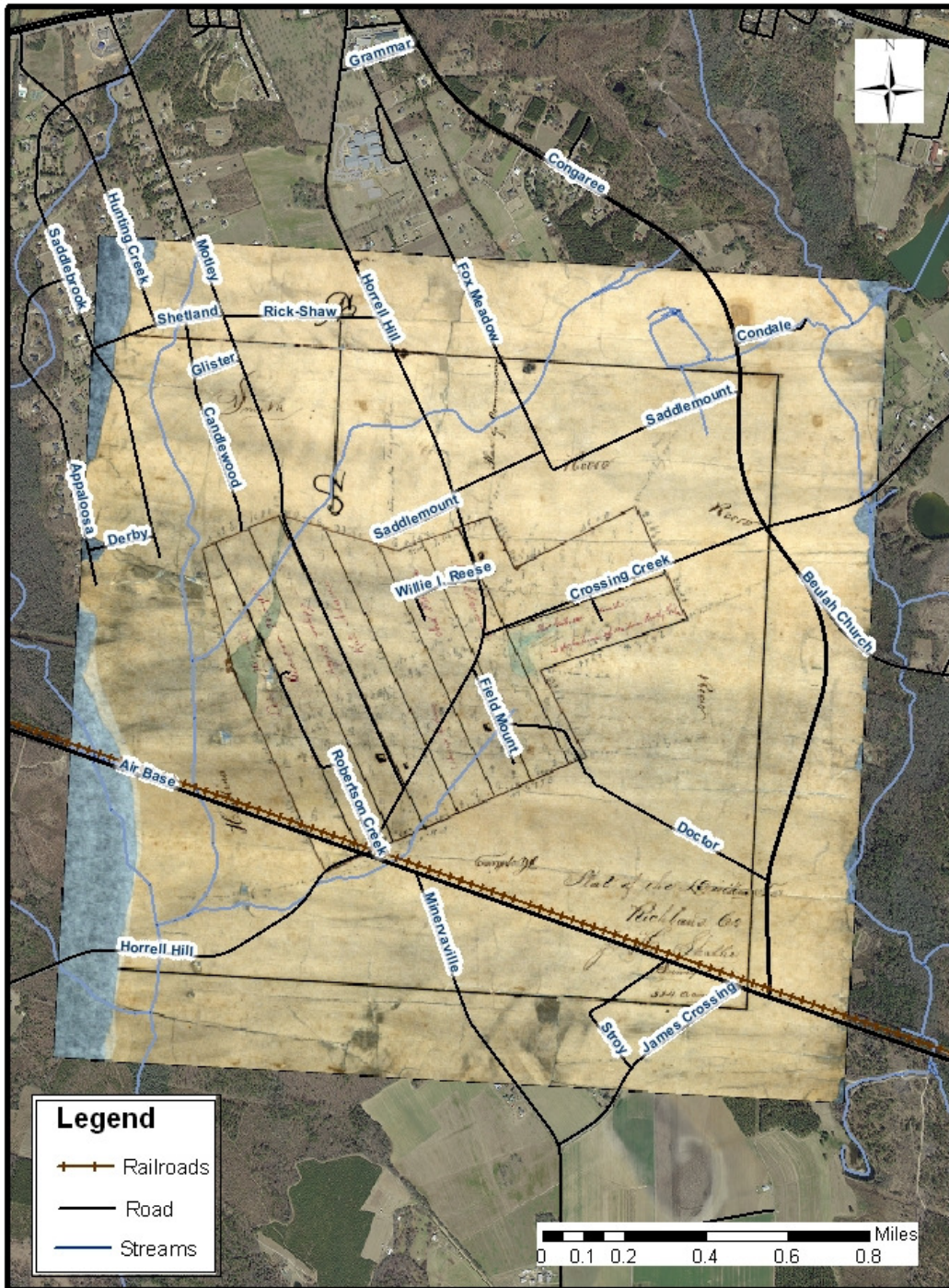


C. The Diseker Tract

Diseker Tract, Richland County, South Carolina



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Historic Appearance

The Diseker tract, comprised of roughly 440 acres, was located one mile northeast of the Hopkins tract.⁷⁴ The original South Carolina Land Commission survey plats show the land to have been largely uncultivated with sparse oak and pine forest. Plans for what would become Horrell Hill Road are shown on these plats. The tract was bordered on the east by the Cedar Grove Plantation of John Reese. The Wilmington, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad, completed in 1870, skims the southwestern corner of this tract.

Parcels Purchased by African Americans

The Diseker tract contained 440 acres divided into nine original parcels, ranging in size from 20 to 44.5 acres. Parcels were purchased between August 1870 and November 1875. There were thirteen original purchasers, demonstrating that some of these parcels were subdivided. Five of these purchasers succeeded in acquiring a deed from the South Carolina Land Commission. Presumably the rest of the land was forfeited. None of these original purchasers could be traced to modern descendents. The Diseker tract was subdivided to such an extent that no current parcel maintained a significant portion of the original Land Commission parcel.

Current Appearance

Today the Diseker land is residential and has been subdivided into numerous small property holdings. Principal streets running through Diseker land include Horrell Hill Road (north of the CSX rail line), Crossing Creek Road, and Motley Road. Development in this area is suburban in nature rather than rural, lying between the township of Hopkins and Garners Ferry Road (U.S. 378).

⁷⁴ As mentioned in a previous footnote, deed research indicates that 449.25 acres were actually sold in the 440-acre Diseker tract. The discrepancy of 9.25 acres might be the result of the resale of lots, inaccurate surveying, or careless record-keeping.