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Exploratory Archeology at the Scott's Lake Site (38CR1) Santee Indian Mound - Ft. Watson Summer 1972

Leland G. Ferguson

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Exploratory Archeology at the Scott's Lake Site (38CR1) Santee Indian Mound - Ft. Watson Summer 1972

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EXPLORATORY ARCHEOLOGY
AT THE SCOTT'S LAKE SITE (38CR1)
SANTEE INDIAN MOUND - FT. WATSON
SUMMER 1972

by

Leland G. Ferguson
Research Manuscript Series, No. 36

Prepared by the
INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
February, 1973

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INTRODUCTION

Exploratory archeological investigations were conducted at the Scott's Lake Site (38CR1 - Ft. Watson State Historic Site) during the summer of 1972. The active field season extended from June 5, 1972 through September 3, 1972. Field work was conducted by the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology of the University of South Carolina. The program was jointly sponsored by the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. A portion of the funding was provided through the historic preservation grant program of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The research program at Scott's Lake was exploratory in nature. That the site was the location of a British Revolutionary War fort and that it had been a prehistoric Indian ceremonial center were known. The goal of this research was to determine the extent, nature and degree of preservation of the cultural remains. On the basis of this determination recommendations concerning research potential, interpretation, and preservation of the site were to be made.

This report contains a review of the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology's work relating to the Scott's Lake Site with recommendations for immediate action as well as suggestions for consideration concerning the future of the site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Excavation and analysis of the archeological materials presented in this initial examination of the Scott's Lake Site have been made possible through the cooperation and willing help of a number of people and several institutions.

At the institutional level, cooperation of the Department of the Interior, Santee Wildlife Refuge, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology of the University of South Carolina was required for the execution of the project. Of these, a special note of recognition is due the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism and the Department of Archives and History for recognizing the need for archeological research at this site.

Janson Cox, Historian for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, was in charge of the primary coordination of the project and he deserves a special note of thanks.

Members of the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology have been especially willing and able to help with this research. Many members of the staff worked routinely on the processing of materials for analysis. During the actual analysis I was most ably assisted by Susan Jackson, Richard Kimmel, and Mary Page Luttrell. Historic research was carried out by Travis Bianchi for the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology and Patricia D. Smith for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Since this investigation represents my "baptism" into historical

archeology, I have often found it necessary to call upon the talent in historical archeology within the Institute. Richard Polhemus, Stanley South, Richard Carrillo and John Combes were all not only helpful, but necessary in the analysis of these materials. I sincerely thank them for their patience.

Dr. Robert Stephenson, Director of the Institute, has been most helpful and encouraging during this project. I want to thank him for this help and encouragement, and for his tireless efforts in providing a free and stimulating atmosphere for archeological research in South Carolina.

Often the most arduous as well as exciting work in archeological investigation is that of recovering the material from the ground. For their help in this undertaking, I want to thank the members of the field crew at Scott's Lake during the summer of 1972. These include:

Steven Abney	Michael Kelly
Travis Bianchi	Richard Kimmel
Fred Dunning	John Knill
Michael Hartley	Gregg Seel
William Jackson	William Smith
John Jamison	Belton Zeigler

For their volunteer help I would like to thank Annette Ferguson, Sammy Lee, Richard Polhemus and Richard Lee Smith.

CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Fort Watson has been well known to citizens of South Carolina since the latter part of the 18th century when Colonel John W. T. Watson of the British Army built a fort on the banks of Scott's Lake (Fig. 1). Watson commented (n.d.) that "...having found a place, supposed to have been the burying ground of their Indian Chiefs in former times, resembling the Barrows of this Country [England]; we escarpt'd it at Top, abattis'd it at the bottom and surrounded it as strong as the materials we could collect, and the only utensils we had, our Tomahawks, would admit." In addition to this letter by Colonel Watson, we have a few other historic documents (Marion n.d.a, n.d.b; McKay n.d.; Horry and Weems 1873; Lee 1812) concerning the British occupation and the capture of this fort by American forces under the command of General Francis Marion and Colonel Harry Lee. Unfortunately, these documents do not contain a plan of the fortifications, and the information is often contradictory (Appendices I and II). However, through the documents we have been able to develop an inventory of the number and type of constructions built by the British and the techniques and structures built by the militia and the Continental army in attacking the fortifications.

From the historical sources we know that the British built a fort on the summit of the mound and surrounded it with abatis. In addition to this we have evidence that they constructed a storehouse and a hospital, both of which seem to have been outside of the fortified area. During the siege the British built a "covered way" to a water source and a traverse within the fort "to counteract the enemy's scaffold's" (McKay n.d.). The scaffold referred to by Lieutenant

FIGURE 1

McKay was the famous Maham tower built by Major Hezekiah Maham of General Marion's militia. Using this tower the Americans were able to force the British to surrender.

The documents available concerning Fort Watson, as mentioned, are often contradictory and they do not give an objective or complete picture of the fortification or the conflict. Rather, the documents are only a beginning. A small fort like this one did not elicit long and extended descriptions in the journals and memoirs of men who participated in the conflict. They saw this fort and this battle as a small part of the total engagement of British and American forces. Yet, to adequately understand the total pattern of military tactics, to understand the situation of the armies in the field, and to understand the everyday life and actions of soldiers in the 18th century combat, we need information from places like Fort Watson. The documents provide hypotheses -- suggestions of where things may be located and what we may expect to find. Only after we have followed through and tested these hypotheses will we be able to realize the occupation and siege of Fort Watson. Through archeology we will be able to straighten out some of the contradictions in the historic documents and to construct an objective picture of this engagement.

Although the historic component is the aspect of the Scott's Lake Site that is most commonly known to the public, the most intensive occupation was by Native American Indians. Fragments of evidence concerning the prehistoric occupation of this site have been building up for many years, and archeologists in Georgia and North Carolina have been able to place the site in a temporal and cultural framework based on archeological work in those states (Coe 1952; Caldwell 1952; Caldwell

n.d.; Reid 1965; Reid 1967; Stuart 1970; Ferguson 1971). Yet placement in these sources has been tentative because of the lack of archeological investigation within the border of the state of South Carolina. Recently, excavations by the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology of the University of South Carolina have disclosed information within the state that is related to the general cultural milieu represented at Scott's Lake (South 1971a; Teague: personal communication). However, until the excavation at Scott's Lake this summer there had never been any extended investigation in the interior coastal plain area of the state, and it is in this region between the lower Santee and the fall line that very intensive late prehistoric activity apparently took place.

The large truncated mound at the site is typical of pyramidal mounds that are widely distributed throughout the southeastern United States. These mounds are not the "burial mounds" that constitute the general popular conception. Rather, these mounds served as sub-structure platforms for temples. Temple construction consisted of upright posts through which small sticks were woven and then plastered with mud. Roofs were thatched with straw. These temples were usually the central feature of a ceremonial center that may have included other structures such as earthlodges, smaller sub-structure mounds with secondary temples, burial mounds, mortuary houses, open air sheds and palisades. From historical documents and the archeological record we know that these ceremonial centers often served as major religious and political centers for villages, and homesteads spread many miles from the center itself.

Temple mounds appeared in the Mississippi valley about A. D. 1000 and shortly thereafter the trait began to appear in the Southeast. We

suspect that construction of the center at Scott's Lake was begun sometime between A.D. 1200 and A.D. 1400 and that it represents the eastern extension of this trait. The economic base supporting the spread of these centers was the development of large scale agriculture in the southeastern United States. The ceremonialism associated with temple mound construction placed an emphasis on environmental features and was closely correlated with an agrarian way of life. Thus, the occurrence of these temple mounds in South Carolina is indicative of a new adaptation to the environment, and through archeology we will be able to examine the process of this initial agricultural adaptation to the state.

The time period during which this expansion took place is called the Mississippian period, and the special cultural variety in this area is called South Appalachian Mississippian (Griffin 1967; Ferguson 1971).

The importance of the Scott's Lake occupation is, therefore, greater than this one site. This site, being the largest ceremonial center yet discovered on the coastal plain, represents a hub of late prehistoric activity in the area. Through research at Scott's Lake and surrounding sites, we will be able to outline, not just the features of one "Indian mound," but those of an entire cultural pattern.

SITE INFORMATION

The Scott's Lake Site is jointly leased by the United States Department of the Interior and the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. Santee Wildlife Refuge, the functional agency of the Department of the Interior, is responsible for the preservation of natural and cultural resources while the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism is responsible for cultural development. During the archeological field program, we received help and cooperation from both of these agencies.

The site is located on the northern shore of Lake Marion about one mile west of U.S. Highway 301 (Figs. 1 and 2). Today the physical features consist of two large mounds located on three acres.* The larger mound, designated Mound A, is a truncated pyramid with a plan that is roughly square. This mound measures 130 feet through the center and is 23 feet tall. Mound B is located 240 feet northeast of Mound A. The mound is rather amorphous in shape measuring about 100 feet (east-west) by 75 feet (north-south). It is about 4 1/2 feet higher than the general ground surface.

East of Mound A and south of Mound B there is a low area that is filled with water during most of the summer months and dries out completely only during the winter. This depression is apparently one of the borrow pits for dirt for the mounds. Another depression is located outside the Historic Site area north of Mound B. This area may also be a borrow pit, although it has some of the features of a limestone sink hole.

*This is the area preserved as the State Historic Site. The actual limits of cultural debris are much larger.

FIGURE 2

Santee Wildlife Refuge borders the site on the northern and eastern sides; Lake Marion is to the south and west. The southern side of the site is protected from the erosive wave action of the lake by a wooden breakwater and a sand berm. Damage due to lake water erosion has been a serious threat to the site and it appears that approximately one quarter of the site area may have been covered by the lake. Evidence for this extension of the site is from verbal reports of people who had visited the location prior to the construction of the dam and from surface collections made during periods of lake water recession. We know that at least one small mound, located directly east of the larger mound, has been eroded so much that only a small remnant remains visible. Fortunately, there is still the pattern of artifact distribution beneath the lake level, and a systematic survey of the lake bottom may disclose the pattern of prehistoric and historic features in this area.

Prior to the construction of Lake Marion, Scott's Lake, an oxbow, was located approximately 300 feet southeast of Mound A. Perhaps this lake was an active portion of the Santee River when the mound was constructed. In either case, proximity to this body of water was certainly an important factor in the construction of the mound and ceremonial center at this location. Later, during the Revolutionary War, the lake served as a source of water for the British garrison, and the first action taken by Francis Marion in attacking the fort was to assign "riflemen and Continentals" to cut off British access to Scott's Lake.

Heretofore, most of the collecting of artifacts at Scott's Lake was done by amateur archeologists and relic hunters. These people have been scouring the wave-washed beaches since the construction of

Lake Marion, and artifacts from the site are spread throughout South Carolina in private collections and museums. The most spectacular of artifacts have been burials with ornate grave goods and burials within urns. Presently, as part of the research program, we are trying to locate as much of the material removed from Scott's Lake as possible. These materials will be recorded and photographed and, when possible, we will get provenience information from the collectors. Through this process, we will be able to reconstruct at least a portion of the important burial information that has washed away. Further, we will be able to expand our inventory of the types of artifacts found on the site.

Maynard Davis, a resident of Summerton, S. C., was familiar with the site before the construction of Lake Marion. Mr. Davis has reported that a ditch extended from the southern side of Mound A to the edge of Scott's Lake, and that dirt was piled on either side of this ditch. This description fits the construction pattern of a "covered way" used in 18th century military tactics for moving under protected cover from one point to another.

The site has been protected from plowing and disturbance during the entire period since the Revolutionary War. At some time, probably during the 19th century, Mr. Robert A. Smythe of Atlanta acquired Cedar Grove Plantation, and the Scott's Lake Site was part of the acquisition. Mr. Smythe is reported by our local informant, Mr. Davis, to have been very protective of the site. He did not allow it to be farmed, and the only digging allowed was by a representative of the Smithsonian Institution during the 1930's. This excavation is reported to have been a small test pit in the summit of the mound.

Refraining from farming has caused the site to reforest. Only the area between Mound A and the parking lot is cleared and grassed. Mound A is covered with chinaberry trees in addition to a few pines and small hardwoods. The northern portion of the site is forested with large pine trees, sweet gum trees, and a variety of other small hardwood trees.

FIELD RESEARCH

During the summer excavations we were able to expose a significant portion of the British fortifications and to gain more insight into the nature of the Indian occupation. Excavation units were placed on the summits of Mounds A and B, on the eastern side of Mound A, along the northern boundary of the site, and along the fence near the parking lot (Fig. 2). These excavations revealed the British stockade on the summit of Mound A, the primary fortifications at the base of the mound, remnants of an Indian structure on the mound summit, a portion of the wall of an Indian structure northeast of Mound A, a portion of an Indian structure in an old road on the northern portion of the site, and the remnants of a mound that opposed Mound A across a presumed plaza.

In addition to the structural features listed above, several thousand artifacts were recovered from the site. These artifacts included both Revolutionary War period material as well as prehistoric artifacts. The artifacts and their contribution to interpretation are discussed in the next section of this paper.

Mound A: Unit I

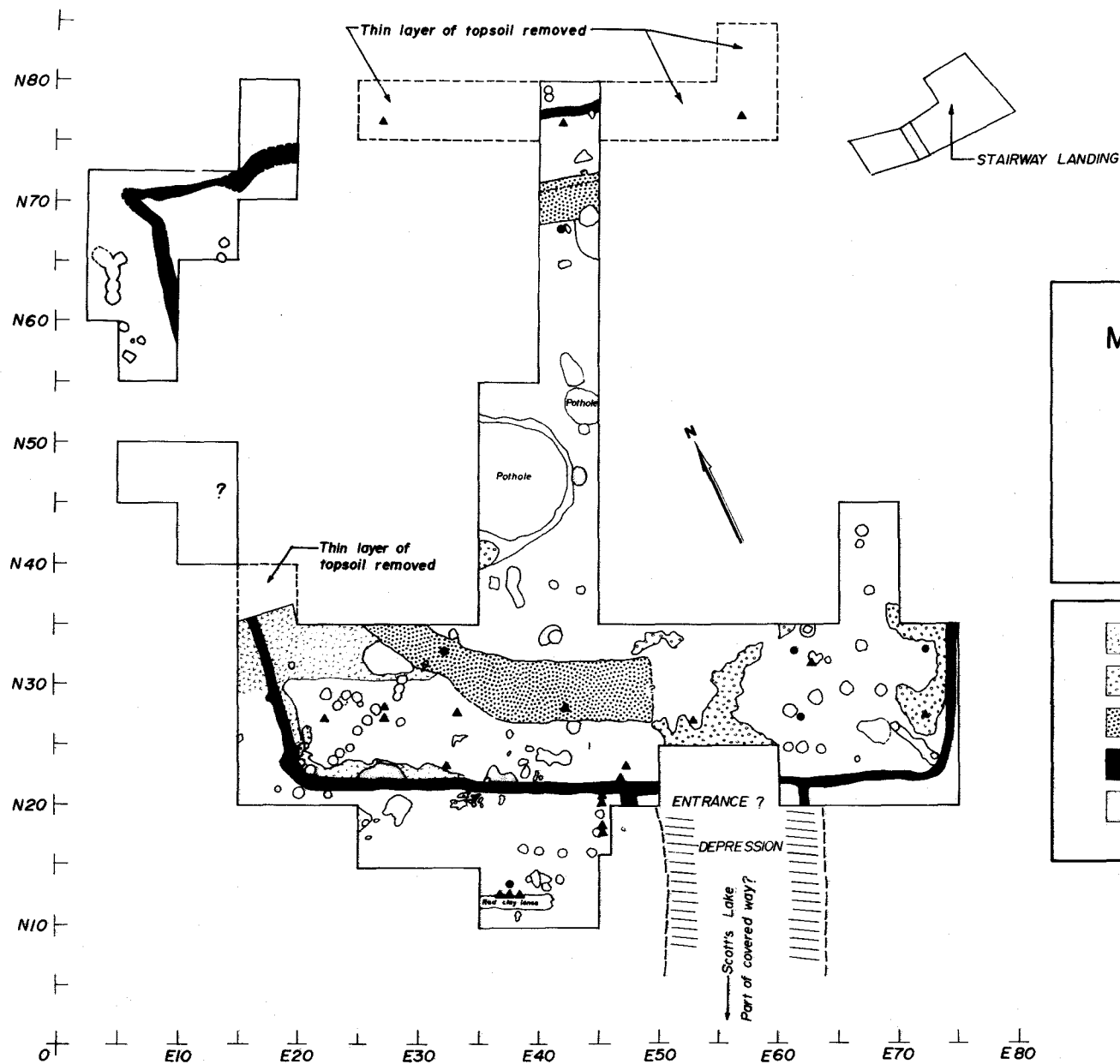
We began excavation of the summit of Mound A with two possibilities in mind. In a letter to General Greene after the capture of Ft. Watson, General Marion stated that he had destroyed the fort (Appendix II). If the fort had been burned, we would be able to find the charred timbers since they are resistant to decay. On the other hand, if Marion had simply torn the fortifications down, there would remain only the

evidence of the disturbance in the soil of the mound summit.

Excavations on the summit of the mound were begun on the southern side. An initial trench revealed only a faint indication of a wall line. Expansion along this line indicated that it was the trace of a log wall in the sand and that the wall had been torn up. Fortunately, we later found areas where the stockade trench had been excavated in clay. Here, the post pattern was more apparent than in the loose sand. Nevertheless, the identification of the British stockade wall was a difficult problem constantly requiring special attention.

Approximately one third of the topsoil covering the level of the British stockade was removed during this field season. This area was excavated in five foot squares and all of the soil was sifted through 3/8 inch hardware cloth. After clearing, the squares were cleaned and interpreted at the excavated level. When interpretation was completed, scale drawings were made and the squares were photographed. This procedure was carried out in all of the excavation units, the only variation being in the size of squares.

Excavation on the mound summit revealed three corners and approximately 100 linear feet of the stockade wall (Fig. 3). Portions of the wall were exposed on all four sides of this roughly square feature, and we have determined that the stockade measured about 50 feet by 55 feet. On the southern wall of the stockade two wall trenches perpendicular to the stockade were run to the south. These two trenches were 15 feet apart and they probably represent some type of entranceway to the fort. Interestingly, these two wall trenches are in the vicinity of the ditch leading to Scott's Lake mentioned by our informant. This leads to the hypothesis that the ditch and these two portions of the stockade line



MOUND* SUMMIT STOCKADE OF FORT WATSON Mound A

Scott's Lake Site (38CRI)
1972 Excavations



- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| | Yellow Clay | | Unfired Musket Balls |
| | Daub | | Flattened Balls |
| | Ditch | | |
| | Stockade | | |
| | Red Burnt Areas | | |

FIGURE 3

were part of the protective "covered way" built by the British for protection while securing water.

Within the stockade were a number of features related to the British occupation. Post holes located in the southern corners may represent part of a bastion arrangement. However, no clear outline was found. Ditches paralleling the southern and northern walls were found. One or both of these ditches may represent part of the traverse excavated by the British soldiers as protection from the firing of soldiers in Maham's tower. Analysis of the distribution of flattened balls on the summit of the mound has supported this hypothesis. Details of this analysis are discussed in the next section of this paper.

Three elements of construction suggest that there may have been a cannon emplacement on the western wall of the stockade. First, excavations on the western side of the summit revealed that a portion of this wall was missing. That is, there is negative evidence that the wall continued in a straight line along the western side of the mound. Second, this wall is situated at a strange angle with respect to the remainder of the stockade. This angle places the wall directly perpendicular to the shortest distance between the stockade and the Santee River. Third, there is a mound of yellow clay placed against a portion of the western wall that may have been part of a breastwork around such an emplacement. Although there was no field piece at the fort when it was captured, it is quite possible that a cannon mounted here to help control traffic on the Santee was removed prior to the siege. Further excavation should adequately test this hypothesis.

While exploring the historic features on the summit of the mound, numerous artifacts and features of the Indian occupation were encountered.

Of course, during the construction of the fort the British were digging into the latest Indian structures. Indian ceramics were the most common artifact found in all of the areas of excavation. In addition to the thousands of sherds found on the summit, there was daub from the Indian structure as well as lines of post holes that were apparently part of the prehistoric building activity.* The amount of daub, the post holes, and the numerous artifacts indicate that there is definitely an Indian structure beneath the British fort. And, if this temple mound is like others in the vicinity (e.g. Town Creek in North Carolina, Irene in Georgia) there are probably several building levels within the mound.

Ground Level Excavations East of Mound A: Unit II

On the eastern side of Mound A, the side between the mound and the parking lot, a stratigraphic test pit was excavated to a depth of about one foot** and approximately four thousand square feet of topsoil was removed (Fig. 2). These excavations revealed stratigraphy, a portion of the fortification line on the ground level, an Indian structure northeast of the mound, and produced thousands of artifacts. Most of the artifacts were Indian, but there was a significant sample of 18th century material.

The test pit excavated near the southeastern corner of the mound revealed four layers of stratigraphy. Lowest was a layer of

*In constructing the British fort, posts were placed next to one another to form a solid wall. On the other hand, Indian structures were built by placing posts some distance apart and weaving sticks called wattle between the uprights.

**Deeper testing was prohibited by the high water table in this area during the summer months.

gray sand. Above this sand was a layer of humus that has tentatively been identified as the humus layer prior to the construction of the mound. Above this was a sandy layer representing post-construction wash from the mound, and this layer was covered by a layer of humus. The British features originate in this top level of humus. Indian artifacts were found throughout.

Extending from the southeastern corner of the mound to the northeast for approximately 110 feet there was evidence of the British fortification line. A portion of this line consisted of a ditch in which stakes had been secured with a deadman log. This ditch was filled with yellow sand and the outline was quite plain. Beyond this there were two arcuate clay features which may have been the base of the abatis. A ditch was picked up southeast of this line. An excavated cross section of these features should reveal the details of their function.

Northeast of Mound A one ten-foot square was excavated lower than the humus level. This square revealed a line of daub trending from southeast to northeast. On the northwest side of this line there was an apparent prehistoric house floor. Large sherds and charred material were found in the vicinity of the wall.

Excavations on the Northern Boundary: Test Pit No. 6

In an old road on the northern side of the site an excavation unit (Test Pit No. 6) revealed a number of charred post holes and a concentration of daub. Large sherds were recovered from the soil above the features, and I think that this is yet another Indian house structure.

Mound B: Unit III

The topsoil was removed from five ten-foot squares on the summit

of Mound B. Only one historic artifact, an iron spike, was found in this entire excavation unit. The remainder of the material was prehistoric. We did encounter one charred log placed on a bed of clay, but no further associations were found. Trees and time prevented further excavation; however, with more excavation we will be able to determine the functional nature of this small mound.

A "pot hole" dug by relic hunters was cleaned out on the summit of Mound B (Test Pit No. 5, Fig. 2). This hole revealed that the mound had a lensed fill and that the lower levels were clay. In the clay of the lower levels we encountered one post hole, but no other features were found.

Eastern Excavation: Unit IV

On the eastern end of the site near the parking lot, the topsoil was removed from a small ridge of clay that paralleled the breakwater. This clay closely conformed to the edge of the parking lot, and there is the possibility that it had been disturbed by a bulldozer. Nevertheless, the clay is mound fill from an Indian structure: it is filled with fragments of daub and Indian artifacts. Further excavation may reveal that this is a portion of the mound that is reported to have washed away due to wave action of Lake Marion (Joffre Coe, personal communication).

Other Activities

In addition to the excavation we also reconnoitered the peninsula upon which the historic site is located, collected data for a contour map of the site, and made a controlled surface collection in the field north of Mound B. With this surface collection we may be able to identify the possible location of more sub-surface features.

ARTIFACT ANALYSIS

Artifacts together with structural information recovered during excavation provide the basic foundation for preliminary interpretation of the Scott's Lake Site. A controlled excavation system providing for a consistent collection of artifacts and the assignment of these artifacts to a specific horizontal and vertical provenience produced data that are well suited to distributional and correlation studies. Through such studies some sound hypotheses concerning historic and prehistoric activity at the site have been developed.

Artifacts recovered from the site were identified as belonging to one of three cultural groups: prehistoric, historic Revolutionary War, and recent "picnic culture". Fortunately, the periods of occupation on the site were so removed from one another temporally that there was little problem in making an initial division. Once the basic cultural divisions were made, artifacts were divided into categories based on material and/or form such as ceramics, glass, metal balls, buttons, shell, bone, etc. These categories were then broken into useful divisions called types. Some of these were formal types that have been defined in the archeological literature while others were placed into less formal categories convenient for the purposes of this study. Following the classification of artifacts into these divisions functional, temporal, distributional and correlation studies were performed. In some cases the studies allow us to make rather definite statements concerning past activity on the site. In other cases they allow us to construct reasonable hypotheses to test with future field work. These studies are not

comprehensive nor are they final. Rather, the information presented here represents a progress report on the analysis of the Scott's Lake data.

This section does not contain a comprehensive list or detailed description of all of the types of artifacts recovered. Only those aspects of the analysis which have led to a better understanding of the site or have served to help with the construction of hypotheses are included.

Historic Artifacts

Ceramics and Glass

Ceramics and glass constituted the major component of historic artifacts recovered from the site. Types and distribution of these types are presented in Tables 1 and 2.

The entire complex of these items from Fort Watson is typical of the last quarter of the eighteenth century. This supports the hypothesis that the total collection of early historic materials is from the Revolutionary War period rather than from some earlier or later occupation. Insertion of the ceramic information into South's (1971b) formula for ceramic dating gives a date of 1777 for the material from the summit of Mound A and 1767 from the remainder of the collection. Combined, the collections produce a date of 1773. These dates, with a reasonable margin of error, seem well suited for a historic site known to have been occupied from December 1780 to April 23, 1781.

While South's formula provides an acceptable date for the occupation of Fort Watson, the tight historical documentation of the temporal placement of this Fort and the correlation with South's formula support his hypothesis that this dating technique is applicable to eastern Northern American historic ceramic complexes.

TABLE 1

TYPE	MOUND A			NON-MOUND A			TOTALS	
	Frequency	Percentage		Frequency	Percentage		Frequency	Percentage
		Row	Column		Row	Column		Row
Creamware	68	70.83	60.71%	28	29.17	54.9 %	96	100.00%
Pearlware	31	96.87	27.68	1	3.13	1.96	32	100.00
Salt Glazed Stoneware								
White	1	20.00	.89	4	80.00	7.84	5	100.00
Brown				5	100.00	9.8	5	100.00
Oriental Porcelain	4	44.44	3.57	5	55.56	9.8	9	100.00
English Porcelain				3	100.00	5.88	3	100.00
Delft Ware				1	100.00	1.96	1	100.00
Lead-Glazed Earthenware				4	100.00	7.84	4	100.00
Nottingham Ware	<u>8</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>7.14</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Totals	112		100.00%	51		100.00%	163	

TABLE 1. Type and distribution of historic ceramics.

TABLE 2

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>MOUND A</u>			<u>NON-MOUND A</u>			<u>TOTALS</u>	
	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Row</u>	<u>Column</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Row</u>	<u>Column</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Row</u>
Green Case Bottle	35	54.69	58.33%	29	45.31	58.00%	64	100.00%
Wine Bottle	1	8.33	1.67	11	91.67	22.00	12	100.00
Others	<u>24</u>	<u>70.59</u>	<u>40.00</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>29.41</u>	<u>20.00</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Totals	60		100.00%	50		100.00%	110	

TABLE 2. Type and distribution of glass.

Within the ceramic collection the occurrence of one artifact type, the pearlware, is an interesting historical phenomenon. Pearlware was not produced in England until late in the year of 1779 (Noel Hume 1969). Since Fort Watson was occupied during late 1780 and the first three months of 1781 the presence of pearlware tea services indicates that the garrison of this fort was in possession of the very latest ceramics from England.

Examination of the statistics for the distribution of ceramic types shows that the concentration of creamware, pearlware, and Nottingham ware is on the summit of Mound A while other types are usually from the non-Mound A proveniences. This differential distribution together with the dates produced by South's formula (younger on the mound summit, older in the non-mound proveniences) implies a significant difference in activities. Following this suggestion sherds were examined from each provenience and interpreted as to function. All sherds that were fragments of cups, saucers, slop bowls or teapots, or that were thin and delicate enough to have come from such forms were placed in a category termed "Teaware". All other sherds, including those of plates, bowls, platters, and jugs, as well as sherds judged to have come from these forms were classified as "Heavyware". The results of this division are shown in Table 3.

The overwhelming majority of "Teaware" ceramics were collected from the mound summit while the majority of "Heavyware" ceramics came from the area east of the mound. This division suggests a separation of activities during the British occupation. This separation may be related to any of a number of factors, but certainly one of the most obvious hypotheses is that the mound summit was the location of officers' quar-

TABLE 3

	Mound A		Non-Mound A		Row Totals		
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentages (Mound A, Non-Mound A)	
<u>TEAWARE</u>							
Cups	30	30.61%	7	26.92%			
Saucers	18	18.37	2	7.69			
Slop Bowls	29	29.59					
Teaware Sherds	17	17.35	9	34.62			
Porcelain	4	4.08	8	30.77			
TOTALS	98	100.00%	26	100.00%	124	79.03%	20.97%
<u>HEAVYWARE</u>							
Heavyware Sherds	1	7.14%	7	25.93%			
Plates	13	92.86	8	29.63			
Bowls			8	29.63			
Other			4	14.81			
TOTALS	14	100.00%	23	100.00%	37	37.84%	62.16%

TABLE 3. Type and distribution of "Teaware" and "Heavyware".

ters or their social area. Also, finding few "Heavyware" pieces on the mound summit may result from the haste with which we know the British retired to the stockade after the beginning of the siege.

The collection of glass fragments indicates that there were more case bottle fragments found on the summit of Mound A and more wine bottle fragments found in excavations units removed from Mound A. However, the small size of the glass collection makes any generalization on the basis of the distribution of glass fragments suspect. Perhaps a larger collection of glass will help test the hypotheses developed on the basis of the ceramic analysis.

Metal Projectiles

With the exception of one .73 inch diameter ball of iron found in excavations east of Mound A, all of the metal projectiles were lead balls found on the summit of Mound A. After the separation of four obvious pieces of swan shot from the collection, the remainder of the balls were weighed and examined for evidence of firing and rifling. Results are presented in Table 4.

Within the weight groups outlined in Table 4, all flattened and rifled balls are of the two smaller calibers while the larger balls show no evidence of firing. These smaller balls are most certainly from the weapons of the Americans who besieged Fort Watson, while the smooth, larger caliber balls belonged to British soldiers who dropped them on the summit of the mound. Throughout the literature concerning the siege of Fort Watson, writers refer to the "muskets" of the British and the "rifles" of the militia. In his letter to General Greene, following the battle, Marion (n.d.a, n.d.b) mentioned

TABLE 4

<u>I.* ROUND</u>	<u>II.* FLATTENED</u>	<u>III.* FLATTENED</u>
<u>Weight in grams</u>	<u>Weight in grams</u>	<u>Weight in grams</u>
31.65	21.8	10.35
30.75	23.15	12.85
29.45	22.15	10.4
29.75	25.2	7.85
29.3	23.6	14.45
30.75	23.35	15.85
	22.5	10.95
	23.11	15.74
	23.11	11.85

Average Weight = 30.18 grams
Average Diameter = .697 inch

Average Weight = 23.11 grams
Calculated Average
Diameter = .605 inch

Average Weight = 12.25 grams
Calculated Average
Diameter = .504 inch

TABLE 4. Characteristics of lead projectiles from Mound A.
*Categories I, II and III are weight clusters.

using riflemen to cut the British off from their water supply.

Since projectiles on the summit of Mound A can be divided into groups belonging to the British and to the besieging Americans, it follows that knowledge of the distribution of these items might help locate the tower built by Major Maham and used to fire into the fort. Each lead ball found on the summit of the mound was located within a five-foot square. A plot of the distribution of these balls produced a pattern with most of the flattened balls located on the southern portion of the mound summit between the ditch and the stockade wall (Fig. 3). The smooth larger caliber balls, on the contrary, were located in the soil above the ditch or near the eastern and northern walls of the stockade. This pattern of projectiles leads to the hypothesis that the tower was located to the east, northeast, or north of the stockade. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the surface elevation rises to the northeast of the mound. Construction of a simple triangle using an assumed elevation of the stockade wall of seven feet will provide a rough idea of the necessary height of the tower at varying distances.

The distribution of the flattened balls between the ditch and the stockade on the southern side of the impoundment also implies that this ditch is a portion of the traverse constructed by Lieutenant McKay to protect the soldiers from the tower. The traverse would have been excavated with the earth thrown up to form a parapet between the soldiers and the firing position in Maham's tower. The Americans firing from a superior position would then attempt firing into the traverse with most of their balls landing on the back side of the ditch or on the surface

behind the ditch. Further excavation should confirm this hypothesis and provide a firm hypothesis for the location of the tower used by the Americans.

Nails and Spikes

A wide variety of metal fasteners was found on the summit of Mound A as well as in excavation Unit II east of the mound. In both areas these artifacts were divided into four categories: small nails (less than 1 1/2 inch), medium nails (1 1/2 inch - 2 1/2 inch), large nails (2 1/2 inch - 3 1/2 inch), and spikes (larger than 3 1/2 inches). Then the distribution of these artifacts was plotted.

In excavation Unit II nails concentrated in the southwestern corner of the excavation in the area of the ditch with the deadman log. Some of these nails were used to hold the abatis together. Beyond this concentration there were nails scattered throughout this excavation unit. Unfortunately, the sample was not large enough to provide a sound pattern of distribution. One large spike was found in the topsoil on the summit of Mound B.

The largest portion of the collection of nails comes from the summit of Mound A. Here several concentrations of nails and types of nails were located. And, importantly, some areas where no nails were found were noticed. Often negative evidence such as this is as important as finding heavy concentrations of artifacts. Using the distributional information we may be able to complement evidence of structural features found in the ground during excavation. Further, through examining the distribution of nails we may be able to locate the outline of light structures on the summit of the mound that may not have left evidence in the ground.

Buttons

Six buttons were found in Excavation Unit II. Information for these buttons is given in Table 5.

Three of the above buttons (119, 587, and 816) appear to be military buttons. The two buttons with "17" on the face are identified by Calver and Bolton (1950: 110) as belonging to the "17th foot". There is no historical evidence of this unit being stationed at Fort Watson. Thus, we are left with the possibility that either there were uniform pieces of the "17th" at the site or that there were members of this military unit at Fort Watson during the occupation. Alternatively this same button style may have been used by the 17th Light Dragoons who were reported to have been in the southern campaign (Darling 1970). The third military button has a faint design that may be a crown surrounded by a circle with rays extending from the circle to the edge of the button at points 45° removed from the cardinal points.

Miscellaneous

A number of other types of artifacts including gunflints, gunparts, a portion of a silver coin, fragments of copper or brass wire, a lead toy, an imitation pearl stick pin, a fragment of a brass buckle, several fragments of iron, and fragments of kaolin pipes have been recovered from the site. Some of this material remains to be examined to determine the type and importance of the individual pieces. However, these artifacts together with other items mentioned have been used to locate centers of British activity on the site. Those areas where a significant quantity of material has been recovered will be given special attention in an effort to determine the cultural factors responsible for the concentrations.

TABLE 5

<u>Button</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Reference</u>
38CL1-119	Pewter with eye missing	"17" on face	(Calver and Bolton 1950: 110)
38CL1-587	Pewter with ferrous eye	"17" on face	(Calver and Bolton 1950: 110)
38CL1-816	Pewter	Military (?)	
38CL1-578	Cast pewter		
38CL1-162	Ferrous	Badly Corroded	Recent (?)
38CL1-789	Ferrous	Badly Corroded	

TABLE 5. Buttons recovered from Excavation Unit II.

Prehistoric Artifacts

The prehistoric artifact inventory is many times greater than the quantity of artifacts belonging to the historic component of the site. Ceramic artifacts number into the thousands, and there is a sizeable collection of bone and shell material. Because of the mass of prehistoric material and the immediate importance of the historic component due to its stratigraphic position, the prehistoric artifacts have not been analyzed in as much detail as the historic artifacts. However, the studies that have been performed present valuable information that will be used as hypotheses concerning the reconstruction of cultural activity and the significance of this activity at the Scott's Lake Site.

Ceramics

Due to the number of prehistoric sherds the collection was necessarily sampled for this preliminary analysis. Rim sherds having more culturally pertinent data were separated from the remainder of the sherds and analyzed. Within the remaining body sherds unusual specimens or specimens that clearly showed evidence of decoration were separated in order to complete our knowledge of the range of ceramic attributes.

The overwhelming majority of the ceramics were found to be similar to Pee Dee ceramics from North Carolina (Coe 1952; Reid 1965, 1967; Ferguson 1971) and Irene ceramics from the coast of Georgia (Caldwell and McCann 1941). However, there are differences in attribute frequency and subtle differences in attributes that make the ceramics from this site distinctive. Scott's Lake is located in the center of the coastal plain pottery style area, and we may be sure that the ceramic theme here is the one that was

being imitated at sites such as Town Creek and Irene. Presently, we are involved in collecting consistent ceramic information from related sites in an effort to catalog all of the ceramic style elements present in this horizon. Through this description and a following seriation we will be able to understand the details of temporal and spatial variation in coastal plain ceramics. Once the ceramic sequence is understood we may more thoroughly analyze the sophisticated problems of cultural anthropology on the South Carolina coastal plain.

Associated with the major complex of ceramics at the site are a number of sherds from painted bottles. These sherds have a thin film of red paint on the surface, and in one case there is a black negative paint applied on top of the red to produce a bi-chrome decoration. This type of vessel is associated in major late prehistoric sites with special ceremonial activities. While the form is not infrequently found on major ceremonial centers to the west, this ceramic style is unusual on the Atlantic coastal plain. Finding these sherds at the Scott's Lake site is indicative of the importance of this ceremonial center.

In addition to the major component of ceramics, sherds of other ceramic complexes have been found. Thick simple stamped sherds tempered with sand that are from a much earlier period were found during excavations on Mound A. These sherds were probably moved from their true provenience during the gathering of earth for the construction of the mound. On the southeastern side of the mound in the lower levels of Excavation Unit II simple stamped sherds with rectilinear punctations on the rim were recovered. These sherds are part of a growing complex of ceramics from the midland area of South Carolina (Teague 1972; Stuart

1970). We do not know the true temporal or spatial distribution of these ceramics, however, I believe that they fall somewhere near the end of the first millennium A.D. and represent an earlier occupation of the Scott's Lake Site.

In addition to these sherds, a few examples fitting the type description of Lamar Bold Incised and Lamar Complicated Stamped were found in the site.

Shell Working Tool Kit

Among the collection of ceramics from the site were a number of sherds that had V-shaped grooves worn in the faces or edges. These artifacts have been found from other sites in the southeast (cf. Irene: Caldwell and McCann 1941: 53; Charles Towne: South personal communication; Town Creek: Coe personal communication). When casual mention of these artifacts is made among archeologists they are usually referred to as "awl sharpeners." The size of the groove is often about the size of a small bone awl. However, the grooves on the material from Scott's Lake were usually at a very steep angle rather than the rounded groove that would be produced by something like an awl. Further, two stone abraders with similar linear grooves were recovered. One of these had a circular depression that was also an abrasion surface. The distribution of these abraders was found to correlate with the distribution of conch shell fragments on the site. This leads to the tentative conclusion that these abraders were used to finish the edges of conch shell ornaments. The steep angles on the abraders are more likely to have been left by the abrasion of shell edges than the rounded tip of a bone awl. The depression in the stone abrader may have been used to finish the ends of columella beads. Wear pattern analyses using shells and

sherds are presently underway.

Conch shell gorgets, beads and pendants are important items of ceremonial use and adornment throughout the eastern United States, and with the problems of travel prevalent during prehistoric times these items must have increased in value proportional to their distance from the ocean. The evidence from our exploratory excavations seems to indicate that this prehistoric ceremonial center was the location of at least a portion of the manufacturing process of shell artifacts and that these stone and shell abraders were part of the tool kit involved in production. The fact that this activity took place at the ceremonial center is indicative of the importance of this craftsmanship in prehistoric culture. Further excavation should add more weight to this conclusion.

Ceremonial Artifacts

While we know from other sites that the ceramics from Scott's Lake may well be ceremonial ceramics and that the shell working may also be ceremonial activity there are a few other items that may also be related to the ceremonialism of the site. On the summit of the mound one blue glass bead (perhaps a Revolutionary War artifact), a few pottery beads, and a nicely fashioned clay pipe give further suggestion of the artifact inventory that may be encountered in the lower levels of the mound.

Freshwater Shell and Bone

In addition to the conch shell found on the site a collection of freshwater shell and bone fragments are probably part of the subsistence base of the people occupying the site. We have not yet deter-

mined whether there is a domestic settlement in the vicinity of the site, however, we may be sure that there were culinary activities at the site. Concentrations of this material have helped locate areas that will be examined in the future for evidence of structures or other specialized activity.

Stone

Very few stone artifacts (other than the abraders previously mentioned) were found during investigations. A few small triangular arrowheads and one bi-facial blade comprise the entire inventory of edged tools. Further, the debitage frequently found on sites in the area was absent. Certainly, with the availability of chalcedony from the limestone deposits in the area this dearth of stone artifacts is not due to lack of raw material. Rather, the lack of these artifacts is related to differential activity on different types of coastal plain sites. Simply, the manufacture or use of edged stone tools does not appear to have been an important activity at the ceremonial site.

Distribution

Analysis of the distribution of all of the prehistoric artifacts has indicated that there are three major concentrations in Excavation Unit II. One is in the southwestern corner in the vicinity of N100E260, another in the vicinity of N180E350, and still another in the vicinity of the house wall near N235E305. While the concentration in the N100E260 area may be debris from the summit of the mound, the other two concentrations are probably both associated with prehistoric structures. Excavation during future seasons will test this hypothesized association.

CONCLUSIONS

Excavations at Scott's Lake during the summer of 1972 confirm that this is an important Revolutionary War fort and late prehistoric Indian ceremonial center. Further, the site is in a state of preservation that is most unusual for archeological sites. The evidence indicates that this site is worthy of extended field research and interpretation.

The British fortification is, in essence, a cultural time capsule. The fort was occupied for only a few months and then captured and destroyed by American forces under the command of General Francis Marion. The site contains detailed information concerning military architecture and tactics of the eighteenth century. Associated with this information are artifacts and features that will provide us with a picture of the life of British soldiers in a small colonial fort. Further, we know that during the siege 114 British soldiers were trapped in this small fortification that provided less than 20 square feet per person. This is an excellent opportunity to study the material aspects of a human situation of considerable stress and trauma.

Excavated information coupled with that from amateur archeologists and relic hunters who have been searching the beaches at Scott's Lake for many years provides an overwhelming case that this was a major ceremonial center on the eastern frontier of Mississippian expansion. The mounds, burials, ceremonial ceramics, pipes, beads, food remains, daub concentrations, and post holes are concrete evidence that this was a significant center of ceremonial and political activity. Prehistoric research at Scott's Lake and other sites in the South Carolina coastal plain will enable us to begin to understand the adaptive process that

brought the first intensive agrarian pattern of life to South Carolina.

The first field season at Scott's Lake has provided information on the location and nature of archeological data on this site. The stockade and a large portion of the remaining fortifications are ready for secondary excavation. Excavation of the stockade on the summit of the mound will expose the temple structure intruded by the British fortifications. The two Indian structures on the ground surface will be ready for excavation when trees and underbrush are cleared away. In addition to this detailed secondary excavation, more exploratory and primary excavation will reveal more important features.

Immediate Research Plans

At this point in the investigations of Ft. Watson I am able to make some suggestions, based on the archeological research. The plans and recommendations include an outline of immediate field work planned by the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, suggestions for a field program during the spring and summer of 1973, and preliminary suggestions for continued research and interpretation.

Plans for Field Work: Spring, Summer and Fall, 1973

1. Survey the entire peninsula upon which the Scott's Lake Site is located.
2. A survey of the site will be made with a metal detector in order to locate more British and American features. Perhaps through this type of survey we will be able to locate the British hospital and storehouse and follow the fortification line.
3. During the spring and summer months of 1973 the British stockade will be excavated exposing all of the features and the Indian structure beneath the stockade. Also, Mound B will be more closely examined and sites found during the survey will be tested.

4. Exploratory archeology should continue during the fall and winter of 1973. It is necessary that this work be done in the fall and winter to escape the high water table of the summer months.

For the archeological work outlined above as well as for the preservation of archeological data, there should be a program developed to control vegetation on the site. Trees presently growing on Mound A at Scott's Lake have probably retarded the activities of relic hunters and erosion. However, tree roots are a detriment to the archeological features and an obstacle during excavation. I suggest that the trees growing on Mound A be removed and that the mound be seeded with grass to prevent erosion. Further, in the area surrounding the mound I suggest that we consider clearing most of the trees leaving only those that are particularly important to the beautification of the site.

Clearing of the site will require a tightening of security. However, I feel that this is a requirement that can easily be worked out between the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism and the Santee Wildlife Refuge.

Recommendations for Future Research and Interpretation

The Scott's Lake site is a famous landmark in South Carolina. Yet, the value of this site is not simply in recognition as a place where special events occurred; rather, we must evaluate this site in terms of the contribution that this sealed source of historic and prehistoric information can provide to history, anthropology, and the general public. This site is not a sterile landmark: it is a source of information. Because of the unique nature of the site, an excellently preserved and important historic and prehistoric occupation area, I suggest that consideration be given to planning a program of research.

and interpretation that will provide a significant contribution to scholarly and public interests.

Research at Scott's Lake should be carefully controlled, insuring that careful thought and preparation are employed prior to any excavation. Excavation destroys the evidence, and there is an obligation that the time demanded by the site be provided by the investigators. One suggestion for continuing research includes a program using anthropology students in a manner similar to the summer intern program presently operated by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. Through such a program, Scott's Lake could develop into a continually active research and interpretive center. Essentially, there is very little required but coordination. The state presently owns the site, and students from the University are available to work. Capital outlay would be limited to the procurement of equipment, subsistence pay for the workers, and a salary for the supervisor.

The public interpretive potential of this site is particularly important. Since the site is an important multicomponent site with both historic and prehistoric occupation, I suggest that the interpretation be guided toward a public understanding of all of the cultural components as well as the archeological techniques utilized in examining the site. A continuing program of planned research could be included as an active, living part of the interpretation. Visitors could be introduced not only to the results of archeological research but also to the actual process of excavation and interpretation in the ground.

Scott's Lake is an important site. It is the responsibility of all agencies involved to insure that this site is protected and that the information it contains be revealed with the utmost care. The

final product should provide for the needs of history and anthropology
as well as the education of the general public.

APPENDIX I

From Subject File H-2-5, S. C. Dept. of Archives, (from the British Headquarters Papers, the Carleton Papers, 9915; 1-4).

The Journal of the Blockade at Scots Lake, 15th April 1781.
[Lt. Col. Balfour to Sir Henry Clinton, May 6, 1781.]

Sunday 15th: At four in the Afternoon, a party of the Enemy's Horse & foot appeared in the Skirts of the Wood on our front, A Party Sallied out, when a Skirmish ensued, in which we had One Private of the Infantry mortally wounded, at the same time they appeared in Force on our Left, the Party was recalled to the Works Manned, A Flag was sent to Summons the Post to surrender at discretion but was returned with the following reply "That A British officer Commanded, & they timidly never surrendered Posts-if they wanted it, they must come to take it" A Firing ensued, in which we had A Corporal of the 64th wounded, the loss of the Enemy cannot be ascertained but several were seen to fall-at night, they set Fire to the Hospital having taken out the Wounded, & made the Nurse Prisoner--A Private of the 64th. deserted--

Monday 16th--Some Shots were exchanged, in which we had Two Privates wounded the one of the 64th: the other of the Infantry, the latter of whom does Duty--some of the Enemy were seen carried off Wounded, no Provisions or Water in the Works.--

Tuesday 17th--The Enemy fired a few shot, & killed a Private of Major Harrison's Rangers At night a party was employed in getting up provisions and sinking a well.

Wednesday 18th--Some Shot as usual from the Enemy, & as opportunity offered were returned, through through the Day, the Enemy had One Man killed, at Night to our Satisfaction had it in our power to relieve, in some measure, Our distressed Troops--with an half Pint of Water per Man--having been since the first Appearance of the Enemy without Provisions or Water--Under cover of the Darkenss, the Enemy broke ground within one hundred Yards of our Works & retook part of the Baggage of the 63rd. & 64th. that had been Retaken from General Sumpter, We were employed in getting up Provisions, Rum & Water

Thursday 19th The Enemy as usual kept Firing but without effect, in the Course of the day we sunk our Well deeper our water threatening to fail us, Two Milita Men went privately through the Enemys Centinels to Nelson's Ferry per Express, employ'd A Party as usual to fetch up Provision & Water, the Enemy at Work at their Entrenchments--they took the remainder of the 63.d & 64th Baggage, but in the attempt lost several Men killed & Wounded.--

Friday 20th. Some Firing as usual from the Enemy when we lost Corp. Shanks of the Infantry--in the course of the day a covered Passage was made to the Well--The last night we brought 3 barrels of pork and 4 do. of Flour

likewise deserted Serjt. Brown of the Infantry, with the Provision returns of the Garrison--

Saturday 21st: Some firing as usual from the Enemy when Lt. McKay was wounded in the Face by a splinter, & a Negro in the hand--The Enemy ask'd permission to bury their dead-but they refusing to desert Firing during the time, their request was denied, they likewise in the Afternoon brought down a Wooden Machine which they had built, & were busy in raising a Scaffold made of Rails & Mold, nearly level with the top of our Works for their Marksmen to pick off our Centinels, this Night employed in getting up Rum & Water & raising a Traverse to counteract the Enemy's Scaffolds & sinking our ditches--

Sunday 22d. Some firing as usual from the Enemy but without Effect-- at night they broke fresh ground opposite our Well, with an intent to cut us off from our Water--employed in getting up Rum & Water--Evacuated the Store, & placed a guard over the Well--

Monday 23d. Some firing as usual from the Enemy in which Lt. McKay was wounded & Two Men killed--McFree [spelling?] of the Militia died of a Putrid Fever, & the private of the 64th: died of his Wound--the Enemy having finished their Entrenchments under cover of their Fire made a lodgement under our Works, with an intention to undermine us-- A Flag was a second time set to Summons the Post, when we were reduced to the disagreeable necessity of Capitulating, by the Cowardly & Mutinous behaviour of A majority of the Men--having grounded their Arms & refused to defend the Post any longer, notwithstanding every Exertion made by the Officers to encourage & force them to their duty.

James Mackay, Lt: P.L.I.^y
Rob^t: Robinson Ensign P.Lt.Inf:
Thom^v. B₁ Campbell Surgeon
Prov. Lt. Inf:--

Articles quoted in subject file H-2-5, S. C. Depart. of Archives, (from the British Headquarters Papers, The Carleton Papers, 9915; 1-4).

Capitulation of Fort Watson, Scots Lake

1.st--The Officers to be permitted their Parole, to Wear their Side Arms and possess their Private Baggage---

Agreed.

2.nd--The British soldiers to be allowed to March to Charles Town where they are to continue out of Service till Exchanged, liable to be order'd elsewhere by the Commander-in-Chief of the American Southern Army---

Agreed.

3.d--The Irregulars to be treated as Prisoners of War.

Agreed.

4--All Public property to be delivered to the Legion Qt. Mr.--& the Fort to be delivered to Capt. Oldham who will take possession this Evening with a Detachment of Marylanders---

Agreed.

Lt. Col. Lee acceded to the Capitulation as it now stands in Compliance to the Gallantry with which the Post has been defended.

Signed

James McKay Lt.

P. Lt. Infy

Pat: Carnes Capt

Legion Infantry

Copy

Rt. Peterson Lt. N: Y. V.

Archer Canet P. L. I.

APPENDIX II

Conflicting copies of a letter to General Greene by General Francis Marion and of the Articles of Capitulation signed at Scott's Lake.

Letter quoted in Gibbes, 1853.

Fort Watson, Scots Lake, April 23d, 1781.

Sir:

Lieut. Col. Lee made a junction with me at Santee the 14th inst., after a rapid march from Ramsay's Mill, on Deep River, which he performed in eight days; the 15th we marched to this place and invested it. Our hope was to cut off their water; some riflemen and continentals immediately took post between the fort and the lake. The fort is situated on a small hill forty feet high, stockaded, and with three rows of abatis around it; no trees near enough to cover our men from their fire. The third day after we had invested it, we found the enemy had sunk a well near the stockade which we could not prevent them from, as we had no entrenching tools to make our approach, we immediately determined to raise a work equal to the height of the fort. This arduous work was completed this morning by Major Mayham, who undertook it. We then made a lodgement on the side of the mount near the stockade; this was performed with great spirit and address by Ens'n. Johnson and Mr. Lee, a volunteer in Col. Lee's legion, who with difficulty ascended the hill, and pulled away the abatis which induced the commandant to hoist a flagg, and Lieut. Col. Lee and myself agreed to the enclosed capitulation, which I hope may be approved of by you; our loss on this occasion, two killed, and three continentals and three militia wounded. I am particularly indebted to Lieut. Col. Lee for his advice and indefatigable diligence in every part of this tedious operation, against as strong a little post as could well be made on the most advantageous spot that could be wished for. The officers and men of the Legion and Militia performed every thing that could be expected, and Major Mayham of my Brigade had in a particular manner a great share of this success, by his unwearied diligence in erecting a tower, which principally occasioned the reduction of the fort. In short, sir, I have had the greatest satisfaction from every one under my command. Enclosed is the list of the prisoners and stores taken, and shall without loss of time proceed to demolish the fort, after which, shall march to the High Hills at Capt. Richardson's plantation, where I will wait your further orders, and am with great esteem sir,

Your obedient servant,
F. MARION.

Articles quoted in Gibbes, 1853

*Articles of Capitulation proposed by Lieut. McKay, Commandant
at Fort Watson.*

ART. I. The officers to be allowed their parole; to wear their swords; and shall have their private baggage secured to them.

Granted.

ART. II. The British officers shall be permitted to march to Charles Town, where they shall remain, without entering into any active service, till they shall have been exchanged; till which time they shall be bound to surrender themselves, whenever called upon by the commander-in-chief of the American Southern army.

Granted.

ART. III. The irregulars shall be treated as prisoners of war.

Granted.

ART. IV. All public stores shall be surrendered to the quarter master general of the Legion, and the fort to Captain Oldham, who shall take possession this evening, with a detachment of the Maryland division.

I agree to this capitulation, such as it is at present, in consideration of the bravery with which the fort was defended.

PATRICK KARNS,
Captain of Foot belonging to the Legion.
JAS. MCKAY, Lieut.

April 23, 1781.

Letter quoted in Tarleton, 1787.

Fort Watson, April 23, 1781.

SIR,

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Lee joined me on the Santee the 14th instant, after a rapid march from Ramsey's mills on Deep river, which he finished in eight days. The 15th we marched to this place, and invested it: Our chief hope was to cut off the water: Some riflemen and continentals were, for this purpose, posted between the fort and the lake. The fort lies on a rising ground, about forty feet high, surrounded by three rows of abbatis. There were no trees near enough to cover us from the enemy's fire. The third day after we had begun the siege, we perceived that the enemy had dug a well near the abbatis without meeting with any opposition from us, which was for want of several very necessary implements, without which we could not make trenches in order to make our approach to the fort; we therefore resolved immediately to erect a work as high as the fort, and it was finished this morning by Major Maham; we then made a lodgement on the side of the eminence near the abbatis; this was accomplished with great spirit and address by Ensign Robinson and Mr. R. Lee, a volunteer in Colonel Lee's regiment, who, surmounting every difficulty, got up to the abbatis, and pulled it away: By this the commander of the fort found himself obliged to hoist a white flag. I enclose the capitulation, which I hope will meet with your approbation. Our loss was only two militiamen killed, and three continentals wounded. I shall demolish the fort without loss of time, and then proceed to the heights of Santee, and shall halt at Captain Richardson's plantation to wait for further orders.

I am, Sir, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS MARION, B. G.

Articles quoted in Tarleton, 1787.

Articles of capitulation proposed by Lieutenant McKay, commandant at Fort Watson.

ART. I. THE officers to be allowed their parole; to wear their swords, and shall have their private baggage secured to them.

GRANTED.

ART. II. The British officers shall be permitted to march to Charles town, where they shall remain, without entering into any active service, till they shall have been exchanged; till which time they shall be bound to surrender themselves, whenever called upon by the commander in chief of the American southern army.

GRANTED.

ART. III. The irregulars shall be treated as prisoners of war.

GRANTED.

ART. IV. All public stores shall be surrendered to the quartermaster general of the legion, and the fort to Captain Oldham, who shall take possession this evening with a detachment of the Maryland division.

I AGREE

I AGREE to this capitulation, such as it is at present, in consideration of the bravery with which the fort was defended.

(Signed) P A T R I C K C A R N S,
Captain of foot, belonging to the
legion.

April 23, 1781

J A S . M C K A Y, Lieutenant.

List of prisoners taken in Fort Watson

TWO lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 1 surgeon, 73 rank and file, (British) and 36 Tories. Total, 5 officers, 109 rank and file.

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