

WEST EFFINGHAM SURVEY

**BY
DANIEL T. ELLIOTT
LAMAR Institute**

**Illustrated By
RITA FOLSE ELLIOTT
LAMAR Institute**

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Chapter 1.

Introduction and Summary of Previous Research

The Ogeechee River holds many mysteries. Archaeologically, the Ogeechee River is virtually unknown, at least to the professional archaeological community. This report details the first stage in an attempt by the LAMAR Institute to learn more about this mysterious section of our state. Thanks to the generosity of the Historic Effingham Society and the citizens of Effingham County, this research effort began in Effingham County. Ten tracts distributed across western Effingham County were examined during an archaeological reconnaissance of the Ogeechee watershed (Figure 1). This led to the location of 30 previously unrecorded archaeological sites and several low density isolated artifact finds. This report details the results of this reconnaissance.

The Ogeechee, sandwiched between the Altamaha and the Savannah, is one of Georgia's less substantial waterways, but it is not without character. The lure of the river was captured in a pictorial book by Jack Leigh (1986). The Ogeechee River flows for some 400 km (250 miles) from near Union Point, Georgia to Ossabaw Island in the Atlantic Ocean. The entire watershed drains 13,530 km² (5224 miles²) in portions of 15 Georgia counties. The lower one-third of the river, including all portions lying within Effingham County, is poorly drained. Tidal effects extend approximately 56 km (35 miles) upstream from its mouth reaching to the extreme southwestern section of Effingham County.

Within Effingham County, the Ogeechee River is drained by several minor branches and the Little Ogeechee River. The Ogeechee and Little Ogeechee merge near the Barrier Islands. Several Carolina bays, a common feature in the Southeastern U.S. coastal plain of Georgia and the Carolinas, are located in the study area and two were examined by survey of adjacent tracts. Other hydrological features in western Effingham County include: Big Bay, Hardin Swamp, Horning Swamp, Mill Creek, Ogeechee Run, and Shrimp Creek. Elevations in western Effingham County range from less than 3 m (9.8 ft) to more than 40 m (131.2 ft). Areas of high ground immediately adjacent to flowing water are uncommon, particularly along the Ogeechee River. The Ogeechee River floodplain, dominated by swamp, averages 7-8 km wide along the Effingham County section. The topographic maps of the floodplain reveal many well-drained landforms surrounded by swamp, but most of these were difficult to access and contained no surface visibility. Much of western Effingham County is swamp land. Large tracts of well drained land, suitable for agriculture, are uncommon, especially when compared to the adjacent areas of Screven

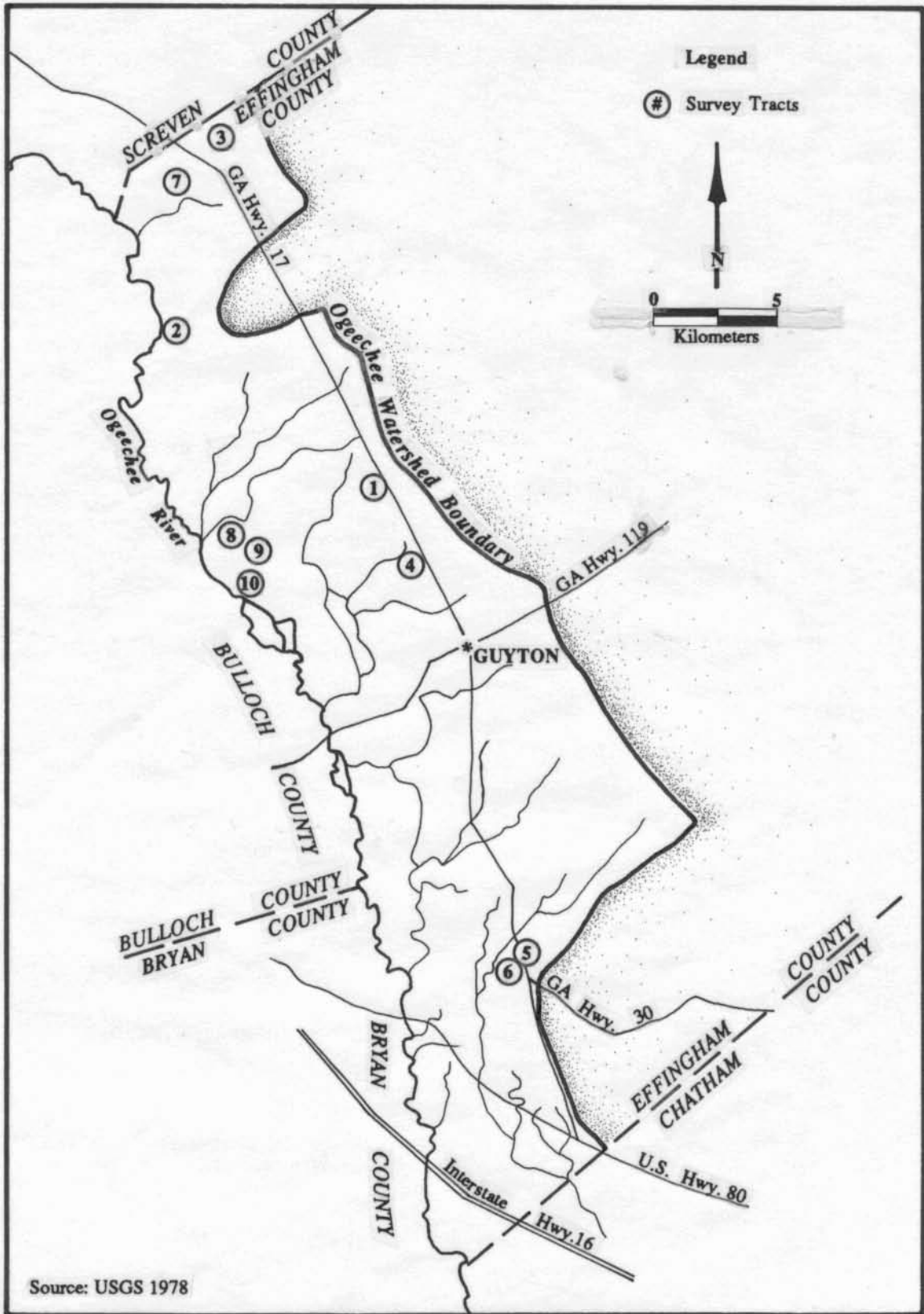


Figure 1. Project Location.

County. This became apparent when we began to search for suitable large open tracts to survey.

Euro-Anglo settlement of Effingham County began in 1734 with the Salzburger colony at Ebenezer, which was focused on the eastern side of the county. Communities that are located within the Effingham County section of the Ogeechee watershed include Egypt, Tusculum, Guyton, Pineora, Marlow, Eden, Faulkville, and Meldrim. Of these eight communities, Guyton is the largest settlement. Georgia Highway 17 bisects the study area on its north-south axis, while Georgia Highway 119, U.S. Highway 80, and Interstate Highway 16 traverse east-west across the Ogeechee River channel. Numerous paved and unimproved roads serve to access other portions of the county.

Previous Archaeological Research

There are few early references to the archaeology of the Ogeechee River, as there were no major mound centers located along its course. The Roland Steiner collection, collected prior to 1902 and housed in the Smithsonian Institution, contains nearly 17,000 artifacts from an area identified as "Evans plantation" on Buckhead Creek in Burke County (Elliott 1992). This collection, perhaps the largest single collection from the Ogeechee River watershed, was sold to the Smithsonian where it remains, although it still has not been researched thoroughly. Charles C. Jones, Jr. and Clarence B. Moore, two names frequently associated with early archaeological research in Georgia, apparently made no intensive investigations into the Ogeechee region. Nearly all of the archaeological investigations that have been undertaken in the Ogeechee drainage during the twentieth century have been either surveys or limited testing projects. The major archaeological projects are summarized in the following section.

Wheaton et al. (1982:46, 65) reported chert outcrops on Ogeechee tributaries in Burke and Jefferson Counties, and a chert quarry in Jefferson County. Their survey team test excavated a site near Eight Mile Creek in Burke County that contained a variety of aboriginal artifacts. Pottery from the site included cord marked, indented, brushed, incised, check stamped, rectilinear complicated stamped and undecorated motifs, and was characterized as Middle Woodland through Mississippian. Lithics found at the site included Middle Archaic points, a Woodland Point and a Mississippian small triangular point.

Several important Late Archaic shell midden sites are located in the interior coastal plain section of the Ogeechee including sites in Screven, Jenkins, and possibly Emmanuel Counties (Bartsch 1981; Sassaman 1990). The Rocky Ford site is located in Screven

County at the mouth of Horse Creek. Artifacts that have been reported from this site include Savannah River stemmed projectile points, drills, Stallings Island pottery, and Deptford linear check stamped pottery (Bartsch 1981; Frankie Snow personal communication 1992). This site has received extensive damage by vandalism, and has not been adequately studied. Mrs. Carolina Brown, Guyton, Georgia, was quite knowledgeable of the Ogeechee River, and she had in her collection a cigar box of artifacts from a Late Archaic shell midden site near Millen, Georgia. She noted that she visited the site after it had been looted and collected these artifacts from the surface. Her collection included several engraved bone awls characteristic of the Stallings Island culture. The exact location of the Millen shell midden site is not recorded in the state site files. A site containing mussel shell in Emmanuel County, supposedly submerged, is referenced in Leigh (1986). A review of the Emmanuel County site files, however, provided no details about the site.

Other Late Archaic sites without mussel shells also are reported on the middle section of the Ogeechee River. The Galphinton Site, 9JF9, a Late Archaic midden site located on the west side of the Ogeechee in Jefferson County, was test excavated by A.R. Kelly and John Cain in 1953, but the results of their work was only briefly reported (Kelly and Cain 1956). A review of the site form indicates that their excavations yielded soapstone fragments, stemmed projectile points, chipped stone debitage, and pottery including: Stallings Island plain and punctated, Mossy Oak simple stamped, cord-marked, complicated stamped, check-stamped, red negative painted, and undecorated grit tempered wares. The Ogeechee I site, visited by George Lewis, is another Stallings Island culture site located approximately 18 km downstream from the Rocky Ford site (Sassaman 1990). Another probable Late Archaic site, 9SN1, was recorded by Robert Wauchope in 1939, although Wauchope based the site record on a 1935 newspaper article in the Macon News and Telegraph reported by W. A. Lufburrow. This site, located between Halcyondale and Stalco in southwestern Screven County, was described as "a burial ground". Examination of the pottery recovered from a site in this vicinity by John Cain revealed that it contains primarily Stallings Island series wares. Another Stallings Island culture site, a surface site 2-3 acres in extent, was briefly reported on the Mosely Farm on a minor drainage of the Ogeechee River in Bulloch County near Statesboro, Georgia (Kelly and Knowlton 1958:5-6). Stone tools and pottery were noted on this site, but mussel shell was not mentioned.

The name Ogeechee obviously has an Indian origin, but the meaning of the name is less clear. Benjamin Martin's 1733 map of Georgia shows the Okesee on this river along with a note indicating a strength of 700 men. The identity of the *okesee*, or *Kesee*, is not known. Swanton (1984:214) notes that during the first half of the eighteenth century a

group of Yuchi resided on the Ogeechee River, but he provides no specific location. The place name Ogeechee Old Town persists to the present day, but this presumed town site located near Louisville has not been studied by archaeologists.

Mississippian sites also are reported along the lower Ogeechee River. A large Mississippian village site was reported at Seven Mile Bend in Liberty County (Fred Cook, personal communication, 1984). Cook identified a marine shell bead industry on this site. The site since has been destroyed by a housing development. Two Irene mound sites in Bulloch County, the Sweetheart Mound and the Cone Hall Mound, were recorded by Joseph Caldwell, but no formal report was written (Archaeological Site Files, University of Georgia, Athens).

The earliest English settlement in Georgia, Fort Argyle, was located downstream from Effingham in Bryan County. The fort site has been relocated through systematic shovel tests and limited test unit excavation by professional archaeologists (Braley et al. 1985). Aboriginal artifacts recovered from Fort Argyle include primarily plain pottery, but Altamaha line block, red painted, Deptford simple stamped, Deptford check stamped, Stallings Island, cordmarked, and complicated stamped wares were identified. Stemmed projectile points also were reported from the site.

Effingham County is one of the most studied of Georgia's interior coastal plain counties from an archaeological standpoint (c.f. Mitchell 1975; Fish 1976; Babits 1986; Elliott and Smith 1985; Smith 1986; Garrow 1984; Elliott 1988, 1990). Nearly all this research, however, has been focused on the Savannah River drainage rather than along the Ogeechee River drainage. The three largest studies prior to our survey were conducted by Fish (1976, 1978), Garrow (1984), and Elliott and Smith (1985), and these provide the most comparable survey data for the present study.

Fish's sample survey of numerous small rights-of-way, mostly along natural drainages, within the Ebenezer Creek watershed in Screven and Effingham Counties located 81 sites by systematic surface survey of 1170 ha (hectares). Ninety percent of these areas were in Effingham County. For his survey, however, any artifact occurrence was designated a site. Fish noticed a marked correlation between Lakeland sandy loam and archaeological sites (60% of the sites were situated on this soil type, but it represented only 6% of the soils found in the watershed).

Garrow's survey examined a corridor 246 km x 46 m which crossed two physiographic zones. Approximately 76 percent of this corridor (860 ha) was within the Coastal Marine Flatlands-the same physiographic province as the present study. Although

112 sites were located in Garrow's study, only 52 sites were found within the Coastal Marine Flatlands section of the corridor. Although 21 sites were recorded in Effingham County by Garrow, only three were located within the Ogeechee River watershed. Isolated artifact finds were not given site status in Garrow's study.

Elliott and Smith (1985) examined a 728 ha area of eastern Effingham County, also for Garrow and Associates, adjacent to the Savannah River swamp, and reported 54 archaeological sites. Isolated artifact finds were not given site status in their study. Many of the sites found in this survey were eighteenth century farmsteads related to the New Ebenezer colony, which was relocated in 1736 on the Savannah River downstream from Old Ebenezer. The farmstead area was known as the Mill District. A wide range of prehistoric components was identified in this area, also.

Archaeological research on the Ogeechee River system, in general, and in western Effingham County in particular, is quite restricted. Klein et al. (1984) conducted a review of historical literature about Effingham County for the Georgia Power Company Plant Vogtle transmission line project. They noted that microfilm records exist at the Georgia Archives in Atlanta for the following cemeteries in western Effingham: Elam, Silas Morton, Old Providence, Elkins, Sand Hill Church, Downs, and Zion Church. A review of the Effingham County Highway map includes five additional cemeteries that have not been recorded including: Elam [not to be confused with Old Elam], Meldrim, Powers Church, Woods, and Ferguson. Doubtless, additional unrecorded cemeteries exist throughout the western part of the county.

Our background research identified only six previously recorded archaeological sites in western Effingham County- 9EF24, 9EF25, 9EF150, 9EF151, 9EF152, and a historic burial recently excavated by Moore (see below). The first two of these, located near the Ogeechee River in northwestern Effingham County, were recorded by Paul Fish during his study of the Ebenezer Creek watershed (Fish 1976). Sites 9EF150, 9EF151, and 9EF152, located in the southwestern corner of Effingham County, were recorded by Garrow & Associates during their survey (Garrow 1984). These were all historic house sites containing nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts. Two contained evidence of intact deposits, structures, or features, while one lacked any integrity. No further work was conducted on any of Garrow's sites.

While Fish (1976) conducted extensive surface survey in the region, nearly all of his research was confined to the Savannah River watershed (Fish 1976:23-25, 76; unpublished field notes and maps, University of Georgia, Laboratory of Archeology). The two sites,

9EF24 and 9EF25, recorded by Fish on the Ogeechee River, are located slightly north of the area visited by our reconnaissance on the Brown Tract (See description of 9Ef192). Components identified on these sites by Fish, based largely on artifacts contained in Mrs. Carolina Brown's private collection, include Middle Archaic, Late Archaic, Early to Middle Woodland, Late Woodland, and Mississippian. He described the sites as overgrown, measuring 150 m in diameter and separated by a small unnamed branch. Fish made a small surface collection of sherds and flakes, but conducted no subsurface tests. He examined a large artifact collection owned by the landowner that contained a range of artifacts from the Early Archaic to Late Woodland periods. He noted that her collection contained the following: grinding slab, drills, nutting stones, pipes, ornaments, and several thousand sherds. The pottery collection examined by Fish included: Stallings Island plain and punctate, Deptford Linear Check-Stamped, Deptford Bold-Check Stamped, Wilmington Cord-marked, Savannah Check-Stamped, and Savannah Cord-Marked.

Historic archaeological sites within Effingham County have received even less attention than prehistoric sites. Only one historic site has received any excavation in western Effingham County. Sue Mullins-Moore excavated an eighteenth century colonial burial exposed by construction in the Eden community in southwestern Effingham County. She identified the burial as a woman, possibly a Salzburger, who was killed by a ax blow to the skull (Moore personal communication, 1992).

Chapter 2. Research Methods

Background Review

We began our archaeological reconnaissance of the Ogeechee by reviewing the existing archaeological inventory and literature of western Effingham County and surrounding counties along the river. This consisted of a review of published county histories for the region at the University of Georgia Library and a review of the archaeological reports and site files at the University of Georgia, Department of Anthropology, Laboratory of Archeology, State Site Files. The archaeology of the region was found to be poorly documented, and western Effingham County contained an almost total void of archaeological knowledge.

Field Methods

The survey employed a systematic method for maximum ground coverage and site location. Plowed fields and clearcut timber lands were the primary focus of our survey, since survey of wooded areas in this region would require subsurface shovel testing and be quite time consuming. The survey methods were intended to be consistent with methods used in the previous survey by Fish (1976). Standing structures and cemeteries generally were excluded from the study areas, since the emphasis of this project was aimed at identifying poorly documented archaeological components. Also, no subsurface excavations were conducted during this survey.

Ten discrete land tracts were systematically covered by this survey. All surface sites within these tracts were inventoried. The owner of each tract, approximate size of the tract, and number of sites found on each tract are provided in Table 1. The land was traversed using transects at 30 m intervals, except where noted. When cultural material was encountered the team member spiraled out from the artifact find to locate other artifacts in the area and to determine the outer limits of the site as determined by surface artifacts. A site was designated when two or more artifacts were located within a distance of 60 m. Isolated artifacts were noted on the field maps, but were not assigned site numbers.

Once a site was located, transects at closer intervals were employed to better define the site. The spacing of these transects varied from site to site, and the methods used on each site were recorded. A no-collection policy was maintained and the diversity of artifact types was noted in the field for sites 9EF190 through 9EF204, 9EF207 through 9EF209, and 9EF214. On the remaining sites, artifacts were systematically collected along the

transects. The collection methodology was modified for Site 9EF205. This site contained a high frequency of historic artifacts, therefore, the collection was restricted to rim sherds, decorated sherds, bottle necks, and representative artifact types. All site locations were marked on U.S.G.S. topographic maps and on Effingham County aerial photographs (U.S.G.S. 1975, 1976a-c; Riley, Park, Hayden & Associates, Inc. 1985). For the more complex sites, additional sketch maps were made of each site.

Table 1. Study Tracts.

Tract	Owner	Size (ha)	# Sites	Density (per ha)
1	Tuten	23	2	0.087
2	Brown	14	1	0.071
3	Prior/Emory	34	3	0.088
4	Ratchford	47	4	0.085
5	Hinely	6	1	0.167
6	Conaway	4	1	0.250
7	Ash	58	3	0.052
8	Burns, A	6	4	0.667
9	Burns, B	42	3	0.071
10	Burns, C	45	8	0.178
Total		279	30	0.108

Laboratory and Reporting Methods

The artifacts, notes, maps, and other records from the field survey were returned for processing to the LAMAR Institute laboratory in Vanna, Georgia. There, artifacts were catalogued, washed, and analyzed. Aboriginal lithic artifacts were grouped by functional category (projectile point, biface, utilized flake, debitage, etc.) and by raw material type. Coastal plain chert (light colored chert with numerous fossil inclusions) was the most common raw material type found, followed by quartz, quartzite, and metavolcanic stone. The quartz and quartzite fragments often exhibited cobble cortex, and may occur locally. Chert outcrops are not reported in Effingham County, although chert quarries and outcrops have been reported further upstream in Jefferson and Burke Counties on the Ogeechee River. Petrified wood was common in the Carolina Brown collection, and Mrs. Brown reported that the stone was found locally in the Ogeechee River. Although this stone contains many impurities and fractures and is a poor stone for knapping, it apparently was

used locally for chipped stone tools. Potentially diagnostic stone tools were sketched. The debitage was subdivided into these additional analytic categories: cores, percussion flakes (or early to intermediate stage reduction flakes), biface thinning flakes (or late stage reduction flakes and tool maintenance flakes), flake fragments, and shatter.

Aboriginal ceramics were categorized by surface decoration motif, temper, and morphology (rim, body sherd, etc.). The profile of each rim sherd was sketched and vessel diameter estimates of larger rim sherds (sherds > 40 mm across) were recorded.

Historic artifacts were grouped into functional categories (kitchen, architecture, clothing, tobacco, arms, furniture, personal, activities) following South (1977). Ceramics were classified by paste (stoneware, porcelain, earthenware, ironstone) and surface decorative motif. Minimum vessel counts were estimated for ceramics and bottle glass for several sites. Maker's marks, tobacco pipe stem bore diameters, and other temporally diagnostic traits were recorded so that the age of the site could be determined.

Notes, maps, and artifacts recovered from this project will be permanently curated at the Department of Anthropology, Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia.

Chapter 3. Results

The survey team located 30 archaeological sites and several isolated lithic occurrences on the study tracts. The description of each site is presented in the following chapter. The sites are grouped by the tract where they occur.

Tuten Tract

A large plowed field, owned by Freddie Tuten, was completely surveyed. This tract is located in Tusculum, west of Georgia Highway 17 in the west central part of the county (Figure 2). A now-defunct section of the Central of Georgia Railroad is visible along the eastern edge of the tract and an old road was located immediately west of the rail line. This area is in an interriverine environment. Survey conditions in this field were excellent for site identification and two historic sites were located. No artifacts were collected from this tract.

9EF190 This site contains a scatter of mid to late nineteenth and early twentieth century debris located in a plowed field on a low ridge surrounding a minor drainage. The scatter probably represents several house sites associated with the Tusculum community. Three concentrations of debris were identified, and these are designated on the sketch map as A, B, and C (Figure 3). Each of these concentrations probably represent a distinct structure with Area C probably being the oldest, although there was a continuous spread of artifacts connecting these areas. The following artifact types were observed on Area A:

Ceramics-

Undecorated ironstone, whiteware, & porcelain

White alkaline glazed stoneware

Decal decorated ironstone

Bottle glass-

Amber, manganese clear, clear, & white

Other-

Glass marble

Aqua window glass

Brick

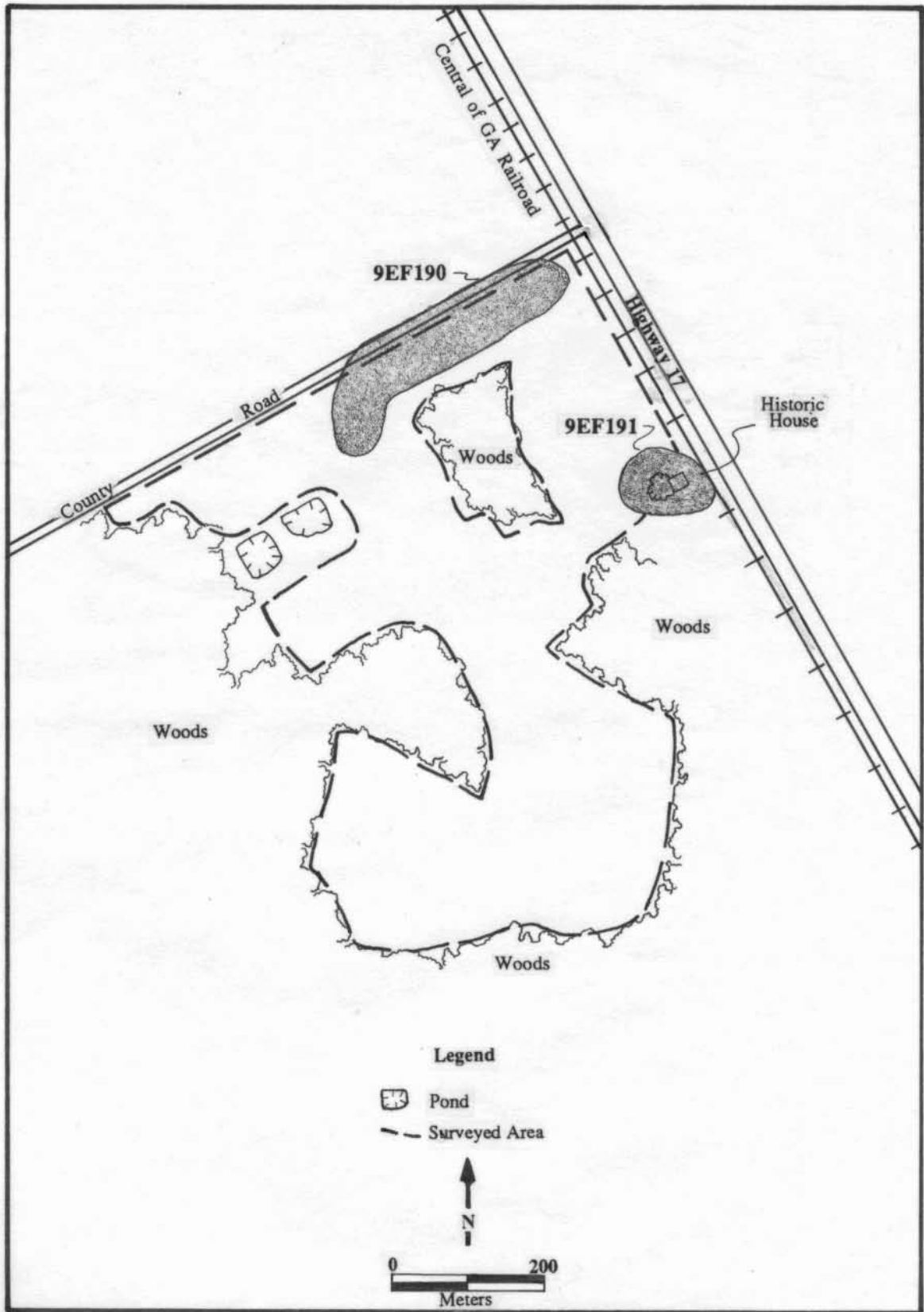


Figure 2. Tuten Tract.

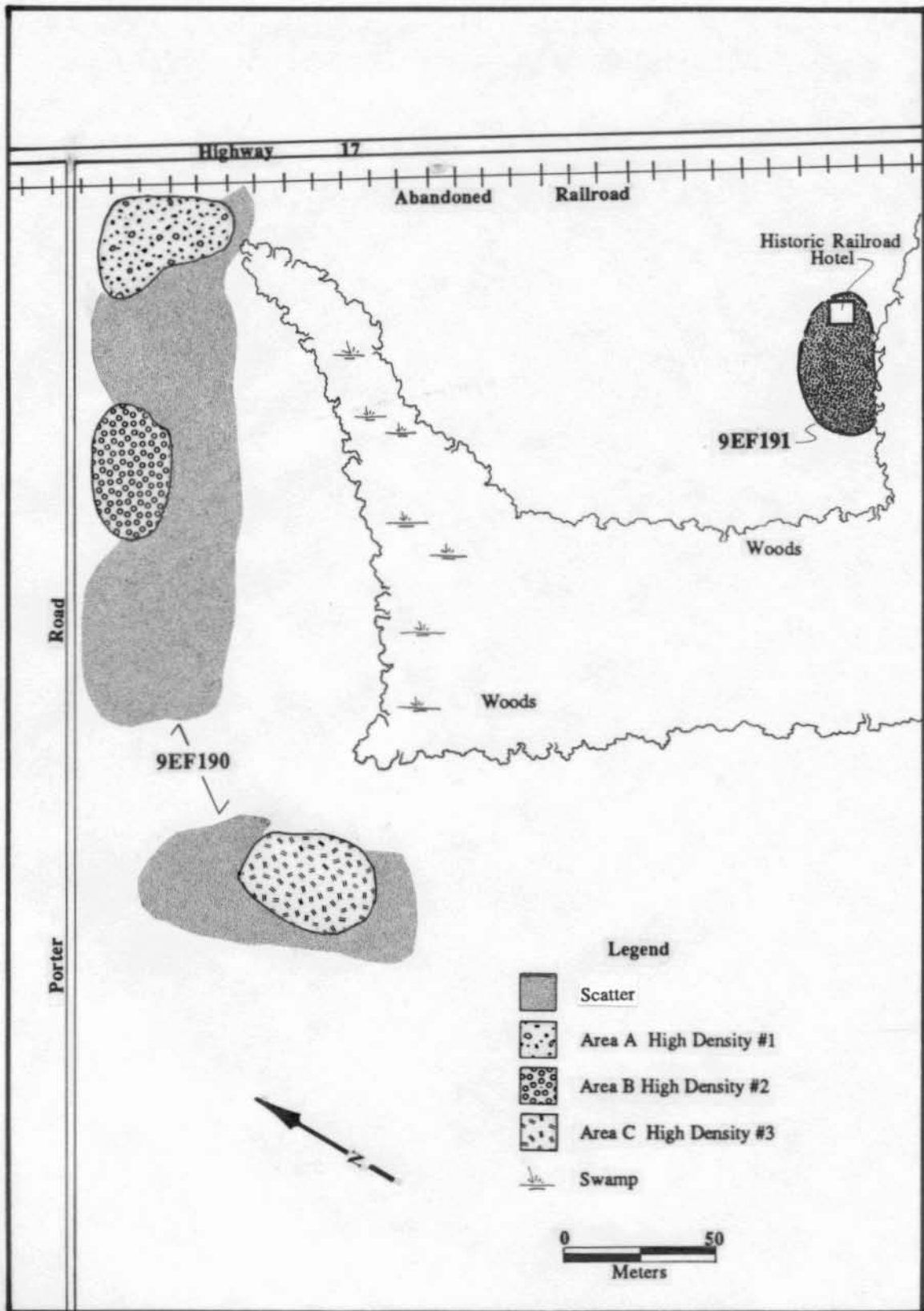


Figure 3. Site 9EF190, Plan.

The following artifact types were observed on Area B:

Ceramics-

Undecorated ironstone and whiteware

Bottle glass-

Light green and blue

Other-

Pressed clear table glass

Brick

The following artifact types were observed on Area C:

Ceramics-

Undecorated ironstone

Undecorated whiteware

Blue transfer print whiteware

Blue green transfer print ironstone

Undecorated porcelain

Green alkaline glazed stoneware

Bottle glass-

Dark green

Aqua

Manganese clear

Other-

Clear pressed table glass

Brick

Site 9EF191 This site contains a scatter of late nineteenth through early twentieth century debris located in a plowed field on a low ridge (see Figures 2 & 3). This historic refuse is located behind a large standing structure which, according to the landowner Freddie Tuten, once served as a hotel for travelers on the rail line. The building is an impressive example of nineteenth century commercial architecture and it should be assessed for its National Register eligibility. The refuse scatter associated with the building also may have significance. Artifacts observed on this site include undecorated whiteware and ironstone and light green and clear bottle glass.

Brown Tract

We visited the Brown's property at the request of Mrs. Carolina Brown. The Brown property is located west of the Old Louisville Road fronting the Ogeechee River and the Ogeechee River swamp due west of Egypt, Georgia (Figure 4). This was the only survey location examined in our study where we actually saw the Ogeechee River, since the main river channel is separated from high ground by an broad swamp in most of Effingham County. Survey conditions on the tract were severely limited because of vegetation, but Mrs. Brown took us to two sites and showed the survey team artifacts that had been collected through the years from her property. We walked a firebreak that surrounded a large field on her property and located only isolated chert debitage. This survey located one site (9EF192) on the Brown tract and recorded it in the state site files. The area north of Site 9EF192 shows archaeological promise, however, additional study is necessary before these areas are designated as sites. No artifacts were collected from this tract during the survey.

Site 9EF192. This site contains a scatter of aboriginal lithic debris and Early Woodland (Thoms Creek) pottery and is located on a wooded alluvial landform on the Brown property (see Figure 4). Locally, this general vicinity is referred to as Indian Bluff owing to its abundance of aboriginal remains. Artifacts observed on this site during our visit include light chert bifacial thinning flakes, flake fragments, and shatter, one Thoms Creek Punctate sand tempered sherd, and several plain sand tempered sherds. According to the Browns, who have done some digging in one area on the southeast side of 9EF192, the site contains buried cultural deposits including pottery and lithics. A concentration of early nineteenth -early twentieth century pottery and glass was noted on the northeastern portion of the site, and it probably represents a house site.

Mrs. Brown collected this site for many years before it was planted in pines. We examined the collection which also contains some artifacts from other areas of her property. Observations of the collection, however, do provide component information for this general vicinity. Her collection included the follow ceramic types: Deptford Check Stamped, Deptford Linear Check Stamped; Stallings Island Plain; Stallings Island Punctate; unassigned cord marked, fine cord marked, and plain sand tempered wares. Our inspection generally corresponds to Fish's earlier identification (Fish 1976). Among the stone tools were Early Archaic corner notched, Late Archaic stemmed, and Woodland or Mississippian small triangular bifaces. Her collection also included quantities of petrified wood and undiagnostic chert stone tools and debris. Historic artifacts in her collection include undecorated creamware, green alkaline glazed stoneware, and kaolin tobacco pipe fragments.

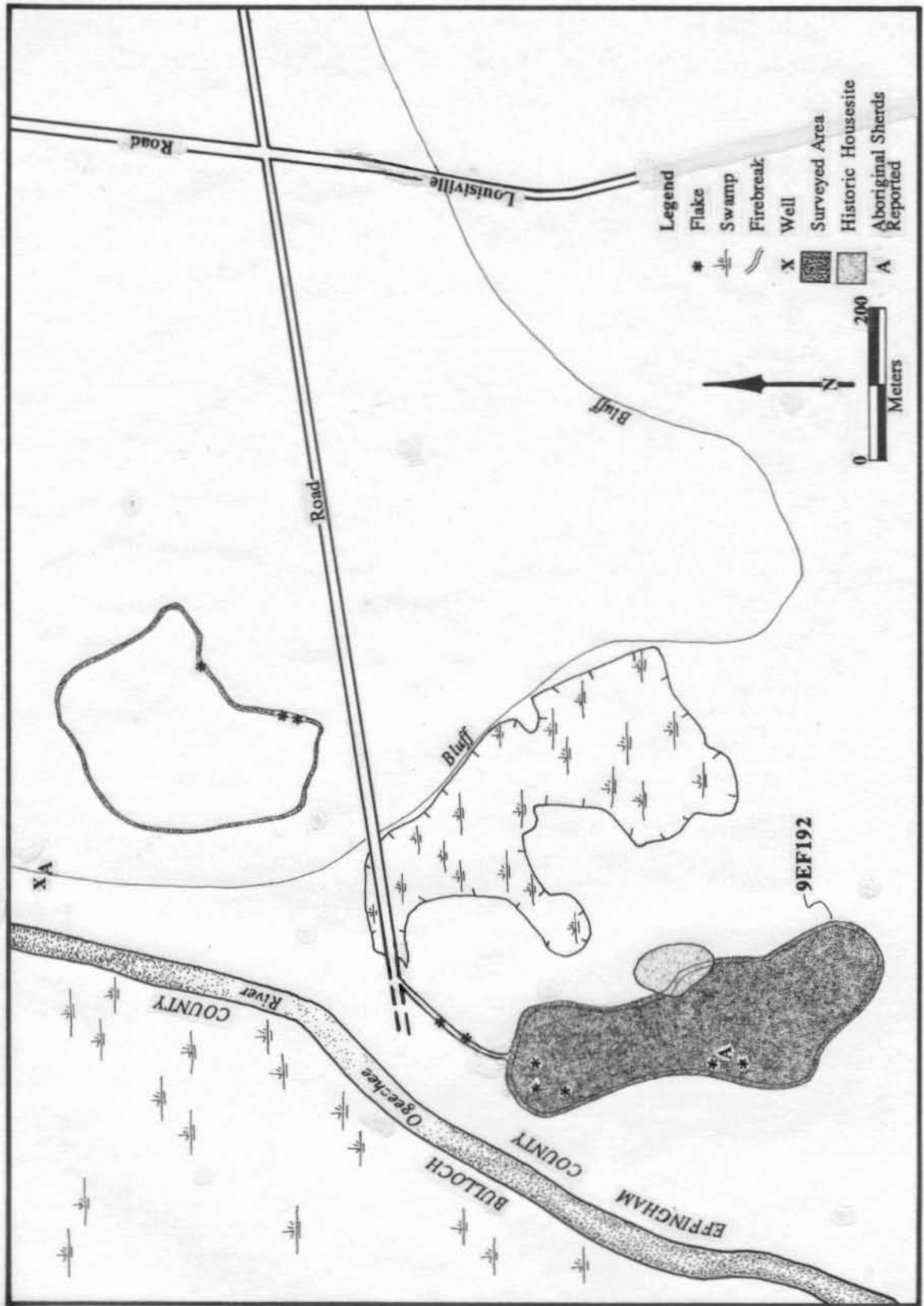


Figure 4. Brown Tract.

Prior & Emory Tract

A large plowed field, owned by Luther Prior and John Emory, was examined. The field is located in the northwestern part of the county near the Screven County line and south of the Oliver-Kildare County Road (Figure 5). Survey conditions were excellent for site identification and three sites were located. This field flanks a large wetland identified by Luther Prior as Mingledorf's Bay. No artifacts were collected from this tract.

Site 9EF193. This site consists of an Archaic lithic and late eighteenth to early nineteenth century historic scatter located in a plowed field on a low knoll adjacent to Mingledorf Bay (see Figure 5). The Archaic component consists of a single chert stemmed biface and a chert bifacial thinning flake. The historic debris probably is the residue of a single dwelling. The historic debris covers an area 60 m x 20 m. A small sample of six ceramic sherds from this site yielded a mean ceramic date estimate of 1806.8. Historic artifacts observed on this site include:

Ceramics-

- 1 Undecorated creamware
- 1 Hand painted polychrome pearlware
- 2 Green edged pearlware
- 2 Blue annular hand painted pearlware

Bottle glass-

- 1 Manganese clear bottle (late nineteenth to early twentieth century)

Other historic-

- 1 Undecorated kaolin pipe bowl

Site 9EF201. This site contains a scatter of late nineteenth to late twentieth century historic debris located on a low ridge in a plowed field (see Figure 5). It probably represents the remains of a single dwelling. This house was standing until recently as the 1985 tax photograph shows a standing structure at this location. Artifacts observed on the surface include:

Ceramics-

- 2 Stoneware
- 78 Undecorated ironstone or whiteware
- 1 Polychrome transfer printed whiteware
- 1 Blue sponge decorated whiteware
- 1 Undecorated porcelain

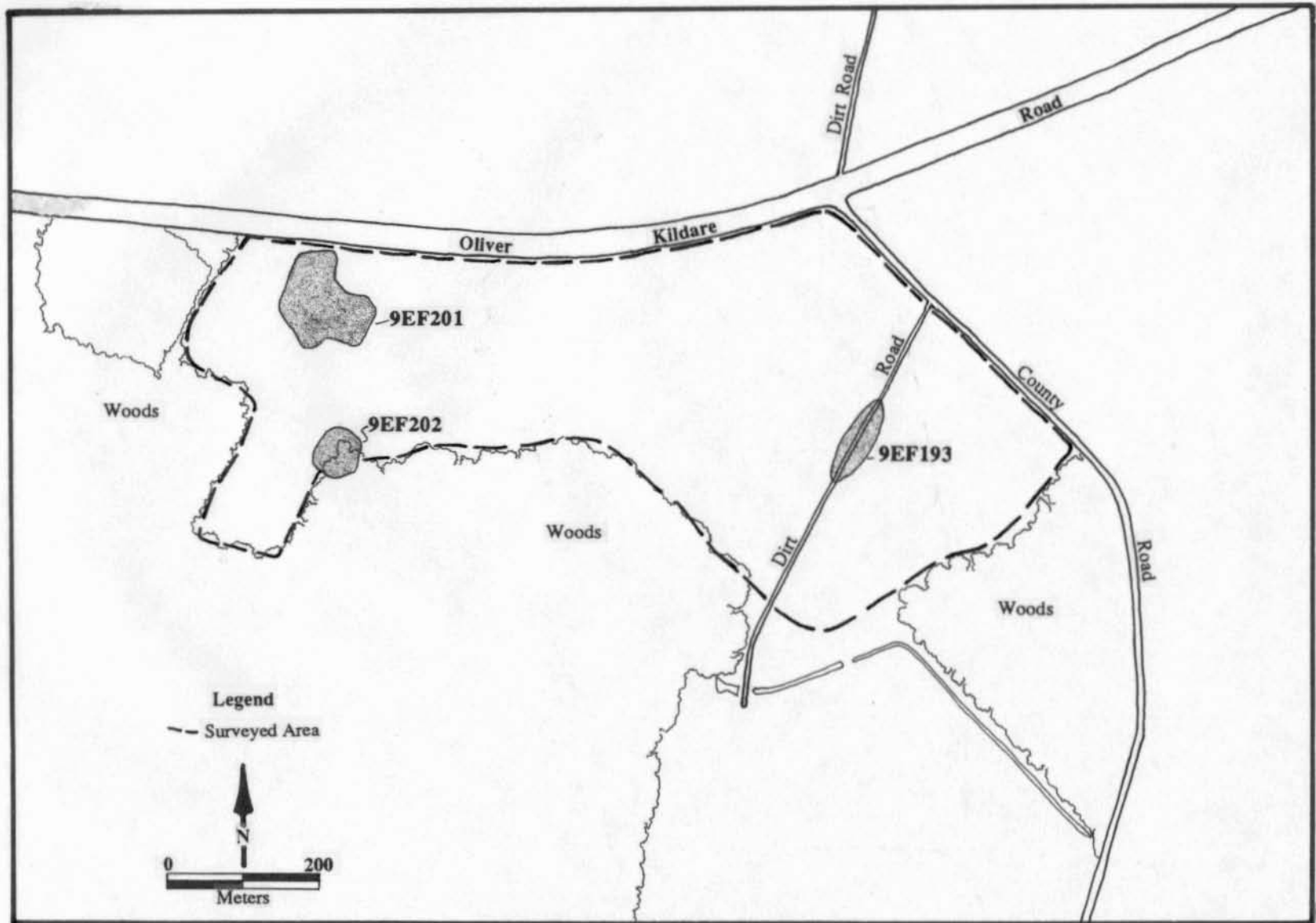


Figure 5. Prior/Emory Tract.

Bottle glass-

1 Manganese clear

3 Clear

2 White

3 Blue

1 Aqua

Other historic-

1 Glass marble

1 Window glass

Brick (abundant)

Cement (abundant)

Site 9EF202. This site contains an early twentieth century artifact scatter and is located in a plowed field and adjacent wooded drainage near Mingledorf Bay (see Figure 5). It probably represents the remains of a single dwelling. Artifacts observed on the surface of the plowed field include three undecorated whiteware or ironstone sherds and two brick fragments. In the wooded portion of the site, however, artifacts were abundant and included large piles of metal debris such as car parts, plows and other farming implements, a washing machine, chairs, and bed springs. This debris pile appeared to have been bulldozed into the woods.

Ratchford Tract

A large plowed field, owned by Neil W. Ratchford, was completely surveyed. This tract is located west of Georgia Highway 17 and north of Keith Road in west central Effingham County (Figure 6). Visibility was slightly limited by corn stalks, but conditions for site location were generally very good to excellent. Four sites were identified. No artifacts were collected from this tract.

Site 9EF194. This site contains an unknown prehistoric lithic and mid to late nineteenth century historic scatter located on a low ridge in a plowed field (see Figure 6). This site probably represents the remains of a single house site from the mid nineteenth century, but no standing architectural remains or obvious features were observed. Artifacts observed on the surface of this site include:

Ceramics-

1 Yellowware

13 Undecorated ironstone or whiteware

1 Undecorated porcelain

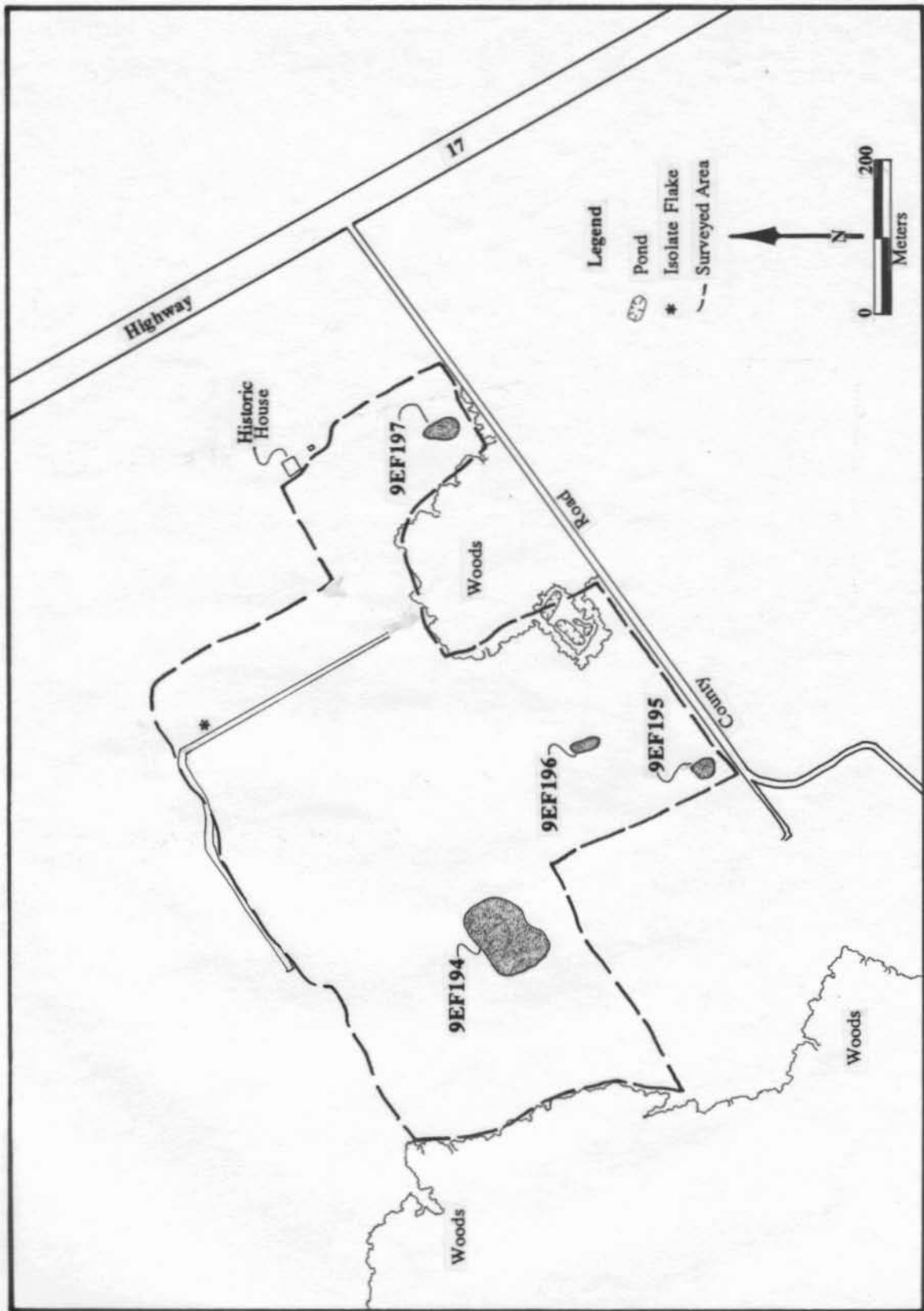


Figure 6. Ratchford Tract.

- 1 Blue edged whiteware
- 1 Blue hand painted porcelain
- Bottle glass-**
- 1 Amber
- 1 Blue (probably John Ryan variety)
- 1 Clear
- Other historic-**
- 1 Cast iron fragment
- Aboriginal lithics-**
- 1 light chert bifacial thinning flake

Site 9EF195. This site contains a scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic debris located in a plowed field (see Figure 6). It probably represents the residue of a single dwelling, although there were no standing remains or obvious features.

Artifacts observed on the site include:

- Ceramics-**
- 1 Undecorated whiteware
- Bottle glass-**
- 1 Clear
- 1 Blue
- 1 White glass canning jar lid liner
- Other--**
- 2 Terra cotta pipe fragments
- Brick (several)

Site 9EF196. This site is a scatter of brick on the surface of a plowed field that may represent a structure (see Figure 6). One whole brick and eight brick fragments were observed. No other artifacts were associated with this scatter, and its function is enigmatic.

Site 9EF197. This site consists of a scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic debris located in a fallow field (see Figure 6). It probably represents the residue of a single dwelling from this time period, although there were no standing remains or obvious features.

Hinely Tract

A small plowed field, owned by Mrs. Clyde Fetzer Hinley, was surveyed in its entirety. The field surrounds Mrs. Hinely's house and is located immediately east of

Georgia Highway 17 and south of Blue Jay Road in the southwestern part of the county (Figure 7). Conditions for survey were excellent and one site was located. No artifacts were collected from this tract.

Site 9EF198. This site is a late nineteenth century historic artifact scatter located in a plowed field (see Figure 7). It probably represents the remains of a single house from that period, although there were no standing structural remains or obvious surface features. Artifacts observed on the surface include:

Ceramics-

- 1 Blue edged whiteware
- 2 Glazed unrefined redware
- 1 Yellowware
- 2 Undecorated whiteware or ironstone
- 1 Black annular/dipped whiteware
- 1 Cream colored glaze stoneware

Bottle glass-

- 1 Light green
- 1 Dark green

Conaway Tract

A small plowed field, owned by Noel C. Conaway, was completely surveyed. This tract is located several hundred meters south of the Hinely tract, but on the west side of Georgia Highway 17 (see Figure 7). Conditions for survey were excellent and one site was found. No artifacts were collected from this tract.

Site 9EF199. This site contains an undiagnostic aboriginal lithic and late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic artifact scatter located in a plowed field (see Figure 7). It probably represents the remains of a single house from that period, although there were no standing remains or obvious features. Artifacts observed on the site include:

Ceramics-

- 9 Undecorated ironstone or whiteware

Bottle glass-

- 1 Light green

Other historic-

- 1 Molded white table glass

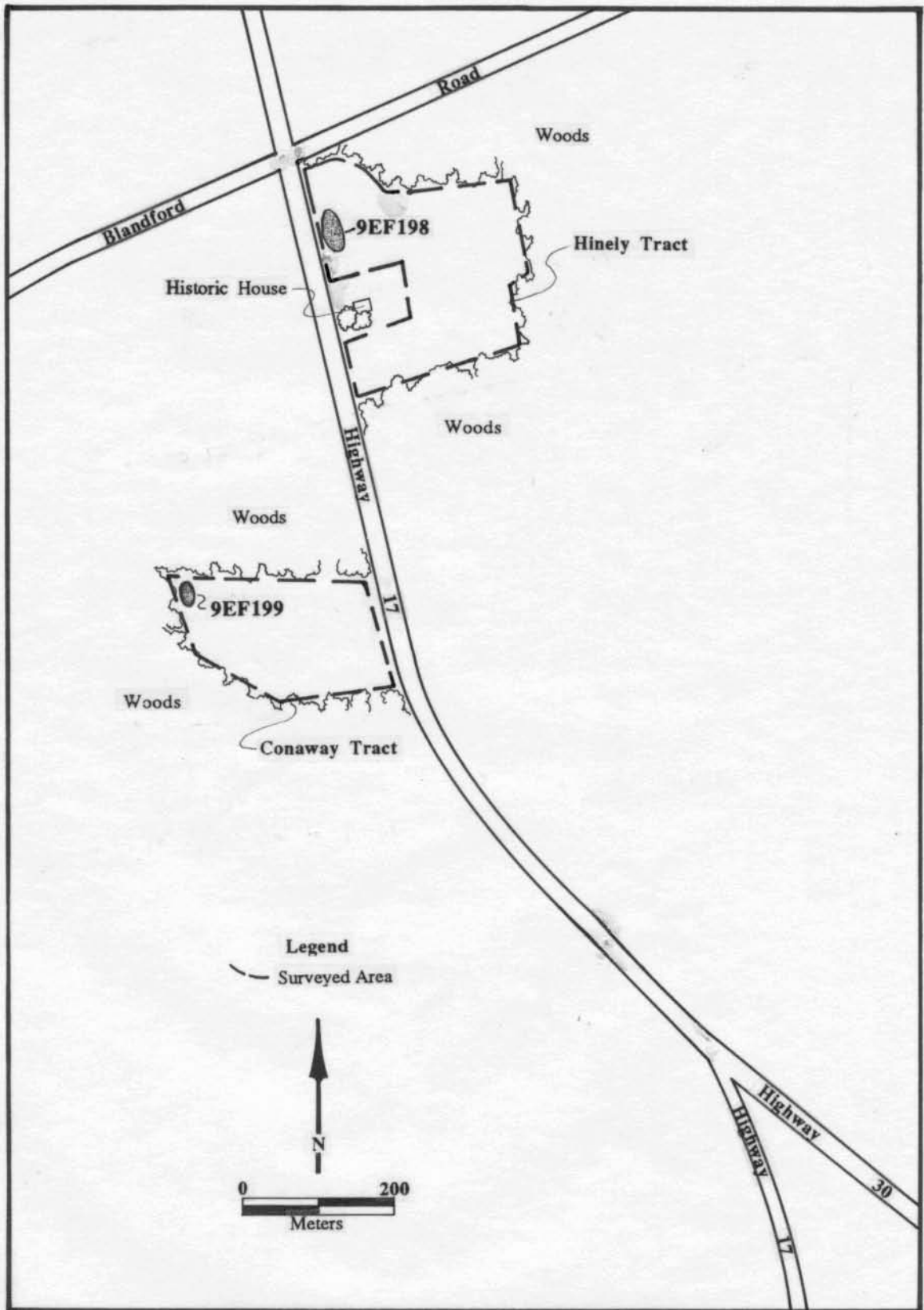


Figure 7. Conaway and Hinely Tracts.

Aboriginal lithic-

1 Chert bifacial thinning flake

Ash Tract

A large plowed field, owned by George B. Ash, was partially surveyed. This property is located in northwestern Effingham County on both sides of the Old Louisville Road and east of the Ogeechee River swamp (Figure 8). Conditions for survey were excellent and three sites were identified. Mr. Ash stated that his brother had been an avid relic collector and had searched these fields for Indian artifacts with little return. No artifacts were collected from this tract.

Site 9EF200. This site is an unknown aboriginal lithic and late nineteenth to early twentieth century scatter surrounding a standing brick chimney located in a plowed field (see Figure 8). The historic refuse probably represents the remains of a single dwelling as evidenced by the standing chimney and associated foundation stones. Repeated plowing has spread artifacts from the house over a wide area, but most are concentrated near the house ruins. Mr. Ash stated that this was a tenant dwelling that was partially destroyed during a 1929 tornado, but was later rebuilt. The only aboriginal artifact observed was a chert biface thinning flake. Historic artifacts observed on the surface include:

Ceramics-

22 Undecorated ironstone or whiteware

1 Cream color glazed stoneware

1 Blue ironstone

1 Undecorated porcelain

1 Annular/dipped yellowware

1 Blue stoneware

Bottle glass-

1 Dark green

7 Light green

2 White

1 Amber

9 Clear

1 Manganese clear pressed table glass

Other-

5 Brick (and an intact brick chimney)

1 Blue molded glass bead

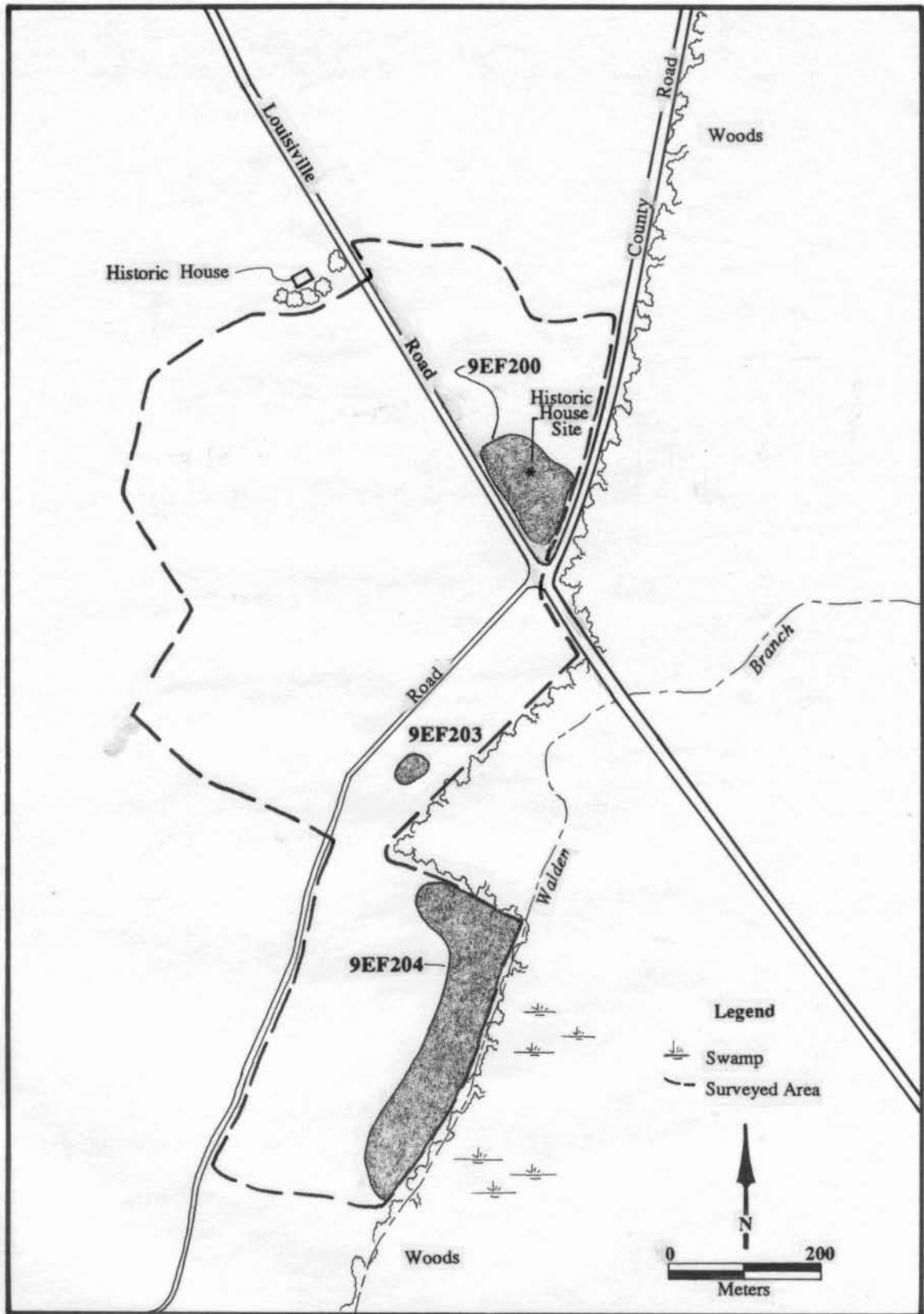


Figure 8. Ash Tract.

Site 9EF203. This site contains a mid to late nineteenth century artifact scatter located in a plowed field (see Figure 8). It probably represents the remains of a single dwelling, although there are no standing remains or obvious features. Artifacts observed on the surface include:

Ceramics-

- 5 undecorated whiteware or ironstone
- 1 black and purple hand painted whiteware
- 1 dipped whiteware
- 1 green alkaline glazed stoneware

Bottle glass-

- 1 manganese clear

Site 9EF204. This site contains an Archaic lithic and mid to late nineteenth century artifact scatter and is located in a plowed field on a ridge/terrace overlooking Walden Branch and the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 8). The Archaic component consists of a broad scatter of chert debitage: one probable Early Archaic unifacial scraper and two Late Archaic stemmed bifaces. The historic artifacts exhibited no concentrations indicative of a domestic structure. Artifacts were roughly mapped along the 30 m sample transects as shown on Figure 9. Artifacts observed on the surface include:

Historic-

- 3 Undecorated whiteware or ironstone
- 1 Blue edged whiteware
- 1 Amber bottle glass

Aboriginal-

- 58 Chert debitage (primarily bifacial thinning flakes)
- 1 Chert unifacial flake tool
- 3 Chert hafted biface fragments
- 1 Quartzite bifacial thinning flake
- 1 Quartzite cobble (possible hammerstone)

Burns Tracts A, B, & C

Three portions of a very large timber tract, owned by Joseph D. Burns, were surveyed. All three areas are located along Riverside Dr. in west central Effingham County. This area had recently been logged, burned, bedded, and replanted in young pines. Survey conditions on these tracts were excellent for site identification and 15 sites were located as a result.

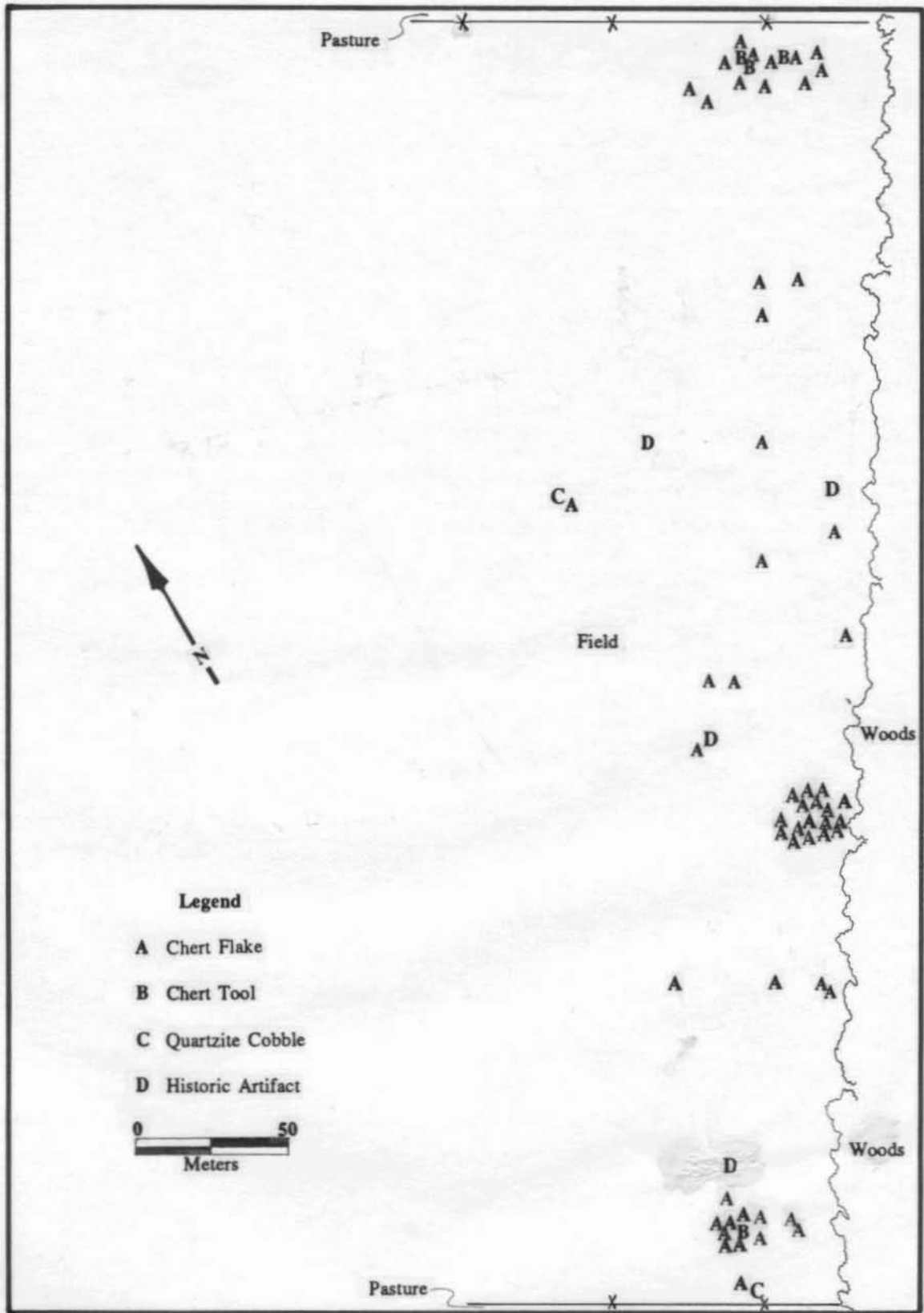


Figure 9. Site 9EF204, Plan.

All three study tracts were located near the Ogeechee River swamp. The smallest and northernmost of these (Tract A) was located immediately south of Henry Wilkins' property. Four sites were located in that area. The central study area (Tract B) surrounded a Carolina Bay and contained three archaeological sites. The southern study area (Tract C), located northeast of Taylor's Landing, was the largest of the three, and yielded eight archaeological sites.

Burns Tract A

Site 9EF206. This was a surface scatter of aboriginal lithics and early historic artifacts in a logging clearcut on a narrow ridge adjacent to the Ogeechee River swamp (Figure 10). A few small brick fragments were observed on the surface, but no concentrations were located. Historic artifacts recovered from the surface include ceramics, bottle glass, tobacco pipe fragments, iron, brick, and shell. Aboriginal artifacts recovered include four chert flakes and one undiagnostic chert flake tool. The artifacts from the site are summarized in Table 2. This site probably contains the remains of a single early historic dwelling dating to the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. A sample of 55 ceramic sherds from the site yielded a mean ceramic date estimate of 1806.1.

Site 9EF207. This was an extensive surface scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic artifacts in a logging clearcut on a narrow ridge overlooking the Ogeechee River Swamp (see Figure 10). No collection was made on this site. According to a local resident, Henry Wilkins, there was a sawmill, railroad, and an associated logging community located in this vicinity during the early twentieth century and this site probably is associated with it (Henry Wilkins, personal communication, March 12, 1992).

Site 9EF208. This was a small surface scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic artifacts in a logging clearcut on a ridgecrest overlooking the Ogeechee River Swamp (see Figure 10). No collection was made on this site. This site is probably associated with the aforementioned logging community.

Site 9EF209. This was a small surface scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic artifacts in a logging clearcut on a narrow ridge finger overlooking the Ogeechee River Swamp (see Figure 10). No collection was made on this site. This site is probably associated with the aforementioned logging community.

Burns Tract B

Site 9EF205. This was a large site in a logging clearcut on a low ridge crest that contained aboriginal and historic components (see Figures 10 & 11). The site boundaries

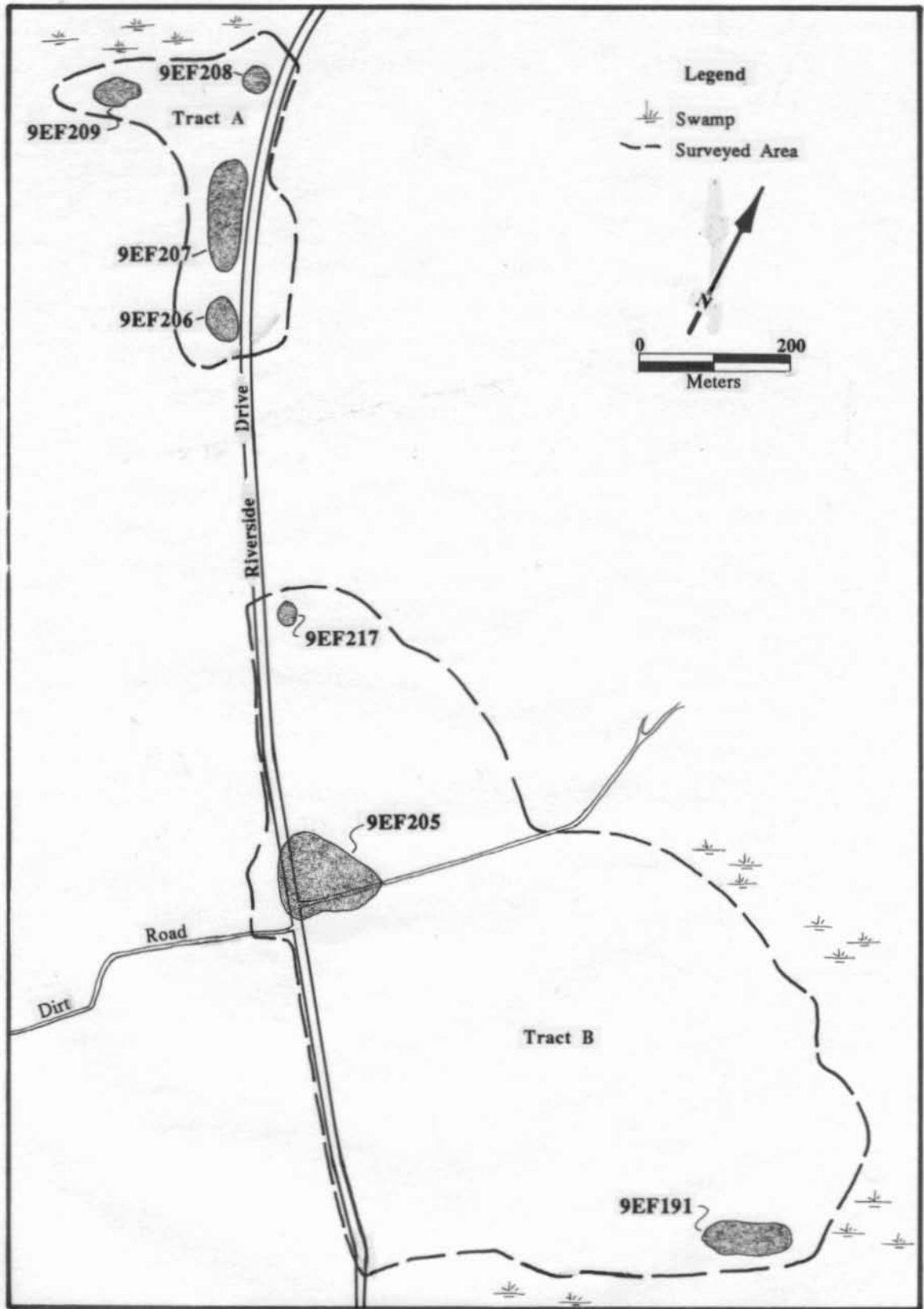


Figure 10. Burns Tracts A and B.

	Count	MNV*
Kitchen Group	57	12
<i>Ceramics</i>	55	11
Undecorated creamware	10	1
Undecorated pearlware	27	5
Dipped pearlware	1	1
Polychrome hand painted floral pearlware	8	1
Blue hand painted floral pearlware	6	1
Blue edged pearlware	2	1
Green edged pearlware	1	1
<i>Bottle glass</i>	1	1
Dark green	1	1
<i>Other kitchen group</i>	1	
Oyster shell	1	
Other Historic Artifacts	6	
Tobacco pipe fragments	4	
Unidentified iron hardware	1	
Brick, sample only	1	
TOTAL HISTORIC ARTIFACTS	63	11 pottery vessels & 1 bottle
Aboriginal artifacts	5	
Chert biface thinning flakes	4	
Chert utilized flake	1	

* Minimum number of vessels estimate

Table 2. Artifact Summary, Site 92P204.

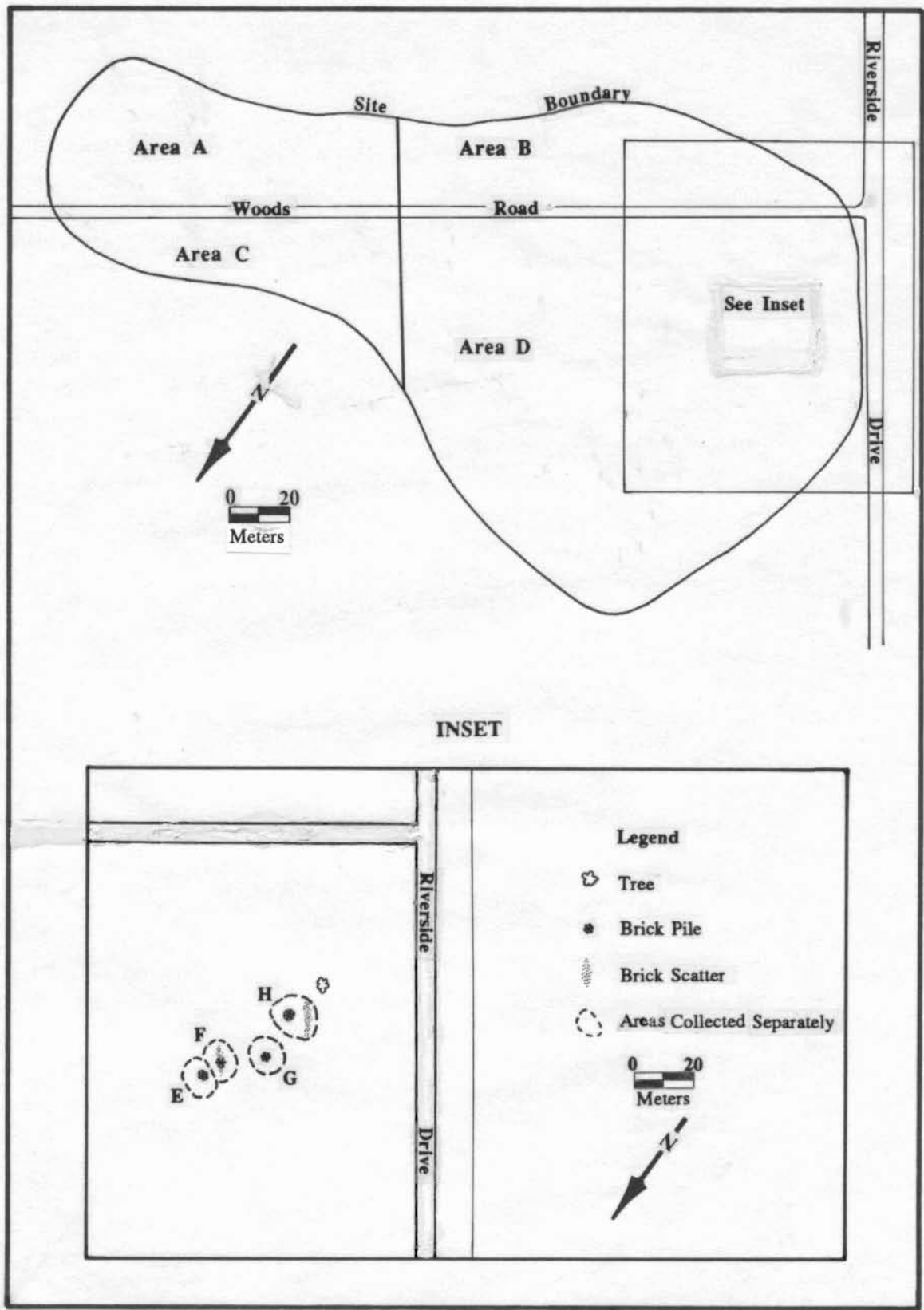


Figure 11. Site 9EF205, Plan.

were defined by a series of 30 m interval transects. Although the artifacts occurred in a continuous scatter, concentrations of artifacts which represented distinct structures, were observed. The site was arbitrarily divided into four parts (Areas A-D) based on the artifact composition of each area (see Figure 11). Because of the large size and high artifact concentrations, a selective collection strategy was employed. The only ceramics collected were rim sherds and decorated body sherds. Similarly, only necks and bases of glass bottles were collected. No brick was collected. The artifacts collected from this site are summarized in Table 3.

Area A contained a dense concentration of historic debris and a light scatter of aboriginal artifacts. Area B was located west of Area A and south of a dirt road. It contained a low density scatter of historic artifacts. Areas A and B were collected using 30 m interval sample transects. Area C was located north of the dirt road and east of Area D. It contained a low to moderate density scatter of historic artifacts. Area C was collected using 10 m interval sample transects. Area D was located north of the dirt road and west of Area C. Area D was collected using 5 m interval sample transects. This area contained a dense scatter of historic artifacts and several brick scatters that probably are chimney ruins. This area was further subdivided into Areas E, F, G, and H which were identified as individual structures, with density collections made within a 5 m radius surrounding each suspected chimney. Within each density circle, rim sherds, bases, decorated sherds, diagnostic bottle parts, and representative artifacts were collected. Brick, although abundant in Areas E, F, G, and H and generally widespread in low frequencies throughout the site, was not collected other than a small sample of gray bricks taken from Area D.

This site contains the remains of at least five early historic structures, four of which retain basal portions of brick chimneys. Judging from the presence of refined white salt glazed stoneware and other imported salt glazed stoneware sherds, it is likely that this site was occupied from the mid eighteenth century. Use of the area continued into the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, but the peak settlement of the site was during the mid nineteenth century. A sample of 204 pottery sherds from the site yielded a mean ceramic date estimate of 1830.8. The site was virtually abandoned by the early twentieth century, and most of the dwellings probably were in ruins following the War Between the States. The close alignment of the brick ruins in Areas E, F, G, and H is suggestive of a slave quarter, and the artifact assemblage tends to substantiate this interpretation. Further historical documentation is needed to identify the occupants of these dwellings.

Site 9EF210. This was a medium-sized surface scatter of Woodland pottery and undiagnostic aboriginal lithics located in a logging clearcut on a low ridge adjacent to a

Table 3. Artifact Summary, Site 9EF205

	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area D	Area E	Area F	Area G	Area H	Total
Kitchen Group	118	15	36	70	26	38	13	15	331
<i>Ceramics</i>	110	14	32	49	17	28	8	8	266
White refined salt glazed stoneware					1				1
Gray salt glazed stoneware	3	1		2	1				7
Blue & gray salt glazed stoneware	2			1					3
Brown salt glazed stoneware		2				3			5
Red brown salt glazed stoneware				1					1
Brown alkaline glazed stoneware	1			2					3
Green alkaline glazed stoneware								1	1
Brown lead glazed stoneware	2								2
Undecorated porcelain				1			1	1	3
Decal decorated porcelain								1	1
Annular porcelain, gold painted				1					1
Undecorated creamware	2		1						3
Undecorated pearlware	7	3	2	1		1			14
Green edged pearlware	3	1		2	1				7
Blue edged pearlware	1			2					3
Blue transfer printed pearlware	2								2
Blue hand painted floral pearlware	3		1						4
Polychrome hand painted floral pearlware	1					1			2
Dipped pearlware	9								9
Undecorated whiteware	8	1	5	3	2	1	3		23
Blue edged whiteware	30	2	14	4		3	2		55
Blue transfer printed whiteware	8	3		8			2	1	22
Brown transfer printed whiteware	1	1	3						5
Purple transfer printed whiteware	1								1
Green transfer printed whiteware	1					1			2
Rose transfer printed whiteware	6		1			1			8
Blue sponged whiteware	1								1
Dipped whiteware	9		1	3	1				14

Table 3. Artifact Summary, Site 9EF205, continued.

	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area D	Area E	Area F	Area G	Area H	Total
Kitchen Group, continued									
Purple hand painted floral whiteware	1		1						2
Polychrome hand painted floral whiteware	3				1			1	5
Polychrome dipped yellowware				3					3
Undecorated yellowware				2		1			3
Undecorated ironstone			2		9				11
Blue transfer printed ironstone								1	1
Undecorated ironstone or whiteware	5		1	13	1	16		2	38
<i>Kitchen hardware</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cast iron dutch oven fragment	1								1
<i>Bottle glass</i>	6	1	4	21	9	10	5	5	61
Dark green	2	1	2		1	2	1	1	10
Green					1				1
Light green	2		2	1	1	2	1	3	12
Aqua				14	1				15
Blue						1	1		2
Amber				1			1		2
Clear	2								2
Clear, manganese sun-colored				3	4	5	1	1	14
White				2	1				3
<i>Table glassware</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Purple & clear stemmed bowl								1	1
<i>Other Kitchen</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Oyster shell	1								1
Animal tooth								1	1
Other Historic Artifacts	18	1	6	3	3	3	3	4	41
Tobacco pipe fragments, white clay	18	1	4	1	1				25
Chert strike-a-light or crude gunflint			1						1
Lead bullet, unfired			1						1
Rubber button, 4-hole						1		2	3
Milk glass button, 4-hole							1		1

Table 3. Artifact Summary, Site 9EF205, Continued.

	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area D	Area E	Area F	Area G	Area H	Total
Other historic artifacts, continued									
Brass rivet							1		1
Tinned iron strap hook				1					1
White metal screw-cap cylinder								1	1
Unidentified cast iron fragment					1	1			2
Light green window glass				1	1		1		3
Slate						1			1
Machine cut square nail								1	1
Wrought iron spike				1					1
Brick & mortar, not collected									
Total Historic Artifacts	136	16	42	73	29	41	16	19	372
Aboriginal artifacts	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	6
Chert biface thinning flakes	2								2
Chert flake fragment				1					1
Metavolcanic projectile point tip	1								1
Chert utilized flake, bifacially worked	1								1
Quartzite cobble shatter						1			1

small drainage and southeast of a large Carolina Bay (see Figure 10 & Figure 12). The site was bisected by a field road and the north and south portions were collected separately. Both areas were sampled using 5 m interval transects. The north side contained:

Aboriginal pottery-

1 Undecorated sand tempered

Aboriginal lithics-

27 Chert biface thinning flakes

2 Quartz biface thinning flakes

4 Chert shatter

1 Chert projectile point midsection

Other artifacts-

1 Oyster shell fragment

Several very large sherds were recovered from the surface on the south side of the field road indicative of intact subsurface deposits. Artifacts recovered from the south side of the site include:

Aboriginal pottery-

7 Undecorated sand tempered

3 Cord marked sand tempered

1 Residual sand tempered

Aboriginal lithics-

2 Chert percussion flakes

12 Chert biface thinning flakes

8 Chert flake fragments

1 Chert shatter

Other artifacts-

1 Small unidentified animal bone

Site 9EF217. This is a small surface scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic artifacts located in a logging clearcut on a ridgecrest (see Figure 10). A single dwelling from that period probably was located on this site, although there were no standing remains or obvious features. Only one artifact was collected from the site, a porcelain doll torso, but many brick, undecorated ironstone and whiteware sherds, and clear, aqua, and manganese clear bottle glass were observed.

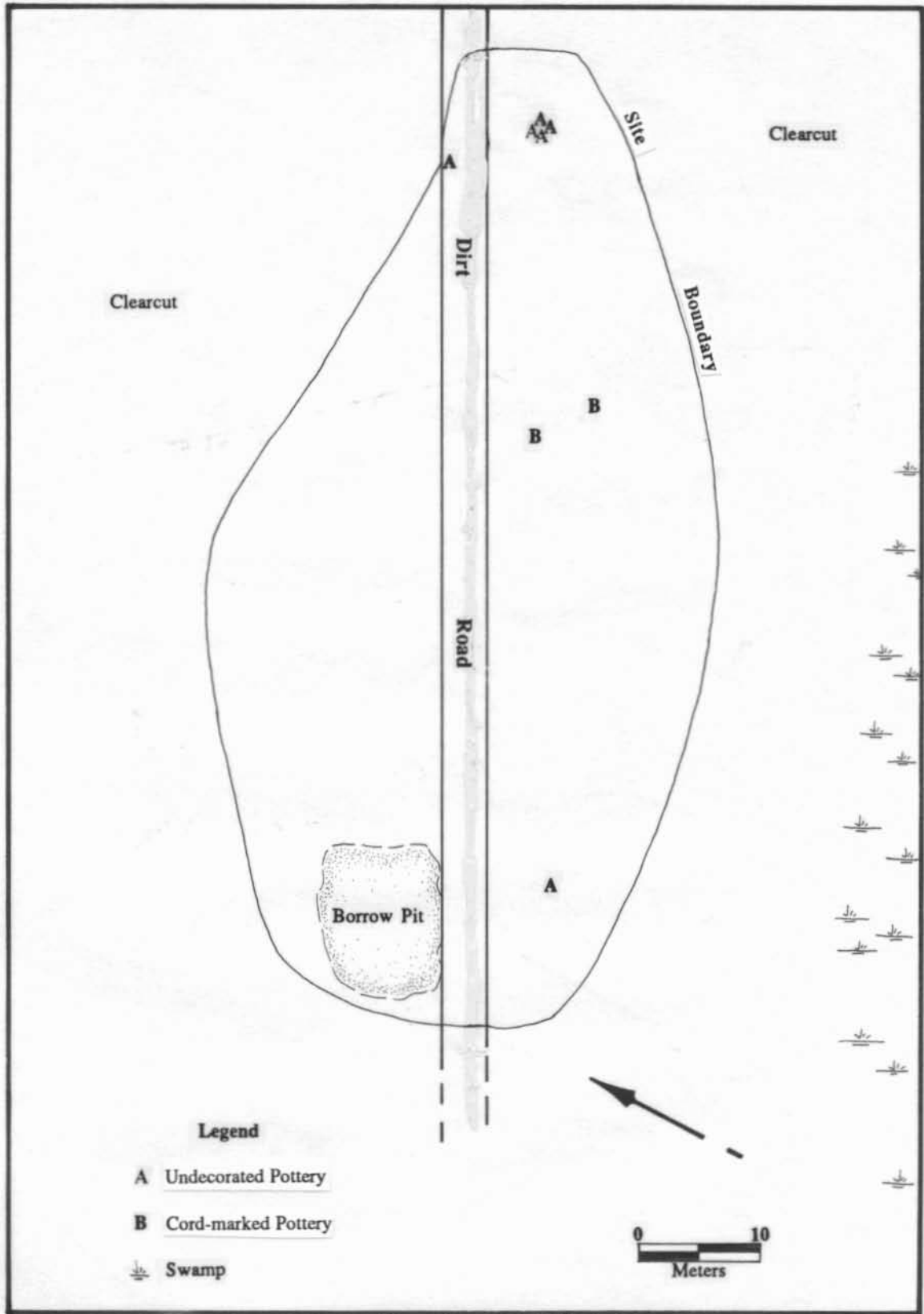


Figure 12. Site 9EF210, Plan.

Burns Tract C

Site 9EF211. This was a surface scatter of Woodland ceramics and Woodland or Mississippian lithics found in a logging clearcut on two neighboring low ridges adjacent to the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13 & Figure 14). Several very large sherds were recovered from the surface indicative of intact subsurface deposits. Artifacts collected from the surface of the southwestern ridge include:

Aboriginal pottery-

- 6 Undecorated, smoothed, fine sand tempered
- 2 Undecorated, smoothed, sand tempered
- 3 Cord marked sand tempered
- 1 Check stamped, smoothed, fine sand tempered

Aboriginal lithics-

- 1 Small triangular chert projectile point base
- 4 Chert biface thinning flakes
- 1 Chert utilized biface thinning flake
- 1 Quartz biface thinning flake, made on a cobble
- 1 Fossilized shell

Artifacts recovered from the northeastern ridge include:

Aboriginal pottery-

- 2 Undecorated sand tempered (1 is slightly scraped on the exterior)
- 1 Simple stamped sand tempered

Aboriginal lithics-

- 2 Chert percussion flakes
- 13 Chert biface thinning flakes
- 7 Chert flake fragments
- 2 Chert shatter
- 1 Chert utilized biface thinning flake

Site 9EF212. This was a low density surface scatter of Woodland or Mississippian ceramics and Late Archaic lithics in a logging clearcut on two small, low ridges surrounded by the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13). Artifacts recovered from the surface, collected on 5 m interval transects, include:

Aboriginal pottery-

- 1 Check stamped sand tempered (diamond-shaped checks)

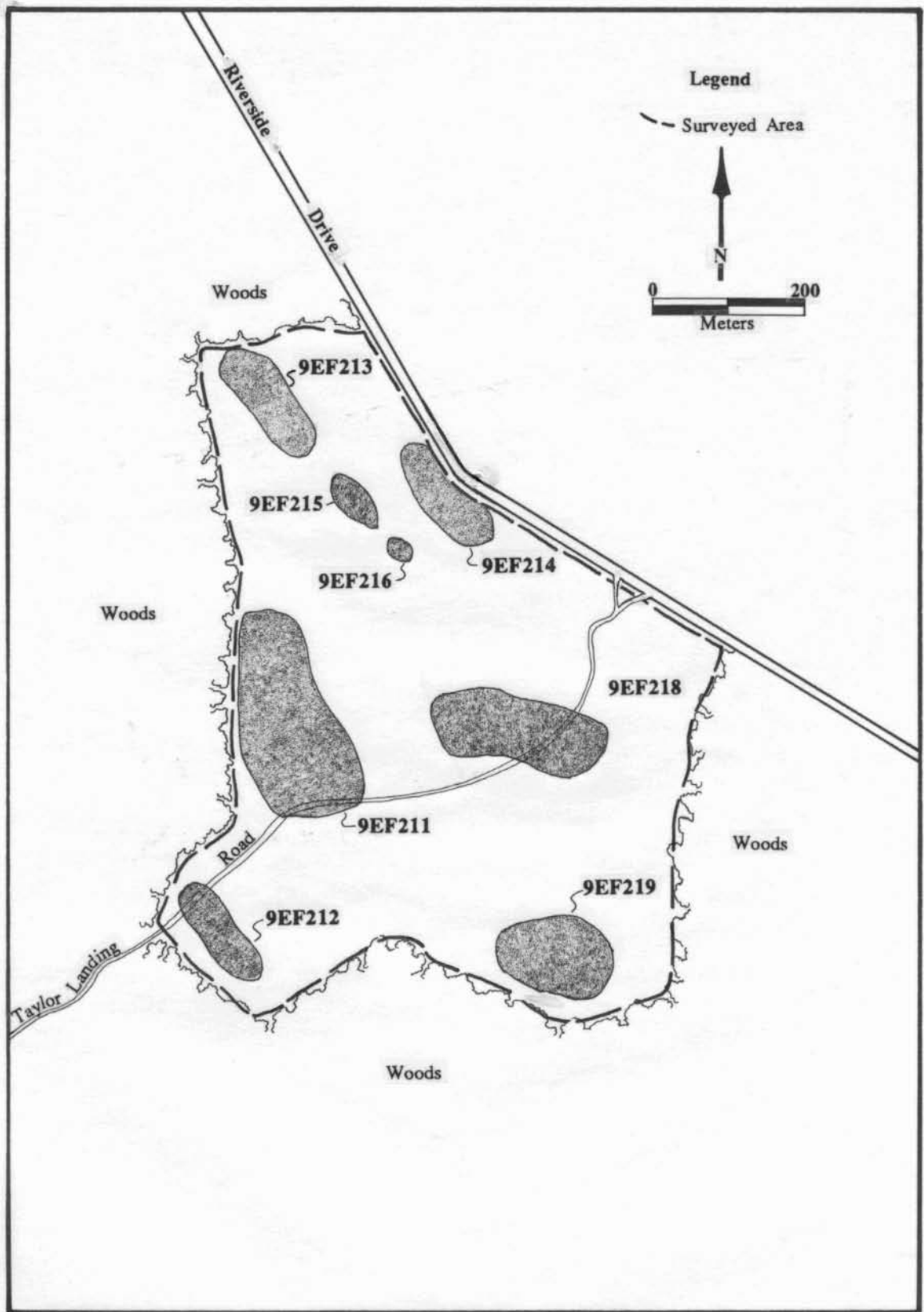


Figure 13. Burns Tract C.

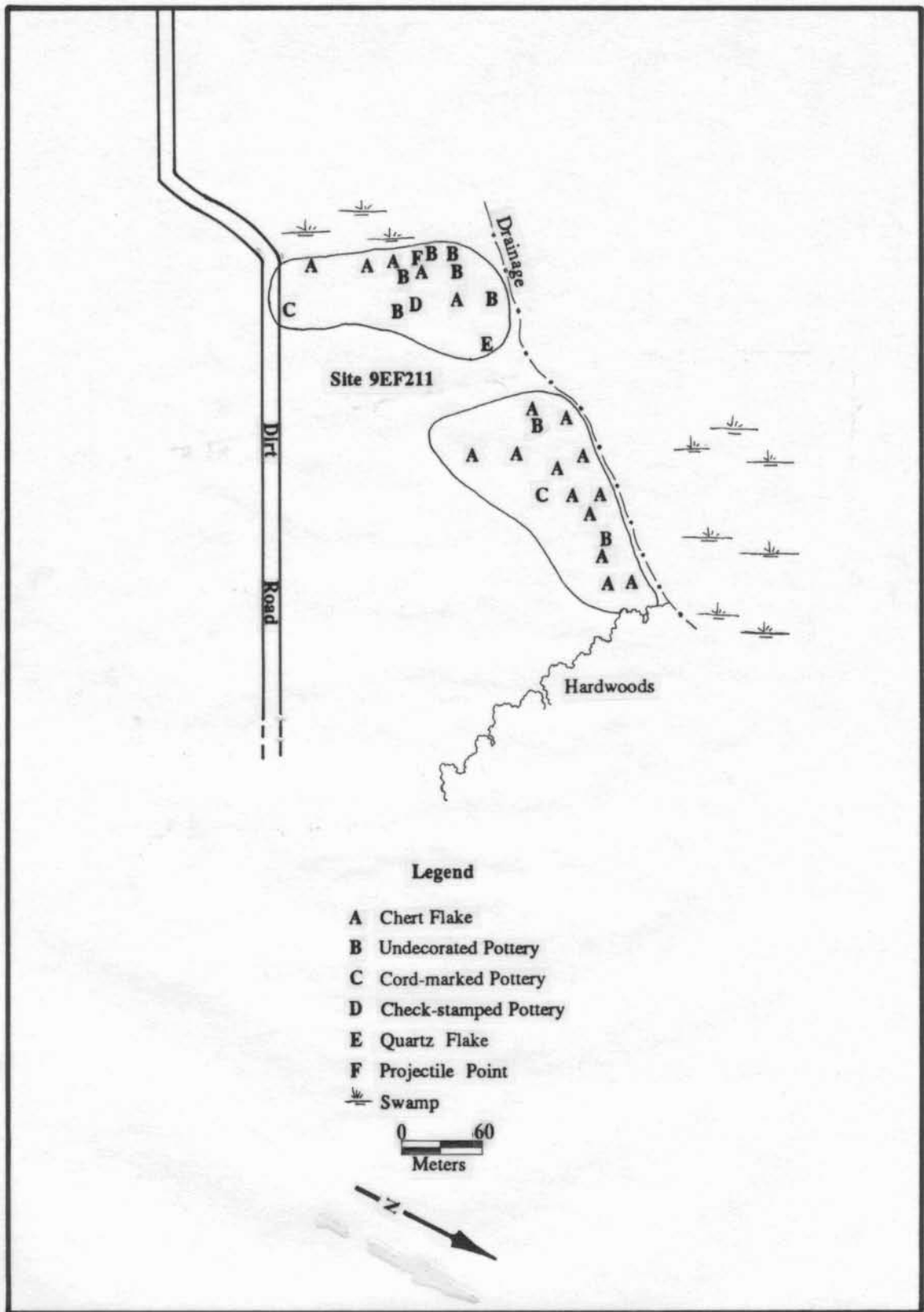


Figure 14. Site 9EF211, Plan.

- 1 Simple stamped sand tempered
- 1 Cord marked sand tempered
- 2 Undecorated sand tempered
- Aboriginal lithics-**
- 1 Stemmed chert projectile point (Late Archaic)
- 1 Chert percussion flake
- 15 Chert biface thinning flakes
- 9 Chert flake fragments
- 5 Chert shatter
- 1 Quartz shatter

Site 9EF213. This was a medium-sized surface scatter of early historic artifacts, Woodland pottery, and undiagnostic aboriginal lithic artifacts located in a logging clearcut on a low ridge overlooking the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13). The artifacts collected from the site are summarized in Table 4. Several very large aboriginal sherds were recovered from the surface indicative of intact subsurface deposits. This site probably contained a house dating to the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. A sample of 29 pottery sherds from the site yielded a mean ceramic date of 1803.5.

Site 9EF214. This was a medium-sized surface scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century historic artifacts located in a logging clearcut on a low ridge overlooking the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13). It probably is the remains of a single residence from that time period. Artifacts observed on the surface include undecorated ironstone, bottle glass, brick, and metal. There were no standing structural remains or obvious features. No collection was made on this site.

Site 9EF215. This site contains a low density surface scatter of undiagnostic lithic artifacts and historic artifacts probably associated with a late nineteenth to early twentieth century dwelling (see Figure 13). There were no standing architectural remains or obvious features. It is located on in a logging clearcut on a low ridge overlooking the Ogeechee River swamp. Artifacts collected from the site surface, on 10 m interval sample transects, include:

Historic artifacts-

- 4 Undecorated whiteware (MNV [Minimum Number of Vessels]=3)
- 1 Clear bottle glass
- 1 Brick fragment

Aboriginal lithics-

- 1 Chert core
- 1 Chert percussion flake
- 3 Chert biface thinning flakes
- 3 Chert flake fragment

Site 9EF216. This site contained a small trash dump of late nineteenth to early twentieth century artifacts located in a logging clearcut on a low ridge overlooking the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13). It does not appear to represent a house site, but it may be associated with a nearby house ruin. Artifacts collected from the site include:

Historic-

- 1 Blue glass jar fragment (automatic machine-made)
- 1 Milk glass canning jar lid
- 1 Manganese clear glass machine made perfume bottle (LAZELL'S PERFUMES NEW YORK PAT'D AUG 2nd 87)
- 1 Undecorated ironstone plate rim

Aboriginal lithics-

- 1 light chert thinning flake

Site 9EF218. This was a broad surface scatter of Archaic lithics and Woodland ceramics located in a logging clearcut on three contiguous low ridges adjacent to the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13). The eastern ridge contained very few artifacts. Three chert thinning flakes and two chert shatter were collected from this area. The western ridge contained 5 chert thinning flakes, 1 chert shatter, and 1 residual sand tempered body sherd. The intermediate ridge contained a concentration of artifacts surrounding a small borrow pit. Artifacts collected include:

Aboriginal pottery-

- 1 Plain sand tempered
- 1 Cord marked (overstamped) sand tempered

Aboriginal lithics-

- 1 Chert stemmed projectile point lateral fragment
- 15 Chert thinning flakes
- 14 Chert flake fragments
- 3 Chert shatter
- 1 Bone or chalk fragment

Site 9EF219. This was an extremely low density surface scatter of undiagnostic lithic

	Count	MNV*
Kitchen Group	35	
<i>Ceramics</i>	30	
Undecorated creamware	14	4
Undecorated pearlware	5	
Dipped pearlware	3	2
Blue transfer printed pearlware	1	1
Polychrome hand painted floral pearlware	2	1
Blue edged pearlware	2	2
Undecorated whiteware	1	
Blue transfer printed whiteware	1	1
Undecorated yellowware	1	1
<i>Bottle glass</i>	4	
Dark green	4	1
<i>Other kitchen group</i>	1	
Oyster shell	1	
TOTAL HISTORIC ARTIFACTS	35	13 pottery vessels & 1 bottle
Aboriginal artifacts	48	
Check stamped, sand tempered	1	1
Undecorated, sand tempered	2	1
Cordmarked, sand tempered	6	2
Chert core	2	
Chert percussion flakes	2	
Chert biface thinning flakes	11	
Chert flake fragments	11	
Chert shatter	6	
Chert utilized flake	1	
Chert biface fragments	2	
Chert projectile point fragment	1	
Quartz cobble core	1	
Quartz cobble shatter	1	
Quartz biface thinning flake	1	

* Minimum number of vessels estimate

Table 4. Artifact Summary, Site 9EP113.

debris located in a logging clearcut on the crest of a high sandy ridge immediately adjacent to the Ogeechee River swamp (see Figure 13). The remnant vegetation on this knoll was xerophytic and included yucca and cactus. Artifacts collected include: 1 cord marked sand tempered body sherd, 3 chert thinning flakes, and 1 chert shatter. The pottery sherd found at this site is probably Woodland, while the lithics are undiagnostic. This site is located on a prominent topographic feature, and the low yield of prehistoric remains was surprising.

Chapter 4.

Summary Interpretations

This survey project has added 30 archaeological sites to the known inventory of archaeological sites in Effingham County bringing the total count to 219 sites, and it has greatly augmented the site universe for portions of the county within the Ogeechee River drainage system from 6 to 36 sites. Five of the 10 tracts were in interriverine environments, while the remaining five can be described as riverine. Sites were found in all ten of the examined tracts. Nineteen sites were recorded on the riverine tracts, while 11 sites were recorded on the interriverine tracts. Site elevations in the study tracts range from 16 m in the southern part of the county to 40 m in the northern section. Sites were most dense in the study tracts that were located nearest to the Ogeechee River. Only two tracts, Brown and Burns Tract C, actually extended into the Ogeechee River floodplain. The Ash tract and Burns Tracts A and B were located relatively near the river.

Approximately 279 ha were systematically covered by our survey revealing an overall site density of 0.108, or one archaeological site per 9 ha. Burns Tract A had the highest site density (0.667), while the Ash tract had the lowest (0.052). The interriverine tracts had an average density of 0.097, while the riverine tracts averaged slightly higher at 0.115. How do these findings compare with other surveys in the region? Of the four most extensive surveys in Effingham County, ours produced the highest site density. Fish's study (1976), which included many large tracts of interriverine land, yielded a site density of 0.070. The Fort Howard project, where the survey area was entirely wooded, and systematic shovel tests had to be used to locate sites, had a density of 0.074 sites per hectare (Elliott and Smith 1985). The Vogtle-Effingham-Thalmann transmission line survey had an overall site density of 0.060 sites per ha within the Coastal Marine Flatlands portion of their study, and 0.075 sites per ha within the Effingham County segment (Garrow 1984).

From this comparison it is clear that the density of archaeological sites varies considerably across Effingham County. While a small percentage of this difference may result for differing survey conditions or sampling strategy, the general pattern seems apparent. Over 3037.5 ha have been systematically surveyed by the four largest projects within the region and 217 sites were recorded as a result. The average site density is 0.071, or approximately one site per 14 ha. Sites occur in nearly all environments but are more common near large tributaries and river courses, particularly multiple component prehistoric sites, while many interriverine areas are devoid of sites. The higher site density

that was observed for the Ogeechee River basin (0.108) versus the Savannah River basin (0.071) may result from the more restricted availability of well drained soils in the Ogeechee. There is less well drained land available for settlement in the lower Ogeechee drainage than the lower Savannah drainage, increasing the probability of the Ogeechee lands being reused.

To date, however, no sites have been identified in wetland environments in Effingham County, but this is a possibility that should not be ruled out given the changes that have occurred in sea level since the early Holocene period. Previous surveys of the county, ours included, have not been designed to detect sites in wet environments.

Unfortunately, the area nearest to the river, Burns Tract C, had been systematically combed by relic collectors shortly before our survey. This probably resulted in a lower representation of projectile points than if the area had not been collected. The Brown and Ash tracts, also were collected in the past, and this reduced our diagnostic artifact yield.

As pointed out in our historical background discussion, the archaeology of the Ogeechee River is not well documented. This study demonstrates that there are many sites in western Effingham County, from a wide range of chronological and cultural periods. Many of these sites may have important research potential. Since the scope of this study was surface survey, however, assessment of significance or National Register eligibility was not attempted.

Only two of the survey tracts, Tuten and Hinely, were entirely devoid of any aboriginal artifacts. On four tracts, Emory and Prior, Ratchford, Burns Tract A, and Conaway, aboriginal evidence was limited to an extremely low density scatter of chipped stone artifacts, predominantly debitage. The Ash tract contained a higher density of aboriginal lithics, representing the Early and Late Archaic periods (stemmed projectile points and an Early Archaic unifacial scraper), but this tract was entirely devoid of any aboriginal pottery. Three tracts, Brown, Burns Tract B, and Burns Tract C, contained both chipped stone and aboriginal pottery. Site 9EF192 on the Brown tract contained Thoms Creek pottery and undiagnostic lithics. The Brown collection, which was gathered from several surrounding sites, contains pottery and lithic artifacts spanning the Early Archaic through Late Woodland or Mississippian periods. Burns Tract B contains undiagnostic lithics and Woodland pottery. Burns Tract C contains Late Archaic stemmed and Woodland or Mississippian small triangular projectile points, and Woodland, and possibly Mississippian, sand tempered ceramics (cord marked, check stamped, and undecorated motifs). Aboriginal artifact density can best be described as light to moderate, and none

contained a high frequency of prehistoric artifacts. The prehistoric site density and artifact density within sites is suggestive of a non-base camp settlement pattern. No dense middens were identified on any of the sites, and the diversity of artifact types on each aboriginal site was low.

The absence of high grade chert outcrops on the lower stretches of the Ogeechee River, including Effingham County, is reflected in the paucity of lithic remains in this region. Fish (1978:340) made similar observations for the Ebenezer Creek Watershed. This stands in marked contrast to the situation observed on several excavated sites along Brier Creek in neighboring Screven County, where chert debitage and biface manufacturing debris were found in high frequencies (Garrow 1984; Elliott and O'Steen 1987). There is some indication of a petrified wood chipped stone industry, and small deposits of petrified wood are reported. The use of petrified wood has been reported in eastern Effingham County (Fish 1976, 1978; Smith 1986; Elliott 1988, 1990), but the sources of these stones have been documented poorly. Petrified wood cobbles likely were derived from gravel bars along the major rivers and streams in the region. Small pockets of moderate quality chert occur occasionally within these cobbles. Quartz pebbles, cobbles, and debitage derived from the same, in extremely small frequencies, were present on the survey sites. The source of this stone is probably similar to the petrified wood. Also present on the survey sites were small quantities of better grade coastal plain cherts, probably derived from sources located more than 30 km north of Effingham County (Goad 1979).

Diagnostic projectile points were relatively rare on the survey areas. All of the diagnostic, or potentially diagnostic, stone tools that were identified are illustrated in Figure 15. These include Late Archaic stemmed (Figure 15b, 15f, & 15i) and Woodland and/or Mississippian triangular points (Figure 15e & 15g). An unusual chipped stone tool made from coastal plain chert (Figure 15d) was found on 9EF205, and it appears to be either a crude gunflint or a strike-a-lite flint. Other probable stemmed projectile points, broken at their bases, also were recovered (Figure 15a, 15c, & 15h). The age of these tools is uncertain, but Figure 15a and 15c probably date to the Archaic period, while Figure 15h may date to the Woodland period.

Pottery observed during the survey dates almost entirely to the Woodland period. All of the sherds were sand tempered. Cord marked, check stamped, simple stamped, punctate, and undecorated surface treatments were recorded in our survey sample. These pottery decorative motifs were common in other surveys of the region (Fish 1976; Garrow 1984; Elliott and Smith 1985). Stallings Island pottery, although observed in the Brown collection, were not found on any sites in our survey. A single Thoms Creek punctate sherd, possibly contemporaneous with Stallings Island wares, was observed on 9EF192.

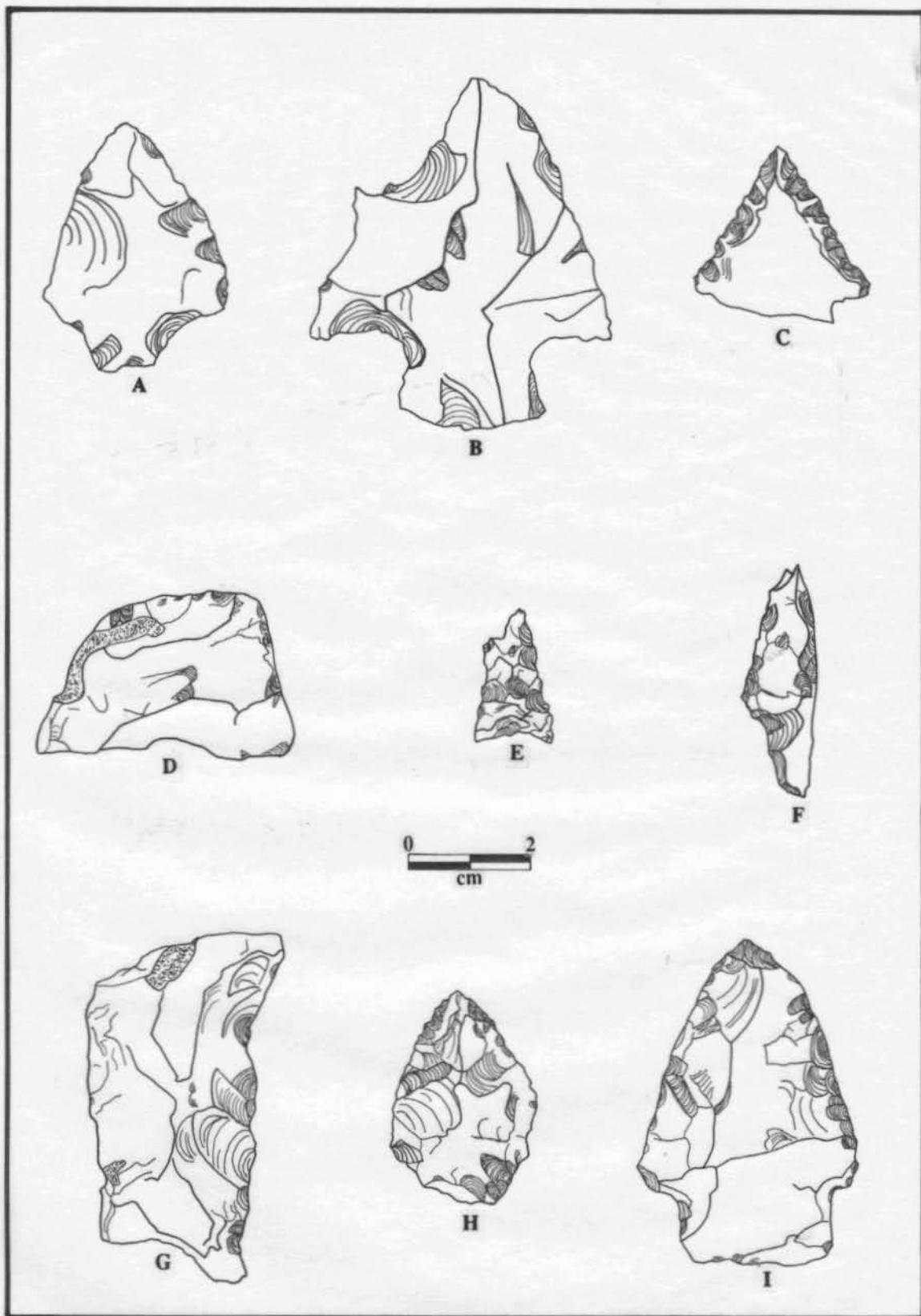


Figure 15. Selected Chipped Stone Tools. A. Chert Stemmed, Site 9EF193;
 B. & C. Chert Stemmed, Site 9EF204; D. Chert Strike-a-lite or Gunflint, Site 9EF205; E. Chert Small Triangular,
 Site 9EF211; F. Chert Stemmed, Site 9EF212; G. Chert Triangular Preform, Site 9EF213; H. Chert Stemmed,
 Site 9EF213; I. Chert Stemmed, Site 9EF218.

Vessel profiles of the rim sherds are illustrated in Figure 16. The arrows in this illustration indicate the vessel interior. Figure 16a is a undecorated vessel with an everted rim from 9EF210, Figures 16b and 16c are undecorated vessels with incurvate rims from 9EF211, and Figures 16d and 16e are cord-marked vessels with incurvate rims from 9EF213. Vessel diameters were calculated for two vessels: Figure 16c was 26 cm in diameter, and Figure 16e was 32 cm in diameter. Most of the pottery found by our survey dates to the Woodland period. While some of the cord marked and check stamped sherds from our sample may date to the Mississippian period, no classic Irene sherds were observed. Similar observations for the low frequency of Irene pottery in Effingham County were reported by Fish (1978:337) and Elliott and Smith (1985).

Historic sites were more common than prehistoric sites within the study tracts. The most common were late nineteenth-early twentieth century farmsteads with at least one example located on each of the ten study tracts. The density of mid-nineteenth through early twentieth century sites observed by our survey (N=21, or 0.075 sites per ha), is markedly higher than that observed by Fish (0.017) and Elliott and Smith (0.005) in the Savannah River basin. Sites dating to the mid nineteenth century were found on the Tuten, Ratchford, Burns Tract B, and Ash tracts. Several sherds, and one porcelain doll fragment, contained portions of makers' marks that may be useful in their identification, and these are illustrated in Figure 17. The maker's mark illustrated in Figure 17c, *Goodwin's Ironstone China* 1844, is probably a Staffordshire pottery mark. Several pottery factories bearing the name Goodwin, and Godwin, are recorded during the early to mid nineteenth century, but no mark bearing this exact emblem was found (Godden 1964:278, 280). The maker's mark shown in Figure 17d, showing a lion next to a crowned oval, was a common motif in use from the mid nineteenth- to the early twentieth century and it could not be identified specifically (Godden 1964:23, 158). The other two illustrated maker's marks also were not identified.

Sites dating from the late eighteenth to very early nineteenth centuries were found on four tracts: Prior/Emory, and Burns Tracts A, B, and C. All of these sites, except 9EF205, probably represent single family dwellings. Site 9EF205 probably contained a compact slave quarter, although further research is needed to identify the plantation with which it would have been associated. Mean ceramic dates were calculated for four sites. Site 9EF205 yielded a date estimate of 1830.8 (N=204), 9EF206 yielded a date estimate of 1806.1 (N=55); 9EF213 yielded a date of 1803.5 (N=29), and 9EF193 yielded a date of 1806.8 (N=6). Of these four sites, 9EF205 experienced the longest occupation lasting from the mid eighteenth to early twentieth centuries. The density of late eighteenth to early nineteenth century sites observed by our survey (0.014 sites per ha) lies between that

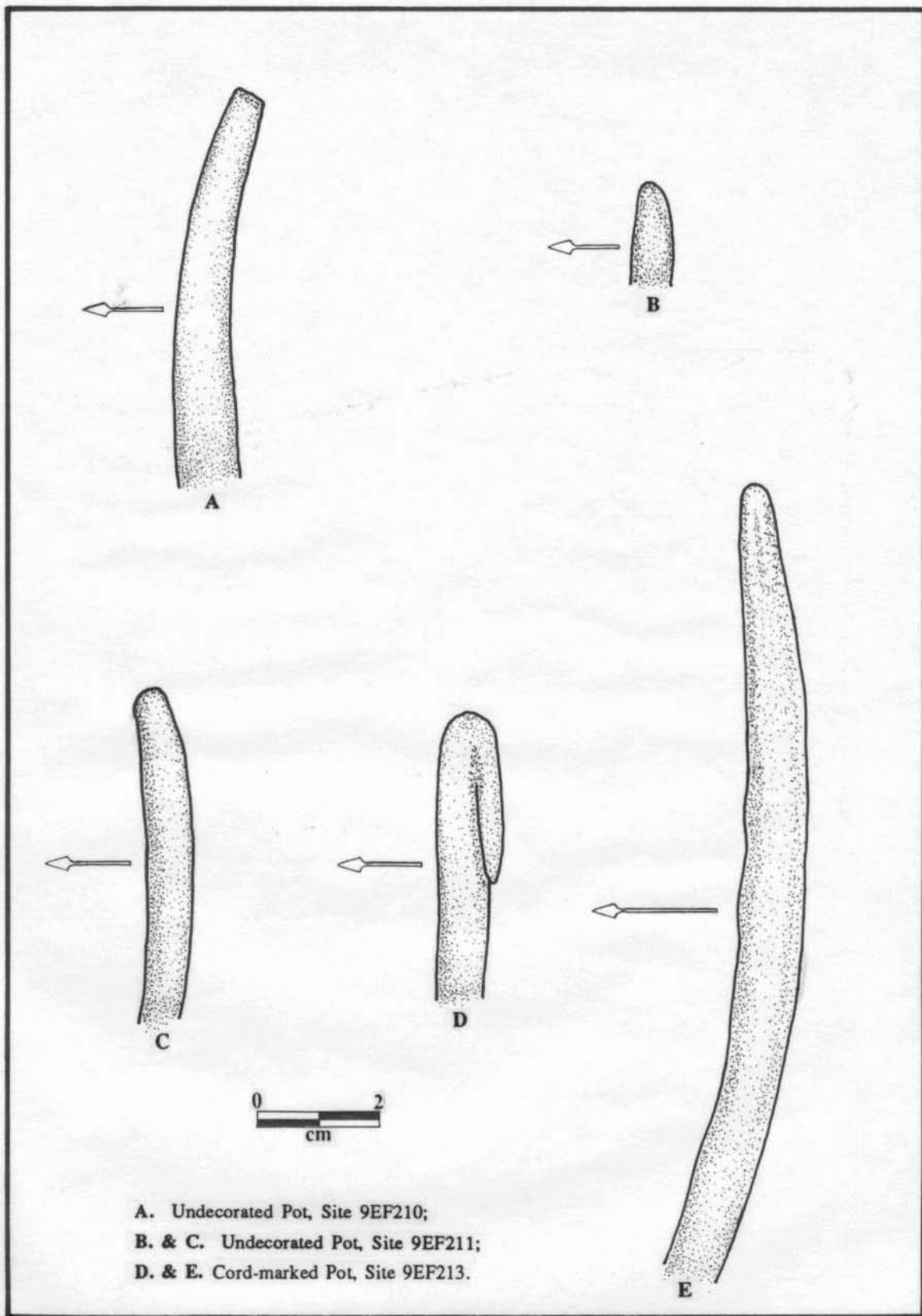


Figure 16. Aboriginal Pottery Vessel Profiles.

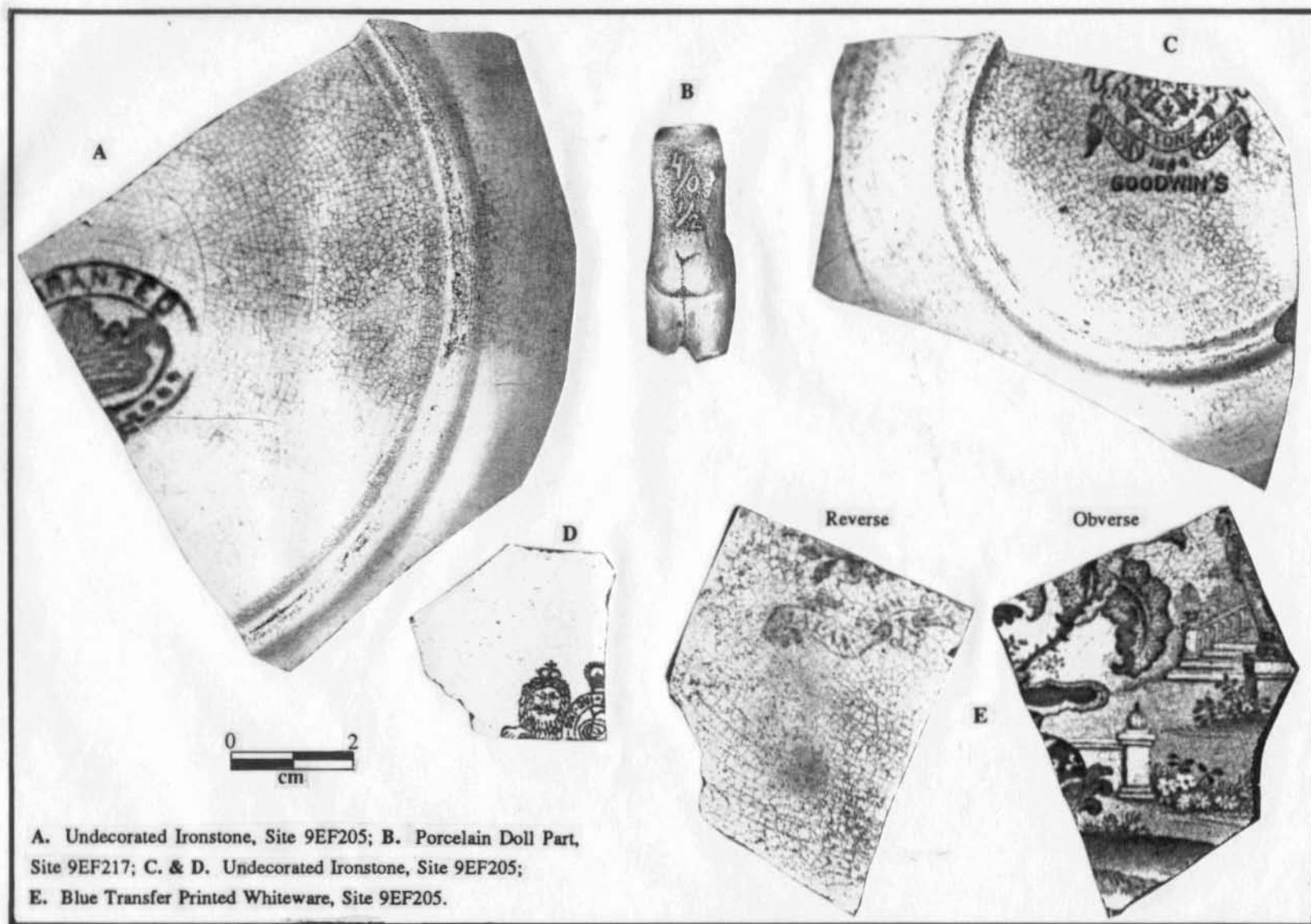


Figure 17. Historic Ceramics Makers' Marks.

observed by Elliott and Smith (0.020) and Fish (0.009).

All of the late eighteenth-/early nineteenth-century sites, except 9EF193 which is located on the Emory and Prior tract, were situated along an old road, presently known as Riverside Drive. According to local resident Henry Wilkins, this road once was the main north-south road on this section of the Ogeechee River. One arm of William T. Sherman's Union forces (17th Army Corps) marched down this road during the March to the Sea, and undoubtedly, his soldiers laid waste to many of the structures along their path. Since that time, however, the primary north-south transportation artery has moved progressively eastward. A now-defunct railroad line parallels Georgia Highway 17 throughout Effingham County, and this rail line served as a magnet for settlement since the mid nineteenth century.

Sites dating prior to the American Revolution were not well represented in the survey sample (N=1), despite the historical documentation for numerous colonial plantation settlements in the Ogeechee region (Wilson 1983). Several sites contained creamware (produced from 1762 until 1820), but other ceramic types commonly associated with the colonial period (e.g. coarse earthenware, redware, salt glazed stoneware, delft, yellow slipware) were generally absent. A few sherds of salt glazed stoneware were found on 9EF205. Our survey reveals a site density of 0.003 sites per ha for mid-eighteenth century sites, compared with higher densities of 0.005 and 0.016 reported by Fish and Elliott and Smith, respectively. The absence of these early type ceramics, well represented on colonial period sites on the eastern side of the county, indicates that most of these sites on the Ogeechee were settled after the Revolution.

This survey presents only a sample of site types that can be expected to occur in western Effingham County. Although many of these sites were less intensively occupied than expected, archaeological sites were found in a wide variety of environments spanning a wide range of time periods from the Early Archaic to the mid-twentieth century. Late nineteenth- early twentieth-century house sites and low density lithic debitage scatters are ubiquitous across the county, while sites containing aboriginal pottery or early historic artifacts are more specific in their occurrence. Most of the early historic sites, but not all, are associated with obvious early roads. Through time, however, historic settlements began to fill up the landscape. The earliest historic sites, those dating to Protohistoric times and the British colonial period, eluded us during this survey. The absence of Protohistoric sites may be an indication that this region was not selected for settlement during that period. Sites containing Irene ceramics also are rare on the east side of Effingham County. We know from eighteenth century historic records, however, that this Ogeechee region was

settled during the British colonial period. Many of the land holdings from the colonial period were large (100 acres or more), however, thus reducing the likelihood of our encountering any associated sites in this sample survey. The minor mid-eighteenth century component observed at 9EF205, consisting of a few salt glazed stoneware sherds, was greatly overshadowed by later occupation of the site. It may represent a house site from the colonial period.

Several goals for future research are suggested. Further archaeological surveys should be conducted to locate additional sites. These surveys should include subsurface shovel tests, particularly in wooded areas or areas with potential for buried deposits. Areas within the Ogeechee River floodplain should be examined for sites. This will necessitate the use of a boat, and possibly a local guide, in order to reach some of the more isolated patches of high ground. The National Register eligibility of potentially significant sites located by this survey should be assessed. This will require limited test excavations. Additional historical research should be conducted on the historic sites identified by this survey so that these sites can be interpreted more thoroughly. Future surveys should focus on the location of sites associated with the Stallings Island Late Archaic culture, Protohistoric, and British colonial periods. The petrified wood chipped stone industry in Effingham County also should be the target of future research. This should include a search for sources, notably gravel beds, and underwater archaeological survey for submerged petrified forests. Hobby divers report clusters of petrified trees on the bottom of the Savannah River near Purysburg in Jasper County, South Carolina, and similar conditions may exist on the Ogeechee. Whether these submerged resources were quarried, however, is a subject for future research.

The West Effingham Survey represents one of the most intensive survey efforts conducted thus far on the Ogeechee River watershed. Given the near absence of site data from this Ogeechee region, our findings should spur additional studies along its course. These survey data should prove useful in developing a comprehensive land use plan for this section of Effingham County, particularly as Savannah's industry and associated urban sprawl expands ever northward.

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