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# Significant Artifact Collection Donated to the Institute

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## SIGNIFICANT ARTIFACT COLLEC- TION DONATED TO THE INSTITUTE

By Tommy Charles

From 1982 to 1984, Tommy Charles at the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, traveled throughout South Carolina and visited local artifact collectors to 1) determine what classes of artifacts have been removed from prehistoric sites, document these data, and record the associated sites; 2) set up a file containing information on what has been collected, where this material was collected, who presently holds the collection, and the availability of these collections for future research; 3) form a better relationship between the professional and avocational archaeologists of our state, encouraging cooperation in the preservation of our remaining archaeological sites, demonstrating the value of properly recording artifacts, and providing opportunities in archaeology through the Archaeological Society of South

Carolina.

During the Collector's Survey in 1982, Tommy had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Samuel E. Wiles from Calhoun Falls. Over a period of 25 years, Mr. Wiles collected an extensive local collection of prehistoric American Indian artifacts representing dozens of sites within a very localized area around Calhoun Falls. This extensive collection represents 30,000-40,000 artifacts and has tremendous research potential because of its authenticity. None of the artifacts represented in the collection have been bought, sold, or fabricated.

Last week Mr. Wiles donated this significant collection to the Institute. He wanted the collection to remain in tact and housed where it could be protected and where students and researchers could have access to it. The collection represents every type of stone tool that was made by Native Americans living in South Carolina during the Paleoindian to the Mississippian time periods including axes, mortars, unifacial tools, knives, scrapers, and arrowheads.. This collection is important because it represents a complete

Savannah River Biface: SCIAA



SAVANNAH  
RIVER

collection of stone tools from a small localized area.

This summer, Tommy will be continuing the Collector's Survey throughout the state. If anyone with an artifact collection who has an interest in learning more about what you have found, please give Tommy a call and he will be delighted to talk to you about it. He will be setting up his schedule soon. The Institute is very appreciative of this significant donation to its collection. We thank Mr. Wiles for his generous contribution, and we encourage other collectors in the state to consider donating their collections in the future.

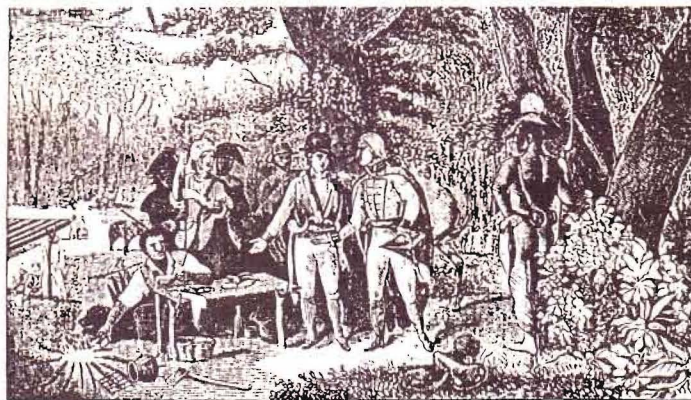
## THE SEARCH FOR FRANCIS MARION'S CAMP

By Steven D. Smith

**The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology will initiate a systematic survey of a portion of Snow's Island in search of Francis Marion's (The Swamp Fox) legendary 1781 camp.** Steve Smith, archaeologist with the Institute, will direct a team of archaeologists and volunteers this October. From around December of 1780 to April 1781, Francis Marion used Snow's Island as a base camp for his partisan band fighting for independence during the American Revolution. Surrounded

by rivers and swamp, this camp afforded his troops protection to organize raids against British troops occupying

camp with one detachment, while Marion was effectively stopping the other. The exact location of the camp



Marion inviting a British Officer to Dinner. PAGE 179.

has since been lost through time. This will mark the first attempt by professional archaeologists to locate and excavate the camp. The project is being sponsored by the landowners, Sonoco Products Company. Volunteers and additional financial assistance would be greatly appreciated. Interested readers can con-

tact SCIAA for additional information. Art: SCIAA: [Simms: Life of Marion: 1844]

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