

Form Date 04/14/03**Survey Log Sheet**

Florida Master Site File

Version 2.0 9/97

FMSF USE ONLY

FMSF Survey # 8864Consult *Guide to the Survey Log Sheet* for detailed instructions.Recorder of Log Sheet Marion Almy**Identification and Bibliographic Information**Survey Project (Name and project phase) CRAS 84 Acres Surrounding Warm Mineral Springs, Sarasota County, Florida.Is this a continuation of a previous project?  No  Yes Previous survey#(s) \_\_\_\_\_Report Title (exactly as on title page) Cultural Resource Assessment Survey 84 Acres Surrounding Warm Mineral Springs, Sarasota County, Florida.Report Author(s) (as on title page-individual or corporate) Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI)Publication Date (month/year) 4/03 Total Number of Pages in Report (Count text, figures, tables, not site forms) 49Publication Information (if relevant, series and no. in series, publisher, and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of *American Antiquity*. See *Guide to the Survey Log Sheet*.) Archaeological Consultants, Inc.P.O. Box 5103, Sarasota, FL 34277-5103Supervisor(s) of Fieldwork (whether or not the same as author[s]) Jodi PrachtAffiliation of Fieldworkers (organization, city) Archaeological Consultants, Inc.Key Words/Phrases (Don't use the county, or common words like *archaeology, structure, survey, architecture*. Put the most important first. Limit each word or phrase to 25 characters.) Warm Mineral Springs, North Port

Survey Sponsors (corporation, government unit, or person who is directly paying for fieldwork)

Name Golden Springs, LLCAddress/Phone 12200 San Servando Ave., North Port, Florida 34287**Mapping**Counties (List each one in which field survey was done-do not abbreviate) SarasotaUSGS 1:24,000 Map(s): Names/Dates: USGS Myakka River, Fla. 1973 PR 1987Remarks (Use supplementary sheet[s] if needed) No historic archaeological sites found; one prehistoric archaeological site found; no historic structures located.**Description of Survey Area**Dates for Fieldwork: Start 03/05/03 End 03/18/03 Total Area Surveyed (fill in one) \_\_\_\_\_ hectares 84 acresNumber of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed 1

If Corridor (fill in one for each) Width \_\_\_\_\_ meters \_\_\_\_\_ feet Length \_\_\_\_\_ kilometers \_\_\_\_\_ miles

Types of Survey (check all that apply)  archaeological  architectural  historical/archival  underwater  other: \_\_\_\_\_

HR6E06610-97 Florida Master Site File, Division of Historical Resources, Gray Building, 500 South Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Phone 850-487-2299, Suncom 277-2299, Fax 850-921-0372, Email [fmsfile@mail.dos.state.fl.us](mailto:fmsfile@mail.dos.state.fl.us), Web <http://www.dos.state.fl.us/dhr/msfl>

## Survey Log Sheet of the Florida Master Site File

### Research and Field Methods

**Preliminary Methods** (Check as many as apply to the project as a whole. If needed write others at bottom).

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florida Archives (Gray Building)       | <input type="checkbox"/> library research - (local public)            | <input type="checkbox"/> local property or tax records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> windshield survey  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florida Photo Archives (Gray Building) | <input type="checkbox"/> library-special collection- (non local)      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> newspaper files    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> aerial photography |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FMSF site property search   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Lands Survey (maps at DEP) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> literature search  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FMSF survey search          | <input type="checkbox"/> local informant(s)                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Insurance maps        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (describe) _____                 |   |  |  |

**Archaeological Methods** (Describe the proportion of properties at which method was used by writing in the corresponding letter. Blanks are interpreted as "None.")

F(-ew: 0-20%, S(-ome: 20-50%); M(-ost: 50-90%); or A(-ll, Nearly all: 90-100%). If needed write others at bottom.

Check here if NO archaeological methods were used.

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> surface collection, controlled   | <b>F</b> other screen shovel test (size: <u>1 x 1</u> )    | <input type="checkbox"/> block excavation (at least 2x2 m) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> surface collection, uncontrolled | <input type="checkbox"/> water screen (finest size: _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> soil resistivity                  |
| <b>A</b> shovel test-1/4" screen                          | <input type="checkbox"/> posthole tests                    | <input type="checkbox"/> magnetometer                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shovel test-1/8" screen          | <input type="checkbox"/> auger (size: _____)               | <input type="checkbox"/> side scan sonar                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shovel test-1/16" screen         | <input type="checkbox"/> coring                            | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shovel test-unscreened           | <input type="checkbox"/> test excavation (at least 1x2 m)  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (describe): _____          |  |  |

**Historical/Architectural Methods** (Describe the proportion of properties at which method was used by writing in the corresponding letter.

Blanks are interpreted as "None.")

F(-ew: 0-20%, S(-ome: 20-50%); M(-ost: 50-90%); or A(-ll, Nearly all: 90-100%). If needed write others at bottom.

Check here if NO historical/architectural methods were used.

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> building permits        | <input type="checkbox"/> demolition permits     | <input type="checkbox"/> neighbor interview | <input type="checkbox"/> subdivision maps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> commercial permits      | <b>M</b> exposed ground inspected               | <input type="checkbox"/> occupant interview | <input type="checkbox"/> tax records      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> interior documentation  | <input type="checkbox"/> local property records | <input type="checkbox"/> occupation permits | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (describe): _____ |   |   |   |

**Scope/Intensity/Procedures** Background research; archaeological fields survey; 348 shovel tests (STs) excavated at 25 m offset intervals and 10 m intervals to bound positive STs; artifacts analyzed; photos taken; report prepared.

### Survey Results (cultural resources recorded)

Site Significance Evaluated?  Yes  No If Yes, circle NR-eligible/significant site numbers below.

Site Counts: Previously Recorded Sites 1 Newly Recorded Sites 1

Previously Recorded Site #'s (List site #'s without "8." Attach supplementary pages if necessary) SO19

Newly Recorded Site #'s (Are you sure all are originals and not updates? Identify methods used to check for updates, ie, researched the FMSF records). List site #'s without "8." Attach supplementary pages if necessary. SO2667

Site Form Used:  SmartForm  FMSF Paper Form  Approved Custom Form: Attach copies of written approval from FMSF Supervisor and Supervisor-signed form.

<b>DO NOT USE</b>		<b>SITE FILE USE ONLY</b>		<b>DO NOT USE</b>	
<b>BAR Related</b>				<b>BHP Related</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 872	<input type="checkbox"/> 1A32			<input type="checkbox"/> State Historic Preservation Grant	
<input type="checkbox"/> CARL	<input type="checkbox"/> UW			<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Review CRAT # _____	

**ATTACH PLOT OF SURVEY AREA ON PHOTOCOPIES OF USGS 1:24,000 MAP(S)**



Location and Environmental Setting of the Project Area, Township 39 South, Range 20 East, Section 25 (USGS Myakka River, Fla. 1973, PR 1987).



## FMSF NOTE TO IMAGE VIEWER

Some material contained in the corresponding paper manuscript has not been scanned.

Check material affected:

Blueprints

Map

Site Forms

Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

This material can be viewed at the Florida Master Site File.

8864

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**CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY  
±84 ACRES SURROUNDING  
WARM MINERAL SPRINGS  
SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Prepared for:

Golden Springs, LLC  
12200 San Servando Avenue  
North Port, Florida 34287

April 2003



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS INCORPORATED**  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA

**CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY  
±84 ACRES SURROUNDING  
WARM MINERAL SPRINGS  
SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Performed for:

Golden Springs, LLC  
12200 San Servando Avenue  
North Port, Florida 34287

By:

Archaeological Consultants, Inc.  
8110 Blaikie Court, Suite A  
Sarasota, Florida 34240

Marion Almy - Principal Investigator  
Jodi B. Pracht and Jeff Moates - Project Archaeologists

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) performed a cultural resource assessment survey of a specifically defined ( $\pm 84$  acre) area surrounding a 325 feet protective buffer at Warm Mineral Springs in Sarasota County, Florida. The purpose of the survey was to locate and identify any cultural resources within the project area and to assess their significance in terms of eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, hereinafter referred to as the NRHP. The survey was required by Sarasota County (White 2002). The field survey, described in this report, was conducted in March 2003.

### Findings

A review of the NRHP and the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) indicated that one archaeological site had been previously recorded within the project area. The Warm Mineral Springs (WMS) Site (8SO19) is listed in the NRHP and the FMSF; it is also listed as a significant resource in the County's Significant Historic Resource List (Section 66-74 of Sarasota County Code). A review of relevant site locational information for environmentally similar areas within Sarasota County and the surrounding region indicated a moderate to high potential for the occurrence of prehistoric sites in the  $\pm 84$  acre survey area. The background research also indicated that sites, if present, would most likely be small lithic scatter type sites. As a result of field survey, one prehistoric archaeological site was found. It is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Thus, project development will have no involvement with any significant archaeological sites within the  $\pm 84$  acre survey area. However, the NRHP listed spring and its 325 feet surrounding buffer remain archaeologically sensitive areas which contain, rare and irreplaceable evidence of Florida's earliest inhabitants.

### Recommendations

As with any archaeological resource, but particularly in the case of the highly significant WMS, it is recommended that future archaeological investigations of the terrestrial (buffer area) and/or submerged components of the site be conducted solely under the direction of a registered professional archaeologist<sup>1</sup> (RPA). Additionally, prior to granting permission for research, spring owners should require potential investigators to prepare a detailed research proposal including project rationale, research

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<sup>1</sup> A directory of Registered Professional Archaeologists and the Code of Conduct and Bylaws of Professional Archaeologists can be found at [www.rpanet.org](http://www.rpanet.org). Qualified professional archaeologists for peer review are associated with these institutions: Bureau of Archaeological Research, Florida Division of Historical Resources, 500 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, telephone: 850/245-6444; Department of Anthropology, Florida State University, 1847 W. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32304, telephone 850/644-4281; Florida Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 117800, Gainesville, Florida 32611, telephone 352/392-1721; University of West Florida, Department of Anthropology, Building 13, Room 131, Pensacola, Florida 32514, telephone 850/474-3015; Sarasota County History Center, 701 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida 34236, telephone 941/861-1180.

design with clearly identified objectives and methodologies, and a list of project personnel. The research proposal should be submitted to the professional archaeological community for peer review and comment.

Finally, to ensure complete protection of the submerged resources, no sport or recreational diving should be permitted.



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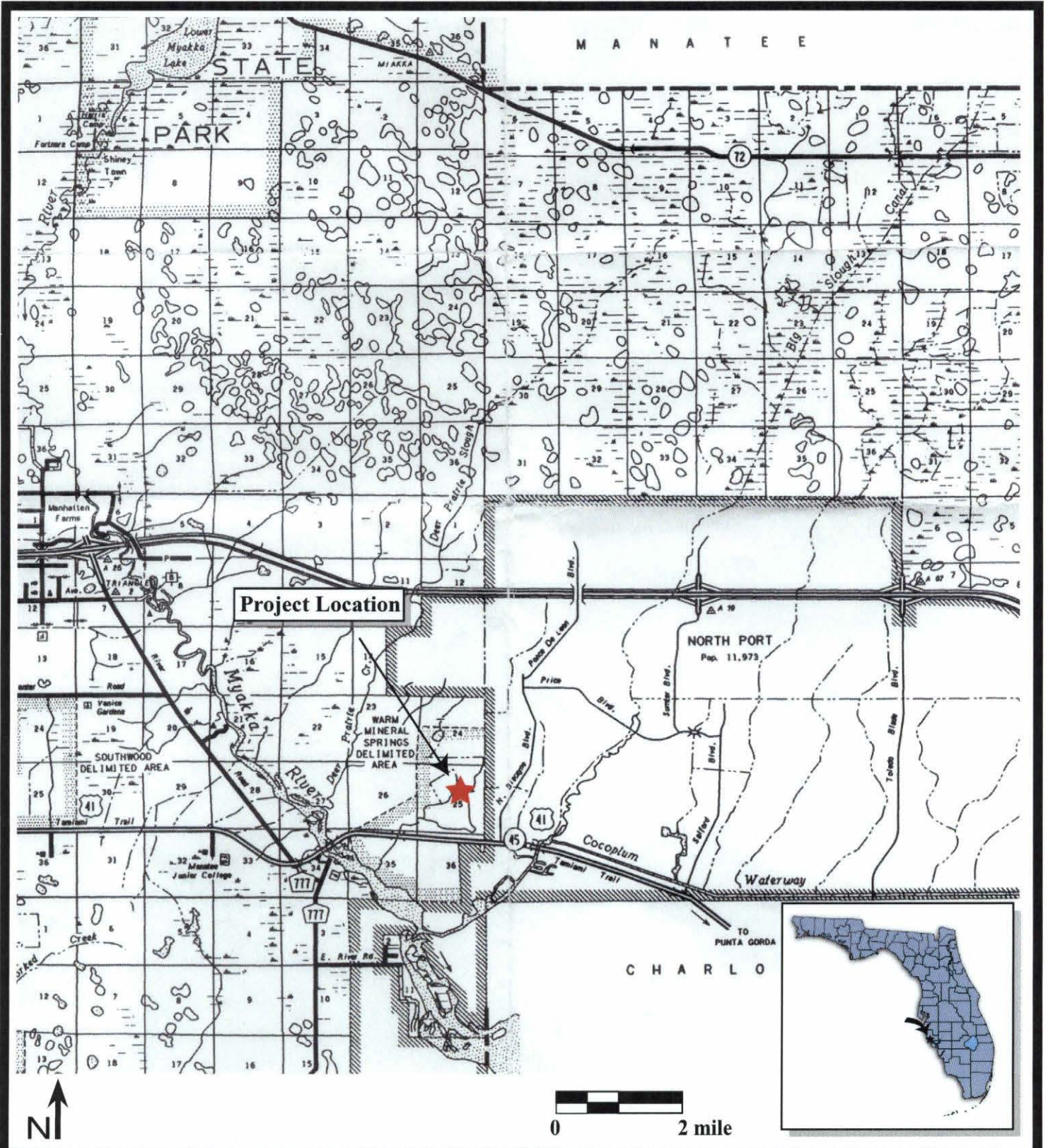
## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Description

The project area consists of approximately  $\pm 84$  acres surrounding WMS which was recently annexed into the City of North Port, Sarasota County, Florida (Figure 1.1). Sarasota County required this cultural resource assessment survey because WMS (8SO19) is an archaeological site listed in the NRHP and as a significant resource in the County's Significant Historic Resource List (Section 66-74 of Sarasota County Code; White 2002). This resulting report meets specifications set forth in Chapter 1A-46, Florida Administrative Code (revised August 21, 2002), and is in compliance with the Historic Preservation Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code and the Historic Preservation Chapter of Apoxsee.

### 1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this cultural resource assessment survey was to locate and identify any prehistoric and historic period archaeological sites within the  $\pm 84$  acre project area, and to assess, to the extent possible, their significance as to eligibility for listing in the NRHP. The archaeological survey was conducted in March of 2003. Background research preceded field survey. Such research served to provide an informed set of expectations concerning the kinds of cultural resources that might be anticipated to occur within the project area, as well as a basis for evaluating any new sites discovered.



**Figure 1.1.** Warm Mineral Springs Project Location. Sarasota County, Township 39 South, Range 20 East, Section 25 (State Topographic Office 1996).



## 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

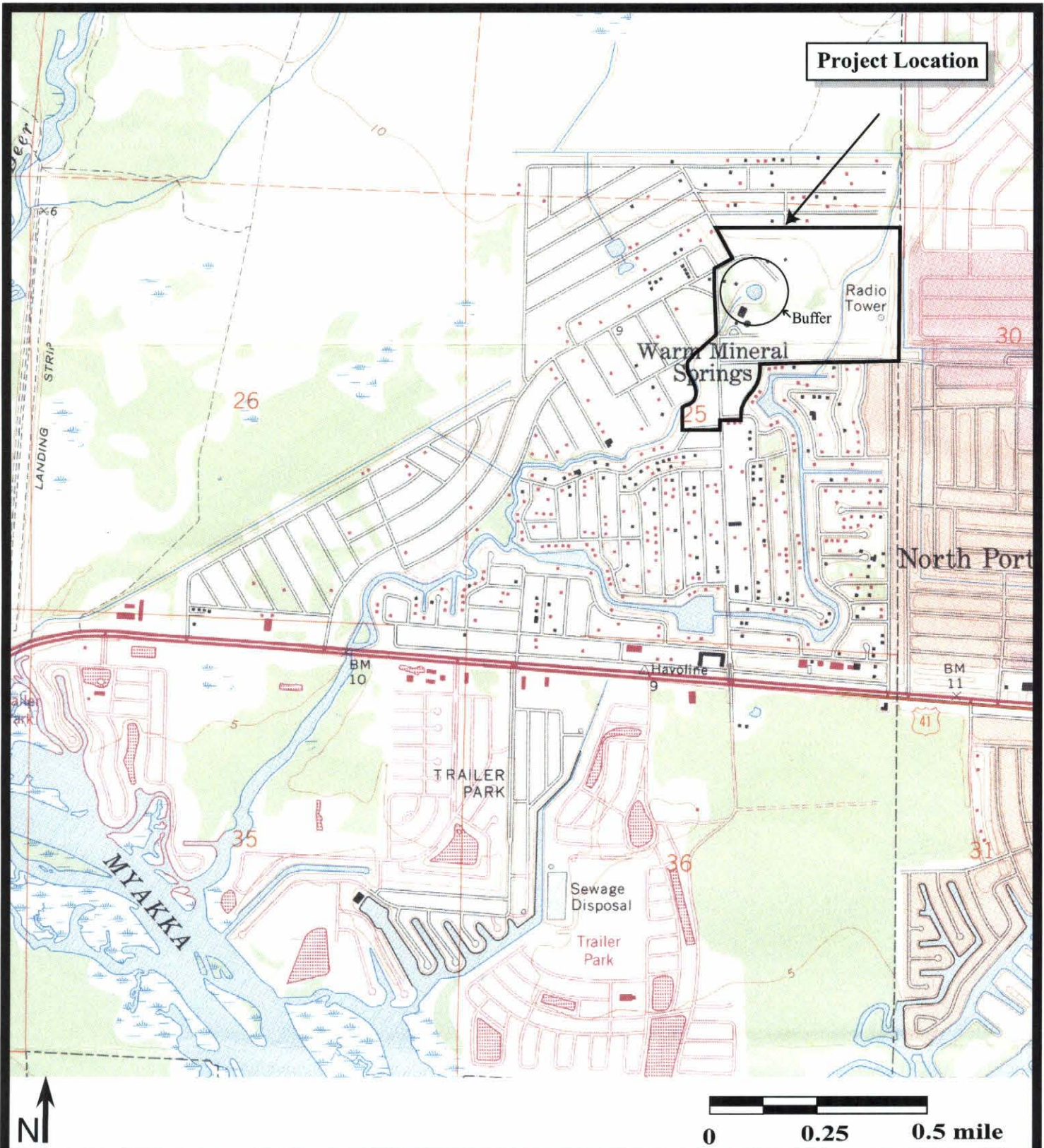
The project area is located in Township 39 South, Range 20 East, Section 25 in Sarasota County, Florida (USGS Myakka River, Fla. 1973, PR 1987; Figure 2.1). The project area is situated in southeastern Sarasota County, north of the Charlotte County line. U.S. 41 is south of the project, and the Myakka River is approximately one half mile to the west. Originally known as Salt Springs, the site was renamed in the late 1950s by Fred Dailey, Sr., who purchased the spring, surrounding lands, and nearby trailer park and primitive bathing facilities. Along with his investors, Dailey hoped to attract people to the restorative mineral waters of the spring (Cockrell 1988:20).

North Port and Warm Mineral Springs lie within the Gulf Coastal Lowlands, the physiographic zone that typifies the entire coastline of the state of Florida. The Gulf Coastal Lowlands are, as the name implies, flat, and are characterized by surficial streams with little to no down cutting. Coastwise parallel, low sand ridges form slight, rolling hills within the zone. Ocean waters constructed these ridges during the interglacial Pleistocene Epoch. The lack of elevation in the Gulf Coastal Lowlands creates the near-surficial to exposed water table throughout the region. This high water table results in the poor natural drainage and abundance of wetlands in the region (Davis 1943; McNab and Avers 1996).

Soil types within the project area include Pomello and Immokalee fine sand. The former is moderately well-drained, and occupies higher, better drained terrain in broad flatwoods. Immokalee fine sand is a poorly drained soil of the broad pine and palmetto flatwoods (USDA 1954). Two, now-dry, drainages once flowed south through portions of the survey area and emptied into the spring's runoff creek (Figure 2.2 features A and B).

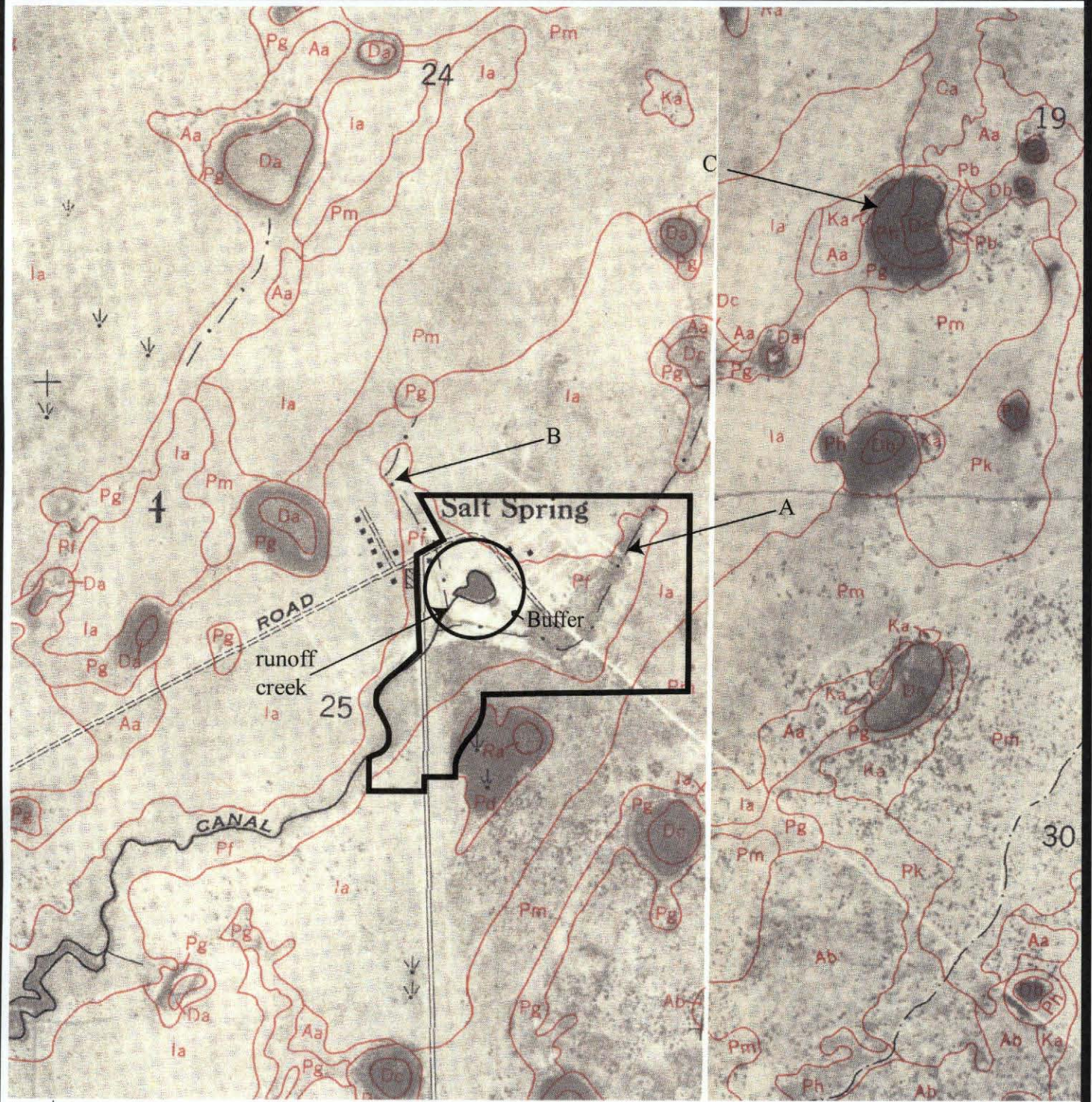
WMS itself was formed during a glacial period when sea levels were lower. Because Florida's aquifer rides on top the ocean waters that permeate the peninsula, the lowered sea levels of the late Pleistocene translated into a lowered aquifer. In turn, the depressed aquifer reduced support of the overlying karst (weathered limestone strata). WMS originated with the collapse of a cavern in the Tampa Limestone Formation. At its birth, WMS was a dry sinkhole. With deglaciation, rising sea levels, and the subsequent rise in the aquifer, mineralized waters seeped into the sinkhole, creating a spring which slowly filled the sink.

One of the earliest accounts of WMS and environs can be found in F. Trench Townshend's 1875 book, *Wildlife in Florida*, "... Mr. Townshend provides a poignant account of Florida -- and Warm Mineral Springs -- that existed before 20<sup>th</sup> Century civilization took its toll. He describes a pristine springs where nature has provided 'the sweetest food, the thickest covert, the coolest shade, [where] wild animals, birds and reptiles of every description seek these tempting haunts..." (Sheehan 1994).



**Figure 2.1** Location and Environmental Setting of the Project Area, Township 39 South, Range 20 East, Section 25 (USGS Myakka River, Fla. 1973, PR 1987).





**Figure 2.2** Soil Types of Project Area and Vicinity (USDA 1954). "A" and "B" are relict drainages into the Warm Mineral Springs runoff creek. "C" is possible source of "A". Warm Mineral Springs was originally called Salt Spring.



*Making our way across the prairie in that direction, as we approached the spring a strong smell of sulphur impregnated the air, and a light mist overhung the water. We had some difficulty in forcing our way through the dense growth of scrub-palmetto higher than our heads, acacia, oak and other trees which bordered the spring, but at last we stood on its brink. We found the spring consisted of a circular basin about sixty yards in diameter: the water was clear as crystal except at the south-west edge, where it had a milky appearance, which our guide said sometimes extended over the whole basin. The bottom was covered with shells, and a brown slime which occasionally bubbled up to the surface and smelt like sulphur: the depth was from four to eight feet. Sinking my thermometer in the water I ascertained that the temperature at a depth of five feet was ninety degrees Fahrenheit, while that of the air was eighty-two degrees. To the taste, the water was salt and sulphurous, peculiarly nasty and offering a strong contrast to its marvellously clear and tempting appearance. I was about to test the buoyancy of the water by bathing, when the scaly body of an alligator emerged from the opposite bank, and swimming rapidly towards us, made me alter my intention, and determine to remain on the safer element.*

*Proceeding carefully to examine the basin, we found that two streams of most excellent fresh water flowed into it, one on the north, the other on the south-west, while a considerable body of salt water flows out of the basin, within a few feet of the spot where the fresh-water stream flows in on the south-west. I saw no fish in the basin, but large shoals of mullet in the salt stream flowing out, the bed and banks of which were very remarkable, being entirely composed of trap rock without a particle of sand or mud covering it. Oleander, thorny acacia, laurel, bay, paw-paw, cabbage-palm, and many flowering shrubs unknown to me, formed a dense growth which marked the winding course of the two fresh streams across the prairie, while the salt out-flow, which formed quite a small river, was fringed with forest trees, and a growth of palmetto almost impenetrable.*

*The prairie and pine forest in the vicinity of the salt spring abounds in savannas of the sweetest grass, with circular clumps of the saw-palmetto scattered through them, and numerous round ponds where the grass, rushes and water-lilies grow to a height of six or seven feet, having a depth of about two feet of water beneath. Nature having thus provided the sweetest food, the thickest covert, and coolest shade, wild animals, birds, and reptiles of every description seek these tempting haunts, and afford capital sport to the hunters, both red and white, who may chance to visit the neighbourhood.*

While conditions similar to those described by Townshend may have existed for the last several thousand years, the paleoenvironment of WMS was quite different than that of today. Several lines of evidence suggest that as recently as the terminal



Pleistocene (ca. 15,000 to 10,000 B.P.<sup>2</sup>), the spring was a dry sinkhole (Cockrell and Murphy 1978). It was during this period of lowered water levels that the 13 m (43 ft) ledge was utilized for human interments. Macro and micro botanical analyses indicate that, in lieu of the palmetto flatwoods of the past few centuries, the ca. 10,000 B.P. environment of WMS supported a mixed hardwood forest. Vegetation included oaks, myrtle, hazelnut, and birch. Ash, willow, cypress, cattail, and elm are also represented in the botanical samples (Sheldon and Cameron 1976). Also, Cockrell (1980) reports that in addition to extant (modern) faunal forms, ranging from rat to raccoon, deer, and panther, investigations in WMS have produced ground sloth (*Megalonyx*) and sabre cat (*Smilodon*) radiocarbon dated at 11,000 B.P. These stratigraphically related finds mark the first time in North America that sabre cat, ground sloth, and humans have been shown to be coeval. However, Cockrell is quick to point out there is no direct evidence whatsoever of any contact between the people and these extinct faunal forms.

**Present Environmental Conditions of 84 Acre Parcel:** Almost all of the natural vegetation on the ±84 acre WMS project area has been removed by clearing, ditching, and road and parking lot construction (Photos 2.1 and 2.2). In addition, Australian Pines have been planted as landscape ornamentals in several areas including along Ortis Boulevard and due north of the buffer zone (Photos 2.1 and 2.2).



**Photo 2.1.** Looking Southwest at Eastern Portion of Property with Natural Vegetation.



**Photo 2.2.** Looking West at Northern Portion of Property with Australian Pine and Cleared Field.

<sup>2</sup> "B.P." = years before present, with "present" being A.D. 1950, when the atmospheric testing of hydrogen bombs loaded the atmosphere with Carbon<sup>14</sup>, irrevocably altering Carbon absorption rates. Geologic and paleoenvironmental time is typically measured in years B.P.

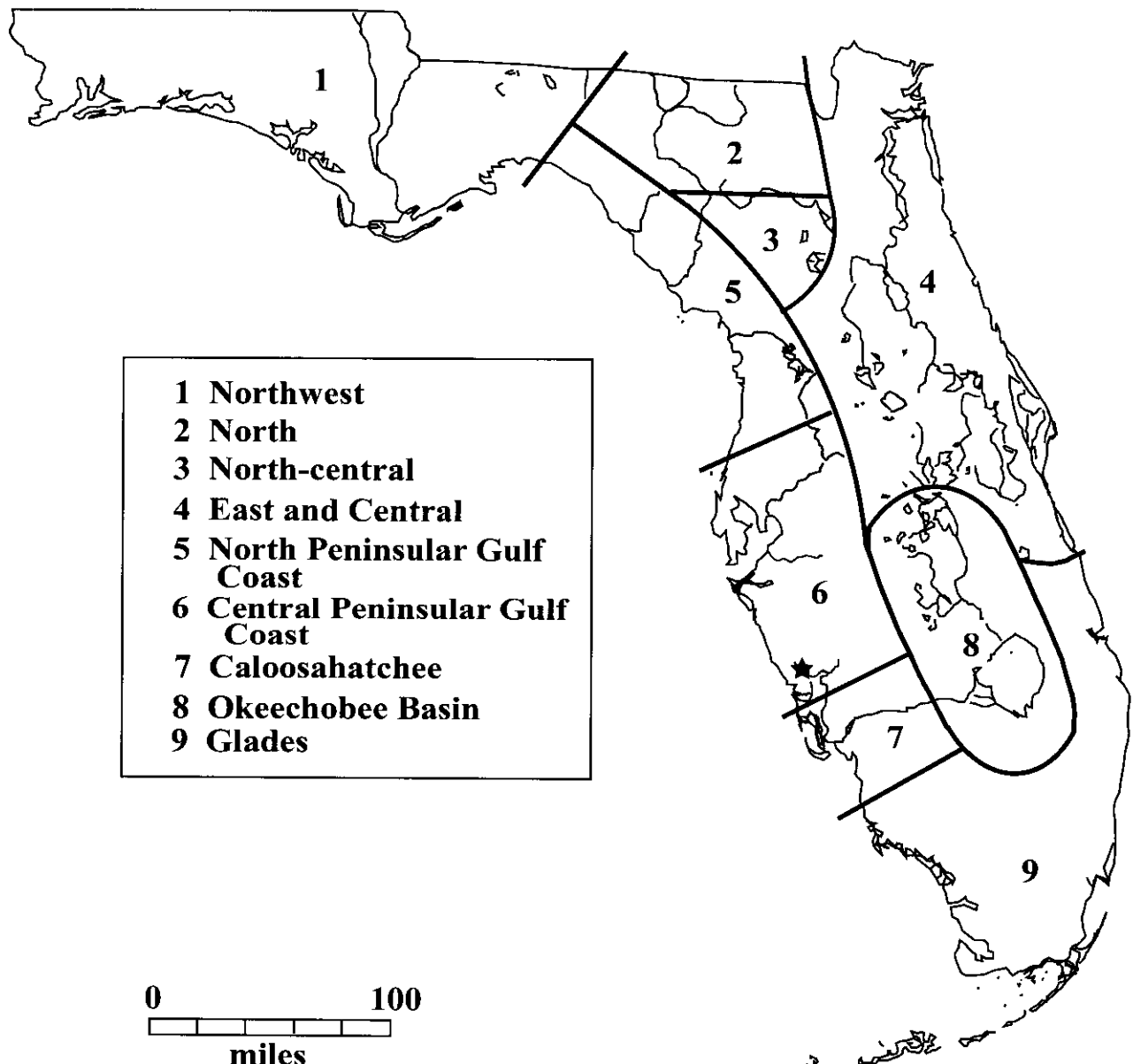
### 3.0 PREHISTORIC REVIEW

In general, archaeologists summarize the prehistory of a given area, that is, an archaeological region, by delineating a sequence of cultural periods in order to provide a chronology or a time frame for an archaeological culture that is present in a given geographical area. As a result, archaeological cultures are defined largely in geographical terms, but also reflect shared environmental and cultural factors. The project area is located in the Central Peninsular Gulf Coast archaeological region, as defined by Milanich (1994) and Milanich and Fairbanks (1980). This region extends from just north of Tampa Bay southward to the northern portion of Charlotte Harbor (Figure 3.1). The prehistoric occupation in the interior part of this region is relatively poorly understood. Thus, this summary is based, to a considerable extent, on information pertaining to sites located outside the specific project area.

#### 3.1 Paleo-Indian

The Paleo-Indian Period is the earliest cultural manifestation in Florida, dating from roughly 13,000 to 10,000 B.P. (Austin 2001). Archeological evidence for Paleo-Indians consists primarily of scattered finds of diagnostic lanceolate projectile points. The majority of these sites are associated with the rivers in the north-central portion of Florida. During this period, the climate was cooler and drier. Vegetation was typified by xerophytic species with scrub oak, pine, and open grassy prairies (Milanich 1994:40). Since sea levels were as much as 115 feet below present levels and the coastal regions extended miles beyond present day shorelines (Milliman and Emery 1968), many of the sites dating from this time period have been inundated (Clausen et al. 1979; Ruppé 1980; Scholl et al. 1969). Much of the information about the Paleo-Indian period in Sarasota County is derived from underwater excavations at two inland spring sites: Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs. The latter, located within a 325 foot buffer situated within the project area (Figure 2.1) is: "...a 70 m deep vertical cavern which was dry during the terminal Pleistocene and is now submerged, due to the ground water rise which accompanied the Holocene sea level rise....A ledge 13 m below present water level has produced a human burial dated ca. 10,310 radiocarbon years before present ...Recovered with this burial was a worked shell spear thrower spur, the first evidence of compound tool used in North America" (Cockrell and Murphy 1978).

Traditionally, the Paleo-Indian period was thought to be characterized by small nomadic bands of hunters and gatherers. However, Daniel (1985) has proposed a model of an early hunter-gatherer settlement which suggests that some Paleo-Indian groups may have practiced a more sedentary lifestyle than previously believed. Archaeologists also speculate that since the climate was cooler and much drier, it is likely that these nomadic bands traveled between permanent and semi-permanent sources of water, exploiting seasonally available resources. This has been referred to as the Oasis hypothesis (Dunbar 1991). These watering holes would have attracted the animals upon which the Indians hunted, providing both food and drink.



**Post- 500 B.C. regions of precolumbian Florida**

**Figure 3.1** Florida Archaeological Regions (Milanich 1994:278). The project area (★) is located in the Central Peninsular Gulf Coast Region.



Excavations at the Harney Flats Site in Hillsborough County (8HI507) have provided a rich body of data concerning Paleo-Indian lifeways in west central Florida (Daniel and Wisenbaker 1987). Such data supports the theory that Paleo-Indian settlement may "not have been related as much to seasonal changes as generally postulated for the succeeding Archaic period," but instead movement was perhaps related to the scheduling of "tool-kit replacement, social needs, and the availability of water," among other factors (Daniel and Wisenbaker 1987:175). During the late Paleo-Indian Period, the large lanceolate Suwannee and Simpson points were replaced by the smaller Tallahassee, Santa Fe, and Beaver Lake types (Milanich 1994:53). Other research in the region has shown that at least portions of coastal shell deposits, bordering now submerged river channels in Tampa Bay, were probably middens deposited during the Paleo-Indian period (Goodyear and Warren 1972; Goodyear et al. 1983). Austin (2001), however, notes that while some researchers have suggested that the disappearance of Pleistocene mega fauna forced early Holocene groups to the coast to exploit terrestrial resources, such a change seems unlikely.

In addition to Warm Mineral and Little Salt Springs, evidence of the Paleo-Indian period in Sarasota County has been identified at a lithic scatter component of the Myakkahatchee Site in the City of North Port and along the Gulf beach at Venice where a Simpson-like projectile point was recovered near a spring (ACI 1985).

### 3.2 Archaic

As the Paleo-Indian Period gradually came to a close, climatic changes occurred, and the last of the Pleistocene megafauna disappeared from the landscape. Archaeological evidence suggests a slow cultural change which led toward an increasingly intensive exploitation of localized food resources. These changes may reflect a transition from the Late Pleistocene to a more seasonal, modern climate when the pine-dominated forest began to cover the landscapes. With loss of the ice age mammals, some archaeologists have hypothesized that Archaic populations turned to the hunting of smaller game like deer, raccoon, and opossum, as well as a reliance on wild plants and shellfish (Milanich 1994).

The Archaic Period has been divided into three sub-periods: Early, Middle, and Late (or Ceramic) Archaic. The Early Archaic period, ca. 8000 to 7000 B.P., is well documented in Florida, and generally recognized by the presence of Dalton and/or Bolen type projectile points (Bullen 1975). The archaeological record appears to indicate a diffuse, yet well-scheduled pattern of exploiting both coastal and interior resources. The Early Archaic tool assemblage is more diverse than the preceding Paleo-Indian tool kits, and includes specialized stone tools for performing a variety of tasks. Also, many Early Archaic sites are small, seasonal campsites suggesting seasonal migrations or travel in search of food (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). Widmer (1988) has hypothesized a post-Kirk Horizon within the Early Archaic for South Florida as a bridge between the preceding late Paleo-Indian (Kirk Horizon) and the subsequent Middle Archaic. Austin (2001) notes possible post-Kirk Horizon sites such as the Fletcher Davis, Tampa Palms,

and West Williams sites in Hillsborough County. Discoveries at Little Salt Spring in Sarasota County (Clausen et al. 1979) and the Windover Site (Doran 2002) in Brevard County indicate that bone and wood tools were also manufactured and used for a variety of tasks during the Early to Middle Archaic.

During the Middle Archaic, ca. 7000 to 5000 B.P., the archaeological record (a procession of Middle Archaic projectile point types) indicates the spread of people across Florida (Milanich 1994; Purdy 1981). There may have been a shift from the dispersed settlement pattern of the preceding period to a system of central-base camps with numerous, smaller satellite or special-use camps. These changes in settlement pattern may have resulted in maximizing the use of forest resources and the ability of larger bands of people to live together for part of the year. Russo (1991) has also suggested that research on Horr's Island in southwest Florida provides evidence of a large, permanent (year-round) preceramic Archaic habitation with a large and diverse assemblage of shell and bone tools.

Lithic artifacts associated with the Middle Archaic include broad bladed, stemmed projectile points such as the Newnan, Marion, and Putnam types. Also, specialized tools such as microliths and burins, large chopping implements, as well as an array of expedient tools, have been found at archaeological sites. Ste. Claire (1987) has reported extensive use of thermal alteration which enabled poor-quality, raw material to be used for the manufacture of tools, principally hafted bifaces. Other researchers report a noticeable decrease in the use of shaped tools other than bifaces as well as a dependency on flake tools (Austin 2001). In addition, several cemetery sites, with human burials in bogs, springs, and other wetlands, provide the first evidence for mortuary ceremonialism during the Middle Archaic. One of these, the Little Salt Spring Site, is associated with a large Archaic period camp or village site in southern Sarasota County (Clausen et al. 1979).

During the Late or preceramic Archaic, ca. 5000 to 3000 B.P., many settlements were located near wetlands. The abundance of resources located in and near the wetlands permitted larger settlements. Broad bladed, stemmed projectile points of the Middle Archaic continued to be manufactured. However, hafted scrapers, "thumb" scraper and discordal scrapers appear in the archaeological records. Austin (2001:47) writes that "...presumably this is related to maintenance activities associated with habitation..." Other researchers note that a greater reliance on marine resources is indicated at coastal sites as subsistence strategies and technologies were adapted to maximizing the rich source of aquatic foods. In Sarasota County, a number of very large coastal and riverine shell middens begin to accumulate along the bays (Almy 1976; Williams et al. 1990).

One of the best known and preserved sites of this type in Sarasota County is the Palmer Site. It is situated northwest of the project area in Osprey where a horseshoe shaped shell midden circled a freshwater spring adjacent to Sarasota Bay (Bullen and Bullen 1976; Kozuch 1998; and Quitmyer 1998). Also during the Late Archaic, the earliest pottery, a fiber-tempered ware, was introduced in Sarasota and elsewhere in Florida (Bullen and Bullen 1976). To the south in Collier County, recent investigations at

Heineken Hammock (8CR231) have evidenced a temporary camp site dating 4500 B.P. and situated "...well back from the Gulf shore suggesting the presence of a stable community within a practical hiking or canoeing distance..." off the coast (Lee et al. 1998:223). Also, based on a surface collection at Cedar Point shell midden (8CH18/8CH61) on Lemon Bay which consisted of sand and fiber tempered sherds and a thick, chalky fiber-tempered ware, Luer (1999b) has hypothesized a "Late or Terminal Archaic Period occupation just north of Charlotte Harbor."

### **3.3 Transitional**

The Transitional period (4000-2500 B.P.) was defined by Bullen (1959) to explain the transition from the Late Archaic, fiber tempered period to the Formative or Woodland Period era which manifest a greater regional diversity. However, the period remains difficult to identify clearly in the archaeological record (Milanich 1994). Nonetheless, it appears that as population size increased, fiber-tempered pottery was replaced by sand-tempered or limestone- and sand-tempered wares. In addition, there is evidence of regional interaction with other cultures such as the Poverty Point complex of the lower Mississippi Valley. Among the west central Florida sites dating to the Transitional are the Canton Street Site in St. Petersburg (Bullen et al. 1978) and the Apollo Beach Site on Tampa Bay (Warren 1968). Throughout Florida, between 4000-2500 B.P., there is evidence that the fiber-tempered ceramics of the preceding Late Archaic were gradually replaced by pottery of different traditions. For example, limestone-tempered and sand-tempered pottery developed along the west-central and southwest coast, where as a temperless chalky ware developed along the St. Johns River and northeast coast of Florida.

### **3.4 Woodland**

The Early Woodland stage (ca. 2500 to 1300 B.P.) in the Central Peninsular Gulf Coast archaeological region is known as the Manasota culture period. The subsistence practices of the Manasota people combined marine and hinterland exploitation. Large shoreside sites, i.e., major villages, were located on or very near the mainland. Small, perhaps seasonal villages or camp sites were located 12 to 18 miles inland from the shore. During this long period, sand-tempered pottery became the dominant ceramic type, and burial practices became more elaborate, evolving from interments, often in shell middens, to sand burial mounds (Luer and Almy 1982). As currently defined, the Manasota culture is a coastal manifestation. While not directly assignable to the Manasota Period, several small sites in the interior part of the region may be contemporaneous with coastal Manasota sites, including those along Fox and Salt Creeks (Williams et al. 1990).

Gradually, the people of the region were influenced by the Weeden Island culture from the north, and became what archaeologists refer to as a Weeden Island-related culture, one of the peninsular Weeden Island-related cultures identified and described by Milanich (1994). The subsistence pattern continued to be based on a hunting and

gathering of land, marine, riverine, and swamp resources. However, as populations increased late in the Weeden Island-related period, increased dependence on horticulture has been hypothesized. The people seem to have led a fairly sedentary lifestyle, with villages located along the coast as well as at inland areas. Barrier islands like Manasota, Longboat and Siesta Keys were utilized for both habitation as well as burials (Dickel 1991; Luer and Almy 1979; ACI 2001).

Usually sites are identified by the presence of shell middens or habitation areas and a sand burial mound. As not all villages possessed the labor force to construct a mound, it is likely that many communities shared a single continuous-use mound (Willey 1949). Burial mound customs, artifactual evidence of an extensive trade network, and settlement pattern data suggest a complex socio-religious organization for this period. Weeden Island-related sites in the interior portion of the Central Peninsular Gulf Coast region include the Parrish Mound 5 (Willey 1949) and Stanley Mound (Deming 1976) in Manatee County, as well as the South Prong I Site in Hillsborough County (Martin 1976). A sand mound situated to the south of Payne Creek in Hardee County, discovered by Batcho (Batcho and Milanich 1978), may also date to this period. Closer to the project area, 8SO98, the Laurel Mound (now destroyed) has been tentatively dated to the Weeden Island period based on the limited information available (FMSE).

### 3.5 Mississippian

The final aboriginal cultural manifestation of the Central Peninsular Gulf Coast region is Safety Harbor, named for the type site in Pinellas County. In the late 1980s, Mitchem (1989) subdivided the Safety Harbor period into four phases: Englewood Phase (A.D. 800 to 1000), Pinellas Phase (A.D. 1000 to 1500), Tatham Phase (A.D. 1000 to 1567), and Bayview Phase (A.D. 1567 to 1625).

In general, further influences from the north led to the incorporation of many features of the Mississippian culture into the late Weeden Island-related peoples which became the Safety Harbor culture. To the south of Tampa Bay, there is evidence of a complex social hierarchy and the appearance of chiefdoms by A.D. 700-900. Luer (1986) has hypothesized increasing social complexity through the controlled production and access to valued shell tools, particularly those fashioned from robust whelk shells. Also, Widmer (1988) has argued for the appearance of chiefdoms in the region as a result of population growth and a need to control fixed territories and limited fishing resources. As in the previous culture periods, major Safety Harbor sites remained primarily along the shore; many were situated at the same locations as late Manasota sites (Luer and Almy 1981). Large towns, many having a temple mound, plaza, midden, and nearby burial mound, characterized the Safety Harbor period which can be correlated with the growth of a religious-political complex. This is evidenced in the archaeological record as increasingly complex mortuary practices and burial goods (Luer 1999b:Table 2). Research by Luer and Almy (1981) also supports earlier suggestions that some maize agriculture may have been practiced by the Safety Harbor peoples as they continued marine and terrestrial exploitation of the region's food resources. Although most Safety Harbor sites are located along coastal bays and rivers, inland sites are also known (Willey

1949) in Sarasota County. For example, 8SO403, a burial site located on the Myakka River, has produced evidence of a Safety Harbor component (Hazeltine and Luer 1983), and the Englewood Mound (8SO1) has been dated to the Englewood and Pinellas Phases of the Safety Harbor Period (ca. A.D. 1200-1500) (Luer 1999a, 1999b).

The Timucuan Indians, locally the Tocobaga and other local groups (Tampa Bay area), are recognized as the bearers of the Safety Harbor culture. Their large sites on the coast were probably ceremonial centers with temple mounds, villages, and burial mounds. Large population centers dating to the Safety Harbor period near Tampa Bay were located at Safety Harbor (Sears 1958; Griffin and Bullen 1950), Maximo Point (Bushnell 1962; Sears 1958), the Narvaez Midden (Bushnell 1966), and Tierra Verde (Sears 1967), all in Pinellas County. Inland Safety Harbor sites include Parrish Mounds 1, 2, and 3 in Manatee County (Willey 1949), the Davis Mound in Hardee County (Bullen 1954), and the Arcadia Site (Willey 1949) and Keen Mound (Willis and Johnson 1980) in DeSoto County.

South and east of Tampa Bay, in Sarasota County, there is some evidence of the Late Safety Harbor and Contact periods. The Blackburn Site (8SO403) reportedly contained glass beads as well as Culbreath and Pinellas type bifaces. Deming (1989) placed the mound in the Englewood/Safety Harbor and Contact periods. Similarly, glass beads were reported from the Crowley Homestead Mound (8SO72) suggesting a Contact period of utilization.

While European contact decimated native populations and repeated conflicts dispersed populations, there is evidence on Florida's southwest coast of Indians who had direct or indirect contact with the Spanish Missions in north-central and northern Florida (Luer 1999b). Historic accounts indicate that in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and the first half of the eighteenth centuries, Indians of the Tampa Bay area, including the Tocobaga, Pohoy, and Alafay, were interacting with other southern and south-central Florida Indians (Luer 1994). Such evidence is found around Tampa Bay at locales like the Safety Harbor and Narvaez sites, and at the Fort Brook Midden in downtown Tampa. South of Tampa Bay, archaeological evidence is scarce, but historic documents mention various activities along the Gulf coast in the 1600s and early 1700s, as refugees fleeing mission sites probably joined indigenous Indians (Luer 1999b). However, by the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, the native populations had all but vanished from the Tampa Bay area and vicinity (Neill 1968).



## 4.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The cultural traditions of the native Floridians ended with the European expeditions to the New World. The initial events, authorized by the Spanish crown in the 1500s, ushered in devastating European contact. After Ponce de Leon's landing near St. Augustine in 1513, Spanish explorations were confined to the west coast of Florida (Narvaez in 1528; DeSoto in 1539) and European contact along the east coast was left to a few shipwrecked sailors from treasure ships which, by 1551, sailed through the Straits of Florida on their way to Spain. When the first Europeans arrived in coastal southwest Florida in the sixteenth century they encountered the Calusa, a powerful, complex society ruled by a paramount chief. The principal town of the Calusa is thought to be the site of Mound Key in Estero Bay near Fort Myers Beach. Historic documents suggest that the Calusa chief ruled over fifty towns, from which he exacted tribute (Widmer 1988). By the middle of the eighteenth century, the Calusa population had been almost totally decimated and dispersed as a result of conflicts with the Europeans and exposure to their diseases.

As the Calusa disappeared, fishing communities, or "ranchos," were established by Cuban and Spanish fisherman on various islands and along the coast between Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay. The earliest recorded ranchos may have been at Useppa Island and San Carlos Bay in Charlotte Harbor ca. 1765 (Hammond 1973). However, there is some evidence that remnants of the once powerful Calusa joined the Cuban-Spanish fishermen at the ranchos in Charlotte Harbor during the early eighteenth century (Almy 2001). The ranchos supplied dried fish to Cuban and northern markets until the mid-1830s, when onset of the Seminole Indian Wars and customs control ruined the fisheries.

The area which now constitutes the State of Florida was ceded to England in 1763 after two centuries of Spanish possession. England governed Florida until 1783 when the Treaty of Paris returned Florida to Spain; however, Spanish influence was nominal during this second period of ownership. Prior to the American colonial settlement of Florida, portions of the Muskogean Creek, Yamassee, and Oconee Native American Indian populations moved into Florida and repopulated the demographic vacuum created by the genocide of the original aboriginal inhabitants. These migrating groups of Native Americans became known to English speakers as Seminoles or Seminole. This term is thought to be either a corruption of the Creek *ishti semoli* (wild men) or the Spanish *cimarron* (wild or unruly). Many Indians who escaped death or capture fled to the swamps and uncharted lands in South Florida. The Seminoles formed at various times loose confederacies for mutual protection against the new American Nation to the north (Tebeau 1971:72).

The bloody conflict between the Americans and the Seminoles over Florida came to a head in 1818, and was subsequently known as the First Seminole War. As a result of the war and the Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819, Florida became a United States territory in 1821, but settlement was slow and scattered during the early years. Andrew Jackson,

named provisional governor, divided the territory into St. Johns and Escambia Counties. At that time, St. Johns County encompassed all of Florida lying east of the Suwannee River, and Escambia County included the land lying to the west. In the first territorial census in 1825, some 317 persons reportedly lived in South Florida; by 1830 that number had risen to 517 (Tebeau 1971:134). Although the project area in present-day Sarasota County was initially included in St. Johns County, the area transferred to Mosquito County when it was created in 1824 and then to Hillsborough County when it was established in 1834. The earliest attempts to settle what is now Sarasota County occurred in 1842 when William H. Whitaker homesteaded 145 acres along Sarasota Bay (Marth 1973:12).

Although the First Seminole War was fought in north Florida, the Treaty of Moultrie Creek in 1823, at the end of the war, was to affect the settlement of south Florida. In exchange for occupancy of approximately four million acres of reservation land south of Ocala and north of Charlotte Harbor, the Seminoles relinquished their claim to the remainder of the peninsula (Mahon 1967:46-50; Covington 1958). The treaty satisfied neither the Native Americans nor the settlers. The inadequacy of the reservation, the desperate situation of the Seminoles, and the mounting demand of the whites for their removal, soon produced another conflict.

By 1835, the Second Seminole War was underway. As part of the effort to subdue Indian hostilities in southwest Florida, military patrols moved into the unchartered and unmapped wilderness in search of Seminole populations outside the reservation. As the Second Seminole War escalated, attacks on isolated settlers and communities in southwest Florida became more common. To combat this, the combined service units of the U.S. Army and Navy converged on southwest Florida. This joint effort attempted to isolate the southern portion of the Florida peninsula against the estimated 300 Seminoles remaining in the Big Cypress Swamp and Everglades (Covington 1958:7; Tebeau 1966:39). The federal government ended the conflict by withdrawing troops from Florida. At the war's end, some of the battle-weary Seminoles were persuaded to emigrate to the Oklahoma Indian Reservation where the federal government had set aside land for Native American inhabitation. However, those who wished to remain in Florida were allowed to do so, but were pushed further south into the Everglades and Big Cypress Swamp. This area became the final stronghold of the Seminoles (Mahon 1967:321).

Encouraged by the passage of the Armed Occupation Act in 1842, which was designed to promote settlement and protect the Florida frontier, settlers moved south through Florida. The Act made available 200,000 acres south of Gainesville to the Peace River, barring coastal lands and those within a two mile radius of a fort. The Armed Occupation Act stipulated that any family or single man over 18 years of age able to bear arms could earn title to 160 acres by erecting a habitable dwelling, cultivating at least five acres of land, and living on it for five years. During the nine month period the law was in effect, 1184 permits were issued totaling some 189,440 acres (Covington 1961:48; Dunn 1989:24-25).

Following the second Seminole War, incoming settlers registered stock cattle purchased in north Florida and drove them south to open ranges near Indian territory (Matthews 1989:45). In response, the federal government began surveying land in south Florida, including land in the vicinity of the project area. In 1843, Samuel Reid surveyed the exterior lines of Township 39 South, Range 20 East (State of Florida 1843). Four years later, in 1847, A.H. Jones surveyed the interior lines of the Township and Range. Jones describes the project area as “3<sup>rd</sup> rate open land with scattering of pines.” Jones also notes a “saltwater creek” along the eastern boundary of Section 25 (State of Florida 1847a:532). The resulting Plat depicts no manmade features (State of Florida 1847b).

In 1845, the Union admitted the State of Florida with Tallahassee as the state capital. Ten years later, Manatee County, which at that time included the project area, was carved from portions of Hillsborough and Mosquito Counties with the village of Manatee as the county seat (Marth 1973:13; Purdum 1994:82). In December of 1855, the Third Seminole War, or the Billy Bowlegs War, started as a result of additional pressure placed on the few remaining Native Americans in Florida to emigrate west (Covington 1982). The war started when Seminole Chief Holatter-Micco, also known as Billy Bowlegs, and 30 warriors attacked an army camp south of present day Immokalee, killing four soldiers and wounding four others. The attack was in retaliation for damage done by several artillerymen to property belonging to Billy Bowlegs. This hostile action renewed state and federal interest in the final elimination of the Seminoles from Florida. Despite this effort, military action was not decisive during the war. Therefore, in 1858 the U.S. government resorted to monetary persuasion to induce the remaining Seminoles to migrate west. Chief Billy Bowlegs accepted \$5,000 for himself, \$2,500 for his lost cattle, each warrior received \$500 and \$100 was given to each woman and child. On May 4, 1858 the ship *Grey Cloud* set sail from Fort Myers with 38 Seminole warriors and 85 Seminole women and children. Stopping at Egmont Key, 41 captives and a Seminole woman guide was added to the group. This made a total of 165 Seminoles migrating west. On May 8, 1858, the Third Seminole War was declared officially over (Covington 1982:78-80).

Cattle ranching served as one of the earliest important economic activities reported in Manatee County. Mavericks left by early Spanish explorers, such as DeSoto and Narvaez, provided the stock for the herds raised by the mid-eighteenth century “cowkeeper” Seminoles. As the Seminoles were pushed further south during the Seminole Wars and their cattle were either sold or left to roam, settlers captured or bought the cattle. By the late 1850s, the cattle industry of southwestern Florida was developing on a significant scale. Hillsborough and Manatee Counties constituted Florida’s leading cattle producing region. By 1860, cattlemen from all over Florida drove their herds to Fort Brooke (Tampa) and Punta Rassa (south of Ft. Myers) for shipment to Cuba, at a considerable profit. During this period, Jacob Summerlin became the first cattle baron of southwestern Florida. Known as the “King of the Crackers,” Summerlin herds ranged from Ft. Meade to Ft. Myers (Covington 1957).

In 1861, Florida followed South Carolina's lead and seceded from the Union as a prelude to the American Civil War. Florida had much at stake in this war as evidenced in a report released from Tallahassee in June of 1861. It listed the value of land in Florida’s

35 counties as \$35,127,721 and the value of the slaves in the state at \$29,024,513 (Dunn 1989:59). Although the Union blockaded the coast of Florida during the war, the interior of the state saw very little military action. Florida became one of the major contributors of beef to the Confederate government (Shofner 1995:72). Summerlin originally had a contract with the Confederate government to market thousands of head a year at eight dollars per head. However, by driving his cattle to Punta Rassa and shipping them to Cuba, he received 25 dollars per head (Grismer 1946:83). In an attempt to limit the supply of beef transported to the Confederate government, Union troops stationed at Ft. Myers conducted several raids into the Peace River Valley to seize cattle and destroy ranches. In response, Confederate supporters formed the Cattle Guard Battalion, consisting of nine companies under the command of Colonel Charles J. Mannerlyn (Akerman 1976:91-93).

The cattlemen and the farmers in the state lived simply. The typical home was a log cabin without windows or chinking and settlers' diets consisted largely of fried pork, corn bread, sweet potatoes, and hominy. The lack of railway transport to other states, the federal embargo, and the enclaves of Union supporters and Union troops holding key areas, such as Jacksonville and Ft. Myers, prevented an influx of finished materials. As a result, settlement remained limited until after the Civil War.

Immediately following the war, the South underwent a period of "Reconstruction" to prepare the Confederate States for readmission to the Union. The program was administered by the U.S. Congress, and on July 25, 1868, Florida officially returned to the Union (Tebeau 1971:251). In most of the early settlements, development followed the earlier pattern with few settlers, one or two stores, and a lack of available overland transportation. Those communities along the coast developed a little faster due to the accessibility of coastal transportation. Venice, southeast of the project area on the Gulf coast, was originally named "Horse and Chaise" by sailors who saw a horse drawn carriage in the contours of an onshore hammock (Morris 1995). West of the project area, John and Eliza Webb and five children from New York homesteaded what is today known as Osprey in 1867.

A year later, Jesse and Caroline Knight moved with their family to Horse and Chaise. They built a settlement on high, well-drained land on a peninsula surrounded by Dona Bay and Shake It and Salt Creeks. Jesse Josiah Knight described the areas as "...new, covered with woods and open range, and stock raising was almost the sole industry" (Matthews 1989:69). The cattle grazing lands included Cow Pen Slough, which stretched over the north of Shake It Creek for about 20 miles. "It lay without apparent flow and its southern extreme before a final, meager water disembogued the slough into the Myakka River" (Matthews 1989:71). By the late 1870s, several families had moved into the general project area to grow vegetables, plant groves, graze cattle, and fish (Federal Writers' Project 1939:398).

During the 1880s the economy boomed with the increase of winter visitors seeking the favorable subtropical climate and an increase of agricultural production with the introduction of pineapple growing and truck farming of cabbage, eggplant, and

squash. Farmers experimented with citrus, coconuts, pineapples and sugar cane. Cattle continued to play a major role in the local economy as well. Also in the early 1880s, John and Belinda Blackburn filed a homestead claim and lived their first winter in a house built of palmetto thatch. John described his land (near present day Blackburn Point Road) as sparsely covered with pines. By 1885, his son Frank had built a frame house nearby (Matthews 1989:93).

The State of Florida faced a financial crisis involving title to public lands in the early 1880s. By act of Congress in 1850, the federal government turned over to the states for drainage and reclamation all "swamp and overflow land." Florida received approximately 10,000,000 acres. To manage that land and the 5,000,000 acres the state had received on entering the Union, the state legislature in 1851 created the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. In 1855, the legislature established the actual fund (the Florida Internal Improvement Fund), in which state lands were to be held. The fund became mired in debt after the Civil War and under state law no land could be sold until the debt was cleared. In 1881, the Trustees started searching for a buyer capable of purchasing enough acreage to pay off the fund's debt and permit the sale of the remaining millions of acres that it controlled. Hamilton Disston, a member of a prominent Pennsylvania saw manufacturing family, in 1881, entered into agreement with the State of Florida to purchase four million acres of swamp and overflowed land for one million dollars. In exchange, he promised to drain and improve the land. This transaction, which became known as the Disston Purchase, enabled the distribution of large land subsidies to railroad companies, inducing them to begin extensive construction programs for new lines throughout the state. Disston and the railroad companies, in turn, sold smaller parcels of land to developers and private investors (Tebeau 1965:252). All land in Section 25 in Township 39 South, Range 20 East was purchased by Sir Edward James Reed on March 5 of 1883; he also purchased all the land in the surrounding sections (State of Florida n.d.:215). Much of this land was later sold to European and American developers, who, in turn, subdivided the parcels for resale to developers and private investors throughout the state (Tebeau 1965:252).

During the early 1880s, Florida Southern Railroad acquired the old railroad charter and land grant of the Gainesville, Ocala, and Charlotte Harbor Railroad which was due to expire in 1885. To hold this charter and secure lands, immediate railroad construction was necessary. Construction started in the Bartow area in Polk County and continued southward to Punta Gorda. With the railroads as a catalyst, the 1880s witnessed a sudden surge of buying land for resale, agriculture, and settlement.

Settlers in the Sarasota area, most of whom had obtained their land under the Homestead Act of 1862, were disgruntled with the sale of the swamp overflowed land, which included nearly 700,000 acres in Manatee County (Sarasota was part of Manatee County at this time). In response, Sarasota area residents established the Vigilance Committee to retaliate against land speculators. In 1884, two men suspected of cooperating with the developers were murdered. The resulting trial in the county seat of Pine Level divided the county. Tax records reveal that most of the 700,000 acres in Manatee County was sold to eight companies, including three railroad companies and the

Florida Mortgage & Investment Co. of Britain, which is credited with founding the town of Sarasota (Marth 1973:15-16).

In 1885, the first group of colonists arrived in what is today the City of Sarasota from Scotland. Promised a 40-acre estate and a town lot by propaganda, the group was disappointed to find that the town and estates was little more than a plat on a piece of paper. Most of the settlers left within three months. However, settlers continued to arrive so that by the end of 1886, the community boasted a general store, a wharf, a rooming house, a clinic, a meat market, and a livery stable. John Hamilton Gillespie, the son of the Florida Mortgage & Investment Company's president, arrived in Sarasota to manage the project. He instituted further development in the community, including the construction of a hotel.

Settlers flocked to Florida's southwest coast until the Big Freeze of 1894 and 1895 damaged the citrus groves and dampened enthusiasm for the newly found paradise. The freeze, however, did not discourage brothers Herbert, Howard, and Ira Nichols, who purchased 2,000 acres of land and established Englewood, named after their hometown of Englewood, Illinois (Cortes 1976:56). On July 3, 1895, the community of Englewood established a post office, and the town plat was recorded on August 17, 1896. The Nichols brothers constructed a 16-room hotel, the Englewood Inn, on the shore of Lemon Bay. However, because travel to Englewood was difficult, the town was populated by fishermen and ranchers, rather than tourists (Cortes 1976:58).

The turn of the century prompted an optimism and an excitement over growth and development. In 1902, the United States & West Indies Railroad & Steamship Co., a subsidiary of the Seaboard line, started laying track from Tampa through Bradenton into Sarasota. The first train arrived in March 1903, and the track was extended into Venice by 1912 (Marth 1973:40). During this period, the Venice area was largely occupied by the Knight, Higel, and Roberts families. In March 1903, Wilson Stephens, a resident of Venice, purchased ten acres north of Dona Bay for \$50 from the State of Florida. In July, he applied for a post office permit which he claimed would serve a population of 21, probably consisting of the Blackburn and Stephens families. The post office was located on the road between the Osprey and Venice post offices. The Laurel post office was officially established in August 1903, discontinued in 1909, and finally reestablished again in 1915 (Bradbury and Hallock 1962:47).

During this time the automobile, telephone, and electricity introduced a state and national perspective into the small communities of southwest Florida. The construction of U.S. Highway 41, or the Tamiami Trail, played a significant role in this development. Prior to its inception in 1915, portions of the Tamiami Trail existed in the form of county roads. When the (then newly formed) Florida State Road Department began joining these disparate roadways, traffic increased and southwest Florida's tourist industry was born. At its completion in 1928, the Tamiami Trail connected Tampa to Miami via Bradenton, Sarasota, Venice, and Englewood (Scupholm 1997).

As a result, new residents and tourists arrived by automobile as well as by boat. Developers used propaganda promoting Florida as the eternal garden to attract tourists and new residents. Osprey, Laurel and Nokomis, the small towns west of I-75, were described in 1920s promotional literature as "thriving communities within easy motoring distance of Sarasota" (Sarasota Chamber of Commerce n.d.). The area of North Port and Warm Mineral Springs remained undeveloped.

Residents relied primarily upon seafood harvesting, cattle raising, and citrus cultivation for sustenance. However, from the early 1900s through the early 1940s, the production of naval stores, including the harvesting of lumber for construction and resin for products such as glass, varnish, gunpowder, waxes, and paints, served as one of the largest industries in the area. The Laurel Turpentine Company opened a turpentine camp along Laurel Road west of I-75. The *Sarasota Times* applauded the action, predicting that the perceptions of Laurel as "that poor little old place" would change. The camp included the still, a church, a cemetery, and housing for the workers, which largely consisted of African-American men who had also brought their families. In 1919, a sawmill opened in Laurel, which also generally employed African-American men. Other men worked at a farm on Laurel Road harvesting vegetable crops and gladioli bulbs. The farm was owned by Dr. Fred Albee, who later founded the Florida Medical Center in Venice (ACI 1993:4-2-4-10).

Mrs. Potter Palmer and her family purchased more than 80,000 acres of land after her initial visit, including land in the Laurel area and a home near Osprey on Little Sarasota Bay, dubbed "The Oaks." The Palmers formed the Palmer Farms Growers Cooperative, the Palmer Farmers experimental station, and Palmer Bank. Most of Myakka State Park is comprised of lands sold or donated to the state by the Palmers (Marth 1973:55).

The investment in infrastructure contributed to the Florida land boom of the early 1920s. Several other contributing factors include the growing number of tourists, greater use of the automobile, prosperity of the 1920s, and, perhaps most importantly, the promise by the state legislature never to pass state income or inheritance taxes. Growing populations necessitated more governmental facilities, and in 1921, Sarasota County was formed from the southern portion of Manatee County, and Charlotte County was carved from Desoto County.

These halcyon days were short-lived, however, and during 1926-27, the bottom fell out of the Florida real estate market. Massive freight car congestion from hundreds of loaded cars sitting in railroad yards caused the Florida East Coast Railway to embargo all but perishable goods in August of 1925 (Curl 1986:84-84). The embargo spread to other railroads throughout the state, and, as a result, most construction halted. The 1926 real estate economy in Florida was based upon such wild land speculations that banks could not keep track of loans or property values. Financial troubles also plagued John Ringling in Sarasota after the decline of the Florida land boom. He managed to disguise his problems by constantly moving money from investment to investment and through well-timed promotional events such as the relocation of the circus winter quarters to

Sarasota in 1927. Through this action, Ringling gained his reputation as the savior of Sarasota. The city already suffered from falling land prices and decreasing construction due to the decline of the Florida land boom. The relocation of the circus winter quarters meant new jobs to construct and work at the winter quarters and increased tourism from winter visitors to the site. As a result, Sarasota became synonymous with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus as well as the whole circus subculture. However, the relocation of the circus did not renew interest in the local real estate market (Weeks 1993:150-51).

By the mid-1930s, federal programs, implemented by the Roosevelt administration, started employing large numbers of construction workers, helping to revive the economy of the state. The programs were instrumental in the construction of parks, bridges, and public buildings. Such programs as the Public Works Administration completed the construction of an airport hangar at Albee Field in Venice, a soft water treatment plant and municipal auditorium, both in Sarasota, a water works extension to Sarasota Heights, and the repairing and paving of a section of U.S. 41 in south Sarasota County (Wise 1995:102). Many former turpentine workers in the Laurel area worked for the Works Progress Administration and later the National Recovery Administration.

Florida's population increased from 1,897,414 to 2,771,305 from 1940 to 1950 (Tebeau 1971:431). After the war, car ownership increased making the American public more mobile, making vacations more inexpensive and easier. Many of the servicemen stationed in the area returned with their families to make Sarasota their home after the war. As veterans returned, the trend in new housing focused on the development of small tract homes in new subdivisions.

In 1954, Arthur Frizell sold massive tracts in Sarasota (approximately 72 square miles) and Charlotte Counties to Florida West Coast Land Development Company of Miami (Matthews 1983:150). Part of this tract encompassed both the Myakka River and Big Slough. The area eventually became known as North Port Charlotte and ultimately North Port. On June 16, 1959, the city of North Port became a city when 21 voters cast ballots to incorporate the 5.5 square mile area which was then owned by General Development Corporation; the city had a total of 23 residents at the time (*Englewood, Florida Herald* 1970; *The North Port Times Union* 1989).

In 1961, the Tamiami Trail, which had originally been constructed in the late 1910s and early 1920s, was widened to four lanes (Matthews 1983:160). In 1959, the winter quarters for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus moved from Sarasota to south Venice near U.S. 41, spelling the end of an era for Sarasota (*Sarasota News* 1960). Also in the late 1950s, an inland navigation route along Florida's west coast from Tarpon Springs south to Punta Rassa was planned. The West Coast Inland Navigation District, WCIND, constructed the intra-coastal waterway.

The construction of suburbs and malls changed the character of Florida's cities creating a string of development along coastal areas. Development and settlement patterns over the latter half of the twentieth century have pushed ever outward and



through the center of the state along the Interstate 4 corridor. In Sarasota County, development has concentrated along the coast with the completion of I-75 generating a spurt of activity that has continued into the 1990s. Since 1960, Sarasota County, along with the rest of Florida, has benefited from an influx of retirees and tourists, making Florida one of the fastest growing states in the nation.

## 5.0 RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS AND FIELD METHODS

### 5.1 Background Research and Literature Review

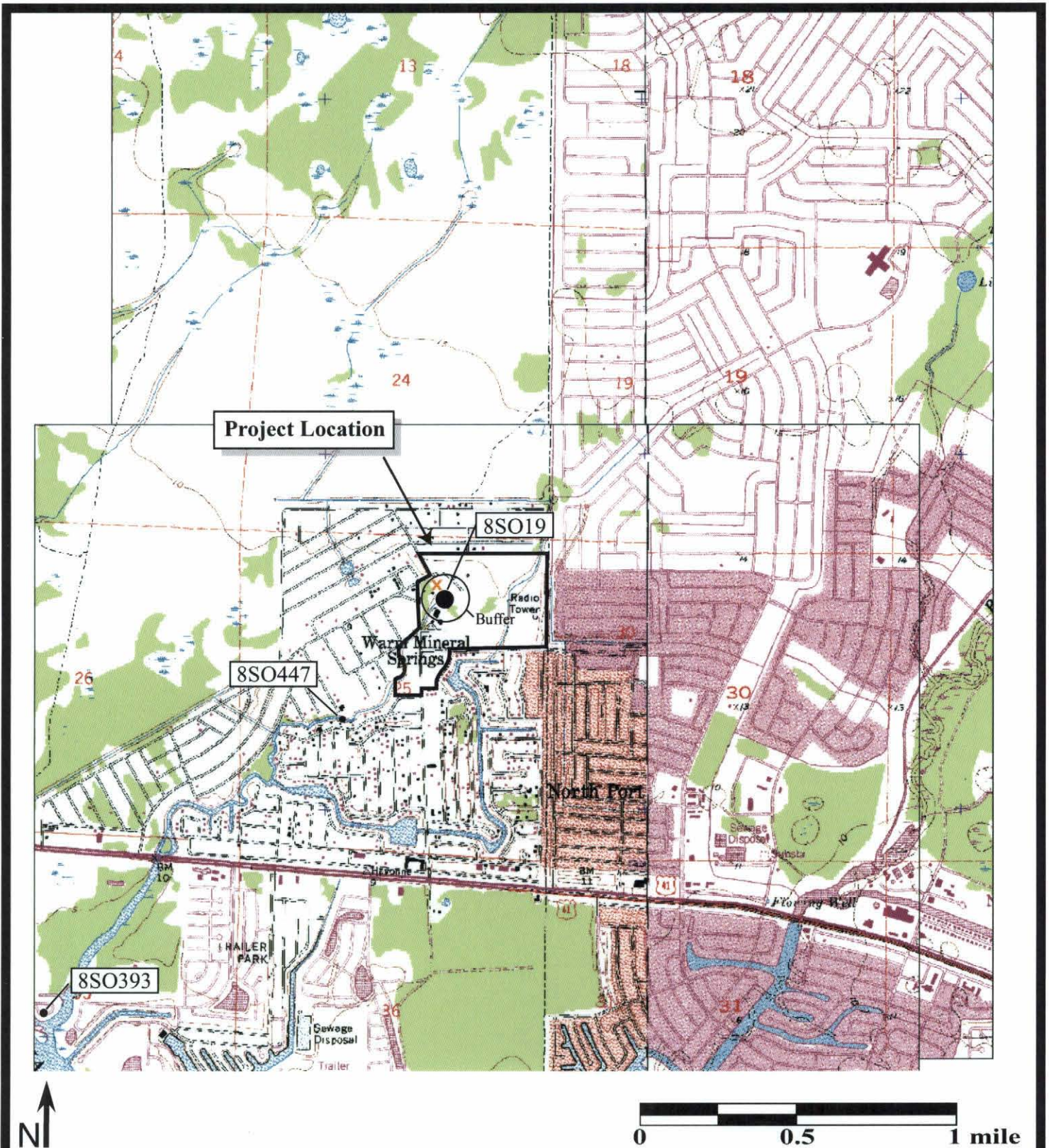
A comprehensive review of archaeological and historical literature, records, and other documents and data pertaining to the project area was conducted. The focus of this research was to ascertain the types of cultural resources known in the project area, their temporal/cultural affiliations, site location information, and other relevant data. This research included a review of sites listed in the FMSF, NRHP, published books and articles, cultural resource survey reports, and from the files of Archaeological Consultants, Inc. No informant interviews were conducted as part of this project. In addition, in keeping with standard archaeological conventions, the metric form of measurement followed by the English equivalent is used in this and the following section of the report.

#### 5.1.1 Archaeological Considerations:

For archaeological survey projects of this kind, specific research designs are formulated prior to initiating fieldwork in order to delineate project goals and strategies. Of primary importance is an attempt to understand, on the basis of prior investigations, the spatial distribution of known resources. Such knowledge serves not only to generate an informed set of expectations concerning the kinds of sites which might be anticipated to occur within the project corridor, but also provides a valuable regional perspective and, thus, a basis for evaluating any new sites discovered.

A review of the FMSF indicated that one archaeological site, the previously noted NHRP-listed Warm Mineral Springs Site (8SO19), has been recorded within archaeological buffer inside the study area (Figure 5.1). 8SO19 consists of a submerged burial site and an associated terrestrial component. The submerged burial site and associated artifacts have been dated to more than 11,000 years ago (Cockrell and Murphy 1978)<sup>3</sup>. The terrestrial component, located in the acidic sands upland from the spring, produced "...limited Pleistocene-Paleoindian Stage evidence: an undated uniface scraper and pressure flaking debitage, in the same stratigraphic layer as mineralized Pleistocene camel and horse remains. In the upper strata of the sand, ...more debitage and a contracting stem biface fragment, a characteristic Archaic Stage tool..." was found (Cockrell 1988; C.F. Cockrell and Murphy 1978:7, Figure 6a and Figure 5.1 in this report). Also, Cockrell noted that records at the University of Florida referenced a pottery sherd being recovered in the 1950s (1988:21).

<sup>3</sup>It is beyond the scope of this project to summarize the findings of three decades of research at this significant resource, however, the following publications provide an overview of research at the site: Natural Preservation of Human Brain, Warm Mineral Springs, Florida (Royal and Clark 1960), Reconstruction of Prehistoric Environments: The Warm Mineral Springs Project (Sheldon and Cameron 1976), Reconstruction of a Prehistoric Environment and its Useful Plants: Warm Mineral Springs (8SO19) (Sheldon 1976), The Early Man Site at Warm Mineral Springs (Clausen, Brooks, and Wesolowsky 1975), Pleistocene Man in Florida (Cockrell and Murphy 1978), The Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Research Project: Current Research and Technological Applications (Cockrell 1986), Current Status of the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Research Project: 1987 (Cockrell 1988), and Advances in Research at the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Research Project (Cockrell 1990).



**Figure 5.1** Location of Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites within 1.5 miles of the Project Area. Township 39 South, Range 20 East, Section 25 (USGS Myakka River, Fla. 1973, PR 1987).

**X** Denotes general location of terrestrial component (feature 44) described by Cockrell (Cockrell 1988; Cockrell 2003; Cockrell and Murphy 1978).



In addition to 8SO19, two archaeological sites have been recorded within two miles of Warm Mineral Springs (Figure 5.1). Nearby, the Lazy River Midden (8SO393) was recorded on the Myakka west of the project area in the Lazy River Mobile Home Park in 1978 by archaeologists working at the nearby Little Salt Springs Research Facility (FMSF). "The site was apparently a small outlying shell midden associated with the Brothers Midden and probable cemetery some 0.4 km to the northwest" (FMSF). When recorded in 1978, the Lazy River Site had been graded and fill placed over the midden during construction of the trailer park. The presence of sand-tempered plain sherds indicates the site is post Archaic in date. The Salt Creek Site (8SO447), where fossil bones of extinct megafauna were found in the shallows by amateur archaeologist Bill Royal, lies approximately one quarter mile southeast of the project. A single bone point and "bone flesher" were found near fossil animal bones in the creek (*Sarasota Herald Tribune* 1987). Also, the Brothers Site (8SO31), situated about two miles west of the project, was excavated by University of South Florida, Tampa students and faculty in 1977-1978 (Goodwin et al. 1978). The midden, which contained human skeletal materials, was dated to the Glades I-II period (ca. 500 B.C. - A.D. 500). "The research concluded that the site was probably a winter camp for a small group who utilized the local ecosystem for their subsistence, sometime within the Glades period" (Goodwin et al. 1978:125).

Based on these data, it was anticipated that one or more small lithic scatter type sites might be found in the sand ridge soils surrounding the buffer zone. It was also anticipated that such sites would probably date to the Archaic and/or Paleo-Indian periods, although the presence of a ceramic component, vis a vis University of Florida records, was not ruled out.

### **5.1.2 Historical Considerations:**

Given the results of the historic research, no nineteenth century homesteads, forts, military trails, or historic Indian encampments were expected within the survey tract.

## **5.2 Field Methodology**

Archaeological field methodology consisted of a windshield survey and subsurface testing. Following ground surface inspection, subsurface shovel testing was carried out in order to locate sites not exposed on the ground, as well as to test for the presence of buried cultural deposits in areas yielding surface artifacts. Shovel tests pits were circular, and measured approximately 0.50 m (1.6 ft) in diameter by 1.0 m (3.3 ft) in depth, unless curtailed by an impenetrable substrate, fill material, or water. All soil removed from the test pits was screened through 0.64 cm (0.25 in) mesh hardware cloth to maximize the recovery of artifacts. The locations of all shovel tests were plotted on aerial maps, and following the recording of relevant data such as stratigraphic profile and artifact finds, all test pits were refilled.

### **5.3 Laboratory Methods and Curation**

If found, artifacts were to be cleaned and sorted by artifact class. Lithics would be divided into tools and debitage on the basis of gross morphology. Tools would be measured, and the edges examined with a 10x hand lens for traces of edge damage. Lithic debitage would be subjected to a limited technological analysis focusing on ascertaining the stages of stone tool production. Flakes and non-flake production debris (i.e., cores, blanks, preforms) would be measured, and examined for raw material types and absence or presence of thermal alteration. Flakes would be classified into four types (primary decortication, secondary decortication, non-decortication, and shatter) on the basis of the amount of cortex on the dorsal surface and the shape (White 1963). If found, aboriginal ceramics would be classified into commonly recognized ceramic types based upon observable characteristics such as paste and surface treatment.

Any artifacts and all records will be curated at Archaeological Consultants, Inc. in Sarasota, unless the client requests otherwise.

### **5.4 Unexpected Discoveries**

It was anticipated that if human burial sites such as Indian mounds, lost historic and prehistoric cemeteries, or other unmarked burials or associated artifacts were found, then the provisions and guidelines set forth in Chapter 872, F.S. (Florida's Unmarked Burial Law) would be followed. Although burial mounds have been recorded near Myakka River, based on background research, it was not anticipated that such sites would be found during this survey.

## 6.0 SURVEY RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

### 6.1 Archaeological Results

Archaeological field survey included both ground surface reconnaissance and the excavation of 348 shovel tests within the ±84 acre project area. These were systematically excavated at offset 25 m (82 ft) intervals. As a result of this subsurface testing, one archaeological site, the Flakelet Site (8SO2667), was discovered and four archaeological occurrences were noted. In addition, one 1 x 1 m (3 x 3 ft) unit was excavated within the boundaries of the Flakelet Site (Figure 6.1). A description of the site and the archaeological occurrences follow. A FMSF form for 8SO2667 is included in Appendix A.

**8SO2667, the Flakelet Site**, is a lithic scatter located in the northeast quarter of Section 25 in Township 39 South, Range 20 East, (USGS Myakka River 1973, PR 1987). The site is situated on a sandy ridge 3 m (10 ft) AMSL, approximately 200 m (656 ft) south of WMS. The ridge is comprised of Pomello fine sand, a moderately well-drained soil type typical of the pine flatwoods. It has a well-developed organic pan at depths greater than 1 m (42 in). The closest natural freshwater source may have been a small drainage, located to the east of the site, which is now dry (Figure 2.2, feature A). This creek may have drained a naturally occurring seep spring located approximately 700 m (2297 ft) to the northeast of the spring (Figure 2.2, feature C). Today, the Flakelet Site is located in a cleared field. Planted oaks are located along the adjacent road (Figure 6.1; Photo 6.1).

8SO2667 was discovered as a result of subsurface testing at a 25 m (82 ft) offset shovel testing interval. Of the 23 shovel test pits excavated in the site vicinity, five produced cultural materials between 60 to 100 cmbs (24 – 39 in) from stratigraphy which can be generally described as: 0 to 40 cm (0 – 16 in) brown/black clayey sand fill (apparently, this layer is associated with the construction of an adjacent parking lot approximately 30 m (98 ft) to the west); and 40 to 110 cm (16 – 43 in) of grey sand. Additionally, a 1 x 1 m (3 x 3 ft) excavation unit was placed within the small site and investigated in 20 cm (8 in) arbitrary levels to a maximum depth of 120 (47 in) cmbs. Based on subsurface testing, the site measures approximately 12.5 m (41 ft) north-south by 25 m (82 ft) east-west.

A total of 11 lithics was recovered. These consisted of eight non-decortication flakes and three secondary decortication flakes (Table 6.1). All were manufactured from chert that had not been thermally altered (TA). The non-decortication flakes consist of one small (< 1 cm/<0.4 in), six medium (1-2 cm /0.4-0.8 in), and one large (2-3 cm/0.8-1.2 in). All of the secondary decortication flakes are medium in size (1-2 cm/0.4-0.8 in). Based on the color and fabric of the chert, two different cherts were utilized. No identifiable fossils are evident in any of the flakes to indicate the quarry from where the material came. One chert, "type 1", is fine grained and honey colored. The three secondary decortication flakes from Unit 1, level 3, southeast quarter, and the single non-

decortication flake from ST 315 were manufactured from this material. The other chert, "type 2", is coarse-grained and light gray to white in color. This chert was recovered from the remaining proveniences (as well as the non-decortication flake from the southeast quarter of level 3 in Unit 1).

Based on the limited amount of material recovered and the overall small size of the flakes, the recovered assemblage appears to be indicative of stone tool maintenance as opposed to stone tool manufacturing. In addition, there is no evidence of use damage on any of the flakes, but their small size would not easily lend itself to utilization. Finally, the lack of diagnostics precludes assigning this site to a cultural period.

**Table 6.1.** Materials Recovered from the Flakelet Site.

FS	Provenience	Material	Type	TA	Size	count	weight (g)
6	ST 275, 70 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.1
8	ST 299, 90-100 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.3
9	ST 305, 70-80 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.3
10	ST 307, 90-100 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	S	1	0.1
11	ST 315, 80 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.2
12	EU 1, SE, 40-60 cm	chert	secondary	no	M	2	0.2
12	EU 1, SE, 40-60 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.1
13	EU 1, SW, 40-60 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.1
14	EU 1, NE, 40-60 cm	chert	secondary	no	M	1	0.1
15	EU 1, NW, 40-60 cm	chert	non-decortication	no	L	1	1.0

In addition to the small lithic campsite, four archaeological occurrences (AO) were also recorded within the  $\pm 84$  acre tract. They are described below and the artifacts are summarized in Table 6.2.

**Archaeological Occurrence (AO) #1** is located in the northeast quarter of Section 25 in Township 39 South, Range 20 East, approximately 150 m (492 ft) east-southeast of WMS. It consists of two pieces of lithic debitage recovered from ST 213 between 50 and 60 cmbs (20-24 in), and from ST 220 at 95 cmbs (37 in). Both flakes are thermally altered chert non-decortication flakes. The large-sized flake from ST 213 may have had some marginal retouch, but it does not appear to have been utilized. The other flake is medium-sized. Both pieces of chert are very glossy with a dense imbedding of quartz sand in the matrix. No diagnostic fossils were identified so the chert cannot be assigned to a specific quarry cluster.

**Archaeological Occurrence (AO) #2** is located in the northeast quarter of Section 25 in Township 39 South, Range 20 East, approximately 125 m (410 ft) east of WMS. It consists of two non-thermally altered chert non-decortication flakes. These were recovered 80 cmbs (32 in) in ST 233 and 60 cmbs (24 in) in ST 255. The flake from ST 233 is medium-sized and the other is large. Both were made from a similar light gray chert material, although the one from ST 233 is finer grained. No evidence of use damage was noted on either artifact.

**Archaeological Occurrence (AO) #3** is located in the northeast quarter of Section 25 in Township 39 South, Range 20 East, approximately 250 m (820 ft) southeast of WMS. This AO consists of a large, chert non-decortication flake that had not been thermally altered. It was manufactured from a somewhat coarse light gray chert and had not been utilized. No fossils were evident in the chert matrix and it cannot be assigned to a specific quarry cluster.

**Archaeological Occurrence (AO) #4** is located in the northeast quarter of Section 25 in Township 39 South, Range 20 East, approximately 175 m (574 ft) south of WMS. It consists of a single small chert non-decortication flake that had not been heat treated. No evidence of use damage was noted, nor were any fossils evident in the chert.

**Table 6.2.** Materials Recovered from the Archaeological Occurrences.

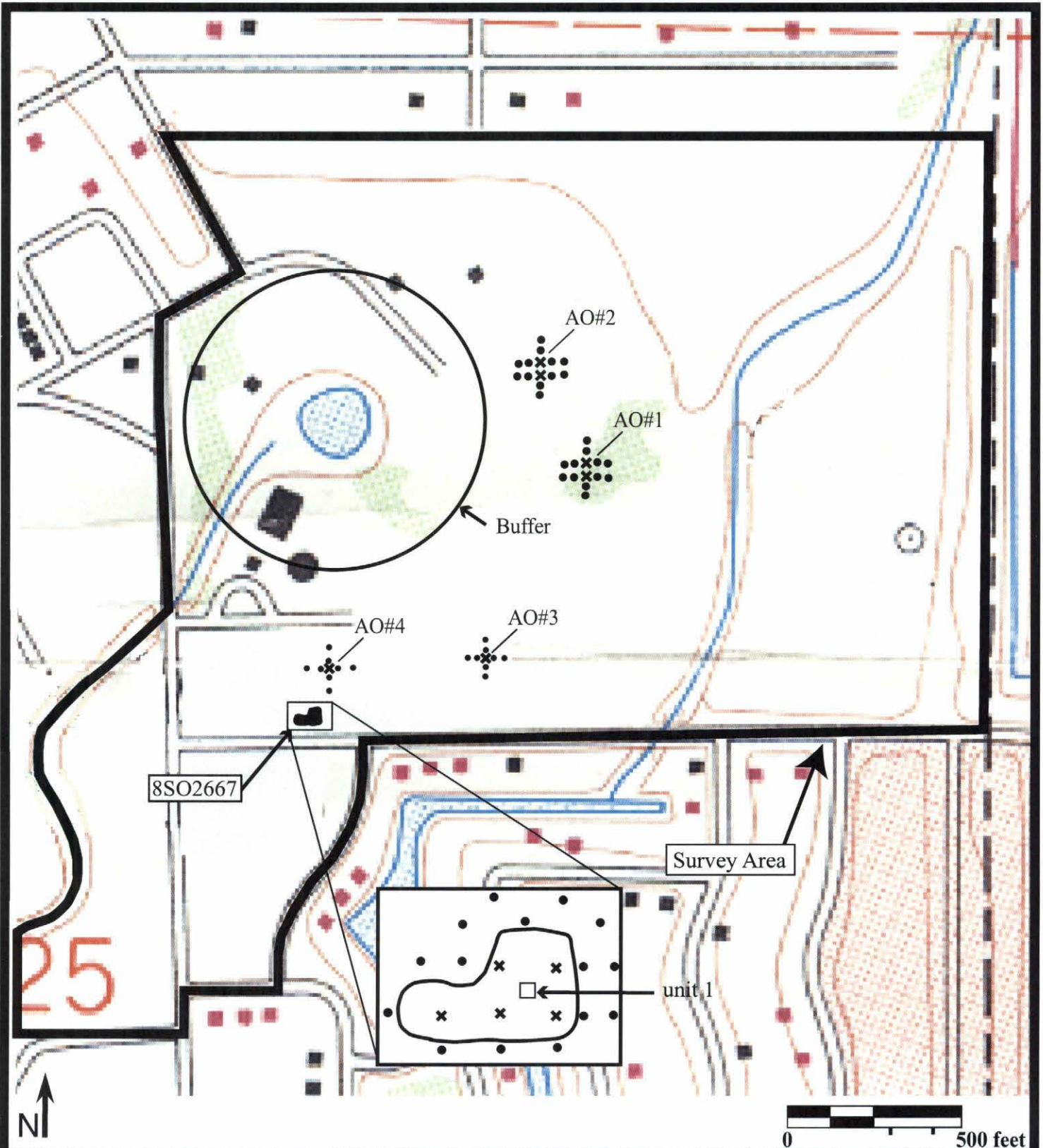
FS	Provenience	Material	Type	TA	Size	count	weight (g)
1	AO#1, ST 213, 50-60 cm	Chert	non-decortication	yes	L	1	3.1
2	AO#1, ST 220, 95 cm	Chert	non-decortication	yes	M	1	1.0
3	AO#2, ST 233, 80 cm	Chert	non-decortication	no	M	1	0.5
4	AO#2, ST 255, 60 cm	Chert	non-decortication	no	L	1	0.6
5	AO#3, ST 272, 60 cm	Chert	non-decortication	no	L	1	2.9
6	AO#4, ST 281, 70 cm	Chert	non-decortication	no	S	1	<0.1

## 6.2 Conclusions

Intensive, subsurface shovel testing of the ±84 acre survey parcel discovered one site (8SO2667), a lithic scatter. This site is not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP, as it is similar to many others found on sandy soil near freshwater sources in west-central Florida (Austin 2001; Luer 1999b; Deming 1989; and Daniel 1985). Therefore, development of this ±84 acre parcel will not affect any significant resources. However, as with any archaeological resource, but particularly in the case of the highly significant Warm Mineral Springs, it is recommended that future archaeological investigations of the terrestrial (buffer area) and/or submerged components of the site be conducted solely under the direction of a registered professional archaeologist<sup>4</sup> (RPA). Additionally, prior to granting permission for research, spring owners should require potential investigators to prepare a detailed research proposal including project rationale, research design with clearly identified objectives and methodologies, and a list of project personnel. The research proposal should be submitted to the professional archaeological community for peer review and comment. Finally, to ensure complete protection of the submerged resources, no sport or recreational diving should be permitted.

<sup>4</sup> A directory of Registered Professional Archaeologists and the Code of Conduct and Bylaws of Professional Archaeologists can be found at [www.rpanet.org](http://www.rpanet.org). Qualified Professional Archaeologists (underwater and terrestrial) are associated with these institutions: Bureau of Archaeological Research, Florida Division of Historical Resources, 500 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, telephone: 850/245-6444; Department of Anthropology, Florida State University, 1847 W. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32304, telephone 850/644-4281; Florida Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 117800, Gainesville, Florida 32611, telephone 352/392-1721; University of West Florida, Department of Anthropology, Building 13, Room 131, Pensacola, Florida 32514, telephone 850/474-3015; Sarasota County History Center, 701 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida 34236, telephone 941/861-1180.





**Figure 6.1** Location of 8SO2667 and Archaeological Occurrences (AO# 1-4); Township 39 South, Range 20 East, Section 25 (USGS Myakka River, Fla. 1973, PR 1987). "x" = a positive shovel test; "•" = negative shovel test.





**Photo 6.1.** Looking Southeast Toward the Flakelet Site (8SO2667).



**Photo 6.2.** Looking South Toward AO #1. Area has been invaded by Brazillian Pepper.



**Photo 6.3.** Looking South-Southwest Toward AO #2. WMS is in background.



**Photo 6.4.** Looking Northeast Toward AO #3.



**Photo 6.5.** Looking East Toward Archaeological Occurrence #4.

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