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TABLE POINT ARCHEOLOGICAL D	DISTRICT (ZONE A)	the second se
Description;		
geological development resu	t and southernmost of Geore lted from fluctuation in se nt during the Holocene resu	Its initial ea levels o ve r 30,000
The prehistoric cultura	al remains on Cumberland	1
site are normally a matrix of middens or long ridges	the sites have been extens	and oyster shell
	is represented as a thin ba s zone are approximately	and of ground
portion of Table Point. Soi soil groups include Leon Fin is a dense mixture of lowlan	ne sand, Johnson Loam, and C	hipley sand. Vegetation
Undergrowth in this are the island. However, the ar middens.	ea is without a doubt the m cea within the zone contain	-
Within the time framewo the boundaries of each occup that land bordering the mars by aboriginal peoples.		of the area suggests
Milanich conducted rese of the Deptford Period were pottery and sherds similar t widespread contact with phas 1971:60).	o lower Mississippi valley	ence of both cord-marked types both suggest

Significance

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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

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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 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., subsistance 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 Table Point Archeological District is felt to be significant because it provides the research potential for increasing our concept of time, space, and development of the above occupations at 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 The pressing questions: are the barrier islands and the mainland representative of differing social groups; or does one reflect seasonal evolutions. on ceramic modifications found in this area; do these differences reflect local indigenous modification, diffusion or migration? Cumberland Island

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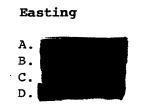
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and the surrounding vicinities are representative of an estuarine subsistence economy. The relationships of this ecotone with interior portions of the Georgia Coastal Plan can be adequately explained through research at this site.

Verbal Boundary Description

 The	Table	Point	Archeological	District		1
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U.T.M. Coordinates:



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