

PH0683086

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

AUG 25 1978

DATE ENTERED

DEC 22 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Martin's Half Moon Bluff Tract/High Point
Preferred - High Point - Half Moon Bluff Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

North End (including Half Moon Bluff and High Point or Candler Estate)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Cumberland Island National Seashore

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland Island

X VICINITY OF St. Marys

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Camden

CODE

039

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Boulevard

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Camden County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Woodbine

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Cumberland Island, the largest of the Golden Isles, lies from 1 to 3 miles east of the Georgia coast. Tidal marshlands and winding water channels separate the landforms. The island features warmer winters and cooler summers than adjacent mainland areas of southeast Georgia because of the moderating influences of the surrounding ocean. The Intracoastal Waterway passes between the island and the mainland.

The north end of the island is bordered on the west and north by marshes. On the northwest in the area of Cumberland Wharf steep bluffs drop down to a narrow sand beach that fronts on the Cumberland River. On the east a wide gently sloping sand beach is bordered by dunes some 20 to 30 feet above sea level. The interior of the island is between 25 and 30 feet above sea level. The High Point Half Moon Bluff historic district lies west of the dune line and extends to the western edge of the island bordered by the Cumberland River and marshes. To the north and east the district extends to the marshland. The vegetation of the area is a combination of pine, live oak, palmetto and heath species.

Within the boundaries of the district there are two complexes of buildings--Half Moon Bluff and High Point--as well as three archeological sites and an archeological zone on Terrapin Point. There are ten buildings at Half Moon Bluff including the church. These are described below. These buildings form a "village" complex and date to the first three decades of this century. The High Point area was originally developed as a hotel or resort complex. After passing through several owners it was acquired by the Candler family who now own it as a private estate. The old hotel and nine outbuildings date to the hotel period. The eleventh building (The New House) was built in 1940.

The three archeological sites and the archeological zone are located on the west and northeast edge of the district. Sites 9 CAM 27 and 9 CAM 28 and the archeological zone are all located on Terrapin Point. Site 27 (Abraham Point) measures 510 x 57 meters and is covered with dense palmetto with large stands of oak and pine. Site 9 CAM 28 (Terrapin Point Site) is 281 x 57 meters and is also traditionally believed the location of Fort St. Andrews. The aboriginal occupation area is located on some of the highest bluffs on the island and a long band--at places over a meter in depth--can be located along the bluff top. The archeological zone is covered with a dense pine oak forest with numerous discrete shell mounds throughout the area. Many more exist, but a thick layer of pine needles (4-7 inches) made a surface survey difficult and combined with the almost impassable vegetation made individual recording a nearly hopeless task. The third site, Hush Your Mouth (9 CAM 31), runs along the marsh north of Half Moon Bluff for over a thousand yards (914 m) and extends inland an average of about 40 yards (38 m). Shell deposits are numerous and in some places almost 2 feet thick.

Historic Context

With the exception of the Rischarde Brick House (13) all the structures in the Half Moon Bluff complex are wood frame buildings on piers of brick or stone. The only

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roads or streets in the "village" are the main road that skirts the western edge and a second road that runs east and west along the side of the Alberty and Trimmings properties. Tradition holds that some of the former slaves on Cumberland Island settled at the north end in the years after the Civil War. They were squatters having no formal ownership of the land. In the early 1890's a five acre tract on the north end of the island, a portion of a larger piece of land known historically as Martin's Half Moon Bluff or Martin's Fishing Bluff was purchased and divided into 42 lots measuring 50x100 feet with three access roads off the main road. These lots were sold to Negroes living in the area. How many dwellings were constructed is not known, however, a log building that served as both church and school was constructed in 1893 on two adjoining lots designated as the church lots in a plat of the area. The present First African Baptist Church stands on the same property. Little is known of these first residences, all of which have disappeared. The present houses and out buildings date to the 1930's--the present church was built in 1937. The Rischarde Brick House that was built in 1950 is located near the church.

Half Moon Bluff consists of ten structures, including the church. The structures are listed as follows with the names of former or present owners when known:

1. First African Baptist Church (No. 10 on map). This church was constructed in 1937 from wood that belonged to another structure that was razed in High Point. The church was the successor to a log cabin church founded in 1893 on almost the same site. It consists of a single-room frame structure set on concrete piers. It has three windows, ~~one~~ on each side and one at the rear. The entry is a double door with two-panel doors. It is painted white with weatherboard siding. A gable roof is covered with tin. There are about ten or eleven pews and a small plain altar on the inside. The church is privately owned and is in fair condition.
2. Trimming's House (No. 11). A frame structure with an enclosed shed porch on the front and an attached rear shed. It is privately owned and is in good condition.
3. Beaulah Alberty House (No. 12). A wood frame house with one central dormer and gable roof. The windows are two over two panes with shutters. There is a one-bay entrance porch with gabled end on the front. It is privately owned and in good condition.
4. Rischarde Brick House (No. 13). This brick structure has a low gable roof. Windows are hinged in the Florida style. This modern building is owned by Mr. Robert Rischarde of Fernandina, Florida.

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5. Rischarde Red Barn (No. 14). This is an L-shaped frame structure with chimneys at both ends. It contains a gable roof, and the windows are made up of screens with board and batten casemate shutters. This is also owned by Mr. Robert Rischarde, and is in good condition.
6. Beulah Alberty Shed (No. 15). Wood frame shed roof structure in good condition.
7. Trimmings Wine House. Small wood frame building.
8. Trimmings Conch Shell Building. Shed roofed frame building.
9. Trimmings Garage. Vertical siding with space between boards.
10. Miller's Barn Wagon (No. 34). This wooden structure is not in the immediate vicinity of the above nine structures, but lies about 200 feet to the west.

These last four structures are all wood frame construction and are of a non-descriptive architecture. They are privately owned and in good condition. All the above structures, except the church, have fallen into the possession of persons who have had no connection with the original owners. All have been altered considerably.

Three cemeteries are located to the northwest of the Half Moon Bluff settlement. Known as the Fader, Alberty and Miller-Bunkley Cemeteries (Numbers 19-21 on the enclosed district map) they contain the remains of four of the major families that lived and owned land in the area. Family plots of these four are set off with iron or stone fences, but other graves exist adjacent to these plots. An analysis of the inscriptions shows a close link with residents of the Half Moon Bluff community and indicates that this area was inhabited by former slaves of Cumberland Island.

South and east of the Half Moon Bluff area and developing at about the same time is the High Point Complex. Built originally as a hotel complex about 1880 many of the structures have survived in a modified form. The hotel and the surviving cottages are venacular architecture of the coastal area. Wood frame buildings with vertical siding, they rest on piers, usually brick, and have gable roofs with interior chimneys. The main hotel building has a porch and second floor balcony the length of one side. At least one of the cottages is two story with a single story rear ell. Historically the hotel complex consisted of the main building, a row of two room cottages, several eight room cottages, and two long two story buildings, designated the Macon Row and Atlanta Row, containing at least 24 rooms each. Only a few of the structures remain.

The hotel operation closed sometime prior to 1920 and for a decade the property was owned by the Cumberland Island Club and used for hunting and fishing. In 1930 it passed into the hands of its present owners, the Candler family. In 1940 the

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"New House" was built. Its style is similar to the old hotel and some of the cottages. Because the property is in private ownership little is known regarding changes and modifications that have taken place over the past 40 years.

Today there are eleven structures plus ruins of several old buildings in the High Point grouping. All are privately owned by the Candler family, High Point, Inc.

1. Hotel or Old House (No. 25). This is the largest and perhaps the oldest and most significant structure in this complex. It was probably constructed around 1880 and enlarged and remodeled around 1890. Since then other changes were made to this structure. It was always used as the main hotel until 1920 when the Cumberland Island Club purchased it.
2. Servants Quarters (No. 23). This structure dates back to the hotel period and was a cottage that housed hotel servants.
3. New House (No. 24). This structure was built around 1940 by the present owners. It is similar in style to the old hotel.
4. Caretakers House (Hotel Cottage) (No. 26). This structure dates back to the hotel period when it was used to house hotel guests. It is presently being used by the caretaker of the Candler estate.
5. Jesse Bailey's House (No. 30). This was formerly a servant's quarter of the old hotel that is now being used by an employee of the Candlers.
6. George Merrow's House (No. 32). This also was a servant's quarter of the old hotel that is now occupied by an employee of the estate.
7. Barn (No. 27).
8. Shop and Garage (No. 31).
9. Light Plant (unnumbered).
10. Well House (unnumbered)
11. Sawmill (unnumbered)

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On the southern part of the Candler estate are the foundation ruins of a church (said to have been of the Methodist denomination) that existed at least as early as 1880 while the hotel was in operation. This is significant because as late as 1846 it was known that there was no church on the island. It is very probable that the church may have been established in order to satisfy the needs of the hotel guests.

The historical district includes High Point Road (No. 110), which connects Cumberland Wharf (No. 22) to High Point. In reality, this road is the existing roadbed of a tramway that consisted of cars that ran on tracks and which were drawn by mules and horses. Hotel guests landed at Cumberland Wharf and were then driven by railroad to the hotel.

The district also contains the northern end of the main road that runs the length of the island. Beginning at or near Dungeness to the south the road terminates near Cumberland Wharf. In June 1977 the road was determined eligible for nomination to the National Register. Cumberland Wharf, now in ruins, is not included within the district since it has lost its integrity as an engineering work and is fast disappearing.

The three archeological sites and the archeological zone on Terrapin Point were located during an archeological survey of Cumberland Island in the summer of 1975. Survey methods varied with terrain, however, the majority of the effort was completed on foot. This work was aided immensely through the use of infrared aerial photographs which proved not only useful for site identification but also in establishing general geographical locations. (Ehrenhard (1976), 38).

Many portions of the island are covered with a dense underbrush of palmetto. In these areas, the field party would "string out" at approximately 100 meter intervals; the directions of a lead man reading compass would guide the group, keeping it intact and pointed in the assigned direction. As sites were discovered, they were recorded on 7.5 minute quad sheets and appropriate observations, measurements, photos, and collections gathered.

Excavations were carried out where necessary with reference to an arbitrary grid system. Individual base lines were established and marked at 50 meter intervals. Tests minimally consisted of a single 1.5 meter square. When natural levels could not be identified they were excavated in arbitrary 15 centimeter units. Features were cross sectioned and profiles were drawn for all tests. Soil samples were collected from each level of excavation as well as from the matrix of features.

Consistent recovery techniques were utilized throughout the project. The fill from each excavation unit was moved to a screening area. A water screen system

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consisting of a small gasoline powered pump and a series of large box screens lined with standard window screen was employed. A running and up-to-date field catalogue was kept documenting all reconnaissance data.

In situations that were historical in nature, specific historical data was used to aid in our interpretation. However, there were times when the documentation was inadequate or in error. One of our major tasks was to correctly integrate the historical documentation and the archeological record. A major concern on Cumberland Island was the interpretation of artifacts in the matrix of a dated area. There are contextual relationships between artifact types representing a 400 year span of historic cultural time and space. (Ehrenhard (1976), 38-42).

Prehistoric Context

Utilization of the Georgia lowlands dates back to over 5000 BP, however, the first intensive use of this area surfaces sometime around 4000 BP with the definition of the Bilbo Phase. These aquatically oriented peoples exploited the sea and salt marshes and developed one of the earliest ceramic assemblages currently identified in the New World. This ceramic tradition is distinctly tempered with organic fiber.

Beginning around 2950 BP Bilbo cultures begin to give way to other cultural manifestations still utilizing estuarine ecotones which are as yet poorly defined archeologically. At this time, noticeable variation in ceramic manufacture occurs with the introduction of sand as the tempering agent. While this is a period of cultural obscurity the emerging phase which comes to light is known as Deptford. Deptford Phase ceramics continued to be seen until around 1450 BP. In addition to ceramic innovations during the Deptford Period is the emergence of a burial mound complex.

The succeeding phase, the Wilmington, is poorly understood primarily for lack of research. It has been suggested (Crusoe (1973), 21) that these people represent an invasion from the north. Also, the ceramics record another change; this is manifested by the use of crushed pottery as the tempering agent. Other Wilmington cultural manifestations, i.e., subsistence economy, appear to conform to those of earlier peoples.

No sharp distinctions can be made from the late Wilmington and the following phases, i.e., St. Catherines, Savannah, and Irene. However, at some point between 1450 BP and 450 BP aboriginal peoples on Cumberland gradually lost their cultural affiliation with the upper Georgia coast. Influences emanating from northeast Florida appear to gain momentum as evidenced by the San Marcos Phase ceramics which have been located on the island.

Aboriginal cultures are ended in their pure form with the arrival of the Spanish on the Florida coast in the middle 16th century.

The prehistoric cultural remains on Cumberland are located along the edge of the

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marsh and primarily along the western side of the island. The sites begin about the two meter contour line and extend inland. Surface features which indicate the presence of a site are normally a matrix of rich, black humic soil and oyster shell middens or long ridges which may extend several hundred meters along the marsh. In almost all cases, the sites have been extensively damaged through natural forces, vandalism or mining.

Two sites (9 CAM 27 and 9 CAM 28) and the archeological zone form a single unit bordered by the marsh on the west, the main road on the east and two arbitrarily drawn lines one parallel to and southwest of Cumberland Wharf--the other (southern boundary of the district) and extension of the shoreline on the south side of Terrapin Point. The third site 9 CAM 31 is located north of Half Moon Bluff settlement at the edge of the marsh.

In the earlier description of the archeological resources reference was made to the 9 CAM 28 also containing the traditional location of Fort St. Andrews. The fort constructed in 1736 at the direction of General James Oglethorpe was located on "the extreme western point of the hill, the foot of which is washed on the one side by the bay and by the channel that goes southward on the other." Work on the fort continued during 1736 and 1737. From descriptions available it would appear the fort was a star work constructed originally by laying up a layer of limbs and brush and covering it with sand followed by another layer of limbs and brush and more sand. Later a wooden form was constructed to contain the sand. After 1742 and the final repulse of the Spanish by the English the fort was abandoned and fell into disuse. References to it and Fort William at the southern end of the island continued to appear in the Colonial Records of Georgia until the 1770's. By that date both forts were in ruins and the land in private hands. However, Fort St. Andrews appears on land ownership plats until the early 1800's (Torres (1977), 27).

Unfortunately, these maps or plats were often not to scale. However, an 1802 map of the entire island measuring 12 feet in length shows both Fort St. Andrew and Fort William and is to scale. Personnel at the Southeast Archeological Center of the National Park Service were able to reduce the larger map to the scale of the present 7.5 minute USGS Quad sheets and by superimposing the two maps determine in general the location of Fort St. Andrews. From this it appears that most of Fort St. Andrews has eroded into the Cumberland River, but as much as a third of it may still remain on land. (Ehrenhard, (1976), 90-99).

A settlement (Barriemackie) containing wives and children of soldiers stationed at Fort St. Andrews was located in the vicinity from 1740 until 1742 and may have continued to exist after the Fort was abandoned. However, location of the settlement is unclear and thus not even the possible site of the town can be determined. Further research may serve to locate it.

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Except for the landing strip used by visitors to the High Point Estate the appearance of the historic district has retained its integrity. Vegetative cover, the presence of the two settled areas, the roads and cemeteries retain their essential historic appearance.

Listed below are the names of private landowners in the historic district.

Nelson Mayo
P.O. Box 594
Kingsland, Georgia 31548

High Point, Inc. (Candler Family)
201 Townsend Place
Atlanta, Georgia 30327

James Grover Henderson
125 Osborne Street
St. Marys, Georgia 31558

Clara Trimmings Davis
Address unknown

Robert Rischarde
Cumberland Island
Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

Heirs of Fannie Alberty
Address unknown

Carol A. Ruckdeschel
% 4715 Northside Drive
Atlanta, Georgia 30327 (retained life
estate)

Louis H. McKee
1246 Highway 17
Orange Park, Florida 32073

First African Baptist Church
Address unknown

Bunkley Heirs
% Beverly Nash
P.O. Box 458
Woodbine, Georgia 31569

Rosa Miller Rodnell
% Charles C. Smith, Jr.
Box 197
St. Marys, Georgia 31558

O.H. Olsen, Jr.
Box 1137
St. Simons Island, Georgia 31520

Virginia Olsen Horton
Box 1104
St. Simons Island, Georgia 31520
(Retained estate)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Half Moon Bluff/High Point Historic District on the north end of Cumberland Island contains cultural resources dating from pre-historic to the immediate past. The three archeological sites along with the zone on Terrapin Point are felt to be significant because they provide the research potential for increasing our concept of time, space, and development of the aboriginal occupations of Cumberland Island. Research here will help define the specific nature of aboriginal man/land relationships of Coastal Georgia and the barrier islands. The relationships and interaction between the Georgia mainland and the barrier islands cultural occupations is poorly defined and scientific analysis of these sites will provide data to generate cultural dynamic models for two pressing questions: are the barrier islands and the mainland representative of differing social groups; or does one reflect seasonal exploitation by the other? Research here will provide much needed information on ceramic modifications found in this area; do these differences reflect local indigenous modification, diffusion or migration? Cumberland Island and the surrounding vicinities are representative of an estuarine subsistence economy. The relationships of the ecotone with interior portions of the Georgia Coastal plain can be more adequately explained through such research.

The distinct possibility that a portion of the site of Fort Saint Andrews may be located within Site 9 CAM 28 adds additional importance to that site. Research in this area may add to our knowledge of the day to day activities of the English settlers of Georgia in the years before and after 1740. Also, if the village of Barriemackie was located near the fort it may lie within the district.

Traditionally, the north end of the island and more specifically the Half Moon Bluff area has been identified as the location where former slaves settled in the years after 1865. The village that was laid out in 1890 had as its focal point the First African Baptist Church. Though none of the original structures dating to the decade before 1900 still exist, the presence of the community with its link to the antebellum period on Cumberland Island gives it significance. Linked to the community of Half Moon Bluff through the economics of the nearby hotels desiring an assured and permanent labor supply is the High Point Estate. Originally built as a hotel complex and serving as a vacation resort area the estate now owned by the Candler family, heirs to the Coca Cola fortune, contains the main building and several of the outbuildings dating to the last decades of the 19th Century.

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Half Moon Bluff is associated historically with Luther Martin, a white resident who established himself on Cumberland Island in 1870. The following year he purchased 104 acres of land which included the present Half Moon Bluff area. This land became known alternately as Martin's Half Moon Bluff Tract and Martin's Fishing Bluff Tract. In 1890 Martin sold 5 acres of this parcel to Mason T. Burbank, another white resident of the island who also owned part interest in the hotel at High Point. Burbank proceeded to divide his 5 acres into small lots of 50 by 100 feet. The result was the creation of 42 lots of equal size plus three access roads each 10 feet wide. The lots were sold to blacks some of whom were former slaves (or their descendents) on the island. Some of the more prosperous blacks purchased more than one lot. It was on two of these lots that the original log cabin church, which was also used as a schoolhouse, was built in 1893. The original structures built on these lots by the original purchasers are no longer in existence.

Tradition has always maintained that after the Civil War the former slaves of plantation owners of the island settled in the area of Half Moon Bluff after they were run off Stafford Plantation, Rayfield Plantation, and Dungeness Plantation (all on Cumberland Island). These freedmen acquired squatter's rights and built simple huts for shelters. As the Carnegies developed their lands and as the hotel business developed freedmen worked for the Carnegies and the hotel.

While the primary source material is generally lacking in establishing the Negro settlement at Half Moon Bluff as the specific area where the former slaves settled immediately after the Civil War, there can be no mistake that they did settle at the North End of the island. How they later became landowners at Half Moon Bluff may have been the design of the hotel owners, one of whom was Burbank. By setting aside 5 acres of land for these people, the hotel owners at High Point were providing themselves with some assurance that the blacks would remain long and loyal employees. In return, by acquiring property, the blacks were given a permanent stake on the island. Thus, the history of the blacks on Cumberland Island finds in Half Moon Bluff an area where the blacks complete the full cycle from slavery to property owner. At Half Moon Bluff the blacks found some semblance of the continuity and preservation of his social values and life-style within a free society.

The establishment of the First African Baptist Church and its continuance into modern times is a further expression of this continuity. As a religious institution, the church provided the post-bellum Negro of Cumberland Island with the solace he so much needed to relieve him of the burden of poverty and suffering. The church also was the focal point of the community serving not only the religious, but also the educational needs of the blacks who settled at Half Moon Bluff.

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After the end of the Civil War when the growing of cotton was no longer a significant force on the island, High Point became a popular place to visit by people in northern and central Georgia. Georgians were increasingly in the habit of spending summer vacations on the island. It became the place for annual conventions and meetings of professional groups within the state. To handle this influx of tourism, hotels and related facilities were constructed on a reasonable scale. There is evidence that as early as the 1870's hotel facilities were fairly common at High Point under the ownership of William R. Bunkley and others. By 1890, the Cumberland Island Company was formed and the hotel was expanded considerably. A related structure built about this time was a tramway that ran horse and mule-drawn cars from Cumberland Wharf, where the visitor arrived, to the hotel and beach. Although the tracks of this tramway no longer exist, the roadbed is still there and forms part of High Point Road.

The hotel became an extremely popular resort, but in 1920 the Cumberland Island Club, a private association, purchased the hotel property for its own use. After the association failed, Howard Candler, Sr. and his son, heirs to the Coca Cola fortune, purchased the property in 1930. The old hotel property has remained in the possession of the Candler family.

Although altered, the old hotel and its supporting structures are still distinguishable and in good condition. As one of the best preserved of the several properties on Cumberland Island, the Candler estate has considerable merit in illustrating the history of this area. The old hotel and its remaining facilities are a vivid reminder of the island's great potential as a unique area where people have gravitated in order to enjoy its scenic and recreational attributes.

The presence of intrusions such as the landing strip and the existence of remodeled structures and structures less than 50 years old do not interfere with the integrity of the historical district. The dwellings at Half Moon Bluff are successors to the old dwellings built in the 1890's by the former slaves, and these were, after all, lived in by their descendants. The existence of the old cemeteries in which slaves and their descendants are buried provide vivid reminders of the history of former slaves at the North End of Cumberland Island. The cemeteries add rather than detract from the integrity of the historical district. Although the old hotel and its supporting structures have been remodeled over the years, there is still sufficient character in them to recall a period when the island attracted the visitor to its shores. The landing strip may be the only facility which can be classified as a real intrusion.

The boundaries of the historic district are based on the natural boundaries of the edge of the marsh or beach and the man-made boundaries of the road from High Point to Cumberland Wharf and the Main Road. These boundaries provide a clearly defined and easily identified visual barrier.

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The High Point/Half Moon Bluff Historic District possesses significance in several areas. The black settlement at Half Moon Bluff represents the evolution of blacks from slavery to a community of squatters residing on land they did not own and ultimately becoming landowners and the transferal of these lands to their descendents. Within the community, the blacks preserved their social values and lifestyle. A different set of social values is represented at High Point where first a resort hotel, then a private club and today an estate emphasize the concept of leisure and wealth that also exists in other locations on Cumberland Island and on the other Sea Islands of Georgia.

The potential for historic archeology exists within the district in the possibility that both the site of Fort St. Andrews and the village of Barrimackie may be located within its bounds. Established by Oglethorpe in 1736, Fort St. Andrews formed a part of the defense against Spain's advance into the disputed area between Fort Frederica and St. Augustine. During its most active years, 1738-40, the fort had a garrison of about 200 men. The nearby village of Barrimackie contained wives and children of the soldiers. In 1740 the village may have contained 20 or more houses and a population of 80-100 dependents. Both fort and town were abandoned by 1750. The three archeological sites and the archeological zone also provide research potential to better understand the aboriginal occupants of the island, as well as ceramic modifications found in this area.

The High Point/Half Moon Bluff historic district with its prehistoric sites, the link with the era of English-Spanish struggle for the debatable lands, the post Civil War history of blacks, and the concept of the islands as a resort and private estate reflects the larger story of Georgia and the Sea Islands.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Crusoe, Donald L., Cumberland Island National Seashore: A Research Prospectus (1973) Mss in files of Southeast Archeological Center, NPS, Tallahassee, Fl.
- Ehrenhard, John, Cumberland Island National Seashore: Assessment of Archeological and Historical Resources (1976), Southeast Archeological Center, Tallahassee, Fl.
- Moore, Francis, :A Voyage to Georgia Begun in the year 1735", Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, Vol. I, (1840).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 700 ac

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	458300	3,422,260	B	1,7	460190	3,419,883
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,7	459535	3,419,640	D	1,7	467540	3,420,870
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

E 17/457 500/3419870

F 17/456 225/3419820

G 17/456650/3421600

The boundary of the historical district is as follows:

Beginning at Cumberland Wharf on the Cumberland River and moving northeast (see Cont. sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Historian Lou Torres (Denver Service Center),

NAME / TITLE Archeologist John Ehrenhard (SE Archeological Center)

Historian Len Brown, Southeast Regional Office, NPS

ORGANIZATION

DATE

SE Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service

January 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1895 Phoenix Boulevard

(404) 996-2520, Ext. 243

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

Georgia

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Elizabeth A. Lyon

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

J. P. Bellard

TITLE

Ark. Asst. Dir. Cultural Resources

DATE

8/11/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature]

DATE

6/22/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

[Signature]

DATE

7-20-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Torres, Louis, Historic Resource Study: Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia,
& Historic Structure Report; Historical Data Section for Dungeness, Denver Service
Center, NPS, (Nov. 1977)

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along the coast about 3,800 feet; then turning southeast following an irregular line that coincides with the south end of the marshes of Little Cumberland Island to a point just east of High Point; then moving southwest in a straight line for about 1,330 feet; then moving northwest in a straight line along the 20 foot contour line for about 1,600 feet to a point; then moving northeast for about 760 feet until reaching High Point Road; then following the south edge of High Point Road northwesterly to its junction with the main road; then moving southward along the east side of the Main Road, for about 5,140 feet; then turning westward for about 2,600 feet, following the northern portion of the marshes that form Abraham Point; then moving northerly along the irregular line of the marshes for about 5,000 feet to Terrapin Point on the coast; then moving northeasterly for about 1,900 feet to Cumberland Wharf, the place of beginning.

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Martin's Half Moon Bluff Tract/High Point
Preferred - High Point - Half Moon Bluff Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

North End (including Half Moon Bluff and High Point or Candler Estate)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Cumberland Island National Seashore

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
Cumberland Island

VICINITY OF St. Marys

STATE
Georgia

CODE
13

COUNTY
Camden

CODE
039

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)*
National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER
1895 Phoenix Boulevard

CITY, TOWN
Atlanta

VICINITY OF

STATE
Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Camden County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Woodbine

STATE
Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE ,
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Cumberland Island, the largest of the Golden Isles, lies from 1 to 3 miles east of the Georgia coast. Tidal marshlands and winding water channels separate the landforms. The island features warmer winters and cooler summers than adjacent mainland areas of southeast Georgia because of the moderating influences of the surrounding ocean. The Intracoastal Waterway passes between the island and the mainland.

The north end of the island is bordered on the west and north by marshes. On the northwest in the area of Cumberland Wharf steep bluffs drop down to a narrow sand beach that fronts on the Cumberland River. On the east a wide gently sloping sand beach is bordered by dunes some 20 to 30 feet above sea level. The interior of the island is between 25 and 30 feet above sea level. The High Point Half Moon Bluff historic district lies west of the dune line and extends to the western edge of the island bordered by the Cumberland River and marshes. To the north and east the district extends to the marshland. The vegetation of the area is a combination of pine, live oak palmetto and heath species.

Within the boundaries of the district there are two complexes of buildings--Half Moon Bluff and High Point--as well as three archeological sites and an archeological zone on Terrapin Point. There are 13 buildings at Half Moon Bluff including the church. These are described below. These buildings form a "village" complex and date to the first three decades of this century. The High Point area was originally developed as a hotel or resort complex. After passing through several owners it was acquired by the Candler family who now own it as a private estate. The old hotel and nine outbuildings date to the hotel period. The eleventh building (The New House) was built in 1940.

The three archeological sites and the archeological zone are located on the west and northeast edge of the district. Sites 9 CAM 27 and 9 CAM 28 and the archeological zone are all located on Terrapin Point. Site 27 (Abraham Point) measures 510x57 meters and is covered with dense palmetto with large stands of oak and pine. Site 9 CAM 28 (Terrapin Point Site) is 281x57 meters and is also traditionally believed the location of Fort St. Andrews. The aboriginal occupation area is located on some of the highest bluffs on the island and a long band, at places over a meter in depth, can be located along the bluff top. The archeological zone is covered with a dense pine oak forest with numerous discrete shell mounds throughout the area. Many more exist, but a thick layer of pine needles (4-7 inches) made a surface survey difficult and combined with the almost impassable vegetation made individual recording a nearly hopeless task. The third site, Hugh Your Mouth (9 CAM 31), runs along the marsh north of Half Moon Bluff for over a thousand yards (914 m) and extends inland an average of about 40 yards (38 m). Shell deposits are numerous and in some places almost 2 feet thick.

Historic Context

With the exception of three structures, all the structures in the Half Moon Bluff complex are wood frame buildings on piers of brick or stone. The only roads or streets in the "village" are the main road that skirts the eastern edge and a second road that runs east and west along the side of the Alberty and Trimmings properties.

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Tradition holds that some of the former slaves on Cumberland Island settled at the north end in the years after the Civil War. They were squatters having no formal ownership of the land. In the early 1890's a five acre tract on the north end of the island, a portion of a larger piece of land known historically as Martin's Half Moon Bluff or Martin's Fishing Bluff was purchased and divided into 42 lots measuring 50x100 feet with three access roads off the main road. These lots were sold to Negroes living in the area. How many dwellings were constructed is not known, however, a log building that served as both church and school was constructed in 1893 on two adjoining lots designated as the church lots in a plat of the area. The present First African Baptist Church stands on the same property. Little is known of these first residences, all of which have disappeared. Most of the present houses and out-buildings date to the 1930's and 1940's--the present church was built in 1937. The Rischarde Brick House, built in 1950, is located near the church.

Half Moon Bluff consists of 13 structures, including the church. The structures are listed as follows with the names of former or present owners when known:

1. First African Baptist Church (No. 10 on map). This church was constructed in 1937 from wood that belonged to another structure that was razed in High Point. The church was the successor to a log cabin church founded in 1893 on almost the same site. It consists of a single-room frame structure set on concrete piers. It has three windows on each side and one at the rear. The entry is a double door with two-panel doors. It is painted white with weatherboard siding. A gable roof is covered with tin. There are about ten or eleven pews and a small plain altar on the inside. The church was acquired by the National Park Service in mid-1978, and is in fair condition.
2. Trimming's House (No. 11). A frame structure with an enclosed shed porch on the front and an attached rear shed. It is privately owned and is in good condition. In 1976 the enclosed shed porch was removed. The rear porch has been rebuilt.
3. Beulah Alberty House (No. 12). A wood frame house with one central dormer and gable roof. The windows are two over two panes with shutters. There is a one-bay entrance porch with gabled end on the front. It is privately owned and in good condition. In 1975 it was renovated on the interior and exterior.
4. Rischarde Brick House (No. 13). This brick structure has a low gable roof. Windows are hinged in the Florida style. This modern building is owned by Mr. Robert Rischarde of Fernandina, Florida.
5. Rischarde Red Barn (No. 14). This is an L-shaped frame structure with chimneys at both ends. It contains a gable roof, and the windows are made up of screens with board and batten casemate shutters. This is also owned by Mr. Robert Rischarde, and was in good condition in 1975.

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6. Beulah Alberty Shed (No. 15). This wood frame shed roof structure built in 1953 was torn down in 1975.

7. Trimmings Wine House. Small wood frame building built in 1947.

8. Trimmings Conch Shell Building. Shed roofed frame building constructed in 1947.

9. Trimmings Garage. Horizontal siding with space between boards. Structure rests directly on ground and was built in 1947.

10. Miller's Wagon Barn (No. 34). This wooden structure is not in the immediate vicinity of the above nine structures, but lies about 200 feet to the west. It is no longer standing.

The structures, built in 1947, are wood frame construction and of a non-descriptive architecture. They are privately owned and in good condition. All the above structures, except the church, have fallen into the possession of persons who have had no connection with the original owners. Many have been altered considerably.

Between 1975-78 three structures have been constructed in the Half Moon Bluff village: a barn in 1975, a garage in 1976, and another garage in 1978. Details on dimensions and locale are not available.

Three cemeteries are located to the northwest of the Half Moon Bluff settlement. Known as the Fader, Alberty and Miller-Bunkley Cemeteries (Numbers 19-21 on the enclosed district map) they contain the remains of four of the major families that lived and owned land in the area. Family plots of these four are set off with iron or stone fences, but other graves exist adjacent to these plots. An analysis of the inscriptions shows a close link with residents of the Half Moon Bluff community and indicates that this area was inhabited by former slaves of Cumberland Island. All three cemeteries are within the High Point Cemetery platted in 1891--Camden County Deed Book, U p. 251-53.

South and east of the Half Moon Bluff area and developing at about the same time is the High Point Complex. Built originally as a hotel complex about 1880 many of the structures have survived in a modified form. The hotel and the surviving cottages are venacular architecture of the coastal area. Wood frame buildings with horizontal siding, they rest on piers, usually brick, and have gable roofs with interior chimneys. The main hotel building has a porch and second floor balcony the length of one side. At least one of the cottages is two story with a single story rear ell. Historically, the hotel complex consisted of the main building, a row of two room cottages, several eight room cottages, and two long two-story buildings, designated the Macon Row and Atlanta Row, containing at least 24 rooms each. Only a few of the structures remain.

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The hotel operation closed sometime prior to 1920 and for a decade the property was owned by the Cumberland Island Club and used for hunting and fishing. In 1930 it passed into the hands of its present owners, the Candler family. In 1940 the "New House" was built. Its style is similar to the old hotel and some of the cottages. Because the property is in private ownership little is known regarding changes and modifications that have taken place over the past 40 years.

Today there are fourteen structures plus ruins of several old buildings in the High Point grouping. All are privately owned by the Candler family, High Point, Inc.

1. Hotel or Old House (No. 25). This is the largest and perhaps the oldest and most significant structure in this complex. It was probably constructed around 1880 and enlarged and remodeled around 1890. Since then other changes were made to this structure. It was always used as the main hotel until 1920 when the Cumberland Island Club purchased it. In 1975 it was a private residence.

2. Servants Quarters (No. 23). This structure dates back to the hotel period and was a cottage that housed hotel servants.

3. New House (No. 24). This structure was built around 1940 by the present owners. It is similar in style to the old hotel.

4. Caretakers House (Hotel Cottage) (No. 26). This structure dates back to the hotel period when it was used to house hotel guests. It is presently being used by the caretaker of the Candler estate.

5. Jesse Bailey's House (No. 30). This was formerly a servant's quarter of the old hotel that is now being used by an employee of the Candlers.

6. George Merrow's House (No. 32). This house was built in 1946 by the Candlers and is now occupied by an employee of the estate.

7. Barn (No. 27). Built in 1941

8. Shop and Garage (No. 31). Built in 1941

9. Light Plant (unnumbered). Built about 1946

10. Well house (unnumbered)

11. Sawmill (unnumbered) dates to after 1940

12. Jesse's Kitchen - not on sketch map

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13. Shed Garage #1 - not on sketch map

14. Shed Garage #2 - not on sketch map

Adjacent to the Candler estate are the foundation ruins of a church (said to have been of the Methodist denomination) that existed at least as early as 1880 while the hotel was in operation. This is significant because as late as 1849 it was known that there was no church on the island. It is very probable that the church may have been established in order to satisfy the needs of the hotel guests. It is indicated on a 1887 land plat.

The historical district includes High Point Road (No. 110), which connects Cumberland Wharf (No. 22) to High Point. In reality, this road follows the existing roadbed of a tramway that consisted of cars that ran on tracks and which were drawn by mules and horses. Hotel guests landed at Cumberland Wharf and were then driven by railroad to the hotel.

The district also contains the northern end of the main road that runs the length of the island. Beginning at or near Dungeness to the south the road terminates near Cumberland Wharf. In June 1977 the road was determined eligible for nomination to the National Register. Cumberland Wharf, now in ruins, is not included within the district since it has lost its integrity as an engineering work and is fast disappearing.

The three archeological sites and the archeological zone on Terrapin Point were located during an archeological survey of Cumberland Island in the summer of 1975. Survey methods varied with terrain, however, the majority of the effort was completed on foot. This work was aided immensely through the use of infrared aerial photographs which proved not only useful for site identification but also in establishing general geographical locations. (Ehrenhard (1976), 38).

Many portions of the island are covered with a dense underbrush of palmetto. In these areas, the field party would "string out: at approximately 100 meter intervals; the directions of a lead man reading compass would guide the group, keep it intact and pointed in the assigned direction. As sites were discovered, they were recorded on 7.5 minute quad sheets and appropriate observations, measurements, photos, and collections gathered.

Excavations were carried out where necessary with reference to an arbitrary grid system. Individual base lines were established and marked at 50 meter intervals. Tests minimally consisted of a single 1.5 meter square. When natural levels could not be identified they were excavated in arbitrary 15 centimeter units. Features were cross sectioned and profiles were drawn for all tests. Soil samples were collected from each level of excavation as well as from the matrix of features.

Consistent recovery techniques were utilized throughout the project. The fill from each excavation unit was moved to a screening area. A water screen system

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consisting of a small gasoline powered pump and a series of large box screens lined with standard window screen was employed. A running and up-to-date field catalogue was kept documenting all reconnaissance data.

In situations that were historical in nature, specific historical data was used to aid in our interpretation. However, there were times when the documentation was inadequate or in error. One of our major tasks was to correctly integrate the historical documentation and the archeological record. A major concern on Cumberland Island was the interpretation of artifacts in the matrix of a dated area. There are contextual relationships between artifact types representing a 400 year span of historic cultural time and space. (Ehrenhard (1976), 38-42).

Prehistoric Context

Utilization of the Georgia lowlands dates back to over 5000 BP, however, the first intensive use of this area surfaces sometime around 4000 BP with the definition of the Bilbo Phase. These aquatically oriented peoples exploited the sea and salt marshes and developed one of the earliest ceramic assemblages currently identified in the New World. This ceramic tradition is distinctly tempered with organic fiber.

Beginning around 2950 BP Bilbo cultures begin to give way to other cultural manifestations still utilizing estuarine ecotones which are as yet poorly defined archeologically. At this time, noticeable variation in ceramic manufacture occurs with the introduction of sand as the tempering agent. While this is a period of cultural obscurity the emerging phase which comes to light is known as Deptford. Deptford Phase ceramics continued to be seen until around 1450 BP. In addition to ceramic innovations during the Deptford Period is the emergence of a burial mound complex.

The succeeding phase, the Wilmington, is poorly understood primarily for lack of research. It has been suggested (Crusoe (1973), 21) that these people represent an invasion from the north. Also, the ceramics record another change; this is manifested by the use of crushed pottery as the tempering agent. Other Wilmington cultural manifestations, i.e., subsistence economy, appear to conform to those of earlier peoples.

No sharp distinctions can be made from the late Wilmington and the following phases, i.e., St. Catherines, Savannah, and Irene. However, at some point between 1450 BP and 450 BP aboriginal peoples on Cumberland gradually lost their cultural affiliation with the upper Georgia coast. Influences emanating from northeast Florida appear to gain momentum as evidenced by the San Marcos Phase ceramics which have been located on the island.

Aboriginal cultures are ended in their pure form with the arrival of the Spanish on the Florida coast in the middle 16th century.

The prehistoric cultural remains on Cumberland are located along the edge of the

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marsh and primarily along the western side of the island. The sites begin about the two meter contour line and extend inland. Surface features which indicate the presence of a site are normally a matrix of rich, black humic soil and oyster shell middens or long ridges which may extend several hundred meters along the marsh. In almost all cases, the sites have been extensively damaged through natural forces, vandalism or mining.

Two sites (9 CAM 27 and 9 CAM 28) and the archeological zone form a single unit bordered by the marsh on the west, the main road on the east and two arbitrarily drawn lines one parallel to and southwest of Cumberland Wharf--the other (southern boundary of the district) and extension of the shoreline on the south side of Terrapin Point. The third site 9 CAM 31 is located north of Half Moon Bluff settlement at the edge of the marsh.

In the earlier description of the archeological resources reference was made to the 9 CAM 28 also containing the traditional location of Fort St. Andrews. The fort constructed in 1736 at the direction of General James Oglethorpe was located on "the extreme western point of the hill, the foot of which is washed on the one side by the bay and by the channel that goes southward on the other." Work on the fort continued during 1736 and 1737. From descriptions available it would appear the fort was a star work constructed originally by laying up a layer of limbs and brush and covering it with sand followed by another layer of limbs and brush and more sand. Later a wooden form was constructed to contain the sand. After 1742 and the final repulse of the Spanish by the English the fort was abandoned and fell into disuse. References to it and Fort William at the southern end of the island continued to appear in the Colonial Records of Georgia until the 1770's. By that date both forts were in ruins and the land in private hands. However, Fort St. Andrews appears on land ownership plats until the early 1800's (Torres (1977), 27).

Unfortunately, these maps or plats were often not to scale. However, an 1802 map of the entire island measuring 12 feet in length shows both Fort St. Andrew and Fort William and is to scale. Personnel at the Southeast Archeological Center of the National Park Service were able to reduce the larger map to the scale of the present 7.5 minute USGS Quad sheets and by superimposing the two maps determine in general the location of Fort St. Andrews. From this it appears that most of Fort St. Andrews has eroded into the Cumberland River, but as much as a third of it may still remain on land. (Ehrenhard, (1976), 90-99).

A settlement (Barriemackie) containing wives and children of soldiers stationed at Fort St. Andrews was located in the vicinity from 1740 until 1742 and may have continued to exist after the Fort was abandoned. However, location of the settlement is unclear and thus not even the possible site of the town can be determined. Further research may serve to locate it.

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Except for the landing strip used by visitors to the High Point Estate the appearance of the historic district has retained its integrity. Vegetative cover, the presence of the two settled areas, the roads and cemeteries retain their essential historic appearance.

Listed below are the names of private landowners in the historic district.

Nelson Mayo
P.O. Box 594
Kingsland, Georgia 31548

High Point, Inc. (Candler Family)
201 Townsend Place
Atlanta, Georgia 30327

James Grover Henderson
125 Osborne Street
St. Marys, Georgia 31558

Clara Trimmings Davis
Address unknown

Robert Rischarde
Cumberland Island
Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

Heirs of Fannie Alberty
Address unknown

Carol A. Ruckdeschel
% 4715 Northside Drive
Atlanta, Georgia 30327 (retained life
estate)

Louis H. McKee
1246 Highway 17
Orange Park, Florida 32073

First African Baptist Church
Address unknown

Bunkley Heirs
% Beverly Nash
P.O. Box 458
Woodbine, Georgia 31569

Rosa Miller Rodnell
% Charles C. Smith, Jr.
Box 197
St. Marys, Georgia 31558

O.H. Olsen, Jr.
Box 1137
St. Simons Island, Georgia 31520

Virginia Olsen Horton
Box 1104
St. Simons Island, Georgia 31520
(Retained estate)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Half Moon Bluff/High Point Historic District on the north end of Cumberland Island contains cultural resources dating from pre-historic to the immediate past. The three archeological sites along with the zone on Terrapin Point are felt to be significant because they provide the research potential for increasing our concept of time, space, and development of the aboriginal occupations of Cumberland Island. Research here will help define the specific nature of aboriginal man/land relationships of Coastal Georgia and the barrier islands. The relationships and interaction between the Georgia mainland and the barrier islands cultural occupations is poorly defined and scientific analysis of these sites will provide data to generate cultural dynamic models for two pressing questions: are the barrier islands and the mainland representative of differing social groups; or does one reflect seasonal exploitation by the other? Research here will provide much needed information on ceramic modifications found in this area; do these differences reflect local indigenous modification, diffusion or migration? Cumberland Island and the surrounding vicinities are representative of an estuarine subsistence economy. The relationships of the ecotone with interior portions of the Georgia Coastal plain can be more adequately explained through such research.

The distinct possibility that a portion of the site of Fort Saint Andrews may be located within Site 9 CAM 28 adds additional importance to that site. Research in this area may add to our knowledge of the day to day activities of the English settlers of Georgia in the years before and after 1740. Also, if the village of Barriemackie was located near the fort it may lie within the district.

Traditionally, the north end of the island and more specifically the Half Moon Bluff area has been identified as the location where former slaves settled in the years after 1865. The village that was laid out in 1890 had as its focal point the First African Baptist Church. Though none of the original structures dating to the decade before 1900 still exist, the presence of the community with its link to the antebellum period on Cumberland Island gives it significance. Linked to the community of Half Moon Bluff through the economics of the nearby hotels desiring an assured and permanent labor supply is the High Point Estate. Originally built as a hotel complex and serving as a vacation resort area the estate now owned by the Candler family, heirs to the Coca Cola fortune, contains the main building and several of the outbuildings dating to the last decades of the 19th Century.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Half Moon Bluff is associated historically with Luther Martin, a white resident who established himself on Cumberland Island in 1870. The following year he purchased 104 acres of land which included the present Half Moon Bluff area. This land became known alternately as Martin's Half Moon Bluff Tract and Martin's Fishing Bluff Tract. In 1890 Martin sold 5 acres of this parcel to Mason T. Burbank, another white resident of the island who also owned part interest in the hotel at High Point. Burbank proceeded to divide his 5 acres into small lots of 50 by 100 feet. The result was the creation of 42 lots of equal size plus three access roads each 10 feet wide. The lots were sold to blacks, some of whom were former slaves (or their descendents) on the island. Some of the more prosperous blacks purchased more than one lot. It was on two of these lots that the original log cabin church, which was also used as a schoolhouse, was built in 1893-94. The original structures built on these lots by the original purchasers are no longer in existence.

Tradition has always maintained that after the Civil War the former slaves of plantation owners of the island settled in the area of Half Moon Bluff after they were run off Stafford Plantation, Rayfield Plantation, and Dungeness Plantation (all on Cumberland Island). These freedmen acquired squatter's rights and built simple huts for shelters. As the Carnegies developed their lands and as the hotel business developed freedmen worked for the Carnegies and the hotel.

While the primary source material is generally lacking in establishing the Negro settlement at Half Moon Bluff as the specific area where the former slaves settled immediately after the Civil War, there is little doubt that some did settle at the North End of the island. How they later became landowners at Half Moon Bluff may have been the design of the hotel owners, one of whom was Burbank. By setting aside 5 acres of land for these people, the hotel owners at High Point were providing themselves with some assurance that the blacks would remain long and loyal employees. In return, by acquiring property, the blacks were given a permanent stake on the island. Thus, the history of the blacks on Cumberland Island finds in Half Moon Bluff an area where the blacks complete the full cycle from slavery to property owner. At Half Moon Bluff the blacks found some semblance of the continuity and preservation of their social values and life-style within a free society.

The establishment of the First African Baptist Church and its continuance into modern times is a further expression of this continuity. As a religious institution, the church provided the post-bellum Negro of Cumberland Island with the solace he so much needed to relieve him of the burden of poverty and suffering. The church also was the focal point of the community serving not only the religious, but also the educational needs of the blacks who settled at Half Moon Bluff.

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After the end of the Civil War when the growing of cotton was no longer a significant force on the island, High Point became a popular place to visit by people in northern and central Georgia. Georgians were increasingly in the habit of spending summer vacations on the island. It became the place for annual conventions and meetings of professional groups within the state. To handle this influx of tourism, hotels and related facilities were constructed on a reasonable scale. There is evidence that as early as the 1870's hotel facilities were fairly common at High Point under the ownership of William R. Bunkley and others. By 1890, the Cumberland Island Company was formed and the hotel was expanded considerably. A related structure built about this time was a tramway that ran horse and mule-drawn cars from Cumberland Wharf, where the visitor arrived, to the hotel and beach. Although the tracks of this tramway no longer exist, the roadbed is still there and forms part of High Point Road.

The hotel became an extremely popular resort, but in 1920 the Cumberland Island Club, a private association, purchased the hotel property for its own use. After the association failed, Howard Candler, Sr. and his son, heirs to the Coca Cola fortune, purchased the property in 1930. The old hotel property has remained in the possession of the Candler family.

Although altered, the old hotel and its supporting structures are still distinguishable and in good condition. As one of the best preserved of the several properties on Cumberland Island, the Candler estate has considerable merit in illustrating the history of this area. The old hotel and its remaining facilities are a vivid reminder of the island's great potential as a unique area where people have gravitated in order to enjoy its scenic and recreational attributes.

The presence of intrusions such as the landing strip and the existence of remodeled structures and structures less than 50 years old do not interfere with the integrity of the historical district. The dwellings at Half Moon Bluff are successors to the old dwellings built in the 1890's by the former slaves, and these were, after all, lived in by their descendants. The existence of the old cemeteries in which slaves and their descendants are buried provide vivid reminders of the history of former slaves at the North End of Cumberland Island. The cemeteries add rather than detract from the integrity of the historical district. Although the old hotel and its supporting structures have been remodeled over the years, there is still sufficient character in them to recall a period when the island attracted the visitor to its shores. The landing strip may be the only facility which can be classified as a real intrusion.

The boundaries of the historic district are based on the natural boundaries of the edge of the marsh or beach and the man-made boundaries of the road from High Point to Cumberland Wharf and the Main Road. These boundaries provide a clearly defined and easily identified visual barrier.

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The High Point/Half Moon Bluff Historic District possesses significance in several areas. The black settlement at Half Moon Bluff represents the evolution of blacks from slavery to a community of squatters residing on land they did not own and ultimately becoming landowners and the transferral of these lands to their descendents. Within the community, the blacks preserved their social values and lifestyle. A different set of social values is represented at High Point where first a resort hotel, then a private club and today an estate emphasize the concept of leisure and wealth that also exists in other locations on Cumberland Island and on the other Sea Islands of Georgia.

The potential for historic archeology exists within the district in the possibility that both the site of Fort St. Andrews and the village of Barrimackie may be located within its bounds. Established by Oglethorpe in 1736, Fort St. Andrews formed a part of the defense against Spain's advance into the disputed area between Fort Frederica and St. Augustine. During its most active years, 1738-40, the fort had a garrison of about 200 men. The nearby village of Barrimackie contained wives and children of the soldiers. In 1740 the village may have contained 20 or more houses and a population of 80-100 dependents. Both fort and town were abandoned by 1750. The three archeological sites and the archeological zone also provide research potential to better understand the aboriginal occupants of the island, as well as ceramic modifications found in this area.

The High Point/Half Moon Bluff historic district with its prehistoric sites, the link with the era of English-Spanish struggle for the debatable lands; the post Civil War history of blacks, and the concept of the islands as a resort and private estate reflects the larger story of Georgia and the Sea Islands.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Crusoe, Donald L., Cumberland Island National Seashore: A Research Prospectus(1973) Mss in files of Southeast Archeological Center, NPS, Tallahassee, Fl.
 Ehrenhard, John, Cumberland Island National Seashore: Assessment of Archeological and Historical Resources (1976), Southeast Archeological Center, Tallahassee, Fl.
 Moore, Francis; A Voyage to Georgia Begun in the year 1735," Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, Vol. I, (1840). (see continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 700 ac

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	458300	3422260	B	17	460190	3419885
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	17	459535	3419640	D	17	457540	3420870
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

E 17/457500/3419870

F 17/456225/3419820

G 17/456650/3421600

The boundary of the historical district is as follows:
 Beginning at Cumberland Wharf on the Cumberland River and moving northeast (see Cont.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES (Sheet)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY Historian Lou Torres (Denver Service Center),

NAME / TITLE Archeologist John Ehrenhard (SE Archeological Center)
 Historian Len Brown, Southeast Regional Office, NPS

ORGANIZATION

Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service

DATE

January 1978

STREET & NUMBER

75 Spring Street, S.W.

TELEPHONE

(404) 221-5835

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO NONE

Elizabeth P. Lyon
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

R. Hollander

TITLE Asst. Dir., Cultural Resources

DATE 11/30/79

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles S. Shell
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 12-18-79

ATTEST *Lucretia A. Bunn*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12/17/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1 ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Torres, Louis, Historic Resource Study: Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia,
& Historic Structure Report; Historical Data Section for Dungeness, Denver Service
Center, NPS, (Nov. 1977)

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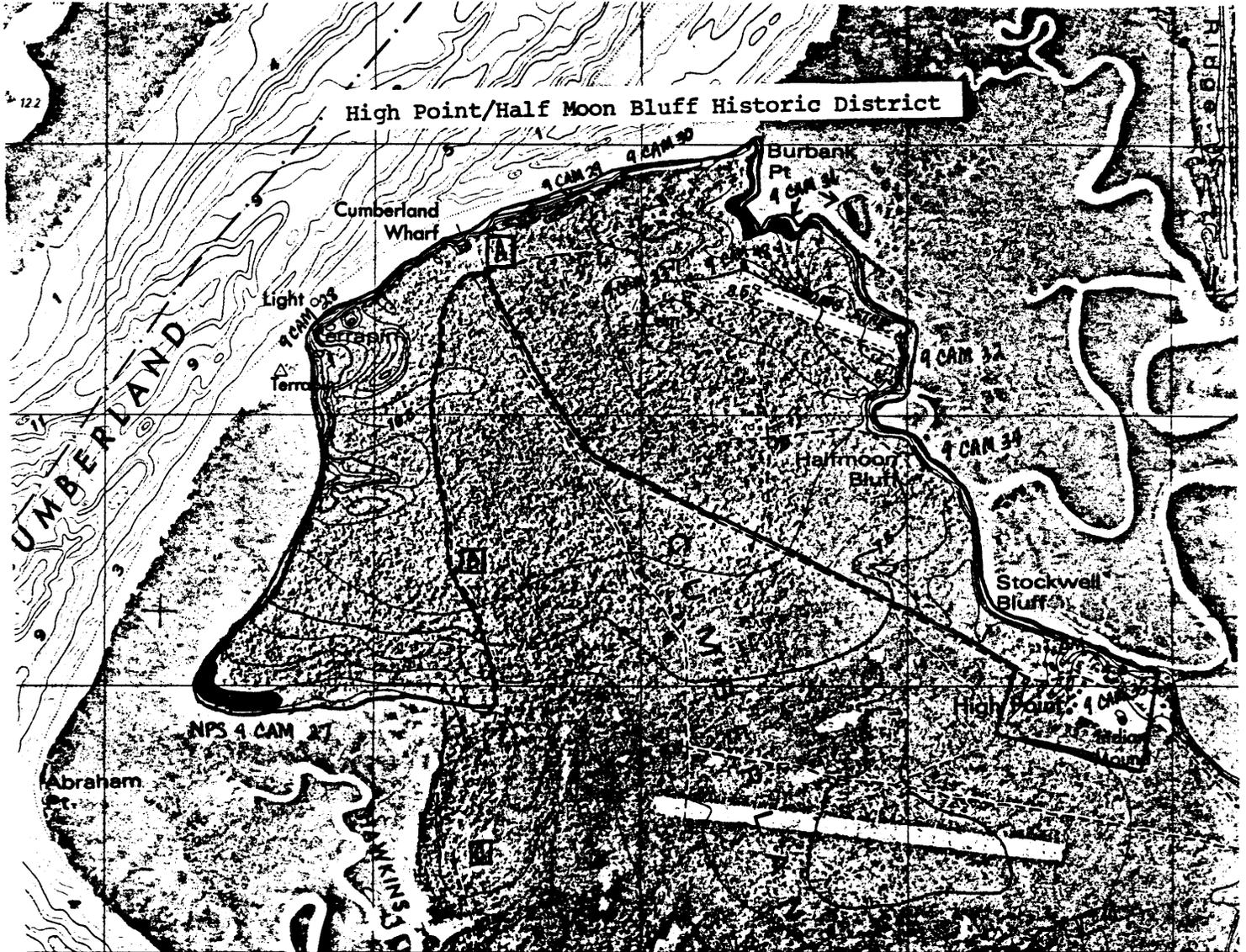
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along the coast about 3,800 feet; then turning southeast following an irregular line that coincides with the south end of the marshes of Little Cumberland Island to a point just east of High Point; then moving southwest in a straight line for about 1,330 feet; then moving northwest in a straight line along the 20 foot contour line for about 1,600 feet to a point; then moving northeast for about 760 feet until reaching High Point Road; then following the south edge of High Point Road northwesterly to its junction with the main road; then moving southward along the east side of the Main Road, for about 5,140 feet; then turning westward for about 2,600 feet, following the northern portion of the marshes that form Abraham Point; then moving northerly along the irregular line of the marshes for about 5,000 feet to Terrapin Point on the coast; then moving northeasterly for about 1,900 feet to Cumberland Wharf, the place of beginning.

HIGH POINT/HALF MOON BLUFF HISTORIC DISTRICT





1. High Point Historical District
2. Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia, *Camden County Ga.*
3. Paul McCrary
4. May, 1977
5. Denver Service Center, NPS
6. Looking north
7. Number 1 *of 16*

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978



1. Old hotel, High Point
Historical District
2. Cumberland Island National
Seashore, Georgia, *Camden County*
3. Louis Torres
4. ~~November, 1975~~ *March 31, 1976*
5. Denver Service Center, NPS
6. Looking northwest
7. Number 2916

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978

DOE

DEC 22 1978

~~William~~

*High Point - Half - Moon Bluff Historic
District*



1. Section of cemetery, Half Moon Bluff Historical District
2. Cumberland Island National *
Seashore / *Camden County, GA*
3. Louis Torres
4. November, 1975
5. Denver Service Center, NPS
6. Number 3 *716*
DEC 22 1978

* *Fader Comotery*

AUG 25 1978

DOE
DEC 22 1978



1. Section of cemetery, Half Moon Bluff Historical District*
2. Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia, *Camden County*
3. Louis Torres
4. November, 1975
5. Denver Service Center, NPS

6. Number 4816

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978

* Miller-Bunkley Family
Cemetery



Alberty Family Cemetery (High Point/Half Moon
Cumberland Is. Georgia, CAMDEN County Bluff)

L. Brown, 1985

Neg in SE Regional Office, NPS

Looking SE

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978

Photo # 5916

DOE

DEC 22 1978



Beulah Alberty House (High Point Half Moon
Bluff Hist. Dist.)

Cumberland Island, Camden Co. GA

L. Brown, 1975 Neg in SE Reg Office NPS

View looking northeast at front of house

DEC 22 1978

AUG 20 1978

~~1978~~

^{DOE}
DEC 22 1978

#6 of 16



Struc. 11 Trimming⁷House High Point/ Half
Moon Bluff Cumberland Is, Camden Co. GA

L. Brown, 1975

DEC 22 1978

Neg in SE Reg Office NPS, Atlanta

View looking northeast.

AUG 25 1978 Photo # 7916

DOE

DEC 22 1978



First African Baptist Church (10)

High Point/Half Moon Bluff Hist. Dist.

Cumberland Island, Camden County, GA

L. Brown, 1975 Neg in SE Reg. Office, NpS

DEC 22 1978

View looking northeast at south (front) and
west side.

AUG 25 1978

Photo # ~~89~~ 16



Hotel Guest Cottage (#26) now Caretakers Res.

High Point/Half Moon Bluff Hist. Dist

Cumberland Island, Camden Co. GA

L. Brown, Nov 1976 **DEC 22 1978**

Neg in SE Reg. NPS **AUG 25 1978**

View looking northwest at rear of structure

POE

DEC 22 1978

9016



G. Merrows House (32) High Point Half Moon
Bluff, Cumberland Is. Camden Co, GA

John Pennington, 1976. Neg at HQs Cumberland
Is. Nat. Seashore

View looking south

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978 Photo # 108/16



Barn at High Point.
Camden County, GA

High Point/ Half Moon Blf
Cumberland Island

J. Pennington, Photog. 1976 Neg at HQs
Cumberland Island N. Seashore
View looking north and west.

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978

119/6



Jesse Bailey's House (#30) Old Servants Qtrs
High Point/. Half Moon Bluff Cumberland Is.

Camden Co. GA John Pennington, 1976
eg at HQs Cumberland Is. Nat. Seashore
Looking South and east showing front of bldg

DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978

Photo # 12/16



10-14-13 - OLD LIST
the Settlement

^{DOE}
DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978

Half Moon Bluff Settlement, High Point/Half
Moon Bluff Hist. Dist. Camden Co. GA

J. Pennington, 1976

DEC 22 1978

Neg filed at HQs Cumberland Is. Nat. Seashore
Looking west -- Rischarde Brick House in
background, Red Barn middle foreground and
church in right foreground.

139/16



10-OLD LIST
interior

DOE
DEC 22 1978

AUG 25 1978
First African Baptist Church, High Point
Half Moon Bluff Hist. Dist. Cumberland Is
Camden Co. GA

DEC 22 1978
L. Brown, Neg. filed in SE Reg. Div. 1978
J. Pennington, 1976 Neg filed at HQs Cumberland
Island Nat. Seashore.

Interior of church at Half Moon Bluff #14 of 16



25- OLD LIST
from 5-

DOE
DEC 22 1978

High Point Hotel (Old House) (High Point/
Half Moon Bluff) Camden Co., GA

John Pennington, 1976

DEC 22 1978

Neg filed at HQs Cumberland Island Nat. Seashore
View from south looking north showing front
and rear porches

AUG 25 1978

Photo # 15916



24 - OLD List
From SE

DOE
DEC 22 1978

New House at High Point AUG 25 1978
High Point/Half Moon Bluff Hist. Dist.

Cumberland Island, Camden Co. Georgia
John Pennington, 1976 DEC 22 1978

Neg. filed at HQs Cumberland Is. Nat. Seashore
Rear of house built in 1940 showing porch
and exterior chimneys. View from SE

#16.9/16