

GENERAL INFORMATION

Site #8: CO00111First site form recorded for this Site? Update form for a site previously recorded at FSFIdentifying code (field date, if none then form date): 199810Cultural resource type: Archaeological SiteForm type code NORMAL form (new System 3 forms)Form status code Newly Scattered Form (Needs Processing)Form quality ranking Newly scattered form of standard quality

Recorder #:

Field date: 10/08/1998Form date: 11/03/1998

Staffer:

Date of FMSF computer entry: 11/03/1998Site name(s): BIG SHOALSAlternate names: SUWANNEE SHOALSProject name: BIG SHOALS FBAR SURVEY

Mult. list #8:

Survey #: 5550National Register category: Site, such as battlefield, park, archaeologicalOwnership: Public-stateUSGS map name & year of publication/revision: WHITE SPRINGS EAST/1993County: COLUMBIATownship/Range/Section/Qtr: 2 South/16 East/2/Southeastern quarter of square section or 1/4 sect: 2 South/16 East/11/Northeastern quarter of square section or 1/4 sectIrregular section: NOLandgrant: N/A

Tax parcel number:

City: WHITE SPRINGSIn current city limits? Definitely outside city limitsUTM: Zone/Easting/Northing: 17/338220/3357380Address/Vicinity of/Route to: FROM US 41 EAST ON 246, THEN NORTH ON OLD RIVER RD APPROX 2 MILES, THEN WEST ON DIRT RD, THEN SOUTH & FOLLOW RIVER RD.Name of public tract: BIG SHOALS, DEP

TYPE OF SITE

Type of site: Lithic scatter/quarry (prehistoric: no ceramics); Prehistoric quarry

Other site type:

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Historic contexts: Archaic, unspecified** 8500 B.C.-1000 B.C.

Other cultures:

SURVEYOR'S EVALUATION OF SITE

Potentially eligible for local designation? Ineligible for a local register of important sitesName of Local Register eligible for: N/AIndividually eligible for National Register? Ineligible for NR, considered independentlyPotential contributor to NR District? Ineligible as contributor to potential NR districtExplanation of evaluation: MATERIAL AT SITE IS SPARSE, DIAGNOSTIC ARTIFACTS LACKING.Recommendations for site: MONITOR GROUND DISTURBANCE.

FIELD METHODS

Methods for site detection: Literature/archives/documentary search; Exposed ground inspection; Screened shovel; smallest nested mesh size 1/4 in

Methods for site boundaries: Screened shovel; smallest nested mesh size 1/4 in

No,size,depth,pattern of tests; screen: 8 30CM X 30CM TESTS TO 100CM+

SITE DESCRIPTION

Extent size (sq m): 32000

Depth/stratigraphy of cultural deposit: CHERT FLAKES OCCUR BETWEEN 14 CM AND 80 CM BGS.

Temporal interpretation -- Components: Probable single component

Describe each occupation: QUARRYING ASSOCIATED W/ LITHIC OUTCROP IN RIVER.

Site integrity -- Overall disturbance: Minor

Disturbances/threats/protectons: SURFACE COLLECTING OF MATERIAL IN RIVER

Area collected (sq m): 3

Surface collection -- # units:

Excavation -- # noncontiguous areas: 8

ARTIFACTS

Total # artifacts: 13

Count or estimate? Accurate count, not an estimate

Surface artifacts #:

Subsurface artifacts #: 13

COLLECTION STRATEGY Unselective: ALL artifacts observed were collected

ARTIFACTS: Category/Disposition Lithics/Category was ALWAYS collected; Nonaborigal ceramics/Category was ALWAYS collected

Other (Strategy, Categories)

DIAGNOSTICS: Type/Number ** blank **

ENVIRONMENT

Nearest fresh water type: River

Nearest fresh water name: SUWANNEE RIVER

Nearest fresh water distance (m):

Natural community: Terrestrial: mesic uplands: upland mixed forest

Local vegetation: PINE, LIVE OAK

Topography: River shore

Other, uncoded topographic setting: RIVER BED

Minimum elevation (m): 23

Maximum elevation (m): 25

Present land use: RECREATION AREA

SCS soil series: LEON FINE SAND

Soil association: PLUMMER-BIGBEE-OLENO

FURTHER INFORMATION

Informant(s) name: N/A

Informant address/phone: N/A

REPOSITORIES: Collection/Housed/ACC#/Describe All documents and collections at same repository/Florida Division of Historical Resources, ex-DAHRM/NOTES, MAPS,/PHOTOGRAPHS, ARTIFACTS

RECORDER Name: WHEELER, RYAN J.

Recorder address/phone: FBAR, R.A. GRAY BLDG., 500 S. BRONOUGH ST., TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399 (850) 487-2299

Affiliation: Florida Division of Historical Resources, ex-DAHRM

Is text-only supplement file attached? Text-only supplement file is on disk

Text-only supplement file status (FMSF): Status of possible supplement is unchecked

CO00111_199810

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

This site is supposed to be a lithic quarry associated with the geologic outcrop of the Big Shoals. This site was previously recorded, but had poorly defined boundaries that included the river bluff in Hamilton County as well as Columbia County. Eight 30 cm x 30 cm shovel tests were placed along the river bluff on the Columbia County side of the river and three were placed on the Hamilton County side. Only five of the tests on the Columbia County side were positive for cultural material, which was generally characterized by a few flakes of chert and/or coral. The positive tests were immediately opposite the shoals. The site is bordered to the east by swamp. A few additional flakes of coral and chert were observed on the surface. No diagnostic artifacts were found, and the flakes observed tended to be small. Conversations with the original recorder indicated that the majority of the material was in the river itself. Despite the large area covered by this site, it would appear that this was only a minor quarry, as large amounts of lithic working debris have not been found.

The data from the shovel tests shown on the accompanying map are as follows:

ST#1-just north of shoals; negative
0-25 cm: tan sand
25-50 cm: black sand
50-88 cm: tan sand, becoming wet

ST#2-opposite shoals at campsite; 2 chert flakes between 25-75 cm
0-32 cm: dark tan sand
32-64 cm: lt. tan sand
64-116 cm: lt. tan sand w/ mottling

ST#3-further south at another campsite; 5 chert flakes at 80 cm
0-15 cm: dark tan sand
15-89 cm: tan sand
89-112 cm: white sand

CO00111_199810.txt

ST#4-some surface flakes observed in road; 2 chert flakes between 14-55 cm

0-14 cm: dark tan sand

14-55 cm: tan sand

55-90 cm: white sand

ST#5-north of Robinson Branch; negative

0-29 cm: black/brown soil

29-64 cm: tan sand

64-92 cm: white sand, water

ST#6-east side of road; negative

0-100 cm: tan sand

ST#7-just north of little swamp; historic sherds/Herty cup

0-18 cm: grey sand/humus

18-100 cm: tan sand

ST#8-west of ST#2; 3 small chert flakes between 75-80 cm

0-19 cm: black/grey soil/humus

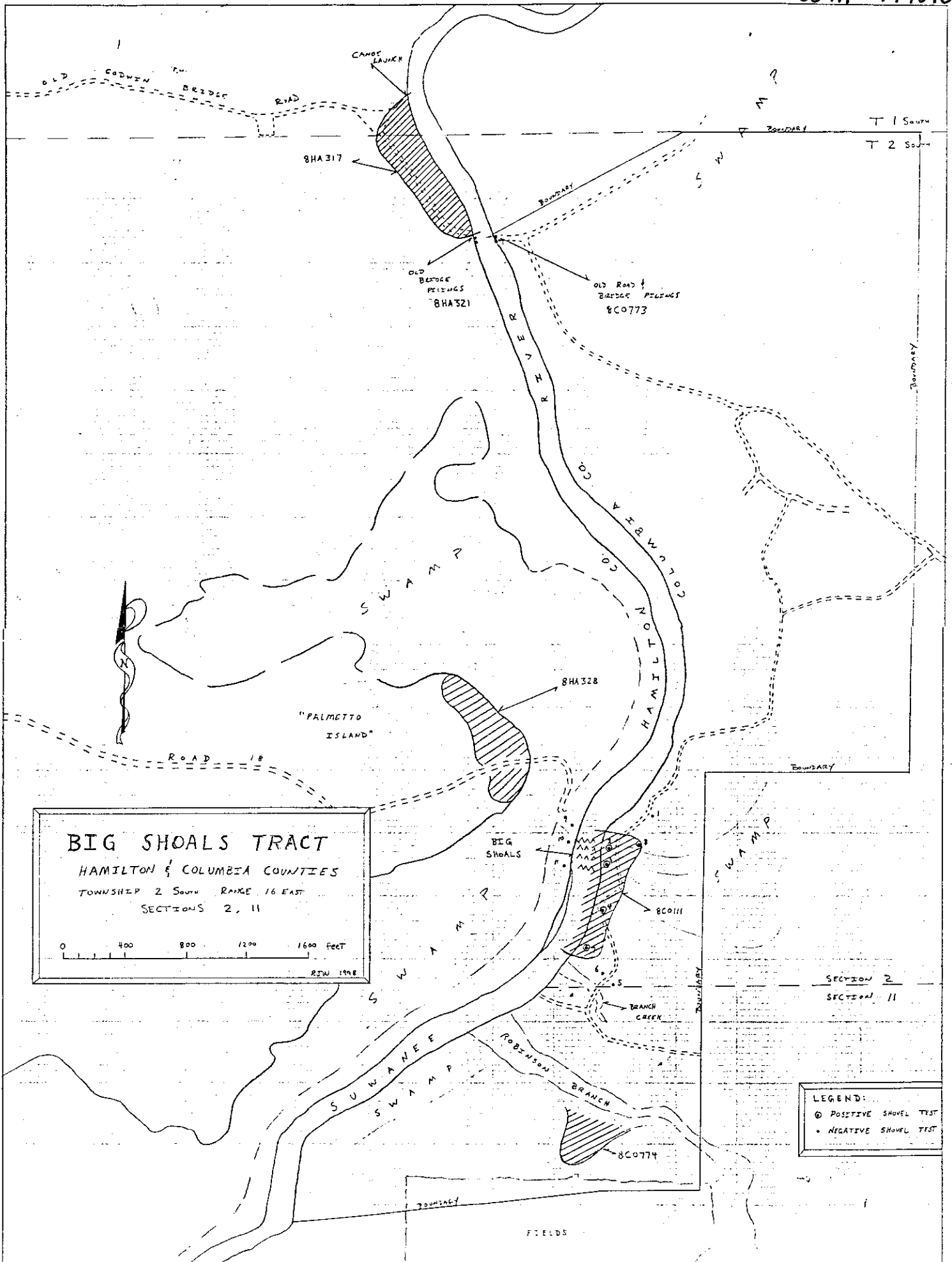
19-87 cm: tan/dark tan soil

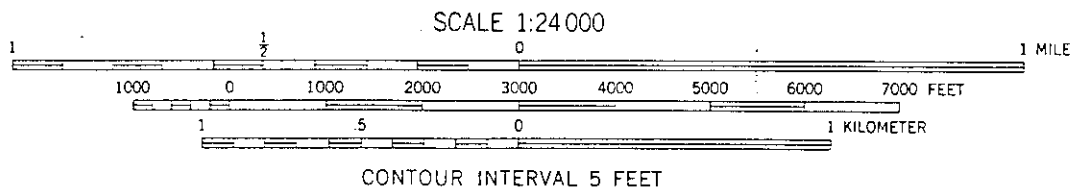
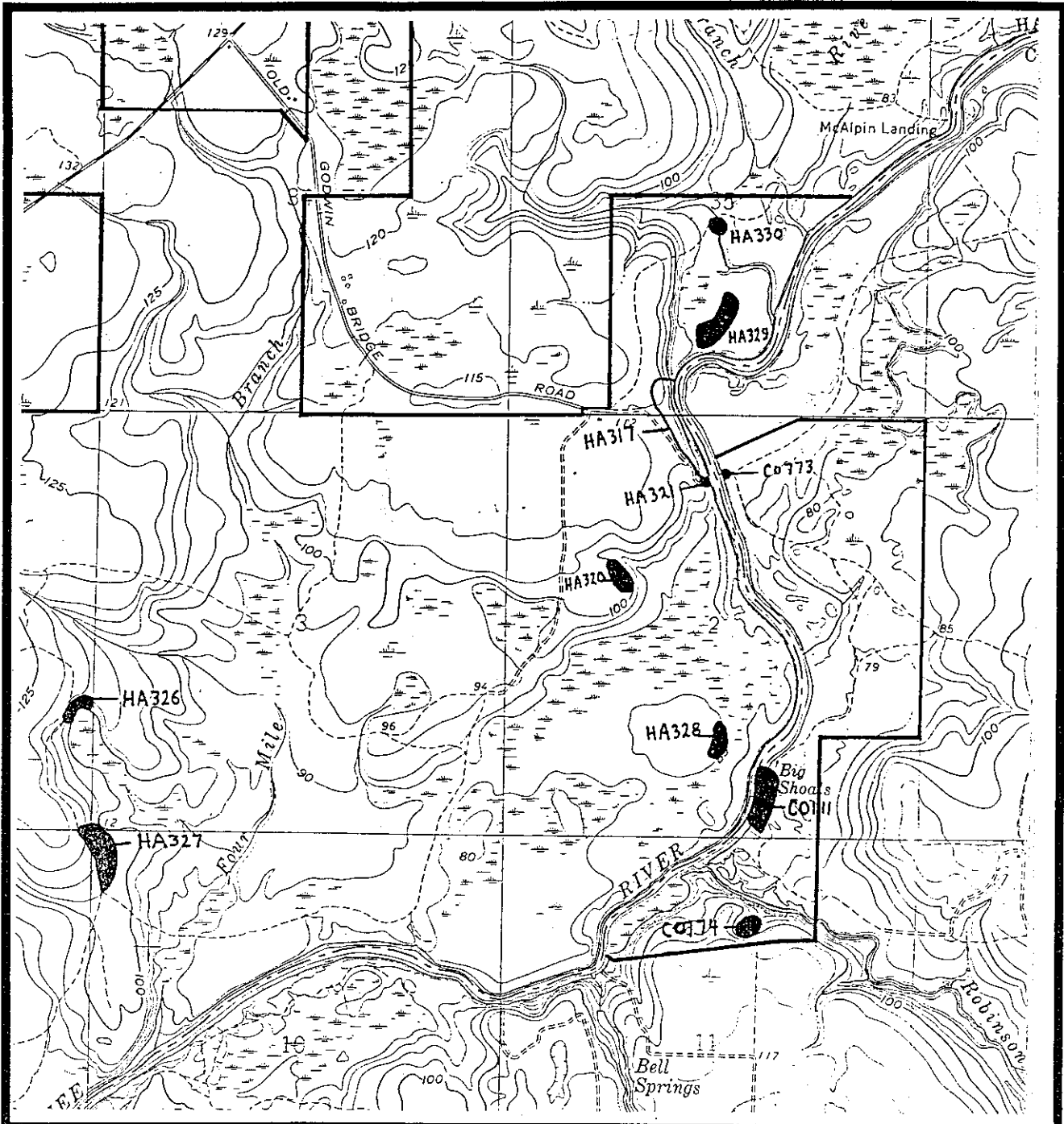
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Wheeler, Ryan J.

1999 Cultural Resources Assessment of Big Shoals Tract, Hamilton and Columbia Counties.

Bureau of Archaeological Research, Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.





BUREAU OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

BIG SHOALS FBAR SURVEY

Base map:
WHITE SPRINGS EAST
1961 Edition

FLORIDA MASTER
SITE FILE

FDAHRM 802 = =

Site No. 8C0111 1009 = = County Columbia 808 = =

Site Name Big Shoals 830 = =

Other Name(s) for Site Suwannee Shoals 930 = =

Other Nos. for Site 906 = =

Other Master Site File Nos. for Site 899 = =

NR Classification Category 916 = =

Address of Site 905 = =

Instructions for locating site From White Springs, Florida, U.S. 41 Bridge,
travel by water (East & North) up the Suwannee River approx 5 miles
to the shoals. The site is located in the River & adjacent
upland BLUFFS. 813 = =

Vicinity of Location: 868 = =

Owner of Site: subdivision name block no. lot no.
Name Address 902 = =

Occupant, Tenant, or Manager:
Name Address 904 = =

Reporter (or local contact):
Name Address 816 = =

Recorder:
Name J. S. Dunbar Address 818 = =

Survey Date 07/80 820 = = Type Ownership 848 = =

Name of Project (under which site was recorded) 980 = =

Classification of Project: Check One
☐ Federal 982 = = ☒ State 982 = = ☐ Local 982 = = ☐ County 982 = =
Inventory Status 914 = =

Previous Survey(s), Excavation(s) or Collection(s): (enter activity/title of project or survey/name/date/repository)

Recording Station UWARS 839 = =
Date of Visit to Site 0780 828 = = Recording Date 832 = =

Photographic Record Numbers 860 = =

Location of Site (Specific):
Map Reference (incl. scale & date)

White Springs East 7.5'

1961
809 = =

Township	Range	Section	¼ Sec.	¼ ¼ Sec.	¼ ¼ ¼ Sec.	
2 S	16 E	2 & 11	SE & N½	S½		812 = =

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A POLYGON LOCATING THE PROPERTY

LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
Point	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	

OR

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

° ' " ° ' " 800 = =

UTM Perimeter: Zone Easting Northing
890 = =

UTM Coordinates: 891 = = 892 = = 893 = =
zone easting northing

Condition of Site: Check One ☐ Excellent 863 = = ☐ Good 863 = = ☒ Fair 863 = = ☐ Deteriorated 863 = = ☐ Ruins 863 = = ☐ Unexposed 863 = = ☐ Redeposited 863 = =	Integrity of Site: Check One or More ☒ Altered 858 = = ☒ Unaltered 858 = = ☐ Destroyed 858 = = ☐ Restored () (Date:) 858 = = ☐ Moved () (Date:) 858 = = ☐ Original Site 858 = =
Condition of Site (Remarks): () Tree farming activity and water washing () 863 = =	

Threats to Site:

Check One or More
☐ Zoning () 878 = =
☐ Development () 878 = =
☐ Deterioration () 878 = =
☐ Borrowing () 878 = =
☒ Other (See Remarks Below): 878 = =
☐ Transportation () 878 = =
☐ Fill () 878 = =
☐ Dredge () 878 = =

Threats to Site (Remarks): Continued tree farming

879 = =

Location of Site (Specific):

White Springs East 7.5'

1961

Map Reference (incl. scale & date)

809 = =

Township	Range	Section	¼ Sec.	¼ ¼ Sec.	¼ ¼ ¼ Sec.	
2 S	16E	2 & 11	SE & N½	S½		812 = =

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A POLYGON LOCATING THE PROPERTY

LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
Point	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
	°	'	"	°	'	"	

OR

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

°	'	"	°	'	"	800 = =
---	---	---	---	---	---	---------

Zone	Easting	Northing
UTM Perimeter:		
		890 = =

UTM Coordinates: 891 = = 892 = = 893 = =
 zone easting northing

Condition of Site:

Check One

- ☐ Excellent 863 = =
☐ Good 863 = =
☒ Fair 863 = =
☐ Deteriorated 863 = =
☐ Ruins 863 = =
☐ Unexposed 863 = =
☐ Redeposited 863 = =

Integrity of Site:

Check One or More

- ☒ Altered 858 = =
☒ Unaltered 858 = =
☐ Destroyed 858 = =
☐ Restored () (Date:) 858 = =
☐ Moved () (Date:) 858 = =
☐ Original Site 858 = =

Condition of Site (Remarks): () Tree farming activity and water washing

() 863 = =

Threats to Site:

Check One or More

- ☐ Zoning () 878 = =
☐ Development () 878 = =
☐ Deterioration () 878 = =
☐ Borrowing () 878 = =
☒ Other (See Remarks Below): 878 = =
☐ Transportation () 878 = =
☐ Fill () 878 = =
☐ Dredge () 878 = =

Threats to Site (Remarks): Continued tree farming

879 = =

Site No. 8Co111

Site Name Big Shoals

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE DATA SUPPLEMENT

Description of Site (cont.)

Landform or Physiographic Zone Northern Hilands 814 = =

Topographical Setting River Valley & Terrace 926 = =

Elevation:

Max. in meters: 824 = = Min. in meters: 825 = =
Max. in feet: 100 ' 924 = = Min. in feet: 75 925 = =

Depth of Deposit: 837 = =

Site Size (approx. acreage of property) 833 = =

Site Size (est. in sq. meters) 934 = =

Soil Association 836 = =

Soil Series 948 = =

✓ Drainage Q3110201; Suwannee River, Robinson Creek and Bell Springs Run

810 = =

Water Source River Basin Sources 831 = =

Vegetation

834 = =

Degree of Site Destruction:

☐ relatively undisturbed 962 = = ☐ major 962 = =
☐ minor 962 = = ☐ totally destroyed 962 = =
☒ moderate 962 = =

Site Disturbances:

☒ tree disturbance 963 = = ☐ borrow pit 963 = = ☐ sand mining 963 = =
☐ wind erosion 963 = = ☐ boat dock 963 = = ☒ agricultural 963 = =
☐ pipe line 963 = = ☐ parking lot 963 = = ☐ residential development 963 = =
☒ other River 963 = =

Original Use(s) of Site Quarry and Knapping 838 ==

Present Use (check one or more as appropriate)

☒ Agricultural 850 ==	☐ Government 850 ==	☐ Park 850 ==	☐ Transportation 850 ==
☐ Commercial 850 ==	☐ Industrial 850 ==	☐ Private Residence 850 ==	Other (specify):
☐ Educational 850 ==	☐ Military 850 ==	☐ Religious 850 ==	☐ 850 ==
☐ Entertainment 850 ==	☐ Museum 850 ==	☐ Scientific 850 ==	☐ 850 ==

Visible Site Features Quarry Source Rock in River and knapping stations along River Terrace 876 ==

Artifacts Collected or Observed Lithic debitage and hammer stone

875 ==

Specimens (Inventory Numbers) 80-257-01a & b 870 ==

Specimens (Present Repository of Materials) DAHRM 880 ==

Cultural Classification:

Culture/Phase _____ 840 ==

Developmental Stage _____ 842 ==

Probable Dates: Beginning 844 == Ending 846 ==

Collection Strategy:

☒ general 907 ==	☐ controlled 907 ==	☐ other 907 ==
☐ selective 907 ==	☐ unknown 907 ==	

Subsurface Investigation:

☒ shovel test 908 ==	☐ test excavation 908 ==	☐ coring 908 ==
☐ extensive excavation 908 ==	☐ auger test 908 ==	☐ unknown 908 ==
☐ other 908 ==	☐ none 908 ==	

Remarks and Recommendations See attached

835 ==

Accessible: ☒ yes: restricted ☐ yes: unrestricted ☐ no

Status: ☐ occupied ☐ unoccupied ☐ work in progress

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE DATA SUPPLEMENT
Page 2

Major Bibliographic References _____

920 = =

Source from which site is known:

☐ Archival	922 = =	☐ Aerial Photo	922 = =
☐ Map	922 = =	☒ Field Search	922 = =
☐ Informant	922 = =	☐ Other	922 = =

Period (check one or more as appropriate)

☒ Pre-Columbian	845 = =	☐ 16th Century	845 = =	☐ 18th Century	845 = =	☐ 20th Century	845 = =
☐ 15th Century	845 = =	☐ 17th Century	845 = =	☐ 19th Century	845 = =		

Areas of Significance (check one or more as appropriate)

☒ Aboriginal	910 = =	☐ Community Planning	910 = =	☐ Landscape		☐ Sculpture	910 = =
☒ Archaeology		☐ Conservation	910 = =	☐ Architecture	910 = =	☐ Social/Humanitarian	910 = =
☐ Prehistoric	910 = =	☐ Economics	910 = =	☐ Law	910 = =	☐ Theater	910 = =
☐ Archaeology Historic	910 = =	☐ Education	910 = =	☐ Literature	910 = =	☐ Transportation	910 = =
☐ Agriculture	910 = =	☐ Engineering	910 = =	☐ Military	910 = =	Other (specify):	
☐ Architecture	910 = =	☐ Exploration &		☐ Music	910 = =	☐	910 = =
☐ Art	910 = =	☐ Settlement	910 = =	☐ Philosophy	910 = =	☐	910 = =
☐ Commerce	910 = =	☐ Industry	910 = =	☐ Politics/Govt.	910 = =	☐	910 = =
☐ Communications	910 = =	☐ Invention	910 = =	☐ Religion	910 = =	☐	910 = =
				☐ Science	910 = =	☐	910 = =

Description (Evidence): _____

862 = =

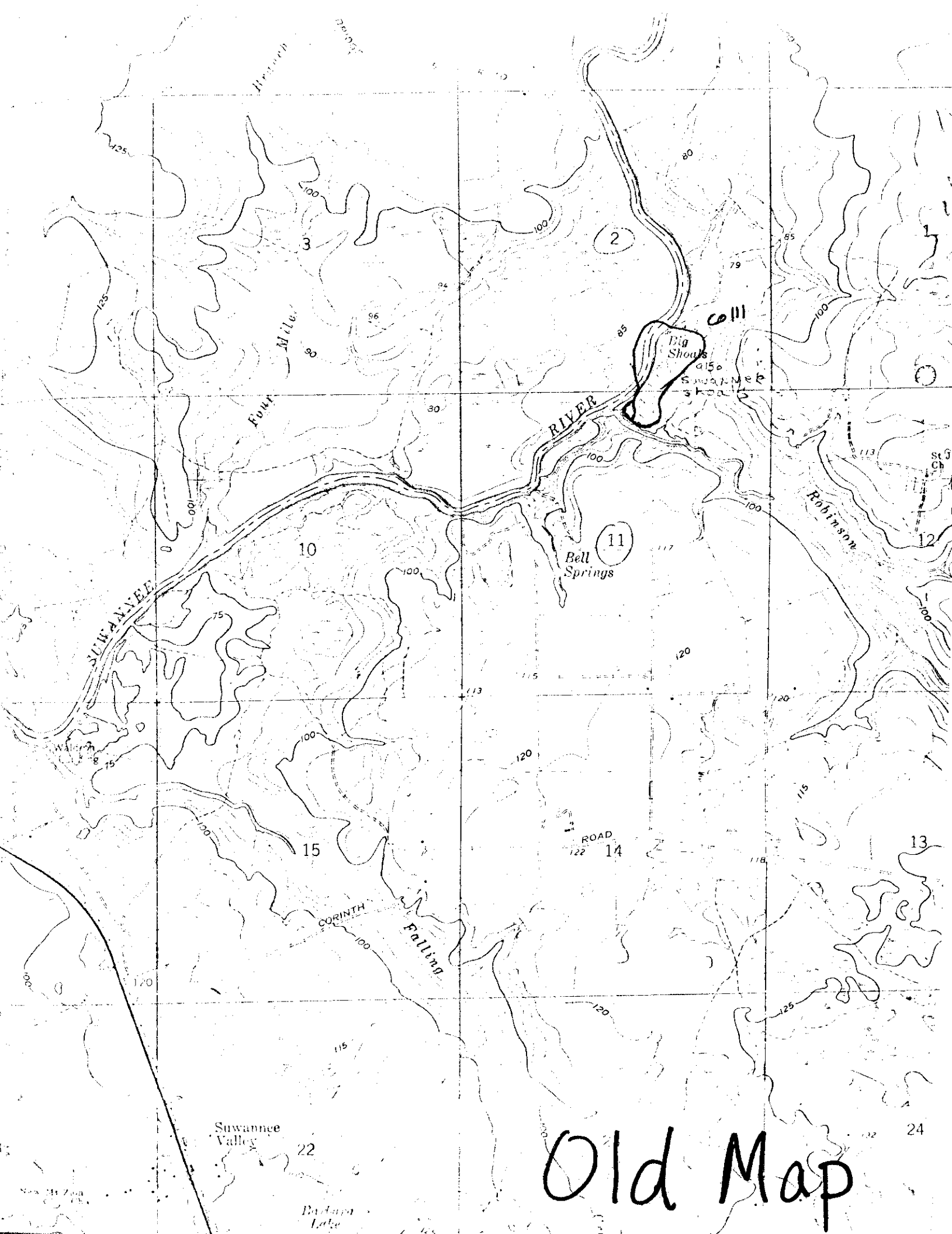
Present & Original Physical Appearance (use continuation sheet if necessary)

See Attached.

935 = =

Statement of Significance:

Project Name: Big Shoals
File Number: 800514-12-1
Location: Columbia and Hamilton Counties
Size: 1,280 acres
Source: Division of Archives, History
and Records Management



II.D. Archaeological and Historical Resource Evaluation

Prepared by Division of Archives, History and
Records Management (jd)

The Big Shoals site is important archaeologically, although due to the lack of extensive quarry rock the site complex is relatively small and therefore less significant compared to similar sites in the state. Had the tract included a site like Rock Island Shoals it would have been highly significant since sites of this type are not regionally protected.

Threats to the sites on the Big Shoals tract are tree farming (in progress) and potential phosphate mining in the uplands areas. In the river valley rock collectors have and will continue to gather the agate coral and silicified limemud for making jewelry. This rock type is considered semiprecious in some circles.

Due to the size of the Big Shoals site its potential for yielding qualitative and quantitative archaeological data seems below average. Other sites in the area including Rock Island Shoals just west of the tract are multi-use sites utilized over an extended time and are of the type which would warrant high recommendation. Also, the northern end of the Columbia County side of the tract is in the process of being timbered, an activity which will undoubtedly disturb the upland archaeological site areas. With some reservations, the Big Shoals tract is given a moderate recommendation unless further tree farming disturbs the upland site areas at which

time it would be considered a low priority acquisition in
so far as archaeological and historic values are concerned.

II.D. Archaeological and Historical Resource Assessment

Prepared by Division of Archives, History and
Records Management (jd)

A check of the Florida Master Site File indicated that no archaeological sites were recorded on the Big Shoals tract. A one day field inspection of the Columbia County side of the property revealed six archaeological sites, representing prehistoric Indian use of chert resources in this area. The center of the site complex is a natural outcropping of chert (flint) which is located adjacent to and extends into the Big Shoals of the Suwannee River. This particular site was a quarry where chert rock was mined by the Indians to use in the production of stone tools. The other five sites are in the uplands bordering the river and are secondary flint working stations where stone tools appear to have been finished. Because the same type of chert rock found in the upland sites occurs in the quarry area, it is presumed that the rock was initially mined in the river valley and subsequently taken to the high ground locals for the final stages of manufacture.

The principal quarry site of the Big Shoals area extends along the bank of and in the Suwannee River for approximately 200 meters in the rock area of Big Shoals. Here, limited quantities of agatized coral and what appears to be silicified limemud have been eroded out of the softer limestone and can be easily gathered. Judging from the character of the

of the waste flashes (remnants of prehistoric Indian stone chipping) preliminary flint working was done in this area.

The secondary flint working stations, in the uplands overlooking the river, are generally situated near the junction of the river and a smaller tributary stream (4 out of 5 sites). At these sites numerous small waste or trim flakes occur, indicating tool finishing areas of probable short term and occasional use. There were no diagnostic artifacts recovered which would allow an estimate of the age of the site; however, the lack of aboriginal ceramics, degree of flake weathering, and the nature of similar sites in the vicinity suggest the possibility of an age of 2,000 B.C. or earlier. It is possible that at least 6 to 8 additional upland sites may occur within the unsurveyed area of the property in Columbia and Hamilton Counties.

The Big Shoals network of flint working sites is similar to other riverine - riverbank sites throughout the state; however, this site and others in the vicinity were quarried for somewhat atypical lithic resources (i.e., agate coral and low tensile strength silicified limemud). Based on data from the Florida Master Site File and the Florida State Museum, the larger and probably contemporaneous Rock Island Shoals site lies just west of the Big Shoals tract. The Rock Island Shoals site has a large naturally occurring quantity of flint rock and was the focus of extensive Indian utilization. The surrounding cluster of exploitative sites

are also more extensive. In short, the Rock Island Shoals site complex is more typical of significant prehistoric Indian flint quarries. Accordingly, the Big Shoals sites are small and the site complex in general appears less significant than most.