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An Archaeological Survey Of The Proposed CP&L Harris-Harnett Substation And 2.4 Miles Of The Harris-Harnett 500 kV Transmission Line

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April 18, 1980

INTRODUCTION

In April 1980, the Research Laboratories of Anthropology conducted an archaeological survey of the proposed CP&L Harris-Harnett Substation and a portion of the Harris-Harnett 500kV Transmission Line. Both project areas are located in Harnett County. The proposed substation is to be placed on 35 acres of land approximately two miles northeast of Erwin, N. C. The 2.4 mile-long section of transmission line to be covered lay across Neals Creek about two miles southwest of Angier, N. C. The transmission line corridor is 180 feet wide and constitutes approximately 53 acres.

About 50% of the 53 acres that comprise the transmission line corridor was under cultivation and 11% was in pasture. The remainder was in woods, or covered by ponds. The sections of the corridor that were wooded lay in low areas associated with gullies, or intermittant stream beds for the most part.

For the substation area, over 90% of the proposed construction location's 35 acres was under cultivation. A small portion along the northeast side that was wooded lay in an intermittant stream bed. Sections along the southwest side and in the south center lay in pine.

The scope of work required that a survey of the two project areas be conducted for the purpose of discovering the prehistoric and historic archaeological resources present; the significance of these resources;

the impact the proposed construction would have upon these resources; and to make recommendations concerning the future of these cultural resources. The principal investigator was Dr. Joffre L. Coe. The field crew consisted of Jack Wilson and Billy Oliver.

Site files at the Research Laboratories showed that 31 sites had previously been recorded for Harnett County. None of these sites were within or near the two project areas. A map provided by CP&L showed additional archaeological sites in the county that have as yet to be entered in to the Lab's site files. None of these sites were within the two project areas.

FIELDWORK

Given the quantity of land within both survey areas that was under cultivation, the entire transmission line corridor and the substation location was walked over. These areas under cultivation were visually inspected for surface remains. The eight acres of the transmission line that were in pasture were located at the northern end of the corridor south of S.R. 1443. Shovel tests were placed about 30 meters apart where necessary. Over half of the acreage in pasture lay on the top of a knoll that had been recently scraped of topsoil. As a consequence, shovel tests indicated only the presence of a yellow brown sandy loam subsoil. No cultural materials or sites were found in the pastured area.

Areas that were wooded were also walked, and high probability areas were shovel tested. High probability areas were those that previous experience indicated were possible locations for sites. Areas that were in gullies or intermittant dry stream beds were considered to be low probability areas and were not tested. No sites were recovered in the shovel tests pits. As stated previously, most of the wooded land lay in low probability areas.

Three of the six sites found by this survey, all in cultivated areas, also had shovel tests placed in them. The purpose was to define the stratigraphy present, and to see if any undisturbed deposits remained. In all three cases, no intact cultural deposits were found.

SITES

Ht 32 - This site lay on high ground in a cultivated field beside a dirt farm road. S.R. 1440 lay about 110 meters to the northeast. Ht 32 consists of a scatter of lithic debris. This included one broken rhyolite Savannah River point; one quartz biface; 14 quartz flakes; and 10 rhyolite flakes. Two shovel tests were placed within the scatter area. No material was recovered from either. Stratigraphy consisted of a light brown sandy plowzone 10 inches thick over a yellow brown sandy loam subsoil. No *in situ* remains were recovered. The site is a lithic scatter whose only identifiable component is the Late Archaic Savannah River.

Ht 33 - This site is located 120 meters southeast of Ht 32, on the edge of the high ground. A hog pen, pond, and intermittant stream bed lies immediately to the southeast. The site is a lithic scatter of unknown affiliation. Material recovered from the site consisted of one quartz core/biface, one quartz chip, and two rhyolite flakes.

Ht 34 - This undifferentiated lithic scatter lay 110 meters east of Ht 33 and 225 meters east-southeast of Ht 32 on the edge of high ground. A hog pen, pond and intermittant stream bed lay to the south-southeast. Five quartz flakes, one rhyolite flake, and one jasper-like flake were found on the surface of the site. Ht 34 lies outside of the power line corridor and will not be impacted at all.

Ht 35 - This site lies 275 meters southeast of Ht 34 on the northeast slope of a knoll coming off the high ground to the northwest. The site consists of a light lithic scatter of unknown affiliation. The surface collection contained five quartz flakes, three chunks of quartz raw material, one quartz biface fragment, and one rhyolite flake. The site lies along the edge of the field, but did not extend into the woods to the southeast.

Ht 36 - Ht 36 was found on the southeast bank of Neals Creek where the transmission line crosses the creek, about 1.4 miles west-northwest of the junction of N.C. 210 and S.R. 1440. A marshy area/drainage ditch lies to the southeast and along the northeast side of the site. This site lies in the fairly broad bottoms that are found along the southeastern bank of Neals Creek in this vicinity. The material found on the surface consisted of two quartz flakes, one rhyolite core/biface, and one crushed-quartz tempered potsherd with an eroded/smoothed surface. The sherd can be assigned to the Woodland Period. Four unstructured shovel tests were placed in the site area. No material was recovered from them, and no *in situ* remains were indicated. These tests indicated the presence of 10 inches of mottled black-brown-yellow sandy plowzone that overlay the yellow brown sandy loam subsoil.

Ht 37 - This site is situated on the edge of high ground (along the 230' contour) southwest of a dry/intermittant stream bed. Ht 37 lies in the north corner of the proposed substation construction location. Material remains recovered were 18 quartz flakes, three small quartz biface, 14 rhyolite flakes, one rhyolite blank, and one rhyolite

Guilford chipped stone projectile point. Three unstructured tests were dug. No artifacts were produced, and no undisturbed remains were indicated. Stratigraphy consisted of five to six inches of a dark brown recent plowzone, over five to six inches of an earlier, light brown plowzone; both of which overlay a yellow brown sandy loam subsoil.

The Guilford CSPP would date one component of the site assumblage to the Middle Archaic. The rest of the lithic debris, however, cannot be assigned to any known period because of the lack of associational and contextual data.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The six sites fail to meet minimum standards for nomination to the National Register. The sparse nature of the information content and the lack of *in situ* remains would indicate that the six sites have a low potential for producing additional data. Recommendations are that no further archaeological work is necessary in the project areas.

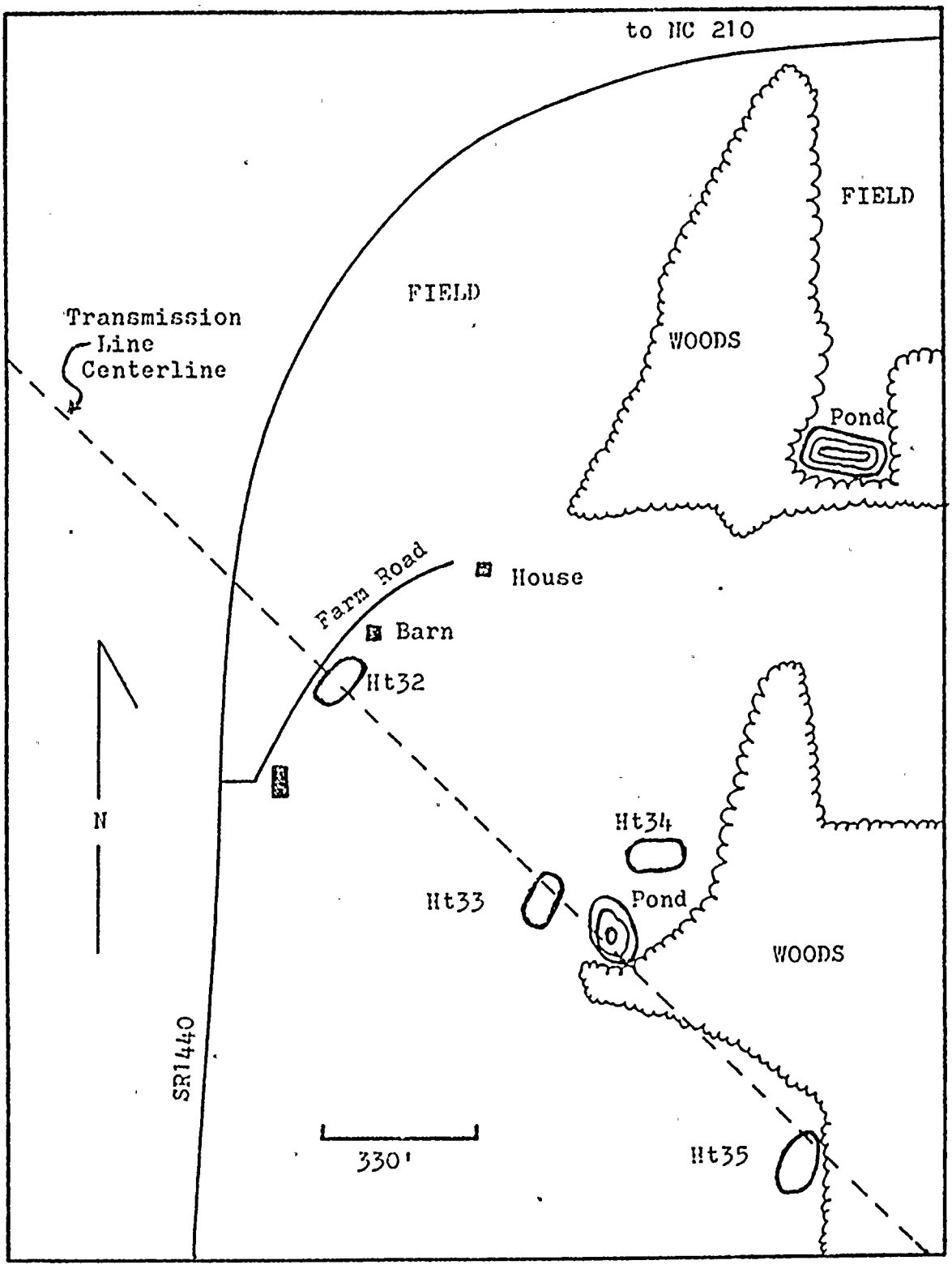

FIGURE 1. Site locations- Ht32, Ht33, Ht34, & Ht35.

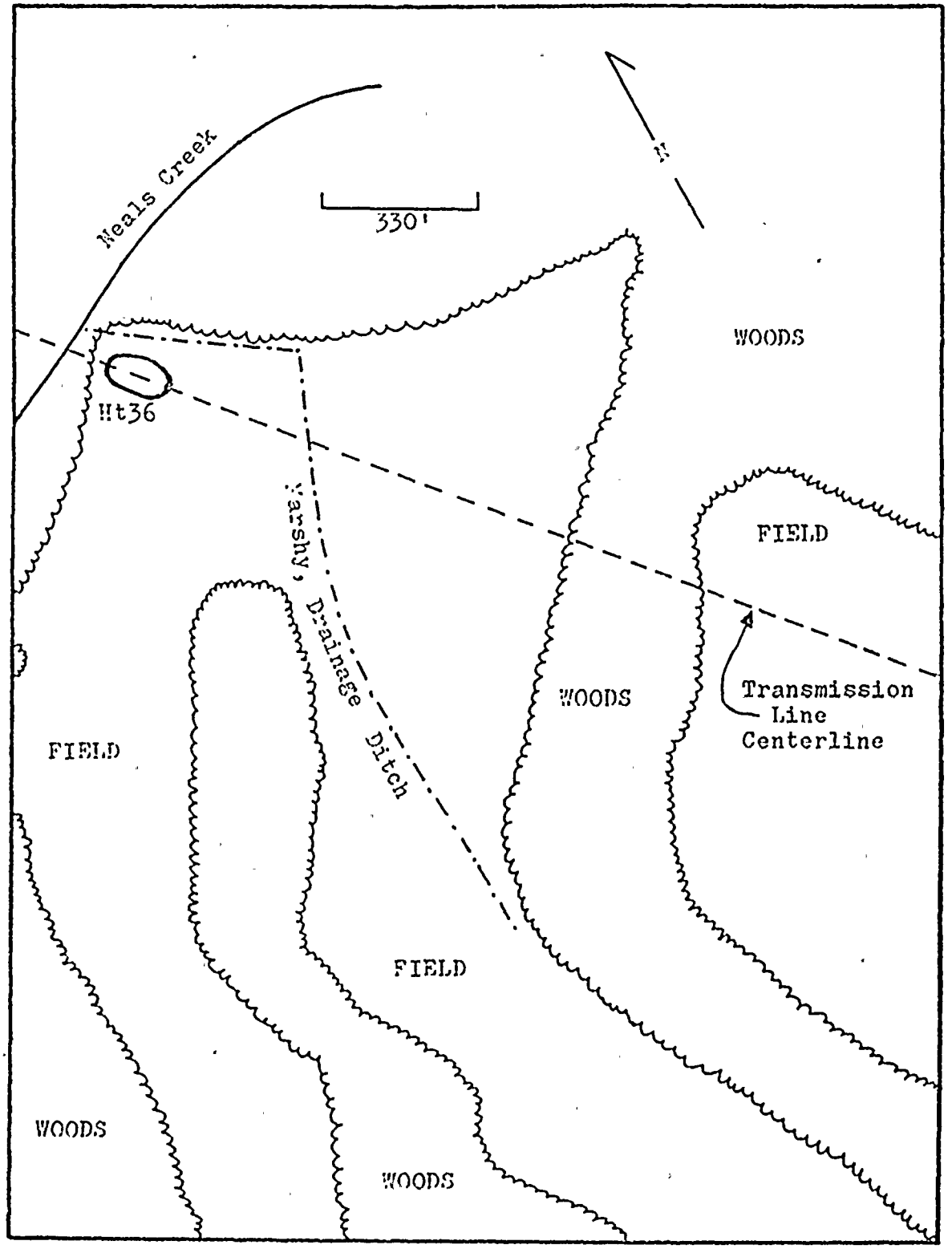

Figure 2. Site location, Wt36.

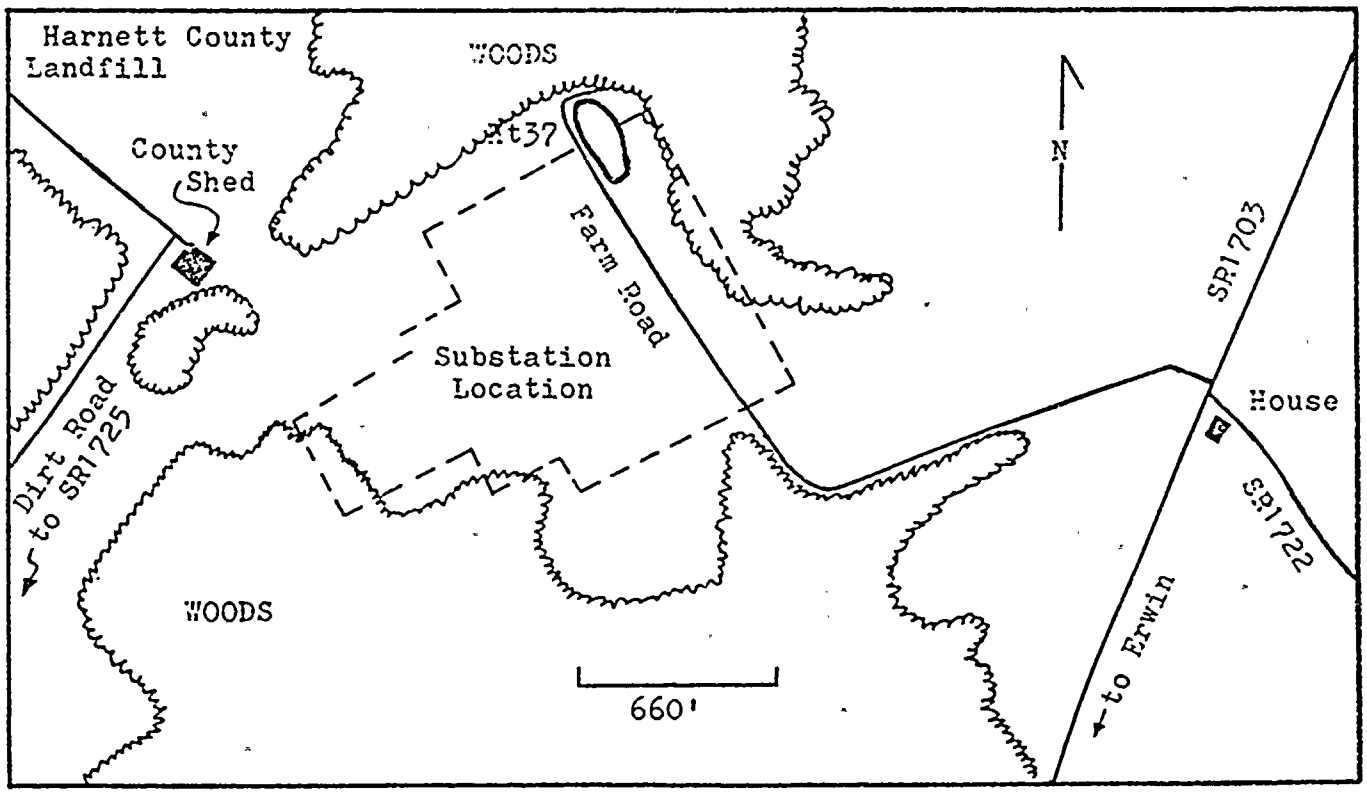

FIGURE 3. Site location, Nt37.