A CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY SR 31 FROM LEE COUNTY LINE TO CR 74 CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Performed for:

Florida Department of Transportation, District One Post Office Box 1249 Bartow, Florida 33831-1249

On behalf of:

URS Corporation 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway Tampa, Florida 33607

By

Archaeological Consultants, Inc. 8110 Blaikie Court, Suite A Sarasota, Florida 34240

Marion Almy - Project Manager Lee Hutchinson - Project Archaeologist Justin Winkler - Archaeologist

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) conducted a cultural resource assessment survey of SR 31 from the Lee County Line to CR 74 in Charlotte County, Florida. The purpose of this investigation was to locate and identify any cultural resources within the project area and to assess their significance in terms of eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, hereinafter referred to as the NRHP. The cultural resource assessment survey was conducted in April of 2004.

Findings

Background research and a review of the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) indicated that no prehistoric or historic archaeological sites have been previously recorded within the archaeological APE. Areas of moderate and low archaeological potential were identified within the archaeological APE during the Cultural Resource Assessment Research Design and Survey Methodology for this project (ACI 2004; Appendix A). This background research also indicated that sites, if present, would most likely be small lithic or artifact scatters. As a result of field survey, no archaeological sites were discovered.

Background research indicated no potential for the presence of historic buildings within the historical APE. In keeping with these expectations, no historic resources were found.

Based on the results of the archaeological and historical survey, the proposed project will not impact any significant cultural resources. Therefore, no further archaeological or historical work is recommended.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

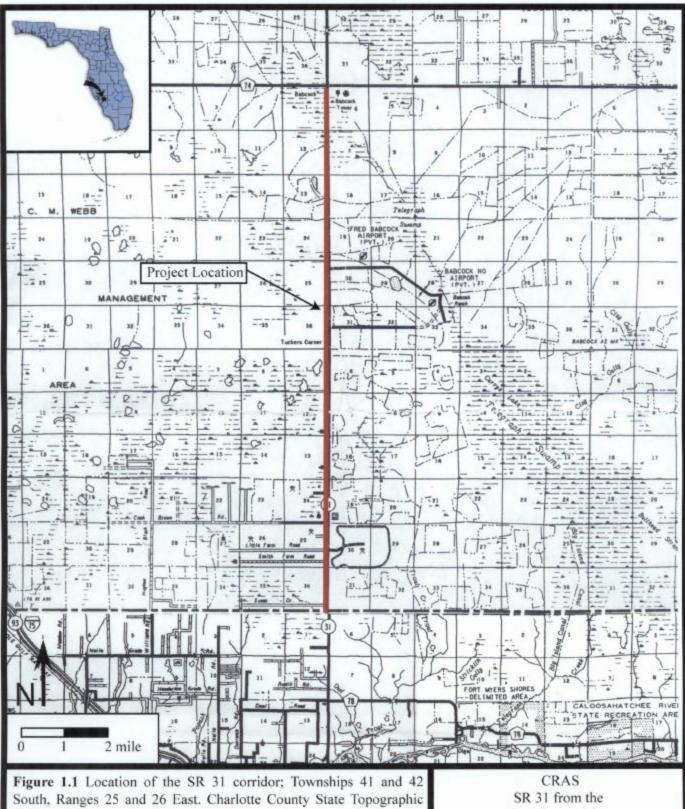
1.1 **Project Description**

The Florida Department of Transportation proposes to evaluate improvement options for the widening and resurfacing of SR 31 from (MP 0.000) to MP 12.100 in Charlotte County, Florida (Figure 1.1). SR 31 is a two-lane minor collector that is currently not to State of Florida standards in lane widths and shoulder requirements. The roadway is currently 20 feet wide with no paved shoulders. The 11-foot lanes will be widened to 12-foot lanes and 5-foot wide paved shoulders will be added to both sides of the road the entire length of the study corridor. No right-of-way acquisition will be required for this project.

The proposed study area begins at MP 0.000 and ends at MP 12.100, a distance of approximately 12.10 miles. The existing facility is a two-lane undivided rural typical section consisting of 2-11' travel lanes, with no grass shoulders on each side from MP 0.000 to MP 12.100. The posted speed on SR 31 is currently 60 miles per hour. All of the work is anticipated to be performed within the existing right-of-way with no additional right-of-way required.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of the cultural resource assessment survey was to locate and identify any archaeological sites and historic resources located within the project APE and to assess their significance in terms of eligibility as per criteria for listing in the NRHP. The survey was conducted in April 2004. The development of a project research design and field methodology preceded field survey and provided an informed set of expectations concerning the kinds of cultural resources that might be anticipated to occur within the project area, as well as a basis for evaluating any new sites discovered (ACI 2004; Appendix A). This report conforms to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended in 1992, and C.F.R., Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties. All work was carried out in conformity with Part 2, Chapter 12 (Archaeological and Historical Resources) of the Florida Department of Transportation's Project Development and Environmental Manual (July 1999 revision), and the standards contained in the "Historic Preservation Compliance Review Program of the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources" manual (revised September 1990). The resulting report meets the specifications set forth in Chapter 1A-46, Florida Administrative Code (revised August 21, 2002).



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Lee County Line to CR 74 Charlotte County, Florida

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1.3 Area of Potential Effects (APE)

The archaeological APE for SR 31 from the Charlotte County Line to CR 74 is defined as the existing right-of-way since no additional land will be required. The historical APE includes the existing right-of-way and immediately adjacent viewshed.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

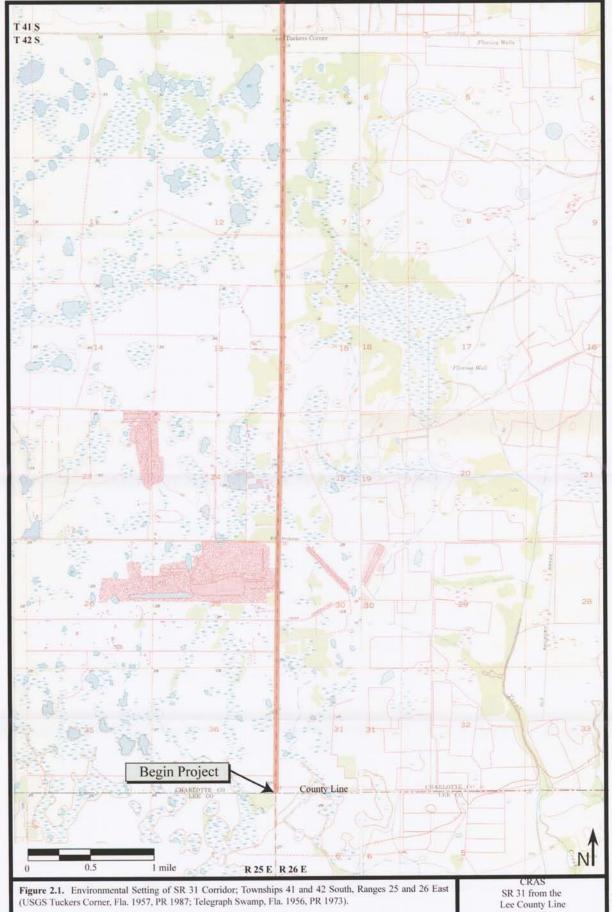
The State Road 31 from the Lee County Line to CR 74 project corridor is located on the boundary line between Ranges 25 East and 26 East of Township 41 South and Township 42 South in Charlotte County, Florida (USGS Tuckers Corner, Fla. 1957, PR 1987; Bermont, Fla. 1956, PR 1987, and Telegraph Swamp NW, Fla. 1956, PR 1973). The project corridor is 12 miles in length (Figures 2.1 and 2.2).

The project area lies at an elevation of between 35 and 40 feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL), within the Southwestern Flatwoods District (Myers and Ewel 1990). This low, flat district was formed on rock and sediment (Myers and Ewel 1990:41). According to Myers and Ewel (1990:41), the district may include low plateaus and ridges, flatwoods, prairies, rockland/marl plains, and various coastal features.

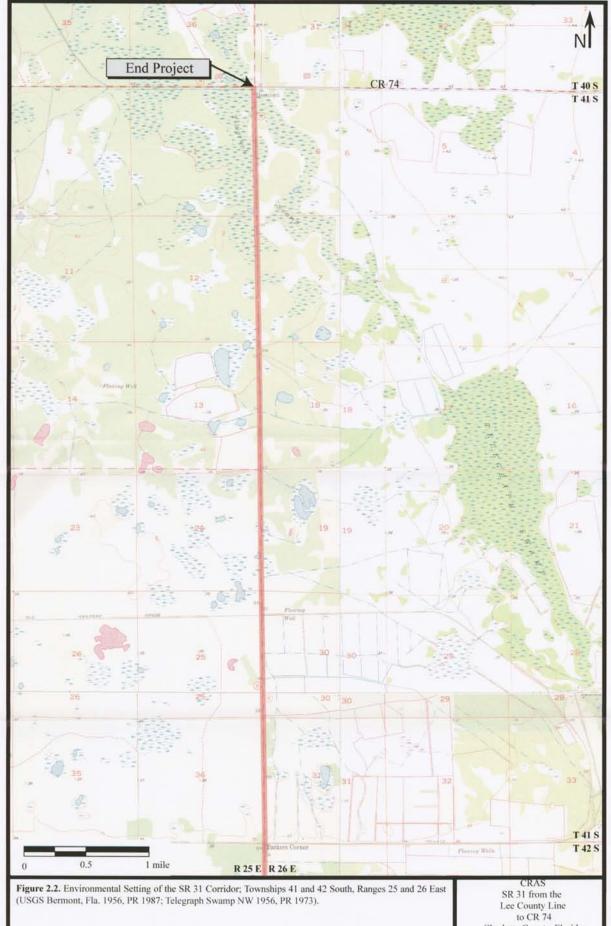
Soils of the project area are included in three soil associations. The Wabasso-Pineda-Bocca association includes nearly level, poorly drained soils of the flatwoods and sloughs (USDA 1984). The Malabar-Oldsmar-Immokalee association contains nearly level, poorly drained soils, also of the flatwoods and sloughs. The Chobee-Felda-Pineda association includes nearly level, poorly and very poorly drained soils of the swamps, marshes, and sloughs (USDA 1984). A portion of the Telegraph Swamp lies at the northern end of the project area, and is included in the Chobee-Felda-Pineda association. The soils specific to the project area, their relief, drainage, and environmental associations are detailed in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1. Soil Types Within the SR 31 Project Area (USDA 1984).

Soil Type	Relief and Drainage	Environmental Association
Oldsmar sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Low, broad flatwoods
Wabasso sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Flatwoods
Winder sand,	Nearly level, poorly drained	Depressions
depressional		
Wabasso sand,	Nearly level, poorly drained	Broad flatwoods
limestone substratum		
Pineda fine sand,	Nearly level, very poorly	Depressions
depressional	drained	
Pineda fine sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Sloughs
Malabar fine sand, high	Nearly level, poorly drained	Flatwoods
Hallandale fine sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Low, broad, flatwoods areas
Boca fine sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Flatwoods
Immokalee sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Flatwoods
Felda fine sand,	Nearly level, poorly drained	Depressions
depressional		
Malabar fine sand	Nearly level, poorly drained	Sloughs
Isles fine sand,	Nearly level, very poorly	Depressions
depressional	drained	



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Charlotte County, Florida FPID No.: 198230 1 22 05 **Present Conditions:** The SR 31 project area traverses inundated wetlands and marshes. The project area includes disturbances such as shell-limestone roadfill, buried utilities, and ditches (Photos 2.1 and 2.2).

Paleoenvironmental Considerations: The prehistoric environment of Charlotte County and the surrounding area was different from that which is seen today. Sea levels were much lower, the climate was drier, and potable water was scarce. Given the changes in water resource availability, botanical communities, and faunal resources, an understanding of human ecology during the earliest periods of human occupation in Florida cannot be founded upon observations of the modern environment. Aboriginal inhabitants would have developed cultural adaptations in response to the environmental changes taking place. These alterations were reflected in prehistoric settlement patterns, site types, site locations, artifact forms, and variations in the resources used.



Photo 2.1. Looking North Along SR 31.



Photo 2.2. Looking North Along SR 31.

Dunbar (1981:95) notes that due to the arid conditions during the period between 16,500 and 12,500 years ago, "the perched water aquifer and potable water supplies were absent." Palynological studies conducted in Florida and Georgia suggest that between 13,000 and 5,000 years ago, this area was covered with an upland vegetation community of scrub oak and prairie (Watts 1969, 1971, 1975). The rise of sea level severely reduced xeric habitats over the next several millennia.

By 5000 years ago, southern pine forests were replacing the oak savannahs. Extensive marshes and swamps developed along the coasts, and subtropical hardwood forests became established along the southern tip of Florida (Delcourt and Delcourt 1981). Northern Florida saw an increase in oak species, grasses and sedges (Carbone 1983). At Lake Annie in south-central Florida, pollen cores are dominated by wax myrtle and pine. The assemblage suggests that by this time a forest dominated by longleaf pine, along with cypress swamps and bayheads existed in the area (Watts 1971, 1975). Roughly five millennia ago, modern floral and climatic and environmental conditions began to be established (Watts 1975). With the onset of the modern environmental conditions, numerous micro-environments were available to the aboriginal inhabitants in the area. By 4000 B.P., a shift to warmer, moister conditions resulted in the appearance of hardwood forests, bayheads, cypress swamps, prairie, and marshlands, i.e., the modern, naturally occurring, ecosystems of the region.

3.0 PREHISTORIC REVIEW

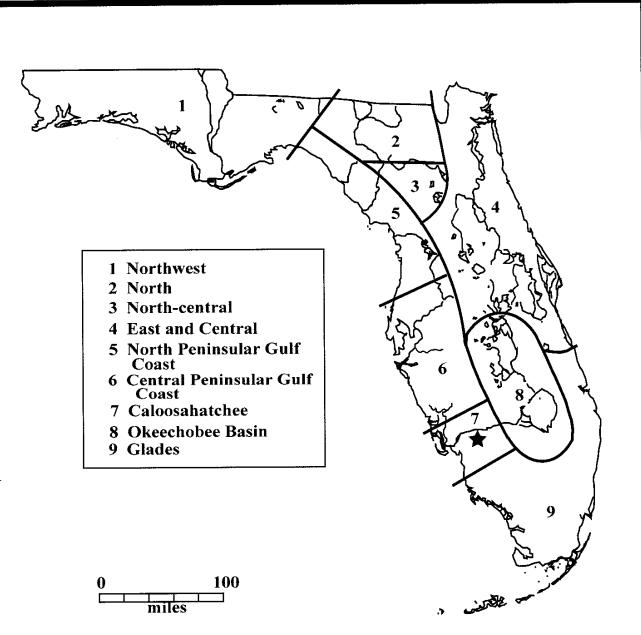
In general, archaeologists summarize the prehistory of a given area, that is, an archaeological region, by delineating a sequence of cultural periods in order to provide a chronology or a time frame for an archaeological culture that is present in a given geographical area. As a result, archaeological cultures are defined largely in geographical terms, but also reflect shared environmental and cultural factors. According to the classification of John Griffin (1988), Charlotte County is part of the Caloosahatchee Area of the South Florida Region. Geographically, the Caloosahatchee Area extends from Charlotte Harbor on the north to the northern border of the Ten Thousand Islands on the south (Figure 3.1) and eastward from the islands about 54 miles to the interior (Carr and Beriault 1984:4, 12).

The sequence of cultural development for the South Florida Region was pan-regional during the earliest periods of human occupation: the Paleo-Indian and the Archaic. However, about 500 B.C., distinctive regional cultures had developed and are often distinguished in the archaeological record by differences in ceramic styles and decorations. Thus, by 500 B.C. the prehistoric populations residing in the Caloosahatchee Area developed a cultural assemblage distinct from those people inhabiting other parts of South Florida (Griffin 1988:120-121). The following summary follows closely the outlines presented by both Griffin (1988) and Widmer (1988).

3.1 Paleo-Indian Tradition

Current archaeological evidence indicates that the earliest human occupation of the Florida peninsula dates back some 12,000 to 13,500 years (Widmer 1988; Milanich 1994). This time period, referred to as the Paleo-Indian (or Paleoindian), lasted until approximately 7000 B.C. During this time, the climate of South Florida was much drier than today. Sea level was 262 to 427 feet lower than present and the coast extended approximately 100 miles seaward on the Gulf coast. This lowering of sea level had a direct effect on the water table and it appears that major surface rivers and many seasonal ponds were non-existent in South Florida. Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee, Myakka, and Peace Rivers were probably dry. The Everglades may not have existed. Potable water was obtainable at sinkholes where diverse plant and animal life, including prehistoric groups, congregated (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:38-40; Widmer 1988; Milanich 1994:40).

Thus, the prevailing environmental conditions were largely uninviting to human habitation during the Paleo-Indian period (Griffin 1988:191). Given the inhospitable climate, it is not surprising that the population was sparse with sites of this time uncommon in South Florida. The most readily available information about Florida's earliest inhabitants has been uncovered by underwater excavations at both the Little Salt Spring (Clausen et al. 1979) and Warm Mineral Springs (Clausen et al. 1979; Cockrell and Murphy 1978) sites in Sarasota



Post- 500 B.C. regions of precolumbian Florida

Figure 3.1 Florida Archaeological Regions (Milanich 1994:xix). The project area (★) is in the Caloosahatchee Region (7).

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County. Also, work at the Cutler Fossil Site in Dade County (Carr 1986) has yielded two projectile points, associated with a hearth area, radiocarbon dated to the Paleo-Indian period (ca. 7760 B.C.).

In general, the Paleo-Indian period is characterized by small populations which relied on a hunting and gathering mode of subsistence. The scarce permanent sources of water, or "watering holes" (Neill 1964) were very important in settlement selection (Daniel and Wisenbaker 1987). This settlement model, often referred to as the Oasis Hypothesis (Milanich 1994:41), has a high correlation with geologic features in southern Florida such as deep sink holes like those noted in Sarasota and Dade Counties. Sites of this period are most readily identified on the basis of distinctive lanceolate shaped stone projectile points, including those of the Simpson and Suwannee types (Bullen 1975). The tool assemblage also included items manufactured of bone and wood and very likely leather as well as plant fibers (Clausen et al. 1979).

3.2 Archaic Tradition

The succeeding Archaic tradition is divided into three temporal periods: the Early Archaic (ca. 7000 to 5000 B.C.), Middle Archaic (ca. 5000 to 2000 B.C.) and the Late Archaic (ca. 2000 to 500 B.C.). According to Widmer (1988), the extreme aridity of the South Florida region during the Early Archaic period may have resulted in the abandonment of the area. Sites of this time are almost non-existent in southwestern Florida. Currently, the West Coral Creek Site is the only known site of the Early Archaic in the Caloosahatchee region. Here, numerous chert and silicified coral tools and debitage were found. These were recovered from dredge spoil from the excavation of canals near a large slough. This may indicate that the site clustered around a dependable water source.

Approximately 6500 years ago, marked environmental changes occurred. These had a profound influence upon human settlement and subsistence practices. Among the landscape alterations were rises in sea and water table levels which resulted in the creation of more available surface water. It was during this time that Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades were created, and the Caloosahatchee and Peace Rivers flowed with fresh water. In addition to changed hydrological conditions, this period is characterized by the spread of mesic forests and the beginnings of modern vegetation communities including pine forests and cypress swamps (Widmer 1988; Griffin 1988).

The archaeological record for the Middle Archaic is better understood than the Early Archaic. Among the material culture inventory of the Middle Archaic are several varieties of stemmed, broad blade projectile points, including those of the Newnan, Levy, Marion, Putnam, and Lake types (Bullen 1975). At sites where preservation is good, such as sinkholes and ponds, an elaborate bone tool assemblage is recognized along with shell tools and complicated weaving. Along the coast, excavations on both Horr's Island in Collier County and Useppa Island, Lee County (Milanich et al. 1984; Milanich 1994) have uncovered pre-ceramic shell middens which date to the Middle Archaic period.

Mortuary sites, characterized by interments in shallow ponds and sloughs as discovered at the Little Salt Springs Site in Sarasota County (Clausen et al. 1979) and the Bay West site in Collier County (Beriault et al. 1981), are also distinctive attributes of the Middle Archaic. At the latter site, 35 to 40 human remains were found, some of which had been placed on leafy biers, perhaps branches, laid down in graves dug into the peat deposits. Artifacts recovered included small wooden sticks possibly used as bow drills for starting fires, antler tools with wooden hafts that appear to be sections of throwing sticks, two throwing stick triggers, and bone points or pins (Milanich 1994:81).

Pre-ceramic cultural horizons beneath tree island sites have been reported in the eastern Everglades (Mowers and Williams 1972; Carr and Beriault 1984). Population growth, as evidenced by the increased number of Middle Archaic sites and accompanied by increased socio-cultural complexity, is also assumed for this time (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980; Widmer 1988).

The Late (or Ceramic) Archaic period is similar to the Middle Archaic with the exception of the addition of ceramics. The earliest pottery in the South Florida region is fiber-tempered, as represented at sites on Key Marco (Cockrell 1970; Widmer 1974). Also during this period, pottery of the Orange series, decorated with incised lines, is characteristic. Projectile points of the Late Archaic are primarily stemmed and corner-notched and include those of the Culbreath, Clay, and Lafayette types (Bullen 1975). Other lithic tools include hafted scrapers and ovate and trianguloid knives (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). Current archaeological evidence indicates that South Florida was sparsely settled during this time.

However, there is also evidence of a number of large shell middens, which date to the Late Archaic, in southwestern Florida. For example, at both Horr's Island and at Bonita Springs (Archaeological and Historical Conservancy [AHC] 1990:32), horseshoe-shaped shell ridges, reminiscent of the Archaic shell rings of the Georgia and South Carolina coasts, have been documented. In Sarasota County north of the project corridor, another horseshoe-shaped marine shell midden, the Guptill Midden, has been well-documented at Historic Spanish Point (Almy and Luer 1993).

The termination of the Late Archaic corresponds to a time of environmental change. The maturing of productive estuarine systems was accompanied by cultural changes leading to the establishment of what John Goggin originally defined as the "Glades Tradition" (Griffin 1988:133). Dominated by the presence of sand-tempered ceramics in the archaeological record, the Glades Tradition was also characterized by "the exploitation of the food resources of the tropical coastal waters, with secondary dependence on game and some use of wild plant foods. Agriculture was apparently never practiced, but pottery was extensively used" (Goggin 1949:28).

3.3 Glades Tradition

The Glades Tradition was defined by Goggin (1947) on the basis of work he conducted in South Florida in the 1930s and 1940s. Goggin noticed that the archaeological assemblage, beginning at about 2500 B.P. (500 B.C.), took on a distinct appearance. This appearance reflected an adaptation to the now well-established, highly productive tropical coastal environment of South Florida. The archaeological record discloses widespread population increases and an apparent florescence in tool assemblages related to the exploitation of the marine environment. Unlike much of the rest of peninsula Florida, the region does not contain deposits of chert, and such stone artifacts are rare. Instead of stone, shell and bone were used as raw materials for tools (Milanich 1994:302).

Most information concerning the post-500 B.C. aboriginal populations is derived from coastal sites where the subsistence patterns are typified by the extensive exploitation of fish and shellfish, wild plants, and inland game, such as deer. Inland sites, like those in the Big Cypress Swamp, show a greater, if not exclusive, reliance on interior resources. Known inland sites often consist of sand burial mounds, shell and dirt middens, hunting camps along water courses (Lee and Beriault 1993), small dirt middens containing animal bone and ceramic sherds in oak/ palm hammocks, or palm tree islands associated with freshwater marshes (Griffin 1988). Recently, Widmer (1988) has described a series of post-500 B.C. culture periods for the Caloosahatchee Area, based on differences in the frequencies of certain ceramic types.

Caloosahatchee I, ca. 500 B.C. to A.D. 700, is characterized by both sand-tempered and laminated sand-tempered pottery. Belle Glade type ceramics are absent. The Wightman (Fradkin 1976), Solana (Widmer 1986), Useppa Island (Milanich et al. 1984), and Cash Mound (Marquardt 1992) sites have been dated to this period.

From A.D. 700 to 1200, the Caloosahatchee II period is marked by a dramatic increase of Belle Glade ceramics in the area (Widmer 1988:84). This may indicate the beginnings of ceremonial mound use which also characterize this period. Also, the number of shell middens or villages sites increased, and shell tools became more diverse (Milanich 1994:319). The John Quiet Site on the Cape Haze Peninsula (Bullen and Bullen 1956) has been dated to this period, as well as the earliest occupation of the Buck Key midden, dated A.D. 1040 to 1350 (Marquardt 1992).

The Caloosahatchee III period, from A.D. 1200 to 1400, is identified by the appearance of both St. Johns trade wares, notably St. Johns Check Stamped, and Englewood period ceramics. From A.D. 1400 to 1513, the Caloosahatchee IV period is characterized by the appearance of numerous trade wares from all adjoining regions of Florida (Widmer 1988:86). These types include Glades Tooled and pottery of the Safety Harbor series, including Pinellas Plain. Buck Key, Galt, and Josslyn Island, as well as Pineland, contain shell middens which date to this period (Marquardt 1992:13).

The Caloosahatchee V period, ca. A.D. 1513 to 1750, is coterminous with the period of European contact. Sites of this time are marked by the appearance of European artifacts

associated with aboriginal artifacts. Also, cultural materials from the Leon-Jefferson Mission period have been recovered (Widmer 1988:86). Sites of the Caloosahatchee V period are common in the Caloosahatchee Area.

In historic times, the Caloosahatchee Area was the home territory of the Calusa, a sedentary, non-agricultural, highly stratified and politically complex chiefdom (Anon. 1987). Calusa villages along the coast are marked by extensive shellworks and earthenworks. Detailed studies of the Calusa and their predecessors have recently been provided by Widmer (1988) and Marquardt (1992) and are not repeated here. The great Pine Island Canal, which runs across Pine Island in coastal Lee County, may have been dug, after A.D. 1000, to bring trade goods and tribute to the Calusa from the interior (Luer 1989). By the early 1700s, the once dominant Calusa had all but disappeared, the victims of European diseases, slavery, and warfare.

4.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

At the time of the Spanish arrival in Florida in the early 16th century, the most important aboriginal group in south Florida was the Calusa, the historic descendants of the prehistoric Glades period culture in the Caloosahatchee region. They inhabited the Gulf Coast area from Charlotte Harbor to the Ten Thousand Islands and their political influence extended inland along the Caloosahatchee River to include the Lake Okeechobee Basin. Efforts to extend their domain to the north are implied by the presence of late Glades period sites north of Charlotte Harbor, and it is known that warfare between the Tocobago Indians of that area and the Calusa was occurring in the 1560s (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:242; Marquardt 1987:106-107). Alliances between the Calusa and other south Florida tribes, such as the Tequesta, were commonly forged through marriage. As a result, the Calusa influence extended over most of south Florida.

Repeated conflicts with the Europeans and exposure to European diseases resulted in the decimation and dispersal of the Calusa and the Timucua by the middle of the 18th century. Some may have joined the Cuban-Spanish fishermen who were active in the Tampa Bay and Charlotte Harbor areas during the first half of the 18th century (Hammond 1973).

By the early 1700s, groups of Creeks who came to be known as Seminoles moved into Florida to escape the political and population pressures of the expanding American frontier. Armed conflicts with pioneers, homesteaders, and the U.S. Army led to the eventual removal of most Seminole from Florida. This forced the withdrawal of the remaining Native Americans to the Everglades and Big Cypress Swamp by the late 19th century, where archaeologists have identified numerous Seminole villages and garden plots (Taylor 1980).

The British and Spanish traded with the Seminoles until there was a policy change when Florida became a U.S. Territory in 1821. Euro-American settlers, many of whom anticipated that the U.S. would acquire Florida, began claiming land in north Florida and soon, were in conflict with the Seminoles over the land (Tebeau 1971).

By 1842, at the end of the Second Seminole War, only a few hundred Seminoles remained in south Florida. The U.S. Government decided to leave them on a new reservation south of the Peace River (Mahon 1967). This war, however, had adversely affected settlement. People were afraid to homestead in areas where their safety could not be guaranteed. Many already living in Florida were forced to leave their homes and seek safety in a nearby fort. In response, the Armed Occupation Act was passed in 1842 to encourage settlers to build homes and cultivate the land (Tebeau 1971). This boosted settlement south of Tampa Bay. In the Charlotte Harbor area, most newcomers established homes along the coast and navigable waterways (Matthews 1983).

The resulting increase in settlement of the region precipitated the need for cadastral cartographic surveys from 1858 through 1859, the exterior lines for Township 41 South, Ranges 25 and 26 and Township 42 South, Ranges 25 and 26, were surveyed by John

Jackson (State of Florida 1858, 1859). The subdivision lines were surveyed between 1861 and 1872a by R. Canova and S. Hamblin (State of Florida 1861, 1872). No man-made features located within the project areas were noted on the Plats (State of Florida 1869, 1872b, 1872c, and 1872d).

Because the topography and vegetation in the Charlotte Harbor area was so well suited to cattle ranching, cattle ranching eclipsed farming as the predominant industry in the area. From Sarasota south to Ft. Myers and east to the Kissimmee River Valley, cattle ranching was the main source of income, and ranchers prospered. When the Civil War began, stockmen in the Myakka-Charlotte Harbor area supplied beef to the Confederacy. In an attempt to cut off this vital supply source, Union troops were dispatched to Charlotte Harbor in 1863 (McCarthy and Dame 1983). In the second half of the 19th century, large cattle drives were conducted from south Florida to slaughterhouses in Tampa.

By the 1880s, Florida was in financial trouble and Hamilton Disston, son of a wealthy Philadelphia industrialist, contracted with the State of Florida in two large land deals - the Disston Drainage Contract and the Disston Land Purchase to buy swamp and overflow lands. The Disston Land Purchase was an agreement between Disston and the State in which Disston agreed to purchase Internal Improvement Fund lands at twenty-five cents an acre to satisfy the indebtedness of the fund. A contract was signed on June 1, 1881 for the sale of 4,000,000 acres for the sum of one million dollars, which was the estimated debt owed by the Improvement Fund. Within the project area, Disston purchased a portion of Section 1, Township 42 South, Range 25 East in 1898 (*Tract Book* n.d.)

Disston was allowed to select tracts of land in lots of 10,000 acres, up to 3,500,000 acres; the remainder was selected in tracts of 640 acres. Before he could fulfill his obligation, Disston sold half of this contract to British Florida Land and Mortgage Company, headed by Reed (Tischendorf 1954). Two years lapsed between the signing of Disston's original contract and the title transfers (19 December 1883) to allow squatters to acquire the land on which they had settled for \$1.25 per acre.

Although the area around Charlotte Harbor was used for grazing land, it was not settled until late in the 19th century. Even at this time there were only a small number of isolated villages. In the 1880s, a few families were scattered about the area at Englewood, Nokomis, Trabue (present-day Punta Gorda), and Boca Grande (Cortes 1976).

Punta Gorda was founded in 1879 by Isaac Trabue of Louisville, Kentucky. He purchased and platted 30 acres of land and named the proposed townsite Trabue (Federal Writers' Project 1939). The area had been inhabited previously by Cuban fishermen. When the railroad was put into this area in 1886, the fishing industry expanded (Covington 1957). Fishing, particularly mullet fishing, was an important early industry (Gatewood 1939). The name of the town was changed to Punta Gorda in 1888 (Covington 1957).

The forest and naval stores industry flourished in the Charlotte County area during the final decade of the 19th century and during the first quarter of the 20th century. Florida slash pine which dominated the region was a good resource for pulpwood and turpentine. In

the Punta Gorda area, John D. Lewis had a turpentine camp which was run with convict labor (Sarasota County Agricultural Fair Association 1976). Many of the turpentine camps were run with this type of labor for a higher profit return. However, conditions in the camps were often severe and eventually prisoners were no longer used as labor.

The naval stores industry, as well as other industries, relied on rail expansion. The Florida Southern Railway began its corporate existence in 1879 as the Gainesville, Ocala, and Charlotte Harbor Railroad, but changed its name shortly after incorporating. Construction of the rail line began in 1881, and Punta Gorda was reached in July 1886 (Historic Property Associates [HPA] 1989). Most of the land in and adjacent to the project area was purchased by the Florida Southern Railway Company between the years of 1883 and 1885 (State of Florida n.d.). In addition, the Atlantic Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company also purchased property during this time in the project area (State of Florida n.d.).

Railroads began to transform the region economically. Charlotte Harbor had been only a stopping point for schooners from Cedar Key and Tampa. But the Florida Southern Railway's 4,200 foot pier, called "Long Dock," gave Charlotte Harbor a deep water port. As the southernmost rail terminus in the United States, it became an important transportation hub. However, railroad entrepreneur Henry B. Plant removed his railroad from the "long dock" when he decided to develop Port Tampa.

Phosphate, used in the manufacture of fertilizer, was discovered in the Peace River during the late 1880s. As a result, the 1890s economy of the Peace River Valley prospered. Many mines were located north of Charlotte Harbor, especially in Polk, Manatee, DeSoto, and Hillsborough Counties, but the Gulf Phosphate Mining Company of Cleveland was, apparently, the only phosphate company to operate in present-day Charlotte County. Capitalized at \$250,000, the Cleveland-based company mined river pebble phosphate over an area comprising 5,200 acres (Tebeau 1971).

The area experienced some growth in the period from 1900 to 1920. Tourism had been cultivated by railroad companies since the 1890s, and those efforts began to pay off. More and more people traveled to Florida during the winter season, and more permanent settlement also occurred. In 1905, land reclamation projects opened new areas to permanent settlement. Perhaps most importantly, by 1916, the Florida road system began in earnest, and some road development occurred around Charlotte Harbor (HPA 1989). During this time, a few individuals began to purchase property adjacent to the SR 31 corridor. These individuals include Calvin B. Stanton, Allen B. Tucker, Charles D. Richmond, William Colson and Walter Kaler (State of Florida n.d.).

Southwest Florida shared in some of the growth of the Florida Boom. In 1921, Charlotte County was carved out of DeSoto County, and Punta Gorda became the county seat. Road construction, tourism, and real estate prices expanded. Small communities like El Jobean (originally named Southland) and Sancassa grew, but the area remained in relative isolation. Despite the boom elsewhere in the state, the population of Charlotte County stood at 3,390 in 1925. In Charlotte County, only 816 hotel rooms were available to the local

tourist industry. In nearby Sarasota and Lee counties, over 4,000 such rooms were counted. Charlotte County's economic centers in 1923 were Punta Gorda, which served mainly the tourist industry; Cleveland, with a marine railway dock for transporting yachts by railroad, its marine businesses; and Murdock, located near the naval stores industry (HPA 1989).

Floridians had hardly recovered from the Florida land bust when, in Oct 1929, the stock market began to collapse, leading into the Great Depression. Between 1929 and 1933, 148 Florida state and national banks failed. Charlotte County, like other towns, experienced a decline in population. According to census records, the population of Charlotte County totaled 4,013 in 1930. Much of it was centered around Punta Gorda, which had a population of 1,833. In 1940, the county's population only totaled 3,663.

Unfortunately, the settlements at Sancassa, Charlotte Harbor, Cleveland, and Murdock offered little. Tucker's Corner, Sparkman, Bermont, and Charlotte Beach were little more than crossroads settlements. Placida and McCall, on the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, were commerce fishing villages. Gasparilla, isolated on Gasparilla Island, had 167 people (HPA 1989).

World War II helped the United States out of the Great Depression. In Florida, many military bases were reactivated or constructed. Major installations were located in Key West, Jacksonville, Tampa, and Pensacola. The Punta Gorda base served as a training station for fighter pilots, the last stop for many before they entered action in Europe and the Pacific (Tebeau 1971).

Through the 1940s, Charlotte County's population remained stable, rising from 3,663 in 1940, to 4,220 in 1945, and 4,286 by 1950. Agriculture and citrus production, tourism, commercial fishing, and the railroad were the major economic sources of income. Many servicemen stationed in Florida during the war returned with their families at its close to take up residence. This post-World War II experience was similar to that of most American cities with an increasing number of automobiles and asphalt, an interstate highway system, suburban sprawl, the gradual erosion of central commercial districts in primary cities, and strip development along major highways. The condominium and high-rise hotel and apartment buildings emerged as significant elements in Florida's housing patterns in the 1960s, and made their impact on the seaboard.

During the 1970s, Charlotte County became one of Florida's fastest growing counties (Purdum 1994:16). Thus, by the 1980s, Charlotte County's population had risen to 59,115 (USDA 1984), and by 1993, 90% of Charlotte County's residents lived in unincorporated areas (Purdum 1994). Charlotte County is still experiencing growth today as a result of increased tourism and residential development.

5.0 RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS AND METHODS

5.1 Background Research and Literature Review

In keeping with the Cultural Resource Assessment Research Design and Survey Methodology SR 31 from the Lee County Line to CR 74 approved by District 1 (ACI 2004; Appendix A), a comprehensive review of archaeological and historical literature, records and other documents and data pertaining to the project area was conducted. The focus of this research was to ascertain the types of cultural resources known in the project area and vicinity, their temporal/cultural affiliations, site location information, and other relevant data. This included a review of sites listed in the NRHP, the FMSF (database checked in March of 2004), cultural resource survey reports, published books and articles, unpublished manuscripts, and maps. In addition to the NRHP and FMSF, other information relevant to the historical research was obtained from the files of ACI. No informant interviews were conducted as part of the background research.

5.1.1 Archaeological Considerations:

For archaeological survey projects of this kind, specific research designs are formulated prior to initiating field work in order to delineate project goals and strategies. Of primary importance is an attempt to understand, on the basis of prior investigations, the spatial distribution of known resources. Such knowledge serves not only to generate an informed set of expectations concerning the kinds of sites which might be anticipated to occur within the project area, but also provides a valuable regional perspective and, thus, a basis for evaluating any new sites discovered.

Background research revealed that no archaeological sites had been recorded within the archaeological APE or near SR 31. Indeed, extensive, recent research for the Babcock-Webb and Yucca Pens Wildlife Management areas in Charlotte and Lee Counties along seven miles of SR 31 evidenced no prehistoric or historic archaeological sites (ACI 2003: Figures 7 and 8). This research and a visual reconnaissance of the corridor confirmed that multiple areas of the archaeological APE had been filled and/or ditched. Thus, an attempt was made to focus archaeological testing in those areas of the APE with: 1) the least disturbance; 2) areas of slightly elevated terrain above the surrounding landscape (c.f. based on predictive models for southwest Florida [Austin 1987; Beriault 1987] and others) were selected for testing; and 3) several low wet areas, in order to ensure that all natural environments were investigated.

Based on the background research and visual reconnaissance, it was anticipated that the project area had a low to moderate potential for the occurrence of prehistoric or historic archaeological sites (Figures 6.1 and 6.2). The type of sites anticipated to occur within the project area were artifact or lithic scatter type sites, although evidence of historic Seminole camps was not ruled out. Finally, given the results of the historic research, no evidence of 19th century homesteads, forts, or military trails were expected.

5.1.2 Historical/Architectural Considerations

A review of the Tuckers Corner, Fla. 1957, PR 1987, and Bermont, Fla. 1956, PR 1987 quadrangle maps revealed no potential for the presence of historic buildings within the historical APE. Based on historic research, no evidence of Seminole War era forts, 19th century roads, trails or routes was anticipated within the project APE.

5.2 Field Methodology

Archaeological field methodology consisted of an initial reconnaissance whereby the recommended survey areas were checked for the presence of surface cultural materials and/or features. Following ground surface inspection, subsurface shovel testing was carried out systematically and judgmentally. Shovel test pits were circular and measured approximately 50 cm (20 in) in diameter by at least 1 m (3.3 ft) in depth. All soil removed from the test pits was screened through .63 cm (.25 in) mesh hardware cloth to maximize the recovery of artifacts. The locations of all shovel tests were plotted on the aerial maps, and, following the recording of relevant data such as stratigraphic profile and artifact finds, all test pits were refilled.

Historic structures field methodology consisted of a preliminary reconnaissance survey of the historical APE to determine the location of any historic properties 50 years of age or older, and to ascertain if such resources within the project area could be eligible for listing in the NRHP. Although not anticipated, if structures were found, an in-depth study of the identified historic resources would be done, photographs taken, and information needed for completion of the FMSF forms gathered, including a physical description and interviews with residents and other individuals knowledgeable about the history of the area.

5.3 Laboratory Methods/Curation

Artifacts, if found, were to be cleaned and sorted by artifact class. Lithics would be divided into tools and debitage on the basis of gross morphology. Tools would be measured, and the edges examined with a 10x hand lens for traces of edge damage. Lithic debitage would be subjected to a limited technological analysis which focused on ascertaining the stages of stone tool production. Flakes would then be classified into types (primary decortication, secondary decortication, non-decortication, and shatter) on the basis of the amount of cortex on the dorsal surface and the shape. Aboriginal ceramics, if found, would also be subjected to limited analysis on the basis of temper, size of sherds, and function.

If discovered, artifacts would be curated at Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) in Sarasota, unless the client requested otherwise. In addition, other project related information is on file at ACI pending transfer to a FDOT designated repository.

5.4 <u>Unexpected Discoveries</u>

If human burial sites such as Indian mounds, lost historic and prehistoric cemeteries, or other unmarked burials or associated artifacts were found, then the provisions and guidelines set forth in Chapter 872, F.S. (Florida's Unmarked Burial Law) would be followed. None, however, were found during the cultural resource survey of the SR 31.

6.0 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Archaeological Results

Archaeological field survey included visual reconnaissance, ground surface inspection, and the excavation of a total of 170 shovel tests (Figures 6.1 and 6.2). These were systematically excavated at 328 ft (100 m) staggered intervals on both sides of the corridor. This resulted in a \pm 164 ft (50 m) testing strategy. However, no cultural materials were recovered. Typical stratigraphy of the SR 31 project area consists of an upper six inches of mottled tan/brown sand followed by 25 inches of gray sand and dark brown hard pan in undisturbed areas. Light brown or gray sand and limestone fill was found in various filled areas along the corridor.

6.2 Historical Results

In keeping with expectations derived from background research, the historical resources survey revealed an absence of historic resources within the historical APE. Thus, no historical resources listed or considered eligible for listing in the NRHP are located within the project APE.

6.3 Recommendations

As a result of the archaeological and historical field survey, no sites eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP were found within either the archaeological or historical APE. Thus, no further work is recommended.

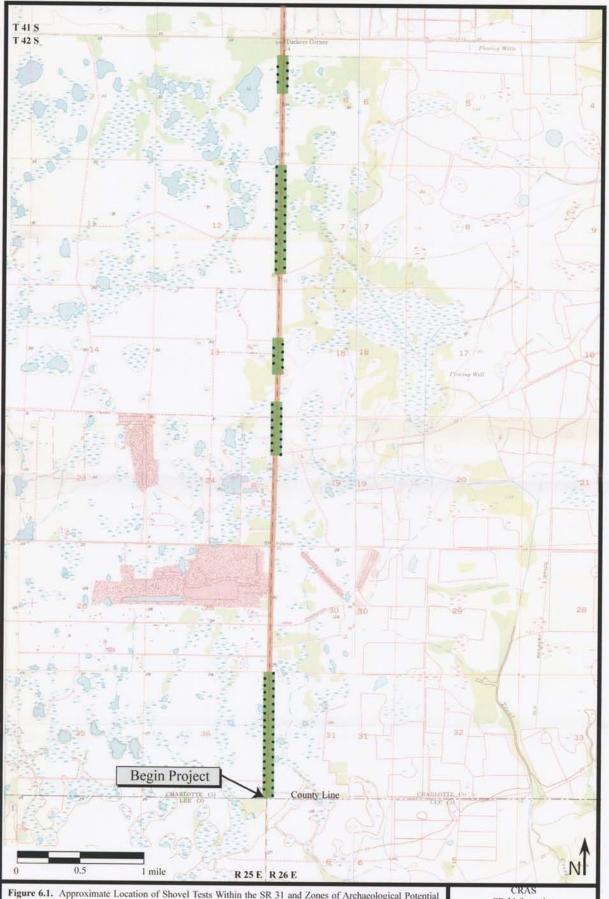


Figure 6.1. Approximate Location of Shovel Tests Within the SR 31 and Zones of Archaeological Potential (ZAPs), == Moderate ZAP, remainder of the SR 31 corridor is a low ZAP; Townships 41 and 42 South, Ranges 25 and 26 East (USGS Tuckers Corner, Fla. 1957, PR 1987; Telegraph Swamp, Fla. 1956, PR 1973). Shovel tests are not to scale.

SR 31 from the Lee County Line to CR 74 Charlotte County, Florida FPID No.: 198230 1 22 05

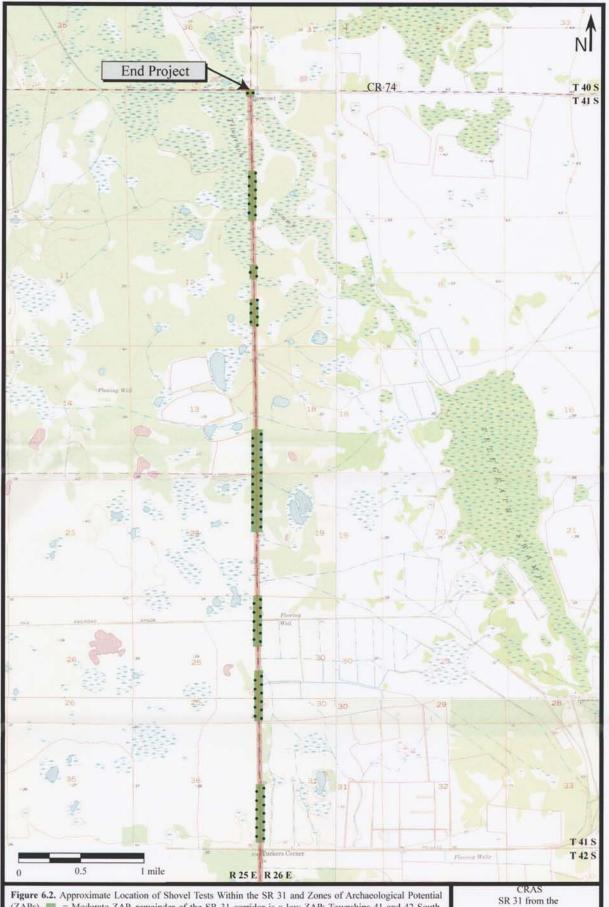


Figure 6.2. Approximate Location of Shovel Tests Within the SR 31 and Zones of Archaeological Potential (ZAPs), == Moderate ZAP, remainder of the SR 31 corridor is a low ZAP; Townships 41 and 42 South, Ranges 25 and 26 East (USGS Bermont, Fla. 1956, PR 1987; Telegraph Swamp NW 1956, PR 1973). Shovel tests are not to scale.

SR 31 from the Lee County Line to CR 74 Charlotte County, Florida FPID No.: 198230 1 22 05

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APPENDIX A: A Cultural Resource Assessment Research Design and Survey Methodology

CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT RESEARCH DESIGN AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY

SR 31 from Lee County Line to CR 74 Charlotte County, Florida

FPID No.: 198230-1-22-05

Preparation of this Research Design is the initial phase of a Cultural Resource Assessment Survey which will be conducted in accordance with requirements set forth in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and Chapter 267, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The purpose of the proposed work is to locate, identify, and areally delimit any prehistoric and/or historic period cultural resources contained within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) and to assess the significance of these resources as per the criteria of eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). To accomplish these aims, work is divided into three elements: Background Research, Field Survey, and Analysis/Report Preparation.

Background Research: A review of pertinent archaeological and historical literature and data will be conducted to identify resources in the general project area that have been previously recorded in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) and the NRHP. This effort will also collect sufficient data such that archaeological, historical, and environmental overviews of the project area may be prepared. In addition, this initial research will include a detailed visual reconnaissance of the Study Area, which extends from the Lee County Line to CR 74 (Figures 1.1 and 1.2). The archaeological overview will help identify areas of archaeological potential for the survey corridor, and provide the necessary context by which newly recorded prehistoric and historic archaeological sites may be evaluated. The historic overview will assist in determining the type of historic resources (50 years of age or older), including standing buildings and structures, which may be anticipated in the project area. This overview will also assist in the evaluation of each recorded historic resource in terms of its eligibility for listing in the NRHP. In addition to FMSF and NRHP data, information housed at the Charlotte County Property Appraiser's Office will be of particular utility for this project.

The background research, visual reconnaissance, and discussions with FDOT District One will be used to define the archaeological and historical APEs for this Cultural Resources Assessment Survey.

Archaeological Methodology: Based upon a standard archaeological predictive model for the Caloosahatchee archaeological region (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980), a review of the appropriate USGS Quadrangle maps (Bermont, Fla. 1956, PR 1987 and Tuckers Corner Fla. 1956, PR 1987; Telegraph Swamp NW, Fla. 1956, PR 1973), Charlotte County Soil Survey Report (USDA 1984), and cultural resource surveys in the project vicinity (ACI 2004; Fuhrmeister et al. 1991; Janus 1993; and HPA 1989), low and moderate zones of archaeological potential (ZAPs) were identified along SR 31 between the Lee County line and CR 74 (Figures 1.1 and 1.2). No high ZAPs were identified. At this initial stage, it appears that the general

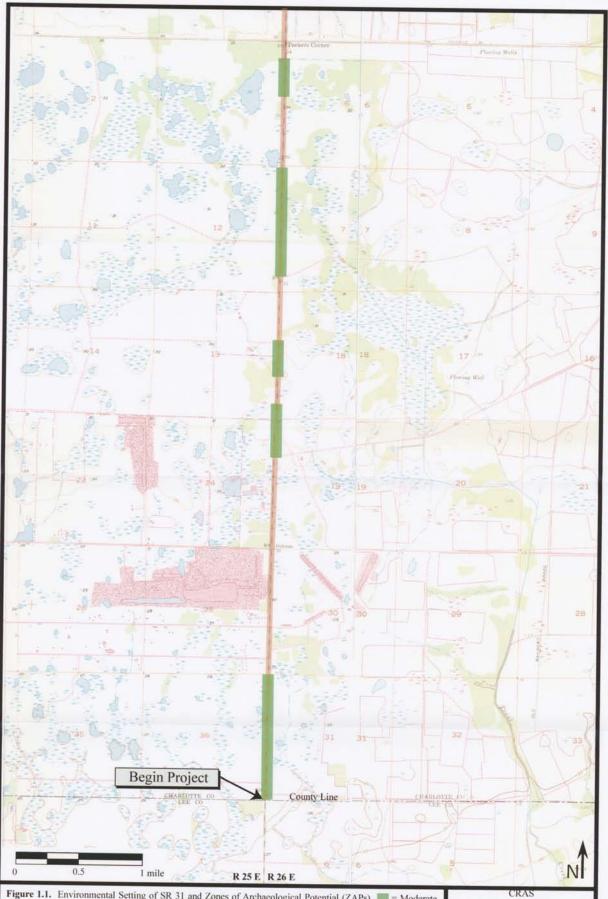


Figure 1.1. Environmental Setting of SR 31 and Zones of Archaeological Potential (ZAPs), == Moderate ZAP, remainder of the SR 31 corridor is a low ZAP; Townships 41 and 42 South, Ranges 25 and 26 East (USGS Tuckers Corner, Fla. 1957, PR 1987; Telegraph Swamp, Fla. 1956, PR 1973). Shovel tests are not to scale.

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to CR 74
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Figure 1.2. Environmental Setting of SR 31 and Zones of Archaeological Potential (ZAPs), = Moderate ZAP, remainder of the SR 31 corridor is a low ZAP; Townships 41 and 42 South, Ranges 25 and 26 East (USGS Bermont, Fla. 1956, PR 1987; Telegraph Swamp NW 1956, PR 1973).

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project corridor has a variable potential for prehistoric archaeological sites, and a low potential for the presence of historic archaeological sites. Archaeological testing will occur at 165 ft (50 m) and 328 ft (100 m) intervals in accordance with Part 2, Chapter 12 ("Archaeological and Historical Resources") of the FDOT *Project Development and Environment Manual* (January 1999) and the FDOT's 1997 Cultural Resource Management Handbook. Recent development and land altering activities may result in the down-grading of ZAPs during field work. Current FMSF data indicate that no archaeological sites have been recorded adjacent to the SR 31 corridor, and none has been recorded within a mile of the project.

If evidence of a human burial site or unmarked graves is found, the District will be notified and the provisions and guidelines set forth in Chapter 872, F.S. (Florida's Unmarked Burial Law) will be followed. Artifacts discovered during field survey will be cleaned and sorted by artifact class. Lithics will be divided into tools and debitage on the basis of gross morphology.

Historic Structures Methodology: Based on a review of the appropriate USGS maps (Belmont, Fla., Telegraph Swamp NW, Fla., and Tuckers Corner, Fla.) and data at the FMSF, it appears that no historical resources (50 years of age or older) are located along the SR 31 corridor within the project area. Historical field methodology will consist of a comprehensive review of historical literature, records, and other documents and data pertaining to the general project area. Background research will be followed by a visual reconnaissance survey of the preliminary historical APE to determine the location of any buildings and/or other structures believed to have been built over 50 years ago, and to ascertain if any such resources could be adjudged eligible or potentially eligible for NRHP consideration. This will be followed by an indepth study of each identified historic resource. Photographs will be taken and information needed for the completion of FMSF forms will be gathered. In addition to architectural descriptions, each historic property will be reviewed to assess style, historic context, and condition. Pertinent records housed at the Charlotte County Property Appraiser's Office and public libraries will be used to obtain information concerning site-specific building construction dates and/or possible association with individuals or events significant to local or regional history. Preliminary research indicates that no resources 50 years of age or older (buildings and/or bridges) are present within the study area.

Analysis and Report Preparation: ACI will process, analyze, and catalogue recovered cultural materials. Laboratory processing will include cleaning, stabilization (if required), packaging, and storage. Laboratory analysis will consist of the morphological and functional (if possible) classification of artifacts, and if diagnostic, the establishment of their cultural/temporal affiliations. Proper and detailed documentation of artifact provenience, number, type, and description will be maintained. Artifacts will eventually be transferred to the Department of Transportation pending a decision on their final disposition.

ACI will prepare a draft report presenting the methods, findings, evaluations, and recommendations of the cultural resource assessment of the archaeological and historic APEs and submit it to the District for review and comment. The report will conform to the standards set forth in Part 2, Chapter 12 of the PD&E Manual and the FDOT Cultural Resource Handbook, as well as to the standards embodied in the Historic Preservation Compliance Review Program

guide. Following the review of the document and receipt of comments, copies of the final report will be submitted to the Department of Transportation.

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Archaeological Consultants Incorporated (ACI) April 2004

Form Date 5/7/04

Survey Log Sheet Florida Master Site File

FMSF Survey# 10119

FMSF USE ONLY

Version 2.0 9/97

Consult Guide to the Survey Log Sheet for detailed instructions.

Recorder of Log Sheet Lee Hutchinson									
Identification and Bibliographic Information									
Survey Project (Name and project phase) SR 31, Phase I									
Survey Froject (Name and project phase)									
Is this a continuation of a previous project? X No Yes Previous survey#(s)									
Report Title (exactly as on title page) Cultural Resource Assessment Survey State Road 31 from the Lee/Charlotte County Line to SR 74, Charlotte County, Florida									
Report Author(s) (as on title page-individual or corporate)									
Archaeological Consultants, Inc.									
Publication Date (month/year) 5/04 Total Number of Pages in Report (Count text, figures, tables, not site forms) 45									
Publication Information (if relevant, series and no. in series, publisher, and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of									
American Antiquity. See Guide to the Survey Log Sheet.) Archaeological Consultants, Inc.									
P.O. Box 5103, Sarasota, FL 34277-5103									
Supervisor(s) of Fieldwork (whether or not the same as author[s]) Jodi B. Pracht									
Affiliation of Fieldworkers (organization, city) Archaeological Consultants, Inc.									
Key Words/Phrases (Don't use the county, or common words like archaeology, structure, survey, architecture. Put the most									
important first. Limit each word or phrase to 25 characters). SR 31, Tuckers Corner, Bermont									
Survey Sponsors (corporation, government unit, or person who is directly paying for fieldwork)									
Name URS Corporation									
Address/Phone 7650 Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, FL 33607 813-286-1711									
Mapping									
Counties (List each one in which field survey was done-do not abbreviate) Charlotte									
USGS 1:24,000 Map(s): Names/Dates: Tuckers Corner, Fla 1957, PR 1987									
Bermont, Fla 1956, PR 1987									
Remarks (Use supplementary sheet[s] if needed) No archaeological sites or historic structures found during survey.									
Description of Survey Area									
Dates for Fieldwork: Start 4/26/04 End 4/30/04 Total Area Surveyed (fill in one) hectares acres									
Number of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed 1									
If Corridor (fill in one for each) Width meters 150 feet Length kilometers 12 miles									
Types of Survey (check all that apply) X archaeological X architectural X historical/archival underwater other:									
HR6E06610-97 Florida Master Site File, Division of Historical Resources, Gray Building, 500 South Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250									
Phone 850-487-2299, Suncom 277-2299, Fax 850-921-0372, Email fmsfile@mail.dos.state.fl.us, Web http://www.dos.state.fl.us/dhr/msff									
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Survey Log Sheet of the Florida Master Site File

Research and Field Methods							
Preliminary Methods (Check as ma	ny as apply to the project as a whole. If neede	d write others at bottom).					
Florida Archives (Gray Building) Florida Photo Archives (Gray Building) FMSF site property search FMSF survey search other (describe)	library research - (local public) library-special collection- (non local) Public Lands Survey (maps at DEP) local informant(s)	local property or tax records X newspaper files X literature search Sanborn Insurance maps	X windshield survey X aerial photography				
Archaeological Methods (Describe the proportion of properties at which method was used by writing in the corresponding letter. Blanks are interpreted as "None.") F(-ew: 0-20%, S(-ome: 20-50%); M(-ost: 50-90%); or A(-II, Nearly all: 90-100%). If needed write others at bottom. Check here if NO archaeological methods were used.							
surface collection, controlled surface collection, uncontrolled A shovel test-1/4* screen shovel test-1/8* screen	other screen shovel test (size: water screen (finest size: posthole tests auger (size:)	block exca	neter				
shovel test-1/16" screen shovel test-unscreened other (describe):	coring test excavation (at least 1x2 m)	unknown					
Check here if NO historical/archited	demolition permitsoc exposed ground inspectedoc	100%). If needed write others at beginning interview subscupant interview tax	. •				
Scope/Intensity/Procedures baand judgmentally; photos and notes	ckground research, archaeologica s taken, report prepared	survey, 170 shovel tests at	50 and 100 m intervals				
	Survey Results (cultural reso	A GANGER CONTROL TEACHER AND AND AND ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF THE STA					
Site Significance Evaluated?							
	sure all are originals and not updates? Id ch supplementary pages if necessary. n		updates, ie, researched the FMSF				
Site Form Used: SmartForm	☐ FMSF Paper Form ☒ Approved		of written approval from FMSF d Supervisor-signed form.				
DO NOT USE BAR Related □ 872 □ 1Å32 □ CARL □ UW	**************************************	☐ State Histo	BHP Related one Preservation Grant e Review CRAT #				

ATTACH PLOT OF SURVEY AREA ON PHOTOCOPIES OF USGS 1:24,000 MAP(S)