

(X) NOT FOR PUBLICATION

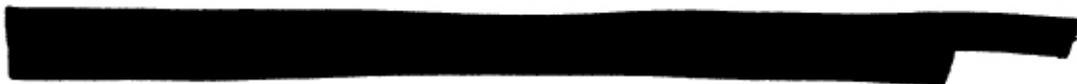
SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: Early Ironworks of Northwestern
South Carolina

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Nesbitt's Limestone Quarry (38CK69)

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: same

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Limestone College Limestone Quarry



CLASSIFICATION: site

OWNER:



DESCRIPTION

Nesbitt's or the Gaffney Limestone Quarry, located in a cleared area
[redacted] is the largest body of
limestone in a series of deposits which trend northeast-southwest and
extend in a linear fashion from Limestone College to across the South
Carolina state line. The site of Nesbitt's Limestone Quarry covers
[redacted] and has exposed vertical faces of limestone
visible at the edges. Visibility at the site is extremely limited at
certain times of the year due to dense vegetation. The site has filled
with water since last mined in the 1940s.(1)

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Archaeology-Historic
Industry

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: N

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Nesbitt's Limestone Quarry is the most extensive and best preserved
limestone quarry directly associated with early iron production in the
northwestern Piedmont of South Carolina. It was utilized as early as
the eighteenth century, and through the first half of the nineteenth

century was the primary source of limestone for the region's ironworks. It is the only remaining limestone quarry with any contextual integrity. Most of the other limestone quarries that were utilized were quite small and have been destroyed, including those near Blacksburg, which were destroyed in recent years by the expansion of modern quarrying operations.(2) Since quarrying activity at Nesbitt's ceased in the early part of the twentieth century, it was not exploited by modern mining methods. This lack of large-scale mining activity has been the principal reason this quarry, unlike the others, has retained much of its integrity. This site could potentially yield information relating to nineteenth century quarrying technology as well as mineralogical information necessary to fully understand the role of limestone as a fluxing agent in the batch processing of iron.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (C):

[REDACTED]

OTHER INFORMATION: Nesbitt's Limestone Quarry site (38CK69) was listed on the National Register on March 27, 1986, as part of the Limestone Springs Historic District nomination.

FOOTNOTES

(1) Terry A. Ferguson and Tom Cowan, "The Early Ironworks of Northwest South Carolina" (unpublished report of investigations conducted form 1985-86 under grant no. 45859103 administered by the south Carolina Department of Archives and History and the United States Department of the Interior), on file at SCDAH, pp. 45-51.

(2) Michael Toumey, "Map of the Iron Ore and Limestone Region of York and Spartanburg Districts," Report of the Geology of South Carolina (Columbia, S.C.: A. S. Johnson, 1848), P. 80; Oscar M. Lieber, "Geognostic Map of the Itacolumite, Iron, and Limestone Region of Union, Spartanburg and York District, South Carolina," Reports on the Mineralogical, Geological, and Agricultural Survey of South Carolina, 4 vols. (Columbia: R. W. Gibbes, 1856-1860), vol. 2, Plate 7; Arthur Keith and D. B. Sterrett, Geologic Atlas of the United States, Gaffney-King's Mountain Folio, South Carolina-North Carolina, (Washington, D.C.: United States Geological Survey, 1931).