



March 24, 2020

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Stratis Business Centers  
1156 Bowman Road, Suite 200  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

C/O  
American Forest Management, Inc.  
8702 Red Oak Blvd., Suite C  
Charlotte, NC 28217

Attention: Mr. G. Alan Wood

Reference: **Archaeological Delineation of Two Sites**  
**Swamp Thing Wetland Mitigation Bank**  
Charleston County, South Carolina  
S&ME Project No. 4213-20-058

Dear Mr. Wood:

S&ME, Inc. (S&ME), on behalf of Farilawn Partners, LLC, has completed the archaeological delineation the boundaries of two archaeological sites at the Swamp Thing Wetland Mitigation Bank in Awendaw, Charleston County, South Carolina (Figures 1 and 2). S&ME staff completed this study in general accordance with S&ME Proposal Number 42-2000139, dated February 6, 2020.

## ◆ Project Background

This survey was completed under the direction of American Forest Management, in response to a request from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to conduct a survey and delineate two previously documented resources prior to using the property as a stream and wetland mitigation bank.

S&ME staff reviewed the state archaeological site form for Site 38CH2577 (cemetery) a letter from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) dated November 15, 2019, and a report of a reconnaissance study conducted by others entitled Selective Reconnaissance Survey of a 998 Acre Tract of Land within the Former Rice Plantation of Hugh Rose known as Fairlawn, Christ Church Parish, Charleston (Barr 2019). American Forest Management provided these documents to S&ME at the inception of this study.

Reviewed information indicates that Barr recorded the cemetery as 38CH2577 and it was previously recorded as SHPO Site No. 7993.01. No site form has been submitted for HP-2, the possible slave housing.



## ◆ Project Setting

Site 38CH2577/SHPO Site No. 7993.01 and HP-2 are located northwest of the Wando River and northeast of Penny Dam Road in Awendaw, South Carolina. The Project Area is located in the Lower Coastal Plain physiographic province. The topography is mostly level, with an elevation of approximately 20-30 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Sites 38CH2577/SHPO Site No. 7993.01 and HP-2 are located in an area wooded with pine and hardwoods southeast of an existing rice dike and drainage canal (Figures 3 and 4).

The USDA records two soil types located within the Project Area (Figure 5); the descriptions can be found in Table 1 (USDA Web Soil Survey, Accessed March 20, 2020).

**Table 1. Soil Types Identified in the Project Area**

Soil Name	Type	Drainage	Location	Slope
Santee	Clay Loam	Very Poorly Drained	Depressions, Floodplains	N/A
Wadmalaw	Fine Sandy Loam	Poorly Drained	Depressions, Marine terraces	N/A

## ◆ Background Research

S&ME staff reviewed the state archaeological site form for Site 38CH2577 (cemetery), and previous research conducted on the property. Major attributes of the resources targeted by this study are summarized below. For an in-depth review of the property's historic context we refer the reader to the Barr (2019) report referenced above.

### **38CH2577/SHPO Site No. 7993.01**

SHPO Site No. 07993 references the entire Fairlawn Plantation [Hugh Rose]. Fairlawn was an inland rice plantation from the late eighteenth to the mid nineteenth century. Resource No. 07993.01 identifies a cemetery marked by one monument for Simplea Rose. The cemetery is depicted on a 1794 plat of the plantation with tick marks covering a triangular shaped area approximately 100 x 100 x 150-meters. The archaeological site form for the cemetery indicates that Barr identified four additional depressions thought to be graves. The site form records the monument as located at UTM: Zone 17 E 620092 N 3648299 (NAD1927).

### **HP-2**

Resource HP-2 is an area depicted on the 1794 plat as an area with 11 marks (presumably structures) in a U-shaped arrangement and is labeled to indicate that it was housing for the enslaved labor held at the plantation.



## ◆ Field Investigation

On March 17, 2020, S&ME conducted the fieldwork portion of this investigation. The Field crew consisted of (in alphabetical order by last name) Brianna Baker, Aaron Brummitt, RPA, Frank Carvino, RPA, Amelia Hessey, Quinn-Monique Ogden, RPA, and Nicholas Vamvakias. The goal of this investigation was to delineate and mark the boundary of 38CH2577/7993.01 and HP-2.

### **38CH2577/SHPO Site No. 7993.01**

S&ME staff members examined 38CH2577/SHPO Site No. 7993.01 and marked the apparent boundaries of the cemetery. This delineation was based on observation of surface features and the cemetery's depiction on the 1794 plat.

It appears that the area is both forested and heavily rutted from tree uprooting and erosion associated with Hurricane Hugo. As such the typical methods of systematic probing, observations of the ground surface, and remote sensing do not appear to be prudent and practical methods to delineate the maximum extent of this cemetery.

Site 38CH2577 is in a low-lying area along drainage ditches within a planted pine stand in poorly drained soils (Figure 6-9). The grave was oriented along a generally east/west axis. The monument's inscription read as "In memory of Simpea Rose Died May 3 1831". Using the location of the gravestone and drainage ditches in conjunction with the 1794 Purcell plat map of Fairlawn Plantation, the field crew paced out and flagged with orange flagging tape the approximately 100 x 100 x 150-meter triangular-shaped area depicted along the drainage ditches on the 1794 Fairlawn Plantation plat map (Figure 10).

### **HP-2**

Efforts to identify the location and extent of HP-2 consisted of the excavation of shovel test pits. Shovel tests were spaced at 30-m intervals. Shovel tests measured approximately 30 x 30 cm and extended to sterile subsoil or a maximum depth of 80 cm below surface (cmbs). Excavation proceeded in natural levels following observed soil strata. Excavated soils were screened through ¼-inch hardware cloth to insure uniform recovery of cultural material.

The field crew excavated 47 shovel test pits across HP-2, the village marked on the 1794 map. The shovel test pits ranged in depth from 30 to 50 cm below the surface. The shovel test pits were aligned in transects aligned with the HP-2 boundaries (Figure 11). Except for low-lying areas that are too wet to use, the Project Area has been used for silviculture and agriculture, with soils having been heavily disturbed by past earthmoving (Figures 12 and 13).

A typical soil profile consists of 30 cm of very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) loamy sand (Ap horizon), followed by 20 cm (30–50 cmbs) of light gray (10YR 7/2) mottled with yellowish brown (10YR 5/6 and 10YR 5/8) sandy loam (Figure 14).

Neither the pedestrian reconnaissance nor the shovel testing recovered artifacts, identified subsurface features, or observed other indications of the presence of archaeological remains in the area designated as HP-2.



## ◆ Summary and Conclusion

S&ME, on behalf of Farilawn Partners, has completed our efforts to delineate boundaries of a cemetery and the assumed location of an archaeological site at the Swamp Thing Wetland Mitigation Bank in Awendaw, Charleston County, South Carolina. S&ME staff completed this study in general accordance with S&ME Proposal Number 42-2000139, dated February 6, 2020.

We conducted the fieldwork on March 17, 2020.

The field conditions, consisting of a wooded setting with roots and an undulating ground surface, at 38CH2577/SHPO Site No. 7993.01 prohibit ruling out a number of depressions as graves. It is our opinion that a conservative approach to avoiding impacts to the cemetery during future ground disturbing activities will be to avoid the area labeled as a cemetery on the historic plat. If future plans for the property include ground disturbing activities in this area, we recommend a targeted excavation to positively confirm the presence or absence of unmarked burials.

Field efforts at HP-2 did not identify archaeological remains associated with the 11 structures depicted on the 1794 plat. While the historic map indicates that this land once served as a residential area for people enslaved at Fairlawn Plantation, more recent land-use, storms, and other sources of site destruction have eradicated an archaeological signature that can be detected with standard survey techniques. We do not recommend further investigation in this area.

## ◆ Closing

S&ME appreciates the opportunity to provide you with this report. If you have questions about the report, please do not hesitate to contact Aaron Brummitt at (843) 884-0005 or via e-mail at [abrummitt@smeinc.com](mailto:abrummitt@smeinc.com).

Sincerely,  
**S&ME, Inc.**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Quinn-Monique Ogden".

Quinn-Monique Ogden, RPA  
Project Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Aaron Brummitt".

Aaron Brummitt, RPA  
Principal Investigator

Attachments: Figures 1-14



## ◆ References Cited

Barr, William B.

2019 *Selective Reconnaissance Survey of a 998 Acre Tract of Land within the Former Rice Plantation of Hugh Rose known as Fairlawn, Christ Church Parish, Charleston County*. Prepared for Swamp Thing Mitigation Bank and Fairlawn Partners LLC, Prepared by Barr and Associates, Leesville.

Brooks, Mark J., and James D. Scurry

1978 *An Interstate Archaeological Survey of Amoco Realty Property in Berkeley County, South Carolina with a Test of Two Subsistence-Settlement Hypotheses for the Prehistoric Period*. Research Manuscript Series Number 147. South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Columbia.

Cable, John

1996 *A Study of Archaeological Predictive Modeling in the Charleston Harbor Watershed, South Carolina*. Report prepared for the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, Charleston, by New South Associates, Irmo, South Carolina.

O'Donoghue, Jason

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Scurry, James D.

2003 *Integrating Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Modeling: Validating Prehistoric Site-Settlement Models for the South Carolina Coastal Plain Using A GIS*. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Purcell, Joseph

1794 A Plan of Fair lawn plantation Situated in the parish of St. Thomas, Charleston district containing in the whole 2129 Acres belonging to Hugh Rose Esqr. From an actual survey taken in May 1794. McCrady Plat 4339. On file at Charleston County RMC. Charleston.

Stephenson, Keith and Frankie Snow

1993 Site Destruction and Disturbance in the Ocmulgee Big Bend Region of Southern Georgia: One Approach to Salvage Archaeology. In *Site Destruction in the Carolinas and Georgia*. David G. Anderson and Virginia Horack Editors. U.S National Park Service- Interagency Archaeological Services Division. Atlanta

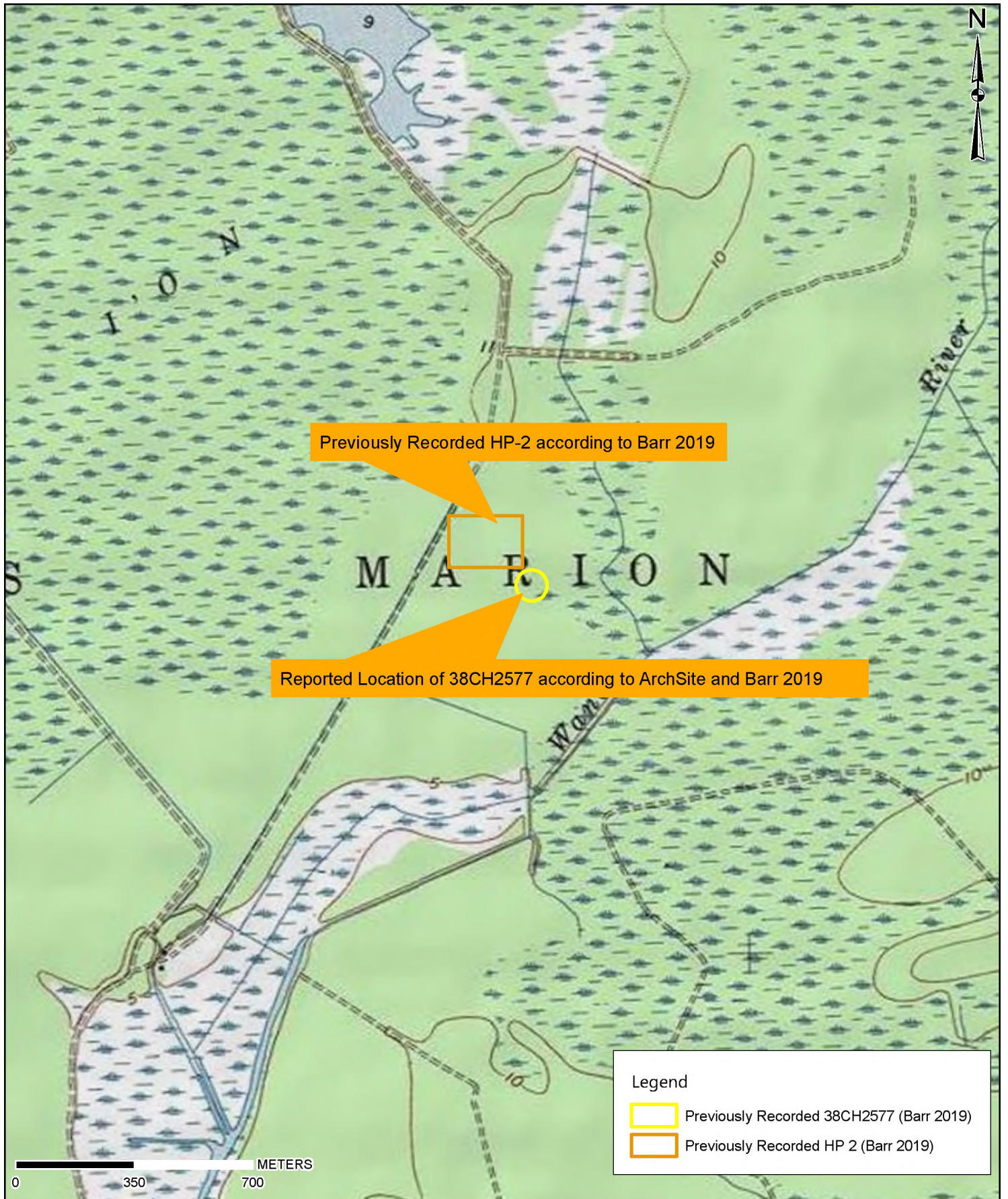
United States Geologic Survey

1959 Sewee. 7.5-Minute Series. United States Geologic Survey. Reston, Virginia.



◆ **Figures 1-15**





	SCALE: 1:15,000	<b>Location of 38CH2577 and HP-2</b> Swamp Thing Mitigation Bank Charleston County, South Carolina USGS 7.5 Minute Sewee Bay 1959	FIGURE NO.  <b>1</b>
	PROJECT NO: 4213-20-063		
	DRAWN BY: QMO		
	DATE: 3/24/2020		





	SCALE: 1:15,000	<b>Location of 38CH2577 and HP-2</b> Swamp Thing Mitigation Bank Charleston County, South Carolina Aerial View	FIGURE NO.  <b>2</b>
	PROJECT NO: 4213-20-063		
	DRAWN BY: QMO		
	DATE: 3/24/2020		



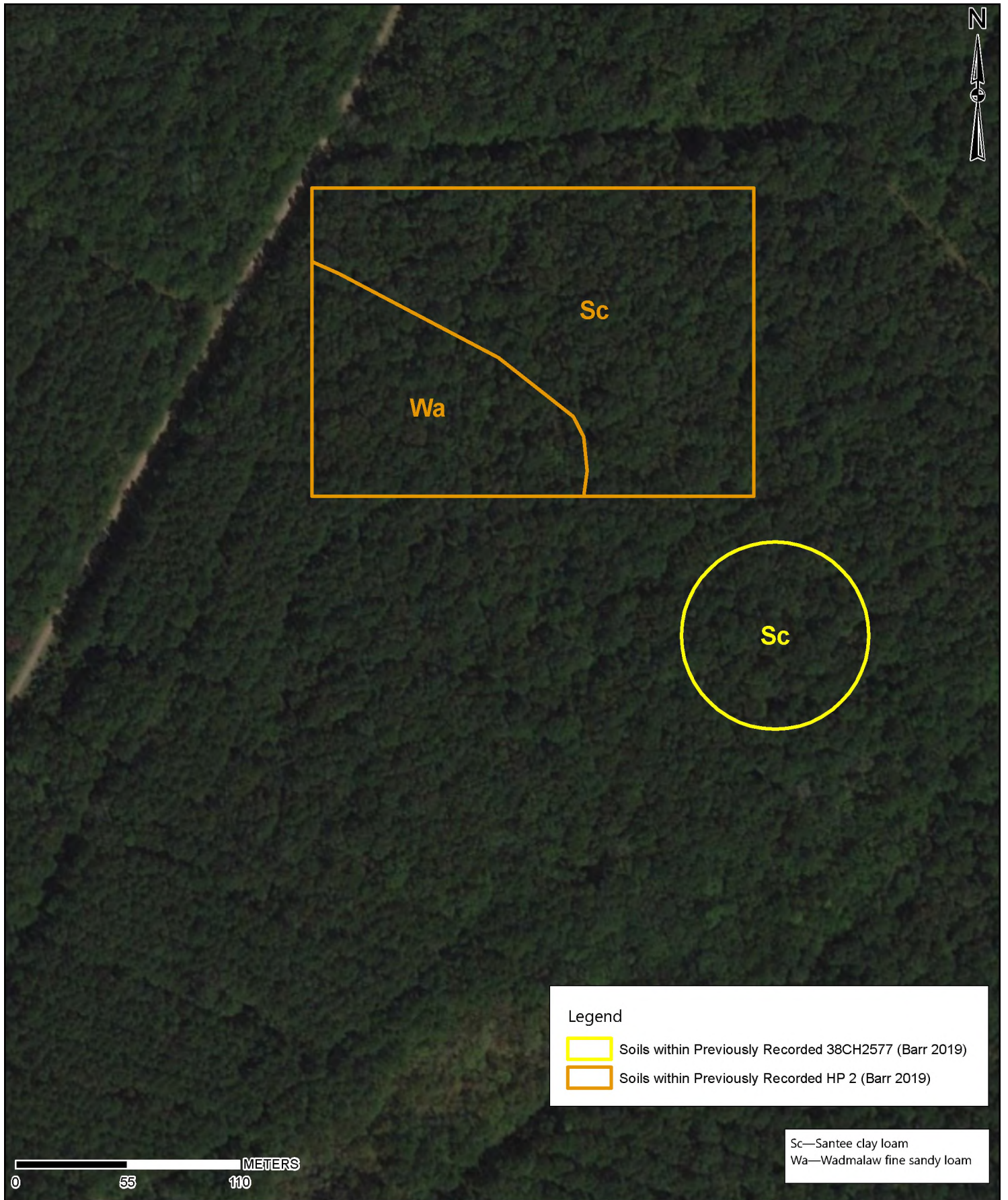


**Figure 3. Typical field conditions within Site 2577/ SHPO No.7933.01. The gravestone in center of photo, facing east.**



**Figure 4. Field conditions in HP-2, facing north.**






	SCALE: 1:2,500	<b>USDA Soil Data within 38CH2577 and HP-2</b> Swamp Thing Mitigation Bank Charleston County, South Carolina	FIGURE NO.  <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">5</div>
	PROJECT NO: 4213-20-063		
	DRAWN BY: QMO		
	DATE: 3/24/2020	Aerial View	





Figure 6. Drainage ditches marking the north and west boundaries of Site 38CH2577, facing west.



Figure 7. Example of orange flagging tape marking the boundary of 38CH2577, as depicted on the 1794 plat facing north.





Figure 8. Northwest corner of Site 2577/ SHPO No.7933.01, with flagging tape marking the corner, facing north west.

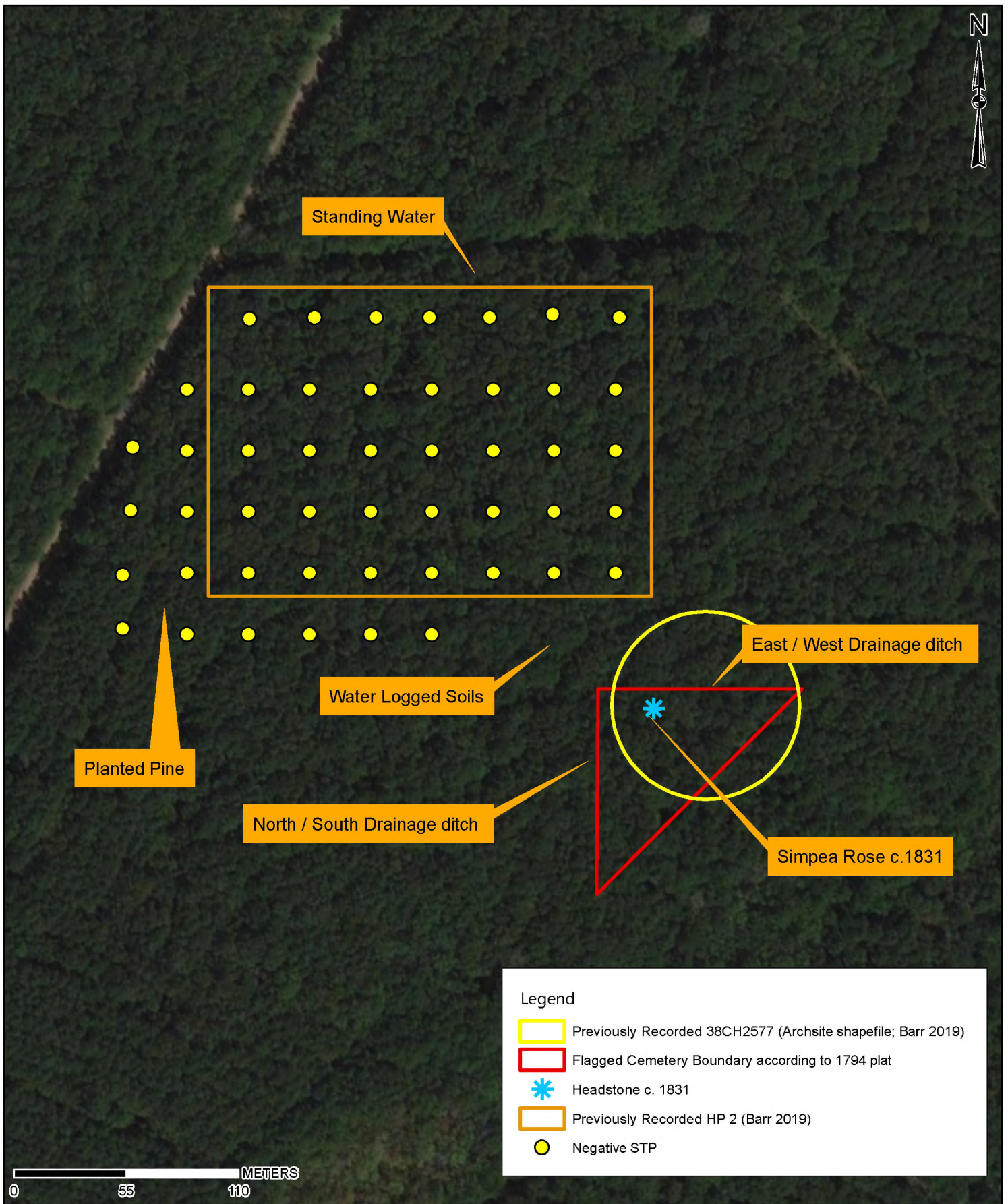


Figure 9. Photograph of the gravestone and the inscription read as "In memory of Simpea Rose Died May 3 1831", facing north.



Figure 10. Portion of Purcell 1794 Fairlawn Plantation Plat Map, showing approximate location of cemetery and slave village.





	SCALE: 1:2,500	<b>Results of Investigation</b> Swamp Thing Mitigation Bank Charleston County, South Carolina Aerial View	FIGURE NO.  <b>11</b>
	PROJECT NO: 4213-20-063		
	DRAWN BY: QMO		
	DATE: 3/24/2020		





Figure 12. Example of the low-lying setting in HP-2, facing southeast.



Figure 13. Example of young planted pine in HP-2, facing southeast.





Figure 14. Oblique view of a shovel test excavated in the HP-2 portion of the Project Area.