

Management Plan For Fort Fredrick Heritage Preserve



**South Carolina
Department of Natural Resources
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MANDATE

State law mandates the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) prepare management plans for heritage preserves, as outlined in the Heritage Trust Act and defined in S.C. Code Ann. §51-17-80 (1976 & Supp. 2015). These management plans are the guiding documents for heritage preserves and address current, as well as future management needs. The plan should also have enough flexibility to conform to unanticipated management needs that may arise in the future. Changing socio-ecological conditions will require that plans periodically be updated.

SCDNR Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve Management Plan

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MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Primary Objectives

The Heritage Trust Act states that the primary management objective of all heritage preserves is to “...protect the natural or cultural character of any area or feature...” for which the property was dedicated. S.C. Code Ann. § 51-17-80(1). The primary objective of this management plan is to define the practices deemed necessary to protect Fort Frederick and the archaeological record contained within the property.

Secondary Objectives

The Heritage Trust Act mandates that heritage preserves be managed “to provide the maximum public usage ... which is compatible and consistent with the character of the area.” S.C. Code Ann. § 51-17-40(7). SCDNR Policy #203.04 (November 17, 2006), Recreational Use of SCDNR Properties, provides a statewide framework for determining appropriate, and compatible recreational uses of SCDNR properties. Natural Resources-Dependent Recreational Uses are appropriate uses of SCDNR properties and are the priority general public uses. These are: (1) hunting; (2) fishing; (3) wildlife or other natural resource observation; (4) wildlife or other natural resource photography; (5) environmental education; and (6) environmental interpretation. Other uses of SCDNR properties will be evaluated according to SCDNR Policy #203.04, SCDNR Policy #400.01, and other relevant laws or policies to determine if they are appropriate and compatible.

INTRODUCTION

Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve (FFHP) was acquired and dedicated in September 1999 to protect a Colonial British tabby fort and its associated archaeological remains. The property was ranked as the 30th most critically significant cultural site in the 1990 Statewide Assessment of Cultural Sites. The fort is designated as an archaeological site, 38BU102/1100 and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in December 1974. Additional archaeological components known as Smith Plantation and Camp Saxton (38BU163) exist on the property and make momentous contributions to the FFHP's significance.

In 2015, an archaeological inventory of the property was conducted. This work defined the location of numerous archaeological components related to the colonial fort, the plantation era and Woodland period Native American occupations. In 2016, an underwater archaeological remote sensing survey found no significant resources, except the remains of the eastern wall of Fort Fredrick, exist in the immediate vicinity of the preserve.

Fort Frederick never witnessed any action during its short life as a military garrison in the early 18th century. As the oldest remaining tabby structure in Beaufort County, it is extremely significant. However, it may be argued that greater significance stems from the events surrounding January 1, 1863, when its walls supported the dock across which blacks and whites walked to the reading and celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Physical Location

FFHP is a 3.044 acre tract situated on the west bank of the Beaufort River, near the southern edge of Port Royal Island in Beaufort County. To reach the preserve from the intersection of Boundary Street (Hwy 21 Business) and Ribaut Road (Hwy 281) in Beaufort, one drives south along Ribaut Road for 3.5 miles to Shell Road. Turn left onto Shell Road, go 0.1 miles to the intersection of Pinckney Boulevard (Navy Hospital entrance and guard house will be on the left), cross Pinckney Boulevard, onto Old Shell Road and drive for 0.2 miles to the intersection of Old Fort Road on the left. Turn left and drive to the end of Old Fort Road (0.1 miles). The entrance to the property is at the end of Old Fort Road and has UTM coordinates of 529958E 3583070N NAD 83. Figure 1 locates the preserve in relation to the surrounding areas.

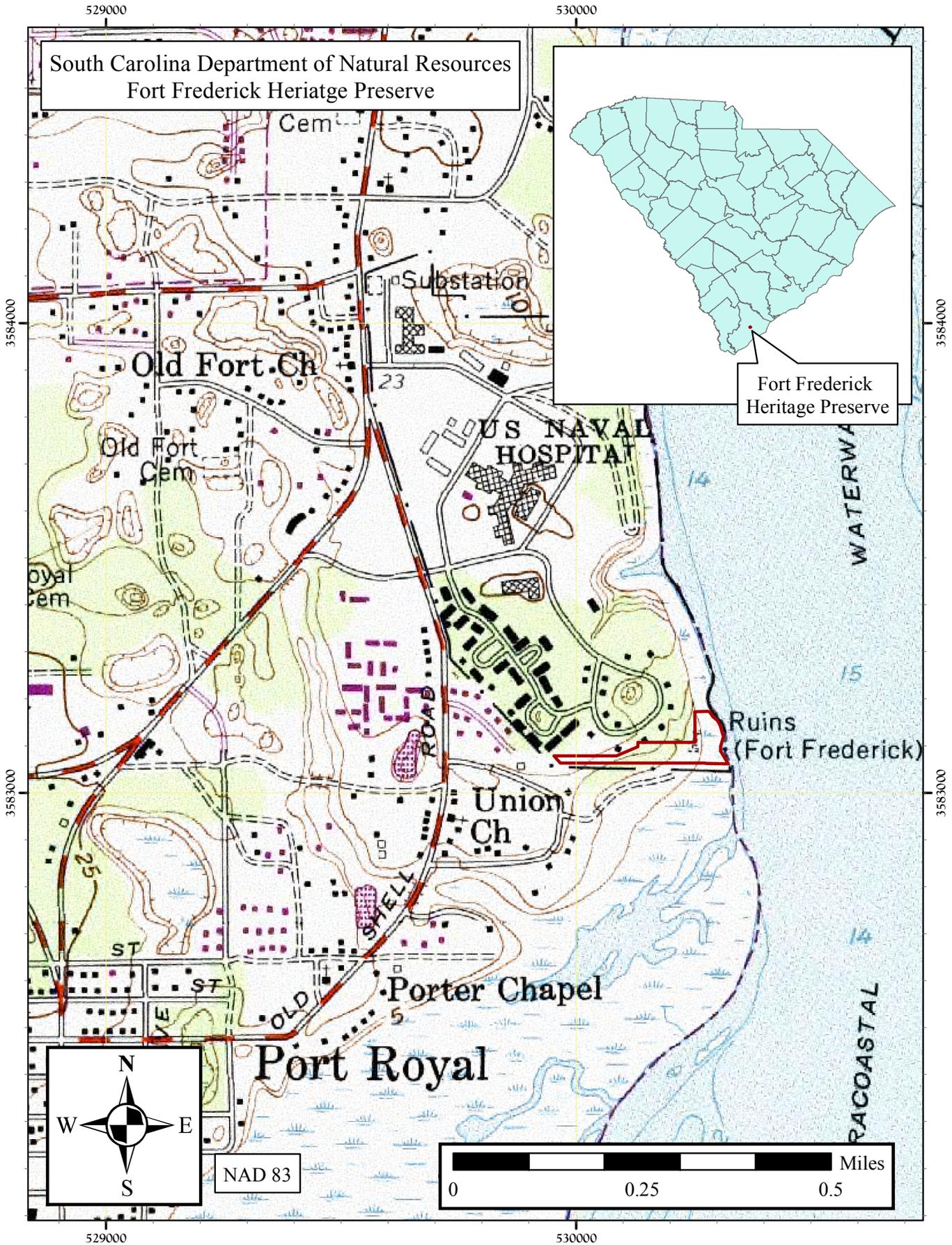


Figure 1. Fort Frederick Location

Property Description

FFHP is situated within the town limits of Port Royal. The town of Port Royal is located in the southern central portion of Port Royal Island. At the eastern edge of FFHP is the Beaufort River, and the U.S. Naval Hospital borders the preserve to the north. To the south are numerous private properties. Beaufort County owns two parcels of land to the west and on the southeast corner.

The natural environment would be considered a Maritime Forest had it not been altered by years of use as a boat landing. Currently there are numerous large live oaks, palmettos, and other maritime species like tooth ache tree and tough buckthorn. The herbaceous plants under the tree canopy contain both native and non-native species. The tidal flat on the property's eastern edge contains succulent halophytes typical of such salty environments.

Fort Frederick itself is located in the northeastern portion of the property adjacent to the Beaufort River. In 2006, the fort was surveyed and a map was generated detailing its condition (figure 2). The fort is made of tabby, a type of concrete consisting of a mixture of crushed oyster shell, lime, sand and water. The fort currently measures approximately 130 feet north/south by 128 feet east/west. Approximately one-third of the eastern portion of the fort has eroded into the Beaufort River. The walls of the fort are four to five feet in height and five feet six inches in width. The fort features two angled bastions positioned diagonally opposite one another. The northeastern bastion is nearly completely eroded away by the river and is only visible at low tide. The southwestern bastion remains mostly intact.

Property Acquisition

SCDNR accepted the donation of FFHP in September 1999 through the National Park Service (NPS) Federal Surplus Property for Public Park or Recreational Purposes Program. The application submitted in July 1998 to the NPS Program stated the property would be utilized as a passive public park, and the existing boat landing would remain open. The application also indicates ingress/egress would be through the main gate at the Beaufort Naval Hospital.

The SCDNR Board approved the acquisition of FFHP in January 1998 following the recommendation of the Heritage Trust Board in February 1997. Numerous stipulations outlined in the NPS Program application were agreed to by DNR and incorporated into the September 1999 Quitclaim Deed. Among others, these stipulations specifically stated the property was to be used for public recreation.

The deed was recorded in the office of the Beaufort County Register of Deeds in Deed Book 1234 at Page 1853 on November 18, 1999. The property was established as a Heritage Preserve by dedication pursuant to the South Carolina Heritage Trust Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 51-17-80, and the Dedication Agreement was recorded in the office of the Beaufort County Register of Deeds in Deed Book 1234 at Page 1861 on November 18, 1999. The SCDNR further committed FFHP to the Heritage Trust pursuant to South Carolina Heritage Trust Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 51-17-90, and the Trust Easement was recorded in the office of the Beaufort County Register of Deeds in Deed Book 1234 at Page 1867 on November 18, 1999.

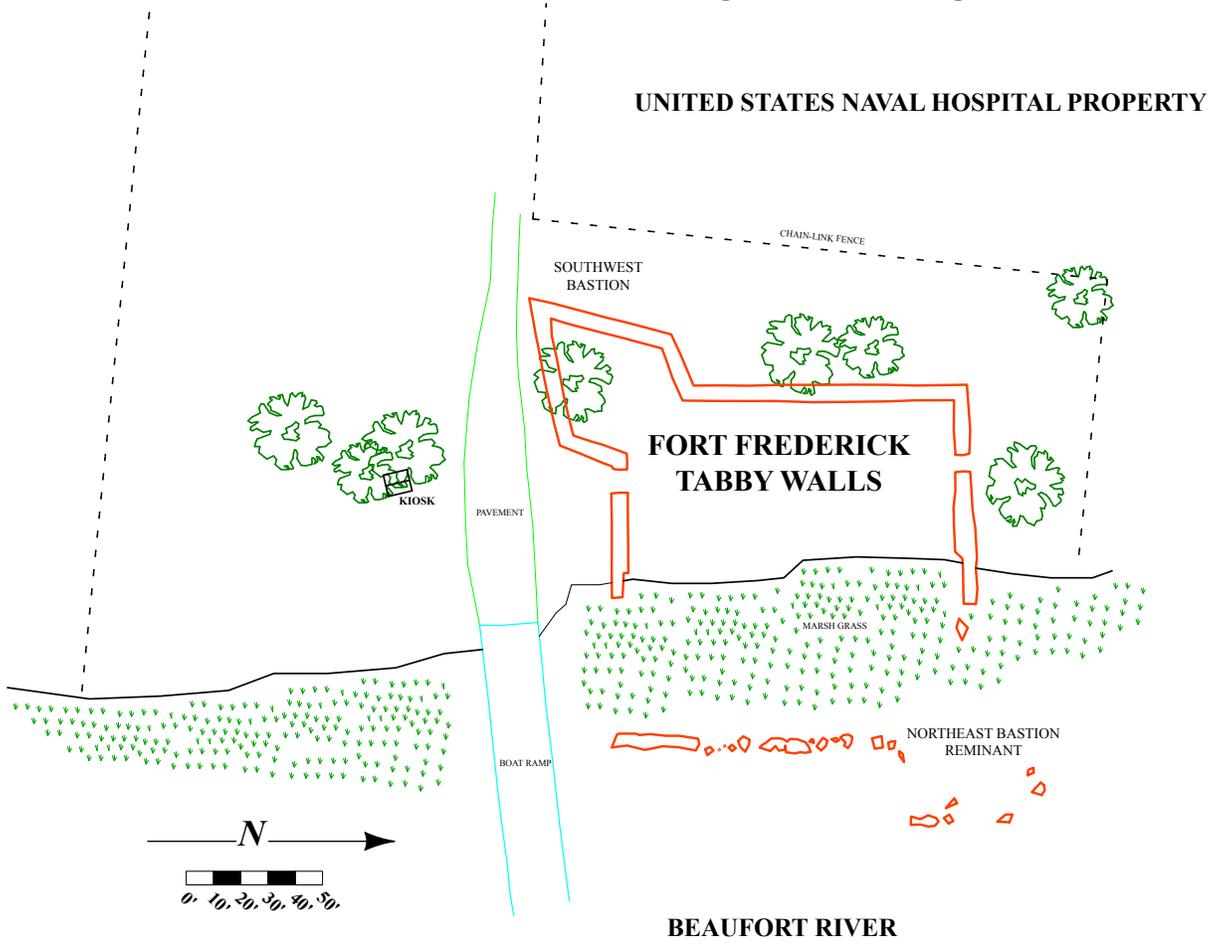


Figure 2. Fort Frederick Tabby Walls

SCDNR Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve Management Plan

FFHP was accessible through the Naval Hospital Beaufort grounds until September 11, 2001. After this date, public access to the Naval Hospital was restricted and unrestricted upland public access to FFHP was no longer possible. Since 2001 public access has only occurred through prearranged tours with DNR staff or visiting by boat.

In 2013, Beaufort County acquired a 0.65 parcel of land (R110 009 000 142I 0000) in order to provide public access to Fort Frederick and to redevelop the boat landing. This parcel is located at the end of Old Fort Road in Port Royal and shares a property line with FFHP. Beaufort County also owns a 1.93 acre parcel of land (R110 011 000 0155 0000) adjacent to the southeastern portion of FFHP.

As allowed by S.C. Code Ann. § 51-17-40(7), the SCDNR has leased to Beaufort County approximately 2.3 acres of FFHP for the development and management of a replacement boat landing facility. Accordingly, the County has assumed management responsibilities for a portion of FFHP under that 20-year Lease and Management Agreement.

Deed Stipulations

Transfer of the property to the SCDNR was accomplished via a Quitclaim Deed. Numerous stipulations were agreed to by the SCDNR in the deed which was executed on September 7, 1999. The stipulations remain in effect and are provided below.

QUITCLAIM DEED

The UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting by and through the Secretary of the Interior, acting by and through the Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, under and pursuant to the power and authority contained in the provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377), as amended, and particularly as amended by Public Law 485, 91st Congress, and regulations and orders promulgated thereunder (hereinafter designated "Grantor"), for and in consideration of the perpetual use of the hereinafter described premises for public park and public recreation area purposes by the State of South Carolina, Department of Natural Resources (hereinafter designated "Grantee") , does hereby release and quitclaim to Grantee, and to its successors and assigns, subject to the reservations, exceptions, restrictions, conditions and covenants hereinafter expressed and set forth, all Grantor's right, title and interest in and to the following described property, consisting of 3.044 acres in fee, containing the ruins of Fort Frederick located along the southern boundary of the U.S. Naval Hospital and being situate on Port Royal Island in Beaufort County, South Carolina and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at a concrete monument on the westerly bank of the Beaufort River being the southeasterly most corner of the U.S. Naval Hospital property for the POINT OF BEGINNING:

Thence N 89°45'50" W for 853.65' to a concrete monument;
Thence N 89°53'20" W for 152.70' to a concrete monument;
Thence N 41°59'10" W for 67.97", more or less, to a point;
Thence S 89°45'50" E parallel to and 1.5' southerly of an existing chain-link fence for 436.67' more or less, to a point;
Thence N 66° 27'58" E parallel to and 1.5' southeasterly of an existing 7' high chain-link fence for 162.56', more or less, to a point;
Thence N 00° 14'10" E parallel to and 1.5' easterly of an existing 7' high chain-link fence for 29.48', more or less, to a point;
Thence S 89°45'50" E parallel to and 1.5' southerly of an existing 7' high chain-link fence for 400.0', more or less, to a point;
Thence N 00°14'10" E parallel to and 1.5' easterly of an existing 7' high chain-link fence for 215.0', more or less, to a point;
Thence 89°45'50" E parallel to and 1.5' southerly of an existing 7' high chain-link fence for 71 .93', more or less, to a point on the westerly bank of the Beaufort River;
Thence S 01°05'10" W along the westerly bank of the Beaufort River for 360.04', more or less, to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 3.044 acres, more or less.

This conveyance is made subject to any and all existing rights-of-way, easements, covenants and agreements affecting the above-described premises, whether or not the same now appear of record.

To Have and to Hold the hereinbefore described property, subject to the reservations, exceptions, restrictions,

conditions and covenants herein expressed and set forth unto the Grantee, its successors and assigns, forever.

Pursuant to authority contained in the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, and applicable rules, regulations and orders promulgated thereunder, the General Services Administration determined the subject property to be surplus to the needs of the United States of America and assigned the property to the Department of the Interior for further conveyance to the State of South Carolina, Department of Natural Resources.

It is agreed and understood by and between the Grantor and Grantee, and the Grantee, by its acceptance of this deed, does acknowledge its understanding of the agreement, and does covenant and agree to itself, and its successors and assigns, forever, as follows:

1. This property shall be used and maintained for the public park and recreation purposes for which it was conveyed in perpetuity as set forth in the program of utilization and plan contained in the application, submitted by the Grantee on July 17, 1998, which program and plan may be amended from time to time at the request of either the Grantor or Grantee, with the written concurrence of the other party, and such amendments shall be added to and become a part of the original application.
2. The Grantee shall, within 6 months of the date of the deed of conveyance, erect and maintain a permanent sign or marker near the point of principal access to the conveyed area which says:

This park land was acquired through the federal LANDS TO PARKS program of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, for use by the general public.

3. This property shall not be sold, leased, assigned, or otherwise disposed of except to another eligible governmental agency that the Secretary of the Interior agrees in writing can assure the continued use and maintenance of the property for public park or public recreational purposes subject to the same terms and conditions in the original instrument of conveyance. However, nothing in this provision shall preclude the Grantee from providing related recreational facilities and services compatible with the approved application, through concession agreements entered into with third parties, provided prior concurrence to such agreements is obtained in writing from the Secretary of the Interior.
4. From the date of this conveyance, the Grantee, its successors and assigns, shall submit biennial reports to the Secretary of the Interior, setting forth the use made of the property during the preceding 2-year period, and other pertinent data establishing its continuous use for the purposes set forth above, for ten consecutive reports and as further determined by the Secretary of the Interior.
5. Funds generated on this property may not be expended for nonrecreation purposes. Until this property has been fully developed in accordance with the Program of Utilization, all revenues generated on this property must be used for the development, operation and maintenance of this property. After this property has been fully developed in accordance with the Program of Utilization, revenue generated on this property may be expended on other recreation properties operated by the Grantee.
6. As part of the consideration for the Deed, the Grantee covenants and agrees for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) the program for or in connection with which this Deed is made will be conducted in compliance with, and the Grantee, its successors and assigns, will comply with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the regulations of the Department of the Interior in effect on the date of this Deed (43

C.F.R. Part 17) issued under the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; (2) this covenant shall be subject in all respects to the provisions of said regulations; (3) the Grantee, its successors and assigns, will promptly take and continue to take such action as may be necessary to effectuate this covenant; (4) the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this covenant, and (5) the Grantee, its successors and assigns, will (a) obtain from each other person (any legal entity) who, through contractual or other arrangements with the Grantee, its successors and assigns, is authorized to provide services or benefits under said program, a written agreement pursuant to which such other person shall, with respect to the services or benefits which he is authorized to provide, undertake for himself the same obligations as those imposed upon the Grantee, its successors and assigns, by this covenant, and (b) furnish a copy of such agreement to the Secretary of the Interior, or his successor; and that this covenant shall run with the land hereby conveyed, and shall in any event, without regard to technical classification or designation, legal or otherwise, be binding to the fullest extent permitted by law and equity for the benefit of, and in favor of the Grantor and enforceable by the Grantor against the Grantee, its successors and assigns.

7. The Grantee agrees to comply with the requirements of Public Law 90-480 (82 Stat. 718) , the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended by Public Law 91-205 of 970 (84 Stat. 49), to assure that development of facilities on conveyed surplus properties for public park and recreation purposes are accessible to the physically handicapped; and, further assure in accordance with Public Law 93-112, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 394}, that no otherwise qualified handicapped individual shall solely by reasons of his handicap be excluded from the participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.
8. Grantee shall be on the lookout for archeological artifacts during its construction activities and shall take appropriate action should any artifacts be discovered. Grantee shall comply with the provisions of 36 C.F.R. Part 800, regarding protection of historic and cultural properties. Grantee's development plans shall avoid sites identified by a Cultural Resources Assessment of the property, and, prior to any alteration or construction on the property, Grantee shall consult with the State of South Carolina Preservation office.
9. Grantee covenants and agrees to comply with Section 106 of the National Historical Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, recognizing that the subject property contains the remains of Fort Frederick, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
10. The Grantee further covenants and agrees to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the 1977 Amendments to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act of 1977), and Executive Order 11990 (May 24, 1977), or Protection of Wetlands and Executive Order 11988 (May 24, 1977) for Floodplain Management, where and to the extent said amendments and Orders are applicable to the property herein conveyed, and Grantee shall be subject to any use restrictions issued under said Amendments and Orders.
11. As of the date of conveyance, all remedial action necessary to protect human health and the environment, with the respect to any known hazardous substance activity on the subject property, has been taken and no further remedial action is required at this time. However, after the date of conveyance, which is due to contamination occurring prior to the date of conveyance, will be conducted by the United States.

In the event any environmental contamination is discovered or additional remedial action is deemed

necessary after conveyance, the Federal sponsoring agency should be notified immediately. Additionally, expenditures for environmental restoration projects that are not imminent threats to public health and safety will not be considered an off-set for purposes of abrogation unless these expenditures are to remediate contamination and unless prior concurrence is obtained from the Federal sponsoring agency.

12. The Grantee covenants for itself, its successors and assigns, that any construction or alteration is prohibited unless a determination of no hazard to air navigation is issued by the Federal Aviation Administration in accordance with Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 77, entitled "Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace," or under the authority of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended.
13. In the event there is a breach of any of the conditions and covenants herein contained by the Grantee, its successors and assigns, whether caused by the legal or other inability of the Grantee, its successors and assigns, to perform said conditions and covenants, or otherwise, all right, title and interest in and to said premises shall revert to and become the property of the Grantor at its option, which in addition to all other remedies for such breach shall have the right of entry upon said premises, and the Grantee, its successors and assigns, shall forfeit all right, title and interest in said premises and in any and all of the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging; provided, however, that the failure of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior to require in any one or more instances complete performance of any of the conditions or covenants shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of such future performance, but the obligation of the Grantee, its successors and assigns, with respect to such future performance shall continue in full force and effect. In the event of a reversion, the grantee agrees to provide an acceptable level of protection and maintenance of the property until title has actually reverted.

Additional Protection of Historic Sites

In addition to the application of the Heritage Trust Act, the above referenced deed stipulations, and other laws generally related to FFHP, there are additional protections for state owned or leased properties pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 60-12-10 et seq. This law requires consultation with the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for projects that could adversely affect state owned properties that are listed in the NRHP. In August of 2010, the SCDNR and South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) signed a Programmatic Agreement which defined how the SCDNR will manage its NRHP properties. The agreement allows for the SCDNR to manage its historic properties in accordance with the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (36 CRF 68) and the *South Carolina Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations* (2005). The SCDNR will consult with SCDAH if questions arise regarding the implementation of these guidelines.

HISTORY AND ORIGIN OF THE PROPERTY

Fort Fredrick is believed to be the oldest tabby structure still standing in Beaufort County, and the only Colonial period fortification visible today. The Colonial Government of Carolina built the fortification between 1733 and 1734 to protect the water access to Beaufort Town (est. 1710) from the Atlantic Ocean via Port Royal sound and the Beaufort River.

Garrisoned from 1734 to 1757, the fortification never witnessed military action. James Oglethorpe lodged some of Georgia's first settlers in the fort's barracks in 1733. In 1785, the fort and surrounding lands were sold, and by the 1860s the tract had become known as Smith's Plantation. The fort has also been known as the Old Spanish Fort or Smith's Fort.

In November of 1861, Union forces occupied the fort and surrounding area following the battle of Port Royal. Subsequently, the grounds around the fort became the camp headquarters for the 1st South Carolina Regiment of Volunteers, a regiment of African-American soldiers. The encampment was named Camp Saxton for General Rufus Saxton, who had been a leading supporter of the Port Royal Experiment.

At Camp Saxton, on January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation was read to thousands of both whites and ex-slaves. A dock had been constructed across the submerged portions of the fort's eastern wall, and across this dock walked many attendees of the day's celebration. Numerous accounts of the events were recorded in personal diaries; these writings mention the old fort, and it is perhaps this event that is most significant in the history of Fort Frederick.

The U.S. Government bought Smith's Plantation and the fort in 1863 for non-payment of taxes. In 1949, the U.S. Naval Hospital and associated housing was built on the former plantation property. The property was acquired by the Heritage Trust as a donation from the National Park Service's Federal Surplus Property for Public Park or Recreational Purposes Program in 1999.

In 2016, an archaeological report entitled "Cultural Resource Inventory of the Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve, Beaufort County, South Carolina" was completed by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). This work details the results of the 2014-2015 systematic archaeological inventory of the entire 3.044 acre tract. The report includes a detailed review of the historic development of the property.

Between 2002 and 2003, the Historic Beaufort Foundation and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) division of the National Park Service (NPS) sponsored a survey of the extant examples of tabby architecture in Beaufort. Fort Frederick was documented, and the published report details the history and condition of its tabby construction. The report number is HABS No. SC-858 and can be found at: <http://cdn.loc.gov/master/pnp/habshaer/sc/sc1100/sc1116/data/sc1116data.pdf>. In 2015 and 2016, a coating of new tabby was added to the walls of the fort to protect them from the elements and future visitation.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Desired Future Condition

At FFHP, the current plant and animal communities are the result of centuries of human management. The property was acquired because of its cultural resources and the significant contribution they make to our understanding of past events. FFHP's natural resources are important but they must be a secondary consideration in the management of the preserve. The DFC of FFHP is for it to be a public park whose cultural resources are of primary concern. While the preserve's plant and animal communities will be maintained, the primary objective will be the preservation of the cultural resources on the property.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The preserve exhibits remnant maritime and marine habitats typically associated with the Sea Islands. The preserve's natural plant and animal community has been impacted due to decades of use as a boat landing. A 2009 botanical survey found plants typical of our modern coastal environs and no species of special concern were identified. As such, management of vegetation at FFHP is intended to support the primary and secondary purposes of this management plan.

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Fort Frederick

This area is designated as “SCDNR Management Area” on Figure 3. **Only SCDNR staff is allowed to conduct maintenance within this area on and around Fort Frederick.**

Tabby Walls

Preservation of Fort Frederick’s tabby walls are of paramount importance. In 2015 and 2016, a coat of new tabby was added to the landward wall’s sides and top. The work was conducted to stabilize the walls and harden their surfaces. This protective coating is expected to last 50 years. In the event additional repair work is needed, only a craftsman qualified and experienced in the restoration of historic tabby structures will be used.

Trees, Vegetative Growth & Debris

SCDNR staff will inspect the fort on a bimonthly basis. Vegetative debris shall be removed during each inspection with a leaf blower. Herbicide application may be necessary to control plant growth. Plants that become firmly rooted in the tabby walls should be treated with herbicide, allowed to die and decay. Pulling roots from the tabby will hasten its demise.

Grass on the interior and exterior of the fort shall be mowed frequently enough to maintain a manicured lawn appearance. Weed eaters may be used, but their blades or string cutting heads must not be allowed to touch the walls of the fort.

Trees shall be inspected by a licensed arborist on a yearly basis. An annual report shall be written, describing the health of the trees surrounding the fort. The report shall include recommended management/pruning proscriptions. A reputable tree company shall be contracted to conduct necessary pruning. Matting shall be placed under heavy trucks needed to access tree tops around the fort.

In 2015, an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist with Bartlet Tree Experts inspected the trees surrounding the fort. They found the four large live oaks located inside of and around the perimeter of the old fort ruins are in good condition with no outward signs of structural defects. Due to the close proximity to the ruins the following maintenance recommendations were made to help best manage these trees in the future:

Fertilize once annually (as per an annual soil analysis) with a soil injected soluble fertilizer to help boost health and stave off the threat of disease and infestation.

Prune once every two years to thin the upper crowns by approximately 15% of all live limbs to help reduce sail effect and minimize future storm related damage.

Prune to remove large hazardous deadwood and reduce the width of the crowns at least once every three years to help to minimize the threat of falling debris and damage to the ruins.

Graffiti

Any graffiti shall be removed with anti graffiti products such as Dumond's Watch Dog Wipe Out Porous Surface Graffiti Remover. Pressure washing of the fort is strictly prohibited.

Prohibited Activities

Climbing, walking or sitting on the fort walls is strictly prohibited. Excavation and metal detecting for the purpose of collecting artifacts is strictly prohibited. Collecting artifacts from the river's edge is strictly prohibited. Signage will be maintained describing prohibited activities.

Remainder of Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve

Those portions of FFHP which are not immediately adjacent to the fort also contain important cultural resources which require careful management just as those related to the fort. This area is designated as "Beaufort County Management Area" on Figure 3.

Access Road

The access road into FFHP will be enhanced and maintained by placing additional porous materials upon the existing ground surface. No grading or excavation below the existing ground surface shall occur in order to protect sub-surface cultural resources.

Trees, Vegetative Growth & Debris

1. Management of this area shall include periodic mowing to keep ground vegetation at acceptable heights.
2. Trash receptacles will be installed, maintained and emptied on a regular basis.
3. A general inspection of the property to remove litter will be conducted regularly.
4. At least annually or more frequently as needed, the trees and shrubs shall be inspected and pruned as necessary to maintain tree health or removed if determined to be hazardous or unhealthy. The large

SCDNR Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve Management Plan

Eastern Red Cedar near Naval Hospital's Tennis Courts is of particular concern and copious care shall be applied to maintain its health and longevity. Trees lining the drainage ditch crossing the property shall be maintained and pruned as necessary to allow reasonable clearance along the access road. However, these trees lining the drainage ditch are not to be removed as they break the rapid flow of water during storm events. The SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist shall be consulted prior to the removal of any tree deemed hazardous or unhealthy.

5. The SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist shall be consulted during the planning stages of any proposed ground disturbance. Prior written approval of any ground disturbance must first be obtained from the SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist. Archaeological investigation will be required prior to ground disturbing activities.

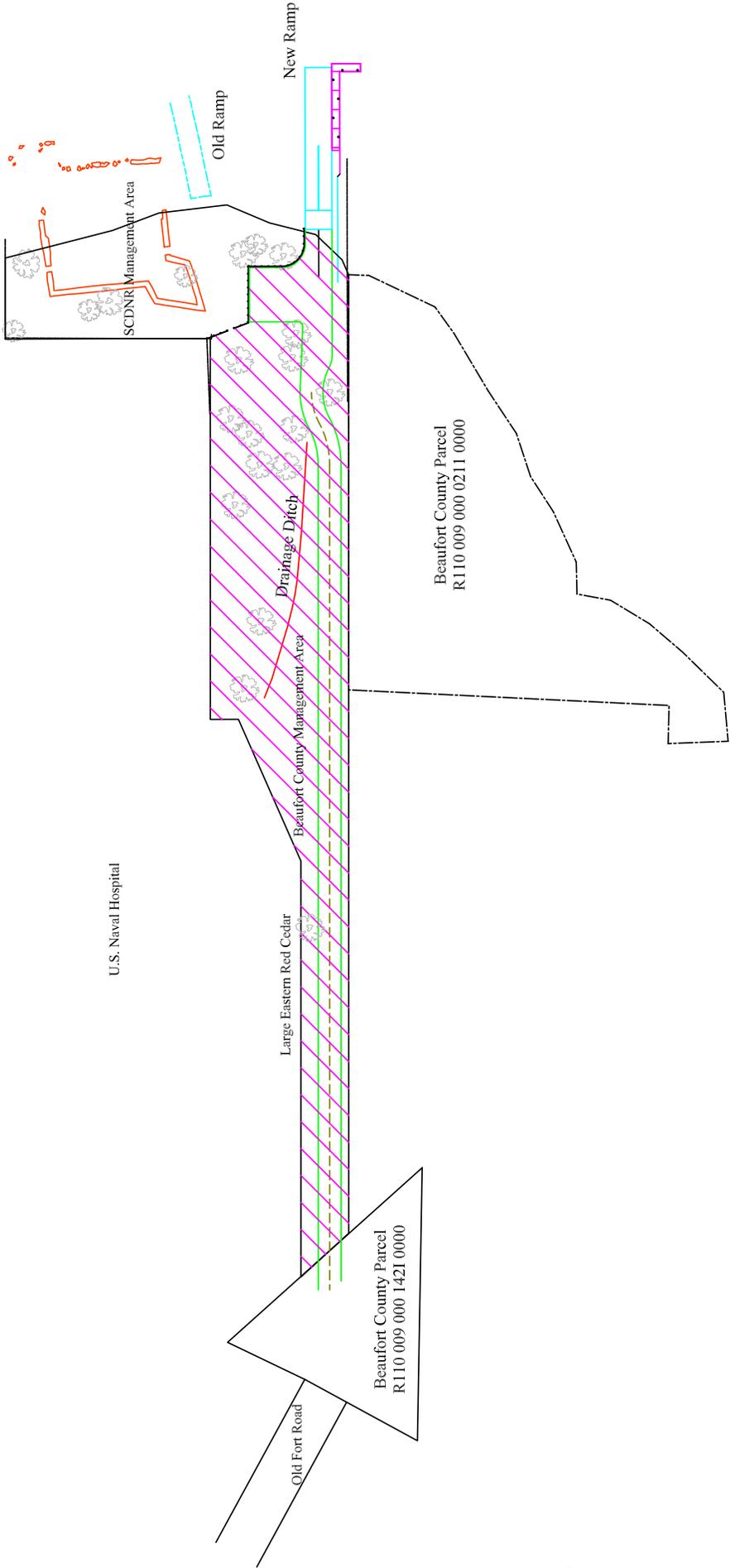


Figure 3. Fort Frederick Management Areas

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION

Protection and Mitigation

Significant archaeological resources were identified during the 2014-2015 archaeological inventory of the preserve. Additional unknown resources may exist on the property. Excavation or ground disturbing activities will not be conducted without the prior written approval of the SCDNR Archaeologist. Construction projects requiring excavation will require archaeological mitigation prior to construction. A minimum of six months of lead time will be necessary to conduct mitigation excavations.

Research

Archaeological research and study opportunities will be encouraged on FFHP. Potential research work shall be conducted by qualified individuals that meet or exceed the Secretary of the Interior (48 F.R. 44738-44739) qualifications. Prospective researchers must provide a positive record of past performance for review. All work must meet or exceed the Standards of the Secretary of the Interior (48 F.R. 44738-44739) and the South Carolina Guidelines and Standards for Archaeological Investigations. All aspects of any proposed project must first be approved in writing by the SCDNR Archaeologist. A written agreement shall be entered into by all parties and it shall include a research design that details the project objectives, methodologies, public participation / access, acceptable outcomes and timeline.

Public Use and Access

Steps should be taken to increase public awareness of the property through media publications and web pages. Enhanced public use following allowable activities is thought to decrease prohibited activities. The local community must view the property as their own, and, after this occurs, local individuals will police the property and discourage unwanted behavior. Archaeological projects conducted on the preserve shall be conducted in such a way that the public can participate and/or visit during excavations.

Interpretive Program and Maintenance of Interpretive Signage

Interpretive programs and signage, as well as guided and self-guided tours should be developed. In addition to interpretative programs and products for the general public, the site lends itself to the specialized form of interpretation delivered to school age children. The use of the site for school curriculum programs is recommended to help all ages fully appreciate the unique cultural character of the site and history of South Carolina and the United States.

TREATMENT OF CEMETERIES

No documentation has come to light indicating FFHP contains cemeteries. However, given the long history of human occupation of the property, it is possible burials exist on the preserve. If graves are discovered on FFHP, the SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist must be contacted immediately, and precautions should be taken to protect the remains from any damage or desecration. Bones or other objects in the grave must not be removed, and the release of public information should be limited until the arrival of SCDNR Archaeologist or Cultural Heritage Preserve Manager.

Destruction or desecration of human remains or repositories thereof is illegal under S.C. Code Ann. § 16-17-600. Preservation of abandoned or unmaintained cemeteries is also covered under S.C. Code Ann. § 6-1-35.

Human remains and graves must be treated with respect and left undisturbed. Several state and federal laws may be violated as a result of the disturbance of human remains. Removal or disturbance of human remains from a marked grave or unmarked grave is an act of last resort requiring careful consideration, planning and consultation. See generally S.C. Code Ann. § 27-43-10.

The following Standard Operating Procedures will be used regarding marked cemeteries in the event that any are identified on FFHP.

- 1) Cemeteries will be fenced and maintained.
- 2) No excavation will occur within the cemetery or within a 30 meter buffer of the cemetery.

The following Standard Operating Procedures will be used regarding the discovery of human remains.

- 1) All activities around the human remains, including a 30 meter buffer zone, will immediately cease and the SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist will be immediately notified.
- 2) The SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist will visit the location within 48 hours and determine if the site is an archaeological site (i.e. human remains not the result of criminal activity).
- 3) The local authorities will be contacted immediately if the remains appear to be associated with a modern crime scene.
- 4) Within 72 hours of the field assessment, the SCDNR Archaeologist will report findings to the SHPO and the State Archaeologist. In consultation with the SHPO and the State Archaeologist, the SCDNR Archaeologist will develop a plan for the protection of the human remains.
- 5) All efforts will be made to avoid further impacts to the site. Project undertakings will be modified to avoid further impact. Further disturbance of the site will be an act of last resort.
- 6) If the human remains cannot be avoided, the SCDNR Archaeologist will develop a plan for removal in

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consultation with the SHPO and the State Archaeologist. No removal will be conducted until the plan is approved and signed by SCDNR, SHPO and the State Archaeologist.

- 7) Recovery of human remains for scientific purposes may be permitted after careful consultation with the SHPO and State Archaeologist. A written research justification and plan shall be prepared and approved by the SHPO and State Archaeologist.

BOAT LANDINGS

Old Boat Landing

The Old Boat Landing shall be left in place. The landing has become a habitat for oysters. SCDNR Coastal Geology staff has recommended leaving the landing in place because it is acting as a groin and is holding sand in place, thereby protecting Fort Frederick from further erosion. Removal of the landing could cause erosion of the fort to increase. No empirical data exists to support the assumption that boat traffic is exacerbating erosion of the bank. The Beaufort River witnesses constant commercial and recreational traffic. Wakes from these boats constantly wash the shore of the preserve with little apparent effect. Landward signage shall be installed to discourage preserve visitors from accessing the landing. Buoys shall be installed to warn boaters of the submerged portions of tabby and to block access to the old landing.

New Boat Landing

Within the constraints imposed by the primary objective, FFHP has the potential to provide renewed opportunities for recreational boaters. Beaufort County wishes to reestablish a boat landing on the preserve. SCDNR staff has concluded that reopening a boat landing on the preserve is appropriate and has collaborated with the County to pursue an improved landing facility.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO CATASTROPHIC EVENT

Federal regulation 36 CFR 800.12 requires SCDNR to develop plans for catastrophic events such as hurricanes, tornados or wildfires. Such planning includes procedures that address treatment of cultural properties when responding to disasters. The following Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will be used when responding to emergencies on FFHP. Immediate rescue and salvage efforts to preserve life and property are exempt.

- 1) The first response will be to restore necessary infrastructure (clear access road and landing). Every effort will be made to avoid impacts to historic properties during this emergency phase.
- 2) The SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist will assess damages to historic properties within five working days of the catastrophic event.
- 3) The SCDNR Cultural Heritage Trust Manager and the SCDNR Archaeologist will prepare a report of damages to historic properties and a plan for mitigation of any adverse impacts to the SHPO within 30 days of the field assessment.
- 4) The SHPO will have 30 days to respond to the damage assessment and mitigation plan.
- 5) The SCDNR will execute the mitigation plan.

NATURAL BIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Researchers interested in conducting science projects on heritage preserves must have a Scientific Collecting Permit issued by the Heritage Trust Program. A permit application form is available from SCDNR-Heritage Trust Program PO Box 167, 1000 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC 29202.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Close adherence to the laws and regulations that apply to all heritage preserves is necessary to protect their cultural and ecological integrity. Regulations specific to this preserve also apply. In addition to those laws identified elsewhere in this management plan, relevant state laws include the Heritage Trust Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 51-17-10 *et seq.*) and S.C. Code Ann § 50-11-2200 *et seq.* and S.C. Code Regulations 123-200 *et seq.* Both state statutes and regulations may be found online at www.scstatehouse.net.

Please contact SCDNR at 803-734-3893 for more information on the regulations for use of this preserve. Please report violations to 1-800-922-5431.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The SCDNR- Law Enforcement Division (LED) will enforce state hunting and fishing regulations, as well as preserve regulations. SCDNR personnel who hold commissions also have the authority to enforce regulations and will provide assistance to the LED to the fullest degree possible. Rules and regulations have been established which apply to all heritage preserves including FFHP.

Close adherence to the regulations that apply to all heritage preserves is necessary to protect the cultural integrity of the preserve. Regulations specific to this preserve may also apply in the future. Inordinate degradation of any portion of the preserve may force temporary or permanent exclusion of the public from that area.

Other commissioned state and local law enforcement officials, have the authority to enforce Heritage Preserve Regulations under S.C. Code Ann. §51-17-130. Conservation Officers in SCDNR Region Four will be asked to assist Heritage Trust Program staff in the monitoring of this preserve for illegal access and site vandalism.