

Figure 2. Map of project tract showing general conditions, out-parcels, and cultural resources (1970 [pr 1982] *Climax, NC*, 1974 *Grays Chapel, NC*, 1970 [pr 1982] *Kimesville, NC*, and 1974 *Liberty, NC* USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles).

settlement in the project area. The Randolph County Soil Survey (online version) was consulted to determine soil types within the project tract.

According to the county soil survey, the project tract contains a variety of well and poorly drained soils (Table 1). Several of the soil types are described as being moderately eroded. The eroded soils are primarily in the southern and northwestern portions of the project tract.

Table 1. Soils Types Present in the Project Tract.

Soil Type	Characteristics	% of Tract
Appling sandy loam	well drained, 2-6% slope and 6-10% slope	5.1
Chewacla loam	0-2% slope, frequently flooded	0.4
Helena sandy loam	moderately well drained, 2-6% and 6-10% slope	13.2
Mecklenburg loam	well drained, 8-15% slope	1.3
Mecklenburg clay loam	well drained, 2-8% slope, moderately eroded	1.4
Vance sandy loam	well drained, 2-8% and 8-15% slope	16.8
Wilkes-Poindexter-Wynott complex	poorly drained, 8-15% slope	9.2
Wynott-Enon complex	well drained, 2-8% and 8-15% slope, moderately eroded	48.9

Background research conducted at OSA identified one previously recorded archaeological site within the project boundaries. This site, 31RD1011, was recorded by an amateur in 1990. It was described as a Woodland Period (1000 BC - 1700 AD) site from which lithic debitage and tools were recovered. On OSA maps, this site is shown straddling Dodsons Lake (see Figure 2). There are no recorded historic resources within or in a 0.25 mile radius of the project tract.

The field reconnaissance consisted of pedestrian examination of agricultural fields, roads, accessible wooded areas, and the transmission line corridor. Surface visibility in the majority of the fields was fair to good, although several are in pasture providing no exposed ground. Figure 3 presents a representative view of an agricultural field in the project tract. The majority of the southern portion of the

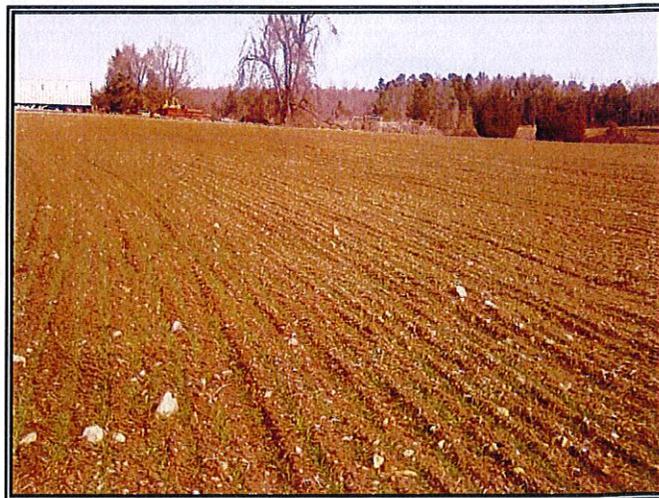


Figure 3. Representative view of agricultural field in project tract.

project area has been impacted by a variety of land use practices and activities, including farm terracing, impoundment of lakes, construction of camping and hunting facilities, as well as having undergone severe erosion. In the southern portion of the tract, the wooded areas are steeply sloped with abundant exposed bedrock and large boulders. There is also an airplane landing strip in the northwest corner of the project area and its construction has adversely impacted the surrounding area.

According to the current property owner, Mr. Dexter Blakley, Dodsons Lake was impounded around 1948 and has since undergone several modifications including raising of the dams and his construction of recreational facilities surrounding it. All exposed ground surface surrounding the lake was comprehensively examined in an attempt to locate cultural deposits associated with site 31RD1011. No indications of prehistoric activity were observed. It is possible that this site has been incorrectly mapped or was recorded during a draw-down of the lake, but more systematic investigation in the vicinity should be conducted to confirm this.

The field reconnaissance identified six farmsteads or barn complexes with both standing and collapsed buildings. Four of these are reflected on the 1915 Randolph County soil map (Figure 4). One of the complexes has an I-house, an architectural style most commonly associated with the nineteenth century. Another has a Craftsman style bungalow that likely dates to the early twentieth century. Two others have tobacco barns constructed of logs and pegs, a construction style prevalent in the nineteenth century. Although most of the buildings associated with these farmsteads are in derelict condition, they should all be documented as cultural resources.

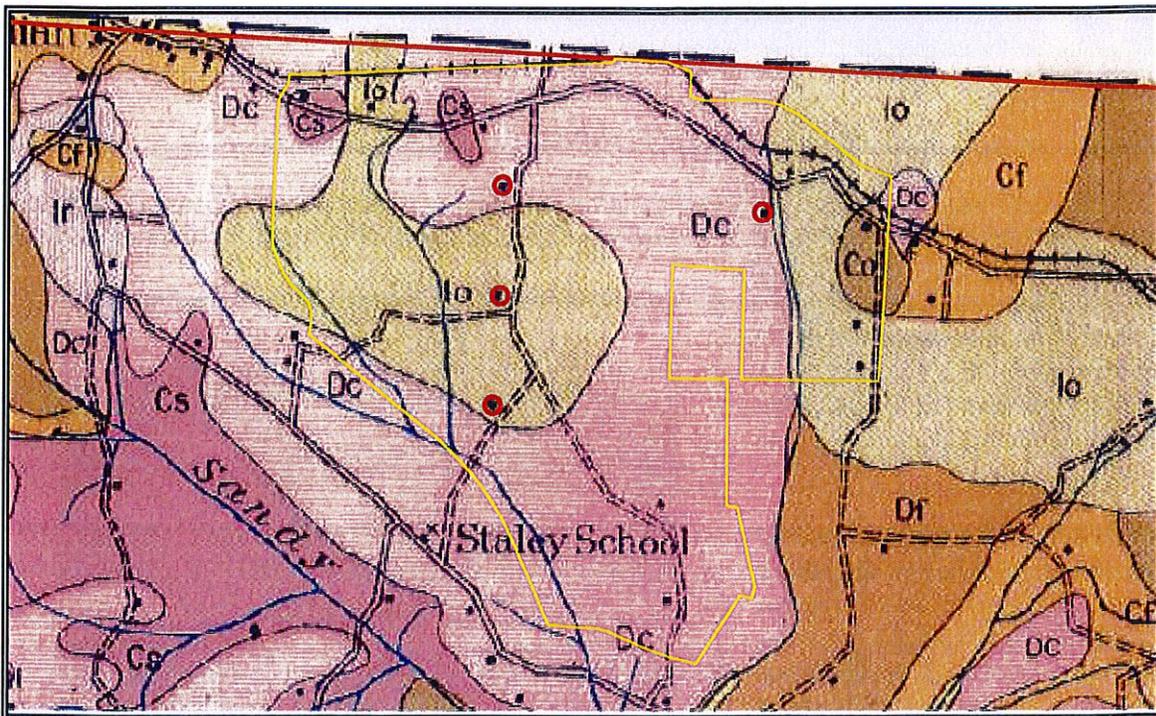


Figure 4. 1915 Randolph County soil map showing houses in the project tract reconnaissance area.

Evidence of prehistoric activity was abundant in the northern portion of the project tract, particularly in areas with Appling soils, which form from the residuum of felsic igneous and high grade metamorphic rock. Good ground surface visibility in fields and clear cut areas allowed for the identification of 13 prehistoric artifact occurrences (see Figure 2; Table 2). Most of these consisted of one or two metavolcanic flakes (i.e., debitage created during stone tool production) but two occurrences yielded temporally diagnostic tools as well. A Late Archaic (4000 - 1000 BC) Savannah River projectile point was collected at Occurrence #8. Occurrence #11 is a dense scatter of debitage, including primary flakes, and two Middle Archaic (6000 - 4000 BC) projectile points (1 Guilford and 1 stemmed lanceolate point; Figure 5). And Occurrence #6 included a large cobble core in addition to debitage. Based on the presence of cores and primary flakes (those initially removed from a core), quarrying activity was likely being conducted in the northern portion of the project tract but specific stone sources were not identified during this reconnaissance.

Table 2. Occurrences of Cultural Resources Identified During Field Reconnaissance.

Occurrence Number *	Resource Type	Action Recommended
1	Historic farmstead (w/I-house)	document buildings
2	Historic farmstead (w/Craftsman bungalow)	document buildings
3	Historic barn complex (inc. 2 log tobacco barns)	document buildings
4	Metavolcanic projectile point tip	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
5	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
6	Metavolcanic core and flakes, quartz flakes	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
7	Quartz flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
8	Metavolcanic debitage, biface fragment, and Savannah River projectile point base	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
9	Historic barn complex of barns (inc. 1 log)	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
10	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
11	Historic farmstead; dense scatter of metavolcanic and quartz debitage and tools (Guilford & stemmed lanceolate projectile points)	document buildings; delineate and record artifact(s)/site
12	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
13	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
14	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
15	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
16	Metavolcanic flake	delineate and record artifact(s)/site
17	Historic farmstead; Metavolcanic flake	document buildings; delineate and record prehistoric artifacts/site

*Corresponds with map in Figure 2



Figure 5. Lithic tools recovered during field reconnaissance (left to right - Guilford, stemmed lanceolate, Savannah River).

Based on my review of geological maps of the area, the northern portion of the project tract falls on the fringe of a discrete band of metamorphosed gabbros and diorite (Figure 6) that is surrounded by more generalized metamorphosed granitic rock. This band contains plutonic igneous rocks, including granite, gabbro, and diorite, as well as finer grained metavolcanics such as rhyolite. The vast majority of the occurrences identified during the field reconnaissance were of fine grained rhyolitic material. There is a large complex of prehistoric rhyolite quarries in the Uwharrie Mountains in Stanley and Montgomery counties and several similar quarries in southern and central Randolph County. These quarries have been and continue to be the subject of in-depth research and have yielded important information on Late Archaic settlement patterns, resource procurement and exploitation, and mobility. Although beyond the Uwharrie Mountain range and outside of the Uwharrie Formation, the project tract could contain outcrops of similar lithic material that was

being exploited by Late Archaic period peoples. These outcrops could represent the northern extreme of this lithic material or discrete outlying deposits.

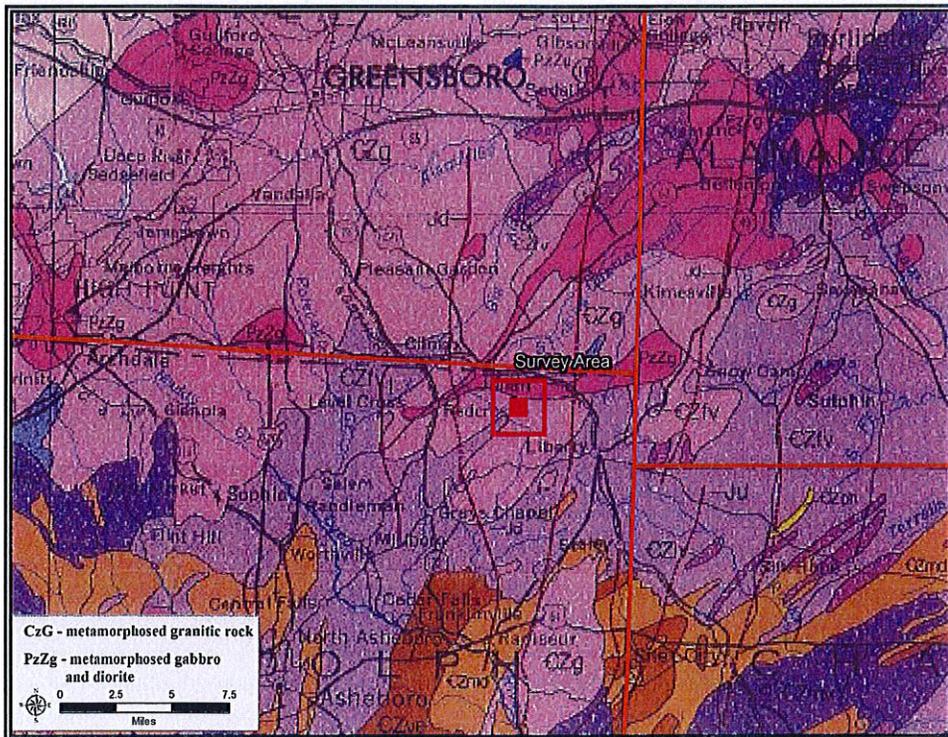


Figure 6. Geologic map of project area showing band of gabbro and diorite.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the background research and field reconnaissance, I do not think additional investigation in the southern portion of the project tract would be productive in terms of identifying significant cultural resources. This portion of the tract contains relatively poor soils, much of which is described as moderately eroded, and has undergone a variety of disturbances. However, I recommend a landform-based intensive survey of approximately 360 acres in the northern portion of the tract. These areas are reflected in Figure 7. As noted, this portion of the tract falls within a discrete band of high quality lithic material and there is abundant evidence of prehistoric exploitation of those lithic resources. Documentation of this activity and possible identification of a quarry site would greatly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric resource exploitation in the region, particularly in light of the relative proximity of the Uwharrie rhyolite quarries. I also recommended documentation of the historic farmsteads and barn complexes in the tract. Finally, those parcels within the overall project footprint that could not be accessed during this reconnaissance should undergo investigation if they are added to the project footprint.

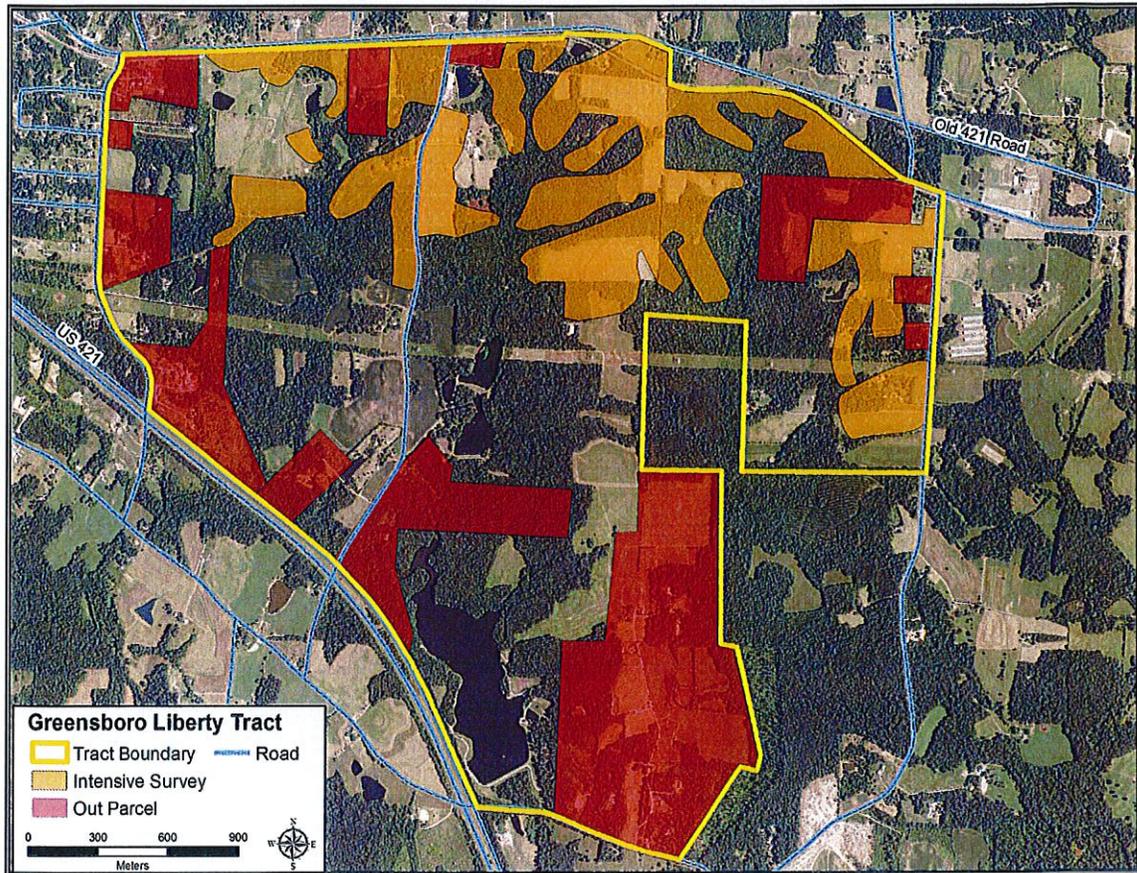


Figure 7. Map delineating areas recommended for intensive archaeological survey (1970 [pr 1982] *Climax, NC*, 1974 *Grays Chapel, NC*, 1970 [pr 1982] *Kimesville, NC*, and 1974 *Liberty, NC* USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles).