

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

DEC 9 1986

date entered

12/11 6 1986

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Cal Smoak Site (38BM4)

and/or common Cal Smoak Site

2. Location

[Redacted location information]

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

[Redacted owner information]

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bamberg County Courthouse

street & number North Main Street

city, town Bamberg state South Carolina 29003

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

South Carolina
title Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Columbia state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Cal Smoak Site (38BM4) exists in the Interior Coastal Plain of South Carolina,

The bottomland flora is typically sweet-gum, tupelo, and water oak. The uplands, which are now cultivated, were probably forested in mixed hardwoods, such as oak and hickory. Archeological investigations have shown that the cultural components are represented by Early, Middle, and Late Archaic, and Early, Middle, and Late Woodland periods. There is no indication of Mississippian periods. The clearing of the property, and subsequent cultivation, has resulted in a six to eight inch disturbance of the surface soils. The subsoils are undisturbed. The excavation of a relatively small area has also had some effect on the site, but more than 98% of the site remains intact and is capable of providing reliable information about the past.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Cal Smoak Site was first recorded by A. Robert Parler and Sammy T. Lee of Orangeburg in 1971. The recording of this site was the result of an areal survey near the confluence of the North and South Edisto Rivers. The survey sought to discover prehistoric archeological sites which would aid in the establishment of a cultural sequence for the South Carolina Interior Coastal Plain (Anderson et al. 1979:3). This site was chosen for intensive study for three reasons: 1) it is an appropriate location well within the Interior Coastal Plain, 2) surface collections had demonstrated a broad temporal range of occupation, and 3) there was the possibility to demonstrate a cultural sequence for the area (Anderson et al. 1979:3).

Culturally diagnostic artifacts, both lithic and ceramic, indicated that the site had been occupied from the Early Archaic period through the Late Woodland period. The Early Archaic is represented by Palmer and Kirk projectile points and unifacial tools. The Middle Archaic component is represented by Guilford and Morrow Mountain points, and the Late Archaic exhibits Savannah River Archaic and Gary-like points. The diagnostic ceramics of the Early Woodland are Thom's Creek and Stalling's Island fiber-tempered pottery. The Middle Woodland ceramics are represented by linear check-stamped, check-stamped, and simple-stamped pottery sherds, and the Late Woodland hosts a variety of fabric-impressed, and cord-marked sherds. There are no identifiable Mississippian components. Several sherds of Zone Incised Punctate were present in the Early Woodland contexts, which is relatively rare in South Carolina. Accordingly, this type has a more southerly occurrence (Anderson et al. 1979:98). Other cultural materials included various lithic scrapers, choppers, cutting and engraving tools, perforated steatite discs, tubular pipe fragments, and structural daub.

As site excavations proceeded (see Archeological Investigations), a significant amount of animal bone was recovered, roughly 32% of which could be tentatively identified. Such species include white-tailed deer, rabbit, snake, turtle, quail, goose, and various unidentifiable small and large birds. As a result of the discovery and identification of these faunal remains, and the discovery of diagnostic tool types, the overall research design of the project was expanded to address matters pertaining to human adaptation to the Interior Coastal Plain, the utilization of local resources, local settlement and subsistence patterns, and intrasite activity patterning.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates NA Builder/Architect NA

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Cal Smoak Site (38BM4) exists in the Interior Coastal Plain of South Carolina,

The bottomland flora is typically sweetgum, tupelo, and water oak. The uplands, which are now cultivated, were probably forested in mixed hardwoods, such as oak and hickory. Archeological investigations have shown that the cultural components are represented by Early, Middle and Late Archaic, and Early, Middle, and Late Woodland periods. There is no indication of Mississippian periods. The site is significant because it is culturally stratified to a depth of about thirty inches, which has the potential for providing chronological information for the region of the Interior Coastal Plain. Additionally, the presence of faunal remains that occur throughout the deposit can add significantly to our knowledge of subsistence activities throughout the various cultural periods.

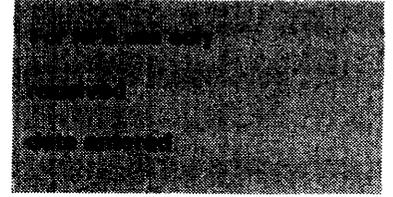
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This specific site is a multi-component prehistoric site that represents periodic occupation beginning with the Early Archaic period (8000 B.C.) and continuing through the Late Woodland (A.D. 1100). The archeological investigations revealed that the early occupations were relatively small, temporary campsites, probably associated with hunting and gathering activities. Later occupations began to demonstrate more permanence, as it is evident from the greater quantity of cultural remains as well as the greater diversity in artifact form and function. Occupation of the site likely occurred for two major reasons. The first, and perhaps the foremost, would have been for the exploitation of the multiple resources available to the area. The variety of micro-environments in the immediate vicinity would have provided an attractive assemblage of subsistence resources for prehistoric populations (see Anderson et al. 1979). Secondly, the ridge on which the site is located is in a convenient location to attract prehistoric peoples travelling along the edge of the Edisto River drainage basin. It is believed that local migration and/or transportation routes would have utilized these elevated ridges rather than the river floodplain (Robert Parler, personal communication).

The significance of the site is twofold. Prior to investigations of the site, the Interior Coastal Plain was often considered relatively barren of prehistoric occupations (Anderson et al. 1979:22). This was the result of a misunderstanding of the ecology of the Coastal Plain region. As investigators became more familiar with the Coastal Plain ecology, specifically, prehistoric and/or climax community ecology, it became apparent that the early view of the area as desolate pine barrens was not accurate. The Cal Smoak Site represented the first major investigation in an Interior Coastal Plain site in South Carolina, and it demonstrated that aboriginal populations had been

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MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP

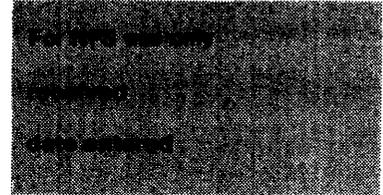
Bowater Southern Paper Company
Calhoun, Tennessee 37309

Catawba Timber Company
P.O. Box T
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

Harold Gene Cooner
James Farrell Cooner
Route 1, Box 248
Bamberg, South Carolina 29003

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The archeological investigations, which consisted of a total of sixteen five-foot test squares located along the eastern portion of the site, discovered cultural material from the surface to a depth of thirty inches. Although no natural or geological stratigraphy could be detected, the temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered in a sequence comparable to chronological sequences established by other investigators in the Southeast (Anderson et al. 1979: 25). Because of fairly intense soil leaching, few positively identifiable features were located. One possible hearth and one probable hearth, one pit and several post molds were identified as well as a number of artifact concentrations. Though sparse, these features did contribute to an overall understanding of intrasite activity patterning.

Archeological Investigations

The earliest archeological investigations of the Cal Smoak site consisted of an intensive surface survey conducted by Robert Parler and Sammy Lee as part of a survey of sites located on or near the Edisto River floodplain. As was noted earlier, the decision to further investigate the site came as a result of this surface survey. During the field seasons from 1971 through 1973 a total of 16 five-foot test units were excavated. These units were opened in three-inch arbitrary levels and taken to an overall depth of 36 inches. Unit fill was screened through a 1/4-inch mesh mechanical sifter. Most of the units were removed by trowelling in order to maintain a higher degree of control over data recovery (see Figures 1, 2, and 3).

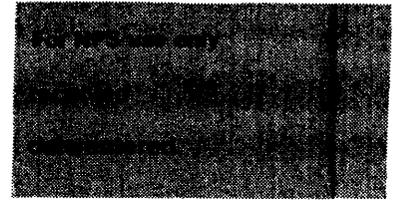
The sixteen test units were located along the eastern portion of the site and designated Area A on Maps A and B (see accompanying maps). The rationale for such placement was twofold: 1) Permission had been easily obtained from the landowner of that section and, 2) that portion of the site was not in cultivation and appeared to offer the greater possibility of containing undisturbed cultural deposits. Mr. Cal Smoak of Branchville, South Carolina, then owner of that portion of the site, stated that he did not believe that particular area had ever been cultivated (Anderson, et al. 1979:27). The absence of plow marks noted during the excavation phase would seem to support that statement. Once excavated, the artifacts were cleaned, stabilized, cataloged and analyzed for final report preparation. The artifacts are currently housed at the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology in Columbia, South Carolina.

Intrusions and Data Limitations

For the most part, the site appears to have suffered only minor damage from destructive elements. The major intrusions have been the result of logging and agricultural activities. A logging road transects the east central section of the site in a southwest to northeast direction. This road is eight to ten feet in width and was excavated to a depth of four to five feet below ground surface (see Map b). The entire western two-thirds of the site is presently and has been (for some time apparently) in cultivation. Because of the nature of the soil in the area, it is doubtful that any deep plowing has occurred. The eastern one-third, the section chosen for subsurface testing, had apparently never been cultivated. Observations made during site excavation indicated that there had been little subsurface damage to this eastern portion of the site. A field

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reconnaissance during the spring of 1984 revealed that this eastern section of the site had been recently totally cleared and planted in pine by the Catawba Newsprint Company. Even this activity had disturbed the site little. Erosion over the entire site has been minimal. No apparent subsurface looting or pot hunting was evident. There has been limited surface collection over the entire site, especially in the western portion. Mr. Robert Parler, who is quite familiar with the area, believes that, with the exception of the construction of the logging road, few disturbances occur below the 6 to 8 inch level over the entire site. The site, then, possesses a great deal of integrity and it is capable of yielding additional information about the past.

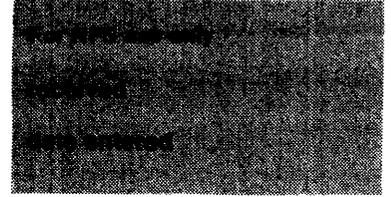
Environment

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physiographic province (Fenneman, 1938). In the vicinity of the site, the coastal plain is relatively flat to gently rolling terrain composed of unconsolidated sediments of Cretaceous or younger age (Colquhoun, 1965). The soils in the immediate vicinity are of Lakeland-Eustis-Droughty and Wahee-Izagora-Leaf association and are described as "... moderately well drained to poorly drained soils on stream terraces" (Crow, Moore, and Dodd, 1966:32). As a result of this comparatively complex interrelationship of topography, soil type and drainage, a number of distinct microenvironmental zones occur in the site area (Anderson, et al, 1979). This microenvironmental diversity accounts for the diversity of floral and faunal assemblages present in the area both in recent and in prehistoric times.

The ridge line upon which the site is located provides a habitat for various oaks, pine, hickory, sassafras, persimmon, sweetgum, blackgum and wiregrass while the Edisto River and Brier Creek floodplain swamps to the north are well suited for hardwood - cypress, gum, oak, cottonwood, white and swamp chestnut oak as well as red and yellow maple (Anderson, et al. 1974:23). At present, the ridge line is either cleared and cultivated or in fallow field stages with recently planted pine along the eastern portion of the site. The faunal assemblage common to the area would include deer, raccoon, opossum, bobcat, rabbit, squirrel, turkey, dove, and various wild geese and ducks. Such diversity in the floral and faunal assemblages would be very attractive to prehistoric populations.

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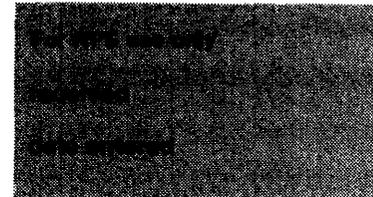
utilizing the area and its resources for nearly ten thousand years. The results of the small archeological investigation also showed that the occupation and its activities were much more intense than had been recognized.

The site exhibits substantial depth. Cultural material was recovered from the surface to a depth of about thirty inches. Furthermore, temporally diagnostic artifacts exhibit a logical stratigraphic sequence. As a result, the site represents the first site in the Interior Coastal Plain to contribute to our knowledge of sequential occupation and to the partial establishment of a regional cultural chronology (Anderson et al. 1979).

Surface collections from the site have indicated that several temporally unrecognizable point types have been found. These points have also been noted in other surface collections in the general region. Although the excavations were unable to discover these types in a stratigraphic context, they probably exist at other locations in an undisturbed, stratified context. The site, therefore, has yielded information about the past, and it is likely to yield additional information significant to this specific region.

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Crow, Eron E., E. C. Moore and O. L. Dodd

1966 Soil Survey of Bamberg County, South Carolina. U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Series 1962, No. 10

Fenneman, N. H.

1938 Physiography of the Eastern United States, New York: McGraw-Hill