

August 9, 2007

Mr. Tim Chesser
American College of the Building Arts
P.O. Box 71668
North Charleston, SC 29415

Dear Tim,

Enclosed you will find two copies of the Field Report for archaeological survey of Area C, McLeod Plantation. The document describes the methods and results of the field survey of area C, and makes preliminary recommendations. The maps are in draft form, and will be revised for the final report. Likewise, the artifact identification is preliminary, and will be revised with complete analysis (though changes are unlikely).

The copies are for the American College of the Building Arts and for Historic Charleston Foundation, as stipulated in the easement agreement. If you have questions, or need additional copies, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Martha Zierden
Curator of Historical Archaeology

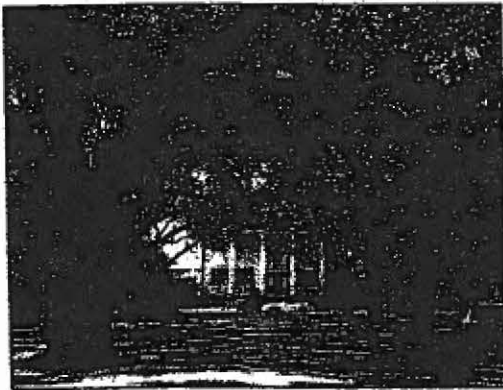
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Field Report: Archaeological Survey of selected areas, McLeod Plantation

Martha Zierden
The Charleston Museum
August 1, 2007

Purpose

McLeod plantation consists of approximately fifty acres. The property is bounded by Folly Road to the west, Tatum drive to the South, and Wappoo Cut to the north. A series of private tracts bound the property to the east. Centered on this rectangular tract is the mid-19th century building complex associated with the McLeod family occupation. This complex includes a main house facing the waterfront, surrounded on the north side by a series of service buildings (gin, barn, carriage house, kitchen, dairy). A row of slave cabins runs from the main house west to Folly Road, and the road in front of the cabins serves as a second entrance to the property. An allee of live oak trees lead from the front of the house to the edge of Wappoo cut; this allee and the acreage in front of the house are bisected by Country Club Drive.

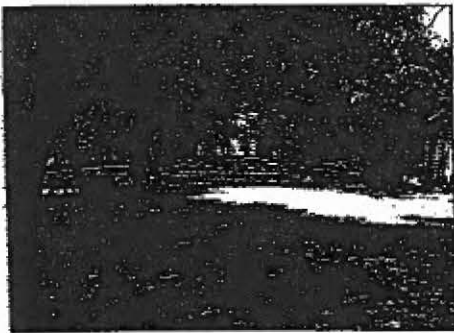


Front and rear views of the main house at McLeod plantation

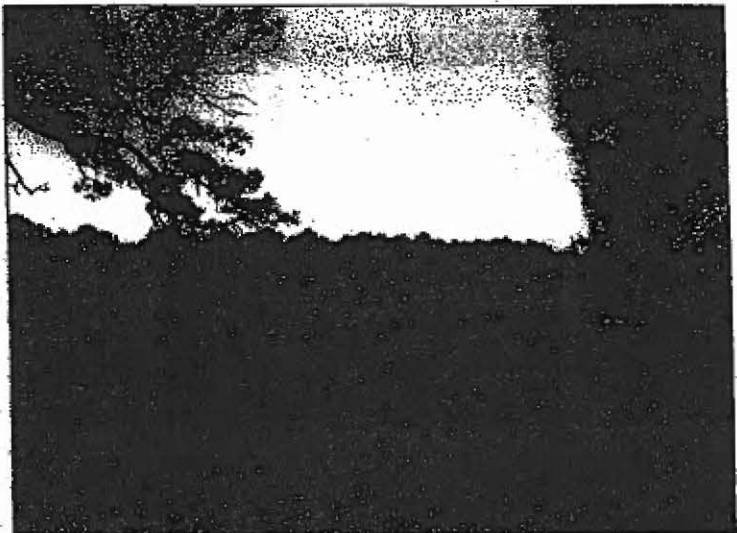
The northern portion of the property, from the waterfront to the southern edge of the slave row allee are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The southern half, not listed on the register, consists of open farm fields, divided by drainage ditches. Based on previous documentary and archaeological research, the McLeod tract has been divided into areas of potential significance and potential impact.

The areas of least significance are designated "C", and include the fields along the southern and eastern border of the property, inside the vegetative border. These areas are under consideration for construction of campus buildings by the American College of the Building Arts (ACBA). These areas were surveyed by The Charleston Museum.

The survey and testing project was conducted as part of the 2007 Field School in Historical Archaeology offered by the College of Charleston (ANTH-493). The crew consisted of Charleston Museum archaeologists Martha Zierden and Ron Anthony, College of Charleston professor Barbara Borg, and eleven undergraduate students. Students also worked with Lynn Harris, underwater archaeologists with the College of Charleston and Tim Chesser from the American College of the Building Arts. Fieldwork at McLeod was conducted for three weeks, from May 14 through June 1. The crew returned to McLeod for two additional days on June 26-27. The crew spent 8 field days conducting the survey of Area C. During the remaining time, the crew excavated shovel test pits along the shoreline of Wappoo Cut, and excavated a series of 5' test units in yard area between the main house and slave cabins, on the south side of the allee, and explored the foundation of the dairy building. The testing projects will be described in the final report. This document is intended to describe the results of the survey, and to present preliminary recommendations.



Above: view of the allee from the main house to folly road; slave cabins are visible on the right.
Right: view of the survey area from the main house, facing south.



Previous Research

The McLeod property has been subject to a number of previous projects, most of them small surveys. There has been one previous project in the survey area. The first professional survey was conducted by Michael Hartley and Jolee Pearson, as part of their survey of 17th century sites on the Ashley River (Hartley 1984). Hartley and Pearson collected materials from the plowed fields on the south side of the allee, between Folly Road and the main house. They recovered 17th, 18th, and 19th century materials, and pinpointed the concentration of early materials. They prepared a State site record, and McLeod Plantation was designated 38Ch679.

A small, limited survey of two areas was conducted in 1985 by Todd McMakin of Brockington & Associates. Site 38Ch679-1 was near the allee on the north side of the

house. Site Ch679-2 was located at the juncture of the allee and Country Club Rd, in an area of purported Native American materials. Neither site produced significant results. Brockington conducted a large data recovery project at 38Ch679-3, the Wilkins-Perroneau site. This site is located on a 10-acre tract east of the McLeod house complex, sold by Historic Charleston Foundation to secure the remainder of the property. The data recovery project explored the main house and a slave building from the mid-18th century (Eubanks, Harvey, and Poplin 1996).

New South Associates has conducted two projects at McLeod. In 1991, J.W. Joseph prepared an Archaeological Inventory for Jaeger/Pyburn, Inc, as part of a Preservation and Development plan prepared for Historic Charleston Foundation. The literature and field survey included excavation of 20 shovel tests in the fields south of the slave allee, as well as limited exploration of the main house complex and a reported Deptford site at the intersection of Country Club road (New South Associates 1991). Their findings mirror those of Heritage Trust archaeologists Chris Judge, who visited the site in 1990 to evaluate the property for inclusion in the State's list of significant sites (Judge and Smith 1991).

New South Associates also explored the site of the firehouse at the northeast corner of Folly and Country Club roads. The firm was hired by the City of Charleston to explore the property, to determine whether unmarked graves from the McLeod Plantation cemetery intruded into the property. Initial survey was inconclusive, but subsequent excavation for a new firehouse revealed human remains. Additional investigations by New South identified ninety-nine graves. The building project was abandoned and the firehouse removed. The site, which adjoins the McLeod property to the east, remains preserved as sacred space (New South Associates 1996).

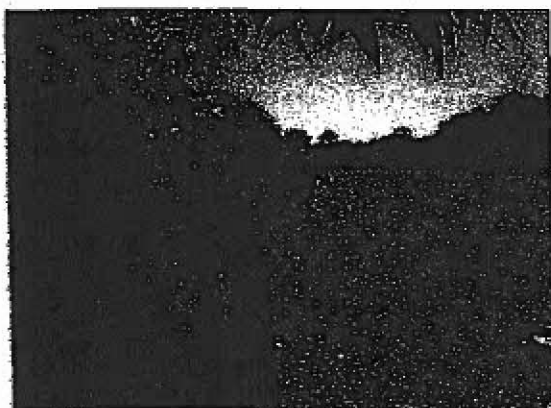
Most germane to the present project was the 1997 survey of a one-acre tract at the southwest corner of McLeod Plantation by Brockington and Associates. This site was proposed as an alternate location for the new firehouse, following the discovery of human remains on the original property. The tract is located at the northeast corner of Folly Road and Tatum Street, and is within the present project boundary (38Ch679-4). The survey included shovel testing and metal detector survey of the entire tract, and mechanical stripping of the building footprint. Evidence of the stripping is still visible in the form of a depression and adjoining soil mound. The excavations revealed a very light scatter of materials from the late 19th to 20th centuries. Brockington suggested that the property contained no significant deposits, and that further management considerations were not necessary (Brockington 1997). The proposed structure was never built, and the property reverted to Historic Charleston Foundation, subsequently to the American College for the Building Arts. This area is included in the present survey footprint, and includes the gridded area between N150E50 and N300E50, to N300E300.

Field Methods

Area C consists of three fields, designated A, B, and C, totaling eight acres, more or less. Largest is the southernmost field (field A), measuring approximately 300' north/south by 1000'. The western half of the field to the north was also included in the survey; this was designated field B. Field B was approximately 150' north/south and 350' east/west. Field C was a narrow strip along the eastern border of the property, covering the eastern edges of three established fields. The area in question measured 80' east/west by 400' north/south.

Prior to initiation of fieldwork, the fields presented as old-field growth. The fields had not been plowed for a few years, and were mowed instead. The fields were choked with vines, small gum and cherry trees, and a variety of weedy species. The fields were bush-hogged prior to our arrival on site. Disking was scheduled to occur two days after field school began. Three passes with the disc were necessary to achieve desired surface visibility. The combination of mowing and disking produced a new ground surface, and at least 60% visibility in each of the 25' units. The disking on Thursday, May 17, was followed by one-half inch of rain on Saturday, the only measurable rainfall during the field project.

An overall site grid was established with manual transits, uniting survey of the fields in Area C with later work across the property. The Chicago grid, oriented to the southwest corner of the property, initiated at the corner of Folly Road and Tatum Street. Actual grid layout began with establishment of a datum point at the northwest corner of field A. A 2' section of iron rebar was placed in the ground under the shadow of a moderate-sized gum tree, 50' east of Folly Road and approximately 300' north of Tatum Street. This point received the arbitrary grid designation of N300 E50. The rebar grid point was marked with a section of white pvc pipe, and was left in place upon completion of the survey.

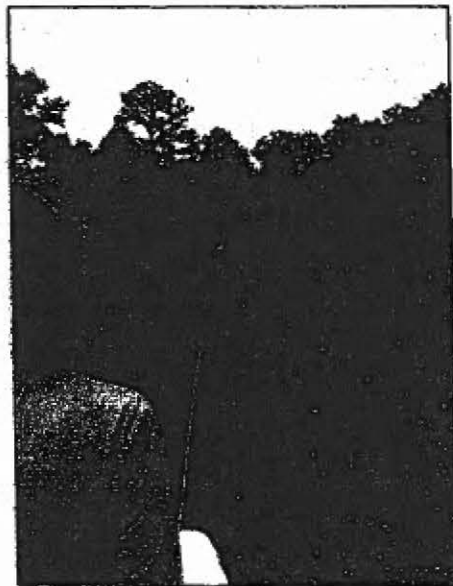


Layout of baseline along northern edge of field C; the baseline was designated N300. Images are after mowing, but before plowing.

From this point, a base line was established parallel with the drainage ditch, 85 degrees east of magnetic north. Grid points were placed at 25' intervals, from E50 to E975. A second datum point was established at N300 E920, at the western limits of field C. Grid points continued at 25' intervals (including N300 E925) to E975.

The transit was then set over N300E920, and base line was established north at 25' intervals to N725. A third permanent point was established adjacent to a tree (in an area beyond the limits of a mower) at N740E920. Points were established south to N150. The transit was then set over baseline points at even 200' intervals (E800, E600, E400, E200). At each of these points, grid points were placed at 25' intervals to the south. From here, tapes were stretched between the southern lines to establish remaining grid points at 25' intervals. All grid points, other than the three key points described above, were established with pin flags.

Grid points were established in Field B in a similar manner. The transit was set over N300E200 and N300E400, and grid points were placed at 25' intervals to N450. Tapes were used between the two grid lines to establish points at 25' intervals, from E50 to E400. Field C was gridded in a slightly different manner. As this field was extremely narrow, the E920 line was used as the meridian for the grid, and flags were placed at 25' intervals from this point. The 25' units, then are off-set 5' to the west, relative to those in fields A and B. A second grid was established with the transit at E950 to facilitate grid layout in field C.



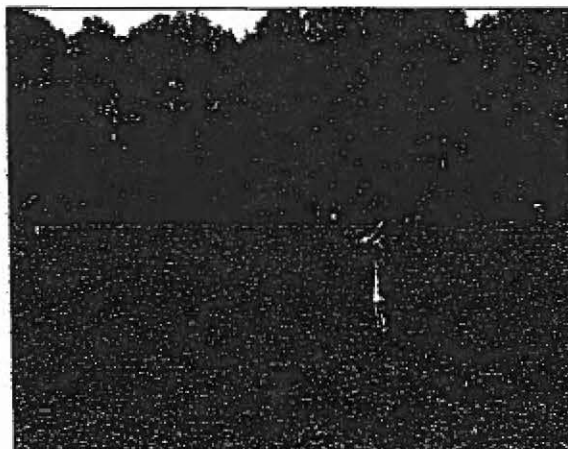
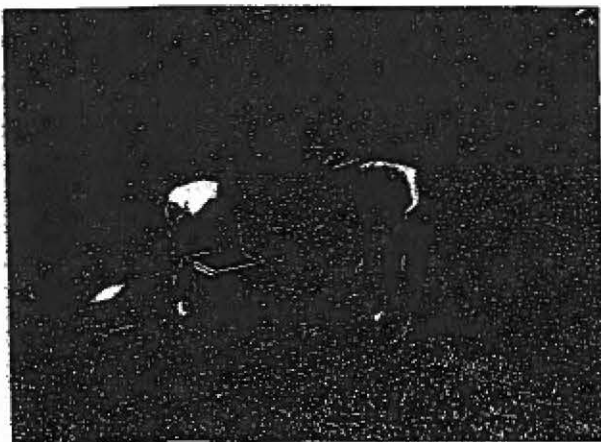
Grid layout in Field B, after plowing; placement of grid points with tapes

Survey was initiated after completion of the site grid. Two methods were used at the site, surface collection of alternating 25' units and shovel testing at staggered 50'

intervals. Survey included collection of 145 surface units and excavation of 128 shovel test units.

Surface collection in Field A began with unit N150E225 and continued to the north and east with alternate collections made. The grid flag at the southwest corner of the unit served as the designated coordinates for that square. Individual crew members were assigned a north/south line of units, and materials were collected by walking in linear fashion back and forth across the unit. All visible cultural materials, including brick, mortar, shell, and other artifacts, noted on the surface were collected, and notations were made of the degree of surface visibility. Placement of surface collection units in Fields B and C were slightly less regular. Adjoining, rather than staggered, units were collection from the N325 and N350 lines in Field B, due to a communication error. The remainder of the field was collected in staggered fashion. Units in Field C were collected in staggered fashion, but the discontinuous shape of the field created an irregular collection pattern.

Survey continued with shovel testing. The crew was divided into teams of three, and every other (25') grid point was tested. Shovel tests measuring 1' by 1' were excavated into culturally sterile soil through $\frac{1}{4}$ " mesh. The grid pin flag served as the southwest corner of the shovel test, and as the coordinates for that test. When field conditions required that the unit be placed some distance from the pin flag, this was noted. All materials, including brick and mortar rubble, were collected. Soil profiles were measured and recorded, and notation was made of soil color, based on the Munsell system.



Survey of field C: shovel testing (left) and surface collection (right)

All of the shovel tests and surface collections were bagged separately, and the bags were labeled by site, method of test, and grid coordinate. Artifact bags were inventoried, and assigned an ordinal Field Specimen Number (FS#) in the field. In the laboratory, each bag or provenience was washed and sorted individually. For the purposes of this document, all bags were examined and materials identified and quantified. As laboratory analysis proceeds, brick and mortar will be weighed and recorded, and artifacts will be identified and catalogued. A catalogue card listing the

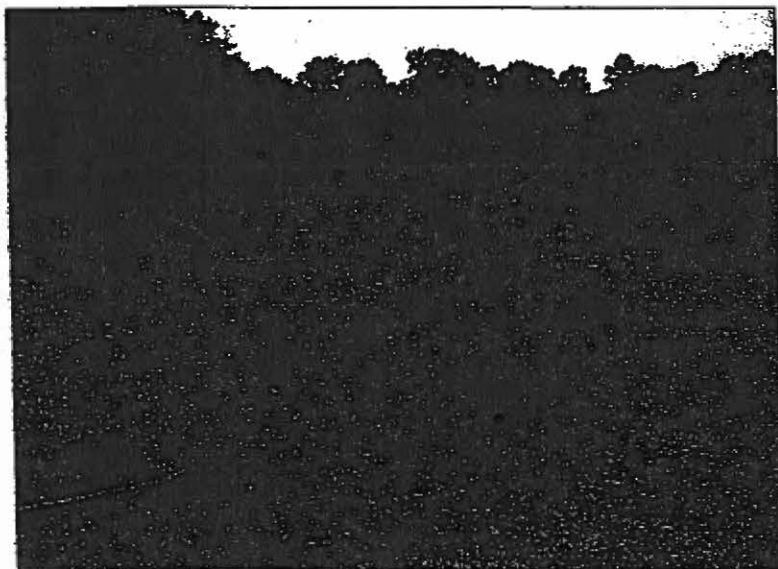
number of identified artifacts will be prepared for each provenience. Density maps of the cultural materials will be prepared.

Results

The field survey yielded a very low density scatter of cultural materials, primarily from the second half of the 19th century up to the present. Field A, roughly 120,000 square feet, yielded 60 artifacts from shovel tests and 56 artifacts from surface collections. These totals do not include brick and mortar, but the recovered amount was negligible, except for a single half-brick recovered from N175E350. This averaged one artifact per 2000 square feet. These results are comparable to those from the Brockington survey of the acre at Folly and Tatum roads; here, 17 artifacts were recovered from the surface (90,000 square feet). The artifacts in Field A were broadly scattered, and there was no evidence of definable concentrations. Materials were slightly more dense at the eastern end of the field, from E800 to E1000; here, positive shovel tests were more common.

Artifacts were slightly more common in Field B, roughly one-third the area of field A (43,750 square feet). Here, 21 artifacts were recovered from shovel tests and 59 from surface collection. This averaged one artifact per 740 square feet. Artifacts were distributed across the survey area, with no concentrations evident.

Field C yielded a slightly different assemblage. This long, narrow area (30,000 square feet) yielded 32 artifacts from shovel tests and 34 artifacts from surface collection, or 1 artifact per 800 square feet. There was a notable concentration of material in the northern 100' of the study area. The shovel test at N675E945 yielded a particularly large assemblage of materials (23 items), including brick, architectural material, oyster shell, ceramics, and bottle glass. Shovel tests at N575E945, N675E920, N700E920, and



N700E945 were also productive, yielding at least 3 artifacts per test. The collection unit at N675E945 was particularly dense, yielding five glass fragments and a concentration of brick and mortar fragments. The majority of these were recovered from a dark soil deposit about 1.0' below surface, likely a feature. All of the observed materials dated to the mid-19th century and later.

The north end of field C, location of a concentration of cultural materials from the mid-19th century. Facing south.

Based on the recovery of these materials, two 5' by 5' test units were excavated in this area. Unit N700E920 was excavated to sterile subsoil, encountered at .7' below surface. The unit contained a moderate amount of cultural material. No features were present. Unit 675E940 was located adjacent to the productive shovel test at N675E945. The overlying plowzone soils were excavated in two levels. Level 1 contained few cultural materials, but artifact density increased in level 2. Excavation to sterile subsoil revealed a large feature, filled with soil similar to the above plowzone. This feature covers the southern half of the unit, and appears to be a large pit, filled with overburden sand. The feature was mapped, but not excavated at this point. It is likely the same feature noted in the adjoining shovel test; here, the dark soil 1' feet below surface produced brick and architectural material.

Summary

Survey of the three fields composing Area C revealed a very low density of cultural materials. The materials were sparse, and evenly distributed across the survey area. Artifact density increased slightly along the eastern margins of the survey area. The exception to this was the northern limits of field C, where a concentration of brick and mortar rubble, and a moderate amount of 19th century material was noted. Excavation of four shovel tests and two 5' test units in this area revealed a moderate concentration of material and a possible refuse pit. The data recovered suggest a structure was located in this vicinity. No structural features were encountered in the test units. It is possible that the structure itself is located outside of the boundaries of the survey area, and that the test units encountered associated refuse. This area (above the N650 line in Field C) should be subject to further testing prior to any ground-disturbing activities.

The remainder of the survey area does not appear to contain cultural deposits worthy of further study. Based on similar results, archaeologists from Brockington concluded that the 1-acre tract at Folly and Tatum roads concluded that the area contained no significant concentrations of cultural materials (Brockington 1997). Archaeological reconnaissance by New South Associates in 1991 produced similar results. They also noted a low-density scatter of mid-19th century artifacts, beginning 200' south of the slave allee, and suggest an association with the temporary freedmen's village occupation at the close of the Civil War (New South Associates 1991). The present survey of field A produced similar results. No further work is recommended for this area. Any construction work, though, should be monitored for late discovery of subsurface features. This particularly applies to Field B and the eastern 200' of Field A.

References

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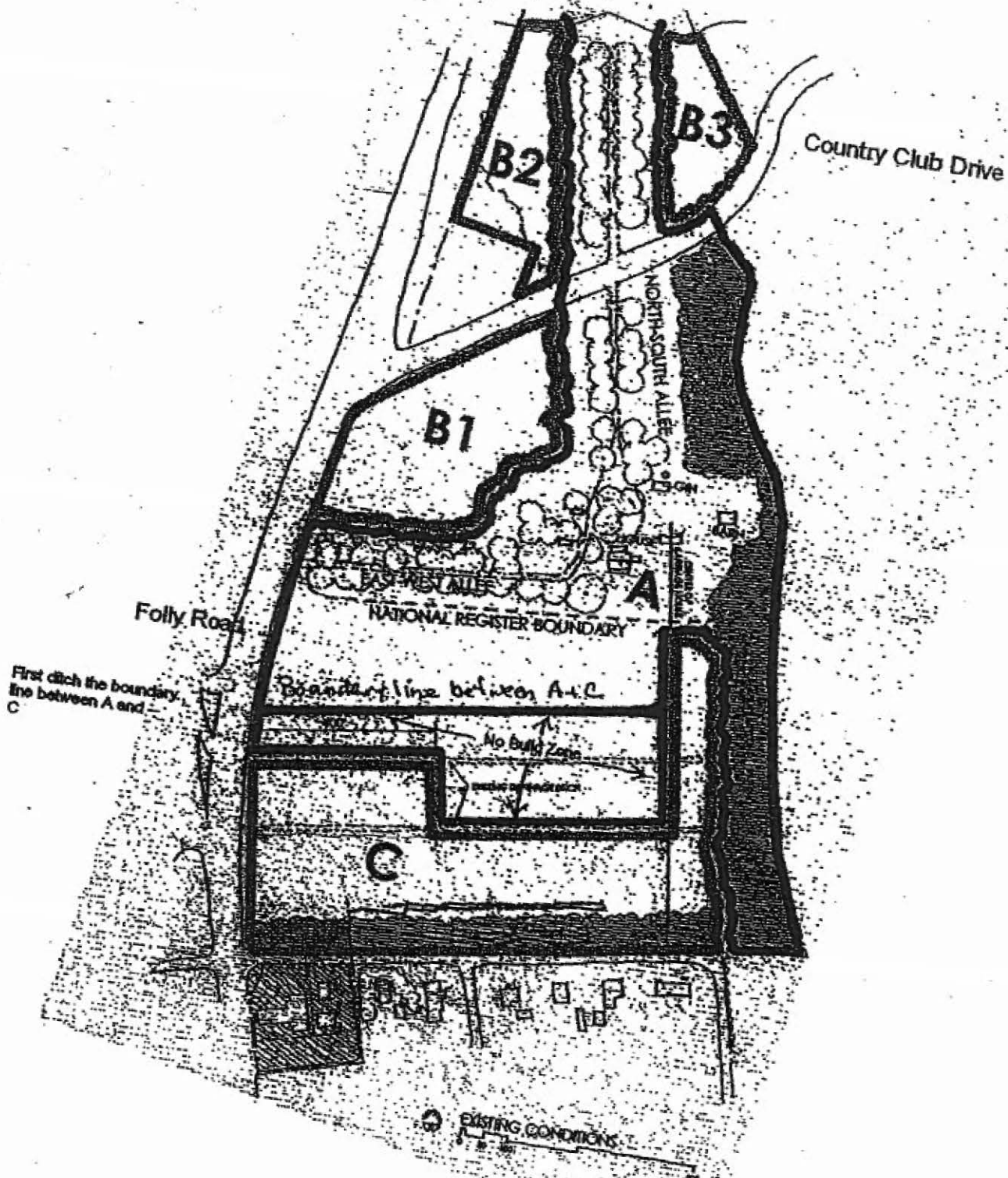
1993 Historic Summary for McLeod Plantation, James Island, SC. Ms. on file, American College for the Building Arts, Charleston, SC.

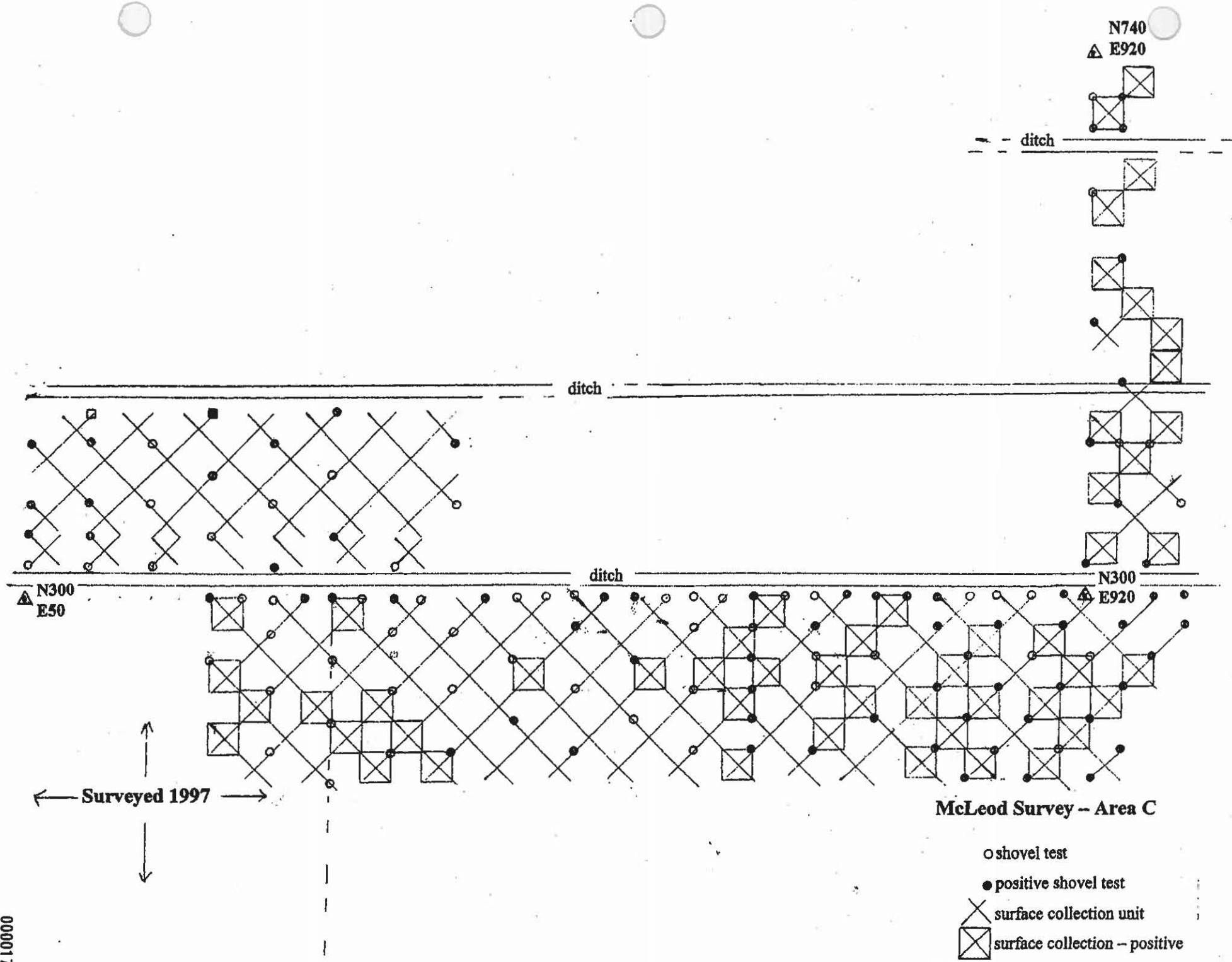
Attachments

1. Overall map of McLeod Plantation, showing survey area (C).
2. Map of survey area, showing shovel tests and surface collection units.
3. List of artifacts recovered (shovel tests and surface collection).

Exhibit B Site Plan

BK P 517PG193





McLeod Survey - Area C

- shovel test
- positive shovel test
- ⊠ surface collection unit
- ⊠ surface collection - positive

McLeod Plantation – Area C
Shovel Test Data

N300E200

1 frag French flint

N300E275

1 Whieldon ware

N300E300

1 brick frag

N300E525

1 creamware

N300E550

1 window glass

1 sewer pipe or roof tile

N300E600

1 whiteware

1 creamware

N300E725

1 annular creamware

1 aqua glass

2 brick fragments

N300E750

1 clear window glass

1 nail head

N300E775

1 annular whiteware

N300E800

1 u.d. iron

N300E900

1 clear glass frag

N300E950

3 brick fragments

N300E975

2 nail fragments

1 brick fragment

N300E1000

1 modern green glass

1 polychrome hand painted pearlware

N275E1000

1 clear glass

1 whiteware

1 large brick fragment

N250E975

2 window glass

1 clear bottle glass

1 green bottle glass

N275E950

1 pearlware

1 green glass

1 brick fragment

N225E950

1 slate frag

N175E950

1 nail frag

1 green glass frag

1 whiteware

1 brick frag

N200E925

1 19th century stoneware

2 clear window glass

1 whiteware

1 bone frag

N275E900

2 whiteware

N225E900

1 french flint frag

N250E875

3 brick frags

1 green glass

N150E875

1 tinted whiteware

1 brick frag

N275E850

1 creamware
1 slate
1 brick frag
1 clear glass

N225E850

1 transfer print whiteware
1 slate

N175E850

1 annular whiteware
1 slate

N250E825

1 chinese porcelain
1 brick fragment

N200E825

1 amethyst glass
1 aqua container glass
1 brick frag

N150E825

3 brick frag

N225E800

1 creamware
1 brick frag

N175E800

2 window glass
1 green glass
1 nail frag

N200E750

2 creamware
3 brick frag

N275E700

1 whiteware

N175E700

1 whiteware

N175E600

1 shell edged pearlware

N275E500

1 clear bottle glass

N200E450

1 green glass
1 small brick

N225E400

1 metal frag

N175E400

1 green glass

N275E250

1 brick frag

N225E250

1 small brick frag

N325E250

2 clear glass
2 brick frags

N350E100

1 annular whiteware
1 creamware
1 undecorated whiteware
2 brick fragments

N350E300

1 undecorated pearlware
1 shell edged pearlware
1 annular whiteware
1 colono/prehistoric
1 green glass
1 clear window glass

N375E50

1 creamware

N375E100

2 brick frags

N400E200

1 whiteware

N425E50

1 clear glass
1 brick frag