FINAL REPORT ON THE LOCATION OF CEMETERIES, GRAVES, AND BURIAL GROUNDS IN RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Chicora Research Contribution 555

FINAL REPORT ON THE LOCATION OF CEMETERIES, GRAVES, AND BURIAL GROUNDS IN RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 555

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This report supersedes Chicora Foundation Research Contribution 550, *Provisional Location of Cemeteries, Graves, and Burial Grounds in Richland County, S.C.* Cemetery numbers, coordinates, and names have changed.

NOTICE

Cover Photograph

The cover photograph is of a gate found at Meetze Cemetery #4, CH-24.

But monuments themselves memorials need.

-- George Crabbe, The Borough, Letter 2

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

In 2012 Chicora began an ambitious project to identify cemeteries and associate them with tax parcels in order to help descendants and other researchers locate cemeteries. The work was also intended to help developers avoid finding cemeteries during the course of their projects, causing delays and additional financial burdens. We sought to provide a means of providing proactive, rather than reactive, preservation of cemetery resources.

Prior to this work there was no comprehensive listing of burial grounds in Richland County and the various unofficial lists were incomplete and contained numerous errors.

Chicora's first phase of this project, conducted between July 2012 and March 2013, was funded by the Richland County Conservation Commission. It collated on-line, unpublished, and published cemetery location information. No cemeteries were actually visited, but the final report identified locations for 463 cemeteries in Richland County; an additional 63 had only approximate locations, and 92 cemeteries had no locations.

This report documents the second, and final, phase of the project, conducted between July 30, 2013 and September 30, 2014. This phase was also funded by the Richland County Conservation Commission and it took the results from Phase 1 and sought to refine locations and visit each cemetery. Verbal directions were refined, UTM coordinates were obtained, a simple one page form was used to document current conditions, and photographs were taken.

The only exception to this occurred at cemeteries on Fort Jackson, where we were unable to obtain the cooperation of the base authorities and thus were unable to visit about 16 cemeteries.

As a result of this second phase, 503 cemeteries have been located in Richland County.

This is the equivalent of one cemetery every 1.5 square miles or a cemetery every 954 acres. In addition to the 503 cemeteries where locations are known, we have found an additional 41 cemeteries whose locations cannot be accurately determined. This brings the total number of cemeteries to 544. This is one cemetery every 1.4 square miles or one cemetery every 882 acres.

Of the documented cemeteries, 158 (31.4%) are thought to be African American and 293 (58.2%) are Euro-American. An additional 52 cemeteries (10.3%) are classified as "other," representing cemeteries where the ancestry of those buried cannot be determined and cemeteries that contain both African Americans and Euro-Americans.

Sadly, we found that 48 cemeteries or 9.6% were damaged, destroyed, or had been likely been removed.

While 10 cemeteries in Richland County are listed on the National Register, most of these represent what might be called "high status" cemeteries. This study recommends at least 52 additional cemeteries (about 10.3% of the total) as eligible for inclusion on the National Register, for reasons other than research potential.

This represents the most complete, inclusive, and through documentation of county cemeteries for South Carolina.

We also made a series of recommendations to better protect Richland County cemeteries.

- The County Planning and Development Services, the County Public Works Department, and the Permits Services Division must implement a review of the Cemetery GIS layer as a standard part of the planning, public works, and permitting process.

- If a cemetery is known or suspected to be present on the parcel, then the developer or property owner must retain a Registered Professional Archaeologist to conduct a survey to determine the presence and specific boundaries of the cemetery. It may also be necessary to obtain the services of a firm specializing in ground penetrating radar (GPS).

- Richland County should establish an ordinance that prohibits the burial of human remains (inclusive of cremains) in any location other than a properly established, licensed, and maintained commercial or religious cemetery.

- Any logging or expansion of farming operations (greater than 0.1 acre) must be viewed as a development activity and subject to the same requirements in order to protect burial locations.

- Richland County should enact an ordinance requiring that a bioanthropologist design and oversee all removals using archaeological techniques and that the remains are available for examination, minimally, for 24 hours.

- Richland County should require all funeral homes or contractors removing burials or cemeteries to provide a document identifying the burials being removed, a plat of the cemetery prior to removal, and documentation on where all remains are being reinterred to the Richland County GIS for entry in the cemetery layer.

- The creation of the cemetery layer must be a priority. The cemetery forms should be hyperlinked to the layer, providing critical information concerning location, size, condition, and photographs.

- The Richland County Conservation Department will need to evaluate whether the maintenance of the database is an activity that can be managed in-house or whether the work will need to be contracted out.

- In order to maintain the accuracy of the database, it is imperative that future researchers take greater precautions to provide accurate verbal locations and coordinate data.

While we understand that some of these recommendations will represent a departure from business as usual, it was this business as usual practice that has resulted in the loss or damage to 48 cemeteries – nearly 10% of those present in the county. If Richland County truly respects history and holds burial locations sacred, then these steps must be taken.

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Introduction

Richland County

Richland County is located in the approximate center of South Carolina, about 104 miles northwest of Charleston, 85 miles south-southwest of Charlotte, and 97 miles southeast of Greenville. Its 2011 population was 389,116, a 1.2% increase from 2010. It is the second most populous county, behind Greenville County with 469,211 individuals in 2011.

Today the population of Richland County is about evenly divided between whites (48.9%) and African Americans (46.3%). The distribution of races, however, is not evenly divided. For example, Southeast Richland County (Census Tracts 117, 118, 119, and 120) is predominately African American (68%) with Census Tract 117.2 consisting of over 93% African Americans. In fact, Lower Richland contains one of the largest concentrations of African-American-owned lands
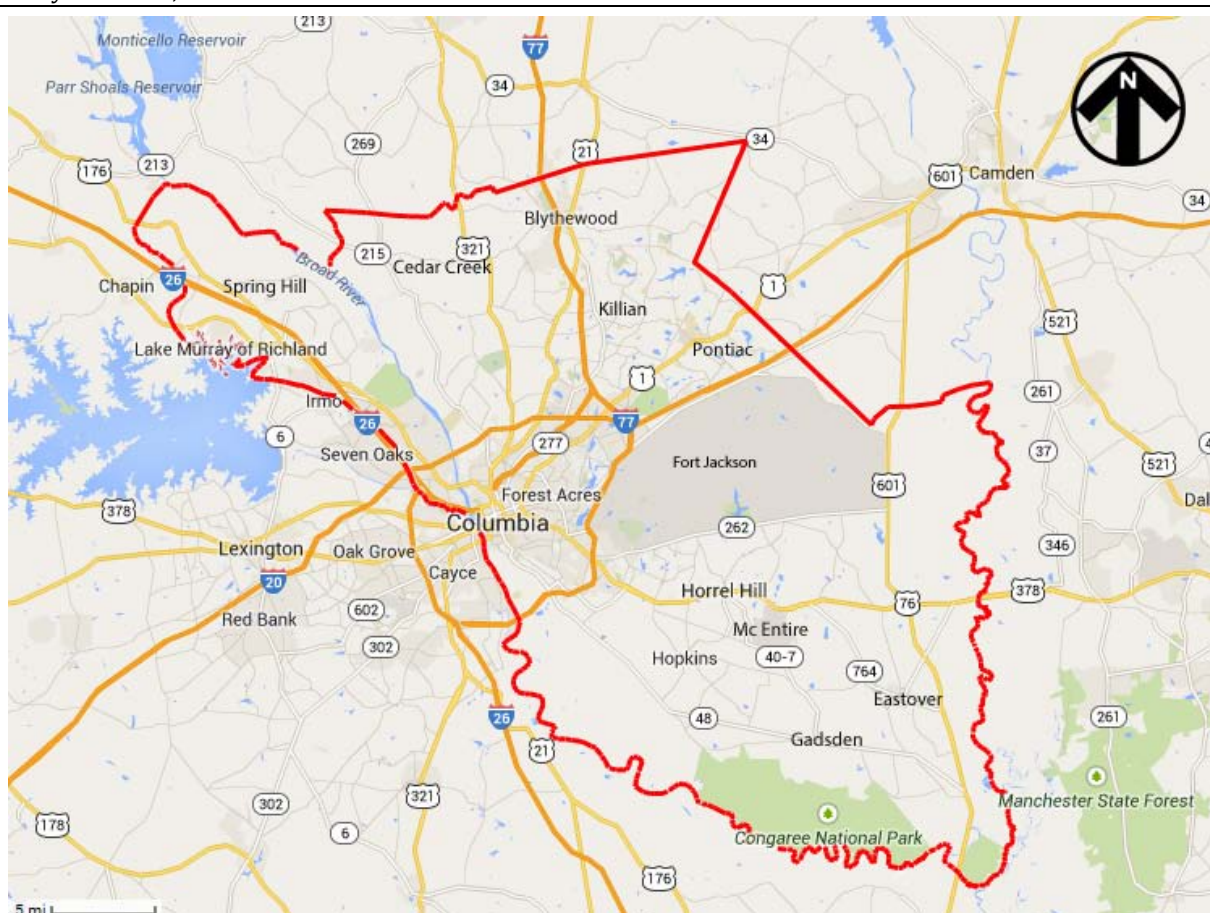
Figure 1. Richland County in the Midlands of South Carolina.

in the U.S. Just about two-thirds of the 330-square miles of land in this area is owned by African-Americans, many of whom are descendents of slaves who purchased property from white plantation owners after the end of the Civil War. In contrast, Northwest Richland County (Census Tracts 103.06 and 103.07) is heavily white (86%).

Richland County covers 484,186 acres of land or 771.74 square miles (756.54 square miles of land and 15.21 square miles of water). A third of the county is situated in the Piedmont Plateau, with the remaining two-thirds located in the Atlantic Coastal Plain. The county is bordered by the Wateree River to the east and the Congaree and Saluda rivers to the west. The Broad River runs through the county (Figure 1).

Columbia, the state capital, is the largest city in both the county and state with a population of about 130,000. Columbia incorporates a total area of 772 square miles, although slightly over 10% of that (81.2 square miles) is contained within Fort Jackson.

By the late 1970s it was recognized that the County was rapidly urbanizing. Between 1880 and 1930 the number of farms in Richland County increased by about 30%, with the highest number occurring in 1920 when 3,889 farms were enumerated. By 1950 there were 2,444 farms in Richland County. Twenty years later, the number had declined to 530 and by 2007 there were only 364 farms in the County.

This decline is shown graphically in

Figure 2. Map showing areas of farmland loss to rapid development in Richland County (adapted from "Farming on the Edge: Sprawling Development Threatens America's Best Farmland").
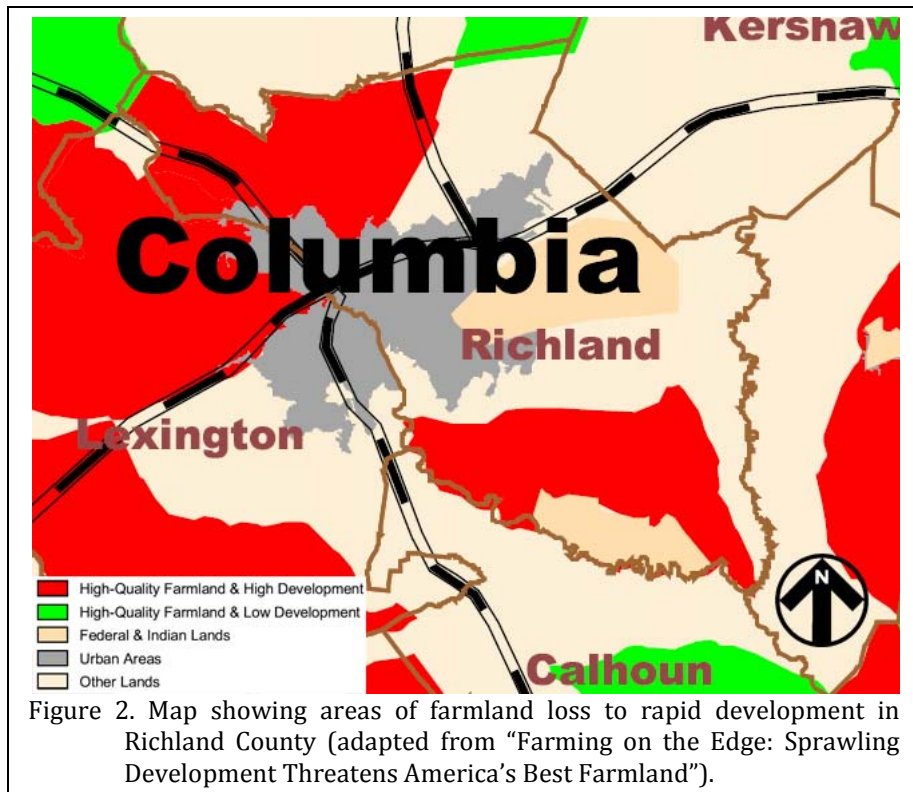
Figure 2 which illustrates areas of high quality farmland and high development. In these areas there is relatively rapid loss of open space and farmland to development.

Consistent with the decline in rural, agricultural land, nearly two-thirds of the housing units in Richland County were built after 1970. Some areas of the County, such as the Broad River Road corridor, were largely built out by the late 1970s, allowing few additional areas for development. By 2004 the Central Midlands Council of Governments was noting an increase in building permits for the Hopkins area of southeast Richland County, further evidence of the increase in development and decline in rural areas.

Figure 3 shows the percent of urbanization in Richland County, revealing that a significant portion of the County has already been heavily developed. In fact, the development trend in Richland County is continuing, with the January 13, 2013 *The State* newspaper identifying the Dutch Fork and Richland Northeast as "hot spots"

Figure 3. Percent of urbanization in Richland County (darker colors = greater urbanization).
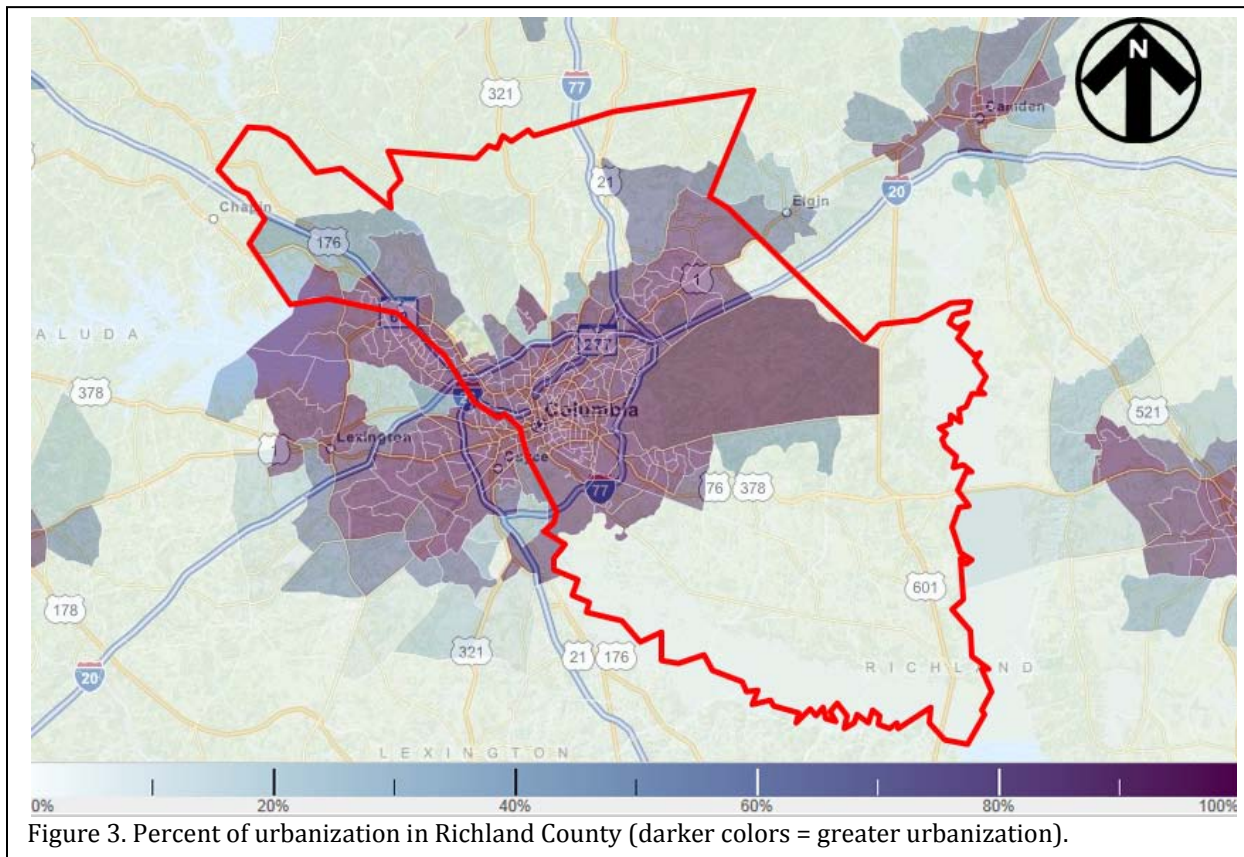
of development.

Brief History

There are multiple historic syntheses for Richland County, including Green (1932) and Moore (1993), as well as more regional accounts such as Hennig (1936) and Hopkins (1976). Research conducted on upper Richland County architectural sites produced an overview (Martin et al. 2002), as did a similar survey of lower Richland County (Jaeger Company 1993). There are also much more specific research works such as Applied History Program (1985), Trinkley et al. (2006) and Clement (2009). It's worth noting that Clement has observed,

> understanding the history of Richland County has proven difficult. No real comprehensive local history exists. Historians have chosen to focus much of their research effort on Columbia, while the rural parts of the county have been included almost as an afterthought (Clement 2009:14).

Consequently, this discussion will be both brief and generalized.

Settlement in Richland County began about the middle of the eighteenth century with Governor Robert Johnson's 1730 creation of 11 townships to encourage backcountry settlement. Those affecting what would become Richland County included Congaree Township in today's Lexington County and Amelia Township in what is today Calhoun County. Congaree was renamed Saxe-Gotha Township in 1735 and both of these areas were dominated by German Lutherans. Settlement spilled over into the area between the Congaree and Wateree Rivers by the late 1730s.
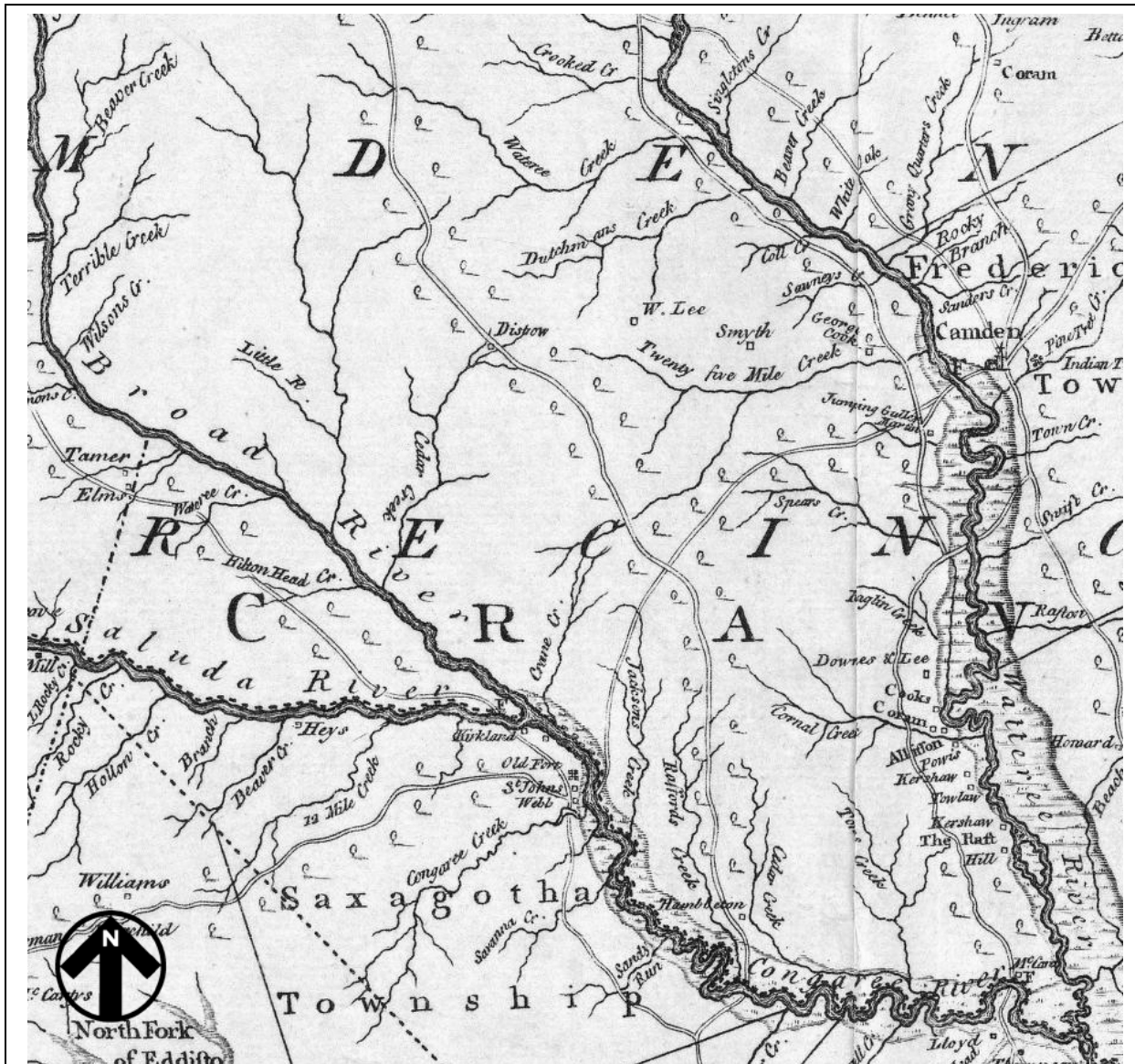
Figure 4. A portion of the 1773 James Cook *A Map of the Province of South Carolina* showing the vicinity of what would become Richland County.

Further encouraging settlement was the bounty system, introduced in 1751. This placed a tax or duty on imported African slaves to fund a bounty for white Protestants in an effort to even the ratio of free whites and African slaves in the colony. While the bounty expired in 1758, it attracted a very large number of settlers to the middle of the colony.

Another factor encouraging settlement in the vicinity of Richland County was the French and Indian War (1754–1763). The hostilities further north drove many inhabitants of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia into the

Figure 5. Mills' *Atlas* map of Richland District in 1825.
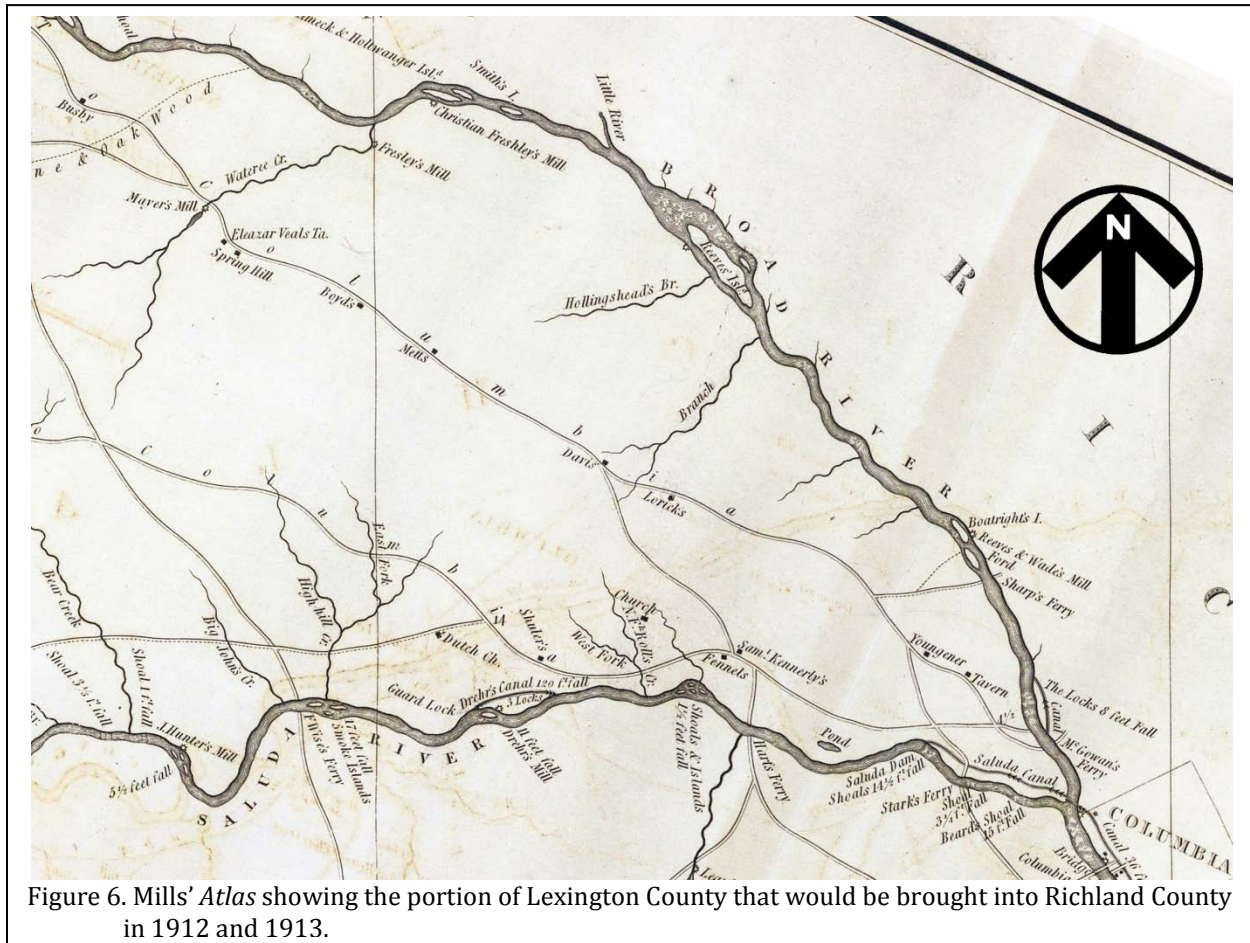
Figure 6. Mills' *Atlas* showing the portion of Lexington County that would be brought into Richland County in 1912 and 1913.

Carolinas. Coupled with this was the 1757 Treaty of Saluda in which the Cherokee gave up the land embracing the present counties of Edgefield, Abbeville, Laurens, Newberry, Saluda, McCormick, Union, Spartanburg, Cherokee, Chester, Fairfield, a portion of York, and Richland.

The development of the Midlands was affected by issues such as water transportation, roads, ferries, and other aspects of the geography. Many of the settlers in "the Congarees" and "the Waterees" conducted a brisk business shipping corn, oats, peas, and other crops downriver to Charleston. Nevertheless, efforts to improve water navigation were not always successful. For example, commissioners organized to clear the Wateree River of obstructions in 1753 and again in 1791 and 1804. These efforts were unsuccessful

and it required a stock holding company, the Catawba and Wateree Company, to finally improve navigation by 1815.

Roads, while less important, were not ignored. In 1766 the "Act to Establish a Public Road to lead from the Ferry commonly called M'Cord's Ferry on Congaree River to Fishing Creek on the Catawba River" was approved by the General Assembly. By 1773 the road was in existence and was often called the Camden High Road. Today it is US 601.

The Camden District, encompassing the territory between the Broad and Congaree rivers on the west and the Lynches River on the east to the border with Georgetown District to the south, was established in 1769.

The American Revolution had little impact on Richland County. Although Camden, to the east, fell to the British in 1780, a skirmish at Fort Granby, to the south, in 1781 was won by the Americans who took possession of the fort. Additional skirmishes were also fought at Friday's Ferry and Juniper Spring in nearby Lexington County (Lipscomb 1991). It seems that most of the region's farmers were supportive of the patriot forces. By 1782, the British had been forced out of the upcountry.

Richland District is one of seven districts or counties that were taken from the Camden District organized in 1768. Created in 1785, Richland was the result of increased interior population and demand for local government. Because of Columbia's central location, it became the state capital in 1786, although it wasn't until the promotion of the cotton gin in the 1790s that cotton became the economic backbone of the region. Mills (1972 [1826]: 697) remarked that "everything is neglected for the culture of cotton," likely because of the rich lands around the new capital yielded upwards of 500 pounds of cotton per acre. Mills' 1825 *Atlas* shows the gradual increase in plantations spreading out around Columbia (Figure 5). Figure 6 shows the portion of Lexington that would eventually come into Richland County and Figure 7 shows the portion of Fairfield that would also become part of Richland.

The dependence on cotton resulted in the failure to diversify crops and establish any meaningful industry (see, however, Adams and Trinkley 1992 for a discussion of the Columbia Canal and Trinkley 1993 for a discussion of the Palmetto Foundry). It also resulted in the number of African American slaves increasing from 1,451 in 1790 (when there were 2,479 white residents) to 3,168 in 1800 (at which time there were only 2,929 whites in the county). This disparity of population continued until 1920.

Figure 7. Mills' *Atlas* showing the portion of Fairfield County that would be brought into Richland County in 1913.

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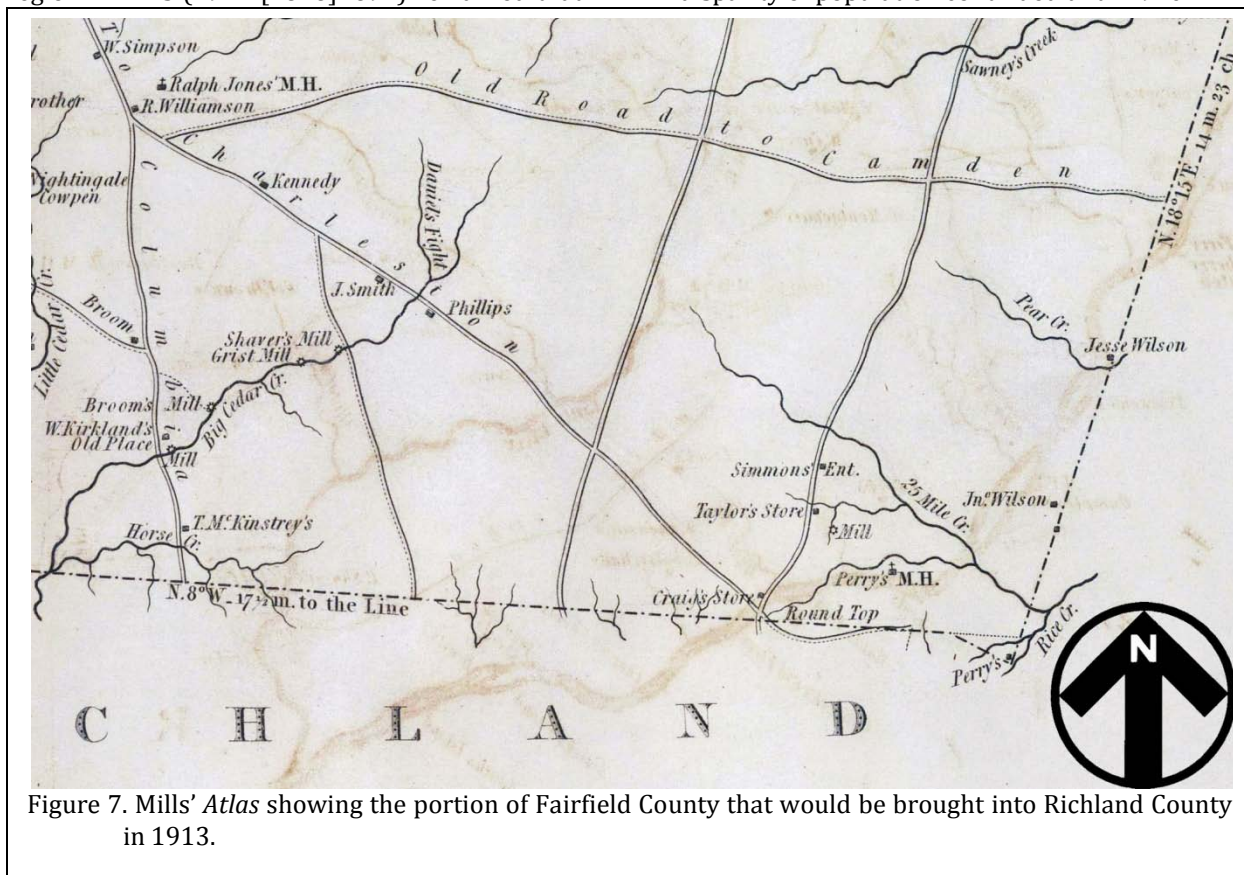
On the eve of the Civil War, Richland County contained 203 farms (including plantations) incorporating 77,118 acres of improved land (38.6% of the total). These farms produced 9,946 bales of cotton (down from 11,400 bales produced in 1850), 223.401 bushels of corn, and 18,125 bushels of oats. Not all farms were equal, however. While the average farm contained 380 acres, about 38% of the county's farms (77) included less than 100 acres and only 12% (25) contained more than 1,000 acres. In addition, 54% of the slave owners (326) held fewer than 10 slaves; only 8% (51) held more than 50 slaves.

Although it is not possible to examine this data by regions of Richland County, it appears that the bulk of the larger plantations were situated in Lower Richland, while to the northwest there were primarily smaller farmers. This reflects the distribution of African Americans even today.

Just as the area saw little activity during the American Revolution, the Civil War had little impact in the Richland County area. In fact, it is likely that the greatest action was seen at the end of the war in 1865, when General William T. Sherman marched toward Columbia rather than Charleston as was expected.

The Left Wing, under the command of Major General Henry W. Slocum, passed through Blackville, Lexington, and Winnsboro, then crossed the border into North Carolina, occupying Fayetteville. On the other flank, Major General O.O. Howard's command went through Pocotaligo, Orangeburg, Columbia, Cheraw, and rendezvoused with Slocum's troops in Fayetteville. Both wings destroyed cotton, railroad tracks and equipment, military stockpiles, factories and mills, as well as private homes, barns, and stores (Glatthaar 1985:122).

Southern apologists have long blamed Sherman for the burning of Columbia on February 17 and 18, 1865 and some Columbia natives claimed that they witnessed drunken Union soldiers roaming the streets and setting fires. In contrast, Sherman placed the blame squarely on Confederate General Wade Hampton.

The most recent – and most professional – assessment is that by Marion B. Lucas (2000), who finds that the burning of the city resulted from a series of fires, beginning with the cotton that was set on fire by retreating Confederate forces. This cotton had been stored in huge piles on Richardson Street, in what was known as the Cotton Town section of Columbia. While both city firemen and Union troops sought to extinguish the blazes, a strong wind carried the fire to other locations. Adding to the problem was the city's freeing of prison inmates, blacks celebrating their freedom, and Union soldiers who were either given liquor by Columbia's citizens or raided stores. Thus, while Union forces were not as well disciplined as they should have been, there is more than enough blame to be placed on the Confederates for not removing the cotton or, alternatively, declaring Columbia an open town. In addition, while Southerners like to claim that Sherman destroyed virtually the entire city, no less a son of the South than William Gilmore Simms determined that only 458 buildings – or about a third of the city's total – were actually destroyed.

The immediate postbellum period was difficult for many in South Carolina – black and white alike. The loss of property and life, the near total destruction of transportation networks and industrial facilities, combined with the collapse of traditional financing and slave labor, created a situation of exceptional misery. The Union failed to follow through on provisions to ensure the safety, education, and self-sufficiency of its new black citizens and the South sought measures to re-establish the old order. Contracts, and eventually the Black Codes, created something approaching a new form of slavery.

The number of small farms grew dramatically from 203 in 1860 to 1,138 in 1870. There was also a significant decline in size. While 38% of the county's farms (77) included less than 100 acres in 1860, that proportion increased to nearly 80% (901) in 1870.
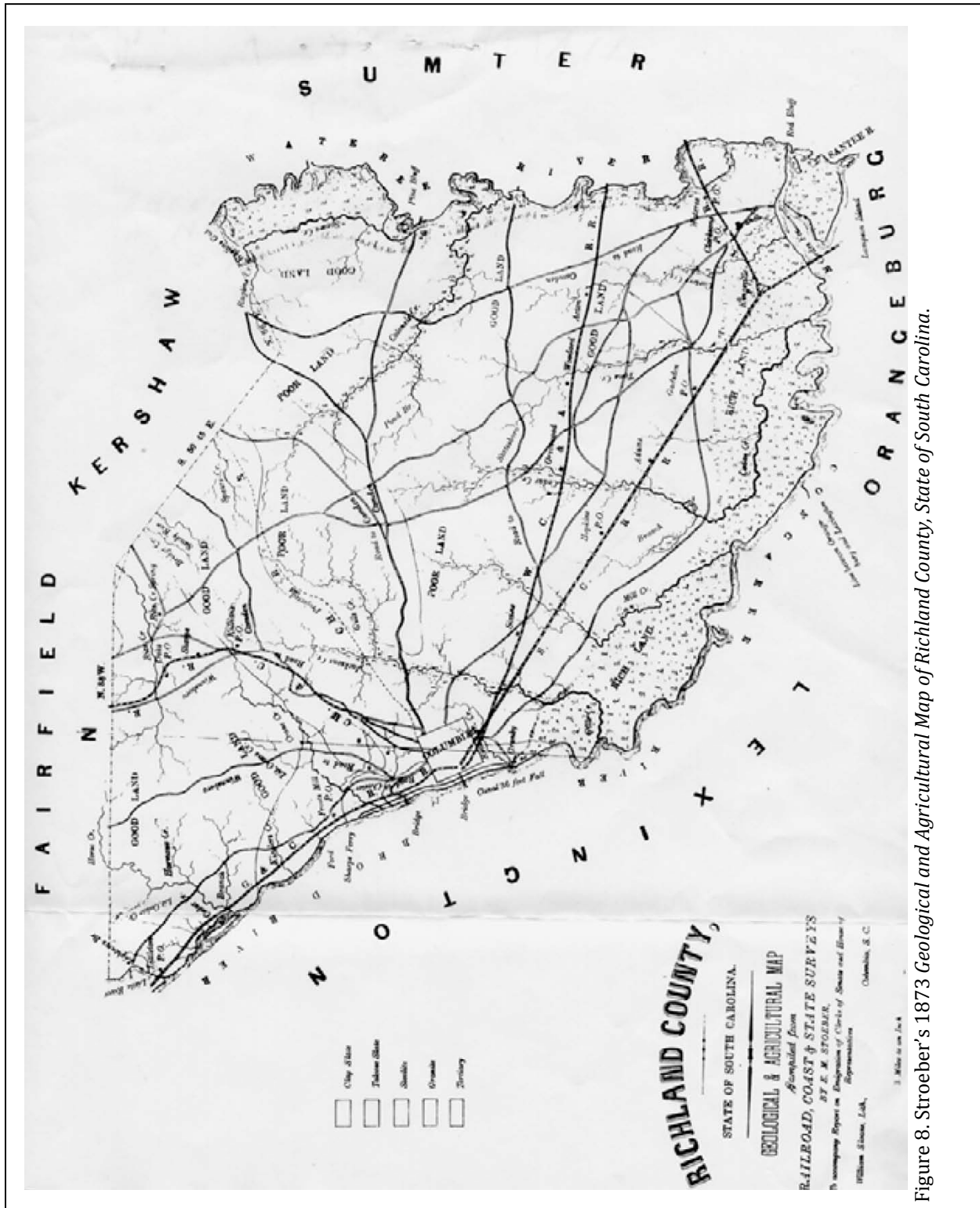
Figure 8. Stroeber's 1873 *Geological and Agricultural Map of Richland County, State of South Carolina.*

By 1880 there were 21 grist mills, four foundries, 12 lumber mills, and 17 turpentine mills in Richland County, capitalized at just under half a million dollars. These industrial activities were largely small operations – only one of the grist mills, for example, was a merchant mill. The rest were scattered around the county and ground corn into meal for immediate neighborhood wants, operating one or two days a week.

Agricultural activities were no more focused. The county boasted only one sower, 50 reapers, and three sulky plows, although there were over 2,200 guano distributors and nearly 750 harrows. The vast majority of agricultural activities were still conducted by hand, with over 85% of the labor supplied by blacks. There were 1,540 white owned farms operated by blacks, and the wage system (with daily wages ranging from 30¢ to 50¢) and sharecropping were both equally used. Like elsewhere in South Carolina the white owners reported their laborers to be inefficient. In fact, it was suggested that "the large tracts of land now owned by a few proprietors should be sold to working white men in small areas, instead of being rented to colored tenants, who injure it by bad cultivation" (The News and Courier 1880:n.p.). It was figured that each pound of cotton cost about 8¢ to produce (or about $40 per bale), with 72% of that cost occurring during the raising of the cotton.

In 1889 there were only 10 communities worthy of the name outside of Columbia, including Action, Blythewood, Bookmans, Cedar Creek, Congaree, Gadsden, Hopkins, Killian's Turnout, Kingville, and Wateree. These 10 communities could claim only 25 businesses, with four each in Gadsden, Hopkins, and Killian's Turnout (R.G. Dun 1889).

By 1907, corn was planted on almost as many acres as cotton (30,399 acres compared to 35,182 acres of cotton). Industry was more common, including brick works, lumber mills, quarries, and most importantly, cotton mills. In fact, the Olympia Mill was the largest cotton mill under one roof in the world with 10 acres of floor space, 100,000 spindles, and 2,250 looms (State Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Immigration 1907:560).

Moore comments that one by-product of the postbellum dissolution of large plantations was "the creation of village life" (Moore 1993:210). There were a number of small rail towns which also served as post offices. Following the pattern established at least by the early nineteenth century, most of the settlements were situated along the major road networks, not along the creeks and streams, which offered limited transportation potential.

R.G. Dun identified 17 commercial centers outside of Columbia. The largest in terms of commercial firms was Eastover with 28 establishments, including 12 general stores, five groceries, three garages, two saw mills, a drug store, a dry goods store, a service station, a cigar and confectioner, and a hardware store (Dun 1928). In contrast, nearby Hopkins boasted only 11 businesses. Blythewood listed 20 establishments. Communities no longer extant included Bookman, Congaree, Dents, English, Hilton, Jacobs, James Crossing, Lisbon, and Weston.

Richland County's boundaries remained unchanged until 1912 when 710 square miles were gained from Lexington County. This area included the territory between Lake Murray and the Broad River, including areas today known as Ballentine, White Rock, and Spring Hill. The boundary was further extended into Lexington County in 1913 with the additional acquisition of 720 square miles. Also in 1913 Richland County gained 760 square miles from Fairfield County, encompassing the area north of Blythewood (Long 1997:197-199; Figure 9).

The Great Depression of the 1930s was perhaps less disruptive in the Columbia area than many other places. Loften (1977) suggests that the diversified industrial base of Columbia, combined with its strong professional orientation helped buffer it from the depression's effects. More to the point, outside the city agriculture was
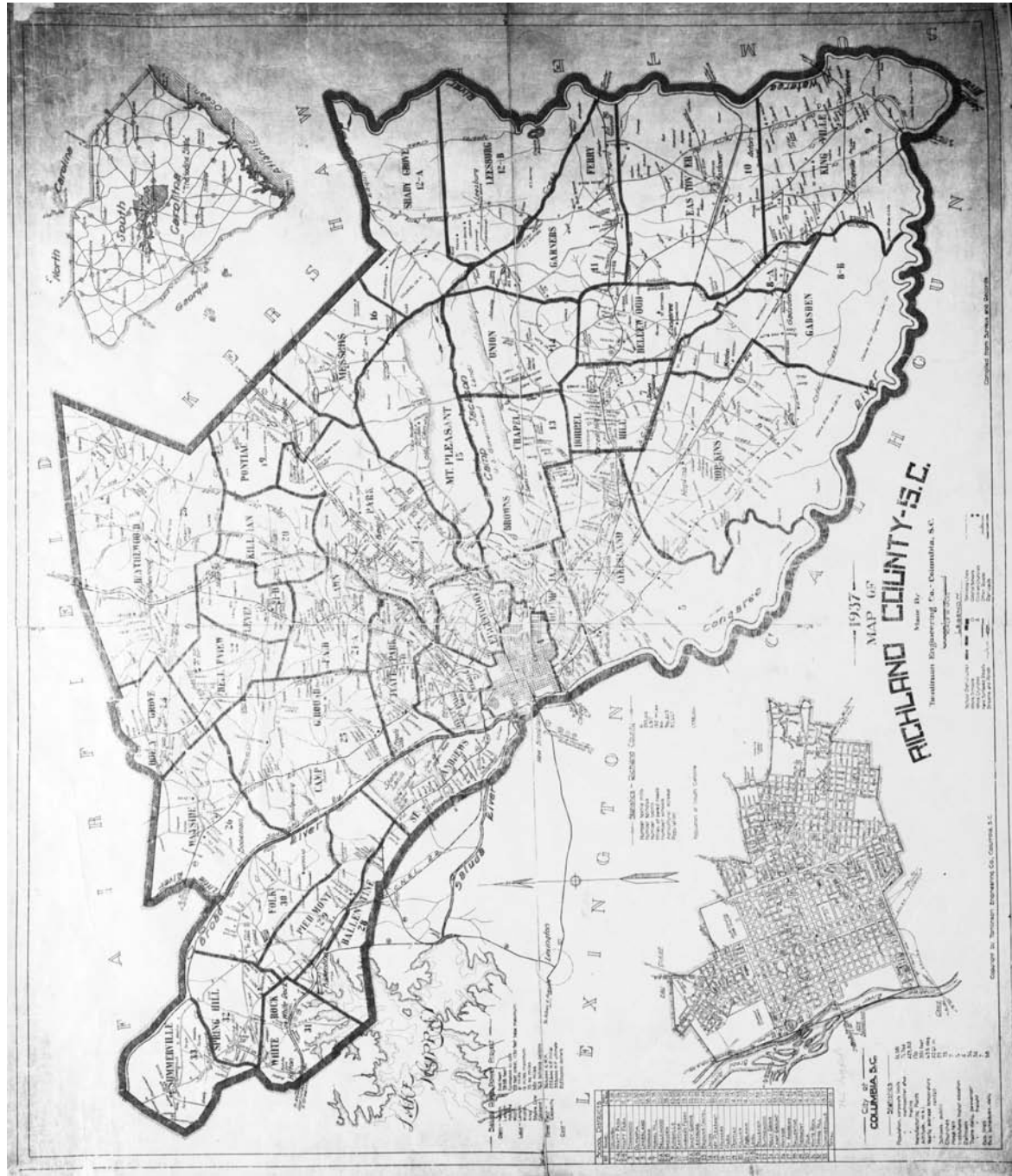
Figure 9. Tomlinson's 1937 Map of Richland County.

already so depressed that there were no abrupt changes in the farming community – many farm laborers were already out of work or were marginally surviving. The number of farms in Richland County was declining during the first quarter of the twentieth century (from 2,927 in 1900 to 2,748 in 1910). Although a change in the method of calculating farm units increased the number to 3,889 in 1920, the number again steadily declined to 2,787 in 1930 and 2,428 in 1940. Just as the number of farms declined, so too did the acres in farms, from a high of 238,193 in 1900 to 191,430 in 1930. Most telling, however, was the decline in farm values. In 1920, the average farm value for Richland County was $5,575 or about $54.11/acre. Within 10 years about half of this average value was lost – in 1930 the average value was calculated at $2,852. While the value held steady between 1930 and 1940, the value per acre continued to slip from nearly $42 in 1930 to only about $33 in 1940.

Replacing agriculture in Richland County was an increased dependence on industrial and governmental activities. While the county was largely urban even as early as 1920, when 51.3% of the population lived in urban areas, this increased to 61.6% by 1940.

Why Preserve?

Preservationists may take the question "why preserve" for granted; yet it remains an important issue, especially in the current economic climate. It is useful to provide at least some brief discussion of why preservation of Richland County's cemeteries is a worthwhile – even critical – goal for the County and its citizens.

Cemeteries are different from all other types of historic sites (Figure 10). Most fundamentally they contain the physical remains of past generations and are considered sacred, consecrated ground. The right to a decent burial has long been recognized in common law. So, too, is the duty to continue a cemetery once begun. Thus an entity, opening a cemetery, creates a duty to execute the trust and maintain the cemetery for the benefit of the public or family – even if the property is sold.

Cemeteries are also artistic sites, such as a sculpture garden or outdoor museum that contains a collection of three-dimensional artifacts. The monuments trace changes in both designs and social attitudes toward religious and moral views, death and eternity. They provide examples of the largely disappeared art of stone carving, illustrating numerous famous artisans. Even cemeteries with vernacular art in concrete are important to preserve since there are few artisans remaining who work in this material. These cemeteries are permanent collections, but must be considered finite and irreplaceable.

These collections are archives, having the same value and importance to the community as any paper or digital archives. They are storehouses of genealogical information that often cannot be identified through any other means. They provide information concerning both the individual and collective pasts. South Carolina death certificates do not exist prior to 1915 and not all deaths were recorded, especially for African Americans. Often the stone is the only record of that individual's life or relations in the community.

Part of this archive is the archaeological and bioanthropological information cemeteries contain – even if the site is never excavated. The graves and tombs can provide information on mortuary behavior, such as the coffins and hardware chosen by relatives. The human remains can provide information on diet, disease, and burial practices – information that is available from no other source.

Cemeteries are also scenic landscapes, similar to parks or open spaces, except they are much more. They are far more fragile and susceptible to damage and deterioration. As such they require distinctly different care.

Thus, cemeteries are important social, historic, architectural, and archaeological artifacts. When there is little else physically remaining of a community's earliest history, there will often be a

Figure 10. Why cemeteries are important – they are sacred sites, containing human remains (upper left photo); they are outdoor museums, containing a range of iron work, stone monuments, and landscape plantings (upper right); they are storehouses of genealogical information, often available nowhere else (lower left); and they are scenic landscapes and open spaces. All of these unique features contribute to the quality of life enjoyed by Richland County's citizens.

cemetery that provides a unique tie to the community's collective past that would otherwise be lost.

Beyond these ties to the community's history and the ethical responsibility of caregivers, the preservation of our past also has clear economic benefits to a community. These serve to dispel the argument that while history may be important, there are more pressing needs. History can, in fact, generate the economic stimulus to help address the other needs of a community.

Taking just a few examples from the numerous studies available:

- Historic preservation activities generate more than $1.4 billion of economic activity in Texas each year.

- Rehabilitation of historic properties in Georgia during a five-year period created 7,550 jobs and $201 million in earnings.

- Each dollar of Maryland's historic preservation tax credit leverages $6.70 of economic activity within that State.

- In one year, direct and indirect expenditures by heritage tourists in Colorado reached $3.1 billion.

- A New York state study found that prices of houses in historic districts are higher

than those of similar houses outside historic districts.

- A detailed Massachusetts study found that heritage tourism travelers spend "considerably more" than other travelers and that most come from out of state, further accentuating the economic contribution of heritage tourism. The study found that heritage tourists contributed an estimated $2.5 billion annually over the 1998 through 2000 period. Considering both direct and multiplier effects, Massachusetts received annually from heritage tourism 53,000 jobs; $1.2 billion in income; $1.8 billion in gross state product; $559 million in taxes (including $301 million in state-local taxes); and annual in-state wealth creation of about $1.5 billion.

Thus, we see a broad range of reasons why we should be concerned about the preservation of Richland County's cemeteries. As a colleague has noted, "the ultimate significance . . . is the aggregate sum of its parts" (Walker-Kluesing Design Group 2001:3). In fact, we would argue that the significance is actually greater than the sum of its parts.

The Project

At the conclusion of the first phase of this project, conducted by Chicora between July 2012 and March 2013, 463 cemeteries were identified in Richland County (Trinkley and Hacker 2013). This initial phase was conducted entirely in the office and consisted of collecting published locations, investigating plats showing cemetery locations, as well as soliciting locations from the public. The project did not include any field investigations or verification. Thus, locations were based on directions, maps, Google Street View, Google Earth, and Richland County aerials. We warned users of the resulting report that, without field verification, errors should be anticipated. We felt that about 400 of these cemeteries were well located, with an additional 63 cemeteries having only approximate locations.

That initial study should be examined for information regarding the origin of the data and other specifics. ***However, this report supersedes that earlier report. Some cemetery numbers and names have changed. Many locations have changed. Therefore, we strongly recommend that the initial report be used for background information only. Locations, coordinates, tax map numbers, and other details should only be used for this current report.***

The Current Project

Recognizing that the initial study was not designed to incorporate field verification, Chicora Foundation offered a second proposal to the Richland County Conservation Commission in 2012 to visit all of the cemeteries initially identified in order to refine or verify locations. This second phase would also continue to solicit cemetery locations from the public.

It is worth explaining that this second phase of the project was never intended to be a comprehensive survey. In other words, we continued to rely on the public and other researchers to provide locations.

Our goal was to verify that information and collect additional documentation. It should be obvious that it would be cost prohibitive to survey all 484,186 acres of Richland County, searching the woods for evidence of burial grounds.

We have been asked our opinion regarding the proportion of cemeteries that are currently identified. Although this report documents 503 cemeteries (with another 41 known to exist, but which today cannot be located), these may represent only 60-70% of the cemeteries in Richland County. This, of course, is only an educated guess, but it is based on a careful review of such factors as the total number of antebellum plantations and rural farms (each of which is likely to have had a burial ground), clear gaps present in some areas of the county, and the level of development that likely obscured or destroyed cemeteries in other areas.

Thus, it should be expected that additional cemeteries will continue to be discovered and Richland County must make provisions to ensure that new finds continue to be recorded.

Like the initial project, the goal of this current study was not to transcribe stones – this has been or is being done by a number of different genealogical organizations (although almost none of the organizations are doing complete transcriptions). Among the most important published sources are the *Cemetery Records of Richland County* (Columbia Chapter SCGS n.d. a, n.d. b, n.d. c, n.d. d, n.d. e, n.d. f), the compilation of cemeteries from northern Richland County (Rakes 2002), the listing of African American cemeteries

(Vaughan 2000), and the recordation of cemeteries on Fort Jackson by Lael Hoopes (1982).

Nor was the goal to photograph each stone – a project that would be extraordinarily difficult and time consuming. And the project was also not intended to provide detailed boundaries. Such work is likely to require a day or more at many of the cemeteries – and thus would also be extremely costly.

Simply put, the goal of this project was to track down and adequately document cemeteries that were provided to us, either by additional public input or the first phase of this project.

Methodology

"Cemetery" was defined broadly by this study to include not only places of in-ground burial, but also scattering gardens and columbaria since all contain human remains. The study also includes one pet cemetery, located on Fort Jackson. This site was included since it has been assigned a number by the Fort. It appears to be the only formal or commercial pet cemetery in Richland County.

We also chose to include locations where cemeteries are reported to have been located but were "removed." The primary reason for this is that S.C. law has never required archaeological involvement, so removals have been conducted by commercial funeral homes using unskilled labor. We have previously illustrated the techniques used in such endeavors (Trinkley et al 2011b:150) and it is clear that these removals often do not identify, or remove, all of the human remains present. Thus, even where cemeteries have been "removed," there is good reason to believe that human remains – including scattered fragments as well as entirely undetected burials – are still present.

It is our professional opinion that unless burial removals have been conducted by trained bioanthropologists, cemeteries should not be considered entirely removed. The only exception is removal of modern interments when it is possible to document that all burials were in vaults and that all vaults have been accounted for.

In order to standardize the information gathered at each cemetery visited, a form was developed and approved by the Richland County Conservation Department (Figure 11). This form included several photographs of each cemetery, typically with one being from a distance in order to develop perspective and the other providing a closer view.

Cemeteries were broken into two broad groups – those that we felt could be easily identified and those that would require additional research. Those that were easily found, for example church cemeteries, were visited in the fall and winter of 2013. More difficult to locate cemeteries were visited during the spring and summer of 2014. We realize that this was a strategic mistake, but it could not be helped given other scheduling issues.

At each cemetery the pertinent information needed for the form was gathered, several photographs were collected, and UTM coordinates were collected. These activities typically required about 10 minutes per location. Much more time was spent getting to the various cemeteries than was usually spent collecting the necessary information.

The first 75% of the cemeteries were visited in a matter of several months. The remaining cemeteries – those with far less precise locations - required about five months. Much of this time was spent attempting to identify individuals familiar with the cemeteries who could provide locational information.

The time necessary to complete the project was far in excess of what we anticipated. This can be directly attributed to several factors:

1. Perhaps the most significant issue is the very poor quality of information available about the cemeteries. Multiple names and poor locations combined to make a

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CHICORA FOUNDATION CEMETERY FORM
PO Box 8664
Columbia, SC 29202
803-787-6910

Cemetery #:

Tax Map #:

County: Richland   Archaeological Site #:   New Site ☒   Revisit ☐

Cemetery Name: Alternative Names/Designations:

USGS Quad & Date: UTM: Zone: 17   E: N: Datum: NAD27

E:	N:	E:	N:
E:	N:	E:	N:
E:	N:	E:	N:

Other Map Reference: Investigator: Date of Visit:

Cemetery Address:

Verbal Directions:

Significance: ☐ Bioanthropology ☐ Family History ☐ County History ☐ Good Example of Type:
    Other: ☐ Potentially Eligible for NRHP

Current Vegetation: ☐ Pine/coniferous   ☐ Hardwood   ☐ Mixed pine/hardwood   ☐ Old field/second growth
    ☐ Grass/pasture   ☐ Agriculture/cultivated   ☐ Other:
Description of Groundcover: ☐ Absent   ☐ Light   ☐ Moderate   ☐ Heavy   ☐ Other:
Condition: ☐ Well maintained   ☐ Some areas maintained   ☐ Poorly maintained   ☐ Not maintained, but identifiable
    ☐ Other:
Threats: ☐ Erosion ☐ Cultivation ☐ Logging ☐ Construction/Development ☐ Vandalism/Theft ☐ Other:

Estimated Site Dimensions: feet by   feet
Type of Cemetery: ☐ Family   ☐ Churchyard   ☐ Potter's field   ☐ Rural cemetery   ☐ Lawn park   ☐ Memorial park
    ☐ Muncipal   ☐ Military/National   ☐ Prison/Hospital   ☐ Other:
Ethnic Groups Thought to be Interred: ☐ African American ☐ Asian ☐ Hispanic ☐ Native American ☐ White non-Hispanic
    ☐ Other:
Current Status: ☐ Still used for burials   ☐ No longer used for burials, but maintained   ☐ Abandoned
Estimated Number of Marked Graves:
Marker Materials: ☐ Marble   ☐ Granite   ☐ Fieldstone   ☐ Concrete/Cement   ☐ Slate   ☐ Wood
    ☐ Other:
Estimated Number of Unmarked Graves: Describe Evidence of Unmarked Graves:
Other Cemetery Features: ☐ Boundary fence ☐ Plot fences ☐ Coping ☐ Grave goods ☐ Grave decorations ☐ Other:

References or Cemetery Surveys:

Additional Management Information/Comments:

Figure 11. Form developed to record identified cemeteries.

difficult project at times almost impossible.

2. We had anticipated a significant interest in the project on the part of the African American community in Lower Richland County. This interest did not materialize. A letter was sent to African American churches, asking permission to speak to congregations, explaining the project and soliciting information. Not a single pastor responded.

3. The lack of cooperation encountered from Fort Jackson during the initial phase of this project extended into this phase. Only the National Guard's McCrady Training Center at Fort Jackson made arrangements for us to visit the cemeteries on their portion of the base.

4. In general, private property owners were cooperative and interested in ensuring that cemeteries were preserved. There was an exceptional approval of the County's efforts to preserve and protect cemeteries. In all of the individuals with whom we made contact only two land owners were openly hostile. There were, of course, others who simply never returned phone calls.

In order to establish some control over the time spent in an effort to locate any single cemetery, we determined that no more than 2-3 person hours would be spent in an effort to locate a cemetery in the field. If a cemetery could not be identified during that time period, it was relegated to our "not found" file.

The Form

It is important to briefly explain the form that was used to make certain that researchers understand how the information may be used appropriately.

Cemetery Number

Each cemetery has received a designation consisting of two letters followed by two numbers. The letters identify the USGS topographic sheet on which the cemetery is found (Figure 12). Within each topographic map sheet the numbers have been assigned arbitrarily. Many of these numbers have changed since the initial project, so we repeat that the earlier data should not be used except for its background information.

Tax Map Number

This number represents the information available from the Richland County GIS under property – parcel number.

These are intended primarily for the county, at the conclusion of this study, to incorporate these data into the county-wide GIS database. There are a few properties where we found no tax map number. Typically this was the result of the GIS polygon not being closed and we believe represents an error in the GIS. It is also important to understand that tax map numbers do change. As parcels are subdivided, old numbers are dropped and new numbers are created. Thus, it is important to understand that these locations are also tied to 2014 data.

Archaeological Site Number

This number reflects the archaeological site designation assigned by the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. The information on these site files represents variable quality, but it may provide some additional information concerning the cemetery.

Cemetery Name and Alternate Name

The cemetery name is generally the name applied by most researchers to the cemetery. For ease of indexing if a cemetery was called, "A.B. Smith Cemetery," it is identified as, "Smith Cemetery," with the longer name shown as an alternate. We claim no authority for the primary name.

The alternate names represent all of the other names that we believe have been associated with this particular cemetery. Some of the names,

Figure 12. Topographic maps and their abbreviations (in blue) covering Richland County. Those in Richland County without abbreviations did not have cemeteries identified.

UTM and Zone

As in the case of the initial project, we use the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) geographic coordinate system, based on the NAD27 datum.

The UTM system was developed by the Army Corps of Engineers for the military in the 1940s. Using narrow zones of only 6° of longitude, distortion within each zone is quite low, improving the accuracy of ground measurements. The world is divided into 60 such zones, numbered from west to east from the dateline. All of South Carolina is located within UTM grid zone 17 (often written as 17S).

The UTM coordinate system typically relies on one of two data systems: either the NAD 27 CONUS (North American Datum, 1927, continental United States edition) or WGS 84 (World Geographic System 1984). The latter is almost identical to the North American Datum 1983 (NAD 83). All printed USGS topographic maps are referenced to NAD 27. However, most GPS receivers out of the box are set to WGS84. Attempting to locate a cemetery point on a topographic map using an incorrect datum (whether using UTMs or latitude and longitude) will result in a potentially significant error.

The nature of this error is shown in Figure 13 which compares the coordinates for a known cemetery using NAD27 and NAD83/WGS84. The error is about 690 feet – more than enough to make the cemetery impossible to locate. Thus, it is clear that researchers must indicate the coordinates they

in our professional opinion, are incorrect. We nevertheless list them since if a researcher knows only that name, it is important that they be able to find the cemetery in our research.

We know that some researchers have taken exception to our naming; it is important for us to reiterate that we claim no authority in naming.

USGS Quad and Date

This provides more detailed information on the topographic map. For example, the Blythewood 7.5' topographic map, identified as simply "BD" in the cemetery number, is actually Blythewood 1971PR90. This means that the topographic map was prepared in 1971 and was photo revised in 1990.

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are using when locating cemeteries if they intend to make their coordinates useful to others.

USGS 7.5' topographic maps are either printed with an overlaid UTM coordinate grid or have marginal tick marks (colored blue on USGS maps) that can be connected to supply such a grid. There are convenient plastic templates that allow UTM coordinates to be determined based on these grids, although most mapping software calculates coordinates and overlays grids automatically (again, the datum must be manually entered).

UTM coordinates are provided in meters; the first set of numbers is nearly always a measurement of east-west position within the zone, called an easting. For Richland County these

Figure 13. Difference in location using a NAD 27 and NAD 83 datum.

will be six digits in length. The second set represents a north-south position, called a northing and it will consist of seven digits.

Latitude and longitude was dismissed largely because it is subject to multiple opportunities for error. Latitude and longitude may be given in degrees, or degrees and minutes, or degrees, minutes, and seconds – and this can lead to many misinterpretations (as evidenced by the difficulties encountered in this study attempting to determine what system others were using). In addition, UTM coordinates are always positive numbers. In terms of latitude and longitude, west and south are conventionally, although not universally, considered to be

negative numbers.

Few can easily tell you the difference between 10 seconds of two points. UTM coordinates are always meters, so the difference between two points can be easily – and accurately – determined with simple arithmetic. Even if you chose to imprecisely convert meters to yards, the error will still be only 10%.

While a zone is needed with UTM coordinates, it is very difficult to confuse or misconstrue the UTM zone. Northings change very little between two adjacent zones and eastings jump so sharply that the error is obvious (and corrections are easily possible). Moreover, all of Richland County is situated in a single zone.

Thus, we encourage others to abandon their reliance on latitude and longitude and begin using UTM coordinates. But even if this not done, it is essential that researchers clearly state whether they are using the NAD27 or NAD83 datum. This cannot be considered "optional."

Another option was the State Plane coordinate system, developed in the 1930s to provide a common reference system for surveyors. Each State Plane system includes one or more zones (South Carolina is entirely within a single zone). State Plane scale distortions are generally very small, allowing more accurate distance computations when scale factor adjustments are omitted. State Plane systems may use NAD27 (in which case the coordinates are in U.S. Survey feet (1 meter = 3.280833333 U.S. Survey Feet) or NAD83 (in which case the coordinates are in metric).

While there are significant advantages to using the State Plane system and most GIS and tax maps use this methodology, relatively few consumer grade GPS systems can be set to this coordinate system.

During this study all coordinates were obtained using a Garmin GPS76. While this is an older model, it is a differential-ready, 12 parallel
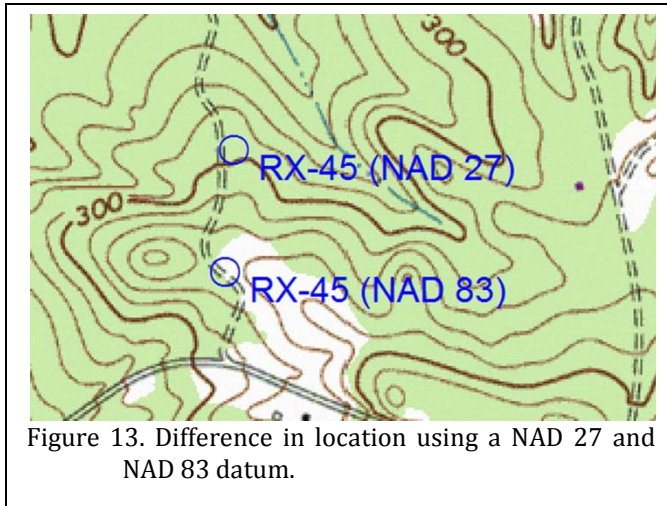
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channel receiver with WAAS (Wide Area Augmentation System) enabled. Wherever possible, we waited for the receiver to obtain differential corrections. The WAAS specification requires it to provide a position accuracy of 7.6 meters (25 feet) or better, at least 95% of the time. Actual performance measurements of the system at specific locations have shown it typically provides better than 1.0 meter (3 feet 3 inches) throughout most of the contiguous United States. Under particularly difficult conditions, such as heavy tree cover, it was impossible to obtain sufficient satellites for differential correction. Under those circumstances the accuracy is 15 meters (49 feet) 95% of the time.

Other Map Reference

If we have identified a plat showing the cemetery, the information is included here as Plat Book and page. All of the references are from the Richland County Register of Deeds.

Investigator and Date of Visit

This information is self explanatory and simply helps place the information in a secure context. The date of visit is of special importance since it freezes the cemetery in time, allowing other researchers to know the condition of the cemetery at a precise point in time.

Cemetery Address

Where the parcel has been given a specific address, this is identified here using the enhanced 911 addresses used by Richland County and shown on the tax maps (Figure 14). Some parcels have not yet been given an address and these may be referenced simple in relationship to the closest road (for example, using Figure 14, as "north side of Freshly Mill Rd.).

Verbal Directions

The site locations used by many researchers are so ambiguous, so confusing, and frequently so inaccurate that we often wondered if the researcher had actually visited the cemetery. We subsequently found evidence that in many cases individuals offering locations had NOT visited the cemetery, but were simply repeating directions offered by previous researchers. Often they could not explain those previous directions and really had no idea of how those directions were obtained in the first place. In fact, this remains one of the primary criticisms of the Find-A-Grave site where cemeteries and graves are entered with little or no concern regarding the accuracy of the information.

Even in cases where it is reasonable to assume that the individual actually visited the cemetery, we often questioned whether they knew where they were. Road names, directions, and distances were often significantly incorrect. Whether these problems are errors or attempts to camouflage locations is uncertain. Regardless, the problems made it virtually

Figure 14. Examples of E911 addresses and tax map numbers for Richland County parcels.
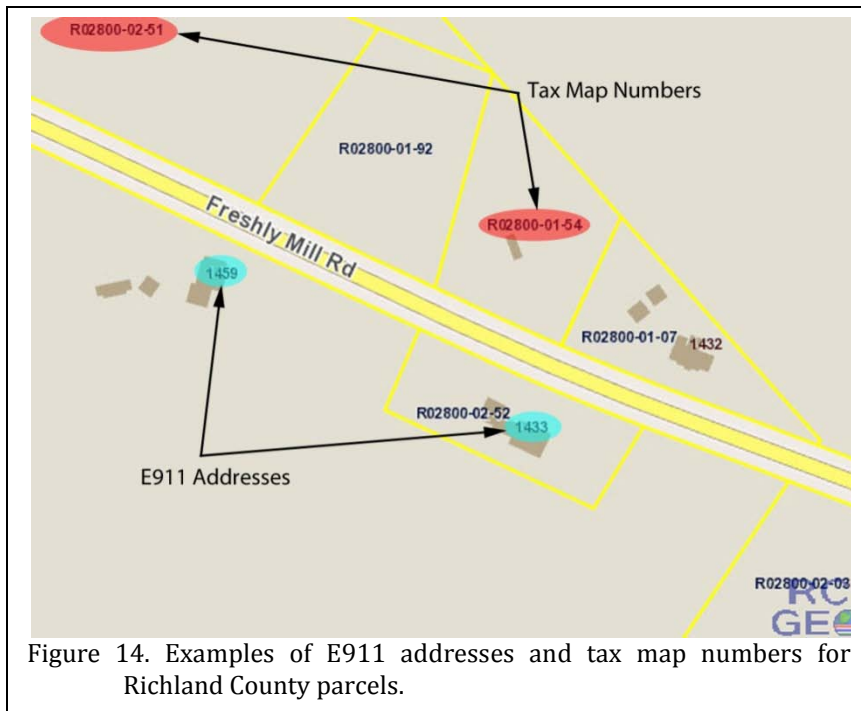
impossible to return to the cemetery.

As "old school" as this may sound, verbal directions are typically the first means of communicating locations. While some roads in Richland County bear the black signs with white numbers used by the State Department of Transportation to mark secondary roads, these are by no means common, either in the County or within city limits. Far more common are road name signs. Road names can – and do – change. Thus, researchers should understand that the names used here are consistent with the Enhanced 9-1-1 Addressing Program used by Richland County and reflect 2014 data.

These verbal directions begin with a stated location and provide turn-by-turn directions to the cemetery. Turns are identified both as right or left, as well as by a cardinal direction. Miles and feet are used throughout.

Significance

This section is intended to help Richland County begin the process of determining which cemeteries may be worthy of National Register eligibility.

First, it is important to dissuade readers of the mistaken concept that cemeteries are not eligible for the National Register. Cemeteries are eligible and there is an entire *National Register Bulletin* that provides guidelines for such nominations (Potter and Boland 1992).

To qualify for listing under Criteria A (association with events), B (association with people), or C (design), a cemetery or grave must meet not only the basic criteria, but also the special requirements for the Criteria Considerations C or D. Criteria Consideration C specifies that a grave of a historical figure may be eligible if the person is of outstanding importance and if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life. Criteria Consideration D specifies that a cemetery may be eligible if it derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinct design features, or from association with historic events.

Burial locations and cemeteries evaluated under Criterion D for the importance of information they may provide do not have to meet the requirements of the Criteria Considerations. These are considered archaeological sites and are important not only to the descendants of those buried there, but also for the information they can provide on mortuary practices, diet, disease, and other bioanthropological research issues, such as population genetics and skeletal reconstruction.

We are of the opinion that most cemeteries can be easily justified as eligible under Criterion D – bioanthropological data. The only possible argument against such eligibility is data redundancy and there are so few burials removed using archaeological techniques that such an argument cannot possibly be made in South Carolina for black or white populations of any time period. Nor can it be argued that a cemetery lacks integrity without conducting tests to determine the preservation of skeletal remains *and* mortuary artifacts such as coffin shapes and hardware. Finally, it makes no difference in eligibility that a cemetery will likely never be examined archaeologically – many nominated archaeological sites will never be excavated and their nomination is viewed as another measure to ensure preservation.

Given the limited research time allowed by this project, the form only indicates "potential eligibility." This means that additional research is necessary to document eligibility. However, until such work is conducted, it is prudent to consider such sites eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Current Vegetation

This is self explanatory and includes conditions ranging from wooded to open.

Description of Groundcover

Groundcover is subjectively ranked from absent or open to heavy and involves the difficulty

in viewing and documenting the stones, not necessarily the density of vegetation getting to the cemetery. The density of groundcover also varies by season.

Condition

Our perception of condition is not only affected by the density (and nature) of vegetation, but also by the number of toppled stones, sunken graves, collapsing fences, dead or downed trees, and a range of other issues. While also somewhat subjective, it is based on a range of conditions that, with more time, could be quantified.

Threats

There is no question that "nature" can affect cemeteries. Trees may die and fall on stones or fences; wildfires may damage marble stones; tornadoes may uproot trees and topple monuments; and rivers may erode away burials. In general, however, human actions are far more destructive.

Vandals topple and break stones with alarming regularity. Fence gates are stolen for sale in a thriving antiquities market. Cemeteries may be plowed over. Silviculture can easily – and quickly – destroy a cemetery through mechanical harvesting, creation of log decks or logging roads, or even by the subsequent erosion or replanting. Cemeteries may be destroyed by unscrupulous developers removing stones and building roads or houses. Even when "preserved," a cemetery in a development faces a variety of pressures, including use by neighbors for storage of boats and cars, dumping of trash, and as a hangout. Cemeteries may also be threatened simply by lack of maintenance and attention. This may be considered the cemetery equivalent of "demolition through neglect."

Given the rate of development in Richland County a significant number of the cemeteries we identified are threatened by silviculture, development or construction, or vandalism. These cemeteries require special attention by preservationists to ensure that they are not lost in the next decade.

Site Dimensions

These are *approximate* and based on our best estimate of both marked graves and depressions. These dimensions have not been field verified and should not be used for planning purposes.

Type of Cemetery

The cemetery types identified in this study are well known by preservationists. Those requiring additional information regarding specific styles may wish to consult a source such as Sloane (1991).

Ethnic Groups

Most of the cemeteries in Richland County could be easily identified as either African American or Euro American based either on design, local history, or previous research. In a few cases we were able to identify those that were uncertain based on death certificates. Nevertheless, there are a small number of cemeteries where we were unable to determine ethnic affiliation.

It is also important to note that we failed to identify any Asian, Hispanic, or Native American cemeteries. Asian and Hispanic populations are integrated into other cemeteries. The Native American population in Columbia has historically been small and often Native Americans were either assigned to black or white populations.

Current Status

This category is also self-explanatory, although it is not necessarily precise. There are a number of cemeteries where no burial has taken place in the past several decades – leading one to believe that the cemetery is either no longer used or perhaps even abandoned. Nevertheless, it is possible that an elderly member of the community may still be buried at the cemetery. Thus, the observations should be taken only as a best assessment of the current condition.

Number of Burials

These categories are estimates of the marked graves and those that are not marked but which may still be recognized by grave depressions or slumps (areas where the casket and overlying soil has collapsed).

Included in these estimates are observations regarding the types of stones present in the cemetery.

Other Cemetery Features

In this category we itemize features such as boundary fences, plot fences, benches, and other cemetery amenities. This information is designed to document the cemetery conditions at this point in time.

References and Cemetery Surveys

Since this project was not designed to record individual stones, where such information is available, it is identified in this section. While a few Chicora Foundation publications are included, the most common references are the volumes published by the Columbia Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society (Columbia Chapter SCGS n.d. a, n.d. b, n.d. c, n.d. d, n.d. e, n.d. f), identified as "Cemetery Records of Richland County, SC" and a volume number; David Rakes' compilation of cemeteries in northern Richland County (Rakes 2002); Emily Vaughn's listing of African American cemeteries (Vaughan 2000); and the recordation of cemeteries on Fort Jackson by Lael Hoopes (1982).

We have generally not provided on-line sources since we have found many of these to be of questionable accuracy.

This information is intended to provide researchers with additional information, particularly concerning those who are buried at the cemetery.

Additional Management Information

Here we attempted to provide details that may assist the County in the preservation of these cemeteries. We note if we believe the cemetery is threatened in the near future, if there are other activities or notes pertinent to the cemetery, or if burials have been removed from or moved to this cemetery.

Photographs

On the back of each form we typically provide two color photos. Generally they represent a distant view, placing the cemetery in a broader perspective that may help locate it in the future, and a close-up view showing details of the cemetery and its monuments.

Photographs were taken with a Cannon Power Shot A3300IS. Although this is a "point and shoot" style camera, it has 16.0 Megapixel resolution and was chosen for its portability and ease of use under tough field conditions.

While the native image file format for the photos was jpeg, all were batch converted to tiffs by Photoshop.

The camera, image file format, and resolution all comply with the National Register requirements for digital photography (http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/guidance/ Photo_Policy_final.pdf). The photographs have been transferred to a DVD-R Archival Gold CD for permanent curation.

Cemeteries Not Found

We have no specific form for these "not found" cemeteries, but each is documented as thoroughly as possible. We provide the source of the reported cemetery, what records (if any) that we researched, and the area we examined. We provide a map that shows where we think the cemetery may be located and why we believe it could not be found. Where possible, we also identify the tax map number(s) for the parcel(s) most likely to contain the cemetery.

Where suspected tax map information is provided, we recommend that prior to allowing any land disturbance, Richland County require additional archaeological

investigations in an effort to locate these cemeteries.

We hope that other researchers will spend the time to carefully examine these "Not Found" cemeteries and gradually reduce their number through additional research.

Final Report and Curation

This final report incorporates three sections. The first is this summary report that provides broad background, findings, and most importantly, recommendations. The second section consists of the "not found" cemeteries. The third section consists of the identified cemeteries organized by USGS topographic map (Blythewood, Chapin, Columbia North, and so forth). That section is preceded by an alphabetical list correlating individual cemetery names with the number assigned to each. This allows individuals to locate a specific cemetery of interest to them. Each report is accompanied by a CD that includes the entire report, as well as the summary Excel file listing all of the cemeteries.

This report has been provided to the Richland County Conservation Department, which we understand will ensure that the information is added to the County's GIS as a separate layer. We also understand that the report will be made available on-line.

Chicora has also provided copies of this report to the South Carolina State Library, the South Caroliniana Library, and the Richland County Public Library. The South Carolina State Library makes publications such as this available through interlibrary loan, ensuring that the report is widely available to researchers.

During our work we found that the best way to organize the research was to have an archival folder for each cemetery. That folder incorporates various form versions, reports concerning the cemetery, emails regarding the cemetery's location, and other research. In order to ensure the long-term preservation of these records, they have been transferred to the South Caroliniana Library, where they will be available

to future researchers. Included in these files is the DVD-R Archival Gold CD containing individual cemetery photographs.

Findings

Overview

Table 1 provides a graphic representation of the results of this study. A total of 503 cemeteries have been located in Richland County. This is the equivalent of one cemetery every 1.5 square miles or a cemetery every 954 acres.

Of course, not all cemeteries were identified. In addition to the 503 cemeteries where locations are known, we have found an additional 41 cemeteries whose locations cannot be accurately determined. This brings the total number of cemeteries to 544. This is one cemetery every 1.4 square miles or one cemetery every 882 acres.

Cemeteries do not seem to be evenly distributed over the county. For example, the 68 cemeteries found on the Columbia North topographic map represent one cemetery every 0.7 square mile, compared to Southwest Columbia, where there is only one cemetery every 3.8 square miles. While some of these differences can be explained by population density, we also expect that other factors, such as interest in reporting cemeteries, is an important factor.

Of the documented cemeteries, 158 (31.4%) are thought to be African American and 293 (58.2%) are Euro-American. An additional 52 cemeteries (10.3%) are classified as "other". This includes primarily cemeteries where the ancestry of those buried cannot be determined, although there are also cemeteries that include both whites and blacks.

Where African Americans comprise a large proportion of the population, such as in Lower Richland, it is not surprising that African American cemeteries are most common. For example, all of the cemeteries identified on the Gadsden topographic sheet are African American, while over half of all cemeteries on both the Congaree and Eastover topographic sheets are

Topo	Found	% Euro-American	% African-American	% Other	Damaged or Destroyed	Listed on NR	Eligible for Listing on NR*
Blythewood	35	71.4	25.7	2.9	1		5
Chapin	36	91.7	5.6	2.8	0		3
Columbia North	68	44.1	36.8	19.1	7	4	9
Congaree	47	42.6	57.4	0.0	1	1	7
Eastover	32	37.5	53.1	9.4	1	2	1
Elgin	10	70.0	20.0	10.0	0		1
Fort Jackson North	61	72.1	8.2	19.7	5		2
Fort Jackson South	30	46.7	43.3	10.0	3	1	6
Gadsden	15	0.0	100.0	0.0	0		1
Irmo	21	71.4	23.8	4.8	3		0
Irmo North	29	75.9	20.7	3.4	0		3
Lake Murray East	1	100.0	0.0	0.0	0		0
Leesburg	10	20.0	70.0	10.0	2		0
Messers Pond	21	52.4	19.0	28.6	2		2
Richtex	49	79.6	10.2	10.2	5		5
Ridgeway	1	100.0	0.0	0.0	0		0
Saylors Lake	4	25.0	75.0	0.0	0		3
Southwest Columbia	13	69.2	7.7	23.1	5		1
Wateree	20	35.0	60.0	5.0	3	1	3
	503				38	9	52

Table 1.
Cemeteries Identified by Topographic Sheet

* for reasons other than research potential

African American. In contrast, in those areas with relatively light African American populations, there are proportionally fewer black cemeteries. For example, only 5.6% of the cemeteries on the Chapin topographic sheet are African American and only 23.8% and 20.7% of the cemeteries on the Irmo and Irmo North maps are African American.

This table also reveals 48 cemeteries or 9.6% were found to be damaged, destroyed, or had been likely been removed. This is further discussed in a following section.

While 10 cemeteries in Richland County are listed on the National Register, most of these represent what might be called "high status" cemeteries. This study recommends at least 52 additional cemeteries (about 10.3% of the total) as eligible for inclusion on the National Register, for reasons other than research potential.

Ancestry

Designation of cemeteries as Euro-American or African American was not difficult in most cases. Where it was, we examined a small sample of death certificates to determine how those buried there were identified.

Figure 15. Ancestry of the 503 identified cemeteries.
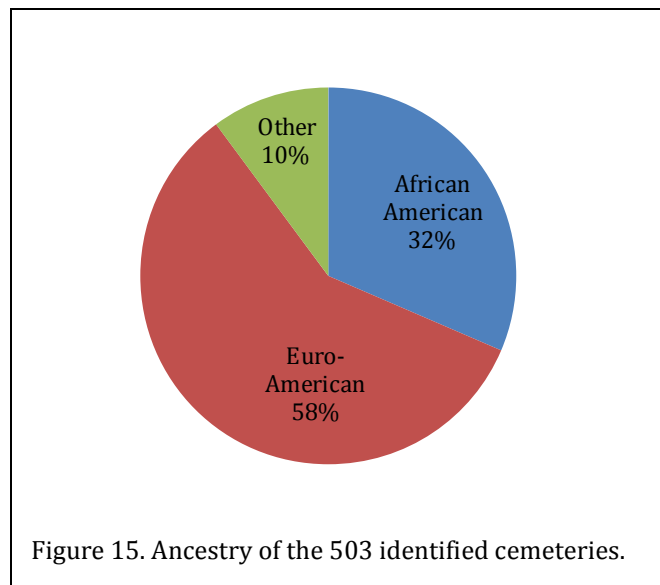
As previously explained, less than a third were identified as African American and just over half were identified as Euro-American. The remainder fell into the "other" category.

These include primarily cemeteries where the racial affinity of the occupants is not known (30 or 57.6%). This may include cemeteries where there are no obvious indicators, no stones that can be documented with death certificates, and cemeteries that have been destroyed.

There are 19 cemeteries (36.5%) where we can document the burial of both whites and blacks. These include hospital, prison, pauper, and modern commercial integrated cemeteries.

There is one cemetery where both African Americans and Hispanics are documented (CN-32, the non-perpetual care Palmetto Cemetery, owned and operated by Palmer Funeral Home), as well as one cemetery that was primarily Hispanic (FN-59, Puerto Rico Cemetery, removed from Fort Jackson in 1923). Finally there is one Pet Cemetery (on Fort Jackson, FN-56) that was documented since it had been given a Fort Jackson Cemetery number (and it is the only organized pet cemetery in Richland County).

We found no burial grounds that are exclusively Native American. The identification and recordation of prehistoric or protohistoric villages or mounds containing burials was not part of our scope.

That Native American groups were present in the early historic period is suggested by at least one colonial plat showing the "Notchee Gut" flowing into the Congaree River in what is today Richland County (Hicks 1998:39). It was also during this early period that the Congaree lived briefly in Richland County, on the east side of the Congaree River. And "Indian Old Field" in Richland County was laid out to Roger Gibson in 1747 (Hicks 1998:50).

During the historic period many Native Americans were socially recognized as either

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blacks or whites – and lived their lives in one or the other group. Some were, however, identified as free persons of color along with free African Americans. In 1821 a number of names were turned over to the Sheriff by the tax collector. Apparently few could be located, "on account of the peculiar situation of the residence" (quoted in Hicks 1998:307). Regardless, by the postbellum relatively few "Indians" were listed in census records – only five in 1870 and two in 1890 (Hicks 1998:339, 367, 368).

It was beyond our scope to attempt to tease apart family histories. We are certain, however, that many of the cemeteries in Richland County include individuals that recognized themselves, at least privately, as Native Americans.

Damaged, Destroyed, or Moved Cemeteries

Our work identified 48 cemeteries (9.6%) in Richland County that were classified as damaged, destroyed, or moved. These three conditions were combined since they all affect the integrity of the cemetery.

The conditions were also combined since, without archaeological investigations, it is almost impossible to distinguish whether a cemetery has simply been damaged by a development or whether it has been destroyed. For example, the construction of house, either on piers or slab on grade will not necessarily destroy

burials 3-feet below grade. On the other hand, the construction of a 7 to 8 foot deep basement will almost certainly destroy all remains. Fortunately, basements are a rarity, so in many cases human remains may still be present, even under seeming intensive development.

	Table 2.	
	Damaged, Destroyed, or Moved Cemeteries	
Number	Cemetery Name	Factor Affecting the Cemetery
FN-44	Alms House Burial Ground	Richland County park
CN-60	Arsenal Hill Cemetery	urban development
IR-03	Bauknight Cemetery #1	suburban development - moved 1996
EA-24	Bellaire Plantation Cemetery	agriculture
MP-12	Burdell Cemetery	Fort Jackson expansion - moved 1959
RX-41	Busby Cemetery #3	only stones moved prior to sale
WT-19	Carter Cemetery	agriculture
FS-25	Caughman-Denley Cemetery	urban development
LE-02	Colonels Creek Cemetery	Fort Jackson expansion - moved 1959
CS-02	Columbia Public Burying Ground	urban development
CN-61	DeWolfee Grave	suburban development - moved 1992
CN-18	DYS Cemetery	partial excavation
RX-20	Eleazer Cemetery	school development
FN-21	Epworth Orphanage Cemetery	suburban development
CN-52	First Baptist Church Cemetery	church development
FS-28	Hampton Burying Ground	urban development
CN-63	Herbemont Graveyard	urban development
CG-23	Howell Burying Ground	McEntire construction - moved 1938
CN-64	Huffman Cemetery	urban development
RX-47	Lever Family Cemetery	rural development
IR-15	Lorrick Plantation Cemetery	commercial development - moved 2007
IR-14	Lorrick Plantation Slave Cemetery	commercial development - moved 2007
CN-42	Lower Cemetery	highway construction - some moved
FN-25	Old Macedonia Cemetery	Fort Jackson expansion - moved 1959
WT-10	Old Pickling Graveyard	logging
LE-05	Pilgrim Creek Cemetery	Fort Jackson expansion - moved 1959
FN-59	Puerto Rico Cemetery	Fort Jackson expansion - moved 1923
FS-12	Rawlinson Cemetery	agriculture
MP-13	Shannon Cemetery	Fort Jackson expansion - moved 1959
CN-66	Smith Family Cemetery	City of Columbia park
CN-47	St. Luke's Episcopal Church	urban development
CN-67	Stark Family Burial Ground	urban development
CN-55	Taylor Family Burial Ground	church development
CN-68	Taylor Family Burial Ground	urban development
RX-19	Threewits Cemetery	school development
BD-34	Unnamed	golf course
CN-37	Unnamed	build on by SC DHEC
CN-65	Unnamed	urban development
CS-04	Unnamed	suburban development
CS-08	Unnamed	suburban development
CS-13	Unnamed	suburban development
FN-55	Unnamed	suburban development
FS-27	Unnamed	City of Columbia park
RX-48	Unnamed	rural development
WT-18	Unnamed	logging
CN-51	Washington Street Methodist Church	church development
CS-01	Wayside Hospital Cemetery	urban development
CN-20	Younginer Cemetery	commercial development - moved 1979

Figure 16. Commercial removal of the Lorick cemeteries (IR-14 and IR-15) in 2007. Upper row show removals from the Plantation Cemetery. Note that three burials were placed in a single box. The middle and lower rows show removal techniques used at the slave cemetery, including picking remains out of the back dirt after being excavated by a backhoe.

Figure 17. Examples of cemetery damage. Upper left is CS-13, an unnamed cemetery discovered while digging a basement. Upper right is CN-68, the James Taylor Family Burial Ground covered by commercial developments. Middle left is CN-37, a family cemetery built over by the State of South Carolina. Middle right is FN-44, a park built by Richland County on the Alms House Burial Ground. Lower left is the Bellaire cemetery, today cultivated. Lower right is WT-10, the Pickling Cemetery, damaged by clear cutting and silviculture.

Figure 18. Other factors affecting cemeteries. The upper photograph shows LE-02, Colonels Creek Cemetery on Fort Jackson, moved in 1959. Depressions are still present in the cemetery. The lower photograph is CN-18, the DYS Cemetery that was only partially removed in 1991.

Moved cemeteries present a different problem. Commercial removals, as we have documented (see, for example, Trinkley and Hacker 2013a:49-51) do a poor job of identifying and collecting human remains and associated burial artifacts. Thus, almost all commercial removals will leave behind significant bioanthropological remains (such as bones, coffin hardware, clothing items, and other grave goods). While commercial removal may satisfy the current

law, it does not "cleanse" the site and fails to fully account for those originally buried at the site.

We fully expect that additional bioanthropological research, conducted by trained archaeologists, will result in the recovery of remains from commercially removed cemeteries.

We have identified 13 cemeteries that were commercially removed. These include six at Fort Jackson (Trinkley and Hacker 2013b), one at McEntire, three from commercial developments, two from residential developments, and one (with two episodes) from a highway project. In none of these cases were the removals conducted using archaeological techniques or the remains subject to bioanthropological study. As a result, there is a strong possibility that remains are still present and none of the sites should be considered "clean" of archaeological or human remains.

Twelve additional cemeteries have been impacted by commercial or urban development in the City of Columbia, including one that was destroyed by the construction of a state office building.

Five cemeteries are documented to have been affected by suburban development, two by rural development, three by agricultural activities, two by logging, two by the construction of a Richland County school, one by a Richland County Park, two by City of Columbia Parks, and one by the construction of a golf course in the Blythewood area.

Perhaps most surprising, three cemeteries have been impacted by the construction of church buildings – all within the City of Columbia. In each case the church cemetery lost a significant portion of its graves to church expansion, apparently with no effort to remove

the burials.

In one case it is believed that only the stones were moved, prior to the sale of the property for house construction.

The final case involves the partial excavation of a family cemetery located on DYS property (Trinkley and Hacker 2013:25-33).

This review reveals that while residential and commercial development has taken a significant toll on Richland County cemeteries, a variety of additional factors must also be considered, including agricultural and silvicultural activities (which together have damaged five documented cemeteries).

It also appears that no one can escape some degree of involvement. There is at least one cemetery damaged by a state agency, at least two cemeteries incorporated into parks by the City of Columbia, and Richland County has built a park over one cemetery and a school over two others. It is of special concern when governmental entities so blatantly ignore their legal responsibilities to preserve and protect burial grounds.

Listed Cemeteries

Table 3 lists the 10 cemeteries in Richland County currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Many of these are listed primarily for the associated church building, although the cemetery grounds are included.

Of the 10, seven may be considered high status Euro-American cemeteries. Three of these seven cemeteries are urban. Even the two African American cemeteries are relatively high-status. While there can be no argument that all are worthy of the recognition provided by the National Register, these most certainly do not provide a particularly good representation of the burial grounds found in Richland County. Fortunately, this study is providing a more complete picture of cemetery types.

Bioanthropological Research Significance

Before discussing specific cemeteries, it is necessary to discuss the bioanthropological significance of cemeteries. This significance is based on the ability of cemeteries to address a broad range of mortuary research questions. The skeletal remains can address ethnic variability, individual characteristics such as stature, diet, overall health, trauma, and disease. The research can explore occupational indicators and can even establish kinship using genetic testing. The research potential is almost unlimited, as has been recently demonstrated by the extraordinary work conducted on the African American remains from the New York African Burial Ground (Blakey and Rankin-Hill 2004). Closer to home Chicora conducted extensive research on a small Lexington County family cemetery that also exhibits the research potential of careful, bioanthropological excavation and analysis (Trinkley et al. 2011b).

Even when the condition of the physical remains is compromised, cemetery excavation can provide significant information on other mortuary topics, such as the nature and status of coffin hardware, the type of coffin or casket used, the presence or absence of clothing remains, evidence of embalming

Number	Cemetery Name	Cemetery Type
CG-29	Beulah Church	rural churchyard
CN-40	Elmwood	rural/lawn-park
CN-43	Randolph	African American lawn-park
CN-48	St. Peter's (Assembly St)	Euro-American urban churchyard
CN-49	Trinity Episcopal Cathedral	Euro-American urban churchyard
CN-50	First Presbyterian Church	Euro-American urban churchyard
EA-06	Good Hope Baptist Church	rural churchyard
EA-19	St. Thomas Episcopal	African American rural churchyard
FS-21	Hopkins Family Cemetery	rural, walled family cemetery
WT-05	Lower Richland Presbyterian Church	rural churchyard

Table 3.
Richland County Cemeteries Listed on the National Register

techniques, and burial goods that might be present.

The only possible objections to the virtually universal research potential of cemeteries are either that the research potential has not been proven or that the research is redundant. Both are spurious arguments.

To claim that research potential is not demonstrated at a cemetery ignores that state law precludes making such a demonstration without a legal order to remove the remains. Unlike archaeological sites, where a testing program can be designed to demonstrate the presence of specific remains and intact stratigraphy, no such "testing" is possible at a cemetery. What we must rely on are comparable studies that demonstrate human remains may be present and that mortuary artifacts tend to be very well preserved and, even in the absence of human remains, can provide significant research potential (see, for example, Davidson 1999).

A second argument against the research significance of cemeteries is that the cemeteries will never be excavated. This is of no consequence. Archaeological sites may be listed on the National Register with no intention to ever excavate the remains. In fact, the Secretary of the Interior Standards favor archaeological preservation over excavation.

A third argument advanced at times is that the data to be determined would be redundant. This, too, is an absurdity that was briefly considered by Trinkley et al. (2011:4-6). We were able to identify only 17 cemetery/burial excavations in South Carolina – hardly such a "huge" data reservoir that additional investigations are rendered redundant.

Thus, it is our professional view that virtually every cemetery identified in Richland County is eligible for the National Register under Criterion D, that the cemetery has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

An exception may well be those cemeteries that house only cremains. Exposure to temperatures from 1,800° to 2,000°F for up to 2 hours, the removal of orthopedic devices, and the processing of the remains through a mill designed to further reduce the size of the bone fragments, renders much research impossible.

A second exception may be embalmed remains sealed in vaults where only limited decomposition has taken place and the remains are not amenable to bioanthropological analysis.

From a practical standpoint this means that any non-vaulted burial 50 years or more in age can likely provide significant research information on mortality, quality of life, diet, population affiliation, taphonomy, and burial and mortuary patterns. Every single burial offers the potential to advance significant research goals.

Cemetery Eligibility

Beyond research potential, however, cemeteries may be eligible for inclusion on the National Register if they:

(A) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

(B) are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

(C) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

There are two criteria consideration that apply to cemeteries. One of these must be met if a cemetery is being considered eligible for a criterion other than D, research potential.

The first, applied to burials that claim eligibility under Criterion B, requires that there be no other "appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life." This project did not allow the time to develop historical sketches that would support eligibility under Criterion B. Nevertheless, there are so few historic sites and buildings left in Richland County, this is not likely a difficult case to be made for many of the cemeteries.

	Table 4.	
	Richland County Cemeteries Recommended Eligible for the National Register	
Number	Cemetery Name	Cemetery Type/Characteristic
CN-57	Barhamville Cemetery	Euro-American family and community cemetery
RX-24	Bell Graves	Euro-American rural planter earthern wall cemetery
SL-01	Bethel Cemetery	African American slave cemetery with postbellum continuation
CH-36	Boyd Cemetery	Euro-American family; family carver with style identical to CH-33
CH-33	Boyd Grave	Euro-American family; unique wall and family carver
CG-35	Cabin Branch Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter earthern wall cemetery
IN-01	Cedar Creek Methodist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
WT-03	Congaree Baptist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
BD-31	Crankfield-Lawhorn Cemetery	Euro-American and African American rural family cemetery
FS-26	Denley Cemetery	African American slave cemetery with postbellum continuation
RX-44	Derrick Slave Cemetery	African American rural slave cemetery
BD-21	Dixon Cemetery	African American rural family cemetery
CN-39	Douglas Cemetery	African American for-profit lawn-park (owned by Euro-Americans)
CG-06	Edmunds Family Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter walled cemetery
CG-41	Elm Savannah Plantation Cemetery #1	Euro-American rural planter cemetery
CG-47	Elm Savannah Slave Cemetery	African American slave cemetery with postbellum continuation
CH-14	Freshly Cemetery #2	Euro-American family cemetery & African American community cemetery
RX-45	Freshly Slave Cemetery	African American rural slave cemetery
CN-36	Geiger Avenue Cemetery	Euro-American hospital patients
CG-36	Goodwin Cemetery	African American rural family and community cemetery
FS-17	Goodwin Family Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter walled cemetery
IN-15	Harmon Creek Cemetery	Euro-American rural community cemetery
FS-30	Heath Graveyard	Euro-American rural planter iron fence cemetery
CN-46	Hebrew Benevolent Cemetery	Euro-American Jewish cemetery
RX-01	Jones Graveyard	Euro-American farmer cemetery (African Americans outside fence)
FN-39	Kelly Family Cemetery	Euro-American family and community cemetery
BD-22	Killian Baptist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
CN-42	Lower Cemetery	Euro-American and African American pauper cemetery (determined eligible by SHPO)
GD-06	Meeting House Cemetery	African American rural slave cemetery
FS-18	Mill Creek AME Church Cemetery	African American rural churchyard
FS-13	Mill Creek Methodist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
RX-40	Moore-Reves Cemetery	Euro-American rural community cemetery
SL-02	Myers Family Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter walled cemetery
CG-17	Old Field Slave Cemetery	African American slave cemetery with postbellum continuation
EA-15	Old Nutshell Plantation Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter iron fence cemetery
CS-11	Olympia Cemetery	Euro-American mill village cemetery
FS-19	Reese-Pincushion Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter cemetery
MP-02	Richland County Cemetery	Euro-American and African American pauper cemetery
EL-09	Ruff-Rose Graves	Euro-American rural planter walled cemetery
BD-05	Sandy Level Baptist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
CN-41	SC Department of Corrections 2	Euro-American and African American prison cemetery
FN-03	SC Dept. Mental Health Cemetery	Euro-American and African American hospital patients
WT-04	Scott Family Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter cemetery
IN-16	Sligh Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter iron fence cemetery
CN-56	Slighs Avenue Cemetery	African American hospital patients
MP-05	Spears Creek Baptist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
CG-40	St. Johns Congaree Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard
CN-44	St. Peter's Cemetery (Elmwood)	Euro-American religious lawn-park
WT-11	St. Phillips AME Church Cemetery	African American rural churchyard
CN-01	Williamson Cemetery	Euro-American rural planter cemetery
SL-04	Zion Pilgrim Cemetery	African American slave cemetery with postbellum continuation
BD-13	Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery	Euro-American rural churchyard

Figure 19. Examples of African American cemeteries recommended eligible. Upper left, Mill Creek AME Church Cemetery (FS-18). Upper right, Dixon Cemetery (BD-21). Middle left, Derrick Slave Cemetery (RX-44). Middle right, Meeting House Cemetery (GD-06). Lower left, Elm Savannah Cemetery (CG-47). Lower right, Zion Pilgrim Cemetery (SL-04).

Figure 20. Examples of Euro-American cemeteries recommended eligible. Upper left, Edmunds Family Cemetery (CG-06). Upper right, Heath Cemetery (FS-30). Middle left, Bell Graves (RX-24).Middle right, Reese-Pincushion Cemetery (FS-19). Lower left, Moore-Reves Cemetery (RX-40). Lower right, Sandy Level Baptist Church Cemetery (BD-05).

Figure 21. Jones Cemetery (RX-01) is a Euro-American cemetery inside the fence with African American "servants" buried outside. The upper photo shows the fenced graveyard; the lower photo shows depressions (one with fieldstone) reported to be African Americans.

We focus almost exclusively on both "age" and, particularly, "distinctive design features." The bulk of the cemeteries listed in Table 3 have been chosen because they are especially representative.

There are 14 African American cemeteries (representing 26.9% of the total recommended eligible). These include a for-profit lawn park (CN-39), a cemetery used by African American Asylum Hospital patients (CN-56), two rural churchyards (FS-18 and WT-11), a family cemetery (BD-21), a family and, we believe, community cemetery (CG-36), three slave cemeteries that don't appear to have been used during the postbellum (RX-44, RX-45, and GD-06), and five slave cemeteries that continued to be used into the postbellum (CG-17, CG-47, FS-26, SL-01, and SL-04).

There are 32 Euro-American cemeteries (61.5%) recommended eligible and they, too, represent a broad range of cemetery types.

Two cemeteries (FN-39 and CN-57) represent family and community cemeteries. Two are recommended eligible because of their family connections and the presence of a family carver that made stones in both (CH-33 and CH-36). One cemetery (CN-36) is a cemetery for white Asylum Hospital patients, one represents an urban walled Jewish cemetery (CN-46), another is a mill village

The second criteria consideration can be invoked when the cemetery, "derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events."

cemetery (CS-11), and another is a religious lawn-park cemetery (CN-44). Eight cemeteries are recommended eligible as excellent examples of rural churchyards from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (BD-05, BD-13, BD-22, CG-40, FS-13, IN-01, MP-05, and WT-03), These represent Baptist, Methodist, and Episcopalian churches) in both upper and lower Richland County. There are two cemeteries that appear to represent rural community cemeteries not associated with a church (IN-15 and RX-40). The remaining 13 cemeteries represent various types of planter cemeteries from different sections of Richland County. Four lack any sort of enclosure and are simple family cemeteries (CG-41, FS-19, WT-04, and CN-01). Two cemeteries are surrounded by ditches and banks (CG-35 and RX-24). Three cemeteries have intact and very distinctive iron fencing (EA-15, FS-30, and IN-16). The remaining four cemeteries are all enclosed by rock walls (CG-06, EL-09, FS-17, and SL-02).

In addition, we have found six cemeteries that include both whites and blacks. Four of these are truly integrated. All four are governmental, including one operated by the S.C. Department of Mental Health (FN-03), one by Richland County for paupers (MP-02), one operated by the City of Columbia for the public (CN-42, already determined by the SC SHPO to be eligible), and one that received prisoners not claimed by families (CN-41). The final two cemeteries (CH-14 and RX-01) are technically not integrated. One is a very early Euro-American cemetery that was taken over by an African American congregation and the other is an up-county farmer cemetery that is fenced with African American burials outside.

Problems Identified

As a result of these investigations we have identified at least seven critical issues affecting the long-term preservation of Richland County cemeteries. Each is briefly discussed here.

Loss Through Development

As just discussed, we have documented a large number of cemeteries in Richland County

that have been lost through residential, commercial, governmental, or church development. Most of these have not been removed, even using commercial firms, but have simply "disappeared."

The losses are a result of a variety of factors, including an absence of any requirement for developers to search out important cultural sites. Lacking such a requirement, it appears that developers count on their ability to claim no knowledge of burials.

Moreover, there is no convenient means of determining if graves have been removed and, if they have, where they were reinterred. South Carolina's laws are so feeble that disinterment permits are little more than bureaucratic paperwork. They do nothing to help track burial removals.

Loss Through Agriculture and Silviculture

We have not documented agricultural or silvicultural losses of the same magnitude as those associated with development, but losses nonetheless are documented. Since both agriculture and silviculture are far less regulated than development, we image that the losses are underreported and that they will increase.

Where agricultural losses have been documented, it appears that stones are simply removed to open additional land to cultivation. How an extra few hundred square feet of arable land can make any economic difference is not clear. It seems more likely that with the introduction of more intensive mechanized farming, it simply becomes more convenient not to avoid small areas in fields. So the incentive to destroy burial grounds is convenience.

Similarly, few cemeteries offer so much timber that their exclusion from logging would likely impact an owner. While logging used to rely on hand felling, today feller-bunchers, tracked equipment that fells trees and places them in bunches on the forest floor, are far more common.

Figure 22. Examples of cemeteries lost through development (top, FN-55), silviculture (middle, WT-18), and agriculture (bottom, WT-19).

The use of such equipment seems to make it more difficult to avoid small areas, such as cemeteries, and the nature of the mechanized logging results in more significant damage.

Thus, the aggressive processes in agriculture and silviculture that damage cemeteries seem not be the result of economic necessity, but rather a by-product of more aggressive processes that are not designed to recognize sensitive sites and areas.

Loss Through Lack of Maintenance

Some cemeteries are damaged not so much by action as they are by inaction. We identified a number of cemeteries that were threatened by abandonment. Whether large or small, as cemeteries no longer receive maintenance they begin to appear uncared for and this promotes illegal dumping, vandalism, and anti-social behaviors. With an absence of maintenance, undergrowth quickly obscures the cemetery, making it more likely to be threatened by development. And the undergrowth evolves into second growth, with damage to fences and monuments.

Even if the loss is not complete, the gradual decline in condition makes recovery of the cemetery more difficult and costly – and less likely to occur.

It is worth noting that abandonment need not occur quickly. It can occur over a series of years as maintenance is gradually reduced. It can allow "old" sections with few active families to fall into decay while "new" areas with still

Figure 23. Example of a cemetery being lost through lack of maintenance (St. Mathews Baptist Church Cemetery #1, CG-27).

knew.

But all owners should recognize the presence of a cemetery on their property and be certain that they take no steps that will harm the cemetery. In other words, they should avoid logging a cemetery; they should avoid storing equipment on a cemetery; they should avoid damaging the stones through hunting. In other words, they should show the cemetery respect and dignity.

In addition, it seems critical that all owners of cemeteries recognize that there are reasons to allow access, both to legitimate researchers, as well as to descendants. The state law governing access (S.C. Code of Laws, Section 27-43-310 et seq.) is poorly constructed and fails to do what it promised – which is to provide an affordable means to allow cemetery access.

active families continue to receive some level of maintenance.

Abandonment also means that the cemetery lacks a constituency to advocate for its protection. Lacking any group to lobby for its preservation, the cemetery is far more likely to be removed, either legally or illegally.

Consequently, in the long-term abandonment may be one of the most devastating events to befall a cemetery short of destruction through development.

Loss Through Lack of Owner Concern or Cooperation

This problem is intimately associated with the previous discussion of maintenance and may even be viewed as one-and-the-same.

Owners need not maintain cemeteries on their property in pristine condition – although we found some that in fact take great pride in the cemeteries on their land and do an excellent job of maintaining burial grounds for families they never

Moreover, when owners seek to prevent access to cemeteries on their property – regardless of their justification – it is difficult to prevent the perception that something, such as damage to the cemetery, is being hidden.

Loss Through Removal of Stones

We identified several cemeteries in Richland County whose location was essentially lost when the stones marking that cemetery were removed. The removal of stones from a cemetery is, in itself, a felony (S.C. Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600 et seq.). Once markers are removed, the location and extent of the burial grounds becomes difficult to document and may, over time, entirely prevent documentation.

It is not always the intent of the person

Figure 24. All of the stones from this church (Leesburg Church, Pineview Holiness Church, CN-11) have been removed. Graves, known to have been behind the church, can no longer be identified on the surface.

removing the stones to disguise or hide the cemetery. We can imagine that at times families honestly believe nothing remains and they are seeking to preserve the stones. As well intentioned as this may be, it is still illegal. In addition, the ability to recovery skeletal material and other grave artifacts cannot be conveniently determined. Only through a careful, archaeological excavation is it possible to determine what remains below ground.

Loss Through Poor Recordation

We found that a number of Richland County cemeteries had become lost through virtually incomprehensible directions. In one case, with little more than a reference to "Boyd's Hill," a cemetery (CH-36) became lost for over 30 years.

We imagine that a variety of factors affect the adequacy and accuracy of locational data. Nevertheless, anyone fortunate enough to find or visit a cemetery must be responsible for providing specific, careful, and meaningful directions to allow future researchers to revisit the cemetery.

It should be a primary concern of genealogical societies to ensure that their members are held accountable and that all locations are accurate and thorough.

Loss Through Inadequate County Ordinances

The current county ordinances offer practically no protection for cemeteries. Some documents, identifying cemeteries as open space, allow the construction of utilities, roads, and pathways – none of which are appropriate in a cemetery. Current regulations don't specify how cemeteries are to be delineated or how they are to be preserved once recognized.

Failing to develop meaningful preservation guidelines promotes the loss of cemeteries. At best it is an example of no decision in fact being a decision. At worst, it represents demolition through neglect.

With the knowledge available through this study, it becomes incumbent on Richland County to use this information in a meaningful and proactive manner.

What Wasn't Found

With 41 cemeteries designated "not found," we have clearly not found all of the cemeteries in Richland County. But determining the reliability of this study is difficult.

We certainly identified all of the cemeteries for which we were able to collect locational information during the first phase. In fact, we significantly increased the total number.

It would be useful if we could state that we had found some proportion of the total universe of cemeteries in Richland County, such as

55% or 95%. However, to do we would need to know the dimensions of that universe. If we knew there were 1,000 cemeteries, then the 503 we identified would represent 50.3%. Add the additional not found cemeteries, then we would have at least recognized 54.4%. But we have no idea if there are 600 or 6,000 cemeteries in Richland County. Nor can we come up with a particularly rigorous means of testing.

One effort we attempted was to use newspaper obituaries from the first quarter of the twentieth century to randomly select five accounts of a family burial ground. We then used the name of the individual to determine if that particular cemetery had actually been encountered. This is not perfect, of course. Not only is the sample – five – very small, but not all cemeteries have been inventoried. Nevertheless, of the five cemeteries, we found that one was located in neighboring Newberry County, three had been located, and one could not be verified as located. Thus, at least 75-80% of this sample had been incorporated in our study.

We do suspect that the older the cemetery, the most likely it has been missed. The simple logic is that a cemetery from 1800 has faced 200+ years of neglect and damage, while a cemetery from 1920 has faced only 94 years of potential loss.

Whether this high performance will hold true as the study begins to be used we don't know. Certainly there will be new cemeteries reported. But this quick test suggests that a sizeable proportion has been found or at least is recognized as having existed.

Property "Rights"

We are not attorneys and this study is not designed to make legal arguments. It is, however, worth noting that we strongly believe our proposals are consistent with good governance.

Some believe that their property is theirs to use, enjoy, or treat as they wish. In fact, absolute property rights exist nowhere in the world. Owners must use their property in a way that the property does not become a nuisance to other property owners and their rights must be used in a manner that does not injure others. In industrialized societies, such as the United States, the use of land is governed by zoning regulations and the permit process. Moreover, property rights can – and should – be circumscribed or modified when there are over-riding social objectives. Property rights of private owners are shared with the public. These social objectives legitimately include reasonable zoning and environmental regulations – as well as the protection of cemeteries and burial places.

South Carolina's statute protecting burial grounds makes it a felony to damage cemeteries, the monuments at cemeteries, the fences, plants, trees, or shrubs present at burial places. This broad protection of cemeteries can be traced back to 1899. Common law protection for cemeteries is even older and civilized peoples have long held that graves and cemeteries are sacrosanct and should never be disturbed.

Thus, laws and regulations designed to recognize, preserve, and protect cemeteries and burial places seem well within the right – and obligation – of government. As long ago as 1922 the U.S. Supreme Court wrote,

> A regulation does not, however, go "too far" so as to require compensation for a takings when it merely decreases property value or prevents property owners from doing exactly what they want with their property. As long as a regulation allows property to be put to productive economic use, the property has value and the regulation will not be deemed to deny all reasonable economic use of the property; there is no regulatory taking in that situation. Property owners do not have a constitutional right to the most profitable use of their property (Pennsylvania Coal Co.

v. Mahon, 260 U.S. 393 (1922)).

This seems especially the case when use of the property clashes with the preservation and protection of graves.

Recommendations

Development Involving Cemeteries

The Problem

Development of a parcel containing a cemetery is possible, just as development when land contains a wetland is possible; but as with other environment or historical concerns, it creates challenges. Development, following the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8, Drainage, Erosion and Sediment Control, is defined as: Any of the following actions undertaken by a public or private individual or entity:

> (a) any land altering activities associated with the division of a lot, tract or parcel of land into two (2) or more lots, plots, sites, tracts, parcels or other divisions by plan or deed, or

> (b) any man-made change, including: clearing, tree removal, grubbing, stripping, dredging, grading, mining, drilling, excavating, paving, transporting and filling of land.

S.C. Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600 et seq. makes it a felony to damage or destroy a cemetery. The completion of this study begins the process of ensuring that developers are aware of known cemeteries on a specific parcel, satisfying the criminal statutes requirement that individuals must engage in the damage "willfully and knowingly."

It is clear, however, that not all cemeteries have been identified by this study. While it is difficult to estimate the number that remains unidentified, it seems reasonable to speculate that there are as many remaining to be located as have already been found.

Thus, developers would be wise to retain a Registered Professional Archaeologist (http://www.rpanet.org/) to conduct a survey for unidentified cemeteries on the development tract. Such a move has the potential to save much time and money should a cemetery be indentified during the construction phase.

In addition, the current Richland County Land Development Code (http://www.richlandonline.com/Portals/0/Departments/Planning/LandDevDocs/LandDevelopmentCode.pdf) does not exhibit an understanding that cemeteries and burial grounds are distinct and different from other "Constrained Open Spaces."

For example, the current plan seems ambiguous concerning the introduction of utilities or roads through cemeteries or the creation of pathways – all of which can cause irreparable damage and which would be in violation of S.C. Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600 et seq. The provisions for the long-term care of cemeteries and burial grounds may be shifted to property owner associations, although it seems unlikely that such organizations have any knowledge regarding the specific protections that such areas require. Current regulations also offer no guidance on how cemeteries or burial grounds are to be delineated or how future descendants or researchers may reasonably gain access.

There also appear to be differences in the current land development code and the 2009 document, Recommended Development Principles for Richland County, South Carolina: Consensus of the Site Planning Roundtable

(http://www.gillscreekwatershed.org/documents/Richland_County_Consensus_Document.pdf).

This document identifies cemeteries and burial grounds as "secondary open spaces" which are only, "encouraged to be incorporated into a protected open space area to the maximum extent feasible." The implication is that they need not be included in open spaces, implying that some use is feasible. This seems contrary to S.C. Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600 et seq.

There must be an understanding that cemeteries and burial grounds are fundamentally different from all other properties, resources, or components in the development equation.

First, they are protected from damage by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600 et seq. which makes it a felony to

(1) obliterate, vandalize, or desecrate a burial ground where human skeletal remains are buried, a grave, graveyard, tomb, mausoleum, or other repository of human remains;

(2) deface, vandalize, injure, or remove a gravestone or other memorial monument or marker commemorating a deceased person or group of persons, whether located within or outside of a recognized cemetery, memorial park, or battlefield; or

(3) obliterate, vandalize, or desecrate a park or other area clearly designated to preserve and perpetuate the memory of a deceased person or group of persons.

Second, the right to a decent burial – and the protection of that burial – has long been recognized in common law. In addition, "there is a strong societal interest in the proper disposition of the bodies of deceased persons" (West Law 1984:4:35). Moreover, disinterment is not a matter of right and in general the law does not favor disinterment, "based on the public policy that the sanctity of the grave should not be

disturbed" (West Law 1984:4:36). This seems to be the basis of the current South Carolina law that requires those seeking to disinter burials to show that the action is "necessary and expedient" (S.C. Code of Laws, Section 27-43-10).

Finally, the unauthorized disturbance of a burial or burial ground "is indictable at common law and by statute as highly contrary to acceptable community conduct" (West Law 1984:4:38).

It seems likely then that burials, no matter how thorough a survey for cemeteries, will continue to be found. Sometimes these discoveries will be in very unexpected locations.

Thus, it is important for everyone involved in planning, historic preservation, and development – even individual land owners – to understand that while we have identified a very large number of burial grounds, there remain others, perhaps many others, that have not been found. ***All land moving activities have some potential to encounter unexpected human remains.*** Our goal was not – and is not – to eliminate this possibility, but only to reduce its potential.

The Solution

It is critical that the County Planning and Development Services and the County Public Works Department implement a review of the Cemetery GIS layer as a standard part of the planning or public works process. A similar review should be implemented prior to the issuance of any building or development permit.

If a cemetery is known or suspected to be present on the parcel, then the developer (defined as any person acting on his own behalf as a property owner, or as an agent for a property owner) must retain a Registered Professional Archaeologist (http://www.rpanet.org/) to conduct a survey to determine the presence and/or specific boundaries of the cemetery.

In some cases, such as when the area has been disturbed, possibly obliterating visible evidence of the cemetery or burials, it will be

necessary also to retain the services of a firm competent and knowledgeable in using ground penetrating radar (GPR) to further evaluate the possibility that human remains are present. Such a firm must certify that they comply with ASTM D 6432-99, *Standard Guide for Using the Surface Ground Penetrating Radar Method for Subsurface Investigation*.

The investigation by the Registered Professional Archaeologist must complete a statewide archaeological survey form and file that form with the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and the Richland County Conservation Department. The investigation must include a detailed, written inventory of all existing cemetery elements (stones, memorials, fences, and other physical features). This report must be forwarded to the S.C. Department of Archives and History, the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, the South Caroliniana Library, the Richland County Public Library, and the Richland County Conservation Department.

The training and professional competence of registered land surveyors does not extend to the identification of burial locations and may not be substituted for a registered professional archaeologist. The registered land surveyor should, however, be used to record the boundaries and/or grave locations identified by a registered professional archaeologist.

All cemeteries, burial grounds, or burials must have a 25-foot buffer added. This will serve as a buffer to protect potentially undiscovered burials and is consistent with the requirements of the S.C. State Historic Preservation Office.

All cemeteries, burial grounds, or burials must have, minimally, a 4-foot commercial grade chain link fence constructed totally enclosing the property. A gate must be provided at the termination of the easement sufficient to allow ready access of maintenance equipment.

Lot lines should be drawn in a fashion that promotes preservation and ensures public access to the cemetery. Division of cemeteries

among several property owners does not promote sound preservation. It is essential that a dedicated easement be provided to the cemetery, allowing unfettered access by researchers and descendants to the cemetery without the need to negotiate access with individual property owners.

It is inconsistent with burial locations, graveyards, and cemeteries to allow pathways, roads, or utility lines to be constructed within their boundaries.

A fund must be established by the developer for the long-term maintenance and care of the cemetery. It is neither adequate nor appropriate to simply give the cemetery to a homeowner's association as green space.

Family Cemeteries

The Problem

Dr. Edwin L. Green, author and professor at the University of South Carolina, observed many of the long forgotten family cemeteries in a 1926 article. He commented on the location of the "unmarked grave of Thomas Horrell" and explained that while he had visited many similar graves, "it takes much time to hunt out these places" ("Old Richland Graveyards," *The State*, October 17, 1926, pg. 35).

By 1928 The State newspaper argued for the abolition of the family cemetery, observing that while the family burying ground represents a "beautiful sentiment," changes:

> have come and the land, save in rare instances, has passed into other hands. The new owners have not the same sentiment nor are they interested in taking special care of the family burying ground. The result is that interest wanes and the spot is neglected and quickly forgotten. Soon encroachments are made and as time passes markers deteriorated, inclosures are

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destroyed, and the place is either tilled as other parts of the farm are [or] left to grow up in weeds and undergrowth and in a few years is known no more ("The Abolition of the Family Cemetery," *The State*, October 26, 1928, pg. 4).

The advice went unheeded and today we have had another 80+ years of family cemeteries developed across Richland County. Unregulated by the County and unreported by death certificates (where often the location is no more informative than "home cemetery") this has resulted in the creation of new problems for families and future owners.

Just as understood in 1928, while current owners may be certain that the land will be maintained and cared for by their children, there is no certainty that their children's children will have the same attachment. And what happens when family members move away or the family line dies out?

The presence of unrecognized burials creates a significant risk to future development of property. If one or more graves are discovered, the developer of the property must stop construction (resulting in potentially significant construction delays) and may face criminal prosecution under S.C. Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600 et seq., as well as civil lawsuits.

The Solution

The simple solution is to enact an ordinance that prohibits the burial of human remains (inclusive of cremains) in any location other than a properly established, licensed, and maintained commercial or religious cemetery. A reasonable fine for non-compliance would be $5,000 and the requirement that the remains be disinterred and moved to a recognized cemetery. Most burials, although certainly not all, are in the hands of state-licensed funeral directors and embalmers; therefore, they too must face a similar fine for ignoring this ordinance.

Failing the elimination of home burials, it should be become necessary for the plot of land to be surveyed by a registered land surveyor, with a plat filed with the Richland County Register of Deeds. A copy of that plat must also be filed with the Richland County Conservation Department and the Richland County GIS Department in order to allow the cemetery survey and the county's cemetery GIS layer to be updated. The cost for this plat and associated filings must be borne by the family seeking to establish a home cemetery. A reasonable fine for non-compliance would be $5,000. In addition, the ordinance should specify that the failure of family to follow these procedures absolves future owners of all legal liability should the cemetery be damaged or destroyed.

Farming and Silvicultural Activities

The Problem

The current Richland County Code of Ordinances currently exempts agricultural and silvicultural land management and cultural practices from land disturbance regulations.

During this investigation we identified multiple cemeteries that have been damaged or destroyed by logging and farming activities protected by this exemption. In the past, hand logging and small scale farming were much less likely to affect cemeteries and burial locations. Today, mechanized logging, reforestation, and farming practices are far more aggressive and much more likely to cause irreparable damage to burial locations.

The Solution

Any logging or expansion of farming operations (greater than 0.1 acre) must be viewed as a development activity and subject to the same requirements in order to protect burial locations.

If this is not possible, the Richland County Conservation Department should develop an active outreach program aimed at Registered

Foresters operating in Richland County, the Soil and Water Conservation District in Richland County, the Richland County Cooperative Extension Agent, and organizations such as 4-H.

Disinterments

The Problem

South Carolina is at a particular disadvantage when it comes to bioanthropology since our state law is frozen in the early twentieth century, requiring only that disinterments be overseen by a funeral director (S.C. Code of Laws, Section 27-43-10, et seq.).

While Funeral Directors are skilled in mortuary practices and grief counseling, they are not skilled in skeletal remains or appropriate excavation techniques.

What this means is the use of backhoes and shovels by unskilled labor, pulling up of only large, easily recognizable bones, maybe the collection of a few pieces of casket hardware, and the immediate reburial of whatever is found with no inventory, analysis, or report. Figure 16 (page 30) shows typical excavation techniques, methods, and conditions in South Carolina. The loss of knowledge is incalculable and horrifying.

So too is the potential for grief, as families see how loved ancestors are treated. There is additional potential for financial loss as incompletely removed, "forgotten," or unlocated graves are found during construction, causing a halt to development activities.

For example, an informant who observed the "disinterment" of two graves at the Bauknight cemetery prior to development commented to us that he was almost certain human remains had been left behind. He reported a hole was dug by a backhoe, a laborer entered the hole, dug out a couple shovels of soil, placed the soil in a box and the disinterment was complete. There was not even a pretext of attempting to actually locate any skeletal or coffin remains.

In another case, the removal of the Busby cemetery, we have been told that it is uncertain if any effort was made to identify and remove human remains. It is therefore possible that only the markers themselves were moved. Historically, this has not been uncommon and was reported at another cemetery (Carter Cemetery, WT-19), where today the grave site is being routinely plowed and planted.

While states like North Carolina and Florida have moved on to recognize that burials older than 50 years can best be examined and – if necessary – removed by bioanthropologists, South Carolina is one of the few southeastern states that remains intransigently committed to a 1940s era law.

The Solution

The simple solution is a revision of the state law requiring all burials reasonably thought to be older than 50 years or buried without benefit of an intact vault to be removed by bioanthropologists, with a provision that the remains will be available for non-destructive analysis for a period of 60 days prior to reburial. This should be accompanied by a provision that a licensed funeral director also be present since certainly these individuals have extensive experience and training in helping families deal with grief and we recognize that disinterment can be traumatic for family members. Likewise, funeral directors will be responsible for the placement of the remains in new caskets afterwards, as well as the eventual reinterment of the remains. Each partner in this process should do what they are trained and best capable of accomplishing.

If our legislators are not willing to recognize the importance of ensuring proper burial removal, then Richland County should enact its own ordinance requiring that a bioanthropologist design and oversee all removals using archaeological techniques and that the remains are available for examination, minimally, for 24 hours.

Tracking Disinterments

The Problem

The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is responsible for establishing "a bureau of vital statistics and provide an adequate system for the registration and certification of births, deaths, marriages, and divorces by formulating, promulgating, and enforcing regulations prescribing the method and form of making the registration and certification" (South Carolina Code of Laws Section 44-63-20).

How this is accomplished in so far as disinterments are concerned is stipulated by the South Carolina Code of Regulations, Section 61-19-27, Disinterment Permits. This regulation, not state law, establishes that disinterment permits will be issued, "except as otherwise provided by statute." Thus, DHEC's regulations exempt disinterments under South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 27-43-10 et seq. (Removal of Abandoned Cemeteries).

The Disinterment Permits are filed by funeral homes with DHEC, but no further action is taken by that agency. Periodically disinterment permits, filed chronologically, are transferred from DHEC to the SC Department of Archives and History. There they are maintained in the same condition as they are received, with no indexing or other means to allow individuals to use those records to find either specific individuals or entire cemeteries.

Consequently, at the present time DHEC has no mechanism to track relocated burials. This results in removed cemeteries and burials becoming lost, preventing descendants, genealogists, and researchers from tracking these burial grounds and burials. Moreover, cemeteries removed under South Carolina's Removal of Abandoned Cemeteries law are not tracked in any fashion whatsoever. Even finding the Circuit Court Order mandating the removal is virtually impossible since these court rulings are not indexed. Identification of records at the Clerk of Court's Office requires one of the parties to be known for the case to be found in the available indices.

The Solution

The simple solution is for the South Carolina Legislature to expand South Carolina Code of Laws Section 44-63-20, more specifically requiring DHEC to incorporate all burial and cemetery removals and to organize the records in a fashion that they become immediately available to the public in a useable fashion. This could be accomplished by creating a web page listing the disinterments by county and date, or by yearly forwarding the permits for permanent curation by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. The Legislature should also order DHEC to require disinterment permits for all burial removals, thereby removing any statutory exemption.

Until this modification can be made, Richland County should require all funeral homes or contractors removing burials or cemeteries to provide a document identifying the burials being removed, a plat of the cemetery prior to removal, and documentation on where all remains are being reinterred to the Richland County GIS for entry in the cemetery layer.

Development of the GIS Layer

The Problem

It was, from the first phase of this project, the intention to create a cemetery layer on the Richland County GIS that would identify the cemeteries identified in this work. Both the first phase and this current phase provide the County with tax map numbers and detailed coordinates, ready to enter into the GIS.

Delays in providing this layer limit the usefulness of the project and hinder the ability of Planning and Public Works to conveniently consult the database.

The Solution

The solution is to make the creation of this layer a priority. Cemetery points in an Excel file can be quickly added to the database. The location of these points on the listed tax maps can be manually checked to confirm the accuracy of the data.

Since each cemetery form is available in pdf format, it should also be relatively easy to hyperlink those forms to the layer points, allowing users to click on a particular cemetery and immediately have additional information and photographs.

If desired, Chicora Foundation can be retained to further check the locations against our field maps. In some cases it will also be possible to establish polygons, rather than a single point – offering further refinement to the layer.

This issue with all of these options, however, is to ensure that the information is quickly and accurately entered into the Richland County GIS.

Maintenance of the Database

The Problem

We anticipate that there will need to be changes in this cemetery database. Cemeteries identified as "Not Found" may be identified, new cemeteries will continue to be found and reported, typos and other errors in the database will need to be corrected, additional work at cemeteries may refine their locations, or development may alter tax map numbers. For the database to maintain its relevance and usefulness, both to researchers and to planners, it will be necessary for additional time to be devoted to maintenance activities.

For new cemeteries reported, no more than 10-15 minutes need be spent on-site gathering the pertinent information. This does not include the time to and from the cemetery. An additional 30 minutes may be required to complete the form, including obtaining a tax map location, an aerial photograph, verifying UTM coordinates, and adding photographs to the form. Thus, it is not unreasonable to expect each new cemetery to require upwards of 2-3 hours for processing.

For each correction or addition of a new cemetery, we recommend that those receiving this original report receive a monthly addendum. This will help ensure that all copies of the database will be maintained. If done monthly, this may require 1-2 hours to gather the information, make copies, and forward the packages to the various institutions housing the reports.

While it is difficult at this point to determine how much time may be necessary, it does not seem unreasonable to anticipate that 2 days a month may be necessary.

The Solution

The Richland County Conservation Department will need to evaluate whether this is an activity that can be managed in-house or whether the work will need to be contracted out. If contracted out, given the uncertainty of time requirements, it seems reasonable to operate on a cost-reimbursable basis with a not-to-exceed cap.

Determining Future Cemetery Locations

The Problem

We have been candid regarding the very poor level of documentation that cemeteries have received. The verbal locations provided by genealogical societies, and even the S.C. Department of Archives and History, are often contradictory and/or vague. At times it is as though the individual was never at the cemetery or, alternatively, simply did not know where they were during their visit.

Coordinates provided by researchers are virtually never associated with an explicit

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statement regarding the coordinate system and datum being used. In fact, there is often the specter of false accuracy as researchers pick a spot on the map and use that spot to obtain their coordinates, rather than actually taking the coordinates at the cemetery. At times, such as with reports on Find-A-Grave, it becomes almost impossible to determine how locations were determined. There are a variety of on-line sites providing coordinates for cemeteries, but none of these provide information to explain how these coordinates were determined.

An issue of special concern is the recent requirement by the S.C. Department of Archives and History that, "historic cemeteries with 1 or more grave markers should be recorded on South Carolina Statewide Intensive Survey Forms" (http://shpo.sc.gov/programs/Documents/Recor dingCemeteriesGuidance.pdf). While certainly the intent was to ensure better recordation of cemeteries, the Statewide Intensive Survey Forms are poorly suited for this type of site. This is clearly evidenced by four of our "not found" cemeteries being recorded on these Archives and History forms (3579, 3581, 3586, and 3595). The problem involves the means for recording the location. Intended for standing structures, the instructions for identifying the location state,

> If the property has a legal street address, enter the street number and name. . . . If the property does not have a street address, enter the number of the nearest federal or state road. If the property is not located on a federal or state road, enter the name of the nearest road followed by "vic.," the abbreviation for "vicinity of." Concise directions to the property should follow.

> Examples: SC 325, 1 mi. S of its jct. w/state secondary rd. 178 SW corner of intersection of Smith Lane and Jones Rd. (http://shpo.sc.gov/programs/D ocuments/SurveyManualJune201

3.pdf).

Such locations, even when coupled with a tax map parcel, are vague at best. We found that they were essentially useless for identifying cemeteries located anywhere other than on the roadside.

The Solution

The solution involves researchers better understanding the importance of accurate locations. They will not be the only individuals who ever want to visit the cemetery. Other researchers with different research interests and family members or descendants will want to return to the cemetery. Individuals focused on preservation rather than genealogy will want to ensure that cemeteries are not destroyed by development. All of these require a greater focus on accurate and meaningful locational information. It also requires a greater degree of cooperation and willingness to share information.

Verbal locations should be explicit, using cardinal directions in addition to right and left. Road names should be those used by Richland County. Mileage must be accurate to the nearest 0.1 mile. Locations must include paced distances – not estimates. If coordinates are used – and we strongly encourage their use – researchers must explicitly state whether their Lat/Lon coordinates are in D°M'S", D°M.M', or D.D°. A datum must also be explicitly stated (NAD27, NAD84, or WGS84). It would also be helpful if researchers would provide some information regarding the accuracy of their coordinates. For example, was WAAS employed?

If coordinates are ever offered based on anything other than the actual use of a GPS (for example, using an aerial or topographic map to back establish coordinates), the research should make that explicit, perhaps through the use of "circa" or "~."

It is our professional opinion that the South Carolina Statewide Intensive Survey Form is a poor choice for cemetery recordation since it does not allow sufficiently accurate locational

information to be entered. This is readily demonstrated by the cemeteries recorded using this form that we were unable to relocate. This problem can be resolved by simply requiring, perhaps for cemeteries alone, more detailed verbal instructions coupled with coordinate data.

No Action Option

For each of these issues raised here, there is of course the "no action" option which would simply accept the status quo. Under such an option, there would be no additional actions to minimize damage from development, silviculture, or agriculture; there would be no action to help ensure that cemeteries in the middle of developments are maintained and available to descendants; family cemeteries would continue to be created, causing problems for future landowners and developers; disinterments would continue to result in the loss of cemeteries; the failure to use professional disinterment methods would continue to leave human remains behind, potentially causing problems to the next generation of property owners; when cemeteries are relocated it will be virtually impossible to determine where they were originally or to where the remains were moved; this database would have limited distribution, limited usefulness, and a limited lifespan; and researchers will continue to so poorly record cemetery locations that future generations will need to repeat our process in the effort to re-locate cemeteries.

None of these results sound acceptable – morally, financially, or socially. Great strides have been made with this current study and it seems poor governance to throw away that progress and return to the status quo.

We hope that our recommendations will be taken seriously and that over the course of the next four or five years all of these concerns are addressed in a meaningful, proactive manner.

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