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ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT OF
THE WILLIAMS-DUPONT POWER LINE,
BERKELEY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

by

Richard H. Kimmel
Research Manuscript Series No. 56

Prepared by the
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
January, 1974

PREFACE

This report presents the results of an archeological survey conducted by the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. The survey was conducted for the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company as an Environmental Impact Study along the proposed three-mile Williams-DuPont 230KV power transmission line. The survey was designed to locate any important archeological sites which might be endangered by the installation of the line.

I would like to express my appreciation to some of the people who helped with certain aspects of the survey: my appreciation to Mr. J. H. Addison, of South Carolina Electric and Gas Company, Mr. Earle McSpadden, Mr. Dan Pferrer, Mr. J. O. Wingard, and Mr. Mike McCroskery at the Dupont Site for acting as liaison and informants; to Stanley South, Travis Bianchi and Ken Culpepper of the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology for supplying additional manpower; and to John Califf of the S.C. Department of Archives and History for his lengthy assistance in documentation and research.

INTRODUCTION

During the week of December 17, 1973 the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology conducted an archeological survey of the proposed 200 ft. wide power transmission line right-of-way from the S.C. Electric and Gas Company's Williams Station near Goose Creek, to the plant site of the E. I. DuPont de Nemours Company three miles to the north (see map). The major portion of the line runs through bottom land lying between the Back

and Cooper Rivers in Berkeley County. This bottom land is poorly drained and much of the proposed route was under water at the time of this survey. The area is in heavy vegetation, and this too acted to slow the survey. It should be noted that the S.C. Electric and Gas Company presently intends to use wooden poles rather than transmission towers along this route, and this will significantly reduce the impact on both vegetation and archeological remains.

DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH

Documentation and research was carried out at the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology and at the S.C. Department of Archives and History. There are presently no sites on record along the proposed route at the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology. However, two historic occupations, the Dean Hall Plantation and the Cote Bas Plantation, were given mention in the search of Archives files conducted by John Califf.

The Cote Bas Plantation Site is located at or under the present site of Williams Station at the south end of the survey line. The plantation did not receive considerable mention in the Archives files except in regard to its use as a base for hunting excursions. An attempt was made during the course of the survey to locate the plantation and any buildings or features which might have survived, but the Williams plant complex and the addition of railroad lines and siding has probably eradicated any major evidence of occupation.

The other occupation, that at Dean Hall Plantation, receives considerable mention in the Archives files. This site, however, lies beyond the survey line and it does not appear to be in any immediate danger.

The Dean Hall Site and its potential is discussed in the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology survey files.

SURVEY RESULTS, DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The document search and field work portions of this survey indicate that there are no sites in the power line right-of-way which will be affected by the installation of the over-head lines. This judgement is made in light of present information which indicates that wooden poles will be used rather than towers. The use of poles requires far less clearing and breaking of ground with the result that potential damage to archeological sites, flora, plant and animal life is minimized.

While there is no apparent danger to archeological remains from the proposed Williams-DuPont line, it should become a matter of record that further survey is recommended in near-by areas, particularly in the areas of the Cote Bas and Dean Hall Plantations.

38 BK 69, 70, 71

Old Dean Hall
Plantation

DUPONT

⑨

to U.S.
52

Cypress
Gardens

Survey Line

COOPER R.

BACK R.

S.C.E.G.
Williams
Sta.

Former site of
Cote Bas
Plantation

Sketch Map of Williams-
DuPont 350KV Survey Line.
Taken from U.S.G.S. 7.5 Min.
Kittridge, S.C. Quadrangle,
1950.

