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Initial Archeological Investigations at Silver Bluff Plantation Aiken County, South Carolina

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INITIAL ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION AIKEN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

bу

James D. Scurry, J. Walter Joseph, and Fritz Hamer Research Manuscript Series 168

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Prepared by the
INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

B.P.R.O.

British Public Records Office

Calendar

Calendar of Carleton Papers

CCP

The Papers of the Continental Congress

CJ

Council Journals

E.S.R. - S.C.

Early State Records - South Carolina

SCG

South Carolina Gazette

INTRODUCTION

Silver Bluff is located on the Savannah River in Aiken County, South Carolina, near the community of Jackson. The bluff is about 15 miles downstream of Augusta, Georgia, and rises approximately 30 feet above the river. The project area is included in the Silver Bluff plantation, an area of 3,150 acres presently owned by the National Audubon Society. Approximately 800 acres of the plantation are under cultivation; most of the area is woods and swamp. The Audubon Society manages the plantation to demonstrate the compatibility of agriculture with wildlife and environmental concerns.

We have no certain knowledge of the early history of Silver Bluff. However, William Bartram, the pioneer naturalist, visited Silver Bluff in 1776 and noted the presence of "various monuments and vestiges of the residence of the ancients; as Indian conical mounts, terraces, areas, etc. as well as traces of fortresses of regular formation." This description certainly suggests a prehistoric Indian town similar to that of Cofitachique (Bartram 1792: 312-313). Many historians, including the U.S. DeSoto Commission, believe that Cofitachiqui was located at Silver Bluff although this location has been debated in recent years (Swanton 1939; Baker 1974). Between 1746 and 1750 a band of Yuchi Indians lived at or near Silver Bluff.

Silver Bluff was purchased in 1752 by George Galphin, a pioneer Indian trader who established a trading post in the area. His business with the Creek Indians prospered and he built two brick homes, the second of which was a substantial two-story structure. In time Galphin turned the post over to others and devoted himself to developing a plantation with mills, warehouses, a barge dock, and many slaves. Galphin was one of the few Indian traders who sided with the Americans during the Revolutionary War. In 1775 he was appointed Commissioner for Indian affairs for the Southern District. His role during the Revolution was to keep the Creek Nation neutral. His success in this role contributed greatly to the success of the American cause in the South. William Bartram visited Silver Bluff in 1776 and described the Galphin habitation as a "pleasant villa" at a "most celebrated place."

George Galphin died in 1780 under circumstances that have not yet been defined. After his death, the Galphin home was occupied by Tories. The Galphin house (Fort Dreadnaught) was recaptured by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Lee in 1781 after a brief skirmish. The plantation deteriorated after the Revolution and was assimilated into other larger holdings with the property owners living elsewhere. In 1975, the property was willed to the National Audubon Society and in 1977, Silver Bluff was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Despite its long history, no serious archeological investigation of Silver Bluff had been undertaken prior to 1979. The State Archeologist of South Carolina identified Silver Bluff as one of the sites targeted for specific research projects during the most recent 10-year plan for archeological research in South Carolina (Stephenson 1975).

Between November 1979 and March 1980, archeological investigations were conducted at Silver Bluff plantation (38AK7). The project was co-awarded to the Archeological Society of South Carolina and Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, and was funded through the South Carolina Department of Archives and History with assistance from a matching grant from the United States Department of Interior. The goal of the project was to locate and evaluate the archeological components known or suspected to exist at Silver Bluff. In addition, an extensive literature search was conducted in order to provide a basic historical background for the area and to assist in the interpretation of the patterns reflected in the archeological record at the site.

The following report presents the results of the archeological investigations at Silver Bluff plantation. It is intended to provide basic temporal, spatial, and interpretive analyses which will help to determine the nature and extent of past human occupation in the Silver Bluff area.

PHYSIOGRAPHIC SETTING

The Silver Bluff project area consists of a 200 acre tract of land located at the end of Silver Bluff Road approximately 18 miles southwest of Aiken, South Carolina (Fig. 1). The project area is contained within the larger 3,150 acre Silver Bluff plantation which is owned and operated as a bird sanctuary by the National Audubon Society. Geologically, the site lies in the Atlantic Upper Coastal Plain and is underlain by sediments ranging in age from the Cretaceous to Early to Median Miocene periods (Colquboun 1969: 3).

Although the exact soil data from Aiken County is not available, the primary soil in the Silver Bluff area is from the Kalmia-Cahaba association. These soils are located on level to gently sloping narrow areas adjacent to major streams. Soils from this association are well drained and are easily susceptible to wind and water erosion on sloping surfaces (Craddock and Ellerbe 1965).

The Upper Coastal Plain of South Carolina is included in the ecotonal area between the oak-hickory and magnolia forest of the Southern Temperate Deciduous Forest Biome (Shelford 1963: 19, 56). Vegetation characteristic of this ecotone zone is primarily pine, including loblolly, longleaf, and shortleaf species. The variety of understory vegetation found in the areas include scrub holly, various shrub oaks, saw palmetto, and staggerbush (Shelford 1963: 78).

These forest generally support sparse populations of small game; however, some deer herds are supported in the pine scrubs. Among the other species associated with the ecotonal zone are cottontail rabbits, ground doves, mourning doves, scrub jays, and blue-gray gnatcatchers (Shelford 1963: 78).

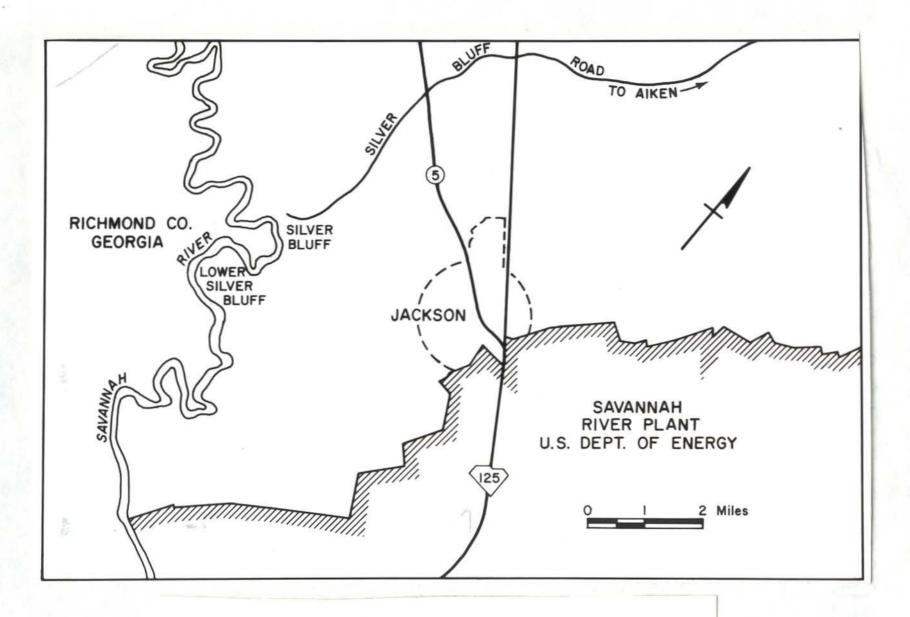


FIGURE 1: Locator map showing the Silver Bluff project area.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

A historical analysis of the settlements at Silver Bluff is difficult to decipher due to the paucity of historical records before 1800. The efforts to coordinate this research with the archeological survey were difficult because of the limited number of descriptions of the structures and layout of the settlement. Although specific documents relating to the spatial arrangement of the Silver Bluff settlements were not available, some of the historical analysis does put the general activity of these settlements into a clearer framework that archeology cannot supply.

Spatial Definition of Silver Bluff

The name Silver Bluff was a designated term for an area located about 10 to 15 miles south of present day Augusta along the South Carolina side of the Savannah River. Jones (1883: 55), however, places Silver Bluff about 25 miles below Augusta by water. Accounts vary as to the actual extent of Silver Bluff along the river. One account by William Bartram in 1775 (Bartram 1792: 312-313) described the bluff as extending a mile and a half to two miles along the river and from one-half to a mile in breadth and rising 30 feet higher than the lowlands on the opposite shore. This account also gives a detailed description of the soil content and remarks on the remains of "Indian conical mounts" but not on their size or proximity to the river.

Available records from the eighteenth century and later plats and legal descriptions allow for a more precise reconstruction of past land ownership and the evolutionary development of the Silver Bluff area. The northern boundary was originally Town Creek which runs into the Savannah River approximately 1.3 miles north of present day Silver Bluff (Colonial plats 7: 295; 8: 339; 11: 425). By the mid-1760s, the owner, George Galphin, was wealthy enough to extend his ownership north of this creek (Colonial plats 16: 51). See Figure 5 for a better definition of these boundaries. The Savannah River was the western border of the Silver Bluff property.

The southern and eastern reaches are the most difficult to delineate since a natural boundary, like that for the north and west, was lacking. During the eighteenth century the southern border appears to have been at the Condes Swamp, but in the nineteenth century this area was also part of the Silver Bluff property (Redcliffe Records B: 8). For the purpose of this study, the southern border of Silver Bluff will extend to its Colonial period location at the edge of this swamp. The eastern boundary of Silver Bluff was never precise. Its borders fluctuated through time, with each definition depending primarily on the financial fluctuations of the current landowner (Colonial

plats 7: 213, 295; 9: 322; Redcliffe Records A: 17, 18).

Although in a state of relatively constant fluctuation, these were the general boundaries of Silver Bluff as contemporary surveyors described them. Definition of the boundaries and evolutionary development of Silver Bluff as a working plantation will become less confusing in the narrative of the following pages.

Early Explorations in the Silver Bluff Area

The earliest written record of Silver Bluff comes from sixteenth century chronicles that suggest the Spanish were the first Europeans to pass through the area. The story that evolves is shrouded in myth and mystery far more than documentary evidence. In 1540, Hernando DeSoto visited Silver Bluff in his exploration of the southeastern area of the present day United States. A commission directed by John R. Swanton in the 1930s to settle the controversy about which regions DeSoto had actually visited, concluded that his expedition had stopped at Silver Bluff where an extensive Indian economic and social center, called Cofitachique, was situated (Swanton 1939).

According to the legend, DeSoto and his entourage were welcomed by the Queen of Cofitachique (some have referred to her as a chieftainess) with presents of pearls and gold (Billings n.d. a: 8-10: Smith 1979: 23). With the knowledge that these precious materials were available to the aboriginal population, DeSoto anticipated a rich bounty for himself and his expedition if he could find the source of this wealth. Accordingly he began to make inquiries of the natives. One legend claims that upon observing the glittering bluffs along the river, the idea was devised to excavate the bluff's banks in order to recover the gold believed to be in them. To accomplish this the river had to be diverted away from the bank. Thus while a sample of the supposedly precious mineral was sent to Spain for testing, a portion of the expedition was put to work digging a diversionary canal. Prior to completion of this vast trench the real truth came back from Spain that the glittering mineral was nothing more than fools gold. This immediately ended the efforts of a now disappointed work force but the fruits of their labor have remained, so the legend states, with the channel that cuts across the bend at this point in the river labeled the Spanish Cutoff (Floyd Papers 1920-1935). This legend is not hard to believe, but it does give an example of the kind of mythology that has grown out of DeSoto's travels. It should not be ignored that the eighteenth century naturalist William Bartram did confirm that a shining brilliance was reflected off the landscape of Silver Bluff in 1775 when he passed through the area (Bartram 1792: 312-313).

DeSoto apparently left the Indian settlement with the rest of his party, taking the queen and part of her entourage as hostage. This nefarious deed was undertaken in order to be assured of reliable guides that would lead the Spaniards to a rich land of minerals only a few days away (Billings n.d. a: 11-12; Jones 1883: 55). Unfortunately for the Europeans the queen managed to escape them and returned to her village. This left DeSoto totally isolated and without any friends to whom he could turn for aid since all the native populations had turned against him. The only alternative was to head west in search of food and new sources of wealth. After DeSoto's ignominious adventure, the history of Cofitachique disappeared into the depths of time, although it lived on in the stories told by Indians and European settlers (Shaftesbury Papers PRO 30/24, Item 89; Baker 1974: 111-112).

The legend of Cofitachique and its actual location remains a controversial issue that may never be resolved. The most recent study on the location of this community suggests that the actual location was much further to the east along the Santee-Wateree drainage (Baker 1974: 90-113). Despite Baker's argument, a recent article still maintains that Cofitachique did exist at Silver Bluff (Smith 1979: 22-23). There is little known archeological evidence today that substantiates this claim; however, a nineteenth century article by a traveler through the area describes an extensive network of mounds along the Savannah River which was being eroded away by the flow of the current against the bluffs (Jones 1873: 148-157).

Jones (1873: 152) describes the location of these "tumuli" as being on "Mason's Plantation," on the "left bank of the Savannah River; some twelve or fifteen miles by water below the city of Augusta" and as resting "upon the Carolina shore." He further describes the mounds as being situated in the "midst of the wide, deep swamp" which was once "a mighty forest" but is now a "rich cornfield" (Jones 1873: 153). Jones also refers to the "old brick house" which Colonel Lee recaptured during the Revolutionary War for the American cause. This suggests that Jones was in the vicinity of Silver Bluff; however, the distance of 12-15 miles below Augusta is at least 10 miles north of the present site.

The mounds once numbered six, but in 1873, only two-thirds of two of the mounds remained, as the other four had been eroded or had been obliterated by plowing activities (Jones 1873: 152). The mounds appear to be surrounded by a moat which consists of two canals connecting the Savannah River with what Jones describes as a "natural lagoon." From the map included with the report, this lagoon appears to be an old meander scar (Fig. 2). At the time of Jones' visit, the largest of the two remaining mounds had an estimated basal diameter of 185 feet and was reported to rise 37 feet above the surrounding ground surface and 47 feet above the existing water level. In addition, a 12 inch layer of "charcoal, ashes, broken pottery, and bones" was observed at the base of the mound (Jones 1873: 153-154). Regardless of the legend of Cofitachique, this description certainly suggests the existence of a large Indian village complex in the Silver Bluff area.

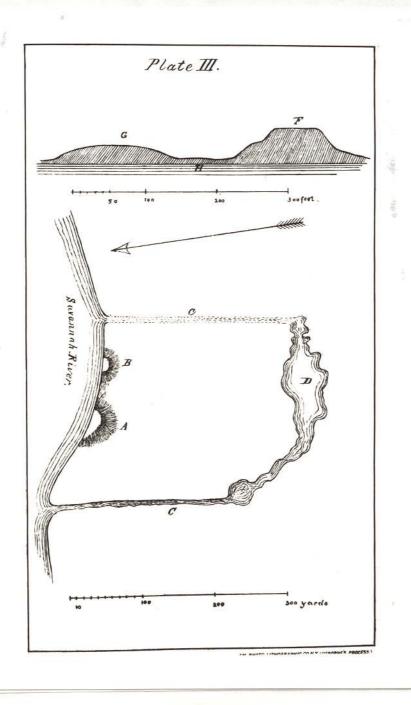


FIGURE 2: Jones' 1873 map of prehistoric Indian mounds reported to be in vicinity of Silver Bluff. Letters A and B indicate remains of prehistoric mounds, C indicates two canals running from Lagoon D to the river, F and G indicate profile of mounds along riverfront.



FIGURE 3: Recent aerial photograph indicating the possible location of the prehistoric mounds. Arrow indicates the lagoon as illustrated in Figure 2 with the probable erosion of the mounds into the river.

From the map and description of the physiographic character of the area where the mounds were located, it seems highly unlikely that this site is within the present survey area. Jones' description of the site area places the mounds within a swampy area with an elevation of only 10 feet above the Savannah River. The bluff adjacent to the present survey area is a minimum of 30 feet above the river and the soil composition is dry and well drained rather than swampy. son of Jones' map to a recent aerial survey photograph of the Silver Bluff area indicates that the mounds may have been located downstream approximately one mile near the present day Lower Silver Bluff. aerial photograph shows an old meander scar, of approximately the same shape as illustrated on Jones' map, to be located in this area. In addition, comparison of the distance of the meander scar from the present edge of the Savannah River shows the southernmost tip of the scar to be approximately equally distant on the two photographs. The northernmost tip of the meander scar, however, is approximately one-half the distance on the current aerial photograph as is represented by the 1873 illustration (Figs. 2, 3). This suggests that the river has severely eroded this section of the bluff and has probably destroyed the remains of the mounds that may have once been located there. While the description of the mound area is similar to the area shown in the aerial photograph, the distance of lower Silver Bluff from Augusta is greater than the distance indicated by Jones' article. More archival work to locate Mason's plantation and an underwater survey along this section of the river are needed to determine the actual location of these mounds.

The activities along the Savannah River at Silver Bluff remained obscure after Desoto's controversial stay until the eighteenth century. In the late seventeenth century the area of Silver Bluff was investigated for the first time by English explorers. Dr. Henry Woodward, who explored all the regions of South Carolina during the decade of the 1680s, saw the region where Silver Bluff was and is reputed to have been the first to have labeled it Silver Bluff (Smith 1979: 23). When early English traders ventured from the coast into the interior in search of deerskins, a band of Yuchi Indians was reported to be living there (Billings n.d. a: 31). Billings claims that a storehouse was constructed at Silver Bluff housing the merchandise used by the English to trade with the Indians for deerskins. It seems more likely that this storehouse is confused with a structure built at Savannah Town, where Fort Moore was later built (Meriwether 1940: 66-67; Crane 1928: 29, 36 This structure was located 10 miles north of Silver Bluff on the Savannah River and was reported to have been constructed in 1685.

Early Ownership of Silver Bluff

The earliest land acquisition of portions of Silver Bluff was made in 1735-1736 by Kennedy O'Brian. He was reputed to be one of

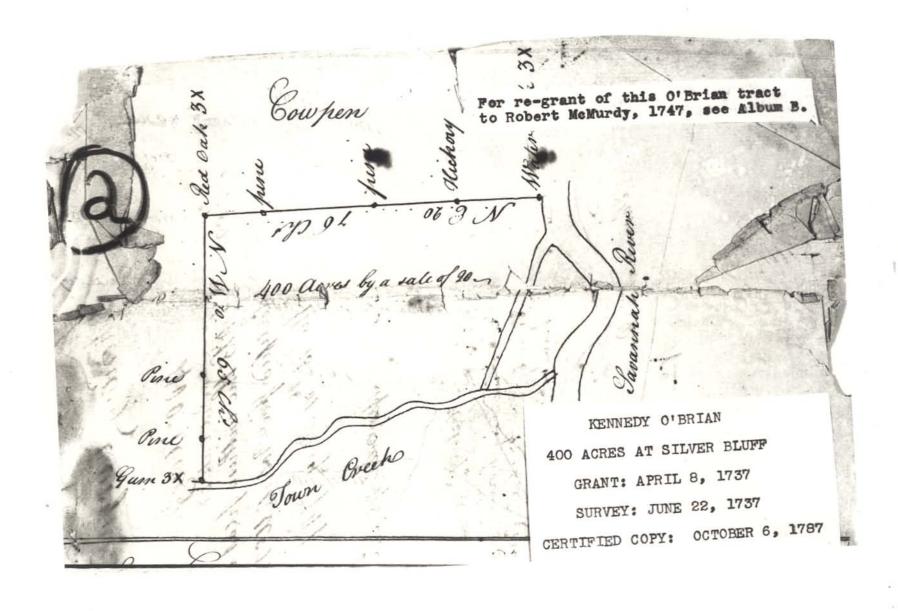


FIGURE 4: 1787 plat of land grant to Kennedy O'Brien at Silver Bluff.

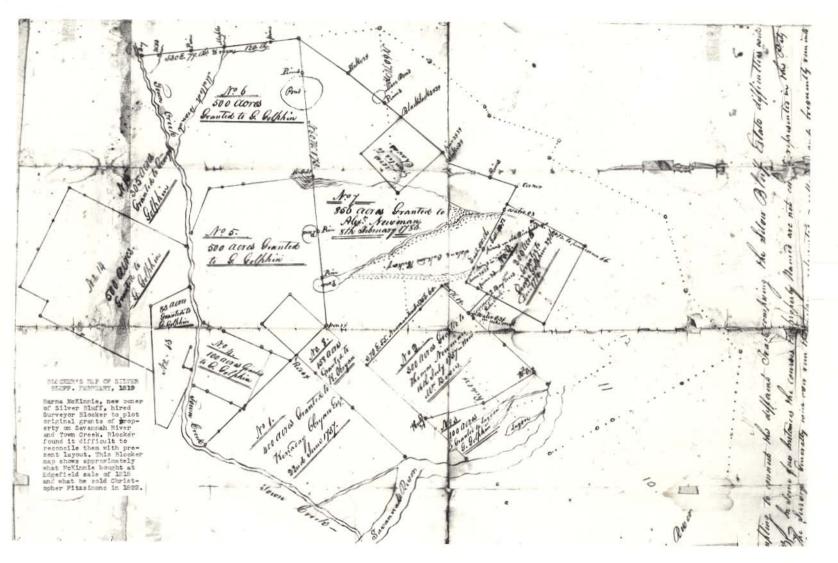


FIGURE 5: Blocker's 1819 compilation map of previous land grants in the Silver Bluff area.

the founders of Augusta who apparently was an entrepreneur who dealt in various business ventures (Billings n.d. a: 24). His first plat for Silver Bluff land included 153 acres that was certified and granted by the Governor of South Carolina in August 1736 (Redcliffe Records, A: 1). According to the plat copy made in 1787 and Blockers' Map of Silver Bluff Grants, 1819, this grant was a rectangular piece of land that fronted on the Savannah River (Figs. 4, 5; Redcliffe Records A: 1). Another certified plat of 400 acres was made out to 0'Brian in 1737 for a section of land lying northwest of the first grant bounded on the north side to Town Creek (Redcliffe Records, A; Billings n.d. a: 36).

One can only make plausible hypotheses as to why O'Brian purchased these lands. He appears to have had business interests in the fur trade suggesting that his role in the establishment of Augusta may have been a result of his desire to create a base of operations from which to carry on this trade. The most probable reason for his acquisition of these two grants of land at Silver Bluff, however, was for speculative purposes. He saw the opportunity to buy land at a cheap price for which he hoped to reap a large profit when settlers began streaming into the area (C.J. 34: 49-51). It was not an uncommon practice for enterprising men with money to buy land for future speculation (Meriwether 1940: 67; Alden 1944: 106fn). Regardless of the basis for O'Brian's land purchases, the fact is that he never gained any financial benefit from this property. By 1741 his acumen in Augusta was severely reduced by his critical comment on the evolution of the Augusta settlement (Jones et al. 1890: 28-30; Billings n.d. a: 35). He returned to Charleston in that year and died a year later without disposing of his land at Silver Bluff (S.C.G. 3 October, 1742).

O'Brian was not the only person interested in Silver Bluff and All its environs at this time. In September, 1736, Joshua Snowden was granted 200 acres of land that bordered the Savannah River on the southwest and the land of William McMullon on the southeast (Redcliffe Records A: 3). Other grants of land were given to Archibald Neale in December 1736 for 650 acres further south of Snowden's purchase, while Thomas Newman was granted 300 acres in July 1737 north of Snowden and bordering O'Brian's first grant of land at Silver Bluff (Redcliffe Records A: 4, 6; Billings n.d. a: 79; see Fig. 6). North of O'Brian's purchases, William Gascoigne purchased 600 acres in April 1738 "... bounding southeast on Town Creek and the land other side belonging to Kennedy O'Brian and southwest on the River Savannah." (Redcliffe Records A: 8). These land grants show only a portion of the land acquisitions made in and around the Silver Bluff region, but they suffice to indicate that a growing interest was now developing for the land that comprised Silver Bluff.

The nature of this growing interest in the Silver Bluff area is unknown. The most apparent possible reason for this interest was the concerted effort by the South Carolina government to promote settlement of the backcountry (Cooper 1838: 122, 123). However, there is no evidence to indicate that these men actually

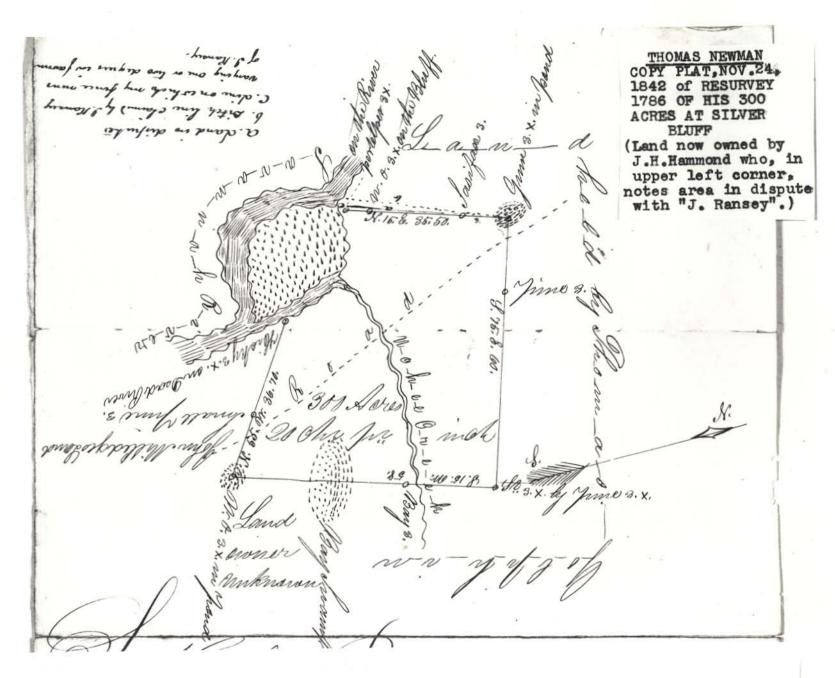


FIGURE 6: Copy plat of area granted to Thomas Newman near Silver Bluff.

settled the land themselves for any purpose. It seems likely, therefore, that these grants were based on motives of land speculation since the evidence available does not indicate another purpose (Billings n.d. a: 41; see Meriwether 1940; Crane 1928).

Robert McMurdy, an entrepreneur from Charleston, was involved in land dealings at Silver Bluff as early as 1737 where his signature appears as a surveyor to certify the land grant of William Gascoigne (Redcliffe Records A: 6). His interests ranged from operating an inn near Charleston to owning a plantation near Parker's Ferry (S.C.G. 2 January 1742, 6 August 1744). It is unknown when he first became interested in Silver Bluff as an economic venture, but in 1747, he collected the title for the unclaimed plat for O'Brian's two land tracts at Silver Bluff (Redcliffe Records A: 1, B: 1). Five years later McMurdy sold 157 acres of this land to George Galphin "...Indian Trader..." for 1000 pounds, provincial currency (Redcliffe Records A: 11; Charleston Deeds SS-1757-1758: 99). The first prominent phase of Silver Bluff's Colonial history was now beginning.

George Galphin: Early History

It is uncertain whether George Galphin was typical of the emigrant settling the backcountry seeking his fortune. His later reputation, though, proves him to be one of the few who can be traced historically in the contemporary records that tell us about his origins and activities in the backcountry in the 1740s.

He was a native of Tullamore County, Ireland, the son of a linen weaver and eldest son of seven children (MacDowell n.d.). In 1737 Galphinleft Ireland to seek his fortune in the New World, leaving behind his new wife, Catherine Saunderson, whom he married the previous year. He apparently never returned for her, and by 1741 he had married again, in St. Philips Parish, to Bridget Shaw (Mac-Dowell n.d.). Although the contemporary record says nothing about Galphin during his first six years in South Carolina, it is probable that he joined the fur trade soon after his arrival in 1737. Since he was an official Indian interpreter for the South Carolina Assembly in 1745, he must have spent a considerable time prior to this date trading with the Indians and learning their language (Easterby 1956: 75, 213, 219). The knowledge and understanding he learned about the Indians, particularly of the Lower Creek Nation, during these early years was to bring him considerable prestige and wealth. among both the Indians and his fellow settlers many years later.

The earliest record of his life in South Carolina shows that he was an interpreter in the Creek Nation for the Assembly in Charleston. His job included keeping the Colonial government informed about Creek affairs and translating messages between each side when needed. Part of the job included entertaining various Indian leaders, and the expen-

ses which this entailed were passed on to the government for financial compensation (Easterby 1956: 75, 213, 219; 1958: 45, 367; 1961: 71, 139) as provisions or merchandise. The committee of the financial affairs in the house was not always pleased with Galphin's actions done on their behalf. In February 1748, Galphin sent a bill for 467 pounds to the government for reimbursement for "...Sundry Goods supplied for the use of Indians" (Easterby 1961: 71). After careful examination the financial committee found his account overcharged by 114 pounds "...that ought not to be allowed..." and reduced it again for 83 pounds worth of rum given to the Indians that the House could not allow (Easterby 1961: 139, 141). In the end the Assembly granted their interpreter just over half of what he originally petitioned for. It is not possible to determine whether Galphin was trying to take more than his just dues from the government; however, this is not the issue. What is relevant, though, is that George Galphin had contacts with the Colonial government by the 1740s that may have been advantageous in his later acquisition of Silver Bluff and in other business with the Charleston government.

Yet while Galphin was an agent of sorts for the government, his major income was probably derived from the fur (skin) trade. The conflict of interest this may have caused was of little consequence since many government officials before him had dual interests of a similar nature that most accepted (Crane 1928: 179, 181, 201). Since he represented the interests of the government in the Indian nation, Galphin's prestige as a trader was probably increased and gave him a better chance at acquiring more and better skins than his fellow traders who did not have direct lines with the government (E.S.R. S.C. 3Elp: 246-247). Sometime during the 1740s he joined the Augusta Company (sometimes called Brown, Rae and Company) which reputedly had a virtual monopoly on the trade along the Savannah River south of Augusta and extending west into Georgia (Hamer and Rogers 1972: 167 fn; Meriwether 1940: 69). According to a suit filed by the company years later, there were six partners in the enterprise including George Galphin and another Irishman, Patrick Brown (Judgment Rolls 1760, February 6). Brown, the organizer and leader of the company, ran a store in Augusta and owned land in both Georgia and South Carolina (Meriwether 1940: 69). He was a respected businessman in Charleston circles until his death in 1755 (Meriwether 1940: 69; Hamer and Rogers 1968: 284).

The extensive monopoly held by this trading establishment included control of most of the trade with the Creek and Cherokee Indians (Hamer and Rogers 1968: 285) and certainly benefited Galphin in locating his future home and his economic fortune. Contemporary records do not account for most of Galphin's activities during the late forties and early fifties but it is probable that while Galphin travelled among the various Creek villages to trade for skins he noticed Silver Bluff, particularly since the Savannah River was a well travelled thoroughfare with goods and passengers going to and from Augusta and Savannah (and points in between) (Jones et al. 1890: 55; Meriwether 1940: 182-183). Thus the Irish Indian trader

may have passed Silver Bluff on several occasions and recognized its ideal location for his own trading post (Meriwether 1940: 162). It is probable that Galphin recognized this quite early on and set up his post at Silver Bluff long before he had any legal title to any part of the Silver Bluff tracts. The distance from the center of registering and purchasing land at Charleston, made it quite difficult for one interested in land in the backcountry to check with those who owned legal title to the property. This confusion was endemic over land titles on both sides of the Savannah River (Chesnutt 1973: 72; B.P.R.O. Vol. 24: 351).

Settlement and Development of Silver Bluff: 1750-1775

Tracing the development of Silver Bluff during George Galphin's ownership is difficult. The best contemporary sources have only general descriptions that lack detail about the number, type and layout of the structures built at Silver Bluff. Nonetheless, a general picture of the settlement at Silver Bluff can be extracted from the record with careful study.

Galphin's will is the most reliable document discovered that addresses this problem. There were two brick homes mentioned in this will, designated the old and new brick houses (Holcomb 1978: 41, 42). It is not possible to pinpoint the exact location of these structures although it is clear they are on the Savannah River on the South Carolina side. At the same time, it is plausible to suggest that these structures were located on the Silver Bluff lands that Galphin bought during the 1760s and 1770s. Each house was bequeathed to one of his sons along with several hundred acres. Thomas was given the "new Brick House" with 400 acres that belonged to it. Another son, George, received "...the old Brick House..." with 100 acres of land "where on it stands" as well as 200 acres joining it to the south (Holcomb 41, 42). The large tracts of land that went with these two homes strongly suggest that they were located at Silver Bluff since all of Galphin's major land acquisitions outside of this area were located in Georgia, along the Ogeechee River (Holcomb 1978: 43; Candler 1908: 402-403; 1906: 43, 183, 616, 705). The positive identification of one other house at Silver Bluff is made in the will and a more precise location is given. To his daughter, Judith, he bequeathed the upper three tracts of land that contained, as a whole, about fourteen hundred acres "...with the Dwelling House and all other improvements thereon where she now lives called Silver Bluff in the province of South Carolina..." (Holcomb 1978: 44). This was specifically described as running from "...Mr. Newman's line down to the point..." (see Fig. 5, Blocker's Map of Silver Bluff Grants, for a general location).

It seems most probable that along with these dwellings other structures were erected to house tools and merchandise for the Indian trade. Unfortunately, there is not a contemporary description available that enumerates such storehouses. It seems likely that Galphin's first home, possibly the old brick house, was a combination of both a dwelling house and a store for conducting business with the Indians and other Indian traders that passed by.

There are other fragments of information that may shed light on the structural layout and nature of the settlement at Silver Bluff in the 1750s and early 1760s. During this time it was necessary to construct small forts through the backcountry regions to supplement the major strongholds such as Fort Moore and Fort Prince George. These smaller forts gave more immediate protection to the settlers nearby in case of an Indian uprising (Meriwether 1940: 235-236). George Galphin's post at Silver Bluff was listed as one of these frontier forts in the South Carolina Gazette, July 12, 1760.

During this period Galphin was carrying on a thriving business with the Indians, even though his post was supposed to be a defense against them in case of an Indian uprising. In February 1761, a report was made that nearly seventy Creek Indians stayed at "...Galphin's Silver Bluff..." for an indefinite period of time (S.C.G. 28 February to 7 March, 1761.) Although they were supposed to have behaved in a "...very orderly and friendly manner..." other reports were made that some of Galphin's visitors, at other times, were not so amenable with the nearby settlements in New Windsor. One report from the Gazette stated that the Creeks that "resort" to Mr. Galphin's "...do incredible mischief to the inhabitants, by driving off all the horses they can meet with, killing their cattle, etc." (S.C.G. March 14-17, 1761). The visitors to Silver Bluff included both respected Indian chiefs and Indian traders with their Indian entourages (S.C.G. July 5-12, 1760; July 4-11, 1761). The apparent frequency of the Indian visits to Silver Bluff suggests that some accommodation arrangement probably was set up by Galphin to shelter his guests. If he entertained several groups a year, it is possible that small shelters of a durable nature were erected to accommodate his guests. The only suggestion for this, however, is a less than reliable source (Jones 1883: 137).

The nature of the Silver Bluff economic base originated with the development of barter trade, i.e. European manufactured goods for Indian skins. The skins were primarily from deer but occasionally were supplemented with beaver, bear and muskrat pelts (Galphin's Ledgers 1-3; Crane 1928: 109-110, 115). The nature of the fur (or skin) trading business required that Galphin have his merchandise well secured from marauding bands of Indians or nefarious Indian traders. Thus a defensive stockade was erected to protect against such persons as well as to offer protection to neighboring settlers in case of an Indian attack. It was also a regulation during the early days of this trade not to allow the Indians into the store where the merchandise was kept (McDowell 1955: 101). The basis for this was twofold.

First, it prevented the native customer from knowing the quantity of blankets, pots and other items used for bartering by the trader. If the Indian did not know what types and numbers of goods the trader had, he was less able to argue for a price in his favor than the trader might normally give. Second, the Indians were kept away from the merchandise and were less able to steal while they bargained for price (McDowell 1955: 101).

Several attempts were made during the Colonial period to regulate the trade and establish more respectable business practices in it (Crane 1928: 141-146, 202-203; McDowell 1970: 134; Alden 1944: 341-343). The documentary evidence proves Galphin to have carried on honest trading practices with his clients. This was emphasized by the great respect he had gained from the Indians throughout his residence at Silver Bluff and in his travels through Indian lands (S. C. Historical Society 1900: 123-125; McDowell 1958: 4, 378; 1970: 55-56, 84, 354). His reputation with those who bought his skins in Charleston was equally as favorable. Henry Laurens was a major buyer of Galphin's skins and when the former was deprived of one shipment of the Irish trader's goods in 1756, he felt as if he lost an important purchase (Hamer and Rogers 1970: 368). Laurens implied that Galphin sold well dressed skins (skins in good condition) that were difficult to get since many Indian traders had few scruples about selling poorly dressed skins (McDowell 1958: 137).

The types of wares traded at Silver Bluff for Indian skins consisted of practical items that Indians found necessary to their everyday life. Things such as iron pots, gun flints, blankets, and knives were popular items in demand (Galphin's Ledger 1). The type of ornaments and luxury merchandise desired by Galphin's aboriginal clients consisted of vermilion (a paint used to decorate the face and body), various kinds of beads for necklaces and of course liquor, particularly rum (Galphin's Ledger 1). These wares were all purchased through factors in London (Redcliffe Records A: 22), which would supply Galphin with the goods he requested, on credit. He would then pay off the debt in the summer or fall when he sent his skins to Charleston to be bought by the merchants there. They in turn sent the skins to Europe where they were usually resold.

By the close of the 1760s Galphin's trading business was used more by local settlers than fur traders and Indians (Billings n.d. a: 51; Galphin's Ledger 1, 2, 3). This is apparent from the variety of goods listed in the ledgers at Silver Bluff during 1768-1772 and by the names of clients that appear. There are many entries for small quantities of merchandise, with several listings for one item purchases. John Humphreys bought two bags of shot without purchasing other items in December 1767 (Galphin's Ledger 1). Timothy Bernard bought only one pair of shoes for Isaac, and Francis Louis bought two pounds of sugar along with sixteen gallons of rum, 15 October 1771 (Galphin's Ledger 2). These few examples depict the types of wares bought and do not indicate a great need for supplies that might be

expected for a long term absence from a center of supply while in the wilderness. The explanation may lie in the fact that less skin trading was taking place at Silver Bluff than in the previous decade and the new clientele were more easily accessible to the store throughout the year.

The slowdown in the fur trade at Silver Bluff was probably to a great degree replaced by Galphin's trading post in Georgia. He owned several thousand acres in that colony particularly along the Ogeechee River, southeast of the modern town of Louisville, Georgia (Knight 1914: 241-242; Carr T. Martin, 11 August 1782, Cuyler Collection). Included in this property was a store, commonly known as Old Town, although sometimes referred to as Galphinton, where Galphin also established trade relations with the indigenous Indian groups (Holcomb 1978: 43). Although we know that Galphin owned a settlement at Ogeechee, its origins and development are not completely understood; however, in 1767-1768, Galphin began a venture with another trader, John Rae, to obtain a large grant of land along the Ogeechee and to attract and profit from Irish settlers coming into the area (MacDowell n.d.; Candler 1908: 402-403; Green 1960; 182-199).

Despite Galphin's growing interest in Georgia, it was the growth and development of Silver Bluff that received his most personal attention. It is apparent that by the decade of the 1770s the Indian trade at Silver Bluff was in decline although it was not completely eliminated, and in its place George Galphin was devoting more of his energy into transforming Silver Bluff from a trading post into an agricultural complex, a plantation.

The ultimate economic and social achievement for a settler from Britain was to become a landowner with the social mores of a gentleman (Cashin, personal correspondence.) In South Carolina this meant having a plantation and producing a cash crop of indigo and/or tobacco. Most Indian traders had this in mind as they accumulated the necessary income to make their dream a reality (Coleman 1976: 216; Cashin, personal correspondence). Galphin was no exception, for he strove to attain both the social and economic status of a South Carolina planter.

It is not possible to document the complete evolution of Galphin's social development; however, it is possible to demonstrate that Silver Bluff did evolve from a trading post settlement into a plantation. By 1769 Silver Bluff was growing large quantities of tobacco as well as indigo and corn. The Colonial government designated Silver Bluff as the location for a regional Public Warehouse for tobacco (Cooper 1838: 327-331). This meant all the tobacco harvested in and around the New Windsor District had to be sent to the warehouse at Silver Bluff for government inspection before it was sold to merchants. This was financial incentive for the owner of the warehouse who received three shillings per pound of tobacco stored (Cooper 1838: 327-331). The location of such a station at Silver Bluff suggests more than just the fact that

tobacco was grown there. It indicates the considerable influence that Galphin had in the Commons House of Assembly in Charleston. Such government appointments did not often come without the acquaintence of some high official in the government. The significance of this appointment is that it illustrates that Galphin had achieved a reputation as a planter and a man of respect in Charleston, even though he resided at a considerable distance from the mainstream of activity.

Another glimpse at the developing plantation at Silver Bluff depicts several acres of indigo and corn growing in its spacious fields. When Bernard Elliot passed through Silver Bluff on a recruiting mission on behalf of the radical independence movement in 1775, he remarked upon this fact (Barnwell 1916: 98-99). From the apparent spaciousness of the fields it is probable that agriculture had begun several years prior to 1775 since the time involved in clearing the land and making it yield adequate crops would require several years of work.

As with other plantations of this time, the primary source of manpower at Silver Bluff was slave labor. This is indicated by Galphin's will (Holcomb 1978: 46-47) in which he specifically bequeathed a new shirt shift to his slaves at Silver Bluff while a whole suit of mourning was designated for those "...Hunters and House wenches..." that were a step above the regular field hand slave. In all, the slave population at Silver Bluff numbered 69 when George Galphin drew up his will in 1776 (Billings n.d. a: 64-65).

Along with these agricultural pursuits Galphin added to his plantation enterprise with a herd of livestock, a saw mill and a grist mill (Holcomb 1978: 42,44). The livestock was a variety of large cattle that many settlers raised in the backcountry by allowing them to run loose in designated areas known as cowpens. The crops that were grown in adjacent fields were protected by fences that kept out the grazing herds. Galphin probably allowed his herd of cattle to roam on the outskirts of his cultivated fields, for he bequeathed one-third of all his stock to his daughter Judith "...wherever they can be found..." (Holcomb 1978: 44). He also had a respectable number of horses that were used both for farm work and transportation. Judith was bequeathed "...ten horses and seven mares..." and her half-sister received a similar number that all came from Galphin's Silver Bluff holdings (Holcomb 1978: 44). The exact number of livestock Galphin had a Silver Bluff cannot be determined from his will, but it is likely that he had several hundred cattle and two score of horses to enable him to distribute them among four or five children and his wives.

The milling enterprise that Galphin operated on Town Creek can be located fairly accurately. The 1775 map of North and South Carolina drawn by Henry Mouzon (1775) identifies "Galphin Mill" about three to four miles from the mouth of Town Creek, where it enters the Savannah River. In order to give the Saw Mill adequate power Galphin had dammed Town Creek this distance from the big river (Holcomb 1978: 45). The use and income made of this enterprise is

unknown as is the actual date of construction; however, it was probably used to saw lumber for those in Augusta and Savannah, just as Galphin's distant successor, James H. Hammond, did 50 years later.

The entertainment and social life at Silver Bluff attained acceptable levels for the upper class personage of Henry Laurens. Following a trip he and his son made through the backcountry in the fall of 1769, Laurens wrote the proprietor at Silver Bluff in very complimentary terms thanking him for his splendid hospitality given at "...your Hospitable Castle on the Banks of Savannah..." (Rogers and Chesnutt 1979: 210). Elliot, who passed through on a recruiting mission in 1775, also remarked on the hospitality he received at Silver Bluff, even though it was only for a night. He made another interesting observation concerning the education of Galphin's daughters, whom he considered to be well versed in music and the basic aspects of education (Barnwell 1916: 98-99). Certainly Galphin was doing all he could to uphold the standards of a planter, which was no small feat for one living in the backcountry of South Carolina just prior to the War for Independence.

An unusually revealing glance at Galphin's transition from a trader to a planter is available in the Redcliffe Records, Album A. In August 1773 he informed his London factors, Greenwood and Higginson, that he was turning the Indian trade over to his three sons and nephew, David Holmes, while he concentrated on his plantation duties (Redcliffe Records A: 26; Billings n.d. a: 52, 58-59). He allowed them to use the "...house, store and plantation...clear of rent..." and claimed their assets to be worth at least 10,000 pounds sterling in Negroes and lands. Although George Galphin remained active in the trade by making himself security against any debt they might accrue, he was much more devoted now to efforts at increasing the assets on his plantation. The official end of George Galphin, Indian trader, is thus documented, but the history of Silver Bluff was only to briefly follow the agricultural course its owner had planned for it in 1773.

Silver Bluff and the American War for Independence

As the radical Patriot element began overhauling the Colonial government, its leadership realized the necessity of keeping the Indian nations neutral in the forthcoming struggle with Britain (Milling 1969: 313-314). In order to achieve this neutrality, a person well versed in Indian affairs and well respected by the Indian nation was needed as a mediator between the two groups. It is uncertain whether George Galphin was the first choice of the provisional government under the presidency of Henry Laurens, but his experience and reputation as an Indian trader and his earlier work for the Colonial Assembly would have made him a logical choice. Even before his appointment as one of the Indian commissioners, he was sending reports and recommendations to the Council of Safety in Charleston and Savannah (S.C. Historical Society 1900: 123-125).

In 1775 he was using his best efforts with the aegis of his good name, in promising ammunition to the Creeks in order to keep them neutral in the growing dispute between American Patriots and the British. Yet the assistance he expected from those in power on the coast was difficult to muster and hindered the success of his mission. The ammunition he promised the Creeks did not arrive, putting his credibility with them in jeopardy. He summed it up metaphorically in a statement to the council: "...I will do all in my power to keep them (the Creek Nation) peaceable but it is hard for a man to work without tools..." (9 August 1775 S.C. Historical Society 1900: 123-125). Galphin also advised on whom to appoint as an Indian interpreter to keep the provisional government abreast of their activities.

In October 1775 the Council of Safety officially appointed George Galphin "...a Commissioner for Indian affairs in the Southern department..." to preserve peace with the "...said Indians..." on behalf of the "...united Colonies..." (S.C. Historical Society 1901: 99-100). Only a few days later the ammunition he had requested was sent to him at Silver Bluff, probably in an effort to show that they wanted his good advice on their side (S.C. Historical Society 1901: 105). From then until his death in 1780 Galphin remained a tireless officer for the struggling colonies in his efforts to stem the influence of Britain over the Indians on the frontier. His duties required him to take extensive trips into the Lower Creek nation, meeting with them at many of their towns, such as Coweta, Oakafuskee, or Old Town, along the Ogeechee River (Galphin to Laurens; Laurens Papers: 20 July 1777, 25 July 1778). At other times Galphin was required to travel to North Carolina to negotiate with other Indian groups or to meet with other commissioners (Laurens to Georgia Committee of Safety; S.C. Historical Society 1901: 24).

The activities at Silver Bluff during Galphin's tenure as a government diplomat are uncertain. All that can be said is that Galphin used his plantation as a base to which much correspondence was addressed (S.C. Historical Society 1901: 99-100; Laurens Papers: 13 October 1777, 25 June 1778). Councils with various Indian representatives were occasionally held at Silver Bluff to reassure the Creek nation of the Americans' good intentions and the consequences of adhering to British council (S.C. Historical Society 1902: 9-10; Laurens Papers: 13 June 1778). One can infer from this that Silver Bluff remained active in the economic and political life of the region, but transformed into a diplomatic seat for American Indian affairs rather than a trading center. At the same time, Silver Bluff was also a distribution center for presents to the Indians, a ploy that was designed to keep Indian nations friendly (CCP M247 r175 rs: 99; Crane 1928: 84, 90-91; BPRO 24: 136, 393, 408, 409; BPRO 25: 15, 18).

When South Carolina was occupied by the British under Cornwallis in the spring and summer of 1780, the great efforts of Galphin appeared to have been in vain. Yet throughout his tenure in office both enemies and friends acknowledged his valuable contribution in keeping the Indians neutral in the conflict. The British opposite to Galphin,

John Stuart, begrudgingly acknowledged the difficulty in gaining any influence with those Creeks under Galphin's authority. John Rutledge, Governor of South Carolina during the conflict, clearly made it known that he felt Galphin was the instrumental factor in keeping the Creek nation neutral and out of British influence (Rutledge to S.C. Delegation MMS 30 August 1777). Another measure of Galphin's efforts on behalf of the Americans is illustrated by the efforts of the British to assassinate him during 1777 (Starr 1965: 21-22; Rutledge to S.C. Delegation MMS 30 August 1777; Calendar IL 197). At Savannah in 1780 George Galphin was listed as one of those condemned for treason against the king (Candler 1907: 590). Thus, by the time Galphin died in December 1780, he had made a significant impression on the minds of both British and American leaders (MacDowell n.d.).

Silver Bluff, on the other hand, was still to play a dramatic role in the conflict that surged in South Carolina during 1780-1781. During the occupation of the backcountry by British and Loyalist forces in 1780, Silver Bluff was occupied by a troop of Loyalists. The exact date and reason for this move is unknown, but it was probably to serve as a defensive outpost for the more important center of Augusta to the north. The British renamed Silver Bluff, Fort Dreadnought, although some historians have incorrectly called it Fort Galphin (Knight 1914: 886; Chapman 1963: 155) and used it for the annual distribution of presents to the Indians. In effect, Silver Bluff, while under British control, continued to function as a center for Indian affairs.

During the spring of 1781 a detachment of Lt. Colonel Harry Lee's Legion with some South Carolina militia beseiged and captured the fortification as a preliminary to capturing Augusta (CCP M247, r175, r2: 99, 104). Fort Dreadnought was reported to have a substantial stockade surrounding it and an open field of fire that made a direct assault quite difficult (Lee 1869; Knight 1914: 886). In order to avoid this a diversion by the militia was created near the stockade walls that drew the garrison out. The Legion then quickly took the British force by surprise from the flank and captured the fort with the loss of only one American and three or four loyalists. The operation was carried out so quickly that hardly a shot was fired (Lee 1869: 354-355; CCP M247, r191, r1: 214-216). In the aftermath of the operation the Americans captured a large supply of stores that included much needed ammunition and arms as well as food and some apparel (CCP M247, r175, r2: 99; Chapman 1963: 155). Many of the enemy troops were captured including 56 rank and file, 6 officers, 3 sergeants, 3 cadets, and 2 assistant commanders. A total of 70 of the King's Rangers were captured during the skirmish. Curiously enough, there were 61 Negroes listed, most of whom were the property of the inhabitants (CCP M247, r191, r1: 109).

Silver Bluff in Decline: 1781-1830

From all the available records the date of George Galphin's death was December 1780 (Knight 1914: 819; MacDowell n.d.; Billings n.d. a: 60; Whiting 1969: 247). There appears to be no way of confirming the exact date since no official record or tombstone of his death has been erected. Nevertheless, he did leave an extensive will that was filed at the Ordinary's office in Abbeville. South Carolina, 6 April 1782 (Billings n.d. a: 62; Holcomb 1978: 41). Along with several lesser benefactors who included relatives in Ireland, illegitimate children by Indians and blacks, Galphin's principle benefactors were his three sons, George, Thomas and John, and his daughters Martha, Judith and Barbara (Billings n.d. a: 63, 66; Holcomb 1978: 41-49). All of his sons were under 21 years of age at the time of his death and it is probable that George Sr. had his nephew, David Holmes, and the executors of his will manage the property until they came of age. Thomas received the "...Grist Mill and Sawmill, situated on the north side of Town Creek with all the lands on the same side of the creek..." which made up 1.000 acres. It was further stipulated that all the land "...from Mr. Shaw's lower line upon Savannah River at the Spanish Cutoff down said River to Mr. McGillivery's lower line containing about 1,300 acres in the province of Georgia..." was to be his as well (Holcomb 1978: 41). George and John received lesser amounts of land at Silver Bluff with other tracts of land situated on the other side of the river in Georgia (Holcomb 1978: 42). Both were to receive half shares in the Sawmill on Town Creek. Thomas received the new brick house in South Carolina while George received the "...old Brick House..." in South Carolina (Holcomb 1978: 41; 42). After the execution of this will little more than pieces of information were recovered to indicate the slow but steady economic decline that was shadowing Galphin's former wealthy estate.

Through both their own mistakes and problems with unscrupulous neighbors, the heirs of George Galphin Sr. ran into more economic difficulties as the decade of the eighties progressed. In April 1788, in a court case dealing with unspecified business matters, Thomas admitted that he caused his own financial loss (S.C. Will Transcripts I: 1787-1826: 131; Thomas Galphin 30 April 1788). His problems were compounded at this time by a loss of a boatload of corn enroute to the market in Savannah. From these calamities and his own personal analysis, the conclusion arises that Thomas was not a skillful farmer or businessman. There is less to make of Thomas' two brothers; however, what is certain is that the Galphin estate was totally ruined with the suit brought against it by the firm Greenwood and Higginson, Inc., in 1791.

This London firm supplied George Galphin with the merchandise used to trade for the Indian furs. Unfortunately, Galphin or his successors, had accumulated a huge debt amounting to 13,566 pounds sterling that had not been paid by 1776 (Redcliffe Records A: 26).

Since the signing of the Peace of Paris in 1783 allowed British firms to seek compensation for pre-war debts, the London factors were perfectly in their right to make this claim (McLaughlin 1905: 26-27). Thus, at the U.S. District Court in Charleston three suits were made against the Galphin estate for the sum just stated, in October of 1791 (Redcliffe Records A: 26).

According to the record, a settlement of some sort was reached in the U.S. Court in Columbia some nine months later, but the exact terms of the settlement are unknown (Redcliffe Records A: 26). Whatever the settlement, the Galphin heirs were unable to keep the lands at Silver Bluff on a sound economic basis due to their inability to pay off the debt. Five years later Thomas Galphin sold several plantations "...including Silver Bluff and all adjoining lands belonging to the George Galphin's estate..." (Redcliffe Records A: 27). Twelve thousand acres along with mills, buildings and improvements were sold to Charles Goodwin for 5,900 pounds sterling, with the added provision that he assume payment of the settlement to the two London merchants, Higginson and Greenwood (Redcliffe Records A: 27). The assumption that Thomas was unable to meet the requirements of the settlement of 1792 are confirmed by the deed of sale. Although all parties involved were not stipulated exactly, the assumption that Thomas was acting in behalf of his two brothers appears likely since their names do not appear in any later Silver Bluff records. Thomas continued to hold ownership to some land north of Silver Bluff at Buck Island (S.C. Will Transcripts I: 1787-1826, 131).

Charles Goodwin appears not to have been resourceful with his property at Silver Bluff. Goodwin failed to fulfill the part of the agreement to pay off the debt to the London merchants, and in May 1818, the Silver Bluff land was put up for public auction by order of the Edgefield District Court when a complaint was lodged two years earlier by the son of the underwriter of the deed for 1796. Apparently Elisha Poinsett promised to pay part of the debt if Goodwin was delinquent in his payments to Higginson. By 1816 Poinsett was forced to make payment of "...a considerable sum of money..." to the London factors' attorney (Redcliffe Records B: 9). With this payment Poinsett and his son became at least partial owners of Silver Bluff (Redcliffe Records B: 9). The tract of Silver Bluff was auctioned on the fourth of May 1818 to Barnn McKinnie for \$35,000. The exact boundaries of the purchased land are imprecise but indications are that the northern boundary line began at the border between Edgefield and Barnwell Districts and the Savannah River (Redcliffe Records B: 9). Apparently McKinnie bought Silver Bluff for speculative purposes only, because he sold the property only four years later to planter Christopher Fitzsimmons.

The new owner of Silver Bluff, who already owned a prosperous plantation, apparently had ambitions of making it a profitable piece of land. However, he was not healthy and two years after his acquisition he died, leaving the lands at Silver Bluff undirected and poorly supervised (Spann n.d.: L 1-3; Tucker 1958: 79).

James Hammond and the Plantation at Silver Bluff

The economic fortunes of Silver Bluff began to change when the heir of Fitzsimmons, his daughter Catherine, married James H. Hammond. Soon after their marriage, the Hammonds took up residence at Silverton, located approximately four miles east of Silver Bluff, and the new owner began his intense efforts to increase the production of the Silver Bluff lands (Spann n.d.: 1; Tucker 1958: 86). The holdings at Silver Bluff when Hammond took control were already quite extensive showing that his predecessor had begun efforts to increase productivity and profits. Ten thousand eight hundred acres of swamp and pineland were included in the holdings valued at \$36,100 (Tucker 1958: 87; Hammond n.d.: 1). One hundred forty-seven slaves and twenty-six mules were listed as available for work at Silver Bluff in 1831 (Tucker 1958: 87; Hammond n.d.: 1). There was a variety of livestock, including 100 head of cattle and 230 hogs with a substantial amount of fodder available (Tucker 1958: 87; Hammond n.d.: 1). Certain grains were stored in small amounts, particularly peas, wheat, meal, and corn. There were 30 packed bags of cotton from the previous season's harvest, as Hammond prepared for his first winter at Silver Bluff.

This was an encouraging start for a young planter, but there were problems that had to be dealt with to make the plantation run more efficiently and profitably. His labor force of slaves was not as committed to work as he demanded. As he began to take stock of what he owned, Hammond soon found his labor to be undisciplined and capricious; he found the "...Negroes trying me at every step. Found today in the upper part of the pantry forty seven bottle of wine, a basket of corks, nearly a gin of glass and a large parcel of sheet lead..." (Hammond n.d.: 4). In order to restore discipline Hammond punished his hands for disobeying orders or doing a poor job (Hammond n.d.: 5).

A good deal of effort was expended by Hammond to refurbish the saw mills on Town Creek and to get lumber to the markets in Savannah for sale. He made sure that the ledger books were put in order for both the saw and the grist mills, and he assigned eight hands to full-time duty at the saw mill (Hammond n.d.: 6,7; Tucker 1958: 90-91). He estimated that he could produce between 800,000 and 1,000,000 feet of lumber per year (Hammond n.d.: 6-7). Unfortunately his anticipated income from such production did not materialize as quickly as he had hoped: of the 670,000 feet of lumber he sent to Savannah during 1832, over a third remained unsold by the end of that year (Tucker 1958:95). His lumber enterprise was not limited only to construction materials; he also had ideas of supplying the steam boats that regularly traveled between Augusta and Savannah along the river. This venture did attract the majestic paddle wheel boats but the market for firewood he had planned to sell at a prodigious rate for their fuel was slow in coming (Tucker 1958: 90; Hammond n.d.: 5). It seems that Hammond pegged a cord of wood at a higher rate than was normal and this

caused his business to run slowly until he realized his mistake and reduced his fee (Tucker 1958: 9).

The settlement patterns at Silver Bluff were quite different from what they were a half century before James Hammond took over. It seems that few lived on the Silver Bluff land tracts. A "Brick House" was located near the boat landing just south of the mouth of Town Creek (where it emptied into the Savannah River) (Hammond n.d.: 23). This was probably one of Galphin's homes which was being used as a storehouse for tools and other materials needed for lumbering and repairing a log landing bridge built nearby (Hammond n.d.: 6). Further south in the region known as Condes Swamp, another brick structure was also standing where Hammond stopped during his inspection of his lands (Billings n.d. b: 36-41; Redcliffe Records B: 17-18). Unfortunately the origin and function of this structure is unknown. This area was called the lower bluff by Hammond and was a favorite place to hunt for hogs; thus the structure may have served as a resting place and protection from the elements. Since these are brick structures, it seems most likely that they date back to the George Galphin era; no one after 1780 had the money or the time to invest in such a construction.

The crops and management of his land were his only major concern during these early years. It may be that a few of Hammond's more reliable slaves lived in part of one of these structures to watch over the fields during the evenings and days off. Generally, however, Hammond preferred to house his slaves away from Silver Bluff for fear they may be hired away on one of the paddle boats which travelled the river (Faust: personal communication). In addition, in order to prevent his slaves from secretly carrying away parts of the crop, particularly during the harvest, it was probably necessary to house most of them close to his own home so that he could watch over them and keep them from temptation. This is certainly likely when one remembers that Hammond was having problems of theft and disobedience with his slaves when he first took over Silver Bluff in 1831 (Hammond n.d.: 4).

The agricultural pursuits in the environs of Silver Bluff measured the ultimate success of Hammond's efforts. In 1831 Hammond planted 390 acres of cotton and 400 acres of corn with 61 full time hands assigned to their cultivation and harvest (Tucker 1958: 96). This acreage was increased the following year, as 425 acres of cotton, 580 acres of corn, 100 acres of oats, ten of potatoes and seven of sugar cane, amounting to a total of 1,122 acres, were cultivated in 1832. After a break-even year in 1831, Hammond estimated in his journal for 1832 that he achieved a net income, after expenses, of \$9,729.11. This impressive profit after only a year and a half in operation shows the extent to which Silver Bluff could be used to turn a profit if managed properly. Hammond continued to increase his fortune from Silver Bluff and in the process expanded his holdings beyond Silver Bluff to the north and east. By 1840 the land at Silver Bluff was valued at \$59,500 (Spann n.d.: 11).

Since this was only part of his holdings, a comparison with the value of his property total estimate at \$79,000 indicates the significance of the Silver Bluff tract to Hammond's overall scheme of production.

Various water transport improvements were made during his ownership, particularly the transfer of lumber from Hammond's sawmills to the river landing on the Savannah. In 1848 the rights were bought to widen and deepen the stream "...commonly called Euchee Creek..." in order to convey all the water from Hammond's Long Pond and other lands to the Savannah River (Spann n.d.: 20). With the various improvements and new land acquisitions made throughout the middle of the century Hammond became one of the wealthiest planters in South Carolina.

Hammond's ambition went beyond that of becoming a successful planter, for he was greatly interested in politics. Through his efforts and those of influential friends, he increased his political prestige in the state until he was elected governor of South Carolina for the 1842-1844 term (Tucker 1958: 375-450). Scandals of a political and personal nature dampened his further aspirations, but he remained devoted to his plantation. In 1851 the Hammond family moved out of Silverton to take up a six years' residence near Augusta at Sand Hill. Having bought a tract of land known as Buck Island in 1855, Hammond built an impressive residence called Redcliffe Estate which he moved into in 1857. This was the last remaining land owned by Galphin's descendants which Hammond purchased from Dr. Millege Galphin (Redcliffe Records B: 10).

In the meantime Hammond was able to restore his political reputation and was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1856 (Tucker 1958: 454-478). As a staunch secessionist in 1860, Hammond retired from politics as the Civil War began and remained largely preoccupied with his plantation until he died in 1863 (Tucker 1958: 449-483).

The Hammond property was divided between his two sons and his widow, Catherine. The Silver Bluff land went primarily to Catherine, including the land along Hollow Creek to the Savannah River (Redcliffe Records B: 18). Her son, Harry, managed the land on her behalf while she spent her time at Redcliffe Estate or visiting with friends in Columbia. Unfortunately the prosperity of Silver Bluff was not able to reach their pre-war levels. With the abolition of slavery and the defeat of the Confederate States, the Hammonds had to use a more expensive labor force that at the same time was usually less permanent. The effect of this was a reduction in the family income and in the land productivity of Silver Bluff (Spann n.d.: 1-2). Much of the land had to be leased to tenant farmers from whom the Hammonds made the bulk of their income (Spann n.d.: 30). Although this generated less revenue than had been available during previous years, it did allow sufficient income for the Hammond family to retain the prosperity through the rest of the nineteenth century. With Catherine Hammond's death in 1896 the ownership of Silver Bluff was bequeathed to her daughter, who shortly afterwards sold it to her sister-in-law, Emily Cumming Hammond (Redcliffe Records C).

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The importance of the Silver Bluff area to the early settlement of the Carolina frontier and its potential for archeological study has been recognized for many years. Early accounts of travelers through the Carolinas have frequently mentioned Silver Bluff as the location of an early Colonial period trading post and as the possible location of Cofitachique, the large Indian settlement encountered by DeSoto during his travels through the Southeast (Bartram 1792: 312-313: Milling 1969: 65-72). All of these accounts, however, are vague as to the exact location and extent of the settlements at Silver Bluff. In addition, recent study suggests that the location of Cofitachique was not at Silver Bluff but was instead located on the Wateree River near Camden (Baker 1974). State Archeologist Dr. Robert L. Stephenson recognized this and other questions surrounding the history of Silver Bluff, and, in designing an archeological preservation plan for the State, recommended that a program of intensive survey be initiated in order to define various occupations within the area (Stephenson 1975: 90).

In November 1979, archeological investigations began at Silver Bluff plantation. The primary objectives of these investigations were to locate and spatially define areas of human occupation within the present day Silver Bluff area; to identify the inhabitants; and to determine the nature of past occupations at the site. Because the Silver Bluff site is very large, encompassing approximately 200 acres, different priorities and sampling strategies were commensurate with the likelihood of locating archeological components. The initial priority system described in the grant proposal was as follows:

First priority was assigned to 100% collecting of the approximately 22 acres south of the datum line and west of Silver Bluff. Surface collections by local amateurs in this area had indicated heavy concentrations of Indian and colonial artifacts.

Second priority was assigned to statistically-random sampling of the approximately 30 acres between the road (datum line) and the Bluff.

Third priority was assigned to statistically-random sampling of the approximately 65 acres north of the datum line.

Fourth priority was assigned to statistically-random sampling of the approximately 95 acres at the eastern end of the site.

Fifth priority consisted of examination of interesting features outside the primary site area as time permitted.

The initial priority areas are shown in Figure 7. Strategies were to be adjusted as artifact concentrations indicative of archeological components were located. This sampling strategy was modified immediately after fieldwork began when it became obvious that intensive

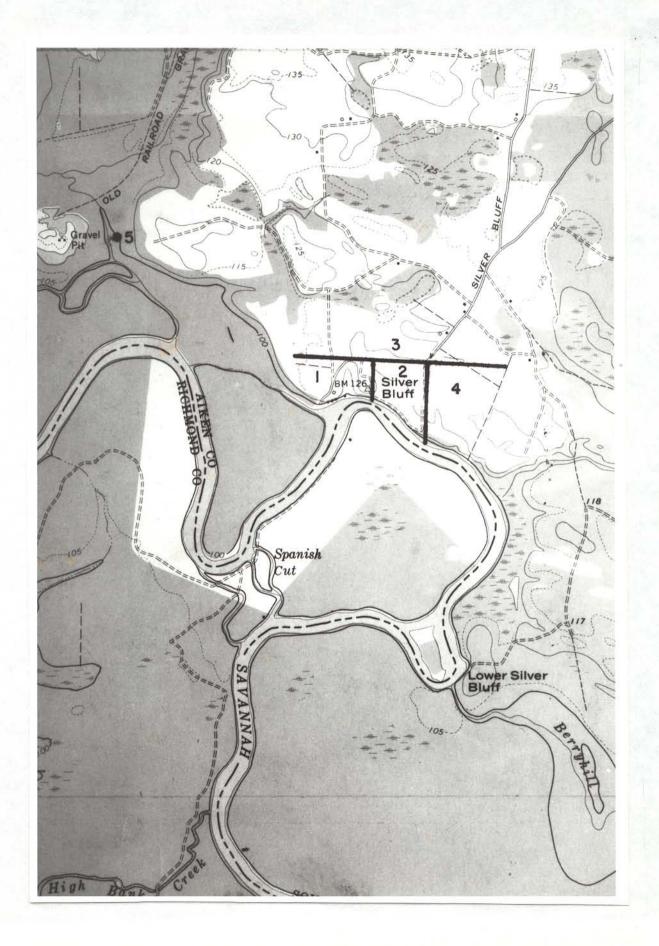


FIGURE 7: Initial sampling priority areas within the Silver Bluff project area.

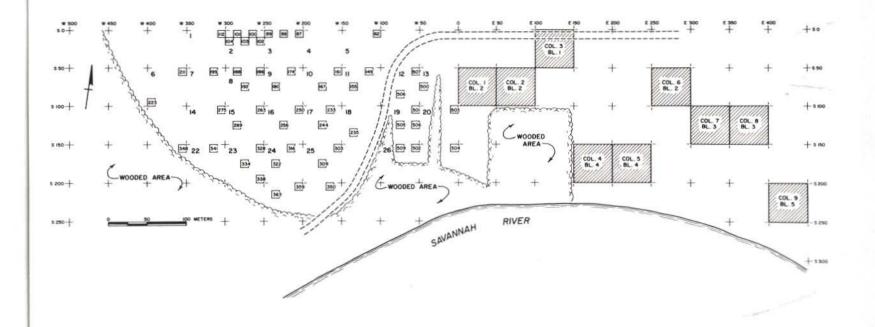


FIGURE 8: Map showing location of sampling units within priority areas 1, 2, and 4.

surface collecting required much more time than had been anticipated. The sampling strategy for the priority one area was revised to include collecting of artifacts from the northeast 10 meter square and one other central 10 meter square in each 50 meter block. Random 50 meter blocks in the priority two-four areas were sampled less intensively (see Fig. 8). J. W. Joseph and Professor J. L. Beth, Jr., of the University of South Carolina Aiken Branch, coordinated the field phase of the program; local volunteers examined the ground surface intensively and systematically on hands and knees. An arbitrary east-west datum line was established along part of an existing road through the site. All survey points were related to this datum. The area was disked and surveyed into 50 meter blocks which were subdivided into 10 meter squares for intensive surface collecting.

FIELD PHASE

After several preliminary meetings and discussions, initial field-work began at Silver Bluff on November 17, 1979, when a small group prepared a field laboratory in a storage building belonging to the Audubon Society. The building was cleared and appropriate shelving and work spaces were assembled. This laboratory proved to be very functional but was used only occasionally during the program because cleaning and cataloguing efforts at the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology in Columbia were able to keep pace with the artifacts obtained from the field.

A permanent benchmark was installed at the side of the road which was used as an arbitrary east-west datum. This road has a true bearing of 83° so the arbitrary grid system was skewed 7° from true coordinates.

The priority one area west of the road to the boat landing was disked on November 29 and the area was surveyed into 50 m blocks. Metal pipe sections marked the corners of each 50 m block. A tag attached to the pipe listed the coordinates of the northeast corner of each block relative to the benchmark. The 50 m blocks were subdivided into 10 m squares using a surveying tape. Flagged survey pins defined the corners of the 10 m squares.

All fieldwork at Silver Bluff was provided by volunteers. A total of 106 volunteers, including groups of younger students, contributed 1,178 volunteer hours of labor. Major assistance was furnished by Professor Beth's archeology students from the University of South Carolina Aiken Campus, members of the Augusta Archeological Society, members of the Archeological Society of South Carolina, and interested friends. Twenty-nine of the most dedicated volunteers contributed 934.5 volunteer hours (79.3% of the total). Work was restricted to weekends because of the volunteer work force. Collection bags from each square were marked with the site number 38AK7, an arbitrary provenience number, and the coordinates of the northeast corner of the square. Individual collection bags were signed and dated by the collectors.

Collecting began on December 1, 1979. The ground was dusty and artifact collection was much more difficult than had been anticipated. Collecting each square required working on hands and knees. The ground was scraped to a depth of 1-2 inches and dirt clods were broken by hand to assure that no artifacts were concealed inside. The work proceeded very slowly and it was apparent immediately that the research plan which envisioned 100% collection of the priority one area had been overly optimistic. Because of the slow progress, the research strategy was revised to include collecting of artifacts from the northeast 10 m square and one central 10 m square in each 50 m block.

Work during early December was hampered by the dry, dusty soil. However, in mid-December the rains came and from that time on, dust was no longer a problem. The working season available to the volunteers turned out to be the wettest winter since 1876. The ground stayed almost continuously damp and screening was impossible. Use of hands to smooth away the upper surface of the square quickly gave way to use of trowels which were effective because of the identifying "clink" made when the trowel contacted an unseen artifact. Troweling was limited to the upper 1 or 2 inches of each square.

Collection continued west of the road to the boat landing in the priority one area until February 2, 1980. At that time, the remainder of the priority one area (east of the road to the boat landing) and the priorities two and four areas had been disked and the remainder of the priority one area had been surveyed into 50 m blocks. Fieldwork continued until Saturday, April 12, when the crew arrived to find that the farmer who leased the field from the Audubon Society had disked the entire area in preparation for spring planting. Obliteration of the grid system ended all thoughts of continuing work at the site after 51.5 squares had been intensively collected.

Statistics for the field phase at Silver Bluff are summarized in Table 1. Intensive surface collecting occupied all or part of 24 days between December 1, 1979, and March 23, 1980. During this time, 1056.25 volunteer hours were invested in collecting 51.5 squares. Thus, collecting an average square required 20.5 volunteer hours. However, the time required to collect a square was highly variable, ranging from 8 to 308 hours. In general, collecting time increased with adverse soil conditions and increased artifact density.

On March 23, Mr. and Mrs. Bartley of Beech Island, S.C., visited the site to describe a brick pier or foundation that they had found about ten years ago. They had a faded photograph and notes describing the feature as a brick column, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet square, with the top of the column 9 inches below the surface. The largest brick was $8\frac{1}{2}x4x3$ inches. The Bartleys had removed the top course of bricks during this visit. After probing, the feature was relocated at coordinates 107/south-42/west, immediately adjacent to square 501 which had been collected on February 2. The top of a brick mass was uncovered; however, it was too late in the day to excavate properly. Unfortunately, inclement weather and the premature disking of the field prevented returning to define the feature. The presence of a feature below the plow zone indicates a high probability of intact subsurface features which could allow for better definition of the functional and spatial arrangements of Silver Bluff.

In addition to the intensive surface collecting, several less intensive collections were made. Walking collections of 50 m blocks in priority areas two and four were made to provide data on artifact distributions in these lower priority areas behind the Bluff. Walking collections also were made in five 10 m squares adjacent to squares that had been intensively collected in priority area one. Data from the walking collections were compared with data from nearby intensive collections to estimate relative efficiencies of the two techniques.

TABLE 1
INTENSIVE SURFACE COLLECTION
SUMMARY

DATE	MAN HOURS	SQUARES	MAN HOURS/SQUARE
12-1	104	13	8.0
12-2	38	3	12.7
12-8	89.5	9	9.9
12-9	76	6	12.7
12-15	24.75	1	24.8
12-16	29.75	2	14.8
1-5	14	1	14.0
1-6	27.25	2	13.6
1-12	38	1 ·	38.0
1-13	11	1/2	22.0
1-19	73.75	$2\frac{1}{2}$	29.5
1-20	35.25	1	35.2
2-2	70.25	2 1/3	30.2
2-3	20	1/2	40.0
2-10	14.5	1/6	87.0
2-16	21.5	2/3	32.2
2-17	57.5	1 1/3	43.2
2-23	46.25	<u>1</u> 2	92.5
2-24	20.25	1/4	81.0
3-9	83.25	$2\frac{1}{4}$	37.0
3-15	26.5	3/4	35.3
3-16	28	$\frac{1}{4}$	112.0
3-22	77	$\frac{1}{4}$	308.0
<u>3-23</u>	30	14	120.0
24	1056.25	51.5	20.5

A small scatter of artifacts was collected in a firebreak at the southwest corner of the property near Hollow Creek. This scatter was located approximately 1500 meters from the bench mark at a bearing of 302° . The collection area was approximately 3.8 meters wide by 180.6 meters long. This scatter was collected intensively on April 12, 1980, as priority area 5.

Several other interesting sites on the plantation were visited but not examined archeologically. Sites which deserve further study include:

An area described locally as an Indian mound is located on the bank of Hollow Creek near the southeast corner of the property. The area is overgrown and eroded and has been damaged extensively by relic collectors; the mound, if it is a mound, is not obvious. However, a good dark midden is eroding out of the creek bank and sherds indicate a Mississippian occupation. A nearby firebreak also is littered with sherds and flakes and the plantation manager reports that an adjacent field was "full of artifacts" before it was planted in pines a few years ago.

Tom McElmurray of Jackson, S.C., reports a large Indian mound on his property about 1 mile northwest of Hollow Creek which is the boundary of the Audubon Society property.

Both sides of Hollow Creek should be surveyed systematically to locate other possible mound areas. This area seems to be ideally suited to prehistoric Indian occupation and may be the site of the structure described by Bartram (1792).

A black cemetery is located in the west central section of the property. Two stone grave markers are dated 1898 and 1901. The only other marked grave has a metal marker dated 1927. Depressions indicate the presence of as many as 100 graves. Several graves still have associated grave goods, primarily glass and ceramics.

A sternwheel steamboat sank just downstream of the Bluff about 25 years ago. The boat originally sailed on the Mississippi River and was brought to the Savannah for use as an excursion boat. The steamer sank at its mooring and has been damaged extensively by channel clearing. However, some of the heavy machinery is accessible. Construction of the boat during the nineteenth century is likely.

ANALYSIS OF ARTIFACTS FROM SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

A total of 9,090 artifacts was recovered from the surface collections at Silver Bluff plantation. Three thousand eight hundred ninety (42.8%) of these artifacts were aboriginal/prehistoric, while the remaining 5,200 (57.2%) were of European or Colonial-American origin. This section will present a discussion of the methods of analysis and a description of the artifact types and classes recovered from the project area. This analysis will be used in the following section in the interpretation of the spatial and artifact patterning at Silver Bluff. Appendix A lists, by provenience, all of the artifacts recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff plantation.

Aboriginal/Prehistoric

Three thousand eight hundred ninety artifacts were recovered from Silver Bluff which were determined to be of prehistoric and/or historic aboriginal origin. Of these 3,522 (90.5%) were ceramic and 368 (9.5%) were lithic. Only a relatively small number of these artifacts could be identified within a more precise temporal framework as many of the ceramics were severely eroded and most of the lithics were non-diagnostic.

Following processing by laboratory staff at the Institute, each of the artifacts was examined and categorized according to distinctive physical characteristics. The ceramic fragments were classified according to surface treatment and temper type while the lithic artifacts were categorized by type and raw material. In addition any diagnostic rim or vessel form was also recorded.

Ceramics

Surface treatment

For the purpose of this analysis, surface treatment was defined as any modification to the aplastic exterior vessel surface. A total of 13 surface treatments were exhibited on the ceramics from Silver Bluff. The most common form of treatment was simple stamped which was exhibited on 289 (8.3%) of the ceramic fragments. Cord marked, check stamped, and fabric impressed surface treatments were the next most common types occurring on 119 (3.4%), 103 (2.9%), and 78 (2.2%) ceramics, respectively. Various other forms of treatment were also present including burnished, complicated stamped, linear check stamped, incised, punctated, finger impressed, cob marked, and rouletted. The majority of the ceramics, 2,466 (70.0%), apparently had no surface treatment while 378 (10.7%) had treatments which were too deteriorated to identify. Table 2 shows the number and percentage of surface treatments exhibited on the ceramics from Silver Bluff plantation.

TABLE 2
SURFACE TREATMENTS ON CERAMICS FROM SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

	Simple stamped	Cord marked	Check stamped	Fabric impressed
# sherds	289	119	103	78
% of tot	al 8.2%	3.4%	2.9%	2.2%
			Linear Check	
	Complicated stamped	Burnished	Stamped	Incised
# sherds	39	18	15	12
% of tot	al 1.1%	.5%	. 4%	.3%
	Punctated	Cob marked	Finger Impressed	Rouletted
# sherds	2	1	1	1
% of tot	.06%	.03%	.03%	.03%
	Plain	Deteriorated		
# sherds % of tot		378 10.7%		

Temper

A small corner of each of the ceramic fragments recovered from the collection units was broken in order to expose a fresh cross-section of the sherd. This provided for a more accurate measure of temper type and size. All of the sherds were examined with a hand lens equipped with a geologic sand grain scale and the determination of temper class was based on the presence of at least four corresponding sand particles per centimeter of exposed area. Three categories of sand temper size were recorded for the Silver Bluff ceramics:

.02	to	.06 mm	fine	e sa	ınd
.06	to	. 2 mm	med	ium	sand
. 2	to	2.0 mm	coa	rse	sand

In addition, each of the fragments was examined for the presence of fiber or shell temper, but since all were sand tempered, neither of these attributes was recorded. Two thousand four hundred fifty-one (69.6%) of the ceramics contained heavy coarse sand temper, while 696 (19.8%) contained medium and 375 (10.6%) contained fine sand temper.

Rim and Vessel Form

Seventy-seven rim sherds were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff. Straight rims were the most common form occurring on 50 (64.9%) of the rimsherds, with slightly everted rim forms occurring on 20 (26.0%) of the sherds. The remaining 7 rims were folded, inverted, and undetermined. Flattening was the most common form of lip treatment occurring on 34 (44.2%) of the sherds, while rounded lip treatments were

more common occurring on 32 (41.6%) of the rimsherds. See Table 3 for a cross-tabulation of rim and lip treatments from the Silver Bluff ceramics.

TABLE 3

CROSS-TABULATION OF RIM AND LIP TREATMENTS FROM THE CERAMICS FROM SILVER BLUFF

C1	Ro	Rounded		<u>Flattened</u>		Tapered		Specialized		Undeter.		TOTAL	
Slightly Everted	7	(9.1%)	10	(13%)			1	(1.3%)	2	2 (2.6%)	20	(26%)	
Straight	24	(31.2%)	19	(24.7%)	7	(9.1%)					50	(64.9%)	
Specializ	ed												
(folded)			2	(2.6%)			1	(1.3%)			3	(3.9%)	
Inverted	1	(1.3%)									1	(1.3%)	
Undeter.	t		3	(3.9%)							3	(3.9%)	
TOTAL	32	(41.6%)	34	(44.2%)	7	(9.1%)	2	(2.6%)	2	(2.6%)	77	(100%)	

Due to the highly eroded condition and extremely small size of the ceramic fragments and to the chronological longevity of many of the surface treatments represented at the site, no attempt was made to classify the sherds within a cultural-historical framework. Several statements can be made, however, about the surface treatments and rim types recovered from the site in respect to the traditionally acknowledged significance of the aboriginal occupations reported to have been located at Silver Bluff.

Ceramic assemblages from other late prehistoric or protohistoric sites in the Southeast have yielded varying percentages of ceramics exhibiting smoothed or burnished, red painted, Ocmulgee type incised, and brushed surface treatments (Willey and Sears 1952; Kelly 1938; Fairbanks 1955). Leland Ferguson (personal communication) has conducted extensive research on both late Prehistoric and Historic period ceramics in South Carolina and feels that the material from Silver Bluff, if it represents the site of Cofitachique, should be primarily plain with fine incising and frequent specialized treatment of the vessel rim. This treatment should include folding of the rim and application of rim nodes and punctations. In addition the ceramic assemblages should include numerous cazuela vessel forms.

From the ceramic data presented above, the surface treatments and rim treatments exhibited on the ceramics from Silver Bluff are not typical of those types expected to occur on a late prehistoric-protohistoric Indian site. While the majority of the ceramics were plain only .3% were incised, 2.6% had folded rims, and no cazuela vessel forms were recovered. In addition, Savannah fine cord marked and Savannah check

stamped and other chronologically less well defined surface treatments are characteristic of earlier Woodland and Early Mississippian period occupation. This suggests that the remains of the Indian mounds visited by Bartram in 1775, and possibly by DeSoto over 200 years earlier, are located away from the present day Silver Bluff site.

Lithics

Three hundred sixty-eight (9.5%) of the aboriginal artifacts from Silver Bluff were lithics. Each of the artifacts was classified according to functional type and raw material. The classes of stone artifacts recovered from Silver Bluff are listed below with a breakdown of raw material from each category. See Table 4 for the number and percentage of lithic and raw material types from Silver Bluff plantation.

Primary Flake

Primary flakes were identified as those flakes which exhibited 50% or more cortex on the exterior surface. These flakes suggest initial flake removal from an unmodified raw material source. Twenty-four primary flakes were recovered from Silver Bluff which represent 6.5% of the lithic artifacts. Twenty-three (95.8%) of these flakes were of coastal plain chert while the remaining flake (4.2%) was quartz.

Secondary Flake

These flakes were identified as flakes containing less than 50% cortex. A total of 61 secondary flakes, representing 16.6% of the total lithic artifacts, were recovered from Silver Bluff. Fifty-nine (96.7%) of the secondary flakes were coastal plain chert while 2 (3.3%) were quartz.

Tertiary Flake

Two hundred fourteen (58.2%) of the lithics from Silver Bluff were tertiary flakes. These flakes were identified as products of lithic thinning and reduction in which no cortex is present. Tertiary flakes are generally considered to be products of final stage manufacture and/or maintenance resharpening. One hundred ninety-one (89.2%) of these flakes were coastal plain chert, 17 (7.9%) were quartz, 1 (.5%) was jasper, 1 (.5%) was quartzite, 1 (.5%) was rhyolite, 1 (.5%) was schist, 1 (.5%) was fossiliferous breccia, and 1 (.5%) was from an unknown raw material source.

Processing Tools

Five artifacts were recovered which may be classed as temporally non-diagnostic processing tools. These artifacts consist of 1 side scraper, 1 spoke shave, and 2 utilized flakes, all of which were of coastal plain chert. In addition, 1 argillite grinding stone was also recovered. Artifacts of this type are generally considered to have been used in processing of wood, hides, food, and other subsistence related products. These processing tools represent 1.4% of the total lithic artifacts.

LITHIC TYPE

TABLE 4

RAW MATERIAL AND LITHIC ARTIFACTS FROM SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

RAW MATERIAL TYPE

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	Coastal Plain Chert	Jasper Quartz	Quartzite	Rhyolite	Argillite	Schist	0ther* TOTAL
Firecracked rock	2 (28.6%)	5 (71.4%	()				7 (1.9%)
Chunks	33 (75.0%)	3 (6.8%	()			7 (15.9%)	1 (2.3%) 44 (12.0%)
Primary flakes	23 (95.8%)	1 (4.2%	()				24 (6.5%)
Secondary flakes	59 (96.7%)	2 (3.3%	()		,		61 (16.6%)
Tertiary flakes	191 (89.2%)	1 (.5%) 17 (7.9%	3) 1 (.5%)	1 (.5%)		1 (.5%)	2 (.9%) 214 (58.2%)
Utilized flakes	2 (100%)						2 (.5%)
Spoke shaves	1 (100%)						1 (.3%)
Side scrapers	1 (100%)						1 (.3%)
Flaked core	2 (100%)						2 (.5%)
Projectile/Biface fragments	7 (87.5%)						1 (12.5%) 8 (2.2%)
Grinding stone						1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Unmodified stone					2 (66.7%)	ı	1 (33.3%) 3 (.8%)
TOTALS	321 (87.2%)	1 (.3%) 28 (7.6%) 1 (.3%)	1 (.3%)	2 (.5%)	9 (2.4%)	5 (1.4%) 368 (100%)

*Other: consists of sandstone, fossiliferous breccia, and unknown raw materials

Projectiles/bifaces

Eight projectile point/biface fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. These artifacts, which represent 2.2% of the total lithics, were primarily of coastal plain chert (87.5%) with one fragment of an unknown raw material. Five projectiles could be identified temporally and consist of 1 Palmer fragment, 3 Savannah River fragments, and 1 large triangular point fragment. These projectile fragments are indicative of Early Archaic (8000-5500 B.C.), Late Archaic (2500-1000 B.C.) and Woodland (1000 B.C. - A.D. 1000) period utilization of the area (Coe 1964).

Flaked core

Two exhausted flaked core fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff. These fragments, which were of coastal plain chert, represent .5% of the total lithic artifacts.

Chunks

Forty-four chunks of varying raw material types were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff. These chunks exhibited breakage patterns which appeared to have been caused by intentional human modification, although some may have been plow cracked. Thirty-three (75.0%) of the chunks were coastal plain chert, 7 (15.9%) were schist, 3 (6.8%) were quartz, and 1 (2.3%) was sandstone. These chunks represent 12% of the total lithic artifacts.

Firecracked rock

Seven firecracked rock fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff. Four (57.1%) of these were quartz, and the remaining 3 (42.9%) were coastal plain chert. The artifacts exhibited color evidence of thermal alteration and irregular angular breaks. These artifacts represent 1.9% of the total lithic artifacts.

Unmodified rock

Three fragments of apparently unmodified rock consisting of 2 argillite and 1 unknown raw material were recovered from Silver Bluff. These fragments represent .8% of the lithic artifacts recovered.

Other

Fired daub

One hundred seventy-eight grams of fired daub were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. The majority of this material was recovered from unit 350 of square 28.

Historic Period

A total of 5,200 artifacts was recovered from the 62 collection units at Silver Bluff plantation. Each of the artifacts was identified and placed into a typological/functional category. The artifact classes and types recovered from Silver Bluff are presented below. These data will be used in the following section to interpret the artifact patterning at the site.

Ceramics

Various manufacturing innovations in the ceramics industry during the eighteenth century resulted in extensive experimentation with ceramic glazes, pastes, and firing techniques. These experiments often ended with short-lived decorative styles which have aided in the establishment of a ceramic chronology for eighteenth century historic sites (Noël Hume 1970: 102-137; South 1974, 1977). Two thousand two hundred forty-three ceramic artifacts were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff plantation (See Figs. 9, 10).

Leadglazed slipware

Date range: 1670-1795

Mean date: 1733

These ceramics were manufactured in Staffordshire and Bristol, England, and were exported to the American colonies through the 1770s. The most common varieties of slipware were produced from a buff to yellow paste, combed with iron oxide or manganese over a white slip, and then covered with a clear to pale yellow glaze. The effect of this technique is to produce a series of yellow and black or dark brown stripes which were most commonly zig-zag in design (Noël Hume 1970: 134-135). One hundred thirty-nine (6.2%) of the Historic period ceramics from Silver Bluff were of this type.

Jackfield

Date range: 1740-1780

Mean date: 1760

This thin black glazed earthenware was produced from approximately 1745 into the 1780s by Maurice Thursfield at Shropshire and by Thomas Whieldon at Staffordshire during the same time. Thursfield's ceramics were produced from a purple to grey paste with a black glaze while Whieldon's examples were manufactured from a red paste with a more brilliant black glaze. This ceramic type is commonly found on sites dating to the 1760s (Noël Hume 1970: 123). Sixteen Jackfield ceramics, representing .7% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered during this project.

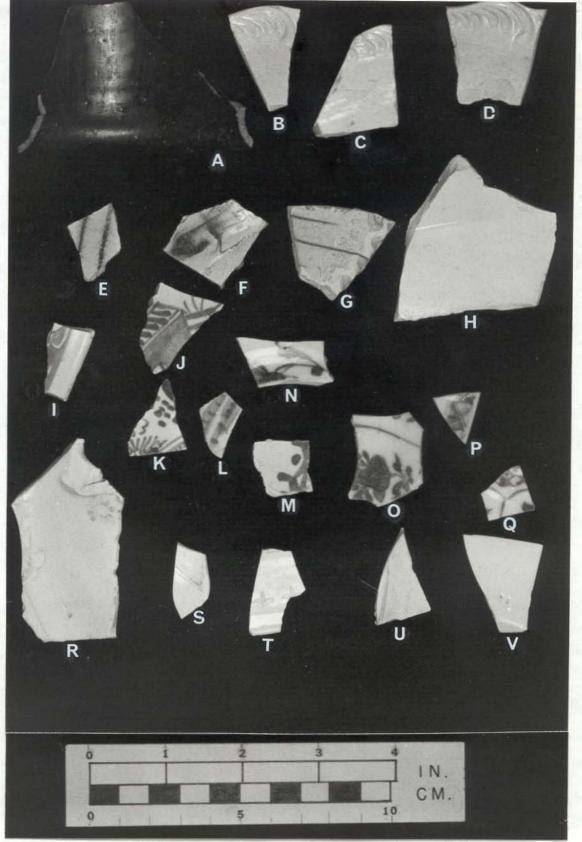


FIGURE 9: Photograph showing various earthenware and porcelain ceramic fragments from Silver Bluff plantation (A: Jackfield, B-D: Feather-edged creamware, E-G: Lead-glazed slipware, H: Undecorated creamware, I-M: Decorated delftware, N-Q: Underglazed blue Chinese porcelain, R-V: Overglazed enamelled Chinese porcelain).

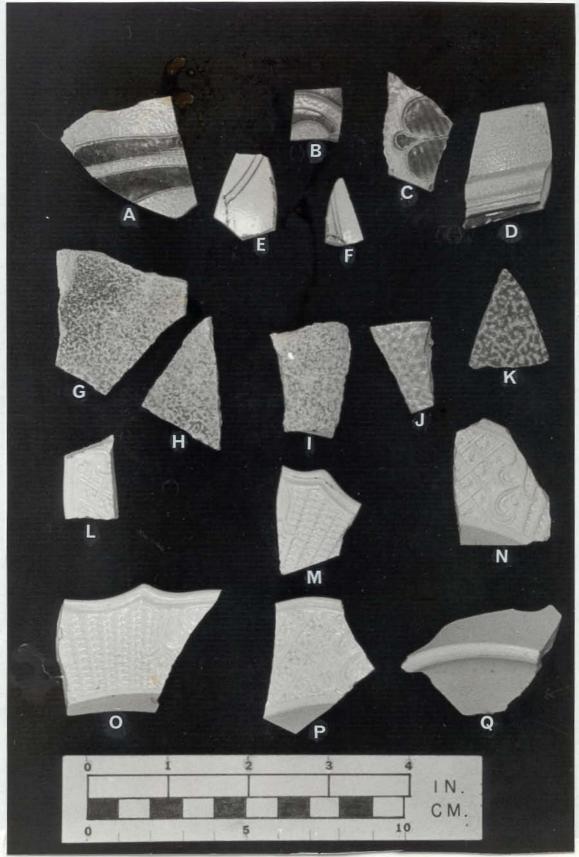


FIGURE 10: Various stoneware ceramic fragments from Silver Bluff plantation (A-D: Westerwald, E-F: Scratch-blue salt-glazed stoneware, G-K: British brown saltglazed stoneware, L-P: Moulded white saltglazed stoneware plate rims, Q: White saltglazed mug).

Refined agate ware

Date range: 1740-1775

Mean date: 1758

This ceramic was produced by mixing a variety of clays of different colors in order to create a paste which appears to have "veins" running through the body of the ware. While this technique was often applied for decorative reasons, it also frequently served to make poor clay more easily worked (Noël Hume 1970: 132). Eight (.4%) agate ware fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff.

Delftware

These ceramics consist of a pale yellow, white or pink paste covered with a lead glaze containing an oxide of tin which produces an opaque white enamel. This enamel was generally painted before firing with cobalt blue, manganese purple, copper green, antimony yellow, and/or iron rust orange. This ceramic technique was not new, but had been used in Italy and Spain since the fourteenth century where it was called maiolica, and in France where it was called faience. Its occurrence in Holland and England was much later beginning in the mid-seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (Noël Hume 1970). Five hundred twenty-six delftware fragments consisting of two types were recovered from Silver Bluff. These ceramics represent 23.4% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Plain white delftware

Date range: 1640-1800

Mean date: 1720

Twenty-one plain white delftware fragments, comprising 4.0% of the delftware and .9% of the total historic ceramics were recovered from Silver Bluff.

Decorated Delftware

Date range: 1600-1802

Mean date (18th century): 1750

Five hundred five decorated delftware ceramics were recovered from the collection units. These ceramics represent 96% of the delftware and 22.5% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Creamware

Date range: 1762-1820

Mean date (18th century): 1791

Creamware was developed by Josiah Wedgewood during the late 1750s through the early 1760s. This ware was produced from a white clay mixed with ground flint. The creamware pieces were fired with an initial glaze of ground flint and refired after a glaze of white lead was added. This

technique resulted in a glaze which appeared similar to glass (Gorely 1978: 122-124). Many types of decoration were applied to creamware ceramics including painting, embossing, transfer printing, and piercing. Several of the fragments from Silver Bluff were pierced but none were otherwise decorated. Creamware is the most common type of European ceramic occurring at the site as 569 (25.4%) fragments were recovered.

Carolina creamware

Date range: Not defineable

This ceramic consists of a creamware with a mottled glaze which was produced in North and South Carolina. These ceramics have no defineable date range. Twelve fragments of this ware were recovered from Silver Bluff. They represent .5% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Pearlware

Pearlware is a transitional ceramic type found on both eighteenth and nineteenth century historic sites. Ceramics of this type have a paste similar to creamware, but the glaze appears blue from the addition of cobalt to the glazing compound. Decoration on pearlware includes hand painting, transfer printing, annular banding, and blue and green shell edged styles (Noël Hume 1970: 128-131). Sixty-four pearlware ceramics were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. These ceramics represent 2.9% of the total historic ceramics. Each decorative style is presented below.

Underglazed blue hand painted pearlware

Date range: 1780-1820

Mean date: 1800

Twenty-two ceramic fragments of this type were recovered. They represent 34.4% of the pearlware and 1.0% of the total historic ceramics.

Annular pearlware

Date range: 1790-1820

Mean date: 1805

Two annular pearlware fragments, representing 3.1% of the pearlware and .08% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered from Silver Bluff.

Blue and green shell-edged pearlware

Date range: 1780-1830

Mean date: 1805

Six ceramics of this type were recovered in the collection units at Silver Bluff. Five of the fragments were blue edged ware while the remaining fragment was green edged. These ceramics represent 9.4% of the pearlware and .3% of the total historic ceramics.

Transfer printed pearlware

Date range: 1795-1840

Mean date: 1818

Three transfer printed sherds, comprising 4.6% of the pearlware and .1% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered from the site.

Undecorated pearlware

Date range: 1780-1830

Mean Date: 1805

Thirty-one (48.4%) of the pearlware fragments from Silver Bluff were undecorated. These ceramics represent 1.4% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Nottingham

Date range: 1700-1810

Mean date: 1755

These ceramics consist of a smooth brown stoneware with a glossy or lustered surface and were primarily used for tavern mugs, bowls, pitchers, and double handled loving cups (Noël Hume 1970: 114). Only two fragments of this type were recovered. They represent .09% of the total historic ceramics.

British brown stoneware

Date range: 1690-1775

Mean date: 1733

The eighteenth century version of these ceramics was produced primarily as pottery bottles, ranging in capacity from one pint to five gallons. The paste of the British brown stoneware was generally grey and covered by an oxide slip that turned either brown or purple during firing (Noël Hume 1970: 78). Thirty fragments of these ceramics were recovered from Silver Bluff. They represent 1.3% of the total historic ceramics.

Westerwald

Date range: 1700-1775

Mean date: 1738

These grey salt-glazed stonewares were produced in the Westerwald district of the Rhineland. The Westerwald ceramics were decorated in floral and geometric designs of sprig molded and combed lines. Molded flowers were applied and painted in cobalt blue or manganese purple while stalks or leaves were scratched into the surface of the vessel. The most common forms were mugs, chamber pots, and jugs although some double handled bowls were also produced (Noël Hume 1970: 280-284). Sixty-two Westerwald ceramic fragments, representing 2.8% of the total ceramics,

were recovered from Silver Bluff.

White saltglazed stoneware

White saltglazed stoneware was produced primarily as tableware during the eighteenth century. These ceramics took many forms and severely damaged the delftware business in England. One hundred ninety-nine white saltglazed ceramic fragments, representing 8.9% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered. Three styles of this stoneware were represented at the site.

Moulded white saltglazed stoneware

Date range: 1740-1765

Mean date: 1753

Ceramics of this type consisted primarily of plates decorated in the "dot, diaper, and basket" and "barley" patterns (Noël Hume 1970: 115). Sixty-five moulded white saltglazed stoneware fragments, representing 32.7% of the saltglazed stoneware and 2.9% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered.

Scratch-blue saltglazed stoneware

Date range: 1744-1775

Mean date: 1760

During the 1740s white saltglazed ceramics began to be incised and painted with cobalt blue in the incisings. By removing excess color, a thin line pattern was produced (Noël Hume 1970: 117). Only two scratch blue stoneware fragments were recovered. These fragments represent 1.0% of the white saltglazed stoneware and .09% of the total historic ceramics.

White saltglazed stoneware

Date range: 1720-1805

Mean date: 1763

One hundred thirty-two fragments of plain white saltglazed stoneware were recovered from Silver Bluff. This included a bowl and several mug fragments. These fragments represent 66.3% of the white saltglazed stoneware ceramics and 5.9% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Engine-turned unglazed stoneware

Date range: 1763-1775

Mean date: 1769

These ceramics were produced from a technique which Josiah Wedgewood claimed to have developed and introduced in 1763. The technique was used primarily in the manufacture of teapots. Three fragments of this ceramic were recovered from Silver Bluff. They represent .1% of the total Historic period ceramics from the site.

Porcelain

Chinese porcelains are the most common porcelains found on colonial sites of the second half of the eighteenth century. During the first half of the century porcelain was expensive and was therefore found only in the most affluent homes. These ceramics were manufactured from a combination of kaolin clay and ground feldspathic rock. The paste ranges from pale grey to off-white and the glaze clings tightly to the body of the sherd. This effect produces a thin, translucent line on each side of the fragment (Noël Hume 1970: 257-258).

Underglaze blue Chinese porcelain

Date range: 1660-1800

Mean date: 1730

Ninety-six underglazed blue porcelain fragments, comprising 30.9% of the porcelains and 4.3% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered from Silver Bluff.

Overglazed enamelled Chinese export porcelain

Date range: 1660-1800

Mean date: 1730

These ceramics are distinctive in that the decoration is painted on the surface of the ceramic after firing. As a result the decoration is very often obliterated by useage and handling. One hundred ten overglazed enamelled fragments were recovered. These ceramics represent 35.4% of the porcelain and 4.9% of the total historic ceramics. Two of these ceramics were porcelain tile fragments.

Undecorated porcelain

Date range: Not defineable, but probably same as previous porcelain categories

One hundred five undecorated porcelain fragments were recovered from the site. While these sherds exhibited no evidence of decoration, considering the context from which they were recovered, they probably represent plain fragments of underglazed or overglazed enamelled vessels. These ceramics represent 33.8% of the porcelain and 4.7% of the total Historic period ceramics from Silver Bluff.

Leadglazed earthenware

Date range: Not defineable, but generally eighteenth century

These earthenwares consist of red and white bodied wares which exhibit a variety of red, green, brown, black, and yellow lead glazes. Many of these ceramics are believed to have been manufactured in North Carolina during the eighteenth century (South 1967). Two hundred fortynine ceramics of this type, representing 11.1% of the total historic

ceramics, were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation.

Ironstone-whiteware

Date range: 1820-1900+

Mean date: 1860

These ceramics developed out of the pearlware tradition around 1820 and were produced throughout the remainder of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Thirteen ironstone-whiteware ceramics were recovered from Silver Bluff. Ten of these were undecorated and three were transferprinted. These ceramics represent .6% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Alkaline glazed stoneware

Date range: 1800-present (generally nineteenth century)

Although the exact dates of manufacture are not known, alkaline glazed ceramics are believed to have been manufactured primarily between 1800-1900 with some later production in various parts of the southeast (Greer 1970: 155-170). Four alkaline glazed ceramic fragments, representing .2% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered from Silver Bluff.

Feldspathic glazed stoneware

Date range: Not defineable but generally nineteenth century

Two fragments of this stoneware were recovered. They represent .09% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Brown stoneware

Date range: Not defineable but generally nineteenth century

Four fragments of brown stoneware were recovered from Silver Bluff which represent .2% of the total historic ceramics.

Green stoneware

Date range: Not defineable but generally nineteenth century

Two fragments of green stoneware were recovered from Silver Bluff. These ceramics had pastes which were very similar to the brown stonewares from the site. They represent .09% of the total Historic period ceramics.

Unglazed stoneware and earthenware

Date range: Not defineable

Ten ceramic fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff which exhibited no evidence of a glaze. They represent .4% of the total historic ceramics.

Yellow ware

Date range: Not defineable but generally nineteenth century

These ceramics contain a white to grey earthenware to ironstone paste covered by a yellow glaze. Yellow ware often has banded decoration near the rim of the vessel in white or blue. Four fragments of yellow ware, representing .2% of the total historic ceramics, were recovered

Unidentifiable ceramics

Fourteen ceramic fragments were recovered which were unidentifiable as to date range, type or color of their glaze. Most of these ceramics had been burned or severely weathered. They represent .6% of the total Historic period ceramics from the site.

Colono ware

Date range: Generally eighteenth century

Colono ware is a term applied to unglazed, low-fired earthenware ceramics most commonly found on Colonial period British-American sites. These ceramics were originally thought to have been manufactured by historic Indian potters as trade items (Noël Hume 1962), but recent studies have suggested that a majority of these ceramics were manufactured by slaves as a continuation of ceramic traditions developed in and brought over from Africa (Ferguson 1978). Colono ware ceramics, however, are very similar to late prehistoric and historic Indian ceramics and are virtually indistinguishable when found together in an archeological context. Many of the African manufactured ceramics were imitations of common European forms and may be distinguished by the presence of footrings, handles, and small bowl forms. Nine Colono ware ceramic fragments, based on vessel form, were recovered from Silver Bluff. These ceramics represent .2% of the total historic artifacts. While only nine possible fragments could be distinguished, many more non-diagnostic fragments may be present.

Pipe Stem and Bowl Fragments

One thousand one hundred fourteen kaolin pipe stem and bowl fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. Of these, 914 (82.0%) were pipe stems and 200 (18.0%) were pipe bowl fragments. One hundred eighty-three (91.5%) of the pipe bowls were undecorated while seventeen (8.5%) contained some form of decoration. The most common decoration, occurring on 14 bowl fragments, consisted of the initials "TD" stamped on the bowl and enclosed within a circle. The significance of these initials is not fully understood; however, several explanations have been offered for their occurrence. Among the most common of these explanations is that the letters represent the initials of the pipemaker. Others have suggested that the letters are a tribute to Tommy Duncan, who is credited with the invention of the kaolin pipe during the seventeenth century or that they are an unknown trademark (Wilson 1971: 14-15). Whatever their significance,

"TD" pipes are probably the most common pipe found on archeological sites as they have been recovered from Jamestown to Wyoming and "TD" pipes may be purchased at novelty shops today (Wilson 1971: 15-16). The remaining decorated pipe bowl fragments consist of two deteriorated and one bowl fragment with a ribboned rim. No complete bowl fragments were recovered.

Glass

A total of nine hundred seventy-three glass fragments were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff plantation. The artifacts were examined and placed into specific functional categories. In addition, these categories were further divided according to the color of the glass fragment.

Bottle/jar fragments

This category contained all glass artifacts which exhibited curviture and which could not be placed into a more specific category. Nine hundred fifty-seven (98.4%) of the glass artifacts from Silver Bluff were bottle or jar fragments.

Green bottle glass

Date range: 1651-1850(?) (Noël Hume 1970: 61-70; Kendrick 1968: 32)

This dark to olive green glass is generally associated with eighteenth and early to mid-nineteenth century occupation although some green glass was produced in the late 1800s. Commonly called "black glass" large amounts of iron slag were intentionally added to produce the characteristic black appearance. The opaque nature of the glass helped protect the contents, which was most often wine, from direct sunlight (Kendrick 1968: 32). This glass is often crudely made and frequently exhibits a large number of air bubbles in the body when observed through a light source. Seven hundred seventy-five green bottle glass fragments were recovered. They represent 79.7% of the total glass artifacts and 81.0% of the bottle glass fragments.

Light green and aqua bottle glass

Date range: Not defineable but generally nineteenth and twentieth centuries

The exact time range of glass of this color is not known as colors similar to these are being produced today. These glass fragments generally contain few, if any, air bubbles and mold marks are often present. Sixtysix light green and aqua glass fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff. These fragments represent 6.8% of the total glass artifacts and 6.9% of the bottle/jar artifacts.

Manganese bottle/jar glass

Date range: 1880-1915 (Kendrick 1968: 185)

Manganese was added by manufacturers to raw glass as a decoloring agent but when exposed directly to sunlight, manganese glass changes from clear to purple. The intensity of the purple tint is dependent upon the duration of exposure and amount of manganese included in the glass. Changes may occur within one month of exposure to direct sunlight (Kendrick 1968: 184-185). Eleven fragments of manganese glass were recovered from Silver Bluff which represent 1.1% of the total glass artifacts and 1.2% of the bottle/jar glass fragments.

Clear bottle/jar glass

Date range: post 1860-present (Jones 1971: 11)

Although produced from around 1860 and before, clear glass did not become widely popular until around 1880 (Kendrick 1868: 32-33). Glass in a natural state gives a light green to bluish tint; therefore, it was necessary to add a decoloring agent to the raw glass to make it clear. Manganese was added as the decoloring agent until 1915, when World War I cut off the supply from Germany. As indicated earlier, manganese glass changes color when exposed directly to sunlight. This suggests that much of the clear glass recovered is probably post 1915. Ninety-eight (10.2%) of the bottle/jar fragments were clear. They represent 10.1% of the total glass artifacts.

Brown bottle glass

Date range: Not defineable

Six (.6%) of the bottle/jar glass artifacts recovered from Silver Bluff were brown glass. These fragments exhibited a variety of hues from brown-orange to dark brown and were indistinguishable from modern brown glass. These brown glass artifacts represent .6% of the total glass fragments recovered.

Embossed black bottle glass

Date range: 1800-1930 (Vienneau 1962: 2)

Embossing refers to raised letters which are present on the exterior surface of the bottle and is produced by a mold with letters cut into the mold itself. By this process the bottle and lettering are produced in one step. One fragment of this type was recovered which represents .1% of the bottle glass and .1% of the total glass artifacts.

Tableware

This category includes drinking glasses, pitchers, and bowl fragments. Ten table ware fragments, representing 1.0% of the total glass artifacts, were recovered from Silver Bluff.

Clear drinking glass

Date range: Not defineable

Nine clear drinking glass fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. These fragments represent 90% of the drinking glass and .9% of the total glass artifacts. One of the drinking glass fragments was from a stemmed glass.

Green drinking glass

Date range: Not defineable

One light green drinking glass fragment, representing 10% of the drinking glass and .1% of the total glass artifacts, was recovered from Silver Bluff.

Pharmaceutical bottles

Although the sizes and shapes of pharmaceutical bottles may vary, reuseable items, such as labeled or prescription bottles were mostly cylindrical, square, or rectangular (Munsey 1970: 174-175). Two light blue-green rectangular pharmaceutical bottle glass fragments were recovered. These fragments represent 100% of the pharmaceutical and .2% of the total glass artifacts.

Miscellaneous glass artifacts

One clear glass rod and one thick, flat blue glass fragment were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff. These two fragments represent .2% of the total glass artifacts from the site.

Undiagnostic

Two burned glass fragments were recovered which could not be placed into any of the functional categories listed above. These two fragments represent .2% of the total glass artifacts recovered from the site.

Architectural artifacts

A total of seven hundred one of the artifacts recovered from Silver Bluff plantation was associated with architecture. Each was examined and placed into a functional temporal category. These artifacts represent 13.4% of the total Historic period artifacts (Fig. 11).

Wrought nails and spikes

Date range: pre-1790

Wrought nails and spikes were manufactured entirely by hand. They have square to irregular shaped, tapered bodies and hand forged heads. Wrought nails were used in all forms of construction (Mercer 1923). Four hundred sixty wrought nails and six wrought spikes were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. These artifacts represent 66.5% of the architectural artifacts and 79.5% of the total nail category.



FIGURE 11: Photograph showing various wrought nails from the collection units at Silver Bluff plantation.

Cut nails and spikes

Date range: 1790-present

After 1790, technological innovations in the nail producing industry allowed for nails to be cut or sheared from a sheet of iron rather than hand forged. From 1790-1825, however, the head of the nail continued to be handmade. After 1825, nail cutting machines were capable of cutting the nail and stamping the head in one process (Mercer 1923: 4-10). By 1830, the process had become standardized to such an extent that cut nails produced after this date are virtually identical to those produced today (Nelson 1968). Twenty-six cut nails and one cut spike were recovered from Silver Bluff. These artifacts represent 5.3% of the total architectural and 4.6% of the nail artifacts found at the site.

Wire nails and spikes

Date range: 1850-present

Although manufactured after 1850, wire nails were not widely utilized until the 1860s and did not become dominant until the 1890s (Nelson 1968). While cut nails are more adhesive, the relative cheapness of producing the wire nails eventually led to their replacement of cut nails as the most popular building nail. Eight wire nails and one wire spike were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff. They represent 1.3% of the total architectural and 1.5% of the total nail artifacts.

Unidentifiable nails

Date range: Not defineable

Eighty-four nails were recovered which were too corroded to temporally identify. These nails represent 12.0% of the total architectural and 14.3% of the total nail artifacts.

Pointless wood screw

Date range: pre-1846

Until 1846 all wood screws had no point on the tip. When the pointed screw was marketed, it was universally accepted because the user no longer had to punch a starter-hole for the screw. As such, the replacement of the pointless wood screw was very rapid (Mercer 1923). Only one screw of this type was recovered from Silver Bluff. It represents .1% of the architectural artifacts.

Door bolt fragment

Date range: Not defineable

One fragment of a door bolt was recovered from Silver Bluff. It

represents .1% of the total architectural artifacts recovered.

Window glass

Date range: Not defineable

Window glass was defined as any flat, non-decorated, clear glass fragment of less than one-eighth of an inch thickness. One hundred thirteen fragments were recovered. These artifacts represent 16.1% of the total architectural artifacts from Silver Bluff.

Clothing

Seven articles of clothing or clothing manufacturing were recovered from Silver Bluff plantation. These articles consist of 2 buttons (1 brass and 1 iron), 2 buckles (1 decorated brass and 1 undecorated iron), 2 scissor fragments, and 1 white opaque glass bead. These artifacts represent .1% of the total Historic period artifacts (Fig. 12).

Gun parts.

Eighteen gun part fragments and musket balls were recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff plantation. These artifacts consist of 1 hammer, 1 decorated side plate fragment, 4 gun flints, and 12 musket balls. The side plate fragment has a decoration similar to those on English Indian trade guns from other eighteenth century sites in the Southeast (Hamilton 1968: 28) (Fig. 12).

Furniture

Seven furniture hardware artifacts, consisting of 2 brass furniture pull fragments and 5 upholstery tacks, were recovered from the site. These items represent .1% of the total historic artifact assemblage.

Kitchen utensils

Eight tableware and kitchen utensil fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff. These items represent .15% of the total historic artifacts.

Pewter spoon fragments

Two of the kitchen artifacts consisted of pewter spoon fragments. One of the fragments was a handle with a circular touchmark at the tip; however, the exact design of the mark could not be distinguished. These fragments represent 25% of the total kitchen utensil category.

Fork fragment

One two-tined fork fragment was recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff (Fig. 12). It represents 12.5% of the kitchen



FIGURE 12: Photograph showing various miscellaneous artifacts from Silver Bluff plantation (A-D: Musket balls, E: Decorated side plate possibly from a trade gun, F: Gun hammer, G: two-tined fork fragment, H: Pewter spoon fragment with touchmark, I: Scissors fragment, J: Brass measuring instrument, K: Decorated buckle fragment, L: Iron buckle, and M: Undecorated button).

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utensil artifact group.

Iron pot/kettle fragments

Five iron pot fragments were recovered from Silver Bluff; however, all of the artifacts were too small for an accurate temporal identification. These fragments represent 62.5% of the total kitchen artifact assemblage.

Farm Implements

Twenty-seven artifacts were recovered from Silver Bluff which were probably associated with farm activities. While many other artifacts may have also been associated with farm activities, these 27 items were the only identifiable farm artifacts. The farm implement artifacts consist of 1 iron plow fragment, 2 horseshoe fragments, 1 fencing staple, 1 chain link, 5 fencing wire fragments, 1 metal hook fragment, 8 iron slag fragments, 6 lead sprue and 2 lead bar fragments. These items represent .5% of the total Historic period artifacts.

Miscellaneous Artifacts

Brass measuring instrument

One small, ruled brass measuring instrument fragment was recovered from Silver Bluff. The exact function of this instrument is unknown, but the instrument is scaled in two $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch divisions. This artifact represents .02% of the total Historic period artifacts (Fig. 12).

Other brass objects

Three additional brass artifacts were recovered from Silver Bluff. These items consist of 1 brass rod, 1 brass link, and 1 unidentified brass object. The brass rod may be part of a clock mechanism. These artifacts represent .06% of the total Historic period artifacts.

Metal bands and strips

Three metal bands and one tin or zinc stripping fragment were recovered from Silver Bluff. These artifacts represent .07% of the total Historic period artifacts from the site.

Unidentifiable metal

Seventy-nine metal objects which were too small or too corroded to identify were recovered during the project. These artifacts represent 1.5% of the total Historic period artifacts recovered from the site.

Brick, cochina, and schist fragments

A total of 42,666 grams of brick and 7,848 grams of cochina or limestone were recovered from Silver Bluff. Due to the highly fragmented nature of the brick, it was impossible to determine the size or minimum number of brick represented. In addition, one large schist slab was recovered which may have been used as paving stone or chimney foundation material.

Modern artifacts

Five artifacts were recovered which were determined to be products of recent utilization of the site area. These artifacts consisted of 1 modern pocket knife fragment, 3 modern plow parts, and 1 shotgun shell. The modern artifacts from Silver Bluff represent .06% of the total historic artifacts recovered.

Summary

A total of 5,200 Historic period artifacts were recovered from the 62 collection units at Silver Bluff plantation. Three thousand eight hundred sixty-five (74.3%) of the artifacts could be dated within a relative chronological framework. Of these 3,667 (94.8%) are eighteenth century, 46 (1.2%) are transitional late eighteenth-early nineteenth century, 147 (3.8%) are nineteenth-early twentieth century, and 5 (.2%) were modern (post-1950). From this breakdown of artifacts, the most intensive utilization of the Silver Bluff site was during the eighteenth century. Nineteenth and twentieth century utilization of the area appears to have been oriented toward non-residence agricultural land use. The following section will discuss the temporal and spatial patterning at the site.

INTRA-SITE ARTIFACT PATTERNING AT SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

Introduction

Despite consistently inclement weather and early plowing of the site area, four of the five Priority Areas (Areas 1, 2, 4 and 5) were examined. As illustrated by Table 5, Priority Area 1 contained the highest number and density of aboriginal and Historic period artifacts. Of the total 9,090 artifacts recovered, 8,818 (97.0%) were from Priority Area 1, 103 (1.1%) were from Priority Areas 2 and 4 combined, and 169 (1.9%) were from the artifact scatter located in the firebreak to the northwest of Priority Area 1.

TABLE 5

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF ARTIFACTS FROM EACH PRIORITY COLLECTION AREA WITH A CALCULATION OF THE ARTIFACT DENSITY FOR EACH AREA

Priority area	Number and percent of Total Artifacts	Total Area Examined (sq. m)	Artifact Density
1	8,818 (97.0%)	5,200.00	169.6
2 and 4	103 (1.1%)	21,250.00	0.5
5	169 (1.9%)	686.28	24.6

Priority Areas 2 and 4 contained an extremely small number of artifacts in relation to the amount of area examined. While the examination of this area was less intensive, the sampling strategy was adequately detailed to allow for the location of any potential artifact concentrations. The small number and low density of artifacts suggest very little utilization of these areas especially as permanent occupation sites. The remainder of this section, therefore, will be primarily concerned with the artifact patterning in Priority Area 1. The artifact scatter located in the firebreak will be treated separately.

Temporal Placement of Silver Bluff Plantation

Aboriginal

The diagnostic aboriginal artifacts recovered from Silver Bluff plantation indicate that the area around the site has been periodically utilized since approximately 8,000 B.C. This is suggested by the occurrence of numerous lithic and ceramic artifact types characteristic of various prehistoric cultural/temporal stages. Early (8000-5500 B.C.)

and Late (2500-1000 B.C.) Archaic utilization of the area is suggested by the presence of Palmer and Savannah River biface/projectile point types (Coe 1964). The sparse occurrence of these types and the absence of other diagnostic types suggests that the area was probably used for short term hunting and/or other subsistence related activities.

The major focus of the aboriginal occupation at Silver Bluff appears to have occurred during the Woodland (1000 B.C.-A.D. 1000) and Early Mississippian (A.D. 1000-1500) periods. This is suggested by the predominance of surface treatment types, such as simple stamping, fabric impressing, cord marking, and check stamping, which are generally associated with these time periods. The cord marked and check stamped ceramics from Silver Bluff, which compose 21.0% of the non-plain ceramics, are most similar to the Savannah fine cord marked and Savannah check stamped ceramics characteristic of early Mississippian occupation (Caldwell and McCann 1941).

Historic

Available historic documents indicate that George Galphin was living in the Silver Bluff area and operating a trading post there by the 1750s. During the late 1760s, Galphin built a second two-story house and shifted his activities from the fur trade to a social and political life as a planter and plantation owner. In 1780 Galphin died and left his property to his children. Very little is known of the activities at Silver Bluff after Galphin's death until the property was acquired, through marriage, by James H. Hammond in 1830. Documentary sources indicate that although Hammond farmed extensively at Silver Bluff, he never lived there nor did he house any of his slaves there. Thus, the major occupation of Silver Bluff appears to have begun around 1750 and ended in the 1780s a few years after Galphin's death.

Archeologically, various classes of artifacts, particularly European ceramics, are extremely valuable tools for determining the occupation range of a site. Various manufacturing innovations and rival competition in the ceramics industry during the eighteenth century resulted in extensive experimentation with ceramic pastes, glazes, and firing techniques. These experiments resulted in short-lived decorative styles which have aided in the establishment of a ceramic chronology for eighteenth century historic sites (Noël Hume 1970: 102-137; South 1974, 1977).

Using the mean manufacturing date of specific ceramic types and their frequency of occurrence, a mean ceramic date can be calculated for the archeological unit from which the material was recovered. This date can then be used as a median occupation date for the archeological unit (South 1978: 223-224). Based on the formula developed by South (1974, 1977, 1978) the mean ceramic date for Silver Bluff was calculated at 1765.6 (Table 6). This date falls near the median date of occupation as suggested by the documentary occupation range of approximately 1752 to 1780.

TABLE 6

CALCULATION OF THE MEAN CERAMIC DATE
OF SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

	Median	Number of	
Ceramic type	Manufacturing date	Sherds	Product
Lead glazed slipware	1733	136	235688
Jackfield ware	1760	16	28160
Refined agate ware	1758	8	14064
Plain white delftware	1720	21	36120
Decorated delftware	1750	501	876750
Creamware	1791	566	1013706
Transfer print pearlware	1818	3	5454
Annular pearlware	1805	2	3610
Underglaze blue hand-			
painted pearlware	1800	12	21600
Blue & green edged pearlware	e 1805	6	10830
Undecorated pearlware	1805	23	41515
Nottingham stoneware	1755	2	3510
British brown stoneware	1733	29	50257
Westerwald	1738	61	106018
Moulded white saltglazed			
stoneware	1753	64	112192
Scratch-blue saltglazed			
stoneware	1760	2	3520
White saltglazed stoneware	1763	130	229190
Engine turned unglazed			
stoneware	1769	3	5307
Ironstone-whiteware	1860	10	<u> 18600</u>
TOTALS		1595	2816091
Mean Ceramic date formula:			

Mean Ceramic date formula:

 $Y = \frac{2816091}{1595} = 1765.5742 - 1765.6$

A similar formula has been developed for pipe stem dating based on the consistently decreasing size of the pipe stem hole diameter (Harrington 1954; Binford 1962). According to this formula, pipe stem hole diameters appear to decrease at an even ratio, ranging from 9/64" to 4/64" between the first quarter of the seventeenth and last quarter of the eighteenth centuries. Based on the Binford formula (1962) the mean pipe stem date of Silver Bluff plantation was 1761.4. Although this pipe stem date is somewhat earlier, it is fairly consistent with the date calculated from the ceramic materials.

Tabulation of other classes of artifacts generally support the apparent short-term utilization of the Silver Bluff site area. A breakdown of datable artifacts from Priority Area 1 shows that of the total 3,865 datable artifacts 3,667 (94.8%) are eighteenth century, 46 (1.2%) are transitional late eighteenth-early nineteenth century, 147 (3.8%) are nineteenth-early twentieth century, and 5 (.2%) are modern (post-1950s).

Spatial Patterning at Silver Bluff Plantation

In order to spatially define areas of human activity, the site was divided into twenty-eight 50x50 m grid units and fifty-two smaller 10x10 m units were sampled from within the larger units (see Section 3 for a discussion of the sampling strategy employed during the project). Classes of culturally and/or temporally diagnostic artifacts were tabulated from each unit and the data was processed with the Synagraphic Computer Mapping Program (SYMAP). This SYMAP program was designed to interpolate artifact densities between sample points through nearest-neighbor and basic statistical methods (Dougenik and Sheehan 1975). The resulting printout illustrates potential areas of high artifact densities which are inferred to represent highly utilized activity/occupation areas.

From the spatial patterning of artifacts over the site, there appears to be a fairly distinct separation between the European and aboriginal occupation areas (Fig. 13). This separation is further indicated by the occurrence of 91.2% of the European artifacts in units 12-13, 19-20, and 26-27 while 81.4% of the aboriginal artifacts occur outside of this area.

The aboriginal occupations at Silver Bluff were more extensive with the primary concentrations of material occurring in grid units 17-19, 23-26, and 28-29. Of particular interest is the semi-circular arrangement of the artifact concentration located in these units (Fig. 13). Goodyear (1975: 19-20) found a similar artifact patterning at a Mississippian site near Camden and suggested that the patterning may reflect the presence of a palisaded village in which all refuse would be contained within the walls of the structure. The interior of the concentration contained relatively fewer artifacts which were attributed to the possible existence of a plaza area which would have been kept relatively free of refuse. Although the artifacts from Silver Bluff reflect a similar occurrence, subsurface testing in these areas is necessary in order to determine the true nature of this patterning. In addition to the large concentration of material previously discussed, a second small concentration of aboriginal ceramics was located in units 9 and 10 (Fig. 13). The nature of this concentration is unknown and the area should be tested during a later sampling phase.

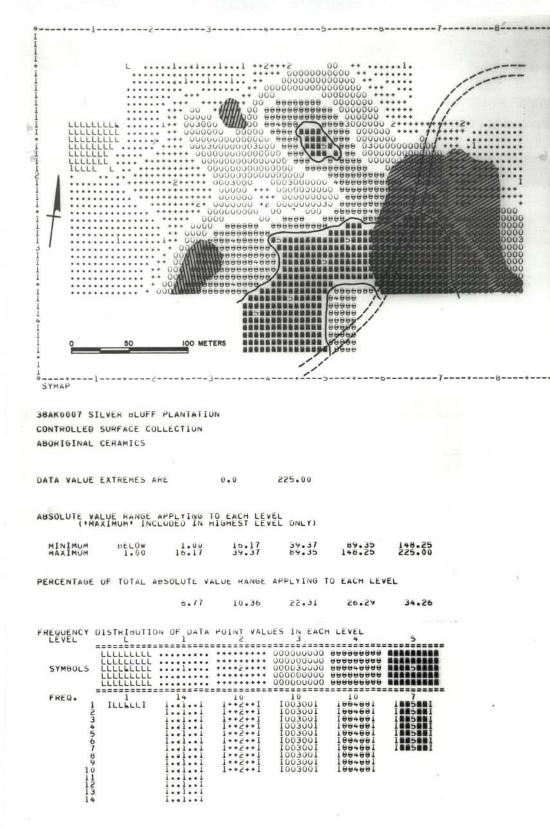
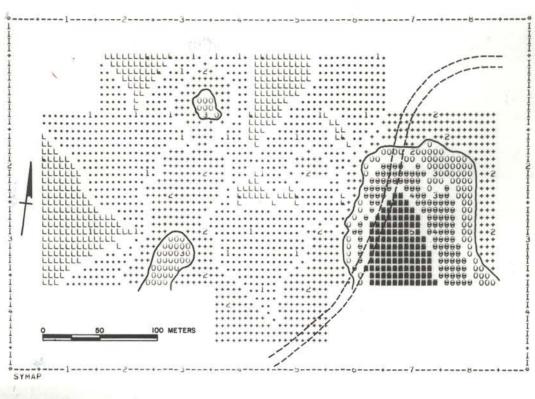


FIGURE 13: SYMAP showing the distribution of aboriginal artifacts with a superimposed outline of the primary historic period occupation areas.



38AK0007 SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION CONTROLLED SURFACE COLLECTION EUROPEAN CERAMICS

DATA VALUE EXTREMES ARE

0.0 1112.00

ABSOLUTE VALUE RANGE APPLYING TO EACH LEVEL ONLY)

MINIMUM BELOW 1.00 6.00 25.98 80.93 436.61 1112.0

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ABSOLUTE VALUE RANGE APPLYING TO EACH LEVEL

0.45 1.80 4.95 32.01 60.79

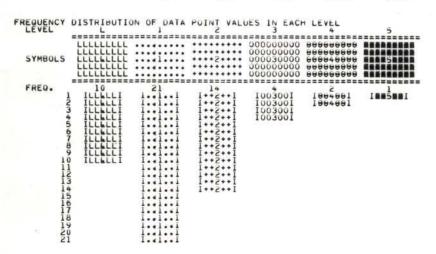


FIGURE 14: SYMAP showing the distribution of historic period ceramics at Silver Bluff plantation.

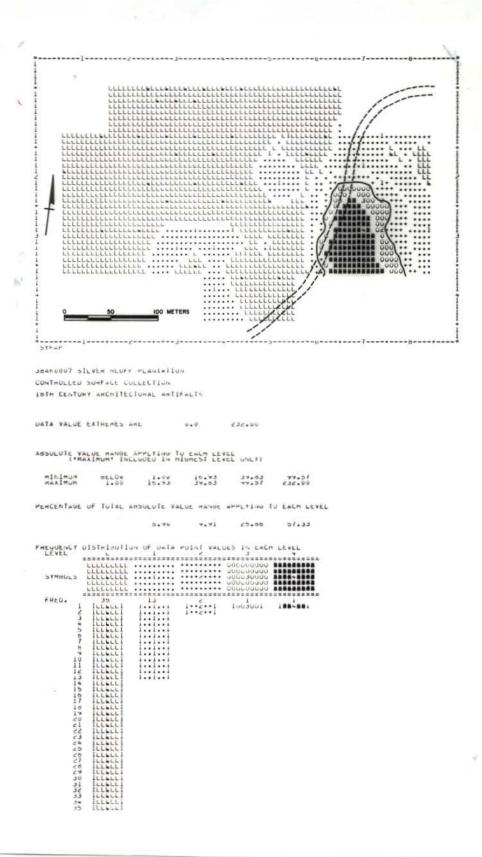


FIGURE 15: SYMAP showing the distribution of architectural artifacts within the Silver Bluff project area.

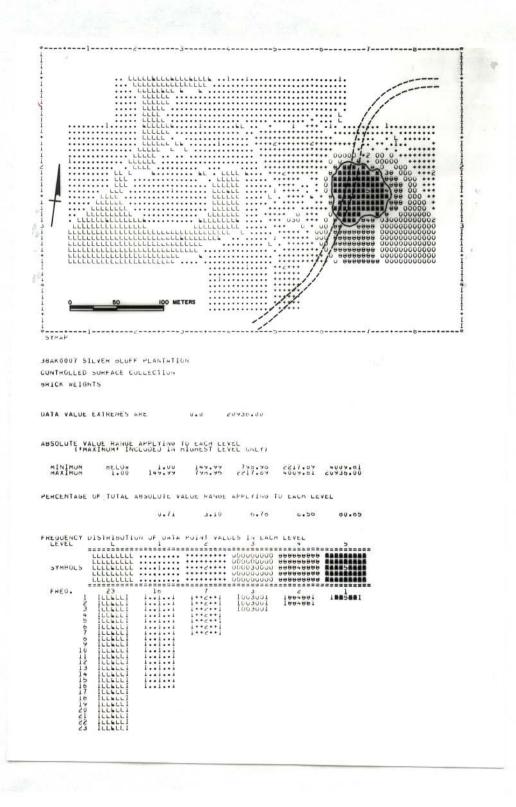


FIGURE 16: SYMAP showing the distribution of brick weights within the Silver Bluff project area.

Historic

The European settlement at Silver Bluff was concentrated primarily within an area of 100x100 m. This is indicated by the occurrence of 91.2% of the total European artifacts in units 12-13, 19-20, and 26-27 located to the east of the road (Fig. 14). Comparison of functionally diagnostic artifacts from within these units suggests the presence of at least one structure. Various architectural artifacts such as nails, spikes, window glass, and door parts are concentrated in unit 26 with only a moderate occurrence in adjacent areas (Fig. 15). Of particular interest is the extremely high occurrence of brick in unit 19 and its relatively low occurrence in unit 26 where the primary concentrations of architectural artifacts were recovered (Fig. 16). While these clusters of artifacts could potentially represent the remains of two functionally distinct structures, they may also represent the collapse of the same structure. The high percentage of brick and low percentage of nails and window glass from unit 19 may represent a chimney collapse, while the high percentage of architectural artifacts and low percentage of brick from unit 26 may reflect the collapse of the internal structure.

Two small ceramic concentrations (B and C) were located near the northeastern corner of unit 8 and in unit 23 (Fig. 15). In addition, a small but distinct concentration of architectural artifacts, possibly associated with the ceramic scatter C, was located in units 23, 24 and 28. These concentrations may represent the remains of outbuildings associated with the intensive historic occupation at the site. The mean ceramic date for sample square 186 of unit 8 and 334 of unit 23, where the ceramic concentrations are located, are much later (1792.1 and 1783.7 respectively) than the latest reliable date of 1767.3 for sample square 509 of unit 26 (see Appendix B for the mean ceramic date of all sample squares from Silver Bluff plantation). The exact nature of these concentrations is unknown; however, if these scatters represent permanent occupations, the mean ceramic dates and percentages of ceramic types recovered suggests that the occupation of these areas was later than the occupation of Area A. No other concentrations of historic materials were recovered.

Artifact Patterning at Silver Bluff Plantation

Aboriginal

The aboriginal artifacts recovered from the archeological investigations at Silver Bluff exhibited a low artifact diversity. Of the total 3,890 artifacts recovered, 90.5% were ceramics, 7.6% were waste flakes, .1% were processing tools, .2% were biface fragments, and 1.4% were other modified and unmodified lithic fragments. Permanent village sites typically exhibit a wide variety of artifacts including objects of shell and bone, net sinkers, hammerstones, and grinding stones (Caldwell and McCann 1941). The artifact assemblage from Silver Bluff is more typical of assemblages accumulated by consistent short-term reoccupation of the

site area. The range of temporally diagnostic artifacts represented at Silver Bluff generally supports this conclusion. Artifacts were recovered which represent Early Archaic (8000-5500 B.C.), Late Archaic (2500-1000 B.C.), Woodland (1000 B.C. - A.D. 1000), and Early Mississippian (A.D. 1000-1500) period occupation of the site area. The temporal longevity represented by the artifact assemblage and the low artifact density and diversity over the site suggests that the aboriginal occupation within the site area was probably oriented towards short-term subsistence and maintenance activities.

Historic

Percentages of functionally diagnostic artifact classes from Silver Bluff were compared to the Carolina and Frontier artifact patterns developed by South (1977) for eighteenth century British Colonial sites. These patterns are based on the assumption that archeological sites of this period were part of a larger social system and that the cultural remains of this system will exhibit a certain degree of uniformity despite geographic location (South 1977: 86). This uniformity will be reflected in consistencies in ratios of behaviorally significant artifact classes. Examination of different areas of a site may reveal differences in artifact patterning which are related to special activity areas (South 1977: 88).

Because of Silver Bluff's function as a Colonial period trading post, the artifact patterning at the site was expected to reflect the Frontier artifact pattern. This pattern, which primarily contrasts with the Carolina pattern by an inverse ratio of architectural to kitchen artifacts, was derived from four frontier sites of which two were documented trading posts (South 1977: 141-143). The Carolina pattern, however, was derived from excavations at five occupational sites and is considered indicative of domestic related activities.

Comparison of the artifact ratios over the entire Silver Bluff site (Priority Area 1) are strongly reflective of the Carolina pattern rather than the expected Frontier pattern (Table 7). There are several possible reasons for the unexpected artifact patterning at the site. Documentary evidence indicates that Galphin shifted his emphasis from Indian trade to plantation management during the early 1770s. This shift from a fur trading to agricultural based economy may account for the artifact patterning exhibited at Silver Bluff. The extensive and intensive nature of the agricultural and/or domestic activities during the later years of occupation may have biased the data in favor of the Carolina pattern.

In order to eliminate this bias and allow for the possible definition of special activity areas within the site, the artifact percentages from each of the 10 sampling units in the intensive historic occupation area were compared to the two artifact patterns. As illustrated by Table 7, the artifact class ratios from each unit with a reliable artifact count fall within the range of percentages associated with the Carolina pattern. This patterning suggests that the archeological materials recovered from

TABLE 7

COMPARISON OF THE ARTIFACT PATTERNING AT SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION
TO THE CAROLINA AND FRONTIER ARTIFACT PATTERNS

	EXPECTED	RANGE					SIL	VER BL	UFF PL	ANTATI	ON		
ARTIFACT GROUP	CAROLINA PATTERN	FRONTIER PATTERN	TOTAL SITE	<u>500</u>	<u>501</u>	<u>502</u>	503	504	505	506	507	508	509
Kitchen	47.5 to 78.0	10.2 to 45.0	62.7	100	54.4	58.8	76.9	65.5	58.5	77.8	61.0	50.8	65.6
Architectural	12.9 to 35.1	29.7 to 74.3	14.0	0	9.2	11.1	2.6	17.2	12.0	9.9	26.8	17.3	12.8
Furniture	0 to 0.7	0 to 0.5	0.1	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.1
Arms	0 to 1.5	0 to 15.6	0.4	0	0.8	0.8	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.7
Clothing	0 to 8.5	0 to 6.9	0.1	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.2
Personal	0 to 0.6	0 to 0.7	0	0.	. 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tobacco	0 to 20.8	0 to 27.1	22.3	0	35.2	28.7	20.5	13.8	28.7	12.3	9.8	31.1	20.5
Activities	.1 to 3.7	0 to 11.8	0.5	0	0.4	0.2	0	3.5	0.2	0	2.4	0	0.1
i													

Priority Area 1 probably represent the remains of the later plantation oriented occupation. The percentage of artifacts from the tobacco group was unusually high in four of the ten sampling squares. The reason for this is unknown but may be due simply to the smoking habits of the occupants.

Two additional possible explanations for the artifact patterning at Silver Bluff are that the trading post was located elsewhere on Galphin's property, or that the trading post has eroded into the Savannah River. A short one-day underwater survey in the bluff area failed to locate any remains of Prehistoric or Historic period occupation. Unfortunately, however, much of the river bottom adjacent to the intensive artifact concentrations on the bluff had been covered by several feet of sediment.

All of the archeological evidence recovered during the project suggests that the trading post was located somewhere other than within the present survey area and that the artifacts recovered represent the later agricultural oriented occupation. While it is possible that the subsequent agricultural occupation may have biased the artifact patterning, the virtual absence of any identifiable trade items suggests that the trading post was located elsewhere (see Lewis 1968). This is not to necessarily suggest, however, that the actual trading post site was any great distance from the present Silver Bluff site. Several acres of wooded areas are immediately adjacent to the present survey area and could potentially contain the remains of Galphin's trading post.

Firebreak Scatter

A moderate, but continuous, scatter of prehistoric and historic material was recovered from a 4x181 m. area of a firebreak located to the northwest of the Priority Area 1 survey tract. The prehistoric material, which consisted primarily of ceramics (85.5% to 14.5% for the lithics) was associated with Woodland period occupation of the area. This is indicated by the predominance of check stamped (37.3%) and linear check stamped (15.8%) surface treatments on these ceramics.

The Historic period material from the firebreak area consists of 44.1% ceramics, 27.1% glass, 10.2% unidentifiable nails, 8.5% pipe stems, and 10.1% of other material. The ceramic material from this area produces a mean ceramic date of 1785-86. This date and the occurrence of primarily pearlware suggests that the occupation in this area was later than the occupation in Priority Area 1.

Due to the inadequacy of the sample it is impossible to determine the nature or full extent of the prehistoric or historic settlement in the firebreak area. Additional testing is needed to determine the nature of the occupation in this area.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Much debate has surrounded the historical significance of the Silver Bluff area to the aboriginal and Colonial history of South Carolina. The present day Silver Bluff site has traditionally been designated as the location of Cofitachique, a large Indian settlement visited by DeSoto on his travels through the Southeast, and as the location of a Colonial period trading post operated by George Galphin during the 1750-1760s (Milling 1969: 65-72; Bartram 1792: 258-259). Recent studies have placed the location of Cofitachique farther east on the Wateree-Santee drainage near Camden (Baker 1974).

The purpose of the archeological investigations at Silver Bluff plantation was to spatially define the various Aboriginal and Historic period occupations and to determine the nature of these occupations with respect to the traditional significance of the Silver Bluff site. In addition, an extensive historic document search was conducted in order to accurately define the limits of the Silver Bluff area and to assist in the interpretation of the patterns reflected in the archeological record.

The primary Aboriginal and Historic period occupation of the present Silver Bluff survey area appears to have been located in Priority Area 1 with the major concentrations occurring in spatially distinct areas near the bluff edge. The aboriginal occupations at Silver Bluff were the most extensive with a relatively high density of material occurring over an area of approximately 150x200 m while the Historic period material was concentrated within an area of less than 100x100 m.

The aboriginal archeological data does not support the traditional. designation of Silver Bluff as the location of the village of Cofitachique. This is indicated by both the low density and diversity of materials and by the early temporal affiliation of the diagnostic artifacts recovered from the site area. A site with the intensity of occupation as suggested by the early descriptions of Cofitachique should exhibit a high density and diversity of artifacts including objects of worked shell and bone, net sinkers, grinding stones, and The ceramic material should be primarily plain with hammerstones. varying percentages of burnished, painted, incised, and brushed surface treatments (Willey and Sears 1952; Kelly 1938; Fairbanks 1955). The rimsherds of these ceramics should exhibit frequent specialized treatments including folding, application of rim nodes, and punctations. In addition, the ceramic assemblage from the site should include numerous cazuela vessel forms (Ferguson 1980, personal communication).

From the ceramic data recovered from the collection units at Silver Bluff, the surface treatments and rim treatments exhibited on these ceramics are not typical of the types expected to occur on a late prehistoric-protohistoric Indian site. While the majority of the

ceramics were plain, only .3% were incised, 2.6% had folded or treated rims, and no cazuela forms were recovered. In addition, the diagnostic surface treatments on the Silver Bluff ceramics suggest an association with earlier Woodland (1000 B.C. to A.D. 1000) and Early Mississippian (A.D. 1000 to 1500) period utilization of the area.

While the archeological data does not support the location of Cofitachique at the present day Silver Bluff site, a nineteenth century source suggests that the remains of a complex of mounds were located along the Savannah River in the general vicinity of Silver Bluff. searching for the remains of various Indian mounds in Georgia and western South Carolina, C.C. Jones describes the remains of a six mound complex, which was at the time eroding into the Savannah River. Jones (1873: 153) locates the mounds as "some twelve to fifteen miles by water below the city of Augusta" and as resting "upon the Carolina shore." The mounds appear to be surrounded by a moat consisting of two canals connecting the Savannah River with a "natural lagoon" (Jones 1873: 155-156). At the time of his visit, the largest of the two remaining mounds had a basal diameter of 185 feet and was reported to rise 37 feet above the surrounding plain. In addition, a 12-inch layer of "charcoal, ashes, broken pottery, and bones" was observed at the base of the mound (Jones 1873: 153-154). Regardless of the legend of Cofitachique and its relation to Silver Bluff, this description certainly suggests the existence of a large Indian mound complex in the Silver Bluff area.

From the map included with Jones' article and the descriptions of the area where the mounds were located, it seems unlikely that the site is located within the present survey area. Comparison with recent aerial photographs, however, suggests that the mounds may have been located downstream approximately one mile near present day Lower Silver Bluff. Additional archeological study along the entire Silver Bluff riverfront is needed in order to determine the actual existence and location of these mounds. Other distance data indicates that the mounds may have been located north of present day Silver Bluff.

The historical archeological data from Silver Bluff plantation indicates that the primary occupation was during the mid-to-late eighteenth century. This is indicated by the association of 94.8% of the datable artifacts with eighteenth century manufacture and use. The available historic documents generally support this apparent short-term occupation of the site area. These records reveal that George Galphin was living in the Silver Bluff area and operating a trading post by the early 1750s. During the 1770s, however, Galphin relinquished the trading post to his sons and concentrated on the development of a working plantation. After his death in 1780, Silver Bluff declined until the 1790s, when it was sold for unpaid debts. The available documents of the nineteenth century indicate that none of the subsequent owners of the plantation used Silver Bluff as a residence for themselves or for their workers, but maintained the property primarily for agricultural land use. Therefore, these documents suggest that the primary occupation of Galphin's Silver Bluff properties was during the eighteenth century.

The spatial arrangement and nature of the Historic period occupation at the present Silver Bluff site is uncertain. Unfortunately, land plats are not available which specifically place the location of Galphin's trading post or the later plantation house while the narrative documents provide only vague descriptions of the spatial arrangements of the settlement. An analysis of Galphin's will suggests that he owned a total of three houses, mills and other structures. Two of the entries in the will refer to the "new Brick House with four hundred acres of land belonging to it" and "the old Brick House with one hundred acres of land whereon it stands" which were left to Galphin's sons Thomas and In addition, Galphin's will refers to "the use of the upper three tracts of land...containing in the whole about thirteen or fourteen hundred areas, with the dwelling house and all other improvements thereon where she now lives, called Silver Bluff in the province of South Carolina" which was willed to his daughter Judith (Billings n.d. a: Appendix -- Will of George Galphin: 5). The large tracts of land which accompanied each of these entries suggest that the three structures mentioned in the will were separated by substantial distances. In addition, the will also suggests that the structure located at Silver Bluff was the house willed to his daughter; however, there is no indication of the age or history of the structure.

During the nineteenth century, Silver Bluff was owned by James H. Hammond, a wealthy South Carolina politician and planter, who kept extensive records of his daily plantation activities. In these records Hammond refers to "a Brick House" located near the boat landing just south of Town Creek and a second brick structure located in the southern region of the plantation near Condes Swamp (Hammond n.d.: 6; Redcliffe Records B: 17-38). These two structures, along which the structure represented at the present day Silver Bluff site, may represent the three houses willed by Calphin to the three children.

Because of the traditional designation of Silver Bluff as the location of Galphin's trading post, the artifact patterning was expected to reflect the frontier pattern. This pattern was derived from four frontier sites, including two documented trading posts, and contrasts with the Carolina pattern by an inverse ratio of architectural to kitchen artifacts (South 1977: 141-143). The Carolina pattern was derived from excavation at five occupational sites and is considered to reflect plantation or domestic oriented activities (South 1977: 86-92). The site and intersite patterning from Silver Bluff were reflective of the Carolina pattern rather than the expected Frontier pattern. While several sampling biases may have skewed the artifact percentages, this data suggests that the archeological remains located at the present day Silver Bluff site represent a later domestic oriented occupation.

It is impossible to determine the exact nature of archeological remains represented at Silver Bluff. Various historical and archeological data tend to present contradictory evidence in support of several interpretations. In order to more accurately understand the historical nature of Silver Bluff and its impact on the frontier of South Carolina, more extensive and intensive study is needed. Several specific survey programs should be conducted which are outlined below.

Underwater - An extensive underwater archeological survey should be conducted along the entire Silver Bluff riverfront. This is especially critical for the prehistoric sites believed to have existed in the area, as the documentary evidence suggests that they have been eroded into the river.

Land Survey - Areas adjacent to the underwater sites (if any) located during the survey should be tested for the existence of intact archeological diagnostic artifacts. In addition, the wooded areas adjacent to the present survey area should be surveyed. Since no evidence of the trading post or extensive outbuildings was recovered during the survey, the area immediately adjacent to the site should be surveyed with subsurface testing. If the Silver Bluff site represents Galphin's plantation house, then associated slave cabins and outbuildings should be located nearby. Where possible, re-examination of likely occupation areas, as suggested by the documentary sources (for example, along Town Creek, south near Condes Swamp, and the firebreak scatter) should be conducted.

Silver Bluff site - Finally, a subsurface sampling program should be initiated in the areas of high artifact densities as defined in the report. This specifically includes the area of the brick footing previously uncovered and the area along the bluff edge where the concentration of artifacts was removed.

APPENDIX A

INVENTORY OF ARCHEOLOGICAL MATERIALS RECOVERED FROM SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION BY PROVENIENCE

grid unit coordinates/numbers/prov. \$ 0 M100 62 1 \$ 1 \$ 0 W200 87 2 \$ 2 \$ 0 W200 87 2 \$ 2 \$ 0 W200 89 4 \$ 0 W250 100 6 \$ 5 \$ 0 W260 100 6 \$ 5 \$ 0 W250 100 6 \$ 5 \$ 0 W250 100 6 \$ 5 \$ 0 W250 100 6 \$ 5 \$ 10 W250 100 7 \$ 5 10 W270 103 8 \$ 10 W270 104 9 \$ 0 W300 112 10 \$ 5 0 W150 149 11 \$ 5 0 W150 167 14 \$ 5 0 W150 167 14 \$ 5 0 W210 176 16 \$ 1 0 0 W250 188 18 \$ 70 W270 192 19 \$ 5 0 W350 211 21 \$ 5 0 W350 210 210 21 \$ 5 0 W350 250 26 \$ 120 W250 250 26 \$ 27 \$ 100 W260 263 28 \$ 120 W260 263 28 \$ 120 W260 269 29 \$ 100 W260 269 29 \$ 100 W200 275 30 \$ 100 W200 275 30 \$ 100 W260 269 29 \$ 100 W250 269 20 \$ 100 W250 269 29 \$ 100 W250 269 20 \$ 100 W	Lead glazed	Jackfield	Refined agate ware	Decorated delft ware	Plain white delft ware	Undecorated			Undergl. blue hand-paint. pearlware	Elue 6 green edged pearl- ware	Undecorated	Carolina	Nottingham lustered ware	British brown stoneware	Hesterwald stoneware	Moulded white saltglazed	Scratch-blue white saltgl	White saltgl stoneware	Engine-turned unglased stone	Overglazed enamel, porcel	Underglazed blue porcelain
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Silver Bluff Plantation 38AK7 grid unit	Iron buckle	Erass furniture handle fragment	Upholstery tack (wrought)	Brass rod possible clock	Frass 11nk	Unidentified brass object	Gun harmer	Cun flints	Decorated side plate	lead musket balls	Scissors fragment	Pewter spoon fragrent	Fork fragment	Unid, lead or pewter fragrent	Iron pot or kettle fragment	Iron plow fragment	Horse shoe fragment	Staples	Chain link	Wire fragment (fencing wire)	Metal hook fragment
coordinates/number/proven.	H	P. P.	4 2	2 4 4	M	2.2	8	8	94	5 2	Set	Pe	Po	돌집	12	11	84	6.	5	25	8 4
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30AK7 grid unit coordinates/number/proven. S 0 W100 62 1 S 0 W200 87 2 S 0 W200 88 3 S 0 W240 89 4 S 0 W260 1001 6 S 10 W250 1002 7 S 0 W260 1004 9 S 10 W250 1004 9		to at the
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S 0 E150 Co 3 B1 1 55 S150 E200 Co 4 B1 4 56		
S150 E200 Co 4 B1 4 56 S150 E250 Co 5 B1 4 57		
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\$100 E400 Co 8 B1 3 60 \$200 F450 Co 9 B1 5 61 1 4 1		
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	103 119	78 39

grid ordinates	f Plantation unit	Incised sand	tempered	Functated sand tempered cera- mic fragments	Nob marked sand tempered serantc frage.	Minger impres- sed send tempe ad ceremic fra	Inclsed pipe bowl fragment	Baked clay object	louletted and tempered atomic free.	Seteriorated	Anear check.	hartz /chert firecracked rock	bestal plain	Warts chunks	chist chunks	Sestal plain thert primary labor	lakes	Nosstal ploin thert secondar	warts seconds my flabes	bert tertiary	lesper tertiar	uerts tertier	partrite
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Silver Bluff Plantation 38AK7	hyolite ertiary flakes	Schist tertiary flakes	ossiliferous reccia termiar lakes	hknown terti- iry flakes	Constal plain chert utilized	Constal plain chart spoke	chist grinding tone	Argillite unmodified rock	nknown unnod. ock	Apastal plein thert side	Constel plain chert flaked	Coastel plain chert stemmed hase noint frag	Coastal plain chert Palmer	Constal plain chert Savannah Biver noint	Coastel plain thert triangu- lar point free.	Coastel plain thert unident.	Constal plain thert biface trag.	nknown raw aterial point ragment	Colong-Ware	andstone chunk	fred daub
coordinates/number/proven.	the ta	Sch fla	Fos	36	Che	894	Sch	Arg	Unkno rock	Coa	Coss	8 4 8	8 8 8	E e c	Che S	Coa	Che	g a g	[03]	San	7 2
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\$200 W200 359 41 \$210 W230 363 42	_	_	-	1				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			2		
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S150 E250 Co 5 B1 4 57																					
S 50 E300 Co 6 Bl 2 58																					
S100 E350 Co 7 B1 3 59 S100 E400 Co 8 B1 3 60	-					-		-			-		-	-	-						
S200 E450 Co 9 B1 5 61																			-		
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APPENDIX B

MEAN CERAMIC DATE FOR THE

MEAN CERAMIC DATE FOR THE COLLECTION UNITS AT SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

Unit Number	Number Total Ceramic	<u>:s</u> :	Number Datable Cerami	<u>Mean Ceramic Date</u>
S 0 W100 62 S 0 W200 87	4		1	1791
S 0 W200 87	3		_	1701 7
S 0 W240 89	5		. 3	1781.7
5 0 W240 09	· J		5	1791
S 0 W260 100	4		4	1776.5
S 0 W280 101	-		· <u>-</u>	
S 10 W250 102	8		7	1767.1
S 10 W270 103	3		2	1795.5
S 10 W290 104			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
S 0 W300 112			. · · · · · <u>-</u>	***
S 50 W110 149	3		. 1	1800
S 70 W130 155	-		<u>-</u>	
S 50 W150 161	1			1701
S 70 W170 167	$\frac{1}{2}$		$rac{1}{2}$	1791 1775 5
S 50 W210 174	_		<u> </u>	1775.5
S 70 W230 180	1		1	1791
D 70 W230 100	, ±		-	1/91
S 50 W250 186	39		38	1792.1
S 50 W290 188	3		3	1794
S 70 W270 192	5		4	1794.5
S 50 W310 199	1		1	1791
S 50 W350 211	4		3	1777.3
S 90 W390 223	· =		-	
S130 W130 235	13		9	1789.8
S100 W160 238	_		<u>-</u>	
S120 W170 244			_	
S100 W200 250	1		_	 .
S120 W220 256				·
S100 W260 263	19		18	1786.6
S120 W280 269	11		11	1776.5
S100 W300 275	4		4	1791
S150 W150 303	8		8	1788.3
S170 W170 309	4		3	1777.3
S150 W210 316	3		3	1794
S170 W230 322	2		2	1754
S150 W250 328	6		5	1702
S170 W270 334	43		39	1793.8
	. •			1103.1

MEAN CERAMIC DATE FOR THE COLLECTION UNITS AT SILVER BLUFF PLANTATION

<u>Unit Number</u>	Number Total	Ceramics Numb	oer Datable Ceram	ics Mean Ceramic Date
S190 W250 338 S150 W310 341	6 1		5	1776.6
S150 W350 348	1		<u>-</u> 1	1750
S200 W160 350	13	·	12	1780.5
5200 W100 550			. 1.2	1700.5
S200 W200 359	2		2	1791
S210 W230 363	14		14	1777
S 70 W 40 500	8		7	1776.1
S100 W 50 501	80		59	1751
				2,32
S150 W 50 502	175		129	1756.4
S100 W 0 503	19		15	1757
S150 W 0 504	16		8	1748.5
S120 W 70 505	436		271	1756.9
S 80 W 70 506	25		21	1753.1
S 50 W 50 507	14		5	1775.2
S120 W 50 508	71		57	1755.7
S150 W 70 509	1112		812	1767.3
S 50 E 50 Co 1 I			4	1779.8
S 50 E100 Co 2 I			-	
S 0 E150 Co 3 I			2	1770.5
S150 E200 Co 4 I	B1 4 6		4	1767.5
S150 E250 Co 5 I			1	1791
S 50 E300 Co 6 I			-	
S100 E350 Co 7 E			2	1832.5
S100 E400 Co 8 I	31 3 2		1	1860
0000 T/F0 0 0 0			•	
S200 E450 Co 9 I			-	
Firebreak Scatte	er 26		22	1785.6

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