

SURVEY NUMBER: 973

COUNTY: He

TYPE OF SURVEY: Archaeological

NO. OF ACRES: 400 ±

MORE THAN TWO: Y N ✓

PROJECT NAME OR TITLE OF SURVEY: A Cultural Resources Survey of the
Lykes Property - (River Pines DRI) in Southwest Hernando County, FL

NAME OF SURVEY ARCHAEOLOGIST(S): Joan Deming & Marion M Almy

OF: Archaeological Consultants, Inc

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON(S), AGENCY, CORPORATION, ETC. REQUESTING
THE SURVEY: Coastal Engineering Assoc., Inc.

Brooksville, FL

SURVEY RESULTS REPORTED IN: Unpub Ms on file at FDAHRM

DATE OF SURVEY: 10/1983 DATE PLOTTED: 4/1984

SURVEY METHODS: Pedestrian survey, shovel testing.

SITES FOUND: 8He ~~100~~ 56-60

SITES PREVIOUSLY RECORDED IN AREA: BHe 45

REMARKS:

FMSF NOTE TO IMAGE VIEWER

Some material contained in the corresponding paper manuscript has not been scanned.

Check material affected:

☐ Blueprints

☐ Map

☒ Site Forms

☐ Other, specify _____

This material can be viewed at the Florida Master Site File.

A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
OF THE LYKES PROPERTY
(RIVER PINES DRI)
IN SOUTHWEST HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

Conducted for
Coastal Engineering Associates, Inc.
Brooksville, Florida

by

Joan Deming and Marion M. Almy
Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
Sarasota, Florida

November, 1983

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A cultural resources survey of the proposed River Pines development tract resulted in the discovery and identification of five previously unrecorded sites. These have been assigned the Florida Master Site File numbers 8-He-56 through -60. In addition, the southern and southeastern limits of a previously recorded site, 8-He-45, have been determined to extend into the Lykes property. However, since none of these sites are adjudged to be of regional or local significance, no further archaeological work is recommended.

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INTRODUCTION

The cultural resources survey described in this report was performed on behalf of the developers of River Pines, under contract with Coastal Engineering Associates, Inc., Brooksville. The archaeological and historical survey was conducted to satisfy the requirements for approval of the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) for the River Pines development.

The survey property consists of approximately 400 acres, located in the western portion of Section 34, Township 22 South, Range 17 East, and the northern part of Section 3, Township 23 South, Range 17 East, Hernando County, Florida (Figure 1). The purpose of the survey was to determine the presence or absence of prehistoric and/or historic sites on the property, and to areally delimit and assess the significance of any cultural resources identified. Criteria of significance used are those to evaluate properties for possible inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

To accomplish these aims work was divided into three phases. The initial focus of investigation was a review of both pertinent historical documents and literature as well as relevant archaeological and environmental data. This background information served primarily to determine the presence of potentially significant historic period structures or remains, plus the likelihood of the presence of prehistoric sites. Further, these preliminary studies provided the necessary context by which sites discovered could be evaluated in terms of their significance. In the second phase of research the fieldwork was conducted. This effort, accomplished in eight person days, included both surface reconnaissance and subsurface testing. The final stage, following completion of the fieldwork, was the examination of all cultural materials recovered and the preparation of this final report.

The authors would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Donald R. Lacey of Coastal Engineering Associates, Inc., who provided an aerial map of the property and other requested documents, and who graciously gave of his time to accompany the authors on an initial inspection of the property. Finally, we extend our thanks to Richard Estabrook and Christine Newman, anthropology graduate students at the University of South Florida, for their skilled assistance and hard work in the field.

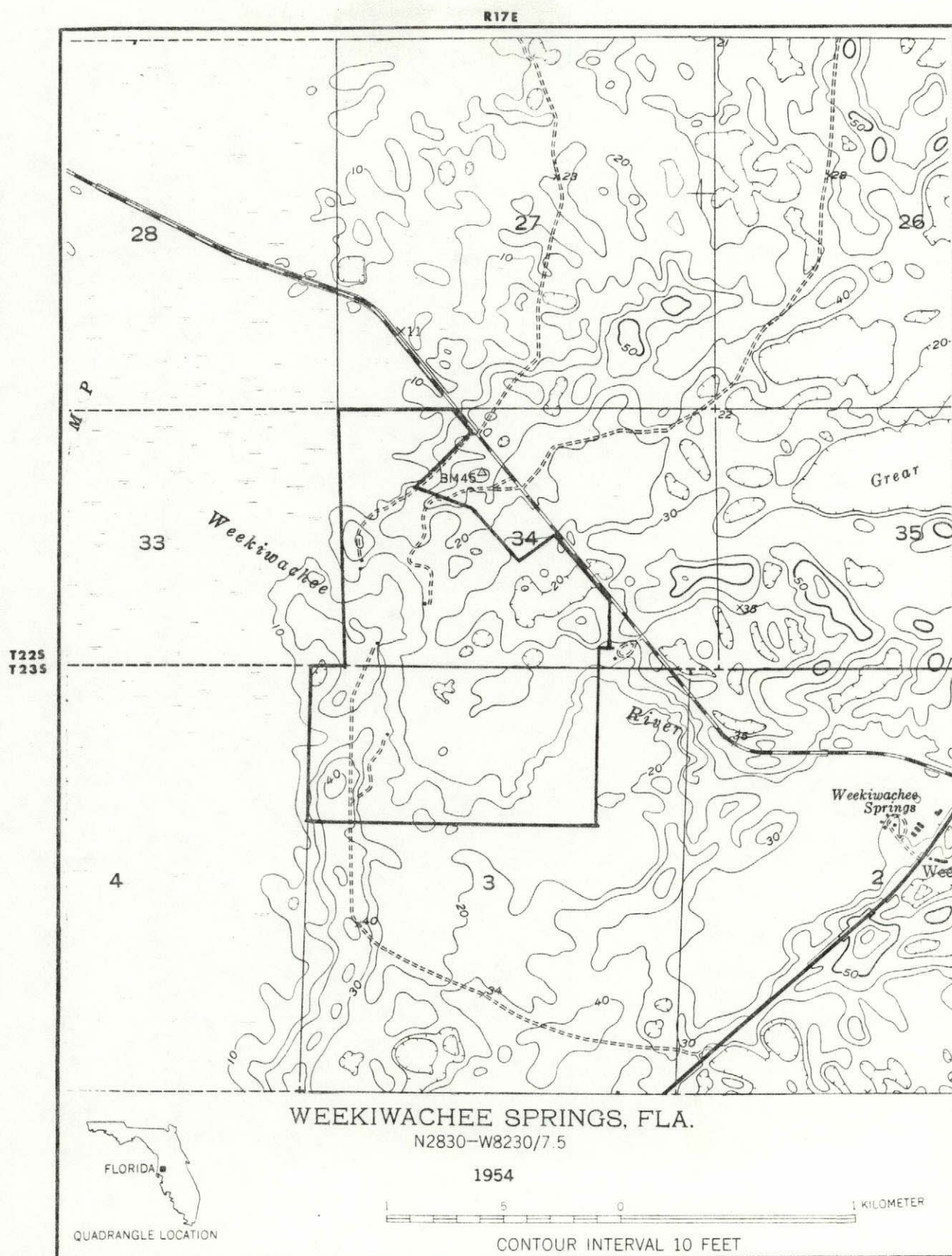


Figure 1. Location and boundaries of the River Pines development tract.

PREHISTORIC REVIEW

The River Pines development property lies within the North Peninsula Gulf Coast archaeological region, as defined by Milanich and Fairbanks (1980:24). This culture area extends from Apalachee Bay in the north to Pasco County at the south. Directly to the south, terminating near southern Sarasota County at Charlotte Harbor, is the somewhat culturally and ecologically similar Central Peninsula Gulf Coast region. In general, with the exception of sites located along the Gulf Coast which have been the focus of investigation since the turn of the twentieth century, little is presently understood about the prehistoric populations which inhabited the North Peninsula Gulf Coast area. It is probable that the numerous rivers which cross-cut the region served as transportation routes, and many sites are located at points where streams enter the Gulf of Mexico (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:24).

As a result of early archaeological work which concentrated primarily on burial mounds located on or near the coast, our knowledge of the prehistory of the region is biased from both a geographical and temporal/cultural perspective; that is, a great deal more is known about coastal Safety Harbor populations, and about mortuary sites rather than habitation areas and special use sites. The earliest recorded investigator of prehistoric sites in Hernando County was Clarence B. Moore, who excavated burial mounds at Bayport, at Indian Bend near the Chassahowitzka River, and at Indian Creek, about five miles south of Bayport (Moore 1903:415-424). The next reported excavation occurred some forty years later when A.J. Waring and Ripley Bullen investigated a shell midden on John's Island at the mouth of the Chassahowitzka River (Willey 1949:327-328; Bullen and Bullen 1950). During the 1950's the site of Battery Point near Bayport was the focus of artifact collection studies (Bullen and Bullen 1953, 1954) as well as field testing (Coates 1955). In the early 1960's the Bayport mound was again examined, providing a large sample of ceramics for analysis (Lazarus and Spence 1962). Other work in the vicinity of the survey tract includes the 1970 excavation of Weeki Wachee Burial mound (8-He-12) by Robert Allen (Mitchem et. al. 1983) and the investigation of the Weekiwachee River site in the 1970's by George Ferguson (Ferguson 1976). At the latter site Ferguson revealed evidence of a prehistoric shell midden as well as an historic Seminole component. Finally, an emergency salvage excavation of a small burial mound just south of the Hernando County line in the Briarwoods development was conducted in 1980 by a crew from the University of South Florida Department of Anthropology (Mitchem n.d.).

In addition to these excavations, some recent cultural

resource surveys have resulted in the location and at least tentative identification of several sites in the southern Hernando/northern Pasco county area. These include a 1979 survey by Browning along a segment of the U.S. Highway 19 right-of-way, the Timber Pines development tract survey (Deming 1980), work done by the Suncoast Archaeological Society in 1978 on behalf of the Suncoast Highlands Corporation, a 1400 acre investigation of the West Pasco Spray Irrigation Project - North Site near Hudson by Johnson and Willis (1978) and the most recent 6100 acre Springlake Estates DRI survey by Deming and Almy (1983).

In summary, archaeological data from Hernando County in specific, and the North Peninsula Gulf Coast region in general suffers from a paucity of current research. This has resulted in the continuing reliance upon older data and chronologies to document the history of human activity in the area. Thus, the presently understood culture history is based primarily upon testing and excavation at a small number of predominantly coastal sites, with cultural/temporal periods defined, for the most part, on the basis of differences in artifact assemblages. While the following summary of cultural prehistory focuses upon the North Peninsula Gulf Coast region, site examples from the related Central Peninsula Gulf Coast region will be integrated into the discussion.

The earliest archaeological period recognized for the North and Central Peninsula Gulf Coast regions is the Paleo-Indian, which began with the first arrival of man into Florida and terminated approximately 10,000 years ago. Several types of Paleo-Indian sites have been recorded, including large sites located near deep springs or sinkholes such as Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs (Cockrell 1973; Clausen, Brooks and Wesolowsky 1979; Clausen et. al. 1979). Isolated finds of diagnostic Paleo-Indian artifacts have been made in Pasco and Hernando counties. For example, Clovis points, believed to date to the early part of the Paleo-Indian period (Bullen 1975) have been found by collectors at unspecified sites in New Port Richey and along the Pithlachascotee River (Robinson 1979:103). With the exception of the recently investigated Harney Flats site in Hillsborough County (Daniel 1982) no Paleo-Indian land sites have been systematically excavated. In general, Indians of this period followed a nomadic lifestyle, hunting now extinct forms of Pleistocene megafauna and other smaller animals. Wild plants were also probably gathered. The environment during this time is thought to have been much cooler and drier (Clausen et. al. 1979) and permanent sources of water were apparently very important; hence the discovery of Paleo-Indian sites near sinkholes, springs and rivers.

The Archaic Period (9,000 to 3,000 B.P.) follows the Paleo-Indian period and due to environmental changes is thought to be a time in which the earlier settlement and

subsistence activities were modified. This change resulted in a more sedentary way of life at permanent or semi-permanent habitation sites, such as evidenced at the Battery Point site in Hernando County (Bullen and Bullen 1953, 1954; Coates 1955), Crystal Beach (Wolf 1975) and Pinellas Point (Goodyear 1968), among others. Populations followed a broad spectrum subsistence economy of hunting, fishing, shellfish harvesting and wild plant collecting. The typical diagnostic artifact of this period is the stemmed projectile point which may have served as a knife as well as a spear point. In addition to permanent or semi-permanent habitation sites, hunting camps, cemeteries, quarries and butchering sites have been found throughout the Gulf Coast regions.

About 4,000 years ago, during the Ceramic Archaic or Orange period, the first pottery was manufactured. This pottery was fiber-tempered; that is, coarse vegetal fibers, perhaps Spanish moss, were worked into the clay to act as a strengthening medium. Although the settlement patterns and subsistence practices of the Orange period were thought to be similar to those of the Preceramic Archaic, very little information is available, and what data does exist is primarily from coastal sites (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). Johns Island (Bullen and Bullen 1950) in Hernando County and the Kellogg Fill site (Warren 1970) and Maximo Point site (Bushnell 1962; Sears 1958) in Pinellas County are representative of the Ceramic Archaic Period.

The Florida Transitional Period (3,000 to 2,500 B.P.) follows the Ceramic Archaic and is characterized by the continued exploitation of shellfish, fish and wild plants as well as hunting (Bullen 1959, 1965; Bullen et. al. 1978). It has been described as a time of diffusion of people. During this period fiber-tempered ceramics were gradually replaced by pottery of three different types: sand-tempered plain, sand-and-limestone-tempered pottery, and a temperless chalky ware (St. Johns). In the Citrus/Hernando/Pasco county area ceramics tempered with sand and limestone became the predominant type (Bullen and Askew (1965). Few sites of the Florida Transitional Period are known. However, Florida Transitional Period components have been identified at the Canton Street site near St. Petersburg (Bullen et. al. 1978), the Wash Island (Bullen and Bullen 1961, 1963) and Askew (Bullen and Askew 1965) sites in Citrus County, and the Battery Point site (Bullen and Bullen 1953, 1954; Coates 1955) in Hernando County.

The Deptford Period follows the Transitional, ranging in time from about 2,500 to 1,800 years ago. Along the west coast of Florida most Deptford Period sites are coastal villages and "almost always are located in live oak-magnolia hammocks that are adjacent to the salt marshes" (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:68). The presence of, or contact with, Deptford culture is evidenced by a distinctive type of check-

stamped or simple-stamped ceramic. During the Deptford period there is some evidence of a more complex socio-religious system in the form of sand burial mounds and the probable introduction of the cultivation of some plant crops. There are a number of sites in Hernando and Pasco counties where Deptford ceramics have been found. However, the ceramics are not common to the area. The dominant type of pottery in this area from the Transitional Period until the time of Spanish contact was sand-and-limestone-tempered; hence the occurrence of Deptford wares in the Hernando and Pasco County area may indicate contact with cultures to the north only through trade. Some sites where Deptford pottery has been found include the Safford burial mound (Bullen, Partridge and Harris 1970), the Bay Pines site (Gagel 1976), the Cypress Creek site (Almy 1982), and several sites near Lake Tarpon (Kammerer 1980).

Succeeding the Deptford Period is Weeden Island, dating from about 1,800 to 1,200 B.P. At this time, ceremonialism and its expressions, such as the construction of elaborate burial mounds containing exotic and elaborate grave offerings, reached their greatest development. Similarly, the subsistence technology, divided among marine foods, land animals and horticultural products, represented "the maximum effective adjustment to the environment: (Willey 1949:580). In general, Weeden Island Period sites are found along the coast, on bay shores, or on streams, and nearly all are marked by shell refuse with burial mounds of sand situated near the middens if present (Willey 1949:402). Although the type site for the Weeden Island culture is the Weeden Island site in St. Petersburg, the "heartland" of the culture appears to be in north Florida and south Georgia (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). In fact, sites of this time period outside of the heartland may be Weeden Island-related; that is, sites to the south do not often exhibit all of the traits associated with Weeden Island sites in north central Florida. Interestingly, two traditions of ceramic manufacture developed. A special mortuary pottery, often elaborately decorated and often having a "killed" hole in the bottom were placed in burial mounds. Village ceramics are composed predominantly of plain wares. Sites having Weeden Island components include burial mounds at Bayport, Indian Creek and Indian Bend (Moore 1903), and another at Palm Grove Garden, and the Weekiwachee River site (Ferguson 1976) all in Hernando County. To the south in Pasco County are the Big Midden and Homecrest sites near Port Richey and New Port Richey respectively (Neill 1978:147-149).

According to the chronology presented by Milanich and Fairbanks (1980:23) no known culture coeval with the Safety Harbor Period of the Central Peninsula Gulf Coast region, or Fort Walton to the north, is listed for the North Peninsula Gulf Coast. However, according to Willey (1949), the Safety Harbor culture, which centered around Tampa Bay, may have ex-

tended as far north as the Aucilla River. The Safety Harbor Period may have begun as early as 1,200 B.P. (Scarry 1980; Luer and Almy 1981) and extended to the time of the Spanish conquest. A lack of detailed research in the Citrus/Hernando/Pasco county area has resulted in insufficient data to determine the relationship of the prehistoric inhabitants to the Safety Harbor culture around Tampa Bay and the Fort Walton culture in northwestern Florida (Mitchem n.d.). Both archaeological data and ethnohistorical reconstruction indicate that the Safety Harbor culture was characterized by a complex socio-political and religious structure, probably at the level of the chiefdom (Scarry 1980:43). Research by Bullen (1978) indicates that the historic Tocobaga Indians were probably the bearers of the Safety Harbor culture and that they were distributed from around Tarpon Springs southward to Sarasota. Safety Harbor sites have been found both along the coast and inland. The large sites on the coast were probably ceremonial centers. Fifteen of these large coastal sites possessed temple mounds; that is, large truncated mounds often composed of alternate layers of sand and shell (Luer and Almy 1981; Figure 1). Associated with these temple mounds were large shell middens, probably representing the village areas, and often sand burial mounds. Although agriculture was practiced, marine foods continued to be an important dietary item. Sites where Safety Harbor components or influences have been identified are the Briarwood site in northern Pasco County (Mitchem n.d.), Buzzard's Island in Citrus County (Willey 1949:323), Weeki Wachee Burial Mound site in Hernando County (Mitchem et. al. 1983), and the Safety Harbor site in Pinellas County (Griffin and Bullen 1950; Sears 1950), among others. Wilfred T. Neill has written that Safety Harbor period sites are numerous in the interior upland portion of Pasco County (1978:224).

The prehistoric era along the west coast of Florida was brought to a close by the arrival of several Spanish expeditions. The presence of historic period artifacts in Safety Harbor sites attests to the contact between Europeans and Indians. However, the introduction of new diseases and the disruption of the aboriginal cultural systems probably led to the end of the Safety Harbor culture. Those Indians remaining around Tampa Bay were eventually displaced or killed by bands of Creek Indians pushing south in the early part of the eighteenth century. A few surviving Indians may have eventually joined the Creeks or Spanish fishermen who moved into the rich fishing and shellfishing areas along the west coast (Neill 1968).

HISTORICAL REVIEW

In order to ascertain whether any significant historic sites or remains were present within the Lykes property boundaries a study was made of pertinent State documents, local records, maps, histories, and other general primary and secondary sources. In addition, all standing structures were inspected and assessed during the field survey portion of research. As a result of these endeavors, no significant (i.e. potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places) historic sites were identified. The following pages summarize the findings of the historical documentary study.

Although the west coast of Florida had been visited as early as the first half of the sixteenth century with the comings of Narvaez (1528) and DeSoto (1539) expeditions, no true descriptive knowledge of the area resulted. Interestingly, however, results of a recent analysis of artifacts from the Weeki Wachee Burial Mound site (8-He-12), including silver and glass beads, suggest that the Safety Harbor people who constructed this feature may have obtained the European materials from the Spanish explorers during the early sixteenth century. This site is located on the grounds of the Weekiwachee Springs tourist attraction, approximately 1.4 kilometers east of the Lykes tract. Such aboriginal/Spanish contact might have been made on the coast.

In 1821 Florida was established as a territory of the United States. During this period settlement was largely concentrated in the northern part of the state. In general, the entire Florida territory was marked by sporadic violence between the white settlers and the Seminole Indians (Tebeau 1971:162). As the conflicts escalated in the continuing effort to remove the Seminoles from Florida one major event led to war. On December 28, 1835, Major Francis Langhorne Dade and his command of 108 men, while marching from Fort Brooke (Tampa) to Fort King (Ocala) walked into an ambush near present day Bushnell. All but three men under Dade's command were killed (Tebeau 1971:160). Thus began the Second Seminole War, a conflict which lasted nearly seven years. During the war several temporary military posts were established in Hernando County. These included Fort Dade (1837) originally constructed on the Withlacoochee River and then moved two miles southwest of Dade City. Other installations were Fort Cross (1838), Fort Annuttaloguee (1840) and Fort DeSoto, all in the vicinity of Brooksville.

Stalwart in his efforts to resist removal of his people from Florida was Aripeka, a prominent Mikasuki medicine man and chief. According to Mahon, Aripeka, called Sam Jones by whites, was not a war leader but a medicine man.

Because of his age (nearly seventy at the war's outbreak), his medicine was powerful and inasmuch as he was adamant against moving, he had great influence. His role was to hold his people in the determination to fight, plan the actions, start them, and then retire to tend the wounded and make medicine to insure victory (Mahon 1967:127-128).

Aripeka was probably born in Georgia before the Creek exodus to Florida. Prior to the Second Seminole War he and his followers often fished at Silver Springs in Marion County, and sold fish to the U.S. troops at nearby Fort King (Neill 1974:264). While local tradition places his principal Florida residence somewhere near the town of Aripeka, George Ferguson believes, based upon his excavations at the Weekiwachee River site in Hernando County, that before moving to Hendry County following the end of the Second Seminole War, Aripeka lived at this site on the south bank of the river, beginning well before the start of the war in 1835 (Ferguson 1976:80). While a direct link with Aripeka cannot be made, large quantities of Seminole pottery, as well as trade goods dating mostly from the early nineteenth century (circa 1800-1835) indicate the probable presence of an early nineteenth century Seminole village within three to four kilometers of the Lykes property.

As conflict with the Seminoles continued, the United States Congress decided that the four million acre Seminole reservation, extending from just south of Ocala to Charlotte Harbor, should be opened up to white homesteading. It was hoped that the influx of white settlers could help to drive the Indians out of Florida and westward beyond the Mississippi River. Thus, to these ends, in 1840 Senator Thomas Hart Benton introduced before Congress the Armed Occupation Bill. By this act land as well as weapons and food would be provided to prospective settlers (Covington 1961:42). Although the measure was originally defeated, a later modified version reintroduced by Benton in June 1842 was signed into law two months later. With this legislation the United States government agreed to supply arms and ammunition to the settlers during their first year of residence. Further, land was granted under the stipulations that the settlers reside on the land for five consecutive years in a house. At least five acres of land were to be cultivated (Covington 1961:45). The Armed Occupation Act served to open up a 200,000 acre area, from Gainesville and St. Augustine in the north to the Peace River in the south. During the nine month period the law was in effect 1184 permits were issued totalling 189,440 acres (Covington 1961:48). None of these early homesteads were within the boundaries of the survey tract.

Prior to the passage of the Armed Occupation Act some settlements were made in Hernando County, which was then part

of Alachua County. These were the result of U.S. government policy which provided certain veterans of the Second Seminole War with land instead of currency in payment for their military service. One such property recipient was Major John Parsons, credited as the founder of Bayport, who received land at the mouth of the Weekiwachee River where he constructed a house in 1842 (Stanaback 1976:13). In March of the same year 23 settlers were reported to be bound for the Withlacoochee River and Clearwater Harbor, eventually settling at Annuttalogga Hammock where they constructed a blockhouse (Covington 1961:43).

On February 24, 1843 Hernando County, named in honor of Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto, was carved out of Alachua County. One year later the name was changed to Benton County after the sponsor of the Armed Occupation Act. However, due to Benton's later anti-slavery, pro-Union stance, the name was permanently changed back to Hernando in 1850 (Stanaback 1976:21). By this time other pioneers had migrated to the county, with most erecting their homes near some source of water. According to Covington, "during 1842 to 1843 marriages, births and even one murder took place - all of these facts demonstrated that the pioneers were leading average lives" (1961:50). By 1850, 604 whites and 322 Black slaves, most having originated from Georgia and South Carolina, were settled in the county (Stanaback 1976:16), and concentrated in the communities of Buddys Lake, Chocochatta, Annuttalogga and Melendez.

In 1843 the line separating Township 22 and 23 South, Range 17 East was surveyed by Henry Washington. In describing the mile of boundary line separating Sections 34 and 3, which cuts across the center of the Lykes property, Washington noted that the river gave "a beautiful green appearance" (1843:484). Vegetation was described as chiefly "wavy and level poor 3 (third rate)sandy pine and bay gall bushes. Width of the river at the line is occasioned by its spreading over low open marsh..." (Washington 1843:484). The entirety of Township 23 South, Range 17 East was surveyed and subdivided into sections by John Jackson in September and October, 1848. Township 22 South, Range 17 East, of which section 34 is a part, was surveyed and subdivided into sections between February and June of 1851 by George Watson. In describing the western boundary of section 34, Watson recorded swamp, beginning in the north, then pine and oak scrub and swamp at the margins of the Weekiwachee River (Watson 1851:266). Examination of the plat maps for both townships revealed only one noteworthy feature - a trail labeled "Road to Spring Hill" which originated in the center of section 34 at the river, and runs in a northeast direction through sections 26 and 25. No other features such as homesteads, planted fields, mounds, etc. are depicted. Spring Hill, located between Weekiwachee Springs and Brooksville, was one of the oldest settlements in

the county.

Early in the 1850's a second wave of pioneers migrated to Hernando County. Among these settlers was Frederick Lykes and his family who settled at Spring Hill in 1851 (Stanaback 1976:21; Whitehurst 1936). Bay Port (Bayport), was also one of the principal settlements in the county by the early 1850's. Founded in 1842 by Major John Parsons, this community served as a port of entry for the county, and was also noted for its fishing and recreational advantages (Stanaback 1976:22). During the Civil War its "protected cove and nearby docks and warehouses" made Bayport a perfect place for Confederate blockade runners (Stanaback 1976:31). Despite federal harrassment, blockade runners continued to use Bayport through 1863 until 1865.

Hernando County did not undergo any significant development during the 1870's. During the decade of the '80's however, several ports and farming villages including Bayport, Aripeka and Hudson were fast growing as northern immigrants began to arrive in record number. Bayport in the 1880's was a busy place, serving as the main shipping point for interior settlements and towns such as Spring Hill and Brooksville (Stanaback 1976:49). Bayport was also a popular recreation spot, with guests using the hotel at the old Parson's house. Aripeka, southwest of the property tract, was thinly settled during the 1880's. The population of this small community, then called Gulf Key, numbered 32 persons in 1885 (Stanaback 1976:49). Originally encompassing both Citrus and Pasco counties, the present boundaries of Hernando County were established on June 2, 1886. With the severance of Pasco and Citrus counties, the general population of Hernando County was reduced from 7178 in 1885 to 2476 in 1890 (Florida. State Census 1906:10).

John Parsons was the first individual to obtain a deed for land within the survey tract. On July 1, 1852 Parsons obtained title to Lot 1, in section 3, Towhship 23 South, Range 17 East. As previously mentioned, Parsons is credited as the founder of the town of Bayport. According to the 1878 Tax Book (p. 10) John Parsons paid taxes for over three thousand acres of land in various townships, including the unimproved lot. By 1885 Parsons' holdings of real estate and personal property, which included a hotel and lot in Brooksville, totalled \$20,185 (1885 Tax Book:68). There is no indication that Parsons resided on the land in section 3. The only other early individual purchaser of land in the survey tract was William W. Wall and Francis N. _____ ington (name illegible in Tract Book) who received title to lot 5 in section 34, Township 22 South, Range 17 East in July of 1866.

The remainder of the survey property was deeded to the Florida Land and Improvement Company (Lot 4, section 34 and Lots 2-8, section 3) on February 3, 1883 and the Silver Springs,

Ocala and Gulf Railroad (Lots 3 and 6, section 34) on October 15, 1897 (Florida DNR, Tract Book Volume 15:27, 28). No improvements were made on these properties. The Florida Land and Improvement Company was owned by Hamilton Disston, a member of a prominent Pennsylvania saw manufacturing family, and his associates. In 1881 Disston had entered into an agreement with the State of Florida to purchase four million acres of swamp and overflow land for one million dollars, in exchange for his promise to drain and improve the land (Tebeau 1965:252). By the late 1880's much of the Florida Land and Improvement Company's holdings had been sold to individuals and other corporations, including naval stores and timber companies. The Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad was one of many railroads in the 1890's to be granted land by the State of Florida (Covington 1957).

The above mentioned documentary information indicates an absence of early homesteads or historic structures on the survey tract. It is probable that during the first three decades of the twentieth century land contained within the survey tract was exploited for its turpentine and timber. Isolated fragments of terracotta turpentine collecting cups observed in the western portion of the tract lend credence to this supposition, as does the results of a perusal of the tax rolls for the sections adjacent to the west (see Deming and Almy 1983:11-12). Presently, the primary use of the Lykes property is recreational; i.e. swimming and boating in the Weekiwachee River, as well as trail bike riding. Remains of modern campfires and associated litter heaps were observed at several elevated areas along the river. Modern hunting activity was also indicated by the presence of spent cartridges and fallen deer stand. In conclusion, on the basis of documentary research and field reconnaissance, no historic sites, structures, or objects of significance are located within the survey tract.

PHYSICAL SETTING

This brief environmental summary will be limited to a general discussion of those variables (i.e hydrology, topography, soils and vegetation) of relevance to prehistoric site location. A more detailed description of the physical properties of this land are contained within the larger ADA/DRI document to which this report is appended, and thus need not be repeated here.

The Lykes property (River Pines development tract) is located in portions of Section 34 in Township 22 South, Range 17 East, and Section 3 in Township 23 South, Range 17 East. Bordering the property on the northeast is State Road 50. This tract lies within the Gulf Coastal Lowlands physiographic zone. Elevations range from 2.5 meters above mean sea level (AMSL) in the extreme northwest to a maximum of 12.5 meters AMSL in the northeast. In general, the topography is nearly level to gently sloping, and marked by a number of small, discrete, irregularly shaped sand hills and scattered depressions, many containing standing water at the time of survey. Low-lying swamp is found in the extreme northwest corner of the property, as well as the southeast to both the north and south of the Weekiwachee River.

The dominant feature of the tract is the Weekiwachee River, which flows in a westerly direction a distance of approximately 2.5 kilometers through the southern half and west central portion of the tract. Thus, all areas of the survey property lie within about 600 meters of this primary water source. Extending into the extreme northwest corner of the tract is the Weekiwachee Swamp. Similarly, river swampland is found in the southeast. In addition to these major hydrological features, a number of small ponded sinkholes or depressions are found. The Gulf of Mexico coastline lies approximately 5.5 kilometers to the west.

Six different soil series or associations are contained within the Lykes property. These include the excessively well drained soils of the Paola fine sand, 0 to 8 percent slope and Candler fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slope series, the former of which comprises the majority of the tract. Also found are smaller parcels of poorly drained Basinger and Myakka fine sands as well as very poorly drained Anclote fine sand and soils of the Okeelanta-Terra Ceia association. These poor and very poorly drained soils are situated in the swampy northwest and southeast corners of the property. None of these six soil types are suitable for cultivation.

The dominant vegetation on the survey tract is a sandhill community which includes sand pine, scrub live oak, scattered turkey and blackjack oaks, and an understory of saw palmetto, shrubs and vines. Mixed hardwoods such as sweetgum, sweetbay,

hickory and maple are found in the wetlands. In general, with the exception of minor clearing at some spots along the river and the network of vehicle trails, the native vegetation of the tract has been largely undisturbed.

RESEARCH DESIGN: PROJECT GOALS AND STRATEGIES

In cultural resource surveys of this kind a near universal inclusion in the final summary report is the specification of a project site specific research design formulated by the investigators prior to the initiation of field work. Components of such a design include the delineation of project goals as well as the particular planned strategies to be employed in an effort to operationalize these aims. Also of paramount importance is the attempt to understand, on the basis of prior investigations, the spatial distribution of known resources. Such knowledge serves not only to generate an informed set of expectations concerning the number and kinds of prehistoric sites which might be anticipated to occur on the survey tract, but also provides a valuable regional perspective and thus, a basis for evaluating any new sites discovered.

As per the recommendations of the State Historic Preservation Officer (Percy 1983) the purpose of this archaeological and historical survey was to locate and assess the significance of cultural resources present within the proposed River Pines development tract. Actual survey strategy employed was a non-exclusive pedestrian survey with systematic and judgemental subsurface testing. A site location predictive model was used to stratify the study universe into differential zones of high, moderate, and low site expectancy. Such a model, in the case of aboriginal sites, was based on the study and analysis of the distribution of known prehistoric sites vis-a-vis their relationship to certain classes of environmental data. Once discrete areas of predicted high, moderate and low site expectancy were identified, these were then used to guide the intensity of the field survey. Thus, those zones deemed to have the highest site location potential were afforded the greatest time and attention at the expense of the areas defined as of low probability. Also taken into account was the preliminary land use plan prepared by the consulting engineers. According to this land use allocation plan roughly 120 acres will be set aside as open space and for riverine protection. Since this acreage will not be developed, and since it does fall within wetland zones, systematic archaeological investigation was focused elsewhere.

In the case of historic period sites, documentary research was conducted in order to isolate any former or extant historic structures or remains of potential significance. No such resources were revealed. However, the existence of an early sixteenth century site bearing material evidence of early Spanish contact, within two kilometers of the survey tract, in addition to a probable early nineteenth century Seminole village in the vicinity, raised the possibility of encountering cultural materials or sites of similar historic periods within the Lykes property. This was taken into consideration during the fieldwork phase of investigation.

To date, little if any professional archaeological testing and excavation has been performed in the vicinity of the Lykes property. This lack of problem-oriented research and field investigation in the wider northwest Pasco/southwest Hernando county area has resulted in a generally limited understanding of the prehistoric populations which inhabited this area. Fortunately, in recent years a number of cultural resources surveys have been carried out in this area, including work by William Browning in 1979 along the U.S. Highway 19 right-of-way, and surveys of the nearby Timber Pines (Deming 1980a) and Cobb (Deming and Almy 1983) properties, among others. Despite the resultant paucity of site specific functional and temporal/cultural data, these efforts have served to add significantly to the prehistoric site inventory. In so doing, they have also generated important locational information in respect to the natural environment.

Prior to the current investigation no prehistoric or historic cultural resources had been recorded on the Lykes property. An earlier survey of this tract by Marsh (1981) resulted in the surface recovery of two Pinellas Plain type sherds and one small "chert chip". The proveniences of these finds were not provided in his summary report. Within the surrounding area, however, defined as all land contained within the Weekiwachee Springs, Bayport, Aripeka and Port Richey NE quadrangles, a total of 34 aboriginal sites have been located and recorded. For the purpose of the present investigation, all available information concerning these resources constituted our study sample. Settlement pattern data for these 34 sites were analyzed, and on this basis a site location predictive model for the River Pines development tract was formulated. Specifically, the focus of this study was to ascertain both what types of archaeological resources might be present in the survey area, as well as where the sites might be expected to occur.

Typologically, the 37 site components identified for these 34 sites can be classified into the following groups, based on the information contained in the Florida Master Site File. In the instances where site type was not provided by the recorders sites were assigned a category based strictly on the cultural remains noted.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Lithic scatter/specialized lithic reduction area	10
Artifact scatter	8
Habitation/Village	7
Burial Mound	6
Shell midden/mound	2
Quarry	1
Unknown	3

In general, the classification of prehistoric sites into objective, standardized and operationally explicit categories is a problem which plagues the archaeological community. Thus, for example, the "habitation/village" site type may in fact represent the tangible remains of a gamut of prehistoric activity areas ranging from short-term extractive camps to semi-permanent or permanent villages. The seven sites recorded for this category probably do include everything from ephemeral limited activity sites to more settled multiple activity sites, on the basis of the archaeological evidence reported on the site forms. Sites which might be expected to occur on the Lykes property could include any category, with the probable exception of shell middens and quarries. The former type of site is known primarily from along the Gulf coast, at bayshores, and at the mouths of rivers where shellfish could be harvested in quantity. Such conditions do not prevail within the Lykes property. Given the absence of outcrops of silicified limestone within the survey tract, one could also predict an absence of quarry sites. Thus, sites present may include those of the remaining categories, representing mortuary, habitation and/or special use limited activity sites.

Reliable chronological data concerning the 37 sites and site components is largely deficient. Those cultural resources which have at least been provisionally dated on the basis of ceramic types and projectile points recovered indicate settlement and/or utilization of the area from at least the Late Archaic through the Early Historic (Seminole) periods. The majority of dated sites have been assigned to the Weeden Island Period, circa A.D. 500 to 1200. In general, potentially occurring sites on the Lykes property may conceivably date to any one or more archaeological periods recognized for this region, from the Paleo-Indian through Seminole periods, or from 12,000 B.C. to A.D. 1850.

The second major question of interest concerned the specific types of environmental settings which might be expected to contain prehistoric sites. Among the variables known to be associated with aboriginal site location are distance to fresh water, soil drainage, relative elevation, vegetation, and the presence of natural resources available for food and tool manufacture.

Distance to freshwater is perhaps the most often cited variable in predictive studies of prehistoric site distribution. In recent efforts to construct a regional predictive model, archaeology graduate students from the University of South Florida, interning with the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (WRPC), have found that on the basis of 277 sites in Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties, mean site distance to potable water is 268 meters with a standard deviation of 459 meters (WRPC 1982). Thus, 84 percent of the prehistoric sites studied are located within 727 meters of freshwater; 56 percent are within 100 meters. Freshwater, as used here, includes streams, lakes, ponds and freshwater swamps. Of the sites in

the study sample with water distance figures all are located within 550 meters of a potable water source. Similarly, all eight of the "non-site loci" within the study area and reported by Johnson and Willis (1978) are situated from 50 to 200 meters from a pond or sink. Since all portions of the Lykes property are within approximately 600 meters of freshwater, and thus within the parameters for site occurrence, distance to water was not a useful variable for stratifying the tract into differential zones of high, moderate and low site expectancy.

A second, more useful environmental factor for the purpose of the Lykes study is soil drainage. Based upon her study of prehistoric sites in Sarasota County, Almy has demonstrated that site distribution bears a "functional relationship to the natural drainage of the soils" (1978:84), with site location selection apparently biased in favor of well-drained or better drained soils. Grange (1978) and Deming (1980b) observed a similar non-random distribution of aboriginal sites in Hillsborough County, again illustrating that areas of well-drained soil were preferred for prehistoric settlement. Sites found to be situated in areas of poorly drained soils largely reflect their location in coastal areas as well as adjacent to lakes, ponds, rivers and swamps. As Grange, Williams and Almy have pointed out (1977:10-12) food resource availability was probably the determining factor influencing site location in these zones, rather than a true preference for least well drained soils.

Soils contained within the Lykes tract are classified into six categories (see Physical Setting). Of these types, two are excessively well drained (Paola and Candler), two poorly drained (Basinger and Myakka), and two very poorly drained (Anclote and Okeelanta-Terra Ceia association). Soils of the best drained Paola and Candler fine sand types comprise over half the survey property. In terms of aboriginal site predictability, these larger zones of Paola and Candler sands were considered high probability areas. Areas of Basinger and Myakka fine sands were grouped into the moderate site probability category; Anclote fine sand and Okeelanta-Terra Ceia association low.

Vegetation and landform are other features of importance to archaeological site location prediction, particularly as these variables relate to the availability of utilizable floral and faunal resources. In comparing the survey results from three different development tracts in northern Pinellas County, Griffin, Wells and Miller (1978) pointed out that while only two sites were located in 2609 acres of pine flatwoods, nine sites were recorded on only 1100 acres of adjacent pine-oak uplands. They concluded that the pine-oak uplands are more productive of archaeological sites as compared to the pine flatwoods, at least in part because of the better resources, particularly deer, which are more abundant in the uplands (1978:16-17). Of the 15 sites located on the W.L. Cobb Construction Company property, adjacent to the Lykes tract, 14

were situated on ridges or ridge slopes vegetated primarily with pine and oaks. The results of other cultural resource surveys, conducted both within and outside the North and Central Peninsula Gulf Coast Regions, have demonstrated that relatively elevated lands proximate to freshwater swamps were also favored locales for aboriginal settlement or utilization. Relating these generalizations to the Lykes survey property served to further refine the predictive model. Thus, within those broader zones of best drained soils (Paola and Candler fine sands) are smaller, discrete areas of pine/oak vegetated upland. These were adjudged to have the highest probability of aboriginal site occurrence.

Figure 2 presents a summary illustration of the zones of high, moderate and low site expectancy for the River Pines development tract. As discussed above, the critical variables used to stratify the survey universe into differential prediction zones were soil drainage, relative elevation and vegetation. In general, high probability zones correspond to those elevated areas of Paola and Candler fine sands vegetated predominantly with pine and oaks. Moderate probability zones include the level areas of these excessively well drained soils, as well as the acreage characterized by Basinger and Myakka fine sands with a general pine flatwoods type vegetation. Low probability areas included the level and depressional areas of Anclote fine sand and Okeelanta-Terra Ceia Association, largely vegetated by swamp forest.

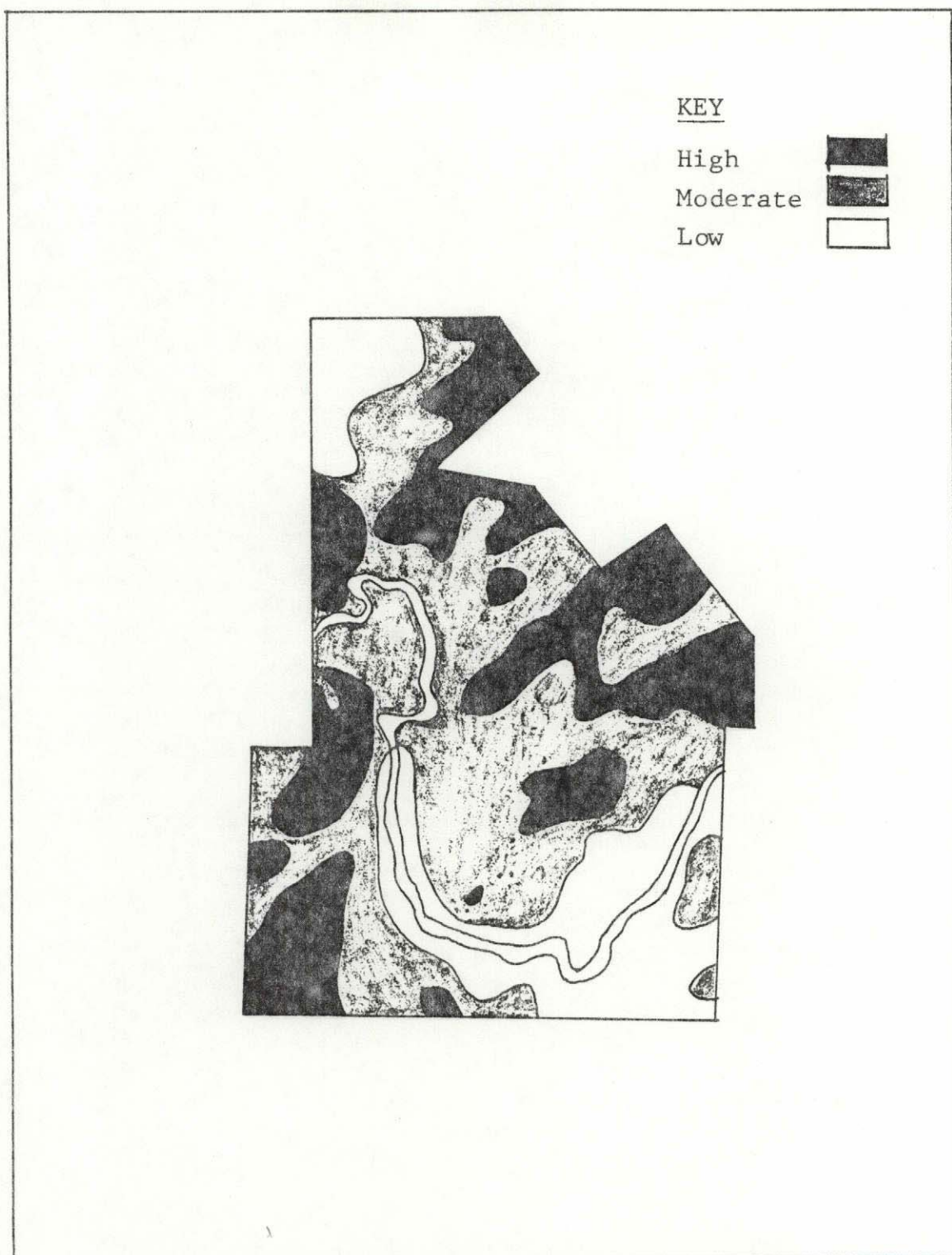


Figure 2. Zones of predicted high, moderate, and low pre-historic site occurrence.

FIELD METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this cultural resource survey was to determine the presence or absence of prehistoric and historic sites within the proposed River Pines development property, and to assess the nature, condition and potential significance of those resources located. To accomplish this aim a pedestrian survey with subsurface testing was employed. Fieldwork was completed in eight person days, on October 7, 8 and 12. During this time a total of 82 test pits were excavated throughout most of the tract.

All portions of the property were not surveyed with equal intensity, nor with identical tactics. Excluded from coverage were the two inundated areas of freshwater swamp located in the extreme northwest and southeast corners of the tract. Intensity of survey effort in the remainder of the tract was carried out in accordance with the pre-determined zones of predicted high, medium and low site expectancy. As planned, the most intensive survey efforts were expended in the zones of high probability. In the high and medium probability zones ground surface reconnaissance focused along the available vehicle trails, paths and exposures. Subsurface testing was at fixed intervals along transects within discrete probability zones, and varied from a minimum of 25 to a maximum of 100 meters between test pits. Low probability zones were surface inspected utilizing the available trails and clearings. Subsurface testing locations were judgmentally, rather than systematically, determined.

Subsurface examination entailed the excavation of small (ca. 35-40 centimeters diameter) shovel test pits. These averaged at least one meter below surface, with a maximum of 135 centimeters below surface. All soil removed was screened through one-quarter inch mesh hardware cloth. Observations regarding soil stratigraphy, the depth at which cultural materials were recovered, as well as other relevant information such as local vegetation were recorded in the field by each two person team. The approximate test pit locations were plotted on the aerial map. All pits were backfilled when completed. In those cases where cultural materials were discovered, either on the surface or from a test pit, additional systematic subsurface testing was carried out so as to determine the areal extent, depth of the cultural deposit, condition and potential significance of the site.

In general, while a good network of jeep trails facilitated access into most portions of the survey tract and aided in the ground surface reconnaissance, once these exposures were departed from, a seemingly impenetrable wall of dense vegetation was encountered. Without exception, all elevated high probability areas were densely vegetated, resulting in a near absence of ground surface visibility and impeded movement through the brush with shovels, screens and backpacks. Even

with the aid of machetes to clear survey lines and compasses to stay on course, it was most difficult to maintain orientation of our two person teams. Given the wooded nature of the majority of the tract, many of the trails encountered in the field were not visible on the aerial map, further hampering our efforts to record accurate test pit locations. Thus, to overcome these problems a common survey strategy was to walk along the trails, pacing out the interval between test pit locations, then marking the spot, cutting into the woods for a determined distance, excavating a test pit, checking the adjacent exposures if present, then returning to the marked location from which point the next test interval was paced out and the procedure repeated.

RESULTS

Archaeological survey of the non-wetland portions of the Lykes property resulted in the location of five prehistoric sites (Figure 3). No historic period archaeological resources were found. In addition, what we believe to be the southern and southeastern limits of a previously recorded site, 8-He-45, were also ascertained. Finally, two instances of isolated aboriginal materials or non-site loci were recorded. In this section of the report descriptions and evaluations of each of these resources will be given. Recommendations for mitigative measures will be elaborated in the Conclusions and Recommendations section. Completed Florida Master Site File forms are appended to this report. A repository for the cultural materials recovered will be selected in concordance with the wishes of the property owners following submittal of this summary report. All fieldnotes and maps are on file with the authors, in care of Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

8-He-56 is located in the extreme west central portion of Section 34 (irregular) in Township 22 South, Range 17 East (USGS Weekiwachee Springs, Florida, 7.5 Minute Series). It is largely coterminous with a small sand ridge which ranges in elevation from approximately three to nine meters above mean sea level. The closest sources of fresh water are the Weekiwachee Swamp, 100 meters to the west, and the Weekiwachee River, adjacent to the south. Vegetating the rise is a dense understory of scrub live oak, palmetto and other shrubs and vines. At the river margin hickory, magnolia, pine and oaks dominate. Estimated areal dimensions of this site are 255 meters north/south by 135 meters east/west. Depth of the cultural deposit varies from surface to 105 centimeters below in strata of light gray and golden tan colored fine sand.

8-He-56 was originally evidenced by a light scatter of aboriginal ceramics, lithic materials and unworked shell, exposed in a north/south trending vehicle trail which bisected the ridge. Additional lithic debitage was collected from the eroded north bank of the river directly south of the terminus of the trail. Following the collection of all observed surface cultural materials 11 subsurface shovel tests were excavated along two parallel lines about 25 meters east and west of the vehicle trail. The interval between tests was approximately 50 meters, as measured by pacing. Due to the dense vegetation and the resulting difficulty of moving through the woods with shovels and screens, test pit locations to the west of the jeep trail were established by pacing along the trail, then cutting in 25 meters at 50 meter intervals along the road. Of the 11 subsurface tests eight were found to be productive of cultural materials. No concentration of artifacts either horizontally or vertically could be discerned. As a result of surface collection and subsurface testing the following were recovered:

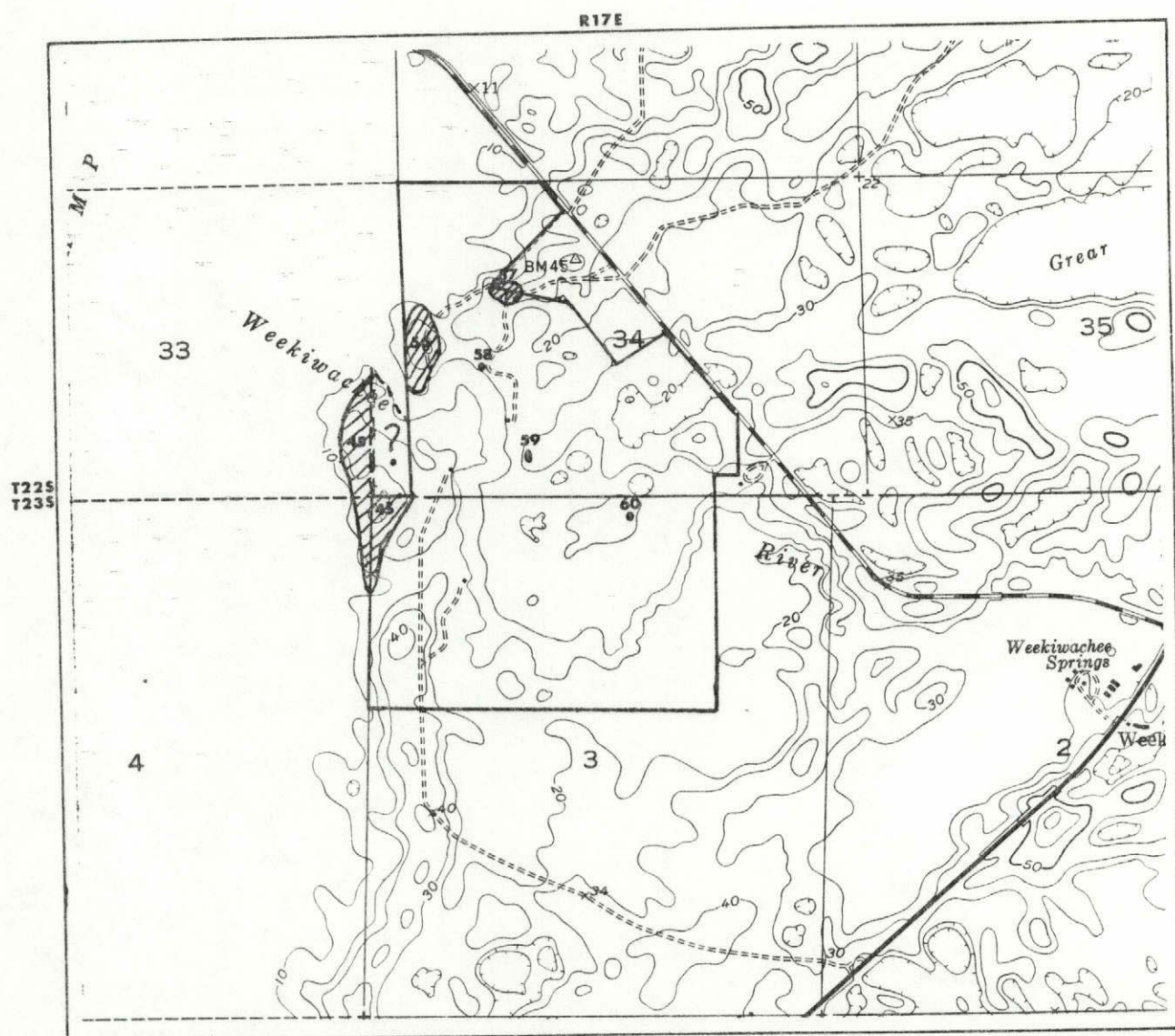


Figure 3. Location of sites found on the Lykes property.

- 2 oyster shell fragments
- 1 columella fragment
- 1 Busycon fragment (eroded)
- 13 Pasco Plain sherds
- 8 sand tempered plain sherds
- 1 St. Johns Plain sherd
- 3 pieces of shatter
- 1 primary decortication flake
- 9 secondary decortication flakes
- 15 non-decortication flakes

Given the constraints of time, comprehensive analyses of the above listed cultural materials were not performed. Rather, all pottery fragments were grouped into traditional categories of ceramic types based upon such attributes as paste, aplastic inclusions and rim form in an attempt to provide information on the period(s) of occupation or cultural affiliation. The 13 sherds classified as Pasco Plain, for example, were characterized by pock-marked surfaces and aplastic inclusions of whitish and ferruginous particles. While this ceramic type is classically defined as having limestone temper, testing of the sherds with hydrochloric acid, the standard test for the presence of limestone, yielded negative results. As previous work has shown (cf. Deming 1975) some whitish inclusions may be fullers earth or siliceous clay. Given the pock-marked surfaces of these specimens, however, the presence of limestone, which later became leached out, cannot be discounted. Sherds classified as sand tempered plain had quartz sand as the primary aplastic inclusions. St Johns Plain was typed on the basis of its chalky feel and the presence of sponge spicules in the paste. Unfortunately, all three of these ceramic types are temporally non-diagnostic, ranging in manufacture and use from Transitional to historic times.

The lithic assemblage was similarly of little aid in providing a temporal/cultural site affiliation. No diagnostic hafted bifaces, for example, were recovered. In general, of the 28 pieces of lithic debitage recovered none exhibited evidence of retouch or modification. Microscopic examination for use-wear was not performed. All lithic materials were of silicified limestone; two were thermally altered. Forty-three percent of the lithic debitage was large (2cms. or more), 32 percent medium (1-2 cms.), and 25 percent small (0-1 cm.).

On the basis of this material inventory it is impossible to date the period of site occupation(s). In comparing this assemblage with those from other known sites in the region, it is speculated that this site represents a limited activity or special use camp occupied sometime during the post-Archaic. According to the preliminary land use concept, 8-He-56 is located in an area scheduled for residential development. Thus, it is presumed that this resource will be destroyed by construction related activities. In view of the seemingly limited quantity and quality of cultural materials at this site, it is

not believed that additional archaeological testing would add significantly to our knowledge of regional prehistory. The site is not deemed eligible or potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

8-He-57 is located in the center of the northwest portion of Section 34 (irregular) in Township 22 South, Range 17 East (USGS Weekiwachee Springs, Florida, 7.5 Minute Series). Relative to the surrounding terrain, the site occupies gently sloping land which ranges in elevation from 6 to 10.6 meters AMSL. A small intermittent pond is situated approximately 150 meters to the west-northwest at the eastern margin of the Weekiwachee Swamp. The Weekiwachee River flows 300 meters to the south. Dominant vegetation on the site is sand pine, scrub live oak and saw palmetto. Estimated areal dimensions of this prehistoric cultural resource are 90 meters north/south by 150 meters east/west. The north/south measurement should be considered a minimum figure since the northern border of the site, which extends beyond the Lykes property, could not be ascertained by archaeological testing. Vertically, the depth of the cultural deposit is from 10 to 130 centimeters below surface in strata of light gray, white and golden tan colored sand.

8-He-57 was originally evidenced as a result of subsurface testing. No surface materials were observed within the confines of the tract. However, adjacent to the north, at the extreme southeast corner of Cypress Drive, cultural materials including one quahog shell fragment, eight Pasco Plain sherds, and five non-decortication waste flakes were collected from a cleared lot. Thus, this site extends off the survey property to the north, into a residential area, for an undetermined distance. As a result of systematic subsurface testing these additional site materials were recovered:

- 10 Pasco Plain sherds
- 7 sand tempered plain sherds
- 1 piece of shatter
- 2 secondary decortication flakes
- 22 non-decortication flakes

All lithic materials were of yellowish white silicified limestone or chert. Only one exhibited evidence of thermal alteration, and none had been modified or retouched. Among the sherds of Pasco Plain ware was a single flattened rimsherd. One sand tempered plain rimsherd had a direct rounded rim. In general, the ceramic assemblage was similar to that recovered from 8-He-56. With the exception of two thin (2-3 mm.) sand tempered plain sherds, all pottery fragments measured six to nine millimeters in thickness.

Due to the lack of temporally diagnostic artifacts it is not possible to specify the period(s) of site occupation. As mentioned in the discussion of 8-He-56, both Pasco Plain and sand tempered plain ceramic types were manufactured and used

over a long time span, from approximately 500 B.C. to A.D. 1600. Also functionally similar to 8-He-56, 8-He-57 probably represents a short-term special use camp or limited activity site. Even though little more than survey generated data is available for local sites such as this, it is not believed that additional archaeological testing of this resource would yield qualitatively significant results. 8-He-57 is not considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

8-He-58 is located in the central portion of the western third of Section 34 (irregular) in Township 22 South, Range 17 East (USGS Weekiwachee Springs, Florida, 7.5 Minute Series). It is situated on relatively level land about five meters north by northeast of the Weekiwachee River. Elevations range from 3 to 4.5 meters AMSL. While most of the site area proper has been cleared of vegetation, sand pine, oaks and saw palmetto dominate to the immediate north, east and south. Estimated areal dimensions of the site are 30 meters north/south by 20 meters east/west. Depth of the cultural deposit is from ground surface to 60 centimeters below.

This prehistoric cultural resource was originally evidenced by a sparse artifact scatter consisting of one piece of oyster shell, one large secondary decortication flake, and three sand tempered plain sherds. These materials were exposed along a vehicle trail as it circles a small stand of saw palmetto and scrub vegetation. Four subsurface test pits were excavated immediately outside the sandy trail to the north, east, south and west. Only the south test, just overlooking the Weekiwachee River, was productive of additional cultural materials. These consisted of five non-decortication waste flakes of silicified limestone recovered from depths of 30 to 60 centimeters below surface in successive strata of light gray and white colored fine sand.

On the basis of such meager and non-diagnostic evidence it is impossible to assign a temporal/cultural affiliation to this site. 8-He-58 has largely been destroyed as a result of vehicle passage and erosion. It is probable that this small resource represents the scene of short-term, limited aboriginal utilization. It is not deemed significant nor eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

8-He-59 is located in the southwest portion of Section 34 (irregular) in Township 22 South, Range 17 East (USGS Weekiwachee Springs, Florida, 7.5 Minute Series). It occupies the western terminus of a sandy hill, vegetated with sand pine, scrub live oak, and saw palmetto, as well as a dense undergrowth of shrubs and vines. Elevation of the site ranges from 7 to 8 meters AMSL. The Weekiwachee River is approximately 50 meters to the west. At an equal distance to the east is a small pond.

Given its topographic relief, relatively better soil drainage, and proximity to two potable water sources, the rise upon which 8-He-59 is located was initially considered a zone of high archaeological site predictability. Due to the dense, obscuring vegetative cover ground surface inspection in this area, with the exception of a small vehicle trail, was not possible. Site detection methods consisted of the excavation of eight shovel tests at 25 meter intervals across the western portion of the rise, as well as just off the rise to the north, south and west. As a result of these efforts, one piece of shatter and two non-decortication waste flakes of non-thermally altered silicified limestone were recovered from three contiguous test pits located closest to the river. These sparse lithic materials were found at depths of 40 centimeters to one meter in a matrix of white colored sand. Based upon the results of subsurface testing, 8-He-59 is estimated to measure approximately 625 square meters in areal extent (25 meters north/south by 25 meters east/west). This estimate should be considered a maximum figure.

On the basis of such limited cultural materials informed statements regarding the temporal/cultural affiliation and functional nature of this prehistoric cultural resource cannot be forwarded. When viewing the total recovered assemblage in combination with the environmental setting, 8-He-59 can probably best be characterized as a limited activity site evidencing short-term utilization of the area rather than actual settlement. It is not believed that further investigation would result in the recovery of significant archaeological data. This site is not adjudged significant and thus is not considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

8-He-60 is located in the extreme north-central portion of Section 3 (irregular) in Township 23 South, Range 17 East (USGS Weekiwachee Springs, Florida, 7.5 Minute Series). It occupies a portion of the eastern slope of a small sand ridge vegetated with sand pine and a tangle of scrub live oak, saw palmetto and other shrubs and vines. Elevation of the site ranges from 7.6 to 9 meters AMSL. The nearest sources of fresh water include a pond and freshwater swamp, located 90 meters to the north and south respectively. The Weekiwachee River is approximately 250 meters to the south.

On the basis of the background research carried out by the authors, the irregularly shaped rise situated between the U-shaped bend in the Weekiwachee River in the extreme north portion of Section 3 was considered to have a high probability for prehistoric site occurrence. Determining criteria were the relative topography, soil drainage and distance to potable water. A total of seven subsurface test pits were excavated across this landform, both at fixed intervals of 50 meters, moving north to south, and judgementally so as to sample all areas of the rise. As a result only two successive tests,

situated on the eastern slope of the ridge, were productive of cultural materials. These two pits yielded a single secondary decortication flake and five non-decortication waste flakes, all of silicified limestone. One had been thermally altered. These lithic materials were recovered from depths of 20 to 80 centimeters below surface in a matrix of white colored sand. Based on this evidence 8-He-60 is estimated to measure approximately 50 meters north/south by 20 meters east/west.

Judging by the similar materials recovered, as well as the environmental setting, this site probably represents a cultural manifestation similar to 8-He-59; that is, a limited activity site evidencing short-term utilization. The temporal/cultural affiliation of this resource is unknown. It is not considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

8-He-45. In addition to the discovery of the five previously unknown prehistoric sites described above, archaeological survey of the Lykes property, focused in the extreme southwest corner of the tract (northwest corner of Section 3) resulted in the recovery of surface and subsurface cultural materials which may best be included as part of a previously recorded site, 8-He-45. This prehistoric cultural resource was originally recorded by the authors as a result of their survey of the W.L. Cobb Construction Company property (Deming and Almy 1983:27-28). The Cobb and Lykes properties adjoin at the northern interface of Sections 3 and 4, Township 23 South, Range 17 East. In their summary report to the developers Deming and Almy stated:

It is believed that this prehistoric cultural manifestation, as located on the W.L. Cobb Construction Company property, is part of a larger site which probably extends to the east and south, into the southeast corner of Section 34 and the northwest corner of Section 3. Testing of this assumption, however, will necessitate survey beyond the boundaries of the Cobb property (1983:28).

Beginning in the southwest corner of Section 34, at the south bank of the Weekiwachee River, a series of seven subsurface shovel tests were excavated at 100 meter intervals along a single northeast to southwest bearing transect in such manner as to archaeologically test the rise of similar orientation which terminates in the extreme northwest corner of Section 3. Six additional tests were excavated at approximate 50 meter intervals along a north/south transect, beginning about 25 meters due west of the intersection of Sections 33, 34 and 3, and ending at the southwest edge of the Lykes property. In addition, all vehicle trails in both portions of Sections 34 and 3 were walked out and visually examined for the presence of surface cultural materials. The north/south trending sandy road separating the Cobb and Lykes properties was also walked

and surface inspected. As a result of these efforts, three of the total 13 test pits were productive of a small quantity of lithic debitage; i.e. two pieces of shatter and 17 non-decortication waste flakes, all of silicified limestone. The only surface materials found were those along the north/south sand road off the Lykes property to the west. Recovered were one primary decortication flake of thermally altered silicified coral, two secondary decortication flakes (chert) and ten non-decortication flakes. Among the latter, all of silicified limestone, three were thermally altered and one exhibited evidence of retouching. With the exception of a single isolated flake found at 90 centimeters below surface in the northernmost test pit no other cultural materials were recovered from that portion of the Lykes property situated due south and west of the Weekiwachee River in Section 34. The other two productive test pits were located approximately 20 meters east and 75 meters south, respectively, of a small pond which marks the contact between Sections 33, 4 and 3. Surface materials were widely distributed along the road directly east of the pond, to its north and also south. In general, while the distribution of cultural materials at this site is of low density, one small area of concentration was discerned. The locus of this concentration of lithic materials is centered at UTM coordinates 17/343350/3155740. In view of the sparse and wide geographical distribution of materials in this area it is believed that this small concentration should be considered part of the southern terminus of 8-He-45 rather than a separate site.

In summary, the areal extent of 8-He-45, as redefined, measures approximately 600 meters north/south by 200 meters east/west. Roughly 60 acres of land in the extreme southeast corner of Section 33, which is contained in neither the Cobb nor Lykes tracts, has yet to be surveyed. Archaeological investigation of this zone will undoubtedly serve to clarify the northeast boundaries of this cultural resource. For the purpose of the present survey, the southern and southeastern margins of 8-He-45 were found to extend into the Lykes property in the extreme northwest corner of Section 3. The cultural materials recovered did not contribute to a better understanding of the typological nature nor temporal/cultural affiliation of this resource. Project development will not adversely impact a significant cultural resource, at least as contained within the Lykes property. No further testing on the Lykes portion of this site is recommended. An updated Florida Master Site File form for 8-He-45 is appended to this report.

Isolated finds. Among the predicted high probability areas was a small sand ridge approximately 175 meters north of the Weekiwachee River, as measured from the highest point of the rise, and located in the northeast corner of the Lykes property in Section 34, Township 22 South, Range 17 East. Eight shovel tests were excavated across this topographic feature. In addition, a small sandy borrow area, adjacent to the south, was visually inspected for surface cultural materials.

One test pit was also excavated in this cleared zone. As a result of these efforts a single Pasco Plain sherd was found in the borrow area, on the ground surface. The approximate UTM coordinates of this artifact are 17/344580/3156170. No additional materials were recovered from the test unit excavated here. Of the eight other test pits to the north only one resulted in the recovery of a single waste flake from a depth of 35 centimeters below surface in a matrix of pinkish white sand. UTM coordinates for this find are 17/344550/3156220. These finds are believed to constitute evidence for aboriginal utilization in this area rather than actual occupation or settlement. No further testing is recommended.

CONCLUSIONS

Ground surface reconnaissance and subsurface testing within the non-inundated portions of the Lykes property resulted in the location of five new prehistoric sites. These have been entered into the Florida Master Site File as sites 8-He-56 through 8-He-60. Descriptions and evaluations of these resources have been provided in the preceeding Results section. In addition to these discoveries archaeological survey of the Lykes tract served to clarify the southern and southeastern limits of a previously recorded cultural resource, 8-He-45. In this section of the report conclusions regarding the types of sites found, as well as their environmental correlates, will be offered. Also, the findings of this small survey effort will be placed within the broader context of our current knowledge of regional culture history and subsistence-settlement patterns.

Based upon the physical remains evidenced, the five newly recorded prehistoric sites may be classified into two general categories: lithic scatters and artifact scatters. No claims are herein made that these generalized divisions represent operationally defined and verifiable site functional categories.

The first grouping of sites located on the Lykes property are labeled lithic scatters. Included in this division are two sites: 8-He-59 and 8-He-60. Both were evidenced by a sparse subsurface distribution of lithic debitage. No surface materials were observed at either. In general, these two resources are notably similar. Both occupy the slope of small sandhills vegetated with sand pine and scrub live oak. Each is situated within 90 meters of at least two different potable water sources. Stratigraphically, the cultural materials recovered from both sites derived from strata of white sand, with lithic materials found at depths between 20 and 100 centimeters below surface. Both assemblages were exceedingly small in terms of the quantity of lithic materials as well as the spatial distribution of these finds. Since no finished tools or temporally diagnostic projectile points or ceramics were found, both sites 8-He-59 and 8-He-60 cannot be assigned a temporal/cultural affiliation. Further, informed statements regarding the types of prehistoric activities performed at both sites cannot be forwarded. In general, based upon the small and functionally narrow range of artifact assemblages recovered from these sites, both are presumed to represent brief episodes of utilization or temporary occupation, where limited activities were performed.

The second type of site recorded on the Lykes property is the artifact scatter, as represented by sites 8-He-56 and 8-He-57. These were evidenced by surface and/or subsurface finds of aboriginal lithic materials, ceramics and unworked

shell. Like the lithic scatter sites discussed previously, 8-He-56 and -57 are situated on small sandhills or hill slopes, and vegetated primarily with pine and oaks. Each is located within 300 meters of two different freshwater sources. Unlike the lithic scatters, these artifact scatters are much larger in terms of artifact distribution. When measured in estimated square meters, the artifact scatter sites are at least 13 times larger in areal extent than the lithic scatters. Vertical distribution of materials is also greater at 8-He-56 and -57, with ceramics and lithic debitage recovered from more than one natural stratigraphic zone, as judged by soil color. Unfortunately, no finished tools or temporally diagnostic projectile points or ceramic types were found. Thus, it is impossible to make informed statements about the types of activities performed, or the temporal/cultural affiliation for these two sites. It is believed, based upon the limited artifact assemblages, that a narrow range of activities was performed at these sites, which were probably occupied for short periods of time by small aboriginal groups. It is further speculated that the site inhabitants were performing specific activities related to extractive tasks.

Given its disturbed condition, it is difficult to evaluate site 8-He-58. On the basis of the total shell, stone and ceramic artifacts recovered, this resource can be grouped with the artifact scatters. Like all the other sites artifact density is low and functionally restricted, characterized by an absence of finished lithic tools. The major disparity between 8-He-58 and the other four newly recorded sites is its location on relatively level, non-elevated land.

In summary, all five prehistoric resources located on the Lykes property can probably best be functionally classified as limited activity sites, based upon the observed low artifact density and narrow range of artifact types. These sites probably evidence short-term utilization and/or occupation by small groups of people engaged in activities of a primarily extractive nature. All sites were geographically situated such that the resources from a number of habitats could be exploited. Dating these sites poses a problem due to the absence of temporally diagnostic artifacts. Where pottery was found (8-He-56, -57, -58) the three types recovered (Pasco Plain, St. Johns Plain, and sand tempered plain) are all poor time indicators. If the development trends noted by Luer and Almy for aboriginal pottery in the Central Peninsula Gulf Coast region can be applied to the Hernando area, the ceramic bearing sites located on the Lykes property probably fall within the later period of the pottery manufacture and use range from Transitional to Historic. This suggestion is based upon the presence of relatively thin walled pottery, straight rim forms and flat and rounded lips. Thus, a Weeden Island to Safety Harbor period time bracket is tentatively proposed for these sites. Environmentally, the results of the Lykes survey provide support for the contention that pine-oak uplands were

generally preferred over pine flatwoods areas for aboriginal settlement. Of the many miles of flatwoods traversed and tested on the proposed River Pines development tract, no sites or isolated finds of cultural materials were made. Proximity to freshwater resources, relatively elevated, well-drained land, and pine-oak vegetative communities appear to constitute the environmental variables of importance in the regional settlement food procurement system, at least for the time period(s) evidenced by these five resources. A collecting procurement strategy is assumed.

In addition to these natural environment correlates, pre-historic sites are known to be located with respect to each other. One general proposition of archaeological inquiry is that contemporaneous people occupying a local or regional settlement system tend to interact with people in another. Hence, sites tend to occur in clusters which serve to reflect the exchange of resources and information between sites. Thus, individual sites need to be viewed as components of a system. Critical to the understanding of the variability in site spatial distribution is the identification of groups of sites that were probably contemporaneous. Unfortunately, due to the absence of temporally diagnostic artifacts we cannot conclude with any degree of confidence that the five sites on the Lykes property were in existence during the same period. Despite the lack of good temporal indicators, similar assemblages discovered at the Lykes sites, in addition to many from the surrounding area suggest the possibility of contemporaneous occupations.

Of the six burial mounds recorded in the study area (see Research Design) which date, when known, to the Weeden Island, safety Harbor and Early Historic periods, only the Bayport site has an associated village. No permanent or semi-permanent habitation areas were found, for example, associated with the two burial mounds (8-He-54A, 8-He-55A) recently discovered on the Cobb property (Deming and Almy 1983) despite systematic professional survey efforts. When the negative evidence for village location from the adjacent Cobb and Lykes tracts are combined with the survey information from the vicinity, it appears that there are no data to suggest a settlement pattern comparable to that reported for North Florida. Here, Sigler-Lavelle (1980) has delineated a constellation of mound "centers" with associated villages and dispersed satellite villages or hamlets. The pattern which emerges in the northwest Pasco/southwest Hernando county area is rather one of isolated burial mounds associated only with task specific sites, except at Bayport near the Gulf Coast. The presence of marine shell at many inland from the shore special use sites such as 8-He-56, -57 and -58, as well as several reported by Browning (8-He-30, -34) and by Deming and Almy on the Cobb property would seem to suggest contact with, if not actual migration of coastal dwelling populations into this zone. The lack of villages in this sandhills area, as present data indicate, may constitute

significant information of usefulness for future studies of regional settlement patterning, presumably during the Weeden Island and Safety Harbor periods. Given the preponderance of small, limited activity sites in this sandhills zone, it is postulated that the occupants of these sites were primarily coastal dwelling peoples, engaged in a broad based economy of fishing, collecting and hunting. Such sites may evidence the seasonal movement of small groups for the purpose of exploiting specific locally available, non-marine resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Although five previously unknown prehistoric sites were located on the Lykes property, none of these resources are adjudged to be of regional significance. All are situated in areas scheduled for residential development and hence will presumably be destroyed. In general, all five sites can be classified as lithic or artifact scatters. On the basis of the cultural materials recovered these are tentatively concluded to represent short-term special use camps or limited activity sites. Due to the absence of temporally diagnostic artifacts none can be assigned a temporal/cultural affiliation. These are commonly occurring types of sites, typical of many others previously discovered or likely to be located in the region. It is not expected that continued investigation at any of these sites would produce additional data which is qualitatively, not quantitatively, significant given the demonstrated limitations of these resources. Thus, they are believed to be restricted in terms of their potential to yield data elucidating their functional role in the settlement-subsistence system of which they are a part. Further, while all but 8-He-58 are in relatively undisturbed condition, they are not atypical, and not considered to be among the best examples of their type(s) for the region. At present, little professional archaeological work has been done in the area. It is likely that as more research is conducted and new sites are recorded, better examples in terms of their research potential will be found. In summary, these five sites are deemed unlikely to yield additional archaeological data of significance to our knowledge of local and regional prehistory.

In conclusion, based on the background research and field investigation undertaken as part of this study, it is the opinion of the authors that no significant prehistoric or historic sites which might be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places are located on the Lykes property. Thus, destruction of these cultural resources without data recovery is considered appropriate. Clearance for the River Pines development is recommended.

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Appendix: Florida Master Site File Forms