

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fish Haul Archaeological Site

other names/site number Mitchelville; 38BU805

2. Location

street & number

not for publication
 vicinity

city, town Hilton Head Island

state South Carolina code SC county Beaufort code 013 zip code 29928

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>9</u> buildings
	<u> </u> sites
	<u> </u> structures
	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>9</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Mary W. Edmonds 5/10/88
Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, SC Dept of Archives & History

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.

Stelmasz Byun 6-30-88

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - camp

Domestic - single dwellings

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Landscape - forest

Landscape - unoccupied land

Domestic - single dwelling

Commerce/Trade - business

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Fish Haul Archaeological Site (38BU805) is a multicomponent site [redacted] Island, in Beaufort County, South Carolina. The island (located between Port Royal South to the north and Daufuskie Island to the South) has a Pleistocene core with a Holocene beach ridge fringe. A maritime forest community, modified by extensive development, is present on the island. The prehistoric Stallings Phase component of the site, recognized by fiber-tempered pottery, represents a series of seasonal encampments [redacted]

[redacted] Archaeological investigations suggest that the upland hardwood and estuarine ecosystems during the Stallings Phase (ca. 1800 - 1300 B.C.) were much as they are today, although hickory trees may have been more common. It is the posited abundance of the hickory nut masts that is believed to have attracted the aboriginal inhabitants. The historic Mitchelville component, dating from A.D. 1862 to the 1880s, represents a relatively intact portion of a freeman's village established by the Union army shortly after the fall of Hilton Head Island in 1861. By the nineteenth century, the Fish Haul site area had been cleared of vegetation and converted into valuable sea island cotton agricultural land. It was the site's [redacted]

[redacted] which probably caused it to be a prime area for the creation of an experiment in black self-rule. Although portions of the site continued to be cultivated into the early twentieth century, the site is today in either second growth succession or in mixed hardwoods (Figure 1). While development has begun to take place [redacted]

[redacted] the Fish Haul site is intact and capable of providing significant archaeological data. Based on previous archaeological studies (Trinkley 1986), [redacted] tract represents the bulk of the prehistoric remains and the only known undisturbed area of the historic freedman's village. Archaeological investigations have revealed in situ prehistoric features and a Stallings house pattern; the Mitchelville component has yielded in situ remains of at least three structures and evidence of several more.

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8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology - Prehistoric

Archaeology - Historic - nonaboriginal

Ethnic Heritage - Black

Period of Significance

1900 - 1200 B.C.

1862 - 1880 A.D.

Significant Dates

N/A

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Stallings Phase

Black Freedmen

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Fish Haul Archaeological Site is significant because it represents intact archaeological remains with a demonstrated high degree of integrity and the capability of yielding information on archaeological manifestations about which there is little extant data. Archaeological investigations conducted to date, including an extensive auger test survey and block excavations, have revealed few indications of site disturbance, excellent intra-site patterning (see Figures 2-5), excellent feature preservation, clear separation of cultural components, good faunal and floral preservation, a wide range of artifacts from both components, and the presence of structural remains from both components. The archaeological and historical investigations conducted at the site by the Chicora Foundation in 1986 also demonstrated that the recovered remains could be excavated and interpreted within the context of current methods. These preliminary investigations also indicated that both the prehistoric and historic components of the site represented significant property types. The prehistoric component represents a non-shell midden Stallings phase site which was re-occupied a numerous times by small groups attracted to the site in the fall, primarily for the hickory nut mast. In the past, this type of Stallings phase site has been ignored in favor of research at large shell midden sites, where site preservation was thought to be better. This approach, however, has ignored an important aspect of the total seasonal round of Stallings people and has ignored an important site type capable of yielding significant information on the lifeways of the Stallings Indians. As such, the site can contribute to a better understanding of the archaeology of coastal South Carolina and Georgia. The historic component represents a freedmen's village, known as Mitchelville, which was occupied during the transition between slavery and

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

NOTE: Those citations marked with * are major bibliographic references; others are general references cited in the preceding discussions.

*Adams, William H.
1985

The Kings Bay Project: Excavation of the Kings Bay Site (9CAM171A) and the Devils Walkingstick Site (9CAM177). In Aboriginal Subsistence and Settlement Archaeology of the Kings Bay Locality, vol. 1, edited by William H. Adams, pp. 1-16. Reports of Investigations 1. Department of Anthropology, University of Florida, Gainesville.

See continuation sheet

- Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Chicora Foundation, Inc.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property _____

UTM References

A _____
 Zone Easting Northing

C _____

B _____
 Zone Easting Northing

D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Trinklev, President

organization Chicora Foundation, Inc. date December 28, 1987

street & number P.O. Box 8664 telephone 803-783-4645

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29202

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STALLINGS COMPONENT

The prehistoric component of the Fish Haul site represents a small, non-shell midden, Stallings occupation. The site was briefly examined in 1982 and again in 1986, and found to contain a significant prehistoric occupation up to 1.5 feet in depth, sealed below about 1.0 foot of recent soil. These investigations (Trinkley and Zierden 1983; Trinkley 1986), revealed preserved features, with shell representing a sparse constituent of the fill. The discovery of such a well-preserved non-shell midden Stallings site, sealed from plowing and other historic period disturbances, is an unusual event.

The 1986 research at the site, conducted by Chicora Foundation, was instituted, first, by a program of systematic 8-inch auger tests [REDACTED] 50 foot intervals. This resulted in a 0.05% sampling fraction and allowed computer generation of artifact density maps (Figures 2-5). The auger tests revealed that the "site" actually consisted of a number of discrete occupation loci. This pattern is suggestive of multiple episodes of short-term occupation in the same general location, with prehistoric peoples being attracted to the location by a concentrated resource. The examination of floral and faunal remains from the site suggests that it was the abundance of the hickory nut mast in the site area that was attractive to the prehistoric occupants. Shellfish, fish, and mammals were largely supplemental to the diet (Trinkley 1986).

The second phase of work, based largely on the computer generated mapping, involved the opening of several block excavations in order to examine areas of dense artifact concentrations (Figure 7). The block excavations exposed 1700 square feet of Stallings occupation zones and an additional 540 square feet of light, mixed prehistoric occupation. The work further supported early findings that the Stallings zone was stratigraphically below the A horizon and protected from recent disturbances.

The Stallings material culture is represented by fiber-tempered pottery, bifaces, flakes, shell ornaments, pottery hones, and baked clay balls (possibly used in cooking). The work identified 12 features (not including post holes) which produced faunal, ethnobotanical, and shell samples. A single Stallings

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phase structure was also identified during these studies. Revealed by a series of post holes in a "D"-shaped pattern, this small "hut" suggests an impermanent structure oriented toward the marsh breeze. The structure measured about 14 by 10 feet and was constructed of pine saplings about 0.6 foot in diameter (Figure 7).

A series of three highly reliable radiocarbon dates (on charcoal) have been obtained from the site: 1770 \pm 90 B.C., 1730 \pm 60 B.C., and 1330 \pm 80 B.C. All of these fall within previously established temporal boundaries for the Stallings phase (see DePratter 1979:112-115; Williams 1968:316, 320-321). Previous research at Stallings sites has largely emphasized the more obvious shell middens and rings of the Savannah River drainage and the Georgia coast (Caldwell 1952; DePratter 1979; Williams 1968). Stallings sites that lack shell midden accumulations have been suggested to represent either limited occupation in marginal areas (DePratter 1979:37) or, a limited segment of a diversified settlement system (Stoltman 1972:51). Prior to the research conducted at the Fish Haul site, no investigations had been conducted at small Stallings phase sites in South Carolina.

MITCHELVILLE COMPONENT

The historic component of the Fish Haul site represents a relatively intact portion of the Mitchelville community, established by the Union army for contraband blacks. Mitchelville was developed as an actual town, with neatly arranged streets, 1/4-acre lots, a town supervisor and councilmen elected by the black residents, laws regulating sanitation and community behavior, and a compulsory education law -- perhaps the first in the South (Trinkley 1986:81-83; see also Coffin 1866:231-232; National Archives, RG 105, Monthly Report of Lands; Nordhoff 1863:11; Reid 1866:89-91).

The site was built by the end of 1862 and prospered as a result of the wage labor provided by the Union army facilities on Hilton Head. After the 1867 abandonment of Hilton Head by the federal government, there is evidence that the village continued relatively unaltered and intact into the early 1870s. Sometime in the early 1880s, Mitchelville ceased being a true village and became a small, kinship based community (Trinkley 1986:95-108). This community apparently continued into the early twentieth century, based on the nucleated settlement observed on the 1920

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Hilton Head topographic map (Figure 11). Mitchelville is unique in South Carolina archaeology as it represents the only known freedmen's village (distinct from government sponsored contraband camps or postbellum established squatter towns). In addition, there has been only one other archaeological study of a freedmen site in the Southeast -- that by Singleton on Colonel's Island on the Georgia coast (Singleton 1985).

Archaeological investigations by Chicora Foundation at Mitchelville began in 1986 with a program of systematic 8-inch auger tests over the 15 acre tract at 50 foot intervals. The resulting computer generated artifact density maps (Figures 2-5) clearly revealed areas of dense brick and historic artifact scatters which appear to form a linear pattern across the site. This pattern is correlated with the known street patterns of Mitchelville and the concentrations are the structures adjacent to the street. The second phase of the work, based largely on the computer generated mapping, involved the opening of several block excavations in order to examine areas of suspected structural remains. At least four structures were examined, one intensively by the excavation of 950 square feet. Over 2000 square feet in different areas of the Mitchelville village were investigated during these studies (Trinkley 1986).

The testing program revealed that the Mitchelville remains were found within the upper foot of the site, overlaying the aboriginal Stallings zone. In addition, subsurface features, such as trash filled pits, post holes, and architectural remains, were identified. In fact, at least one of the brick features, a chimney footing, was found intact extending upwards into the A horizon. Little evidence of past disturbance to the site could be detected -- there was no evidence of cultivation or site vandalism, and recent development construction activities had impacted only a small area of the site.

The archaeological study of the site has yielded a large quantity of remains (over 25,000 artifacts) which provide a detailed, yet preliminary, reconstruction of the freedmen's lifestyle. An examination of the artifact patterns exhibited by Mitchelville reveals that not only were a number of high status goods incorporated in the archaeological record, but that the freedmen owned possessions in excess of those typical of slavery. It is clear that blacks were prospering (relatively speaking) and were beginning to change their economic position. The evidence from Mitchelville also suggests the possibility of pattern differences between structures, which may reflect differing

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status or simply economic well-being of the occupants. The status of individuals, or their wealth, may also be viewed using Miller's (1980) classification of nineteenth century ceramics. This technique reveals consistently inexpensive plate and bowl motifs, although cups and saucers (teaware) have a higher economic scale. In spite of this, the ceramics suggest that food preparation and serving habits were beginning to change among the freedmen.

The mean historic date for the village of Mitchelville is 1871, using a beginning date of 1862 and a terminal date of 1880. Of course, some structures which continued to be occupied until about 1920 would yield a mean historic date of 1891. The archaeological remains at Mitchelville, using South's (1977) mean ceramic dating scheme, reveal dates ranging from 1836.3 to 1869.3 (Trinkley 1986:227, 259-261). The very early date was obtained from a site area determined to be the village dump, which received debris until 1867. As a consequence, this collection includes a large quantity of ceramics removed from plantation structures and is thought to represent disposal of high status curated ceramics. The structures reveal dates closer to the mean historic date.

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freedom by Sea Island blacks. There have been investigations at only one other freedmen site in the Sea Islands and it is more representative of a squatter camp than a planned village. The Fish Haul site represents the only known freedmen village established by occupying Union troops in South Carolina. This site, because it represents the transition of black culture from one condition to another, is important on a national level. The study of the freedmen's village of Mitchelville provides clear roots for the black community on the Sea Islands, linking the abstract "Port Royal Experiment" described by Willie Lee Rose (1964) to the land established by the federal government in 1862 as an experiment in self-government and democracy, and to the actual, physical remains of the village. The nature of the "Port Royal Experiment" and its effects on the black community can be better studied nowhere else than on Hilton Head Island at Mitchelville.

HISTORIC CONTEXTStallings Component

In spite of considerable Early Woodland research conducted in South Carolina over the past 15 years, the Stallings phase has not been the subject of any major study since Stoltman's 1964 work at Groton Plantation on the Savannah River was published in 1974 (Stoltman 1974). Most of our data, and conclusions, on the fiber-tempered Stallings occupation come from work in Georgia, including the pioneering research of Waring (Williams 1968) during the WPA era and the more recent re-interpretations of DePratter (e.g., DePratter 1979) and Adams (1985).

The Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of the perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of the terminology, the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) and Thom's Creek (sand-tempered or non-tempered) series pottery.

The Stallings phase is the harbinger of the more sedentary lifestyle to come in the Early Woodland Thom's Creek phase. But, like the Thom's Creek phase, Stallings is often characterized by large shell middens or rings, abundant pottery with shell or reed

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punctations, soapstone disks, baked clay objects, intricately worked bone items, and worked whelk tools. In fact, the material culture of the two phases -- Stallings and Thom's Creek -- is so similar that often only the use of abundant fiber tempering in the Stallings pottery may be used to distinguish the two from one another. Even the radiocarbon dates for both cultural manifestations cluster together in the early half of the first millennium B.C.

Previous research on Stallings sites has largely emphasized the more obvious shell middens and rings of the Savannah River drainage and the Georgia coast (see, for example, Williams 1968). The elaborate Savannah River drainage sites such as Stallings Island, Fennel Hill, Rabbit Mount, and Bilbo, are all characterized by large quantities of either freshwater mussel or tidal oysters, large quantities of artifacts, and abundant features. These middens, however, represent only one aspect of the Stallings settlement system. Stallings sites which lack shell midden accumulations, such as the Fish Haul site, have been suggested on one hand to represent limited occupation in marginal areas (DePratter 1979:37) or, on the other hand, to represent a limited segment of a diversified settlement system (Stoltman 1972:51). Prior to the work by Chicora Foundation at the Fish Haul site, no research had been conducted at small Stallings phase coastal sites in South Carolina. This research revealed that these small sites contain very significant anthropological data. The excavations revealed the presence of abundant pottery, one of the largest lithic assemblages identified at a coastal site, extensive and well preserved features, and even the presence of a Stallings phase structure.

Further, much of the previous research, even at large shell middens, has been conducted prior to the recognition that fine screening is essential for the collection of a complete spectrum of floral and faunal remains. Only recently has research suggested that even at large shell midden sites was the subsistence economy based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish. Quitmyer, based on research at Georgia fiber-tempered sites, has suggested that there was "a specialized economy heavily dependent on marine resources" (Quitmyer 1985:90). The impact of plant foods on the diet, however, has received little attention. The Fish Haul site represents one of the first Stallings phase sites at which ethnobotanical research was thoroughly integrated. That research revealed plant foods,

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particularly hickory nuts, to have been a significant dietary source and this may explain the presence of the seasonal return by the Stallings inhabitants to the Coggins Creek area.

Mitchelville Component

In 1964 Willie Lee Rose wrote the historical study entitled, *Rehearsal for Reconstruction: The Port Royal Experiment*. In the Introduction to that study, C. Vann Woodward commented that the events on South Carolina's Sea Island from 1861 to about 1868 offered "a rare opportunity to review the vast spectacle [of Reconstruction] in miniature and see it in its germinal phase" (Woodward in Rose 1964:xi). Rose briefly reviewed the politics, philosophy, and personalities behind Southern Secessionism, the fall of the Sea Islands, and then carefully recounted the course of military and civilian actions that either intentionally or unintentionally affected the black population of the area.

While many historians (e.g., Blassingame 1979; Fogel and Engerman 1974; Genovese 1972; Gutman 1975; Stamp 1956) have studied slavery, fewer have examined the relationship between slavery and emancipation. Gutman notes that,

[e]mancipation altered the societal circumstances in which southern blacks, former slaves, lived. But emancipation did not radically transform the culture of the enslaved. It is therefore possible to examine the behavior of the recently emancipated and learn about the beliefs and values they held during enslavement. From this evidence we can also learn much about the adaptive capacities of enslaved Afro-Americans (Gutman 1981:140).

The same situation is found in archaeological literature. While there are abundant studies of slave archaeology (e.g., Ascher and Fairbanks 1971; Drucker and Anthony 1979; Fairbanks 1972, 1984; Orser 1984; Otto 1984; Singleton 1980; Wheaton et al. 1983), the study of postbellum blacks is in its formative stage and freedmen archaeology is characterized by the single study on Colonel's Island, Georgia by Singleton (1978, 1985). Obviously, as suggested to historians by Gutman, archaeologists can profitably study black culture both during slavery and immediately after emancipation to better understand the entire nature of Afro-American adaptive responses. In addition, it is essential for archaeologists to be able to study sites in which

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slave and free black assemblages are clearly discernable; otherwise it is impossible to examine the synchronic changes inherent in the change.

The housing of blacks pouring onto Hilton Head Island after the island's fall to Union forces on November 7, 1861, was a problem from the very beginning and two approaches were eventually used by the federal authorities. The first was to establish "camps" for the blacks, such as those at Beaufort, Hilton Head, Bay Point, and Otter Island, which were built by and under the control of the Quartermaster's Department (Moore 1866:316). These camps were holding areas used by the government until permanent locations and jobs could be found for the contrabands.

By October 1862 these arrangements on Hilton Head had proven unsatisfactory and a second approach to the housing of contrabands was being developed. One newspaper article describes the situation,

[t]he present negro quarters - a long row of partitions into which are crowded young and old, male and female, without respect either to quality or quantity, such has thus far been the necessity - having become a sort of Five Points, half stye, half brothel, the Major-General [O.M. Mitchel] has ordered to be removed outside [the encampments], and accordingly piece of ground has been selected near the Drayton Plantation, about two miles off, for a negro village. The negroes are to be made to build their own houses, and it is thought to be high time they should begin to learn what freedom means by experience of self-dependence, they are to be left as much as possible to themselves (New York Times, October 8, 1862, p. 1).

This is one of the earliest accounts of the founding of what came to be known as Mitchelville, in honor of its designer, General O.M. Mitchel. This "experiment in citizenship" was radically different from other "camps" established by the Union army and from other squatter villages that sprang up on and around old plantation slave rows. Mitchelville was developed as an actual town, with streets and street names, lot divisions, a town government, and various laws. There are detailed maps of Mitchelville (Figures 8 and 9) and a series of photographs

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(Figure 10).

There are some detailed accounts of daily activities in Mitchelville between 1862 and 1867. Of particular interest are the accounts of commercial activity. During this period, there is clear evidence that the blacks became acquainted with a consumer economy as stores and shops were established. In addition, public buildings, such as churches were also established. After 1867 there is evidence that the town continued relatively unaltered and intact into the early 1870s. The village gradually was transformed into an agrarian community and then, finally, into a kin-based community. As the political climate of South Carolina changed and there were increasing attacks upon the political and legal rights of the black community, which allowed the effective nullification of the Fifteenth Amendment, the black community, typified by Mitchelville, drew inward upon itself. Rose notes that Sea Island blacks became increasingly self-governing with the Baptist Church being the greatest force in their lives. While the "secular law was the 'unjust' law; the church law was the 'just' law" (Rose 1964:407). The history of Mitchelville supports this historical judgement; while the right to vote could be taken away, the Mitchelville descendants continued to hold on to their land and their community was centered around a black church.

The historical accounts of Mitchelville are useful not only because they provide an interesting, if not altogether clear view of the lifestyle of freedmen, but also because they offer an opportunity to more clearly focus the archaeological study of the black freedmen. Based on the historical record it is possible to formulate certain archaeological expectations which may serve as topics for further study.

SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND FURTHER RESEARCH**Stallings Component**

A series of three broad research topics may be proposed for the prehistoric Stallings component of the Fish Haul site, including culture history, settlement, and subsistence. The research conducted at the site to date has exposed 1700 square feet of primarily Stallings occupation zones and an additional 540 square feet of light, mixed prehistoric remains. The Stallings phase is represented by a large collection of material

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culture remains, the presence of documented features (see Figures 12 and 13) which produced floral and faunal remains, a Stallings structure, and a series of highly reliable radiocarbon dates.

While the Stallings assemblage from the site does not contain all of the various artifact types found at larger Stallings sites, some artifacts, such as bifaces, have been recovered in greater abundance at Fish Haul than at other coastal sites. These lithic specimens suggest that further, detailed typological, morphological, and wear studies may reveal significant data concerning Stallings phase lithic technology. The collection is surprisingly homogeneous and is particularly useful for studying the late stages in tool life cycles. The collection is dominated by a particular stone -- Allendale chert and the flakes reflect almost exclusive resharpening of tools brought on-site in a finished condition. The lithic assemblage also provides evidence of mobility and exchange or trade. This assemblage adds to our understanding of the formation of small sites, which in this case represents a series of short-term, hunter-gatherer residential occupations. Also of considerable typological and methodological significance is the radiographic evidence obtained from the Fish Haul pottery collections that a coiling technique was used by the Stallings phase potters. The transition from modeling to coiling probably occurred late in the Stallings phase and the presence of this technique at a site dating from 1800 to 1300 B.C. is entirely reasonable, although no similar studies have been previously conducted.

The settlement pattern observed at Fish Haul is suggestive of multiple episodes of short-term occupation in the same general location, with the prehistoric peoples being attracted to the location by some concentrated resource. This impression of mobile settlement system is supported by the material culture. The pottery collection fails to evidence firing defects, which are typical of on-site pottery production. The lithic collection, like that of the pottery, suggests manufacture elsewhere, with the bifaces brought to the site in finished form. Once at the site, the projectile points were subjected to resharpening and eventual discard. The source for the bulk of the lithics is in the vicinity of Allendale County, South Carolina, about 80 miles to the northwest. Few lithic artifact types are present, which suggests that a limited range of activities requiring stone tools took place on the site.

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The Stallings phase structure found during these studies suggests an impermanent structure, similar to Stoltman's (1974:51-54) Stallings phase lean-to at Rabbit Mount or the Deptford phase structure reported by Milanich (1971:62-65) from Cumberland Island, Georgia.

Fish Haul provides evidence of a wide range of shellfish, faunal, and ethnobotanical remains. The faunal remains reveal that while a few species account for the greater amount of meat, the Stallings people had a diffuse pattern of procurement that took a number of different vertebrate species, such as deer, racoon, rabbit, squirrel, wild turkey, duck, turtles, and fish. In terms of biomass contribution, however, shellfish was the major faunal food supply.

The ethnobotanical remains suggest that one food source -- hickory nuts -- was heavily exploited and may have been the attractive resource at Fish Haul. Nutshell fragments were common in features and even in excavation units. Nutshell fragments account for up to 23% of the weight of flotation samples from features and up to 49% of the weight of handpicked samples from the unit excavations. This ethnobotanical analysis suggests a focal economy.

Merging these data into one synthesis of Stallings subsistence at Fish Haul is difficult and open to differing interpretations. What appears to be evidenced is a predominance of shellfish and hickory nuts, in addition to a significant number of fish. Higher vertebrates are not abundant, although deer did provide a notable contribution to the diet. The perceived diet is well balanced, with the vertebrates and hickory nuts high in protein and the oyster and other shellfish high in carbohydrates. This combination also provides a number of significant vitamins and minerals.

The seasonality of the Stallings settlements thus far studied at Fish Haul is not difficult to determine. While the faunal remains are not particularly useful, several species (such as the loon and ducks) weakly suggest a fall-winter occupation. The ethnobotanical remains are more useful, as all clearly indicate a late fall through winter period of dispersal. Samples of oyster shell from two features suggest fall to early winter gathering, based on the periodic growth fabrics in the ligaments and the relative width of the mid-cardinal area. Samples of clam

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shells from four features were analyzed by exposing the internal sequence of annual growth increments. Each sample indicated a probable collection month of December. Consequently, the site may represent a segment of a definite seasonal round, or it may reflect simply the short-term occupation by highly mobile bands. Evidence clearly reveals repeated site visits by small groups, although it is not possible to determine if all of these visits were during the same season. It seems likely that Fish Haul was repeatedly occupied because of its proximity to abundant hickories and to the estuarine resources of shellfish and fish.

The Fish Haul site has demonstrated its ability to contribute data to a variety of significant questions surrounding the material culture, settlement, and subsistence of the Stallings phase. Larger samples of pottery, lithics, baked clay objects, and subsistence data will enable the studies tentatively begun by Trinkley (1986) to be continued and refined. As has been emphasized in these discussions, Fish Haul represents a uniquely well preserved site with demonstrated research potential. No similar site has been identified in the literature and no similar work has been conducted at any Stallings site on the South Carolina coast.

Mitchelville Component

Mitchelville may be the most significant Afro-American archaeological site in South Carolina. Perhaps the most significant research surrounding the Mitchelville settlement involves the continued definition and refinement of our knowledge concerning the lifeways of the freedman. It is particularly important to base our conclusions on data obtained from sites where there is a clear division between slave and nonslave. A blurring of the two will result in a blurring of the archaeological definition of slave versus nonslave material culture. The archaeological study of the Mitchelville component at the Fish Haul site has yielded over 25,000 artifacts that provide a detailed, yet preliminary reconstruction of the freedmen's lifestyle. At least four structures were examined, one intensively (Figure 14), and over 2000 square feet of the Mitchelville site were examined.

Although occupation into the twentieth century was possible, based on the historical accounts, the 1986 work by Chicora Foundation found almost no evidence of occupation past about

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1890. This indicates that none of the structures thus far investigated was occupied into the period of the kin-based community. The information collected from the preliminary study has direct applicability to the period from about 1862 to the 1880s. This is supported by the mean ceramic dates and the combined dating of other artifacts, such as glass, ceramic maker's marks, and so forth.

There is evidence of the freedmen's introduction to a consumer economy. Luxury goods, or remains of these goods, such as tin cans (representing processed, packaged, convenience foods), calico buttons, brass lamps, tumblers, and abundant ceramics, were found. The artifact patterns from Mitchelville demonstrate that the freedmen possessed more furniture than typical for slaves or yeoman farmers, clothing items at the uppermost range of the slaves and yeoman farmers, more personal items than antebellum slaves (and possibly as many as are found at antebellum higher status sites), and many more activity items than typical of the antebellum slaves. Miller's (1980) economic scale, however, does not reveal any evidence of particular wealth based on ceramics, which are relatively plain and simple. While the freedmen had more possessions than they had as slaves, the possessions were relatively inexpensive.

Otto (1984:171-175), based on excavations at a number of antebellum slave and free black sites, has suggested a tentative pattern of "Afro-American archaeological visibility." This pattern includes ceramics which are primarily banded, edge or undecorated wares, and which are primarily serving bowls. The abundance of these motifs is explained by relative costs and the emphasis on bowl forms is explained by a reliance on one-pot, slow-simmer meals. The pattern also includes abundant evidence of medicine bottles which contained calomel and blue, faceted beads.

These "artifactual characteristics" are not uniformly present at Mitchelville. Although plain pearlwares and whitewares dominate the ceramic collection, banded styles account for only 5% of the Mitchelville collection and transfer printed ceramics, typically suggestive of a high status occupation, account for nearly 16% of the total. There is clearly a shift away from the banded or annual motifs -- perhaps part of the freedmen's effort to distance themselves from the plantation experience (similar to their rejection of "negro cloth" and the

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hesitancy to plant cotton). Alternatively, this may represent an attempt to emulate plantation whites by adopting the ceramics that, as slaves, they were not allowed to use. Likewise, bowl forms, which account for 41 to 53% of the tableware forms at other free black sites, account for only 34% of the tablewares at Mitchelville. Since "form follows function," this suggests that the dietary pattern of the Mitchelville freedmen was different from that typical of slaves and antebellum free blacks. Medicine vials are uncommon at Mitchelville. While freedom may have promoted better living and working conditions, and hence less need for medicine, it seems as likely that other purchases were given a higher priority. Only the presence of blue, faceted beads clearly continues into the postbellum and may evidence elaboration to include a variety of ornamental features (such as the use of parasols, bracelets, and rings). Personal decoration, like ceramics, may be an effort among the freedmen to imitate the master class, or it may represent a significant African tradition.

The archaeological study also provides evidence of the use of Colono ware into the mid-nineteenth century, although like banded or annular wares, the slave-made Colono wares are uncommon at Mitchelville, either because the freedmen desired to distance themselves from the plantation experience of "slave pottery," or because European and American manufactured ceramics were increasingly within their economic reach. The making of Sea Island rush baskets by the Mitchelville blacks is suggested by the recovery of a number of utensil handle fragments, which were probably used as "nail-bones" or awls in the production of the baskets. This basketmaking tradition developed from native African crafts during the antebellum period and was fostered as a means of self-support during the postbellum period (Rosengarten 1986:14-25; Vlach 1978).

The faunal remains from Mitchelville provide significant data on the foodways of the freedmen. A few species, primarily the cow and pig, contributed the greatest portion of the biomass. Fish and turtles made notable, and consistent, contributions to the diet, as suggested by the historical record. Wild mammals appear insignificant in the overall diet. Likewise, shellfish were collected in the late fall, but probably made a minor contribution to the diet. While pork was homegrown and slaughtered, beef was largely obtained fresh, probably as military rations. Comparing the data from Mitchelville to

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Reitz's (1986) Urban and Rural Patterns, Mitchelville falls midway between the two, except that commensals suggest an urban environment. In other words, Mitchelville was urban, but relatively poor when compared to other urban sites and therefore somewhat more reliant on wild foods. These data, however, do not address the contribution of either plant foods or prepared food purchased in bulk or in cans from local stores. The ethnobotanical record is very sparse, possibly because of food preparation and disposal practices, although no rear yard midden areas were explored during this initial study. The historic accounts provide some information on other food sources, which emphasize grains such as rice and hominy.

The present work has only begun to examine the community patterns, social organization, and group dynamics of Mitchelville. Although Geismar (1982) has demonstrated the applicability of archaeology to the study of these topics, the extensive historical documentation necessary for such work was not immediately available at Mitchelville. The recent historical investigations, however, have suggested that there might have been one or two individuals at Mitchelville who provided a certain cohesiveness to the community and that the eventual disintegration of the kin-based community may be related to the death of these individuals or their loss of social status.

The Mitchelville site is unique in South Carolina archaeology. While the site was originally much larger than the Fish Haul tract, it has been largely developed so that only in this one area is it still undeveloped and largely unaffected by agriculture and vandalism. Our knowledge of Mitchelville must, of necessity, come from the Fish Haul site.

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