

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received DEC 5 1985

date entered

JAN 6 1986

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

1. Name

historic Alan Mack Site (38OR67)

and/or common Alan Mack Site

2. Location

street & number

not for publication

city, town North vicinity of

state South Carolina code 045 county Orangeburg code 075

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property



5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Orangeburg County Courthouse

street & number Amelia Street

city, town Orangeburg state South Carolina 29115

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title South Carolina 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

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input 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 Alan Mack Site (38OR67) lies in the Middle Coastal Plain of South Carolina,

[REDACTED]

The upland area is presently forested with a predominate assemblage of oak and hickory, while the contiguous floodplain is forested with sweetgum, water oak, and loblolly pine. Archeological investigations have demonstrated that the cultural periods represented are Early, Middle, and Late Archaic, Early, Middle, and Late Woodland, and Mississippian. These cultural periods, which are represented by lithics and ceramics, exist in an undisturbed context. Archeological investigations have been responsible for excavating sixty nine units to a depth of thirty-three inches, and forty units to a depth of six inches. Although excavations have affected portions of the site, at least 92% of the site remains intact and has the potential to yield additional information about these cultural periods.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[REDACTED]

Field excavations at the site indicate that the area has always been forested and has never been cultivated. There has been, however, the occasional removal of select timber. The predominate assemblage of oak and hickory, and the near absence of sweetgum and pine, probably reflects the physical appearance of the site during aboriginal occupation.

The site was originally discovered by Mr. Sammy T. Lee of Orangeburg, South Carolina in 1979. Shortly after its discovery, it was tested with a six-inch soil auger. This testing determined that cultural materials exist to a depth of about thirty inches, and that there was a possibility of a stratified, multi-component site. Later investigations included the establishment of a grid system across the site at five-foot intervals and the excavation of several units. The testing, which was completed in the Spring of 1980, demonstrated that the site is multicomponent and that various components are stratified. The cultural components range from Early Archaic through Mississippian. The site, then, presented an opportunity to establish a cultural chronology and enhance the knowledge of temporal units in an area of South Carolina where little is known about its prehistory.

In order to obtain accurate information concerning cultural chronologies in an area thought to be representative of the Middle Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 8% of the site was excavated in three-inch levels with the aid of a trowel and brush. Diagnostic artifacts were plotted in regard to their horizontal and spatial location, in addition to the angle at which they were lying. The remaining soil was sifted through a screen of one-quarter inch hardware cloth and the cultural materials were bagged with appropriate designations.

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 Alan Mack Site lies in the Middle Coastal Plain of South Carolina, [redacted] the

[redacted] The upland area is forested in oak and hickory, while the adjacent bottomlands support a high incidence of sweetgum, water oak, and loblolly pine. [redacted] Archeological investigations have demonstrated that the cultural periods are represented by Early, Middle, and Late Archaic; Early, Middle, and Late Woodland; and Mississippian. These cultural periods, which are represented by lithic and ceramic materials, exist in an undisturbed context to a depth of about thirty inches below the surface. Although excavations have affected portions of the site, at least 92% of the site remains intact for future research. The site is significant because it demonstrates a long record of successive prehistoric occupations that exist in an intact stratified context. The stratified deposits can add significantly to our understanding of cultural chronologies that exist in the Middle Coastal Plain of South Carolina. Further significance is derived from the differentiation in raw material utilization through time, which can enhance our knowledge of prehistoric cultural systems. Finally, significance is also found in a unique site formation process that can provide a key to understanding the formation of other archeological sites in the Coastal Plain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

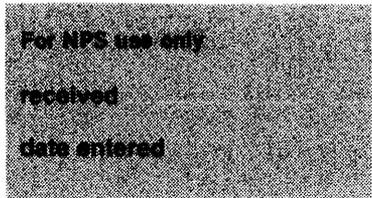
Currently, there is little information regarding cultural chronologies in the Middle Coastal Plain of South Carolina. The first serious inquiry oriented towards establishing a biface sequence for the Carolinas was undertaken by Joffre Coe (1964) when he excavated deeply stratified sites in the alluvial valleys of North Carolina. These sites, which had received river sediments from overbank deposition, clearly demonstrated that changes in projectile point style and form occurred constantly through time, and that relative dates could be assigned to each type. Currently, this single study provides a datum point for the recognition of specific point and tool types in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

With the beginning of archeological research in South Carolina some twenty years ago, it became increasingly evident that Coe's model of projectile point chronology was only a partial reflection of the range of variability that has been since noted. The work of Charles (1981) has presented this evidence in the form of untyped points that occur throughout many areas of the state, including areas of the Edisto Rivers and the region of the Middle Coastal Plain. While Coe's model does hold true, what we are beginning to see, presumably, are the effects of regional adaptation and the appearance of other technologies.

Current research at the Alan Mack Site has been able to place a few of these point types into their correct chronological position, and consequently, our knowledge of chronology has expanded. With only 8% of the site excavated, the remaining 92% has a

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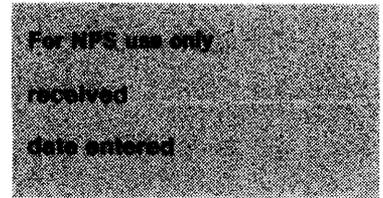
Sporadic investigations for the past four years (Michie 1982; Beth and Parler 1982; Parler: personal communications) have demonstrated that the site contains a unique capsule of culturally stratified deposits of stone tools and related debitage, pottery sherds, and occasional animal bone and charred floral material. Present are lithic assemblages associated with the Early, Middle and Late Archaic periods (8,000-1,500 B.C.) and lithic and ceramic assemblages associated with the Early, Middle and Late Woodland periods (1,500 B.C.-A.D. 900). Also present is an extensive Mississippian component represented by small triangular projectile points and related pottery in the form of complicated stamped designs and plain burnished (ca. A.D. 1500).

Cultural materials are found throughout the sandy matrix of the site to a depth of about twenty-seven to thirty inches. The Early Archaic materials (Palmer and Kirk points and related unifaces) are generally found between eighteen and twenty-four inches deep, with the Palmer material occurring in the lower level. The Middle Archaic materials (Morrow Mountain points) generally range from about fourteen to seventeen inches deep, while the Late Archaic and Early Woodland materials (Savannah River Archaic points and Thom's Creek pottery) range from nine to twelve inches deep, with the Savannah River points clustering around a depth of twelve inches. The Middle and Late Woodland ceramics (fabric and cordmarked sherds) and large triangular points tend to occur from about six to nine inches deep. The Mississippian materials (complicated stamped and plain burnished sherds, and small triangular points) are recorded from about three to six inches deep. The soil profiles of the site and the vertical distributions of diagnostic materials may be seen in Figures 4 and 5, respectively.

Beyond the vertical distribution of diagnostic materials, there is also a difference in the utilization of raw materials through time. During the Early Archaic period the raw material is represented by Ridge and Valley chert, Coastal Plain chert, and occasional quartz. Orthoquartzite is also noted. During the Middle Archaic quartz becomes the dominate raw material with lesser use of chert and orthoquartzite. However, with the appearance of the Late Archaic and Early Woodland there is a noticeable shift to flow-banded rhyolite and rhyolite, although chert is still used. In the Woodland period the rhyolite disappears and it is replaced with Coastal Plain chert. The Mississippian period, however, exhibits a significant shift that includes practically all of the known raw materials: quartz, quartz crystal, Coastal Plain chert, orthoquartzite, mudstone, and various kinds of rhyolite.

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great potential for contributing additional information concerning regional chronologies. The site, then, at this level has yielded information important in understanding prehistory, and it is likely to yield additional information.

Beyond the descriptive/chronological questions that can be addressed with the data at the site, there are also anthropological questions regarding process and human behavior, i.e., what activities were being performed at various periods of time, and how long were the durations of occupation? By utilizing the lithic debitage, the variability of raw materials through time, and the diagnostic stone tools and ceramics, these questions can be dealt with in terms of current method and theory.

Contemporary studies involving the relationship between hunter-gatherer settlement-subsistence patterns and the organization of tool technology has significant implications for the analysis of artifact assemblage variability (Binford 1978, 1980, 1983). As Binford points out, there are basically two subsistence strategies common to hunters and gatherers: 1) the mapping-on strategy, and 2) the logistical strategy, which involves moving the camp to the resource, or moving the resource to the residential camp, respectively. In terms of the former activity (mapping-on) the resulting artifact assemblage would be fine-grained, and the latter activity would result in a coarse-grained assemblage. Accordingly, changes in mobility and duration of occupation should be seen in the organization of the archeological record and the tool technology. The variability in organization and technology may be reflected in the number of tools, the functional edge of tools, the quality of raw materials, the sequence of manufacture, and the use-life of tools. Briefly, then, Binford's approach to understanding the archeological record provides us with an avenue for assessing a higher level of significance at the Alan Mack Site.

The differentiation in raw materials previously noted in the debitage assemblage can be used to deal effectively with the above theoretical notions. Furthermore, the tool assemblages from various levels lend themselves to similar analysis and interpretation, which can lead to a greater understanding of past human behavior. The artifacts at the site are, therefore, amenable to interpretation and are likely to yield additional information about the past.

Beyond chronologies, lifeways, and culture process, the site is also significant in understanding site formation processes in the region of the Coastal Plain.

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