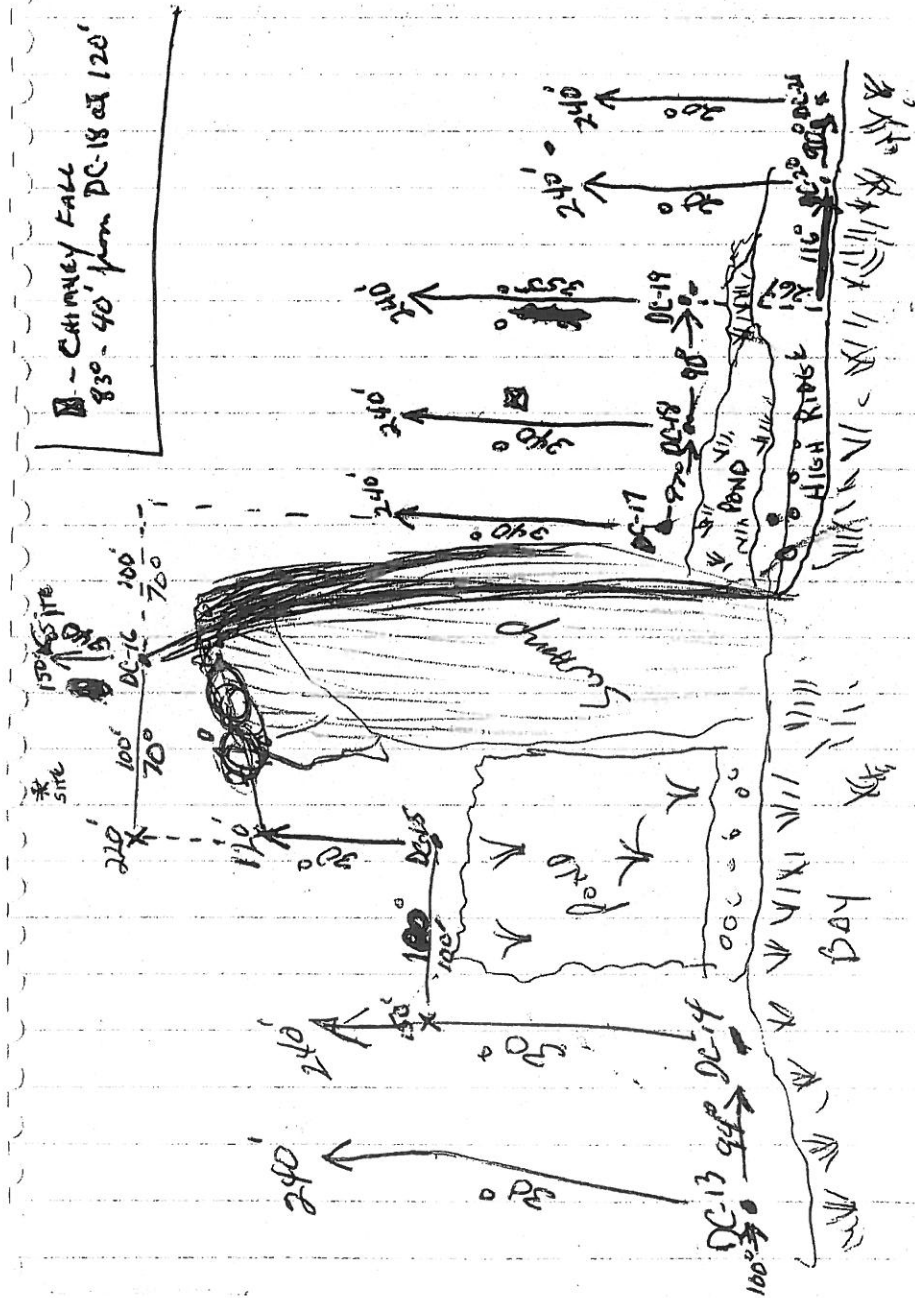
DEAD OAKS HOUSE SITE  
 DENNY'S CORNER AREA

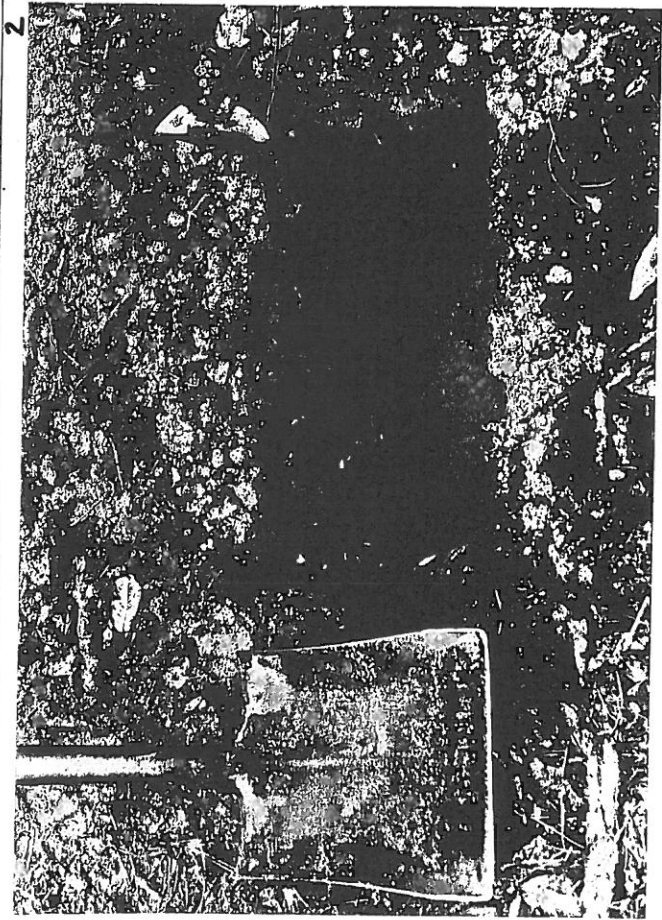


Brick piles aligned east/west. Scatter is unknown, but is at least 6'-8'. Bricks are mostly buried but some are easily seen in leaves.

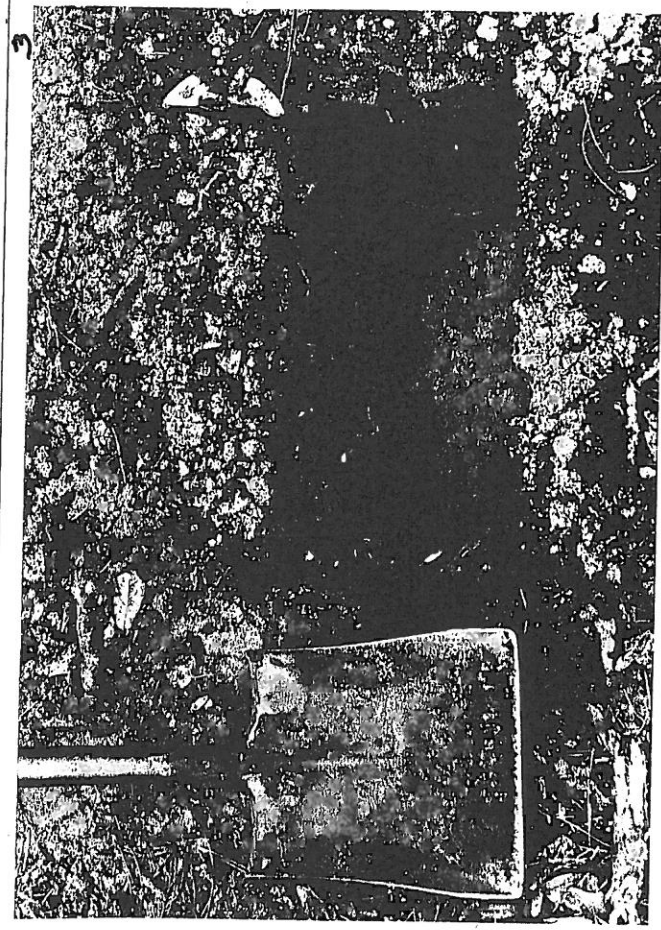


# Denny Corner (cont.)

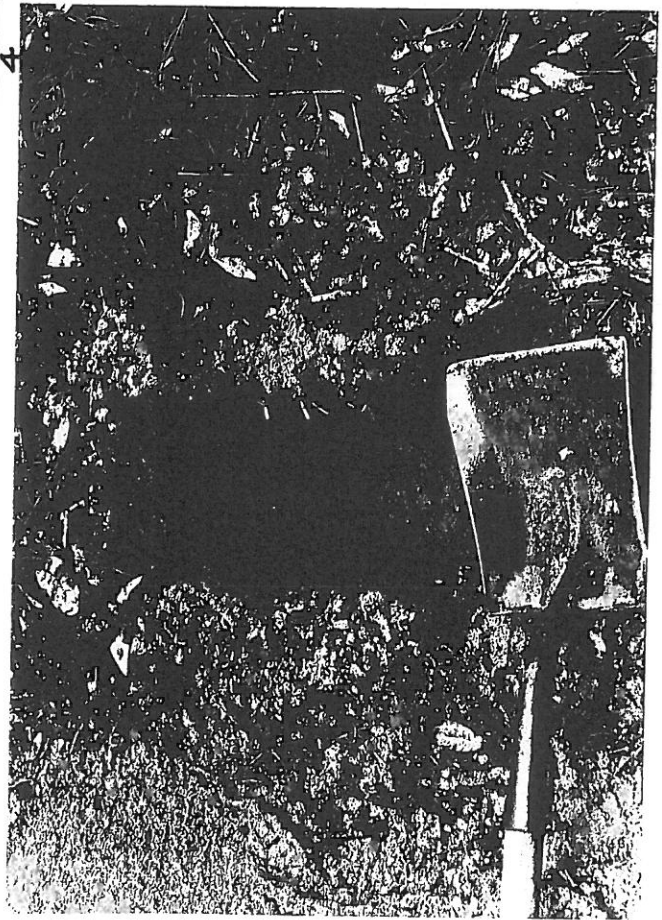




*Test Unit at Denny's Corner*



*Test Unit at Denny's Corner*

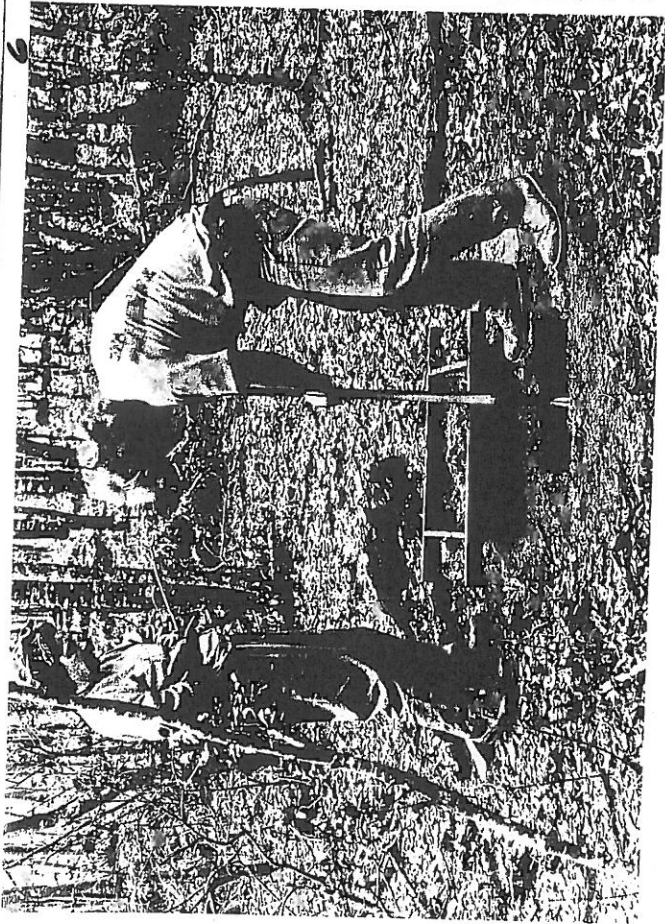


*Test Unit at Denny's Corner*



*Suzanne and Jamie Potterbaum*

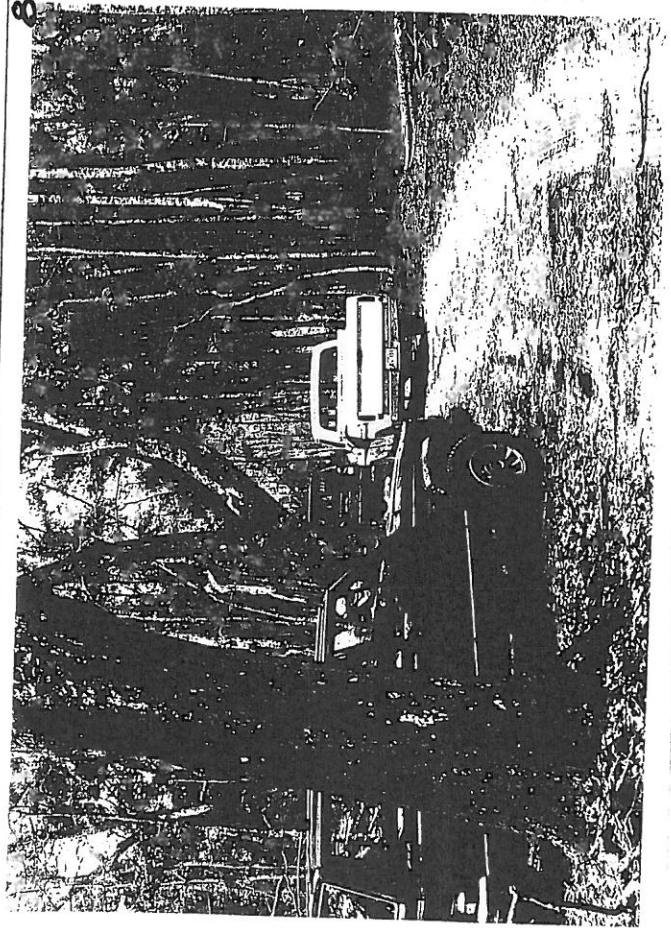




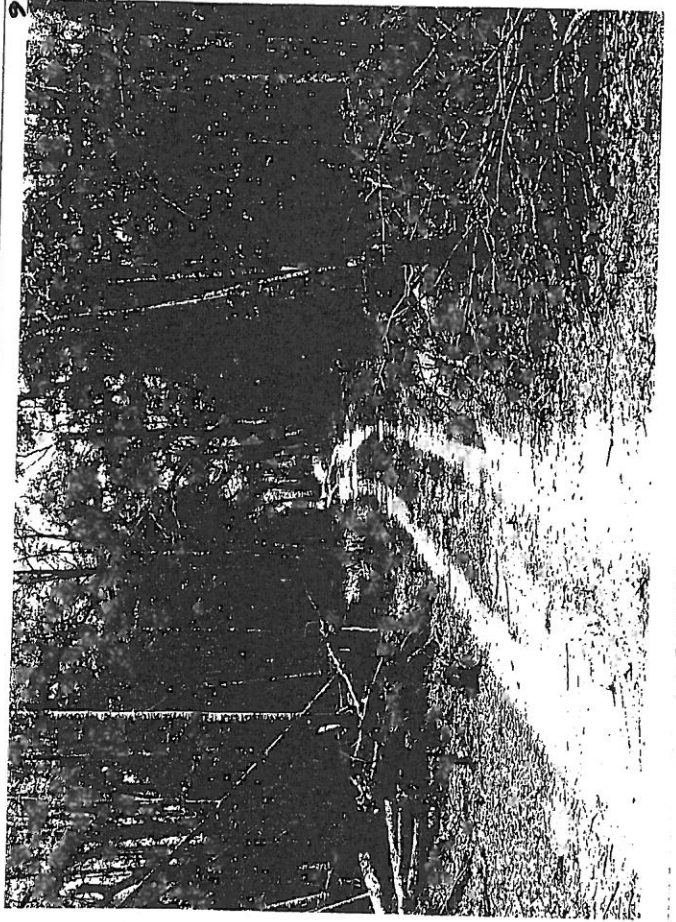
*Carol McCawless and Eric Eason*



*Carol McCawless and Eric Eason*

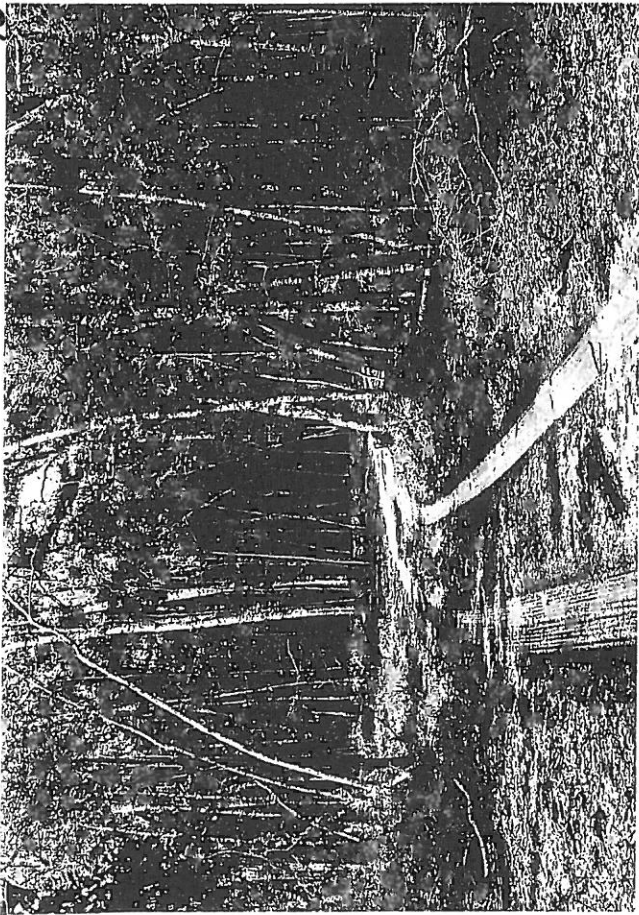


*Vicinity of Denny's Corner*



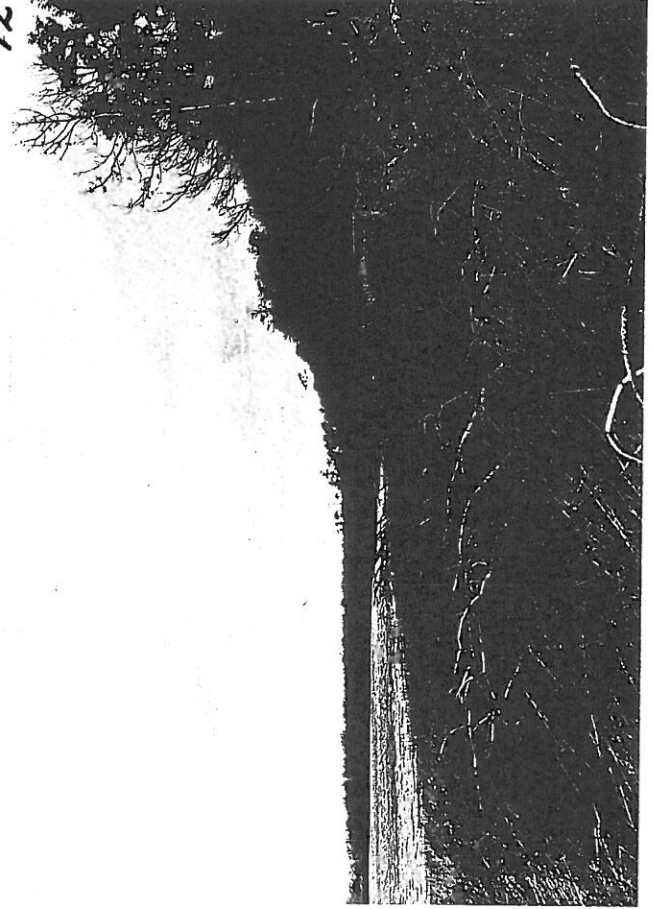
*Environment of Denny's Corner*

10



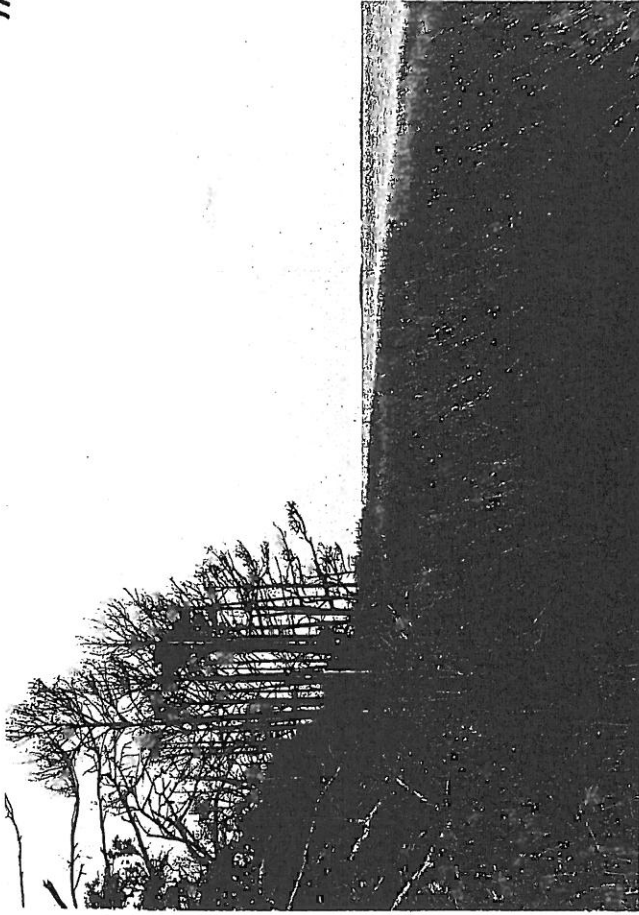
Environment at Denny's Corner

12



Denny's Corner and Winyah Bay, looking west

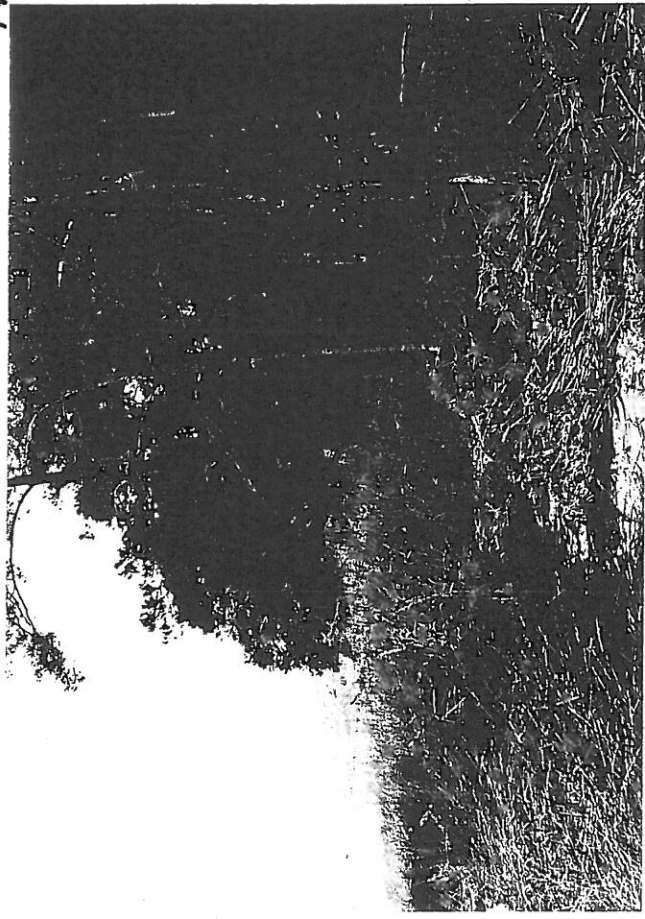
11



Denny's Corner and Winyah Bay, looking east

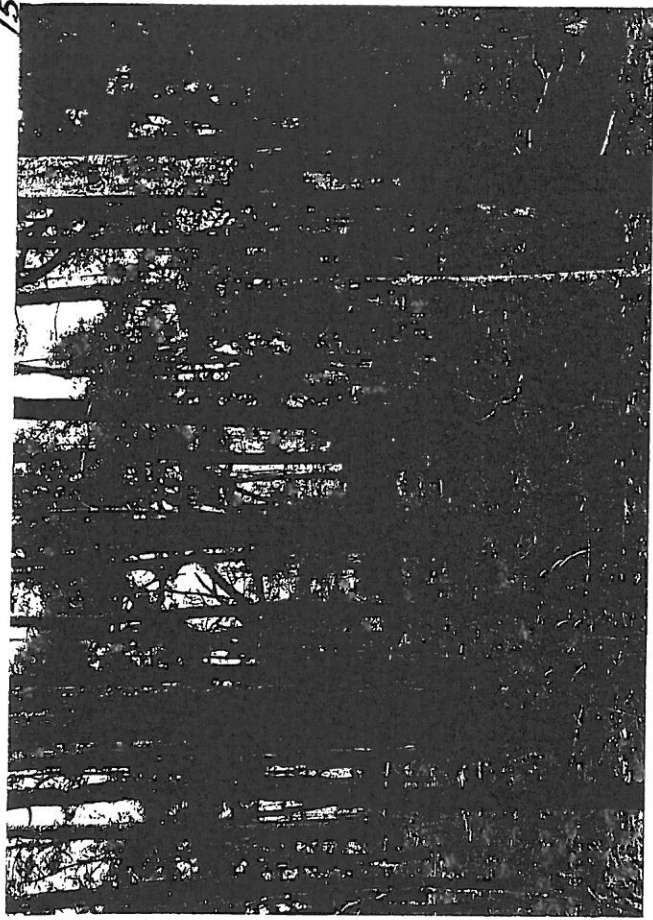


14



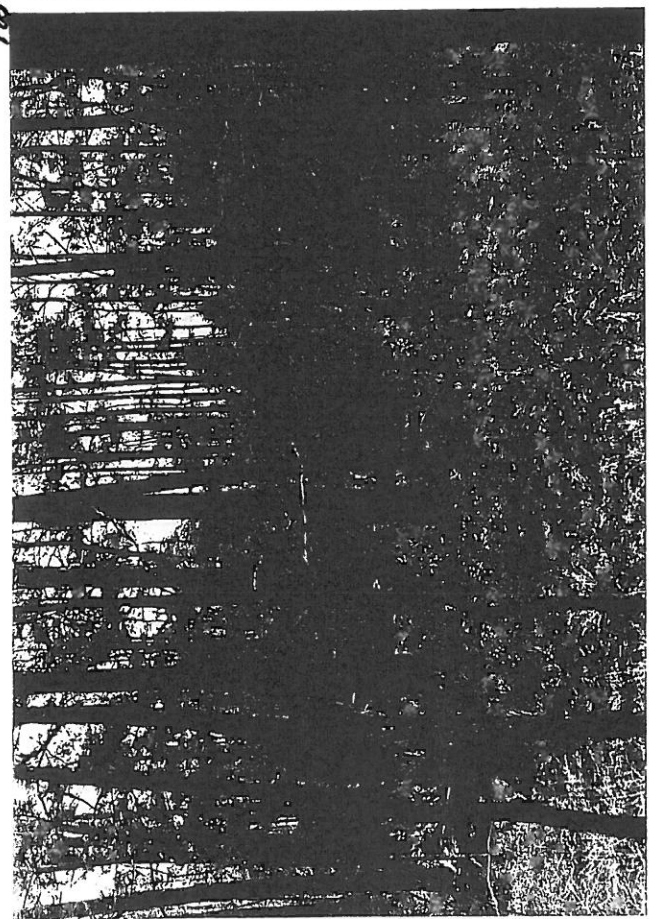
Rock Road beach looking north

15



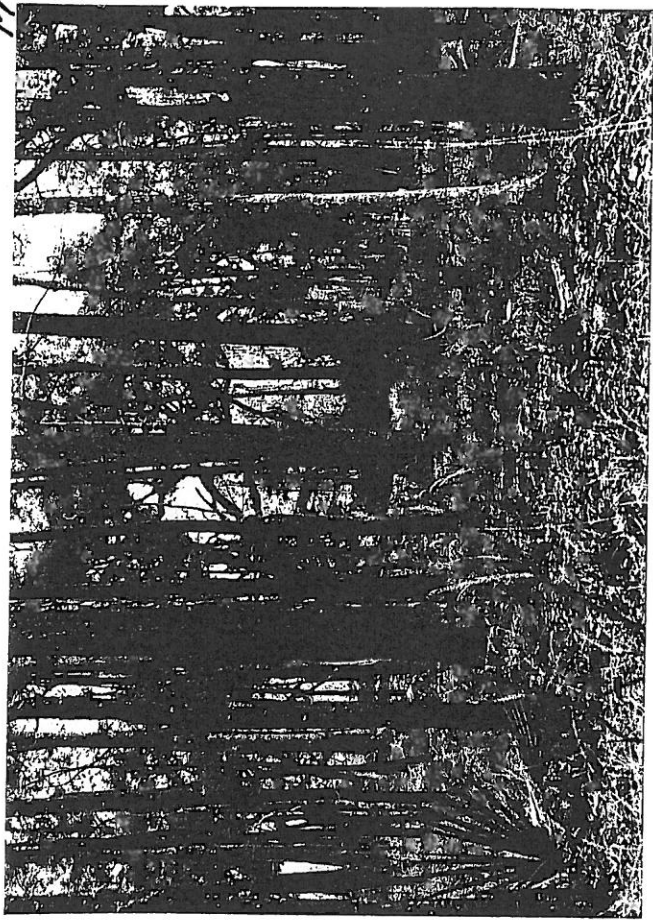
Rock Road forest

16

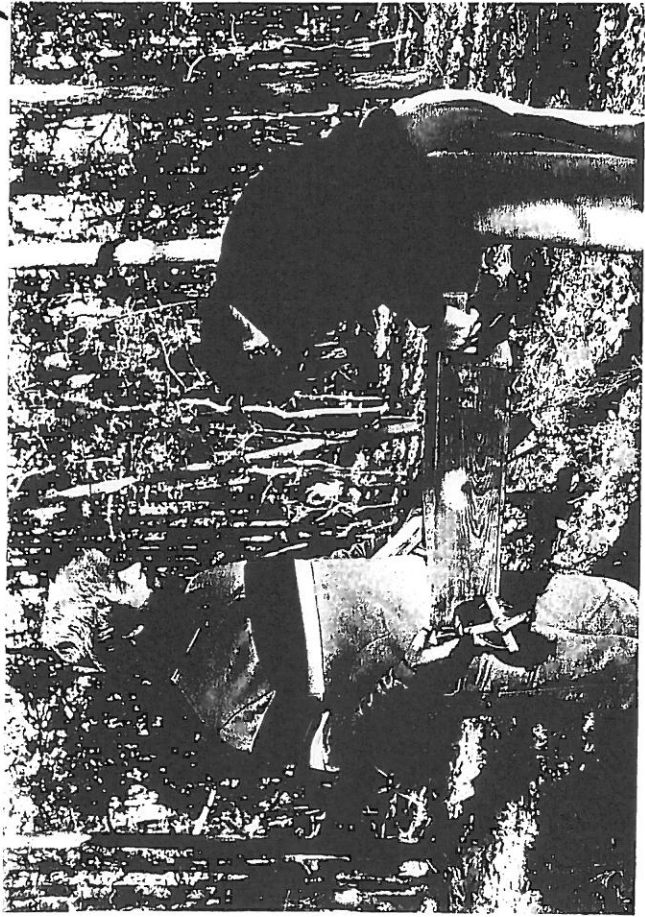


Rock Road forest

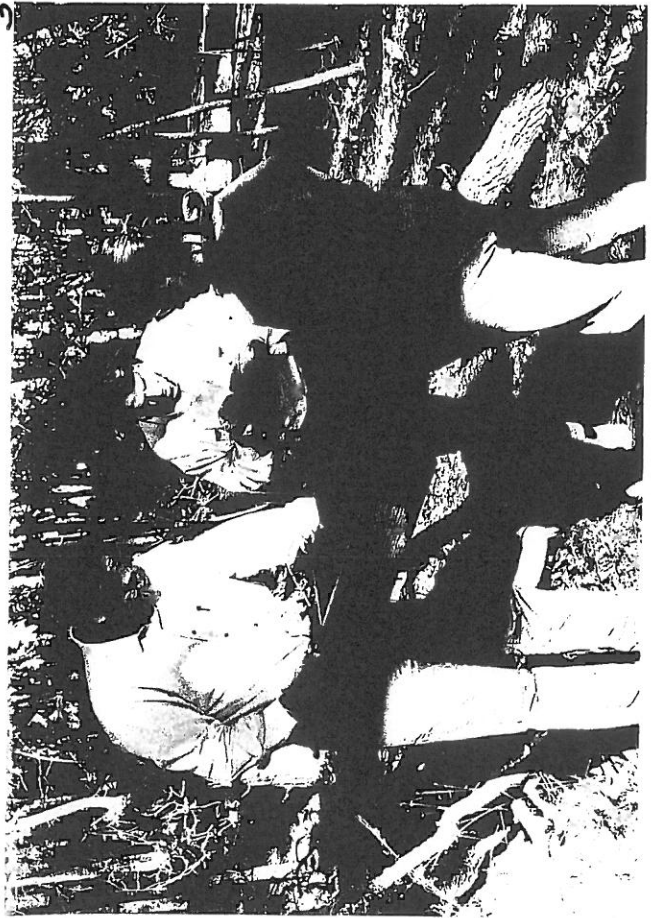
17



Rock Road Forest



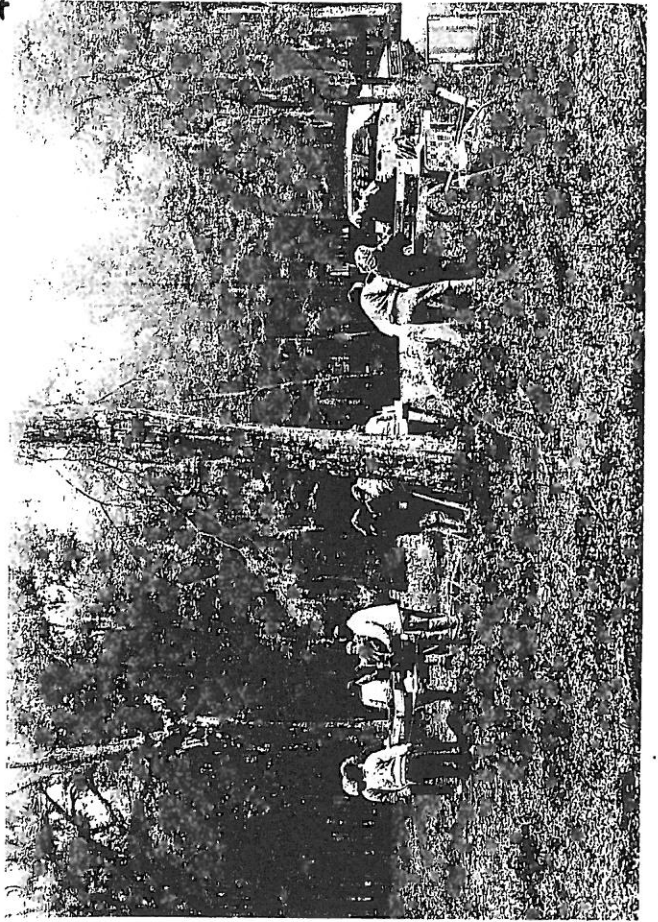
Eric Eason and Tony Campbell



Joe Easley, Jamie Potterbaum, Tony Campbell

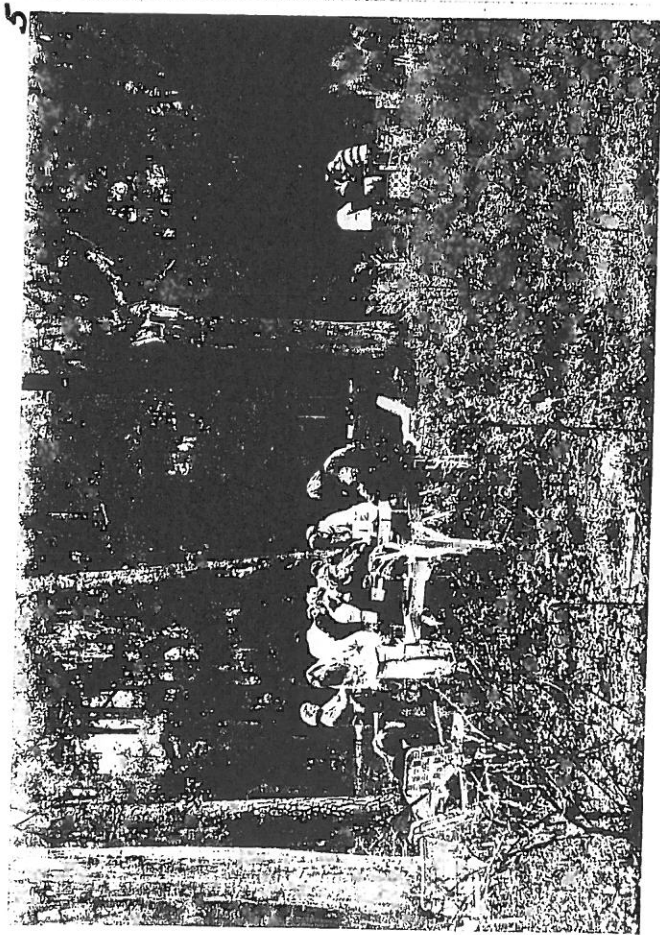


Joe Easley, Tony Campbell, and Jamie Potterbaum

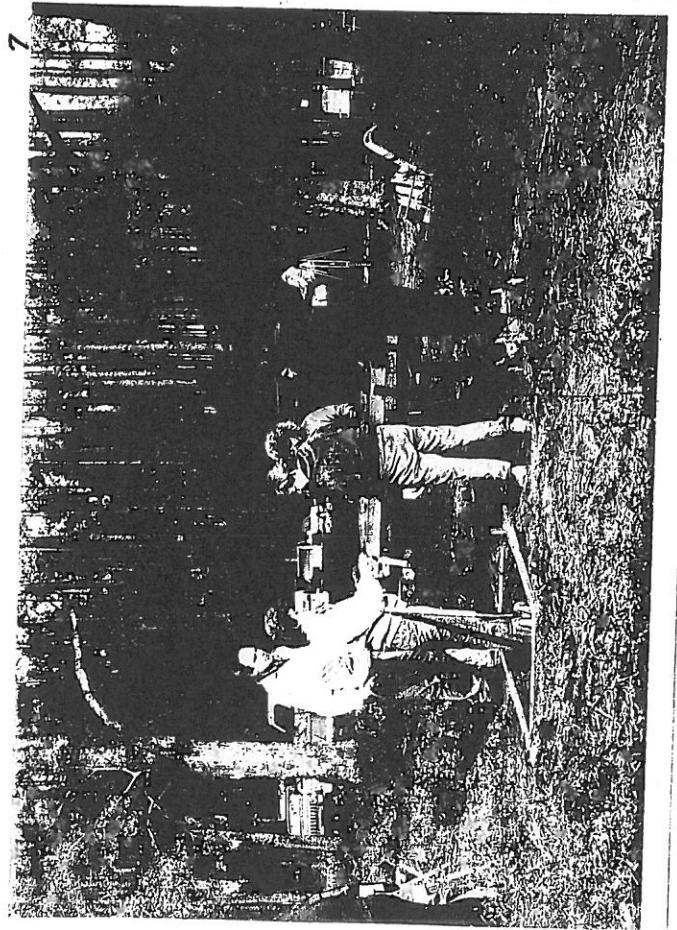


Field School - Richmond Hill - 1990

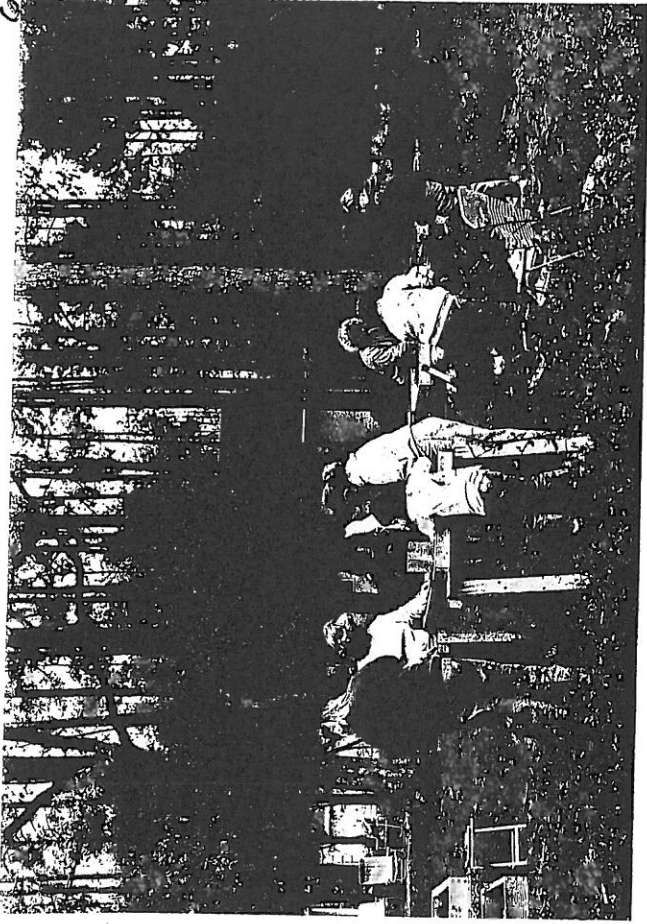




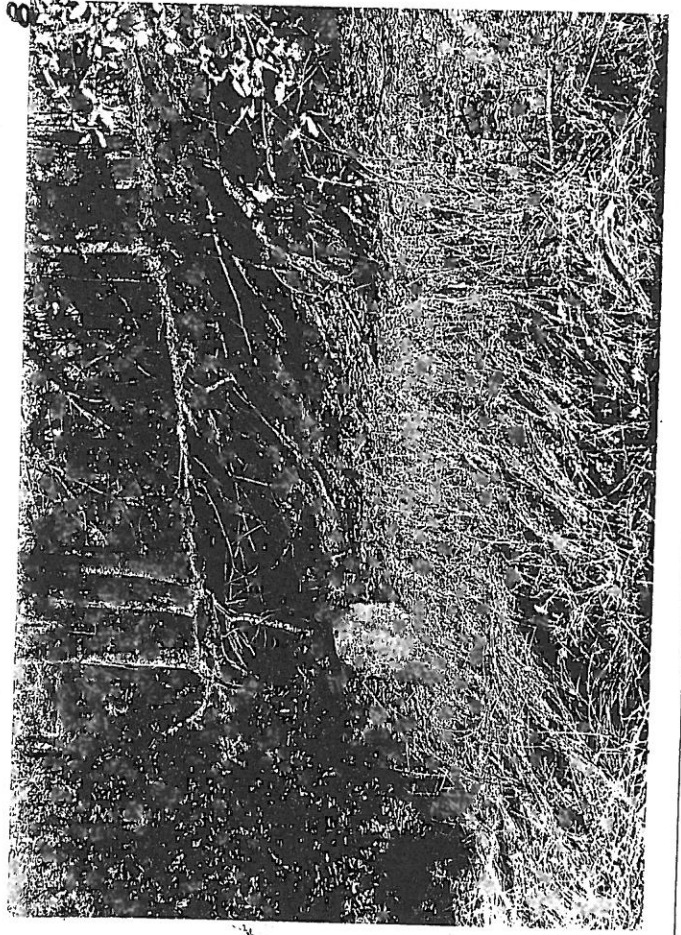
Field School - Richmond Hill - 1990



Field School - Richmond Hill - 1990



Field School - Richmond Hill - 1990



Eroding bluff at Frazier's Point

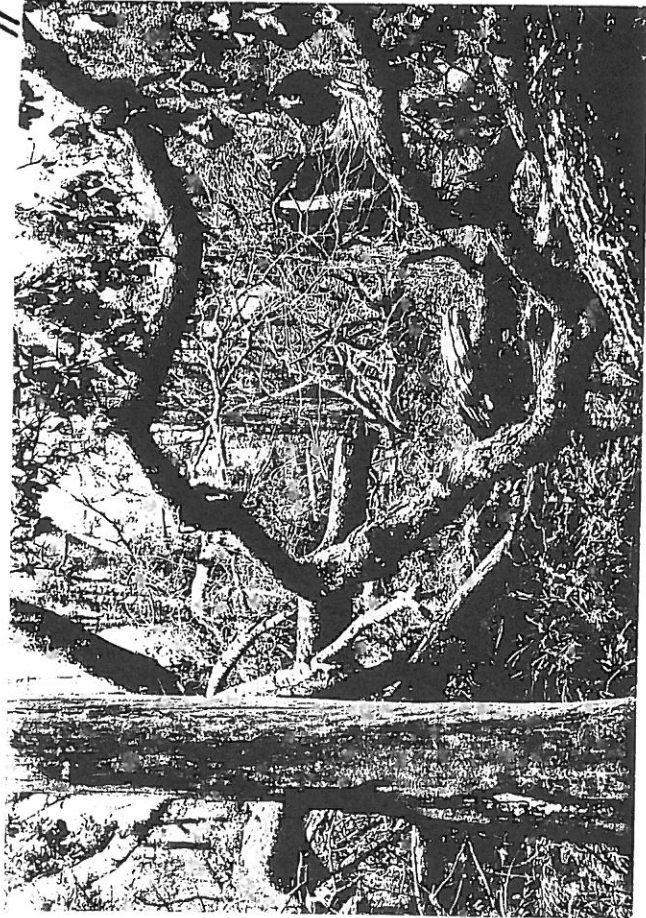


9



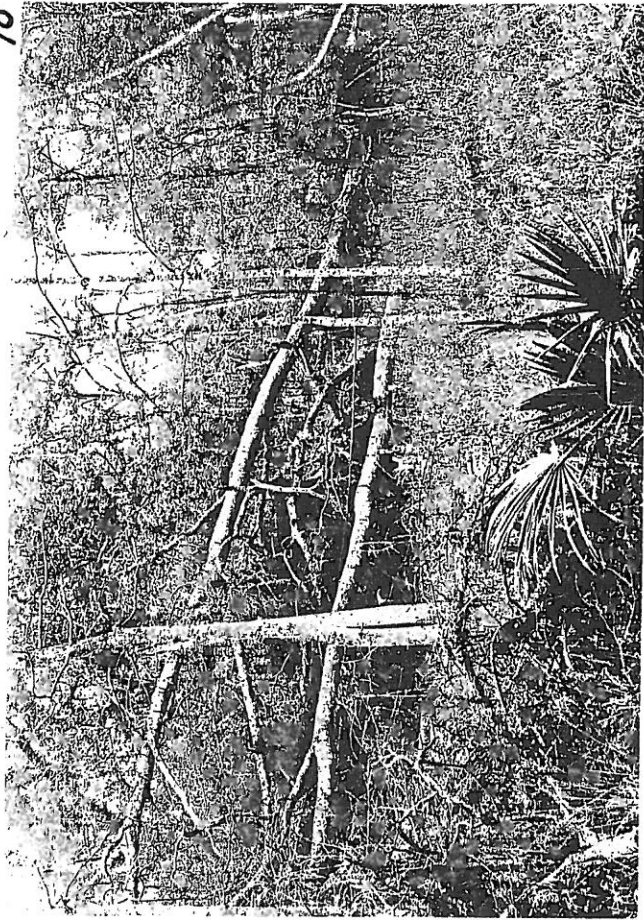
*Beach at Frazier's Point*

11



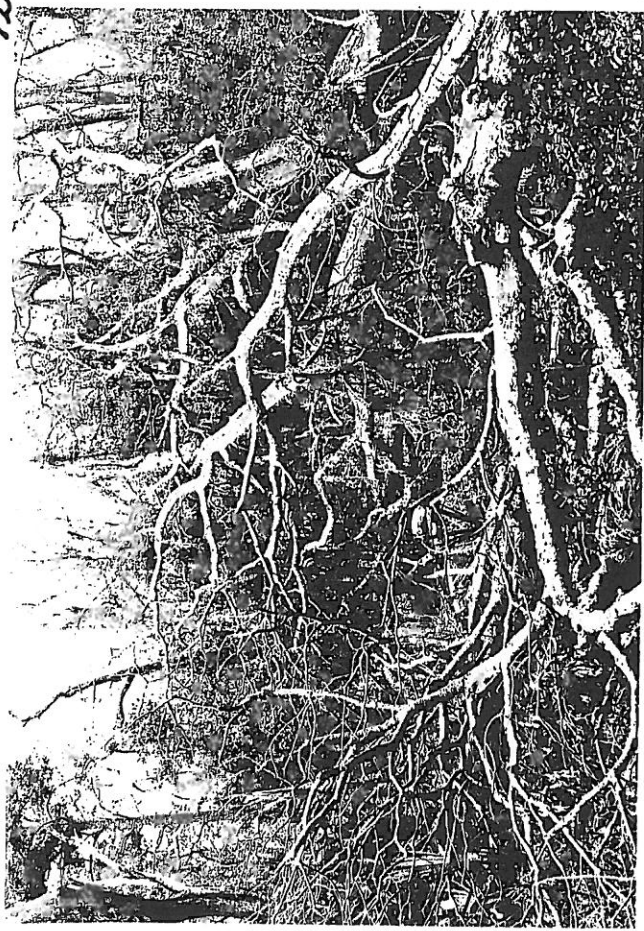
*Hurricane Hugo damage - Frazier's Point*

10



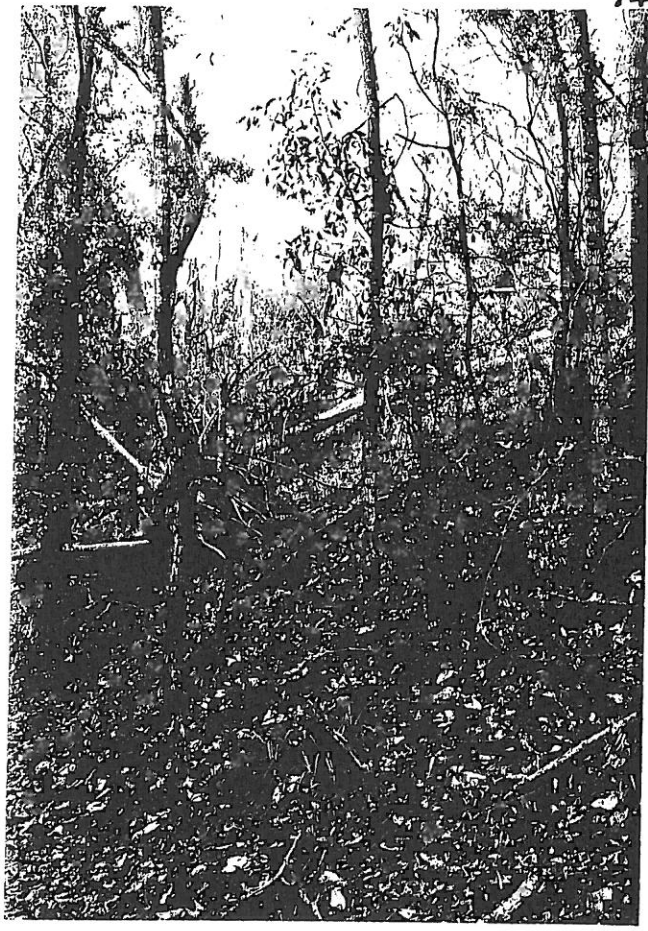
*Hurricane Hugo trees at Frazier's Point*

12



*Hurricane Hugo damage at Frazier's Point*

14



Hill south of Frazier's Point

16



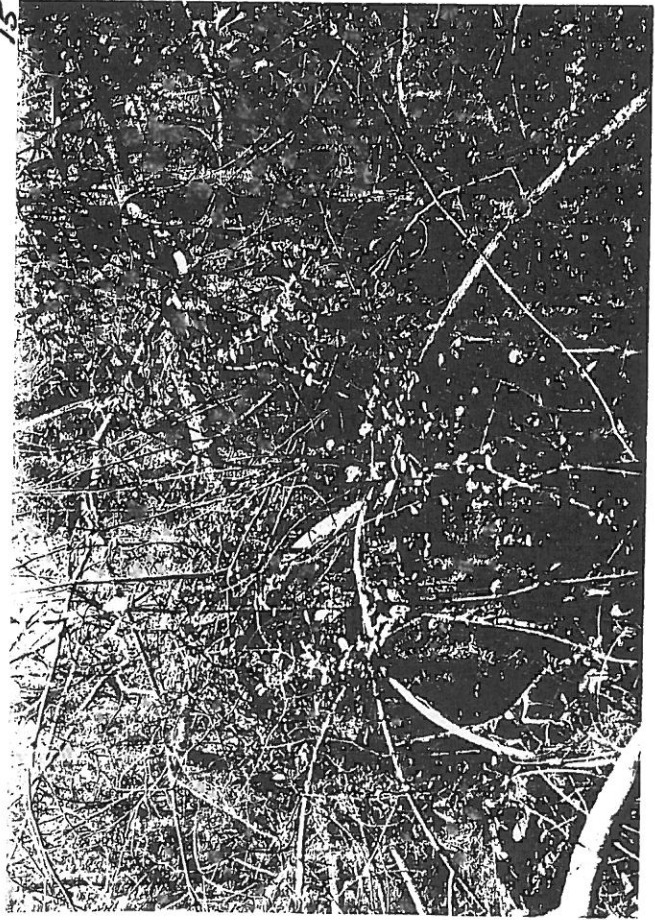
Hill overlooking Winyah Bay - South of Frazier's Point

13



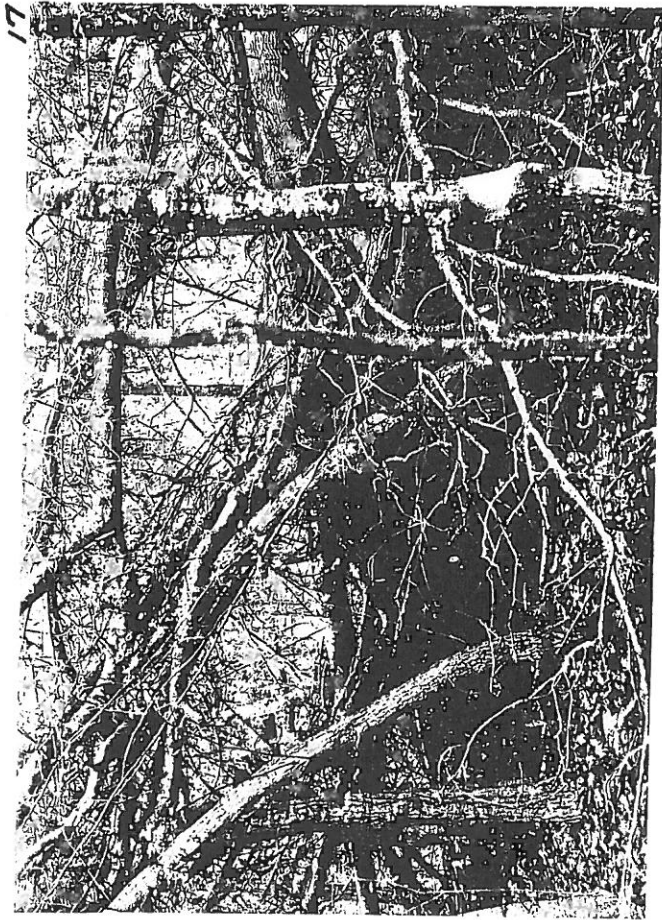
Hill south of Frazier's Point

15

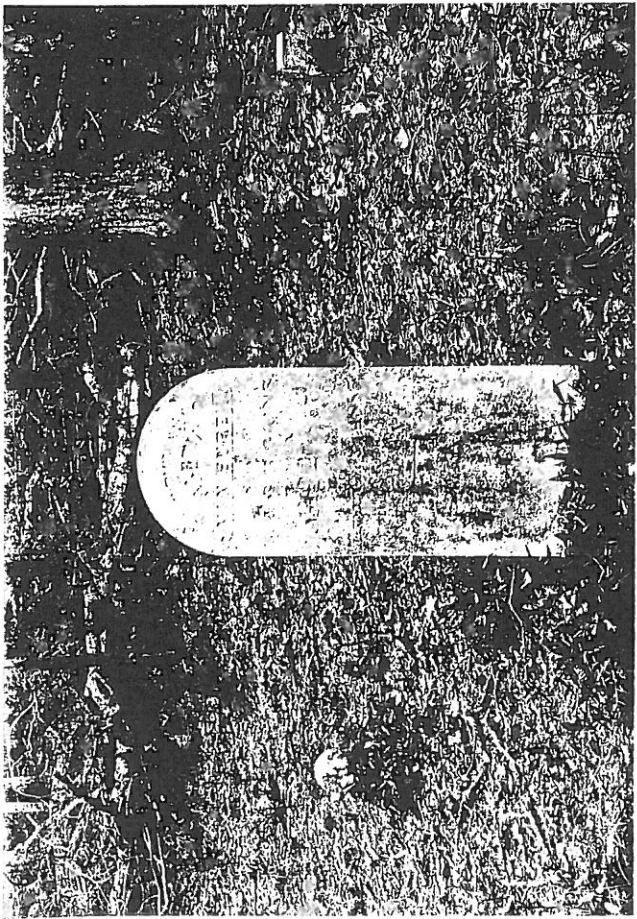


Dense vegetation south of Frazier's Point

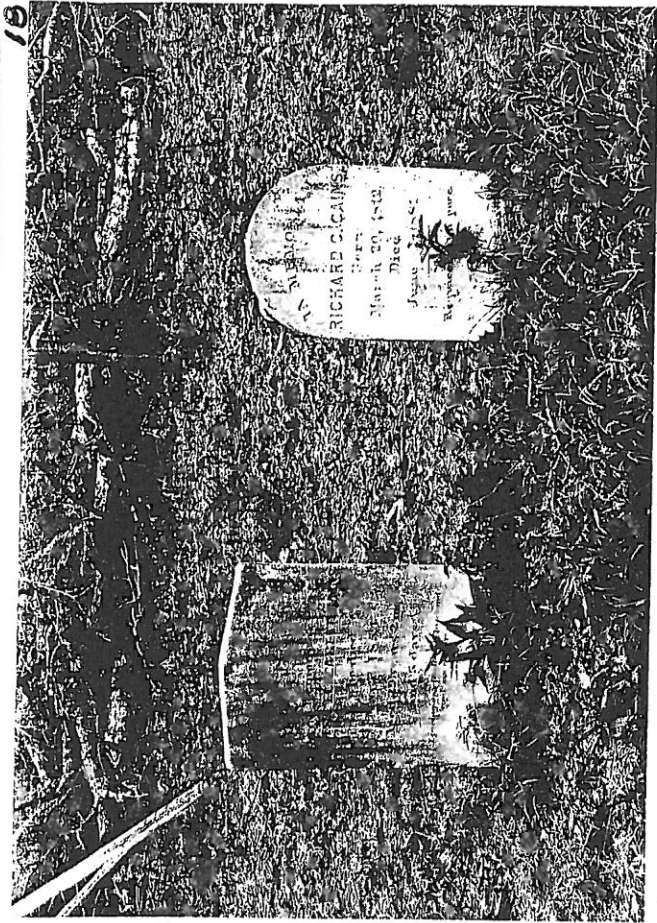




*Hurricane Hugo trees at Frazier's Point*



*Graveyard at Frazier's Point*

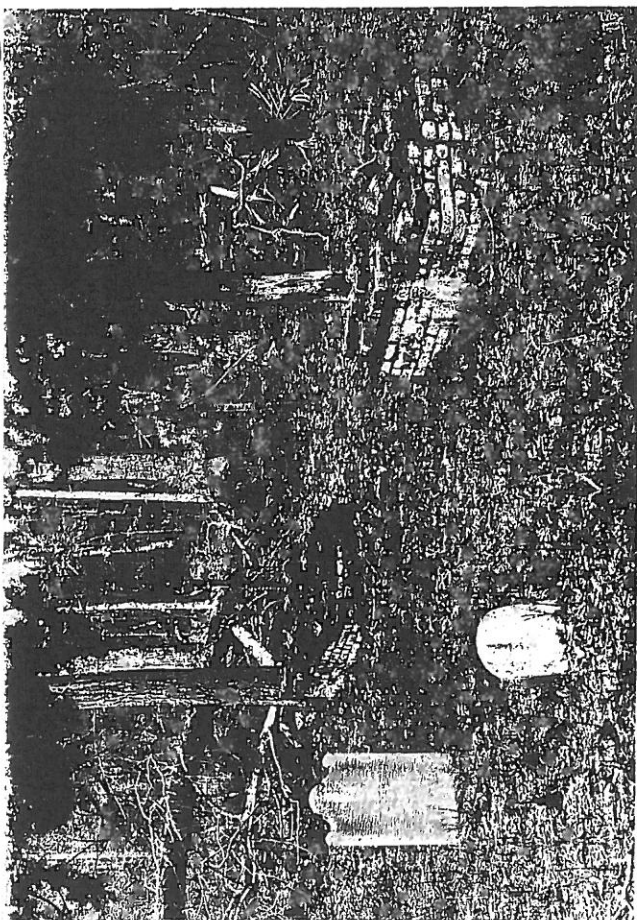


*Graveyard at Frazier's Point*



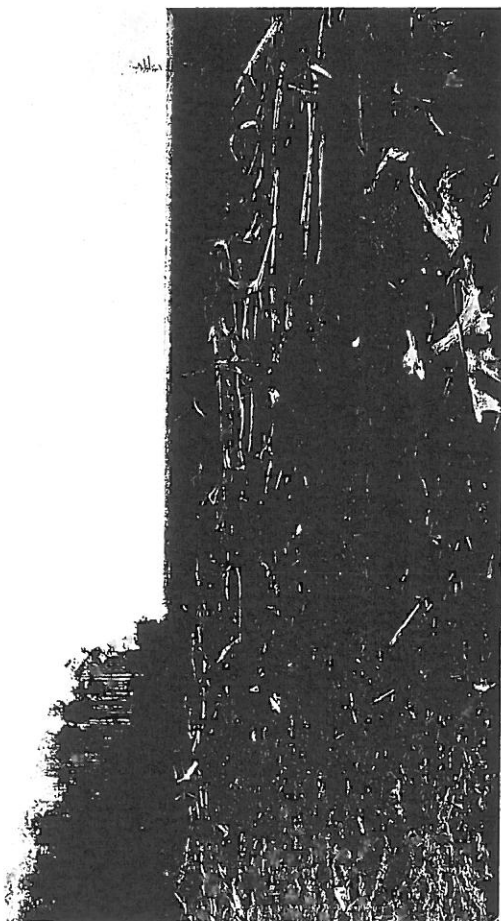
*Graveyard at Frazier's Point*

21



Graveyard at Prozier's Point

23



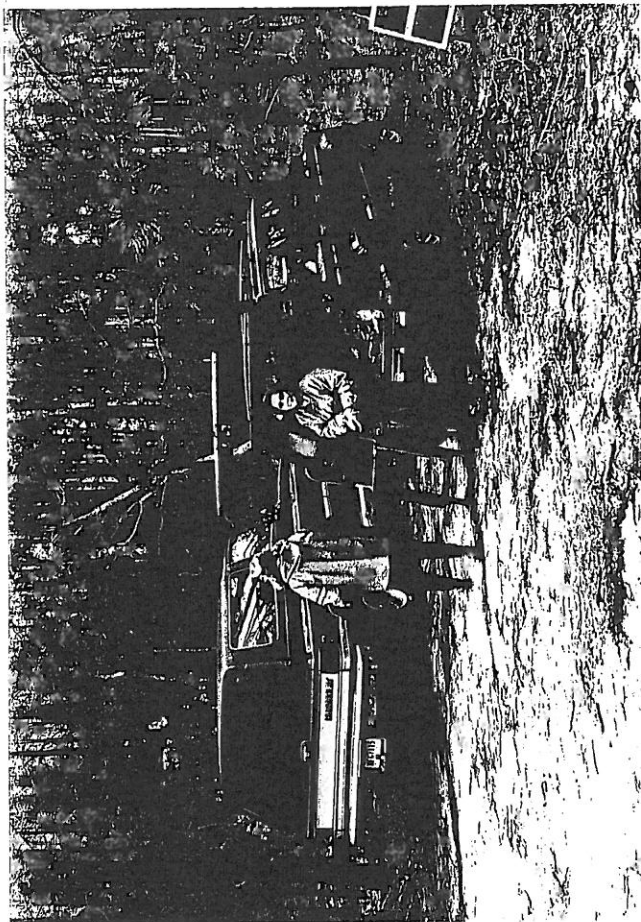
Denny's Point looking towards the east

22



Denny's Point looking towards the east

24



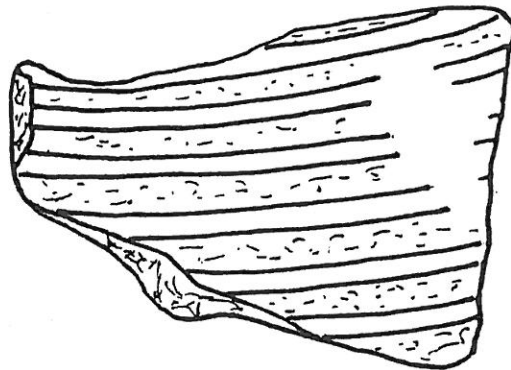
Suzanne & Carol McCasless

APPENDIX

FRASER'S POINT BEACH

CERAMIC SURFACE DECORATIONS

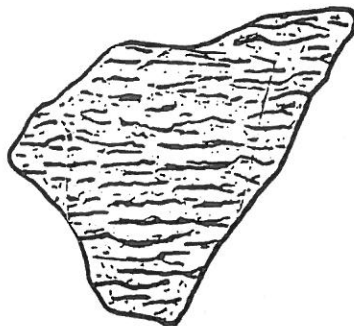




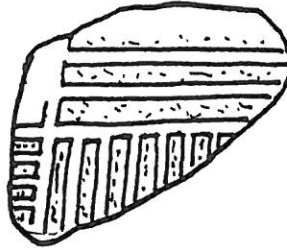
SIMPLE  
STAMPED



CURVILINEAR  
COMPLICATED  
STAMPED



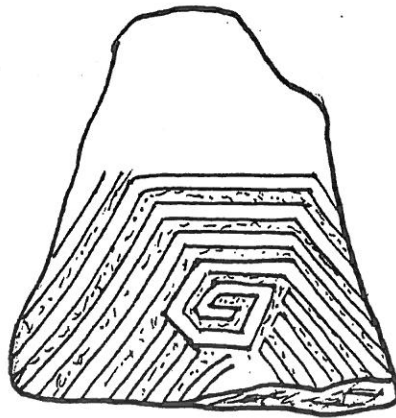
FABRIC  
IMPRESSED



STAMPED  
RECTILINEAR

C

FPB 0-100' N



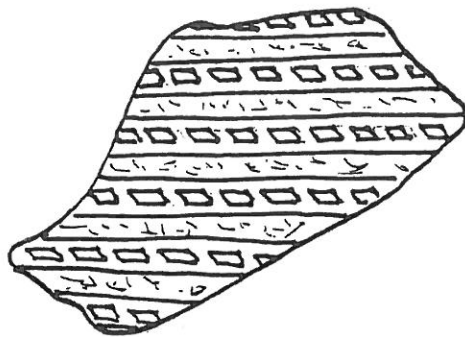
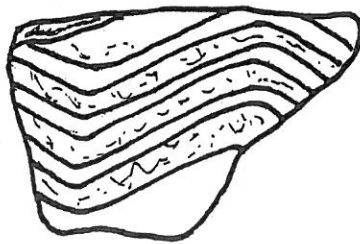
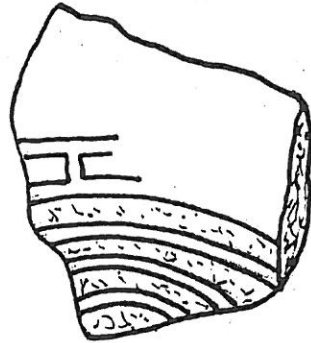
COMPLICATED  
STAMPED

FPB 400-500' N



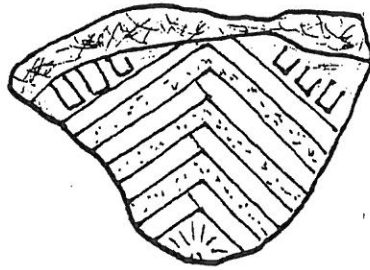
STAMPED

FPB 500-600' N

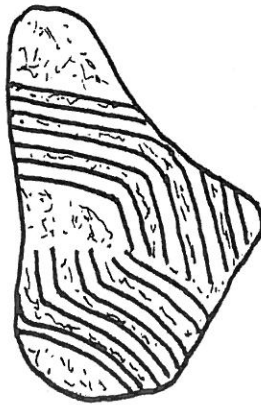


LINEAR  
CHECK  
STAMPED

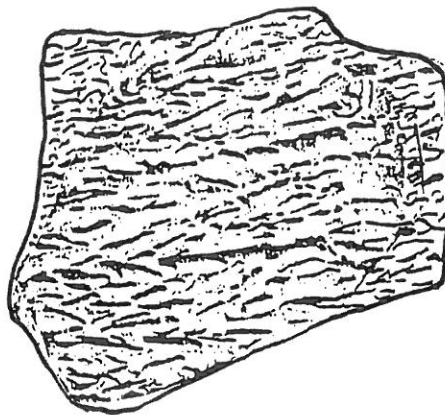




FPB 500-600' N

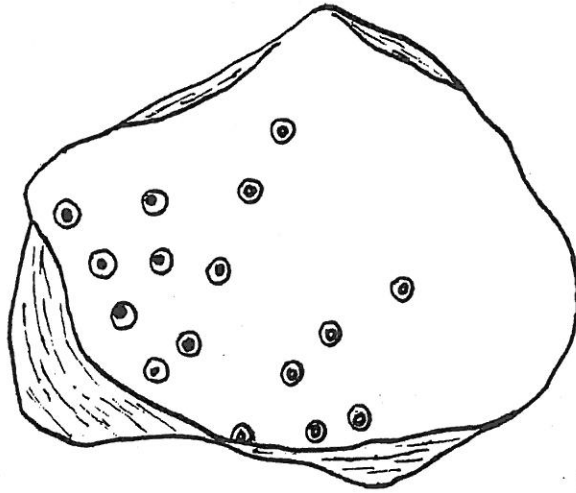


FPB 300-400'



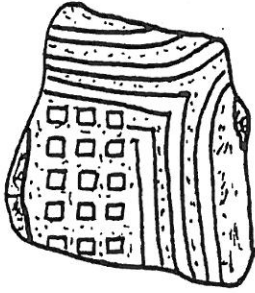
CORD  
MARKED

FPB 100-200'



VESSEL INTERIOR  
WITH REED  
PUNCTATIONS  
(UNDECORATED  
EXTERIOR)

FPB 0-100'



FP TN4-120'

February 8, 1991

Mrs. Patricia Doyle  
Georgetown County Historical Society  
528 Front Street  
Georgetown, SC 29440

Dear Pat,

Enclosed is the press release statement that you and I had discussed. Please read it over and see if it sounds appropriate.

Ever since I read Quattlebaum's book some fifteen years ago, I wanted to be the person to lead the search for San Miguel de Gualdape. My wish came true in November, thanks to your leadership and perception. Even though we did not find the site, I am very proud of our attempt and the fine group of dedicated people who worked with us - the Baruch staff, my devoted field crew, and the many volunteers.

I see this not as a failure, but as an active part of the scientific process of hypotheses testing. We also stirred the interest of the public and created good will between organizations and brought archaeology out from behind its cloak of mystery. These good things will last for a long time.

Of course I feel the same sentiment of disappointment that the rest of us feel and at times I find little consolation in the rejection of a hypothesis. Nevertheless, I am happy to have worked with you and Charles and the others that made this dream a reality. And while I know that you feel the same disappointment, remember that you are the only person who took an active role in leadership and made this search possible. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,

James L. Michie  
Associate Director

## NEWS RELEASE

### Results of the Search for San Miguel de Gualdape

After nine weeks of searching the western shore of Winyah Bay, located southeast of Georgetown, South Carolina, the archaeological effort to find the settlement of San Miguel de Gualdape has ended. San Miguel was the first attempt to establish a settlement in what is now the United States of America.

Initiated in 1526 by Lucas Vazquez de Ayllon with about 500 men, women, and children, which included black slaves and Dominican friars, the expedition set sail from Hispaniola and landed at the River Jordan. This location is thought to have been the Cape Fear River in North Carolina. Dissatisfied with the location, Ayllon moved his colony southward and settled, possibly, on the western shore of what is now Winyah Bay.

The exact location of the settlement is unknown, but Paul Quattlebaum, author of *The Land called Chicora*, deduced from Spanish documents that the settlement was located on Winyah Bay. Despite an extensive search by James L. Michie, archaeologist with USC - Coastal Carolina College, and a team of assistants and volunteers, evidence of the settlement could not be found. Sponsored by the Georgetown County Historical Society, the effort to find the site covered nearly two and half miles of land overlooking Winyah Bay.

Although the Spanish site was not found, the search disclosed the location of numerous prehistoric native American sites and several 18th and 19th century house sites and antebellum plantations now hidden in the soil of forests. The evidence from prehistoric pottery and stone tools indicates about 9,000 years of sporadic occupation. Even though the efforts to find the Spanish site were not successful, the project generated a wealth of information about Georgetown County's rich heritage.

Low Tide Beach sweeps

at 1 P.M., we started sweeps.

0-100 we found four ballast stones  
2 bricks. One piece dimpled bottom  
of pottery jar.

100-200 - 1 Ballast stone 1 small piece  
pottery

200-300 - 1 Ballast stone. <sup>reeds</sup>

300-400 - " " <sup>reeds</sup>

400-500 - Brick + ballast stone (small)

500-600 - 1 small ballast stone + one brick



cc

TN-1-30'

no artifacts, same soil conditions

---

T-1-0

One pottery shard. Unit depth  
13". Same soil conditions. Unit  
shifted one ft. to the east to  
allow stake to remain.

T-1-30'

Small amount of Ceramium (Indian) & lithic debitage. Very small pieces of charcoal. Depth of unit 15". Yellow sand after 1 1/2" humus covering. Very dry.

T-1-60'

Small pieces of debitage, charcoal & one piece of red pigment source. Depth of unit 14". Same soil conditions as 1-30.

T-1-90'

Under humus about 1 1/2" grayish sand then yellow sand as before. Still very dry. Depth of unit 12". Small pieces of pottery.

T-1-120'

Soil conditions the same. Pottery shards larger than other units. One piece of fired clay. Unit depth 13".

11/13/90

T-1-150'

Soil conditions same except at 14" depth bright yellow sand had not appeared as in earlier units. 2 small pottery shards. Unit depth 14".

T-1-180'

Unit depth 14". Same soil conditions. Still yellow sand approx 13" deep. 4 small pottery shards, possible piece of pigment (red) source.

T-1-210'

English (?) white pieces at base of the large tree on North side of transect line at 210". Unit yielded possible *Quercus* straighten 7 nails or fragments, 1 piece iron, 2 pieces Kaulin pipe, 1 piece glazed ware.

T-1-240'

Unit depth 12" - Same soil conditions. 1 large piece pipe bowl, 2 small pottery shards.

(over on back)