

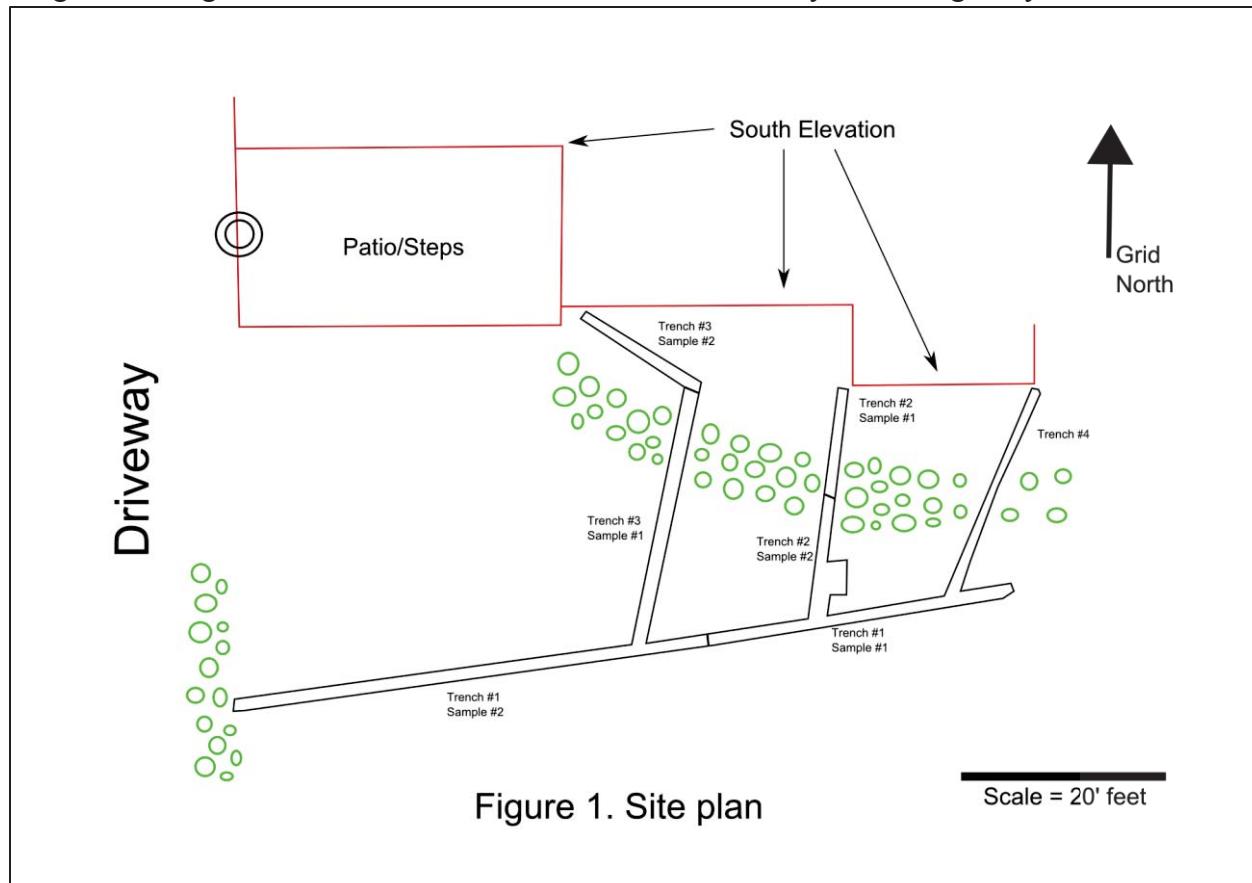
Richard Marks
Richard Marks Restorations, Inc.
12A Vanderhorst St.
Charleston, SC 29403

September 17, 2012

Dear Mr. Marks

This letter report details the archaeological monitoring that took place between September 10 and September 12, 2012. Archaeological monitoring is required by the Historic Charleston Foundation at Medway Plantation if excavations are needed below surface grade at depths exceeding 6" inches. Plans for a drain pipe that would tie in the downspouts of gutters off the south elevation of the Medway house called for excavations in the south yard that would reach depths of 1.0' feet below surface (bs). Archaeological consultant Andrew Agha was present for all ground breaking and completion of this drain system.

The plans for this drain system included a 6" PVC pipe that would run roughly southwest to northeast across the south yard of the house at a slightly diagonal angle to the south elevation. Figure 1 displays a plan view of all ditches excavated for this drainage system. Additionally, three trenches were excavated from the three downspouts that would tie 4" PVC pipe into the 6" master drain pipe. These three trenches run roughly south from the south elevation to the main trench. The 6" pipe trench is designated Trench #1. This trench is 83' feet long from its eastern edge to the edge of the flower bed that delineates the driveway from the grass yard. Since the



central portion of Medway is believed to be either partly the original structure after the 1704 rebuilding of the manor house, and since the 17th century original house was apparently much longer than this central portion is today, the architectural historians believed that foundations of the original 17th century house may extend into the south yard of Medway. Trench #1, then, had the opportunity to intercept possible intact or robbed foundations from the original house, and also investigate the nature of the stratigraphy and other potential features associated with both the 17th century house and its demise through a major fire that destroyed it. Likewise, the other three pipe trenches also presented the opportunity to investigate the ground between the house and Trench #1; however, for purposes of this archaeological monitoring, most of the attention was given to Trench #1 as it provided a view below the ground in the south yard that spans the entire length of the house.

Trench #1 was excavated first. No intact brick foundations were seen or encountered across its entire 83' foot length. Small portions of the backfill from this trench were screened for a representative artifact sample and for attempts to roughly date stratigraphy. To quickly investigate differences in artifacts spatially across the yard, the trenches were split "in half" through different samples, with one half of a trench being named Sample #1 and the other half named Sample #2 (refer to Figure 1 for these designations). The walls of the trench were cleaned and the south wall was photographed. Two, 20' foot sections of this profile were drawn, which were focused on the stratigraphy that related most to questions about the early house and its demolition and reconstruction. The lengths not drawn exhibited no evidence of the house and provided no clues as to its possible past location or demolition. Screening of the soil was conducted based on the management of the fill by the work crew. The first 30' feet of Trench #1 was piled on a tarp (designated Sample #1), while the fill from the remaining 53' feet of Trench #1 was piled on a second larger tarp (Sample #2). Soils from the other three trenches were screened adjacent to the excavations.

Artifacts were collected as the crew was working and when important or diagnostic ceramics were found, the location was noted. All screening was done with 1/4" hardware cloth; excavation took place with round shovel and heavy mattock. For control, a square shovel and trowel were used. Detailed notes were recorded about the excavations; elevations of soil horizons and depths of trenches were recorded in Engineer's Scale (tenths of feet), and detailed maps were drawn. A Field Specimen (FS) log was kept to record and manage artifacts recovered from specific sample areas of the trenches.

The stratigraphy presented in Trench #1 shows a history of the south yard that had minimal impact from activity and management. Figure 2 displays south profile drawings of the two mapped sections of this trench. Root mat, roughly between 0.1-0.15' thick, was carefully removed as it was to be laid back in place after work was finished. Below this lays Zone 1, a homogenous very dark grayish brown sandy loam that overlays the entire yard. Minimal brick rubble and diagnostic artifacts were found in this fill. Beginning at 21' from the east edge of the trench, larger brick fragments and balls of mottled clay were seen along with larger ceramic sherds and bottle glass fragments. These artifacts increase in density towards the west and form a lens or horizon that delineates Zone 1 from intact soils below it. Zone 2 has more brick rubble and charcoal flecks than Zone 1, and is a gray brown sandy loam. In areas, subsoil sand appears to leach upwards from bioturbation. A portion of Zone 2 has more brick rubble, mottled clay,

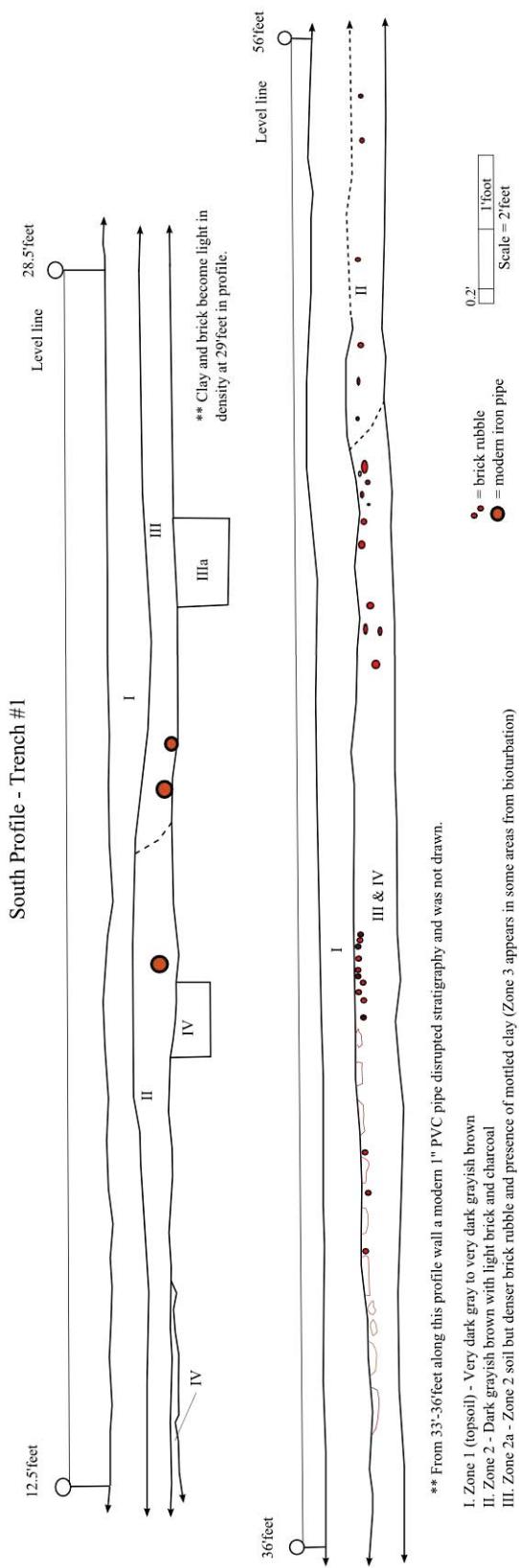


Figure 2. Portions of Trench #1 south profile, with a photo of clay lens (left) and intact Zone 2a with heavy brick and clay inclusions (right).

and mottled soils than other areas and is designated Zone 2a. Rubble and artifact density that defines Zone 2a continues to 50' feet west of the east end of Trench #1. From this point to the flower bed, there are thin and light sections of possible ash and/or water deposited silt that helps separate Zones 1 and 2. If the walls of the center of Medway—the portion and location in the current house believed to be the oldest structure—is projected into the south yard from the south elevation, the span of Zone 2a occurs only within this space that may have been related to the 17th century house. Zone 2a is roughly 24' feet wide across the yard. As seen on the profile drawing, a clay lens between 37.4' and roughly 44' feet separates Zones 1 and 2. Zone 3 is the transition soil between Zone 2 and subsoil, and is mottled from bioturbation.

To investigate soils below the 1.0' excavation, two deep tests were dug in the base of Trench #1. Deep Test #1 was placed between 18' and 19' west of the east end of the trench (see Figure 2). This window tested to 1.35' feet bs and was terminated at clear pale yellow subsoil sand. Zone 3 soil continued throughout this window but became more mottled with subsoil the deeper the test went. Deep Test #2 was placed between 24' and 25' west of the east end of the trench (see Figure 2). Excavation of this window went 0.7' feet below the base of the trench and was terminated at slightly mottled light yellowish brown subsoil sand, which is 1.6' feet bs. The soil matrix is Zone 2a, but with less mottled clay. The soil from both Deep Tests was screened separately.

The other three trenches that are for the 4" PVC pipes are labeled Trench #2, Trench #3 and Trench #4 (see Figure 1). Trench #4 runs from the southeast corner of the house to Trench #1. Trench #2 runs from the next corner west of Trench #4 to Trench #1, and is basically in line with the projected wall of the 17th century house. Trench #3 is the western most trench that runs south from the house. It ties in to a gutter downspout adjacent to where the back steps meet the core of the house. This trench turns an angle to mirror the angles of Trenches #2 and #4. Stratigraphy in Trench #3 and Trench #4 is very similar to Trench #1: Zone 1 followed by Zone 2 without Zone 2a.

Two areas worthy of closer inspection were identified. The first was in Trench #3 where it turns to the southwest. A slightly square concentration of heavy brick rubble and mortar was investigated. No intact brick courses or whole bricks were found. This rubble concentration also was sitting on top of cultural fill. The other was designated Feature 1 and was identified 2' feet north of Trench #1 in Trench #2. Feature 1 was a very heavy brick rubble concentration that contained some whole bricks and brick bats with mortar still attached. A window was opened to the east for further inspection and after seeing that the rubble was dense and appeared to continue to the east, the window was extended to the north towards the bushes for better archaeological excavation and control.

Figure 3 displays a north profile drawing of this test window excavation. Zone 1 was encountered and was 0.6' deep. Below Zone 1 lies the heavy rubble layer that is 0.4-0.6' feet thick. Little soil fill was excavated from the brick matrix but a trowel could be pushed between the brick bats. Below the brick lens was Zone 2a. Underlying Zone 2a here is the similar to the soil encountered in Deep Test #2 but with very little mottled clay in the fill. The soil, designated as Zone 4, was ash rich and had moderate charcoal/cinder content. Evidence of a fire is clear through the severely molten/melted iron and glass lumps and large blobs that were recovered.

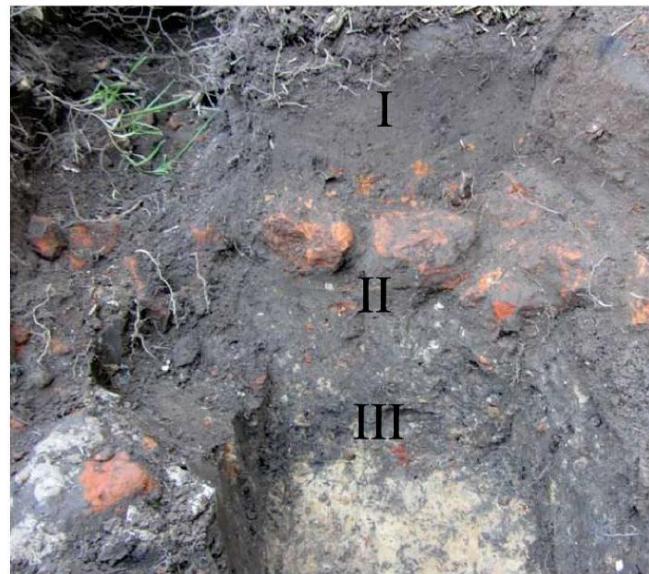
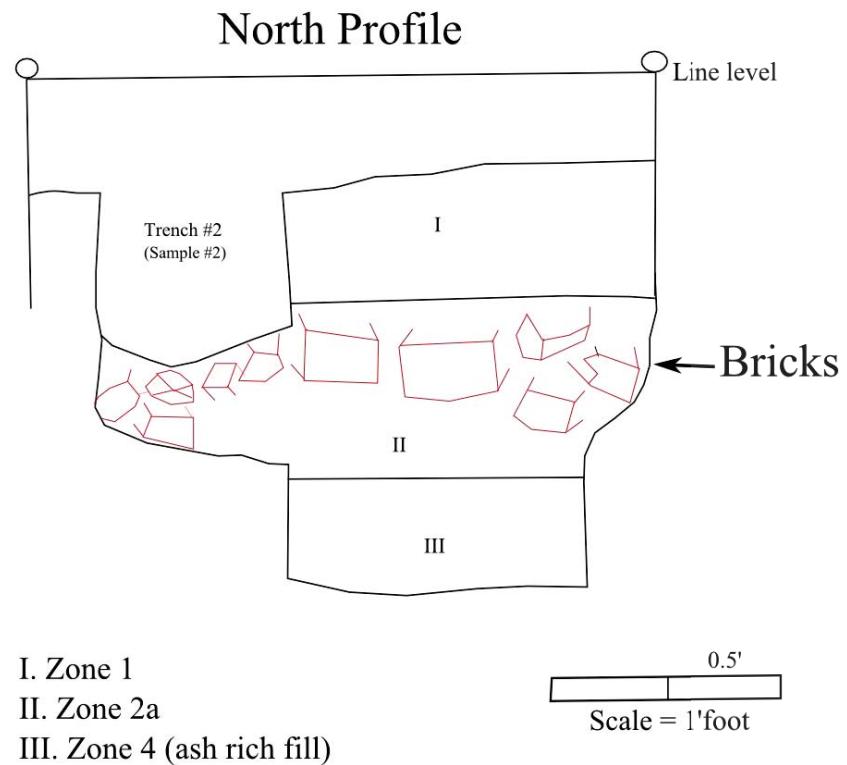


Figure 3. A north profile drawing and view of Feature 1 window excavation.

This soil deposit was excavated to a depth of 1.9' feet bs, with the ash-rich fill being 0.45' feet thick. The intact brick lens, which mirrors the clay and brick lens seen in Trench #1 at the base of Zone 1, is a cap for intact and undisturbed soils that are evidence of the c.1701 fire that destroyed the original Medway manor house. If the brick rubble was thicker and was sitting on top of subsoil, it could have been evidence of a robbed wall. Feature 1 was not investigated to the east or west beyond the 2.4' foot width of the test window so that edges of it could be found. It is possible that this heavy brick rubble is in this location because Trench #2 is nearly on-line with the projected old eastern Medway house wall, and could be demolition evidence of such a wall. More excavations would be needed to evidence this theory further. Brick rubble similar to Feature 1 was not seen in either Trench #3 or #4.

The trenches excavated show that intact stratigraphy does exist throughout the south yard of the Medway house. No intact brick features were found, and the 83' foot length of Trench #1 would have encountered the old original walls of the 17th Medway house if they did extend to the south beyond 35' feet. The best evidence for these walls is in Feature 1; however, this feature was simply a heavy brick lens that caps soils showing clear evidence of the fire that destroyed the original house.

Sincerely,



Andrew Agha
Independent Archaeological Contractor
703 Ponderosa dr.
Charleston, SC 29414

Attached: 1 artifact catalog

Artifact Bag List:

FS#1	Trench #1/Sample #1	9-10-2012
FS#2	Trench #2/Sample #1	9-10-2012
FS#3	Trench #1/Sample #2	9-10-2012
FS#4	Trench #1/Sample #1; Deep test from 18'-19'feet; 0-1.35'feet bs	9-11-2012
FS#5	Trench #1/Sample #1; Deep test from 24'-25'feet; 0-1.6'feet bs	9-11-2012
FS#6	Trench #3/Sample #1	9-11-2012
FS#7	Trench #3/Sample #2 (turn to house)	9-11-2012
FS#8	Trench #2/Sample #2; Brick feature investigation (Feature 1) – Zone 1	9-12-2012
FS#9	Trench #2/Sample #2; Feature 1 investigation, Zone 4	9-12-2012
FS#10	Trench #2/Sample #2; Feature 1/Zone 2a brick sample	9-12-2012
FS#11	Trench #2/Sample #2; Feature 1/Zone 2a brick sample	9-12-2012
FS#12	Trench #4	9-12-2012

Artifact catalog:

FS#1

4-Delft (1-footring, 1-blue on white)

1-Fulham brown salt glazed stoneware (British)

5-Stafforshire slipware sherds

1-Staffordshire slipware candlestick fragment

1-Manganese Mottledware (c.1670-1750)

5-Creamware

3-Pearlware (1-blue transfer print handle fragment, 1-polychrome hand painted base sherd)

6-Colonoware (1-rim, jar; 1-bulbous rim, bowl; 2-sooted)

1-Chinese overglazed

1-Jackfield

3-olive green bottle glass; 1 is a large base fragment (possibly c.1714)

1-olive green pharmaceutical bottle glass fragment

4-aqua window glass

2-iron spikes

1-unidentifiable iron nail

1-large iron object

1-pipe stem, 5/64"

1-ground stone artifact, broken

Brick rubble

mortar fragment

oyster shell

animal bone

1-unidentified Native American sherd, prehistoric

1-possible orthoquartzite lithic flake

1-modern plastic, melted

FS#2

1-turquoise Agateware

1-Creamware rim

1-Whiteware, undecorated
1-19th century stoneware, brown slipped interior
4-Colonoware
3-aqua window glass
1-olive green bottle glass
1-clear modern bottle glass
1-iron nail
1-iron sheet metal fragment
2-slate fragments, roofing (1 with a nail hole)

FS#3

1-Delft, lost glaze
1-yellow lead glazed redware
2-Staffordshire slipware, base sherds (1-with handle attachment)
2-Chinese porcelain, blue on white
1-Westerwald stoneware
2-Creamware
4-Pearlware, polychrome hand painted (2-mend as one, rim)
1-Pearlware, undecorated
1-ginger beer bottle neck (19th century)
2-olive green bottle glass fragment
2-olive green pharmaceutical bottle fragments
1-clear window glass
1-burned ceramic (possibly white salt glazed stoneware or Whiteware)
3-Colonoware
1-pipe stem fragment, 6/64"
1-burned flint/ballast shatter
1-iron nail
1-iron fragment, unknown
1-slate fragment
1-oyster shell
brick rubble

FS#4

2-Chinese porcelain, blue on white
1-Chinese porcelain, overglazed
1-Manganese Westerwald (molded with letters [D.G.M A])
1-Delft, large base fragment of a punch bowl, undecorated
3-Colonoware (1-very thin)
7-olive green bottle glass (1-possible medicinal)
1-clear bottle glass, possibly modern
1-aqua window glass
2-wrought nails
1-possible cut nail
1-unidentifiable iron artifact
oyster shell

brick bat

FS#5

4-Colonoware

2-olive green bottle glass

1-slate fragment

1-burned animal bone

1-unidentifiable nail

oyster shell

brick fragments

FS#6

2-Chinese blue on white porcelain

1-overglaze painted Chinese porcelain

3-Staffordshire slipware

1-French green glazed coarse earthenware

11-Delft, blue on white (1-just glaze)

1-Delft, polychrome hand painted

3-Westerwald salt glazed stoneware

1-Scratch Blue stoneware

2-Slip dipped white salt glazed stoneware (c.1715-1775)

3-White salt glazed stoneware (1740-1775)

3-Creamware

8-Pearlware (2-polychrome hand painted)

1-Whiteware, blue transfer print

4-Colonoware

4-olive green bottle glass (1-large base fragment, 1-neck fragment)

1-leaded table glass fragment

1-clear modern glass pane

3-aqua window glass

5-iron nails (1-wrought)

2-pipe stems (1-with bowl attachment 4/64", 1-5/64")

Cow/Pig bone fragments

1-brick rubble

4-slate fragments

1-orthoquartzite lithic

1-modern white glass

FS#7

1-Creamware

2-Whiteware (1-blue transfer print, 1-blue shell edged)

2-Colonoware

2-window glass

1-17th/18th century clear table glass

1-modern terracotta fragment

1-brown bottle glass

1-cut lead sheet
1-iron nail
1-brick fragment
1-slate fragment, unknown function
1-roofing slate fragment

FS#8
1-Delft (c.1670-1775)
1-Manganese Westerwald (c.1670-1725)
2-White salt glazed stoneware (1740-1775)
1-Creamware
2-Pearlware
1-Whiteware, blue transfer print
1-Colonoware
4-window glass
1-olive green bottle glass
1-modern clear glass
5-unidentifiable iron nails
1-pipe stem, 5/64"

FS#9
1-white salt glazed stoneware, base fragment
1-Ironstone (likely accidentally introduced during excavation)
3-Colonoware
2-pipe bowl fragments
1-pipe stem fragment, 5/64"
5-olive green bottle glass
1-leaded clear table glass fragment
12-burned and fused glass/iron objects
1-very large mass of fused iron and glass (with wood impressions from the c.1701 fire)
4-unidentifiable iron nails
4-aqua window glass (1-with intact corner of window pane)
1-animal tooth enamel fragment
1-turtle shell fragment
1-brick bat (with heavily burned exterior)
1-coal fragment

FS#10
2-brick samples, 1/3 brick each

FS#11
1-whole brick

FS#12
1-Stafforshire slipware, mug base
2-Creamware

2-Pearlware

2-Whiteware (1-blue transfer print)

1-19th century redware (white slipped interior, brown and blue exterior)

3-Colonoware

1-iron nail

5-aqua window glass

1-clear window glass

1-olive green bottle glass

1-brown bottle glass

1-clear bottle glass lip fragment

2-copper slag?