

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
FLAGLER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**Historic Property Associates**

**St. Augustine, Florida**

**November, 1988**

## Acknowledgements

The 1988 archaeological survey of Flagler County could not have been accomplished without the assistance of numerous Flagler County residents. Mr. Buddy Taylor, Principal of Belle Terre Middle School, was instrumental in directing the author to specific individuals in the county who were familiar with the county and the sites it might possess. Mr. Taylor also kindly allowed the author access to the school's archaeological museum, which contains numerous artifacts from the county. Jan Entrekin of the middle school staff also provided generous assistance.

Jim Davis, the local informant most familiar with the county's archaeological resources, shared his ideas about settlement patterns in the county and pointed out some unrecorded sites. Mr. Davis, who helped initiate the museum at Belle Terre Middle School, has participated in field trips to archaeological sites, and in general has taught students about the history and prehistory of the area. He has completed many Florida Master Site File forms for Flagler County, particularly on turpentine camps.

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## Introduction

The archaeological survey of Flagler County is a logical outgrowth of the Flagler County Historic Properties survey completed in November, 1987. The 1987 survey produced a literature review of Flagler County archaeology and a description of known prehistoric resources. It also included suggestions for a predictive model and recommendations for further archaeological survey. The reader is referred to that document, "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," Historic Property Associates, St. Augustine, Florida, November 1987, for the necessary framework for this study.

At the time of the 1987 survey, forty archaeological sites were recorded in the Florida Master Site File for Flagler County. Most of these were located in the coastal strip and or in the Palm Coast, ITT delimited area. These previously recorded sites are listed in this report.

During the course of the 1988 archaeological survey, thirty additional sites were recorded on Florida Master Site File forms. Jim Davis, a local archaeological informant, recorded another eight forms over the past year.

The current survey was done at the reconnaissance level. It should not be considered a conclusive survey of archaeological sites in Flagler County. For practical reasons several key areas of the county were excluded from

the survey. The areas were state owned lands and the Palm Coast development. They are under state or state sanctioned management plans and have at least been partially surveyed in the past.

The 1988 survey is intended to add to the current data base and to expand on the original predictive model, established in 1987. Many sites could not be field-checked, so cultural periods and sometimes site types are lacking. The current study provides a general framework for the location of sites in Flagler County and serves as a tool for future work.

The Palm Coast area contains many of the most significant potential and recorded sites in Flagler County. For several reasons, the Palm Coast coastal strip received minimal attention during the course of this survey.

First, the area has been thoroughly studied in several earlier surveys which have located known and potential sites (see "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987; Miller and Strassburger 1977; Miller 1981a; 1981b; Miller 1983).

Secondly, sites in Palm Coast are subject to further testing, management and disposition guidelines under a Memorandum of Agreement with the Division of Historic Resources, Florida Department of State. (Comprehensive Land Use Plan Palm Coast Vol 4 n.d. p. 4.4-1 -4-3). Also, in the Environmental Protection Specifications of the

**Flagler County** \*

Comprehensive Land Use Plan, provisions are made for monitoring and protection of significant sites by interested residents of the Palm Coast Community and/or a local museum. (Volume 4.4-5).

Because of the management plan and previous survey activity, Palm Coast is not included in any field survey undertaken as a part of this project. Nonetheless, because of the significance of the area, the archaeology of Palm Coast is discussed periodically in this report.

During the early assessments of Palm Coast, sites were identified outside ITT owned property. In a 1978 amendment to the Palm Coast study, sites both on or about ITT owned lands were field-checked. Some were not located or believed to be destroyed. At least one other, the St. Joseph's Plantation site, has been destroyed since that time. The sites that are not listed as having been destroyed have now been assigned FMSF numbers and are included in this report.

The consultants focused the current survey on areas not previously assessed or where no management plan for archaeological sites existed. Sites recorded during the survey were based largely on informant interviews. The survey covered only the unincorporated areas of Flagler County. Where possible sites were visited, but no areas were subjected to subsurface testing.

The survey's selective sample was based on other factors. The factors include:

(1) The availability of informants. The field survey weeks were a very busy time of year for many long-time residents and workers throughout Flagler County. Many worked full-time, some ran farms, some were engaged in cattle-ranching, and many worked with timber products. As much as possible, the consultants tried to visit informants at their home or place of work.

(2) Lands under private lease. Some lands in Flagler County are leased to private hunting organizations, and the survey was carried out during hunting season. Therefore, these lands were not visited.

(3) The accessibility of timber lands. Over seventy-eight percent of Flagler County consists of company-owned timber land; held mainly by Georgia Pacific, Champion, Container Corporation of America, and I.T.T. Rayonier (Flagler County Draft Conservation Element 198). Some individuals were able to point out known sites on a U.S.G.S. map, while others were able to escort the surveyor to known or suspected sites within the confines of their timber lands.

(4) Insufficient data. In most cases, it was not possible to pinpoint prehistoric cultural periods for the sites due to insufficient data, even when sites were visited. Often, thorough subsurface testing is required to

obtain the necessary information to assign cultural periods accurately. Even when subsurface testing is possible, poor preservation and lack of diagnostic artifacts make this a difficult task. It was usually not possible to assess site quality and integrity. Therefore, site significance could not be determined for most sites.



## Survey Methodology

Before beginning the survey, the consultants reviewed the Florida Master Site File in Tallahassee to obtain all available archaeological information deposited there. Eight new Flagler County sites, recorded by local informant Jim Davis with assistance by students from Belle Terre Middle School, have been added to the site files since 1987. The consultants also obtained generalized land ownership maps from the Palm Coast Engineering Office, natural land maps from the Flagler County Planning Office, and soil maps and aerial photographs from the Soil Conservation Office. They also contacted the archaeological staff of the Florida State Museum, University of Florida, seeking information on unrecorded sites and areas of high probability.

A 1922 Soil Survey map for Flagler County was useful as a general and historic place-name map, but is not on a large enough scale to render the soil associations useful for purposes of an archaeological survey. Soil characteristics, vegetation, and topography are among the factors taken into account in predicting likely site locations.

New soil maps are now being compiled for Flagler County. The preliminary draft sheets were examined briefly and found to be on an unusually large scale (1:15,840). For future surveys, information from these detailed maps may be

useful, in combination with other environmental data. A regional survey conducted for the Department of State in the upper St. Johns River Basin found that ecological/wetlands habitat data were important indicators of settlement distribution (Brenda Eisenberg, personal communication). For Flagler County, this would probably be most applicable in the interior (west of Atlantic Coastal Ridge) part of the County. Knowledge of the regional survey was learned at the end of this project; therefore the survey information could not be obtained.

The base maps used for this project were U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute quadrangles. For the following discussion, Flagler County is divided into three major geographic areas: the Eastern Zone, the Central Zone, and the Southern and Western Zone.

## Archaeological Zones in Flagler County

### Eastern Zone

The eastern zone of Flagler County appears on the Matanzas Inlet, Beverly Beach, Flagler Beach West, and Flagler Beach East, and Dinner Island NE USGS Quadrangle Sheets. This zone includes the entire coastal strip bounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the east and on the west by the outskirts of Bunnell. The incorporated areas are Marineland, Beverly Beach, and Flagler Beach. There are three state parks: Bulow Plantation Ruins, Washington Oaks, and Flagler Beach State Recreation Area. These areas were beyond the geographic limits of the survey area and no sites were recorded in them.

In addition to the areas just described, much of the remaining land area along Route 1 and to the Atlantic Ocean is within Palm Coast and was not surveyed during this phase of the survey.

#### Newly Recorded Sites:

8FL 141: Located west of Smith Creek and the Intracoastal Waterway, this fairly large midden is on an upland finger surrounded by marsh. The Atlantic Ocean lies about 1200 meters to the east. The site appears to be a St.

Johns II period coquina midden. Areas along the site appear to have mosquito ditching, but the site itself appears fairly intact. The site should be field-checked and mapped carefully.

8FL 142: The site is situated on a narrow, 200-foot wide ridge across from the Bulow Plantation, on the east side of Bulow Creek. It is on the edge of the ridge, with an elevation of five to ten feet, above marshy land along the creek. According to informants, the site might contain aboriginal midden and remains of a historic causeway. The area should be field-checked to determine the integrity, nature, and cultural period of the site. The site should be mapped in detail. The site appears to be fairly undisturbed and may well be worthy of preservation.

8FL 143: The site is situated on a narrow, linear sand ridge that runs northwest-southeast, 1200 meters long, less than 400 meters west of Route 1. The northern tip of the ridge comes down on a small Catholic Cemetery. Along the western edge of the ridge lies a large sawgrass marsh, shown as "Mound Slough" on the 1922 Soil Survey Map. On the east side of the ridge are several borrow areas. Whether or not these are aboriginal is unknown. The ridge was pointed out as having an Indian site by Tommy Durrance, a former surveyor. The area should be field-checked to determine the integrity, nature, and cultural period of the site.

8FL 144: Located at the Lehigh Cement Plant Site, this is a burial mound which may still be partially intact. The site should be field checked to determine integrity and site type. (FLAGLER BEAVER WEST)

8FL 145 (Roberson House): An informant, reports there are coquina block foundation remains and scattered bricks, possibly part of a chimney, lying south of the "Princess Estate" (Flagler County Survey, 1987, Historic Property Associates, Site No. 90). During a 1977 survey of the Palm Coast area, Jim Miller reported a shell midden extending into the southern tip of the property along Matanzas River. This may be part of 8FL12. However, Miller, was unable to enter the property. According to an informant dredging took place in that vicinity in 1987. The Princess Estate was part of the Francisco Pellicer Grant during the 2nd Spanish Period, 1784-1821, and should be considered a high probability area for colonial sites. The Roberson House and the possible shell midden should be field-checked to assess cultural period and integrity.

8FL 146 (Dupont Mill): Within mixed hardwoods adjacent to a little used trail, ruins of a small sugar mill were pointed out by Mr. Jack DuPont. Family tradition has it that the mill was constructed by his grandfather. Coquina and brick are scattered about; one foundation, probably holding the iron millworks, is apparent. Depressions nearby suggest the location of the boiling and skimming kettles.

The mill was small compared to Bulow or St. Joseph's, and may have produced syrup rather than crystal sugar. Mr. DuPont has in his possession a short length of chain made up of alternating long and short links. Apparently, boards were fitted through the long links of two parallel chains to make a conveyer belt upon which raw cane was fed into the mill. The wheels and rollers were sold by Mr. William Wadsworth around World War II for scrap.

The site is outside the Palm Coast development tract on agricultural and forestry land, hence not slated for development in the foreseeable future. However, as population increases and the property is visited more frequently, impact by vandalism is more likely. Additionally, the land is dry enough to be planted to pines profitably, at which time the site could be destroyed. Minimal testing and recording seem warranted at this time.

8FL 147 (Dupont House and Cemetery): The DuPont house on the barrier island is first noted on A.M. Randolph's Plat of 1850. A visit to the site revealed historic period remains on top of an oyster shell midden. The DuPont Cemetery, still in active use, is located several hundred feet inland and contains the remains of Abraham DuPont who developed the plantation as Buen Retiro beginning in 1828. Most visible on the property are the coquina and brick ruins of a chimney and foundation from a house which Jack DuPont remembers being built in the 1930's. The older

DuPont house, made of wood, was located south of the cemetery beside a present road.

The site is located on the east side of the Intracoastal Waterway one mile south of Marineland. It should be field-checked to assess its integrity.

8FL 148 (Little Mulberry Dike): This long, low dike runs in a north-south direction across an unnamed creek and appears to be an agricultural feature used to control irrigation. A dirt road known locally as the Inside Road or Inside Kings Road crosses the creek at the same location. The site was pointed out by Judge Wadsworth as possibly representing the "stupendous mill dam" eight miles from Pellicers Creek noted by Vignoles in 1823. The feature appears too low to have backed up much water. In addition, the creek at this location does not carry much water; however, conditions may have changed substantially due to improved drainage.

Mapping and recording are recommended along with minimal testing to search for remains of a mill. The site is on Special Development Land and not threatened in the near future.

8FL 149 (Murrith's Oldfield and House): Murrith's Oldfield corresponds to A. DuPont's field noted on the Plat of 1850 by A.M. Randolph. The homestead is presently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Jack DuPont as an outholding in the ICDC tract. Situated in the SE 1/4 of Section 14,

T10SR30E, this pleasant live oak hammock surrounded by second growth vegetation and pine plantations was probably occupied after the Second Seminole War. In 1844 the house is noted as a mail stop along the Kings Road. The remains of the original house, now mostly scattered coquina, are located just east of the DuPont's garden and shed. Nineteenth century artifacts, mostly black glass and pottery, can be found occasionally in the yard. Mr. DuPont has gone over the property with a metal detector with little success. The house and grounds are not on Palm Coast property, however, the homestead was part of a larger plantation, several components of which Mr. DuPont pointed out.

West of the house some 1500 feet is a pine island within swampy land where slave quarters once stood. Upon clearing and plowing occasional artifacts may be found -mostly oyster shell and brickbats. According to Mr. DuPont if this area is driven east to west, ridges remaining from the rice fields may be recognized as distinct bumps. East of this area, now partly in planted pines, is tidal marsh and swamp forming the head of Styles Creek, then another dry landform upon which are found the remains of the DuPont mill. The rice field is also shown on the 1850 Randolph Plat.

8FL 150 (Eatman Homestead) The Eatman Homestead has been abandoned only within the last decade, and although in



ruins, the site has the potential of yielding much information about a supposedly typical turn-of-the-century farmstead. The two-story house is in poor condition as far as restoration or preservation are concerned, however, measured drawings could be easily made and construction details are well exposed due to the deterioration of siding and panelling. Of greater interest is the layout of the farm itself. Still to be seen are remains of the well, kitchen, barns, outbuildings, shed, garden, sugar mill, entrance road, pastures, fences, and cemetery. Recording of this data by field mapping would require little effort compared to the amount of information available from the site.

The farm and cemetery, although separated by about 1/2 mile, are both on agricultural and forestry land. No impact from construction is anticipated, however, the house may soon collapse like most of the outbuildings already have. Special care should be taken to mark and protect the cemetery as local interest is high. Mapping and photography of the farm are recommended before vandalism results in further loss of information.

### Previously Recorded Sites

The information for the sites listed below is quoted from a previous survey report, Palm Coast C.L.U.P. Vol. 4, Sect. 4.4b. At that time Florida Master Site File numbers had not been assigned.

8FL 134: Located along the east side of the Kings Road, south of the junction of St. Joe Road and 1-95. This is the site of a historic turpentine still known as St. Joseph Still.

8FL 137: This historic site, known as Bulow Still, is also situated along the Kings Road, and approximately one mile north of Bulow Ruins State Park (recorded by Jim Davis, March 1988).

8FL 140: The Fort Fulton site sits on a thirty-foot high knoll, one-quarter mile south of Pellicer Creek, and four hundred feet east of Hulett Branch. Several excavations have taken place at this Seminole Indian War fort, established as a military post in 1840 (recorded by Jim Davis, March 1988). Some artifacts from this site are on display at the Belle Terre Middle School museum.

The information for the sites listed below is quoted from "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987.

8FL 1 (Kings Road Mound)  
8FL 2(6) (Marineland Midden)  
8FL 5 (Bon Terra Farm)  
8FL 7 (Bulow Plantation Ruins)  
8FL 10 (Homestead Midden)  
8FL 11 (Washington Oaks Midden)  
8FL 12 (Wadsworth Midden)  
8FL 13 (Eatman Mound)  
8FL 14 (Hewett's Mill)  
8FL 15 (Palm Coast Midden)  
8FL 16 (Benton Mound)  
8FL 17 (Bellemead 4)  
8FL 18 (Bellemead 5)  
8FL 19 (Bellemead 6)  
8FL 20 (Bellemead 7)  
8FL 22 (Pond East)  
8FL 23 (Pond West)  
8FL 24 (Jungle Hut)  
8FL 25 (Hernandez Mound)  
8FL 26 (Mala Compra)  
8FL 27 (Marker Midden)  
8FL 28 (Big Mulberry Branch)  
8FL 29 (Gore Lake Mound)  
8FL 33 F-1  
8FL 34 F-2  
8FL 35 F-2

8FL 37 F-7

8FL 38 F-8

8FL 39 F-9

8FL 132 (Fort Fulton)

### Area Site Potential

Geologically, much of eastern Flagler County is comprised of the St. Augustine Ridge Sets, the Atlantic Coastal Strip, and the Volusia Ridge Sets south of Bunnell. As noted in "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987, the highest number of sites occurred in the Atlantic Coastal Strip, east of I-95. This correlated with the high potential area predicted by Miller and Strassburger's study of the Palm Coast area (1977), where they developed a model for the eastern part of Flagler County which was based on soils, vegetation, historic land use, and proximity to water.

Since the 1987 report and during this survey, thirteen new sites have been added to the Atlantic Coastal Strip area. The area now has a total of forty-one sites recorded in the Florida Master Site File. The large number of sites is a reflection of the high probability of the area. Undoubtedly, there are many other sites that have yet to be located or recorded. Outside Palm Coast, the area from Flagler Beach south along the Intracoastal Waterway has

been surveyed and no new sites were found. The area along Bulow Creek is regarded as possessing high potential area for prehistoric midden sites.

Artifacts have been found on the north side of Pellicer Creek near the Matanzas Inlet, but according to a fifteen-year resident of the area, none have been found on the south side of it for the first two and a half miles westward along the creek. The same informant has seen oyster midden along some of the dredged Intracoastal Waterway just south of the inlet. It is possible that such material could have been re-deposited. Most of the land in the Atlantic Coastal Strip is within Palm Coast. The Palm Coast area has been surveyed previously (See "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987, pp. 48-52 for a summary of surveys.) Several historic sites were tentatively located in earlier surveys, many of which were not found in the field (Miller et al. 1977; Palm Coast Comprehensive Land Use Plan Vol 4, Sec. 4.4b).

Clearly, the Atlantic Coastal Strip, now largely Palm Coast, was a desirable area for both historic and prehistoric activities. Sites here date from prehistoric periods (such as shell middens and burial mounds), the early 19th century (such as sugarmills, and plantations/homesteads), and the early 20th century (turpentine stills and camps). Although much of the land in Palm Coast has been drastically altered, including the

dredging for the Intracoastal Waterway, there still may be unrecorded sites. It is recommended that site forms for the area be updated and expanded, and that remaining significant sites be preserved when feasible.

### Central Zone

The Central Zone is covered by the Espanola, Bunnell, and Dinner Island NE USGS Quadrangle Sheets. The land consists largely of pine flatwoods and lowlands, some of which is owned by timber companies. There are several creeks that drain the interior area, and four lakes north of Espanola. Several historic turpentine stills have recently been recorded in this area (8FL 136, 138, 139, and 135).

#### Newly Recorded Sites:

8FL 151 (Neoga Lake Site): The site is situated along the west edge of Neoga Lake, a small, nearly circular, fresh-water lake approximately two miles northwest of Espanola. The lake served as a mill pond for the sawmill. The tram road bed can still be seen for a length of at 100 feet. Also seen at the site were nails, bricks, and miscellaneous whiteware and bottle glass sherds. The

sawmill and nearby turpentine still and camp at Neoga (see 8FL 135) are significant in the development of Espanola.

The lake and the area around it are now used recreationally by the community for swimming and horse-racing. Because of its local significance and the possibility of site damage, the entire area including Neoga should be thoroughly surveyed, tested, and mapped in detail. See 1922 Soil Survey Map.

8FL 152 (Tank Lake Site): Tank Lake is approximately one mile northwest of Espanola. At least two sets of concrete pads exist at the site. They supported the fitted water tanks that were put directly onto the steam-powered trains. A railroad track (now a grade) ran along the south edge of the lake, and traversed northwest through the Dinner Island area. From the lake, water was sent through an eight inch diameter, cast iron pipe, one-quarter mile south towards Espanola to another tank.

8FL 153 (Espanola Sawmill Site): This site is located 200 feet west of the junction of the railroad grade and Old Brick Road in Espanola. Still in evidence is the concrete pad for the engine and a well (now filled-in). This site should be field-checked.

8FL 154: (Flagler City): Once a boom town, the Flagler City site lies approximately four and a half miles north of Espanola on the Old Brick Road or Dixie Highway. The three or four houses and a service station that once stood there

are now burned to the ground and/or vandalized. Still extant is a large concrete pad (for the service station), sidewalks, and some concrete and coquina blocks. The town is reported to have had a wood and stucco archway across the brick road bearing "Welcome to Flagler City" Evidence of it could not be found during a brief field search. Further survey might provide more information about the configuration of this short-lived town.

8FL 155: Some of the historic Old Brick Road, or Dixie Highway, can still be found from Espanola north to Hastings (RT. 304). The bricks were carefully laid in the dry sand in common bond fashion, stretcher end to end. The road is approximately nine feet wide with an added three-foot concrete sidewalk on each side. The sturdy, large bricks bear "Southern Clay Mfg. Co." and "Graves, Birmingham, Ala." The road was built in 1915.

Two camp grounds to accommodate early 20th century tourists, one known as Hoosier's Inn, were located along this road just outside Espanola. No remains were seen during a windshield survey. The Old Brick Road is a significant historic site and should be preserved.

8FL 156: The site is located on a crescent-shaped sand ridge, one-half mile east of Route 13, south of Espanola. A sand road now runs over the crest, where a small scatter of St. Johns Plain and St. Johns Check-Stamped pottery sherds



were found. The 40-foot-high ridge appears to be a relic sand dune.

8FL170: This site is situated along the west edge of Sweetwater Swamp and Sweetwater Branch is one-quarter mile to the south. It is a sand mound, measuring about three meters across and three meters high, and has a nearby borrow area. It was reported by Tommy Durrance, who surveyed the area in the 1960's. The site appears to be undisturbed and may be a significant burial mound. It should be field-checked and mapped carefully.

Previously Recorded Sites 8FL 139: This turpentine still is located just west of SR 305 and .25 mile north of Haw Creek.

8FL 136 (Dean Still): The Dean Still is located approximately two miles northwest of Bunnell south of Route 13. Part of the brick well is still extant. The side camp and commissary here were burned (recorded by Jim Davis, March 1988).

8FL 135: This turpentine still and camp is situated one-quarter mile west of Neoga Lake. The small community, now deserted, is directly along the old railroad tracks. Many of the workers' cottages, although highly deteriorated, are still standing. Some were built with nailed cypress boards, (many of which have been removed)

with corrugated metal roofs (recorded by Jim Davis, March, 1988)

8FL 138 (Saplings): This turpentine still and camp is situated one mile south of Haw Creek and Sweetwater Branch. It can be reached by a dirt road. The 1922 Soil Survey Map indicated six structures, but none remain. (Recorded by Jim Davis, March 1988)

8FL40 (Espanola Cemetery Site): see "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987.

#### Area Site Potential

In the predictive model for Flagler County ("Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987), known sites are clustered around Gore Lake and are expected near Espanola, suggesting "human utilization near the boundaries of the physiographic zones." In the past year and during the 1988 survey, eleven additional sites have been recorded in the areas slightly west of Gore Lake. The survey results lend further support to the hypothesis. In fact, the greatest number of new recorded or potential sites were found in the area immediately around Espanola and four lakes: Speckled Perch Lake, Black Lake, Neoga Lake, and Tank Lake. Except for one, the newly recorded sites date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and are turpentine stills and/or camps and sawmills. Other

historic sites could be expected in connection with the Florida East Coast Railroad and the Old Dixie Highway.

A local informant reported numerous Indian artifacts on sand hills within a four-mile radius of the surrounding pine flatwoods. His artifact collection includes Archaic period lithic tools and a variety of pottery, largely St. John's Plain and St. John's Check-Stamped. Although the sites cannot be pinpointed exactly, the artifact collection indicates that the Espanola area was used over a long period of time, probably for brief, temporary periods. Pine flatwoods in general are regarded as low probability areas. These artifacts were retrieved from slightly elevated "sandhills" in the flatwoods. Such gentle elevations do not show on USGS topographic maps, but should be noticeable on the as-yet unpublished Soil Survey sheets.

A single recorded prehistoric site (a small pottery scatter) was located on a high sand ridge, probably a relic sand dune. Well-elevated above the lowlands, such locations were probably used for short periods. Other sand ridges or dunes in the Espanola area may possess similar prehistoric sites. The other newly recorded prehistoric site for the area is located on a sand mound.

The fact that so few prehistoric sites were found in the central part of Flagler County may be partly a result of survey bias, and the fact that so much logging has taken place on the land. However, another reason may be that the

prehistoric environment here lacked the wetland habitats necessary to attract wildlife, to support edible plants, and to provide fresh water on a regular or seasonal basis. Another possibility is that prehistoric activities in the area were transient or short-term in nature. Hunting game, for example, would leave no tangible remains on the landscape other than lithic tools or associated manufacturing debris.

Around Espanola and the lakes there are conspicuous areas of well-drained lands, and Neoga Lake may have been a source of fresh water. A systematic ground survey might help determine exact site locations.

#### Southern and Western Zone

This large geographic area appears on the Favoretta, Cody's Corner, Seville, St. John's Park, Dinner Island, San Mateo and Crescent USGS Quadrangle Sheets.

The western part of Flagler County is primarily dedicated to farm and pasture land, while the western and southern parts of the county, covered by pine flatwoods, are predominantly held by timber companies. The Relay Wildlife Management Area Part covers a portion of the Favoretta and Cody's Corner quadrangles. Crescent Lake, Dead Lake, and Lake Disston are large water bodies in the western part of the county. Branching out from Crescent

Lake and to the east are Middle Haw Creek and its tributaries, such as Sweetwater Branch and Black Branch.

Newly Recorded Sites:

8FL 159: Located one-quarter mile south of Andalusia (SR 100), a still-standing turpentine camp, the site is a shell mound directly on Crescent Lake. It is twenty-five feet long and one to two feet high with a crescent shape. It was reported to have once been five feet high before excavated for fill material. Numerous Spanish bayonets were noted near the midden, which was comprised of univalve (snail) shell and St. Johns Plain and St. Johns Check Stamped pottery. Another informant said "arrowheads" were found in the vicinity. Even though the site has been disturbed, its location is important to understanding Indian lifeways.

8FL 158: Also located on the northeast shore of Crescent Lake, this shell midden is one-half mile south of SR 100. About 400 feet from the lake, this site is on a five-foot high slope near a jeep trail. An informant reports that it has been removed for fill. It is possible that some of this site may be intact. It should be field checked.

8FL 157: These are two small shell middens west of Salt Creek on Crescent Lake, directly on the lakeshore. An informant indicates that some of the middens have been removed for fill. Lithic tools are reported to have been found in the vicinity. The sites should be field-checked to determine their nature, integrity, and exact location. The sites are very close to the previously recorded 8FL8, and they should be checked for possible duplication.

8FL 160: On the shore of Crescent Lake, this shell midden is one-quarter of a mile from the edge of the lake in a hardwood swamp, which is frequently inundated. An informant reports that it is about twenty feet long, twelve feet across and three feet high. Prehistoric ceramics were found there (type unknown). According to the owner the site has already been vandalized. It should be field-checked to assess integrity and cultural affiliation.

8FL 161: Also on the eastern shore of Crescent Lake, the site is a pair of shell middens, 1200 meters from the water's edge along White Oak Swamp. The shell middens are low (no more than one meter high) and are frequently flooded. They are approximately three meters long. Prehistoric ceramics were found there (type unknown). The owner does not wish the site's location to be published.

8FL 162 (McReynold's Island): This area is part of a Spanish Land Grant (Sect 38/39) on Crescent Lake. An informant reports that a small, historic orange grove

operated there, with docks for shipping to Crescent City. This site should be thoroughly field-checked for any historic or prehistoric remains.

8FL 163 (Bear Island): This small island is located in Crescent Lake, about one mile west of a sawgrass marsh, Buzzard Roost, and across the water from several Spanish land grants. An informant reports that projectile points and gold coins have been found there. This area deserves a complete field check for site type, integrity, and cultural period.

8FL 164: This area is located on a point along the eastern shore of Lake Disston just north of Little Haw Creek. Various lithic tools were reported to have been found on the surface. The artifact collection should be examined, and the area should be field-checked to determine if other material is present.

8FL 165: The site is situated adjacent to a bayhead to the west of Hull Cypress Swamp, east of Middle Haw Creek. It is reported to be a twenty foot high sand mound, with several potholes present. The site should be field-checked, to determine cultural period, type, and integrity.

8FL 166 (Sweetwater Mound): This sand mound is located on a rise at a fork in Sweetwater Branch. It is one-half mile east of SR 304. The Sweetwater Mound may be a significant St. Johns Period sand mound, and should be thoroughly surveyed in the field.

8FL 167 (Orange Hammock): The site is a circular mound seventy-five feet in diameter and four to five feet high. There are several excavation holes in the mound. Some of the artifacts from the site, which contained midden material and burials, are on display at the Belle Terre Middle School. It appears to contain both Archaic and St. Johns Periods ceramic material. One-quarter mile north of the mound in a low hammock is a slightly elevated area, where turpentine cup fragments were observed. This site, although disturbed, is significant and merits further research and preservation.

8FL168 The site is a sand mound located in the pine flatwoods. On the mound are live oak and Spanish bayonet. The mound is approximately four feet high and 400 to 500 square feet in volume. Some disturbance has taken place. The mound is on private property. This site should be field checked to determine integrity and cultural affiliation.

8FL 169 Near Cody's Corner, the mound is 150 feet by 150 feet and about 5 to 6 feet high. The mound is in good condition, and has palmetto, live oak, wild grape, and American beauty berry growing on it. A five-acre swamp lies to the north-northwest, with Middle Haw Creek to the northeast. A turpentine cup fragment was seen in the vicinity. Since the site is in good condition and might yield important data, the site should be preserved. Its



nature and cultural affiliation, however, are unknown at the time.

#### Previously Recorded Sites

The information for the sites listed below is quoted from "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987.

8FL 133: This is a turpentine still/camp located at Dinner Island just north of the old railroad grade. (Recorded by Jim Davis, March 1987). The commissary building is still standing.

8FL 8 (Crescent Lake I)

8FL 9 (Crescent Lake II)

#### Area Site Potential:

The predictive model, "Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987, indicated that part of the Crescent Lake Basin, such as the lower portions of the Haw Creek drainage is as a high potential area. Several long-time residents of the area say that they have not found any sites or artifacts along Middle Haw Creek. The same negative result has been reported for the area around

Lake Disston and Dead Lake, with the exception of scattered lithic material. One apparent lithic cache area was found in a field north of Lake Disston, but could not be pinpointed during this survey.

The Florida State Museum, in Gainesville, conducted extensive surveys in the upper St. Johns River area, and found that certain types of wetland habitats in otherwise flat areas, showed a pattern of prehistoric habitation. As mentioned earlier in this report, that survey information could not be found for use during this survey. However, information from that document could be useful for further refining the predictive model for future survey work for Flagler County.

The Crescent Lake shores did, as predicted, contain several prehistoric sites, all shell middens. Some of these middens lie in hardwood swamp, so inundated that they could not be field-checked for this survey. There is some tidal fluctuation, however, and these areas would be more exposed during low tide. The lake itself is very shallow, but Dunn's Creek provides a deep channel for access to the St. Johns River to the west.

Two sand mounds (which were not field-checked) were reported near Sweetwater Swamp, and another midden/burial mound, Orange Hammock, was almost two miles from Little Haw Creek. All of these sites are located on poorly drained soil. When all of the sites are field-checked to determine

the type of site, an improved correlation for these locations may be possible.

The area south of Bunnell (Favoretta quadrangle) is physiographically in the Volusia Ridge Sets zone ("Historic Properties Survey, Flagler County, Florida," 1987:61). Unlike the coastal ridge zone, much of which is fairly well-drained, this southern area is both lower and wetter, with some peaty/muck swamps (Flagler County Soil Survey, 1922). Fresh water sources would have been scarce, and in general, this area is expected to possess low potential for archaeological sites. Nevertheless, one site was found here adjacent to a bayhead.

Before the present survey, only two sites were recorded in the Crescent Lake basin--a prehistoric midden (8FL8) and a historic period homestead (8FL9), both on the lakeshore. Also, a turpentine still (8FL 133) was recorded in 1987 at Dinner Island.

During the survey, a total of thirteen new sites were recorded for the area, which confirms the predictive model's projections of high site potential in the Crescent Lake basin. Except for a historic commercial orange grove and a possible Spanish period site on Bear Island, all sites were prehistoric freshwater shell middens, sand mounds, and at least one midden/burial mound. The large lake basin undoubtedly was attractive for its interior wetland resources. It would also have served as an

excellent point of entry to the St. Johns River via Dunn's Creek to the west.

### **Toward a Predictive Model**

Increasingly, archaeologists are attempting to define and refine methods which will permit them to predict the archaeological potential of areas which they are called upon to assess. In part this is the result of the demands of cultural resource management and the need for evaluations of large tracts of land. But, it is also partially because of the concerns and interests of contemporary archaeology in the dynamics of past cultures, and the approach to understanding them through settlement pattern studies and ecological and environmental studies of cultural adaptation.

We have earlier seen that Miller and Strassburger developed a model for the eastern part of Flagler County which was based on soils, vegetation, historic land use, and proximity to water. Their high potential zone as mapped (Miller and Strassburger 1977:139) covered most of the area to the east of Interstate 95 and a tongue extending westward along Pellicer Creek. All but one of the known or suspected sites in their study area fell within this area of high potential as defined by other factors. The area of high potential almost coincides with the

Atlantic Coastal Strip (1e1), with a logical extension up Pellicer Creek and its tributaries.

The Halifax Plantation survey (Daniel et al 1980:87-88) applied the Miller-Strassburger model to their area of concern in southern Flagler and northern Volusia counties with the following results:

It was found that approximately one-half of the survey area formed a "preferred zone." Moreover, with the exception of one surface scatter of historic ceramics, all the sites located during the survey are within the preferred zone. Prehistoric sites were located in two distinct areas. Along Bulow Creek and the salt marsh further south, there are extensive shell middens. On the oak hammock ridge and along the interface between the oak hammock and the pine-scrub oak community, smaller, nonshell midden sites were located where flowing water was easily accessible.

In St. Johns County, Deagan (1981) correlated the known archaeological sites with various other classes of data. She utilized soil types and series, plant communities, distribution of shellfish beds, and hydrology in her analysis. In the rather limited sample of the 50 known sites in the county she found that sites were present on 17 of the 53 soil types in the county. Her general conclusions on site distribution follow:

Based on the analysis of environmental and cultural variables discussed above, a preliminary and hypothetical model for prehistoric site location in St. Johns County can be suggested. . . . Location of sites in the coastal estuarine region should be in those areas with: 1) access to shellfish resources; 2) moderate to poorly drained soils (5' -15' MSL); 3) game mammal environments and 4) fresh water. Such areas occur in most cases adjacent to the inland waterway and its estuaries, as well as on small islands with hardwood growth in the marsh itself.

Although few sites have been reported in the pine flatwoods region, those that have indicate that wet hammock areas adjacent to freshwater swamps, or to the edges of waterways are likely to be; potential site location areas.

Nearly all reported sites have occurred within 200 feet of the edge of a creek, pond, swamp, river or other estuarine body. Thus a corridor of at least 300 feet around the edges of such areas should be considered to have high site location potential.

Griffin (1984) followed Deagan's lead in the association of soil type and site potential by ranking the 17 soil types in terms of an index of potentiality, which was the number of sites divided by the number of acres of the soil type in the county, multiplied by 100. These were then stratified into low, medium, and high potential, and

the results used in the survey and analysis of a large proposed development in western St. Johns County.

The St. Johns county-wide archaeological survey was continued with a sampling of the little known flatwoods areas in order to test whether the absence of sites in the record represented the actual situation, or whether collecting bias was at play. The research was also designed to further test the validity of using soil phases for predicting site locations. The resulting report bears the title, Stomping the Flatwoods (Smith and Bond 1984).

Twelve, kilometer square, randomly selected, plots were systematically tested by subsurface post-holing, with largely negative results. It is largely a study of where sites are not, but is positive to the extent that it gives indication that collecting bias is not the reason for the lack of recorded flatwoods sites, at least in St. Johns County. A number of recommendation were made for following phases of the survey (Smith and Bond 1984:98-99), several of which are summarized here. They recommend no further testing in flatwoods and wet hammocks, except at edges between contrasting environments. They found that surface collecting outperformed subsurface testing 5-to-1 in terms of field time and 4-to-1 in terms of artifact recovery in the environment in which they were working.

The apparent usefulness of the soil type approach makes it appealing for Flagler County, but the only published soil map of the county dates to 1922 and its terminology cannot be readily correlated with that of the more recent surveys of St. Johns and Volusia counties. It is, however, very detailed and will be very useful in examining the potentials of specific areas within the county.

It was tempting, for a time, to consider interpolating the soil types between the adjacent counties for a broad scale comparison, but the fact that the basic physiographic alignments and boundaries of Flagler County differ so greatly from those to the north and south, particularly in regard to the intrusive wedge of the Crescent Lake Basin, led us to discard the idea.

Instead, it seems wisest at this time to project the potentials of archaeological sites in Flagler County in broader terms, based on the occurrence of sites as presently known and presumptive potentials as generalized from the experience in nearby areas, as follows:

#### High Potential Areas

The Atlantic Coast Strip (1e1) is regarded as the area of highest potential. Essentially this area includes all of the county from the high ridge of the Atlantic Coastal



Ridge, from about the location of the Old King's Road, to the Atlantic Ocean. It is the area that contains the vast majority of the known sites. Information from informants suggests that a number of unrecorded sites are also in this area, particularly from Flagler Beach south along the Intracoastal Waterway., The presently blank area between Flagler Beach and the Benton Mound (FL 16) on Palm Coast property deserves attention as well. The south-shore of Pellicer Creek and its tributaries is an extension of this High Potential area.

On the other side of the county, the area on and near Crescent Lake, Dead Lake, and the lower portions of the Haw Creek drainage is also regarded as a High Potential area. At present there is no reason to believe that it did not share to some extent in the intensive occupation pattern of the St. Johns River.

#### Medium Potential Areas

While the information is meager, the cluster of sites near Gore Lake and the single recorded site at Espanola suggest human utilization near the boundaries of the physiographic zones. The relationship of sites to these boundaries deserves attention because of the general ecological principle of productive richness at edges or boundaries between contrasting natural zones. Such

environmental richness would be advantageous to human populations. Smith and Bond (1984) call attention to the possible importance of such situations. The boundaries, then, become Medium Potential Areas, at least for initial examination.

Also of Medium Potential are areas near the smaller streams of the Haw Creek drainage and the many ponds and lakes within the Crescent Lake Basin. While this area is in general a flatwoods environment, a type which was found to be notably unproductive in neighboring St. Johns County, it is quite different in some respects from the flatwoods of St. Johns County. Maps disclose a far more extensive drainage pattern of creeks in the Flagler County situation, and a greater number of ponds and lakes. Local informants also indicate the belief that sites are to be found in these flatwoods areas, particularly near bodies of water.

#### Low Potential Areas.

The remainder of the county can be considered, at least at present, as of low potential. This does not mean that it should be ignored, only that given the present state of knowledge it would seem least likely to produce archaeological sites.

## Potentials and Time Periods

The evaluation of archaeological potential presented above is believed to be essentially valid for the periods from the Late Archaic through to the European conquest. Earlier and later times present differing problems.

We have seen that the period from the entrance of a human population into Florida and the relative stabilization of sea level and environment around 5000 years ago was a time of changing conditions, and conditions at variance with the present landscape. Human occupation would have been adapted to the landscape of the time, not to the present topography. While our understanding of the changing environment has been rapidly advancing, it is still difficult to pinpoint detailed aspects of former environments which would influence human settlement patterning.

At the other end of the time scale, the historic occupations were based on patterns of land use differing from those of the prehistoric Indians. The planters of the Second Spanish and Territorial periods chose one type of land; the later turpentine and lumbering operations centered on quite different lands; current population influxes find the actual ocean shore among the most valuable of lands. Prediction of these patterns is easier

than the prehistoric primarily because we have a better knowledge of the factors involved in these various adaptations.

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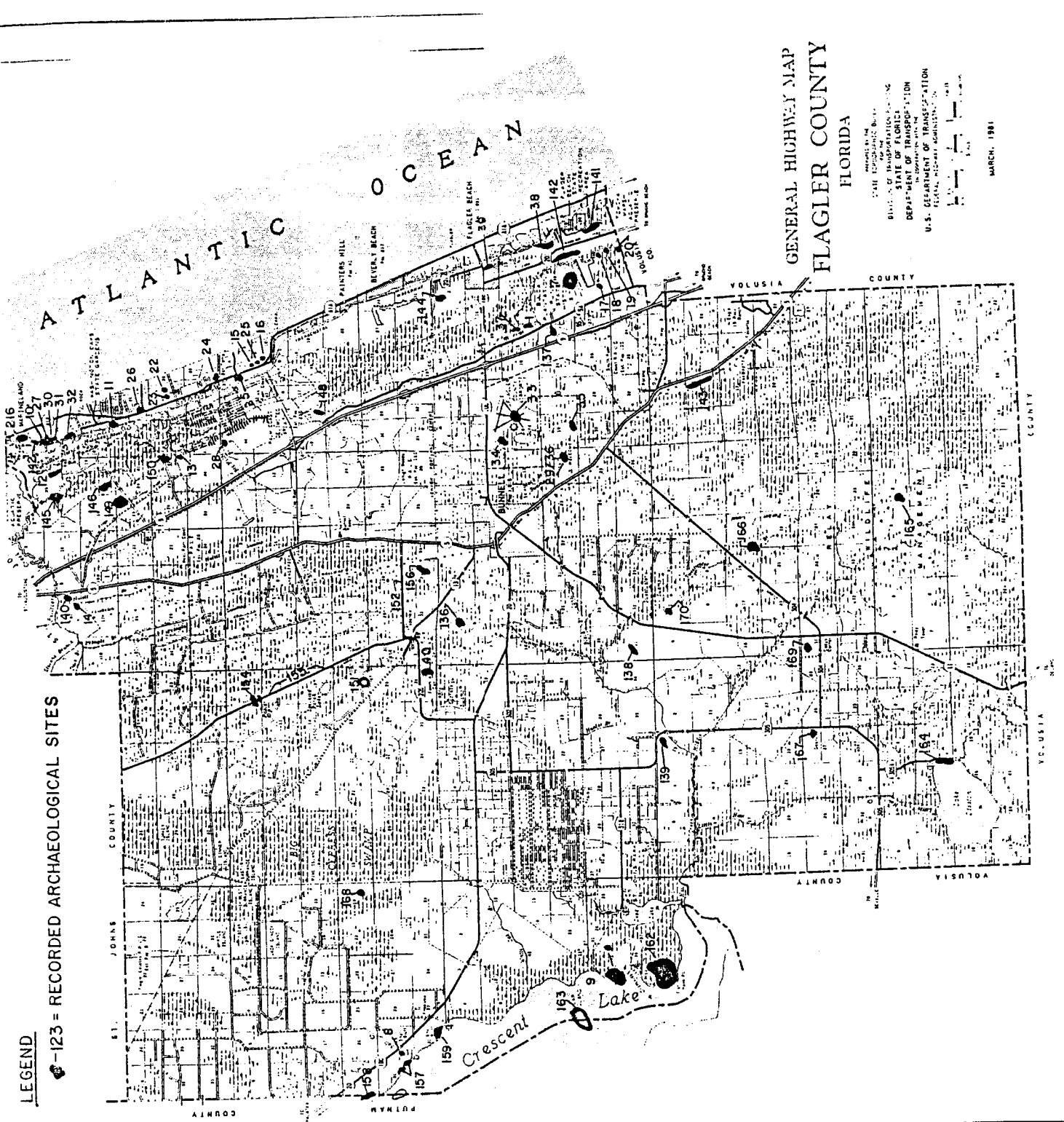
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LEGEND

●-123 = RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES



GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP  
FLAGLER COUNTY  
FLORIDA

PREPARED BY THE  
STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING  
STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

MARCH, 1961