

CHARLES PINCKNEY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • SOUTHEAST REGION

Cover photo: Main house and existing cedar allee, Charles Pinckney National Historic Site

**CHARLES PINCKNEY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT**

1998

Susan Hart Vincent
Historic Land Design
Charlotte NC

Under the direction of the National Park Service
Southeast Region
Atlanta, Georgia



Foreword

We are pleased to add this volume to our growing library of Cultural Landscape Reports for park units in the Southeast Region. Many individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. In particular, we would like to thank the Superintendent, John Tucker, for the interest and time he gave to this project. We would also like to thank the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, our partners in developing a professional research staff to serve the Southeastern parks. And finally, we want to recognize the labor and dedication of Historical Landscape Architect Susan Hart Vincent, author of this report. We hope that the study will be a useful tool for park management and for others interested in the history and significance of the Park's many cultural resources.

Kirk A. Cordell
Chief, Cultural Resources Stewardship
National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office
October 1998



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INTRODUCTION

Management Summary

This cultural landscape report (CLR) provides treatment recommendations for the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site (CHPI), Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The primary goal is to preserve and interpret the landscape resources of the Pinckney era (1754-1817), but non-Pinckney-era features are also treated. In addition, the report provides:

- a) an analysis of non-Pinckney-era landscape resources, in order to determine the site's eligibility to the National Register;
- b) treatment recommendations that accommodate contemporary resources, i.e., park facilities and other 20th-century landscape features; and
- c) guidance for the use of historical landscape resources, including vegetation and archeology, to support the interpretive goals defined in the park's Management Objectives.

Historical Summary

The park is a 28-acre remnant of Snee Farm, Charles Pinckney's original 715-acre plantation, which was in the possession of the Pinckney family from 1754 to 1818. Pinckney, a framer and signer of the United States Constitution, inherited the plantation in 1782, after the death of his father, Colonel Charles Pinckney (Col. Pinckney). The site's history reflects the agrarian patterns of South Carolina's Lowcountry from the mid-17th to the late 20th century.

Scope of Work and Methodology

Of primary concern, the park lacks guidance in determining which landscape features are Pinckney-era resources. Secondly, it is unclear how to utilize the site's historic landscape patterns and resources, including the 19th-century house, to enhance public understanding of Pinckney's Snee Farm. The park also needs guidance on the treatment of 20th-century landscape features, including park facilities, which interfere with the visitor's understanding of the Pinckney landscape. Finally, the landscape's eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places needs to be determined.

Because the Pinckney papers were destroyed during Charleston's 1861 fire, primary sources for investigating the history of Snee Farm are scarce. Consequently, secondary sources were used to determine the site's historical context during the Pinckney era. The review of existing park documentation included the park's *General Management Plan*, *Historical Overview*, *Interpretive Prospectus*, maps, archeological reports, historical plats, deeds, photographs, and other records relevant to the project purpose. The report includes a limited investigation of the pre-Pinckney (1695-1754) and post-Pinckney (1817 to present) landscapes. A review of existing conditions (NPS) is also provided.

The focus of this report was initially limited to the analysis and treatment of the site's historic circulation patterns, relative to existing circulation patterns. Emphasis was placed on Pinckney-

era resources. Additional funding allowed for subsequent analysis and the development of treatment recommendations for the vegetation and other site features in the following prioritized areas:

- a) the area immediately around the extant house, including the nearby woodlands (core area);
- b) areas beyond the core area, including the fields, marsh, and barn area (agricultural landscape); and
- c) the park's non-historic features (comfort station, curatorial storage, parking area).

The research process included site visits and management staff interviews. Historical investigation was limited to the review of existing park research, including drawings, reports, copies of historical plats, deeds, interview transcripts, and other documentation relevant to the project purpose. Telephone conversations with persons having specific site history or resource information were also conducted.

Study Boundaries

Snee Farm is located approximately seven miles east of Charleston in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The site is bounded to the east and south by residential development, to the west, by wetlands, and to the north, by historic Long Point Road, a South Carolina scenic highway. This two-lane road connects the park to U.S. Highway 17, approximately one mile east of the park entrance, and to the Mark Clarke Expressway (I-526), three miles to the west. Boone Hall, an 18th-century plantation turned tourist attraction, lies across Long Point Road to the north, providing the scenic highway with some of its former rural character.

Since the mid-1970s, Mt. Pleasant has undergone rapid population growth, resulting in new and widened roads and single- and multi-family housing. In fact, much of Snee Farm itself was subdivided in the early 1970s and is now occupied by residential development. The National Park Service manages the remaining 28 acres of the original Pinckney property.

Summary of Findings

The remaining acreage represents a visual microcosm of Charles Pinckney's 715-acre Snee Farm. The existing roads, fields, marshes, and woodlands contribute to the setting, location, and feeling associated with an 18th-century agricultural landscape. Nevertheless, although certain of its landscape resources contribute to the property's historical significance, the cultural landscape lacks the integrity necessary for National Register eligibility. Ninety per cent of the property has been lost to residential development. Moreover, the actual dimensions of the garden and the location of other historic circulation features have not been established. No Pinckney-era structures or vegetation are known to remain on site.

Despite the lack of material integrity, archeological investigation has revealed the structural foundations of the Pinckney house complex and slave village. Documentation also supports that the wooded area (grove) east of the standing house is part of the Pinckney garden pattern, though the exact dimensions of this feature are still unknown. Continued research will be necessary to determine the historic spatial relationship of the Pinckney garden, house complex, and circulation patterns.

The proposed treatment recommendations are based on management strategies that can be easily adapted to future research findings and that leave little impact if discontinued or changed. Restoration of the Pinckney entrance and avenue is

recommended to emphasize the site's most important historic circulation feature. Varying mowing regimes are recommended to simulate historic field patterns. Interpretive trails are to be constructed of light materials (sand, crushed stone), and minimized to lessen their impact on the site. Finally, the interpretation of archeological features is to be enhanced by simple footprint markings that can be easily maintained.

SITE HISTORY

European Settlement to 1754

Prior to European settlement, the South Carolina coastal plain was a region of broad grassy plains interspersed with pine, oak, and mixed hardwood forests. Natural fire occurred intermittently, creating vast savannas of loblolly pine and wiregrass. Native Americans had settled throughout the region, developing a diversified culture of agriculture and semi-sedentary village life. The native peoples used fire as a tool to clear new areas for fields, to rejuvenate old plots, and to trap deer. As a result of such disturbances, abandoned sites had developed a mixed vegetative understory by the time the first settlers arrived.

European settlement of the region occurred in 1670, when the colony of Charles Towne was founded along a natural harbor on the south bank of the Ashley River.¹ Many of the early settlers came from the West Indian sugar plantations, particularly Barbados, where land shortages and other hardships had forced planters to seek their fortunes elsewhere. The land surrounding Charles Towne's harbor supported a richly diverse flora and fauna, and the colonists quickly adapted to the area's extensive river and marsh system, utilizing creeks and other waterways for transportation and exploration. When the colony was relocated to the peninsula ten years later, plantation settlement had already

expanded inward along the Ashley, Cooper, and Wando Rivers and major tributaries.

In 1706, Christ Church Parish was established.² The parish was defined to the west and south by the Wando and Cooper Rivers, to the north, by Awendaw Creek, and to the east, by the Atlantic Ocean. By 1721, 107 families were living in the parish, including 400 whites and 637 slaves.³ As the local population increased, the production of naval stores, indigo, and rice emerged as major industries. Although rice became the staple plantation commodity within the first 50 years of settlement, the parishioners of Christ Church were mostly small farmers and mechanics.⁴ They grazed cattle, hunted to supplement their diet, and produced turpentine, rosin, tar, and lumber for the Charleston market.⁵ However, the plantation system was the region's major economic and social force, demanding an enormous labor input to sustain its existence.

² Edward G. Lilly, ed., *Historic Churches of Charleston* (Charleston: Legerton and Co., 1966), 82-3. The Church Act of 1706 established ten churches outside of Charleston. The "Public" road (today's U.S. Hwy. 17) from Hibbens Ferry, in Mount Pleasant, to Christ Church was probably established about the same time.

³ Anne King Gregorie, *Christ Church, 1706-1959: A Plantation Parish of the South Carolina Establishment* (Charleston SC: The Dalcho Historical Society, 1961), 25-26.

⁴ Individuals highly skilled in 18th-century technology were known as "mechanics." These included not only craftsmen such as blacksmiths, sawyers, wheelwrights, and coopers, but also producers of turpentine, lumber, and brickworks.

⁵ Gregorie, 20.

¹ The city, named for Charles II of England, was known as "Charles Towne" while controlled by the Lord Proprietors (1670-1720). Under the royal government and during the American Revolution, it was known as "Charlestown," and as "Charleston" after it was incorporated in 1783. Robert N. Rosen, *A Short History of Charleston* (Charleston: Peninsula Press, 1992).

During the 1750s, the switch from inland swamp rice cultivation to tidal rice cultivation increased the demand for slave labor to dig ditches and to build the dikes, canals, and trunks necessary to divert tidal waters from rivers and streams into the rice fields. The plantation owners relied heavily on the skills and knowledge of slaves from Africa's "Rice Coast" to insure a successful rice harvest.⁶ Sierra Leone, Senegal, and Gambia were among the several West African countries where rice had been cultivated for centuries. Slaves from these areas were in great demand by plantation owners in South Carolina, Georgia, and northern Florida.⁷ From the 1760s to 1776, South Carolina's slave population doubled from 52,000 to 100,000 individuals. Indigo production also peaked in the mid-1770s, with exports exceeding one million pounds.⁸ Because the higher lands behind the rice fields were ideal for cultivation, thousands of acres of indigo were planted along the coast and in the backcountry.

Charleston's Lowcountry Plantations

As architectural historian Roger Kennedy notes, the successors of the West Indian planters who settled Carolina did not live on their plantations, as did their counterparts in Virginia and Maryland. Instead, they "created a little London in Charleston, from which they paid state visits to the overseers of their rice, indigo, and cotton plantations." The Charleston colonial gentry possessed great wealth; however, this rarely resulted in "large and elegant country houses," such as those associated with Henry Middleton's Middleton Place (c. 1750), or John Drayton's Drayton Hall (c.

1740).⁹ In contrast, the majority of working plantations around Charleston had smaller, comfortable houses for family members to visit and enjoy at their leisure. These plantations produced food and other necessities for the principal family residences in Charleston and for the city markets, in addition to the cash crops that brought the planters much of their wealth. (The early structures of Snee Farm were typical of such working plantations. The family house was small, yet comfortable and quite adequate for family visits.)

The plantations of Christ Church Parish were linked to the region's towns and markets by a network of early roads. In fact, Long Point Road is a landmark feature that remains from the region's earliest period of settlement. It is referenced as early as 1707 as the "Seawee [sic] Broad Path," connecting Governor Sir Nathaniel Johnson's lands on the Sewee Bay to Bermuda Town.¹⁰ The road originally extended from Belvue-Bermuda Plantation, west of Boone Hall, to Christ Church, at the present-day U.S. Highway 17. The establishment of Long Point Plantation (c. 1719), which was situated north of Bermuda Plantation, apparently resulted in the renaming of the road.¹¹ U.S. Highway 17 traces the route of another of the area's earliest roads. Known in the 18th century (and referenced in this document) as the Church Road or Public Road, this route led from Charleston to Georgetown, some 60 miles to the north.

⁶ Joseph A. Opala, *The Gullah: Rice, Slavery, and the Sierra Leone-American Connection*, (Freetown, Sierra Leone: United States Information Service, 1993), 1-2.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Charles F. Kovacik and John J. Winberry, *South Carolina, The Making of a Landscape* (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1989), 73-74.

⁹ Roger G. Kennedy, *Architecture, Men, Women and Money in America 1600-1860*, New York 1985, 45-46, 55.

¹⁰ Gregorie, 19. Seawee is the name given to a local Indian tribe. Long Point Road and other early roads may have been Indian trails used and expanded by European settlers.

¹¹ Plantations near Charleston were mostly large working farms. The reality of smaller but comfortable houses for plantation owners to reside in while visiting is discussed further in the section "Charleston's Lowcountry Plantations."

Snee Farm (1696-1754)

In the late 17th century, Richard Butler received a 500-acre land grant in Christ Church Parish.¹² “Butler’s Causeway,” a feature found on 18th- and 19th-century plats, may well have been built by Butler when Long Point Road was established along the northern boundary of his land (c. 1707). Between 1696 and 1730, Butler conveyed the 500-acre parcel to John Givens, who, in turn, left it to Benjamin Law in 1730.¹³ The grant was described as “situate in Berkeley County butting and bounding on land of Thomas Boone to the Northeast and upon the land of Mary and Sarah Sims to the Southwest.”¹⁴

In 1738, John Allen purchased 615 acres of land, including Butler’s original 500-acre grant.¹⁵ A plat (fig. 1) prepared that year shows only the property boundaries, with Captain Thomas Boone’s land to the north. No roads or structures are shown. In 1744, Allen increased the size of his farm by purchasing the 100 acres owned by James and Sarah White (formerly Sarah Sims), consolidating the farm into a 715-acre tract.

John Allen died in 1748. His widow, Anne Scott Allen, married John Savage. In 1754, Savage sold the Snee Farm tract to Col. Charles Pinckney, a member of the Lowcountry gentry. The origins of the word “Snee,” as applied to the property, are currently unknown. The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines the

term as “bountiful, plenteous.” The term first appears in documents made at the time of the Pinckney family purchase in 1754.

Pinckney Family Era (1754-1817)

Colonel Charles Pinckney (Snee Farm Owner 1754-1782)

Charles Pinckney (Col. Pinckney) was a wealthy Charleston attorney, public servant, and planter. He was born in Charleston but was educated in England, and he kept close economic and social ties with the mother country. He acquired Snee Farm in 1754, shortly after his marriage to Francis Brewton.¹⁶ The farm was one of three plantations he owned outside of Charleston.

Col. Pinckney served as the commanding officer of the First Battalion of the Charles Towne Militia. However, with the fall of Charleston to the British in 1780, he abandoned the American cause and swore loyalty to Britain. By so doing, he avoided the destruction of his property.

During the British occupation, General William Moultrie of the 2nd South Carolina Regiment and Colonel Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (Col. Pinckney’s cousin) of the Continental Army were paroled and kept quarters at Snee Farm. Gen. Moultrie reported in his journals that “Col. [Charles Cotesworth] Pinckney and I were in excellent quarters at Mr. Pinckney’s place called Snee Farm.”¹⁷

¹² Julia King, *Archaeological Investigations at Charles Pinckney Snee Farm, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina* (Mt. Pleasant, SC: By the author, 1992), 5. A 1733 Memorial to Benjamin Law, in Charleston, states that the grant to Richard Butler was made on December 5, 1696.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ As quoted in King, 7. Berkeley County’s boundary was moved around 1895, and Snee Farm became part of Charleston County at that time.

¹⁵ It is not known how this land was acquired. The papers of earlier land owners (Butler, Givens, Law, Allen and Savage) have not been investigated.

¹⁶ Francis Brewton was sister to Miles Brewton, whose Charleston residence is a National Historic Landmark.

¹⁷ William Moultrie, *Memoirs of the American Revolution So Far As It Is Related to the States of North and South Carolina, and Georgia*, Vol. 2, New York 1802, 116, as found in HABS, 9. Also in Walter B. Edgar, “Historic Snee Farm: A Documentary Record” (Prepared for the Board of Directors of the Friends of Historic Snee Farm, 1991), 7.

Col. Pinckney died in St. Andrew's Parish in 1782. He was buried at St. Philip's Church in Charleston.¹⁸ Snee Farm appears to have been at its most productive between the years of 1754 and 1790, under the ownership of Col. Pinckney and, later, his son, Charles Pinckney.

Charles Pinckney (Snee Farm Owner 1782-1817)

Charles Pinckney (Charles Pinckney) was born in 1757. Like many young men of his status, he was groomed to study law in England. However, because of the growing unrest in the colonies, he was encouraged to study at his father's law office in Charleston instead. He concluded his studies in 1779. Shortly after the Revolutionary War, Charles Pinckney became immersed in American political endeavors that would occupy the next forty years of his life. His most famous accomplishment was the inclusion of more than 25 clauses (from his Pinckney Draught) in the final draft of the U.S. Constitution. In addition, Pinckney served four terms as Governor of South Carolina, and as Thomas Jefferson's Minister to Spain (1801-1805).¹⁹

Because his family visited the property frequently, Charles Pinckney spent part of his youth at Snee Farm. He inherited the plantation after his father's death in 1782.²⁰ It is not known how

often he visited the plantation as an adult, but by 1791, his political career was keeping him away for long periods of time.

Even though Snee Farm was his established country estate, Charles Pinckney owned several other plantations in the Lowcountry. His other properties included the two plantations of Frankville and Hopton, situated on both sides of the Congaree River, five miles from Columbia; a Georgetown plantation consisting of 560 acres of tidal swamp and 600 acres of high land; a tract of 1200 acres called Lynches Creek; Fee Farm on the Ashepoo River; a Haddrell's Point house called Shell Hall²¹, with four acres of land; a house and garden lot on Meeting Street, Charleston; a plantation called Wright's Savannah on the Carolina side of the Savannah River; and a tract of land on the Santee River above the canal, including a ferry, called Mount Tacitus.²² After his marriage to Eleanor Laurens in 1788, the elegant three-storied brick home at 16 Meeting Street in Charleston presumably became his principal residence.²³

In 1791, During his second term as Governor of South Carolina, Pinckney invited President George Washington to Snee Farm as a rest stop on his tour to Charleston. In the letter, the president was requested "to make a stage at a little farm of mine in Christ Church . . . I must apologize for asking you to call at a place so indifferently furnished and where your fare will be entirely that of

¹⁸ Francis Williams, *A Founding Family: The Pinckneys of South Carolina*, (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1978), 188.

¹⁹ A more detailed account of Charles Pinckney's political life can be found in the *Charles Pinckney National Historic Site Historical Overview*, National Park Service, 1994.

²⁰ Pinckney qualified as executor of his father's estate on April 16, 1798, sixteen years after his father's death. The lengthy period suggests legal difficulties may have been associated with the estate. (Wills of Charleston County 1783-1786, Vol. 39, 527-533. South Carolina Archives and History. Also in the Inventory in Will Book A (1783-1793, 431) as cited in Edgar, 19. Col. Pinckney's will was written in 1770, but not proved until 1798. A writ of partition could not be found.

²¹ Shell Hall remains extant as a private residence in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

²² Charleston County Deeds, Vol. O-8: pgs. 112-116, Roll #CH49, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

²³ N. Louise Bailey and Elizabeth Ivey Cooper, *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives*, Volume III 1775-1790, (Columbia: 1982) 555-559. Eleanor was the daughter of Henry Laurens, one of Charleston's wealthiest merchants, and a leading South Carolina citizen.

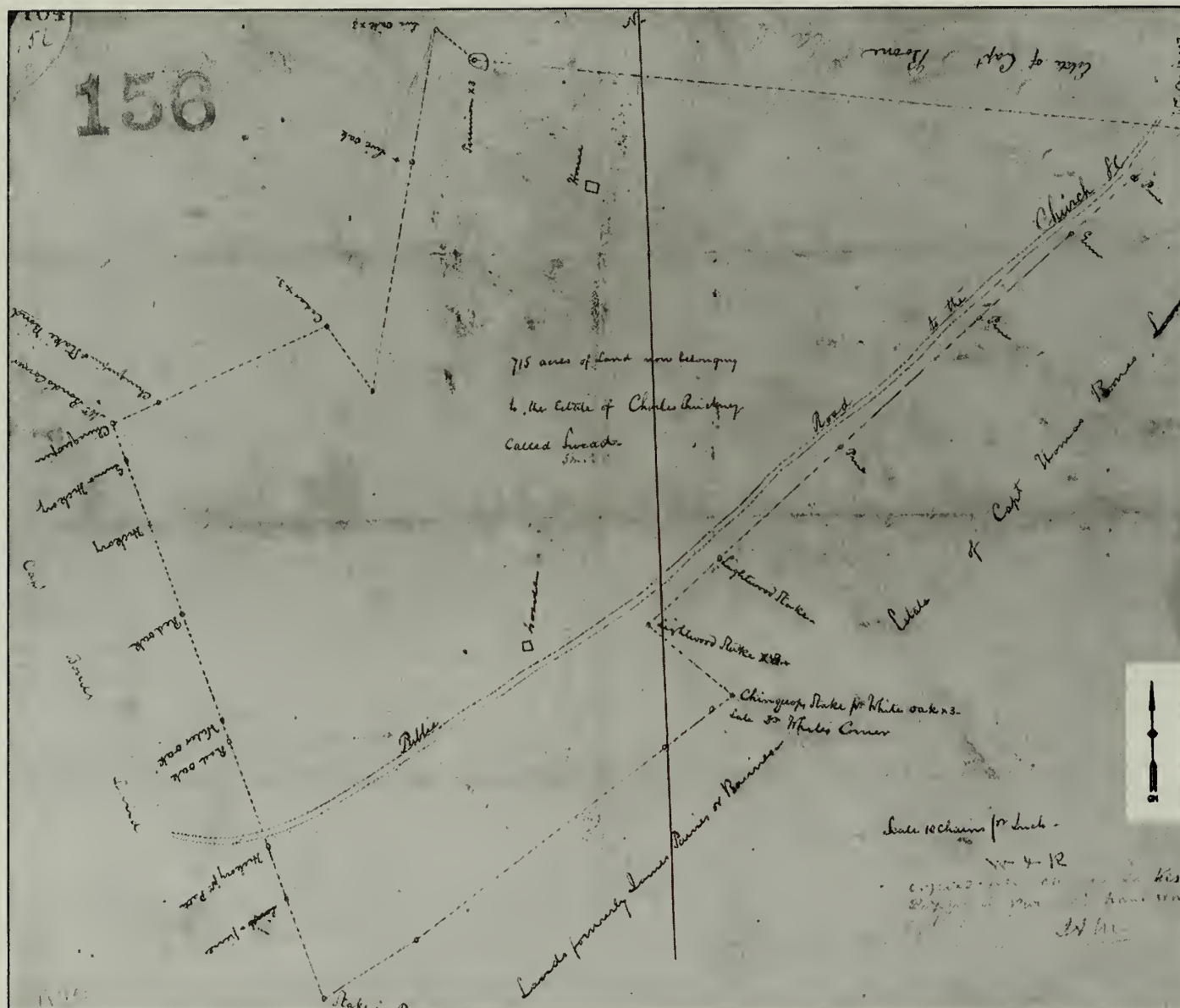


Fig. 2: Charles Pinckney's Plat of Snee Farm, 1783.

a farm.”²⁴ After his breakfast at Snee Farm on 2 May 1791, Washington recorded in his diary, “Breakfasted at the Country seat of Governor Pinckney about 18 miles from our lodging place and then came to the ferry at Haddrell’s Point.”²⁵

The demands of Charles Pinckney’s political career made it difficult for him to manage his extensive land holdings. In his letter to Washington, he had written, “It [Snee Farm] is a place I seldom go to or perhaps things would be in better order.”²⁶ In 1795, he leased the property to Samuel Cripps for one year.²⁷ Nevertheless, Pinckney’s large estate slowly fell into arrears, and by 1816, he had conveyed Snee Farm and several other land holdings in trust to be sold to pay his debts.²⁸ An excerpt from an 1817 advertisement in the *Charleston City Gazette and Daily Advertiser*, dated 21 February 1817, describes Snee Farm as “containing about 800 acres with the necessary buildings well suited for supplying the Charleston markets. Also, about 60 head of cattle which may be seen on the farm.” In one Charleston County record, the plantation was described among several other Pinckney properties as being “wholly unproductive” and one of several “in perishing condition the houses going to ruin and daily

diminishing in value.”²⁹ In 1817, Snee Farm was sold to Francis G. Deliesseline for \$4,380.³⁰

Charles Pinckney died in 1824 at his house on Meeting Street. He was buried at St. Philips Church in Charleston.³¹

Pinckney-Era Landscape Features (1754-1817)

Property Boundaries

Charles Pinckney’s 1783 plat of Snee Farm (fig. 2) shows little additional detail to John Allen’s plat of 1738 (fig. 1).³² The property boundaries are marked by stakes near natural ponds and trees, including water oaks, white oaks, pines, persimmons, live oaks, hickories, red oaks, and cedars. The tidal creek and marsh are depicted graphically as part of the northwestern boundary. The property extends east of the Public Road and is bounded to the north by the “Estate of Capt. Boone.” In the center of the plat is the phrase “715 acres of land now belonging to the Estate of Charles Pinckney called Snead [sic].” No other landscape features are shown.

When Francis Deliesseline purchased Snee Farm in 1817, the farm had grown from 715 acres to 767-1/2 acres, presumably during Charles Pinckney’s ownership. In fact, Deliesseline’s

²⁴ As quoted in Edgar, 7-8.

²⁵ Ibid, 9. Edgar notes that Washington’s use of the word “seat” in describing Snee Farm emphasizes the importance of Pinckney’s country estate. English country “seats” were considered more than mere farms. Moreover, eighteenth century etiquette required Governor Pinckney to use the word “farm” when describing his own property.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ South Carolina Department of Archives and History. The Judgment Rolls identified as ‘Cripps vs. Charles Pinckney’ have not been examined. They were dated 1799, 1801, and 1804 and may reveal conditions at Snee Farm.

²⁸ Charleston County Conveyance Book O8: 111.

²⁹ Charleston County District Court of Equity Report Book, 8: 398-399. April 27, 1808--March 7, 1818, as found in National Park Service, Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), Snee Farm (1991), 15.

³⁰ Charleston County Deed Book X-8: 78-81.

³¹ Williams, 360.

³² South Carolina Department of Archives and History, McCrady Plat #4952. The Pinckney plat was examined by Dr. Charles Lesser, Senior Historian at the Archives. He identified it as a Purcell office copy (working copy) and estimated the date at 1783. This may explain why major features such as fields, rice lands, woodlands, and roads are not indicated. Neither the finished copy of this plat nor the original 1754 plat has been found.

1818 plat (fig. 3) provides the most detailed information about Snee Farm as it had evolved during the Pinckney period.³³

Core Area

The core area contains most of the buildings collectively described by archeological analyses as the house complex. The area includes the surrounding yard, vegetation, and woodlands, or grove, east of the standing house.

Archeological investigations suggest that the farm was very active during Col. Pinckney's ownership. The discovery of a preponderance of fine English tableware and Chinese teaware fragments, wine bottle seals with the Pinckney name, and a silver spoon with the initials of Col. Pinckney and his wife are strong evidence of the family's residency. Although documentation is scarce, a letter from Charles Pinckney's brother, Thomas, to cousin Harriott Pinckney Horry, dated 24-25 December 1775, mentions the family spending Christmas at the farm.³⁴ A letter written after the Revolutionary War, this time by Pinckney's mother, Francis Brewton Pinckney, remarks of her intention to spend more time at Snee Farm.³⁵

Structures--NPS archeology has uncovered Pinckney-era structural foundations dating from the first quarter to first half of the 18th century. These features can be observed in figure 4, "NPS Archeology at Snee Farm," and figure 5, "Historical Base Map--Pinckney Family Era (1754-1817)." For clarity, the NPS archeology "structure number" assigned to structural ruins is

referenced throughout this document. Archeological evidence indicates that several structures were extant at the time Col. Pinckney purchased the property. The family used these buildings during their tenure at Snee Farm.³⁶

The best evidence to date suggests that the farm's main house (structure #11) was a small brick building, approximately 15' x 23'. The presence of wall plaster fragments and paint chips indicates it had plastered interior walls and a painted white exterior. Pre-Pinckney era artifacts suggest that the house may have been constructed circa 1725.³⁷ The plantation kitchen (structure #13), the remains of which were discovered to the east of the farm house, is also believed to have been on the property at the time of the Pinckney purchase. This structure measures 13' x 30' and was probably built about the same time as the house.³⁸

Evidence indicates that three structures were added to the property after the house and kitchen were constructed. Two domiciles (structures #14 & #16) were built circa 1750, sometime just before or after the Pinckney purchase. Their respective structural dimensions are approximately 15' x 23' and 11' x 15'. The domiciles may have been for house servants living near the Pinckney house. A brick-lined well (feature #312) was discovered

³³ South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Records of the Secretary of State, Surveyor General, State Plats, Recorded Copies, Charleston Series, Vol. 39: 78.

³⁴ Pinckney Papers, Red Box D Undivided, Library of Congress, as found in Williams, 87.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Dr. Bennie C. Keel and Michael J. Meyer. "Research Design for Archeological Investigations at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site", March 3-April 4, 1997, SEAC Accession No. 943, National Park Service, Southeast Archeological Center, Tallahassee FL, 5-7. The use or purpose of these structures is based on current knowledge. The Southeast Archeological Center has done archeological research at Snee Farm since 1991 and the results of this multi-year effort are summarized and presented in this document.

³⁷ Michael J. Meyer, unpublished, summary of archeological findings to date at CHPI (Spring, 1997), SEAC.

³⁸ Ibid.

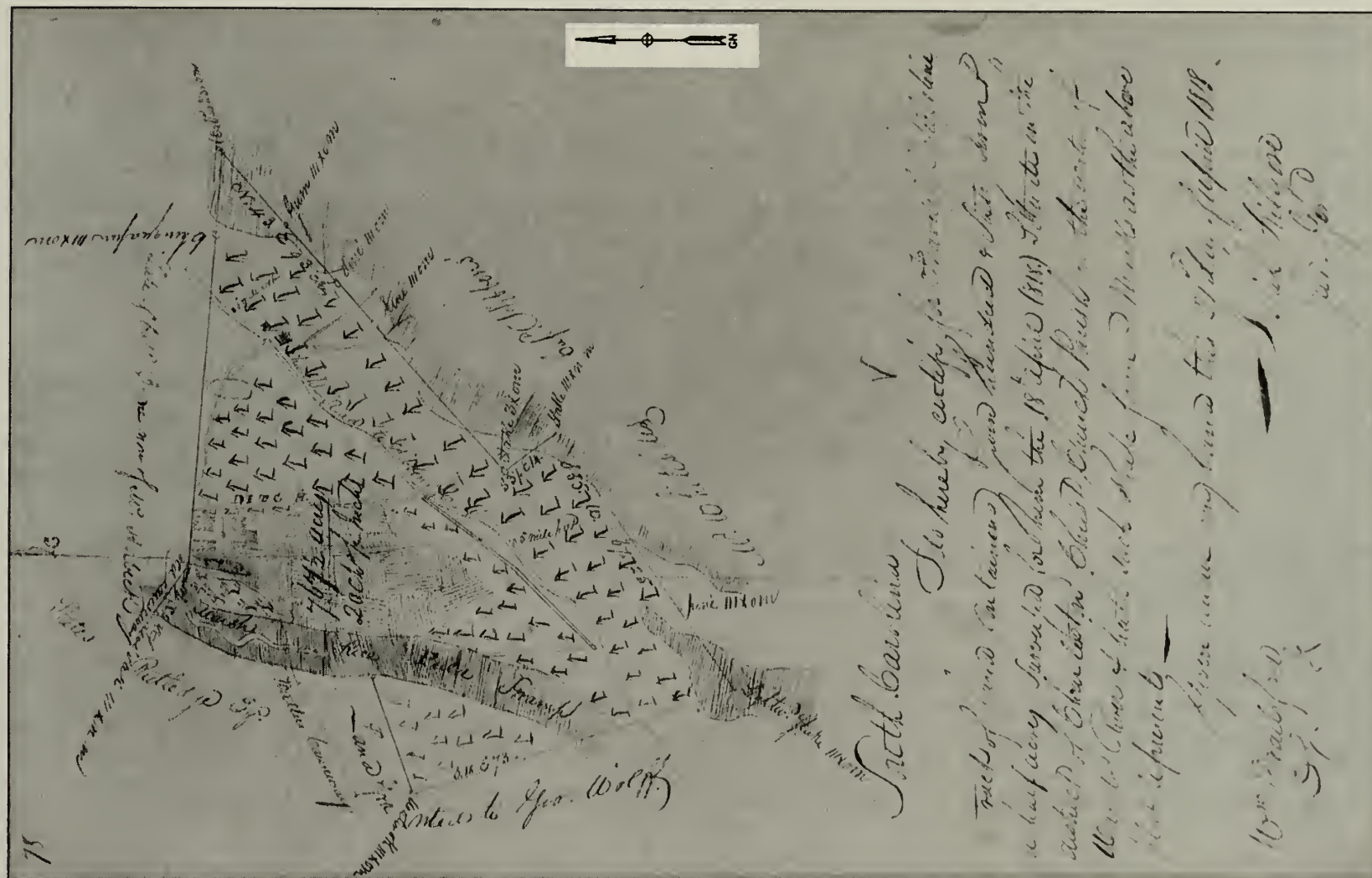


Fig. 3: Deliesseline's 1818 Plat of Snee Farm.

in part of Snee Farm's core area landscape. Archeological evidence suggests that this well was constructed circa 1730.³⁹ The Pinckney plantation house, the kitchen, and the domiciles were all found to have roughly the same orientation, facing west towards the plantation road.⁴⁰

On Pinckney's 1783 plat of Snee Farm (fig. 2), the only features illustrated are two houses, one in the general vicinity of the existing core area, and the other to the south, near the "Public Road to the Church."⁴¹ The house near the Public Road was probably the homestead of the former White/Sims property, as it is located in the same area delineated as such on Allen's plat of 1738 (fig. 1). There are no other structural features shown.

On Deliesseline's 1818 plat (fig. 3), a variation in the hatching patterns seems to indicate two structures near the base of a cruciform pattern, possibly a garden feature (to be discussed in the following section). No other structures are illustrated on the plat.

Garden--Wealthy planters with close ties to England, such as Col. Pinckney and his contemporaries, established elaborate gardens in the European style of the *ferme ornée*, or ornamental farm. Creating a geometric design of hedgerows and paths to delineate vegetable and floral gardens was common. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson popularized the cultivation of decorative plants in combination with vegetables, herbs, and fruit trees at Mount Vernon and Monticello, respectively. At Middleton Place, Charleston's John Middleton incorporated rice culture into an

elaborately designed garden of pools and paths. Col. Pinckney was certainly aware of the "fashions of the day," and may well have been influenced in the design of Snee Farm's gardens by his aunt, Eliza Lucas Pinckney, a very active Charleston gardener and horticulturist.

Indications of a formal garden at Snee Farm are found on the 1818 plat (fig. 3), which depicts a rectangular cruciform pattern in the area of the house complex. An unknown circular landscape feature stands in the center of the two axes, with a line, perhaps a pathway, leading east and west. The geometry of this feature is characteristic of gardens patterned in the *ferme ornée* style. The north/south central axis appears to align with the known orientation of the site's 18th-century structures.

A 19th-century boundary dispute involving William Mathews, a subsequent owner of Snee Farm, provides a brief description of the Pinckney gardens (see further discussion under "William Mathews, Snee Farm Owner 1828-1853"). Mr. Mathews's lawyer describes "a handsome garden and adjoining pleasure grounds" that were "carefully tended and embellished by [Col.] Charles Pinckney, Governor [Charles] Pinckney, and the Plaintiff."⁴²

Although research indicates that Col. Pinckney owned a slave gardener at Snee Farm, where or how this individual's skills were employed is unknown.⁴³ Archeology has yet to reveal an exact location for the Pinckney gardens; indeed, no evidence of gardening has been recovered in the archeology program.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Dr. Bennie C. Keel, telephone conversation, January 12, 1998.

⁴¹ This refers to Christ Church located at the intersection of Long Point Road and the Public Road, today's U.S. Highway 17.

⁴² William Mathews vs. Henry Horlbeck et.al, 7 April 1844. Charleston Court of Appeals. 1844-1845: 197-200.

⁴³ King, 21.

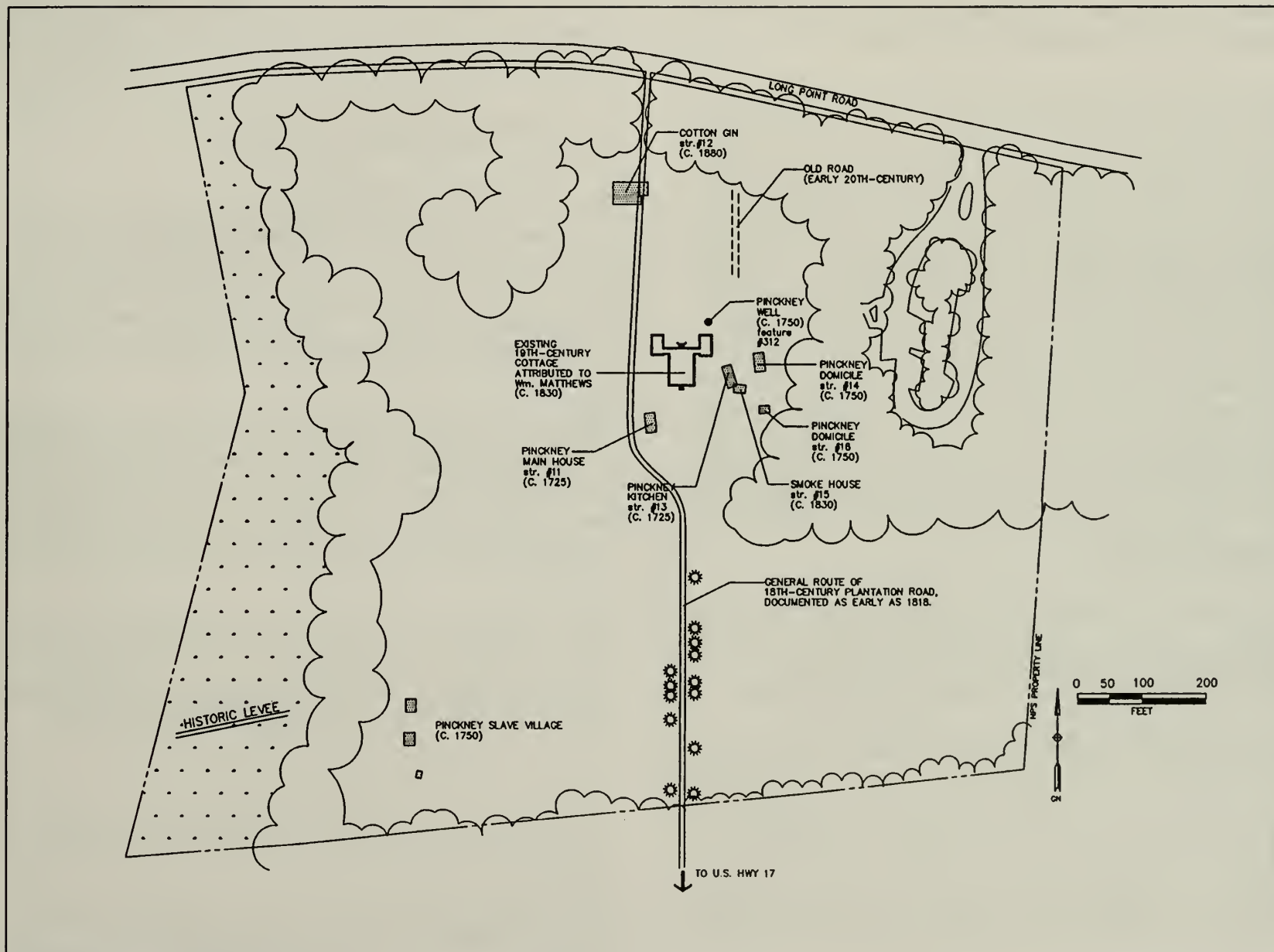


Fig. 4: NPS Archeology at Snee Farm.

Moreover, no documentary evidence of the plant species that were cultivated in the Pinckney garden has been found.

Current research suggests that the gardens were located east of the north-south avenue that divided the plantation. Although the dimensions of the garden have not been determined, interesting rectangular features appear in 19th-century documentation. William Mathews's 1841 plat (fig. 7) depicts a rectangular path or fence line within the house complex area. The *1863 Map of Charleston and Its Defenses* (fig. 8) illustrates a rectangular canopied area covering the house complex and the site associated with the Pinckney gardens. The outer edges of this feature are planted with trees and the plantation road deviates around the eastern side to reach Long Point Road. These trees could have been planted to reinforce the earlier Pinckney garden pattern. (See further discussion of this feature in the sections titled "William Mathews, Snee Farm Owner 1828-1853" and "William McCants and Lockwood A. McCants, Snee Farm Owners 1853-1900". Also, see figure 15 for the location of extant trees illustrating this feature.)

Vegetation--No known Pinckney-era vegetation remains in the core area. However, a few of the 60-inch-diameter live oaks should be cored to determine if they date to the Pinckney era. It is not known what existed in the yard during the historic period.

Cenotaph-- Shortly after Col. Pinckney's death in 1782, a marble marker to his memory was placed at Snee Farm. This stone had earlier been rejected by the family due to an error in the inscription that cited Col. Pinckney's age as 52 rather than 50. Because of this error, the stone was placed at Snee Farm, where it stood for over a century in what today is known as the "grove," a 20th-century expression for the wooded area east of the present

house.⁴⁴ In 1892, Christ Church granted Thomas Pinckney permission to move the marker from Snee Farm to the parish churchyard.⁴⁵ No reason was given for this decision; however, the stone still stands in the churchyard, at the intersection of Long Point Road and the Public or Church Road. (See p. 27 for further discussion of the Col. Pinckney cenotaph.)

Agricultural Landscape

According to geographer John Winberry, a typical South Carolina Lowcountry plantation of 1755 would have had 32 slaves, cultivating 25 acres of rice, 60 acres of indigo, and managing poultry, sheep, and cattle.⁴⁶ Although Snee Farm had more acres in cultivation, it is reasonable to assume that these activities also occurred there.

Slaves and Cultivated Fields--During Col. Pinckney's ownership of Snee Farm, indigo was probably grown along with rice and other provisional crops. Col. Pinckney's 1787 probate inventory lists a driver, a sawyer, a wheelwright, a cooper, a gardener, an oarsman, 3 carpenters, and 5 field hands among his 40 slaves at Snee Farm.⁴⁷

The 1818 plat (fig. 3) indicates that rice was being grown during Charles Pinckney's ownership of Snee Farm. On the plat, part of the larger tidal creek, which is divided by two or three levees, is labeled "Rice Field." Approximately 200 acres of cultivated

⁴⁴ Ibid, 147.

⁴⁵ Ibid, 147. Col. Pinckney is buried at St. Philip's Church in Charleston. Thomas Pinckney's genealogy as a descendant of Col. Pinckney has not been researched.

⁴⁶ John J. Winberry, "Indigo in South Carolina: A Historical Geography," *Southeastern Geographer* XIX, no. 2 (November 1979): 97.

⁴⁷ King, 21.

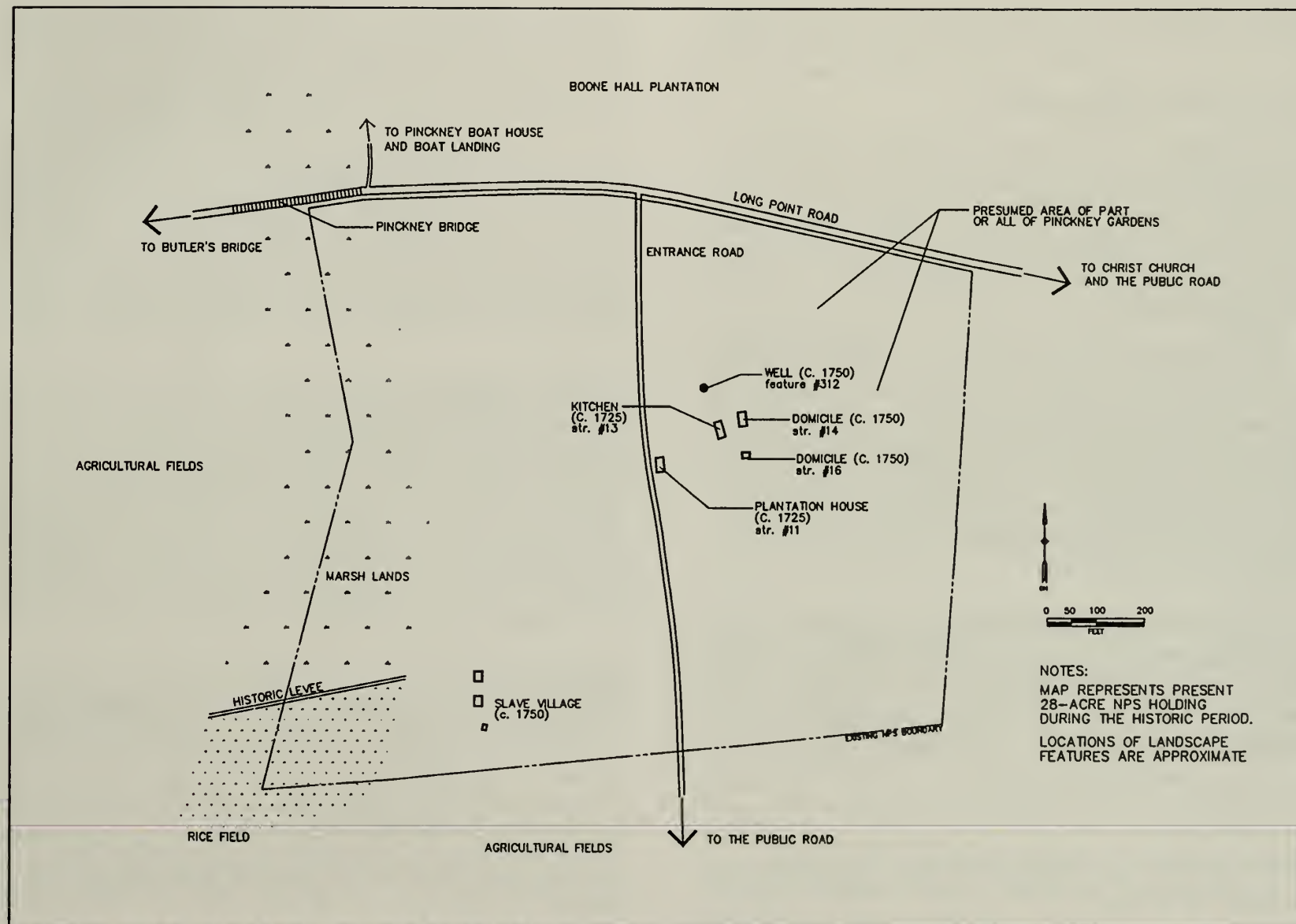


Fig. 5: Historical Base Map--Pinckney Family Era (1754-1817).
Portion of Snee Farm now held by the NPS.

fields are distinguished by bold hatch marks. A ditch runs from the tidal creek south to the Church Road (U.S. Hwy. 17), then turns northeast to parallel the road, and finally, due north to parallel the eastern edge of the fields.

A review of the 1790 Federal Census reveals no information about Charles Pinckney's Snee Farm. He did, however, own 14 slaves in St. Philip's and St. Michael's Parish, 52 slaves in St. Bartholomew, and 45 slaves in the Orangeburg District.⁴⁸ An overseer may have managed the slave laborers and skilled slaves at Snee Farm at this time.

The 1800 Federal Census records Charles Pinckney's residence as Charleston; however, neither the members of his family or his slaves are listed. His name does appear on a list of slave owners in Christ Church Parish next to that of William Dunlap (19 slaves) and Deliesseline (23 slaves), which suggests that these men were acting as his representatives, land agents, or overseers.⁴⁹ Although the record does not detail the locale, these 42 slaves probably resided at Snee Farm.⁵⁰

In the 1810 census, Charles Pinckney is again listed as a resident of Charleston, and again, no household members are listed. However, he is recorded as the owner of 58 slaves in Christ Church Parish. Though some of these slaves were certainly at Shell Hall, the majority probably resided at Snee Farm.⁵¹

⁴⁸ Bureau of the Census, 1790, Berkeley County, Christ Church Parish.

⁴⁹ Bureau of the Census, 1800. Deliesseline is listed on another page of Christ Church Parish with 25 slaves.

⁵⁰ Pinckney's only other property in Christ Church Parish was Shell Hall, a four-acre lot and house in Mount Pleasant.

⁵¹ Bureau of the Census, 1810.

Structures—Evidence indicates that the Pinckney slave village (c. 1750) was located approximately 170 yards southwest of the house.⁵² Archeology conducted by Brockington and Associates in 1987 uncovered evidence of two slave cabins (approximately 16' x 20' each) and what appear to be the brick foundations of a storehouse (approximately 8' x 11') in the southwest corner of the park property.⁵³ Artifacts date these structures from the mid-to-late-1700s to the mid-1800s, indicating that the slave village may have been extant at the time of Col. Pinckney's purchase in 1754.⁵⁴ The 1841 plat (fig. 7) of William Mathews, a subsequent owner of the property, illustrates a row of five cabins, with a separate sixth structure that may have been the storehouse.

Woodlands--Approximately 590 acres of Snee Farm were in woodlands, which surrounded the cultivated fields on the west, south, and east. The trees indicated as survey points on historic plats include three pines, a gum, a chinquapin oak, and two water oaks, suggesting a mixed pine/hardwood forest.⁵⁵ Typically, the Pinckneys would have grazed cattle in the woodlands and tended pines for turpentine, pitch and other naval stores. Any timber extracted would have provided materials for the carpenters, wheelwright, cooper, and sawyer.

Circulation

Eighteenth-century Lowcountry plantations were typically situated with access to a major waterway, but roadways also gained

⁵² Meyer, 5. This feature was not indicated on the 1818 plat, but appears in the mid-19th century plat of a subsequent owner (fig. 7).

⁵³ Paul E Brockington, Jr., *A Cultural Resource Survey at Snee Farm, Charleston County, South Carolina* (Atlanta GA: Brockington and Assoc, 1987), ii.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ The 1738, 1783 and 1818 plats of Snee Farm identify trees as part of the boundary surveys.

importance by the end of the century. The historic circulation patterns at Snee Farm illustrate this concept. The best illustrations of the Pinckney-era circulation routes are found on the two plats drawn for Francis Deliesseline in 1818.

The first plat (fig. 3) shows a straight north/south plantation road dividing Snee Farm in half. This road runs parallel to the smaller tidal creek at the western edge of the cruciform pattern. To the north, the road connects with Long Point Road, providing access to the Pinckney boat landing. To the south, it leads to the “Church Road to Hibbens Ferry (today’s U.S. Highway 17), intersecting the latter route just north of the “5 mile post.”⁵⁶

The plat shows access to the house complex from both the Public Road and Long Point Road, via the long plantation drive or avenue. This drive bounds the west side of the house complex and the garden’s cruciform pattern. Given the formal design of the garden, the primary access to the house complex was probably from the Long Point Road entrance. However, current research only partially reveals the spatial relationship of the Pinckney structures, garden patterns, and roadways.

A secondary road or pathway, illustrated by a single line, runs east to west through the center of the cruciform pattern (fig. 3). The exact location of this roadway is not presently known. Examination of subsequent plats of the property and existing landscape features suggests the possibility that another plantation road skirted the edge of the small tidal creek. In fact, near the standing barn, an old entrance (closed in 1993) aligns with both the fence lines and the (Pinckney) slave village that is illustrated in William Mathews’s 1841 plat (fig. 7). This road would have

provided better access to the Pinckney causeway and boat landing than the entrance near the house complex.

A second plat drawn for Deliesseline (fig. 6) shows a 30-acre tract of land--25 acres of marsh and 5 acres of high land--lying north of Long Point Road and bounded on the west by Boone Hall Creek.⁵⁷ This plat depicts a “Pinckney Bridge” crossing the smaller tidal creek (the present western boundary of Snee Farm). Long Point Road continues west to Butler’s Causeway (across Boone Hall Creek). Although the plat depicts no structures on this acreage, this tract was the site of the Pinckney boat landing. William Mathews’s land dispute provides descriptions of the Pinckney structures in this area:

About three chains below the [Pinckney] bridge are to be seen the marks of an old causeway, and . . . the traces of an old road leading to it. The old boat house of Snee Farm, when it was held by Charles Pinckney and Governor Pinckney, stood just below the old causeway, and the boat landing was immediately below the house.⁵⁸

Francis G. Deliesseline (Snee Farm Owner 1817-1828)

Francis Deliesseline was the overseer at Snee Farm for at least seven years before he purchased the farm from Charles Pinckney’s trustees for \$4,380 in 1817.⁵⁹ By 1820, Deliesseline owned 25 slaves in Christ Church Parish.⁶⁰ His name appears as a resident of Charleston, suggesting that he did not consider Snee Farm his primary home. Some time after 1826, Deliesseline was

⁵⁷ McCrady Plat #6129, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

⁵⁸ Mathews vs. Horlbeck. Charleston, March 1844. Charleston Court of Appeals in Law (Opinions), 1844-1855: 197-201.

⁵⁹ Charleston County Deed Book X-8: 78-81.

⁶⁰ Bureau of the Census, Schedule of Free Inhabitants, 1820, Charleston County. Charles Pinckney was listed as a resident of the City of Charleston.

⁵⁶ Christ Church is located at the intersection with Long Point Road.

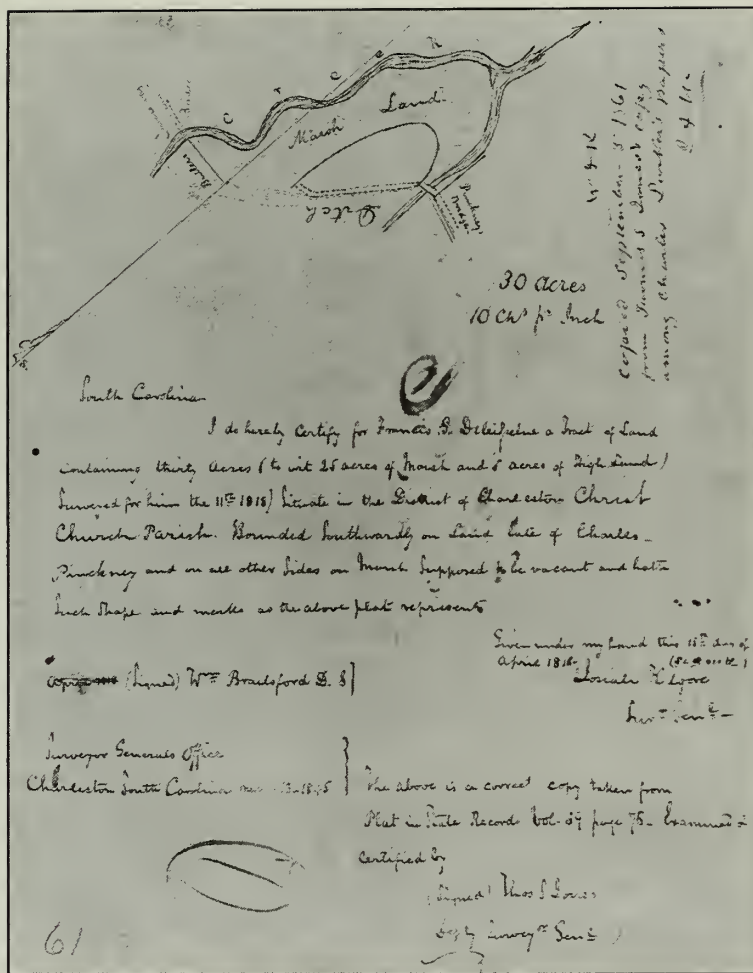


Fig. 6: Delieesseline's 30-Acre Parcel of Boone Hall Creek, 1818.

unable to meet the terms of the Snee Farm mortgage, and he and his family abandoned all holdings to his creditors.⁶¹ Given Delieesseline's financial woes, the site must have been in poor

condition by this time. The property was sold to William Mathews in 1828.⁶²

William Mathews (Snee Farm Owner 1828-1853)

William Mathews owned considerable property, including five plantations, a ferry on the Cooper River, and "my house and lot in Charlotte Street where I now reside."⁶³ When he bought Snee Farm in 1828, he paid \$3,150, a significant devaluation of the land holding since the sale to Delieesseline in 1817.⁶⁴ In his last will and testament, Mathews described himself as a planter and made reference to certain articles of furniture at Snee Farm. This reference indicates that, although he apparently did not reside at the farm, he did spend some time there.⁶⁵

Mathews died in 1848, leaving Snee Farm to his daughter Susan (wife of Benjamin F. Hunt). Equity court proceedings describe the unfortunate condition of Snee Farm by this time:

Snee Farm . . . devised to Mrs. Hunt, containing about 700 acres of land and settled by a gang of about forty-eight negroes, is, as your Orator has been informed, an unproductive place: That the testator bought it with the intention of making corn and hay here for the use of Milton Ferry; that over and above the provisions used on the place itself, Snee Farm has scarcely done more . . . than to furnish bread for the hands at the Ferry, with hay for the work-mules and horses at [the] livery.⁶⁶

⁶² Charleston County Conveyance Book N-10: 278-280.

⁶³ Charleston County Will Book K: 199.

⁶⁴ Charleston County Deed Book N-10: 278-280.

⁶⁵ Record of Wills, Charleston County, SC, Vol. 44, Book K, 1845-51: 368-372, as found in HABS, 10.

⁶⁶ Charleston Chancery Records, Bill 59, 6 December 1848, 7-8 as found in National Park Service, HABS, 10.

⁶¹ Bailey, 181.

Property Boundaries

By 1841, Snee Farm's acreage had grown to 915 acres, as illustrated in a plat drawn that year (fig. 7).⁶⁷ The property boundaries included an additional 56 acres west of Boone Hall Creek and south of Long Point Road. Mathews still owned land east of the Public Road and a small amount just north of Long Point Road.

Core Area

Structures--NPS archeologists believe that the Pinckney plantation house (structure #11) was razed sometime around 1828, the same time the well was closed. This is supported by the discovery of both large amounts of plaster and an 1826 penny in the upper layer of the well deposits. Although no precise record has been found, the existing 19th-century house was built after 1820, probably by William Mathews. A wooden central hall farmhouse with full-façade porch, this structure is exemplary of the prevailing vernacular house type of the 18th- and 19th-century Carolina landscape. Its type has almost disappeared during the 20th century.⁶⁸

The Mathews plat of 1841 (fig. 7) shows only the house in the core area; the plantation kitchen (c. 1725) was probably abandoned about this time.⁶⁹ The plat also shows three structures in a row southeast of the house, probably house slave quarters. The dotted, curving line that connects them to the house may be a fence or a path, along which three smaller structures are aligned.⁷⁰

⁶⁷ McCrady Plat #6151, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

⁶⁸ National Park Service, HABS, 2.

⁶⁹ Meyer, 3.

⁷⁰ Remains of one of these small structures was discovered during archeological investigations, September 1997. (Telephone conversation with archeologists Dr. Bennie C. Keel and Michael J. Meyer, National Park Service, Southeast Archeological Center, Tallahassee FL, October 18, 1997.)

The function of these smaller structures is presently unknown. Though not depicted, recent archeology also attributes a small smokehouse (structure #15) to this period (c. 1830).⁷¹

A second well, situated west of the extant house, has been closed for an unknown period of time. Future investigation may reveal it to be a 19th-century feature, constructed to replace the earlier "Pinckney" well.⁷²

Vegetation--In the early 1840s, William Mathews and John Horlbeck, of neighboring Boone Hall, went to court over the correct location of their common boundary along Long Point Road. Documentation from the case provides another clue to the Pinckney gardens. An 1844 plat (not illustrated), probably related to the dispute, identifies a garden in the section labeled "Park and Garden of Mr. Mathews."⁷³ The label denotes the same area indicated by the cruciform pattern on Deliesseline's 1818 plat. A ditch borders the eastern edge of the labeled garden area, similar to the ditch found east of the cruciform pattern in the 1818 plat. The Mathews's house is depicted, but no vegetation or formal garden pattern is illustrated. Various surveyors' lines are drawn along Long Point Road.

When the case was appealed in 1844, the lawyer representing Mathews gave this description of the area:

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Dr. Bennie C. Keel, telephone conversation.

⁷³ McCrady Plat #923, South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Other plats drawn for Mathews include McCrady Plats #5559 and #6049, all appearing to relate to his land dispute with Horlbeck.

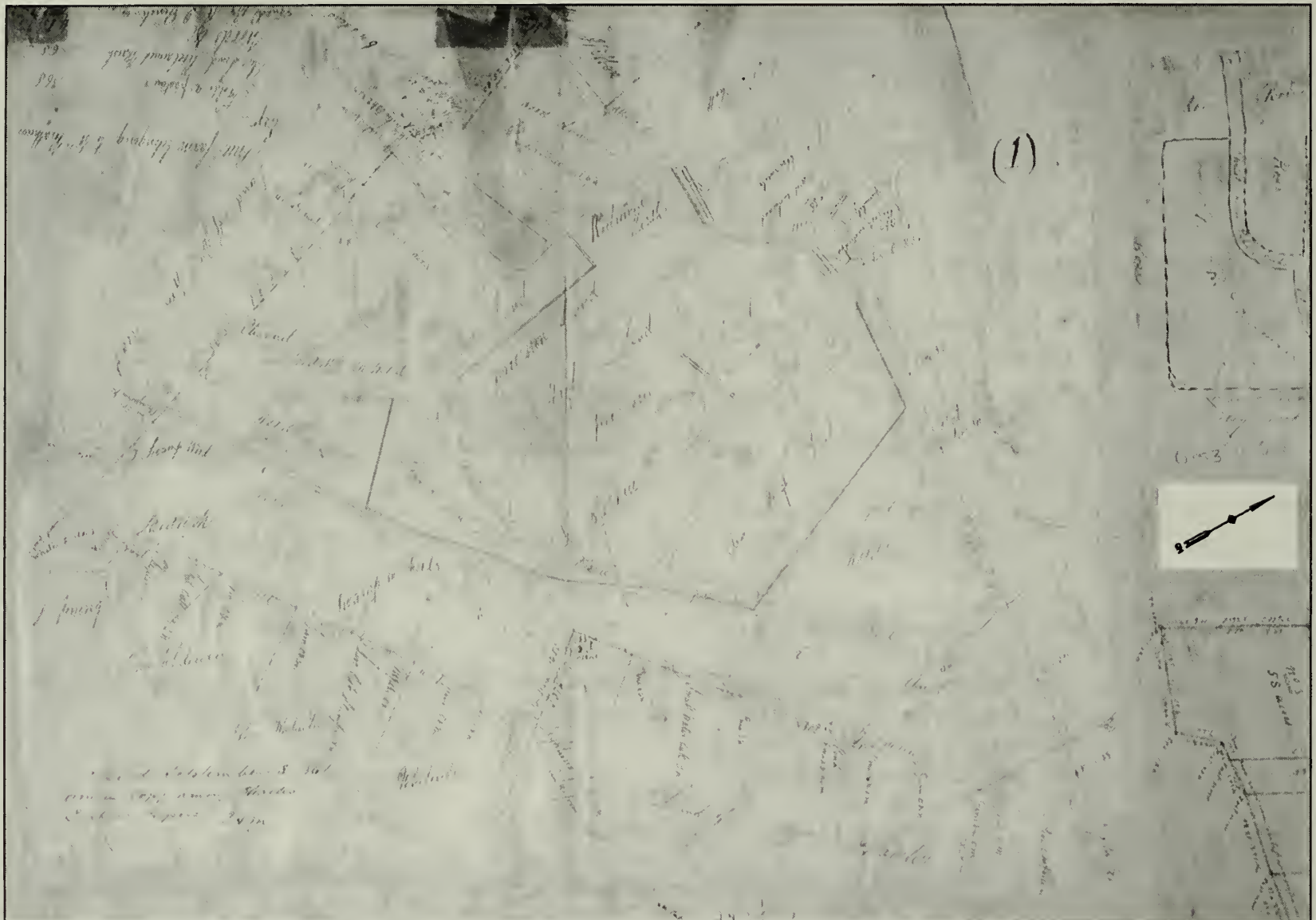


Fig. 7: William Mathews's Plat of Snee Farm, 1841.

Upon this tract there has been continuous possession since the conveyance to Charles Pinckney and perhaps long before, and a handsome garden and adjoining pleasure grounds besides houses and fields have long existed on it and been carefully tended and embellished by Charles Pinckney, Governor Pinckney and the Plaintiff.⁷⁴

The 1841 plat (fig. 7) indicates a fenced area northeast of the house. Somewhat irregularly shaped, the outline hints of a former quadrangle or portion of the earlier cruciform pattern.

Agricultural Landscape

Slaves and Cultivated Fields—The 1830 census records Mathews as owning twenty-nine male and twelve female slaves in Christ Church Parish. No household members are listed.⁷⁵ The 1850 census lists 54 slaves belonging to his estate.⁷⁶

Mathews's 1841 plat (fig. 7) illustrates the Pinckney slave village, located southwest of the house complex. Six structures are depicted, one of which was probably a storage building.⁷⁷ Beyond the slave village, the plantation is divided into various areas of land use: woods, cleared high land, provision land, swamp, rice land, reclaimed marsh, mixed woods, savanna, and marsh. Mathews worked 365 acres of field for pasture, and 65

acres of reclaimed marshland for rice cultivation.⁷⁸ The feature appearing at the north end of the avenue may have been a large barn or cotton gin. A second structure is illustrated directly west of the house.

Woodlands—On the Mathews's plat, woodlands are shown in the same general area as they appeared historically during the Pinckney tenure, southeast of the Public Road and west and south of the agricultural fields--a total of 485 acres.⁷⁹ Trees, including tupelo, red oak, pine, gum, dogwood, water oak, live oak, maple, and chinquapin oak, mark the property boundaries.

Circulation

The Mathews's plat more clearly illustrates the Pinckney-era plantation road, a long straight avenue leading from the "Public Road" (U.S. Hwy. 17) north to the large barn or cotton gin. The use of strong, straight lines to graphically denote this road (labeled "Avenue") conveys its importance to the farm. Mathews may have used the Public Road, rather than the Snee Farm boat landing, to transport cotton and other farm products to Charleston via his Milton Ferry, on the Cooper River.⁸⁰ A secondary access road, indicated by dotted lines, runs south from Long Point Road to the 19th-century plantation house. This road is offset from the avenue, and the two appear not to connect. Nevertheless, it is probable that these two represent the same plantation road evident in Deliesseline's 1818 plat.

On the Mathews's plat, a fence line runs from the Pinckney Bridge southwest along the edge of the smaller tidal creek, aligning with the field slave cabins. A 1941 aerial photo (fig. 12)

⁷⁴ William Mathews vs. Henry Horlbeck et. al., 7 April 1844. Charleston Court of Appeals. 1844-1845: 197-200. The outcome of this case should be examined. Additional information concerning the garden may be contained in the May term 1848 court records.

⁷⁵ Bureau of the Census, Schedule of Slave Inhabitants, 1830, Microfilm M19, Roll 170, p. 197.

⁷⁶ Charleston County Conveyance Book V-12:25-26. The 1850 agricultural schedules should be examined for information leading to the agrarian landscape of Snee Farm at this time.

⁷⁷ Keel and Meyer, telephone conversation, October 28, 1997.

⁷⁸ McCrady Plat #5564, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰ National Park Service, HABS, 10.

shows an entrance to the property near the present barn, suggesting that another road or path may have followed this fence line and connected with Long Point Road near the bridge. Such a road would have provided Mathews with closer access to the boat landing. Further archeological work is needed to determine if a road or path existed here during the Mathews period, or earlier.

Long Point Road, the Public Road, Butler's Bridge, and Pinckney's Bridge are all depicted on the 1841 plat. An earlier plat (not illustrated) shows secondary roads, causeways, and levees on Boone Hall Creek and the smaller tidal creek. A small structure, possibly Mathews's boathouse, is located on the larger stream.⁸¹

William McCants and Lockwood Allison McCants (Snee Farm Owners 1853-1900)

William McCants, who identified himself as a planter, purchased Snee Farm in 1853.⁸² In addition to Snee Farm, he kept a house and lot in Mount Pleasant, and depending on the time of year, probably divided his time between these two properties.⁸³ Probate records document that his son, Lockwood Allison McCants, inherited the farm in 1859. L.A. McCants owned Snee Farm until 1900.⁸⁴

⁸¹ McCrady Plat #6049. This plat is not dated, but appears to have been drawn up during the boundary dispute of Mathews and Horlbeck, c.1844. It is the only plat that shows the location of a structure on Boone Hall Creek.

⁸² National Park Service, HABS, 10.

⁸³ Ibid., 11.

⁸⁴ Charleston County Wills, Vol. 48, Book A (1856-1858), 378-382. A "McCants" appears in the 1850 Census of Agriculture in Christ Church Parish, p. 335. Yet the sale of the farm from Mathews Estate to William McCants did not take place until 1853, asserting that McCants may have leased Snee Farm prior to purchase.

Core Area

Structures--The 1863 *Map of Charleston and Its Defenses* (fig. 8) shows L.A. McCants as Snee Farm's landowner. Many of the core area structures from the Mathews period, including the extant house, are not detailed on this map, but they are assumed to exist under the tree canopy that graphically covers the core area. NPS archeology credits a cotton gin (structure #12) that was built north of the 19th-century house to McCants.⁸⁵ Archeology also suggests that one of the former-Pinckney domiciles (structure #14) was abandoned shortly after the Civil War, during the McCants tenure.⁸⁶

Vegetation--The 1863 map provides the first evidence of trees lining the avenue, leading directly to the house complex. In a rather embellished account of Snee Farm written in 1866, W. S. Elliot, a Pinckney descendent, writes of "[a]n avenue a mile long with a grove of luxuriant oaks that lead the way to the rustic residence."⁸⁷ On the map, a rectilinear space canopied by trees appears to encompass the 19th-century plantation house, the nearby outbuildings, and the present day barn area. Upon approaching the house, the avenue turns east to follow the edge of the canopied rectangular feature, then turns northward to Long Point Road.

Today, approximately twenty-five live oaks, 48 to 60 inches in diameter, stand in the core area. One 60-inch-diameter oak stands near the present barn. Apparently, either Mathews or McCants

⁸⁵ Tina Rust, Bennie C. Keel and Michael J. Meyer. "Archaeology of a Low Country Plantation: Current Research at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site." In *Mount Pleasant's Archeological Heritage*, ed. Amy Thompson McCandless (Mount Pleasant, SC, 1996), 59.

⁸⁶ Meyer, 3.

⁸⁷ W.S. Elliot, "Founders of the American Union--Charles Pinckney, of South Carolina," *DeBow's Review* (April 1866).

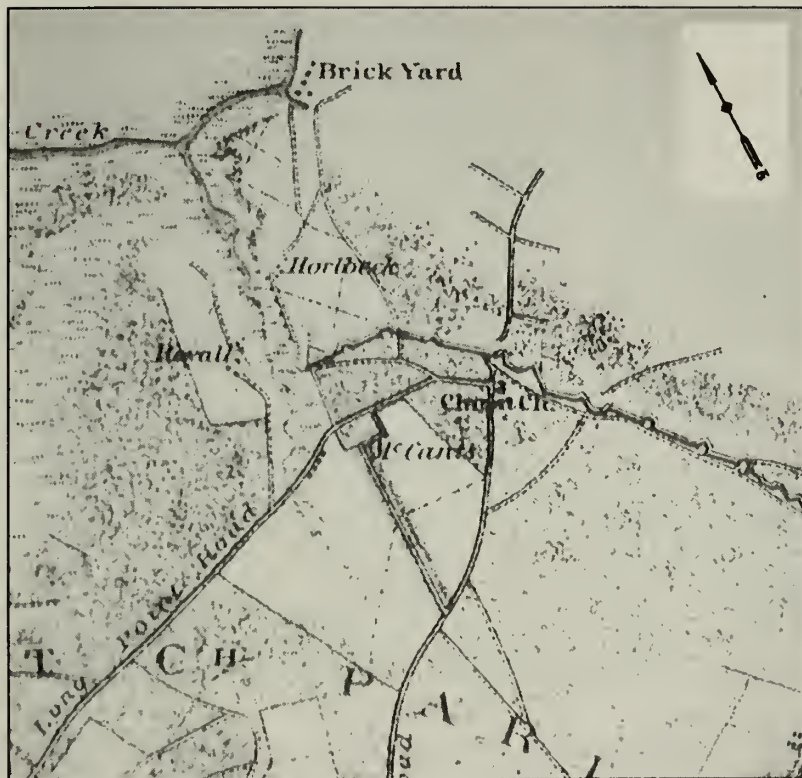


Fig. 8: *Map of Charleston and Its Defenses, 1863.*

planted the avenue oaks and extended them to Long Point Road. Several of these trees still stand in the wooded area east of the present house. They were planted approximately 35 feet apart and followed the drive to Long Point Road (figs. 15 & 16).⁸⁸ Mathews or McCants possibly wished to reinforce a part of the earlier Pinckney garden design by planting trees along one or more quadrants of the cruciform pattern.

⁸⁸ E.M. Seabrook, Jr., Inc. Snee Farm Tree Survey, 1986. (Fig. 16 of this document.)

Agricultural Landscape

Slaves and Cultivated Fields--The 1863 map shows four new structures, which may have been slave quarters, sited along Long Point Road. The five cabins of the old slave village, located southwest of the house, had been abandoned during the 1860s.⁸⁹

The 1860 Agricultural Schedule documents that L.A. McCants was farming 400 acres of improved land, out of a total of 880 acres. McCants grew 1200 bushels of Indian corn and ginned 58 bales of cotton. He produced 100 pounds of wool, 100 bushels of peas and beans, and 1500 bushels of sweet potatoes. No rice was listed, indicating that the marsh had been abandoned or converted to another use. McCants owned 5 horses, 7 mules, 10 milk cows, 3 working oxen, 60 cattle, 20 sheep, and 60 swine.⁹⁰ In addition, he owned 34 female and 36 male slaves. The cash value of Snee Farm had grown to \$15,000.

The 1870 Industrial Schedule records McCants as the owner of a cotton ginning facility (structure #12) at Snee Farm.⁹¹ The Agricultural Schedule of the same year indicates that his land yielded 27 bales of cotton, along with 800 bushels of Indian corn, and 100 bushels of peas and beans. 400 acres of the property are listed as improved land, the remainder, as woodlands.⁹² Livestock listed is limited to a few horses and mules. After the Civil War, McCants tried to sell Snee Farm to William Jervey, but deed

⁸⁹ Meyer, 5.

⁹⁰ 1860 Census, Agricultural Schedule.

⁹¹ NPS archeological research uncovered the foundations of a cotton gin in 1994. Mr. O.D. Hamlin, former resident of Snee Farm, recalls the gin was converted to a workshop by his father or grandfather in the early part of this century. (NPS, video of O.D. Hamlin and Dr. Bennie C. Keel, 1993, at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, Mt. Pleasant, SC.)

⁹² 1870 Census, Agricultural Schedule.

records indicate that the land was returned to McCants, probably due to a default on payments.⁹³

The 1880 Agricultural Schedule records that McCants farmed 85 acres of cotton, yielding 50 bales. In addition, he had 30 acres of Indian corn, 31 acres of Irish potatoes, and 4 acres of sweet potatoes. His land had diminished in value from \$15,000 (in 1860) to only \$5,000. McCants hired “colored people” for 50 weeks of that year, paying these farm laborers a total of \$3,000. The farm contained 900 acres of land classified as permanent meadow or pasture, and 200 acres of unimproved woodland.⁹⁴

In November 1874, McCants had the land east of the Public Road surveyed and divided into 22 farms. The average lot size was between 9 and 12 acres. This plan was recorded 10 March 1880, indicating that the land was to be sold around that time.⁹⁵

Circulation

During McCants’s ownership, the tree-lined avenue from the Public Road remained the primary means of access to Snee Farm. The 1863 *Map of Charleston and Its Defenses* (fig. 8) indicates that upon approaching the house, the avenue made a 90-degree turn to the east, then a 90-degree turn to the north before continuing to Long Point Road, thus outlining the southeastern portion of the rectangular wooded area. This map also indicates a second entrance to Snee Farm east of the Long Point Road entrance that was used by previous and later owners of the site. Because of the vegetation illustrated in the map, no other paths or roads are depicted.

⁹³ Charleston County Deed Book Q-15: 71.

⁹⁴ 1880 Census, Agricultural Schedule.

⁹⁵ “Plan of Part of Snea [sic] Farm.” Plat Book C, p. 9, Registry of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston.

Thomas J. Hamlin and Osgood Darby Hamlin (Snee Farm Owners 1900-1936)

In 1900, Thomas J. Hamlin bought Snee Farm from the McCants estate.⁹⁶ The Hamlins grew Sea Island cotton at Snee Farm until the 1920s.⁹⁷ Osgood Hamlin inherited the farm from his father and managed it until 1936.⁹⁸

Property Boundaries

The Hamlin plat of Snee Farm has not been researched. Kollock’s Property Map of Charleston County, 1932-34, shows “Horlbeck” as the owner of the parcel of land east of U.S. Highway 17. No other boundaries appear to have changed.

Core Area

Structures--A 1993 NPS interview with Mr. O.D. Hamlin, son of Snee Farm owner Osgood Darby Hamlin (of the same name), provided information on the cultural landscape of the early 20th century.⁹⁹ He identified several buildings that were located between the 19th-century house and Long Point Road, including the McCants’ cotton gin (later converted to a workshop and storage building), a blacksmith shop, a two-car garage, a foreman or overseer’s house, a commissary, and some tenant houses.¹⁰⁰

The 1919 USGS quadrangle map (fig. 11) shows the main house to the east side of the entrance drive. The drive curves around the house and proceeds south to U.S. Highway 17. A circa 1930

⁹⁶ Charleston County Conveyances, Book U-25: 179.

⁹⁷ National Park Service, video of O.D. Hamlin (son of Osgood Hamlin) and Dr. Bennie C. Keel, 1993, at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, Mt. Pleasant, SC.

⁹⁸ No will is recorded for Thomas J. Hamlin, and the date of Osgood Darby Hamlin’s ownership is presently unknown.

⁹⁹ National Park Service, video of O.D. Hamlin.

¹⁰⁰ Archeology revealed the location of the cotton gin.



Fig. 9: Hamlin Photo of West Side of House, c. 1930.

photograph (fig. 10) provides evidence of additional structures on the property: a small house near the north entrance drive, and, in the foreground, the wood siding of what is possibly the Hamlin workshop. Figures 9 and 10 are some of the earliest known photographs of Snee Farm.

Vegetation--Figure 9 shows little or no vegetation around the house. Local tradition maintains that a large oak, under which George Washington breakfasted, stood in the wooded area east of the main house. Julia Welch Hamlin, wife of O.D. Hamlin,

described this wooded area as a three-acre oak and magnolia “grove” that was the “beauty spot” of Snee Farm.¹⁰¹

Another description of the grove is found in an article by Petrona McIver in Charleston’s *News and Courier* (1933). The author writes that the Snee Farm grove was damaged in a forest fire (no date given). McIver also recalls the area’s oral traditions, tracing the origins of Snee Farm’s beauty to an earlier time:

... and under the wide branches of live oak and magnolia still flourish many interesting shrubs which are thought to be of English origin and to have been treasured as such by the early settlers of this lovely plantation.

The Hamlin grove corresponds to the eastern half of the canopied area encompassing McCants’s house complex, as depicted in the *1863 Map of Charleston and Its Defenses* (fig. 8).

Cenotaph—In 1911, Thomas J. Hamlin carved a wooden marker from the Washington oak, which had recently fallen. He placed this marker near the former site of the marble cenotaph for Col. Charles Pinckney, which, by then, had been moved to the churchyard at Christ Church.¹⁰² (See p. 29 for more discussion of the continuing efforts to commemorate the life of Col. Charles Pinckney.)

¹⁰¹ National Park Service, HABS, 19.

¹⁰² National Park Service, video of O.D. Hamlin.

Agricultural Landscape

Structures--The 1919 Fort Moultrie Quadrangle map (fig. 11) indicates several structures aligned along the south side of Long Point Road, between the larger and smaller tidal creeks. These correspond to structures found on the *1863 Map of Charleston and Its Defenses* and may have been tenant houses for families working at Snee Farm. Another building, possibly a boat house or related building, is located at the edge of Boone Hall Creek and may correspond with a structure indicated on the earlier Mathews plat. Two other structures are located in the vicinity of the existing barn.

Vegetation--No vegetation is indicated on the 1919 quadrangle (fig. 11). This may have been an oversight, since the general age and size of the live oaks extant in the core area indicate that they were standing at the turn of the century. A 1936 reprint of the 1919 quadrangle shows vegetation east of the house complex and along the lower third of the entrance drive from U.S. Highway 17.



Fig. 10: Hamlin Photo of Area North of House, c. 1910.

Circulation

During the Hamlin tenancy, access to Snee Farm remained the same as in earlier times. Both the avenue from U.S. Highway 17 and the entrance from Long Point Road continued to be used. Visitors to the farm sometimes arrived by boat at the landing site on Boone Hall Creek.¹⁰³ Figure 9 shows part of the entrance drive as it winds around the west side of the house. The road trace is still visible today (fig. 17).

Thomas Ewing and Thomas Stone (Snee Farm Owners 1936-1968)

Thomas Ewing bought Snee Farm in 1936, three years after his daughter, Alexandra Ewing Stone, and son-in-law, Thomas Stone, bought Boone Hall, on the north side of Long Point Road. Snee Farm passed to the daughter and her husband, who moved to the property in 1943.

Core Area

Structures--The Ewings enlarged the main house around 1936, adding identical flanking wings and making a series of interior

¹⁰³ Ibid.



Fig. 11: 1919 USGS Fort Moultrie Quadrangle Map.

changes.¹⁰⁴ A small cottage, built at the same time, replaced the Hamlin structure located near the Long Point Road entrance.¹⁰⁵ This dwelling was redesigned as a library, or guesthouse, in 1959.¹⁰⁶ A cowshed was also situated north of the existing house.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁴ The wing additions, barn and servants house were designed and constructed by Beers and Farley (William Harmon Beers, FAIA, and Frank Cheney Farley) of New York, c. 1935-36.

¹⁰⁵ Beers and Farley also built a barn, but this structure later burned. (Joyce Hollowell, interview)

¹⁰⁶ National Park Service, HABS, 20.

¹⁰⁷ National Park Service, video of O.D. Hamlin.

Vegetation--The 1941 aerial photo shows a roughly rectilinear wooded area near the house complex. This area corresponds with Julia Welch Hamlin's description of the 3-acre grove, east of the house. The grove is bounded to the south by a small dirt road, perhaps a remnant of McCants's tree-lined drive to Long Point Road (fig. 12).

Mrs. Alexandra Ewing Stone was assisted by her daughter, Ellen Stone (granddaughter of Thomas Ewing), in planting a camellia/azalea garden (c. 1945) north of the main house. The shrubs were a gift from Queen Julianna of Holland, after Thomas Stone completed diplomatic service in that country.¹⁰⁸ The Stones are also credited with planting the cedars (c. 1945) which stand along the historic avenue.¹⁰⁹

Cenotaph--Mr. Stone is credited with replacing the marble cenotaph commemorating Col. Charles Pinckney to its present location southeast of the house (fig 13). This stone replica of the original at Christ Church was placed in the vicinity of T. J. Hamlin's wooden marker.¹¹⁰ The wooden marker remained at Snee Farm for many years, disappearing just before NPS acquisition of the property in 1990.

¹⁰⁸ Mrs. T. Joseph Devine (Ellen Stone) to David Moffley, 5 October 1988, Charleston Historical Society, Charleston, SC, as found in HABS, 20. Mr. Stone was ambassador to The Netherlands. Apparently, the Stones left Holland with the shrubs and brought them to Snee Farm.

¹⁰⁹ The cedars are not evident in the 1941 aerial photo, but were planted sometime before 1968.

¹¹⁰ National Park Service, video of O.D. Hamlin.

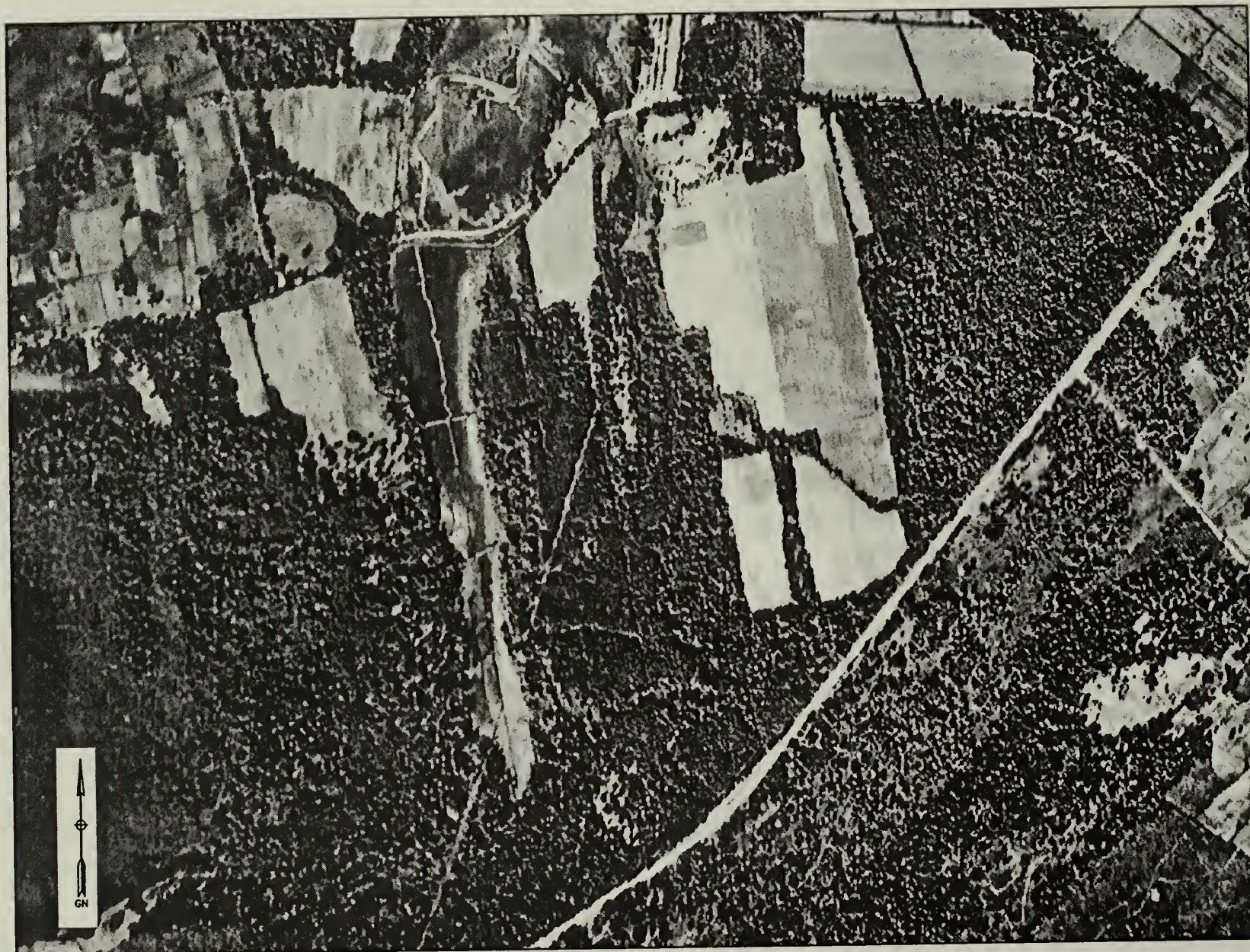


Fig. 12: 1941 Aerial Photo of Snee Farm.

Agricultural Landscape

Structures--Several structures are shown in the 1941 aerial photo. A house, perhaps an overseer's, and an associated shed or garage are situated near the small tidal creek, west of the 19th-century house.¹¹¹ Two smaller structures stand near the area of the former Pinckney slave village. The corn crib (c. 1910) stands alone, with no barn structure present. A 1945 aerial photo (not illustrated) depicts the existing 10-stall barn, indicating that it was built in the early 1940s. The point of land north of Long Point Road, near the boat landing, contains two structures, possibly tenant houses, with associated outbuildings. Another small structure stands along the causeway to Boone Hall Creek.

Vegetation--The 1941 aerial photo shows agricultural patterns that correspond to the historic uses of the site. South of the house complex, large agricultural fields are divided by the plantation avenue. Several pecan trees can be identified near the overseer's house by the smaller tidal creek. Two-thirds of the site are composed of woodlands. As in other historical documentation, these woodlands are located to the east, west, and south of the cultivated fields. On the northeast edge of the fields, near the grove, a formation of trees runs north-south along what may be a ditch (the Pinckney ditch on the 1818 plat?), or a road. Trees line only the southern third of the historic avenue. The tidal marshes and creeks reveal the traces of historic ditches and banks. Small agricultural fields surround the houses on the point of land north of Long Point Road.

Circulation

In the aerial photo (fig. 12), the entrance from Long Point Road runs south towards the main house, along its west side, and

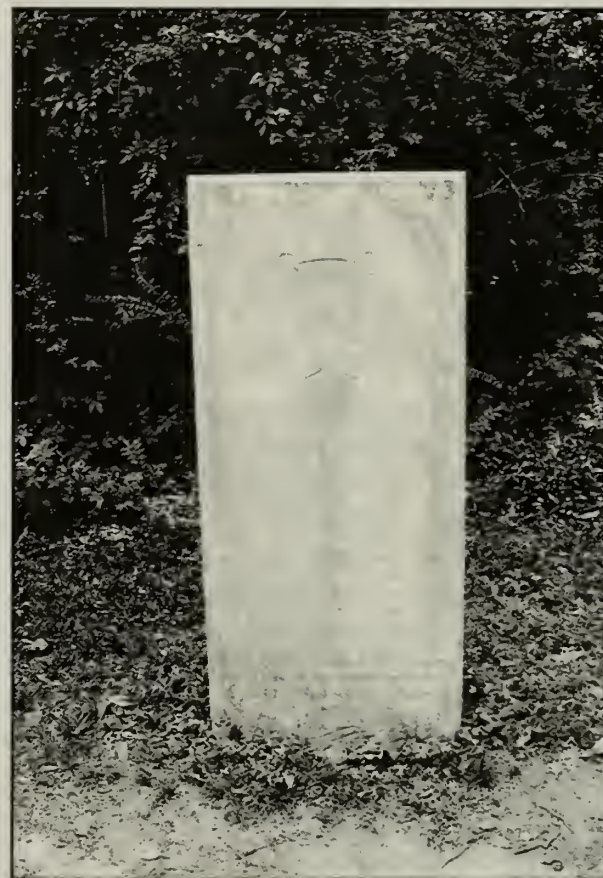


Fig. 13: Cenotaph to Col. Charles Pinckney.

then continues toward U.S. Highway 17. The archeological remains of the Hamlin workshop and storage building (formerly McCants's cotton gin, structure #12) were recently discovered in the middle of this entrance road, indicating that the route may have varied slightly over time.¹¹² The photo also shows another

¹¹¹ Joyce Hollowell and her husband removed the overseer house after 1968 when they lived at Snee Farm. (Telephone interview with author, 1997).

¹¹² Dr. Bennie C. Keel, telephone conversation, October 28, 1997.

entrance to the farm near the smaller tidal creek on Long Point Road (near the present-day barn). This road travels southward toward the overseer/tenant house and may be a remnant of an 18th-century path or road. The levee across the smaller tidal creek may correspond to the one found on Mathews's 1841 plat (fig. 7).

Land Sale

Snee Farm underwent its most dramatic change at the end of the Ewing/Stone tenancy. Around 1968, the Stones sold 687 acres to developers, including much of the farm's fields, wetlands, woodlands, and a major portion of the avenue. Guilds and Joyce Hollowell purchased the remaining 28 acres of the property.

Guilds and Joyce Hollowell (Snee Farm Owners 1968-1986)

The Hollowells purchased the 28 acres of Snee Farm from the Stones in 1968. The property consisted of the house complex, the grove, the entrance from Long Point Road, the barn area and part of the agricultural fields and avenue. The Hollowells removed the overseer's house and related structures. They added a swimming pool and used the Stone's library/cottage as a pool and guesthouse. A basketball court, located to the east of the residence, was built during this time. The Hollowells maintained the Stone's camellias and azaleas for their own enjoyment.¹¹³

C and G Investments (Snee Farm Owners 1986-1988)

In 1986, the property was sold to C and G Investments for the development of 40 residential lots. Initial road grading began but was soon halted when local residents objected to the farm's destruction.

Friends of Historic Snee Farm (Snee Farm Owner 1988-1990)

Shortly after the property was sold in 1986, private citizens organized a non-profit group, the Friends of Historic Snee Farm (Friends), to protect the last remnant of Charles Pinckney's original Snee Farm. This community-based group succeeded in securing congressional action to preserve the site. The National Park Service established the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site on 8 September 1988. With financial assistance from the Friends, the NPS purchased the 28-acre site in 1990.¹¹⁴

¹¹³ Joyce Hollowell, telephone interview.

¹¹⁴ The Friends of Historic Snee Farm donated \$1.3 million towards the \$2 million cost of the property.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Charles Pinckney National Historic Site was established to interpret the life of Charles Pinckney, to preserve and interpret Snee Farm, and to present the history of the United States as a young nation.¹¹⁵ The site was acquired in 1990 and opened to the public in May 1995.

The National Park Service owns 28 acres of Charles Pinckney's original 715-acre plantation. This small holding includes the farm's core area: the 19th-century plantation house with its 20th-century flanking wings, the Ewing/Stone library structure, the Stone camellia and azalea garden, and the wooded grove. In 1973, the existing house was erroneously listed in the National Register as the home of Charles Pinckney, and recorded as having been built in 1754 by his father, Col. Pinckney. Subsequent investigations led NPS historical architects to conclude that the house had been built after 1820, probably by William Mathews.

Given the predominance of post-Pinckney landscape features, it is the site's archeology that constitutes the key to understanding the Pinckney cultural landscape.¹¹⁶ Within the core area lie the structural remains of the Pinckney plantation house (structure #11), the well (feature #312), the family kitchen (structure #13),

and two domiciles (structures #14 & #16). The core area is rich in artifacts dating to the Pinckney period.

Surrounding the core is the magnolia/oak grove and a portion of the agricultural landscape, including part of the Pinckney cultivated fields, and the smaller tidal creek, or wetlands, now forming the park's western border. The Pinckney slave village, in the southwest corner of the site, is another important archeological feature.

In 1995, the park's *General Management Plan* (GMP) was completed. The GMP divided the park into management zones, indicating where park operations, management functions, visitor use, and development were most appropriate (fig. 14). The zones are expressed as interim classifications until further research is completed to uncover additional information regarding Pinckney resources.

The entire 28-acre site has been designated an historic zone, with two development subzones: 1) the parking area, which includes the comfort station and curatorial facility, and 2) the maintenance area, which includes the barn and corncrib.

Core Area

Structures

The NPS has adapted the enlarged 19th-century cottage for administrative offices, interpretive exhibits, and a classroom. This structure was chosen for these purposes because of its lack of

¹¹⁵ Public Law 100-421--Sept. 8, 1988, 102 Stat., 1581, as found in Charles Pinckney National Historic Site *General Management Plan* (GMP), (Atlanta: NPS, 1994), 97.

¹¹⁶ Archeology as a means of interpreting Snee Farm is emphasized in the site's GMP.

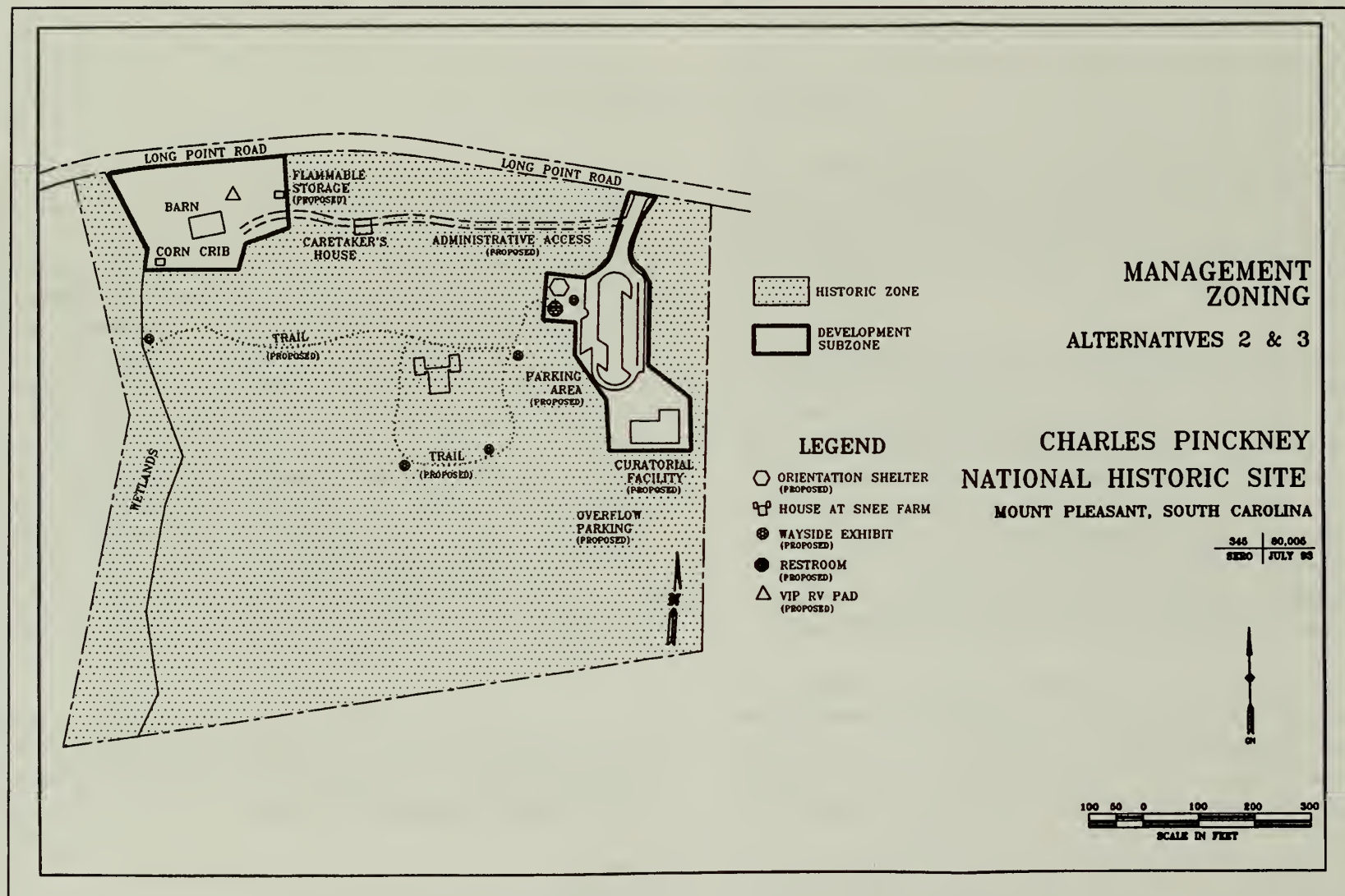


Fig. 14: Management Zones, 1995. CHPI *General Management Plan*.

association to Charles Pinckney. The GMP calls for the removal of the Stone library building when funding is available.

Archeology

Between 1991 and 1997, the NPS Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) conducted a multi-year archeological effort, resulting in the discovery of 18th- and 19th-century structural remains within the park boundaries (fig. 4). Current evidence indicates the location of the family plantation house (c. 1725), a kitchen (c. 1725), two domiciles (c. 1750), possibly for house slaves and/or an overseer, and a brick-lined well (c. 1750). Investigations during the fall of 1997 discovered additional Pinckney-era structural ruins under the existing house and in an area just north of the Pinckney domicile structure #14.¹¹⁷

A 19th-century smokehouse (c. 1830, structure #15) was located near the present house. 20th-century structures from the Hamlin period, including the cotton gin, a two-car garage and an old road leading to a cow shed (date unknown), were also found. All archeological resources are currently covered and unmarked.

Vegetation

The park maintains the house foundation plantings (c. 1980) as well as the Stone's camellias and azaleas (c. 1945). Studies of the existing camellias have revealed no rare or outstanding species in the core area, although a few specimens may be older than 50 years.¹¹⁸ The lawn grass surrounding the house is mowed as needed. Several large (48- to 60-inch-diameter) oaks and magnolias stand in the north yard of the house.

Changes to the grove have included the installation of a sand/gravel parking area (1994), a comfort station (1994) and a curatorial facility (1996). The grove is typical of a southern mixed-hardwood forest, consisting of red maple, live oak, southern magnolia, beech, sweetgum, loblolly pine, and wax myrtle. Several large non-native azaleas (20th-century) are also found in the area. NPS has added ferns, non-native azaleas, wax myrtle, and river birch to the immediate area around the comfort station with the intent to screen it from the house complex. Understory vegetation is selectively removed within the parking island and near the comfort station. A local organization has also established a "butterfly garden" (a mixed herbaceous planting of approximately 5' x 7'). The curatorial building is screened from the parking area by native vegetation.

The southern and eastern boundaries of the grove appear to be similar to those in the 1941 aerial photo. The area has undergone at least ten years of understory or successional growth since NPS acquisition. Within the grove stand the oaks planted by Mathews or McCants to outline the rectangular feature that may have been associated with earlier Pinckney garden designs. A 1986 tree survey of Snee Farm (fig. 16) illustrates four large (48-inch-diameter) live oaks standing approximately 35 feet apart in an east/west line defining the grove's southern boundary. A north/south row of nine oaks delineates the eastern edge.¹¹⁹ Eleven of these thirteen trees are still standing.

Cenotaph

The cenotaph (c. 1945) to Col. Pinckney stands southeast of the house on the western edge of the grove.

¹¹⁷ Dr. Bennie C. Keel, telephone conversation, 1997. The function of these structures is presently unknown.

¹¹⁸ Mary Julia Royall, "Preliminary Survey of Camellias at the Charles Pinckney Site", (Charleston, 1997), photocopied.

¹¹⁹ E.M. Seabrook, Jr. Inc. Snee Farm, Town of Mt. Pleasant, S.C., Tree Survey Manor House Site. Aug. 1, 1986.

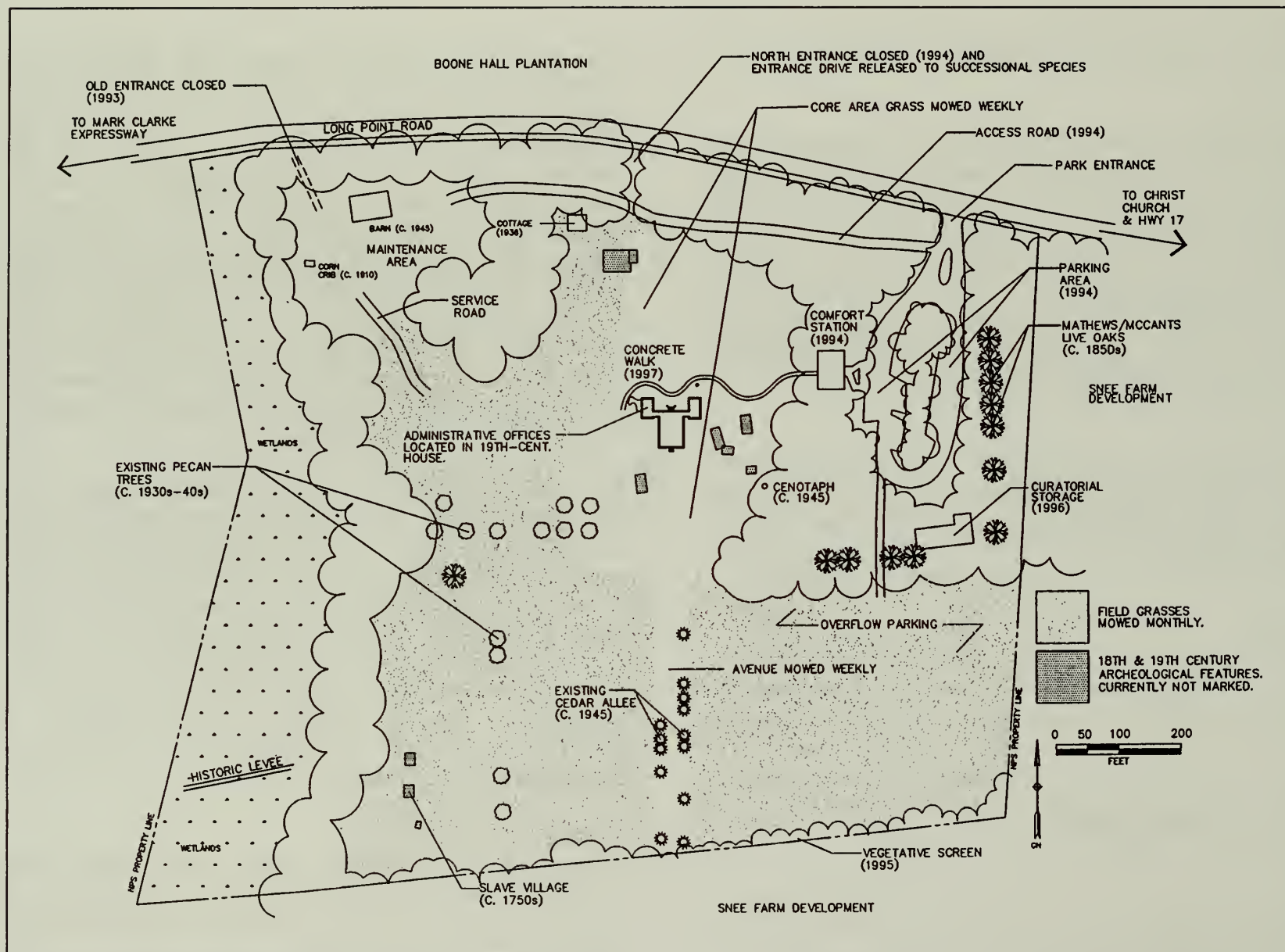


Fig. 15: Existing Conditions, 1998.

Agricultural Landscape

Structures

Extant structures include the 10-stall barn (c.1945) and the corn crib (c.1910). Both are adaptively used for resource management purposes. Archeological discoveries include an 18th-century slave village (c. 1750) in the southwest corner of the property, which is presently unmarked.

Cultivated Fields

Fields of tall grasses occupy areas south and west of the core area. These fields are bounded by the small tidal creek to the west and by a chain-link fence to the south and southeast. The park has completed the GMP's proposed vegetative screening along the south and east edges of the fields.

The GMP recommends a mowing-as-needed regime until the CLR provides more specific treatment recommendations. However, park management staff began experimenting with a range of mowing regimes in 1997. Today the avenue is mowed weekly, providing a visual contrast with the surrounding fields, which are mowed monthly.

Woodlands

Most of Snee Farm's wooded areas and wetlands have been released from regular management. Secondary growth along the southern boundary has been encouraged to screen the park's chain-link fence and the residential development beyond. On the northern boundary, existing woodlands screen the park from Long Point Road traffic.

A 48-inch-diameter live oak near the marsh appears to be aligned with the southern row of oaks in the grove (fig. 15). A 60-inch-diameter oak stands near the barn. Although the lack of similar-sized oaks on the west side is apparent, McCants may have

defined the edge of his entire rectilinear canopied space with this species (fig. 8).

Circulation

The Pinckney entrance from Long Point Road was abandoned because of the limited sight distance upon entering and exiting the park. It was closed at the time the new entrance leading to the parking area was constructed (1994). The historic road trace is still visible west of the existing 19th-century cottage (fig. 17).

The section of the historic avenue remaining within the park is currently mowed to distinguish it visually from the surrounding fields of taller grasses. Beyond the property to the south, the Snee Farm residential development has retained a third of the original avenue from U.S. Highway 17 as part of its modern entrance. The avenue is still lined with oaks.

The remnants of an historic levee are found in the wetlands near the slave village. At present, this feature has not been investigated; however, it appears to correspond to one located on Mathews's 1841 plat.

Visitors now access the park via the new parking area in the northeast corner of the site. A concrete pedestrian walk (1997) begins at the comfort station and follows a curving alignment that leads to the house's northern entrance. The walk is part of a proposed trail around the 19th-century house, leading to interpretive wayside exhibits. Only this one segment of the trail has been completed.

Near the park entrance, the NPS installed a service road (1994) to the maintenance area and closed the old entrance from Long Point Road to the barn.



Fig. 17: Pinckney-era Road Trace.

ANALYSIS

The analysis section compares findings from the site history and existing conditions, with emphasis placed on the Pinckney era. Its purpose is to identify the significant landscape characteristics and objectively analyze them. The significance and historic integrity of each characteristic is further evaluated within the context of the landscape as a whole. This process is the groundwork for establishing the period of significance, and for identifying a framework against which all changes in the landscape can be compared. It is an important step for sorting and integrating the natural and cultural resource data in order to develop appropriate and relevant treatment strategies.

Period of Significance

Snee Farm represents approximately 200 years of agricultural use in South Carolina's rural lowcountry (1750s to 1970s). The extant house, although altered, is a fine example of a 19th-century vernacular coastal cottage, a survivor of a style once familiar to 18th- and 19th-century rural landscapes, but now increasingly rare.

Because the cultural landscape lacks integrity for all periods of its history, and because the focus of the cultural landscape report is on the farm's most significant era, that of the Pinckney family occupation (1754-1817), analysis will focus on comparing what is known of the Pinckney landscape to existing conditions. It is the goal of the treatment recommendations to interpret Snee Farm as it existed during the era of colonial and early American history experienced by the Pinckney family and slave workers. The

history of the site reveals many aspects of 18th-century social, political, and economic life in the southern colonies, the very influences that led Charles Pinckney to his calling as a framer and signer of the United States Constitution.

Evaluation of Integrity

A landscape that possesses integrity will also be able to convey its historical significance. The National Register recognizes seven qualities that, combined, define the integrity of a given site. Those seven criteria are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The integrity of Snee Farm's landscape is evaluated using these criteria.

Location

Snee Farm embodies a rich facet of early-American political, social, and agricultural history. It is here that the Pinckney family came to relax and spend holidays before and after the Revolutionary War. Patriot officers were quartered here during the British occupation of Charleston. After the war, President George Washington visited Snee Farm on his 1791 tour of the southern states. Throughout this early period, African and African-American slaves were engaged in cultivating staples for the Pinckney family and for the city market.

Although the size of the farm has been dramatically reduced, the remaining 28 acres contain many of the site's important cultural resources. Archeology has revealed, in the core area, the remains of the 18th-century plantation house and its dependencies. The

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integrity of location is also reinforced by the fact that for over 200 years each successive owner used the same (core) area for domestic purposes.

Long Point Road and U.S. Highway 17 (the Public Road) remain in their historic locations. Current research indicates that the existing avenue is a remnant of Pinckney's 18th-century plantation road. The portions of open field remaining in the park also retain their historic locations, as does the Pinckney slave village. These aspects reinforce the site's integrity of location.

For 200 years, the Pinckney garden area has been used as a "pleasure ground." Although now impacted by NPS facilities, and, possibly, by residential development, a portion of the garden, as represented by the grove, is still intact. Several 19th-century trees appear to trace the edge of part of the former 18th-century garden.

Design

Snee Farm's design highlights the importance of the nearby waterways and roads. The house complex was situated near Long Point Road to enable easy access to Boone Hall Creek and the Wando River. Transportation via waterways continued at Snee Farm until the early part of the 20th century. To the east, Long Point Road led to Christ Church, the parish's center of social and religious life. The farm's avenue or plantation drive connected the house directly to the Public Road (U.S. Highway 17).

Design is also reflected in the use of the diverse natural resources of the site. The high ground south and west of the house complex was planted in indigo, corn and, later, cotton; marshes and tidal creeks were planted in rice; and woodlands provided pines for the extraction of turpentine and other naval stores, as well as an area to graze cattle.

Although little information exists, the Pinckney plantation appears to have been designed in the *ferme ornée* style, with geometrically-patterned gardens near the house complex, and agricultural fields beyond. As indicated in figure 3, the garden's north/south orientation aligned with the Pinckney structures and an entrance drive from Long Point Road. Beyond the gardens lay cultivated fields of rice, corn, and indigo, and beyond the fields, acres of woodlands. A second north/south road, parallel to the small tidal creek, may have been used to transport produce and farm goods directly to the boat landing.

Core Area Structures--No Pinckney-era structures remain standing. This lack of integrity is mitigated by the discovery of 18th-century structural foundations that assist in understanding the spatial relationships within the Pinckney house complex. Although difficult to determine, the orientation of these structures, including the plantation house, was probably to the west, towards the main plantation road.¹²⁰

Within the house complex, support buildings were separated from the plantation house. The kitchen and domiciles, sited roughly 40 feet from each other, were grouped approximately 130 feet east of the plantation house.

Core Area Vegetation--It appears that no 18th-century vegetation exists in the core area. The ages of the several 60-inch-diameter live oaks near the barn and house are presently unknown.

The lack of information concerning the boundaries and size of the Pinckney gardens diminishes the design integrity of the historic landscape. Despite this, documentation supports the existing

¹²⁰ Dr. Bennie C. Keel, telephone conversation, 1997.

grove as the location of at least part of the gardens. Eleven 19th-century live oaks in the grove outline part of a rectilinear pattern that probably originated from the Pinckney garden design. (see discussion of Circulation below)

Agricultural Landscape and Vegetation--The sale and development of approximately 690 acres of the property in 1968 had a major impact on the integrity of design. The historic land use patterns that were lost due to the sale include most of the fields, woodlands, and waterways, as well as the site of Pinckney's causeway and boat landing. The smaller tidal creek (west of the existing barn) remains intact, but is obscured from view by secondary mixed hardwood growth.

509122 { Today the park contains a microcosm of the former Snee Farm landscape. The fields, woodlands, and marsh contribute to the design by representing some of the plantation's 18th-century land uses.

Circulation--The current information on the Pinckney-era circulation patterns is inconclusive. However, the 1818 plat supports evidence of a Pinckney plantation road or avenue entering from Long Point Road and extending south to U.S. Highway 17. The closing of the north entrance (1994) and the lack of evidence defining other 18th-century circulation patterns in the core area and agricultural landscape diminish the integrity of design.

Current research places the Pinckney gardens east of the north entrance drive and south of Long Point Road. The live oaks that Mathews or McCants planted to outline the rectilinear feature, possibly part or all of the former gardens, followed another drive to Long Point Road. This places a second entrance to Snee Farm near or east of the present park entrance. If McCants outlined his

entire canopied area with a row of oaks (fig. 8), a third entrance to the farm might have been located near the existing barn. Archeological research along the park's northern boundary with Long Point Road may reveal earlier entrances and roads on the site.

Summary of Design Integrity--The broadest impact to the site's integrity of design can be attributed to several factors: 1) the loss of approximately 690 acres to development, i.e., a partial loss of the historic fields, waterways, woodlands, roads, causeways, levees, and boat landing; 2) the partial loss of the Pinckney gardens, roads, and paths; and 3) the lack of extant Pinckney structures and vegetation. Archeological discoveries have offset these disadvantages by locating the Pinckney house complex, subsequent outbuildings, and the Pinckney slave quarters. d

Setting

The Pinckney site has been compromised by the surrounding residential development. Furthermore, rapid growth in the area increases the pressure to widen historic Long Point Road. Nevertheless, a visitor approaching Snee Farm via Long Point Road is reminded of South Carolina's rural lowcountry setting. Boone Hall Plantation contributes to the setting with the continuing agricultural use of its property adjacent to this scenic highway. West of the park entrance, nearby waterways preserve the integrity of setting by providing historic views of salt marshes and winding streams.

Materials

Eighteenth-century materials are represented only in the structural foundations of the Pinckney era. Bricks used for these foundations may have come from Boone Hall, where a brickyard was in operation at the time of their construction.

With the possible exception of a few large live oaks¹²¹, there are no Pinckney-era landscape features on site. The present vegetation—the foundation plantings, the cedar trees lining the avenue, and the camellia/azalea garden around the house—is predominantly 20th-century, with some 19th-century trees (live oaks, magnolias) found in the grove and yard surrounding the house.

Workmanship

Agricultural workmanship was evident at Snee Farm through the mid-20th century. The seasonal rotation of crops continued for approximately 200 years, and research indicates a predominantly agrarian land use until 1968. This function was lost, however, with the sale of most of Snee Farm for development. Nevertheless, the reminders of agricultural use are extant in the style of the dwelling, the barn, and the remaining historic fields.

Feeling

The park's quiet and rural feeling is an important feature. Because the site is relatively small, however, intrusions of park facilities and views of nearby development impact the scene. The extant grassy fields represent a small portion of the former 18th-century agricultural fields. Views of these once large open areas have been lost due to the residential development south and east of the property. However, compared to the small yards associated with most contemporary residential development, Snee Farm's landscape seems expansive.

Association

Snee Farm's association with the Pinckney family is materially enhanced by the discovery of 18th-century structural foundations and by artifacts associated with the Pinckney family. The farm

reflects its rural past in the natural features of the present-day site. Fields, woodlands, and marshland provide a microcosm of the larger original plantation. The integrity of association is compromised by the lack of standing Pinckney structures or known Pinckney circulation patterns.

Summary

The integrity of Snee Farm has been compromised by the loss of Pinckney landscape features. Only the archeological discoveries on site have thus far revealed 18th-century resources. Despite this, Snee Farm was owned and operated by the Pinckney family during the American Revolution. Charles Pinckney held the property at the time he wrote his "Pinckney Draught" and during the signing of the United States Constitution. For these reasons, the site is worthy of landscape treatment recommendations that preserve and interpret its contributions to history.

Snee Farm lacks the integrity to warrant the nomination of the entire landscape to the National Register. However, several landscape features that contribute to the site's significance should be part of an amendment to the site's nomination. The features are listed below:

- 1) The cenotaph--Although a replacement of the original stone, this feature represents a continuing community effort to commemorate the life of Col. Pinckney.
- 2) The Long Point Road connection and entrance drive--Documentation supports the existence of these landscape features during the Pinckney era.
- 3) The avenue remnant--Documentation supports the existence of a north/south plantation road or avenue that ran from the house complex to the Public Road (today's U.S. Hwy. 17). Both the

¹²¹ These trees have five-foot diameters.

existing remnant of avenue that lies south of the standing house and the cedar trees lining the avenue should be recognized.

4) The grove--Documentation supports the likelihood that the extant grove represents part of the Pinckney garden pattern.

TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

This section focuses on strategies to preserve and/or rehabilitate the landscape features that contribute to the 18th-century Pinckney landscape. General recommendations applicable to the site as a whole precede more specific recommendations for individual features. Treatments are provided for both the historic and non-historic landscape features on site.

The proposed recommendations are illustrated in Figure 18, Management Recommendations for CHPI Core Area, and Figure 19, Management Recommendations for CHPI Agricultural Area.

General Recommendations

Circulation

The park should continue the archeological investigation of the Pinckney-era roads and paths. Further research of documentation concerning William Mathews and L.A. McCants could also reveal more information about changes that have been made to circulation patterns. The park should endeavor to identify, protect, and preserve such areas if they are discovered.

The overall treatment of historic circulation patterns and interpretive trails should be simple and light. Soft paving materials combined with mowing regimes that delineate the historic patterns are recommended. Such materials minimally impact historic resources and are easily removed and/or relocated in the event that further research requires change.

Interpretation

Because a majority of the cultural resources are situated in the core area, caution is recommended to avoid cluttering the site with interpretive media. The park should consider combining information on waysides and grouping these waysides in a manner that will lessen their visual impact. Interpretive trails should follow the historic circulation patterns as closely as possible. Where the patterns are not known, trails should be minimized and simplified.

Management Review

The park should periodically review the success of proposed treatments in meeting the suggested management strategies, as well as make appropriate adjustments when more archeological or documentary information becomes available.

Long Point Road

The park should continue its policy of protecting Long Point Road's status as a South Carolina scenic highway. The road adds an important element of integrity to the setting and feeling as visitors approach the site.

Core Area

Archeological Resources

Visitor safety, cost, and ease of maintenance are factors in determining a treatment solution for interpreting the Pinckney-era structural foundations. The report recommends a single row of capstones or stone or concrete pavers to outline the dimensions of

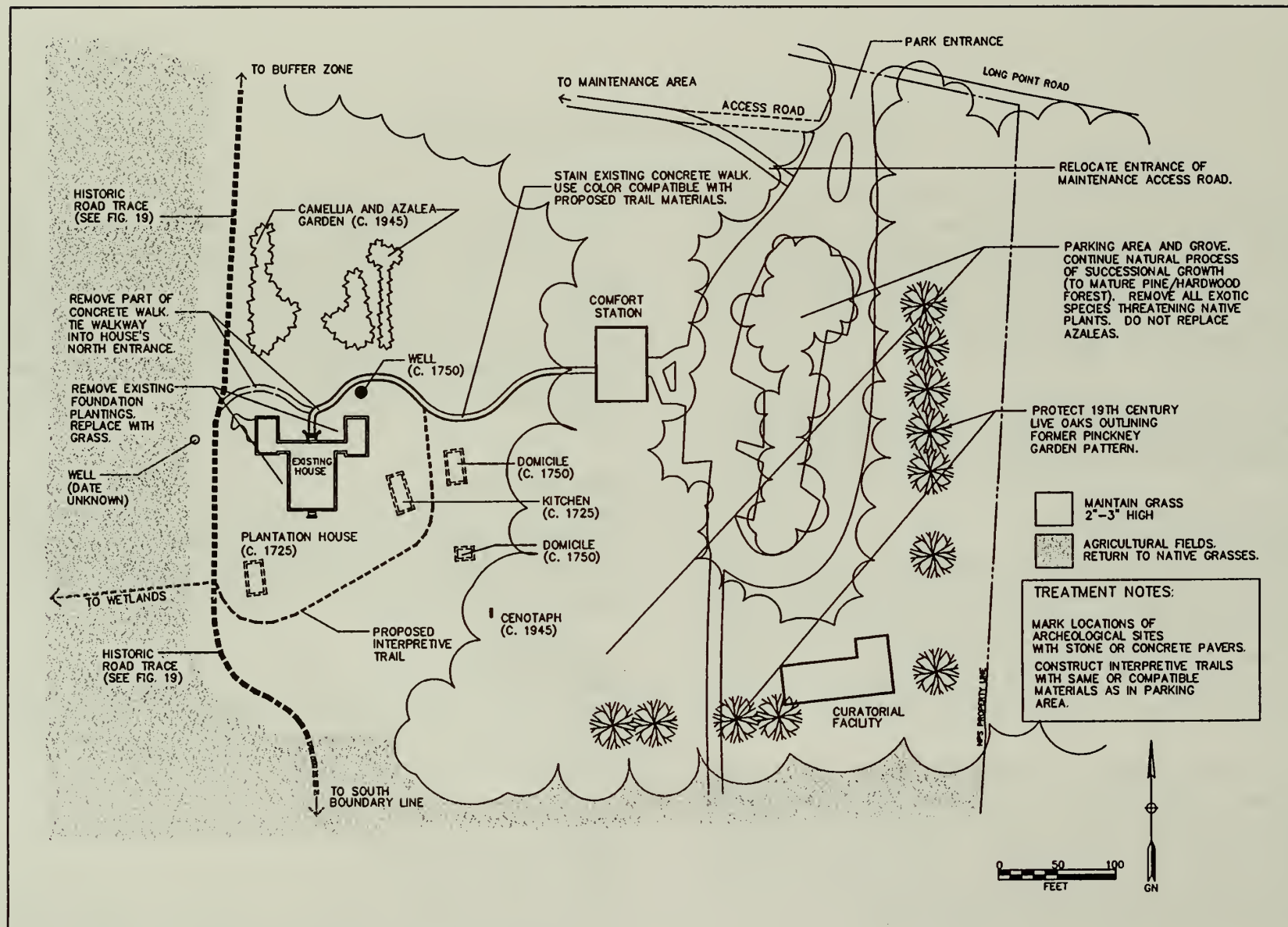


Fig. 18: Management Recommendations for CHPI Core Area.

each structure. These stones should be placed flush with the ground and mortared or placed on sand. Marking the archeological features in this manner poses no tripping hazard to visitors and is easy to mow. The center of the feature can remain in grass, or, alternately, sand or crushed shell can be placed within the foundation outline. If the latter, the sand or shell should be placed on a geotextile fabric to suppress the growth of weeds. A monthly application of herbicide may also be necessary.

Vegetation

Because foundation plantings are typically not associated with 19th-century dwellings, it is recommended that the foundation plantings surrounding the 19th-century cottage be removed in order to effect visual compatibility with the historic period. Once removed, these shrubs and groundcovers should be replaced with grass. Any camellias and azaleas removed in this process could be relocated to the existing camellia/azalea garden.

In the yard surrounding the house, the existing live oaks and magnolias should be replaced with like species when necessary. The grass surrounding the house, the camellia/azalea garden, and the interpretive trail loop should be kept short, no more than 2-3 inches high. The camellias and azaleas in the mowed areas around the house should be phased out, i.e., not replaced.

The park should select a few of the 60-inch-diameter live oaks within the house complex and near the barn for boring (auger testing) in order to determine the historical period to which these trees belong and, subsequently, to allow for their interpretation.

Grove/Parking Area

Research indicates that the grove represents a part of the original Pinckney garden pattern. To prevent visitors from misinterpreting the area as “only a parking lot,” the park should reinforce the

grove’s connection and importance to Pinckney’s Snee Farm through additional interpretation and by minimizing further development. The parking lanes and bays should remain unpaved, and future expansion of the curatorial building is discouraged.

Though enlargement of the comfort station may be necessary to provide space for interpretive exhibits, only areas previously disturbed should be considered for the structural addition. In case of construction, any nearby trees larger than 12 inches in diameter should be protected.

The 19th-century oaks outlining the former rectilinear feature in the grove should be protected. These trees represent a formal planting by Mathews or McCants that may have followed an earlier garden pattern. The park should interpret the grove with the evidence this landscape feature reveals.

The presence of trees so close to the curatorial storage building’s south and east sides has raised concern for the protection of the building. However, equal consideration must be given to the protection of both resources, building and trees. All attempts to preserve the structure should be weighed by potential impacts to the historic trees.

All grove vegetation, including that surrounding the comfort station, the curatorial building, and within the parking island, should be left to natural successional processes. The grove should remain natural, canopied with native trees. Designed elements, such as mass plantings, flower beds, or grass, should be avoided.

Existing non-native species (azaleas) should not be replaced when they expire. The park should encourage a canopied landscape by planting native trees in areas where sunlight reaches the ground to

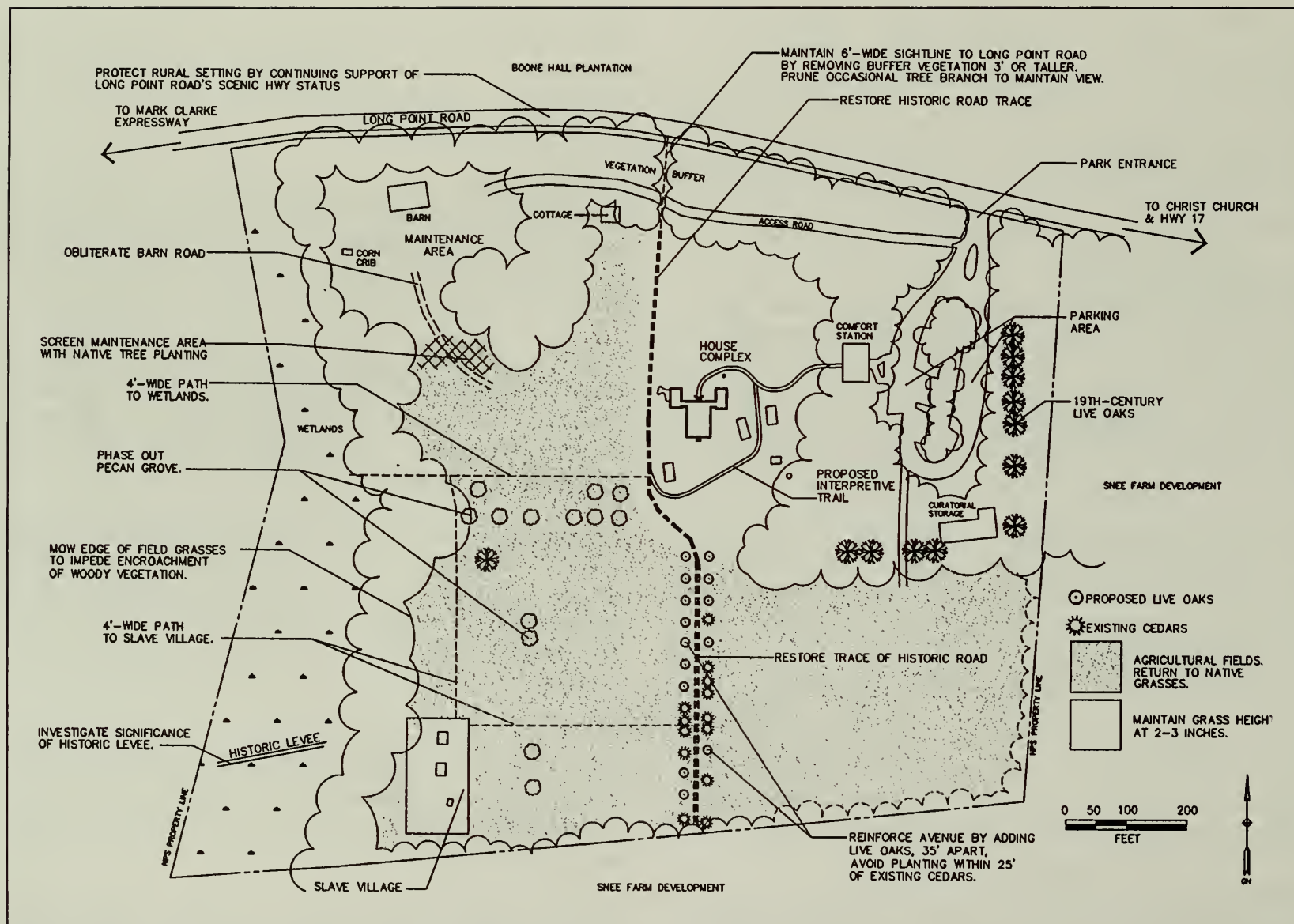


Fig. 19: Management Recommendations for CHPI Agricultural Area.

help suppress the rapid growth of invasive species. Any privet, honeysuckle, or ornamental vines, such as wisteria, that can harm native species should be removed. The park should encourage the local garden association to remove the perennial garden bed and to support the park's management and protection of features that reveal the Pinckney landscape.

Agricultural Landscape

Agricultural Fields

The report proposes a short-term goal of returning the agricultural fields to native grass and forb species. In addition to being historically appropriate to the 18th-century landscape, native grasses provide the desired visual uniformity and the appearance of an open field. They also require less maintenance in the long run. Experimenting with various mowing regimes or setting aside test plots sown with various seed mixtures are ways in which the park may begin to determine the best strategy to accomplish this goal. Some of the native grasses and forbs to be considered in a reseeding effort include broomsedge (*Andropogon* spp.), spike grass (*Uniola* spp.), nut grass *Cyperus* spp.), panic grass (*Panicum* spp.), and blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium* spp.).

Along the outer edges of the fields, a 10- to 15-foot-wide strip should be mowed monthly to restrict the encroachment of woody species from the vegetative buffer along the property line and wetlands. This mowing will maintain the fields at their present size. The twentieth century pecan trees should be phased out over time. They should not be replaced.

Historic Levee

Further archeological research on the levee is recommended as the findings may result in this feature's nomination to the National Register as a contributing element to the site's significance.

Barn Area

The park should continue to screen the 20th-century barn and surrounding area from public view using native woodland species. This screening should, however, be contained, i.e., not allowed to encroach into the maintenance area.

Circulation

Interpretive Trails

Although no 18th-century footpaths within the house complex have been determined, it is probable that the historical surface material in this area was sand or dirt, with undefined pathways. Until research reveals further information, the proposed interpretive trail around the house will serve as a means for visitors to view the locations of the 18th-century archeological foundations and other related landscape features (fig. 18).

All core area paths should meet ADA requirements for accessibility. This study recommends using materials that create the appearance of natural "dirt paths" made of crushed stone or shell, and sand. The existing entrance drive and parking area are good examples of acceptable material types. One proven technique recommends placing sand and crushed stone with a gravel base on a geotextile fabric. Lime is then added, and the trail is rolled. Rain activates the lime and a hardened surface is created. An alternative to lime is Portland cement (10% mix), a more expensive but more durable treatment.

The interpretive trails should be approximately 4 feet wide if edged. The park must decide whether to edge the trails. Metal edging prevents encroachment of grass and is easier to mow, but is more costly. Unedged trails are less formal, but are difficult to mow, allow herbaceous encroachment, and may need to be weed-whacked. Unedged trails should be 5 feet wide. Because the

south and east yards are small in size, trails should be kept to a minimum to avoid overwhelming the site with walkways.

The existing concrete walk from the comfort station is well constructed; however, it is too “modern-looking” for an 18th-century site. In addition, its brightness (white) causes it to stand out next to other features in the core area. The walk should be stained a soft tan, gray, or other muted color compatible with its setting and with the proposed interpretive trails. The park may want to test a section of the walk for color and durability over the summer months.

The walk extends to the northwest corner of the existing house and covers part of the historic entrance road. It is recommended that this section be removed and the walk terminate at the house’s north entrance (see figure 18). Long term recommendations include replacing the concrete walk with the same material used for the interpretive trail at a time when repairs or replacement are necessary.

Slave Village and Path

The park should maintain a 4-foot-wide path from the avenue to the slave village, mowing regularly to keep the “path” in short grasses, 2-3 inches in height. The location of a Pinckney-era path leading from the village has not been determined, but Mathews’s plat of 1841 (fig. 7) indicates a path aligned with the historic levee, leading east to the avenue. When the surrounding fields are mowed, the path to the slave village should be raked to maintain its visual distinctiveness. The path should meet ADA accessibility requirements when the slave village is fully interpreted.

Historic Trace from Long Point Road

A partial restoration treatment for the plantation drive will allow visitors to understand its historic connection to Long Point Road.

Crushed shell and stone, mixed with sand and lime (the same paving treatment as prescribed for the interpretive trails) should be used to restore the historic drive. The road should be 8 feet wide and should extend from the maintenance access road south to the tree-lined avenue, where the same treatment is proposed (see treatment recommendations for the avenue in the following section).

From the access road intersection, the park should maintain a filtered view or sightline to Long Point Road through the vegetative buffer zone along the park’s north boundary. Partially clearing the historic drive through the buffer zone will create the visual impression of an “abandoned road” that once connected to Long Point Road. This can be achieved by maintaining a rough mixture of tall grasses and small shrubs within this narrow sightline (approximately 8 feet wide). The periodic removal of tall vegetation and branches will achieve the desired “rough” look of the historic road. Visitors will have a filtered view of Long Point Road through the vegetative buffer but will be discouraged to walk beyond the access road by the rough appearance of the historic entrance.

The park should consider mowing an approximately 20-foot-wide edge on the west side of the drive to set it apart from the nearby (proposed) agricultural field (see figure 19).

Pinckney Plantation Road or Avenue

A restoration of the avenue south of the 19th-century cottage is recommended. The sand/stone/shell paving recommended for the North Entrance Drive should be extended to the avenue and should terminate at the park’s southern boundary. A narrow strip (3-4 feet) should be mowed on either side of this 8-foot-wide lane.

The current allée is 35 feet wide and lined with individual cedar trees spaced 20 feet apart. This landscape feature should be reinforced with live oaks, which, given the spacing requirements of these trees, should be planted 35 feet apart. The 35-foot-spacing mirrors that of the 19th-century oaks in the grove. Planting should begin at the northern edge of the agricultural fields and should extend to the southern property line. Trees should not be planted within 25 feet of the existing cedars; these spots can be planted when the existing cedars die.

Live oak was chosen as the replacement tree to conform with the extant live oaks in the grove and those at the entrance to the Snee Farm Development off U.S. Highway 17. The continuity of like species will enhance visitor understanding of Pinckney's 18th-century and Mathews's/McCants' 19th-century circulation patterns.

Beyond the south property line, screening for the Snee Farm Development impedes the historic sightline towards U.S. Highway 17. The proposed live oak planting along the plantation drive will further screen this sightline. As a result, the park is encouraged to seek additional means for interpreting the avenue's former connection to U.S. Highway 17.

Grove/Parking Area

The park should consider relocating the maintenance road entrance to a section slightly south of its existing location. The road is immediately visible to visitors entering the park. Moving the entrance south approximately 50 feet would provide better screening opportunities and would improve the visitor's arrival sequence to the site.

Barn Area

The existing road south of the barn should be discontinued and reseeded in native grasses.

Summary of Research Needs

The cultural landscape report recommends further research in the following areas:

- 1) A testing program to determine the best strategy for returning the agricultural fields to native grasses and forbs.
- 2) Archeological research to determine the location of Pinckney-era paths and roads. Circumstantial evidence hints of two other entrances to Snee Farm within the park's current boundaries, one near the existing barn and the other near the present park entrance. Footpaths among core area structures need further research, as do paths leading to and from the slave village.
- 3) Archeological research to determine the exact dimensions of the Pinckney gardens. Of particular interest is the section outlined by the 19th-century oaks, to determine what area of the former Pinckney gardens this section represents.

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Charleston County Deed Book, N-10: 278-280. Master in Equity to William Mathews, Conveyance.

Charleston County Deed Book, Vol. O-8: 111-116. Charles Pinckney to Simon Magwood, Charles Kershaw, Hasell Gibbes, and Robert Y. Hayne, Trustees. Charles Pinckney to convey his estate to his trustees to pay off certain debts. Snee Farm is mentioned as one of the properties.

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#6069. 1861 copy of Col. Pinckney's 1754 plat.

#4952. Charles Pinckney's plat of Snee Farm (not dated).

#5541. Francis Deliesseline's 1818 plat of Snee Farm. This appears to be an original, but Kilgore's (surveyor general) certification is abbreviated in phrases, as if it were copied from an original. The handwriting is different from his signature on other plats.

#2354. 1845 copy of Deliesseline's 1818 plat of Snee Farm.

#6129. 1845 copy of Deliesseline's 1818 plat of a 30-acre marsh and high land.

#6071. 1845 copy of Deliesseline's 1818 plat of Snee Farm.

#6151. William Mathews (1841).

#5564. William Mathews (1841).

#923. William Mathews (not dated).

#5559. William Mathews (1848).

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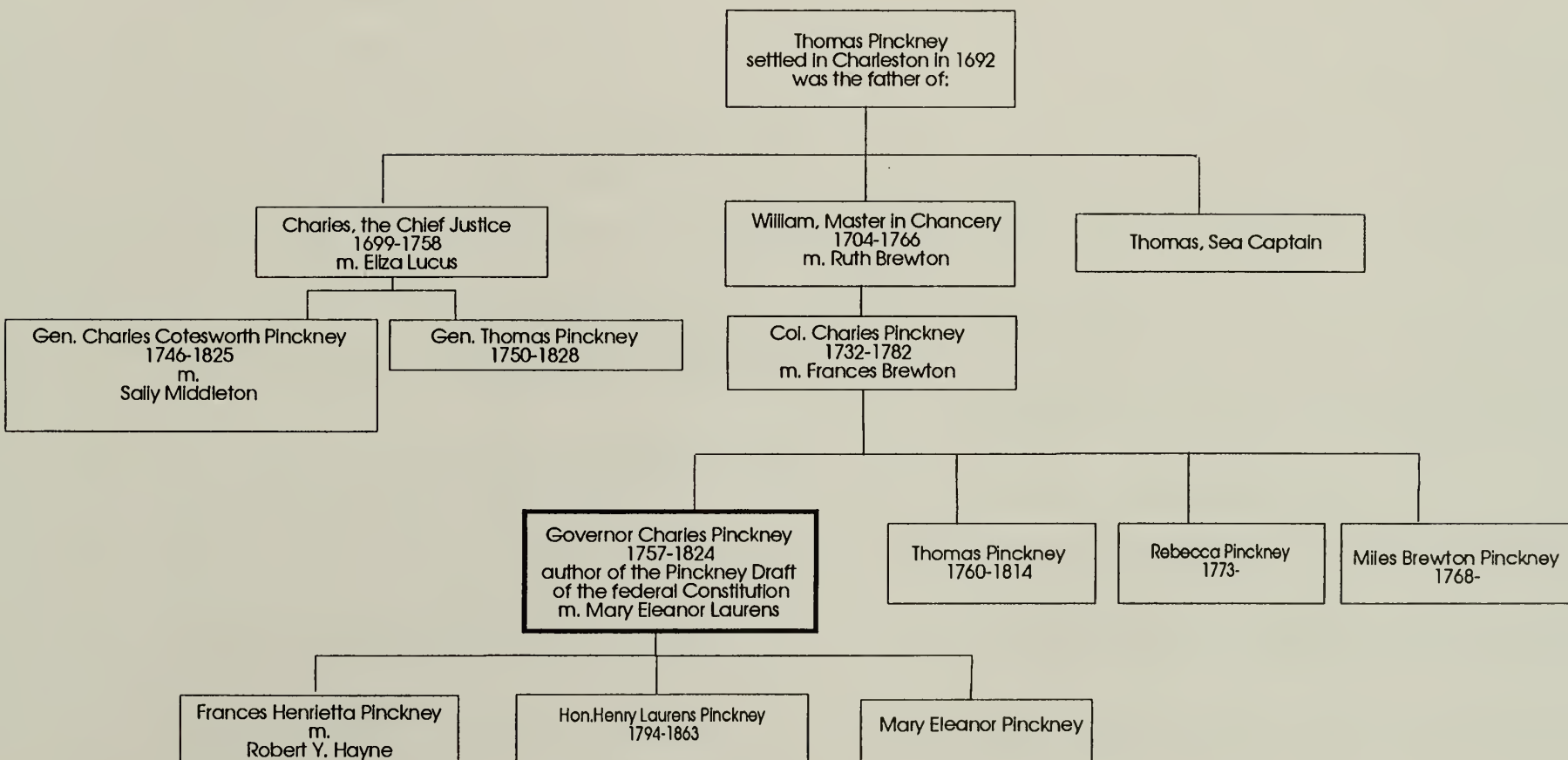
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APPENDIX A: SIMPLIFIED PINCKNEY GENEALOGY



APPENDIX B: CHAIN OF TITLES

1696	500 acre land grant to Richard Butler.	1859	William McCants to Lockwood Allison McCants. (Will dated 7 September 1858; probated 18 December 1858. Charleston County Record of Wills, Vol. 48, Book A: 378-382.)
??	Richard Butler to John Givens.		
1730	John Givens to Benjamin Law.	1870	Lockwood A. McCants to William Jervey. (Trustee for the Estate of Francis Cordes. Charleston County Deed Book Q-15: 71.)
1738	Benjamin Law to John Allen.		
1753	John and Ann Savage to William Scott (Charleston County Conveyance Book, MM: 314. Release in Fee.)	1900	Mary McCants, et.al., to Frederick Weiters. (Charleston County Conveyances, book Y-22: 597.)
1753	William Scott to John Savage. (Charleston County Conveyance Book, MM: 319-320.)	1900	Frederick Weiters to Thomas J. Hamlin. (Charleston County Conveyances, Book U-25: 179.)
1754	John and Ann Savage to Charles Pinckney II (Col. Pinckney).	??	Thomas J. Hamlin to Osgood Darby Hamlin. (No will recorded for T. J. Hamlin.)
1772	Charles Pinckney II to Charles Pinckney III. (Will dated 2 October 1772; probated 10 November 1784. Recorded in Will Book A, 1783-86: 431.)	1936	Mrs. Osgood D. Hamlin (Julia Welch) to Thomas Ewing. (Newspaper articles. Deed and title not located at Registry of Mesne Conveyance.)
1815	Charles Pinckney III to Simon Magwood, Charles Kershaw, Hasell Gibbes, and Robert Y. Hayne. (Conveyance in Trust. Charleston County Conveyance Book Q8: 111.)	1943	Mrs. Thomas Ewing to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stone. (Letter from Ellen Stone Devine to David Moffley.)
1817	Master in Equity to Francis G. Deliesseline. (Charleston County Miscellaneous Records, Book X-8: 78-81.	1968	Estate of Alexandra Ewing Stone to Guilds and Joyce Hollowell. (Charleston County Conveyances, Book V-89: 275.)
1828	Francis G. Deliesseline to William Gibbes, Master in Equity. (Charleston District Conveyances, Book N-10: 278-280.)	1986	Guilds and Joyce Hollowell to Creekside Mobil Home Park (C and G Investments). (Charleston County Conveyances, Book S-156: 386.
1828	William Gibbes, Master in Equity, to William Mathews. (Charleston Count Conveyances, Book N-10: 278-280.)	1988	C and G Investments to Friends of Historic Snee Farm, Inc. (Charleston County Conveyances, Book 176: 35.)
1848	William Mathews to Susan B. Hunt. (Will dated 21 January 1848; probated on 24 July 1848.)	1990	Friends of Historic Snee Farm, Inc. to the National Park Service.
1853	Estate of William Mathews to William McCants. (Charleston County Conveyances, Book V-12: 25-26.)		

