SURFACE SURVEY AND ARCHAIC SETTLEMENT PATTERNS IN THE B. F. GRANT FOREST

by

MATTHEW BRANDON WYNN

(Under the Direction of Stephen Kowalewski)

ABSTRACT

A pedestrian archaeological survey was conducted in the B.F. Grant Forest in northwestern Putnam County, Georgia. The survey focused on clear cut stands in the eastern and central portions of the forest. Weather prevented the normal clearing of secondary growth from clear cut stands, thus the survey was conducted on the bulldozer tracts around the perimeter of the nine stands. The survey identified 45 sites from various archaeological periods in Georgia, but special attention was given to sites dating to the Archaic period. Unfortunately only one of the newly discovered sites dated to the Archaic period. A review of known Archaic period sites in the B.F. Grant forest was performed revealing approximately 35 Archaic sites or sites with Archaic components. An analysis of the distribution of these sites was performed to establish if the distribution matched current models for Archaic period settlement patterns in Georgia.

INDEX WORDS: pedestrian survey, Archaic, site distribution, settlement patterns

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my parents, Richard and Patricia Wynn, for all of their patience, encouragement, and support.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Introduction

During the winter and spring of 2013, archaeological survey work was conducted in the B.F. Grant Forest in Putnam County, Georgia. New timber planting was planned in several clear cut tracts in the forest, and the preparatory work associated with planting would normally remove the secondary growth that obscured most of the ground cover that had inhibited earlier survey work. Nine clear cut stands were the focus of a walking survey. Selected clear cut stands had previously been surveyed in the summer of 2012 by the University of Georgia Archaeological Field School. All archaeological material discovered was documented and reported to the Georgia Archaeological Site File in Athens. All artifacts were documented, cleaned, bagged, and curated at the University of Georgia Laboratory Archaeology.

The goal of the survey was twofold. The first goal was to locate and identify any additional sites in these clear cuts from any and all periods of Georgia history. The second goal was to identify and take special notice of any sites from the Paleoindian and Archaic periods in Georgia. The survey was conducted in nine clear cuts located in the eastern and central areas of the BF Grant Forest. Initially the goal was to cover fully each clear cut stand with a systematic walking survey. However, weather forced a change to normal planting procedures, and certain steps were skipped by the foresters. This forced an adoption of the plan of a walking survey of the fresh bulldozer tracts placed around the perimeter of these clear cut stands, where ground clearance was nearly 100 percent. Forty-five new sites were discovered during the course of

field work, with nine previously known sites being revisited. Only one site could be dated to the Archaic period.

Significance

For many reasons it is necessary to know what archaeological resources are located across the landscape, especially if these resources are threatened by development or industry. The archaeological resources located in BF Grant are currently safe from development, but they can be threatened by the regular timber harvesting that occurs. While archaeological work has been performed in the forest since the 1970s, there are still many portions of the forest that have had no archaeological survey conducted.

There are currently 386 known sites within the forest. The majority of work performed in the forest was survey, but a few sites, such as Bullard Bottom, Monroe, Lauren, and Gladys have been excavated. There are many areas of the forest that have not been surveyed, and these could produce significant sites that could aid in our understanding of the archaeological periods in Georgia. Once significant sites are discovered steps can be taken to protect them from damage.

While locating and identifying new archaeological sites is important, there is more that can be conducted than just discovering and recording sites. In this instance the focus is on Archaic period settlement of the area encompassed by the B.F. Grant Forest. Several models for settlement during the Paleoindian and Archaic periods have been proposed (Anderson 1996, O'Steen 1996, Stanyard 2003). These models attempt to explain the patterns seen in the archaeological record. Only with new data can these models be confirmed or corrected. An examination of the site distribution of newly discovered and previously known Paleoindian and Archaic sites in the BF Grant Forest will help clarify the usefulness of these models.

CHAPTER 2: PREVIOUS RESEARCH AND SETTING

Previous Research

Stemming from the intensive archaeological work performed during the reservoir projects of the 1960s and 1970s, enough data on the Paleoindian and Archaic periods were collected to allow for the creation of settlement pattern models to help explain the distribution of sites in Georgia. While the initial focus on sites along major rivers and streams was due to the nature of reservoir work, additional archaeological work performed outside of riverine areas has added to our knowledge. Using the best available data, it appears that during the Paleoindian period, people stayed in close proximity to major streams and rivers (Anderson 1996:50-52; O'Steen 1996:92-106; Stanyard 2003:1-5). O'Steen proposes that at least within the Oconee region the dispersed peoples would congregate yearly at shoals for the purpose of trade, social relations, and finding mates (Anderson et al. 1990:34-40; O'Steen 1996:92-106). Evidence for this is the high Paleoindian site density at and near shoals along the Oconee River (O'Steen 1996:92-106). However, this trend is not repeated along other rivers as documented by Jennifer Freer in her survey work in Oglethorpe County (Freer 1989:54). John Chamblee does demonstrate a continuation of site aggregation at shoals in the Oconee Valley during later periods in his survey work from Greene county (Chamblee 1996:33).

Site density along rivers is explained as the result of Paleoindian bands using major rivers and streams as main avenues for travel, resource gathering, and communal gatherings (O'Steen 1996). Plotting of the distribution of Paleoindian points supports this trend (Anderson and Faught 1998: 164). There is evidence for limited use of uplands away from major streams and rivers

during the late Paleoindian period, but site frequencies are rare (O'Steen 1996). The most common late Paleoindian components found in upland areas are of the Dalton period (Goodyear 1982:391).

Archaeological work performed throughout the state (specifically along the Oconee River) demonstrates a continuation of the Paleoindian settlement pattern during the Early Archaic period (Anderson 1996; O'Steen 1996; Anderson and Faught 1998). There are several available models to help explain the distribution of sites. Anderson presents a model describing inter-riverine movement. In this model bands move along one major river system in a seasonal pattern (Stanyard 2003:27). The model predicts yearly aggregations for trade and finding mates and the drop off of lithic resources along the river indicating seasonal resupply of chert from the Coastal Plain (Stanyard 2003:27). A reanalysis of data from the Savannah River drainage displays no marked drop off of lithic resources, which is argued indicates cross-riverine movement instead of inter-riverine movement (Stanyard 2003:28). The model most pertinent to the project area is that set forth by O'Steen (O'Steen 1996:92-106; Stanyard 2003:29-30). This model combines inter-riverine movement, cross-riverine movement, and site aggregation to help explain the site data from the Oconee River region (O'Steen 1996; Stanyard 2003). O'Steen demonstrates continued site aggregation at shoals along the Oconee River (O'Steen 1996). Additional work performed by John Chamblee in Greene County reinforces this assessment (Chamblee 1996). Site aggregation at the shoals does not appear along the Broad River (Freer 1989). However, O'Steen's model does seem to help explain site distribution along the Tallapoosa River (Stanyard 2003:29-31). In the Early Archaic period there is evidence of increased use of upland resources (O'Steen 1996).

The work performed by Jennifer Freer and John Chamblee demonstrates a significant increase in the use of upland areas away from rivers during the Middle Archaic period (Chamblee 1996, Freer 1989). Freer's survey found nearly double the amount of Middle Archaic sites compared to Early Archaic sites (Freer 1989). Even in the uplands, however, Middle Archaic sites are located near streams (Stanyard 2003:45). Initially it was thought that settlement patterns would be similar to the previous periods with bands traveling along major river systems on a seasonal round (Stanyard 2003:47). However a reevaluation of the archaeological evidence required a new model that explains site distribution as a result of small bands making temporary base camps in areas and harvesting all practical resources then moving on to a new area (Stanyard 2003). An evaluation of sites and their distribution show that 40 percent of known Middle Archaic sites along the Oconee River are found in tributary uplands (Stanyard 2003:47-48).

The Late Archaic period appears to have been a period of decline in population or site creation activities in many areas of Georgia. Freer's survey demonstrates a slight drop in the number of Late Archaic sites compared to the Middle Archaic (Freer 1989). However, there is no appreciable drop in Late Archaic sites in Chamblee's survey area (Chamblee 1996). In the state wide 1992 model, Late Archaic sites are well represented below the fall line and are found most frequently in several Piedmont and Coastal Plain counties (Kowalewski 1995). These data may demonstrate a move back to certain riverine systems and the coast for subsistence. Within the Oconee River system domestic sites are located on or near the confluence of streams and rivers (Stanyard 2003:88). There is no evidence of large aggregation sites like those found along the Savannah River (Stanyard 2003:88). It is thought that the Late Archaic groups living in the central Oconee and Ocmulgee region are homesteaders from the Savannah River region who

moved back a forth between the these river systems seasonally until 1850 B.C. (Stanyard 2003:90).

Setting

All field work was performed in the BF Grant Forest in Putnam County, Georgia. The forest is owned by the University of Georgia and operated by the Warnell School of Forestry. The land that currently comprises the forest was originally privately owned farmland, but when the owners could not pay their taxes during the depression of the 1930s, the US government acquired the land from the county. The university then acquired the land from the federal government in the 1940s. The forest is located in northwestern Putnam County, on what is known as the Washington slope district of the Georgia piedmont (Willingham et al. 1991: 7). The forest covers 12,250 acres and is used for experimental planting and timber production for the university. The forest terrain consists of numerous ridges that are separated by small creeks and streams. Elevations range from 480 to 600 feet above sea level. There are two major creeks running from north to south through the forest and a major tributary of the Oconee River (Little River) borders the forest on the West. Archaeological work has been conducted in the forest since the early 1970s. The majority of the work has consisted of surface survey conducted by University of Georgia Archaeological Field Schools. There have been excavations conducted in the forest at the Bullard Bottom, Monroe, Lauren, and Gladys sites. The forest has also been used for thesis research by University of Georgia graduate students. At the beginning of field work there were 334 known archaeological sites located throughout the forest.

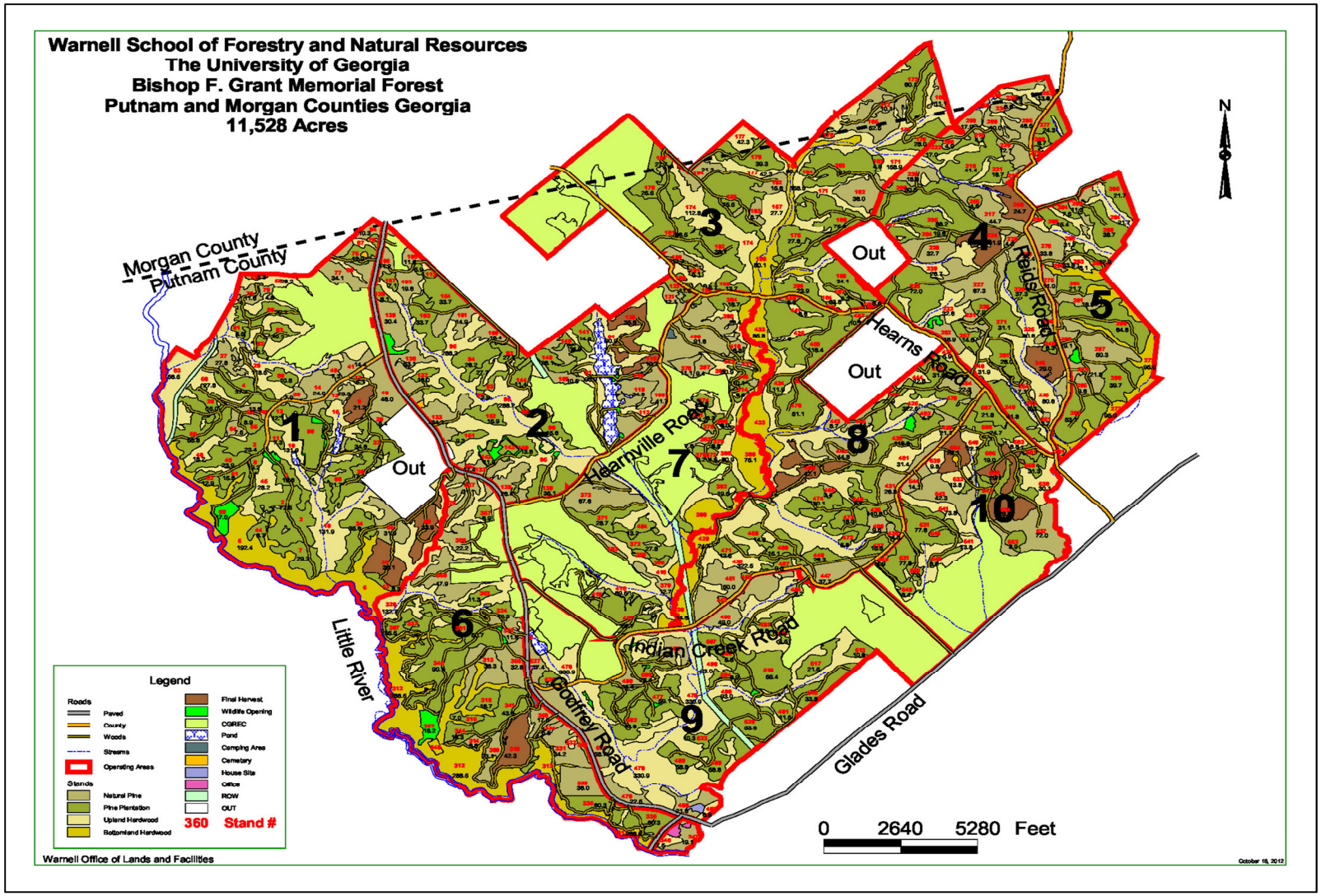

Figure 1: B. F. Grant Forest.

CHAPTER 3: METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Methods and Procedures

The goal of my field work was to document archaeological sites in the forest in clear cut stands that were being prepared for planting. A walking or surface survey was decided on as the best method for locating new archaeological sites. The clear cuts selected had grown over with secondary growth. However, to prepare these clear cut tracts for planting the stands first had bulldozer tracts created around their perimeters. The stands were then sprayed with herbicide from the air to kill the secondary growth. Once the secondary growth was dead, the clear cuts would then have been burned, and finally they would be planted. The burning would have created significant ground clearance which would have been ideal for walking survey. The goal of the work was to discover new sites from all archaeological periods, and to take careful note of Archaic period sites and their distribution in the forest. The clear cut stands selected had previously been surveyed in the summer of 2012 by the University of Georgia Archaeological Field School. The field school discovered a total of 42 sites, but due to abundant secondary growth it was thought that there were still significant undiscovered archaeological resources. It was thought a more effective survey could be undertaken after preparation for planting, because much of the secondary growth would be removed.

The clear cut stands did have bulldozer tracts created around their perimeters and they were sprayed with herbicide that killed all the secondary growth. However, the clear cut stands were not burned. The winter and spring of 2013 were the wettest in recent memory with abundant rainfall. While this was good for preventing drought, it was less than ideal for the

survey work intended. The ground was too damp, which prevented the burning of the clear cuts, and required the planting of the stands with the dead secondary vegetation intact. Without burning, the ground within the interior of the clear cuts was completely obscured, negating the effectiveness of walking survey. Initial reconnaissance of the stands confirmed this assessment. Fortunately, the bulldozer tracts around the perimeter of the clear cut stands have almost complete ground clearance required for surface survey work.

The bulldozer tracts are between three and four meters wide and follow the outer perimeter of each clear cut stand. These tracts can be effectively surveyed by one or two people in a matter of hours. Special attention was paid to the spoil piles on either side of the tracts and the push piles at the end of the tracts.

For the purpose of the survey a site was defined to be any area with archaeological material that was thirty or more meters apart from other archaeological material. The concept of an isolate, an artifact found by itself, but not constituting a site, was rejected. The use of isolates varies, and there is no set definition of what an isolate is. Depending on the investigator, an isolate can be a single diagnostic artifact such as a projectile point or sherd, or a non-diagnostic artifact such as a flake. In some definitions two flakes can be considered an isolate while three flakes are considered a site. The state of preservation of sites in the bulldozer tracts is less than ideal. The disturbance caused by heavy equipment distorts context and can destroy artifacts. It is possible that the only evidence of a site will be a single artifact on the surface.

When artifacts were discovered they were collected and the UTM coordinates of the artifacts were taken using GPS. Rough identification of the artifacts were made in the field and refined in the lab. At the end of the survey the UTM coordinates of suspected sites were entered into ArcGIS along with the coordinates for previously known sites from the clear cuts. Distance

between artifact locations was measured, and artifacts found within 30 meters of each other were considered to be a single site. Artifacts found within 30 meters of previously known sites were considered part of these known sites. Site forms for the new sites and for the revisits were filed with the Georgia Archaeological Site File.

CHAPTER 4: ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIODS IN GEORGIA

Archaeological Periods in Georgia

Human occupation of Georgia dates back at least 12,000 years. Archaeologists divide human occupation in Georgia in to five archaeological periods. These periods are the Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, Mississippian, and Historic periods.

Paleoindian Period

The Paleoindian period began in Georgia around 10,000 BC. In Georgia there are two lithic traditions that define the period. These are the Clovis and Dalton lithic cultures. The Clovis culture is the earliest defined culture in the Western hemisphere. The culture is defined by the prominent fluted point with ground basal edges, and a specialized lithic tool kit consisting of bifacial scrapers, drills, and unifacial tools. Clovis points have been found throughout the United States. It is believed that Clovis people were highly mobile, living in bands with extensive ranges. Subsistence for the Clovis groups consisted of food obtained from hunting and gathering. In the eastern United States a high proportion of Paleoindian sites are found along major water courses (Anderson and Faught 1998:164).

The Dalton culture is marked by a lancelet projectile point with ground basal edges. There is a continuation of specialized toolkits. Dalton points appear during the Late Paleoindian period. These are the most common Paleoindian points found in upland areas away from major water courses (Goodyear 1982:391). With the retreat of the glaciers, death of the megafauna, and subsequent climate change the Paleoindian period transitioned into the Archaic period between 8000 and 7000 BC.

Archaic Period

The Archaic period follows the Paleoindian period. The Archaic is divided into the Early, Middle, and Late Archaic. The Early Archaic begins at the end of the Paleoindian period around 8000 BC and continues until approximately 6000 BC (Anderson 1996a:34-57; Sassaman 2010:22; Stranyard 2003:20-26). The Early Archaic seems to be a continuation of the Paleoindian settlement pattern of small bands with extensive ranges and is identified by the continued use of specialized tool kits and Kirk/Palmer Corner Notched, Big Sandy, St. Alban's, and Lecroy projectile points (Stanyard 2003:20-26).

The Middle Archaic begins around 6000 BC and continues until approximately 3000BC. This subperiod is identified by Kirk Stemmed, Stanly, Morrow Mountain, Guilford, Sykes/White Springs, Benton, Allendale, and Brier Creek projectile points(Stanyard 2003:35-46). Subsistence is still achieved through hunting and gathering. There seems to be an increase in population during this period based on the increase in sites compared to other parts of the Archaic period at least in the piedmont region of Georgia and the Carolinas (Anderson 1996b:163; Stanyard 2003:35).. The most common and longest used projectile point is the Morrow Mountain and its variants. Ranges for bands seem to be more constrained then earlier periods and more sites occur in uplands away from major water courses (Anderson 1996b:169-170; Stanyard 2003:46-50).

The Late Archaic period begins at approximately 3000 BC and ends around 1000 BC (Stanyard 2003:51). During this period the use of soapstone for bowls and ornaments becomes intensive and the first pottery appears. Diagnostic artifacts include Paris Island, Savannah River, and Kiokee Creek projectile points and fiber tempered pottery. There is greater use of metavolcanic stone for lithic tool production. Early horticultural experimentation appears during this period and larger, seasonal occupations occur. The manufacture and export of specialized

goods also begins during this period (Sassaman 2010:22; Stanyard 2003: 54-98). At the end of the period long distance trade breaks down and settlement becomes more dispersed.

Woodland Period

The Woodland period begins around 1000 BC and ends at A.D. 900 (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:1; Wood and Bowen 1995:8-11). Like the previous periods discussed above, the Woodland period is divided into three subperiods, the Early, Middle, and Late Woodland. The Woodland period has been one of the least studied periods in Georgia archaeology.

The Early Woodland period dates between 1000 B.C. and 100 B.C (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:5; Wood and Bowen 1995:8). It is identified by larger, semi-permanent villages and resource acquisition sites. There is regular use of underground storage pits, and sand-tempered pottery is becoming more common place (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:5; Wood and Bowen 1995: 8-9). There is no indication of maize agriculture from this period.

The Middle Woodland period dates between 100 B.C. and A.D. 600 (Wood and Bowen 1995:11-12). This period is associated with the Cartersville check ceramic type which includes Swift Creek Complicated stamping. Sites are small, compact, and found along narrow terraces near streams (Wood and Bowen 1995: 12). Houses are circular and are made of single set posts. Storage pits disappear from the archaeological record. It is during this period that the first solid evidence for the horticulture of local domesticates and maize (although rare) appears in the archaeological record (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:14). Also during this period there is evidence for the participation in the Hopewellian Interaction Sphere (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:10-13). This is typified by the construction of earthen and stone mounds that contain burials with exotic goods. These goods include copper artifacts such as breastplates, earspools,

and gorgets (Wood and Bowen 1995: 13). A prominent pottery type from this period is Swift Creek Complicated Stamped (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:14-15).

The Late Woodland period dates from A.D. 600 to A.D. 900 in Georgia (Wood and Bowen 1995: 13-16). However, the Late Woodland begins as early as A.D. 400 in some areas of the Southeast (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:15). During this period participation in the Hopewellian Interaction Sphere comes to an end. Complex burials with exotic goods cease during this period. Mounds continue to be constructed in some parts of northern Georgia (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:16). There is good evidence of maize horticulture. The bow and arrow is adopted during this period. There are permanent settlements with 8-10 meter round houses constructed around single set posts. The use of underground storage pits is discontinued. Prominent ceramic types from this period are Woodstock Complicated Stamped and Vining Simple Stamped.

Mississippian Period

The Mississippian period is one of the most studied and best understood prehistoric periods in Georgia archaeology. This period dates from A.D. 900 to A.D. 1540. The exact starting date for this period varies by location. In some places, like the Macon Plateau area, there are Mississippian cultures present as early as A.D. 900. However, in many parts of Georgia there are no recognizable Mississippian cultures until A.D. 1000. In some areas Mississippian culture does not emerge until A.D. 1100. There are three subperiods that make up the Mississippian period. They are the Early, Middle, and Late Mississippian. While there are variations in extent, size, and ceramic types across the subperiods, all Mississippian subperiods have mound centers, maize agriculture, and social stratification.

The Early Mississippian period dates from A.D. 900 to A.D. 1200. The earliest Mississippian site known in Georgia is the Macon Plateau site in Bibb County. The site contains six platform mounds, and evidence of residential structures has been found (Hally and Rudolph 1986: 32-33). Pottery from the site is predominantly plain and shell tempered. The vessel forms closely resemble Mississippian vessel forms from the Tennessee River area. It is thought that the people of the Macon Plateau are an intrusive culture who moved into the area from the northwest (Hally and Rudolph 1985:34-35). The Macon Plateau culture, as identified by ceramics, did not spread outside of the Bibb county area. The culture disappears by the end of the Early Mississippian period (Hally and Rudolph 1985:35).

One of the most widespread ceramic types during the Early Mississippian period is Etowah Complicated Stamped. Etowah I, II, and III are three variations of this ceramic type that appear during the Early Mississippian (Hally and Rudolph 1985:38-45). Small amounts of this ceramic are found throughout most of Georgia in small concentrations. There are major concentrations of the ceramic, however, in northwestern Georgia. It is not until Etowah III (A.D. 1150-1200) that the first mounds are constructed at the Etowah site in Bartow County (Hally and Rudolph 1985:44-46).

The Middle Mississippian period dates from A.D. 1200 to A.D. 1350. There is only one identified ceramic type for this period (Hally and Rudolph 1986:51). There are several known sites from across the northern and eastern piedmont. It is during this time that Southeastern Ceremonial Complex becomes widespread across Georgia with high-status burials discovered in several sites. It is during this period that the Etowah site becomes politically dominant in the Etowah River valley (King 2003:63-73). There is intensification in maize agriculture during this period plus the addition of beans and household architecture consists of wall-trench houses.

The Late Mississippian period dates from A.D. 1350 to A.D. 1550. The Lamar ceramic culture is the ceramic tradition in the Piedmont (Hally and Rudolph 1986: 63). During this period maize, beans, and squash become the primary subsistence for the people (Hatch 1995:152). Houses are single post structures constructed in slight depressions that are occupied year round. There are several regional mound centers, large villages without mounds, and dispersed farmsteads (Hally and Rudolph 1986:73-76). Within the project area Lamar period settlement consists of numerous upland farmsteads associated with five mound centers (Hatch 1995:137-140). The Mississippian period ends soon after European contact.

Historic Period

The Historic period in Georgia begins with the Spanish explorations of De Soto in 1540 and De Luna in the 1560s (Joseph et al. 2004:17). By the 1680s the Spanish founded missions for the conversion of the native population along the coast and on the Sea Islands, the most prominent on St. Catherine's island (Joseph et al. 2004:17). The missions were eventually abandoned, and permanent European settlement in Georgia did not occur until 1732 with the founding, by the English, of the city of Savannah (Joseph et al. 2004:17-18). Rapid settlement along the Savannah River and the southern coast ensued. After the Revolutionary War, Georgia became a state in the new nation of the United States (Joseph et al. 2004:21-22). Territorial expansion continued until the 1830s when the remaining Native Americans were removed to the west and the modern borders were reached (Joseph et al. 2004:24-26). Throughout Georgia history new cities and towns were founded, and new industrial and economic sites were created. Population growth continued through the present.

Historic period sites are identified by the presence of manufactured goods (ceramic, glass, steel/iron) and architecture remnants of brick, concrete, and metal. Historic site types

include plantations, farmsteads, mills, furnaces, mines, towns, cities, forts, battlefields, and cemeteries. A site is considered an archaeological site if it is 50 years old or older (Joseph et al. 2004:1).

CHAPTER 5: SURVEY AND DISCUSSION

The Project

Field work was conducted from January through May of 2013. There was a break in work from the end of January through the beginning of March in hope that the secondary growth would be burned. The wet weather ultimately prevented burning of the clear cuts, so walking survey of the bulldozer tracts resumed in March and was completed by May. The following is a discussion of field work. I use the divisions of the forests known as Areas and discuss each clear cut surveyed in that area and what sites were discovered or expanded in these clear cuts.

Area 4

Area 4 is located in the northeastern corner of the B.F. Grant Forest. It is bordered on the east by Reids Road and on the west by Hearns Road. The southern border terminates at the intersection of Reids and Hearns Roads. The northern border is anchored at the corner of private land in the west and the boundaries of the forest in the north. There were three clear cut stands of interest in Area 4. These are Stand 256, Stand 224, and Stand 245. All of these stands were surveyed beginning with Stand 256.

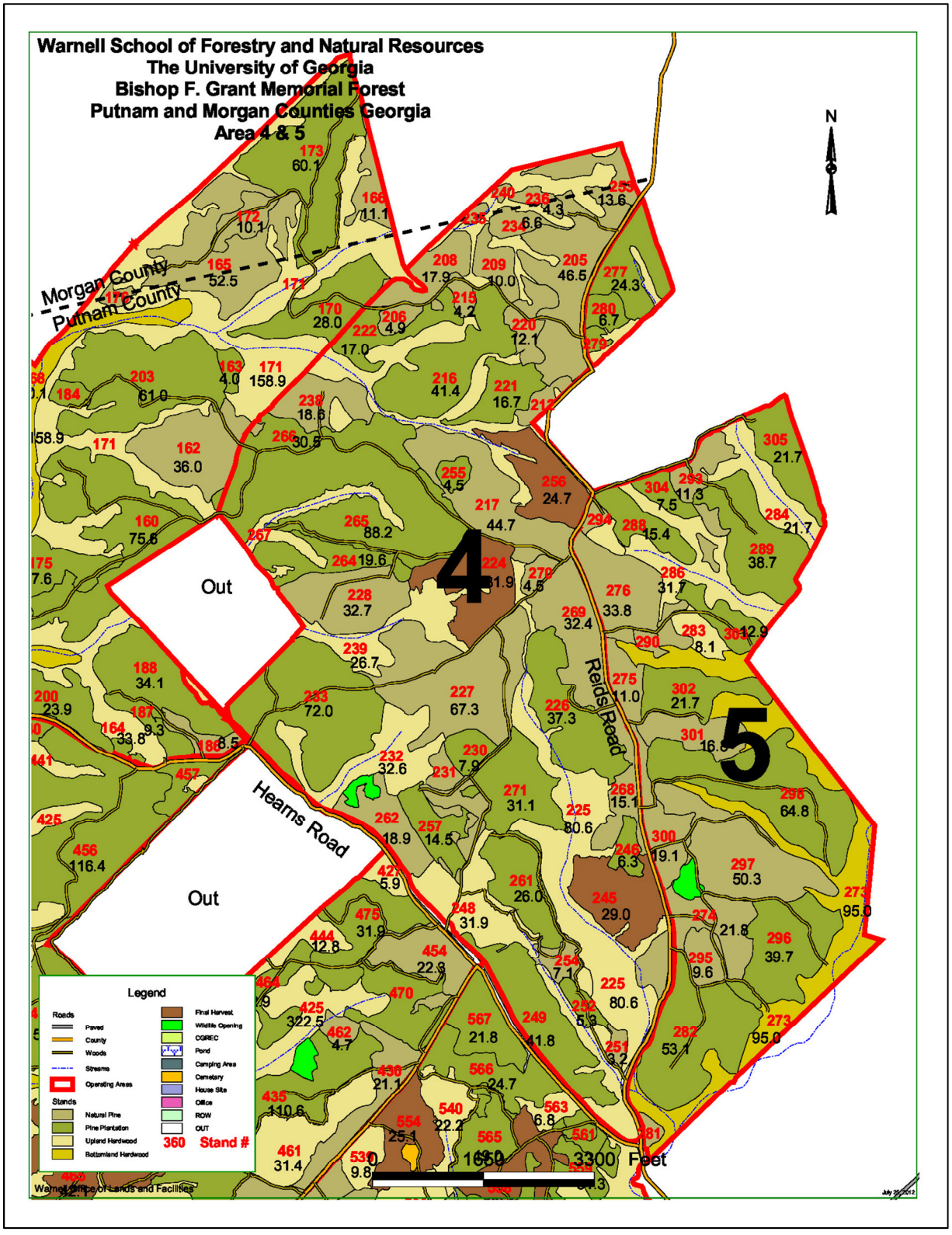

Figure 2: Area 4 and5 in the B.F. Grant Forest

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Stand 256

Figure 3: Stand 256 looking south.

Figure 4: Stand 256 looking north.

This stand is bordered on the east and southeastern edges by Reids Road. Directly across from the stand is a commercial chicken farm. This tract was originally surveyed during the

summer of 2012 by the University of Georgia field school. There were a total of eight sites discovered during 2012 field work. All of the sites are prehistoric, with only two being identifiable as Archaic sites.

In January, 2013 survey of this stand began. This was the first stand visited and full coverage survey of the stand was attempted, but the dead vegetation completely obscured the ground in the interior of the stand. A walking survey was conducted around the perimeter of the stand. Three new sites were discovered and two previously discovered sites were revisited during the course of field work. Two of the newly discovered sites were prehistoric sites of unknown date, each consisting of a single quartz flak. The last newly discovered site is a historic site identified by a whiteware ceramic. Other artifacts were discovered, but they belonged to two previously discovered sites. These sites are 9PM2189 and 9PM2192. For site 9PM2189 an additional broken quartz PPK (projectile point/knife) and quartz flake were discovered within thirty meters of the original site boundary. A plain prehistoric sherd was discovered within thirty meters of 9PM2192.

Stand 224

Figure 5: Stand 224 looking south.

This stand is south and west of Stand 256. It is separated from Stand 256 by Stand 217, which is still forested. During the summer of 2012 seven sites were discovered in this clear cut stand. Two of the previously known sites (9PM2223 and 9PM2225) are unidentified prehistoric. Four of the previously known sites (9PM2224, 9PM2226, 9PM2227, and 9PM2229) are identified as Mississippian sites. Two sites, 9PM2226 and 9PM2229 have historic components. The final site, 9PM2228, is a modern trash scatter.

Stand 224 was the second stand surveyed during field work. Initial survey work followed the perimeter bulldozer tracts and roads. Five sites were identified along the bulldozer tract and roads. All of the sites are unidentified prehistoric. Four of the sites consist of quartz flakes or debitage. One of the sites (9PM2296) consists of a broken PPK, possibly a Morrow Mountain point, but a definitive identification would be problematic. After performing a walking survey of the bulldozer tracts and roads, I walked three North-South transects to ascertain the amount of

ground cover in Stand 224. Only one site, 9PM2297, was discovered. This site consists of one plain prehistoric sherd.

Stand 245

Figure 6: Stand 245 looking south.

Figure 7: Stand 245 looking north.

Stand 245 is south of Stands 256 and 224 along Reids Road. Six sites were discovered in this clear cut stand in the summer of 2012. Four of the known sites (9PM2198, 9PM2199, 9PM2200, and 9PM2201) are unidentified prehistoric sites consisting of various lithic scatters. From 9PM2201 seven quartz tools were recovered. While the author believes the site is unidentified prehistoric, the site form suggests the site has possible Mississippian and Early Archaic components.

The 2013 field work consisted of a walking survey around the perimeter bulldozer tract of Stand 245. Three sites (9PM2298, 9PM2299, and 9PM2300) were discovered and two sites (9PM2198 and 9PM2200) were revisited. 9PM2298 is an unidentified prehistoric site consisting of a quartz flake. Site 9PM2299 is a multi-component site with an unidentified prehistoric component and a historic component. Site 9PM2300 is a scatter of historic ceramics, glass, and brick fragments suggesting a possible house site. The bulldozer tracts revealed additional archaeological material within 30 meters of sites 9PM2198 and 9PM2200. Additional artifacts recovered for 9PM2198 include seven quartz debitage and one quartz flake. Seven quartz debitage and five flakes were recovered in association with 9PM2200.

Area 10

Area 10 is south of Area 4 and is bordered on the northeast by Hearns/Reids Road, on the southeast by Glades Road and the forest boundary, on the southwest by a spur of Indian Creek Road, and finally on the northwest by Indian Creek Road proper. This area contains three clear cut tracts that were surveyed during the field work period. These clear cut stands are Stand 554, 558, and 534. All of these clear cuts were first surveyed during the summer of 2012 field school.

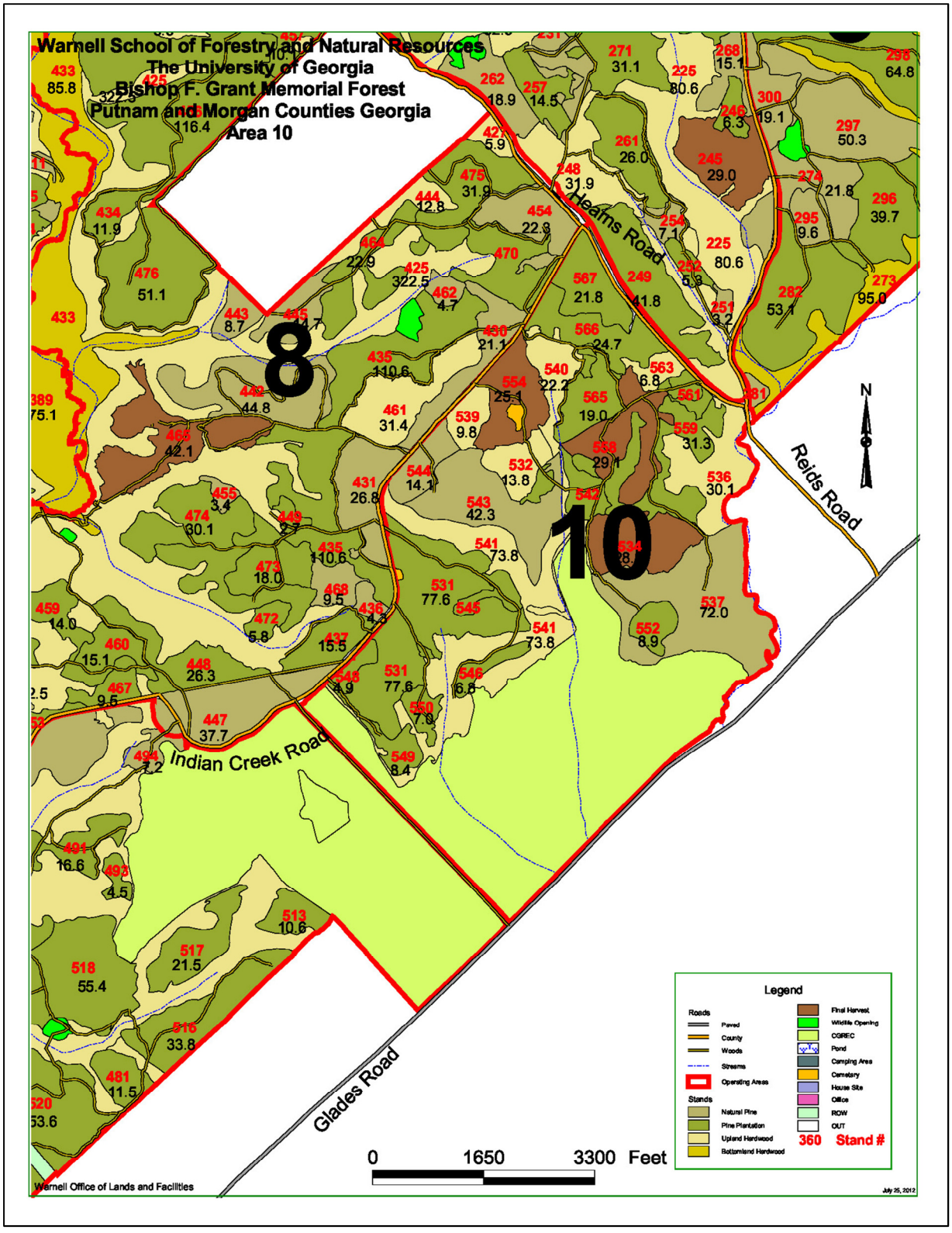

Figure 8: Areas 8 and 10 in the B. F. Grant Forest.

Stand 554

Figure 9: Stand 554 looking south (trees mark the cemetery).

Figure 10: Stand 554 looking east.

Stand 554 is in the northern portion of Area 10. It is bordered on its northern end by Indian Creek Road. Located in the south-central portion of the stand is a historic cemetery. Work

conducted in the summer of 2012 located six sites. Three sites (9PM2204, 9PM2205, and 9PM2206) all have prehistoric and historic components. Site 9PM2204 is a massive site that includes the historic cemetery located in the stand. The other three sites (9PM2207, 9PM2208, and 9PM2209) are all Mississippian sites.

A pedestrian survey of the bulldozer tracts around the perimeter of the stand located 14 sites and one site (9PM2207) was revisited. Six sites (9PM2301, 9PM2302, 9PM2304, 9PM2307, 9PM2327, and 9PM2331) are historic scatters. The sites vary from a few artifacts to several. One of the largest artifact scatters found is 9PM2331. This site is a thick scatter in the bulldozer tract in the northeastern corner of the stand. There was an abundance of bricks that suggests the former presence of a structure.

Four sites (9PM2303, 9PM2306, 9PM2308, and 9PM2329) are prehistoric scatters. All of these scatters are relatively sparse, with only a few artifacts recovered from each site. The more abundant prehistoric artifacts were found in multi-component sites.

Four sites (9PM2305, 9PM2326, 9PM2328, and 9PM2330) are all multi-component sites with historic and prehistoric components. One of the sites, 9PM2305, is a relatively small scatter with only a few artifacts from the prehistoric and historic periods. The rest of the sites have good representation of both historic and prehistoric artifacts. However, 9PM2330 is predominantly prehistoric with a minor historic component.

Site 9PM2207 was revisited in the course of performing survey work. The site was originally identified as a single component, Mississippian ceramic scatter. The revisit recovered additional prehistoric ceramic and lithic artifacts as well as small historic component represented by a historic whiteware sherd. These newly discovered artifacts also extended the site boundaries

from ten by ten meters running northwest to southeast to 26 meters by 28 meters northwest to southeast.

This stand has the largest number of sites identified from this survey. More artifacts may have been recovered from other stands, but the extent of artifact material found in every part of Stand 554 that was surveyed is impressive. The expanse and density of artifact remains in this stand indicate that this area was heavily utilized in both prehistoric and historic times.

Stand 558

Figure 11: Stand 558 looking southeast.

Figure 12: Stand 558 looking west.

Stand 558 is slightly southeast of Stand 554. It is separated from Stand 554 by a valley with a small stream running through it. There were three sites discovered during the summer of 2012 field season. These sites are 9PM2218, 9PM2219, and 9PM2220. During recent field work four new sites were discovered and one site, 9PM2219, was revisited.

Three of the newly discovered sites (9PM2288, 9PM2289, and 9PM2320) are single component prehistoric sites. Sites 9PM2288 and 9PM2289 are small lithic scatters. Site 9PM2320 is a small ceramic scatter.

The last site discovered during recent field work is a multi-component site with prehistoric and historic components. The prehistoric component is made up of ceramic sherds and quartz flakes. The historic component is represented by brown glass.

Site 9PM2219 was revisited early in the project. During initial reconnaissance of the project area in January 2013, additional prehistoric and historic artifacts were recovered. These included 18 prehistoric sherds, 12 lithics, and historic glass. It was determined these artifacts

were found within the previously documented boundaries of the site. While not far from Stand 554, Stand 558 seems to have less archaeological material than the former stand.

Stand 534

Figure 13: Stand 534 looking east.

Stand 534 lies due south, and downhill from Stand 558. There were three sites found during the summer of 2012 field work. These sites, 9PM2215, 9PM2216, and 9PM2217, are all prehistoric sites. Site 9PM2215 is a prehistoric ceramic and lithic site thought to be a possible Mississippian farmstead with a lithic quarry/manufacturing component. Site 9PM2217 is a prehistoric lithic and ceramic scatter thought to be another farmstead site. The final site, 9PM2216, is a small quartz lithic scatter.

Recent field work uncovered four new sites. There were no revisits of previously known sites. The sites (9PM2315, 9PM2316, 9PM2317, and 9PM2318) are all prehistoric sites. Three of the sites are lithic scatters of various sizes. The largest lithic scatter site is 9PM2316. This site is a predominantly quartz lithic scatter, but some chert was also recovered. The scatter is 3 meters

wide and 60 plus meters in length along an east-west axis. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered. Site 9PM2318 is a single incised sherd thirty or more meters from other recognized sites. This stand is also not far from Stand 554, but artifact distribution across the stand seems sparse.

Area 8

This area borders Area 10 along its northwestern border and is separated from Area 10 by Indian Creek Road. The northern border is Hearns Road and the western border is a creek basin that runs north to south. There was only one clear cut stand in this area. A walking survey was performed during the course of field work.

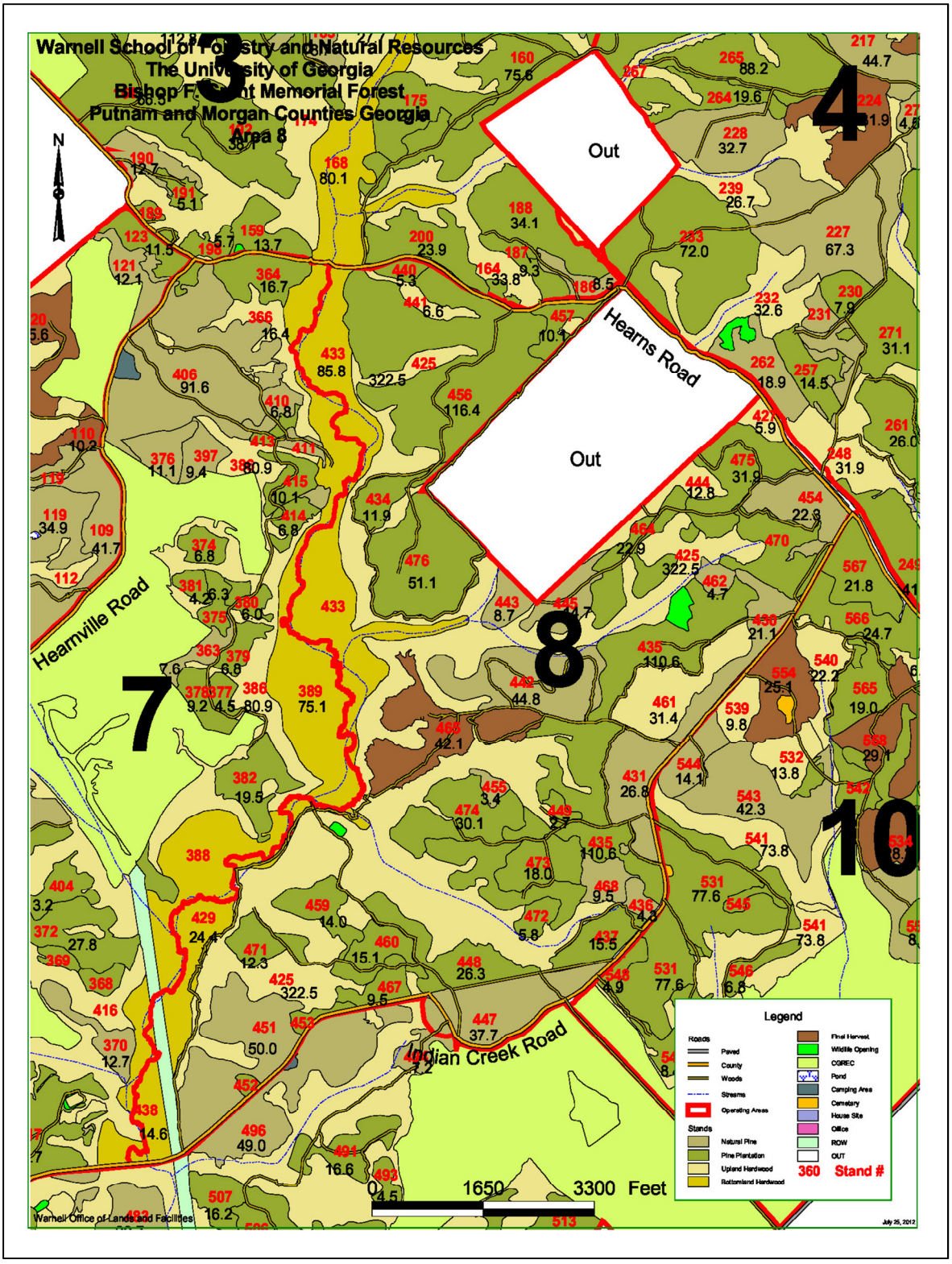

Figure 14: Area 8 in the B.F. Grant Forest.

Stand 465

Figure 15: Stand 465 looking west.

This stand is centrally located within Area 8. It is just east of the western border of the area and encompasses a finger ridge and its downhill slopes. There were five sites located during previous work performed in the summer of 2012. Site 9PM2210 is a multi-component site with historic and prehistoric components. The prehistoric component is predominantly Mississippian in date. The historic component probably dated between the 19th and 20th centuries. The other sites (9PM2211, 9PM2212, 9PM2213, and 9PM2214) are all prehistoric sites. Site 9PM2212 is a lithic scatter consisting of quartz and chert debitage with no recovered diagnostic artifacts. The other sites, Sites 9PM2211, 9PM2213, and 9PM2214, are prehistoric ceramic and lithic scatters. The ceramic components are Mississippian in date. The lithic material is predominantly debitage and flakes, but sites 9PM2211 and 9PM2213 have diagnostic projectile points that date to the Archaic period.

During the course of field work five new sites were discovered and one site (9PM2213) was revisited. Three of the sites (9PM2321, 9PM2322, and 9PM2324) are prehistoric sites. Sites 9PM2321 and 9PM2322 are ceramic and lithic scatters. The predominant ceramics from these sites are Mississippian, most likely Lamar, with a small quantity of lithic debris. 9PM2324 is a small quartz lithic scatter. Several flakes and a small core were recovered.

Sites 9PM2323 and 9PM2325 are multi-component sites with historic and prehistoric components. Site 9PM2323 is a small ceramic scatter consisting of plain prehistoric sherds and a historic whiteware sherd. Site 9PM2325 is a large scatter consisting of historic ceramics, glass, and metal with a few prehistoric plain sherds and lithic debris.

During the walking survey of Stand 465 a site previously documented was revisited. Additional artifacts were recovered from Site 9PM2213, and the site boundaries were extended. Three sherds, two plain and one incised, were discovered within 30 meters of the site so they were considered part of the site. The site boundary should now extend to where these artifacts were discovered. While there were fewer sites identified in Stand 465 than Stand 554, occupation of this area seems substantial. While there are artifact scatters across Stand 554, the scatters are predominantly small. In Stand 465 artifacts seem to be distributed in more compact, denser scatters.

Area 2

Area 2 is located in the north-central section of the forest. The area is bordered on the northeast by Hearns Road and on the southeast by Hearnville Road. The northwest and southwest of the area is bordered by Godfrey Road. The northern border of Area 2 is the B.F. Forest boundary. There are two clear cut stands located in Area 2. Stands 110 and 120 were initially surveyed during the summer of 2012 and were resurveyed as part of this project.

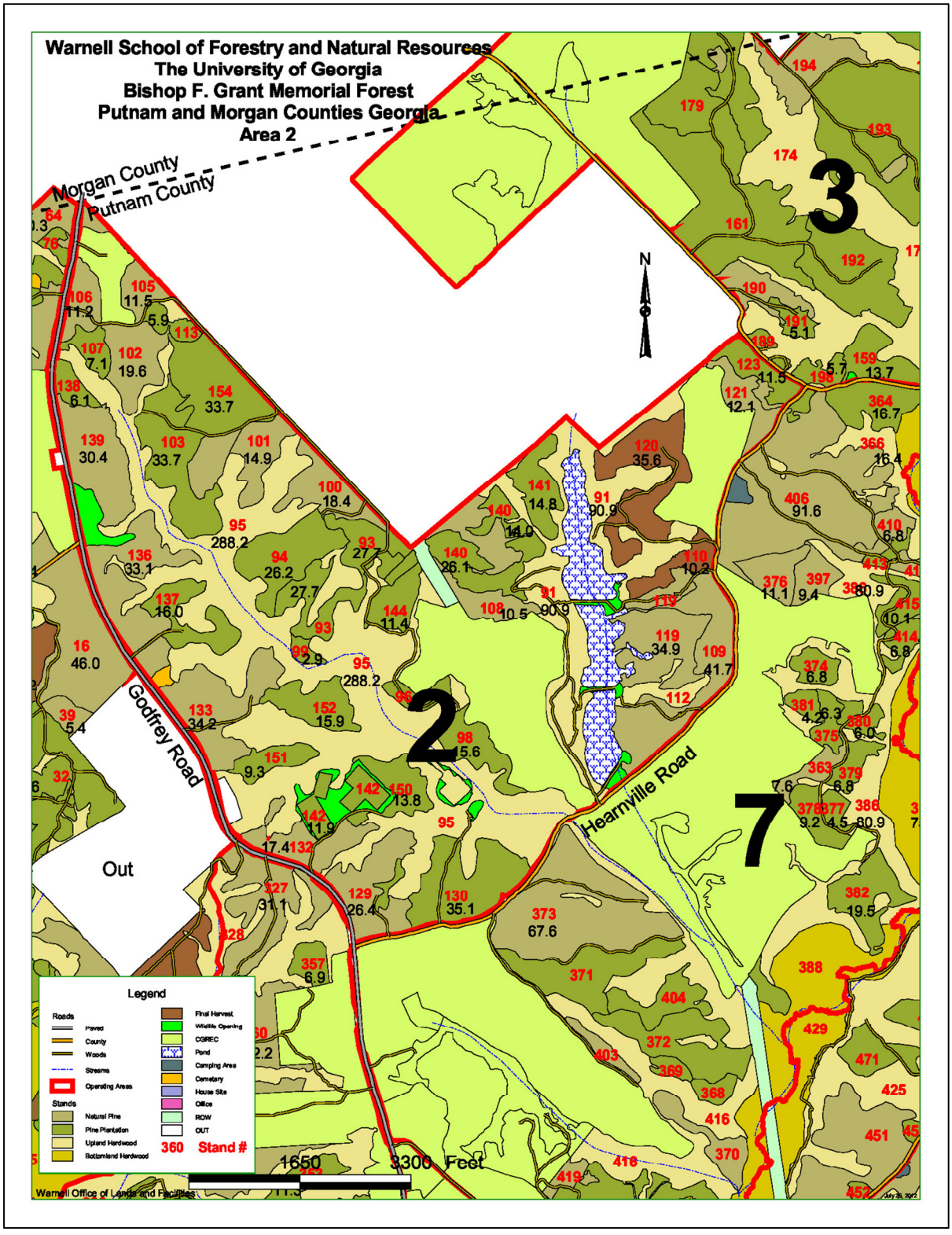

Figure 16: Area 2 in the B.F. Grant Forest.

Stand 110

Figure 17: Stand 110 looking west.

Two sites were located during field work conducted during the summer of 2012. These sites (9PM2202 and 9PM2203) both have prehistoric and historic components. Site 9PM2202 is a predominantly historic as identified by historic ceramics and glass recovered from the site. There is only a small prehistoric lithic component. The site 9PM2203 has a small historic ceramic scatter and a small quartz lithic scatter.

Three sites were discovered and one previously known site was revisited during the course of survey work in this stand. The three newly discovered sites are 9PM2310, 9PM2311, and 9PM2312. Site 9PM2310 is a historic site identified by historic whiteware recovered from the area. Site 9PM2312 is a prehistoric site consisting of a piece of quartz debitage. The site 9PM2311 has both historic and prehistoric components. Historic whiteware ceramics and quartz flakes were recovered from the site.

The previously known site, 9PM2202, was revisited during the course of field work. Additional artifacts were recovered from the site area. Historic ceramic and glass was recovered along with prehistoric quartz debris. The artifacts were recovered within 30 meters of the previously known site. This extended the site width by 2 meters to 39 meters in width. Artifacts and sites seem sparse in Stand 110, but this impression may be the result of the size of the stand. Stand 110 is one of the smaller stands surveyed having only an area of 10.2 acres. By comparison Stand 554 is 25.1 acres in size.

Stand 120

Figure 18: Stand 120 looking west.

Figure 19: Stand 120 looking east.

Two sites were discovered during field work conducted in the summer of 2012. Both sites have prehistoric and historic components. Site 9PM2221 consists of a rock pile thought to be a fallen chimney, a large scatter of historic materials, and a small prehistoric lithic scatter. Site 9PM2222 is a prehistoric scatter consisting of ceramics and lithics. There is a small historic glass component included with site 9PM2222.

The walking survey of the bulldozer tract and road discovered two new sites and revisited one site, 9PM2221. One of the newly discovered sites, Site 9PM2313, has both prehistoric and historic components. The prehistoric component is the larger of the two. Several ceramics and quartz flakes were recovered. A brick fragment and historic glass makes up the historic component for this site.

The other newly discovered site, Site 9PM2314, is a prehistoric site. The site is small consisting of a few lithic flakes and one broken quartz projectile point. The base is preserved

allowing for identification. The projectile is a Kirk Corner Notched, which dates the site to the Early Archaic period.

One previously known site was revisited during the survey of this stand. Site 9PM2221 was revisited and additional artifacts were recovered. The majority of artifacts recovered were historic ceramics and glass. One unique find was a gilded pin. All of the additional artifacts were recovered within 30 meters of the original site therefore the site size remains as that initially reported.

Discussion of Survey

As mentioned previously the plan for the walking survey had to be modified based on the condition of the clear cut stands. The original plan was to conduct systematic walking surveys of clear cut stands devoid of secondary growth. This would have allowed for the survey of approximately 256 acres or approximately 104 hectares. However, significant rainfall during the winter and spring prevented the burning of the clear cuts before planting. While the herbicide did kill the secondary growth, it was still in place obscuring the ground surface within the clear cut stands. This restricted walking survey to the bulldozer tracts and roads that bordered the clear cut areas.

The total area covered by the survey of bulldozer tracts was significantly less than what was originally intended. The total area covered was approximately 8.25 hectares. Surprisingly though, the final results are promising. There were a total of 45 new sites identified during the course of field work, and additional material was recovered from nine previously known sites. This is interesting when compared to other surface surveys conducted in the region. Three other surface surveys were examined in preparation for this project. These surveys performed in Oglethorpe, Greene, and Putnam counties all covered larger areas than the present survey. The

surveys conducted in Oglethorpe and Greene counties by Jennifer Freer and John Chamblee located more sites than the current survey. The survey conducted in Putnam County by Kelli Guest covered 92 hectares. This survey only located 35 sites. A comparison of these surveys is located in the table below.

County	Project	Total Hectares	Total Sites	Total Site Density
Greene	Chamblee, 1996	288	70	1 Site/4.11h/a
Oglethorpe	Freer, 1989	1198	311	1 Site/3.9h/a
Putnam	Guest, 2009	92	35	1 Site/2.6h/a
Putnam	Wynn, 2013	8.25	45	1 Site/0.18h/a

Table 1: Total Site Distribution

The sheer number of sites located during the course of the current field work needs to be discussed. The survey focused on thin areas of cleared ground around the perimeter of the clear cut stands. The bulldozer tracts and roads provided excellent ground clearance. It appears that there was excellent ground clearance in some of Kelli Guest's clear cuts, but ground clearance seems to vary. In some cases there is less than 50 percent ground clearance in some clear cut stands (Guest 2009: 45-92). Bulldozer tracts seldom have less than 90 percent ground clearance. Also, the tracts follow landforms and avoid steep slopes and gullies. Human activity, while not limited to even or gently sloping land, is more likely to occur there and be better preserved. Another factor that may account for the large number of sites found in a small total area is the clear cut stands selected for the project have been more densely occupied then the clear cut stands selected for Guest's survey work.

Requirements of what constitute a site and its dimensions are variable. For this project I define a site as any evidence of human activity be it a large, dense scatter of artifacts or a single artifact. Guest defines sites in a similar manner (Guest 2009: 14). Site size was determined by including all artifacts found within a 30 meters of the initial find as one site. Any archaeological

remains found more than 30 meters from a site were considered a separate site. The narrow width of bulldozer tracts, between 3 and 5 meters wide, make determining accurate width of the site problematic. Unless otherwise indicated site width is considered to be 30 meters. An arbitrary site size can be corrected with additional investigation.

Assigning dates to many of the sites located during the survey is difficult. For many of the sites no diagnostic artifacts were recovered. Only one lithic scatter contained a datable projectile point. Lithic scatters were not the only sites difficult to date. Prehistoric ceramic scatters are difficult to date when the ceramics are plain body sherds. Without additional diagnostic ceramics, such as rims or surface treated ceramics, it is difficult to place plain ceramics temporally. The most common prehistoric ceramics recovered in the forest are Late Mississippian Lamar phase ceramics. These are identified by complicated stamping, incising, and rim style. Other prehistoric ceramic types recovered from the forest include Late Woodland Simple Stamped ceramics. Identifying plain ceramics as Lamar phase ceramics is a reasonable assessment, but in the author's opinion there is enough doubt to classify a plain ceramic scatter as unidentified prehistoric.

The following table shows the breakdown of sites by period. Sites that are not datable to a specific prehistoric period are counted as unidentified prehistoric. Sites with large prehistoric and historic components are placed in their own category since the sites cannot be dated to a single period. Datable sites are assigned to one of the five archaeological periods (Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, Mississippian, and Historic).

Paleoindian	Archaic	Woodland	Mississippian	Historic	UID Prehist.	Hist/Prehist.
0	1	0	4	11	23	6

Table 2: Site Period Distribution of Wynn 2013 survey.

The most common site located during the course of field work was unidentified prehistoric. Approximately 51 percent of sites located during the survey were unidentified prehistoric sites. These sites compromise all prehistoric sites with no diagnostic artifacts. Historic sites are the next most represented sites in the survey area. Historic sites constitute 24 percent of all sites found. These sites are identified as sites with only historic components. Approximately, thirteen percent of the sites located during the survey are sites with significant prehistoric and historic components. Mississippian sites constitute 8 percent of all sites located. These sites are identified by diagnostic Lamar ceramics. Archaic sites also constitute less than two percent of sites located during the survey.

The lack of identifiable Archaic sites in this survey is unfortunate, but understandable. While several lithic scatters were located during the course of field work there were no diagnostic projectile points recovered from these sites. One explanation for the lack of diagnostic projectile points is surface collection by the general public and workers in the forest. Projectile point or arrowhead collecting is a popular hobby. While ceramics can go unnoticed projectile points stand out from other debris.

More likely though, the area covered was not sufficient to locate more Archaic period sites. While several clear cut stands across the forest were surveyed, only the bulldozer tracts provided ground clearance acceptable for walking survey. Only thin areas of the sites were exposed reducing the probability of recovering diagnostic artifacts. The total area covered is quite small, only 8.25 hectares, especially when compared to other surveys projects.

County	Project	Total Hectares	Total Sites	P. Indian	E. Arc.	M. Arc.	L. Arc.	Total Site Density
Greene	Chamblee, 1996	288	70	0	2	9	9	1 site/14.4h/a
Ogle-thorpe	Freer, 1989	1198	311	4	24	41	28	1 site/12.4h/a
Putnam	Guest, 2009	92	35	0	0	1	5	1 site/15.3h/a
Putnam	Wynn, 2013	8.25	45	0	1	0	0	1 site/8.25h/a

Table 3: Paleoindian and Archaic Site Distribution

This small size of the survey gives an inaccurate impression for the frequency of Archaic sites. The other surveys indicate a Paleoindian or Archaic sites occur at one site per twelve to fifteen hectares. The sample size from this survey is too small. As it stands there is one Archaic site every 1.74 hectares. The low sample size coupled with the small area surveyed make this site density figure inaccurate. The current survey work is not a large enough sample to study Archaic settlement patterns in the BF Grant Forest.

CHAPTER 6: ARCHAIC SETTLEMENT AND DISCUSSION

Archaic Settlement in B. F. Grant

With only one identified Archaic site from the walking survey additional data are required to assess Archaic settlement in the BF Grant Forest. A review of the site forms from BF Grant identified approximately 386 total sites in the forest. Out of these, 35 sites were Archaic and one site is Paleoindian. The Middle Archaic is the largest represented period with 18 sites. Early Archaic sites are the second most represented with seven total sites. There are six Late Archaic sites and five unidentified Archaic sites. The sole Paleoindian site is identified by a Dalton projectile point. Dalton points mark the Late Paleoindian/Early Archaic transition and for this reason the site is included in this assessment. The distribution of these Paleoindian and Archaic sites is interesting. While there is a major tributary bordering the forest on the west and at least two substantial creeks running through the central and eastern end of the forest, sites do not appear close to the main channels. All of the sites are in the uplands, with most near upland tributaries or drainages. Only one site, 9PM1455, is located in the floodplain next to Big Indian Creek. Unfortunately, the site is only identified as Archaic with no subperiod given. All of the sites are located in the central and eastern portions of the forest.

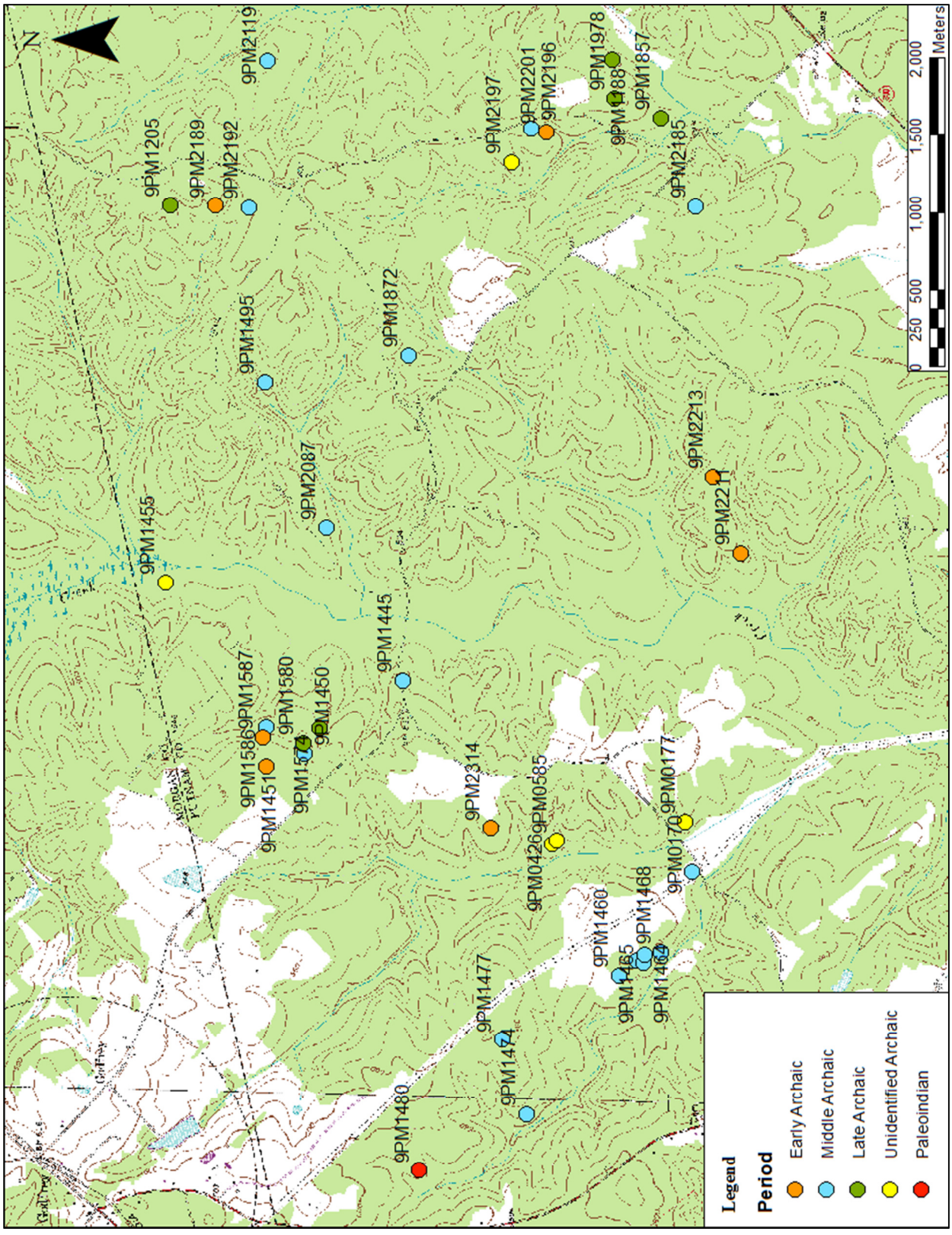

Figure 20: Archaic Site Distribution.

All of the Early Archaic sites are found on ridge tops above 500 feet. These sites are near upland drainages. These drainages flow in to the Big Indian Creek basin. While the sample is small, it does demonstrate differences with current models of Early Archaic settlement. Early Archaic settlement is thought to be a continuation of the Paleoindian period settlement pattern (Anderson 1996:50-52; Anderson and Faught 1998:164; O'Steen 1996:92-106; Stanyard 2003:26-27). That is Early Archaic sites appear in the flood plains and terraces along major rivers and tributary streams (Stanyard 2003:30). While some Early Archaic sites are found in upland areas, dedicated use of upland areas is not thought to occur until the Middle Archaic period (Kowalewski 1995: 162). In contrast to this, the Early Archaic sites are located in the uplands away from the major tributary of the Oconee, the Little River.

The Middle Archaic sites demonstrate more variability in location. There is evidence of site clustering along a tributary drainage for Big Indian Creek. The first cluster consists of five sites, 9PM1460, 9PM1463, 9PM1464, 9PM1465, and 9PM1468, which straddle a ridge line and terrace above the drainage. Approximately 600 meters to the southeast another Middle Archaic site is located on the second terrace above the same drainage near the intersection of two drainages. The second cluster consists of three Middle Archaic sites. They are more spread out. Two sites, 9PM1450 and 9PM1586, are within 300 meters of one another. They are on a ridge above Big Indian Creek. The last site 9PM1445, is south and east of the other two sites on the third ridge terrace above Big Indian Creek. To the northeast of 9PM1445 four Middle Archaic sites form an arc to the east. These sites, 9PM2087, 9PM1495, 9PM2192, and 9PM2119, are located on the second or third ridge terraces above streams. 9PM1495 and 9PM2192 are near the ends of different tributary streams/drainages that flow into Big Indian Creek. 9PM2119 is on a

third ridge terrace above a drainage that flows into Glady Creek. Finally 9PM2087 is on a second level terrace near the confluence of a drainage and Big Indian Creek.

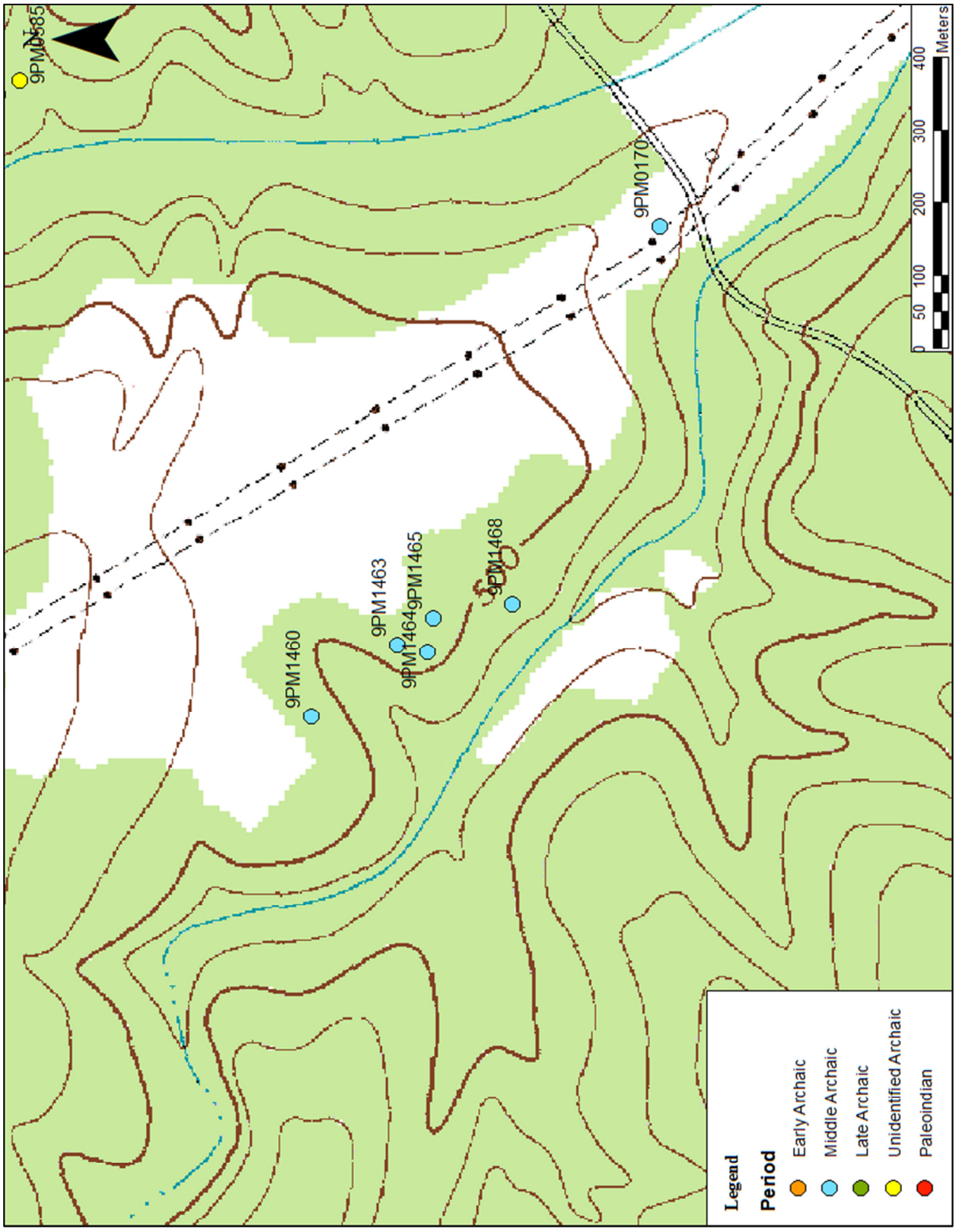

Figure 21: Middle Archaic Site Clustering.

Approximately 1000 meters south and east of 9PM1495 is site 9PM1872. It is on a second level terrace above a drainage that flows into Big Indian Creek. Southeast of site 9PM1872 is site 9PM2201. This is another site located on a second level terrace above a tributary stream that flows into Glady Creek. The final Middle Archaic site is southwest of 9PM2201 located on a ridge top. This site is 9PM2185. It is over 500 meters from the nearest drainage.

Middle Archaic sites are often found on ridge tops (Anderson 1996b: 164). Morrow Mountain sites, which are common in the area, can be found in floodplains, terraces near major rivers, and occur near streams in the upland (Stanyard 2003: 45). In the Wallace Reservoir project area 40 percent of Middle Archaic sites were located in tributary uplands (Stanyard 2003: 47-48). The sites on BF Grant are all found in the upland. Six sites (9PM1477, 9PM1450, 9PM1586, 9PM1445, 9PM2192, and 9PM2185) are all located on ridges. Except for three sites, these sites are associated with upland streams. The distribution of Middle Archaic sites in BF Grant seems to match the models for Middle Archaic settlement patterns. The current model for Middle Archaic settlement patterns is the adaptive flexibility model (Stanyard 2003: 48-49). This model suggests bands settle in a centralized area and exploited neighboring resource areas. Once the resources are depleted then the band moves on (Stanyard 2003: 48-49). It is possible the cluster of five sites is one of the centralized base camps, and the outlier sites are resource acquisition sites. However, the Middle Archaic period lasts for three millennia, and the Morrow Mountain phase itself is thought to last 1,000 years. Without additional investigation and a refined chronology there is no way to determine when the Middle Archaic sites were created, whether they were created all at one time, or created over the span of a millennium or more.

The Late Archaic sites are clustered in two areas of the forest with one apparent outlier. There is a cluster of three sites (9PM1857, 9PM1978, and 9PM1188) in the southeastern portion of the forest. All three of these sites are on low ridges or ridge slopes above Glady Creek. The other cluster is in the north-central area of the forest. These two sites (9PM1580 and 9PM1574) are 150 meters apart. They are both on a ridge slope 600-1,000 meters west of Big Indian Creek. The last Late Archaic site, 9PM1205, is almost due north from site 9PM1857. It is located on a ridge 500 meters from a tributary drainage of Big Indian Creek.

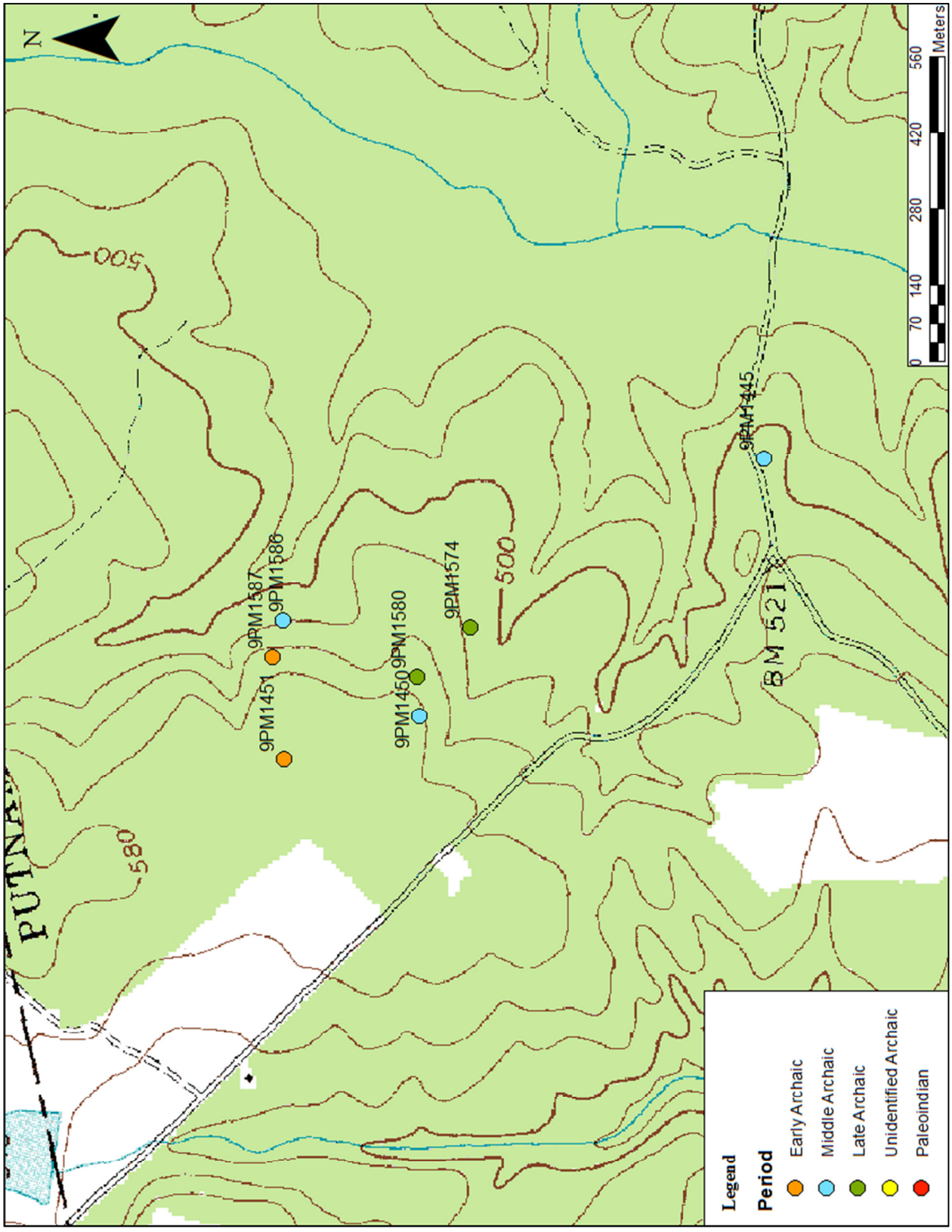

Figure 22: Archaic Site cluster (Early, Middle, and Late).

Settlement patterns for the Late Archaic are hard to define. Settlement patterns change as the period progresses. During the Undifferentiated Phase, 5000-3850 B.P., settlement patterns do not vary much from the Middle Archaic (Stanyard 2003: 58). About 4200 B.P. larger sites begin to emerge along major rivers and tributaries. These sites are used as staging areas for expeditions to extract resources from the surrounding area (Stanyard 2003: 58). Pottery may have been introduced as early as 4,000 B.P., but it was seldom used (Stanyard 2003: 58). No soapstone is used at all.

The Black Shoals phase, 3850-3450 B.P., is the next phase to develop. During this phase metavolcanic material is used for tool making, soapstone appears, and fiber-tempered ceramics enter use. Settlement patterns during this phase resemble those of the Savannah River drainage, with larger sites near the confluence of rivers and tributaries and smaller settlements in the uplands (Stanyard 2003: 87-90). In the Oconee region there are no documented aggregation sites like those found in the Savannah River drainage at this time (Stanyard 2003: 87-90).

While genuinely thought to be constrained to the Savannah River drainage, the Stalling Island culture has been documented in the Lake Sinclair area and as far west as the upper Ocmulgee (Stanyard 2003:95-96). This phase is marked by the switch from metavolcanic lithic material to Coastal Plain chert for tool making. Sites during this period grow in size and permanence (Stanyard 2003:95). It is unclear how often this occurred in the Oconee region.

The Undifferentiated Post-Stallings Phase (3500-3000 B.P.) follows the collapse of the Stalling Island phase. There is a shift to new ceramics types such as Dunlap Fabric Marked by the end of the period. Soapstone bowls go out of use by the end of the period as well (Stanyard 2003: 96-97). Settlement seems to shift to the floodplains, and away from upland sites (Stanyard 2003: 97). The population during this time period seems to be dispersed.

None of the Late Archaic sites seem to be related to the Stalling Island phase. There is no incidence of Stalling Island materials being located in BF Grant. The Late Archaic sites are compact and close together. It seems these Late Archaic sites follow the settlement pattern of the Undifferentiated phase or the Black Shoals phase. The sites are small and in upland areas near creeks and drainages. It is difficult to determine which assessment is correct without additional investigation.

Discussion

While the sample is small, the 36 sites and their distribution provide an interesting glimpse at what is going on in this region during the Archaic period. The Early Archaic sites do not seem to conform to the current settlement model for the period. As stated previously all of the sites are found in the upland areas of the forest. Of the available sites the Middle Archaic site distribution most closely resembles that predicted by the adaptive flexibility model. The other two Archaic periods do not seem to match the current settlement models. The Late Archaic sites are difficult to identify with a settlement model. Many cultural changes occurred during the course of the Late Archaic period. There is no firm settlement model for the Late Archaic that matches what is seen in BF Grant at this time. The Early Archaic sites are interesting because they all occur in the uplands. The models for Early Archaic settlement predict a continuation of the Paleoindian settlement pattern. Sites should occur more frequently along major rivers and tributaries in the lowlands. The unique situation for the B.F. Grant Forest is no Early Archaic sites are reported in the lowlands or near the major tributary the Little River.

The picture painted by site distribution in the B.F. Grant is promising; however, it is distorted. Archaeological work has been performed in the forest since the 1970s but there are still large areas in the forest that have not been surveyed. There are only a handful of sites recorded

from the western edge of the forest adjacent to the Little River. The lowlands adjacent to creeks and streams will not be clear cut, making surface surveys impossible. Even if those areas are clear cut the potential alluvial build up will negate the advantages of surface survey. Another type of testing would be necessary to effectively detect sites in those areas. A different test method would be necessary to test the low areas near the Little River as well.

Another bias in the site file data can obscure site components. Finding the total number of Archaic and Paleoindian sites in BF Grant Forest required looking at the site forms for Putnam County. Depending on the person who completed and filed the site form the information contained on it can be highly detailed or very basic information. The problem arises when there are no artifact components listed on the forms. The site is usually assigned to a period, but without a listing of artifacts there is no way to tell if there are other components. This was the case with 9PM1188. In my first examination of the site forms I did not count 9PM1188 as an Archaic site. On the form it is listed as a Lamar Mississippian site. There are no artifacts or site components listed on the form. The site had originally been documented in the 1970s or 1980s, but was revisited in 2009. The site was revisited by Kelli Guest, who fortunately included a table listing the artifacts in her thesis. While the site is predominantly Lamar, it does have a Late Archaic component. This reveals a bias of sites not being visible because the smaller component is subsumed by the larger component and there are no indications of the other component. This lack of standardized information obscures the very information archaeologists are trying to discover.

Related to the obscured site components are sites that are assigned a period, but are not assigned a subperiod. Of the 35 Archaic sites there are five sites I classified as unidentified Archaic. These are sites that were dated to the Archaic, but were not assigned to Early, Middle,

or Late Archaic. While these sites can be used to study site distribution for a single period, it cannot be used to examine site distribution for subperiods. While unidentified or unspecified period sites can be used for a broad view of site distribution, these sites are unusable for more specific site distribution studies.

These biases can be minimized. While surface survey is an acceptable for locating sites it requires specific conditions to be effective. In areas with thick ground cover or deep alluvium different testing methods are needed such as shovel and backhoe testing. There is a need for more standardized and detailed information on site forms to prevent smaller site components from being obscured by the larger components. This can also help assign subperiods and prevent the assigning of sites to a general period.

CHAPTER 7: CONCLUSION

Conclusion

The survey of nine clear cut tracts in BF Grant Forest demonstrates the effectiveness of surface survey. A total of 45 sites were identified during field work that covered an area of only 8.25 hectares. While this is impressive it was not enough on its own to fulfill the needs of the second part of the project. This was to acquire a large enough sample of Archaic sites to evaluate Archaic site distribution and settlement patterns in the forest. During the course of the survey only one new Archaic site was discovered. Given the small total area covered; however, it was a fortunate find.

The examination of known Archaic and Paleoindian sites in BF Grant Forest provided interesting and mixed results. All of the known Archaic period sites are located in uplands, usually near water. The Early Archaic period sites do not conform to the current models, with none of the sites being located in floodplains or near the Little River tributary. The Middle Archaic period sites are the most frequently located sites that reflect the adaptive flexibility settlement model. The Late Archaic period sites demonstrate interesting clustering, but are hard to match with any settlement model. However, this is only a tentative assessment of the data available for Archaic period settlement in the B. F. Grant Forest. The data pool is too small to firmly identify any of the periods discussed with current models.

The small sample size, 35 Archaic period and 1 Paleoindian sites, limits the usefulness of models, but certain observations can be made. There was a significant human presence in the area throughout the Archaic period. The heaviest occupation of the area occurred during the

Middle Archaic period. Clustering of sites may indicate resource rich areas that were exploited throughout the Archaic period. While models are useful, research must not be constrained by them. As more Archaic period sites are discovered in the B. F. Grant Forest, the nature of Archaic period settlement will be refined, helping to shed light on a little studied period in Georgia archaeology.

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